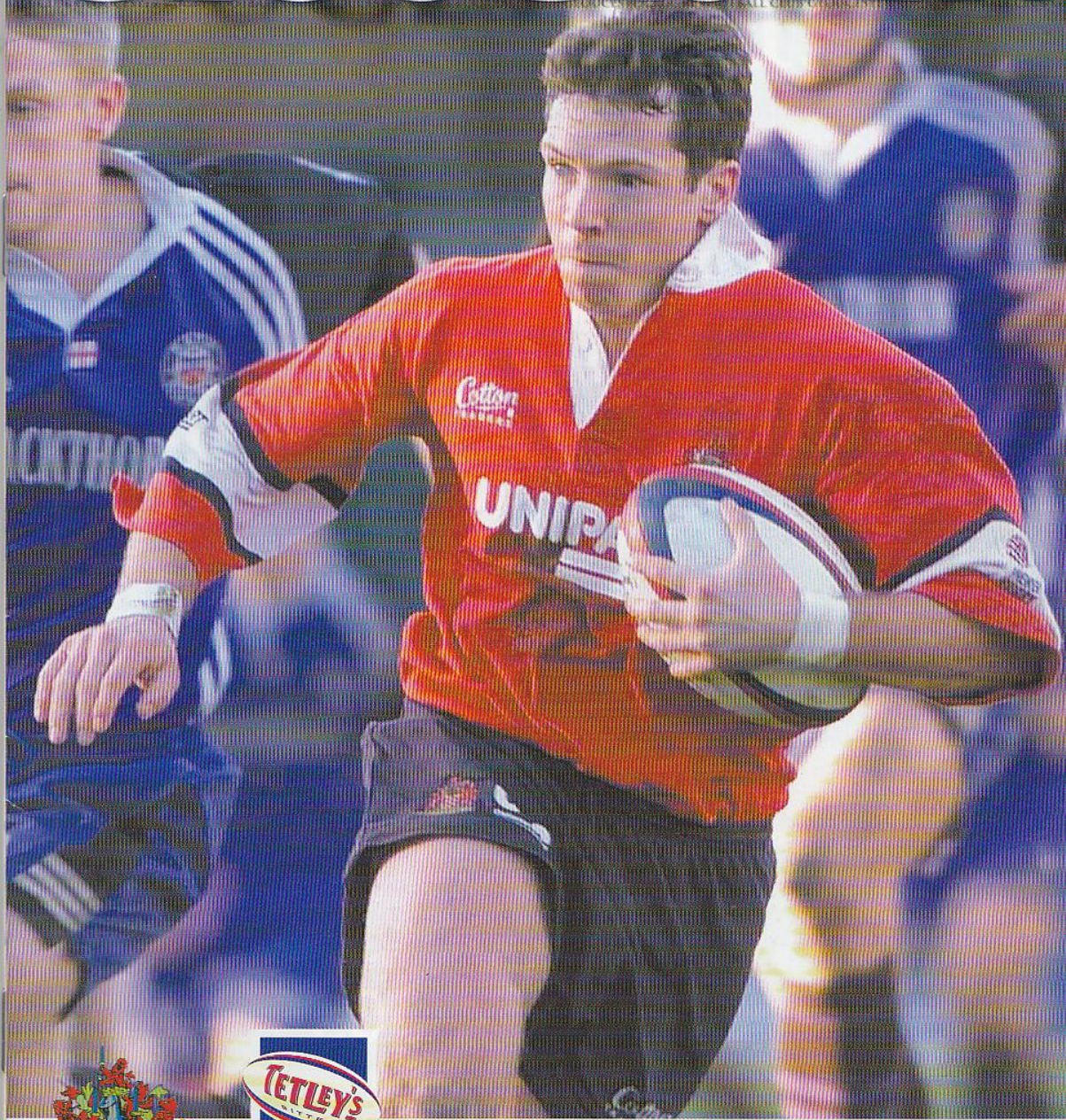


GLOUCESTER



GLOUCESTER V LEICESTER TIGERS

SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2000 KICK-OFF 4.05 PM

GLOUCESTER RFC OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

2000-2001 SEASON

ISSUE 07 - £2.00

TODAY'S TEAMS

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11TH, 2000

13(13) GLOUCESTER*

CHRIS CATLING	15
ROB JEWELL	14
JOE EWENS	13
TERRY FANOLUA (I)	12
TOM BEIM (I)	11
BYRON HAYWARD (I)	10
ELTON MONCRIEFF	9
PHIL VICKERY (I) (C)	1
CHRIS FORTEY	2
ANDY DEACON	3
ROB FIDLER (I)	4
MARK CORNWELL	5
JAKE BOER	6
ANDY HAZELL	7
STEVE OJOMOH (I)	8

LEICESTER TIGERS* 25(10)

(I) TIM STIMPSON
ALI NEWMARCH
(I) LEON LLOYD
(I) PAT HOWARD
(I) WINSTON STANLEY
(I) AUSTIN HEALY
JAMIE HAMILTON
(I) GRAHAM ROWNTREE
(I) DORIAN WEST
(I) DARREN GARFORTH
(C) (I) MARTIN JOHNSON
BEN KAY
PAUL GUSTARD
(I) NEIL BACK
(I) MARTIN CORRY

REPLACEMENTS

ANDY GOMARSALL (I)	16	TBA
CHRIS YATES	17	TBA
STEPHAN SANCHEZ	18	TBA
JAWAD DJOUDI (I)	19	TBA
HERVE GREGOIRE-MAZZOCCO (I)	20	TBA
JUNIOR PARAMORE (I)	21	TBA
ED PEARCE	22	TBA

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE: BRIAN CAMPELL RFU
TOUCH JUDGES: TONY SPREADBURY & DAVID MATTHEWS RFU
FOURTH OFFICIAL: FRED SPONG



(I) DENOTES INTERNATIONAL
(C) DENOTES TEAM CAPTAIN
*TEAMS CORRECT AT 08-11-00

the Official Gloucester
Matchday Programme
is brought to you by

PIA SPORT

tel: 01635 35599
the views expressed in the
GRFC Matchday Programme are
not necessarily the views of
PIA SPORT or Gloucester Rugby
Football Club. ©2000

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS LEICESTER TIGERS

"GLOUCESTER RFC BELIEVES THAT THIS CLUB HAS THE MOST DEDICATED AND LOYAL FANS IN THE COUNTRY."

FAR RIGHT: GLOUCESTER FANS AT COLOMIERS

BELOW: MARK CORNWELL (LEFT) TAKES DOWN LEICESTER'S TIM STIMPSON.

EVERYONE INVOLVED WITH GLOUCESTER RFC BELIEVES THAT THIS CLUB HAS THE MOST DEDICATED AND LOYAL FANS IN THE COUNTRY, BUT WE ALSO RECOGNISE THAT LEICESTER, PERHAPS ALONE AMONGST THE REST OF THE ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP, CAN STAND ALONGSIDE US IN THIS RESPECT.

