

THE CITIZEN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1963

RUGBY AT ITS BEST IN KINGSHOLM THRILLER

'VARSITY'S SECOND HALF BLITZ GROUNDED RAF

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY 32 pts. RAF 8 pts.

Collegiate Rugby hit Gloucester after a long absence yesterday and brought with it a fine feeling that almost anything could be achieved providing you had on your side youth, enterprise and cheek.

Cambridge University playing at Gloucester instead of frozen Grange-rd., beat the RAF team hands down because of their almost impatient desire to get moving with the ball tucked confidently under the arm.

Not for a long time has the Kingsholm fancy had such an opportunity of watching intelligent young men realising opportunities which the crowd could see and even surprising them with reserves of ingenuity which resulted in a resounding defeat for the slower and apparently less fit men of the RAF.

In the first half it looked as if the RAF team could stem the energies of the 'Varsity side. Prop forward J. E. Thompson opened the score for the Cambridge side from an opportunity realised by P. D. Briggs at fly half. Ten minutes later centre J. Keeper responded and wing three-quarter F. Leate converted.

The 'Varsity fly-half had to withdraw with a right shoulder injury and centre D. N. A. Rosser took his place. There was comparative calm until Leate again succeeded with a kick – this time a penalty – and then the Cambridge full-back G. C. Pritchard scored a penalty goal.

At the change-over RAF were two points ahead but by this time it was evident that A. R. Pender, the Cambridge wing forward who transferred to the threes would cause trouble wherever he could.

In the second half both he and his skipper, J. R. H. Greenwood, also at wing forward, were persistently aware of the opportunities which the RAF defence was leaving open and the RAF failed to add to their score – despite the absence of Briggs.

26 IN SECOND HALF

The versatile [word unreadable] added two tries during the second half, as did both Pender and wing three-quarter C. A. Martin. Full-back Pritchard contributed the goal points to four of these, making the Cambridge second half total 26 points.

It was a complete but entertaining walk-over for the 'Varsity – despite the early efforts of Gloucester's prop, Tug Wilson, showing international form in the loose – and it was a triumph too for the Cambridge scrum-half, Bryn Williams, who stood in for England's S. J. S. Clarke, resting in anticipation of his match today for the Barbarians.