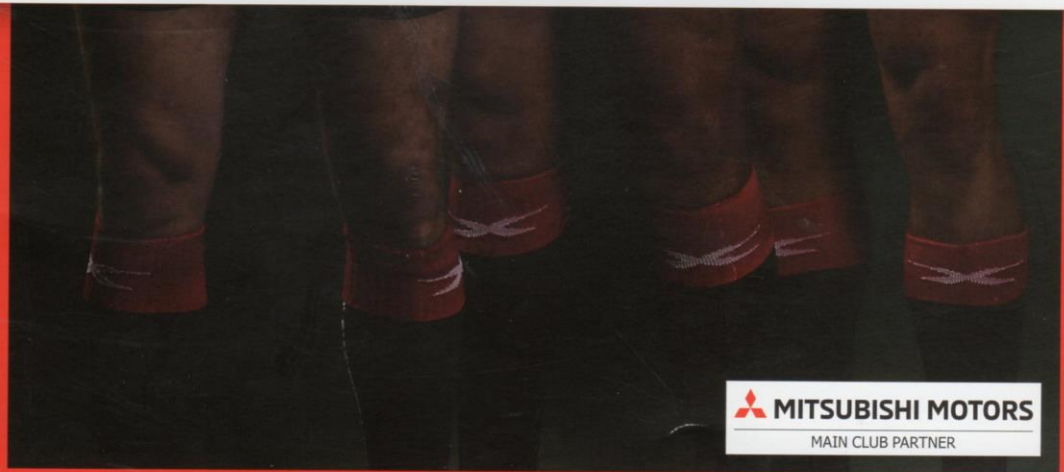




GLOUCESTER RUGBY OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME 2018/19 SEASON

CHERRY & WHITES

..... GLOUCESTER RUGBY v DRAGONS | THURSDAY 23 AUGUST 2018 | 7:45PM | PRE-SEASON FRIENDLY | £1



 **MITSUBISHI MOTORS**
MAIN CLUB PARTNER

C.E.O.

STEPHEN VAUGHAN

GOOD EVENING AND WELCOME BACK TO KINGSHOLM AFTER A TYPICALLY QUIET SUMMER IN THE LIFE OF GLOUCESTER RUGBY!

For those of you who have been following the team for a while now, you will look around the stadium this evening and notice a few subtle changes – nothing too alarming, just a number of tweaks here and there.

The most obvious of those is obviously as a result of the re-brand we undertook earlier this year. I think you'll all agree that the new logos that now adorn the stadium look terrific and I'd like to welcome Malvern Tyres on board as the new title sponsor of the South Stand.

But, of course, the most significant investment has probably been in the new playing surface which will be used for the first time in a competitive match this evening. The squad have trained on it a couple of times and it's received a universal seal of approval. The team are incredibly excited about performing on it, as indeed we all are.

