

THE CITIZEN

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1985

WINGERS CAN LIFT GLO'STER

Gloucester will look to flying wingers Nick Price and Derrick Morgan for the tries to carry the club into the semi-finals of the John Player Rugby Cup tomorrow.

More than 6,000 people are expected to watch the tie against Harlequins at Kingsholm (3 pm) when Price and Morgan aim to extend their superb run of scoring.

Price, Gloucester's leading try scorer on 20 and Morgan, who has 17, are thriving in a settled three-quarter line that has been unchanged for 12 matches. The understanding between the wingers, plus centres Paul Taylor and Richard Mogg, is growing match by match.

"Playing together regularly has been a tremendous help to all four of us," says Price, who joined Gloucester from Old Cryptians in November 1980. Derek and I have been scoring the tries, but we would be nowhere without Richard Mogg, Paul Taylor and the other lads."

"As a three-quarter line we are improving steadily and playing a constructive part in some useful Gloucester performances."

Price and Morgan, who both scored in earlier Player Cup ties against Richmond and Saracens are continuing form they showed last season, when their first team try tally was 27 and 25 respectively.

Gloucester are only two matches away from their fourth Twickenham final – having won the trophy outright twice and shared it once – and a third successive home draw against London opposition is a major boost to their hopes. The Cherry and Whites have already beaten Richmond (29-6) and Saracens (29-3) on their way to this stage.

The sniff of Player Cup success at Kingsholm is attracting television and radio. Harlech Television will show recorded highlights, while Radio Two plan live broadcasts from the tie.

Harlequins, who stay in a Ross hotel tonight, had their hopes rocked last night when American winger Willie Jefferson failed a fitness test on his leg injury. Former Bath player Jonathan Sargent has been called into the side.

Gloucester United play Nottingham second team at Gloucester Civil Service ground tomorrow, with a noon kick-off.

SID COMES HOME

Harlequins team secretary Sid Richardson sees tomorrow's John Player Cup tie against Gloucester as a trip home.

Richardson comes from Brierley in the Forest of Dean and said: "It is many years since I moved away to London, but I still like to visit the area. I used to go and watch Gloucester play, but I know who will win tomorrow. It has to be 'Quins."

JC