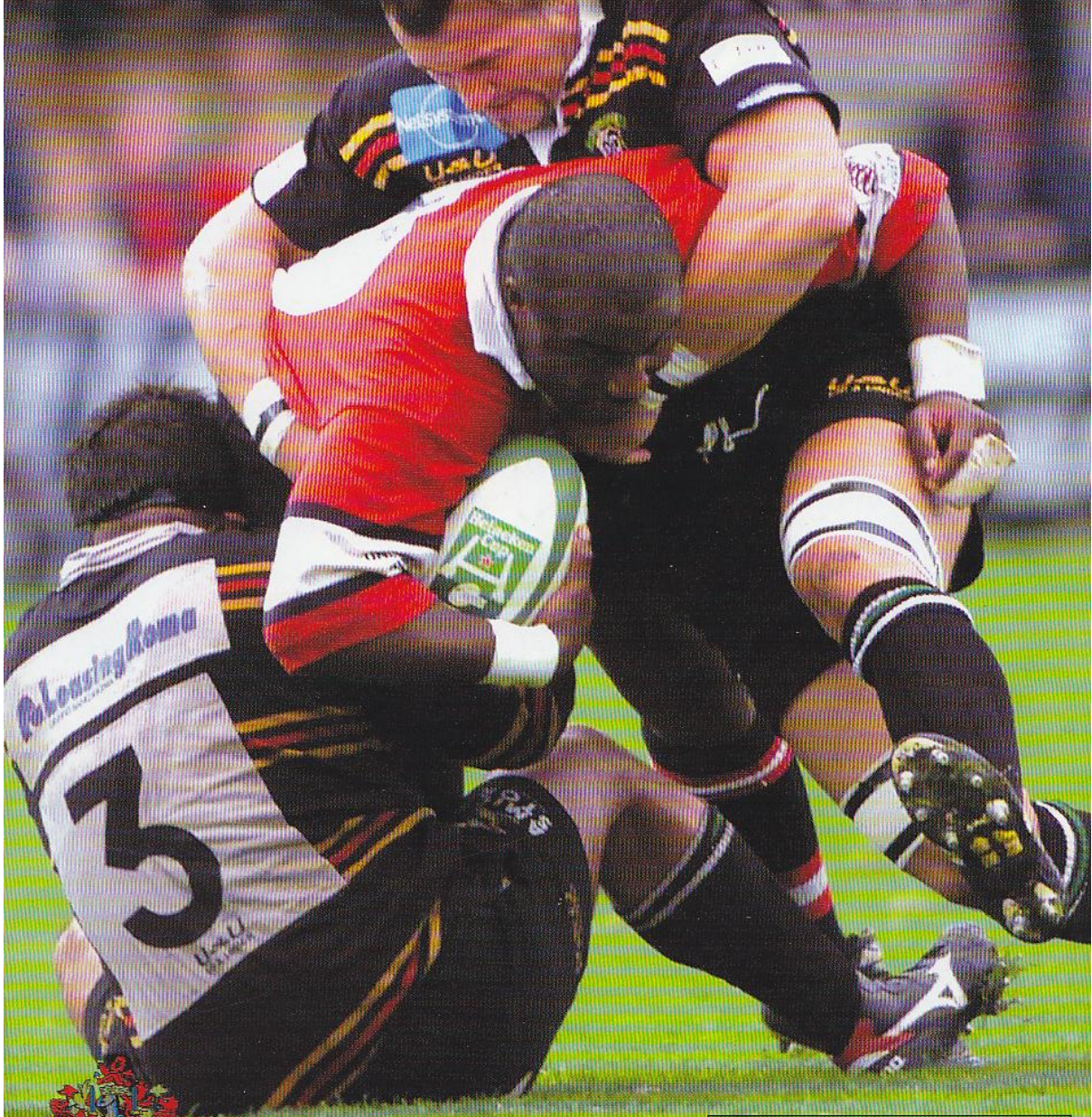


# GLOUCESTER



GLOUCESTER V COLOMIERS



SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2000 KICK-OFF 7.30 PM

GLOUCESTER RFC OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

2000-2001 SEASON

ISSUE 06 - £2.00





# TODAY'S TEAMS

SATURDAY OCTOBER 21ST, 2000

**GLOUCESTER\*** 22 (2) **COLOMIERS\*** 22 (6)

|                               |    |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| <u>CHRIS CATLING</u>          | 15 | <u>(I) (C) JEAN-LUC SADOURNY</u> |
| <u>FRANCK SCHISANO</u>        | 14 | <u>BENJAMIN LHANDE</u>           |
| <u>TERRY FANOLUA (I)</u>      | 13 | <u>SEBASTIEN ROQUE</u>           |
| <u>CHRIS YATES</u>            | 12 | <u>YANNICK JAUZION</u>           |
| <u>TOM BEIM (I)</u>           | 11 | <u>LAURENT GIOLITTI</u>          |
| <u>JASON LITTLE (I)</u>       | 10 | <u>MICKAEL CARRE</u>             |
| <u>ELTON MONCREIFF</u>        | 9  | <u>(I) FABIEN GALTHIE</u>        |
| <u>SERGE SIMON</u>            | 1  | <u>JEREMY TOMULI</u>             |
| <u>OLIVIER AZAM (I)</u>       | 2  | <u>THIBAUT ALGRET</u>            |
| <u>PHIL VICKERY (I)</u>       | 3  | <u>STEPHANE GRAOU</u>            |
| <u>ADAM EUSTACE</u>           | 4  | <u>MORO GILDAS</u>               |
| <u>I JONES (I)</u>            | 5  | <u>JEAN-MARC LORENZI</u>         |
| <u>ANDY HAZELL</u>            | 6  | <u>BERNARD DE GIUSTI</u>         |
| <u>KINGSLEY JONES (I) (C)</u> | 7  | <u>HERVE MANENT</u>              |
| <u>JUNIOR PARAMORE (I)</u>    | 8  | <u>FRANCIS NTAMACK</u>           |

## REPLACEMENTS

|            |    |                           |
|------------|----|---------------------------|
| <u>TBA</u> | 16 | <u>JEAN-FRANCOIS</u>      |
| <u>TBA</u> | 17 | <u>MESLIER DE ROCAN</u>   |
| <u>TBA</u> | 18 | <u>GREGORY SALIBA</u>     |
| <u>TBA</u> | 19 | <u>VINCENT THOMAS</u>     |
| <u>TBA</u> | 20 | <u>MATTHIAS ROLLAND</u>   |
| <u>TBA</u> | 21 | <u>CHRISTOPHE CULINAT</u> |
| <u>TBA</u> | 22 | <u>STEPHANE PEYSSON</u>   |

## TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE: MR SALERA FIR  
TOUCH JUDGES: MR LOMBARDI & MR DAMASCO FIR  
FOURTH OFFICIAL: FRED SPONG RFU

