## Rovers snap is **BY ERIC NORRIS**

### **BARTON ROV 0 EGHAM TN 1**

A GLOOMY Christmas at Sharpenhoe Road ended with a second home defeat for the Rovers, who slipped a place to 14th in Division Two of the Diadora League.

It was the same old story, with not enough finishing power, despite the return of Bobby Smith to the attack.

The visitors were well on top in the first half, and the only goal came in 31st minute when Mark Butler and volleyed just over cracked his 31st the Egham bar. goal of the season from the edge of the

The drive beat a Marshall, and slid into the corner of the net by the left hand post.

**Good saves** 

Marshall pulled off a couple of good saves to to the score before half with bottom

**ASHCROFT 1** 

THERE WAS a Boxing Day der-

by shock for the leaders of Divi-

Ashcroft were over-run from

Brendan Kerrigan began the

the kick-off, and with the Old

Boys pushing four men up front

Midlands League.

never recovered

### DIADORA LEAGUE

to add punch to Barton's attack after the break, but to no avail.

Just off target

In fact their best effort came from defender Kevin Wright, who intercepted a clearance

**FIXTURES** 

TOMORROW the Rovers go to Harefield (3pm) and on Saturday despairing dive by Paul they are at home to Lewes (3pm). Next Tuesday they

entertain Southwick in the second round of the Loctite Trophy (7.45). Southwick, who were second from bottom of prevent Egham adding the table, changed places club Southall on Saturday Paul Young went on when they crashed 7-1 to for Micky Thomas to try their fellow strugglers.

# FULL POINTS MAKE IT up front AHOLIDA



 GUNNED DOWN: The Arsenal cover is non-existent as Mick Harford drifts off his narkers to smash in his Boxing Day goal.

would be the hardest of the

Christmas trio turned out

to be a real delight for

Arsenal attracted the biggest

attendance of the season so far for

a match they expected to win to

maintain their championship

But the Luton underdogs, more

willing to run and snap, produced

he one important bite as the

Town more than matched the

Jeered

Arsenal fans jeereed their team

for turning out rubbish, and

was his side's worst performance

that the champions had simply

not been allowed to play the way

I made Mark Pembridge the

man of the match, although I was

worried when he collided with

Anders Limpar in the first

If it was a hangover from the

clash that resulted in Limpar be-

ing sent off at Highbury in

August, the ref saw no malice in

the challenge. Limpar did

nothing afterwards and had to be

subbed. It was later discovered

That in turn was a help to

Julian James, who did not have

the most comfortable of games.

But the all-round determination

that he had broken his jaw.

Gunners in every department.

Luton Town.

of the season.

they wanted.

Christmas for years by beating Christmas make it nine points out of nine holiday to lift themselves off botto of the First Division. Suddenly, 1992 Chelsea ooks capable of being happier than team show;

favourite team well and truly har Luton Town completed

we had dared hope and former for after the poor Paul Elliott, on few Chelsea start to the season. It was the first time in "Luton need 18 months that the Town points more th had won three games on and played lil the trot.

Then, as now, they were results desperately second-half needed because of fears but the result was of relegation.

Difficult A red car

Manager David Pleat Chelsea fullback was quick to bring us Boyd, and a yellor down to earth in the for goalkeeper Pressroom, with Beasant when he reminders that there is a have been sent off. long way to go, and that the big talking po we could once again be after the game. marooned after difficult away games on the near those incidents horizon.

Chelsea manage Perhaps so. But for Porterfield theer Town fans Christmas kid himself that his was a real joy, all the had been robb more pleasurable because even the boss had not expected nine Pressmen, who It was a tremendous

look like rubbis

And it was a pit

Even

And it was a case Arsenal again in the when Harford put l The midfielder his

which whistled inc good a present as all have wanted from Bo It was just re that simply refused ed by lofty opposition

Operating as a right winger, Oakes made his vital contribution within four minutes, taking a short free kick pass from James and spearing in a hard diagonal

manager George Graham said it That was an injustice to the fact Mick Harford met it on the run with a right foot volley that

Arsenal tried to raise the pace

The Gunners thought Trevor Peake was doubly lucky, once with a crafty foul to stop lan Wright's run for goal, and then when he seemed to use his hand to control the ball in the penalty

for the foul, and saw nothing of the 'handball.'

