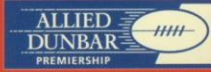


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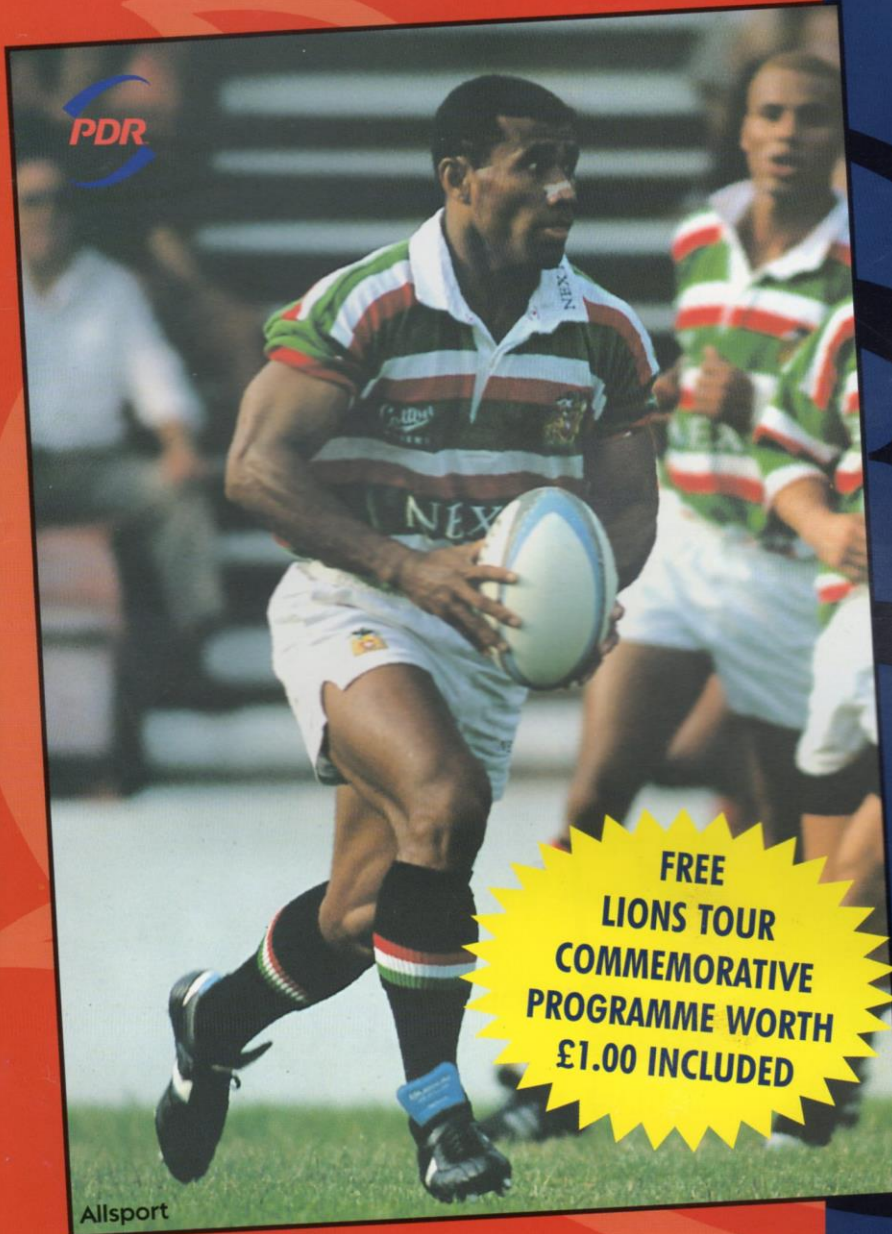
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TIGERS

**LEICESTER TIGERS
V GLOUCESTER**
Saturday 30th August K.O. 3pm



Farmer's Oval World



TODAY'S GAME

TIGERS V GLOUCESTER - HEAD TO HEAD

First Meeting: 31 October 1891 at Belgrave Cricket & Cycle Ground - Leicester 0 Gloucester 15

Played: 170 **Won:** 74 **Drawn:** 6 **Lost:** 90

The above record is Leicester's worst against any English opposition, and has been made much better in recent seasons with 5 wins in the last six encounters. At Kingsholm, Tigers have won just on just 18 occasions in 85 games, and until December 1992 had not won for a decade at the ground. At Welford Road the tally is 56 wins from 85 games with two draws.

