

Quins

Matchday Programme



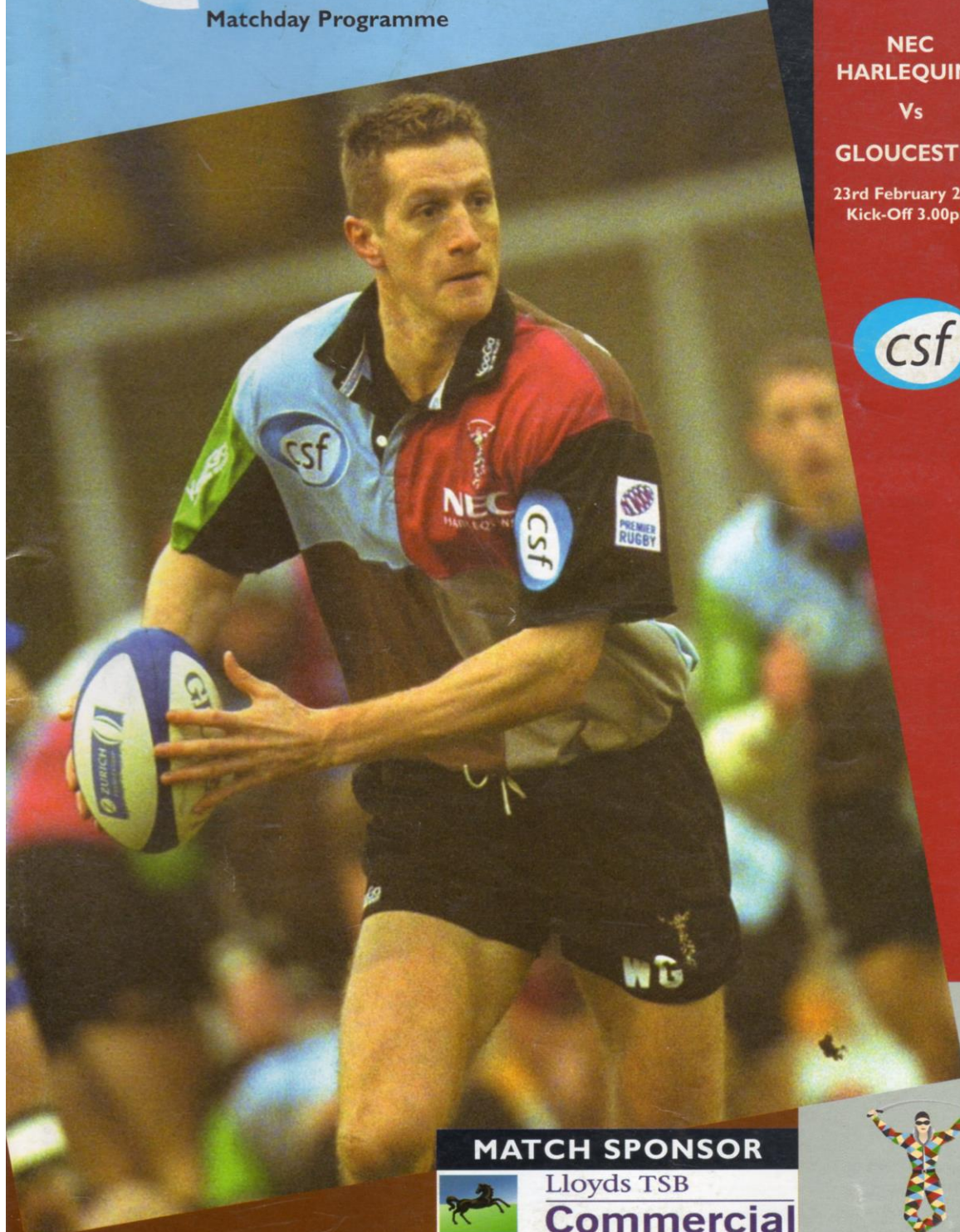
Vol. 2 No. 14

NEC
HARLEQUINS

Vs

GLOUCESTER

23rd February 2002
Kick-Off 3.00pm



MATCH SPONSOR



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Gloucester - the dark horses of the Premiership

By James Bennett
Press Officer, Gloucester RFC

It may be hard for some to believe but Gloucester have become the dark horses of the Zurich Premiership this season. At the beginning of the season, even after Gloucester's excellent Heineken Cup run, the prognosis from most pundits outside the city walls was that Gloucester would do well to finish higher than the seventh position they occupied at the end of last season's Premiership campaign.



With the exception of possibly London Irish, who retain an interest in all competitions, Gloucester's charge up the table to a strong second place seems to be the unexpected performance of the campaign to date.

