

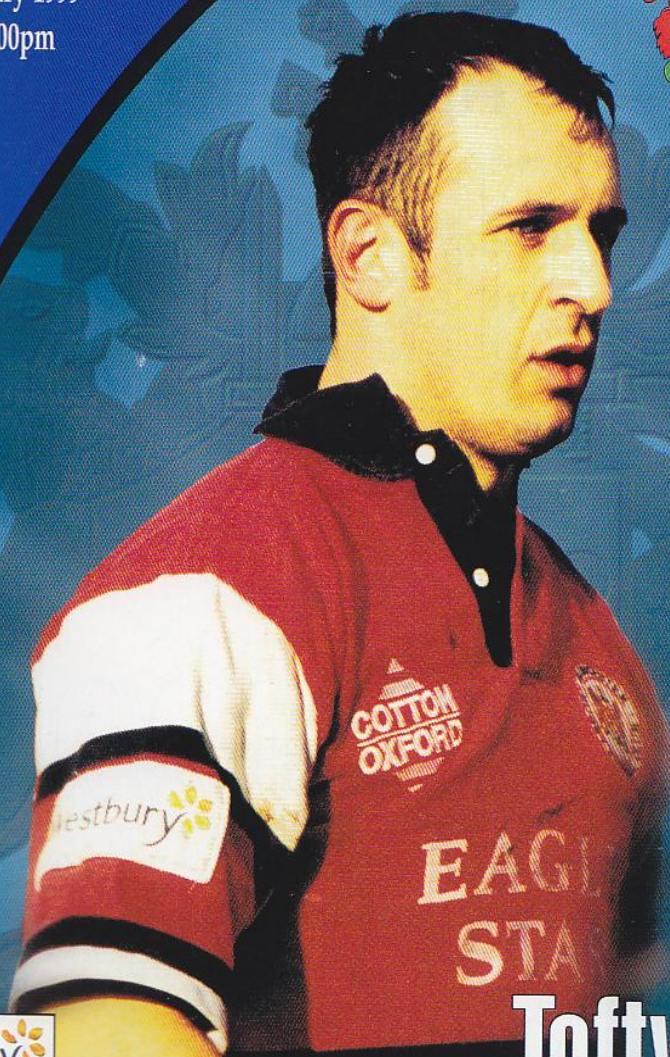
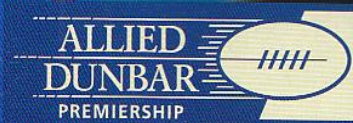
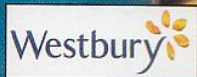
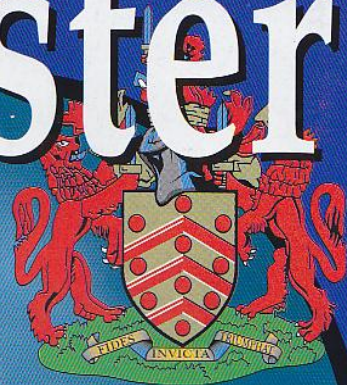
# Gloucester

v HARLEQUINS

13th February 1999

Kick Off 3.00pm

£2.00



## Tofty Poster

### Andrew Hazell Interview

### Mud Special and more...





# **GLOUCESTER**



# **HARLEQUINS**



Today's Match Day Sponsor is Severn Sound  
 Today's Match Ball Sponsor is BITS



15	Audley Lumsden
14	Tom Beim*
13	Simon Mannix*
12	Richard Tombs*
11	Philippe Saint-Andre*
10	Mark Mapletoft*
9	Scott Benton*
1	Trevor Woodman
2	Neil McCarthy
3	Adey Powles
4	Rob Fidler*
5	Dave Sims (c)
6	Ed Pearce
7	Nathan Carter
8	Steve Ojomoh*
16	Chris Catling
17	R. Greenslade-Jones
18	Ian Sanders
19	Dave Hinkins
20	Chris Hall
21	Mark Cornwell
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

