

# THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1962

GLO'STER EVEN DESERVED BIGGER MARGINAL WIN !

GLOUCESTER 19PTS., BATH 3PTS.

Against all odds, Gloucester produced entertaining Rugby at Kingsholm on Saturday. All odds? It was a local derby and the ball was greasy. Neither generally factors which contribute to enterprising open play. And although Gloucester's opposition may not have been up to their standard, there was certainly a good deal of handling in this lightweight match.

All of which emphasises that skipper Mickie Booth's declared policy of open play at all costs is still very much alive.

Those who stayed away from Kingsholm missed a diverting match and, if it was the broadcast of the County match on radio which kept them at home, they also missed an enthusiastic but miniature version of the "Kingsholm Roar" which went up when the radio commentator stated that Lydney's John Hampton had crossed in extra time!

But, against that kind of opposition, Gloucester should have scored more points than they did.

In the first half Terry Hopson, the Gloucester fly-half, went over for a fine try from a tap penalty pass by Booth.

MORE RELAXED

Their wing forward, David Gilbert-Smith, crossed for Booth to convert and his partner, Gary White, scored another unconverted try just before the interval. Gloucester led by 11-0 at half-time.

Gloucester were more relaxed in the second half; with the result that their open moves looked a good deal more expert.

Dave Owen, at lock forward, scored a try which Jeremy Taylor converted.

Bath's winger, John Edwards, was the sole scorer with an unconverted try.

But the very best move of the day came from Gloucester's old-time centre, Jeremy Taylor, who produced a particularly fine break which started the move that put winger Tony Osman over.

#### TYPICAL RUN

The break by Taylor was typical of several he achieved. He seems to have acquired a greatly improved technique since his departure from the club two years ago.

His side-step emphasised the weakness of his partner, Ron Pitt, whose technique of late has too often been to run in possession and, if necessary, carry two or three members of the opposition on his shoulders!

I anticipate that he may be asked to partner John Bayliss in the centre before long.

#### UNITED WERE MASTERS

BATH UTD. .... 3PTS.  
GLOUCESTER UTD. .... 11PTS.

Although they arrived at Bath a quarter of an hour late with only 14 men, and without a linesman, Gloucester United were full value for their victory.

Bath United started promisingly but made the fatal mistake of attempting to handle in miserable conditions.

Gloucester cashed in from an early ill-advised handling movement. A dropped pass in the middle and they were on the home line; a couple of scrums, and Stephens, taking his time, casually dropped a goal.

A great 50-yards run by Mace saw the visitors gain a 6pts. lead by half-time, when he sent Owen in with a fine unconverted try.

Mace was always a thorn in the side of Bath flesh. Late in the game he made another great run right through the Bath side and whilst he was unlucky to be tackled a few yards from the home line, the resultant move put Gloucester right on the home line again.

They increased their lead through Timms – at that time, when Bath was only 3pts. behind, since Leyshon had reduced their half-time advantage immediately on the restart with an unconverted try for Bath. Hillier converted Timms' try.

Gloucester were usually on top, and in drier conditions, might have done even better.

JC