



ENGLAND WOMEN'S

INTERNATIONAL RUGBY



2001

**Sunday
18th February**

England Students
v Army 1.00pm

Tag Rugby
Demonstration 1.45pm

**England
v Spain**

2.30pm

Worcester RFC

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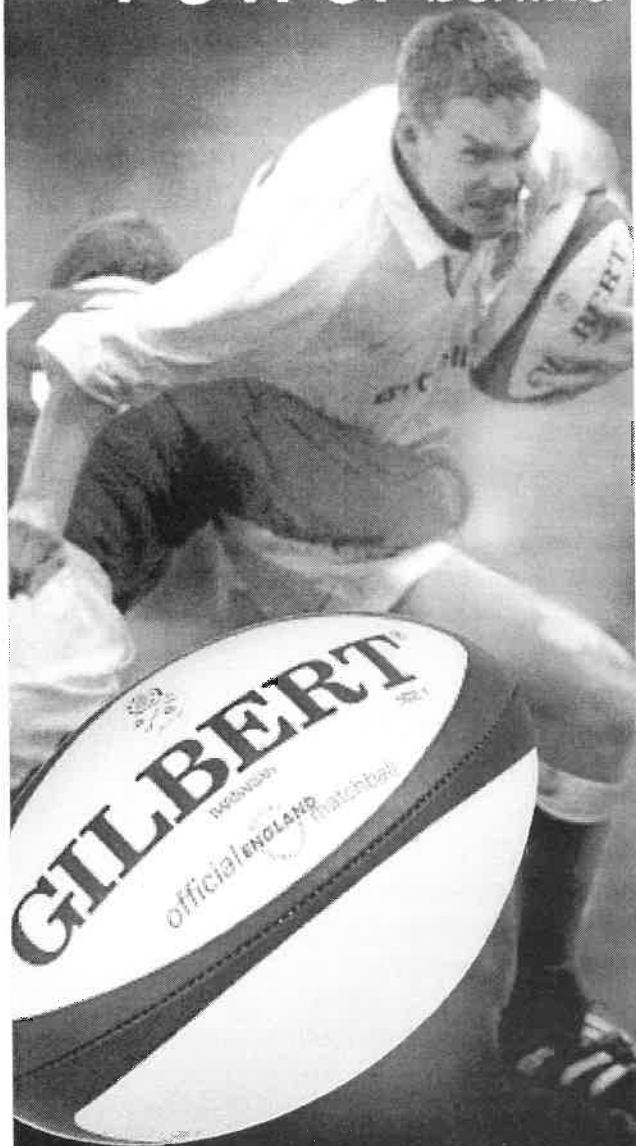
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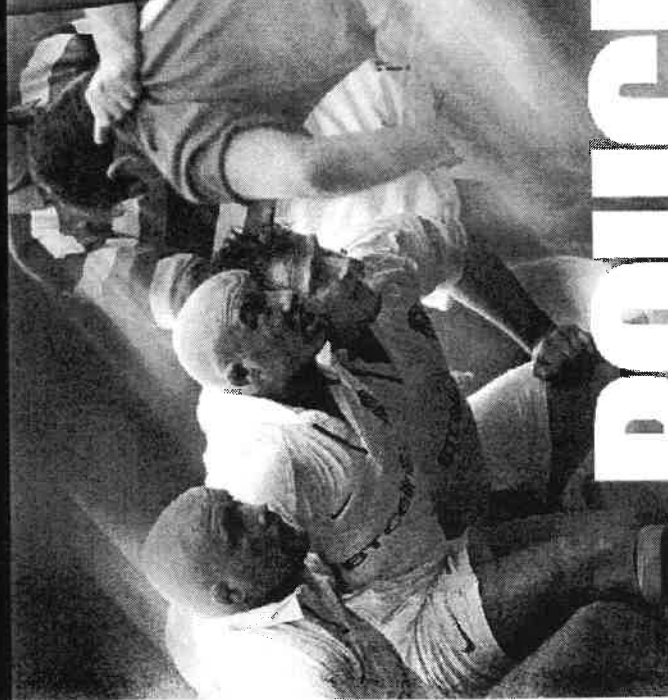
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**A welcome from the
President of the
Rugby Football Union
for Women**



On behalf of the Rugby Football Union for Women, I would like to welcome our sponsors, guests, officials, players and supporters to Worcester RFC for the 2001 Six Nations competition and our first home match, against Spain.

England have now played Spain on many occasions since their first match during the 1991 World Cup in Cardiff, when England won 12-0. Spain have always contested the matches well and gave a spirited performance during the 2000 Five Nations competition with England winning 31-7 at Banbury RFC.

In addition to today's international, we have two curtain raisers for you to enjoy. The first being England Students v The Army, followed by a demonstration of tag rugby by the Midlands West Tag League for Girls. I wish these teams every success, trust they have good matches, but above all, enjoy their time here.

Our sincere thanks go to Worcester RFC for hosting today's matches and especially to those individuals who have worked hard to ensure the success of the day and enjoyment for all.

The continued support of our sponsors is paramount to the continuance of these events and on behalf of the Union, I would like to thank the following sponsors Swiss Life, Gilbert and Ram Rugby. Further, we acknowledge the significant contribution made to the Union by both the Lottery and Sport England.

Finally, I hope you all enjoy the day and have a wonderful time.

