

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1984

JUST BOOT-IFUL SAYS SMITH

ROSSLYN PARK 12 PTS., GLOUCESTER 34 PTS.

A new pair of boots – half a size too small – sparked full-back Tim Smith's best performance of the season for Gloucester at Priory Lane.

Smith mislaid his boots after training last Thursday and had to dash out to buy a new pair for the Rosslyn Park match. The purchase proved a big success as Smith scored 22 points, his biggest total of the season.

It was a marvellous display which lifted his tally to 35 points in the two matches since he was recalled to first team duty.

But there was no easy ride for Gloucester. They eventually won by three goals, a try and four penalties to a goal and two penalties, but only after a first half of pure frustration.

Gloucester arrived only 15 minutes before kick-off and spent the first half trying to shake off the lethargy of a long journey. After half-an-hour they were trailing 12-0 and looked a sorry bunch indeed.

Park matched the Cherry and Whites in the scrum plus dominating in the line-out.

It was only a temporary problem, though, as Gloucester began to show more aggression and hit back to earn their third successive win.

The pack took complete control and provided enough ball for the three-quarters to run Park ragged.

Winger Andy Richards had limped off with an ankle injury during the first half and skipper John Orwin followed with a thigh strain soon after the interval, but the loss of those two made little difference to a second half display that swept Park aside.

Scrum-half Marcus Hannaford provided the service and the three-quarters produced a much improved display. They were criticised after the midweek win against Abertillery, but this time they passed and handled well in a series of flowing moves.

The result was a third successive win in which Gloucester have scored 30 points or more.

Penalties kicked by full-back John Graves put Rosslyn Park on top and then Jim Agar scored a try which Graves converted.

TROUBLE

Gloucester looked in trouble, but gradually they took over. Smith was on target with three penalties to put Gloucester back in touch by half-time and two minutes after the break he levelled the scores.

Good work by Orwin and fly-half Mike Hamlin set up Smith for a try after 45 minutes and he converted to put the visitors 18-12 ahead.

With Park now in disarray, Gloucester pressed forward. Replacement Paul Ford ran onto a great kick by Hamlin to touch down and the winger Nick Price went over for a try that Smith converted.

A quality, flowing try which sent centre Russ Ellis racing through to score took Gloucester past the 30 mark and Smith added the extra two points.

The match had started badly for Gloucester, but when the three-quarters cut loose during the second half Londoners Rosslyn Park were buried.

Rosslyn Park: Graves; Carr, Snook, Agar, Sainters; Jermyn, Henderson (G); Kingston, Timmons, Henderson (S), Winfield, Heaton, Taylor (Peter), Hill, Brookes. Edwards replaced Brookes.

Gloucester: Smith (T); Richards, Taylor (Paul), Ellis, Price; Hamlin, Hannaford; Preedy, White, Pascall, Orwin, Brain, Bennett, Smith, Teague. Longstaff replaced Orwin, Ford replaced Richards.

Referee: G. Hewett (London).

MAN OF THE MATCH: Tim Smith. . . for the second successive game.

UNITED MARCH ON

GLOUCESTER UNITED 66 PTS., CREDITON 12 PTS.

Gloucester United took their unbeaten run to 13 matches with this runaway win against Crediton. They have now scored more than 400 points, conceding only 94.

Crediton, making their first visit to Kingsholm, were outclassed. United ran in 13 tries with the forwards claiming eight of them. Winger Pdraig Conway, playing his first game in two years for United, scored two tries.

The United forwards were dominant, with the front row of Peter Jones, Glyn Mann and Rob Phillips prominent. United built a 36-6 half-time lead with tries by Andy Stanley (2), Dave Spencer (2), Phillips and Conway and Derek Morgan. Full back Peter Wickenden kicked four conversions.

Further tries for United were scored by Spencer, to complete his hat-trick, Lock Nigel Scrivens, skipper Paul Wood and Morgan with full back Peter Wickenden crossing for a try and adding three conversions to take his tally to 18 pts.