\*Denotes International

Jamie Williams	15
Darren O'Leary	14
Peter Mensch	13
John Schuster	12
Dan Luger	11
David Pears	10
Huw Harries	9
Jason Leonard	1
Tom Murphy	2
Gary Halpin	3
Gareth Llewellyn	4
Garrick Morgan	5
Rory Jenkins	6
Adam Leach	7
Chris Sheasby	8
Colin Ridgway	16
Bill Davison	17
Alan Yates	18
Steve White-Cooper	19
Jason Keyter	20
Will Carling	21
Nick Walshe	22



# From the Team Manager

**A**fter the Henley game I was sent up to Twickenham on a mission obviously to get a home draw.

The favourite club to get for Gloucester was Wasps, as we all felt the third time playing Wasps would be lucky for Gloucester. But as we are all now aware we have drawn Harlequins at home on 27 February for what should be a very exciting Cup match.

The Henley game I thoroughly enjoyed and we could all see that Henley are a team that are keen to do well in the league and I must say that I was very impressed with the organisation of their forwards and especially the pace and defensive work of

their backs. I am sure that they will be successful and earn promotion this season. I would like to thank all the supporters who made the trip to London Irish on Sunday. I would like, to congratulate London Irish on their victory. It was a very entertaining game, with 9 tries being scored. Unfortunately London Irish scored 6 of them, but it was evident to everybody at Sunbury on Sunday what a greatly improved side London Irish are and the type of play we saw from their three quarters is some of the best I've seen this season.

I thought that

Gloucester stuck to their task very well, and we scored three very good tries. But it is obvious there is still a lot of work to do to reach the heights that London Irish are at the moment, but I am still

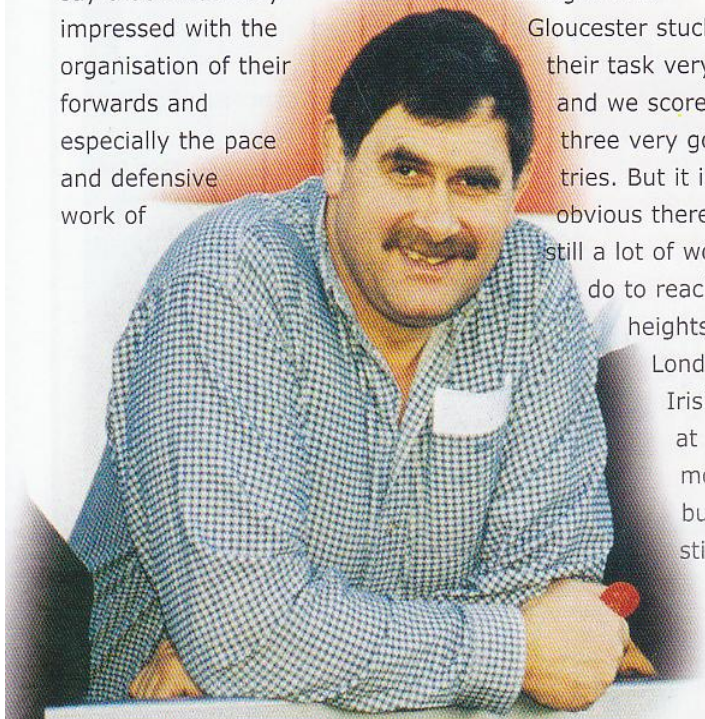
convinced that we are not a million miles away.

Today we welcome Harlequins for what I am sure will be a very hard fought contest as both sides are desperate for league points to maintain their mid-table positions and hopefully qualify for a European Cup competition should it happen next season.

If you study the record book, over the last four years you will see our record against Harlequins, both home and away is not good reading.

And we hope to correct that this afternoon and come away with a win and with a bit of luck we will be able to play on top of the ground instead of wallowing in the mud. No doubt there will be an added attraction in the Harlequins team today and I am sure the Shed are looking forward to giving him, should he be playing, a very warm welcome to them and Kingsholm.

