

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME // £3

GLOUCESTER RUGBY



VS HARLEQUINS
SATURDAY 13/2/10
KO 3:00PM



MAIN CLUB SPONSOR

GARETH DELVE CAPTAIN'S CORNER

WELL, 2010 continues to be a pretty good year for us so far!

We've played two games in the LV= Cup since I last penned these programme notes and won them both meaning that we've qualified for the semi finals.

When we started that tournament by losing our opening two matches, few would have thought that we'd make the knock out stages but an awful lot of water has gone under the bridge since then.

The interesting thing, of course, is that we travel to take on the Cardiff Blues in the semi final, a side we faced in the first round back in November.

Cardiff snatched a 26-25 win with a last minute Ceri Sweeney penalty that day and, with the semi final being played right in the middle of the Six Nations, it's going to test the strength of both squads.

lost a few games that we should have won and your self belief can take a bit of a knock.

Since the turn of the year, we've been playing some good rugby and creating chances. We weren't always finishing off those chances but, in our past two away games, we've scored nine tries which has been a great effort.

Last weekend's win at the Stoop was a great example of how things have turned around. I'm not sure what it is about Quins and Gloucester but we do seem to bring out the best in each other!

Earlier this season we played Quins in the Guinness Premiership at the Stoop and more than played our part in an entertaining game but were narrowly defeated 35-29.

That day, we weren't quite on our game and we weren't playing with as much confidence as we are now

took the lead at the perfect time!

Looking ahead to this afternoon, I'm not sure if we'll be able to serve up the points fest of the last two encounters but I can guarantee that we're all looking forward to the game and hoping to translate our cup form into league points.

Enjoy the game!

I'M NOT SURE WHAT IT IS ABOUT QUINS AND GLOUCESTER BUT WE DO SEEM TO BRING OUT THE BEST IN EACH OTHER!

People ask me what's happened to turn things around over the past few weeks and I personally believe that it all comes down to confidence.

Prior to Christmas, we knew that we had the players to do well and we believed in what we were trying to do on the pitch.

But, we had a rough autumn in terms of injuries and suspensions,

and we came up just short.

Last Sunday, even though we went 20-0 down, there wasn't any panic. We've been playing well and, when that's the case, you know you can score points and get back into games.

Personally, I'd have preferred it if we'd not left it quite as late! It didn't do much for the nerves but I guess, in hindsight, we



GARETH BUTLER VIEW FROM THE CITIZEN

Consider this a warning to the Guinness Premiership and beyond: Akapusi Qera is starting to enjoy himself again.

The Fijian open side has struggled for form ever since undergoing a reconstruction on his knee following cruciate ligament damage back in 2008.

But now the confidence is back and so are the tries – four in his last two games including a hat-trick against Newport Gwent Dragons bringing his total to seven for the season.

Qera admits he has found it difficult coming back after struggling to accept the seriousness of his injury to start with.

"It has been frustrating coming back and trying to play," he said. "I like to play rugby but I wasn't getting mentally prepared for the game because of it. I was thinking about my knee instead of the games."

"Now I'm starting to enjoy playing rugby again and my knee is all right. That's important."

"It's normal coming back from injuries. You're thinking about getting injured again and what might happen. For me I'm just trying to get better game after game and trying to improve."

Qera's return to form has coincided with a turnaround in Gloucester's fortunes and him signing a new contract.

He has a simple response as to what has induced the turnaround. He said:

"The boys are getting together, playing for each other and getting



wins off the back of it. It's a big platform to get the season started and achieve our goals. We are looking forward to the games which are ahead of us."

"If you go back a couple of months we were struggling to win at all. So each game we win builds the confidence in the team."

Qera's return for Fiji in November, after missing the summer tour through choice as he built his fitness back up, saw him made captain of his country.

For a quiet individual, it was a surprise, but a welcome one. "The boys know me and I don't

The Citizen



normally talk that much," he said. "But as the saying goes, actions speak louder than words. I was surprised to be made captain, but it was a good step up to take some responsibility among the young boys coming through."

Gloucester head coach Bryan Redpath admitted it had taken Qera

longer than expected to make his return to form, but that it had been well worth the wait, describing him as an 'asset'.

"I've always said it takes time," Redpath said. "Him and Delvey were rehabbing at the same time and it takes time to get back from knee reconstructions."

"He is a more open kind of player who runs around a lot. He's scored a few tries lately. But he is a good player. He had a great first season in the top three of the Premiership players of the year."

"That was great and he's now got a bit more confidence again and he's re-signed, another two years which makes him secure."

"He just wants to enjoy his rugby again. He got a bit panicky about his knee and it took him longer to break that."

"Now we are seeing the rewards. He seems chirpier although he has never said a lot. He's a great player and an asset to the club."

After the heroics of Qera's first season, when he was a revelation after signing from Pertemps Bees, he could hardly be accused of second season syndrome given he barely played in 2008/2009.

Redpath said: "He missed eight months of that season with his knee so he didn't have a huge amount of time to play."

"He didn't go on tour with Fiji in the summer because he wanted to train. That's fine but the best way to get back is to play."

