

..... GLOUCESTER RUGBY OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME 2018/19 SEASON

# CHERRY & WHITES

..... GLOUCESTER RUGBY v CASTRES OLYMPIQUE | 14 OCTOBER 2018 | 1:00PM | HEINEKEN CHAMPIONS CUP | £3.50 | 04 .....

Heineken Champions Cup  
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# MARTIN ST. QUINTON



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## GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME TO KINGSHOLM FOR THIS AFTERNOON'S OPENING HEINEKEN CHAMPIONS CUP FIXTURE.

After a few seasons competing in the European Rugby Challenge Cup, it's terrific to see Gloucester Rugby back at the top table of European club rugby.

We have performed well in the Challenge Cup over the past few seasons as three finals in four years will attest, but this is where we really want to be. We are not just here to make up the numbers, though, we want to be competitive and a force at this level.

In terms of our form coming into this game, we currently occupy fourth place in the Gallagher Premiership table, which is a promising start to the season particularly bearing in mind that a number of quality players have yet to feature for us this season for a variety of reasons.

Our last outing here at Kingsholm finished in disappointing fashion. We probably should have defeated Harlequins, but made one or two errors at critical times and it cost us on the day.

Last weekend at Wasps was a far more complete performance and I thought we thoroughly deserved the win. Most pleasing, was that the victory wasn't straightforward and we had to work very hard for it. The team had to overcome conceding an early score and then, having bounced back to take control of the game, had to withstand a spirited fightback from Wasps. The game could easily have slipped away from us in the final quarter, but we showed great character to close the game out.

As I pen these programme notes, there is great anticipation ahead of this fixture. There is always something special about these European matchdays and I hope you feel the same and will give the team a wonderful reception and show our French visitors what Kingsholm is all about!

Enjoy the game.

**Martin**

”  
“THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT THESE EUROPEAN MATCHDAYS AND I HOPE YOU FEEL THE SAME AND WILL GIVE THE TEAM A WONDERFUL RECEPTION”

# DAVID HUMPHREYS

AFTER FOUR SEASONS WITHOUT HEINEKEN CHAMPIONS CUP RUGBY, IT'S VERY EXCITING TO WELCOME CASTRES, THE FRENCH CHAMPIONS, TO KINGSHOLM FOR THE START OF THIS SEASON'S EUROPEAN COMPETITION.

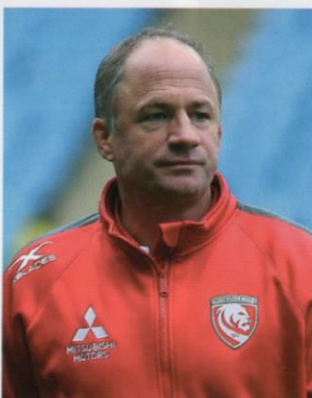
Everyone at this Club wants to be playing in the Heineken Champions Cup, competing against the best teams in Europe, but we are fully aware of the challenge that lies ahead of us.

Over the past couple of years, the Challenge Cup has allowed us to rest players and rotate our squad at key points of the season. As we know from previous experience, the Champions Cup is a different proposition entirely and we will need to be at our best to compete with the teams in our pool.

I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to the players, staff and supporters of Castres Olympique today. They had an incredible end to last season, winning the Le Boudier de Brennus for the second time in the last five years. Castres have made a very solid start to the defence of their title this season, winning four of their first seven games, but after a disappointing defeat at home last Sunday, they'll be looking to bounce back with a big performance at Kingsholm today.

We will need to be even better than we were last weekend at the Ricoh Arena. Beating Wasps was an important result for us, particularly after the disappointment of losing at home to Harlequins, and it was the Club's first away victory at Wasps since 2011. I thought it was our most complete performance of the season and the scoreline was a fair reflection of our dominance throughout the game.

Our back line has been getting many of the headlines over the last few weeks but Saturday's result was all about the performance of the pack. Our set piece was outstanding and we outmuscled and physically dominated Wasps in both defence and attack. We didn't allow Wasps any front foot ball



and were able to keep their dangerous runners under pressure throughout the game.

Against another big pack today our game plan doesn't change, and we want to kick off our Heineken Champions Cup campaign with the same level of performance this afternoon.

