

THE PRIDE THE PASSION THE HONOUR THE HISTORY

GLOUCESTER RUGBY



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Jonny May

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW INSIDE

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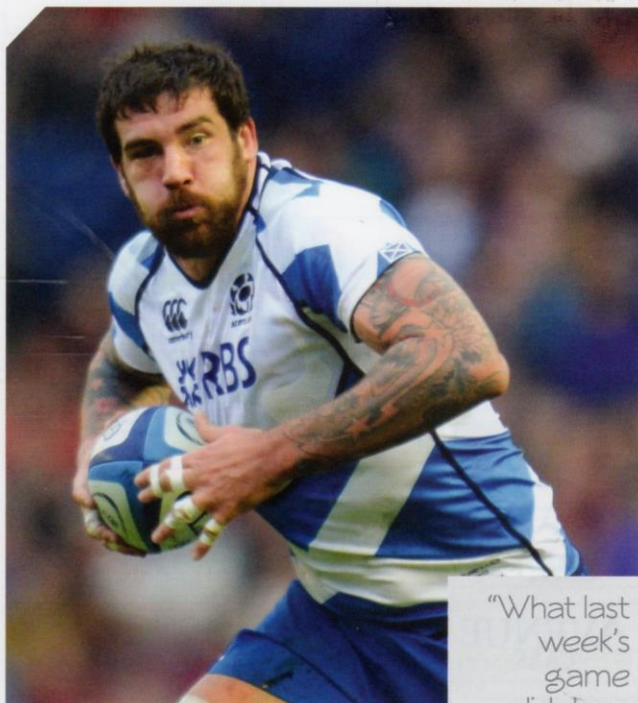
GILBERT

GILBERT

HILTON HHONORS

CAPTAIN'S *Corner*

Jim Hamilton



Welcome to Kingsholm for the latest fixture in our Aviva Premiership campaign.

Games under floodlights at Kingsholm always have an extra special atmosphere and, being away with Scotland, I'll be keenly watching this one on TV.

And with this one being a local derby against one of our closest rivals in Worcester, the stadium should be buzzing this evening.

We come into tonight's game, having had a couple of really tough games on the road. Northampton and Wasps are two of our closest competitors in the Aviva Premiership table and taking six points from those games isn't a bad return.

We set high standards though, and we all know that it could have been even better. We led for large periods of the game at Adams Park last weekend, and were

"What last week's game did show, however, is that Premiership rugby can be an unforgiving game – you can't afford to switch off for even an instant."

probably the better team for much of the game.

What last week's game did show, however, is that Premiership rugby can be an unforgiving game – you can't afford to switch off, even for an instant.

Christian Wade's try, although well taken, came in bizarre fashion when we lost control at a scrum when going forward. There's no point debating whether it was a penalty or a forward pass, it's history now.

Shortly after that, we thought we had Wasps going backwards again, but Billy Vunipola picked up and drove over. Two tries almost from nothing.

What Wasps did do well in that final quarter, was play the game in the right areas of the pitch. They forced us to play from deep, much the same as we did to Northampton the weekend before.

For all that, we showed the team spirit that has characterised so many of our performances so far this season, and we very nearly snatched it at the end.

The initial reaction was huge disappointment at having come so close and having led on the hour mark but, having had a chance to think about it, we did at least take the two points.

The important thing is not to waste the effort of the past two weekends, and to kick on against Worcester this evening.

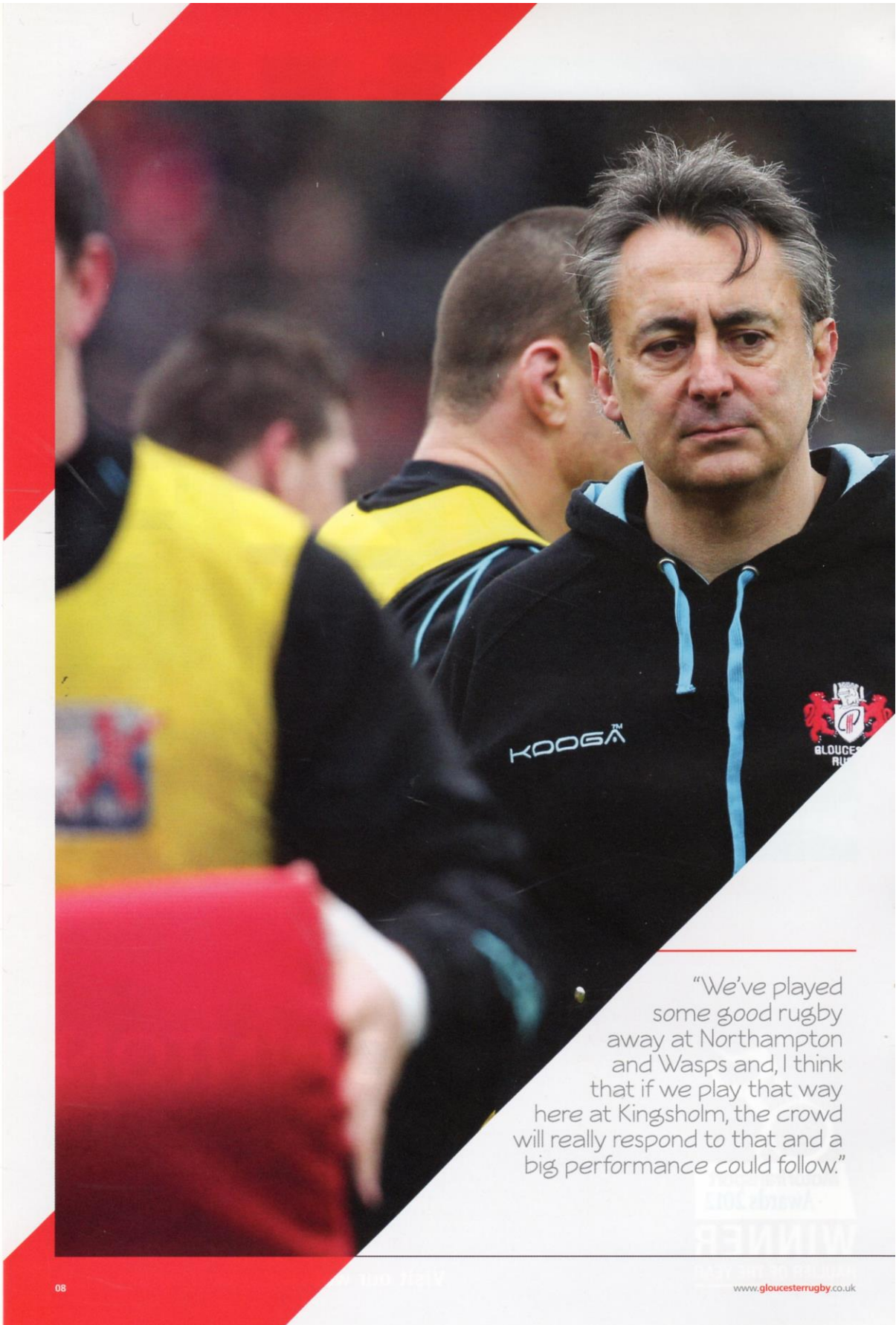
The games between Gloucester and Worcester are always hard fought affairs and they'll come here tonight looking to bounce back after losing at home to Northampton last weekend.

