

THE CITIZEN

TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 1910

MONDAY'S FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v. CINDERFORD

BIG HOLIDAY CROWD AT KINGSHOLM

CINDERFORD AGAIN BEATEN

Cinderford paid their third visit of the season to Kingsholm on Easter Monday. Gloucester won two and drew one of the previous games, but on the City's form during the holidays there was more than a possibility of the Foresters proving successful on this occasion.

There was a large holiday crowd present when the teams lined out as follows : –

Gloucester. – H. Hancock; W. J. Pearce, E. Hall, H. Barnes, and W. Washbourne; W. Hall and W. Dix; G. Vears, W. Johns, H. Berry, G. Holford, D. Hollands, F. Pegler, W. Nelmes, and J. Wyburn.

Cinderford. – C. Harrington; T. S. Gwilliam, A. James, L. Bradley, and F. Kent; A. Hall (capt.) and S. Young; J. Watkins, F. Teague, A. Redding, J. Hyndman, G. Bowkett, G. Leighton, J. Cook, and G. Hewlett.

Referee : Mr. John (Cardiff).

THE GAME

Cinderford, who had a big following, were short of Niblett, Meek, Wright, and Jones; whilst Gloucester had Hudson, Gent, Stephens, and Egerton away.

Gloucester kicked off and play settled near the centre. The Foresters heeled from the first four scrums formed, but little ground was gained by the passing attempted. Hall at length broke away on his own and passed to a forward, but the next transfer went astray, and the movement was checked. Next Dix fed W. Hall from a pick up in the loose, and the latter sending to Washbourne, the latter cross-kicked. Holford was well up and spoiled Harrington gathering, but Cinderford managed to save further inroads.

With a neat screw kick W. Hall made some 20 yards for the City, but from a penalty Cinderford easily regained the ground. Gloucester, however, sent back again, and play was in the Foresters' 25. From a scrum Hollands dribbled away, and Harrington only saved in the nick of time. A punt out by Hall (Cinderford) saw Barnes cleverly mark under pressure, and E. Hall found touch with a well-judged kick.

Gloucester now heeled twice in succession, but no ground was made by the passing attempted, Barnes missing E. Hall's transfer once badly. There was a delay hereabouts owing to Wyburn injuring his leg, but he was able to continue.

Cinderford got the ball out cleverly from subsequent scrums, but Kent missed James' pass when there was a possible opening. Gloucester worked down with the aid of Pearce, who snapped up an opponent's pass and ran and cross-punted. There was a fine opening, but Hall saved for Cinderford, though at the expense of being slightly knocked out.

Continuing, Cinderford tried hard to get away, but the marking was too good. The Gloucester backs showed up with a neat bout of passing, and Barnes putting in a short kick Washbourne just failed to get up in time to keep the ball out of touch. Then followed some exchange kicking, and Harrington being at fault he was pounced upon by several Gloucester men only a few yards from the line. For failing to play the ball the Cinderford custodian was penalised, and E. Hall, from the favourable position, landed a neat goal.

On resuming, the Cinderford backs indulged in a splendid round of passing, but Kent was floored by Barnes, and Kent threw to touch. Cinderford made further headway, and then Young put in a fruitless attempt at goal. Hancock fumbled under his post, but recovered and got in a smart kick to touch. Inside the home half Dix opened out, and Pearce receiving from E. Hall, put in a strong dash down the touch-line, but succumbed to numbers.

Gloucester were doing well all round, and a fine effort by Washbourne was only checked a few yards outside. The same player a minute later made another fine dash for the corner, and Dix was only held up on the line. Exciting play followed close to the Foresters' line, the visitors again being lucky to escape. Off-side by Dix enabled Cinderford to ease the pressure, Bowkett finding touch nicely with the resultant penalty.

A breakaway by Hall (Cinderford) brought operations to midfield, where play was keenly contested. Attempts to find an opening on the part of both teams failed, but at length Gloucester came clean away. Washbourne, the last to receive, dashed away in fine style, but was too near touch to clear the opposition, and was forced out of play.

Gloucester went closer, but lost their position through a bit of slackness, the visitors dribbling to midfield before being checked by Pearce. From the next scrum, Dix got the ball away neatly, and the brothers Hall in turn handled.

