

GALLIC FLAIR, BRIT GRIT

Chris Hewett (The Independent's Rugby Correspondent) compares the varying styles of the two very different coaches

If there are many mansions in the house of rugby union, it is reasonable to suggest that the various coaches and team managers of the English Premiership live a good distance apart. Some are not on the same planet, let alone in the same parish.



Dean Richards, fulcrum of the England pack in against Ireland1991 Photograph: Allsport

Dean Richards Photograph: Allsport





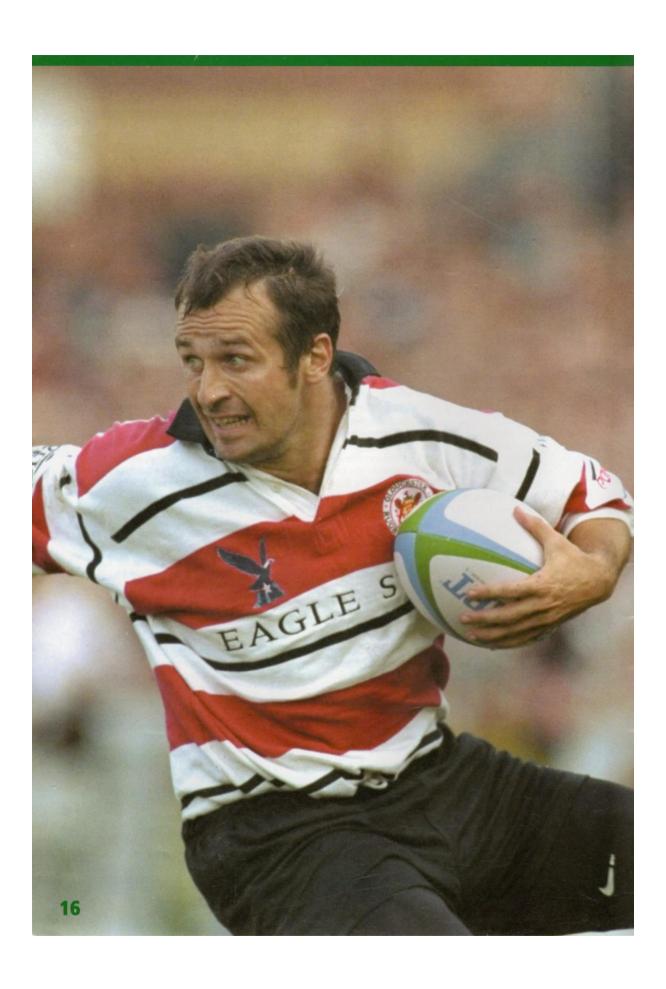
Take Dean Richards, that shambling great bear of a red rose No 8, and Philippe Saint-Andre, the bar-owning French wing from Montferrand who once gloried in the nickname of "Le Goret": the piglet. While their respective clubs, Leicester and Gloucester, have much in common - the deep-rooted tradition, the passionate support, the sheer obsession with the funny-shapped ball the men in charge are as different as different gets. Saint-Andre, scorer of the "try from nowhere" at Twickenham a decade ago and the mastermind behind the equally celebrated "try from the end of the world" that beat the All Blacks in Auckland in 1994, tends to coach the way he played: with his heart on his sleeve, his Tricolore hormones in full flood and his "sacre bleus" flying in all directions. Similarly, Richards manages his mighty Welford Roaders precisely as he organised their forward effort on the field for 15 wonderful years: quietly, decisively and, when the situation so demands, ruthlessly.

ruthlessly.
Cast your minds back to Grand
Slam day in March 1991, and
picture this afternoon's rival
hot-seaters in their international
pomp. Richards was the fulcrum
of the England pack as it
churned its way upfield,
maintaining its stranglehold on
possession for scrum after scrum,

line-out after line-out, ruck after ruck. The red rose eight were so compact, so inseparable, that the individuals could barely be distinguished from one another. The only reason the Twickenham faithful knew Richards was on the field was because the French forwards, frustrated and indisciplined as they reached their wits' end, could barely lay a hand on the ball. Their collective impotence confirmed that Deano was in control, although we saw precious little of the man himself. There was no mistaking Saint-Andre's presence, though: within minutes of the kick-off, he could be seen scuttling up the middle of the field (no superglueing himself to the wing like Leicester's Rory Underwood, mark you) to capitalise on the miracles conjured by Serge Blanco, Philippe Sella and Didier Camberabero in their own 22. He continued to threaten until the final whistle - at least, he did on the rare occasions that his countrymen pilfered a little ball from the mighty Richards. For the Frenchman, limelight without an ounce of satisfaction. For the Englishman, satisfaction without a flicker of limelight.

