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Sports News

TOWN MATCH VERDICT

Luton Town.....0
Crystal Palace...1
(Half time 0-1)

★★

Brian Swain reports. Action pictures by John Sherwood.

Champions-elect start with a finish

● OUTNUMBERED: David Preece in midfield action.

THE team that will shortly be crowned champions of the First Division gave Luton Town a cruel soccer lesson at Kenilworth Road on Saturday.

Crystal Palace, who are steaming clear at the top of the table, were the best side we have seen in the league this season.

But they were not a street ahead of the Town in terms of the quality of their football.

But they were where it mattered: in front of goal.

They managed ten shots at goal, with one netted, three wide and two hitting the woodwork.

They Town did more attacking, but could never put goalkeeper Nigel Martyn in serious trouble.

The good news was that openings were created. The bad: they were not finished off.

It was the fourth time the Town had fired blanks, despite more juggling of players by the manager.

David Pleat started with **John Hartson** in place of **Kerry Dixon**, but the 19-year-old was up against an expert pair of central defenders in Eric Young and Chris Coleman.

And when Dixon was sent on as substitute for Hartson, the firepower was still well short of what was required.

Overall the Town were a notch below their full potential, against a team that had strength in all departments. Palace were made to work hard for their tenth away win of the season, and there was a bonus or two for the Town.

Top of the list was more confirmation that **David Greene** is ready to take his place in the First Division.

The Town were still without injured **Trevor Peake**, and a dose of flu kept out **John Dreyer** as well.

But Greene, aided by the solid dependability of **Julian James**, came through with great credit against the most potent attack in the First Division.

The youngster will also have learned a little from the crafty strength of Paul Stewart, who is about to sign fot Palace permanently after being on loan. The experienced striker would have upset lesser players with his ability to duck and dive and win free kicks.

The Town's problem was that while they coped well with Stewart, and with the pace of Chris Armstrong, his striking partner, they could not put the final flourish to promising work in approach.

They had the worst possible start, with Palace winning their only corner of the first half after 50 seconds. Simon Roger swung it over to the near post, Eric Young flicked on, and fellow centre-half Chris Coleman hooked in a close-range goal.

THE MATCH DETAILS

LUTON TOWN: Sommer; Linton, Greene, James, Thomas; Telfer, Harper, Preece, Hughes; Oakes (Thorpe 67 mins), Hartson (Dixon 67 mins). Goalkeeper sub Petterson.

CRYSTAL PALACE: Martyn; Humphrey, Young, Coleman, Gordon; Matthew, Roger, Southgate, Salako; Armstrong, Stewart. Unused subs Shaw, Dyer and goalkeeper Woodman.

THE GOAL: Chris Coleman after 70 seconds, simple close-range hooked shot at the far post after a corner by Simon Roger was flicked on at the near post by Eric Young.

OTHER ATTEMPTS: Town three saved and eight wide. Palace three saved, four wind and two hit the woodwork. Corners: 10-4 to the Town.

BOOKED: Town man of the match David Greene, harshly, for dissent when he might have had a 21st-minute penalty for a foul by Chris Coleman instead of the decision going against Greene; Coleman in the 44th minute for kicking the ball away to delay a free kick.

REFEREE: Mike Bailey, Cambridge. Some decisons looked very strange to Town eyes.

ATTENDANCE: 9,880, highest league gate of the season, including nearly 2,000 Palace fans.

ENTERTAINMENT: Plenty promised by the Town, but eventually almost none delivered for Town fans because of the team's inability to turn nice approach work into decisive strikes in the fourth consecutive match without scoring.

Loan flop returns with a goal

LUTON TN 0 WOLVES 2

MANAGER DAVID Pleat took some consolation from the performance in the first game after the Wembley defeat.

It was one of football's oddities that Wolves looked good, but not as complete a team as Crystal Palace did four days later, yet went home with a better result.

"I thought it was a vibrant game in the first half, and we didn't have the rub of the green," said the boss.

"We deserved something out of the game. The result was a disappointment, but there were some bright things."

Wolves, under new manager Graham Taylor, and in with a chance of a play-off place, had soaked up early Town pressure and then proved to be strong in defence and good on the break. And the midweek defeat was put into context on Saturday, when Wolves went to Meadow Lane and beat Notts County 2-0 as well.

"We did not have the final thrust that was needed," said the manager, in a comment he was to repeat again on Saturday.