It's not far for their fans to travel, so they'll probably have decent support but, hopefully, the Gloucester fans will more than drown them out!

It's a big game. We need to win to maintain our top four challenge while Worcester will be looking to close the gap on the teams above them.

It won't be one for the faint hearted tonight!

Enjoy the game!



"We've played some good rugby away at Northampton and Wasps and, I think that if we play that way here at Kingsholm, the crowd will really respond to that and a big performance could follow."

COACH'S *Notes*

Director of Rugby, Nigel Davies

Welcome to Kingsholm for our latest Aviva Premiership fixture of the season.

It's been a slightly unusual week for us in terms of our preparation. The fact we played at London Wasps on Sunday, and have been dealing with a five day turnaround, has meant that we've had to work a bit differently this week.

we channel our emotions in the right way to be effective.

Worcester are fighting hard in the Premiership to ease clear of the bottom three teams, while we're trying to force our way into the top four. There's a lot at stake for both teams.

They're going to be a tough opponent, there's no doubt about that. They've

put in some good performances recently, without necessarily getting the results that their efforts deserve. They will be hoping for more this evening at Kingsholm where they've had some good results in recent years.

One other change for us this week has been that we've had a couple of training sessions here at the stadium. We've been on the road for a couple of weeks, so I felt it was important for us to reacquaint

ourselves with our home stadium.

There has been the odd occasion when our players have looked a little bit on edge when playing at home. I think if they can relax a fraction, then we'll really see the type of performance here that our fantastic supporters deserve.

We've played some good rugby away at Northampton and Wasps and, I think that if we play that way here at Kingsholm, the crowd will really respond to that and a big performance could follow.

This is our only home game in this batch of four fixtures. We've taken six points from two games, which isn't a bad return. But it's important that we deliver a performance this evening that backs up those two displays.

Nigel



The players hard work and determination will make a big difference in the second half of the season

The players have put in a huge amount of work throughout the season, so this week has been very much about keeping the energy levels ticking over and managing our rest and rehabilitation.

Last Sunday was a very tough game at Adams Park. The players worked extremely hard and I think we were a bit unlucky not to come away with the win.

I've been reasonably pleased with the performances we've put in over the past couple of weekends. We've also shown a lot of character in those games and we'll need more of the same, plus the same levels of intensity and focus, against Worcester this evening.

Tonight's game is very important for us. It's another derby fixture, so there will be a lot of emotion involved and we have to ensure that



LOOKING AT THE BIG PICTURE

Nick Purewal's

View from **The Citizen**

"In weeks like this the biggest battles are the mental ones. You've got to be switched on and focused all the time."

Counting the casualties must not derail Gloucester's train of thought for this vital clash with Worcester, believes Nick Wood.

Sunday's battle royal at Wasps and its lingering toll on the Kingsholm squad has comfortably crept into midweek.

The Cherry and Whites had a tight turnaround from Sunday to Friday in any



case – but the bruising, brutal nature of the 33-29 Wasps defeat has only exacerbated that.

Akapusi Qera slumped out before half-time with a stinger to the neck restricting arm movement.

■ Wood was proud with how the team fought back to get a bonus point against Wasps last weekend

His replacement Matt Cox played through the pain of a hand problem, while Rupert Harden battled manfully as Gloucester's only available frontline tighthead prop.

This has been a week where finding enough fitness to take the field has been a challenge in itself.

But the unfazed Wood said Gloucester must strike the war wounds from their minds, patch themselves up – and win a battle of mental fortitude against the Warriors tonight.

"You can't ask too much on the training field in a week like this," admitted the 30-year-old from Cirencester. "It's got to be light, to give guys a chance to recover, and be in a fit state to get out there again."

"Everyone knows that's the case and no one has any qualms about it – but it's important to be aware of the impact that has, to give people the time they need to be ready."

"In weeks like this the biggest battles are the mental ones. You've got to be switched on and focused all the time."

"We can't rely necessarily on certain things from the training field to put us in the right frame of mind to go and produce the kind of performance we'll need against Worcester."

"So instead we have to get to that place internally almost – we've got to be ready for another massive battle."

Gloucester's late two-try rally at Wasps



brought both the losing and the four-try bonus points on Sunday.

Wood reckons a wayward quarter-hour in the second-half cost the Cherry and Whites a potentially pivotal Premiership victory.

But he remains confident Nigel Davies' men can still force their way into the league's top-four play-off places – provided they build on six match points from their last two matches, at Northampton and Wasps.

He continued: "At the start of that 15 minutes of madness, we kicked off, re-gathered the ball, they knocked on, and we had a scrum.

"Then we failed to control the ball in the contact from the scrum. Once they've done that the challenge is not to let them do it again, or not to let them break down the wings certainly.

"We started to get a little bit loose, and so it was up to us to focus on what had been our strengths in the game to that point, ask ourselves what had we done to control things and get ourselves in that position.

"It probably took us 15 minutes to recover that, gather our thoughts and challenge for points at the end.

this is

Gloucestershire

- Mum-of-11 Heather Frost has council 'mansion' built to accommodate her
- How the night-time levy could affect Cheltenham pubs and clubs
- Diesel stolen from tractors in Swindon Village
- Robbers who slashed Cheltenham taxi drivers' face at large



"We're always going to come under pressure in matches – but it's about how you respond to it that counts.

