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Warren Gatland picks his award up in London last night

Gatland scoops top award after Lions success

4 December 2013, 10:49 am

By Sportsbeat



Warren Gatland has been named UK Coach of the Year following a successful tour of Australia that saw the Lions claim a series win for the first time in 16

The 50-year-old beat rivals including Lloyd Cowan, coach of world 400m athletics champion Christine Ohuruogu, and England netball coach Anna Mayes to pick up the high-performance Coach of the Year Award at the UK Coaching Awards 2013: supported by Gillette

Gatland led the British and Irish Lions so successfully in Australia and also helped Wales to win back-to-back RBS 6 Nations titles.

With the Lions series poised at 1-1 after two narrow encounters, Gatland's men hammered the Wallabies in the final match as they racked up 41 points in Sydney to secure victory in style.

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Gatland received his awards at a glittering ceremony at the Montcalm Hotel in London and joins a list of winners that in previous years have included Jessica Ennis-Hill's coach Toni Minichiello and England Cricket coach Andy Flower.

Gatland started coaching in the mid-1990s and since his player retirement in 1995, he went on to make a significant impact in the world of rugby union, coaching both the Irish and Welsh international teams and also making his mark in the Aviva Premiership with London Wasps.

Fellow rugby union coach Nick Walshe, player/backs coach for Bedford Blues and former Saracens player, was named Performance Development Coach of the Year.

The 2013 Gillette Great Starts' campaign celebrates community coaches and

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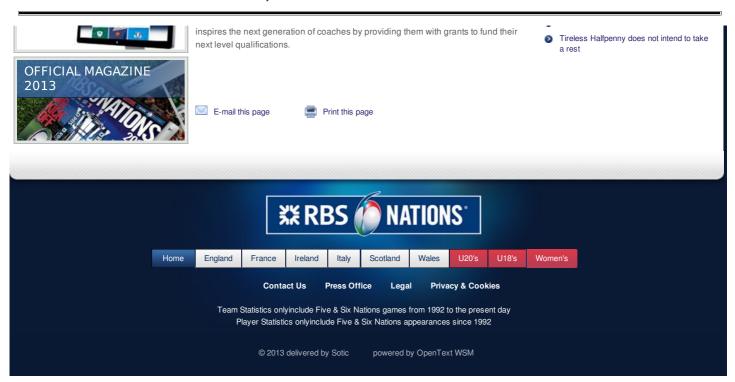
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