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Official Matchday Programme

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PICTURE the scene: I am in hospital having a very private part of my anatomy shaved in readiness for a hernia operation. Our lawyers have asked the Department of the Environment when we are going to get the final decision on our project for a stadium at junction 10.

And as the lather is slapped on and the razor raised, my mobile phone rings. It's the lawyer. Our application has been refused. Now is that sick, or is that sick? Fancy them pulling out their fingers just as I went into hospital. I suppose the timing was a co-incidence...

Disbelief was the first reaction. Then anger. And then bewilderment - why has John Prescott turned down a scheme which the majority of Luton people support, the Borough Council backs, and his own inspector recommended for approval? Something stinks, and it's time we

found out.

One of the ways to remedy this ludicrous decision is to go to the High Court and seek a judicial review of the decision, and that is likely to be our next step.

However, in the decision letter there was a large **GREEN** light which gives us a very broad hint that if we start all over again, and submit another application for a 12,000-seat capacity stadium, it would be looked on favourably even if the M1 is not widened.

That may be so, but our original application contained all the information required for the Secretary of State to have granted approval, even for a smaller capacity of 12,000!

Having spent a substantial amount of my own money on the project so far - and a possible High Court challenge on the decision will swallow up yet more fees - we are not going to take no for an answer.

The Secretary of State, Mr Prescott, did not reach his decision without advice. But WHO from? We know his inspector ruled in our favour and we have unanimous political support from the local council and the two local MPs.

Therefore it can only be the "Yes Minister" brigade, faceless civil servants, unelected, unaccountable and clearly ignorant of our scheme and the planning issues, who have persuaded the Secretary of State to come up with a decision which defies belief.

We even have extra red herrings thrown into the equation now, as though the goalposts had not been moved several times already. Out of the blue the question of viability has been raised.

Let me explain that firstly, viability is not a legitimate planning issue. If it were, most sporting and municipal buildings would never have been built, and furthermore the



HAPPY HATTERS: Grav gets the thanks of Alan White and Paul McLaren after his goal against Barnsley put us into the quarter-finals of the Worthington Cun and set up Tuesday's visit to Sunderland, the club he used to

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Secretary of State has never raised the issue before.

Perhaps New Labour are suggesting that a football stadium development is only for the rich, like John Madeiski at Reading, and not for the poor people running Luton Town FC?

Secondly, most sporting developments require National Lottery grants, two examples of which are the new Wembley and the Millennium Dome. These grants are specifically to assist viability, so it would not be necessary to show a "viable" scheme.

We do not even intend to apply for a Lottery grant as our scheme IS viable and would therefore not even be eligible. Wembley's redevelopment and the Millennium Dome, incidentally are actively supported by New Labour.

Furthermore, if you ask for planning permission to put an extension on your house, does it depend on whether or not you can afford it? Of course not! But that's what they're trying to say to us.

In this country we have a reputation for democracy, and for being fair and equitable. Ask yourself: has our treatment been fair and equitable? We did everything we possibly could to answer every question and dispel every objection. The inspector came down in our favour, as were the democratically elected Luton Borough Council, lead by Roy Davis.

So if it was not elected representatives who made the decision, who are the undemocrats?

I can only repeat my view that there are some dodgy dealings going on. Someone has put the boot in. Who? Why? We should be told. I have tried to get answers to those questions, without success. Buck-passing is an art form in the hidden world of the civil service.

It's a scandalous decision.

The Club will not take no for an answer, and to that end I have been meeting my legal team, architects and traffic experts this week to plot the next stage of our campaign for justice.

I have deliberately let rip publicly about the unknown undemocrats. Let them now come out into the open and defend their stupidity in public. A High Court hearing, I hope, will flush them out. Someone unelected and unaccountable has got it in for our football club, and I will not accept it, and neither should you!

The latest decision is scandalous.

As I have repeatedly said before, the fight goes on. We are all entitled to justice. And we will get it.

We will get our new stadium. It will happen!

David Kholer

Chairman LTFC

Chairman and Managing Director **David Kohler** Bsc (Hons) FRICS

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> > Lennie Lawrence

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Club Coach **Trevor Hartley** 

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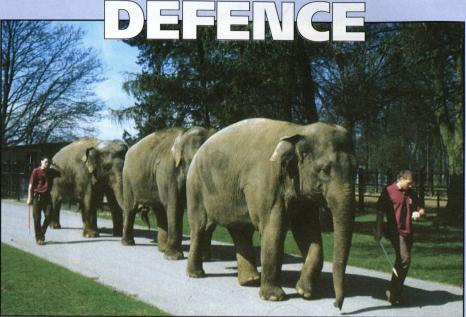
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# from the manager's chair



PONT

AT THE start of a very big month for Luton Town, the games don't come much bigger than today's - and I say that realising that we are only one win away from a place in the Worthington Cup semi-finals when we go to Sunderland on Tuesday.

It is a real pleasure to welcome Manchester City to Kenilworth Road. Fulham will bring more expensive players, but not necessarily a full house. City are bringing 2,000 supporters, and that backing for them should make for a tremendous atmosphere. We will need Luton supporters to make their voices heard, as well! This is a start of a crucial week for us: we are still handily placed in the league, but 12 points behind the leaders. So are Manchester City and neither of us can afford to let that gap get bigger. It goes without saying that three points today will make a big difference. Then we go to Sunderland on Tuesday, and that will be selfmotivating. It's the FA Cup next Saturday, and you don't need me to tell you how important it is for financial reasons to beat Hull and go into the draw for the third round.

We have an important series of home games coming up in the next month: as well as the cuptie we have league visits by Millwall and Reading, and we need to gather points from those games.

Fortunately, we have no extra injury worries after the hard game at Lincoln, and no suspensions now that Steve Davis and Graham Alexander have served their one-match bans. We are going to need a very full squad - I anticipate 15 or 16 players will be taking part in games in the next week, to varying degrees.

Our point from Lincoln came from a match which followed the pattern of recent games: excitement and thrills, goals scored, goals conceded. We could have won it, or lost it, so perhaps the draw was right.

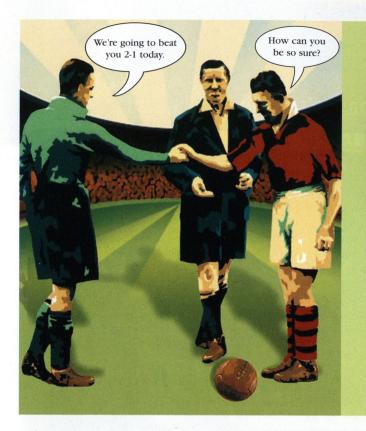
But we must look at the question of goals conceded - 18 in the league, but 16 of them

away from home. We have to wonder if we are playing too open a game in away matches. We probably were at York and at Stoke, but less so at Lincoln. The balance has to be struck - and you always have a surprise element in your favour if you don't sit back in away games.

We won't be sitting back at the Stadium of Light, and we quietly fancy our chances at Sunderland. If we have our best team available, we can score against anyone, and the key to it will be the right mix of solid defence and the ability to create, and equally importantly accept, scoring chances of our own. I promise we will give it our best shot, as we will this afternoon. We have made it a habit

to win the big games, as our Worthington Cup run has proved. Let's all get together this afternoon to keep that good habit going.

Lennie Lawrence





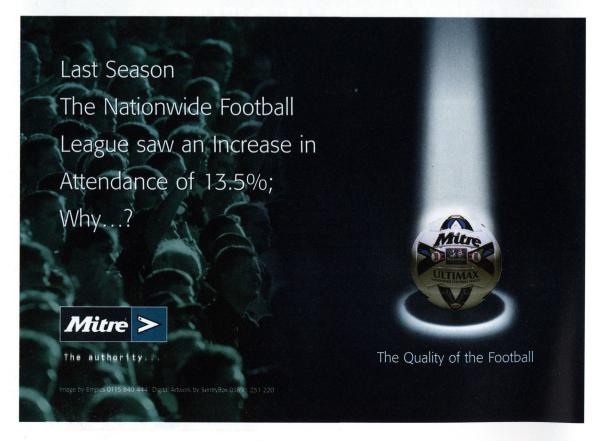
For all the match predictions, results, fixtures and news from The Football League visit the new Nationwide football internet site at www.football.nationwide.co.uk

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### captain's log

IT SEEMS a long time since I last wrote programme notes, and it is - Barnsley, in fact, and we remain unbeaten since that great night put us into the quarter-finals of the Worthington Cup.

Then we went to Boreham Wood in the FA Cup, for an unfamiliar Sunday game, and an even more unfamiliar kick-off time of 1pm. Despite the scoreline of 3-2 it was in fact a comfortable victory as far as I was concerned. With that sort of game the saying of "Get in, get the job done and get out" could not be more apt..

Having negotiated one banana skin, we now have another against Hull next week.

I missed the game at Lincoln through suspension, along with Grezza. Tippy, having scored two at Boreham Wood, followed with another at Sincil Bank, and he's now two goals in front of me, which is very disappointing to say the least!

It's great, however, to have someone in double figures before Christmas, and it's been thoroughly deserved. Tippy's had a great start to the season after his troubles of last

year, and his good form was rewarded with another international cap for Northern Ireland against Moldova.

A repeat in the second half of the season will, for all you mathematicians out there, put Tippy on 20 goals, which for any striker would represent an

excellent season. But stay on your toes, Tippy, because Stuart and I are after you!

Well done, as well, to big Dozza, who scored his first senior goal for the club at Lincoln, hopefully the first of many.

Today we welcome Manchester City, who are just behind us in the table. It's a big game with the teams level on points, so a win would be very handy and help us consolidate a place in the top six.

It goes without saying that a club like City should be at least in the First Division, but you don't have a divine right to anything in football and today hopefully we'll show them that we also feel we should be in a higher league. No doubt they will bring good support to make it a good atmosphere and hopefully a good game.

Finally, I have to mention our game at Sunderland, not only for myself being a Sunderland supporter, but Tippy,

Trevor Hartley and Whitey all have connections with Sunderland or the North East. It makes it a great occasion to look forward but to. importantly gives us a realistic chance of reaching the semifinals, which is something I have never yet done. A good performance and result today will send us North in good spirits to try and make some happy memories. Hope you can all join us!.

MATCHWINNER: Stevo's
header that completed
our win at Boreham Wood
in the FA Cup.



# from the treatment room

WITH a hectic fixture list coming up, it is pleasing to report that the treatment room is not too busy at present, with little more than the usual bumps and bruises collected at Lincoln.

It was a hard match, so some aches and pains were inevitable, but thankfully there was nothing serious.

Marvin Johnson needed a little treatment on the field after taking a bang on the head in a crowded goalmouth when our first goal was scored, but he is all right.

Phil Gray hurt an ankle, but was able to play on after treatment. It was very sore, and he was not able to train properly for the first part of this week, but all the signs are that he will be OK for this afternoon.

Kelvin Davis suffered a kick on the ankle, and I took advantage of the fact that you are given more time to treat goalkeepers on the pitch than you are outfield players. Again he suffered a little soreness, but has recovered.

Recovery is also the right word to describe the very good progress Liam George is making after his broken leg. He has come on much quicker than expected, which is a tribute to his general fitness and perhaps more important his attitude.

A positive outlook can help a lot, and Liam is proof. He still has a metal plate in one of the bones he fractured in August, but has started running again, although not yet at full speed. Very often after ankle surgery there is a problem with stiffness and mobility, but Liam has not suffered too badly in that respect.

He is now building up fitness levels and working to get the ankle strong again, and to his credit is prepared to work hard. He is still some way off consideration for competitive football, but his progress is excellent.



TENDER LOVING CARE: Marvin Johnson gets treatment at Lincoln after suffering a head injury in the build-up to our first goal.

Stuart Fraser has also worked well to overcome injury. He is now back in full training after his cartilage operation and could be playing in the reserves in a couple of weeks or so.

Working to regain fitness can be boring, so we try to vary routines, and I am glad to say that everyone at Luton Town appreciates the need to have the right attitude - they all respond, and work well.

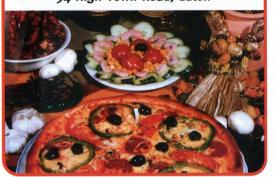
Julian James will be the next to prove the point: he has now had a lighter cast put on his leg, and the real hard work for him will come when that is taken off. In the meantime his colleagues have told him he's hobbling a lot better!

