

THE OFFICIAL 2004/05 MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF LONDON IRISH

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St. Patrick's Party
2005



**London
Irish™**

vs Gloucester

Saturday 26th March 2005 K.O. 5.00pm
A Zurich Premiership match



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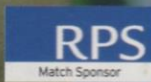
Digger Club

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Club Anthem

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and **much** more...



Barry
Everitt

The Ireland A player explains that a good fly half is not just a playmaker.



www.zurichpremiership.com

**PREMIER
RUGBY**



Gillette



THE **TIMES**



Ready for a final push for Europe

- By Justin Hopwood, Gloucester RFC.



Gloucester arrive for today's Premiership clash knowing that they need four wins from four in the final matches to keep themselves pushing for an automatic Heineken Cup place.

It's been an inconsistent season for the Kingsholm club with good performances being followed by not so good, and solid first half showings, followed by indifferent second periods.

The last few outings are prime examples of this. Gloucester were shocking away at Harlequins at the beginning of February, but two weeks later ground out a 17-16 win over Bath in the Premiership.

A last minute drop goal from Brad Davies was enough to win a close encounter, and also offer the team the chance to get back up the table and push for that important top three finish.

The following week saw Gloucester make the long journey North for a meeting with Newcastle Falcons.

Three first half tries in a dominant performance saw Gloucester take a 22-6 half time lead. Forty minutes later and a strong second half game from the Falcons, and a late try from Luke Narryaway saw Gloucester come back from the behind to claim a 27-27 draw.

Although Gloucester took three points from the game, both Nigel Melville and coach Dean Ryan saw it as two points lost.

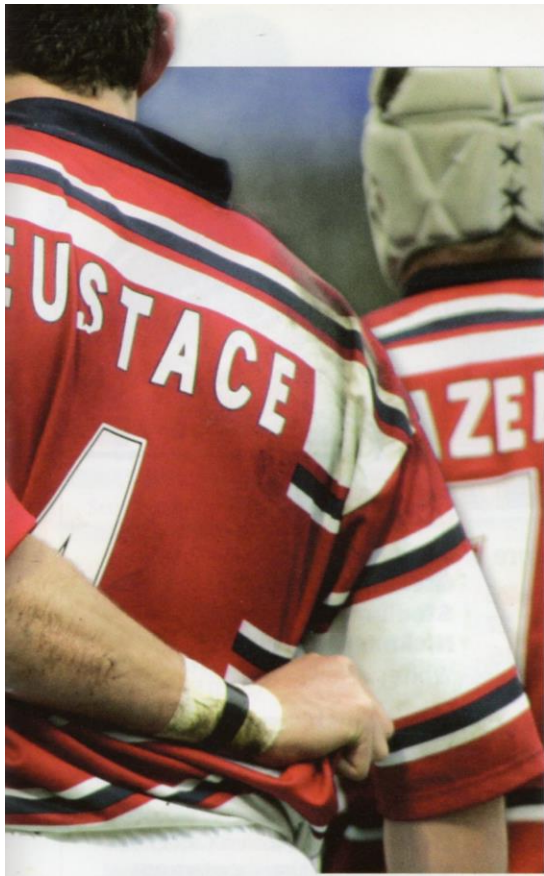
Next up came the Powergen Cup and the greatly anticipated West Country

clash with Bath at Kingsholm. Tickets sold out weeks in advance, and the atmosphere reached a special level as kick off arrived.

The game had everything, and went to extra time. With a drop goal competition looming, Bath struck a killer blow as they scored in the last seconds of injury time in extra time, as the clock passed 100 minutes.

The players gave it their all, and with so much expectation, the game lived up to its 'classic encounter' tag.

Players and coaches spoke of their huge disappointment after the game,



5 Gloucester players to watch...

Five of the many experienced players in the Cherry and Whites squad that will impact on this afternoon's game.



Jake Boer

Position: Flanker
Height: 1.87 M
Weight: 105.91 KG
Dob: 01 Nov 1975



Alex Brown

Position: Lock
Height: 2.00 M
Weight: 111.82 KG
Dob: 17 May 1979



Terry Fanolua

Position: Centre
Height: 1.82 M
Weight: 93.64 KG
Dob: 03 Jul 1974



Marcel Garvey

Position: Wing
Height: 1.72 M
Weight: 88.18 KG
Dob: 21 Apr 1983



James Simpson-Daniel

Position: Wing
Height: 1.82 M
Weight: 85.00 KG
Dob: 30 May 1982

but also the fact that everyone had given their all for the chance to go to Twickenham in the cup final.

Throughout the following week the feeling was that if the team could replicate the passion and commitment from the cup semi-final, a top three finish was possible.

The next outing was at home to Northampton Saints, and two early tries from them, saw Gloucester play catch-up rugby for the remainder of the game.

Defeat to Northampton was hard, but now offers Gloucester one last chance. The side know they have to win four out of four in the remaining five weeks of the season, to finish as high as possible in the Premiership.

After a weekend off, the team will have had some time to reflect and refresh as they focus on today's clash with London Irish.

On a separate note, two happy Welsh men were welcomed back to Kingsholm this week, as hooker Mefin Davies returned following his Grand Slam honours with Wales, and also James Merriman, who captained Wales U21s to their own Grand Slam.

International honours will be put to one side though when five o'clock approaches, and the Gloucester team prepare for the first leg of their target for the rest of the season.

Zurich Premiership: London Irish v Gloucester

Saturday 26th March 2005

Today's Teams



London Irish

Irish



Gloucester

15	HORAK, Michael	Full Back	GOODRIDGE, Jon	15
14	STANIFORTH, Scott	Wing	GARVEY, Marcel	14
13	APPLEFORD, Geoff	Centre	SIMPSON DANIEL, J.	13
12	CATT, Mike	Centre	FANOLUA, Terry	12
11	BISHOP, Justin	Wing	KIOLE, Seti	11
10	EVERITT, Barry	Fly Half	PAUL, Henry	10
9	EDWARDS, Darren	Srm Half	GOMARSALL, Andy	9
1	HATLEY, Neal	Prop	WOOD, Nick	1
2	RUSSELL, Robbie	Hooker	DAVIES, Mefin	2
3	HARDWICK, Rob	Prop	POWELL, Gary	3
4	STRUDWICK, Ryan (C)	Lock	EUSTACE, Adam	4
5	CASEY, Bob	Lock	BROWN, Alex	5
6	GUSTARD, Paul	Flanker	BUXTON, Peter	6
7	DAWSON, Kieron	Flanker	HAZELL, Andy	7
8	REID, Roland	No. 8	BALDING, Adam (C)	8

Replacements

16	WHEATLEY, Doug	AZAM, Olivier	16
17	FLAVIN, Adrian	SIGLEY, Terry	17
18	KENNEDY, Nick	CORNWELL, Mark	18
19	DANAHER, Declan	BOER, Jake	19
20	MORDT, Nils	PAGE, Alex	20
21	MAPLETOFT, Mark	DAVIES, Brad	21
22	HODGSON, Paul	MORGAN, Oilly	22

Today's Officials

Referee: Mr A. Rowden (RFU)

Touch Judge: Mr L.A Jackson (RFU)

Touch Judge 2: Mr D. Broadwell (RFU)

Fourth Official: Mr J. Dennison (RFU)