



GLOUCESTER RUGBY OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME 2018/19 SEASON

CHERRY & WHITES

..... GLOUCESTER RUGBY v SALE SHARKS | 29 DECEMBER 2018 | 3:00PM | GALLAGHER PREMIERSHIP | £3.50 | 10

 **MITSUBISHI MOTORS**
MAIN CLUB PARTNER

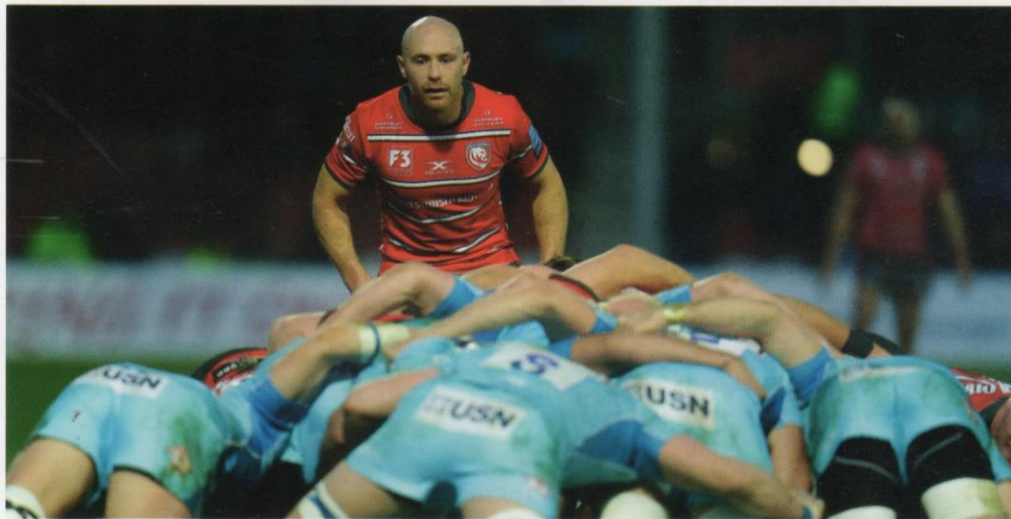
 **Gallagher** **PREMIERSHIP RUGBY**   **RICOH** imagine. change. **CITIZEN**  **THE SUNDAY TIMES** **5** 

..... CAPTAIN

WILLI HEINZ



GOOD AFTERNOON, AND WELCOME TO KINGSHOLM STADIUM FOR THE FINAL TIME IN 2018, AND WELCOME TO EVERYONE FROM SALE SHARKS FOR ROUND 11 OF THE GALLAGHER PREMIERSHIP.



We're eager to get back on the horse on home soil today, there's no getting away from that. Last time out at Kingsholm Stadium against Exeter Chiefs we left with a real feeling of disappointment. We came into the game full of confidence, but we found ourselves on the wrong end of the result, despite putting everything into the game.

We back ourselves against anyone, at any stadium, and we were massively frustrated that, despite being in the game for much of the contest, we weren't able to wrestle the initiative away from the Chiefs late on, and seize some momentum. In the end Exeter squeezed the life out of the game by clinically maintaining possession, and were clinical with their power at key times.

But we showed what character we have in the squad last Sunday, as we dogged out an important win at Newcastle. As Johan said after the

game, it wasn't always pretty at times but we got the four points.

But we showed great heart to keep going, even when things didn't look to be going our way and I think that we made a significant statement by hanging on for the win against a tough opponent at a difficult venue after a long trip.

It was great recently to see a number of the first team squad renew their deals with the club, and the changing room is a happy place to be when we have continuity. As a group we are all striving to push one another forward, to take this squad to where it needs to be to compete consistently at the highest level.

The message from the coaches is clear, and we all buy into it. Players want to stay here and there is healthy competition for every place. This club is one that players want to develop at, push themselves at and is located

in an area that the squad love living in with their families and partners.

The important thing now for us is to look at what went wrong when it does, and ensure that each week we are on the money emotionally, mentally and our application is spot on, as when we get it right, we can be a match for anyone, the challenge is the typical buzzword of consistency.

That would be most of our New Year's resolution!

I hope everyone had a great Christmas with your loved ones, and got plenty of Cherry and White gear! We're looking forward to going out there today to end the year in style in front of a full house.

From me and all the squad, Happy New Year, and we'll see you again on the 11th against Munster!

Willi

OWNER

MARTIN ST. QUINTON



07

GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME BACK TO KINGSHOLM FOR OUR FINAL HOME MATCH OF 2018.

It's been quite a year. One thing for certain is that life at Gloucester Rugby is rarely dull!

