













GLOUCESTER RUGBY

FOUNDED: 1873

GROUND: KINGSHOLM STADIUM

CAPACITY: 16,500

COACH: BRYAN REDPATH

CAPTAIN: MIKE TINDALL

LEAGUE:
GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP

POSITION: 9TH

TODAY'S TOSITORS

Gloucester Rugby come into this afternoon's game knowing that they have to win against Harlequins to have any chance of continuing to compete in the LV= Cup this season.

Bryan Redpath's men currently occupy second place in pool 2 behind the Scarlets but trail the Welsh region by 5 points.

So, a bonus point win would be required this afternoon at the Stoop in addition to the Scarlets stumbling at home to the Cardiff Blues.

And, of course, Quins have plenty to play for this afternoon as they are level on points with the Blues at the top of pool 3.

When the two sides last met, back in November in the Guinness Premiership, Gloucester were in the middle of an injury crisis that left them unable to play fifteen against fifteen on the training paddock due to a lack of healthy bodies.

The two teams served up a bit of a classic on that occasion sharing 64 points with Quins emerging as 35-29 winners as Gloucester's late comeback came up just short.

Gloucester's injury situation has eased somewhat in recent weeks although Head Coach Bryan Redpath will be deprived of the services of a host of players this afternoon due to various international call ups.

On the plus side, several of the first team squad have put pen to paper on contract extensions in recent weeks adding to the feel good factor at Gloucester created by several fine wins over the past few weeks.

It's a welcome change in fortunes given that the 2009-10 season was shaping up to be a difficult first one in charge for new Head Coach Redpath.

The afore mentioned injury situation, coupled with a number of suspensions for disciplinary reasons, left the Scot desperately short of resources and a number of close results went against Gloucester. Several narrow defeats could so easily have been victories.

Throughout it all, however, Redpath remained admirably positive and maintained that his side were more than capable of delivering big performances.

That was evident in impressive home Guinness Premiership victories over the Leicester Tigers and Newcastle Falcons prior to Christmas as well as Heineken Cup triumphs over the Glasgow Warriors and Biarritz Olympique.

The self belief in the side has been visibly rising in recent weeks and recent displays, against Biarritz, the Dragons and Worcester have resulted in three wins and could have seen an absolute hatful of tries but for some untimely errors at key moments and a modicum of bad luck.

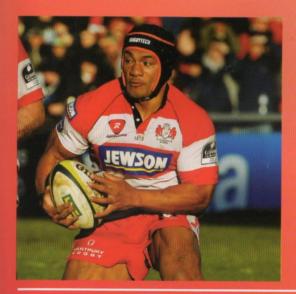
The challenge now is to maintain that good form and translate it into another victory on the road.

That is a big ask in itself. Quins have a formidable home record and, as mentioned above, have plenty at stake this afternoon themselves.

They will also be missing several players on international duty this weekend but are bound to be naming a strong line up and be gunning for the win.

May the best team win!





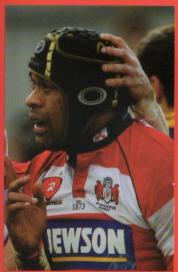
ELIOTA FUIMAONO-SAPOLU

Position: Centre Height: 1.85m (6'1") Weight: 102kg (16 st 1lb) D.O.B: 31.10.80

Eliota became an instant hero with the Shed following his summer move from local rivals Bath Rugby with his passionate display against his former club on the opening day of the Guinness Premiership season.

Capable of playing fly half or inside centre, Eliota brings the solid defence to the Gloucester backline that you'd expect from a Samoan international but also soft hands and an eye for a gap.

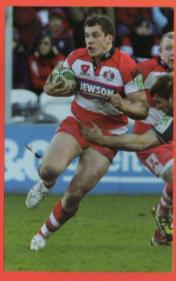
His presence was missed in the Gloucester midfield when he was away on international duty in the autumn but has been in sparkling form recently.



AKAPUSI QERA

The marauding Fijian international openside flanker has been in scintillating form recently scoring five tries since the turn of the year, including a hat trick in the Heineken Cup at Newport Gwent Dragons, and seven in total this season.

Qera, who signed a two year extension to his current contract in January, joined Gloucester Rugby following the 2007 Rugby World Cup in France.



TIM MOLENAAR

A New Zealander by birth who travels on a Dutch passport, Tim Molenaar's emergence has been a real positive for Gloucester Rugby this season.

Signed from Championship side Nottingham in pre-season, he has provided a muscular, direct running presence in the Gloucester midfield and scored his first try for the club against Biarritz recently.



CHARLIE SHARPLES

A product of the Gloucester Rugby Academy, Charlie Sharples made his first team debut as an 18 year old back in March 2008.

Was part of the England U20s side that reached the Junior World Cup Final in Tokyo in June last year and has been in great try scoring form for Gloucester so far this season including a brace here at the Stoop in the Guinness Premiership back in November.



TODAYS TEANS



HARLEQUINS



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

NOTES	HARLEQUINS	Vs	GLOUCESTER	NOTES
	Mike Brown	15: Full Back	Tom Voyce	
	George Lowe	14: Wing	Charlie Sharples	
	Gonzalo Tiesi	13: Centre	Tim Molenaar	
	Jordan Turner-Hall	12: Centre	Eliota Fuimaono-Sapolu	
	Tom Williams	11: Wing	Lesley Vainikolo	
	Nick Evans	10: Fly-Half	Nicky Robinson	
	Karl Dickson	9: Scrum-Half	Dave Lewis	
	Ceri Jones	1: Prop	Yann Thomas	
	Matt Cairns	2: Hooker	Olivier Azam	-
	John Andress	3: Prop	Pierre Capdevielle	
	James Percival	4: Lock	Marco Bortolami	
	Lewis Stevenson	5: Lock	Alex Brown	
	Chris York	6: Flanker	Peter Buxton	
	Will Skinner (c)	7: Flanker	Akapusi Qera	
	Tom Guest	8	Gareth Delve (c)	
		Replacements		
	Chris Brooker	16	Darren Dawidiuk	
	Aston Croall	17	Rupert Harden	Variable (
	James Johnston	18	Greg Somerville	
	Tomas Vallejos	19	Adam Eustace	
	Neil McMillan	20	Andy Hazell	
	Steve So'oialo	21	Andy Williams	
	Rory Clegg	22	Tim Taylor	

Semi Tadulala

HARLEQUINS Vs GLOUCESTER RUGBY

LV= Cup Round 4

Sunday 7th February 2010 Kick-Off 3pm

Referee: Sean Davey Touch Judge: Clive Leeke Touch Judge: Peter Huckle 4th Official: Tom Moses

MATCH STATS

TIANLEQUINS GLOUCESTER			
	TRIES		
	CONVERSIONS		
	PENALTIES		
	DROP GOALS		
	FINAL SCORE		



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