

# Gloucester

RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB



**EXCLUSIVE PULL OUT GLOUCESTER  
2002-03 TEAM POSTER**

**END OF SEASON STRUCTURE  
EXPLAINED**

**READ THE NEW AND EXCLUSIVE  
'FANS VIEW FROM THE SHED'**

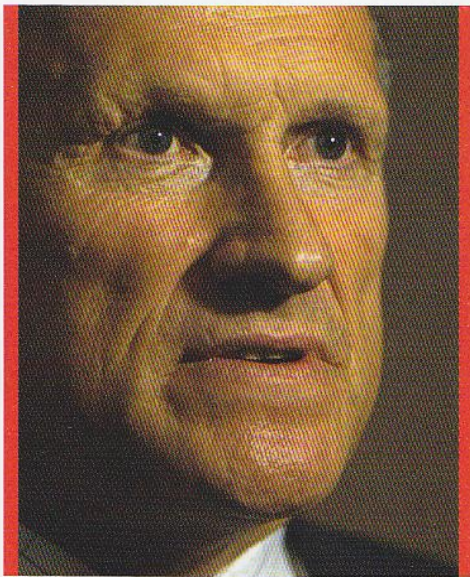
**PLUS ALL THE GAMES' RELEVANT  
STATS AND ANALYSIS**



## vs The Sharks

**ZURICH PREMIERSHIP FIXTURE**  
SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2002  
KICK-OFF 3.00PM





## WELCOME FROM...

**Tom Walkinshaw**

Managing Director

First of all I would like to welcome supporters of both Gloucester and The Sharks to Kingsholm today for the second round of Zurich Premiership matches.

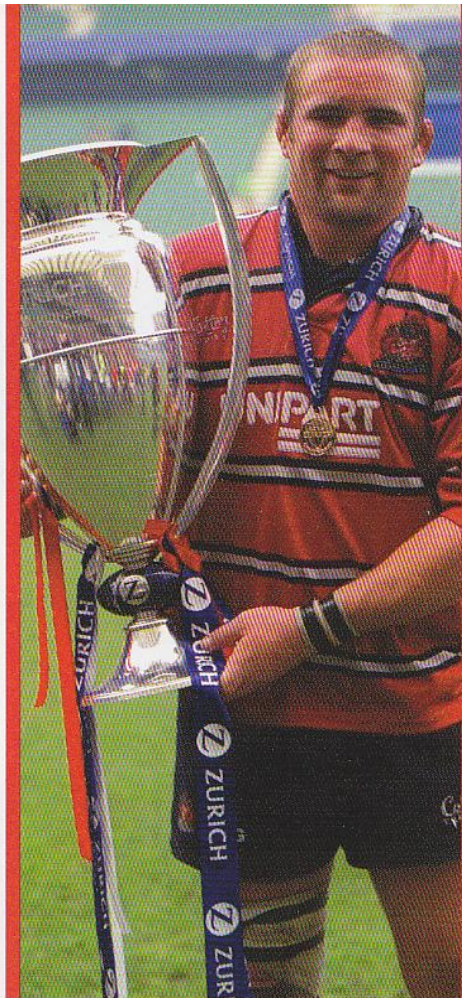
The season started well for both Clubs last weekend and today promises to be another wonderful advert for Premiership rugby in this country.

**"AS A MEMBER YOU WILL BE ABLE TO WATCH AT LEAST A GAME A WEEK HERE AT KINGSHOLM FOR FREE."**

Figures recently released show that, across the board rugby attendances have continued to increase, with season tickets rising by an average of 17%. At the time of writing we are on the verge of hitting our first target of 4500 and this in itself represents a Kingsholm record.

I am delighted, and proud, that so many supporters have decided to commit themselves to this great Club by purchasing a Season Ticket.

For those that are joining for the first time this year, welcome. I hope that you will enjoy a wonderful season supporting the Cherry and Whites. For those who have renewed their membership this season, thank you, for your continued support. I believe that the



Phil Vickey proudly holding the Zurich Championship Trophy

team we have assembled on and off the pitch will repay the faith that you have shown in them.

For those who have yet to be convinced, let me assure you that even after today's fixture, the 2002-03 Season Ticket package still represents excellent value. With the inclusion of the Gloucester Academy matches and the revival of the United fixtures all included in the package, as a member you will be able to watch at least a game a week here at Kingsholm for free.

Off the field too, the Season Ticket Holders association will provide all members with excellent social evenings and events.

In conclusion, I am delighted to welcome each and every one of you to Kingsholm this afternoon, and hope that you will join me in cheering on the Cherry and Whites to great successes and continuing to make Gloucester Rugby Club the best in Europe. ■





## NIGEL'S NOTE'S...

**Nigel Melville**  
Director of Rugby

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Kingsholm for our first home Zurich Premiership game of the new season. Sale, our visitors have travelled from Manchester today, but in rugby terms have travelled significantly further in the last two seasons. Last season Sale Sharks finished the Zurich Premiership in second place and won the Parker Pen Shield, the squad has remained largely intact and expectations are high for the new season.

Last week's visit to the Stoop against a rejuvenated Harlequins may not have been pretty, but an away win in the Premiership is always welcome. It is always frustrating to see top class players making basic errors, but no matter how hard you prepare for the Premiership, you cannot replicate the intensity of the competition in friendly games, last weeks performance certainly kept everyone's feet on the ground – we have worked particularly hard this week!

Apart from winning last weekend, the game brought a number of positives for the squad. Marcel Garvey proved once more that he is an exciting young talent and that he has the ability to turn any situation into a try scoring opportunity.

Andy Hazell has returned to form after his injury problems, Trevor Woodman proved that it is not only backs that side step and score tries and Thinus Delpont made an excellent start on his Premiership debut for Gloucester.

This week you will have again read about the problems we have been having agreeing release dates for fitness and skills sessions for our England Elite Players Squad members. The Elite Player Squad (EPS) consists of between 35 –40 players, this is backed up by a further 20-25 players National Academy Players lead by Brian Ashton. The EPS players programme is managed by RFU Performance Director, Chris Spice. Last season the EPS included Trevor Woodman, Chris Fortey, Phil Vickery and Henry Paul, this season it may be more.

The EPS players programme includes a 32-match maximum per season (1 match constitutes more than 1 half), this includes international fixtures. EPS players will attend a further 20 days for fitness and skills work, they will be released on the week leading up to the November internationals and 6 Nations games. They are also subject to an 11 week break at the end of each season (not including international tours).

Selecting teams has always been tough, but with 13 players in every match squad now having to be English qualified (17 next season), and an as yet unknown group only available for approx 22 games (+ bench games), the task has become even more complicated. The 20 extra training days will cause disruption during the working week, releasing players during the build up to an important Premiership game is always frustrating for coaches and players alike.

**“MARCEL GARVEY PROVED ONCE MORE THAT HE IS AN EXCITING YOUNG TALENT AND THAT HE HAS THE ABILITY TO TURN ANY SITUATION INTO A TRY SCORING OPPORTUNITY.”**

There should be no doubt that we are fully behind England's World Cup Challenge, but I personally believe that extra skills and fitness sessions could be carried out at the Premiership Clubs. These sessions could be taken by the England coaches and the players wouldn't have to travel. This would strengthen the relationship between the England Squad coaches and the Premiership coaches producing a genuine partnership.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support, your commitment to the team, home and away, lifts us all to greater things, enjoy today's game and have a fantastic season. ■

Marcel Garvey in action against the Quins







## CAPTAIN'S CORNER

### Phil Vickery

Club Captain

Last weekend we got off to a great start. It wasn't our best performance as in the first game of the season a lot of people were edgy and we were under a lot of pressure, but we won. I would always take an away win in the first game of any season. Now we have points on the board and something to build on.

Make no mistake; regardless of all the hype surrounding the game, Harlequins are a very good team. In previous years, that was a game we could so easily have lost.

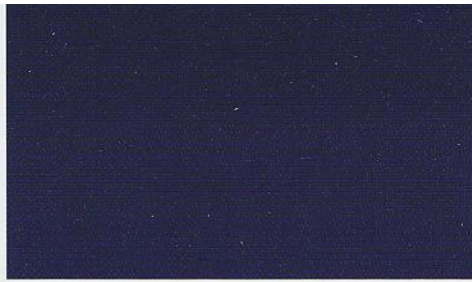
Harlequins put us under a lot of pressure, which was something that Newport didn't do. We had to raise our game to a level that perhaps we hadn't reached against Newport, but that was down to the quality of opposition. I am just pleased that we will not look back at this game and say, "what if?".

In the first half of last season, away from home, we lost to Saracens by four points, London Irish by four points and Newcastle by two points. They were all games that we felt we should have got something out of, but didn't. This year we did.

We have set our benchmark, and now it is up to us, as a squad, to perform consistently to that level. We are building on what we achieved towards the back end of last year. We set standards last year by winning at home and away and in the Championship Final and we want to push on from that.

Before the game, the press were all writing about us as Premiership contenders and that is their job. No rugby had been played so there were very few stories other than hype. I am glad that now the first weekend is out of the way and there are games being played, as well as a few upsets to talk about, that we can just get on with our jobs and concentrate on the rugby.

The Premiership as a whole has become even more competitive. Squads have strengthened their resources well and this will be a very tough league to win. I think that Leeds proved on Saturday, and many teams will follow throughout the season, that on their day any team is capable of beating any other.



This week Marcel Garvey has grabbed a lot of headlines but, here at Kingsholm, we have known about his talent for a long time. He has a huge amount of natural talent and has been given his opportunity in the squad. He will get chances in this team and if he keeps his head down and works hard, I'm sure that he will play a lot of rugby for this Club.

Our opponents today, the Sharks, will bring with them enough quality to provide us with another stern test. They have match winners throughout the side, but I think we have shown enough to suggest that we too have quality in depth.

