McVittie goals keep United in the hunt

Goals scored at the beginning and end of Cambridge United's Southern League match against Cheltenham at the Abbey Stadium on Saturday by their master-craftsman, Matt McVittie, gave the U's valuable points in maintaining their championship challenge.

They are now placed second in the table, three points behind Weymouth, but the sea-siders have four games in hand.

Weymouth might appear to be very favourably placed at this stage, but as United trainer Brian Doyle, said after the Cheltenham match, "We have the points in the bag. Weymouth have got to get theirs."

Cambridge U. 2, Cheltenham 0.
(Attendance 2,872).

On Saturday, United were well in command throughout against a side that only offered limited resistance: in attack Cheltenham were weak while in defence they stubbornly kept the U's from increasing their lead until the 88th minute, when the points were clinched following the first minute goal in the initial raid of the match.

Cheltenham, previous to this encounter, had been steadily improving their league position and United must have been somewhat surprised that the opposition they provided was not more troublesome.

The going was heavy and a strong, blustery wind unset both teams' movements with passes going astray and ball control made difficult to such an extent that accurate shooting was almost out of the question.

Quick thinking

McVittie's two goals were well taken and were the result of quick thinking by the United forwards.

The first, after the game was barely a minute old, came when Hobbs threw himself full-length in the mud to head the ball on to the Scotsman who was standing in an open space. McVittie trapped it quickly and his prodded shot into the right-hand corner left Taylor, in the Cheltenham goal, helpless.

The second, in the 88th minute, was engineered by Jimmy Gibson. He slammed the ball goalwards from the edge of the penalty area, and after Taylor had semi-parried the shot, there was the eager McVittie standing by to move in and tap home an easy looking effort.

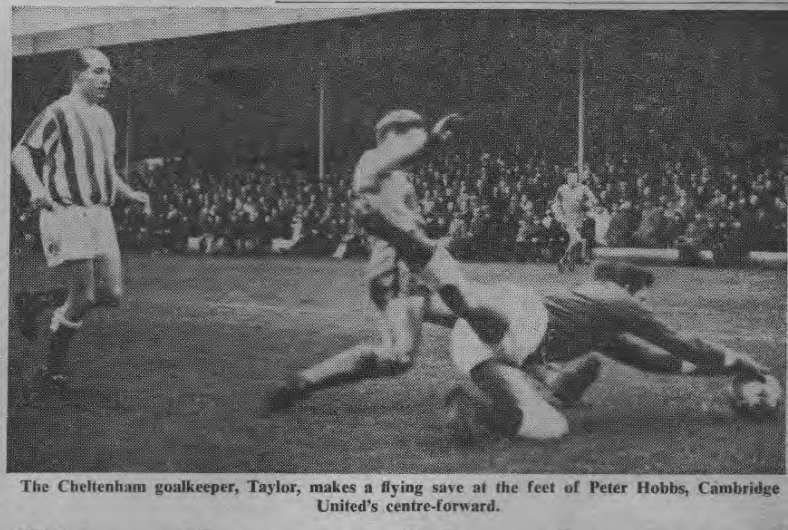
Efficient

United were not unduly extended but they must have been satisfied by the efficient way the side went into the match.

Rodney Slack, never seriously in trouble, did all that was asked of him; the two full-backs, Boggis and Jones, were cool and unhurried when the home defence did come under pressure, while the half-back line kept a firm grip in mid-field, putting the handcuffs on the Cheltenham inside-forward trio. Scurr and Kelly were both in a dominant mood, especially Scurr, but Billy Welsh, although having quite a competent game, was a shade slow to settle down early on.

The attack had little opportunity to shine, but was lively enough to cause the Cheltenham defence some anxious moments. McVittie and Hobbs particularly caught the eye.

United: Slack; Boggis, Jones; Scurr, Kelly, Welsh; Day, Gibson, Hobbs, McVittie, Greene.



The Cheltenham goalkeeper, Taylor, makes a flying save at the feet of Peter Hobbs, Cambridge United's centre-forward.

Peck leads second-half revival

Cambridge City Reserves 2, Chelmsford Reserves 0.

Most of the thrills came in the second half of this Metropolitan League match at Milton Road on Saturday when Cambridge City Reserves suddenly swung into action and notched two magnificent goals in 15 minutes.

The first period produced little excitement, and neither side seemed able to achieve the vital breakthrough although both opened strongly.

Chelmsford, if anything, had a slight edge for most of the half, and Bowstead and Tierney produced some dangerous moves on the wings, but the City 'keeper, Barber, made several agile saves and the home backs somehow managed to keep their opponents from scoring.

City, too, had their moments and went close on several occasions. Chelmsford had a lucky escape in the 30th minute when a defender just managed to clear off the line during a goal-mouth scramble—but this was as close as City came to scoring up to the interval.

Quicker

After the resumption Chelmsford faded and City put much more pace into their soccer. They were quicker in snapping up lose balls and their finishing possessed more polish.

The game took an unpleasant turn early in the half when the Chelmsford outside-right, Butcher, had his name taken for persistently fouling Willie Devine, the City outside-left.

City kept plugging away and had their reward in the 70th minute when their centre-forward, Brian Peck, headed home a magnificent goal. City rightly drew encouragement from this and Devine crashed through in the closing stages to make it 2-0 and clinch a well—earned victory.

