

One strike is enough for United to get past Hatters

13/14 (FAT)

CAMBRIDGE United booked their place in the FA Trophy quarter-finals with a 1-0 win at Luton Town last night.

The U's will now visit Skril South side Eastleigh in the last eight on February 1, with a path to the final now really opening up for them.

And it was a deserved victory for the visitors as they got one over their Skril Premier promotion rivals in their own back yard.

The teams reconvened at Kenilworth Road after Saturday's tie ended in a 2-2 draw, the U's fighting back from two goals down at the R Costings Abby Stadium.

United head coach Richard Money made five changes to his starting line-up, with Josh Coulson, Ryan Donaldson, Richard Tait, Ashley Chambers and Tom Champion all in the 11.

Michael Spillane and Kevin Roberts dropped to the bench, Harrison Dunk and Tom Elliott missed out completely and Tom Bonner is recovering from his ankle operation after being stretchered off at the weekend.

There was also room for youngsters Ryan Horne and James Akintunde on the U's bench.

A bit of Kasabian's *Club Foot* got the players and fans pumped up and ready for kick-off, and it was the home team who came out of the blocks the quickest.

In only the first minute, the big presence of Alex Wall muscled his way into the box and drilled a low effort which John Sullivan gratefully held onto, while an Ian Miller interception and a Luke Berry block were required as Shaun Whalley menacingly lurked on the edge of the area.

Chambers marked his United debut with a goal on Saturday, and his creativity went close to giving his team the advantage, a nice pass almost freeing Nathan Arnold and his corner being headed wide by Liam Hughes, while his free kick drew a save from Elliot Justham.

It was real end-to-end stuff and Sullivan did well on three occasions, including a full-stretch stop from Mark Cullen, while another Chambers set-piece delivery led to Coulson putting a header just wide.

Chambers was proving a real menace, taking up some excellent positions to turn and run at the Luton defence, and it was fitting he should break the deadlock five minutes before half time. He fashioned the opening for himself on the edge of the box, with his left-footed shot beating Justham

Luton Town 0
Cambridge Utd 1

By
Michael Vaughton



with the aid of a deflection.

Money was greeted by jeers from the home fans as he walked down and back out of the tunnel at either end of the half-time interval, but the travelling supporters showed their appreciation and got a thumbs up from the head coach.

And they almost saw the U's double their lead inside the first 10 minutes of the second period, but Chambers' low shot was repelled and the goalkeeper also denied Berry from distance.

But United were glad Greg Taylor, who missed a spot-kick in the original tie, was not adjudged to have handled the ball inside the box as Luton appealed vociferously.

Both teams made changes midway through the second half, with Luton boss John Still needing to increase the tempo with United controlling proceedings.

Jon Shaw did draw a near-post save from Sullivan with a header from Whalley's inswinging corner, but the U's defence was dealing with the threat relatively comfortably.

With 12 minutes remaining, there was drama at both ends as Berry was furious with himself for putting a header wide and Luton substitute Zane Banton had a goal ruled out for offside.

And more drama was to come at the death, Arnold wasting a golden chance for the U's and a flying save from Sullivan keeping out the Hatters' Cullen.

But Chambers' goal was enough to see the U's through and into the next round.

Luton: Justham, Charles, Taiwo, Shaw, Wall (Banton 63min), Cullen, Inniss, Whalley (Viana 68), Longden, Trotman, Rees. **Not used:** Smith, Chabata, King.

Cambridge United: Sullivan 8, Tait 7, Miller 7, Coulson 8, Taylor 7, Hughes 7 (Roberts 69), Champion 7, Berry 7, Donaldson 7 (Spillane 75), Arnold 7, Chambers 8*. **Not used:** Norris, Horne, Akintunde.

Booked: Luton - Wall (foul) 48min, Longden (foul) 90. Cambridge United - Spillane (foul) 81.

Referee: D Treleaven.

Attendance: 2,312 (away 326).

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TROPHY TUSSLES: Above - Cambridge United's Richard Tait goes up for a header during last night's FA Trophy, third round replay against Luton. Below - Josh Coulson battles for the ball

Pictures: Gareth Owen



Last night's results

FA CUP WITH BUDWEISER

Third round: Birmingham 3 Bristol Rovers 0, Bournemouth 4 Burton 1, Charlton 2 Oxford Utd 2.

Third round replay: Fulham 3 Norwich 0, MK Dons 1 Wigan 3 (aet), Peterborough 2 Kidderminster 3, Plymouth 2 Port Vale 3, Preston 3 Ipswich 2, Sheff Wed 4 Macclesfield 1, Watford 2 Bristol City 0.

SKY BET LEAGUE ONE

Stevenage 2 Swindon 0, Walsall 1 Oldham 0.

SKRILL PREMIER

Gateshead 0 Aldershot 0, Welling 0 Hyde 2.

FA TROPHY

Third round, replay: Luton Tn 0 Cambridge Utd 1.

CALOR LEAGUE

Division One Central: St Ives 2 Aylesbury Utd 4.

CAMBS INVITATION CUP

(SPONSORED BY RIDGEONS)

Quarter-final: Histon v Over Sports (post), Soham

Tn Rgrs 9 Foxton 3 (aet), Wisbech Tn 1 CRC 2.

HERTS CHARITY CUP

Semi-final: Royston 0 Bishop's Stortford 1.

Tonight's matches

FA CUP WITH BUDWEISER

Third round replay: Man City v Blackburn.

CAMBS INVITATION CUP

(SPONSORED BY RIDGEONS)

Quarter-final: Cambridge City v Linton Granta.