

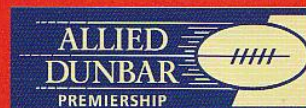
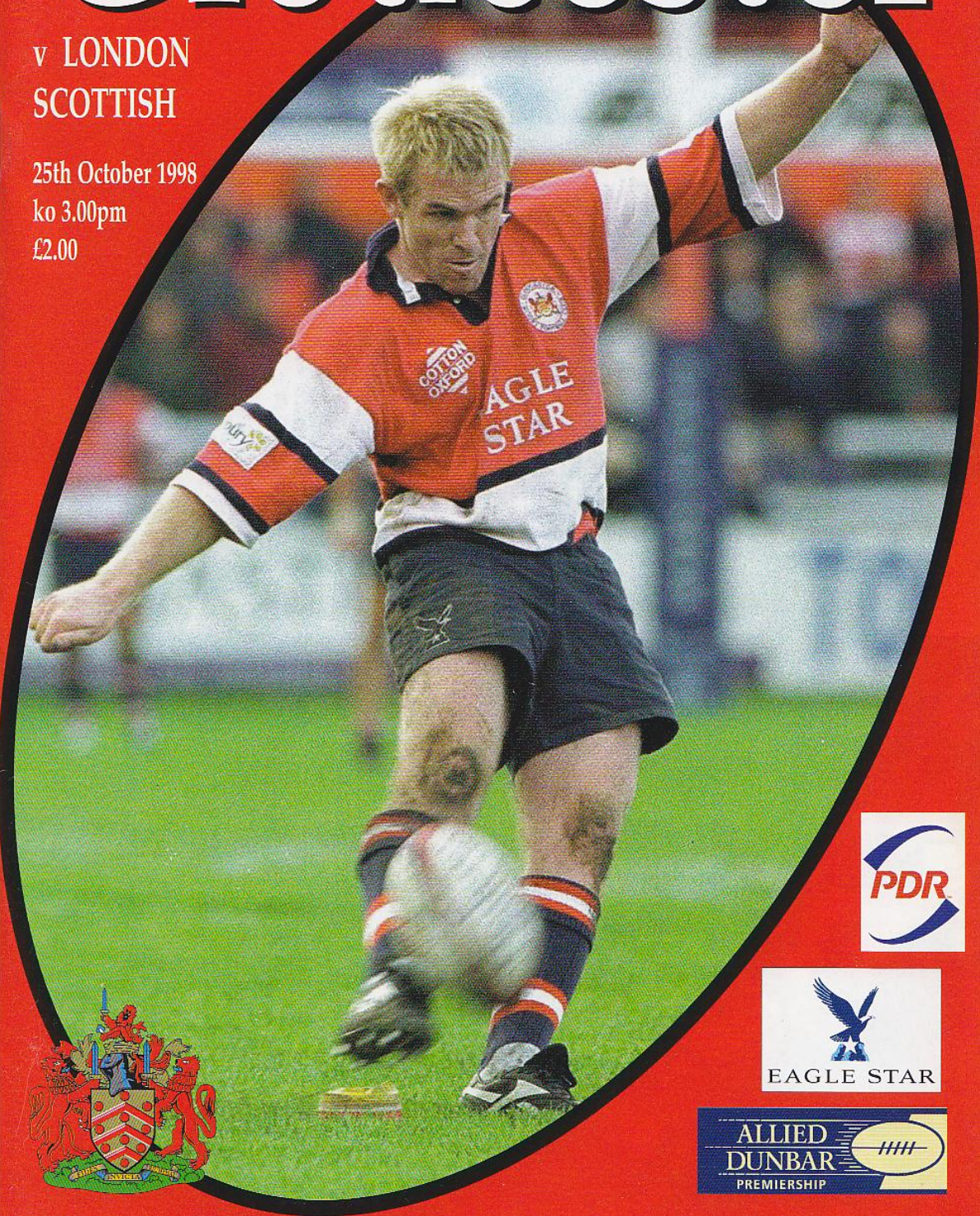
Gloucester

v LONDON
SCOTTISH

25th October 1998

ko 3.00pm

£2.00



Player Profile -

At the beginning of this season, we asked young Gloucester fans to come along to the club and interview their favourite player. This week, Luke Broadley puts Mark Mapletoft under the spotlight...

