

LUTON TOWN

Saturday, September 4, 1999, 3pm

Official Matchday Programme £2.00



v Bury

SKF

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welcome to kenilworth road



THE long-running saga of receivership was at last approaching its end as we went to Press, enabling the Town to take some of the long-term decisions that had to be shelved while the receivers were in charge.

An immediate beneficiary is Nathan Abbey, who has had a month of uncertainty to kick off the season.

He has grabbed his opportunity, literally, and was one of the stars at Bournemouth on Tuesday night, making a couple of excellent saves and certainly not at fault when the Cherries got the winner.

It can hardly have been easy for him, or for others on short term contracts, with so little time to produce their best.

As a goalkeeper, Abbey had to put up with the knowledge that every hint of an error was magnified, because the last line of defence rarely has anyone behind him to clear up the occasional misjudgement. He has come through brilliantly, and his reward is a one-year contract.

Luton Town Football Club

Kenilworth Road
Stadium
1 Maple Road, Luton
Bedfordshire LU4 8AW
Tel **01582 411622**
Fax 01582 405070
Ticket Office
01582 416976
Editor **Brian Swain**
Design & Layout
Wolff Evans
Printing **Regal Litho**
Photography
Gareth Owen

The views expressed in this programme are not necessarily those of Luton Town Football Club.



Front cover:

MATCH-WINNER:
Phil Gray in action against Cardiff on Saturday, when his expert strike clinched three points and sent us into second place in the Nationwide League Division Two.

After being saddled with the unenviable task of understudying Kelvin Davis, the 21-year-old Londoner now knows that a regular place in the league team is within his grasp.

Manager Lennie Lawrence was also putting in train arrangements to confirm an extension of the loan deal of Julian Watts. His month is up after today's game, but all the indications this week were that City would allow him stay at Luton, on extended loan, or possibly with a full transfer.

OUR congratulations to Norman Gray and his pals, who safely completed their sponsored bike ride, from Luton to the game at Reading. Eight of them tackled the 52-mile journey, and completed it in four hours.

They are still chasing and counting sponsorship money, but expect to collect well over £1,000, to be split between FLAG and leukaemia research.

"We were lucky with the weather," said Norman. "It would have been very unpleasant if it had rained, but the only discomfort was from the very warm sunshine. One or two of us had sore knees for a day or so, but there were no other after-effects. And seeing the Town win so well made it all the more worthwhile."

Very sensibly, the riders accepted lifts back home, and Norman wishes to thank all who helped, particularly the Vauxhall Off-Road Club and Town on Tour for carrying bikes and passengers back home.

ONE or two enquiries have come in asking why this afternoon's match has not been shifted to a different day or time, to avoid clashing with England's game against Luxembourg. It was considered, but on past experience the club decided not to make changes.

You may recall that we had a morning kick-off against Gillingham last season to give Town supporters the chance to go home and watch England on TV. The only reaction from supporters at the time was that they did not like it.



(They didn't much like the England match against Poland either!). Today, some clubs have postponed their scheduled games, and kick-off at Bristol City and Cambridge was at noon, with matches at Oxford and Preston starting at 1pm.

The Town decided that an early start would not be fair for Bury supporters, who have a 180-mile journey to get here, so 3 pm it remains.

THERE were a few chuckles at Fratton Park on Wednesday, when the reserves went there for an Avon Insurance Combination game. The two opposing coaches were seen to spend a lot of time in deep conversation, and to some younger ears it sounded like a couple of old men wallowing in Memory Lane nostalgia.

They are not so old, actually, but it was no surprise that our Trevor Hartley and Portsmouth youth coach Ted MacDougall were delighted to meet again - as young players, they signed on together, on the same day, for Bournemouth. They have been pals ever since, but often separated by thousands of miles as their work took them to different parts of the world.

MacDougall became "SuperMac" so far as Fleet Street was concerned, although we at Luton never accepted that he deserved a title we bestowed on Malcolm Macdonald.

REMEMBER Guy Ipoua, one of the many trialists who passed through Kenilworth Road during pre-season? He played in two friendlies, and moved on, but has now signed for struggling Scunthorpe United. He joined when they were bottom of the table, without a goal to their name after three matches, but his arrival did the trick for the newly-promoted side. He went on as a sub and netted the clincher in their first win of the season, 3-1 at home to Bournemouth. He followed up on Monday with the point-saver in a 1-1 draw with Cardiff at Ninian Park.

