

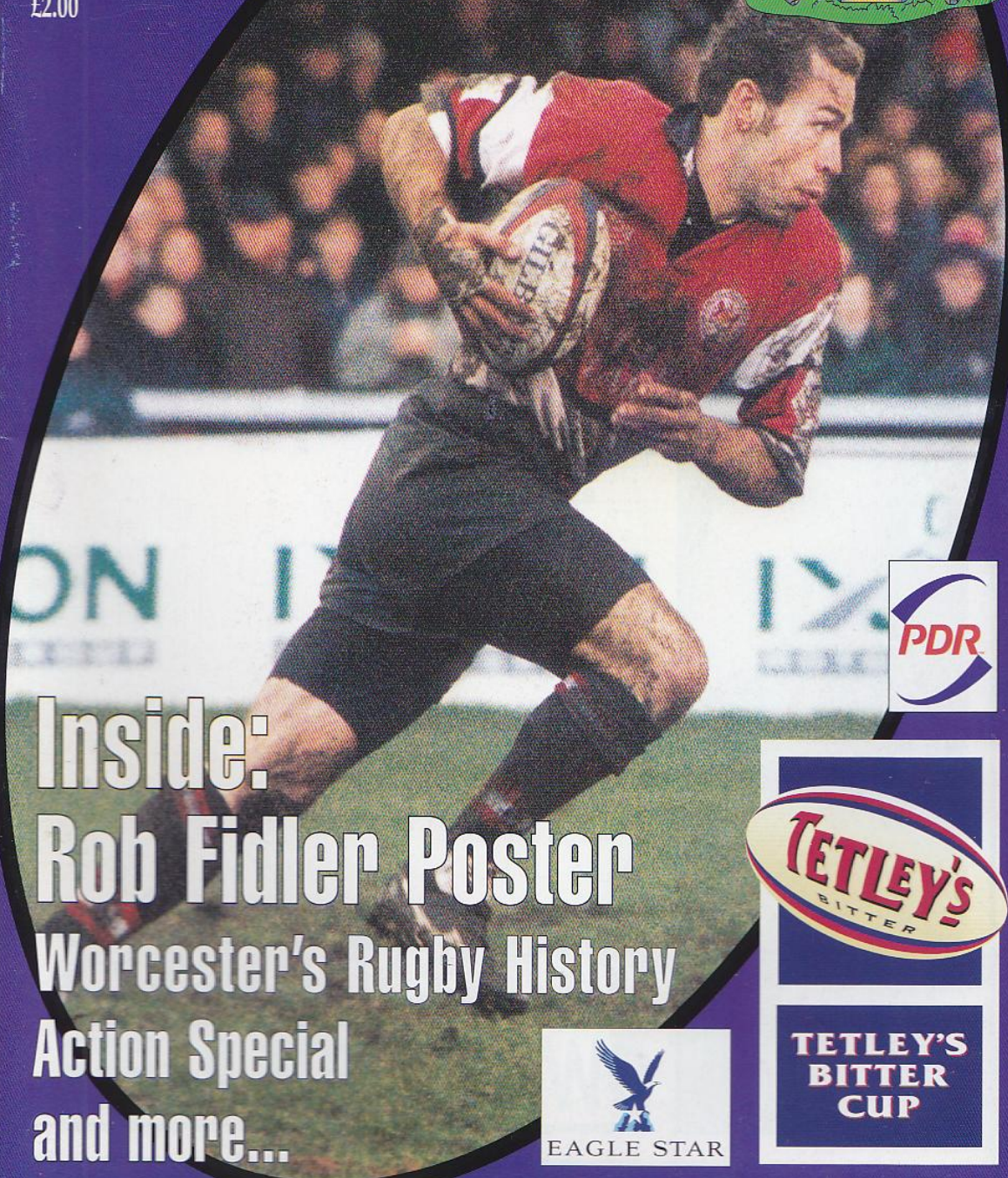
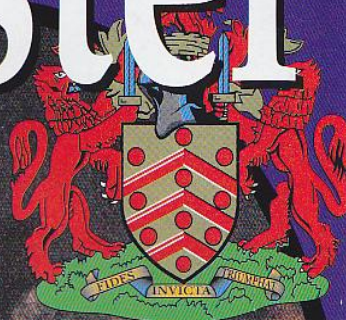
Gloucester

v WORCESTER

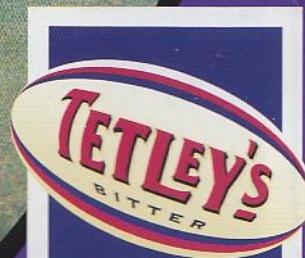
9th January 1999

Kick Off 3.00pm

£2.00



Inside:
Rob Fidler Poster
Worcester's Rugby History
Action Special
and more...



