# RACI WS GLOUCESTER • SUNDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 07 • K.O.3.00PM • WWW.SARACENS.COM • ISSUE 01 £3.00 Global MAJOR CLUB SPONSOR eDF MBNA Guinness THE TIMES





#### **Club Details**

#### **Next 3 Fixtures**

Ground: Kingsholm Stadium Sat Nav: GL1 3AX Head Coach: Dean Ryan Captain: Marco Bortolami League Finish 2006/07: 1st Sat 29 Sept Gloucester v Worcester Kingsholm Sat 6 Oct Leicester v Gloucester Welford Road Sat 13 Oct Gloucester v Sale Sharks Kingsholm



Gloucester have been one of the most active in the summer transfer market and have undoubtedly strengthened their squad from that which finished the regular Guinness Premiership season in first place - justifiably making them many pundits' choice to go one better with this team and lift the trophy.

The manner of the Guinness Premiership final defeat to Leicester would have come as a disappointment to many Cherry and Whites fans. Gloucester could not compete with the pace and power of Alesana Tuilagi who was in near unstoppable form for the Tigers, but Dean Ryan has signed a Pacific Islands powerhouse of his own for this campaign.

Lesley Vainikolo's cross-code move from Bradford Bulls was one of the biggest moves of the summer and Gloucester will be looking to utilize the pace and power that has made him one of the most potent attacking forces in the world in the 13-man game.

When you add his name to that of Andy Titterrell (Sale Sharks), Gareth Cooper (Newport Gwent Dragons),

Jeremy Paul (ACT Brumbies), Chris Paterson (Edinburgh) and Leon Lloyd (Leicester Tigers) as new signings, it makes impressive reading. All the more so when you throw in the likes of Tindall, Simpson-Daniel, Lamb, Allen, Mercier, Balshaw and Morgan - and that's just the backline!

Add forwards Bortolami, Brown, Hazell, Nieto, Azam and Califano and you have a squad that is more than capable of going one better this term.

Obviously, some of those players won't be in action for the first few weeks of the season with them taking part in the Rugby World Cup but the strength in depth of the club means they will be fielding a pretty strong lineup today. The two clubs met four times last season - a pre-season friendly, twice in the Guinness Premiership and then in the semi-finals of the competition.

Gloucester certainly got the better of the Men In Black in May in that semi-final clash but Gloucester's visit to Vicarage Road in February ended with Kris Chesney's try and Glen Jackson's conversion providing a last-gasp win for the Men In Black.



Surname	Christian Name	Position	Height (Metric)	Height (Imp)	Weight (Metric)	Weight (Imp)	DOB	Honours
Adams	Jack	Centre	1.82m	6ft 0in	96kg	15st Olb	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 Olb	21/10/74	France
Bailey	James	Wing	1.80m	5ft 11in	93kg	14st 1lb	05/08/83	
Balding	Adam	Back row	1.88m	6ft 2in	110kg	17st 4lb	07/12/79	
Balshaw	lain	Wing/Full back	1.85m	6ft 1in	94kg	14st 2lb	14/04/79	England/Lions
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	1.92m	6ft 4in	115kg	18st 1lb	21/08/78	
Califano	Christian	Prop	1.80m	5ft 11in	112kg	17st 5lb	16/05/72	France
Collazo	Patrice	Prop	1.85m	6ft 1in	114kg	17st 11lb	27/04/74	France
Cooper	Gareth	Scrum half	1.72m	5ft 7in	84kg	13st Olb	07/05/79	Wales/Lions
Davies	Mark	Stand-off	1.78m	5ft 10in	80kg	12st 8lb	16/03/89	
Delve	Gareth	Number 8	1.91m	6ft 3in	115kg	18st 1lb	30/12/82	Wales
Dickinson	Alasdair	Prop	1.84m	6ft 0in	112kg	17st 5lb	11/09/83	
Forrester	James	Number 8	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 Oin	100kg	15st Olb	02/09/83	MARKET STATE
Hazell	Andrew	Back row	1.83m	6ft Oin	95kg	14st 13lb	25/04/78	England
James	Ali	Centre	1.83m	6ft 0in	95kg	14st 13lb	11/10/79	2 rigidi la
James	Will	Lock	1.99m	6ft 6in	120kg	18st 11lb	22/12/76	
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	Scotlaria
Lloyd	Leon	Wing/Centre	1.93m	6ft 4in	98kg	15st 3lb	22/09/77	England
McMillan	Ross	Hooker	1.85m	6ft 1in	104kg	16st 7lb	02/06/87	Liigiaria
Mercier	Ludovic	Stand-off	1.80m	5ft 11in	90kg	14st 2lb	01/11/76	
Morgan	Olly	Full back	1.89m	6ft 2in	94kg	14st 2lb	03/11/85	England
Narraway	Luke	Back row	1.90m	6ft 3in	108kg	15st 13lb	07/08/83	Liigiand
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	italy
	Chris	Full back/Stand-off		6ft Oin	79kg	12st 6lb	30/03/78	Scotland
Paterson Paul		Hooker	1.84m	6ft Oin	104kg	16st 4lb	14/03/77	Australia
Pendlebury	Jeremy Jonathan	Lock	1.94m	6ft 4in	110kg	17st 4lb	15/01/83	Australia
Prendergast	Mike	Scrum half	1.94m 1.80m	5ft 11in	84kg	17st 4lb	21/05/77	
AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN	Karl	Wing	1.98m	6ft 6in	120kg	18st 11lb	27/07/86	
Pryce Qera	Akapusi	Back row	1.94m	6ft 4in	103kg	16st Olb	24/04/84	Fiji
Sharples	Charlie	Wing	1.84m	6ft Oin	93kg	14st 9lb	17/08/89	- IJ
Simpson-Daniel		Wing	1.82m	6ft 0in	93kg 92kg			England
	Alasdair					14st 6lb	30/05/82	England
Strokosch		Back row	1.91m	6ft 3in	107kg	15st 5lb	21/02/83	Scotland Facilities
Titterrell	Andy	Hooker	1.81m	5ft 10in	94kg	14st 2lb	10/01/81	England/Lions
Tindall Trinder	Mike	Centre	1.88m	6ft 2in	102kg	15st 12lb	18/10/78	England
Trinder	Henry	Centre	1.83m	6ft Oin	85kg	13st 5lb	14/04/89	Control of the last of the las
Tuohy	Dan	Lock	1.90m	6ft 5in	112kg	17st 8lb	18/06/85	
Vainikolo	Lesley	Wing	1.88m	6ft 2in	112kg	17st 8lb	04/05/79	
Walker	Willie	Stand-off/Full back		6ft 0in	88kg	13st 12lb	19/05/78	
Williams	Dan	Back row	1.97m	6ft 5in	104kg	16st 7lb.	01/02/89	