I hope you all enjoy being back in this competition as much as we do and I'm looking forward to another loud and intimidating atmosphere at Kingsholm.

David

..... CAPTAIN .....

# WILLI HEINZ



## GOOD AFTERNOON, AND WELCOME TO KINGSHOLM STADIUM FOR THE OPENING GAME OF THE NEW HEINEKEN CHAMPIONS CUP SEASON.

I was at the media launch for the tournament last week, and there is a real excitement across the continent for the new season of competition, and as a group we're delighted to be here.

Being delighted to be here is one thing, we know have to stay here, and we're determined to make our mark on the tournament after a few seasons away in the Challenge Cup.

The Challenge Cup has been good to us as a squad, and we're frustrated to have lost out in the last two finals. But we've learned from each experience and we're stronger for it. We know we're a group that have a lot still to learn, and what is so exciting is that we have so much room to grow.

The challenge in the Champions Cup is that every team we play is a team that has got there on merit, they are at the very top of their game.

Today we welcome a Castres team that have been in superb form in France, and you don't win the Top 14 by chance. They are a team that know their systems, know how they want to play with class all through the team, and the excitement amongst our group is massive to test ourselves against the very best.

We know that this is a massive fortnight for us as a group. We've had a promising start domestically, and we're showing signs of what we're about, putting in spells in games where



we've played how we want to, and the challenge now is show this more consistently, and dig deep in those dark moments.

Last week I thought we were fantastic, and put in the perfect performance for an away game. Wasps were in top form before the game, and full of confidence, and despite going behind early on, we set about our style of play, and we wouldn't have been able to do this without the efforts of the pack.

Before the game, obviously, with a few props out injured, externally we could have been

targeted up front by Wasps. But Josh (Hohneck) and Fraser (Balmain) put in such a wonderful shift, dominating their opponents, and Ciaran (Knight) and young Olly (Adkins) completed the job.

This weekend is going to be hugely exciting, and we cannot wait. We don't want to let this opportunity pass and leave ourselves with any regrets.

Bring it on!

Enjoy the game.

**Willi**

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

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GLOUCESTER RUGBY'S LAST FIXTURE IN THE HEINEKEN CUP, AS IT WAS THEN KNOWN, WAS AGAINST PERPIGNAN BACK IN JANUARY 2014.

THE 36-18 VICTORY AT THE STADE AIME GIRAL, WHICH COMPLETED A HOME AND AWAY DOUBLE OVER THE FRENCH SIDE, WAS NOT ENOUGH TO SEE THE CHERRY AND WHITES QUALIFY FROM THEIR GROUP, BUT DID CLINCH A QUARTER-FINAL SPOT IN THE EUROPEAN RUGBY CHALLENGE CUP.



## 1 - JUSTIN PURLL

The Australian back row forward played in Italy for Calvisano and Cavaliere Prato before moving to France to join Bordeaux Begles and, subsequently, Perpignan.

## 2 - SHANE MONAHAN

Shane played at Gloucester Rugby from 2012 to 2015, one of his highlights included scoring four tries in an Amlin Challenge Cup victory over London Irish. He scored a key try in this particular game.

Having left Gloucester at the end of the 2014-15 season, he joined Munster on a short-term contract to provide cover during Rugby World Cup.

Since then, he took part in 'Wimp 2 Warrior' where he trained and competed as an MMA fighter but now focusses his efforts as the Founder and CEO of the new podcast app, Limor.

## 3 - MATT KVESIC

Matt was probably enjoying his best season in

# GLOUCESTER'S HISTORY AGAINST THE FRENCH

GLOUCESTER HAVE NEVER PLAYED AGAINST TODAY'S OPPONENTS, CASTRES, BUT THEY DID HAVE SOME EARLY EXPERIENCE OF FRENCH CLUB OPPOSITION WHEN THEY WENT TO PLAY IN FRANCE IN THE EARLY 1900S. BUT IT WAS THE INTRODUCTION OF EUROPEAN CLUB RUGBY COMPETITIONS WHICH HAS REGULARLY BROUGHT FRENCH CLUBS TO KINGSHOLM.