**TETLEY'S
BITTER
CUP**





GLOUCESTER

(Probable)



WORCESTER



Today's Match Day Sponsor:
Beaven and Sons Ltd

15	Chris Catling
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1	Trevor Woodman
2	Neil McCarthy
3	Andy Deacon
4	Rob Fidler
5	Mark Cornwell
6	Ed Pearce
7	Nathan Carter
8	Steve Ojomoh
16	Laurie Beck
17	Martyn Kimber
18	Rob Jewell
19	Chris Fortey
20	Adey Powles
21	Dave Sims
22	Andrew hazell

Full Back
Right Wing
Centre
Centre
Left Wing

Outside Half
Scrum Half

Prop
Hooker
Prop
Lock
Lock
Flanker
Flanker
No. 8

Replacements

John Liley
Simon Morris
Duncan Hughes
Richard Le Bas
Nick Baxter

Niall Malone
Bruce Fenley

Mark Linnett
Dean Ball
Peter Mitchell
Richard Denhardt
Chris Raymond
Gary Clark
Nigel Richardson
Jim Jenner

James Broady
Gordie Houston
Mark Gilbert
Ed Orgee
Steve Powell
Lee Hinton
Paul Holford

Referee
Robin Goodliffe

Touch Judges
Steve Kent
Ashley Reay

From the Chief Executive

I am really delighted to welcome our friends and neighbours Worcester RFC to Kingsholm today for what is the a first ever meeting at top level for these two clubs.

Like most people I have watched Worcester's rise to prominence with real admiration and I am thrilled at the prospect of our two clubs making history this afternoon in the Tetley Bitter Cup draw.

The match also has large significance with many former Gloucester players who have now moved on to Worcester, names such as Bruce Fenley, Paul Holford, Chris Scott and Tim Smith.

I am sure everyone at Kingsholm today will join me in hoping that this isn't the last time that we meet, but the first of many derby clashes; this game has certainly generated the most interest out of all the 4th round draws.

1999 got off to a great start for us with a fantastic win over Bath in front of the Sky cameras and I can only hope that we can also win today to make it a double local derby victory.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a few words regarding the recent performances of our United team. It is very important for a club in this professional era to have a

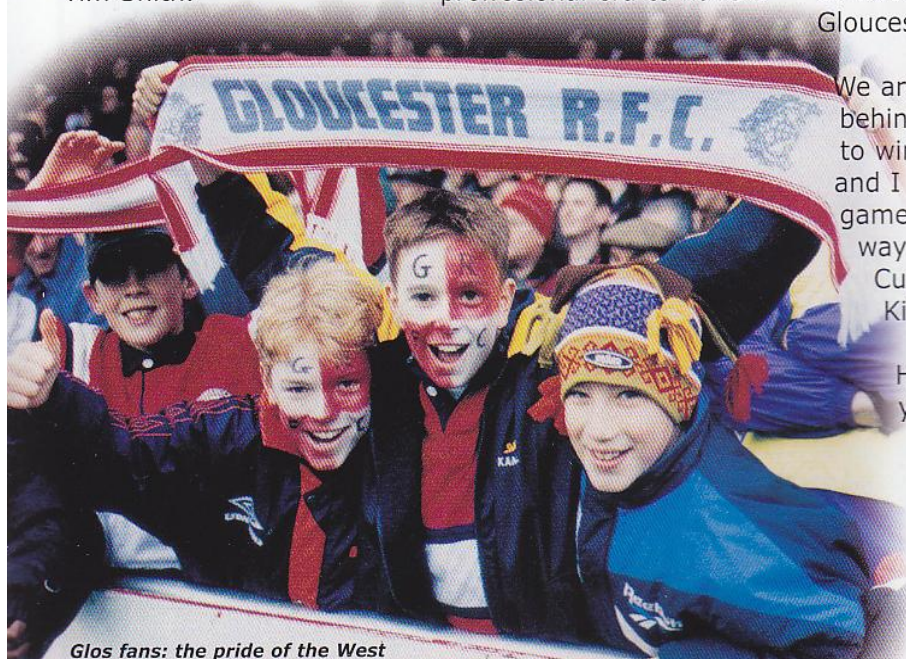
side that keeps strength in depth and the work of Andrew Stanley has proved this with a string of victories so far this season. It has also allowed Richard Hill to look at those who are pushing their way for a 1st XV place and this can be nothing but healthy for the future of Gloucester RFC.

Finally, I would like to reserve my final words for our supporters. It is becoming a common occurrence in the week following a home game at Kingsholm that I receive letters and comments from players and supporters of opposition clubs, commenting on how envious they feel that they do not have the following Gloucester has.

We are all working hard behind the scenes to try to win things at this club and I hope that today's game will set us on our way towards achieving Cup success at Kingsholm for 1999.