Best Win: 27-0 at Welford Road on 3/11/1973

Biggest Score: 32-14 at Welford Road on 28/9/1996

Worst Loss & Most Pts Conceded: 6-41 at Kingsholm on 6/12/1986

Most Points in a game: 23 by Dusty Hare (H) on 12/1/1985, and by Jez Harris (H) (Courage League) on 21/1/1994

Most Tries in a game: 3 by Ralph Buckingham (H) on 11/12/1930.

A NEW START

Here we are fresh for the new season, a new match programme, new players. We entertain Gloucester today who are in top spot in the new Allied Dunbar Premiership after just one match. Leicester amazingly are in equal sixth place even though they haven't played a match yet! All being well Leicester today give first team debuts to Waisale Serevi, Michael Horak and Martin Corry. Another new recruit! Jamie Hamilton is on the bench.

FIJIANS AT WELFORD ROAD

As I mentioned earlier Waisale Serevi makes his Tigers debut today, but he is NOT the first Fijian to have played at Welford Road or the first Fijian to play in a League game.

In the seven-fies Fijian international P.B.Tikoisuva regularly played on the wing for Harlequins and scored a try to help 'Quins win 13-9 on 2 March 1974 at Welford Road. He also scored a try five months earlier when the Fiji national team played the Tigers at the ground, Leicester winning an entertaining match 22-17, a victory which the Leicester Mercury at the time described as "the greatest achievement in the long and distinguished history of the club."

Tigers have actually played Fijian opponents on four other occasions: on 4 November 1986 the Fiji Barbarians were the visitors to Leicester when Tigers triumphed 39-14, the other three games were all part of the six match Centenary tour in 1980 to Australia and Fiji. On 16 August Leicester beat Lautoka 12-6, four days later also in Suva the Fiji Combined Services were overcome 8-4, and on 23 August Tigers beat the Fiji Chairman's XV 12-0. Players still associated with the club in coaching or administration capacities who played in Fiji on this tour are Dusty Hare, John Duggan, Andy Key, Paul Dodge, Ray Needham, Ian Smith, Steve Kenney, Garry Adey and Peter Wheeler, whilst Leicester Sound's Tim Barnwell and Radio Leicester's Steve Johnson also turned out.

On the question of a Fijian playing a league match? Remember Sam Domoni the Saracens and London Irish lock who played against Tigers at Sunbury in December 1993, he was part of Fiji's 1991 World Cup squad.

INTERNATIONAL UPDATE

Since our last match we have had an amazing Lions tour, which is featured in depth in this programme's free supplement "V for Victory". Congratulations to Eric Miller, Austin Healey and Neil Back who all made Lions test match debuts. Martin Johnson of course was the victorious skipper. Well done also to Will Greenwood and Graham Rowntree who also formed part of the touring part.

Elsewhere it is congratulations Richard Cockerill picked up his first two test caps in Argentina, and Darren

Garforth who now has a total of four caps after playing both tests in Argentina and the one-off game against the Wallabies in Sydney.

Craig Joiner scored two tries in Scotland's "non cap" win over Zimbabwe in Harare.

On the new player front, Martin Corry picked up his first two England caps in Argentina, whilst Paul Gustard captained England Under 21's during their tour of Australia.