Liz Jennings

England Rugby Player



Women's Squad Profiles

T. Andrews (Richmond) Lock. Born 4.1.77 in Pembrokeshire. 6ft, 13st. Teresa Joan Andrews, who was educated at Pembroke Comprehensive, Birmingham University (BSc Sports Science) and the University of Wales, Bangor (PGCE Outdoor Education and Maths), has won 14 caps for England. From 1992-98 she represented Wales as an athlete, competing in the high jump and heptathlon events. Andrews began her rugby career in 1995 as a student in Birmingham and joined Premier Division One side Waterloo in 1998, where she played for two seasons before transferring to Richmond in 2000. She was first selected for England Students in 1997, before progressing quickly through Emerging England and into the senior England squad by the end of 1998. She is a PE and Maths teacher at Glyn School in Ewell, Surrey. *International Record:* 14 caps

S. Appleby (Clifton) Fly-half. Born 21.12.70 in Newcastle. 5ft 6in, 9st 5lb. Susan Kathryn Appleby, who was educated at Westfield School in Newcastle, Repton School in Derbyshire and Birmingham University (BA Sport and Recreation Studies), has won 35 caps for England. A sportswoman from an early age, she competed at county level in netball, swimming, long jump and javelin before taking up rugby in 1991 as a student at Birmingham. While still a student she was selected to represent the Midlands Division in 1992, and England Students in 1993 at fly-half. After finishing her degree in 1993 she joined Novocastrians as a scrum-half, where she helped them win promotion to the First Division in 1995. In 1994 she played one game for Emerging England before being promoted to the senior England Squad. She played for Saracens from 1996-99 and in 1999 transferred to West Country club Clifton. She is currently on a career break from the police force and is a full-time rugby player. *International Record:* 35 caps, 5 Sevens caps

G. Burns (Waterloo) No.8/Lock. Born 12.7.64 in Whiston, Merseyside. 5ft 11in., 13st. Gillian Ann Burns, who was educated at Prescot Comprehensive and Chester College (B.Ed. Hon. Physical Education and Mathematics), captained the England team from 1994 to 1999. Before turning to rugby in 1987 she competed at county level at swimming, hockey, and athletics. She also represented British Colleges at Hockey, Basketball, Swimming and Athletics. She took up rugby in 1987 and had been selected for England by 1988, winning her first cap against Sweden in that year. She was a founding member of Waterloo WRFC, where she has played since 1989. One of England's most experienced forwards and a great attacking weapon. She is a PE teacher for Sefton Education Authority and is currently Vice-President of the Women's Sports Federation. *International Record:* 57 caps, 5 Sevens Caps, GB 2 caps

H. Clayton (Saracens) Flanker. Born 17.6.71 in Wigan, Lancashire. 5ft 6in., 11st. Helen Victoria Clayton, who was educated at Upholland High School, Winstanley College in Wigan and Chester College (BA History and PE), has won 39 caps for England. A member of the England A team and a travelling reserve for the World Cup in 1994, she earned her first cap against the Netherlands the same year. She began her rugby career in 1991 when she helped to establish the first women's side at Chester College, then moving on to play for Waterloo. She quickly gained representative honours, playing for the North in 1992, England Students in 1993 and Emerging England in 1994 before her elevation into the full squad. Although her first sporting achievements were in hockey (she represented Greater Manchester and Cheshire from 1991 to 1993), she comes from a rugby family. Brothers Paul and Jerome have both played for the North. She is a part-time coach for Southwark Sports Development. *International Record:* 39 caps, 6 Sevens caps

N. Coffin (Richmond) Flanker. Born 26.9.74 in Southampton. 5ft 7in, 11st. Nicola Ruth Coffin, who was educated at Blundell's School in Tiverton, Devon, and the West London Institute (BSc Sports Science and Leisure Management), has won 13 caps for England. Having been introduced to rugby at school, she returned to the game as a university student at West London Institute in 1992 on the wing. She took the opportunity while a student to play for London club Wasps and was selected for England Students from 1992 to 1994 as a fullback and centre. In 1994 she transferred to London club Richmond, and began to represent the South Division and Emerging England as a fullback. She was brought into the senior England squad in 1995. She won her first 7 caps as a centre in 1997. After a break from injury, she returned to the squad in 1999 and changed position to flanker. She has since won several caps for England in that position. She is a recruitment consultant for JPA. *International Record:* 13 caps

N. Crawford (Worcester) Wing. Born 20.11.71 in Worcester. 5ft 7in, 10st 7lb. Nicola Jayne Crawford (née Brown), who was educated at St Mary's Convent School Worcester, Worcester Sixth Form College, Worcester Technical College, the University of the West of England (BA Graphic Design) and Cardiff Institute for Higher Education (PGCE Art and Design), has won 24 caps for England. She began her rugby career in 1993 with Pershore WRFC before transferring to Worcester in 1994. In 1994 she was selected for the Midlands Division and the following year for Emerging England and England Students. She joined the full England squad in 1997. Previously a nationally ranked tetrathlete. She is an Art Teacher at the Arden School in Solihull. *International Record:* 24 caps

S. Day (Wasps) Centre. Born 29.10.72 in Watford. 5ft, 7in. 11st. Susan Margaret Day, who was educated at the Grange School in Stourbridge and Oxford University (BA Modern Languages), has won 15 caps for England. She began her rugby career playing for Spanish club Buc in Barcelona while on a year abroad in 1993-94 and her natural talent led to her selection for Catalonia in the same year. Upon her return to England she won a blue with Oxford University before joining London club Wasps. She represented the London Division in 1996 and played for Emerging England in 1997 before her inclusion in the full England squad. In 1997 she represented England against the Nomads and won her first cap against Spain. She won further caps in the Home Nations tournament of 1998 and as a member of England's World Cup squad in Amsterdam. RFUW Club Player of the Year in 1997-98. She is a part-time accountant for KPMG in London. *International Record:* 15 caps

