

# Gloucester Rugby

The Official Matchday Programme of Gloucester Rugby

Issue 4 • Price £3.00



Gloucester Rugby  
v SU Agen  
28.10.06 15.00

## Exclusive:

Iain Balshaw on his move to Gloucester

## Christian Califano

Propping up the scrum

## Ryan's Review

All the latest from the Kingsholm coach

## Ian Smith

Joins the Hall of Fame

## Agen

All you need to know about today's visitors

## ALSO INSIDE

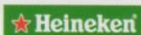
Fans Zone,  
Peter Arnold,  
ticket news  
and much more



Heineken Cup  
Round Two



[ercrugby.com](http://ercrugby.com)



# Captain's Corner



**The Heineken Cup is a fantastic tournament** and last Saturday was an experience many of us **will never forget.**

**T**O PLAY A team of Leinster's quality in the opening round of the tournament was a huge challenge and one the team responded to very well considering it was the first time many of us have been exposed to that level of club competition.

But there is no escaping the fact we were beaten by a superior team and we need to learn those lessons quickly and take them forward in European and domestic competitions to become a better side.

I was very impressed with our attitude and intensity last weekend – the way we kept asking questions of Leinster was something we can be very proud of and it showed a good level of maturity for a developing team.

This afternoon, our task gets no easier. I can tell you from experience that French rugby is hard, uncompromising and full of flair and I think Agen fit into this category.

They will be physical and direct, look to attack the

line-out and scrum and have plenty of pace in the wide areas. We are all aware of how important this game is for us this season.

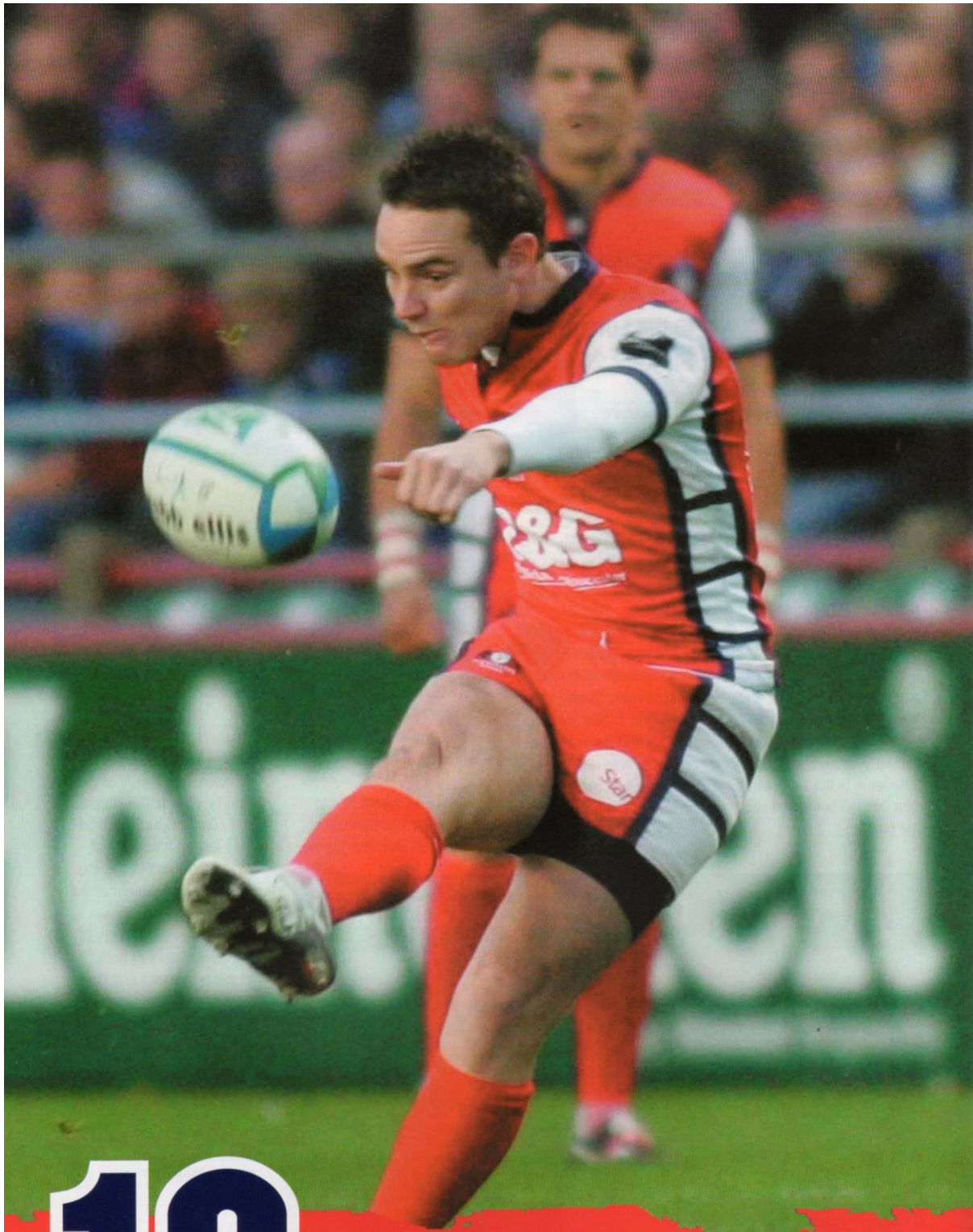
A victory will certainly keep the pressure on Leinster and that is all we are thinking about this afternoon.

We are still a side coming together very fast and have plenty of potential but today we simply need to get the right result because the European Cup is something we want to experience for

as long as possible. Last weekend the support we had in Ireland was out of this world. To arrive at the ground and already see lots of Gloucester shirts in the stadium was a humbling experience and we will need to noise levels to be at their maximum today.

In the Heineken Cup, the small margins can make all the difference to a performance and I hope you will be right behind the boys this afternoon and roar us to a crucial victory.