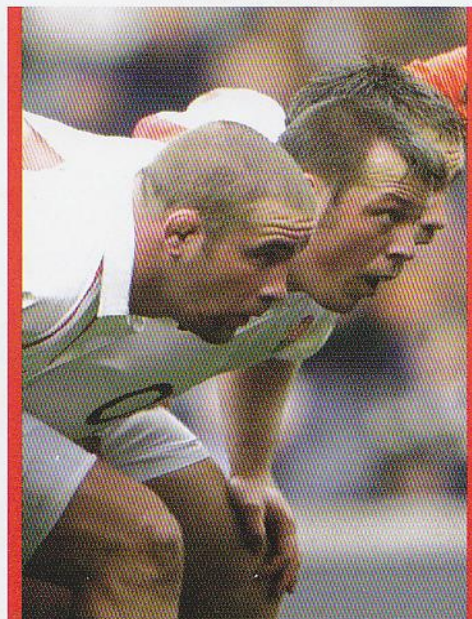
We are at home, in our first Premiership fixture of the season, which brings its own pressures from within the squad and from the supporters outside. Of course we want to play our best rugby all the time but I think we all know that that may not happen. We have prepared

**I AM JUST PLEASED THAT WE WILL NOT LOOK BACK AT THIS GAME AND SAY, "WHAT IF ?".**

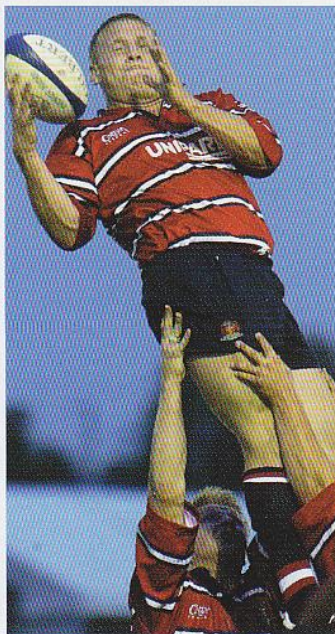
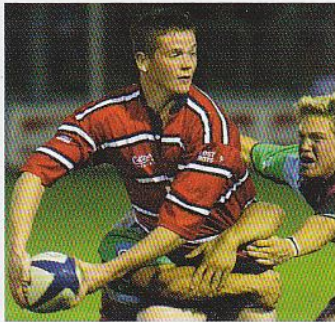
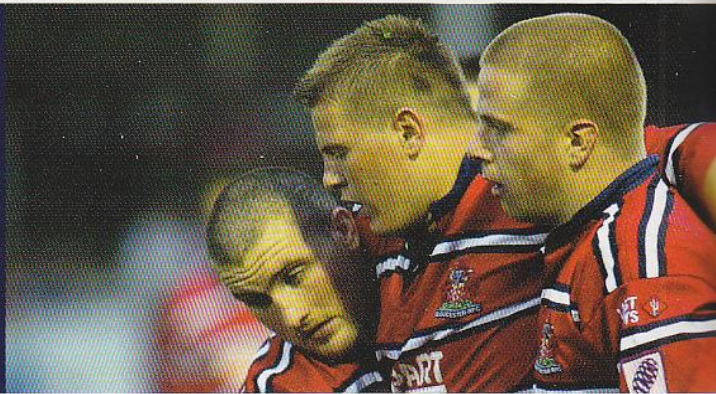
well and hopefully at three o'clock this afternoon when the whistle blows we will all be on top of our game.

We have worked hard all summer and now is the time to show it. ■

Phil Vickery in action for England this summer







This season saw the inauguration of the joint England-Gloucester Rugby Academy.

This jointly run Academy is part of the RFU's World-class performance plan to help England win the World Cup in 2007 by developing a structure to help the most talented 16-21 year old rugby players. All 12 Zurich Premiership clubs have secured franchises to run a Regional Academy and two more have been created on split sites in the West Midlands at Worcester RFC and Birmingham University and in South West Further Education Colleges at Truro in Cornwall and Ivybridge, Exeter and Barnstaple in Devon. Each Academy has a manager and assistant manager who will be responsible for implementing a programme of training, support programmes and personal guidance aimed at making the most of each player's ability.

Former Worcester Academy Manager Carl Douglas is the man charged with finding, and coaching the next generation of James Simpson-Daniel's and James Forrester's.

Said Douglas, "We are lucky that we have a very strong rugby situation locally and our relationships with the local Clubs is such that the young players are coming to Gloucester and working their way through the ranks. This means that there is a

stream of young talent available to the senior Club in the region".

Douglas also paid special tribute to the work done at local junior Clubs that has enabled these players to step up to a professional arena.

"Without the work and excellent coaching done at the local Clubs, these boys would not have the skills and attitude to make the step up. They are now at the bottom rung of a new ladder, rather than being at the top of an old one. Having said that, they would not be where they are without the support of their local Clubs and we must recognise that", he added.

The U21 Academy organised a tough pre-season schedule with games away against Pontypridd and Llanelli along with a tough physical encounter with local side Old Pats in order to prepare thoroughly for their League campaign that kicked off at Kingsholm last Friday.

The Academy enjoyed an inauspicious start to their pre-season as they went down to a strong Pontypridd side. This was followed by another loss to Old Pats and again the Academy came away empty handed from their trip to Llanelli's Stray Park.

They began their League season 0-for-3 as the young Harlequins team

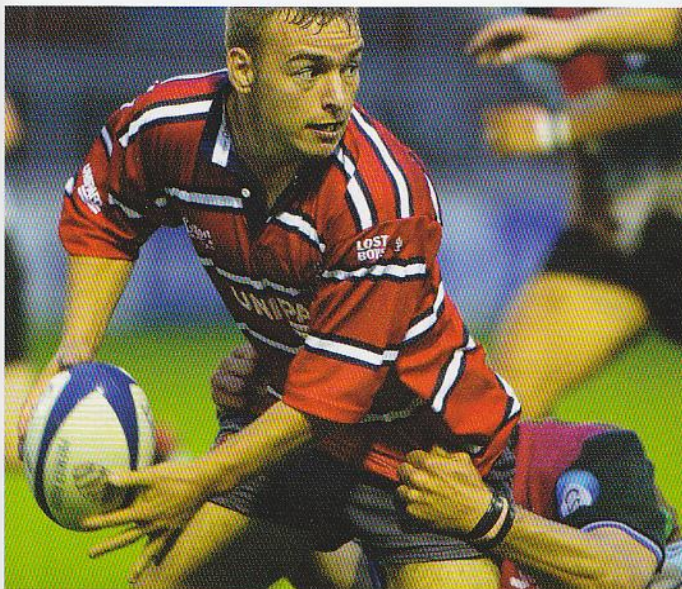


# ACADEMY

v Quinns

entered Kingsholm. 700 people though saw the young Academy side, through the efforts of Brad Davies, who looks a star in the making at Fly-half and a strong forward effort led by try scorer and Captain Peter Knight in the back row, hold on for a crucial victory 23-17.

Scrum-half Dan Parr scored two more individual tries but on the whole the Academy coaches were pleased to get off to a winning start, particularly in front of the home fans.





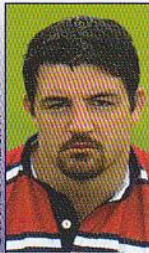
Simon Amor



**Position:** Halfback  
**DoB:** 25.04.79  
**Height:** 1.69m  
**Weight:** 72Kg  
**Previous Club:** Cambridge University  
**International Honours:** England 7's

The graduate in Management Studies has joined Gloucester to provide essential cover at both half-back positions. Amor made a name for himself last season by being the only non-contracted player to play regularly in the England 7's squad. He was a member of the squad that triumphed in Hong Kong, where he contributed 13 points, including a solo try, in the final, and is part of the Commonwealth games squad.

Oliver Azam



**Position:** Hooker/Prop  
**DoB:** 21/10/74  
**Height:** 1.87  
**Weight:** 117  
**Previous Club:** Montferand  
**International Honours:** France, France (A)

Strong French forward who enjoys the game's physical nature. Can play comfortably in any of the front row positions. One of Azam's greatest assets is his strength in the loose. He is a recognised ball carrier who makes the hard yards. Became an instant favourite with the fans with his 100% commitment to the Gloucester cause, but has learnt in recent months how to curb his competitive streak.

Tom Beim



**Position:** Wing  
**DoB:** 11/12/76  
**Height:** 1.83  
**Weight:** 86.6  
**Previous Club:** Sale  
**International Honours:** England

Beim endured another season of injury heartbreak as he was sidelined for 11 months after a shoulder operation. His determination got him back to match fitness a month earlier than expected and he made a come back against Wasps in April 2002. Such was his end of season form that he claimed a place on England's summer tour to Argentina.

Lake Boer



**Position:** Flanker  
**DoB:** 01/11/75  
**Height:** 1.87  
**Weight:** 103.4  
**Previous Club:** London Irish  
**International Honours:**

Joined Gloucester after being named London Irish's player of the season 99/00. Bullocking South African who took a while to settle but has since earned the respect of players and fans alike with his honesty and commitment to the Gloucester cause. His desire to win gets him in to situations that are over and above the call of duty as his never-say-die attitude wins through. Strong tackler who works tirelessly in the loose.

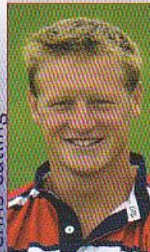
Peter Buxton



**Position:** Back Row  
**DoB:** 21.08.78  
**Height:** 193cm  
**Weight:** 108kg  
**Previous Club:** Newport  
**International Honours:** England A

After chasing his man for some time Nigel Melville was very pleased to announce Buxton as the first of his summer signings. Can play either blind side or number eight. Started his career at Cheltenham before moving to Moseley. After a successful spell there, he moved to Welsh side Newport and was an ever present in the Heineken Cup for the Welsh side last season. Buxton was also called up for the England A Six Nations Squad this season.