The killer against Wolves was a goal by Guy Whittingham to make it 2-0 two minutes after the interval. Mark Burke, who had never looked like scoring in his four loan appearances with the Town, put Wolves ahead in the first half.

LUTON TOWN: Sommer; Linton, Dreyer, Greene, James; Telfer, Harper, Preece, Hughes (Hartson HT), Oakes, Dixon (Thomas 70 mins). Unused goalkeeper substitute Petterson.

WOLVES: Stowell; Thompson, Blades (Mountfield HT), Shirtliff, Venus (Ferguson 83 mins); Birch, Burke, Bennett, Cook; Whittingham, Mills. Unused goalkeeper Jones.

THE GOALS: Mark Burke, 23 mins, forcing the ball in at the second attempt after Juergen Sommer blocked his first; Guy Whittingham, 47 minutes, from weak back-header by John Dreyer to a long free kick by goalkeeper Mike Stowell.

OTHER ATTEMPTS: Town five saved and nine wide. Wolves five saved and seven wide. Corners: 11-3 to the Town.

BOOKED: Julian James, for an 85th-minute foul on Paul Birch.

REFEREE: Peter Foakes, Clacton. Very inconsistent. If the James booking was fair enough, Peter Shirtliff should have been done as well, for hauling down Ceri Hughes.

ATTENDANCE: 8,545 on a cold very wet night, with 2,000 filling the visitors end. So 19,000 "fans" who went to Wembley were not such keen supporters three days later!

ENTERTAINMENT: Might have been OK if the Town had shown more sign of being able to score. Wolves went ahead against the run of play, but looked winners after that.

The weekend's full local soccer results

THE MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE

O'BRIEN BUTCHERS PREMIER CUP: Bedford Tn 1 Luton OB 0. Midweek: Brache Sparta 1 Arlesey Tn 2 aet.

PREMIER DIV: Biggleswade Tn 1 Harpenden Tn 0; Buckingham Ath 3 Shillington 1; Hoddesdon Tn 1 Wingate 1; Potters B Tn 0 Arlesey Tn 3; Welwyn GC 1 Hatfield Tn 0. **Midweek:** Luton OB 1 Brache Sparta 0; Arlesey Tn 1 Shillington 1.

CHALLENGE TROPHY semi-final: Shenley 2 Houghton Tn 3.

SENIOR DIV Leverstock 0 Toddington Rov 1; London Colney 4 Ampthill Town 2; N. Bradwell 2 Shefford Tn 3; Pitstone 2 Winslow 1; Risborough 2 Bedford Utd 2; Tring Ath 3 61FC Luton 2.

DIV ONE: Cranfield 5 Scot 1; E. Bray 0 Walden 0; Flamstead 3 Caddington 2; Mercedes Benz 0 Emberton 1; Stony 3 P Bar Cru 1. **Midweek:** Caddington 0 Walden 4; Deico 6 Cranfield 0; Potters Bar Cru 3 De Havilland 2.

RESERVE SECTION

CHALLENGE TROPHY: Leighton Tn 6 Buckingham Ath 1; Tring Tn 5 Bedford Tn 0 (aggregate 6-2). **DIV 1A:** Barton Rov 8 Pitstone 0; Bedford Tn 8 Tring Ath 0; Bedford Utd 0 Potters Bar Tn 1; Buckingham Ath 2 Tring Tn 2; London Colney 1 Totteridge 0; 61FC Luton 7 Cranfield 1; Toddington Rov 4 Milton Keynes 0. **Midweek:** Tring Ath 2 Pitstone 1; Barton Rov 3 Potters Bar Tn 1; Shillington 1 L. Colney 2; Tring Ath 2 Pitstone 1.

DIV 1B: Brache 2 Stony 2; Leighton Tn 0 Harpenden Tn 2; Letchworth GC 1 Caddington 1; Oxford City 5 Welwyn GC 0; Shenley 1 Arlesey Tn 1. **Midweek:** Harpenden Tn 1 Stony 2; Leverstock 1 Welwyn GC 2; Hatfield Tn 3 Shefford Tn 2; Shenley 0 Leighton 6.

DIV 2: Houghton Tn 3 Mercedes Benz 0; Potters Bar Cru nsders 1 Risborough 7; Sandy 1 Flamstead 3; Scot 0 Ampthill Tn 1; Walden 3 Deico 2.

LUTON DISTRICT LEAGUE

WILLIAM PEASE semi-finals: Luton OB Res 3 Old Dunstablians 2; Kent Ath 5 Studham 3 aet.