What made you decide to play for Gloucester?

When I finished university at Loughborough, I wanted to go and play for a first division club and Gloucester approached me. I had heard that Tim Smith was soon to retire and that they would be looking for a long-term replacement at full-back. I had been to Kingsholm and played rugby against Gloucester and became quite friendly with Mike Burton and he kept pestering my Dad saying I should come and play for Gloucester.

Who made the decision for you to switch from full-back to fly-half?

I suppose I did! It was a position I have never played but always wanted to, and when I came back from my knee injury Chris Catling had joined the club at full-back; he was up and coming and it enabled me to move forward to fly-half. Richard Hill made the final decision - he thought it was a good idea - and I had spoken to various people,

Stuart Barnes for example, who thought it was something I should have done before.

What skills do you need to be a good fly-half?

All of them! Obviously, you don't need to get involved with forward skills but you need to know the game all round, especially goal kicking. More recently, decision making on the pitch has become a very important factor and the fly half has to learn to dictate the game and get everyone in the right position.

Who do you feel is the most complete fly-half?

That is a very difficult question. I would say Michael

Lynagh and in his day Joel Stransky.

How do you feel professionalism has changed the game of rugby?
We haven't got all day!

How did you feel about not being selected for the England summer 1998 tour?

Anyone would feel disappointed if they feel they are playing well and that they are in with a chance of selection. I try to turn any decision that is made against me to my advantage; at that time, with Simon Mannix joining the club, people probably thought I was going to go out and top myself, but I'm not like that!



Mark Mapletoft & Luke Broadley

Mark Mapletoft

What sort of captain is Dave Sims?

Apart from being a very good captain, Dave is a player who everyone respects both because of what he's done with Gloucester and because of his never ending quest to get international rugby. I think that players like that, who work their hardest day in, day out for their club gain enormous respect. Dave over the past few years has had various offers from clubs but has stayed loyal to Gloucester which says a lot. He is a good motivator.

Do you have a kicking coach?

No

Have you played any other sports?

Yes, when I was younger I played football and I was good! I attempt golf but haven't mastered the art yet.

How do you relax after a game?

Everybody enjoys a good time and as a player, you have to unwind. As long as you drink in moderation then it is the best way to relax, and because of Gloucester's off-the-pitch spirit we all enjoy going out together, especially if we've won!

If you were not playing rugby, what do you think you'd be doing?

I know what I'd like to be doing - I'd like to be working in sport. I am a very keen sports fan and I think if you can't play the

sport you enjoy as your job then to be involved with it in another capacity is the next best thing.

If you were stranded on a desert island, which Gloucester player would you take with you and why?

Life would get pretty dull on that island so it would have to be someone who would keep my spirits high - someone like Andy Deacon. He is the funniest bloke I have ever met!

What is the best moment in your rugby career?

Probably when Gloucester beat Leicester at Kingsholm last season. It was such a passionate

night with the game being so close and the lead going back and forth. It is the only time I can remember when everyone went out together afterwards - all the players and the coaches went to the same place.

What's your ambition for the future?

Well, I become a Dad in a few months so I want to be a good one of those! On the pitch, I just think everyone has to do as well as they can.



Welcome to the Opponents



LONDON SCOTTISH

Last season was an exceptional one for London Scottish, with the Exiles winning 14 of their 21 league matches and only losing out to Bath in the Tetley's Bitter Cup fourth round by one point in 47. With apologies to Bristol, they well deserved promotion to premiership One.

Also full-back Derrick Lee, top scorer for the club with 149 points, was drafted into the Scotland international team and went on to make seven appearances for his country after making his debut against Ireland in the Five Nations.

He was joined by number eight Simon Holmes, who forced his way into the Scotland side against Italy before suffering a broken hand which temporarily stopped his international career after three caps.

But life was to change during the summer as Scottish prepared for their first appearance against Sale in September.

Their landlords at Richmond Athletic Ground decided it was time to up sticks and move to the Madejski Stadium in Reading. Scottish found themselves homeless and, after a number of enquiries around the country, eventually settled on a new ground-sharing arrangement just a matter of miles from their former site at The Stoop, home of Harlequins RFC. Scottish have a decent team, with forwards of the calibre of 1993 British Lions tourist and 42-times capped international prop Paul Burnell on one

side of the front row and Paul Johnstone, a veteran of 35 Zimbabwe Test matches, in the loose-head position. Behind them is the formidable presence of six feet six inch, 18 stone former Harlequins lock Mick Watson.