Happy New Year to you all,

David Foyle



Glos fans: the pride of the West

Simon Devereux's



Last Saturday's win over Bath certainly lifted the spirits at Kingsholm albeit temporarily. A familiar scenario was to unfold on Tuesday night with defeat away to London Scottish.

I made the journey with the squad to London on Tuesday afternoon, meeting at the Shepperton Moat House, which is 15 minutes away from the Stoop Memorial Ground. On arrival, the forwards met outside to run through their line-out variations. This is common procedure which helps all the forwards to focus on the game ahead. All the players then had a light lunch and generally relaxed from the journey until the team meeting prior to departure for the ground.

The players realised the importance of the match ahead, especially with it being away from home. There was no complacency and everyone appeared focused. The team arrived in good time at the ground about 2 hours before kick-off. I took my place in the dugout, confident we would come away with a win.

The game started well for us with some good early pressure which resulted in a try for Tofty and a 7-0 lead. However, the ensuing re-start was kicked long and not dealt with effectively, resulting in a turnover and penalty by London Scottish. Another penalty from Scottish meant Gloucester lead 7-6.

"Teletext stated 850 as the match attendance, 500 of which must have been Gloucester supporters judging by the noise levels"

We were playing the best rugby so far, but squandered a number of try scoring opportunities by making errors and trying to force the final pass rather than recycling the ball and attacking again.

London Scottish scored next against the run of play. They had a line-out on our 22 from which their scrum-half went through a large gap towards the rear of our line-out and sprinted over for a converted try for Scottish to lead 13-7. Another penalty made it 16-7 at half-time. Despite trailing there was still a positive feeling within the camp that we would turn this deficit around.

The second half began with Gloucester scoring first, so we still trailed 16-10. Later followed the turning point of the game. London Scottish had a line-out on their own try line which was won by Fids at the front. Some close-range driving resulted in a ruck forming near the try line. Being this close to the line calls for direct rugby but for some reason we elected to run the ball with a move in midfield which resulted in a dropped ball and London Scottish hacking the ball the length of the pitch. As a forward, to get up to the opposition's line and then see this happen is soul-destroying.

London Scottish went on to score a try and a penalty against one penalty to Gloucester, making the score 24-13. I sat in the dug-out bewildered at the end of some 20 minutes. A quiet journey home was had by all.

Match Report

I would like to pay tribute to the travelling Gloucester supporters who were in good voice throughout, drowning out the occasional support for London Scottish. To see and hear this support as a player when away from home is very heart-warming and gives the side a tremendous lift. The players are desperate to start winning away on a regular basis to reward the consistently loyal support we receive.

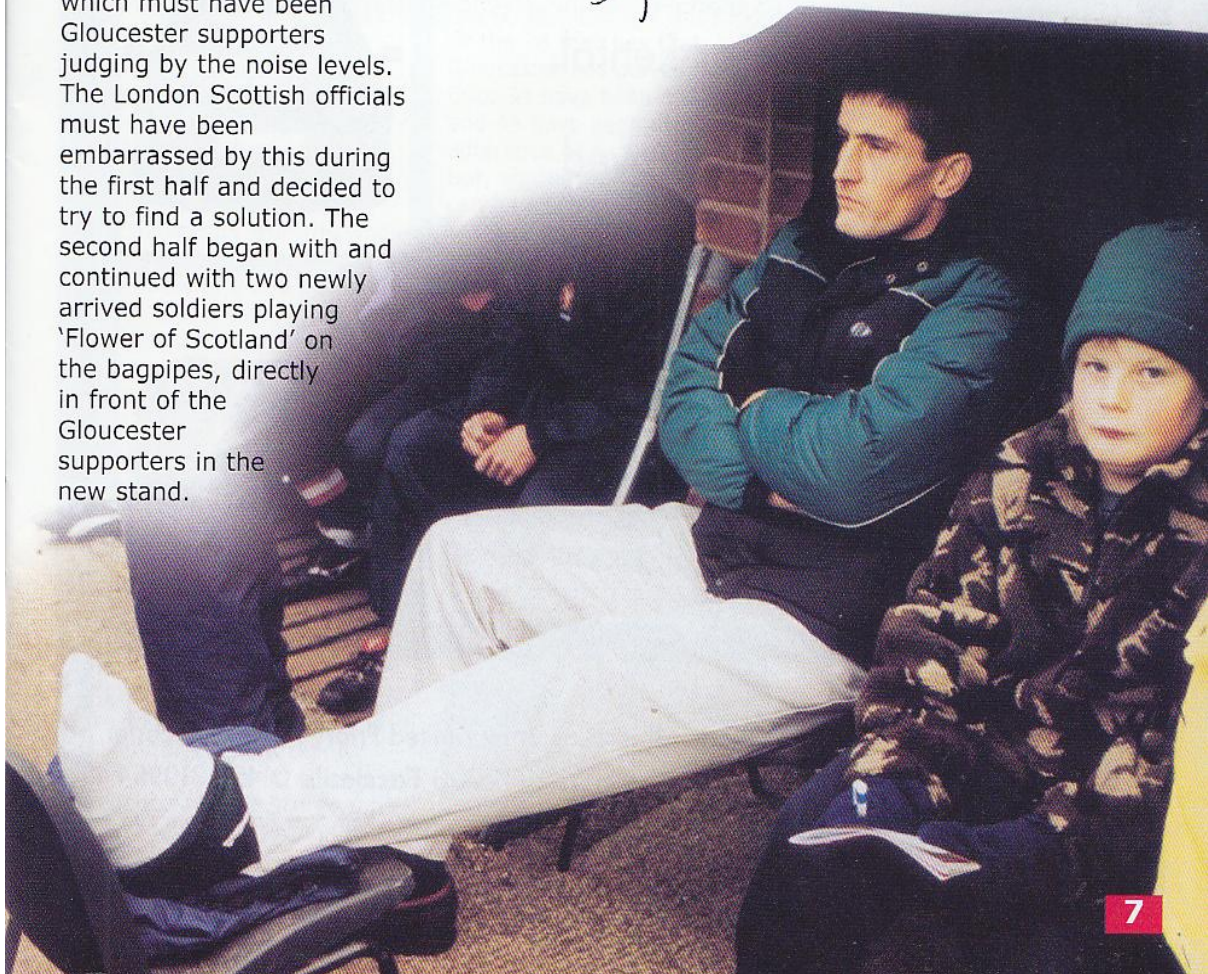
Teletext stated 850 as the match attendance, 500 of which must have been Gloucester supporters judging by the noise levels. The London Scottish officials must have been embarrassed by this during the first half and decided to try to find a solution. The second half began with and continued with two newly arrived soldiers playing 'Flower of Scotland' on the bagpipes, directly in front of the Gloucester supporters in the new stand.

