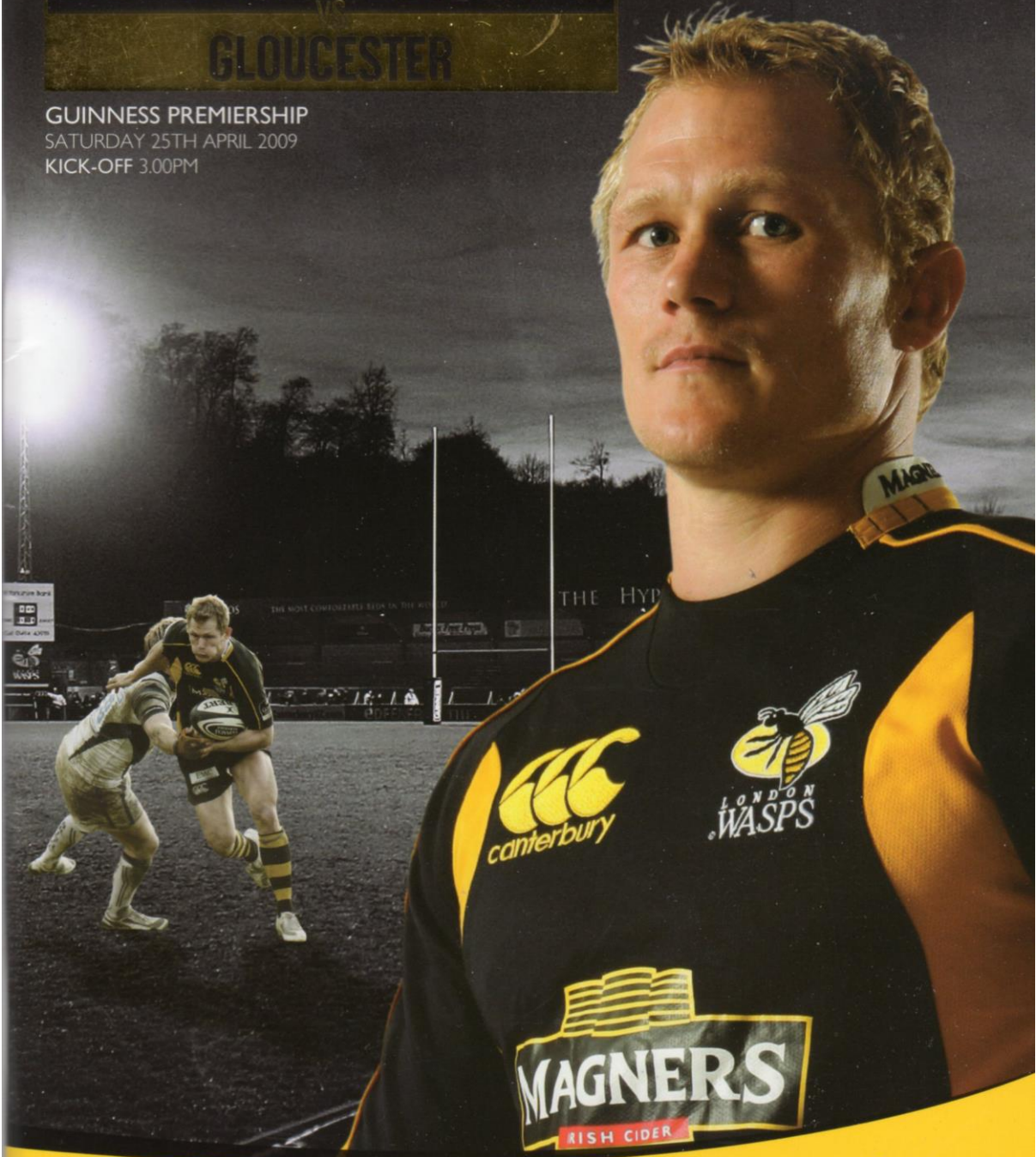


LONDON WASPS vs GLOUCESTER

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME £3.00
WWW.WASPS.CO.UK
ISSUE 15

GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP
SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2009
KICK-OFF 3.00PM



