

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1983

GLOUCESTER PUT ON THE STYLE

CLIFTON 6 Pts., GLOUCESTER 49 Pts.

Gloucester took advantage of a welcome easy fixture to try a few experiments. . . and produced nine tries.

There were four each for Nick Price and Dave Spencer with Derrick Morgan getting the other. And the place kicking was respectable, too, with Tim Smith slotting over four conversions and a penalty, while Mike Hamlin also landed a conversion.

Skipper Gordon Sargent, back in action after several weeks of injury, decided on an adventurous policy against the suburban Bristolians and although they battled gamely they were totally eclipsed.

Hero of the day for Gloucester was flanker Dave Spencer, an ever-present threat to Clifton in the loose. Refusing to relax just because the opposition was a pushover, he snatched chances that could easily have gone begging.

Delighted with his success, Spencer said afterwards: "We thought we had nothing to lose by trying out a few new ideas and running the ball a bit more. It was more of a training workout than a game.

"Gordon was pleased with the way we played, especially as we were short of so many regulars up front."

Indeed, Gloucester's only regular first-team forwards were Sargent and Spencer and the reserves must have given a full complement of selectors at the match plenty to think about.

Outstanding in the pack was prop Bob Phillips, who produced several breaks in the style of a wing forward and set up the first try which had Price running 50 yards to score.

At scrum half Rob Wilmott also gave a pleasing display despite some shaky passing early on. It was his soccer-style kick that gave Price his fourth try at the start of the second-half, and he also started the break which put Spencer over for the third time immediately afterwards.

JC