This was like a red rag to a bull and resulted in the supporters shouting louder and louder, even drowning out the two soldiers, who eventually gave up and stopped playing.

Perhaps they ought to get a whole batallion in next time!



Kevin James



LONG TIME BETWEEN FIXTURES

My local historian friends tell me that, during the English Civil War, our own Colonel Massey, hero of the Siege of Gloucester, sallied forth with a small band and actually took Worcester for Parliament. They would know more about that than I, but it does seem an awfully long time to wait for a return fixture.

Come on now, how much did you know about Worcester, let's say, four years ago? A very nice city with a



Mark Mapleton

soaring cathedral which almost rivals our own, but you didn't think of today's welcome visitors in rugby terms, I'll bet.

In fact, I've only come across one reminiscence of Worcester rugby from the Dark Ages, so to speak. That came from an All Blues player who recalls playing there when the home side only possessed two balls, and one of those was made of leather. They had to play with it, too, because the 'modern' ball disappeared into a pitchside stream and took quite a while to recover.

Seems laughable, and even slightly discourteous to remember that, doesn't it? It just shows what a cash injection, the importation of one of the shrewdest rugby brains around in Les Cusworth, and massive determination to succeed can do. Nowadays, Worcester can claim to be the English success story of the professional era. Other clubs can point to considerable increases in their status, but no one can match the rise of Worcester from complete obscurity. If they're not in the top division next season, then it will be a surprise and something of an injustice.

Of course, they did have some help from this direction. As you will know, there was a considerable exodus of players from Kingsholm to Sixways, and it will be fascinating to see which of

them will be performing today. I assume that we can count on Bruce Fenley, who is the club Captain and a very good one too. Paul Holford, Simon Morris - it would be good to welcome them all back.

But, with all due respect to everyone else, the man most of us would most like to see running out in Worcester colours today is Tim Smith. He was always a Kingsholm favourite for more than his uncanny ability to land important kicks from the touchline, and then fluff the next one from in front of the post. For some time he was the best running full-back in England, highly respected by everyone except the England selectors. I know that Worcester have the remarkable kicking skills of John Liley to call on, but it would be great to see 'Smithy', albeit in an unfamiliar strip, performing at Kingsholm again.

The Cup, it has been said many times before, is a great leveller. Gloucester may have had to face sides which look stronger on paper, but they've never been confronted with a team more determined to win than Worcester will be today. That should make for an enthralling game, one which Gloucester certainly won't be taking lightly.

Welcome friends from Worcester, old and new. We're looking forward to a great rugby occasion.

The Other Worcester

While considering what to write for this programme, I thought it might be interesting to find out about any other Worcesters around the world who might have links with the oval ball game. There appear to be several, including at least two in South Africa, but it was in Worcester Massachusetts that I struck gold.

After a brief Internet contact, I was very pleased to receive the following Email from Steve Dunn, who I assume, maintains the Worcester Rugby Club's entertaining and informative Web site. Here's what he had to tell me.

