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GLOUCESTER RUGBY

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

**PLAYER
BRETT
DEACON
FEATURE**

**AVIVA PREMIERSHIP
VS. LEICESTER TIGERS**
30 OCTOBER 2010, KO 5.30PM // £3

**+
CAPTAIN'S
CORNER**

**REGULAR
FEATURES:
ACADEMY,
MATCH ACTION,
COMMUNITY**

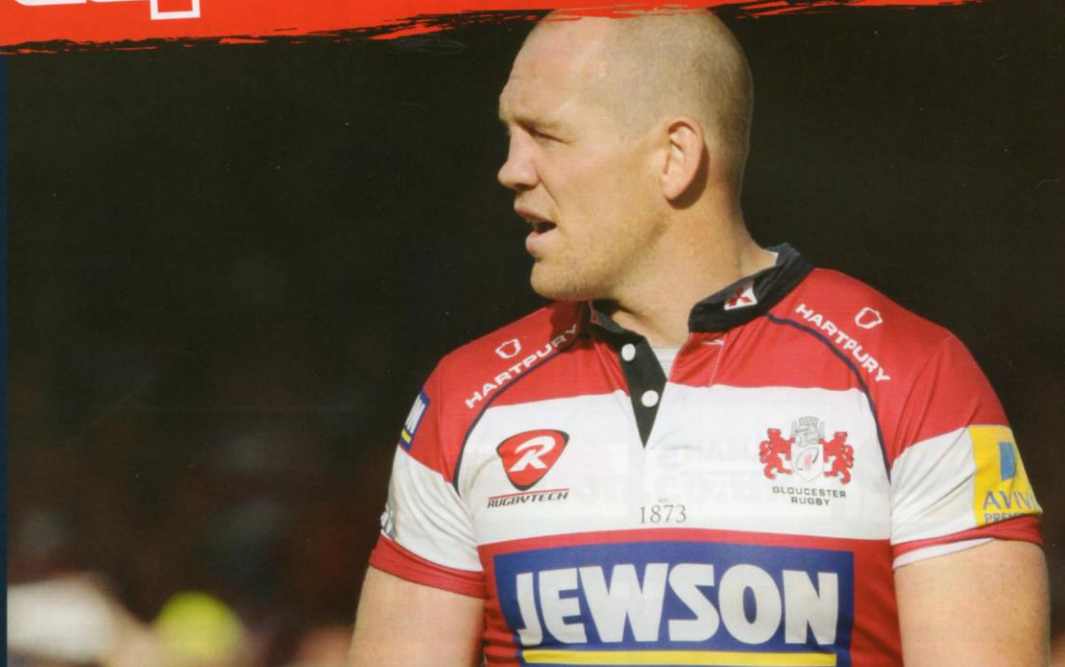


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MIKE TINDALL

Captain's Corner



Good afternoon and welcome to Kingsholm as we finish off a trio of consecutive home games with this afternoon's Aviva Premiership Rugby clash with the Leicester Tigers.

You'll forgive me for stating the blindingly obvious when I say that today's game is of huge importance! It's not just about league points or our position in the table. It's about making a statement of where we are at Gloucester Rugby at the moment.

Following last weekend's games, we're in fourth place in the Aviva Premiership Rugby table but Leicester are breathing right down our necks. They're in fifth place and on the same number of points.

Following the opening day defeat down in Devon against the Exeter Chiefs, we've worked hard to address what we felt to be shortcomings in our game, get some results and work our

way up the table.

The last few weeks have seen us beat some good teams. We've defeated Wasps and Harlequins here at Kingsholm and are one of the few sides to beat Bath at the Rec in recent times.

However, Leicester are the reigning Premiership champions. They've won it three times in the past four years. They are the benchmark that everyone else measures themselves against.

Don't get me wrong. It's not all about this one game and you don't win anything in November. But, with the Premiership taking a break for a couple of weeks after this weekend's game, a win this afternoon to cement a place in the top four would be a huge achievement.

We know it's possible. In fact, anything is possible here at Kingsholm! Seriously, consider last November when we came into the corresponding fixture on

the back of six straight defeats but dogged out a 12-9 win.

We've come a long way since that night. We're still unbeaten here at Kingsholm in the Premiership and we've got the confidence derived from coming out on top in some very tight, very tough games recently.

Last week against Harlequins was a case in point. It was a game that could have slipped out of our grasp after their second half comeback. But, we have a lot of self belief as a team at the moment and we knew we had what it took to secure the win.

The Quins victory did teach us one thing, however. We have to be disciplined and we have to play for 80 minutes. Only a complete game will be enough for us to defeat the Tigers.

Enjoy the game!

GLOUCESTER
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"WE'LL NO DOUBT KNOW A LOT MORE ABOUT OURSELVES AFTER THE GAME TODAY. IF ANY SIDE WILL TEST US TO THE MAX, THEN IT WILL BE THE TIGERS."

BRYAN REDPATH

On behalf of everyone at Gloucester Rugby, I'd like to wish the players, staff and supporters of Leicester Tigers a very warm welcome to Kingsholm this afternoon.

A home game against the Leicester Tigers under the Kingsholm floodlights – they don't come any more exciting than this do they?

Today's game marks the third fixture in a row here at Kingsholm and, after tonight, the Aviva Premiership campaign is on hold for a couple of weeks as we enter the LV=Cup.

It's that strange time of the season when we find ourselves participating in three competitions in five weeks. It doesn't affect us that much as a playing team but our back room staff have to be on the ball as there's different paperwork, regulations and even different balls to use!

It's also the first point of the season when the international fixture calendar starts to affect preparations for virtually every team in the Premiership.

