

THE CHELTENHAM & GLOUCESTER CUP FINAL 1997/98



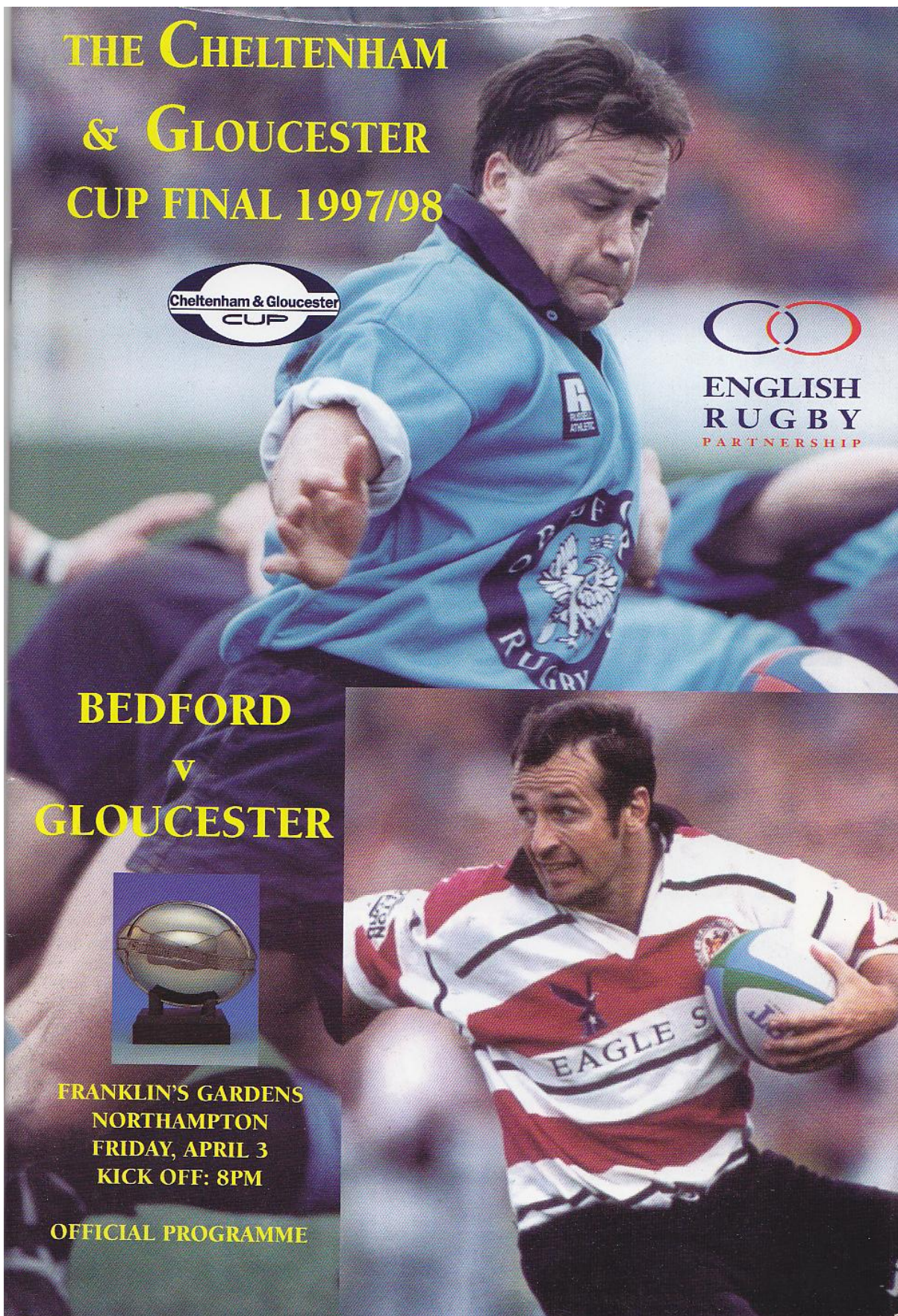
ENGLISH
RUGBY
PARTNERSHIP

BEDFORD v GLOUCESTER



FRANKLIN'S GARDENS
NORTHAMPTON
FRIDAY, APRIL 3
KICK OFF: 8PM

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME



Cup Final Squads

Bedford

15 MIKE RAYER

14 Ben Whetstone

13 JUNIOR PARAMORE

12 Mick Pechey

11 RORY UNDERWOOD

10 PAUL TURNER

9 Simon Crabb

1 Neal Hatley

2 Jimmy Richards

3 Clem Boyd

4 SCOTT MURRAY

5 Shaun Platford

6 Roy Winters

7 Jason Forster

8 RUDI STRAEULI

Replacements

16 Simon Brading

17 Richard Stone

18 Aaron Davis

19 Justyn Cullen

20 David Hinkins

21 Matt Deans

Gloucester

15 Audley Lumsden

14 Rob Jewell

13 TERRY FANOLUA

12 RICHARD TOMBS

11 PHILIPPE SAINT-ANDRE

10 MARK MAPLETOFT

9 Laurie Beck

1 Trevor Woodman

2 Neil McCarthy

3 Andy Deacon

4 Richard Ward

5 Dave Sims

6 Simon Devereux

7 Pete Glanville (capt)

8 STEVE OJOMOH

Replacements

16 Ian Sanders

17 Martyn Kimber

18 Pete Jones

19 Chris Fortey

20 Andrew Gibbs

21 Andrew Hazell



CAPITALS denotes Full International

REFEREE:

BRIAN CAMPSALL (Yorkshire)

TOUCH JUDGES: Chris Rees (London), Robin Goodliffe (Yorkshire)



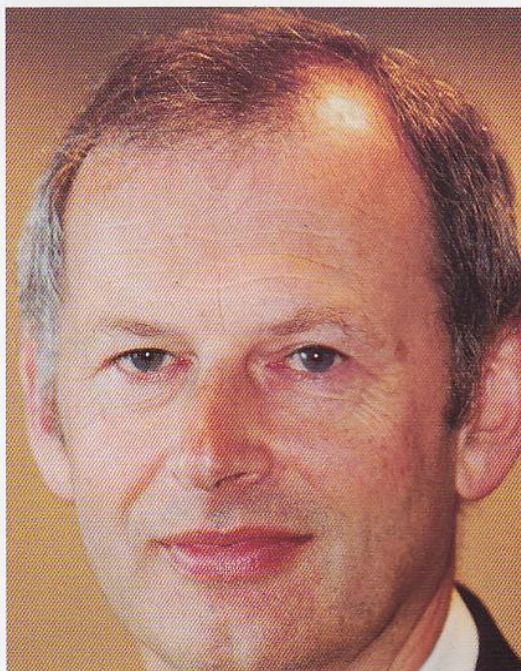
Skill, commitment and professionalism

WE are delighted that the first ever Cheltenham & Gloucester Cup has been such a success – and that it has enabled C&G to be associated with the skill, commitment and professionalism which all the competing teams have shown.

Of course, the players we will be watching this evening have been particularly impressive. Bedford and Gloucester have both played some excellent rugby to reach the final.

Whoever wins here tonight, we believe that the Cheltenham & Gloucester Cup has already proved to be a winner. It has given fans across the country the opportunity to watch some top-class rugby matches, provided a challenging tournament for the clubs involved, and allowed us the chance to offer our support to one of the nation's best-loved sports. I'm sure tonight's match will be thrilling for everybody – and we wish the best of luck to both sides competing today. Enjoy the game!

ROGER BURDEN
Managing Director, Cheltenham & Gloucester



Club rugby at its best



WELCOME to the inaugural Cheltenham & Gloucester Cup final. We look forward to another invigorating example of club rugby at its best.

Bedford, unbeaten in the Allied Dunbar Premiership Two, have accounted for three first division scalps on their way to this evening's final.

Gloucester came through particularly difficult quarter and semi final ties, scoring some superb tries in the process.

On behalf of the English Rugby Partnership, I would like to wish both teams and their supporters the very best of luck. I would also like to thank our hosts this evening, Northampton RFC; our sponsors Cheltenham & Gloucester; all those who have been involved in the administration of the competition this season; Rugby Express who have provided some excellent TV coverage throughout the season which will be continued this coming Sunday; and finally all those supporters of club rugby, who have shouted for their teams at the 43 matches in the competition which reaches its climax tonight.