## Town's Xmas verdict ★ ★ ★ ★

## pM sees red and more Capital punishment

Sutton had to make a

good save from Dixon in

the first half, but neither

side got too many goal

So it was a real bonus

for the Town to convert

two and keep a clean

sheet for the third match

Harford shot over

from close range with

the Town's first chance,

made by Harvey's diag-

onal pass to the flank

and Pembridge's run

and low cross from the

On 38 minutes James

attempts on target.

on the trot.

left wing.

I was delighted for fuss, but effectively

Julian James, who had a

rotten Boxing Day. He

came good against

Chelsea, and once he

had seen off the threat of

Graham Le Saux all

Chelsea's huffing and

puffing came to nothing.

Peake and John

Drever were too good

for Kerry Dixon and

Clive Allen, and the

Graham

Life was made no

tle better.

to go.

Town midfield neatly

ficult to beat than defiant ending and creative cking deserved to ee off another fancied n from the capital. It is hardly fair to "Weiput on a mele out individual evor Peake and Chris amara shaded the Sent of

combined attack with defence. David Preece and Town honours for me Mark Pembridge gave for their influence when Chelsea right back Steve Chelsea put the Town Clarke a nightmare inder pressure after the afternoon after he had felt the full effect of a

There was a real Mick Harford crunch the danger that if the defence had cracked tackle in the first 30 coce Chelsea might basesaved a point. replaced Clarke at halftime and fared only a lit-

But the covering and doing down was so god that Steve Sutton had a reasonably easy

Elliott hit the top of the bar with a lob, but many other Chelsea and failed to get more work on his own rough the never-say- on the other flank, and

#### got through it without HELSEA DETAILS

OWN: Sutton; James, Peake, Dreyer, Harvey; Telfer, Pembridge, Preece (Oakes 70 mins); Stein

CHELSEA: Beasant; Clarke (Stuart HT), Elliott, mun, Boyd; Wise, Jones (Dickens 72 mins), Townend, Le Saux; Dixon, Allen. ME GOALS: Richard Harvey, 38 minutes, 25-yard

that rocket after a clever free kick move involving Preece, Paul Telfer and Mark Pembridge; John A Penalty, 41 minutes, after Dave Beasant pulled

R GOAL ATTEMPTS: Town four saved, four wide and-half penalty by Mick Harford hit the bar; aved, six wide and lob by Paul Elliott hit the bar. Corners: 10-4 to Chelsea. John Deakin, South Glamorgan. Set

elems with important decisions — Beasant filor a yellow card when it should have been a and refusing a second-half penalty until a hanged his mind Beasant for the foul on Pembridge; Harford

on Denis Wise; Paul Elliott for dissent. Tom Boyd for chopping down Telfer on a BIDANCE 19 700 which led to a second penalty. loved think he had enough problems without 1,738, including Prime Minister John elsea lan as well.

ATERTAINMENT: A cracking game, with Chelsea a let of second-half pressure, and the Town at in withstand it, even in the closing stages. And

went on a forward run. and was fouled by Elliott a few yards outside the penalty area. Cracker The free kick routine

that followed was a real Christmas cracker easier for him when Preece rolled the ball to his right, and Telfer Scott Oakes went on for knocked it back. Preece with 20 minutes Pembridge dummied.

and the Chelsea Paul Telfer had to do defenders were still looking baffled as Harvey lashed in a bullet of a 25-yarder.

It was his second league goal — the first was also from a free kick ploy worked by Preece and Pembridge, against Southampton.

Within a minute a mistake by Boyd sent Pembridge through on his own, and Beasant brought him down.