(I) DENOTES INTERNATIONAL  
(C) DENOTES TEAM CAPTAIN  
\*TEAMS CORRECT AT 18-10-00  
BOTH SETS OF SUBS TO BE ANNOUNCED

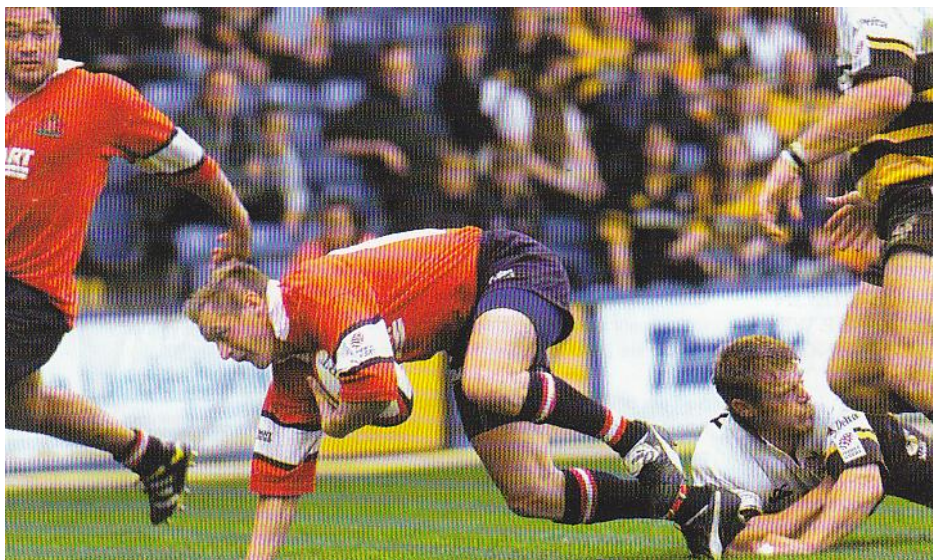


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# COACH'S CORNER

WITH PHILIPPE SAINT-ANDRE

ABOVE: CHRIS CATLING TRIPS AS HE MAKES AN EARLY BREAK DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE WASPS GAME 17-9-2000

**"THE COLOMIERS TEAMS ALWAYS PLAY WITH A LOT OF PASSION, BUT ALSO THEY LIKE TO GET THE BALL WIDE AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE."**

**I**N FRANCE, RUGBY IS A VERY IMPORTANT PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE.

Colomiers is very close to Toulouse were rugby is very big, but, also in Colomiers it is very important. Last year they were in the final of the French Championship, and three years ago they were also in the final of the Heineken Cup. Colomiers are a very good team at the moment, with world class players in the squad, Jon-Luc Sadorney , Fabien Galthie. These are players I have played against and also with for the French national team.

In France I know that after Colomiers lost last week, and other French teams lost the week before this will cause a revolution, and rebellion the next week. This will mean that our game will be very physical and very hard.

The Colomiers teams always play with a lot of passion, but also they like to get the ball wide as often as possible. They like to get the ball through the hands and can be very dangerous. If we want to win this game we will need to have a very strong foundation, and have excellent organisation in defence. We will also

have to match them and be very physical ourselves.

Colomiers teams are the best at getting the ball wide, we must be very fit to match them and have concentration for the whole match. We cannot afford to switch off for five or ten minutes. Colomiers like to play on a dry hard pitch so they will have to cope with our conditions here, this may help us.

Tonight is a very big game for us. We are live on television and I hope we get a big crowd. We have the opportunity to win three games consecutively in the Heineken Cup and this will be very good for the club. To win though we must play the best rugby we can. We must follow the game plan and play like we did away at Llanelli. We must be very organised in defence and aggressive and committed in attack.

I am looking forward to playing under the lights it will make the game very exciting. I will have to concentrate even more as we are playing a French team. The next two games will be very hard. We need good support this week and then focus on what will be a very tough game in France.



# THE FRENCH CONNECTION

**I**F YOU TRY TO DISCOVER COLOMIERS ON A MAP OF FRANCE, YOU WILL FIND IT WAY DOWN ON THE SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN COAST, NEAR TO A NUMBER OF PERHAPS MORE FAMOUS FRENCH RUGBY TOWNS, SUCH AS BEZIER, NARBONNE AND TOULOUSE.

It is a beautiful place, also famous for its fine wines.

There has been a remarkable rugby migration from this sun drenched Mediterranean coastal region to the less blessed terrain of Gloucester. Our European Cup squad contains no less than four French players, three of whom previously played in this region - Oliver Azam and Stephane Sanchez played for Montferrand and Franck Schisano played for Narbonne.

Gloucester's French Connection is amazing. As well as having four frenchmen in today's squad, our Head Coach, Phillippe St Andre, is one of the great all time French International players.

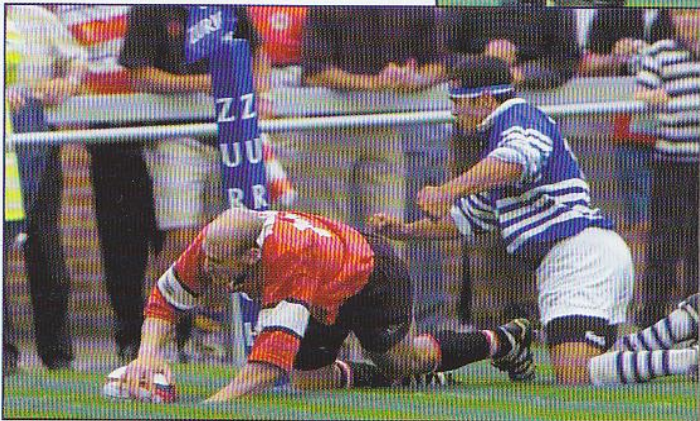
We should not forget that in France this man is a legend. He played 69 times for his country and was captain a record 35 times. He holds this record jointly with Jean Pierre Rives, but stands above him as he was captain for 29 consecutive games. He also played for Montferrand in Southern France and has the explosive temperament native to that region - just ask the players!

Gloucester's cosmopolitan chemistry is now beginning to ignite. Take a dash of Mediterranean temperament, add some solid Westcountry Grit, stir in Southern Hemisphere power, then put it before a fanatical local crowd in the world famous stadium that is Kingsholm and let battle commence!

Tom Walkinshaw has enabled Gloucester to transform itself from being the most traditional club in British rugby to what is now a truly international team. Miraculously, this has been achieved without losing the essential character of Kingsholm and Gloucester. Good rugby is still good rugby.

**RIGHT: OLIVIER AZAM IN ACTION AGAINST NEWCASTLE'S GARY ARMSTRONG.**

**BELOW: FRANCK SCHINZANO SCORES AGAINST SALE**



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**104.7 FM & 1413 AM**

**FIRST FOR COVERAGE OF THE CHERRY & WHITES**



# GLOUCESTER ACADEMY'S NICK COX

**A**FTER MAKING HIS FIRST TEAM DEBUT ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON HERE AT KINGSHOLM. IT WAS DECIDED TIME TO TALK TO NICK COX OF THE GLOUCESTER RUGBY ACADEMY, AND, NOW, THE 1ST XV.

**Sunday was a big day for you; do you remember much about it?**

I remember being just behind Tom when he caught the ball for his last try. I just shouted 'Go

Beimy', I new I didn't have the legs to catch him but then no one else did either. The game was a bit of a blur really, you can't think about much when you are actually playing. There's too much going on.

**You looked very confident when you stripped off, were you nervous at all?**

I was very nervous when I went on. I went on as hooker, which is a position I've not played in a match before. So instead of lifting at the line out I was stood there thinking oh no the ball will come to me and I'll drop it. Kingsley was great; he just said play your own game.

**How did you calm your nerves?**

They got offside quite quickly and so we had a scrum early on. Then a ruck formed which I hit and I thought to myself, there is only 10-15 minutes to go so just get on with it.

