

Old Spot!

Your Independent Match Day Newsletter
News and Views, Facts and Figures



GLOUCESTER'S NEXT MATCH
vs HARLEQUINS
Courage Club Championship
Saturday April 19, 1997
Kick off - 3.00 p.m.

Issue 7

April 18, 1997

50 pence

Published by Newbrook Publications, Newbrook House, Queen's Road, Stonehouse, Glos, GL 10 2QA

Old Spot's Tump Talk

Has anyone read Stephen Jones' article in last week's Sunday Times? At last it seems that someone from a quality newspaper has recognised that something special is happening at Kingsholm. But Mr. Jones' tremendous powers of observation surely went temporarily AWOL because he wrote: "Bath's Richard Hill has done a tremendous job at Gloucester." Bath's Richard Hill? No! That sentence should read: "Gloucester's Richard Hill has done a tremendous job." Richard is definitely one of us, and long may it stay that way.

Saturday's visit by Harlequins will be their 40th to Kingsholm. In the 39 games played, Gloucester have won 25, the 'Quins 12 and two have been drawn. In Courage Clubs Championship play, Gloucester have won four out of the six encounters at Kingsholm, with Harlequins winning just twice - the last two visits (April 29 1995 and October 28 1995).

This season, Gloucester have only lost two home Courage League games - both in September (Sale 12-16 and Bath 29-45). The Cherry and Whites go into Saturday's game with a seven game winning run at Kingsholm - and having won 10 of their last 13 league games.

Next week's edition of Old Spot! will be the last of the season and we aim to have a bumper issue. Interviews with Richard Hill, Phil Greening, Audley Lumsden and "Iron Mike" Teague, as well as Mark Graham and Codpiece! will make this an edition to remember. We hope to see you in the usual places!

We don't normally run competitions and today is no exception but we all thought you would enjoy this particularly difficult brain teaser sent to us by Mark Hitchin. It's the familiar anagram and you have to solve as many as possible.

Crash bind or ran
Darn! No arch ribs
Branch or drains

Rash, rancid born
Rich as darn born
Orchard 'n' brains

Crash born nadir
Anchor birds ran
Crash bird on ran

There are no prizes for any correct answers!

Please feel free to write to us, we welcome your comments

Write to:

Old Spot!, Newbrook House, Queens Road, Stonehouse, Glos GL10 2QA

email: oldspot@glawster.demon.co.uk

Why not visit our internet site? <http://www.glawster.demon.co.uk>

Tony Osman

Tony Osman played 99 times for Gloucester between 1960 and 1967, usually at left wing, and scoring 28 tries. He was a member of the same team as Messrs Brinn, Townsend, Nicholls, Hillier, Smith, Ford, Booth and Hopson.

Tony joined Gloucester from Old Patesians (the same day that Alan Brinn joined from Hereford) following a recommendation from Gloucester and England prop George Hastings. "He felt that Gloucester would look after me and bring me on slowly which is exactly what happened. I played quite a few games for the United side before making my debut against Leicester at Kingsholm."

The way rugby was played then was quite different, "The backs were only there to finish off the work the forwards had done." Perhaps not that different! But as a wing Tony used to take the throw-ins and he was one of the first players to adopt the "torpedo" method now used universally by hookers. Tony explained where his natural speed originated, "We have a family saying that most of my speed was derived from fear!!"

Tony recalls that he once sported a chin-strap beard as made famous by Fidel Castro: "I was at an impressionable age and I grew one of these beards. I ran out at Kingsholm, I can't remember which one, and some wag cottoned on to it straight away and I was 'Fidel' for the rest of the game. So it came off in the bath that very night!!"

One game that does stand out in Tony's memory was the defeat of Newport at Rodney Parade on the opening day of the new Social Club. "As we were coming off the pitch Peter Ford had tears in his eyes because he knew how much that win meant to Gloucester because Newport were such a good side.

"I also remember the game at Newbridge on Boxing Day 1962. The big freeze had just started. By half-time the ground was solid and we all came off that pitch with our legs bleeding from tackles. We went into the changing rooms, but there were only cold showers! So we all hit the bottle afterwards in the Newbridge clubhouse."

