







ZURICH PREMIERSHIP FIXTURE
SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2000 KICK-OFF 12.30 PM
GLOUCESTER RFC OFFICIAL PROGRAMME
2000-2001 SEASON
ISSUE 07 - £2.00

ADMISSION PRICES

A STATEMENT BY KEN NOTTAGE MANAGING DIRECTOR GRFC LTD

"TOM
WALKINSHAW'S
AMBITION IS TO
MAKE THIS CLUB
THE BEST RUGBY
CLUB IN EUROPE
AND, THIS IS THE
FOUNDATION OF
OUR TICKET
PRICING POLICY
AND EVERY OTHER
DECISION WE
MAKE."

HE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CLUB'S PRICING POLICY AND BEFORE TICKET PRICES ARE CONFIRMED, AT THE START OF EACH SEASON, THE BOARD REQUIRES EVIDENCE THAT PROPER THOUGHT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE PROPOSALS.

These decisions are made in line with the long-term objectives of the club. The Board will consider whether the proposed prices are fair, reasonable and financially responsible. In fact, ticket prices at Gloucester have hardly changed at all in the last three years, despite the fact that the club is still not in profit. Our investment in new players far exceeds ticket income.

Our tickets are not the most expensive in the premiership, even after taking into account the fact that we do not include European games in the price. But, it is almost impossible to compare like with like. Every stadium is different, every club is different and the finances of every club are different.

BELOW: SARACENS V GLOUCESTER RFC 20/8/2000. BYRON HAYWARD IS SWEPT OFF HIS FEET. For instance, our free entry policy for children under 13 years old is widely envied by supporters of other clubs, who have to pay to bring their children to a game. Also, it is misleading to compare Saracen's £99pa

cheapest, behind the goal post, season ticket against Gloucester's £120 unrestricted ground season ticket.

In fact, it is all too easy to assume that cheap prices are 'right for the supporters' - some clubs can give away thousands of tickets each week and still not fill their grounds – we believe that 'getting it right for supporters' is not just about cheap tickets. Tom Walkinshaw's ambition is to make this club the best rugby club in Europe and, this is the foundation of our ticket pricing policy and every other decision we make.

The Board will undertake a major review of all of our ticket prices for next season. We will investigate better easy-payment schemes, to make it easier for fans who find it difficult to meet the cost of season tickets at the start of the season, and we also intend to set up family and group ticket deals.

We will consult with our existing season ticket holders and our other fans about these proposals and examine any suggestions and proposals they make.

Finally, the Board have decided that the Heineken Cup game against Llanelli next January will be half price for season ticket holders only.

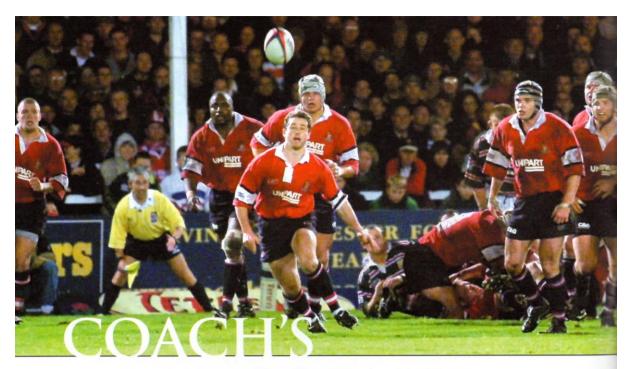






PREVIOUS MEETINGS

20 AUG 2000	GLOUCESTER VS SARACENS	20 - 50
	VICARAGE RD	
25 JAN 2000	GLOUCESTER VS	21 - 35
	SARACENS	
	VICARAGE RD	
14 NOV 1999	GLOUCESTER VS	22 - 19
	SARACENS	
	KINGSHOLM	
07 MAY 1999	GLOUCESTER VS	10 - 26
	SARACENS	
	VICARAGE RD	



ABOVE: ANDY GOMARSALL PASS WIDE AGAINST LEICESTER TIGERS

CORNER

WITH PHILIPPE ST ANDRE



"I HAVE THE IDEA THAT I WANT TO HAVE LOTS OF OPTIONS IN EACH POSITION THIS SEASON, IF A PLAYER DOESN'T GIVE 100% FOR GLOUCESTER IN ANY GAME, THEN NEXT WEEK HE WILL BE ON THE BENCH."

