



ENGLAND

v SCOTLAND

Murrayfield

Saturday 8 March 2008

Referee: Jonathan Kaplan (SA)

Touch judges: 1 Marius Jonker (SA) 2 Carlo Damasco (Italy)

TMO: Tim Hayes (Wales)

2008 RBS 6 Nations

02.02.08

v Wales Twickenham Lost 19-26

15-Balshaw 14-Sackey 13-Tindall 12-Flood 11-Strettle 10-Wilkinson 9-Gomarsall 8-Narraway 7-Moody 6-Haskell 5-Borthwick 4-Shaw 3-Vickery © 2-Regan 1-Sheridan

Subs used: Vainikolo, Rees, Kay, Mears, Cipriani, Stevens

Bench: Wigglesworth

T: Flood C: Wilkinson PG: Wilkinson 3 DG: Wilkinson

RBS Man of Match: James Hook (Wales)

Referee: Craig Joubert (SA)

10.02.08

v Italy Rome Won 23-19

15-Balshaw 14-Sackey 13-Noon 12-Flood 11-Vainikolo 10-Wilkinson 9-Gomarsall 8-Easter 7-Lipman 6-Haskell 5-Borthwick © 4-Shaw 3-Stevens 2-Regan 1-Payne

Subs used: Tait, Mears, Wigglesworth, Narraway, Cipriani, Kay

Bench: Hobson

T: Sackey, Flood C: Wilkinson 2 PG: Wilkinson 3

RBS Man of Match: Sergio Parisse (Italy)

Referee: Alain Rolland (Ireland)

23.02.08

v France Stade de France Won 24-13

15-Balshaw 14-Sackey 13-Noon 12-Flood 11-Vainikolo 10-Wilkinson 9-Wigglesworth 8-Easter 7-Lipman 6-Haskell 5-Borthwick 4-Shaw 3-Vickery © 2-Regan 1-Sheridan

Subs used: Croft, Mears, Kay, Tait, Stevens

Bench: Hodgson, Cipriani

T: Sackey, Wigglesworth C: Wilkinson PG: Wilkinson 3 DG: Wilkinson

RBS Man of Match: Nick Easter (England)

Referee: Steve Walsh (NZ)

TEAM v Scotland

England make three changes from the team that beat France in Paris for the 2008 Calcutta Cup match at Murrayfield. In the backs Danny Cipriani starts at full back in place of Iain Balshaw, who reverts to the bench and there are two changes in the forwards

Lee Mears makes a rare start at hooker, with George Chuter covering the position from the bench, as Mark Regan stands down, while flanker Tom Croft keeps his place after James Haskell was forced off with an ankle injury at the Stade de France. Luke Narraway returns to the bench as back-row cover.



15 **Danny Cipriani (London Wasps)**

- **02.11.87** **6-0** **14-0**
- **3rd cap – no pts**
- **Debut: 2008 v Wales**
- 1st test v Scotland (1st test start)
- 9th England full back in the Ashton era since Jan 2007 (Morgan, Balshaw, Lewsey, Cueto, Brown, Tait, Abendanon, Robinson, Cipriani)
- Played full back for Wasps in 2007 Heineken Cup final win and played first 8 games for club at full back this season
- Progression after being with England at U19, U21 and Saxons levels and RWC2007 training squad
- From Roehampton, educated at Wimbledon College prep school, Oratory (Reading) and Whitgift, played at Rosslyn Park (10-15yrs), venue for the famous schools sevens tournament, and joined Wasps Academy in summer 2006
- Useful footballer on QPR youth books, and academy. Mother drove a London black-cab.

