

# Gloucester Rugby

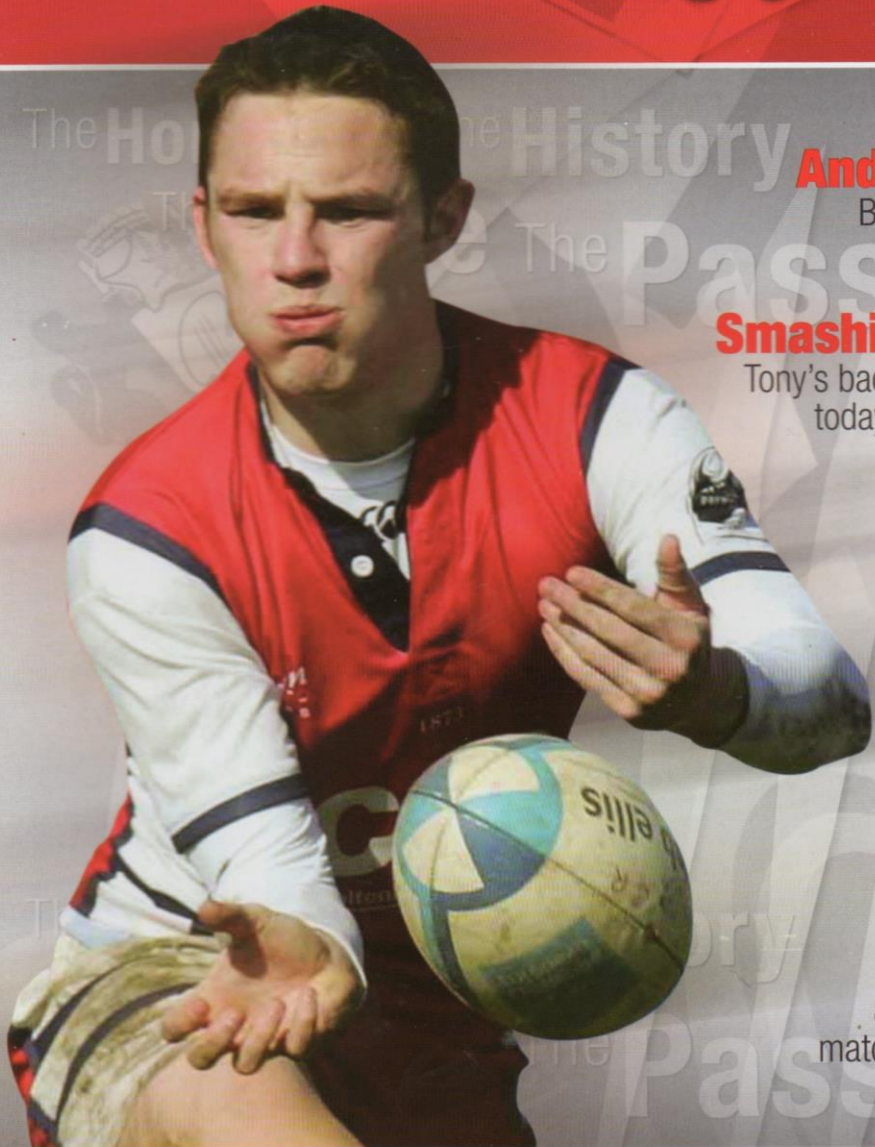
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GLoucester  
RUGBY

The Home of the History

The Passion



## Andy Deacon

Building a career  
outside rugby

## Smashing Windo

Tony's back at Kingsholm  
today in Worcester's  
front row

## Ryan's Review

All the latest  
from the  
Gloucester  
head coach

All the regular  
contributors in  
another bumper  
matchday magazine

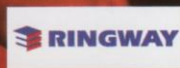
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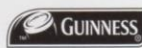


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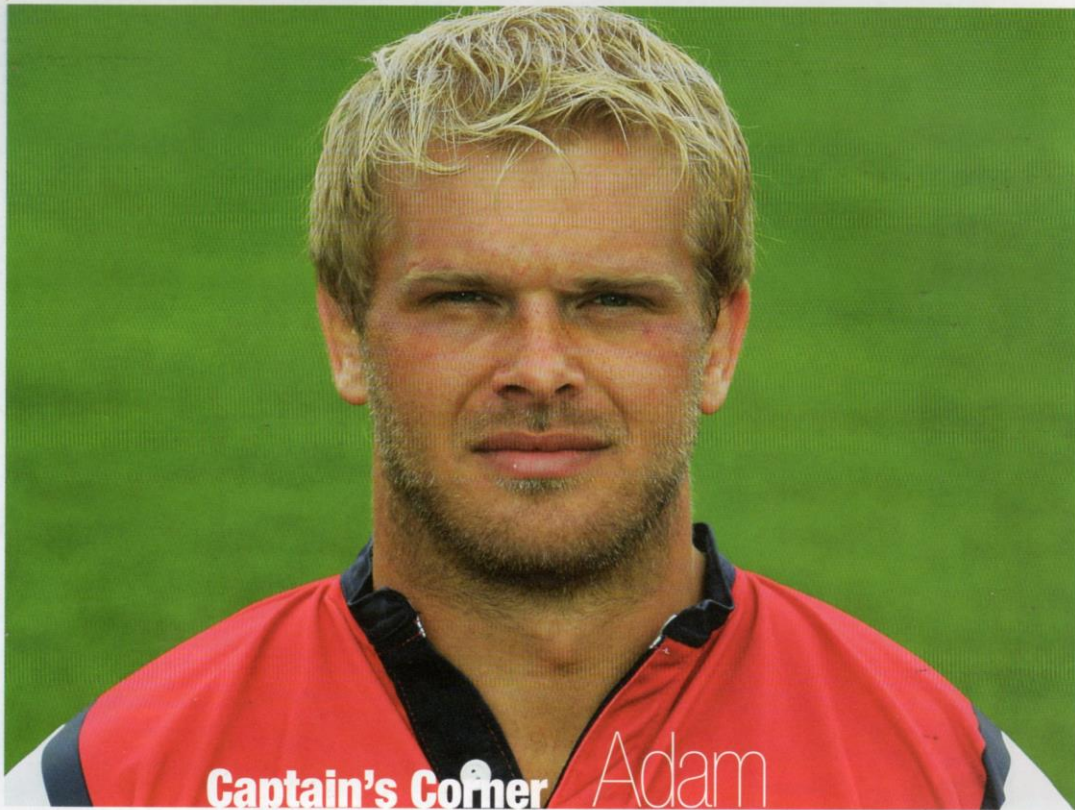


VS **Worcester Warriors**

Saturday 15th April | Kick Off 15.00pm



[www.guinnesspremiership.com](http://www.guinnesspremiership.com)



Captain's Corner Adam

In association with  
**dair\***

# Balding

I obviously hope to make a first team return before the end of the season but once again today I am restricted to a watching brief.

**A**NOTHER game at Kingsholm - and another derby.

They have been coming thick and fast in the last few matches and this afternoon we welcome Worcester to Kingsholm for another enthralling Guinness Premiership encounter.

There is no getting away from the fact our recent Premiership form is not good. We have lost four successive games - although we have picked up losing bonus points - and time is beginning to tick down towards the end of the season.

Our ambition is still on a top-four place and a position in the play-offs but we will obviously need to start picking up points as soon as possible.