# 10

## Ryan Lamb

### Stats

Position: Stand-Off • Height: 5'9"  
Weight: 13st 6lb • DOB: 18.05.86





# Running Man

The electrifying Iain Balshaw is one of the gems of the English game – a free-running game-breaker who lit up England's backline in 2001.

The former Bath man finds himself at Gloucester these days following a spell at Leeds and is desperate to let the good times roll.

**W**HEN DEAN RYAN, the uniquely formidable but equally engaging Gloucester head coach talks about a three-quarter on first name terms, the subject must possess more than a passing whiff of quality.

In his playing days, Ryan may have liked backs (just) – although it is doubtful whether he could eat a whole one – but Kingsholm is a place these days so awash with swashbuckling running talent that most eyes up and down the country watch with envy as the likes of Anthony Allen, Ryan Lamb, Jack Adams and Olly Morgan do their thing.

But the subject of Ryan's enthusiasm on this occasion is a man called Iain Balshaw – a frightening free-gifted broken field runner with England and Lions experience who now finds himself at Kingsholm.

"When he came onto the scene at Bath, many of the older heads there were talking about this electrifying talent – a sort of young Christian Cullen – who was doing things that left people speechless," Ryan said.

"He has a certain style as a player and is one of the most threatening broken field runners in the game. We were delighted to sign him because there was a great deal of interest when Leeds got relegated.

"Balsh is one of those guys who needs game-time but he is a very

level headed individual and it is great to have that sort of experience among a group of players who are still very much developing at this level. I think he will be fantastic for us."

There is no doubt Balshaw is a class act. In 2001, during England's ultimately fruitless Foot and Mouth Grand Slam bid, he was a revelation.

England averaged seven tries a game at Twickenham and Balshaw's coruscating form ripped up both France and Scotland. He ran with a verve, balance and style that was jaw-dropping in its effectiveness and shot him into the consciousness of the rugby public and opponents alike.

Such was his advance he was on course to oust his Bath team-mate Matt Perry on the British Lions tour to Australia that summer. However, Perry started in all three Test matches in the 2-1 defeat and when England travelled to Dublin to complete their Six Nations campaign against Ireland, an out of form Balshaw was preferred at full-back.

Ireland won and Balshaw drifted off the radar. He left the Recreation Ground to join Leeds and rediscovered his form so effectively that he was again named in the 2005 Lions squad ahead of Sale's Mark Cueto before he damaged himself again in the Powergen Cup victory over his former club Bath and missed the tour.



Player Interview  
James Simpson - Daniel

# 15



**Iain's Stats**  
Position: Wing/Full-Back  
Height: 5'10"  
Weight: 14st 7lb  
DOB: 14.04.79

Injury again played its part last season and when the Tykes were relegated in the summer, he opted for a move to Kingsholm rather than his former employers at the Rec.

Had Brian Ashton remained at Bath, the outcome may well have been different but he is ready to re-launch himself in one of the most exciting teams in the country.

"We have some fantastic young talent and just watching them in training gives you a huge spring in your step," Balshaw told the matchday programme. "Sometimes a club is lucky enough to have one or two talented young players coming through at any one time but we have five or six young lads and that is not only great for Gloucester but also the future of England.

"At the moment I am probably playing catch up with regards match fitness [Balshaw suffered an ankle injury on his debut against Bath and missed the next five matches] and it will take me four or five games to get the sharpness back I am looking for.

"But it is great to be around – this is a fresh challenge and a new start for me and I want to help take the club forward so it can be one of the driving forces in European rugby and I desperately want to be a part of that.

"Last year was very frustrating, both

personally and for the team at Leeds but I feel down here I have a great chance to work alongside some really talented players and I believe I am in the best place to help me play international rugby again."

Balshaw has made 29 England appearances following his debut in 2000 and can be deployed from either the wing or full-back.

In a team containing three 20-year-olds, his experience, assurance and versatility are crucial. He could, provided he can stay fit, be one of the signings of the season and easily press his claims for England honours once again.

Clearly, Balshaw is relaxed and enjoying his life and rugby. "In the past, I think I probably thought too much about rugby and the mistakes I might have made.

"I used to get down on myself but I am happy in my rugby – everybody makes mistakes from time to time because that's part and parcel of life – but I have experienced quite a lot and I am really pleased with how things are going.

"I am totally focused on my future with Gloucester and hopefully, in time, internationally too."

His first Gloucester try came in the crucial Premiership victory away at Worcester when he tracked breaks by James Forrester and Rory Lawson to seal victory with a score five minutes from time.

Another one today against French visitors Agen would be timely and give Gloucester's Heineken Cup challenge a boost following their defeat in the opening round in Dublin last Saturday.

"Last weekend at Leinster we were pretty poor in the first-half by our standards – we missed some tackles collectively and when you go 20 points behind in an environment like that, it makes it very difficult," he said.

"We were very disappointed with the way the game went but we can easily qualify, make no doubt about that. We have some very big games coming up – we probably didn't deserve anything last weekend and we have to make sure we put that right."



"I am totally focused on my future with Gloucester and hopefully, in time, internationally too."



# Ryan's Review

Since the last Ryan's Review, **Gloucester have beaten Worcester and lost to Leinster** – head coach **Dean Ryan** rounds up all the **latest action**.



*This time last season we were preparing for a European game against Bucuresti. Gloucester have come a long way in 12 months, how do you see the defeat in Leinster a week on?*

**DR:** I AM not going to say I was delighted with everything I saw but we have to stay positive and support this group in

what they are trying to achieve and not jump away from it at the first opportunity. Sometimes, bare facts can get lost in the hype and build up to occasions like these. That was Leinster's 68th Heineken Cup match. We have played 20. For the likes of Anthony Allen, Ryan Lamb, Jack Adams, Mark Foster and James Bailey to simply expect them to produce the level of performance required to win in that environment is not quite where we are at in terms of our development, although we are getting closer all the time.