N THE LAST TWO WEEKS WE HAVE SHOWN WHAT A GOOD SQUAD WE HAVE HERE.

I now don't have a clear first, second or third choice player for any position. I was very pleased with the team that played against Bath. The guys all did a very good job scoring three tries. Against Leicester also, we made two bad mistakes and perhaps should have taken the three points on offer from the penalties, but Leicester were without only Neil Back and we deserved to win. I think this shows the potential here at Gloucester. We have improved a lot this season in fitness, skill and technique.

We must now focus on today's game against Saracens. We were terrible against Saracens in the first game this season, and so we absolutely must win today at home.

I have the idea that I want to have lots of options in each position this season, if a player doesn't give 100% for Gloucester in any game, then next week he will be on the bench or left out of the squad. If we want success, then the guys must learn to give 100% or even more. In the cup games everyone showed they were capable of playing at a high level, this is good

because it means that all the guys have to work very hard in training. They must be very fit, and very professional. It makes it difficult for me to pick a squad, but I prefer this to the start of the season when I didn't have 15 fit players.

Today is a key game for us, we have three consecutive league games and we must take a lot of points from these games. We will be without Vickery and also Azam, who will play for their countries, but I think Saracens will also lose players so we must take this opportunity to win. We must also win against London Irish, who will not lose so many players and also Leicester.

I saw at the beginning of the season that we would play on the same days as the Internationals and took this into account when I assembled this squad. It is important to have International players but also to be able to bring in good players who are not yet internationals.

The next three weeks are very important I want to be in the top four of the league after these three games. We will need to score a lot of points and must start here today.

There is only one message for today's game.

That message is win!

FROM THE BBC COMMENTARY BOX

ND THEN THERE WERE TWO. TARGETS THAT IS. LAST SATURDAY'S DEFEAT BY LEICESTER SENT OUR HOPES OF A TWICKENHAM FINAL SPINNING OVER THE HORIZON FOR ANOTHER SEASON - LEAVING THE HEINEKEN CUP AND THE PREMIERSHIP TO PLAY FOR.

"THE MIDDLE
THIRD OF
GLOUCESTER'S
SEASON START
TODAY WITH THE
VISIT OF THE
PREMIERSHIP
LEADERS."

John Brain's post match view was that here were two distinct objectives - one short term and one long. First, Gloucester must try and win their pool and get a home draw in the Heineken Cup quarter finals - though as we know, this isn't totally in their own hands. Second, but no less important, is the need to maintain or improve on Gloucester's current League position - 5th - to ensure European Cup qualification for NEXT season. It's probably an understatement to say there is still much to play for.

Supporters with season tickets will be aware that they haven't waved them at the turnstiles since September the 30th. The GRSA have debated the issue of Gloucester not including the Heineken Cup group games in the price long and hard, but given the ongoing financial squabble between the clubs and the RFU, the extra revenue will have been welcome. Ken Nottage tells me that Gloucester are currently £450,000 down in terms of cash due from Twickenham, and in anyone's language that's serious money. In my opinion the clubs have been amazingly patient - and talk of a breakaway will be around until they feel they can trust the leadership from the top.

Outside the fully professional game, the shape of the season for Gloucestershire's other clubs is now becoming clear. We have two teams in the National Leagues, where Lydney and Cheltenham are both finding the going tough. In Division 2, the Severnsiders lost five of their first six matches, but back to back wins over sides around them at the bottom have improved their position. Three teams could still go down, and Coach Rhodri Lewis has set a safety target of 20 points.