We have seen plenty of ups and down, but I think it's safe to say that significant progress has been made at the club both on and off the field, and that we have real cause for optimism going into 2019.

The Festive home fixture is always special. I know from talking to people around the stadium, that lots of people who have moved away from the area over the years return home for Christmas and New Year, and include a trip to Kingsholm to watch the game as part of their annual ritual. It's good to see them here supporting the team.

But, while many are fortunate to enjoy some well-earned time off at this time of year, it's been very much business as usual for the coaches, players and staff at the club.

It is the same story across various sports of course, and it's been a particular challenge for ourselves to

manage the condition of the playing squad over this time, taking into account the long trip to Newcastle last weekend.

It's a hugely important time in the Gallagher Premiership. This league seems to be more competitive than ever before, and points gained during this period are invaluable.

One final note from myself. Shortly before Christmas, Premiership Rugby confirmed the significant investment from CVC Capital Partners. This is very positive news for club rugby in England.

It is a major investment into the club game and this will support the ambition for further growth of the Gallagher Premiership domestically and internationally which is fantastic.

Happy New Year and let's hope it is a great one for Gloucester Rugby.

Martin

DAVID HUMPHREYS

HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND WELCOME BACK TO KINGSHOLM FOR OUR FINAL GAME OF 2018 AGAINST SALE SHARKS IN THE GALLAGHER PREMIERSHIP.

I'm not sure any of us would have chosen to play an away fixture in Newcastle the weekend before Christmas, but last Sunday's win was a vital four points in another very competitive Premiership season.

It certainly wasn't our best performance but, in the end we found a way to win the game thanks to an outstanding penalty kick from Billy Twelvetrees. Once again, the win was built on a very strong defensive performance and I thought our replacements all made an impact when they came on.

As with Newcastle, Sale's current league position doesn't reflect the quality of their squad and we will need to play much better today to get another home win and cement our top four position in the Gallagher Premiership.

I mentioned in my recent programme notes that player retention and recruitment for next season was well underway and we were delighted to be able to announce the first set of player contract extensions just before Christmas. As I've said many times, the keys to building a successful team, and the depth of squad required to compete in the Premiership, are continuity and the retention of the same group of players for a number of seasons.

Historically, Gloucester Rugby has always had quite a high turnover of players and, while there will always be some players



who choose to move on, the majority of our squad will be here again next season. With so many international quality players arriving in Gloucester last summer, this year's focus is on retaining key players and continuing to develop our talented Academy players.

Many of those young Academy players have played a lot of Premiership Shield rugby this season due to the number of injuries in the senior squad. It's been a baptism of fire in terms of results but, in the long run, many of them will benefit from the exposure to game time at this early stage in their career. The characteristics they show under pressure give us a good idea of who will survive the challenges at the top level of the professional game.

At U18 level, we know we have a very good group coming through and they have started

the Academy League campaign with two very good wins against Saracens and Bristol. Under Richard Whiffin and Trevor Woodman, the U18's play exciting, attacking rugby and if you get a chance over the next few weeks, it's worth going to watch the next generation of Gloucester Rugby stars.

I'm sure you'll join me in welcoming Sale Sharks and all the staff, players and supporters of Sale Sharks to Gloucester this afternoon and let's finish off the year with a win in front of a full house at Kingsholm.

Your support has played a huge part in making Kingsholm an intimidating place to play in 2018 so let's finish the year with another memorable afternoon.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2019.

David

MIKE TEAGUE "IRON MAN" MIKE



MIKE TEAGUE IS ONE OF THE ALL-TIME GREATS OF GLOUCESTER RUGBY. WITH BALL IN HAND HE WAS VERY DIFFICULT TO BRING DOWN. HE HAD A TECHNIQUE OF SPINNING OUT OF THE TACKLE AND CHARGING ON, ONLY TO REPEAT THE PROCESS WITH THE NEXT HAPLESS OPPONENT. IN DEFENCE HE WAS A DEADLY TACKLER, AND HIS UPPER BODY STRENGTH WAS SUCH THAT HE REGULARLY TORE THE BALL OUT OF THE OPPOSITION'S HANDS.

He made 306 appearances for the Cherry and Whites between 1978 and 1995, scoring 77 tries, including 20 in the 1981-82 season, when he was in the team which shared the John Player Cup with Moseley. He also appeared in the losing cup final against Bath in 1990. He won 27 England caps, and three for the British Lions. He toured with the Lions in 1989 and 1993. In the latter tour against Australia he was made "Player of the Series". He also played six times for the Barbarians.

Michael Clive Teague was born on 8 October 1960 and was educated at Churchdown Academy. He played local rugby for Gloucester All Blues before making his first appearance for Gloucester on 15 November 1978 against Exeter University, scoring a try in the 46-20 win.

