LONDON WASPS



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME £3.00 ISSUE 16 SUNDAY 11TH APRIL 2010 KICK-OFF 2:00PM





AMLIN Challenge Cup Quarter-Final



















RUGBY

TODAY'S VISITORS

Gloucester Rugby will be on familiar territory this afternoon when they take on London Wasps at Adams Park in the quarter final of the Amlin Challenge Cup.

Today is the third time that Gloucester will have travelled to Wycombe this season, having already played here in the LV= Cup and Guinness Premiership.

Both previous visits ended in narrow victories for the home side, so Bryan Redpath and his side will be hoping it's a case of third time lucky.

It's the latest game in a schedule of late that has been gruelling to say the least.

Last Saturday saw Gloucester take on Saracens at Kingsholm in a televised fixture, the third game the side had played in the space of a week which included a midweek trip to Newcastle. It's no time for faint hearts or weak legs.

It's faintly reminiscent of the tail end of last season when Gloucester had to play the EDF Energy Cup Final on a Saturday, Worcester on the following Tuesday and London Wasps on the Saturday. It was a brutal way to sign off a campaign.

Ironically, Gloucester are a victim of their own success. Had the side not made the semi final and final of the LV= Cup, and progressed to today's game, midweek fixtures would not have been necessary.

It's testimony, of course, to the progress made by Bryan Redpath's side after a difficult Autumn threatened to make 2009-10 a very challenging first season in charge for the former Scotland scrum half.

The optimism generated by the opening day win over local rivals Bath quickly dissipated, as a number of suspensions and injuries forced Gloucester into a constant reshuffling of resources. Confidence dipped as a number of close results went against the Cherry and Whites.

However, the turn of the year heralded a change in fortunes as Redpath was finally able to start selecting from a fairly full squad and the results started to come.

The Heineken Cup was actually the catalyst for a series of positive results. The Kingsholm ground staff worked miracles to render the pitch playable, with Britain gripped by snow and ice, and a memorable victory over Biarritz was the result.

The side then went to Newport, and scored their first four-try bonus point of the season against the Dragons to clinch a spot in today's quarter final.

LV= Cup wins followed, against Worcester Warriors and Harlequins, and a semi final place was achieved despite having lost the opening two group matches!

On a roll, Gloucester then scored a total of 93 points in their next two home matches in the Guinness Premiership, with Harlequins and Sale Sharks duly despatched, although wins on the road proved to be more difficult to come by.

More recently, a bogey was laid to rest as a run of four successive defeats in various competitions against the Cardiff Blues was reversed and Gloucester celebrated their first ever visit to the Cardiff City Stadium with a 29-18 LV= Cup semi final win.



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

The final itself saw a great spectacle for the neutral, as Gloucester and Northampton served up a feast of end to end, running rugby with the lead swapping hands several times and the result remaining in the balance until the very last whistle.

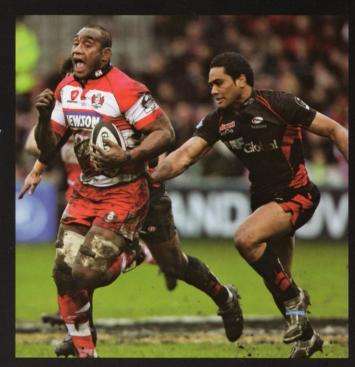
Gloucester will count themselves unlucky as several key decisions went against them, not least the try that Nicky Robinson claimed to have scored which would have given them the lead going into the final quarter.

However, Northampton deserved the trophy and no-one will begrudge them that.

Gloucester still have a number of key matches left this season, today included, and an awful lot to play for.

The fight for Heineken Cup qualification continues and every minute of every single game will be crucial.

With both teams gunning for the victory this afternoon, it certainly could be an entertaining one!

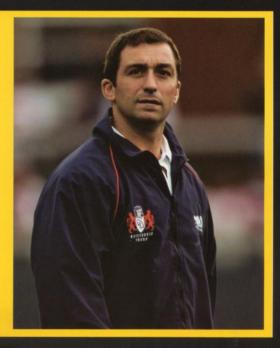


HEAD COACH BRYAN REDPATH

The former Scotland scrum half retired from playing in May 2005 after a successful professional career that saw him represent Sale, Narbonne, Edinburgh and Melrose with distinction. He also won 60 international caps and appeared in two Rugby World Cups.

