

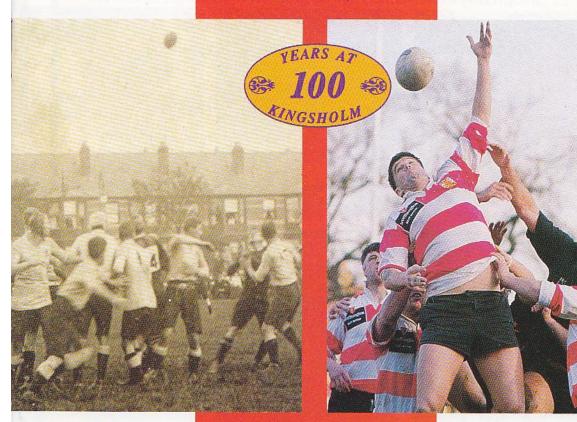
THE

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

BATH

(Semi-Final)





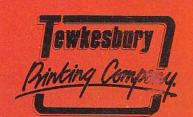
80p.
Official Programme



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President:
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Saturday, April 4th 1992 Kick-Off 3.00pm

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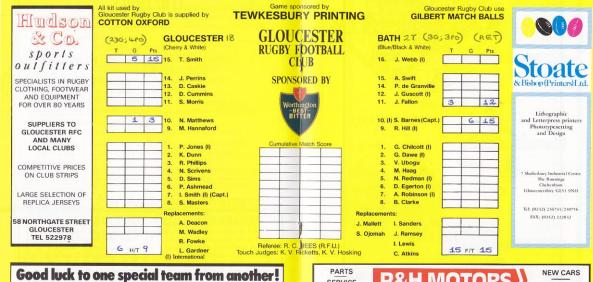
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TOUCH LINES by Peter Arnold

CUTTING OUT THE CODSWALLOP

There's nothing left to say about Gloucester v Bath at Kingsholm. So much printers ink has been expended on that subject over the past few seasons that anything I might add would only tell you what you know already. Now we're down to the wire, and everything rests on the talent, fitness and commitment of the thirty blokes out on the field, plus a handful of replacements who, reveryone hopes, will not be needed.

I'm sure the players are thoroughly conscious of this. You can run your heart out at training sessions, practice all the ploys you like, train until even your muscles have muscles, but out there on the day, everything comes down to one diamond-hard point. Get points on the board and defend them when you've got them.

I do tell one lie. The thirty-first man and his two linesmen can have a profound effect on a match like today's. It's not done to criticise officials in print, least of all in a club programme, but referees can have off days like anyone else, and they can also, if so inspired, allow a potentially dull game to sparkle. Personally, I wish them well, just as sincerely as I do the players of both sides. In their hands, very largely, is the fate of one of the more important showpieces of the English season.

Not that I think today's match is likely to be dull. Matches between our two great clubs have seldom been that. This is the sixth time Gloucester have met Bath in the Cup, and we have, in fact, won two of them. In spite of the bookmakers' opinion that Bath are six points better than Gloucester, anything can happen when you have the country's most talented side visiting the most feared home team in the Competition.

Which brings me back to where I started. From here on in, it's down to the players. All we can do is shout – and we'll undoubtedly do that, and then some.

Welcome Bath, as always. The season wouldn't be the same without you.

P.S. Just one more thought. Today, the Prince of Wales visits Gloucester. Not to see the Rugby, which is more the province of his sister, but to attend the Enthronement of our new Bishop.

We hope that our new prelate will find time to visit Kingsholm before too long, but meanwhile, the clash of dates has deprived us of a whole clutch of regular supporters – including, I imagine, our Sheriff, John Neary – who, for one reason or another, find themselves obliged to attend the Cathedral this afternoon.

Personally, I blame the Archbishop of Canterbury. He was, after all Bishop of Bath and Wells.

THANKS TO TEWKESBURY PRINTING

Today, of course, the official sponsors are Pilkington Glass, who everyone in Rugby must thank for their continued generosity which benefits all levels of the game. However, we also have our own financial support, provided by Tewkesbury Printing to whom are quite immoderately grateful.

This is the second time that the company has

This is the second time that the company has supported us this way, coming in, if memory serves, at very short notice at the end of last season. We're pleased that the experience has proved worthwhile enough for them to repeat the exercise.