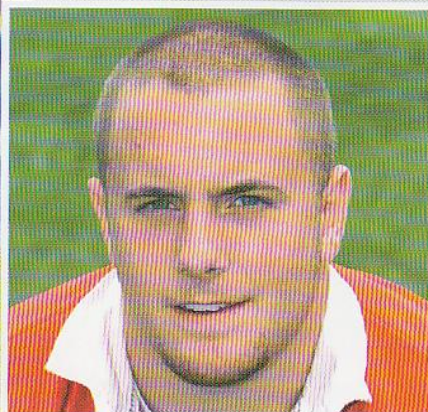
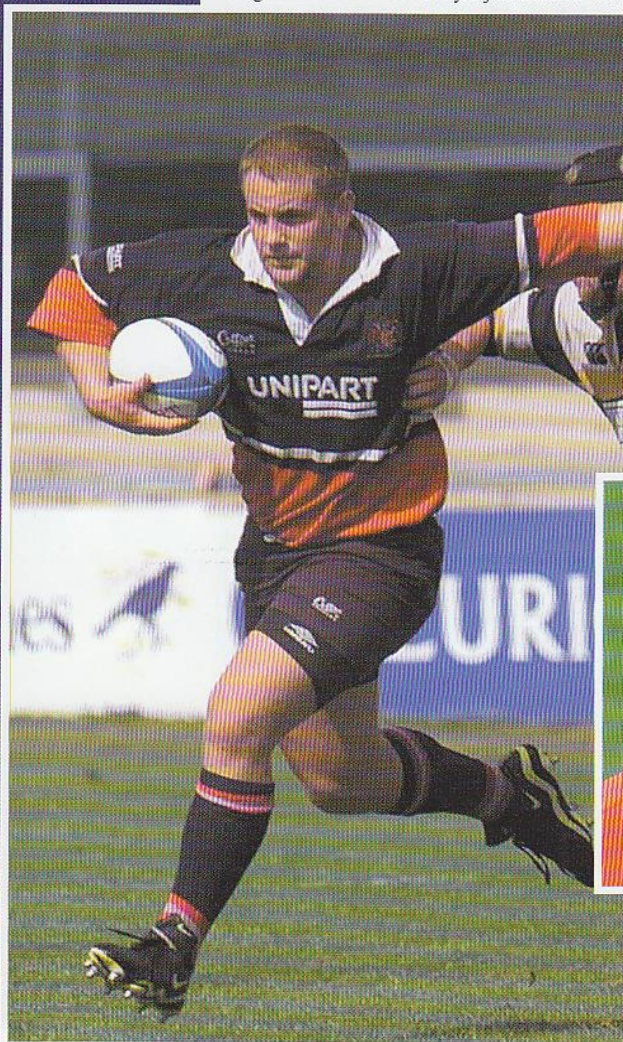
**When did you know you were in the squad?**

John Haines phoned me on Wednesday morning, as I was about to get on the bus to go down and play Exeter Uni. He phoned back Wednesday night to confirm.

**You had a long time to think about it then. What was going through your mind?**

All week people were saying you'll get on and it will be a great win and it will be great. I was just

BELOW: NICK COX  
RUNNING HARD  
AGAINST WORCESTER.





# GLOUCESTER ACADEMY'S NICK COX

trying not to think about it too much. In my own mind I was dying to get on, but I didn't want to be disappointed.

**Did playing on Sunday affect your build up to a the weekend?**

Saturday was a bit weird, I decided not to watch the colts game because I don't like watching games I could be playing in. I went home to my parents. I stayed in Saturday night and just watched T.V.

**Did you get chance to celebrate your call up with a couple of beers then?**

No not at all, I didn't drink after the game either. I want to concentrate on personal fitness this week. We have played so much rugby that I haven't had chance to focus on my own fitness.

**You have been named in the 34-man squad for the European Cup campaign, you've been on the bench a few times, you have now had your debut, what are your plans for the rest of the season?**

Obviously I would love to be included again and play, but to be honest any chance I get this season is a bonus. I'm focusing really on the next two years to try and establish myself as a contender for a first team place. I've had a couple of good games for the United this year and I think that has drawn more attention to myself from John Brain and Philippe. Coming from schoolboy rugby where the scrummaging is non-existent to first team is a big step.

I've had to work very hard with the forwards here improving my scrummaging technique. I think it has helped enormously but there is still a long way to go.

**Has the Academy helped bridge the gap from junior to senior rugby for you?**

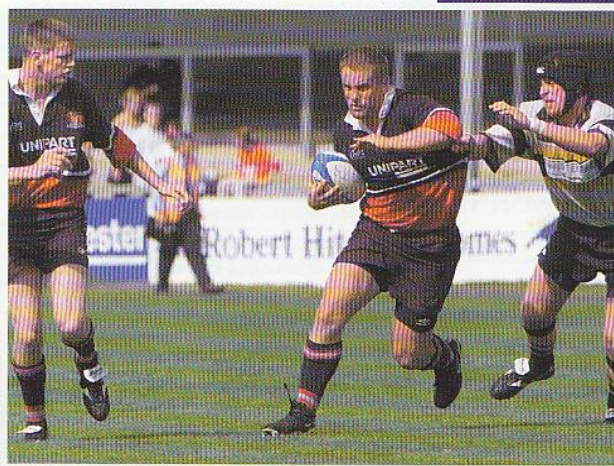
Definitely, the greatest benefit of it is being able to train with the first team. I've been living here since July and trained hard all summer with the first team. The U21 fixtures introduce proper scrummaging, added to these games John has invited me to first team training. This was the

difference. I did something like 25 scrums in training last week that must be good.

**What did the guys say to you after the game on Sunday?**

Kingsley gave me the Roma pennant as it was my first, first team game.

**And what a game. The European Cup at home to Roma?**



BELOW: NICK COX IN ACTION AGAINST WORCESTER.

Yes it was fantastic. I loved running towards the Shed before the game. We do it after Colts matches but on Sunday it was brilliant. It makes the hairs on the back of your neck stand on end. If you could freeze time at the second when the Shed start chanting Gloucester, Gloucester that would be unbelievable.

**And finally, your thoughts on Saturday. Will you be in the squad or rested this week?**

I expect Serge to be back but I would love to be included.



**"I WAS VERY NERVOUS WHEN I WENT ON. I WENT ON AS HOOKER, WHICH IS A POSITION I'VE NOT PLAYED IN A MATCH BEFORE."**



# GLOUCESTER RUGBY CLUB ACADEMY

## MATCH REPORT GLOUCESTER ACADEMY 2000 VERSUS MOSELEY U19'S.

**MATCH REPORT:**  
GRFC ACADEMY  
VERSUS  
MOSELEY U19'S.

**VENUE:** HOME

**DATE:** 14TH  
OCTOBER 2000

**RESULT:**  
WON 31-0

**"GLOUCESTER  
WERE PLAYING  
WITH GREAT  
CONFIDENCE  
WINNING  
TURNOVER BALL  
IN THE LOOSE,  
STEALING THEIR  
OPPONENTS  
LINEOUT BALL  
AND TAKING  
THREE STRIKES  
AGAINST  
THE HEAD"**

**RIGHT: JAMES  
SIMPSON-DANIEL  
SCORING A TRY  
AGAINST  
WORCESTER.**

**M**OSELEY TRAVELLED TO GLOUCESTER WITH THE RECORD OVER THE PAST THREE SEASONS OF BEING ONE OF THE BEST U19 TEAMS IN THE COUNTRY, HAVING ONLY LOST TWICE IN THIS PERIOD.

The game played at the Oxstalls saw Gloucester start the match with the slope and wind, this proved a definite advantage as the Gloucester team drove deep into the Moseley 22 and encamped there with Moseley unable to break free. This pressure was eventually converted into points when centre John-Paul Goatley stepped inside the defence and slipped the ball to scrum-half Ollie Sills who made a tremendous 30 metre break before passing onto No.7 Canadian debutant Ben Olsen, who scored under the post. The try was converted by winger Nick Daniel who minutes later raced over for the second try of the match and his second conversion, to bring the score to 14-0 Gloucester.

