

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1925

FOOTBALL NOTES

What is generally regarded as the match of the season – Gloucester v. Newport – was played at Kingsholm on Saturday last, when after a close and somewhat exciting game, Gloucester won by 8 pts. to nil, and on the general run of play fully deserved their win.

Newport included Vincent Griffiths, their brilliant stand-off half, and altogether fielded a most representative side, though one missed the guiding genius of the veteran Jack Wetter.

Gloucester, facing the wind, pressed at the outset, but gradually Newport transferred play to the home 25, and only the invaluable kicking of Dr. Taylor prevented some dangerous movements fructifying.

It was the City, however, who opened the scoring. In a bout of passing, Hughes went away with a burst, and though Brown was hemmed in, he gathered the final transfer finely, and, putting on top speed, literally threw himself over at the corner. Millington failed at the difficult angle.

Newport were now forced to defend strenuously against the fierce onslaughts of the City pack, and before half-time Gloucester increased their score with the finest effort of the match.

Milliner started a movement in the open, and the elusive Hughes at once made tracks for the line. Beating the defence finely – including a deliberate attempt to trip him up – he carved a passage for Brown to score behind the posts. Millington added the extra points, and Gloucester had surprised and pleased their supporters with these early scores.

The second half was contested in a fierce duel between the rival packs, with honours resting with the City. Penalties against Newport were frequent, and some of the visitors' tactics were of a very questionable character. It seems a pity that Welsh clubs do not bring into play those fine sportsmanlike qualities displayed by English sides.

This proved to be all the scoring, and Gloucester thus accomplished a very fine performance, as the Usksiders are a very formidable side when on form.

Millington gave one of his best displays at back, and his fielding and tackling were alike superb. Hughes was again the pivot on whom rested the hopes of Gloucester's attack, whilst Dr. Taylor was a tower of strength at stand-off half. Milliner was hampered in his deliveries by the bad heeling of the home forwards. Surely this can be remedied with practice! The forwards brought off some characteristic rushes, and Ayliffe assumed the role of leader admirably.

For Newport Vincent Griffiths and Dowdall made a strong pair of halves, but Griffiths overdid the "dummy," and thus spoiled many good chances. Andrews and Davies were prominent in the three-quarter line. Casey was the pick of the forwards.