



Saturday 13 February 1999 Kick Off 3pm Official matchday programme. Price £1.80









welcome to kenilworth road

Luton Town Football Club

1 Maple Road, Luton

Main Reception

Ticket Office

Clubcall

Honours **Littlewoods Cup**

FA Cup

Simod Cup

Division 2

Division 3 (S)

Division 4

Official Matchday Programme

Brian Swain

Wolff Evans

Gareth Owen

Brian Swain reports

A GAME of soccer "musical chairs" Lennie Lawrence was trying to orchestrate last week did not quite go according to plan, which is why Tony Thorpe has not re-signed for us on loan. He has gone to Reading instead, but that does not mean that he may not be back before the end of the season.

In Sean Dyche and Gerry Harrison we have the maximum two loan players allowed at any one time, and both have impressed enough to have their loans extended into a second month, and to win public acknowledgement from the manager that he would like them both to sign full contracts.

But money, of course, comes into the equation at a club which cannot make ends meet in a ground where even regular full houses would not pay the bills.

Dyche and Harrison have both settled in well, and Lennie was hoping to tie up a deal with Sunderland for Harrison last week, as Thorpe neared the end of a week's training with us. Thorpe was keen to come back on loan, and Bristol City were ready to agree.

Harrison left Burnley last summer - to the evident dismay of their fans who gave him a tremendous reception at Turf Moor last week - on a free transfer, as he was entitled to do under the Bosman ruling.

The trouble with "free" in this respect is that it is not quite what it sounds. Footballers who have completed their contracts and are good enough to attract other clubs can negotiate their own deals, and signing-on fees replace transfer fees that would otherwise be paid to the clubs they are leaving.

Sunderland paid money for Harrison, and although he has not figured in their surge to the First Division championship, they want to recoup it. Rightly, neither they nor the Town will divulge details of the personal agreement between Harrison and Sunderland.

Lennie is well aware of the Town's financial restraints, and having failed to persuade Sunderland to offer the sort of deal he wants, Harrison had to stay on the loan list for the time being.

Reading, meanwhile, desperate to bounce back into the First Division, made contact with Thorpe on Thursday, and offered first team football immediately. Not surprisingly, the 24-year-old, whose career seemed to be stagnating after fees totalling £2m took him from Luton to Fulham and on to Bristol City, felt he had to accept that offer, and not wait to see what, if anything, might develop at Kenilworth Road.

Said Lawrence: "I need time to negotiate on Harrison's move, and I was not going to be rushed into anything just to get Thorpe in - that would be crisis management. He enjoyed being back with us, and I wished him good luck at Reading. If it doesn't work out there maybe we can pick it up again later."

Bristol City, meanwhile, are understood to be looking for around £200,000 for Dyche, who has been an instant hit with Town fans. Some of us see a Terry Branston there, a natural no-nonsense professional leader.

And perhaps - very much a personal view this - the future of Graham Alexander might come into the various transfer equations.

Signed by Terry Westley from Scunthorpe for £100,000 in the summer of 1995, his contract expires at the end of the season. So far he has been unable to agree terms for a new deal, and as is his right he could, if he wished, allow the current one to wind



RISING STAR: Gary Doherty, 19, who grabbed his chances in the Town attack while Phil Grav was out of action, scoring against Bournemouth. then going on as a sub and hitting the winner at Burnley.

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down and then leave on a Bosman, as David Oldfield and Darren Patterson did last summer.

It's potentially a gamble in which a player backs his own judgement as to his true worth, It's a short career, and any player worth his salt is bound to do the best he can for himself and his family. Likewise a manager does the best he can for his club. And we are approaching the time of year when managers hoping for promotion, or worrying about relegation, look around to strengthen their teams. The Town know that Alexander, 27, has the right to walk away at the end of the season, and they will receive no fee. But just suppose an offer comes in for the 27-year-old before then. If the price is right, the Town would be mad not to accept it. And that takes us back to the "musical chairs" theme - it would be disappointing to lose Alexander, but if it has to happen and it allows us to sign, for instance, Sean Dyche, that would certainly be no mean consolation.

WHILE the effects of the Bosman ruling have changed football's thinking on valuable and experienced players, it has also made clubs think a lot harder about their stars of the future. Bosman has no effect while a player is under contract, and clubs like ours, with the continual need to find good youngsters, to develop and often sell on to pay the bills, has to be canny over teen-agers' contracts.

Half a dozen new deals have been done in the last couple of weeks to tie up some of the bright talent in our youth and reserve teams. Defenders Russell Lawes and Richard Clarke have been awarded contracts to the end of the season, and James Avres, lerry Moses and Daniel Tate have signed agreements running through to June 2000. Midfielder Matthew Taylor, a first-year YTS boy from Oxford, has been signed on a contract which runs to June 2001.

SPARE a thought today for Tanny Abbey. After waiting patiently for so long, he got his chance for a league debut at Burnley last week, and played a crucial role in our victory. Not only did he make good saves, but at vital times - once to stop Burnley doubling their early lead, and in the closing minutes an amazing acrobatic tip-over prevented an equaliser which looked a certain goal. It must have strengthened his claims for a new contract at the end of the season, but today he is out of the team.

He did nothing to deserve to be dropped, said Lennie Lawrence, but equally Kelvin Davis had done more than enough before his suspension to deserve a recall.

And if Abbey is disappointed, he might like to know Davis had the same problem twice before he got established, once when Juergen Sommer was playing well, and then when Ian Feuer was brought in. Davis had to wait over a year after his equally impressive league debut before displacing Sommer, only to lose his place again when Feuer was signed. And it was three years after his debut at Stoke in May 1994 before Davis was finally fully established at Feuer's expense.



N.S. Terry Vice Presidents:

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Catering Manager Fiona Wallace

> Medical Officer **Dr Bill Berry**

Club Dentist A.Chris BDS (Syd)

Luton Town Football Club 3 Official Matchday Programme

Hatters Roll-Call 1998/99

		Appearances					Goals					
	League	WC	FAC	AWS	Total	League	WC	FAC	Total			
Abbey	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	O	0			
Alexander	19(1)	7	2	0	28(1)	3(1p)	2p	0	5(3p)			
Bacque	2(5)	1(2)	0	1	4(7)	0	Ó	0	0			
Boyce	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0			
Cox	2(2)	1(1)	0	0	3(3)	0	0	0	0			
Davis	26	7	2	0	35	0	0	0	0			
Douglas	24	6	1(1)	0	31(1)	7	2	0	9			
Doherty	1(9)	0(1)	1(1)	O(1)	2(12)	4	0	0	4			
Dyche	5	0	0	1	6	0	O	0	0			
Evers	26	7	2	1	36	3	1	0	4			
Fotiadis	5(8)	1(1)	0	1	7(9)	2	1	0	3			
Fraser	1(1)	0	0	1	2(1)	0	0	O	O			
Gray	22(1)	6	2	0	30(1)	6	3	2	11			
George	2(3)	O(2)	O	0	2(5)	0	O	0	0			
Harrison	7	0	0	1	8	0	O	O	0			
Johnson	25	7	1	0	33	0	1	0	1			
Kandol	0	0	0	O(1)	0(1)	0	0	0	0			
McGowan	19(1)	7	2	0	28(1)	0	O	0	0			
McIndoe	8(3)	2(1)	(2)	1	11(6)	0	O	0	0			
McKinnon	18(1)	4(1)	2	0	24(2)	2	0	0	2			
McLaren	8(3)	1(3)	2	1	12(6)	0	1	0	1			
Scarlett	1(3)	0	0(1)	O(1)	1(5)	1	O	0	1			
Showler	2(1)	0	0	0	2(1)	0	0	0	0			
Spring	27	7	1(1)	0	35(1)	1	0	0	1			
Thomas	11(5)	3	0	0	14(5)	0	0	0	0			
White	8(11)	0(3)	1	1	10(14)	1	0	0	1			
Zahana-Oni	2(1)	0	0	0	2(1)	0	0	0	0			

Also played: S. Davis 21 league appearances, 6 goals; 6 Worthington Cup apps, 2 goals; 2 FA Cup apps, 2 goals. Marshall 3(1) League apps, 1 goal; 3 Worthington Cup apps. Davies 2 League appearances. Bacque 2(5) league apps; 1(2) Worthington Cup apps. Nyamah 1 FA Cup appearance, 1 as sub Worthington Cup.

: on

Luton Careers Centre Link House 49 Alma Street Luton LU1 2PL

tel: 01582 728654

Dunstable Careers Centre
21 West Street
Dunstable
LU6 1SL
tel: 01582 662949

Bedford Careers Centre

Eagle Court Dame Alice Street Bedford MK40 2SR

tel: **01234 210000**

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The Library
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on the ball?....



....or on the bench

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We also visit local schools and colleges to provide advice and guidance for students from Year 9 upwards, through group sessions and individual interviews.

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from the manager's chair



AFTER THE considerable promise we showed in our last home game, against Bournemouth, we earned a result at Burnley which was absolutely the very least we deserved. We could have come home with a much more decisive result on a day when we were, by some way, the better side.

We had been disappointed to surrender a twogoal lead at home to Bournemouth, but on current form they are probably the best team in this league, and you may have noticed they followed up their draw against us by thrashing Stoke 4-0.

We played very well in the first half against Bournemouth, and if any questions were posed by then conceding two goals, they were answered in emphatic fashion at Turf Moor. Our first half performance there was as good as anything we have produced this season. Their goal, good strike though it was, came from the only chance they had. We had five or six, but inevitably after the interval, doubtless with a few well-chosen words from the manager ringing in their ears, Burnley came at us. We wobbled slightly, but didn't crack, and rarely has a winning goal been more deserved.

It was always going to be an interesting game for us: we had an inexperienced goalkeeper making his league debut; we had a team containing not a single bought player; and we had a very young side.

In the event, we were the better team for at least two-thirds of the match, and I think we would have won even if Burnley had not been reduced to ten men. The sending-off, incidentally, was fully justified, as the Burnley manager acknowledged. Our preparation for the Burnley game was different from our usual pattern. We went to Lilleshall on the Thursday, and had the delight of training on good, firm green grass. We took full advantage of the facility on Thursday and the Friday, something we cannot do in Luton because every open space is so wet.

I am not very superstitious, but to see the quality of performance that followed that preparation has got me thinking - we might just do something similar once or twice before the end of the season for other games in the north of the country.

The task now, after the good result in Lancashire, is to get back to consistent winning ways at

home: three of our next four games are at Kenilworth Road, and if we turn those into a good points haul who knows what might happen. The play-offs might look a tall order, but a ten-point gap can be made up. Improbable? Perhaps, but in football you never know.

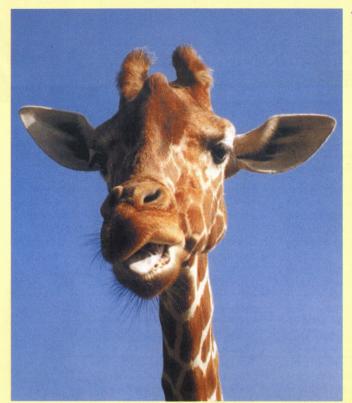
I am particularly keen to see us do well today, although Wrexham have proved they can play a bit. They looked good when I watched them lose at Huddersfield in an FA Cup replay, and they had the character to bounce back immediately by winning their next game, at Macclesfield. When we drew on their ground earlier in the season they were as good a team as we had met until then, and that draw maintained a record I want to see ended today: in the three years since I have been here Luton have never beaten Wrexham, and last season's home game against them was an embarrassment.

We have come a long way since, and if today we continue where we left off against Burnley we can start to believe that the promise we have shown can be turned into real achievement.

Lennie Lawrence







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captain's log



FIRST OF all today, we all send a big thank-you to the supporters who made the long trek to Burnley last week. The weather was horrible, but we were delighted for you as well as for ourselves to play so well at Turf Moor, and I don't think anyone can argue with the result.

I suspect even our best fans had a few worries before the game - away from home, missing our star striker, and with a young inexperienced goalkeeper making his league debut. But I can honestly say none of us shared those feelings.