Gloucester were playing with great confidence winning turnover ball in the loose, stealing their opponents lineout ball and taking three strikes against the head, to keep the pressure firmly on the Moseley team. Unfortunately the Gloucester team, over played their hand at times and at least two try scoring opportunities were thrown away. Just before half-time, however, they scored again. A strong break by centre Duncan "Red" Murray led to lock Tom Skelding crashing over in the corner for an unconverted try. The half-time score 19-0 Gloucester.

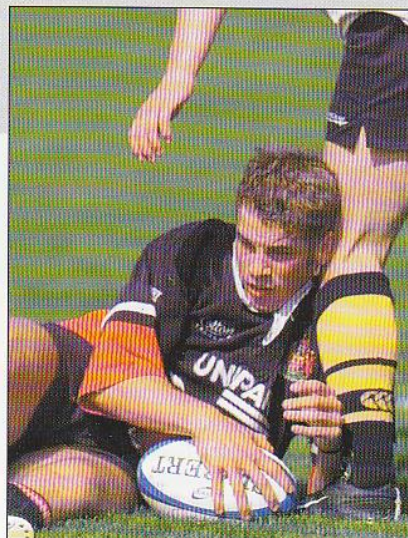
The first 10 minutes of the second half saw a reversal of roles as Moseley pressured the Gloucester line and continuously upset the Gloucester scrummage. The home team lost prop Robin Tipper to the sin bin for continued infringement at the scrum. Never the less perhaps against the run of play, Gloucester broke out of defence and scored an unconverted try through

winger Joe Pointon, to extend Gloucester's lead to 24-0.

Gloucester, back at full strength picked up where they had left off in the first half winning much turn over ball. They were rewarded with a superb individual try by James Simpson-Daniel which was converted by replacement fly half Brad Davies. The final score then Gloucester 31-0 Moseley.

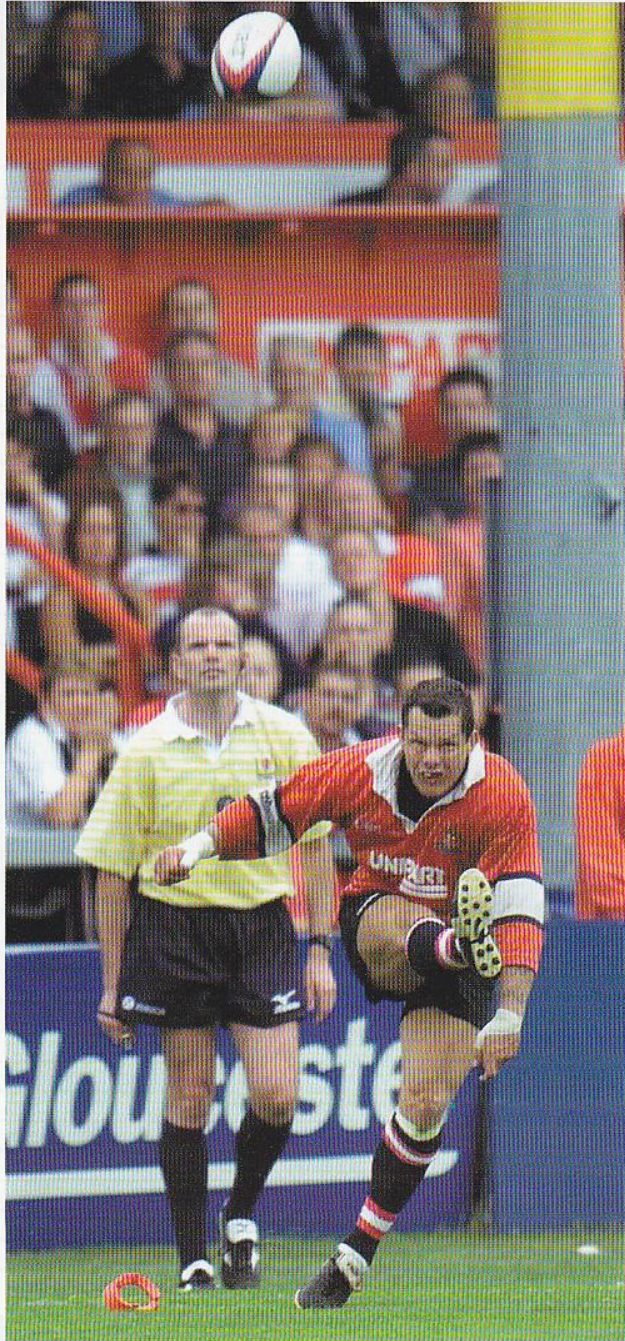
Although the Gloucester team were pleased with the final score line, both players and coaches realised they had missed the opportunity to inflict an even bigger margin of defeat. The need to be more clinical when try scoring opportunities are offered must be paramount as they progress to the high standards they have set themselves for this season.

**Report by John Haines,  
Academy Team Manager.**





BY **PETE WILSON**  
**FROM THE COMME**



**W**HETHER IT'S FROM OUR COMMENTARY POSITION IN THE STAND OR IN "THE SHED", WEEK AFTER WEEK WE ALL WATCH THE THUMPING TACKLES, EXPLOSIVE RUNS, STEAMING SCRUMS. AND OF LATE , ACCURATE KICKING HERE AT KINGSHOLM, ALL ON A SURFACE THAT'S HAD RUGBY PLAYED ON IT SINCE THE LAST CENTURY.

For the last five years the pitch has been the pride and joy of Dave Balmer, and, latterly, son Gareth. Personally I love to see the grass rolled to give it that wonderful chequer board effect which immediately gives the impression of loving care and attention. I have no doubt that many supporters will remember days when Kingsholm was often a quagmire, but with fewer matches in a season in the professional era, and better management of the ground, fortunately those days have gone.

I recently spent some time talking to Dave , and was fascinated to find out just how much work is involved in maintaining Gloucester's most famous lawn.

The last home game of last season was on May the 6th against Bedford, and no sooner had the last spectators filed out of the ground than Dave was scheduling his summer of work. He had already booked a company called "Euro green" to bring a machine to relieve the ground compaction and to remove half inch diameter, four inch long cores from all over the pitch to improve the drainage. The whole ground is watered regularly during the closed season, with sand, fertiliser and grass seed - a four way ryegrass mix - all applied - some 40 tonnes of material in all.

On a day to day basis Dave is always assessing the state of the Kingsholm pitch. In the warmest weather he often cuts the grass every day, although with the drop in temperature just lately he's not mowing it quite so often. Regular cutting, he says, encourages stronger all round growth. I must remember that with regard to my own lawn !



# NTARY BOX



"I HAVE NOTICED THAT SINCE PHILIPPE TOOK THE REIGNS, THE GRASS HAS SEEMED THAT LITTLE BIT LONGER."

Preparation for tonight's match really kicked into gear on Thursday. The players normally have Thursday off or don't train at Kingsholm, so it's an opportunity to cut and roll the pitch. Friday is for marking the lines and painting the logo's, with maybe another cut and roll depending on conditions, while on matchday he'll secure the pads around the goalposts and put in the flags, as well as giving the pitch a final check over. I have noticed that since Philippe took the reigns, the grass has seemed that little bit longer. That's the attention to detail nowadays - Dave Balmer will generally ask Philippe, John Brain and kicking ace Simon Mannix for their thoughts before setting the height of the mower.

January is often Dave's most difficult month. Both 2 seasons ago against Quins, and last season in the Cup against Bath, the pitch was cut to ribbons, but it's the effort that's put in throughout the year that helps it recover quickly, and I think you'll agree Dave and Gareth's

efforts go a long way towards making Kingsholm what it is - a superb place to play and watch rugby football.

