

# City must combine to halt this decline

CAMBRIDGE CITY again displaying a lack of spirit at Milton Road on Saturday, crashed to their sixth Southern League defeat when an almost different Weymouth scored once in each half to take the two points back to Dorset.

This was City's fourth home defeat on the trot and the club's supporters showed their disappointment by providing a "gate" which was well below average, although still third highest in the League's programme.

This decline is not stopped and then there must be a real change that Milton Road, one of the glamour grounds in this sphere of non-League football, could become relatively deserted as the winter months drag on. The old adage that a crowd follows a winning team but soon deserts a losing one has never been seriously considered by Cambridge

**City 0, Weymouth 2.**  
(Attendance 2,600).

City directors for since the club turned professional there has always been good support. But now the signs are there and while the team continues to play without any apparent method, while elementary mistakes are made and while some players stroll about without ever fighting for the ball, then it seems obvious that supporters' enthusiasm will wane.

**Individuals**  
To be brutally frank, City's failures have been going on too long now to write off as a bad start to a season. By now a struggling side should have battled their way out of trouble and shaped into a cohesive unit.

Saturday's game showed that individually City players have talent but such is their lack of confidence in each other that they play on their own. When one has the possession, others are not moving into

open spaces; too many passes go astray and there is little build-up for a concerted move at the opposition's goal.

Weymouth certainly did not play like a side who have done so well recently that they now have a two points lead over Chelmsford. Whether they sensed victory was only a formality or whether they were brought down to City's level it is difficult to say, but the fact remained that they were almost as guilty as the home side in sloppy play.

This resulted, of course, in a dull game — often slow in pace — which brought few thrills and little real action. It was only recently that Weymouth showed a few touches of the form that has taken them to the top, but these were too rare to be really appreciated.

## The goals

The visitors went into the lead in the 11th minute when right-winger Hannigan, a real flyer, put over a dropping centre and Bill Heath, challenged by the two inside-forwards, went up for the ball, missed it and inside-left Hutchinson headed home.

Even then City had another 54 minutes in which to draw level before Weymouth made certain with an effort that Heath might have provoked as Hannigan's corner was headed home by inside-right Spratt. The City's keeper, however, might have been put off by a slight deflection made by centre-forward Jackson, as he helped the flag kick on to his better placed colleague.

Several times during the match City went close — Devine hit a bar, Bircumshaw made Donnelly bring out his best saves on two occasions — but without the luck or the rum of the ball they seem doomed to stay in the relegation zone of the table.

**City:** Heath, Carroll, Poole; McGuean, Craig, Gregory, Devine; Wall, Bailham, Spears, Bircumshaw.

**Weymouth:** Donnelly; Gulliver, Sicker, Sheppard, Hobson, Hutchinson; Havelson, Spratt, Jackson, Hutchinson, Camp.

# City Youths cruise home

ALTHOUGH the F.A. Youth Cup game between City Youths and Cherry Hinton Youths at Milton Road on Saturday evening was more of a training session than a match for the home team, Cherry Hinton gave the spare crowd several impulses that in their own class they could be a good team.

As it was, City walked to an 11-0 win, and Cherry Hinton, playing together and under floodlights for the first time, rarely even suggested they might score. City now play Stamford at Stamford.

Kefford's goalkeeping was capable, but he could not withstand the constant pressure from the City Youths and the score reached 6-0 by half-time with goals by Everitt, Johnson, Barker, Wells, Marr and Newell.

No one in the City team could distinguish himself in a game as one-sided as this, although the powerful shooting of Newell was in evidence. He and Marr both scored in the second half, and other goals were scored by Barker (2) and Pakes.

Cherry Hinton deserve credit for the way they never quite accepted their inevitable defeat, particularly in the enthusiasm and effort of Crawley on the wing.

# Determined Jockeys find right formula

March 0, Newmarket 1.

NEWMARKET TOWN emerged from one of the fastest and toughest Eastern Counties Cup matches likely to be seen this season with both points and a new-found determination to win.

It was difficult to believe that this was basically the same side that went down to Stowmarket by five goals last week.

There was solidarity in defence and the strongest pressure and the attack, with ball juggling, Mensah and centre-forward Brooks who never gives up, revealed the ball forward and were never shot-shy.

## Superb effort

Mensah scored the only goal — and what a superb goal it was. He received the ball while hemmed in between the touch line and a defender. He flicked the ball over the back's head, cut inside along the edge of the penalty box and kicked the ball on the run.

The ball crashed off the post and to the other upright and the net. March never gave up and in the last minutes they threw everything in an attack but could not break through the rock steady defence.

Both Newmarket backs, Ginder and South, held their wingers and found time for unfielded sorties. With Frank Cruickshank at centre half, the whole half back line was a powerful force.

If the Jockeys can maintain this form for the rest of the season, the defeats of the past should be bad memory.

# Southern League

| Team             | P  | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Weymouth         | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 28 | 14 | 17 |
| Chelmsford City  | 12 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 25 | 21 | 15 |
| Chelmsford       | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 23 | 13 | 13 |
| Stamford         | 10 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 17 | 11 | 11 |
| Westminster City | 11 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 26 | 16 | 13 |
| Stamford Utd.    | 11 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 18 | 13 | 13 |
| Cambridge U.     | 13 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 20 | 20 | 13 |
| Stamford         | 12 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 17 | 13 | 13 |
| Cambridge        | 12 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 28 | 26 | 12 |
| Cambridge City   | 9  | 4 | 3 | 2 | 25 | 17 | 11 |
| Stamford Tn.     | 10 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 17 | 17 | 10 |
| Stamford         | 12 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 17 | 20 | 10 |
| Stamford City    | 11 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 20 | 10 | 10 |
| Stamford Tn.     | 10 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 22 | 16 | 9  |
| Stamford Utd.    | 9  | 4 | 1 | 4 | 26 | 16 | 9  |
| Stamford Tn.     | 11 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 22 | 16 | 9  |
| Stamford         | 9  | 3 | 2 | 4 | 14 | 16 | 8  |
| Cambridge City   | 10 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 13 | 23 | 5  |
| Stamford Tn.     | 12 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 14 | 25 | 5  |
| Stamford Tn.     | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 17 | 32 | 5  |

# Cutts' hat-trick gives Rovers a double over King's Lynn

KING'S LYNN RES. 2, HAVERHILL 5.