14 **Paul Sackey (London Wasps)**

- **08.11.79** **6-1** **14-4**
- **14th cap – 7T = 35pts**
- **Debut: 2006 v NZ**
- 1st test v Scotland
- 6T in his last 8 tests for England
- Played in the last 6 games of RWC2007 with 2T v both Samoa and Tonga
- Into the team v NZ 2006 after Mark Cueto withdrew with ankle injury, but missed 10 tests himself in 2006-07 with a knee injury, originally owed his new chance to David Strettle's injury (broken foot in training) just before RWC2007
- England tour to USA in 2001, England A squad, and Elite squad in 2005-06
- Withdrew from 2006 Churchill Cup with toe injury
- One of a select group of players to score 50T in the Premiership, was at Wasps Academy, then returned to Wasps from Bedford and London Irish in 2005

13 **Jamie Noon (Newcastle Falcons)**

- **09.05.79** **5-11** **13-8**
- **30th cap - 6T = 30pts**
- **Debut: 2001 v Canada**
- 3rd test v Scotland – 3T = 15pts (in 2006)
- Scored 3T in 2005 Calcutta Cup game, the third Englishman to achieve the feat after Cyril Lowe (1914), and John Carleton (1980).
- Try and disallowed try v NZ in November 2006 – started all 4 autumn 2006 tests, but only played 2 of the 10 tests in 2007 before RWC, then had tournament cut short by knee ligament injury in his 2nd game (0-36 v SA)
- First Six Nations season in 2005, after missing 17 months of test rugby, played 18 tests in England's 19 matches (rested v Samoa in autumn 2005) from start of 2005 Six Nations to end of 2006 autumn series, and was a key player under former coach Andy Robinson.
- Played 3 tests on North America tour 2001, then two tests in RWC2003 warm-up games. From Newcastle Academy, Whitby and Goole, 8th season with Falcons, and studied sports science at Northumbria University.



12 **Toby Flood (Newcastle Falcons)**

- **08.08.85** **6-2** **13-5**
- **16th cap – 3T 2C 5PG 1DG = 37pts**
- **Debut: 2006 v Argentina**
- 2nd test v Scotland – no pts
- Test tries v France 2007, Wales 2008, Italy 2008
- On as sub in England's three RWC2007 knock-out games, after replacing Noon who damaged knee ligaments in 0-36 v SA
- Joined Falcons Academy from Alnwick and Morpeth clubs in 2003, made Falcons first team debut in February 2005 and improved with Falcons while Jonny Wilkinson recovered from his injuries
- From the England U21 Grand Slam XV in 2006
- Also studying at Northumbria University (business management)
- 66 first team games for Falcons

11 **Lesley Vainikolo (Gloucester Rugby)**

- **04.05.79** **6-2** **17-10?**
- **4th cap – no pts**
- **Debut: 2008 v Wales**
- 1st test v Scotland
- On after 11 mins for David Strettle v Wales to make debut, started v Italy and France
- First season at Gloucester, previously played RL for Canberra Raiders from 1997-2002 and Bradford Bulls from 2002-07
- Scored 149 tries in 152 games for Bulls
- Born in Tonga, RL international for NZ (14 caps, 12 tries) after growing up in Auckland and playing RU, switching to RL aged 11
- Could have played RU for Tonga (birth), NZ (parents) or England (residence)
- 4th Bradford Bulls player to join Gloucester
- 11 games to date for Gloucester, 9 tries, scored 5T on debut v Leeds – but sadly lost his brother in December (heart attack) and father in January (organ failure) either side of Christmas

10 **Jonny Wilkinson (Newcastle Falcons)**

- **25.05.79** **5-10** **13-3**
- **69th cap - 6T 144C 206PG 29DG= 1023pts (also 47pts for Lions)**
- **Debut: 1998 v Ireland**
- 7th test v Scotland – 1T (in 2007) 16C 14PG 1DG = 82pts
- 27pts v Scotland 2007 in comeback test after RWC2003 final, and now passed Neil Jenkins all time Home International Championship record total of 406pts. Has an ongoing record of 470pts to date.
- Returned for 2007 Calcutta Cup after missing 30 tests (England won 12, lost 18) since previous game at RWC 2003 final, 1,169 days previously
- World record beaten - all-time drop goal record with 29DG – former world record holder Hugo Porta on 28DG (26 Argentina, 2 South America)
- Records beckon – he has 1023pts for England and 47 for Lions for 1,070 international points. Leader is Neil Jenkins (Wales) with 1049pts for Wales and 41 for Lions for 1,090 international points (Note: Wilkinson record excluding 20pts for Lions v Argentina 2005 as Argentina did not award caps)
- Captain of England v Italy 2003, SA 2007. Home International record 35pts v Italy 2001
- Also has RWC all-time record of 249pts
- And passed 2,000 pts for Falcons in January 2008
- Test debut v Ireland aged 18y 314d - sub for Mike Catt. England won 43 of 52 games when he played 1998-2003.
- Championship record 89pts in 2001 Six Nations. Top again in 2003 with 77pts.



