

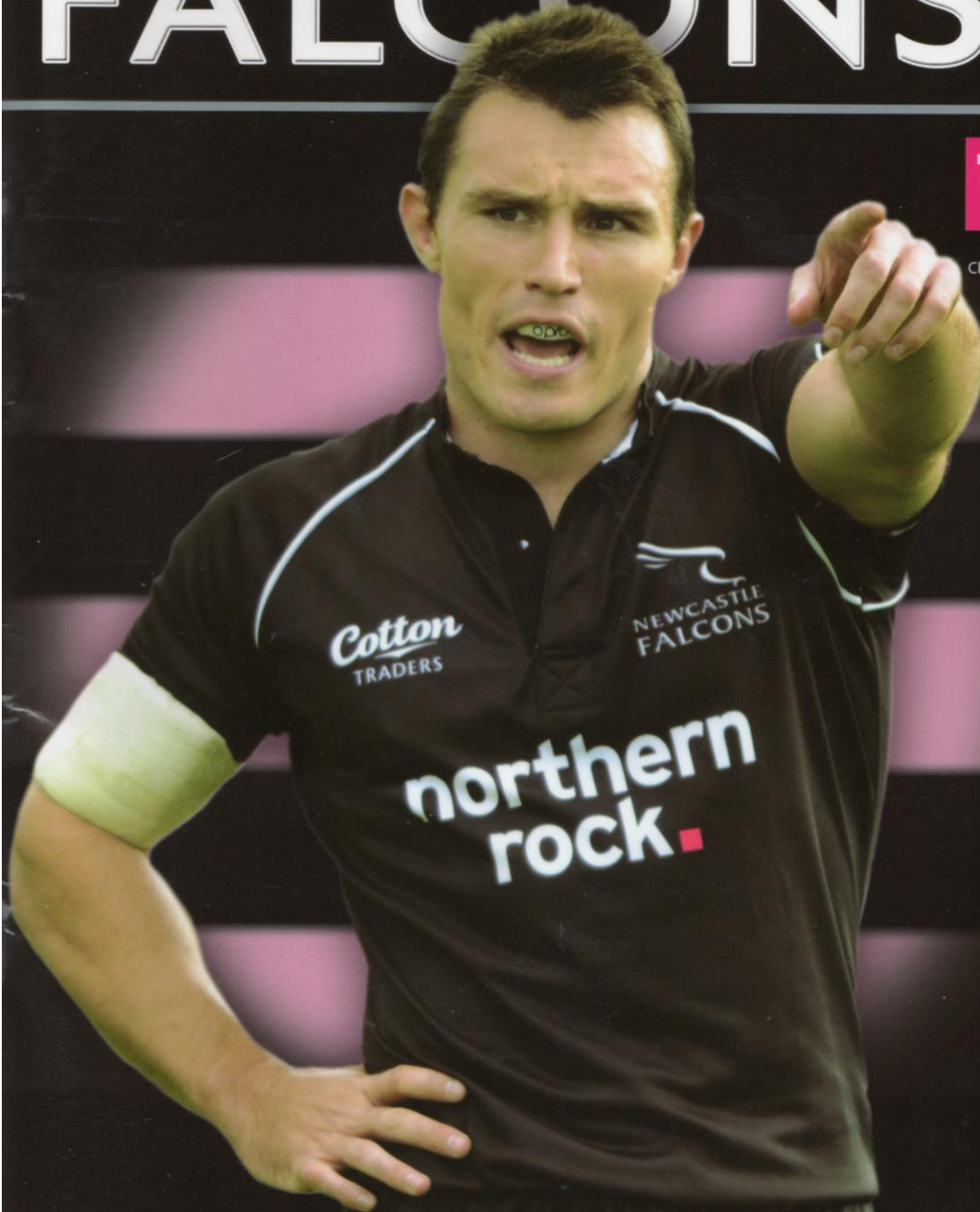
NEWCASTLE FALCONS V GLOUCESTER

£3.00

# FALCONS

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KINGSTON PARK • SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2008 • KICK-OFF 3PM

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SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2008