Despite the defeats, I firmly believe the club has made great strides in its development of our younger players. At Sale last weekend, Mike Tindall was the oldest member of the backline at the age of 27 and that can only be good for the future.

In the last few weeks, Ryan

Lamb has come into the team and shown his undoubted quality. We need to get behind these boys and back them because we are seeing the future of the club now.

Personally, I came through 40 minutes in our Guinness A League defeat at Harlequins on Monday.

I have been struggling with a knee injury for a number of weeks but my fitness, power and strength is returning and I was really pleased to get some match time.

Worcester have a formidable record at home - despite their defeat to London Irish last weekend - and are as competitive as any team in the Premiership.

They base a lot of their rugby around a very strong set-piece and a good set of backs who are also very physical.

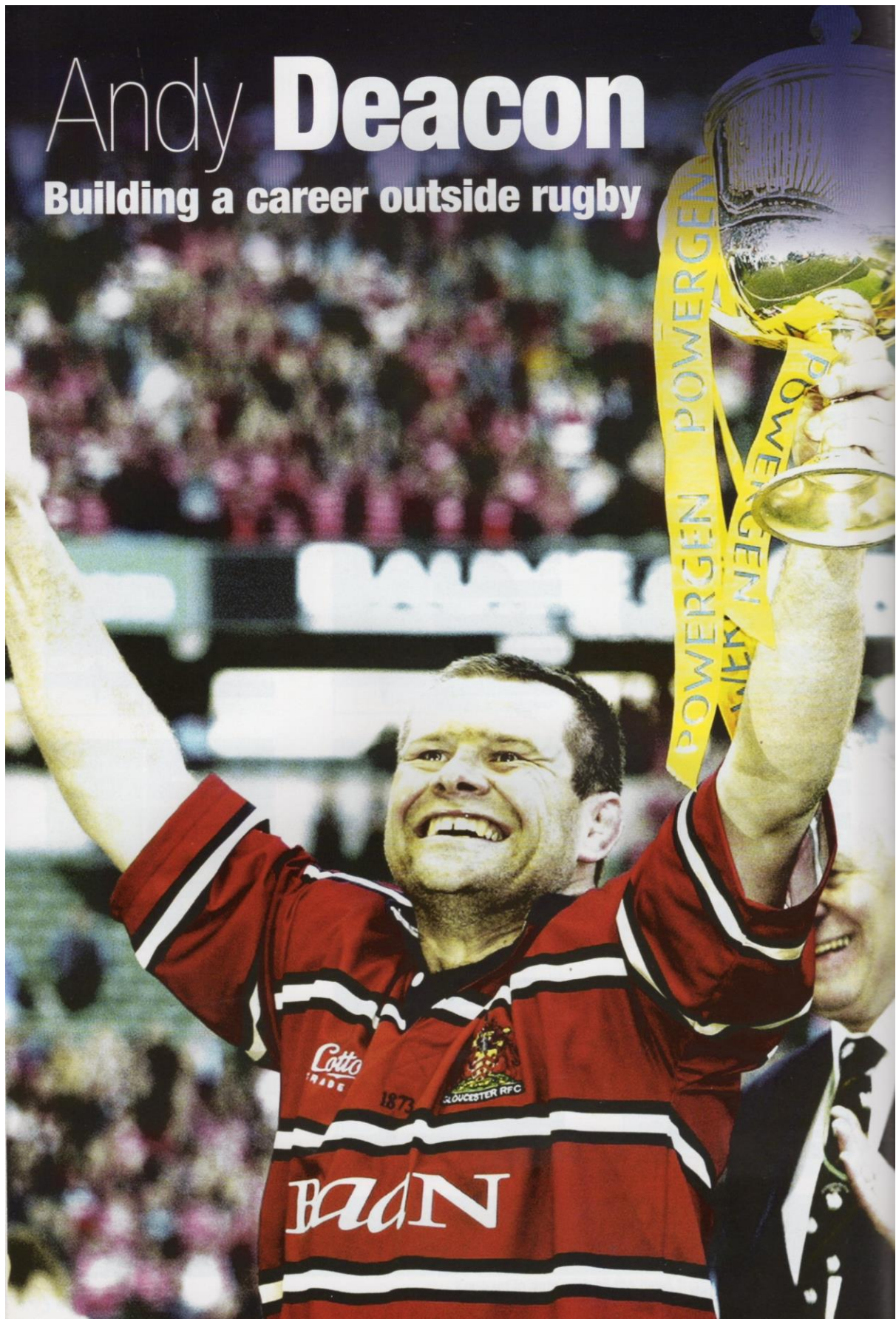
There will be a lot of emotion and pride swirling around this afternoon, so get behind the boys and play your part in another crucial west country derby.

The **Passion**

Guarantee a ticket at **Kingsholm** - call **0871 871 8781**

# Andy Deacon

Building a career outside rugby



## **Andy Deacon** is one of the most recognisable figures at Kingsholm. He spent more than 15 years in the Gloucester front row but is now building a career outside rugby with Yorke Construction, as the matchday programme found out.

**A**NDY DEACON is a bit of a legend – and then some.

He has spent the majority of his adult life at the sharper end of physical exertion, dishing out all manner of nasties to opposing front row forwards up and down the country in the colours of his city team he served with the utmost distinction.

Deacon rarely complained about the ill justices of life, unless it was to a referee of course in his own use of the vernacular, but he got on with the job and churned out one of the greatest club careers in history.

He was playing top-flight club rugby at the age of 38, which is a fairly remarkable achievement given the demands of the job these days, particularly the job done by tight forwards.

When he retired and despite the fact he enjoyed a successful testimonial year, there was no chance he would be able to put his feet up, count his money and nip down to Kingsholm in his Bentley every Saturday afternoon.

Deacon headed straight back to work in a 9 til 5 job for Yorke Construction. He spent the best part of two decades trying to knock things down and now he

is in the construction business – funny old world.

“What professional rugby gave you was time off,” Deacon said. “It might only be for an afternoon here and there but you obviously don’t work from 9 til five – I had forgotten what that was like.

“There was a lot more down time but obviously in a full-time job, there is no such thing. When I finished playing rugby I had to do something – I just couldn’t stop – and this is certainly a new challenge for me.

“But I am loving the challenge and opportunities it has presented me. I am 40-years-of-age and had to get a career going and this opportunity came around and it was something I really wanted to do.

“Richard Yorke [owner] and I have been friends for about 20 years and hopefully I can use some of the contacts I have built up in and around the city to help the company’s development.

“In the building industry, a lot of the work is down to trust because there is a lot of competition. If I can act as a bit of a figurehead for the company as it grows, who can break the ice for people at meetings, then great.”

Deacon was the top dog at Kingsholm. What he said and what he did was law and it didn’t matter if the guy next to him had two World Cup winner’s medals or the thick end of 80 caps for the All Blacks, this was his playground and he ruled it.

However, he is now back on the first few rungs of development – combining his work with a course in health and safety.

Pictures by Bruce Seabrook  
GPA Images info@gpaimages.com



For more information contact Andy Deacon at [andrewd@yorkeconstruction.co.uk](mailto:andrewd@yorkeconstruction.co.uk)



gloucesterterrace.co.uk

The History

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27



**“To be honest, I couldn’t be happier with what I am doing. It has worked out for the best.”**

“The big thing is that we are expanding and that means we obviously want to attract more clients,” he said. “It’s an on-going process but it is an exciting challenge, the managing director has been really good to me and I just want to try and learn as much as I can.

