

# GRFC

vs **Northampton Saints**



**Saturday 12th March**  
Zurich Premiership  
Kick Off 2.00pm



**Opposition**  
Nine pages of info

**Fanzone**  
View from the Shed

**Premiership**  
Facts and figures

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**“...last Sunday was a massive disappointment... but it was a thrilling game, I thought it was the best performance we’ve put together in a while...”**



Welcome back to Kingsholm for today’s game against Northampton Saints. We couldn’t have asked for anything more than another home game against traditional old rivals to put the disappointment of last weekend behind us.

And last Sunday was a massive disappointment. We lost a game that we would’ve loved to have

won. The desire to win is so great that when you lose you feel down, but it was a thrilling game, I thought it was the best performance we’ve put together in a while, which is encouraging.

Morale this week has been such that we just can’t wait to get back onto the field, everyone’s enjoying playing. We played with some great passion and spirit and

season that wouldn’t have met their expectations, but their league standing going into this game is irrelevant. They beat Leicester last time out, and you can guarantee their spirit will be good as they travelled down last night.

From our point of view, this week’s training has been good, and it’s been nice to have the core of the squad together for most of the week. With only Hazy and Mefin on international duties.

We’ve got a tough run-in, we know that, but all the other competitions are now finished with, and so that leaves only the Premiership.

Top three is the aim, and with five games left there is still plenty to play for. We’ve got to start knocking on the door of Sale in third place, and that starts this weekend.

Chasing them down and moving ourselves up the table is a great challenge for us. It all starts at 2pm today.

We’ve had some cracking occasions in recent weeks at Kingsholm, and today is not going to be any different.

Enjoy the day.

# Nigel’s notes



**Nigel Melville**  
Director of Rugby

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to be involved in that is something special, and it’s something that we want to repeat every week.

Northampton have had a

Nigel’s Notes - brought to you in association with



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**“I’m extremely proud to have led the team in recent weeks. It’s quite difficult to put how I feel about it into words”**

**W**elcome back to Kingsholm, and what better way to put that semi-final defeat behind us than a fixture against Northampton, as they’re

always quiet occasions!

I’m extremely proud to have led the team in recent weeks. It’s quite difficult to put how I feel about it

lads gave their heart and soul in that game, and we played in the manner that everyone knows we can do. That hasn’t been the case all season, but the defeat still hurt us and I’m aware it hurt all of you.

But what better way than to turn it around by concentrating on the next five games, starting with today against Northampton.

You need to step back and look at Northampton. They had a win over Leicester in their last game, and will be right up there when they arrive.

They know what they’ve got to do and they will be playing for their lives in the remaining games. That means that there is only one way that they’ll be coming out this afternoon, and that is fighting. We need to understand this mindset and ensure that we control our game plan.

This is very much the business-end of the season. Everyone knows how many games are left, and we’ve got our target, and that is a top three finish. To achieve that we have to be at our best in every game we play, that has to start with today.

Enjoy the game.

# Captain's corner

**Adam Balding**  
Match Captain



into words, but believe me, it brings the best out of me both as a player and as a person.

I try and lead by example and not necessarily by just words, and the team has done exceptionally well since that the win over Bath in the Premiership three weeks ago. It is a privilege to lead this team out on to the pitch.

Sunday was a major disappointment, and even more so as I couldn’t contribute, after coming off in the first half. The



He's now back fresh and ready to offer his thoughts. A regular contributor to the matchday programme for so many years, this week Peter Arnold looks at how it was to watch it on TV, and also a great story about the royal family.

# Peter ARNOLD

I drank far too much last Sunday afternoon. I'm not allowed to stand out in cold weather for a couple of hours at the moment, so was constrained to watch the semi-final on the telly. That was fine, so I settled down in front of the fire with a soothing libation close to hand. The problem was that, as events developed, I consumed my refreshment more rapidly than I had intended. Furthermore, I couldn't take my eyes off the screen for long enough to replenish my glass in a civilised fashion, so was reduced to groping blindly for the first bottle I could lay my

palsied hand on.

That led to an interesting mixture, but did have the advantage of using up the odd bottle that had been hanging around with a couple of inches left in the bottom. When I tell you that that included the remains of a container of potcheen, brought back from the land of shamrocks and Brian O'Gara, you'll get the idea.