Clive Gloodyear

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The Football Trust has been providing support for football throughout the UK for 22 years.

A major new funding package made up of annual contributions from The F.A. Premier League, The Football Association, The English Sports Council, The Football League and The Professional Footballers Association has been added to the Trust's pools derived income to secure its future.

The Trust has a major part to play in the success of the game and will continue its vital grant support for lower division clubs to complete the Taylor programme.

The Trust is about a great deal more than bricks and mortar: it can handle grant aid programmes of every sort and provides essential help for the game at all levels.

The commitment of the Government and the new funding partners to make full use of the Trust's grant aid experience and expertise will have the support of everyone who cares about the future of our national game.





## **Cup-tie Tickets**



#### **SUNDERLAND v LUTON TOWN**

Tuesday December 1, kick-off 7.45pm
Tickets, all seating, can be purchased from the Luton Town ticket office. Prices: £10 adults

£5 junior and senior citizens

Tickets will be on sale until 4 pm on Monday November 30. If tickets are purchased at Sunderland on the day of the match, Sunderland's normal Nationwide League prices will apply, ranging from £17 to £10.



#### **SECOND ROUND**

#### **LUTON TOWN v HULL CITY**

Saturday December 5, kick-off 3pm

Priority purchase period Season ticket holders have until today to claim their tickets. Please note: no cup voucher is required for this match.

Matchday Nationwide League prices apply. Members can purchase any seats not reserved for season ticket holders. Tickets may be purchased by phone, in person at the ticket office, or by post, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope and either a cheque payable to Luton Town FC, or credit card details, with expiry date.

In the event of a replay it will be on Tuesday December 15, kick-off 7.30pm. Admission: pay on the night only. Seats £11 Concessions £6 Terracing £8 Concessions £4

THE BOBBERS Travel Club and Town on Tour are both running coaches for our first visit to the Stadium of Light for the Worthington Cup quarter-final on Tuesday.

The Bobbers are charging £16.50, £13.50 for concessions, and their coaches leave Cranfield at 12.15 and the Town ground at 1.15.

Town on Tour coaches - they expect to need plenty for this trip - will leave Maple Road at 1pm, calling at Milton Keynes Coachway at 1.20. Fares are £17.50 for members of Luton Town Supporters Club, £19.50 for other adults. Concessions are £15.

Call at the Bobbers or Town on Tour kiosks today to book seats.

The road journey to Sunderland is a round trip of about 530 miles. The most direct route is north up M1, onto M18 and then all the way up A1 and A1(M). Leave at Washington, junction 64, signposted to Washington and Birtley and follow the signs to Sunderland. If you know the route to Roker Park, take that, and before you get there you will see the Stadium of Light on your right. From Sunderland centre, cross the bridge over the River Wear to reach the north bank, and turn right towards Seaburn, and the new stadium will soon come into view.

## League Tickets

#### **SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFER TO LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS**

Any Luton supporter who buys a ticket for our match with Millwall on December 19 and Wycombe Wanderers on lanuary 9 can claim a FREE TICKET (of the same value) for our home game with Wigan on January 23.

#### TO OBTAIN YOUR FREE TICKET

Purchase the first two match tickets, and claim your free one at the same time

Keep your ticket stubs for Millwall and Wycombe, and claim after the Wycombe match by producing the stubs at the ticket office. But please note the offer is not available on the day of the Wigan game

#### **SEASON TICKETS AVAILABLE**

Don't know what to buy someone for Christmas? Why not purchase a season ticket for our remaining league games? Pro rata prices, giving a saving on normal matchday prices, are available from the ticket office. Or treat yourself!

#### **BUY NOW - BEAT THE RUSH!**

#### **MACCLESFIELD TOWN v LUTON TOWN**

Saturday December 12, kick-off 3pm

This match is pay on the day only, and terracing only. Admission: £10 adults, £6 concessions.

#### **LUTON TOWN v WIGAN ATHLETIC**

Saturday January 23, kick-off 3 pm

SEE ABOVE FOR A VERY SPECIAL FREE OFFER **RELATING TO THESE THREE MATCHES** Tickets now on sale

#### **LUTON TOWN v** MILLWALL

Saturday December 19, kick-off 3pm

Tickets now on sale

#### **LUTON TOWN v WYCOMBE WDRS**

Saturday January 9, kick-off 3pm

Tickets now on sale



#### **LUTON TOWN v** READING

Saturday December 26, kick-off 12 noon

Tickets for this match will go on sale at discounted prices AFTER today's game

#### **BOURNEMOUTH v LUTON TOWN**

Monday December 28, kick-off 3pm

Ticket details will be available ten days before the game.

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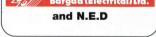
















Judy Brown



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## Commercial



OUR commercial mascot today is 14-year-old Coralie Shaw, from Dunstable, a member of a real Luton Town family. She comes to matches with her parents, her brother and sister, and her granddad. Coralie goes to Manshead Upper School, Dunstable, and as well as football she likes hockey.

Matthew Spring and Steve Davis are her favourite players, and we hope she enjoys meeting them and the rest of the team this afternoon.



OUR WIDE variety of sponsorship packages enables us to welcome more commercial guests than usual for today's game.

Jacqueline Parker and John Bailey Jr will be pleased to give information on how you can enjoy an extra special day out watching the Town - and it need not cost a fortune. Phone them on Luton 411622 for details of what is on offer.

We welcome all our match sponsors today. One is a group of friends who have been supporting the Town, home and away for around 30 years, which means they will have some rather good memories of Maine Road on May 14, 1983! We hope it's another good day for John Allen, Tony Foley, Cliff Large, Martyn Leach, Brian Leggetter, Dick Janes, Grant Janes, Paul Janes and Graham Stansfield. We are fortunate to have other good friends of

the club back as match sponsors today, and give a warm welcome to Flexlink Systems Ltd, of Milton Keynes. They provide tailor-made and cost-effective handling solutions to meet and grow with all business needs. We also welcome our other match sponsors, Grosvenor Casino, Plasmor, Gibbs & Dandy and Mr C. J. Williams.

Rob Stringer, of Epic Records, is today's matchball sponsor.

Our thanks go to all sponsors - this week's sad news about the Kohlerdome decision underlines again how important it is for the club to raise revenue from every possible source to help fund a team capable of going for promotion. Without sponsors, it would be so much harder, and we appreciate all the support we get from the local community.

### Golden Gamble

OUR Golden Gamble really is a pot of gold: the prize at our last home match, the cup-tie with Barnsley, set a new record, with Andrew Hickey collecting £650 in cash. In fact, we paid out a total of £935, because the prize from the washed-out game against Chesterfield was also claimed, and our picture shows the winners, John McLoughlin from Bedfordshire News, and his friends. They picked up £285.

You too can be a winner at Kenilworth Road - Golden Gamble ticket sellers are in all parts of the ground. The stake is £1, with half going into the prize fund and the other half to the football club.

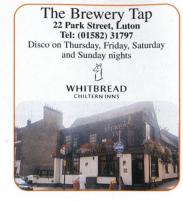


#### TOWN TEASER

A STRIKER who made a dozen appearances for us three years ago turned up as a World Cup player in France in the summer, and is now playing for Glasgow Celtic. Who is he? Listen for the PA announcer to ask this question this afternoon - if you know the answer you could win a prize.

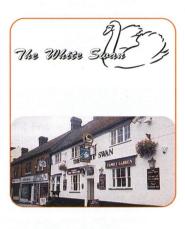
















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Footie on the Giant Screen



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## Happy memories

WE HAVE had a lot of heroes at Kenilworth Road over the years, and our search for a Luton Legend for the Football League's Hall of Fame threw up a lovely mixed bag of memories.

Gordon Turner topped the list of 18 nominations, and we give our grateful thanks to all supporters who took part in the poll.

Trevor Emery, of Brook Street, Bedford, was typical of those who recalled Turner with great fondness. His special memory: "I saw him run rings round Billy Wright, who was then the England centre-half. Gordon was explosive."

In a hefty postbag, Shirley Hobbs, of Meyrick Avenue, Luton, sent in one of the most interesting letters. Her vote went to Bernard Streten. "I have very fond

memories of Bernie," she said. "As a teenage girl I stood behind the goal on the Kenilworth terrace. Every week we threw sweets to Bernard, who collected them and put them into his old tweed cap. He waved in acknowledgement every time, and was very popular with all the youngsters. He was a great showman. It was often said he made easy saves look difficult with his acrobatics and agility. When he died a few years ago I wrote to his widow, who replied by sending three photographs of him in action, which I have had framed as very special souvenirs of my favourite Luton Town player."

Ricky Hill was one of the more modern nominations. Richard Marks, of Stewkley Road, Soulbury, called him "only the most skilful player ever seen at Kenilworth Road. His presence and ability did so much to banish racism from the terraces."

And guess who Ed Clark, of Brockswood Lane, Welwyn Garden City, was thinking of when he wrote: "A great player and captain. He led by example, always motivating others, and when he left we went downhill."



John Taylor, of Pelham Court, Welwyn, nominated the same skipper. "As a regular supporter since the early 60s I have seen some good teams and great players - Ron Davies, Bruce Rioch, Malcolm Macdonald, John Aston and David Moss to name but a few. But the team Steve Foster played in, alongside Mal Donaghy, with the likes of Les Sealey, Tim Breacker, Ashley Grimes, Danny Wilson, Dave Preece, Brian Stein and the great Ricky Hill and Mick Harford, was the best. Fozzie was not only a superb defender and captain. He could be relied on to stick a few goals away every season. Reminds me of someone in the current team!"

Talking of current personalities at Luton Town, Stephen Whitehead, of Wingrave, nominated John

Moore - "a useful player, but a great coach and a magnificent servant of the club."

Brian Stein's admirers included W. Roy Franklin, of Tollgate Road, Colney Heath - "His loyalty to Luton Town was fantastic, and his greatest strength I believe was his work off the hall"

Loyalty was the word several used in putting forward the name of Syd Owen. Vic Fussell, from Two Mile Ash, Milton Keynes, rightly described him as "A Superb servant to the club, captain, an international, and a great professional - and the only Luton player to win the Footballer of the Year award."

As a matter of policy we do not normally take notice of anonymous letters, but we chuckled at the unsigned nomination for Mick Harford - "We called him God because he could take us to heaven. He took a few centre-halves to the cleaners as well."

Our thanks go to all supporters who took the trouble to write in, and to those who added comments about this season's matchday magazine. Your letters, on any subject, are very welcome.



### Ave Att 23,500 27,975 27,873 27,643 24,698 26,709 22,744 27,941 26,753 28,197 When Man City have scored goals... and conceded them



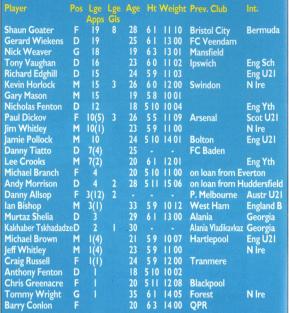


#### Alexander .1 Spring .....1 McGowan .6 Thomas ....1 Davis S ...4 McGowan . White ..... 1 George ....2 Gray .....2 Johnson ... 2 McKinnon.2 Alexander .1 Douglas ...1 Evers ..... McIndoe ... 1 McLaren ...