“It does seem quite strange going back to college but I am keen to learn new skills and that is exactly what this role is providing me with.”

But he has not finished with rugby totally. He can still be seen at Kingsholm on a Monday night overseeing Gloucester’s youngsters in the Guinness A League – still shaking his head in disbelief, still encouraging and still passing on invaluable snippets of information.

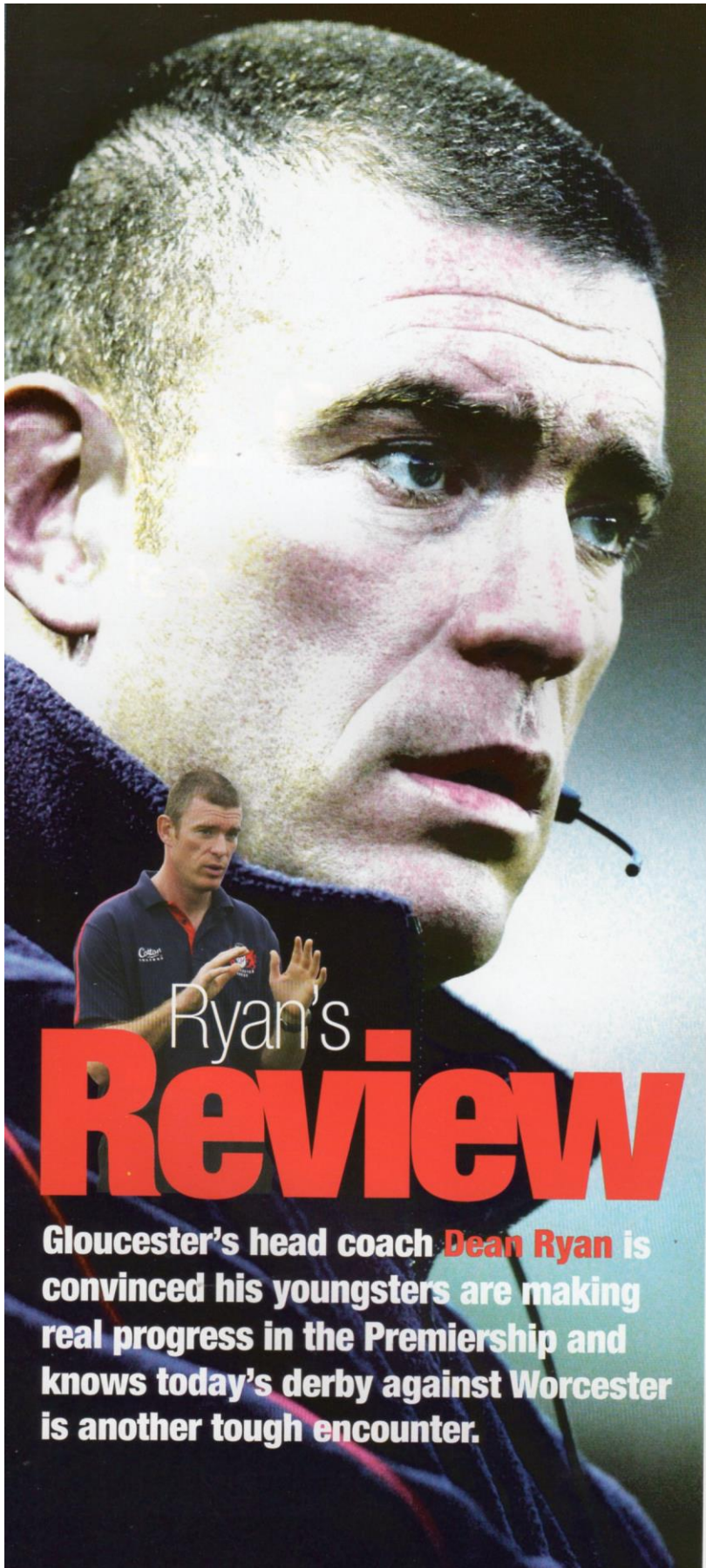
“I have tried to stay involved but it is very different,” he said. “I do miss what it used to bring me – the Saturday rituals on matchdays at things like that. I

was also getting paid for what was basically a hobby so life doesn’t get much better than that.

“But things change and I had to move on and look to the future. I still feel I am in a privileged position though, to be able to work and use my contacts in rugby.

“To be honest, I couldn’t be happier with what I am doing. It has worked out for the best.”





Ryan's

# Review

Gloucester's head coach **Dean Ryan** is convinced his youngsters are making real progress in the Premiership and knows today's derby against Worcester is another tough encounter.



**Mike Tindall** said after the game at Sale he relishes playing with the youngsters in the squad, are we seeing Gloucester's future now?

**DR:** I think we are, yes. For me, above everything else, the long-term future and success of the club is paramount. It can be a tough call to pick a 19-year-old with little experience but I am totally convinced it is the right thing to do. We have to balance maturity and experience with potential and I don't think I would be taking due care of these individuals if I waited 12 or 15 months before getting them in the side.

There is obviously a risk attached to it but I am willing to accept some pain in the short-term because I am convinced 100% that the long-term benefits are potentially huge. I think Mike was the oldest member of the backline at Sale at 27 and if that does not show our willingness to make progress, I am not sure what does.

Those youngsters that day came within an ace of beating a team capable of reaching the knockout stages of Europe's major club competition and I think we can take massive pluses from that.



**What will be the next step for them?**

**DR:** We came close against Northampton and then again at Sale to achieving two very notable victories and, in my view, that is the only thing these guys are missing. They deserve a return on the effort and endeavour they have shown and once they have achieved that, I think their progress will only intensify.

But they have to keep playing and keep learning. Someone like Ryan Lamb showed a tremendous amount of maturity against Sale, Anthony Allen is almost becoming a regular in the centre and Ollie Morgan has made 10 starts at full-back.

These guys are demanding to be picked and I think that is great. We have also got players like Jonathan Pendlebury, Luke Narraway, Jack

Forster and Nick Wood who have all shown their qualities this season and I doubt many clubs could match the number of young, English players we have available.



**Including today's game against Worcester, we only have three games remaining. What are the realistic aims for those matches.**

**DR:** We would obviously like to win them all and press very hard for a top four spot but our first task is concentrating on Worcester this afternoon. Our recent Premiership record is not the greatest and we just have to try and put it right. We could make the trip to Leeds with them still fighting for their Premiership survival, which makes that game significantly harder and Wasps on the last day of the season at Kingsholm should be a fantastic occasion.

## **"I am sure they will relish coming down here in front of a sell-out crowd and we will have to get the better of their passion."**

If we could get back onto a role then I am convinced a couple of victories are possible, we just need a victory again.