Peter,
The Worcester Rugby Club plays in the second division of the New England Rugby Union. We are about to celebrate our 20th anniversary as a club in 1999. As part of our celebration, we are looking to tour Ireland and attend a World Cup match in support of the United States Eagles. Although the later round games are scheduled for Wales, we thought it would be best to see the Eagles before their inevitable elimination from the tournament. If we could find a way to get over to Gloucester, perhaps we could play your 2nd or 3rd side?

Last spring the Worcester Rugby Club had its best finish ever, winning the New England League title, and thereby qualifying for the

playoffs. In the last 16, Worcester beat Fort Worth, Texas, and then upset No.2 seeds, Huntington Beach, 34-33 on a game-winning try in the last seconds of the match. It was an unbelievable finish, and allowed the team to travel to San Diego, California to the Final Four of the National Championships in Division 2. After a 3,000 mile plane trip, the team got beat by a strong Frederick, Maryland side, 32-17, thus ending our dream season with a fourth place finish in the country - pretty good for the Worcester Rugby Club.

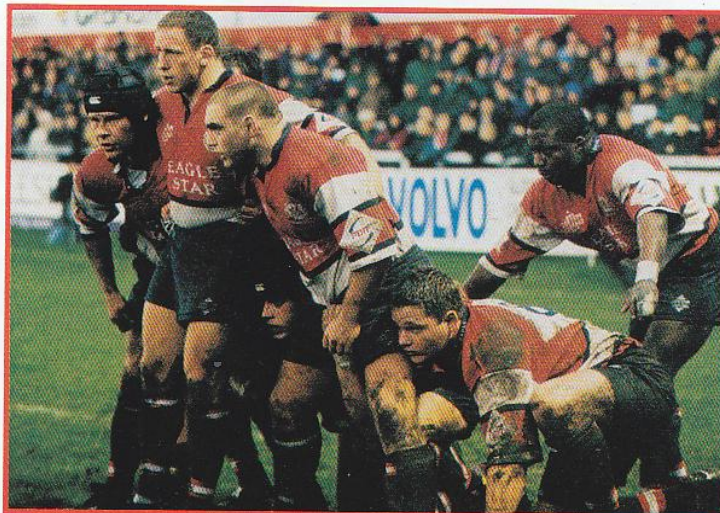
We are a very competitive side in the States, with a keen interest in the social aspects of the game as well. We are always happy to host touring sides, and actually played against Worcester, England on a tour of England in 1987. I don't know the score, but I hear they gave our side quite a thumping ! Thanks for your enquiry. You

can stay in touch with our doings through the website at www.wormtownrugby.com. Good luck !

Steve Dunn
Email: Rugbysteve@aol.com

Isn't that interesting ? I don't know about them playing United, but perhaps a development XV or something ? Alternatively, perhaps there's a local side around who fancy a home-and-away arrangement with Worcester MA?

One more point. I am intrigued by the way that Worcester MA happily describe themselves as 'Wormtown'. I can't find any good reason for it, although it has been suggested to me by another local resident that it is a description applied to them by envious neighbouring boroughs, which they have proudly adopted as their own. However that may be, Best Wishes to Wormtown Rugby from the Elver Eaters !



NEWS OF 'J.O.'

Peter Arnold

It's always nice to catch up with old friends at this time of the year, and I'm grateful to my regular correspondent, Alan Kear from Hucclecote, for sending me up-to-date news of one firm Kingsholm favourite who appears to have dropped out of sight over the past few years.

Many people will remember John Orwin. They ought to. Not only did he Captain Gloucester, but also the RAF, Combined Services, Bedford, the Barbarians and England, which doesn't leave much left to skipper, when you come to think about it.

I think that the first time most of us saw 'J.O.' was while he was based at RAF Brize Norton, and turned out for Oxfordshire in a County game at Kingsholm. It wasn't long before he joined Gloucester, partly I believe, at the instigation of Tony Mason, now retired as an Air Vice Marshal, and who, at that time, was concerned with the running of both the RAF and Combined Services sides.

When he first played for Gloucester he performed as a fast and very aggressive No.8, who was very willing to have a (fairly erratic) bang at the occasional long-range penalty kick. He made an impression, too,

briefly being tipped to replace the great John Scott, then playing for Cardiff, in the England side.

However, John was 'Glawsterised' as Mike Burton would say, into a very proficient lock forward, and it was from that position that he won all his honours.

On leaving the RAF, he moved away to Bedford and skippered them for a few seasons. He then gave up the highest level of the game, and played briefly in his native county of Yorkshire, turning out for the Morley and Wibsey clubs.

And as I write, he is 44 years old and still playing ! He is, in fact, player-coach at the Herts./Middlesex Two club, Datchworth, and if I know John, thoroughly enjoying it. Nice part of the world, that.