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MATCH SPONSOR



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MATCH PREVIEW

CHARMNEY TODAY'S GAME



LONDON WASPS
V **GLOUCESTER RUGBY**
GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP
ADAMS PARK
KICK-OFF 3.00PM

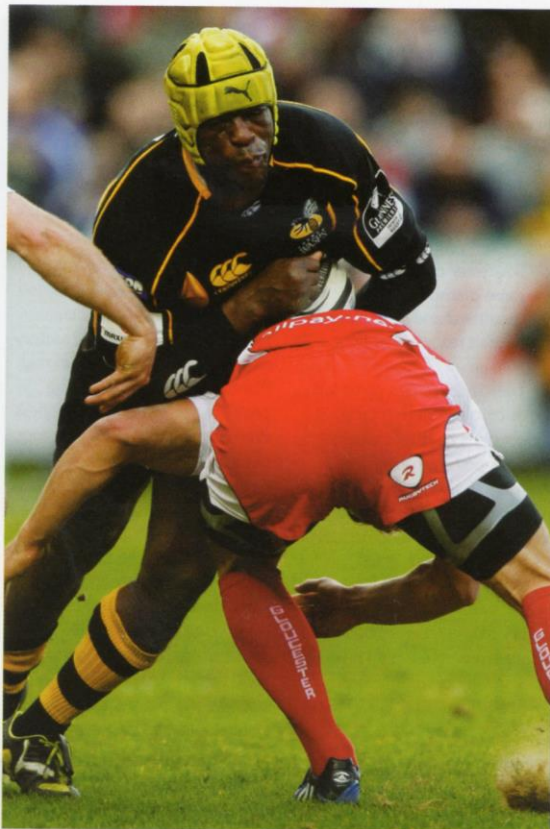


London Wasps have won back to back matches against Newcastle and Bristol and have won their last nine home games in all competitions, since a Sale victory by 13-12 at Adams Park in the Guinness Premiership on 23rd November.

Gloucester have now slipped to three straight defeats following their loss to Worcester on

Tuesday night, and have lost their last six away games in all competitions since their 29-10 win at Bristol in the Premiership on 27th December.

Gloucester have won their last four encounters with Wasps in all tournaments and were victorious 25-17 in this equivalent fixture at Adams Park last season.



Played	24
London Wasps Won	14
Gloucester Rugby Won	9
Matches Drawn	1
London Wasps Points Scored	610
Gloucester Rugby Points Scored	480

HEAD TO HEAD – RECENT MEETINGS:

DATE	VENUE	WINNER	SCORE
14/03/09	A	GLOUCESTER	24-22
04/05/08	H	GLOUCESTER	17-25
26/01/08	A	GLOUCESTER	18-17
26/12/06	H	WASPS	33-12
18/11/06	A	GLOUCESTER	27-21
06/05/06	A	WASPS	32-37

ALSO IN THE GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP TODAY:

Saturday 25th April

Bath Rugby v Saracens
Recreation Ground, 3pm

Leicester Tigers v Bristol Rugby
Walkers Stadium, 3pm

Harlequins v Newcastle Falcons
Twickenham Stoop, 3pm

Sale Sharks v Northampton Saints
Edgeley Park, 3pm

Worcester Warriors
v London Irish
Sixways, 3pm

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

TODAY'S VISITORS

Gloucester travel here to Adams Park today looking to finish the season on a high after a few wobbles in recent weeks have threatened to derail the quest for silverware.

At the time of writing, the result of Tuesday night's fixture against Worcester Warriors is unknown so Gloucester could be entering this game placed anywhere between third and sixth place in the table. It really is that tight.

So, Tuesday evening's game will prove crucial in determining Gloucester's next two weeks. A bonus point win over the Warriors would leave Gloucester in third place and everything to play for with even a home play-off semi-final up for grabs.

Defeat would mean that even victory may not be enough and results elsewhere would have to work in Gloucester's favour.

That Gloucester should be scrapping to force their way into the Guinness Premiership places would have been considered unthinkable a few weeks ago but away defeats to Worcester and Northampton, allied to their play-off rivals finding some form, has seen Dean Ryan's men slide down the table.

Going into those two afore mentioned away games, all looked set fair. The 24-22 victory over Wasps at Kingsholm in mid March saw Gloucester sitting pretty at the top of the Guinness Premiership table enjoying a four point lead over second placed Leicester although the Tigers did have a game in hand.