I have told you before that we feel more relaxed away from home, and after looking at Burnley's home record we took the field believing we could get a result.

It was down to every single man that we got it, but I have to add a word of special praise for Tanny Abbey. He could have been forgiven if he was nervous and apprehensive, because a league debut is always a testing time for any player. In the event he had a super game, with an excellent double-save to prevent Burnley going two up after they scored against the run of play, and then more good work in the closing minutes when Burnley tried to put in a grandstand finish.

Even Steve Davis had to admit that on the day his old mates were too good for his new ones. We could easily have been two up before Burnley scored, and even after Micky Mellon's excellent strike we still felt confident.

We knew Steve Davis would be up for it, as players always are against their previous clubs, but perhaps we had an advantage in that Stuart Douglas and Andrew Fotiadis both knew exactly what they were up against - when you play in the same team, you get to know all the strengths and weaknesses of your colleagues.

We got on top from the word go, and our only disappointment was that we should have scored more goals. I bet Ray McKinnon thinks so as well! Confidence is flowing again, because we have proved to everyone, not least ourselves, that we are capable of playing some good football. We did in our last home match, against Bournemouth, when we ran them off their feet in the first half. Sure, it was disappointing to let them back into it after being two up, but you must have seen that in their following game Bournemouth thumped Stoke City 4-0 so perhaps our draw against them was not too bad. Not that we expect to get nothing better than a draw

today. We don't under-estimate Wrexham, and I am sure their players will be reminded that last season they came here and won 5-2. I missed the game through injury, so I can blame the others for that one!

It was a cracking game at Wrexham in September, when Ray McKinnon's goal gave us a point in a match we could easily have won.

Wiversa

But we all know that consistent home results are the basis for any sort of success and everyone in the dressing room has been looking forward to today's match. It's a month since we won a league game at home, and we all know we can do better than that.

We will be pleased to see Phil Gray back in the side, if he is selected, and someone has suggested that he is our "lan Rush" - we don't lose if he scores. I hope it's right, but we have of course reminded him that super-star or not, we have managed to find the net four times in two games without him!

I don't mind who gets the goals, so long as we notch a few more than Wrexham. And if your support is as good as it was at Burnley, we know we can do it. Enjoy the game.

Marvin Johnson





Club secretary



from the treatment room

FIRST today, a thank-you to all supporters who gave to the Save the Children collection at the last home match.

About 18 months ago I advised supporters that we had purchased a new "loop system" for our deaf and partially-sighted supporters. It is still not being used to its full capacity, so if you know of anyone who would benefit from using it, please let them and us know.

It was nice to receive a letter from a supporter who used the system at out last home match, saying how much he enjoyed Simon Pitts's commentary, and how welcome he had been made on the day.

You will no doubt have noticed that the signs around the stadium relating to behaviour are now in bright yellow. This was due to the Supporters Club bringing to our attention the fact that they were not distinctive enough. We will always take on board constructive comments from any supporter, so if you have a suggestion, let us know.

Monday week, February 22, sees our final reserve game at Leighton, when we play Barnet, kick-off 7pm. Admission is £2 for adults and £1 concessions. Our thanks again to Leighton Town for their hospitality and for helping us out.

Please don't forget that Saturday's match away to Bristol Rovers is all-ticket for Luton supporters. If you want to go to the game you must buy tickets in advance from the ticket office in Kenilworth Road by 4pm on Friday at the latest.

Just to clarify the situation for season ticket holders, today's match is voucher 14, and you should simply continue with the vouchers at each game as it occurs, as per your book. This means that you will have no match voucher for the final home game, so please use cup voucher L for that. (I had hoped that we would have to use all the cup vouchers, but it wasn't to be!)

Due to problems with bus times, a young season ticket holder from Aylesbury is looking for a car owner from that area to travel with to home matches. If you can help, please telephone me here at the club.

Finally, Happy Harry would like to thank Val of Fleurette, in Hitchin Road, Luton, for her help with the flowers for Valentine's Day.

Cherry Newberry

NOTICE TO ALL SUPPORTERS

The use of foul or abusive language, or gesturing, will not be tolerated by Luton Town Football Club. Any supporter doing so is liable to be ejected from the stadium. Anyone who refuses to leave will be arrested, charged, and banned from the Club.

This policy has been in effect for over six years, and notices regarding unacceptable behaviour and the consequences are clearly displayed around the stadium.

GEOFF LOVELL - Safety Officer

AFTER THE very busy spell around the turn of the year, the treatment room is now much quieter than it has been for a long time, with Graham Alexander the latest to move back into full training and league action.

He came through very well after a month on the sidelines when he was given a quarter of an hour as a substitute at Burnley. He followed up with a full 90 minutes for the reserves at Fulham on Monday, and with no adverse reaction he should be available for consideration for this afternoon's match.

It is a tribute to his own dedication and hard work that he has shaken off his ankle ligament injury so well. At Burnley it was a case of brief but hectic action for him, because it was a very quick game, and Monday's reserve match was important because it provided confirmation that he is fully restored to fitness.

We came through the Burnley match with no injuries beyond the usual bumps and bruises, and although Stuart Douglas needed a spot of treatment for a kick on the ankle, he is fit and ready to go, but suffering frustration through being suspended today.

By contrast, Phil Gray hopes to be back in action today, after his suspension. It coincided with a nasty toe injury, which would probably have kept him out anyway. But suspensions don't mean days off, and Gray has proved an excellent worker in the gym to maintain his fitness.

The same willingness to work runs throughout our playing staff, and it has paid off for Liam George. When he broke his leg in August we privately expected to see him back in full training by March. In the event he has done even better. He has recovered from a slight muscle strain and was training at full pelt this week and hoping to return to competitive

football for the reserves in Monday's away game against Chelsea.

His return is a tribute to a combination of factors, not least his own determination and attitude. Overall fitness is a help to any player recovering from injuries, and I have to admit that today's footballers are fitter than they were in my day.

One player has returned to the treatment room this week. Paul Showler is back with us after a week at Lilleshall, where he was under the care of the FA's team of physiotherapists after being laid low by a stomach muscle strain. They have mapped out a two-week recovery programme for him, including friction massage and strengthening work in the gym, and once that has been completed we will take another look at him and hopefully help him take the next step towards full fitness.

And having started today's notes with the good news that the treatment room is much less busy than it was, there is even better news for Julian James, who broke a leg nearly a year ago at Bristol. The latest X-rays have shown that the bones have healed well, and he is stepping up his training routine. It will still be hard and lonely work, but he is another who has shown that with the right determination you can overcome adversity.

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.





Nationwide Second Division

BRISTOL ROVERS v LUTON TOWN

Saturday February 20, kick-off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters. No tickets available on day of match. Tickets on sale until 4pm on 19 February. Prices, terracing only: £10 adults, £6 concessions (under 16s & over 65s).



WALSALL v LUTON TOWN

Saturday March 6, kick-off 3pm

This match is pay on the day only, and only seating is available.

Prices £12 adults,
£8 concessions
(under 16s & over 65s).

LUTON TOWN V NOTTS COUNTY

Tuesday February 23, kick-off 7.45pm

Tickets for this match are now on sale at normal league prices. Normal guesting facilities apply. Tickets already purchased for this re-arranged fixture can still be used.

LUTON TOWN v BLACKPOOL

Saturday February 27, kick-off 3pm

Tickets for this match are on sale at discounted prices.

Normal guesting facilities apply.

LUTON TOWN v FULHAM

Tuesday March 9, kick-off 7.45pm

Tickets for this match are on sale at discounted prices.

Normal guesting facilities apply.

LUTON TOWN v READING

Tuesday March 23, kick-off 7.45pm

This game has now been re-arranged for the above date. Tickets already purchased can still be used for this re-arranged fixture.

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Commercial



AS USUAL our sponsors' lounges and suites are busy today, and we welcome all our guests.

The match sponsors are The Original Water Company, from Lilley. The company is headed by long-time Luton Town supporter Rob Parsons, and we are delighted to renew his acquaintance today, and to give him a very warm welcome, with our thanks for his support.

The Original Water Company supplies a range of sparkling, still and flavoured spring water, to the wholesale and retail trade. It is associated with Dartmoor Water Ltd, and the trading name comes from the fact that Devon Hills Spring Water is bottled at source at Chulmleigh, a village recorded over 900 years ago in the Doomsday Book. The water's purity, and the

pollution-free area from which it comes, have enabled the company to achieve Conservation Grade status.

And if supporters want to sample the product, a real taste of history according to Rob Parsons, they are invited to telephone him on 01462 768900.

Among other sponsorship guests attending today's match are NTL CableTel, and Sue Miller and friends, and we hope they all have an enjoyable day with us.

Their support is appreciated, and if you want to see football from a different angle we have all kinds of sponsorship packages on offer - just ring Luton 411622 and ask for the commercial department.

Golden Gamble

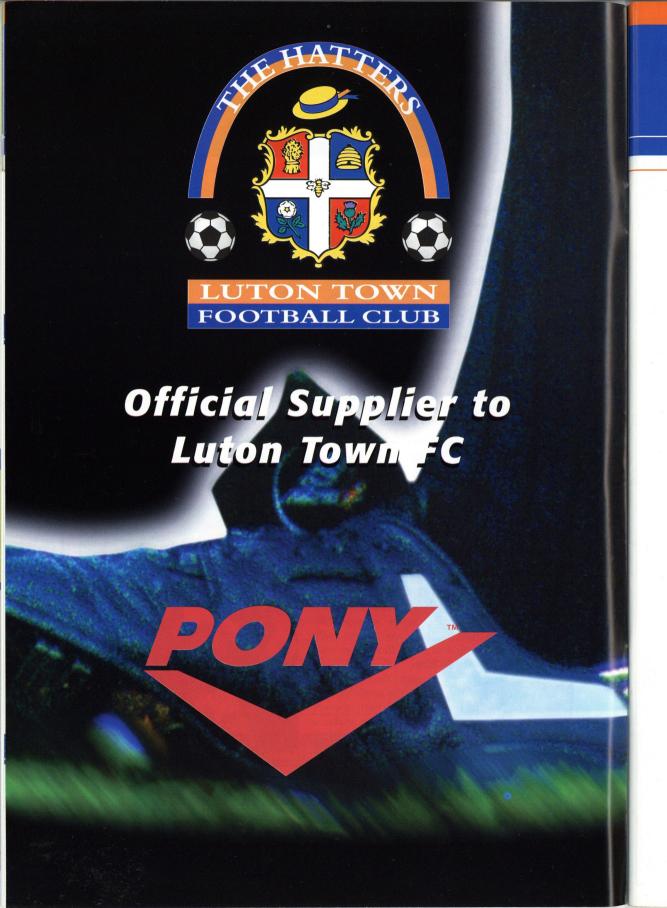
WE HAVE pointed out before that the Luton Town Golden Gamble offers much better odds than the National Lottery - and the latest winners at Kenilworth Road were a syndicate delighted to prove the point.

They admit to being consistent failures in the search for Saturday night's six lucky numbers, but it was a different Saturday afternoon story for the three pals when they came to watch the Bournemouth match. They went home with £530 between them after one of their tickets won the Golden Gamble jackpot.

Denis O'Donoghue, who organises their flutter, collected the cash which puts the syndicate well in the black - the trio "invest" £3 each at every match, and are now guaranteed to make a Golden Gamble profit on the season. And their nine guid will be going into the pot again today.



Golden Gamble sellers are in all parts of the ground again today, offering supporters the chance to collect a useful wad of readies for an outlay of just £1. The prize fund is a straight 50/50 split, half going into club funds and half to the winner's jackpot.



La Welcome

OUR daytrip to Burnley was a huge success, and we are sorry that we did not have enough seats available for everyone who wanted to go.

The Junior Claret and Blues were good hosts, and we enjoyed using their leisure centre next to the ground. Because of the rain we were unable to play the planned six-a-side match at half-time in the big game, so we had a relay race instead between us and the Burnley juniors. We looked like winning it until the last few yards, before losing out to bigger boys, but after seeing the Town win 2-1 we didn't mind at all. It was a very happy coach trip home!