Should Lydney continue to struggle, Division 3 South could be a crowded place next season. Cheltenham, who've dispensed with the coaching services of former Gloucester favourites Don Caskie and Malcolm Preedy, have put Sam Masters and Peter Curtis in charge to try and improve an almost identical record to Lydney's. Town are also third from bottom, and must be aware that they could be swapping places with Cinderford if they're not careful. The ambitous Dockham Road club have a 100% record in South West One, built on a very experienced squad. Local rivalry would be heightened considerably if we had three teams in the same division.....

With the Cup pyramid these days split into three, our exit from the top tier still leaves chances elsewhere of local success. In the Intermediate Cup, Matson, Old Patesians and Cinderford are still involved, and with a derby at Redwell Road between Matson and Cinderford, we're certain to have some representation in Round 5, which is the last 32. The smallest clubs also have their own competition, and Tewkesbury, Old Cryptians and Chosen Hill have been kept apart in the Tetley Vase. Places in Round 5 here are also up for grabs on December the 2nd - the day we'll be keen to pay back Leicester for last Saturday.

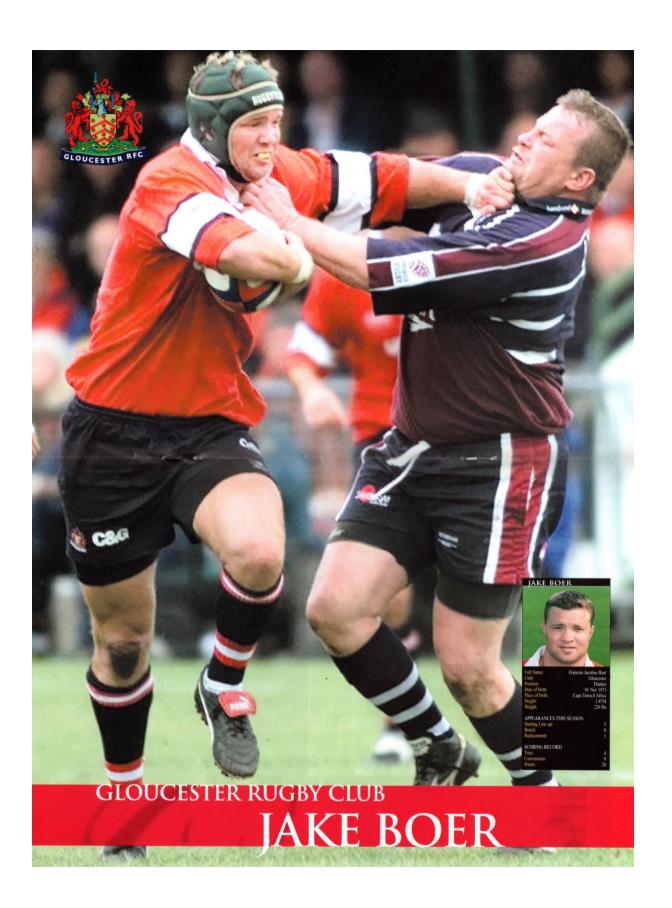
The middle third of Gloucester's season start today with the visit of the Premiership leaders. Eight games played, and eight more to come before the Llanelli and Roma matches that will decide target number one for John Brain and Philippe. Sarries are having to adjust to not having Thomas Castaignede for several months - possibly the rest of the season - because of injury, but they have a talented squad, and are the highest scorers in the League so far. Against that, their record here is awful - six defeats in a row. Let's hope it's seven by about 2.15.



ABOVE: ANDY GOMARSALL CLEARS THE BALL.

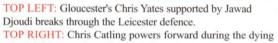
C'mon Glaws !!

BY IAN RANDALL



LEICESTER 27-13 GLOUCESTER





mins of the game for a disallowed try.