Tewkesbury Printing have achieved such a reputation that, to those of us involved in that sort of world, they seem to have been around for ever. It comes as something of a shock, therefore, to learn that Peter Siddall only founded the company six years ago. At that time there were only two employees. Now, there are 28, which is quite an achievement in any terms, but more so in periods of recession, to which print firms are notoriously vulnerable.

And they continue to expand. A big new four-colour Heidelberg press has recently been installed, enabling the company to offer an even more competitive service. Printing presses don't stand on their own, however: they have to be fed, which means that darkroom and repro facilities have also been expanded.

Peter Siddall has no doubt at all about the secret of his success, which has, he says, "been built on an uncomprising level of customer service. We really do believe that the customer is always right. We go to great lengths to make sure that they are looked after well, that print quality is high, and prices competitive. All our company vehicles have been fitted with mobile phones so that we can maintain contact with drivers to monitor deliveries, and keep in constant with both sales executives and customers."

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MORE TOUCH LINES

And those customers range from small local businesses to multi-nationals. The range of work undertaken is almost endless, ranging from compliment slips to prestigious booklets, and from invoices to glossy sales leaflets.

There is also an insistence on continual improvement on what the company does well, which in turn, means continuing investment in equipment and in people. As a result, almost all work is handled 'in-house', so that no one has to depend on the vagaries of outside suppliers, that prices are kept low, and that strict quality control is maintained.

Good luck to them. We hope their success continues. Meanwhile, thanks again for your support, we hope to see you again, and meanwhile, have a quite incredibly good afternoon at Kingsholm.

GOOD FOR GREG

It's amazing what some people will do to raise money, especially for good causes. I suppose we shouldn't be surprised that it is the Rotary Club of Gloucester who have found a way to use our Match Mascot system to provide funds for charitable purposes; they do, after all, have an unexcelled record of ingenious fund raising.

This time, they contacted all the Junior Schools in the City, asking each to nominate a pupil willing ('if not desperate', writes David Parsons), to act as Mascot today. A draw was then made, and the lucky lad was Greg Hawkins of Dinglewell School, an establishment which also produced Marcus Hannaford, if I recall correctly.

Greg is 10 years old, and already plays for Old Richians Under 10's. He has two younger siblings who, he hopes, will follow in Big Brother's footsteps.

It's great for Greg, and we hope the experience motivates him even further to wear the cherry-andwhite stripe again in a few years time. However, it may be even greater for ten other families in the City.

Each year, the Rotary Club of Gloucester arranges holidays for ten families, in unfortunate circumstances, to go away for a week's holiday. The funds are provided by various charitable organisations in the City, but also by the efforts and contributions of Rotarians. Today's Mascot project has stimulated new anonymous donors, to whom everyone is grateful.

However, while thanking the generous contributors, the Rotary Club of Gloucester still needs more funds to complete the holiday project this year. Knowing how generous the Kingsholm Mafia are when the cause is a good one, David Parsons has no hesitation whatever in inviting anyone who would like to contribute to contact him on Gloucester 524381.

It's a fine effort, David, and we congratulate you on it. I hope your telephone line is red hot.

THANKS AGAIN

Talking of generosity, it's only right to levy another couple of thanks today. First of all, to England Grand Slam full back, Jon Webb, who has donated the signed ball which you probably bought a raffle ticket for as you entered the ground.

The money is to go towards a much-needed piece of equipment for Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, used for the treatment of cancer. The Webb connection springs from the fact that Jon's brother works with our own Roger Eltringham at Great Western Road.

The other 'thankyou' is due to our valued sponsor and next-door neighbour, Arjo Mecanaids, who have opened their car park today, and are charging just £1.00 per car. The proceeds are to be donated to CLIC, which, you probably know, stands for 'Cancer and Leukaemia in Children', founded largely by the late Sir Maclolm Sargent.

Aren't there a lot of nice people about?

AND, ONCE MORE

 \dots keep the gangways and steps clear today, will vou?

ONE FIRST CLASS TEAM SUPPORTING ANOTHER



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THE FUTURE'S IN GOOD HANDS

Perhaps our season might not have quite fulfilled the promise which it offered half way through, but the results achieved by the more junior sides prove that the future of the Club is in very good hands indeed. The Colts have just one more match to play - the traditional trip to Brixham on April 25th, while the newly-formed Under 21 team has finished its season. Both have lost only one match.

