

Gloucester RFC Official Matchday Programme

Issue 10 | Price £2.50



Gloucester

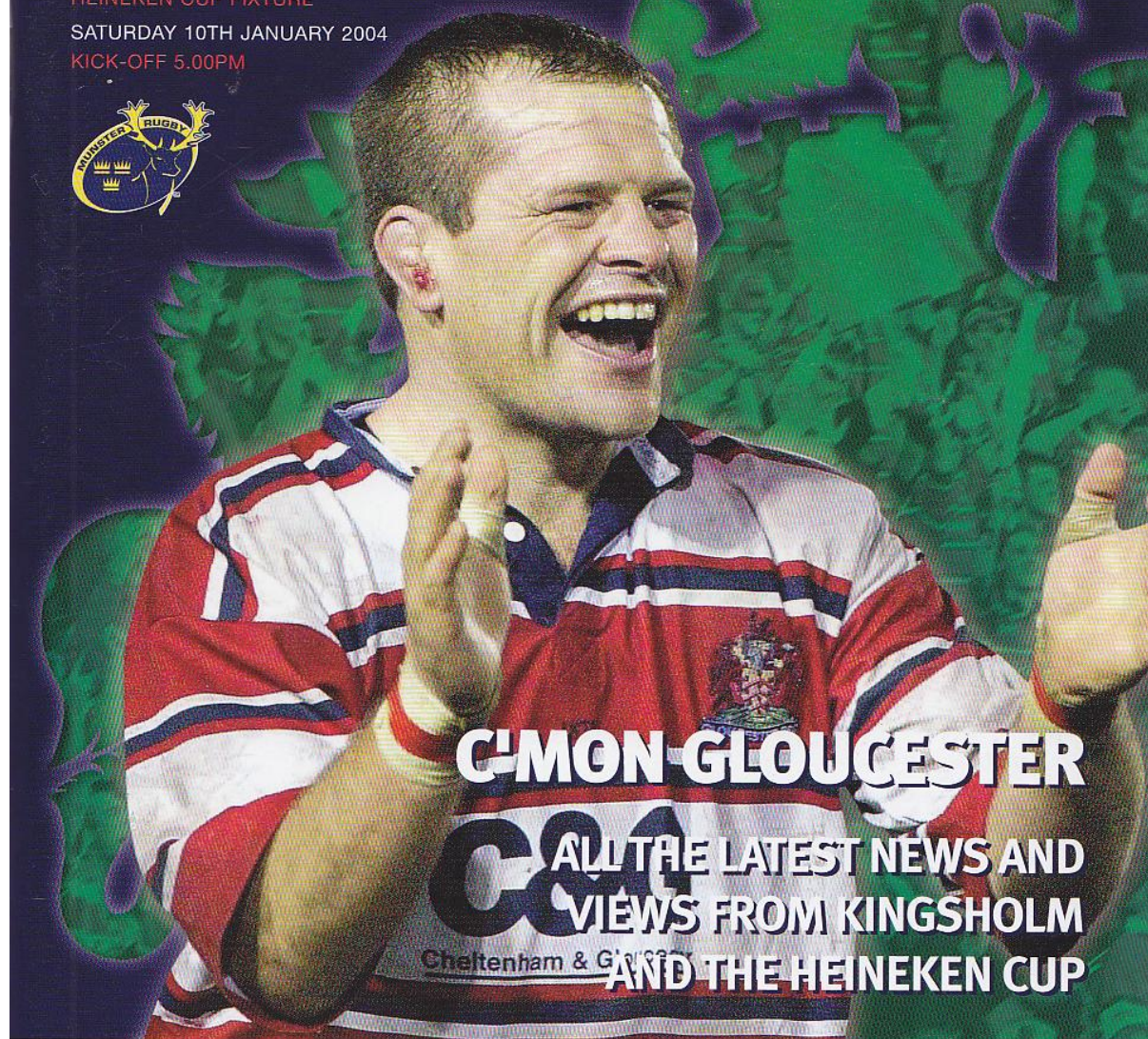
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

v Munster

HEINEKEN CUP FIXTURE

SATURDAY 10TH JANUARY 2004

KICK-OFF 5.00PM



C'MON-GLOUCESTER

**ALL THE LATEST NEWS AND
VIEWS FROM KINGSHOLM
AND THE HEINEKEN CUP**

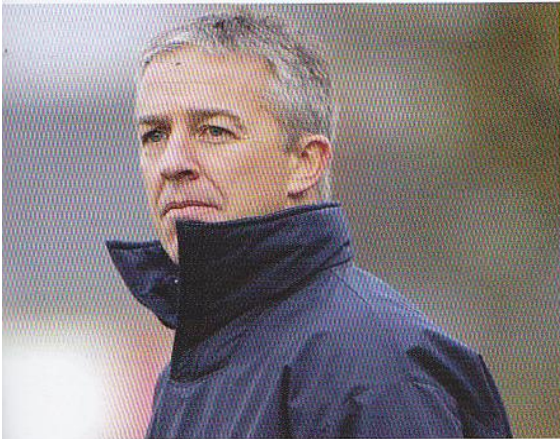


Heineken® Cup



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Round Three



NIGEL'S NOTES...