As for the game itself, it was enthralling, exciting, infuriating and ultimately heartbreaking. I don't think we have any cause to complain. Both sides played their unmentionables

off for a solid 100 minutes. There was nothing at all between them, and even John Connolly, the Bath coach, conceded that it had all come down to the bounce of the ball in the end. It's just a shame that it bounced the way it did, but personally I preferred that to losing in a drop-goal shoot out, and the way Malone had been kicking all match, I wouldn't have bet against him.

I think we can take some substantial positives from the affair. To start with, the lads proved that they can survive for a whole match, and not wilt in the second half, as we have



seen once or twice, notably up at Newcastle. Second, at no point did Gloucester freeze, and it is to be hoped that the suspicion that they can't handle the really big occasion, of the type which has included debacles against Munster, Wasps and Stade Francais, has been laid to rest, in their own minds as well as in those of anyone else.

I also think that this was the game that proved that James Simpson Daniel's natural position is at centre. His sublime break, that led to Gloucester's try, was sheer poetry, and he was a constant threat whenever he got the ball.

Personally, I'd like to see him have a shot at No.10, which is where we first saw him, after all.

Finally, I think we owe all the players, on both sides, a big vote of thanks for their herculean efforts, which provided a match which none of us fortunate enough to watch it will forget. They gave us one of the great Kingsholm occasions.

If only that blasted ball had bounced differently at the end.

## SECOND TIME AROUND

There has been a certain amount of gentle leg-pulling, in these pages and on web sites, since Mike Tindall's arrival was announced, speculating on the possibility of seeing Zara Phillips around the place next season.

Fair enough. All good clean

fun with no malice intended. But I wonder if the fun-pokers realise that this isn't the first time young Zara's family has been involved at Kingsholm?

The following story was related by the late, and fondly remembered, Doug Wadley, who served for many years as Club Treasurer, and later as Hon. Secretary of the Club around the period when professionalism arrived.

It was at around that time that Zara's brother, Peter, came to Kingsholm to train with the Colts squad. He seemed quite useful. One day, Doug was sitting in his office, doing whatever Secretaries did in those days, when the phone rang. He picked it up, and the following conversation took place.

"Hello. Gloucester Rugby Club."

"Good morning. Anne here."

"Oh yes. Anne who?"

"Princess Anne."

(Collapse of Doug Wadley, with rapid recovery and spring to attention)

Her Royal Highness then proceeded to tell Mr Wadley that she was aware that her son was training with the Colts, but that she flatly forbade the club to play him in a match if he wasn't good enough, just because he happened to be her son.

Doug, having recovered by then, replied that HRH need not have any fears on that score. Gloucester wasn't that sort of outfit, and if the lad didn't fit



Terry Fanolua in action

the bill, he wouldn't get a game, whoever his family happened to be. However, if he did happen to have some talent, then he would get all the help and advice the club could muster.

The Princess Royal thanked him and rang off. However, young Peter must have had something about him, because he did represent Gloucester at Colts level, and indeed, went on to play for the Scotland Youth team. His sojourn at Kingsholm obviously did him some good.

So Zara and Mike needn't worry. We've seen it all before.

## WELL DONE THE GLOSTERS.

Not for the first time, I'm grateful for information given to me by my old

mate, Mike Price, Town Crier of Tewkesbury, and erstwhile President and only member of the West End Tumpers Association. He tells me that the Glosters have won the Army Cup this year, having been runners up last time round. Our proud County regiment may have been amalgamated, bowdlerised, castrated and generally messed about, but they can obviously still play rugby.

Nothing new about that. Years ago, one CO told me that they keep an eye on local Gloucester rugby, and if a young applicant to enlist comes from an address in Coney Hill or Matson, he was half way to being accepted.

It is to be hoped that those priorities still exist. I wonder if the present generation wear their back badges on the rugby shirts?

# BBC radio gloucestershire

This week BBC Radio Gloucestershire's Ian Randall puts the Club's prop Terry Sigley under the spotlight.

The 25 year-old front row man has just signed a new three year contract with the Kingsholm club, and in the latest round of BBC spotlight questions, he reveals all.



concentrate on rugby.

