

Another point given away

Cambridge United 3, Margate 3.
(Attendance 1,777).

With 15 minutes of yesterday's Southern League match at Newmarket Road to go, Cambridge United looked comfortably home with a two-goal margin. The score became three when a visiting defender put through his own goal but in the next five minutes Margate were level and fighting for victory.

If ever there was a giveaway this was it. United surged into a two goal lead within the first six minutes, playing against the wind.

They held this to half-time fairly comfortably and after the interval they held the edge in a blindingly fast storm until the last quarter. Alan Payne, playing his first Southern League game in front of his home supporters, got off to a great start when he took a big part in United's first goal and a minute later scored with a powerful first time shot.

Blunders

But after this the forwards, including Payne, gradually fell from the picture and instead of having the match sewn up by half-time, as they should, they muddled on until defensive blunders threw the game away in the home straight.

One player in defence who came through the game with flying colours was Brian Boggis. He had one of his best games for many weeks.

The defence have recently given away too many goals by mistakes and the club now have one of the worst defensive records in the Southern League's premier division.

United got off to a great start in the fifth minute a long through ball from Derek Finch was flicked by Payne to Barr, who drove home a low shot.

A minute later the same three players gave United a second goal. Harrop fouled Randall just inside the Margate half and Finch's free kick was squared by Barr to Payne, and the youngster crashed home a great left-footed shot from the edge of the penalty area.

Barr injured

After this, instead of going on to crush the opposition, United allowed Margate to fight back. Before half-time the home side were handicapped by a pulled muscle to Hugh Barr, who had

to switch to the left wing for the rest of the game.

After a dull first period to the second half, United added a third goal in the 74th minute. Harrop was letting the ball run for a corner when Hobbs hooked it back from the by-line. Randall managed to get it past Hughes from a narrow angle and Parry could only run the ball into his own net.

Two minutes later Marshall pulled a goal back from the penalty spot when Graham pulled Scott down. Only seconds later Barr was allowed to run from the halfway line down the right wing, with Jones always a yard behind him, and the centre-forward scored with a fine shot from a narrow angle.

Margate were not finished and with ten minutes to go they equalised when Marshall met a corner kick and shot fiercely. Slack had the ball covered, but it struck Blackburn and was deflected into the net.

Cambridge United: Slack; Boggis; Jones; Scurr, Graham, Finch; Day, Barr, Randall, Payne, Hobbs.

Margate: B. Hughes; Parry, Marshall; Hatsall, Harrop, Wallock; Scott, Holder, Ballagher, Blackburn, C. Hughes.

Southern League

Team	PREMIER DIVISION					
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Weymouth	40	23	7	10	95	47
Chelmsford	40	23	4	13	86	50
Worcester	41	22	5	14	100	62
Yeovil	39	16	14	9	72	52
Guildford	38	17	12	12	63	45
Margate	39	18	9	12	78	45
Nuneaton	41	19	7	15	57	54
Dartford	39	16	11	12	88	55
Exeter	41	17	8	16	66	42
Folkestone	41	17	7	17	70	41
Romford	41	17	7	17	69	41
Cheltenham	39	15	4	14	71	40
Cambridge Utd.	40	15	9	16	69	38
King's Lynn	40	13	12	14	55	29
Cambridge City	39	14	10	15	73	38
Wellingborough	40	12	9	19	58	74
Wellington	40	12	9	19	58	74
Wisbech	39	13	5	21	71	85
Rugby	39	13	5	21	63	91
Barnet	37	15	4	20	59	30
Hastings	36	9	12	17	53	70
Bath	40	11	3	26	56	82

Y.M.C.A. lead for table tennis title
In the Cambridgeshire Table Tennis League Y.M.C.A. I are still heading for the championship despite good victories by Press I over Y.M.C.A. II (10-0) and Trumpington I (9-1).

Y.M.C.A. beat G.O.R.B.I. by a heavy margin which puts the "river" men in a perilous position at the bottom end of the division. New Chesterton Institute I beat Luckless Pest Control I (certain for relegation) by an eight set margin and then drew with N.A.L.G.O. In the latter match John Thurston beat closed champion Martin White in three sets. In Division II, Soham Methodist I, who beat Exiles, led from St. George's I, who could only draw with Hospitals I. Chappel won all his games for Hospitals and Brian Jeffery, standing in for Jack Baughman, beat Denis Fenton.