Ipoua is only 23, but has already played for Torino, Nancy, Seville and Atletico Madrid. He scored three goals in 15 outings for Bristol Rovers last season before being given a free transfer at the end of it.

WE always welcome the referee and his assistants to Kenilworth Road, but the Football League has today done us out of the chance to have a chuckle about a couple of names among today's men in black team. Well, not actually, we will still put it on record.

One of today's assistants is Mr. Conn. At the New Den last week, for a Worthington Cup-tie between Millwall and Swansea, the man with the other flag was Mr. Merchant. Match referee Andy Hall is alleged to have said he would be keeping a close eye on the Conn-Merchant combination...

Brian Swain

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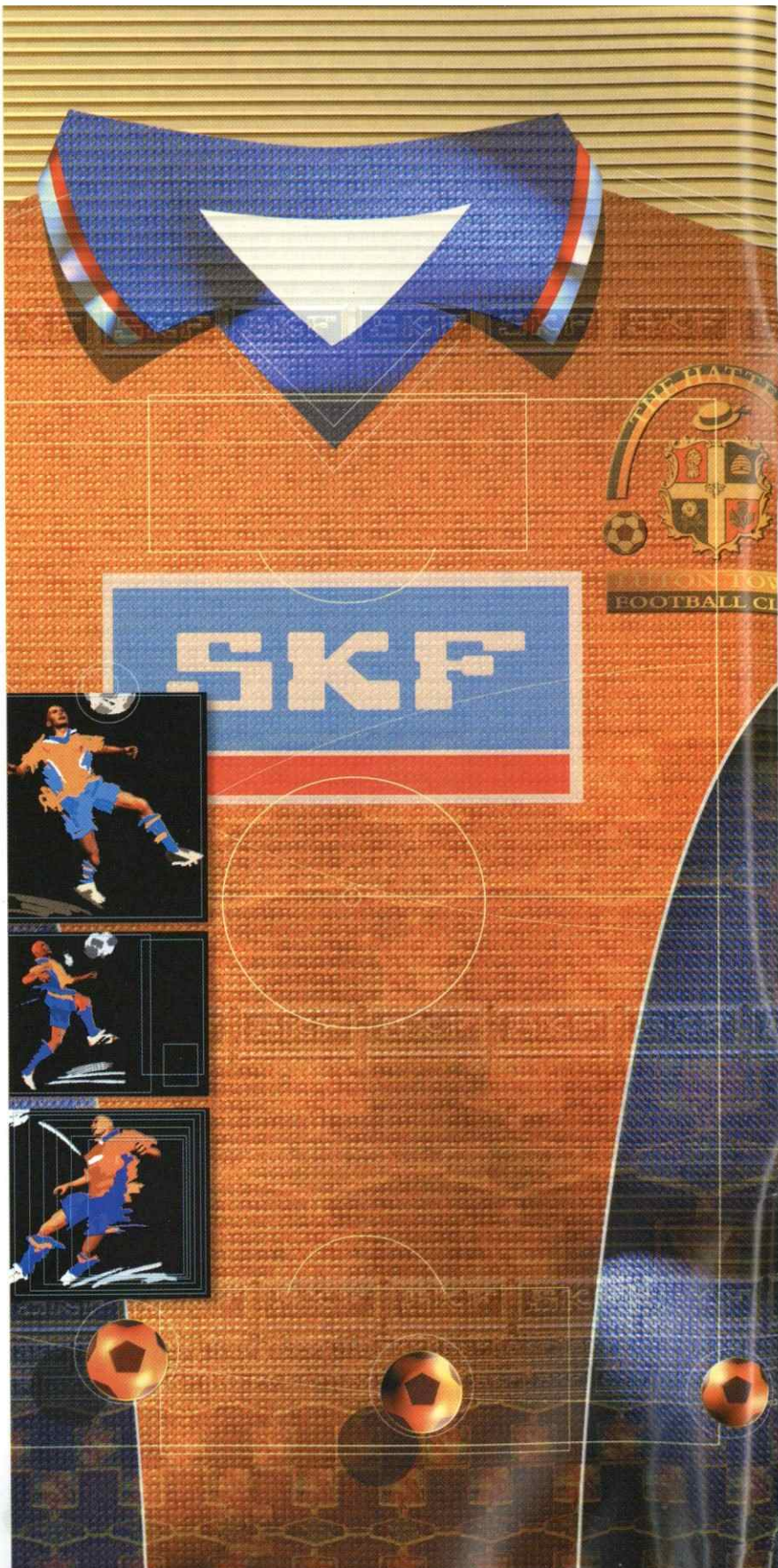
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The Manager

Lennie Lawrence



I AM SORRY we did not get the result we all wanted at Bournemouth on Tuesday - our Dean Court hoodoo struck again, in a match we hardly deserved to lose.

