

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE £3

oday's game sees the two teams who finished in first place in the top two divisions in the country go head to head for the first time in over a year. Leeds Carnegie of course finished top of Division One, sealing their promotion straight back to the top flight at the first attempt, whilst Gloucester finished at the summit of the Guinness Premiership for the second time in five seasons.

The last game Leeds Carnegie played in the Premiership at Headingley Carnegie Stadium was against today's opponents. Leeds' relegation fate had already been sealed going into the match and the team were unable to end their home campaign on a high and lost 31-7.

Although the game ended disappointingly it was a significant occasion for two of the club's loyal servants. Ahead of the game Director of Rugby Phil Davies announced he would be leaving the club to join his former team Llanelli Scarlets, whilst Leeds' longest serving player Mike Shelley made his final bow in the match after opting to retire from playing at the end of the season.

Leeds have played Gloucester on their opening day of the season on one occasion. This came back in the 2004-05 campaign, when current stars Tom Biggs and Jon Dunbar made their debut. Leeds lost in that game 16-21. In fact, Leeds have not won in their opening game since the 2002-03 season, when they achieved a fantastic home result against Leicester. Last season's National One campaign began with a miserable defeat at the hands of London Welsh, whilst the season before they had suffered a loss at Twickenham when they took on London Irish as part of that year's double header.

In Leeds' first ever clash at Gloucester they suffered a 58-17 defeat, which is still their second worst defeat in the Premiership, and later that season Gloucester put another 50 points past Leeds Carnegie at Headingley

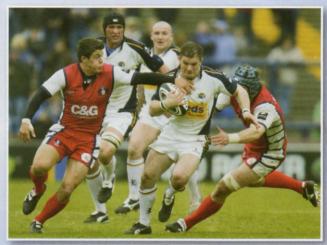
PAST RESULTS

01/12/01	Α	L 17-58
12/05/02	Н	L 17-50
24/11/02	A	L 10-28
04/05/03	Н	W 30-23
25/10/03	Α	L 19-24
21/12/03	Н	W 22-18
05/09/04	Н	L 16-21
09/04/05	Α	W 33-15
31/12/05	A	L 7-31
30/04/06	Н	L 7-31



Carnegie. Leeds had to wait until the following season before they were able to secure their first victory over Gloucester and have since claimed a further two wins over today's opposition.

Since the last meeting between the sides, two players have made the move from Kingsholm to Headingley Carnegie, whilst one player has made the move in the opposite direction. Hooker James Parkes joined Leeds Carnegie ahead of the 2006-07 season from Gloucester and played 20 times in last year's promotion winning campaign. James had spent two seasons with Gloucester and as well as making 26 Premiership appearances also featured in their 2004-05 Heineken Cup campaign. Jon Goodridge made the permanent move from the Cherry and Whites this season to join Leeds, he had previously been on loan with National One side Pertemps Bees last season, but after making some impressive performances in the National One he was snapped up by Stuart Lancaster. Jon made his debut for Gloucester as a teenager and went onto make over 50 appearances in his seven years at the club.

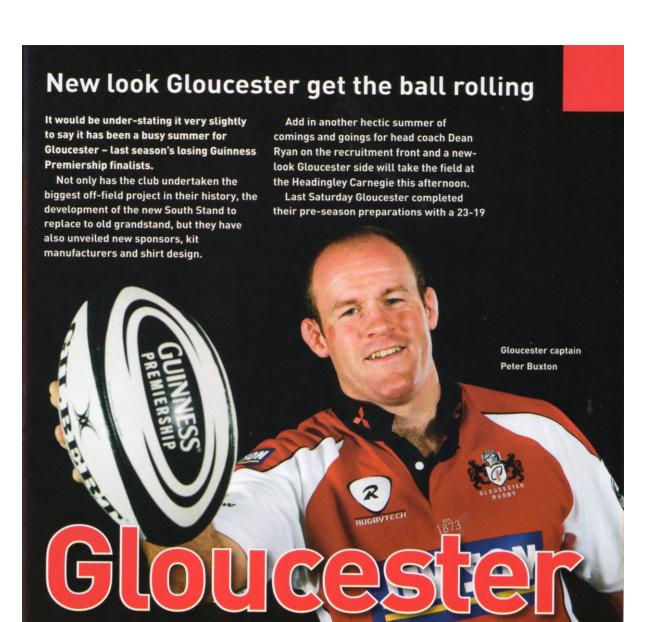


Former Leeds full back lain Balshaw, who captained the team to their 2005 Powergen Cup success, signed for Gloucester last season having made 22 starts and scored four tries for Leeds Carnegie.