DOUG ASH
Chief Executive English First Division Rugby Ltd

CHELTHENHAM & GLOUCESTER CUP FINAL 1997/98

Gloucester

Who's Who



Laurie Beck
Position: Scrum Half
Born: Cheltenham, 2nd
January 1971
Physique: 5' 10" 13st 5lb
Gloucester Debut: March
1990 vs Lydney
Representative Honours:
England U21, South
West U21.

Gloucestershire Former Clubs:
Cheltenham



Andrew Gibbs
Position: Lock
Born: Hamilton (NZ),
25th August 1973
Physique: 6' 6" 19st
Gloucester Debut: 1995
Representative Honours:
New Zealand Colts, U18
Former Clubs:

Northland, Waikato, Adelaide Rams
(RL)



Rob Jewell
Position: Wing
Born:
Physique:
Gloucester Debut: 6th
December 1997 vs Fylde
Representative Honours:
England Colts
Former Clubs: Gordon

League
Amazing prospect. Scoring 2 tries in the
cup match against London Welsh
brought him to public notice. Almost
guaranteed a bright future if he
continues to improve at the present
rate.



Andy Deacon
Position: Tight Head
Prop
Born: Gloucester, 31st
July 1965
Physique: 6' 2" 17st
Gloucester Debut: 1988
Representative Honours:
Emerging England,
Gloucestershire

Former Clubs: Longlevens



Pete Glanville
Position: Blindside
Flanker
Born: Gloucester, 10th
June 1971
Physique: 6' 2" 16st
Gloucester Debut: 1992
vs Northampton
Representative Honours:

South West, Gloucestershire
Former Clubs: Longlevens
Awe-inspiring Club Captain. Would
actually have to have a limb severed
before he will admit to being injured.
The fact that Pete has never played
for England is surely one of the worst
tragedies in the modern game.



Mark Mapletoft
Position: Fly Half
Born: Mansfield, 25th
December 1971
Physique: 5' 7" 13st
Representative Honours:
England (1), A, U21,
U18, 7s, Midlands
Former Clubs: Rugby
Lions.

The small but perfectly formed
Mapletoft has made the fly-half position
his own. Broke the English senior club
record for the fastest man to 1000
points in the Cheltenham & Gloucester
Cup semi final at Leicester two weeks
ago - his 86th match for Gloucester.



Simon Devereux
Position: Back Row
Born: Gloucester, 20th
October 1970
Physique: 6' 3" 16st 10lb
Gloucester Debut:
October 1990
Representative Honours:
Scotland U21
Former Clubs: Spartans



Audley Lumsden
Position: Wing / Full
Back
Born: London, 6th June
1967
Physique:
Gloucester Debut: 1996
Representative Honours:
Former Clubs: Bath

Mark Mapletoft (below) in action
against Saracens



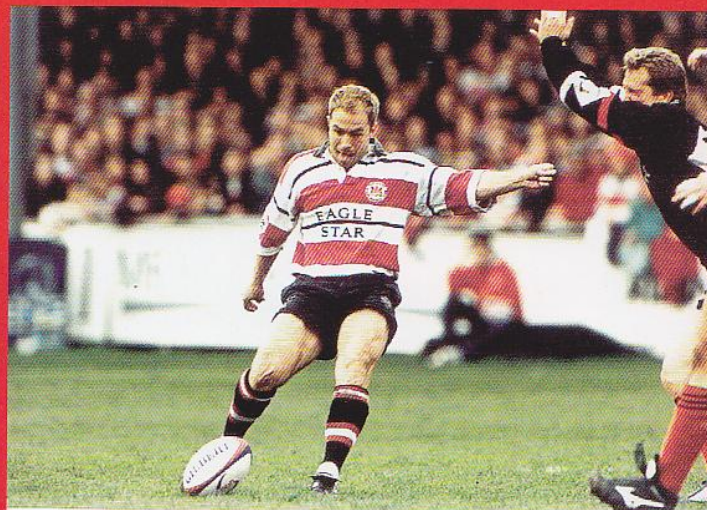
Terry Fanolua
Position: Centre
Born: Western Samoa,
3rd July 1974
Physique: 6' 14st 8lbs
Gloucester Debut:
August 1997 vs Begles
Bordeaux
Representative Honours:
Western Samoa (7),