PREMIER DIV: Christians 0 Lewsey Pk 5; Singh Sabha 1 Ebony 3. **Midweek:** Luton OB Res 2 Crawley Grn 2; Kent Ath 3 Stockwood Ath 0.

DIV ONE: Thomas-De-La-Rue 0 Thistle 2; Thresher 2 Brickmakers 3; Luton Eagles 7 Luton OB A 1; Monarch 2 Markyate 5; Studham 1 Lea Sports 9. **Midweek:** Lewsey Pk Res 4 Lea Sports 4; Flitwick Tn Res 0 Thistle 1; Markyate 2 Thresher 2.

DIV TWO: Whitbread 2 Hockwell Ring 2; Thresher 0 Sportsman Dunstable 2; 61FC Luton 4 Christ. A 2; Harveys 3 Harlington 0; Thistle 1 Compasses 3. **Midweek:** Markyate Res 1 Christ. A 0; Flitwick A 0 Harlington 3; Whitbread 0 Thistle Res 1; Old Dunstablians Res 1 Compasses 1; First & Last 1 Harveys 6; Sportsman Dunstable 4 Thresher Res 1.

CHEF & BREWER LEAGUE

DIV ONE: AFC Oakley 3 DFL 2; First & Last 4 High Town 1; Purley Tavern 1 Luton Dukes A 0.

DIV TWO: Lea Sp B 5 Emerald 1; One Nation 2 AMC 0; Luton Dukes B 1 GML 7; Round Green 1 Hibbert Arms 2.

NORTH HOME COUNTIES SUNDAY LEAGUE

PREMIER DIV: Celtic 1 The Enterprise 2; Sacred Heart 3 GIS 0; St. Joseph's 2 Hexton 1. **Midweek:** Sacred Heart 1 St. Joseph's 0.

DIV ONE: Stopsley Harriers 1 NT Sugar Loaf 0; Stopsley WMC 3 AFC Heron Res 2; Horsesshoe Saints 1 Lewsey 4; Crawley Sports 2 Celtic Res 1. **Midweek:** Stopsley Harriers 2 Celtic Res 2.

DIV TWO: The Brewery 3 Lea Sports 2; TRW 3 Stopsley Harriers Res 0; Oakes Strollers 0 Wheathead 2.

DIV THREE: FC Coral Res 5 Caddington 1; Vaux H Tn 0 Strawplaiters 6; Old Moat House 7 Dog & Duck 0; First & Last Parkside 3 GIS Res 1. **Midweek:** Magnum 2 Conifer 1.

DIV FOUR: The Vine 1 AFC Oakley 1; Lewsey 1 Roman Legion 1; Flint 3 Stopsley WMC 2; Markyate 1 Laporte 4. **Midweek:** Lewsey 3 Stopsley WMC 0.

DIV FIVE: Barbarians 3 Lea Sports 1; Chalton Res 1 Casa Blanca 7; Royal Mail 2 PC Houghton Res 2.

DIV SIX: Luton YS 1 Black Swan 4; Houghton Regis 1 Woodstock 0; Wellington 3 Swan 4; Toddington 1 Houghton Tn 1.

DIV SEVEN: Hansom Cab 3 Sportsman 0; Pulsebeat 4 Bedco 1; Lynmore 4 Fidus 2.

A & B SPORTS SOUTH BEDS SUNDAY LEAGUE

INVITATION CUP: Nurdin & Peacock 1 S Pk Social 4.

SUNDON PARK TROPHY: Yeoman 3 Britannia 4 aet.

SUPPLEMENTARY CUP: Robin Hood 2 Vauxhall Griffin 1.

PREMIER DIV: Macom Eagles 2 Coach & Horses 3.

DIV ONE: Rose & Crown 4 EG Chiltern 2.

DIV TWO: Windsor Castle 1 Suspension Systems 5.

DIV THREE: Lea Bank 5 Painters 0; Bromley 3 NV 2; Northside 2 Eddie's Bar 5.

THE BOVIS CHILTERN YOUTH LEAGUE

UNDER-18: H. Hatters 1 Icknield 1; Leighton Tn 10 St. Joseph's 0.

UNDER-17 DIV ONE: Downside 5 Wootton 2; Hitchin Town 3 Foxes 4; Ramridge A 9 W. Eaton 2. **DIV TWO:** Ampthill 0 W. Hill 3; Barton Stars 3 Manor Yth 0; Griffin Brache 6 Tring Tn 0.