An encouraging start of this season saw Scottish record a 25-20 victory over Sale and there was hope that, despite predictions of gloom, they would stamp their mark on the top flight.

Steele has promised that changes are in the air for the future. Nevertheless, London Scottish are working hard to arrest their recent run and are adjusting to the pace of the big league.

Their 22-year-old Australian full-back Iain McAusland had to play second fiddle to Lee last season but has since come into his own as a dynamic runner and prolific points scorer with the boot to the extent that he has made the number 15 jersey his own during this campaign. Today's clash with Glaws could give Steele and his backroom staff further pointers in their survival strategy and, should they get it right this time, the Exiles have the ability to make life hard for the Cherry and Whites



John Steele, director of rugby

So beware that the bagpipes are not playing another lament at a famous old ground today. London Scottish, for all their troubles, are not in Allied Dunbar Premiership One for nothing - and nobody, not even a mighty outfit like Gloucester, can afford to take today's game for granted.

BEHIND THE MIC

BBC Radio Gloucestershire celebrates 10 years on the air this month. Throughout that time Gloucester Rugby Club has been central to its sports output. Sports Producer Ian Randall explains the station's relationship with the club:

It's an often used phrase, but we have the best seat in the house. Looking out from our commentary point above the players tunnel on match days, we have an unobstructed view of Kingsholm's hallowed turf. Coverage of Gloucester is far more though than just match commentary.

Our demands are very different from the written press. We try to avoid

broadcasting interviews done on the 'phone, so that means being at the ground to talk to the players face to face. At least when it's on tape, you can't misquote someone. Until 1996, that meant being at Kingsholm after training on a Tuesday or Thursday night... no matter how murky it was, or how late the training session finished.

Our test each week is to look for an angle on the match that will give some interesting thoughts from a couple of players, and of course, Richard Hill. Milestones or previously memorable matches are a good start point. That's normally on a Tuesday, then it's a call to check the training schedule, and fix a time to go to the ground - usually Thursday lunchtime, by which time we know the team.

The players are generally very helpful when it comes to recorded interviews, though some are happier about doing it than others. Andy Deacon was very obliging in his season as Captain, but you got the impression deep down

that he hated it. Phillipe, with his accent, tries really hard, and he's worth persevering with.

The live post-match interview however, is very different. When Simon Devereux was forced to take an enforced break from rugby, Gloucester won a League game the following Saturday. On the pitch at the final whistle, Dave Sims, pent up with emotion, voiced his opinion on the decision, and threw in the odd expletive for good measure. On the last Saturday of the season, Dave apologised for his outburst - but we knew how he felt.

The fun part of the job is matchday, doing the commentary, and hopefully seeing Gloucester play well and win. Post match interviews are always easier in that situation. I recall the night after the famous 16-10 win over Bath, virtually the whole side, at various times, joined us during our Rugby Special.

We have a strong relationship with Gloucester, one which we need, with the Cherry & Whites being our senior club in terms of status and support base. We bring you the thoughts of the players and staff every week, in good times, bad times and, in the case of Phil Greening, when sport is news. It's a relationship of trust both ways between the club and ourselves, one which I'm sure many fans would like to share... and you can, by listening to BBC Radio Gloucestershire.

"C'mon Glaws!"

Richard Hill

'Lang May Yer Lum Reek'

Peter Arnold

For the less educated among us, I'm told that the headline means 'Long may your Chimney smoke!' and it's my hamfisted way of saying how good it is to see our old and valued opponents from London Scottish back at Kingsholm after a spell in the Premiership wilderness.

Print schedules being what they are, I have no way of knowing, at the time of writing, how Gloucester fared against Harlequins on Tuesday evening, although there's a nice symmetry about the way things have panned out in the fact that the Scottish Exiles now play their home games at The Stoop. However, I suppose that the vast majority of today's spectators will be hoping for a spectacle resembling the feast laid on by the Gloucester and Newcastle players last Saturday.