Sevens
Former Clubs: Auckland Otahuhu



Chris Fortey
Position: Hooker
Born: Gloucester, 25th
August 1976
Physique: 5' 11" 16st
10lbs
Gloucester Debut:
Representative Honours:
South West U21
Former Clubs: Widden

Old Boys, Gordon League



Gloucester

Who's Who



Neil McCarthy
Position: Hooker
Born: Slough, 29th
November 1971
Physique: 5' 11" 16st 6lbs
Gloucester Debut: August
1997 vs Begles Bordeaux
Representative Honours:
Former Clubs: Cirencester,
Bath

0.65ppg
Club captain before Pete Glanville. Made the headlines when he turned out to face Saracens just hours after his son was born. With more than 200 appearances, has played more times for the club than any other current player.



Trevor Woodman
Position: Loose Head Prop
Born: Cornwall, 4th August
1976
Physique: 5' 11" 18st 7lbs
Gloucester Debut: 1996
Representative Honours:
England U21, Colts
Former Clubs: Plymouth,
Bath



Steve Ojomoh
Position: Back row
Born: Benin City, Nigeria,
25th May 1970
Physique: 6' 2" 15st 10lbs
Gloucester Debut: 11th
January 1998 vs Wasps
Representative Honours:
England (11), A, U21, Colts,
Schools, South West,
Barbarians Former Clubs: Bath



Richard Tombs
Position: Centre
Born: Tekuiti (NZ), 4th
January 1968
Physique: 5' 11" 14st 2lbs
Gloucester Debut: August
1997 vs Begles Bordeaux
Representative Honours:
Australia (5), U21, Schools,
Queensland, NSW

Former Clubs: Northern Suburbs (Sydney)
Australian Tombs made club history in the Cheltenham & Gloucester Cup quarter-final against Richmond when he became the first overseas player to captain the First XV - also captained Gloucester's semi-final triumph at Leicester.



Philippe Saint-Andre
Position: Wing
Born: Romans (F), 19th
April 1967
Physique: 5' 11" 13st 8lbs
Gloucester Debut: 1997
Representative Honours:
France (69), Barbarians
Former Clubs: Montferrand
Phenomenally talented wing

who shares the French captaincy record with the legendary Jean-Pierre Rives. Plagued with injury this season, he returned for the United game vs Olney



Richard Ward
Position: Lock
Born: Munster (Germany),
26th November 1970
Physique: 6' 6" 18st
Gloucester Debut: August
1996
Representative Honours:
Former Clubs: Havant,

Harlequins



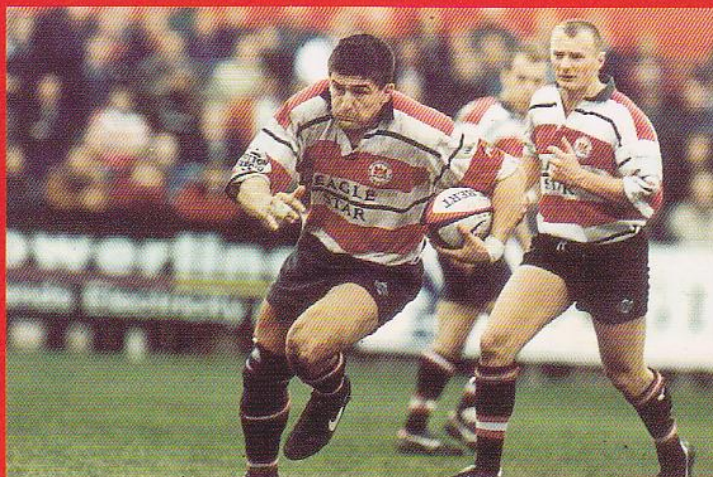
Ian Sanders
Position: Scrum Half
Born: Penzance, 22nd
January 1972
Physique: 5' 9" 13st
Gloucester Debut: August
1997 vs Begles Bordeaux
Representative Honours:
England U21, South West,
Cornwall

Former Clubs: Bath



Dave Sims
Position: Lock
Born: Gloucester, 22nd
November 1969
Physique: 6' 6" 19st
Gloucester Debut:
Representative Honours:
England 'A', U21, South
West, Barbarians
Former Clubs: Longlevens,

Sunnybank (A)
Career Record: App 216; 28t, 140pts,



On the run...Simon Devereux

The Cooke Report

IT'S great to be in a cup final again after 23 years in the wilderness. One of the finest moments in the history of the Bedford club came in 1975 when the team won the knock-out cup at Twickenham. That was a long time ago and some of the present team were not even born at that time but tonight the 1998 Bedford vintage have a great opportunity to win another trophy.