"There were a lot of things in there which a consistent run of games from November has been good for."

"He's now showing that and I hope he keeps improving as the ground gets harder and he gets a little bit more pace back. I'm chuffed that he's back playing well and enjoying himself."

BRYAN REDPATH HEAD COACH

ON behalf of everyone at Gloucester Rugby, I'd like to wish the players, staff and supporters of Harlequins a very warm welcome to Kingsholm this afternoon.

Bizarrely, we face Quins this afternoon a mere six days after we took them on at the Stoop. We're used to double headers in the Heineken Cup but last Sunday was in the LV= Cup and today, of course, is the Guinness Premiership with league points at stake so it's a completely different ball game if you'll pardon the pun.

It's been another couple of big weeks for everyone at the club. Our last home game was against the Worcester Warriors and we knew that we had to win if we were to have any chance of staying in the LV= Cup.

We duly got the win against the Warriors but there was still plenty to work from that performance, I made no secret of that and the players agreed when we reviewed the game.

What was a challenge, was to try and start working on some of the things that didn't go so well against Worcester when we had a vastly different group of players to work with this week.

We went into the Quins game last weekend knowing that it would be a tough ask. We had three boys making their first starts for the club and I think that showed in the first quarter. There was a certain amount of us getting to know each other



in a game situation whereas Quins came out firing and it didn't look too clever for us after the first 20 or so minutes.

We needed to steady the ship and we did that by getting a bit of possession in the final 10 minutes of the first half and making the most of it. We created two good tries and very nearly had a third but for some good tracking back by Tom Guest.

I think we showed how important it is to be strong as a squad. We've got a massive month ahead of us in the Guinness Premiership, starting today.

Quins had some players missing, as did we and it was hugely important that some of the players involved last weekend put their hands up and put some pressure on me to select them this weekend and put some pressure on the group itself.

It was also important for us to maintain some momentum going forward. We'd enjoyed a very good January and we didn't want to let that slide.

We didn't want to go into that game thinking that if we didn't win or didn't make the semi final then it wouldn't be such a big deal.

You can't have that mentality, you have to be strong mentally and I thought we demonstrated that in spades last weekend.

So, we've seen a bit of Harlequins and they've had a chance to have a good look at us. We know that we need to tighten up a bit, especially with someone as dangerous as Nick Evans in their line up. And, they'll also learn things from last weekend's game.

Whether we'll share 60+ points as we have done the last two times

the teams have met I don't know!

What is pleasing for me is that I've been saying for a long time that we've got a great team spirit but that wasn't necessarily being reflected in our performances on the pitch. I knew we were capable of improving and I think that we have.

However, there is still a long way to go. As I said before, we have a big month of Premiership action ahead of us and we want to get moving up the table as we find ourselves in a position where we find ourselves lower than we want to be.

On a different note, it was good to be here at Kingsholm last Friday to watch the England U20s take on their Welsh counterparts.

I was obviously there to see how the Gloucester boys who were selected got on and I think that all three of them – Freddie Burns, Shaun Knight, Jonny May – didn't let themselves down on the night.

They all played their parts in what turned out to be a good England win as it turned out after a bit of an indifferent start.

It's great to see Kingsholm hosting these fixtures. It helps to raise the profile of the club and I think the Gloucester crowd genuinely enjoy watching these types of games and they certainly helped to create a great atmosphere.

The atmosphere within the stadium is hugely important. It's part of what makes up our unique home advantage here at Kingsholm and I'm hoping that we'll receive our usual superb backing this afternoon and that we'll give you something to cheer about!

**THE ATMOSPHERE
WITHIN THE
STADIUM
IS HUGE
LY IMPORTANT. IT'S
PART OF WHAT
MAKES UP OUR
UNIQUE HOME
ADVANTAGE HERE
AT KINGSHOLM...**



ALEX BROWN



PLAYER PROFILE: ALEX BROWN

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

WHAT'S THE FIRST GAME YOU REMEMBER WATCHING?

That would have been up at Clifton when I'd finished playing mini rugby and it would have been watching my Dad play for Clifton.

WHO IS YOUR SPORT'S BEST PUNDIT?

Will Greenwood is very good and I quite enjoy the stuff that David Flatman does when he's sitting in the Sky truck out in the car park! However, it goes without saying that the best of all time was Bill McLaren, he'll be much missed.

WHO'S GOT THE FLASHIEST MOTOR AT THE CLUB?

It has to be Les if we're talking in terms of it being the flashiest. However, at the other end of the spectrum, is Dave Attwood's Omega. It stinks and, being part of the Bristol car share, I have to sit in it for far too long!

BEST TRY YOU'VE EVER SCORED?

I don't score that many! Actually, I scored one up at Leicester a few years ago which was actually voted try of the season. Not that I had that much to do with the build up, I just finished it off!