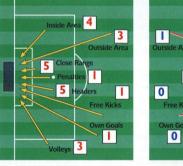
#### League Positions throughout the season



#### Who's played for Man City this season...



#### How City have scored goals... and conceded them





## Hatters v City

FOITH GUIDE W D L F A PTS Sequence
Luton Town 2 2 2 2 9 9 8 DLLWW
Manchester City 2 1 3 6 5 7 DLWWL

Statistics compiled by Football Information Services Telephone: 0151-632 5679

How Luton have scored goals... and conceded them



## Manchester

#### welcome to today's visitors



IOF ROYLE Manage

Joe Royle began his footballing career at Goodison park, making over 270 appearances for Everton and scoring 119 goals (he remains in their record books as the youngest player ever to represent the first team, at just 16 years and 288 days old). He spent five seasons as Everton's top scorer, bagging 23 goals in the Championship-winning side of 1969-70 and winning his first England cap - one of six - against Malta in 1971. City manager Tony Book bought Royle for £170,000 in 1974 and he went on to claim further honours as he helped the Blues to the League Cup in 1976. He made a total of 119 appearances for Manchester City and scored 31 goals before leaving Maine Road in November 1977 to join Bristol City. He had a further stint with Norwich City, but retired from the game in 1982 due to a bad knee injury. Just three months later he took over the managerial reins at Oldham Athletic, at which he stayed for ten tears, ironically turning down an offer to manage Manchester City in 1989. The Latics became renowned for their cup giant-killing acts, reaching Wemblev in 1990 in the final of the League Cup but suffering a 1-0

defeat by Nottingham Forest, and in the same season losing to Manchester United in the semi-final of the FA Cup in a closely-fought tie played at Maine Road. After 68 years out of the top flight, the Latics were taken to the then-First Division in 1991, and they remained there to become one of the original members of the inaugural FA Premier League. After relegation to the First Division in 1994, Royle was allowed to speak to Everton and he soon replaced under-fire Everton boss Mike Walker as Everton Manager. He rescued his old club from a disastrous start to their season by quickly steering them to league safety, and in May the Toffees experienced FA Cup glory by beating Manchester United 1-0 in the 1995 final. In his only full season as a manager at Goodison Park he took Everton to sixth in the Premiership, and narrowly missed out on a UEFA Cup place. Progress was maintained the following season when Everton were 6th from the top at Christmas until a 'crop' of injuries and poor results over a 10 week period meant that Royle and Everton parted ways on deadline day, making way for Howard Kendall in March 1997. After 11 months out of the game, he accepted the challenge to manage Manchester City in Febuary 1998.



Back row: Nigel Clough (now Manager of Burton Albion), Shaun Goater, Richard Jobson, Lee Crooks, Paul Beesley (now Part Vale), Michael Brown (GK), Nick Weaver, Tommy Wright, Steve Rimmer, David Morley (now Southend),

Barry Conlon (now Southend), Murtaz Shelia, Ray Kelly

Middle Row: Les Chapman (Kit Manager), Ronnie Evans (Assistant Physiotherapist), Craig Russell, Chris Greenacre, Neil Heaney, Gerard Wiekens, Ged Brannan (now Motherwell), Tony Vaughan, Kakhaber Tskhdadze, Lee Bradbury (now Crystal Palace), Ian Bishop, Kevin Horlock, Scott Hiley (now Southampton), Alan Bailey, Neil Morley, Alex Stepney (Goalkeeping Coach), Frank Bunn (Youth Academy Coach)

Front Row: Asa Hartford (Reserve Team Coach), Andrew Porteous, Alan Reilly, Michael Brown, Paul Dickov, Gary Mason, Joe Royle (Manager), Jamie Pollock (Captain), Willie Donachie (Head Coach), Jeff Whitley, Richard Edghill, Jim Whitley, Danny Tiatto, Martin Phillips (now Portsmouth), Roy Bailey (Physiotherapist).

## Manchester pen pics

**NICK WEAVER** Goalkeeper

Giant keeper who stands 6ft 4in and is being tipped to go right to the top. Started the season as number one after impressing in pre-season games. Cost City £100,000 when he was snapped up from Mansfield Town. Has been learning his craft under former Manchester United keeper Alex Stepney.

#### **GARY MASON** Midfield

Burst through from the junior ranks and looks a great prospect. Made only two reserve team appearances last season with eight games in the A team. Injury held him back but he was called up for the first team after strong pre-season performances. Regular youth team player and a former Scottish international. Scored first goal in 7-1 Worthington Cup win against Notts County.

#### **DANIEL ALLSOPP** Striker

Recently been selected for the U-23 Australian Olympic Soccer team and has recently played for the U-21's and U-19's. In 1995 he won the Golden Boot award at the Youth Championships when he was top goal scorer. He had the chance of coming to the UK two years ago but chose to stay in Australia to finish his studies. Scored his first City goal in time added on in the 2-0 win at Meadow Lane. Tops 6ft and has been a prolific goal scorer in the reserve side.

#### GERARD WIEKENS Midfielder/Central defender

After nine years with second division Dutch side Veendam, Gerard actually agreed his move to Manchester City in March of 1997 but flew back to Holland as part of an agreement between both clubs which allowed him to play out the rest of the season with Veendam.

Making his debut for City against Portsmouth in August, Gerard became an instant hero when he scored City's second goal. Since then he has maintained a regular place in City's first team.

#### **TONY VAUGHAN** Defender

Although Tony was on City's books for a spell as a schoolboy, it was Ipswich who took on the versatile defender as a trainee in 1994. He moved quickly through the ranks, breaking into the first team at Portman Road before injuring his knee during a visit to Maine Road in 1995. After two full seasons in Ipswich's first team, Tony began to catch the eye of several bigger clubs - including City - and after a much publicised transfer saga at the end of the 1996/97 season, he joined the Blues for a tribunal fee of £1,350,000. Despite making a good showing in pre-season games, Tony did not secure a regular place in the first team until the final few games of the 1997/98 season.

#### **JIM WHITLEY** Midfielder

22-year old midfielder Jim Whitley is a product of City's highly successful youth development

programme. A slow-starter, Jim didn't make his debut until he was 22, but a highly impressive debut it was, replacing captain Gerard Wiekens in the FA Cup 3rd Round tie against Bradford City in the 1997-98 season, playing in his favoured central midfield role alongside younger brother Jeff. And, like Jeff, Jim was selected for the Northern Ireland squad in Febuary 1998 and made his debut against Spain in June 1998. He was also bestowed with the 1998 Manchester City Young Player of the Year award

#### **CRAIG RUSSELL** Forward

Craig Russell has been a die-hard Sunderland fan all his life, but that didn't stop him taking up Frank Clark's offer to join City. he made his League debut aged 17 following prolific goal scoring at youth team level, where he once scored five goals in halfan-hour in a game against Hartlepool. Russell was top scorer in Sunderland's promotion-winning side of 1995/96 and became a firm crowd favourite. Frank Clark followed his progress but failed in an attempt to bring the striker to Maine Road in the summer of 1997. He finally succeeded in signing the player in November after a £1 million pound swap deal that sent Nicky Summerbee to the Stadium of Light. Craig made 17 full appearances last season, scoring his first goal for City against Portsmouth in January.

#### KEVIN HORLOCK Defender/Midfielder

Kevin Horlock became Frank Clark's first buy for the club when he signed a four and a half year contract on 31st January 1997, departing Steve McMahon's Swindon Town to make the move to Maine Road. A versatile player who usually plays left-back or leftmidfield, Kevin stared his career as an apprentice at West Ham before making the move to the County Ground in the 1992/93 season. He was a virtual ever-present in the Swindon side during his time at the club, and his 16 goals during the 1995/96 season alerted Frank Clark, who trailed the progress of Horlock while he was manager at Nottingham Forest. Clark finally got his man a month after taking the hot seat at Maine Road, and Kevin made his debut for City in the Blues' 4-1 rout of Oxford in Febuary, scoring his first goal for the club against Swindon Town later that month. Kevin was an everpresent in the team until an injury sustained against West Brom last December forced him out of contention until April. He made his comeback against Wolves at Molineux, contributing a goal in a macth which ended 2-2.

#### **PAUL DICKOV** Foward

Paul Dickov was Alan Ball's last signing for Manchester City, making the move to Maine Road from Arsenal on the 22nd August. A trainee for Arsenal in the late 1980's, Dickov - an under-21 international for Scotland - managed to climb the ranks into the senior squad, making his Highbury









debut for the first team against Southampton in March 1993. However, the presence of fellow strikers Ian Wright, Paul Merson and Kevin Campbell in the Arsenal forward line restricted Paul's chances to secure a permanent place in the side, and loan spells followed at Luton Town and Brighton. The Majority of Dickov's appearances in his last two seasons at Highbury were made in Arsenal's reserve team, and the opportunity of first team football at Maine Road was a factor which led to his departure from the Londoners in August. Paul made his full debut for the Blues in the 2-1 defeat of Charlton Athletic on the 2nd September 1996, and went on to make 28 more appearances in the League, scoring 5 goals along the way. He made a further 21 appearances the following season, finishing off as City's top goalscorer.

#### RICHARD EDGHILL Defender

A product of City's youth development programme, Richard had an early taste of first-team action when he played in a Manchester City v Manchester United testimonial game at the end of the 1991/92 season. He made his league debut against Wimbledon at Selhurst Park in September 1993, and, after a number of impressive performances, City rewarded him with a four-year contract in October 1993. One of the club's brightest young talents, Richard already has the honour of representing the England at both Under 21 and 'B' team level. He was also picked by England boss Terry Venables to attend a senior England training session; this was despite the fact that most of Richard's 1994/95 season was interrupted by injury, resulting in him making only 16 appearances for City's first team. In another cruel twist, Richard severed his cruciate ligament whilst playing against Leeds United in December 1995 and consequently missed the rest of the 1995/96 season. Richard reported fit for the 1997/98 campaign, making his first appearance of the season against Nottingham Forest in September. He signed a new contract for the Blues in May 1998.

#### **SHAUN GOATER** Attack

Joe Royle signed Shaun Goater from Bristol City in March 1998 in an attempt to bolster his strike force. Goater began his English football career as a trainee with Manchester United before joining Rotherham United, making over 200 appearances for the Yorkshire club. He scored his first goal for City against Stockport County in April, and went on to score an impressive brace in the ill-fated final game against Stoke City which, despite the 5-2 outcome, led to the Blues' relegation to Division Two. Shaun has had valuable experience in the lower leagues and will be keen to use it to his advantage in the 1998/99 season.

#### IAN BISHOP Midfielder

lan Bishop embarked on his second spell at Maine

Road after leaving Harry Rednapp's West Ham United and signing for Manchester City towards the end of the 1997/98 season. Having spent one successful season with the Blues in the late 1980's, the fan's favourite made the return to try and help City stave off relegation. He made four full appearances last season.

#### MICHAEL BROWN Midfield

A product of Manchester City's Youth Developement programme, Michael began to make inroads into City's first team at the beginning of the 1995/96 season after having established himself as one of the star players in City's Youth Team. However, his City debut - against QPR - was marred by a controversial sending off after only minutes of him coming on as substitute. Putting this disappointment aside, Michael continued to fight for a place in the first team squad. His determination and work rate paid off, and by the end of the 1995/96 season he had made 28 league appearances as well as picking up City's Young Player of the Year award. Michael made his debut for the England under-21 squad in April 1996 in their friendly against Croatia, and the following summer he travelled with the same squad to a tournament in Toulon, France. He spent the most part of the 1996/97 playing in City's reserve team, but was given another chance to impress after Joe Royle's arrival. He returned with a vengeance, to such an extent that the city supporters elected Michael their Player of the Year for 1998.

#### LEE CROOOKS Midfield

Lee Crooks made his full debut appearance at Port Vale in September 1996 after having successfully come through the ranks of City's youth and reserve teams. He signed schoolboy forms for City as a 14-year-old before being sent to the Lilleshall School of Excellence, where he spent a further two years before coming to City as a trainee. Lee shone in Neil McNab's youth team for two years, and by December 1995 he was already figuring in Alan Ball's first team squad. New City boss Frank Clark spotted the potential of this young midfielder, and included Crooks in 8 starting line-ups. Lee was voted Manchester City's Young Player of the Year at the end of the 1996/97 season, but spent most of the ensuing season playing for the reserves.

#### **ANDY MORRISON** Defender

An £80,000 buy from Huddersfield, where he was their most expensive defender when signed at the start of the 1996/97 season. The 6ft 1in defender has previously played for Plymouth, Blackburn and Blackpool. Scored on his debut at Maine Road against Colchester. Made a great impression on the fans by scoring a superb volley on his second game for the Blues at Boundary Park in a 3-0 victory over Oldham Athletic.

**David Kohler** 



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# Carrying the colours

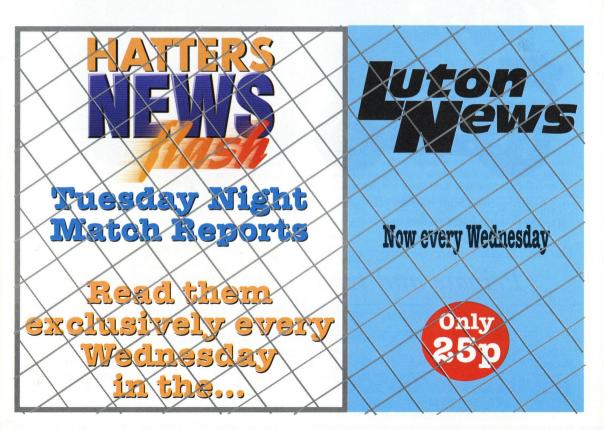


A LOT of Luton Town fans aren't content with just wearing the colours when they go on holiday - Dean Fox, for one.

