

THE CITIZEN

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1951

HUDSON'S KICK GAVE GLO'STER DERBY VICTORY

To Gordon Hudson – inexplicably passed over by the County selectors – goes much of the credit for Gloucester's victory by one penalty goal, one try (6 pts.) to 1 dropped goal (3 pts.) at Cheltenham last night.

At a vital stage in the second half when the score stood at 3–3, and when both sides were battling for winning points, Cheltenham were penalised in mid-field.

A hush fell over the ground as Hudson carefully set the ball just inside the home half, then, with fine judgement and a superb kick he sent it sailing between the uprights for what proved to be a match-winner.

Thus did Gloucester go to the Athletic Ground and conquer, avenge last season's defeat and preserve their unbeaten record.

But, writes the Sports Editor, as satisfying as the victory may have been to Gloucester supporters, the game itself never rose to great heights.

It was a typical local derby, though lacking any unpleasant incidents.

ROUSING START

Cheltenham started the battle in rousing style with a good pack – aided by lengthy and judicious kicking – forcing the pace.

And it was not long before centre S. J. T. Walter dropped a splendid goal.

Before half time, however, Gloucester got on terms with the best movement of the night.

Wells gained possession in the loose; Teakle cut through; the ball flashed across the three-quarter line and centre Hill transferred to Beamish, who raced over in the corner and went on to touch down behind the posts.

Trevor Halls, who sportingly turned out in Hook's absence, failed with the kick. In other respects, too, he had an unhappy time.

After the interval it was anyone's game.

Then came Gordon Hudson's grand penalty kick to settle the issue.

HE KICKED TOO OFTEN

Claiming honours in two out of three set scrums – thanks to good work by Denzil Carpenter – and more often than not in the loose and lines-out, Cheltenham men saw a lot of the ball.

But they did not make the most of it. Walter, cleverly as he used the touchline kicked far too often. He gained a lot of ground but he and his colleagues could not cash in.

In contrast, Gloucester backs, given fewer chances, displayed more initiative and certainly were more thrustful, although some of the work was shoddy, especially in defence.

After early blunders, Humphris and Teakle played an enterprising game and their colleagues, including vice-captain Terrington, making his first appearance tried hard to open up.

But Terrington was far from being at his best.

TOO MANY GAPS

Too many gaps were left in the centre and too often were Cheltenham men given an easy run, although fortunately for Glo'ster they lacked finish.

In addition to his winning kick, Hudson played a grand game and none displayed more resource than Hodge, Hastings and Parry.

As a whole the pack did some grand work – but some members might learn to tackle more incisively. In the Cheltenham eight de Nobriga and Moore were outstanding.

It was by no means a great game, but taking into account the fact that the team was far below full strength, the consequent disorganisation of the back division and an injury received by Hill, who was ultimately moved to the wing, Gloucester earned their success.

CHELTENHAM: D. Harvey; J. Mullins, W. Haddley, S. T. J. Walter, G. P. Davis; W. Ednie, I. W. Pearce; F. Cherrington, A. D. Carpenter, R. Adams, F. Steinhobel, T. W. Price, P. J. de A. Moore (capt.), A. P. de Nobriga, A. Walker.

GLOUCESTER: T. Halls; C. Crabtree, D. Hill, H. Terrington (acting capt.), R. Beamish; J. Teakle, D. Humphris; R. Parry, C. Thomas, F. Daniels, G. Hastings, H. Wells, D. Ibbotson, R. Hodge, G. Hudson.