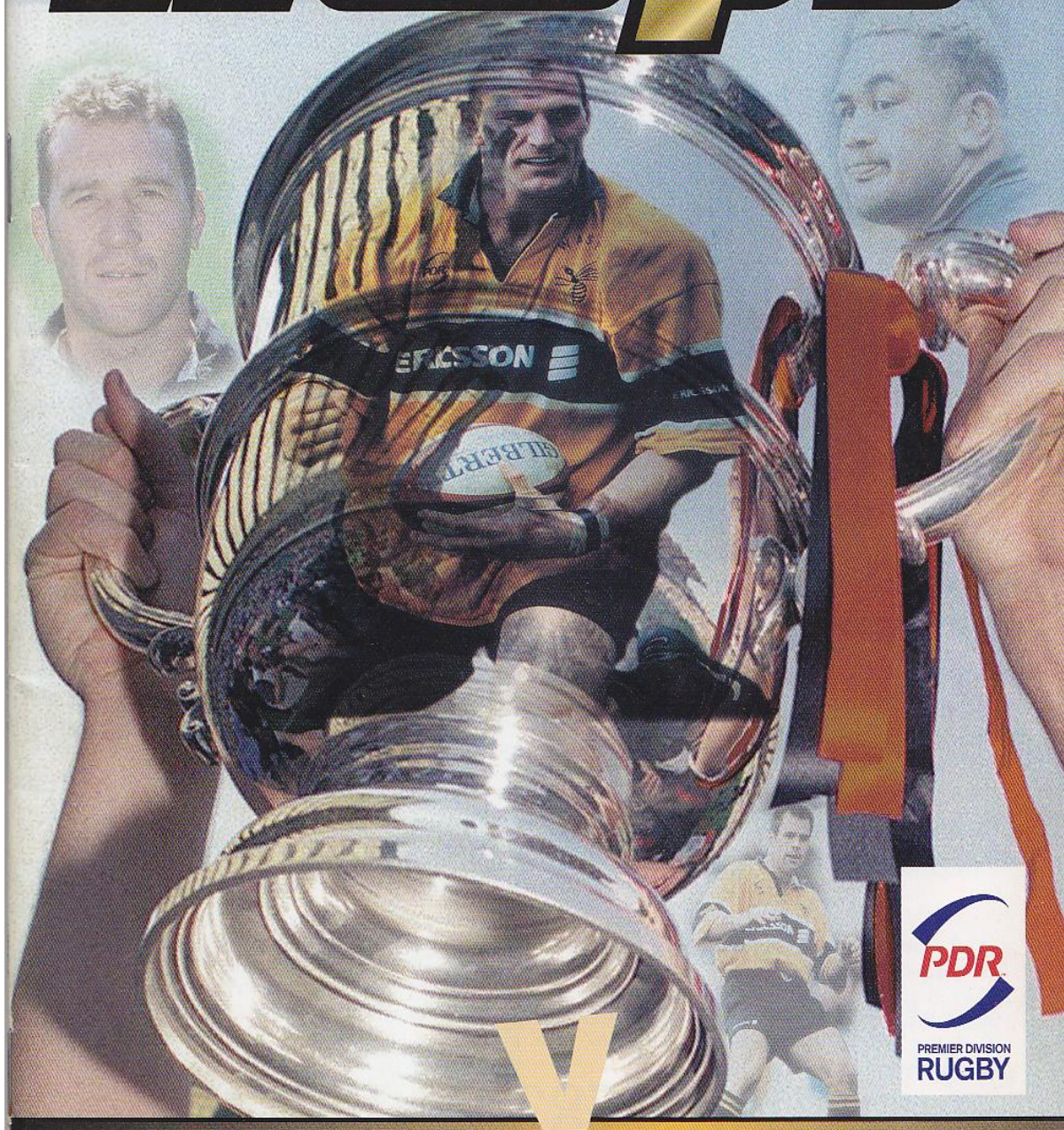


wasps



Season
1998/99

Price
£2



Gloucester

Tetley's Bitter Cup

Semi-Final

Sunday 4th April 1999

Kick-off 2.15pm

Club Sponsors

ERICSSON 

Match Sponsors

Mars

Line Ups

Player No.	WASPS	POSITION	GLOUCESTER	Player No.
15	Josh Lewsey (I)	Full Back	Chris Catling	15
14	Paul Sampson (I)	Wing	Tom Beim (I)	14
13	Fraser Waters	Centre	Terry Fanoula (I)	13
12	Rob Henderson (I)	Centre	Rory Greenslade-Jones	12
11	Kenny Logan (I)	Wing	Philippe Saint-Andre (I)	11
10	Alex King (I)	Fly Half	Simon Mannix (I)	10
9	Martyn Wood (I)	Scrum Half	Ian Sanders	9
1	Darren Molloy	Prop	Tony Windo	1
2	Trevor Leota (I)	Hooker	Chris Fortey	2
3	Will Green (I)	Prop	Phil Vickery (I)	3
4	Mark Weedon	Lock	Rob Fidler (I)	4
5	Simon Shaw (I)	Lock	Mark Cornwell	5
6	Lawrence Dallaglio (I)	Hooker	Steve Ojomoh (I)	6
7	Joe Worsley	Flanker	Nathan Carter	7
8	Paul Volley	Number Eight	Ed Pearce	8

REPLACEMENTS

16	Andy Reed (I)	Matchball	Richard Tombs (I)	16
17	Mike Friday	Sponsors	Mark Mapletoft (I)	17
18	Mark Denney		Scott Benton (I)	18
19	Gareth Rees (I)		Laurie Beck	19
20	Adam Black		Dave Sims (I)	20
21	Simon Mitchell		Andy Deacon	21
22	Eben Rollitt		Andy Hazell	22

Referee: Graham Hughes

Touch Judges – Chris Reeks & Chris Shuttie

Around Rugby



IAN ABRAHAMS
SPORTS EDITOR –
NEWS DIRECT 97.3FM

I've been writing articles for this programme throughout the whole season – but today's was by far the hardest for me to write.

Last Friday, I returned home to be greeted by the news that Alan Bodenham had died of a heart attack. Alan epitomised Wasps and covered them home and away for *News Direct 97.3FM*.

I remember Alan's commentary on the last few seconds of the game at Northampton when Wasps became Champions and the disappointment in his voice

thoughts of everybody here at News Direct and the colleagues

I've spoken to in radio this week are with Alan's family. I know Alan would have expected Wasps to win today and get back to Twickenham for a second successive year. Last season the semi-final here against Sale saw Wasps start as favourites and win a disappointing game. Let's hope today they can beat a Gloucester side they've already beaten twice. The Cherries don't

last May at Twickenham at the end of the Tetley's Bitter Cup Final.

For the past two seasons he sat alongside me in the press box giving his views on all aspects of the game. He certainly cared about his club and this afternoon it will be strange for me not to have him sitting next to me ready to do his reports. The