A. De Biase (Saracens via Weston Hornets) Centre. Born 27.5.69 in Colchester. 5ft 7in, 11st 9lbs. Assunta De Biase, who was educated at Sir Charles Lucas School in Colchester, Nottingham Polytechnic (BSc Sports Science) and Bath University (PGCE in Physical Education), joined the senior England squad in 1997. She began her rugby career in 1991 with Essex University, before moving in 1994 to West country club Weston Hornets. When she moved to London in 1995 she first played for Eton Manor before joining Premier Division One club Saracens in 1996. 1995 saw her first foray into representative rugby, when she was selected for the London Division and for Emerging England. After impressing in divisional matches and on the summer's England A team tour of Holland and Germany in 1996 she was selected for the senior squad. She represented England against the Nomads in October and won her first cap against Spain in December 1997. She is a Sports Development Officer in the London Borough of Southwark. *International Record:* 12 caps

E. Feltham (Richmond) Wing. Born 17.8.77 in Salisbury. 5ft 3in, 10st. Emily Claire Feltham, who was educated at St Edmund's Girls School and South Wiltshire Grammar, has won 9 caps for England. She is a relatively recent convert to rugby, having only begun her playing career for the University of St Mark and St John in Plymouth, 'Marjons', in 1995. From 1992-93 she was an England junior squad athlete competing at 100m, 200m and long jump. She was selected for England Students Rugby in 1996 and was elevated to the senior England squad in 1998. In 1999 she won her first cap against Wales in the Five Nations. The same year she moved to London and now plays for First Division club Richmond. She is a PE teacher at Leaden Hall School in Salisbury. *International Record:* 9 caps

M. Edwards (Saracens) Prop. Born 28.7.66 in Beckenham, Kent. 5ft 5in, 12st. Maxine Patricia Edwards, who was educated at the Lewisham School, Hackney College (electrical apprenticeship), Paddington College (B.Tech. Building Services, electrical), Lewisham College (B.Tech. Communications Engineering) and the University of Greenwich (BSc Hons. Business Information Systems), has earned a total of 20 caps for England, 4 as a flanker and 16 as a prop. She began playing rugby in 1984 for now defunct Bromley WRFC which became Blackheath WRFC in 1991. She was selected in 1988 to represent the South Division and was brought onto the England squad as a flanker in 1990. In 1991 she played for England in the first World Cup, and then later that year had a child and withdrew from the squad until she was re-selected in 1994. In 1997 she transferred from Blackheath to Premier Division One club Saracens and from the no.7 shirt to no.3. Recent achievements include captaining the victorious team in the 2000 inaugural English Super Fours. She is currently employed by BT as a Business Analyst. *International Record:* 20 caps

C. Frost (Saracens) No.8. Born 22.3.73 in Ashington, Northumberland. 5ft 8in, 13st 7lbs. Claire Joanne Frost, who was educated at the Evesham High School near Worcester and the University of Greenwich (B.Ed. Hon. in Movement Studies), has won 17 caps for England. She began her rugby career as a student at Greenwich in 1991 and was called up to represent the London Division in her second season. In 1993-94 she joined Premier Division One club Saracens and was shortly after selected for England Students and Emerging England. In the same year she was brought up to join the senior England squad. She represented England against the Nomads in October and won her first cap against Spain in December 1997. She is a Deputy Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator at Warwick School for Boys in London. *International Record:* 17 caps

A. Garnett (Saracens) Hooker. Born 31.3.76 in Canterbury, 5ft 7in, 11st. Amy Garnett, who was educated at Barton Court Grammar School in Canterbury; Liverpool John Moores University and De Montfort University Bedford (B.Sc Sports Science and Geography), has won 10 caps for England. She began her rugby career as a student at Liverpool John Moores University in 1994 and transferred to De Montfort University in 1996. In 1996 she was selected for England Students and the Midlands Division. In 1997 she joined Emerging England and in 1998 she joined Premier Division One club Saracens, represented the London Division and was selected for the senior England squad. She won her first cap as a replacement against Spain in 2000. She is Computer Data Analyst for Randon House Limited Publishing Company. *International Record:* 10 caps

Introducing the Chairman of Worcester RFC

"I would like to welcome the players, officials and supporters of England and Spain to Sixways this afternoon for this Six Nations Championship fixture. Worcester Rugby Club are very honoured to have been chosen to host this game, our third women's international match, and we wish both sides the very best of luck
.....for this afternoon's



encounter. In particular I would like to welcome RFUW President Liz Jennings and Secretary Diane Lintonbon and their Spanish counterparts Jose Manuel Moreno and Sergio Brosa.

In previous years we have hosted England women's matches versus Ireland and France. England were successful on both previous occasions and we hope that

they can repeat their victories this afternoon. The England players have been using Sixways for training during the past few weeks and we are pleased to have welcomed them and hope they enjoy our facilities. This is the inaugural Six Nations Championship and I am pleased to be able to officially welcome Spain to the competition. They took part in last year's tournament as temporary replacements for Ireland and performed excellently, thoroughly deserving their permanent place in the championship.