And that pretty much sums up their respective situations right now. If Richards the manager is slightly more spherical in build than Richards the player - it is a

ntinued over





Phillipe Saint-Andre Photograph: Allsport



moot point, for lean and hungry fitness was never too high on Deano's list of priorities - he is very much a round peg in a round hole. One of the reasons Leicester, enviably equipped with a home-grown back-room structure that seldom misses a beat, have won three successive Premiership titles is their knack of working as a unit. No one falls off the back of the operation, no one gets isolated or exposed, no one speaks out of turn. Whenever a problem arises - Richard Cockerill's falling out with Clive Woodward, for instance, or Martin Johnson's tangle with the Rugby Football Union's hopelessly complicated disciplinary machinery - Richards slams the door, pulls up the drawbridge and deals with it internally.

This musketeerish "all for one and one for all" mentality is entirely typical of both the club and the man. There are no loose cannons, no loose tongues. Richards' job description means that if there is any public talking to be done on behalf of the playing side, he does it. And Richards being Richards, he uses one word when others, most notably his predecessor Bob

Dwyer, might have used a novel's worth. Critics of the Leicester system might complain of insularity, of parochialism, of a dimissal of outsiders that borders on the prejudiced. But it works, this close-knit methodology. Just look at the Welford Road trophy cabinet. If the French invented the musketeer principle, Saint-Andre has been unable to apply it at Kingsholm. He is, by some distance, the most successful coach in recent Gloucester history: a top three Premiership



"While Richards goes about his business behind lock and key, Saint-Andre hangs the dirty washing out to dry on the most public clothesline he can find."

finish last season, followed by a Heineken Cup semi-final at his and the club's first attempt. The Cherry and Whites have players who attract brisk business at the turnstiles - Ian Jones, Jason Little and Junior Paramore are bumson-seats material, as is the wonderfully combustible Olivier Azam - and Saint-Andre has encouraged them to play a fast, wide, inventive and wholly un-Gloucesterish brand of attacking rugby.

Yet the rumours of a split dressing room, of dissatisfaction in the senior ranks, have complicated Saint-Andre's life in recent months. Generally, he has reacted with high good humour; occasionally, with a Gallic shrug. But during the really bad spells, he has lambasted his players

before offering his resignation to Tom Walkinshaw, the Gloucester owner. To his credit, Walkinshaw has rejected all such approaches. "Philippe is the best coach this club has had, no question," he said after the Heineken Cup quarter-final victory over Cardiff. "Why on earth should we want to see the back of him?"

As Kingsley Jones, the Gloucester captain, asserted a couple of months back: "Sure Philippe annoys people. If you make a mistake, he'll yell at you; sometimes, it's the last thing you need. But at least he cares. You can't fault the guy's dedication, because he works all the hours God sends. He's enthusiastic committed and he wants success. It's not such a bad mix, when you think about it.' While Richards goes about his business behind lock and key, Saint-Andre hangs the dirty washing out to dry on the most public clothesline he can find. When he brought Andy Keast, one of the 1997 Lions' backroom team, on board in early March, there was no flannel, no evasion. "I've called in Andy because I need a new pair of eyes; I need help," he explained, with disarming honesty. There is nothing artificial about either man, but they are temperamental and philosophical opposites -Richards the stoical insider, Saint-Andre the excitable outsider. Only one of them can prevail today, but whatever the outcome, we know this much: Deano will keep his innermost thoughts to himself, while Le Goret will broadcast his from the rooftops.

THE GLAWS A SEASON SAVED?

by Gary Baker

Gloucester seemed like a Jekyll and Hyde outfit in recent years. One minute, the world is wonderful and everything in the Cherry and Whites' garden is rosey. The next, all hell is breaking loose. But, whatever happens in the Heineken Cup semi-final against Leicester at Watford today, one thing is certain. Gloucester have come of age on the European stage.

Since the tournament began, the Kingsholm regulars have been fed a diet of European Shield fare without the thrills of having the top guns from around the Continent facing them. All that changed, though, last season when they qualified at last for the number one tournament.

And how the mighty players of the past would have loved to be among the current squad when Gloucester kicked-off their first Heineken Cup campaign at Stradey Park, home of last season's beaten semi-finalists Llanelli, back in October. It was a rare occasion. Tradition is high up the pecking order of both teams, and, to hear the roars of 'Scarlets' followed by 'Glawster' once the Cherry and Whites had discovered they were capable of matching such a great side like Llanelli in the second half was something to really savour. But it has always been that way in the West Country city. Kingsholm has not got a reputation as a fortress for nothing and, when the Shed get their voices into gear today, any neutrals who have not been to Gloucester before will realise

Their success this season has not been developed short term. It stretches back to the time when they were struggling to even stay in English rugby's top flight in the mid 1990s before one of their deadliest rivals upped sticks and became their director of rugby.