travel well and prevented an all London semi by beating Harlequins in the last round.

I'm delighted today's game is able to be played at Loftus Road. There was a lot of debate after the draw but thankfully common sense has prevailed and the Men in Black have been able to retain the right to stage today's tie. I know that there's still the option of qualifying for Europe next season but how fitting it would be if Nigel Melville's side could get back to rugby HQ and finally lift the Cup.

Don't forget to tune in during the afternoon for analysis on the game and reaction from the dressing room afterwards. Enjoy the game.

Ian Abrahams

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17

Gloucester



The Cherry-and-Whites return for their second match at Loftus Road this season.

They are looking not only to avenge the 23-9 defeat here on December 27th, but also to book a place in the Tetley's Bitter Cup Final for the first time since 1990.

Like Wasps, Gloucester conceded 48 points on their last visit to HQ – a West country derby that saw an all-conquering Bath side notch up their sixth Cup Final win in seven seasons. Unlike Wasps however, this is a club that has tasted victory at England's premier club rugby encounter.

In 1972 and 1978 Gloucester brought home the bacon, whilst in 1982 they somewhat bizarrely shared the trophy after a draw. Aah, the amateur days!

Their return has been a

long time coming and it will be up to new coach Philippe Saint-Andre to dispel a few demons if they are to make it all the way. No doubt part of his team talk today will revolve around the well-worn perception that Gloucester do not travel well. They will be desperate to prove a lot of people wrong – to prove that a vociferous "Shed" isn't essential for this talented but inconsistent side to seize the day.

It's been a difficult season for them though with this cup run holding together a league season which promised much but has only delivered lower mid-table mediocrity. As a result Richard Hill lost the top job at Gloucester and the former French flyer Saint-Andre is now at the helm.

In the cup the benefits of home advantage have served them well with all three ties so far taking place at Kingsholm. Up-and-coming Worcester will have

learned a lot from life with the big boys during their 31-17 Fourth Round defeat; whilst Henley found it equally difficult to stay in touch, conceding another 31 points whilst only racking up nine of their own.