**John Fidler**





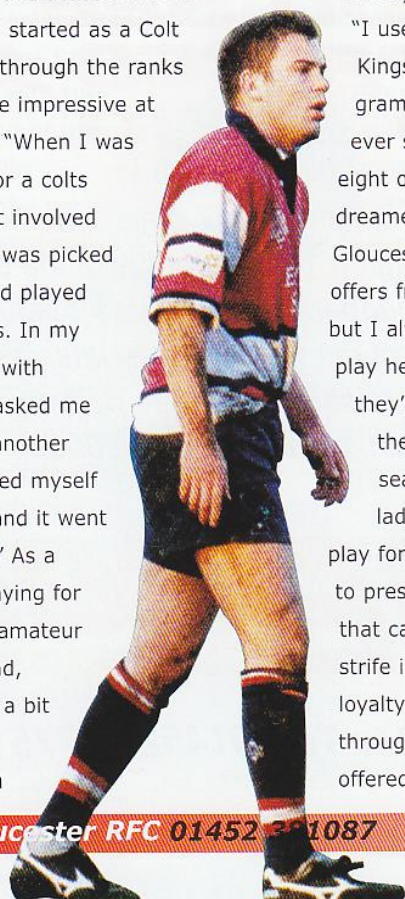
# Andrew Hazell

**Y**ou might, just might be aware that Gloucester aren't exactly having their best ever season at the moment. A squad which looks a little bit tasty on paper isn't quite achieving what we all know it should. But hark, disheartened Shedhead, for there are many reasons to be cheerful! In particular, the calibre of some of the young players breaking through the ranks at Kingsholm should give us every confidence in the future. At only 20 years old he's clocked up an impressive 29 appearances for the United and has turned out six times for the first XV this season. As he explains, he started as a Colt and moved through the ranks getting more impressive at each stage. "When I was 17 I went for a colts trial and got involved with that. I was picked for them and played two seasons. In my last season with them they asked me to stay on another year. I proved myself with them and it went from there." As a student, playing for the mostly amateur United squad, Andrew did a bit of work roofing with

his uncle but never really felt happy doing that. He knew what he wanted to do and went for it. "At the time it earned me a bit of money, but now I'm glad that I'm getting paid for something I like doing," he says. "When I was at school I wanted to be fireman. But as I got older I realised I wanted to play rugby and it's good that I can earn some money doing it. But I think I've come along at the right time - in my first year it's the first year that the game's gone professional."

However, as a lifelong Cherry and White fan, it really isn't the money that fires Andrew.

"I used to come down to Kingsholm with my gramp and watch rugby ever since I was about eight or nine. I always dreamed of playing for Gloucester. I had a few offers from other clubs, but I always wanted to play here - hopefully they'll keep me on at the end of the season. I'm a local lad and I just want to play for Gloucester." I try to press him on the issue that causes so much strife in sport and his loyalty still shines through: "Well, if I was offered loads more money



## FACTFILE

Nickname: **HAZ**  
 D.O.B.: **25.4.78**  
 Birthplace: **GLOUCESTER**  
 Weight: **14st 6lb**  
 Height: **6'0"**  
 Glos Debut: **Dec 1998**  
 United Apps: **29**  
 1stXV Apps: **6**  
 Previous Club: **Glos Old**

### Boys

Position: **Openside Flanker**  
 Shirt No.: **7**

Most Admired Player:

**Michael Jones**

Ambition for 1999:

**To play for England U21 and Glos 1st XV**

Interests and Hobbies:

**Golf and Music**

Favourite Film:

**Shawshank Redemption**

then I'd obviously consider it - I think it's only natural, anyone would. It's a professional game and it's your livelihood. But if there wasn't much in it and it was just a bit more money then I'd stay here." It's good to see that there is still a generation of rugby players immune from the cash-driven flightiness that infects football.

