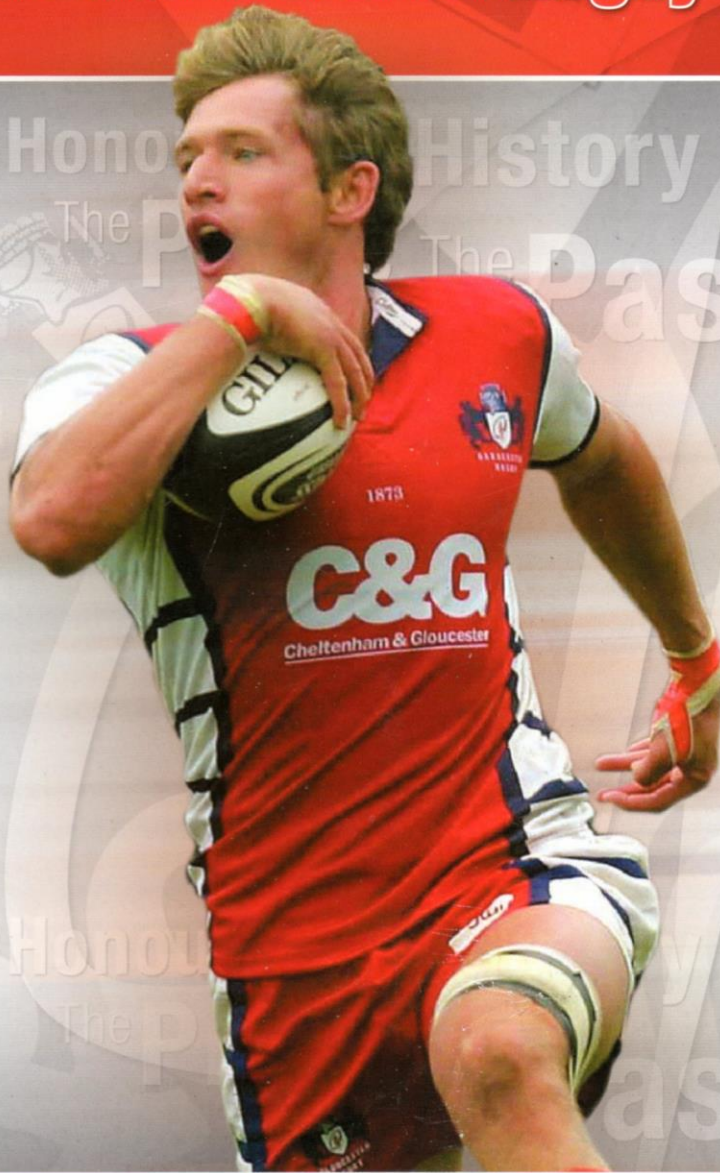


Gloucester Rugby

Gloucester Rugby Official Matchday Magazine | 2005/06 Season | Issue 02 | Price £3.00



The Honour History
The Passion



James Simpson Daniel
Interview

Jack Adams
Feature

Guinness Preview
Weekend Fixtures

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vs **Northampton Saints**

Saturday 24th September | Kick Off 14.45pm



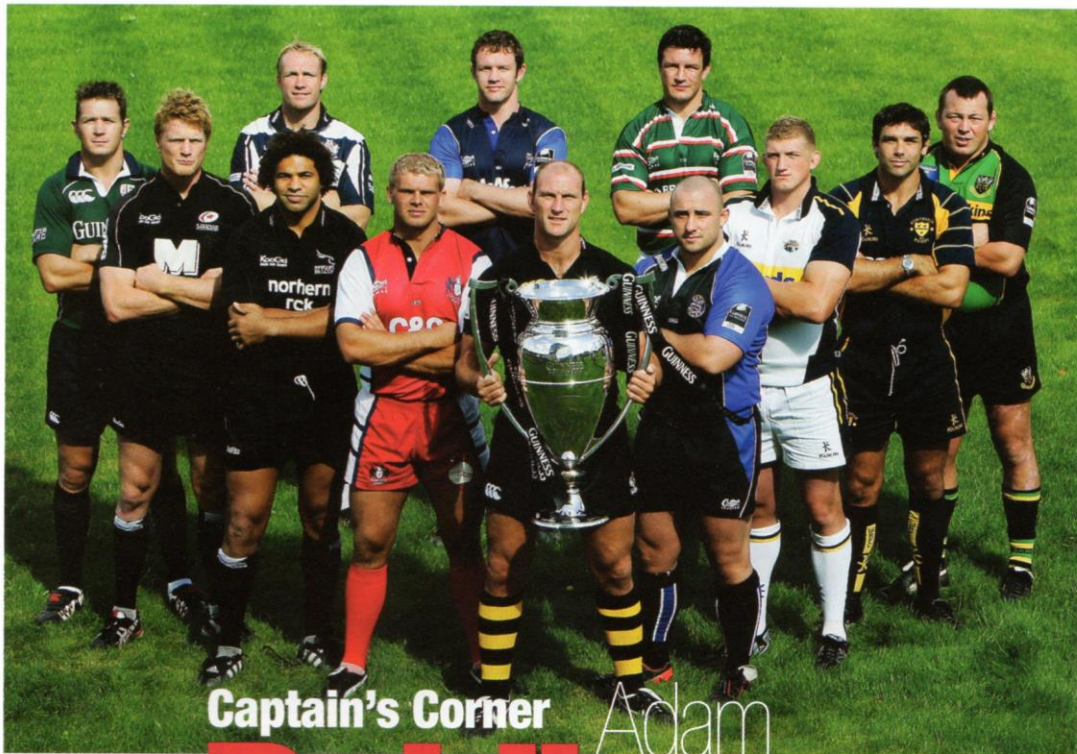
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THE **TIMES**



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Captain's Corner Adam

In association with
dair*

Balding

SO FAR, we have had a bit of everything in the Guinness Premiership this season.