Season's results are as follows: Colts, won 14, lost 1, points for 458, points against 79. Under 21, won 3, lost 1, points for 176, points against 29.

The Colts solitary loss was a 13-15 away defeat by Moseley, very early in the season, while the Under 21 team fell at the last hurdle, 12-18 to Leicester.

On the credit side, Colts beat Forest of Dean by a massive 44-3, and Worcester by 43-0. Under 21's did even better leading Bristol Medics by 76.0 hefers as few Mark.

better, leading Bristol Medics by 76-0 before referee Matt Bayliss blew up early to save the opposition further punishment. They also beat Bath University 57-8, which may, or may not, be an omen for today.

Interestingly enough, of the 26 players called upon by the Under 21 side, no fewer than 21 have either played for

the Colts or are still doing so. For example, winger Chris Theyer has scored 64 points – 16 tries – for the Colts, and 24 – 6 tries – for the Under 21's.

Leading Colts scorer is outside half Goran Antonijevic, whose 2 tries, 29 conversions, 21 penalties and 1 drop goal have netted him 132 points. Also in the running are forward Dafydd Far with 11 tries (44 points), and winger Bruce Harris, whose tally of 14 tries (56 points) would surely have been extended if he hadn't been sidelined by a back interest. back injury

For the Under 21's, outside half Paul Beech scored 40 points, made up of 1 try, 15 conversions and 2 penalties, while Mark Nicholls 5 tries gave him 20 points. Not bad for four matches.

But perhaps the most important factor is the style with which the two teams have been winning their games. Fast, attractive and highly entertaining, both sides have won an increasingly large and loyal following among the Kingsholm supporters

A few highly regarded first-class sides have some shocks coming to them in a few years time.

GLOUCESTER UNDER 21's XV

GLOUCESTER RFC COLTS	
Season 1991-92	

28-28-38-38-38-38-38-38-38-38-38-38-38-38-38							Jeason 133	1.35
Sep 4	Solihull Coventry	H Canc. H 23-10	Nov 27 Dec 4	Forest of Dean Lydney	H 35-7 A 32-0	Oct 9	Coventry (at Worcester)	31-3
18 24	Moseley Worcester	A 13-15 A 43-0	1992 Feb 5	Clifton	H 55-7	Dec 18 1992	Bath University	H 57-8
Oct 2 8 16	Forest of Dean Clifton Northampton	A 44-3 A Canc. H 27-10	19 26 Mar 4	Coventry Bath Worcester	A 20-16 H Canc. H 28-0	Feb 12 Mar 18	Bristol Medics Leicester	H 76-0 12-18
23 30 Nov. 6	Lydney Nuneaton	H 38-0 A 15-3	11 24	Nuneaton Moseley	H 35-0 H 26-0		(at Worcester)	

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ED MARTIN'S FACT FILE

Like referees, those who pour over microfilm need a good optician! Three of the fixtures between Gloucester and Bath got the better of my eyes, while another was listed in error as a loss by Gloucester at Bath when the match was played at Kingsholm.

All this means that the results summary in the programme earlier this season when Bath visited for a "friendly" was a little out.

With the help of John Hopcroft of Longlevens, it is thought that the record against Bath is now correct. Today's meeting is the 155th in the series.

Looking at all the previous 154 meetings, Gloucester's

average score has been 12 points, while Bath have averaged seven. But here at Kingsholm, where the Cherry and Whites have won 66 of the 81 meetings (seven have been tied), Bath have been outscored by an average 14-5.

More meaningful is, perhaps, the record over the past 10 seasons of Gloucester v Bath encounters at Kingsholm. Since 1982-3 season, there have been 11 meetings between the two clubs at this ground. Gloucester, with six wins, is a nose ahead – Bath have four wins and one of the matches was a 7-7 draw.

