



United centre-forward, Dennis Randall, drives home the only goal of the game.

# At last United find the winning touch

CAMBRIDGE UNITED are round the corner at last! With a display of fiery, fast-moving football, the U's proved too good for Romford in the Southern League match at Newmarket Road last night.

The missing fire and cohesion suddenly returned and the drastic changes made by the manager, Roy Kirk, bore fruit. The defence was solid, the attack was lethal and the ball flowed sweetly between the two.

The real key to success was possession of the ball in midfield. Every time the ball came out of defence last night a U's player

CAMBRIDGE UNITED 1, ROMFORD 0  
(Attendance 3,088)

was in possession and then in lightning moves the home side were in a position to strike. Scurr, Gibson and McVittie were all successes in their new positions and they joined the other eight in providing one of the best displays seen at Newmarket Road this season.

In the first half the U's played with a gale force wind but, although they had 90 per cent of the play, they could not make the decisive break through. Several chances were missed as the ball ran away from them and as the interval approached with no score

the knowalls in the crowd were pronouncing a slaughter by Romford in the second period.

But it was then that the United players showed their resilience. They overcame any psychological barrier and raised the standard of football to such an extent that they mastered both Romford and the wind.

### Winner

As the football improved so the confidence came bubbling back and in the 55th minute it happened! Atkinson crossed the ball to Randall, who missed his first shot but then hit a goal with his second attempt and the U's were over their blues.

Now the burning question is will the up trend continue when the U's travel to Chelmsford on Saturday?

There seems no reason why the same team should not bring back at least one point — provided they fight for every ball as they did last night.

From the kick off United attacked and, playing some fine football, they had the Romford defence at sixes and sevens but chances eluded them. One great shot on the run by Welsh, in the 35th minute, escaped everybody only to strike the goalkeeper and bounce away to safety.

In the second half United kept the ball closer when running with it and split their opponents' defence with raking passes.

After the match the U's had their reward when they received their first league win bonus of the season and Roy Kirk went into the dressing room and expressed everybody's feelings with two words: "Thank you."

Then he said: "Now I will be able to sleep tonight."  
**United:** Slack, Scurr, Finch, Gibson, Kelly, Welsh, Day, Haasz, Randall, Atkinson and McVittie.  
**Romford:** Dunbar, Read, Tapping, Elias, Rutter, Abbiss, Sanders, Towers, Brown, MacLeod and Barnett.

## Pipped on the post

OLD PERSEANS 9 pts., BURY ST. EDMUNDS 10

THE new rugby season opened in customary fashion with a hot sun above and a bone-hard ground beneath. These factors, combined with the new rules, did not help to make the normally firing opening match Old Boys scored first, the ball passing quickly along the threequarters for Crawford to gain an unconverted try in the corner. Bury soon hit back and went ahead when a try between the posts was converted.

Soon afterwards the Old Boys were reduced to fourteen men when their left wing threequarter, Martin Green, was heavily tackled. He was badly shaken up and winded, and the game was held up for twenty minutes while he was taken to hospital.

The Old Boys attacked strongly for most of the second half, despite coming off second best to the heavier Bury forwards in the scrums. In this period of aggression they scored twice with tries by Parry-Jones and Horace White, but both conversions were from the touchline and were missed.

Then right on time and slightly against the run of play, Bury scored a converted try to run out winners by a single point for the third time in the last four meetings of the two clubs.

## Reserves show their seniors the way

City Reserves 2, Bury Town 1  
(Attendance 530)

BOUNDING with enthusiasm and keenness in an effort to prove that their lack of success so far this season is only a temporary set-back, Cambridge City Reserves scored a convincing odd goal of three victory—their second in the League this season—over their Suffolk neighbours, Bury Town, under the Milton Road floodlights last night.

This win augurs well not only for the Reserves, but for the City seniors as well, for on Saturday the Southern League side meet Bury in the F.A. Cup at Bury. Last night most of the senior eleven were at the ground assessing their opponents' potential.

The match was played in a blinding rainstorm for the latter part of the second half, but despite this the two teams produced some aggressive and attractive football. Man of the match for the Cambridge team was young Alan Spears, the ex-youth international. He scored his side's two goals and might easily have had a hat-trick.

In the 9th minute he snapped up an Alan Gregory header and slammed the ball home from ten yards. Then, in the 28th minute, he raced through to finish with a low level drive that scorched past Greatrix, the Bury keeper.

In the second half the visitors came more into the picture but still City Reserves peppered the Bury goal with a series of quick snap-shots. Chief danger men in the Reserves' attack were Spears and Gregory.

Brian Basted, always a livewire attacker for Bury, pulled back the arrears with a fine drive from a ruck of players.

The Bury side included Jim Sharkey (ex-Cambridge United), Frank Allen (ex-City and United), Graham Ward (ex-United), Brian Basted (ex-United) and John Greatrix (ex-City).

**City Reserves:** Cairne, Matthews and Poole, Bradford, Bone and Barker; Warboys, Spears, Peck, Gregory and Rooney.

**Bury Town:** Greatrix; Rayner and Jerny; Pelling, Taylor and Allen; Tooley, Ward, Wallis, Basted and Sharkey.

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