

# Kettering no match for skilful United

Class told as Cambridge United footballled their way to an Eastern Professional Floodlight League victory at Kettering last night, writes David Hallett.

For the first 25 minutes the home side looked like over-running their visitors but they only managed to turn their advantage into a one-goal lead, and United settled to take command. Once the visitors had equalised there was only one team in it.

Kettering, who are making a desperate challenge to win promotion from Division 1 of the Southern League, fielded their strongest side but they were unable to match the team skills of their opponents.

A group of Football League

**Kettering 1, Cambridge Utd. 2**  
(Attendance 805)

club managers and scouts were at the ground watching Brian Martin, Kettering's teenage left winger.

United's goals were scored by their two leading marksmen, Peter Hobbs and Wesley Maughan. Hobbs now has 25 goals, one more than he scored last season, and Wesley Maughan is close behind with 17.

From the kick off United were under severe pressure and Finch was forced to head off the line from Martin before Adams volleyed home a pass from the winger after 25 minutes.

But United were settling down and, as they started to push the ball around, they came back into the picture. They equalised three

minutes before the interval when Hobbs spotted a mistake in the making and anticipated a back pass from Wills to the goalkeeper.

The centre-forward beat Livesey to the ball and rolled it into the net from a narrow angle.

After the interval the football started to flow from United and the Kettering goal was under heavy pressure. In the 54th minute United went into the lead. John Turley, settling down well at wing-half, crossed and Maughan turned to crash a great shot home from the edge of the area.

Baker had a header from a corner kicked off the line and Bennett twice had Livesey scrambling desperately to clear.

**Cambridge United:** Smith; Tedds, Finch; Turley, Baker, Payne; Maughan, Amato, Hobbs, Barr, Bennett.

## OLD PERSEAN FORWARDS IN COMMAND

The Old Perseans avenged a defeat earlier in the season when they had a good win by a goal and a try to nil over Norwich Lions.

Credit must go largely to the Old Perseans' forwards, who outplayed their counterparts. Neale and Williams, in the second row, and Buchanan at No. 8, provided a good push in the scrums.

The try followed a kick ahead by Davey. Alan Sizer gathered at speed, rounded his opposite wing, feinted and cut inside the full-back to score a fine try under the posts.

John White converted and later kicked a 35-yard penalty.

## Talking Rugby by Deryck Harvey

# Man of action—and a thinker

Brian Rees, the newly-elected captain of Cambridge University Rugby Union Football Club, is the first hooker so to be honoured since the war. Oxford have not chosen a skipper in this position since 1955.

After the University's first game of the term, against the RAF, I asked Rees if there were special difficulties about captaining a side from the thick of the scrum, where the hooker, of all people, is likely to have his head down for a good proportion of the game.

Rees, friendly, modest and fervently enthusiastic about his football, explained: "No, I don't think so. I was looking round a bit more today, though."

Now in his fourth year at Christ's College, Cambridge, he has always been a hooker and found his position no disadvantage when skipper of the Neath Grammar School XV.

### Stitches

He has played in three Varsity matches — a win, a loss and a draw — and has a reputation for enjoying his game in a tough Welsh tradition. Last Wednesday he had had three stitches inserted in an eye injury sustained in the first minutes of the game.

Rees has succeeded Mike Gibson as captain after being secretary the previous year, a duty that is now almost customary. But there is little doubt that the Varsity have chosen well, for he is a quiet thinker as well as a man of action. No one is likely to set a better example.

### R.A.F. skipper

Roger Palin, captain of the RAF this season, is also a Cambridge R.U.F.C. player, although county calls for Northumberland and Service duties have kept him out of the city side since long before Christmas.

He is lightning fast off the mark and a good handler, attributes which qualify him for the full back position with the RAF and fly-half with Cambridge.

But however good the individual, special problems beset a Service side, Palin explained: "The RAF are always a scratch side, never getting a chance to play together. Some of the players travel all morning and get to the ground just before a game, and never have time to get to know each other."

Palin, an operational squadron pilot based at Wattisham, near Ipswich, is in the unusual position of playing Rugby both in the north and south of England for different teams in the same season. The major difference, he believes, is that international selectors seem reluctant to go north for their players.