Nigel Melville

Director of Rugby

"For me these games were epic battles fought out before passionate capacity crowds..."

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Alan Gaffney and his Munster squad to Kingsholm for tonight's Heineken Cup action.

Much has been made of this particular fixture, for no other reason than it is simply a superb example of what European Cup rugby is all about.

Last season the statistics show that Munster and Gloucester played each other home and away, and that the honours were even – but we all know that was just part of the story!

For me these games were epic battles fought out before passionate capacity crowds, the final game of the group at Thomond Park was a classic, a classic that we lost fairly and squarely and we were dumped out of the Heineken Cup. I have yet to meet a player or spectator on either side that didn't take something from the experience!

Last week, we travelled to Welford Road in the Zurich Premiership, away wins at Leicester are rare occasions, being a part of one last week brought everyone enormous satisfaction.

I was disappointed to hear that Dean Richards couldn't bring himself to admit we were the better team on the day – I guess its just a whole new world for him at the moment.

In Dean's defence, I have been amazed at those calling for his head, he has done so much for Leicester in recent years. The World Cup took more players from Leicester than anywhere else, Dean must now be given time to turn their fortunes around.

Today is also a special day for everyone at Gloucester,

it isn't everyday that the World Cup visits Kingsholm.

I hope everyone gets their chance to have a look at it, a chance for youngsters to dream – I wonder if anyone playing or watching today will be bringing the Cup home in 2007?

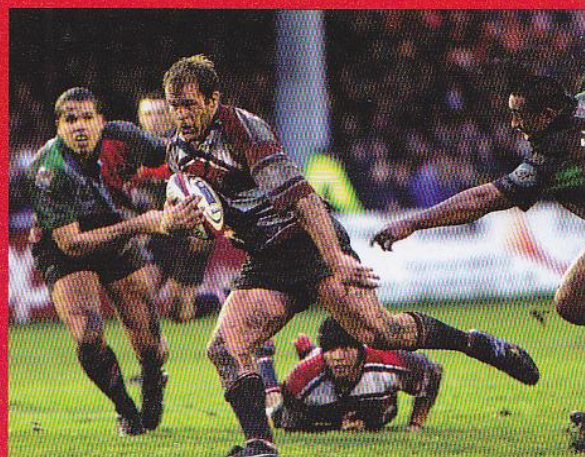
I know that Sir Clive Woodward is with us today in the commentary box, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Clive and his team for a really special autumn, and congratulate him on his knighthood.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for their support at Leicester last week, it really did lift our spirits as the Tigers crowd was reduced to near silent support of their team.

We all know that today is special, lets get behind the Cherry and Whites and enjoy part one of this epic fixture.

Happy New Year





KINGSHOLM SATURDAY 27 DECEMBER 2003



GLOUCESTER 18

TRIES: SIMPSON-DANIEL, WOODMAN

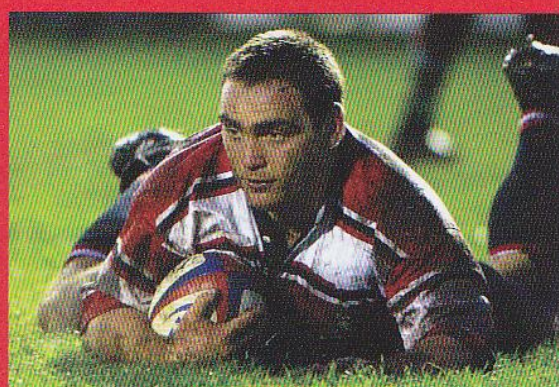
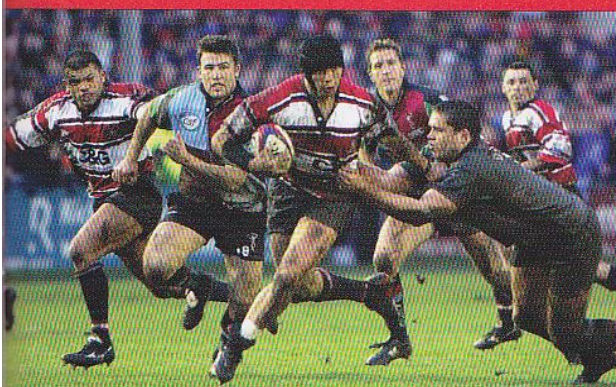
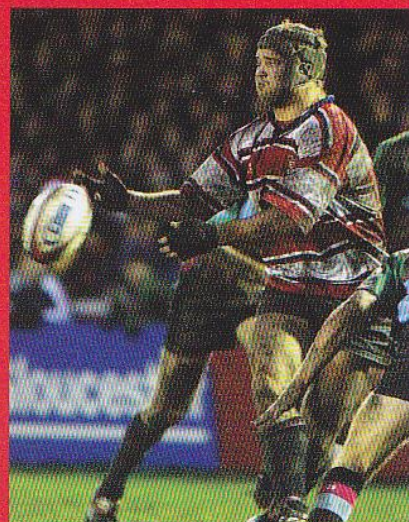
CONVERSIONS: PAUL PENALTIES: PAUL (2)