Results

Division I.
Press I, 10, Y.M.C.A. II, 0.
Press I, 9, Imca, 1, 1.
Y.M.C.A. I, 9, G.O.R.B. I, 1.
N.C.I. 9, Pest Control I, 1.
N.A.L.G.O. 3, N.C.I. 5.
Division II.
Soham Methodists I, 8, Exiles 2.
Hospitals I, 5, St. George's I, 5.
Civil Service I, 4, Telephones 6.
Fire Brigade I, 9, Civil Service I, 0.
Gargels I, 10, Robert Sayle I, 0.
Division III, A
G.O.R.B. II, 2, C.I.B.A. I, 8.
Y.M.C.A. VI, 7, Y.M.C.A. IV, 3.
St. George's II, 8, Gas Board I.
Division III, B
Y.M.C.A. VI, 9, Soham Methodists II, 1.
Y.M.C.A. VI, 5, C.I.B.A. I, 5.
Torchbearers I, 9, Press III, 1.
Division III, C
Press II, 8, St. George's III, 2.
Harston Y.C. I, 5, Press II, 5.
Press II, 3, Y.M.C.A. V, 7.
G.O.R.B. III, 4, Y.M.C.A. 7.
Division IV, A
Gas Board II, 1, Telephones II, 9.
Ely 10, Cambridge News I, 0.
Duxford Grange 4, Press IV, 6.
Robert Sayle IV, 0, Y.M.C.A. VIII, 10.
Torchbearers IV, 9, Duxford Grange 1.
Swanton Congregational Y.C. 5, Gas Board II, 1.
Division IV, B
Civil Service II, 2, Y.M.C.A. VIII, 8.

Comberton 10, Robert Sayle III, 0.
Fire Brigade II, 10, Robert Sayle III, 0.
The Wanderers I, Comberton I, 9.
The Wanderers 8, Civil Service II, 2.
Y.M.C.A. VIII, 7, Press V, 3.
Fire Brigade II, 9, Cambridge News II, 1.
Division IV, C
Telephones III, 4, Press V, 6.
C.I.B.A. II, 9, Atlas Sports II, 1.
Comberton II, 2, Telephones III, 8.
The Cambridgeshire Summer League commences at the beginning of May and club secretaries are reminded that all entries should be in by May 3 at the latest. Entries should be sent to the league secretary (Mr. A. A. Brothie), 59, Hertford Street, Cambridge, from whom further information may be obtained. A trip is being arranged for the China V. England international at Wembley on Tuesday, May 11. Anybody interested should contact Mrs. M. A. Cornwell, of 28 Harding Way, Cambridge, as soon as possible. The semi-finals and final of the United Cambridge Hospitals Cup will be played at the Hospitals Club, Union Lane, on Wednesday, April 28. Spectators will be welcome.

Clacton show class at Newmarket

Newmarket Town were outclassed and outplayed yesterday when they met Clacton at the Town Ground in an Eastern Counties League fixture. At first it seemed that both sides had mastered one another and it was Newmarket who took the first shot at a goal in the 10th minute Brooks hammered the ball from a Johnson cross and Clacton's keeper Wright, just pushed the ball over the bar. Minutes later, outside-left Stearn cracked another shot at goal but this went straight into the arms of the Clacton keeper. But this was almost all the spark the home team displayed.



United's Dennis Randall gets high above Harrop but he can only head the ball away from goal. Peter Hobbs looks on powerless to help his centre-forward.

Easter for Ely City was as bleak as the weather

Ely City 1, Stowmarket 4.
Easter for Ely was as bleak as the weather. Their three games produced no points and an adverse goal average of 2-15. With Norwich "A" again beating Haverhill yesterday, it now looks odds on Ely becoming the Eastern Counties League wooden spoonists.

There was no joy either for the Reserves, who conceded 17 goals and scored only three in their two meetings with the Peterborough League champions, Chatteris Town. Chances of an Ely victory yesterday became remote as slack marking allowed Carver, in the sixth and 31st minutes, to put Stowmarket two ahead. Ely's best efforts came from Jimmy Hannah with a header that scraped the bar and a drive that was fumbled by the goalkeeper, Jimmy Carr wasted a useful scoring chance by delaying his shot.