UNDER-16: Leighton Cor 0 St. Joseph's 5; Sundon Pk 1 W. Hill 2; Dunstable Tn 7 Putteridge 0. **Midweek:** St. Joseph's 2 Dunstable Tn 1; W. Hill 4 Valley Pk 2.

UNDER-15 DIV ONE: Ramridge 0 Foxes 3; Aylesbury 1 Lewsey 1; St. Joseph's 2 Astra 1. **Midweek:** Aylesbury 0 Scot 2; **DIV TWO:** Ampthill 8 Beaudesert 1; Ramridge 4 H. Hatters 2; Downside 4 Tring Tn 1.

UNDER-14 DIV ONE: Celtic 0 S. Heart A 3; E. Bray 3 Foxes 0; Flamstead 2 Leighton Cor 3; Fairlands 6 St. Joe's 0. **Midweek:** Astra 3 Ampthill 1; Foxes 3 Dunstable Tn 1; St. Joseph's 0 S. Heart A 2.

DIV TWO: Dragons 3 Houghton Yth 2; Markyate 7 W. Hill 3; Lea Sports 1 Ramridge 3; Pin Green 6 S. Heart B 4. **Midweek:** Dragons 5 Sundon Pk 3; Lea Sports 0 Markyate 5; Ramridge 1 Pin Green 2.

DIV THREE: Downside 1 WL Saints 18; Icknield 3 Luton Boys Club 7; Delco 1 Flitwick Eagles 4; Barton Stars 13 Copenhagen 1. **Midweek:** Flitwick Eagles 2 WL Saints 1.

UNDER-13 DIV ONE: St. Joseph's 2 Lewsey 3; Ramridge A 0 Leighton Cor 1; Celtic 0 Stony 1; Sacred Heart 1 Dunstable Tn 2; Sundon Pk 2 Foxes 2. **Midweek:** Foxes 1 Ramridge 4; Dunstable Town 1 Lewsey Centre 1.

DIV TWO: St. Mary's 4 Selby 0; Ampthill 3 Icknield 2; Westoning 4 Pioneer 3; Markyate 4 Arrows 0; Houghton Youth 3 Ramridge 4. **Midweek:** Selby 2 Markyate 8; Ampthill 5 St. Mary's 3; Pioneer 1 Ramridge 3.

UNDER-12 DIV ONE: Barnfield A 1 Foxes 5; Dragons 1 Dunstable Colts 4; Leighton Cor 1 Ramridge 4; Lindway 1 Dunstable Tn 0; Ampthill A 0 Limbury B 1. **Midweek:** Lewsey 8 AFC Houghton 0; Ampthill Tn A 0 St. Joseph's 1; Dunstable Tn 3 Limbury B 3; Limbury A 4 Leighton Town 1; Leighton Cor 1 Dunstable Colts 5. **DIV TWO:** Westoning 1 Flamstead 4; Markyate 0 Jets 6; Parkside 1 Redbourn 1; Barnfield B 9 Gliders 0; Sundon Pk 0 WL Saints 4; Barton Stars 0 Westoning A 2; Ampthill B 5 H. Hatters 1. **Midweek:** Ampthill Tn B 3 Sundon Park 1; Jets 5 Barton Stars 1; Hatters 0 WL Saints 4; Barnfield 6 Parkside 1; Parkside 1 Westoning 1.

UNDER-11 DIV ONE: St. Joseph's 2 AFC Houghton 4; Lewsey Centre A 12 Barnfield 2; Ramridge 5 Dunstable Tn 3; Leighton Cor 1 Pin Green 2; Foxes 1 Ampthill 0. **Midweek:** Foxes 2 Lewsey A 2; S. Heart 2 Leighton Cor 7; Sundon Pk 1 St. Joseph's 3.

UNDER-TEN DIV ONE: Ramridge 8 Celtic 3; Dunstable Colts 6 St. Mary's 1; Lewsey 2 Aylesbury 7; St. Joseph's 1 Leighton Cor 2; Limbury 4 WL Saints 0. **Midweek:** Leighton Cor 3 Dunstable Colts 0; Leighton Cor 2 Aylesbury 2. **DIV TWO:** Flitwick Eagles 2 Sacred Heart 3.

● David Greene, in the Steve Foster headband, tackles Chris Coleman.

Beaten by the best team in the league

Palace were able to defend that lead because they were well organised and because the Town worked well to get into shooting positions, they wasted the chances. Most were at long range, but they flew wildly in all directions, rarely at Martyn's goal.

