

THE CITIZEN

TUESDAY APRIL 22, 1919

FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER'S CAPITAL WIN

Gloucester finished up their home season on Easter Monday with a capital win over Cross Keys (Monmouthshire) by 1 goal 1 try (8 points) to nil.

The visitors came with the reputation of possessing one of the best packs of forwards in Wales, and with a good list of victories over first-class sides, including Cardiff and R.N. Depot. Gloucester were not at full strength, but the team gave a capital display and deserved their win. Both tries were obtained early in the game, the points being registered by Hudson and Harris respectively, whilst Hamblin kicked the goal.

It was a rare tussle forward, the Gloucester eight doing finely in all departments. At one period – the first quarter in the second half – Cross Keys certainly held the advantage, and only a stout defence kept the home line intact. The City, however, came again in the later stages, and the backs had extremely hard lines in not scoring on two or three occasions, Pugh, Hudson, Webb, and A. Hall all being tackled close to the line. Mormant, too, just failed in a fine attempt to drop a goal.

Dix and Hall combined well at half. The former got the ball away very smartly, and did a lot of clever dribbling, whilst Hall's dashing bursts and saving were a feature of the game. There were a few nice bouts of passing, but the Cross Keys men were very keen tacklers, and did not give much away.

Mormant, after starting very shakily, improved wonderfully, and he accomplished some remarkable clearances under extreme pressure. The forwards gave one of their best displays, the footwork being a great improvement.

The visitors were best served behind by Benson (three-quarter) and Maile (reserve full-back for Wales), but the backs did strike one as being a clever lot in combination. The halves were inferior to the home pair, but the forwards were a dashing eight, though lacking in finish.

The Gloucester team was : Mormant; Hudson, Webb, Hamblin and Pugh; Dix and A. Hall; Hayes, Smart, Ward, Harris, Mansell, Weaver, Beard and Phelps.

In the morning, local players representing North and South contested a keen game, but the form displayed was very scrappy. Allen and Phelps scored tries for the North, one of which was converted; and Meadows crossed for the South, the place-kick failing.

One or two forwards came under notice, and J. Boughton, an old Gordon League A player was invited by A. Hudson to play for his team against Stroud this week. Of the backs, Allen alone distinguished himself, and he, too, will appear in the match at Stroud.

CORRECTED RESULT

In connection with Saturday's match – Gloucester v. Canada – we are informed the referee awarded Pugh a penalty try for obstruction, not a free kick, and as the goal points were secured by Hamblin, Gloucester's score was 21 points, not 19.

Gloucester will visit Newport on Saturday next, and play the unbeaten Pill Harriers team.