

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1953

POWERFUL DEVONPORT SERVICES RALLY FOILED GLO'STER

Holding a lead of nine points until well into the second half, Gloucester seemed set for a comfortable win, but a remarkable recovery by the Services turned the tables and the tourists lost 9 pts. to 13.

In the first half with their forwards gaining the advantage in the set scrums and lines-out, Gloucester were the better team, and Halls went over in the corner, but his own kick failed.

Gloucester went further ahead when Wells landed a penalty goal from 35 yards, and before half-time Burford scored a further try for Gloucester. Wells failed with the kick.

FINE RECOVERY

Gloucester still held the advantage in the early stages of the second half, but following pressure by the Services, Collins jinked past four men to touch down for an unconverted try.

The visitors were still dangerous in quick handling movements, and Halls made a fine run which almost brought a score.

Services were not to be denied, however, and Bourton further reduced the arrears when he followed up a forward rush and scored for Annandale to convert.

Now only a point behind Services played with renewed spirit and the visitors' defence was hard pressed. Following a forward rush the Services went ahead when Prosser touched down, Annandale again adding the extra points.

Both teams exploited open play in a game that was most entertaining, the feature being the fighting come-back by Services when all seemed lost.

JC