Ely took two more body blows soon after the interval. Another defensive error led in Byford and in the 80th minute Carr reduced the arrears, but that was the end of passenger. He tried to carry on but eventually left the field altogether after 70 minutes.

As is often the case, the 10 men fought with renewed vigour and in the 80th minute Carr reduced the arrears. Just on time, Byford, from an offside position, laid on the pass for Carver to complete his hat-trick.

Haddenham Rovers 1, Soham United 1.
Both teams put up a commendable show in atrocious conditions and a draw was a fair result of yesterday's Peterborough League match. Much-changed Haddenham

Chatteris stroll it

Ely Reserves 2, Chatteris 8.
A only one Ely player wore the correct numbered shirt for yesterday morning's return Peterborough League game but it did not confuse the champions, Chatteris Town. They strolled through the game as though it were a training stint. Bailey (2) and Salisbury gave them a 3-0 interval lead and afterwards more goals came from Staff, Salisbury, Adams, Smith and Bailey. Hannah got the Ely goal. A severe hail-storm caused a three-minute hold-up midway through the second half.

Clacton show class at Newmarket

Newmarket 4, Clacton 3
In the 21st minute Clacton's inside-left, Coleman, raced through to collect a long ball and pushed it past Gawthrop. Four minutes before half-time Clacton went further ahead when centre-forward Meagher put the ball in the Newmarket net after Gawthrop had failed to gather when Clacton were given a free kick out on the right wing. When the second half started Newmarket were two goals down. But just a minute from the restart Stearn, who switched from outside-left to inside-left, banged

were slow to settle and went into arrears after 20 minutes when Booth scored for Soham. An own goal 16 minutes later put Haddenham level. Soham were left with 10 men when Peter Arnold was forced to leave the field with an injury and in the closing minutes of the game their goal had a charmed life as

Rovers doubled by young Canaries

Norwich "A", 2, Haverhill Rovers 1.
Easter proved a disastrous period for Haverhill who, losing at Norwich yesterday, conceded an Eastern Counties League holiday double to the young Canaries and crashed to their fourth successive defeat. There was little zest or method in Haverhill's display. Their run of defeats has not only caused them to slide down the E.C.L. table but has also sapped all their confidence. They are playing like a struggling team whereas only two weeks ago the Rovers sparked like a new shilling. Norwich, on paper, had a weaker side than when they visited Hamlet Croft on Good Friday but their teenage team gave an excellent account of themselves.

Young Linnets too strong

King's Lynn Res. 3, March Town 1
After their 11-goal spree against Ely, March Town failed miserably at King's Lynn on Monday and were fortunate to escape with only a 3-1 defeat. March took the lead in the 35th minute when Smith provided the finishing touch to a Massingham-Sharman move but that was one of the few occasions they managed to penetrate a sound Lynn defence.

White dashed through a hesitant March defence to equalise in the 55th minute and Warner made it 2-1 after full-back Raines had misjudged a high lob. In the 85th minute goalkeeper Valentine failed to hold a low cross from Jones and Chappase completed the scoring. Skipper Archie Tinkler was sound in a struggling March defence while teenage centre forward Smith tried hard to infuse some life into a shot-shy attack.

Clacton show class at Newmarket

the ball home to wipe out half the deficit. Clacton attacked time and again and in the 83rd minutes their efforts were rewarded when centre-forward Meagher ran half the length of the pitch, beat three Newmarket men, and drove in a 25 yard shot which had Newmarket's goalkeeper floundering. **Newmarket:** Gawthrop; Pauley, Ginder; Payne, Cruickshank, Shaw; Johnson, Sharkey, Brooks. **Clacton:** Wright; Johnson, Osborne; Lowe, Phelan, Dellar; Ryan, Constance, Meagher, Coleman.

Haddenham strove for the winner. Haddenham took three points from their holiday games. Their youthful side on Good Friday went down 4-1 to Spalding Reserves but the following day they fought back from a 3-0 deficit to beat Huntingdon 4-3 with the deciding goal coming in the closing seconds.