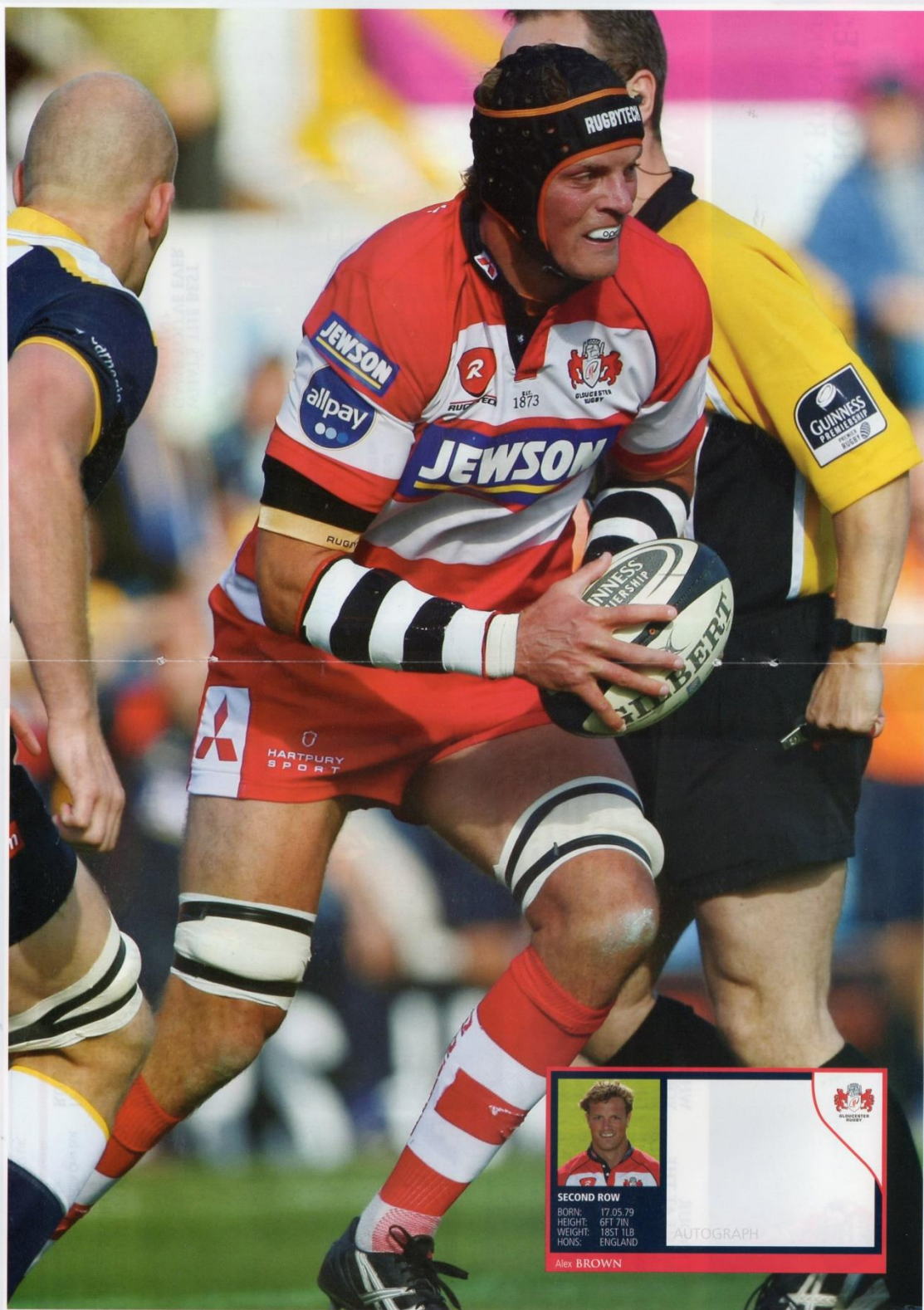
WHAT'S THE BEST GAME YOU'VE EVER PLAYED IN?

I think it was the Premiership semi final against Saracens a few years ago. It was the game where the demolition of the South Stand had already started so the ground looked a bit odd. But everything clicked for us that day. It was a beautiful day

and we ran riot on the pitch scoring 50 odd points I think.

IF YOU COULD BE IN A BAND, WHICH ONE WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

I'll pick a really old boring one – Dire Straits. I'd be rich off the royalties at least!



	
SECOND ROW	
BORN: 17.05.79	
HEIGHT: 6FT 7IN	
WEIGHT: 185T 11.8	
HONS: ENGLAND	AUTOGRAPH
Alex BROWN	



PLAYER PROFILE: ALEX BROWN

WHAT'S YOUR NICKNAME AT THE CLUB AND HOW DID IT COME ABOUT?

The fans call me Browner but the players at the club call me Brownie.

WHO IS YOUR BEST FRIEND IN RUGBY?

Matt Salter, the former Bristol captain who is now the Academy Manager down there. He's still trying to play of course for Clifton which is just a bit embarrassing nowadays!



DO YOU SUPPORT ANY OTHER SPORTING TEAMS?

Not really. I follow Formula One but not any team in particular.

WHICH PLAYER DID YOU MOST ADMIRE WHEN YOU WERE GROWING UP?