Jonny Wilkinson injuries and illnesses

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------------------|
| 2003 | |
| December | Fractured facet in right shoulder |
| 2004 | |
| October | Haematoma in upper right arm |
| 2005 | |
| January | Left knee damaged medial ligaments |
| March | Left knee damaged medial ligaments again |
| July | Shoulder 'stinger' injury |
| August | Appendicitis |
| November | Hernia surgery |
| 2006 | |
| February | Groin |
| September | Right knee torn medial ligament |
| November | Lacerated kidney |
| 2007 | |
| March | Cramp and rib injury |

9 Richard Wigglesworth (Sale Sharks)

- **09.06.83** **5-9** **13-7**
- **3rd cap – 1T = 5pts**
- **Debut: 2008 v Italy**
- 1st test v Scotland
- On bench v Wales 2008, sub v Italy, start v France with clinching try
- Progression after being with England at U19, U21 and Saxons levels and RWC2007 training squad
- Peter Richards withdrew from Six Nations with bicep injury and Shaun Perry is also injured, while Harry Ellis has long term knee ligament damage
- Joined Sharks in 2002, early rugby at Fylde, and attended Kirkham GS (as did Pat Sanderson, former England captain). Family have a farm and 9-hole golf course on it.
- Sharks debut v Bourgoin in 2002 – Bryan Redpath and Sililo Martens were ahead of him at the time
- Accomplished goal kicker

8 Nick Easter (NEC Harlequins)

- **15.08.78** **6-4** **18-2**
- **15th cap - 4T = 20pts**
- **Debut: 2007 v Italy**
- 1st test v Scotland
- RBS Man of Match v France 2008, had returned v Italy after knee injury and had missed Wales 2008
- Started the last 6 games at RWC2007 including final
- 4T v Wales in Aug 2007 was first by an England No 8, and first England forward to score 4T in a game since Neil Back in 1998 v Holland
- Into the team v Italy 2007 as flanker after Joe Worsley suffered a neck injury against Scotland. Played well on losing tour to SA in summer 2007
- Recommended to Quins in summer 2004 from Orrell, made senior debut on 02.10.04 v Worcester Warriors. Now has contract to 2009. His director of rugby at Quins is former England No 8 Dean Richards.
- Quins Player of the Season in all seasons with the club, and scored 19T in 2005-06 as the club won National League 1.
- Scored 26T in 92 senior games for Quins to date.
- Played in South Africa for the Villagers club in Cape Town, after leaving Dulwich College, before joining Orrell in 2001 for 3 seasons until 2004, so is a late developer



7 Michael Lipman (Bath Rugby)

- **16.01.80** 6-2 15-3
- **6th cap – no pts**
- **Debut: 2004 v NZ**
- 1st test v Scotland
- First capped v NZ and Australia in summer 2004, then started v Australia in summer 2006. First RBS 6 Nations game v Italy 2008
- Returned to squad after injuries to Tom Rees (left knee medial ligaments) and Lewis Moody (achilles) v Wales 2008
- Has been a regular member of recent England Saxons squads
- Approaching 100 games for Bath since 2003, when he joined from rivals Bristol, for whom he played from 2001-03.
- Brought up in Australia and played for NSW Waratahs and Australia U21
- Has endured several injuries – fractured cheekbone, broken leg, ruptured ankle tendon etc

6 Tom Croft (Leicester Tigers)

- **07.11.85** 6-5 16-12
- **2nd cap – no pts**
- **Debut: 2008 v France**
- 1st test v Scotland
- Debut at Stade de France for James Haskell (ankle ligaments) after 22m
- England U18, U19, U21 and England Saxons – winning try v NZ Maori in 2007 Churchill Cup win
- Tigers debut in November 2005 just after 20th birthday, after spending 5 seasons with Newbury RFC at the start of his career
- 2006 England U21 Grand Slam XV
- Try in 2007 EDF final, 2007 Premiership medal