Even so, it has not been a bad week for Luton Town, and the match against Cardiff last Saturday was an excellent advertisement for the Second Division. We had the best of it in the first half, and it was end to end stuff in the second. Cardiff might have nicked a goal, but I felt that over the 90 minutes our victory was deserved.

The flow of the game was aided by the referee's performance. Unusually, nowadays, he let the game flow, no matter what. Both sides were on the receiving end of one or two odd decisions, but the referee contributed to an excellent spectacle.

Contrast that with Bournemouth on Tuesday, when I was very disappointed with the referee, who handed out all manner of yellow cards for all manner of unnecessary reasons.

There were seven bookings in the game, yet blatant time-wasting went unpunished. To add only two minutes at the end was beyond belief, and I don't think I have seen any footballer move slower than Mark Stein did when he was called off to be subbed during injury time. Yet the ref did nothing to extend stoppage time to take account of that.

And that's not a criticism of Mark Stein - all teams would try it on if they thought they could get away with it. Unfortunately, on Tuesday Bournemouth did.

There was an incident involving Stuart Douglas in which one of two things happened: either he was fouled, and it was a penalty. Or he dived, and should have been booked. We know what should have been given, but to make no decision at all was typical of the referee's performance on the night.

It was a blow to lose at Bournemouth after playing reasonably well, because overall we deserved a draw.

Things might have been different if a first-half effort by Andrew Fotiadis had gone under the bar, instead of hitting it and bouncing clear. Unfortunately, as always seems to happen to us at Bournemouth, we conceded a goal, and

despite pressure after that we could not grab an equaliser, although we had a couple of late chances.

Having said all that, we have to be fairly satisfied with results and performances so far, and one defeat in five is hardly a disaster and we are still in a good position in the league. The trick now is to build on the platform we have created.

Today we have the first of two consecutive home games, and while both offer tough tests, we must be aware of the need to make home advantage count. We lost nine games at home in each of the last two seasons, and that cost us dear, because away from home we have got some reasonable results.

I was tempted to say that Bury today, and Wrexham next week, will give us a chance to measure ourselves against good Second Division teams but I suspect Bury might turn out to be better than that.

We certainly found them difficult to break down when we last met them a couple of years ago - it was 0-0 in both games against Bury in the season they won promotion as champions.

Now they are striving to shake off the effects of relegation, and in Neil Warnock they have a very capable and experienced manager. We welcome him, and everyone else from Bury, including their supporters, to Kenilworth Road. Bury's start to the season suggests they may be in with a shout.

But we too have got off to a good start, and need today to bounce back from the disappointment of the result at Bournemouth.

It would have been nice to win on Tuesday and reach first place in the table, but today we need to take the three points which will cement our place in the top six.

I am delighted with the way the season has gone so far, and the players deserve credit, and your continued backing. The support so far, at home and away, has been excellent, and it has contributed to our good start.

All of us, on the pitch and off it, want success for Luton Town, and with the club now able to look forward with confidence we can achieve something worthwhile this season. So, thanks for your support last week, and at Bournemouth. Keep it up!

Lennie Lawrence

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Captain's Log

Marvin Johnson



I HAVE been a professional footballer for quite a long time, but our contrasting fortunes this week have been another reminder that you never know what to expect next.

We went to Bournemouth in very good heart, and feeling confident that we could get at least a point, and possibly three to go top of the table.

We last led the Second Division at the turn of the year in the 1996/97 season, and I still remember the buzz I got from that.

After our good start to the season, and the performance against Cardiff, who were a very good side, we fancied our chances at Bournemouth, but it turned out to be one of those occasions when we failed to stick away our chances, and the home side took one of theirs and nicked the points.

I think the defeat will be just a blip, and we know that we played well enough to get some reward. Mind you, on Saturday, Cardiff were saying exactly the same thing! We didn't agree with them, and I don't suppose Bournemouth agreed with us, either.

At least we made sure Mark Stein didn't put one over us, but on the night we couldn't keep a clean sheet, nor find a goal at the other end.

