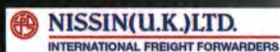


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New Challenges

WORCESTER
Out for revenge

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WORCESTER WARRIORS

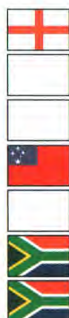
Director of Rugby Mike Ruddock



WORCESTER WARRIORS

T C P D

1			
1			
1			
	3	2	



- Nick **ABENDANON**
- Joe **MADDOCK**
- Alex **CROCKETT**
- Shaun **BERNE**
- Jack **CUTHBERT**
- Butch **JAMES**
- Michael **CLAASSENS**

1			



- David **FLATMAN**
- Lee **MEARS**
- Matt **STEVENS**
- Justin **HARRISON**
- Peter **SHORT**
- Stuart **HOOPER**
- Michael **LIPMAN (C)**
- Jonny **FAAMATUAINU**

1			



- Pieter **DIXON**
- Duncan **BELL**
- David **BARNES**
- James **SCAYSBROOK**
- Scott **BEMAND**
- Eliota **FUIMAONO**
- Michael **STEPHENSON**

- 15 FULLBACK 15
- 14 RIGHT WING 14
- 13 CENTRE 13
- 12 CENTRE 12
- 11 LEFT WING 11
- 10 FLY HALF 10
- 9 SCRUM HALF 9

- 1 PROP 1
- 2 HOOKER 2
- 3 PROP 3
- 4 LOCK 4
- 5 LOCK 5
- 6 FLANKER 6
- 7 FLANKER 7
- 8 NO. 8 8

- 16 REPLACEMENT 16
- 17 REPLACEMENT 17
- 18 REPLACEMENT 18
- 19 REPLACEMENT 19
- 20 REPLACEMENT 20
- 21 REPLACEMENT 21
- 22 REPLACEMENT 22

- Chris **LATHAM**
- Chris **PENNELL**
- Dale **RASMUSSEN**
- Sam **TUITUPOU**
- Miles **BENJAMIN**
- Loki **CRICHTON**
- Ryan **POWELL**

- Matt **MULLAN**
- Aleki **LUTUI**
- Chris **HORSMAN**
- Greg **RAWLINSON (C)**
- Craig **GILLIES**
- Tom **WOOD**
- James **COLLINS**
- Netani **TALEI**

- Tevita **TAUMOEPEAU**
- Chris **FORTEY**
- Graham **KITCHENER**
- Kai **HORSTMANN**
- Ben **JONES**
- Matthew **JONES**
- Charlie **FELLOWS**

