

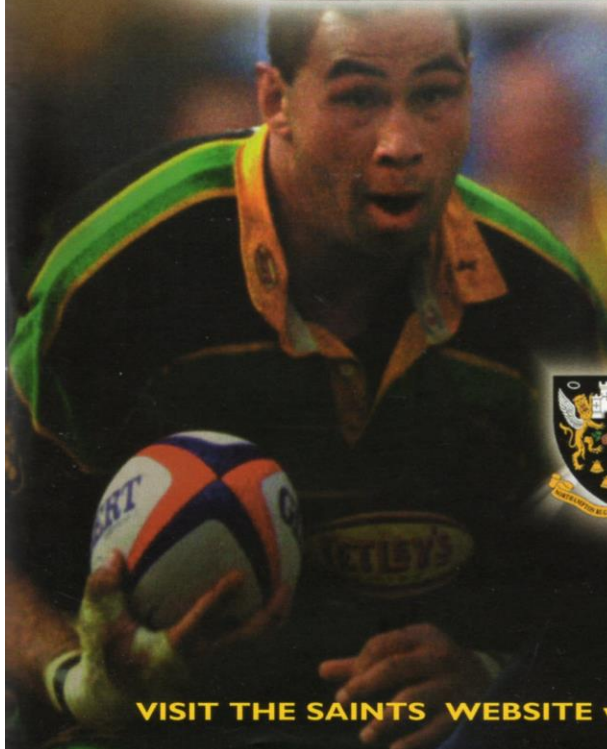


SAINTS RUGBY

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MATCHDAY
MAGAZINE

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SAINTS



**NORTHAMPTON SAINTS
v GLOUCESTER**

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP

SATURDAY 30TH OCT 1999

KICK-OFF 3.00PM



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SAINTS
PREMIERSHIP

TODAY'S OPPONENTS GLOUCESTER

GLOUCESTER LOOK FORWARD TO VISIT TO SECOND HOME

by Andrew Harley, Gloucester press officer



If there are two clubs that have a natural affinity it must be Northampton and Gloucester. The two clubs have been playing fixtures for 101 years – this is the 112th meeting of the two clubs in history (Northampton has won 28 of the 53 meetings at Franklin's Gardens, and Gloucester has won an astonishing 49 of the 58 Kingsholm encounters).

Their grounds are very similar and there is what can be called a special "bond" between the supporters.

A couple of times each year for a total of 160 minutes there is an intense rivalry as players battle it out on the hallowed turf of either Kingsholm or Franklin's Gardens for a couple of Premiership points.

But for the rest of the year it is almost a case of if "we" can't win the title then let's hope that Northampton/Gloucester can!



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G L O U C

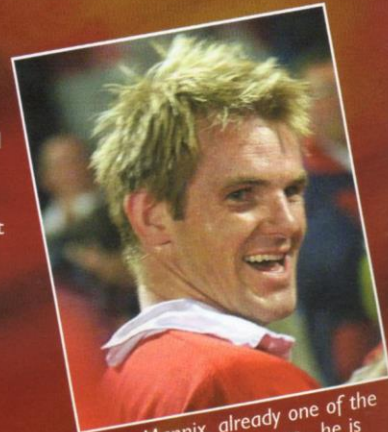
There is good evidence of this rapport. The last two seasons have seen the Saints not doing too well in the Cheltenham & Gloucester Cup. In both seasons Gloucester were unstoppable.

The two cup finals were staged at Franklin's Gardens – and who did the Saints supporters support? Some team playing in cherry and white, rather than a nearby club who play in blue and who also made it to two successive finals!

So, here is Gloucester playing again at Franklin's Gardens – Franklin's Gardens an "away" ground. And we all know about the away record of Gloucester!

The Cheltenham & Gloucester Cup apart, the Cherry and Whites are not exactly winless on the road this year. In August, the club went to France and managed to beat Begles Bordeaux in their own backyard. For Gloucester, it was the first match of the pre-season, while Begles had already started their campaign!

Unfortunately, there were no league points on offer that Tuesday evening in the sunshine of South West France!



Simon Mannix, already one of the Premiership's top scorers - he is currently second with 75 points.



Kiwi scrum-half Elton Moncrieff scored his debut Premiership try at Kingsholm against Newcastle.

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ESTER

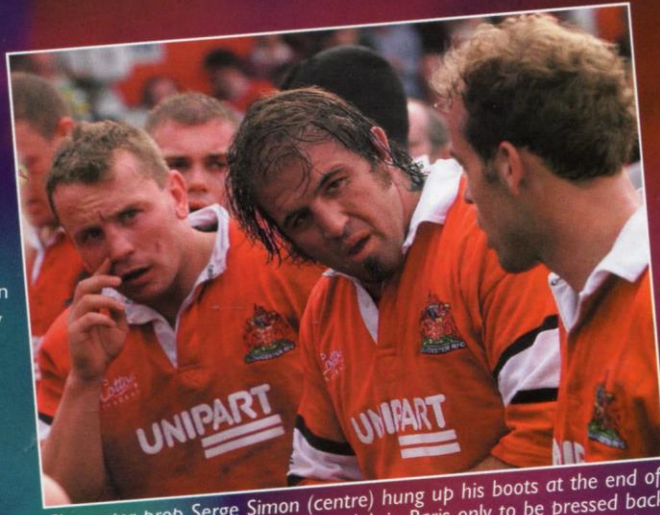
What many forget is that history shows an abysmal away record for Gloucester since the year "dot" – actually 1891, the year when the International Board introduced a "points for scores" that put an end to the arguments as to who won a match when calculating "majors and minors".

