

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1928

GLOUCESTER LOSE TO BATH

BEATEN BY THE GOAL KICK

Gloucester visited Bath this afternoon for the last match of the season. Saxby was unable to accompany the City team, and Comley again had charge of the side. In the first match at Kingsholm Gloucester gained a narrow win by 8 points to 5.

Teams : –

GLOUCESTER

BACK : H. Boughton.

THREE-QUARTERS : A. Hough, W. N. Hoare, J. Stephens, R. James.

HALF-BACKS : A. W. Lewis and L. Abbey.

FORWARDS : .E. Comley (Captain), T. Wadley, F. Russell, T. Hiam, L. Franklin, J. Hemming, G. Foulkes, and A. Rea.

BATH

BACK : D. James.

THREE-QUARTERS : L. M. Basden, W. Hancock, I. J. Pitman, and C. E. Gough.

HALF-BACKS : L. Wills and R. Banks.

FORWARDS : H. B. L. Wake, W. H. Sheppard, N. Matthews, W. H. Stapley, P. R. Skinner, J. Tanner, S. Weeks, and W. Usher.

THE GAME

There was a slight cross wind blowing. Bath kicked off and set up a hot forward attack. Hancock missed his pass and let Hough have a nice run, but the latter was stopped by James.

A bout of touch-finding was followed by some smart passing by the Gloucester three-quarters, which ended in Bath being forced into their 25. PITMAN, however, broke away, and robbed Stephens of the ball. He kicked ahead, and fell on the ball for a try, Weekes converting.

JAMES, on the wing, ran clean through the home defence and scored in the corner. Boughton's effort at conversion fell short by inches only – a fine attempt. This score came after 20 minutes.

Play was very keen for end-of-the-season football. Boughton made a smart mark when challenged by Gough. Abbey was very smart in getting his backs away. The Gloucester threes were cleverer than their opponents, who served up very orthodox passing, but the forwards were very evenly matched.

Gloucester should have scored again when Pitman sent out a wild pass just on the interval.

HALF-TIME :

BATH 1 goal
GLOUCESTER 1 try

Resuming, Wills got off-side, and Boughton took the penalty kick, which landed in the visitors' 25. Hough and Hoare took the ball to half-way again. A free kick to Gloucester, taken by Boughton, fell short of the posts. James went hard for the line, but was forced to touch-in-goal – hard luck for the visitors, who had fought well.

Play in the second half tended to be ragged, and Bath were forced to defend. Comley and Foulkes excelled in the loose for the visitors. Touch-finding on both sides was shaky. Boughton was very steady in defence especially under hot pressure by the home forwards.

Lewis was pulled down on the Bath line, and Gough found touch well. David James, the Bath full-back, was not so effective as Boughton. Gloucester brought off a great forward rush, headed by Comley and Franklin, and Bath retaliated, Boughton coolly finding a long touch.

Bath went further ahead when HANCOCK got the ball in the loose, punted over Boughton's head, rounded Hough, and scored in an easy position for Weeks to place the goal.

JAMES soon after got a fine try. Stephens cut out a good opening and raced away. He passed at the critical moment to James, who beat Hancock and David James, and grounded the ball under the posts. Boughton converted. It was a great finish.

RESULT :

BATH 2 goals (10 pts.)

GLOUCESTER 1 goal 1 try (8 pts.)

JC