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THE TIMES

Gloucester arrive at the Stoop this afternoon on the back of two West Country derby wins against Bristol Shoguns, in the Powergen Cup, and Worcester Warriors in the Zurich Premiership last Saturday.

The two back-to-back victories have seen Gloucester move up the gears after a disappointing Heineken Cup exit, following a defeat to French Champions Stade Francais in the middle of January.

The 28-16 win over Worcester last weekend saw the Cherry and Whites move up to fifth in the table and Nigel Melville's team will be keen to maintain that momentum with a win against Quins this afternoon. Although the Kingsholm club sit in fifth place, there have been mixed fortunes for Gloucester in this season's campaign, with an immensely tough schedule through November, December and January that saw double headers against both Leicester Tigers and London Wasps.

The season started well for Gloucester with four consecutive victories, over Leeds, London Irish, Northampton and Newcastle. A defeat away at Bath was the only loss in the opening seven clashes, before start of the Heineken Cup. As the autumn arrived, so did the injuries! The Gloucester squad was decimated and at one point there were 13 front line players unavailable.

The 55-13 win at home over Ulster in the Heineken Cup proved crucial, as Gloucester lost Duncan McRae, Olivier Azam, Alex Brown, James Simpson-Daniel, Terry Sigley and Phil Vickery to injury, while Henry Paul, Andy Hazell and Andy Gomarsall received international call-ups.

However, Melville's team came through

and collected wins over Sale Sharks in the Premiership at the end of November, back-to-back victories over Cardiff Blues in the Heineken Cup, and a victory at Welford Road against Leicester in the Powergen Cup.

As the injuries hit home, Melville and coach Dean Ryan had to go looking for new recruits, with the hooker position proving key as Olivier Azam is ruled out until this month / March, while Chris Fortey is recovering from a broken ankle. Welsh international number two Mefin Davies and French A international hooker Noel Curnier both signed short-terms deals, and Davies has been in good form.

Another new name to make an impact has been Seti Kiole.

The Tongan wing was given a two-week trial by Gloucester and after an impressive showing in a Zurich A League game, has signed up until the end of the season. The sight of 6ft 5in Kiole barging through the Bristol and Worcester defences was a regular occurrence in the last two games, and his highlight must have been his debut try in the win over the Warriors last Saturday.

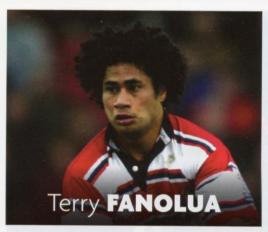
The Gloucester side could also be boosted for this afternoon's encounter by the return of Simpson-Daniel. The 22 year-old winger has made just one appearance in the last two months due to a shoulder injury.

Justin Hopwood Media & Marketing Manager

Gloucester Rugby Club



GLOUCESTER





Position:	Centre
DOB:	3/7/74
Height:	1.83M
Weight:	94Kg

Terry Fanolua was Gloucester's first overseas signing back in the opening days of professionalism during the mid-1990's, and what a great signing he has turned out to be.

His commitment to the Kingsholm cause has never been questioned and Terry has shown unbelievable stamina and longevity, as he remains a consistent member of the Gloucester side - he has quite literally become part of the furniture there.

Terry is one of the cult figures of the Cherry and Whites squad, with his trademark tackles and charisma. He has great ability in both attack and defence, whether running the ball up hard at the opposition or producing the deftest of touches to put his teammates into space.

The 30 year-old centre has started every Zurich Premiership game for Gloucester so far this season and has made over 135 appearances and scored over 30 tries for the team in total during his eight-year career at the club. Last June, Terry signed a new three-year contract that will keep him at Kingsholm until at least 2007.

His exploits for his beloved Samoa have been well documented during three World Cup campaigns, and Terry has 26 caps and six tries to his name. He is the one Gloucester player that stands out from the rest — his two tries in the game against us at Kingsholm back in October are testament of that.