Rovers doubled by Histon beat themselves

Histon 2, Cheshunt 3
Histon sank themselves with fumbling midfield work in yesterday's Athenian League clash with Cheshunt, a far more accomplished side. A bad defensive mistake gave Cheshunt a goal in the opening seconds through Dennis, Denech, Histon's outside-left, equalised for Histon immediately afterwards, but it was a game of good luck and enterprise. Their first goal after 15 minutes was a gift, Stiff slamming the ball past Wright with the Rovers' defence standing still, appealing for outside.

Too elaborate

Haverhill, who had a reserve. Crouch, as left back, did not give away any further goals in the first half but their forward line made little impression on the Norwich defence, over-elaboration spoiling promising approach work. Norwich advanced their lead to 2-0 when Woolmer netted after Haverhill had failed to cover a free kick on the edge of the penalty area. Haverhill did perk up after this with Coleman moving into the attack and giving it more fire. It was Coleman who reduced Haverhill's arrears with a neat half-volley following good work by Hender and Stepney.

O.P.'s threequarters tip the scales

Shelford 8 points, Old Persans 21.
Both teams were depleted by holiday absences, and bore a somewhat unfamiliar look. In spite of this they contrived to produce a good, open game, full of incident.

It was quickly obvious that the two packs of forwards were well matched, with Shelford having perhaps just the edge in the light. Behind the scrum the Old Persans were clearly superior, with P. Green and Brylewski always probing for openings. The game was ten minutes old when an Old Persans kick ahead was neatly gathered by P. Green who stroked away to score under the posts for Perry to convert. Shelford tightened up the defences, and there was no further score up to half-time, although the Old Persans narrowly missed with attempts at drop goals. **Determined tackling**
With the wind at their backs Shelford attacked strongly. Abilt, playing in the centre, tried desperately hard to force an opening against determined tackling. But the Old Persans scored

Rangers fade at Lowestoft

Lowestoft 7, Soham Town Rangers 2.
The pattern of this Eastern Counties League game at Crown Meadow yesterday was abruptly reversed after 20 minutes. This was when Soham Town Rangers stopped scoring and Lowestoft began amassing their formidable total of seven goals.

The 15-year-old schoolboy, John Fretwell, was playing for Soham, and Noel Kinsey was back with Lowestoft after his suspension last week.

Soham started off well on top and after a near miss from John Fretwell, centre-forward Peter Youngs slipped the ball past Lowestoft's keeper, D. Fulton, to put his team ahead. A. Fretwell increased the lead two minutes later when he dodged confused Lowestoft defenders. The situation caused the Blues to double their efforts and from then on they practically took control of the game. Mills, Smith and Coley all scored before the interval and Mutton stopped Youngs' spot kick with a fine save. Mills completed his hat-trick within ten minutes of the second half and Smith added the final goal six minutes before the end.

Eastern Counties League

Team	EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE					
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Lowestoft	23	18	2	3	103	43
Clacton Town	22	16	1	5	63	33
King's Lynn	22	16	2	4	67	26
Yarmouth Town	20	10	5	5	50	25
Stowmarket	18	11	2	5	36	23
Soham	18	11	2	5	36	23
Thetford Town	23	10	3	10	63	23
March Town Utd.	23	9	5	9	49	23
Haverhill Rovers	20	11	0	9	54	22
Soham 2	23	8	4	11	39	17
Newmarket	23	6	4	13	39	16
Gothic	22	6	13	35	55	15
Denham	23	4	14	5	37	14
Ely City	23	4	3	16	46	11

Histon beat themselves

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With the wind at their backs Shelford attacked strongly. Abilt, playing in the centre, tried desperately hard to force an opening against determined tackling. But the Old Persans scored again, when P. Green made a break and passed to Brylewski, who dived over the line for Perry to convert. Shelford fought back, and taking full advantage of a defensive error, Mullucks dribbled over and scored an unconverted try. The fact that at which the game had been played was slowing down the forwards and allowing the lively Old Persans three-quarters much more scope. P. Green and A. Martin scored tries in quick succession and Perry converted one of them. Shelford struck again and Thomas showed a good turn of speed to touch down beneath the crossbar. Cook was successful with the conversion. M. Hart, on the Old Persans right wing, ran hard to score a well deserved try to finish the game.