



VS
MONTAUBAN

PARKER PEN CHALLENGE CUP
QUARTER-FINAL SECOND LEG
SATURDAY 18 JANUARY 2003
KICK-OFF 2.15pm



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PARKER PEN CHALLENGE CUP





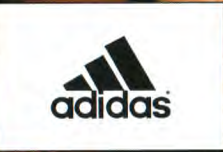
TODAY'S TEAMS



	IAN BALSCHAW	(15) FULL BACK	PIERRE BONDOUY	
	SIMON DANIELLI	(14) WING	BASTIEN BEYRET	
	KEVIN MAGGS	(13) CENTRE	HENRY-PIERRE VERMIS	
	MIKE TINDALL	(12) CENTRE	JEROME SIEURAC	
	MATT PERRY	(11) WING	STANISLAS DURAND	
	OLLY BARKLEY	(10) FLY HALF	PHILIPPE GORDO	
	GARETH COOPER	(9) SCRUM HALF	CEDRIC GARCIA	
	SIMON EMMS	(1) PROP	CYRIL VANCHERI	
	JONATHAN HUMPHREYS	(2) HOOKER	ANDRE GAUBERT	
	ALESSIO GALASSO	(3) PROP	MOHAMED BEN BOUHOUT	
	STEVE BORTHWICK	(4) LOCK	GUY JEANNARD	
	DANNY GREWCOCK (C)	(5) LOCK	SERGEI SERGUEEV (C)	
	ANDY BEATTIE	(6) FLANKER	ALEXANDRE COLOME	
	ADAM VANDER	(7) FLANKER	YOHAN MISSE	
	NATHAN THOMAS	(8) NO.8	VIATCHESLAV GRATCHEV	
	ANDY WILLIAMS	(16)	PHILIPPE LACOMBRE	
	LEE MEARS	(17)	PABLO MARTINEZ	
	JOHN MALLET	(18)	FRANCK MARECHAL	
	MIKE CATT	(19)	FABRICE SOLDAN	
	ALEX CROCKETT	(20)	SEBASTIEN FAUQUE	
	GAVIN THOMAS	(21)	BENOIT ALBERT	
	JAMES SCAYSBROOK	(22)	PIERRE BRONCAN	



BLACKTHORN.

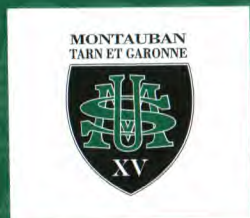


TODAY'S OFFICIALS
 REFEREE HUGH WATKINS (WALES)
 TOUCH JUDGES KERI EVANS AND
 TIM HAYES (WALES)



get ahead of the game

Montauban



Like most French sides, they do possess a willingness to throw the ball around and in the backs they certainly have strike runners capable of causing Bath a few problems.



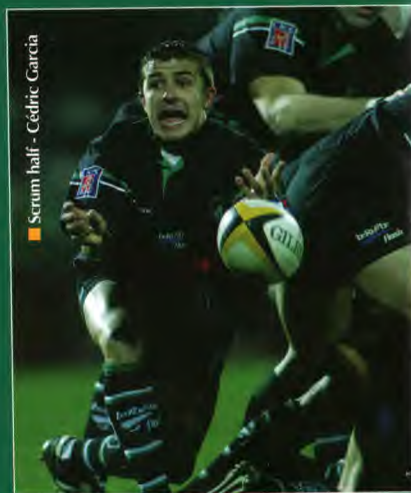
The surprise package in the Parker Pen Challenge Cup so far this season, Montauban reached the quarter-finals having recorded impressive aggregate victories over both Welsh side Ebbw Vale and more recently the Scottish Borders.

Indeed, for those of you who had not heard of Montauban prior to last weekend's first-leg match in the south of France, here is a brief resume of both the club and the town. Montauban is nestled in the heart of the rugby country, about 45km south of Toulouse. It is an ancient city of culture and is famed for its art and architectural beauty. Nicknamed 'the town of roses', Montauban is also famed for poet Jean Malrieu, actor Roland Giraud and artist Antoine Bourdelle.

So that is the background to the city, but what about the club? Montauban were promoted to the top flight in the French Championship for the 2000/01 season and qualified for this season's Parker Pen Challenge Cup by finishing sixth in Pool One of the French Championship. Last season was their first sortie into European competition, but they did not progress past the pool stages of the European Shield.

There are plenty of similarities between Montauban's season to date and that of Bath Rugby. Despite showing plenty of potential, the French side currently lie second from bottom in Pool One of the French Championship, having won two and drawn two in ten matches, with victories coming over Bordeaux and Grenoble.

The old theory that French sides do not travel well in European competition has been totally blown out of the water by



Scrum half - Cedric Garcia

Defending a slender three-point lead, Xavier Pemeja's side travelled to Netherdale on a damp Friday evening without being given a hope of winning the second leg against a star-studded Borders side. However, the efficient French side prevailed, winning 12-6 and setting up this mouth-watering tie against Bath Rugby.

Montauban's strength undoubtedly lies in a powerful pack that took the Borders apart last time out in the competition. While their pack does not include any household names, there are three members of the forward-orientated Russian side who caused Ireland a few problems during the recent World Cup qualifiers. Indeed, their captain and second row Sergei Sergueev is highly rated within French circles. Argentinean prop Pablo Martinez is also a formidable scrummager.

However, Montauban are not all about bludgeon. Like most French sides, they do possess a willingness to throw the ball around and in the backs they certainly have strike runners capable of causing Bath a few problems. Full back Pierre Bondouy may be 32, but as a winner of five caps between 1997 and 2000 he brings considerable experience to the back three.