Paul Turner NEC Harlequins Backs Coach





Back Row
1/11/75
1.87M
105Kg

Gloucester have many household names within their talented multinational squad, but if one player epitomizes the hard work and graft which has taken the Cherry and Whites forward over the last few years under Nigel Melville and Dean Ryan, it is Jake Boer for me.

Jake is the type of back row forward who is much respected amongst his fellow players for the "hidden" work he carries out week in, week out. He will, doubtless, spend the afternoon hunting every tackle, every 50/50 ball and tidying up to allow his colleagues to play. He is also a fabulous leader, who knows exactly how to get the most out of his teammates.

Jake joined Gloucester in 2000 and played in the 2002 Premiership Final victory over Bristol, scoring the only try of the match. The following season, he captained the side that won the Powergen Cup and reached the Premiership Final, where their defeat against London Wasps still upsets the staunch West Country fans. His performances that season also won him the much heralded 'Premiership Player of the Season' award.

Jake came over to England from South Africa in the late-1990's to join London Irish and played a full part in reviving their fortunes under Dick Best and Brendan Venter, before making the move to Kingsholm.

Expect him to set the example for his teammates this afternoon. At the age of 29, he undoubtedly will be at the heartbeat of Gloucester's efforts for many seasons to come.

John Kingston
NEC Harlequins Forwards Coach



 Position:
 Prop

 DOB:
 14/5/70

 Height:
 1.87M

 Weight:
 117Kg

Christo Bezuidenhout signed for Gloucester in the summer of 2004. The loosehead prop forward was a key member of the South African team that competed in the 2003 World Cup and he has won four caps for his country. Bezuidenhout was an ever-present in the Bulls Super 12 campaign last year and has featured in ten of Gloucester's 14 league games so far this season.



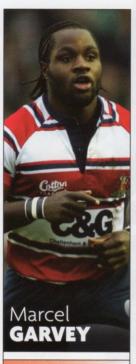
 Position:
 Second Row

 DOB:
 17/5/79

 Height:
 2.00M

 Weight:
 110Kg

Rated as one of the best second row forwards in the game, Alex Brown signed for the Cherry and Whites in the summer of 2003 from West Country rivals Bristol Shoguns. The England A international topped the lineout statistics charts during the 2003/04 season, and was voted the 'Players' Player of the Year.' Brown was selected for England's Churchill Cup squad that competed in North America last summer:



 Position:
 Wing

 DOB:
 21/4/83

 Height:
 1.73M

 Weight:
 86Kg

Marcel Garvey announced his arrival in the top flight with a hat-trick of tries against Bristol Shoguns at the start of the 2002/03 season. His explosive pace and tremendous power has earned him a place in the England National Academy group this season. Garvey was a key member of his country's Under 21 squad that has competed in the Six Nations and World Championships in recent years.



 Position:
 Fly Half

 DOB:
 27/9/74

 Height:
 1.72M

 Weight:
 81Kg

Duncan McRae joined Gloucester in October 2003 after his Toohey's Cup commitments finished with Randwick in Australia. The fly half became an integral part of the Gloucester rugby style during the 2003/04 season and formed a superb partnership with inside centre Henry Paul, Having played for Australia A earlier in his career, McRae has scored 169 points in 40 league appearances for the Cherry and Whites to date.



