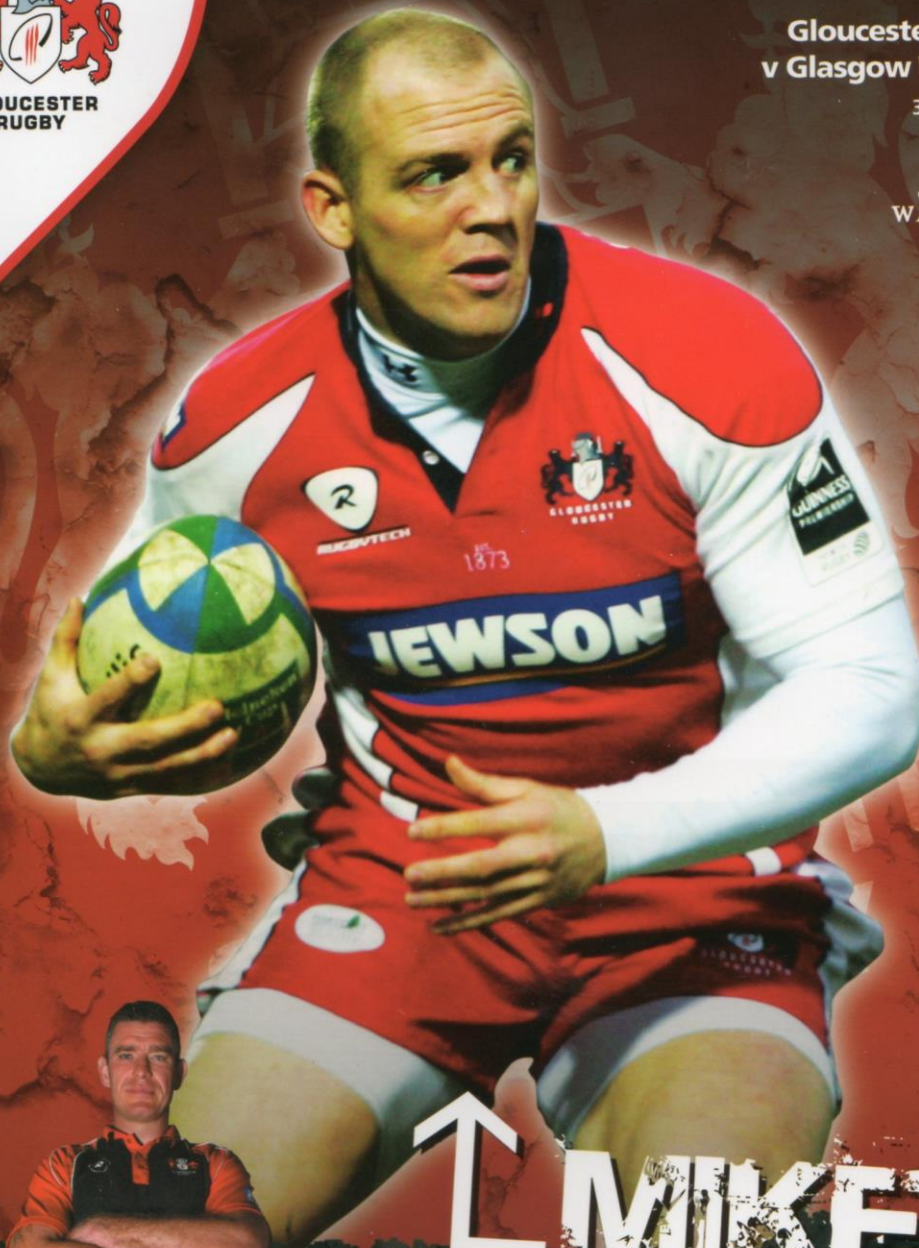




OFFICIAL PRE-SEASON MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF GLOUCESTER RUGBY 2008/2009 • £2.50

Gloucester Rugby v Glasgow Warriors

30.08.08 14.00



↑ MIKE TINDALL

RYAN'S REVIEW

The Gloucester coach on all the pre-season action

COMING FORCE

Luke Narryway on England and Gloucester

ELV'S

The new laws explained

Mike Tindall being back at Kingsholm for the first game of the 2008-9 season is a great feeling





CAPTAIN'S CORNER



FOR everyone connected with Gloucester Rugby, it will be a special day this afternoon.

We are back at Kingsholm for the first time ahead of the start of the Guinness Premiership next Sunday and that means an awful lot to us as players and coaches.