For example, England have been in camp this week and, as I type this, I don't know whether the likes of Dave Attwood, Paul Doran-Jones or Mike Tindall will be released back to us this weekend.

As I said above though, it's not just ourselves that are affected. Leicester will also have players involved with England this week. We just have to get on with it.

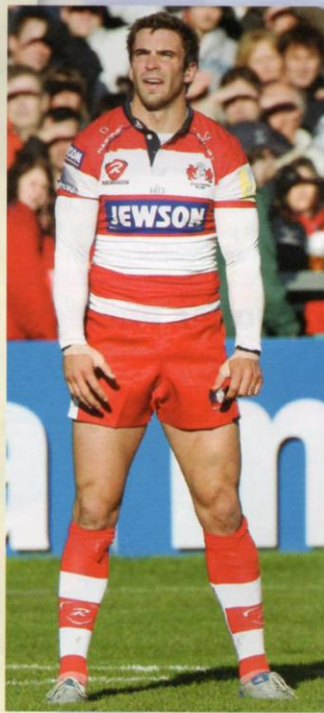
Unfortunately for those of you who suffer from your nerves, I can see today's game being another close one!

All of our Premiership games at Kingsholm so far this season have gone right down to the wire.

We needed late kicks from Nicky (Robinson) to clinch the wins over Leeds and Wasps and a late try from Brett to secure the victory over Harlequins last weekend.

We'd all obviously prefer things to be a bit more comfortable as the game enters its final stages but we are at least establishing a winning habit and grinding out results in difficult circumstances.

I think it also demonstrates how tight things are in the Aviva Premiership. Plenty of people have said over the past few seasons that any team is capable of beating any other on any given day. They're probably right!



What we will have to do today is produce a more complete performance than we have managed so far this season.

Four wins from our opening six matches is not a bad record to date. However, if we're all being completely honest with each other, there have been elements in each and every game where improvement has been required.

Last weekend against Harlequins, in the first half we produced some of the best rugby I've seen during my time at the club. However, we dodged a bullet and emerged with the win when the two sin binnings could have hurt us.

Producing that complete performance is an ongoing challenge for us. We've looked very good for half an hour or 40 minutes at a time but then tapered off a bit and allowed sides to come back to us.

We'll no doubt know a lot more about ourselves after the game today. If any side will test us to the max, then it will be the Tigers.

They know what it takes to win - they've lifted the Premiership title three times in the past four seasons. They are the ultimate test of any side's credentials.

Good as they are, however, we have to be positive. We know what we're capable of when we get it right. We've worked hard to climb the table and we want to establish ourselves in the top four.

We're also at home with the backing of our superb supporters behind us. And that could be key.

Last November, we edged a 12-9 victory over the Tigers under the Friday night lights. It was a huge win for us as we were coming into the game on the back of several losses and we kicked on from there.

The crowd played a massive role that evening and I'm confident that you will again this evening.

We're obviously aware we have to earn that backing, we can't take it for granted. But, I can assure you that every player will be straining ever sinew tonight in the quest for a win.

Enjoy the game!

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View from
The Citizen

with Nick Purewal

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Sharples: Gloucester need to grind opposition into the ground

DANGERMAN Charlie Sharples has admitted Gloucester need to grind Premiership opposition into the ground once they gain the upper hand.

Frustrated, the Cherry and Whites allowed Harlequins back into last weekend's Kingsholm contest, the 21-year-old pace ace said Bryan Redpath's men must start taking full advantage of their dominant spells.

The former St Peter's High School pupil raced down the right flank for Gloucester's second try last week, after scrum half Dave Lewis had nipped home.

Sharples sped home at the third time of asking, after earlier twice

disappear in Agen and nearly following suit last week, Sharples said it is high time Gloucester convert all their chances - and stop offering routes back into games for their opponents.

Hoping for another quick fire home win over Leicester today, he explained:

"Last week was probably some of the best attacking rugby we've played all season. We piled on the pressure and we could have had a few more tries.

"We came in at half time fully in control of the game and went out in the second half to continue that.

"But we put pressure on ourselves

it, they've got a few dangerous individuals and we let them get a handle on the game. But in the end it was great to get back in control, and get the winning try.

"It was very similar to the Agen game in that respect, where we came in at half time in complete control. Luckily we didn't lose this one, but it could have gone either way.

"We'll take confidence from the win though, it's four more points and we're winning our home games, and that's the main thing.

"We're halfway there after this result really, so this week we're targeting another win: we never expect anything less at home.

"Last week was probably some of the best attacking rugby we've played all season. We piled on the pressure and we could have had a few more tries."

exchanging passes with Nicky Robinson to go close to scores.

Gloucester wrestled full control at the break with a 23-13 lead, but wound up level at 26 apiece as time ran out.

Former Leicester back rower Brett Deacon saved blushes with his late try, before Olly Morgan denied old schoolmate Chris Robshaw a score with the game's very last play.

After letting a comfortable lead

by the sin-bins, so we made it difficult for ourselves in that respect.

"If we'd picked up where we'd left off, ground them again and squeezed the win out of them, we could have won that game in the first 20 minutes of the second half.

"Unfortunately the two sin-binnings put pressure on us, and you are always struggling when you're one or two men down.

"We allowed them back into

"If we can complete the job then we should be in a good position in the table.

"But Leicester are never an easy side to come up against, far from it."

Gloucester boss Bryan Redpath hailed Sharples' swashbuckling performance last week, calling the England Under-20s cap the top-performing Cherry and White back-three man.

Buoyed by the praise, Sharples is



refusing to let it go to his head.

