

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1937

GLOUCESTER 19 PTS.; CHELTENHAM NIL

GLOUCESTER'S SECOND HALF SUPERIORITY

TOWN'S GOOD DEFENCE KEEPS DOWN SCORING

THREE TRIES FOR EARLY

SPECIAL BY "W.B."

Gloucester recorded their sixteenth win of the season when they defeated Cheltenham, at Kingsholm, to-day.

In the first meeting the teams played a pointless draw at Cheltenham, the City playing eleven reserves.

Cheltenham had a record of sixteen wins, as against four defeats and four drawn games, the teams beaten including Bridgend, Exeter (twice), Penarth, Abertillery, and Pontypridd.

Both sides fielded strong sides, Boughton appeared at full-back for Gloucester vice Parker, and County Selectors attended to watch his form before making their final choice for the position in the championship match with East Midlands.

The fixture did not make the old-time appeal to supporters, and the attendance was only about 3,000 when the players took the field.

GLOUCESTER

BACK: H. Boughton.

THREE-QUARTERS: R. E. Hook, F. G. Edwards, E. L. Phillips, and R. E. Early.

HALF-BACKS: D. Meadows (capt.) and E. R. Day.

FORWARDS: A. Carpenter, C. Harris, R. A. Carter, J. G. A'Bear, R. Morris, W. Barrow, P. Hordern, and E. Bayliss.

CHELTENHAM

BACK: L. Masters.

THREE-QUARTERS: L. Goddard, L. Arnold, R. Williams, and H. Morgan.

HALF-BACKS: H. Goddard and R. Thomas.

FORWARDS: H. Webley, A. Castle, T. White, G. James, W. Baldwin, A. James, D. P. R. Scarr, and H. Grantham.

REFEREE: Mr. S. H. Budd (Somerset).

THE GAME

There was a late change in the City team, Barrow taking the place of Welshman, who was detained at his work.

Cheltenham kicked off with a big kick, Boughton fielding the ball over the goal-line, but he punted out to Masters, who returned to touch.

The Town opened out from the first scrum, but Williams fumbled his pass, and Hook picked up and raced away, but was tackled by Masters. The visitors kicked out to Boughton, who returned well, and a knock-on left play in the Cheltenham 25.

Breaking away in the loose the Town rushed beyond the centre, and G. James kicked past Boughton to the home goal-line. Hook, however, got back and gathering neatly sent to touch 15 yards out.

FAST PLAY

Fast play followed, the Cheltenham forwards being dangerous with their feet. Gloucester were forced back to their half, where the City heeled, but Meadows and Phillips in turn mis-fielded, and nothing resulted.

Cheltenham confined play to Gloucester territory for a period, but a forward rush relieved. When the ball was got out to the backs, however, Meadows was again at fault. A penalty to the City resulted in Boughton gaining 30 yards with the resultant kick and Gloucester at once started an attack. The ball came across to Early, but the wing man was finely tackled by Williams.

GLOUCESTER SCORE

Gloucester were off again immediately after, but Edwards gave an impossible pass to Hook. The ball got in the loose, and Meadows, picking up, passed to Phillips, who handed on to EARLY.

Using his pace to advantage, the right wing cleared Morgan and Masters and scored a good try in the corner. Boughton landed a fine goal to put Gloucester five points up.

Gloucester had the better of the exchanges on the restart, Edwards being prominent with a splendid dash through, but he was stopped in time.

Good forward work by the Town helped them appreciably, and some keen work was witnessed in mid-field. Useful touch kicks by Meadows and Boughton (from a penalty) placed Gloucester on the offensive, and Phillips, receiving from Meadows, made a brilliant break through. He shook off a half-tackle and was continuing when he was collared from behind.

Well-judged punts ahead gave Cheltenham ground, and the forwards working desperately the City line was in danger.

TOO IMPETUOUS

But several of the visitors were too impetuous and offside cost them a couple of penalties. With his second kick Boughton placed the ball to the right, where Edwards fielded and ran upfield. He fed Hook, who ran on and cross-kicked, but Masters was in position to save the situation.