"And hopefully we can be that little bit quicker at countering that kind of pressure this weekend.

"I think we can carry 60 to 65 minutes of the Wasps game into Friday night. We've just got to cut out that 15 minutes of mayhem that played exactly into Wasps' hands.

"We've got to look to the bigger picture. We said we had to go to Franklin's Gardens and Adams Park and come away with something from both games – and we've done that.

"We're not happy that we didn't win at Wasps, but we know where we came up short.

"But look at the situation at 33-17 down, we could have left with nothing and that would have put a totally different complexion on what comes next.

"It's an 80-minute game and we fought all the way, and we should be proud of that.

"We recovered from that terrible 15 minutes – even if it was slightly sluggish – and we have to carry that forward."

GLOUCESTER RUGBY HERITAGE

www.gloucester rugby heritage.org.uk

THE PRIDE THE PASSION THE HONOUR THE HISTORY

NEIGHBOURS RARELY MET

Although Gloucester and Worcester first met in 1877, today's match is only the 21st between the clubs. In the series to date, Gloucester have won 13, lost 4 and drawn 3, with a points difference since modern scoring values were introduced of 388 against 279.

Three of those matches have been cup encounters – all won by Gloucester. In 2008-09, Worcester did the double over Gloucester, but this is the only occasion on which they have won at Kingsholm.

FIRST ENCOUNTERS

17th November 1877

Worcester - nil

Gloucester - 8 goals, 4 tries

This fixture was arranged when the Worcester club was re-formed after a gap of 2/3 years.

Worcester won the toss, and elected to play with the hill, but it quickly became apparent that the visitors were too strong, and by half time Gloucester had racked up 5 goals and 3 tries.

Gloucester were led by Frank Brown, who was in the second of his seven seasons as captain. Also in the team were the legendary Boughton brothers, Jimmy and William. Frank Brown scored four tries; there were three for William and one for Jimmy, who also kicked eight conversions.



▲ H V Jones, H E Taylor and H J Berry



▲ Jimmy Boughton



▲ Frank Brown

12th November 1881

Worcester - nil

Gloucester - 1 goal, 2 tries

Four years passed before the next fixture between the clubs. Although Gloucester won again, the margin was much closer, with H V Jones and H E Taylor scoring tries, and H J Berry converting one of them.

However, there were problems. The home crowd prevented the second conversion from being attempted, and invaded the pitch several times during the game.

Whether this caused a fracture between the clubs at the time is not known. However, there was a return fixture scheduled at the Spa on 7th January 1882, for which Worcester failed to put in an appearance – it went into the Gloucester records as "Not played; Worcester fuked".

Following this, the clubs did not play each other again at 1st XV level for 117 seasons.

For most of this time, the reason was the

relative status of the clubs, with Gloucester's fixture list featuring the best clubs in England and Wales, whilst Worcester had a more parochial and less demanding fixture list.

THE PROFESSIONAL ERA

9th January 1999
Tetley's Bitter Cup
Gloucester 31 - Worcester 17

It was the Tetley's Bitter Cup which finally brought the clubs together again. Gloucester's tries were scored by Chris Fortey, Steve Ojomoh, Philippe Saint-Andre, and Mark Mapletoft, who also kicked a conversion and 3 penalties.



▲ Sinbad rounding Rasmussen to score his try



▲ Ryan Lamb and Mark Foster celebrating after the game

had a fight on their hands in this stirring cup tie.

The first half served up some terrific rugby. After an exchange of penalties between Ryan Lamb and Shane Drahm, Lamb ran back Nicholas Le Roux's kick ahead and James Simpson-Daniel finished off the move.

Then a long pass from Lamb sent in Anthony Allen and Lamb's conversion gave Gloucester a 15-3 lead. Back came Worcester and converted tries by Drahm and Pat Sanderson put the visitors 17-15 ahead at half time.

When Drahm scored a dropped goal and penalty early in the second half, Gloucester had some work to do, but Worcester then tried to sit on their lead.

With their pack tiring, they conceded three penalties and Gloucester were back in front by a single point.

Then came the highlight of the half when Lamb put a perfectly weighted cross field kick into the grateful arms of Mark Foster who scored the match clinching try. Lamb converted to make the final score 31-23.

Gloucester then went on to win the trophy, beating London Irish 36-34 after extra time in a memorable final at The Stoop.

PREMIERSHIP DEBUT

Guinness Premiership:
16th October 2004
Worcester 13 - Gloucester 18
29th January 2005
Gloucester 28 - Worcester 16

Worcester were promoted to the Premiership for the 2004-05 season, and so began a regular sequence of matches.

Gloucester won the first league game with tries from Jon Goodridge and Henry Paul, who converted one, and Duncan McRae kicked a drop goal.

Gloucester also won the return match at Kingsholm later in the season, by 28-16, with tries from unusual sources - Seti Kiole (his first and only league try, during his one season with the club), Andy Gomarsall (his only try that season), and Terry Sigley (his only try in his two seasons with the club), 2 conversions and 2 penalties by Henry Paul, and another drop goal from Duncan McRae.

MEMORABLE MATCH

22nd April 2006
European Challenge Cup semi-final
Gloucester 31 Worcester 23

The clubs met for the second time in two weeks in front of a packed Kingsholm to play for a place in the European Challenge Cup Final.

The premiership encounter of the previous weekend had gone Gloucester's way but they

The complete list of results between the clubs is:

SEASON	VENUE	COMPETITION	SCORE	RESULT
1877-78	A	N/A	8g, 4t - 0	Won
1881-82	A	N/A	1g, 2t - 0	Won
1998-99	H	Tetley's Bitter Cup	31-17	Won
2004-05	A	League	18-13	Won
	H	League	28-16	Won
2005-06	A	League	15-15	Drawn
	H	League	27-16	Won
	H	European Challenge Cup SF	31-23	Won
2006-07	A	League	33-24	Won
	H	League	33-19	Won
2007-08	H	League	29-7	Won
	A	League	14-17	Lost
2008-09	A	League	10-14	Lost
	H	League	6-13	Lost
2009-10	H	League	13-13	Drawn
	H	LV Cup	17-5	Won
2011-12	A	League	23-22	Won
	H	League	29-8	Won
2012-13	A	League	15-21	Lost
	A	League	16-16	Drawn