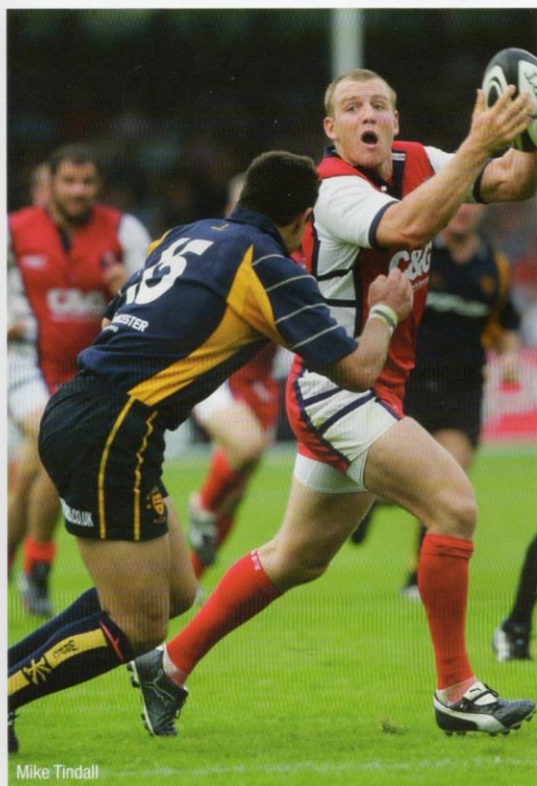
**Worcester have once again done very well in the Premiership this season, what challenge will they present this afternoon?**

**DR:** Worcester are a resourceful side that is well coached and extremely competitive. I think if you look back at their results at Sixways, our two points there at the beginning of the season was not a bad return. They recently

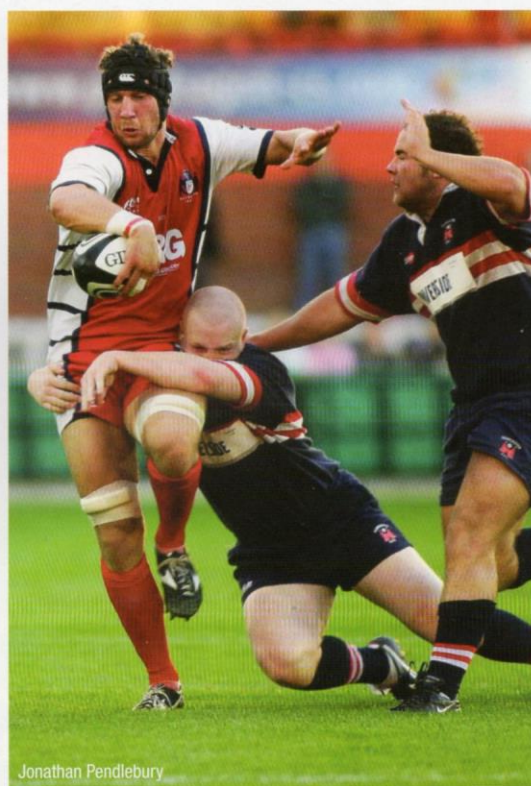
hammered Wasps and will be durable and tough.

They have an outstanding set-piece, which they base their game around, and players with experience of playing in big games at Kingsholm. I am sure they will relish coming down here in front of a sell-out crowd and we will have to get the better of their passion.

It should be a cracking contest - with our youngsters against their senior guys - and I am relishing another derby at Kingsholm.



Mike Tindall



Jonathan Pendlebury

gloucester rugby.co.uk

The History

# Match Action

European Challenge Cup 



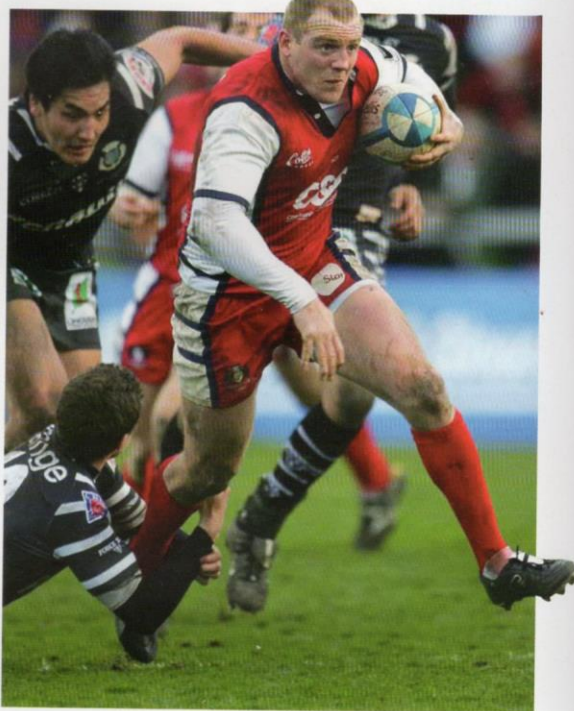
## Gloucester Rugby 46 Brive 13

Saturday, April 1

Attendance: 6,898

Referee: Donal Courtney (Ire)

Pictures by Bruce Seabrook – GPA Images info@gpaimages.com



**G**LOUCESTER breezed into the semi-finals of the European Challenge Cup with a seven-try victory over former Heineken Cup champions Brive.

James Forrester and Peter Richards both scored twice as Gloucester comfortably set-up a last four showdown with local rivals Worcester.

Ryan Lamb's first penalty after

three minutes set them off and Forrester grabbed the first try when he picked up from the base of a scrum and used his strength to score to the left of the posts.

It was exactly the cushion Gloucester required and when Alex Brown got up at a Brive line-out to heap plenty of misery on his opposite number, he charged through to steal possession and Mark Foster

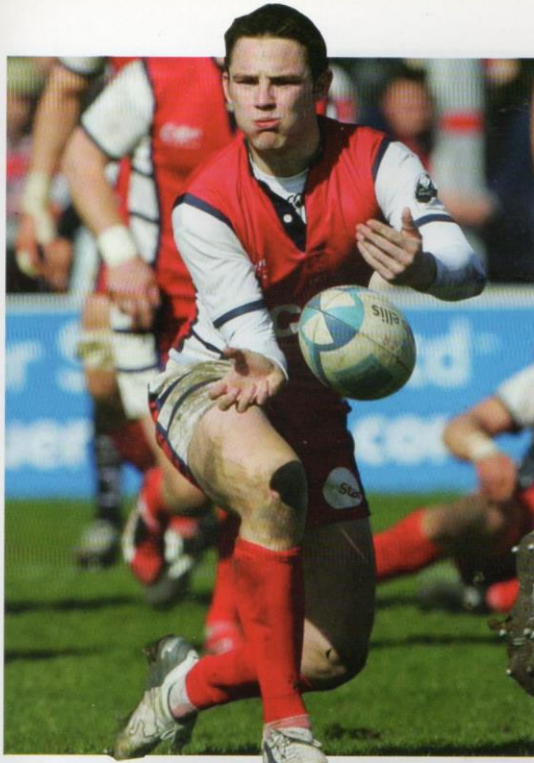
put Forrester away to score the second try.

Although Maxime Petitjean kicked penalties in the 24th and 30th minutes, Gloucester's lead was never threatened. They scored again after 36 minutes when Forrester's outstanding take at a line-out set-up a big drive and Richards darted past two defenders to score to extend Gloucester's lead to 22-6.

And right on half-time, Gloucester went in for their fourth try. They kept possession well before Lamb sent a long pass across the Brive defence for James Simpson-Daniel to pick out a brilliant inside pass to Mike Tindall, who scored close to the line.

The second half was more of the same. Gloucester dominated throughout, without ever really turning on the after-burners.





They could, and perhaps should, have caused even greater damage but Richards got the ball rolling with his second try after 44 minutes when Gary Powell sent him over following a line-out.

Andy Hazell was the next to benefit when Haydn Thomas and Lamb combined before the openside plunged to score and extend Gloucester's lead to 39-6.