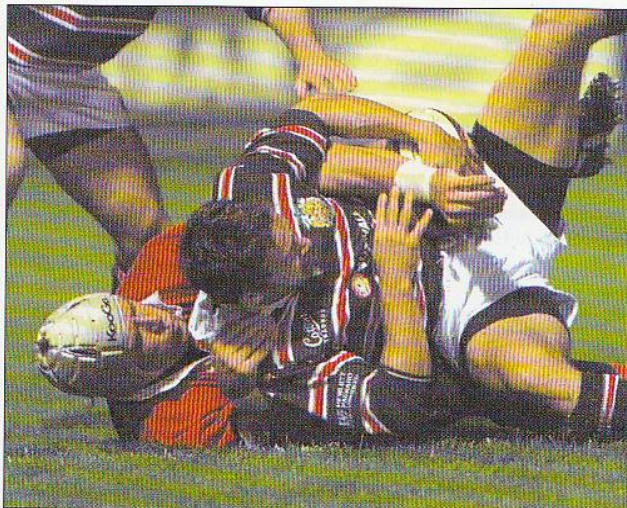
The amazing thing about the Leicester Tigers is that they can fill Welford Road with over 16,000 spectators whilst down the road at Filbert Street, Leicester AFC can also be playing in front of another 22,000 football supporters. Leicester's two professional sports stadia can between them engorge nearly 40,000 fans on a single Saturday afternoon.

Leicester AFC must provide strong opposition for the Tigers. Sports mad fans can watch games that feature star football teams like Manchester United, nearby East Midland rivals such as Derby County and Nottingham Forest and famous European teams. How many other rugby clubs have this type of competition to overcome whilst still producing the biggest gates in Premiership rugby?

Certainly not us. The nearest top level professional Saturday afternoon sport is at least

40 miles away and Gloucester is probably the only city in the UK of 100,000 people that does not have a team playing in the Football League.

So, respect is due. Both to the Leicester Tigers who have to come here today to face up to what will be a ferociously motivated Gloucester team and to their travelling army of fans who, perhaps, are the most like us.



PREVIOUS MEETINGS

18 APR 2000	GLOUCESTER VS LEICESTER TIGERS WELFORD RD	13 - 24
01 OCT 1999	GLOUCESTER VS LEICESTER TIGERS KINGSHOLM	34 - 6
23 JAN 1999	GLOUCESTER VS LEICESTER TIGERS WELFORD RD	16 - 23
19 DEC 1998	GLOUCESTER VS LEICESTER TIGERS KINGSHOLM	18 - 23



ABOVE:
GLOUCESTER'S TEAM
COME BACK OUT
ONTO THE PITCH TO
APPLAUD THE FANS
LAST WEEKEND



**"BATH WERE
ADVERTISING
THEIR GAME
WITH LEICESTER
IN THE
PROGRAMME
AGAIN JUST
ADDED FUEL TO
THE FIRE."**

COACH'S CORNER

WITH JOHN BRAIN

I'D LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT; AT NO POINT DID PHILIPPE, MYSELF OR ANY ONE AT GLOUCESTER RUGBY CLUB EVER TRY TO DEVALUE THE TETLEYS' BITTER CUP BY FIELDING A WEAKENED TEAM.

The reasoning behind the selection was that we have a squad of 36 players at our disposal, in this squad we feel there is a lot of quality. Some guys had not played for sometime and therefore had something to prove. This made them hungry. On Saturday we picked a hungry team. This was thought to be the best way to utilise the squad.

The motivation for those players on Saturday was very straightforward. Gloucester v Bath games are such that players don't need any extra incentives. We talked about how we hadn't won there for so long, and how deeply disappointed we all were by the result here in September. The fact that many people had written us off before we had even kicked off suited us fine, and the fact that Bath were advertising this game with Leicester in the programme just added fuel to the fire.

I think many players came out of last

Saturday's game with a tremendous amount of credit. Jake Boer has had to adapt to a different game plan but we knew what a good player he was, and his performance was very encouraging. Andrew Hazell also, he has had few first team chances but he is a quality young open side and proved this on the day.

The situation we find ourselves in this week is very encouraging and very unique. With the squad of players we have, no one is certain of who the number one choice is, in any position. This is a healthy mentality as far as the coaches are concerned as it keeps players on their toes. This is sometimes difficult for the players, but competition for places is very good for coaches. They all have points to prove and as the injury situation improves this can only increase.

Leicester is a very functional team, they go out to do a job. They have some very good players in their squad with some very mentally hard characters in the side, who are used to winning. They have been together for a very long time and have a very good team spirit. They are traditionally a very difficult team to beat and today will be no exception.

Having said that I still believe that we are capable of putting out a strong team that will be high on confidence, and very capable of getting a result.

GLOUCESTER RUGBY CLUB ACADEMY

MATCH REPORT:
GRFC ACADEMY
VERSUS
BATH U21'S
VENUE: HOME
DATE: 21ST
OCTOBER 2000

RESULT:
WON 13-8

**"GLOUCESTER
WERE FINDING
LIFE DIFFICULT
AGAINST A
RESURGENT BATH
TEAM. BUT WERE
DEFENDING
WELL AND
DRAWING ON
THE SUPPORT OF
THE SHED"**

**ACADEMY PLAYER
DURING THE GAME
AGAINST BRISTOL**

THE GLOUCESTER ACADEMY PLAYED THE SECOND OF THIS SEASON'S EFDR U21 LEAGUE FIXTURES VERSUS BATH AT KINGSHOLM.

Having lost the opening league fixture to Sale, the Gloucester team were determined to make amends and gain some valuable league points to get their season underway.

Gloucester pressurised the Bath line from the Kick off, and within 2 minutes were awarded a penalty which Joe Goatley converted. From the restart Gloucester drove Bath back to their own line with aggressive tackling and rucking, knocking the visitors out of their stride. They were awarded a second penalty as Bath infringed at a ruck. The penalty was successfully converted to give Gloucester a 6-0 lead.

The Gloucester forwards continued to dominate the Bath pack. But it was Bath who scored next. Gloucester encroached offside and the penalty was successfully converted to reduce the deficit to 6-3 after 20 minutes.

Gloucester won the restart kick and forced Bath onto the back foot. Good breaks from full back Jon Goodridge and No.8 Nick Southern, combined with good aggression in the rucks and mauls, forced Bath to defend desperately and prevented them from having any real platform to work from.

The pressure told after 32 minutes, when fly half

James Simpson-Daniels broke right and slipped a deft pass behind him for centre Duncan Murray to latch onto and crash over under the posts.

Joe Goatley converted to put Gloucester into a 13-8 lead.

