

THE CITIZEN

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1950

REJUVENATED GLOUCESTER OUTCLASSED STROUD FIFTEEN

YOUNG FORWARD (3 TRIES) WAS STAR OF GAME

Gloucester's victory by four goals and a penalty goal (23 PTS.) to two penalty goals (6 PTS.) over Stroud at Kingsholm last night is partly the story of a rejuvenated side, but mostly of the lad who did not know his place.

Dennis Ibbotson, 19-years-old 11st. 6lbs, forward, usually plays in the front row, although he is light for the position. He thought the Gloucester selectors had made a ghastly mistake when they picked him to play as a wing forward for the first time last night.

Nothing would convince him that he was a wing-forward until he found he had scored three of Gloucester's tries and taken a big share in the other one.

He was the man of the match, and must realise by now that there might have been something in the committee's idea after all.

SUCCESSFUL DEBUT

It was not quite all Ibbotson. Gloucester's improvement forward and at half-back where Terrington, with his speed off the mark so reminiscent of Willie Jones, his quick break through and varied tactics made a most successful debut, was quite worthy of the margin by which they won, as well as being a fine response from the young players who were having a trial.

It was the half-backs who laid the foundation for victory, D. S. Humphris, one of Gloucester's most promising youngsters – he is 20 – played very well at scrum half.

He broke through early in the game, sent Terrington away with a grand opening, and there was Ibbotson well up to take his pass, fling the ball into the middle for SUTTON to snap it up and score under the posts.

After this it was always Ibbotson who was there when a score seemed likely. Hudson made an opening and again the ball went into the centre via Wells and IBBOTSON scored another.

MAGNIFICENT RUN

He opened the second half with a try, weaving his way through nearly half the Stroud side in a magnificent solo run.

Then Hudson snapped up the ball in the loose and broke away to find the ubiquitous IBBOTSON there again to score once more !

Hook converted all the tries, which were close in, and kicked a goal when Stroud were penalised for lying on the ball in front of their posts.

DOMINANT PACK

The Gloucester pack were dominant almost throughout in spite of Stroud's strength in the loose, and amply fulfilled their duty to the backs. For this reason Gloucester had most of the game and there was never any doubt about the result.

At half-back, Stroud though plucky were outclassed, and they found the greatest difficulty in stopping Hudson's strong bursts as a centre-threequarter although the passing and handling was not always certain.

On the Stroud side, Brian Smith was the most elusive, but not fast enough to penetrate the defence deeply.

It was A. Curtis at full back who was the hero of the Stroud side. He fielded and kicked faultlessly and finished up with a grand penalty goal from 35 yards.

GLOUCESTER: W. Hook; C. Crabtree, R. Sutton, G. Hudson, E. Turner; H. L. Terrington, D. S. Humpris; T. Day (capt.), R. Chamberlayne, R. Humphris, I. Ryder, H. G. Wells, R. Hodge, G. Hastings, and D. Ibbotson.

STROUD: A. Curtis; J. Smith, B. W. Smith, K. P. Dyer, L. Minett; J. Moore, D. A. Davies; F. Merrett, J. Hopson, R. Farmiloe, D. E. Phipps (capt.), P. Marriott, T. Shill, D. Solomon, C. Melrose.

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