Although our priority this season has always been to gain promotion to the top flight of English rugby, this League Cup competition has been invaluable in providing meaningful fixtures on international weekends when many clubs have had to release players to represent their countries.

Our thanks are due to the sponsors, Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society for so effectively enabling us to fill an awkward void in the season's fixtures. The down side of course has been that many of the teams have not been at full strength for the League Cup matches due to international calls and tonight is no exception.

It might have been better if the game had been played on Sunday afternoon when those players involved with their nation's 'A' or Under-21 teams might have been available.

I know that the Bedford players on international duty are disappointed at missing the chance to play tonight even though they are thrilled to be representing their country and I am sure the same is true for the Gloucester absentees.

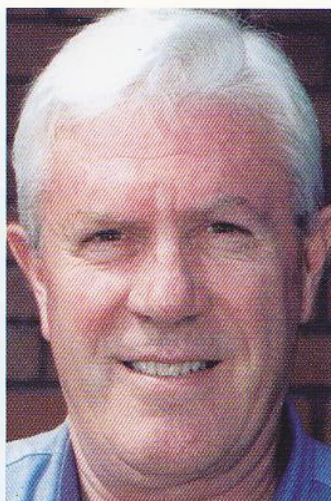
Nevertheless, as one door closes another opens and it is a good opportunity for some squad members to show what they can do on a big occasion and Franklin's Gardens will present a fine stage for their efforts.

Our opponents, Gloucester, are one of the great English rugby clubs. The Bedford players were suitably delighted to go to the daunting Kingsholm ground a few weeks ago and come away with an outstanding win under their belts, only the second team to succeed there this season.

That is history, of course, but Gloucester will not have forgotten. West country pride was wounded that day and a backlash is inevitable. Fortunately, this Bedford team is made of stern stuff and even though we are deprived of key players by injuries and international calls we have a winning momentum to sustain us when the Cherry and Whites build up the pressure.

We have enjoyed a tremendous season and the players have earned their promotion to the Premier Division where we shall be meeting sides of Gloucester's calibre on a regular basis.

Victory tonight would be icing on the cake, and make



By **GEOFF COOKE**
Bedford Chief Executive

no mistake about it, we want to win! There is no point reaching a cup final to come second. Whatever happens, I hope both teams get some satisfaction from the encounter and that the loyal followers of two great clubs thoroughly enjoy the occasion. A fast, furious and skilful contest will again demonstrate to the blinkered power-brokers at Twickenham hierarchy that thousands of people do care about club rugby and that the clubs are the foundation stones upon which a successful national team and a great game is built.

FOR THE THIRD YEAR THE STAR-STUDED WORLD XV V 1998 ENGLISH CLUB CHAMPIONS

for
the **SANYO Cup**

at
TWICKENHAM

Saturday 23 May 1998 Kick Off: 3.00pm

TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

TICKETS: ADULTS:	£20 & £15
JUNIORS (Under 16 years):	£7 (in adult £15 area only)
FAMILY TICKETS:	£37
(2 adults & 2 juniors or 1 adult & 3 juniors)	
SCHOOL PARTIES:	£7 per head
(Minimum 10 children includes 1 free adult)	

Tickets available by post from the

TICKET OFFICE, RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION,
TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX TW1 1DZ

Please enclose cheque payable to RFU or by Credit Card
Adult prices only, from Ticketmaster on 0171 344 4444

