

# THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1962

## GLOUCESTER TRIUMPH

### HOLDER SNAPPED UP VICTORY CHANCE

MOSELEY NIL., GLOUCESTER 5PTS.

No-one can dispute the fact that Gloucester, fielding nine reserves, had the chips stacked against them at the Reddings on Saturday, but with grim determination and the helping hand of Lady Luck they managed to pull off this "skin-of-the-teeth" victory.

It was not until the last five minutes that Gloucester tasted real success when they were lucky enough to click a chain of circumstances into a try. The Cherry and Whites had kicked to touch and, soon after the line out, a five yard scrum was ordered.

### DIFFERENCE

But there was little significance in this, for innumerable five yard scrums had taken pace during the game with no tries following them – yet this one proved a scrum with a difference.

As soon as the ball came out the Gloucester forwards broke in such a speedy fashion that Moseley were, for a second, caught unawares. They covered everywhere they could, but were forced on their heels and when full back John Hickin fumbled the ball Gloucester's fly-half skipper, Alan Holder, flung himself down on top of it for three points.

Hopes for a conversion were not very high, although the kick was taken almost directly in front of the posts; Moseley's Bowen had missed a similarly positioned penalty earlier and every previous place kick had failed.

But Russell Hillier booted cleanly between the uprights to add the extra points for Gloucester's 5pts-nil victory.

## FUMBLED

Ragged passing between the Moseley threequarters had let them down badly; they had all the speed any line of backs could have wished for, but on two occasions in the second half a try was on the cards until the last pass was either fumbled or simply dropped.

Gloucester scrum-half Garry Mace gave an excellent service to the threequarters during the initial stages, but as the game turned from offensive to defensive as far as Gloucester was concerned no one in either the back division or the pack really distinguished himself.

It was an interesting and, at times, an exciting game but there was little constructive play of classic Rugby tactics.

A greasy ball can, to a certain extent, be held responsible, but it seemed that neither Gloucester nor Moseley really gave of their best.

### GLOUCESTER UNITED GRAB LATE WIN

GLOUCESTER UNITED ..... 12 Pts.

MOSELEY UNITED ..... 11 Pts.

A penalty goal in the dying minutes by skipper Peter Hawker gave Gloucester United a narrow, but deserved victory over Moseley United at Kingsholm after the visitors had made much of the early running.

Though often beaten for possession in the scrums, Gloucester atoned with excellent work in the lines-out, where Tony Davis jumped to good effect, and some splendid foraging in the loose, with Mike Maybury always seen to advantage.

The re-arranged back division was an immediate success, scrum-half Johnny Spalding throwing out an impeccable service to Eric Stephens, moved from centre to outside-half. In the latter's place at centre Eddie Wakefield, the Tredworth player, tested the visitors' defence with his clever, forceful running, while Bob Smith had a splendid game on the wing.

Hawker kicked two penalty goals for Gloucester, with Wakefield and Bob Smith scoring unconverted tries. Flanagan, Jones and Smallwood crossed for Moseley, Owen converting one.

JC