Time will tell about that, but today's participants will have a job on their hands repeating the game that had everything. It had great tries, excellent team and individual performances, exemplary refereeing and enough excitement to satisfy even the most blasé of rugby watchers. The contrast with the Wasps game was striking. Instead of forty penalties we had a flowing game and a load of tries. Instead of niggles, we had a match where, generally speaking, the two sides respected both each other and the laws of the game. Instead of a dissatisfied and angry crowd, we had good-

humoured banter and great appreciation of the skills being exhibited by players on both sides.

There's a moral there, somewhere, but I'm not going to explore it now. Today's order of business is all about London Scottish who have fought their way back into the top echelon this season, albeit at the expense of our old friends from Bristol.

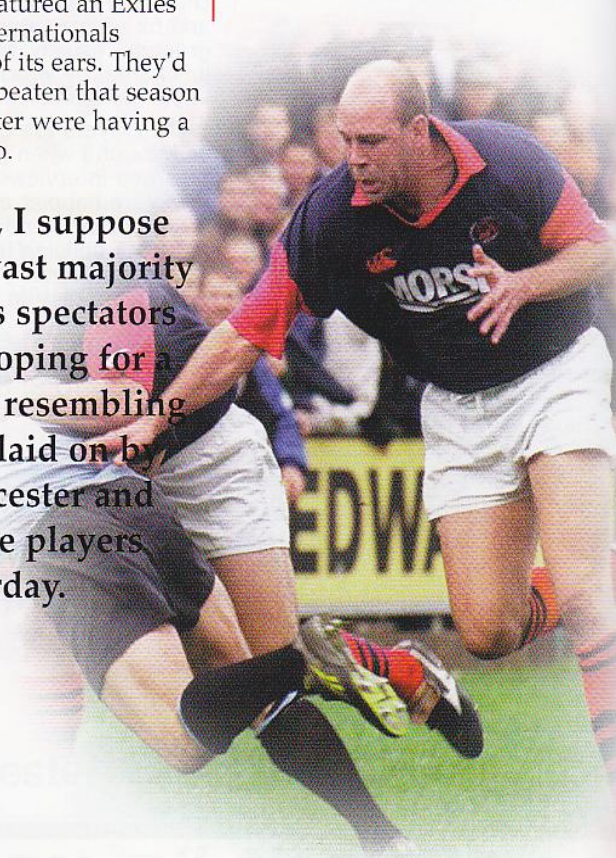
Gloucester and the Scots go back a very long way, and the season didn't seem the same without them. As more senior supporters will remember, we used to entertain them on or around New Year's Day, and some memorable encounters there were too. One of the most exciting games I remember featured an Exiles side with internationals coming out of its ears. They'd hardly been beaten that season and Gloucester were having a good run, too.

However, I suppose that the vast majority of today's spectators will be hoping for a spectacle resembling the feast laid on by the Gloucester and Newcastle players last Saturday.

On a very cold, frosty day the game was one of those end-to-end affairs where the action never seemed to stop. At the final whistle the score was 0-0, but we couldn't complain about the afternoon's entertainment.

London Scottish haven't had the best of starts to the season, but we should not be lulled by that. Truth to tell, there isn't a lot between any of the Premiership One sides, and anybody can spring a surprise as Harlequins demonstrated to Saracens last week. If they don't win today it won't be through lack of trying.

Have a great time, Scottish. It's good to see you back.



Catching 'Em Young

The other day I heard St. Peter's School in Stroud Road described on the radio as "Dave Pointon's rugby factory". I've no doubt that there is far more to that excellent school than that, but then, there's more to Dave's rugby involvement than his teaching role as well.

Many will fondly remember Dave Pointon as a more-than-useful Gloucester and Gloucestershire outside-half with an educated left boot. He's also a talented cricketer. On top of all that, he is GRFC's official Schools Liaison officer, and not a man for letting the grass grow under his feet. One of his initiatives is to allocate specific players to assist PE teachers, not just in Gloucester but throughout the County. As Dave says, "We're not just a Gloucester club."

That's true, but the system could also serve to fight off depredations from other talent-seeking outfits who have been observed, from time to time, sneaking around and attempting to lure away young hopefuls who might otherwise have marched Kingsholmwards.

Not one to worry about the occasional split infinitive, Dave says, "We have to actively encourage youngsters if we are to maintain our reputation for producing home-grown playing talent. We would rather spend money on developing promising young players than using a chequebook to buy in stars."

