

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1929

GUY'S AVENGE KINSHOLM ROUT

GLO'STER DISORGANISED BY MISCHANCE

SAXBY, SEABAROOK & McCANLIS ABSENT

GUY'S WIN AGAINST WEAK CITY BACKS

Gloucester paid their annual visit to Honor Park to-day for the return match with Guy's Hospital and in view of the team's fine performance away from home this season the City had hopes of improving on their London form last season when they drew 8 points each.

Unfortunately Gloucester were deprived of the services of Boughton at full-back owing to an injured shoulder, the vacancy being filled by R. Gladwin, the young Second teamer, who did so well when called upon to deputise against Bath in the Christmas holidays.

Another experiment was made at outside half, where Glyn Thomas was chosen to partner Tomlinson.

Forward, the City were strongly represented, but the visitors would need to be at their best to overcome the Hospital, who in recent games have displayed greatly improved form, with Windsor Lewis outstanding behind the scrums.

In the first fixture at Kingsholm this season Gloucester won by 30 points to 6, the Hospital being outclassed.

Teams :

GLOUCESTER

BACK : R. Gladwin.

THREE-QUARTERS : R. James, J. Stephens, F. Benbow, and I. H. Storrie.

HALF-BACKS : A. J. Tomlinson and Glyn Thomas.

FORWARDS : G. Foulkes, J. Hemming, J. Davies, A. Carpenter, F. Wadley, T. Hiam, E. Comley, and W. Cuffe.

GUY'S HOSPITAL.

BACK : D. F. Ryan.

THREE-QUARTERS : W. Lewis, I. K. Thomas, F. H. B Spence, and T. B. Robinson.

HALF-BACKS : W. H. Lewis and J. C. Wilson.

FORWARDS : J. R. F. Popplewell, C. D. Malone, R. P. Hogbin, G. Lashmore, T. Morgan, A. R. Clarke, D. S. Clogg, and J. S. Batchelor.

There was a late change to the City team. Saxby, who had been down with a bad cold all the week, and took a big risk in turning out for Gloucestershire against Somerset, had to cry off, and this brought in Foulkes.

The weather was fine, though cold, but the attendance did not exceed a thousand. The ground was good except for a bad patch. McCanlis and Seabrook were late in arriving, and Gloucester had to start two short, Foulkes appearing at three-quarter.

With their superior numbers Guy's attacked at the outset, but good tackling by Stephens checked two promising openings. The Hospital, however, continued to get the ball, and, after clever passing ROBINSON ran over easily with a try after five minutes' play. Hogbin failed at goal.

On the resumption Gloucester made headway through Stephens, but Popplewell headed a fine rush which carried the game down to the Gloucester line.

James brought relief, but the City were soon called upon to defend again, Morgan and Hogbin being prominent with a loose dribble. Relief was obtained with a splendid forward rush.

Working well together the Gloucester forwards set up a sharp attack, but they were beaten off and centre play followed. Guy's opened out twice in quick succession but their handling broke down.

A wild pass by Tomlinson let the home team through, but Storrie and Gladwin managed to save. Heeling by Guy's saw Lewis open out cleverly, but Lewis was finely tackled by Gladwin. Gloucester were kept on the defensive, but Lewis failed in an attempt to drop a goal.

After a quarter of an hour the Gloucester team was completed with Benbow and Hemming, two reserves who accompanied the team. With the teams equalised in numbers play was more even, but Guy's continued to show better form behind the scrum.

There was one fine passing bout all along the line, but Lewis failed to get through. His cross kick was nicely placed, but a home forward knocked on with an open line. By the aid of good forward rushes Gloucester cleared to the centre, where there was some keen forward work. Guy's, however, were getting the ball frequently in the scrums.

Inside the City half Guy's set up a strong attack, and James was hard pressed. He dodged several opponents and passed to Stephens, who got in a sharp kick which went straight to Lewis. The latter dashed for the line but was tackled by Storrie. An inside pass to THOMAS, however, enabled the latter to drive over with a corner try. Hogbin failed with the goal kick.

Gloucester made a spirited rush after the restart, but Storrie was beaten by Ryan and Guy's dribbled back to beyond half-way. The Gloucester forwards were doing poorly in the scrums, and saw little of the ball when it did come out.

The backs showed little idea of combination. Stephens, however, did some great tackling, and stopped several movements.

Davies and Wadley led the City in a splendid rush in which Ryan was beaten; but Spence got back and saved. Gloucester attacked strongly later, and Ryan was collared on his line. The City struggled desperately to effect a score, but a bad pass from Tomlinson lost the position. Stephens made a strong effort later, but was well collared.

HALF-TIME :

GUY'S 2 tries (6 points)
GLOUCESTER Nil

It appears Seabrook and McCanlis drove from Oxford by car, but got to Honor Oak instead of Honor Oak Park, and did not arrive on the ground till five minutes before the interval. It was a serious handicap for Gloucester to have to start two men short, and the team appeared completely upset. Nearing half-time they began to show some cohesion, but the backs were weak in attack.

From the first scrum after the restart Guy's got the ball out and ROBINSON, well served by Spence, easily rounded Gladwin and scored in the corner. No goal resulted.

