

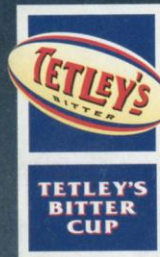
THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF BATH RUGBY • PRICE £2.50

BATH RUGBY

VS GLOUCESTER

TETLEY'S BITTER CUP

FOURTH ROUND



BLACKTHORN



RUGBYCALL 09068 884554 • WEB: WWW.BATHRUGBY.COM • VOLUME 1 ISSUE 6



MATCH history

BATH RUGBY V GLOUCESTER IN THE CUP

THERE ARE FEW FIXTURES IN THE DOMESTIC CALENDAR THAT SUPPORTERS OF BOTH OF TODAY'S CLUBS RELISH AS MUCH AS FIERCELY CONTESTED WESTCOUNTRY DERBIES.

The match holds a special place in the heart. Many speak of the special electric atmosphere that greets the players, of the heroics and above all the immense satisfaction that victory can bring.

It was Gloucester who dominated early encounters between the two clubs and they went on to win the John Player Cup, as it was then called in its debut season of 1971/72. Indeed during this period former Gloucester and England great Mike Burton did not lose a match against Bath.

By 1985, the pendulum of power had swung in the direction of Bath, as the club became the dominant force in English club rugby. During the 1984/1985 season the two sides met in the semi-final at Kingsholm. It was a real classic where Bath were outscored by two tries to one, but it was the men in the blue, black and white who travelled to Twickenham to beat London Welsh.

May 5th 1990 is a date that will live in the hearts of Bath supporters forever. It was a match that rewrote the record books as Bath, in front of a packed Twickenham and a live television audience crushed Gloucester 48-6-a record score for a cup final. Gloucester were totally out played and a length of the field interception try from Tony Swift was a highlight. To complete a miserable day for Gloucester, John Gadd was sent off for stamping.

The two sides were not to meet again in the Cup until 1992.

In what was an epic semi-final at an electric Kingsholm, the cherry and whites did their best to avenge the memories of 1990 in taking Bath to extra time. However late tries from wingers Jim Fallon and Tony Swift sealed the match leaving Gloucester to ponder how they let the game slip and enabled Bath to go to Twickenham where they defeated Harlequins in the final.

That defeat stuck in the minds of the Gloucester players. However Gloucester had to wait another four seasons for a chance of revenge. This time the 1995/96 semi final was at the Rec. Bath ran out comfortable, if not convincing winners, Adedayo Adebayo scored the decisive try. Once again Bath fans converged on Twickenham to see their team beat Leicester in what was their last appearance at HQ in the Cup to date.

That controversial victory brought down the curtain on a remarkable era for Bath. Ten times winners of the competition since their first appearance on the hallowed turf in 1984, the club has never lost a semi-final or a cup final in what is a Cup record unlikely to be surpassed.

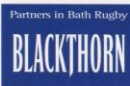
Since 1996, the two clubs have met just once. Last season Bath Rugby met Gloucester on a wet January evening at Kingsholm in the fourth round of the Tetley's Bitter Cup. On that dismal day in atrocious conditions a heroic Gloucester side were victorious by 13 points to 6.

This afternoon will see the two teams battling to reach the fifth round next weekend and a possible home match against Leicester Tigers. It is hard to predict a winner as so often in cup matches form is discarded. However one thing is for certain, the match promises to be absorbing, so sit tight!



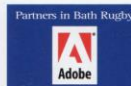
“This afternoon will see the two teams battling to reach the fifth round next weekend and a possible home match against Leicester Tigers.”





