

# THE CITIZEN

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1964

## AINGE STARS IN NARROW GLOUCESTER WIN

EXETER 8Pts., GLOUCESTER 11Pts.

Gloucester completed a brief but successful tour of the South West with this victory at Exeter last night. But it was a win they didn't really deserve, as by far the greater part of attacking football came from the home team.

Throughout, Gloucester disappointed by using a talented side to play a defensive game.

Indeed they virtually fielded two full backs, stand-off Dave Ainge lying as deep as Alan Holder and using his tremendous kicking skill to keep Exeter at bay.

A very astute player at scrum half, Mickie Booth used Ainge, one of the few men without a county cap, to the full and Ainge never let him down, using either foot to kick the ball with deadly accuracy.

### RARE MOVE

In the first half he kicked two long range penalty goals and converted a try by right centre Ron Pitt.

The try came during one of the rare Gloucester attacking moves. They won the ball from a loose scrum and Booth attempted a dropped goal, but the ball went wide.

In a gusting wind Pitt darted in to pick it up and sprint over for a try.

Much of the first half was a rather dour battle between the two packs and although Exeter won the majority of the set scrums Gloucester did well in the loose with Alan Brinn proving a powerful forward.

This was Exeter's last game in a season in which they have won 29 matches and after the interval they went all out to get win number 30.

### VERY CLOSE

They came very close with tries by left winger Malcolm Gardner and scrum-half Keith Hopper, the first converted by full-back Derek Atkins.

Hopper's try was a beauty, and came when he dodged round the back of the scrum on the Gloucester 25 and then raced on through the defence for a touch-down.

But it wasn't often that [the] Gloucester defence was caught napping. The tackling and covering was highly effective with centres Pitt and Bayliss usually getting their man.

There was always Ainge, who rapidly proved himself a bogeyman as far as Exeter were concerned. Whenever Exeter launched an attack Ainge seemed to be there kicking his side out of trouble.

The teams were :

Exeter: D. Atkins; A. L. Vinnicombe, J. Radford, D. Godfrey, M. Gardner; D. Carliss, K. A. Hopper; C. Richards, M. Cook, H. C. Barnes, W. Pritchard, P. Mair, D. C. Manley, J. Baxter, T. Hampton.

Gloucester: A. Holder; R. Smith, R. Pitt, J. Bayliss, R. Timms; D. Ainge, M. Booth; A. Townsend, M. Nicholls, J. Fowke, B. Hudson, A. Brinn, G. White, D. Owen, R. Smith.

Referee: Mr. P. E. Cousins (Devon Referees' Association).