He continued: "It's great of Bryan to say that, I want to push hard this season, I want to gain more nous, I want to be pushing the other wingers.

"I'm not going to sit back and rest on my laurels and admire what I've done.

"You're only as good as your last game, so I've got to keep pushing and pushing. You can't sit back and accept the praise.

"There's still a lot of things I need to work on as a player, but it's nice to be in that position.

"We've got to be hard on ourselves, and in that, we really should have scored all of those three chances we created in the first half at the weekend.

"It's a great confidence boost to have your boss say something like that about you though – but now it's up to me to make sure I can live up to that, and keep improving. That's a great challenge."



A strange situation could occur at Kingsholm this afternoon as the visiting ambush of Tigers find themselves potentially facing one of their former number.

Brett Deacon is the Tiger who moved on. The man who swapped stripes for Cherry and White hoops and who may well face his former team mates this afternoon.

It's a situation that Deacon, whose brother Louis still plays for the Tigers, knew would happen one day when he signed for Gloucester. However, the 28 year old insists that his loyalties will well and truly lie with Gloucester on the day – for 80 minutes at least.

"It will be a little strange. But, by the time they emerge from the

"There would be myself, Harry Ellis and Ollie Smith. We'd be the young kids playing in the stands."

Although he admits to playing a bit of football at school, with a Dad who played local rugby and older brother Louis also opting for the oval ball game, it was no surprise that Brett found himself being invited to join the Leicester Academy, and his year saw quite an intake.

"In my year, as well as myself, were Harry Ellis, Ollie Smith, Sam Vesty and Big Jim (Hamilton) so we had a pretty good group that year!"

"It was run very differently in those days. It was quite old school which is probably why the Leicester Academy has produced so many good players for the pack over the years."

"It was run by Tom Smith, a former second row. It was pretty physical but it was good. There seems to be a lot

"We're quite close in age but also very close as brothers, we're like best friends really. But we used to have our fair share of scrapes, often fighting but we also loved our rugby in the garden, one of running down the wing and the other trying to smash him through the fence!"

However, the desire to try out a new environment led to the move to Kingsholm in the summer, a move he was initially nervous about.

"I was apprehensive about leaving Leicester but I spoke to a lot of people who told me I'd really enjoy it. I spoke to Mefin Davies and he told me that it'd really suit me and that I'd fit in really well. And, after only a couple of weeks, I felt really at home and haven't looked back."

"THE SHED'S BRILLIANT. WHEN YOU RUN PAST IT AND WARM UP, IT REALLY FIRES YOU UP AND MAKES YOU FEEL THAT YOU'D DO ANYTHING FOR THE SHIRT."

visitors dressing room, I'll probably be that focused and fired up for the game that it won't be an issue."

"Mind you, it'd be good if they play in silver because I don't recognise that as a Leicester colour anyway!"

"But, I have real fond memories of the place, know a lot of the guys really well and can call a lot of them really good friends. They won't be my friends on matchday though."

Those friendships date back to the days when Brett, and a number of friends who also went on to become Leicester regulars, used to wander down to Welford Road to watch the local team.

"There always used to be a big fixture between Leicester and the Barbarians on Boxing Day and I used to go down to that every year."

more science involved nowadays but, if you graduated that Academy, you were a pretty decent player."

With the likes of Dean Richards and Martin Corry as part of the fabric of the club at that point, it must have been a great place for an aspiring number eight to learn his trade?

"It was, yeah. Adam Balding was there as well and, at the time when I was in the Academy, he was the young guy making it in the first team."

"He was a good guy to learn from as were the likes of Dean, Martin Corry and Martin Johnson. They were guys I was in awe of. They turned up day in, day out. They never missed a session. They were top of the game and set the standard for the rest of us to follow."

There was also the small matter of having his older brother at the club. Were the pair of them hugely competitive as kids?

"I've really enjoyed it. I've come from Leicester where the crowd were great but the Kingsholm atmosphere is amazing."

"The Shed's brilliant. When you run past it and warm up, it really fires you up and makes you feel that you'd do anything for the shirt."

With the Autumn internationals just around the corner, as a senior player, there's presumably a big role to play in forthcoming weeks?

"I probably am and I'll enjoy taking on that senior role. But we've got some good young guys here like Charlie (Sharples), Davey (Lewis) and Freddie (Burns)."

"They're not afraid to stand up and take a leadership role on the pitch which is great. We'll be down in numbers but we've a tight knit squad and will be pulling together during that period."