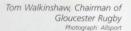
Former Bath and England captain Richard Hill set about transforming the underachievers into a team with belief. Hill was not able to grab any silverware during his reign at the top but the foundations were certainly laid.

When the ex-scrum half and the club, backed by the millions of Formula One racing boss Tom Walkinshaw, went their separate ways, current coach Philippe Saint-Andre was given the task of carrying on where Hill had left. To his credit, Saint-Andre put his back into his work, just as much as he did when captain of France. The result is here today. A European semi-final with hopes of going even further to the big showdown itself.

However, the curse has struck again. As Sir Issac Newton's law says, where there is action, there is always an equal and opposite reaction. Gloucester's triumph at getting through to the Heineken Cup last four, has seen a series of major problems developing in the build-up. New Zealand scrum-half Elton Moncrieff, the man who dropped a bizarre goal at home against Llanelli to give his side a slender but crucial lead that



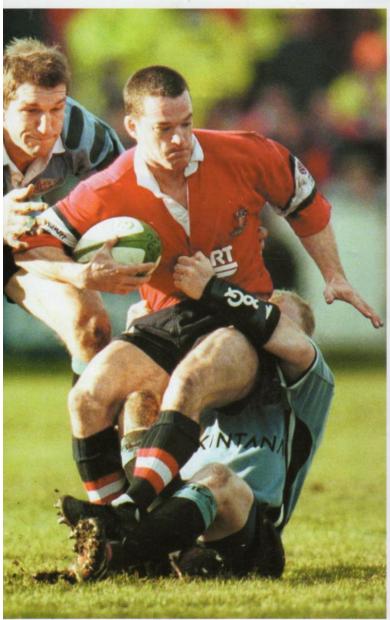
eventually won them their group game, has left in a blaze of controversy and aiming criticism at the French boss. Suggestions are rife that it is the start of a mass clear-out of players from the club this summer, with Australian legend Jason Little and Welsh fullback/outside half Byron Hayward both said to be on their way. It would be a shame to break-up such a glorious unit, especially as the results in the Cup this season speak loudly for their effectiveness. So, what of the future at Kingsholm? They have certainly got a side, with a great pack and some deadly backs, to do a lot more damage in this competition in the coming years. We just have to wait and see how matters pan out over the summer and whether the impetus which has been developed in this competition can be enhanced or goes west. Today, therefore, is vital in that process.





GLOUCESTER'S ROUTE TO THE SEMI-FINAL

Gloucester have certainly made their mark on Europe – and they have done it at the first time of asking.



Elton Moncreiff of Gloucester is stopped by Neil Jenkins and Owain Williams of Cardiff in the Heineken Cup Quarter Final at Kingsholm Photograph: Allsport

The Cherry and Whites are in the Heineken Cup for the first time but have done something several far more seasoned Euro campaigners failed to do this time round by reaching the last four and today's "Best of England" semi-final showdown with re-crowned English champions Leicester Tigers. In the end, captain Kingsley Jones and his battlers had the point salvaged from a penalty try, and with it a 22-22 draw against Colomiers at Kingsholm, to thank for their place in the quarter-finals.



"...today they will be meeting for the 180th time in a rivalry going back to 1891, never has the prize been bigger."

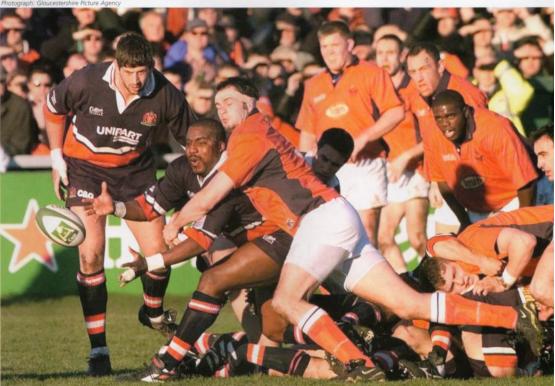
Gloucester had got off to a flyer on their Heineken Cup debut, silencing the Stradey Park crowd as they beat Llanelli 27-20 with emergency fly half Jason Little and replacement flanker Andy Hazell the try scorers and lock lan Jones walking off with the Heineken Man of the Match award.

Roma were blitzed 52-12 at Kingsholm, wing Tom Beim cashing in with a tournament record five tries, before that point saved against Colomiers at the death that was to make all the difference in last eight qualification.

And Colomiers are the only one to lower Gloucester's colours in Europe so far, the French club –



Steve Ojomoh of Gloucester, acting scrum-half, gets the ball out against Llanelli at Kingsholm



the 1999 Heineken Cup finalists – winning 30-19 at home to push Gloucester down to third spot in Pool 5 and with everything to do when the tournament resumed back in January.