NEC HARLEQUINS 17

TRIES: GREENWOOD, JONES

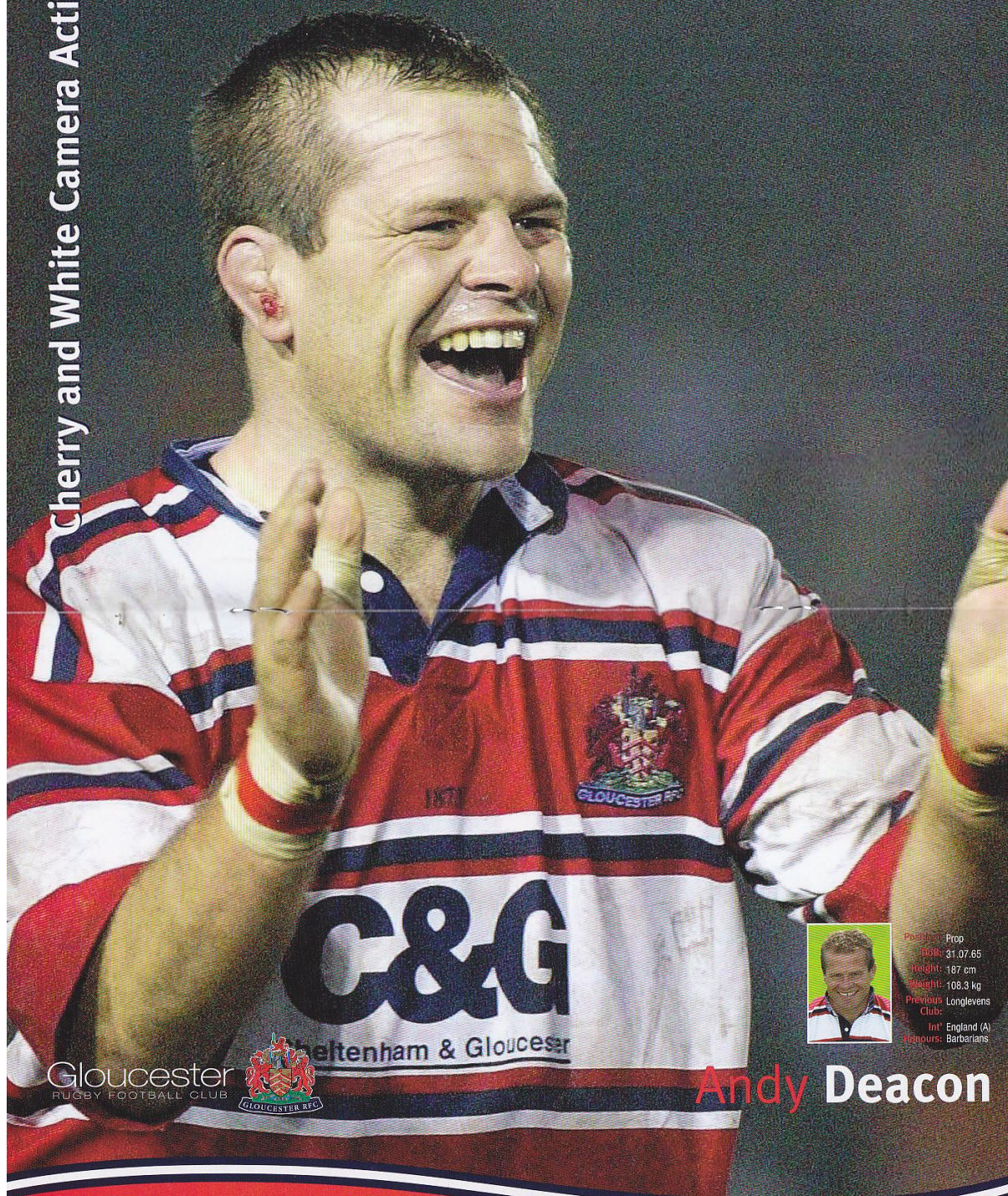
CONVERSIONS: DUNNE (2) PENALTIES: DUNNE



top left: James Simpson-Daniel as he goes over for his first half try. top right: Peter Buxton evades a tackle from Harlequins Ace Tiatia.
middle: Jake Boer passes. bottom left: Henry Paul is tackled by Harlequins Tony Diprose.
bottom right: Trevor Woodman goes over to score his second half try.