Two final thoughts. First, Graham Spring's request for spectators to stay off the playing surface at the end of the game is backed by Dave Balmer because compaction is one of his greatest enemies and 1000 pairs of feet tramping across it certainly doesn't help ! Finally - if you think Dave's work is over at the final whistle today, think again. There's clearing up to be done - AND he'll be in tomorrow - Sunday - treading down any divots, putting a sand and seed mixture on any bald patches and starting preparations for the next match. Dave , from us all - "Thankyou".

Let's hope Colomiers leave tonight having enjoyed the fruits of Dave's labours but having been beaten by a superb Gloucester performance.

**C'mon Glaws !!!.**

LEFT PAGE:  
BYRON  
HAYWARDS  
KICKS A  
CONVERSION

THIS PAGE:  
ANDREW HAZELL  
IS TACKLED BY  
HARLEQUINS  
MATT POWELL



## TESTIMONIAL

# ANDY DEACON

**A**S READERS MAY BE AWARE ANDY DEACON HAS BEEN AWARDED A TESTIMONIAL YEAR TO REWARD MORE THAN A DECADE OF SERVICE TO GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB, BOTH AS AN AMATEUR AND PROFESSIONAL.

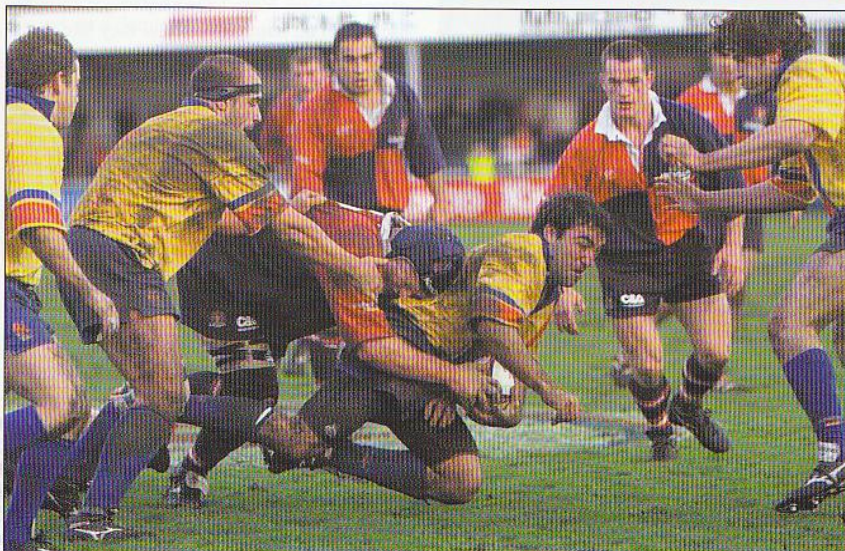
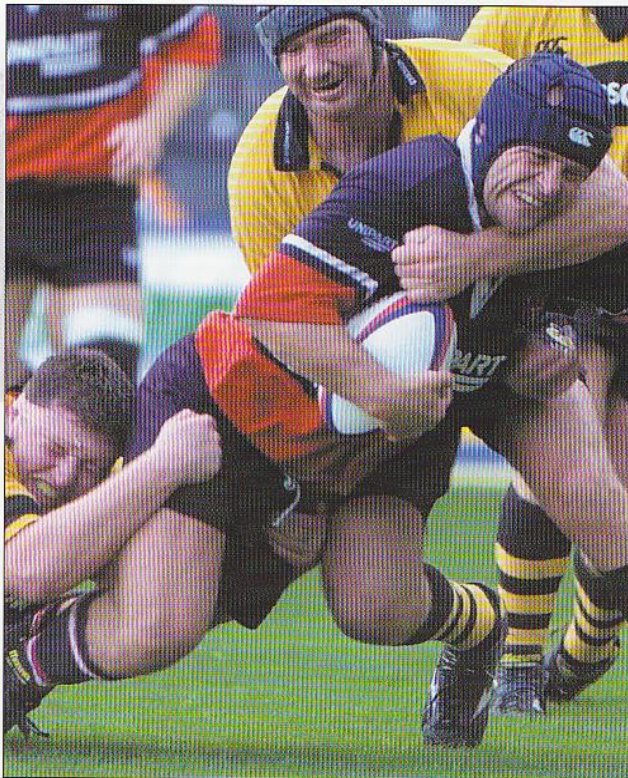
The Testimonial will be launched at Kingsholm early in November. To accompany this a Testimonial Brochure will be on sale and details of forthcoming events will be announced.

Early events include the following:-

Rugby match at Longlevens (Andy's only other club), with an Andy Deacon XV playing a Longlevens XV. The date of this match is Sunday 26th November.

A Day at Cheltenham Races on Friday 8th December, to include a morning visit to Nigel Twiston Davies' training stables and gallops.

If you would be interested in supporting either of the above events, or require information on any other events please contact the Testimonial secretary, Claire Smith on 01451 850555 during office hours.



TOP: ANDY DEACON GOES OVER TO SCORE A TRY AGAINST WASPS AT LOFTUS ROAD 26/9/99

LEFT: ANDY DEACON TAKES OUT SPAIN'S ASIS GARCIA-MAZARIEGOS.



# GLOUCESTER RUGBY CLUB IN FOC

**I**N KEEPING WITH THE GAILIC FEELING RUNNING THROUGH THE PROGRAMME THIS WEEK.

BELOW: FRANCK SCHISANO ON ANOTHER RUN AGAINST BATH THIS SEASON  
BELOW RIGHT: HERVE GREGOIRE-MAZZOCCO

The editors sat down with three of our most recent recruits from the other side of the Channel. Olivier Azam, Franck Schisano and Herve Gregoire-Mazzocco.

**First of all, Olivier congratulations on your call up to the French National Squad. You must be very pleased?**

OA: Thank you, yes I am.

**To all of you now, this is your first year playing in the English premiership. How are you finding it?**

OA: The games are more physical.

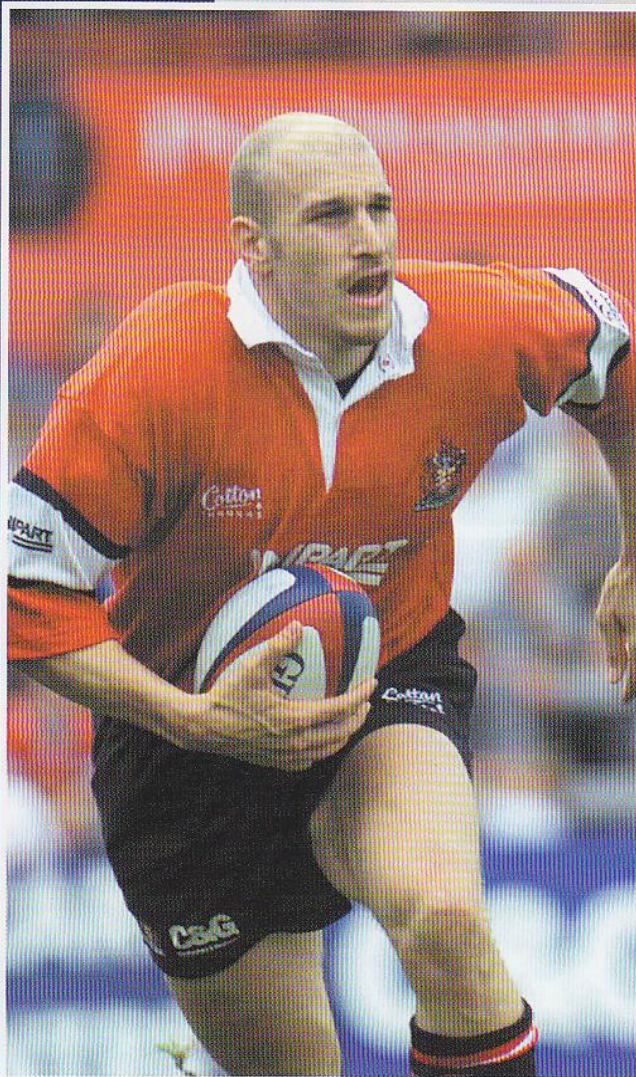
HGM: I think he is trying to say you need to be fitter. There are more games than in the French Championship.