Probably Ian Jones. I thought he was a terrific player. It's a shame that I never got to play alongside him here at Gloucester but he'd moved on by the time I arrived. Apparently, he was a bit of a legend here – didn't do too many weights or over stretch himself in training but could produce the goods on a matchday.

RULE OR LAW THAT YOU COULD CHANGE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

The breakdown is a bit of a mess. It's quite frustrating because the rules seem to lead to different styles of refereeing and you might have conceded a few penalties by the time you assess how a referee is going to view things.



HAS SPORT EVER BROUGHT TEARS TO YOUR EYES?

No, I can't say it has really.

IF THERE WAS ONE RUGBY RELATED

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS THE BEST NIGHT OUT?

New York. I had an awesome night out there a while back where we went to a great comedy club and had some good food. It was a great night.

BOB FENTON'S KINGSHOLM NEWS



A few weeks ago I might have hinted that the LV= Cup was a slightly over complicated tournament with an incomprehensible pool structure.

I also might have said that it was not too surprising that many teams were not taking it very seriously.

I want to make it clear that I now accept that my impressions were totally wrong! It is in fact an excellent tournament, probably second only to the European Cup itself.

In fact with Southafrisaracens in it, it is probably a true global competition and is more akin to the World Cup itself and therefore well worth winning.

This Dick Whittington style turnaround is, of course, a direct reaction to what happened last

Sunday when we somehow conspired to score five tries up at the Stoop with what looked, on paper, like a very makeshift side.

You have to say it is maddeningly hard to understand though. A quick look at the groups show that we qualified with only two wins while other clubs – like Wasps – won more games and had more points. So should we feel sorry for them? Yeah right...

And now what – a semi final against Cardiff, that's what. Who knows whether it's going to be another fancy double header like last year, or whether we will all have to take a trip to South Wales, but I'm sure we will find out soon enough.

Scoring five tries away from home is a bit of a record. For the life of me I can't remember the last time

we managed to do that. And, with Harlequins coming to see us again today, scoring five tries at home would be very nice indeed.

We've developed a nice little winning habit over the past few weeks, so it'll be great to keep it going. I think we all agree that we have seen distinct improvements in the side over recent games and slowly but surely we are hitting some form.

Not before time, I hear you say, but given the traumas that we went through at the end of last term and over the summer it was never going to be the easiest of seasons for us.

But, as an eternal optimist, I think getting into one of the Heineken Cup qualification spots through our league position is not beyond us. We've got a run of tough games ahead of us starting with Quins

today, but if we win our home games, grab a point or better at Leicester and Wasps then we'll be well on our way.

Changing tack a bit, I have had the pleasure of tracking down various members of the Shedweb Dream Team that was reproduced in the programme a few weeks back.

As part of the events we are planning it is the intention to put together a souvenir programme of sorts, with a few comments from the players.

Richard Tombs – who is in the UK at the moment and may well be here today – has told me that he has loads of stories about Terry Fanolua – or Fanoloopy as he called him – but none of them are suitable for printing.

I haven't told Tombsy that I know why he acquired a certain nickname following events at a local rugby club but this being a family publication means that I cannot reproduce it here (those that were there will know what I mean).

Chris Catling – who according to Tombsy must have got the ladies vote for being a good looking boy – was very happy to be listed among such illustrious company, his first words to

me when I told him were "...I hope you have got someone in there who can kick..." Yeah – Ludo.

Actually I remember a game down at Bristol when Cats lined up a kick out of defence, we all held our breath and waited for the ball to come down a few yards in front – or worse behind – him, but it sailed in a perfect spiral miles down the ground and deep into the Bristol half.

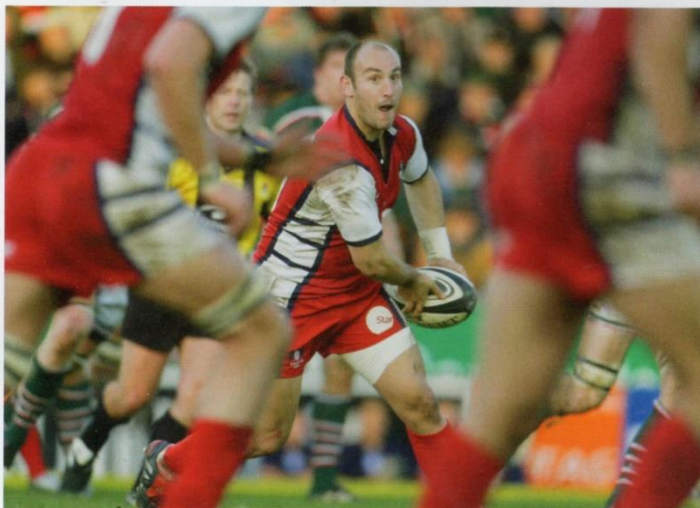
It was, of course, a complete mis-hit, but I was stood next to Mrs Cats who leapt around shouting "See! He can kick!!!" I told Cats that story, he just laughed and said "Well, if yer Mum can't support you..." Quite.