Pictures courtesy of Bruce Seabrook - GPA Images

Cherry and White Camera Action



Position: Prop
DOB: 31.07.65
Height: 187 cm
Weight: 108.3 kg
Previous Club: Longlevens
Int'l: England (A)
Honours: Barbarians

Andy Deacon

Gloucester
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB



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WELFORD ROAD SATURDAY 3 JANUARY 2004



LEICESTER TIGERS 18

TRIES: SMITH, BAXTER

CONVERSIONS: GOODE PENALTIES: GOODE (2)

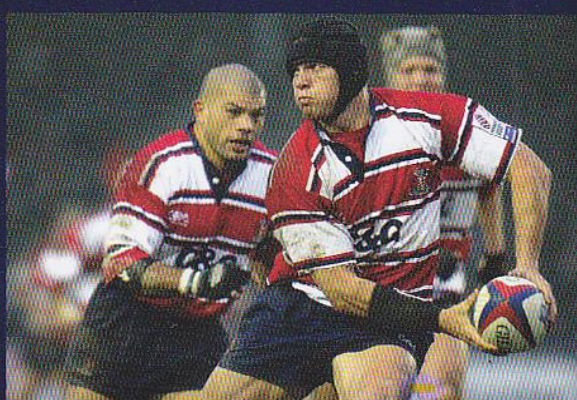
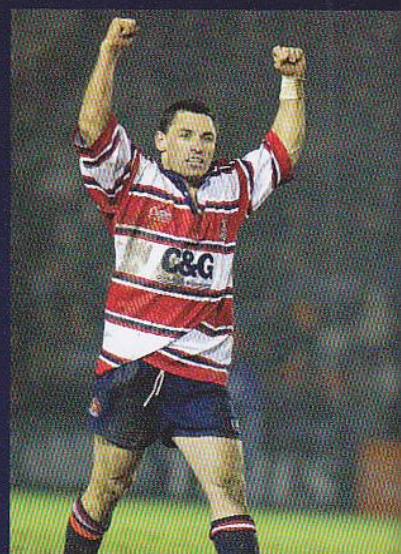


GLOUCESTER 28

TRIES: BROWN, PARAMORE, MCRAE

CONVERSIONS: PAUL (2) PENALTIES: PAUL

DROP GOALS: MCRAE (2)



top left: Chris Fortey makes a break supported by Trevor Woodman and Jake Boer. top right: Marcel Garvey is tackled from behind by Leicesters Ollie Smith.
middle: Duncan McRae. bottom left: Henry Paul escapes a challenge from Leicesters Austin Healey. bottom right: Henry Paul.

Pictures courtesy of Bruce Seabrook - GPA Images



Teams

Leicester:

van der Westhuyzen, Baxter, Lloyd, Smith, F. Tuilagi, Goode, Healey, Rowntree, Richards, Morris, M. Johnson, Kay, W. Johnson, Back, H. Tuilagi.

Replacements: Chuter for Richards (74), L. Deacon for M. Johnson (41), W. Skinner for W. Johnson (74).

Not Used: Nebbett, Vesty, Myring, Gelderbloem.

Gloucester:

Goodridge, Garvey, Todd, Paul, Simpson-Daniel, McRae, Gomarsall, Woodman, Fortey, Deacon, Brown, Cornwell, Boer, Buxton, Paramore.

Replacements: Fanolua for Todd (60), Eustace for Cornwell (60).

Not Used: Collins, Roncero, Wood, Merryman, Page.

Att: 16,815

Ref: Roy Maybank (RFU).

Top: Andy Deacon celebrates Gloucester's win at the final whistle.

Gloucester's Henry Paul led the way as the Cherry and Whites made history by beating Leicester 28-18 to secure their first Zurich Premiership win at Welford Road at the weekend.

Paul was in superb form and created tries for Alex Brown and Junior Paramore as well as kicking a penalty and a conversion - with fly-half Duncan McRae adding two drop-goals and scoring a try of his own at the death.

Ollie Smith and Neil Baxter replied with tries for the Tigers, and Andy Goode landed a conversion and two penalties.

Leicester restored England captain Martin Johnson to the starting line-up but were without Lewis Moody (foot), Julian White (knee) and Dorian West (knee).