As you'll have seen from Andrew's performances this season, his tackling and general



# Andrew Hazell



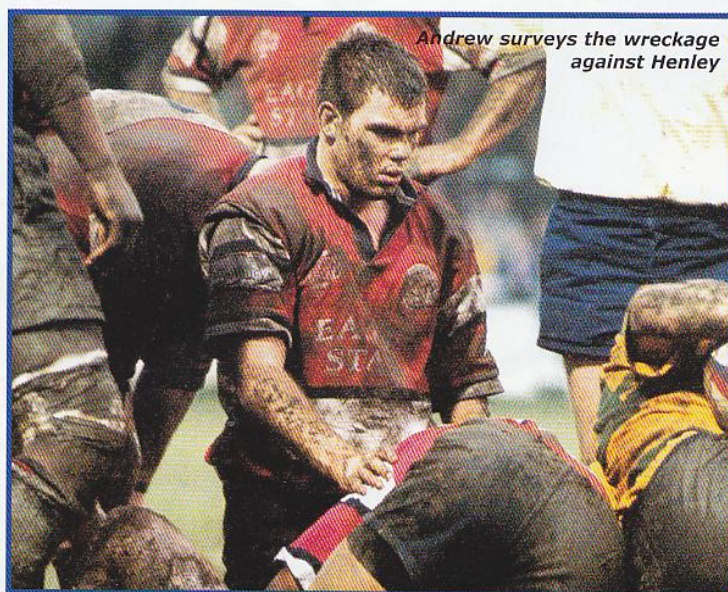
willingness to put himself about the park have marked him out. "I played fly half at school when I was about 10," he says, "But when they saw how I got stuck into the tackle they moved me to openside." His commitment isn't in doubt, but as a young player just moving up from the United, both Andrew and Richard Hill have stressed the importance of fitness if he is to gain a regular place in the first XV: "Ed the fitness coach has been good for me. I go running up a local hill on Sunday with some of the United boys and that's helped my fitness a lot. I did 12 or 13 on the bleep test last time, but I had to pull up that time. It's not... how shall we say... my greatest event. I bench press as well as most of the squad - obviously there's a couple of them like Ojomoh and Ed who do a lot better, but the coaches are very happy with my strength for my size, so that's all that matters. Apart from the fitness it's handling and presentation. Sometimes I tend to give a bit too much ball and offload the ball when it's not on. I have to try and keep hold of the ball a bit

more," he admits. This is partly because of Richard Hill's overall plan for the back row: "Especially on the openside, he wants us to start linking more with the threes. There's an emphasis on quick ball. We've been running a lot of slow ball, so he's told us to keep hitting three or four into rucks. We'll have to wait and see until it clicks, really. Like London Irish - they're clicking and they're really good."

Ah. London Irish. "We were beaten by a better team. Irish were just clicking and had a bit of luck on their side. They hardly kicked the ball and ran it every time. But having said that, we were a good team and didn't drop our heads. I don't know why this happens when we play away... it really isn't in our minds at all." It's one of the main

differences Andrew notes between playing for the United and for the first XV: "A lot of them play to the ref, and a top side like London Irish can get the ref to go with them. Yesterday, because London Irish were doing so well, when they were offside, the ref wasn't giving it because he thought they can't be offside because they're doing so well." Andrew has been selected for the England U21 squad and is off to train with them at Loughborough this week. As I leave, he tells me he'll be the first one to get his hands on the programme on Saturday; I get the impression that this is his first interview and he wants to keep it for posterity. If he keeps up his progress at his current rate, he'll feature in a lot more publications.

**Martin Jones**







## Tenterhooks

**T**he Cup draw must have been a real nail biter for the Gloucester contingent this time round. Obviously, everyone wanted their teams to come out of the hat first so as to secure a home draw, no one more anxious than Gloucester for reasons I don't have to go into.

What made the whole thing especially stressful for Gloucester was that all the other six teams were drawn first, just leaving Harlequins and Gloucester in the fateful titfer. Breath was never so bated.

Gareth Reece of Wasps was doing the honours. Silence reigned as he drew the first name. The rest you know.

Bad luck 'Quins. You might have expected a fellow London club member to manage things better than that.

Peter Arnold

## WELCOME BACK, MATTHEW!

**I** can't be absolutely sure at the time of writing, but it looks almost certain that Matthew Price will be back at Kingsholm today. Just to remind you, Matthew is the 18 year-old who was stricken with a form of cancer back last year, and was forced to undergo some extremely aggressive chemotherapy.

