

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1964

BAYLISS STARS AS GLO'STER RECORD ANOTHER FINE TRIUMPH

GLOUCESTER 22 PTS., LEICESTER 9 PTS.

John Bayliss played the best centre's game for Gloucester to be seen at Kingsholm for many a season.

One can usually rely on uncompromising defence work from Bayliss and in attack he is always determined.

Against Leicester he was determined and evasive, contributing a number of splendid runs which cut the Leicester defence to ribbons and set up two of the afternoon's best tries.

It seemed as if Bayliss had, at last, broken through the barrier which divides the very good players and those of brilliant potential.

GO FURTHER

This season Bayliss has retained his county place and on Saturday indicated that he could go still further.

Gloucester regained that efficient self-confidence they displayed in the Harlequins' match on Saturday[sic].

They were defending an unbeaten home record of course, and to add to the sense of occasion an England selector, Steele-Bodger, was watching the game and this usually adds a pinch of spice to the efforts of the players who reckon they are worth a trial.

Gloucester's lock forward, Dave Owen, opened Gloucester's account with a try engineered by Mickie Booth who ran round the blindside of a scrummage, passing to Peter Ford.

Then Booth dropped a goal. Leicester's wing forward Dave Matthews responded with a try from an interception and Bayliss gave Gloucester their points back again when he put a pass by David Ainge to good account. Thus at half-time Gloucester had a six-points lead.

STRAIGHT RUN

Bayliss then showed his skill very clearly when he took a pass short of the Leicester 25. He headed to the right and straightened his run and headed for the posts. Ron Pitt took Bayliss's pass almost on the line and Don Rutherford converted.

Leicester's scrum-half John Allen then scored a try from a line-out – at this stage the Gloucester line was under extreme pressure from the Leicester pack.

Dick Smith then initiated a move which led to a try which he himself scored after passing to Pitt. Rutherford converted.

Dick Smith, along with Bayliss, showed exceptional speed on Saturday in the open moves and his try was only one of several excellent attacking moves he tried.

Bayliss then set up his second try after receiving from Pitt. He ran well and evasively and unselfishly handed a pass to Rutherford outside him at the last minute.

FINESSE

Knowing Bayliss's iron strength, he could possibly have bullocked his way over the line but in this game he was intent on showing finesse and, as the Gloucester full-back was there, he sent him a pass perhaps two or three yards in.

Rutherford did not convert his own try but this did not greatly matter as he had handed in yet another excellent performance, frequently augmenting the Gloucester threes and finding extremely valuable touches. His catching was outstanding.

The Gloucester pack played well again, Roy Long and Alan Brinn showing some extremely clean work in the line-outs and the back row of Peter Ford, Dick Smith and Dave Owen gave the Leicester halves a hot time.

It was a fine game, and entertainment of the highest order. Perhaps it had not the grandeur of Gloucester's match with Harlequins a few weeks ago, but it came pretty near once or twice.

JC