**BBC IR:** Who's been the biggest influence on your career?

**TS:** I guy called John Smycheck at Tamworth rugby club where I started out. He dragged me down the rugby club to give it a go and he's always been there pushing me forward.

**BBC IR:** What's your worst habit?

**TS:** I've got a few! Off the top of my head, I'm not sure which one is the worst!

**BBC IR:** What can you cook to impress people?

**TS:** Salmon with hollandaise sauce, French beans and mangetou, and a little bit of mash, maybe... I wouldn't say I'm the best cook, but I don't mind doing it.

**BBC IR:** What would be your chosen subject on Mastermind?

**TS:** Anything to do with sport, may be football. How about the last five seasons at Tottenham Hotspur.

**BBC IR:** What would you like for your next birthday?

**TS:** To be younger!

**BBC IR:** What was the last thing that made you laugh?

**TS:** Pasty's new car!

**BBC IR:** What's the one bit of advice you'd give to a young player?

**TS:** Always give 100 per cent and always keep trying.

**BBC IR:** What's the best thing about sport?

**TS:** Knocking about with the lads every day, there's always good banter here. Winning is a big part of it all and that's what we train for all week. If you get the right result then it makes training a lot easier. I've enjoyed the step up this year, as it's been more intense this season, as opposed to last year when I was part-time with Pertemp Bees.

**BBC IR:** What was your first job?

**TS:** I was a bottle boy at a local pub! I stacked shelves before I went to school, and used to get £20 a week. Not bad as I was only 14.

**BBC IR:** If you weren't in rugby what would be your alternative career?

**TS:** A fireman. I applied for a job with the fire service before I went part time with Moseley. But I knocked it on the head to



Resident Club historian Dave King looks at record breaking moments at Gloucester over the last century.

# RECORD times



Peter Butler

Records are there to be broken, and a glance back at the Club's centenary season of 1973 witnessed one former Gloucester player who set a world record!

Peter Butler, the club's full back at the time, set the record with his final kick of the 1973-1974 season in a match played at Camborne. A kick that enabled Peter to become the first player in rugby union history to score 1,000 points in a period of two years! In the centenary season the former England full back had

scored 488 points for Gloucester and 86 from County and trial matches.

It wasn't just Butler's record though that has been noted in the record books. The year he hit the 1,000 mark was also a season where a record number of victories under the captaincy of Mike Nicholls was established with 39 victories recorded, four matches were drawn and 11 defeats were encountered from the 54 matches played.

That year the United XV became the first team in the Club's history to record a three figure score by defeating Hereford by 103 points to three in September 1973.

The first XV also broke a



65-year-old record when they defeated Old Merchant Taylors in the Yuletide fixture between the clubs. A score line of 82 points to twelve was hardly festive spirit for the visitors to Kingsholm. The previous highest score line was a victory over Castleford in the 1908-1909 season by 75 points to five.

That centenary season witnessed Peter Butler surpassing the Club's points record previously held by Eric Stephens with 386 points. He celebrated the centenary season in spectacular fashion by scoring 574 points!

Peter also went on to set another new Club record, by converting 57 tries compared with a record he himself had established the previous season with a total of sixty-two conversions.

It was commonplace from the 1960s onwards for a number of players to continue amassing points at a phenomenal rate. This became more the norm due to the fact that penalties were being awarded for some of the less significant offences.

The fact is borne out by the club records depicting that previously only two players had scored more than a hundred and fifty points in a season! They were Willie Jones whose 17 four-point drop goals in 1948 enabled him to become the first Gloucester player to pass the 200-point mark. The other player was Tom Millington who previously held the