Bonus
CHERRIES

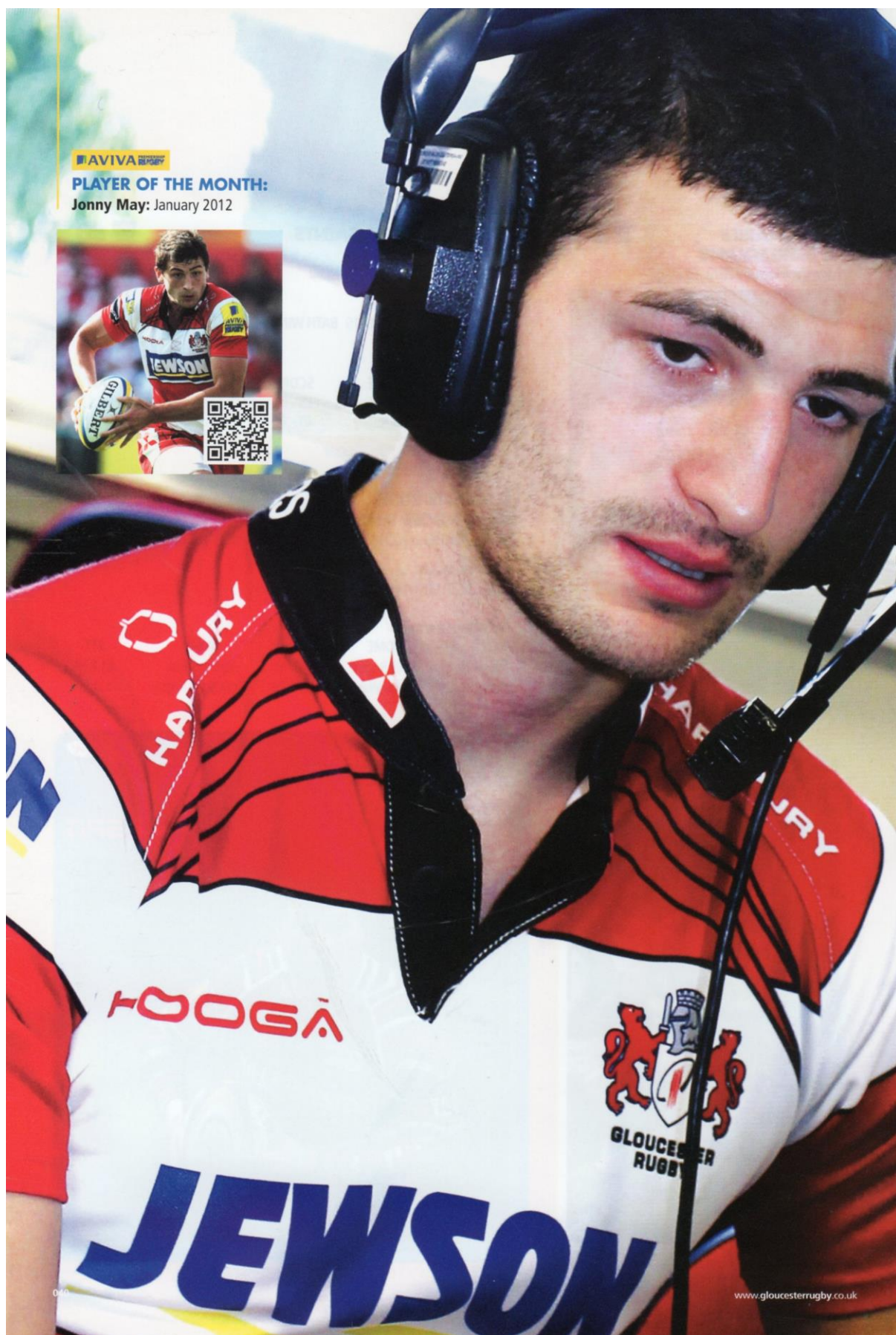
GLOUCESTER RUGBY
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PLAYER OF THE MONTH:

Jonny May: January 2012



READY *For* TAKE-OFF

T

here are few sights on a rugby field that send a buzz of anticipation around Kingsholm more than Jonny May receiving the ball with a bit of running room.

The 22 year old has provided some genuine highlight reel moments over the past year or so. It's difficult to choose the best – the solo score in the LV= Cup against Sale Sharks last season? Maybe you prefer his brilliant effort against Harlequins in the Premiership?

And he quickly caught the eye of rugby followers well beyond the GL1 post codes. He was named LV= Breakthrough Player of the Year for 2011, that try against Harlequins was voted Try of the Season and he was called up to England's tour of South Africa in the summer.

All was set fair for this season until, in the home fixture against London Wasps, the Swindon born player injured his knee. It was a frustrating injury, one that lasted longer than originally thought.

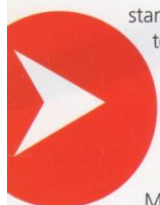
"We looked at it, and it tested quite well, the specialists said that it was only a grade one and they thought it would be five weeks. But you don't really know until you start running so I was only about 90% for about two months.

"So, it took three or four months to be back where I wanted to be which really took a lot out of my confidence. I said to myself I had to make the most of a bad situation and try and come back mentally stronger."

He's not been alone in the treatment room, of course. Several of the Gloucester squad have been sidelined for lengthy periods. But they all laud the work put in by the medical team to get back to fitness, and the sterling work put in by the strength and conditioning staff in helping them back to action as soon as possible.

"We all say that we take so long to get fit because we're getting worked so hard! We're all up at 7am for a swim with Paddy Anson and then weights, watt bikes, all sorts.

"But, to be fair, Olly Morgan deserves a mention, he's leading the



standards in all aspects. He's got a long-term injury but he comes to work every day and works really hard. He's looking in good shape and hopefully we'll see him playing by next season."

