

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1984

VICTORY FOR GLOUCESTER BUT. . .

COLD COMFORT AT KINGSHOLM

GLOUCESTER 16 Pts., WATERLOO 4 Pts.

Gloucester took a step in the right direction, but like a hospital patient rising from his bed for the first time, it was a very wobbly one indeed !

In quite the worst game of rugby played at Kingsholm this season, there was little pattern to a match littered with errors.

Gloucester's forwards eventually gained the upper hand and their efforts were enough to sink Waterloo who had a couple of good forwards and always tackled gamely.

Gloucester's John Orwin led by example and was the pick of the Cherry and White forwards who took some time to wear down Waterloo and call the tune.

But they became increasingly frustrated as the game progressed – no doubt disheartened by an alarmingly poor performance by the threequarters who were quite miserably off form.

Poor passes, dropped catches and wrong options were the order of things and the harder they tried the worse it became !

But if a team can play poorly and still win things can't be all that bad – though it does not say much for Waterloo.

There is some despondency among supporters who are well aware that Gloucester can play much better than this. They appear to be trapped between their traditional driving forward play and the desire to move the ball swiftly as often as possible.

Granted they are not at full strength at the moment. They have a couple of easier fixtures this week, but with Pontypool, Harlequins and Newport in the offing they will need to improve rapidly to achieve any measure of success.

Anyone caught in two minds at Pontypool Park on October 10 could be buried !

Gloucester full-back Peter Wickenden enjoyed a sound game and in a disjointed first half contributed the only points with a penalty goal.

A clash in the colour of the jerseys caused some concern for teams, referee and supporters, but with no others available everyone had to soldier on and things began to brighten up when right-wing Jim Breeze raced away close to touch for a good try which Wickenden converted with a splendid kick.

It was mostly Gloucester now and there were hopes of a late flourish, but it was not to be.

Waterloo missed two penalty chances before Gloucester scored again, Wickenden kicking his second penalty.

Flanker Jeff Hay was left unmarked to flop over for a try from the back of a line-out but Waterloo's recovery was shortlived.

Gloucester's forwards reasserted themselves and prop forward Richard Pascal put the finishing touch to a scrambled forward drive for an unconverted try.

MAN OF THE MATCH : No takers this week !

UNITED WIN

CAERLEON 18 Pts. GLOUCESTER UNITED 28 Pts.

United travelled to Wales and added another scalp to their list and pass the 200 points mark this season.

Well served by their forwards, where the back row of skipper Paul Wood, Gerry Bennett and Dave Scott were prominent, United were able to create a good platform.

United built a 15-12 half-time lead.

Tries were scored by wingers Derek Morgan and Nick Price with Paul Wood also going over.

United were also awarded a penalty try for obstruction.

Full-back Paul Ford kicked three conversions and two penalties. Caerleon replied with a goal and four penalties.

JC