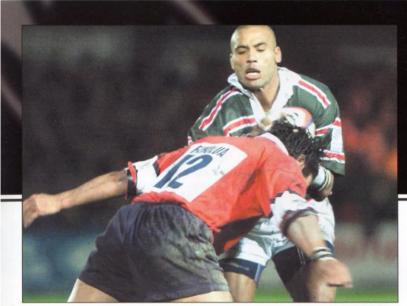
BELOW: Leicester Adam Balding is tackled by Gloucesters

Andy Hazell with support from Phil Vickery.





MATCH ACTION





LEFT: Gloucester's Terry Fanolua tackles Leicesters Leon Lloyd head on. RIGHT: Jake Boer is taken down by Leicesters Adam Balding.



IF ONLY...

DO BEAT BOTH BATH AND LEICESTER IN THE TETLEY'S BITTER CUP ON SUCCESSIVE SATURDAYS WASN'T EXACTLY 'MISSION IMPOSSIBLE' BUT IMPROBABLE ENOUGH IN MOST PEOPLE'S JUDGEMENT.

And yet the lads came so close. If ever there were a game of 'if onlys' this was it.

If only Chris Catling had been able to touch that rolling ball down more firmly (and was he obstructed on his way to it? I wouldn't be adamant, but from where I was there certainly looked a case to answer). If only a huge knock-on, which some people thought deliberate, had not gone unpunished and the Leicester pack brought back to their 5-metre line when they made their last-minute break out....

I could list other such queries, but in the end, all such speculation is unprofitable. I'm sure we now wish the Tigers the best of luck, and hope they go all the way to Twickenham.

Not that they've had much luck so far. The ensuing draw placed them at home to Saracens, which is just about the hardest one they could have had, save only having to travel to the same opposition. Nothing like doing it the hard way.



"I'M SURE WE NOW

THE BEST OF LUCK.

WISH THE TIGERS

AND HOPE THEY

GO ALL THE WAY TO TWICKENHAM."

ABOVE: ANDY HAZELL IN ACTION AGAINST LEICESTER TIGERS

NOW ANDY KNOWS Who his friends are!

VER THE PAST 28 YEARS
I'VE SEEN, BEEN INVOLVED
WITH, AND EVEN WRITTEN
AN INDECENT NUMBER OF
GLOUCESTER RFC PUBLICATIONS.

However, I can put my hand on my heart and say that I've never seen a better one that Andy Deacon's Testimonial Year brochure. It's beautifully designed and presented: a genuine quality product that is an absolute snip at £3.00, and certainly an essential ingredient in anyone's collection of cherry-and-white memorabilia.

Best of all, it's a thoroughly good read with entertaining and informative pieces from a whole galaxy of knowledgeable people, headed by the great Peter West, who admits to being 'tickled pink' to be asked to serve as Patron of the Andy Deacon Testimonial.

But perhaps the most sincere judgements on any man come from his fellow professionals. Propping has always been that; an arcane calling whose secrets defy the rest of we mere mortals. Three of these demi-gods, all experienced England performers, have written for Andy's brochure. Leicester's Graham Rowntree describes Deacs as 'supremely awkward', which is apparently a compliment in front-row language. Bath's recently retired Victor Ubogu notes that Andy has 'never quite mastered the art of being in a position where nothing is happening - unlike my goodself'.

But the quote that takes the biscuit comes from Harlequin, Jason Leonard, who opines that Deacs' should have retired years ago'.

Now there's a case of pots calling kettles black if ever I've heard one.

Just one more nice little bit of trivia, revealed by Peter West, no less. He points out that Andy Deacon, on at least one occasion, propped in a Gloucester pack composed entirely of former Longlevens players, and asks if the reader can name the other seven.

Give it a go. And no, I'm not going to give you the answer here. You'll have to buy the brochure to learn that. Which, in truth, you'll find no hardship at all.

FADING MEMORY,

PRICEY?