Personally, today's game takes on even greater significance for me. It will be the first time I will have skippered



I am sure we will have to deal with the expectation of challenging at the top of the table this season and we will have to manage that but I have no doubts this is one of the most talented groups of players I have worked with and we are all desperate to create a legacy at this club.



Gloucester at Kingsholm and to have the opportunity to lead the players out here is a tremendous honour and I hope you all get right behind the boys today – and in the weeks to come – as we launch another challenge in the Premiership and Heineken Cup.

That challenge starts today. Apart from a couple of notable and high-quality additions to the squad, we have a settled and very motivated group of players who are a year older and wiser and ready for the season ahead.

I am sure we will have to deal with the expectation of challenging at the top of the table this season and we will have to manage that but I have no doubts this is one of the most talented groups of players I have worked with and we are all desperate to create a legacy at this club.

Today, we continue our build up to the new season with the visit of Glasgow. The rugby so far in pre-season has been a little bit messy and a little bit congested due to the introduction of the new ELV's and as a squad we have worked hard on the variations during our training camp in Canada and in the two games we have had so far.

That development will continue this afternoon against a good, competitive side who narrowly lost out to Bristol last weekend. But it is up to us to set the tempo, dictate where we want to play the game and get into a rhythm for Leicester come to town next Saturday.

Being back at Kingsholm for the first game of the 2008-9 season is a great feeling so please get behind us this afternoon and show us what we have been missing.





RYAN'S REVIEW

It's our first game of the new season at Kingsholm today, what have you learnt from the other pre-season games so far?

DR: IT'S been important that we have looked at and evaluated plenty of options during the week we spent in Canada and against Bayonne last Tuesday. For me, that is what pre-season is for - it is about developing and looking at combinations and partnerships ahead of the Guinness Premiership and the last two or three weeks have told us a fair bit about where we are and what we need to improve on.

We went to Canada for a number of reasons. For the last couple of years we have used a training camp in Portugal but felt the time was right to try something new and that was particularly important with the new ELV's - we wanted to be out of the way and get some good work done and we did that. The game against Canada was messy and disjointed - pretty much as we expected to be - and I am sure that is what we will see when the Premiership starts.

The game against Bayonne confirmed they were ahead of us in terms of their match preparation because their league starts before ours. For 50 minutes in that game we played within the frame-work and structure we wanted to execute but we paid the price for some mistakes and it doesn't matter if you are 19 or a senior international, you get punished for mistakes at that level. This is our last game before we play Leicester next weekend so we need to show improvements in certain areas and build some confidence.

This season, the new ELV's are going to have a dramatic affect on playing styles and refereeing interpretation, what do you make of them?

DR: THERE is obviously going to be a dramatic change in mentality and understanding as these rules are introduced and obviously we have done everything possible to aid the squad in their understanding of them.

I think there will be a lot of sceptical people out there for a while as the whole

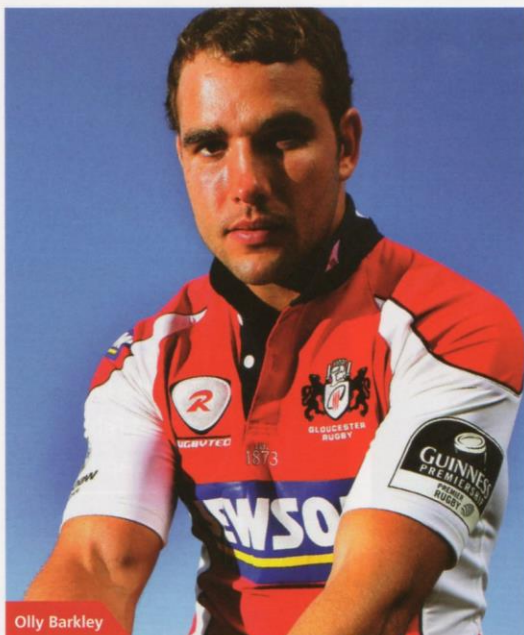
thing settles down. I think the ELVs are going to change parts of the game but given the scaremongering and all the political shenanigans over the summer it's not as bad as it could be. I don't think we had much wrong with where we were at the end of last year and it will also be interesting to see some of those things that looked great in the southern hemisphere but when it's chucking down with rain in November are a slightly different challenge.

The pass back into the 22 is going to change kicking dramatically but it will change what happens off the back of that too - that's the interesting one. It doesn't necessarily mean it's positive because we've seen an awful lot of poor kicking in the southern hemisphere but if people get smart enough we might see some different things.

