Gloucester vs Toulouse
Pre-season Friendly fixture

Kick off 7:30pm
Wednesday 22nd August 2001
www.gloucesterrugby.co.uk


[cost] £2.00
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gloucester</th>
<th>VS</th>
<th>Toulouse [from]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chris Catling</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Andrea Lo Ciciero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Fanolua</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Franck Tournaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cristian Stoica</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Benoit Lecouls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Todd</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Luigi Esposito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diego Albanese</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>William Servat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon Mannix</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Yanick Bru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Gomarsall</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Fabien Pelous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrice Collazo</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>David Gerard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivier Azam</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Franck Belot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil Vickery</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Khala Maher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Eustace</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Didier Lacroix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Fidler</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Christian Labit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake Boer</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sylvain Dispagne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Hazell</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Frederic Michalak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Paramore</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jerome Cazalbou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>David Aucagne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yann Delaigle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**[replacements]**

| TBC             | 16 | Cedric Desbrosse |
| TBC             | 17 | Clement Poitrenaux |
| TBC             | 18 | Emile Ntamack |
| TBC             | 19 | Cedric Heymans |
| TBC             | 20 | Michel Marfaing |
| TBC             | 21 | Xavier Garbajosa |
| TBC             | 22 | Nicolas Jeanjean |
|                 | 25 | Stephane Ougler |

*[teams correct at 20/08/01]*

[i] [denotes international]

[c] [denotes captain]
I would firstly like to welcome all our supporters to tonight’s game against Toulouse.

They are the Champions of France and this will be our biggest test ahead of the league programme, which kicks off against Northampton next month.

Much has been said about the Gloucester squad this season, and now we have brought in many new players. I wanted less change this year and sure we have brought in new players but we also have eight young players who came with us last season, who have signed new contracts.

Now I want a team that will stay together for two years with little change. Maybe just the one or two players each year because it is so difficult to find a unit. What I want to put in a good foundation of a team, and a good structure, and so I signed a lot of young players who will be very good for two or three years.

Our pre-season games have shown we still have a lot to do. But I have tried to give the internationals a proper rest that will not happen after tonight because we have such a tough start to the season. We have Northampton at home, then Saracens, Leicester and then Sale away.

For all these games we must be focused and work hard and this is what we wanted on tour. We were with a lot of new players and it was important to focus and build a team spirit. We worried more about team spirit than about rugby.

This year I also hope to avoid the injuries we had last year. Last year without Simon Mannix, I realised that the team was in big trouble. So I have tried to take less risks with the players, and now have two good kickers in Mannix and Murdter.

We also have competition at wing where we struggled last season. With Diego Albanese, who is a very punchy winger and electric over twenty or thirty metres, along with Darren O’Leary, who has great timing, I think we will score a lot of tries. We also have James Simpson-Daniel, Terry Faintus and Marcel Garvey and Josh Frape, who will learn a lot.

At lock we have Rob Fisher, Ed Pearce, Mark Cornwell and Adam Eastace. People say I want a lot of foreign players, but I have four English players at lock. They are young guns but must prove on the pitch that they deserve to play.

Last season was not a great learning curve for me. In my first season we had a smaller squad, had no injuries and finished third. At the end of last season we finished with almost no bases at all. So when we played against Bielor and I saw it was a big fight and getting a bit crazy I decided it was a risk to play all our internationals. Last season we beat Munster in a friendly but lost most of our players for the start of the season and lost to Saracens by fifty points. I would rather lose a friendly by forty points and be ready for our league games.

Last season was not a great season for Gloucester, but results over the last nine years show that for Gloucester to finish seventh and get to the semi-final of the Heineken Cup was not too bad. This year we must want to be in the Heineken Cup again by finishing in the top four of the league or by winning the Shield.
In just ten days time, on Saturday 1st September at 3 o’clock, the Zurich Premiership season 2001-02 kicks off in earnest at Kingsholm.

After all the warm up and hype this pre-season there can be no substitute for the real thing and it doesn’t get much more real than a visit from our East Midlands rival Northampton Saints.

Gloucester fans will remember that the Saints won last season’s meetings 2-0 scoring a comfortable victory at Franklin’s Gardens and then, despite Gloucester’s dominance, hanging on to the narrowest of wins at Kingsholm. Gloucester scored two tries to nil but lost out as Paul Grayson landed the kicks out of five.