5 Steve Borthwick (Bath Rugby)

- **12.10.79** 6-6 17-7
- **36th cap - 2T = 10pts**
- **Debut: 2001 v France**
- 3rd test v Scotland – no pts
- England captain in 23-19 win in Italy 2008, has captained club and England A
- 3 games at RWC2007, started v Tonga
- Recalled for 2005 autumn tests after injury to Alex Brown, he then played 10 successive tests through to Ireland 2006 loss at Twickenham and like Shaw was dropped – missed 13 tests – recalled v Wales in August 2007 (62-5) and went on to RWC
- RWC beneficiary of the Danny Grewcock ban – punched Thibault Privat in 2007 European Challenge Cup final, suspended until 15 September
- Not in RWC2003 squad, Simon Shaw replaced injured Grewcock.
- Frequently England A captain, joined Bath in 1998 as Bath University student from Preston Grasshoppers (10th season at Bath and over 220 games). Now has degree in Economics and Politics.
- Impressed on England's 2000 tour to SA, then capped from 2001.
- Bath captain since 2005, leaves for Saracens in summer 2008

4 **Simon Shaw (London Wasps)**

- **01.01.73** **6-9** **19-1**
- **47th cap - 2T = 10pts**
- **Debut: 1996 v Italy**
- 5th test v Scotland – no pts
- Recovered from ankle tissue injury v Munster a fortnight before Wales 2008 RBS 6 Nations match
- Started 6 of the & RWC2007 games, rested v Tonga
- Before recall for 2007 Summer Series, he was last capped by England in Ireland's win at Twickenham in 2006 – like Borthwick he had missed 13 tests
- RWC2003 – late call-up for Danny Grewcock (broken hand v Uruguay) but did not play in finals.
- Had previously just missed selection in 1995 and 1999 RWC
- 2004 and current 2007 Heineken Cup medals. 2003, 2004, and 2005 Premiership medals, and 3 Powergen Cup medals
- 2004 Premiership Player of Year.
- First team debut for Bristol v Wasps at the age of 17, then joined Wasps in 1997 and has played for England at all levels. Overcome career threatening back and ankle problems.
- 1997 Lions tourist
- Both test tries in same game v Canada in 2001

3 **Phil Vickery (London Wasps)(captain)**

- **14.03.76** **6-3** **18-4**
- **63rd cap - 2T = 10pts**
- **Debut: 1998 v Wales**
- 5th test v Scotland - no pts
- 11th England captaincy at 2007RWC final, 14th captaincy at 2008 Calcutta Cup
- 5 games at RWC – missed 2 group games (SA and Samoa) through suspension
- RWC 2003 – one of 6 Englishmen to play all 7 games and scored his first test try v Samoa during tournament. Was England captain against Uruguay.
- Had 2 previous England captaincies before getting the job from 2007 Calcutta Cup (Argentina 2002, Uruguay RWC2003). Was England's 5th captain inside 10 tests back in 2002 (Bracken, Dawson, Back, Johnson, Vickery)
- England tries v Samoa at RWC2003 (in 34th international) and SA in autumn 2006
- Had eye socket, arm, and a third back operation, but moved in summer 2006 from Gloucester to Wasps on 3yr contract and now fit again
- Made test debut after just 34 Gloucester club games and 81 days after England A debut. 11 seasons at Gloucester, ex Bude and Redruth.
- Played all 3 Lions tests in 2001

2 **Lee Mears (Bath Rugby)**

- **05.03.79** **5-9** **15-10**
- **22nd cap – no pts**
- **Debut: 2005 v Samoa**
- 2nd test v Scotland – no pts
- 18 of his first 21 caps to date have been as sub
- 4th test start, first start since SA in autumn 2006
- Just one game behind Regan and Chuter at RWC2007 – sub v Tonga
- Premiership record number of substitute games also (58)
- Played in 2005 Churchill Cup win, and then elevated to full squad for 2005 autumn tests.
- Devonian, who joined Bath in 1997, from Colston's, Bristol, and formerly with hometown Torquay Athletic (as was former England lock and coach Mike Davis).
- England Schools and Sevens, he took over hooking role at Bath from former Wales captain Jonathan Humphreys.
- Also formerly an understudy to Federico Mendez (Argentina) and Mark Regan (England) at Bath