Chris Catling



**Position:** Full Back  
**DoB:** 17/06/76  
**Height:** 1.87  
**Weight:** 90  
**Previous Club:** Exeter  
**International Honours:** England (A)

The supporter's player of the year in 2000-01, Catling missed much of last season with a shoulder injury sustained whilst scoring a try in the Premiership at home to Bristol in November. He has fought his way back to fitness and remains one of the Premiership's most devastating strike runner in attack and his defence is second to none. Very safe under the high ball and is a fearless tackler.

Patrice Collazo



**Position:** Prop  
**DoB:** 27/04/74  
**Height:** 1.85 m  
**Weight:** 108 kg  
**Previous Club:** Stade Francais  
**International Honours:** France

Strong, gnarly, French loose-head prop who was originally signed on a one year deal from Stade Francais. He provided healthy competition in the already combative front row as he became known as one of the Premiership's strongest scrummagers. He has since signed an extension on his contract to keep him at Kingsholm for at least another season.

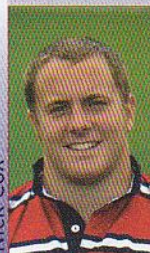
Mark Cornwell



**Position:** lock  
**DoB:** 22/03/73  
**Height:** 2.01  
**Weight:** 110  
**Previous Club:** Old Richians  
**International Honours:** England A

Local boy who came up through the junior ranks. Last season 'Pasty' played some of the best rugby of his Gloucester career and played his way back into international contention until a broken wrist against Bath in May ended his season. Gloucester will, once again, look to the giant lock to secure lineout possession and help lead the younger players.

Nick Cox



**Position:** Prop  
**DoB:** 01/01/82  
**Height:** 1.82m  
**Weight:** 111kg  
**Previous Club:** GRFC Academy  
**International Honours:** Eng U21, U19 Eng Schools

Joined Gloucester after starring for the England U18 group. Because of his size and strength, Nick's promise was identified early and he made the break through into the first team against Roma in the Heineken Cup in 2000-01. Has had little 1st team exposure in recent times but was still good enough to gain selection for the England U21's SANZAR tour this summer.



Andy Deacon



**Position:** Prop  
**DoB:** 31/7/65  
**Height:** 1.88  
**Weight:** 108  
**Previous Club:** Longlevens

**International Honours:** England A, Barbarians

Former drayman, who was the first Gloucester player to receive a Testimonial year. Few players have made the transition from amateur to professional status so successfully and Deacon admits to being fitter than ever. Signed another one year extension to his contract and will provide excellent support and experience in the front row in his fifteenth season with the Club.

Thinus Delpoit



**Position:** Fullback/Wing  
**DoB:** 02.02.75  
**Height:** 188cm  
**Weight:** 98kg  
**Previous Club:** Sharks

**International Honours:** South Africa, 12caps

Twelve times capped Springbok with blistering pace and powerful running ability. He scored a staggering 20 tries in 22 matches for the Lions under Laurie Mains. At the beginning of this season's Super 12 series before moving across to the Sharks, Thinus Delpoit had achieved more caps (38) for the Golden Cats (Super 12), than any other player. He had also represented the Golden Lions provisional side 63 times scoring 47 tries.

Adam Eustace

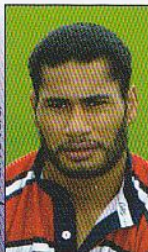


**Position:** Lock  
**DoB:** 09/01/79  
**Height:** 1.96  
**Weight:** 102  
**Previous Club:** Widden Old Boys

**International Honours:** Eng A U19 U21

Former Colt who is one of the new breed of strong, mobile, second rows. Moved from the back row to his new position so successfully he was invited to join up with the English development squad last season. Was enjoying a great start to last season until he cruelly broke his leg against Ebbw Vale in the Parker Pen Shield. He has returned fitter and stronger and is keen to make a big impact this season.

Terry Fanolua



**Position:** Centre  
**DoB:** 03/07/74  
**Height:** 1.83  
**Weight:** 87.0  
**Previous Club:** Auckland Otahuhu

**International Honours:** Manu Samoa

One of the cult figures of the Gloucester side. He shaved off his distinctive dreadlocks after the Championship final at Twickenham, but has retained his hunger for the game. As distinctive as his appearance was his commitment in the tackle. Has played in every position in the Gloucester back line except scrum-half although prefers a role at centre. He seemed to enjoy a resurgence in form at the end of last season.

Rob Fidler



**Position:** lock  
**DoB:** 21/09/74  
**Height:** 1.96  
**Weight:** 112.5  
**Previous Club:** Cheltenham

**International Honours:** England

Excellent number two jumper who has started to come of age in the last two seasons. Gloucester look to the ever dependable Fidler to continue his great work in the line out and in the tight as he admits to doing much of the donkey-work during a game. His form was consistent enough last season to gain selection on the England tour to Argentina this summer.

James Forrester



**Position:** No.8  
**DoB:** 09/02/81  
**Height:** 1.95 m  
**Weight:** 98.4 kg  
**Previous Club:** Bicester

**International Honours:** Eng A, Eng U21, Eng 7 Eng v Barbarians

Enjoyed many highlights last year including an England sevens cap and a try for England against the Barbarians last June. A tall, agile player who can play in any of the positions in the back row. James is an excellent ball handler who can provide the essential link between forwards and backs. Has shown he is more than capable this season, and has a great knack of scoring tries.

Chris Fortey



**Position:** Hooker  
**DoB:** 25/08/75  
**Height:** 1.83  
**Weight:** 106  
**Previous Club:** Gordon League

**International Honours:** England A, Eng Tour Squad 2001

Local born hooker who continues to make the grade at first team level. His consistency last year undoubtedly helped Gloucester in the set piece. Has an excellent command of the basic hooking skills and his accuracy and tireless work will be a great asset, once again to the Cherry and Whites. As long as he and Azam stay fit, the competition to be the number one, number two will be intense.

Josh Frabe



**Position:** Wing / Scrum Half  
**DoB:** 23/02/80  
**Height:** 1.83 m  
**Weight:** 90 kg  
**Previous Club:** GRFC Academy

**International Honours:** England Students

Josh's bid to make the breakthrough 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 searing pace, on the wing. His versatility will serve him well this year.

Marcel Garvey



**Position:** Wing  
**DoB:** 21/04/83  
**Height:** 1.77 m  
**Weight:** 80.3 kg  
**Previous Club:** Widden Old Boys

**International Honours:** Eng U19 Eng Schools

A former U19 international whose power and pace belie his size. His greatest asset is his pace and has been described by many coaches as 'A natural try scorer'. He has made a huge try-scoring impact every time he has played this pre-season and recent form suggests that the best is yet to come from this former St Peter's schoolboy. Will provide extra competition out wide.



Jon Goodridge



**Position:** Fly Half/  
Full Back  
**DoB:** 26/02/81  
**Height:** 1.86m  
**Weight:** 84kg  
**Previous Club:** GRFC Academy  
**International Honours:** Eng U21

Rangy Full Back who made his debut against 2000-01 against London Irish. Played his early rugby at Fly-Half but made the very successful switch whilst playing for the GRFC Academy. Is very strong in defence and under the high ball but also has the ability to counter attack effectively, given space. Toured with the England U21 to the SANZAR tournament this summer, but a shoulder injury cut short his trip.

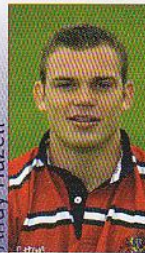
Andy Gomersall



**Position:** Scrum Half  
**DoB:** 24/7/74  
**Height:** 1.77  
**Weight:** 86.2  
**Previous Club:** Bedford  
**International Honours:** England

Joined Gloucester two seasons ago from relegated Bedford. In a dismal season for them he was a beacon of light and joined Gloucester to re-establish himself with the England selectors. Towards the end of last season he has recaptured his international form by going back to basics and toured Argentina as first choice for England last summer.

Andy Hazell



**Position:** Flanker  
**DoB:** 25/04/78  
**Height:** 1.83  
**Weight:** 92.0  
**Previous Club:** Gloucester Old Boys  
**International Honours:** England A

Former Gloucester colt who, this season, will hold the mantle as Gloucester's senior open side. Last season was curtailed by a cruel knee injury but after six-months out he has returned fitter, stronger and a yard quicker. Needs match practice to get the full benefit of his training regime but hopes to make a big impression this season.

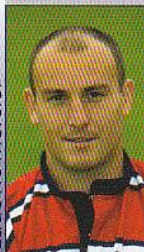
Mark Irish



**Position:** Prop  
**DoB:** 25/08/81  
**Height:** 1.84 m  
**Weight:** 101 kg  
**Previous Club:** Bridgwater  
**International Honours:** Eng U21

Former England U21 prop, who toured with the SANZAR squad this summer to South Africa. After impressing in the Club's U21 side, Irish signed professional terms this season and many are interested to see what effect a full season of training and coaching will improve this former Bridgwater player.

Ludovic Mercier



**Position:** Fly Half  
**DoB:** 01/11/76  
**Height:** 1.79 m  
**Weight:** 85 kg  
**Previous Club:** Aurillac  
**International Honours:**

Left footed French Fly-half who joined Gloucester from little known Aurillac with a glowing reputation. Finished as second highest point scorer in the Premiership and has topped 500 points in all competitions last season. Under the tutelage of and Nigel Melville he has started to develop his running game to increase Gloucester's attacking options. Can turn defence into attack with one hefty blow.

Durran Murray



**Position:** Centre  
**DoB:** 22/10/81  
**Height:** 1.84 m  
**Weight:** 94 kg  
**International Honours:** Eng Students  
Welsh School U18©  
Welsh Youth U18  
Welsh 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 last year. Has a physical approach to the game and his willingness to fight for the hard yards when attacking and defending have certainly impressed. Reads the game well and can create space for those around him.

