

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1951

LONDON SCOTS WERE STILL IMBUED . . .

WITH NEW YEAR SPIRIT

London Scottish have gradually built up a reputation for striking their best form after New Year's Day.

Gloucester found this out to their cost at Kingsholm on Saturday when the visitors gained an unexpected victory by a goal and a try (8 pts.) to nil.

All things taken into consideration it cannot be denied that the Scots – who had one of the strongest sides that they have put into the field this season – earned their win.

Muddy conditions underfoot and a slippery ball made good rugby difficult, but the visitors used the better tactics under the circumstances.

They kept the ball close in defence, whereas Gloucester were apt to make the mistake of trying to pass too close to their own line.

In the loose Gloucester's forwards were more than a match for their opposite numbers and hooker Roy Chamberlayne was often prominent in some of the best rushes.

At times it seemed that the Scottish defence must crack under the fierce pressure to which the Gloucester forwards subjected it in the second half, and the visitors owed much to their Scottish international fullback K. W. Marshall, who gave an almost faultless display.

DIFFICULT TO JUDGE

Howard Terrington, playing his first game as Gloucester's stand-off half since he was injured two months ago, showed that he had lost none of his form – but the bad conditions, coupled with their somewhat restricted opportunities, made it difficult to judge how effective his partnership with Vivian Davies is going to be.

The London Scottish international outside-half, L. Bruce-Lockhart, was one of the visitors' outstanding players and he often worried the Gloucester defence.

The handling of the visitors' threequarters was superior to that of Gloucester's backs.

Their first try was scored late in the first half by E. Ogilvy – a thrustful centre – after an orthodox passing movement which followed a scrum near the Gloucester line.

CAME CLOSE

In the second half Scottish went further ahead when the Gloucester backs lost possession inside their own 25 and Turnbull got a smart try which Bruce Lockhart converted.

Michael Baker, playing on the wing for Gloucester, twice came very close to scoring after good runs.

In this match Gloucester did not adapt themselves so well to the bad playing conditions as London Scottish, whose backs also combined and handled better.