TIGERS v GLOUCESTER IN THE LEAGUE

Date	Ven	Result	Tigers Scorers	Gloucester Scorers
14 Jan 89	A	Last 0-28	-	Breece(T) Price(T) Hammond(T) K.Dunn(T) League(T) Hamlin(T)
13 Jan 90	H	Last 16-26	R.Underwood(T) J.Liley(4P)	Hannaford(T) Brain(T) Mogg(T) T.Smith(2CP)
22 Sep 90	H	Won 18-6	Richards(T) J.Liley(C4P)	T.Smith(2P)
16 Nov 91	A	Last 3-21	J.Liley(P)	Phillips(T) Caskie(T) T.Smith(2CP)
26 Sep 92	H	Won 22-21	Richardson(T) Kardooni(T) Hackney(T) J.Liley(2CP)	Hannaford(T) Perrins(T) T.Smith(C3P)
25 Sep 93	A	Won 23-14	Hackney(2T) Back(T) Harris(D) J.Liley(CP)	Holford(T) Beech(P) T.Smith(2P)
29 Jan 94	H	Won 28-8	T.Underwood(T) J.Harris(C7P)	Sims(T) T.Smith(P)
24 Sep 94	H	Won 16-6	M.Johnson(T) J.Liley(C3P)	Kimber(D) Mapletoft(P)
11 Feb 95	A	Last 3-9	Harris(P)	Osborne(3P)
30 Sep 95	A	Won 27-14	Kilford(T) Back(T) J.Liley(C5P)	Holford(T) Kimber(3P)
24 Apr 96	H	Won 28-6	Garforth(T) R.Underwood(T) J.Liley(T2C3P)	Mapletoft(2P)
28 Sep 96	H	Won 32-14	Penalty(T) R.Underwood(T) Hackney(T) Cockerill(T) J.Liley(3CP)	Anderson(T) Mapletoft(3P)
8 Apr 97	A	Last 30-32	R.Underwood(T) Kardooni(T) J.Liley(T) Joiner(T) Stransky(2CP)	Greening(T) Lumsden(T) Mapletoft(2CP)

THE LAST TIME

Gloucester (9) 32, Leicester (15) 30

Kingsholm, 8 April 1997

After Wasps were held to a draw by Bath on a Sunday afternoon at Loftus Road, having lost at Welford Road earlier in the week, Tigers had a theoretical 1 point advantage over them IF they won all their remaining games. Earlier in the season Gloucester had looked sure fire relegation bets, but this victory at Kingsholm proved sweet revenge for the Pilkington Cup semi-final defeat. It was perhaps the start of the end for Leicester's league title hopes.

In a frantic game which saw the lead change hands 5 times, Gloucester claimed victory by just 2 points, Mapletoft's conversion of an injury time try by Phil Greening being the winning margin. Joel Stransky had kicked Tigers into an early lead which Mapletoft equalled before Craig Joiner ran a try in under the posts, Joel converting. It was not long before Mapletoft kicked another Glos penalty awarded for an infringement at a line out, but again Tigers countered, Joel Stransky making a great break which set John Liley free to score a try. Another Mapletoft penalty saw Tigers turn round 15-9 up, but it was Glos who were in the ascendancy just before half time, and somehow you knew with the crowd very much behind them, that there was more to come from the home side in the second half. Sure enough, a Mapletoft penalty in the 50th minute was quickly followed by Audley Lumsden catching a wicked bounce just short of touch to score the try that put Gloucester into the lead for the first time. A Stransky penalty pulled Tigers to within 1 point but Mapletoft replied in kind, before Aadel Kardooni touched down from the base of a driving maul to swing the pendulum back Tigers way. An offside decision against Eric Miller saw Mapletoft level the scores, and with the final whistle fast approaching Joel Stransky attempted a drop goal then missed a long shot at a penalty trying to win it for Leicester. With only 2 minutes of normal time left Rory Underwood, on for an injured Leon Lloyd, scored in the corner, again from a break by Joel Stransky, who unfortunately missed the conversion. This proved decisive, as well into injury time Neil Fletcher, on for Matt Poole, gave away a penalty from which ensuing lineout Gloucester scored. Tigers still fought back, as the referee signalled 4 minutes to go, but they couldn't pull this one out of the bag.