A tense, tough draw at Worcester on the opening weekend was followed up by a last-minute victory over Sale in atrocious conditions at Kingsholm before we claimed a thoroughly convincing and deserved victory over Bristol last Sunday at the Memorial Stadium.

I have said before we have set ourselves high standards this season and we have worked hard on getting the small things right – the set-piece,

defence, ball retention and discipline – and for the most part we have been pretty solid in what we have achieved.

We have faced teams intent on causing us problems in two west country derbies but we have taken six hugely important points to get our campaign off to a solid start. Under such pressure, I have been very impressed with the pride, passion and commitment the boys have shown.

It is an easy thing to underestimate but we have stuck to our task well and last Sunday played some outstanding

counter-attacking rugby.

Today we welcome Northampton Saints to Kingsholm for what should be an enthralling encounter. Nobody needs reminding just how dangerous they can be with a player of Carlos Spencer's calibre in their side and we will have to be on top of our game to claim the points.

The Saints have already beaten Bath away and will be desperate to make up for their home defeat against Newcastle last weekend.

We know we will have a fight

on our hands to earn the points this afternoon but I am confident that if the boys play to their potential, Kingsholm should be a happy place tonight.

Once again, I am restricted to a view from the sidelines because of my injury but I made a major step forward this week. I have started running and weight training again alongside Mike Anthony and that was a massive relief to me.

I am back on the road to recovery and hopefully it won't be long until I am back in action again.

Enjoy the game today, get behind the boys and cheer Gloucester onto another crucial victory.

The **Passion**

Guarantee a ticket at **Kingsholm** - call **0871 871 8781**

“HE IS starting from a great platform – he has great pace and runs superb lines, two things we couldn’t give him. His target should not be next year because I am sure he has a future this year – he could be a great player.”

Dean Ryan



Jack
Adams

It has been a whirlwind start to life as a professional rugby player for Jack Adams. But as he explains to the matchday programme, he has already made more of an impact than he thought possible in his debut season at Kingsholm.



Dean Ryan does not usually dish out verbal bouquets unless they have been thoroughly earned or he has fixed his eyes on something pretty special. But when you consider the subject of his undoubted admiration is a 19-year-old centre with less than 80 minutes of top flight experience to his name, it is worth sitting up and taking note.

The object of his praise is the robustly constructed; flame haired Jack Adams – one of the newest but brightest things in Gloucester's cosmos this season – and Ryan hadn't finished in his assessment.

"He is exceptionally mature for a 19-year-old and is also confident. Sometimes, that can be misunderstood in someone so young but he is focused and knows what he wants – he is a great talent," he said.

From the fleeting glimpses of him so far Adams appears to have a great temperament. He meets the matchday programme on a clear day at Hartpury College after the main media session has finished and is content to wait and play on his mobile phone before relaxing into a green seat.

He lives in Brockworth and attended St Peter's High

School, graduating through their mightily impressive rugby set-up to join Gloucester full-time this summer following a year in the A League side.

"Rugby didn't really grab me until quite late at school," he revealed immediately. "But when I hit year 11, I got into the England set-up and then in Year 12 I played for England Under-18s a year young. It was going great for me and I thought then

I would love to do it full-time if the opportunity came."

While at school, where he gained three A-Levels in economics, media and PE, he played club rugby for Brockworth and was spotted by Gloucester's Academy manager Carl Douglas, who promptly included him the A League set-up to fast-track his development as a physically imposing, hard-running midfielder.

"I was always fairly big and strong for my age, so it was

easier for me to play in the side above," he said. "In my final year at school, Gloucester offered me a part-time contract and as a local lad, desperate to play for the club, I snapped it up.

"It has not really sunk in I am a full-time rugby player to be honest. I trained with the first team a couple of times last year and because of that it feels like I have nicely stepped into it and it has not been a huge jump."

Adams seems to have slotted right into the mix. The supporting lines Ryan spoke admiringly of were displayed with clinical precision in a pre-season game against Doncaster when he linked superbly with Henry Paul and only two weeks into the Guinness Premiership season he found himself cast into the maelstrom against Sale as a second half replacement for Mike Tindall of all people.

But one glittering second half break full of pace and power

"I trained with the first team a couple of times last year and because of that it feels like I have nicely stepped into it and it has not been a huge jump."

The **History**

Guarantee a ticket at Kingsholm - call 0871 871 8781

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hinted at his potential and he now wants more.

"At the end of the Sale game, Henry Paul and myself were in the maul for the

penalty try – that was pretty weird but it was great to be involved," he said. "The biggest difference is the thought processes and intelligence of the players I am around.

"You need to think two or three phases ahead and I am learning to take a lot of information on without the ball. The work I do off the ball is just as important as what I do with it.

"At St Peter's I was used as a bit of a target man to knock it up the middle but I am playing with guys who are much better than me and I have to be more subtle and learn new skills."

He does not seem fazed by sharing the same pitch as Tindall, Phil Vickery and Ludovic Mercier and is relishing the experience and steep learning curve afforded to a new player in a professional environment.