Speedy and efficient

Probably the fittest and most efficient referee seen at the Abbey Stadium this season took charge of Cambridge United's Southern League match with Cheltenham on Saturday.

Mr. R. B. Kirkpatrick, of Leicester, was always well up with play, at times even outstripping the players themselves for speed. The near 3,000 crowd showed their approval as he raced quickly from end to end with astonishing speed.

Midway through the second half Mr. Kirkpatrick stopped play and made Haskins, the Cheltenham left-back, shake hands with a linesman after a remark had been passed!

Southern League

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Weymouth	23	15	4	4	54	26	34
Cambridge Utd.	27	12	7	8	51	38	31
Chelmsford	25	13	5	7	53	44	31
Dartford	22	11	6	5	41	23	28
Guildford	21	12	3	6	37	24	26
Yeovil	22	7	12	3	34	23	26
Worcester City	21	11	3	7	48	27	25
Cheltenham Tn.	23	9	7	7	41	39	25
Cambridge City	24	10	5	9	42	40	25
Margate	23	10	4	9	44	44	24
King's Lynn	24	7	10	7	40	45	24
Bexley Utd.	23	11	1	11	44	39	23
Bedford Tn.	25	8	7	10	35	48	23
Romford	24	9	4	11	34	46	22
Nuneaton Boro.	26	8	5	7	26	26	21
Folkestone Tn.	23	7	7	9	41	50	21
Hastings Utd.	21	6	8	7	35	36	20
Tonbridge	25	5	10	10	43	49	20
Rugby	24	7	4	13	41	62	18
Wisbech Tn.	24	7	3	14	45	62	17
Wellington	24	4	7	13	34	46	15
Bath City	22	5	21	16	26	46	11

Haverhill's nap hand

Kings Lynn Res. 0, Haverhill 5

Lynn Reserves never seemed to get off the ground during Saturday's Eastern Counties League match at the Walks, Kings Lynn.

The final score was a true reflection of the rather tired football the home team demonstrated throughout the match. Their defence was sluggish and the forward line, apart from occasional twinkles by centre-forward Chipchase and outside-right Couzens, lacked zest.

Haverhill by no means exhibited brilliant football. But their tenacity and liveliness contrasted with the reserve team's "punchless" performance.

Haverhill started with a flourish and Lynn's defence was flustered and within three minutes Abbott had put the visitors ahead. Occasional Lynn attacks were easily broken up and persistent Haverhill onslaughts were rewarded when Moore put his side two up after 25 minutes.

In the bag

Within a minute of the restart Abbott got his second goal and from then on the game was in the bag for the Suffolk club. The two final goals came from Kearney and Lynn's Chillestone who turned the ball into his own net to complete the home side's rout.

Only once did Lynn show any signs of real go getting enthusiasm when at the start of the second half they swung the ball across Haverhill's penalty area in a determined effort to find the net.

When Lynn did puncture Haverhill's defence and on the odd occasion send a dangerous ball goalwards, 'keeper Wright was there, competent and unperturbed, to prevent the goals.

Eastern Counties League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Clacton Town	10	8	1	1	35	14	17
Lowestoft Town	8	6	1	1	32	20	13
Haverhill Rvrs.	8	5	0	3	28	16	10
Soham Tn. Rgrs.	8	5	0	3	23	13	10
Yarmouth Town	8	4	1	3	21	13	9
Sudbury Town	6	4	0	2	19	9	8
Thetford Town	8	3	2	3	24	17	8
Stowmarket	7	3	2	2	16	15	8
Norwich City 'A'	8	2	2	4	17	27	6
King's Lynn Res.	11	2	0	9	28	40	8
March Tn. Utd.	8	1	3	4	12	16	5
Gothic	7	2	1	4	15	24	5
Newmarket Town	10	1	3	6	16	31	5
Ely City	9	1	2	6	16	39	4

City thoroughly deserved their win at Chelmsford

Chelmsford 0, City 1.
(Attendance 2,803).

This maul in the mud at Chelmsford on Saturday had only two reasons to lay claim for any real memory—the promising debut of inside-forward Brian Hart, signed by City only the night before from Nuneaton Borough, and the fact that the Milton Road club sneaked a victory seven minutes from time.

Hart soon showed himself to be an intelligent player who has now fulfilled the promise he showed as a Cambridge City schoolboy and a Cambridge United youth player some seven years ago when he left for the West Bromwich Albion ground staff. As Nuneaton's leading goalscorer this season he did not get himself on the City's scoresheet on Saturday, but he was unlucky in this respect and his prompting of forward colleagues showed that City's need for the past month or so for a schemer to work with Eddie Bailham might now have been met.

Everyone connected with the City club was pleased with the way in which he set about his task with new colleagues: it seems only a question of a short period before he fits in completely. City are lucky to have signed such an experienced youngster, he is still only 23.

Justice

After two weeks when City were robbed of three of four possible home points it seemed a type of justice that they should go to Chelmsford, always a hard nut to crack, and come home with both points.

The Essex club, until a fortnight ago, were top of the Southern League's Premier Division, and this was their first defeat at home in the League this season. Make no mistake about it, they deserved their win although right until this late goal it looked as though this would be a goalless draw.