Words and liaison systems are all very well, but there's no substitute for getting the youngsters out on the field, and if

we can give them a taste of what it's like to play on Kingsholm, then that's a very handy bonus. There is also the thought that they should be playing the game in a form which will appeal to them as well as imparting basic skills.

That's what 'New Image Rugby' is all about, and you'll have a chance to see it as curtain-raiser entertainment at Allied Dunbar Premiership games. These matches will be played as part of a County-wide New Image League, organised by the Club.

There must be quite a lot of schools - and perhaps other organisations - out there that

might be interested



Dave Pointon

PUTTING THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE

One event of last weekend amply demonstrated the relative importance of a game of rugby and the wider world outside. While we were all enjoying one of the finest matches seen at Kingsholm for many a long day, one keen young Gloucester supporter was fighting for his life.

My very old friend Mike Price, aka 'Pricey of the Tump' and 'Pricey of Shedhead' never misses a game, but three days before the Newcastle match, his family was hit by a tragedy which put the whole thing into perspective. His eighteen year-old son, Matthew, was diagnosed with an extremely serious illness which necessitated immediate surgery and a course of very aggressive chemotherapy.

Mike was obviously devastated. He was at Matthew's bedside on the morning of the game, where he was told by the consultant in charge that much of the lad's progress from there on in was in his own hands. All in the mind, he had to fight with everything he had.

Nevertheless, Matthew insisted that his father

come to Kingsholm, and return afterwards to report on things. On Sunday morning, Mike arrived, bearing a copy of the Pink 'Un with the banner headline 'KINGS OF KINGSHOLM'. He then gave Matthew a run-down on the match.

According to Mike, the effect was immediate and dramatic. Matthew visibly brightened, and clutched his father's hand with a strength Price Senior hadn't known he possessed. He went off to sleep with the Pink 'Un mounted on the wall of his room, where he can see it from his bed.

If positive thinking is the key to Matthew Price's recovery, then the events of last Saturday at Kingsholm would certainly appear to have provided the stimulus for it. For one family at least, the game and its result was far more important than two Premiership points.

All of us, from the Tump to the Stand, to the Worcester Street End and on the pitch itself will be rooting for Matthew's speedy recovery. 'Get well soon' young Matthew. We want to see you back where you belong in the shortest possible time.

DONALD CRICHTON-MILLER

Last week I recorded the fact that 'Digger' Morris celebrates no fewer than 70 years with the Gloucester club this year, which is an incredible record when you come to think of it.

Following that, it was suggested to me that The Digger must now be Gloucester's oldest living ex-player. That may well be so, although Glyn Hollifield of Magdala Road must run him pretty close.

However, eighteen months ago, it certainly would not have been true. I am indebted to a gentleman who forgot to sign his letter, so I can't name him, who sent me the following information.

DONALD CRICHTON-MILLER died at Compton in August 1997 at the age of 90. He played for Cambridge University, Gloucester, Bath and Scotland. It appears that he did not go into the Colonial Service, as was his original intention, choosing to take up teaching instead, because he felt that was the better way to further his rugby ambitions.

A back-row forward, he won his Cambridge Blue in 1928 (the same year that Digger Morris arrived at Kingsholm), and first played for Scotland in 1931. He won three Caps in all, including one against England at Murrayfield in 1932.

Scotland won that one, 28-19, which was a very high-scoring game for that time.

It would be nice to find out a little more about him. One could speculate that he came to Gloucester to teach, and it would be a fair guess that he taught at the Crypt, because Sir Thomas Rich's and King's School were playing soccer in those days.

That's just top-of-the-head stuff, of course, but if anyone can confirm or deny that I'd be grateful and will certainly pass on any more information I can find.

Continued from page 16

Good for the Hill!

Rugby is such an important part of Gloucester social life and culture that it's always good to hear of one of our local clubs getting involved with the wider community. I know, of course, that many of them do, in various ways, but the one I heard about last week serves to act as a great example.

It concerns Coney Hill RFC who, I'm told, are making their facilities available for the fifth year in a row, so that some folk who can't get about as well as they used to, can be provided with a free Christmas lunch. The whole thing is being organised by the Coney Hill area of the Home Visiting Service, which provides volunteers who call in on frail or housebound people, helping them make sure they're getting all the benefits to which

they're entitled, and generally keeping an eye on things. They also organise minibs day trips so that their clients can get about a bit.

