

# THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1964

GLO'STER'S 14 PRODUCED THE MAGIC

ABERAVON 11 Pts., GLOUCESTER 11Pts.

Gloucester, with only 14 men throughout the whole of the second half, deserved better than a draw.

For Gloucester kept play inside the Welsh half for long spells after Aberavon had gone ahead early in the match.

Onri Jones opened the scoring in the first two minutes, but thereafter Mickie Booth and Terry Hopson, who were working with greater sympathy than ever with a disciplined Gloucester eight, kept the lighter Aberavon forwards hemmed in their own half.

I don't know how Booth and Hopson did it, but they managed to use the strong, confusing cross-winds like no other players on the field.

Times out of number short touch-finders from Booth's boot, pitched exactly on the spot he intended and, when the pack came up for the line-out, Roy Long and Alan Brinn were pretty nearly invincible.

Their jumping was well protected by the lusty Alan Townsend and Jackie Fowke.

The back row – consisting merely of Peter Ford and Dick Smith after Gary White had been pulled out to replace the injured Ron Pitt – was always on the look-out.

Ford played his harrying game and Smith linked so well with the threes that one wonders why it was White who replaced centre Pitt.

## GREATER COMMAND

In short it was very much a triumph for the Gloucester forwards, who held greater command in this game than for some time.

White brought Gloucester level with an unconverted try, but the Welshmen were to lead Gloucester twice again; Aberavon's second row forward, R. Evans, scored a try which Clarke converted.

Gloucester's reply was a try by Bob Smith. Aberavon's full-back, Clarke, then gave the home side a further lead with a good penalty kick.

Mickie Booth then put Terry Hopson over for an excellent try which followed some extremely able and determined scrummaging by the Gloucester eight near Aberavon's line.

## STRAIGHT KICK

To White fell the task of equalising with a straight conversion kick. Soon afterwards the referee blew no side.

Territorially and forward, as well as at half-back, this was Gloucester's match.

Only desperate defence by the scrappy home team kept Gloucester from winning by a handsome margin.

## MYSTERIOUS

GLOUCESTER UNITED ..... 17PTS.  
BARGOED ..... 9PTS.

Two disallowed tries – one in each half – robbed Gloucester United of a bigger victory against Bargoed at Kingsholm on Saturday.

During the first half wing-threequarter Tony Osman placed the ball down within a few inches of the corner flag. A split second later he was tackled – and a 25 yard dropout was directed instead of a try.

Then, in the second half, it was United skipper Peter Hawker's turn to touch down over the Bargoed line, but for some reason or other it was not considered a satisfactory try.

For almost the entire game, the Bargoed wing forwards were allowed to stray around the set scrums – yards offside – without even the slightest hint of reproach until the referee did seize upon what he considered a flagrant breach of the laws and promptly awarded a penalty to Gloucester under the posts.

It was all mysterious to say the least.

Two penalties by outside-half David Ainge put United six points up, but before half-time Bargoed had cut down their lead with an unconverted try by wing-threequarter Price.

The Welsh side went ahead soon after the interval with two unconverted tries by Humphries, but another penalty by outside-half Ainge levelled the scores once again.

Finally, Hal Symonds and Tony Osman touched down for tries and when Ainge converted one of them it put the issue beyond doubt.