

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1928

GLO'STER'S BRILLIANT WIN

GUY'S OUTPLAYED IN SECOND HALF

SOME WONDERFUL TRIES IN FAST AND INTERESTING GAME

Guy's Hospital, always popular visitors to Kingsholm, brought a fairly strong side to Gloucester to-day, though without [passage unreadable] (forward),

O. Garland (scrum [passage unreadable] (full back) and Hutchinson (three-quarter) were prominent absentees.

Gloucester made three changes forward from the side defeated at Bristol last week, Hiam, [passage unreadable] and Russell taking the places of [passage unreadable] (injured), Franklin and Comley.

It was reported yesterday that a knee injury [passage unreadable] Boughton met with at Cardiff in the county [passage unreadable] would prevent his playing, but happily the City custodian was able to turn out.

A great deal of interest was centred in the appearance for Gloucester of M. A. McCanlis, the Oxford Double Blue, now a [short passage unreadable] at Cheltenham College.

McCanlis [short passage unreadable] try-out for Cheltenham Town last [passage unreadable] but he had previously intimated his intention of assisting the City Club.

GLOUCESTER v. GUY'S HOSPITAL.

At Kingsholm (kick-off 3.15 p.m.)

Teams : –

GLOUCESTER

BACK : H. Boughton.

THREE-QUARTERS : R. James, J. Stephens, M. A. McCanlis, and L. Abbey.

HALF-BACKS : A. W. Lewis and Dick Stephens.

FORWARDS : L. E. Saxby (Capt.), J. Davies, J. F. Evans, F. Russell, J. Hemming, N. Wadley, T. Hiam, and L. C. Meadows.

GUY'S HOSPITAL

BACK : F. F. Kennedy.

THREE-QUARTER BACKS : T. G. Robinson, F. Ryan, A. J. D. Lewis, and W. Leslie.

HALF-BACKS : R. J. Eustace and Windsor Lewis.

FORWARDS : J. R. F. Popplewell (Capt.), J. Durr, R. A. Hogbin, T. Morgan, A. R. Clarke, D. S. Clegg, J. C. Tregarthen, and L. Brown.

Referee : Mr. L. V. Huggins (Gloucester).

THE GAME

It was an ideal afternoon, and there was an attendance of 5,000 when the teams took the field five minutes late. The Gloucester captain won the toss, and from the kick the return went to touch near the centre. The City forwards early distinguished themselves with a loose rush, and Dick Stephens, with a clever pick-up and punt to touch, sent play to the Hospital 25. Carrying a scrum the home forwards dribbled through and over the line, but only a touchdown was recorded.

From the drop-out play settled in Guy's 25. Getting the ball in the loose Gloucester opened out, and McCanlis receiving from Dick Stephens made headway and passed to J. STEPHENS. The latter fed James quickly, and getting a re-pass the centre went strongly and over the line for a fine try. Boughton hit the upright with his kick at goal.

From the re-start some fast play was witnessed at midfield, both teams throwing the ball about, though once or twice judgment was lacking on the home side. The Gloucester backs twice handled well, and Guy's, too, showed some neat handling, but a forward transfer spoiled the movement. Gloucester got away again from the scrum, and a Guy's man fumbling a City player gathered and passed to Jack Stephens. The latter yielded to JAMES, who shook himself free from an opponent and, running hard, scored a fine try in the corner. Boughton missed the goal-kick.

Guy's restarted with vigour, and a fast dribble threatened danger. The City, however, regained relief, and J. Stephens taking advantage of an opponent's mistake brought off a dodgy run and pass to McCanlis, who got in a nice punt to touch. The Hospital were severely pressed for a moment or two, but Windsor Lewis cleared with a beautiful touch-finder. From this point the visitors advanced with clever handling, a cross kick by Leslie placing the home line in danger, and a try appeared certain, but a hard tackle just outside saved the situation, and later Hemming touched down.

Subsequent play was very fast, the Guy's backs showing good work. Windsor Lewis served his centres nicely, but a bad pass was missed by Leslie with a good opening. Weak tackling by Gloucester nearly let the visitors through, and for a time the City were on the defensive. Good kicking by Boughton, and later a dashing loose burst headed by Davies, tested Kennedy, who went down well and saved. The Hospital, thanks to fine kicking by Windsor Lewis, gained an advantage, but they lost the position owing to fumbling behind. Jack Stephens tried hard to clear, but failed to pick up.

