

# THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1951

## MISTAKES HELPED TO END GLO'STER'S UNBEATEN RUN

After a run of eight games without defeat, Gloucester Rugby Club lost their unbeaten record on Saturday when they went down by 19 points to 9 at Bedford.

The Midlanders undoubtedly earned their victory, but to a certain extent their task was made easier by Gloucester mistakes which led to two of Bedford's scores.

Bedford's strength lay in the attacking power of their backs, and their team work was so good that, whenever the three-quarters were in possession, there always seemed a strong possibility of a score.

International right-centre Allan Towell was a constant thorn in Gloucester's side and P. Collingridge, normally a forward, did well in the other centre position.

The Bedford threequarters were also tenacious in defence and their marking and tackling was relentless whenever Gloucester tried to open out.

## BLAMELESS FORWARDS

It was not the fault of Gloucester's forwards that the city club did not do better.

With Hudson, Hodge and Parry among the best of the pack, the Gloucester eight played their usual rousing game in the loose and hooker Cyril Thomas got the ball back considerably more often than his opposite number.

Half-backs, Humphris and Teakle found the Bedford wing forwards troublesome at times but they provided the three-quarters with quite enough chances to show what they could do.

The Gloucester backs, however, could not match the thrust of the Bedford centres and although Terrington had one or two good runs, the ball never reached the wing-men quickly enough.

### HOOK'S PENALTIES

Gloucester's nine points were all scored by full-back Bill Hook, who landed three very nice penalty goals, and gave another fine all-round performance.

Haynes, Bedford's clever outside-half – who provided his three-quarters with some useful openings – dropped a goal and converted tries by Towell and McLean. Bedford's other tries were scored by Collingridge and Evans.

Bedford's strength behind the scrum and good team work proved a match-winning factor despite the great efforts of the Gloucester forwards. Gloucester's threequarter line again lacked thrust.