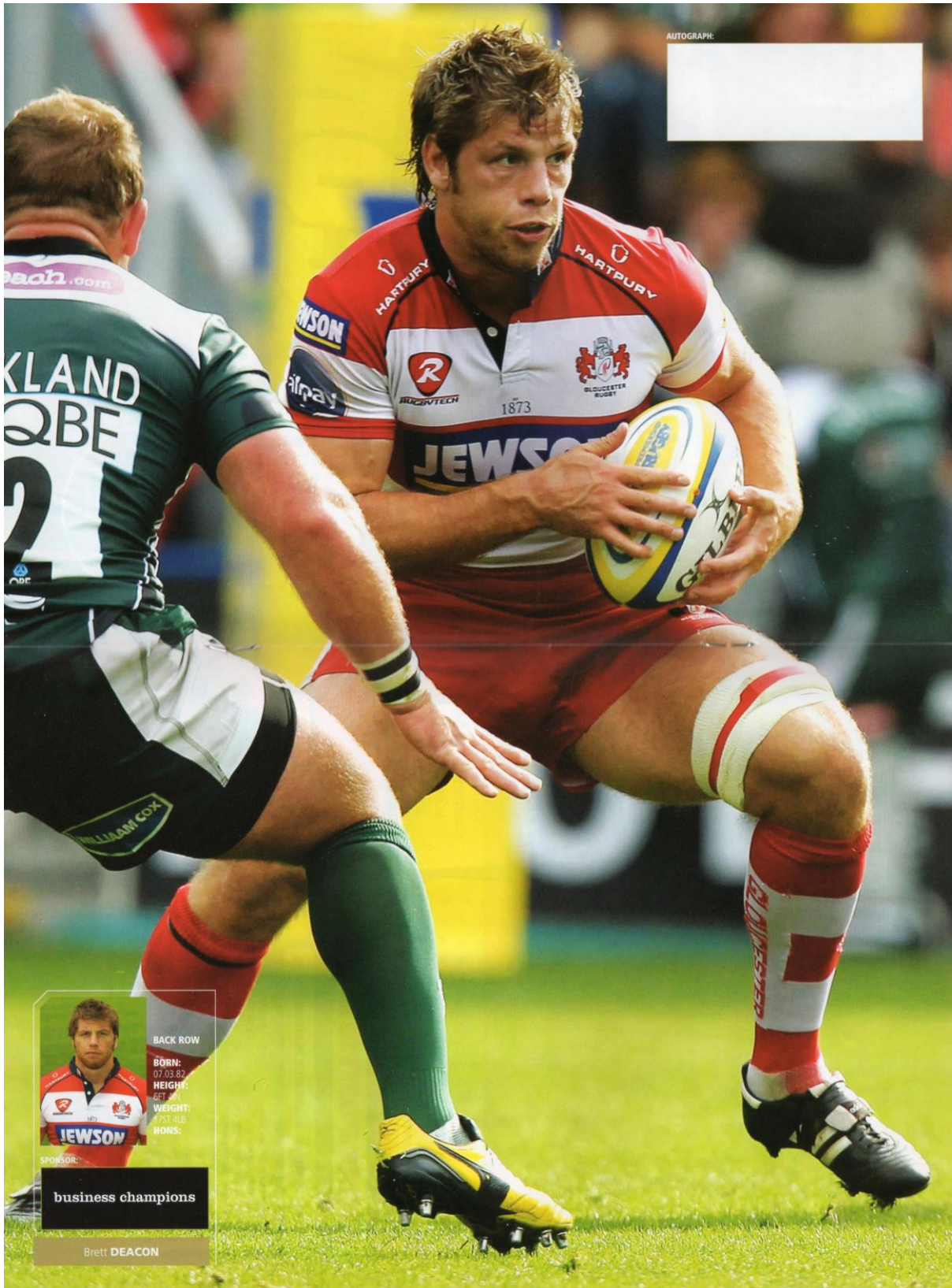


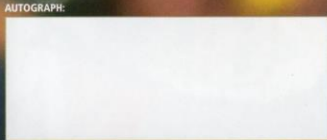
BRETT DEACON


FACT

One of Brett's loyal fans have gone as far as setting up a facebook page titled 'brett deacon appreciation society'. It currently has 78 members.

TICKET HOTLINE
0871 871 8781 37



AUTOGRAPH: 



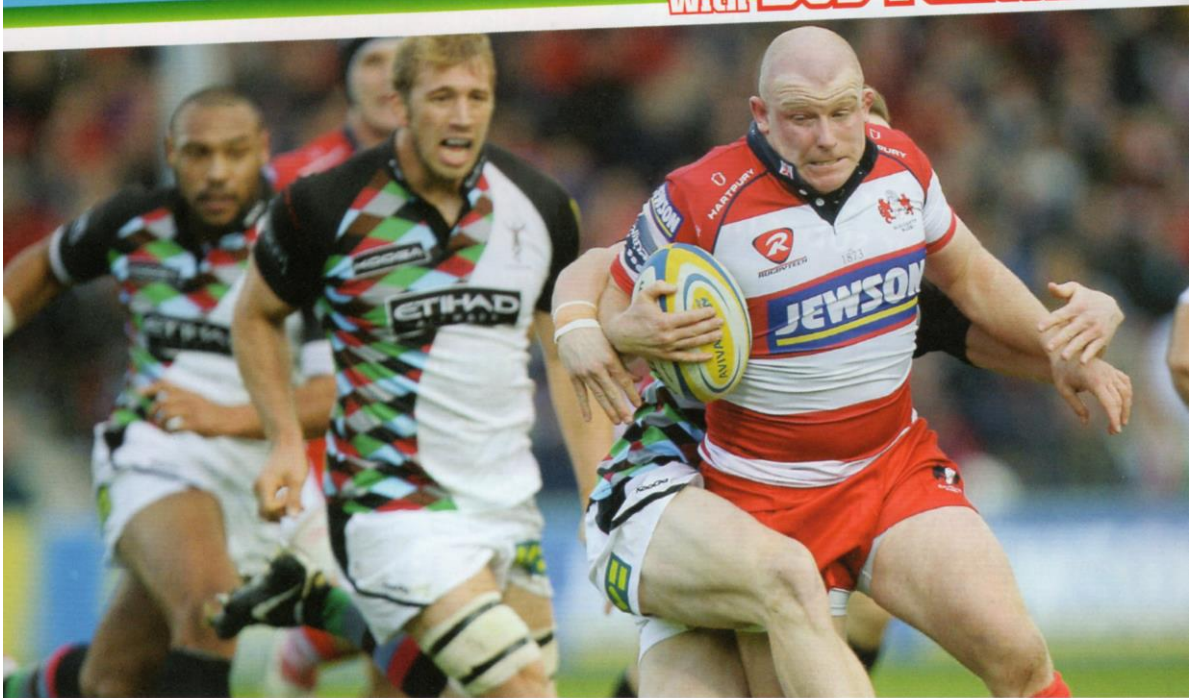
BACK ROW
BORN: 07.03.82
HEIGHT: 6'6"
WEIGHT: 175T 41B
HONS:

SPONSOR:
business champions

Brett **DEACON**

Kingsholm News

with Bob Fenton



WELL, the Quins game was a proper game of two halves, wasn't it?