City might have been a goal down by the interval if inside left Maughan had steadied himself before heading the wrong side of a post, but then City, too, went very close in the same period.

Conditions were appalling as the teams slithered in a cut up field of mud and there was always an element of risk in anything the defenders of both sides tried to accomplish. Nevertheless, City played really well in the second period and their football always looked as if it might produce a definite result.

When the goal came it was something of a surprise. A hard, low centre from right winger Alan Spears found centre forward Bailham, who met the ball with a well directed boot and it flashed into the net.

This win was an important one for City and it hoisted them three places up the League table and now, with 25 points from 24 games they lie in eighth position and are in their best place this term. Next Saturday, too, will mean a lot to them for there are virtually four points at stake at the Abbey Stadium where they go to play the United.

The U's are six points ahead of City, have played three more matches and are in second place so the encounter is a vital one for both clubs and might produce one of those big crowds not seen too often now at these local "Derby" games.

Brian Hart, City's latest signing, had a fine debut game at Chelmsford.

Disappointing

It was disappointing to see two ex-City favourites, Chelmsford's skipper and centre forward Tommy Wilson and their right half, Sam Salt, play such disappointing games on Saturday. But on the other hand, it was mainly because they and others in the home side could not settle down in the conditions and failed to judge the correct tempo of the pitch that City looked the better side for long stretches.

At times one might have been excused for thinking that this was not a classic, but there was always some excitement to keep the interest going and City, fighting hard, just got home.

City: Heath; Carroll, Foote, Pearce, McGugan, McNally, Spears, Moyse, Bailham, Hart, Wall.

Histon fail to pierce tightly-packed defence

Histon 0, Windsor and Eton 2.

In this Athenian League (Division II) match neither side made full use of the stiffish breeze, which, combined with a rain-sodden pitch, made ball control difficult.

During the first half Histon had their moments against the wind, but on changing ends they completely lost the semblance of patterned football.

With the wind at their backs Windsor and Eton failed to demonstrate any particular superiority over their opponents, but, facing the breeze, they were able to use long passes which did not run out of play.

Swapped wings

Histon threw away their chance of striking a morale-boosting blow during the first half by their preoccupation with the wings. Although they swapped wings in the second half, Carr and Woodley did not cause the Windsor backs much trouble.

In the middle, Bartram, heavy and cumbersome admittedly, might well have surprised Windsor had he been given the opportunity to use his powerful shot.

Several times, Mortimer, the Windsor centre-half, was left stranded by the wandering of his backs, but Histon fiddled hesitantly on the wings when a long through ball might have paid off.

The game swung irrevocably Windsor's way on the hour when outside-left Bristow cut inside to a defence-splitting pass from Kay. Running on he smashed the ball against the far post and following up hammered the rebound into the net.

For the next 25 minutes Histon had a fair share of the play but failed to move as dangerously as their opponents. The Windsor marking tightened and strangled the home forwards so effectively that not one clear chance of an equaliser came their way.

Then, with five minutes left, Histon's defence was caught flat-footed by a quick clearance past centre-half Watson from a corner. Inside-left Kay was left with a clear run through square-lying backs to net with a low shot just inside the post.

Fighting Jockeys earn a replay

Newmarket Town 2, Bury Town 2.

Newmarket Town grafted their way to a well deserved Suffolk Premier Cup draw against their near Metropolitan League neighbours Bury Town in front of the biggest crowd seen at the Town Ground this season.

While Bury played neat football, they lacked the biting spirit of the Jockeys who fought for the ball throughout the match.

Newmarket were quick to make use of the strong wind at their backs, and after blasting the ball over the bar, right-half Payne scored from 25 yards with a powerful drive in the ninth minute.

This goal put some life into the Bury side who had been playing attractive but ineffective football and the home defence was under heavy pressure for several minutes.

Flack shot wide with only Cobb to beat and the 'keeper saved a dangerous effort from left-winger Elstall.

Wind assisted

The wind turned fickle on Newmarket and combined with a rare mistake by Cobb to give Bury an equaliser. Pelling lifted across a hopeful ball from the right wing which floated inside the near post—helped on its way by a despairing fist belonging to Cobb.

Undeterred the Jockeys hit back and should have gone ahead in the 24th minute. Sharkey hit the bar with a long drive and Brooks raced in, only to head the ball wide from the rebound.

It was a costly mistake as Bury went ahead when a Ginder back-pass was intercepted. The ball came over from the right wing and Eastall bundled it into the net, to give his side a half time lead.

With the wind in their face, Newmarket pressed hard in the second half and had Bury on the defensive for long stretches.

Their deserved equalising goal, which earned them a replay, came 10 minutes from time.

This time it was goalkeeper Copeland who was at fault. Right winger Johnson put the ball across and Copeland, who hurled himself at it, found himself behind the goal line with the ball in his arms when he landed.

Exning k.o.'d by Sudbury

Exning United 1, Sudbury Tn. 6

Although Sudbury won this Suffolk Premier Cup tie deservedly they were rather flattered by the scoreline.

Twice in the early stages the town goal had narrow escapes when, from perfect Palmer centres Parr was only inches wide of the target.

