

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1964

GLO'STER LOSE THRILLER BY A POINT

AINGE SCORES 10 PTS.

LONDON SCOTTISH 20PTS., GLOUCESTER 19PTS.

Gloucester lost by a single point to London Scottish at Richmond in a cliff-hanger match which was one of the most entertaining to be seen on the London ground this season.

The result was in doubt right up to the last whistle, and Gloucester twice led the star-studded Scottish team, after conceding a penalty in the second minute.

Score breakdowns were: London Scottish, two penalty goals, three tries and one goal – 14 of the points came from their fullback, Macdonald. Gloucester: two goals, a dropped goal, penalty goal, and a try – of which centre David Ainge scored 10 points.

## TOUCHLINE KICK

Macdonald's left-footed penalty from the touchline had no effect on Gloucester's morale.

Only four minutes later fly-half Terry Hopson received a pass from a loose maul, ran diagonally for the left corner flag and suddenly switched directions about 15 yards out, to ground his try between the posts. Ainge converted.

International second row forward Frans ten Bos gave lock forward Wilson the final pass of a duet handling movement which put Scottish ahead with a try by the corner flag in the 20th minute. It was not converted.

## FINE GOAL

In the 25th minute Macdonald scored another try. Hopson had failed to find touch with a long clearance kick and the Scottish fullback fielded it. He set his winger Pringle on the move and followed up to re-take possession and score where Wilson had gone over five minutes previous.

Then at 33 minutes Ainge dropped a fine goal from inside the home 25. Play was running with the threes towards the Scottish right wing. Ainge took his pass cleanly, ran, changed his mind, checked and slammed over the drop goal.

At half-time only a single point separated the scores.

Gloucester were put ahead two minutes after the resumption when Ainge kicked a penalty. But lock forward Wilson was quick to reply with a try which Macdonald converted. And the Scottish fullback was successful with a penalty kick to give his men a daunting 17–11 lead.

But doughty triers, Gloucester's greatest triumphs were yet to come. Holder scored another try from a tap penalty from Ford to Booth who ran towards the left-hand corner. And again Macdonald answered with an unconverted try.

## GREAT TRY

Then came Hopson's greatest moment. He received misfield inside his own half and, putting on his best sprinting boots, then cut through the Scottish defence with a superb break in the visitors' half, before passing to centre Ron Pitt. But Hopson was not yet finished. He took Pitt's re-pass and raced the remaining 30 yards himself to score between the uprights. Ainge converted.

It was a great finish to a great performance by Gloucester, who fought hard all the way and provided the Scottish with their most spirited opposition for many a day.

The home side were light of five internationals, at Murrayfield, but there were still four recent internationals in the side, so great credit must go to Gloucester for making the London stars fight tooth and nail for their one-point victory.

The Gloucester pack played splendidly throughout with Peter Ford showing his usual opportunism and Roy Long jumping well in the lines-out.

JC