The 33-year-old initially signed a two-year contract as backs coach at Gloucester Rugby but, following the departure of Dean Ryan, he was named Head Coach in June 2009.

Redpath has made a quick impact at Kingsholm, placing a huge emphasis on the importance of the relationship between an individual player, his club, its supporters and the city they represent.





TODAY'S VISITORS

Full Name Founded Location Ground Capacity Gloucester Rugby 1873 Gloucester, England Kingsholm Stadium 16,500

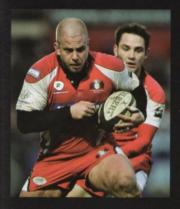
NAME	POSITION	D.O.B.	HEIGHT	WEIGHT
Dave Attwood	Second row	05.04.87	2.01m	115kg
Olivier Azam	Hooker	24.10.74	1.85m	120kg
Jake Boer	Back row	01.11.75	1.88m	108kg
Marco Bortolami	Lock	12.06.80	1.95m	112kg
Alex Brown	Lock	17.05.79	2.01m	116kg
Freddie Burns	Fly half	13.5.90	1.85m	80kg
Peter Buxton	Back row	21.08.78	1.92 m	115kg
Pierre Capdevielle	Prop	30.3.74	1.86m	123kg
Darren Dawidiuk	Hooker	21.9.87	1.80m	95kg
Gareth Delve	Back row	30.12.82	1.91m	115kg
Alasdair Dickinson	Prop	11.09.83	1.84m	112kg
Paul Doran-Jones	Prop	02.05.85	1.88m	116kg
Adam Eustace	Lock	09.01.79	1.95m	107kg
Eliota Fuimaono-Sapolu	Centre	31.10.80	1.85m	102kg
Rupert Harden	Prop	09.05.71	1.91m	118kg
Andrew Hazell	Back row	25.04.78	1.83m	95kg
Will James	Lock	22.12.76	1.99m	120kg
Rory Lawson	Scrum-half	12.03.81	1.73m	85kg
Scott Lawson	Hooker	28.09.81	1.73m	96kg
Dave Lewis	Scrum-half	29.04.89	1.70m	80kg
Jonny May	Centre	01.04.90	1.86m	90kg
Tim Molenaar	Centre	19.02.81	1.88m	IIIkg
Olly Morgan	Full-back	03.11.85	1.89m	94kg
Luke Narraway	Back row	07.09.83	1.90m	108kg
Jordi Pasqualin	Scrum half	28.03.90	1.83m	81kg
Ben Phillips	Hooker	05.09.81	1.75m	95kg
Akapusi Qera	Back row	24.04.84	1.94m	103kg
Tristan Roberts	Fly half	23.03.87	1.70m	77kg
Nicky Robinson	Fly half	03.01.82	1.85m	93kg
Apo Satala	Back row	14.08.78	1.93m	105kg
Charlie Sharples	Wing	17.08.89	1.84m	93kg
James Simpson-Daniel	Wing	30.05.82	1.82m	92kg
Greg Somerville	Prop	28.11.77	1.86m	115kg
Alasdair Strokosch	Back row	21.02.83	1.91m	107kg
Semi Tadulala	Wing	03.03.78	1.85m	93kg
Tim Taylor	Fly half	04.10.82	1.83m	88kg
Yann Thomas	Prop	16.04.90	1.88m	120kg
Mike Tindall	Centre	18.10.78	1.88m	102kg
Henry Trinder	Centre	14.04.89	1.83m	85kg
Lesley Vainikolo	Wing	04.05.79	1.88m	112kg
Tom Voyce	Wing	05.01.81	1.85m	95kg
Andy Williams	Scrum half	07.02.81	1.78m	89kg
Dan Williams	Number eight	01.02.89	1.97m	104kg
Nick Wood	Prop	09.01.83	1.86m	112kg





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FOCUS 3



NICK WOOD

The 27-year-old loose head prop has been a regular in the Gloucester Rugby starting line up since his debut in the 2003-04 season and has made over 100 Premiership appearances.