Now there's a true rugby man for you. Playing all the way from skippering England on tour to, with all due respect, a fairly junior local club, and still going strong, putting back into the game some of the things he took out of it.

New Year greetings to John Orwin and to his adopted club. Long may they both prosper.



Mr John Woof of Butler Fuels presenting Richard Tombs with the Match Ball at the Gloucester v Saracens match 21st November 1998

BUTLER FUELS

Butler Fuels have been long term sponsors and are keen supporters of Gloucester RFC. We would like to extend our thanks to John for his continued support and hope that he and his guests enjoy their day at Kingsholm.

You may find John (pictured left) in the Shed this afternoon - however, as a former Worcester player, who will he be supporting?

Barry Preece

SYD DANGERFIELD

Many people, from the world of rugby and beyond, will have been saddened by the news of the passing of Syd Dangerfield, who died on Christmas Day, after a lengthy illness.

Syd was one of those players you always remember. He was a stocky, hard-running wing three-quarter who didn't look blindingly fast at first sight, but was surprisingly elusive and a very difficult man to tackle. With Roy Sutton, Ken Daniells and Charlie Crabtree, he was a member of one of Gloucester's most fondly remembered three-quarter lines, operating behind the legendary half-back partnership of Danny Evans and Willie Jones. He never won an England Cap, but achieved just about everything else. He played for Gloucester, Gloucestershire, the RAF and British Police, who he Captained, and who he also represented at cricket, being a stalwart of the Upton-St.-Leonards side for years. He was also a man whose friendship you valued. When

I returned to Gloucester in 1972, after an exile of some twelve years during which time I hadn't seen him at all, he came and sat down beside me in the Royal Oak at Hucclecote one day and said "Hello, Pete. You ready for one?" as if we'd been chatting only the day before. No "Good to see you backs" or "Long time no sees". Simply a resumption of a rugby and cricket based acquaintanceship which might never have been interrupted as far as he was concerned.

After that, we used to have a little session in the 'Oak' just about every week. That was often on a Thursday, which was the day Syd's old team-mate, Willie Jones, used to come in. As you can imagine, to listen to those old warriors swapping sporting reminiscence for an hour or so was a privilege and high entertainment at its best.

Then his final illness crept up on him and we rather lost touch. The last time I saw him, at Kingsholm after

one Saturday match, the friend who had brought him along had to tell him who I was. That ruined my day completely. That such an ever-cheerful and friendly soul should have been stripped of his acuity by an insidious and incurable ailment seemed unfair and just plain wrong.

I would rather remember Syd Dangerfield as a forthright and effective rugby player who loved the game for its own sake, and as a companionable friend with a wonderful range of stories and a wry sense of humour. It occurs to me that if Syd could look over my shoulder and read what I have just written, he would probably chuckle and tell me not to be so daft. Nevertheless, he was a man that many people will miss, and whose passing ought to be recorded in the annals of the club he loved and served so well.

Our sincere sympathies go out to all his family and friends. There aren't many about like Syd Dangerfield.



WHY CAN'T I KEEP MY BIG MOUTH SHUT?

Peter Arnold

No sooner had I used quite a lot of printer's ink welcoming Kingsley Jones to Gloucester, and wishing him well in his campaign to be returned to the Welsh squad in time for the World Cup, than he goes and snaps an Achilles tendon in the Wasps game. That, we are told, puts him out of action for at least four months and is going to make it very difficult for him to achieve his declared ambition. By the time he's back in action and had a chance to prove his fitness and post-injury ability, the squad will be fairly well established. It's not impossible that he could make it, especially if other injuries intervene, but it's got to be something of a long shot.

Really bad luck that, and we sympathise wholeheartedly, but it isn't exactly good news for our own squad, either. After all, the formidable former Captain of Wales was drafted to Kingsholm precisely to help

compensate for a spate of back-row injuries we were having to cope with ourselves.

There are two bits of good news, however. One is that although we can, regretfully, write of Simon Devereux's chances for this season, the eternally hard-working Pete Glanville is on his way back and should be in action soon. The other heartening thing, in my humble opinion, is the performances that Ed Pearce and Nathan Carter turned in during the Bath game. They were, after all, up against an opposing back row of undoubted quality, but were nowhere near overshadowed at any point in the game.

No doubt they were inspired by the storming game put in by the mighty Steve Ojomoh, who no doubt wanted to prove a point against the side which rejected him. He could not complain about being isolated, because Carter and Pearce seemed to be all over the pitch, and mostly exactly where they were most needed. So, even without our injured trio, there ain't no back-row crisis at Kingsholm.

