

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1955

GLO'STER LIVENED UP – AND WON

For 50 minutes of Gloucester's game with Guy's Hospital at Kingsholm, most spectators must have been wondering what on earth had gone wrong with the Red and Whites . . .

Then, in the closing stages, a revitalised Gloucester proceeded to overrun Guy's, and ultimately romped home by the unexpectedly big margin of 18pts. to nil.

But for this powerful rally against a tiring Hospital side towards the end of the game, it would certainly have gone down in the record book as one of Gloucester's "off days."

HANDLING UNCERTAIN

In the earlier stages, Guy's, though unable to score, had proved the livelier team and more often than not it was they who were doing the attacking.

Gloucester, on the other hand, were disappointingly sluggish, their handling was uncertain, and for long periods they could do little right.

But in the last quarter of the game the Red and Whites did much to redeem their earlier shortcomings. The change that came about seemed little short of miraculous !

As always, the pack played a vital part in enabling Gloucester to take command.

Particularly outstanding work again came from wing forwards Peter Ford and Dennis Ibbotson, who, together with Roy Parry and D. A. Jones, were among the players who had shown the most consistent form throughout the game.

During this great Gloucester revival – in which the Red and Whites at last began to run and throw the ball about as though they really meant business – some lively bursts came from outside half David Jones. Threequarters Roy Blair and Roy Sutton also got in some good runs.

Gloucester got off the mark when David Jones made an opening for Peter Ford to dash over for a good try.

Then came the best try of the match – scored by Dennis Ibbotson.

Snapping up the ball outside Guy's 25, and finding a solid wall of players between him and the goal line, the wing forward made an all out burst towards the corner. A sudden swerve back inside and he had sliced his way through the Hospital defence to plunge over for a score which earned him prolonged applause.

Another try was gained when Parry forced his way over following a scrum near Guy's line.

Finally Gloucester claimed a fourth try through Blair who, in a quick thinking move, swerved his way between two defenders and ran round behind the posts.

Blair made two conversions – one of them a good one – and David Jones improved on the last try.

MORGAN'S FINE KICKING FOR UNITED

Berry Hill were defeated 14pts.–6 by Gloucester United after leading 6pts. to 3 at half time.

Lewis Morgan, the United outside-half, was the man of the match and his penalty goal, two dropped goals and a conversion, were chiefly the reasons behind the Gloucester victory.

Harvey Harris scored a penalty goal for Berry Hill in the first minute and Brian Harris scored a try on the left wing. Morgan replied with a dropped goal before half-time.

For the first 20 minutes of the second half the home defence went to pieces and United went ahead with a penalty by Morgan, a try by Evitt, converted by Morgan, and a fine dropped goal by the latter from near half way.

JC