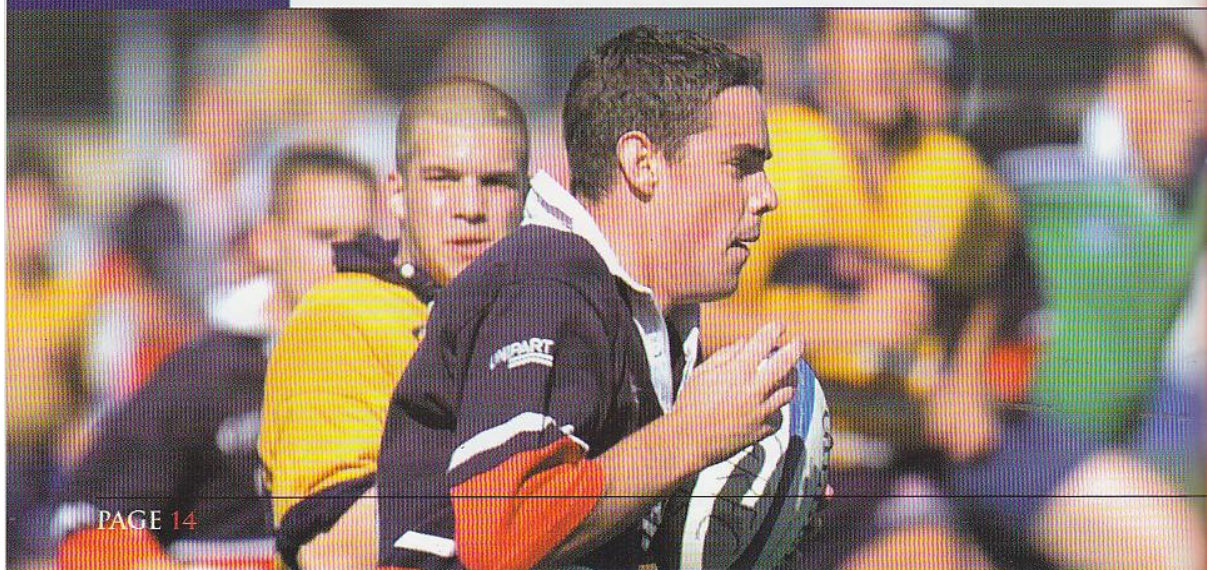
Bath started the second half with more purpose but overstepped the mark when their lock forward was sin-binned for fighting. Not put off Bath raised their game still further to force a line out close to the Gloucester line. A good catch and drive from this lineout saw Bath score a deserved, unconverted try. The score line 13-8 Gloucester.

But Bath undeterred, came back again at the Gloucester team who were beginning to tire from their first half efforts and were awarded a very kickable penalty, which fortunately for the home team went unconverted.

Gloucester were finding life difficult against a resurgent Bath team, but were defending well and drawing on the support of the "Shed". They were unlucky not to score when a superb break from James "Sinbad" Daniels took play deep into Bath territory but could not be capitalised on for a score.

The final 10 minutes of the match saw Gloucester on the back foot but thanks to the afore mentioned support of the "Shed", hung on for a deserved victory!

Report: John Haines, Academy Team Manager.



GLOUCESTER RUGBY CLUB ACADEMY

GLOUCESTER SUFFERED THEIR SECOND LEAGUE DEFEAT OF THE SEASON WHEN THEY PLAYED BRISTOL U21'S TEAM AT THE OXSTALLS, IN A MATCH WHERE THE PLAY WAS DETERMINED BY THE WEATHER RATHER THAN THE DIFFERENT STYLES OF RUGBY!

With heavy rain and wind driving down the slope at the Oxstalls, the elements were going to be a decisive factor. Gloucester lost the toss and started the match with the elements behind them. From the kick off they forced Bristol to give away a good attacking position in their 22, but the size and strength of the Bristol pack was to have an immediate effect showing the Gloucester 8 off their own ball and enabling them to clear their lines!

This pattern of play was to be repeated in the early stages of the match as the heavier Bristol scrum dictated play preventing Gloucester from gaining any kind of hold on their opponents.

It was from one of these Bristol driving plays that the first score came. They crashed over near the posts for a converted try to lead the contest 7: nil after only 12 minutes. Gloucester, replied immediately, their forwards driving the Bristol 8 back in the ruck and maul through sheer determination and passion forcing Bristol to concede a penalty. Joe Goatley converted bringing the score to 3:7 Bristol.

For the remainder of this half it was all Gloucester. Their pack getting stuck into the Bristol forwards and rattling them. Bristol gave

away two further penalties bringing the half time score to 9:7. Gloucester led but faced the elements in the second half.

It took Bristol only 10 minutes to score. A catch and drive from a line out lead to an unconverted try, bringing the score to 9:12. Gloucester clawed back to 12:12, but in the next 15 minutes the game changed in Bristol's favour. They scored two quick tries, one from driving forward play, the other, from some weak Gloucester defence.

The home side then lifted their game. Prop Ollie Smith lead by example with some great driving play. Aided by scum-half, Clive Stuart-Smith, a score was sure to come and indeed it should have but with the line at their mercy, a pass went astray. Still Gloucester kept the pressure on and a fine break by Joe Goatley took play to underneath the visitor's post, the ball only had to be fed wide and another score was on. But in their enthusiasm to score, the ball was kept tight instead and another try scoring opportunity went begging.

Had these opportunities been taken the score line could have been 22:24 and possibly 26:24 in Gloucester's favour, instead Bristol escaped and the score stayed at 12:24 to Bristol. Rocked by the missed opportunities, Gloucester tired and subsequently gave away a penalty, extending Bristol's lead to 27:12. They were unfortunate to concede a converted try at the final whistle, and the score line flattered Bristol.

Report: John Haines, Academy Team Manager.

MATCH REPORT:
GRFC ACADEMY
VERSUS
BRISTOL U21'S
VENUE: AWAY
DATE: 28TH
OCTOBER 2000

RESULT:
LOST 12-34

**"STILL
GLOUCESTER
KEPT THE
PRESSURE ON
AND A FINE
BREAK BY JOE
GOATLEY TOOK
PLAY TO
UNDERNEATH
THE VISITOR'S
POST!"**

 **GLOUCESTERRUGBY.COM** 

B B C RADIO GLOUCESTERSHIRE

104.7 FM & 1413 AM

FIRST FOR COVERAGE OF THE CHERRY & WHITES

A GENERATION REWARDED

SO, WHO NEEDS PHILIPPE ? NO, ONLY JOKING.....BUT THE ROLE OF JOHN BRAIN IN BRINGING US HERE TODAY SHOULD NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED.

"Brainer" is a real stalwart of Gloucestershire rugby, bowing out of a long playing career at Twickenham in a winning County Championship XV. His knowledge of the game - and his ability to transmit that to the players in a way they understand - was never better demonstrated than at the Rec 7 days ago.

"CERTAINLY SEVERAL OF LAST SATURDAY'S TEAM PLAYED AS IF THEIR LIVES DEPENDED ON IT - WITH FLANKERS HAZELL AND BOER PARTICULARLY KEEN TO PROVE A POINT."