But with the chips down Gloucester came up trumps. It might have needed one of those Question of Sport "What Happened Next" questions to get them past Llanelli for the double, Elton Moncrieff's drop goal deflected over the crossbar by flanker Dafydd Jones, but the Scarlets were beaten 28-27 with everything then hanging on the final round.

Roma made a decent fist of it in a 38-29 defeat but could not

stop Gloucester topping the group and earning themselves home advantage in the quarters against inaugural and 1996 finalists Cardiff.

The reigning Welsh champions scored the only two tries of a tight match but with Junior Paramore at his majestic best and Simon Mannix (6) and Byron Hayward punishing Cardiff indiscipline with penalty goals, Gloucester won 21-15. The semi-final draw made in Dublin pitched Gloucester against Leicester and, although today they will be meeting for the 180th time in a rivalry going back to 1891, never has the prize been bigger.

Hooker Olivier Azam celebrates Gloucester's quarter final victory over Cardiff





A MESSIAH WAITING TO DELIVER?

Brendan Gallagher of The Daily Telegraph profiles Gloucester's Captain Kingsley Jones

You have to be a resilient character to captain a top rugby side these days. The pressures are many and varied, the criticism intense, the consequences of defeat or victory far-reaching.

Which is where Kingsley Jones comes in. Kingsley is not the sort of individual you'd ever find on the shrinks couch undergoing therapy. Confident, voluble, upbeat, wise-cracking, the Welsh flanker has been in charge - on and off - at Kingsholm for nearly two years. A tough ride especially this season. Historically Gloucester are a massive well supported club. Expectations are always pretty high yet the reality is that, in recent years at least, they have achieved very little. Bath, Leicester and occasionally Wasps, Newcastle and Quins have made off with the trophies. Though worthy competitors Gloucester have, somehow, never quite sustained a serious challenge. So the captain of Gloucester can labour under a heavy burden. The Kingsholm faithful have waited too long for something to celebrate, they are desperate for a messiah to deliver. And if he doesn't there is a tangible feeling of disappointment. The pressure can build up. Gloucester is a city where rugby really matters and every match and performance is put under the microscope. The big plus is that come Saturday afternoon, whatever the debates and arguments in midweek, everybody gets behind the Cherry and Whites.

And then there is the up and down nature of Gloucester's season to date. Doughty Heineken Cup fighters and semifinalists but wildly inconsistent in the Zurich Premiership. Rumours of players leaving, rumours of players coming, rumours of a change in coaching personnel. Jones, as the club's figurehead and spokesman, has had to absorb it all. The thing that has bothered



"Gloucester is a city where rugby really matters and every match and performance is put under the microscope."

Jones most though has been the lack of recognition for his side's achievement in reaching the Heineken semi-finals at their first attempt:

"It has hurt pretty badly," says Jones, capped ten times by Wales before moving to Gloucester three years ago. "We're honest enough to admit that we haven't always produced the kind of all round game we aspire to but that doesn't mean to say we haven't played and competed well. "You don't do the double over Llanelli by accident. Beating Cardiff at home wasn't a fluke either, our defence in the latter

stages was superb, world class. In seven Heineken Cup matches this season - and everybody is agreed that the European Cup is the elite club competition in the northern hemisphere - we have lost just one game. That was at Colomiers and to be honest, but for a mad seven minutes at the end, we should have won that as well.

"So despite all the criticism I think most fair minded observers, if they really examined our Cup run, should concede that we have dug in, produced some gritty and brave performances against quality sides and thoroughly earned our semi-final place.

"There is no such thing as an easy game in Europe. Statistically our home win over Roma looks easy enough but they weren't a bad side at all. We had to work really hard up front in the first half before really hitting our stride after the break when we ran a few tries in

"Roma showed just how good they were when they really took it to us on their home patch, a match we had to win to reach the quarter-finals. Along with Treviso they're the top team in Italy and fans in Britain are rapidly learning that Italian rugby deserves our respect. "I've been pleased with our attitude and competitiveness in

continued over

Europe though obviously we have got to step up a couple of gears against Leicester. We are massive underdogs but don't write us off. People are talking as if the semi-finals are as far as we can go. Yes it will be difficult to beat Leicester but as we showed against Cardiff we can beat top teams."

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Jones likes to try and keep the atmosphere light at Kingsholm a comic touch runs deep in the family with father Phil Kingsley Jones earning a living as a stand-up comedian before "discovering" Jonah Lomu in 1993 and acting as agent and mentor to the great rugby phenomenon the game has ever known. Though disappointed to drop out of the Welsh squad he remains, at his fiery best, and influential player and doesn't share the general pessimism about his side's prospects at Watford.