Personally, the one disappointment is the line-out ELV. I'm not sure where it's aiming to take the game. I thought we had a pretty vibrant contest in the line-out anyway. But it will be up to the clubs, coaches and players to adapt and that is



The new rules - good, bad?



Olly Barkley



Greg Somerville

what we have been trying to do. Some people will see it in action for the first time today and I am sure they will have their own thoughts on it.

DR: *There have obviously been some new faces around the club this summer, are you happy with the development of the squad?*

DR: WE have recruited shrewdly. I have said it before that the clubs who are regularly successful try and make the fewest changes. What we have done is enhance our squad with a couple of really senior international players in key areas and supplement that with a couple of young and talented players we feel have a future. To have signed players of the calibre of Olly Barkley and Greg Somerville is fantastic for us. Olly showed consistently last season just what an intelligent ball player and

DR: *To have signed players of the calibre of Olly Barkley and Greg Somerville is fantastic for us. Olly showed consistently last season just what an intelligent ball player and game-manager he is in a couple of positions and Somerville is a world class prop. It is great they want to join us.*

game-manager he is in a couple of positions and Somerville is a world class prop. It is great they want to join us.

Alongside that we have signed players like Matthew Watkins and Adam Eustace,

guys with considerable international and Heineken Cup experience. We already have an outstanding group of players and it was just a case of adding in the limited areas we needed experience.


DR: *You will start the season with a couple of injuries, how is the squad looking?*

DR: OBVIOUSLY Gareth Delve and Q are long-term injuries for us and we are managing their rehab at the moment. Barkley is also injured at the moment but is making good progress from his wrist injury and will hopefully be in contention soon. But at the same time, we are able to welcome back James Forrester and that in itself is like a new signing because of the length of time he has been out of action. Other than that we are in pretty good shape and hopefully we will get into the Premiership with pretty much a full strength squad to choose from.

GLOUCESTER RUGBY SQUAD




JACK ADAMS CENTRE




Height: 6'1"
Weight: 15st
DOB: 17.09.86

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ANTHONY ALLEN CENTRE





ENGLAND 

Height: 5'11"
Weight: 14st 7lb
DOB: 01.09.86

DEAN CLOSE SCHOOL

OLIVIER AZAM HOOKER





FRANCE 

Height: 6'1"
Weight: 19st
DOB: 21.10.74

Star
The Business ISP

IAIN BALSHAW WING/
FULL-BACK



ENGLAND 

Height: 6'1"
Weight: 14st 2lb
DOB: 14.04.79

butler
silcock

OLLY BARKLEY CENTRE/
STAND-OFF




ENGLAND 

Height: 5'10"
Weight: 14st 6lb
DOB: 28.11.81

Global Air Conditioning

MARCO BORTOLAMI LOCK




ITALY 

Height: 6'5"
Weight: 17st 5lb
DOB: 12.06.80

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ALEX BROWN LOCK

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'7"
Weight: 18st 1lb
DOB: 17.05.79

 JAGUAR

PETER BUXTON BACK ROW

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'4"
Weight: 18st 1lb
DOB: 21.08.78

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GARETH COOPER SCRUM-HALF

WALES 

Height: 5'7"
Weight: 13st
DOB: 07.05.79

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GARETH DELVE BACK ROW

WALES 

Height: 6' 3"
Weight: 18st 1lb
DOB: 30.12.82

**Terry, Ann &
Debbie Short**

ALASDAIR DICKINSON PROP

SCOTLAND 

Height: 6"
Weight: 17st 5lb
DOB: 11.09.83

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ADAM EUSTACE LOCK

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'5"
Weight: 16st 12lb
DOB: 09.01.79

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
JAMES FORRESTER BACK ROW

ENGLAND 


Height: 6'5"
Weight: 17st 4lb
DOB: 09.02.81

 Roberts Limbrick
ARCHITECTS


JACK FORSTER PROP

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'1"
Weight: 18st 11lb
DOB: 19.03.87

 mb
MIKE BURTON

MARK FOSTER WING

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'0"
Weight: 15st
DOB: 02.09.83

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ANDREW HAZELL BACK-ROW

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'0"
Weight: 14st 13lb
DOB: 25.04.78

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WALES 

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Weight: 18st 11lb
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RYAN LAMB STAND-OFF