Referee: Sean Davey

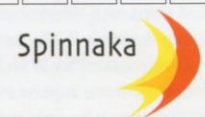
Touch judges: Alan Hughes, Paul Emerson

PLEASE NOTE: team line-ups may change before kick-off



Steve JONES	15	FULLBACK	15	Iain BALSHAW
Danny WILLIAMS	14	RIGHT WING	14	Mark FOSTER
Tom MAY	13	CENTRE	13	Jack ADAMS
Spencer DAVEY	12	CENTRE	12	Olly BARKLEY
John RUDD	11	LEFT WING	11	Lesley VAINIKOLO
Rob MILLER	10	FLY HALF	10	Willie WALKER
Hall CHARLTON	9	SCRUM HALF	9	Rory LAWSON
Joe McDONNELL	1	PROP	1	Alasdair DICKINSON
Andy LONG	2	HOOKER	2	Scott LAWSON
Micky WARD	3	PROP	3	Carlos NIETO
Tim SWINSON	4	LOCK	4	Adam EUSTACE
Mark SORENSON	5	LOCK	5	Marco BORTOLAMI
Ed WILLIAMSON	6	FLANKER	6	Peter BUXTON (captain)
Brent WILSON	7	FLANKER	7	Andrew HAZELL
Phil DOWSON (captain)	8	NO. 8	8	Alasdair STROKOSCH
Rob VICKERS	16	REPLACEMENT	16	Andy TITTERRELL
Jon GOLDING	17	REPLACEMENT	17	Jack FORSTER
Andy PERRY	18	REPLACEMENT	18	Dan WILLIAMS
Russell WINTER	19	REPLACEMENT	19	Apolosi SATALA
Micky YOUNG	20	REPLACEMENT	20	Dave LEWIS
Ollie PHILLIPS	21	REPLACEMENT	21	Tristan ROBERTS
Rory CLEGG	22	REPLACEMENT	22	Mark FOSTER

FALCONS POINTS	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
GLOUCESTER POINTS	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
TIME	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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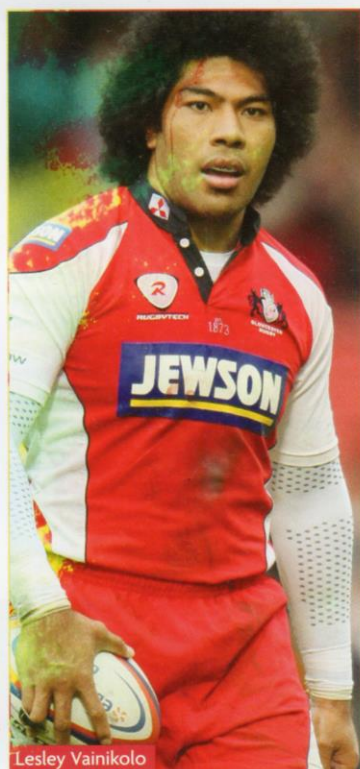


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IN OPPOSITION



Lesley Vainikolo

## Gloucester Rugby

**It was not so much about what happened at Gloucester over the summer, as what didn't happen.**

Despite finishing top of the Guinness Premiership pile again at the end of the regular 2007-8 season, Gloucester again failed to transfer their obvious potential into a dividend during the play-offs – it was a familiar, unfulfilled ending to what threatened to be a triumphant season.

Leicester's magnificent manipulation and street-wise cussedness consigned Gloucester's season to the dustbin of history at the semi-final stage, and that tantalising wait for a domestic trophy went on.

By that time, head coach Dean Ryan had done the majority of his recruiting – a policy that included nabbing one of Bath's diamonds in Olly Barkley – Llanelli centre Matthew Watkins and former Gloucester second row Adam Eustace – also from Stradey Park.

When he completed negotiations to

bring Canterbury prop Greg Somerville to Kingsholm by Christmas, the general thought was that Gloucester's squad was stronger than last season's and well capable of challenging again this season.