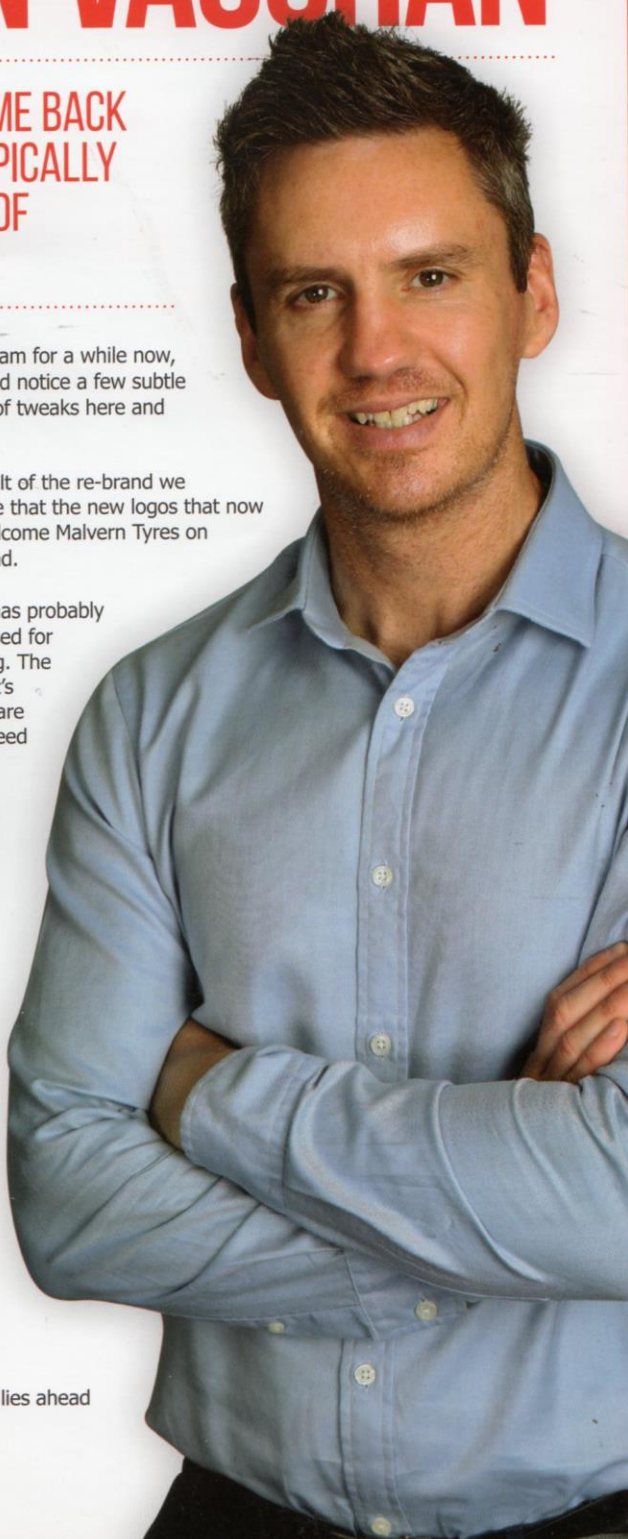
In terms of the squad, I'm sure we're all looking forward to our first glimpse of a number of the new signings this evening. I truly believe that the recruitment that we've carried out this summer, in addition to the existing players, has given us a genuinely talented and competitive squad.

I'm not going to get drawn into making any preseason predictions, I've been around a little too long for that! But, from what I've seen in training and in last Saturday's preseason friendly over in Ulster, the squad is gelling nicely and we've all got some exciting times ahead of us.

A warm welcome to the players, staff and supporters of the Dragons this evening. There has been a lot of activity at Rodney Parade this summer, a lot of ins and outs, and we may well see a couple of familiar faces returning to Kingsholm this evening!

It's great that rugby is back, an exciting season lies ahead and I hope you all enjoy this evening's game.

Steve





THREE TO WATCH



JAKE POLLEDRI

The Ulster game saw the 22-year-old flanker pick up where he left off last season with a barnstorming performance.

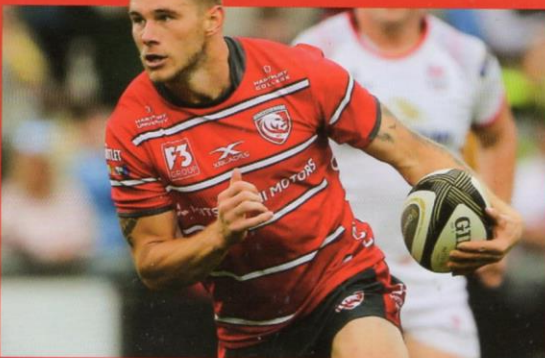
2017-18 couldn't have gone much better for Polledri. Was shortlisted for Young Player of the Year at the RPA Awards and Discovery of the Season at the Premiership Rugby End of Season Awards and capped by Italy for the first time.

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HENRY TRINDER

The new playing surface could well suit Henry Trinder (pardon the pun) down to the ground. The experienced centre possesses quick feet and an elusive sidestep and should thrive on the new pitch.

Trinder enjoyed a fantastic 2017-18 campaign and received a deserved call-up to the England side that took on the Barbarians in May.