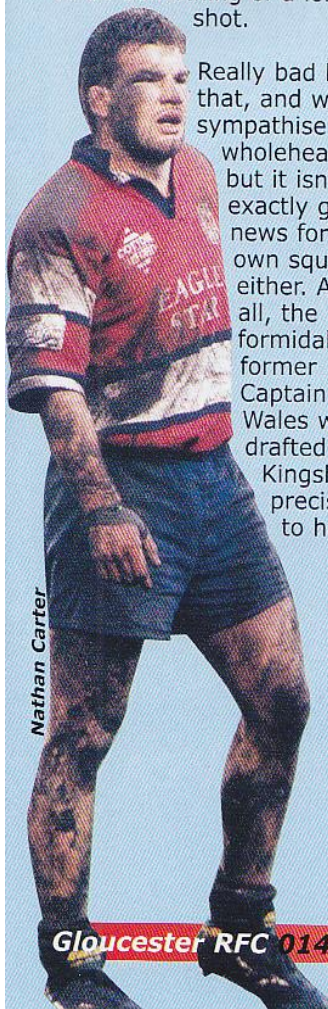
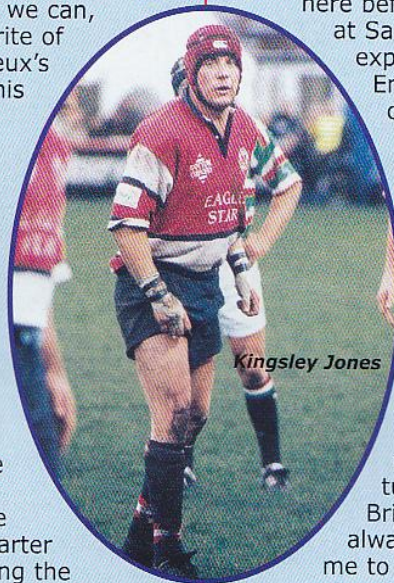
While on related matters, I was fascinated to read that two chaps we know very well may be on their way here. You may well know more about the Tom Beim and Dave Hinkins situation by the

time you read this, but personally, I'd welcome both of them.

We all know about winger Tom Beim who many of us rated highly when he was here before. His spell at Sale and experiences in the England squad can't have done him anything but good, and he's still relatively young.

Dave Hinkins, we've seen several times, especially when he was turning out for Bristol. He always seemed to me to be a tough, no-nonsense prop, streetwise and difficult to master. He should fit right in at Kingsholm. Anyway, good luck to every one of them.

Or perhaps I'm tempting fate again by saying so.