Northampton will start this season without some of their club’s great heroes. Last year’s skipper Pat Lam, has re-joined Newcastle, while former captain Tim Rodber, 1995 World Cup medal winner Gary Pagel and local hero Harvey Thorneycroft have all retired. Welsh Lion Allan Bootman has returned to Wales with Neath and other players departing the club include scrum-half Jim Bramhall and prop Matt Volland.

The loss of Gary Pagel’s formidable presence in the Saints’ front row has been compensated for by the introduction of double Lion Tom Smith who has been Northampton’s biggest signing this summer. Also joining the East Midlands club this season is Peter Jorgensen from Penrith Panthers and Chris Bygdon, from Birmingham Solihull.

Don’t forget to book your match day ticket before the close of business on Thursday 30th August and enjoy the early bird ticket discount.

Northampton Saints

Early Purchase Discount
Adult Ground £13
(E15 Match day)
Concessions £8
(E8 Match day)
Juniors U15 £2
(E3 Match day)

www.gloucesterrugbyclub.co.uk [next away game] 07

Arild Bonnemann tackles Pat Lamb in last season’s clash with Northampton Saints.
Phil Vickery

Tonight’s game against Toulouse will be a massive challenge. If we win, obviously, it will be a massive boost to our collective confidence and if we lose it will hopefully help us focus and prepare us to take on Northampton.

Toulouse are the French Leicester, they are a fantastic team who have done it all. It will be a wonderful challenge for everyone connected to Gloucester. If you can’t get yourself up for this type of game you’re in the wrong business. There is no point playing against a lesser team putting thirty or forty points on them ten days before you take on Northampton.

As soon as the players take the pitch tonight, they will know they have to raise their game if they are going to be in with a chance of winning. There are players to take your place. You have to show you deserve your right to play.

On that note I must give a special mention to Andy Deacon. For all that professionalism has brought to the game and whether people like it or not, I think Andy is a very special person and a very special player to have done what he’s done. It’s not all been easy in his career but he has kept his head down, worked hard and whatever coaches have come to this club they have been impressed with him. In professional sport, if someone doesn’t want you at a club you have no choice so it’s good to see what Andy has done.

I believe the role of captain has changed over the last couple of years and we now have key players who make decisions. We have a squad capable of doing great things and we just need to believe in that. We had a squad capable of winning things last year and that’s disappointing.

I hope we have learnt from last year and take the club forward to new levels.
**Diego Albanese**

D.o.B: 17/09/73  
Position: Wing  
Height: 1.74m  
Weight: 76kg  
Former Clubs: San Isidro  
International Honours: Argentina – 36 caps

Albanese was signed from Argentine side San Isidro in the close season. Recorded the most recent of his international caps whilst representing the Pumas on their tour of New Zealand. Although slightly built his pace and agility have made him hard to stop.

**Patrice Collazo**

D.o.B: 27/04/74  
Position: Prop  
Height: 1.85m  
Weight: 106kg  
Former Clubs: Brie  
International Honours: France

Strong, gritty French loose-head prop who has been signed on a one year deal from Stade Francais. His inclusion in the Gloucester Squad will provide healthy competition in the already combative front row.

**James Forrester**

D.o.B: 09/02/81  
Position: No.8  
Height: 1.95m  
Weight: 99.4kg  
Former Club: Siccaster  
International Honours: England Schools

Joins his career highlight to date as scoring a try under the posts on debut against London Irish last year. A tall, agile player who can play anywhere in the back row. James is an excellent ball handler who can provide the essential link between forwards and backs.

**Josh Frape**

D.o.B: 23/02/80  
Position: Wing  
Height: 1.83m  
Weight: 90kg  
Former Club: GRFC Academy  
International Honours: England Schools

Josh's bid to make the break through was held up last season but judges say it will not be long. Has a unique ability to play at either scrum half, or because of seeing pace, on the wing. His versatility will serve him well this year.

**Marcel Garvey**

D.o.B: 21/04/83  
Position: Wing  
Height: 1.77m  
Weight: 80.3kg  
Former Club: Siccaster  
International Honours: England Schools

A current schoolboy international whose power and pace belies his size. His greatest asset is his pace and has been described by the Academy coaches as “A natural try scorer”. He will provide essential cover in a position Gloucester struggled with last season.

**Jon Goodridge**

D.o.B: 26/02/81  
Position: Full Back  
Height: 1.86m  
Weight: 84kg  
Former Club: Swansea Uni  
International Honours: New Zealand

Full Back who made his debut last season against London Irish. Played his early rugby at Fly-Half but made the very successful switch whilst playing for the GRFC Academy last year. Is very strong in defence and has the ability to counter attack effectively, given space.