It was not long before Mike was on the England selectors' radar, and after appearing for England Under 23's, he played for England 'B' against France 'B' in November 1981. However, it was not until February 1985 when Mike came off the bench to replace John Hall

that he gained his first cap against France. Phil Blakeway and John Orwin were also playing in that game. His full debut came on the England tour of New Zealand that summer where he played in both tests.

There was then nearly a four year gap, and, determined to regain his place, Mike decided he had to bulk up. He undertook extreme training methods, including running up hills with logs or rocks, known as 'Mad Dog' training. Eventually the selectors again took interest and he was selected for England in all the home championship games of 1989. Indeed his form was so good that he was selected to go on the British Lions tour of Australia that same year.

He missed the first Test, which was lost, through injury, but played so well, at blind-side flanker, in the other two Tests (won 19-12 and 19-18) that he was made 'Player of the Series'. Rugby writer John Griffiths said, "Having nursed a troublesome shoulder injury for much of the



visit, he tore into the tight and loose with shoulder dipped and with total disregard for personal safety." England lock Paul Ackford christened him "Iron Man Mike".

Back home Mike was a key player in England's Grand Slam winning team of 1991. He scored a try against Wales, when the 25-6 victory was the first in Cardiff for 28 years. He also scored a try against Ireland in Dublin. Later in the same year he played in five of the six games England played

in the World Cup, including the final against Australia which was lost 12-6. Mike missed the 1992 Five Nations through injury, but in October did play against South Africa, England winning 33-16. He played in all England's Five Nations games in 1993, the last game against Ireland being his final cap. Although usually thought of as a No.8, of his 27 caps only eight were in that position and the rest on the blind-side flank.

In summer 1993 Mike again toured with the British Lions to New Zealand and came off the bench in the Second Test at Wellington. The game was won, so Teague was unbeaten in his three Lions appearances. That game would represent his last appearance at Test level.

For Gloucester Mike had a long and distinguished career. In October 1980 he was in the Gloucester team which was thrashed 38-6 at Newport. Three days later there was the daunting prospect of a trip to Pontypool for a midweek game. For the first time, the back row consisted of John Gadd, Mike Teague and Mike Longstaff. Gloucester pulled



In the 1989-90 season Gloucester had another good run in the Pilkington Cup. Mike scored tries in the 26-16 quarter-final win over Nottingham, and another in the semi-final at Northampton which Gloucester won 17-12. Unfortunately, a week before the final Gloucester missed the chance of winning the league title, by losing 12-3 at Nottingham. It is difficult to say if morale was affected,

off a famous 17-15 victory, in no small measure down to the back-row combination.

In the 1981-82 season Teague made no fewer than 45 appearances, and scored 20 tries, including hat-tricks against Clifton and Plymouth Albion. That season was the best in Gloucester's long history, when only three games were lost out of the 48 played. Gloucester made it to the final of the John Player Cup, and Mike played in every round. The Cherry and Whites were firm favourites to beat Moseley in the final, but had an off day. No tries were scored, and with the score at 9-9, extra time was required. In the end Gloucester were saved by a penalty kicked by Paul Ford to escape with a 12-12 draw. The cup was shared, as there was no provision for a replay.

At the start of the 1985-86 season Mike decided to try his luck at Cardiff, but the Welsh club's back-row was particularly strong, and, with the England international John Scott at No.8, Mike's opportunities were limited. He headed back to Kingsholm in January 1986.



but the final against Bath was a disaster, the game being lost 6-48.

From 1991 to 1994 Mike played for Moseley, but returned to Kingsholm for one final campaign, retiring after the last game of the season against Harlequins on 29 April 1995.

Between 1981 and 1985 he played four times for the South and South-West against various international touring teams. In 1982 he scored two tries in the 36-6 win over Fiji, and in 1983 when the All Blacks toured, he was in the team which was defeated 18-6. Seven other Gloucester players were in this team: Phil Blakeway, Richard Mogg, Steve Mills, Malcolm Preedy, Steve Boyle, John Orwin and John Gadd.

Mike also played seven times for the South and South-West in the Divisional Championship from 1988 to 1990, scoring tries in his first two appearances against London Division and then the Midlands.

On retirement he was appointed as Gloucester's first Team Manager, leading the club into the professional era.