The best result though came in the quarter-finals – a round of surprises – when the much improved and widely backed Harlequins succumbed 15-13 to a hugely impressive Gloucester outfit.

Now, though, Saint-Andre will be telling his players that they haven't come all this way, through three tough rounds to get knocked out one game away from Twickenham.

The Kingsholm spirit – played out in front of thousands of Gloucester fans who have made the journey east today – will be alive and kicking and Wasps will know all about it as soon as today's game gets underway.



Meet the opposition



THE SQUAD

The Backs

Audley Lumsden

Full-back

Age 31, Height 6ft, Weight 93.9kg

Moved to Gloucester having previously been with west country neighbours Bath.

Chris Catling

Full back

22, 6ft 1, 89.9kg

Promising number 15 who previously played for Exeter before his move to Kingsholm.

Brian Johnson

Wing

26, 5ft 11, 85.2k

Has collected five England A caps having joined Gloucester from Newbury.

Philippe Saint-André

Wing

31, 6ft, 91.5kg

Capped 69 times by France and a favourite at Kingsholm since his debut in 1997-98. Now Player-Coach of course.

Tom Beim

Wing

Exciting winger who returned to Gloucester at Christmas after a spell with Manchester Sale.

Terry Fanolua

Centre

24, 6ft, 86kg

Western Samoan international and sevens captain. Back after a month of World Cup qualifiers.

Richard Tombs

Centre

27, 6ft, 93kg

Capped five times by Australia although born in New Zealand and previously played for Northern Suburbs in Sydney.

Rory Greenslade-Jones

Centre

25, 6ft 2, 13st

Another former Newbury man, enjoying his first season in the Gloucester first XV squad.

Simon Mannix

Fly-half

26, 6ft 1, 83.5kg

Once capped by his native New Zealand and previously with Sale before joining Gloucester in the close season.

Mark Mapletoft

Fly-half

27, 5ft 7, 83kg

Has one England cap to his name, and previously played for Rugby Lions.

Ian Sanders

Scrum-half

27, 5ft 9, 85.8kg

Busy half back who began his career with Bath before moving to Kingsholm.

Scott Benton

Scrum-half

24, 6ft, 89kg

Half back with one appearance for England having previously played for Morley.



Terry Fanolua

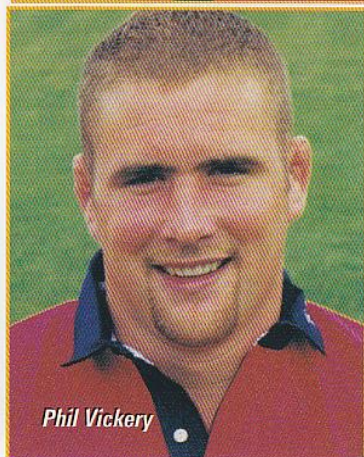


Philippe Saint-André

Gloucester



Steve Ojomoh



Phil Vickery

The Forwards

Andy Deacon

Prop

33, 6ft 2, 107.8kg

Now in his 10th season at Gloucester having made his debut back in 1989 after joining from Longlevens RFC.

Phil Vickery

Prop

23, 6ft 3, 124kg

Five times capped by England, having previously played for Bude and Redruth in Cornwall.

Tony Windo

Prop

29, 6ft, 125kg

Previously with Longlevens and part of last year's England's tour to the southern hemisphere.

Chris Fortey

Hooker

23, 5ft 11, 107kg

Formerly with Widden Old Boys and Gordon League before coming to Kingsholm.

Neil McCarthy

Hooker

24, 6ft, 102kg

Previously at Bath and made Gloucester debut in 1997 against Begles Bordeaux in the European Conference.

Rob Fidler

Lock

24, 6ft 5, 112kg

Two England caps to his name having been one of few successes in the Southern Hemisphere this summer.

Mark Cornwell

Lock

25, 6ft 7, 130kg

Formerly with Old Richians and with appearances for England at A level.

Dave Sims

Lock

29, 6ft 6, 115kg

Three times capped by England and has been with Gloucester since 1988 having previously played for Longlevens. This season's captain for the Cherry and Whites.

Ed Pearce

Flanker/No 8

23, 6ft 6, 118kg

Previously at Bath before signing for Gloucester in the summer of 1996.

Nathan Carter

Flanker

26, 6ft, 100.3kg

Another who previously starred for local side Gordon League before moving to Gloucester and is now in his third season at Kingsholm.