But the final words are reserved for The Shed, "I reckon a good roar for Gloucester is the most off-putting thing, that's what I think - maybe I'm just getting older!"

Tony is now a glass-worker producing some of the most beautiful objects you will ever see. He is currently working on the Floodlit Development Team Competition trophy. He remains passionate about Gloucester and will be found in The Shed at every home game.



♦ Tony Osman in action

Pete Glanville

I think there are fewer sights that are more enjoyable than seeing Pete Glanville flatten an opponent - I'm sure Neil Back knows what I mean! But what does Pete enjoy most about the game? And what about that report that proclaimed his apparent captaincy bid?

Old Spot: What is the mood of the players following the defeat at Sale?

Pete Glanville: Still pretty good. Everyone was just so tired after the Leicester match. They knew what they wanted to do - they just didn't have the energy to do it! Especially after the game on Saturday followed by that game on Tuesday which was so physical and I think it affected Leicester's game against Bath.

OS: Tuesday night's game was something special.

PG: It was superb and they played so well. It was one of the best games I've ever watched - unfortunately!! I'd much rather have been on the pitch.

OS: Which was the best game you've ever played in?

PG: From a personal point of view I would say away to London Irish this year. I can't remember a game I've enjoyed as much as that one. It was one of those games where everywhere I went the ball came to me and it seemed that I couldn't do anything wrong. For the team it must be Saracens at the end of last season. There was so much staked on that game. To pull through and win it to know we were safe - it was such a weight off our shoulders, it was brilliant!

OS: So which would you say was the worst game?

PG: Anytime I get injured! You can put up with having a bad game because you can always promise yourself that you will make up for it in the next game - if you get injured there's sod all you can do about it! We were very disappointed after the semi-final because that's two years running that we've lost and two years running that we could have won. It was there for us to win. We didn't play to our full potential that day.

OS: Yet, for a change, Rugby Special were on our side when it came to the match analysis.

PG: That was very nice to see! Old Mick Cleary said he'd analysed the line-out when Devereux scored 50 times and he can see three or four Leicester offences but not one by Gloucester. So often Gloucester are on the end of a slagging off that it was nice to see.

OS: Would you say that Gloucester don't seem to get the television coverage they deserve?

PG: I think it's slowly changing. People are beginning to sit up and take notice. They see we have no major names or major stars but we are winning.

OS: Do you think that next season will be a watershed for Gloucester?

PG: Definitely. I think next season will be very good for us. Everything will be put in place by the end of this season and so all the players will be able to concentrate on playing rugby. It's been a very difficult last two years. The change to Professionalism has meant a lot of alterations to the way things are done. Everyone knew it had to come, there was so much pressure put on you all the time. The training, the commitment, going away at weekends and on tour, you could not carry on without being paid.

OS: What part of the game do you enjoy the most?

PG: Its good to put a big tackle in but that means you're defending. I prefer going forward with the ball in my hands, making breaks and making ground. There's no better feeling!

OS: What part of the game do you think you need to work on?

PG: I'm not going to tell you that! If I do the other players will just give me a hard time!! I do think though that everyone can work to improve their game as far as hands and vision is concerned. You can no longer just be a forward trundling along, consider the Southern Hemisphere forwards. The second rows are turning up in the backs doing missed passes and loops. You've got to have 15 men who can run and pass. If you watch the Super 12, when the play breaks down its not the flanker who's first to arrive, its the wing or centre who tries to secure the ball.

OS: Lets discuss the so-called captaincy bid.

PG: I was a bit disappointed with Dave Barton. He rang me one evening and asked me how I felt about the captaincy. I said I would consider it an honour to be captain of Gloucester Rugby Club and I'd be lying if I didn't say that I would like to do it. I told that I didn't think it would be down to the players and that the captain would be appointed by Richard Hill. I'm afraid that what I said was taken out of context. I will say that it would be a honour to be captain but I don't think that anyone is really thinking about it at this stage of the season.