From a cross-kick by Dick Stephens, Guy's gained possession and went up the field with passing, but a forward transfer checked. Gloucester replied with a pretty bout, but the tackling was very sound. The City, however, made progress, but Windsor Lewis, quickly away from the scrum, cut clean up the field and reached Boughton. He made the mistake, however, of attempting a short punt, and a splendid scoring chance was lost.

Back Gloucester came with a good burst, but Guy's opened out in their own 25. Ryan was tackled by J. Stephens, but failed to hold his man, who ran strongly for 30 yards before passing. A series of sharp exchanges followed, ending in HOGBIN going over with a good try, the movement having covered three-parts the length of the field. The same player failed at goal.

Saxby restarted, and early on Eustace, in tackling Dick Stephens, damaged his knee and had to retire for attention. Guy's resumed a man short, and Gloucester at once attacked strongly. They were nearly over in the right corner, but Windsor Lewis cleared with a neat touch-finder. Eustace now returned, and Gloucester heeling, Dick Stephens worked out a nice opening, but it was not accepted. Immediately after the ball was rushed over the line, a minor resulting. Gloucester kept up the aggressive, and Guy's defence was severely tested.

The visitors eased cleverly from one big burst, but Gloucester returned with increased energy. Davies broke away from a scrum with a dribble, and with Meadows the ball was taken past Kennedy. A cross-kick sent it over the line, and HEMMING, being well up, scored the City's third try. The goal kick by Boughton failed.

To the interval play was keenly contested but there was no further scoring.

HALF-TIME :

GLOUCESTER 3 tries (9 points)

GUY'S 1 try (3 points)

The first half was splendidly contested, and some fine football was witnessed. The City team had shown better form all round, though the tackling at times left something to be desired.

Saxby restarted, but after a couple of minutes play Eustace had to retire to the touch line, Clarke coming out to scrum half. Windsor Lewis, getting a kick charged down, Saxby picked up and threw to his backs, but a possible opening was lost.

Guy's worked out of danger, but Dick Stephens, with a clever run and cross-punt put the City in a good position. The bounce of the ball, however, beat his colleagues and the Hospital were able to save.

Ryan, with a strong run put Guy's to near midfield, where Windsor Lewis broke through nicely. When tackled he let the ball go to DURR who shook himself free twice and crossed with a fine try wide out. Hogbin missed the goal points.

Though a man extra in the scrimmages, Gloucester were not getting the ball cleanly in the scrums. From the loose, however, the City opened out, and James with a brilliant run nearly beat the defence. Immediately after the City had another opening, but a bad pass was given, and though J. Stephens took the ball over the line a visitor kicked dead.

Gloucester continued to give the ball air, and McCanlis shone in a lovely burst down touch, followed by a punt ahead, but nothing resulted. Still the City kept up the attack, and from a pass by J. Stephens, James executed a marvellous run, but just failed to clear the full back.

These thrills kept the crowd at fever heat, but there were more to follow. Following an attack on the right, where Abbey made a gallant effort to beat the defence, the ball came across to the other wing. J. Stephens cleared a couple of defenders and feeding JAMES, the latter went over and scored in a good position. Boughton again missed the goal kick, but Gloucester were leading 12-6.

Guy's re-started, and play was keen at the centre. Here the Gloucester forwards heeled, and the ball came out to McCANLIS, who took it at full speed. The Old Oxford Blue cut between the two opposing centres, and rounding Kennedy finished a glorious run over half the length of the field by scoring in a good position. Boughton this time converted, and his success, and that of McCanlis, was loudly cheered by the spectators.

Gloucester, flushed with their success, renewed the struggle with increased determination. From a return punt Ryan attempted to clear the City defence, but J. Stephens collared his man and forced him to pass. JAMES cleverly intercepted, and having a clear field raced home easily for Boughton to add the extra points.

Gloucester were well ahead now, but the team did not relax their efforts. More brilliant work by the backs, and a strong effort by J. Stephens, led to JAMES scoring his fourth try, but this time Boughton failed at goal.

Though down so badly in points, Guy's fought back pluckily, and Popplewell shone in a long run which should have resulted in a score, but a pass went wrong near the line. A penalty to Gloucester was well taken by Boughton, and from near the centre the City went right away. Abbey had a fine opening, but failed to take his transfer with an open line. Gloucester, however, would not be denied, and after a desperate forward burst, DAVIES secured and scored easily. Boughton landed a grand goal, and Gloucester led by 30 points to 6.

