

THE CITIZEN

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1964

UNITED TAKE THEIR CHANCES TO GRAB WIN

GLOUCESTER UNITED 16 Pts.
NORTH GLOUCESTER COMBINATION ... 3 Pts.

Gloucester United notched a 16pts. to 3 victory over a North Gloucester Combination side at Kingsholm last night – but not as easily as the score sheet reads.

From the whistle the Combination team of members from local clubs, pressed hard to force ground and frequently had the United defence shaken by persistent heavy tackling.

Combinations' winger Barry Jackson, skipper Walden and Tim Byrnes pulled everything out but were foiled by a determined, if at times unstable, United side. Only the obvious class-members of the home team, Dave Ainge, Bob Smith and Mike Tocknell, were always safe in the face of the strong opposition.

Inevitably though, a side which has never played together before – in fact some members of the Combination side were only introduced to each other in the dressing room – must be expected to collapse against a normally united front.

Sperry started with a penalty to put United in the lead. This was followed by a try by Morris after a line run by Wright, with Sperry adding a conversion. Then Ainge provided the speed and skill to give Sperry a try in the corner. The conversion failed.

Gloucester United were 11 points up at half-time.

The Combination were not to be outdone, however, and Jimmy Walden, skipper of the side, showed the way when after a maul near the flag he crossed to get a deserved three points. The conversion failed.

But this was their only score, and Bob Smith, for United, rubbed in the defeat with a length-of-the-field run which had the tiring Combination defence baffled as he touched down by the posts for an easy conversion kick by Sperry.

THE TEAMS

United: M. Tocknell; B. Smith, C. Wright, P. Walden, R. Morris; P. Meadows, D. Haine; K. Picton, D. Poole, D. Evans, A. Townsend, B. Timms, T. Sperry, M. Hedges, D. Fell.

Combination XV: F. Sandbach; B. Jackson, A. Peters, J. Walden, C. Peters; T. Byrnes, D. Pegler; J. Greening, J. Powell, N. Moaby, D. Harris, J. Watkins, N. Sysum, B. Glanville, K. Townshend.

JC