BELOW: CHRIS CATLING IN ACTION AGAINST LEICESTER TIGERS

AST WEEK I WAS GRATEFUL TO MY OLD MATE, MIKE PRICE, FOR WRITING A PIECE CONCERNING THE SAD DEATH OF WALLY BURROWS, THAT INCISIVE THREE-QUARTER OF THE LATE '40'S AND EARLY '50'S.

In it he shared his memories of a famous win over Cardiff in which Wally played.

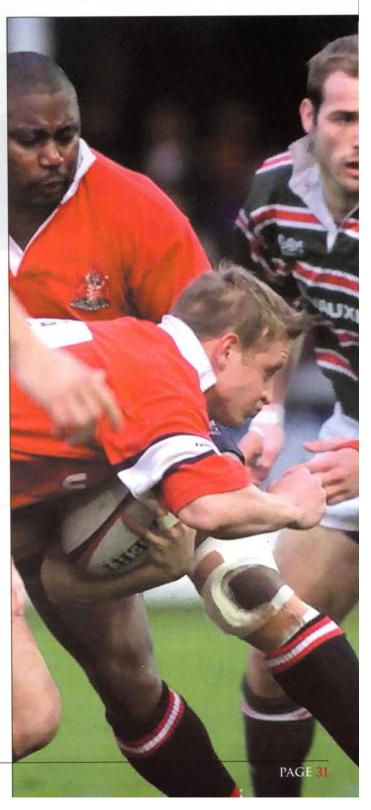
To be fair, Pricey did say that his memory could be at fault, and I must admit, I rather thought it was at the time. Now, an even older friend, Pete Hillier, has confirmed my impressions. Here's what he sent me:

Dear Peter,

Further to Pricey's memories as mentioned in Saturday's programme. I too was at that never to be forgotten match with Cardiff back in 1951 0r 52,and whilst 50 years or so is a long time, I am sure that he may have got some of his facts slightly adrift, maybe even quoting the wrong match!!

This was the first time that we had beaten, what was then a world class Cardiff side since the war. They were full of great stars such as Bleddyn Williams, Jack Matthews, and Billy Cleaver (at outside half) Rex Willis (?) at Scrum Half. We won 14-0. The Gloucester half backs were not Danny Evans and Willie Jones, but a certain W.B.Cartmell (a vet I believe from Lancashire who appeared in one or two county finals for them) and at inside half may have been Vivian Davies (a former Swansea player) Michael Baker kicked the goals and conversions for Glos and I think a certain Dennis Ibbotson played havoc with the Welsh backs to such an extent that they were made look quite ordinary on that day!!

Happy Days!! A friend of mine from Cardiff when hearing the result excused the team by saying that they had all been to a team mate's wedding and were feeling the effects! Can you imagine a Welsh side of that era not being up for a Glos/Cardiff game!



MATCH CAPTAIN



KINGSLEY JONES

INGSLEY JONES REGAINS THE 1XV CAPTAINCY TODAY FOLLOWING A REST PERIOD DURING WHICH PHIL VICKERY PROVED HIMSELF A MORE THAN ABLE DEPUTY.

We wish Phil all the best against Australia and hear Kingsley's thoughts on the last few weeks.

The last two weeks have given me the opportunity to rest both mentally and physically. You don't realise how many niggling injuries you have until you stop. It's been a case of resting, touch rugby and a lot of rehab work. Not having a contact session at all has been a massive benefit.

Mentally, to see Andrew Hazell, along with Jake Boer, come in and do so well, has given me the kick up the backside that will help me focus more. For the rest of the season I need to be on top of my game each week. I'm sure that Ian Jones, the great player he is, will have had the same thoughts after Mark Cornwells performances these last two weeks.

I am a terrible spectator and so the weeks off have been great, apart from the 80 minutes of rugby. The results of both games were close. I spent the last five minutes at the Rec praying Bath wouldn't score, and the last five minutes here against Leicester, praying we would. So mentally perhaps the break wasn't so clean.