What I don't want people to lose sight of is that we are confident enough as a club that when we see positive attributes in these guys we are prepared to play them. We don't look at what they cannot do and our approach has been justified. I have never deviated from the fact it will take 18 or 24 months before we really know how good they are but it doesn't mean they cannot do some very special things now – as they did at times last weekend. In Test match conditions last Saturday we saw

glimpses of that. The Heineken Cup is where we want to expose these players and I thought everybody handled the situation very well.



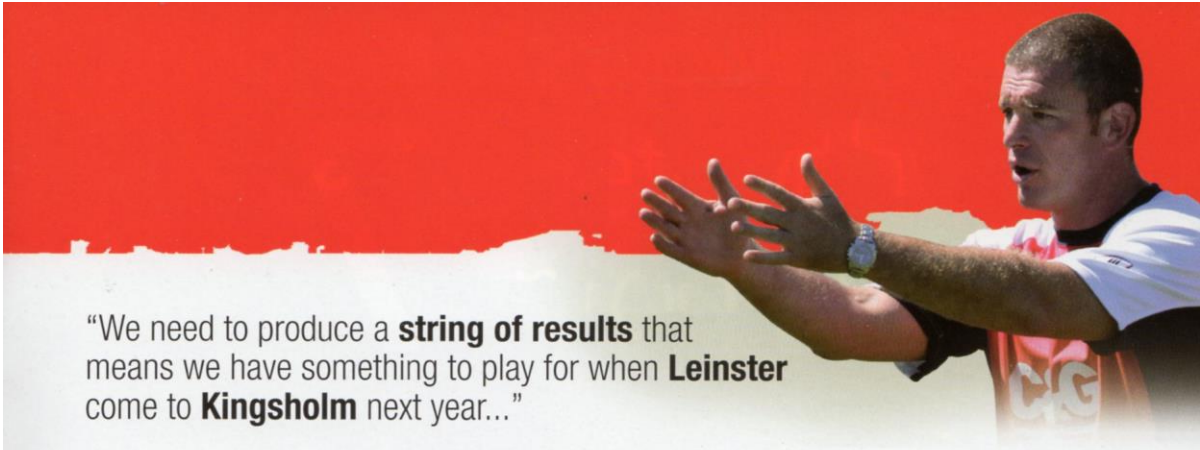
*Where does the defeat leave you in the pool?*

**DR:** Bottom at the moment. No seriously, losing at any stage of this competition makes life difficult but we are very positive about the situation. We need to produce a string of results that means we have something to play for when Leinster come to Kingsholm next year because we are all aware of what is possible in one-off matches.

But that is getting too far ahead. The process starts today against Agen and that will be another physical and intense confrontation. A great deal of emphasis has been placed on the here and now in order for us to get up and running in what is a very tough group. There are four very good teams fighting essentially for one automatic qualification place which is







“We need to produce a **string of results** that means we have something to play for when **Leinster** come to **Kingsholm** next year...”

what makes the Heineken Cup so exciting and so tough.



**Despite the defeat last weekend, you are unbeaten in the Guinness Premiership, how much confidence can you take from that?**

**DR:** The victory at Worcester was special one and crucial in the landscape of the season. That game was our only Premiership game of the month and obviously we wanted to maintain our momentum in that competition close to the top of the table.

In my view, in terms of physicality, it was one of our most difficult away matches of the season. There is obviously a significant rivalry developing between the two clubs and to maintain our composure in that type of fixture was very important. A lot of teams believe they can physically intimidate our younger players but they stood up to the challenge really well and I was delighted with the contributions made

by Nick Wood, Adam Eustace and Peter Buxton – although each individual was outstanding. They are guys who do not always grab the attention but all three have been terrific this season. There is no doubt it was a big result for us and when that competition resumes, we have to build on it at Kingsholm.



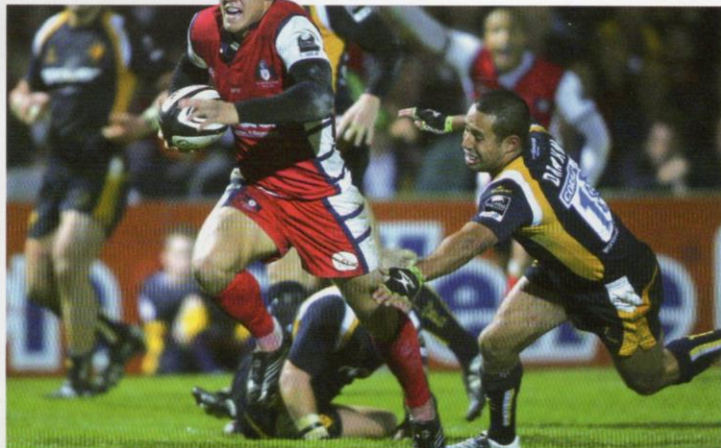
**Agen will be a very difficult test today, what do you expect from them and can we expect any of the injured players back in action?**

**DR:** All of a sudden, we are approaching a period of strength in terms of fitness. James Simpson-Daniel has made a terrific recovery from his collarbone injury. He has worked tremendously hard and if not involved today, then it shouldn't be too long before he is back and playing. He has worked with the fitness team and he looks in really good shape. Alex Brown is also doing very well and has taken part in line-out operations on our team-runs before a game.

There is still a little bit of a way to go but to have them both around will be a real plus for us. The other significant one is obviously Mike Tindall. His involvement against Worcester was used as a gauge to see where he was in terms of fitness and we felt it was right not to expose to a game of the Leinster's intensity immediately and we will continue to monitor his progress. It has been great to see Carlos Nieto get some game time and he will only add to what we can offer in the front row.

This afternoon, I think we know we face a physical threat that comes with pace and power in all areas. Pepito Elhorga at full-back and Rupeni Caucaunibuca are dangerous broken field runners and we will have to be at the top of our game.