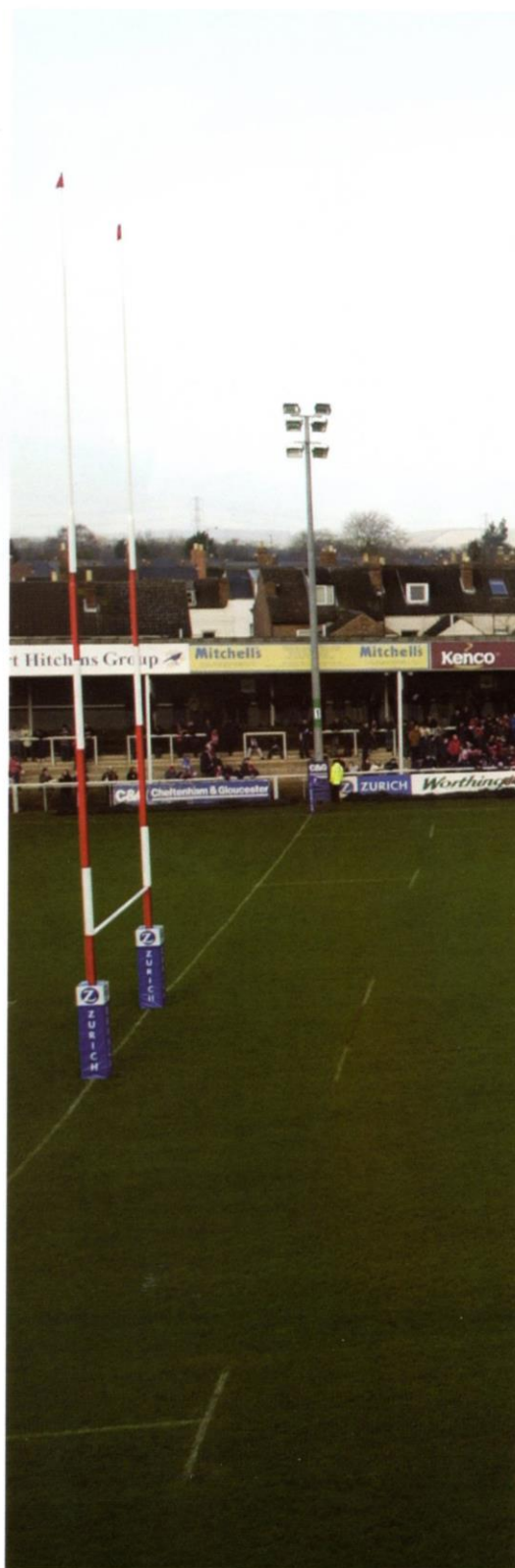
record with 161 points from the 1921-1922 season.

Gary White became the first forward to pass the century mark, scoring 17 tries and kicking 38 goals to total 129 points. Previously we had always associated that record points scorers are full-backs from amateur days or in the modern idiom outside halves.

Gloucester had a string of players to pass the century mark before the centenary season, Tom Millington and Arthur Hudson (four times), George Romans (three) and Maurice Baker (Twice). Don Rutherford and David Ainge were forerunners to the phenomenal Eric Stephens and Peter Butler era. Don scoring 179 points in the 1964-1965 season while David Ainge scored 153 points in the 1966-1967 season. David left Kingsholm to join Bristol. In his first season with the Memorial Ground Club he became the only player to record a century of points in September! That 1967-1968 season saw Don Rutherford set a club record of 204 points from 32 appearances.

The kicking ability of Harold Boughton should not be forgotten, his career spanned the 1930s and 40s, and he passed the century mark on seven occasions. Arthur Hudson and Bob Clewes held a distinction in the fact they were the only two players to have recorded a century of points in a season from scoring tries only.

**David King**







Shed regular Bob Fenton looks back at last weekend's semi-final and his thoughts on the remaining Premiership encounters.

# Fanzone

## BOB FENTON

Well if you are going to lose a semi-final, you may as well lose in an epic encounter. And last weekend's contest was certainly one of those.

It has to be one of the most enthralling matches to have been seen anywhere in a long, long time and how those boys at Twikkahs must have wished that it could have been the final.

Come Monday morning and it was hard to be too disappointed. Everyone, on both sides, gave everything they had, both sets of supporters were great (have you ever seen that many travelling Bath fans anywhere before?) and sport demands winners and losers. Unfortunately we

came into the latter group on this occasion.

So with the Powergen Cup option removed from the equation, where does that leave us in terms of Heineken Cup qualification? At the moment in fourth place we are out of the automatic qualification spots. We can hope that Leicester can get their game together and win the Heineken Cup and qualify that way, thus releasing another place in the ZP for the fourth place team, but to make things certain we have to hit that third place spot come the end of the season.

Is it possible? Why not. At the time of writing we are eight points behind Sale who are in third place, and 12

points behind Wasps who are second. There is no point in worrying about Leicester, who are so far out of sight that you can just about see the Tiger's tail twitching somewhere on the horizon.