Darren O'Leary



**Position:** Wing  
**DoB:** 27/06/73  
**Height:** 1.82 m  
**Weight:** 91 kg  
**Previous Club:** Harlequins  
**International Honours:** England A, 7's  
England U16, U18  
England Students

Described as a Rolls Royce of a winger, O'Leary's record speaks for itself. He remains the Premiership's all time top try scorer, proving that, not only can he score tries, but that he can do it consistently. He may have lost a yard of pace but his experience and nose for an opportunity make him still one of the game's most lethal finishers. Will have a good battle on his hands to hold down a starting place.

Junior Paramore



**Position:** Back Row  
**DoB:** 18/11/68  
**Height:** 1.99  
**Weight:** 104  
**Previous Club:** Bedford  
**International Honours:** Manu Samoa

Talisman of the Gloucester pack. With a smile as broad as his shoulders Paramore remains one of the game's most popular players. Converted from centre, he still binds the Gloucester pack in the tight and in the loose he remains one of the game's strongest runners. Has aged well and continues as one of the elder statesmen of the side. Gloucester will look to Junior to utilise all his experience this season.

Henry Paul

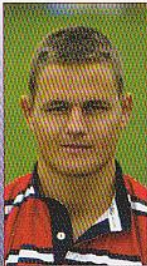


**Position:** Utility back  
**DoB:** 10/02/74  
**Height:** 1.80m  
**Weight:** 94.6kg  
**Previous Club:** Bradford Bulls  
**International Honours:** Eng, Eng A  
Eng 7

Rugby League legend who won almost every honour in the league game. Joined Gloucester at the end of last season's Super League competition. Expectations were high and perhaps this detracted from Paul's on-field performances. His form towards the end of last season suggest that the best is yet to come from the former Bradford Bull, who won his first international cap against France. Was a revelation at the sevens game.



Ed Pearce



**Position:** Back Row  
**DoB:** 02/09/75  
**Height:** 2.01  
**Weight:** 118.5  
**Previous Club:** Bath  
**International Honours:** England A

A giant of a man, who, after a season in the wilderness worked extremely hard last year and returned fitter and stronger than ever. Was determined to make an impact last year and has revelled in a new role of lock. Was rewarded with a place in the England squad for the tour match against the Barbarians and but for injury would have toured Argentina.

James Simpson-Daniel



**Position:** Fly-half  
**DoB:** 30-05-82  
**Height:** 1.82m  
**Weight:** 78kg  
**Previous Club:** GRFC Academy  
**Representative Honours:** England 7's U21, U19, Eng v Barbarians

Joined GRFC Academy as an 18-year old. Last season, his rise was nothing short of meteoric. Became an integral part of the England Sevens squad, scoring a match winning hat trick in the final of the Hong Kong tournament. His performances throughout the season lead to selection in the non-cap international against the Barbarians, in which he scored the try of the match, rounding Jonah Lomu on his way to a touchdown by the corner flag.

Clive Stuart-Smith



**Position:** Scrum Half  
**DoB:** 17/05/83  
**Height:** 1.73 m  
**Weight:** 80 kg  
**Previous Club:** GRFC Academy  
**International Honours:** 2000 – 2001: GRFC Academy Int Hons Eng U19, Eng Schools

A local boy who signed professional terms last season. His strengths lie in his dedication to the arts of scrum-half play. His service is excellent and his box kicking and sniping at the base of the scrum have made him a formidable opponent. England U19 Captain, missed the FIRA World Cup through injury but fought back to fitness and earned a start against Newport. Nigel Melville is an admirer of the youngster and much is expected of him in the future.

Robert Todd



**Position:** Centre  
**DoB:** 19/04/71  
**Height:** 1.80m  
**Weight:** 96.6  
**Previous Club:** London Irish  
**International Honours:**

Missed much of his first season at Kingsholm with a cruel foot injury. Came back fitter, stronger and desperate to succeed last year. His strength in the tackle make him a formidable opponent and his defence is very solid. Shows a versatility and agility that belie his size and build.

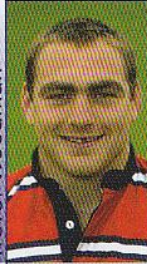
Phil Vickery



**Position:** Tight Head Prop  
**DoB:** 14/03/76  
**Height:** 1.91m  
**Weight:** 125kg  
**Previous Club:** Bude/Redruth  
**International Honours:** Eng, British Lions 3 Caps

Monster of a prop born in Cornwall, whose reputation was further enhanced after leading England to victory in Argentina this summer. Was part of the British Lions tests team in Australia in 2001, and is fast becoming one of the best Tight Head's in the game. Is a powerful scrummager and has handling and running skills that would make the best three-quarter jealous. Second season as Gloucester Captain.

Trevor Woodman



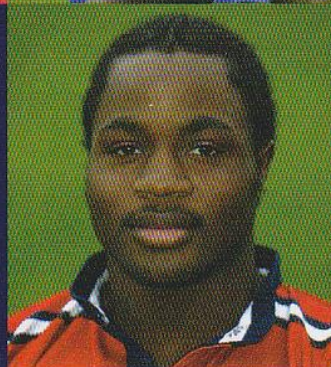
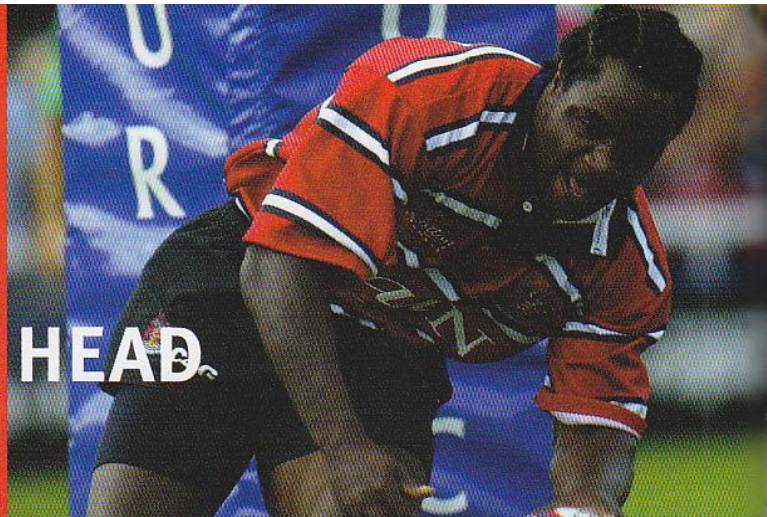
**Position:** Loose Head Prop  
**DoB:** 04/08/76  
**Height:** 1.83m  
**Weight:** 115kg  
**Previous Club:** Bath  
**International Honours:** England

One of the enigmas of the Gloucester side. Has skills and ability to be one of the best loose-heads in the game. Has a great turn of pace in the loose that have caused the England management to try him out as hooker. One suspects that this should be a big season for Woodman and if he remains injury free he may reach new levels in the cherry of Gloucester and White of England.





# HEAD TO HEAD



## Marcel Garvey - Gloucester

**Height** 1.77m

**Weight** 80kgs

**Date of Birth** 21-04-83

**Int Hons** Eng U19's

**Previous Club** Widden Old Boys

The head to head returns this year and today's spotlight focuses on two players who are still very new to the game.

For Sale Mark Cueto burst on to the Premiership scene in his first season as a professional last term. He earned a reputation as being a speedster with a handy knack of scoring crucial tries.

For Gloucester our subject is even more

### Marcel Garvey

#### Strengths

Marcel Garvey has the physique of a sprinter. He is stocky, has a low centre of gravity and a natural ability to move short distances at a very high speed. Genuine pace is his biggest asset and the one thing that defences can never plan for. Aligned to this he has the ability to change direction in a single stride, which make him very difficult to stop. Given any space in broken play and he is lethal.

#### Weaknesses

Other than a handful of appearances as a substitute last season, Garvey is still a genuine novice at this level. His inexperience was nearly costly last weekend as he was targeted by a Quins back line who sought to turn him and make him play from deep. His kicking game also needs work, but as a quick learner Garvey is quickly becoming the genuine article.

#### High Points

"Probably the England U18 tour to Australia. We beat them in the test match, and just to be involved in that squad was a great experience. Also being part of the FIRA U19

World Cup squad last spring was another step up", says Garvey.

"For Gloucester, playing against Leeds and scoring a try at home and obviously getting my first Premiership start and getting a try was good too", he added.

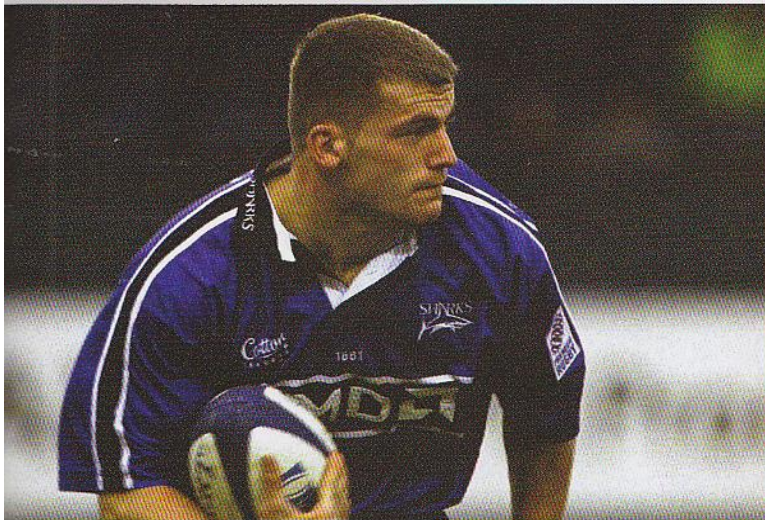
#### Low points

Garvey's inclusion in the successful U18 tour was put in some doubt whilst he suffered from a back injury. Fortunately he went on the pre-season tour with the Gloucester 1st XV and his back healed itself. The rest as they say is history.

