

13 • LEICESTER TIGERS vs GLOUCESTER RUGBY • Saturday 20th February 2010, Kick-off 3.00pm.

TIGERS

2008/09 GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP CHAMPIONS

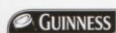


**LEICESTER TIGERS vs
GLOUCESTER RUGBY**

A Guinness Premiership Fixture

Official Programme £3.00

www.leicestertigers.com



www.guinnesspremiership.com

THE TEAMS: WELCOME TO WELFORD ROAD



















TIGERS vs GLOUCESTER













TODAY'S OFFICIALS:

REFEREE: MR WAYNE BARNES

ASSISTANTS: MR PAUL DIX

& MR PETER HUCKLE

TIGERS			GLOUCESTER			
	Geordan Murphy	15	FULL BACK	15	Olly Morgan	
	Scott Hamilton	14	RIGHT WING	14	James Simpson-Daniel	
	Dan Hipkiss	13	OUTSIDE CENTRE	13	Tim Molenaar	
	Anthony Allen	12	INSIDE CENTRE	12	Eliota Fuimaono-Sapolu	
	Lote Tuqiri	11	LEFT WING	11	Lesley Vainikolo	
	Toby Flood	10	FLY HALF	10	Nicky Robinson	
	Ben Youngs	9	SCRUM HALF	9	Dave Lewis	
	Marcos Ayerza	1	LOOSE HEAD PROP	1	Nick Wood	
	Mefin Davies	2	HOOKER	2	Olivier Azam	
	Julian White	3	TIGHT HEAD PROP	3	Greg Somerville	
	Louis Deacon (c)	4	SECOND ROW	4	Dave Attwood	
	Geoff Parling	5	SECOND ROW	5	Alex Brown	
	Craig Newby	6	BLINDSIDE FLANKER	6	Luke Narryaway	
	Ben Woods	7	OPENSIDE FLANKER	7	Akapusi Qera	
	Jordan Crane	8	NO. 8	8	Gareth Delve (c)	

Replacements			TIGERS SCORERS:	Replacements		
	George Chuter	16		16	David Dawidiuk	
	Boris Stankovich	17		17	Paul Doran-Jones	
	Martin Castrogiovanni	18		18	Pierre Capdevielle	
	Calum Green	19		19	Adam Eustace	
	Ben Pienaar	20		20	Andy Hazell	
	James Grindal	21		21	Rory Lawson	
	Jeremy Staunton	22	GLOUCESTER SCORERS:	22	Tim Taylor	
	Alesana Tuilagi	23		23	Tom Voyce	



TODAY'S OPPOSITION: GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

Gloucester Rugby have enjoyed a fine start to 2010, with last weekend's home victory over Harlequins their fifth in succession.



Luke Narryway takes control

It's a welcome change in fortunes given that the 2009/10 season was shaping up to be a difficult first one in charge for new head coach Bryan Redpath.

However, the turn of the year had a magical effect on Gloucester Rugby and it's been one positive story after another.

A dozen of the current squad have signed new contracts taking them beyond the end of this season and the club made its first new signing for next term when it announced that one of Welford Road's favourite sons, Brett Deacon, would be moving to Kingsholm in the summer.

Things look settled off the pitch as well with Redpath confirmed as head coach until at least the end of next season, his coaching team in place and under contract, and last week's announcement that Sir Ian McGeechan is acting as an advisor to the former Scotland international scrum-half.

Despite the opening-day victory over local rivals Bath, the Cherry and Whites had a difficult few months in the run-up to Christmas.

A crippling injury list, in addition to a number of suspensions, meant that Gloucester couldn't even field 15 against 15 on the training paddock at one point. A number of close results went against them, though several narrow defeats could so easily have been victories.

Throughout it all, however, Redpath remained admirably positive and maintained that his side were more than capable of delivering big performances.

The club's injury situation has eased somewhat in recent weeks although Redpath has been deprived of the services of a host of players due to various international call-ups, much like today's hosts.

And, with more resources at the head coach's disposal, performances and, more importantly, results, have started to follow.