Action from Gloucester's last visit to Leeds in April 2006.



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victory over Magners League side Ulster at Ravenhill that followed on from a 40-10 defeat against Cardiff.

"Pre-season is important because it allows a number of younger players to put their hands up for selection," Head Coach Dean Ryan has said. "Against Cardiff we were wide of the mark physically and I was pleased we saw an improvement in that area against Ulster ahead of the Premiership season.

"From about 20 or 30 minutes towards the end last weekend we found the pace and rhythm more associated with our game and we need to look at the individuals who delivered it for us.

"We need to try and take the positive bits of our performances and get them into practice today. I think Leeds have done exceptionally well to return to the Premiership in the manner they did and it will be a very tough encounter today.

"It is vital we prepare properly, respect our opposition and work hard to try and achieve a positive result on the opening weekend of the season."

Ryan has been looking at options ever since the World Cup squads deprived him of six players – although non to England, despite the fact the Kingsholm club finished top of the regular Premiership last season.

But it means that former Bradford Bulls legend, Lesley Vainikolo, could be in line for a competitive debut this
afternoon. He has already left his mark Paul Steinmetz felt the full force of a
typically terrifying burst last weekend and the man with a one of the best try
scoring records in either code has already
caused a serious stir at Castle Grim.

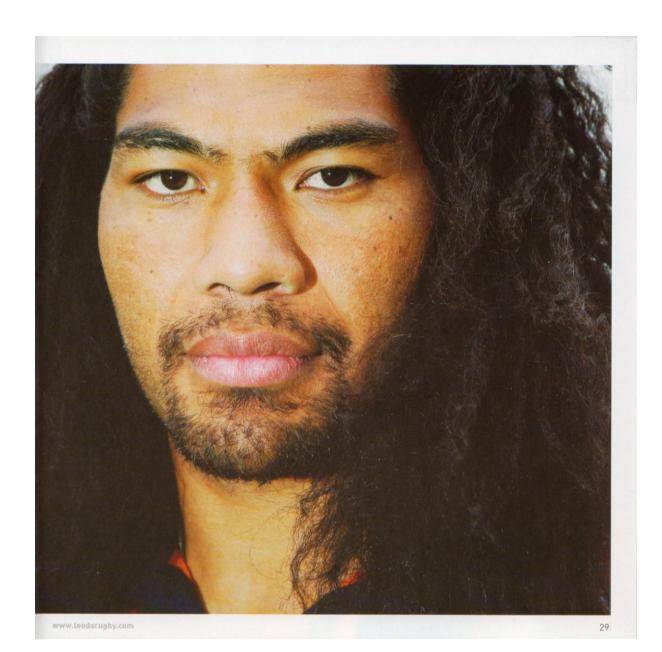
He has not been alone in switching to Kingsholm. Former Leicester centre Leon Lloyd, Wales duo Gareth Cooper and Gareth Delve, Edinburgh trio Chris Paterson, Alasdair Dickinson and Alasdair Strokosch, Wallaby hooker Jeremy Paul and Fiji's Akapusi Qera are just some of the names to join Gloucester ahead of the new season.

"Our recruitment process has been good and we are really pleased with how we have added to the squad," Ryan said. "We identified where we felt we needed strengthening and I think we have done that"

Only time will tell whether Ryan's new mix of power and experience can take Gloucester even further this season and challenge the best – at home and abroad.

They have already re-signed key forwards Andy Hazell and Alex Brown until 2011. The future seems bright, on and off the field, but the journey starts again today.