#### Garvey on Sale

Last week was my first Premiership start and to top it all, I scored a try. I have spoken to Nigel and I know that I still have a lot to work on. It would be an honour to run out at Kingsholm against Sale and play in front of The Shed. I have only played here for the 1st team twice before against Leeds and Caerphilly. I would just like the chance to get on at some point and have a positive impact for the team".





inexperienced. For those outside Kingsholm, Marcel Garvey is a relative stranger. He has made somewhat of an impact during the pre-season with five tries in two games against Newport, and Gloucester's opener against Quins last Saturday.

Both have the ability to make something out of nothing, and both, if included in the squad, will be worth watching today.



**Mark Cueto - The Sharks**

**Nickname** Cuets

**Height** 1.83m

**Weight** 90kgs

**Date of Birth** 26-12-79

**Int Hons Eng A**, 7's

**Previous Club** Altringham Kersall

**Mark Cueto**

**Strengths**

By his own admission, Cueto is a have-a-go sort of player. He enjoys having the ball in his hands and loves nothing more than exploiting the wide-open spaces in broken play. His confidence and skills were further boosted by selection to the England Sevens team. "I like to go forward rather than back. I like to have a go and with our squad, that suits our game plan. We have backs and forwards in the side that can back up this style of play", says Cueto.

**Weaknesses**

Having played only one season at 1st team level, Cueto understands that he still has much to work on. His all-round game will continue to improve as his experience grows. "I work on everything in training, but a key focus of mine is to keep involved throughout the game. Sometimes on the wing, you can drift and then not be ready for the pass. I just work on my concentration to make sure I can always give an option to someone", says Cueto.

**Highs**

"Last season was my first as a professional, so I haven't

been around that long. Just being involved with Sale last year was brilliant, particularly with the Parker Pen Shield win and the League finish", said Cueto.

"Also being selected for the international tour last summer was great. It was a great experience to be involved and be seen. I got to know the coaches and the players, most of whom I hadn't played with or against before", he added.

**Low Points.**

Such was Cueto's rise to prominence in his first year that his rather quick feet haven't touched the ground and he hasn't had time to dwell on many low points.

**Cueto on Gloucester**

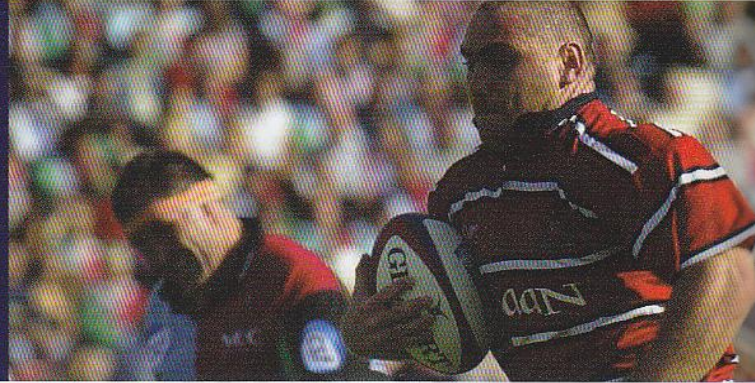
"I think it is going to be fun. There are no easy games in the Premiership and we know that Gloucester at Kingsholm will be another great challenge. We played each other four times last season, so we know a lot about each other, Gloucester like to play with their huge pack of forwards so we have developed a game plan to cope with this". "We know all about the atmosphere at Kingsholm and it can be intimidating, but you have to thrive on it as a player and to be honest listening to all the banter can be quite fun".



**B B C**

One down, twenty-one to go. It was nice to see so many supporters among the 7,000 at The Stoop, even if they had to ride something

justified. As it was, Woodman's try was the bonus, and proved that all the players now have to have a good range of awareness and skills.



of a roller coaster until Trevor Woodman's late try. My over-riding impression was that Quins had more shape, but two pieces of opportunism, and one old fashioned catch and drive were enough for a very useful opening day win.

Speaking to Nigel Melville on a regular basis, the "professionalism" he demands from the players seems to have gone up a notch, even from last season. Only skipper Phil Vickery was allowed to do any media interviews ahead of the Harlequins game, and Melville has instigated new rules about the players' rehabilitation - which even includes a ban on alcohol on the team bus after matches. One wonder what the players of a generation ago would make of it, but every little idea that might give Gloucester a small % advantage has to be grasped.

Team selection this season too, may not be so obvious, but more on a "horses for courses" basis. Ludovic Mercier's 500 points last season may have been of immense value THEN, but I get the impression this season he'll not be an automatic choice. Tactically against some sides, (such as last Saturday) he'll merely be a "bench" option if the game needs closing up. Even if Burke's drop goal had won the match, Nigel's reshuffle of the back division when Marcel Garvey was withdrawn would have been

Today's game marks the start of nine months rugby at Kingsholm, and I understand from "our Ken" that whatever the club decide to do about the future of the ground, we're likely to be here for at least a couple more seasons. I've rarely met a man as thorough as Ken Nottage in his approach to any project, and the bigger it is, the more he seems to thrive on its demands.

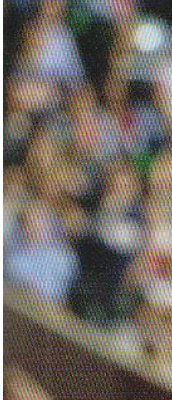
I'm sure you are aware of the issues, but Kingsholm cannot stand still while they are sorted out - the new roof on the main stand this summer is the clearest example of that. I know Ken has several options on the table, and one of his prime concerns is the financial impact on the club - not only how much will it cost, but how long will it take to pay for?

I recently went to Crewe Alexandra for their Division 2 match with Cheltenham, and their example is one Gloucester might do well to look at. Their site is not unlike Kingsholm, tight on three sides but with room on the fourth. Their new main stand, which seats 6,500, shows what can be done with careful design and prudent management. The main stand side at Kingsholm has a small capacity for the area it covers, and surely ought to be the first area to be looked at if the club decide a piecemeal redevelopment of the current site is the preferred option. It does seem odd welcoming "The Sharks" for this match. Sale? Of course.



"Manchester Sale" seemed a pointless change, as rugby in Manchester itself has little history of note. Sale Sharks ? Better -

Elsewhere last weekend, Leicester's defeat at Leeds stood out, but it's never a good idea to read too much into opening day



certainly better than "The Sharks" anyway, but that's just a personal view.

The team itself deserves respect, despite three wins by Gloucester in four meetings last season. The Sharks' squad hasn't changed much, and their strengths remain in a fast and loose game with powerful broken play runners. They don't need a lot of possession to make a match of it, so the performance of the Gloucester pack will be important as usual, and (one or two incidents apart) the line out will need to be tidier than it was at The Stoop.

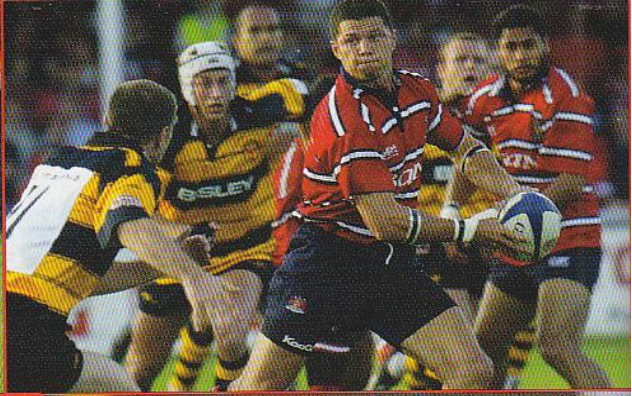
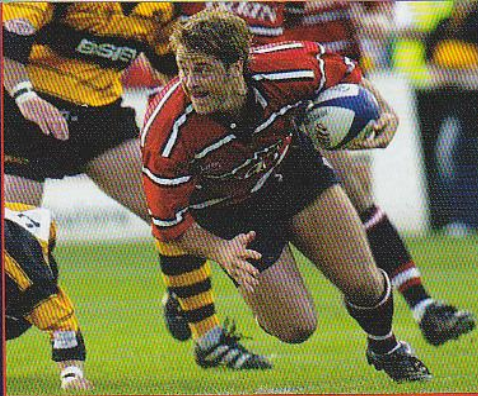
results. Flying starts often fade, and slow ones can be deceptive. Come Christmas I'd expect Northampton and Wasps to be showing up well and maybe Bristol and Newcastle, along with Leeds, to face a demanding second half of the season if they're to stay in touch.

Meanwhile, for now, it's.....

C'mon Glaws !