It's a sobering thought that our 24-18 win was the first at Bath in a competitive game for 29 years. A generation of Gloucester fans had trooped to the Rec, and home again, with little more than "what if's" to debate....although I recall one draw when, ironically, Viv Wooley was in temporary charge. Perhaps that's the policy. Dispense with long term contracts and make everything based on results. Certainly several of last Saturday's team played as if their lives depended on it - with flankers Hazell and Boer particularly keen to prove a point. Today's squad selection will be interesting indeed.

This is the first of three home games on successive Saturdays, and also the first since the match in Colomiers. The evaporation of that 19-9 lead will no doubt be mentioned elsewhere but the 400 or so supporters who made the trip will acknowledge that even in defeat, the weekend was an enjoyable one. Having bumped into Richard Hill and his Harlequins squad at Stansted airport - they were on their way to play Dax in the European Shield - the status of Gloucester's game appeared to be on a different level altogether - as was shown by the way Colomiers found that bit extra when it mattered.

The group now has 3 teams genuinely chasing Heineken Cup quarter final qualification, and the game against Llanelli here now becomes a "win or bust" situation. On the assumption Colomiers will beat Roma at home, Gloucester could still win both their last two matches and not finish top of the group - and therefore risk not getting into the quarter finals at all - though

it would need a complex mix of results to leave them out in the cold with 9 points. Should Llanelli lose here and then beat Colomiers at Stradey Park, Gloucester could finish top - but still probably facing an away quarter final. On the basis fans have been to France already - and are going to Italy - the consensus on the way back from the Stade Selery was that somewhere new would be nice. Munster anyone ?

Today's game of course rekindles memories of a few other Cup matches against the Tigers down the years. My first Twickenham trip was for the 1978 Cup final, won by Richard Mogg's solitary try. 22 years on, some of the names still trip off the tongue. Sargent and Burton at prop....Paul Howell and Chris Williams at half back and of course, BBC Radio Gloucestershire summariser Peter Butler at full back. More recently, the semi final here in March 1997 was the closest we've been to a Twickenham final for a decade, when hopes were dashed by South African Joel Stransky, who had a vintage day with the boot.

As expected Leicester rattled up a big score against Otley to be here today, and they looked impressive against Pontypridd in their last Heineken Cup game, but if you need any encouragement - other than that from last Saturday's gutsy performance - how about the results of a scientific experiment undertaken by BBC Radio Gloucestershire.

Gloucester and Leicester are, of course, both famous for their cheeses - so we tested the merits of the one against the other. The Red Leicester has been around for some 200 years, while a cheese similar to Double Gloucester was being made in roman times. The result ? A win for the "DG"....because, apparantly, it was more mature, and had more bite than its' more more crumbly east midlands rival.

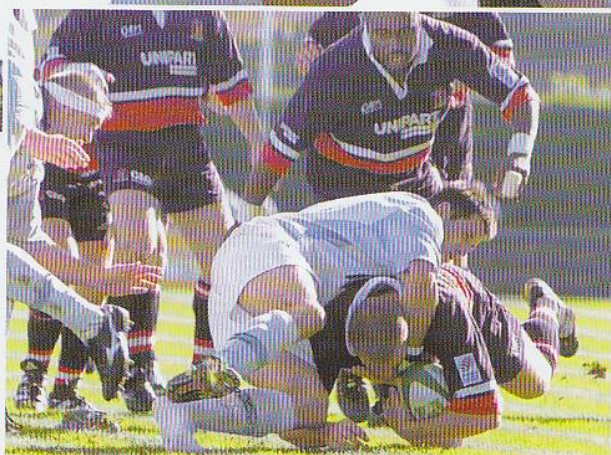
Let's hope that's mirrored here today, where the winners will go into the quarter finals on December the 9th. I can't see any shocks, so I'll pick Harlequins, London Irish, Newcastle, Northampton, Sale, Saracens, and one National League side, Wakefield, to join them,

C'mon Glaws !

BELOW: GLOUCESTERS' CHRIS YATES SANDWICHED BETWEEN COLOMIERS JEAN FRANCOIS MESLIER DE ROCAN (RIGHT) AND GILDAS MORO.

GLOUCESTER PHIL VICKERY IS BROUGHT CRASHING DOWN BY A BOOTLESS BERNAUD DE GIUSTI.

FROM THE COMMENTARY



BOX

B B C

By Ian Randall,
BBC Rugby Commentator

THE MEN OF GLOUCESTER

THIS EDITORIAL IS BASED UPON A REMARKABLE STORY, WRITTEN BY DAVID KAY, CONTAINED WITHIN THE RECENT NEW ZEALAND V. LEBANON RUGBY LEAGUE WORLD CUP MATCH PROGRAMME.

It concerns the Great Britain v. Australia rugby league test match held at the Sydney Cricket Ground in 1914.

Remarkably, there were four Gloucestershire men playing for the British team on that day, three of them from the city itself. Their names were Alf Wood, Billy Hall and Dave Holland and another Gloucestershire man, Jack Robinson from Stroud, joined them.

This legendary game was the third and final test match of the series. The previous internationals had been played on the 27th and the 29th of June, making this game the third international to be played within eight days! This was the deciding test of the series and the touring team was exhausted and beset with injuries whilst the Aussies had all of their home players available and fit. The British team was depleted and demoralised but received a telegram telling them to "play the Test ... if you lose, lose like Britons. All England awaits." As the weary British team, containing four sons of Gloucester, walked onto the pitch for this deciding Test match, one astute writer, seeing the look in their eyes, scribbled down on his note pad that, "they are going to play like demons today. There is grim determination all over them."

And play like demons they did and they led 9-0 at half time, but having lost another two men to injury and with no replacements allowed, they turned around 11 men against 13. The second half was a war, against the odds, of immense ferocity. The British defended their line with such resolve and guts that this game became known as the Rorkes Drift Test Match, after the famous Boer War battle where 130 British troops fought against 4000 Zulu warriors.

According to those who were there, the Men of Gloucester were heroes amongst the heroes. Alf Wood kicked another pressure penalty to make the score 14-0, but Billy Hall was knocked out and had to leave the field with concussion. Then in the last minutes of the game, Dave Holland saved a certain try. Down to ten men against thirteen, after eight days of rugby that had contained three test matches, the British team dug deep and eventually won the game 14-6.

