



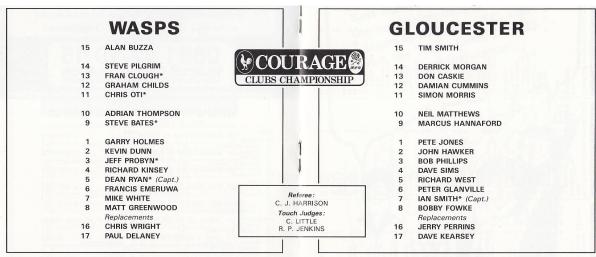
## WASPS v GLOUCESTER

**COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP** 



Saturday, 24th October, 1992. Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

£1.00



NEXT HOME GAME v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY - SAT, 31 OCT, kick-off 3 pm

\* INTERNATIONAL



President - John Kemp Hon Sec - Ivor Montlake Hon Treas - Malcolm Evans Press Officer - John Gasson

Club Captain - Dean Ryan Club Coach - Rob Smith

1st XV Mgr - John Langley U21 Mgr - Geoff Strange Colts Mgr - Charles O'Sullivan Ladies Mgr - Mel Nash

Marketing Mgr - Sara Rigby 081 903 6066 (Direct Line)

Club Adminstrator - John Langley Club Caterer - Sue Lynch Club Steward - Louis O'Meara

Ground: Repton Avenue, Sudbury, Middx HA0 3DW Tel: 081 902 4220

## CLUB NEWS

E offer a very warm welcome to our old friends from Gloucester for this game in the Courage Clubs Championship. We also warmly welcome the party from DHL, today's match sponsors, and the parties from Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks, Bass Brewers and Baring Fund Managers.

Last season Gloucester finished in fourth place in the League, beating us at Kingsholm by 15-10 and only losing to Bath in the semi-final of the Pilkington Cup in the last three minutes of the game. This season they have suffered the loss of a number of key players including Kevin Dunn, who plays for us against his former club this afternoon and Mike Teague, who has joined Moseley. A disappointing start to the League season saw them losing to London Scottish and, by a single point, to Leicester in a high scoring game. But there were signs of better things to come when they beat Rugby by 21-12 and last Saturday they warmed up for today's match by beating local rivals, Bristol, in a non-League game by 38-11. Currently Wasps are the only unbeaten side in Division One with wins over West Hartlepool, Harlequins, Leicester and Rugby. Fran by 14-13.

Clough returns to the side today after injury but otherwise the team is unchanged.

Leicester came to Sudbury three weeks ago, with League wins over London Irish and Gloucester behind them, for the clash of two unbeaten sides. We made a magnificent start, putting the Tigers under enormous pressure on their own line. Both Fran Clough and Adrian Thompson came close to scoring before Alan Buzza put us in the lead with a penalty goal. But against the run of play, Leicester scored a superb try. From a quickly taken penalty, winger Steve Hackney broke through the middle at top speed and sent Stuart Potter in for the try and Leicester then increased their lead with a long range penalty goal from John Liley. Again, we attacked the Leicester line but had to be content with a second penalty from Buzza.

The second half opened with Liley and Buzza exchanging penalty goals but gradually our forwards took control. Graham Childs was stopped just short of the line but then Tony Underwood was penalised for a deliberate knock-on. The pack, with Francis Emeruwa to the fore, drove for the line and Kevin Dunn touched down for the try which won us the match

The following week we travelled to Rugby where we played the first half into a ferocious wind. Rugby had the better of the early stages and led by a penalty goal after ten minutes. Buzza kicked a penalty to level the scores and in first half injury time Childs broke through the defence and Andy Maddock, Steve Pilgrim and Buzza combined well to put Mike White in for a try, Buzza's fine touch-line kick put us ahead by 10-3.

With the wind behind us in the second half, it was all one-way traffic. It opened and closed with tries from Buzza, the second from a long solo run. In between, Chris Oti and Dean Ryan scored tries, Pilgrim kicked a conversion and Buzza's two conversions brought his personal points tally to 17 and the final score to 34-3.

Sadly I have to report the death of two of our Vice Presidents, J D Macfarlane, OBE, and P S Morris. 'Doc' Macfarlane was for some years one of our Honorary Medical Officers and was the instigator of our sports injuries clinic. 'Morrie' Morris became a Vice President in 1946-7 and was one of the last surviving members of Ronnie Sawyer's unbeaten side of the early 1930s. They will both be greatly missed.

On a happier note, we offer our congratulations to the players selected for the England A and B squads for the coming games against South Africa. Rob Andrew and Dean Ryan are in the A squad, Alan Buzza, Damian Hopley and Kevin Dunn in the B, while Jeff Probyn and Steve Bates are in both.

You will have read that for business reasons Rob Andrew will be returning to England

next week and playing for us for the rest of the season. The Senior Clubs Association have ruled that he is ineligible for League or Cup rugby for 120 days, a decision that has aroused much comment in the Press. David Frost wrote as follows in the Guardian - "It is absurd that a man whose firm sends him on a job abroad and then recalls him cannot play for his old London club on his return. The regulation was created to keep out mercenaries.



Andrew clearly is not remotely in that category. He should surely be treated as a special case, not because he is the England fly-half but because he has not even changed companies and because he has never played Courage League rugby for any club other than Wasps. England Manager, Geoff Cooke, said "The principle of the whole thing is wrong and I was amazed when it was announced." And John Reason wrote in the Daily Telegraph "Wasps say they have no wish to make a monkey of Courage League rules but if the law behaves like an ass, as in this case, it deserves to be treated like one."

Last Saturday, the U21s had a magnificent win over their equivalent side at Llanelli by 51-20. Tomorrow they play the Army here, kick off 3.00 pm and on Tuesday they are at home to a New Zealand Youth team, kick off at 7.30 pm. We hope you will come and give them your support.

Today, in conjunction with one of our Corporate Members, Eurodollar, we are raising funds for the 'Children in Need' appeal. Pudsey Paw sticker kits are on sale in the ground at 50p and this money, along with other funds raised at several events, will be presented to Terry Wogan on the televised 'Children in Need' programme on 20 November.

There will be a supporters coach to Swansea on 7 November, leaving here at 9.30 am and returning at 6.30 pm, cost £10. Please put your names on the list in the clubhouse.

An early warning – there will be an organised trip to Dublin for the game against Wanderers on Saturday, 20 March. If you are interested, please give your names to Pat Comerford who can be found on the front gate. The trip will include flights and hotel but, alas, tickets for the England v Ireland game that afternoon cannot be provided.

A reminder that members can reserve seats in the Bell Stand by phone quoting their membership numbers. They can also reserve seats for guests at the usual £2.00 per person transfer fee.

Next Saturday is Old Crocks Day when we play Cambridge University, kick off at 3.00 pm. Lunches at £10 are bookable from Roger Skinner, 6 Collins Drive, Eastcote, Pinner HA4 9EN. Kevin O'Shea