John Deakin, who learned his ref's trade locally in the South Midlands League while he was stationed at RAF Henlow, upset the Chelsea goalkeeper and manager by giving the penalty for what they claimed was a fair challenge

### Walk-up

That was ludicrous, and so was the referee's decision to let the keeper off with a yellow card. Under today's rules, it was a sendingoff offence.

for Chelsea protests to



John Dreyer the hero after his penalty put the

Reports by Brian Swain **Pictures** by Josh Levy



NEWS/GAZETTE, December 31, 1991 - 31

● IT WAS HERE REF: Chelsea try to persuade John Deakin that the tackle in which Paul Telfer was brought down was just outside the penalty area, not inside. See below.



die down before Dreyer OH NO IT WASN'T! Tommy Boyd's tackle that earned him a red card despatched the penalty, and the Town a penalty is pictured inside the line.

worried Mr. Pleat, ordered that if there was THE TOWN'S record in league and cup competitions to date:

to go, with Chelsea chasing the game, they were • Results, Town scorers, attendances and league position: caught on the break when Telfer robbed Ken August Monkou on the half-way 17 West Ham (a) 0-0 line and raced towards 21 Coventry (a) 0-5...

7 Wimbledon (a) 0-3...

17 OPR (h) 0-1.

14 Oldham (h) 2-1 (Harford 2) ..

4 Southampton (h) 2-1 (Gray, Harvey) .....

Beasant hestitated 27 Arsenal (a) 0-2. and Boyd chased back 31 Chelsea (a) 1-4 (Gray). and pulled Telfer down September just inside the box.

Linesman

Mr. Deakin seemed at 21 Man Utd (a) 0-5. first to signal no foul, 28 Notts Co (h) 1-1 (Gray). but then saw his linesman signalling that 5A. Villa (a) 0-4. it was a penalty offence. 19 Sheff Wed (h) 2-2 (Harford, Nogan)... This time the Chelsea 26 Norwich (a) 0-1 .... man was sent off, but November Harford hit the penalty 2 Everton (h) 0-1. against the underside of 16 Tottenham (a) 1-4 (Harford). the bar and Beasant got 23 Man City (h) 2-2 (Harford, Dreyer) ...... to the rebound just 30 Sheff Utd (a) 1-1 (Telfer) .. ahead of Brian Stein. The extra goal would 7 Leeds (h) 0-2

have been useful in view 20 Coventry (h) 1-0 (Harford) .. of the poor goals 26 Arsenal (h) 1-0 (Harford).. difference figures, but 28 Chelsea (h) 2-0 (Harvey, Dreyer pen)..... 10,738 20 no-one was too worried about that as the Town completed a very happy

**Barclays League Div One** Harford 13, Rodger 11(1), Gray 9(2), McDonough 9 James 8, Kamara 8, Oakes 6 (2), Sutton 5, Nogan 4(8), Hughes 3(2), Farrell 3(1), Linton 2(1), Campbell 1(2),

. 17,457 22

..8,055 19

46,491 21

...9,401 21

. 10,514 21

. 27,543 22

.. 10,031 22

. 21,804 22

.3,231

Black 4, Holsgrove 1, Glover 1. Number of players used: 28, seven more than last season's total.

Rees 1, Jackson 7(2), Beaumont 6(3), Thompson 5,

LEAGUE GOALS: Harford 7, Gray 3, Dreyer 2 (1 pen), 25,898 21 Harvey 2, Nogan 1, Telfer 1.

The Rumbelows Cup .9,005 17 .9,185 19 25 Birmingham (h) 2-2 (Gray, Nogan) .. ..6.315 ..7,629 20 Round 2 (2): 18,722 21 9 Birmingham (a) 2-3 (Gray 2) . 13,252

> APPEARANCES: Two each by Chamberlain, Jackson, Presce. Beaumont, Pembridge, Thompson, Telfer and Gray. Stein 1(1). One each by Peake, Harvey, Dreyer, Rodger and Harlord. Nogan two as sub. Salton one as sub. GOALS: Gray 3, Mogan 1.