Each year, in Coney Hill, the Home Visiting Service organises the aforesaid Christmas Lunch, but would have great difficulty in doing it without the wholehearted support of Coney Hill RFC. Not only are the facilities made available for this purpose, but everything is free, including a welcome drink on the Club, and all the fuel necessary to cook a real beanfeast for some 48 people, and that, as you know, ain't exactly cheap.

Incidentally, the meal is prepared by the ladies who regularly cook for the Luncheon Club which also operates from Coney Hill RFC all the year

round.

Rugby may have gone professional, but down Coney Hill way, at any rate, its heart's still in the right place. I think we should congratulate all concerned for their involvement.

Incidentally, I am asked to point out that the Coney Hill lunch isn't confined to local clients of the Home Visiting Service. Anyone in the City who is frail or lonely and would like to have a meal with convivial people at Christmas time is welcome to apply to go along.

If you have a friend or relative who you think might enjoy such a gathering, then the thing to do is to ring Sam on 01452 380116. Nice guy, and he'll be glad to help.

UNBEATEN BLUES

While we're on the subject of local clubs, you may recall that, a few weeks ago, I wrote a little piece about Gloucester All Blues and their highly successful youth policy. You'd normally expect that to be a long-term sort of initiative, but I now begin to wonder. I hear that they are, at the time of writing, claiming to be the only unbeaten side in Gloucestershire.

What's more, there is also a contention that All Blues and Worcester are the only two unbeaten sides in Europe! Although how the heck you check on that I simply wouldn't know.

Of course, the Blues do have one thing going for them apart

from their youth policy. It's the presence of Jim Breeze, who has emerged from the woodwork to play in the centre for them.

You remember Jim Breeze, of course. He was an effective, no-nonsense winger who distinguished himself in a fair few games for Gloucester some years ago.

He ran hard, was difficult to stop or bring down and tackled like an avalanche. Old Elver Eaters never die, they say, and it's nice to see that Jim Breeze isn't even showing any signs of ONE OVER THE EIGHT.

I might have known it. When I issued an invitation, a few weeks ago, for readers to write in with contributions, quizzes, trivia information and anything else which struck their fancy, I could have anticipated that my old and valued correspondent, Alan Kear from Hucclecote would be first off the mark.

He's provided an interesting little quiz which he's entitled 'One Over the Eight', I imagine because there are nine questions, although I suppose other interpretations are possible.

Thanks Alan! Do it again sometime.

See page 25 for the questions

Gloucester 7 Harlequins 39

Gloucester have not beaten Harlequins since November 1994, and as Bob Dylan's 'The Mighty Quinn' rang round The Stoop at the end of the game, it seemed to rub salt into the Cherry and Whites' wounds. Those wounds by the way are literal in the cases of two Gloucester players. Injury was added to the insult of the defeat as full-back Catling and fly-half Simon Mannix sustained a twisted ankle and a groin injury respectively. We can only hope that they recover in time for today's game.

It was sadly appropriate that Mannix should suffer an injury to his foot, as he had bad luck with his kicks all night. By the time Harlequins' in-form kicker John Schuster had slotted nine kicks over in the first half, Mannix sliced a penalty awarded after Audley Lumsden was tackled late. Mannix didn't get a kick over until Gloucester's only try was awarded late in the game - he converted the penalty try awarded by Bristolian ref Ed Morrison.

Mr Morrison had been pretty busy all game, penalising Harlequins 14 times in the first 60 minutes, and Gloucester 6 times. It made for a frustrating evening all round. Gloucester's handling in particular was hardly of the form we've come to expect from Richard Hill's men, and nowhere near the quality seen against Newcastle. In fact, it was wayward handling that lead to Harlequins' first try - a fifty yard sprint by Darren O'Leary after intercepting a Steve Ojomoh pass. Though perhaps we can excuse a little indelicacy from O.J.

So, the second half began with Glaws down 14-0 and things didn't get any better. Former all-black Schuster added another pair of penalties, and Luger, Wright and O'Leary (again) added tries. Gloucester continued to make simple mistakes - Terry Fanolua's handling was not his best, and Chris Fortey lost his own scrum-ball on one occasion.

