



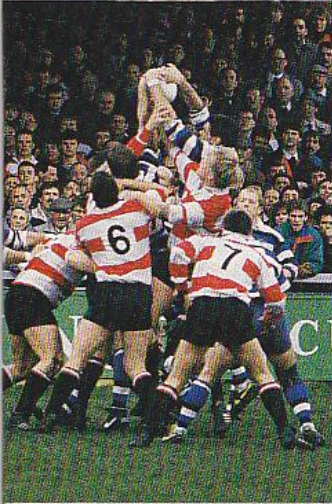
FOUNDED 1873

THE GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

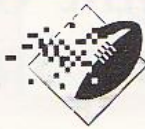
President: Canon H. M. Hughes BA.

v

HARLEQUINS



THE
PILKINGTON
CUP



Saturday, January 26th 1991
Kick-Off 3.00pm

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CFM



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(1G, 1T, 1P) GLOUCESTER 13
(Cherry & White)

T	G	Pts
2	5	

T	G	Pts

T	G	Pts
4	4	

T	G	Pts
1	4	

T	G	Pts

T	G	Pts

T	G	Pts

T	G	Pts
3	H/T	12

15. T. Smith

14. J. Perrins
13. D. Caskie
12. D. Cummins
11. N. Marment

10. M. Hamlin (Capt.)
9. M. Hannaford

1. P. Jones
2. K. Dunn
3. R. Pascall
4. N. Scrivens
5. J. Brain
6. J. Gadd
7. I. Smith
8. M. Teague(I)

Replacements:
L. Beck
J. Hawker

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

SPONSORED BY



Cumulative Match Score

Referee: C. High (Manchester Society)

HARLEQUINS 15 (2G, 1P)

(Light Blue, Magenta, Chocolate, French Grey, Light Green & Black)

T	G	Pts

15. S. Thresher
14. A. Harriman (I)
13. W. Carling (I)
12. S. Halliday (I)
11. E. Davis

10. D. Pears (I)
9. R. Glenister

1. J. Leonard (I)
2. B. Moore (I)
3. A. Mullins (I)
4. P. Ackford (I)
5. T. Coker
6. M. Skinner (I)
7. P. Winterbottom (I)
8. R. Langhorn

Replacements:
M. Hobley
C. Luxton

T	G	Pts

T	G	Pts

T	G	Pts

T	G	Pts

T	G	Pts

T	G	Pts

T	G	Pts

T	G	Pts
13	F/T	15

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TOUCH LINES

by
Peter Arnold

OUR CUP BRIMMETH OVER

It certainly brimmeth over with International players today. Eleven of them on the Harlequins side, plus the odd couple of England 'B' players, constitute a stern challenge, even to Gloucester on their own patch.

If that were all there were to it, then we might as well retire to the bar right now, and save cleaning bills on the kit. But life, and especially Rugby Union Football, ain't at all like that.

Harlequins are an excellent example of that worrying phenomenon, the successful side which attracts (some would say), more than their fair share of 'big name' players. Unlike Bath and Wasps, however, 'Quins have a generations-long tradition of such concentration of talent. For longer than any of us can remember, our multicoloured and very welcome visitors have provided a haven for Rugby-playing exiles who, for one reason or another, have found themselves adrift in the great Metropolis.

This syndrome hasn't always produced a world-beating side. Supreme individual players don't invariably mesh comfortably with others. However, modern coaching and squad training has minimised that effect, and we can't any longer rely on fielding the better organised and more 'patriotic' side than our distinguished opposition.

We beat 'Quins here last season. Admittedly, they were one or two key players short — but so were we, Gloucester went through to the Cup Final, Harlequins went out at this stage. Gloucester finished second in the League, and Harlequins seventh. Home advantage can still be a potent factor, as Bath have reason to remember.

On paper, Harlequins have the edge, in terms of star players, but I don't have to spell out to you the number of Gloucester players whose names could be equally well known with a little more luck and selectorial goodwill. And all the players know the opposition's foibles very well indeed.

Some pundits aren't giving Gloucester a light today. You and I know better — and so do Will Carling's merry men. It looks like a fascinating

match, with interesting comparisons and confrontations a-bristle. I, for one, am not going to make any predictions.

Except, for course, that our distinguished visitors will have a highly enjoyable visit. Which is as it should be.

THANKS TO CFM GLOUCESTER

Pilkington are, of course, today's Sponsor, and we must be careful to give them due credit for that. However, we are also exceedingly grateful to CFM Gloucester for providing very valuable financial support on this highly important Kingsholm occasion.

CFM Gloucester? It could well be a new one on you, partly because it's the first time they have extended their generosity to Gloucester RFC, and partly because they are a relatively new organisation.

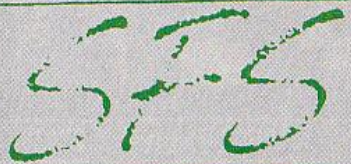
In fact, I think I'm right in saying that this is the first time we've been supported by a company which has responded successfully to the Government's 'Competition in Local Government' legislation — privatisation to simple souls like me.

Here's the story. Until comparatively recently, Gloucestershire County Council had one of the most sophisticated computer networks in the country. They still have just that, but now it's managed by CFM Gloucester. More — their highly comprehensive and efficient services are now available to companies in the private sector. The way they like to describe themselves is as 'specialists in the management of Information Technology services'.