MATT BANAHAN

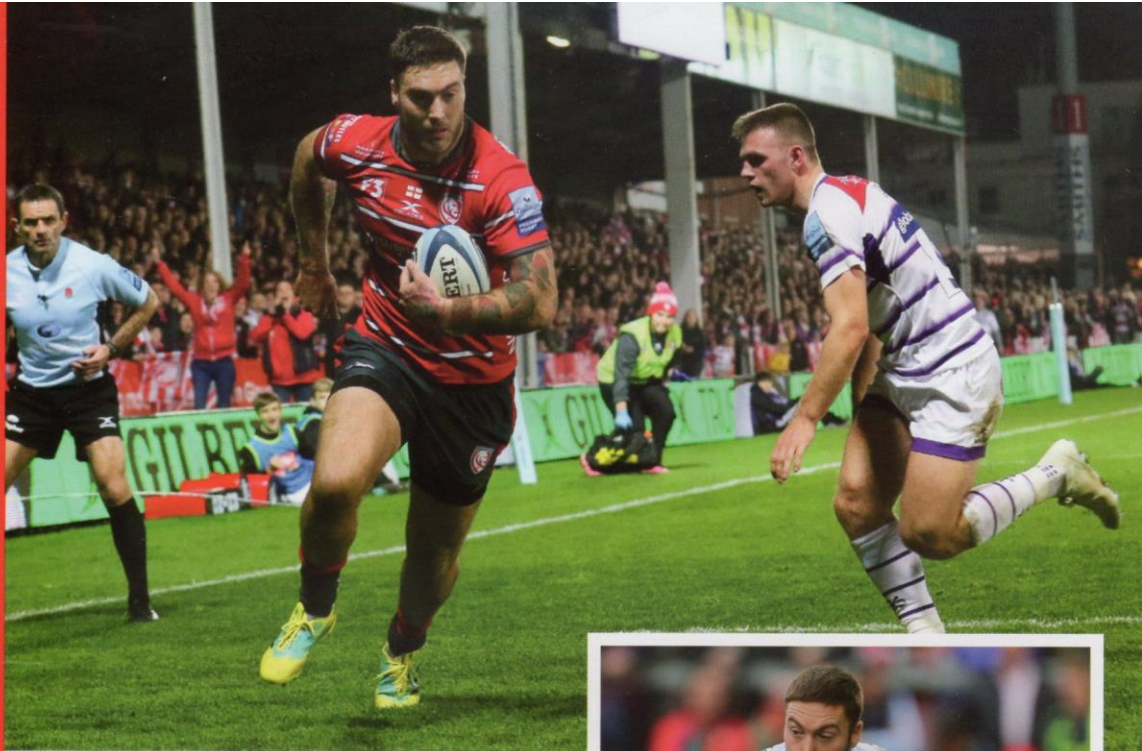


There's a small, select group of players that make the move between Gloucester Rugby and our West Country rivals at Bath Rugby. But one of the modern-day stalwarts of blue, black and white Matt Banahan did just that this summer.

Midway through his season in a much better looking (!) Cherry and White jersey, Banahan is enjoying the new lease of life his move has given him, changing his surroundings with a move to Kingsholm.

“

IT WAS A NEW CHALLENGE, AND ONE THAT WAS RIGHT FOR ME ESPECIALLY AFTER SITTING DOWN WITH DAVID AND JOHAN. IT WAS A NEW START, A NEW CHALLENGE THAT I WANTED TO TAKE ON TO IMPROVE AND GET BETTER



"The move has been brilliant for me, I've really enjoyed it so far. I was one of the first new signings to turn up in preseason, and this gave me an opportunity to meet all of the boys, get to know them and get thrown in at the deep end.

"It's probably the best time to meet the boys at the start, when everyone is working hard. There's no games, and I was lucky enough to enjoy that throughout preseason."

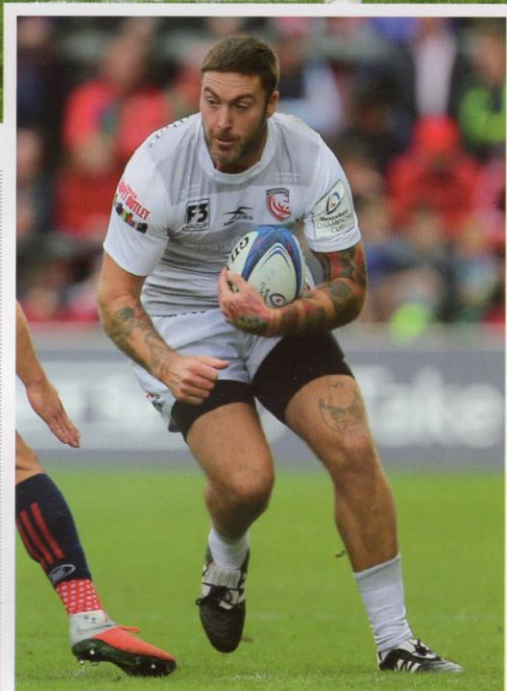
Taking on the move with some apprehension was not the case for the Jersey-born winger, and the prospect of a new challenge was hugely exciting and something to be embraced.