When the cases were packed, Luton Town strip was only part of the Kenilworth Road content - his large flag was taken along as well, just in case anyone who saw him in San Agustin on the island of Gran Canary didn't get the full message!

Dean, from Stevenage, has been following the Town since the mid-80s - he used to be a Junior Hatter and with his dad and brother had a season ticket in the Oak Road end, before that became the away enclosure. His season ticket now is for the Kenilworth Road stand, and he rarely misses matches home or away.

Have you carried the colours of Luton Town to unusual or interesting places? We are always pleased to hear from fans and see their pictures, and if you would care to show them to other supporters send them to the matchday magazine editor at Luton Town FC.







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### Hatters On Card

AFTER the popularity of bubble-gum seemed to wane in the 1980s there came a new innovation in the collecting world, which again originated from the United States.

These were "trading cards" and were very similar to the gum issues, being five or six picture-cards sold in sealed packets, but without the pink slab of bubble-gum.

The first football production to hit our shops came out in 1990 from the firm of Pro Set Incorporated. The first set ran to

more than 300 cards, and featured players from the then First and Second Divisions. Several Hatters were included, such as Lars Elstrup, Iain Dowie, Jason Rees, David Preece and one who is still with us, though currently injured, Julian James.

The front of each card showed a coloured action shot, while on the reverse a small head and shoulders portrait was complimented by brief biographical details, including the date and place of birth.

After producing a set of fixture cards for each League club for 1991-92 (Luton's card featured Kingsley Black) that season's main issue ran to nearly 500 cards, and was extended to include players from all four divisions. Again Luton were well represented, with most of the first team squad included. Among them were Mark Pembridge, card No. 53, Chris Kamara, 281 and Richard Harvey, 282.

However, it is the following card, number 283, featuring the legendary Mick Harford, which is used today to illustrate this set, chiefly in honour of him being chosen as the fans' favourite by subscribers to Roger Wash's excellent book "Luton Town - The Modern Era."

The reverse of this issue is similar to the previous one, except that a small action photo is sometimes used. In Mick's case he is seen towering over Paul Ince, then of

Manchester United.

As most will remember Mick's attributes only too well, there is very

little about him I can add. He started his career at Lincoln and played in the same side as Trevor Peake. He made his league debut in 1977, nearly two years before Trevor. No doubt we all have a favourite Harford goal - his overhead kick on his "second coming" to Luton against Oldham in the final minute always springs to mind. I also recall him getting the biggest cheer of the afternoon from Luton fans when he was a Chelsea player. This occurred as he took his seat in the stand at a very wet Manor Ground, Oxford, in 1992 as the Town were trounced 4-0. Many Town supporters were convinced that he would come back a third time and end his playing career here, but sadly this will not happen now. As for the Pro Set cards, most examples from the series mentioned are easily obtainable, at a modest

Pro Set Inc -

Football 1991/92 edition

20p per card. By Alan Robinson





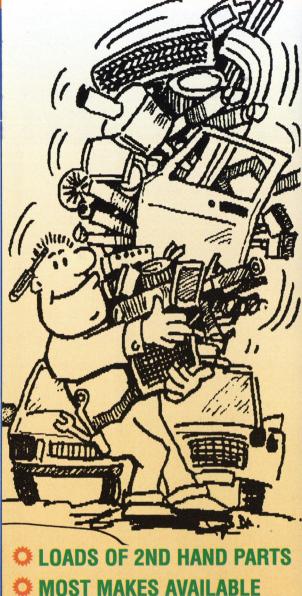
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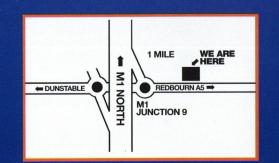
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# **ALL YOU CAN** DISMANTLE AND CARRY FOR JUST CASH



# by Roger Wash

#### 28th November 1959 Luton Town 1 Preston 3

The Town had not started the 1959/60 well and by the time of the visit of Preston to Kenilworth Road, only three wins had been recorded and the team was propping up the rest of the table.

The Town belied their lowly league position in the first half and were totally in control and squandered three good chances before Billy Bingham finally netted with a header deep in stoppage time. The second half continued in the same vein until Preston's Tommy Thompson scored with a soft effort and the game was suddenly transformed.

Inspired by the veteran Tom Finney, who was making his final appearance at Kenilworth Road, Preston ripped into the Luton rearguard with a new found confidence and scored twice more to leave the Town ruing their first half misses.

#### 28th November 1970 Cardiff 0 Luton Town 0

For this top of the table clash a massive crowd of 26,689 gathered at Ninian Park not just to see the Town, but to pick up tickets for the forthcoming Cup Winners Cup tie against Real Madrid!

Most fans stayed to witness a 'blood and thunder' contest with the Town rearguard under constant pressure throughout. Goalkeeper Tony Read and centre-half Chris Nicholl, who lost a contact lens during one fierce struggle, were outstanding and Hatters top goalscorer, Malcolm Macdonald, was virtually a spectator all afternoon.

The Town nearly scored a shock goal towards the end, however, when full-back John Ryan sent in a terrific 25 yard shot that thudded back into play off the angle of post and crossbar.

Steve White fights his way through the Rotherham defence at Kenilworth Road in November 1981.

#### 28th November 1981 Luton Town 3 Rotherham 1

The Town were beginning to walk away at the top of Division Two and looked on the visit of newly promoted Rotherham as another three points in the bag.

They were shocked, though, at the speed of the Millers counter attacks and it was not until just after half time that Steve White capitalised on Ricky Hill's long cross to stab the Town into the lead.

The Millers shrugged off this setback and levelled eight minutes later when ex-Hatter Rodney Fern glanced in a long free-kick. The Town regained the lead and finally made the game safe with two goals in a minute just after the hour mark.

Firstly Mal Donaghy headed in a corner from David Moss, closely followed by a Brian Stein effort after being set up by a superbly threaded through ball from Hill.

Rotherham manager Emlyn Hughes admitted after the game that the Town were a class above anything else in the division.



# a blast from the past courtesy of Roger Wash

Our first meeting with Manchester City in the Football League came during our own debut season in the competition when, on New Year's Day 1898, we won 3-0 in front of a 4000 crowd at Dunstable Road.

At the time, we were enjoying a purple patch of form, particularly at home where we had scored 31 goals in a run of five successive games. City, with a team that included two reserves, posed no problem as the Town cruised to victory. The following season, however, the visitors reversed the scoreline with Billy Meredith scoring one of the Manchester goals. Luton managed to hold on until the interval but collapsed alarmingly in the second half.

It was much the same story at Hyde Road later in the campaign where the Town worked hard to restrict City to just two goals after the break. City went to the top of the league following that victory and were to hold the position until the end of the season when they were crowned Division Two champions.

It was to be 40 years before we clashed again in the league, following City's relegation to the old Division Two in 1937/38 only one season after winning the Division championship. Amazingly, they had scored 80 goals during their relegation season but they were unable to find their shooting boots against the Hatters who won both games with Eddie Connelly on the scoresheet in each.

The War brought about an abrupt halt to league football and on resumption City walked away with the Division Two championship in 1946/47 taking three points off the Town in the process.

We met up again briefly in 1950/51 after City suffered relegation from the top flight once more only to bounce back at the first attempt. During that campaign our meetings produced

two draws, with Bernard Moore scoring on his Luton debut in the game at Kenilworth Road on February 3rd 1951.

We finally joined City in Division One in 1955 and enjoyed clashes with the Blues over the next five seasons. In 1955/56 each side won their home game 3-2 but in the match at Kenilworth Road we won through with City having one eye turned to the F.A.Cup final, where they were due to play Birmingham, as well as being down to ten men following an injury to Bill Leivers.

Two seasons later we were 2-0 up at Maine Road and looked odds on winning both points. City had other ideas, however, as they netted twice in the final minute to gain an unlikely share of the spoils. We were rampant at the start of the following campaign and topped the table for a short period. City had the misfortune to play us twice during this spell and our 5-1 home win, with both Gordon Turner and Allan Brown netting twice, remains our biggest victory over the men from Maine Road.

Unfortunately our relegation from Division One in 1960 meant another parting of the ways and it was not until 1982, following our glorious Division Two championship winning season, that paths crossed again.

The Town recorded their first home victory for three months when seeing off City in December 1982 but lost the services of Brian Stein who broke a bone in his foot. Stein was, however, back in the side for the return and his cross set up Raddy Antic for a late winner, in a never to be forgotten contest, that ensured survival for the Town but sent City down to Division Two.

City were back again two years later and a brace from Stein saw off the Blues in a 2-1 home victory which was a lot more one sided



Paul Walsh tangles with City's Ray Ranson during the clash at Maine Road in May 1983.

than the scoreline suggests. The return was following campaign, which was to be the played on the final Saturday of the season and a Town's last in the top flight. gentle game finished 1-1 with Emeka Nwajiobi levelling just after the interval.

City were relegated again at the end of the following campaign and were probably glad to see the back of Brian Stein who scored in both games. His 81st minute strike was enough to separate the sides in the clash at Kenilworth Road while in the return his free kick earned a share of the spoils.

Back came City in 1989 but this time the boot was on the other foot when, fresh from a 5-1 win over neighbours United, they racked up a 3-1 victory over the Town with David Oldfield on the scoresheet. The return finished 1-1 with both sides netting from the spot.

A last gasp penalty from John Dreyer earned a point in a 2-2 home draw in 1990/91 while the score was repeated at Kenilworth Road in the

			$\mathcal{O}$
Λ	Season	Home	Awa
	1897/98	3-0	1-2
	1898/99	0-3	0-2
	1938/39	3-0	2-1
	1946/47	0-0	0-2
	1950/51	2-2	1-1
	1955/56	3-2	2-3
	1956/57	3-2	2-3
	1957/58	1-2*	2-2
	1958/59	5-1	1-1
	1959/60	1-2	2-1
	1982/83	3-1	1-0
	1985/86	2-1	1-1
	1986/87	1-0	1-1
	1989/90	1-1	1-3
	1990/91	2-2	0-3
	1991/92	2-2	0-4

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	17	8	6	3	33	22
Away	17	3	5	9	. 17	31
Total	34	- 11	11	12	50	53



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We will be announcing further courses next week watch this space!

#### AFTER SCHOOLS INDOOR AUTUMN/WINTER COACHING PROGRAMME

With everyone back at school we have now organised our Indoor programme of after schools coaching for the remainder of the year. To register a place or for further information, simply ring the Community & Schools Department at the club on 01582 411622

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Manshead Upper School 6 to 8 year olds from 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm 9 to 11 year olds from 7.30 pm to 8.30 pm 12 to 14 year olds from 8.30 pm to 9.30 pm

Dunstable Leisure Centre 6 to 8 year olds from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm 9 to 13 year olds from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

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Luton Regional Sports Centre Girls only up to 15 years of age 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

#### **TUESDAY**

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(Farley Hill)
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9 to 13 year olds from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

The Priory School Bedford Rd

LUTON Barnfield College New Bedford Rd 6 to 8 years 10.00 am to 11.00 am 9 to 13 years 11.00 am to 12.00 noon

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Sommeries Inr School Wigmore Lane 6 to 8 and 9 to 13 years 9.30 am to 10.30 am

HITCHIN 6 to 8 years 9.30 am to 10.30 am 9 to 13 years old 10.30 to 11.30 am (indoor hall)

#### **SUNDAY MORNINGS**

#### Mad Hatters help Children in Need

Our Community & Schools Programme together with Children from Wood End School in Harpenden joined forces to help the BBC Children in Need Appeal last Friday by enjoying a days football coaching.



Many of the children entered our Mad hatters competition each receiving a free LTFC scarf and our overall winner, Ben Fzollosi aged 8 years, will be coming to our Boxing Day game against Reading with his family as a special treat.

The day was a great success which everyone at the school enjoyed and raised over £100 towards the Children in Need Appeal. Well done to everyone involved - not too sure about some of those hats though!