The list of services CFM can provide — and do provide to 11 departments and 19,000 staff of Gloucestershire County Council — is a long one, ranging from computer services, through systems design and implementation to Information Technology training and project management.

I suppose that you could call it a partnership between Local Government and private industry.

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The combination of public and private sector expertise is quite unique in this part of the world, and the fact that it is now available to businesses throughout the South West must be good news for the average Community Charge payer.

It's a fascinating and highly innovative organisation, and one which obviously appreciates the importance of Rugby in Gloucestershire, so it can't be all bad can it?

If you're in need of state-of-the-art Information Technology services, you could do a lot worse than making enquiries by ringing Gloucester 426291. You'll probably get Alun Pritchard, who is, I imagine, still in mourning after certain serious events in Cardiff last Saturday.

Today may compensate in some measure. We certainly hope that Alun, not to mention CFM's Chief Executive, Tony Cronin and his guests have a highly enjoyable visit, and we'd like to wish them all the best in their endeavours.

GANGWAY!

Just the usual admonitory word on big match day. Do like the nice policeman says, will you, and keep gangways and steps clear.

POETIC JUSTICE

Mike Teague must have taken more pleasure from his try against Wales than in most of the others he has scored. It must have compensated admirably for his untimely departure from proceedings on the same occasion two years ago.

Personally, I thought he played a stormer. Well done, Mike! If that doesn't keep your England place for you, then it jolly well ought to.

INTERNATIONAL TICKETS

Terry Tandy asks me to impart the news that International Tickets — such as they are — will be despatched next week. He points out that some people who generally like to stand up on those occasions are going to be disappointed. Efforts to turn Twickenham into an all-seater stadium are taking their toll, and the Club received just 17

standing tickets for Scotland, and 18 for France. Next season, there may be none at all. (Sigh!).

BRING YOUR SPARE CHANGE ALONG

Just some advance warning about a collection we intend to hold at our next home game, which happens to be against Bath on February 9th.

Many supporters will remember a sad incident after the away game against Nottingham last season. An extra attraction was staged, featuring Nottingham and Bath Colts sides. Unfortunately, after an early scrum, young Bath up-and-comer, Stephen Roberts was found to have sustained an injury, subsequently diagnosed as a broken neck. The game was abandoned.

Tragically, young Stephen is now in a wheel chair, and looks all too likely to remain there. Accordingly, the Bath club have set up a Trust Fund, and as Gloucester, and numerous supporters, were there at the time, have asked if we would like to contribute.

Well, obviously we would. And knowing our crowd's often proven generosity on such occasions, I'm sure the collection will be substantial. So make sure you have the odd pound coin or three surplus to requirements on Bath day.

TAILPIECE

I gather that, in Rugby circles, Gloucester is becoming as famous for its pubs as for its players.

Apparently, a whole slew of London Division players were taken to the 'Pelican', and were impressed by the unique ambience of the place. So much so, that Will Carling intends to take a deputation from 'Quins to the same venue after proceedings this evening.

Furthermore, some of the Spanish players, here for the 'B' match last Sunday, expressed a preference for cider, forsook the elegant precincts of the 'Golden Valley', and were escorted to the 'County Arms' by our own Jonathan Meadows. I have yet to be apprised of the results of that soiree, but the mind, as they say, boggles.

ONE FIRST CLASS TEAM SUPPORTING ANOTHER

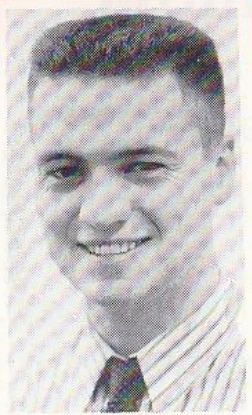


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TALKING RUGBY

with
Mike Harris



Today is make or break time for Gloucester.

Almost certainly out of contention for the Courage Division One title, Gloucester's hopes for silverware at the end of the season rest with the Pilkington Cup.

And they could have asked for no sterner test of their abilities than today's visit of the star-studded Harlequins side.

The London team have selected 11 internationals for the game, including five members of the England team that beat Wales last weekend.

And in midfield former Bath and England centre Simon Halliday plays his first major game for Harlequins since moving to London from the West Country.

On paper Harlequins have no weaknesses but they have come unstuck on three occasions in the league this season and, like any other side, will not relish the trip to Kingsholm.

With Gloucester firing on all cylinders

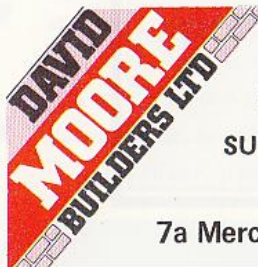
and with a near capacity home crowd behind them, they are more than a match for any opponents.

The Cherry and Whites are unbeaten since November 10, having won their last 11 games, and their recent record against Harlequins is encouraging.

Last season Gloucester won 24-9 at home in the league and when the two teams met in the quarter-finals of the cup in 1985 the Cherry and Whites won comfortably 31-12.

Both teams have an enormous amount of respect for each other and the players who produce the goods on the day will emerge the winners.

One thing is certain — passionate support from a partisan Kingsholm crowd can do wonders to lift the Gloucester players. If that happens this afternoon the mass exodus of Cherry and White fanatics from Gloucester to Twickenham could be on the cards again in the Spring.



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