

# THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, APRIL 23, 1951

## STRONG SERVICES XV OUTPACED WEAK GLO'STER

It was unfortunate from Gloucester's point of view that they opened their Devon tour with a match against Devonport Services on a day when the Services were able to strengthen their team by the inclusions of both Lewis Jones and Malcolm Thomas.

Playing together in the centre for the first time since last October, the two Welsh internationals – who were well served by the Devonport outside half, E. A. Clarke – made the Services' threequarter line a powerful striking force which often had the Gloucester defence in difficulties.

The home side won by two penalty goals and two tries (12 points) to nil.

Owing to strong counter attractions in the shape of Newport's game with Plymouth Albion and Norwich City's match against Plymouth Argyle the attendance at the Rectory Field was one of the smallest of the season.

Although in the first half Gloucester had nearly as much of the game territorially as Devonport, the Services collected nine of their points before the interval.

Lewis Jones used his speed effectively to open the scoring with a good try and Malcolm Thomas followed this up by kicking two penalty goals – the first a brilliant effort from more than half-way.

In the second half the Services' threequarters launched further dangerous attacks but Gloucester tackled resolutely and Devonport's only other score was a try by their right wing, Surgn. Lt. Gray.

## STRONG RUSHES

Gloucester were usually seen to the best advantage in forward rushes, the pack being well led in the loose by Tom Day.

Two of the club's reserve players from the United, R. Stowers and I. Jones, were among other forwards who rendered yeoman service in this department.

Devonport Services showed the better form in the lines-out though the Gloucester pack did not do too badly in the scrummages.

## GOOD SERVICE

Outside-half Howard Terrington, himself a former Devonport Services player – had a good service from Humphris when Gloucester got the ball back and featured in several promising breakaways.

Gloucester's reserve centres, however, could not match the thrust of their Devonport opposite numbers and the threequarter line rarely looked like scoring.

The speed and cleverness of the Devonport centres, on the other hand, played a big part in the win over a weakened Gloucester side.

## HEREFORD OUTCLASSED AT KINGSHOLM

Gloucester United fielding a team of young players, outclassed Hereford whom they defeated 27 points to nil.

Hereford had determination and stamina, but lacked tactics and ideas.

Hooker B. Lane did well for the United and full-back D. Heath made few tactical or kicking mistakes.

The Beamish, Blair, Oakes and Crabtree threequarter line combined well to provide five of Gloucester's six tries.

It was a game that was keenly contested, fast and often spectacular, but sadly one-sided.

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