Get ahead of the game

THE teams



	Matt Perry	(15) Full Back
	Iain Balshaw	(14) Wing
	Kevin Maggs	(13) Centre
	Mike Tindall	(12) Centre
	Adedayo Adebayo	(11) Wing
	Mike Catt	(10) Fly Half
	Gareth Cooper	(9) Scrum Half
	Simon Emms	(1) Prop
	Mark Regan	(2) Hooker
	Chris Horsman	(3) Prop
	Martin Haag	(4) Lock
	Steve Borthwick	(5) Lock
	Gavin Thomas	(6) Flanker
	Ben Clarke (c)	(7) Flanker
	Nathan Thomas	(8) No.8

	Chris Catling	
	Rob Jewell	
	Joe Ewens	
	Terry Fanolua	
	Tom Beirn	
	Byron Hayward	
	Elton Moncreiff	
	Phil Vickery (c)	
	Chris Fortey	
	Andy Deacon	
	Rob Fidler	
	Mark Cornwell	
	Jake Boer	
	Andy Hazell	
	Steve Ojomoh	



replacements

	Jon Preston	(16)
	Andy Long	(17)
	John Mallett	(18)
	Rob Thirlby	(19)
	Shaun Berne	(20)
	Andy Lloyd	(21)
	Mark Gabey	(22)

	Andy Gomarsall	
	Franck Schisano	
	Stephane Sanchez	
	Nicholas Cox	
	Olivier Azam	
	Chris Yates	
	Junior Paramore	

Today's officials - REFEREE Steve Lander - TOUCH JUDGES Ashley Rowden & Tony Rossall





VISITORS Gloucester

GLOUCESTER ARRIVE AT THE RECREATION GROUND THIS AFTERNOON KNOWING THAT THEY HAVE NEVER BEEN IN A BETTER POSITION TO RECORD A FIRST EVER VICTORY IN A COMPETITIVE MATCH AT THE REC.

This is a remarkable, if not welcome statistic for the Cherry and Whites, who on balance in recent seasons have had the measure of Bath Rugby at Kingsholm in league and cup.

Despite a dismal start to a new Premiership campaign which brought with it a massive injury list for Head Coach Philippe St. Andre. Missing thirteen players, including the likes of 'raging bull' Phil Vickery, Trevor Woodman, Simon Mannix and former Rec favourite Steve Ojomoh, St Andre was forced to field practically a second team for their opening Zurich Premiership match against Saracens. What followed was a dreadful run of results that saw Gloucester languishing at the foot of the table with a lot of soul searching to be done.

However echoes of St. Andre's possible resignation are but distant memories as Gloucester have recovered to fifth in the Premiership, one place above Bath Rugby. Behind this remarkable turnaround have been two men, the evergreen Kingsley Jones and Australian double World Cup star Jason Little. Jones took over the captaincy from namesake Ian, after the former All Black chose to step down to concentrate on