Gloucester started without Phil Vickery, Andy Hazell, Steve Brotherstone, James Forrester, Thiuns Delpont and Simon Amor.

Rookie Jon Goodridge took over from Delpont at full-back and faced a stiff examination of his ability as the snow showers abated on a gloomy day in the east midlands.

Leicester's pack dominated the opening half-hour, with Johnson and Ben Kay in control at the line-out and Henry Tuilagi explosive from the base of the scrum.

But all they had to show for their efforts - after McRae's opening drop-goal for the visitors - was a soft score from Smith on 21 minutes.

Smith appeared to have nowhere to go in midfield but then stepped into open space and accelerated 40 metres under the posts to make Andy Goode's conversion a formality.

A Paul penalty and a second McRae drop-

goal edged Gloucester in front, and they withstood some furious Leicester pressure on their own line before Paul carved out a fabulous try for Brown after the Tigers spilled the ball in midfield.

Paul surged down the right with Marcel Garvey, and Goodridge stopped short before the ball was moved left again. James Simpson-Daniel looked hemmed in by defenders, but his looping pass found Mark Cornwell who ushered Brown over.

Leicester started the second half strongly, with their first concerted attack into opposition territory giving Goode the position to pull back three points.

But they were stung by a second try, Paul creating mayhem almost every time he received the ball, and another half-break from the centre saw Jake Boer put Paramore over in the corner. Paul added the extra points.

Finally, some luck went Leicester's way - with Neil Baxter juggling Goode's pass before shaking off a tackle and touching down in the corner on 52 minutes.

Although Goode could not convert, he made no mistake with a 58th-minute penalty to pull his side back to only 21-18 down going into the final quarter.

Goodridge was unlucky when he could not get the ball away after breaking to within 10 metres of the Leicester line - and 10 minutes from time Paul missed a long-range penalty effort wide of the posts.

It did not matter, though. Goode missed with a 45metre effort which could have tied the game, and the Cherry and Whites went straight down the other end for McRae to stroll through an overloaded defence. Paul then converted via the inside of the left-hand post.

Cherry and White Camera Action

Jake Boer



Position: Flanker
DoB: 01.11.75
Height: 187 cm
Weight: 105 kg
Previous Club: London Irish

Gloucester
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB



There is no doubt that if supporters were asked to name their all-time Gloucester XV that Jake Boer would feature in a high percentage. He leads from the front and offers so much to the Cherry and Whites. Unbelievably he's never received international recognition from his native South Africa, but he has made a home in the West Country and is a big fan's favourite.

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Peter Arnold

Long time supporter and contributor to the matchday programme, Peter Arnold looks at the MBEs that Gloucester has in its ranks and holiday periods in years gone by.

LIMPING INTO 2004

I don't think I have ever had to wait a full 10 days into a new year before revealing my latest thoughts to the assembled Kingsholm Faithful. As many older supporters will recall we always used to have a game on or around New Year's Day when the opposition was invariably provided by either Moseley or London Scottish.

Doesn't sound very enthralling in today's climate but in fact, either side provided a stiff test for anyone in those days. Both of them could be relied upon to include a whole clutch of internationals, and both sides liked nothing better than to beat

Gloucester at Kingsholm. Not that it happened very often.

So what are my thoughts in 2004? First of all, I feel desperately sorry for Thinus Delport. He was really revealing just what a formidable asset to the squad he is before being stricken with the dreaded cruciate ligament injury, inflicted while playing a crucial role in a peach of a try, scored by Dougie Woodman with help from Sinbad and Jake Boer. In fact, that beautiful score effectively beat Harlequins in that hard-fought game, played in filthy conditions a couple of weeks ago.

It's not a bad way to be sidelined for the rest of the season, I suppose, but I don't think that will be much consolation to our returning Springbok, who some wiseacres

were sniffily predicting would not return to Kingsholm after the World Cup.

We also have had to suffer the absence of Phil Vickery who sustained a rib injury in the win over Bourgoin, and that got me to thinking about all the other World Cup players who have sustained injuries almost as soon as they walked out on the field on resuming club duties.

Until I took a look at it, I hadn't really realised just what an enormous list it is. Quite apart from our own two casualties, we must look at the Jonny Wilkinson story, which is well known, and also take a trawl through the other members of the squad. A top-of-the-head list, which is probably not exhaustive, would include the names of Hill, Dawson, Cohen, Regan, Tyndall, Catt, Corry, Moody, West and the skipper himself, Martin Johnson. And that doesn't include overseas Premiership players such as Diego Albanese.