OFFICIAL MATCH SPONSORS: SANYO KIT SPONSORS: REEBOK

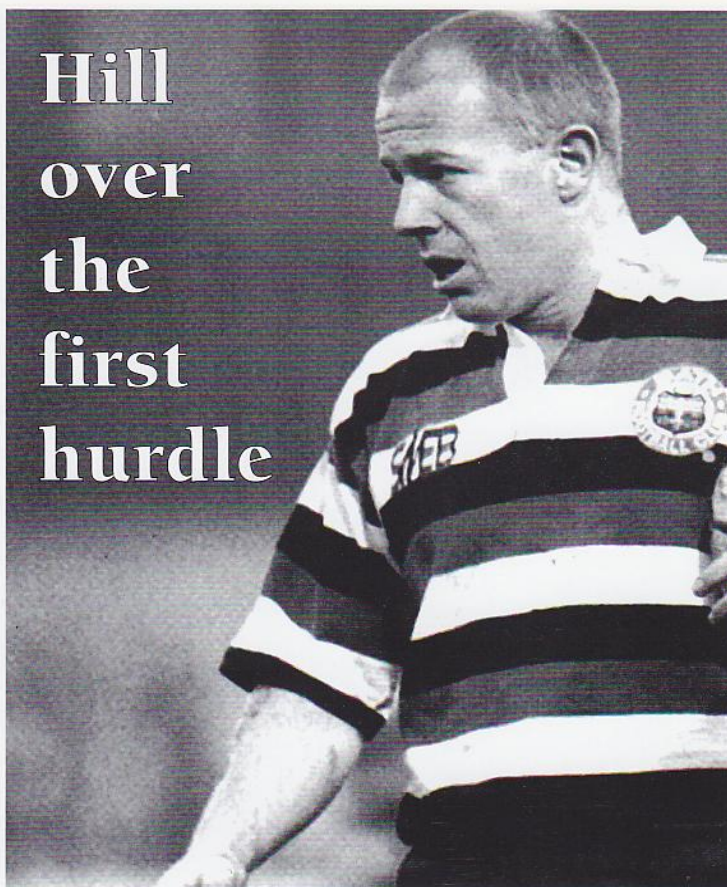
IT'S a funny old world! The most hated team to all habitués of Gloucester's legendary covered terrace, The Shed, is Bath. So what happens? The club recruits the former Bath and England scrum half, Richard Hill, as their director of coaching. Not a murmur from The Shed ... a few raised eyebrows, maybe; but not a peep. Hilly was never the 'London' type of scrum half. Just the opposite – he was one of those 'let's get stuck in, lads' not-afraid-to-get-his-knees-dirty types that epitomises West Country rugby.

It took about five minutes for Hill to become accepted by Gloucesterians whose rugby club appeared to be headed downwards: shrewd move by 'the committee'. Hill was, back then, Gloucester's 'get out of jail free' card.

The club survived the fears of the dreaded 'R' word – relegation. Slowly, Hill has developed a team that is cosmopolitan, yet 'local'. A handful of signings of players with international pedigree has been only part of The Plan. Young and virtually unheard of players were brought into the club – players like scrum half Scott Benton and full back Chris Cailing who, along with home-grown forwards like Rob Fidler, Dave Sims and Phil Greening, are knocking on Clive Woodward's door.

Hill collected 29 England caps between 1984 and 1991 and was part of the 1991 'Grand Slam' team. He also captained England. Add to his international credentials the eight Cup winners medals and five League championship with Bath, and you have, arguably, the best modern-day player-turned-coach at the top end of the English game.

He is brutally honest. Take that occasion in August 1996 when he selected what amounted to a 'sec-



Hill over the first hurdle

ond team' for Gloucester's league opener against Harlequins at The Stoop. He publicly admitted his *faux pas* and even the unforgiving Press forgave him!

The arrival of F1 team owner Tom Walkinshaw a year ago came at the same time as the signing of the only really 'high profile' player on Gloucester's books – the then French captain and winger Philippe Saint-André.

There were two later signings, both with international credentials. Only the most dedicated of English rugby fans had heard of Richard Tombs and Terry Fanolua before the start of this season. But since their Kingsholm arrival, Gloucester, with *Monsieur Saint-André*, suddenly has a three-quarters line that is not 'there for decoration'! Today,

the names of Tombs and Fanolua are well-known wherever Premiership rugby is played and beyond. Fanolua has the enviable Cheltenham & Gloucester Cup record of played 2, tries 6 – a hat-trick in both matches (v Fylde and Leicester)!

But don't believe that Gloucester can only produce home-grown forwards. Winger Rob Jewell is still colt-qualified – last week he was part of the England Colts team that beat Argentina. A Gloucestershire lad, Jewell has played in eight of Gloucester's matches this season (four Premiership appearances, two in the Tetley's Bitter Cup and two in the Cheltenham & Gloucester Cup) and has scored five tries. Not bad for a colt at the senior end of the man's game.