The challenge for the Cherry and Whites though remains unfinished. In order to consolidate their second place, the West Country men know that they will have to continue their exemplary home form but also master the away day demons, which seems to have plagued Gloucester this season.

At home, fortress Kingsholm has been breached only once this season, by the Champions Leicester Tigers last September, as Gloucester's new team bedded in. Away from GLI however, the story is rather different; a solitary away league win against next months Parker Pen Shield opponents Sale Sharks is scant consolation for the Cherry and Whites endeavours this season.

Away from domestic competition and away from England's green pastures, the Cherry and Whites have swept all before them. They finished top of their Parker Pen Shield Pool with six wins out of six. Gloucester destroyed minnows Caerphilly and GRAN Parma and French side La Rochelle were also well beaten. In the quarterfinal stages, Gloucester entertained Welsh side Ebbw Vale

and in terrible conditions they took hold of the game and strangled the life out of the Steel Men.

Apart from a Powergen Cup defeat to London Irish a month ago, the Cherry and Whites remain unbeaten since December when a poor team performance lead to a defeat against West Country rivals Bath.

Incidentally, that was also Gloucester's last league game on their travels and as previously suggested their away record this year continues to be the stumbling block for an undoubtedly talented team. Starting today, Gloucester must play nine more league games with six games coming away from fortress Kingsholm. They know that in order to maintain their second position in the Zurich Premiership, they must improve on one of the leagues worst away records.

Gloucester though will travel to Quins today in rich form. The Cherry and Whites met their Powergen Cup adversaries, the Exiles, again earlier this month as the Premiership clubs returned to league action after a break for the domestic and European Cup competitions. Gloucester's closest rivals travelled to Kingsholm hoping for a clean sweep of victories this season, but were well beaten as Gloucester's forwards again dominated the match.

Gloucester's success this

season has been built around a rock solid pack that can grind opponents into submission. They have a goal kicker in Ludovic Mercier with a rocket powered left foot that can keep the scoreboard ticking over at every opportunity and in Henry Paul, Daren O'Leary and Diego Albanese, Gloucester have the pace and guile out wide to exploit any chink in a teams defence.

Henry Paul





teams

NEC HARLEQUINS Vs GLOUCESTER

David Slemen	15	FULL BACK	15	Daren O'Leary
Ben Gollings	14	RIGHT WING	14	Terry Fanolua
Will Greenwood*	13	OUTSIDE CENTRE	13	Henry Paul*
Nick Burrows	12	INSIDE CENTRE	12	Robert Todd
Dan Luger*	11	LEFT WING	11	Diego Albanese*
Paul Burke*	10	FLY HALF	10	Ludovic Mercier
Nick Duncombe*	9	SCRUM HALF	9	Andy Gomarsall*
Jason Leonard*	1	LOOSE HEAD PROP	1	Patrice Collazo
Ace Tiatia*	2	HOOVER	2	Olivier Azam
Jon Dawson	3	TIGHT HEAD PROP	3	Phil Vickery* (Capt.)
Garrick Morgan* (Capt.)	4	LOCK	4	Rob Fidler
Alex Codling	5	LOCK	5	Mark Cornwell
Steve White-Cooper*	6	FLANKER	6	Jake Boer
Pat Sanderson*	7	FLANKER	7	James Forrester
Tony Diprose*	8	NO. 8	8	Junior Paramore*
Jonny Roddam	16			Dimitri Yachvili
Adrian Olver	17			Joe Ewens
Luke Sheriff	18			James Simpson-Daniel
Roy Winters	19			Chris Fortey
Scott Bemand	20			Andy Deacon
Chris Bell	21			Koli Sewabu
Rob Jewell	22			Ed Pearce

* denotes international

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE
Dave Pearson
SENIOR TOUCH JUDGE
Brian Campsell
JUNIOR TOUCH JUDGE
Ashley Reay
FOURTH OFFICIAL
Tom Moses

NEXT HOME MATCH

POWERGEN CUP SEMI-FINAL
NEC Harlequins Vs London Irish
Sat 9th March 2002 Kick-Off 2.45pm