ENGLAND 

Height: 5'9"
Weight: 13st 5lb
DOB: 18.05.86

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GLOUCESTER RUGBY SQUAD

RORY LAWSON → SCUM-HALF

SCOTLAND 

Height: 5'8"
Weight: 13st 5lb
DOB: 12.03.81


CAMION

DAVE LEWIS → SCUM-HALF

ENGLAND 

Height: 5'7"
Weight: 12st 8lb
DOB: 29.04.89

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RUSS MCMILLAN → HOOKER

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'1"
Weight: 16st 7lb
DOB: 02.06.87

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OLLY MORGAN → FULL-BACK

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'2"
Weight: 14st 2lb
DOB: 03.11.85

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LUKE NARRAWAY → BACK ROW

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'3"
Weight: 15st 13lb
DOB: 07.08.83




CARLOS NIETO → PROP

ITALY 


Height: 6'1"
Weight: 17st 4lb
DOB: 28.04.76


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DAN NORTON → WING

ENGLAND 


Height: 5'10"
Weight: 12st 8lb
DOB: 22.03.88


MIKE BURTON

CHARLIE SHARPLES → WING

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'0"
Weight: 14st 6lb
DOB: 30.05.82


MIKE BURTON

AKAPUSI QERA → BACK ROW

FIJI 


Height: 6'4"
Weight: 16st
DOB: 24.04.84


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HOSPITALITY
MANAGEMENT

JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL → WING

ENGLAND 

Height: 6"
Weight: 14st 6lb
DOB: 30.05.82



GREG SOMERVILLE → PROP

NEW ZEALAND 

Height: 6'1"
Weight: 18st 2lb
DOB: 30.05.82


MONTPELLIER
CHELTENHAM
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ALSADAIR STROKOSCH → BACK ROW

SCOTLAND 

Height: 6'3"
Weight: 15st 5lb
DOB: 21.02.83

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ANDY TITTERELL **HOOKER**

ENGLAND 


Height: 5'10"
Weight: 14st 2lb
DOB: 10.01.81

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MIKE TINDALL **CENTRE**

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'2"
Weight: 15st 12lb
DOB: 18.10.78


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HENRY TRINDER **CENTRE**

ENGLAND 


Height: 6'0"
Weight: 13st 12lb
DOB: 14.04.89

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LESLEY VAINIKOLO **WING**

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'2"
Weight: 17st 8lb
DOB: 04.05.79




WILLIE WALKER **STAND-OFF
/FULL-BACK**

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'0"
Weight: 13st 12lb
DOB: 19.05.78

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MATTHEW WATKINS **CENTRE**

WALES 

Height: 6'0"
Weight: 14st 7lb
DOB: 02.09.78

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DAN WILLIAMS **NUMBER 8**

ENGLAND 


Height: 6'5"
Weight: 16st 7lb
DOB: 01.02.89

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
NICK WOOD **PROP**

ENGLAND 


Height: 6'1"
Weight: 17st 5lb
DOB: 09.01.83

 **Star**
The Business ISP

DAVE YOUNG **PROP**

ENGLAND 

Height: 6'0"
Weight: 18st 6lb
DOB: 18.12.85


MIKE BURTON

DEAN RYAN **HEAD COACH**



BRYAN REDPATH **ASSISTANT
COACH**

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TODAY'S TEAMS

Saturday 30th August 2.00pm
Gloucester Rugby v Glasgow Warriors

REPLACEMENTS	
16 AZAM	FR
17 YOUNG	GB
18 BORTOLAMI	IT
19 STROKOSCH	CZE
20 LAWSON	SCO
21 WALKER	GB
22 WATKINS	GB
23 SIMPSON-DANIEL	GB
24 TIC	GB
25 TIC	GB

REPLACEMENTS	
16 MILLIGAN	GB
17 SIKI	GB
18 WELSH	GB
19 GRAY	GB
20 PALEPOK	GB
21 FORRESTER	GB
22 EDDIE	GB
23 VERNON	GB
24 PRIDEI	GB
25 GREGOR	GB



Today's Officials

- Referee:** Tim Hayes
- Touch Judges:** Luke Pearce & Rhys Davies
- 4th:** Mark Tovey
- Replacement Ref:** TBC





PETER ARNOLD

SEASON PREVIEW

After a summer away, Peter Arnold is back for his first installment of the new season today and looks at the challenges ahead of Gloucester's new-look squad.

CHANGING GEAR

I ALWAYS find it a bit difficult to get my rugby head screwed on again at this time of year. This time round it has been made easier by the weather, which has been more like autumn international conditions than deckchair and ice cream ones. However, this has been more than offset by the stirring events in Beijing, and I'm still having trouble getting out of Olympic mode.

