

City missed to many first half chances

AFTER taking a 24th minute lead against Chelmsford at Milton Road on Saturday, Cambridge City let the Southern League points slip away to Essex when Chelmsford were allowed to score twice without further reply.

None of the three goals was a good one, and the game was an anti-climax following City's powerful performance against Bedford the previous Tuesday. Chelmsford were never the same force that crushed Cambridge United 6-2 at the Abbey Stadium the previous week.

Deserved to win

Chelmsford deserved the points in the end for, while City had the better of the first period, they missed too many chances to gain a safety margin. The visitors took the honours in the second 45 minutes and, but for a too casual

polished performance by either side.

Kevin Cornwell put City in the lead when he was allowed to convert a corner from Wall, Medlocks, in the visitors' goal, made one of his rare errors when he let the ball through his fingers and the inside-left had an easy task to ram home from close range.

Tony Butcher, Chelmsford's inside-right, was allowed enormous latitude by City's defence and it was he who scored both his side's goals. The first came three minutes before the interval from a pass by Tommy Wilson, the Chelmsford skipper and ex-Cambridge City centre-forward. From what looked like an offside position, he squared the ball to the unmarked Butcher who ran onto it and cracked home unchallenged.

His second goal came in the 61st minute in equally simple fashion. This time it was Sam Salt who made the ground on the right. His cross found Butcher's head; a quick turn and the ball flashed into the back of the net.

When he had the ball and was looking for Gibson, his twin striker, the inside forward was in mid-air doing the fetching and carrying. This meant that the best laid plans of the visitors were being defeated even before they started. As in the previous games, the annoying feature was that United came off obviously do better. Even on Saturday's display they always promised so much but when it materialised.

After the interval, Hobbs, on the left wing, did not receive one ball from his colleagues and any passes to the wing went to Finch, who was dazed after his injury.

The defence looked more solid than in previous weeks, with Welsh downing in the middle. Benning and Smith, in goal, was always difficult to beat. He was in command of his area and even though he was twice injured he proved a hard man to get past.

So the "Saturday blues" still continue for United with no hint of a let-up. Nevertheless there is a consolation for United with no hint of a let-up.

When the team arrived back in Cambridge, the wing half was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital for an X-ray.

This injury forced the team to be reorganised, with McVittie moving inside and Gibson dropping back into the half back line.

Even then it seemed as though United could win. While Cheltenham scored first, the visitors quickly equalised and they again looked to be heading for victory.

Then Cheltenham showed how easy it was to find goal and they scored twice more to crush any hope the visitors had of recording their first Southern League victory.

Randall looked lethal in the air, but as the game wore on the United centre-forward received fewer of the passes he needed to

approach, must have won by a larger margin.

Even so, City supporters claimed afterwards there should have been a last minute penalty for a foul on the right winger, Billy Wall, by left-back Austin. The forward crashed down heavily in the penalty area, but the referee took no notice because presumably the defender caught Wall off balance.

Wall, in the dressing room afterwards, said: "I was off balance as I tried to go round him, but he caught me with an elbow. I was not in a scoring position."

City fought hard for the equaliser in the last 29 minutes, but suffered a setback when Brendan McNally was carried off with an injury to his left leg and only came back for 9 minutes to limp on the right wing.

All in all, however, it was not a



City's centre-forward, Alec Moyses, beats the challenge of two Chelmsford defenders to get in his shot—but it was wide.

Reserves severely mauled

CHELMSFORD RES. 6, CITY RES. 3. CAMBRIDGE CITY RES. gave a pathetic display at Chelmsford where they were severely mauled by the livelier home side. Ray Paul took over at left back. Peter Matthews switching to the right and Geoff Suddards donned the No. 9 shirt. Peck came in inside right to the exclusion of Alan Spears.

Cambridge were in with a chance for only the first ten minutes but after Chelmsford had opened the score it was very much one-way traffic.

Chelmsford leading 2-0 at half-time scored four more goals to a solitary reply by Paul who had reverted back to the centre forward position.

Alan and in the City goal made many fine saves and John Bone worked hard at centre half while Alan Gregory was the pick of an otherwise listless attack.

CORBY RES. 1, EYNESBURY 3. It was four goals in 12 minutes second half spell that gave Clacton a well merited E.C.L. Cup win over Haverhill. Sharper in attack and generally sounder in defence, unbeaten Clacton always looked the better balanced side.

Haverhill, a goal down in six minutes, fought back and two goals by John Cutts gave the visitors an interval lead.

Meagher (3) and Coleman (2) scored for Clacton. Cutts (2) and Smith replied for Haverhill.

ST. NEOTS TOWN 1, ROMFORD RES. 0. St Neots were a little lucky to gather two Metropolitan League points against Romford Res on Saturday.