They will set a great stall out in the set-piece, look to attack our scrum and line-out and be very direct. It is up to us to match them in these areas but I am sure it will be a cracking contest and one we will savour.



# Gloucester RUGBY



# SU AGEN

	<u>Olly MORGAN</u>	15	Full Back	15	<u>Pepito ELHORGA</u>	
	<u>James BAILEY</u>	14	Right Wing	14	<u>Luc LAFFORGUE</u>	
	<u>Jack ADAMS</u>	13	Centre	13	<u>Conrad STOLTZ</u>	
	<u>Anthony ALLEN</u>	12	Centre	12	<u>Sylvain MIRANDE</u>	
	<u>Iain BALSHAW</u>	11	Left Wing	11	<u>Rupeni CAUCAUNIBUCA</u>	
	<u>Ryan LAMB</u>	10	Fly Half	10	<u>Jerome MIQUEL</u>	
	<u>Peter RICHARDS</u>	9	Scrum Half	9	<u>Nicolas MORLAES</u>	
	<u>Christian CALIFANO</u>	1	Prop	1	<u>Laurent CABARRY</u>	
	<u>Mefin DAVIES</u>	2	Hooker	2	<u>Jalil NARJISSI</u>	
	<u>Carlos NIETO</u>	3	Prop	3	<u>Eusebio GUINAZU</u>	
	<u>Jonathan PENDLEBURY</u>	4	Lock	4	<u>Adri BADENHORST</u>	
	<u>© Marco BORTOLAMI</u>	5	Lock	5	<u>Sorin SOCOL</u>	
	<u>Peter BUXTON</u>	6	Flanker	6	<u>Matthieu LIEVREMONT</u>	
	<u>Jake BOER</u>	7	Flanker	7	<u>Fabrice CULINE</u>	
	<u>Luke NARRAWAY</u>	8	No 8	8	<u>Opeti FONUA</u>	

## Replacements

	<u>Olivier AZAM</u>	16	Substitute 1	16	<u>Ace TIATIA</u>	
	<u>Patrice COLLAZO</u>	17	Substitute 2	17	<u>Alessio GALASSO</u>	
	<u>Adam EUSTACE</u>	18	Substitute 3	18	<u>Colin YUKES</u>	
	<u>Adam BALDING</u>	19	Substitute 4	19	<u>Peio SOM</u>	
	<u>Rory LAWSON</u>	20	Substitute 5	20	<u>Francois GELEZ</u>	
	<u>Willie WALKER</u>	21	Substitute 6	21	<u>Manu AHOTAEILOA</u>	
	<u>Rudi KEIL</u>	22	Substitute 7	22	<u>Andrew FULTON</u>	





# Califano's new lease of life



Ian Borthwick from L'Equipe, is one of the most respected rugby journalists in France and this week he caught up with Christian Califano, the prop with a new lease of life at Kingsholm.

**I**F THERE is one player worth keeping an eye on in today's Heineken Cup match against Agen, it is Gloucester's new tight-head prop, Christian Califano.

Partly because, due to the vagaries of professional rugby, "Cali" is about to pack down against the club-mates he left only a few months ago. But also because, due to the unfathomable enigmas of international selection, the 34-year-old is suddenly back in the frame for the French XV, and today's game will no doubt be closely followed by the Tricolores' coach Bernard Laporte.

All this has come as an unexpected bonus to Califano who, only four months ago was on the brink of retirement. But his arrival at Gloucester, thanks to the insistence of Patrice Collazo, has opened up a whole new chapter in his long and colourful career.

Califano, it will be remembered, won his first cap for France as a raw 22-year-old, against the All Blacks in Christchurch in 1994, when the Tricolore scrum humiliated the opposition, laying the platform for an historic 22-8 French victory, and following it up a week later with another 23-20 win at Eden Park, to clinch the series 2-0.

Since then, the jovial Califano has become one of the best-loved characters of French rugby, racking up 69 Tests in the blue jersey and, after establishing himself as one of the corner stones of the great Toulouse team, spending a season playing Super-12 with the Auckland Blues in 2002, and another with the Saracens before signing with Agen in 2004.

At the end of last season, however, after a frustrating and at times acrimonious couple of years at Agen, Califano's contract with the French club came to an end, and as there appeared to be no further interest from any Top-14 clubs in France, he was resigned to playing out the end of his career with some old mates for a lowly fourth-division club in Corsica.

But a chance conversation with Collazo changed all that, and in a matter of days, Califano had signed up for Gloucester.

"It's incredible, I still can't get over what has happened to me," exclaims Califano. "A few months ago, I was 99% sure that my professional career was over. I was looking forward to just playing out my days with some 'vieux copains' in Bastia. But coming to Gloucester has changed that. It has given me a new lease of life, I am hungry again, I am hungry for rugby."

## Player Interview

James Simpson - Daniel

# 01



## Christian's Stats

Position: Prop

Height: 5'10"

Weight: 17st 5lb

DOB: 16.05.72



"There are people here in Gloucester, especially Patrice (Collazo) who have put their trust in me, and I am determined not to disappoint them."

Califano says he is amazed by the professionalism of the Gloucester club, their coaching, training and medical staff.

"There is a great atmosphere in the club, we all get on well, and everything is done with 'bonne humeur'," he says. "As for the training, it's another world. It reminds me of what it was like in New Zealand when I spent a season with the Blues, it is all so thorough and from the moment we arrive in the morning to when we leave, there is never any down-time."

As for a possible return to the French XV, Califano admits to being a little non-plussed by the overtures made by Laporte in the French press earlier this week. But on more than one occasion, the national coach was quoted as saying he was interested in the performances of Gloucester's new signing.

In the daily French newspaper 'L'Equipe', Laporte admitted that apart from the inevitable trio of Sylvain Marconnet, Pieter de Villiers and Olivier Milloud, he is still looking for a fourth prop to go the 2007 World Cup.