It's not long until the Team Shedweb v Cherrypickers game takes place – 18th April at Widden OB RFC for those who have not heard of this veritable feast of free flowing rugby (is that right, lads?) takes place in aid of Help 4 Heroes. Training has now started and is taking place on Wednesday evenings at Gordon League RFC who have kindly allowed us to use their facilities.

If anyone fancies turning up for a bit of a run around, or just to come along and offer a word of advice or encouragement you will be more than welcome..



**CHRIS CATLING
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YEAH – LUDO.**



DAVE KING'S WORLD OF RUGBY

THE first season of professional rugby union saw an average attendance of 4,985 with the highest attendance being the 6,310 who attended the home match with Leicester.

Away from Kingsholm we were watched by an average attendance of 4,279. The highest attendance for an away match in Courage League Division One was the 9,597 who attended Welford Road for our match with Leicester.



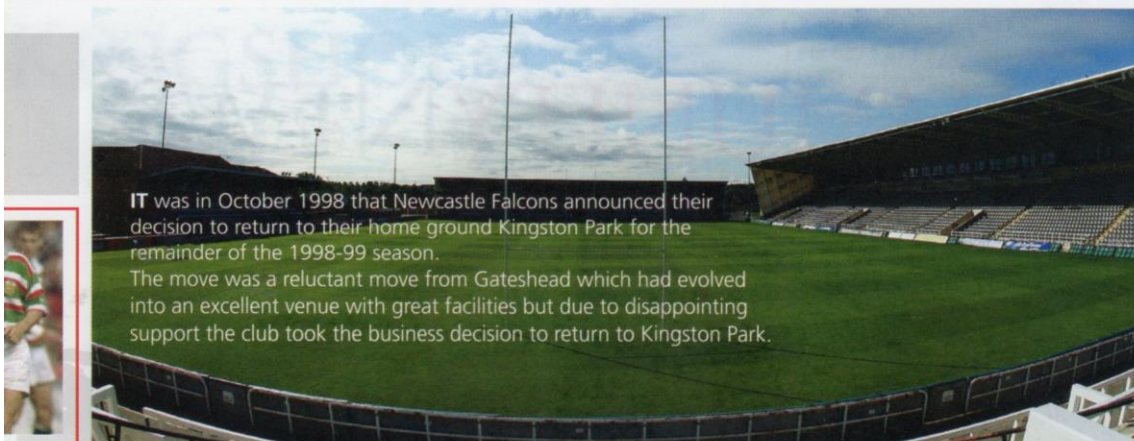
IN that season of professional rugby we used 35 players and gave 12 players their League debuts. They were Dave Timmington, Charlie Mulraine, Phil Vickery, Richard Ward, Rob York, Chris Catling, Ed Pearce, Craig Emmerson, Eral Anderson, Audley Lumsden, Nathan Carter and Chris Fortey.

The only player to score a try on his debut was Charlie Mulraine. There were no ever presents that season but Dave Sims, Mark Mapletoft and Rob Fidler only missed one league match each. That opening season we received eight yellow cards and no reds.

Mike Lloyd was our leading try scorer with seven tries. Mark

Mapletoft kicked 25 conversions; he also landed 58 penalties along with 5 drop goals. Mark also scored 6 tries and finished the season with 269 points.

He was 22 points behind Gareth Rees of Wasps who scored 291 points to finish in second place in the point scoring chart of 1996-97 season.



IT was in October 1998 that Newcastle Falcons announced their decision to return to their home ground Kingston Park for the remainder of the 1998-99 season. The move was a reluctant move from Gateshead which had evolved into an excellent venue with great facilities but due to disappointing support the club took the business decision to return to Kingston Park.



THAT season of 1998-99 Simon Mannix set a new match record for our club with 28 points in their final match of the Allied Dunbar Premiership One season against Northampton. He then held the record of points in a match for two clubs! Whilst at Sale he set their record with 27 points against who – yes, Northampton!



THE season of 2001-02 was a memorable one for four players of this club, Simon Mannix equalled the record of nine penalties in a match. He did so against Harlequins to equal the record that Thierry Lacroix had set the previous season. Simon's feat came on 23rd September 2001.

Ludovic Mercier kicked 64 penalties to finish second behind Barry Everitt of London Irish who led the way with 83 penalties. Ludo also converted 48 tries as well as recording 12 drop goals.

Junior Paramore and James Simpson-Daniel recorded nine tries each. Our coaching team in that season was Nigel Melville, Dean Ryan and Dave Ellis. There were no players ever present with Ludovic Mercier making 21 League appearances.



CAN you remember the 1993 England Sevens team? Interesting to see where they are now:

- Adedayo Adebayo the Nigerian born wing is now 38 and is Chief Executive Officer of Premier Lifestyle. Chris Sheasby is now 42 and is Head Coach of Bracknell RFC. Justyn Cassell, formerly of Saracens, Northampton and Harlequins runs a marketing communication agency in Piccadilly, London. Tim Rodber – the 39 year old former Green Howard is working for a corporate information management business. Dave Scully the former Wakefield, Rotherham, Otley and Doncaster scrum half is a North Yorkshire fireman. Nick Beal the former Northampton back is now 38 and he is an independent financial advisor. Andrew Harriman known as 'The Prince' because he is eldest son of a Nigerian Tribal Chieftain, Chief Hope Harriman, who could run 200 metres in 20.9 seconds is now living in Nigeria and has business interests in the oil industry. Michael Dods is a representative for a sportswear company called Under Armour.