HAT-TRICK man Johnny Cutts helped Haverhill to score their second win over King's Lynn in three weeks when the Rovers travelled into Norfolk in a return Eastern Counties League cup game.

Although a goal down inside four minutes, the Rovers were soon on terms again with Cutts in a scoring mood. Haverhill had built up a 2-0 lead by half-time.

Considering that Lynn were reduced to nine men for most of their time at Hamlet Croft, the Rovers are expecting this game to prove a very tough assignment, but they got on with an ease and confidence that was really surprising, and inspiring.

The carpet-smooth Lynn turf had great deal to do with Haverhill's passing the passing of Siddall and Co. going through smoothly and Haverhill quickly equalised. Cutts headed Coleman's centre half, Prior, Haverhill, the more conventional side, deservedly went head as Coleman slammed in a 3-0 lead which Prior mis-

handled Cutts added two more to bring his hat-trick and Haverhill's fourth goal in under the half hour. Lynn's injury bogey struck again after half-time when left-winger Oliver was taken off for the rest of the game, but this misfortune had little bearing on the result. Haverhill monopolised the game with some nippy, co-ordinated attacks.

Pickess did well at centre half and all the forwards except Hender, on the right, showed trust. Abbott scored Haverhill's fifth goal with an angled shot and Lynn replied with a goal from Warner a minute later.

Cutts left the field five minutes from the end after a kick on the leg but the injury was not serious.

## HAVERHILL RESERVES 0 HEYBRIDGE 1

Haverhill Reserves crashed to their first defeat in seven games in this Border League game against Heybridge Swifts, who really ought not to have been allowed to escape with a point.

Haverhill, who scored six goals in their last game, slipped back into their old failing of frittering

away chance after chance. They had seventy-five per cent of the play, created half-edged chances yet still ended up the losing side.

Effective work by wing halves Moore and Jones kept the home attack well supplied and all the forwards had their chances — and missed. Heybridge had one real opportunity, and snapped it up in the tenth minute as left-winger Smith headed past Atkinson. Haverhill's defence otherwise were in control, with Woodrow playing it cool at centre-half and giving nothing away.

## HAVERHILL WANDERERS 2, STOKE-BY-CLARE 3

Although enjoying most of the play, Haverhill Wanderers dropped two more Haleshead League points when they entertained Stoke.

In a fast first half they repeatedly split the Stoke defence. By the interval Naxton, a reserve, and Knight, had given them a 2-0 lead. In the second half Stoke improved and their forwards began to find gaps in the Haverhill defence. Within five minutes they had netted twice to draw level. After pressure by Wanderers Stoke broke away and scored the winner.



City's centre-forward Eddie Bailham is clean through but he drives straight at the Weymouth keeper, and the ball is deflected out for a corner kick.

# U's have Atkinson to thank for first away league win

THREE goals from Graham Bexley U. 2, Cambridge U. 4. (Attendance 1,443).

United's second half goals. The first was from a rebound off the referee and the second after Hansz had completely miskicked the ball.

The Welling ground was in the best condition for some seasons. The Kent club spent a lot of money in the close season laying top soil and grass on their sand and shingle pitch and the playing surface was true and yielding.

**Well taken**  
In the first half United played steadily and both their goals were well taken with the minimum of effort. The first when Atkinson steered a corner from Day high into the net in the 11th minute, and the second when Gibson raced through a hesitant defence to head home McVitie's carefully placed free kick.

During this spell Bexley played some good football in attack, but an atrocious final passing let them down badly. Rutherford was most guilty and it was hard to remember one of his passes that did not go to an opponent.

Little was seen of long-serving centre-forward Gill and with

these two ineffective times some attack lacked bite. After the interval Sharp moved into attack and Rutherford dropped back, and this move brought some life into the side as they pressed furiously to get on terms.

But they had reckoned without Atkinson, who was in position to pop home the two rebounds and this was enough to make sure that both points returned to Cambridge.

## Start-stop

Not many sides will get points at the Welling ground and, although the United tactics displeased the referee at times it was enough.

One of the main differences in United's play from earlier games was their start-stop passing. At Bedford a week ago the ball was kept on the move as it swept from man to man, but on Saturday it was stopped then passed and stopped again and this method took a lot of bite from the forwards' play.

Bexley, O'Dell, McNeice, Forwell, Pearce, Morgan, Peters, Rutherford, Gill, Gregory, Hughes.

United: Slack, Scurr, Finch, Gibson, Kelly, Welsh; Day, Haasz, Hobbs, Atkinson, McVitie.



# "Hundreds of 'em!"

... in the BIG box he'll never get away with!  
Ship Household matches. Hundreds of 'em in the big box he can't slip in his pocket. The big family box that's so handy around the house. And what matches! Ship matches. Generously tipped, for first-time striking. Made of finest wood for long burning. Real Ship value

**SHIP HOUSEHOLD**  
QUALITY MATCHES BY MASTERS  
J. JOHN MASTERS & CO LTD · BOUNDARY HOUSE · JEWRY STREET · LONDON E.C.3