Don't know about you, but I find that one of the great interests of the Games is the opportunity to watch sports which wouldn't have entered my mind at any other time. To the uninitiated, for example, watching sailing is akin to a paint drying festival, but when experts on the subject explain things to you, interest does stir. On the other hand, BMX bike racing seems to me about the best way to earn a season ticket to the A & E department as I've come across.

Now, however, we're back to the important stuff. I'm perfectly aware that this is only a warm-up game, and that one can't read too much into the outcome, but nevertheless, it is Gloucester at Kingsholm, and when you've said that you've said it all really.

What's going to happen hereabouts over the next eight months? Blowed if I know. There are too many variables to make a considered judgement, what with new players, experimental laws and all.

One thing's for sure. We're not going to get bored. Screwed, now and then perhaps, but not bored.

WHAT NOW?

I SUPPOSE the first thing I should do is to say 'hail and farewell' to the newcomers to the squad, and the dear departed who won't be gracing us with their talents this time round.

Our influx of new players seems to me to be particularly intriguing this season. How, for example, is Olly Barkley going to fit into the Kingsholm ethos? He is an undoubted talent, as he has proved for both Bath and England, but is very much his own man and a strong personality in his own right. He certainly has no divine right to a place in the starting line-up, bearing in mind the wealth of talent we can call on in midfield this season, but he'll take a bit of keeping out.

It's a pity that his injured wrist looks like keeping him out of our first meeting with his old club in a couple of week's time. I don't suppose that there would have been

much love lost on either side that day.

The other fellow who intrigues me is Greg Somerville. There's no doubting his pedigree: he is rated as one of the very best props in the world with ample justification.

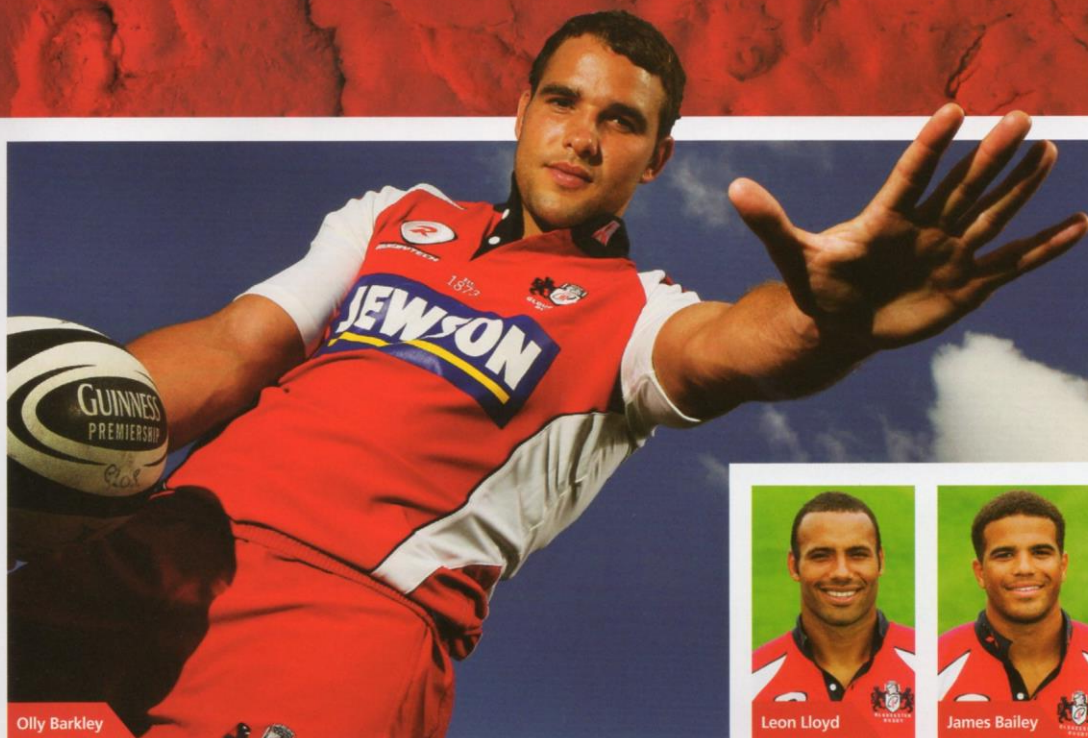
However, Kingsholm has never been impressed by sheer reputation. Remembering the props who have left us since last season, the Kiwi has a very hard act to follow, and quite apart from that, we have a couple of young front-rowers who will be pushing him, and anyone else who pokes their nose in, very hard for places.