Despite them scoring the first try in, let's say, slightly suspicious circumstances, we had them well and truly on toast for pretty much all of the first half.

Traffic was so one way that I was pretty certain that it was only a matter of time before we clocked in our first four try bonus point in this year's Premiership.

We had such a solid platform at scrum time, with Paul Doran-Jones absolutely destroying poor old Joe Marler, that it seemed the Quins backs were destined to be in more danger from hypothermia than anything else.

Then came the second period, despite

the early penalty things went to pot. It would have helped if we could have kept 15 – or even 14 – players on the field, but we seemed to lose the plot a bit and gave away a string of penalties.

With a player of the quality of Nick Evans on the field, penalties quickly became points and we looked for a while as if we were going to blow it.

Fortunately we regathered our composure - and a full quota of players – in time to smash their eight one more time and grab the late and decisive score.

I read afterwards that the Quins guys think they scored another try at the death, but from where I was – in my lofty perch in the grandstand – I

couldn't tell. And even if they did get the ball over the line they didn't deserve anything from the game anyway...

But that was then and this is now. As the table stands we sit above Leicester at the moment, and have one more win to our credit. And one thing's for sure, we're going to have to play a heck of a lot smarter if we are going to still be in that position come 7pm this evening.

History shows that they have the whip hand over us in Premiership matches, we've played 28 times, there's been one draw and we have won just 10 of those games.

That sounds pretty poor, but if you look at the stats no side in Premiership

YOU HAVE TO ADMIRE THEM FOR THAT, IF SOMEONE CAN EVER FIND OUT WHAT IT IS THAT THEY PUT IN THE TEA UP THERE AND MARKET IT, THEY'LL BE MILLIONAIRES OVERNIGHT!

history has won more than 10 games against the Tigers, so maybe we're not doing so badly.

So what is it that gives Leicester this consistent level of success? I don't know the answer to this question, more importantly it seems that neither do many premiership coaches.

When you look through their squads over the years you would say that – when compared to other sides – their squad is not always the best on paper.

However when they pull on that green hooped jumper they seem to become an almost unstoppable unit and good players become great players.

You have to admire them for that, if someone can ever find out what it is that they put in the tea up there and market it, they'll be millionaires overnight!

I mentioned their squad, over the years it seems that there has always been one name that has been consistent on the team sheet: that of one or other Tuilagi.

Normally one of these human monsters would be enough to give opposition players sleepless nights, but this Leicester squad has two of them – Alesana and Manu – bringing a combined weight of around 35 stones onto the park.

Manu is the sixth Tuilagi brother to appear for Leicester, following in the footsteps of Henry, Freddie, Alesana, Andy and Vavae.

There must be Frankenstein-like laboratory buried deep underneath the stands at Welford Road with

guys in white coats and racks of test tubes and stuff where they create these behemoths.

At the start of each season, just before team photo time, the coach gets a call, an old door creaks open and another one is released to wreak havoc and destruction on opposition defenders.

Actually the person I feel most sorry for is Mr. and Mrs. Tuilagi – can you imagine the problem of feeding these guys! For their weekly shopping they must have had to go to the shops with a low-loader to bring back enough food for them all.

Come to think of it the person I would really feel sorry for is the poor sap behind them at the supermarket checkout – you could be there for days!

Interestingly though, young Manu Tuilagi is bucking the trend of his brothers when it comes to international rugby and has opted to pledge his international future to England rather than his native Samoa, and has represented his adopted country at junior levels already.

This is slightly odd when – and I'm not sure this 100 per cent correct as it came from Wikipedia – his full name is Manusamoa Tuilagi.

Given his age and undoubted ability, international honours may not be that far off, giving rise to an interesting prospect of him playing against his brother one day.

There can't be many examples of bothers playing against each other for different countries – I remember Tana and Mike Umaga playing against each



other for the All Blacks and Samoa respectively, and I remember Tana running the length of the field to smash his brother in that match very clearly.

But I can't think of many others, Did Graham (who has played for three international sides!) and Stephen Bachop face each other at one time???

Sounds like something for Dave King to investigate for one of his World of Rugby columns in a future programme...

GL13AX Gloucester Talk

with Peter Arnold

TIGER BY THE TAIL



Pity the poor programme writer. Having three home games on the trot may be great for the fans, but by the time the third one rolls around, even the most willing scribe can find it a bit difficult to find something new and interesting to say.

Fortunately, the problem isn't so severe this time round. When the third team to grace us with their talent is Leicester, rather than some run-of-the-mill side, then the occasion is worthy of comment.

They are, after all, one of the most highly regarded sides in Europe and are known all over the rugby world. What's more, they

don't flaunt it like some other outfits I could mention. They just go on winning matches and gathering honours with considerable aplomb.

Mind you, they've had plenty of practice. As long ago as 1905 they stopped competing in the Leicestershire County Cup, "to give someone else a chance". Mind you, they had won it for eight years in a row.

The club was founded in 1888 on the amalgamation of three local clubs. Within just a few years the press was already calling them 'the Tigers'. I've never really known how they acquired that nickname, but I now discover there are two theories about that.