"My aim for this year was just to get onto the bench for the first XV and I have already done that," he said. "Doing that at such a young age is very special. Against Sale, I was not going to get much of the ball at 13 because of the conditions but when I saw a gap I just tried to go through it.

"I looked up and there were four players in front of me. I like to think I am pretty aware of finding the space and getting through a hole. It seems pretty natural so far and I don't feel there is a great deal of pressure on me.

"It is going better than I hoped to be honest. At the start of the year I wanted just to play A League and to progress from that but to break into the first team has been very special."

Jack Adams in action
v Ulster at Kingsholm,
26/8/2005



"You need to think two or three phases ahead and I am learning to take a lot of information on without the ball."

ThePride

King Carlos will finally run out at Kingsholm today – but a little late and in the wrong colours for Bob Fenton, who hopes the former All Black does not make too much of an impression for Northampton.

Fan Zone



Trying Conditions!

Well, if the rest of the season is going to be like the Sale game then I'm off to buy a pacemaker. The last ten minutes of that game were like nothing I have seen before, much more of that and the park and ride buses will be taking detours via Gloucester Royal's cardiac unit on their way out of Kingsholm.

Yes we're used to tight finishes, but a series of penalties on the opposition line, two opponents sinbinned, and still no penalty try. It was getting to such a desperate state that I thought the only way Mr Maybank was going to make the decision was if the whole of the Sale side

were on the sideline watching the clock run down. Still he did the decent thing in the end and we got the result.

And what about those conditions – not quite as bad as that midweek game a few years ago (Ebbw Vale... Caerphilly... I can't remember) when you couldn't see the far side of the pitch for the

Fortunately all you could see on the pitch the following Monday for the 'A' Team (do they travel to away games in a black customised Ford Transit with a huge spoiler... Do they have to drug one of the players with a horribly transparent trick to get him inside...? I think we should be told) on the Monday night against Bath.

"I half expected to see a little submarine making its way across the pitch."

rain. But it didn't half come down. In fact when someone said that a sub was coming on I half expected to see a little submarine making its way across the pitch.

Before hand I thought it was pretty bright, when I arrived the pitch looked immaculate apart, that is, for the zillion or so cones deposited by the Sale backroom staff. I have never seen so many in all my life, they have become the Germans of Premiership rugby and must have a little man who sneaks in before anyone else notices and drops his little cones all over the pitch.

What a job, he must have to come down the night before to get all that lot down. If the rest of the Premiership teams were watching they now know how to scupper Sale's preparation, just lock the gates and don't let the little blighter in!

How much would you pay for that score line (37-7 if you weren't there) in the Premiership in a few months time. You can take my wallet now if it will guarantee it. These games are a great addition to the fixtures calendar, you get to see up and coming youngsters like Mark Cornwell and Duncan McRae... Err... I mean Anthony Adams, Danny Pointon and Olly Morgan cutting loose. There must have been close on a thousand people in for that game, in context, that's around a fifth of many Premiership's first team gates.

At the time of writing the team for the Wasps 'A' Team game has just been announced with the likes of Terry Sigley bolstering the ranks. This squad would do OK against most Premiership sides and shows what strength in depth we have at Castle Grim now.

So today then – Northampton. A hugely disappointing season for them last term, and not the best for this one, getting turned over at home by Newcastle last weekend, and failing to score a point in their opening game of the season against Leicester.

They did get a win in their second game of the season against Bath, but believe it or not this was only the stuttering Saints' second away win of 2005, the previous one being in March last year a 26–18 win at... well Kingsholm actually, so the least said about that the better!

During the summer they have had a bit of a clear out of players and a few new faces appearing. Not least among their roster of new boys is one Carlos Spencer. Carlos didn't quite click in his first home game last weekend, so he will be doubly keen to make an impression on the travelling Saints fans today. Let's hope our boys don't give him the room to open his burgeoning bag of tricks.

A few seasons ago the mere mention of his name would set many of my mates running



Carlos Spencer



Saints victory vs Bath!

for cover as I regaled them with my view of absolute certainty that he would one day run out onto the turf at Kingsholm. Well he is today, but not quite as predicted. I guess my use as a mystic is limited, so don't bother asking me for any lottery numbers.

In fact I was so certain that he was going to sign for us (based on no evidence whatsoever) that I bet a mate a bucket full of beer (ie eight pints) that he would one day don the Gloucester jersey.

I finally capitulated last year and paid up. If you are reading this Carlos, I hope you feel guilty - you cost me a stack, mate. Given the fact that you are probably earning a small

fortune you could repay some of the wedge by nipping over to the new shed bar at the end of the game and buying me a pint. Frankly I feel it's the least you can do.

And what about that shed bar – fantastic place, really good – can't speak highly enough of it. Shame then that the power went off just before the Sale game and scuppered the opening a bit, but afterwards it was packed – not quite to the very high roof – but packed enough.

Despite the crowds it was easy to get served (maybe because bar manager Rob spotted me and served me out of turn, but hey, I'm not complaining) and is full of interesting memorabilia and photographs.

If you haven't done so yet make sure you pay a visit today, it's well worth it. When you do perhaps you will find me propping up a corner of the bar having a pint or two with Carlos....