OS: How would you respond to calls to reduce the size of Division One?

PG: The season is getting very congested which isn't ideal but from the financial point of view you would want to play big games week in, week out. I think though that it should be a straight two up, two down and be left at that. Why should the rich Second Division clubs be allowed to dictate the rules? There are clubs like London Irish, who beat Harlequins recently, and who are capable of beating all the top sides in the country but yet they're in danger of being relegated. No-one wants to play Coventry or Bedford in a play-off. Its a terrible way to go down.

OS: How big an influence is Richard Hill?

PG: He's a very positive-thinking person and everything he says is positive. He has brought everyone on this season and he's instilled a lot of confidence in the players.

OS: What are your ambitions?

PG: Ask anyone who plays in the First Division - they want to play for their country. Next season is a big season for me and although its not make or break but I will be pushing as hard as I can for an England place. You've got to have a little bit of luck and have good games when you're being watched, but I believe that if you're playing well regularly then you will get recognised.

OS: Have you got a message for the Shed?

PG: Yeah! Keep on yelling! There's nothing better on a Saturday than to warm up in front of the Shed and hearing the Shed going. That's what Gloucester's all about!

OS: Thank you very much, Pete.

PG: You're welcome!

The Vote That Doesn't Count

According to an independent source, there were 800 attendees at the Special General Meeting held recently at the Walls' Club. When the time came to express our opinions, there was only one dissenter. But then, what choice did we have?

It was made quite clear that, in the opinion of the club including Richard Hill, if a significant level of investment was not made then the club would be doomed to second or even third division rugby. So as far as I can make out we either do nothing and watch as Gloucester sink into oblivion or get external investment and hope the money is spent wisely

Not much of a choice really. I have to say I thought the meeting was a complete waste of time. Did the club really think that the membership doesn't recognise the need for investment. Some of us may not like it but this is the reality of the modern professional era. It's very clear that the game will not survive by asking supporters to shell out at the gate. I sincerely hope that entrance and membership fees are pegged to this year's rates - because I'm sure the membership will shrink should there be further increases.

Fair play to David Foyle, he handled the whole meeting in a calm and professional manner and he continues to impress us as someone who really does have the best interests of the club and its members at heart. A fair number of his comments were met with cheers of agreement, especially when David expressed a desire that ERP (English Rugby Partnership - the body that replaces EPRUC) makes a decision at the start of the season on the league composition - and sticks to it!!!

So what nuggets of information did the club divulge? None, really. We have all heard the rumours about Richard Branson. David Foyle continually referred to "he" and "the investor" {in the singular}. Probably the most interesting "facts" are the following:

1. Following the overwhelming vote in favour of obtaining outside investment, an announcement will be made "before the end of the season".
2. The investor is purchasing 75% of the club - no shares will be made available to the general public. According to David Foyle, "the club wishes to retain some portion of control and if shares go outside of the two parties then the club has no control over them."
3. "The most stringent safeguards have been placed over the freehold of Kingsholm". {interpret that as you will}
4. The players bill will be £1.6m for next season
5. The investment will allow the club to break-even for the next 3 years.

I can't speak for anyone else but I'm more than a little sceptical about the whole thing. Why couldn't the club make the announcement on Friday? Its clear the deal is done - as we've been saying for some time. The club stated openly that it didn't need the approval of the membership. So why patronise us by having a pointless meeting?

I know that Richard Hill won't confirm or deny rumours about near-future signings. But he must have got his £1.6m budget requirement from somewhere. Either he already knows how much he's got to pay (because he knows who he's got to pay) or he's making a wild guess and the board haven't twigged - and I can't believe that.

And finally. "The most stringent safeguards" are protecting Kingsholm. I hope Glawster's lawyers know what they're doing because with a 75% controlling interest I would say that the investor has supreme executive power. If "he" wants to sell Kingsholm, who's gonna stop him? Swampy?

The club should stop messing about and tell the truth, the whole truth and NOW!!!

A Successful Season?