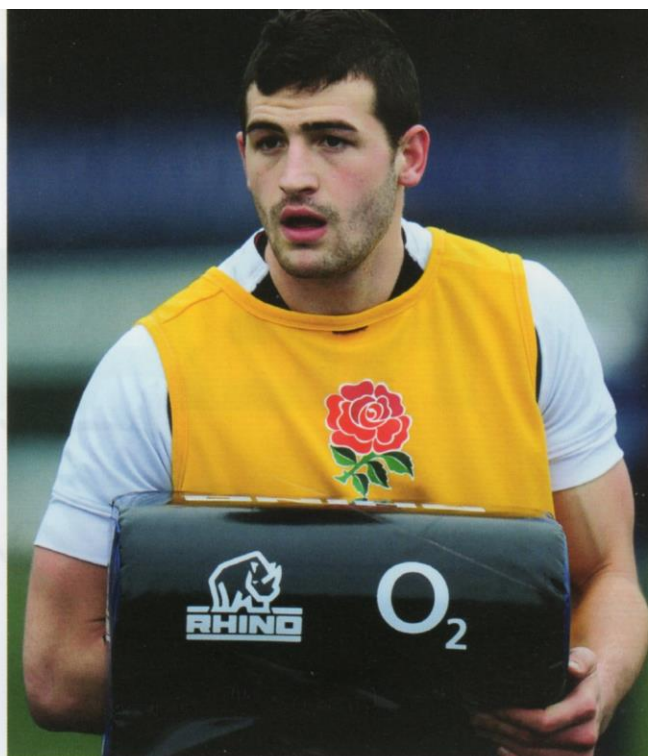
Despite the plaudits last season, May was already looking at ways to improve his overall game. His untimely absence has given him further time for reflection.

"I set out for the season by almost taking a step backwards from my game in terms of going away and working on some defensive work and kicking to improve myself and become a more rounded player. I felt that was going really well, and I was about to start kicking on again. But then I got the injury, so that was frustrating, but it's given me time to focus on my game and where I want to play.

"My main focus is on the left wing now and my plan is to come back stronger. I'm working harder than ever and I'm running quick again. I even ran my best 10m time last week."

After all that time in rehab and work in the gym and pool, May's opportunity to return to the first team was in the Amlin Challenge Cup, and the narrow win in Bordeaux which was a massive relief for him.

"My first goal for that game was to get through it. To be honest, my knee was still feeling a bit niggly, but I trusted the medical staff and it's got better week on week now, and I'm not really feeling it anymore. But I was pleased to get through those 70 minutes in Bordeaux without getting hurt!"



With Gloucester experiencing injuries to almost a whole backline at times with himself, Olly Morgan, James Simpson-Daniel, Henry Trinder injured in addition to Freddie Burns and Billy Twelvetrees being away on International duty, May appreciates the strength in depth within the squad, and is pleased with how the team has done in the meantime.

"We have no real superstars in our backline, other than Mike Tindall really, but we're just a bunch of really hard working lads working towards something special. We've got good strength in depth with lads like Martyn Thomas, Shane Monahan and Cooky (Rob Cook) who have come in and done as good a job as the rest of us so huge credit to them."

Now May is back in the action, it's time to make an impact at the crunch time of the season.

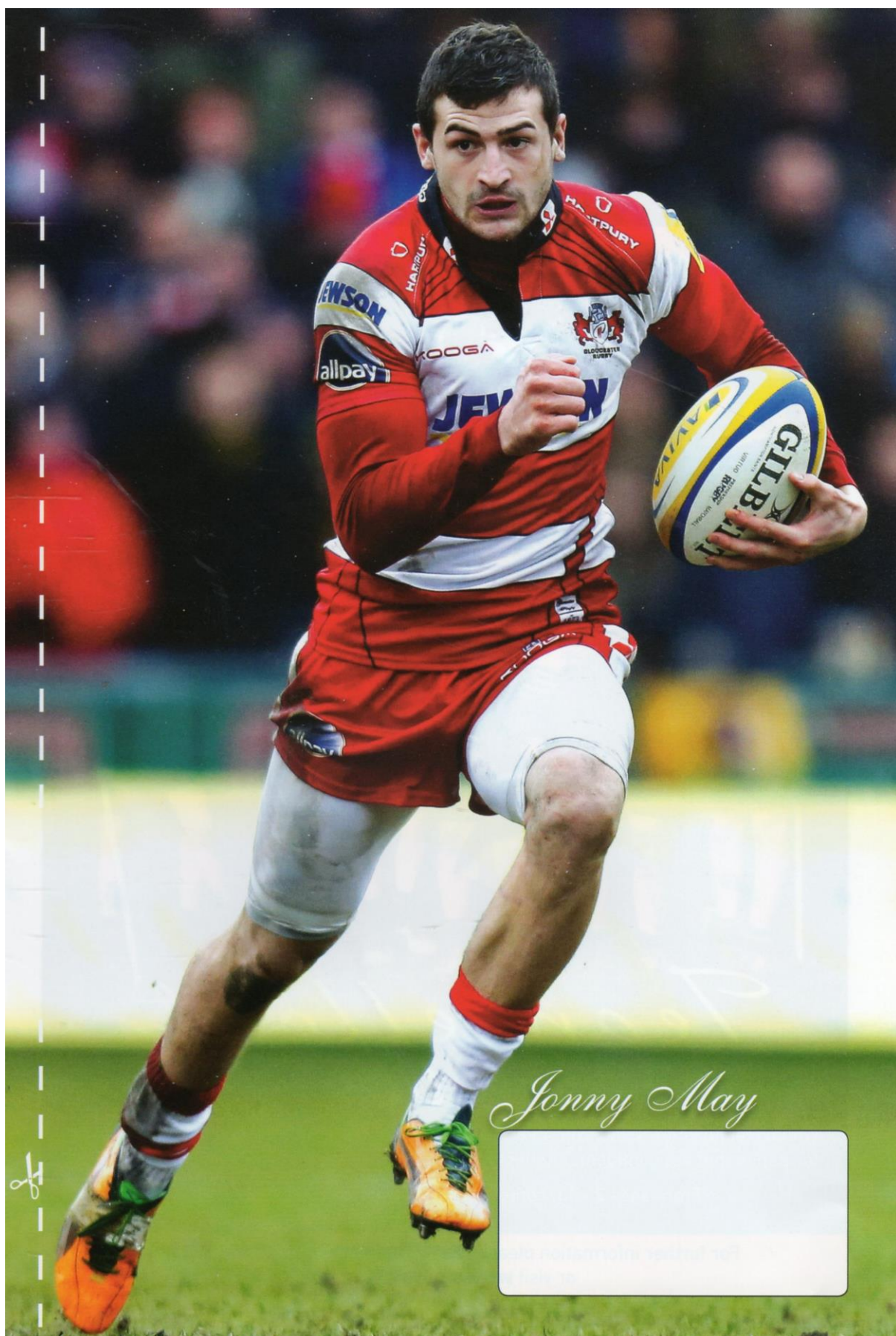
"Obviously, it's worked out better that I missed the start of the season than the end, so hopefully we can all get together, push and get that top four spot!"