The History

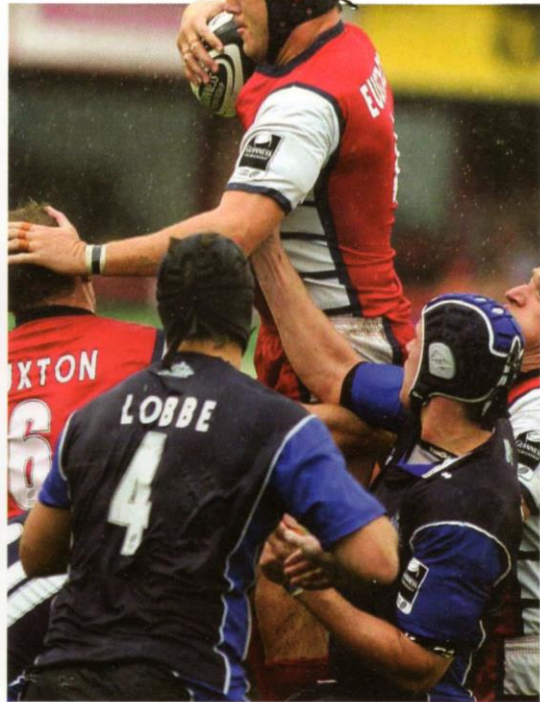
Match **Action**



Gloucester Rugby 21 Sale Sharks 18

Saturday, September 10
Attendance: 9,374
Referee: Roy Maybank

Pictures by Bruce Seabrook – GPA Images info@gpaimages.com



A PENALTY try in the ninth minute of injury time sealed a remarkable victory for Gloucester in near-apocalyptic conditions at Kingsholm.

Head coach Dean Ryan was on the touchline when referee Roy Maybank awarded an 89th minute score following persistent Sale infringements at a series of driven line-outs close to their line.

Ludovic Mercier's conversion sealed the triumph and Ryan said: "We have had a rough ride at Kingsholm and sometimes you forget how to win.

"Sometimes you need something to break for you and now it has, hopefully we can flood through the hole. We obviously have lots of things to work on – Sale were slicker and sharper than us – but we

have to be happy because it's a great result.

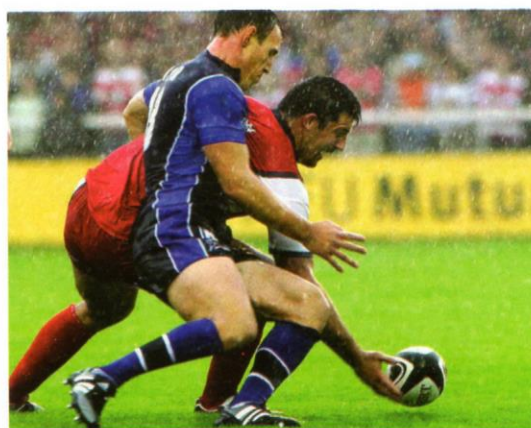
"When it came down to it, we had more raw power up front and that proved decisive. At the end when we needed to combine power and precision, I thought the line-out was excellent."

Of the penalty try, Ryan added: "I don't think you should have to go

to the well five times to get one reward. There were two yellow cards and it seemed pretty obvious what was going on.

"In my opinion, I thought the referee could have given it sooner."

Sale were forceful up front thanks to the outstanding efforts of Sebastien Chabal and Jason White



and controlled behind the scrum, where Charlie Hodgson displayed his very special talents in atrocious conditions.

Sale went 5-0 ahead when they stole possession after a Mercier knock-on. Andy Titterrell and White carried possession forward, Jason Robinson added support to the attack and Chabal showed terrific ball skills to slam

home from close range. Mercier landed two penalties but Sale produced a move of genuine class from a set-scrum six minutes before the break to re-establish their lead. Scrum-half Valentin Courrent linked with Chabal and he sent Mark Cueto blasting away past Rob Thirby and James Forrester to score.

It took Gloucester eight minutes

into the second half to cut the gap to a point when Haydn Thomas and James Forrester sustained an attack and hooker Olivier Azam crashed through Sale's defence to score from close range.

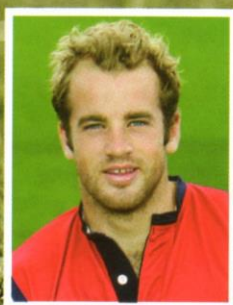
But it looked as though Sale's mastery of the conditions would hold sway with two crucial Daniel Larrechea penalties that stretched their

lead to 18-11. However, Mercier ensured a grandstand finish with a successful three points after 66 minutes before the hair-raising finale in stoppage time.

"I am sure when we sit down and look at the video there will be things we have to improve but the win is a massive bonus and I know we can get better," Ryan added.

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Simpson-Daniel

James Simpson-Daniel could become one of the thoroughbreds of English rugby. But as he explains to the matchday programme, his passion for horse racing is the perfect release from the pressures of the Guinness Premiership.





JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL pulled up lame because of injury ahead of Gloucester's opening three Guinness Premiership matches of the season – much to his utter and total disgust.

He knows a thing or two about the finer complexities of sporting injuries and has been out of action because of a troublesome ankle injury sustained against Calvisano in August that has taken slightly longer than expected to heal.

Although he has been unable to shred Premiership defences with his cunning mixture of footballing expertise, pace and sense of adventure he has been able to get his teeth into the latest project to grab his attention.

Simpson-Daniel is the new president of the 16-24 group at Cheltenham Race Course – replacing Zara Phillips in the

role – and is keen to generate added interest when the new jump season starts next month.

The England winger is no stranger to life on the gallops. He once owned his own horse – Leitrim Rock – and hopes one day to get back into ownership with a thoroughbred named after Nick Duncombe – his friend and former Harlequins and England scrum-half who tragically died in 2003, to fulfil a promise they made together.