1 Andrew Sheridan (Sale Sharks)

- **01.11.79** **6-5** **18-10**
- **23rd cap – no pts**
- **Debut: 2004 v Canada**
- 2nd test v Scotland – no pts
- Missed Italy 2008 game with infected cut on right heel/achilles, returned v France
- Outstanding RWC, started all 7 games along with Kay
- Had played only 4 matches of England's last 16 internationals before RWC2007 after injuries
- Lions in NZ in 2005, but fractured fibula before tests.
- 6th season as prop, after converting from lock at Bristol under NZ coach Peter Thorburn.
- Toured SA with England in 2000, England XV v NZ Barbarians in 2003, also played in Churchill Cup games. England squad for 2004 autumn tests, making debut in opener v Canada
- Joined Sale in June 2003 from relegated Bristol.
- Played for England also at U21 level and in the England National Academy.

Substitutes

16 George Chuter (Leicester Tigers)

- **09.07.76** **5-11** **15-12**
- **20th cap (if he plays) - 1T = 5pts**
- **Debut: 2006 v Australia**
- 2nd test v Scotland – no pts
- Played all 7 games at RWC2007 – 2 starts, sub in final
- First capped on 2006 summer tour to Australia – played 19 of England's next 23 tests to RWC final. Recall for 2008 Calcutta Cup match for Mark Regan
- Had been bench during 2006 Six Nations (Scotland) along with Lee Mears as cover for Steve Thompson
- Test try v Australia 2006 (2nd test)
- Had played for England A since 1998, and was a 1998 England tourist to Australia and NZ.
- Joined Tigers in March 2001 and has passed his 100th first team game. 2007 Premiership and EDF Cup double win
- Originally played in the amateur days with Old Mid Whitgiftians and the West London Institute, and joined Saracens aged 19, winning 1998 Pilkington Cup winners medal

17 Matt Stevens (Bath Rugby)

- **01.10.82** **6-0** **19-3**
- **25th cap (if he plays) – no pts**
- **Debut: 2004 v NZ**
- 2nd test v Scotland – no pts
- Started v Italy 2008 after Vickery withdrew (calf injury/stomach ailment)
- Played all 7 games at RWC2007 – starting the last 3 group games in place of the suspended Vickery, and all games in 2008 RBS 6 Nations to date
- Returned for 2nd test v SA in summer 2007 after being called up from holiday – had missed 13 tests and been a Reality TV singer in Celebrity X-Factor
- 2005 Lion – six games on tour
- England XV v NZ Barbarians in Dec 2003 then into full squad on 2004 summer tour to Australasia.
- Joined Bath in Sept 2002 after playing for S Africa at U18 and U19 levels, and played for Western Province and SA Universities.
- Born at Durban, British passport.



18 Ben Kay (Leicester Tigers)

- **14.12.75** **6-6** **18-8**
- **57th cap (if he plays) - 2T = 10pts**
- **Debut: 2001 v Canada**
- 5th test v Scotland – no pts
- RWC2007 – started all 7 games along with Sheridan
- RWC2003 winner – 6 games, all starts, rested for Uruguay, and dropped pass near line in final v Australia.
- Started every game in 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 Six Nations, but then missed all 2005-06 season internationals until recall in 2nd test of 2006 summer tour.
- Back in RWC2007 squad after 2 years of in-and-out of squad after Tigers Premiership and EDF Cup wins
- England A from 2000, was captain in 2001-02 then promoted to full honours.
- Joined Leicester in 1999 from Waterloo, where he played 69 Premiership games. Heineken Cup wins 2001 and 2002 with Leicester colleagues.
- 2005 Lions in NZ