OA: And every game is very hard, there are no easy games. There are 12 very good teams so every game is a big clash. In France sometimes you play against teams that are quite weak. It is very different.

HGM: There are more games and they are much harder.

**Franck, you were at Narbonne last year. Did you play in the games against Colomiers?**

FS: Yes we played Colomiers two times last season, the season before four times. Each game was very hard. They play very well in the backs, and on Saturday because they like this style we must play it also to win.







HGM: They try to put a lot of pace on the game to increase the intensity, they play a lot on turn over ball. They always play very quickly.

**In the European Cup to date we have played two games and won both. Franck you have scored a try by out pacing the full back and scoring in the corner. That must be a nice feeling?**

FS Yes, I think so. It was good with crowd cheering me on to the corner I was very excited.

**Olivier, people are warming to you. You got a standing ovation as you left the field on Sunday.**

OA Yes the Shed is very Formidable, how do you say, it is wonderful. The spirit of Kingsholm is terrible for the other team and it is good for us to have such support like that. It is good for the team.

**This week we will be playing under the Floodlights. Like at Llanelli the atmosphere will be very special. Are you looking forward to it?**

FS last year in the French championship we played every weekend at 7.30 or 8 o'clock. Always on a Saturday night

HGM I think if you play on Saturday night you can go out after because Sunday is a day off.

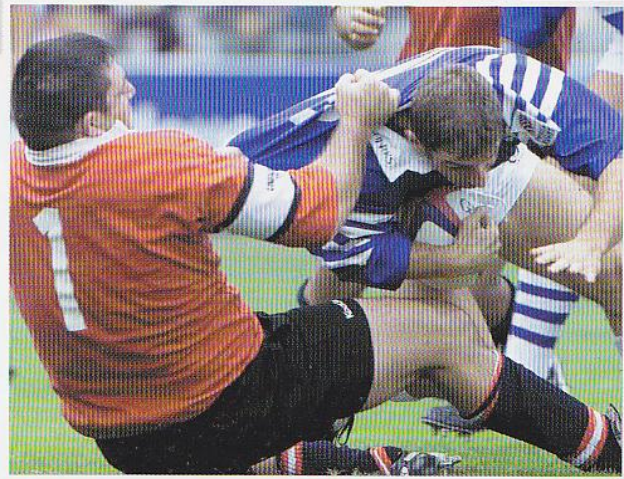
FS: No, that is not the reason. One team in the region plays on a Saturday night the other on a Sunday to encourage the crowds to come.

**Herve how are you finding Gloucester. We have a lot of good players who can play back row. This is good for the club but not so good for you. Are you learning much in your time here?**

Yes we have many good players I have just found out Andrew Hazell has just been picked for England, so it is good news. It means I am competing with very good players. I have learned more in the last three months than in all my time in France.

**Olivier, Roma was a very physical game do you expect much the same against Colomiers?**

I think Colomiers will be very aggressive because they lost last week and now they have to win to qualify for the next round. But I think we have all the qualities to win this game. (The others laugh as he sounds like his old manager from Montferand). There is always a big reaction from a French team when they lose the week before.



BELOW: OLIVIER AZAM IN ACTION AGAINST SALE.

**Franck, because of the way Colomiers play have you done any special training?**

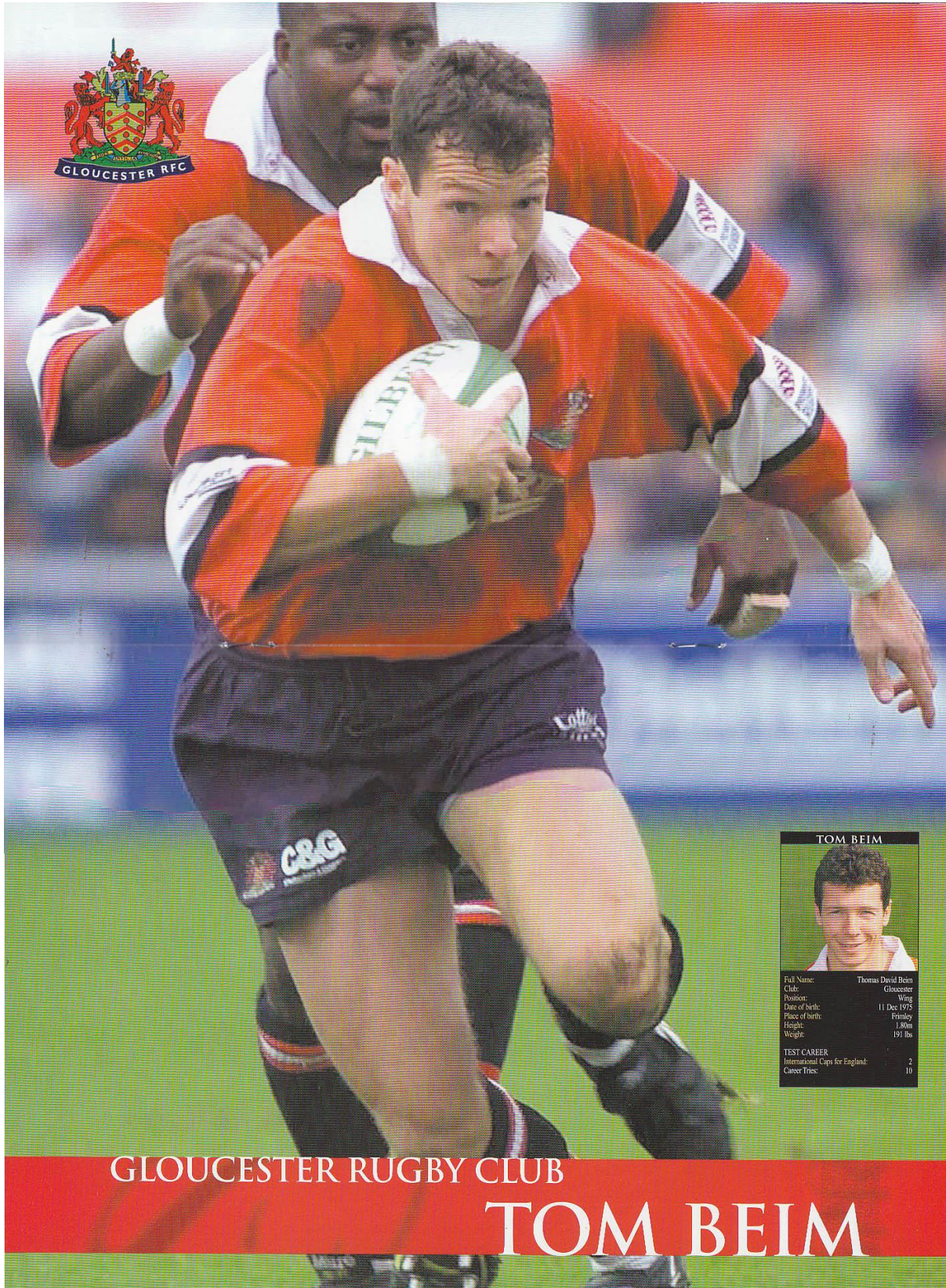
Yes some special planning, and concentrating on defence. It will be very different because it is the first time we have played a French team. It takes a long time for us to change the way we play. Possibly it will take a few minutes on Saturday to get the right form of defence.