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## EARLY ENCOUNTERS

In February 1911, Gloucester spent a week travelling 1,794 miles to Toulouse. Before the days of easyJet, this involved three days on a train, with overnight stops in London and Paris, and a Channel crossing when there were "...no serious losses owing to manager's promptitude in having all breakfasts screwed down". In Toulouse, it was said that Gloucester's arrival "...has greatly excited the people, and the whole town has been talking of nothing else for weeks".

Gloucester beat Stade Toulousain 18-13, with tries from Holford, Pegler and Hall. The players would remember this trip for the rest of their lives.

Encouraged by the success of this first foray into France, in March 1912 Gloucester made their way to Paris, where they defeated Stade Francais 13-3 with tries from "Father" Dix and Arthur Hudson. The dinner afterwards was sumptuous.

The first French club to play at Kingsholm was Racing Club de France on Christmas Eve 1908. They lost 0-39



to a Gloucestershire side containing eleven Gloucester players, amongst whom Frank Smith scored a hat trick of tries, "Father" Dix two, and Welshman kicked six conversions.

Gloucester played their first game against a French side at Kingsholm when French Universities came to play a warm-up game in March 1965, a few days before they beat

British Universities. With the great Pierre Villepreux at full-back, they had warmed up well, winning 17-0.

The first match against a French club followed in September 1975. John Bayliss, Alan Brinn and Eddie Pinkney scored tries for Gloucester, but Begles squeezed home 21-20.

## START OF EUROPEAN CUP RUGBY

It was not until the advent of European Cup rugby that Gloucester came up against French opposition regularly,

In October 1996, Gloucester's second match in European competition, in the Challenge Cup, was a scrappy, error-strewn game against Bordeaux Begles. It was a chastening experience for Gloucester, who were awarded a penalty try, and Mark Mapletoft kicked the conversion and a



# “ AS HE WENT OVER THE LINE THE ROAR MUST HAVE WOKEN UP CHILDREN ACROSS HALF OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE... ”



penalty, but they went down 10-17. Later the same month, Gloucester went down 9-24 at home to Bourgoin.

Things started to look up the following season, when neither side scored a try, as four penalties and two dropped goals by Mark Mapletoft saw Gloucester win 18-15 against Toulon.

Gloucester's first match against French opposition in the Champions Cup was a 22-22 draw with Colomiers in October 2000. The French were seven points ahead in the final minutes but repeatedly offended to keep Gloucester out. The referee finally decided he had seen enough, and awarded a penalty try.

Gloucester had to wait until December 2002 to enjoy their first win against a French side in the Champions Cup at Kingsholm, when Perpignan were defeated 33-16. Marcel Garvey ran in two tries, and a Frenchman, Ludovic Mercier, scored the rest of Gloucester's points with a try, three conversions and four penalties.

### RECORD AT KINGSHOLM

Overall the Gloucester record at Kingsholm against French opposition in European Cup rugby is comfortably on the plus side:

	W	D	L	F	A
CHAMPIONS CUP	7	1	2	287	201
CHALLENGE CUP	16	0	5	737	335
TOTAL	23	1	7	1024	536

### BIGGEST WIN

In the days before Jonny Wilkinson propelled Toulon to the top of the European tree, they came to Kingsholm and were thrashed 74-3 in December 2005. Utterly dominant up front, Gloucester ran in ten tries, with Mark Foster, Peter Richards and Jake Boer leading the way with a brace each. The following week in Toulon, Gloucester were just as irresistible with another ten tries in their 66-5 victory.

### MOST MEMORABLE MATCH

Nobody who was at Kingsholm on 20th January 2012 will

ever forget a magical night under the floodlights against Toulouse, four times champions of Europe. It was a thrilling, high-quality game, rated by no less an authority than Peter Ford as the greatest performance he had ever witnessed by a Gloucester team.

Toulouse tried some mind games by muscling in on Gloucester's traditional foray in front of the Shed at the end of their warm-up, but they succeeded only in firing up both the home team and supporters, and Gloucester chests were thrust out fit to burst.

In a bizarre start, Nick Wood went into the sin bin in the first minute, and Jonny May charged down a clearance kick with his nose, but still had the wit to pounce on the ball to score. Toulouse then imposed themselves and built a 17-7 lead, before Akapusi Qera scored to make it 17-14 at half-time.

