

V Bristol Rugby SATURDAY 7th MARCH 2009 KICK-OFF 2.15PM

MADDOCK
Hitting 100

BRISTOL RUGBY
A local incentive

BEHIND THE SCENES
Performance Analyst

100 GAMES FOR BATH



OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME | VOLUME 9 ISSUE 11 | WWW.BATHRUGBY.COM | €3.00

Sponsors

WILT'S
electrical wholesaler



Helphire



Bank of America



www.guinnesspremiership.com



BATH RUGBY

Head Coach Steve Meehan

7-8
10-100
24-800
31-8

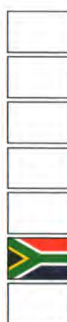
V

BRISTOL RUGBY

Head Coach Toby Booth



T C P D



Joe **MADDOCK**
Andrew **HIGGINS**
Alex **CROCKETT (C)**
Shontayne **HAPE**
Matt **BANAHAN**
Butch **JAMES**
Scott **BEMAND**

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

Tom **ARSCOTT**
Lee **ROBINSON**
Neil **BREW**
Luke **EVES**
David **LEMI**
Ed **BARNES**
Shaun **PERRY**



T C P D



David **BARNES**
Rob **HAWKINS**
Duncan **BELL**
Stuart **HOOPER**
Peter **SHORT**
Andy **BEATTIE**
James **SCAYSBROOK**
Jonny **FAAMATUAINU**

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

Mark **IRISH**
David **BLANEY**
Darren **CROMPTON**
Dave **ATTWOOD**
Nathan **BUDGETT**
Redford **PENNYCOOK**
Joe **EL ABD (C)**
Dan **WARD-SMITH**





Mark **LILLEY**
Paulica **ION**
Justin **HARRISON**
Daniel **BROWNE**
Mike **BAXTER**
Shaun **BERNE**
Nick **ABENDANON**

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

Mark **REGAN**
Wayne **THOMPSON**
Roy **WINTERS**
Alfie **TO'OALA**
Haydn **THOMAS**
Chris **ASHWIN**
Nathan **BREW**



