



e of character







BATH RUGBY

Black, Blue & White

Adedayo Adebayo (I)

Wednesday 30th

April 1997



GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

Mike Lloyd

		The state of the s
16 Jon Callard (I)	Full Back	Chris Catling 15
15 Jon Sleightholme (I)	Right Wing	Audley Lumsden 14
14 Matt Perry	Centre	Craig Emmerson 13
2 Phil de Glanville * (I)	Centre	Don Caskie 12

10 Mike Catt (I)	Outside Half	Mark Mapletoft 10
9 Andy Nicol (I)	Scrum Half	Laurie Beck 9

Left Wing

1	Kevin Yates	Prop	Tony Windo
2	Federico Mendez (I)	Hooker	John Hawker 2
3	John Mallett (I)	Prop	Andy Deacon 3
4	Martin Haag	Lock	Rob Fidler 4
5	German Llanes (I)	Lock	Dave Sims * 5
6	Nathan Thomas (I)	Flanker	Pete Glanville 6
7	Richard Webster (I)	Flanker	Andy Stanley 7
8	Dan Lyle (I)	No. 8	Simon Devereux 8
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17 Charlie Harrison	Replacements	Charlie Mulraine
18 Gary French		Alastair Saverimutto
19 Dave Hilton (I)	Miles	Alex Morris
20 Richard Butland		Mark Cornwell
21 Eric Peters (I)	TVA.	Trevor Woodman
22		Lee Fortey

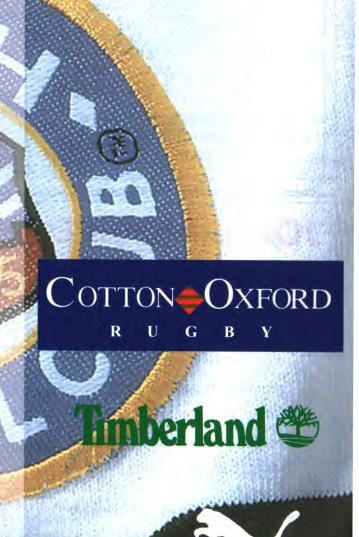
Today's Match Sponsor

Half Time

Referee
G Hughes (RFU)

(I) International * Captain







One of my most endearing memories of the season is being at Kingsholm a few weeks ago when a breakaway try by Audley Lumsden (in Cherry and White remember!) put Gloucester in front

of apparently Champions elect, Leicester. The collective belief in a home win was tangible, no matter what the Tigers did after that 10,000 people simply willed their team on and very successfully too! That is of course Gloucester rugby, deeply rooted in the City, Kingsholm is a Cathedral in much the same way as the ecclesiastical version a few hundred yards away. The saints of Kingsholm are of a rather more earthy version than their heavenly brothers, not for The Shed the ethereal delights of complex interpassing movements, but a more direct robust version of the game. None for the worse for it either, rugby needs all sorts to paint its rich tapestry.

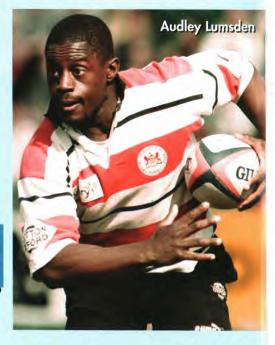
Gloucester were the leading light in the first competitive steps in English rugby, Cup winners in

Welcome to Gloucester

71/72 and indeed have played one more game in the Cup than Bath, 75 to Bath's 74. The 1989-90 season had them challenging for both League and Cup, only for them to come second to Wasps in the League and similarly to Bath in the Cup. Take this team lightly at your peril! This season promised poorly for Gloucester and a dreadful start at Harlequins followed by more losses had them looking down the barrel of relegation. A win against subsequent Champions Wasps made all things possible and for a brief spell a week or so ago there was even an outside chance of a place in Europe, some recovery!

The team is based firmly round a combative and highly effective pack with excellent half backs in Scott Benton and Mark Mapletoft, both well known to Bath spectators. Mapletoft has been rewarded for his efforts this season with an England tour position and deservedly so. The mastermind behind Gloucester these last two seasons has been Richard Hill, thought of by many as possible England manager in due course, he will be scheming to undo Bath tonight just as he schemed

That represents the dilemma for professional rugby, how does a team founded on spirit and home town commitment add in the much needed talent, not just from abroad but from other English clubs, without diluting the very things which made it so passionate? Answers on a postcard to all Directors of Rugby!!!



For tonight we can expect Gloucester to be trying to bring the try scoring Bath machine down to more earthy levels and remembering that victory at Kingsholm last March when relegation seemed inevitable for the Cherry and Whites! No trivial matter, a Bath v Gloucester encounter, this should be a thriller!

Courage League Records:

	P	W	D	L	%	PTSF	PTSA
GLOS.	142	68	8	66	51	2427	2409
BATH	143	114	7	22	82	3772	1741

This season:

Glouc: 41 tries, 26 conversions, 51 penalties and 6 drop goals.

Bath: 101 tries, 66 conversions, 40 penalties and 2 drop goals.

Leading scorers:

Mark Mapletoft: 5 tries, 24 conversions, 51 penalties, 5 drop goals 241 points

Jon Callard: 3 tries, 45 conversion, 33 penalties