Steve Ojomoh

Flanker/No 8

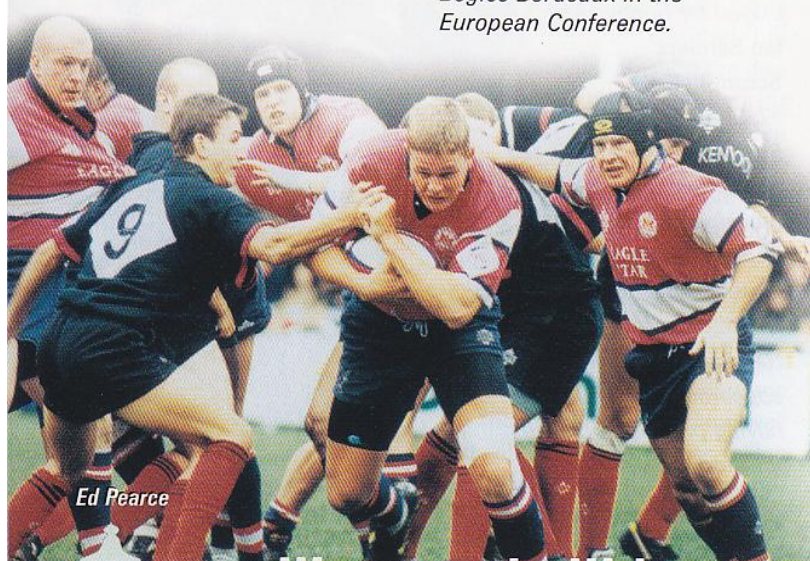
28, 6ft 2, 120kg

12 times capped by England while with Bath and having impressed at Gloucester is looking to force his way into the squad for the World Cup.

Andrew Hazell

Flanker

Promising youngster who has come through the ranks at Gloucester to make a big impression this season.



Ed Pearce



A Foot in...



Alex Bennett, Gloucester-born but now working with Wasps, tries to get off the fence but fails miserably....

Growing up in Gloucester there is only one real sport that any child will follow and that's rugby. Gloucester does have a football team, battling it out in the Dr Martins Premier League, and county cricket is always an option for summer viewing but during that period between September and May rugby is the opium of these masses.

I was born in 1978 – a fine year of Gloucester rugby – when Gloucester reached the finals of that years' cup competition and beat Leicester 6-3. On the way to this magnificent victory they managed to notch up a quarter-final victory over Wasps at Sudbury, beating them 23-19 in a close encounter.

My decision to support Gloucester was made even easier by the fact that Roy "Digger" Morris – one of the top players of the past – was my Great Uncle!

I've been lucky enough to play for Gloucester schools and colts followed finally by Gloucestershire colts, where I played and grew up with several of the current Gloucester squad. It is nice to see some of them breaking into the first team now:

Rob Jewell, Andrew Hazell, Chris Hall, Richard Stott and Simon Morgan to name a few. It was after two years at Staffordshire University that I finally forged a link with Wasps RFC.

As a second-year student on a business course I was looking for a company to take me on for a year's placement. I wrote off to many of the Premiership sides but finally decided that Wasps RFC was the place for me with its London location, great stadium and enviable marketing know-how. After a great interview I joined the Community Development Team last September.

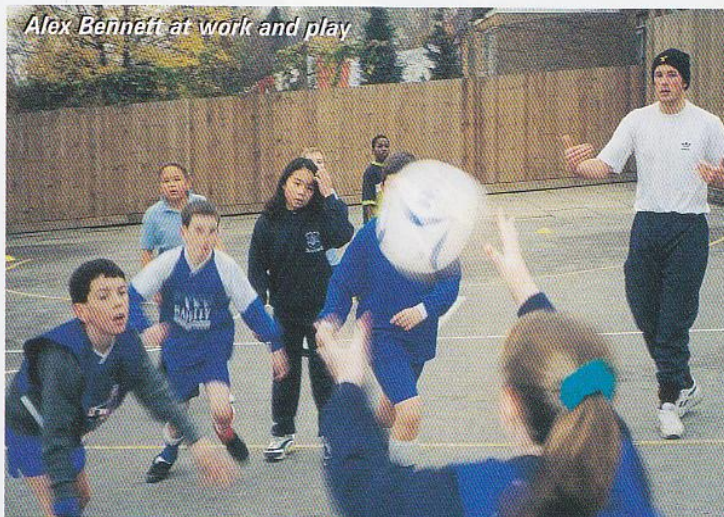
These days commercial activity off the field plays almost as important a part as sporting success on it, which is why Wasps RFC are pioneering the

development of rugby in the community. The future of professional rugby is dependent upon community involvement and here at Wasps I have found myself involved with a lot of community based projects. These include coaching in local schools, holiday coaching courses, ticket incentives, community visits and one of our larger projects at the moment is to bring a South African township team over to England to play in a mini rugby festival.

