

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1951

SEVERAL SCORING CHANCES MISSED, BUT –

GLO'STER XV DISPLAY THE WILL TO WIN

Gloucester Rugby Club started Kingsholm's Diamond Jubilee season in good style when they beat local rivals, Lydney, by a goal and two tries (11 points) to one try (3 points).

There was little doubt about Gloucester's mastery over the weakened Severnsiders, but the visitors offered stout resistance and never gave up trying.

Played in weather a little too warm for rugby, the game was contested at a pace which was obviously beginning to tell on both sides in the later stages.

Gloucester certainly showed the will to win! If anything, they were over-keen and this – although a good fault – was probably the reason why a number of chances which should have produced scores were not used to the best advantage.

SKIPPER'S FINE EXAMPLE

The hooking of Cyril Thomas kept Gloucester on top in the set scrums and this, backed up by the forwards' determined play in the loose, laid the foundations for victory.

Skipper Jack Watkins set his pack a fine example and he received good support, especially from Hastings, Hudson and Hodge.

Scrum-half David Humphris was not quite up to his usual form but, nevertheless, he and Cartmell kept the backs fairly well supplied.

RECRUIT'S GOOD GAME

Recruit Jack Syme had a good game in the centre and Gloucester's other threequarters did quite well individually, particularly Charlie Crabtree.

But the line, as a whole, did not always function smoothly and finishing was poor at times.

For Lydney, guest scrum-half Roger White, and outside-half David Hughes, made the most of their limited chances.

The two wing men, Cooper and Fry, were always a potential danger to the home side.

TWO FOR CRABTREE

Gloucester's first score came when the ball was kicked over the Lydney line and Hastings and Crabtree both tried to get the touch-down, the points being credited to the wing-man.

Crabtree got a further try which Hook converted, and Gloucester's last try was scored in the second half by Syme.

Fry scored Lydney's try just before the interval.

Gloucester's victory was well deserved, but with better finishing the margin could have been much bigger.