

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1927

GLOUCESTER v. UNITED SERVICES

THE CITY'S BIG WIN

HOME SIDE THOROUGHLY DEMORALISED

For their match at Portsmouth, Gloucester were short of Saxby, Evans, James, and Hall, but a useful side made the journey, and had hopes of repeating last year's triumph, when the City won by 9 points to 5. In the absence of Saxby Loveridge acted as captain.

The Services were much weakened by having four representatives in the International trial at Leicester.

GLOUCESTER

BACK : H. Boughton.

THREE-QUARTERS : R. N. Loveridge (capt.), A. W. Lewis, J. Stephens, and A. Hough.

HALF-BACKS : R. Milliner and D. Meadows.

FORWARDS : E. Comley, G. Foulkes, T. Wadley, J. Hemming, J. Davies, A. Danks, N. East, and T. East.

UNITED SERVICES

BACK : P. F. Dawson.

THREE-QUARTERS : Martin, Knowlton, G. S. Tuck, and J. Plunket-Cole.

HALF-BACKS : J. H. Forbes and J. W. Cowgill.

FORWARDS : D. P. Trentham, W. C. Thomas, H. C. Browne, E. G. Chamberlain, L. K. Block, H. T. Armstrong, R. V. Hubback, and Jones.

THE GAME

The weather was dull when the sides entered the field.

After repulsing some hot attacks, Gloucester took the lead five minutes from the start, STEPHENS going over unmarked to score behind the posts, and Boughton easily converted.

Some fine kicking by Dawson returned play to the Gloucester 25. In the scrums the honours were fairly even, but the Gloucester pack were smarter in the breaking up, and they kept the home side on the defence again.

Gloucester were prone to handle in the scrum, and were twice penalised for this, the first occasion resulting in DAWSON reduced the Services' arrears with a penalty goal.

Aided by Dawson's lengthy kicking, the Services were now having more of the game, but once when Gloucester heeled they worked the blind side with such success that Hough was nearly over, being pulled down near the line by Knowlton.

The Services again returned to the attack and were playing an improved game. Lewis distinguished himself in Gloucester's defence. Gloucester had a narrow squeak when Cole went over in the corner, but lost the ball when about to touch down.

HALF-TIME :

 GLOUCESTER 1 goal

 UNITED SERVICES 1 goal (p)

Gloucester attacked hotly upon the restart, and within a few minutes MILLINER wriggled over for a fine individual try, and Boughton placed the City further ahead by converting.

Gloucester were now on top, and were getting possession more regularly in the scrums. Grand play by Stephens and HOUGH ended in the latter scoring another try, but this time Boughton failed with the kick, taken from the touch line.

After this further reverse the Services did better, but it was only in desperation for they had clearly lost confidence especially since their forwards were no longer heeling with any great success. Back came play to the Services' 25, and Gloucester looked like increasing their lead. Milliner again cut through but was brought down by Armstrong.

Gloucester were now playing in irresistible fashion and another great run by STEPHENS ended in that player putting on another try and Boughton again added the extra points.

The Services were now thoroughly demoralised and LEWIS by smart following up put on another try which Boughton once more converted.

Gloucester were thoroughly deserving of their big win because of the way in which their forwards pulled round in the second half. They were now on top in every phase.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER 4 goals 1 try (23 pts.)
SERVICES 1 goal (p) (3 pts.)