Mike Tindall set up the first attack of the second half with a delightful grubber kick, sending Gloucester's speedsters, May and Sharples in hot pursuit. They were too fast for the Toulouse defence, May won the race to the ball and sent Sharples over for a mesmerising try. Burns converted and kicked a penalty, but back came Toulouse to tie it up at 24-24. Burns landed a penalty and then came the move which made history.

James "Sinbad" Simpson-Daniel left Matanavou for dead on the left flank, drew the cover and fed the ball to May just over the halfway line. There seemed to be sufficient cover, but he produced a burst of speed which left terrified defenders clutching in despair. As he went over the line the roar must have woken up children across half of Gloucestershire.

"I'll remember that moment for the rest of my life" said May afterwards. "Can we play you every week" chanted a delirious Shed at the shell-shocked Frenchmen.



# JAMES HANSON

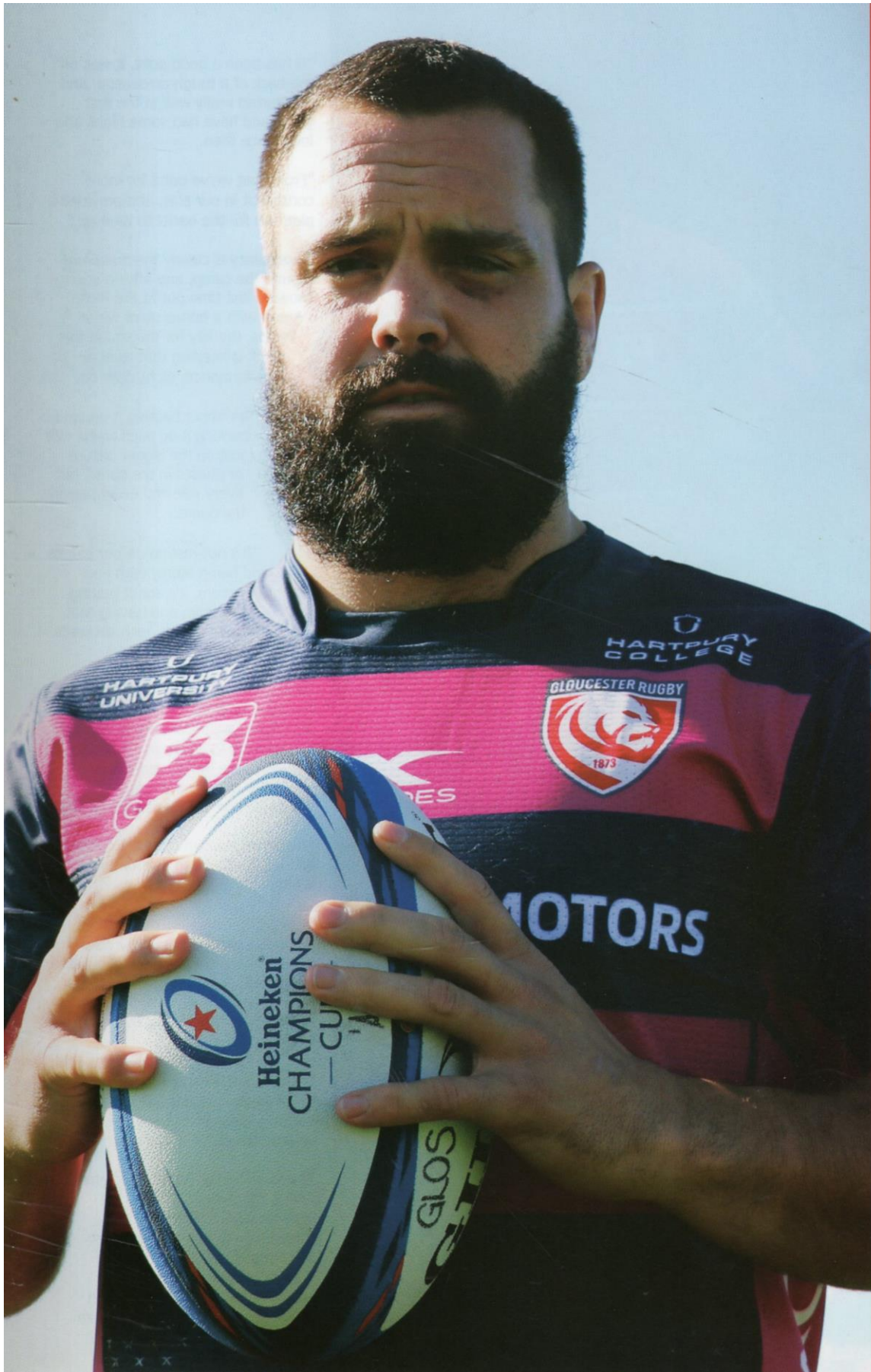


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As the Cherry and White squad embark on their first Champions Cup adventure together as a collective, you can sense the excitement building ahead of the tournament opener against the best team in France.

With one of Ireland, and Europe's heavy hitters lying in wait next week in Limerick in the form of Munster, the big games keep on coming and hooker James Hanson is determined for the squad to build on the promising signs shown in the opening weeks of the domestic season.







"It has been a good start, it was off the back of a tough preseason, and we started really well in the first game and have had some highs and lows since then.

"From that we've got a lot more consistent in our play, and provided a platform for the backs to hit it up."

Consistency is clearly the buzzword around the camp, and after a strong showing last time out at the Ricoh Arena with a bonus point win at Wasps, the key for the squad this week is keeping that level of performance, eight days on.

"It's about backing it up, and backing it up each week. Not just on the bigger picture of phases in the game, but every role and every play in the game.