Guy's played up pluckily on the resumption and set up a warm attack, but the defence was very keen. McCanlis, with a fine kick, sent to the centre, where Gloucester had the better of the exchanges, but mistakes in handling checked some promising movements. Gloucester came again before the end, but could not increase their score.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER 3 goals 5 tries (30 pts.)

GUY'S 2 tries (6 pts.)

REMARKS

The remarkable scoring of the second half was sufficient to make the game a memorable one, but all through the football was of an exhilarating character, with plenty of thrills to keep the excitement going.

Guy's were not beaten in the play to anything like the extent of 30 points to 6, but the City's form in the second half, when the Hospital were short of their scrum half (Eustace), was irresistible.

On five occasions the Londoners' line was crossed; there were quite as many times when the Hospital escaped after beautiful work. Yet Guy's contrived to put in some desperate raids by forwards and backs, and experienced hard luck in not adding to their score. Play was contested at a great pace to the finish, each side was out to give the ball air, and though a number of movements failed through inaccurate handling and bad judgment, a lot of brilliant rugby was witnessed.

Gloucester played with far more cohesion to-day than in any previous match, and the reward was a glorious victory. The forwards were better together in the scrums; there was a distinct improvement in gaining possession, and though the heeling was none too good at times, the backs saw a good deal more of the ball. Guy's had a strong pack, efficient in most phases of play, but they were held splendidly, and the Gloucester men finished the stronger.

After recent criticisms it was encouraging to find the City eight doing so well. Saxby again gave his colleagues a fine lead, and there was all-round support. Davies was brilliant in loose dribbles and general open play, and Hemming and Wadley, of the seniors, were also frequently conspicuous. Evans was always hard at it, and Meadows, Hiam and Russell justified their inclusion. The Guy's forwards accomplished many good things in the open, where Durr, Popplewell and Hogbin were very fast and keen on the ball.

Lewis had a better service this afternoon, and with Dick Stephens did not miss much in initiating attacks. Both defended well, and Stephens was again extremely useful with short bursts and well-judged kicks. At three-quarter the City displayed brilliant combination on occasions, and the opening try by J. Stephens – the result of a re-pass from James – was the prelude to a number of other fine efforts.

The City left wing was a particular danger to the Hospital men. Stephens' strong bursts frequently carried him through the opposition, and the vice-captain scintillated with several remarkable runs.

At right centre McCanlis displayed class football. He combined well with his colleagues, and the try he scored earned for him an ovation from the crowd. Abbey had a fast man opposed to him in Leslie, but he tackled with the utmost resolution and was not often beaten. He made two or three praiseworthy efforts to score, but with his best chance he missed the ball.

Guy's had some clever players in the back division, of whom Windsor Lewis was an outstanding performer. The Welsh International was very quick in his movements, and opened out smartly, but the best use was not made of his efforts. In defence, Lewis was the saviour of his side, and frequently relieved from off his own goal-line with splendid touch-kicks. Ryan was a strong runner in the centre, and of the two wings Leslie, who came in as reserve to J. C. Hutchinson, was the more resourceful.

Boughton gave of his best at full-back for the City, and was never at fault. His fielding especially was a prominent feature, and his left-foot kicking particularly well-judged. Kennedy saved well under severe pressure, and could not be blamed for the heavy score recorded against his side. He was well beaten by McCanlis, but the Old Oxonian would probably have "left" a more experienced player than the Hospital custodian.

Next week : Gloucester v. Bath, at Kingsholm; Gloucester A v. Bath A., away.

GLOUCESTER A v. LYDNEY A

VISITORS LOSE AN EXCITING GAME

At Lydney. The home side pressed hard at the start, and Ray Probert made a fine mark and landed a splendid goal. Pottinger got away, but Tawney, the full back, brought off a fine tackle. The home side were going great guns, Willis dashing over with an unconverted try.

Half-time :

Lydney A 1 goal (m), 1 try
Gloucester A Nil

Lydney were playing finely, their defence being great when the visitors got away. The home forwards with capital rushes gave the City a warm time.

Benbow scored for Gloucester A, the same player converting. Brinkworth next scored for Lydney, the kick failing. Lydney A played well throughout and were full value for their splendid win.

Result :

Lydney A ... 1 goal (m), 2 tries (9 pts.)
Gloucester A 1 goal (5 pts.)

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