Gloucester always looked like they could create problems in the wide areas as Brive tired against the tide and Simpson-Daniel grabbed their seventh try when he pushed his way past a number of defenders from 30 metres and gas his way to the line.

"It was a strange game," said head coach Dean Ryan. "The players said there was a lot of

running around, but it didn't have a lot of intensity. It didn't look like what we're used to in Premiership games, but it was a different challenge and we had to win it

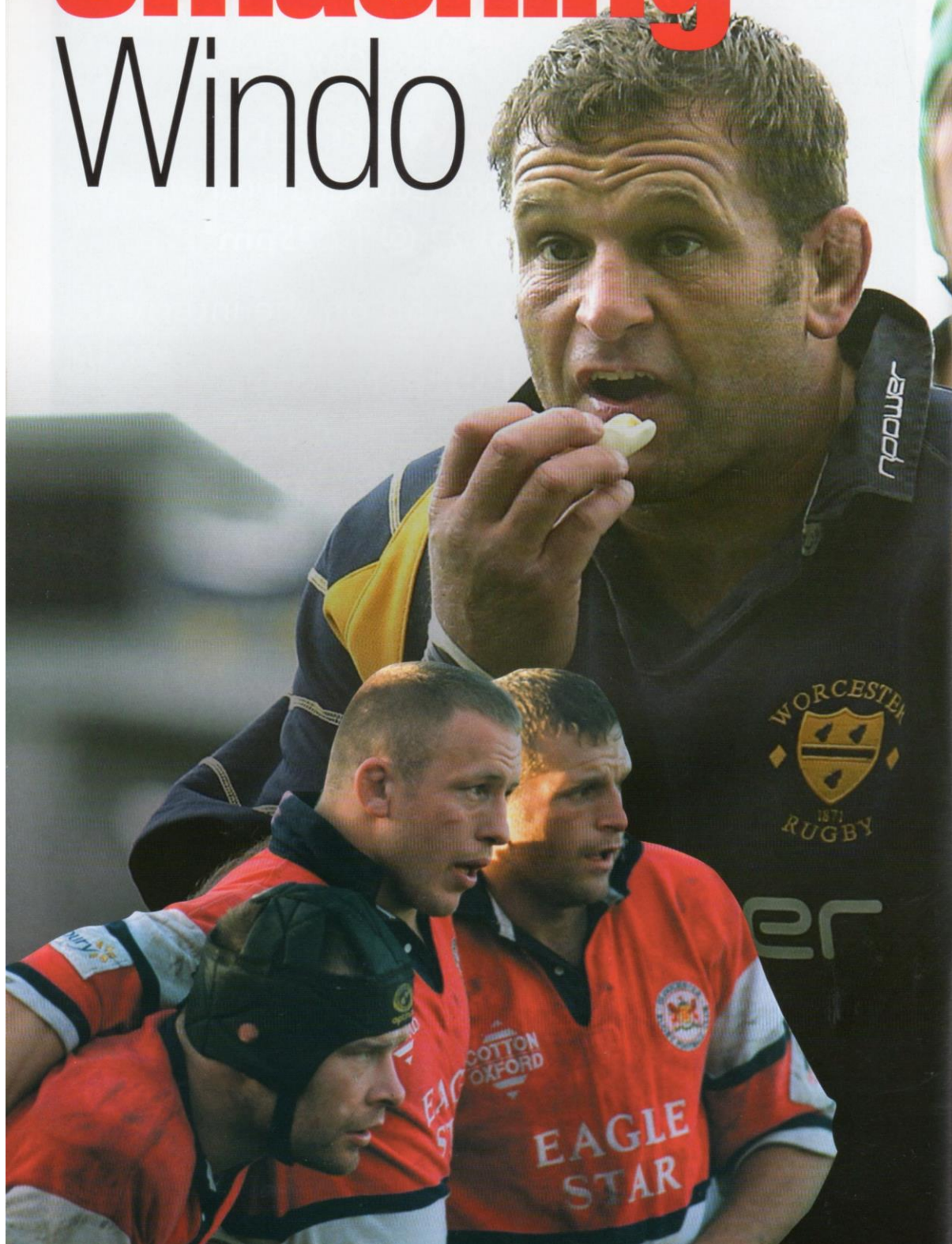
"I'm pleased with the win. It was very obvious there was one eye on the future and developing players while at the same time trying to get us through knockout football, which is never easy.

"There's a risk they will make mistakes in knockout football to learn, but it's a risk we've got to be prepared to take. It's crucial we keep supporting young players because I'm convinced the long-term dividend is huge.

"We can't wait 12 to 18 months and then expect them to come in and play. We have to get them in now."



# Smashing Windo



## He scored one of the most important tries in Gloucester's history, was part of the celebrated system of home-grown players and is still doing the business for Worcester Warriors. **Tony Windo** is back at Kingsholm today and relishing another tussle against his former employers.

**N**OT SO long ago, in the days when a post-training warm down was a couple of pints of something chilled and sparkling and a chicken curry, Tony Windo was cutting his teeth in the mad, bad and dangerous to know territory down in Wales on a Wednesday night.

He was with a group of Gloucester mates as they began to make the transition from United rugby into the senior ranks at Kingsholm that would eventually become the last staging post of home-grown talent representing a city team anywhere in the country.

Windo was not alone. He was joined by Dave Sims, the legendary second row, Simon Devereux, Andy Deacon and a whole lot more from the thriving junior club system into the colours of Gloucester.

Such was his undemonstrative, technically excellent style he stayed in the Gloucester front row for more than a decade before being shown the door in one of Gloucester's first serious clear-outs.

Without putting too finer point on it, Windo was class. His try against Saracens in 1996 on a sweltering afternoon at Kingsholm virtually saved

Gloucester's top-flight bacon but he knows nothing lasts forever.

He now finds himself a Worcester – a thriving going concern that was still searching for a route into the Premiership when he arrived – but the move has been the making of him.

"I spent 10 or 12 years at Gloucester and it was some of the best times of my career," Windo said. "I think I joined the club in 1988 when the majority of players were born and bred in Gloucester and progressed from the junior clubs.

"In those days, 90% of the lads playing at clubs had the ambition of representing Gloucester and the likes of myself and people like Simmo and Deacs managed it. We trained on Tuesday and Thursdays and played on Wednesdays and Saturdays – that was what we did then.

"We progressed through the colts together as mates. Back then you were chucked in on a Wednesday night to go down into Wales and you either sank or swam but it was a great learning curve.

"The ethos has changed massively but they were great times. You either came

through it or you didn't and we were pretty lucky that the majority of us did."

Windo was part of a formidable Gloucester pack that went above and beyond the call of duty. Sims was quite easily one of the best lock forwards in the country and slugged it out toe-to-toe with the meanest and moodiest in the business.

Deacon and Phil Greening were alongside Windo in the front row, while Ian Smith, Simon Devereux and Pete Glanville were the trio who hunted in the back three in a front eight unit chiselled from Gloucester granite.

"We had some great moments but probably not over a long enough period," Windo said. "The stand-out ones where when we beat Leicester under



The History

gloucester

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**“I think we have done remarkably well in quite a short space of time but we have ambitions to be up there with the best.”**

lights at Kingsholm – that was a special, special night and we also beat Bath on a Tuesday or a Wednesday night – that sticks in the memory too.”