Next Saturday we are going to Bristol, leaving at 9 am, and we will be playing a football match against the Bristol Rovers Juniors.

As usual it's a real bargain: £10 for Junior Hatters and £12 for others, including a match ticket. To avoid disappointing people who turn



STAR LINE-UP: James Bell was the Junior Hatters mascot for the game against Bournemouth, and is pictured at the prematch ritual when the captains and match officials get together for the toss-up. The draw in the Second Division game completed a real day of equality for us, because in the matches between the Junior Hatters and the young Cherries our under-10s were beaten 8-3 while the under-16s won 10-7.

up on the day, we have decided that from now on bookings must be made in advance, first come, first served, at the ticket office in Kenilworth Road.

You can book today for the Bristol trip, or during the week, including by post or by phone with a credit card.

OUR Saturday Club continues to be popular with Junior Hatters. We start at mid-day with games and football, before a sausage and chips lunch, more games, and then the match. The cost is only £5, or £9 with a match ticket. For more details, or to join the Junior Hatters, please contact the ticket office in Kenilworth Road.

Today's Mascot

NINE-year-old Kyle Brightman, from Hillcroft Close, Luton, has the honour of being the Junior Hatters team mascot today.

He will enjoy meeting all the players, but especially skipper Marvin Johnson, who is his favourite Town star.



Kyle goes to Commonswood Junior High School at Welwyn Garden City, and his hobbies are ju-jitsu, computers and the cub scouts.

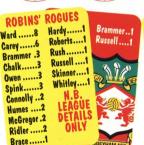
He comes to matches with his dad, and they sit in block J of the main stand. But today Kyle will be a lot closer to the action, not only meeting the teams but also running out onto the pitch with them for the pre-match kickabout.

We have two ballgirls on duty today, Amy Brannan, who will be 15 on March 8, and Vanessa Pullen, who will be seven on Tuesday.



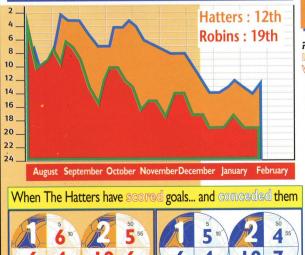
When Wrexham have scored goals... and conceded them







League Positions throughout the season



Who's played for The Robins this season...

Player	Pos			Age	Ht Weight	Prev. Club	Int.
		Apps	Gls				
Mark Cartwright	G	28		26	62 13 06		
Karl Connolly	F	26(1)	6	28	59 11 00		
Mark McGregor	D	25		21	5 10 11 05		
David Brammer	M	24(3)		23	5 9 12 00		
Peter Ward	M	24	2	34	60 11 07	Stockport	
Dave Ridler	D	22		22	60 1202		
Gareth Owen	M	20		27	5 7 12 00		Wales U21
Brian Carey	D	19		30	63 13 12	Leicester	Eire
Phil Hardy	D	19		25	57 11 08		Eire U21
Kevin Russell	F	16(4)	2	32	5 9 10 12	Notts County	Eng Yth
Dean Spink	F	12(7)	2	32	61 1400	Shrewsbury	
Craig Skinner	M	12	2	28	58 11 00	Plymouth	
Neil Roberts	F	11(9)	3	20	5 10 11 01		
Deryn Brace	D	-11		23	57 1012	Norwich	Wales U21
Ian Rush	F	9(4)		37	60 1206	Newcastle	Wales
Tony Humes	D	9(1)		32	60 1200	Ipswich	
Martyn Chalk	M	5(8)		29	56 1000	Stockport	
Carl Griffiths	F	3	2	27	5 10 11 05	on loan fro Ori	ent
Jeff Whitley	M	3		23	59 11 00	on loan from M	lan City
Leigh Edwards	G	(2)		20	61 1200		
Robin Gibson	F	(2)		19	57 -		
Steve Thomas	М	(1)		19	5 10 11 12		

How The Robins have scored goals... and conceded them





Hatters v Robins

 FORM SUIDE
 W
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 PTS
 Sequence

 Luton Town
 2
 2
 2
 10
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 8
 WDLLWI

 Wrexhem
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 4
 6
 14
 6
 WLWLLI

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

How Luton have scored goals... and conceded them



welcome to today's visitors



BRIAN FLYNN (Manager)

THE LONGEST-serving manager in the Second Division is in charge of today's visitors to Kenilworth Road. Brian Flynn has been at the helm at the Racecourse since November 1989, when he succeeded former player Dixie McNeil.

Flynn took to management with ease after doing it all as a player, and has packed a lot of football experience into his 43 years.

He was a busy little midfielder when he made his name with Burnley, as part of their very successful side of the 1970s. Born in Port Talbot, he won his first Welsh cap in 1975, and after 120 league appearances for Burnley his international career continued after a transfer to Leeds United.

At Elland Road his first manager, in the post-Revie era, was Jimmy Adamson, who had previously been boss at Turf Moor. Flynn chalked up 152 league appearances for Leeds before going back to Burnley for a second successful spell there. He was a Burnley player again by the time he made his 66th and final appearance for Wales, in 1984.



Back row: (left to right) Tony Humes (Capt.), Brian Carey, Karl Connolly, Jake Edwards, Andy Marriott, Mark Cartwright, David Walsh, David Brammer, Mark McGregor, Deryn Brace, Martyn Chalk.

Middle row: Craig Skinner, Kevin Russell, Dean Spink, Neil Roberts, Ian Rush, David Ridler, Gareth Owen, Phil Hardy, Stephen Thomas, Peter Ward.

Front row: Stephen Roberts, Paul Mazzarella, Andy Griffiths, Stephen Hopkins, Robin Gibson, Steven Cooper.

Wrex per pics AFC

DAVE BRAMMER (Midfield)

A product of the Wrexham youth policy, Dave hails from the Wirral and has progressed successfully to the senior ranks. Once again injuries have hampered his efforts to secure a regular first team spot in recent years. Now back in the starting line-up, Dave is probably our most consistant performer this season.

BRIAN CAREY (Defender)

A case of third time lucky for Wrexham, as the big Republic of I:celand international finally joined the Reds on a permanent transfer in 1996. Twice the Cork born centre-half had been on loan at the Racecourse, but on both previous occasions Wrexham could not raise the cash needed to buy him from Manchester United. He eventually joined Leicester City in 1993, but after three seasons at Filbert Street the Reds finally got their man. Only missed three league games last season, all due to suspension, but this time around a cartlidge operation saw him out for October and then an ankle operation in early December saw him miss another four weeks. Made a speedy return to the team for the Christmas match at Preston.

MARK CARTWRIGHT (Goalkeeper)

A very patient back-up to Andy Marriott, Mark began his career with York City, but injury as a YTS seemed to have ended his chances. After a spell studying in the USA, he wrote to several clubs and was offered a trial at Wrexham. Mark suspended his college course when given the chance of a professional contract at the Racecourse, but so far has had to be satisfied with just seven league appearances in two years, although he placed in most of our F.A.Wales Invitation Cup matches. He took over from the injured Marriott in February, only to be then carried off the pitch at Burnley with a deeply gashed thigh. This year though, he has been named the club's number one, begining the season with a cleansheet against Reading and was the hero of our 0-0 draw at Manchester City.

MARTYN CHALK (Winger)

Manager Brian Flynn added to his options by taking Martyn from Stockport County, as part of a deal which saw Kieron Durkan move in the opposite direction in March, 1996. Came out of non-league football with Louth United to join Derby County and then switched to Stockport in a £40,000 deal during 1994. Since arriving at Wrexham, he has proved a popular player with the supporters, contributing his fair share of goals and was one of the stars in our televised F.A.Cup triumph over Chester City. Picked up an ankle injury in August, which took six weeks to get over, but he is now established back in the first team.

KARL CONNOLLY (Forward)

Since the sale of top scorer Gary Bennett in 1995, the responsibility of filling that gap has been with this shaven headed winger from Liverpool. Karl's response has been encouraging and he has found the net nearly 60 times during the last three years. Discovered playing Sunday League football in his home city, eight years ago, Karl has a great

passion for the game, rarely letting injuries stop him from turning out. Already back amongst the goals this season and is our leading scorer to date.

JAKE EDWARDS (Foward)

Although born in Manchester, Jake was raised in the USA and only returned to these shores 18 months ago for trials with Wrexham and Tranmere Rovers. He returned home to finish his college degree and was invited back by Wrexham last summer. Such was his progress, that Jake was offered a contract until the end of the season and scored on his debut, at Maccesfield in the AWS.

PHIL HARDY (Full-back)

Wrexham's regular left-back for the last eight seasons, since he dislodged former European Cup winner Alan Kennedy, when only aged 17. Family qualifications saw Phil selected for the Republic of Ireland U21's and he went onto captain his country at that level. With over 260 league appearances already under his belt, he is facing tough competition for a first team place with Deryn Brace. Missed the start of the last campaign due to a leg injury, but now back in the team and playing as well as ever.

MARK McGREGOR (Defender)

Was captain of the Wrexham youth team, before moving up to the full-time ranks in 1995. More recognised as a centre-half then, he has since made nearly all his senior appearances in the right-back role. Much was expected of this Chester born youngster and he is displaying the temperament to fulfil those hopes. Still only 21, he has already moved through the 120 league appearance barrier. Was voted the supporters' Young Player of the Year for 95/6 and 96/7. A head injury meant he missed a few games i:n Noveber, but he is now restored to the first team.

GARETH OWEN (Midfield)

Still only 26, but now entering his tenth season of first team football at the Racecourse and nearing 350 appearances for the club. Locally born, Gareth joined Wrexham as a schoolboy and made his debut in 1989, since when he has been an important member of the Wrexham midfield. Gained eight Wales U21 caps and another at 'B' level, before being called up to the senior international squad two seasons ago. Scored a sensational goal at Brentford last November, running from the halfway line, evading three defenders and then beating the goalkeeper from the edge of the box. Was in excellent form last season, signing an extension to his contract and being watched again by Wales manager Bobby Gould. Also in 97/9 he played an hour as an emergency goalkeeper in our game at Burnley and still kept a clean sheet as the Reds went on to win the match.

DAVE RIDLER (Centre-half)

Came to the club two seasons ago on the recommendation of Karl Connolly, who had seen him play local football in Liverpool. A chef by trade, Dave has had a few attempts at making a career in the game, but last year he succeeded when









Brian Flynn offered him a contract. Played in Wrexham's early FAW Invitation Cup matches, before starting against Rochdale in the F.A.Cup. Since then has become a regular fixture at the centre of defence, with only suspension forcing him out of the team in March. Fast approaching his 50th league appearance and now an established first teamer. Broke his goalscoring duck with a strike at Turf Moor in October.

NEIL ROBERTS (Forward)

Now a third year professional who has come through the ranks and finally broke into the first team in 1997/98. A full game against Cardiff in the FAW Invitation Cup, was quickly followed by his first league start at Carlisle, where he scored twice in the first-half. Neil then added another two in the following two home games, including the winner against Northampton and also took the Reds through into the second round of the F.A.Cup with another at Rochdale. A prolific scorer in the reserves, he has suffered a number of frustrating injury problems, including a knock to his leg that then required an operation to remove a blood clot. Locally born player, who has signed for the club he supported as a youngster. Played his first Under-21 game for Wales when coming on as a substitute against Italy in September, travelled with the squad to Portugal and named as a stand by for the 'B' international against Northern Ireland.

IAN RUSH (Forward)

Probably the biggest signing Wrexham have ever made, as manager Brian Flynn persuaded this Welsh footballing legend to move to the Racecourse in August. After finishing his contract with Newcastle United over the summer, Ian had offers from Japan, Switzerland and the USA, but chose to return to his roots. The lure of a chance to get into the coaching side of the game helped, while his vast experience will only benefit his new team mates. After starting out with Chester City, lan moved to Liverpool for £300,000 in 1979 and began an amazing goal scoring record which helped the Anfield club to four League titles, five League Cups, three F.A.Cups and a European Cup. There was a short spell spent with Juventus in Italy, but on his return the goals just kept flowing. Two years ago he moved to Leeds United with the promise of coaching position, but a change of manager soon after put paid to that. Last season was spent at St. James Park, including a loan spell with Sheffield United. He also has 73 caps for Wales and is his country's leading goal scorer. A knee injury picked up at Halifax meant an operation, but he is now back to fitness and looking to get amongst the goals.