Playing their second league game in two days—and winning 1-0 for the second time—they lacked the "killer" instinct which they will need for their F.A. Cup game against Desborough on Saturday.

They have another league game against Dunstable on Wednesday and manager J. Gregory might use the occasion for a forward line permutation.

The attack did have some bright moments against Romford with the inside trio of Jones, Brand and B. Hayles combining well, but wingers Burgess and Pond looked unhappy. They had plenty of the ball but close marking and hard tackling reduced their effectiveness.

Reedman, in goal, had a first class game, and Norman at centre half dominated the middle.

At times, the passing was too close and the ball seldom swung. Romford knew the value of the long through pass and were unlucky that it did not pay dividends.

Under-14s meet Netherhall

Although beaten by a physically superior Chesterton schoolboys' side 4-2 on Saturday, the Cambridge City schoolboys' under-14 side displayed some aggressive football, especially early on.

Lessons learned from this encounter, it is hoped, will be implemented on Wednesday evening when the Under 14's meet Netherhall School, and in Saturday's visit to play the strong Bishops Stortford team.

Young U's disappoint

CAMBRIDGE United Colts failed to consolidate their first half superiority in their Mercia League game against Bedford Town Youth at Newmarket Road on Saturday and this cost them the match 2-1.

The U's did all the attacking in the first half and had a mediocre Bedford eleven on the run. There were at least three clear scoring chances for Cambridge during this period but the home forwards failed to respond and threw their advantage away with wild shooting.

Bedford were given few opportunities but made the most of their occasional breakaways. During one of these, inside-left Newman scored an opportunistic goal right against the run of play.

After the interval play rapidly deteriorated and United became increasingly sluggish. The forwards seemed bereft of ideas and

were further handicapped when inside-left Felton had to go off with an injured leg.

Two of the Ely goals were fantastic efforts, both long centres which caught the unfortunate David Pitts unawares. And as he also dropped the ball once to give Ely another gift, he could hardly be said to have had a good game.

Ely, snatching up chances, were 4-1 ahead at the interval and the game was as good as over. They got another immediately after the

resumption and though Newmarket pegged one back there was never any likelihood of them staging a revival.

Ely were right in top in the last 15 minutes and two further goals made them their biggest away winners in four years of E.C.L. membership.

Their new signing, centre-half Barry Smith, looked short of match practice, but did enough to show that he will be a valuable asset. Newmarket sadly missed the guile and experience of their ex-Irish international, Johnny Gavin.

Ely's 7-2 shock for Jockeys

"ELY fancy their chances of winning at Newmarket" ran our Friday night headline, but nobody could have envisaged that they would have won by such a large margin as 7-2.

They were worth the E.C.L. Cup points for they showed better teamwork and understanding throughout; yet there was never five goals difference between the two sides. On the other hand, any team which puts up such a weak defensive performance as

NEWMARKET 2, ELY 7. The Jockeys deserves no better fate.

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performance.

CROYDON 8, HISTON 1. This Athenian League Division II match is one that Histon goalkeeper, Paul Biggadike, will soon want to forget. Eight times he was called to collect the ball from the back of his goal, but twice as often he made saves which prevented the score from being doubled or even trebled.

Histon seldom looked like taking any of the game. Croydon attacked with fury throughout and only half a dozen times did Histon manage to break through into their opponents' area and even then they hardly proved dangerous.

BALLITO SPORTS 4, SAFFRON WALDEN 1. Saffron Walden were unlucky to lose their Herds County League game against Ballito Sports at St. Albans by such a large margin.

After comfortably holding the Ballito attack during the scoreless first half and the early part of the second, Walden conceded four goals in three minutes.

Walden did not recover from a fortunate Ballito goal in the 55th minute and the visitors quickly netted three more goals — two coming in three minutes.

Walden tried to retaliate but were only rewarded once when after 72 minutes centre-forward Terry Gibbons netted.

ROYSTON 5, OLD LUTONIANS 0. Though they showed many errors in the first half Royston pulled themselves together and deserved to win this exciting South Midlands League game.

Two goals down at the interval Royston drew level immediately after the re-start with goals from O'Sullivan and Noades. Fifteen minutes later Noades put his side ahead but then Old Lutonians levelled the score and went ahead from a penalty.

Noades again evened matters and shortly before the end Penton lofted in Royston's winner.

HAVERHILL RES. 1, CLACTON RES. 0. A 60th-minute goal settled this close Border League struggle at Hamlet Croft and gave Haverhill their first win of the season. Until then the match lacked sparkle.

Clacton were the more workmanlike in the first half while Haverhill failed to enter early promise.

Positional changes in the second half paid dividends for Haverhill for whom Pettit, who was switched from defence to attack, scored the winning goal.

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 6.0—8.0 p.m.
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