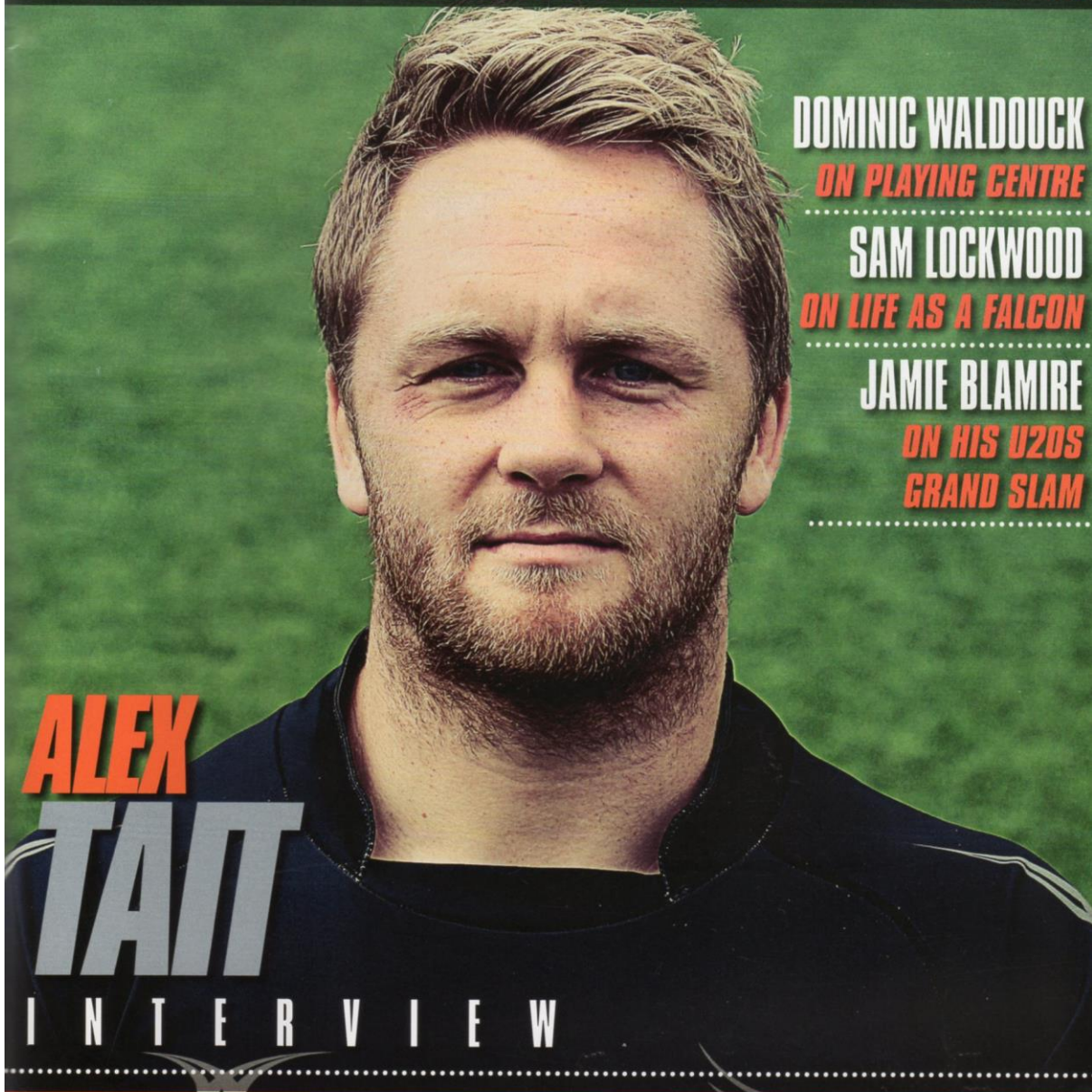


N E W C A S T L E
FALCONS



FRIDAY 7 APRIL 2017 8.00PM AVIVA PREMIERSHIP VS GLOUCESTER £3



DOMINIC WALDOUCK
ON PLAYING CENTRE

SAM LOCKWOOD
ON LIFE AS A FALCON

JAMIE BLAMIRE
*ON HIS U20S
GRAND SLAM*

**ALEX
TAIT**

I N T E R V I E W



TONIGHTS TEAMS


NEWCASTLE
FALCONS

15 ALEX TAIT
14 VERENIKI GONEVA
13 CHRIS HARRIS
12 JUAN PABLO SOCINO
11 MARCUS WATSON
10 MIKE DELANY
9 MICHAEL YOUNG

1 ROB VICKERS
2 KYLE COOPER
3 DAVID WILSON
4 CALUM GREEN
5 EVAN OLMSTEAD
6 MARK WILSON
7 WILL WELCH (CAPTAIN)
8 ALLY HOGG

