

# Five-star Lions are roaring

FANS of Lee Valley Lions had plenty to celebrate last weekend as the Leyton-based ice hockey team produced two five-star performances for wins at home to Oxford City Stars and away to Streatham Bruins.

Sunday's victory over Bruins was a five-goal cakewalk, the Lea Bridge Road outfit successfully shutting out their opponents.

However, the team were taken to the wire on Saturday by Oxford, clinging on to a narrow 5-4 triumph.

The two victories took the Lions up to the dizzy heights of third in the National Ice Hockey League South Two table.

Blair Dubyk opened the scoring for the Lions thanks to an error of judgement from Oxford netminder Ricky Young. Within a few minutes, Phil Carson passed to Philippe Mueller, who took the puck up the ice and whacked in goal number two.

Although in control as the half-time whistle approached, the

Lions let their grip on the contest slacken, and Stars' Jacob Smith swiftly dispatched two goals within the last minute to pull his team level.

Lee Valley did manage to forge back ahead when veteran Gary Dodds scored for the Lions on a powerplay after 34 minutes.

Back came the Stars, with Smith notching his hat-trick 10 minutes later. But Mueller was not to be outshone, stealing the limelight with a double salvo to restore the two-goal lead with just six minutes remaining.

Jack Robinson did narrow the score to 5-4 as time ticked down, but it was too little, too late for Oxford.

On Sunday, still on a high from the previous day, the Lions bared their teeth to rip apart Streatham.

Saturday's hero Mueller was at it again, opening the scoring early on. But his game was cut short by a bizarre ejection after an innocuous incident.

It was not to matter, as the



Lee Valley's Dave Richards set up four goals in their win over Oxford

Lions' Canadian import Dubyk stepped up to the plate, firing in Lee Valley's second.

Calum Heath scored the third,

while netminder James Tipple was outstanding between the pipes. Calum Mathieson and then Heath made it a fantastic five.