"I got into racing through a combination of things," Simpson-Daniel told the matchday programme. "My dad went to Cheltenham every year with some friends and at Sedbergh School, it was quite usual to go to point-to-point meetings – it was just what we did and it started that way.

"It followed on from there

really. I went to some jump racing at Cheltenham, got introduced to some jockeys and Edward Gillespie and started to get to know some horses. I just loved the atmosphere on the terracing and I felt it was important to have something separate from rugby I could use just to get away from it all.

"To be out early in the morning on the gallops is a fantastic experience and I loved it."

Once bitten by the bug, Simpson-Daniel wasted little time in buying his own horse but the harsh realities and expense taught him valuable

"To be out early in the morning on the gallops is a fantastic experience and I loved it."



The History

Guarantee a ticket at **Kingsholm** - call **0871 871 8781**



Local derbies have dominated the start of the Guinness Premiership but as Peter Arnold reports, they have been more like family reunions for Gloucester.

Peter Arnold



Have you noticed how the first three matches in the Premiership have all been family affairs? Downright incestuous, if you ask me.

The rather odd decision to stage local derbies on the first weekend of the season saw us take the short amble down the road to Sixways, where we

enjoyed, if that's the right word, a rather anonymous draw against Worcester.

As we all know, the Warriors are run by our old mate Johnny Brain, who had a distinguished career at lock, while his father, Brian, was running the York House in London Road. With the likes of the Forteyes, Tony Windo and Thinus Delport in their ranks, it wasn't so much a local derby as a family reunion.

Then we came home for a little argument with Sale, who had Robert Todd on the bench, and could well have included Trevor Woodman, if his career-ending injury hadn't intervened. In overall charge was Philippe Saint-Andre, who played and managed Gloucester before trotting off to France and returning to take over the Sharks.

Aiding and abetting him was Kingsley Jones, who skipped Gloucester quite memorably for a while. To redress the balance, Bryan Redpath, certainly one of the best scrum-halves around,

has had the good taste to make the reverse journey and give us a hand, here at Kingsholm.

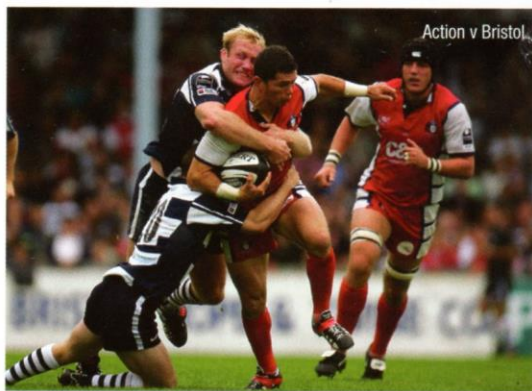
Last week it was down the A38 to Bristol, who as all the world knows, are run by Richard Hill, who started his coaching career, not entirely without controversy, right here. There are other Gloucester connections, too, notably the defection of the latest member of the Teague dynasty, Rory, down to Alistair Brown, who winged this way after showing his prowess at lock, down at the Memorial Ground.

It's almost a relief to welcome Northampton today. At least we'll know who's doing what and to whom.

GOOD IDEA?

TI'm not so sure that the idea of staging all the local derbies on the first day of the Premiership season is all that bright, anyway. It probably seemed like a good notion to start with, and you can see the thinking behind it. Such

“We enjoyed, if that’s the right word, a rather anonymous draw against Worcester.”



neighbourhood get-togethers are usually eagerly supported, and attract large gates. They probably seemed a good way to kick-start the whole campaign.

But is that really necessary? Most rugby-starved aficionados have been salivating for the real stuff to get under way, no matter how many pre-season matches have been on offer, and are going to turn up anyway.

I also feel that bunging such matches in before the sides

long standing events, although that can't be said in the case of Worcester. It's one of the oldest sayings in the book that all bets are off when Gloucester meet Bristol or Bath. The form book simply goes out of the window. There is simply too much baggage for any judgement to be made of the relative merits of the two protagonists.

Other people may have other views, of course. I'd be interested to know what they are.

“I felt that last Sunday's game was a banana skin waiting to happen.”

have had time to settle down devalues our prized local derbies. All the committed supporters want to see their team having a go at the old enemy at the height of their powers, rather than trying conclusions with a side possibly including new players who haven't had time to get to know each other's game thoroughly. If Gloucester are going to take on Worcester, Bristol or Bath, the side needs to do so with all guns blazing.

Local derbies also tend to be

NICE ONE!

Bristol folk must be sticking pins into wax images of 'Django' Forrester by now. By my count, he has scored eight tries in his last three encounters with them, which seems to indicate a fair degree of malice aforethought.

The win certainly put things into perspective. Like many others, I felt that last Sunday's game was a banana skin waiting to happen. The phrase "Oh ye of



Forrester v Bristol



little faith" springs to mind. I should have known better.

Gloucester, it seems, are not at the top of their game yet, nor can we expect them to be so, but the picture which emerges from the sidelines is of a team which is steadily improving, match by match. Bearing in mind results since the first day of the Premiership, that draw at Worcester starts to look more praiseworthy – they're going to be difficult to beat at Sixways, and it's nice to get that hurdle out of the way.

The Sale game at Kingsholm was played in terrible conditions, which favoured us but did nothing for the game as a spectacle. However, resilience, tactical nous and sheer strength did the job, and we're going to need all those qualities as the season wears on.