"It was a new start, a new challenge, and I was nervous to make the move of course. As I knew that I was leaving for quite a while, I was able to get used to it.

"People think you're going to be at one club for all your career, but sometimes it is the ugly side of the business, and at least I was able to say that I moved on my own terms, and the move really did excite me.

"It was a new challenge, and one that was right for me especially after sitting down with David and Johan. It was a new start that I wanted to take on to improve and get better."

With well over ten years under his belt at The Rec, Banahan knows the English domestic game inside and out, and feels that the Cherry and Whites are on the right road to be competing at the top after a frustrating number of seasons.



"This season so far we've put ourselves in positions to compete with the top teams, that's for sure. It's important to remember that the top teams have been together for a long time, and perhaps we haven't.

"To be competing at that level, we have to be challenging them week in, week out. We know we are somewhere on the way to reaching that level, and we have to make sure that we reach that consistency.

"It's an exciting time to be at the club, and as a squad we are just going to get stronger and better as the weeks go on."

On a lighter note, Banahan's #ScareCam escapades have caught the attention, creating great reactions amongst his team mates and family on his Instagram page, but who in the Cherry and White squad could be next on the hit list?

"There are few boys in the squad that I'd like to scare, that's for sure, Fraser Balmain is always a good one as he has a lot of feminine features when he gets scared. So, he's a good one to get.

"There's Paddy McAllister too. He always says I don't get him, when I do, he always tries to give it the big burly Irishman and pretend he's not scared, and he's a softie on the inside."

Back to the serious business, with Sale Sharks arriving at Kingsholm this afternoon, ending the 2018 calendar, Banahan knows the physical challenge on the way from the men from the AJ Bell.

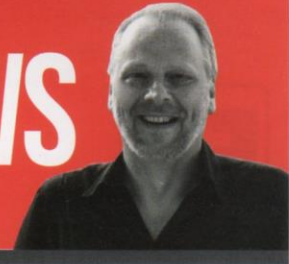
"Sale are going to be a tough opposition, I think they are ready to fire on all cylinders. With the forward pack they have got, they will give some front foot ball to their backs, and they are a bit of a ticking time bomb ready to get their season going, reach their potential and perform.

"We need to contain them up front, and we'll be able to stop them from playing, and this will stop them being the team they can be on paper, which is one with devastating effect."



KINGSHOLM NEWS

WITH BOB FENTON



WELL IT WAS TOO GOOD TO LAST, WASN'T IT? THERE WAS ONLY ONE WAY TO FOLLOW UP A GREAT WIN DOWN AT SANDY PARK AND THAT WAS TO RETURN THE FAVOUR A MATTER OF A FEW DAYS LATER. SURE ENOUGH WE DID THAT IN SOME STYLE – STARVED OF ANY MEANINGFUL BALL FOR MOST OF THE MATCH BY A RUTHLESSLY EFFICIENT EXETER SIDE.

And that's what they are, totally efficient and you have to doff your cap to them for that. I'd love us to have their consistency and self-belief, but would I like to be a Chiefs fan... No thanks. Give me some style and swagger over that driving efficiency, give me excitement over expectation. I'll take the odd setback that comes with it, but at least we will see some fun and invention.

The upshot of that game, and with the result in France the next day, our European Group is far too difficult to call and just about any of the four teams could progress through. I guess Munster are in the box seat, and that makes their game here in January absolutely huge. I'm already looking forward to that, but not to the endless droning



on about 'The Miracle Match' – enough of that already. As I have said before, I was there and didn't see a miracle – a

nightmare yes, but that was about it.

One upside, if you are looking for one, is that some of the people who sit around me might be pleased that my long suffering, worn to every game, rugby shirt got a wash last weekend. You read a lot about superstitions and who does what to make sure we win a game, and I always liked to think I was above all of that.

And then I realised that I wasn't... Said shirt does not get worn for anything other than going to a match. It is never put on inside the house, only once I have either parked the car or got out of the one that has given me a lift. It is taken off the minute I get back into the house.



If we win, it is not washed, but goes back in the drawer straight away. If we lose, it goes in the wash immediately to remove the stain of defeat. Of course, I have always dressed that up as coincidence, just something that happens... Superstitious? Not me, mate. Yeah right.

Frankly as it is a few years old, I'm quite surprised it has any colour left in it such were our results not so many seasons ago. But this year it's been a bit better – or grubbier – depending how you look at it. I've thought of getting a new favourite one, but what if I get rid of the old one and we start losing? I'd never forgive myself... I wonder if there is some kind of exorcism for this kind of thing?