"It's not resting on our laurels and being happy with one good scrum, it's about getting down to it again and having that dominant mindset for each set piece or ruck."

Hanson arrived at the club this time last year, originally on a short-term deal from Queensland Reds, but he fast developed a love for the area, and made his move a permanent one, after making a strong impression on the Kingsholm faithful.

A year on, Hanson feels fully settled and excited to be in Cherry and White.

"Yeah, I feel really settled, it does feel like a team that I really want to build with. There's a lot of good things and potential here, and it's easy to say, but we're proving that we're slowly developing week by week.

"We're not the complete package by all means yet, but we're surely building towards that, and it's a real positive for us."

The Gloucester Rugby pack has had a lot of tests so far this season, and arguably come through with merit, especially after the dismantling of the Wasps' pack last time out, however the acid test is often when the French come to town.



This test is one that Johan Ackermann has got his forward pack well up for this Sunday.

"For us, Castres are a big and physical pack, and really back themselves in the scrum and the maul and this is something that we feel that we've particularly done well so far this season.

"I've felt like it's been a strength for us, we've worked really hard in that area on our scrum and our maul, so we need to make sure we negate their threats, and set that platform for our dangerous backs this weekend."

With Hanson only getting his first taste of English domestic action twelve months ago, he is full of excitement for the first crack at the Heineken Champions Cup over the next fortnight.

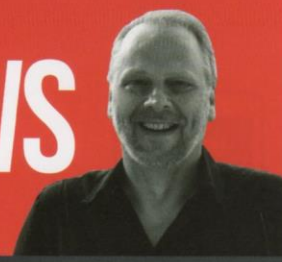
"Yeah for me, the European games last season were really good to be a part of in the Challenge Cup. But from back home in Australia, the Champions Cup is always that you used to watch and be really keen to be a part of.

"It's really exciting to be part of this challenge coming up this weekend."

**“WE’RE NOT THE COMPLETE PACKAGE BY ALL MEANS YET, BUT WE’RE SURELY BUILDING TOWARDS THAT, AND IT’S A REAL POSITIVE FOR US.”**