Richard Hill isn't fond of making substitutions, as he believes it detracts from a unified team spirit, but he made six in this match, perhaps representing his dissatisfaction with Gloucester's play. Neil McCarthy replaced Fortey nine minutes into the second half; Woodman and Ed Pearce were replaced by Windo and Devereux respectively; Ward came on for Cornwell and Kimber and Greenslade-Jones relieved the injured Mannix and Catling on 80 minutes.

Harlequins' lead made it as far as 29-0 before the penalty try and Mannix conversion put Gloucester on the scoresheet. Schuster added another penalty and O'Leary's second try took the game to its final scoreline.

We know the lads are capable of better than this, and with a vociferous Kingsholm crowd behind them, we should fare better against a struggling Scottish. So, come on Glaws!

Gloucester RFC 01452 381087

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Alan's One Over the Eight Quiz

You can find Alan's answers on page 29

1. Which Gloucester player broke a leg in an England squad session?
2. Which Gloucester Captain had his shoulder dislocated by a team-mate wrenching away a smuggled pass to score a try, had his shoulder put back on the spot, and then gave the same colleague another scoring pass?
3. In the 1970's, Gloucester had two sets of brothers on its wing three-quarter strength. Can you name them?
4. When Gloucester provided England's entire front row against South Africa in 1984, who was

the other Gloucester player in the team ?

5. Which Gloucester players wrote the following books ?

- (a) 'Never Stay Down'
- (b) 'Rubbing Shoulders'

6. In which year did Gloucester win the inaugural National Tens ?

7. Name the seven Gloucester forwards who represented the South and South West against New Zealand at Bristol in 1983.

8. In which year were Gloucester's floodlights switched on ?

9. To celebrate 100 years of rugby at Kingsholm, Gloucester played two international teams. Can you name them ?

FAME FOR O.J.



We've become accustomed to seeing Gloucester players on the telly, but I for one never expected to see any of them popping up in an episode of 'Friends', undoubtedly one of the most popular American sitcoms in the world.

For the benefit of non-Friends watchers, I should explain that the basis of the series is the adventures and misadventures of a group of six late-twenties friends living and working in New York. It can be quite hilarious.

Recently, one episode had a plot line which involved Ross, a slightly wimpish member of the group, getting involved with a bunch of British ex-pats and being induced to try his hand at a game of rugby. In order to find out what it is all about, he parked himself in front of a TV and watched what appeared, from the colours on view, to be a video of an England a Wales game.

There, just for a moment, was our own Steve Ojomoh, charging down field and slipping a pass to a following-up Neil Back.

Fame at last ! I don't suppose 'O.J.' ever expected to appear in that sort of company.

TAILPIECE

I was interested to read, during the week, that Mike Catt described Bath's Recreation Ground as "pretty".

No accounting for taste, I suppose.



GLOUCESTER

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13	Terry Fanolua*
12	Richard Tombs*
11	Philippe Saint-André* ^T
10	Simon Mannix* ^{2C5P}
9	Ian Sanders
1	Tony Windo
2	Neil McCarthy
3	Andy Deacon
4	Mark Cornwell
5	Dave Sims (capt)*
6	Ed Pearce
7	Andy Dawling ^T
8	Steve Ojomoh*
16	Chris Catling
17	Martin Kimber
18	Scott Benton*
19	Trevor Woodman
20	Chris Fortey
21	Rob Fidler*
22	Simon Devereux



Full Back
Right Wing
Centre
Centre
Left Wing

Outside Half
Scrum Half

Prop
Hooker
Prop
Lock
Lock
Flanker
Flanker
No. 8

Replacements

*Denotes International

LONDON SCOTTISH



Iain McAusland
Kenny Milligan
Rhodri Davies
Brad Hepi
Luke Goodwin

Simon Binns
Guy Easterby

Paul Johnstone
Damian Rudham
Paul Burnell
Eddie Jones
Mick Watson
Simon Fenn
Simon Holmes
Rob Hunter

Magnus MacDonald
Peter Robertson
Mark McAtamney
Chris Tarbuck
Charlie Mulrane
Ronnie Eriksson
Conan Sharman

Referee
Graham Hughes

Touch Judges
Chris Rees
Barry Oldham