A member of this spring's England Saxons squad, he signed a new three year contract with the club in January of this year.



AKAPUSI QERA

The marauding Fijian international openside flanker has been in scintillating form this season, scoring six tries since the turn of the year, including a hat trick in the Heineken Cup at Newport Gwent Dragons, and nine in total this season.

Qera, who signed a two year extension to his current contract in January, joined Gloucester Rugby following the 2007 Rugby World Cup in France.



FREDDIE BURNS

The 19-year-old fly half, a product of the Gloucester Rugby Academy, has been making a name for himself in recent weeks.

A frequent member of the matchday squad this season, Freddie has covered both the full back and fly half positions although he has stated a preference for the number 10 shirt.

Freddie made the headlines last weekend when his 19 point haul with the boot against Saracens earned him Man of the Match honours and his side a 29-28 win.





SUNDAY 11TH APRIL 2010 KICK-OFF 2:00PM





BEN JACOBS	15: FULL-BACK	FREDDIE BURNS
TOM VARNDELL	14:WING	JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL
DOM WALDOUCK	13: CENTRE	MIKE TINDALL
STEVE KEFU	12: CENTRE	ELIOTA FUIMAONO-SAPOLU
DAVID LEMI	11:WING	LESLEY VAINIKOLO
DANNY CIPRIANI	10: FLY-HALF	NICKY ROBINSON
JOE SIMPSON	9: SCRUM-HALF	RORY LAWSON
TIM PAYNE	I: PROP	NICK WOOD
ROB WEBBER (C)	2: HOOKER	SCOTT LAWSON
BEN BROSTER	3: PROP	PAUL DORAN-JONES
DAN WARD-SMITH	4: LOCK	WILL JAMES
GEORGE SKIVINGTON	5: LOCK	ALEX BROWN
JOE WORSLEY	6: FLANKER	PETER BUXTON (C)
JOE WORSLEY SERGE BETSEN		PETER BUXTON (C) AKAPUSI QERA
	7: FLANKER	
SERGE BETSEN	7: FLANKER	AKAPUSI QERA
SERGE BETSEN	7: FLANKER NO: 8	AKAPUSI QERA
SERGE BETSEN JOHN HART	7: FLANKER NO: 8 SUBSTITUTES	AKAPUSI QERA ADAM EUSTACE
SERGE BETSEN JOHN HART TOM LINDSAY	7: FLANKER NO: 8 SUBSTITUTES	AKAPUSI QERA ADAM EUSTACE OLIVIER AZAM
SERGE BETSEN JOHN HART TOM LINDSAY ZAK TAULAFO	7: FLANKER NO: 8 SUBSTITUTES 16 17	AKAPUSI QERA ADAM EUSTACE OLIVIER AZAM ALASDAIR DICKINSON
SERGE BETSEN JOHN HART TOM LINDSAY ZAK TAULAFO BOB BAKER	7: FLANKER NO: 8 SUBSTITUTES 16 17	AKAPUSI QERA ADAM EUSTACE OLIVIER AZAM ALASDAIR DICKINSON PIERRE CAPDEVIELLE
SERGE BETSEN JOHN HART TOM LINDSAY ZAK TAULAFO BOB BAKER DAN LEO	7: FLANKER NO: 8 SUBSTITUTES 16 17 18	AKAPUSI QERA ADAM EUSTACE OLIVIER AZAM ALASDAIR DICKINSON PIERRE CAPDEVIELLE DAVE ATTWOOD
TOM LINDSAY ZAK TAULAFO BOB BAKER DAN LEO TOM REES	7: FLANKER NO: 8 SUBSTITUTES 16 17 18 19	AKAPUSI QERA ADAM EUSTACE OLIVIER AZAM ALASDAIR DICKINSON PIERRE CAPDEVIELLE DAVE ATTWOOD JAKE BOER

MATCH REFEREE: CHRISTOPHE BERDOS ASSISTANT REFEREE 1: PETER ALLEN
ASSISTANT REFEREE 2: JEAN LUC REBOLLAL

NUMBER 4: ERIC GAUZINS TIME KEEPER: JOHN BURTENSHAW

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