MEET THE COACH

Last year, after just two years in the Head Coach's role at Kingsholm, Dean Ryan led Gloucester to a top place finish in the Guinness Premiership. Ryan had replaced Nigel Melville at the beginning of the 2005-06 season, having worked alongside the former Director of Rugby in the coaching team for three seasons. Before moving onto the backroom staff, Ryan had enjoyed a playing career with a number of top division clubs, including Saracens, Wasps, Newcastle and Bristol. A robust forward he helped Wasps clinch the league title in the 1989-90 season and eight years later he once again achieved this honour with Newcastle Falcons. He played a key role in Newcastle's success that season, registering seven tries in a campaign when he was an almost ever present. He won his first two caps for England in 1990 against Argentina, in the first game England triumphed 25-12 in Buenos Aires, but in the second they were narrowly defeated 15-13. Two years later he won his third call up, taking on Canada at Wembley. A six year absence followed, before his form at Newcastle warranted his return to the international fold and his final game for England came in the 34-20 win over Scotland. In 2000 Dean took over from Bob Dwyer at Bristol as coach. He spent two seasons at the Memorial Ground, taking Bristol to the Zurich Premiership final in 2002. He joined Gloucester the following season as part of the coaching team and in that first season Gloucester collected the Powergen Cup at Twickenham and also finished top of the Zurich Premiership, only to lose out to his former club Wasps in the final.



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HONOURS

Premiership Runner Up: 1988-89, 1989-90, 2002-03, 2006-07 Cup Winners: 1972, 1978, 1982, 2003 Cup Runners Up: 1990



LEAGUE STATS

Most Points Scored 68 v Bath 04.05.02 Most Points Conceded 75 v Harlequins 31.08.96 Most tries scored in a game 11 v Sale 16.04.88 Most tries conceded in a game 11 v Harlequins 31.08.96, Bath 30.04.97 Most Consecutive Victories 8

CAREER RECORDS

Most Consecutive Defeats 7

Top Try Scorer 35 Terry Fanolua
Top Conversion Scorer 122 Ludovic Mercier
Top Drop Goal Scorer 16 Ludovic Mercier
Top Penalty Scorer 183 Mark Mapletoft
Top Points Scorer 848 Mark Mapletoft

GLOUCESTER SQUAD 2007-08

Name	DOB	He	ight	Weight			
Jack Adams	17/09/86	1.83 m	6.0	96 kg	15 st 2 lb		
Anthony Allen	01/09/86	1.80 m	5' 11"	92 kg	14 st 6 lb		
Olivier Azam	21/10/74	1.85 m	6' 1"	120 kg	18 st 12 lb		
James Bailey	05/08/83	1.80 m	5' 11"	93 kg	14 st 9 lb		
Adam Balding	07/12/79	1.88 m	6. 5	110 kg	17 st 4 lb		
lain Balshaw	14/04/79	1.85 m	6.1.	94 kg	14 st 10 lb		
Marco Bortolami	12/06/80	1.96 m	6' 5"	112 kg	17 st 8 lb		
Alex Brown	17/05/79	2.01 m	6' 7"	116 kg	18 st 3 lb		
Peter Buxton	21/08/78	1.93 m	6' 4"	115 kg	18 st 1 lb		
Christian Califano	16/05/72	1.80 m	5' 11"	112 kg	17 st 8 lb		
Patrice Collazo	27/04/74	1.85 m	6' 1"	114 kg	17 st 12 lb		
Gareth Cooper	07/05/79	1.70 m	5' 7"	84 kg	13 st 3 lb		
Mark Davies	16/03/89	1.78 m	5' 10"	80 kg	12 st 8 lb		
Gareth Delve	30/12/82	1.91 m	6'3"	115 kg	18 st 0 lb		
Alasdair Dickinson	11/09/83	1.85 m	6' 1"	112 kg	17 st 8 lb		