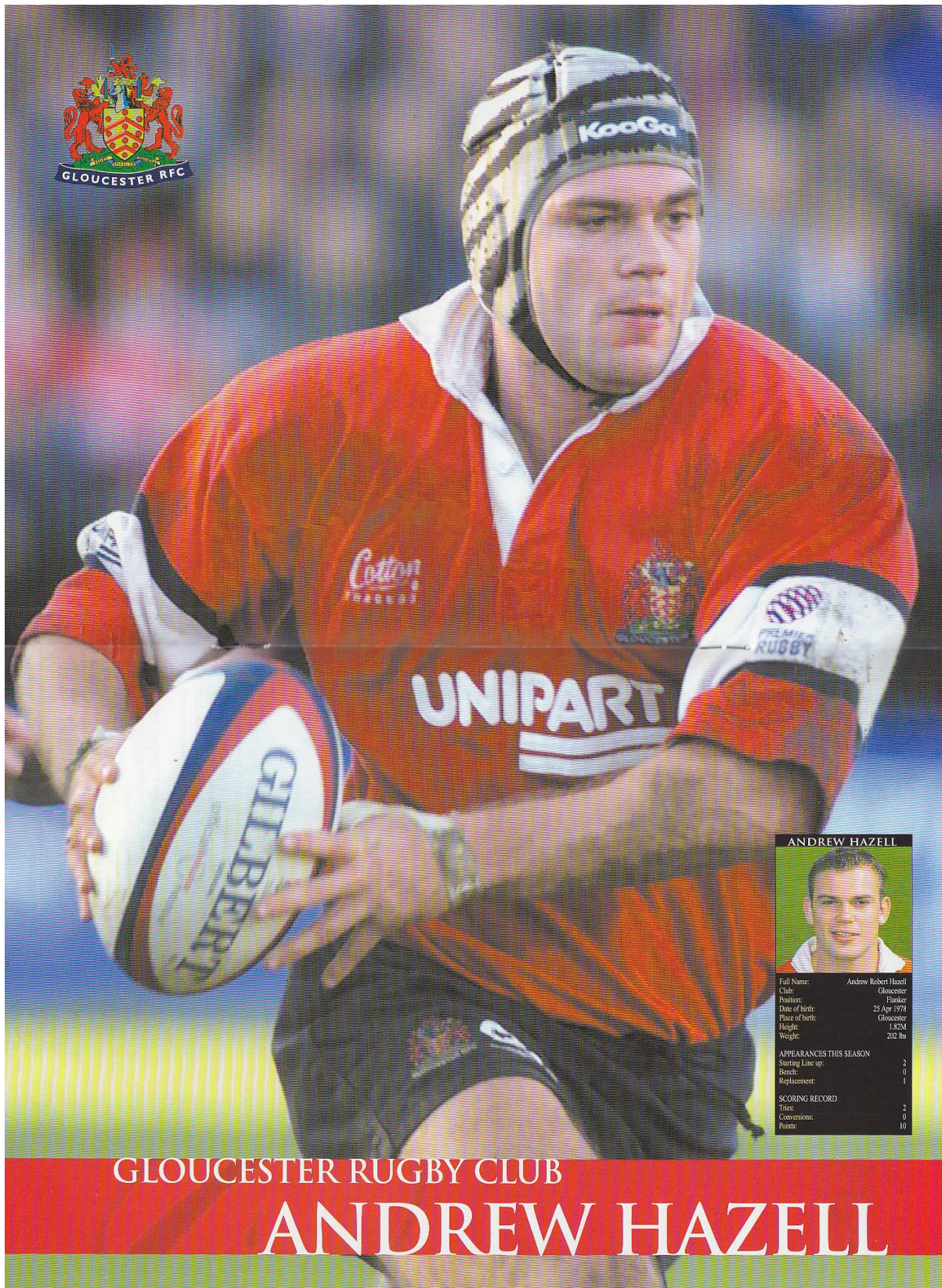
This is what the Aussie press had to say about the British victory: - "Never before in a football match was such defence seen", "the tourists hurled themselves at the man coming head on and sent him crashing back" and "the thin red line held."

Heroic battles against the odds are a Gloucester speciality, a part of the Kingsholm folk-lore and the reason why the supporters accepts nothing less from the team every single time they put on the Gloucester shirt. Is there another club like us, with a heritage like this, anywhere else in the world?

"ACCORDING TO THOSE WHO WERE THERE, THE MEN OF GLOUCESTER WERE HEROES AMONGST THE HEROES."

BELOW: PLAYERS AND FANS A LIKE CELEBRATE THEIR VICTORY OVER BATH LAST WEEK





ANDREW HAZELL

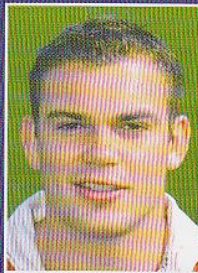


Full Name:	Andrew Robert Hazell
Club:	Gloucester
Position:	Forward
Date of birth:	25 April 1978
Place of birth:	Gloucester
Height:	1.82M
Weight:	202 lbs
APPEARANCES THIS SEASON	
Starting Line up:	2
Bench:	0
Replacement:	1
SCORING RECORD	
Trials:	2
Conversions:	0
Points:	10

GLOUCESTER RUGBY CLUB

ANDREW HAZELL

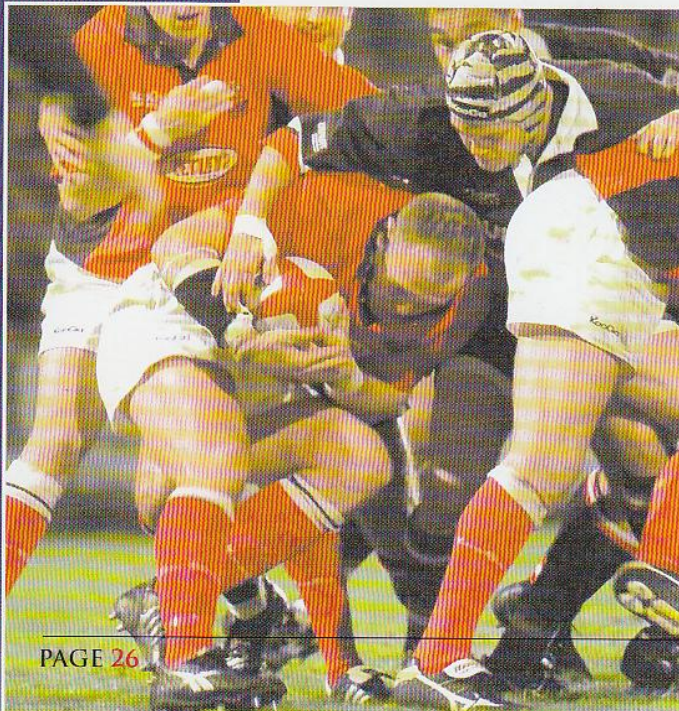
GLOUCESTER RUGBY CLUB'S ANDREW



ANDY HAZELL

Date of Birth 25/4/78
Height (m) 1.83
Weight (kg) 92.0
Position Back Row
Hobbies Golf, Music, Films

BELOW: ANDREW IN ACTION AGAINST LLANFILLI THIS SEASON.



AS ANDREW HAZELL HAS WARRANTED (QUITE RIGHTLY) A LOT OF ATTENTION LATELY, WE ASKED HIM TO TAKE TIME OUT OF HIS BUSY TRAINING SCHEDULE TO GET A FEW WORDS OF WISDOM.

You must be quite pleased with the way things are going this season. You've attracted the attention of the current England Lions Selectors, trained with the first team and played very well in front of an expectant Television public.

Yes, its been good to work with those involved with the England set up, learning from new coaches. Adapting to different ways of thinking and doing things. I've been in the development squad and training with the first team we did all the same moves and drills. On a rotated basis we got to work with three different coaches.