It's an unfamiliar end to the season for Gloucester followers. Consistency in the Guinness Premiership has never been Gloucester's problem. Indeed, they have finished top of the pile for the last two seasons. What they have not been able to do is transmit

that ability into play-off success. But inconsistency over the past couple of months, largely down to a crippling injury list which has forced Ryan to chop and change with his team selections, has now left Gloucester needing to find a bit of form to make the knockout stages.

Those two away defeats and the thumping inflicted by the Cardiff Blues at Twickenham last weekend has caused the Kingsholm faithful to start chewing on their finger nails.

But Gloucester certainly have the personnel. The likes of Gareth Delve and Greg Somerville have been outstanding in recent weeks. Delve's return from a long-term knee injury has given Gloucester a carrier in heavy traffic as well as valuable leadership, while Somerville's mountain of knowledge and all-round expertise have been a galvanising influence.

Throw in new arrival Carlos Spencer and his box of tricks, the game-breaking qualities of James Simpson-Daniel, the running abilities of Iain Balshaw and the marksmanship of Olly Barkley and it is easy to appreciate that Gloucester have the ammunition.

Striking advances have been made by players already in situ. The increasingly influential Luke Narraway is maturing into a leader, while the safe as houses Olly Morgan is a year older and a year wiser and attracting the attentions of the England selectors.

Despite the bitter Heineken and EDF Energy Cup disappointment inflicted by the Blues, Gloucester continue to thrive in the Guinness Premiership and, with so little between the top sides, they know that winning is their only option going into today's game.



GROUND: KINGSHOLM
 CAPACITY: 16,500
 FOUNDED: 1873
 CHAIRMAN: TOM WALKINSHAW.



HEAD COACH DEAN RYAN

As a player, Ryan played for Saracens, Wasps, Newcastle and Bristol. He won the league twice during his career, once with Wasps and once with Newcastle and also won six England caps.

He kicked off his coaching career while at Bristol, steering the club to the Zurich Championship Final in 2002 where they lost, ironically, to Gloucester.

He then moved to Gloucester as Assistant Head Coach under Nigel Melville. Following Melville's departure from

Gloucester Rugby in 2004, Ryan was appointed to the Head Coach role which he has held since.

During his time at Gloucester Rugby, Ryan has assembled a team featuring a number of highly talented young English players.

Under his leadership Gloucester Rugby have enjoyed several successful Guinness Premiership seasons leading the table after the regular season in both 2006/2007 and 2007/2008.

The final GP title has remained elusive but he did lead Gloucester to European Challenge Cup success in 2005/2006.

NAME	POSITION	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	D.O.B.
Jack Adams	Centre	1.83 m	96 kg	17/9/86
Anthony Allen	Centre	1.80 m	92 kg	1/9/86
Olivier Azam	Hooker	1.85 m	120 kg	21/10/74
Iain Balshaw	Full back	1.85 m	94 kg	14/4/79
Olly Barkley	Centre/ fly half	1.78 m	92 kg	28/11/81
Marco Bortolami	Second row	1.96 m	112 kg	12/6/80
Alex Brown	Second row	2.01 m	116 kg	17/5/79
Peter Buxton	Flanker	1.93 m	115 kg	21/8/78
Gareth Cooper	Scrum half	1.70 m	84 kg	7/5/79
Gareth Delve	No. 8	1.91 m	115 kg	30/12/82
Alasdair Dickinson	Prop	1.83 m	112 kg	11/9/83
Adam Eustace	Second row	1.96 m	107 kg	9/1/79
Jack Forster	Prop	1.85 m	120 kg	19/3/87
Mark Foster	Winger	1.83 m	100 kg	2/9/83
Andrew Hazell	Flanker	1.83 m	95 kg	25/4/78
Will James	Second row	1.98 m	120 kg	22/12/76
Ryan Lamb	Fly half	1.75 m	85 kg	18/5/86
Rory Lawson	Scrum half	1.73 m	85 kg	12/3/81
Scott Lawson	Hooker	1.73 m	96 kg	28/9/81
Dave Lewis	Scrum half	1.70 m	80 kg	29/4/89
Olly Morgan	Full back	1.88 m	94 kg	3/11/85
Luke Narraway	Back row	1.91 m	108 kg	7/9/83
Carlos Nieto	Prop	1.85 m	110 kg	28/4/76
Akapusi Qera	Flanker	1.93 m	103 kg	24/4/84
Apolosi Satala	Flanker	1.93 m	105 kg	14/8/78
Charlie Sharples	Winger	1.83 m	93 kg	17/8/89
James Simpson-Daniel	Centre/wing	1.83 m	92 kg	30/5/82
Greg Somerville	Prop	1.85 m	115 kg	28/11/77
Carlos Spencer	Fly half	1.85 m	98 kg	14/10/75
Alasdair Strokosch	Flanker	1.91 m	107 kg	21/2/83
Mike Tindall	Centre	1.88 m	102 kg	18/10/78
Andy Titterrell	Hooker	1.78 m	94 kg	10/1/81
Henry Trinder	Centre	1.83 m	85 kg	14/4/89
Lesley Vainikolo	Winger	1.88 m	112 kg	4/5/79
Willie Walker	Fly half	1.83 m	88 kg	19/5/78
Matthew Watkins	Centre/ wing	1.83 m	92 kg	2/9/78
Nick Wood	Prop	1.85 m	112 kg	9/1/83
Dave Young	Prop	1.85 m	117 kg	18/2/85

