

THE OFFICIAL 2005/06 MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF LONDON IRISH

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the exit

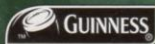


London Irish



VS: **GLOUCESTER**
RUGBY

SUNDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2005 K.O. 3.00PM
A GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP MATCH



INSIDE:

Matchday News

- All the action in and around the stadium today

Visitors' Profile

- Gloucester Rugby

Match Action

- Guinness Premiership action from Bath and Newcastle

Mini Season

Ticket Launch

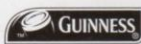
RYAN STRUDWICK

INTERVIEW:

The London Irish **Club Captain** talks about life beyond Rugby in this weeks player profile.



Match Sponsor



www.guinnesspremiership.com

TODAYS TEAMS:



Today's Teams

GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP RND 8: IRISH V GLOUCESTER SUN 20TH NOVEMBER 2005



London Irish



GLoucester RUGBY

LONDON IRISH

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

○	15	FLUTEY, Riki	Full Back	○	15	MORGAN, Olly	
○	14	ARMITAGE, Delon	Wing	○	14	FOSTER, Mark	
○	13	PENNEY, Rodd	Centre	○	13	ALLEN, Anthony	
🇬🇧	12	CATT, Mike (C)	Centre	🇬🇧	12	SIMPSON-DANIEL, J	
🇮🇪	11	BISHOP, Justin	Wing	🇬🇧	11	THIRLBY, Rob	
○	10	EVERITT, Barry	Fly Half	🇫🇷	10	MERCIER, Ludovic	
○	9	WILLIS, Ben	Srm Half	🇬🇧	9	RICHARDS, Peter	
○	1	HATLEY, Neal	Prop	🇫🇷	1	COLLAZO, Patrice	
🇳🇿	2	COETZEE, Danie	Hooker	🇳🇿	2	DAVIES, Mefin	
○	3	RAUTENBACH, Faan	Prop	○	3	POWELL, Gary	
🇮🇪	4	CASEY, Bob	Lock	○	4	EUSTACE, Adam	
○	5	KENNEDY, Nick	Lock	🇳🇿	5	DAVIDS, Quinton	
○	6	ROCHE, Kieran	Flanker	○	6	BUXTON, Peter (C)	
○	7	DANAHER, Declan	Flanker	🇬🇧	7	HAZELL, Andy	
🇨🇦	8	MURPHY, Phil	No. 8	🇬🇧	8	FORRESTER, James	

T P C D

T P C D

Replacements

○	16	SKUSE, Richard	R1	○	16	PARKES, James	
○	17	RUSSELL, Robbie	R2	○	17	SIGLEY, Terry	
○	18	STRUDWICK, Ryan	R3	○	18	CORNWELL, Mark	
○	19	GUSTARD, Paul	R4	○	19	BALDING, Adam	
○	20	HODGSON, Paul	R5	○	20	THOMAS, Hadyn	
○	21	MORDT, Nils	R6	○	21	FANOLUA, Terry	
🇬🇧	22	HORAK, Michael	R7	○	22	DAVIES, Brad	

Today's Result:

Irish
 Glaws

Today's Officials:

Referee: Mr Ashley Rowden (RFU)
 Touch Judge: Mr Lloyd Jackson (RFU)
 Touch Judge 2: Mr Andrew Pearce (RFU)
 Fourth Official: Mr John Dennison (RFU)

Today's Other Fixtures:

Leeds Tykes V Northampton
 London Wasps v Bath Rugby
 Saracens v Newcastle

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the **exile** | 7

VISITOR'S PROFILE:



Today's Opposition

THE CHERRY AND WHITES ARE ALWAYS POPULAR VISITORS TO MADEJSKI STADIUM

Power and Presence

Gloucester make the trip to the Madejski Stadium this afternoon for their third league encounter in as many weeks as jostling for domestic dominance begins to take shape. Alastair Downey provides an update on the famous West Country club.

IT WOULD BE WRONG to suggest everything is running smoothly for the Cherry and Whites' head coach Dean Ryan and Bryan Redpath – the coaching team who have been tasked with improving Gloucester's mid-table position – but a new-look side is beginning to take shape.

A clever mix of power and presence is combining very healthily with youthful inventiveness and although Gloucester have yet to produce the type of consistent performances Ryan and Redpath would have liked, the signs are very encouraging.

Gloucester have lost only twice this season – some what predictably against Bath and Leicester – but the one blemish has not detracted

from a ferocious work ethic, togetherness and commitment that has been the backbone of their season so far.