Anyone you particularly enjoyed working with?

Phil Larder the defensive coach, I haven't had long enough with him to say it has changed my game but I can definitely see where he is coming from. It's a shame we didn't have longer to work with them. I'm not sure if there are any more planned.

With your experiences this season has this increased your aspirations as far as International honours go?

Not really, at the moment I'm just focusing on playing well for Gloucester, and getting myself into the team. If an England chance comes along then it's a bonus, a nice bonus though.

Speaking of Gloucester, you're a local lad, who has been at the club in different teams for quite a while, it must be a dream to be playing professionally for the 1st team. What would you say to other local boys and girls who wanted to follow the same path?

Well I joined the colts a long time ago played well for them and got my chance. I'd say to anyone keep trying hard, train well and don't drink too much. You have to look after yourself.

For the past two years you've been vying with the club captain for a place. Kingsley must be hard to displace at the best of times. But he also has the responsibility of captaining the team as well, how do you cope with that?

It motivates me to work harder really, I've got a lot of respect for Kingsley. He does well for the club and is a very good captain. He has helped me a lot with my game teaching me new ideas, he says he wants to hold a few things back but on the whole I've learnt a lot from him.

You both played against Colomiers with you switching to blind-side did you find the transition hard work?

Yes that was totally different for me. It was obviously great to be playing but I wasn't as comfortable with that role. I'll play anywhere

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

HAZELL

really but I have my preferred position.

Before the game against Bath the club took some stick, rightly or wrongly, for fielding what was perceived as a weaker team, did this add to your motivation?

No not really, as Vix said before the game, a lot of players had points to prove. We went down to Bath and no one expected us to win, not in the papers or the press. The whole 22 had something to prove. We were focused on doing a job. A lot of players hadn't been playing regularly and so we were hungry from the start, which showed in the end. We played well as a team. That was the main reason for the result. We played well together and that helped individuals stand out. Obviously playing against Bath makes it all the sweeter, especially down there. There were some things that happened when we played here against Bath that fired us up and we didn't want them to happen on Saturday..

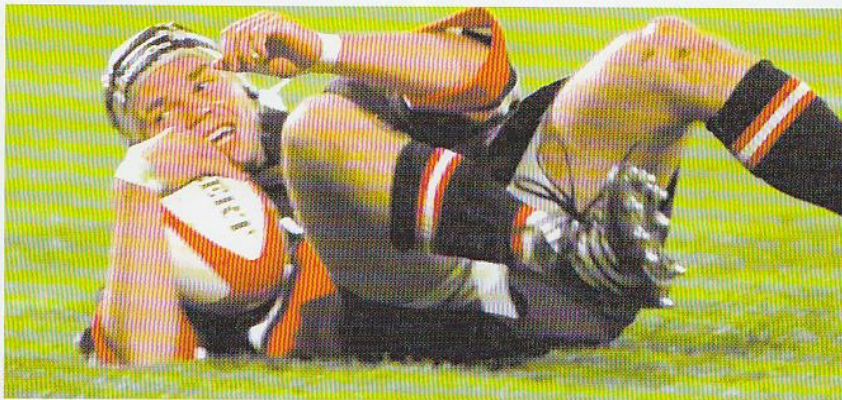
back. You trained very hard all week and then focus on the game. You might be sub, but you might be needed in the second minute so you have to be ready both mentally and physically. I try to perform the same way each week. And stray focused.

You seem to be attracting lots of publicity at the moment. You obviously played very well on Saturday but also Llanelli...?

Yeah it was nice to come on and score, it seems that all the big games like that have gone well for me. I've just been in the right place at the right time, really, in front of sky TV, and with a lot of press at Llanelli.

Talking of Sky we'll be live again today, another big game, any thoughts on that?

No not really I'll just try my best, if I'm picked!



We have a lot of games coming up in the next month what are your thoughts on your involvement in them?

If I'm picked then I'll give 100% if not I'll give all my support to the lads that are.

Does it affect your build up knowing you'll be on the bench on game day?

Not really you can't think that way and hold

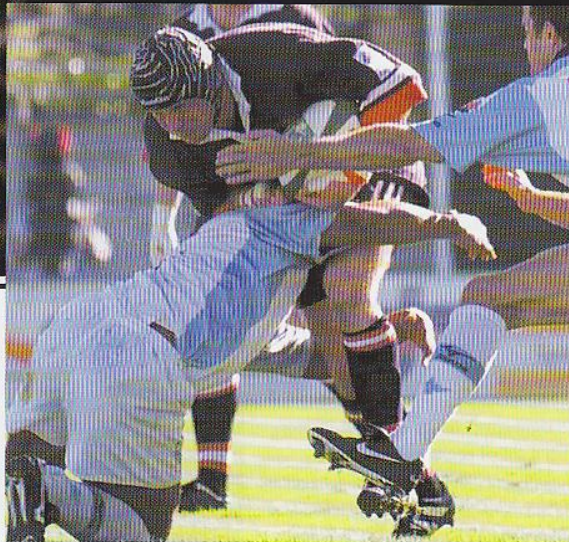


"A LOT OF PLAYERS HADN'T BEEN PLAYING REGULARLY AND SO WE WERE HUNGRY FROM THE START WHICH SHOWED IN THE END."

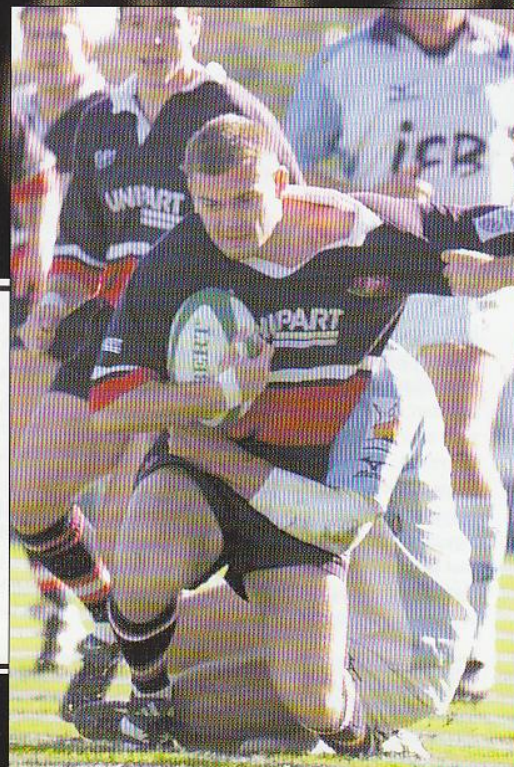
LEFT: ANDREW HORNE GOES OVER TO SCORE A TRY AGAINST LLANELLI

MATCH ACTION

COLOMIERS 30-19 GLOUCESTER



TOP LEFT: Gloucester's Kingsley Jones tackled by Colomiers Francis Ntamack and Fabien Galthie (right).