Barkley has been brought in to provide a tactical nous and big-game understanding that so often seemed to evaporate and as a left-footed kicking option, will vie with Ryan Lamb and Anthony Allen for the 10 and 12 positions respectively – but it is the inside centre position he covets and kicked Gloucester to an opening round Heineken Cup win over Biarritz a fortnight ago.

Somerville is the most capped prop in All Black history and alongside Dave Young – the young and aggressive tight forward from Leicester – Gloucester kept their summer additions to a minimum.

With the likes of the emerging and increasingly gifted Luke Narryway, the





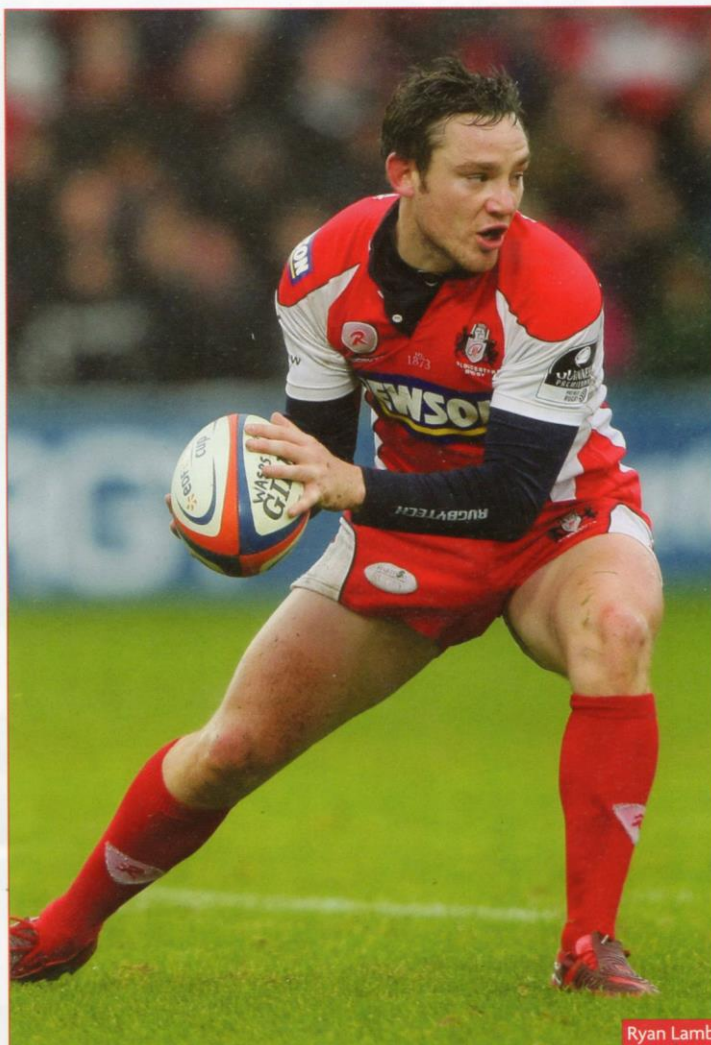
robust Anthony Allen and the safe as houses Olly Morgan a year older and a year wiser, Gloucester's squad is up there with anything in the Premiership.

Their pre-season preparations centred on a training camp in Canada and a victory over their A side, before a strong Bayonne team won comfortably in France after Cardiff pulled out of a fixture scheduled at Kingsholm.

They completed their preparations with a 30-8 victory over Glasgow under the new ELV's but their Premiership campaign got off to the worst possible start with a home defeat to those Tigers – their third successive victory at Kingsholm in eight months.

Tries from Geordan Murphy and Toby Flood sealed a 20-8 victory – Gloucester's only try coming from the outstanding Morgan in the first-half.

But they responded by winning for the first time ever at the Rec in league rugby in a spot of west country tribalism unique to the people involved. They backed that up with a tense victory over Harlequins, the



Ryan Lamb



Olivier Azam

Premiership pace-setters, with tries from Morgan and Alasdair Strokosch before Charlie Hodgson subjected them to a withering kicking assault at Edgeley Park as they struggled to come to terms with the ELV's. They have won games but have not been convincing so far this season – as the Falcons will testify.