But all good things had to come to an end. Under Philippe Saint-Andre, the Frenchman who replaced Richard Hill as head coach, Gloucester’s old regime was swept away.

Along with Windo, Sims and Carter were all moved on in one of the most turbulent periods in the club’s history.

However, Windo has been by far the most successful. He could be bitter about his departure from Gloucester but if he is, he does not show it.

“I don’t think anyone would want to leave their home club

but the move to Worcester re-invigorated my career, most definitely – it’s been the making of me.

“Trevor Woodman was coming through at Gloucester and pushed me very hard for the first team spot and looking back, it was the right thing for me to do to move on.

“I had learnt my lessons from those Wednesday nights down in Wales and sometimes you only get better from struggling.

My life-style has changed completely – from what you eat to how you recover – and that is one of the reasons I think I have stayed around for so long.

“I have also been lucky with injuries. Compared to someone like Phil Vickery, I have hardly ever had a serious injury and my form has been pretty good.”

Windo has been joined at Sixways by a whole host former Kingsholm men. John Brain, the canny coach, was in charge of the forwards at Gloucester, while Chris and Lee Fortey, Andy Gomarsall and Thinus Delpoit all find themselves up the M5 these days.

“We want to be challenging clubs like Gloucester on their home ground because Worcester is a developing club,” Windo said.

“I think we have done remarkably well in quite a short space of time but we have ambitions to be up there with the best.

“But this weekend, despite all the hype, is just another very big Premiership game.”

# Match Action



**Sale Sharks 18**

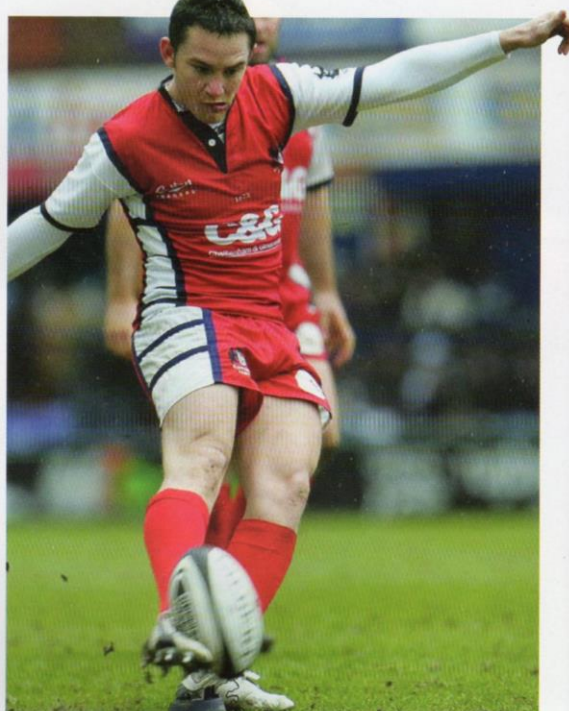
**Gloucester Rugby 15**

Saturday, April 8

Attendance: 10,140

Referee: Dave Pearson

Pictures by Bruce Seabrook – GPA Images info@gpaimages.com



**J**ASON ROBINSON marked his 500th career appearances in both rugby league and rugby union with the winning drop-goal six minutes from time to sink Gloucester's brave young battlers in Stockport last Saturday.

In a contest that was red in both tooth and claw, Sale overturned a 15-3 deficit thanks to

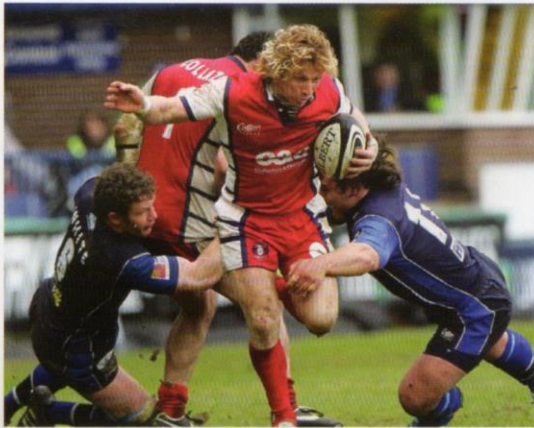
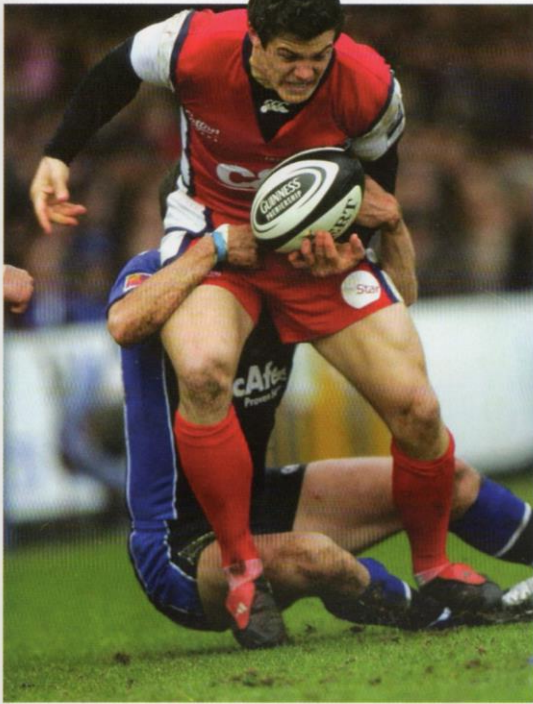
Charlie Hodgson's mastery of the conditions and his expert penalty kicking to salvage a victory for the Guinness Premiership leaders.

Despite a ferocious performance from the brilliant Andy Hazell and plenty of encouragement for Gloucester's young guns, the defeat leaves them fighting it out for a play off place in fifth spot.

Lamb, who was making his first start in the Premiership, kicked superbly in the conditions and played with the sort of exuberance that has him marked down as a real prospect. Ollly Morgan was brave and committed under the high ball, while Mike Tindall and Peter Richards ran hard and defended solidly all afternoon.

Lamb gave Gloucester a third minute lead with a penalty kicked superbly in the conditions before Gloucester lost Gary Powell to the sinbin as Sale turned up the heat. Hodgson levelled the scores with a penalty of his own before Lamb kicked Gloucester into a 12-3 lead with a succession of penalties.

But what Gloucester couldn't do was to get the try that would



have broken the game up. They gave it a real go at the back-end of the first half and despite breaks from Mark Foster, James Simpson-Daniel, Hazell and Richards, Sale's defence held up well under pressure.

In the second half, Sale whittled down Gloucester's advantage despite their quite brilliant defensive work. Lamb actually extended Gloucester's lead to

15-3 before Hodgson turned the screw with penalties after 47, 53, 59 and 64 minutes to bring the scores level.

However, it was Robinson's drop-goal that won the contest with six minutes remaining, although Ludovic Mercier's last-minute penalty attempt would have grabbed Gloucester a draw.

"I am very disappointed for the players in the dressing room because those young lads were outstanding against a very good side in very poor conditions," said head coach Dean Ryan.

"I am prepared to accept a little bit of pain in the short-term because I am totally convinced this side has real prospects for the future and that is what we are building for. I don't think I

would be doing my job properly if I was not prepared to play guys like Lamb, Morgan and Allen now because they are ready.

