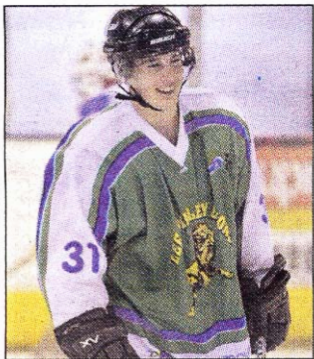


Lions fail to complete the double over Warriors



Lions' Andrew Holdaway

Chelmsford Warriors 8

Lee Valley Lions 5

(ENL South B)

LEE Valley Lions trip up the A12 on Saturday proved a fruitless one after they were beaten by the Chelmsford Warriors.

The east Londoners had won the corresponding fixture 6-4 against the Warriors at Lea Bridge Road earlier this month, but couldn't do the double over their opponents. In a fast-paced affair, Lions' right wing debutant Nick Breigoos opened his account just after five minutes.

George Alley was under pressure in the visitors net soon after, and on 10mins 51secs Callum Fowler went coast-to-coast and decked the Lions' netminder to level the scores.

Lee Valley didn't recover quickly from the first strike and only 30 seconds later let in a relatively soft goal.

The second period was again all about pace - and despite a couple of good openings the visitors found themselves two goals behind when Darren Brown beat Alley.

The Lions soon made it a one-goal game, after Andrew Holdaway hit a back-hand effort into an unguarded goal after Alastair Band's initial short-range shot was saved.

But within a minute Chelmsford hit the net to restore the two-goal lead. The Lions finished the period strongly and were rewarded with a good breakaway goal from Scott Beeson to make it 4-3.

The game got away from Lee Valley early in the third period as Chelmsford scored two quick goals to open up a three-goal lead. This became four shortly after when netminder Alley was beaten by a slapshot from just inside his blue line. The Lions restored some pride when Beeson scored two slapshot goals, both from the hashmarks, but they fell to another quick reply as Chelmsford re-established their three-goal lead within 30 seconds of the Lions' fifth goal.