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

TODAY'S VISITORS

Gloucester Rugby - Today's Visitors

CAPTAIN GARETH DELVE

The Wales number eight returned to playing action at the end of January after a lengthy absence recovering from a ruptured ACL playing for Wales against South Africa in the summer.

In his appearances since his return, Delve's physicality levels, endurance and energy have been key to Gloucester's forward momentum.

During his debut season at Kingsholm, Delve had shown the glimpses of brilliance and talent that made Dean Ryan sign him from rivals Bath. The hugely built Welsh back rower also regained his place in the Welsh squad for the Six Nations Championship and the summer tour to South Africa, after a superb maiden campaign at Gloucester.

Desperate to make up for lost time this season, Delve's return could have come at just the right time for Gloucester as they search for a play-off place with his leadership skills just as vital as his playing abilities.





FOCUS 3



GREG SOMERVILLE

Despite suffering a detached retina in his left eye on his first Guinness Premiership appearance against London Irish in December, the most capped prop in All Black history returned to action after only eight weeks and has already stamped his quality on Gloucester's forward effort.

The former Canterbury star is renowned for his excellent scrummaging, outstanding organisational skills and experience. A key asset in Gloucester's charge towards the end of the season.



CARLOS SPENCER

Carlos Spencer joined Gloucester back in February from Northampton Saints on a 17-month contract.

He made his debut against Sale and immediately showed his quality and has since gone on to make seven Guinness Premiership starts.

He won 33 caps for the All Blacks and his footballing qualities, awareness and subtleties could be exactly what Gloucester need towards the run in.



OLLY MORGAN

The talented full-back, a former pupil at Millfield, signed his first professional contract with Gloucester in 2004 and has been in fine form in recent weeks including a Man of the Match performance against the Ospreys in the EDF Energy Cup semi-final win.

Morgan has represented England at Under 19 level and during the 2007 Six Nations Championship made his debut against Scotland at full-back and later made a second appearance against Ireland, before being forced off with a shoulder injury.

Named by the Kingsholm supporters as Young Player of the Season this week, his ability under the high ball and his game line breaking are two of his very best attributes.



LONDON WASPS

- 15 FULL-BACK MARK VAN GISBERGEN
- 14 WING TOM VOYCE
- 13 CENTRE DOMINIC WALDOUCK
- 12 CENTRE RIKI FLUTEY
- 11 WING JOSH LEWSEY
- 10 FLY-HALF DANNY CIPRIANI
- 9 SCRUM-HALF JOE SIMPSON
- 1 PROP TIM PAYNE
- 2 HOOKER ROB WEBBER
- 3 PROP PHIL VICKERY
- 4 LOCK SIMON SHAW
- 5 LOCK GEORGE SKIVINGTON
- 6 FLANKER JOE WORSLEY
- 7 FLANKER SERGE BETSEN (C)
- 8 NO: 8 JOHN HART