If you look at the final fixtures of ourselves, Sale and Wasps, you have to think that third place is achievable providing we take the points from every game from here on in.

As Nigel Melville said a couple of weeks ago, the three sides who are currently above us will be playing each other, so they will be losing points. Assuming, and I know it's a pretty big assumption, that we can do the business there is no reason why we can't haul them in and grab one of those

precious top three spots.

Sale have the dubious pleasure of playing Leicester away and Wasps at home, as well as difficult away trips to Saracens who will be scrapping for a play-off place and Quins who will be fighting to avoid relegation. And of course the cherry and white army arrive in Stockport in a few week's time.

Like ourselves, Wasps have three home matches, and two away. And they are two special away fixtures - Sale as mentioned above, and also a trip to Welford Road. Also, like Sale, they have a tricky trip to Vicarage Road, and are home to Worcester and Leeds – ditto the comments about Quins and relegation fights.

Every game from now on in is a five-pointer, but let's take nothing for granted. We know how we can perform when we get things right – we showed that in the second half last week, and had Bath clinging on for dear life. More of the same, please, boys – and no complacency against the teams below us – starting with Northampton today.

Yes... Northampton. I suppose I should start by saying 'It was Blowers!' I wonder how you say that in Japanese: 'It wahs Browwerrs' I suppose. They'll get the hang of it soon enough.

But the Saints... what's happened to them this season? Talk about the wheels coming off. At the end of this term there is bound to be the mother of all enquiries at Frankenstein's Gardens as they try to pick the bones out of what caused their plummet down the league.

At the start of the season they



Andy Gomarsall in action

were among most people's favourites to be heading for major honours, and they still are in the Heineken Cup, but league wise it's a horrible situation to be in.

Their first two games saw them sweep the opposition aside with imperious prowess that promised so much for the season, then we went to the Gardens and put one over on them. From there on in it all went down hill.

They had a great win up at Leicester a couple of weeks ago so it shows that the ability is there in the squad. Okay, Leicester were weakened by the Six nations, and they were probably down to their last 12 internationals, but Saints are still one of a select few who have come away with the points from Welford Road this season.

So no complacency today chaps. The men in

green are fighting for their Premiership existence.

From an outsider's point of view, it seems that the dabble with a South African coaching set up backfired horribly and caused a certain amount of unrest in the camp. It's interesting to see that they have gone back to their roots so to speak and appointed their new coaches from within.

But poor old Budge Pountney didn't last long on the touchline, did he. One word out of place about Steve Lander and he's banned from match day coaching for ages. Budge, mate, there's no need for you to get involved in things like that.

Much like ourselves, the average Northampton fan is more than capable of passing on a comment or two to a referee about his performance. Leave it to the experts, we have years of experience in these

things that you can only dream about.

And if you can't control yourself – and believe me I understand your frustrations – grab yourself a woolly hat and run into the crowd and have a good shout at the man in the middle from the relative obscurity of the terraces where he can't spot you.

Why else do you think Nigel and Dean watch our home games from up in the grandstand – nothing to do with the view, I can assure you.

Finally, I hope Balding is back today after going off against Bath. When he drove out of the ground last Sunday he looked like he had been hit in the head with an axe!

Let's hope he's fit and well today – we can do with his leadership and drive on the field, not warming the bench.

Text **ALERT GLOUCESTER** to **80092**



# MATCH action



Gloucester  
**19**



Bath  
**24**

Sunday 6 March 2005, **Kingsholm**

Attendance: **13,000**

Referee: **Ashley Rowden**

**A cruel last second score from Bath hit the hearts of Gloucester players and fans, as an injury time try in extra time from Andy Williams saw Bath go through to the Powergen Cup final.**

Two more penalties from Henry Paul and another from Malone saw Bath take a 16-12 half time lead.

But that doesn't give any indication of the thrilling encounter on show at a packed Kingsholm.

The pulsating match was on the verge of a drop goal competition when Williams took his opportunity.

A ferocious opening 20 minutes of the second half was followed by an outstanding score from Seti Kiole, after a tricky run from James Simpson-Daniel. Paul's conversion took Gloucester into a 19-16 lead, before a 67th minute penalty from Chris Malone drew the game level at 19-19.

Pride and passion were top of the agenda as Gloucester came from behind and stood proud during possibly one of the best games this season.

