



Peter Hobbs (extreme left) cracks the ball home for United's second goal.

Hobbs' hat-trick put U's on winning path

A FIRST half hat-trick by Peter Hobbs meant that Cambridge United were virtually assured a place in the first round of the F.A. Cup after only 45 minutes' play at Bedford on Saturday.

Before the interval the home side was so outplayed that they managed only four direct shots at their opponent's goal — and two of those were long range efforts.

Right from the start United applied the pressure and the home side were never allowed to settle down. Indeed it was hard to realise that Bedford were the home side.

There were no nerves among the U's players as they quickly settled down to play attractive, open football of a surprisingly high standard for so early in a vital cup game.

Gibson and Welsh immediately took a grip in mid field and kept a steady flow of passes to their attack. And when the ball reached the forwards every man wanted to get in the net.

One moment the ball would be kept close and then suddenly a long pass would put the Bedford defence under pressure. Two of the first half goals came from movements like these that left the home rearguard wide open.

Rapid switch

Strangely enough United were at their most dangerous when they were defending. When the defenders won the ball it was rapidly switched to the attack and in a couple of moves the forwards were within striking distance of their opponents' goal.

The second goal was typical of this. Atkinson, back in defence, received a short pass and ran up field, he passed to Haasz and ran on to take the return. This found him clear in front of goal and although Bellotti dived at his feet to parry, Hobbs was on hand to steer the ball through a rack of defenders into the net.

Took his chances

The centre-forward took his chances and had a great afternoon. He scored first in the 7th minute when he lifted a pass from Atkinson high over the goalkeeper into the net. His second came 30 minutes later, and his third, was in the 42nd minute, when he converted a cross from Haasz.

Long before the third goal went in it was obvious who was going to win as the visitors played thoughtful, constructive football while the home attack stumbled against a resolute defence.

After the interval the game was less inspiring but the visitors' command was not in dispute but for three minutes after Sturrock scored for Bedford in the 73rd minute.

Then the U's defence looked shaky as the home forwards

Bedford T. 1, Cambridge U. 4.
(Attendance 5,090).

launched a frenzied onslaught in a vain hope of turning the game in their favour. But it held firm and a bad mistake by the home keeper let United score their fourth and so seal a happy afternoon for the Cambridge club.

The final goal came when Day crossed accurately from the right. Bellotti watched it sail over his head, hit the left hand post and bounce into the net.

Little was seen of Sturrock and Cooley, the two Bedford danger men. They were closely watched by Gibson and Kelly and never allowed to threaten the United goal.

The home defence were hardly ever close to the visiting forwards

and the U's found it surprisingly easy to make space for themselves.

One great factor in the U's favour was the size of their support. In the surprisingly small crowd of five thousand, officials estimated that a little more than half were Cambridge fans.

They certainly made themselves heard and the roar that greeted the United players must have helped to settle any pre-match nerves.

After the game United's manager, Roy Kirk, was quick to realise the part the supporters played in his team's win.

"The lads played well and I was particularly pleased with the way they fought for every ball. The main thing, however, that I was grateful for was the wonderful support the players received from the United fans."

A tragic mistake starts City slide

Nuneaton Borough 3, Cambridge City 1.

IT was a tragic mistake at Nuneaton on Saturday that put Cambridge City a surprise goal down in their S.L. match which was eventually lost 3-1.

Hardly 20 seconds had gone by when City had a goal kick and Bill Heath pushed the ball out of the area to left half Jack McCagan and the wing half prodded it slowly back. But inside right Brown was there, quick as a flash, and he nipped in between the two City defenders and slammed the ball into the empty net.

City never recovered from this stupid mistake and, for long periods, were completely outplayed by Nuneaton, who, according to local reports, had not played so well so far this season.

There was little pattern up front so far as City were concerned and, as consequence, their defence was very hard pressed under a naggingly continuous Nuneaton pressure. Nevertheless, for the next 35 minutes there was only this gift goal standing between the two sides as the home forwards, while approaching well, did not look much like scoring again.

