

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1951

DESPITE SCORE, GLO'STER HAD THEIR WEAKNESSES

Forced by county calls to field a depleted and re-arranged side, Gloucester experienced no difficulty in beating the Old Blues by 7 goals, 7 tries (56 pts.) to a try (3 pts.), at Kingsholm, on Saturday.

But, despite the overwhelming margin of their victory, which might well have been even greater, the game revealed several weaknesses in the Gloucester make-up.

After an uncertain start, during which time the visitors displayed a deceptive aggressiveness the home pack dictated the play.

Unfortunately the back division squandered frequent opportunities. Had the backs shown more intelligent handling and anticipation the home total would have approached cricket-like proportions.

As it was, their total of 56 points was Gloucester's highest margin of victory since they beat Old Merchant Taylors by 54 points to nil four seasons ago.

In a game in which so many players excelled it is difficult to single out any one player.

Cartmell, however, gave a tireless display which was largely responsible for the great win. He completely wrecked the visitors' defence in the second half.

The Gloucester stand-off half gained two of these tries himself. His partner, Vivian Davies, gained one after selling a perfect dummy and Terrington (2), Beamish (2) and Crabtree (2) added to the galaxy of tries.

Of the forwards, who all played a great game, which in the second half reached almost farcical proportions, Wells, Ibbotson and Ford (2) gained tries.

At full-back Halls was never seriously troubled by the visitors' attack but was given 14 kicks at goal. He converted half of these.

The Old Blues try came in the first half through Wilder, following indecisive tackling by the home defence.

Although Gloucester's line was pierced only once, their defence showed several chinks which more powerful teams would take advantage of.

JC