

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2000

DEBUT DOUBLE FOR LITTLE IN VITAL WIN

AUSTRALIAN ACE CROSSES TWICE AS GLOUCESTER  
STORM TO VICTORY

GLOUCESTER 38 BRISTOL 13

## GLOUCESTER

C. Catling	15
J. Ewens	14
J. Little	13
C. Yates	12
T. Beim	11
S. Mannix	10
A. Gomarsall	9
A. Powles	1
C. Fortey	2
P. Vickery	3
R. Fidler	4
I. Jones	5
J. Boer	6
K. Jones (c)	7
J. Paramore	8

Reps: I. Sanders,  
T. Fanolua, A. Eustace,  
A. Hazell, S. Sanchez,  
O. Azam, S. Ojomoh.

## BRISTOL

S. Marsden
D. Rees
E. Simeone
L. Davies
S. Brown
S. Vile
A. Pichot (c)
P. Johnstone
B. Williams
D. Crompton
D. Ryan
A. Sheridan
S. Fenn
A. Vander
B. Sturnham

Reps: L. McCarthy,  
L. Gerrard, G. Baber,  
[name unreadable],  
J. Brownrigg,  
J. Mayer, D. Dewdney.

REFEREE: N. Yates (RFU)

STAR MAN: Phil Vickery

Jason Little scored a debut double as Gloucester blasted themselves to a hugely important west country derby win over Bristol.

Gloucester also scored tries through Olivier Azam and Phil Vickery to come from behind in the second period and claim a much needed bonus point.

Little finished off flowing moves from Andy Gomarsall and Terry Fanolua as Gloucester's forwards carved them a massive win.

The last stage of Gloucester's Zurich Premiership campaign before the Heineken Cup welcomed Bristol to Kingsholm for a vital fixture which the home side had to win.

It was simply imperative Philippe Saint-Andre's men came away with a victory, but Bristol's success over Leicester last week added spice to what is usually a blood and thunder physical confrontation.

Gloucester have made an alarming habit of making rocky starts, and they were again afflicted by one here.

Their desire to get a good one had got to Chris Fortey and he barged into Agustin Pichot after Gloucester had already been given the penalty.

Stephen Vile kicked to touch and Barry Williams found Ben Sturnham and Bristol drove menacingly towards the line for Williams to score the try.

Gloucester responded with Simon Mannix's first penalty, his 10th in a row, for off-side and then he slashed the deficit to just one point when Williams checked Kingsley Jones on the charge.

However, he was not yellow carded, as Adey Powles was last week, and the Gloucester skipper then tackled his own man, Andy Gomarsall, to avoid the scrum-half taking a tap penalty and Mannix slotted over.

But it was Bristol who were enjoying the early dominance of possession and matched Gloucester in the forwards.

Vile landed his first penalty for a Gloucester off-side, before Gloucester emerged emphatically from their shell and responded with a wonderful try.

Jason Little, on his debut, finished the move with a lovely step outside, but the Gloucester forwards lay at its heart with [a] pounding series of drives.

Olivier Azam was heavily involved as was Kingsley Jones and Phil Vickery as the home pack finally stamped their authority on the game.

Mannix switched play to the right, Gomarsall drove on and managed to avoid Williams, yet again off-side, and Little raised the roof with a debut try.

But Gloucester, with their tails up, could not inflict any more damage and were still behind.

Their fury at the some questionable refereeing decisions did not help their cause and Vile landed two more penalties before the break to Bristol, both of which Vile kicked.

Half-time :  
Gloucester 11 Bristol 16

Kingsley Jones has only been in the captaincy hot-seat for two weeks, but already he must be used to raising his team's spirits at the break, and he was again forced to.

Gloucester simply had to come out of the blocks in the second period and the forwards start to cultivate some ball.

It took them less than a minute to stamp an indelible print on the match. Junior Paramore held the ball from the line-out and Gloucester hustled over the ball, springing Bristol out of the way and Azam was on hand to touch down.

It was the incentive Gloucester needed. They were now going toe-to-toe with Bristol and just five minutes later scored a magical try.

It came from a devilish Bristol attack, but when Pichot dived into the ruck, Gomarsall robbed him and sped away down the blindside.

It opened up for Gloucester here and Little found Terry Fanolua. He drew and beat Spencer Brown before slipping a pass back to Little inside full-back Sean Marsden and the Aussie ace romped away under the posts.

Bristol responded, but failed to take advantage when they had the ball. Azam missed Williams from the back of a ruck and he burst through, but Catling made a splendid tackle.

Gloucester seriously had the bit between their teeth and anything Bristol threw at them in the forwards was returned.

Phil Vickery was again a huge influence in the scrummage and that enabled Chris Yates to plough a huge furrow through midfield.

Mannix, again superlative with his kicking, landed two more penalties to stretch Gloucester to 31-16 ahead and 13 points without reply.

Tempers boiled over in the last quarter, but Gloucester simply let their rugby do the talking and never let Bristol off the hook.

They scored a final try, and it was another cracker. Andy Hazell took the ball on as the forwards carved Bristol open, Gomarsall took the play to the right and then found Little.

He may have had thoughts of a hat-trick but found Vickery, who looked inside and threw an outrageous dummy to gallop over in the corner and raise the roof.

His try ensured a bonus point in a game Gloucester finally burst off their shackles to claim an excellent victory.

JC