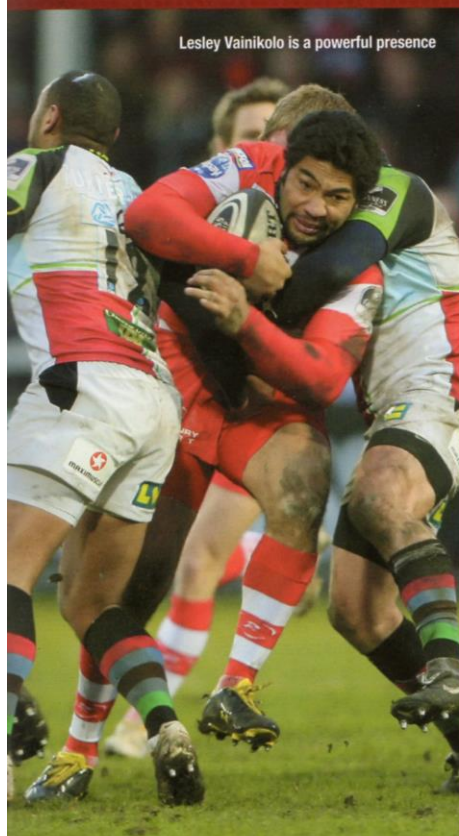
The self-belief in the side has been visibly rising in recent weeks and displays against Biarritz, Newport Gwent Dragons, Worcester Warriors and Harlequins (twice) have brought five wins and an increasing try count, as demonstrated by the six scored against Quins last weekend.

THREE TO WATCH

Olly Morgan - The England international full-back was named in the Sky Sports Dream Team last season and has just agreed at new contract at Kingsholm

Gareth Delve - Strong, athletic, ball-carrying back-rower, Delve is back to his best after injury and back in the Welsh international reckoning.

Dave Attwood - Big and strong second row signed from neighbours Bristol and now a regular in the England Saxons set-up.



Lesley Vainikolo is a powerful presence

The challenge now is to maintain that good form and translate it into another victory on the road.

That is a big ask. Leicester have a formidable home record and returned to the top of the Guinness Premiership table following a hard-fought victory at Leeds Carnegie last weekend.

This afternoon arguably represents Gloucester's toughest assignment of 2010 to date and the team acknowledge that they will have to operate at 100 per cent to be in with a chance of leaving Welford Road with the points. It could well be a titanic tussle this afternoon.

LAST TIME OUT

GLoucester 46 HARLEQUINS 6

Guinness Premiership, last Saturday

Team: Morgan, Simpson-Daniel, Molenaar, Fuimaono-Sapolu, Vainikolo, Robinson, Lewis; Wood, Azam, Somerville, Attwood, Brown, Narraway, Qera, Delve (c). Reps: Dawidiuk, Doran-Jones, Capdevielle, Eustace, Hazell, Lawson, Taylor, Voyce **Scorers:** Simpson-Daniel (3T), Voyce (T), Molenaar (T), Vainikolo (T), Robinson (2P, 3C), Taylor (2C)

GLoucester RUGBY SQUAD 2009/10

NAME	POSITION	AGE	HONOURS
BACKS			
Freddie Burns	FH	20	-
Eliota Fuimaono-Sapolu	C	29	Samoa
Rory Lawson	SH	29	Scotland
Dave Lewis	SH	20	-
Jonny May	C	19	-
Tim Molenaar	C	29	-
Olly Morgan	FB	24	England
Jordi Pasqualin	SH	19	-
Tristan Roberts	FH/FB	22	-
Nicky Robinson	FH	28	Wales
Charlie Sharples	W	20	-
James Simpson-Daniel	W/C	27	England
Semi Tadulala	W	31	Fiji
Tim Taylor	FH	27	-
Mike Tindall	C	31	England
Henry Trinder	C	20	-
Lesley Vainikolo	W	30	England
Tom Voyce	W	29	England
Andy Williams	SH	29	Wales
FORWARDS			
David Attwood	L	22	-
Olivier Azam	H	35	France
Jake Boer	Fl	34	-
Marco Bortolami	L	29	Italy
Alex Brown	L	30	England
Peter Buxton	BR	31	-
Pierre Capdevielle	P	35	-
Darren Dawidiuk	H	22	-
Gareth Delve	BR	27	Wales
Alasdair Dickinson	P	26	Scotland
Paul Doran-Jones	P	24	England
Adrian Duncan	H	21	-
Adam Eustace	L	30	-
Rupert Harden	P	24	-
Andy Hazell	Fl	31	England
Will James	L	33	Wales
Scott Lawson	H	28	Scotland
Luke Narraway	BR	26	England
Ben Phillips	H	29	-
Akapusi Qera	Fl	25	Fiji
Apo Satala	BR	31	Fiji
Greg Somerville	P	32	New Zealand
Alasdair Strokosch	Fl	26	Scotland
Yann Thomas	P	18	-
Dan Williams	BR	21	-
Nick Wood	P	31	-



James Simpson-Daniel dotted down a hat-trick last week



TODAY'S OPPOSITION: GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

PAST PREMIERSHIP ENCOUNTERS - LAST FIVE YEARS

2009/10

GLOUCESTER 12 TIGERS 9

Tigers began well at Kingsholm, with Jeremy Staunton landing an early penalty, before Freddie Burns, a late call-up to the Gloucester line-up, landed his first points. Staunton's second penalty made him the first player to reach 100 Guinness Premiership points this season but Tigers just couldn't find the decisive breakthrough.