The Town's passing was a match for Palace's, but Ceri Hughes, **David Preece**, Hartson and Oakes all failed with half-chances.

Referee Mike Bailey from Cambridge made a crucial decision that went against the Town in the 21st minute.

Preece floated in a free kick to the edge of the box, and Coleman seemed to be holding down Greene as the two met for the ball.

Mr Bailey, to the astonishment of the Town and the great relief of Palace, decided that Greene was the guilty party, backing in, and instead of the hoped-for penalty it was a free kick to Palace and a booking for Greene for dissent.

But a dodgy ref was not the cause of the Town's problems.

Until half-time the pattern had been Town attacking and Palace defending

In the second half the visitors were much more positive.

The Town committed more men upfield to search for the equaliser and they were caught out twice and lucky to escape.

First **Juergen Sommer** went for a cross by John Salako and missed it. Armstrong's header hit the bar to spare the goalkeeper's blushes.

And five minutes later he was beaten again when Gareth Southgate fired in a 25-yard block-buster which hit a post and rebounded to safety.

The keeper atoned in the closing minutes when he pulled off a flying save to keep out a header by Armstrong.

The pity of it was that at the other end Martyn had nothing similar to do in the whole 90 minutes.

WHILE the result did not please him, Town manager David Pleat has no doubt that the latest home defeat was inflicted by the best team in the First Division.

And he took consolation from seeing that in some respects his team matched the side that looks well set for the First Division championship.

"We played some spirited football," he said. "We needed the first goal, but couldn't get one.

"At half-time the scoreline flattered Crystal Palace in view of the balance of play.

"Palace are the strongest side in the league but we coped well with the pace of Armstrong and Stewart, and there are some bonus points for us.

"But we did lots of good things. David Greene will have learned a few things. He did well against Stewart, who induces fouls."

The boss refused to be drawn on the incident when the Town thought they should have had a penalty because Chris Coleman was holding down Greene when they jostled as David Preece played in a free kick.

Referee Michael Bailey gave the free kick against Greene and booked him for dissent.

Some Press neutrals thought the Town were robbed of a penalty. "It's not for me to comment," said the manager. "You saw what happened. You saw the ref. Write what you saw."

And Mr Pleat had only admiration for Palace. "They're powerful, speedy on the break, and good at set plays," he said.

"Good luck to them. They're well equipped for the Premiership."

The Press room was more crowded than usual, with national newspapers turning up to see Palace take another step towards the title

"Come back and watch us next season," was the manager's advice to them. "We'll be winning a few games."

Palace manager Alan Smith praised his defence for keeping the Town at long range.

The ability to keep clean sheets, he said, was the basis of his side's surge to promotion.

Facts and figures of the Town's season so far

● CHART SHOWS Town score first, goalscorers, gates and league position.

ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE DIV I

1993			
AUGUST			
14 Watford (h)	2-1 (Telfer, Dixon)	9,149	—
21 Portsmouth (a)	0-1	12,248	—
28 Nottm Forest (h)	1-2 (Hartson)	9,788	22
SEPTEMBER			
11 Bolton Wdrs (h)	0-2	7,199	24
14 Tranmere (a)	1-4 (Benjamin)	5,871	24
18 Middlesbro (a)	0-0	12,487	23
25 Birmingham (a)	1-1 (Telfer)	11,081	23
OCTOBER			
2 Barnsley (h)	5-0 (Oakes 2, Hartson, James, Houghton)	6,201	21
5 Bristol City (h)	0-2	5,956	21
9 Derby Co (a)	1-2 (Williams)	15,885	23
16 Notts Co (h)	1-0 (Dickov)	6,366	21
20 Sunderland (a)	0-2	13,760	23
23 Oxford (a)	1-0 (Hughes)	5,161	19
30 Leicester (h)	0-2	8,613	21
NOVEMBER			
2 C. Palace (a)	2-3 (Aunger, Hughes)	10,925	23
7 Charlton (h)	1-0 (Telfer)	6,327	18
14 Southend (a)	1-2 (Dixon)	5,567	18
27 Stoke (h)	0-2 (Dixon 3, Hughes, Oakes, Hartson)	7,384	15
DECEMBER			
4 Charlton (a)	0-1	7,121	17
11 Tranmere (h)	0-1	7,075	19
18 Watford (a)	2-2 (Preece, Dreyer pen)	7,567	21
27 Peterboro (a)	0-0	9,522	20
29 Grimsby (h)	2-1 (Harper, Hughes)	7,234	18