REPLACEMENTS

16 SCOTT LAWSON
17 BEN HARRIS
18 JON WELSH
19 WILL WITTY
20 CALLUM CHICK
21 SONATANE TAKULUA
22 JOEL HODGSON
23 SINDTI SINOTI



GLOUCESTER
RUGBY

15 TOM MARSHALL
14 CHARLIE SHARPLES
13 HENRY TRINDER
12 BILLY TWELVETREES
11 JONNY MAY
10 BILLY BURNS
9 WILLI HEINZ (CAPTAIN)

1 PADDY MCALLISTER
2 RICHARD HIBBARD
3 JOHN AFOA
4 TOM SAVAGE
5 JEREMY THRUSH
6 ROSS MORIARTY
7 JACOB ROWAN
8 BEN MORGAN

REPLACEMENTS

16 MOTU MATU'U
17 YANN THOMAS
18 JOSH HONNECK
19 MARIANO GALARZA
20 LEWIS LUDLOW
21 CALLUM BRALEY
22 MARK ATKINSON
23 HENRY PURDY

REFEREE: LUKE PEARCE

ASSISTANT REFEREES: ANTHONY WOODTHORPE, GARETH COPSEY

TELEVISION MATCH OFFICIAL: GEOFF WARREN

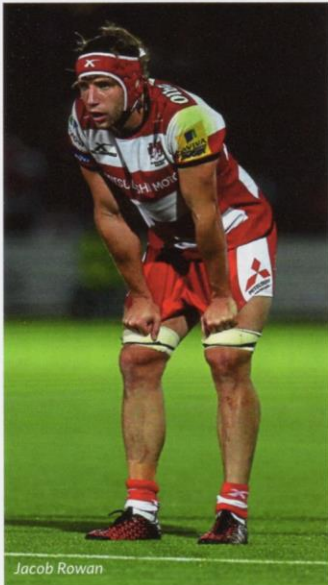
TIME KEEPER: DAVID HUDSON

BALL SPONSOR: BOND DICKINSON



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

It has been another eventful week at Gloucester Rugby as a European semi-final berth has been clinched, followed by the announcement of the appointment of Johan Ackermann as club's new head coach for next season.



Jacob Rowan

The trip to La Rochelle and the arrival of Ackermann are for the future, however, the next two weekends are all about the Aviva Premiership and a couple of important games in terms of the table. The race for the top six is going to go to the wire and this evening's game has a lot riding on it. Both sides will be up for the game.

Up to now, no-one can accuse Gloucester's season of being dull, as many of their encounters have gone to the wire.

The first game of the season was a case in point. Having led Leicester 31-7 at one point, Gloucester were eventually overhauled by the Tigers in the final couple of minutes. Jubilation for the visitors, heartbreak for those in Cherry and White.

Gloucester then drew against Worcester at Sixways, before achieving an excellent win on the

road at Sale Sharks. This was followed by two disappointing home defeats, against Newcastle Falcons and Bath Rugby.

The Cherry and Whites looked to have bounced back with an excellent performance away at the Exeter Chiefs, but again saw a late lead disappear, Exeter scoring 13 points in the final 10 minutes to snatch a draw from the jaws of defeat.

It was then onto European action, and Gloucester kicked off with bonus point wins over Bayonne (away) and Benetton Treviso (home).

Frustration was the order of the day the following week, however, as Gloucester left Franklin's Gardens with only a losing bonus point to show for their efforts and ruing a controversial try awarded to Northampton Saints' Louis Picamoles that cost them dear.

The club's youngsters took an impressive scalp at Kingsholm eight days later when a late comeback downed Saracens in the Anglo-Welsh Cup, but couldn't back it up at Northampton, another losing bonus point the only reward.

Gloucester then started to hit some form, a 36-18 home win over Wasps was possibly the best performance of the season before pushing Saracens all the way at Allianz Park in a 24-20 reverse which could, and perhaps should, have been a win.

Local rivalries were then resumed against Bristol for the first time in eight years, and the Premiership new boys were seen off by 26 points to 18.

Next up was the European double-header against La Rochelle, and home advantage proved to be crucial in

Jeremy Thrush



both games. Gloucester triumphed 35-14 at Kingsholm before going down 42-13 in France.

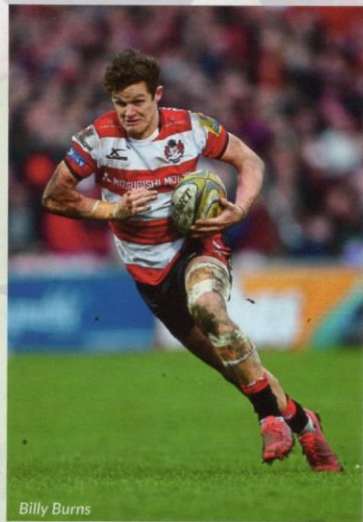
The festive period was tough as narrow defeats against Harlequins and Northampton were difficult to take, but subsequent weeks saw the team find their form with comprehensive wins over Worcester, Treviso and Bayonne.