We had some mixed news after that game too – the injury list got a bit longer, Danny Cips and Jake P reporting to matron and being excused games for a few weeks as a result – hopefully for not as long as is being reported. We've not done too well in that respect this season. But we saw Paddy McAllister back on the paddock in an 'A' team game and Lewis Ludlow must be close to a return so that's a couple of plusses.

More good news came in the form of 'Marvellous Monday' – or whatever it was that our social media gurus dubbed it – as they revealed a series of dodgy films (ahem, Editor), but more importantly good news, as a bunch of players renewed their contracts. Very nice to get an



early Christmas present like that, and hopefully we will soon have a 'Terrific Tuesday' or 'Wonderful Wednesday' early in the New Year as more put pen to paper.

Back to today though, a visit from Sale who – at the time of writing (just before Christmas) are sitting just above the trap door position at the foot of the table. By kick off today that might have changed depending on whether we can do the business at fellow strugglers Newcastle, and how Sale get on in the first leg of their West Country double header at home to Bristol.

The form guide on previous fixtures is 8-8, so nothing much to go on from there. What we do know is that whatever team

jogs out for our visitors they will be a tough nut to crack, very much in the image of their head coach. Steve Diamond gets a lot of stick from all quarters, he's not known for taking a backward step and for perhaps being a touch aggressive. Well, I remember him as a Sale player and he was just like that then, so why should be surprised if he still has some of those traits?

I have more than a little respect for the way he refuses to play the media game sometimes, he gets asked a question, he gives you his answer – just don't expect it to be sugar coated. That can be a bit refreshing in this over rehearsed and schooled world of sports media, and maybe he has crossed the line once or twice and has ruffled a few feathers, but has anyone been really offended? I don't think so.

I'm only saying this in case someone tells him where my seat is and he comes and finds me, I want to go into the New Year in roughly the same shape I am now if that's OK with you. (Whispers: Hope Sale get as stuffed as my Christmas turkey though).

Talking of New Year, time to wish everyone at Kingsholm a very happy and successful New Year. 2019 is going to be a good year, it's going to be our year.





GLOUCESTER RUGBY

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EXETER CHIEFS

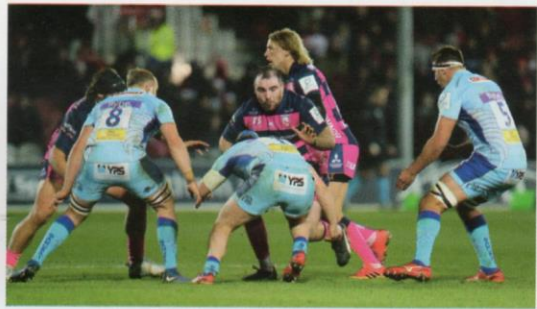
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“LAST WEEK WE SMILED, TODAY WE DON'T - THAT'S THE BEAUTY OF THIS GAME. IT BRINGS YOU BACK TO EARTH QUICKLY. WE WERE UNDER PRESSURE THE WHOLE FIRST HALF. IT SHOWS YOU THAT THE SET-PIECE WAS QUITE CRUCIAL AND THE PENALTY COUNT REVERSED TODAY AS WELL.”

“IT'S A BIG LEARNING CURVE FOR US. QUALITY TEAMS BACK UP THEIR PERFORMANCES AND WE DIDN'T TODAY.”

HEAD COACH JOHAN ACKERMANN



Kingsholm was buzzing with optimism ahead of this round four Heineken Champions Cup clash last Friday, Gloucester Rugby supporters hoping that their team could back up the previous week's win over Exeter Chiefs at Sandy Park over the same opponent.

Such an outcome would not only spell the end of Exeter's dwindling European ambitions, but it would also keep Gloucester Rugby in the European knock-out picture and serve intention of the club's ambitions to compete with the game's very best.

But everyone knew that there would be a ferocious response from the Chiefs to defeat the previous week. Not for nothing have they been one of the most successful English club sides in recent years. And so it proved to be.

Although there never seemed to be that much between the two sides on the night, and the first points didn't come until more than 20 minutes had been played, the visitors controlled large parts of the game and certainly won the possession battle.

They also made the most of their

visits to the home 22, always coming away with points, whereas Gloucester Rugby would reflect ruefully on some chances that came and went.

The game did go to the wire, with the Cherry and Whites still chasing a win going into the final minute or so of the game, but they were undone by their own ambition and Exeter pounced to score a late try which secured their own try scoring bonus point and denied Gloucester Rugby a losing bonus point.