CHELTHENHAM & GLOUCESTER CUP FINAL 1997/98

Holm from holm for the Sheddies!

GLOUCESTER must be getting a little confused this season! You see, down on the banks of the River Severn, Kingsholm is accepted as being the home of the Cherry and Whites – Kingsholm being somewhat of a fortress ... just ask our hosts tonight, Leicester Tigers Wasps, Richmond or even the Saracens!

Now this season, Gloucester appear to have adopted a 'second home' Franklin's Gardens! It is said that the 'Sheddies' who follow Gloucester around the country, including the handful who travel in 'the Shed on Wheels', have thrown away their maps of how to get to Northampton.

The 1997-98 season will go down as the season that Gloucester played Northampton on an astonishing four occasions. (By the time the season ends in May, there will have been three matches here between Gloucester and the Saints, plus tonight's game.)

First came the visit on a cold Friday evening in November in the 'league' stages of this competition. Three penalties and three conversions from fly-half Hephher, not to mention tries from Sleighthome (making his Saints debut), Cohen and replacement, Blyth, saw off the Cherry and Whites 30-5, with a Cornwell try being the only solace for the visitors.

It was to be their only defeat thus far in the inaugural season of the Cheltenham & Gloucester Cup. Then, on a chilly Saturday afternoon in January, the Gloucester 'army' came off the M1 and down the Weedon Road for the Tetley's Bitter Cup. Again the Saints posted 30 points. Again three converted tries (two from Allen and one from Jackson) and three kicks at goal, this time by Mr. Grayson. Lloyd scored an unconverted try and Mapletoft booted a brace of penalties. Northampton went through to the next round by a 30-11 margin.

The Saints fans were even more pleased when they realised that in the past two years of the competition, Gloucester were put out by the team who went on to win the whole shebang. Alas, after the Saracens visited Kingsholm on Sunday March 15 as leaders of the Allied Dunbar Premiership and were overpowered 38-15 by the Cherry and Whites and then travelled north to the showdown with Newcastle when they finished second, the Londoners (well, Watforders) found some considerable form and beat the Saints last weekend on this hallowed grass. So much for statistical mumbo-jumbo and bang goes the 'Gloucester' theory in the RFC KO Cup. So, here we are tonight. Brand new cup ... and out comes the 'law of averages'. The very first RFC KO Cup was won by Gloucester. Add a little John Smith's Merit Table

By G.L. Oster

The inaugural season saw Gloucester finishing top of the pile) with a sprinkling of Worthington Tens (Gloucester was the first name on the silverware, causing quite a stir amongst the London writers who had forgotten that they had been accusing Gloucester of playing ten-man rugby for a zillion years).

Gloucester appears to be good at winning the first year of any domestic competition. But what about the Allied Dunbar Premiership? Wags in Gloucester will say that the Cherry and Whites won the first Merit Table run by Mr. Smith, the brewer. This merit table begat Courage Clubs Championship which begat the ADP. As they say, there are lies, damn lies and statistics!

Gloucester come into this game having already fallen victim to Bedford this season, nay, this year. Back on the last day of February, the Blues gingerly stepped onto the turf of 'Fortress Kingsholm' where only the Harlequins had been able to engineer a win all this season and that by a one-point verdict! After 40 minutes, Gloucester were 20-3 down, tries to Murray (2) and Paramore with Rayer booting a penalty and a conversion; Gloucester kept their heads above the water – just – with a Mapletoft penalty. Richards and Whetstone added second half tries for The Blues and Rayer landed a further conversion. For Gloucester, a penalty try and a touchdown by Sims, both tries converted by Mapletoft who added a further penalty, made the final 32-20 scorline slightly more respectable for the home side. But Bedford journeyed home that evening with a good win under their belt – and to date the 'Quins and Bedford are the only teams to win at Kingsholm. That 32-20 loss to Bedford in a 'game that did not matter' really hurt. And despite a few call-ups to 'national service', Gloucester is determined to avenge that defeat of five weeks ago. Like Bedford, Gloucester should be parading all its 'foreign' stars. Hopes of an 'Inter-Services match up on the wing between everyone's favourite RAF pilot (Rory Underwood) and the Army's fastest man on two feet (Brian Johnson) is for the future as Johnson was shown the obligatory 'red cross' card after a concussion playing for England A a couple of weeks ago.