However Sudbury gradually began to exert pressure, and in the 17th minute, following a fine save by Wood from a close range Warne shot, the ball was quickly switched from left to right for Warne to net a good goal. Munns was foiled by a fearless Wade tackle, when going through and then, in the space of two minutes, Clarke and Webb increased the town's lead to 3-0.

It was Munns' splendid work which led to Parr reducing Sudbury's lead in the 33rd minute. But disaster followed for the United direct from the kick-off, when Lunderstrum restored the visitors three goal lead, and three minutes later Webb made it 5-1, by the interval.

Throughout the second half Exning more than held their own but were never able to overcome a sound defence. In the 69th minute, after good work by Clarke, Webb hit in number six.

In spirited Exning attacks Wade made two magnificent saves to foil Exning of a goal they deserved in this half.

Ely get a point after late rally

Norwich City "A" 3, Ely City 3

Ten minutes from the end of this Eastern Counties League match City were three goals in arrears and looked a well-beaten side, but they staged a tremendous rally and scored three times to salvage a point after being outplayed for three-quarters of the game.

Ely had two newcomers in their side. Ward, the Cambridge Blue, was in goal, and at inside-left was Mensah. Both played well.

Norwich were three goals in the lead shortly after the interval, Basted, scoring all three, but they lost their grip in the latter stages of the game and Ely seized their chances well.

Just 10 minutes remained when Munro scored Ely's first goal, and there were only three minutes left when Ainger further reduced their arrears.

Ely went all out for the equaliser and in the last minute Youngs rose high to head in a centre from Mensah and snatch a point.

Norwich played the neater football and had the best player afield in Basted, but Ely took their chances well when the Norwich defence faltered in the closing stages of the game.

Soham Town 1, Stowmarket 1

The handful of Stowmarket supporters grew steadily uneasy as their club's chances of maintaining their challenge for top place in the Eastern Counties League Cup Section Two, seemed to be receding.

But 10 minutes from the end the Soham defence left itself wide open and the Stowmarket centre-forward, Alan Byford, scored an equaliser to keep Stowmarket's hopes very much alive.

Now they must beat March Town in their last match to win the section on goal average and meet Haverhill in the final.

Normally free-scoring Stowmarket forwards were competently held by a compact Soham rearguard.

Just as Stowmarket's raids were generally blunted, so too were Soham's. Their player-coach, Len Saward, looks to have a problem. Since Jimmy Hannah has had to be switched to the defence much of the sting has gone out of the front line.

Only Dick Jaggard looked dangerous and it was appropriate that he should score after 57 minutes.

Alan Fretwell, slowed down by a knock, could never outwit the hefty Baker, and on the right-wing Kevin Bradley, making his home debut, seemed out of his depth.

Tim Johnston lifts county eight places

With Tim Johnston striding home to win the inter-counties cross-country championship on Coldham's Common, Cambridge, on Saturday, Cambridgeshire were able to raise themselves eight places in the county placings.

Last season at Epsom, the county were 33rd but on Saturday they were placed 25th of the 39 competing counties with 1,155 points. This was almost entirely due to Johnston's effort for the rest of the scoring team finished well in the lower half of the field.

David Griggs was the second Cambridgeshire man home, finishing in 202nd position, more than 90 places higher than last year at Epsom.

Reg Townsend, the team captain, who had not run since October, did well to finish in 218th place. Jim Smith judged his race well to keep a steady pace and cruise home in 227th position. P. Fuller was next, on 252, and the last scoring man was the county champion, David Bucke, at 255th.

Tim Johnston's big moment at the tape.

Ankle gave way

He was unfortunate that an ankle he damaged in the county championship gave way but he fought on to finish.

The highlight of the race for the spectators was the dual for the individual title. Mel Batty, of Essex, forced the pace from the first lap and at times, when he opened up 70 yard gaps on his nearest rivals, he seemed unbeatable.

Even Johnston thought this. After the race he said: "I thought Batty was the winner all the way and I was fighting to get second place.

"On the last lap I closed the gap to a few feet but then Mel started pulling away again. But as we started the 500 yard run for home and I came up to his shoulder again I knew he would not be able to hold my sprint."

Batty saw the race in a similar picture. He said: "After leading all the way on my own within the last mile I felt Johnston at my shoulder. When he 'kicked' 350 yards from the tape I just could not hold him and for the second year running I saw victory slip from my grasp."

The event was a triumph for George Smith, the local organiser. His hours of work meant that all the arrangements for the reception of the 344 runners both before at Coleridge School, and after the race at the Drill Hall went without a hitch.

So did the actual race. Mr. Smith was clerk of the course and there was no criticism — only praise — of the state of going.

Mike Turner third

Cambridge had another man in the first three when Mike Turner, of the University, chased Batty home. Turner, who was leading a strong Lancashire team, won the event at Epsom last year.

The inter-county competition was not so one sided as many had expected. Although Lancashire set an all time record with their sixth successive victory, they were made to fight by Warwickshire, who were only 10 points behind.

Most of the runners praised the Coldham's Common course. Tim Johnston said: "Although I live locally I have not trained on the common and I found the course a real test. One thing that stood me in good stead was wearing short spikes.

"I remembered that at the 'National' two years ago the leaders wore short spikes and they raced away from the field on the footpaths. This time I did the same."

