

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1984

MORGAN HAT-TRICK LIFTS GLOUCESTER

GLOUCESTER 36 PTS., CLIFTON 13 PTS.

Gloucester ran in eight tries to overwhelm a Clifton side that three days earlier tasted defeat from Coney Hill in the County Cup.

The Kingsholm side had nine players out of action through injury and representative calls but it made little difference as they rattled up four tries in the first 20 minutes.

A steady supply of possession from the forwards was used clinically in the initial period by a threequarter line more than a class above the opposition. As the game progressed, however, the Gloucester effort faded and although tries came at regular intervals, passes began to be fumbled and support work diminished.

Right winger Derrick Morgan opened Gloucester's account with the first of three tries from just five touches of the ball in the first half.

The score followed a classy break from Mike Hamlin, carried on by Russ Ellis and acting skipper Paul Wood, who shone throughout with a wholehearted display in the loose.

The conversion was missed by Paul Ford, who had a nightmarish match at full-back. He went on to miss five more conversions and a penalty – admittedly none of them easy – and could do nothing right in defence or attack.

Gloucester stretched ahead in the early period with tries from Nigel Scrivens, barging over from a tap penalty, Morgan's second and a score from Russ Ellis after Nick Price made the opening.

Clifton full-back Fred Sagoe, by far the pick of the visiting side, pulled six points back with two penalties, but Gloucester changed gear again and Larry Cummins touched down after a surging drive from the pack, followed by Morgan completing his second hat-trick in a week with another corner try.

After the interval Gloucester went off the boil. John Brain remained dominant in the line-out, but Clifton took their share of the ball from tight play and set up a try for Mark Wilcox, converted by Sagoe.

Scrivens scored his second try of the match, peeling around a line-out, and Nick Price completed the scoring with a deserved try after an aggressive afternoon on the wing.

He crossed the field to take a generous pass from fellow winger Morgan who could just as easily have scored himself.

Gloucester: P. Ford; D. Morgan, C. Dyke, R. Ellis, N. Price; M. Hamlin, M. Hannaford; P. Jones, G. Mann, R. Phillips, N. Scrivens, J. Brain, P. Wood (capt.), I. Smith, L. Cummins.

Clifton: F. Sagoe; M. Wilcox, J. Masters, T. Robinson, A. Haines; M. Roddick, M. Trott; M. Lewis, M. Williams, S. Hucker, P. Brown (capt.), D. Wiggin, M. Nangreave, M. Crook, D. Mason.
Replacement: N. Baker for A. Haines after 65 minutes.

Referee: Mr. R. G. Wildash (Dorset and Wilts. Soc.).

MAN OF THE MATCH: Paul Wood – 100 percent effort from the start.

JC