FINAL SCORE

TODAY'S OFFICIALS: Referee: David Rose

Referees Assistants: Kevin Stewart and Andrew Pearce

FINAL SCORE

WILT'S
electrical wholesalers

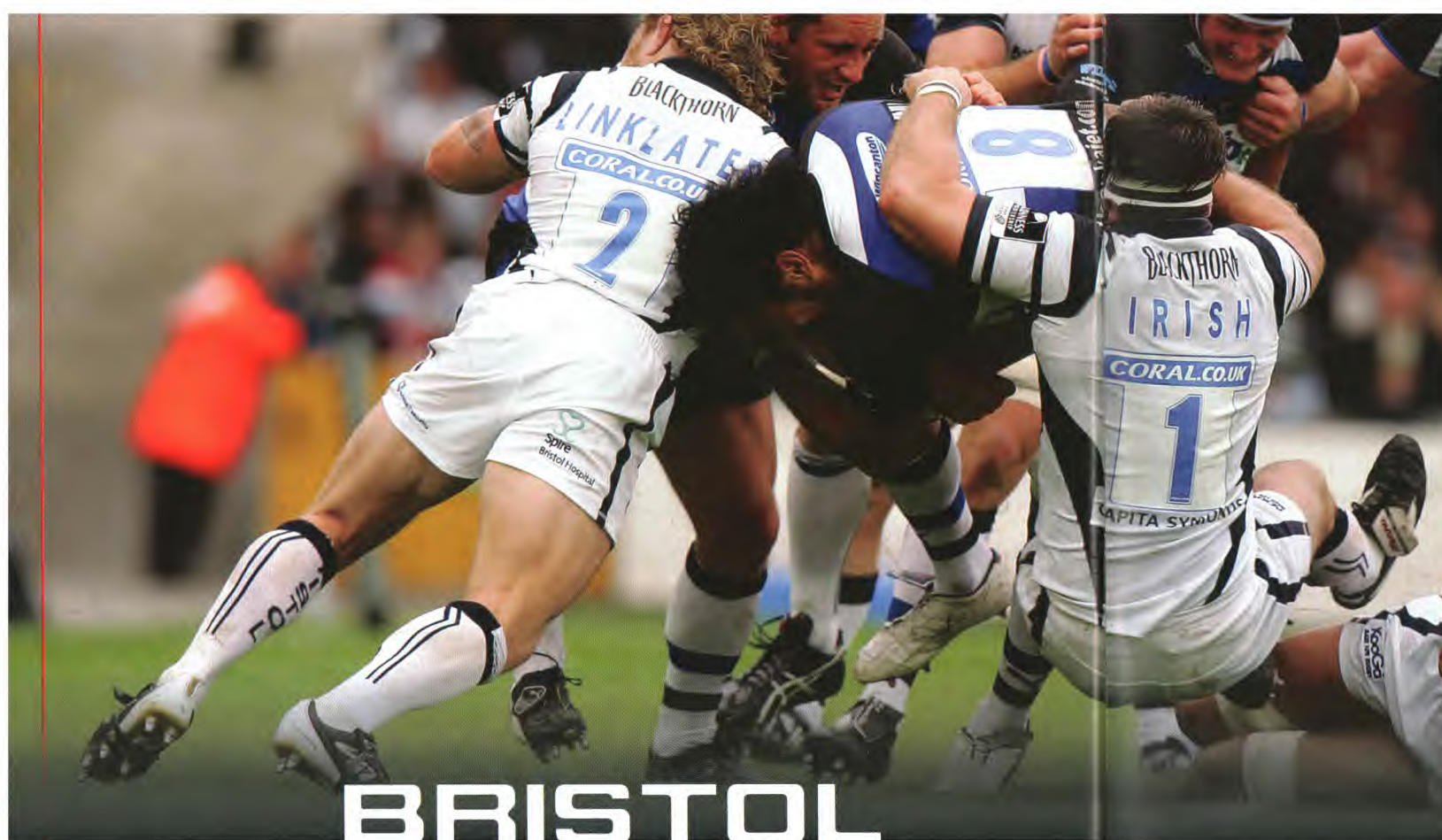


Helphire



bookajet.com





BRISTOL RUGBY

A swift glance at the Guinness Premiership league table tells you all you need to know about Bristol Rugby's league season to date.

The side that kicked off their campaign against Bath at the Memorial Stadium back in September has gone on to win only one of their Guinness Premiership matches since.

That would have been considered unthinkable on that sunny afternoon at the Mem as, despite Bath's 20-33 victory, Bristol played some decent rugby at times especially in the first half when tries from Andrew Blowers and David Lemi ensured a 17-17 half time scoreline.

However, since that point it's been a

case of what might have been as a number of games have been lost by a single score when, had the bounce of the ball gone differently, Bristol might have had three or four more wins and been looking at mid table respectability.

Examples? The 6-9 home defeat to Sale where a disallowed try and several missed kicks cost Bristol dear, four missed kicks in a 16-23 defeat at home to Saracens, Shane Geraghty's late interception that snatched a win for London Irish at the Mem, a 20-20 draw at Worcester when an Eoghan Hickey conversion

looked to many in the ground to have missed and Ugo Monye's late try last weekend to deny Bristol victory.

Factor into the equation the loss of key players like Darren Crompton and Shaun Perry, who suffered injuries which would keep them out for lengthy periods in the club's very first preseason friendly, and the nature of Bristol's uphill struggle becomes apparent.

In truth, the club found itself behind the eight ball when the proposed redevelopment of the Memorial Stadium was postponed. Bristol had

based everything for the 2008-9 season on playing at Newport's Rodney Parade ground.

Continuing to play at your spiritual home may not seem to be such a hardship but the impact upon the club's recruitment plans last spring cannot be underestimated.

So, it could all obviously have been so different but the upshot is that Bristol come to the Rec this afternoon desperately seeking a win to keep their chances of remaining in the Guinness Premiership alive.

JOE EL ABD

Club captain Joe El Abd knows his way around the Recreation Ground as he only started playing rugby whilst at Bath University and Bath were his first club.

After a short spell with Caerphilly, Joe joined Bristol Rugby in 2003 and has been a regular fixture at openside flanker ever since and took over as club captain this season.



And, for the first time since the summer of 2003, there's a new man at the helm for Bristol Rugby as Paul Hull takes charge of the side for only the third time in a Guinness Premiership game with Richard Hill having departed a fortnight ago.

After the disappointment of losing at home to Newcastle on a Friday the 13th nightmare of an evening at the Mem, the performances against Sale and Quins have certainly been a step in the right direction.

There has been more fight from the team, more team spirit and a desire to play with more width.

There have been promising signs. Bristol managed to unlock the Quins defence for the first time in 309 Guinness Premiership

minutes and were only four minutes from ending their winning run.

But more of the same will be required this afternoon with Bath having dropped to sixth place the table courtesy of their defeat at Kingsholm at the hands of Gloucester last weekend.

So both teams want the points for vastly differing reasons.

Bath will enter the game as favourites for obvious reasons home in the spring when the grounds get firmer, they can't formidably opposition.

However, there is no greater incentive for a Bristol player to take on Bath in a local derby and perhaps pride will propel those Bristol players to points afternoon.