The return to Anglo-Welsh action saw the Cherry and Whites draw against Bath and beat the Newport Gwent Dragons, but miss out on qualification for the semi-finals by a single point.

A trip to Leicester brought the unbeaten run to an end with a 34-9 defeat, but Gloucester bounced back with an impressive win over Saracens before testing Wasps, only to slip to defeat at the Ricoh.

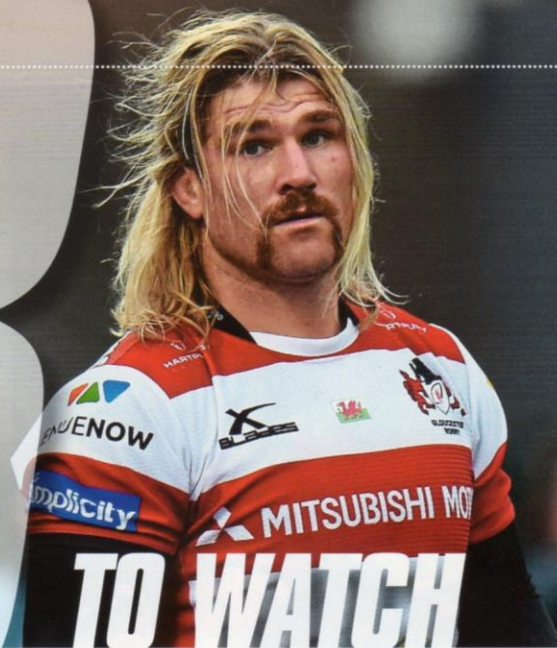
Gloucester then took on Harlequins at Kingsholm, and saw another late lead slip away in painful fashion as the visitors took the spoils with the last kick of the game.

The Cherry and Whites bounced back with a bonus point win at local rivals Bristol, before putting in one of the most impressive performances of the season with last weekend's European win over the Cardiff Blues.



Billy Burns

// THREE TO WATCH

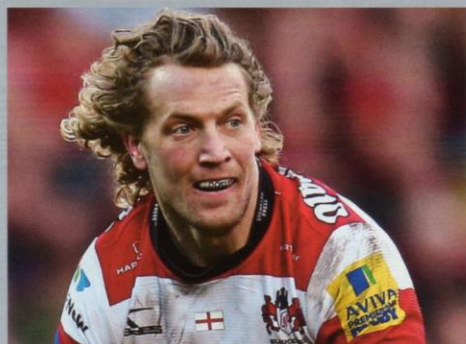


RICHARD HIBBARD

The Welsh international and British & Irish Lion is easy to spot on the field of play due to his long blonde hair. But equally as eye-catching this season have been his performances in the Cherry and White of Gloucester.

Hibbard has been a near ever-present in the Gloucester front row, including starting all the club's Aviva Premiership fixtures to date.

A huge part of the Gloucester set-piece, he also more than punches his weight in defence and can be relied upon to carry his fair share of ball in attack.



BILLY TWELVETREES

Capped 22 times by England, the 28-year-old centre has been a first team regular during his five seasons at Kingsholm, making well in excess of 100 senior appearances.

Club captain in 2014-15 and 2015-16, he is one of the senior figures in the squad and comes into the game having put in an impressive shift against Cardiff last weekend, contributing 11 points in a man-of-the-match display.

The corresponding fixture last season at Kingsholm saw him kick 29 points - nine penalties and a conversion.

ROSS MORIARTY

The last two seasons have seen the back-row forward's career go from strength to strength. The 22-year-old is another product of the strong partnership between Gloucester and Hartpury College as he made his way through the club's academy system.

Moriarty represented England Under-20s as they won the Junior World Championship in 2013 and 2014, but has since opted to follow in the footsteps of his uncle and father by playing his senior international rugby for Wales, starting all of their RBS Six Nations fixtures this year.

A powerful ball-carrier and destructive tackler, he will have a big role to play tonight.