The fact that Gloucester is gonna win is irrelevant, except to this writer who can look out of the office window and see the green, green grass of (Kings) home – and the thousands of others who will have travelled up the M5, turned right on to the M42, right again on to the M6 which became the M1 and arrived at what is, this season, our 'second holm'.

What awaits the Sheddies – some of Bedford's long standing supporters



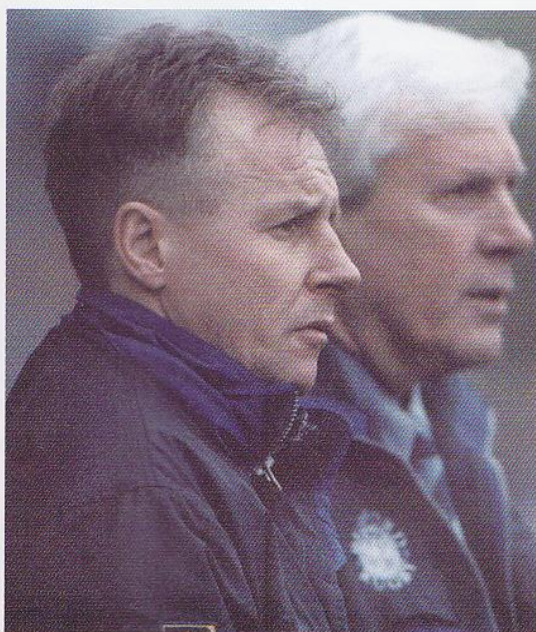
CHELTENHAM & GLOUCESTER CUP FINAL 1997/98



HEAD to HEAD



BEDFORD v GLOUCESTER



THE 54-match series between Bedford and Gloucester started in 1905/06 at Kingsholm when Gloucester won the first encounter 52-5, the second biggest winning margin in the series to date. Alas, Bedford was not too impressed with the scoreline and the two clubs did not meet for some 30 years!

The second match, again at Kingsholm, was in the 1936/37 season when Bedford prevailed 9-6. A year later Gloucester travelled to Bedford and in another close game came out on top 9-5.

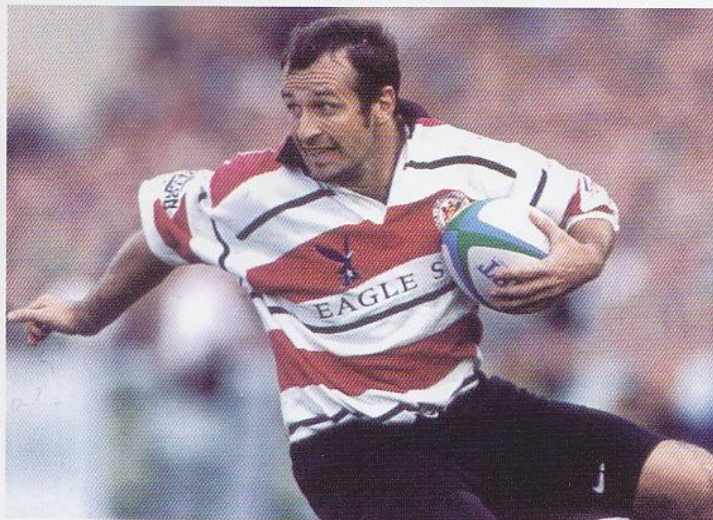
It was in 1995/96 that the biggest winning margin was recorded. Gloucester bettered the margin of the opening games of the series 90 years previously by just one point, beating the Blues 63-15 at Kingsholm.

The following season, it was pay-back time! At Goldington Road, Bedford beat the Cherry and Whites 58-19 for the third highest winning margin in the series and the most points the Blues have scored against Gloucester.

Of the 54 matches so far played between the two clubs, Gloucester has won 31 and Bedford have prevailed in 19. Four have been drawn.

The two clubs have never met each other in either the RFU KO Cup (Tetley's Bitter Cup) or the league. So we are in new territory this evening – the climax of a new competition and the first meeting between Bedford and Gloucester in real action!

Pictured: Bedford's dynamic management duo of Paul Turner and Geoff Cooke (above), and Gloucester's former French skipper, Philippe Saint-Andre



CHELTENHAM & GLOUCESTER CUP FINAL 1997/98