KEVIN RUSSELL (Midfield)

Most Wrexham supporters remembered Kevin as the free scoring forward, who so nearly carried the Reds to promotion in 1989. He then left the club to continue a career that has seen him turn out in the colours of Portsmouth, Leicester, Stoke, Burnley, Peterborough, Cardiff, Hereford, Bournemouth and Notts Co., before he returned to the Racecourse in 1995. The pace might have slowed a little, but he now puts his experience to good use in a left-sided midfield role. Missed all of the second-half of 1997/98 due to

an ankle injury, but returned for an end of season friendly with Wales, scoring a magnificant equaliser. Used as a forward in recent weeks, to good effect, but a sending off at Bristol Rovers meant he missed three games in November.

CRAIG SKINNER (Winger)

Came through the junior ranks at Blackburn Rovers as th.e wing partner to Jason Wilcox, turned professional in 1989 and made 20 appearances over the next three years. A move to Plymouth Argyle followed, where his displays continued to impress Wrexham manager Brian Flynn, who signed Craig for £50,000 in the summer of 1995. Injuries reduced his appearances last season, but he still finished the campaign with 33 appearances.

DEAN SPINK (Forward)

Signed in the summer of 1997 from Shrewsbury Town, for a fee of £70,000. Started to make a name for himself in local football around the Birmingham area, so much so that as a 22 year-old Aston Villa signed him from Halesowen Town. After loan spells with Scarborough and Bury, he joined Shrewsbury in 1990. In seve:n years at the Meadow, Dean played as both a centre-half and a centre-forward, but it was as a striker that Brian Flynn recruited him. Another to suffer injury problems, this time to his heel, which bothered him for a while and finally forced him to miss all of November. Switched to centre-half recently has become a regular in that position in recent weeks.

PETER WARD (Midfield)

Joined Wrexham from Stockport County in 1995, to add his experience to a fairly youthful midfield unit. A native of the North-East, Peter finally broke into professional football with Huddersfield Town in 1987, before switching to Rochdale and the:n rejoining manager Danny Bergara at Edgeley Park. Captained County to several Wembley appearances and did his best to get back there with Wrexham in our 1996/97 F.A.Cup run. Another to suffer injury, the most recent was a cartlidge operation in January.

CARL GRIFFITHS (Forward)

Taken from Leyton Orient and scored on his debut at Colchester United. Started his career at Shresbury Town, before a £500,000 move to Manchester City, since when he also played with Peterborough United. Turned down a move back to Shrewsbury before Christmas and is looking to make his mark in North Wales.

JEFF WHITLEY (Midfield)

Also scored on his debut at Colchester, arriving at the Racecourse from Manchester City. Ironically, Jeff and his brother Jim, were brought up in Wrexham but signed for City as trainees. A Northern Ireland internation due to his father being born in Belfast, he has made a number of appearances for his adopted country despite only turning 20 last month. Out of the picture at Maine Road at the moment, Jeff welcomed the opportunity of first team football at the Racecourse and is making the right kind of impression.

David Kohler



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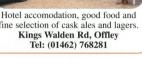
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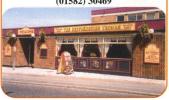




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by Alan Robinson

Ogden's Cigarettes - AFC Nicknames, 1933

ONE OF the most popular sets of football cards to be given away in cigarette packets did not feature famous players, but instead illustrated club nicknames, by way of charming and colourful cartoons.

At number 25 of this 1933 offering from Ogden's we find our very own Luton Town, who are, of course, represented by a large straw boater.

Most of the leading clubs of the day are featured in this 50-card series, but lesser lights such as Darlington, Exeter City and New Brighton, are also depicted.

It is worth remembering that Luton were then in the Third Division (South) of the League, and were certainly not among the tobacco firms' favourites when it came to choosing subjects for cigarette card sets in the 1930s.

This, therefore, makes this set one of my personal favourites - and it is interesting to note that neither Manchester United nor Watford were included!

The reverse of each card gives a short description of how each club came to acquire its nickname, together with a very brief summary of its history and principal achievements. Interestingly, our nickname is given as "The Straw Hatters", with Stockport County being dubbed as the plain "Hatters."

Also mentioned in the text is the fact that supporters who journeyed to watch Luton take on Everton in the FA Cup quarter-finals in that 1932/33 season wore straw boaters.

This was the furthest the club had reached in the Cup, but unfortunately the men from Goodison hammered us 6-0 on their way to lifting the trophy. Nevertheless it was a magnificent achievement to progress that far -Luton were only the third team ever from the Southern Section of Division Three to get to round six.



League form that season was rather patchy, especially away from home, where only one win was gained, at Bournemouth on Boxing Day.

At home, eight goals were put past Cardiff in October, while on February 1, against Brentford, we recorded our only 5-5 draw in league football.

Top scorer that term was Tommy Tait with 23 in total, while defenders Charlie Fraser and Reg Kingham made the most appearances, with 48 league and cup outings each.

After all the excitement in the FA Cup, Luton managed only a modest final position of 14th in the table, although they did have a mammoth total of ten matches to play in April, due to the cup run, which no doubt took its toll.

Good examples from this classic series now cost around £4 per card, but for those of more limited means the set has been re-printed by Imperial Publishing Ltd at the very reasonable price of £7.50 for all 50 subjects.

Top Hatters Gallery









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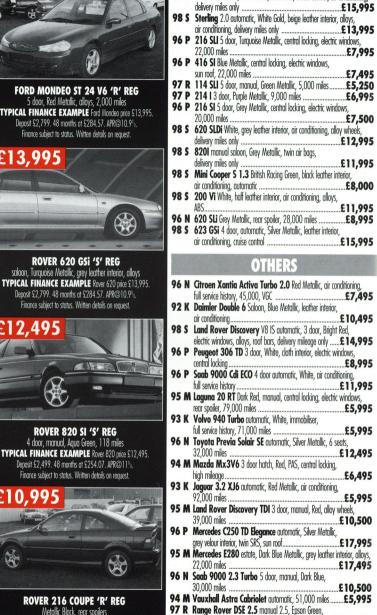
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by Roger Wash

Luton Town 4 Swindon 1 13th February 1926.

An injury to wing-half Dave Richards at Bristol Rovers the previous week, meant a reshuffle in the middle line for the visit of Swindon to Kenilworth Road and a league debut for Andy Rennie.

Rennie, destined to become the Town's second highest goalscorer, was not allowed to show his future potential as he began his Luton career at centre-half. He had a comfortable time against a Robins side that showed little in attack and it came as no surprise when Billy Agnew gave the Town a deserved interval lead.

A shock Swindon equaliser after the break threatened to upset the Town but the game then hinged on a disputed penalty after Norman Thomson was fouled. George Dennis made no mistake from the spot and a dispirited Swindon side conceded a further two goals from the prolific Jimmy Thompson to give the final scoreline a slightly flattering look.

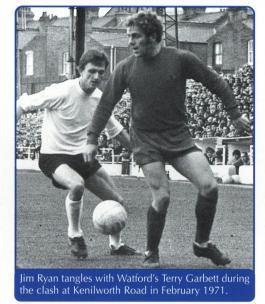
Luton Town 1 Watford 0 13th February 1971.

After beating Watford at Vicarage Road in mid-December the Town had gone four games without a win and the dreams of rising from Division Four to the top flight in only four years were rapidly disappearing.

The return against Watford gave the players the chance to get back to winning ways and also gave the chance for recent signing from Hendon, Peter Anderson, to show that he could bridge the gap between league and non-league.

The club decided to make the game all-ticket in view of the crowd disorder that took place the last time the Hornets visited Kenilworth Road and 'only' 20,066 turned up to see a match ruined by the wind.

The only goal came after ten minutes when a speculative shot from Malcolm Macdonald confused Watford goalkeeper Derek Edmonds and crept inside the post. The remainder of the game was a non-event but the Luton supporters did not mind as two more valuable points were in the bag and the 'double' had been achieved over the old enemy.



Tranmere 0 Luton Town 2 13th February 1993.

Following relegation from the old Division One in 1992 the Town had suffered a dismal time at the new level and had been hovering around the bottom of the table all autumn.

Since the middle of January 1993, however, manager David Pleat seemed to have sorted out his defence as the team had embarked on a run of five games without conceding a goal, picking up a valuable seven points in the process.

The trip to high flying Tranmere, unbeaten at home that season, was seen to be a test of the highest order but in a classic performance of solid defence and quick counter attacking the Town left Prenton Park with all three points.

Phil Gray opened the scoring after 17 minutes when he took advantage of a clever pass from David Preece after a corner was only half cleared and Marvin Johnson made sure of the points when he blasted the ball home from 25 yards in the 65th minute, his second goal in three games.

The win took the Town out of the bottom four as they steadily climbed the table to a position of safety.

a blast from the past courtesy of Roger Wash

As we featured in a recent programme it is now 40 years since we embarked on the F.A.Cup run that took us to Wembley for the first time in our history. Starting off with a 5-1 home thumping of Leeds at Kenilworth Road, Leicester were then seen off in Round Four after a replay. On now to the events of February 1959.

Ipswich manager Alf Ramsey was present to see the Town tear apart Leicester at Kenilworth Road in a Round Four replay and probably shuddered to think that his Second Division side were next up to face the rampant Hatters.

As soon as the draw was made, Ipswich decided to make the game all-ticket with a capacity set at 26,700. The Town were allocated 6,000 tickets which was regarded as more than enough but surprisingly, such was the Cup fever enveloping Bedfordshire, they soon sold out. Luckily the decision of the Portman Road board to increase prices did not go down too well in Suffolk and a further 1,000 spaces were found for Luton supporters and even then some were disappointed.

The Town players warmed up with a 6-2 home win over Burnley in the league and were confident they could score goals. Instructions were passed to keep the Ipswich game tight for the first twenty minutes and then go searching for goals but, of course, things did not go exactly to plan.

Almost straight from the kick-off Ray Crawford of Ipswich found space on the right and from his accurate cross the unmarked Derek Rees headed the home side into the lead. The Luton supporters were silenced, but found their voices only a minute later when Dave Pacey was needlessly brought down on the edge of the area. Picking himself up and sizing up the situation he hammered the free kick into the roof of the net with Ipswich goalkeeper Roy Bailey groping thin air.

Suitably stung by the early set back the Town players then put on a display of devastating football that had the game all but won by the 17th minute. Firstly some clever interplay between George Cummins and Billy Bingham ended with an Allan Brown shot being parried leaving Bob Morton to fire home. This was immediately followed by a header from Bingham, who climbed above Ken Malcolm, which soared into the top corner and then an effort from Tony Gregory who fired in a Brown through ball just as two Ipswich defenders converged on him.

Despite this pummelling Ipswich refused to surrender and as the interval approached Jimmy Leadbetter should have done better with a header that bounced off the top of the bar to safety. The danger as far as the Town was concerned was to concede a goal early in the second period and thus cause a terrific upsurge in fighting spirit.

Of course the inevitable happened with a poor ball from John Groves being intercepted by Crawford, whose astute pass set up Rees to gallop through to beat Ron Baynham in the Luton goal.

With more than 30 minutes remaining the Luton supporters expected a barnstorming display from Ipswich but although they tried desperately hard they were always kept at arms length by Syd Owen and his fellow defenders. With the game creeping towards the close a header by Morton from Bingham's accurate cross finally made the game safe and allowed the large Luton following to breath more easily.

The Town were now through to the quarterfinals of the competition for only the third time in their history but the draw was not kind with the long trip to play Blackpool the reward. The Seasiders were arguably the strongest side left in the competition and the tie revived memories of a titanic struggle five



years before when the Town went out to Blackpool after three replays.

Despite the distance, a good number of Luton supporters made their way up to the north west but found little to excite them in a rugged game dominated by the respective defences. The match seemed to be petering out to a draw when, with only five minutes left, a long cross from Morton was expertly headed home by Bingham who had ghosted in on the blind side.