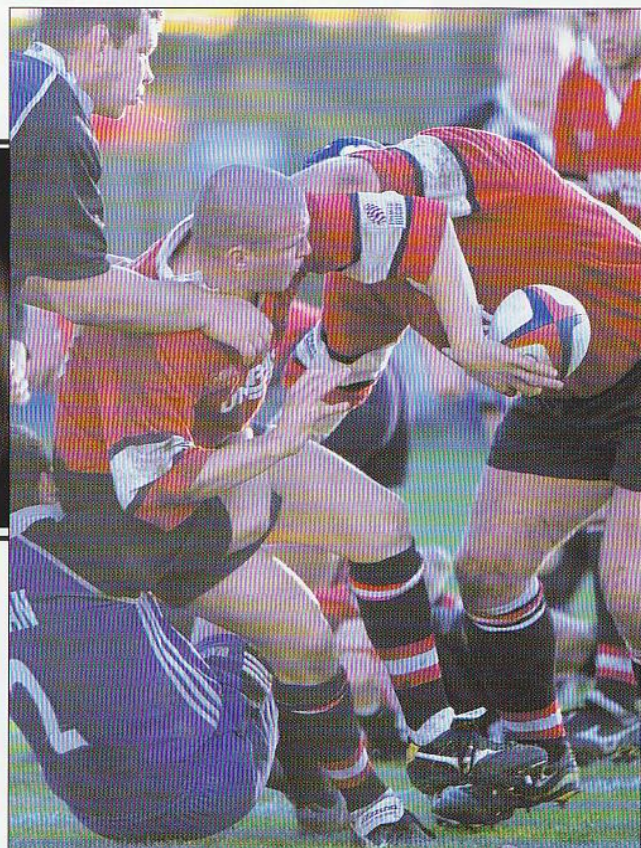
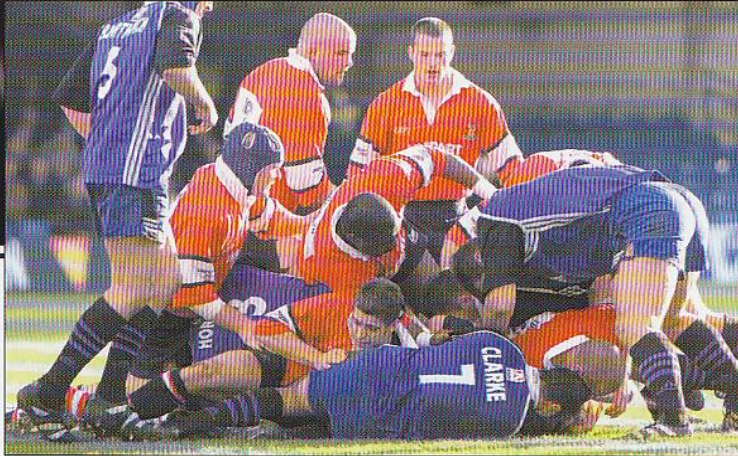
TOP RIGHT: Andrew Hazell tries to break away from the grip of Colomiers Laurent Marticorena

BELOW: Andy Gomarsall looks to pass the ball out.



MATCH ACTION

BATH RUGBY 18-24 GLOUCESTER



TOP: Gloucester's Chris Forety (bottom right) keeps a tight grip on the ball during this ruck.
ABOVE: Andy Hazell breaks away from Bath's Gavin Thomas.
RIGHT: Chris Forety manages to get the ball away as he is brought down by Bath's Mark Regan.

REMEMBERED FIGHT

"SO LET'S RAISE A GLASS TO THE BATH GROUND STAFF. WITHOUT THEM, THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO 'REMEMBERED FIGHT.'"



ABOVE: WHAT A REC THE VIEW AT BATH LAST WEEK

JOHN WAYNE FANS WILL RECALL A WONDERFUL LINE FROM 'SHE WORE A YELLOW RIBBON', WHEN THE VETERAN APACHE CHIEF TURNS TO NATHAN BRITTLES, THE GRIZZLED CAVALRY CAPTAIN AND EXCLAIMS "HO, NAT'AN ! THAT WAS A REMEMBERED FIGHT !".

Don't know about you, but I can't think of a better description of last Saturday's Tetley Bitter Cup win down at the Rec. It will rank alongside other such events, including, I hasten to add in present company, that pulsating last-gasp victory over Leicester under the Kingsholm lights a few seasons ago.

You'd have to admit, however, that most of those memorable victories, with a few exceptions, were won at Kingsholm. This was an away win, secured at, of all places, the Bath fortress where success has eluded us for far too long.

This win, alongside the one at Llanelli, should bury any psychological barrier to winning

away from home once and for all. If you can win at Stradey and at the Rec, you can win anywhere.

One could list almost the whole team as 'star men' in the Bath game, and it's hardly fair to single anyone out. However, there's one unsung hero who must be worth a mention. And he wasn't playing for either team. I refer, of course, to the Groundsman.

Quite frankly, watching the TV pictures from the ground on Wednesday, I had mentally written the game off. It seemed impossible that all those gallons of floodwater could disappear in time for the pitch to be prepared into anything like a playable condition. Yet, on Saturday, there we were. Not only was the pitch playable, it was firm, and it didn't even cut up during the whole hard-fought game.

It may be heresy to say so, but I doubt if even Kingsholm could have done any better.

So let's raise a glass to the Bath ground staff. Without them, there would have been no 'remembered fight'.

DIG DEEP FOR ANDY

THERE'S ONE GLOUCESTER HERO OF THE REC I WILL MENTION.

Through all the tumult and the thunder, there was Andy Deacon - doing his thing in the way that he has been doing it for what seems an unconscionably long time.

Aggressive, mobile, strong and taking no nonsense from anyone, he is one of the few genuine club players, as different from International stars, who has been able successfully to bridge the transition from Amateur rugby to the modern professional game. And he is still one of the most feared prop forwards on the English scene.

I defy anyone to name any Gloucester player more deserving of a Testimonial, and for

Andy to be the first Gloucester recipient of such an honour is no more than justice. I hope his Committee raises a great deal of money for him.

After all, those of us who have been watching the good old cherry-and-whites for any length of time owe him a great deal in terms of commitment and sheer entertainment value.

Do please shell out a few quid on Andy Deacon's behalf. At the very least, buy yourself a copy of his Testimonial handbook. I'm told it's full of great pictures and articles of appreciation and reminiscence from a whole galaxy of writers.

If nothing else, it will be a fine addition to your collection of memorabilia.

FAREWELL TO "WHIZZ"

HAD AN E-MAIL FROM MY
OLD MATE MIKE PRICE
THE OTHER DAY. THAT'S
THE ARTIST FORMERLY KNOWN AS
"PRICEY OF THE TUMP"

Actually, he beat me to it by a short head. I had intended to pen a few lines about the sad passing of Wally Burrows, that trenchant three-quarter of the late forties and early fifties.

I'm quite happy to admit that I know Wally best as an occasional drinking companion in the Hucclecote Community Centre, and the Royal Oak where we were sometimes joined by two other departed heroes in Willie Jones and Sid Dangerfield. My job, on those occasions, was simply to get the beer in, and that was a pleasure, just to have the privilege of listening to those old warriors reminisce.

