

THE CITIZEN

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1934.

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL

COUNTY MATCH AT KINGSHOLM

GLOUCESTERSHIRE v. NORTH MIDLANDS

As a preliminary to the County Championship competition, Gloucestershire arranged a friendly fixture with the North Midlands at Kingsholm this afternoon. The match attracted little interest, and there were only about 1,000 spectators present. There were changes in both teams from the original selections. Hurrell (Bristol) was appointed leader of the Gloucestershire pack, and Don Meadows acted as captain.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

BACK : H. Boughton (Gloucester).

THREE-QUARTERS : T. B. H. Burroughs (Clifton), L. C. Watkins, F. G. Edwards (Gloucester), and W. V. Sheppard (Leicester).

HALF-BACKS : M. Hobbs (Bristol) and Dan Meadows (Gloucester).

FORWARDS : A. D. Carpenter (Gloucester), R. Morris (Gloucester), A. Jones, R. G. Hurrell, D. Cummins (Bristol), Ivor Williams (Gloucester), W. Woodward (Bristol) and C. Murphy (Bristol).

NORTH MIDLANDS

BACK : J. A. M. Tierney (Bromsgrove).

THREE-QUARTERS : P. A. Feeney (Moseley), T. B. Rigby (Birmingham University), H. Kenyon (Birmingham University), and C. H. Elgood (Old Edwardians).

HALF-BACKS : R. J. West (Handsworth) and Lieut. H. P. L. Glass (Army).

FORWARDS : J. T. Merriman (Moseley), W. G. Bird (Old Edwardians), J. Pritchard (Walsall), J. MacDowell (Old Edwardians), B. A. Thomas (Old Edwardians), S. E. A. Anthony (Old Edwardians), H. R. K. Broughton (Moseley), and C. G. Trentham (Moseley).

Referee : Mr. F. Spill (Bristol).

THE GAME

Gloucestershire kicked off and at the first scrum the Midlands were penalised. Boughton, however, went very wide with his shot for goal and the visitors returned to touch. Passing bouts were attempted on either side, but Burroughs failed to accept Watkins' transfer and on the other side Elgood was well tackled by Sheppard. The Midlands were heeling well, but the handling was too slow. From one mistake Edwards gathered, and slipping the defence put Watkins over with the first try behind the posts. Boughton converted.

Gloucester Eight Points Up

Play was rather quiet, but Gloucestershire appeared to have the game in hand at this early stage. The home backs opened out nicely, and following some neat exchanges Edwards broke through, and after Watkins had handled, BURROUGHS had an easy run over. Boughton missed the goal kick, but Gloucestershire held an eight points lead in as many minutes.

Following this reverse the Midlands made a sharp attack through Rigby on the left, but only a minor resulted. Gloucestershire replied with a smart run by Watkins, the Gloucester player beating the defence nicely, but a transfer inside was ruled forward with a good opening. Watkins again shone with a fast run and put over the line, but a visitor got back and gained the touch by a fraction of a second.

Another Try

The Midlands showed glimpses of smartness, the forwards being prominent in the loose, but there was no finish. Each side in turn took up the aggressive, but play at times was very scrappy, the handling being uncertain. Gloucestershire, however, were much superior, and after Sheppard had failed to take a wide pass from Meadows, the ball came to the left, BURROUGHS racing over in the corner. Boughton made a fine attempt at goal.

Midlands Do Better, and Score

The visitors had the better of exchanges subsequently, and once they had a fine opening, but Rigby hesitated, and Feeney, to whom he passed inside, was brought down. Later, Meadows twice opened cleverly, but Sheppard could not hold his pass. The Midlands rushed back, and Rigby was prominent with a sharp dash, but Boughton rolled him to touch. Gloucester[sic] were penalised, and MacDowell had a place for goal; a splendid attempt just failing.

The Midlands kept up the pressure, and after a smart run and punt ahead Rigby gathered the ball on the bounce and passed to MacDOWELL, who scored. Rigby failed at goal.

Play on the restart was even until the Gloucester[sic] backs broke away, and Watkins opened up for another try by Burroughs. Boughton converted.

HALF-TIME :

Gloucestershire 2 goals 2 tries

Midlands 1 try

The second half opened with scrambling play, and a succession of mistakes in handling. Play was mostly in the Midlands half, but it was aimless sort of football and devoid of incident.

The monotony was relieved by Kenyon effecting a smart clearance run to midfield, where Feeney continued the movement. The attack was beaten off, and then Meadows darted away, beat the immediate defence, and on reaching Tierney, gave to WATKINS, who had an open line and an easy try behind the posts. Boughton goaled.

There was no improvement in the football, Gloucestershire's form being very mediocre. They did most of the attacking, but were hopeless when scoring chances came along. From one such movement which broke down Kenyon picked up and racing away, scored a fine try. MacDowell failed with the goal kick.

Gloucestershire responded with a try by SHEPPARD after a strong run, and Boughton converted, making the score 26–6 in the home county's favour. The Midlands had a period of attacking after this, but met with no success. Gloucestershire went to the other end, where BOUGHTON landed a penalty goal.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTERSHIRE ... 5 goals (1p.) 2 tries (29 points)
North Midlands 2 tries (6 points)

JC