Leicester Football Club 1985-6

TIGERS v GLOUCESTER
SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH 1985 – K.O. 3.00 P.M.
OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 30p

PATRONS IND COOPE
LEICESTER
Colours: Scarlet, Green and White

O  W. H. Hare (Capt.)*  Full Back
N  B. Evans  Right Wing
M  I. Bates  Centre
L  T. Buttimore  Centre
K  C. Dexter  Left Wing
J  R. Pegg  Fly Half
I  S. Kenney  Scrum Half
A  M. Whitcombe  Prop
B  C. Tressler  Hooker
C  W. Richardson  Prop
D  N. Joyce  Lock
E  M. Foulkes-Arnold  Lock
F  A. Marriott  Wing Forward
G  D. Richards  No. 8
H  R. Tebbutt  Wing Forward
Repl: K. McDonald

* Internationals

JOHN SMITH'S MERIT TABLES

NatWest
The Action Bank

is pleased to sponsor today's match

GLOUCESTER
Colours: Cherry/White

15  T. Smith  Full Back
14  D. Morgan  Right Wing
13  R. McLean  Centre
12  P. Taylor (Capt.)  Left Wing
11  J. Breeze  Fly Half
10  M. Hamlin  Scrum Half
  9   M. Hannaford  Prop
  8   M. Freeley*  Prop
  7   G. Mann  Hooker
  6   R. Phillips  Lock
  5   N. Scrivens  Lock
  4   J. Brain  Wing Forward
  3   J. Gadd  Wing Forward
  2   M. Longstaff  No. 8
  1   J. Bennett  No. 8

Repl: S. Artus  J. Etheridge

Referee: P. Wakefield — London Society

For a full range of banking services why not call in at any of our branches in the Leicester area.
## Youth Fifteen Fixtures and Results

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<th>Month</th>
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<th>Result</th>
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<td>Bedford</td>
<td>Lost 10-25</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Cardiff</td>
<td>Lost 12-26</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>Davenport</td>
<td>Won 29-7</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>Nuneaton</td>
<td>Won 30-17</td>
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<td>October</td>
<td>Bath</td>
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<td>Nottingham</td>
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<td>October</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
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<td>October</td>
<td>Rosslyn Park</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td>Lichfield</td>
<td>Lost 3-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Cambridge Univ.</td>
<td>Lost 12-15</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td>Aiberaman</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Pontyprridy</td>
<td>Lost 10-18</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td>Broughton Park</td>
<td>Won 19-7</td>
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<td>December</td>
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<td>December</td>
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<td>December</td>
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## Barker's ifs and buts

For the Record:
- **Gloucester Founded:** 1873
- **Ground:** Kingsholm
- **Games played:** 114 — Gloucester lead 76-62.
- **Leicester's best win:** 31-9 at home 1971-2
- **Gloucester's best win:** 39-6 (Kingsholm) 1977-78
- **Gloucester's biggest win at Leicester:** 29-6 1973-4
- **Last season:** Lost 15-37 (away), Won 27-6 (home).

Gloucester have had a very lean period by their standards over the past few seasons. Last year, although only losing fifteen matches, unfortunately too many of them were in the South-West Merit Table, and thus they have had to play the early rounds of this year's John Player Cup. This, after only losing by 11-12 to Bath in last year's semi-final, and, to their credit, a better rugby. The start of 1985-6 promised better things. However, defeat by 44-3 to Swansea, and then 14-18 at home to Coventry in the first two matches were, if not disasters, nearly as good as.

The Cherry and Whites quite rightly buckled down to hard work, and following a 53-0 win over Pontyprridy, and a record-breaking 87-3 win against Exeter Univ. in the J.P.C. 1st Round put them back on the right lines. Since then Gloucester have eliminated Llaves 24-10 in the J.P.C. 2nd Round, and are unbeaten for the past five matches. This run started at the beginning of November, and includes two notable scalps. Gloucester were the team to take away Rosslyn Park's unbeaten record, and followed this up by being the first English team to beat Bath this season. They have only played two John Smith games so far — beating Bath — but coming unstuck earlier in the season when losing 43-6 to Harlequins at Twickenham. Their record reads: Won 15, Lost 7 with 532 points For and 257 Against.

A Leicester/Gloucester match never needs any extra incentive, so the fact that this is suddenly a Merit Table game really will make little difference to the players attitude. It is a shame that the Divisional Championship hits such an attractive fixture with the Tigers supplying five members to the Midlands, while Gloucester lose three to the South and South-West team. Leicester captain Les Cusworth and centre Paul Dodge are both in the Midlands XV with scrum-half Nick Youngs, prop Stuart Redfern, and flanker John Wells sitting on the bench. Gloucester's missing trio are all forwards — hooker Kevin White, prop Richard Pascal and England lock John Owain.

Leicester call up their usual replacements for today's game, and are helped by the return of Barry Evans to the right-wing after missing the Saracens match through injury. Richard Pell playing his 19th game today moves from his try scoring wing spot to fly-half. While the Divisional matches are taking place Dusty Hare — Leicester's only ever-present this season — takes over as captain. Dusty is averaging a dozen points a game so far, and has 216 points to date. He also has seven tries together with Barry Evans and Nick Youngs who now trail the side stepping, body swerving Dean Richards on nine tries. Dean, unlucky not to be at Beeston this afternoon, makes his 99th appearance today.

Entries for the 1986 Tigers Sports Quiz are slowly filtering through. If you wish to enter, forms are obtainable at the Office or me personally. Closing Date Dec. 31st.

There will be a Christmas Disco in the Clubhouse Dec. 21st, 8.30 - Midnight. Tickets at £3 including supper can be obtained from Tony Hopkins, Angus Collington and at the Office.  

**Next Home Game, John Smith Merit Table A:**
- **Saturday, December 21st v Bristol**
- **K.O. 3.00pm**.
Action from Leicester v Gloucester, December 1983 ending in a 30-20 pts victory for the Tigers.

ARM LOCK . . . Tigers' lock forward Nigel Gillingham falls an attempted Gloucester breakout, and is about to get help from Chris Tressler (left).

TRYING TIME . . . Tigers' line is under siege, and somewhere underneath the bodies Mike Teague has notched Gloucester's first score.

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