Leicester: John Liley; Steve Hackney, Niall Malone*, Craig Joiner*, Leon Lloyd; Joel Stransky*, Aadel Kardooni; Graham Rowntree*, Richard Cockerill, Darren Garforth*, Martin Johnson*, Matt Poole, Eric Miller*, Dean Richards* (capt), Neil Back*.

Replacements: Bill Drake-Lee for Richards 52', Rory Underwood* for Leon Lloyd 58', Neil Fletcher for Poole 69'. Not used: Roland Edwards, Rob Liley, Dorian West.

Gloucester: Audley Lumsden; Mike Peters, Craig Emmerson, Martin Roberts, Eral Anderson; Mark Mapletoft, Scott Benton; Tony Windo, Phil Greening*, Andy Deacon, Rob Fidler, Dave Sims (capt), Andy Stanley, Simon Devereux, Nathan Carter.

Replacement: Peter Hart for Anderson 87'.

Scoring: 1st half - 6' Stransky(P) 3-0; 9' Mapletoft(P) 3-3; 14' Joiner(T) & Stransky(C) 10-3; 18' Mapletoft(P) 10-6; 23' J.Liley(T) 15-6; 36' Mapletoft(P) 15-9. 2nd half - 50' Mapletoft(P) 15-12; 51' Lumsden(T) & Mapletoft(C) 15-19; 63' Stransky(P) 18-19; 67' Mapletoft(P) 18-22; 68' Kardooni(T) & Stransky(C) 25-22; 72' Mapletoft(P) 25-25; 78' Underwood(T) 30-25; 83' Greening(T) & Mapletoft(C) 30-32.

Referee: Graham Hughes (Manchester).

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP

1997/98 is the first season in this newly formed Allied Dunbar Premiership rugby competition.

- Allied Dunbar have made a commitment for an initial three years (up to the end of the 1999/2000 season).
- The Premiership comprises divisions one and two from the old league.
- Central to the Allied Dunbar Premiership is Allied Dunbar's work with the clubs to develop a group disability insurance scheme for all players in the 24 clubs.
- The two divisions remain, but have been renamed - Allied Dunbar One and Allied Dunbar Two.
- There are 12 clubs in Allied Dunbar One and 12 in Allied Dunbar Two.
- Each of the 12 clubs in each division will play one another twice - home/away.
- Two clubs in Allied Dunbar Two will be promoted and two clubs in Allied Dunbar One will be relegated. In addition, play-offs will take place between 3rd and 4th placed clubs in Allied Dunbar Two and 9th & 10th placed clubs in Allied Dunbar One.
- A total of 264 matches plus play-offs will be played between August and May.
- The Premiership Clubs are governed by English Rugby Partnership - a private limited company owned 50% RFU; 33.33% English First Division Rugby and 16.66% by English Second Division Rugby.
- The Allied Dunbar Premiership also includes sponsorship of the referees and match officials at all Premiership matches.
- This year Allied Dunbar has also sponsored the Playfair Rugby Annual which contains masses of useful information about this year's Premiership.

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP RESULTS ROUND-UP

AUGUST 23

Bath	(0)13	Newcastle	(6)20
Perry(T)	Catt(C2P)	S.Legg(T)	V.Tuigamala(T)
T.Stimpson(2C2P)			
Gloucester	(0)35	Bristol	(6)13
PSaint-Andre(2T)	Windo(T)	Corkery(T)	Burke(C2P)
Fidler(T)	Mapletoft(3C3P)		
Richmond	(19)32	London Irish	(9)12
Vander(2T)	Wright(2T)	Woods(4P)	
S.Quinnell(T)	Davies(2CP)		
Northampton	(11)23	Harlequins	(10)26
Dawson(TC)	Phillips(T)	O'Leary(T)	Carling(T)
Tatupu(T)	Townsend(2P)	Lacroix(2C4P)	
AUGUST 24			
Sale	(7)10	Saracens	(6)19
Erskine(T)	Howarth(CD)	Diprose(T)	Lynagh(C4P)

