

The RUGBY Paper

THE BEST COVERAGE FROM ALL THE WEEKEND'S RUGBY



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THE BEST COVERAGE FROM ALL THE WEEKEND'S RUGBY

» Pages 16-17
Paul Rees reports
It's time for change in a game drowning in debt

Inside:
» **Guscott:** Borthwick needs a minor miracle Page 7
» **Cain:** Fast Eddie's hit the cash jackpot Page 13
» **Team of Season** in National 2 East Pages 26-27

Super Saracens lift sixth crown

From BEN JAVCOCK at Twickenham

OWEN Farrell hailed the resolve of his Saracens side as they returned to the top of the English game by beating Sale Sharks 35-25 to win their first Premiership title since 2019.

In a see-saw thriller at Twickenham, Saracens pulled away in the final quarter with tries by Van van Zyl and Elliot Daly securing the north London club's sixth title to go level with Wasps and Bath.

The club's salary cap breach and subsequent season in the Championship was followed by a gut wrenching last-minute loss to Leicester Tigers in last year's final but Farrell was delighted that they went one better this time around.

He said: "It wasn't our best performance of the season and it was proper tense finals rugby. We had to stay in the game when

works hard at doing that. We had our setbacks in recent years, losing the final and everything that went on before that but to see how strong this club is is fantastic. We hope to be in the big dance again as we want to be here every year.

"It's not about redemption, it's more about getting the best out of ourselves. We closed up shop in the final last year, so this year was about doing enough and thankfully we did."

Sale were competitive throughout and played their part in a thrilling final by taking the lead for the first time in the second half with Bevan Rodd's 52nd-minute converted try but ultimately came up short in their first final since 2006.

Departing Jano Ross Sale are on and how the club have utilised their "Northern rugby masters" campaign to put their club on the map.

He said: "I'm massively disappointed but I'm proud of the group and

Cardiff battle for ex-Junior Springbok
By PETER JACKSON

CARDIFF are involved in a stand-off with the Welsh Rugby Union over their bid to sign a stand-off from South Africa, Tinas De Beer.

A last-ditch attempt is being made by the Arms Park club to overturn the Union's blocking of a transfer on the grounds that the former Junior Springbok poses an obstacle to home-grown talent with international ambitions.

Unless their impassioned appeal succeeds, a club famous for its trio of Lions fly halves - Cliff Morgan, Barry John, Gareth Davies - will stumble on into the summer without one following the departure of Rhys Priestland and Jarrod Evans.

De Beer, uncapped, unused and relatively unknown outside Super Rugby had been lined up to fill the void left by Priestland's retirement and Evans' joining Harlequins rather than staying put on a markedly reduced contract.

The financial crisis engulfing the wider game has forced the regions to slash budgets, in Cardiff's case by more than the death of its perennial saviour, Peter Thomas, cannot afford to bring Rhys Patchell back.

Four years on from starting for Wales at the World Cup third place decider against the All Blacks on Page 2.



The Rugby Paper is the UK's number 1 selling newsstand rugby title and covers exclusive stories, match reports and features on a weekly basis.

It contains renowned journalists such as Nick Cain, Chris Hewett and Peter Jackson, and famous former international players as columnists including Jeremy Guscott and Jeff Probyn.

The Rugby Paper covers Rugby Union from national teams and Premiership / URC down to grass roots.

Attention, engagement & reach

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AUDIENCE PER ANNUM

1.1 million



IMPRESSIONS PER ANNUM

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29.4m



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1.3m



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640k

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IMPRESSIONS

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76.7%
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95.9%
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93.5%
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32.8%
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58%
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57%
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60%
PURCHASED SPORTS MERCHANDISE, GIFTS AND MEMORABILIA



55%
UNDERTOOK DIY

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Rugby Covered



JEREMY GUSCOTT

OUTSPOKEN AND UNMISSABLE... EVERY WEEK

Mentality of the players holds key

It's not surprising that the players who get the most out of the game are those who have the right mentality. It's not surprising that the players who get the most out of the game are those who have the right mentality. It's not surprising that the players who get the most out of the game are those who have the right mentality.

Everyone should look to improve and be brave - and that coaches as well as

England are in a difficult position. They need to improve and be brave. They need to improve and be brave. They need to improve and be brave.