"I don't think Dean Richards was messing around when he said playing us was probably the hardest game when the semifinal draw was made. He knows that year in year out Gloucester always give Leicester a game, in fact we should have beaten them at Welford Road last season when we scored three cracking first half tries. "We respect Leicester like hell but we're not frightened of them. We know their ways. Our pack - unlike many others - is

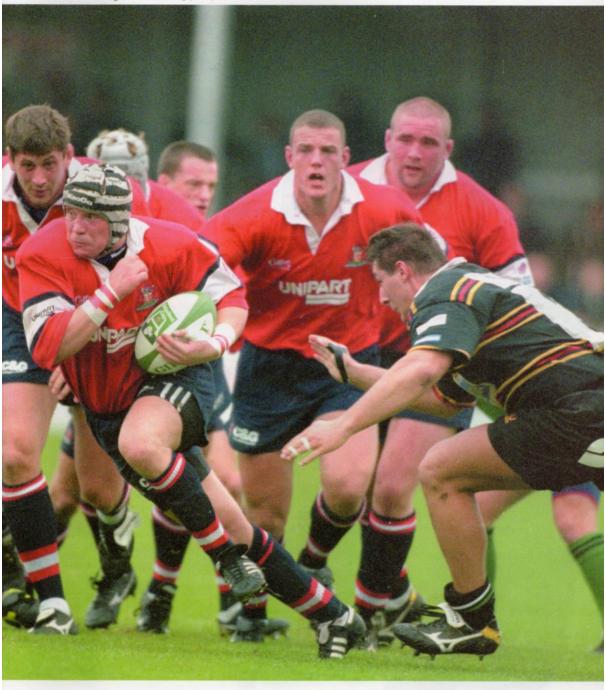
never fearful of their pack. We know we can stand up to them. If we have a very good day and a few things go our way we can win. Sounds simplistic but you can over complicate things building up to a big match. The bottom line is that its Cup rugby and we've got a sniff. That makes us dangerous. "It has been disappointing not to translate some of our European success into solid League results but it's a hellishly long season and we're learning all the time. Building for a big European Cup game - the travelling, the extra media attention, the emotional crowds, the euphoria of victory and then trying to adjust from that massive high to a League match a few days later has proved difficult. Its been a new experience for us and we haven't always coped that well but hopefully we can learn from

"In the professional game these days any team can have a bad patch. Northampton started the season as Heineken champions, for some reason couldn't seem to win a game in the European this time around, yet won something like eight on the trot in the Premiership. Its so competitive out there, the margins are so small. "Only Leicester have solved the riddle of how to remain consistent and powerful in all competitions, all the time. That's why they set the standards in Europe. They are always the team to beat. As fellow professionals we doff our hats to them, they are special, but no team is unbeatable, rugby has shown that on so many occasions.





Kingsley Jones on the charge during the Heineken Cup Pool 5 match against Roma Photograph: Allsport



Gloucester



Olivier AZAM

Position:	Hooker
D.O.B.:	21.10.74
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	18st 2lbs



The French hooker has been on ten-terhooks over the past few weeks about whether he will actually be able to play in today's match. He was sent off for

France A against Wales A and subsequently had to endure disciplinary action. Azam is, however, a vital cog in the Gloucester machine and, if he does play today, is set to cause Dorian West or Richard Cockerill some problems.

Tom REIM

TOTAL DELIVE	
Position:	Wing
D.O.B.:	11.12.75
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	16st 6lbs

equalled the Heineken Cup try scoring record when going over five times against Roma at Kingsholm this season.

He has been a revelation this season and proved he is a strong and deadly finisher when given space. Could cause Leicester problems if he receives enough ball today.

Jake BOER

Position:	Flanker
D.O.B.:	01.11.75
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	16st 6lbs

Ironically, should Jake play some part in today's proceedings, the Leicester faithful

will be able to see just what he

could have done

against Richmond for the Tigers

before going south and linking

in their jersey given the chance. Boer played once



up with Gloucester where he has done sterling work all season.

Chris CATLING

Position:	Full-back
D.O.B.:	17.06.76
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	14st 2lbs



The England A of Gloucester's most consistent players and is a very depend-able man in both attack and He struggles a bit with his kicking

ner and has almost topped the try-scoring

Mark CORNWELL

Position:	Lock
D.O.B.:	22.02.73
Height:	6′7″
Weight:	17st 13lbs



Mark came to prominance when Rob Fidler and Dave Sims were partnering each other in the Gloucester second row. Cornwell man-aged to break-up that old firm and force his way

into the side. Unfortuantely, for 'Pasty', the Cherry and Whites signed New Zealand legend Ian Jones to pair with Fidler and, although he has had few chances this campaign, has still done a good job when called on.