The year at Wasps has been great so far and to see the team go all the way to Twickenham would be one of the highlights. But at Gloucester's expense? Oh dear! Let's just hope the best team wins.

Alex Bennett

Alex Bennett at work and play



...both camps

Wasps on the Web

www.wasps.co.uk



Black In Time Again!

PHIL HARRIS TURNS BACK THE CLOCK AND HAS A LOOK AT WASPS' AND GLOUCESTER'S RECORD IN ENGLAND'S PREMIER KNOCKOUT COMPETITION

The Tetley's Bitter Cup in its present incarnation and all its previous guises has provided Wasps with a catalogue of bittersweet memories.

Four finals, four further semi-finals, including today, and yet not once have the Men in Black managed to get their hands on the silverware.

Old Wasps hands will have heard the tales of woe a thousand times and the last thing they will probably want is reminding about the times when our boys have come so near and yet so far. Three final defeats to Bath, and last year's mauling under a blistering May sun at the hands of Saracens, have all left scars on the mind of the Loftus Road faithful but will do little to deter the hopes and dreams of a fan base who believe this could be our year. A look at the table below suggests just how well

Wasps have done in this tournament, without actually winning it, and how particular teams always seem to get in the way: the most successful club of the modern era, Bath, old rivals Harlequins and today's opponents Gloucester.

The West country club have stopped us in our tracks three times down the years, with a quarter-final defeat 21 years ago preceding the Cherry & Whites' second tournament success. The last meeting between the two sides in this competition was at Kingsholm three seasons back. Again it was a quarter-final duel and again the home side were triumphant. On this occasion though, it was as far as they got, with a semi-final defeat ending their hopes for the season.

A further glance at the table should also draw your attention to the final of 1982 – always a particular bugbear of yours truly – when Gloucester and Moseley drew 12-12. An aspect of amateurism best forgotten reared its uncompetitive and ugly head that year. After a gruelling season striding past the nation's finest to battle out a Twickenham showdown... nobody won. The trophy was shared. Could no-one work out a way to decide it? Did anyone go home happy? It beggars belief! Cups are there to be won – it's the underlying principle of knockout sport. Someone is knocked out!

That was a long time ago and today two famous old teams battle it out once more to add their own story to this cup's long and intriguing history.

Year	Winners	Runners-Up	Score	Wasps	Wasps conquerors
1972	Gloucester	Moseley	17-6	—	
1973	Coventry	Bristol	27-15	—	
1974	Coventry	L Scottish	26-6	Last 32	Blackheath
1975	Bedford	Rosslyn Pk	28-12	—	
1976	Gosforth	Rosslyn Pk	23-14	Last 32	L Scottish
1977	Gosforth	Waterloo	27-11	—	
1978	Gloucester	Leicester	6-3	Q-Final	Gloucester
1979	Leicester	Moseley	15-12	Semi-Final	Leicester
1980	Leicester	L Irish	21-9	Last 32	Bedford
1981	Leicester	Gosforth	22-15	Last 32	L Scottish
1982	Gloucester	Moseley	12-12	Last 32	Harlequins
1983	Bristol	Leicester	28-22	Last 16	W H'pool
1984	Bath	Bristol	10-9	Q-Final	Bath
1985	Bath	L Welsh	24-15	Last 16	Waterloo
1986	Bath	WASPS	25-17	FINALISTS	Bath
1987	Bath	WASPS	19-12	FINALISTS	Bath
1988	Harlequins	Bristol	28-22	Semi-Final	Harlequins
1989	Bath	Leicester	10-6	Q-Final	Leicester
1990	Bath	Gloucester	48-6	Last 32	Gloucester
1991	Harlequins	Northampton	25-13	Q-Final	Orrell
1992	Bath	Harlequins	15-12	Last 16	Harlequins
1993	Leicester	Harlequins	23-16	Semi-Final	Harlequins
1994	Bath	Leicester	21-9	Last 32 Bath	
1995	Bath	WASPS	36-16	FINALISTS	Bath
1996	Bath	Leicester	16-15	Quarter-Final	Gloucester
1997	Leicester	Sale	9-3	Last 16	Saracens
1998	Saracens	WASPS	48-18	FINALISTS	Saracens

Gloucester — Winners: 1972, '78, 82 (shared) Runners up: 1990

Wasps — Runners up: 1986, '87, '95, '98

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