

LAST-MINUTE WINNER COLCHESTER

Yeovil Can Catch Leaders

Yeovil Town, 1; Colchester, 0.

Yeovil's clash with Colchester provided all the thrills of a cup-tie. From start to finish the game bristled with excitement, culminating in a dramatic ending when Mansley smashed the ball into the net to give Yeovil a deserved 1-0 victory two minutes from time.

THE league leaders owe much to their defence that they were not beaten by a greater margin than one goal. For fully three parts of the game, Colchester were penned in their own half.

So busy were the visiting halves and backs stemming the sustained attacks of the Yeovil forwards that they were unable to give their forwards much service.

Yeovil's supremacy in attack was due to the excellent work of their halves, in which Paterson and Haines excelled. Blizzard, at centre-half, always had the measure of the visiting leader, Kebble.

Good Covering

Despite the scheming of Wright and Mansley to find the open spaces, their efforts were usually foiled by the splendid positioning and covering of the opposing defence.

Hamilton and Foulds responded well to the opportunities provided by their colleagues and got over a number of serviceable crosses which often spelt danger, but Colchester succeeded in keeping their goal intact until the 88th minute.

Wright, the visiting goalkeeper, was given plenty to do, but was never in serious trouble, due to the splendid support of his backs.

Yeovil displayed clever approach work, but lacked finishing power. Phillips at centre-forward being subdued by Centre-half Stewart, who held him in a vice-like grip.

Yeovil's victory puts them in the running for the League championship, for although Colchester lead by four points Yeovil have two games in hand.

Game With Exeter Res.

YEOVIL Town, keen to overhaul Colchester at the top of the Southern League, made an all-out effort, to take both points from Exeter City Res. at Huish this afternoon. They had Dyke back in goal and were at full strength.

Exeter made several changes, bringing in Walker as leader of the attack, moving Rew to inside right, and switching their halves.

The visitors had slightly the better of the opening exchanges, and the home defence was unsettled. Twice Murphy centred accurately, but Blizzard was in position to head away.

Yeovil launched their first dangerous attack after 10 minutes, but Phillips after beating off two men, was bundled off the ball. Appeals for a penalty were disallowed. Awarded a free kick about ten yards outside the area, Paterson sent a high hard ball into the goalmouth, and Hamilton leapt to deflect the ball into the goalkeeper's arms.

Yeovil took the lead in the 16th minute with a remarkable goal. Cater, the Exeter pivot, in an endeavour to clear his line, hit the ball against the referee. Mansley collected the rebound and passed to WRIGHT, who seemed to be in an off-side position. The inside left coolly hit the ball to Doyle, who did not attempt to save.

To the surprise of most of the spectators and players the goal was allowed.

This hardly deserved reverse spurred Exeter to further efforts and their forwards quickly returned to the attack but good approach work faltered in front of goal. Murphy was giving good service on the Exeter left-wing but found Hickman an able opponent.

The visitors came near to scoring when Walker, receiving from Doyle, former Yeovil Town player, shot just over the bar after outpacing Blizzard.

Yeovil remained slightly on top. They were finding their men well in mid-field but defences on both sides excelled.

Half-time: Yeovil 1, Exeter City Reserves 0.

Only Goal Earns Yeovil Full Points

Tonbridge, 0; Yeovil, 1.

A goal scored in the 28th minute of the second half by inside-right Mansley gave Yeovil full points in yesterday's Southern League match at Tonbridge.

ON the whole it was a dull game with few highlights. Tonbridge were on top in the slow, goalless first half, but there was little construction in their raids. Goal-keeper Dyke was never really tested and the defence took the brunt of the attack.

Centre-half Blizzard had a difficult time with Harry Mills, the Tonbridge leader, whose work was lost on his erratic inside-men. Backs Davis and Hickman had the measure of Tonbridge's wingers, Dickie and Gray.

Tonbridge kept up the pace at the start of the second half, but the spring seemed to have wound itself down after a quarter of an hour, and Yeovil took over, scoring a deserved goal. Hamilton centred and Mansley scored with a neat flick.

Yeovil played neat Soccer and would have piled up the goals had it not been for a fairly sound Tonbridge defence, in which the wing halves and Right-back Swinfen (who formerly played for Yeovil, were outstanding.