Cheltenham improved their position with strong forward work, and subsequent play was evenly contested in the home half.

From a flying kick by Boughton Scarr made his mark in front of the Gloucester posts, but his attempt at goal was a poor one.

CHELTENHAM PLAYER INJURED

Cheltenham, playing with great determination, kept Gloucester on the defence for some few minutes. Thomas made a strong effort to cross in the corner, but Day brought off a smothering tackle.

The City were pressed severely on the right, but a high punt by Meadows brought relief, and Morris rushed to beyond the half-way. Day initiated an attack from the scrum, but the players passed without making any headway, and the ball went finally to touch.

Edwards was stopped in another movement, and then clever play by H. Goddard and Arnold led to a sharp Cheltenham attack.

Arnold raced for the corner, but was tackled on the line and laid out. The whistle, however, had gone for a forward pass. Arnold was attended by the ambulance men and carried off.

Play was keenly contested to the interval.

HALF-TIME :

Gloucester	1 goal
Cheltenham	Nil

Gwilym James, the former Gloucester forward, deputised at centre for Cheltenham in place of the injured Arnold when play was resumed.

GLORIOUS EFFORT BY EDWARDS

Gloucester at once worked into a favourable position by the aid of a touch-finder by Morris, but a long flying-kick by the Town sent play to mid-field. Boughton was collared in possession, but Gloucester players got back in time to prevent further headway.

Edwards immediately replied with a glorious solo run through the Cheltenham team. He had rounded Masters, but in doing so was pulled down from behind, and a fine effort went unrewarded.

EARLY'S SECOND TRY

Gloucester were beaten back by dashing forward work, but the City heeling, day swung the ball out to Meadows, who fed Phillips.

The latter yielded to EARLY, who went all out, and after a brilliant dash scored wide out. The goal kick by Boughton failed.

With an eight points' lead, Gloucester showed strong attacking abilities and Phillips shone in a fine run, but it was checked on the 25 line.

Cheltenham defended well against a keen offensive, and occasionally made progress with loose rushes. Gloucester, however, got on the move again, and in a forward burst the ball was carried over the line and CARPENTER credited with a try. Boughton hit the upright with his shot for goal.

At this moment Arnold returned to the field, and for a time play favoured the Town. The Gloucester line was subjected to hot pressure, but relief was eventually obtained by conceding a touch down.

Inside the City 25 Meadows opened out to Edwards, and Phillips brought off a 50 yards run, but was brought down in attempting to beat Masters with Early waiting for the pass. Gloucester held the advantage for the next few minutes, but the Town marking was very close.

STRONG GLOUCESTER ATTACKS

Hook and L. Goddard in turn distinguished themselves with bright runs, but the finishing was not good enough. A combined rush by the Gloucester front looked dangerous, but Masters brought off a daring save close in. Keeping up the attack, the City had a possible opening from a concerted movement behind, in which Hordern took part. Early, the last to receive, went hard for the corner, but was stopped by Masters and threw forward.

Cheltenham were confined to their territory for the next few minutes, but Gloucester could not find a gap in the defence. The Town were penalised for a scrum infringement 40 yards out, and BOUGHTON, with a lovely kick, added three points to Gloucester's score.

Gloucester had the game in hand now, although Cheltenham fought back with great keenness. Hook brought off a clever run up the centre of the field, but when the ball left him no further headway was made.

Cheltenham, with close footwork, centred play for a time, but Day, opening up well, kept his backs well employed. From a movement just outside the halfway line, Hook ran splendidly and deceiving the opposition with a feint to pass, cut clean through to Masters. A well-judged pass to EARLY was accepted and the right wing raced to score his third try. Boughton converted.

Play was keenly contested to the end, but there was no further scoring.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER ... 3 goals (1p.) 2 tries (19 points)
CHELTENHAM Nil

REMARKS

Cheltenham put up a stubborn defence and were very successful in their spoiling work, but Gloucester held a clear advantage in the . . .

[Remainder of this report is unavailable; having been removed from original vers.]

JC