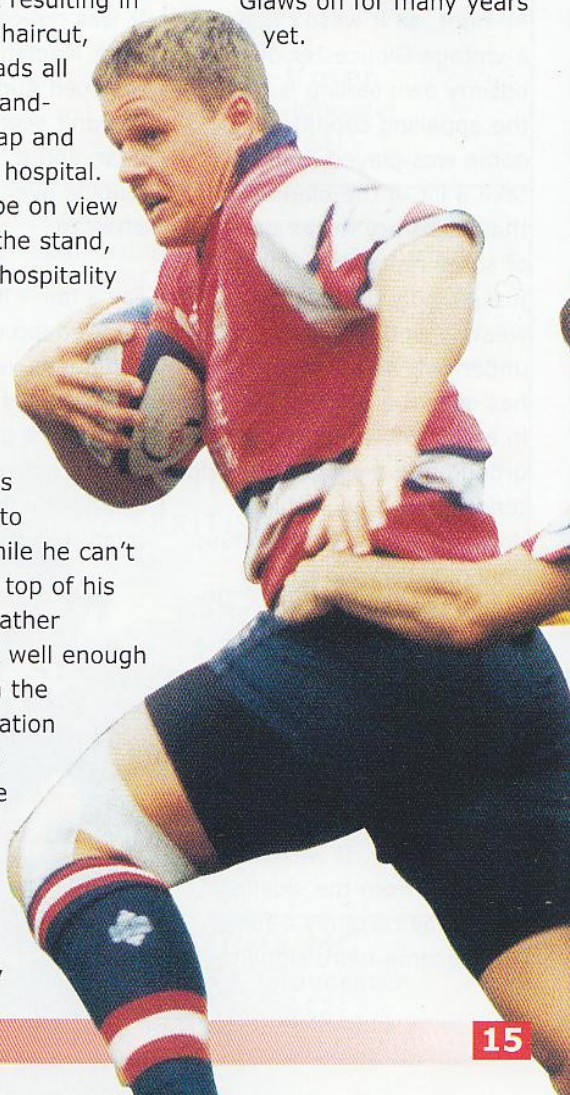
Knowing that such treatment has a side effect resulting in a Nigel Redman haircut, the Gloucester lads all signed a cherry-and-white baseball cap and sent it to him in hospital. It will probably be on view today, either in the stand, or in one of the hospitality boxes.

From which you will have gathered that young Matthew is well on the way to recovery, and while he can't be said to be on top of his form, as yet, weather permitting, he is well enough to come along in the confident expectation that the lads are going to beat the Quins.

Just as a sideline, Matthew's father,

Mike, aka Pricey of the Tump, tells me that because the family Christmas was blighted by Matthew's illness, they celebrated Christmas Day 1998 last Sunday, complete with prezzies, decorations, crackers and, of course, turkey and pud.

Fair play to them. And best wishes for the continued recovery of young Matthew. He'll obviously be cheering Glaws on for many years yet.





# Fair's fair

Don't know what you thought, but I felt that the media at large were just a little hard on Gloucester after the Henley game. Quite apart from anything else, the more you belittle our performance, the less you credit the opposition, who put in a thoroughly committed and fighting display on what must have been the biggest event in their rugby lives for many of them.

All right, so it wasn't exactly a vintage Gloucester display, but my own feeling is that the appalling conditions the game was played in must take a lot of the blame for that. Contrary to the opinions of some reporters, you can't just grandly dismiss the weather and the conditions underfoot. As anyone who has ever run out on to a field in anger knows, a heavy ground and a slippery ball do tend to bring everything down to the lowest common denominator, and to that extent, favour the underdog. Not that there's anything wrong with that. It's all part of the game after all.

The whole game was played in a continuous, drifting, mizzly drizzle. It wasn't very apparent from the sidelines, but it was certainly a factor, and became more significant

the further away one got from the nice, warm comfortable crowd. The pitch itself was as heavy and muddy as I've ever seen it while still remaining playable, and got worse as the game went on. It can't have been easy trying to juggle a ball which had the consistency of a soapy black pudding while either getting bogged down or slithering on the treacherous surface.

