

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1984

ORWIN : 'GIVE ME THREE WEEKS TO GET FIT.'

SHOULDER THREAT TO COUNTY FINAL

GLOUCESTER 20 Pts., LIVERPOOL 4 Pts.

Lock John Orwin's gritty determination to score Gloucester's third try against the Merseysiders has probably cost him his County Championship final place next month.

As he charged over the Liverpool line in a classic tap penalty move, he dislocated a bone in his shoulder and had to go off. The injury, which left him with his right arm in a sling after the game, looks likely to put the powerful RAF captain out of action for the rest of the season.

But Orwin was doggedly determined to win the race against time and prove himself fit for the County Final against Somerset on March 31.

"It's a big setback but I think I can be playing again in three weeks," said Orwin.

"There are no broken bones so it is simply a matter of beating the pain. If I can do that, there's no reason why I should not be able to play a couple of club games for training before the final."

Even before Orwin's injury, Gloucester had made heavy weather of overcoming a spirited, but much-inferior Liverpool side.

While Gloucester were undoubted masters in the forward exchanges, the Merseysiders hopes were kept alive by their fast and entertaining backs who were always willing to run and pass, even from on their own line.

Leading the way in Gloucester's devastating loose play was, as usual, No. 8 Mike Teague. He scored the second try, soon after half time, when he controlled superbly at the back of a scrum to dribble the ball over the line and then make a cat-like scoring pounce.

The rock-solid front row of Sargent, Mills and Blakeway took its toll in the scrums and John Fidler was, as usual, the dominant figure in the line outs.

No surprise or disappointments, then, in the pack, but behind it there was much less to be pleased with although Richard Mogg made some incisive runs. Paul Taylor also worked hard and new winger Jim Breeze had a worthwhile first outing, bringing some cheer to the home fans with a long second-half break.

Mike Hamlin scored the first of Gloucester's tries before half-time when the Cherry and Whites were hampered by the strong wind.

Paul Webb missed the conversion kick and there was no further score until a few minutes into the second half when Teague's try, converted by Webb, extended the home lead to 10-0.

John Gadd got the third as a result of Orwin's bone-jarring run and Hamlin converted before Webb ran in the fourth try. This time Hamlin missed the kick.

In injury time, Liverpool's consolation try was scored by Peter Buckton with Mike Killen missing the conversion.

MAN OF THE MATCH: Mike Teague, a tornado in the loose.