#### Wing

#### **Lesley Vainikolo**

Apps: 1 Points: 20 (4 tries)

## **Edd Thrower**

Apps: 1 Points: 0

# Flanker

### Andy Hazell

Apps: 1 Points: 0

# **David Seymour**

Apps: 1 Points: 0



After a first season disrupted by injury he took the game by storm in 2003 scoring 28 tries in 32

In 2004 he was in outstanding form smashing the as good as anyone in the history of the game and he has won many games for the Bulls with his strength

Premiership clubs but he finally decided to make the He made his debut against Cardiff Blues in pre-season





with his superb breakdown play and pace. Hazell was a member of the England squad that toured for the Churchill Cup in the summer of 2004.

He started the Six Nations Championship for England in Cardiff and will hope for further honours this season. Supremely quick - he is the fastest member of Gloucester's squad over a short distance - Hazell has real instinct for the ball on the ground, makes his

Hazell has recently signed a new three-year contract extension that will run until 2011 and was last season named in Sky TV's 'Dream Team' of the year. He is now

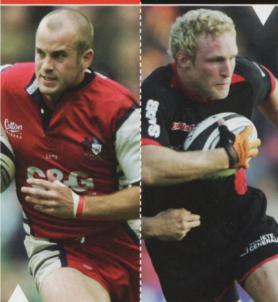
#### Wing

# James Simpson-Daniel

Points: 5 (1 tries)

# Dan Scarbrough

Apps: 1 Points: 0



Simpson-Daniel joined Gloucester from Sedbergh School and has established himself as one of the game's biggest talents. His Gloucester debut was against Rotherham in 2001 when he scored a superb individual try. The wingman has gone on to make an impression at England level after a great performance against Jonah Lomu when he faced the Barbarians in May 2002. His first England try came against Italy in the Six Nations in 2003 and he played in the opening game against New Zealand on the tour of 2004.

A member of the summer England squad that won the Churchill Cup, Simpson-Daniel is one of the most electric finishers in the Premiership. Bursting onto the scene with a hat-trick against Bath, he has since suffered a host of injuries that have denied him an extended run in the international set-up.

Although he scored a try against the Springboks this summer, he missed out on World Cup selection despite being one of the most dangerous game-breakers in the country. He can play on either the wing or the centre and will be a central figure for Dean Ryan's side this season.