"I need to keep working hard during the week and do my role for the team. If we all pull together there is no reason we can't get into the top 4.

"We're in the middle of a tough set of Premiership games, we'll know where we are at the end of them and we're determined to do well.

"Obviously after that we have the Amlin Quarter Final. I can't wait for that and it's been the game I've been looking forward to all year. That will surely be a massive occasion."





Jonny May

Signature

Kingsholm News

with Bob Fenton

"I have a feeling that, while the top three spots may be taken care of, the race for fourth is going to go down to the wire... it's going to be squeaky bum time for all concerned!"

I've been thinking - that in itself is often noteworthy, but bear with me - it's been a bit of an up and down period of late.

First of all there was the overdue news that Freddie Burns and Billy Twelvetrees were called into the England elite squad for the Six Nations, a great high for them both.

It was short lived for Freddie as an injury forced him out of contention. For Billy, though, a try-scoring debut to be proud of against Scotland, followed by a creditable performance against Ireland the week after.

On the same day that Billy got his personal high playing for England, his club hit the lowest of lows with a horrible performance against Bath. Actually that might be a bit harsh - I don't think it deserved to be called a performance.

In the grand scheme of things though, it didn't really matter all that much. Even before a ball was kicked we were out of the LV= Cup, so the result was pretty meaningless. But a display like that against the old enemy was hard to take.

And it didn't bear well for the following week at Northampton. To be honest I thought we would have been lucky to come away with a losing bonus point, our track record at Frankenstein's Gardens hardly represents much of a success story. But ten minutes into the game and I was changing

my mind.

Whether Saints had an off day or whether we just cut them off at the ankles is a mute point, but what is beyond doubt was the fact that we battered them.

Pre-match concerns over Ryan Mills starting at outside half were quickly dispelled, as were any worries about being without the likes of Burns and our international representatives.

But as with all things of late the win came at a cost. The injury to Jimmy Cowan looked horrible from the word go, players like that only stay down for a reason. So, while disappointing, it was not that much of a surprise when the news came through that he was going to be out for at least the rest of the season.

But cometh the hour cometh the man. We have all been raving about the performances of Dan Robson, now is the time for him to step up. Similarly with Freddie stuck on the sidelines for a bit longer, Ryan Mills has the chance to strut his funky stuff on the big stage.

So last week... a bit of a low, but not that much. There won't be many teams that go to Adams Park, score four tries and still come out as losers.

Stuck in a very dull conference hotel in Zurich with no satellite TV, texts costing a small fortune to send and receive, and - worse



still - no free Wi-Fi, made keeping up with events very difficult indeed.

At one point it looked all over, but we fought back and again came within a few whiskers of getting a victory - shades of away games at Saracens, Leicester and Harlequins all over again. But two points from the game is not a disaster.

The Premiership this year has to be the most exciting yet - like three mini leagues all in one. At the top Quins, Leicester and Sarries

Matt Kvesic will be wearing Cherry and White next season

are contesting the top three places, behind them about five teams are in with a realistic chance of taking the coveted fourth and final play off place.

We are well in that mix and the results at Northampton and Wasps in that context are not all that bad.

And while the result at Wasps was a bit of a disappointment, had you offered most supporters six points from those two games, while at the same time restricting the opposition to just four, most would have taken it there and then.

I have a feeling that, while the top three spots may be taken care of, the race for fourth is going to go down to the wire. To use an expression first used - I believe - by Sir Alex Ferguson, it's going to be squeaky bum time for all concerned!

But with the situation so tight the next few games are going to be critical for us, starting today with Worcester.

Night games are always special at Kingsholm, not so much Friday night games though - always an effort to get home and out again in time for kick off. It'll be doubly difficult this time as it is a local derby.

Worcester will be a feisty challenge as always, this time they are coming here with - barring a run of freak results - their future in the Premiership pretty much certain for next year.

They always seem to raise their game against us maybe because of the number of players who have moved between the clubs over recent years. No doubt Matt Kvesic (how long before he is dubbed 'Special K?') will be wanting to show that he is putting all his effort in for his present employers.

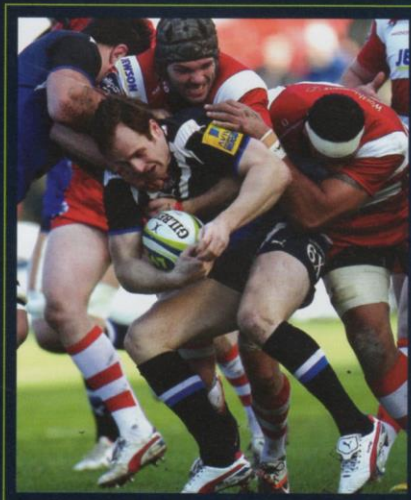
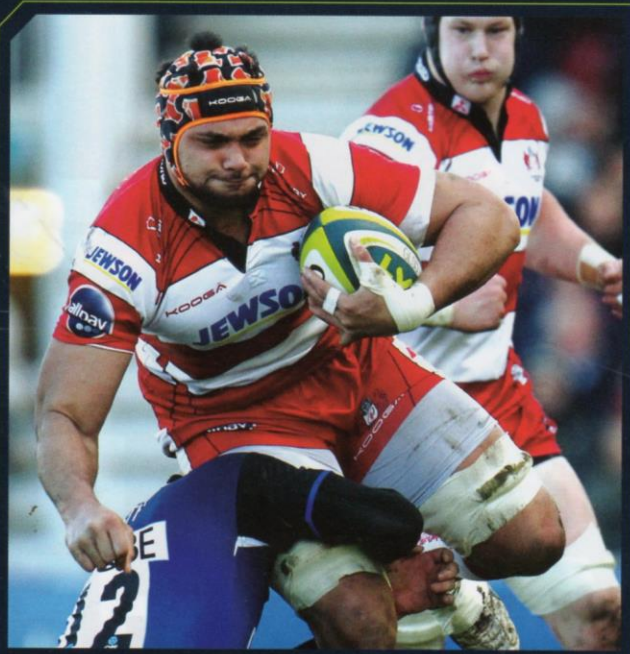
Kingsholm and lights though... there can only be one outcome!