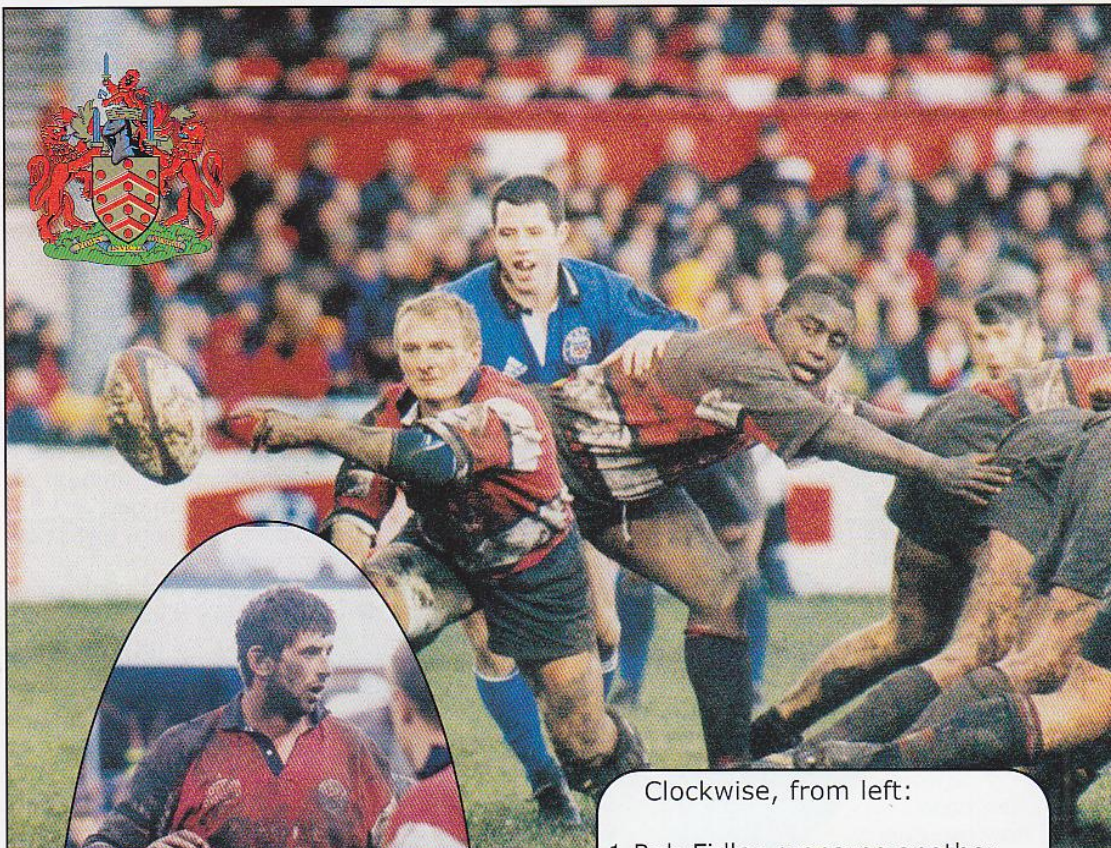


TAILPIECE

Last weekend's Sunday Times featured an article by Steve Jones which was generally complimentary about Gloucester, and pointed out the 'By the end of the game, The Shed had resumed pronouncing the word "Gloucester" with 14 RRR's'

Nice to see a journalist who knows his RRR's from his elbow.

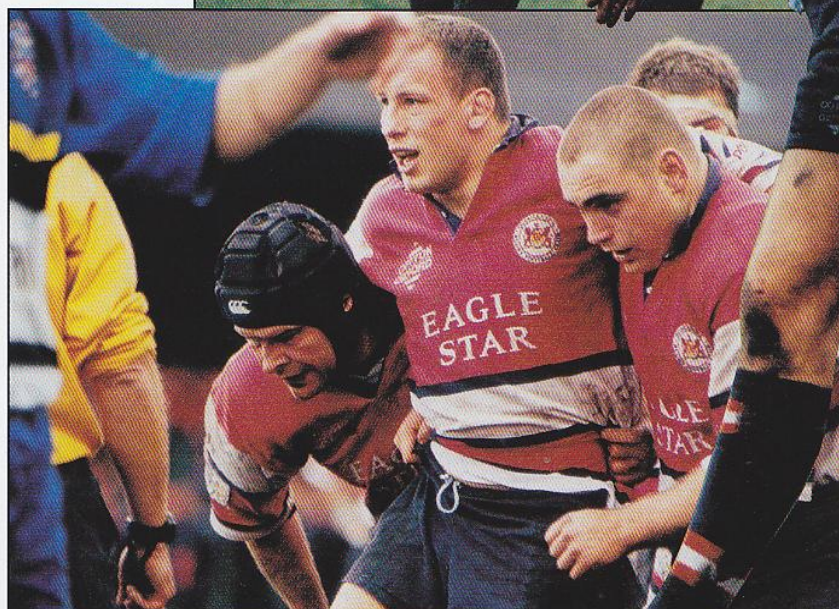
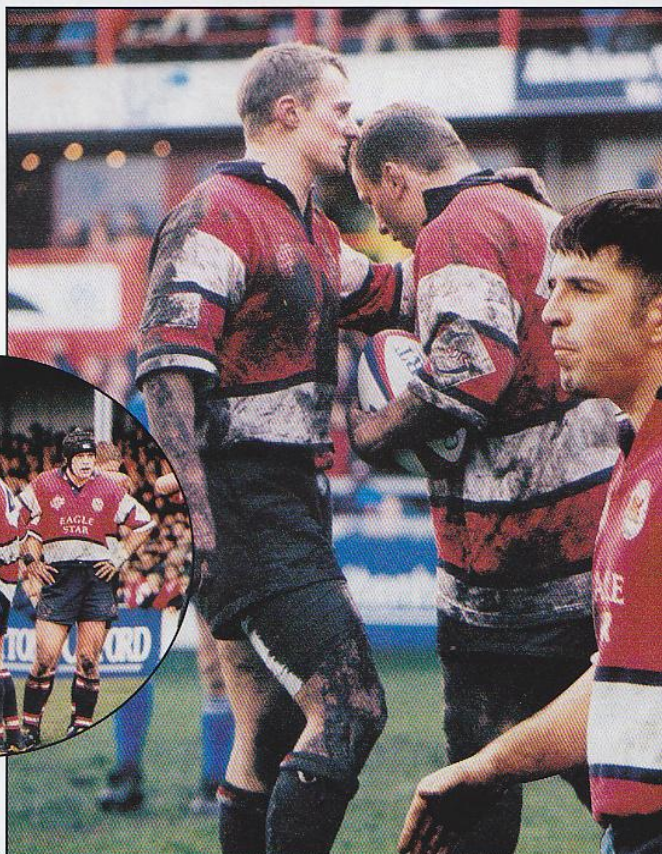
Action Special



Clockwise, from left:

1. Rob Fidler prepares another formidable line-out jump.
2. More clean ball for the three-quarters.
4. The Glos pack pause for thought.
5. Unless I'm very much mistaken, Scott Benton is kissing Neil McCarthy.
5. Rory Greenslade-Jones strides puposefully into the line.
6. The front row prepare to pack.

Gloucester v Bath



Gloucester RFC 01452 381087

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