"Since he has been in Gloucester, Cali has regularly been performing well in the English championship. His experience, and the fact that he can play on both sides of the scrum, are qualities we will have to take into consideration," said Laporte.

So, three and a half years after

Califano's last game for 'Les Bleus', against Ireland in March 2003, does this mean that Gloucester might shortly be home to a current French international?

"I am not sure what it all means, and I have to say I am surprised. But I would be lying if I said I wasn't touched by what Laporte said. Obviously, when you have been through three difficult seasons like I have, it warms the heart to hear that the coach of France says he is still interested in me.

"It just goes to show that all the hard work I have put in since coming to Gloucester has not been in vain, and it will undoubtedly give me an extra boost to play well against Agen. Instead of being at 100%, I'll have to be at 120%, because you just never know what is around the corner."

So, playing against his old club, only months after helping them win back a place in the Heineken Cup for the first time in three years, and on the eve of Laporte's announcement of the 30 players to prepare for France's autumn internationals, all this means that today's match will have a little extra spice for Califano.

"I know I will be playing against one of my best friends, the hooker Jalil Narjissi and that's not going to be easy. But for me, even if it is Agen, and even if I look forward to having a drink with them after the game, it will be a game like any other.

"And whether I make it back into the French team or not, I just know that I only have two years left to play, and I want every game, every minute to count."

"There is a great atmosphere in the club,  
we all get on well, and everything is done  
with 'bonne humeur',"



# Match Action

## Time line

1 mins	
Drahm TRY, Drahm CON	7-0
12 mins	
Adams TRY, Lamb CON	7-7
26 mins	
Buxton Yellow Card	
28 mins	
Forrester Yellow Card	
31 mins	
Ramussen TRY, Drahm CON	14-7
34 mins	
Lamb PEN	14-10
42 mins	
Lamb PEN	14-13
48 mins	
Drahm PEN	17-13
51 mins	
Lamb PEN	17-16
56 mins	
Lamb PEN	17-19
63 mins	
Allen TRY, Lamb CON	17-26
69 mins	
Lombard TRY, Drahm CON	24-26
75 mins	
Balshaw TRY, Lamb CON	24-33

## Gloucester Line-up

15	Iain Balshaw	(1t)
14	James Bailey	
13	Jack Adams	(1t)
12	Anthony Allen	(1t)
11	Mark Foster	
10	Ryan Lamb	(4 pens, 3 cons)
9	Peter Richards	
1	Nick Wood	
2	Mefin Davies	
3	Christian Califano	
4	Will James	
5	Adam Eustace	
6	Peter Buxton (capt)	
7	Andy Hazell	
8	James Forrester	
REPS		
16	Olivier Azam	(M. Davies)
17	Carlos Nieto	(Christian Califano)
18	James Pendlebury	(Will James)
19	Jake Boer	
20	Rory Lawson	(Peter Richards)
21	Ludovic Mercier	
22	Mike Tindall	(Jack Adams)

Worcester Warriors 24  
Gloucester Rugby 33



## Wounded Warriors

Saturday, October 13  
Ref: Sean Davey Att: 10,197

**G**LOUCESTER produced a gritty and hugely determined performance to seal a crucial victory over local rivals Worcester in a typically intense local derby at Sixways.

Against a hugely physical and determined side who were desperate to climb off the foot of the Premiership, Gloucester needed all their savvy and control to earn what will be a priceless victory.

After conceding a try after

47 seconds to Shane Drahm, Gloucester refused to panic and hit back when Ryan Lamb – making his first appearance of the season following ankle trouble – sent Jack Adams busting through a midfield gap for the equalising try.

Both teams traded in a fierce physical battle and when Gloucester lost both Peter Buxton and James Forrester to the sinbin for technical offences, the hosts cranked up the pressure. But with only six forwards in the scrum, and Iain





Balshaw on the flank from full-back, Gloucester held out a series of close-range Worcester efforts in what was one of the turning points of the match.

Christian Califano, Mefin Davies and Nick Wood were exceptional during this stage of the contest and Worcester could only manage a neat score from Dale Rasmussen to open up a 14-10 lead.

However, a Lamb penalty and wonderful

finish from Allen, who picked up Forrester's pass, put Gloucester on the right track in the second half and not even a chip and chase try by Thomas Lombard could ignite a Worcester recovery.

Gloucester sealed the win when Forrester broke off a powerful scrum and fed replacement scrum-half Rory Lawson, who put Balshaw in for his first score in Gloucester colours.



## Man of the Match...

**Nick Wood**



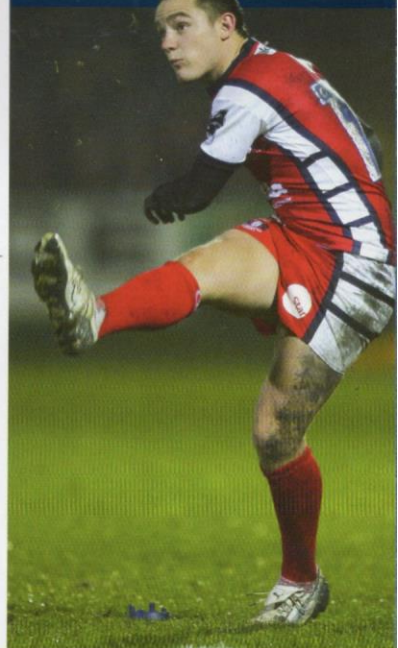
The young loosehead prop produced an outstanding performance against international Chris Horsman to help lay the foundations for Gloucester's victory.

## Coaches Comment...

**Dean Ryan**



"It was a massively physical game, one of our hardest this season, but I thought we stood up fantastically well and I think my players deserve a huge amount of credit for that."







# Peter Arnold

**Peter Arnold** gets his juices flowing today (quite literally) with a look at what makes **Agen** famous, gazes back at **Kingsholm's best moments** over the last year or two and is still capable of signing an autograph in the bar .....