The first, and generally accepted,

theory is that it's a reference to the brown and yellow stripes which they wore for a time. However, many other clubs wore striped shirts at the time, and they didn't all get called 'Tigers'.

Another story is that their local regiment had recently returned from a tour of duty in India, where they earned the nickname in action. And when they came home, the word 'Tigers' just sort of rubbed off.

You pays your money and you takes your choice. But, whatever the reason, we always look forward to the visit of Leicester. We've had some epic matches in the past, and there's no reason to suspect that anything will be different today.

CLOSE CALL



It all seemed to be going so well. Gloucester played some lovely rugby in the first half, but after the interval, Harlequins were allowed to get back into it, and in the end, were a tad unlucky not to get away with a draw.

Of course, the day didn't start well. To have lost Jim Hamilton to an ankle injury and Andy Hazell to the dreaded lurgy before the game even started was a bit of a blow, but the replacements were more than adequate.

However, the early departure of

Strokosch must have disrupted the back row somewhat. That could not have been good news, when one remembers that our multicoloured visitors are reputed to have the best back row in the land.

We didn't really need two yellow cards, either. I also hear that there was some doubt about Danny Care's early try, which is alleged to have come as a result of an illegal hand in the ruck.

I suppose you could say that we won and that's all that really matters, and there were certainly some very bright spots.

Brett Deacon continues to prove just what a very shrewd signing he was, and on another day, Charlie Sharples, who is rapidly becoming one of the best finishers in the country, could well have had a hat-trick.

All in all it was a rather odd game, but hey! We were fourth in the Premiership on Saturday night, so the words 'count' and 'blessings' come to mind.

AND FOR OUR NEXT TRICK...

Now follow that. You might think that anything which follows home games against Quins and the Tigers on successive Saturdays would come as a bit of an anticlimax. In some ways I wish that were true.

Unfortunately, we are now at that point in the season when the fixture list is about as straightforward as a plate of spaghetti. Premiership, Amlin, LV= Cup, Autumn Internationals. All knotted together to provide a thoroughly confusing picture for a poor, simple rugby supporter like me.

I suppose that it's inevitable that such a tangled web will throw up the occasional fixture anomaly.

In our case we have been handed Saracens twice in a fortnight, both games right here at Kingsholm, with Newport Gwent Dragons

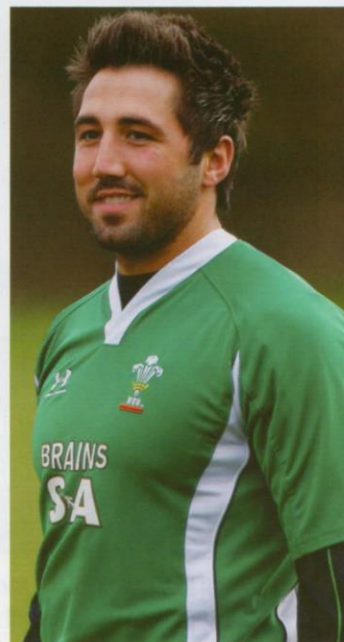
and Newcastle Falcons, both away games, and one midweek and the other on a Sunday there in the mix somewhere.

At least we have the home comforts for the two Sarries games. I don't suppose the Watford lads are exactly thrilled about visiting Kingsholm twice in such close proximity.

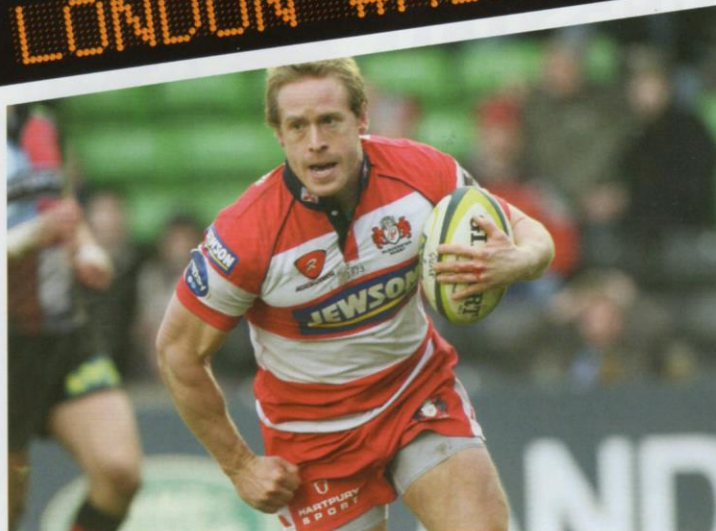
At the time of writing, it looks very much as if 'twinkletoes' Gavin Henson is joining Saracens. Now there's a happy prospect for the Shed if you like. Scope for hours of innocent fun there.

I can just about imagine the Strains of the Blue Danube echoing round the ground as the 'Strictly Come Dancing' contestant runs out on the field.

But he needn't expect a stately pas de deux as he tries to waltz through our midfield.



GLOUCESTER RUGBY 23
LONDON WASPS 12



After a four week hiatus, Gloucester Rugby returned to Aviva Premiership Rugby A League action on Monday evening and duly chalked up their second win in a row with a 23-12 victory over London Wasps.

It was evident even before the game that Wasps were struggling to put out a competitive side. Their team sheet revealed few familiar names, the likes of England international Jason Hobson and former Gloucester man Will Matthews were notable exceptions, and they were only able to name four replacements.

Gloucester were similarly stretched with men away on England duty, a big game against Leicester Tigers looming and the usual (for this stage of the season) number of injury absentees.