SATURDAY'S OTHER MATCHES

Sale v Bath - 1.30
Leicester v Northampton - 2.15

SUNDAY MATCHES

London Irish v Wasps - 3.00
Bristol v Newcastle - 3.00
Saracens v Leeds - 3.00

HEAD TO HEAD

By Nick Cross



NEC Harlequins Vs Gloucester

Overall Record

Total Played: 86
Quins Victories: 36
Gloucester Victories: 46
Drawn: 4

League Record

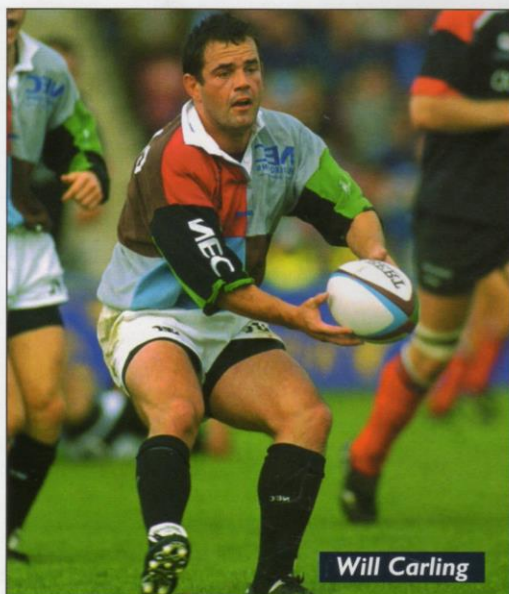
Total Played: 23
Quins Victories: 13
Gloucester Victories: 9
Drawn: 1

Last Five Meetings

15th October 1999	Gloucester	L	23-24, ADPI
25th March 2000	Stoop	L	24-38, ADPI
23rd September 2000	Gloucester	L	23-27, ZP
6th February 2001	Stoop	W	21-19, ZP
13th October 2001	Gloucester	L	7-33, ZP

Overall Record

Biggest winning margin: 75-19, 31st August 1996 at the Stoop
Most points scored: 75, 31st August 1996 at the Stoop
Heaviest defeat: 7-33, 13th October 2001 at Gloucester



Will Carling



Simon Mannix

Most points conceded: 38, On two occasions
Most tries scored in a game: 11, 31st August 1996 at the Stoop
Most tries conceded in a game: 6, On three occasions
Most conversions scored in a game: 7, 31st August 1996 at the Stoop
Most conversions conceded in a game: 4, On two occasions
Most penalty goals scored in a game: 5, 20th October 1998 at the Stoop
Most penalty goals conceded in a game: 9, 23rd September 2000 at Gloucester
Most dropped goals scored in a game: 1, On seven occasions
Most dropped goals conceded in a game: 2, On two occasions

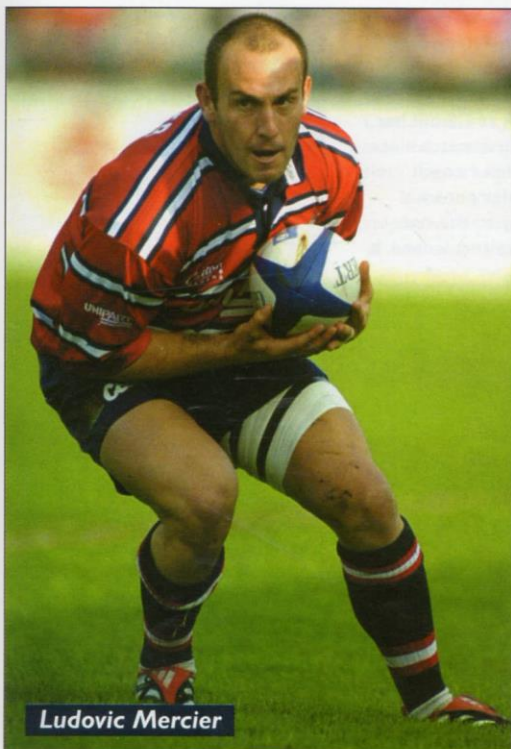
Individual Player Statistics:

Quins:

Most appearances against Gloucester: 14, J. Leonard
Most points against Gloucester: Overall - 70, D. O'Leary
 In a game - 20, W. Carling, D. O'Leary
Most tries against Gloucester: Overall - 15, J.C. Gibbs



Daren O'Leary



Ludovic Mercier

In a game - 5, J.C. Gibbs
Most conversions against Gloucester: Overall - 8, K. Chapman, H.B. Style
 In a game - 7, W. Carling
Most penalty goals against Gloucester: Overall - 13, K. Bushell
 In a game - 5, J. Schuster
Most dropped goals against Gloucester: Overall - 1, Seven players
 In a game - 1, Seven players

Gloucester:

Most points against Quins: Overall - 81, T. Smith
 In a game - 27, S. Mannix
Most tries against Quins: Overall - 3, I. Smith
 In a game - 2, Six players
Most conversions against Quins: Overall - 7, T. Smith
 In a game - 4, M. Roberts
Most penalty goals against Quins: Overall - 19, T. Smith, S. Mannix
 In a game - 9, S. Mannix
Most dropped goals against Quins: Overall - 1, L. Mercier
 In a game - 1, L. Mercier