Rugby pitches are turning into concrete and injuries have started mounting up which can only mean one thing - the season is coming into the home straight. We shall shortly find out which clubs are going to fill those 4-berth buffer zones which will mean either European Cup rugby or a scrap for survival against the Second Division's wannabes. Apart from the League champions and the 2 basement clubs, how do we decide whether clubs have had a successful season or not?

Take Northampton, for example. McGeechan has supplied 5 of the Lions' tourists and yet as a team they will have achieved very little. Despite Keith Barwell's substantial investment in the club they have bamboozled the pundits - such as our own Katie Coker, who in her preview of the season wrote "Make no bones about it, newly-promoted Northampton are major First Division title contenders." However they did not feature in the Pilkington Cup and with still another four games to play, they have no realistic chance of qualifying for Europe. It's more likely that they will be sucked into the play-off zone! So do we then conclude that Saints' and McGeechan have had a bad season? Surely the danger highlighted by this case is the divorcing of coaches' and clubs' achievements.

It's clear then that when we assess how successful clubs have been, we're assessing how close they have come to meeting their own expectations - as well as the expectations of the supporters. So what about Gloucester - what would they have to achieve so that we could look back fondly on the 1996-7 season? Robbed of a deserved place in the Pilkington Cup final and a top-six finish not yet out of the question - when the primary objective from the outset was to ensure First Division survival. Clearly they've exceeded most people's expectations in terms of league and cup achievement.

Yet beyond that, Gloucester have matched this season's success on the field with impressive long-term squad development. If we look at the goals Richard Hill set at the start of the season in the Citizen's "A Whole New Ball Game", he said "The objective is to improve long term - by the end of this season and through next season - and if we are brave enough to do it, we will benefit massively." These achievements are perhaps some of the most difficult to appreciate. Whilst on the one hand we have seen the blossoming of players like Catling, Fidler, Benton and Mapletoft, we have also seen a gradual change in the approach of the players - which, no doubt, has something to do with their ability to become full-time professionals. Gloucester have started to make people outside the club (even a few national journalists!) start to question their perceptions of Gloucester as a boring parochial club whose idea of dynamic rugby is for 8 blokes to stuff the ball up their jumpers. Of course you should always play to your strengths, and Gloucester are, as always, a very powerful pack. Under Richard Hill's disciplined guidance they have not only consolidated these strengths but developed new dimensions to their game away from the pack, giving themselves the options that they have sorely needed. The players as well as the supporters are gradually starting to raise their expectations again - such that losing at Kingsholm is once more starting to become unthinkable! It's this change in attitude which I feel is the real achievement this season, because it is the foundation for that striving for excellence which Richard Hill has brought to the club.

So although I would say that, in comparison to some other First Division clubs as well as in relation to their own expectations at the start of the season, Gloucester have had a highly successful 8 months, they must strive to keep some sort of perspective. When I sit down to write this piece this time next year, naturally I want to be talking about further development and achievements at the club. Yet at the same time I will hope that long-term success won't have been endangered by the pursuit of short-term success bought at any price.

Letters

What a bumper bag we've received since that historic win over Leicester. Plenty of news to discuss, so here we go....

From: Mark Hitchin

This season has been unbelievable. If we get into Europe a backer will be a certainty, and with cash to spend on backs we'll be a major contender at every level. After all we've beaten the top two placed clubs this season, and Kingsholm is a fortress once more. Next season with a bit of cash to keep players and buy a couple more (hopefully not ageing foreigners who seem to be a waste of cash) we've got to be looking at winning the league!

I used to be cautious about Glawster's future but they've exceeded all expectations consistently over the last season and a half, why not in the future?

Simsies wife should have some serious fertility treatment and drop sprogs as often as possible - it seems to work! Anyway he's put a smile on more faces than just hers!

I watched RS on video and some Leicester twit was asked if he saw any problems for the rest of the season. He ignored Glaws and said Sale might cause trouble, I laughed so much I nearly underwent a complete rectal prolapse!

From: Kester Wilkinson

Fantastic result last night, I've just got into work and spent a merry few minutes reading the national papers, they are even talking about Gloucester being a contender for a place in Europe, its great to see Listeria getting the same treatment Barff got for beating Glaws in the semi.

