

President's Message

Today, for what we hope will be another exciting cup-tie, I welcome Gloucester officials, players and supporters. The Orrell club will do everything to make their visit a happy and memorable one.

I hope all our own supporters will give our team plenty of backing, for this will no doubt lift them in their play.

Last Saturday we saw all the majesty of our team's **open** rugby against Leicester—three beautiful tries. May we see some tries in this cup-tie!

This is a big day for our Club and I ask everyone to co-operate with the ground stewards so that the good name of rugby union supporters may be maintained.

> JACK CARRINGTON, President





CHARTERED SURVEYORS ESTATE AGENTS VALUERS

Principal: John R. Hilton, F.R.I.C.S.

Associates: T. R. Gent, B.Sc., (Hons.), A.R.I.C.S., A.S.V.A.
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Gloucester

It is with very great pleasure that we welcome to Edge Hall Road today the Gloucester Club for this quarter-final match in the 1986/87 John Player Special Cup for what promises to be a very close and thrilling encounter.

Last season for our visitors was an outstanding one. Although they lost in the quarter-finals of the John Player Special Cup in a highly controversial game against London Scottish. They were on the other hand the first winners of the John Smiths Merit Table 'A' losing just one of their nine games in the table and they also, for good measure, won the RFU South-West Merit Table. John Arwin, their captain, left the RAF and was available more frequently and another cause for satisfaction was a double over Leicester.

This season so far Gloucester have not fared so well in Merit Table 'A' having won three games of the seven they have played giving them a percentage of 42%. However, in the John Player Special Cup competition they have proved themselves as formidable as ever to reach the present stage in the competition.

For Gloucester the start to the season was one of the worst starts in their history, so much so that when they lost at Moseley on New Year's Day they had won only one of their Merit Table matches. However, they are nothing if not determined and their recovery in the month of January will have surprised no one who has spent any time at, or who is acquainted with, Kingholm the famous home of our visitors. It would seem therefore that our visitors would appear to be peaking at the right time and our lads will therefore be under no illusion of the task which confronts them today.

Gloucester of course come from a hot bed of rugby and the rivalry between them, Bristol and Bath is as keen as it is legendary. It must irk Gloucester somewhat to see the success enjoyed by their neighbours Bath in this competition in recent seasons and we have no doubt that this in itself will provide our visitors today with all the motivation they need to progress further in the cup at our expense.

So all in all it would seem that today's winners will be the side which demonstrates the greater desire to win over the whole 80 minutes. Last season's Merit Table match at Edge Hall Road was, we recall, a thrilling encounter with Gloucester having the better of the final stages and almost overhauling our points total to snatch the spoils. Happily we hung on to win 21—16.

We expect and know we will get a large invasion from the West Country today. We also know that visiting supporters are well known for their vocal support for their side so the match will not be short of atmosphere. May we extend the hand of friendship to the Gloucester team, officials and supporters and hope that whatever the result our visitors enjoy their day with us. We also hope that our friends stay long enough to enjoy some true Lancashire hospitality over a few pints in the Clubhouse.

ORRELL			GLOUCESTER
	T G Pts	T G F	Pts
15 S. Taberner			15 M. Marment
14 P. Heath	1		14 J. Breeze
13 †J. Carleton			13 R. Mogg
12 †F. J. Clough)		12 P. Taylor
11 G. Ainscough			11 N. Price
10 P. N. Williams			10 M. Hamlin
9 G. Williams			9 R. Williams
1 K. Fletcher			1 †M. Preedy (C)
2 N. Hitchen			2 K. Dunn
3 J. Webster		- 1 1 1 1 1	3 R. Pascall
4 R. Kimmins	IS TEMPORED & TO		4 J. Brain
5 †D. A. Cusani	OI BIDB BUBB BOILD	1000	5 J. Etheridge
6 D. Cleary (C)			6 J. Gadd
7 P. Buckton			7 P. Ashmead
8 B. Lundy	227		8 J. Bennett
16 D. Fell			16 M. Hannaford
17 P. H. Moss	TROM OW		17 K. White
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			Referee:
H/T			Mr. R. Quittenton
F/T	4 de la company		(Sussex Society)
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County			Mr. A. Clarke