## WHOLE NEW BALL GAME

**D**ON'T know about you, but I always thought it would be a tall order for us in Dublin. Half the side had no European Cup experience, and there they were faced by a side bursting at the seams with international players, on one of the most famous Test grounds in the world, in front of a crowd of baying Irishmen, who would not have been satisfied with anything short of a good win for their side. It was probably one of the most intense games they will ever play, short of a full international. The words "baptism" and "fire" spring to mind.

Nevertheless, the lads came away with a great deal of credit. The experience will stand them in good stead in future campaigns, and I'm sure that their performance will have impressed opposition players, supporters and critics. They will now be aware that they will have a real fight on their hands when they come to Kingsholm.

As they used to say in the old school reports "Good progress. Can do better."



Mark Foster scoring against Leinster

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

**I** NOTICED that Teletext gave the credit for Gloucester's first try, last Saturday, to Jack Forster. Rather than make any ribald comments, I must concede that for a journalist or commentator, who doesn't happen to be local, to distinguish between 'Forster', 'Forrester' and 'Foster' must be something of a nightmare. However, if present progress is maintained, I've a feeling that said reporter is going to have to learn. You can't get a household name wrong, can you?

## ON THE BOUNCE?

**I**T'S QUITE nice to contrast the Leinster game with the Worcester encounter the week before. The Sixways lads really wanted to win that one, and threw everything they had at us. If there had been a kitchen sink on the pitch, I'm sure they would have hurled that, too. I can't see that a side with that much desire to

succeed, and with so much potential talent as relegation material. Their games against Harlequins are going to be extremely interesting. Are the Quins going to drop straight down again after regaining their Premiership spot only this season? I wouldn't be surprised, but there's an awful long way to go yet, and Harlequins always did have a knack of coming good after Christmas.

But on present evidence, my half-dollar would be on Worcester.

## MAKES A CHANGE FROM CUSTARD

**W**HENEVER we are fortunate to welcome a new opponent to Kingsholm I like to try to find out something about their home town and what makes them tick. Agen appears to be a fruitful area from that point of view, and indeed, has one or two points in common with our own fair city. Like us, they have a long and honourable rugby tradition, and can claim a very meritorious



Brian O'Driscoll





Richards being tackled by D'Arcy

list of players who went on to international honours, including the current French supremo, Pierre Berbizier.

Also like us, they have an 11th century cathedral, although while ours has only one nave, theirs has two. Can't think why. Seems a bit superfluous, unless one is for training purposes and the other for first team services. In one field, however, we can't compete with Agen. We may have our elvers, but they are dedicated to, would you believe, the humble prune. Indeed, one website I explored referred to Agen as the "Capital of the Prune".

I suppose we only think of prunes as an adjunct to custard, or perhaps as a mild laxative, but not so. Apparently, the little black delicacy is a very versatile fruit indeed. Two recipes immediately caught my eye. Stuffed prunes, I gather are popular, but what do you stuff them with? The answer is, I'm told, prune juice, which seems about like the old Scottish adage that the only thing you should add to a scotch is another scotch. I liked the sound of the other recommendation though. Prunes soaked in Armagnac. Presumably, they feed them to their back three to give them the runs.

One way and another, this sounds like a plum fixture.

### BEST MOMENT

**I** SEE that some university boffin has devised a formula to define the nation's most iconic sporting moment. Don't ask me why. The

**"James Simpson Daniel's humiliation of L. Dallaglio in the Kingsholm visit of Wasps will certainly have its advocates for sheer skill and sporting theatre. In my opinion we won that game. They just scored more points than us."**

relevance and authenticity of the system may be judged by the fact that the British Coxless Fours gold medal at the last Olympics came top of the list when the formula was applied, beating the 1966 football World Cup win.

Jonny Wilkinson's last-gasp drop-goal in extra time to win the Rugby World Cup came absolutely nowhere.

I suppose it's all a bit of harmless fun, and it did get me thinking. What was the best moment for Gloucester Rugby over the past few seasons? There are plenty of contenders. James Forrester's climactic and highly individualistic try in last season's European Challenge Cup final is an obvious contender. James Simpson-Daniel's humiliation of L. Dallaglio in the Kingsholm visit of Wasps will certainly have its advocates for sheer skill and sporting theatre. In my opinion we won that game. They just scored more points than us.

Ryan Lamb's score against Bristol before he'd even got his boots dirty has its claim to fame, too. You'll have seen more consummate pieces of finishing, but taken in context, it was quite a moment.

My best moment of the season so far came in the Lions' Den after that self-same match. A nice, attractive lady called Jacky – she insists on the 'y' rather than 'ie' – was persuaded to allow me to autograph her programme, which hasn't happened to me for quite a while. There was a condition however. She asked me if I could give her a mention on this page

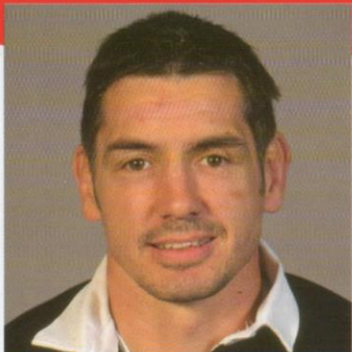
How could I possibly refuse such a charming request?

**Cheers Jacky! See you again.**



# Hall of Fame

with Dave King



## Ian Smith

He was the first player to make **100 league appearances** for Gloucester – **opposite flanker Ian Smith** was ahead of his time and is a modern day Kingsholm legend. He joins Dave King's Hall of Fame today

**T**HESE days Andy Hazell prowls the opposite position like a modern day gun slinging flanker of the ultra-competitive variety and before him Ian Smith was the magnificent seven.

Smith was a brilliant performer – a prototype for the Hazells, Backs and Moodys of this world and was the first Gloucester player to reach 100 league appearances in a wonderfully expressive career.