#### laimee's Big Day Out Jaimme Allen aged 9 from

**Dunstable Icknield Lower** School is a regular on all of coaching courses and has had a pretty tough time of it lately being in and out of hospital. To keep his spirits up Jaimme joined us at our recent game with Bristol Rovers and met up with all of the players and Lennie pre match in the dressing room. We know you



enjoyed the day and everyone at the club sends their best



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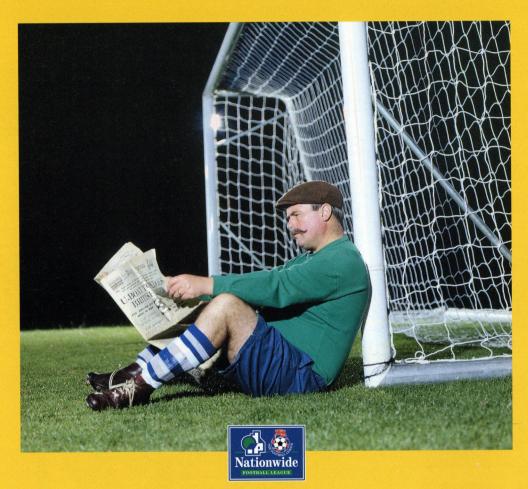


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# The Cup Double



BARNSLEY CHOPPED: Phil Gray fires in his Worthington Cup winner. The defender is Chris Morgan, who managed to get a foot to the ball as Gray hit the drive, but succeeded only in deflecting it into the net between the goalkeeper and the near post.

PHIL GRAY did more than most to fire us through to the next two rounds of the Worthington and FA Cups. Having netted the only goal against Barnsley, he followed up by scoring two and making the other for Steve Davis as we overcame Boreham Wood 3-2 at Meadow Park.

Lennie Lawrence admitted we had a little good fortune on our way to beating Barnsley, and at Boreham Wood the major feeling was one of relief as the defiant Ryman League side, with Kerry Dixon leading the attack, made valiant efforts to save the game. It was a close call because Boreham Wood had all the defiance of underdogs who never knew when they were beaten, even after twice being two goals behind. Even so, the result was a fair reflection of the game, and it probably made good entertainment for the neutrals watching on Sky TV.

#### **WORTHINGTON CUP DETAILS**

**Luton Town 1 Barnsley 0** 

Town: K. Davis. Alexander, McGowan, Spring, S. Davis, Johnson, Evers, McKinnon (McLaren 56 mins), Douglas (White 82 mins), Gray, McIndoe (Nyamah 56 mins).

Unused subs: White, Abbey, Scarlett. Booked: McGowan, Douglas.

Barnsley: T. Bullock, Morgan, de Zeeuw, Jones, Tinkler (McClare 3 mins), Appleby, M. Bullock (Hendrie 85 mins), Sheridan, Ward, Fjortoft, Barnard. Unused subs: Leese, Moses, Eaden.

Booked: Sheridan, Appleby, Morgan, Jones.

The goal: Phil Gray, 81 minutes, taking an incisive pass by Paul McLaren in his stride and despatching a low right-foot drive into the gap between keeper and near post, aided by a deflection off Chris Morgan's attempted block.

Referee: Steve Bennett, Orpington Attendance: 8,435

#### FA CUP DETAILS

**Boreham Wood 2 Luton Town 3** 

Town: K. Davis, Alexander, McGowan, McLaren, S. Davis, Johnson, McKinnon (Spring 89 mins), Evers, Douglas (Doherty 66 mins), Gray, Nyamah (McIndoe 62 mins). Unused subs Abbey, White. Booked: McLaren

Boreham Wood: Taylor, Sanders, McCarthy, Shaw, Nisbet, Brown (Daly 87 mins), Grime, Heffer, Dixon, Samuels (Xavier 72 mins), Brady (Ireland 67 mins), Unused subs Hatchett, Sewell.

The goals: 0-1 32 mins: Phil Gray deliberately-placed header from right wing cross by Graham Alexander; 0-2 52 mins: Gray hooked shot from precise pull-back by Stuart Douglas; 1-2 53 mins: Gary Nisbet after Kerry Dixon flicked on a long clearance by his goalkeeper; 1-3 75 mins: Steve Davis power header after Gray chipped back a deep corner by Ray McKinnon; 2-3 81 mins: Mark Xavier profiting from a lucky deflection off McKinnon, who was under challenge by Dixon. Referee: Paul Alcock, Halstead.

Attendance: 1,772 including 789 away fans on a ground where home Ryman League attendances rarely approach 300.

## Lincoln City 2 Luton Town 2

# Lincoln City 2 Luton Town 2

BOTH managers were content to settle for the draw at Sincil Bank, on the Town's first visit to Lincoln in 30 years. We had to come back twice to avoid a third successive league defeat against a team fighting for survival and currently organised by a chairman who had sacked the manager ten days previously.

Lincoln are still bottom of the Second Division, having come up last season, and saw Saturday's tilt at a promotion-chasing side as a chance to show what they are made of.

Not a a lot is the short answer - but they were up for it, full of energy and hard work, much needed on the sort of surface they have to play on. They were carried along by a frantic determination to stave off the indignity of a rapid return to the Third Division.

Lincoln's last home win was against Manchester City, and by all accounts that too was an occasion when a team played its heart out to overcome the odds.

There was a bit of muscle about Lincoln, and it was to their credit that the Town, with enforced changes in defence, weathered a potential storm and eventually imposed late control. We might even have won if Paul McLaren and Sean Evers had been sharper with opportunities in the last five minutes. But it would have been a bit of a steal, said the manager.

Mitchell Thomas returned at left back, enabling Gavin McGowan to switch to the right in place of suspended Graham Alexander. Alan White deputised for Steve Davis, also banned, and did well, but the leadership of Davis was missed. Simon Davies made his first league appearance of the season in the problem position on the left of midfield. "Whoever plays there does all right. No-one solves it, but no-one is a disaster," said the boss.

"Lincoln were really fired up for it - it was like a little cup final for them. They were difficult to play against, but we have got something out of it, and the clock's ticking again after losing at Stoke and Gillingham. Our performance was satisfactory, no more than that. We never really looking convincing until the closing stages."

The high spots were another goal for Phil Gray, his tenth of the season, and a first league goal for 18-year-old Gary Doherty, a point-saver ten minutes after he had gone on as a sub.

The low spot was Lincoln's second goal, not just for the way Gavin McGowan unluckily lashed it past Kelvin Davis, but for the build-up - Thomas gave the ball away and Paul Smith raced clear down Lincoln's right wing to fire over the hard low cross which was met by McGowan's attempted clearance.

That made it 2-1 on the hour mark, but the Town recovered so well that by the end, after Doherty's equaliser, it was Lincoln on the ropes and pleased to hear the final whistle.

They had taken the lead in the 40th minute, just after Gray missed a chance at the other end. A cross from the right wing and indecisive defending led to Smith shooting the first goal, but within four minutes Gray showed all his old predatory instincts to convert a sharp chance, made by McKinnon's corner and Thomas's flick on.

After McGowan had made it 2-1 to Lincoln Doherty and Paul McLaren were sent on as subs for Davies and Matthew Spring, and Doherty, a defender who can attack, underlined his versatility with a near-post header from another cross by McKinnon.

#### MACTH DETAILS

Luton Town: K. Davis, McGowan, Thomas, Spring (McLaren 70 mins), White, Johnson, McKinnon, Evers, Douglas, Gray, Davies (Doherty 64 mins). Unused sub: McIndoe Booked: No-one.

Lincoln: Richardson, Holmes, Bimson, Fleming, Brown, Austin, Smith, Finnigan, Battersby (Miller 74 mins), Thorpe, Gordon (Alcide 89 mins). Unused sub: Whitney. Booked: Gavin Gordon 65 mins, foul on Mitchell Thomas; Paul Miller, 75 mins, foul on Paul McLaren.

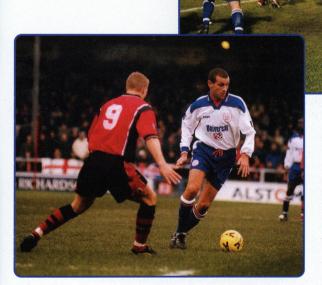
Goals: 1-0 40 mins: Paul Smith shot after the Town failed to deal with a right wing cross by Terry Fleming; 1-1 44 mins: Phil Gray, sharp shot after Mitchell Thomas flicked on a corner by Ray McKinnon; 2-1 60 mins: Gavin McGowan own goal, trying to clear a hard low cross by Paul Smith; 2-2 75 mins: Gary Doherty header from a corner by Ray McKinnon.

Referee: Mark Cowburn, Blackpool Attendance: 4,893, including 1,021 away supporters.



FIRST EQUALISER: Mitchell Thomas, whose flick-on led to confusion in the Lincoln defence, salutes our first goal at Sincil Bank, hammered in by Phil Gray.

FIRST OF MANY? Gary Doherty is the man facing the goal with his arms raised after his first-ever senior goal gave us a point at Lincoln.



ON THE BALL AGAIN: Simon Davies on his return to League action at Lincoln, where he was given the chance to solve the problem position on the left of midfield.



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# welcome



LIVING in Lincoln - her family are Luton fans in exile - eight-year-old Kathryn Hartwell wanted to be our mascot at Sincil Bank last week. Unfortunately, Ryan Carney had already been chosen, but Kathryn gets the honour today instead.

She is a Junior Hatter, and regularly makes the trip to Kenilworth Road to matches with her dad, uncle and brother. Phil Gray is her favourite player. As well as football, Kathryn likes swimming and dancing.

The Manchester City mascot has also made a long journey to be here today: welcome to Adam Bavister, who is also eight. He comes from Gosport, in Hampshire, and his favourite player is Nicky Weaver. Today's ballboys are Liam Smith and Jamie Hartnett, and it's a special day for Jamie - his 13th birthday.



WELCOME to all young supporters for what we expect to be one of the best games of the season. We had a couple of good ones last week, against the Young Imps, the Junior Hatters equivalents at Lincoln.

Before watching the league match, we had two games, and as in the Second Division, honours were even. Our 6-11 team was beaten 2-1, despite a good goal by Darren Cowley, but our 11-16 team ran out 2-1

winners, with goals by David Forsey and Glenn

One of our biggest events of the year takes place soon - the annual Christmas party will be at the Ascot Room, at the Luton Co-op club on Wednesday, December 9, from 7 till 9pm. There will be a disco, games, food and a visit by Father Christmas, and we expect there will also be plenty of Luton Town players to join in the fun.

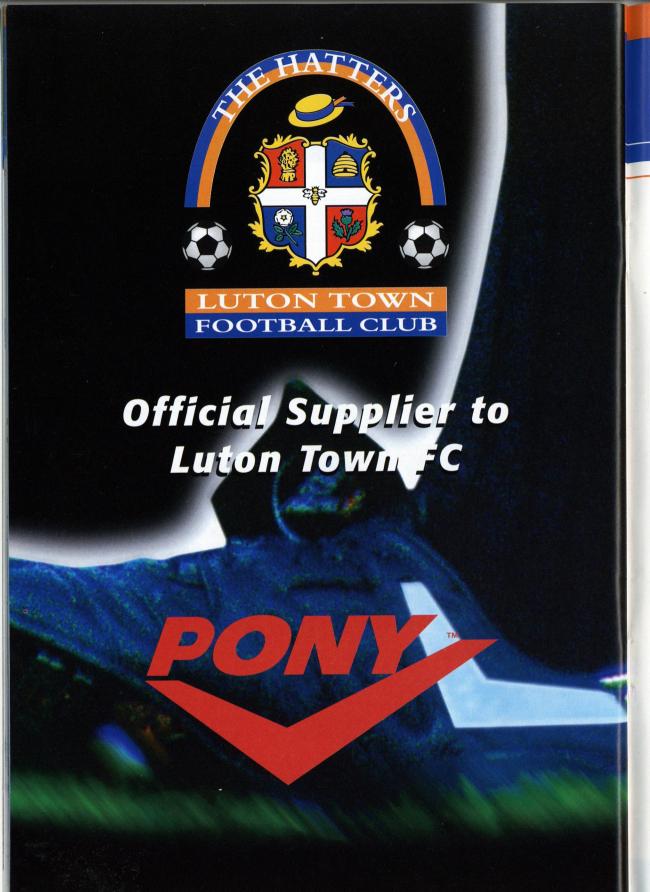
Tickets are £4 each, but restricted to Junior Hatters only. Mind you, if you want to join, membership is available if you get in quickly, at £10.

