

THE CITIZEN

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1964

GLO'STER MIGHT TOO MUCH FOR STROUD

GLOUCESTER 21PTS., STROUD 3PTS.

Greater all-round mobility, to say nothing of a few extra stone, accounted for Stroud at Kingsholm last night.

The visitors, aided by a strong breeze – it was sometimes more than that – held Gloucester to some extent, in the first half, but folded up completely in the last quarter.

Prop forward Alan Townsend, playing his last match for Gloucester crowned a fine individual performance with a well-deserved try.

Gloucester's stand-off, Ainge, made his side's score even more respectable with three conversions, and a dropped goal.

The game began with Stroud visibly in the ascendant.

NOT PERTURBED

At no time, however, did the Cherry and Whites look unduly perturbed, and they eventually stormed into the Stroud half following a useful touch-finder by Holder.

And there they stayed; at any rate, for some appreciable time.

They stayed long enough, at all events, to score a try – a converted one at that !

Booth did not do as expected when the ball emerged from a scrum near the Stroud 25 and thoroughly misled the visitors' wing forward, Shipton, who thought he had the ball.

LOGICAL THING

The Gloucester backs, as it so happened, hadn't seen it! It had travelled, instead, among the forwards, who quickly and efficiently, carried it to the Stroud line.

Ford, always on hand in a situation like this, did the logical thing and scored a try. Ainge kicked a splendid conversion.

No-one can better visualise the scene which followed shortly afterwards than the Gloucester full-back, Holder. He found himself, as full-backs sometimes do, faced with the unenviable task of trying to stop two three-quarters making, in no uncertain fashion, for his line.

As it was, he couldn't do it. Phillips, the Stroud centre, who had made a tremendous break, passed comfortably to his left-winger Brown, who outran everybody to score a sparkling try.

At the interval, then, Stroud had done rather well. For one thing they had held the Cherry and Whites to a thin, two-point lead; and for another, they had put up a much better show than some people had expected of them.

Could they keep it up ? The answer, simply, was 'no'; they could not. Except for the odd occasion, Gloucester dominated the second half – aided, no doubt, by the fact that it was now the turn of Stroud to play with the sun in their eyes.

LAI D FOUNDATIONS

White, deputising for Bayliss in the centre, scored an unconverted try, and Booth, shortly afterwards, laid the foundations for another try, this time by Townsend. Ainge converted it.

Ainge rounded off a successful evening by converting yet another try – by Timms – and dropping a goal.

The teams : –

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

Stroud: R. J. Hillier; W. Workman, G. Phillips, G. O'Connell, A. Brown; M. Hughes, J. Spalding; G. Moore, A. Moore, G. Rawlings, P. J. Marriott, D. Childs, A. Murphy, P. McCarthy, D. Shipton.

JC