# KINGSHOLM NEWS

WITH BOB FENTON



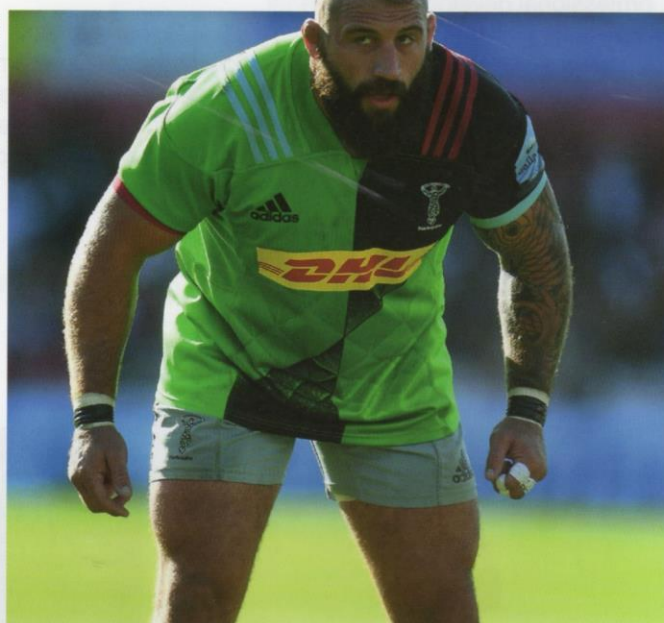
## BIG BOYS CUP THEN - IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME COMING. WE'VE MISSED YOU, WELCOME BACK.

And welcome to Castres too, currently sitting pretty in the top deck of the Top 14 league in France. They've gone through quite a renaissance over the past few years, culminating in them winning the French Top 14 last season.

That's no mean feat when you look at the teams they would have ended up above, and when you consider that they play around 300 games a season, in fact the French schedules are so mad that I think they start the next season before the one they are currently playing ends!

So, a big test for us today, but that's what we want isn't it – supping at the top table of club rugby. It's going to be an interesting ride.

I suppose we could have come into the game in a bit of a better shape, the very disappointing home defeat against Harlequins. Two weeks on, I'm still none the wiser about how we managed to



lose that game, apart from the inescapable fact that they scored more points than us.

That kind of result is signal to switch off all social media,

especially given the proximity to the last full moon. Some of the howling going on, even in midweek when I ventured back in was, frankly, bonkers. Still everyone can be an expert on Twitter...

Long-time readers will know that I have a standing bet every season that we will go the term unbeaten at Kingsholm. This year I really thought I was going to be quids in (well one pint in – we gamble for high stakes) or at least that I would stay in the hunt until the latter half of the season. Not to be though...

Having had a loss like that about the last thing you would want would have been our next three fixtures – Wasps last week,



Castres today and Munster next week. You might as well throw Leicester the week after that into the mix.

But that's what it was, and another chance to go up to Coventry to enjoy the 'match day experience' of the Ricoh Arena. Heaven forbid we ever end up with something like that place. I do feel for the Wasps supporters that have stuck with them since the days of them playing in a park in West London, via places like Loftus Road and High Wycombe. It's almost like the club looks at a map and find the most soulless place to go and play and then set up home there.

And love them or hate them, that team can play a fantastic brand of rugby... most of the time, but not last week. After about three minutes I think we were all expecting a re-run of last season when they took us apart, but not this time.

Ben Vellacott's try – assisted by a 'cross' from Danny Cipriani that was probably better than most people who turn up to watch Coventry City FC at that stadium have ever seen – and Tom Hudson's audition for a Strictly Come Dancing Twinkle Toes award when he set up Charlie's first score, set us up for a famous victory.

For me though the stars of the



show were all up front, Fraser Balmain and Josh Hohneck putting in monster shifts, 77 minutes of domination and destruction!

Just to flip back to the Quins game for a moment, well after the game to be precise, I was hanging around waiting for someone to turn up and was watching the antics of Joe Marler long after all his team mates were gone from the field. He was happily posing for selfies with anyone who wanted them regardless of the colour of the shirt they were wearing. He was winding up a couple of little

kids by running off with their phone when taking a picture and pretending to tackle a youngster who was holding a ball.

I know he's a nightmare on the field, but hats off to him. I love seeing things like that, those youngsters will remember that for a long time, and fair play to Joe for giving up his time. It's not just Joe, we see our own guys do that every time they walk around the field – it's just not that often we see an opposition player doing something like that with the home fans, and all credit to him for that and injecting a smile after a grim result.



He's got some way to go before he matches the great David Campese though – I remember watching him playing against the South West in Bristol many years ago, he stood on the pitch for hours signing autographs. At one point he ran into the changing room and appeared a few minutes later in a jacket and carried on signing. Quite a bit different to one England star who shuffled out of Kingsholm a few years back with the kit men and avoided signing anything!

