

OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME • ISSUE 02 • £3

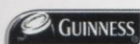
tigers

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TIGERS vs GLOUCESTER ■ SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16 2006, 3PM

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WELCOME TO WELFORD ROAD

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 2006, 3PM

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: Tony Spreadbury

TOUCH JUDGES:

Paul Emerson and David Kurk

RESERVE OFFICIAL:

Chris White

today's teams

TIGERS



VS

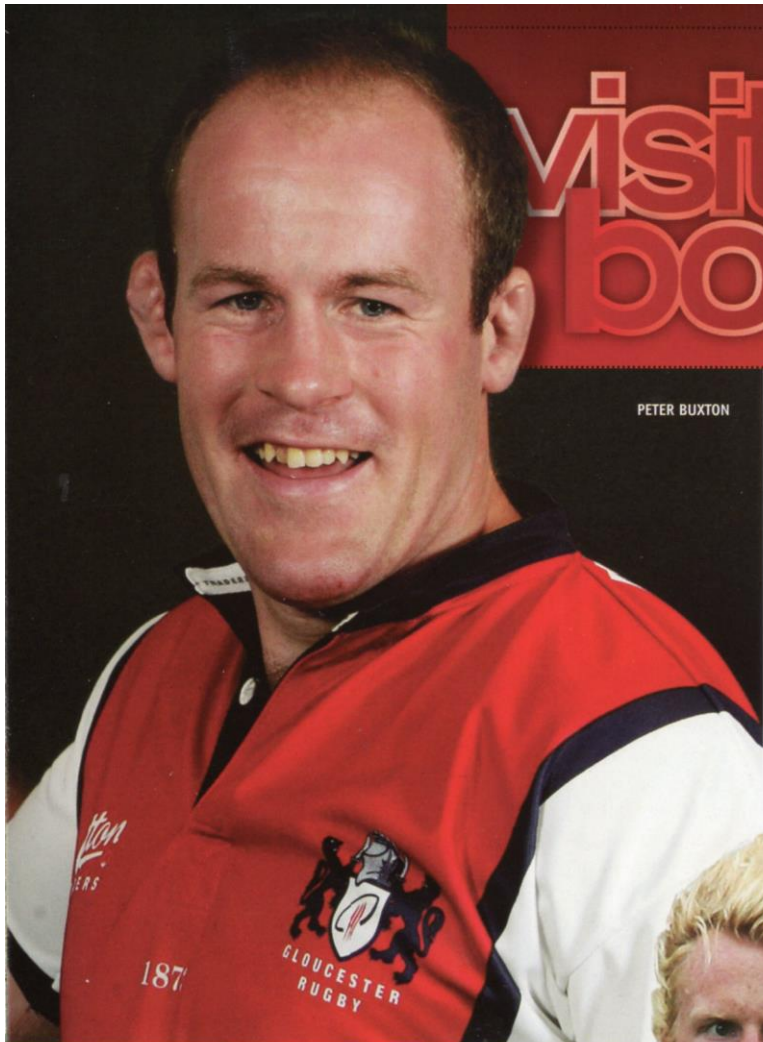


GLOUCESTER

SAM VESTY	15	FULL BACK	15	OLLY MORGAN
GEORDAN MURPHY	14	RIGHT WING	14	JAMES BAILEY
DAN HIPKISS	13	OUTSIDE CENTRE	13	ANTHONY ALLEN
MATT CORNWELL	12	INSIDE CENTRE	12	MIKE TINDALL
SERU RABENI	11	LEFT WING	11	MARK FOSTER
ANDY GOODE	10	FLY HALF	10	WILLIE WALKER
SCOTT BEMAND (C)	09	SCRUM HALF	09	PETER RICHARDS
MARCOS AYERZA	01	LOOSE HEAD PROP	01	NICK WOOD
GEORGE CHUTER	02	HOOKER	02	MEFIN DAVIES
JULIAN WHITE	03	TIGHT HEAD PROP	03	CHRISTIAN CALIFANO
LEO CULLEN	04	SECOND ROW	04	MARCO BORTOLAMI (C)
JAMES HAMILTON	05	SECOND ROW	05	WILL JAMES
LOUIS DEACON	06	BLINDSIDE FLANKER	06	PETER BUXTON
LUKE ABRAHAM	07	OPENSIDE FLANKER	07	ANDY HAZELL
JORDAN CRANE	08	NO. 8	08	JAMES FORRESTER
JAMES BUCKLAND	16	SCORECARD	16	OLIVIER AZAM
MARTIN CASTROGIOVANNI	17	TIGERS SCORERS:	17	JACK FORSTER
LEWIS MOODY	18		18	LUKE NARRAWAY
MARTIN CORRY	19		19	ADAM EUSTACE
FRANK MURPHY	20		20	RORY LAWSON
PAUL BURKE	21	GLOUCESTER SCORERS:	21	LUDOVIC MERCIER
TOM VARDELL	22		22	JACK ADAMS

visitors' book

.....
OPPOSITION: GLOUCESTER
.....