At Bristol, commentators paid tribute to the side's defence. To come away without conceding

a try when confronted with incisive backs such as Brian Lima and friends is something to be pleased about.

Now, if only the backs could start fulfilling their potential...

OMINOUS

I see that Mr. Baron of the RFU has offered his steadfast and unwavering support to Andy Robinson in his role as England's head coach.

Oh dear. Shades of soccer phraseology. If I were 'Robbo' I would be polishing up my CV.

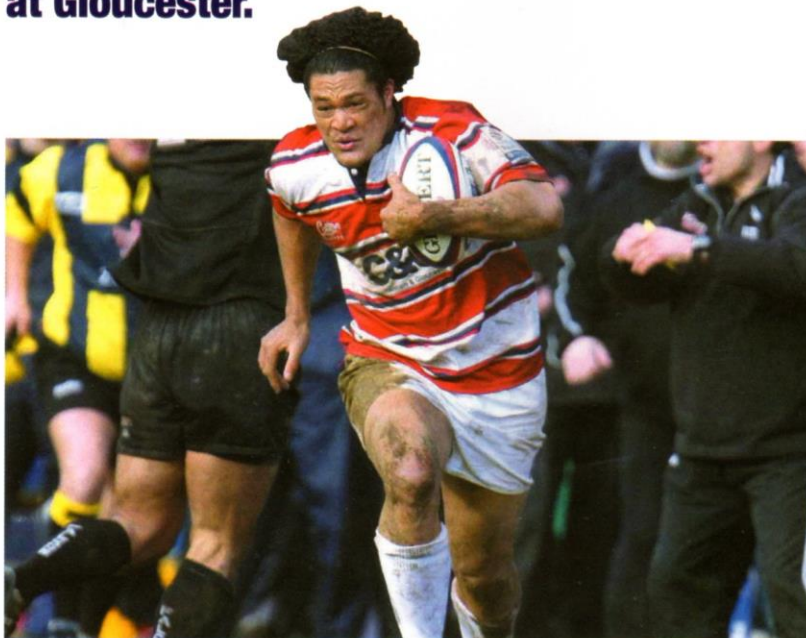
MISTAKE. OH I DON'T KNOW THOUGH

Did you spot our deliberate mistake in the Sale programme? Worcester Worriers? On second thoughts, perhaps our Kindly Editor knows something I don't. Worcester have certainly been worrying some people thus far.

The **History**

Behind The Scenes

The raft of summer departures is confusing at the best of times but **Dave King** rounds up all comings and goings at Kingsholm in another insightful look behind the scenes at Gloucester.



Seti Kiole

Every close season numerous changes take place in the personnel of the playing staff at each rugby union club - whether it is in the Premiership, National League or the local scene.

The majority of rugby union supporters are always interested in the movement of players. And here at Kingsholm, we are no exception.

The 2005 close season saw a number of current and former

players switch clubs. Rory Teague moved to south west rivals Bristol, Chris Fortey joined Andy Gomarsall in making the move up the M5 to Sixways, the home of Worcester Warriors, where they have joined former Gloucester players Tony Windo, Thinus Delpont, Lee Fortey and Craig Gillies.

Some players moved abroad. Nathan Mauger switched to Japan, Christo Bezuidenhout, returned to his homeland of South Africa and Noel Curnier

did likewise in returning home to France to link up with Toulon, who are one of our opponents in the Pool Stages of the Challenge Cup.

Seti Kiole, has made the move to Clermont Auvergne, a club where Olivier Azam was a former favourite.

In National League One, Alex Page has joined Bedford, where Junior Paramore is set to play his last season of competitive rugby. There has also been movement within this division of other players with Kingsholm connections.

Former full-back Chris Catling, who appeared for Exeter Chiefs in 1996 before his move to Kingsholm, has rejoined the Devon club. Chris, a former England A International, now 29, is returning to the County Ground after spells playing with Beziers in France and Catania in Sicily, Italy.

He also had a short spell at Worcester. Chris was attending Exeter University when he helped the Devon club lift the Division Four Championship

in his formative years. Exeter Chiefs are captained by our former centre Stephen Ward.

The experienced Adrian Olver has left Coventry to join Pertemps Bees. Adrian, 36, captained Coventry last season after his arrival from Worcester. His latest move arose after he was unable to agree a new contract.

Flanker Nathan Carter has left Pertemps to join Forest of Dean club, Cinderford, so ably controlled by one of our former captains in Peter Glanville. Nathan, joins Jon Paul Goatley, Rob James and Mark Nicholls who all spent time with Gloucester.

Two former players did a U-turn during the course of the summer!

Dave Sims, who won two full caps against New Zealand on England's Southern Hemisphere tour of 1988 left Exeter Chiefs to join Taunton, newly promoted to South West Two.

However, having been a member of last season's triumphant Devon County Championship side he had the desire to play at the higher level again.

The former Gloucester, Worcester and Bedford second row has now signed for Launceston. The 6' 6" tall 35-year-old who is based at Cullompton in Devon, made a sudden about turn from the resurgent Somerset club. In exchange, Launceston have agreed to loan Taunton fringe players and play pre-season First XV games there for the next three years! They also complied to play the Somerset club twice on non league weekends this season.



Junior Paramore

“In National League One, Alex Page has joined Bedford, where Junior Paramore is set to play his last season of competitive rugby.”

Another former player to have second thoughts was another former lock, Mark Rimmer, who agreed to leave local club Spartans to join the revolution at Cinderford. The beguiling ways of an employer tempted Mark to reverse his original decision and stay with Spartans.

