

# **GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1923.**

**THE WORLD OF SPORT.**

**KEEN GAME AT NORTHAMPTON.**

**CITY WIN BY THREE POINTS.**

The City journeyed away for the first time this season on Saturday, when they were visitors to Northampton. Both teams were well represented, and a keen game resulted, Gloucester coming out winners by one try (3 points) to nil.

Luck kicked off for Northampton and from the first scrum Gloucester secured the ball and the threes got going. Collins, Hughes and Millington all handled nicely, and the latter broke through cleverly, and on being tackled fed Brown, who had no difficulty in touching down for a try. Millington was unsuccessful with the goal-kick.

With the visitors three points up in the first few minutes, Northampton attacked strongly, but the defence was sound and the rush was checked. A wet ball caused frequent mistakes in handling, but despite this the City worked well into the home half before they were stopped.

A rush by the home forwards changed matters and Sambrook kicked over the Gloucester line, and James, in attempting to clear, sent the ball into touch near the line.

This put the homesters in an excellent position, and the City had to fight hard to prevent a score until Millington, with a beautiful kick, eased the pressure and sent play to midfield. Hughes then broke away and got in a clever run before passing to Voyce. The international was well attended, however, and was collared cleverly.

Midfield play followed, in which penalties for infringements at the scrum were frequent, but there was not much in it on either side until Sambrook, getting possession in the loose, dashed away.

On being challenged by James he relinquished to Binyon, who gave to Layman. The latter, however, was pushed into touch-in-goal at the critical moment.

After this lucky escape, Gloucester got to the home 25, and here Hughes was nearly through, but he was stopped in time and eventually play went to the other end. Half-time came with the score unchanged.

On the resumption good work by the City forwards, in which Voyce was prominent, gave Gloucester the advantage, but they could not hold to their position, and Northampton worked past the half-way line.

Play became very keen now, with the home team playing desperately to knock off the arrears, and the City defence had some very anxious moments until a drop-out relieved the pressure. Inter-passing by Uren and Barron looked dangerous for Gloucester, but good defensive work saved the situation.

The home forwards came back to the attack, and following a rush the City were forced to touch down, the drop-out enabling them to get to the middle. Here they were penalised and Dyer got in some good kicks, which gained a large slice of ground.

Towards the end Northampton came very near scoring on more than one occasion, and Gloucester were lucky to escape. In the last few minutes Gloucester attacked, but the home defence held and the end came with the City winners.

The game was contested throughout with great vigour, and in the latter half the home team had much the better of things, their frequent strong attacks giving the City a great deal of trouble, and there is no doubt that the visitors were lucky to return to Gloucester with the result in their favour.

The condition of the ground and ball made passing difficult, but, nevertheless, some pretty movements were seen, that which led up to Gloucester's try being beautifully executed.

Both packs played well and a terrific struggle forward was witnessed. Collins and Hughes, at half-back, worked together finely and made numerous openings, while Millington and Brown were the pick of the three-quarters. James did much better at back, his tackling and kicking being a distinct improvement on his previous displays.

For Northampton, Dyer, at full-back, and Uren and Sambrook were continually in the picture.

To-day (Saturday) the City entertain the London Harlequins at Kingsholm.

The following are the teams : –

Gloucester. – Back, R. James; Three-quarters, N. Daniell, S. Stone, T. Millington (captain), and S. Brown; Half-backs, W. Collins and E. Hughes; Forwards, A. Hall, T. Voyce, S. Bayliss, T. Coulson, J. Merry, H. Collier, F. Ayliffe, P. Carter, and G. Holford (selected from).

Harlequins. – Back, W. H. Wainwright; Three-quarters, B. L. Jacot, R. Briggs, A. L. Gracie, and J. C. Gibbs; Half-backs, V. G. Davies (captain) and H. B. Style; Forwards, T. L. Lowe, P. W. Adams, W. R. F. Collins, Gavin Young, S. P. Simpson, C. D. Adams, J. M. Currie, and G. R. Rougier. Reserve: A. T. Maxwell.