**And finally, Herve what happened to your hair? it is orange now.**

It is not orange it is gold, I always wanted to do it and I did it here because if I had this hair in France my Father would not let me in the house.

**"YES WE HAVE MANY GOOD PLAYERS I HAVE JUST FOUND OUT ANDREW HAZELL HAS JUST BEEN PICKED FOR ENGLAND, SO IT IS GOOD NEWS."**





**TOM BEIM**



Full Name: Thomas David Beim  
Club: Gloucester  
Position: Wing  
Date of birth: 11 Dec 1978  
Place of birth: Framley  
Height: 1.80m  
Weight: 191 lbs

**TEST CAREER**  
International Caps for England: 2  
Career Tries: 10

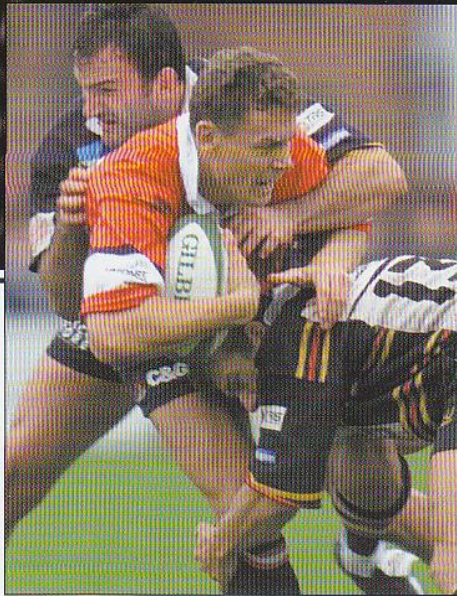
GLOUCESTER RUGBY CLUB

**TOM BEIM**



# MATCH ACTION

## GLOUCESTER 52-12 ROMA

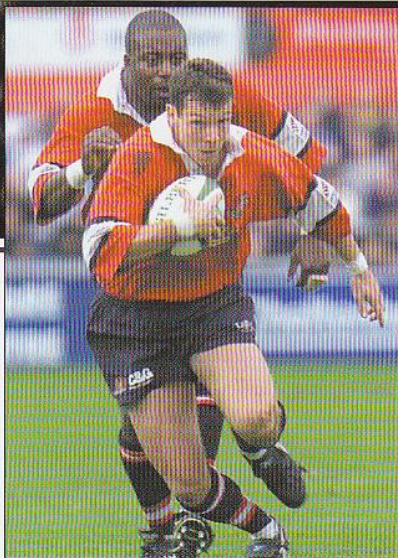


**TOP LEFT:** Jason Little squeezes past Roma's Giovanni Raineri (right).

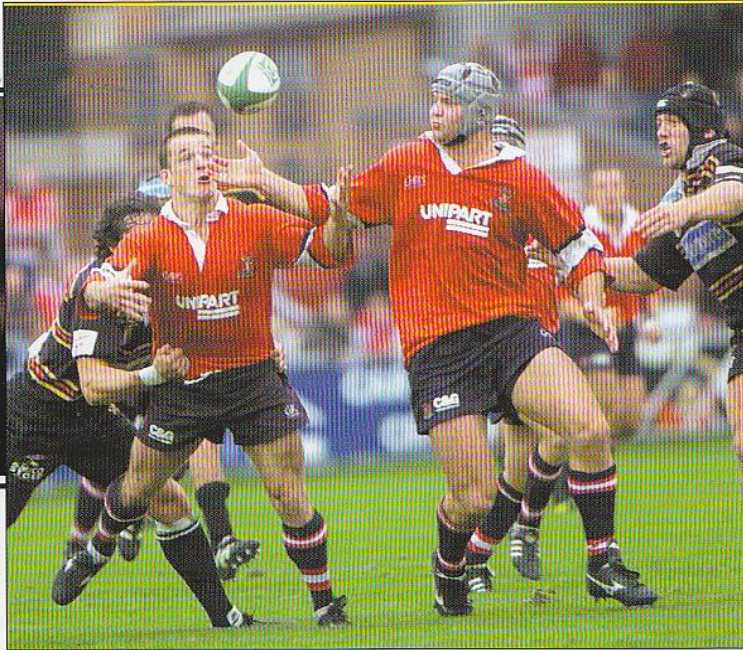
**TOP RIGHT:** Terry Fanolua brings down Roma's Luca Corona (bald head).

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** Tom Beim scores one of his five tries.

**BOTTOM LEFT:** Tom Beim breaks away to score another try supported by Steve Ojomoh







**TOP:** Gloucester's Elton Moncrieff (left) and Jake Boer pass.

**BELOW:** Steve Ojomoh (right) tackled by Roma Phillippe Famer and Carlo Caione.





# I SAID IT LAST WEEK...

"IF WE CAN BEAT  
LLANELLI AT  
STRADEY, WE  
CAN BEAT BATH  
AT THE REC. AND  
ABSOLUTELY  
ANYONE AT  
KINGSHOLM."

**S**OMEONE UP THERE  
REALLY DOESN'T  
LIKE US.

Not content with inflicting a string of malignantly targeted injuries - twice to each of our two first-choice outside-halves, for example - the sardonic old anti-Gloucester gods have turned their attention to the Tetley Bitter Cup draw.

After enduring a decimated squad for a good part of the season, and then battling through a bruising Heineken Cup campaign, you'd think the fates would relent and ease us into the Tetley a bit gently, wouldn't you? But no. We get drawn against Bath, yet again, this time on their turf, and after we've won that, we

have to face Leicester. At home, thank goodness.

I suppose Ian Fleming said it best in 'Goldfinger', I think it was. He wrote: "Once is happenstance, twice is coincidence, three times is enemy action", and if that doesn't describe two rounds of injuries and a less-than-kind Cup draw, I don't know what does.

Still, if we can beat Llanelli at Stradey, we can beat Bath at the Rec. and absolutely anyone at Kingsholm. It would be particularly good to do so, because this could be the last season of the domestic cup knockout competition, as we have known it for almost three decades. After all, we won the first one, so it would be nice to win the last one, too.

## TRY, TRY, TRY, TRY, AND TRY AGAIN

"IT'S ALSO WORTH  
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NOT, AS YET, BE  
QUITE AS SHARP AS  
HE'D LIKE TO BE."

BELOW:  
TOM BEIM IN ACTION  
AGAINST LLANELLI

**T**O SCORE A HAT-TRICK IN A  
EUROPEAN CUP MATCH IS A  
CONSIDERABLE  
ACHIEVEMENT, AND A FEATHER  
IN ANYONE'S CAP.

To grab five tries is just plain greedy.

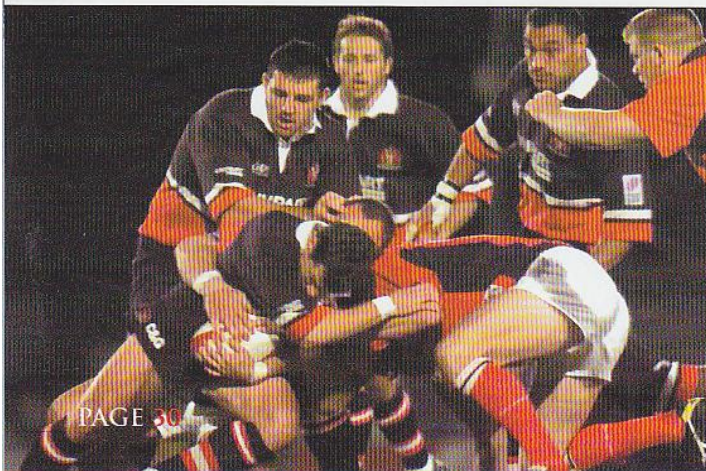
Not that I'm criticising Tom Beim for his European record-breaking feat against Roma last Sunday in any way at all: you have to grab all the chances you get in this game, and to make Gloucester a present of the record in the club's very first season in the

competition is something Tom's name will be remembered for years to come.