Rookies Olly Morgan, an immensely gifted full-back, Anthony Allen, a centre with outstanding feet and balance and scrum-half Haydn Thomas are mixing

“ Anthony Allen, a centre with outstanding feet and balance... ”

superbly with established cornerstones of the team like James Simpson-Daniel and Ludovic Mercier, the points specialist from France, who returned in the close season following a spell in his homeland.

Throw in the up front experience of prop Patrice

Collazo, who returned to the club in the summer after two years with Toulouse, hooker Mefin Davies, James Forrester, the ridiculously talented Andy Hazell and Adam Balding and Gloucester possess and all-round feel to them that has helped them win a series of close matches

that last season may have proved beyond them.

They currently sit in third place and in their last match at Kingsholm saw off Newcastle 27-20 at Kingsholm. Morgan and Allen dazzled despite their lack of experience and it followed on from



NEXT TO GP FIXTURES

Date	Opposition	Venue
26th Nov	Saracens	H
26th Dec	London Wasps	A
31st Dec	Leeds Tykes	H
8th Jan	Saracens	A
28th Jan	London Irish	H
11th Feb	Leicester Tigers	H
19th Feb	Newcastle Falcons	H
25th Feb	Bath Rugby	H
11th Mar	Northampton Saints A	
25th Mar	Bristol Rugby	H



CLUB INFO:

Ground: Kingsholm
Stadium Capacity: 13,000
Website: ???
Founded: ???
Tel: 0871 8718781
Fax: 01452 383321

TEAM RECORDS:

Top Points Scorer:
 Ludovic Mercier
Top Goal Kicker:
 Ludovic Mercier
Top Appearances:
 Peter Buxton

STAR MEN



Andy Hazell

Position: Flanker
Height: 1.83 m (6' 0")
Weight: 93 kg (14 st 1 lb)
Date of Birth: 25/04/78
Honours: England (6 caps)



Ludovic Mercier

Position: Fly Half
Height: 1.78 m (5' 10")
Weight: 90 kg (14 st 6 lb)
Date of Birth: 01/11/76
Honours: -

back-to-back victories in the European Challenge Cup.

An opening weekend triumph in France against Bayonne was built upon when Simpson-Daniel led the way with four tries in the 16-try, 106-3 romp against Bucuresti.

Gloucester opened the season with a 15-15 draw against Worcester – Mercier's boot ensuring the points were shared, before they got the better of pace-setters Sale in a thrilling finale at Kingsholm with a penalty try in injury time to seal a 21-18 victory.

Bristol were then dispatched at the Memorial Stadium 41-9 before Northampton were beaten at Kingsholm 28-24 when Simpson-Daniel found the try line again in the second half following his return from injury. The winning run ended at Welford Road last

Saturday when Leicester won by 25-20.

On the injury front, Gloucester will be without lock Alex Brown and hooker Olivier Azam today. Brown has a neck injury that ruled him out of England contention, while Azam has a damaged shoulder. Gloucester have also lost Mike Tindall and Phil Vickery to England duty this month.

But one man who is back in action is club skipper Adam Balding. He has missed the majority of the season to date because of a cheek injury sustained in the opening round of matches against Worcester.

Balding will certainly add experience and power to the Gloucester pack in what should be a highly entertaining and competitive encounter this afternoon.

VISITOR'S PROFILE:

Head 2 Head

Gloucester and London Irish lie in fourth and fifth places respectively in the Premiership going into today's game.

London Irish have now won four successive matches in all competitions against Pau, Parma, Bath and Newcastle, climbing up into 5th place in the Guinness Premiership in the process.

last Saturday and have now tasted victory in just one of their past five away trips in the Premiership: 41-9 over Bristol at Memorial Stadium on 18 September. Gloucester have won the last three matches they have played against Lon-

“ The Exiles have won back to back Premiership matches at Reading... ”

The Exiles have won back to back Premiership matches at Reading, whilst they have not won three in a row at the venue in the competition since October 2003.

don Irish including a 13-12 victory in this equivalent fixture at Madejski Stadium last season. Barry Everitt has played in 99 Premiership matches for London Irish and is one of only four players to have tallied over a 1,000 career points in the competition.

Gloucester were beaten by Leicester at Welford Road

ONES TO WATCH



Adam Balding

Position: Flanker
Height: 1.88 m [6' 2"]
Weight: 111 kg [17 st 5 lb]
Date of Birth: 07/12/79
Honours: -



Mefin Davies

Position: Hooker
Height: 1.78 m [5' 10"]
Weight: 95 kg [15 st 6 lb]
Date of Birth: 02/09/72
Honours: Wales [32 caps]



James Forrester

Position: No. 8
Height: 1.96 m [6' 5"]
Weight: 100 kg [15 st 3 lb]
Date of Birth: 09/02/81
Honours: 1 cap [England]

Playing History:



Did you know?