Ground: Kingsholm **Capacity:** 12,500

Director of Rugby: Nigel Melville

Coach: Dean Ryan

Club Website: www.gloucesterrugbyclub.com

Gloucester Squad Profiles – 2004/05

Position: Scrum Half DOB: 25/4/79 Height: 1.69M

Weight: 76Kg

Mefin DAVIES		
Position:	Hooker	
DOB:	2/9/72	
Height:	1.78M	
Weight:	93Kg	

Andy I	1AZELL
Position:	Back Row
DOB:	25/4/78
Height:	1.83M
Weight:	93Kg

Gary POWELL		
Position:	Prop	
DOB:	30/10/79	
Height:	1.82M	
Weight:	111Kg	

Oliviel ALAM	
Position:	Hooker
DOB:	21/10/74
Height:	1.85M
Weight:	115Kg

Adam EUSTACE		
Position:	Second Row	
DOB:	9/1/79	
Height:	1.95M	
Weight:	105Kg	

Seti RIOLE		
Position:	Wing	
DOB:	7/6/80	
Height:	1.98M	
Weight:	112Kg	

Position:	Prop
DOB:	14/3/76
Height:	1.91M
Weight:	116Kg

Adam BALDING	
Position:	Number 8
DOB:	7/12/79
Height:	1.88M
Weight:	110Kg

James FORRESTER		
Position:	Number 8	
DOB:	9/2/81	
Height:	1.95M	
Weight:	99Kg	

Nathan MAUGER	
Position:	Centre
DOB:	8/4/78
Height:	1.84M
Weight:	98 Kg
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Alex PAGE		
Position:	Scrum Half	
DOB:	29/5/81	
Height:	1.78M	
Weight:	81Kg	

Peter BUXTON		
Back Row		
21/8/78		
1.92M		
112Kg		

Chris FORTEY		
Position:	Hooker	
DOB:	25/8/75	
Height:	1.83M	
Weight:	106Kg	

Luke NARRAWAY	
Position:	Back Row
DOB:	7/9/83
Height:	1.90M
Weight:	98Kg

Terry SIGLEY		
Position:	Prop	Ī
DOB:	12/10/78	
Height:	1.88M	
Weight:	121Kg	
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Mark CORNWELL		
Position:	Second Row	
DOB:	22/3/73	
Height:	2.01M	
Weight:	115Kg	

Position:	Scrum Half
DOB:	24/7/74
Height:	1.77M
Weight:	91Kg
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Position:	Hooker
DOB:	30/11/80
Height:	1.78M
Weight:	99Kg

James SII	MPSON-DANIE
Position:	Wing
DOB:	30/5/82
Height:	1.82M
Weight:	86Kg

Brad DAVIES		
Position:	Fly Half	
DOB:	13/2/83	
Height:	1.77M	
Weight:	82Kg	

Jon GOODRIDGE		
Position:	Full Back	
DOB:	26/2/81	
Height:	1.86M	
Weight:	86Kg	

Henry PAUL			
Position:	Centre		
DOB:	10/2/74		
Height:	1.78M		
Weight:	99Kg		
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Today's **TEAMS**





Match Officials

Referee - Ashley Rowden Senior Touch Judge - H. Jones-Williams Junior Touch Judge - Andy Melrose



NEC HARLEQUINS	Fourth Official - Tom Moses			GLOUCESTER
Tom Williams	15	FULL BACK	15	Jon Goodridge
Simon Keogh	14	WING	14	Seti Kiole
Dafydd James	13	CENTRE	13	Terry Fanolua
Mel Deane	12	CENTRE	12	Henry Paul
Ugo Monye	11	WING	-11	James Simpson-Daniel
Jeremy Staunton	10	FLY HALF	10	Duncan McRae
Steve So'oialo	9	SCRUM HALF	9	Andy Gomarsall
Mike Worsley	1	PROP	- 1	Christo Bezuidenhout
Ace Tiatia	2	HOOKER	2	Mefin Davies
Ceri Jones	3	PROP	3	Terry Sigley
Jim Evans	4	LOCK	4	Adam Eustace
Simon Maling	5	LOCK	5	Alex Brown
Nick Easter	6	FLANKER	6	Peter Buxton
Andre Vos (Capt.)	7	FLANKER	7	Jake Boer (Capt.)
Tony Diprose	8	No.8	8	Adam Balding
Little Market Little Control Control		Replacements		
James Hayter	16		16	James Parkes
Jon Dawson	17		17	Nick Wood
Simon Miall	18	MINUTE OF	18	Mark Cornwell
Roy Winters	19		19	Luke Narraway
Luke Sherriff	20		20	Alex Page
Henry Barratt	21		21	Nathan Mauger
Gavin Duffy	22	Carlina III and III and III	22	Mark Foster