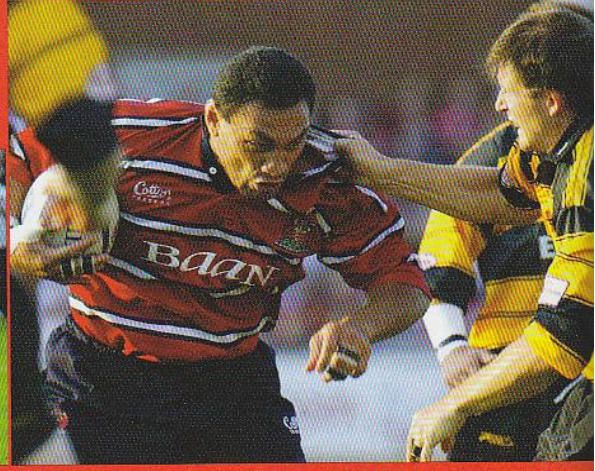
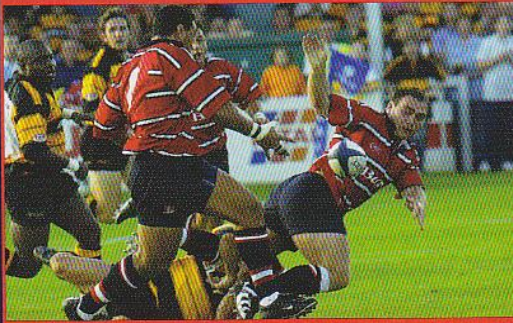






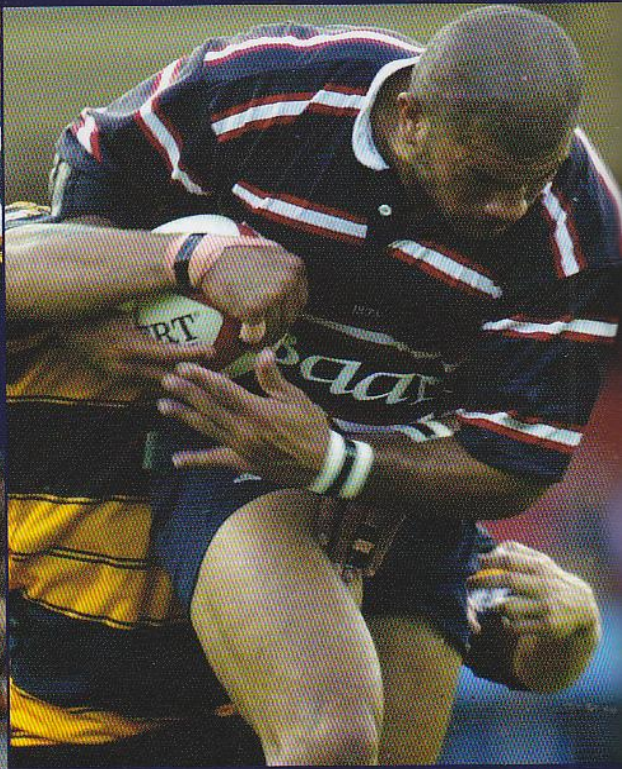
## GRFC V NEWPORT

HOME

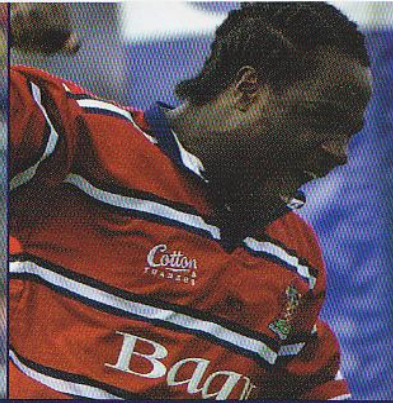
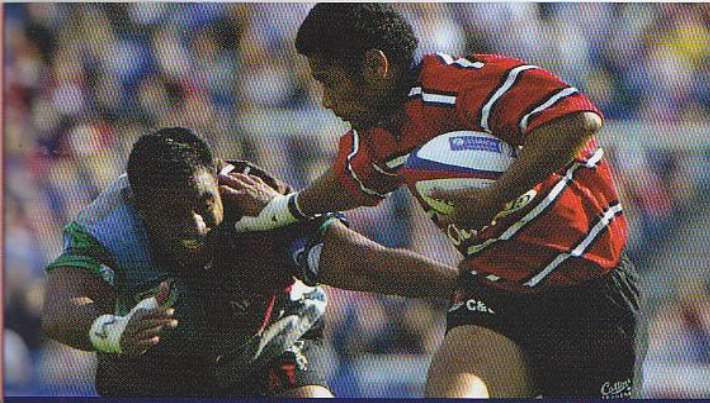


## NEWPORT V GRFC

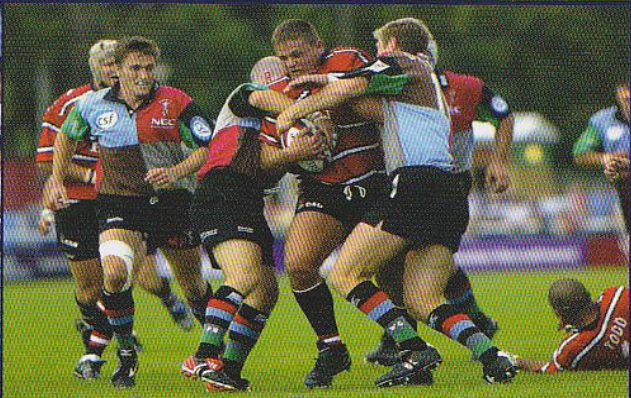
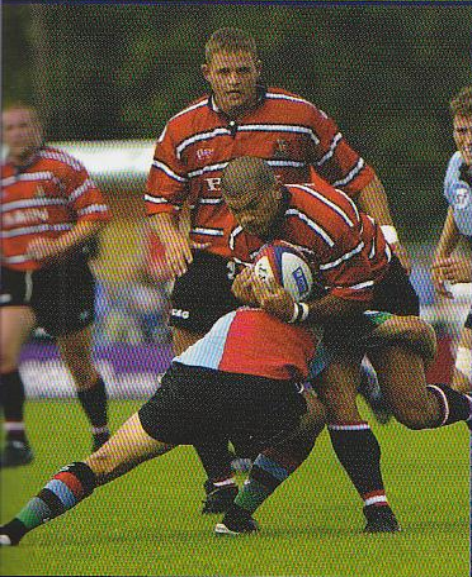
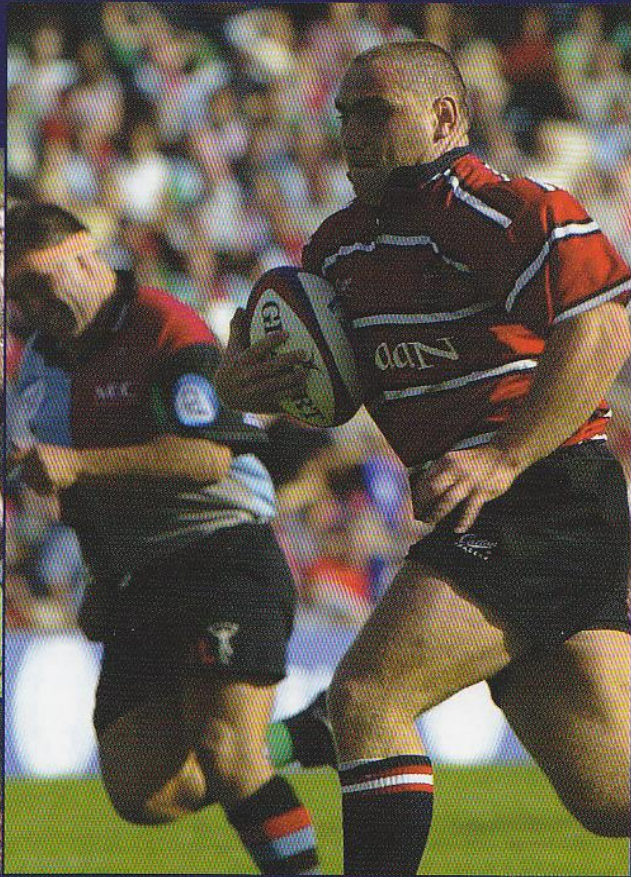
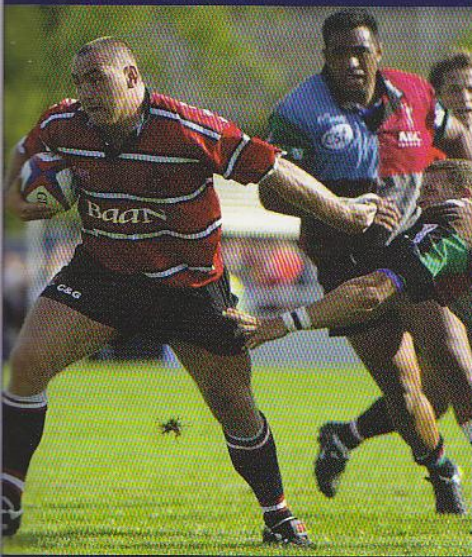
AWAY







**'QUINS V GRFC**  
AWAY





# SHED HEAD

## An ex-fanzine editor writes... A view from the terraces

This season marks a huge change for me. No not scribbling a few words for the programme, I've done that a few times in the past, rather being inside the ground before 2:59pm for the first time in years.

The reason? Not standing outside the bar (always a torture on a hot day) with an arm load of Shedheads. After a lot of thought and a good deal of soul-searching I've decided that I could not go on with it in its old format. There are a lot of reasons, but mainly because Matthew, my eight-year old son, is now in his second year as a season ticket holder, and it makes it very hard to

bring him to the games and stand outside to the last possible minute.


I am immensely proud of what we achieved with the magazine - not least paying for the restoration of the club war memorial. When we took it away it was in terrible condition, look at it today (it's in the clubhouse) and you can see why we are proud. I would also thank everyone who paid for a copy of Shedhead over the years, and for all the warmth and goodwishes we received.

Anyway, when James Bennett asked me to pen something for him I was flattered. And I thought by adding my few words at least there would be something in the programme worth reading for a change! Actually that was a bit harsh, I know that from talking to James and Charlie that a lot of effort has gone in to making this a decent magazine. Hopefully we will all agree that their efforts have paid off.

It's been a bit of a funny summer, hasn't it - and am I the only one who feels badly let down by Gloucester Rugby Club already? I mean, what kind of a summer was that. Where were the headlines about players not talking to coaches? Where were the strikes, the walkouts, and the threat of insurrection in the streets?







This time last year the season was already in turmoil. A member of the coaching staff had seemingly set himself up as a revolutionary leader and sent his foot soldiers out to overthrow the management. The revolution failed and the militant was sent into exile - or Worcester - which, on balance, is probably worse.