It also occurs to me that, mentioning no names (but they both begin with 'P'), we have had a couple of internationally renowned players who came here as world-class performers and simply couldn't cut it at Kingsholm. I don't anticipate that Greg is going to be one of those, but we shan't really know until hostilities are joined in earnest.

Then, of course, we have one warrior who has been away so long that he



James Forrester back in the fold



almost seems like a new boy. I refer, of course, to the inestimable James Forrester, one of a kind if ever there was one, and a player who confounds most people's idea of a number 8, simply because he does things which no other player can even imagine.

To have lost him for a full season through injury was a sad blow, not just because of his outrageous talent, but because he is such sheer value for money to watch from the sidelines. Quite unmistakable when he darts into his stride, the entertainment he offers is worth the entrance money on its own.

However, one must fear for him a little bit. His injury was a bad one, and we won't really know if there are any long term effects until his physique is put to the test. Will he be the same man again? Early indications are encouraging, and it will be good, not just for Gloucester, but for the game in general if he can eat up the turf the way he used to.

Then, of course, we have one warrior who has been away so long that he almost seems like a new boy. I refer, of course, to the inestimable James Forrester, one of a kind if ever there was one, and a player who confounds most people's idea of a number 8, simply because he does things which no other player can even imagine.

Not that he has any divine right to be in the squad at all. Two blokes called Narraway and Delve might have a thing or two to say about that.

THANKS FOR EVERYTHING
FINALLY, we must give a respectful nod

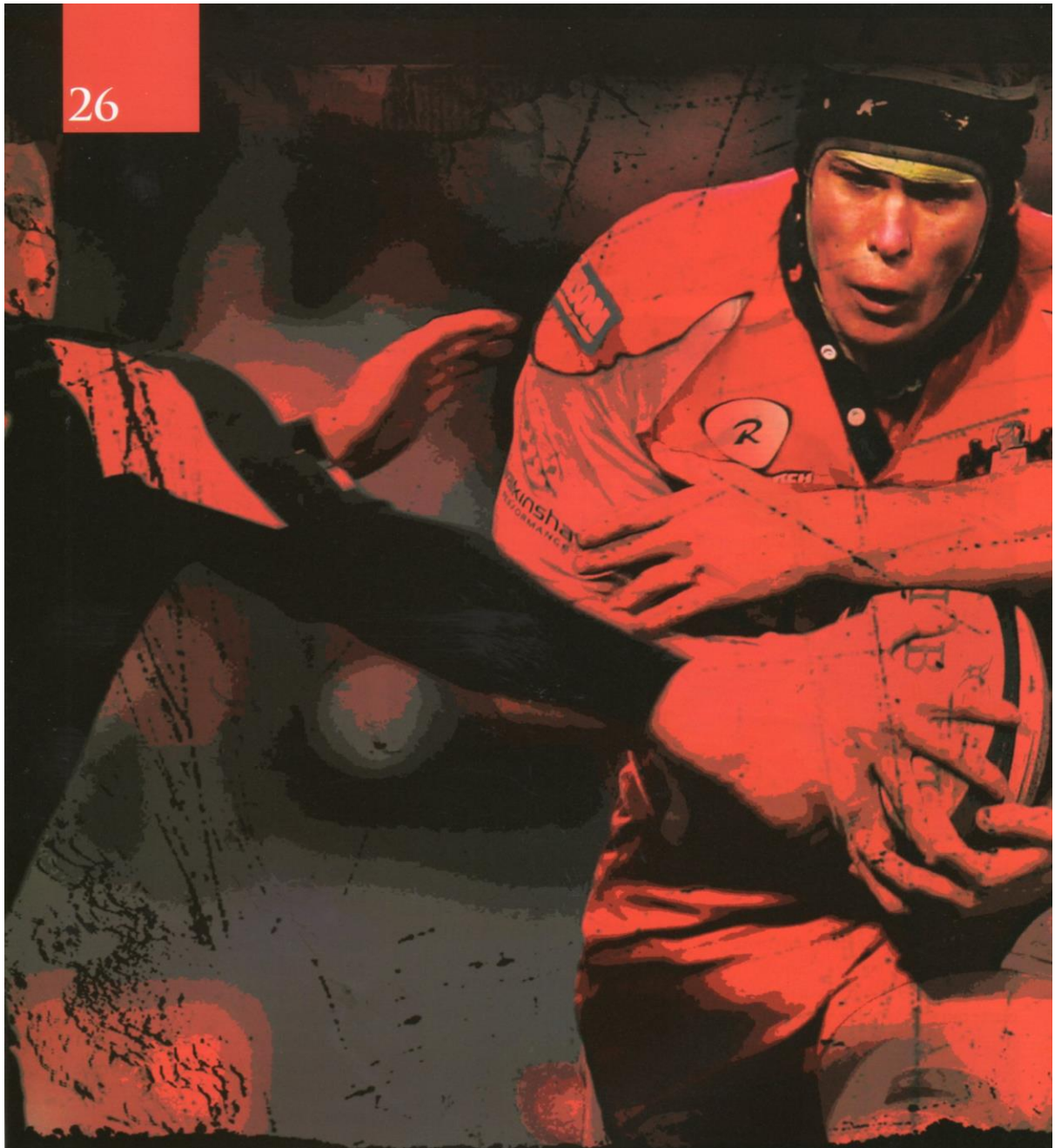
in the direction of a couple of players we won't be seeing this season.