Top Columnists

Letters

Cut Championship clubs some slack

It's not surprising that the players who get the most out of the game are those who have the right mentality. It's not surprising that the players who get the most out of the game are those who have the right mentality.

Sad not all fans can watch warm-ups

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Quins form partnership with Honda Heat

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News

Sanderson looking for an extra 12%

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Samson secures future with Warriors until 2026

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Hotel 'accident' rules out Scots ace Cherry

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Results

NATIONAL 2 NORTH	NATIONAL 2 EAST	NATIONAL 2 WEST
Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire
Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire

NATIONAL 3 NORTH	NATIONAL 3 EAST	NATIONAL 3 WEST
Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire
Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire

NATIONAL 4 NORTH	NATIONAL 4 EAST	NATIONAL 4 WEST
Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire
Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire 23-10 Bedfordshire

Feature

Smith's backing 'I've given everything I could to the game'



Ben Jackson reports on Peter Veevers' career and his plans for the future.

News

Wales still hopeful for Faletau's return

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Bernard takes reins of Ireland women

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Young heads for exit following investigation

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Cleall set for dual role at Harlequins

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We let everybody

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Rugby Championship

All Blacks pull Wallabies apart

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Match Reports

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Interviews

Ben Jackson

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Match Reports

down out there, adri

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RUGBY FACTS / THE MARKET...

112 Leagues affiliated to the RFU
1,224 Teams
30,000+ Players



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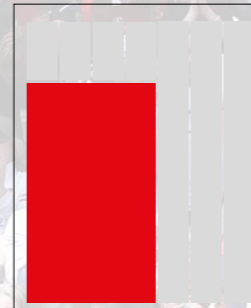
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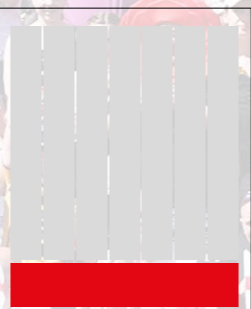
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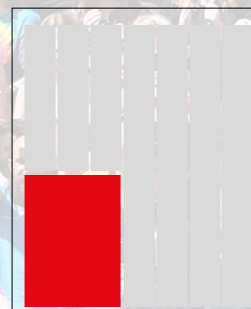
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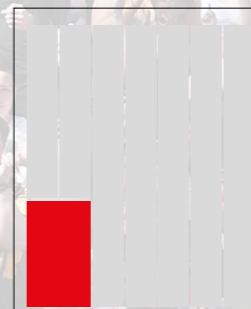
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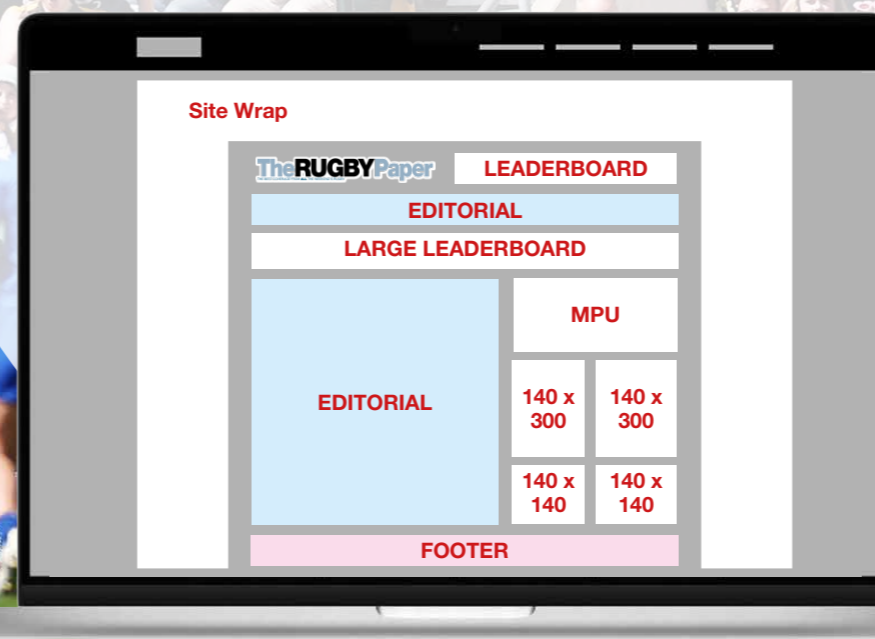
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