England continue to improve as an international force and Head Coach Geoff Richards, Assistant Coach Rob Drinkwater and Performance Director Carol Isherwood are full of confidence for the 2002 World Cup in Barcelona, Spain. A number of our Worcester players, wing Nicky Crawford, scrum half Joanne Yapp, centre Karen Andrew and prop Mandy Palmer-Norrie were part of the squad who beat Canada and the USA at the Canada Cup in September, and we are very proud of their success.

The women's section at Worcester Rugby Club continues to grow and we currently field two senior teams and a junior squad. We are committed to providing sport for all, regardless of ability, gender or age, at Worcester Rugby and the women's section are a major part of the club's continued success and expansion. We look forward to an enjoyable afternoon of women's rugby."

Mr Cecil Duckworth
Chairman WRFC Trading Ltd



England Women's Rugby Squad

Player Profiles

P. George (Wasps) Fullback. Born 20.10.68 in Abergavenny. 5ft 10in., 12st. Paula George, who was educated at Cynffig Comprehensive in Mid-Glamorgan, Cardiff Institute (BA Hon. Human Movement Studies) and Brunel University (PGCE in Physical Education and Special Needs), is England's captain and fullback. She has won 47 caps for England, though her international experience is deeper as she was previously capped 5 times for Wales. She started playing rugby at Newport as an outside centre in 1989 and was at the same time representing Wales at netball. In 1991 she was selected for the Welsh squad as a wing and played for Wales in the first World Cup. Later that year she moved to London and transferred from Newport to Richmond. After a season at Richmond she transferred to London rivals Wasps. In 1992 she retired from netball to focus on rugby and decided to transfer to England. During a mandatory two year exile from international rugby, she represented the Nomads in their first two international matches. She made her first appearance for England against Wales in 1994 and has taken part in the last three World Cups. Current England captain. She is a professional rugby player and a part-time teacher at Ynners School in Ickenham. *International Record:* 47 caps, 6 Sevens caps, 5 caps for Wales

N. Goodwin (Worcester) Prop. Born 27.3.74 in Hereford. 5ft 6in, 10st. Nicola Claire Goodwin, who was educated at Haberdashers' Monmouth School for Girls, Loughborough University (BA Hons English and PE; PGCE English and PE) and the National College of Trainee Journalists in Cheltenham (NCTJ certificate), has not yet been capped for England. She first turned to rugby in 1991 whilst also representing the Welsh Schools at Lacrosse. After a brief stint with Hereford from 1991-92, she joined Loughborough as a student from 1992-96. She was first selected for England Students in 1995. In 1996 she joined Premier Division One club Worcester and became captain of England Students. She was then elevated to Emerging England in 1997, which she also captained until 1998 when she joined the senior England squad. She is the Press and PR Officer at Worcester RFC, a freelance rugby journalist and is also the RFUW Press Officer. *International Record:* 0 caps

V. Huxford (Wasps) Prop. Born 13.10.70 in Hanworth, Middlesex. 5ft 7in, 13st 2lbs. Vanessa Huxford, who was educated at Tomlinscote Senior School in Camberley, has won 17 caps for England. Having first joined Alton as a back row forward in 1993, she was then called upon to play no.8 for Hampshire County and the South East Region the following year. In 1995 she was selected for the Emerging England squad. She transferred to Premier Division One club Richmond in 1996 to play as a prop for the first time and in 1996-97 was a member of the South Divisional squad. In 1997 she transferred again to join Premier Division One club Wasps and was called up for the senior England squad in the same year. She played for an England Select side against the Nomads in 1997. In 1998 she was a travelling reserve for the World Cup in Holland and she won her first cap in the Five nations of 1999 against Scotland. She works at the Bass brewery in Alton. *International Record:* 17 caps

S. Marsh (Wasps) Centre. Born 6.9.76 in Canterbury. 5ft 11in, 11* 1lb. Sarah Jane Marsh, who was educated at the Astor Secondary School in Dover and is currently studying at Brunel University (BSc Sports Science and Leisure Management), won her first cap at the Canada Cup in 2000. Marsh was no stranger to contact sports when she began her rugby career. From 1994-96 she represented Great Britain at kickboxing and held both the British and English Light Middleweight titles. She also played hockey for the East of England U21s. She began her rugby career in 1995 with Canterbury, before moving to Harlequins in 1996. In 1999 she transferred to First Division club Richmond and then in 2000 to Premiership rivals Wasps. Her progress has been swift. She was selected for English Universities in 1998, the South and Emerging England in 1999 and the senior England squad in 2000. She is a part-time fitness instructor and professional rugby player. *International Record:* 1 cap

T. O'Reilly (Saracens) Prop. Born 16.9.64 in Wexford, Ireland. 5ft 6in, 11* 7lbs. Theresa Jane O'Reilly, who was educated at Hengrove Comprehensive School in Bristol, Brunel Technical College (City and Guilds) and South Bank University (HND), has won 24 caps for England. She began her rugby career with Bath Ladies in 1991 as a flanker and the following season was selected to represent the South Division. In 1993 she transferred from Bath to Clifton and then in 1997 to London club Saracens. She was by then playing most games as a prop. In 1997 she was selected for Emerging England and after a successful tour to Holland and Germany was elevated to the senior England squad. A successful power athlete, from 1978-82 she was the UK Junior Champion in discus and javelin, heavyweight British Karate Champion from 1982-86 and European heavyweight Karate Champion from 1984-86. She is a freelance Contract Manager and is currently completing a BSc in Building Surveying (Chartered) at South Bank University. *International Record:* 24 caps