The Town seemed to have booked their passage into the semi-finals when, with the referee looking at his watch, a Blackpool attack seemed to have broken down with the ball running through to Luton full back Ken Hawkes on the edge of the box. Hawkes could have thumped the ball out of the ground but instead played a weak back pass to Baynham. The ball never reached Baynham as Blackpool forward Ray Charnley nipped in to level the score. There was not enough time left to

restart the game and a devastated Hawkes said afterwards, "I ought to be whipped."

Skipper Owen stood up for his distraught colleague and promised that the Town would win through in the replay, which was to take place at Kenilworth Road on the following Wednesday afternoon.

LUTON TOWN (both games)

Baynham, McNally, Hawkes, Groves, Owen, Pacey, Bingham, Brown, Morton, Cummins, Gregory.

IPSWICH

Bailey, Carberry, Malcolm, Belcher, Snell, Johnstone, Berry, Millward, Crawford, Rees, Leadbetter.

BLACKPOOL

Farm, Armfield, Wright, Hauser, Gratrix, H.Kelly, Matthews, Mudie, Charnley, Durie, Perry.



Coaching Courses • Stadium Tours • School Visits

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AFTER SCHOOLS **INDOOR WINTER** COACHING **PROGRAMME**

To register a place or for further information, simply ring the Community & Schools Department at the club on 01582 411622

MONDAY

AMPTHILL Alameda Middle School 6 to 8 year old from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm 9 to 13 year old from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

TUESDAY

LUTON

Luton Regional Sports Centre 6 to 8 year old and 9 to 13 year old 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

WEDNESDAY

LEIGHTON BUZZARD Van Dyke Upper School 6 to 8 year olds 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm (indoor sportshall)
9 to 13 year olds 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm (floodlit astro turf pitch)

THURSDAY

LUTON

Barnfield College, Rotherham Ave. (Farley Hill) 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

CADDINGTON/DUNSTABLE

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

FRIDAY

DUNSTARIE

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

NTL CableTel **SCHOOLS VISIT PROJECT**

The Digital TeleNetwork

Over 30 pupils at Someries Iunior School in Luton were caught red handed last week at the official launch of our NTL CableTel Schools visit Project. The boys from year 6 braved the wind, rain and mud to take part in one of our coaching sessions being funded jointly by NTL CableTel and the Institute of Sports Sponsorship's Sportsmatch scheme.

Richard Pettifer, Communityy Relations Manager with CableTel was there to give out prizes and match tickets for today's game to some lucky pupils and commented that NTL CableTel 'were extremely pleased with the positive response to this project which will play

an important role in the community based initiatives"

Our coaches are now out and about every day in schools delivering football and PE lessons and already have dates in Flitwick, Bedford, Hitchin, Leighton Buzzard and Dunstable ahead of them after half-term.

So, if you are a teacher or a school pupil and you are wondering how you can benefit from our NTL CableTel 'Schools Visit Project', it couldn't be simpler. Either write to or telephone our Community & Schools department on 01582 411622 and invite us to visit your school. We're ready, willing and now, thanks to NTL CableTel and

> Sportsmatch, able to offer your school some free expert coaching. We've set ourselves a target of 300 school visits in 1999 - so come on! - drop us a line or give us a ring - we want to visit as many schools as possible!





NEXT WEEK • NEXT WEEK • NEXT WEEK February Half Term Indoor Coaching Courses



INDOOR FOOTBALL COACHING

EVERY TUESDAY AFTERNOON

LUTON 4.00pm to 5.00pm **LUTON REGIONAL SPORTS CENTRE** £2.00 PER SESSION 6 TO 8 YEARS AGE GROUP

Learn the game and improve your technique with our coaching and skills programme designed to cover all aspects of the game.

9 TO 13 YEARS AGE GROUP (ADVANCED)

The course concentrates on key areas including shooting, heading, tackling and match tactics. To register a place or for further information, simply ring our Community & Schools Department at the Club on

01582 411622

Luton Regional Sports Centre 6 to 8 years and 9 to 13 years 10.00am - 2.a00pm Coaching - Mon & Tues 15th/16th Price £18.00 Goalkeeper - Wed 17th Price £9.00

DUNSTABLE

Manshead School 3 years 10.00am - 2.00pn Mon & Tues 15th/16th Price £18.00 9 to 13 years 10.00am - 2.00pm Wed & Thurs 17th/18th Price £18.00

HITCHIN

Hitchin Boys School 6 to 8 years 10.00am - 2.00pm Mon & Tues 15th/16th Price £18.00

LEIGHTON

BUZZARD

Vandyke Upper School 9 to 13 years 10.00am - 2.00pm Mon & Tues 15th/16th Price £18.00 6 to 8 years Thurs & Fri 18th/19th Price £18.00

AMPTHILL

Alameda Middle School 9 to 13 years 10.00am - 2.00pm Tues & Wed 16th/17th Price £18.00 Thurs & Fri 18th/19th 10.00am - 2.00pm Price £18.00



To register a place or for further information, simply ring the Community & Schools Department at the Club on

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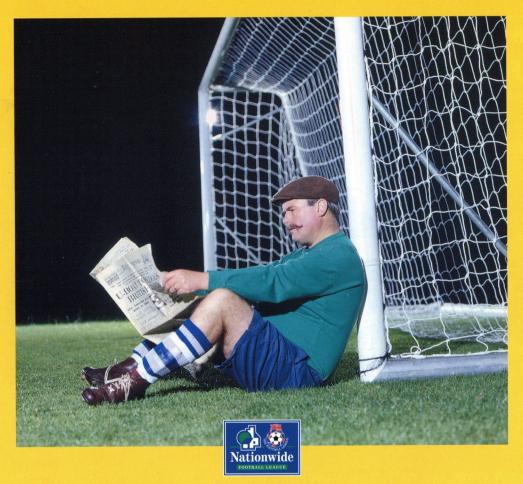


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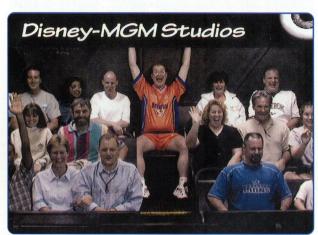


Contact your local Nationwide Building Society branch at 77-79 George Street, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 2AP Telephone: (01582) 680300 http://www.nationwide.co.uk

Carrying the colours

WE UNDERSTAND David Hylden might be a little surprised to see a picture of himself in today's magazine.

Larry Hagan, of Torbay Road, Harrow, admits to being responsible. He wrote: "The picture was taken at Disney-MGM studios in Florida, on the Tower of Terror ride. The shy, unassuming gentleman in the orange was one of our party called David Hylden, who is unaware of this rogue copy being sent to you. A Luton shirt was worn most places we went, and this shot was spotted by myself at 100 vards on a TV monitor. I class David as a true supporter. He travels all over the country when possible, but due to work is not a regular Saturday attender - more a midweek specialist. But he is due to attend the home fixture against Wrexham, and it would make his day to see this in print."



THE NEW York skyline was the backdrop for a Town strip more often seen in the centre of the Kenilworth Upper Tier. Wearing it is Paul Lindsay, of Lindum Place, St. Albans, photographed on the Statue of Liberty Ferry. A Town fan for 15 years, and a member of WHOSH FC he was on holiday with his dad, grand-dad, brother and fiancee, and the family party are regulars at home games.





IT'S NOT so much a question of where, but who is the gentleman pointing with an air of bewilderment at the Town badge modelled by Danny Fallon? Danny, who has been following the Hatters for more than 30 years, is a bit of a flasher at home games. Nothing nasty, we promise: he phones goal flashes from the Pressbox to radio and TV organisations, including Teletext and Ceefax. The picture was taken in the Dominican Republic and if Danny looks a little lightweight, it is not surprising: the other chap is John L. Gardner, former British boxing heavyweight champion.

DO YOU have a good picture - a holiday snap or anything slightly unusual - that you would like to see in the matchday magazine? We are always pleased to hear from fans and see their photographs, and if you would care to let other supporters see them as well, please send them to the matchday magazine editor at Luton Town FC.





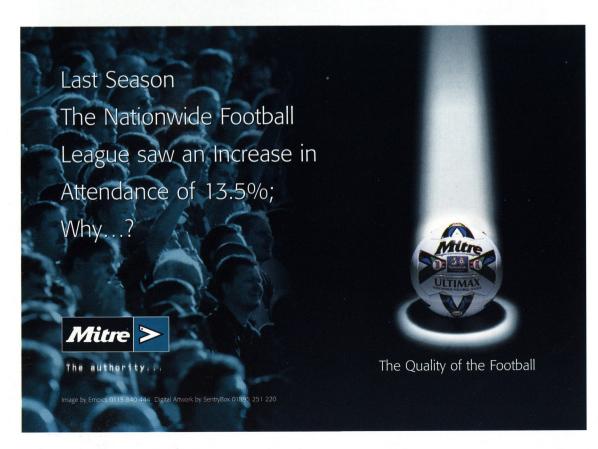
For all the match predictions, results, fixtures and news from The Football League visit the new Nationwide football internet site at www.football.nationwide.co.uk

It pays to decide...

Nationwide

The World's No.1 Building Society





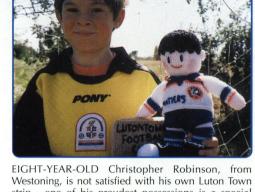
The Youngest Hatter?

THEY SAY you know you're getting old when the policemen look younger. So far it doesn't happen for all of us when we see Pc Palmer and his colleagues on duty, but in recent weeks we have been reminded that Town supporters learn to be Hatters at very early ages.



Take Chloe Wells, for instance, the third generation of her family seen at a recent match. She is pictured wearing a natty Luton Town top at the age of just eight weeks. Mrs lennifer Wells tells us: "She was enrolled as a Junior Hatter at seven days old, and has been to two reserves matches already, with her grandad Brian Wells, her mum Karen, and myself."

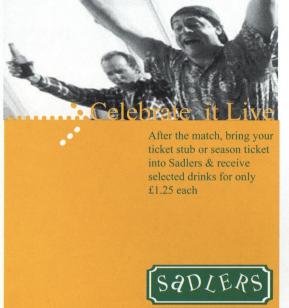
Seen it live.....



EIGHT-YEAR-OLD Christopher Robinson, from Westoning, is not satisfied with his own Luton Town strip - one of his proudest possessions is a special Luton Town doll, knitted for him by a kindly aunt. Like all true Hatters supporters, Christopher's mascot keeps smiling whatever bad luck hits the team on occasions.

TALKING smiles, Tom Ellis, from Barton, had every reason to look pleased at tenth birthday party: a new Luton Town tracksuit was no surprise to a soccer-made boy who already had the rest of the kit. but the cake was something else: specially made, in Town home strip colours, and with the club badge neatly copied in icing sugar, with all the right colours.





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Burnley 1 Luton Town 2

A LATE winner by sub Gary Doherty sealed our first away win for four months, to complete a good afternoon's work in very difficult conditions at Turf Moor.

Burnley, Steve Davis and all, were just about run off their feet in the first half as the Town put together a lot of sharp passing and attacking moves. Their manager, Stan Ternent, had a real go at his players at the interval, and while they competed a little better in the second half they failed to achieve domination.

Two factors were mainly responsible: they had a man sent off for his second booking, in the 53rd minute, and when the ten men produced the usual extra effort and commitment Tanny Abbey, on his league debut, produced the best saves of the match.

Deputising for suspended Kelvin Davis, the 20vear-old showed little sign of nerves, and if Davis was not so well-established as the Town's number one he might be hard pushed to reclaim his place

In attack Andrew Fotiadis returned after injury to partner Stuart Douglas and the two worked with a will. Douglas's ability to turn and twist swiftly was responsible for Burnley losing defender Neil Moore early in the second half. Moore was booked for tripping Douglas in the 12th minute, and when he did it again in the 53rd the second yellow, then the red, was inevitable.