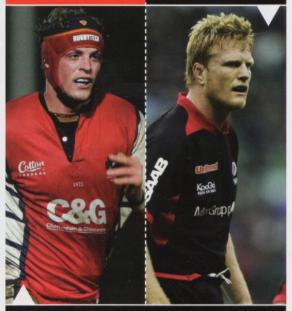
#### Second Row

Alex Brown

Apps: 1 Points: 0

# **Hugh Vyvyan**

Apps: 1 Points: 5 (1 tries)



Rated as one of the best second row forwards in the game, Brown signed for Gloucester in the summer of 2003 from West Country rivals Bristol Shoguns. The England 'A' international topped the line-out statistics charts during the 03/04 season, and was voted the players' player of the year. Brown was selected for the Churchill Cup team to tour North America during the summer of 2004.

He was surprisingly omitted from England's Elite Player squad this season, but is one of the best line-out practitioners in the country. His favourite position is in the middle of the line-out, where he controls Gloucester's operation. Brown has also remodelled himself into one of the most effective defenders in the business and had been included in the England squad for the 2005 autumn internationals.

But he remains one of the best locks in the country and won 2 more England caps on the summer tour to South Africa. He recently signed a three-year contract extension until 2011 and is another player in the Gloucester squad who is unlucky not to be involved in the Rugby World Cup.

# Gloucester Memories Saracens 14 Gloucester 9



Sunday 21st November 2004

When these two sides met in the autumn of 2004 both were having indifferent seasons. Saracens had opened their season with a fine win against Wasps at Twickenham in the inaugural London Double Header but since then Rod Kafer's men had been drifting in and out of form.

In fact, the week before they faced up at Vicarage Road in the premiership, the Men in Black had been humbled at NEC Harlequins 40-10 with the aristocrats crossing the line four times in the opening 20 minutes, a result which was the beginning of the end for Kafer's reign at the club.

Gloucester themselves were not having things their own way and were in somewhat of a transitional period. They arrived in Watford on the back of two defeats, at home to Wasps and away to Leicester, and were desperate to breathe life back into their season.

Both sides had been stripped of the services of their fly halves before the game, Saracens new boy Glen Jackson was recovering from chicken pox whilst the Cherry White's were having to do without injured former Saracen Duncan McRae.

The game was played in cold, damp conditions and the visitors put the early pressure on, pinning Saracens in their own half for the first 10 minutes. But the home side battened down the hatches with the visitor's only vaguely tangible reward for their efforts a missed penalty kick from Simon Amor.

After fifteen minutes Amor finally found his range and opened the scoring but his success signalled a turn around in possession as Saracens finally began to take a hold of the game.

Bartholomeusz, standing in for Jackson at No. 10, finally took Saracens deep into Gloucester's half with a penalty kick and after two more for Gloucester infringements captain Hugh Vyvyan handed the ball to Kydd to kick for goal to tie the scores.

With the scores now level the game was evenly matched but the home side seemed to be constantly falling foul of the referee as the penalty count soon nudged double figures. Luckily for the Men In Black Amor had left his kicking boots at home in Gloucester as he spurned chances and even when he finally got the ball between the posts Kydd replied a minute later to tie the scores as the sides headed for the break

The second half was barely a minute old when Bartholomeusz, who was in possession on half way, looked up and sent an almost lateral kick across the pitch.

Waiting out wide was Tevita Vaikona who took the ball cleanly and then trampled over the Gloucester full back Goodridge before heading off towards the Gloucester 22. Vaikona was finally brought down but Ben Johnston was in support and even as he was caught five metres out he managed to slip a pass to Kydd who skidded over in the corner to score a well worked try and take Saracens into the lead for the first time.

At 11-6, with Kydd missing the touch line conversion, Saracens still had plenty to do as Gloucester rolled up their sleeves and set about trying to wrestle back their lead but this week Saracens defence was rock solid constantly frustrating the visitors.

A third successful Kydd penalty took Saracens to a five point lead at 14-9 and then it was left to the wall of black to hold out a determined West Country side.

Finally, after seven minutes of injury time, the referee blew for full time handing Saracens a much-needed victory.

Saracens went on to finish fifth in the premiership that season, beating Gloucester again twice more, once at Kingsholm (for the first time in their history) and once at Twickenham in the Wildcard Play Off, a game that secured Heineken Cup qualification.



# RECENTPREMIERSHIPMEETINGS

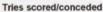
DATE VENUE	s	G	SARACENS SCORERS	GLOUCESTER RUGBY SCORERS
SUN 8 JAN 06 Vicarage Road	9	19	Glen Jackson(3P)	Peter Richards(T) Ludovic Mercier(C/4P)
SAT 4 NOV 06 Kingsholm	12	21	Glen Jackson(4P)	Ludovic Mercier(P) Willie Walker(C/2P) Rudi Keil(2T)
SUN 18 FEB 07 Vicarage Road	24	22	Kris Chesney(T) Kameli Ratuvou(T) Glen Jackson(C/4P)	Alex Brown(T) Ludovic Mercier(C/5P)
SAT 5 MAY 07 Kingsholm	9	50	Glen Jackson(3P)	Anthony Allen(T) Christian Califano(T) Mark Foster(T) Andy Hazell(T) Peter Richards(T) Willie Walker(6C/P) Luke Narraway(T) Penalty Try(T)

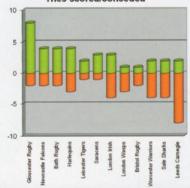
Saracens have won their last six home games in the Guinness Premiership – their best home run since winning seven in a row at Watford during 2001.