I was at Glaws for a fantastic six months before returning to Cirencester where I have teamed up with Nigel Scrivens again. I was sad to leave Kingsholm, however, by Christmas I had realised I was too light, too short and not fit enough to ever grab more than the odd united game generally when somebody else was injured, so it was no surprise when I was cut from the squad. That said I had a great time, they are a great bunch of lads and playing at Kingsholm was brilliant.

From Martin and Tom Clarke.

What a great game Tuesday - the final try was men against boys but then tigers are an endangered species. If Johnson keeps whining like that on tour he'll be roasted - what a pillock ! So now its Virgin Gloucester RFC - bit of a contradiction in terms there - a megastore in the car park?

From: John Lewis

I can understand the philosophy of the powers that be trying to find a major backer to inject a few quid into the club - wouldn't we all like to have the power to buy some big names and see Glaws at the top of the table and in Europe/at Twickenham? (Which team is it that has the Courage league highest points scorer?)

I do feel that a major part of what makes Glaws so attractive might be lost if this happens. You only had to hear the crowd at the Saracens match giving their opinion of

Page

some of the foreign imports ('What a waste of money!!!) and I believe that with just a bit of luck and the right bounce (not to mention a ref who wasn't making up for past inadequacies!) we could have achieved a trip to Twickenham this year.

It seems to me that one star player does not make a great rugby team - it's more a case of 15 players knowing each other so well that the moves become instinctive. Besides which, what do we do with the current players who may be replaced by a 'big name'. Wouldn't it be a better idea to use the dosh to hold onto some of our great players.

Finally, spare a thought for the players (and supporters) when choosing the backer - can you really see the lads running out onto the pitch with 'Virgin' emblazoned across their chests?

From: Andy Whitaker

OK, so I'm nearly 40 years old, highly sporadic and totally undistinguished playing 'career' well behind me ... ever-expanding beer gut in front of me, and a an unashamedly bigoted dislike of all the money-grabbing barstewards in the round-ball game who seem to change their clubs' strip every fortnight.

Then, on a recent visit to the UK, and 'inspired' by several pints of 6X, I go and fork-out forty quid for a Glawster shirt - fashionable & chic away colours naturally.

Maybe it's because I now live in Boston Massachusetts, and needed to bring a piece of rugby back with me to act as a comforter in the long, cold basketball-filled USA television winter. But whatever it was that persuaded me - I'm glad it happened, as I've been amazed at how many Shedheads there are in whatever part of the world you go to.

Wear it in Boston. Someone stops me wanting to know whether Greening will stay at Kingsholm. Wear it up in Maine and someone else wants to join me in a therapeutic Bath-baiting discussion.

Wear it in the Irish Embassy (Boston pub) while watching this year's internationals via satellite, and get regaled by the haunting and evocative "Glawwwsterrrr" cry of a migrating Shedhead, who has touched down briefly for re-fuelling, on his way to Colorado.

Wear it in several different pubs in Dublin on international day and Shedheads gravitate towards each other (and the bar) in almost every one. OK - so this one isn't so surprising!

Perhaps we have to consider the Shedhead fraternity as being one of the world's most prolific nomadic tribes? Maybe David Attenborough could be interested in looking into it, and producing a 'Life Away From The Shed' documentary series? Or maybe I'm just drinking too much of this cr*p coffee over here, and beginning to hallucinate on caffeine.

From: Charles Ellis

Could you pass on my congratulations to the team, on a stunning "two fingered UP YOURS!!!" display to the not-so-mighty Tigers. My only wish was that I could have been there, If it was anything like the Bath match last April it must have been fantastic.

