



United fully extended by Dagenham amateurs

A YOUTHFUL Cambridge United side were fully extended to force a draw in the first leg of the second round of the Mithras Cup competition against the Athenian League amateurs, Dagenham, at the Abbey Stadium last night.

The visitors are in the top bracket of amateur teams and they

Cambridge United 1, Dagenham 1. (Attendance 450).

include in their ranks one or two very talented players.

The home youth players acquitted themselves reasonably well and McVittie, back at inside left, worked himself almost to a standstill. As well as most of the U's played individually, only the inside left really helped his colleagues.

So often a home player had the ball but could find no-one in a position to receive it. The biggest disappointment was the form of John Haasz. The Hungarian is in the middle of a bad spell at the moment and his confidence seems to have deserted him. Try as he might, he could not get moving in the way Newmarket Road fans know he can.

club He crashed home a ball from the edge of the penalty area and Harman, thinking it was going wide, made no attempt to save.

Offside

Although, after this United held a territorial advantage, Dagenham often looked the more dangerous with their clever approach work, but they missed chances and the home side came back only to be robbed of victory by a dubious offside decision, when Whitmore netted following a McVittie pass.

However, it would really have been unlucky if the 'Daggers' had lost, and now they must be in a very good position for the second leg at Dagenham next week.

United: Smith, Burton, Ison, Finch, Hunt, Scurr; Denzey, Whitmore, Haasz, McVittie and Greene.

Dagenham: Harman; Dodkins, Dudley; Daniels, Willingham, Ashman; Bishop, Gowlie, Adams, Gargan, Roche.

Brian Whitmore thought he had scored the winner when he burst through to beat Harman following a pass from Matt McVittie but the referee had other ideas and disallowed what seemed a fair effort and blew up for offside.



Matt McVittie almost ran himself into the ground trying to help colleagues who were too individualistic.

Astute

Dagenham buzzed purposefully for most of the game and they opened up the home defence with some astute moves but bad finishing or good soaking by Andy Smith prevented them from adding to a 13th minute goal.

This score came when Adams headed a cross over Hunt for Gowlie to crash past Smith.

The same combination almost gave Dagenham another goal 10 minutes later, but this time the United goalkeeper parried the inside right's shot.

After the interval the U's played with more purpose and equalised in the 50th minute when Derek Finch scored his first goal for the

Local men in the middle

LOCAL referees' outside appointments for next month are as follows:

January 1: Q.P.R. v. Walsall—J. C. Cooke (referee).

January 2: Colchester Res. v. Arsenal Res.—L. W. Fleet (line).

January 9: Colchester v. Barnsley—F. E. Burling (line); Oxford v. Tranmere—G. D. Roper (referee).

January 16: Oxford v. Rochdale—J. E. Cooke (referee); Corby v. Trowbridge—B. H. Chapman (referee).

January 23: Norwich v. Bury—G. D. Roper (referee); Wisbech v. Rugby—B. H. Chapman (referee).

January 30: Reading v. Grimsby—G. D. Roper (referee); Bedford v. Rugby—F. W. Webb (referee).

John Rush at prop for Saracens

After yesterday's 48-3 thrashing of the R.E.M.E. Saracens had no difficulty in filling the two pack vacancies in their team to travel to Abertillery on Saturday.

John Rush a former schoolboy international and now a Cambridge LX player, comes in at prop, and Tony Smith, a former Gosforth member, fills the blind-side wing-forward position.

Villa unchanged

John Macleod comes up against his old colleagues for the first time since his transfer when he plays on the Aston Villa left-wing against Arsenal at Villa Park on Saturday. With Pountney passing a fitness test Villa are unchanged.

St. Neots snooker

ALTHOUGH they crashed to their first defeat of the season against their nearest rivals, Constitutional Club, the Liberals are still sitting pretty with a six-point lead at the top of St. Neots and District Snooker League.

A new-look W. R. Grace side chalked up a 3-1 win over the Services Club. With a little more luck, Grace would have made a clean sweep.

The return "Derby" match between the Samuel Jones "A" and "B" sides ended the same as the previous encounter, in a 2-2 draw. The "B" men put up a great performance to hold their opponents, who are now the only unbeaten team in the League.

Results: Services Club 1, W. R. Grace 3; Samuel Jones "A" 2, Samuel Jones "B" 2; Liberal Club 1, Constitutional Club 3; E.E.B. 3, Johnsons Structures 1.

Positions

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
Liberals	9	6	2	1	28
Con. Club	8	5	2	1	20
S. Jones "A"	7	2	5	0	18
S. Jones "B"	9	2	5	2	18
E.E.B.	9	2	5	2	18
W. R. Grace	9	2	4	3	13
Services Club	8	1	3	4	13
Johnsons	9	0	2	7	9

Kerslake takes four for three

The M.C.C., recovering from 76 for five to 234 for seven declared, beat a Sao Paulo XI by 180 runs in their one-day match in Sao Paulo, Brazil, yesterday.

Ian Bedford (3 for 16) and Roy Kerslake (4 for 5) dismissed the local team for 54.

Richard Hutton (72) and Kerslake (57), both old Cambridge Blues, stemmed the early M.C.C. slump.

Wolstenholme round in 71

Guy Wolstenholme, of Britain, was five strokes behind the leader after the first round of the British Petroleum golf tournament in Auckland, New Zealand, today.

Wolstenholme went round in 71. Out in front is the Australian Bob Tuohy, who cut a stroke from the Tiliangi course record with a six-under-par 66.

Mike Wolveridge, the other British competitor, is on 74.

Rising Sun's power

THE big match of the week is the Haverhill Darts League was the top-of-table clash between Rising Sun and Australian Arms, who were sharing the lead with equal points.

Rising Sun, who were defeated the previous week, were back to form, however, and emerged 6-4 winners to recapture their two points lead.

The R.A.F.A. beat the R.A.S.S. to stay close up with the leaders. The Exchange did well at the Bull and the Swan and Black Horse had big away wins at the Ham and Bell respectively.

After a long unbeaten run, the Royal Standard were checked by the Woolpack.

Results:
Rising Sun 6, Australian Arms 4.
Bull 4, Royal Exchange 6.

How they stand

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rising Sun	15	12	2	1	99	51	26
Australian Arms	15	12	0	3	95	55	24
R.A.F.A.	15	9	4	2	85	64	22
Royal Exchange	15	8	3	5	81	79	19
Royal Standard	15	7	5	3	79	71	19
White Hart	15	7	2	4	77	73	18
E.S.M.C.	15	7	2	6	84	68	16
Black Horse	15	5	8	5	75	75	15
White Swan	15	5	2	7	77	73	14
Woolpack	15	6	3	7	74	76	14
Queen's Head	15	4	4	7	70	80	12
Ree Tavern	15	4	4	7	70	80	12
Ram	15	3	5	7	61	89	9
R.A.S.S.	15	3	1	11	62	88	7
Bull	15	2	3	10	66	94	7
Bell	15	3	9	12	55	95	6

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