Players were coming and going so fast that we even began to feel sorry for Ken Nottage having to write all those contracts and P45s out one after the other. The most dangerous place in the world to be was by the revolving door outside his office - the slipstream from that would take your breath away.

Back then people we had never heard of were turning up claiming to be rugby players - (I remember scanning the internet for news of some guy called Ludovic Mercier and finding half a dozen lunatic murderers instead) from all parts of the globe. Phil Vickery summed it all up when he said that it made a change to come back to the club and found that he knew the names of all the players!

And what have had this year? Zip, nada, diddlyquat, nothing. My subscription to the Gloucester Citizen was a complete waste of money. Even poor old Downey was reduced to writing about cricket.

Don't our management realise that the summer is a very long time indeed? What are we supposed to do with ourselves if we can't fret about the impending, and inevitable, demise of our favourite rugby club. At least Pucci had a go at creating a little mayhem when he played follow my ex-leader to Boirgoine conveniently forgetting that he had already agreed a Gloucester contract.

But we have made a couple of smart signings. Thinus Delport for a start, what a player he is. What's more he walks straight

in to an obvious nickname - welcome to Kingsholm Delboy! And we've been giving a trial to a young Argentinean prop Rodrigo Roncero, if we sign him up we'll have Rodders as well! Now if Uncle Tom could change his name to Albert....

But that was then and this is now, the season has started and I'm already in trouble on the home front. It's not my fault that my better half made an arrangement for the day of the first game of the season is it. She must have known that trying to organise anything on a Saturday between the end of August and the middle of June is a waste of time. Anyway I have made it all up by promising a number of pleasant weekends away - Ireland, south west France and northern Italy are my suggested destinations for the time being.

Another sure sign that the rugby season is underway is the total lack of fingernails. Every year I promise myself that I will not get that stressed, every year I fail miserably. This year they went even faster than usual though. Twenty minutes into the game at The Stoop, 10 - 0 down with Burke about to kick a penalty they were gone already. I'll be chewing me knuckles by the end of the month at this rate!

Today we welcome The Sharks - not Sale anymore apparently. They will be on high after getting a win in their first match against a highly fancied Northampton outfit, and will want a bit of revenge for last season - we beat them on three out of four meetings, remember.

I think last season Robinson, Hanley and Cueto were all among the top five try scorers in the league - if I remember rightly, Hanley scored more tries than the total amassed by Bath (am I allowed to use bad language in a family programme?) all season. With attacking options like that at their disposal they will continue to be a threat.

*I'm confident, though. With any luck I can let my nails grow a bit this week.*



# Peter Arnol

## WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT SO FAR ?

Well - we started with a win. A nervy, scrambling sort of affair, to be sure, but a win nevertheless. Perhaps the closeness of the result was, in part, our fault - the fault of you and me, the supporters.

Ever since the events of last May, culminating over that memorable Championship win at Twickenham, we have been piling trainloads of expectations on the players and the management, fondly imagining that we were going to cruise past all opposition in this coming season. The two Newport matches only compounded that illusion, and the level of hopes and aspirations reached high-temperature fever pitch.

Just imagine the pressure this has applied to the players. They have a hard enough job as it is, and to carry that sort of load on to the field is another disadvantage they could well do without.

It must be equally hard for Nigel Melville. Great coach that he is, he has, as far as I know, never had to work in an area where the rugby team means so much: where the fortunes of the side has such a marked effect on the morale and feel-good atmosphere of the whole City. It must be quite a culture shock for him.

He can, however, point to several plus factors in last week's win at the Stoop. To start with, it was an away match, and we all know how hard it has been, over the past few seasons, for us to cope with the stresses of being separated from Kingsholm. We can all

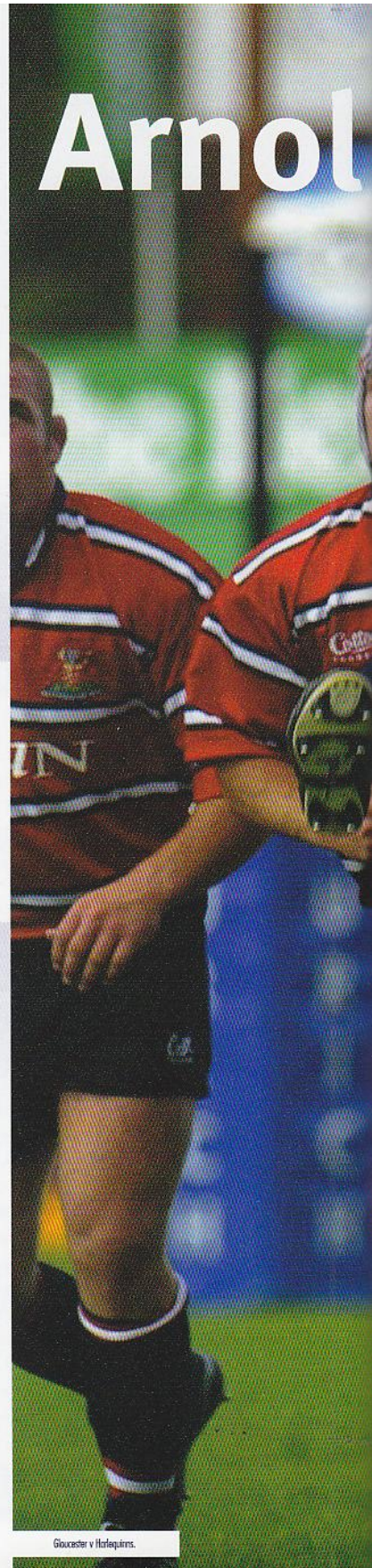
think of several games which we could, and should, have won, but where the side seemed to freeze with victory in sight. We simply didn't seem to believe we could win away from home.

Thankfully, we seem to have recovered from that syndrome now. A win against Harlequins on their own turf isn't easy for anyone, and if you go there expecting, somewhere in your subconscious, to lose, then you might as well not bother turning up, because you're doomed before you start. It wasn't like that last Saturday. To come back from ten points down is praiseworthy at any time, but having done that, to see your lead cruelly snatched away from you with only three minutes left on the clock, is a hammer blow.

In previous seasons, the chances are that the side would have simply folded, and perhaps conceded another try before the end. This time round, however, the lads were not going to be denied, and came back at the Quins as if there were 15 'Raging Bulls' on the field rather than just one. It was a great effort, and one which may well have implications for the rest of the season.

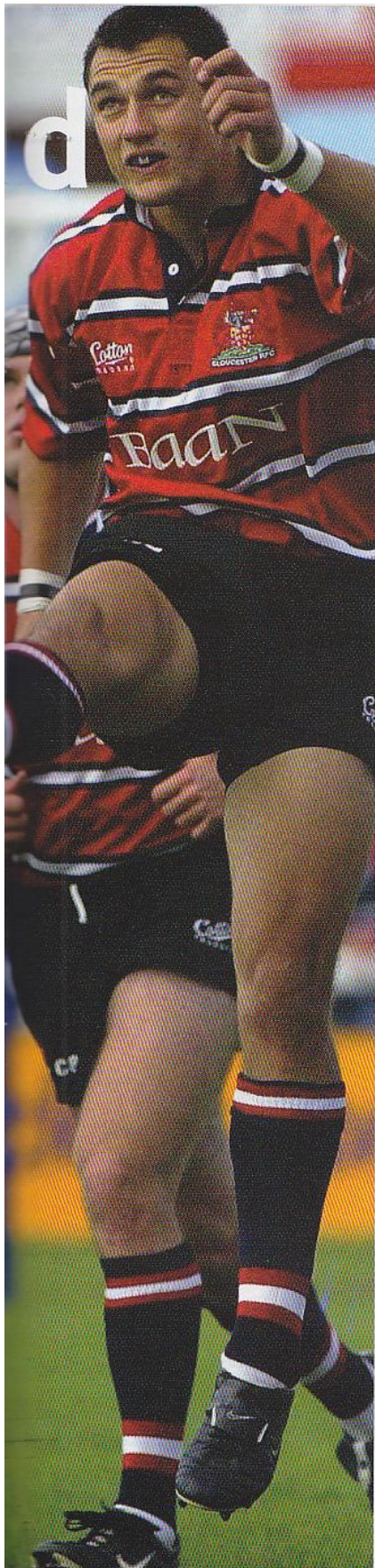
Possibly starting today. It's good to see the attractive Sale side here. They're a formidable outfit, but it's worth remembering that they usurped our second spot in the table last season, having won precisely the same number of Premiership games as Gloucester did, while scoring less points and conceding more. What a difference a solitary draw makes !

And that's one result I don't expect to see today.



Gloucester v Harlequins.





## NEWS FROM DEEPEST CARDIFF

My exiled brother, David, rang me a little while ago. He sends his regards to all his old friends, sparring partners and gentlemen drunks with whom he was accustomed to foregather at Kingsholm before his job took him to the hinterlands of darkest Cardiff.

That same eclectic circle of Elver Eaters will be pleased, and slightly amused, to learn that he is to become a grandfather for the first time, a time of life which raises ambivalent feelings in any self-respecting Shedhead. However, that wasn't the purpose of his call. He rang to tell me about the report on the match at Newport, which appeared in that fine old newspaper, the Western Mail. "I've never seen a write-up like it" he enthused. "Not in a Welsh paper reporting on an English team!" I duly downloaded the piece from the paper's web site, and found that he wasn't exaggerating. The first line reads

'If Newport run into a better prepared, organised or stronger side than Gloucester this season, then they will be very, very unlucky.'

'For seven tries to three on the English side of the Severn Bridge, read eight tries to one on home soil'

'The English club's owner, Tom Walkinshaw, has one aim in mind for the new season - to win the Heineken Cup. Winning the English Premiership Play-Off crown is one thing, but conquering Europe is the ultimate goal. And with the sort of squad he has assembled, it is difficult to name more than a handful of sides who might match them' The writer then goes on to enthuse about our England Under-19 contingent Marcel Garvey, Clive Stuart-Smith and James Forester, and actually has the nerve to describe Phil Vickery as 'the old guard'! I'll bet that will give Andy Deacon a chuckle or two.