Results and Fixtures

August	23rd	Friendly	Pontypridd	H	W	15-5
	31st	Courage League	Harlequins	A	L	19-75
September	7th	Courage League	Sale	H	L	12-16
	11th	Anglo-Welsh	Newbridge	A	W	26-17
	14th	Courage League	Saracens	A	L	11-41
	21st	Courage League	Bath	H	L	29-45
	28th	Courage League	Leicester	A	L	14-32
October	2nd	Anglo-Welsh	Dunvant	H	W	64-16
	6th	Courage League	Wasps	H	W	28-23
	12th	European League	Ebbw Vale	H	W	59-7
	16th	European League	Begles Bordeaux	H	L	10-17
	19th	European League	Swansea	A	L	9-62
	27th	European League	Bourgoin	H	L	9-24
November	2nd	European League	London Irish	A	W	29-13
	5th	Friendly	Combined Services	H	W	32-7
	9th	Courage League	West Hartlepool	A	W	23-14
	16th	Courage League	Orrell	A	W	49-3
	19th	Friendly	RAF	H	W	33-7
	23rd	Friendly	Wakefield	A	L	24-29
	30th	Anglo-Welsh	Newbridge	H	W	76-0
December	7th	Courage League	London Irish	H	W	29-19
	10th	Anglo-Welsh	Ebbw Vale	A	W	22-15
	15th	Friendly	Maccley	A	L	7-22
	21st	Pilkington Cup R5	Leeds	H	W	55-20
January	11th	Courage League	London Irish	A	W	21-20
	18th	Courage League	West Hartlepool	H	W	37-10
	25th	Pilkington Cup R6	Bristol	H	W	18-12
February	8th	Courage League	Orrell	H	W	30-0
	18th	Courage League	Bristol	A	L	13-18
	22nd	Pilkington Cup Q-F	Wakefield	A	W	25-21
March	4th	Courage League	Northampton	H	W	19-6
	9th	Courage League	Wasps	A	L	10-36
	14th	Friendly	Bedford	A	L	19-58
	18th	Friendly	Army	H	L	29-36
	29th	Pilkington Cup S-F	Leicester	H	L	13-26
April	5th	Courage League	Saracens	H	W	9-6
	8th	Courage League	Leicester	H	W	32-30
	12th	Courage League	Sale	A	L	12-52
	19th	Courage League	Harlequins	H		
	26th	Courage League	Bristol	H		
	30th	Courage League	Bath	A		
May	3rd	Courage League	Northampton	A		

Club Statistics

Courage Club Championship Division 1 (as on April 16th)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Diff
Wasps	19	15	1	3	581	359	31	222
Leicester	19	13	0	6	546	344	26	202
Bath	18	12	1	5	639	333	25	306
Sale	18	12	1	5	525	360	25	165
Harlequins	18	12	0	6	647	335	24	312
Gloucester	18	10	0	8	397	446	20	-49
Saracens	18	9	1	8	425	376	19	49
Northampton	18	9	0	9	402	371	18	31
Bristol	19	7	0	12	366	550	14	-184
London Irish	17	4	0	13	379	569	8	-190
West Hartlepool	19	3	0	16	330	685	6	-355
Orrell	19	2	0	17	266	775	4	-509

First XV Playing Record Summaries

1996/7 Season	Total	Home	Away
Played	38	21	17
Won	22	15	7
Lost	16	6	10
Draw	0	0	0
Points F	974	638	336
Points A	862	332	530
Win %	57.90	71.43	41.18

All Courage League	Total	Home	Away
Played	141	72	69
Won	68	47	21
Lost	66	23	43
Draw	7	2	5
Points F	2371	1426	982
Points A	2367	987	1390
Win %	50.71	66.67	34.06