PETER BUXTON

Gloucester make one of the most daunting trips in the Guinness Premiership this afternoon as one of only two clubs with a 100-per-cent record in the competition after just two weeks of action.

They opened their campaign with a West Country derby victory over their nearest and dearest from Bath, with youngsters Jack Adams and Olly Morgan scoring the tries in a 24-19 success. Then last week they got the better of Harlequins at the

Stoop in a far more disjointed display that was revved up by a virtuoso performance from scrum-half Peter Richards.

GLOUCESTER 2006-07

JACK ADAMS

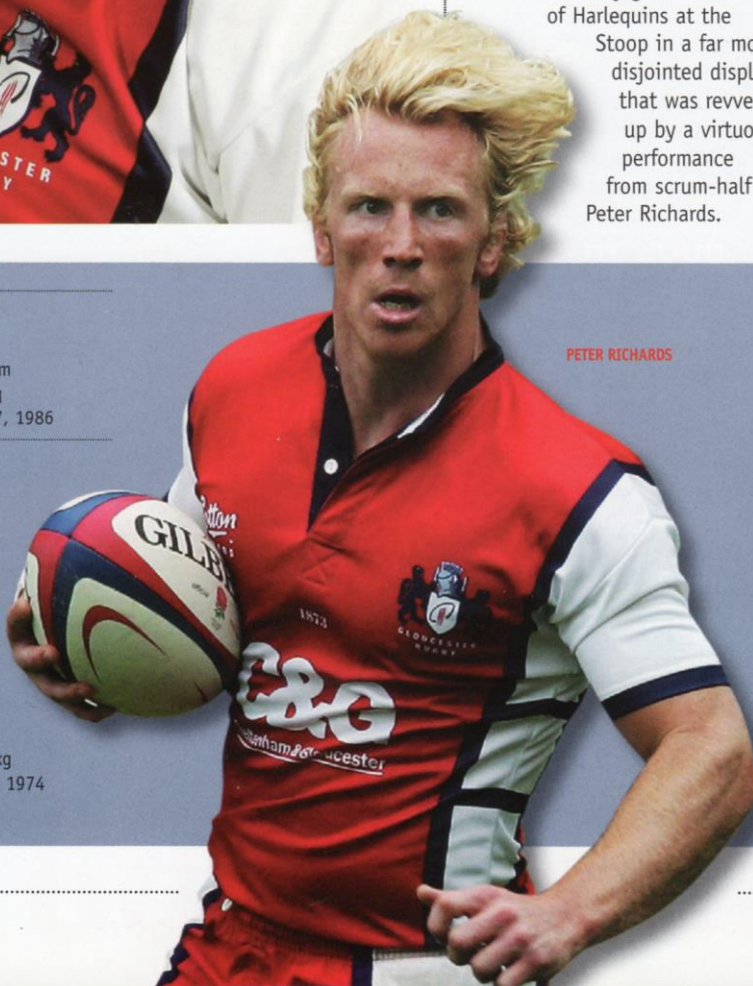
Position: Centre
Height: 5ft 11in/1.82m
Weight: 15st 2lb/97kg
Date of birth: Sept 17, 1986

ANTHONY ALLEN

Position: Centre
Height: 5ft
10in/1.80m
Weight: 14st
3lb/92kg
Date of birth:
Sept 1, 1986

OLIVIER AZAM

Position: Hooker
Height: 6ft/1.85m
Weight: 18st 5lb/118kg
Date of birth: Oct 21, 1974
Honours: France



PETER RICHARDS

It has been a solid if unspectacular start for Dean Ryan's side. The Kingsholm head coach has brought together arguably one of the most exciting groups of players in the country, blending a mixture of youthful swagger and talent with high-quality experience in key positions.

From the beginning of the campaign, Gloucester have been tagged as one of the favourites to reach the play-offs, but Ryan is only too aware that his group of players have only just begun their journey.

"Our ambition is to be at the top end of Europe, but our journey has only just begun," he has said. "There will be some pain along the way, but we have an exciting and developing group of players who all work tremendously hard to try to be successful. We are on a journey together and there is a long way to go."

Gloucester's new-found freedom, partly orchestrated by design and partly by necessity, ended in triumph with the European Challenge Cup against London Irish last season. But by then, the wheels were already in motion for this campaign.