Leon Lloyd's enforced retirement is a great pity, from his and the club's point of view. An out-and-out professional he was a decided asset to the squad and we were lucky to have him for the relatively short time that we did. He could well have had several more seasons in the top flight, and perhaps should have won more England Caps than he did. We wish him well for the future, and hope he can find for himself a niche in rugby away from the playing area. His experience would surely be an asset.

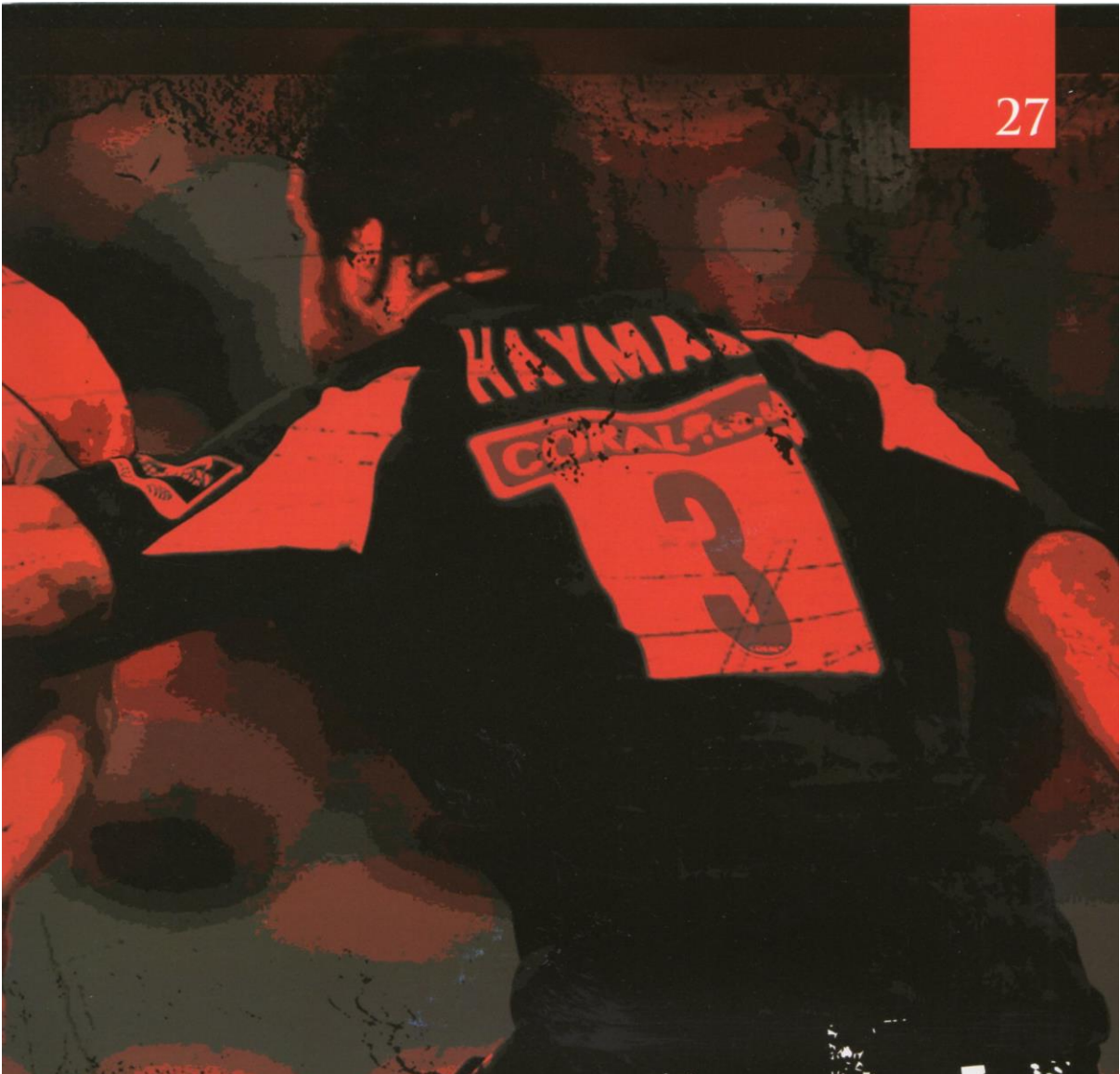
I'm also very sorry to note that James Bailey has decided to pursue his career elsewhere. He was always a slippery customer on the wing, and something of a revelation when he turned out at full-back last season.