O Michael Horak
(Kit Available for Sponsorship)

N Waisale Serevi
(Rowena Garden Centre)

M Will Greenwood
(Prima Solutions Ltd)

L Stuart Potter
(Casils)

K Craig Joiner
(Pro Mill)

J Joel Stransky
(C J Upton & Sons)

I Austin Healey
(Nexpress)

A Graham Rowntree
(Advance Tapes)

B Richard Cockerill
(Zero One One Six)

C Darren Garforth
(Rog & Sue ABC For England)

D Martin Johnson (Capt.)
(HSBC James Capel)

E Matt Poole
(G & B Office Supplies)

F Martin Corry
(Kit Available for Sponsorship)

G Eric Miller
(Wilkinson Insurance)

H Neil Back
(Blue Martin)

Leicester



REPLACEMENTS
 P. Leon Lloyd
 Q. Jim Overend
 R. Jamie Hamilton
 S. Derek Jelley
 T. Dorian West
 U. John Wells

15 Chris Catling

14 Raphael Saint-Andre

13 Terry Fanolua

12 Richard Tombs

11 Phillipe Saint-Andre

10 Mark Mapletoft

9 Scott Benton

1 Tony Windo

2 Phil Greening

3 Andy Deacon

4 Rob Fidler

5 Mark Cornwell

6 Pete Glanville (Capt.)

8 Simon Devereux


7 Nathan Carter

Gloucester



REPLACEMENTS
 16. Audley Lumsden
 17. Craig Emmerson
 18. Laurie Beck
 19. Trevor Woodman
 20. Neil McCarthy
 21. Ed Pearce

Referee:
Ed Morrison (Bristol)
Touch Judges:
Gary Welsh (Leics)
& Bob Jenkins (London)

 denotes international

TODAY'S MATCH SPONSOR



TODAY'S MATCHBALL SPONSOR

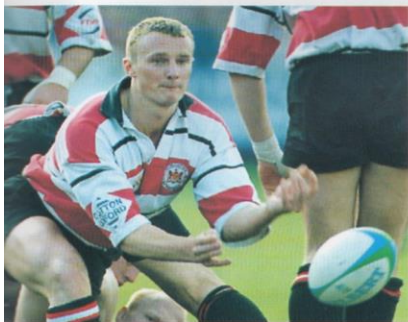


At Welford Road today... Gloucester R.F.C.



ALL CHANGE AT KINGSHOLM

So much has changed about rugby union in such a short space of time. Not so long ago it was Gloucester who were always renowned as having a formidable pack of forwards and nothing much else. When Leicester had a star studded back division including the likes of Hare, Dodge, Woodward, Underwood, Cusworth and Evans there were some rare old battles with the Cherry & Whites. Now it is Leicester who are looked upon as having all the forward power, whilst Gloucester in the last couple of seasons have entertained all comers with a brand of back play the like of which has rarely been seen at Kingsholm.



Just when you think that this is all you can take, Gloucester go and announce a liaison with Arrows formula one boss Tom Walkinshaw, and no sooner is this announcement made public announced than the chequebook has been pressed into service. Low and behold France's captain since 1994, and their most capped wing Philippe Saint-Andre, has been lured away after a long association from Montferrand. And it doesn't stop there, Philippe's younger brother Raphael follows, as does Western Samoan international centre Terry Fanolua as well as Wallaby centre Richard Tombs. Tombs played in the Tri-Nations tourna-

ment last season and toured Britain with the Australians last winter.