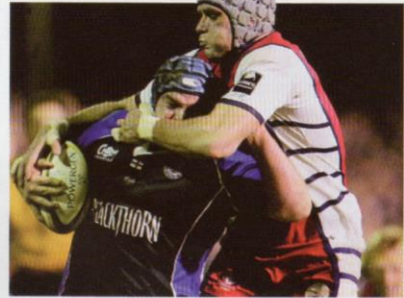
"I don't want to wait for another 12 or 15 months to try them out. We came up against a team who potentially could reach a European knockout final so to lose by only three points is encouraging."

## The History



**Peter Arnold catches up with all the very latest rugby gossip in his entertaining matchday notes.**

# Peter Arnold



## PASTY AND THE BEES

**S**OUNDS like a 1960's pop group doesn't it? It's also a shorthand way of commenting on the fact that Mark Cornwell isn't just fading into the sunset at the end of the season, but is trundling off to Birmingham to take over the captaincy of National One side Pertemps Bees.

I see that the Bees' supremo has announced his arrival as a 'major signing'. So it is. To have captured an experienced lock of Pasty's quality and reputation is a feather in the cap of any club, and to have offered him the captaincy as part of the package is a very shrewd move indeed.

It all reminds me a bit of the Dave Sims affair. You'll remember that after 'Simmo' left Kingsholm, in acrimonious circumstances, it has to be said, he came to earth as captain of Exeter. His influence

was immense, and is still being felt to this day. Our old opponents from Devon were in the doldrums before his arrival, and have certainly come on by leaps and bounds since. You will probably have noticed that Exeter is the only side to have beaten Harlequins, now certain to be promoted back to the Premiership, this season.

There the similarity ends. There are no hard feelings at all about the departure of Mark Cornwell, who thoroughly deserved his highly successful Testimonial. We shall be sorry to see him go and will miss his highly professional approach to the difficult art of the lock forward. He was never anything less than a wholehearted trier who gave 100% for the Gloucester shirt.

If Pasty can do for the Bees what 'Simmo' did for Exeter, then they will have no cause for complaint. We wish him well in his one last hurrah, and would

The Honour



Ryan Lamb

add that even Signor Marco Bortolami will find he has a big pair of boots to fill.

### WELL DONE THE LADS!

**W**EDNESDAY, April 5th 2006. A red letter day for St. Peter's School in Stroud Road. One that has written a new chapter in the history of the school, which already has much to be proud of. It was the day that the school First XV won the Daily Mail U18 Schools Championship by beating Durham School at Twickenham. Many congratulations from all of us.

It must have been almost a boy's adventure story for the school rugby master, Dave Pointon, and indeed, for the whole Pointon family. Dave, of course, apart from being a more than useful cricketer, gave sterling service for Gloucester, wearing the number 10 shirt over a number of seasons, and also played for Gloucestershire in the days when the County Championship was the most important competition in English rugby. To see his lads bring home the bacon after a hard-fought game at Headquarters must have been a dream come true for him, and to double his euphoria, he had the tremendous pleasure

of watching his son, Danny, skipping the victorious side. Any dad's fondest imagining, and then some.

It would be a mistake to dismiss this feat as 'just schoolboy rugby'. As anyone who has followed the school's fortunes knows, it comes as the climax to several years of endeavour and continuing progress. No fewer than four times have they reached the semi-finals of this very serious competition, which argues the evolution of an extremely healthy rugby culture within the school.

Gloucester is already reaping the benefits of this evolution. Marcel Garvey, Brad Davies, Ryan Lamb, Adam Eustace and others have already made their mark after progressing from the Dave Pointon Academy for Young Gentlemen, and others are certain to follow them. Quite apart from Danny Pointon, and others who have already turned out for Gloucester 'A', it might be as well to remember the name of Charlie Sharples, the school winger who managed to score hat-tricks in both the semi-final and final this year. That's quite a feat. I also note that centre, Mark Davies turned in a storming performance which seems to have impressed everyone. Mark is, of course,

## "I've no doubt that there are many highly talented youngsters in and around the city."

the brother of the above mentioned Brad.

Let's hope the progress continues. What's good for St. Peter's is eventually good for Gloucester

### FAIR PLAY TO THE LEAGUE

**I**SEE THAT Mrs. Jackie Smith is "frustrated" by the media attention given to St. Peter's heroics, or so she says in her articulate letter to the Citizen. Her point is that there has been little credit given to the Gordon League U17 squad who have won the RFU South West National U17 Cup.

She has a point. The Hempsted lads do deserve many congratulations for their efforts, and by the time you read this will have played Westcliffe Southend on Sea

at Henley in the next stage of the competition so may have progressed even further. As someone who turned out for the League himself, many, many years ago I'm delighted to see that grand old club is still producing young players of real promise.

St. Peter's, of course, has won the toughest competition that English Schools rugby has to offer, and the League lads have yet to quite match that achievement, which isn't to say that they won't.

I've no doubt that there are many highly talented youngsters in and around the city, some of whom may well make the grade to professional rugby. But isn't the fertile source of good players around the clubs what made Gloucester great in the first place?



Brad Davies

The **History**



**Bob Fenton** starts today's programme notes with an apology, thinks it is great that youth is getting its chance at Kingsholm and knows it is possible for a Gloucester team to win at the Rec . . .

# Fan Zone



Ryan Lamb - most consistent goal-kicker at 100%

**S**OMETIMES things are not always as they seem. A case in point was the incident that happened after the Bristol game, and to which I referred in the 'Fans Eye View column' in the Brive programme, and now apologise.

I don't want to dwell on the incident which is best consigned

to the time of writing I don't know what our team selection is going to be, but I suspect that we are going to see another outing for the young guns making their way into the Gloucester first team.

Last weekend against Sale the oldest player in our backs was the 27-year-old Mike Tindall,

**"I want to apologise for the obvious distress that was caused."**

to history but I want to apologise for the obvious distress that was caused.

After re-reading my words you can get the impression that a group of Gloucester supporters who were making their way out of the ground – and were unlucky enough to be on the receiving end of a beer thrown by a Bristol supporter – were in some way responsible for the incident.

This was not the case, I never intended to imply that they were and I apologise to the people concerned. I am sorry for getting it wrong, and for upset that I caused to the Gloucester supporters who had only been passionately following their team.

Hopefully that can draw a line under the issue.

none of the others around him looked out of place. In fact our backline last week had an average age of 22, while their counterparts on the Sale side were closer to 28.

Premiership debutant Ryan Lamb – who is now the most consistent goal kicker in the Premiership with a 100 per cent record (five attempts, five kicked) – looked like he will make the transition from 'A' team rugby to the big league without too much difficulty.

Outside him, Anthony Allen looks to be the find of the season while Olly Morgan can consider himself a bit of a veteran with 10 (yes, it is only 10) first team starts under his belt. And with Jack Adams making his way back from injury our cup surely does runneth over with talent.

These players promise a very

exciting future for the club. As Hugh Godwin, writing in the Independent on Sunday last weekend observed "... If all their [Gloucester's] young English prospects flower together they will be blooming tough to beat..."

We have to accept that the steep learning curve that these guys are on will inevitably mean that there may be a set-back or two along the way. I know it's a hackney old sporting cliché, but it's important that we keep the faith.