Andy DEACON

Position:	Prop
D.O.B.:	31.07.65
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	17st 8lbs



durable a prop as Gloucester have ever had and is now in his 13th season with the Cherry and Whites, having made his debut in 1988. The 35-yearappear this season have only been curtailed by the





return to fitness of Phil Vickery. However, there is no more faithful servant at the club at present and no one else you would put your mortgage on to do the business time after time.

Adam EUSTACE

Position:	Flanker/No. 8
D.O.B.:	09.01.79
Height:	6'4"
Weight:	16st 7lbs



A big, bruising allrounder who has been used mostly as a second-half impact replacement by Saint-Andre this season, given the quality of the back row available. However, he has hever looked out of place and the 22-year-old has proved he has a

bright future by gaining England U-21 caps already in his career.

A great favourite with the Kingsholm fans and, after forming a lucrative partnership with Australian Richard Tombs when first arriving in the West Country, is fighting for his position along with Chris Yates and Jason Little. As hard a tackler as any of his countrymen.

Chris Fortey

Position:	Hooker
D.O.B.:	25.08.75
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	16st 3lbs



A robust number two who has played for England A and the Barbarians in his time although Azam is the main man in his position at present. Has been unlucky not to have established himself as first choice but, before Azam arrived, he was

battling for the spot along with Phil Greening and Neil McCarthy. A big fella who has been around the club since 1995.

Andy GOMARSALL

Position:	Scrum-half
D.O.B.:	24.07.74
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	13st 8lbs



Signed for the club last summer and the former England international has been battling for the number nine jersey all season along with Elton Moncrieff. It is a tribute to Gomarsall that.

after being released by Wasps following a dip in form because of a serious back injury, he resurrected his career and moved on from Bedford back to the top with

Joe Ewens

Position:	Centre
D.O.B.:	16.12.77
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	14st 2lbs



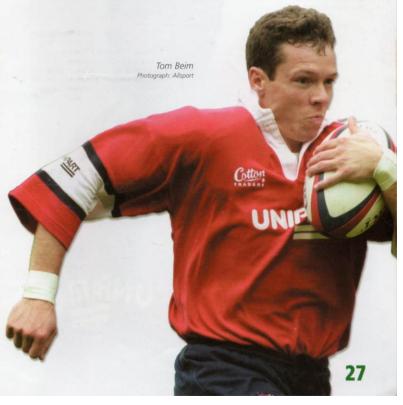
Ewens was born in Bristol and is a product of the famous Colston's Collegiate rugby school in Clifton where he was first signed for Bath's Rugby Academy and from where he got England A

honours. He went on loan to Bedford from Bath and it just shows how much Gloucester rated him in that, when an initial transfer broke down while at Bedford, the Cherry and Whites were determined to get their man and managed that in the summer of 1999. A dynamic tackler and tremendous talent.

Terry FANOLUA

icity ir medical	
Position:	Centre
D.O.B.:	03.07.74
Height:	6'1"
Woight:	13ct 8lbc

So versatile is the Samoan that he can play almost anywhere other than scrum-half in the back division.



Gloucester

Byron HAYWARD

Position:	Fly-half/Full-back
D.O.B.:	22.02.70
Height:	5'8"
Weight:	13st 2lbs



two seasons ago because he was not getting enough games there and has fitted in quite well Kingsholm.He played twice for his country at senior Test level and is such a hard nut that he

Welsh Amateur Boxing Association championship welterweight title after combining rugby with Newbridge RFC beside training with current world middleweight champion Joe Calzaghe and his dad and trainer, Enzo.

Herve Gregoire

Position:	Flanker
D.O.B.:	
Height:	
Weight:	



Joined Gloucester from Montferrand last summer and made his debut on August 12 against Munster. Herve is an Ivory Coast international and played in the qualifying rounds of the 1999 World Cup. He is on a

one-year contract with the club.

Andrew HAZELL

Position:	Flanker
D.O.B.:	25.04.78
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	14st 7lbs



An outstanding talent who many consider to be one of the unluckiest players at Kingsholm. A great open side flanker who has already won

England U-21 caps and should go on in the future to grab senior international hon-ours. A local boy made good. He came to Kingsholm from junior side Gloucester Old

Rob JEWELL

Position:	Wing/Centre
D.O.B.:	
Height:	
Weight:	



Came to Gloucester in 1997 via a strange route. Jewell was developed at Gloucestershire sides Old Richians and Gordon League before going off on his travels to New Zealand. He played for Pukekohe before returning home. Has put

on the muscle in recent years to make himself stronger and harder in defence. It has certainly worked.