There were no second thoughts for former centre Chris Yates who has left newly promoted northern club, Doncaster, to take up a coaching role with Esher in National League Two.

Pierre Caillet has left Sale Sharks to join French club Beziers. One of our former coaches Laurent Seigne has vacated a similar role with Bourgoin to join Castres.

Another departure from Bourgoin is Federico Pucciariello. The 30-year-old prop has joined Irish Province Munster. Former winger Diego Albanese has decided to retire from the game as did Ed Pearce. Both played for Leeds and Bristol respectively in their final season. →

The History

Daren O'Leary



“Midlands club Moseley, coached by Ian Smith and Don Caskie have secured the signature of former Saracens, Harlequins and Gloucester winger Daren O'Leary.”

Clive Stuart-Smith left Worcester to move further west and join Llanelli on a two year contract. Pertemps Bees of National League One completed the signing of former wing Tom Beim. The 29-year-old had spent the past two years with Italian club Viadana.

Adam Caves had the misfortune to break his leg in Moseley's pre-season match with Newport. Duncan Murray and Ryan Peacey have departed Penzance & Newlyn for Doncaster.

Former lock forward, Karl Rudzki has left NEC Harlequins to try his luck in France with Ludovic Mercier's former club Pau. Bracknell have lost the services of prop forward Michael Guess who has been enrolled by National Two club Barking. Another former

Gloucester player to leave Bracknell is Adrian Frost who has moved to Southend in National Three South.

Former Kingsholm favourite and scrum-half Scott Benton departed Cleckheaton to join Yorkshire rivals Morley where he also assists in an administration role. The new Director of Coaching at local Bristol club Dings Crusaders is Paul Johnstone. Former Leeds centre Craig Emmerson has joined another Yorkshire club, Halifax.

Midlands club Moseley, coached by Ian Smith and Don Caskie have secured the signature of former Saracens, Harlequins and Gloucester winger Daren O'Leary who left Worcester Warriors at the completion of last season. Tom Skelding is another player

to link up with the Billesley Common club. There they join Josh Frape, Nick Southern and Richard Stott.

Former hooker Chris Hall, was another summer departure from Sixways along with coach, Andy Keast. Chris has joined Henley. That prolific points accumulator in Welsh Club rugby, Byron Hayward has now rejoined one of his former clubs Ebbw Vale, in a coaching capacity.

Former outside-half Mark Mapletoft has left London Irish to aid with coaching at Saracens academy. Mark will continue playing by assisting Richmond but is currently out of action with a dislocated elbow.

Several former players have adapted to coaching roles, Lee Osborne with Berry Hill and Martin Roberts with Cinderford. Welsh regional outfit Gwent Dragons have appointed Paul Turner as their Head Coach. Paul was previously with NEC Harlequins, a summer of off-field activity that heralded the advent of this new season.

Match Action



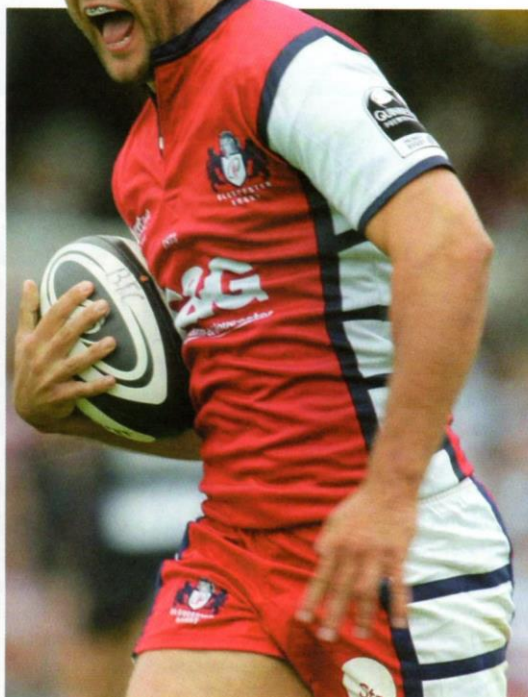
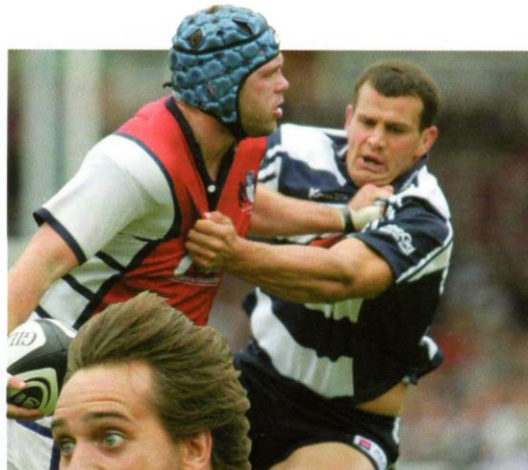
Bristol Rugby 9 Gloucester Rugby 41

Sunday, September 18

Attendance: 11,559

Referee: D. Rose

Pictures by Bruce Seabrook – GPA Images info@gpaimages.com



JAMES FORRESTER scored his seventh and eighth tries at the Memorial Stadium as Gloucester easily rubbed out the challenge of Bristol in the Premiership.

The vastly gifted number eight was at the bottom of a powerful rolling maul after 22 minutes to claim Gloucester's first try and then sealed the win with a lovely

dummy and surge of pace in the second half.

