

THE CITIZEN

FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1951

GLO'STER LUCKY TO GAIN 'DOUBLE' OVER LIVLIER STROUD

Gloucester can consider themselves very lucky to be able to claim a "double" over Stroud this season.

In last evening's match at Kingsholm, Stroud showed the better team-work and did at least seventy-five per cent of the attacking but were beaten by 3 points to nil.

Gloucester's try – scored by stand-off half Bill Cartmell – came only three or four minutes after the start and, from the home team's point of view, was one of the very few bright spots of the game.

Following a line-out 15 yards from the Stroud goal-line, Cumming, Gloucester's deputy scrum-half, sent a pass to Cartmell who, without hesitating, went straight for the line. When challenged he sold a beautiful dummy and scored a fine solo try about 10 yards out from the corner flag.

Bill Hook made a good effort to convert, but the ball went below the bar.

HARD-PRESSED GLOUCESTER

After this reverse, however, Stroud nearly always looked the more dangerous side and on several occasions Gloucester found themselves very hard pressed.

Stroud were generally much livelier than the home side and tackled like demons whenever Gloucester initiate any attacking movements.

Both teams got a fairly good share of the ball from the set scrums but Stroud had decidedly the better of the lines-out and loose scrums.

Marriott got in some very good work for the visitors in the lines-out, while Stroud's wing forwards, Brian Dainty and T. Shill, were in great form in the loose.

Gordon Hudson and Bob Hodge were among Gloucester's outstanding forwards, the latter often gaining a lot of ground in foot rushes.

WELL MARKED

Gloucester's scrum-half Gordon Cumming found himself up against a more experienced opponent in G. Cullimore. He was also well marked by the visitors' wing forwards and at times had difficulty in getting the ball out to Cartmell.

Although Stroud's three-quarters had more chances than Gloucester's their finishing was not quite good enough to beat the home team's defence.

International J. V. Smith and Bainbridge were thrustful centres while Flynn showed himself to be a hard-running winger.

Stroud came nearest to scoring when Flynn went tearing down the left wing after a good handling movement and then cross-kicked to the Gloucester line, where Dainty very narrowly failed to get a touch-down.

LACK OF COMBINATION

As far as the Gloucester three-quarters were concerned it was the old, old story of the wings hardly ever seeing the ball.

Centres Stuart Troughton and Don Hill had some useful runs individually, but did not combine too well.

Gloucester often had to thank their full-back Bill Hook, for relieving pressure with his long touch-finders.

Stroud's full-back, A. Curtis, played a very safe game, but in the first half missed a chance to put his side on level terms with a not too difficult penalty kick.

The result did not do justice to Stroud, who had much more of the play than Gloucester. Neither side was at full strength.

JC