For Tim Taylor, however, it was an important game as the fly half was making his first competitive outing since injuring a knee in a first team outing against the same opposition a month ago.

And Taylor settled in quickly, kicking powerfully from hand yet taking every opportunity to unleash the backs outside him.

Inside him, scrum half Dan Robson was in lively form at scrum half whilst, in the midfield, Jonny May needed no

second invitation to display his speed and strength.

However, the visitors defended manfully and restricted Gloucester to three penalties from Taylor in the opening half hour before Hartpury second row Tom Savage smashed his way over to record the game's first try.

A 16-0 half time lead was comfortable enough although Wasps would rue the two fairly simple penalty opportunities that fly half Seb Jewell squandered.

Gloucester took the opportunity to withdraw a number of players at half time and the cohesion of the side suffered slightly after the break as a result but they were still offering more in attack and it came as no surprise when replacement Sam Meakin benefitted from an overlap on the left to score the second try.

With the game seemingly in the bag, Gloucester perhaps switched off a little in the final quarter and the Wasps midfield started to look dangerous and make the odd telling break.

Late tries from Joe Burton and Joe Launchbury made the final few minutes interesting but Gloucester still looked in control and Cinderford's Matt Betty very nearly finished the game on a high but was adjudged to have knocked on when he looked to have won the race to touch down a smark kick through.

THE LINE UPS



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

15. MATT BETTY
14. TOM VOYCE
13. JONNY MAY
12. JACK HAYES
11. RYAN BREND
10. TIM TAYLOR
9. DAN ROBSON
1. YANN THOMAS
2. DARREN DAWIDIUK
3. RUPERT HARDEN
4. TOM SAVAGE
5. WILL JAMES
6. ROB LANGLEY
7. MARCUS BROWN
8. MATT COX

16. KOREE BRITTON (FR)
17. JOE REID (FR)
18. HARRY CASSON
19. LOTTI MOLITIKA
20. WAYLON GASSON
21. CHRISTIAN GERVIAS
22. SAM MEAKIN

LONDON WASPS

15. WILL ROBINSON
14. JACOB WILSON
13. ELLIOT DALY (CAPT)
12. PHIL MCKENZIE
11. CHRIS ELDER
10. SEB JEWELL
9. JONAH HOLMES
1. SHAUN RUWERS
2. TOM LINDSAY
3. JASON HOBSON
4. PETER ELDER
5. JOE LAUNCHBURY
6. SAM NORTHCOTE-GREEN
7. JOE BURTON
8. WILL MATTHEWS

16. WILL BIGLEY (FR)
17. ANTHONY BRENNAN (FR)
18. ALEX FAN
21. DAVID ONYOMI



GLOUCESTER RUGBY 33
 HARLEQUINS 26

Gloucester Rugby's Aviva Premiership home matches are becoming something of a health hazard.

So far this season, three wins out of three. Nothing too shabby about that. However, each and every one has gone right down to the wire, leaving the nerves of the Kingsholm faithful stretched to breaking point.

This 33-26 victory over Harlequins was no exception. Despite unleashing a first half performance which left the Londoners chasing shadows, it took a close range try from Brett Deacon, his first for the club, to secure the points for Gloucester.

The home side's domination in the first 40 minutes was such that, had it been a



PEN 6min Robinson (3-0)
TRY 10min Care (3-5)
CON 10min Evans (3-7)

TRY 16min Lewis (8-7)
CON 16min Robinson (10-7)
PEN 19min Evans (10-10)

PEN 27min Robinson (13-10)

PEN 31min Robinson (16-10)
TRY 32min Sharples (21-10)
CON 32min Robinson (23-10)
PEN 40min Evans (23-13)

2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 20 | 22 | 24 | 26 | 28 | 30 | 32 | 34 | 36 | 38 | 40

KEY MOMENT

YC 49 min
Paul Doran-Jones

Gloucester were cruising and pushing hard for a third try which, with a 23-13 lead at the time, would have all but killed the game off. However, when Paul Doran-Jones and Quins' Joe Marler scuffled and only the Gloucester man was yellow carded, the tide turned in Quins favour and it took a massive effort for Gloucester to regain the upper hand.

"I THINK OUR FIRST HALF DISPLAY WAS VERY GOOD. SOME OF OUR SHAPE AND OUR ORGANISATION AND THE PRESSURE WE PUT ON HARLEQUINS I THOUGHT WAS GREAT."

boxing encounter, the referee may well have considered stopping the contest.

However, professional rugby is a game of 80 minutes and matters took an unexpected turn for Gloucester in the second half as, for the second time

MATCH STATISTICS



3	Tries	2
3	Conversion	2
4	Penalty goals	4
0	Dropped goals	0
1	Clean breaks	7
9	Defenders beaten	3
3	Offloads	7
71	Rucks won	69
10	Turnovers conceded	8
87	Tackles	97
3	Missed tackles	9
13	Penalties conceded	8

in three weeks, a pair of yellow cards reduced their second half plans to tatters.

Against Agen in the Amlin Challenge Cup, it cost Bryan Redpath's side the game. This time, his side had enough about them to regroup and secure the points. But it was a mighty close thing.

The late drama seemed unlikely as Gloucester's front five quickly established a massive superiority up front. The control was so great that Danny Care's long range try came as a real shock to the system.

If anything, it spurred Gloucester to greater heights and the pack continued to supply a conveyor belt of quality ball which the backs used with relish. Tries for Dave Lewis and Charlie Sharples

seemed scant reward.

Quins were reeling but the half time break allowed them to regroup and the sinbinnings of Paul Doran-Jones and Nick Wood gave the visitors the glimmer of hope they needed.