S. Rudge (Clifton) Centre. Born 5.11.75 in Auckland, New Zealand. 5ft 3in, 12st. Selena Helen Rudge, who was educated at Glendowie College in Auckland, has won 7 caps for England. Rudge began her rugby career early. At the age of 8 she played rugby league with Tamaki RFC in Auckland for two years before being told, as a girl, she could no longer play. She returned to league with the women's clubs the Ellerlie Eagles, Packuranga, the Glenora Bears and Bay Roskill in New Zealand from 1993-98. She came to England in 1999 and took up rugby union first with Cheltenham Ladies before transferring to Clifton for the 1999-2000 season. Rudge made an immediate impact and was selected for both the South Division and England in November 1999. She is a full time rugby player. *International Record:* 7 caps

S. Rae (Wasps) Fly Half. Born 1.6.76 in Cambridge. 5ft 9in, 11st. Shelley Ann Rae, who was educated at the Netherhall School in Cambridge, has won 3 caps for England. She first played rugby for Cambridge club Shelford in 1995, after having previously been involved in football, basketball and badminton. Selected for the London Division in 1996 and then for Emerging England and straight into the full England squad in 1997, she won her first A team cap against Wales in the same year. She transferred to Premier Division One club Wasps in 1998 and won her first three caps at the Canada Cup in 2000. She is a professional rugby player. *International Record:* 3 caps

G. Stevens (Clifton) Flanker. Born 13.6.73 in Torquay. 5ft 7in, 11st 7lbs. Georgia Ruth Stevens, who was educated at Wydean Comprehensive and Bridlemaking School, has won 23 caps for England. She began her rugby career at Lydney WRFC in 1992 before joining Clifton WRFC in 1994. She was selected to play for the South Division and Emerging England in 1995 and was elevated to the senior England squad in 1997. She has represented England 'A' against both the Welsh and Scottish Exiles before winning her first cap against Scotland in 1998. She was a member of the England World Cup squad in the same year. She is currently a student at the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (UWIC). *International Record:* 23 caps

J. Sutton (Richmond) Lock. Born 26.2.69 in Norman, Oklahoma, USA. 6ft 2in, 13st. Jennifer Shelby Sutton, who was educated at Steveston High School and the University of Victoria in British Columbia, Canada (B.Commerce and Economics), has won 10 caps for England. Previously an international basketball player for Canada, she is no stranger to the top echelons of women's sport. After an extremely successful basketball career during which she was named Canadian Universities Most Valuable Player, she turned to rugby for the first time in 1994. After one season with the University of Victoria she traveled to England to join Premier Division One club Richmond. She was named in the Canadian squad in 1994 and 1997 though was never capped. Having decided to reside permanently in London, she made herself available to England and joined the senior England squad in 1998. She works in E-commerce Business Development with GE Capital. *International Record:* 10 caps

J. Yapp (Worcester) Scrum-half. Born 6.9.79 in Shrewsbury. 5ft 3in, 9st. Joanne Yapp, who was educated at the Lacon Childe School, is currently the youngest member of the England squad. She began playing rugby at age 13 for Ludlow Ladies RFC and then in 1994 transferred to Worcester. In 1995 she was selected by the West Midlands Regional squad and has played for the Midlands Division since 1996. In 1996 she represented England Students and in 1997 joined the senior England Squad. She had a dream debut for England when she scored a try at her home club Worcester against Ireland in 1998 and was with the England squad at the 1998 World Cup in Amsterdam. She has also represented Britain at tetrathalon. She is currently a student at Worcester University working for a BSc in Sports Studies. *International Record:* 21 caps

Introducing the Chief Executive of Worcester RFC



A very warm welcome to Sixways the home of Worcester Rugby for today's encounter between England and Spain in the Six Nations Championship. There have been two previous England women's international matches here at Worcester, against Ireland in 1998 and France in 1999. England won on both of those occasions so perhaps that is a good omen for today. The English team won the Five nations trophy in 1999-2000 and also enjoyed a successful tour to Canada last September, beating both the USA and Canada and only losing narrowly to the current World Champions, New Zealand.

This is the first season in which six nations have taken part in this tournament. Ireland have returned to the fold after a year out to rebuild their domestic game and Spain, their temporary replacements in the Five Nations last year, did so well that they are included by right this season. England start as favourites today and for the tournament as they build towards their summer tour of Australia & New Zealand and the 2002 World Cup due to be held in Barcelona.

Women's rugby has developed dramatically during the past ten years and is one of the fastest growing sports in the UK. More and more women's teams are emerging and the standards of skill and fitness, particularly at

the top level, are a revelation. Worcester Rugby Club has a thriving women's section with a senior team in the national first division, a second team and an under 16s team. The Club is always ready to welcome new members to their training sessions on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

As hosts today we are naturally delighted that Worcester has such a strong representation in the current England squads. Scrum half Joanne Yapp, fly-half Karen Andrew and wing Nicky Crawford are included in the senior team and hooker Nicola Goodwin together with flankers Jaine Lock and Alex Pilkington are in the 'A' squad.

The next major breakthrough for women's rugby will be the emergence of more women coaches but with more women playing the game and gaining valuable competitive experience such development is only a matter of time. Today the England coach is Geoff Richards, a former Wasps and Australia full-back in his playing days. He is assisted by forwards coach and player development manager Rob Drinkwater, Carol Isherwood, Performance Director for the RFUW, and Team manager Heather Stirrup.

We wish the coaching teams and the players of both sides the best of fortune today and hope that everyone who attends the match has an enjoyable afternoon and takes away good memories of their visit to Sixways.