Tom Beim himself was immediate and generous in giving credit for the tries to the team-mates who set them up for him. He particularly mentioned Chris Yates, Terry Fanolua and Andy Gomersall, and no doubt they played their part in securing the record. However, Tom shouldn't sell himself too short. The tries still had to be scored, and everyone drops a pass, now and then. It's also worth remembering that he's only just returned from a long-term shoulder injury, and may not, as yet, be quite as sharp as he'd like to be.

In congratulating Tom Beim, it's worth adding that the five-try blitz gave considerable satisfaction to those of us here who were very disappointed when he left us to go to Sale. We thought, at the time, that Gloucester had lost the services of a young winger who showed signs of genuine class. It's nice to have one's judgement vindicated in such an emphatic way.

Well done Tom! I suppose it's too much to ask you to do it again this week.





# THE "A" TEAM

**A**DAM, ANDY AND AZAM - THREE "A'S" FROM GLOUCESTER WHO HAVE GAINED INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION SINCE WE WERE LAST GATHERED TOGETHER IN THE FACE OF THIS CONGREGATION.

In case you hadn't heard, Adam Eustace and Andy Hazell have been training with England this week as part of Clive Woodward's England Development Squad. Olivier Azam has been drafted into Bernard Laporte's massive French squad, which will be split into a senior side and an 'A' squad after the training sessions are complete.

All three players thoroughly deserve the recognition. Back-row turned lock, Adam Eustace, freely admits to being in the midst of a steep learning curve, and doesn't expect to gain much more than the invaluable experience of training with some of the greats of the game.

I'm not sure he's right there. Adam has looked a better and more complete

footballer to me every time he has joined the senior squad. He seems to be rapidly acquiring the traditional Gloucester front-eight virtues of athleticism, aggression and sheer toughness at a high rate of knots. In fact, he's becoming 'Gloucesterised', as Mike Burton would have said.

Andrew Hazell presents a different case. He's simply a plain, straightforward natural. And one can say that even when comparing him with the whole bevy of excellent back-row men which England can point to at the moment. He has the speed, and the strength, required for modern professional and International rugby, and he also has the priceless asset, which can't be taught, of being able to read a game. If you want an example of that, remember how he popped up to take the try-scoring and match-winning pass from Jason Little at Stradey the other week.

After watching him play, just about twelve months ago, my old mate the former Tredworth and Gloucester prop forward, Reg Daldrey, remarked to me, "Don't forget - 'im's only a babby !

## SOME BABBY !

**A**S FOR OLIVIER AZAM - WE KNEW HE WAS A CLASS PERFORMER BEFORE HE ARRIVED HERE FROM MONTFERRAND.

However, I don't think there's any doubt that the Gloucester experience is teaching him a lot. There's no tougher hooker in the Premiership, and when Trevor Woodman returns to team up with Olivier and Phil Vickery, the Gloucester front-row power will be ever so slightly awesome.

The only fly in the ointment is that, if he makes the full French squad, he won't be available for our Cup game against Bath.

Finally, a little bird tells me that it's Monsieur Azam's 26th birthday today

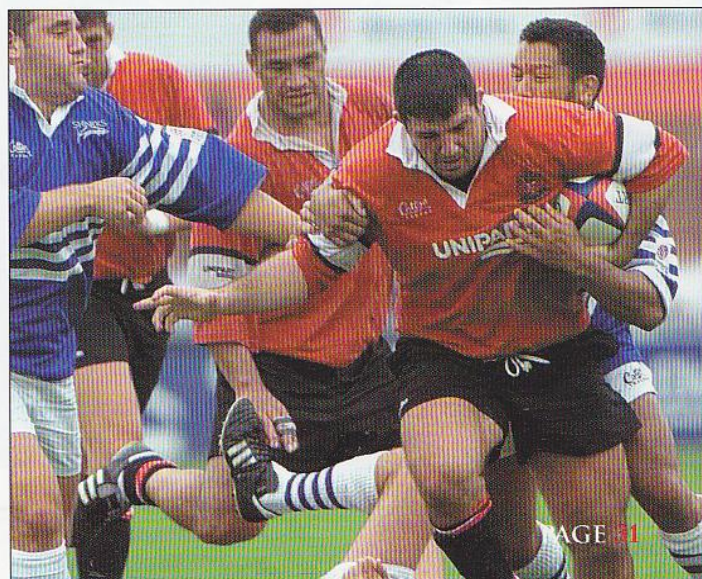
Many Happy Returns, Olivier ! I suppose that the beer will be on him this evening, now I've blown the gaff.



ABOVE: ANDY HAZELL IN ACTION

"IN CASE YOU HADN'T HEARD, ADAM EUSTACE AND ANDY HAZELL HAVE BEEN TRAINING WITH ENGLAND THIS WEEK AS PART OF CLIVE WOODWARD'S ENGLAND DEVELOPMENT SQUAD."

BELOW: OLIVIER AZAM BREAKING THROUGH THE SALE DEFENCE





# MATCH CAPTAIN

## KINGSLEY JONES



**S**UNDAY WAS A GOOD START TO OUR HOME TIES IN THE EUROPEAN CUP.

The first 40 minutes weren't brilliant but we have to pay due respect to Roma. They came here as champions of Italy and to be honest no one wins their domestic championship without being a very good side. They have obviously worked very hard for the chance to compete in this competition, as we did, and no side will want to come and roll over for us.

In retrospect perhaps we sat back a bit to see what they had to offer rather than go at them. At half time though we had a chat sorted a few things out and came out for the second half a better side. All credit to Roma they came here with the attitude that they had nothing to lose, and for the first 40 minutes they threw everything at us. When playing teams of this quality you have to lay the groundwork first, the first 20-30 minutes is always hard. It takes time to build a performance, to take the sting out of the opposition.

Initially our lineout wasn't working and this was the basis for our poor start, once that started functioning we were able to play to our strengths and capitalise on our opportunities. If someone had offered us 52-12 before the match we would have taken it and in the end I was very pleased with the result.

We could see during the first half that we had the quality out wide to beat them. We just had to concentrate on getting quality ball out there, it wasn't just a case of throwing the wings the ball and watching them do the rest. Second half we were able to capitalise on some turnovers, which was encouraging because we have talked about this a lot, and worked hard at training on capitalising on turn over ball. So full credit to all involved and well done to Tom. (The last time I scored five tries was between 93 and 98).

Today I am expecting a bit of a backlash from Colomiers. Having won one and lost one they will come here with nothing to lose and everything to gain. They will not have been happy at loosing at home and we must be prepared for their reaction. The loss to Llanelli will spur them on.

Because of the make up of our squad with Welsh players and French players we know a lot about our opponents. We are under no illusion as to how hard these next two games will be. During the world cup we played a lot of games under lights and had a lot of success. Tonight we are under lights again and this makes the atmosphere even more intimidating for the opposing team. The French players will be used to this and it holds no problems for us so the boys will all be wanting to do well.

**"ALL CREDIT TO ROMA THEY CAME HERE WITH THE ATTITUDE THAT THEY HAD NOTHING TO LOSE, AND FOR THE FIRST 40 MINUTES THEY THREW EVERYTHING AT US."**

**BELOW: STEVE OJOMOH (RIGHT) TACKLED BY ROMA PHILIPPE FARNER AND CARLO CAIONE.**