Name	DOB Height			Weight			
James Forrester	09/02/81	1.96 m	6. 2	110 kg	17 st 4 lb		
Jack Forster	19/03/87	1.85 m	6' 1"	120 kg	18 st 12 lb		
Mark Foster	02/09/83	1.83 m	6' 0"	100 kg	15 st 10 lb		
Andy Hazell	25/04/78	1.83 m	6' 0"	95 kg	14 st 12 lb		
Ali James	11/10/79	1.80 m	5' 11"	86 kg	13 st 8 lb		
Will James	22/12/76	1.98 m	6. 6	120 kg	18 st 12 lb		
Ryan Lamb	18/05/86	1.75 m	5' 9"	85 kg	13 st 4 lb		
Rory Lawson	12/03/81	1.73 m	5' 8"	85 kg	13 st 5 lb		
Dave Lewis	29/04/89	1.70 m	5' 7"	80 kg	12 st 8 lb		
Leon Lloyd	22/09/77	1.93 m	6' 4"	98 kg	15 st 6 lb		
Ross McMillan	02/06/87	1.85 m	6' 1"	104 kg	16 st 4 lb		
Ludovic Mercier	01/11/76	1.80 m	5' 11"	90 kg	14 st 2 lb		
Olly Morgan	03/11/85	1.88 m	6' 2"	94 kg	14 st 10 lb		
Luke Narraway	07/09/83	1.91 m	6.3	108 kg	17 st 0 lb		
Carlos Nieto	28/04/76	1.85 m	6' 1"	110 kg	17 st 4 lb		
Dan Norton	22/03/88	1.78 m	5' 10"	80 kg	12 st 8 lb		
Chris Paterson	30/03/78	1.83 m	6' 0"	79 kg	12 st 5 lb		
Jeremy Paul	14/03/77	1.83 m	6.0	104 kg	16 st 4 lb		
Jonathan Pendlebury	15/01/83	1.93 m	6' 4"	110 kg	17 st 4 lb		
Mike Prendergast	21/05/77	1.80 m	5' 11"	84 kg	13 st 3 lb		
Karl Pryce	27/07/86	1.98 m	6' 6"	120 kg	18 st 12 lb		
Akapusi Qera	24/04/84	1.93 m	6' 4"	103 kg	16 st 2 lb		
James Simpson-Daniel	30/05/82	1.83 m	6. 0	92 kg	14 st 6 lb		
Alasdair Strokosch	21/02/83	1.91 m	6' 3"	107 kg	16 st 11 lb		
Mike Tindall	18/10/78	1.88 m	6' 2"	102 kg	16 st 0 lb		
Andy Titterrell	10/01/81	1.78 m	5' 10"	94 kg	14 st 11 lb		
Henry Trinder	14/04/89	1.83 m	6' 0"	85 kg	13 st 5 lb		
Dan Tuohy	18/06/85	1.96 m	6' 5"	112 kg	17 st 9 lb		
Lesley Vainikolo	04/05/79	1.88 m	6. 2	112 kg	17 st 8 lb		
Willie Walker	19/05/78	1.83 m	6' 0"	88 kg	13 st 11 lb		
Dan Williams	01/02/89	1.96 m	6' 5"	104 kg	16 st 5 lb		
Nick Wood	09/01/83	1.85 m	6' 1"	112 kg	17 st 8 lb		

PREVIOUS VISITS

Gloucester won on their last visit to Headingley Carnegie in what was Leeds' final home game in the Guinness Premiership before relegation, but the Cherry and Whites have not had it all their own way during the last five meetings in Yorkshire...

Gloucester travelled to Headingley Carnegie on the final day of the 2001-02

2001-02 Leeds 17 Gloucester 50

carnegie on the final day of the 2001-02 season and inflicted a club record home league defeat on Phil Davies' men. The men in Cherry and White scored eight tries to two in front of 4,144. Dan Scarbrough and Chris Hall both touched down for Leeds as Japie Mulder, Octavio Bartolucci and Steve Bachop made their last appearance for the club. James Simpson-Daniel scored twice whilst there was one apiece for Trevor Woodman, Jamie Forrester, Kolina Sewabu and Daren O'Leary for the visitors.

2002-03 Leeds 30 Gloucester 23

Leeds secured their place in the Heineken Cup with a memorable win over Gloucester at Headingley Carnegie in their final home game of the season. Almost exactly a year since the last meeting, Leeds finished off a memorable season that defied expectations. Winston Stanley crossed for two tries whilst Gordon Ross and Alix Popham also scored. O'Leary scored again for the visitors whilst Henry Paul also touched down in front of 6,088.

