

Former Scotland 'B' player arrives

# OPMs land coach Dixon

**EXCLUSIVE**  
BY ANDY PHELAN

**CORNWALL and Devon League rugby strugglers Old Plymothians have signed former Scotland 'B' international Iain Dixon as their new coach.**

The arrival of the 31-year-old ex-London Scottish, Bristol and Exeter flanker is a real coup for the Elburton-based club, who were relegated last season and are currently third from bottom of their division.

Dixon will coach OPMs' four sides, taking charge of the twice-weekly training sessions and directing the first team on match days.

The Exmouth-based former Royal Marine, now developing a business as a leadership and motivation consultant, agreed to take on the role at a club meeting last night.

He will meet the first team squad at Saturday's game - by coincidence in Exmouth - before starting work next week.

## Committed

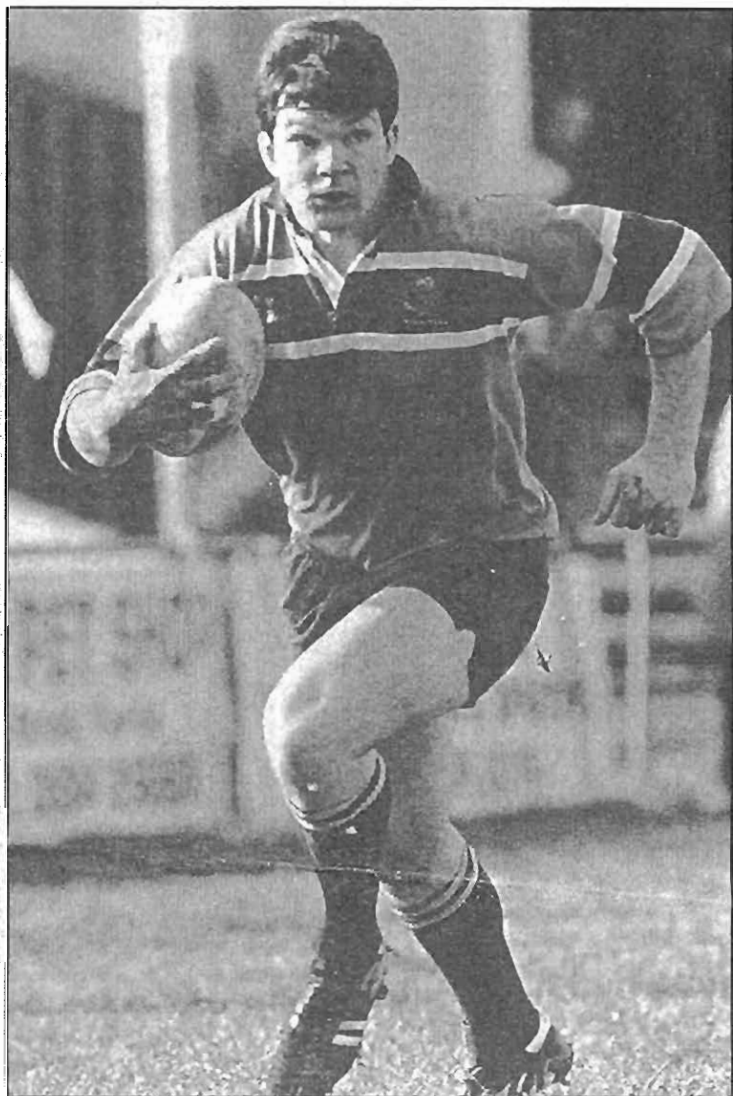
Dixon, who was involved in preparing Plymouth University's side before their Varsity Cup triumph over Marjons in December, explained why he was keen to take on the OPMs role.

"The first thing really is that they seem like a really great bunch of people, and that's important," he said.

"They also seem very committed towards the club and getting it back on the road again.

"There's a challenge there at the moment which is to stabilise the position in the league, and hopefully set something up for next season to try and get promotion again."

Jubilant club spokesman Simon Matthews said: "We're delighted that Iain is coming along - he's a quality rugby man, he's played at a



**NEW COACH:** Iain Dixon, in action for Exeter.

very high level, so his rugby pedigree will superb for the club.

"We still have some hard work to do to make sure our league position is safe, but with his arrival we can look forward positively."

OPMs honorary secretary Ernie

Bolster made first contact with Dixon.

He said: "We knew Iain had done something with the University and he did a good job with them.

"It's a very positive move for us - hopefully the lads will respond and maybe we will attract a few more players on the back of it."

Dixon, who has not committed himself beyond the end of the season, said there was no chance of him making a playing comeback.

He will be assisted in his coaching role by Anthony Piper, who currently takes sessions but is ready to return to the fold as a player after injury problems.