PETER ARNOLD'S GLOUCESTER TALK



PLAYING CATCH-UP

I think this must be the most cheerful set of notes I've penned this season. Obviously, we're pleased to have beaten Quins last Sunday, but that victory was significant for whole host of reasons.

I suppose the official view will be that the win was important because it put us into the semi-final of the Cup. A few weeks ago, few people would have given us a hope of achieving such a lofty ambition, which makes the whole thing that much more satisfying. Cardiff await, and that's going to be difficult.

The second cause for satisfaction is that the Stoop affair gave us our second away win in succession, and such victories have been like hens' teeth for a long time now. Furthermore, the Stoop hasn't been a happy hunting ground for Glaws recently, so it's nice to lay a bogey.

But it was the manner of the win which pleased me most. I was watching the Scotland v. France game at home, and around 20 minutes in, flicked on to Ceefax to see the Gloucester score. There it was. We were 15-0 down. "Oh well" I thought. "That's that then!" and went back to the international.

I looked again at half time. The score was 20-14 and something stirred in my bosom. I thought that we might just make it from there. The game was almost over when I risked another look, and we were 31-29 up. Great satisfaction in the Arnold household, but it seemed ages before Ceefax confirmed that that was indeed the final score.

The point I'm making is that, a few months ago, we would have buckled after going 20 points down. We didn't. We came back and sneaked it in the end, and scored five tries in the process. That's progress if you like.

It was also pleasing because we've been on the receiving end of such results too often in the past, allowing games to slip which we should have won. Turning the tables like that is very gratifying

CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE

Far be it from me to second guess Bryan Redpath, but I thought that his criticism of the side for not scoring more tries in the second half of the Worcester game was just a little bit harsh. I can see his point, but I don't think it gives enough credit to the effort that the Warriors put in.

All right, so one or two chances went begging, and that's a concern, but when a side seems to concentrate solely on keeping the opposition out, and doesn't appear to worry much about crossing the line themselves, then it's difficult to score tries against them. I see that Peter Butler, in his newspaper article, called Worcester

...THE STOOP HASN'T BEEN A HAPPY HUNTING GROUND FOR GLAWS RECENTLY, SO IT'S NICE TO LAY A BOGEY.

"a team of stoppers", and he's probably not far wrong.

Take a look at Worcester's record this season and see the inordinate number of draws they've been involved in. That includes one right here at Kingsholm, and you might agree that the statistic doesn't argue a side with much ambition attack wise.

One thing you can be sure of is that today's game won't be like that. We're back to the real Premiership stuff today, and Quins do like to run the ball. With our new-found ambition it should be a good game.

At least we know where Brush stands on the question.

CHANGING TIMES

What a difference half a season makes! Cast your mind back to last September, and remember how we greeted the new campaign. We had a new management set up, and although we had lost some valuable players, the squad looked strong enough to cope.

Now look at the first-team squad and spot the difference. Some

ace players we were banking on, Carlos Spencer for example, proved a disappointment and long and longish term injuries deprived us of a considerable amount of firepower. Then, along came new names and performers who have bucked us up no end.

I suppose the leading performer in that coterie has to be Freddie Burns, who undoubtedly has talent and personality, and it is to be hoped that his recent surgery will prove to have cured his calf problems.

But there are others. If you had said the word 'Molenaar' to someone at the start of the season, they would probably have thought you were talking about a food mixer, but here he is now, relatively recently arrived from tying 'em up in Notts, and just about our first choice centre.

Come to think of it, the fans around Nottingham must be getting a bit cheesed off with us nipping in and nicking their best players. Tim Taylor's cameo against Worcester may have been brief, but it certainly raised the eyebrows.

Our young players are doing us proud at the moment. We had

the largest contingent in Mark Mapletoft's England U20 squad, and everyone who has had a chance, thus far, to play for Gloucester's senior side has acquitted himself admirably.

It's way too soon to talk about 'new dawns' and 'new generations', but the omens are good.

In Mike Tindall, we've also discovered a word-class drinks waiter. But he'll sure want his regular spot back.

WHAT A NERVE!

Since writing the above, we've learned a bit more about Tim Taylor. There's nothing wrong with his nerve.

Playing in his first full game for a new club, in a higher standard of rugby than he's been used to for a while, and then being faced with a win or draw conversion when the last grains of sand were running out of the egg timer would reduce many a seasoned campaigner to jelly.

Not so Tim Taylor. However his career goes from here, that kick will live in the memory.





SATURDAY 30TH JANUARY 2010 / 15:00 KO



GLOUCESTER RUGBY 17 **WORCESTER WARRIORS 5**

COACH'S COMMENTS

"Despite the win the players are disappointed with their performance. In the first half I was delighted with our performance against a strong Worcester side but in the second half we just didn't finish."