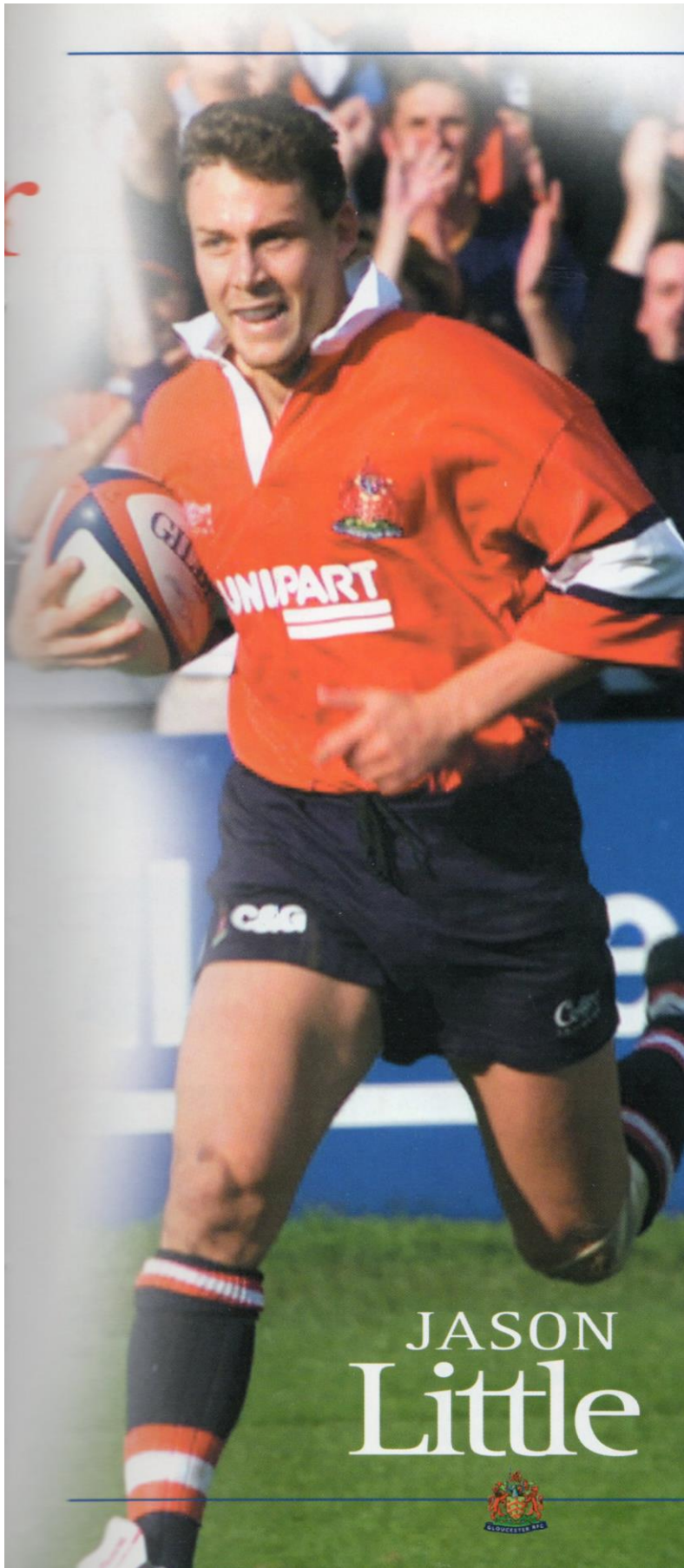
his own game. The move certainly worked, as Gloucester remain unbeaten under the hard Welsh flanker.

At the centre of the revival, literally is Jason Little. It is certainly no coincidence that following the Wallaby test star's arrival after his 75th and final cap for his country came Gloucester's superb Heineken Cup run. Jason is a useful asset to St Andre's side as he has been able to slot into the fly half role with seeming ease in the recent absence of Simon Mannix.

Probably the most outstanding aspect of Gloucester's season to date has been their remarkable Heineken Cup run. After a morale-boosting 27-20 victory over Welsh Cup holders Llanelli, St. Andre's side posted a competition record when Franck Schisano scored five second half tries in thrashing Roma 52-12. An injury time 22-22 draw against Colomiers two weeks ago will have furthered self belief within the camp. Despite last weekend's defeat to Colomiers in the return fixture, Gloucester will be ready for this afternoon's clash.

There are encouraging signs that Gloucester's pack are back to their formidable best and will need little motivation after being demolished by Bath Rugby's front row at Kingsholm in the Zurich Premiership clash at the start of the season. Props, Vickery and Woodman will provide plenty of power up front whilst Ian Jones is as consistent as ever in the second row.





JASON Little



PLAYER focus

IF EVER ONE MAN'S PRESENCE COULD CHANGE THE FORTUNES OF A STRUGGLING TEAM THEN IT WOULD BE GLOUCESTER'S AUSTRALIAN CENTRE JASON LITTLE.

Whilst friend Tim Horan was stealing all the headlines as he arrived at Vicarage Road in a blaze of media attention, his Wallaby centre partner slipped into his new home at Gloucester almost unnoticed. He would not have it any other way, as an Australian international Jason often shied away from the limelight. That was until he donned the Cherry and White shirt for the first time.

The retired test star, still in his prime at 30 marked his debut by scoring two tries in typical Little style as he inspired Gloucester to a 36-16 victory over arch-rivals Bristol. The 75 time capped centre continued his excellent form by inspiring a previously rudderless Gloucester to victory over Welsh Cup holders Llanelli in the Heineken Cup, again scoring a superb try.

The legend in the Green and Gold often acted as a foil for the countless talents of Tim Horan. Jason is a strong ball carrier, solid in the tackle and has the ability to put players outside him into space.