Last season was a turning point for the Gloucester side, ever presents in division one but with a best finish of 2nd in 1989 and 1990, and no better than 7th in the last four campaigns. Richard Hill joined the club from rivals Bath and immediately shrouded himself in controversy by fielding a virtual second string in the opening game of the season at the Stoop saying that he wished to concentrate on matches that he believed Gloucester had a chance of winning. The idea had the air of one of Baldrick's plans from Blackadder and spectacularly back fired as Harlequins rattled up a mammoth 75 points. The Cherry & Whites really got off on the wrong foot and ended up losing their opening five games. The doom-mongers prophesied on certain relegation, however, Richard Hill and his men turned it around, won their next seven league games and improved their try scoring productivity from 3 in the first half a dozen games to 15 in the next six.

If last week was anything to go by Gloucester eclipsed near rivals Bristol 35-13 at Kingsholm, and sit at the top of the table for the first time since 1990. They will be a force to be reckoned with, maybe not for the title but certainly an outside bet for Europe.

Gloucester RFC

Founded: 1873
Address: Kingsholm, Kingsholm Road, Gloucester, GL1 3AX
Capacity: 10,500 (Seated 1,250)
Owner: Tom Walkinshaw (Arrows F1 owner)
Coach: Richard Hill
Capt: Peter Glanville
Last Season: 7th
Honours: Cup Winners (3) - 1972,78,82.

No of International Players: 46
Total No of individual caps: 267
First capped player: Frank Stout, England v Wales at Newport, 9 Jan 1897
Most capped player (29): Tom Voyce (England 27, Great Britain 2) (1920-26)
Most tries in tests: 9 in 8 tests by Arthur Hudson (1906-10)
Most points in tests: 27 in 8 tests by Arthur Hudson (1906-10)

Comings & Goings

IN - Philippe and Raphael Saint-Andre (Montferrand), Richard Tombs (NSW), Terry Fanolua (Western Samoa/Auckland), Ian Sanders, Neil McCarthy (Bath), Andrew Gibbs (New Zealand), Nick Osman (Newbury)
OUT - John Hawker, Don Caskie, Neil Matthews (Cheltenham), Charlie Mulraine (Moseley), Eral Anderson (Stourbridge)

FORM GUIDE - Gloucester's last ten League results

Date	Ven	Opponents	Result	Scorers
4 Mar	H	Northampton	Won 19-6	S.Benton(T) M.Mapletoft(C4P)
9 Mar	A	Wasps	Lost 10-36	C.Catling(T) M.Mapletoft(CP)
5 Apr	H	Saracens	Won 9-6	M.Mapletoft(2DP)
8 Apr	H	Leicester	Won 32-30	P.Greening(T) A.Lumsden(T) M.Mapletoft(2C6P)
12 Apr	A	Sale	Lost 12-52	M.Mapletoft(TC) A.Lumsden(T)
19 Apr	H	Harlequins	Lost 11-27	S.Benton(T) M.Mapletoft(2P)
26 Apr	H	Bristol	Drew 20-20	M.Lloyd(T) N.Carter(T) M.Mapletoft(2C2P)
30 Apr	A	Bath	Lost 21-71	A.Saverimutto(T) M.Mapletoft(T2P) A.Deacon(T)
3 May	A	Northampton	Won 27-25	A.Lumsden(T) C.Catling(T) M.Mapletoft(C5P)
23 Aug	H	Bristol	Won 35-13	P.Saint-Andre(2T) T.Windo(T) R.Fidler(T) M.Mapletoft(3C3P)

G L O U C E S T E R



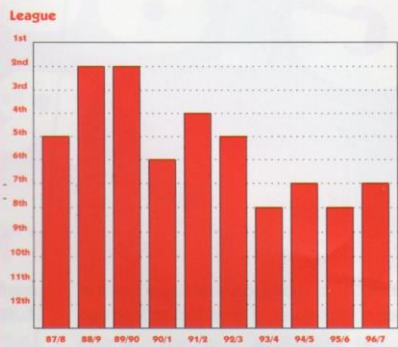
PHIL GREENING

Full name: Philip Bradley Thomas Greening
Born: 3 October 1975 in Gloucester
Position: Hooker
Physique: 5ft 11in, 17st 0lb.