ACTION *Replay*

GLOUCESTER RUGBY BATH RUGBY

05
32



GLOUCESTER RUGBY POINTS SCORERS



TRY: Edmonds (34)

BATH RUGBY POINTS SCORERS



TRIES: Woodburn (11), Abendanon (49),
Gilbert (64), Rokoduguni (68), Donald (75)
CONS: Vesty (69, 76)
PEN: Vesty (61)



Gloucester Rugby rounded off their 2012-13 LV= Cup campaign, knowing that even a victory over local rivals Bath would not be enough to secure qualification for the semi finals.

The last minute defeat away at the Ospreys in round one, and 26-7 reverse at Northampton the previous weekend had put an end to Gloucester's ambitions, but there were still local bragging rights at stake.

Gloucester were also defending an unbeaten record at Kingsholm against their local rivals that stretched back to February 2006.

Bath, on the other hand, knew that they had to better Northampton's result that weekend to have a chance of progression and duly named a

2ND FEBRUARY 2013, 14:00 KO
KINGSHOLM
LV= CUP: ROUND 4



Champagne Moment

Gloucester's one try of the afternoon came from a well executed catch and drive, the pack driving hooker Huia Edmonds over for his first try for the club.



strong side.

The Cherry and Whites, backed by a vocal and passionate crowd, gave it everything in the first half but things didn't go according to plan.

Bath kicked off with a strong wind at their backs and made the most of it to dominate territory. Gloucester were on the back foot, and their cause wasn't helped as referee Davies issued yellow cards to Andy Hazell and Tom Savage.

Olly Woodburn crossed for Bath after 11 minutes following a good spell of pressure, but Gloucester simply refused to allow the men from the Rec to accumulate any more points.

In fact, Huia Edmonds touched down after a powerful catch and drive, and Gloucester very nearly added a second. Shane Monahan and Charlie Sharples were only denied by superb defence by Horacio Agulla.

Given that Gloucester would play the second half with the wind at their backs, and that they had been under the cosh for most of the first half, there was reason to be optimistic as the teams came out after half time.

Indeed, Gloucester started well and Lua Lokotui was only a yard short of the line following a superb long clearance from Mike Tindall which set up great field position.

However, that was as close as Gloucester got. Bath started to keep the ball in hand to make progress into the wind, and looked a better side. Nick Abendenon's try on 50 minutes was the result of slick hands across the backs.

Gloucester continued to fight, but the defensive effort of the first half seemed to take its toll and Bath took advantage of some tired tackling to run in three tries in the last 15 minutes and give the scoreboard a lop sided look.

Carl Hogg

Forwards Coach

"We gave away far too many penalties, we made far too many errors. We didn't adapt to the referee or his interpretation, and paid the price."

"We've got magnificent support, there was a huge amount of pride at stake today. We think a lot of our support, and we need to hit back now. We've got to use this as motivation now - get back to work and start making amends."

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

#	POS	NAME
15	FB	Rob Cook
14	W	Charlie Sharples
13	C	Mike Tindall
12	C	Tim Molenaar
11	W	Shane Monahan
10	FH	Ryan Mills
9	SH	Jimmy Cowan
1	P	Dan Murphy
2	H	Huia Edmonds
3	P	Rupert Harden
4	L	Tom Savage ■
5	L	Lua Lokotui
6	F	Peter Buxton
7	F	Andy Hazell ■
8	N8	Sione Kalamafoni

16	R	Darren Dawidiuk
17	R	Yann Thomas
18	R	Tom Heard
19	R	Akapusi Qera
20	R	Gareth Evans
21	R	Dan Robson
22	R	Billy Burns
23	R	Martyn Thomas

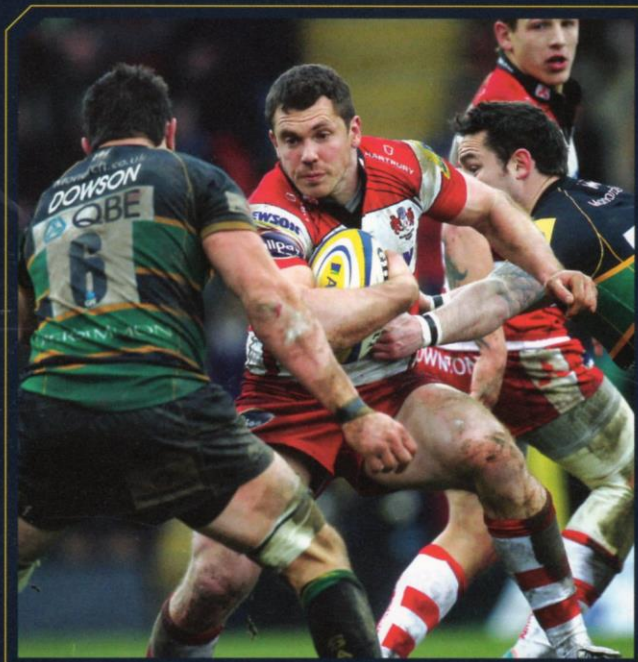
BATH RUGBY

#	POS	NAME
15	FB	Nick Abendenon
14	W	Horacio Agulla
13	C	Matt Banahan
12	C	Sam Vesty
11	W	Ollie Woodburn
10	FH	Stephen Donald
9	SH	Peter Stringer
1	P	Charlie Beech
2	H	Rob Webber
3	P	Anthony Perenise
4	L	Dave Attwood
5	L	Dom Day
6	F	Francois Louw
7	F	Carl Fearn
8	N8	Ben Skirving

16	R	Tom Dunn
17	R	Nathan Catt
18	R	Kane Palma-Newport
19	R	Will Spencer
20	R	Mathew Gilbert
21	R	Chris Cook
22	R	Semesa Rokoduguni
23	R	Jack Cuthbert

Replay ACTION

NORTHAMPTON SAINTS 11 GLOUCESTER RUGBY 27



NORTHAMPTON SAINTS POINTS SCORERS



TRY: Dowson (53)

PENS: Myler (4, 26)

GLOUCESTER RUGBY POINTS SCORERS



TRIES: May (18, 41)

CON: Cook (42)

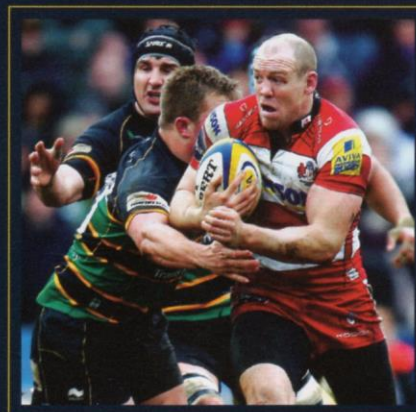
PENS: Cook (7, 11, 31, 33, 74)

Gloucester Rugby kept their Aviva Premiership top four hopes alive with a disciplined and well executed 27-11 victory over Northampton Saints at Franklin's Gardens.