Such drama had seemed unlikely at one point. Although the opening



stages were an arm-wrestle, the Chiefs were showing signs of implementing their possession-based game and it came as no real surprise when they opened the scoring through Sam Skinner from a catch and drive.

The Cherry and Whites did respond well, opening their account with a fine score from Jason Woodward and it seemed as though they were starting to gain the upper hand. However, a knock-on was followed by a cruelly weighted kick through which Danny Cipriani had to carry over his own line.

It led to a period of pressure on the Gloucester line which seemed to go on forever. Gloucester Rugby defended bravely and lost Danny Cipriani to injury but, finally, Don Armand forced his way over.

The second half was similarly frustrating in that the Cherry and Whites simply couldn't get their hands on the ball as Exeter monopolised possession, and Gareth Steenson extended the lead on 54 minutes with a penalty.

However, the home team weren't quite done and fashioned another

good score for Jason Woodward to keep their lingering hopes alive, only for Exeter to seemingly quash them as Jack Yeandle bundled his way over from close range.

Again the Cherry and Whites hit back, and again it was a fine try, this time Tom Hudson finishing an incisive move.

Now trailing 22-27, Gloucester Rugby threw caution to the wind. They went for broke, trying a cheeky chip over the top from deep within their own 22. It didn't come off, Exeter scored to finish the game as Johan Ackermann's side went down all guns blazing.



GLOUCESTER UNITED

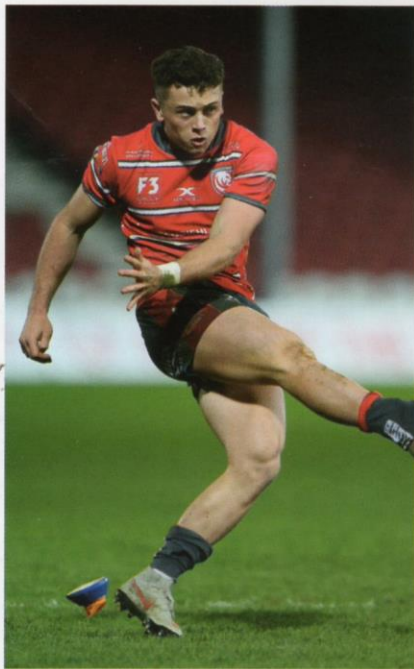
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BRISTOL BEARS A

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72



“WE HAD BASICALLY AN U20 TEAM OUT THERE TONIGHT, WITH SOME 18S IN THERE AS WELL, SO IT WAS ALWAYS GOING TO BE TOUGH AND WE HAD TO RE-JIG OUR PACK AS WELL.”

“I WAS PLEASED WITH THE BACK 10 MINUTES WHEN THE BOYS SHOWED A BIT OF HEART AND ENERGY TO KEEP IT COMPETITIVE, BUT WAS DISAPPOINTED WITH THE FIRST HALF WHEN WE ALMOST GAVE BRISTOL A BIT OF A LEG UP.”

HEAD OF ACADEMY, RICHARD WHIFFIN

United battle bravely but Bristol Bears A have just too much on the night.

It was a largely error-strewn Premiership Rugby Shield encounter at Kingsholm last week, but the visitors had enough in the locker as they won this West Country encounter by 30 points to 15.

It was a tough night for the United who were unable to field a full replacements bench, and suffered with injuries as the game progressed, a very unfamiliar looking pack finishing the game.

But they battled bravely, and only a late try for the visitors padded the scoreline somewhat with Richard Whiffin's side ruing a few second-half chances which would have made the final few minutes a bit closer.

At that stage, it seemed as though first half indiscipline would prove to be the difference, three penalties from former Gloucester Academy fly-half Tiff Eden largely making up the 15-23 deficit at that point. But Blake Boyland's late try and Reiss Cullen's conversion sealed the deal for Bristol.

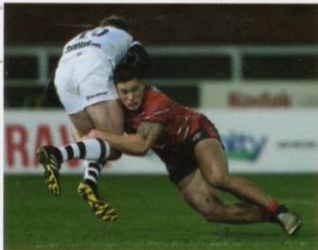
The Bears were ultimately good value for the win in what was a mostly disjointed encounter with errors aplenty on both sides, but the United deserve credit for going right until the very end and never letting their heads drop.

Neither team could really gain the upper hand in the opening minutes, knock-ons halting promising moves for both sides, although Bristol were playing most of the game in the home half at this point.

The United were looking pretty comfortable in defence, but were penalised for not rolling away on 16 minutes and former Gloucester Academy fly-half Tiff Eden slotted an easy penalty for a 0-3 lead.

