

# THE CITIZEN

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1962

HANDLING MOVEMENTS DELIGHT TO SEE ;

BRILLIANT TEAM PLAY BY GLOUCESTER

GLOUCESTER 22PTS., U A U 9PTS.

In the past two matches Gloucester have produced more handling than in the past two seasons.

This may be a slight exaggeration but the feeling one now has about the "Cherry and Whites" is that they are as strong behind the scrum as in it. And this is a boast nobody, no matter how partisan, could have made before this season.

Not being in on the innermost politics of the team, I can only assume that this resurgence of back play after seasons of splendid forward form, is in a measure due to skipper Mick Booth's promise of brighter Rugby.

## NO CHANGES

This and the arrival of form of the back division – last night there were no exceptions – with Alan Holder, Peter Meadows, Gary Mace, Ron Pitt, Tony Osman, Richard Clutterbuck and Mick Booth all providing the kind of play which suggests there should be no changes for at least a few games.

Of last night's newcomers to this season's premier side, Gary Mace at centre and Mike Nicholls at hooker one can have nothing but praise.

And Mike Nicholls particularly was a great embarrassment to his U A U counterpart, T. Boyd, whom he out-hooked consistently, achieving vital heels against the head so often that they became commonplace.

## THE NEW ERA

We had, rightly, expected that U A U would be more than a match for Gloucester. Perhaps, meeting the Gloucester of past seasons, they would have been. But, don't forget, this is the new deal, this is the era of the hand.

A couple of seasons ago I said that one of the Universities used Gloucester for practice. I have been waiting to say the same for Gloucester ever since, and last night the home side did just that.

They seemed able to dictate from the first whistle, and the handling assurance was even greater than on Saturday.

Hal Symonds, at lock (who was later to move to the threes because of centre Ron Pitt's injury), opened the scoring in the 7th minute with a try which illustrates the new deal.

Tony Osman passed to Booth, who kicked; Peter Ford caught the kick and sent Symonds over for the try which Holder converted.

In the 12th minute Pitt achieved a couple of prodigious side-steps, which saw him through the U A U defence for a second try, which Holder again converted.

## HUDSON SUPERB

Then U A U came back with a try by Huw Jones from a close line-out.

This was one of the few line-outs which Gloucester lost, by the way. Brian Hudson was jumping superbly.

Then just before the interval Ford sent Meadows over for an unconverted try.

Holder set up the next try for Osman in his own half, ran diagonally across the field and placed a kick beautifully for Osman to race over and touch down by the corner flag.

U A U woke up half way through the second half with the result that S. G. Hutton, their centre, was able to cross from a close lineout the visitors had achieved after one of their comparatively rare entries into Gloucester territory.

Then Gloucester, of course, had to reply and this time it was fly-half Richard Clutterbuck who took the ball on his own from a scrum, ran inside the U A U defending centres and scored the most popular try of the evening.

#### FINISHED WITH 14

Mace scored another after one of his dodging runs and the evening's scoring was rounded off by U A U whose centre, Hutton, added a corner flag try after receiving from winger J. Mawby.

Ron Pitt was unlucky to pull a muscle in this game but that excellent all-rounder, Hal Symonds, stepped ably into the breach to continue his great work with the backs.

Again, in fact, Gloucester finished a victorious game with only 14 men.

Gloucester resembled Bristol at their best throughout this game. I wonder who they will resemble when they actually meet Bristol away on Saturday ?

#### THE LINE-UP

Gloucester: A. Holder; P. Meadows, G. Mace, R. Pitt, A. Osman; R. Clutterbuck, M. Booth (capt.); K. Wilson, M. Nicholls, J. Fowke, R. Long, B. Hudson, P. Ford, H. Symonds, D. Smith.

U A U: R. Walker; R. Impett, J. Mawby, S. G. Hutton, B. Jones;  
B. Jenkins, R. Hill; H. Jones, J. Boyd, C. Jones, K. Baggs, J. G. Evans,  
C. Holmes, J. Mandle, G. B. Myers.

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