Ian JONES

Position:	Lock
D.O.B.:	17.04.67
Height:	6'6"
Weight:	16st 5lbs

The All Black is a legend. He has been rated as one of the best second rows of the past decade and won 79 caps for his country before ending it all for a stint at Kingsholm this season.

this season.

Critics thought he had only come over to this country for a nice end-of-career pay-off but his commitment to Gloucester's cause has proved beyond any doubt that that is rubbish. A true great.

Kinaslev JONES

Position:	Flanker
D.O.B.:	19.06.70
Height:	-6'0"
Weight:	15st 10lbs



There was certain surprise when Kingsley was not re-elected as Gloucester's cap-tain this season but he did not get concerned about it and got on with his game. Eventually, he was asked to take over from lan Jones and his leadership is one of the key reasons why the club have become a major force in





British rugby these days. As honest a flanker as the day is long.

Jason LITTLE

Position:	Centre/Wing
D.O.B.:	26.08.70
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	14st 7lbs

An Australian Test legend who has played for his country 75 times and became the club's latest big name signing last year. Many of Little's partnerships at Test level were alongside the World Cup final Man of the Match Tim Horan and has proved equally as effective in the English game as he was in Super 12s. Will cause Leicester problems in midfield.

Simon MANNIX

Position:	Fly-half
D.O.B.:	10.08.72
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	13st 3lbs



Simon went through a bit of a sticky patch at one time with Gloucester after joining them from Sale in 1998 but has since turned on the style and bounced back. He averages more points per game than Gloucester's previous goal-kick-

game than Gloucester's previous goal-kicking wizard, Mark Mapletoft, and has a sharp running game to boot.

Steve Ojomoh

Position:	Flanker/No. 8
D.O.B.:	25.05.70
Height:	·6′2″
Weight:	16st 4lbs



A former England international who can consider himself unlucky not to have won more caps than he did. Should really be up there still with the senior team. He quietly gets on with his job but to see Ojo barnstorming away from the back of a

scrum, ruck or maul and the sheer terror on the opposition as they face tackling him is one of the great rugby sights. A masterful player.

Junior PARAMORE

Position:	Flanker
D.O.B.:	18.11.68
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	16st 7lbs

Signed for Gloucester from Bedford after spells down under in New Zealand and Australia plus a saunter into Rugby League with Castleford.

with Castletord.

A cousin of Terry Fanolua and a hugely influential player in the side, although his Kingsholm career has been dogged by injury every so often.

Ed PEARCE

Position:	Flanker/No. 8
D.O.B.:	02.09.75
Height:	6'6"
Weight:	19st 5lbs



The man with the size 14 feet has found it hard to break into the Gloucester back row simply because he has to work on his game.
At six feet six

inches tall and weighing 19 stones five pounds, Pearce is one of the biggest back row forwards in England and has excellent mobilty and handling skills.

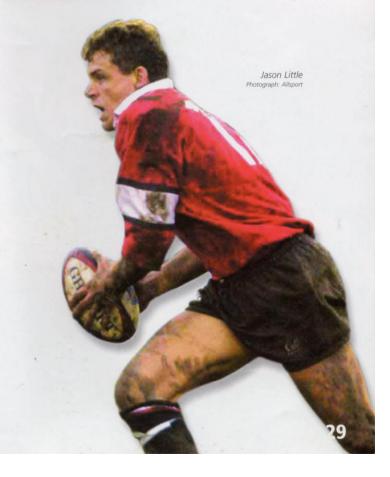
Stephane SANCHEZ

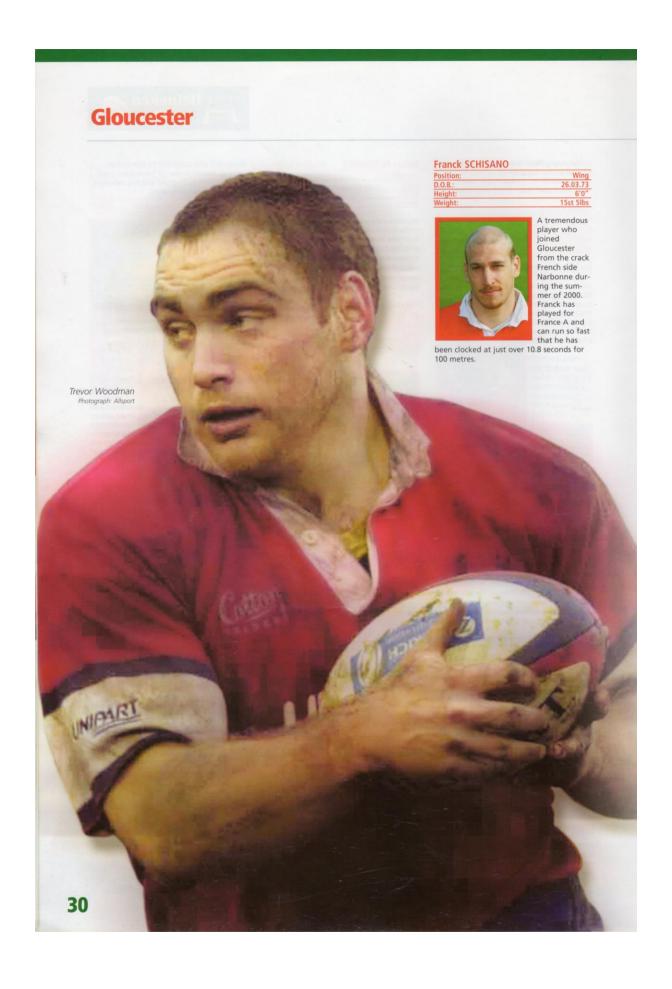
Position:	Prop
D.O.B.:	02.01.73
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	15st 5lbs