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LAST HOME MEETING

LEEDS CARNEGIE 7 (Biggs 1T, Ross 1C)
GLOUCESTER RUGBY 31 (Simpson-Daniel
1T, Tindall 1T, Richards 1T, Hazell 1T,
Lamb 4C. 1P)

Competition: Guinness Premiership

Date: 30th April 2006 Attendance: 4,452

Leeds: De Marigny, Snyman, Bell, Jones, Biggs, Ross, McMillan, Shelley, Rawlinson, Gerber, Murphy, Palmer, Morgan, Thomas, Care, Replacements: Cusack, Bulloch, Myall, Parks, Care,

Doherty, Blackett

Gloucester: Morgan, Simpson-Daniel, Tindall, Allen, Foster, Lamb, Richards, Collazo, Davies, Forster, Pendlebury, Brown, Narraway, Hazell, Forrester, Replacements: Azam, Sigley, Eustace, Balding, Thomas, Mercier, Bailey

LEEDS CARNEGIE v GLOUCESTER LEAGUE HISTORY

Played: 10 Leeds won: 3 Gloucester: 7 Drawn: 0 Biggest win for Leeds Carnegie: 33-15 9th April 2005 Biggest Win for Gloucester: 58-17 1st December 2001

Gloucester top try scorer v Leeds Carnegie: James Simpson-Daniel 9 tries Gloucester top points scorer v Leeds Carnegie: Ludovic Mercier 65 points Leeds Carnegie top try scorer v Gloucester: Gavin Kerr 2 tries

Leeds Carnegie top points scorer v Gloucester: Gordon Ross 26 points

Leeds Carnegie top points scorer v Gloucester: Gordon Ross 26 point

2003-04 Leeds 22 Gloucester 18

A bumper crowd of 7,467 were at Headingley Carnegie for the visit of Gloucester in 2003 and the Webb Ellis Trophy, as Leeds' World Cup hero Mark Regan paraded the trophy. On the field, Regan's replacement Matt Holt scored the home sides only try whilst Henry Paul kicked six penalties for Gloucester.

2004-05 Leeds 16 Gloucester 21

Gloucester returned to winning ways at Headingley Carnegie against Leeds on the

opening day of the season.
Both teams scored a try apiece
with Gavin Kerr crossing for
the home side whilst Terry
Fanolua scored for Gloucester.
That game also saw Tom Biggs
make his debut for the club in
front of 4,079.

2005-06 Leeds 7 Gloucester 31
An emotional afternoon for everyone connected with the Leeds club. Prior to kick off Director of Rugby Phil Davies

announced he would be ending his ten year association with the club and on the field the club bid farewell to our greatest ever servant Mike Shelley. Unfortunately, a relegated side could not give Leeds fans anything to smile about. Tom Biggs scored the only try for Leeds whilst James Simpson-Daniel, Mike Tindall, Pete Richards and Andrew Hazell scored for the visitors.

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LEEDS CARNEGIE

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

Т	C	P	D						T	C	P	D
				Jon Goodridge	15	full back	15	Olly Morgan				
				Tom Rock	14	right wing	14	James Simpson-Daniel				
				Jonny Hepworth	13	centre	13	Leon Lloyd				
				Richard Welding	12	centre	12	Anthony Allen				
				Tom Biggs	11	left wing	11	Lesley Vainikolo				
				Alberto Di Bernardo	10	fly half	10	Ryan Lamb				
				Joe Bedford	9	scrum half	9	Mike Predergast				
				Michael Cusack	1	loosehead prop	1	Nick Wood				
				Rob Rawlinson	2	hooker	2	Olivier Azam				
				Colin Noon	3	tighthead prop	3	Carlos Nieto				
				Stuart Hooper (c)	4	second row	4	Jonathan Pendlebury				
				Kearnan Myall	5	second row	5	Andy Brown				
				Jon Dunbar	6	flanker	6	Pete Buxton (c)				
				Hendre Fourie	7	flanker	7	Andy Hazell				
				Rhys Oakley	8	number 8	8	Adam Balding				
				Adam Hopcroft	16	replacement	16	Andy Titterell				
					17		17	Patrice Collazo				
					18		18	Luke Narraway				
				Mark Lock	19	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	19	Alasdair Strokosch				
				James Brooks	20	replacement	20	Dave Lewis				
					21	OF THE SECOND SECOND	21	Willie Walker				
					22		22	lain Balshaw				
						THE RESERVE						

Referee: David Rose (47th Premiership game) TJ1: Alan Hughes TJ2: Paul Dickens

LEEDS CARNEGIE

GLOUCESTER