On the first lap Mel Batty (No. 120) is just ahead of Tim Johnston (No. 56).

The field is closely packed during the early stages.

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Minipins provide another shock

With all three leading tenpin bowling teams winning their matches over the weekend by the same score of 4-0, there was no change at the top of the Cambridge League.

Trailers "A," after dropping two points last week against their "B" side, collected full points with an easy 4-0 win over Sprite Ladies, and, in doing so, halted the ladies' recent run of success.

Top bowlers for Trailers were B. Speedie with a 193 game and E. French with a 503 series. On the Ladies' side Mrs. A. Mather rolled a 127 game, 334 series.

Liners "A" kept up their challenge to Trailers "A" at the top of the league table with a 4-0 victory over the Musketeers. J. Bell was again in good form for Liners with a 191 game and 520 series.

On the Musketeers side B. Monkhouse rolled a 179 game, 436 series.

Trailers "B," like their "A" side, also scored a 4-0 win, the defeated team being the Fenmen. Top performer for Trailers "B" was P. Shawdon with a 212 game and 516 series. On the Fenmen's side G. Wildon rolled a 144 game, 377 series.

Toffs "A" scored a comfortable 3-1 victory over the Chiefs. As always, K. Arch was in good form, bowling a 196 game and 515 series. For the Chiefs J. Pettit rolled a 193 game, 451 series.

In the "Derby" match between Newtune "A" and Newtune "B," the "A" side ran out 4-0 winners. D. Page was the bowler in form for the "A" side with a 184 game and 507 series. On the "B" side Mrs. P. Page bowled a 167 game 462 series.

Electrons got back on the winning trail with a 3-1 victory over Toffs "B." Bowler in form for the Electrons was R. Bennett with a 170 game 466 series. For Toffs "B" P. Coop rolled a 149 game, 419 series.

Despite a 209 game and 515 series by R. Critoph, Splitpin Rebels went down 1-3 to the County Arms. For the Arms G. Brooks was in good form with a 176 game and 489 series.

Minipins sprang yet another surprise when they defeated the Sinners 3-1; the best game for the ladies was bowled by Mrs. J. French with a 145. The same player bowled the best series with 396. M. George bowled a good 194 game and 451 series, for the Sinners.

Bandits dropped a point against Splitpin Jets, the result being 3-1. For the Bandits D. Payne showed some of his last season's form, rolling a 222 game and 530 series.

Tigers ran out 3-1 winners in their match against the Alpiners, and Splitpin Saints were another team to win 3-1; they defeated Liners "B."

Cambridge League

	W	L	Pins	Av
Trailers 'A'	53	3	20450	467
Liners 'A'	48	8	18833	448
Trailers 'B'	45	11	18441	439
Toffs 'A'	40	16	18271	435
Newtune 'A'	38	18	17548	418
Electrons	36	20	18202	433
Bandits	34	22	17750	423
County Arms	33	23	16700	398
Splitpin Rebels	32	24	17544	418
Newtune 'B'	31	25	18062	430
Minipins	31	25	14897	355
Tigers	29½	26½	16743	399
Chiefs	29½	27½	17492	416
Sprite Ladies	26	30	12461	297
Sinners	21	35	15401	367
Splitpin Saints	20	36	15862	378
Liners 'B'	16	40	15455	364
Musketeers	15	43	16059	382
Fenmen	12	44	14817	353
Toffs 'B'	11	45	14530	346
Splitpin Jets	10	46	14063	335
Alpiners	8	48	14205	338

Bowler of Week: D. Payne (high series).

South Australia win by innings

Neil Hawke and David Sincock, who are in Australia's team to tour the West Indies next month, each took four wickets in helping South Australia beat Queensland by an innings and 44 runs in their Sheffield Shield match in Brisbane today.

A century by Peter Burge (101), who put on 102 in 72 minutes with Wally Grout (51), prevented an earlier finish.

Walden robbed by a penalty

Marconi Inst. Res. 3, Saffron Walden Town 3.

With 12 minutes to go in this Hertfordshire County League (Division 1) encounter at London Colney on Saturday, Saffron Walden Town were cruising along with a comfortable 3—1 lead over Marconi Instruments Reserves, whom Walden have not beaten for several seasons.

It was then that a through ball split the visitors' defence and inside-right Watt ran through to whip the ball into the net. Walden had been in command throughout, with right-half Gypps and inside-right Carter in complete control of midfield play, and looked easily capable of holding on for two points but a penalty six minutes from time, converted by Johnson, robbed them.

Playing down the slope in the first half Walden, who were back to full strength for the first time since November 28—the date of their last victory—were well on top for the first 20 minutes.

Carter's impeccable ball control and deceptive body swerve had the home defence baffled and he was the architect behind many of Walden's best moves. Centre-forward Noakes gave them the lead in the 10th minute with a lob over the goalkeeper from a through pass and, although Marconi came more into the game in the latter stages of the half, right-winger Upton added a second to give his side a 2—0 interval lead.

A weak back-pass from left-back Wiseman which stuck in the mud in the 57th minute was intercepted by the Marconi centre-forward, Salt, who reduced his team's arrears, but Walden, who were still playing the superior football, restored their two-goal advantage mid-way through the second half when Noakes drove home a Calver corner.