After the Bath game I was so pleased for all those who came in to the team. So much had been written about reserve teams, and I'm sure it motivated the players more. I was convinced from day one that Bath were in for a shock. Philippe and John are very shrewd, they know the players, and understand their mentality. They put their

trust in the players and were repaid with a victory.

I would like to say how happy I was for Vix, being a victorious captain against Bath, especially as he is a Cornishman. It was a great day for his debut as captain, and it was great that his family were there to share it with him. I think he has a future as a captain of this club and I'm sure the question is not 'if' but 'when'.

That's all in the past now and we must focus on the present. The Club v Country question has again risen its head. It is a very delicate issue and when the game first went professional each Country wanted a large slice of a player. This situation has, however, improved in the past couple of years. At the end of the day we must have International rugby, it's what every player wants to be involved with, and indeed strives for. This obviously puts the clubs in a very difficult situation, however, clubs with a strong squad can benefit from these clashes. When you assemble a squad at the start of the season you have to take these things into account. You always need two players fighting for the same position.

At Gloucester, we have players such as Andy Deacon who can cover for Phil Vickery when he is on international duty and I'm sure Saracens will have players to cover for their internationals. Like our team these past two weeks, these players will be desperate to make the most of whatever first team opportunities come their way. This will make them hungry for a game. For some, today will be their first chance in the shop window for sometime so it might work to the benefit of Saracens.

We must be careful not to make the mistake others did and take an apparently weakened team for granted.

"I WOULD LIKE TO SAY HOW HAPPY I WAS FOR VIX, BEING A VICTORIOUS CAPTAIN AGAINST BATH, ESPECIALLY AS HE IS A CORNISHMAN."

BELOW: MARK CORNWELL AND BYRON HAYWARD CELEBRATE THE TEAMS WIN AFTER THE FINAL WHISTLE AT BATH.



TODAY'S TEAMS

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18TH, 2000

GLOUCESTER*		SARACENS*
CHRIS CATLING	15	GERALD ARASA
TERRY FANOLUA (I)	14	Tom Shanklin
JASON LITTLE (I)	13	(I) TIM HORAN
CHRIS YATES	12	Ben Johnston
Tom Beim (I)	11	(I) DARRAGH O'MAHONY
Byron Hayward (I)	10	DUNCAN MCRAE
ANDY GOMARSALL (I)	9	NICK WALSHE
Stephan Sanchez	1	Julian White
CHRIS FORTEY	2	ROBBIE RUSSELL
ANDY DEACON	3	SEAN PHILLIPS
ADAM EUSTACE	4	BILL DAVISON
Ian Jones (I)	5	Kieran Roche
Jake Boer	6	KRIS CHESNEY
Kingsley Jones (C)(I)	7	TONY ROQUES
JUNIOR PARAMORE (I)	8	TONY DIPROSE

REPLACEMENTS

TBA	16	MATT CAIRNS
TBA	17	STUART HOOPER
TBA	18	STEVE CHEESEBOROUGH
TBA	19	Sean Hardy
TBA	20	NICK WALSHE
TBA	21	GARY TRUEMAN
TBA	22	RICHARD HAUGHTON

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE: R. C. I TOUCH JUDGES: E WO FOURTH OFFICIAL: T.B.A

R. C REES E WOODMAN & A REAY **RFU**

(I) DENOTES INTERNATIONAL (C) DENOTES TEAM CAPTAIN "TEAMS CORRECT AT 15-11-00

Ball boys now sponsored by: Marlborough Stirling





MURDOCH & WILSON FINCH

Todays Mascots are Murdoch and Wilson Finch sons of our fitness coach Peter Finch. Murdoch is the eldest at 9 years old, and has played rugby for 4 years. Wilson is 8 years old and has played for 3 years. Both were born in New Zealand and come from a very proud rugby family which boast 3 All Blacks, (so far). They both love attending Gloucester matches and watching their favourite players, Jake Boer and Joe Eweńs.

the Official Gloucester Matchday Programme is brought to you by



tel: 01635 35599

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