19 Luke Narryway (Gloucester Rugby)

- **07.09.83** **6-3** **17-0**
- **3rd cap (if he plays) – no pts**
- **Debut: 2008 v Wales**
- 1st test v Scotland
- Top England tackler on test debut v Wales with 16 tackles
- Replaced Nick Easter v Wales 2008, who withdrew with knee ligament injury, was not in initial 32-man training squad. Sub v Italy, then replaced by Croft on bench for France
- Gloucester debut in May 2003 v Leeds after being at Worcester Warriors Academy, and also went on brief loan to Birmingham-Solihull
- 18 games, 12 starts, for Gloucester in 2007-08
- From Kings, Worcester, and graduated via England U18 and in 2004 in the U21 squad
- Played at Twickenham for England at U18 level v NZ
- Father played in back row for Worcester, and coached Luke at mini-rugby, family have a butcher's shop in Worcester.

20 Paul Hodgson (London Irish)

- **25.04.82** **5-8** **12-2**
- **First cap (if he plays)**
- Remained on bench on squad debut v France 2008
- Fine game in defeat of Tigers 22-13 on 17.02.08 to boost selection chances for French game
- England U18, U21, Sevens and Saxons
- Born at Epsom, had 13 years from mini-rugby with Sutton & Epsom, joined Wasps in 2001 and Irish in 2004 after a spell with Bristol
- Over 100 senior games, 87 with Irish



21 **Mathew Tait (Newcastle Falcons)**

- **06.02.86** **5-11** **13-8**
- **22nd cap (if he plays) - 2T = 10pts**
- **Debut: 2005 v Wales**
- 1st test v Scotland
- Youngest member of England RWC2007 squad, played in all 7 games, scored try v Tonga and impressed in final
- Played the first half of the Wales game in 2005, then left out until he started both tests against Australia on 2006 summer tour, and has now played in 18 of England's last 24 games – and also combines with taking medical degree
- 1st test at fullback v Wales 2007 in 62-5 win and first test try, 2nd test try v Tonga at RWC2007
- Had re-found skills for club and for England A and Sevens. Silver medal at 2006 Commonwealth Games
- Was 19y the day after the Wales 2005 game and was the 14th player aged 18 to play for England. Hammered by the famous Gavin Henson tackle
- Was at school until 2004, and was invited to Newcastle Academy by director Peter Walton, ex Scotland back-row. Reached 60 Falcons games (19T)
- At Barnard Castle School, as were the Underwood brothers and Rob Andrew
- England at U16, U18 and U19 levels. Scored try on Newcastle debut v London Irish in May 2004.

22 **Iain Balshaw (Gloucester Rugby)**

- **14.04.79** **6-0** **13-11**
- **34th cap (if he plays) – 13T = 65pts**
- **Debut: 2000 v Ireland**
- 6th test v Scotland – 3T = 15pts (2T in 2001, 1T in 2004)
- Missed RWC2007 through injuries, and played in only 2 of England's 17 tests in 2007 v Italy in 2007 Six Nations and first SA test on 2007 summer tour.
- Back for 2008 RBS 6 Nations
- Had earlier been recalled for the 2006 summer tour to Australia, playing both tests at full back, after missing 2006 RBS 6 Nations. Then played first two tests in autumn 2006
- RWC2003 winner – played 3 games, scored 1T v Samoa, 2T v Uruguay and came on as sub in final.
- His first 5T were in 2001 Six Nations – equal 2nd top scorer to Greenwood.
- Appeared at fullback, centre and wing for England.
- All 3 Lions tests 2001 (as sub) – missed 2005 tour through injury
- Bath debut in 1998 with 13T in first full season. 2005 Powergen Cup medal in first
- season at Leeds, now in second season at Gloucester.

COACH

Brian Ashton **03.09.46**

- Succeeded Andy Robinson on 21.12.06
- Coach at Bath from 1989 and won 4 League and Cup doubles from 1991-96. Took the Ireland job 1996-98 before returning to England assistant coach in 1998.
- In 2002, he moved to the National Academy until 2005, when he returned to Bath from Jan-May 2006. Was England attack coach from May-December 2006, when he took the England post
- Former scrum half for Fylde, Orrell, Montferrand (Clermont Auvergne), Roma, Milan and Lancashire. Played for North of England and was in the 1975 full England squad