Then, as Walden looked set for victory, Marconi hit back with their late goals.

Haverhill Res. 1, Casuals 0.

A solitary goal mid-way through the second half proved decisive for Haverhill Reserves in their Border League game with the bottom-of-the-table Colchester side.

Up to this point Haverhill had exerted almost continuous pressure but all their attacks were in vain largely because of bad finishing.

Barry Stepney, back in the side after a long absence through injury, could be excused most of his misses as he has yet to regain his footballing legs but the other forwards had no excuses. In the first 20 minutes Haverhill, playing some incisive attacking soccer should have established a commanding lead.

The Casuals were fast and lively but showed lack of ideas and thrust and only one shot from inside-left Rowlands caused Atkinson any concern.

The winning goal came in the 70th minute from Mick Granger who had a good match at inside left, linking cleverly with Fayemi the jinking Nigerian left-winger.

It was Fayemi, who headed forward a pass from Peter Thake which gave Granger his opening to nod the ball backwards over the head of Collins.

Granger might well have completed a hat-trick after this for he had another shot splendidly saved and in the last minute sent a drive crashing against the cross-bar.

Ely's cup k.o. in the mud

Ely Reserves 2, Parson Drove 5

Ely's County Challenge Cup hopes, never really bright, ended in the heavy going on Paradise Ground. They did not deserve to lose by such a big margin, but the difference lay in the tactics.

They showed fight and determination, but persisted in running with the ball. Parson Drove, on the other hand, swung it about, and when chances presented themselves made full use of them.

Ely, against a strong wind, did well to go in at the interval only 2—1 down, but two goals in a minute virtually settled the issue. Tony Morton, who had netted Ely's first, put them back into the picture to some extent by scoring another, but just on time Parson Drove added a fifth.

Gibson again to the rescue

Cambridge University 14 points, Edinburgh University 9.

Yet again Cambridge University had to thank Mike Gibson for their victory. Without him and his inspired leadership the visiting Scots would have romped away, for in the early stages of the game they had shown themselves to be a well-balanced side.

Gibson had said that his fear for the game was the superiority of the Edinburgh pack and his fear was well justified for the Scots led by nine points after 31 minutes. Their lead was due to their superior forwards. Yet, on a day when conditions suited forward play it was Gibson's brilliance at stand-off which brought victory.

Edinburgh opened the scoring with a penalty by Newton, and then R. Rea scored a try which was quickly followed by another from Sharpe. Both of these were due to bad work by the home forwards, who tapped back from lines-out near their own 25.

However, Gibson made one of his famous breaks, giving Fleming an easy try after punting ahead. Harvey kicked a simple penalty and then, after the interval, Cambridge took control.

Gibson dropped an excellent goal from 25 yards and he struck again with another superb run and dummy before putting Briggs clear. His try was converted by Harvey.

Last night Gibson was elected captain of the Cambridge University Rugby Club at the Hawks Club. B. I. Rees was elected secretary.

A near thing for Cheltenham as a high ball from Cambridge United's Billy Day drops on to the netting just behind the cross-bar during the Southern League match on Saturday at the Abbey Stadium, where Cambridge United won 2—0 (match commentary on page 13).

Loughborough XV is a Rugby machine

Cambridge 0. Loughborough Colleges 53 points.

Calmly and methodically, Cambridge were routed on Saturday by a snappy Loughborough Colleges XV, who are undoubtedly one of the finest student sides in the country. The City side's gnominy was 53—0, and the visitors had two men on international duty!

Cambridge had no excuses and no answer to the onslaught. A strong wind made no difference: Loughborough ammased 25 points in the first half and 28 in the second.

Furthermore, the students scored their points at regular intervals, and many of them were tries. Their performance was enough to knock the stuffing out of Cambridge.

Loughborrough, of course, are a superb Rugby machine, razor-sharp in every thought and movement, and with the uncanny knack of exploiting every opposing weakness at top speed.

No surprise

It is no surprise that some experts have classed them alongside the Oxford and Cambridge universities this season.

The visitors, inspired by McFadyean, a tough and resilient skipper, got down to business with stunning efficiency in the first moments. Patrick landed a penalty after five minutes and converted a try by McFadyean three minutes later. Then Evans scored, and Patrick, who kicked beautifully all the afternoon, goaled again.

Prout (2) and Sleigh put down further tries before half time, and Patrick kicked a 40-yard penalty. Loughborough continued the rout. Coutts got a try, then Patrick goaled Davies Evans and Fairlamb.

Davies put the 50 up and Patrick converted again.

Cambridge: J. Sennitt; G. Smart, P. Goodman, T. Flynn, P. Kelly; C. Fairey, J. Clark; J. Pickett, P. Wooding, J. Thompson, M. Bell, R. Smith, J. Denton, B. Lowe, A. Watts.

Mud-bound Saints

Woodford Town 4, St. Neots 2

St. Neots Town sank further into the depths of the Metropolitan League on Saturday when they met and lost to the superior tactics on an inferior pitch of Woodford Town.

Right from the kick-off, St. Neots had trouble in settling down on the soggy, mud-bound area, and these poor condition certainly played a major part in the match.

