

THE CITIZEN

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1963

HOOKER NIGEL HALLS MAKES FIRST XV DEBUT AT NEATH

NO NEWCOMERS IN GLO'STER TEAM FOR OPENER

Nigel Halls, the young Longlevens hooker, makes his first-class debut for Gloucester in their tough first match against Neath away on Saturday.

Halls, who played for Gloucester's United side last season, is propped by the old firm of Alan Townsend and Jackie Fowke, whose elder brother, Roy is reserved.

Bob Smith make a return to the premier side in place of regular wing three-quarter Pete Meadows and for the rest the Gloucester team, led by new skipper Alan Holder at full-back, has a mixture-as-before look with Jeremy Taylor appearing at centre.

But the United, who open their season against Hereford with a 3.15 kick-off, at Kingsholm, have several new faces.

NEWCOMERS

Apart from the appearance of Mike Tocknell at full-back – replacing the departed Russell Hillier – the United has several newcomers in the pack.

Towcester prop, B. Kirton, is given a chance, along with ex-Army second row man, R. McDougall, a Gloucester-born player who has recently returned from service abroad.

Joining him in the second row is fiery R. Price, a Coney Hill forward.

The team is led by Peter Hawker in the middle of the back row with the brilliant Gary White and Phil Lane at wing forward.

THE TEAMS

GLOUCESTER: A. Holder; A. Osman, J. Bayliss, J. Taylor, R. Smith; T. Hopson, M. Booth; A. Townsend, N. Halls, J. Fowke, B. Hudson, A. Brinn, P. Ford, D. Owen, D. Smith. Reserves: R. Fowke, R. Nield, A. Davies (coach leaves Kingsholm at 10.15 a.m.).

UNITED: M. Tocknell; A. Nield, R. Pitt, G. Wright, P. Meadows; E. Stephens, G. Mace; J. Herbert, M. Nicholls, B. Kirton, R. McDougall, R. Price, G. White, P. Hawker (capt.), P. Lane. Reserves: H. Trumble, A. Nield.[*sic*]

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