Under the stewardship of Ryan and his assistants Bryan Redpath and Denis Betts, Italian duo Marco Bortolami and Carlos Nieto joined from Narbonne and Viadana respectively in two of the highest-profile signings of the close season.

Bortolami has already shown what an outstanding athlete he is and is a natural leader of growing reputation in Gloucester's pack, while Nieto is regarded as one of the best tighthead props in the Six Nations.

Christian Califano, once voted in the all-time best French front row, switched from Agen and has been a revelation – offering immediate set-piece quality and a perfect learning base for youngster Jack Forster.

There have been other additions too. With Lamb out of action due to an ankle injury, Willie Walker has taken his opportunity in the number 10 shirt, while scrum-half Rory Lawson and lock Will James have the potential to make serious impacts.

Iain Balshaw completed the summer recruitment drive as he arrived from Leeds and

can be deployed on either wing or at full-back. It has meant that Ryan's biggest job in pre-season has been managing the vast expectation on his squad.

Gloucester have been tipped to challenge the dominance of champions Sale, Leicester and Wasps, but Ryan has been meticulous in not stoking the fires too much.

"There is an awful lot this squad can achieve but we must not get ahead of ourselves – we have a long way to go and a lot of development to go through."



JAMES BAILEY

Position: Wing
Height: 5ft 10in/1.80m
Weight: 14st 1lb/90kg
Date of birth: Aug 5, 1983

ADAM BALDING

Position: No.8
Height: 6ft 2in/1.88m
Weight: 17st 7lb/110kg
Date of birth: Dec 7, 1979

IAIN BALSCHAW

Position: Wing/Full-back
Height: 5ft 10in/1.83m
Weight: 14st 7lb/95kg
Date of birth: Apr 14, 1979
Honours: England, Lions

JAKE BOER

Position: Flanker
Height: 6ft 1in/1.87m
Weight: 16st 8lb/108kg
Date of birth: Nov 1, 1975

MARCO BORTOLAMI

Position: Lock
Height: 6ft 6in/1.8m
Weight: 17st 2lb/110kg
Date of birth: June 12, 1980
Honours: Italy

ALEX BROWN

Position: Lock
Height: 6ft 7in/2m
Weight: 17st 8lb/115kg
Date of birth: May 17, 1979
Honours: England

PETER BUXTON

Position: Back row
Height: 6ft 3in/1.92m
Weight: 17st 5lb/113kg
Date of birth: Aug 21, 1978

CHRISTIAN CALIFANO

Position: Prop
Height: 5ft 10in/1.80m
Weight: 17st 5lb/113kg
Date of birth: May 16, 1972
Honours: France

PATRICE COLLAZO

Position: Prop
Height: 6ft/1.85m
Weight: 17st 2lb/110kg
Date of birth: April 27, 1974
Honours: France

MEFIN DAVIES

Position: Hooker
Height: 5ft 10in/1.78m
Weight: 16st 5lb/96kg
Date of birth: Sept 2, 1972
Honours: Wales

RON ELLOWAY

Position: Hooker
Height: 6ft/1.83m
Weight: 15st 4lb/104kg
Date of birth: Nov 9, 1983

ADAM EUSTACE

Position: Lock
Height: 6ft 4in/1.95m
Weight: 17st 2lb/110kg
Date of birth: Nov 9, 1979

visitors' book

JAMES FORRESTER

Position: No.8
Height: 6ft 5in/1.95m
Weight: 16st 8lb/108kg
Date of birth: Feb 9, 1981
Honours: England

JACK FORSTER

Position: Prop
Height: 6ft/1.82m
Weight: 18st 6lb/119kg
Date of birth: March 19, 1987

MARK FOSTER

Position: Wing/Centre
Height: 6ft 1in/1.83m
Weight: 14st 3lb/91kg
Date of birth: Sept 2, 1983

ANDY HAZELL

Position: Flanker
Height: 6ft/1.83m
Weight: 15st 8lb/100kg
Date of birth: April 25, 1978
Honours: England

WILL JAMES

Position: Lock
Height: 6ft 6in/1.95m
Weight: 19st 8lb/122kg
Date of birth: Dec 22, 1976

RUDI KEIL

Position: Centre
Height: 6ft 1in/1.85m
Weight: 14st 1lb/93kg
Date of birth: Dec 8, 1977

RYAN LAMB

Position: Fly-half
Height: 5ft 9in/1.76m
Weight: 13st 6lb/86kg
Date of birth: May 18, 1986

RORY LAWSON

Position: Scrum-half
Height: 5ft 9in/1.76m
Weight: 12st 8lb/82kg
Date of birth: March 12, 1981