Weak play by Tomlinson on the drop-out nearly let the Hospital in again, Gladwin just managing to save in time. Gloucester could not seem to do the right thing, and the team as a whole had revealed nothing like their proper form. In the tight scrums especially the visitors were badly beaten. Good work by Stephens and James led to Gloucester gaining a footing in their opponents' half, and Gladwin kept play there for a time with some good touch-finding. The City, however, lost ground when the ball got out in the open.

So far the Gloucester backs had been woefully weak in combination, and all the work was individual in character. On the other hand Guy's were very lively, and were always dangerous on the move.

Benbow once cut through smartly, but his pass went astray, and Guy's taking advantage went to the other end. Gladwin, in making a tackle on Lewis, was knocked out, but soon resumed.

From a line-out the Guy's backs handled splendidly, and ROBINSON, showing fine pace and dash, beat the defence and scored a splendid try. From a difficult angle Hogbin placed a good goal, and Guy's held the substantial lead of 14 points.

On the play the Hospital deserved it, for Gloucester were hopelessly outplayed in all the finer points of the game.

Resuming, the City shone in some good footwork, and a flying kick sent the ball past the full back. A mistake in gathering gave Gloucester their first real chance of scoring, but it was not accepted, and only a minor resulted.

Gloucester held their own a bit better in subsequent play, but they displayed little finished football and did not give the Hospital much anxiety. The forwards played a hard, keen game, and showed up well in the loose, but behind there was sad weakness[sic], Tomlinson playing a lot below form at scrum half.

A shot for goal from play failed. A grand kick by Ryan put Guy's beyond the centre, where the forwards were engaged in some desperate exchanges. Gloucester were able to hold their own here, but in the open advantage always rested with the opposition.

After a brief spell of play in the Gloucester half, the visiting forwards attacked with loose footwork, but the defence of the Hospital backs was always sound inside their own half. Guy's broke away, but Storrie saved.

Nothing further was scored.

RESULT :

GUY'S HOSPITAL ... 1 goal 3 tries (14 pts.)
GLOUCESTER Nil

REMARKS

Allowing for the upset at the start of the game, Gloucester were clearly beaten by a side far too clever for them in all departments. It was the City's weakest display in any away match this season. Only occasionally did the side really get together.

The forwards were weak in the scrums but did capital work in the loose; Davies, Wadley and Hiam being the pick.

Outside Stephens was strong in individual work. There was a complete lack of combination, and altogether the backs compared very unfavourably with the Hospital men.

Gladwin, often heavily pressed, did quite well, but his kicking had not Boughton's length.

GLOUCESTER A v. SWINDON

HOME TEAM SUPERIOR

VISITORS' FINE RALLY IN CLOSING STAGES

The City Seconds were engaged at home this afternoon, when Swindon were the visitors. In the home team three changes were made, T. Croose appearing for Gladwin at full-back, and A. Webb and L. Meadows deputising for J. Hemming and H. Meek in the forwards.

Swindon kicked off, and in the initial stages play was very scrappy, but gradually improved as Gloucester forced the visitors back to their own 25. A clever passing movement initiated by E. Stephens brought the home team dangerously near the visitors' line, but Loveridge missed the final transfer. Gloucester were not to be checked for long, however, for ten minutes from the start Thompson cleverly ran through to open the score near the posts. The goal kick failed.

Shortly afterwards the home threes again came into prominence, and after pressing vigorously Thompson again crossed in the corner. Loveridge, with a fine kick, added the goal points.

Swindon struggled gamely, but the City team soon returned to the visitors' quarters for Thompson to run through smartly in the corner for his third try, which Loveridge failed to convert.

Fast open play followed, but the visitors were unable to overcome the superior combination shown by the home side. In midfield play Gloucester were penalised, and Swindon narrowly failed to reduce the arrears.

Close upon half-time Gloucester heeled in the scrum, and E. Stephens gathering smartly set the threes in motion for Loveridge to score a try in the corner. He was, however, unable to convert.

Half-time :
Gloucester A 1 goal 3 tries
Swindon Nil

On the resumption, Gloucester again attacked, but their efforts were not quite so successful as in the opening half.

Swindon showed a slight improvement, and subsequent play for a time was of a more even character. Mistakes in handling robbed both teams of several chances.

The temporary rally by the visitors was only of short duration, and once again play was transferred to the visitors' half. Though there were few spectacular incidents, Swindon defended stubbornly, and slowly but surely repelled the raiders.

Swindon for a time bombarded the home line, but at the very moment when a score seemed certain, Thompson secured the ball, and dashed away to midfield, where he was overtaken.

Swindon were still undismayed, however, and shortly before the end, reaped their reward, Walling penetrating the home line in the corner. A similar movement soon afterwards nearly resulted in a further score for the visitors, but Loveridge rushed through in the nick of time.

Just on time, Lloyd scored in the corner for Swindon, the goal kick failing.

Result :

Gloucester A ... 1 goal 3 tries (14 points)

Swindon 2 tries (6 points)

REMARKS

Gloucester were easily superior in the first half and had matters practically their own way in the loose, but in the second half, Swindon improved, and scored two tries in the last five minutes of the match.

The home three-quarter line was in fine form, particularly Thompson, who was always prominent. The City forwards were more thrustful in their attack, and combined far better than did the visitors.

JC