Gloucester Rugby have the highest posts in the league because Ludovic Mercier kicks the ball so high.

Buy tickets online at www.london-irish.com



JAKE Boer



The former London Irish player has made a great contribution to the West Country club since joining it in 2000.

How did you get introduced to rugby?

It was through my school in South Africa. They put a ball in your hand at a young age and tell you to go and play. It's much the same all over the Southern Hemisphere. I never really expected it to become a career.

What was the naughtiest thing you did as a child?

I put swimming pool chlorine in my father's lawn mower, and I also tried his new socket set out on my mother's car. When I'd finished I had

youngster in South Africa, your car quite a big status symbol. I used to park my car well away from the ground and walk. I would have liked to have had something better but I have no regrets.

What was the worst album you ever bought?

It was a CD by Erica Bardou. Someone recommended it to me but it was dreadful. It went straight in the bin. I also bought some drum and bass that wasn't too clever either, so now I stick to my U2, which I enjoy.

on himself, and Pasty's banter is useless.

What's the most money you've ever won?

300 rand (about £25) in a slot machine. It went straight back in and didn't last long.

What makes you angry?

I'm quite highly strung so I have to be careful. Generally I have quite a long fuse and it takes a buildup of a lot of things to get me to a point where I snap.

What mundane task do you struggle with?

Cleaning the oven. I like to think I can pretty much do anything but that's my pet hate.

What will you do when you retire?

I've just set up a travel business with my wife. We've got some property in South Africa, so we take people out there. It's quite new and quite small at this stage, but we think we offer a good service, taking people round, and hopefully it will grow into something bigger.

"...I have quite a long fuse and it takes a buildup of a lot of things to get me to a point where I snap."

some bits over, but I just closed the bonnet and it was obvious something was wrong. I think the tappet cover was loose and the oil starting pouring out.

What was the first car you owned?

A 1982 VW Jetta. Canary yellow it was. When I was a

Which of your team mates has the most annoying habit?

Where do I start? It runs throughout the whole squad. I think Peter Buxton and Pasty (Mark Cornwell) probably take the biscuit. Buxton has a go at people about things he's not so squeaky clean

GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP

London Irish v Gloucester Rugby

Sunday 20th November 2005

TEAMS

LONDON IRISH

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

15	FLUTEY, Riki	<i>Full Back</i>	MORGAN, Olly	15
14	ARMITAGE, Delon	<i>Wing</i>	THIRLBY, Rob	14
13	PENNEY, Rodd	<i>Centre</i>	SIMPSON-DANIEL, James	13
12	CATT, Mike (C)	<i>Centre</i>	FANOLUA, Terry	12
11	BISHOP, Justin	<i>Wing</i>	GARVEY, Marcel	11
10	EVERITT, Barry	<i>Fly Half</i>	MERCIER, Ludovic	10
9	WILLIS, Ben	<i>Srm Half</i>	THOMAS, Hadyn	9
1	HATLEY, Neal	<i>Prop</i>	COLLAZO, Patrice	1
2	COETZEE, Danie	<i>Hooker</i>	PARKES, James	2
3	RAUTENBACH, Faan	<i>Prop</i>	POWELL, Gary	3
4	CASEY, Bob	<i>Lock</i>	EUSTACE, Adam	4
5	KENNEDY, Nick	<i>Lock</i>	DAVIDS, Quinten	5
6	ROCHE, Kieran	<i>Flanker</i>	BUXTON, Peter (C)	6
7	DANAHER, Declan	<i>Flanker</i>	BOER, Jake	7
8	MURPHY, Phil	<i>No. 8</i>	FORRESTER, James	8
		<i>R'ments</i>		
16	SKUSE, Richard		ELLOWAY, Rob	16
17	RUSSELL, Robbie		WOOD, Nick	17
18	STRUDWICK, Ryan		PENDEBURY, Jonathon	18
19	GUSTARD, Paul		BALDING, Adam	19
20	HORAK, Michael		RICHARDS, Peter	20
21	HODGSON, Paul		ALLEN, Anthony	21
22	MORDT, Nils		DAVIES, Brad	22

Referee

Mr Ashley Rowden (RFU)

Touch Judge 1

Mr Lloyd Jackson (RFU)

Touch Judge 2

Mr Andrew Pearce (RFU)

Fourth Official

Mr John Dennison (RFU)