Ternent had no sympathy for a player who should have known better. "To get booked a second time was stupid," said the Burnley manager.

For Town fans, it was good to see how the extra space was exploited, and the defence knew exactly what was coming in the closing stages when Burnley opted to play three at the back to free Steve Davis to play in attack.

They were looking for a winner which Davis thought they could have got but for the heroics of Abbey.

The young goalkeeper had little chance of saving when Burnley took the lead against the run of play in the 29th minute, through a wonderful 25vard strike by Micky Mellon, a real goal out of nothing.

By then Matthew Spring had been denied by a good save and Ray McKinnon had missed two decent chances. The goal of the season almost arrived six minutes before Burnley's opener, with the Town putting together a move starting with Marvin Johnson deep in defence, and working the ball all the way upfield with accurate passing. Gavin McGowan and Sean Evers played the final telling balls to put Douglas in, but Paul Crichton made a good spreading save.

Mellon's strike might have knocked the stuffing out of lesser teams, but Abbey made a doubleblock save against Graham Branch, and the Town persisted with their football philosophy, with the wind and rain behind them in the first half.

It was sad for Mellon that he should be the man embarrassed when he tried to play football on the edge of his own penalty area. Harried by McKinnon, he lost the ball to Fotiadis, who carefully advanced a couple of yards and shot past Crichton.

The second half was full of entertainment, attack and counter-attack. And after seeing goals conceded in the closing minutes so often recently, the final pleasure for the away supporters came with three minutes to go when Spring's perfect pass sent sub Doherty free to lash in the winner.

Even then there was more drama to come, with Abbey saving from Andy Cooke and then defying the odds when he started to advance towards a cross, and was apparently caught in no-mansland as Peter Swan looped a header over the goalkeeper. Somehow Abbey sprinted backwards and finger-tipped the ball away.

"I couldn't believe it," said Burnley skipper Gordon Armstrong.

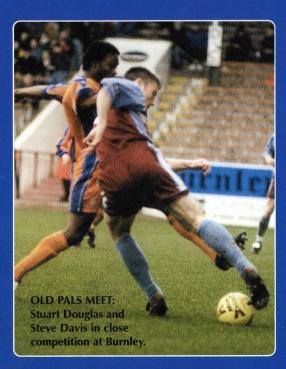
Lennie Lawrence said: "It would have been an injustice if we had not won that game. The double-save Tanny made just after Burnley scored was vital. If they had gone two up then it might have been a different ball-game."

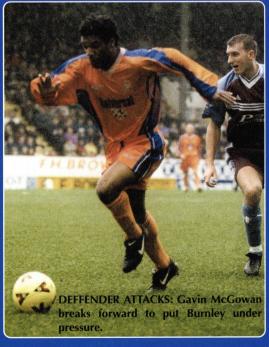
ON OUR WAY: Andrew Fotiadis is clear of the Burnley defence, with Steve Davis trying in vain to get back, to slot in our opener at Turf Moor.

ICE ONE, ANDREW: Stuart Douglas irst to congratulate Andrew Fotiadis after his goal at Turf Moor.









Luton Town 2 AFC Bournemouth 2

THE BEST footballing display we had seen for some time gave the fans a lift in the first half against a confident Bournemouth team. We well deserved our one-goal interval lead, courtesy of a crisp strike by Ray McKinnon, but the Cherries, with ten wins from their previous 12 games, showed why they are going well for a play-off place by earning a draw after Gary Doherty doubled our lead.

"We had the first half and Bournemouth had the

second," was Lennie Lawrence's summing up. "We might have got away with a win if we had held on for another ten minutes after our second goal. But Bournemouth are a good team. Overall we put in a creditable performance."

Gerry Harrison had another excellent match at right back, and the returning Paul McLaren after suspension, and McKinnon, after an eight-week injury absence, sparked much of the first-half domination.

DOHERTY DELIGHT: Gary Doherty salutes his goal against Bournemouth. And he did it again last week at Turf Moor, going on as sub to hit the winner against Burnley.







BURNLEY DETAILS

Luton Town: Abbey. Harrison, McGowan (White 88

BOURNEMOUTH DETAILS

Stuart Douglas, four on Neil Young, 36 mins; Gavin McGowan, trip on Mark Stein, 66 mins. **Bournemouth:** Ovendale, Young, Vincent, Howe, O'Neill, Bailey, Cox, Robinson, Stein, Fletcher, Hughes.

HATTERS SHOP

SALE • SA

All Pony Away Kit is now also reduced from today to the same reduced prices as the Home Kit.

There is very little Away Kit left so hurry while stocks last!

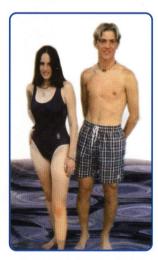


Pony Away Replica Kit *Orange/Royal*

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HATTERS SHOP

The following items have also been reduced to clear as have many other lines in the Club Shop.



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One size
Approx L to XL

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Luton Town
Jaquard Navy Roll
Neck Jumper
M/L - L/XL
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£8.95 £5.00



Shield Navy
Sweatshirt
Childrens
£19.50 £10.00
Adults
£26.00 £15.00



Luton Town
Navy/Marle
Sweatshirt
Childrens
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Adults
E26.00 £15.00



Kit Wall Clock £9.95 £5.00

£20.00 £15.00

£37.50 £20.00

Shirt

lumper



Jumbo Scarf £12.50, £6.25

Childs Blue Watch £15.00. £7.50

Black Plastic Watch £12.50. £7.50

Black Strap Watch

£37.00 £20.00





John Moore & Trevor Hartley

reserves



Paul Cyouth / A





Luton Town 1 Bournemouth 0

ALTHOUGH we should have scored more goals, we were good value for our first win of 1999 in the Avon Insurance Combination.

Our young team had the better of the first half, and Tresor Kandol got the winner, his 20th goal of the season, just before the interval. He was one of seven youth team players in the squad of 14.

Another was goalkeeper Daniel Tate, promoted because Tanny Abbey was on stand-by for his Second Division debut at Burnley. Tate had an excellent game, as did the defence as a whole, and the clean sheet was well deserved. Matthew Taylor, on his debut for the reserves, Russell Lawes and Richard Clarke had good games.

The deciding goal was well made and well taken. Kandol and Jimmy Cox both made good runs as Michael McIndoe was in possession, and McIndoe's pass sent Kandol in to slot home.

The pitch at Leighton was a bit sticky in places, but we coped with the mixed conditions very well, and if there is a criticism it is that we should have finished off Bournemouth in the first half. But we held them in the second, when they threatened to get back into it.

Luton Town: Tate, Lawes, Taylor, Clarke, Willmott, Boyce, Scarlett (Hudson 75 mins), Cox, Kandol, McIndoe, Zahana-Oni (Jerry 88 mins). Unused sub: Ayres.

Fulham 3 Luton Town 2

FACING a very experienced Fulham side - there are effectively two first teams at Craven Cottage - we turned in an encouraging performance on their £1.5million training ground at Motspur Park, and could easily have got something out of the game.

A challenge by Jimmy Cox led to the ball running loose for Landry Zahana-Oni to net a first-half equaliser, but we suffered for a mad tenminute spell after the break in which former England winger John Solako threw in a string of crosses which found us out. Fulham scored twice, but we still came back well, with Emerson Boyce going on as a sub and scoring with a cross-shot.

The performance was quite encouraging, and it does young players good to test their skills against good teams like the one Fulham fielded. In their previous match Fulham had won 9-0 at Wycombe.

Graham Alexander did well, completing his first full 90 minutes for a month, playing in central midfield.

Luton Town: Tate, Lawes (Boyce 60 mins), Fraser, Alexander, Willmott, White, Scarlett (Hudson 80 mins), Cox, Kandol, McIndoe, Zahana-Oni (Taylor 60 mins).

OUR next fixture in the Avon Insurance Combination is away to Chelsea, at Kingstonians, on Monday (7pm). We will be using Leighton Town's ground for the last time on Monday week, at home to Barnet, kick-off 7pm. After that our home fixtures in the Avon Combination come back to Kenilworth Road.

IN THE Bedfordshire County Premier Cup semi-final, we will be away to Biggleswade on Wednesday March 3 (7.30pm).

Appearances, including as sub, (goals in brackets): Abbey 16, Akurang 1, Alexander 1, Ayres 4, Bacque 14 (2 + 1 pen), Boyce 17 (1), Clarke 14, Cox 13 (1), Davies 11, Doherty 12 (3), Douglas 1 (1), Fotiadis 13 (9), Fraser 8 (1), Hudson 3, Jerry 4, Kandol 8 (3), Lawes 12, Lough 10 (1), Lopez 1, McIndoe 10 (1), McKoy 2, McLaren 5 (1), Minton 1, Nyamah 13 (2), Scarlett 18 (2), Showler 5, Sylla 2, Sweeney 4, Tate 5, Taylor 2, Thomas 3 (1), White 8 (5), Willmott 18 (1), Zahana-Oni 4 (2)

Avon	Avon Insurance Combination										
	P	W	D	L	F	Α	Pts				
Peterborough	18	11	3	4	39	21	36				
Southampton	19	11	2	6	34	25	35				
Watford	17	9	6	2	33	14	33				
Charlton	15	10	3	2 2 7	26	12	33				
Tottenham	19	11	1		27	19	33				
Ipswich	18	10	3	5	32	24	33				
Fulham	17	9	5	3	43	21	32				
Norwich	19	8	4	7	25	19	28				
Northampton	16	8	3	5	22	15	27				
Chelsea	17	9	1	7	21	18	26				
Luton Town	18	7	5	6	27	28	26				
QPR	18	7	4	7	26	18	25				
Portsmouth	17	7	3	7	28	29	24				
West Ham	14	6	5	3	27	17	23				
Colchester	19	7	2	10	26	36	23				
Barnet	16	7	2	7	23	37	22				
Brighton	16	6	4	6	17	25	22				
Arsenal	16	6	3	7	26	24	21				
Bournemouth	19	6	3	10	31	31	21				
Wimbledon	18	5	6	7	22	28	21				
C. Palace	15		4	6	30	. 27	19				
Oxford Utd	16	6	1	9	19	28	19				
Cambridge	15	4	4	7	18	31	16				
Milwall	14	4	3	7	18	22	15				
Swindon	16	4	3	9	19	30	15				
Reading	16	4	2	10	21	31	14				
Brentford	13	3	4	6	18	24	13				
Gillingham	17	2	4	11	12	30	10				
Wycombe	14	1	3	10	8	34	5				

Avon Insurance Combination League Fixtures - Season 1998/99

١	Wed 12	August	Brighton & Hove	H	4-1
ı	Wed 26	-	Cambridge United	A	2-2
١	Wed 2	September	Portsmouth	A	3-2
l	Wed 16		Reading	Н	3-0
	Wed 23		Swindon Town	A	1-0
١	Wed 30		Charlton Athletic	Н	1-3
l	Wed 7	October	Millwall	Н	1-1
١	Wed 14		Gillingham	A	2-1
١	Wed 21		Brache Sparta (BPC)	A	8-0
l	Wed 28		Brentford	A	2-2
١	Wed 04	November	Crystal Palace	Н	1-3
l	Wed 11		Watford	A	0-0
l	Mon 16		Kempston Rov (BPC)	A	3-0
١	Thur 19		Norwich City	Α	0-6
l	Wed 25		Ipswich Town	Н	2-3
١	Mon 14	December	Colchester United	Н	0-2
١	Mon 21		Tottenham Hotspur	Н	3-0
l	Mon 11	January	Wimbledon	H	1-1
١	Wed 20		Southampton	A	0-1
١	Mon 01	February	AFC Bournemouth	Н	1-0
l	Mon 8		Fulham	A	2-3
l	Mon 15		Chelsea	Α	7pm
ı	Mon 22		Barnet	Н	7pm
١	Wed 3	March	Biggleswade (BPC)	A	7.30pm
l	Wed 10		Queens Park Rangers	Α	
١	Wed 17		Wycombe Wdrs	Н	2pm
l	Wed 07	April	Oxford	Н	2pm
	Thur 15	-	Northampton Town	A	
	Wed 21		Peterborough United	Н	2pm
	To be arr	anged	West Ham	A	
	To be arr		Arsenal	A	
١	To be arr	anged	Bournemouth	Α	D.