SUBSTITUTES

- 16 JOE WARD
- 17 CHARLIE BEECH
- 18 RICHARD BIRKETT
- 19 JAMES HASKELL
- 20 MARK ROBINSON
- 21 JEREMY STAUNTON
- 22 LACHLAN MITCHELL

ADAMS PARK
SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2009
KICK-OFF 3.00PM

MATCH REFEREE: DAVE PEARSON
TOUCH JUDGE: PAUL DIX
TOUCH JUDGE: STUART TERHEEGE
FOURTH OFFICIAL: WAYNE BARNES
TIME KEEPER: ROY MARFLEET



GLOUCESTER RUGBY



**GLOUCESTER
RUGBY**

CHARLIE SHARPLES	FULL-BACK	15
MATTHEW WATKINS	WING	14
HENRY TRINDER	CENTRE	13
OLLY BARKLEY	CENTRE	12
MARK FOSTER	WING	11
CARLOS SPENCER	FLY-HALF	10
RORY LAWSON	SCRUM-HALF	9
ALASDAIR DICKINSON	PROP	1
OLIVIER AZAM	HOOKER	2
GREG SOMERVILLE	PROP	3
WILL JAMES	LOCK	4
ALEX BROWN	LOCK	5
AKAPUSI QERA	FLANKER	6
APO SATALA	FLANKER	7
GARETH DELVE (C)	NO: 8	8
SUBSTITUTES		
SCOTT LAWSON		16
CARLOS NIETO		17
MARCO BORTOLAMI		18
ADAM EUSTACE		19
GARETH COOPER		20
RYAN LAMB		21
ANTHONY ALLEN		22

LONDON WASPS V GLOUCESTER



DATE: 25TH APRIL
KICK OFF: 15:00

TOP PERFORMERS

Total Metres	
Josh Lewsey	943
Mark Van Gisbergen	808
Tom Voyce	784
Total Carries	
Josh Lewsey	161
Robert Webber	146
Tom Voyce	133
Total Tackles	
Serge Betsen Tchoua	172
Joe Worsley	147
John Hart	142
Lineouts Won	
Richard Birkett	47
George Skivington	39
Tom Palmer	24



Joe Worsley



Luke Narraway

91	Total Carries	144
188	Total Metres	446
147	Tackle	141
12	Missed Tackle	15
4	Defender Beaten	9
12	Off load	12
6	Lineouts Won	28
8	Total Pens	19
12	Turnover Conceded	21

TOP PERFORMERS

Total Metres	
Olly Morgan	928
Iain Balshaw	727
Lesley Vainikolo	579
Total Carries	
Luke Narraway	144
Olly Barkley	105
Olly Morgan	103
Total Tackles	
Alex Brown	147
Luke Narraway	141
Olivier Azam	117
Lineouts Won	
Alex Brown	67
Marco Bortolami	37
Luke Narraway	28

MATCH PREVIEW

London Wasps will record a 10th consecutive home victory in all competitions if they can overcome Gloucester this afternoon. However they will have to end a run of four consecutive defeats against the Cherry and Whites who themselves are trying desperately to secure a top-four spot. Dean Ryan's men took a thumping in the final of the EDF Cup last weekend against an inspired Cardiff Blues side, so concentration can now be solely placed on the league. Joe Worsley has enjoyed a terrific season, culminating in his selection for the British and Irish Lions tour alongside his teammates Simon Shaw, Riki Flutey, and Phil Vickery. He may well line up against his England colleague, Luke Narraway in what could be a tough clash.

TEAM STATS

SCRUMS			LINEOUTS			TRIES			OPEN PLAY		
228	Put Ins	218	257	Throw Ins	283	29	Scored	43	104	Av. Tackles	93
202	Won	197	210	Won	222	11	No. 1st Phase	21	12	Av. Misses	13
89	% Won	90	82	% Won	78	7	No. Own Half	13	101	Av. Carries	87
42	Pen Won	42	8	Not Straight	12	11	No. In 1st Half	24	418	Av. Metres	375
12	Won Opp Feed	28	13	Quick Throw	14	18	No. In Second Half	19	11	Av. Defs Beaten	10
5	% Opp Feed	15	43	Won Opp Throw	62	17	From Set Piece	26	15	Av. T'Overs Con	12
5	Pen Opp Feed	19	16	% Stolen	24	8	From Turnover	5	9	Av. Pens Con	10