Gloucester found themselves 6-0 down after Jason Strange landed two penalties but hit back through the boot of Ludovic Mercier before Forrester's first score.

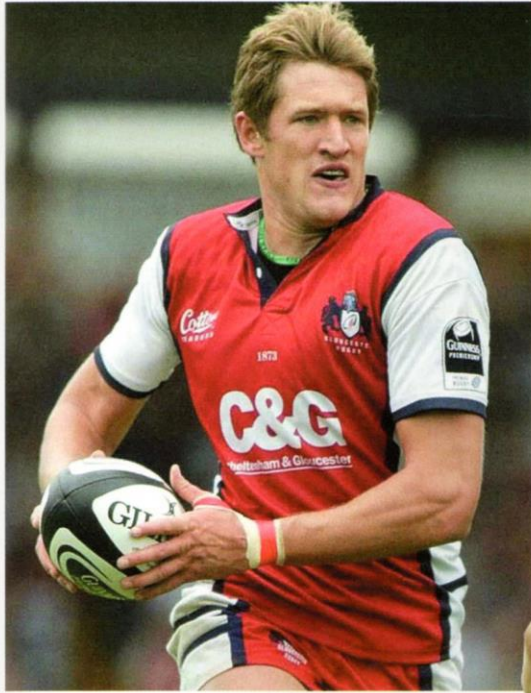
They built on their lead thanks to Mercier to edge 20-9 in front before stealing their second try

in first half injury time. Patrice Collazo found himself with the ball and in plenty of space but kicked through behind Bristol's flat defence.

Haydn Thomas, quite possibly in an off-side position, hacked on, controlled the bounce of the ball and touched down to extend Gloucester's lead further.

Through the efforts of Andy Hazell, Alex Brown and Peter Buxton, Gloucester comfortably kept Bristol's one-out runners in check and built on Forrester's daring to score again at the start of the second half.

He controlled possession at the base of a defensive scrum before sending Mark Foster up the far touchline.



His pass inside found Mike Tindall and he was able to send Jon Goodridge roaring in for the try.

The scoring was completed with 20 minutes to go when Brown's eye for a pass under heavy traffic found Forrester and although he had support to his left, dummied Brian Lima and breezed into score.

Gloucester could have caused even greater damage in the closing stages had it not been for two yellow cards for Olivier Azam and Patrice Collazo.

Head coach Dean Ryan said: "In terms of the number of points we have gained, I am pleased but we still have a long way to go in terms of performance."

"We needed the right elements in our game to get the result. But the only thing I can say is that we are not happy with ourselves in a number of areas."

"If we had been playing Leicester, we would have been up against it. There is still plenty to work on but the points at this stage are very pleasing."





Today's Teams



Gloucester Rugby



Northampton Saints

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- Rob Thirby**
- James Simpson-Daniel**
- Mike Tindall**
- Henry Paul**
- Mark Foster**
- Ludovic Mercier**
- Peter Richards**
- Patrice Collazo**
- Olivier Azam**
- Phil Vickery (C)**
- Adam Eustace**
- Alex Brown**
- Peter Buxton**
- Jake Boer**
- James Forrester**

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- Gary Powell**
- Mefin Davies**
- Mark Cornwell**
- Haydn Thomas**
- Brad Davies**
- Jon Goodridge**
- Andy Hazell**

- 15 Full-Back**
- 14 Wing**
- 13 Centre**
- 12 Centre**
- 11 Wing**
- 10 Fly-Half**
- 9 Scrum-Half**
- 1 Prop**
- 2 Hooker**
- 3 Prop**
- 4 Lock**
- 5 Lock**
- 6 Flanker**
- 7 Flanker**
- 8 No.8**

Replacements

- 16**
- 17**
- 18**
- 19**
- 20**
- 21**
- 22**

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- Bruce Reihana (C)**
- Sean Lamont**
- Jon Clarke**
- Seamus Mallon**
- Ben Cohen**
- Carlos Spencer**
- Mark Robinson**
- Tom Smith**
- Dylan Hartley**
- Brett Sturgess**
- Matt Lord**
- Damien Browne**
- Mark Soden**
- Darren Fox**
- Mark Easter**

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Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	TF	TA	TB	LB	Pts
1	Leicester Tigers	3	2	1	0	101	55	11	4	2	0	12
2	London Wasps	3	2	1	0	99	63	9	5	1	0	11
3	Gloucester Rugby	3	2	1	0	77	42	6	2	1	0	11
4	Sale Sharks	3	2	0	1	73	49	8	5	1	1	10
5	Worcester Warriors	3	2	1	0	60	54	5	6	0	0	10
6	Bristol Rugby	3	2	0	1	44	71	2	6	0	0	8
7	Saracens	3	1	0	2	69	64	9	6	2	1	7
8	Newcastle Falcons	3	1	0	2	55	51	5	3	0	2	6
9	London Irish	3	1	0	2	45	60	6	7	1	1	6
10	Northampton Saints	3	1	0	2	26	57	1	6	0	1	5
11	Bath Rugby	3	0	0	3	51	76	3	6	0	1	1
12	Leeds Tykes	3	0	0	3	50	108	4	13	0	0	0

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFeree: Dave Pearson
 TOUCH JUDGE 1: Andrew Pearce
 TOUCH JUDGE 2: Stuart Terhegge
 FOURTH OFFICIAL: Mark Tovey
 REPLACEMENT REF: Tony Spreadbury
 TMO: Chris Rees

TODAY'S RESULT

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NORTHAMPTON:	<input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>