It was an impressive performance against a side who, going into the game, were just ahead of the Cherry and Whites in the standings and who had already beaten Gloucester twice this season.

And this wasn't a victory that was squeaked in the final few moments of the game. Once Rob Cook had nudged his side into a 6-3 lead with the second of his five penalties, Gloucester took control and never looked likely to concede the lead.

Cook, enjoyed an afternoon to remember. His unorthodox kicking style was initially jeered by the Franklin's Gardens crowd. However, as kick after kick, bisected the posts, the hecklers



9TH FEBRUARY 2013, 12:30 KO
FRANKLIN'S GARDENS
AVIVA PREMIERSHIP RUGBY



Champagne Moment

No doubt about this one. Clean lineout ball off the top, quickly spun into midfield and Jonny May did the rest. Quick feet and a burst of pace and May was through for a sensational score.



were silenced.

For Gloucester fans, there are few more sights in the game more exciting than Jonny May in full flight. Such sightings have been rare this season due to a niggling knee injury. May bounced back in style against the Saints.

His first try saw him come in off his wing to shred the Saints midfield defence. His second showcased the blistering speed that has become his trademark.

However, May will be the first to doff his cap to the shift put in by the men up front – the Gloucester pack.

Apart from the opening few minutes, when the Northampton forwards looked to be flexing their muscles, the Gloucester eight simply dominated the physical exchanges.

The defensive effort was particularly impressive. Time and again, the big Saints ball carriers like Soane Tonga'uiha were simply scythed down behind the gain line.

As a result, Northampton couldn't get any momentum, grew frustrated and started to force things when they simply weren't on.

Gloucester soaked up the pressure, executed well when they had possession and took the points when they were on offer. It was a clinical display.

There were some moments, of course, when Gloucester found themselves under pressure. Phil Dowson's close range try in the second half gave the home side some hope, and there were a couple of key defensive stands from Gloucester.

But, as time ticked on, Northampton grew more desperate and Gloucester's confidence grew. The home crowd started to drift away well before the final whistle, and Nigel Davies' side were able to reflect on a job well done.

Nigel Davies

Director of Rugby

"It's been an intense week, we were really clear on what we needed to do to come here and get a good result. The players will take a lot of confidence from this game, we've been disappointed with the last two performances. I knew where we were, and realised we could re-focus, this was a big game for us to do that."

NORTHAMPTON SAINTS



#	POS	NAME
15	FB	James Wilson
14	W	Ken Pisi
13	C	George Pisi
12	C	Dominic Waldouck
11	W	Jamie Elliott
10	FH	Stephen Myler
9	SH	Lee Dickson
1	P	Soane Tonga'uiha
2	H	Mike Haywood
3	P	Tom Mercēy
4	L	Samu Manoa ■
5	L	Mark Sorenson
6	F	Phil Dowson (c)
7	F	Ben Nutley
8	N8	GJ van Velze ■
16		Ross McMillan
17	P	Alex Waller
18	P	Paul Doran Jones
19		James Craig
20		Rhys Oakley
21	SH	Martin Roberts
22	FH	Ryan Lamb
23	C	Tom May

GLOUCESTER RUGBY



#	POS	NAME
15	FB	Rob Cook
14	W	Charlie Sharples
13	C	Mike Tindall (c)
12	C	Tim Molenaar
11	W	Jonny May ■
10	FH	Ryan Mills
9	SH	Dan Robson
1	P	Nick Wood
2	H	Darren Dawidiuk
3	P	Rupert Harden
4	L	Lua Lokotui
5	L	Will James
6	F	Tom Savage
7	F	Akapusi Qera
8	N8	Sione Kalamafoni
16		Tommaso d'Apice
17	P	Dan Murphy
18		Yann Thomas
19	F	Peter Buxton
20	L	Matt Cox
21	SH	Jimmy Cowan
22		Henry Trinder
23	R	Martyn Thomas



Teams correct at time of print 21/02/13

TODAY'S *Line-ups*



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

US

WORCESTER WARRIORS



ROB COOK	15	ERRIE CLAASSENS
CHARLIE SHARPLES	14	JOSH DRAUNINI
HENRY TRINDER	13	ALEX GROVE
MIKE TINDALL (C)	12	JON CLARKE
JONNY MAY	11	DAVID LEMI
RYAN MILLS	10	ANDY GOODE
DAN ROBSON	09	JONNY ARR
DAN MURPHY	01	CERI JONES
DARREN DAWIDIUK	02	ED SHERVINGTON
RUPERT HARDEN	03	EUAN MURRAY
LUA LOKOTUI	04	JAMES PERCIVAL (C)
WILL JAMES	05	DEAN SCHOFIELD
TOM SAVAGE	06	NEIL BEST
AKAPUSI QERA	07	SAM BETTY
SIONE KALAMAFONI	08	MATT KVESIC
KOREE BRITTON	16	ALEKI LUTUI
NICK WOOD	17	CERI JONES
DARIO CHISTOLINI	18	JOHN ANDRESS
PETER BUXTON	19	CRAIG GILLIES
ANDY HAZELL	20	JAKE ABBOTT
DAVE LEWIS	21	PAUL HODGSON
TIM MOLENAAR	22	DANNY GRAY
MARTYN THOMAS	23	JOSH MATAVESI

THE OFFICIALS

REFEREE: David Rose

ASSISTANT REFEREES: Stuart Terheege and Paul Burton

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