**Carl Houston**

D.o.B: 28/04/75  
Position: Flanker  
Height: 1.83m  
Weight: 93kg  
Former Club: Wakefield  
International Honours: New Zealand

Named player of the year and then top try scorer in his two seasons at Wakefield. Has pledged his future to Scotland and has represented the Scottish Eagles last season. Has large boots to fill after club captain Kingsley James departed for Worcester.

**Ludovic Mercier**

D.o.B: 01/11/76  
Position: Fly Half  
Height: 1.79m  
Weight: 85kg  
Former Club: Aurillac  
International Honours: New Zealand

Left tested French Fly-Half who joins Gloucester from little known Aurillac with a glowing reputation. Top points scorer in the French league last season he proved to be a prolific goal kicker with an excellent success ratio. Philippa has admired his talent for some time.
Duncan Murray  
D.o.B: 22/10/81  
Position: Centre  
Height: 1.84m  
Weight: 94kg  
Former Club: GRFC Academy  
International Honours: Welsh School U18s (c); U21 squad  
The former Welsh Schools captain has continued to go from strength to strength. The culmination of a season of hard work came when he made his 1st team debut against London Irish. Has a physical approach to the game and can create space for those around him.

Daren O’Leary  
D.o.B: 27/06/73  
Position: Wing  
Height: 1.82m  
Weight: 91kg  
Former Club: Harlequins  
International Honours: England A, 7's, U19, Students  
O’Leary’s record speaks for itself. 114 tries in 196 appearances is a Premiership record, proving that not only can he score tries, but that he can do it consistently. His main attribute is raw pace, an excellent characteristic in today’s game.

Henry Paul  
D.o.B: 10/02/74  
Position: Utility back  
Height: 1.80m  
Weight: 94.6kg  
Former Club: Bradford Bulls  
International Honours: New Zealand (League) 23 caps  
Rugby League legend who has won almost every honour in the league game. Expectations are high and Philippe Saint-Andre will hope he is the spark to ignite the Gloucester backline this season.

Federico Pucciariello  
D.o.B: 24/06/75  
Position: Prop  
Height: 1.75m  
Weight: 106kg  
Former Club: Parma  
International Honours: Italy – 3 caps, Argentina U21  
Pucciariello is another in a long line of world-renowned strong scrummers from his country of birth, and is quickly becoming the rock on which Italy are building their pack for the future. Can play equally well in all three positions in the front row.

Koli Sewabu  
D.o.B: 19/1/75  
Position: Back row  
Height: 1.80m  
Weight: 106kg  
Former Club: Bayonne  
International Honours: 16 caps Fiji  
Big, physical, Fijian who has joined Gloucester this season in a step, start transfer deal. Seen as a man than able replacement for Dave (Soup) who can play either flanker or number 8 in the back row. A powerhouse in open play whose impact will be felt in the league.

Cristian Stoica  
D.o.B: 01/08/76  
Position: Centre  
Height: 1.88m  
Weight: 94kg  
Former Club: Narbonne  
International Honours: Italy – 40 caps Captain – 3  
The Romanian born, golden boy of Italian rugby, he is equally at home playing at centre or at fullback. For former club, Narbonne he started as a centre but was used as a fullback for Italy where he shone in the Six Nations Championship.

Clive Stuart-Smith  
D.o.B: 17/05/83  
Position: Scrum Half  
Height: 1.73m  
Weight: 80kg  
Former Club: GRFC Academy  
International Honours: Engand U18  
A local boy who signed professional terms this pre-season. His strength lie in his dedication to the arts of scrumhalf play. His service is excellent and his box kicking and chipaging at the base of the scrum have made him a formidable opponent.

Dimitri Yachvili  
D.o.B: 19/9/80  
Position: Scrum Half  
Height: 1.83m  
Weight: 81kg  
Former Club: Paris University  
International Honours: France U21’s  
Young scrum-half who has impressed coaches in France with his service and all round game. Has recently represented France U21’s in Australia where they finished third in the U21 World Cup. Will gain valuable experience in the Premiership.

www.gloucesterrugbyclub.co.uk [new signings]
What do you think of it so far?

Flippin' 'eck! The season hasn't even started yet, and we've already got enough talking points to keep the bar full of debating drinkers until Christmas.

"Do we really have a team out there?"