Finally, if you haven't done so already, I really recommend that you download the Gloucester Rugby App – It was only released a few weeks ago but already I can't imagine being at a game without it. And it's free!



# GLOUCESTER RUGBY

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Harlequins

# HARLEQUINS

# 27

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**“WE LOST BECAUSE WE ARE NOT GOOD ENOUGH IN OUR SKILL EXECUTION AND OUR DECISION-MAKING. I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TRIES WE LEFT OUT THERE.”**

**“WE NEED TO GET BETTER ON THE TRAINING PITCH AND, ON MATCH DAYS, MAKE SURE WE SEE AND USE THOSE OPPORTUNITIES.”**

HEAD COACH JOHAN ACKERMANN



Gloucester Rugby will feel that this game was one that got away as Harlequins became the first team to win at Kingsholm this season, edging a tight Gallagher Premiership Rugby encounter by 25 points to 27.

A late penalty from Quins fly-half Marcus Smith proved to be the difference as the visitors seized the initiative in the second half and saw them exert just enough control to take the spoils.

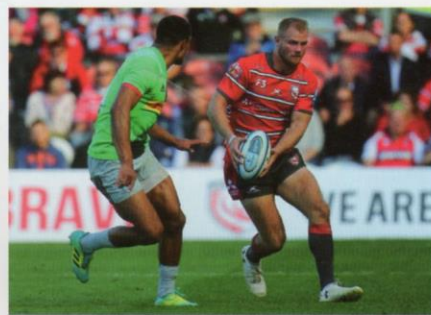
It was a frustrating afternoon at the office for the Cherry and Whites, who responded well after giving up a couple of soft scores in the first half and looked to have battled their way to a valuable win. It wasn't to be...

The early signs were actually very promising. Gloucester Rugby struck first with a peach of a try when they finally got hold of some ball after a decent opening from the visitors. Jake Polledri provided the midfield bust and

the flanker put Danny Cipriani away to score.

The Cherry and Whites had their tails up and started to pour forward in a bid to claim a second score but, just as they looked set to take a real grip on the game, it all came unstuck.

Lewis Ludlow couldn't quite hang on to a flat pass from Cipriani and Nathan Earle gleefully grabbed the bobbled ball and ran it back for a long range



interception try to stun the home crowd.

When Quins scored again straight from the restart, Joe Marchant making the key break and setting up Earle for his second, the momentum had dramatically changed in favour of Harlequins.

The Cherry and Whites hit back as Harlequins' discipline started to slip and, although a yellow card was eventually shown to

Matt Symons, it could have come much earlier.

Cipriani kicked two penalties and then converted Charlie Sharples' try as the winger finished in style after good work from Mark Atkinson and Ben Vellacott. It was now 18-12 to Gloucester Rugby but Quins narrowed the gap to 18-15 with a James Lang penalty with the last kick of the half.

The visitors dominated possession and territory at

the start of the second half and penalties from Lang and Smith edged them in front, but Gloucester Rugby finally looked to have steadied the ship through Sharples' second try, Cipriani converting for 25-24.

But Quins were to have the last word, Smith kicking a 78th minute penalty after a scrum offence. The Cherry and Whites had one last chance to retake the lead but couldn't convert their final scoring opportunity.



# WASPS RUGBY

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# GLOUCESTER RUGBY

# 21



“WE SHOWED MORE COMPOSURE UNDER PRESSURE, BUT WE STARTED POORLY AND CHUCKED AWAY A LEAD SO THE WAY WE RESPONDED WAS THE BIGGEST POSITIVE.

“OUR FORWARDS WERE GOOD AND WE NICKED A COUPLE OF TURNOVERS AND AT THE END ED SLATER AND DANNY SHOWED GOOD BODY LANGUAGE TO HELP GET US OVER THE LINE.”

HEAD COACH JOHAN ACKERMANN

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It wasn't quite Gloucester Rugby's first victory at the Ricoh Arena – the team beat the Ospreys there in an Anglo-Welsh semi-final back in 2009 – however, it was the first Premiership win at the venue and a first away win at Wasps since February 2011.

Perhaps more importantly was that it saw the Cherry and Whites respond decisively after the disappointment of defeat at home to Harlequins the week before.