Four-man move

But, inevitably, City's defence conceded another and Nuneaton were two goals up nine minutes from the interval. This time, it was good approach work that gave the home side their reward. A four-man move allowed Brown to slip the ball through to centre forward Shorthouse and he managed to curl a boot round as it left him and took the advancing Bill Heath by surprise.

Nuneaton were without danger man left winger Jones for several minutes at the end of the period

as he received a badly cut nose in a collision. He did not come back for the first seven minutes of the second half, but as soon as he returned, Nuneaton went three goals up against a struggling City. This time, it was Brown who scored, after right half Hopkin had given him his chance.

There were many occasions after this when City went close to scoring.

The visitors were much more in the game for the last 20 minutes, but it was not until the last 50 seconds that Eddie Bailham took a beautiful goal. For the first time, Nuneaton's defence made a real mistake when three men failed to clear and the City leader stepped in, found a gap and cracked the ball home.

Sluggish win by reserves

CITY RES. 2, DARTFORD RES. 1

Although Cambridge City reserves took both points in their Metropolitan League game against Dartford Reserves at Milton Road on Saturday, they gave a sluggish and unconvincing performance.

Most of the action and all the goals came in the first half of what proved to be a dull and unexciting game.

City took the lead in the 15th minute when inside left Gregory netted a good goal. Dartford equalised soon after through Stevens, but City went ahead again when centre forward Peck scored the best goal of the match with a beautifully timed header.

It looked as though there might be more goals after the interval but in fact hardly anything of interest occurred during the last 45 minutes. City gave a disappointing show considering the strong side they were fielding.

They were indeed fortunate that Dartford lacked any kind of constructive plan and missed several scoring chances. Had City encountered more determined and skilful opponents the result might have been very different.

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Cambridge United's Peter Hobbs (left) nets the first goal of his great F.A. Cup hat-trick at Bedford (see opposite page).

Goal rush A second half

Jockeys battering

Stowmarket 5, Newmarket 0

If anyone had forecast 20 minutes into the second half that Newmarket would finish five goals behind they would have told promptly, in no uncertain terms to see a doctor.

The Jockeys, strong and resolute, were then fighting back hard to wipe away seventh minute goal and they were looking and playing strongly enough to give the impression that it was only a matter of minutes before they really took the game by the scruff of the neck.

The Stowmarket defence, with Baker and Andrews the strong men, had their hands full and they were not being helped by their indecisive forwards. Then, in the 65th minute, inside-left Bloomfield switched defence to attack with a long ball to Byford, hovering on the left wing.

The young centre-forward, always a danger when in possession, moved forward quickly, beat his man cleverly and stabbed the ball wide for Galloway. One could almost feel Stowmarket breathe again! More important for them, the success of this attack had as its purpose to the erstwhile jaded efforts of their forwards and the issue was well and truly sealed by two further goals by Byford and Jones in the next nine minutes.

All the time Newmarket, to their credit, kept plugging away but a different Stowmarket, sensing victory, never slipped back to any appreciable extent. At the end, after the Jockey's defence had got itself into a tangle, was little more than a formality. Stowmarket without question, indebted to Byford whose hat-trick earned him his second hat-trick in successive weeks. The Jockeys were never, at their worst, five goals inferior. In fact, those devastating attacks apart, it was Stowmarket not the visitors who had more cause to worry.

CAMBRIDGE CITY 2, COLCHESTER 5

CAMBRIDGE City hockey men have not lost their unfortunate characteristic of flagging in the second half of the game after a spirited start. In their match on Saturday against Colchester, they sped to the attack and, by half time, had a two-goal lead over their visitors little chance of getting near their circle, let alone scoring.

There were several fine moves from the new line and the second goal came through some neat passing and quick stick-work which culminated in inside right D. Pinto scoring. The first was netted from a short corner taken by G. Brand and slammed in by G. Powell.