I suppose that there could be a variety of factors behind this perplexing plague. Some injuries, like Wilkinson's, may be the result of carrying a niggle back from Australia and coming back into action too soon. Others may be due to the 'High Noon' syndrome - the desire by other players to target the perceived stars and knock them off their pedestals.

Then there is the difference in training methods; getting back into a club system which is probably not at all like the routine to which players have become accustomed





while on duty with the National squad. Possibly a new set of muscled and ligaments have come under pressure.

It's an odd syndrome; one which one can only hope will have run its course before the Six Nations rears its formidable head.

WELL DESERVED

One thing's for sure. Gloucester has never gone into a New Year with three Members of the British Empire in the ranks before. The honours to Phil Vickery, Trevor Woodman and Andy Gomarsall are well deserved and will be welcomed by almost everyone. I say 'almost' because there are always a few curmudgeons who turn their noses up at the whole thing. I hope it is not too far from the Festive Season to quote "Bah ! Humbug !" at them.

Whatever you think about the validity of the awards or the Honours system as a whole, you do have to admit that it is an obvious way for the achievements of the World Cup squad to be recognised nationally and by the Establishment, and

should therefore be applauded.

There are also those who point out that the 1966 soccer World Cup team didn't get similar treatment. Neither did they, but one does have to admit that moved on in the intervening 34 years, and the climate has changed out of sight since then.

I would also maintain, with the greatest respect in the world to the soccer players, that the 2003 achievement is greater than the earlier one. In 1966 the England squad were playing on their own pitches, largely in front of their own crowds, international travel not being anywhere near as easy as it is now. The rugby players were operating on the turf of the reigning World Champions, against a background of a sustained media attack which featured regular put-downs and occasionally reprehensible tactics. Many squads would have wilted under that sort of pressure.

I would also like to make a respectful nod towards the cricketers. It was great to see Gloucestershire skipper, Mark Alleyne, recognised in the same Honours list. Again, the honour is richly deserved.

I must admit that, in saying that, I'm not entirely altruistic. Mark never achieved the status of a full Test Match player, although perhaps he should have done. His MBE proves that you don't have to play your game at the very highest level to receive an honour from Her Majesty.

That being so, wouldn't it be nice if the club were to make an approach to the right authority, perhaps through our MP, suggesting that Andy Deacon might feature in some future list ?

FOUR IN A ROW

It's always satisfying to beat Leicester, but last Saturday's win - the fourth in a row over the Tigers - was particularly gratifying because it came on their own patch. Even though Leicester may not, apparently, be the side they once were, wins at Welford Road are still a rarity.

If I were a player, my mind would be telling me that if we can win there, then we can win anywhere. Starting next week, perhaps?

BY IAN RANDALL

BBC RADIO GLOUCESTERSHIRE



As 2004 gets underway – and I hope you enjoyed seeing it in - I can only say that if the next 51 weekends match the first one for local sport, I will be reaching for some nerve related medication long before we see the Christmas decorations again.

Gloucester's win at Leicester (and Cheltenham Town's FA Cup game at Fulham) showed why for literally millions of people, sport is a major part of their life. Rarely do you experience such swings of emotion in such a short space of time.

“Rarely do you experience such swings of emotion in such a short space of time. ”

injury time goal. It was the equivalent of Old Patesians very nearly winning at Sale, which I'm sure you'll agree would be some achievement.

The antithesis of that dejection was Duncan McRae's try at Welford Road, yet that could have been so different too if Andy Goode had kicked his penalty to tie the scores at 21-21. Even that kick was in injury time, emphasising it was a weekend where many fans were put through a mangle of emotions.

Talking of highs and lows, Munster are here today. Much has been said and written about last season's tussles, and the fact that Gloucester are paired with the Irishmen again, but a comment from Dean Ryan last week bears repeating.

For Cheltenham fans at Fulham, the replay they richly deserved was snatched away from them with an

He spoke of Gloucester being older and wiser as a team, and bearing in mind the club's record of never



having beaten Leicester on their own ground in the Premiership, the performance of Welford Road showed a lot of nous.

One can only imagine what Jake Boer said when he took the team out for their motivational huddle before the match, but it inspired Gloucester to a performance that could turn their season. Wins in two of the four remaining away games in the Premiership (most likely at Rotherham and Saracens), coupled with a 100% home record, could be just enough.

The hope is that Gloucester's injury situation will have improved sufficiently for Forrester, Hazell and Vickery to all be considered for today's game, and that Thinus Delport may also be here, though of course not on the pitch. His knee injury against Harlequins is a severe blow to him personally and to the club given his form since the World Cup, but it does give another chance to Jon Goodridge, who knows what it is like to spend months out of the game given his shoulder problems last season. He looked sharp in attacking situations last Saturday, and apparently his boyhood hero was Christian Cullen, which should mean he's relishing the chance to play today.