It was noticeable that even Mark Mapletoft, when he replaced Audley Lumsden, couldn't seem to get into top gear, and if 'Tofty' can't twinkle over the turf then no one can.

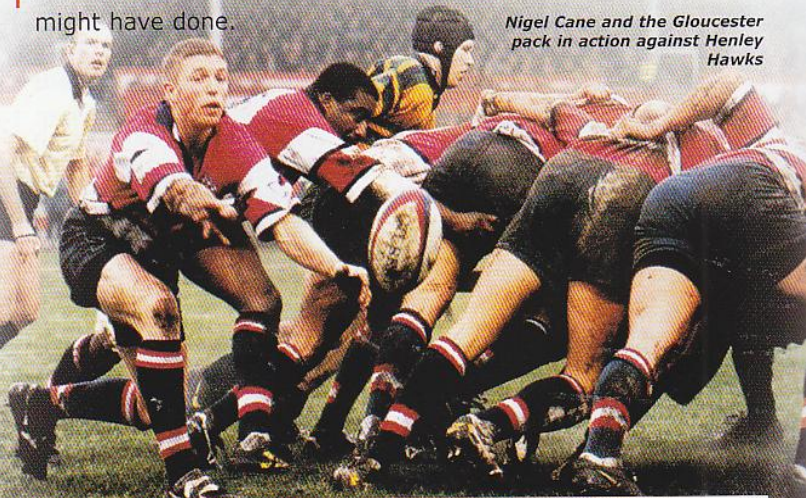
Fair's fair - the big Henley pack adapted to the conditions very well indeed, and perhaps the Gloucester front eight got sucked into direct confrontation with them rather more than they might have done.

Nevertheless, it's worth pointing out that Gloucester won by five tries to nil, all of them scored by backs, which is creditable under the circumstances.

But, good for Henley, I say. Their supporters were superb, and their players played their hearts out. They must have been pleased that their rivals, Manchester, lost in the League while they were engaged in Cup matters at Kingsholm, which gives them two games in hand, and must now make them firm favourites for promotion next season. And they richly deserve it.



*Nigel Cane and the Gloucester pack in action against Henley Hawks*





Continued from page 16

Peter Arnold

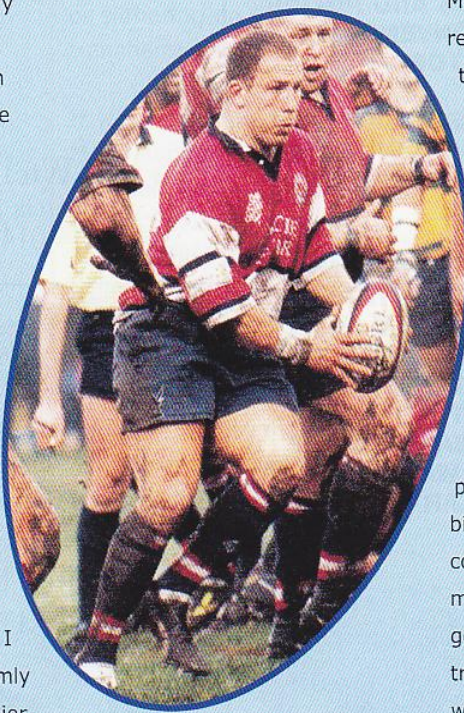
# Battle Rejoined

Phil Greening must be wondering what he has to do to get Neil McCarthy off his back. There he is, basking in Clive Woodward's favour as No.2 to Richard Cockerill in the England rankings, when back comes his old nemesis to haunt him. You could say that Phil and Neil go back a long way. In the days when we were confidently expecting the very young Mr. Greening to play for, and even captain, England, having made an enormous impression at national Colts level, this lad McCarthy turns up from Bedford and Bath and regularly pinched Phil's spot from him, even skipping the side now and again.