Gloucester's only regular season defeat in the Premiership since February was at Newcastle in April. After Lesley Vainikolo's barnstorming Guinness Premiership debut last week all eyes will be on Vicarage Road to see if he can equal Tom Varndell's record of scoring five successive Premiership tries for his club.

Varndell achieved the feat over three matches between April and May 2006 and Vainikolo ran in Gloucester's last four tries at Headingley on Sunday. Another record broken by the former Bradford Bulls wing is tries score on debut as no other player has ever scored more than two tries on his debut in the competition. He also broke Barry Everitt's previous record of 21 points scored on a first Premiership start, tallied for London Irish against Harlequins in November 2000.

311 points and 36 tries were scored in the six matches, the best for a round of Guinness Premiership action since round 22 in season 2005-06. 36 tries is a record for an opening round of fixtures since the Premiership began in season 1997/98.





#### BEST MARKSMEN BEST GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP KICKERS

Name	Club	Good	Att	Kick%	Last 10 kicks	Streak
Danny Cipriani	London Wasps	5	5	100.00%	2p33332	Last 5
Jeremy Staunton	London Irish	5	5	100.00%	p32pp33222	Last 5
Shaun Berne	Bath Rugby	4	5	80.00%	ccp322c232	Last 3
Chris Malone	Harlequins	6	8	75.00%	323c2p2323	Last 4
Gordon Ross	Saracens	5	7	71.43%	3cc3233	Last 4
Toby Flood	Newcastle Falcons	4	7	57.14%	p2c33pc22c	Missed last 1
Ryan Lamb	Gloucester Rugby	4	10	40.00%	ccp3c2c2c2	Last 1

Qual: 5 place kicks at goal. Under Streak, "Last 4" means has kicked last four place kicks in a row successfully. Under "Last 10 kicks" 3 denotes a penalty goal, 2 a conversion, p is a missed penalty and c a missed conversion.

#### **GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP TRY GRABBERS**

Name	Club	Apps	Tries
Lesley Vainikolo	Gloucester Rugby	1	5
Jack Cuthbert	Bath Rugby	1	2

Best in a Premiership Season: 17 by Dominic Chapman (Richmond) in 1997/98



# **SARACENS**



# vs **GLOUCESTER**



T C P DG PLD	Position	T C P DG PLD	Position
DAN SCARBROUGH	Full Back	15 IAIN BALSHAW	Full Back
14 RODD PENNEY	Wing	JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL	Wing
13 KEVIN SORRELL	Centre	13 LEON LLOYD	Centre
12_ ADAM POWELL	Centre	12 ANTHONY ALLEN	Centre
11_ FRANCISCO LEONELLI	Wing	11 LESLEY VAINIKOLO	Wing
O GORDON ROSS	Fly Half	O NOTE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	Fly Half
□□□□ 9 □ NEIL DE KOCK (C)	Scrum Half	MIKE PRENDERGAST	Scrum Half
1 NICK LLOYD	Prop	□□□□ 1 □ NICK WOOD	Prop
2 MATT CAIRNS	Hooker	2 ANDY TITTERRELL	Hooker
3 TOM MERCEY	Prop	CARLOS NIETO	Prop
4 TOM RYDER	Lock	JONATHAN PENDLEBURY	Lock
B HUGH VYVYAN	Lock	5 ALEX BROWN	Lock
6 KRIS CHESNEY	Flanker	PETER BUXTON (C)	Flanker
7 RICHARD HILL	Flanker	7 ANDY HAZELL	Flanker
BEN SKIRVING	No.8	B LUKE NARRAWAY	No.8
REPLACEMENTS		REPLACEMENTS	
16 ANDY KYRIACOU		16 PATRICE COLLAZO	
17 KEVIN YATES		OLIVIER AZAM	
18 IAIN FULLARTON		DAN TUOHY	
DAVID SEYMOUR		19 ALASDAIR STROKOSCH	
20 ALAN DICKENS		DAVE LEWIS	
CRAIG MCMULLEN		21 WILLIE WALKER	
EDD THROWER		OLLY MORGAN	



Man of the match

Sunday 23rd September 2007

Referee - Martin Fox Touch Judge - Paul Emerson Touch Judge - Ashley Reay



Watfords Premier Independent Health Club
For your 1 day VIP pass call 01923 210 345
www.sportzacademy.co.uk

