

THE CITIZEN

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1961

LIGHT BLUES' SPEED BEAT GLOUCESTER

SCORE KEPT DOWN BY DETERMINED TACKLING

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY 14Pts., GLOUCESTER NIL

Speed beat Gloucester, but Cherry and White determination in tackling, particularly in the centre, prevented Cambridge University from running up a cricket score at Grange-rd., yesterday.

But the biggest failure of the day for the travel-weary Gloucester (sitting in a coach for five hours is not the best overture to an important game) was their pack which more often than not failed to heel quickly enough, even when Mike Nicholls got the strike, to allow the backs time for constructive moves.

John Spalding (scrum-half), Mace (fly-half) and the threes were all operating under pressure throughout.

Nevertheless John Bayliss did manage one thrilling 30-yard run and a long soccer dribble, neither of which produced a score, of course, but which kept the Cherry and White flag flying.

RAZOR-KEEN WORK

And it was not only that the weighty Gloucester pack was out-pushed for the strike, but also failed most notably in the line-outs where some razor-keen work by B. E. Thomas, the Neath forward, was virtually unbeatable.

There will have to be some heart searching before future pack selections.

Obviously Mick Booth would have made a great difference although he would have operated under pressure too and no doubt envied the excellent Trevor Wintle his prompt possession.

Hopson's incisive speed was also missed at fly-half, but it must be remembered that Mace as much as anyone was suffering from the sins of the Gloucester front row.

The first half was territorially in favour of Cambridge, whose flying wing three-quarter, Martin, scored two tries.

PACK ORGANISED

The second half looked as if it would follow a similar pattern until Alan Townsend got the Gloucester pack organised for some strong line-marking play in the middle period.

M. R. Wade, the Cambridge centre, was always a threat but never broke through, thanks to the close marking of Bayliss.

Cambridge then owe much to their pack and the masterful play of Thomas, Owen and Stroud's Collier but a desire by their backs to be too fancy led to decisive tackles by Gloucester.

Martin and wing forward Greenwood added tries, Wade converting one.