

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1931

GLOUCESTER 19 Pts., U.C.S. OLD BOYS 13 Pts.

FREE SCORING AT KINGSHOLM

GLOUCESTER'S SECOND HALF RECOVERY

University College School Old Boys, who opposed Gloucester at Kingsholm this afternoon, were defeated in the corresponding match last year by 27 points to 5, the feature of the game being a brilliant display by Don Meadows.

Gloucester were short of McCanlis, Tanner, Saxby, and Hemming. The vacancies at three-quarter were filled by V. Sheppard (the Birmingham University captain) and W. N. Hoare (the Old Cryptian, who has assisted Richmond this season). He, however, had not played for several weeks.

The Old Boys brought a useful side.

Teams :

GLOUCESTER

FULL-BACK : H. Boughton.

THREE-QUARTERS : Roy James (capt.), V. Sheppard, W. N. Hoare, and Graham Davies.

HALF-BACKS : F. Fifield and Don Meadows.

FORWARDS : F. Wadley, A. Carpenter, E. Comley, Ken Smith, F. Russell, L. Franklin, Dr. Steele-Perkins, and J. Davies.

U.C.S. OLD BOYS

FULL-BACK : T. H. Rowney.

THREE-QUARTERS : F. E. Appleby, R. A. Almot, J. J. Turnbull, and C. E. Brown.

HALF-BACKS : J. Farmer and G. McKenzie.

FORWARDS : C. M. Wilson, D. A. Kelby, L. Wilk, E. W. Parkes, G. A. Downie, H. L. Wilsdon (capt.), H. G. Loxdale, and R. Almenrader.

Referee : Mr. F. Mansell

THE GAME

The afternoon was fine, but the attendance only reached about 3,000 when the game started. James kicked off for Gloucester, but Smith was in front of the ball, and a scrum followed at the centre. Early play was of a scrambling nature, but the City backs later showed clever passing and re-passing. James was the last to receive, and cross-kicked, but was ruled to have stepped into touch. Fifield displayed cleverness in getting the ball away from several scrums. Hoare, Sheppard and G. Davies handled well, but keen tackling checked the movements. Play centred at midfield, neither side being able to do much behind.

Hoare, in bringing off a good tackle, injured his neck, and had to leave the field for attention.

A SURPRISE TRY

The visitors were dangerous with a sharp burst, but Meadows relieved, and later James brought off two fine runs, but nothing resulted. Hoare returned, and the visitors gained a footing in the home half. Play, however, was very scrappy, and movements broke down badly.

Steele-Perkins was prominent with some dashing work, and Boughton brought off a good relief run and kick. The Old Boys, however, were quick to seize on mistakes, and TURNBULL taking advantage in the home 25, shook off a tackle of J. Davies and scored near the posts. McKenzie converted and the visitors led by five points.

GLOUCESTER EQUALISE

Gloucester resumed, but the home team were not playing up to form, and allowed themselves to be hustled off the ball. After a spell of even play, Meadows opened out cleverly to James, who threw a wide pass to the left. The ball was taken by Sheppard, who cut through splendidly, and after a 30 yards' run transferred to FRANKLIN, who scored a nice try. Boughton converted and the teams were level.

LEAD REGAINED

The Londoners had the better of the exchanges on the restart, but Boughton brought relief with a short run and pass. The ball was got out to G. Davies, but the wing man was immediately tackled.

The City made further progress, but at midfield McKenzie secured, and going at fine speed up the centre, beat the defence and reached Boughton. A well judged pass to BROWN was well taken, and the left wing scored wide out. McKenzie added the goal points with a fine kick, and secured the lead again. This was a very good try, and the crowd loudly applauded.

On the play the Old Boys deserved their success, Gloucester's form being very disappointing. On the resumption Gloucester made a brief visit to their opponents' half, but they were quickly beaten back. A long punt went over Boughton's head and over the line and the City full back deemed it wise to touch down.

OLD BOYS SCORE AGAIN

Gloucester were doing none too well forward, but the backs failed to profit when they did get the ball. Fifield sent his men going nicely once, but James failed to take Sheppard's pass. Another opening followed a little later, and this time Hoare went away in fine style. But G. Davies was not up, and the pass was captured by Appleby, who ran back to Boughton.

A pass inside to the full back was taken, and the ball was kicked over the line, where ALMENRADER secured the touch for a try. McKenzie made a splendid attempt at conversion.

This was a glorious opportunist try, and showed the adaptability of the visitors. This further success was a pointer for the City, who were now eight points down. Gloucester were urged to "play up," but there was no immediate improvement.

The Old Boys had the better of the play, and put in one or two sharp attacks. The defence, however, held up, and Gloucester cleared to the centre.

HALF-TIME :

U.C.S. OLD BOYS 2 goals, 1 try

GLOUCESTER 1 goal

BOUGHTON'S PENALTY

The half time score was a staggerer for the home crowd, but on the play the Old Boys were well on top. Gloucester had shown disappointing form all-round, and there was scarcely a redeeming feature.

Immediately after the restart Meadows was to the fore with a brilliant solo run in which he beat the full back, but with Comley close in attendance he essayed a pass, which was dropped with an open goal line. This was a bad miss, and probably cost five points. The Old Boys worked out to beyond the 25, where they were penalised for off-side, and BOUGHTON landed a goal.

The City played up better now, and Hoare brought off a strong run, but his transfer was not accepted. A punt ahead by Sheppard went to touch close to the Old Boys' line, where the home team struggled desperately to effect a score. The defence, however, was very stubborn. A movement initiated by Fifield, and carried on by James, made a clear opening for G. Davies, but the latter knocked on.

The City continued on the attack, but were never able to gain a real ascendancy. The Old Boys, profiting by mistakes, moved ahead, and by clever work in the backs changed the situation.

JAMES SCORES

A promising movement by the City broke down, but later Sheppard, sent away by Meadows, brought off a lovely run. He was tackled from behind, but let the ball go to JAMES, who scored a good try. Boughton failed at goal, and the score was 13-11 against the City.

Play was keen on the restart, McKenzie doing good work for the Old Boys. Useful kicking took the visitors close, and the home line was in danger. Franklin brought relief with a useful touch finder, and the City progressed to midfield.

Back the Old Boys came with clever three-quarter work, Boughton making a fine tackle. Another attack followed on the left, but the defence was too sound. After this Gloucester took up the running again, a forward pass stopping G. Davies with a good chance of scoring.

GLOUCESTER TAKE THE LEAD

Keeping up the pressure Gloucester went hard for the lead, and it nearly succeeded after a fine effort by Hoare, whose pass to James went astray.

The City, however, were not to be put off, and clever combination between MEADOWS and James gave the former a try, which James converted. Thus for the first time in the game Gloucester secured the lead.

The Old Boys played up strongly on the kick off, and the Gloucester line was badly assailed. Sound tackling prevented a score, James doing capital work. Hoare was on one occasion forced to run back over his line, but he got clear and sent to touch.

CITY GO FURTHER AHEAD

Gloucester came right away after this, and in turn took up the attack. Picking up, from an opponent's mistake, Hoare burst away, and sending to JAMES, the captain dashed over with a good try, which he failed to convert.

The last few minutes were fast and open. James brought off a marvellous run, beating man after man by a side step, but his transfer was not accepted. Gloucester continued to press, but failed to add to their score.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER ... 3 goals (1p.) 2 tries (19 points)

U.C.S. OLD BOYS 2 goals 1 try (13 points)

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