



**Saracens**  
**Football Club (RFU).**

**1985/86**

**GLOUCESTER**

**SATURDAY FEB. 8**  
**3.00 PM**

Saracens marvellous effort in beating Waterloo a fortnight ago earned them this tough tie in the fourth round of the John Player Special Cup against Gloucester, one of the favourites to lift the trophy at Twickenham in April.

The combination of several factors makes this an outstanding tie of the round. Saracens are riding high after beating Waterloo when few had given them any hope of success, and furthermore they are top of the John Smith Table B and are having their best season since reaching the semi-finals nine years ago.

Meanwhile Gloucester are looking the most formidable side in the country after a poor start to the season and are in the midst of a run of success which has brought 18 wins out of the last 19, taking them to the top of the John Smith Merit Table A.

Gloucester will be accompanied by a following that no other club in the country could match, and the pure fervour of the cup and Gloucester's fans is reflected in that they are bringing a special train.

The weather in midweek forced tremendous efforts from Saracens, and over 12 tons of straw was strewn across the pitch to keep the frost away, and hopefully enable the game to go ahead on schedule. BBC TV cameras were also approached during the week and offered the



opportunity of screening this match in event of the scheduled game at Litchfield being postponed because of the ice and snow.

Saracens have gone to further efforts of extras bars, in preparing for their biggest gate at Bramley Road for over a decade, and hopefully the match lives up to all the expectations.

Saracens reached this stage of the competition by beating North Walsham, the Norfolk champions, and then Coney Hill from Gloucester in the second round. Then they beat Waterloo in the third round.

They field an unchanged side for the third successive match in what has been a remarkable season after years in the doldrums with their best wins against Richmond, London Welsh, Newbridge, Nottingham, Liverpool, Northampton, and Waterloo.

Gloucester have internationals John Orwin and Mike Teague who has renewed his backrow partnership with John Gadd and Mike Longstaff who were together when they last won the cup.

Gloucester have beaten Leicester and Bristol, and have also beaten Bath. Their leading points scoring is full-back Tim Smith with nearly 200 points, and Derrick Morris has scored 15 tries. Winger Jim Breeze and prop Malcolm Preedy are both injured while Breeze's replacement, Tim Ford scored in their win over Bristol in the last round. In the previous rounds they thrashed Exeter University by a record 87-0 and then beat Lewes.

Saracens have another match at home tomorrow against Met. Police in the Middlesex Cup quarter finals and then the following Sunday are at home to Rosslyn Park in the John Smith B and London Merit Tables.

CHRIS JOHNSON

## MERIT TABLES

JOHN SMITH TABLE A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Ptge
Gloucester	7	6	0	1	127	98	85.71
Nottingham	4	3	1	0	72	42	75
Harlequins	3	2	0	1	68	32	66.67
Leicester	9	6	0	3	160	118	66.67
Wasps	6	4	0	2	103	95	66.67
Sale	3	2	0	1	39	48	66.67
Bath	6	3	0	3	142	73	50
Gosforth	3	1	0	2	27	50	33.33
Moseley	8	2	0	6	96	146	25
Bristol	5	1	0	4	72	98	20
Headingley	6	0	0	6	61	133	-

JOHN SMITH TABLE B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Ptge
<b>Saracens</b>	4	3	0	1	56	52	75
Waterloo	6	4	0	2	119	57	66.67
Coventry	6	4	0	2	102	65	66.67
Orrell	3	2	0	1	58	41	66.67
Blackheath	5	3	0	2	69	63	60
Roslyn Park	5	3	0	2	71	67	60
London Irish	8	4	0	4	116	87	50
Richmond	10	4	0	6	128	188	40
Northampton	5	2	0	3	53	59	40
Bedford	6	2	0	4	77	151	33.33
London Welsh	4	1	0	3	58	61	25
Liverpool	4	1	0	3	35	54	25

LONDON MERIT TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Ptge
Roslyn Park	6	5	0	1	132	87	83.33
London Sc.	5	3	1	1	88	90	70
Wasps	6	4	0	2	162	128	66.66
Harlequins	7	4	0	3	119	80	57.14
<b>Saracens</b>	6	3	0	3	78	112	50
London Irish	7	3	0	4	109	80	42.85
Blackheath	5	2	0	3	64	100	40
Met. Police	6	2	0	4	93	134	33
London Welsh	6	1	1	4	82	101	25

  
John Player Special Cup

**SATURDAY 8th FEBRUARY 1986**  
**SARACENS v GLOUCESTER**  
BLACK CHERRY & WHITE

STEVE HANCOCK	15 Full Back	TIM SMITH
LAURENCE SMITH	14 Right Wing	DERRICK MORGAN
CHRIS BABAYODE	13 Right Centre	PAUL TAYLOR
JOHN BUCKTON	12 Left Centre	RUARI MACLEAN
DAVE McLAGEN	11 Left Wing	TIM FORD
NICK HOLMES	10 Stand Off	MIKE HAMLIN
FLOYD STEADMAN	9 Scrum Half	MARCUS HANNAFORD
MICKY GRIER	1 Prop	PETE JONES
MARK EVANS	2 Hooker	KEVIN WHITE
CHRIS ROBERTS	3 Prop	RICHARD PASCALL
MARK PATTINSON	4 Second Row	JOHN ORWIN*
ANDY WHEELANS	5 Second Row	JOHN BRAIN
ALEX KEAY (capt)	6 Wing Forward	JOHN GADD
LEE ADAMSON	8 Lock	MIKE TEAGUE*
REZA KHALILI	7 Wing Forward	MIKE LONGSTAFF
<i>Replacements:</i>		<i>Replacements:</i>
JOHN KING	16	GLYNN MANN
DAVE CATCHPOLE	17	RICHARD WILLIAMS

\*INTERNATIONAL

**Referee:** I. BULLERWELL (East Midlands Society)

NEXT HOME GAME  
**SARACENS v MET. POLICE**  
**SUNDAY 9th FEBRUARY 1986** (K.O. 2.30 p.m.)