

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1962

WEAK HANDLING LOST GLOUCESTER THEIR CHANCE

DEVONPORT SERVICES 18PTS., GLOUCESTER 3PTS.

Gloucester had enough chances to win their away game with Devonport Services easily. Instead they lost by a penalty goal to three goals and a penalty goal to a lively Services' side, who showed about their best form this season.

Gloucester had plenty of the ball, especially in the early stages when they won most of the set scrums. But careless handling in the centre blunted the edge of their attack.

If these could have been pressed home at this stage, when Services defence looked far from steady, the result might have been different.

In the loose, wing-forward Peter Ford and lock Tony Davis ranged fast and far, and Alan Holder and Jackie Lowe got in some judicious kicking.

SHOCK ATTACKS

But what discouraged Gloucester most of all was the failure of full-back, Russell Hillier, with three fairly easy penalty kicks at goal. When he did register Gloucester's only score it was from right in front of the posts on the 25.

Gloucester seemed to be getting on top when, in a couple shock attacks after 15 minutes, Services put themselves 10 points ahead. First their rangy lock forward Simon Palmer scooped up a bouncing ball in his own half and galloped untouched for a try which John Harries easily converted.

Within two minutes the England trialist Mike Peary brushed through the centre for another try, which Mike Taylor converted.

Hillier's penalty goal was the signal for a burst of Gloucester activity, early in the second half, and Tony Davis was twice over, but could not touch down.

Then Taylor kicked a penalty goal for Services and wing-forward Colin Hewitt crashed over for a try, which Taylor converted with a splendid kick from the touch-line.

JC