Our next confirmed away trip will be to Bournemouth, on December 28, but we are also hoping to fix something up for the match at Macclesfield, and we will give further. information on this page as soon as we have it. Meanwhile, enjoy today's game, and don't forget that the Saturday Club is in full swing for all home matches. It's the ideal way for junior supporters to start the day's enjoyment.



A GOOD following of Junior Hatters supported the team at Lincoln, and Ryan Carney, 14, who plays for the Junior Hatters and regularly attends our Saturday Club, was our mascot at Sincil Bank. He is pictured making sure the Luton Town colours get a good show before kick-off.





# club secretary



AS PART of our determination to keep the pitch at Kenilworth Road in as good a condition as possible, our mid-winter reserve team matches are again switching to Top Field this year, and the first of the season at Hitchin will be our match against Colchester in the Avon Insurance Combination League on December 14.

WHAT a month it has been for Phil Gray.

We report on page 33 on his lethal efforts to

spearhead our surge into the quarter-finals

of the Worthington Cup and the second

round of the FA Cup. After disposing of

Barnsley, he got just the draw he wanted in

the Worthington Cup - away to Sunderland, the club he joined after his first spell with us.

And Northern Ireland recognised his return to top form after last season's injury

problems by recalling him to the squad to

play Moldova in Belfast ten days ago. Phil

won his first cap soon after coming to

Kenilworth Road, in 1993, and by the time

he was transferred to Sunderland he had

collected three more. He earned his 20th as

a player with Nancy, against Germany in a

reckoning as injuries chipped away at his

form, but now he is established again, after

going on as sub for QPR's Keith Rowland in

Northern Ireland's 2-2 draw with Moldova.

Congratulations, Phil, from everyone at

CONGRATULATIONS also to two or our

younger players. Gary Doherty has been

called up again for the Republic of Ireland under-18 squad, and celebrated with the

first senior goal of his career, at Lincoln.

Sean Evers has been in Italy this week, as

one of the Nationwide League's under-21

squad taking on their Italian counterparts.

World Cup qualifier in August last year. For more than 12 months he was out of the

We are very grateful to Hitchin Town for helping us out again, and I am sure our supporters will understand that the minor inconvenience of games eight miles away is worthwhile - just ask our

first team players what a difference a good pitch can make to the way we play football at Luton Town!

Admission is a modest £2 for adults, and £1 for junior and senior citizens.

It hardly seems possible that Christmas is getting near again, and supporters might like advance information about our annual Christmas Carol service at St. Mary's Parish Church, Luton. It was well-attended last year, but we hope there will be an even bigger turn-out for Christmas 98. It will be at the Parish Church on Thursday December 17, starting at 7.30, and we hope supporters will attend, and support charity at the same time. Tickets are available at our ticket office, and while there is no charge we hope you will make a donation. Proceeds will be shared by St. Mary's Church and the local children's hospice.

Talking of tickets, if you want to watch our Worthington Cup quarter-final at Sunderland on Tuesday it is worthwhile booking in advance at our ticket office. Sales will end at 4 pm on Monday, but if you pay on the night at the Stadium of Light it will cost you more.

Finally, I apologise to supporters who gave donations to the local poppy appeal at our last home match. I wanted to tell you how much was raised by the bucket collection, but having talked to the organisers several times I have been unable to get a figure from them.

Cherry Newberry



Kenilworth Road.

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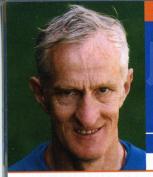
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## ohn Moore & Trevor Hartley reserves



# youth





#### **Kempston Rov 0 Luton Town 3**

WE BROUGHT in some of our promising youth players for the second round of the Bedfordshire Senior Cup at Kempston, and took part in an enjoyable match which we might have won by a wider margin.

We were three up at the interval, but could not add to the goals in the second half, when we sent on three more youth team players as subs - Matthew Taylor, Darren Howe and Clifford Akurang.

The experience will stand them in good stead, and it was also an occasion to be reminded that competitive football is also about sporting friendship.

Referee Iain Knight of Flitwick had an excellent game, and Kempston were very good hosts. After the match we all enjoyed getting together for a reception they laid on. Our goals came from Jimmy Cox, Tresor Kandol and Lee Lough, who hit a spectacular shot from outside the box. **Luton Town:** Tate, Lawes, Clarke, Lough (Taylor HT), Boyce, Ayres, Scarlett (Howe HT), Cox (Akurang HT), Kandol, Bacque, Jerry.

#### Norwich City 6 Luton Town 0

KNOWING that reserves would have to be on stand-by for the league game at Lincoln, we fielded an understrength team at Carrow Road. With the first team losing Graham Alexander and Steve Davis, the bulk of our usual defence was missing.

The game was played on a crusty pitch, but there were no excuses for the hammering we suffered, easily our worst defeat of the season in the Avon Insurance Combination.

There were some very weak individual performances, but once in a while an experience like this can help players to get off cloud nine and come back down to earth. The team performance was not good enough, and we wanted more from the more senior players on duty. The pitch called for players to be brave in the tackle and confident in their passing, but we failed on both counts. We were four down at half-time, but regained a little self-respect in the second half.

On the positive side, Paul Showler began his latest comeback as a sub for Paul McLaren, but he spoiled the occasion by being booked. Kofi Nyamah did his chances no good by being booked twice, and thus being sent off for the second time this season.

**Luton Town:** Abbey, Clarke (Boyce HT), Nyamah, Lough, Willmott, Ayres, Bacque, Cox, Fotiadis, McLaren (Showler HT), McIndoe (Lawes 70 mins)

Appearances, including as sub, (goals in brackets): Abbey 13, Akurang 1, Ayres 2, Bacque 12 (1 + 1 pen), Boyce 10, Clarke 10, Cox 8 (1), Davies 11, Doherty 9 (3), Douglas 1 (1), Fotiadis 9 (7), Fraser 4 (1), Jerry 1, Kandol 4 (3), Lawes 8, Lough 7 (1), Lawes 1, Lopez 1, McIndoe 4, McKoy 1, McLaren 4 (1), Minton 1, Nyamah 11 (2), Scarlett 12 (2), Showler 4, Sylla 2, Sweeney 4, Tate 1, Thomas 2, White 6 (5), Willmott 12 (1).

#### **Avon Insurance Combination**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Charlton	9	7	1	1	17	7	22
Watford	10	6	3	1	22	6	21
Peterborough	10	7	0	3	25	13	21
Southampton	10	6	1	3	23	10	19
<b>Luton Town</b>	12	5 -	4	3	20	21	19
Fulham	9	5	3	1	19	9	18
QPR	10	5	3 3	2 3	18	9	18
Norwich	11	5	3	3	14	7	18
Ipswich	10	5	3	2 4 5	16	13	18
Tottenham	10	6	0	4	14	11	18
C. Palace	11	4	2 2 2		27	25	14
Portsmouth	10	4	2	4	18	19	14
Brighton	9	4		3	10	16	14
Arsenal	8	4	1	3	16	11	13
Wimbledon	11	3	4	4	15	16	.13
Chelsea	9	4	1	4	10	11	13
Bournemouth	10	4	1	5	17	20	13
West Ham	8	3	3	2 3 5	15	11	12
Northampton	9	3	3	3	9	8	12
Oxford Utd	9	4	0	5	13	16	12
Barnet	9	3	2 3	4	13	23	11
Milwall	9	2 2 2 2	3	4	11	11	9
Cambridge	9	2	3	4	10	21	9
Reading	10	2	2	6	15	22	8
Colchester	11	2	1.	8	10	24	7
Brentford	7	1	3 .	3	10	1.3	6
Gillingham	9	1	2	6	7	17	5
Swindon	9	1	1	7	8	20	7 6 5 4 4
Wycombe	8	1	1	. 6	6	18	4

#### Avon Insurance Combination League Fixtures - Season 1998/99

TWO MORE victories in the league and another in the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup have kept the momentum going nicely for us on two fronts. We have lost only once in the South East Counties League, on the first day of the season, and our only other defeat in 19 games played so far was in the FA Youth Cup.

#### **Bournemouth 1 Luton Town 2**

THE SIGNS were not very encouraging when we set off at 7.30 am for our league game at Bournemouth on Saturday. Injuries kept five regulars out, including both goalkeepers, Daniel Tate and Scott Ward, and skipper James Ayres was rested after playing for the reserves twice in four days. But a very young side did well, especially goalkeeper Graham Wraight, from Stevenage, on his debut. Darren Howe took over as skipper, and helped to hold it together at the back.

We made a bright start, but missed chances before taking a 43rd-minute lead. Alex Minton set Tresor Kandol free with a long pass, and TK controlled the ball and played it on for Moses Jerry to hammer a left-foot drive into the top corner for his first goal of the season.

A good free kick by Bournemouth enabled them to equalise just before the break, but we produced an excellent one of our own for the winner after 53 minutes.

It was all the more satisfying because it punished an offence which we felt was a clear red card job. Anthony Hudson had broken clear, and the goalkeeper came out of his area and leaped high to save with his hands as the ball was lofted towards the net. The ref let the keeper off with a caution but we had the last word with a rehearsed free kick routine. Minton, Hudson and Matthew Taylor clustered around the ball, feinting to play it in turn, before Taylor shot the free kick straight into the net with a superb strike to give us a hard-fought but well deserved win.

**Luton Town:** Wraight, Mentore, Howe, Moran, Taylor, Akurang, Minton, Hudson, Carroll (Clarke 70 mins), Jerry, Kandol. Unused sub Langrish..

#### **Luton Town 3 Northampton 1**

THIS WAS our first outing under the Kenilworth Road floodlights since the night we were overcome by nerves and tension and surprisingly lost to Colchester in the FA Youth Cup.

We learned the lessons, and there was never much danger of us making the same mistakes in the second round of the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup.

Tresor Kandol continued his impressive scoring record with two more goals, and fellow striker Clifford Akurang got the other. **Luton Town:** Tate, Moran (Mortara 70 mins), Taylor, Minton, Ayres, Howe, Hudson, Akurang, Kandol, Thomas (Mansell 57 mins), Jerry. Unused sub Stirling.

#### **Luton Town 2 Barnet 0**

TWIN strikers Clifford Akurang and Tresor Kandol shared the goals as we maintained our unbeaten home record at Luton RFC. **Luton Town:** Ward, Stirling, Taylor, Minton, Ayres, Howe, Moran, Akurang, Kandol, Carroll (Mortara 70 mins), Jerry. Unused subs Tate. Hudson.

Youth team appearances, including as subs (goals in brackets):
Akurang 16 (6), Ayres 16 (1), Carroll 5, Clarke 3 (2), Crane 3 (2),
Dolby 2, Dollin 6, Harrington 3 (1), Hammond 2, Howe 19,
Hudson 5, Jerry 16 (1), Kandol 18 (13), Mansell 3 (1), McKoy 13
(3), Mentore 3, Minton 19, Moran 12, Mortara 3, Orchard 1, Plant
1, Stirling 17 (1), Tate 16, Taylor 17 (3), Thomas 11 (1), Tyson 11
(2), Ward 2, Wraight 1.