Luton Town 1 Leyton Orient 3

AFTER cruising along at the top of the table for so long, the combination of one game postponed and then one lost on our own ground has knocked us off our proud perch, and perhaps delivered a sharp reminder that you have to work for rewards in football.

We still have a game in hand on Brentford, who lead us on goal difference, so our championship hopes are in our own hands.

A waterlogged pitch washed out our match at Gillingham a fortnight ago on a day when Brentford won 4-1 at Oxford.

Last Saturday we were at home to Leyton Orient, a team we had beaten 3-0 comfortably in the away fixture in October. But Orient were a very different side this time, as you often find in youth football. And on the day, they were the better side, and we could have no complaints about the result. Orient have lost only four times in 23 league games, and defensively they were very well organised and disciplined. They provided a very good test for our boys, and it was disappointing that we didn't handle the situation very well. Too many individuals were below their best, and perhaps the recent spell of only two matches in two and a half months has disrupted us.

We looked bright in the early stages, but missed a couple of chances, and it was not until the last minute that Clifford Akurang scored our consolation goal. It was a close-range effort after a goalmouth scramble, but just reward for the striker, who worked tremendously hard throughout the match. But overall it was a case of Orient playing very well, and deserving the points, and our lads must learn the lesson from the experience. It was our first home league defeat of the season, and further bad news was that Brentford had won again, at home to Reading. But defeat will do no lasting harm if we turn it to our advantage as a reminder that we have to stick to our task if we are to retain the title. It's within our capabilities if we roll up our sleeves and react in the right way.

Luton Town: Tate, Stirling, Howe, Ayres, Taylor, Jerry (Harrington 75 mins), Minton, Hudson (Mansell HT), McKoy, Akurang, Kandol. Unused sub: Moran.

WE WERE hoping to get back on the winning track at Portsmouth this morning, and next Saturday we are at home to Cambridge United. Kick-off at Luton RFC, Newlands Road, is at 11 am, and spectators are welcome.

Youth team appearances, including as subs (goals in brackets): Akurang 19 (7), Ayres 21 (1), Barriteau 2, Carroll 8, Clarke 3 (2), Crane 3 (2), Dolby 2, Dollin 6, Harrington 7 (1), Hammond 2, Howe 24, Hudson 8, Jerry 21 (1), Kandol 23 (16), Mansell 5 (1), McKoy 18 (4), Mentore 4, Minton 23, Moran 16, Mortara 3, Orchard 1, Plant 1, Stirling 22 (1), Tate 20, Taylor 22 (3), Thomas 12 (1), Tyson 11 (2), Ward 2, Wraight 2.

South East Counties League										
	P	W	D	L	F	Α	Pts			
Brentford	22	14	4	4	54	24	46			
Luton Town	21	14	4	3	42	19	46			
L. Orient	23	12	7	4	50	27	43			
Barnet	20	9	4	7	24	20	31			
Wycombe	22	6	11	5	27	26	29			
Bristol Rov	22	8	5	9	39	43	29			
Portsmouth	24	7	8	9	30	39	29			
Brighton	19	7	6	6	29	27	27			
Reading	22	5	12	5	25	26	27			
Colchester	23	8	2	13	35	37	26			
Swindon	22	7	5	10	28	31	26			
Bournemouth	21	8	2	11	31	41	26			
Cambridge	21	5	9	7	32	41	24			
Southend	25	6	5	14	31	49	23			
Oxford	19	6	4	9	21	31	22			

6 4 11 23 35 22

Gillingham

	-				-
		Youth	Team Fixtures		
Sat	08	August	Brentford	A	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)	H	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	Н	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	Н	2-0
Sat	21		AFC Bournemouth	A	2-1
Sat	28		Brighton & Hove Albion	Н	2-0
Sat	05	December	Barnet	A	0-2
Sat	12		Brentford	Н	2-1
Sat	23	January	Wycombe Wanderers	Н	0-0
Sat	06	February	Leyton Orient	Н	1-3
Sat	13		Portsmouth	A	
Sat	20		Cambridge United	Н	
Sat	27		Colchester United	A	
Sat	06	March	Southend United	A	
Sat	13		Swindon Town	H	
Sat	20		Bristol Rovers	A	
TBA			Oxford	Н	
TBA			Reading	Α	
TRA			Cillingham	۸	



Critical Research - Main Sponsors of Luton Town Youth Team

How Clubs have scored goals... and conceded them see key below H CR OB V FK P IB OG H CR OB V FK P IB OG 8 5 4 6 2 0 5 1 5 4 9 3 0 5 6 1 **Bristol Rovers** 5 6 0 1 12 0 **Burnley** 7 12 8 1 0 3 17 1 Chesterfield 4 1 0 4 7 0 Colchester United 8 5 4 9 0 6 7 6 3 0 1 1 7 9 8 2 1 9 1 Gillingham **Lincoln City** 3 4 1 1 10 0 **Luton Town** 7 4 3 4 Manchester City 6 3 1 2 0 3 6 4 2 1 6 1 3 2 1 4 3 0 Northampton Town 12 2 3 5 **Notts County** 3 4 0 0 5 1 **Oldham Athletic** 10 10 6 5 Preston North En 13 Reading 2 3 0 3 6 6 11 8 6 4 0 2 6 3 Walsall 3 gan Athle 3 4 0 1 8 Wrexham 20 4 3 4 0 3 14 1 5 2 4 3 2 5 16 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 1,998 Macclesfield v Millwall 26-Jan

Highest Aggregate Scores
Preston 3-4 Stoke 22-Aug

Lincoln 3-4 Preston 29-Aug Bristol Rovers 3-4 Walsall 31-Oct

Bristol Rovers 3-4 Walsali 51-Occ

Biggest Home Win

Wigan 5-0 York 31-Oct

Bournemouth 5-0 Burnley 21-Nov

Biggest Away Win
Reading 0-6 Bristol Rovers 16-Jan
Consecutive Wins
Fulham, Stoke 6
Games Unbeaten
Gillingham 17
Consecutive Defeats
Lincoln, Macclesfield 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	n 7	Two	Sta	tist	ics,	Club by Club			
see key above	PU	GF	GA	CS	LP	HP	Leading Scorer	Lge	wc	FA
Bournemouth	22	47	27	11	11	2	Stein	13	5	1
Blackpool	26	31	33	9	23	3	Aldridge	6	2	1
Bristol Rovers	25	39	32	10	17	6	Cureton	13	1	2
Burnley	36	35	49	4	20	7	Payton	14	1	2
Chesterfield	23	33	26	10	20	6	Howard	9	1	0
Colchester United	25	31	43	4	20	2	Gregory D	7	2	0
Fulham	28	41	21	15	8	1	Peschisolido	5	1	2
Gillingham	25	45	26	11	22	5	Asaba	15	0	0
Lincoln City	29	27	47	6	24	14	Battersby	6	1	1
Luton Town	29	37	36	6	14	2	Gray	6	3	2
Macclesfield Town	28	20	37	4	24	20	Tomlinson	2	0	4
Manchester City	29	36	23	12	14	1	Goater	9	2	1
Millwall	26	34	35	9	14	5	Harris	10	0	0
Northampton Town	31	24	33	6	22	14	Corazzin	9	0	0
Notts County	33	27	38	3	21	5	Jones	2	0	6
Oldham Athletic	28	30	39	7	23	14	Allott	7	1	0
Preston North End	22	53	29	12	7	1	Nogan	13	0	3
Reading	35	33	38	8	23	8	Williams	11	0	0
Stoke City	21	37	28	11	6	1	Kavanagh/Lightbourn	ie 6/6	1/0	0/1
Walsall	26	40	32	12	11	2	Rammell	14	1	0
Wigan Athletic	23	38	27	10	23	8	Barlow	11	1	1
Wrexham	24	27	43	7	19	2	Connolly	6	1	5
Wycombe Wanderers	26	26	38	7	24	19	Scott/Brown	4/3	0/2	1/0
York City	24	38	49	4	24	8	Cresswell	14	0	3

Yellow & Red Cards

	Yellow	Red	Pts
Millwall	57	7.	78
Wycombe Wanderers	57	6.	
Burnley	58	5.	
Bristol Rovers	44	8.	68
Wigan Athletic	63	1.	66
Gillingham	49	4.	61
Luton Town	43	5.	58
Blackpool	56	0.	56
Lincoln City	47	3.	56
Manchester City	46	3.	55
Reading	46	3.	55
Stoke City	49	2.	55
Oldham Athletic	39	4.	51
Northampton Town	47	1.	50
Walsall	39	3.	48
Wrexham	41	2.	47
Chesterfield	34	4.	46
Preston North End	34	4.	46
Colchester United	42	1.	45
York City	29	4.	41
AFC Bournemouth	33	2.	39
Macclesfield Town	29		38
Notts County	33		36
Fulham	33	0.	
		The second	

Current Sequences

Consecutive Wins
Man City, Oldham, Wigan 2
Games Unbeaten
Man City 7
Consecutive Defeats
Macclesfield 6
Games without a Win
Macclesfield 10

Div.2 Stat Attack

Div. 2 Attendance Details

	Highest	Lowest	Average
Manchester City	32,134	24,291	27,791
Stoke City	23,272	10,557	13,693
Preston North E.	15,888	8,656	11,139
Reading	18,108	7,914	10,802
Fulham	14,284	7,447	10,623
Burnley	11,925	8,526	10,174
Millwall	12,726	4,249	7,109
Bournemouth	8,863	4,863	6,253
Bristol Rovers	7,529	5,039	6,222
Northampton T.	7,557	5,210	6,171
Gillingham	9,221	4,575	6,040
Notts County	10,316	4,445	5,873
Luton Town	9,070	4,934	5,750
Oldham Athletic	12,976	4,195	5,729
Blackpool	10,868	2,990	5,446
Wycombe Wndrs	8,129	3,361	5,099
Walsall	9,517	3,098	5,078
Lincoln City	7,338	2,949	4,536
Chesterfield	6,138	3,681	4,438
Colchester United		3,228	4,393
Wrexham	9,048	2,716	4,374
Wigan Athletic	6,700	2,784	4,128
York City	7,527	2,075	3,655
Macclesfield T.	6,381	1,998	3,379

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

second division scene



VICTORY at Turf Moor enabled us to creep back into the top half of the Second Division table, and with 11 of our last 19 league games being at home perhaps a play-off spot is still a possibility. The gap currently is ten points between us and sixth place, so it needs a good run of consistent results.

Fulham are still setting the pace, with Kevin Keegan named Second Division manager of the month for January. Fulham won three of their four league games, and beat Premiership Aston Villa and Southampton in the FA Cun

But they could be knocked off their perch today. Fulham have the distraction of playing Manchester United in the fifth round of the cup at Old Trafford tomorrow, offering Preston the chance of regaining the leadership they held briefly a month ago. Deepdale gets a visit from struggling Wycombe, and a Preston win would edge North End above Fulham on goals scored.

But Wycombe might not be a push-over, despite their lowly league placing. Having sacked Neil Smillie after the defeat at Kenilworth Road, Wycombe have replaced him with Lawrie Sanchez, a 1988 cup final scorer and winner with Wimbledon - alongside our own Clive Goodyear - and his first match in charge saw the Wanderers hold Fulham to a 1-1 draw at Adams Park.

Goodyear thinks Sanchez will do a good job, after a long spell as a coach at Wimbledon. "He's well educated, very intelligent, and very good on tactics," said our physio. "He will instil discipline and organisation, and I think he will do well."

While Fulham were below par at Wycombe, Preston missed a chance to close the gap when Bristol Rovers,

HOME

The Second Division

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24 16

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AWAY

23 13 56

16 45

our opponents next week, held them to a 2-2 draw at Deepdale. Kurt Nogan netted Preston's late point-saver.