OPPOSITION SQUAD LIST



SURNAME	CHRISTIAN	POSITION	DOB	HEIGHT (METRIC)	HEIGHT (IMP)	WEIGHT (METRIC)	WEIGHT (IMP)	HONOURS
AFOA	JOHN	PROP	16.10.83	1.80M	5FT 11IN	120KG	18ST 13LB	NEW ZEALAND
ATKINSON	MARK	CENTRE	08.03.90	1.97M	6FT 5IN	107KG	16ST 12LB	
BRALEY	CALLUM	SCRUM HALF	20.03.94	1.78M	5FT 10IN	83KG	13ST 1LB	
BURNS	BILLY	FLY HALF	13.06.94	1.81M	5FT 11IN	85KG	13ST 5LB	
DAWIDIUK	DARREN	HOOKER	21.09.87	1.78M	5FT 10IN	102KG	16ST 1LB	
DENTON	TOM	LOCK	13.02.88	1.98M	6FT 6IN	114KG	17ST 14LB	
DORAN-JONES	PAUL	PROP	02.05.85	1.84M	6FT	121KG	19ST	ENGLAND
EVANS	GARETH	BACK ROW	19.09.91	1.90M	6FT 3IN	111KG	17ST 7LB	
GALARZA	MARIANO	LOCK	12.11.86	2.02M	6FT 8IN	114KG	17ST 14LB	ARGENTINA
HALAIFONUA	DAVID	WING	05.07.87	1.88M	6FT 2IN	104KG	16ST 5LB	TONGA
HEINZ	WILLI	SCRUM HALF	24.11.86	1.81M	5FT 11IN	89KG	14ST	
HIBBARD	RICHARD	HOOKER	13.12.83	1.83M	6FT	112KG	17ST 13LB	WALES
HOHNECK	JOSH	PROP	06.01.86	1.90M	6FT 3IN	123KG	19ST 5LB	
HOOK	JAMES	FLY HALF	27.06.85	1.85M	6FT 1IN	96KG	15ST 2LB	WALES
KALAMAFONI	SIONE	BACK ROW	18.05.88	1.90M	6FT 3IN	121KG	19ST	TONGA
KVESIC	MATT	BACK ROW	14.04.92	1.88M	6FT 2IN	105KG	16ST 8LB	ENGLAND
LIDLAW	GREIG	HALF BACK	12.10.85	1.76M	5FT 8IN	80KG	12ST 8LB	SCOTLAND
LATTA	JOE	LOCK	07.04.92	1.95M	6FT 5IN	118KG	18ST 8LB	
LUDLOW	LEWIS	BACK ROW	11.09.94	1.90M	6FT 3IN	105KG	16ST 7LB	
MA'AFU	SALESI	PROP	26.03.83	1.85M	6FT 1IN	136KG	21ST 5LB	AUSTRALIA
MARSHALL	TOM	CENTRE	05.07.90	1.83M	6FT	91KG	14ST 5LB	
MATU'U	MOTU	HOOKER	30.04.87	1.84M	6FT	108KG	17ST	SAMOA
MAY	JONNY	CENTRE	01.04.90	1.88M	6FT 2IN	90KG	14ST 2LB	ENGLAND
MCALLISTER	PADDY	PROP	20.07.89	1.86M	6FT 1IN	119KG	18ST 10LB	
MORGAN	BEN	NUMBER EIGHT	18.02.89	1.91M	6FT 3IN	117KG	18ST 6LB	ENGLAND
MORIARTY	ROSS	BACK ROW	18.04.94	1.88M	6FT 2IN	103KG	16ST 2LB	WALES
ORR	CAMERON	PROP	02.04.95	1.88M	6FT 2IN	122KG	19ST 3LB	
PROTHEROE	MAT	FLY HALF	10.10.96	1.79M	5FT 11IN	74KG	11ST 9LB	
PURDY	HENRY	WING	21.05.94	1.87M	6FT 2IN	94KG	14ST 11LB	
ROWAN	JACOB	BACK ROW	14.01.90	1.86M	6FT 1IN	104KG	16ST 5LB	
SAVAGE	TOM	LOCK / BACK ROW	18.04.89	1.95M	6FT 5IN	115KG	18ST 2LB	
SCOTT	MATT	CENTRE	30.09.90	1.85M	6FT 1IN	101KG	15ST 13LB	SCOTLAND
SHARPLES	CHARLIE	WING	17.08.89	1.81M	5FT 11IN	89KG	14ST	ENGLAND
SYMONS	ANDY	CENTRE	29.06.91	1.96M	6FT 5IN	106KG	16ST 9LB	
THOMAS	DAN	BACK ROW	11.10.93	1.83M	6FT	99KG	15ST 8LB	
THOMAS	YANN	PROP	16.04.90	1.86M	6FT 1IN	119KG	18ST 10LB	
THORLEY	OLLIE	CENTRE / WING	11.09.96	1.85M	6FT 1IN	97KG	15ST 3LB	
THRUSH	JEREMY	LOCK	19.04.85	1.98M	6FT 6IN	116KG	18ST 3LB	NEW ZEALAND
TRINDER	HENRY	CENTRE	14.04.89	1.84M	6FT 1IN	93KG	14ST 8LB	
TWELVETREES	BILLY	CENTRE	15.11.88	1.92M	6FT 3IN	103KG	16ST 3LB	ENGLAND