I'm sure he won't have difficulty in finding a new berth, and, again, we wish him well.

Meanwhile, let's get on with it....



He was one of the few successes on England's summer tour to New Zealand and now Luke Narryway wants more – this time with Gloucester.



NARRAWAY'S MISSION

NARRAWAY'S MISSION



THE CHILL-OUT time and back packing around Australia will be consigned to the memory banks.

Luke Narryway will be back among the shafts – if not today then at some stage soon – as one of the new emerging men on the English rugby scene.

Considering this time last season he was not even sure of regular club rugby at Gloucester, then his transformation into an England number eight schooled in the rigours and firmament of a tour to New Zealand is something to behold.

As part of a dynamic and powerful back trio alongside Wasps duo Tom Rees and James Haskell, Narryway was one of the very few successes on England's summer tour – a tour that was contained two thumping Test match defeats and off-field allegations and controversy.

But Gloucester and the Guinness Premiership are now closest to his thoughts as Dean Ryan's side go all out for the title.

"Despite the defeats in the summer I came away pleased with my contribution and my confidence was boosted because I had tested myself against some of the world's best," Narryway said.

"If anything happened, I would like to think we gained their respect. There was no lack of effort, energy or commitment and although I haven't been in the England squad for too long, I want to stay there.

"But my immediate priority is with Gloucester and starting the season in much the same way as I ended the last one. I feel I improved last season and was able to contribute in a positive way and that is what I need to do again."

Narryway will start the campaign as a central element in Gloucester's back row and with long-term injuries to both Gareth

Delve and Akapusi Qera, his importance should only increase.

His athletic performance levels, his footballing qualities and intelligent running were soon blasting Gloucester to



We appreciated there were deficiencies when we lost in the final the year before and we had gone a long way to progressing from that – we now have to start that process again in some ways...

But I have no question we can bounce back and be a better side for the experience – we have no choice – we have to move on quickly and hit the ground running this season.



the top of the Guinness Premiership last season and to the knockout stages of the Heineken Cup.

And despite season-turning victories away to Wasps and at home to Bath, Gloucester's campaign ran aground in the semi-final against Leicester – and it left a gaping hole in a season that should have ended in a final appearance at Twickenham.

"I don't think anyone needs to be told how devastated we all felt after the Leicester game," Narryway said. "I have been in some pretty down dressing rooms but that was awful.

"I think we all appreciated we had blown a great chance to at least contest another final. Whether we would have been good enough to win, we don't

know but not to have got there was a massive disappointment.

"We appreciated there were deficiencies when we lost in the final the year before and we had gone a long way to progressing from that – we now have to start that process again in some ways.

"But I have no question we can bounce back and be a better side for the experience – we have no choice – we have to move on quickly and hit the ground running this season."

Gloucester's squad will largely be identical to the one that ended last season. Head coach Dean Ryan has made only minor adjustments but has recruited wisely in key areas.

Greg Somerville is a no-nonsense All Black prop over very recent vintage who will add experience and a hard edge, while Olly Barkley has arrived from Bath, via the same England tour as Narryway,

It is expected Gloucester will once again challenge again this season, alongside Wasps, a new-look Leicester set-up and Bath and Narryway added: "We have one of the toughest starts possible, there is no question in that because both Leicester and Bath have been at the forefront of the Premiership over the last couple of seasons.

"But it is up to us to get our game right and with the new law variations I am sure it may take a bit of time. However, we have an outstanding squad with some fantastic new players and I think we be confident of challenging again this season on more than one level.

"Personally, I just want to keep developing and progressing my game like I have in the last 12 months and if I can do that, help the team do well, then anything off the back of that personally would be a bonus."

