

SPORTS SHORTS

Football

Ickleton 2 Radwinter 4
League 1B

NEWLY-PROMOTED Radwinter overcame a slow start and two-goal deficit to beat Ickleton in a hard-fought contest. They found themselves 2-0 down within 25 minutes. However, two quick goals from Richard Sharpe and Terry Heath got them level just before half time.

The second half was a much better display from Radwinter with an outstanding performance from Aaron Westwood. Sharpe made it 3-2 on 65 minutes and Adam Ashenden sealed the win on 75 minute with a 30-yard strike into the top corner.

Saffron Dynamos 1 Abacus Athletic 9
Pre-season friendly

NEIL Brown's new-look Abacus side got off to the best possible start as they prepared for the new season with a 9-1 victory.

There were hat-tricks from Charlie Norris and Steve Leys whilst Joseph Anderson got a brace along with a debut Alisdair Rolfe goal.

Abacus kick off their new season on Saturday with a home game at Newport Recreation Ground.

Bowls

GREAT Chesterford Bowls Club narrowly failed to gain promotion from Division 2 of the Cambs & District League. Difficult away matches at Fenstanton and Balsham with defeats of 7-0 and 6-1 respectively sealed their fate leaving them in a safe third position.

In the final club tournament of the season, the triple of Beryl Kellam, Paul Ellis and Malcolm Hyde were victors, with Colin Brand, Graham Ferguson and Colin Mount taking the runners-up spot.

Croquet

NEWPORT Elms took on Enfield in a vital game for both teams with a semi-final place in the EACF (East Anglia Croquet Federation) league at stake. Newport needed to win the tie while a draw would safely see Enfield through. Conditions were excellent and at the lunch break Enfield led 8 matches to 4. A valiant effort in the final singles matches only brought the score to 10-6 leaving the Elms with an impossible task. The doubles matches were shared with the final result Newport Elms 7, Enfield 11.

Youth football

U18

Saffron Walden Town 1 Soham Town 1

SEVEN of last year's under-16 squad made their debuts in this league fixture against Soham.

Walden had the powerful twin strike force of Charlie Pitt and Machai Tolosi in action but their efforts were blunted by a strong Soham defence and a lack of creativity in midfield. Neither team threatened the goal until just before half time when a strong Pitt effort that was parried by the Soham keeper.

The second half was a more lively affair with both teams starting to create chances. Walden went one down after a long range effort beat stand-in keeper Mikey Sharp. Walden pressed for the equaliser with David Crowley going close. With barely a couple of minutes left another Pitt shot was well blocked by but this time the ball fell to defender Harry Clark, who was able to poke it into the net from close range.



FAR LEFT: Jason Gallian and Giles Ecclestone make a run against Bury St Edmunds. **LEFT:** Skipper Giles Ecclestone notched 75 for Walden on Saturday.

Pictures: Jamie Pluck

'We went to pieces' Ecclestone admits

Cricket

Saffron Walden 244-6,
Bury St Edmunds 277-8
Match drawn

POOR fielding cost Saffron Walden dearly on Saturday as their tussle with third from bottom Bury St Edmunds ended in a draw.

Captain Giles Ecclestone admitted his side had let the visitors rack up too big a score to chase – despite it being a favourable batting wicket at the Anglo American Playing Fields.

"We let them get too many runs – 277 in the context of the game was more than they

should have got. It was a decent wicket but not a 277 wicket," he told the *Reporter*.

"We had six or seven dropped catches and that killed us. Our bowlers did a good job but we went to pieces in the field and that was what let us down," Ecclestone added.

"Josh Wells bowled beautifully but I think there were four or five catches dropped on his bowling alone. That cost us the game.

"They ended up being 170-2 when they could have been 100-6 if we had held our catches. Had that been the case we would have won easily."

Bury won the toss and elected to bat. Opener Tom Huggins put together a great knock before being removed by

Niraj Odedra for 115.