Colchester must have had a stiff pep talk in the interval for they came back like rejuvenated giants and soon proved they were. Goals came thick and fast as the visitors constantly battered the City goal. While the home team struggled, Colchester scored five times.

City seemed defeated long before the end of the game and the weakness of their defence began to show up the more the Essex men pressed in the goal area.

This was quite a disappointment after such a forceful start. The Cambridge team really looked as though they had found their form and soon pressed for an easy victory, but, sad for them, the game lasted longer than 35 minutes.

St. Neots outplayed but they fought to the end

Although St. Neots played their hearts out for the full 90 minutes at Kings Lynn on Saturday they were no match for their Southern League opponents.

The 'Linnets' set the trend with a goal in the fifth minute and might well have been in double figures at full-time.

The St. Neots 'secret plan' was not into operation, but manager Johnny Gregory admitted after the match that it had failed.

Francis Brand was still unfit to take over at centre-forward and Dumbell stepped into the gap.

Dumbell's role was to fall back to right-half, while right-half Laing acted as link-man. It was hoped to stop the 'Linnets' scoring in the first 15 minutes and

King's Lynn 6, St. Neots 0.

then revert to normal tactics, but alas the five-minute goal came.

Kings Lynn missed several golden opportunities after this first goal, but eventually they went two up through centre-forward Laverick, who scored the opening goal as well.

Just before half-time St. Neots 'keeper, Reedman, pulled off three magnificent saves which had the crowd applauding vigorously. The interval came with Lynn leading 2-0.

The home side put the pressure on right from the re-start and two goals from inside-man King settled the issue, after 37 minutes. Price then attempted to pass

back to Reedman when under pressure, but the ball loomed Norman's foot and ran into the goal.

Jones completed the scoring for Kings Lynn in the 66th minute. It was a sad day for the 'Sainis' but their relentless fighting spirit was to be admired.

Lynn given runaway

SOHAM TOWN 5, Kings Lynn Reserves 3

SOHAM TOWN turned on their best attacking performance of the season to shatter the weak Kings Lynn Reserves and if Town defence had not made an unusual large number of mistakes they could have achieved victory by a much larger margin.

A slip by Alan Moore left Stannard in to put Lynn ahead straight from the kick-off, but they way through a scrappy first half the former Cambridge United manager moved up into attack and began to worry the Lynn defence with some excellent ball play.

He switched positions with a former county youth full-back, Lenzie Beavis, who looks "completely lost" at outside right, and this experiment was soon abandoned as Beavis was much happier in his regular, right-back position.

It took Soham until the 33rd minute to equalise, through Alan Fretwell, and just on half-time they took the lead when Fretwell set a shot from Richard Jaggard run through his legs to completely deceive goalkeeper Prior.

Lynn were outclassed for much of the second half, and but for an error by goalkeeper John Morley still feeling the effects of an early shoulder injury, and an own goal by Beavis near the end, Soham's victory would have been much more convincing.

Soham's second half goals came from player-coach Len Savard (2) and Eddie Robinson.

Rovers just get home

HAVERHILL 1, GOTHIC 0.

After three successive victories, Gothic, the all-amateur Norwich works side, but only after a very close and dull struggle, in their first home game of the season in the Eastern Counties League cup.

The goal, which clinched it for the Rovers, came mid-way in the second half, and was scored as if Haverhill would have to be satisfied with a point. Marksmen were "goals-every-game" Johnny Cuts who collected Hender's forward passing, in defence, Smitz commanded the defence and Coleman worked tirelessly but Pickess did not keep a close enough tag on inside right Pierce who was Gothic's best forward.

This was one of the few Haverhill moves deserving of goals. In approach they looked assured with precision passes. But near goal the Rovers played right into the hands of the Gothic defenders.

The visiting defence has not a particularly good record but they resisted Haverhill's onslaught and were not forced into errors. Apart from Siddall the Haverhill front line did not distinguish itself with Abbott and Hender quite disappointing. In defence Smitz commanded the defence and Coleman worked tirelessly but Pickess did not keep a close enough tag on inside right Pierce who was Gothic's best forward.