Coach Philippe Saint-Andre has a bit of a golden touch when chosing unknown props from his home land. Sanchez is a good player, strong and mobile but his first season with the club,

after joining in 1999, was dogged by a back injury which forced him out of a lot of games.







Phil VICKERY

Position:	Prop
D.O.B.:	14.03.76
Height:	6'3"
Weight:	19st Olbs



'Raging Bull' has estab-lished himself not just as the best tight head at Gloucester at the moment but also in England. A neck injury during 1999 threatened his entire career but,

since getting the all clear, Vickery has made up for lost time – and how! Is an almost certainty to go on the British Lions tour of Australia this summer.

Richard WARD

Position:	Lock
D.O.B.:	04.08.76
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	17st 13lbs



If ever the Cherry and Whites are in trouble up front. then Richard Ward is invariable the man that Saint-Andre turns to in a bid to switch things around.

He's a true unsung hero at the club and, while a second string player behind the likes of Rob Fidler and lan Jones, gives 110 per cent when he has the chance to shine. As committed a player as you will find at any club.

Trevor WOODMAN

Position:	Prop
D.O.B.:	04.08.76
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	17st 13lbs

Woodman has been around Kingsholm for a few years now but, since being given his opportunity to shine, has grabbed it with both hands.

both hands. Is such a talented loose-head prop now that many are predicting he will become Jason Leonard's successor when the England hero eventually hangs up his boots. As rock solid in the scrum as any prop in the country.

Chris YATES

Position:	Centre 13.05.71		
D.O.B.:			
Height:	6'1"		
Weight:	15st 10lbs		



Chris Arrived at Gloucester from Sale and has found himself happy and contented in his midfield role alongside Jason Little. A dynamic attacker

well as go through the gaps and blow them wide open. Yet, as strong a tackler as you will find at centre in the Premiership.







SATURDAY 21 APRIL 2001 VICARAGE ROAD KICK-OFF 4PM

GLOUCESTER





LEICESTER TIGERS

1	Trevor WOODMAN	LOOSEHEAD	Graham ROWNTREE	1
2	Olivier AZAM	HOOKER	Dorian WEST	2
3	Phil VICKERY (c)	TIGHTHEAD	Darren GARFORTH	3
4	Rob FIDLER	LOCK	Martin JOHNSON (c)	4
5	lan JONES	LOCK	Ben KAY	5
6	Jake BOER	BLINDSIDE	Will JOHNSON	6
7	Andy HAZELL	OPENSIDE	Neil BACK	7
8	Junior PARRAMORE	No.8	Martin CORRY	8
9	Andy GOMARSALL	SCRUM HALF	Austin HEALEY	9
10	Simon MANNIX	FLY HALF	Andy GOODE	10
11	Joe EWENS	LEFT WING	Winston STANLEY	11
12	Jason LITTLE	CENTRE	Pat HOWARD	12 13 14
13	Terry FANOLUA	CENTRE	Leon LLOYD	
14	James SIMPSON-DANIELS	RIGHT WING	Tim STIMPSON	
15	Chris CATLING	FULLBACK	Geordan MURPHY	15
16	to be named		Jamie HAMILTON	16
17	to be named		Glenn GELDERBLOOM	17
18	to be named		Paul GUSTARD	18
19	to be named	REPLACEMENTS	Lewis MOODY	19
20	to be named		Ricky NEBBETT	20
21	to be named		George CHUTER	21
22	to be named		Derek JELLEY	22

the teams are subject to change

F			

REFEREE - Joel Dume (France)
TOUCH JUDGES - Didier Mene (France)
- Patrick Thomas (France)
- Roy Maybank (England)