JASON WOODWARD

Another who should thrive on the new Kingsholm pitch. Woodward enjoyed a fine first season in the Cherry and White of Gloucester and earned instant hero status when he scored the winning try against Exeter Chiefs in the Premiership season opener.

Made 22 appearances in his first season in Cherry and White, scoring six tries and earned a call up to the England squad to tour South Africa in the summer.



ACADEMY



ONE OF THE MOST PLEASING ASPECTS OF LAST SATURDAY'S PRESEASON FRIENDLY VICTORY IN ULSTER WAS THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE GLOUCESTER RUGBY ACADEMY.

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The starting line-up at the Kingspan Stadium featured four members of the Senior Academy – Ciaran Knight, Jack Reeves, Alex Seville and Henry Walker who all played for a minimum of 40 minutes.

In particular, Knight, Seville and Walker made up a front row trio that belied its youthful nature by acquitting themselves well in the set piece, and all showed up well in the loose as they showed real hunger to play their part in the ball-carrying game.

18-year-old centre Jack Reeves was by far the youngest member of the back line and looked dangerous with ball in hand when Gloucester were on the front foot.

Head Coach Johan Ackermann was pleased with their contributions.

"It was a big day for them



representing Gloucester in a senior side alongside senior players and we also have some of the new arrivals making debuts.

"Hopefully now some of the nerves, the anticipation and the excitement of building up to that game are out of the way.

"We've still got another hit out

so will hopefully give them an opportunity to get some more experience under their belts and allow us to test our depth and our quality.

"But it was the perfect start as we saw a mix of our youngsters and our older heads have a good run out. It was tough and the players had to dig deep."



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

- Ruan ACKERMANN
- Mark ATKINSON
- Fraser BALMAIN
- Matt BANAHAN
- Callum BRALEY
- Danny CIPRIANI
- Freddie CLARKE
- Gareth DENMAN
- Ruan DREYER
- Gareth EVANS
- Lloyd EVANS
- Mariano GALARZA
- Todd GLEAVE
- Gerbrandt GROBLER
- James HANSON
- Willi HEINZ
- Josh HOHNECK
- Tom HUDSON
- Jaco KRIEL
- Lewis LUDLOW
- Franco MARAIS
- Tom MARSHALL
- Paddy MCALLISTER
- Ben MORGAN
- Franco MOSTERT
- Jake POLLEDRI
- Henry PURDY
- Val RAPAVA RUSKIN
- Willi SAFE
- Tom SAVAGE
- Charlie SHARPLES
- Ed SLATER
- Ollie THORLEY
- Henry TRINDER
- Billy TWELVETREES
- Ben VELLACOTT
- Owen WILLIAMS
- Jason WOODWARD



DRAGONS RUGBY

- Brok HARRIS
- Gerard ELLIS
- Ryan BEVINGTON
- Elliot DEE
- Richard HIBBARD
- Rhys LAWRENCE
- Dan SUTER
- Aaron JARVIS
- Leon BROWN
- Lloyd FAIRBROTHER
- Nicky THOMAS
- Brandon NANSEN
- Cory HILL
- James SHEEKEY
- Joe DAVIES
- Matthew SCREECH
- Rynard LANDMAN
- Aaron WAINWRIGHT
- Harrison KEDDIE
- Huw TAYLOR
- James BENJAMIN
- James THOMAS
- Lewis EVANS
- Ross MORIARTY
- Nic CUDD
- Ollie GRIFFITHS
- Rhodri DAVIES
- Rhodri WILLIAMS
- Tavis KNOYLE
- Arwel ROBSON
- Gavin HENSON
- Josh LEWIS
- Jacob BOTICA
- Jack DIXON
- Jarryd SAGE
- Tiaan LOOTS
- Adam WARREN
- Tyler MORGAN
- Ashton HEWITT
- George GASSON
- Hallam AMOS
- Jared ROSSER
- Jordan WILLIAMS
- Zane KIRCHNER
- Dafydd HOWELLS



MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Tom Foley
 Assistant Referees: Jonathan Healy & Michael Hudson