First XV Appearances and Scores

	1996-7 Season						
	App	Try	Con	Pen	DG	Pts	PPG
Eral Anderson	12	3	0	0	0	15	1.25
James Bashford	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Laurie Beck	13	2	0	0	0	10	0.77
Scott Benton	26	6	0	0	0	30	1.15
Warwick Bullock	3	1	0	0	0	5	1.67
Nigel Cane	2	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Nathan Carter	20	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Don Caskie	19	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Chris Catling	23	5	0	0	0	25	1.09
Nick Cooper	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Mark Cornwell	7	1	0	0	0	5	0.71
Howard Dawson	2	1	0	0	0	5	2.50
Andy Deacon	23	1	0	0	0	5	0.22
Simon Devereux	25	2	0	0	0	10	0.40
Scott Edwards	5	1	0	0	0	5	1.00
Craig Emmerson	11	1	0	0	0	5	0.45
Gareth Fenwick	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Rob Fidler	29	1	0	0	0	5	0.17
Chris Fortey	7	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Lee Fortey	2	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Will Gay	1	1	0	0	0	5	5.00
Alex Gallagher	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Pete Glanville	18	4	0	0	0	20	1.11
Phil Greening	27	4	0	0	0	20	0.74
Chris Hall	2	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Adam Harris	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Peter Hart	8	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
John Hawker	5	1	0	0	0	5	1.00
Paul Holford	8	4	0	0	0	20	2.50
Martyn Kimber	8	1	6	1	0	20	2.50
Andrew Jarrett	2	0	0	0	0	0	0.00

First XV Appearances and Scores

	1996-7 Season						
	App	Try	Con	Pen	DG	Pts	PPG
Tim Lacey	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Mike Lloyd	23	12	0	0	0	60	2.61
Audley Lumsden	15	8	0	0	0	40	2.67
Mark Mapletoft	29	17	58	66	5	414	14.3
Neil Matthews	2	1	0	0	0	5	2.50
Andy Metcalfe	10	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Alex Morris	4	0	8	5	0	31	7.75
Charlie Mulraine	8	2	0	0	0	10	1.25
Bill Nicholls	2	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Lee Osborne	1	1	0	0	0	5	5.00
Nick Paisley	3	0	1	0	0	2	0.67
Ed Pearce	14	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Sam Pearman	2	2	0	0	0	10	5.00
Mike Peters	23	7	0	0	0	35	1.52
Adey Powles	5	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Martin Roberts	25	1	0	0	0	5	0.20
Alastair Saverimutto	14	19	0	0	0	95	6.79
Dave Sims	29	3	0	0	0	15	0.52
Ian Smith	9	1	0	0	0	5	0.56
Nick Smith	2	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Andrew Stanley	16	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Dave Timmington	4	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Phil Vickery	14	1	0	0	0	5	0.36
Richard Ward	6	1	0	0	0	5	0.83
Kester Wilkinson	1	1	0	0	0	5	5.00
Tony Windo	29	3	0	0	0	15	0.52
Trevor Woodman	9	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Chris Yelland	3	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Rob York	9	3	0	0	0	15	1.67

How (Gloucester) Will Line up

How Harlequins will line up is anyone's guess (see below)

Saturday 8th February 1997 Kick off 3.00 pm

GLOUCESTER			HARLEQUINS	
Cherry & White				
15	Chris Catling	Full Back		
14	Audley Lumsden	Right Wing		
13	Chris Emmerson	Centre		
12	Martin Roberts	Centre		
11	Mike Lloyd	Left Wing		
10	Mark Mapletoft	Outside Half		
9	Scott Benton	Scrum Half		
1	Tony Windo	Prop		
2	Phil Greening #	Hooker		
3	Andy Deacon	Prop		
4	Rob Fidler	Lock		
5	Dave Sims *	Lock		
6	Andy Stanley	Flanker		
7	Nathan Carter	Flanker		
8	Simon Devereux	No. 8		
16	Laurie Beck	Replacements		
17	Don Caskie			
18	Mike Peters #			
19	Trevor Woodman			
20	John Hawker			
21	Rob York			
Referee		# International	Touch Judges	
John Pearson (Co. Durham)		* Captain	Steve Savage & Clive Leeke	

OLD SPOT! appologises for the lack of a Harlequins team. Unfortunately, despite repeated phone calls starting on Thursday afternoon, the Harlequins office was unable to furnish their team at 11 a.m. on Friday morning. The Gloucester club office were just as much in the dark late on Friday morning. We had already been screaning "hold the back page" for a couple of hours, and nothing came through. By 11.30 a.m. the presses really did have to "roll". So much for the professional era! Kingsholm PA announcer Graham Spring will hopefully be able to keep you posted at the match, if Harlequins gives him the team!