He was ably supported from Pakistani overseas player Shahzaib Hasan – who made 90 despite being dropped early off Wells' bowling.

Admirable knocks down the order from Ben Wright (33) and Matthew Hunn (25) helped Bury amass a total of 277-8 at the end of their 65 overs.

Saffron Walden's figures showed the pick of the bowlers were Glen Batticciotto (15-47-3) and Odedra (17-84-3), though this did not reflect the stellar performance of Wells, who ended the day wicketless having conceded 55 runs from 12 overs.

The home side's run chase got off to the worst possible start when Wells was

out LBW for a golden duck and fellow opener Lloyd Paternott (0) followed shortly after.

Dismissals of Batticciotto (5) and Jason Gallian (19) left Walden 51-4 but Ecclestone (75) and Simon Parmenter (82no) steadied the ship.

"Simon and I had to rebuild a bit after the early wickets but we got too far behind the run rate," Ecclestone conceded. "We had a dart at it towards the end but it was too much to make up."

The hosts ended the day on 244-6, 34 runs shy of their victory target. Walden lie in fourth place with two games left of the season.

Next up they face Sudbury away on Saturday.



TOP: From left, Jeremy Buss, Andy Stoten, Jonathan Howe and Paul Chapman at the Vitruvian Triathlon. **RIGHT:** Craig Dyce and Michael in Ottawa.

Pictures: Submitted



It's a Canadian affair for athletes Buchallet and Dyce

Triathlon

WALDENTRI members Michael Buchallet and Craig Dyce travelled to Ottawa in Canada to represent Great Britain at the World Duathlon Championships, accompanied by a large contingent of family and friends.

Buchallet, competing in the 40-44 year age category at the standard distance (10km run, 40km bike, 5km run), was first off in the morning. His initial run time of 39mins 54secs was good enough to put him ahead of, amongst others, former Olympic rowing gold medallist James Cracknell. A solid bike leg and strong second run brought him home in 2hrs 11mins, good enough to finish 30 out of 43 competitors in his age category, a tremendous achievement given that he had only been taking part in duathlons for less than 12 months.

Dyce, off later in the morning, was competing in the 45-49 year age category at the sprint distance (5km run, 20km bike, 2.5km run). A strong first run brought him into the initial transition in first place but some stronger cyclists passed him on the bike leg.

But, a swift second transition and battling second run allowed him to fight back and he crossed the line in 2nd place in 1hr 42secs. The silver medal follows the bronze he won at the European championships earlier this year.

In the Open 5km running race that followed the duathlons, 11-year-old Helena Dyce finished 4th female in a time of 20mins 1 secs.

Meanwhile, club member Pete Thompson completed the Newmarket Duathlon and came 9th overall out of a field of 110 athletes and 1st in his age group.

The race consisted of two runs of 4.8km and a bike of 22.4km. The runs were mainly off-road and muddy after the recent rain while the bike leg was also tough, hilly and with some sharp bends. Thompson was pleased with his overall time of 1hr 16mins.

Eight triathletes also travelled to Rutland Water to take on the Vitruvian Triathlon.

As a middle distance race it was a step up for some and a welcome break from the longer Iron distance races for others. With a 1,900m open water swim followed by 85km bike leg, wrapped up with a half marathon, it was by no means an easy challenge.

Club captain Jonathan Howe was first home in 5hrs 5mins 47secs, followed by Jeremy Buss, who excelled finishing with a 1hr 44mins half marathon, giving himself a time of 5hrs 24mins 22secs. Then came the ladies Relay Team each sharing the load with Issy Wardle, Michelle Desforges and Claire Denyer coming in an excellent time of 5hrs 49mins 42secs. Paul Chapman and Andy Stoten cruised in at 5hrs 40mins 59secs and 5hrs 53mins 54secs respectively.

The next few weeks will see the culmination of a great season for WaldenTri, with several of its athletes heading off to the European qualifiers and the world championships in London.