I don't think I can remember a close season with as much interesting activity as this one. You only have to think of the injury-dodged and ultimately disappointing Lions tour and the controversial (from our point of view) England trip to Canada and the USA to appreciate what I'm saying. And that's even before thinking about the various Kingsholm developments which have been popping out like mecces while we've been watching cricket and playing sand castles.

It's the latter subject which will be exercising our minds this evening. It's asking a bit much to expect our much-changed side to fulfil its undoubted potential against such daunting and welcome opposition as the famous Toulouse side, who are, in my opinion, the best side in France, whatever the claims of Stade Français. At least they are, like Gloucester, a genuine long-established club team with proud traditions to rival our own. They've also been training for longer than the British clubs have. It's not an easy prospect, but it is one which should blow away the cobwebs and remind the players what top-quality rugby is all about, and that's probably exactly what Philippe Saint-André wants at this point in the proceedings.

The crucial point is the answer to the question: "Do we really have a team out there?" You can have 15 top-quality players on the field and not really have a good team. Ask Saracens, who have been under-performing for a couple of seasons now.

But there is a vital difference. It's one thing playing in a half-empty soccer stadium where most of the spectators are fairly unfamiliar in their support, and quite another to turn out at a real rugby ground, where the supporters are much closer to the players and quite fanatical in their backing for their team. Some of our new signings may well find that proceedings are a lot noisier than those they have been used to. And, of course, any player north of his tatt will thrive in those conditions.

Gloucester, this season, may well have, on paper, the look of an international rapid reaction force, but I'm sure that the newcomers will very quickly find that, when anyone pulls on the famous cherry-and-white shirt they become a Gloucester player. Part of a tribe, if a family, even.

It appears that no one knows better than Monseur Saint-André himself. He certainly learned very quickly; remember his two tries on debut against Bristol - and his reaction to the reception they got from the Shed? All though the summer he has been publicly pronouncing that he only wants players who want to play for Gloucester, and we all know exactly what he means. He's after a bunch of cherry-and-whites, rather than a gang of mercenaries.

This evening's little shrivelling should go a long way to resolving how far he has succeeded. If all goes well then - roll on Northampton.
How do you think our various tourists got on this summer? Personally, I thought that Phil Vickery had a blinder.

That view is certainly endorsed by one of Col's contacts, one of whom told me he could not see why he is known as 'The Flying Bull' back home in Gloucester. He certainly did all that was asked of him, and perhaps a bit more.

Remember - he played in all three Tests, which is more than even the great Mike Teague could boast when he won the Man of the Series award on the previous Lions tour of Australia.

The story of the England tourists is altogether different. Don't know about you, but I don't think Chris Forsey, Trevor Woodman and Andy Hazell had a fair crack of the whip at all. In fact, from where I sat, glued to my TV for all the televised games, it appeared that they hardly got on the field.

That's why I referred to the England tour as 'controversial' in my opening paragraph.

After all, if the serial wasn't about allowing emerging players the chance to show what they could do, then what was it about?

It's sad to have to start the season with an obituary. It's even sadder when the person concerned died at an age when some people are still playing the game.

To make it even worse, my friend Colin Taylor's father died after a similar illness only a few years ago. All our sympathies go to his mother, Ethel, who is a lovely lady, and to all Col's family and friends.

Colin's illness did not allow him to visit Kingsholm much, if at all, last season, but regular inhabitants of the centre stand will certainly recall him, if not by sight, then assuredly by sound alone.

He was a quiet, unassuming chap who wouldn't use two words where half a dozen would do. Quite simply, in the bar, and elsewhere, he liked to listen. But once happily settled in his seat, all that changed. When the kick-off whistle sounded, he became quite simply, the noisiest supporter I have ever sat beside. And that's saying a bit.

“He was, for example, a great admirer of Darren O’Leary.”

He was undoubtedly a Gloucester fanatic, but he always gave credit where it was due. He was, for example, a great admirer of Darren O’Leary for the incredible number of tries the flying winger has scored against Gloucester. I do have to say, however, that I don’t recall him extending the same courtesy to others.

www.gloucesterrugbyclub.co.uk
[match action]

Birmingham Soilhull

14-08-01

Robert Todd puts away

30

Birmingham Soilhull 0

match stats

Gloucester: 30
tries: Garvey, Frape, Todd

conversions: Mercier(2)
penalties: Yachvili (1)

Birmingham Soilhull: 0
tries:

conversions:
penalties:

pre-season friendly

Photography Supplied by GPA

Ed defence breaks the Birmingham defence

[match action] www.gloucesterrugbyclub.com
[match action]

Andy Deacon

Testimonial
18-08-01

Gloucesters’ Simon Mannix boiled from-tap by Rotherham’s Leon Green.

