

What they said after the clash of the 'Big Two'

A Cambridge United director (MR. MAURICE WYNNE): It was a very good game played in typical cup-tie atmosphere. We just about had the edge over the 90 minutes.

A City F.C. director (MR. FRANK RIDGEON): It was a good, hard game, but in my opinion there was too much body checking without there being too much football. United had the run of the ball and this gave them the verdict. On the other hand, I was very pleased with the way in which our fellows played.

Cambridge United's manager (ROY KIRK): It was a very

even first half, but in the second half we defended well after we scored our goals. I was very pleased with the way my players tried throughout the 90 minutes.

City's manager (TOMMY DAWSON): What have you got to do to win matches? We showed a big improvement in our play which, in the first half especially, equalled that of the United. I do not think it was a 3-1 result. To be generous, there should have been one goal each.

United's coach (BRIAN DOYLE): We plan a lot of

free kicks and the boys work hard at them but in many games they do not come off. Tonight it was particularly rewarding for me to see the lads score two goals from such kicks. To see the players think for themselves in taking the two kicks made all the hard work on Coldham's Common worthwhile.

City's coach (JEFF SUDARDS): It was a hard game and I think United deserved to win because they took their chances.

United's captain (BILL KELLY): It was a lot easier

for us in the second half after we scored. The City players panicked trying to score goals and this made our task much easier.

EDDIE BAILHAM (City's new boy): I was not pleased with the way I played. I have done little training recently and shall be glad to be fit again. I think City have the ability; all we need is to settle down.

The Referee (Mr. LITTLEWOOD): From the crowd's point of view this must have been an excellent, well fought match. From my point of view, I thought the same.



Dennis Randall flings up his arms in delight after neatly heading home United's third goal, with City goalkeeper, Bill Heath, an onlooker.

United take their chances to be the 'Big One'

Cambridge United did not exactly set Cambridge City on fire at Milton Road last night they did enough to go into the second leg of the Cambridgeshire Professional Cup with a two-goal lead.

Typical

It was a typical clash between the two clubs; yet, although this was the hardest match between the two sides in the last six seasons, a trainer was called on to the pitch only once and that was in the 67th minute. No quarter was asked and no mercy given as incident followed incident.

After a first half when City held the slight edge the game really flared soon after the interval with two goals in a minute and another two minutes later. The last 35 minutes were fought out at a forest fire pace and the United, who already had a lead, added a third goal 12 minutes from time

while City could not find the net again.

Playing with an urgency that could have easily kept them in the F.A. Cup if it had been produced last Saturday, City looked the more dangerous combination in the first 45 minutes, the United's defence being hard worked although it always played its way out of trouble.

The second half, however, belonged to the U's. It was a silly mistake, though, that gave them the opening to go into the lead.

Well taken

It was in the 55th minute that centre half Alf Craig was strolling through with the ball looking for a colleague. He tried to slip it outside to his right winger, Willie Devine, but before the ball reached the City man, United's left winger Matt McVittie intercepted, beat off Craig's determined effort to retrieve his mistake, side-stepped keeper Bill Heath and rolled the ball into the net. This was a chance that was taken beautifully and deservedly put the visitors in the lead.

Cambridge City 1, Cambridge United 3. (Attendance 7,023).

Hardly had the cheering died away and the small boys returned to their posts behind the goals than City equalised. From the kick-off Eddie Bailham, the new Eire centre forward from Shamrock Rovers, showed another neat touch when he flicked the ball through to the oncoming Alec Moyses, and the inside right gratefully took his chance.

It had been rehearsed

There was pandemonium as the home supporters cheered themselves hoarse with relief. But the City were not allowed to relax, for two minutes later United were given a free kick. They used a movement they practised that morning on Coldham's Common and the ball was in the net.

The referee (Mr. N. C. Littlewood, Cambridge) ruled that Tommy Carroll, City's right back, handled and Jimmy Gibson quickly chipped the ball over the

wall's heads and Johnny Haasz was there to score easily. Afterwards, Carroll showed the mark on his shirt where he claimed the ball had hit him and the rearguard claimed three United defenders were off side, but the goal stood.

Now a goal down, City came back with some determination and Brian Moore just missed connecting with a Moyses cross and a powerful shot from Bailham whistled past a post. But at the other end United struck again.

It was another free kick that caused the damage. This time McVittie did the chipping and Dennis Randall, the U's leader, who had been limping nearly all the period, leaped high in the 78th minute to nod home, the ball going into the net via the inside of a post.

Marked man

United's defence looked so sound in this match that they were able to keep two men permanently round Bailham, whose debut showed that he is a capture for City, but lack of support gave him little chance to shine. There were some neat touches from the Eire international; he showed a great turn of speed and on the rare occasion he let loose his shots showed great power.

Two names were taken in the second period — Bailham (City) and Scurr (United).

United won because they took their chances. City lost because they made elementary mistakes.

City: Heath; Carroll, McNally; McGugan, Craig, Pearce; Devine; Moyses, Bailham, Moore; Bircumshaw.

United: Slack; Scurr, Finch; Gibson, Kelly, Welsh; Day, Haasz, Randall, Atkinson, McVittie.

Outstanding

Jimmy Gibson, despite being in several arguments, was outstanding as United's right half, and Slack in goal, did everything one expects from him. Heath, at the other end, was also in command of his area.

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City's Alec Moyses gets up to head a corner from Peter Bircumshaw but United's Jimmy Gibson (right) was at hand to cover the goal.

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