Zenith Data Systems Cup ...7,533 22

.. 12,665 22 Rd 2: Oct 22 lpswich (a) 1-1 Telfer (lost on pens) ..... APPEARANCES, including as sub in brackets: 22 each

APPEARANCES: one each by Chamberlain, Telfer, Rodger, by Dreyer and Pembridge; Peake 18; Chamberlain 17, Salton, Allpress, Pembridge, Nogan, James, Hughes, Williams Stein 16(3); Preece 14(4); Telfer 13(3), Harvey 13(1), and Harlord. One each as sub: Rees and Campbell.

## **Luton 31288**

### **CRANFIELD 1 ASHCROFT 2**

The villagers turned on the pressure early in the second half,

Ashcroft pulled themselves and deservedly cancelled out together in the second half, but Mark Cochrane's opener.

**Sports Desk:** 24-hour fax: **Luton 402135** 

### Ashcroft would have been

sion One of the Campri South effort for Ashcroft.

onslaught, and the other goals to do it.

came in quick succession from Jason Lannin and Steve

### South Midlands League

Mark Cochrane got a consolation

LEADERS GIVEN A

**DERBY POUNDING** 

the leaders found themselves AGAINST strugglers from the three down in 25 minutes, and other end of the table Ashcroft got back on the winning path on Saturday, but needed a bit of luck

#### Sandy 1; Walden 1 Ickleford 0. SATURDAY PREMIER DIV: Brache Sp 1 Leighton 1; N Bradwell 1 Totte ; Pitstone 0 Buckingham Ath 0; Hod-

DIV ONE: Cranfield 1 Ashcroft OB 2 Delco 1; Shenley 3 Walden 2; RESERVE DIV ONE: Biggleswade

happy to get away with a point,

gifted an own goal winner.

but in the 87th minute they were

Local holiday results

BOXING DAY

Pitstone 0; Harpenden 4 61 FC 0;

DIV ONE: Caddington 1 Delco 2;

Luton OB 4 Ashcroft 1; Toddington 6

3 Brache 2; Buckingham 2 61FC 2: Leighton 2 Barton 2; Totternhoe 1 Pitstone 1. DIV TWO: Ashcroft 3 Ampthill 0; Caddington 4 N. Bradwell 6; Delco 4 Risboro 2; Toddington 1 Flamstead 0; Walden 2 Sandy 0.

## **Chiltern sink rivals**

CHILTERN LADIES 4 **LUTON LADIES 1** 

new Vauxhall synthetic pitch at Park Street was commanded from start to finish

Elaine Bright scored twice, with Maureen Fisk and

Dale Boyce also on target. their local rivals by beating Luton II 3-1 with goals by Chiltern goal scorers.

evenly-matched game by the only goal at home to ICL

But the club's fourth team helped make it a happy holiday for Chiltern when they beat their arch-rivals from Luton 2-1 despite being able to field only ten Chiltern's second team completed the double over players. R. Hooper and L. Beaumont were the

### **LADIES HOCKEY**

THE LOCAL ladies hockey derby on the Linda Fletcher (2) and Tracy Brooks. The Chiltern third team were unlucky to lose an

### **LUTON TOWN 1**

Champs made

ARSENAL 0 and sheer hard work of everyone

made up for the occasional lapses. David Preece returned to do a marking job to start with, then played his way into the attack support role, and the last throw of the dice was the decision to send on Scott Oakes, a pair of fresh legs to take on the tiring Gunners

with 15 minutes to go.

Whistling volley

whistled past David Seaman. to save the game, and there were a couple of scares from scrambles around the edge of the Town's penalty area.

The ref settled for a yellow card

The official also saw nothing amiss earlier when Paul Telfer, full of dependable effort, got down the right wing to hit a cross

### with his usual two-ste walk-up.

The style must have

because at half-time he another penalty Harford should take it. And with 15 minutes

It took two minutes