As one of three double World Cup winners still playing, Jason switched to Gloucester to embark on a new challenge- to take the club to the top of European Rugby-and what a challenge. Those who argue the centre is in England for a big pay day alone beware as he will display the same level of commitment for Gloucester as he did on 75 occasions for Australia.

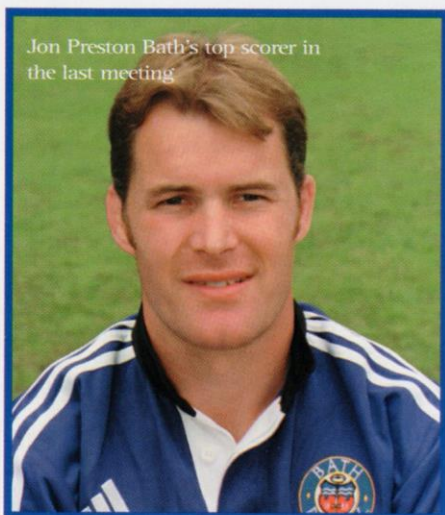
In facing two antipodean team mates of the 1999 World Cup winning side, Tim Horan and brother-in-law David Wilson at Saracens and NEC Harlequins respectively, Jason will be keen to prove that he is still a formidable player, by helping Gloucester to victory over fashionable London sides.

Above all Jason brings experience to Gloucester. He is without doubt a World Class player and importantly a winner, and has done so on every rugby stage. His new Gloucester team mates can only benefit from the unbridled hunger, passion and commitment shown by the Australian.



MATCH history

VS GLOUCESTER...



Jon Preston Bath's top scorer in the last meeting

BATH RUGBY vs GLOUCESTER

Total Games Played:	21	
Bath Rugby Won:	16	76.2%
Gloucester Won:	4	19.0%
Drawn:	1	4.8%

TEAM RECORDS

Biggest win for Bath Rugby	71 - 21	30 04 97
Biggest win for Gloucester	23 - 7	02 01 99

TEAMS FROM LAST MEETING

Match date: 09 Sep 2000
 Score: Gloucester 21 Bath Rugby 22
 Game played at: Gloucester
 Referee: Campsall B.
 Attendance: 6,754

Bath Rugby

Matt Perry
 Rob Thirlby
 (55 I Balshaw)
 Kevin Maggs
 Mike Tindall
 (48-57 J Guscott)
 Adedayo Adebayo
 Mike Catt
 (84 J Guscott)
 Jon Preston
 David Barnes
 Mark Regan
 John Mallett
 Martin Haag
 Steve Borthwick
 Angus Gardiner
 Ben Clarke
 Nathan Thomas
 (84 D Lyle)

Gloucester

Terry Fanolua
 David Loughheed
 Joe Ewens
 Chris Yates
 Franck Schisano
 (64 C Catling)
 Byron Hayward
 Andy Gomarsall
 Olivier Azam
 (57 S Simon)
 Chris Fortey (80)
 Adey Powles
 (68 S Sanchez)
 Rob Fidler
 (49 A Hazell)
 Ian Jones
 Jake Boer
 (45 S Ojomoh)
 Kingsley Jones
 (49 M Cornwell)
 J Paramore (74-80)

SCORERS FROM LAST MEETING

Bath Rugby

Name	Tries	Conv	Pen Kicks	Drop Goals	Points
Rob Thirlby	1	0	0	0	5
Iain Balshaw	1	0	0	0	5
Jon Preston	0	0	4	0	12

Gloucester

Name	Tries	Conv	Pen Kicks	Drop Goals	Points
Byron Hayward	1	0	1	0	8
Andy Gomarsall	1	1	2	0	13

LAST 7 MEETINGS

09 Sep 2000	Gloucester vs Bath	22 - 21
08 Apr 2000	Gloucester vs Bath	16 - 36
10 Oct 1999	Bath vs Gloucester	33 - 20
02 Jan 1999	Gloucester vs Bath	23 - 7
26 Sep 1998	Bath vs Gloucester	21 - 16
18 Apr 1998	Gloucester vs Bath	27 - 17
11 Feb 1998	Bath vs Gloucester	47 - 3