Since the first two rounds of games in the Heineken Cup, the group has been a constant topic of conversation in the BBC Radio Gloucestershire newsroom, although we keep coming back to the same result.

Gloucester can afford to lose one game if they are to make the knockout stages, but this certainly isn't it. Munster, having travelled badly at Kingsholm last season, put down a marker by winning their opening match in Bourgoin and they now know what coming here is all about, both in terms of the atmosphere and, in most cases, the Gloucester side.

Their tactics will no doubt follow their usual measured but intense pattern, so the Cherry & Whites may look to counter them by moving the ball wide and exploiting the pace of Garvey, Simpson-Daniel and Goodridge. In many ways dealing with Leicester in the way they did last Saturday may have been an excellent dress rehearsal for today.

When we all meet again in three weeks time,

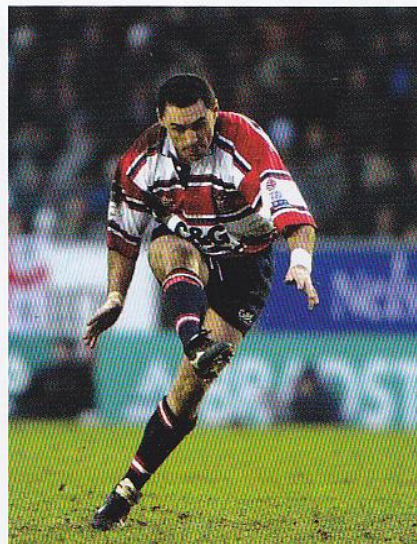
"...it inspired Gloucester to a performance that could turn their season."

Gloucester may have cause to be grateful that they finish the pool stages at home to Treviso. Bourgoin, with back to back matches against the Italians, may look to be in the mix mathematically, but they have to go to Thomond Park last.

Actually, that's a bit like Cheltenham going to Fulham, and just ask anyone you know who was amongst the 3,000 travelling Cheltenham supporters just how close the Robins came to upsetting the odds. Gloucester don't want to leave any doors ajar for anyone to sneak through.

Finally, a reminder that **BBC Radio Gloucestershire** will provide full match commentary from both Munster and Bourgoin on FM and 1413 AM, and also on the club website www.gloucesterrugbyclub.com.

C'mon Glaws !



Fans Zone

with
Bob Fenton

Bob Fenton, regular columnist in the matchday programme, got set in his superstitious ways and missed out on the visit to Welford Road. After Saturday's win, will he ever go back...

I'm still sulking... After spending far too much money on too many unsuccessful trips to Welford Road I didn't travel last weekend, opting to watch it on TV instead. Then look at what happens - the

"Of course I had the 'lucky everything' on to watch the game so that obviously worked."

boys go and pull off a fantastic victory.

Of course I had the 'lucky everything' on to watch the game so that obviously worked. Therefore, to a typically superstitious fan like me, that can only mean one thing: I am an unlucky supporter. Think about it. For the past few seasons I have been there and we have come away with nothing, the one time I don't go we win.

So it stands to reason, doesn't it - I must be a jinx and this means I cannot go to Leicester again. Not that it will matter much, if their form carries on like this they will be in division one anyway!

Once you get passed the high stress factor of watching your team in a live game (nervous pacing round the room, uncontrollable urges to shout, compulsive eating and drinking) it can be quite entertaining. For instance in last

Saturday's game as Alex Brown was about to score Henry Tuilange did his level best to rip his head off - even Leicester team mate Geordan Murphy agreed that he should have spent some time in the bin - but what of the match officials.

The man with the whistle, Roy Maybank - trots over to his touch judge to ask what he saw. He explains what happened and Roy says "Did you see which player did it?" The touch judge who was fully five feet from the incident says "No!"

What!!! If it wasn't bad enough that he couldn't see the enormous number eight on the back of the guys shirt, Tuilange himself was still kneeling down by his feet almost waiting to be sent off.

Actually Whistling Roy and his little crew cost me my New Year Resolution after just three short days. 'I resolve not to abuse match day officials, they have a difficult enough job to do without me sticking my oar in,' says I on New Years Day.

When I saw who was in charge of that match I found myself muttering "Oh no, not that [insert mildly rude word of choice here]" And that was that. Oh well, saves fretting about it for another week or so.

It was also worth watching it on TV to see Dean Richards' post-match interviews. Boy was he unhappy, he gave the guy from Sky such a hard time you half expected to see a great big meaty hand come up and strangle the poor sap. Every word was spat out while Deano looked like he'd rather be locked away in the changing room ripping the arms and legs off his players. That couple of minutes of TV was worth my Sky subscription on its own!