That defeat, at the end of September, has been their last in any competition since then. They regrouped with a 39-23 win over Newcastle at Kingsholm that included a bonus point and then built on that

success with a 24-19 victory over Wasps in the EDF Energy Cup with tries from Willie Walker and Lesley Vainikolo.

And last week, James Simpson-Daniel's 18th Heineken Cup try established the platform for their opening European win of the season – 22-10 over Biarritz. However, they lost a high-scoring contest in Cardiff before two tries from Lesley Vainikolo and a brilliant performance from Iain Balshaw set-up a 25-20 win over the Dragons that leaves them on the verge of qualification in the EDF Energy Cup. →





## SQUAD LIST

Surname	Christian name	Position	Height (Metric)	Height (Imp)	Weight (Metric)	Weight (Imp)	DOB	Honours
Adams	Jack	Centre	1.82m	6ft 1in	96kg	15st 0lb	17/09/86	
Allen	Anthony	Centre	1.80m	5ft 11in	92kg	14st 7lb	01/09/86	England
Azam	Olivier	Hooker	1.85m	6ft 1in	120kg	19st 0lb	24/10/74	France
Balshaw	Iain	Full back/Wing	1.85m	6ft 1in	94kg	14st 2lb	14/04/79	England/ Lions
Barkley	Oilly	Centre/Stand-off	1.78m	5ft 10in	92kg	14st 6lb	28/11/81	England
Bortolami	Marco	Lock	1.95m	6ft 5in	112kg	17st 5lb	12/06/80	Italy
Brown	Alex	Lock	2.01m	6ft 7in	116kg	18st 1lb	17/05/79	England
Buxton	Peter	Back row	1.92 m	6ft 4in	115kg	18st 1lb	21/08/78	
Cooper	Gareth	Scrum half	1.72m	5ft 7in	84kg	13st 0lb	07/05/79	Wales/ Lions
Delve	Gareth	Back row	1.91m	6ft 3in	115kg	18st 1lb	30/12/82	Wales
Dickinson	Alasdair	Prop	1.84m	6ft 0in	112kg	17st 5lb	11/09/83	Scotland
Eustace	Adam	Lock	1.95m	6ft 5in	107kg	16st 12lb	09/01/79	
Forrester	James	Back row	1.95m	6ft 5in	110kg	17st 4lb	09/02/81	England
Forster	Jack	Prop	1.86m	6ft 1in	120kg	18st 11lb	19/03/87	
Foster	Mark	Wing	1.83m	6ft 0in	100kg	15st 10lb	02/09/83	
Hazell	Andrew	Back row	1.83m	6ft 0in	95kg	14st 13lb	25/04/78	England
James	Will	Lock	1.99m	6ft 6in	120kg	18st 11lb	22/12/76	Wales
Lamb	Ryan	Stand-off	1.76m	5ft 9in	85kg	13st 5lb	18/05/86	
Lawson	Rory	Scrum half	1.73m	5ft 8in	85kg	13st 5lb	12/03/81	Scotland
Lewis	Dave	Scrum half	1.70m	5ft 7in	80kg	12st 8lb	29/04/89	
McMillan	Ross	Hooker	1.85m	6ft 1in	104kg	16st 7lb	02/06/87	
Morgan	Oilly	Full back	1.89m	6ft 2in	94kg	14st 2lb	03/11/85	England
Narraway	Luke	Back row	1.90m	6ft 3in	108kg	17st 0lb	07/09/83	England
Nieto	Carlos	Prop	1.86m	6ft 1in	110kg	17st 4lb	28/04/76	Italy
Norton	Dan	Wing	1.79m	5ft 10in	80kg	12st 8lb	22/03/88	
Qera	Akapusi	Back row	1.94m	6ft 4in	103kg	16st 0lb	24/04/84	Fiji
Sharples	Charlie	Wing	1.84m	6ft 0in	93kg	14st 9lb	17/08/89	
Simpson-Daniel	James	Wing	1.82m	6ft 0in	92kg	14st 6lb	30/05/82	England
Somerville	Greg	Prop	1.86m	6ft 1in	115kg	18st 2lb	28/11/77	New Zealand
Strokosch	Alasdair	Back row	1.91m	6ft 3in	107kg	16st 11lb	21/02/83	Scotland
Titterrell	Andy	Hooker	1.78m	5ft 10in	94kg	14st 11lb	10/01/81	England/ Lions
Tindall	Mike	Centre	1.88m	6ft 2in	102kg	15st 12lb	18/10/78	England
Trinder	Henry	Centre	1.83m	6ft 0in	85kg	13st 5lb	14/04/89	
Vainikolo	Lesley	Wing	1.88m	6ft 2in	112kg	17st 8lb	04/05/79	England
Walker	Willie	Stand-off/Full back	1.83m	6ft 0in	88kg	13st 12lb	19/05/78	
Watkins	Matthew	Centre	1.83m	6ft 0in	92kg	14st 7lb	02/09/78	Wales
Williams	Dan	Number 8	1.97m	6ft 5in	104kg	16st 7lb	01/02/89	
Wood	Nick	Prop	1.86m	6ft 1in	112kg	17st 5lb	09/01/83	
Young	Dave	Prop	1.85m	6ft 0in	117kg	18st 6lb	18/12/85	