GLOUCESTER v BATH

	189	5-6 to	date	2				
	P	W	L	D	PF	PA		
At Kingsholm	81	66	8	7	1184	462		
At Bath	72	32	31	9	720	595		
Neutral Grounds	1	0	1	0	6	48		
TOTAL	154	98	40	16	1910	1105		



TAILPIECE Peter Arnold

Consider English Club has lost one of its most declared supporters after a four-year fight against cancer. Parm Green has died in hospital in her native Shropathire, still displaying by her bedside a card and a programma lighted by all the Gloucester players after a recent addistertionable to the formidable Brian Grunter Green who belayed for Gloucester and Gloucester shrine. Find has a find that the support of the Club, have been running a card and a programma distretion to the formidable Brian Grunter Green who belayed for Gloucester and Gloucester shrine. Find had been the training that make the training of the Club, have been running a card and a programma of the comparison of the Club, have been running a card so the formidable Brian Grunter Green who belayed for Gloucester and Gloucester fine. Brian Had to all flores and distretion to the formidable Brian Grunter Green who belayed for Gloucester and Gloucester fine. Brian Had to the Brian Grunter Green who belayed for Gloucester and Gloucester fine. Brian Had to the Brian Grunter Green who belayed for Gloucester and Gloucester fine. Brian Had to the Brian Grunter Green who belayed for Gloucester fine. Brian Had to the Bri

PLAYING RECORD

		FIRST XV FIXTURES				UNITED XV FIXTUR	ES
1991				1991			
SEPT.	3	Stroud	H 53-6	SEPT.	7	Richmond	H 39-2
	7	Swansea	A 14-18		14	Nottingham	H 34-3
	14	England XV	H 4-34		18	Nuneaton	H 684
	21	Irish Presidents XV	H 14-13		21	Moselev	A 224
	28	Neath	H 15-20		28	Leicester	A 9.9
40.400			H 43-0	OCT.	5	Bedford	H 26-
OCT.	2	Moseley		OC1.			
	5	Exeter	H 33-10		12	Newport	H Car
	8	World Cup New Zeala	nd v USA		19	Leicester	H 15-
	11	Newport	A 12-25		26	Northampton	H 15-
	19	Leicester	A 22-12	NOV.	1	Cardiff	H 39-3
	25	South Wales Police	H Canc.		. 9	Pontypool	A 25-
	29	Lydney	A 19-13		16	Bristol	A 114
NOV.	1	Cardiff	A 11-6		23	Moseley	H 24-8
INOV.	4	Cheltenham	H 36-3		26	Cheltenham	A 48-6
					30		A 18-1
	9	Bath	H 14-12	nec		Bath	
	12	Exeter University	H Canc.	DEC.	4	St. Pauls College	H 56-
	16	*Leicester	H 21-3		7	Rosslyn Park	H 23-1
	23	*Rugby	A 19-16		14	Wasps	A Car
	30	Pilkington Cup Rugby	A 23-3		21	Coventry Extra 1st	H 33-9
DEC	7	Plymouth	A 36-13		28	Rugby	H 18-3
	14	*Wasps	H Post.				
	21	*Nottingham	A 14-3	1992			
	26	Lydney	H 28-10	IAN.	4	Nuneaton	A 48-0
			A 6-8	jruv.	11	Pontypool	H Can
	28	Bridgend	W 0-9		18		A 34-4
						Towcestrians	
1992					25	Sale	H Can
JAN.	4	*Rossiyn Park	H 12-9	FEB.	1	Bristol	H Can
	11	*Saracens	A 12-12		8	Coventry	A 14-
	17	Newport	H 42-4		15	Cleeve	H Can
	25	London Scottish	H Canc		18	Bristol University	H 18-1
	31	Pontypridd	H 26-10		22	Harlequins	A 14-
FEB.	8	London Scottish	H 20-7		29	Bath United	H 26-
CLD.	14	Bristol	A 19-7	MAR.	3	Glamorgan Wdrs.	H 35-1
		Orrell	A 25-16	MAIN.	7	Saracens	A 18-1
	22						
	29	*Bath	A 9-29		14	Northampton	A 4-
MAR.	6	Pontypool	H 13-8		17	Cinderford	A 28-1
	14	*Northampton	H 10-17		21	Crediton	H 64-7
	20	Aberavon	A Canc.		28	Orrell	H
	25	*London Irish	H 22-15	APR.	4	Bedford	A
	28	*Orrell	A 12-18		11	Rugby	A
APR.	4	Bath PCSF	H		18		***
	11	*Bristol	H		25	London Irish	H
	14	Clifton	A		60	Donation Alibit	
	18		H				
		*Wasps					
	20	Birkenhead	Н				
	25	*Harlequins	A				
*John (Courag	je League Fixtures					
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