

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1929

GLOUCESTER v. OXFORD UNIVERSITY GREYHOUNDS.

It was a pity Thursday's match at Kingsholm for the benefit of the Royal Infirmary was not better supported. Enthusiasts who stayed away missed a delightful game – the most spectacular display seen at Kingsholm this season.

The scoring was remarkable, for after being 12 points down at the interval the Greyhounds made a remarkable recovery, and scoring four tries in quick succession as the result of splendid movements, they took the lead five minutes before the finish – 16 points to 15. Gloucester, in a desperate effort for victory, obtained a dropped goal, and finally won by three points.

With the exception of Hemming the City played full strength, but after their first-half efforts the team faded away, and they were more or less outplayed by their younger and more virile opponents.

Outweighted forward, the Greyhounds were generally beaten for possession in the scrums, but they heeled repeatedly from the loose, and forwards and backs handled beautifully at times. The intensive backing up, too, was a lesson to the home players. The exhibition of the University students greatly pleased the spectators, and local enthusiasts will be delighted to hear they will visit Kingsholm again next season.

The Gloucester backs displayed capital form in the first half, James making several brilliant runs, whilst McCanlis was also on his toes, and broke through in fine style. But the old Oxford player finished badly, and erratic transfers to Loveridge robbed the latter of two or three

tries. The City also fumbled other good openings. Loveridge showed plenty of dash on the right wing, and he scored one very good try.

At half-back Price gave a good service at times, but at others his passes were badly directed, and he would do well to give attention to this weakness. His understanding with Stephens, too, was not of the best. The latter distinguished himself with some capital efforts, and his dropped goal which won the match was cleverly obtained. Like the forwards, the backs fell off in the second half, and some of the tackling was none too good.

Boughton did not have much of a pull over the visiting custodian (Swift), whose fielding was remarkably safe. The Greyhounds' attacks were persistent and effective in the second half, and all the three-quarters shone. Taylor and Davies (the respective wings) were credited with two tries each, and both showed pace and dash.

Lovegrove, at centre, has the eye for an opening, and he would be very useful to Gloucester. He had promised to play against Cheltenham to-day, but had to decline as he was wanted for the Greyhounds against Edgware.

The gate receipts at Thursday's match was £48 odd, but this sum will be augmented by £10, the Greyhounds generously forgoing the guarantee offered them, and asking that it should be handed over to the Infirmary. Needless to say, the action of the visitors was greatly appreciated by the Gloucester Club Committee, and Mr. Bourne (who takes charge of the Greyhounds team) was heartily thanked.

The Oxford players expressed themselves delighted with the game, and I think this was the general feeling of the City team and spectators.

**JC**