

ROSS 8 – 0 HEREFORD C 11/2/2006

Forwards Find Form

There are two ways of looking at the 8-0 thrashing that Ross Mens 1st XI inflicted on visitors Hereford C in their Gerrard Hereford and Gloucester League Division Two fixture last Saturday. One interpretation is that it was merely a reflection of the teams' respective league positions; Ross third from top and Hereford third from bottom. Another view – and a much more positive one from a Ross perspective – is that it marked a return to their early season goal scoring form by the recently out of sorts Ross strikers.

However, for the first thirty minutes of the first half, the game unfolded in a depressingly familiar fashion. Mitch Greenman – now established as one of the best goalkeepers in the league – had little to do as the typically accomplished Ross defence of James Adamson, Tim Jones, Edward Peck and Greg Weston dealt easily with the rather toothless Hereford attack. In midfield, a rotating line-up of Steve Evans, Sam Warner, debutant Christian Franklin, Lawrence Raasch, Phil Evans and Brian Clare worked hard to exert consistent pressure in and around the Hereford 'D'. However, neither Adrian Williams nor Andy Ridgway could find the net.

Indeed, it was left to new boy Franklin to open the scoring for Ross. This strike seemed to give the home team much more confidence in front of goal and Captain Ridgway added a second just before half-time. After the break, now back to his robust best, Ridgway cracked home two more powerful shots for his hat-trick. Not to be outdone, Williams then put on a display of glorious goal-poaching, pushing the ball home three times from very close range. Finally, in last minutes of the game, Franklin pounced for his second and Ross' eight. Ross will need all of this re-discovered attacking prowess to be in evidence next week when they visit top of the table Newent A.

Christian Franklin was voted Brabo Man of the Match for an impressive start to his Ross career and thanks are due to umpires Andy Cross and John Setchfield.

Hereford & Glos 2			
Cheltenham C	1	Lydney A	2
Glos City D	0	Cirencester C	0
Lansdown C	3	Wotton-u-Edge B	2
Newent B	1	Cheltenham D	1
Ross on Wye	8	Hereford C	0
Winchcombe	1	Newent A	2

Hereford & Glos 2	Pl	W	D	L	For	Agn	Diff	Pts
Newent A	17	16	0	1	83	16	67	48
Lydney A	16	14	1	1	74	16	58	43
Ross on Wye	17	13	1	3	61	25	36	40
Cheltenham C	17	10	3	4	65	34	31	33
Winchcombe	17	10	2	5	57	36	21	32
Lansdown C	17	10	1	6	50	32	18	31
Cheltenham D	17	5	2	10	34	52	-18	17
Wotton-u-Edge B	16	5	1	10	24	45	-21	16
Newent B	17	2	3	12	28	69	-41	9
Hereford C	16	3	0	13	17	63	-46	9
Glos City D	17	1	4	12	14	59	-45	7
Cirencester C	16	1	2	13	17	77	-60	5