Geoff Cooke
Chief Executive &
Director of Rugby



England



- | | |
|------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Vanessa Huxford (<i>Wasps</i>) | Prop |
| 2. Amy Garnett (<i>Saracens</i>) | Hooker |
| 3. Teresa O'Reilly (<i>Saracens</i>) | Prop |
| 4. Jenny Sutton (<i>Richmond</i>) | Lock |
| 5. Teresa Andrews (<i>Richmond</i>) | Lock |
| 6. Georgia Stevens (<i>Clifton</i>) | Flanker |
| 7. Helen Clayton (<i>Saracens</i>) | Flanker |
| 8. Gillian Burns (<i>Waterloo</i>) | No 8 |
| 9. Jo Yapp (<i>Worcester</i>) | Scrum Half |
| 10. Shelley Rae (<i>Wasps</i>) | Fly Half |
| 11. Paula George (<i>Wasps</i>) | Wing |
| 12. Selena Rudge (<i>Clifton</i>) | Centre |
| 13. Sue Day (<i>Wasps</i>) | Centre |
| 14. Nicky Crawford (<i>Worcester</i>) | Wing |
| 15. Sarah Marsh (<i>Wasps</i>) | Fullback |
| | |
| 16. Nicky Goodwin (<i>Worcester</i>) | |
| 17. Maxine Edwards (<i>Saracens</i>) | |
| 18. Nicky Coffin (<i>Richmond</i>) | |
| 19. Claire Frost (<i>Saracens</i>) | |
| 20. Susie Appleby (<i>Clifton</i>) | |
| 21. Assunta De Biase (<i>Saracens</i>) | |
| 22. Emily Feltham (<i>Richmond</i>) | |

Coaches: Geoff Richards, Rob Drinkwater

Manager: Heather Stirrup

Medical Team: Jane Schindler, Clare Doyle,

Fitness Team: Rex Hazeldine, Paul Cherry

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Spain

Olga Pons	Prop
Cristina Lopez	Prop
Ioana Barrena	Prop
Beatriz Muriel	Hooker
Olatz Fernandez	Hooker/Flanker
Pilar Lopez	Lock
Idoia Salazar	Lock
Angelina Masdeu	Lock/Flanker
Mercedes Batidor	Flanker
Marta Roman	Flanker
Karitte Alegria	Flanker/No 8
Elena Diez De La Lastra	No 8
Rosa Calafat	Scrum Half
Rocio Ramirez	Scrum Half/ Centre
Paz Estevan	Fly Half
Itziar Diez	Fly Half/ Centre
Ines Etxegibel	Centre
Eider Barrena	Centre
Elena Roca	Wing/Centre
Olga Garcia	Wing
Isabel Perez	Wing/Fullback
Coral Vila	Fullback

Coaches: Ignacio Martin, Diego Sanchez

Manager: Jose Luis Pena

Medical Team: Beatriz Garcia, Carlos Bravo, Bernat Llobet

Referee: Patrick BELLETT (France)

Touch Judges: Steve SAVAGE (Midlands), Paul ROGERS (Midlands)

Spain Player Profiles

<u>Name</u>	<u>(Club)</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Height</u>	<u>Caps</u>
Olga Pons	(U.E. Santboiana)	Prop	31	82kg	1m 58	22
Cristina Lopez	(Liceo Frances)	Prop	25	75kg	1m 71	20
Ioana Barrena	(Durango R.T.)	Prop	22	79kg	1m 67	7
Beatriz Muriel	(C.R. Majadahonda)	Hooker	25	63kg	1m 60	26
Olatz Fernandez	(Durango R.T.)	Hooker/Flan	31	62kg	1m 58	19
Pilar Lopez	(Scrum R.C.)	Lock	30	69kg	1m 73	26
Idoia Salazar	(Getxo R.T.)	Lock	25	69kg	1m 72	10
Angelina Masdeu	(INEF Lleida)	Lock/Flanker	24	66kg	1m 73	2
Mercedes Batidor	(R.C. L'Hospitalet)	Flanker	28	69kg	1m 60	31
Marta Roman	(C.R. Cisneros)	Flanker	29	62kg	1m 69	-
Karitte Alegria	(Gexto Artea)	Flanker/No 8	30	66kg	1m 66	17
Elena Diez De La Lastra	(Liceo Frances)	No 8	29	68kg	1m 74	26
Rosa Calafat	(R.C. L'Hospitalet)	Scrum Half	30	50kg	1m 58	23
Rocio Ramirez	(Liceo Frances)	Scrum Half	30	60kg	1m 62	19
Paz Estevan	(U.E. Santboiana)	Fly Half	30	63kg	1m 63	29
Itziar Diez	(C.R. Majadahonda)	Fly Half/ Cen	28	58kg	1m 59	-
Ines Etxegibel	(R.C. L'Hospitalet)	Centre	27	55kg	1m 60	24
Eider Barrena	(Durango R.T.)	Centre	25	72kg	1m 72	10
Elena Roca	(Univ. A Coruna)	Wing/Centre	24	71kg	1m 70	-
Olga Garcia	(Liceo Frances)	Wing	27	74kg	1m 60	7
Isabel Perez	(Liceo Frances)	Wing/Fback	32	61kg	1m 62	29
Coral Vila	(USAP)	Fullback	29	56kg	1m 65	21

Coaches: Ignacio Martin, Diego Sanchez

Manager: Jose Luis Pena

Medical Team: Beatriz Garcia, Carlos Bravo, Bernat Llobet

Previous Result:

