

THE CITIZEN

FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1962

SECOND HALF SCORING BURST ASSURED WIN FOR GLOUCESTER

GLOUCESTER 17 Pts., CHELTENHAM 3 Pts.

As expected, Gloucester repeated their October win over near neighbours Cheltenham at Kingsholm last night, but it was not until the second half that they looked really dominant.

Gloucester made heavy weather of the first half and although having the better of the play, lacked the thrust necessary to score. Terry Hopson, in particular, had a bad patch. He often held on too long.

He did, however, make amends in the second half when Gloucester really settled down to play rugby and some excellent threequarter movements had the Cheltenham team somewhat bemused.

The 18-year-old Gloucester schoolboy from Sir Thomas Rich's School, Brian Smith, came through his baptism of fire with honours, showing promise when in possession.

INJURED

It was unfortunate that he had to leave the field mid-way through the second half, with a back injury, but he did return after 10 minutes to take up the full-back berth with Crouch moving up into the Cheltenham threequarters.

Inside 12 minutes both teams were reduced to 14 men, Wright being taken off with a hand injury for Cheltenham and Dick Smith leaving the Gloucester team with a twisted ankle.

A flying start by Gloucester saw Timms go over to open the scoring.

EQUALISING TRY

Cheltenham were determined to be no walk-over, however, and near the close of the first half, from a line-out 25 yards from the Gloucester line, Truss battled his way to the line to even the score.

From the kick off in the second half Gloucester three-quarters began to show more fire. Terry Hopson picked up a loose ball, drew the defenders and passed to Timms who had a clear run to score Gloucester's second try. Minutes later Ford forced his way over to add another try which Hillier, on his sixth attempt from place kicks, converted.

HOLDER CROSSES

Next to go through the Cheltenham defence was Alan Holder who gathered the ball from the loose to run through.

Cheltenham retaliated, but before the final whistle, Holder again gathered the ball and side-stepping defenders he manoeuvred himself into position to place a drop kick over the bar from 25 yards out.

The game ended with Hillier having scored from only one of seven place kicks.

THE TEAMS

Gloucester: R. Hillier; P. Meadows, A. Holder, J. Lowe, R. Timms; T. Hopson, J. Spalding; A. Townsend, K. Taylor, J. Herbert, R. Long, B. Hudson, P. Ford, T. Davies, D. Smith.

Reserves: J. Spalding, E. Stephens, J. Bayliss, P. Lane, A. Ricketts.

Cheltenham: J. Crouch; R. T. Bassett, D. N. Brookes, G. Wright, N. Foice; B. A. Smith, M. J. Davies; J. Wood, R. J. Cloke, D. J. Solomon, W. Say, C. Wiggins, B. Pool, J. T. Truss, D. Prothero.

Referee: Mr. A. Williams (Newport).