What is even more remarkable is that he followed in his father's footsteps in playing for the club and eventually internationally for Scotland. Father

and son combinations who reach the pinnacle in club rugby are rare but Ian followed in the footsteps of his father Dick Smith who was also a flanker.

Dick stood second in Gloucester's all time appearance list with over 500 appearances for the club. It was some standard to follow but Ian surpassed his father, not in matches played for Gloucester but in becoming an International north of the border.

So how did a young protégé who was educated at St Thomas Rich's School, played for Longlevens RFC and work for the County Council Surveyor's Department become one of Murrayfield's favourite sons? Simple. His grandparents came from Aberdeen, although Ian was born on 16th March 1963 in Gloucester - that made him eligible for the Scots.

Smith's rugby career began with Longlevens Juniors from where he progressed to Gloucester Rugby Colts

"Smith's **heart** was always at **Kingsholm** and despite the offers he had from **Bristol and Harlequins...**"





and then to the United Team who were the forerunners of today's A Team. He made his club debut at a senior level for the United against Pontypool.

He was always regarded as a player of remarkable consistency and it was no co-incidence that the hard grafting flanker was already making his 120th appearance for Gloucester in the 1990 Pilkington Cup Final against Bath at Twickenham.

The Gloucester-born number seven was one of those players who enjoyed a career mainly free from injury despite his relentless, all-action style of determination and effort. For three consecutive seasons the Scotland star captained Gloucester - in the 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 seasons following in the footsteps of his father who also enjoyed this coveted honour in the

1968-1969 and 1969-1970 seasons.

Of course, the method of selecting a club captain was different from today. When Ian was appointed captain of Gloucester it was at the behest of the players. Therefore, the summer of 1990 was a most satisfying period in Ian's playing career when the honour was bestowed upon him.

Current London Wasps director of rugby Ian McGeehan was responsible for selecting the Gloucester openside in his first representative appearance

for Scotland. Smith soon made his mark and it came as no surprise when he was selected to make his full debut against England at Murrayfield in 1992. Although England won 25-7, Smith kept his place for the next match that was an 18-10 victory at Lansdowne Road against Ireland.

Ian's appearances during the 1995 season were in the World Cup in South Africa. Scotland ran up a huge score against the Ivory Coast in an 89-0 victory to get their campaign off to a great start. Current Gloucester coach, Bryan Redpath was also



**His International appearances were as follows: -**

- 1992 versus England, Ireland, Wales, Australia 1 and 2.
- 1994 versus England (replacement), Ireland, France, Argentina 1 and 2.
- 1995 versus Ivory Coast, Western Samoa.
- 1996 versus Ireland, France, Wales, England, New Zealand 1 and 2, Australia, Italy
- 1997 versus England, Ireland, France, Australia, South Africa.

## Hall of Fame...



a member of the Scotland World Cup party. The caps that Ian obtained in the 1997 season were when he was a member of Moseley RFC after he left Kingsholm in 1996 to join the Midland club who were not in the top division at that time.

However, Smith's heart was always at Kingsholm and despite the offers he had from Bristol and Harlequins he decided a move to The Reddings was the preferred option after then Gloucester coach Richard Hill decided not to renew the contract of the 33-year-old.

Ian retired from playing soon after but he did return to Kingsholm in 2002 in a coaching capacity to assist Nigel Melville. After a period as coach at Cheltenham RFC, he moved back to Moseley in 2004 along with another of his former playing colleagues at Kingsholm – Scotland B International, Don Caskie.

The duo led the Midland Club to almost immediate success when they led them to the National League Two title in the 2005-2006 season. Several former Gloucester players are still involved, including Adam Cave, Chris Hall, Richard Stott, Nick Southern and Mark Evans.

The professional era came too late for Ian Smith who had to combine his playing career with that as a civil engineer but he would have made an outstanding professional sportsman.

Who is to say that Smith will not walk within the confines of Kingsholm with Moseley in the future? An almost unknown fact regarding Ian John Smith was that he was an England Under-18 triallist and played for England B against a Spanish Select XV in 1989 before opting for Scotland.

Smith also played for Wollongong in Australia in 1985. He took part in four Scottish tours playing in non-cap Tests against Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa.













Former Bath and England prop forward, Gareth Chilcott who was a playing adversary was fulsome in his praise of the former Scotland International. "He was a flanker ahead of his time; he really grovelled on the deck for everything. He was an openside with big vision, a very strong player, if he had played 10 years later he would have earned big money.

"He really was before his time and typified Gloucester Rugby Club in every way."



# Match Action

## Time line

 4 mins	
D'Arcy TRY, Contepomi CON	7-0
 6 mins	
Lamb PEN	7-3
 9 mins	
Foster TRY, Lamb CON	7-10
 13 mins	
Contepomi TRY and CON	14-10
 22 mins	
Contepomi PEN	17-10
 27 mins	
Contepomi PEN	20-10
 32 mins	
Contepomi PEN	23-10
 36 mins	
Keogh TRY, Contepomi CON	30-10
 40 mins	
Adams TRY, Lamb CON	30-17
 49 mins	
Lamb PEN	30-20
 56 mins	
O'Kelly	yellow card
 60 mins	
Horgan TRY, Contepomi CON	37-20

## Gloucester Line-up

15	Iain Balshaw	
14	Mark Foster	(11)
13	Jack Adams	(11)
12	Anthony Allen	
11	James Bailey	
10	Ryan Lamb	(2 pens, 2 cons)
9	Peter Richards	
1	Christian Califano	
2	Mefin Davies	
3	Carlos Nieto	
4	Adam Eustace	
5	Marco Bortolami (capt)	
6	Peter Buxton	
7	Andy Hazell	
8	James Forrester	
REPS		
16	Olivier Azam	(M. Davies)
17	Nick Wood	(Christian Califano)
18	Jake Boer	(Andy Hazell)
19	Jonathan Pendlebury	(Adam Eustace)
20	Rory Lawson	(Peter Richards)
21	Ludovic Mercier	(Mark Foster)
22	Rudi Keil	