Walsall are still third after winning 1-0 at Reading, where the manager is moaning about a pitch suffering because Richmond also use it, for rugby. Their fans were moaning too as Walsall cruised to the points. The previous home game at the magnificent Madejski Stadium had been a 6-0 romp for Bristol Rovers. Bournemouth moved up fourth place by thumping Stoke 4-0 at Dean Court. The Second Division's leading scorer, Mark Stein, was out of the side with flu, but was hardly missed.

Stoke's tumble down the table is beginning to alarm their fans. Not long ago their were cheering on the league leaders. Now they are jeering a team that has scraped just five points from the last 24. They have no game today, and could well drop out of the play-off zone tonight.

In the Second Division's match of the day Bournemouth are at home to Manchester City, so Stoke are condemned to seeing close rivals improve their situation, whatever the result. If City win they will be in the top six for the first time this season. Their current run is seven league games without defeat.

Down at the other end of the table, Northampton have gone six games without a win, but a 0-0 home draw with Blackpool inched them out of the bottom four, ahead of

Notts County, whose match at Wigan was postponed.

Wrexham come to Kenilworth Road today having achieved something that was too difficult for us - a Saturday victory after playing a midweek cup replay. They lost at Huddersfield to miss the chance of a home tie with Derby instead of a trip to Luton, but went to Macclesfield on Saturday and won 2-0 with goals by Karl Connolly and Andy

Today's other Second Division fixtures

Bournemouth v Manchester City
Burnley v Reading
Lincoln v Millwall
Macclesfield v Oldham
Northampton v Gillingham
Notts County v Blackpool
Preston v Wycombe
York v Walsall

*Wigan Reading **Luton Town** Blackpool York City Bristol Rov 23 Burnley Oldham *Colchester Wrexham 15 19 Northampton 12 12 Notts Co 17 Lincoln 28 5 3 6 18 20 1 3 10 Wycombe 5 3 8 19 17 0 6 7 21 24 Macclesfield 28 2 4 7 9 16 *Not including last night's match, Colchester v Wigan

Fulham

Preston

Walsall

Stoke

Man City Chesterfield

Millwall

Bournemouth

Gillingham

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 (Alexander 2p)	3,165
SAT	15		PRESTON NORTH END	Н	3.00pm	1-1 (Marshall)	5,392
TUES	18	WC1(2)	OXFORD UNITED	Α	7.45pm	3-1 (Gray, Evers, McLaren)	5,099
SAT	22		READING	A	3.00pm	0-3		18,108
SAT	29		COLCHESTER UNITED	Н	3.00pm	2-0 (S. Davis, Douglas)	5,005
MON	31		WIGAN ATHLETIC	Α	3.00pm	3-1 (S. Davis, Evers, Gray)	3778
SAT	05	SEPTEMBER	BURNLEY	Н	3.00pm	1-0 (Douglas)	5,554
TUES	08		WREXHAM	Α	7.45pm	1-1 (/	McKinnon)	2,951
SAT	12		BRISTOL ROVERS	H	3.00pm	2-0 (9	6. Davis, Alexander)	5,558
TUES	15	WC2(1)	IPSWICH TOWN	Α	7.45pm	1-2 ([Douglas)	9,032
SAT	19		BLACKPOOL	A	3.00pm	0-1		5,695
TUES	22	WC2(2)	IPSWICH TOWN	Н	7.45pm	4-2 (F	otiadis, Douglas S.Davis, Johns	on) 5,665
SAT	26		WALSALL	Н	3.00pm	0-1		5,530
SAT	03	OCTOBER	FULHAM	A	3.00pm	3-1 (0	Gray, Douglas, Davis)	11,856
SAT	10		YORK CITY	Α	3.00pm	3-3 ([Douglas, Evers, Gray)	3,780
SAT	17		OLDHAM ATHLETIC	Н	3.00pm	2-0 (Gray, Scarlett)	5,447
TUES	20		NORTHAMPTON TOWN	Н	7.45pm	1-0 (/	Alexander)	6,087
SAT	24		GILLINGHAM	Α	3.00pm	0-1		5,602
TUES	27	WC3	COVENTRY	Н	7:45pm	2-0 (Gray, S. Davis)	9,051
SAT	31		CHESTERFIELD	Н	3.00pm			
SAT	07	NOVEMBER	STOKE CITY	Α	3.00pm			12,964
TUES	10	WC4	BARNSLEY	Н	7.45pm	1-0 (Gray)	8,453
SUN	15	FACUP(R1)	BOREHAM WOOD	Α	1.00pm	3-2 (0	Gray 2, S. Davis)	1,772
SAT	21		LINCOLN CITY	A			Gray, Doherty)	4,893
SAT	28		MANCHESTER CITY	Н	3.00pm		Doherty)	9,070
TUES	01	DECEMBER WC5	SUNDERLAND	A	7.45pm			35,742
SAT	05	FA CUP (R2)	HULL CITY	Н	3.00pm	1-2 (S. Davis)	5,021
SAT	12		MACCLESFIELD TOWN	Α			Douglas, Gray)	2,902
SAT	19		MILLWALL	Н	3.00pm		S. Davis)	5,939
MON	28		A.F.C BOURNEMOUTH	A	3.00pm			8,863
SAT	02	JANUARY	COLCHESTER UNITED	Α			(Alexander pen, White)	4,694
TUES	05	AWS(2)	WALSALL	Н	7.45pm			1,870
SAT	09	1999	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	Н			Spring, Evers, Douglas)	5,063
SAT	16		PRESTON NORTH END	Α	3.00pm	(-	Fotiadis)	11,034
SAT	23		WIGAN ATHLETIC	Н	3.00pm			4,934
SAT	30		A.F.C BOURNEMOUTH	Н			McKinnon, Doherty)	5,426
SAT	06	FEBRUARY	BURNLEY	A	3.00pm	2-1 (F	Fotiadis, Doherty)	10,285
SAT	13	,	WREXHAM	Н	3.00pm			
SAT	20	•	BRISTOL ROVERS	Α	3.00pm			
TUES	23		NOTTS COUNTY	Н	7.45pm			
SAT	27		BLACKPOOL	Н	3.00pm			
SAT	06	MARCH	WALSALL	Α	3.00pm			an a
TUES	09		FULHAM	Н	7.45pm		TOW	
SAT	13		STOKE CITY	Н	3.00pm			
SAT	20		CHESTERFIELD	A	3.00pm		BORN in 19	14 ho
TUE	23		READING	Н	7.45pm			
SAT	27	A DDU	GILLINGHAM	Н	11.30an	1	1934 ar	nd scor
SAT	03	APRIL	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	A	3.00pm		appe	earance
TUES	06		YORK CITY	Н	7.45pm			
SAT	10		NORTHAMPTON TOWN	A	3.00pm		Listen for t	he PA
WED	14		MANCHESTER CITY	A	7.45pm		question this	after
SAT	17		LINCOLN CITY	Н	3.00pm		answer	
SAT	24	1.4437	NOTTS COUNTY	A	3.00pm		aliswei	you c
SAT	01	MAY	MACCLESFIELD TOWN	Н	3.00pm			

TOWN TEASER

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McLaren

Harrison

Harrison

BORN in 1914, he joined Luton Town in 1934 and scored 87 goals in 77 appearances. Who is he?

Listen for the PA announcer to ask this question this afternoon - if you know the answer you could win a prize.

Substitutes

Grav

Marshall

Marshall

Marshall

Marshall

George

George

McIndoe

McIndoe

Marshall

McIndoe

McIndoe

Nyamah

McLaren McIndoe

Showler

Evers

Davies

Bacqué

Bacqué Gray

Bacqué Gray

Douglas Gray

Doherty Gray

Douglas Grav

Douglas Gray

Fotiadis Gray

Douglas Grav

Bacque McIndoe Fotiadis

McKinnon Douglas Gray

McKinnon Douglas Gray

McKinnon Douglas Gray

McKinnon Douglas Gray

Douglas Fotiadis Douglas Fotiadis Cox George for Bacque 71; McGowan for Marshall 81. Unused: White

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

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

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

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

Thomas for Gray 56; Fotiadis for Douglas 72: Bacque for George 79.

McIndoe for George 45; Bacque for Douglas 72: Unused: Thomas

Fotiadis for Douglas 73 Thomas for McIndoe 81. Unused: Bacque.

Bacque for Douglas 72, Unused: Thomas Cox

Fotiadis for Douglas 62 Thomas for McKinnon 89, Unused: Marshall

McIndoe Fotiadis for Douglas 77 Bacque for Cox 82, Unused: Abbey Thomas White

Marshall for Douglas 68 Bacque for Gray 84. Thomas for McIndoe 88.

Cox for Marshall 66; Bacque for Fotiadis 73; White for McKinnon 78. Unused Abbey, McIndoe

Gray for Douglas 60 McIndoe for Cox 67 White for Spring 87 McGowan Cox for McGowan 86, Fotiadis for Douglas 87. Unused: White

White for McKinnon 75, Cox for Douglas 84, Unused: Fotiadis

Scarlett for McIndoe 67, White for McKinnon 69, Fotiadis for Douglas 74

White for Spring 81 Fotiadis for Douglas 81 Unused: Scarlett

McIndoe

McGowan Fotiadis for McGowan 71, White for McKinnon 75, Unused: McLaren

McGowan Fotiadis for Douglas 89. Unused: White Abbey McIndoe McLaren

McGowan 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

McLaren for Davies 54, Doherty for Douglas 64, White for McGowan 84

McGowan Doherty for Douglas 63, McLaren for McKinnon 70, White for McGowan 75. Unused Abbey, McIndoe

McIndoe for McKinnon 61, Douglas for Doherty 64, Scarlett for McLaren 80, Unused Abbey, Thomas,

Showler for McIndoe 63, Doherty for Douglas 67, White for Spring 82 Fotiadis for Showler 63, White for Gray 77. Unused: McIndoe

Scarlett for Showler 60; Bacque for Harrison 74. Unused: McIndoe.

Doherty for Douglas 65, Unused McIndoe, Fraser

Kandol for Bacque 58, Doherty for Fotiadis 58, Scarlett for McLaren 72

McLaren Douglas Gray Zahana-Oni Doherty for Zahana-Oni HT, Scarlett for Douglas 81. Unused: Fraser

Douglas Fotiadis McGowan Doherty for Douglas 83, Fraser for McGowan 89. Unused Zahana-Oni Douglas Fotiadis Zahana-Oni Doherty for Fotiadis HT, McIndoe for Zahana-Oni 64. Unused: Scarlett

McLaren Douglas Doherty McKinnon Zahana-Oni for Douglas 74; White for Harrison 79. Unused: Scarlett

McLaren Douglas Fotiadis McKinnon Doherty for Douglas 72; Alexander for McKinnon 77; White for McGowan 88.

TODAY'S REFEREE

A POLICE officer from Staffordshire, afternoon, is very much into football. Having passed the exams to become

coach, having won his FA preliminary badge

He started refereeing in the Walsall Minor League in 1981, and has moved steadily up the ladder ever since Premiership linesman three years later. He was promoted to the refs' list of the Football League in 1995 Away from work and football, he enjoys running, squash and playing most sports, plus spending time with his family, a wife and two young daughters,

HATTERS AWAY

MILLWALL

A

3.00pm

SAT

08



Luton Town v Wrexham



Kelvin Davis 1 Graham Alexander 2 **Gerry Harrison 3 Matthew Spring 4** Sean Dyche 5 Marvin Johnson 6 Sean Evers 7 Paul McLaren 8 Gary Doherty 9 **Andrew Fotiadis 10** Ray McKinnon 11 Phil Gray 12

Alan White 13

Landry Zahana-Oni 14

1 Mark Cartwright 2 Mark McGregor 3 Philip Hardy 4 David Brammer 5 Dean Spink 6 Brian Carey 7 Martyn Chalk 8 Kevin Russell 9 Karl Connolly 10 Carl Griffiths

13 Robin Gibson 14 Jake Edwards

11 Jeff Whitley

12 Dave Ridler

Referee: Alan Wiley, Staffordshire **Assistants:** P. Armstrong, Thatcham (yellow flag) R. J. Beeby, Northants (yellow & red flag) Reserve official: C. Reeve, Huntingdon



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