Pearce was the next to receive, and after a sharp burst he cross-punted to midfield, where Berry came up on the run and fielded grandly. The International dashed through, and when confronted by Harrington passed to Dix, who completed a fine movement by scoring a try. E. Hall landed a goal, and Gloucester had the useful lead of 8 points.

Play was vigorous on the re-start, but Gloucester held the advantage, clever work by W. Hall (who was playing a fine game at outside half) giving the City a good position.

HALF-TIME SCORE :
Gloucester 2 goals (1p)
Cinderford Nil

Cinderford resumed, and Watkins getting up took a flying kick and landed the ball to touch ten yards from the City line. W. Hall and then Hollands, with useful kicks, changed the venue, and then the Gloucester forwards, with a capital combined effort, rushed well beyond the centre. Here Cinderford opened out to Gwilliam, who punted on, but Barnes fielded and returned to touch.

In succeeding play a high punt went to Hancock, who was collared directly he received, but he managed to pass to Pearce, who got the ball to touch. Hancock was knocked out in being tackled and had to receive the attention of the ambulance men.

Hancock was able to continue, and Gloucester, with a good rush, at once cleared to midfield. The City forwards heeling, Dix and W. Hall opened out. Barnes tried a punt down the field, but sent straight to Harrington, who kicked out of play. Penalties followed against either side, Gloucester benefiting.

Subsequent play hovered in the Cinderford half, but the visitors, aided by a mark kick by Bowkett, transferred the game to the other side of the half-way mark. Cinderford tried some passing from the next scrum, but Bradley was smothered by Barnes and lost the ball. A fine bit of work by W. Hall put Gloucester back, but there was nothing in it for the next few minutes.

From a cross-punt by Pearce, the Gloucester forwards appeared likely to gain an opening, but Cinderford saved in a desperate scramble. A mistake in gathering by Harrington gave the City a good attacking position, but they soon lost it, and the centre was again the scene of hostilities. A remarkable rush by the Gloucester forwards, Wyburn being to the fore looked promising, but Harrington checked smartly.

After this the City backs ought to have done something with an opening made by W. Hall, but Pearce held a trifle too long. From this point Cinderford were conspicuous with some exceedingly smart combination, forwards and backs taking part, and Gloucester were forced to their 25. The Foresters made further headway, and Hall, with a strong burst, nearly scored.

W. Hall brought relief, and the Gloucester forwards made further ground with a superb rush. They, however, lost the ball at the critical moment, and Hall (Cinderford) with a flying kick sent to Barnes, who was tackled in possession. A penalty followed for not playing the ball, but Bowkett did not make much use of the kick.

Playing well together, the Gloucester forwards got in another splendid burst, and Hollands picking up tried to break through. He failed, however, and the ball got loose. Here Holford sent out to E. Hall, who fed Washbourne, the wing hitting down the corner flag in a fine effort to score.

Cinderford worked hard towards the end, and reached the home 25, but the City came away again, Barnes, E. Hall, and Pearce shining. Gloucester put in a final attack just before the finish, but were not rewarded.

RESULT :

Gloucester 2 goals (1p) (8 points)
Cinderford Nil

REMARKS

The result was a big disappointment to the large crowd of Cinderford supporters present, but on the play the Foresters were deservedly beaten. In the first quarter Cinderford certainly held the advantage, their forwards especially doing well in the scrums. Their captain (Hall) did his best in getting the ball away, but the third line appeared out of joint, and it was rarely Gwilliam or Kent got a fair chance.

As the game progressed Gloucester came to their own, and following their opening score they were the better team. In the second half the City fairly had the measure of their opponents, the forwards doing grand work in all departments, and the backs combining well at times. Cinderford's defence, however, was very fine, and prevented any addition to the half-time score. Still a win by 8 points was very satisfactory for the City team.

W. Hall, at outside half for Gloucester, played a lovely game with Dix, and the three-quarters all contributed good work. Washbourne showed rare dash on the right wing, and the ex-schoolboy International experienced rough luck in not scoring at least twice.

Harrington, though saving well, did not kick with his usual length and judgment for Cinderford; whilst Hancock's position as custodian for the City was a comparatively easy one.