

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1952

MORE STING IN GLOUCESTER ATTACK

The "old firm" of Vivian Davies and Bill Cartmell did much to put new life into Gloucester's attack when the Cherry and Whites beat Bristol 9-6 at the Memorial Ground.

Appearing together at half-back for the first time this season, they gave Gloucester a punch behind the scrum which has hitherto been lacking.

Bristol can certainly thank their lucky stars that Gloucester did not see more of the ball from the set scrums.

For if the visitors had done, it is certain that the margin of Bristol's defeat would have been considerably greater.

Gloucester's heeling in the tight was still not as quick as one would like to see and this undoubtedly wasted opportunities.

In all other respects, however, the Gloucester pack gave their best performance of the season.

FINE EXAMPLE

Skipper Bob Hodge set his men a fine example in the loose, and Gloucester's strength in this department was more than Bristol could cope with.

Wing forwards Dennis Ibbotson and Peter Ford were in particularly good form.

The team as a whole also handed out a lesson in good backing-up – as Bristol learnt to their cost.

Gloucester's threequarter line, with Terrington and Baimbridge in the centre, gave a much improved display, but wing-men Taylor and Bevan were still somewhat neglected.

Thomas and Ibbotson scored tries for Gloucester and Halls kicked a penalty goal. Day got a try for Bristol and Glyn Davies kicked a penalty goal.

Gloucester can now claim the proud distinction of having beaten Bristol on the Memorial Ground in three consecutive games.

FULL-BACK WAS STAR

It was a sadder, but wiser Bristol United who left Kingsholm after being well beaten by Gloucester United 8pts. to nil.

With seven county players in their ranks and an unbeaten record behind them the visitors had every reason to be confident of victory.

But before half-time, Gloucester United assumed command. Blair crossed, and thereafter Bristol United rarely came into the scheme of things.

When they managed an attack or two, Bill Smith and his long touch-finders were always there to drive them back.

This young full-back was the outstanding player on view. In everything he did he displayed poise, coolness, skill and confidence.

Though his handling was uncertain earlier on, Brumfitt thought out several clever moves later in the game, and it was his neat cross-kick, after beating several men, that gave Turner a try in the closing stages.

Smith, who had previously hit the uprights with fine kicks, converted.

Pick of the forwards were Les Evans, a live-wire winger, skipper Ivor Jones, Brian Hudson and Fred Daniels, while Burford usually beat his opposite number for the strike.

Gloucester United will not meet much stronger opposition this season and their victory augers well for their future games.

JC