Their goal was certainly not down to Nathan Abbey, and we are all delighted at the way he is now playing. It has not been easy for him, replacing last season's player of the year, but the boss has been very helpful. Nathan believes in his own ability, and I for have every confidence in him. We are all pleased that he is being offered a contract.

He is still young, and so are a lot of the squad, and the younger players have done brilliantly to help us get where we are today. The bookies wrote us off before the season started, but we will be happy to prove them wrong.

I won't make any rash predictions about promotion, but going back to our experience of nearly three years ago, the lesson is very clear: you need consistency over the whole season.

The good start is very helpful, and I think we are now better equipped to end the problem that bedevilled us last season - too many home defeats.

Usually, visiting teams work at defence first and foremost, and try to suck you in and then catch you on the break. We do it ourselves in away matches, although I think we tend to be a much more positive side than the average.

This season, with three at the back, the use of wing-backs enables us to do more attacking at home, if the wing-backs are good enough. Ours are: Matthew Taylor and Stuart Fraser have both done remarkably well in those important roles, proving again that Luton Town can produce its own talent.

We have not been found wanting in terms of fitness, and although on Tuesday we played our second game in four days, we were all up for it, and well able to cope with the physical demands of the game.

To be honest, when you are on a good run, as we were, you want the games to come as quickly as possible after each other. It's when you have lost three or four on the trot that you dread them!

We are certainly not dreading today's task, even though it is obvious from their early season results that Bury will be difficult to beat. They have a point to prove after relegation, while we have one to prove after Tuesday's result at Bournemouth. We're glad of an early chance to set the record straight, and if we can do the job today, and then repeat it next week, when we have another home match, who knows what can happen?

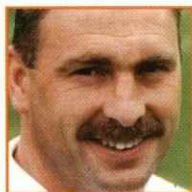
We are certainly a very happy dressing room, looking forward to matches, and quietly confident that our mixture of youth and experience can be the right recipe for success.

Good support is another ingredient, so once again thanks for your backing in the last two games, and I hope we give you plenty more to cheer about this afternoon.

Marvin Johnson

Treatment Room

Clive Goodyear



A LOT of hard work and careful preparations designed to prevent injuries seems to be paying off for us at present, with the treatment room not under too much pressure.

We have our usual collection of aches and pains, and bumps and bruises, but the only addition to the list to give us any concern this week was Phil Gray.

He received a heavy kick on the shin at Bournemouth, and had to leave the pitch briefly for treatment, but was able to carry on.

It left him bruised and very sore, and as a precaution he was left out of training for a couple of days. We did not want to risk the chance of him getting another knock on it.

I expect he will be available for selection this afternoon, when it will be a matter of playing through the pain, and getting on with the job.

That apart, we have escaped serious problems from two games this week, with the first team at Bournemouth on Tuesday and the reserves at Portsmouth 24 hours later.



Phil Gray

Our two players with knee problems, Gavin McGowan and Landry Zahana-Oni, are going to have to be patient to see how things settle down.

Both have had scans and examinations by a surgeon, and the early verdict is that we will not have to send either of them into the operating theatre.

You certainly do not want to put players through unnecessary surgery, and at this stage it looks as though nature, with a little help in treatment and specialised exercises, can do the job.

McGowan's scan revealed that he has a slight tear in a knee ligament. We think that a couple of weeks work on rehabilitation and strengthening will sort it out.

Zahana-Oni has a slight cartilage tear, and as with McGowan we will give

treatment and exercise for two weeks.

We will review the situation again when that fortnight is up, and there will be another appointment with the surgeon to get his advice.

We have every reason to suppose that both will recover without surgery, although at this stage we cannot make a realistic forecast as to when they might be match fit again.

Clive Goodyear

Club Secretary

Cherry Newbery



WHAT a splendid match we enjoyed last Saturday, at Kenilworth Road. But what a shame that a minority of people tried to spoil it.

I think the day's events showed all too clearly why the game had been designated all-ticket. That decision was made way back in June, when the fixture list was compiled. It was well publicised in the local press, on the radio, and here in our own matchday magazine. And as always with all-ticket games, we are not allowed to sell tickets on the day of the match.

We did everything we could to let people know. The Football League and the Press Association were informed. So official fixture lists from the League all mentioned that the game was all-ticket.

But there was a problem with the Press Association. That organisation takes in information, and then sends it out via the so-called wire service to press, radio and TV, including Teletext and Ceefax.

I know some football supporters get their information from their TV news and sports pages, so it was a great shame that the all-ticket designation failed to appear on those. I have taken it up with the Press Association, and they have admitted they failed to notify the national press and TV, and they have apologised.