They were also hampered, while trailing by two goals, in the loss of their centre-forward, Francis Brand, who had to leave the field after a collision with the Woodford 'keeper, Peter Syratt.

Still, St. Neots did show they still had a few cards to play after the interval, when two great goals brought them back into the running.

However, constant pressure by a team that can adapt itself to heavy pitches made St. Neots reluctantly concede the game.

When these teams met earlier in the season, St. Neots came out on top, winning 2—1 and playing the better brand of football on a wind-swept pitch.

Old Cantabs better all-round side

Old Cantabrigians 17 points, Lowestoft and Yarmouth 3.

The Old Cantabs, entertaining a keen combined Lowestoft and Yarmouth XV for the first time, proved the better all-round side to run out comfortable winners.

It was quickly noticeable that the Cantabs were on top in the tight scrums and in obtaining possession from the lines-out.

Poulter, the home team's fly half, forced the visitors back into their own half with a series of long, raking kicks to touch. From a Line-out which followed, Saddington was able to force his way over the line near the corner flag. The conversion attempt was missed.

Lowestoft and Yarmouth expended much energy, but their play lacked subtlety and the Old Boys were well able to contain the the sporadic attacks. Only one movement looked dangerous, when from a line-out the ball actually crossed the Cantab line, but a defender was able to touch down.

A strong dash through the middle by Ellwood enabled the burly Saddington to score another unconverted try for the Old Boys to lead by six points to nil at half time.

Elusive

Ellwood opened the account in the second half with a good try, following a 40-yard run, in which his speed and elusiveness were combined.

The forwards were having a hard battle, and in the home pack Drake, Brown and both Harts were prominent. Behind them the youthful scrum half, J. Bord, was giving out a stream of hard and accurate passes.

The next score followed a scrum infringement and Guest kicked the three points.

A few minutes later Mott secured and ran clean through the visitors' defence to score under the posts for Guest to convert.

This success caused the Old Boys to rest on their laurels, and a lethargic defence enabled Lowestoft and Yarmouth to force their way to the line, and ultimately for several forwards to fall on the ball for a well deserved consolation try.

Shelford fire extinguished

Norwich 22, Shelford 3

A lack of co-ordination was the undoing of Shelford on Saturday. Although the Shelford backs looked the more dangerous in the opening minutes, Norwich took the advantage when the scrum-half broke quickly, then passed inside to his back who scored the first try, which was unconverted.

Norwich scored again after a speedy handling movement which gave the wing an overlap and a fine try in the corner. The convertion brought Norwich to eight points.

The hitherto ragged Shelford side came back strongly when after a grubber kick by Riley, Weatherly, the left centre, kicked on and sprinted superbly to score. The conversion was missed.

The second half started with Shelford on the attack with speedy threequarter play, and close backing up by the back-row, Fraser, Thomas and Ambler.

Norwich then went from strength to strength and the fire and determination left Shelford

Dansie and Chappell in big stand

Neil Dansie (115) and Ian Chappell (79) put on 188 runs in 187 minutes and helped South Australia amass 439 runs against Queensland in a Sheffield Shield match in Brisbane today.

Queensland, who were all out for 149 in their first innings, appear to be heading for defeat. At the close they had lost two second innings wickets for 37 runs.

Ely table tennis

Soham "B" 5, Beck Row "A" 5.
Ely "B" 0, Wilburton "A" 10.
Wilburton "B" 5, Ely "A" 5.
Phones "A" 9, Wilburton "B" 1.
Soham "A" 5, Wilburton "A" 5.
Phones "B" 0, Phones "A" 10.
Ely "A" 9, Phones "B" 1.
Phones "A" 10, Ely "B" 0.
Beck Row "B" 0, Soham "A" 10.

THEY LOST COUNT

After Loughborough Colleges had amassed more than 50 points against Cambridge R.U.F.C. at Grantchester Road on Saturday, some players found that they had lost count of the score. The result was given in some Sunday newspapers as 51—0.

The referee, Mr. D. M. Easby, of London, had the last word. "It was 53—0," he told our reporter, "and here's my scoreboard, to check it!"

Presentation to Ron Clayton

Ron Clayton, the Blackburn Rovers captain and former England captain, has played more games for the Ewood Park Club than any other player in their history, even including the late Bob Crompton.

To mark his 500th league and cup appearance a presentation of a cocktail cabinet was made to Clayton by the club chairman, Mr. Douglas Hull.

The local Saturday Summary

SOUTHERN LEAGUE

Cambridge United 2 (McVittie 2), Cheltenham Town 0. Attendance 2,872.

Chelmsford City 0, Cambridge City 1 (Bailham). Attendance 2,803.

Bedford Town 0, Guildford City 1

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

Cambridge City Reserves 2, Chelmsford City Reserves 0.

Woodford Town 4, St. Neots Town 2.

Guildford City Reserves 3, Bedford Town Reserves 4.

EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE

King's Lynn United Reserves 0, Haverhill Rovers 5.

Norwich City "A" 3, Ely City 3.

LEAGUE CUP

Soham Town Rangers 1, Stowmarket 1.

PETERBOROUGH LEAGUE

March Town United Reserves 2, Peterborough United "A" 1.

Soham United 8, Huntingdon 1.