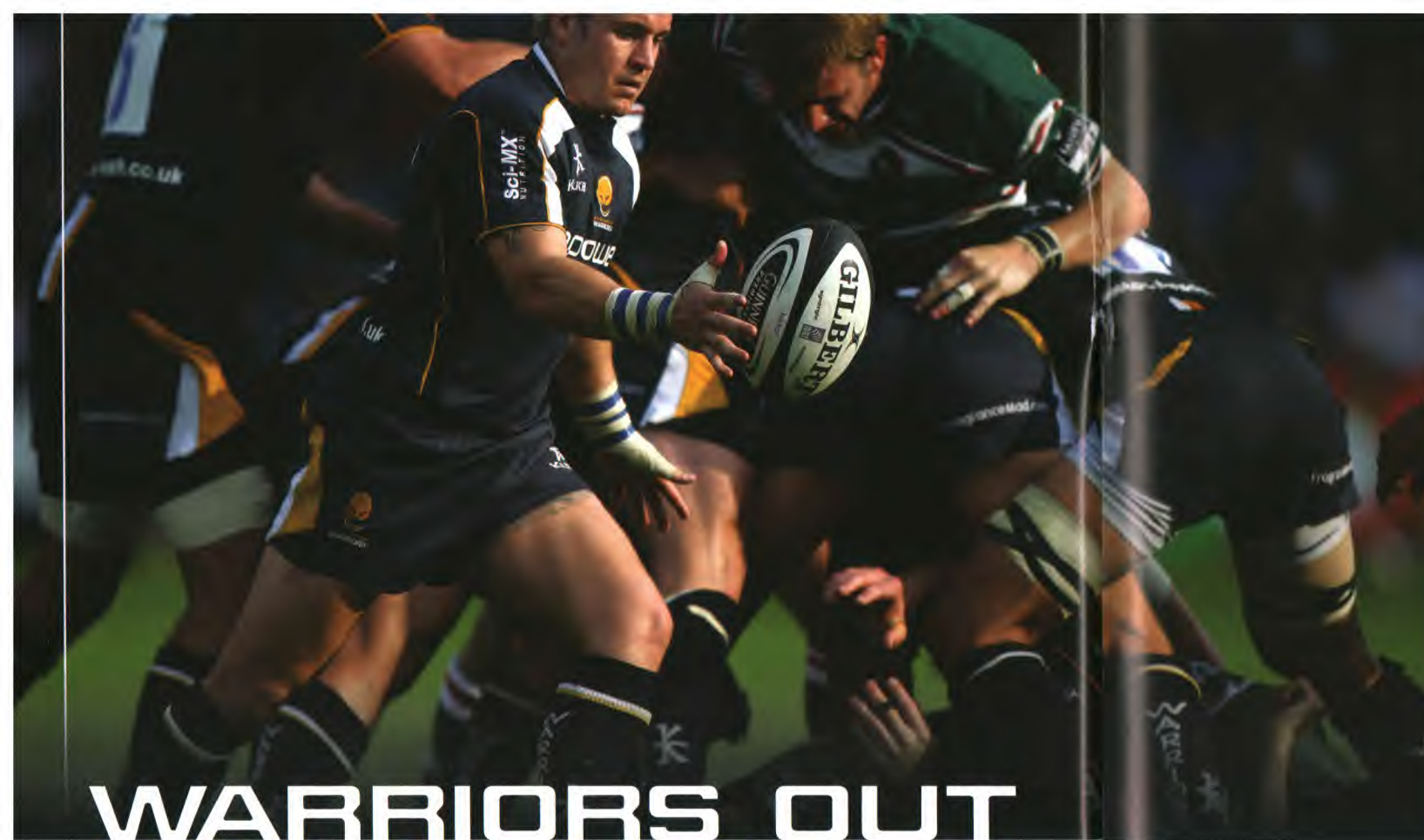
T C P D

1			
	1	4	

FINAL SCORE

TODAY'S OFFICIALS: Referee | Rob Debney Touch Judges | Andrew Pearce and Robert Mullis

FINAL SCORE



WARRIORS OUT FOR REVENGE

Worcester Warriors once again hit the road this afternoon to face Bath Rugby as they look to build on an encouraging start to the season and also gain some revenge for Euro heartbreak to the men from The Rec.

Worcester's fortunes were transformed last season with arrival of a new Director of Rugby in former Wales Grand Slam winning coach Mike Ruddock and Head Coach in Clive Griffiths.

A new style and new optimism emanates from Sixways Stadium with a team capable of matching any in the league.

Exciting stars such as the All

Blacks trio of Sam Tuitupou, lock giant Greg Rawlinson and wing wonder Rico Gear have all settled in and this summer a number of new faces have also been snapped up to strengthen with Wales internationals Hal Luscombe and Matthew Jones signed and, most notably, Australian international legend Chris Latham arriving. The club has also developed a strong youth policy with players such as Miles Benjamin, Matt Mullan, Chris Pennell and Tom Wood all given a chance to shine.

However, injuries could rob Warriors of the services of Gear and Jones - plus current long term

absentees Pat Sanderson and Luscombe - for today's big Guinness Premiership encounter.

Ruddock is convinced the club can now really kick on and reach the potential that so many believe exists in this corner of the Midlands.

This season has seen Worcester hit the road in the opening weeks as the finishing touches are put to a new £8million Slick Systems Stand at the home of the Warriors. Bath can look forward to a visit to new-look Sixways Stadium on Valentine's Day when no doubt no love will be lost.

The season started badly for Warriors as they suffered opening day woe at Franklin's Gardens

"... they look to build on an encouraging start to the season and also gain some revenge for Euro heartbreak to the men from The Rec "

against Northampton with the world watching live on television. It was a day when Warriors looked a shadow of themselves - but come the following weekend they stepped out of the darkness against the Men in Black.

The champions were stunned and stung as a last gasp kick from Loki Crichton secured the narrowest of victories. Ruddock's men were off and running. Last weekend they made a

CAPTAIN GREG RAWLINSON

Man mountain Greg Rawlinson is expected to lead Warriors this afternoon in the absence of Pat Sanderson and once again show he is a key component in the Worcester line-up.

New Zealand international Rawlinson had moved to Sixways Stadium from Auckland Blues on a three-year deal during the summer of 2007 and on arrival soon won over the Warriors fans with a number of eye-catching displays alongside Craig Gillies.

The lock, who has made three appearances for the All Blacks, was originally born in South Africa and moved to New Zealand in 2002. The second row rejected overtures from the Springboks to remain in All Black contention and was rewarded with a call-up to face Ireland in June 2006. He became only the second ever South African-born All Black, the other being Andrew Mehrtens who was also born in Durban.



return to home soil for the first time but the boot was on the other foot as missed penalties and a dubious kick from Toby Flood saw Leicester Tigers emerge victorious.

But it was yet another performance of high quality that suggests Warriors have now arrived on the big stage and are ready to take their place amongst the English elite.

"Our match with Leicester was a great contest, a fantastic match and everything great about the Guinness Premiership," admitted Ruddock afterwards.

"The intensity of the game and the quality of the collision was first rate. I have congratulated the team for a fantastic effort but we are disappointed to lose.

"We know the standards we need to hit to win games of that magnitude and we just failed that on this occasion.

"We have to remember that Leicester are one of the top clubs in the world. We outscored them in terms of tries, we have just failed to be clinical in some areas and that has let us down. Now we move onto Leicester, another top side, to look to put down another marker about where we are going as a team."

Today's match will no doubt have added spark. Remember Warriors suffered on the opening day here last season and will be desperate to put that right. It's only a few months ago it was thought that edged out Warriors for a European crown. Let the battle commence.