Cristian Stolca in action

Philine Saint-Andre in action

matchstats

Gloucester: 53
tries: Calling, Deacon, Fidler
 conversions: Mannix, Somersall (2)
 penalties: Mannix

Rotherham: 17
tries: Scully, Morrissey
 conversions: Paz (2)
 penalties: Paz

Andy Deacon gets the ball away as he is tackled from behind by Rotherham’s captain Chris Streeton.

Photography Supplied by GPA

www.gloucesterrugbyclub.co.uk [match action] 21
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Former Club</th>
<th>International Honours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andy Gomarsall</td>
<td>24/7/74</td>
<td>Scrum Half</td>
<td>1.77m</td>
<td>80.2kg</td>
<td>Bedford</td>
<td></td>
<td>England 7 Caps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Hazell</td>
<td>25/4/78</td>
<td>Flanker</td>
<td>1.83m</td>
<td>92kg</td>
<td>Gloucester Old Boys</td>
<td></td>
<td>England (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl Houston</td>
<td>28/4/75</td>
<td>Flanker</td>
<td>1.83m</td>
<td>83kg</td>
<td>Wakefield</td>
<td></td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon Mannix</td>
<td>10/8/71</td>
<td>Fly Half</td>
<td>1.45m</td>
<td>84kg</td>
<td>Sale</td>
<td></td>
<td>New Zealand, French Barbarians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ludovic Mercier</td>
<td>01/11/76</td>
<td>Fly Half</td>
<td>1.79m</td>
<td>85kg</td>
<td>Bath</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aurillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duncan Murray</td>
<td>22/10/61</td>
<td>Centre</td>
<td>1.84m</td>
<td>84kg</td>
<td>WRFC Academy</td>
<td></td>
<td>Welsh School U18(c) U21 squad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daren O'Leary</td>
<td>27/6/73</td>
<td>Wing</td>
<td>1.82m</td>
<td>91kg</td>
<td>Harlequins</td>
<td></td>
<td>England A, 7's, U18, Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Paramore</td>
<td>18/11/68</td>
<td>Back Row</td>
<td>1.99m</td>
<td>104kg</td>
<td>Bedford</td>
<td></td>
<td>Manu Samoa – 19 caps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Paul</td>
<td>10/2/74</td>
<td>Scrum Half</td>
<td>2.01m</td>
<td>116.5kg</td>
<td>Bath</td>
<td></td>
<td>New Zealand (League) 23 caps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Pearce</td>
<td>02/9/75</td>
<td>Back Row</td>
<td>1.81m</td>
<td>108kg</td>
<td>Bath</td>
<td></td>
<td>England (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federico Pucciariello</td>
<td>24/06/75</td>
<td>Prop</td>
<td>1.75m</td>
<td>108kg</td>
<td>Parma</td>
<td></td>
<td>Italy – 3 caps, Argentina U21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koll Sewahb</td>
<td>15/11/75</td>
<td>Back row</td>
<td>1.90m</td>
<td>106kg</td>
<td>Begles Bordeaux</td>
<td></td>
<td>18 caps Fiji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Simpson-Daniel</td>
<td>30/05/82</td>
<td>Fly-half</td>
<td>1.82m</td>
<td>78kg</td>
<td>WRFC Academy</td>
<td></td>
<td>England U19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cristian Stoica</td>
<td>01/09/76</td>
<td>Centre</td>
<td>1.88m</td>
<td>94kg</td>
<td>Harlequins</td>
<td></td>
<td>Italy – 40 caps, Captain – 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clive Stuart-Smith</td>
<td>17/05/83</td>
<td>Scrum Half</td>
<td>1.73m</td>
<td>80kg</td>
<td>WRFC Academy</td>
<td></td>
<td>England U19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Todd</td>
<td>19/04/71</td>
<td>Centre</td>
<td>1.80m</td>
<td>96.6kg</td>
<td>London Irish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trevor Woodman</td>
<td>04/08/76</td>
<td>Loose Head</td>
<td>1.83m</td>
<td>119kg</td>
<td>Bath</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dimitri Yachvill</td>
<td>19/08/80</td>
<td>Scrum Half</td>
<td>1.83m</td>
<td>81kg</td>
<td>Paris University</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.gloucesterrugbyclub.co.uk [gloucester squad] 23