"We had a number of chances in the second half and we have got to take two or three more chances if we are going to continue to win and beat the better sides."

"However, three months ago we would have lost a game like this so not to play well and win is satisfying."

KEY MOMENT

Worcester had enjoyed the lion's share of possession and territory in the opening and were utilising their much vaunted driving maul near the Gloucester 22 on 27 minutes.

However, some outstanding unseen work ripped the ball free and, moments later, Freddie Burns was diving over at the Worcester end for the first try of the game to get Gloucester off and running.



As a result of the quirks of the rugby fixture calendar, a mere four weeks had passed since these two teams had last met on the same ground.

But, if a week is a long time in politics, a month is an eternity in the world of rugby union.

Back in early January, Worcester threatened to carry out the ultimate smash and grab raid. Twice during the 80 minutes they entered the Gloucester 22 and twice they scored tries.

Then dogged defence and a host of squandered Gloucester scoring chances left the home side requiring a last gasp Dave Attwood try to secure a draw.

Second time of asking, despite the absence of a host of players on international duty, it was so much more comfortable for Gloucester.

The Warriors did initially try and take the game to Gloucester and, in the hard running Sam Tuitupou and omnipresent Pat Sanderson, had two shining talisman.



...A DISAPPOINTING WORCESTER OUTFIT WHO, GIVEN THEY HAD NAMED A NEAR FULL STRENGTH SIDE, MUST HAVE TRAVELLED SOUTH FANCYING THEIR CHANCES OF A WIN.



However, the Worcester pair were setting an example that their team mates couldn't follow and, once Gloucester had scored the first try through Freddie Burns, there was only ever going to be one winner.

As in the first encounter, Gloucester made it a little more difficult for themselves than it should have been as they carved out a host of try scoring opportunities but only added one more from the impressive Akapusi Qera.

It proved to more than enough to see off a disappointing Worcester outfit who, given they had named a near full strength side, must have travelled south fancying their chances of a win.

At the end of the day, however, a third victory in a row was the icing on the cake of an impressive January for Gloucester who finished the month undefeated and with a host of players signed up for next season.

THE TEAMS

GLouceSTER RUGBY

Burns
Sharples
Molenaar
Fuimaono-Sapolu
Vainikolo
Robinson
Lewis
Thomas
Azam
Capdevielle
Bortolami
Brown
Buxton
Qera
Delve

REPLACEMENTS:

Somerville for Thomas on 51, Dawidiuk for Azam on 58, Tadulala for Burns on 61, Eustace for, Bortolami on 61, Hazell for Qera on 68, Taylor for Robinson on 68, Lawson for Lewis on 73, Knight for Capdevielle on 73



WORCESTER WARRIORS

Latham
Pennell
Rasmussen
Tuitupou
Gear
Walker
Arr
Black
Lutui
Sourgens
Rawlinson
Gillies
Cracknell
Sanderson
Horstmann

REPLACEMENTS:

Jones for Walker on 56, Taumoepeau for Sourgens on 56, Fortey for Lutui on 58, Grove for Rasmussen on 61, Kitchener for Gillies on 68, Powell for Arr on 68



SUNDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2010 / 3:00PM KO



HARLEQUINS 29

GLoucester RUGBY 31

COACH'S COMMENTS

"We had made a few changes and it looked like that early on but we steadied the ship and got two tries back before half-time."

"We came back and showed great resilience and commitment to win the game and give ourselves a bit of credit back."

KEY MOMENT

20-0 down, things looked grim for Gloucester. However, James Simpson-Daniel's try on the half hour gave his side self belief. The winger had lots to do when he received the ball after Lesley Vainikolo drew in Quins' tacklers to give him space. However, Sinbad showed speed and strength to battle his way to the line and get Gloucester going.



Twice in the past few weeks, Gloucester have come into a cup tie needing a win and a try scoring bonus point to keep their hopes alive. And, twice they've delivered!

The difference between this victory and the one over the Newport Gwent Dragons in the Heineken Cup was that Gloucester were always in the game at Rodney Parade.

Yesterday, 20-0 after 24 minutes, you'd have forgiven the hardy Gloucester supporters who'd made the trip to back their team if

they'd packed up and gone home! Thankfully, they were to have the last laugh.

The reshuffled Gloucester side suddenly burst into life on the half hour. Lesley Vainikolo, playing in the centre for the first time this season, drew in several tacklers and Tom Voyce put James Simpson-Daniel in for the first try.

When Tim Taylor weaved his way over untouched for the second try a few minutes later, the fightback was well and truly on and Taylor very nearly created a third before half



...THE SELF BELIEF IN THIS GLOUCESTER SIDE HAS BEEN GROWING IN RECENT WEEKS AND A NEVER SAY DIE ATTITUDE WAS EVIDENT IN THE FINAL QUARTER.



time only for an interception to save the day for Quins.

The home side looked to have halted Gloucester's momentum in the second half. Nick Evans slotted a couple of penalties to maintain a decent lead for his team and, when Olivier Azam seemed to lose the ball going over the line, it seemed as though it wasn't going to be Gloucester's day after all.