Gloucester: Burns (3P, DG)

Tigers: Staunton (3P)

2008/09

GLOUCESTER 8 TIGERS 20

Tigers kicked off the season with a third win at Kingsholm in the space of just seven months. Geordan Murphy scored his 50th Premiership try and Toby Flood was also on the mark on his debut for the club following a summer move from Newcastle.

Gloucester: Morgan (T), Lamb (P)

Tigers: G Murphy (T), Flood (T, 2P, C), Dupuy (C)

TIGERS 24 GLOUCESTER 10

Scrum-half Julien Dupuy landed seven penalties as Tigers secured a league double over the Cherry and Whites, while Geordan Murphy added a stunning late drop goal from the halfway line. Iain Balshaw claimed an interception try for the visitors.

Tigers: Dupuy (7P), G Murphy (DG)

Gloucester: Balshaw (T), Barkley (P, C)

2007/08

TIGERS 17 GLOUCESTER 30

After wins in the opening three games of the season, Tigers stumbled to a first defeat after the visitors clocked up a 20-3 half-time lead, including an interception try from Welford Road favourite Leon Lloyd on his first return to the club.

Tigers: Croft (T), Cornwell (T), Goode (P), Burke (2C)

Gloucester: Lloyd (T), Penalty (T), Walker (T, 3C, 3P)

GLOUCESTER 13 TIGERS 20

A fixture between the top two in the table on a Six Nations weekend saw Tigers inflict a first home league defeat on Gloucester since May 2006, though the visitors were hanging on in defence at the end.

Gloucester: Azam (T), Walker (2P, C)

Tigers: O Smith (T), Erinle (T), Goode (2P, 2C)

GLOUCESTER 25 TIGERS 26

Premiership semi-final
Tigers reached a fourth successive Premiership Final after a late drop goal from Andy Goode sealed victory at Kingsholm for a second time in the season. Tigers fought back from 12-3 down and also bounced back from a Willie Walker drop goal in the closing stages.

Gloucester: Simpson-Daniel (T), Lamb (5P, C), Walker (DG)

Tigers: A Tuilagi (T), Mauger (T), Goode (3P, DG, 2C)

2006/07

TIGERS 27 GLOUCESTER 27

Gloucester's winning start to the season was brought to an end at Welford Road, but Tigers head coach Pat Howard was still disappointed after the hosts had led 16-9

at half-time and 27-21 with 20 minutes remaining.

Tigers: Hipkiss (T), Rabeni (T), Goode (C, 5P)

Gloucester: Forrester (T), Allen (T), Walker (C, 2DG, 2P), B Davies (P)

GLOUCESTER 28 TIGERS 24

Tigers outscored their hosts by four tries to two and led by 12 points at the 20-minute mark, but they were pegged back by the kicking of Willie Walker.

Gloucester: Hazell (T), Richards (T), Walker (6P)

Tigers: A Tuilagi (2T), G Murphy (T), Varndell (T), Humphreys (2C)

TIGERS 44 GLOUCESTER 16

Premiership Final

Alesana Tuilagi and Seru Rabeni were the destroyers in chief as a rampant Tigers completed the first league and cup double of the professional era, scoring seven tries at Twickenham to end a five-year wait for another league crown.

Tigers: A Tuilagi (2T), Corry (T), Jennings (T), Moody (T), F Murphy (T), Goode (T, P, 3C)

Gloucester: Lamb (T), Walker (3P, C)

2005/06

TIGERS 25 GLOUCESTER 20

A superb first-half effort from the Tigers forwards laid the foundation for a home victory, with Tom Varndell touching down either side of half-time and Michael Holford claiming one for the pack.

Tigers: Holford (T), Varndell (2T), Goode (2P, 2C)

Gloucester: Allen (T), Morgan (T), Mercier (2P, 2C)

GLOUCESTER 34 TIGERS 16

The Cherry and Whites leapfrogged Tigers into third place in the league table as the visitors were left to count the cost of several missed first-half chances.

Gloucester: Bailey (T), Penalty (T), Foster (T), Mercier (5P, 2C)

Tigers: W Johnson (T), Taukafa (T), Humphreys (2P)



Tom Croft forces his way into the corner last season