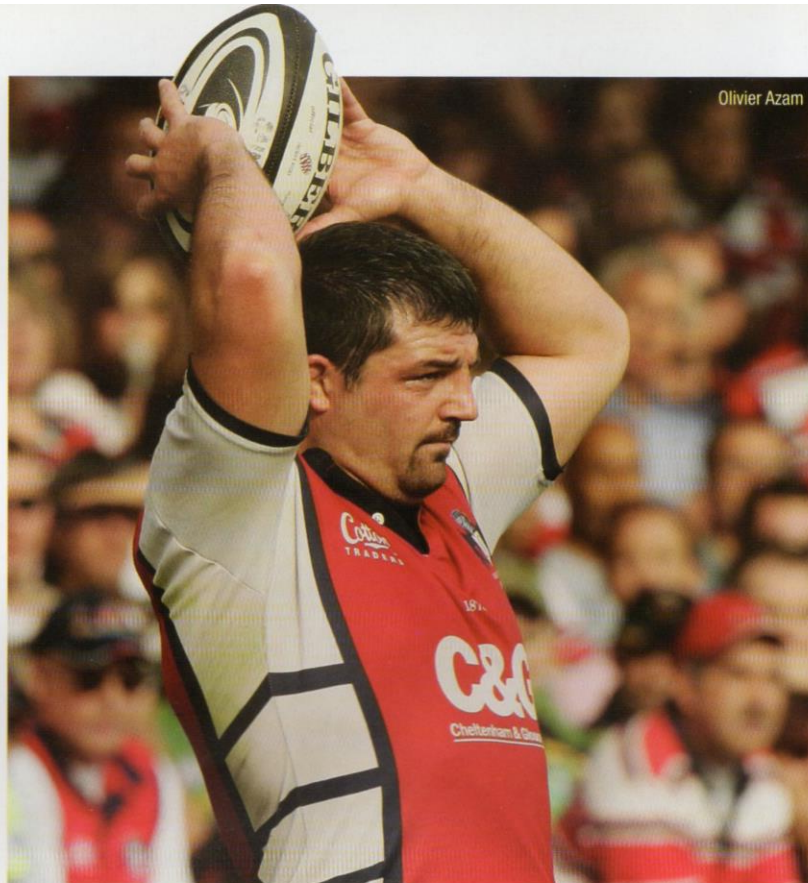
When you consider the players who are currently injured – Azam, Balding, Boer, Vickery et al – the blend of youth and experience that we could put out on the field at one time is a very exciting prospect. And that's without the impact of new signings such as Bortolami, Nieto and Walker. I'm already looking forward to next season.

But that's all for tomorrow. Today we have the first of two back to back meetings with our near neighbours from just up the M5.

With Wasps winning the Powergen Cup last week fifth place in the league will be good enough for a route into the Heineken Cup. Although we currently occupy that berth, Worcester are only eight points back from us and will have an eye on it.

Like us they have not had the best run of form recently, and with a good percentage of their boys having plied their trade at Kingsholm until quite recently they'll be itching to put one over on us today.

Of course it's not just the points we want from today's game, it's the whip hand



Olivier Azam

for next week's European Challenge Shield semi-final.

Whoever wins this game today will go into it feeling just that little bit more confident. Let's make sure it's us.

Finally I ask you to join me in celebrating some excellent news that some people may have begun to think would never have come their way. Last weekend the boy's team, Hucclecote Under 12's, achieved something that many Gloucester players over the years could only dream of doing – they recorded an away win at Bath!

They came from 15 – 10 down with minutes left to play to score two quick tries to send the home side crashing to defeat.

The 'Cote coaching team were suitably made up too, declaring they didn't care if they failed to win another game this season – this one would more than make up for that.

Sometimes I feel the same way when I make the journey down there every season...

**“Whoever wins this game today will go into it feeling just that little bit more confident, lets hope it's us .”**

Gloucester Rugby apologise for any distress and upset caused by the last Fanszone column and accept their responsibility in the issue that has now been closed.

TheHistory

GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP | Saturday 15th April | Kick Off 15.00pm



# Today's Teams



## Gloucester Rugby



## Worcester Warriors

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Olly **Morgan**  
 James **Simpson-Daniel**  
 Mike **Tindall**  
 Anthony **Allen**  
 Mark **Foster**  
 Ryan **Lamb**  
 Peter **Richards**  
 Patrice **Collazo**  
 Mefin **Davies**  
 Gary **Powell**  
 Adam **Eustace**  
 Alex **Brown**  
 Peter **Buxton** (C)  
 Andy **Hazell**  
 James **Forrester**

- 15 **Full-Back**
- 14 **Wing**
- 13 **Centre**
- 12 **Centre**
- 11 **Wing**
- 10 **Fly-Half**
- 9 **Scrum-Half**
- 1 **Prop**
- 2 **Hooker**
- 3 **Prop**
- 4 **Lock**
- 5 **Lock**
- 6 **Flanker**
- 7 **Flanker**
- 8 **No.8**

- Replacements**
- 16
  - 17
  - 18
  - 19
  - 20
  - 21
  - 22

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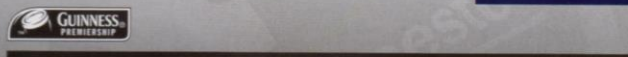
Rob **Elloway**  
 Jack **Forster**  
 Jonathan **Pendlebury**  
 Luke **Narraway**  
 Haydn **Thomas**  
 Ludovic **Mercier**  
 James **Bailey**

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Thinus **Delport**  
 Aisea **Havili**  
 Dale **Rasmussen**  
 Thomas **Lombard**  
 Mark **Tucker**  
 Shane **Drahm**  
 Matt **Powell**  
 Tony **Windo**  
 Andre **Van Niekerk**  
 Tevita **Taumoepeau**  
 Phil **Murphy**  
 Craig **Gillies**  
 Siaoisi **Vaili**  
 Pat **Sanderson** (C)  
 Kai **Horstmann**

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Gavin **Hickie**  
 Mike **MacDonald**  
 Richard **Blaze**  
 Tom **Harding**  
 Simon **Whatling**  
 Andy **Gomarsall**  
 Gary **Trueman**



Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	TF	TA	TB	LB	Pts
1	Sale Sharks	19	14	1	4	478	366	41	31	4	2	64
2	London Wasps	18	11	3	4	422	326	43	25	5	1	56
3	London Irish	19	11	0	8	379	375	38	33	4	4	52
4	Leicester Tigers	18	10	3	5	429	362	39	22	4	1	51
5	Gloucester Rugby	19	9	1	9	393	325	35	27	2	8	48
6	Northampton Saints	19	9	1	9	392	412	44	41	3	5	46
7	Saracens	19	7	1	11	390	428	39	43	5	6	41
8	Bristol Rugby	19	8	1	10	358	363	26	30	0	6	40
9	Worcester Warriors	19	8	1	10	378	415	31	44	1	5	40
10	Bath Rugby	19	7	1	11	373	418	29	40	2	5	37
11	Newcastle Falcons	19	7	1	11	303	358	25	35	0	6	36
12	Leeds Tykes	19	5	0	14	313	460	28	47	0	6	26

**TODAY'S OFFICIALS**  
**REFEREE:** David Rose  
**TOUCH JUDGE 1:** Ashley Reay  
**TOUCH JUDGE 2:** Huw Jones-Williams  
**FOURTH OFFICIAL:** Mark Tovey  
**REPLACEMENT REF:** Roy Maybank  
**ASSESSOR:** Brain Leigh

**TODAY'S RESULT**  
**GLoucester:**   
**Worcester Warriors:**



Table correct on 10/04/06