Honours: 3 England caps, 3 England 'A' caps
 Dynamic, aggressive hooker who made his international debut as a 76th minute replacement for Mark Regan

against Italy at Twickenham last November and started the first test on tour against Argentina in May before being concussed and being replaced by Leicester's own Richard Cockerill for his own first cap. Captained England Schools and Colts and earned England A selection during his first season of senior rugby in 1995/96. Educated at Kingsholm Junior, Chosen Hill and Gloucester College, Phil originally played centre for the junior sides at Spartans (a top Gloucester club team) before switching to hooker.

GLOUCESTER'S TEN YEAR RECORD



GLOUCESTER SQUAD

Player	Pos	Birthdate	Height	Weight	Caps	Apps	Tries	Pts
Laurie Beck	SH	2 Jan 71	5' 10	13st 5	-	-	-	-
Scott Benton	SH	8 Sep 74	5' 11	13st 2	-	-	-	-
Warwick Bullock	P	9 Feb 70	5' 11	17st 0	-	-	-	-
Chris Cotling	FB	17 Jun 76	6' 1	14st 0	-	-	-	-
Mark Cornwell	L	22 Feb 73	6' 7	17st 0	-	-	-	-
Andy Deacon	P	31 Jul 65	6' 2	17st 0	-	-	-	-
Simon Devereux	B/L	20 Oct 68	6' 3	16st 10	-	-	-	-
Craig Emmerson	C	14 Apr 71	5' 11	13st 0	-	-	-	-
Terry Fanolua	UB	3 Jul 74	6' 0	14st 8	WS	-	-	-
Rob Fidler	L	21 Sep 74	6' 5	16st 8	-	1	1	5
Chris Fortey	H	25 Aug 75	6' 0	16st 7	-	-	-	-
Andrew Gibbs	L/FL	25 Aug 73	6' 6	19st 0	-	-	-	-
Pete Glanville	FL	10 Jun 71	6' 3	16st 2	-	-	-	-
Phil Greening	H	3 Oct 75	5' 11	17st 0	EN(3)	1	-	-
Martyn Kimber	FH	20 Sep 68	6' 0	13st 10	-	-	-	-
Mike Lloyd	W	21 Jul 70	6' 2	15st 0	-	-	-	-
Audley Lumden	W/FB	6 Jun 67	6' 0	13st 7	-	0+1	-	-
Neil McCarthy	H	29 Nov 73	5' 9	14st 6	-	0+1	-	-
Mark Mapletoft	FH	25 Dec 71	5' 7	13st 8	EN(1)	1	-	15
Ed Pearce	FL	2 Sep 75	6' 6	17st 0	-	-	-	-
Martin Roberts	C	26 Jan 68	6' 3	15st 2	-	-	-	-
Philippe Saint-Andre	W	19 Apr 67	5' 11	13st 8	FR(64)	1	2	10
Raphael Saint-Andre	W/C	11 May 71	5' 8	12st 0	-	-	-	-
Ian Sanders	SH	22 Jan 71	5' 9	12st 0	-	-	-	-
Dave Sims	L	22 Nov 69	6' 7	17st 10	-	-	-	-
Andy Stanley	FL	15 Sep 65	6' 0	14st 7	-	-	-	-
Richard Tombs	C	4 Jan 68	5' 11	14st 2	AU(5)	1	-	-
Phil Vickery	P	14 Mar 76	6' 3	19st 6	-	-	-	-
Tony Windo	P	30 Apr 69	6' 0	16st 0	-	1	1	5

Appearances and scoring pertain to this season's Allied Dunbar Premiership only.

PICTURES:
ALLSPORT

Thanks to the
1997/98 Playfair
Rugby Union Annual
for the biographical
details.