In 108 years, Gloucester has only won 549 and drawn 127 of the 1,726 away games played. And as the Press are quick to point out, the last away Allied Dunbar Premiership win for Gloucester was at the very beginning of last season.

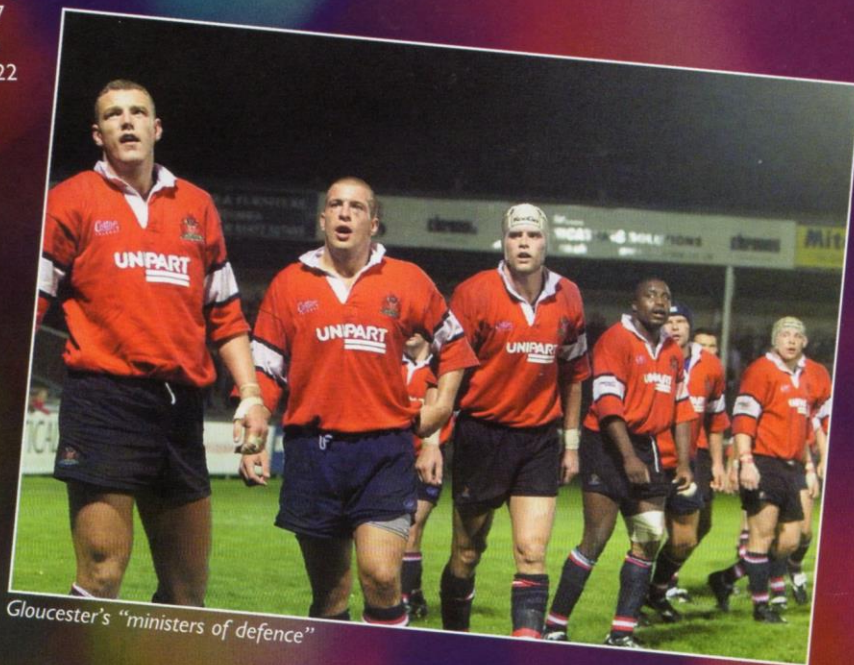
That win was recorded in a soccer stadium in Reading.

The last Premiership win recorded by Gloucester at a rugby ground was back on May 17, 1997 when the Cherry and Whites posted a 24–22 win.

And where was that?
Go on, have a guess!



Gloucester prop Serge Simon (centre) hung up his boots at the end of last season at the Stade Francais club in Paris only to be pressed back into action by Philippe Saint-André as World Cup cover at Kingsholm,



Gloucester's "ministers of defence"

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TEAM SHEETS



NORTHAMPTON SAINTS

GLOUCESTER

15	NICK BEAL	Full back	RICHARD TOMBS	15
14	CRAIG MOIR	Right winger	CHRIS CATLING	14
13	ALLAN BATEMAN	Outside centre	JOE EWENS	13
12	MARK TUCKER	Inside centre	CHRIS YATES	12
11	BEN COHEN	Left winger	TOM BEIM	11
10	PAUL GRAYSON	Fly half	SIMON MANNIX	10
9	JAMES BRAMHALL	Scrum half	ELTON MONCRIEFF	9
1	GARRY PAGEL	Loose head prop	TREVOR WOODMAN	1
2	CHRIS JOHNSON	Hooker	CHRIS FORTEY	2
3	MARTIN SCELZO	Tight head prop	ANDY DEACON	3
4	JON PHILLIPS	Lock	ROB FIDLER	4
5	TIM RODBER	Lock	MARK CORNWELL	5
6	PAT LAM (capt)	Blind side flanker	STEVE OJOMOH	6
7	SIMON HOLMES	Open side flanker	KINGSLEY JONES (capt)	7
8	GRANT SEELY	No 8	ED PEARCE	8

Replacements

- 16 DOM MALONE
- 17 ALI HEPHER
- 18 ANDY NORTHEY
- 19 STEVE WALTER
- 20 MATT STEWART
- 21 DON MACKINNON
- 22 ANDY NEWMAN

Referee

Graham Hughes

Touch Judges



David Sainsbury
Bob Ockenden



Eye to Eye
OPTICIANS

Replacements

- IAN SANDERS 16
- ROB JEWELL 17
- NEIL McCARTHY 18
- PHIL VICKERY 19
- SERGE SIMON 20
- ADAM EUSTACE 21
- ANDREW HAZELL 22


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