LUDOVIC MERCIER

Position: Fly-half
Height: 5ft 10in/1.80m
Weight: 14st/90kg
Date of birth: Nov 1, 1976

JAMES MERRIMAN

Position: Flanker
Height: 6ft/1.83m
Weight: 14st 7lb/95kg
Date of birth: Jan 17, 1984

OLLY MORGAN

Position: Full-back
Height: 6ft 3in/1.89m
Weight: 14st 6lb/91kg
Date of birth: Nov 3, 1985

LUKE NARRAWAY

Position: Back row
Height: 6ft 3in/1.90m
Weight: 15st 4lb/104kg
Date of birth: Sept 7, 1983

CARLOS NIETO

Position: Prop
Height: 6ft 1in/1.85m
Weight: 17st 2lb/110kg
Date of birth: April 28, 1976
Honours: Italy

JONATHAN PENDLEBURY

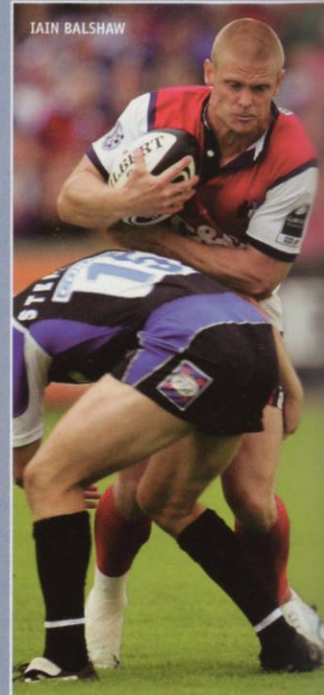
Position: Lock
Height: 6ft 5in/1.94m
Weight: 16st 8lb/108kg
Date of birth: Jan 15, 1983

PETER RICHARDS

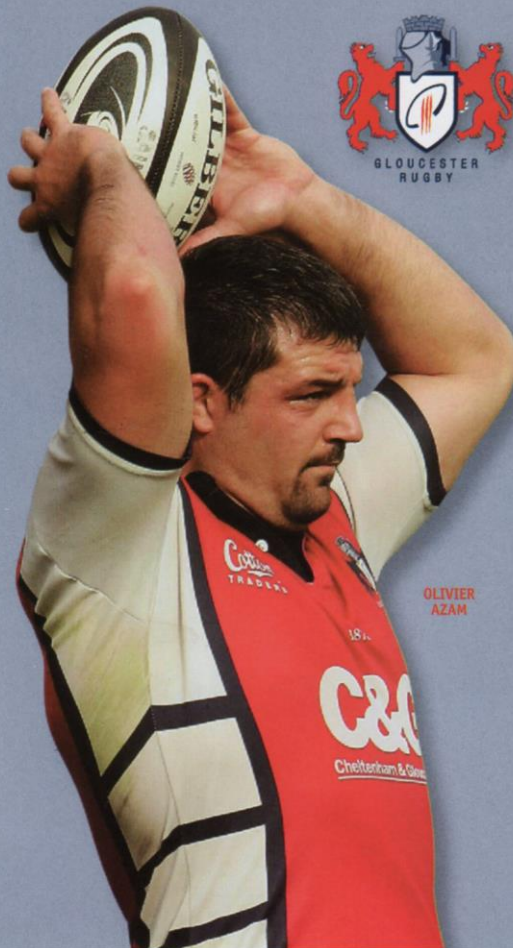
Position: Scrum-half
Height: 5ft 10in/1.75m
Weight: 13st 8lb/88kg
Date of birth: March 10, 1978
Honours: England

JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL

Position: Wing
Height: 5ft 11in/1.82m
Weight: 14st 1lb/92kg
Date of birth: May 30, 1982
Honours: England



IAIN BALSRAW



OLIVIER AZAM

ROB THIRLBY

Position: Wing/Full-back
Height: 6ft 2in/1.86m
Weight: 14st 1lb/92kg
Date of birth: March 2, 1979

HAYDN THOMAS

Position: Scrum-half
Height: 5ft 8in/1.73m
Weight: 12st 4lb/80kg
Date of birth: Sept 17, 1982

MIKE TINDALL

Position: Centre
Height: 6ft 2in/1.88m
Weight: 15st 8lb/102kg
Date of birth: October 10, 1978
Honours: England, Lions

WILLIE WALKER

Position: Fly-half
Height: 5ft 10in/1.80m
Weight: 14st/90kg
Date of birth: May 19, 1978

NICK WOOD

Position: Prop
Height: 6ft 2in/1.86m
Weight: 17st 2lb/90kg
Date of birth: May 19, 1978