

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1964

GLO'STER'S RALLY CAME TOO LATE

BRISTOL 10 Pts., GLOUCESTER 6 Pts.

Any fan of Gloucester's who took the trouble to visit Bristol on Saturday could hardly feel cheated, although the Cherry and Whites lost by two goals to a penalty and a try.

For it was a close game in which Gloucester – once again late in getting into top gear – won the second half hands down. Bristol's score flatters their performance.

Bristol must surely feel pleased with their full-back, Richard Wallace, one of the busiest players to be seen on the Memorial Ground for many a day. Although small he is very tough and fast; he has safe hands and a great willingness to look for work.

Indeed if the county selectors were at Bristol in force they must surely have made a mental note that this young player is a very promising prospect for the future – Rutherford or no Rutherford.

Jim Glover, always a danger man, opened Bristol's score when he followed up a kick by wing forward Mike Lawrence and got a hand to it over the line.

Gary White converted easily and also in the first half, Mike Collins had a great solo run of 35 yards showing a clean pair of heels to Rutherford who he beat with a lively swerve. Again White converted.

FASTER BACKS

Rutherford kicked three points for Gloucester just before the interval and after this Gloucester did not let the faster Bristol backs get near a score.

Just after the resumption the Bristol line was receiving perhaps its biggest battering of the season in a spell when the Gloucester eight were invincible.

"Citizen" photographer Fred Wicks remarked after the game that if the Rugby ball had been half as big again, Gloucester would have scored several tries. "It was as close as that," he said.

Bristol were lucky to keep Gloucester out at this stage. And when finally wing forward Dick Smith sent Tony Osman in for a try it was the least Gloucester had a right to expect.

For the hard-working Peter Ford, the ubiquitous Mickie Booth and the difficult-to-stop Nick Foice, had all come near to scoring tries. Once Foice was foiled with a magnificent crash tackle by Collins.

So far as line-outs and set-scrums were concerned, Gloucester were clear winners in the second half but the second half was too late – as it had been at Cardiff earlier in the week.

Gloucester go to Pontypool on Wednesday with confidence unshaken, I imagine. Their last two defeats have been honourably conceded.

AINGE EFFORT CLINCHED WIN

GLOUCESTER UTD. 16 PTS.
BRISTOL UTD. 11 PTS.

The United can feel proud of the scintillating way in which they snatched late victory from their Bristol opponents.

From the first half when Sperry, out of luck, muffed four penalties, and threequarters were out of touch it seemed that the home side would be swamped before the largish Kingsholm crowd.

And the early stages of the second half with Bridges adding a try, converted by Amor, and Taylor an unconverted try, things looked up for Gloucester. Mills, with a further three points from his try, should have "clinched the deal."

However, the form which sprang up late in the first half with a wonderful jinking, dummying, combined move from 25 to 25, spurred the United on.

Taylor showed the way and the conversion by Ainge made the total 8 points – Pitt having tried in the first half. Then Burton joined in the fun to add the equalising points.

Not content with mere conversions, Ainge sprang up from the loose, and scurried round behind the posts to give himself five points with an easy conversion.

JC