Saturday 3rd February 2001

Spain v Ireland 42 - 0 (win)

ENGLAND STUDENTS v ARMY

England Students team, kick off at
1.00pm

- 15.Moa Wejle
- 14.Dami Erinle
- 13.Gina Mcdaid
- 12.Caroline Bell
- 11.Jenny Carter
- 10.Sara Company
- 9.Megan Miller-Zutshi
- 1.Gemma Paul
- 2.Louella Yorke
- 3.Charlie Maxwell
- 4.Charlotte Papworth
- 5.Penny White
- 6.Jenna Ryrie
- 7.Louisa Seymour
- 8.Corrie Lawson

WHETHER WOMEN ARE BETTER THAN MEN,
I CANNOT SAY - BUT I CAN SAY THEY ARE
CERTAINLY NO WORSE. Golda Meir

Last week, the website Planet Rugby, decided that for the first time, the England Men's XV should be classified as the third best nation in world rugby thereby finally breaking the Southern Hemisphere grip on world rankings. Did you know that the England Womens team hosting Spain this afternoon has been in that top three since the early 90s! In the short time that I have been involved with the Ladies game, several things are quite clear to me. The athletes are no less dedicated to their game than the men, they put the same amount into their training (in many cases more) and should you get in the way as a coach, they tackle just as hard. The England Students who are playing host to the Army today, come from a variety of universities around the country and their geographical spread shows that the RFUW is leaving no corner unexplored in their search to find players capable of playing at a high level. Some may even play at the highest level within the not too distant future. The students squad today has been selected from areas as diverse as Leeds, Lichfield, Loughborough,

Replacements From:

- 16.Laura Broderick
- 17.Claire Campion
- 18.Claire Cooper
- 19.Hannah Dawson
- 20.Kathryn Essex
- 21.Jenny Lockey
- 22.Niya Phiri
- 23.Claire Purdy
- 24.Claire Riddell
- 25.Veronica Roberts
- 26.Emily Sherwood

Coaches: Mike Hale, Eamonn Hogan, Chris Davies.

Manager: Janette Shaw

Physiotherapist: Chelsea Lane

Brighton, Bristol, Northumbria, Cambridge and even a student from Cardiff. (As you can imagine, the England victory at the Millennium Stadium a fortnight ago has made her life a little easier). This year for the first time, The Rugby Football Union for Women (RFUW) has decided that a Development Squad would be created to complement the Students, thereby enabling even more players the opportunity to train alongside some of the countries elite. They all have access to coaches, and receive invaluable information from fitness experts, psychologists and nutritionists that they may not have access to otherwise. This strategy is part of the developing structure that will hopefully lead to England continuing its progress in the International arena. For many of these players this match will represent their first opportunity to show both the management team and their supporters the skills that they have been selected on. To some of you this may be your first experience of the student game therefore we hope that you enjoy and appreciate the skills that these womens have worked so hard to develop and you encourage them throughout the match. We hope you enjoy the day and are pleasantly surprised by what you see!

Canada Cup Review

Geoff Richards, the newly appointed England Coach and his assistant Rob Drinkwater (RFUW Player Development Manager) faced their first test as a managerial and coaching partnership, as they took the England Squad to Canada back in September 2000. With only a short space of time to become accustomed to the squad and assess their qualities, a squad of 26 players was selected to face New Zealand, USA and of course Canada.

The Canada Cup took place in Winnipeg, Maple Grove Rugby Park and was organised by the Canadian Rugby Union. The facilities available to the England entourage were first class and the hospitality received was fabulous, thanks to some exceptional planning and co-ordination by the CRU. With this in mind the squad were able to prepare themselves effectively and

.....duly faced their first encounter with the USA on 23rd September 2000. The team named for this match was as follows:

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Maxine Edwards | 8. Gill Burns | 15. Paula George © |
| 2. Nicola Ponsford | 9. Jo Yapp | 16. Amanda Palmer-Norrie |
| 3. Teresa O'Reilly | 10. Susie Appleby | 17. Amy Garnett |
| 4. Jenny Sutton | 11. Nicky Crawford | 18. Jenny Phillips |
| 5. Teresa Andrews | 12. Selena Rudge | 19. Nicky Coffin |
| 6. Georgia Stevens | 13. Assunta Debiase | 20. Nicky Meston |
| 7. Helen Clayton | 14. Chris Diver | 21. Shelley Rae |
| | | 22. Sarah Marsh |

With the score finishing a comfortable 31 – 7 to England and new caps for Amanda Palmer-Norrie, Shelley Rae and Sarah Marsh, England had started their campaign in style. Try scorers on the day were Crawford (2), Edwards, Diver and George, with Diver providing three conversions.



A gap of four days passed until England was to confront the hosts Canada, so a spot of sightseeing seemed in order during a half-day rest from training. Destination: The famously renowned Winnipeg 'Forks'. The England Squad recommends this as a sight not to be missed - NOT! - if you happen to be passing through Winnipeg and the wildlife is amazing!