"Rugby is taken very seriously in the north, and all county games are played on Saturdays," he said. "I can't understand the selectors. They select hardly anybody north of Coventry." Palin hopes to be available for

Cambridge against the Old Cambrians on Saturday and has been invited to the city club's dinner at the University Arms Hotel, Cambridge, in the evening.

### Frustration

Nick Martin, the Old Perseans' lock-forward who won a Blue in December in his first term up at St. John's College, Cambridge, is still suffering from glandular fever and cannot say when he will be fit to play Rugby again. Headaches and nausea also prevent him training, making his frustration all the more acute because it seems unlikely he will be able to help St. John's in the Rugby Cuppers competition. With him partnering Bob Barker in the second row the college would be favourites for the prize.

Martin is, at least, able to continue his studies and has been up all term. Last week he watched both the Cambridge University v RAF and LX Club v Cambridgeshire games.

### Light and Dark

Peter Anthony, the fly-half who has played for both the Cambridge University LX Club and the Oxford University Greyhounds, has joined Cambridge. He is back in East Anglia teaching at Framlingham.

Anthony played for the LX Club last year. This season he appeared for the Greyhounds while reading for a diploma in education at Oxford.

He hopes to be with Cambridge for the rest of the season and looks like challenging for a place in the senior XV.

### Ice-hockey man

Shelford have a Canadian ice hockey player in their midst learning Rugby. He is Doug Boyd, a research student at Churchill College, Cambridge, who joined the club in November, and has worked his way up from the fourth XV.

Boyd plays on the right wing. The Shelford captain, Keith Thomas, tells me he is a good, strong runner, and a very hard wing man to stop.

It was good to see Jules Malfroy former chairman of the Cambridgeshire selectors until ill health forced his retirement back watching Rugby again when the county played at Grange Road last week.

Mr. Malfroy has a long and notable association with local Rugby, particularly with Shelford. He is still a vice-president of the club, and their Rugby Union representative.

### Easter tour

Cambridge R.U.F.C.'s junior sides are to combine for an Easter tour in Kent. They will play Canterbury on Good Friday, April 8, and meet the Thane Wanderers the following day. On Easter Monday they will travel on to meet a Dover XV.

# Sophisticated hockey but little bite

Cambridge City Hockey Club's senior team had to be content with a goalless draw against an improved Old Dunstablians' side. Cambridge had the means to win this game, but the fire was missing.

Movements when they came were neat and sophisticated, but time and again City players were caught in possession and robbed by the sharper, if cruder, Dunstablians.

Spincer did not relish the move to inside-forward, Ellis showed none of his brilliant potential, and Shaw looked dangerous only in flashes, while the wingers had to run hard but to little avail.

This should have been an easy fixture and City must re-discover their dash and spirit before meeting the bigger fishes of weeks ahead, such as the all-conquering Bury, and the Cambridgeshire Nomads.

In a rather uninspiring game, Cambridge City's second eleven were a little fortunate to beat Old Dunstablians II by the odd goal of three.

In this, their first game for three weeks, the City side seldom showed the teamwork which has been responsible for their good match record, and both their goals were due to individual efforts.

Old Dunstablians opened the scoring early in the game from a short corner. The equaliser soon came when P. Nathaniels scored

after a good move by D. Peter. Shortly before half time Nathaniels scored again.

### Exciting

As expected, the Saffron Walden v I.C.T. Letchworth match proved to be an exciting affair, the two clubs sharing four goals after each winning a previous encounter.

The game provided one of the best treats for Saffron Walden spectators this season with two goals in each half. Using their wingers to great advantage, the home side took the early initiative and it was from the right flank that John Davey sent across a centre that was met first time by the inside-left, John Raynham, who gave Walden the lead. A few minutes before the interval the Letchworth side equalised with a shot from the edge of the circle.

Almost immediately after the second half began I.C.T. went into the lead, but Walden equalised in the 50th minute when Ted Cocke forced the ball home after a goalmouth scramble.

On Sunday Saffron Walden were beaten 5-2 by Epping at R.A.F. Debden. Their marksmen were Wright and the captain, T. Perrell.

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