It is an illustration of how our very best efforts can fall down through no fault of our own. Locally, we did everything we could, and I think the vast majority of supporters got the message that Luton v Cardiff would be an all-ticket game.

In the light of some of Saturday's events, the decision to be all-ticket was well justified. I have heard some question why so many police officers were on duty. The answer, sadly, is that police intelligence suggested it was a game at which there might be trouble, and the police made what preparations they thought correct. I have to say I think they got it right.

It was a police decision to have riot police on duty, and again, regrettably, it was justified by

events. I have been asked why they went across the pitch at the end of the game. The answer is that they needed to get into the streets on the Bury Park side of the ground to head off trouble, and their quickest route was through the ground exit on the Beech Hill Path side of the stadium.

We work hard to be a family club, with the safety of supporters uppermost in our minds, but what can you say about the appalling behaviour seen when a Welsh flag was set alight in the main stand? I am at a loss to understand the mentality of people who can do that.

Obviously, it was inciting a possible major disorder. What beggars belief even more is that anyone could be so thoughtless as to set fire to anything in our crowded wooden stand. Everyone knows it is clearly defined as a no-smoking area, because of the fire risk, by Luton Borough Council. It was a wicked act which had the potential to turn into a disaster.

We know it is a minority involved, but these people are not welcome at this club.

We will ban the offenders, as we have every right to do. As a club we always reserve the right to refuse admission to anyone, and we are determined to do everything possible to stamp out trouble, and protect the good name of Luton Town FC. And that is something the vast majority of supporters deserve.

I am sure some of you will not be happy to learn that Brentford have decided to make their home game with us in two weeks' time an all-ticket game for Luton supporters.

It means you MUST purchase your ticket from the Luton Town ticket office by 6pm on Friday, September 17. Price details are on page 11. There will be no tickets available for purchase on the day of the match.

Finally, I am pleased to report that we have pre-match and half-time entertainment today, and we give a warm welcome to the Biggleswade Majorettes. I hope they, and all of us, enjoy a happy afternoon.

Cherry Newbery

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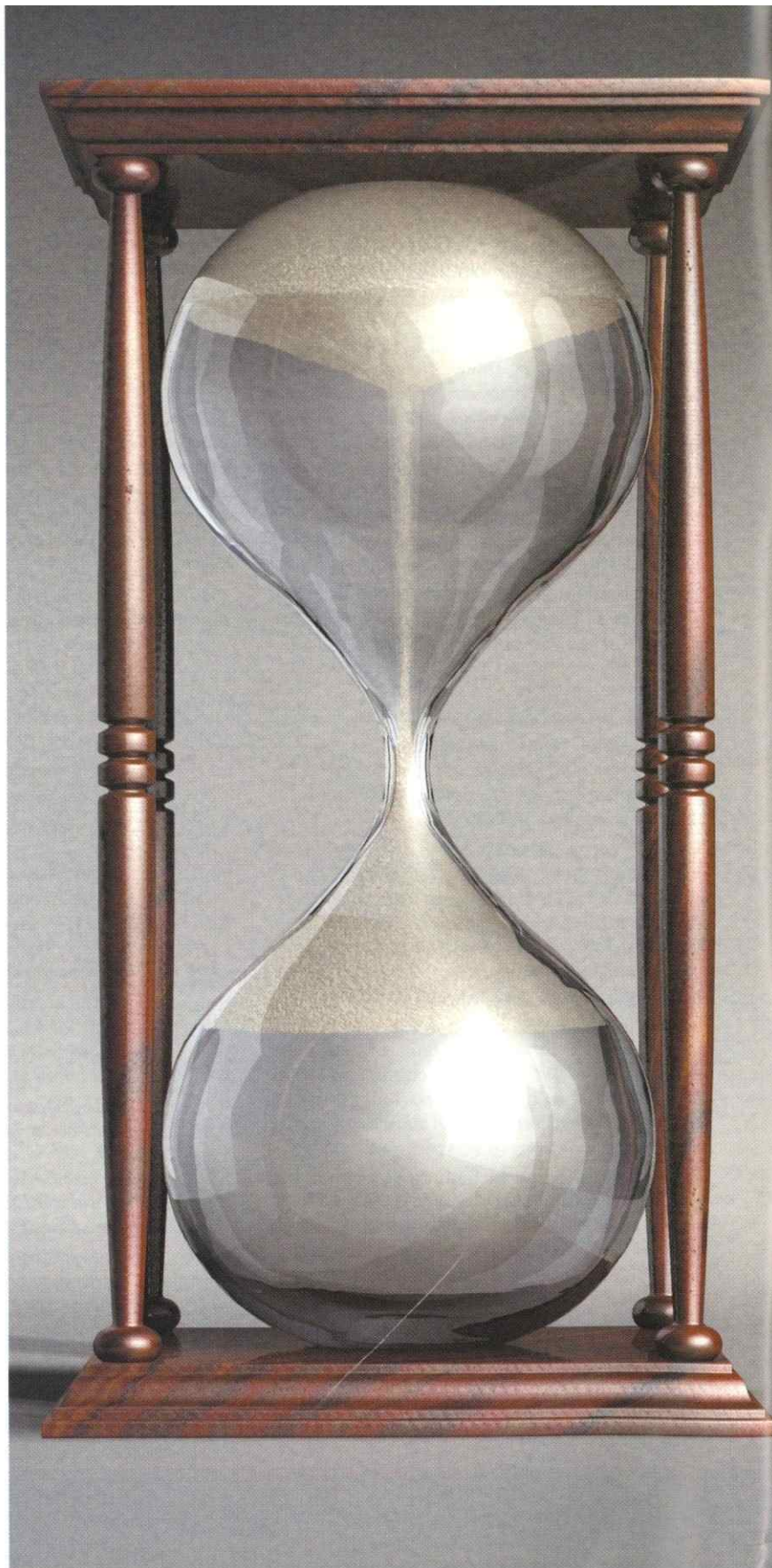
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Tickets