# Captain's Log

By Phil Dowson

**W**elcome to another tough encounter at Kingston Park this afternoon.

Last week saw us undone by a good London Wasps side because of too many mistakes.

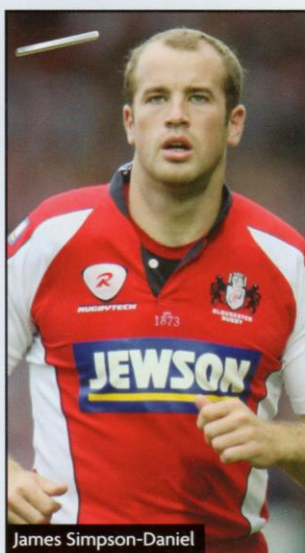
Defensively we looked strong, but two errors cost us two scores and thus the game.

We spoke midweek about being as clinical as Wasps in taking our opportunities in attack.

We have another top game tonight against class opposition. We played Gloucester away last year in this competition, and were undone by a late score from an old school friend of mine.

I'm not sure what I said to James Simpson-Daniel at Sedbergh School, but everytime we play Gloucester he seems to score. I must have upset him.

Unfortunately 'Sin Bad' is injured so we miss him here this evening. Bad news also for England, as he was hotly tipped to be playing in the Autumn internationals.



James Simpson-Daniel

Hopefully he will get another opportunity in the Spring to get a few caps. He has had terrible luck injury-wise, having done so well at Kingsholm.

Last season's Cup fixture finished in a very entertaining tie at eighteen all. And if you're looking for an entertaining Thai in Newcastle, then can I suggest Bangkok Cafe!

Situated on Low Friar Street, it's right in the mixer and dishes up genuine Thai dishes and Changi beer. The only thing that's missing is the perfect weather and the amazing beach.

It's not a massive dining room, so I suggest you book, but the food is excellent and good value. If you don't like spicy food... then get over it and grow up.

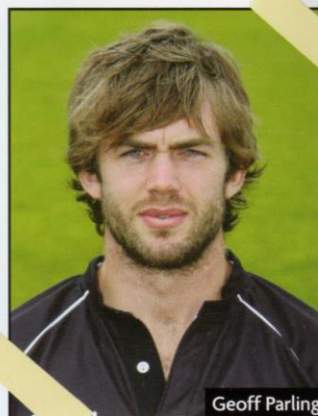
The manager is a top man, knows a bit about rugby and he also promised me and the Mrs a free meal if I got him a mention. Thank you!

It's one of my favourite places and I have never been disappointed.

Last year Geoff Parling went one better and visited Bangkok on holiday.

He did, however, get a bad bout of food poisoning, and had an accident in full view of his fiancée.

It would never have happened if he had stayed in Newcastle and visited Bangkok cafe! More information about Bangkok cafe can be found at [www.atbangkokcafe.co.uk](http://www.atbangkokcafe.co.uk).



Geoff Parling