Ely profit from Wade's mistake

All eyes were on Ely's new goalkeeper, Frank Hughes, a Scottish amateur international stationed at R.A.F. Feltwell. He and Ely were in luck twice when shots from left-winger Underwood and inside-right Webb hit the bar, but otherwise he showed class in everything he did.

His work was always unburied and intelligent and his distribution of the ball first rate.

With defences mostly on top, the forward lines were given little chance to shine, and it was a mis-handling by Sudbury's Wade which brought Ely revenge for a 6-2 beating at the beginning of the season. Wade dropped a close-range header by Jeffries, and the ball trickled just over the line before he could recover.

Had Jeffries netted from a much easier chance straightaway Ely would have won comfortably. As it was, Sudbury proved a vastly different proposition in the second half and Ely had a taste of what it meant to be under strong pressure.

But, like Ely before them, the Sudbury forwards lacked finishing ability, and while City were often at goal, their goal was seldom in danger.

To some extent, Ely were handicapped by injuries to Brian Cox (who went on the left-wing for the second half) and Paul Insamells, who courageously carried on at full-back until near the end when he went up front.

Haverhill show improvement

After trailing 8-3 down at half-time, Haverhill finally succumbed to Braintree 22-3. Haverhill scored their first try of the season after a lively display of close teamwork and a fine dash by J. Thompson. This try showed signs of greatly-improved teamwork.

In the first half Haverhill, who are quickly learning from experience, played some good attacking rugby with plenty of enthusiasm, and did well to hold Braintree to a five points lead.

Unfortunately J. Hart had to retire in the second half with a swollen eye, leaving a gap in defence which the clever Braintree team were able to exploit.

John Elliston at full back kicked well and was able to prevent Braintree from heavier scoring. A good all-round improvement provided Haverhill's best game of the season.

Haddenham fail to take chances

HADDENHAM ROVERS 1, MARCH RES. 3.

Haddenham surprisingly lost to March Reserves in the Saturday League on Saturday, although they were severely handicapped by an early injury to inside left Tony Sharp, who was virtually a passenger in the second half. March showed more method, but Haddenham missed plenty of chances.

March took the lead against the run of play after 20 minutes when Kent moved through unchallenged to provide Blackmore with a simple chance. Haddenham equalised five minutes later through centre forward Don Sykes. He twice went close again before Blackmore headed March into the lead after the home defence failed to clear a centre.

Haddenham attacked hard in the second half and Sykes missed two easy opportunities. In the 55th minute March broke away to force a corner from which Maxwell added a third goal. Kent hit the bar in another attack but it was Haddenham who did most of the pressing, but failed to accept chances.

Worthy Exning victory

CHATTERS ENGINEERS 1, EXNING UNITED 3.

Exning United halted their run of four consecutive league defeats, when they gained a well-deserved success, in a Peterborough Senior cup-tie, at Chatters on Saturday.

Ward put the Engineers ahead in the 19th minute, by refusing to be shaken off in three tackles. In the 33rd minute, Thompson, dashing through the middle following a through pass by Parfitt, beat Hine with a well-directed shot.

Butcher headed home a perfect cross by Munns, and another well executed movement by Parfitt and Munns led to Parr heading home in the 75th minute.

From the United's point of view, this was a much more spirited display all round.

Walden pay for missed chances

LONGWELL 1, S. WALDEN T 1

Missed chances cost Saffron Walden a valuable Berks County League victory in their match against Longwell at Stevenage on Saturday. With honours and goals even at the interval, Walden had a lion's share of the second half, but squandered the many opportunities to score that came their way.

Not the least offender in this category was centre forward Terrie Gibbons, who missed a 65th minute penalty awarded for hands. His first shot was saved by goalkeeper Welch, but he was given the chance to redeem himself when the referee awarded the kick to be retaken. This time Gibbons' bullet-like shot was fisted over the bar by Welch.