Nick Evans pulled the strings to manoeuvre Quins back into the game and, with just 12 minutes to go, Gloucester's lead had evaporated.

Ultimately, the match was determined by two late drives for the line. Deacon made it for Gloucester. Chris Robshaw didn't quite get there for Quins.

It's a game of inches sometimes... Head Coach Bryan Redpath:

"I think our first half display was very good. Some of our shape and our organisation and the pressure we put on Harlequins I thought was great."

"We created a lot and finished a couple of opportunities. We have to be critical and keep on top of that because, if you don't take them and your discipline slips, then you'll potentially lose the game."

THE LINE UPS

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

15. Olly Morgan
14. Charlie Sharples
13. Henry Trinder
12. Mike Tindall
11. James Simpson-Daniel
10. Nicky Robinson
9. Dave Lewis
1. Nick Wood
2. Scott Lawson
3. Paul Doran-Jones
4. Dave Attwood
5. Alex Brown
6. Alasdair Strokosch
7. Luke Narraway
8. Brett Deacon

16. Olivier Azam
17. Alasdair Dickinson
18. Pierre Capdevielle
19. Peter Buxton
20. Matt Cox
21. Jordi Pasqualin
22. Freddie Burns
23. Lesley Vainikolo

HARLEQUINS

15. Mike Brown
14. Tom Williams
13. George Lowe
12. Jordan Turner-Hall
11. Gonzalo Camacho
10. Nick Evans
9. Danny Care
1. Joe Marler
2. Chris Brooker
3. John Andress
4. Tomas Vallejos-Cinalli
5. George Robson
6. Chris Robshaw
7. Will Skinner
8. Nick Easter

16. Joe Gray
17. Ceri Jones
18. Mark Lambert
19. Peter Browne
20. Tom Guest
21. Karl Dickson
22. Rory Clegg
23. Ollie Smith

PEN 43min Robinson (26-13)
YC 49min Doran-Jones (26-13)

TRY 54min Evans (26-18)
CON 54min Evans (26-20)
YC 59min Wood (26-20)
PEN 60min Evans (26-23)

PEN 68min Evans (26-26)

TRY 77min Deacon (31-26)
CON 77min Robinson (33-26)

42 | 44 | 46 | 48 | 50 | 52 | 54 | 56 | 58 | 60 | 62 | 64 | 66 | 68 | 70 | 72 | 74 | 76 | 78 | 80

16.000 | 15.000 | 14.000 | 13.000

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VS. LEICESTER TIGERS // 30.10.10

TODAY'S LINE-UPS

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

	OLLY MORGAN	15	FULLBACK
0-7	CHARLIE SHARPLES	14	WING
3-3	HENRY TRINDER	13	CENTRE
3-6	JONNY MAY	12	CENTRE
6-6	JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL	11	WING
9-6	NICKY ROBINSON	10	FLY-HALF
←	RORY LAWSON	9	SCRUM-HALF
12-6	NICK WOOD	1	PROP
12-9	SCOTT LAWSON	2	HOOKER
12-12 PPP PC	PAUL DORAN-JONES	3	PROP
19-12	JIM HAMILTON	4	LOCK
	ALEX BROWN	5	LOCK
	LUKE NARRAWAY (C)	6	FLANKER
	ANDREW HAZELL	7	FLANKER
	BRETT DEACON	8	NO.8
	OLIVIER AZAM	16	
	ALASDAIR DICKINSON	17	
	PIERRE CAPDEVIELLE	18	
	WILL JAMES	19	
	PETER BUXTON	20	
	JORDI PASQUALIN	21	
	FREDDIE BURNS	22	
T	LESLEY VAINIKOLO	23	

LEICESTER TIGERS

	GEORDAN MURPHY (C)	
	SCOTT HAMILTON	
	MATT SMITH	
	ANTHONY ALLEN	
	ALESANA TUILAGI	
	TOBY FLOOD PPPP	TWELVETREES
	BEN YOUNGS	EMERSON
	BORIS STANKOVICH	AMORZA
	GEORGE CHUTER	
	DAN COLE	CASPOLI VAINIKOLO
	ED SLATER	
	GEORGE SKIVINGTON	
	TOM CROFT	
	CRAIG NEWBY	WOODS
	THOMAS WALDROM	
	JOE DUFFEY	
	MARCOS AYERZA	
	MARTIN CASTROGIOVANNI	
	STEVE MAFI	
	BEN WOODS	
	JAMES GRINDAL	
	BILLY TWELVETREES	
	MANU TUILAGI	

MATCH SCORE

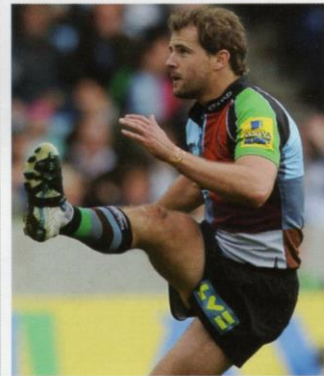
GLOUCESTER RUGBY	
v	
LEICESTER TIGERS	

REFEREE: Wayne Barnes
ASST REFEREES: Robin Goodliffe
and Roy Maybank

THE STATS THAT MATTER

TOP POINTS SCORERS

PLAYER	TOTAL
NICK EVANS*	91
RYAN LAMB	80
GARETH STEENSON	69
DERICK HOUGAARD	62
DAVE WALDER	57



TOP TRY SCORERS

PLAYER	TOTAL
SOANE TONGA'UIHA	5
CHRIS ASHTON	4
SCHALK BRITS	4
SCOTT HAMILTON	4
TOPSY OJO	4