I'm also quite happy for Mike Price to deliver the eulogy, so to speak. So here's what he sent me.

Dear Peter,

I wonder if you could kindly find room in the programme for these few thoughts and memories of 'Whizz' Burrows.

I was so sorry to note in Wednesday's Citizen that another of my boyhood heroes, 'Whizz' Burrows, had passed away. So sad to see his career summed in so few lines in the report. He was, of course, part of Gordon Hudson's great post war team along with Johnny Thornton and the rest. They were a formidable side indeed.

Wallace was involved in the incredible victory over Cliff Morgan's all-conquering Cardiff team. A side unbeaten that season until they arrived at Kingsholm. Gordon Hudson later described it as Gloucester's greatest game of his career and lifetime.

I was only nine or ten at the time standing among the faithful on the Tump and praying for the final whistle. As it is over 50 years

ago and maybe the old memory is not what it was, but Whizz was in the three quarters and on the receiving end of Willy Jones inch perfect passes who in turn had been fed by Danny Evans at number nine.

The game was Gloucester's finest hour for Cardiff had no less than nine current Welsh international players on duty that day and all the others were former internationals. The game was later described in the press as the Cherry and Whites versus a Welsh All-Stars fifteen.

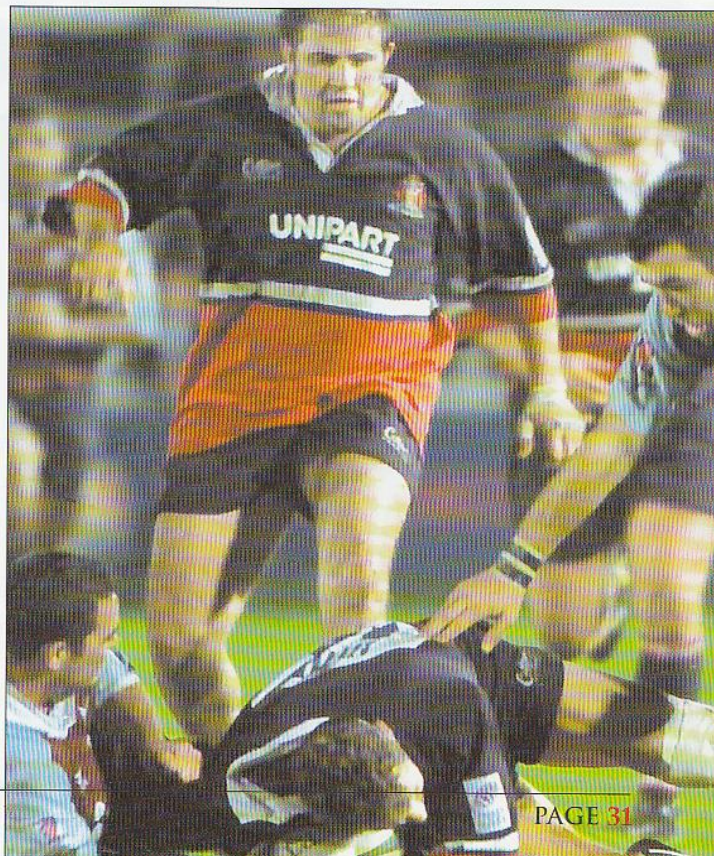
To Whizz's family my sincere condolences at your loss. Your sorrow is shared by the legion of supporters who were thrilled by Wallace's courage, flair, good old Gloucester determination and obvious pride in wearing that famous Cherry and White shirt.

Pricey.

Just one more thought. Pricey doing E-Mail ? Good Lord ! He'll be using a kicking tee next.

**"THE GAME WAS
GLOUCESTER'S
FINEST HOUR FOR
CARDIFF HAD NO
LESS THAN NINE
CURRENT WELSH
INTERNATIONAL
PLAYERS ON DUTY
THAT DAY AND
ALL THE OTHERS
WERE FORMER
INTERNATIONALS."**

**BELOW:
GLOUCESTERS'
JASON LITTLE FEELS
THE FULL FORCE OF
COLOMIERS' CAPT
JEAN-LUC
SADOURNY (RIGHT)
AS GLOS SERGE
SIMON MOVES IN
TO SUPPORT.**



MATCH CAPTAIN



THIS WEEK THE CAPTAIN'S CORNER COMES FROM LAST WEEKS' TRIUMPHANT CAPTAIN

PHIL VICKERY

THE ROLE OF CAPTAIN WAS A DIFFICULT ONE LAST WEEK ALTHOUGH IT IS AN HONOUR, IT DOES GIVE YOU MORE RESPONSIBILITY ON THE DAY.

Also with the changes in the team the continuity wasn't there early on. The press had commented a lot on the changes that Philippe had made for the game, but I think we proved he made the right decision. You can't pick the same fifteen players' week in, week out, especially when you have the size and strength of squad that we have. Guys need to get games in. It's not good to have them on the sidelines all the time. They need their time on the pitch.

I was confident from the outset that we were capable of winning. Bath were always going to be a very difficult team to beat, but I felt we had the quality in the side to get a result. A lot of guys had something to prove, it was a cup game, and it was a local derby! Before the kick-off I said to the guys, that if they came off the pitch at full time knowing they had given their all, then win, lose, or draw I couldn't have asked for more. As it was, everybody gave 110% and that is what made me so proud. I was so pleased for every one connected with Gloucester Rugby Club.

In the early stages of the game we were giving away penalties and Bath were capitalising on them. But our defence was strong we were scrambling really well. I told the guys that we had to stick to what we were doing, pick ourselves up again, and have the confidence to just go out and play. I didn't want us to get bogged down and try to play catch-up rugby. Forty minutes is a long time.

The score before half time obviously gave us heart and we built on that. I was pleased for all the guys who got a particular mention, Haze is a tremendous talent and if he keeps his head he will do well out of the game.

Beimy has hit a spell of good form, and I was really pleased for Mark Cornwell. He played his last game at Newcastle and hasn't figured since, but he has trained well and worked hard and so deserved his chance. Its nice that people can come back, take their chances and prove how much this club means to them.

This week brings a new challenge that of Leicester. As an England player I have got to know quite a few of their players, and we all get on very well. This is obviously a huge game for both teams. Ask anyone, a day at Kingsholm is one of the best days of the year. Other teams get the chance to play in front of a great crowd, and it is a great occasion. The Leicester boys will be looking forward to coming down I just hope they don't enjoy the day too much.

After a great effort last week the boys have got to raise their game and do it all again".

"BATH WERE ALWAYS GOING TO BE A VERY DIFFICULT TEAM TO BEAT, BUT I FELT WE HAD THE QUALITY IN THE SIDE TO GET A RESULT."

BELOW: BATH'S DEFENCE COULD NOT STOP GLOUCESTER'S MARK CORNWELL AS HE GOES OVER TO SCORE A TRY