#### **SE Counties League**

#### South East Counties League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	
<b>Luton Town</b>	16	12	3	1	37	13	39	
Brentford	15	9	3	3	32	16	30	
Portsmouth	16	7	5	4	23	21	26	
Wycombe	15	6	6	3	20	17	24	
L. Orient	15	6	5	4	22	19	23	
Bristol Rov	16	6	4	6	29	23	22	
Barnet	15	6	3	6	12	14	21	
Reading	16	4	8	4	19	20	20	
Brighton	14	5	4	5	20	21	19	
Bournemouth	13	6	1	6	17	21	19	
Oxford	15	5	4	6	15	20	19	
Gillingham	14	4	3	7	18	22	15	
Swindon	16	4	3	9	16	24	15	
Southend	16	4	2	10	21	31	14	
Cambridge	14	3	5	6	20	31	14	
Colchester	16	4	1	11	17	25	13	

#### Youth Team Fixtures

Sal	UO	August	brendord	M	2-4
Sat	15		AFC Bournemouth	H	4-2
Sat	22		Brighton & Hove Albion	A	0-0
Sat	29		Bristol Rovers	H	3-1
Sat	05	September	Oxford United	A	3-0
Sat	07		Swindon (SJFCP)	Н	2-0
Sat	12		Reading	H	2-2
Sat	19		Wycombe Wanderers	A	1-0
Sat	26		Gillingham	Н	2-2
Sat	03	October	Leyton Orient	A	3-0
Sat	10		Portsmouth	Н	3-0
Sat	17		Cambridge United	A	4-0
Tue	21	October	Colchester (FAYC)	Н	0-1
Sat	24		Colchester United	H	2-0
Sat	31		Southend United	Н	3-1
Sat	07	November	Swindon	A	1-0
Wed	11		Northampton (SJFC1)	Н	3-1
Sat	14		Barnet	H	2-0
Sat	21		AFC Bournemouth	Α	2-1
Sat	28		<b>Brighton &amp; Hove Albion</b>	Н	
Sat	05	December	Barnet	A	
Sat	12		Brentford	Н	
Sat	02	January	Bristol Rovers	A	
Sat	09		Oxford United	Н	
Sat	16		Reading	A	
Sat	23		Wycombe Wanderers	Н	
Sat	30		Gillingham	A	
Sat	06	February	Leyton Orient	H	
Sat	13		Portsmouth	A	
Sat	20		Cambridge United	Н	
Sat	27		Colchester United	Α	
Sat	06	March	Southend United	A	
Sat	13		Swindon Town	н	

CR

Critical Research - Main Sponsors of Luton Town Youth Team

#### How Clubs have scored goals... and conceded them see key below H CR OR V FK P IB OG H CR OB V FK P IB OG 4 2 6 2 0 4 4 1 6 4 2 5 2 0 3 10 5 1 0 3 8 0 2 6 0 0 8 0 Burnley Colchester United 4 4 3 6 0 3 3 0 5 3 3 0 1 0 5 1 2 2 0 3 0 0 10 1 **Luton Town** Manchester City 4 2 1 2 0 3 6 0 2 2 1 3 3 0 Northampton Town 6 0 3 4 0 2 3 2 Notts County 6 3 3 2 1 0 9 0 **Oldham Athletic** 8 9 4 4 1 0 4 0 1 0 0 0 5 1 7 4 4 1 0 3 4 1 7 6 1 3 0 1 3 0 Reading 11 4 2 2 0 3 6 1 Walsall 6 7 3 2 0 0 6 0 7 5 4 4 0 2 4 3 3 5 3 1 0 2 6 2 Vigan Athletic Wrexham 7 5 0 4 0 1 10 0 4 1 3 3 0 1 6 1 1 0 3 2 2 4 10 0 15 3 0 4 0 2 7 1 **York City**

Key H = Header; CR = Close Range; OB = Outside Box; V = Volley; FK = Free Kick; P = Penalty; IB = Inside Box; OG = Own Goal

#### 1998-99 Season Division Two Campaign Records

Highest/Lowest Gates 32,134 Man City v Blackpool 8-Aug 2,634 York v Gillingham 15-Aug

**Highest Aggregate Scores** Preston 3-4 Stoke 22-Aug

Lincoln 3-4 Preston 29-Aug

Bristol Rovers 3-4 Walsall 31-Oct

**Biggest Home Win** 

Wigan 5-0 York 31-Oct

Bournemouth 5-0 Burnley 21-Nov

### **Biggest Away Win**

Colchester 0-4 Burnley 9-Oct

**Consecutive Wins** Fulham, Stoke 6

**Games Unbeaten** Gillingham 12

**Consecutive Defeats** 

Lincoln 6

Games without a Win

Wycombe 12

Key: PU = Players Used; GF = Goals For; GA = Goals Against; CS = Clean Sheets; LP = Lowest position; HP = Highest Position

Div	isic	on T	Two	Sta	itist	ics,	Club by Club			
see key above	PU	GF	GA	CS	LP	HP	<b>Leading Scorer</b>	Lge	WC	FA
Bournemouth	19	29	19	7	11	2	Stein	10	5	1
Blackpool	24	24	23	5	23	3	Aldridge	6	2	1
<b>Bristol Rovers</b>	20	22	23	6	15	6	Hayles	9	1	0
Burnley	31	21	30	2	20	7	Payton	10	1	2
Chesterfield	22	18	12	8	20	6	Howard	5	1	0
<b>Colchester United</b>	23	19	23	2	20	2	Gregory D	3	2	0
Fulham	25	28	13	9	8	1	Lehmann/Peschisolic	lo 2/4	2/1	1/
Gillingham	23	28	18	7	22	5	Asaba	10	0	0
Lincoln City	21	18	34	3	24	14	Battersby	5	1	0
Luton Town	22	23	18	6	12	2	Gray	5	3	2
<b>Macclesfield Town</b>	21	17	24	3	24	20	McDonald/Wood/Smit	h2/2/3	1/1/0	0
<b>Manchester City</b>	27	23	18	6	14	1	Goater	8	2	1
Millwall	25	19	21	6	14	5	Shaw	7	1	0
<b>Northampton Town</b>	28	17	22	3	22	14	Corazzin	7	0	0
Notts County	27	21	24	3	17	5	Hendon	5	0	0
<b>Oldham Athletic</b>	25	17	30	3	23	14	Allott	3	1	0
Preston North End	19	32	17	8	7	1	Nogan	7	0	0
Reading	30	21	24	6	23	10	Williams	9	0	C
Stoke City	20	29	15	9	4	1	Kavanagh/Crowe	5/6	1/0	(
Walsall	24	29	24	7	11	2	Rammell	9	1	0
Wigan Athletic	23	22	18	7	23	10	Barlow	8	1	1
Wrexham	20	19	27	5	17	2	Connolly	4	1	C
<b>Wycombe Wanderer</b>	\$ 25	16	25	5	24	19	Scott	3	0	
York City	20	22	32	3	24	8	Cresswell	9	0	2

#### **Yellow & Red Cards**

	Yellov	v R	ed		.Pts
<b>Bristol Rovers</b>	35		7.		.56
Burnley	40		3.		.49
<b>Wycombe Wanderers</b>	40		3.		.49
Millwall	37		3.		.46
Lincoln City	36		3.		.45
Gillingham	32		4.	١	.44
Wigan Athletic	40		0.		40
Northampton Town	35		1.		38
Manchester City	28		3.		37
Oldham Athletic	25		4.		37
Luton Town	26		3.		35
Blackpool	34				
Chesterfield	25		3.		34
Walsall	25		3.		34
Preston North End	21		4.		33
Wrexham	27		2.		33
Macclesfield Town	22		3.		31
Reading	25		2.		31
Stoke City	29		0.		29
York City	19		3.		28
AFC Bournemouth	23		1.		26
Notts County	22		1.		25
Colchester United	. 22		0.		22
Fulham	16.		0.		16

#### **Current Sequences**

Consecutive Wins

Fulham 6

**Games Unbeaten** 

Gillingham 12 **Consecutive Defeats** 

**Burnley 3** 

Games without a Win

York 8

#### Div. 2 Attendance Details

	lighest	Lowest	Average
<b>Manchester City</b>	32,134	24,291	27,351
Stoke City	15,002	10,557	12,648
Reading	18,108	7,914	11,165
Fulham	14,284	7,447	10,761
Preston North E.	15,888	8,656	10,750
Burnley	11,781	8,526	10,012
Millwall	12,726	4,249	6,930
<b>Bristol Rovers</b>	7,529	5,361	6,307
Northampton T.	7,557	5,210	6,207
Notts County	10,316	4,445	6,140
Oldham Athletic	12,976	4,231	6,010
Bournemouth	6,956	5,151	5,974
Blackpool	10,868	3,849	5,613
Luton Town	6,087	5,005	5,510
Gillingham	6,093	4,575	5,388
Wycombe Wndrs	8,129	3,361	4,778
Colchester United	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	3,597	4,628
Lincoln City	7,338	2,949	4,572
Chesterfield	5,426	3,681	4,255
Wigan Athletic	6,700	2,784	4,174
Walsall	5,802	3,098	4,156
Wrexham	7,290	2,766	4,058
Macclesfield T.	6,381	2,794	3,614
York City	3,780	2,634	3,019

Services Telephone: 0151-632 5679

## second division scene



TWO precious goals did more than earn us a valuable point at Lincoln - they also pushed us up one place in the Second Division, back into the play-off zone.

5

10

23

17 11

15 16

6

4 14

We were level on points with today's visitors, but behind them on goals scored. And while we were drawing at Sincil Bank, Manchester City were also collecting one point, but in a goalless draw at home to Gillingham, so from being one goal behind the Blues we kick off today one to the good.

We also have two home games in hand, but the dream of automatic promotion is beginning to look a very tall order for everyone in the Second Division except Stoke and Fulham. They were winners again last week, and the chasing group all lost ground.

At Stoke the Little brothers were in opposition, with Brian's league leaders beating Alan's York City. David Oldfield got the clincher in a 2-0 Stoke win, his second goal since he put his first of the season past Kelvin Davis earlier in the month.

Stoke have now won four on the trot, but moneybags Fulham have an even better recent

ARE YOU a Manchester City fan living in this part of the country? Are you interested in reduced travel costs to City matches? Can you play pool, darts or football? If so, Manchester City Supporters Club London Branch would love to hear from you. For more information, exiled Blues are invited to contact either Andy Cleaver on 0181 509 2981 or Carol Darvill on 0161 440 0788.

Stoke

Fulham

Walsall

Preston

Gillingham

Man City

Millwall

Blackpool Reading Wigan

Colchester

Bristol Roy

Notts Co.

Wrexham

York City

Macclesfield

Northampton

19 3 2

19 3 2 5

Burnley

Oldham

Lincoln

Wycombe

Chesterfield Bournemouth

**Luton Town** 

The Second Division

HOME

11 10 3

10 11 2 2 6

11 15 1 2 6

12 11 0 4 5

18 2 1 6 13 18 1 2 6 5 16 12

record - six consecutive victories since we stuffed them at Craven Cottage.

Their latest recruit is Barry Hayles, Bristol Rovers could hardly turn down £2million for a man who cost them £250,000 from Stevenage two years ago. The striker has nine goals to his credit for Rovers this season, but Paul Peschisolido netted both of Fulham's in a 2-1 home win over Chesterfield. Hayles was subbed after 71 minutes. Chesterfield boast the meanest defence in the division, but their attack away from home has been less than impressive: Jon Howard's reply at Craven Cottage was only their second away goal of the season.

The division's leading scorer is Mark Stein, who took his tally to 16 with two in Bournemouth's 5-0 drubbing of Burnley. Steve Davis's old pals are going through the mill at the moment: their four defeats in a row include an FA Cup humiliation against Third Division Darlington. There, Andy Payton scored twice, then got sent off, and watched helplessly as Darlington netted three

Colchester responded much differently to a cup shock: having been dumped out by non-league Bedlington Terriers, they managed a 3-1 win at Notts County, David Greene headed two from corners and the former Town defender has now netted four in four games.

And talking of men who have played for us and are now doing well, Graeme Tomlinson shot the

equaliser in Macclesfield's 1-1 home draw with Walsall. He deserves a spot of luck - we took him on loan from Manchester United at the tail end of the 1996/97 season, and on his full debut for us he suffered a double fracture of the right leg in a defeat at Port Vale. That effectively ended his Old Trafford dreams, and after loan spells at Bournemouth and Millwall last season he joined Macclesfield on a free transfer in the summer.

