

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1937

GLOUCESTER UNITED FLATTERED BY POOR TACKLING

YEWLETT'S "HAT TRICK"

CINDERFORD BACKS DISAPPOINT

Cinderford found Gloucester United too good for them at Kingsholm, but the score of 17 pts. to nil exaggerates the difference between the teams.

The Foresters thought they held a good chance of turning the tables after their defeat at Cinderford a week previously, especially when they saw that the United had made team changes.

But the changes proved effective. S. Daniells and C. K. Yewlett came into the three-quarter line in place of S. Boseley and Ivor Jones, and they made a far better line. Still, there was this much about it, the opposition was not so good as it was at Cinderford, in fact, the Foresters' defensive play was unusually bad.

The forward play was good, rather too good in a sense, at first, because the ball was kept so close that play never went beyond either 25 line for some time. The United had a good hooker in R. A. Carter, and he was up against a good one in Albert Meek, who still plays with remarkable consistency.

Possession of the ball from the scrums was pretty evenly shared, but it often looked as if the United were getting the lion's portion, because they usually made better use of it afterwards. Taking every phase of the game, honours went to the Cinderford forwards, remembering that their task, in the weaker team, was the harder.

PLAYERS' KEENNESS

There have been complaints sometimes of apathy among the players, but we get some of the other stuff as well. Reg. Meek, Albert Meek and Bert Greenman came home from work that morning after a week on the gruelling night shift. They "trotted on to Kingsholm like two-year-olds," and played hard right to the end, in the front rank of the scrums.

Charlie A'Bear put in a great amount of good work; he and Ken Sleeman make an excellent middle rank. In fact, with W. Scott, B. French and Bruce Campbell at the rear, it was a well-balanced pack, and they played an intelligent and plucky game. T. Rose was one of the most prominent of the United forwards, especially in the loose.

Unfortunately for Cinderford the back divisions were not so evenly matched. They brought back W. Holder to work the scrums, and G. Miles was again on the wing, with J. Chamberlain, the captain, and D. J. Williams at centre, and W. Wheeler on the other wing. Holder was a success if only for his defensive work.

But things would not happen right for the backs. Chamberlain and Williams were always trying on the right lines to beat an opponent before sending the ball out, but they could never snatch that very necessary advantage. The United defence was exceptionally keen, and the Foresters were hemmed in when they looked like getting through; and passes had to be lobbed hurriedly.

ORTHODOX METHODS

While their failure to score might be justly attributed to the soundness of the Gloucester defence, their weakness in defence was not due to any special brilliance in the home attack. The United played in attractive style, but their methods were orthodox, and a Cinderford defence in normal fettle would not have allowed them to pile up 17 points.

Gloucester have a good wing in the making in C. K. Yewlett, who scored three tries. The first chance he had he threw away by not running for the line, but he soon atoned for that, and his cross-kick was a gift to R. E. Burke. Yewlett scored his "hat trick" in the second half. One from a scramble – such a scramble that the Gloucester linesman, even, did not know whose was the magic hand that had made contact.

Yewlett's other two tries were galloping affairs. He cannot always expect to be given so much latitude, but he has a good, easy style, and takes his passes well on the run. Yewlett was splendidly nursed by S. Daniells. In fact, the whole line (A. Davies was the other centre) played well together, and carried on the good work started by that excellent pair of half-backs, A. Rickards and S. Walden.

JC