For the ensuing match against Canada, Richards reshuffled the pack and a new line up emerged:

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Vanessa Huxford | 8. Gill Burns | 16. Teresa O'Reilly |
| 2. Nicola Ponsford | 9. Jo Yapp | 17. Amy Garnett |
| 3. Maxine Edwards | 10. Susie Appleby | 18. Jenny Phillips |
| 4. Jenny Sutton | 11. Nicky Crawford | 19. Audrey Rowley |
| 5. Teresa Andrews | 12. Selena Rudge | 20. Helen Clayton |
| 6. Georgia Stevens | 13. Assunta Debiase | 21. Shelley Rae |
| 7. Nicky Coffin | 14. Chris Diver | 22. Karen Andrews |
| | 15. Paula George © | |



The result being a very pleasing 34 – 10 in favour of England and made especially so, in front of an intense home crowd who roared on their nation. But it was short-lived as England silenced the masses with a fine display of tries in quick succession during the second half. Again new caps for Karen Andrew and Audrey Rowley finished the days work off nicely.



Canada Cup Review

The finale to the Canada Cup arrived quickly with England pitting themselves against the current World number one's New Zealand on Saturday 30th September 2000. Having seen what the players were capable of, Geoff Richards chose his line up attentively. This was going to be a great opportunity to evaluate our present status given the World Cup is to be staged in May 2002. How much progress had England made and what needs to be achieved in the coming months?

England v New Zealand

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Maxine Edwards | 13. Assunta Debiase |
| 2. Nicola Ponsford | 14. Chris Diver |
| 3. Teresa O'Reilly | 15. Paula George © |
| 4. Jenny Sutton | 16. Vanessa Huxford |
| 5. Teresa Andrews | 17. Amy Garnett |
| 6. Georgia Stevens | 18. Jenny Phillips |
| 7. Helen Clayton | 19. Nicky Coffin |
| 8. Gill Burns | 20. Nicola Meston |
| 9. Jo Yapp | 21. Karen Andrews |
| 10. Shelley Rae | 22. Fiona Britten |
| 11. Nicky Crawford | |
| 12. Selena Rudge | |

For the first 20 minutes England considered themselves poor in comparison to their rivals. The subsequent 20 minutes were a definite improvement as England brought the deficit back to a very respectable 13 – 15, with a try from captain Paula George and Shelley Rae producing possibly one of the best kicks from an England player, positioned just inside the half way line. However, during the final 20 minutes England allowed New Zealand back into the game conceding further tries. Full time score 13 – 32 to NZ.

Upon reflection this had been the lowest score line between the two sides for a number of years and proves to be a significant achievement for the squad and Team England which we can be proud of. Well done to everyone involved including the players, Team England staff – coaches, management, fitness, and medical staff – who have contributed a very successful trip.

Photos courtesy of Rusty-our-trusty-man-with-a-cam!

TAG RUGBY

Players List	Age	Club
Amanda KEECH	14	Stratford RFC
Cate SARGENT	15	Shrewsbury RFC
Dominique NICHOLLS	12	Droitwich RFC
Emily HARTLEY	14	Stratford RFC
Emily BOWER	12	Droitwich RFC
Emma GIBSON	15	Shrewsbury RFC
Gillian CROWLEY	12	Kings Norton RFC
Grace ROSSER	13	Kings Norton RFC
Hannah MASSEY	14	Bishop Challenor School
Heidi RIDLEY	15	Kings Norton RFC
Kerryann BROWNE	15	Bishop Challenor School
Kimberley POWELL	14	Stratford RFC
Laura CHANCE	12	Droitwich RFC
Laura MEREDITH	15	Shrewsbury RFC
Lisa COLLINS	13	Stratford RFC
Nia PIERCE-JONES	14	Stratford RFC
Rachel ROBERTS	13	Droitwich RFC
Ria BLAGBURN	14	Kings Norton RFC
Siali DIMENT	15	Ludlow School
Sallyann CROWLEY (Cpt)	14	Kings Norton RFC
Sam VIQURS	13	Droitwich RFC
Sophie CURNOCK	15	Droitwich RFC
Charlie BATEMAN	13	Droitwich RFC

(Two teams to be selected from the players above)

Referee: TIM VENUS Warwickshire

Mid West sets the standards!

Following the success of the Millennium Youth Games in summer 2000, many clubs and schools have established tag teams and many more are in the process of establishing teams. All of the girls playing in today's game are from the Midlands West region and have come together as a squad to train and play games for the region. All of the girls play for teams

taking part in the Midlands West Tag League.

The M. W. Tag League aims to provide meaningful competition and a structure for existing and new teams to join. Hopefully this will strengthen the girls game, raise the overall standard of girls and women's rugby in the region and most importantly encourage new players to take up the sport. It is hoped that the league will be adopted in each of the regions na-

tionally from next year and that in subsequent years we will be able to extend the league into divisions and run U14's, U18's and even adult Tag Leagues.

The girls in today's game will continue to receive extra training over the forthcoming summer and hope to begin playing other regional teams next season.

Rachel Hinton, today's Tag Rugby organiser.

SIX NATIONS INTERNATIONALS 2001

Sunday 4th February
WALES v ENGLAND 0 - 18

Saturday 3rd February
Wales A v England A 0 - 54

Sunday 18th February
ENGLAND v SPAIN @ Worcester

England Students v Army @ Worcester 1pm
Tag Rugby @ 1.45pm

Sunday 4th March
ENGLAND v SCOTLAND @ Richmond

England A v Scotland A @ Richmond 12noon
Tag Rugby @ 1.45pm

Sunday 17th March
IRELAND v ENGLAND @ GALWAY time tbc

Sunday 8th April
ENGLAND v FRANCE @ Northampton

Saturday 7th April
England A v Premier Allstars @ Northampton 5pm

Sunday 8th April
Regional Final @ 12noon
Tag Rugby @ 1.45pm



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