The restart saw Gloucester United move into the Bristol 22 for the first time, and patient build-up play led to the equalising penalty. Charlie Chapman had contributed a sniping break in the build-up and duly slotted the penalty.

The United were well in the game, but a lack of precision at set piece time stopped them making more of a couple of visits to the Bristol 22 and it cost them when Bristol made it 3-9 from two further Eden penalties.



GLOUCESTER UNITED: 15. Reece Dunn; 14. Alex Morgan, 13. Henry Purdy, 12. Tom Seabrook (capt), 11. Jacob Morris; 10. Dom Coetzer, 9. Charlie Chapman; 1. Paddy McAllister, 2. Joe Mullis, 3. Jack Bartlett; 4. Alex Craig, 5. Shek Sheriff; 6. Lewis Ellis-Jones, 7. Aaron Hinkley, 8. Cameron Terry

REPLACEMENTS: 16. Bertie Stretch, 17. Olly Adkins, 18. Kyle Traynor; 19. Tbc, 20. Joe Howard; 21. Ewan Fenley, 22. George Barton, 23. Sam Goatley

TRY: Terry
CONVERSION: Chapman
PENALTY: Chapman

And Bristol extended their lead on the stroke of half-time. Reece Dunn couldn't deal with a high kick and the visitors swooped onto the ball. The attack down the left looked to have run out of room, but Maliq Holden's kick rather fortunately squirted inside for Eden to score, and the fly-half converted his own try for a 3-16 lead at half-time.

The United started the second half brightly, and very nearly opened their try account on 45 minutes. Reece Dunn made a sharp break and tried to chip the last man but couldn't gather the rebound.

Charlie Chapman was then so close to scoring, taking a quick tap and chipping ahead to seemingly touch down only for the officials to rule that

he'd knocked on. But it only delayed matters by a few seconds as Cam Terry forced his way over from close range. Chapman converted for 10-16.

Bristol responded at once though as they benefitted from a couple of refereeing decisions to allow them to move into the red zone. The catch and drive was held out, but second row Ehizode showed great strength to muscle his way over at the ruck. Eden converted for 10-23.

The United did their best to strike back with immediate effect, and applied huge pressure to the Bristol line, Cam Terry coming close, but the visitors just about held out.

But the home team kept plugging away, and a lovely long pass from

George Barton gave Alex Morgan just enough room to squeeze over in the right hand corner although it took some finish by the winger under pressure. 15-23 after 65 minutes.

It sparked a good spell by the United who were battling on despite injuries meaning that several players were now playing out of position, three props and two hookers featuring in the scrum!

There were a couple of half chances as the United looked to make it a one score game, but the final try of the night went to Bristol's replacement scrum-half Blake Boyland, who caught the ruck defence napping and darted over with Cullen converting to make the final score 15-30.



GLOUCESTER RUGBY



SALE SHARKS

82

T	P	C	D		POSITION	T	P	C	D		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jason WOODWARD 15	FULL BACK	15	Chris ASHTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Charlie SHARPLES 14	RIGHT WING	14	Denny SOLOMONA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Billy TWELVETREES 13	OUTSIDE CENTRE	13	James O'CONNOR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom HUDSON 12	INSIDE CENTRE	12	Luke JAMES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ollie THORLEY 11	LEFT WING	11	Byron McGUIGAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Owen WILLIAMS 10	FLY-HALF	10	Rob DU PREEZ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Callum BRALEY 9	SCRUM-HALF	9	Faf DE KLERK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Josh HOHNECK 1	LOOSEHEAD PROP	1	Ross HARRISON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jaco VISAGIE 2	HOOKER	2	Rob WEBBER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ciaran KNIGHT 3	TIGHTHEAD PROP	3	Willgriff JOHN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ed SLATER (C) 4	LOCK	4	Josh BEAUMONT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Franco MOSTERT 5	LOCK	5	James PHILLIPS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Freddie CLARKE 6	BLINDSIDE FLANKER	6	Jono ROSS (C)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lewis LUDLOW 7	OPENSIDE FLANKER	7	Ben CURRY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ben MORGAN 8	NUMBER 8	8	Jean-Luc DU PREEZ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
REPLACEMENTS											
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Henry WALKER 16		16	Curtis LANGDON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paddy McALLISTER 17		17	Alexandru TARUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fraser BALMAIN 18		18	Joe JONES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom SAVAGE 19		19	Bryn EVANS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gareth EVANS 20		20	Tom CURRY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Willi HEINZ 21		21	Will CLIFF	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Henry TRINDER 22		22	Sam JAMES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jaco KRIEL 23		23	Arron REED	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Christophe Ridley
Assistant Referees: Andrew Jackson & Jonathan Healy / **TMO:** Rowan Kitt