Gloucester had their chances in the second half but the Bath defence held out, as the game crept into extra time, and Williams' score.

Two penalties to each side saw the game stand at 6-6, when Bath, against the run of play, scored through Joe Maddock. Malone's conversion took Bath into a 13-6 lead.







Name	Tries	Conv	PK	DG	Points
<b>Gloucester Scorers</b>					
Seti Kiole	1	0	0	0	5
Henry Paul	0	1	4	0	14
<b>Bath Scorers</b>					
Joe Maddock	1	0	0	0	5
Andrew Williams	1	0	0	0	5
Chris Malone	0	1	4	0	14



Gloucester	Teams	Bath
John Goodridge		Matt Perry
Marcel Garvey		Andrew Williams
Terry Fanolua		Andrew Higgins
James Simpson Daniel		Oliver Barkley
Seti Kiole		Joe Maddock
Henry Paul		Chris Malone
Andy Gomersall		Nick Walshe
Nick Wood		Duncan Bell
Gary Powell		Matthew Stevens
Noel Cumrier		Lee Mears
Adam Eustace		Danny Grewcock
Alex Brown		Steve Borthwick
Peter Buxton		Geraint P Lewis
Andrew Hazell		James Scayesbrook
Adam Balding		Isaac Feau'nati
Oliver Azam		David Barnes
Jake Boer		Steve Booth
Mark Cornwell		Ryan Davis
Brad Davies		Gareth Delve
Olly Morgan		Rob Fidler
Alex Page		Jonathan Humphreys
Terry Sigley		Martyn Wood





Pictures courtesy of Bruce Seabrook - GPA images

or book on-line at [www.gloucesterrugbyclub.com](http://www.gloucesterrugbyclub.com)



Zurich Premiership Round 18, Saturday 12th March 2005, KO 2.00pm

Gloucester						Northampton Saints								
T	C	P	D			T	C	P	D					
				Jon Goodridge	15					Bruce Reihana				
				Marcel Garvey	14					John Rudd				
				James Simpson-Daniel	13					Neil Starling				
				Terry Fanolua	12					Marc Stcherbina				
				Seti Kiole	11					Wylie Human				
				Henry Paul	10					Shane Drahm				
				Andy Gomarsall	09					Johnny Howard				
				Nick Wood	01					Simon Emms				
				Noel Curnier	02					Dan Richmond				
				Gary Powell	03					Robbie Morris				
				Adam Eustace	04					Matt Lord				
				Alex Brown	05					Damien Browne				
				Peter Buxton	06					Andrew Blowers				
				Jake Boer	07					Corne Krige (c)				
				Adam Balding (c)	08					Mark Soden				
					replacements									
				Olivier Azam	16					Chris Budgen				
				Terry Sigley	17					Brett Sturgess				
				Mark Cornwell	18					Grant Seely				
				Luke Narraway	19					Ross Beattie				
				Alex Page	20					Billy Fulton				
				Brad Davies	21					Luke Myring				
				Nathan Mauger	22					Andy Vilk				

### Zurich Premiership 2004/05

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	TB	LB	PTS
Leicester Tigers	17	12	3	2	521	250	7	1	62
London Wasps	17	11	1	5	417	316	3	5	54
Sale Sharks	17	11	0	6	396	299	3	3	50
<b>Gloucester</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>42</b>
Bath Rugby	17	8	2	7	323	310	1	4	41
Saracens	17	8	2	7	276	316	2	2	40
Newcastle Falcons	17	8	2	7	386	488	3	1	40
London Irish	17	7	0	10	300	329	1	4	33
Worcester Warriors	17	7	0	10	278	389	1	4	33
NEC Harlequins	17	5	1	11	305	345	2	6	30
Northampton Saints	17	5	0	12	308	362	2	5	27
Leeds Tykes	17	5	0	12	278	348	0	6	26

### Today's Match Officials

Referee: Dave Pearson RFU  
 1st TJ: David Broadwell RFU  
 2nd TJ: Huw Jones-Williams RFU  
 Rec Ref: Ashley Rowden RFU  
 4th Official: Mark Tovey Glos Soc

### Today's Result

Gloucester   
 Northampton

**FRONT**  
 the new club magazine

OUT NOW!!!



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