G L O U C E S T E R

PHILIPPE SAINT-ANDRE

Born: 19 April 1967 in Romans-sur-Isere, France

Position: wing

Physique: 5ft 11in, 13st 8lb.

Honours: 64 France caps (1990-97) 30 tries 142 pts.

Caused a sensation in April when he left Montferrand and became Gloucester's first major overseas signing, having inspired a flurry of speculation the previous week when he visited Kingsholm and watched Gloucester's astonishing win over Leicester. Philippe has been one of the world's great try scoring wings and also captained France for 29 successive games between 1994-96. He hardly played last year following surgery on a groin injury, although did return in time to appear in their unexpected defeat against Italy in Grenoble in March for his 64th cap. Originally joined Montferrand from his home club Romans in 1988, and was soon capped at B level before making a full debut against Romania in Auch in May 1990 - an inauspicious day as France slipped to a 6-12 defeat. Scored THAT sensational try at Twickenham in 1991 when France counter-attacked from behind their own line. In 1994 he became the first wing since Christian Darrow (1967) to captain France and went on to become France's most successful captain in history as well as their most capped wing. Philippe also owns an Irish pub in Montferrand. Scored two tries on his Gloucester league debut last week.



Philippe Saint-Andre at his pub in Clermont Ferrand

Richard John Hill

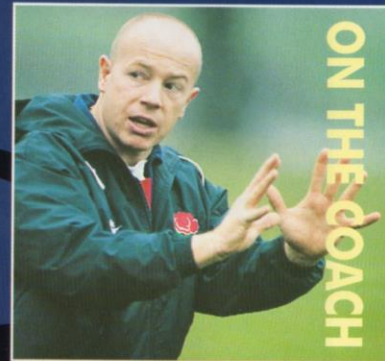
Born: 4 May 1961 in Birmingham.

Educated: Bishop Wordsworth

Grammar School, Salisbury and Exeter University.

Playing honours:

29 England caps (1984-91), 2 tries, 8 pts. 8 Cup winners medals and 5 League championships with Bath.



36 year old Richard Hill, former Bath and England scrum-half, became Director of Rugby at Gloucester in September 1995. Much criticised at the start of last season for putting out what was considered a 'second team' for the first league encounter away to Quins at the Stoop. He admitted his mistake, rectified it, and since that unfortunate start led Gloucester to 7th place in the Courage League, and to the semi-final of the Pilkington Cup. Not bad for a man who many in 'The Shed' regarded as the worst type of outsider, a Bath man!

A member of England's 1991 Grand slam side and former national captain, Hill was also in charge of England A last year, and again had an impressive season. They were the team whom many considered had played the expansive innovative rugby, not the England senior side, and Hill was the man credited with that success. His name has been put forward as a favourite for the senior England coach, he has charisma and pedigree to hold down such a high profile position, but since the involvement of motor racing's Tom Walkinshaw at Gloucester he has now signed a six year contract.

In an interview in the February edition of Rugby News, talking about the struggle Gloucester were facing to survive in the First Division without a big money backer, Hill said "I think that for once, Gloucester are extremely popular around the country with the press and the rest of the clubs.

"They all say they admire what we are doing. They wish they had gone down the same route. But not many clubs have risked what we are doing. They have gone for the superstars, but we are respected for not doing that. In any case, with my England A coaching hat on, I believe it is to the detriment of the game in this country to have the Courage League filled with overseas players. The clubs should be offering the chance for young English players to develop."

Either the influx of money, the influence of Walkinshaw, or the realisation that you have to compete on an equal footing, something has prompted Hill to recruit some of the best foreign talent around in what is now an impressive back line. Richard Hill has overcome the barriers of the 'Glawster' faithful to become one of their favourite sons, and by all reports his new imported players have had the same effect in their first game last week. All that remains now is to see how long it takes Philippe Saint-Andre to learn to speak English with a West Country drawl!