'Look out for Gloucester this season' concludes the report. It's nice to receive such glowing opinions from such an unlikely source: a far cry from the days when the press never seemed to give Gloucester any credit at all for anything the side achieved. Those days are well and truly over it seems. Even in Wales.

## POOR OLD PAUL

Spare a thought, today, for the Sheriff of Gloucester, Paul James. He's a devout and practising Shedhead, and never misses a game if it can possibly be avoided. Unfortunately, today - it can't. Obviously, he has to attend Barton Fayre, which takes place in Barton Street today. However, he's done that before, and always managed to get along to Kingsholm in time for kick-off. This year, however, The Lord Lieutenant for Gloucestershire, Henry Elwes, is to attend the Fayre in order to receive Gloucester's traditional gift of a lamprey pie to Her Majesty to mark the Golden Jubilee. Unfortunately, other engagements mean that Mr. Elwes can't attend until precisely 3.00pm, and of all people, the Sheriff, who according to protocol represents the monarch within the City, jolly well has to be there. I'll bet Paul's spitting blood.

## SIGHT TO BEHOLD

Some years ago, the closing ceremony at the Hong Kong Sevens featured a parade of referees, all wearing glasses and carrying white sticks. I was reminded of that occasion when I read a report which stated that the Welsh RFU had concluded a deal which provides sponsorship for their referees. The generous sponsors are Specsavers the opticians.

This seems highly appropriate, especially if it means that refs. can be given a free eye test before they pick up their whistles. Or is someone taking the mickey?

## FUNNY OLD WORLD

Last week I watched a cricket match on the telly and saw Gloucestershire lose a very important game against Essex. It took both sides over 70 overs to score 185 runs between them on a pitch fit only for suicides to be buried in. That same day I had noticed that Swindon Town FC had been congratulated by the police for the orderly way in which their losing home tie against Cardiff City had been conducted. Apparently, 50 policemen and 10 dogs had been in attendance, and "only" 28 people had been arrested.

Aren't you glad you're a rugby supporter?



## CONTRIBUTOR



THE CONTRACTOR employed to cement over the footsteps worn into the Kingsholm grandstand will probably go out of business this season. Unless Philippe Saint-Andre vaulted up and down the steps a score or more times a half, then you could reasonably expect something to be wrong with the former French winger - like his legs had fallen off.

His match-time activities summed up the volatile, uncertain atmosphere at Kingsholm during Saint-Andre's far from stable reign. The revolving doors that catapulted more players in and out of the club than the cast of Neighbours, have been blocked off and a sense of stability has descended on Castle Grim - what's this, Gloucester using their brains?

Nigel Melville could not be further removed from what has gone before. The steps will be distinctly silent during most home matches at Kingsholm this season.

Summer at Gloucester has been remarkably free from transfer squabbles and confusion (This scribe has taken to writing about cricket to pass the time). Only three players - and the possible addition of prop Rodrigo Roncero - have arrived to blend in with what is already an exciting mix of potential.

Melville has ensured Gloucester have got on with their

jobs. It has been a tight, focused group of players. Stability has arrived on and off the pitch. Melville will attempt to drag Gloucester towards a more rounded game - a game plan they are capable of executing against the best in Europe - a game plan that is not solely based on forward muscle. They need more and he knows it.

Methodically he will build a team equally dependent on the vitality of their forwards and the alacrity of their backs. He has already shaken up the selection procedure - handing the inexperienced but vastly talented Marcel Garvey a Premiership debut at Harlequins last weekend. That is the way it will continue. Perform and you are in, fail and you are out.

Melville has also been careful to douse the flames of expectation - to keep a lid on the bubbling chat of a title challenge. Performances will improve, Melville will hope, starting today against the vastly under-rated Sharks. But it will be tough - from now until May. It might be too early to say Gloucester will be Leicester's closest challengers for the title - Melville is too canny for that - but he has a squad capable of achieving almost anything they want to.

He can ask for no more than that. Whatever happens, it should be an exciting, but stable season at Kingsholm.





WWW.GLOUCESTERRUGBYCLUB.COM

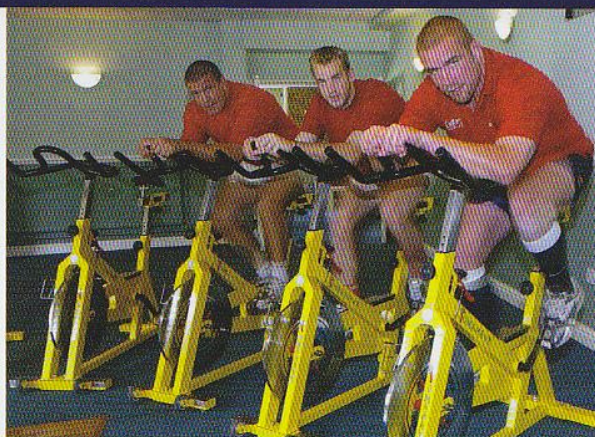
In order to ensure that the Gloucester players are prepared mentally and physically for the new Zurich Premiership Season the Club players and coaches have moved much of their training programme to new training facilities at Woodlawns Country Club in Brockworth.

The Country Club and Gloucester RFC have entered into an agreement that will allow the Cherry and Whites to use the secluded and picturesque training pitches at the Country Club and the fitness centre, conference and restaurant facilities at the complex as part of their training schedule.

The intention is that by using separate training facilities, the pitch at Kingsholm will remain in its current, pristine, condition throughout the season as well as provide the players and coaching staff the facilities they need to cater for all their training needs in one place.

"The first training session I attended at the Club was on a school playing field. Whilst this may have provided us with a pitch, we needed the other facilities that Woodlawns specifically can offer us. We decided a long time ago that to spare the Kingsholm pitch, we needed these type of facilities", said Nigel Melville.

Managing Director of Woodlawns Country Club, Peter Gilpin said, "We are naturally delighted to have attracted the top sports Club in the area to Woodlawns. Our sports, social and conference facilities are amongst the best in the County and I am confident that Gloucester Rugby Club will enjoy training at Woodlawns Country Club".



## NEW TRAINING FACILITY

### Woodlawns Country Club



44 (13)



**GLOUCESTER**

Henry Paul	15
Thinus Delpont	14
Terry Fanolua	13
Robert Todd	12
Tom Beim	11
Ludovic Mercier	10
Andy Gomarsall	09
-----	
Trevor Woodman	01
Olivier Azam	02
Phil Vickery	03
Ed Pearce	04
Mark Cornwell	05
Jake Boer	06
Andy Hazel	07
Junior Paramore	08
-----	
Clive Stuart-Smith	16
Marcel Garvey	17
James Simpson-Daniel	18
Patrice Collazo	20
Chris Fortey	20
Rob Fidler	21
James Forrester	22

(8) 8



**THE SHARKS**

Jason Robinson	
Mark Cueto	
Jos Baxendel	
Mel Deane	
Steve Hanley	
Charlie Hodgson	
Bryan Redpath	
-----	
Kevin Yates	
Andy Titterrell	
Barry Stewart	
Chris Jones	
Dean Schofield	
Alex Sanderson	
Stuart Pinkerton	
Peter Anglesea	
-----	
Charl Marais	
Jim Thorp	
Scott Lines	
Nick Walshe	
Vaughn Going	
Dan Harris	
Apolo Perelini	

Gloucester RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB



**GRFC NEXT THREE MATCHES**

**NEWCASTLE FALCONS**

Zurich Premiership  
 Sunday 15 Sept 2002  
 Kingston Park KO 2.30pm  
 Call Newcastle 0870 085 6060

**BRISTOL SHOGUNS**

Zurich Premiership  
 Saturday 21 Sept 2002  
 Kingsholm KO 2.00pm  
 Live on Sky

**BATH RUGBY**

Zurich Premiership  
 Saturday 28 Sep 2002  
 Recreation Ground KO 2.15  
 Call Bath on 01225 460588



**THIS WEEKEND'S FIXTURES**

**Sat 7 Sept 2002**  
 N'hampton Saints vs N'castle Falcons  
 Gloucester vs Sharks  
 Leicester Tigers vs NEC Harlequins

**Sun 8 Sept 2002**  
 Leeds Tykes vs London Irish  
 Saracens vs Bath Rugby  
 London Wasps vs Bristol Shoguns

**ZURICH PREMIERSHIP 2002/03**

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	TB	LB	PTS
Saracens	1	1	0	0	45	30	1	0	5
Leeds Tykes	1	1	0	0	26	13	0	0	4
Newcastle Falcons	1	1	0	0	24	17	0	0	4
<b>Gloucester</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
Sale Sharks	1	1	0	0	24	21	0	0	4
Bath Rugby	1	1	0	0	24	22	0	0	4
London Irish	1	0	0	1	22	24	0	1	1
Northampton Saints	1	0	0	1	21	24	0	1	1
NEC Harlequins	1	0	0	1	19	25	0	1	1
London Wasps	1	0	0	1	17	24	0	1	1
Leicester Tigers	1	0	0	1	13	26	0	0	0
Bristol Shoguns	1	0	0	1	30	45	0	0	0



The official GRFC matchday magazine is brought to you by:

The views expressed in the official GRFC matchday magazine are not necessarily the views of Dunwoody Sports Marketing or Gloucester Rugby Football Club. ©2001



01635 35599 | www.d-sport.co.uk

**Ref!Link**

**TODAY'S MATCH OFFICIALS**

**Referee:** Dave Pearson RFU  
**1st TJ:** David Grashoff RFU  
**2nd TJ:** Huw Jones-Williams RFU