The same story persisted through England U18 and U19 and even England A level. For a while Phil would get the nod, then Neil would put his oar in. Last season, if I recall, while Greening was firmly ensconced in the England senior squad, McCarthy played three times for the A's. Phil, of course, went on the Southern Hemisphere debacle while Neil stayed at home, and must have thought that their personal duel had been resolved.

At national level, anyway. Back at Kingsholm, things were different.

While Phil Greening was reigning supreme at Gloucester, Neil McCarthy wasn't even getting into Bath's first team. Then suddenly Neil arrives here, and immediately starts breathing down Phil's neck again, which was probably exactly what Richard Hill had intended when he made the signing.



Then the whole soap opera took another twist. Both protagonists managed to get themselves injured at the same time, and Gloucester were forced to pitch the young and relatively untried Chris Fortey in at the deep end. He seized his chance with both hands, made an enormous impression, and forced both of

his rivals to fight for their place on their return. That meant that Gloucester now had three proficient hookers, and it became obvious that something had to give.

The rest you know. Amid much recrimination and controversy, Phil Greening departed to Manchester Sale, and must have reflected, as he packed his bags, that at last he had the pestilential Neil McCarthy out of his hair, such as it is. Now, Neil has joined Phil, and the formidable Mr. Cockerill, in the England training squad, an elevation for which we all wish him the very best of luck. But all isn't sweetness and light for Neil McCarthy either. Chris Fortey is still pushing him all the way, and bids fair to become even stronger competition as time goes on. One must speculate that, if Neil is good enough for an England training squad, and few of us would deny that he is, then Chris can't be far behind. We await events with breath never so bated.

But I reiterate. All the best to Neil McCarthy. He's serving Gloucester well, and we'll all be hoping he can do the same for England.

To be continued...



## WELL DONE SAM...

**N**ice to see that yet another Gloucester player is aspiring to International honours.

Sam Pearman was selected to play for Scotland U21 against their Welsh counterparts the other Friday. He had, I believe, already made his National side at U19 level, but that next step up is a big one. At the time of writing, I don't know how he fared, but it is to be hoped he made a big impression. Wouldn't it be good to see another Gloucester forward wearing the dark blue shirt at Murrayfield in the distinguished footsteps of Ian Smith and Pete Jones!

## ...BUT BAD LUCK, PETE

**T**hat's the good news. The bad news is that Pete Glanville's injury has knocked him out for the season. He's one of the stalwarts of the Gloucester set-up, and perhaps it's as well for him to write off this season's hostilities and come back to us fit and full of his old fire and fury.

The same could be said, of course, for Simon Devereaux and Kingsley Jones. Add to the return of the walking wounded the names of Steve Ojomoh, Ed Pearce, Nathan Carter, Andrew Hazell and the immensely promising Will Gay, and you have a back-row selection problem of Einsteinian complexity. Who'd have Richard Hill's job?

## ONE MORE FOR THE DOZEN *Peter Arnold*

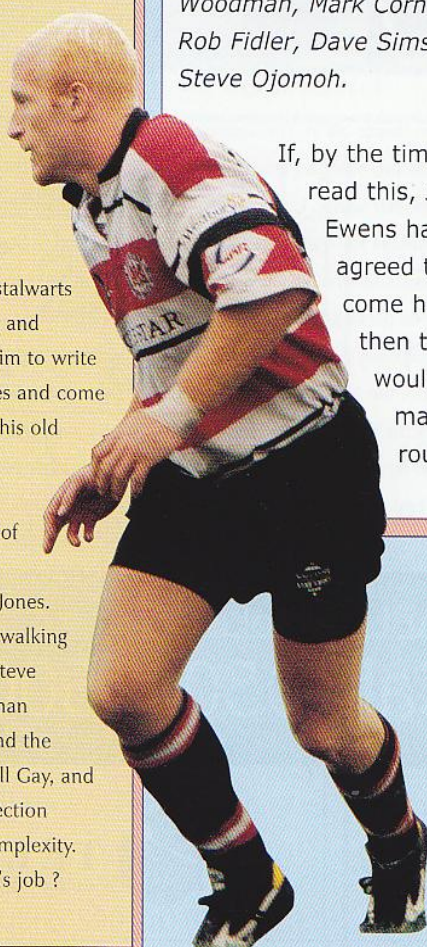
**W**hile all the attention was being paid to the England training squad, no one seemed to notice that the Selectors were also nominating a similar band of happy warriors at England A level. Yes, we're represented there, too. As follows:

*Chris Catling, Tom Beim, Brian Johnson, Mark Mapletoft, Scott Benton, Andy Deacon, Trevor Woodman, Mark Cornwell, Rob Fidler, Dave Sims, Steve Ojomoh.*

If, by the time you read this, Joe Ewens has agreed to come here, then that would make a round

dozen. All the best of British to all of them. We hope they excelled themselves earlier this week. However, I suppose the name that will please most people most is that of Andy Deacon. 'Deaks' has never really had the recognition he deserves, but Gloucester never had a better, or more committed servant.

Of that lot, the name to watch in my estimation is that of young Trevor Woodman. He's come on magnificently this season, aided, it must be said, by an injury to Tony Windo who was always going to be a formidable obstacle to anyone who had eyes on his spot. Now Trevor has caught the official eye, he has a more than fighting chance of going all the way.



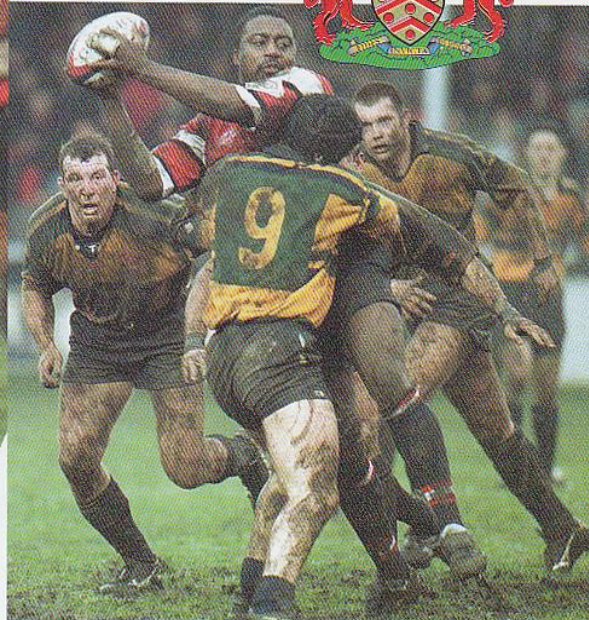
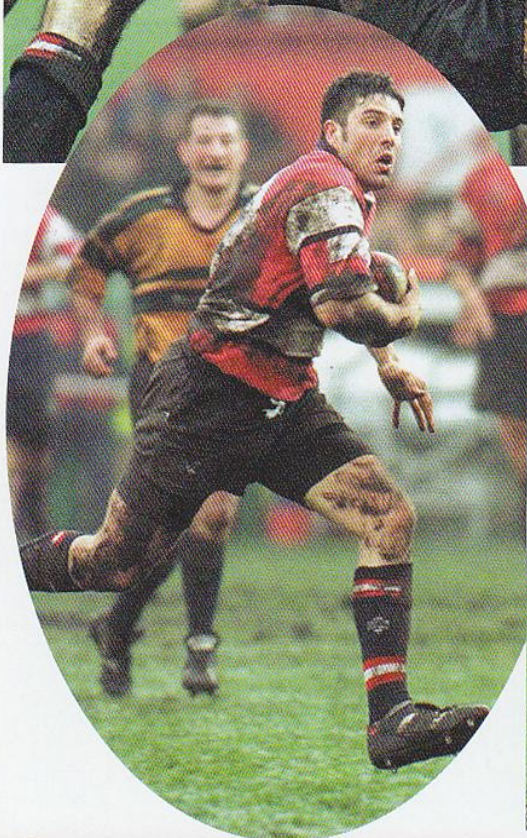
## TAILPIECE

The re-emergence of Will Carling and Geoff Probyn opens up a whole field of possibilities.

Bring back Mike Burton, I say.



# Mud Special





# Gloucester v Henley