It wasn't easy, victories in the Gallagher Premiership rarely are. But Gloucester Rugby showed great character to overcome a difficult start as well as withstand a spirited comeback from the home team when the win could easily have slipped away.

Charlie Sharples continued his electric start to the season with a brace to take his total to eight, Ben Vellacott finished off a superb break where the scrum-half interacted superbly

with Danny Cipriani and Lewis Ludlow's late try clinched the win and a try-scoring bonus point.

However, none of this would have been possible without the hard work put in up front by the pack. The platform they created paved the way to victory, of that there can be no doubt and sent the squad into today's game in high spirits.

Things didn't look quite so promising in the early stages at





the Ricoh though. Dan Robson caught the fringe defence off guard at a ruck after only a few minutes and scampered over for the game's first try. And the former Gloucester Rugby scrum-half would have had a second had it not been for Charlie Sharples tracking back to end the threat.

But the Cherry and Whites started to gain a foothold in the game and scored a great try to get back on terms.

Danny Cipriani broke from deep, swapped passes with Ben Vellacott and then rolled a beautifully-weighted cross-kick for his half-back partner to score.

A second try, of similarly high quality, followed. Tom Hudson's quick feet proved to be the catalyst on this occasion and the speed of Charlie Sharples did the rest. Had Jake Polledri been able to pick up a tricky bouncing ball near the Wasps line, Gloucester

Rugby would have been out of sight at half-time.

However, as befits a team of their calibre, Wasps hit back in the second half as tries from Daly and de Jongh got the home side back to within a score.

It really could have gone either way at this point, but the Cherry and Whites finished the stronger, Sharples bagging a second and Ludlow forcing his way over from close range to secure the five points.



# GLOUCESTER RUGBY



# CASTRES OLYMPIQUE

T	P	C	D	POSITION				T	P	C	D
■	■	■	■	Jason WOODWARD 15	FULL BACK	15	Armand BATLLE	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Charlie SHARPLES 14	RIGHT WING	14	Martin LAVEAU	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Billy TWELVETREES 13	OUTSIDE CENTRE	13	Thomas COMBEZOU	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Mark ATKINSON 12	INSIDE CENTRE	12	Robert EBERSOHN	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Tom MARSHALL 11	LEFT WING	11	David SMITH	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Danny CIPRIANI 10	FLY-HALF	10	Julien DUMORA	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Callum BRALEY 9	SCRUM-HALF	9	Rory KOCKOTT	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Josh HOHNECK 1	LOOSEHEAD PROP	1	Antoine TICHIT	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Franco MARAIS 2	HOOKER	2	Jody JENNEKER	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Fraser BALMAIN 3	TIGHTHEAD PROP	3	Daniel KOTZE	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Ed SLATER (C) 4	LOCK	4	Steve MAFI	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Gerbrandt GROBLER 5	LOCK	5	Rodrigo CAPO ORTEGA (C)	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Jake POLLEDRI 6	BLINDSIDE FLANKER	6	Mathieu BABILLOT	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Lewis LUDLOW 7	OPENSIDE FLANKER	7	Camille GERONDEAU	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Ben MORGAN 8	NUMBER 8	8	Maama VAIPULU	■	■	■	■
REPLACEMENTS											
■	■	■	■	Henry WALKER 16		16	Marc-Antoine RALLIER	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Val RAPAVA RUSKIN 17		17	Tudor STROE	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Ciaran KNIGHT 18		18	Christophe SAMSON	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Tom SAVAGE 19		19	Alex TULOU	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Freddie CLARKE 20		20	Yann DAVID	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Ben VELLACOTT 21		21	Ludovic RADOSAVLJEVIC	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Owen WILLIAMS 22		22	Yohan LE BOURHIS	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	Tom HUDSON 23		23	Marc CLERC	■	■	■	■

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## MATCH OFFICIALS

**Referee:** Marius Mitrea (ITA) / **Assistant Referees:** Manuel Bottino (ITA) and Gianluca Gnechi (ITA)  
**TMO:** Stefano Penne (ITA) / **Citing Commissioner:** Peter Ferguson (IRE)

Heineken Champions Cup  
Title Partner



Official Partner



Official Supplier