Walden took the lead in only the third minute of the match with a copy book goal. Following a throw in on the right, inside right Carter squared the ball across to Carter where Gibbons, running in, met the ball with his head to score.

Longwell equalised after 34 minutes from a penalty. Gibbons should have taken note of Walden inside right Buchanan calmly placed his shot out of Webb's reach in the bottom left-hand corner.

Walden pressed for almost the whole of the second half and went very close to scoring the winner on several occasions.

Left-back and captain, Hugh Wiseman was injured with two headers following corners and Gibbons missed several opportunities, before the final whistle.

Tenpin bowling

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(H)	9 7 5	367 468 7
(I)	9 6 6	371 553 7
(J)	9 6 6	367 402 6
(K)	9 6 7	367 395 6
(L)	9 8 4	394 423 8
(M)	9 7 7	323 368 8
(N)	9 6 6	318 352 6
(O)	9 4 8	368 410 4
(P)	9 4 8	355 362 4
(Q)	9 7 6	338 352 6
(R)	9 3 9	221 230 3
(S)	9 2 10	297 330 2
(T)	9 10 1	378 320 2
(U)	9 1 11	248 382 1

Two defeats for Wanderers

HAVERHILL WANDERERS 1, FINCHINGFIELD 2.

Haverhill Wanderers went down by the odd goal in these in a close and thrilling Halstead League game at Finchingfield.

The result could have gone either way and the Wanderers need not have been disappointed at losing narrowly to the present champions.

Wanderers were hard pressed in the opening exchanges and David Sizer in goal made some splendid saves before Haverhill side took the lead when the ball ran through and the Wanderers defensive covering lapsed.

Haverhill held Finchingfield to this score at half time and in the second half they were hit by a penalty was awarded for hands and skipper Bert Thomas converted from the spot.

Seven minutes from time Finchingfield clinched their victory in range as the Wanderers made one of their rare defensive mistakes.

Also lost

Haverhill Wanderers themselves also met with reverse when they lost 4-0 to Clare Youth Club, at Halstead League side, on the Recreation Ground.

The teams were well matched but after an injury to their centre forward, Haverhill, behind Skeggs played well in goal and Sawyer and Dickerson worked hard at inside forward.

Edwards a promising freshman

Aston Saturday the Eastern Counties A.A.A. opened their cross-country season with a match against Cambridge University.

The Eastern Counties just packed a field of 27 runners, the race was run over the Varsity's six and a quarter mile course, with conditions dry and very fast.

A. Heron, Scottish international, the Eastern Counties captain, led or the first half of the race but a run by M. Edwards, another Scottish international, regained the

lead soon after for the University. This freshman should be a big help to the University team this season. He carried on to win by six seconds, followed home by P. Chillingworth of the Eastern Counties, with A. Heron third. Cambridge runner R. Townsend ran well to finish sixth, with D. Buckle finishing 13th and J. Smith 22nd.

Results

1 M. Edwards (C.U.) 31 mins. 43 secs. 2 P. Chillingworth (E.C.) 31.49. 3 A. Heron (E.C.) 32.09. 4 A. Ashton (C.U.) 32.46. 5 P. Sulston (C.U.) 33.00. 6 R. Townsend (E.C.) 33.02. 7 A. Butcher (E.C.) 33.06. 8 B. Crummey (E.C.) 33.14. 9 F. Rowley (C.U.) 33.25. 10 J. Roberts (C.U.) 33.54. 11 M. Henderson (C.U.) 33.57. 12 M. Boylen (E.C.) 34.02. 13 D. Bucke (E.C.) 34.07. 14 R. Bain (E.C.) 34.33. 15 P. Newby (C.U.) 34.52. 16 B. Boynton (C.U.) 35.08. 17 J. O'Callaghan (E.C.) 35.15. 18 J. Reid (C.U.) 35.18. 19 I. Horvath (C.U.) 35.30. 20 P. Coleman (E.C.) 35.52.

1st Eastern Counties, 38 points. 2nd Cambridge University 40 points.

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