SUFFOLK PREMIER CUP

Newmarket Town 2, Bury Town 6.

Exning United 1, Sudbury Town 0.

UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE

Potton 2, Eynesbury Rovers 0.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE

Histon 0, Windsor and Eton 2.

HERTS. COUNTY LEAGUE

Marconi Reserves 3, Saffron Walden 3.

BORDER LEAGUE

Haverhill Rovers Reserves 1, Colchester Casuals 0.

SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE
Division I

Houghton Regis 5, Royston Town 0.

Reserve Section K.O. Shield

Royston Town 2, A.M.L. 3.

COUNTY CHALLENGE CUP

Ely City Reserves 2, Parson Drove 5.

Haddenham Rovers 1, Chatteris Town 6.

RUGBY

Cambridge University 14 pts., Edinburgh University 19.

Cambridge 0 pts., Loughborough Colleges 53.

Cambridge Wanderers 14 pts., R.A.F. Henlow 3.

Cambridge "A" 3 pts., Huntingdon 3.

Huntingdon II 3 pts., Cambridge Extra "A" 9.

Norwich 22 pts., Shelford 3.

Old Cantabrigians 17 pts., Lowestoft and Yarmouth 3.

Old Perseans 29 pts., Saffron Walden 5.

Royston 17 pts., Cambridge Technical College 6.

HOCKEY

Cambridge University 3, Richmond 1.

Norwich Grasshoppers 1, Cambridge City 0.

Norwich Grasshopers III 4, Cambridge City III 3.

Chelmsford 4, Cambridgeshire Nomads 1.

Chelmsford III 2, Cambridgeshire Nomads III 0.

White on the target twice

Cambridge University 3, Richmond 1.

Cambridge University Hockey Club snatched a victory from Richmond at Fenner's on Saturday in the last minutes of the game after a dreary first half in which Richmond looked the superior side.

The University were the first to score when their centre forward, J. Webb, picked up a cross pass by R. Peacock on the right flank and cracked the ball into the net.

Richmond countered immediately with the equaliser, D. Hendy, centre forward, slipping the ball home with his reversed stick.

The game then settled down to an exciting, vigorous pace with breakaways and more deliberate attacks. Richmond tried the University defence and found them sound and decisive in clearing the ball.

This was inspired hockey and if the Varsity can give a performance like they did in the second half, they have a fine chance in their match against Oxford later this term.

A draw looked a certainty, but the home team rushed into the attack two minutes before the end and scored through their inside right, D. White.

Shraight from the bully, the ball was back in the Richmond goal for White to score again with a hard shot from the side of the field.

The Varsity's stick control was always impressive and in the second half they showed exceptional co-ordination in their attacks on the Richmond goal. Their only weakness lay in a reluctance to tackle in mid-field, most noticeable at the beginning of the game.

Nomads are doubled by Chelmsford

Cambridgeshire Nomads were doubled by the Chelmsford Hockey Club at Chelmsford, the seniors, below strength, being beaten 4-1 and the third eleven 2-0.

The senior game was virtually decided in the early stages when the lethargic Nomads could do little right. The home wingers, of divisional standard, were given far too much room in which to work and were not slow to take advantage. In addition, the Nomads' inside forwards received little support from their wingers, who were sadly out of touch.

In the first half, the home side, quicker on the ball, made the most of their opportunities and led 4-0 at the interval.

The second half was a complete contrast but although the Nomads scored one goal and went close on a number of occasions, the deficit was too much for them to erase.

Chelmsford III 2, Nomads III 0

Nomads III were somewhat unlucky to lose to Chelmsford III. On the balance of play a draw would have been a more satisfactory result from their point of view.

Chelmsford went ahead with a rather scrappy goal following a mix-up in the Nomads' goalmouth.

In the second half the Nomads were constantly on the attack, but lacked the final shot. The home side put the issue beyond doubt, against the run of the play, in the closing stages.

Hockey 'Cuppers'

The draw for the Cambridge University Hockey 'Cuppers' is:—

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Peterhouse v Trinity Hall.
Emmanuel v Magdalene.
Christ's v Trinity.
Corpus Christi v Queens'.

FIRST ROUND

Peterhouse or Trinity Hall v Emmanuel or Magdalene.
Pembroke v St. John's.
Sidney Sussex v Jesus College (holders).
St. Catharine's v Downing.
Clare v Fitzwilliam House.
King's v Caius.
Selwyn v Churchill.
Christ's or Trinity v Corpus Christi or Queens'.

Ties to be completed by February 4.

LOCAL CHESS

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Division One

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DOWNING COLLEGE "B" 3. CLARE COLLEGE 2

Details (Downing names first): W. A. Twemlow 0, A. C. H. Durham 1; P. J. Dodwell 1, L. K. Brown 0; C. Orton 0, D. R. Dance 1; G. Knights 1, A. C. Kennedy 0; A. Rogers 1, R. Pestell 0.

PEMBROKE COLLEGE 2½, SAFFRON WALDEN "A" 2½

Details (Pembroke names first): P. A. Danaher 1, J. F. Parnell 0; A. Tuppett 0, M. Whall 1; V. Snaithe 1, J. A. Richards 0; G. Gerrard 0, B. van der Eude 1; I. White ½, K. Bradford ½.

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