The Leicester game was the second one I watched over the weekend, I saw a bit of Sarries destruction of Leeds a day or so earlier. The one thing that stood out was the atmosphere at the games. Say what you like about Leicester fans and Welford Road they do create a fine spirit inside the ground (well they did until they went very quiet when Duncan McRae galloped over at the end) and it is always a good ground to go to.

Compare that to the huge silence that is Vicarage Road. Sad to say Saracens fans have now copied their fellow soccer-ground inhabitants at London Irish in bringing a bunch of guys with big drums along to add to proceedings.

When are they going to learn that the constant pounding of drums does not create an atmosphere, it kills it. Any attempts at singing are a waste of time, and everyone goes home with a banging headache. The sooner all the grounds ban these self-indulgent Cozy Powell

wannabes and their latest toys the better, then the rest of us can get back to enjoying a real atmosphere without drums, loud music and half-witted announcers (not you, Graham). Complaining about loud music now... I must be getting old.

But what about today's game. I know a lot of people have been looking forward to this one for some time. Revenge for our no-show in Limerick last January, or for their five-try 35 - 16 defeat here in December.

It's also a chance to renew acquaintances made last time round in this competition. In fact so many shirts were swapped in Clohesey's Bar last January that it might be a bit difficult to spot which supporter is which today. Such are the things that make this a great competition and a great sport to follow.

This match up has all the hallmarks of being another epic encounter, and must

be the most mouth-watering of all the ties in the pool stages. We'll go into the game on a high after recording the win at Welford Road last weekend, Munster come into the match on the back of a 3 - 0 win over Connacht last Saturday. When was the last time we saw a score line like that? Must have been a hell of a tussle.

Neither side has been setting their respective leagues on fire this season, we hover around the top half of the Premiership, Munster are sitting in seventh position in the Celtic League with a five and five record for this season. But this is the Heineken Cup, current form or standings go out of the window, after all who would have tipped Toulouse to trip up at Edinburgh the other weekend?

It's going to be a great game; I just hope that the bar has got enough Guinness in for the occasion.

|  | | | |  | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|---------|--------------|---|----------------------|---|------------|---------|-----------|
| GLOUCESTER | | | | MUNSTER | | | | | |
| TRY | CONVERSION | PENALTY | DROP GOAL | | | TRY | CONVERSION | PENALTY | DROP GOAL |
| <hr/> | | | | <hr/> | | | | | |
|  | Jon Goodridge | 15 | fullback | 15 | Shaun Payne |  | | | |
|  | Marcel Garvey | 14 | wing | 14 | John Kelly |  | | | |
|  | Terry Fanolua | 13 | centre | 13 | Mike Mullins |  | | | |
|  | Henry Paul | 12 | centre | 12 | Rob Henderson |  | | | |
|  | James Simpson-Daniel | 11 | wing | 11 | Anthony Horgan |  | | | |
|  | Duncan McRae | 10 | flyhalf | 10 | Ronan O'Gara |  | | | |
|  | Andy Gomarsall | 09 | scrumhalf | 09 | Peter Stringer |  | | | |
| <hr/> | | | | <hr/> | | | | | |
|  | Trevor Woodman | 01 | prop | 01 | Marcus Horan |  | | | |
|  | Chris Collins | 02 | hooker | 02 | Frank Sheahan |  | | | |
|  | Andy Deacon | 03 | prop | 03 | John Hayes |  | | | |
|  | Alex Brown | 04 | lock | 04 | Donnacha O'Callaghan |  | | | |
|  | Mark Cornwell | 05 | lock | 05 | Paul O'Connell |  | | | |
|  | Jake Boer (c) | 06 | flanker | 06 | Jim Williams (c) |  | | | |
|  | Peter Buxton | 07 | flanker | 07 | David Wallace |  | | | |
|  | Junior Paramore | 08 | no. 8 | 08 | Anthony Foley |  | | | |
| <hr/> | | | | <hr/> | | | | | |
|  | Rob Elloway | 16 | replacements | 16 | James Blaney |  | | | |
|  | Paul Johnstone | 17 | | 17 | Gordon McIlwham |  | | | |
|  | Rodrigo Roncero | 18 | | 18 | David Pusey |  | | | |
|  | Adam Eustace | 19 | | 19 | Stephen Keogh |  | | | |
|  | James Merriman | 20 | | 20 | Eoin Reddan |  | | | |
|  | Alex Page | 21 | | 21 | Jeremy Staunton |  | | | |
|  | Robert Todd | 22 | | 22 | Jason Holland |  | | | |

TODAY'S MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: N H Williams
1st TJ: C Thomas
2nd TJ: A Rowlands

TODAY'S RESULT

Gloucester 22
Munster 11

design: paul watkins
dunwoody
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Round Three