1994			
JANUARY			
1 West Brom (a)	1-1 (Preece)	16,138	18
15 Notts Co (a)	2-1 (Dixon 2)	6,586	17
23 Derby Co (h)	2-1 (Telfer, Oakes)	9,371	17
FEBRUARY			
5 Oxford (h)	3-0 (Oakes, Thomas, Thorpe)	7,366	18
12 Leicester (a)	1-2 (James)	16,149	17
22 Portsmouth (h)	4-1 (Telfer, Preece, Hughes, Oakes)	6,533	17
26 Sunderland (h)	2-1 (Hughes, Oakes)	9,367	14
MARCH			
4 Nottm Forest	0-2	22,249	16
8 Middlesbro (h)	1-1 (Dreyer pen)	6,741	15
19 Birmingham (h)	1-1 (Telfer)	7,690	18
26 Barnsley (a)	0-1	6,289	18
30 Millwall (a)	2-2 (Dreyer, Hartson)	9,235	19
APRIL			
2 Peterboro (h)	2-0 (Dixon 2)	8,398	17
4 Grimsby (a)	0-2	5,542	18
12 Wolves (h)	0-2	8,545	18
16 C. Palace (h)	0-1	9,880	20

APPEARANCES (as sub in brackets): Sommer 38. Telfer 37(1). Dreyer and Hughes 35. Harper 33(1). Peake 33. Oakes 29(3). Linton 27(1). Dixon 24(2). Preece 23. James 22(4). Hartson 17(11). Johnson 17. Thomas 13(2). Rees 8(2). Houghton 6(8). Williams 5(10). Greene 5. Campbell 4(1). Aunger 4. Thorpe 1(6). Petterson 1(2). *On loan:* Dickov 8(7). Burke 2(1). *Before transfer:* Benjamin 2(1).

Number of players used: 25, two more than last season.

GOALS: Dixon 9. Oakes 7. Hughes and Telfer 6. Hartson 4. Preece 3. James 2. Dreyer 3 (2 pens). One each by Houghton, Williams, Aunger, Harper, Thorpe, Thomas, Dickov, Benjamin.

ASSISTS: Oakes 10. Hughes 8. Dixon 5. Hartson and Harper 4. Telfer 3. Preece and Johnson 2. One each: Linton, Houghton, Williams and Thomas.

THE ANGLO-ITALIAN CUP

Aug 31 Watford (a)	1-2 (Preece)	2,854	
Sep 7 Southend (h)	1-1 (Dixon)	1,823	

APPEARANCES: Two each by Sommer, Hughes, Preece, Peake, Dreyer, Johnson, Houghton, Dixon and Hartson. Williams 1(1). One each by James, Telfer and Linton. One each as sub by Oakes, Greene and Woolgar.

THE FA CUP

Round 3: Jan 16	Southend (h)	1-0 (Telfer)	7,953
Round 4: Jan 29	Newcastle (a)	1-1 (Thorpe)	32,216
Replay: Feb 9	Newcastle (h)	2-0 (Hartson, Oakes)	12,503
Round 5: Feb 20	Cardiff (a)	2-1 (Oakes, Preece)	17,290
Round 6: Mar 14	West Ham (a)	0-0	27,311
Replay: Mar 23	West Ham (h)	3-2 (Oakes 3)	13,166
Semi-final, at Wembley: Apr 9	Chelsea	0-2	59,999

APPEARANCES: Sommer, Linton, Dreyer, James, Telfer, Harper, Preece and Oakes played in all seven. Peake 6. Dixon 5(1). Hughes 5. Campbell 1(2) and Hartson 1(2). Thorpe 1(1). Greene 1. Houghton and Burke one each as sub.

GOALS: Oakes 5. One each by Telfer, Thorpe, Hartson and Preece.

GOAL ASSISTS: Two each by Preece and Dixon. One each by Hughes, Peake, Linton and Hartson.

THE COCA-COLA CUP

Round 1 (1): Aug 17	Cambridge (a)	0-1	4,065
Round 1 (2): Aug 24	Cambridge (h)	0-1	3,861

APPEARANCES: Two each by Sommer, James, Johnson, Peake, Dreyer, Benjamin, Preece and Hughes. Oakes 1(1). Houghton 1(1). Rees 1. Telfer 1. Campbell 1. Williams 1. Hartson (1).