Yet, the self belief in this Gloucester side has been growing in recent weeks and a never say die attitude was evident in the final quarter.

Tom Voyce's lovely line and offload put James Simpson-Daniel in for his second try before Tim Molenaar showed superb strength to touch down on 75 minutes just when Quins thought Evans' third penalty

of the half had sealed the victory.

Gloucester were drinking at the last gasp saloon and spent the final couple of minutes throwing the ball around as if they were the Barbarians until, incredibly, Tom Voyce slid through with less than 30 seconds left on the clock to tie the scores.

It was all down to Tim Taylor, starting for the first time since signing on loan from Nottingham. The fly half had already done his bit on the afternoon but showed superb composure to drill the conversion between the posts and snatch the win.

Gloucester only led once on the afternoon but they did it at exactly the right time and now have a semi final in Cardiff to look forward to.

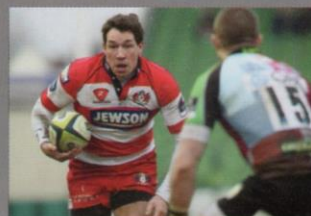
THE TEAMS

HARLEQUINS

Brown
Chisholm
Lowe
Turner-Hall
Drauniniu
N. Evans
Dickson
Jones
Cairns
Andress
Percival
Stevenson
York
McMillan
Guest

REPLACEMENTS:

Lindsay-Hague for Drauniniu (64), Luveniayali for N. Evans (74), So'oialo for Dickson (54), Croall for Jones (64), Brooker for Cairns (50), Johnston for Andress (50), Thomas Valleyos for Stevenson (41), Wallace for York (63)



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

Voyce
Simpson-Daniel
Molenaar
Vainikolo
Tadulala
Taylor
Lewis
Capdevielle
Dawidiuk
Harden
Eustace
James
Buxton
Hazell
Narraway

REPLACEMENTS:

Fuimaono-Sapolu for Vainikolo (68), A. Williams for Lewis (68), Somerville for Harden (70), Brown for James (70), Satala for Buxton (57), Azam for Hazell (20).

NOT USED: Y. Thomas, Robinson

TODAY'S LINE-UPS



Vs HARLEQUINS
SATURDAY 13/2/10
KO 3:00PM

**GLOUCESTER
RUGBY**

Vs

HARLEQUINS

**GUINNESS
PREMIERSHIP**



7-0
6-0
13-0
13-6
18-6
25-6
32-6
39-6
46-6

OLLY MORGAN

15

MIKE BROWN

TTT
JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL

FULLBACK

DAVID STRETTLE

T
TIM MOLENAAR

14
WING

GONZALO TIESI

ELIOTA FUIMAONO-SAPOLU

13
CENTRE

JORDAN TURNER-HALL

T
LESLEY VAINIKOLO

12
CENTRE

S Smith
TOM WILLIAMS

PCC
NICKY ROBINSON

11
WING

for
NICK EVANS *P?*

DAVE LEWIS

10
FLY-HALF

KARL DICKSON

NICK WOOD

9
SCRUM-HALF

CERI JONES

OLIVIER AZAM

1
PROP

CHRIS BROOKER

GREG SOMERVILLE

2
HOOKER

W. Smith
JAMES JOHNSTON

DAVE ATTWOOD

3
PROP

JAMES PERCIVAL

ALEX BROWN

4
LOCK

LEWIS STEVENSON

LUKE NARRAWAY

5
LOCK

CHRIS YORK

AKAPUSI QERA

6
FLANKER

McMillan
WILL SKINNER (C)

GARETH DELVE (C)

7
FLANKER

TOM GUEST

8
NO.8

REPLACEMENTS

16 DARREN DAWIDIUK
17 PAUL DORAN-JONES
18 PIERRE CAPDEVIELLE
19 ADAM EUSTACE
20 ANDREW HAZELL
21 RORY LAWSON
22 TIM TAYLOR
23 TOM VOYCE

16 MATT CAIRNS
17 ASTON CROALL
18 JOHN ANDRESS
19 TOMAS VALLEJOS
20 NEIL MCMILLAN
21 STEVE SO'OLALO
22 RORY CLEGG
23 GEORGE LOWE

TOP POINTS SCORERS: 2009-2010

116	Ryan Lamb	London Irish
114	Willie Walker	Worcester Warriors
110	Nick Evans	Harlequins

TOP TRY SCORERS: 2009-2010

9	Chris Ashton	Northampton Saints
6	Sailosi Tagicakibau	London Irish
5	Tom Vardell	London Wasps

TOP PENALTY KICKERS: 2009-2010

33	Jimmy Gopperth	Newcastle Falcons
30	Jeremy Staunton	Leicester Tigers
30	Willie Walker	Worcester Warriors

MOST APPEARANCES : 2008-2009

24	Chris Hala'ufia	London Irish
24	Richard Thorpe	London Irish
23	Steffon Armitage	London Irish

THE OFFICIALS

REFEREE:

David Rose

ASSISTANT REFEREES:

Paul Dix and Bruce Robertson

4TH OFFICIAL:

Chris White