**Leinster Lions**  
**Gloucester Rugby**

**37**  
**20**



## Lions Roar

**Saturday, October 21**

**Ref: C. Berdos (Fra) Att: 22,531**

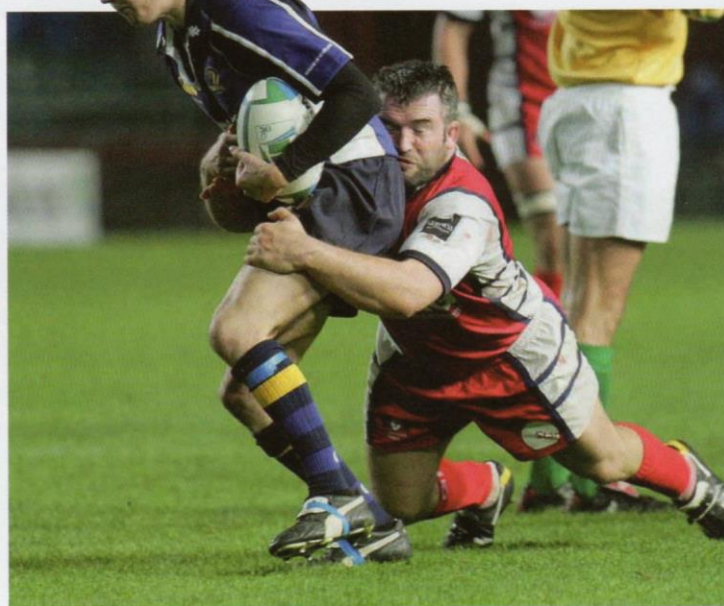
**L** EINSTER'S experience was the telling factor as Gloucester suffered an opening round defeat to the Irish giants in Dublin last weekend..

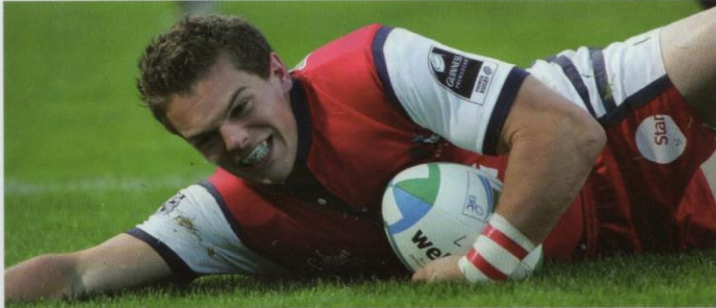
There was plenty to recommend itself in Gloucester's performance. It was full of youthful vitality and they were certainly not overawed by running head-on to Leinster's big guns of Brian O'Driscoll, Gordon D'Arcy, Denis Hickie, Felipe Contepomi and Shane Horgan.

Had they enjoyed a touch more fortune they may have been in a position to spring one of the major European surprises but were cut down by tries from D'Arcy, Contepomi, flanker Simon Keogh and Horgan late in the second half.

Gloucester made a very positive start but the game was away from them as early as the fourth minute when D'Arcy slipped past Jack Adams and in for a try from a set scrum.

However, the men from Kingsholm hit back when James Forrester, Pete

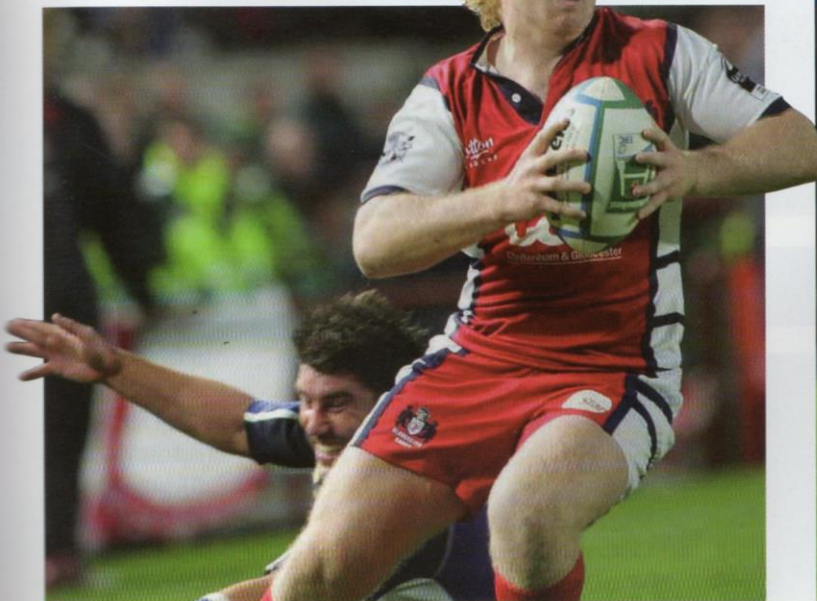




Richards and Ryan Lamb combined to send Mark Foster hurtling through a midfield gap and home from 35 metres.

But scores from Contepomi, who gathered his own chip after Anthony Allen's attempted catch had rebounded off a post.

And when a powerful Gloucester maul looked to be illegally dragged down, Leinster turned over possession that ended with Keogh going under the sticks despite a brave defensive effort from James Bailey who got back to make a great tackle on Hickie.



That made the score 30-10 and sealed the game, although Gloucester did strike back with a lovely try from Adams, who took a sensational one-handed catch and weaved his way to the line.

However, despite plenty of second half pressure the only try came from Horgan to seal the bonus point for Leinster.

## Man of the Match...

### Anthony Allen



Anthony Allen showed why he is an international in the making with a mature and responsible performance against one of the best centre partnerships in the world.

## Coaches Comment...

### Dean Ryan



"This is a stage in our development but I was proud with the way these guys handled themselves and stood up to one of the greatest challenges in Europe. We must learn these lessons and take them into the future,"