#### Today's other Second Division fixtures

Bristol Rovers v Oldham **Burnley v Blackpool** Chesterfield v Macclesfield Colchester v Millwall Gillingham v Fulham Preston v Wigan **Reading v Lincoln** Walsall v Bournemouth Wrexham v Notts County Wycombe v Stoke York v Northampton

Sat	08	AUGUST	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	Α	3.00pm	1-0 (S	. Davis)	5,252
TUES	11	WC1(1)	OXFORD UNITED	Н	7.45pm	2-3 (4	Alexander 2p)	3,165
SAT	15		PRESTON NORTH END	Н	3.00pm		Marshall)	5,392
TUES	18	WC1(2)	OXFORD UNITED	Α	7.45pm		Gray, Evers, McLaren)	5,099
SAT	22		READING	Α	3.00pm	0-3		18,108
SAT	29		COLCHESTER UNITED	Н	3.00pm		. Davis, Douglas)	5,005
MON	31		WIGAN ATHLETIC	Α	3.00pm		. Davis, Evers, Gray)	3778
SAT	05	SEPTEMBER	BURNLEY	Н	3.00pm			5,554
TUES	08		WREXHAM	A	7.45pm		McKinnon)	2,951
SAT	12	11100(4)	BRISTOL ROVERS	H			S. Davis, Alexander	
TUES	15	WC2(1)	IPSWICH TOWN	A	7.45pm		Douglas)	9,032
SAT	19	11160(0)	BLACKPOOL	H	3.00pm 7 <b>.45pm</b>	0-1	4 5 D 4 C D 4 L	5,695
TUES	22	WC2(2)	IPSWICH TOWN	н	3.00pm	0-1	otiadis, Douglas S. Davis, Johnso	5,530
SAT	<b>26</b> 03	OCTOBER	<b>WALSALL</b> FULHAM	A	3.00pm		Gray, Douglas, Davis	
SAT	10	OCTOBER	YORK CITY	A	3.00pm		Douglas, Evers, Gray)	
SAT	17		OLDHAM ATHLETIC	н	3.00pm		Gray, Scarlett)	5,447
TUES	20		NORTHAMPTON TOWN	Н	7.45pm		Alexander)	6,087
SAT	24		GILLINGHAM	Α	3.00pm	0-1	пелапаст	5,602
TUES	27	WC3	COVENTRY	Н	7:45pm		Gray, S. Davis)	9,051
SAT	31	1165	CHESTERFIELD	Н	3.00pm	(postp	oned)	,
SAT	07	NOVEMBER	STOKE CITY	A			Douglas)	12,964
TUES	10	WC4	BARNSLEY	Н	7.45pm			8,453
TUES	10		NOTTS COUNTY	Н	7.45pm	(postp	oned)	
SUN	15	FACUP(R1)	BOREHAM WOOD	A	1.00pm	3-2 (	Gray 2, S. Davis)	1,772
SAT	21		LINCOLN CITY	A		2-2 (	Gray, Doherty)	4,893
SAT	28		MANCHESTER CITY	Н	3.00pm			
TUES	01	<b>DECEMBER WC5</b>	SUNDERLAND	Α	7.45pm			
SAT	05	FA CUP (R2)	HULL CITY	Н	3.00pm			
SAT	12		MACCLESFIELD TOWN	A	3.00pm			
SAT	19		MILLWALL	Н	3.00pm			
SAT	26		READING	H	12 noor	1		
MON	28		A.F.C BOURNEMOUTH	A	3.00pm			
SAT	02	JANUARY (Da)	COLCHESTER UNITED	Α	3.00pm		TODAY'	SRFF
		or FA CUP (R3)						
TUES	05	AWS(2)	T M/ANIDEDEDS	Н	3.00pm		<b>FOOTBALL</b>	is just
SAT	09	1999 WYCOMB	PRESTON NORTH END	A	3.00pm		the sporting	
SAT	16 <b>23</b>		WIGAN ATHLETIC	н	3.00pm			
SAT	23	or FA CUP (R4)	WIGAN ATTIEFTIC		3.00pm		Bates, tod	lay's r
WED	27	WC SF(1)					His hobbies	s are w
SAT	30	VVC SI(I)	A.F.C BOURNEMOUTH	Н	3.00pm			
SAT	06	FEBRUARY	BURNLEY	Α	3.00pm		speedway	and
SAT	13	1 EDITO/ III	WREXHAM	Н	3.00pm		cricket. It	was
5711		or FA CUP (R5)			•		weather th	
WED	17	WC SF(2) or AWS	S SF					
SAT	20		BRISTOL ROVERS	Α	3.00pm		met him -	Mr B
SAT	27		BLACKPOOL	Н	3.00pm		production	manag
SAT	06	MARCH	WALSALL	Α	3.00pm			
		or FA CUP (R6)					Stoke, was	
TUES	09		FULHAM	Н	7.45pm		season, at	Wycom
		or AWS (AF1)						
SAT	13		STOKE CITY	Н	3.00pm		He has bee	
WED	17	AWS (AF2)			2.00		and a Foo	otball I
SAT	20		CHESTERFIELD	Α	3.00pm		linesman fo	or the F
SUN	21	WC FINAL			2.00			
SAT	27	L BBIL OL BULLL	GILLINGHAM	H	3.00pm		sampled th	e big o
SAT	03			A H	3.00pm		Wembley a	it the 1
TUES	06		YORK CITY	А	7.45pm 3.00pm			
SAT	10		NORTHAMPTON TOWN	A	3.00pm		1996 FA C	
SUN	11	FA CUP SF	MANICHESTED CITY	Α	7.45pm	,	linesman fo	or the
WED	14		MANCHESTER CITY	H	3.00pm			
SAT	17		LINCOLN CITY	- 11	3.00pm		match.	
SUN	18		NOTTS COUNTY	Α	3.00pm	1		
SAT	24 <b>01</b>			Ĥ	3.00pm			
SAT	08		MILLWALL	Α	3.00pm			
SAT	22		THILLY W/ LL	, (	3.000			
3/11	22	TACOL LINAME						

**TODAY'S REFEREE** FOOTBALL is just one of the sporting loves of Tony Bates, today's referee. His hobbies are watching speedway and playing cricket. It was cricket weather the last time we met him - Mr Bates, a production manager from Stoke, was in charge of our first game of the season, at Wycombe in early August. He has been a class one referee for 11 years, and a Football League ref for two. As a linesman for the Premiership and FIFA he has sampled the big occasions, running the line at Wembley at the 1995 Charity Shield and the 1996 FA Cup final, and at Euro 96 he was linesman for the Germany v Czech Republic

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S. Davis White McLaren Evers Douglas Spring McKinnon S. Davis Johnson Evers . Davis lohnson McKinnon Evers Alexander McGowan Spring S. Davis Johnson McKinnon Evers Alexander McGowan Spring S Davis Johnson McKinnon Evers S. Davis White Alexander McGowan Spring McKinnon Evers S. Davis Johnson Cox Evers K. Davis Alexander McGowan Spring S. Davis Johnson Cox Alexander McGowan Spring S. Davis Johnson McKinnon Evers K. Davis Alexander McGowan Spring S Davis Johnson McKinnon K. Davis Alexander McGowan Spring Davis Johnson McKinnon S. Davis Johnson McKinnon Spring S. Davis Johnson McKinnon Spring S. Davis Johnson McKinnon S. Davis Johnson Evers S. Davis Johnson Evers Spring

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Evers Douglas Gray McIndoe Scarlett for McIndoe 67, White for McKinnon 69, Fotiadis for Douglas 74 Evers Douglas Gray McIndoe White for Spring 81 Fotiadis for Douglas 81 Unused: Scarlett McKinnon Douglas Gray McGowan Fotiadis for McGowan 71, White for McKinnon 75. Unused: McLaren McKinnon Douglas Gray McGowan Fotiadis for Douglas 89. Unused: White Abbey McIndoe McLaren

S. Davis Johnson KcKinnon Evers Douglas Gray 5. Davis Johnson Evers McKinnon Douglas Gray McIndoe

K. Davis Alexander McGowanMcLaren S. Davis Johnson KcKinnon Evers Douglas Gray Nyamah K. Davis McGowan Thomas Spring White Johnson McKinnon Evers Douglas Gray Davies

Thomas for Gray 56; Fotiadis for Douglas 72; Bacque for George 79. McIndoe for George 45; Bacque for Douglas 72; Unused: Thomas McIndoe Fotiadis for Douglas 73 Thomas for McIndoe 81. Unused: Bacque. McIndoe Bacque for Douglas 72. Unused: Thomas Cox McIndoe Fotiadis for Douglas 62 Thomas for McKinnon 89, Unused: Marshall, McIndoe Fotiadis for Douglas 77 Bacque for Cox 82. Unused: Abbey Thomas White McIndoe Marshall for Douglas 68 Bacque for Gray 84. Thomas for McIndoe 88 Douglas Fotiadis Marshall Cox for Marshall 66; Bacque for Fotiadis 73; White for McKinnon 78. Unused Abbey, McIndoe Evers Douglas Fotiadis Cox Gray for Douglas 60 McIndoe for Cox 67 White for Spring 87 Evers Douglas Gray McGowan Cox for McGowan 86, Fotiadis for Douglas 87. Unused: White Douglas Gray McIndoe White for McKinnon 75, Cox for Douglas 84, Unused: Fotiadis

McLaren for Thomas 30; George for Marshall 71; McIndoe for Gray 78. Unused: Abbey, White

George for Bacque 71; McGowan for Marshall 81, Unused: White

McLaren for McKinnon 69; George for Bacqué 69; White for McGowan 85.

McKinnon for Marshall 10; George for McLaren 15; Thomas for Douglas 62.

George for Douglas 84; McKinnon for Marshall 90. Unused: White, Abbey, Bacqué

McLaren for Thomas 43, Doherty for Spring 70. Unused: White McLaren for McKinnon 56, Nyamah for McIndoe 57, White for Douglas 82. Unused: Abbey Scarlett

McIndoe for Nyamah 62, Doherty for Douglas 66, Spring for McKinnon 89. Unused: White, Abbey Doherty for Davies 64, McLaren for Spring 70, Unused McIndoe

TOWN players will be mixing with fans on Thursday, at the annual Christmas fun quiz run by Luton Town Supporters Club. It starts at 7.30, in the Eric Morecambe Suite, and because it is always one of the most popular events of the year entry is by ticket only. You can go as part of a quiz team, or become a member of a team to be put together on the night. Tickets are £3 to LTSC members, £4 to others, and are available from the Supporters' Club kiosk, before and after today's match, until sold out.

#### Hatters Roll-Call 1998/99

			Appea	rance	S	Goals					
	League	WC	FAC	AWS	Total	League	WC	FAC	AWS	Total	
Alexander	16	6	1	0	23	2	2p	0	0	4(2p)	
Bacque	2(4)	1(2)	0	0	3(6)	0	0	0	0	0	
Cox	2(2)	1(1)	0	0	3(3)	0	0	0	0	0	
K. Davis	17	6	1	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	
S. Davis	16	6	1	0	23	5	2	1	0	8	
Davies	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	8 0 7	
Douglas	15	5	1	0	21	5	2	0	0	7	
Doherty	0(2)	0	(1)	0	0(3)	1	0	0	0	1	
Evers	17	6	1	0	24	2	1	0	0	3	
Fotiadis	1(7)	1(1)	0	0	2(8)	0	1	0	0	1	
Gray	16(1)	5	1	0	22(1)	5	3	2	0	10	
George	2(3)	0(2)	0	0	2(5)	0	0	0	0	0	
Johnson	15	6	1	0	22	0	1	0	0	1	
Marshall	3(1)	3	0	0	6(1)	1	0	0	0	1	
McGowan	13(1)	6	1	0	20(1)	0	0	0	0	0	
McIndoe	7(2)	2(1)	(1)	0	9(4)	0	0	0	0	0	
McKinnon	15(1)	3(1)	1	0	19(2)	1	0	0	0	1	
McLaren	1(2)	1(2)	1 .	0	3(4)	0	1	0	0	1	
Nyamah	0	(1)	1	0	1(1)	0	0	0	0	0	
Scarlett	0(1)	0	0	0	0(1)	1	0	0	0	1	
Spring	17	6	(1)	0	23(1)	0	0	0	0	0	
Thomas	8(5)	2	0	0	10(5)	0	0	0	0	0	
White	3(6)	0(2)	0	0	3(8)	0	0	0	. 0	0	



## The



#### Luton Town v Manchester City

Kelvin Davis 1.

Graham Alexander 2.

Gavin McGowan 3.

Matthew Spring 4.
Steve Davis 5.

Marvin Johnson 6.

Sean Evers 7.

Ray McKinnon 8. Stuart Douglas 9.

Phil Gray 10.

Simon Davies 11.

Alan White 12.

Gary Doherty 13.

Paul McLaren 14.

1. Nick Weaver

2. Lee Crooks

3. Tony Vaughan

4. Gerard Wiekens

5. Andy Morrison

6. Ian Bishop

7. Gary Mason

8. Jamie Pollock

9. Shaun Goater

10. Michael Branch

11. Craig Russell

12. Michael Brown

13. Paul Dickov

14. Danny Tiatto

Referee: Tony Bates, Stoke

Assistants: E. A. King, Newmarket (yellow flag) R. G. Smith, Chelmsford (yellow & red flag) Reserve official: F. J. Fender, Milton Keynes



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