Nationwide League Division Two

**Luton Town v
Wrexham**

**Saturday September 11,
kick-off 3pm**

Tickets are on sale at normal league prices. Cash turnstiles will be open on the day.

Nationwide League Division Two

**Brentford v
Luton Town**

**Saturday September 18,
kick-off 3pm**

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS AN ALL TICKET MATCH FOR LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS. TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE FROM OUR TICKET OFFICE. NONE WILL BE SOLD AFTER 6PM ON FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 17.

Terracing: £11, no concessions
Seats: £15 adults,
£12 concessions
(under-16s and over-60s).

Discounts for early purchase of match tickets are available to members until a fortnight before each match. Cash turnstiles are open at all games, EXCEPT all-ticket matches.

Nationwide League Division Two

**Luton Town v
Oxford United**

**Saturday September 25,
kick-off 3pm**

Tickets are on sale at discounted prices until after today's match, and then at normal league prices. Cash turnstiles will be open on the day.

Nationwide League Division Two

**Wigan Ath v
Luton Town**

**Saturday October 2,
kick-off 3pm**

Pay on the day only, and seating only.
£10 adults, £6 concessions (juniors and OAPS).

Nationwide League Division Two

**Oldham Ath
v Luton Town**

**Saturday October 9,
kick-off 3pm**

Pay on the day only, and seating only.
£13 adults, £6 concessions (under-16s and over 60s).

Ticket Office Opening Hours

Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm,
(except on Fridays before Saturday home matches when it is 10am to 6pm).

Saturday 9am to 5.30pm on matchdays;
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Hatters Chatter

eclipse visitor

WE OFTEN receive visits from football fans who are on the great soccer trek trail, chasing their ambition of seeing every league ground in the country.

But never can we recall any character like John Westley, who turned up unannounced at Kenilworth Road in early August and asked us to give him written evidence that he had visited us.

We were happy to oblige, and organise a picture, particularly when we heard the interesting tale he had to tell.

He has a place in the Guinness Book of Records as the first man to walk every inch around the coastline of England, Wales and Scotland - a staggering 9,649 miles - and he admits that at times staggering was the word!

That marathon walk was done to raise money to aid research and treatment of multiple sclerosis, and thanks to sponsorships and various other fund-raising efforts he has already collected over £50,000.

The Guinness Book of Records confirms that he is the British endurance walking champion, and having heard all that we wondered why on earth he was passing through Luton.

It turned out to be about the solar eclipse of a month ago. Mr. Westley happens to live at Kessingland, in Suffolk, not far from Lowestoft, and the most easterly point in the UK.

Always looking for ways to utilise his hobby and potential earnings for

charity, he came up with the idea of making the longest possible walk across the country, from east to west, timing it to arrive at Cape Cornwall in time to experience the total eclipse.

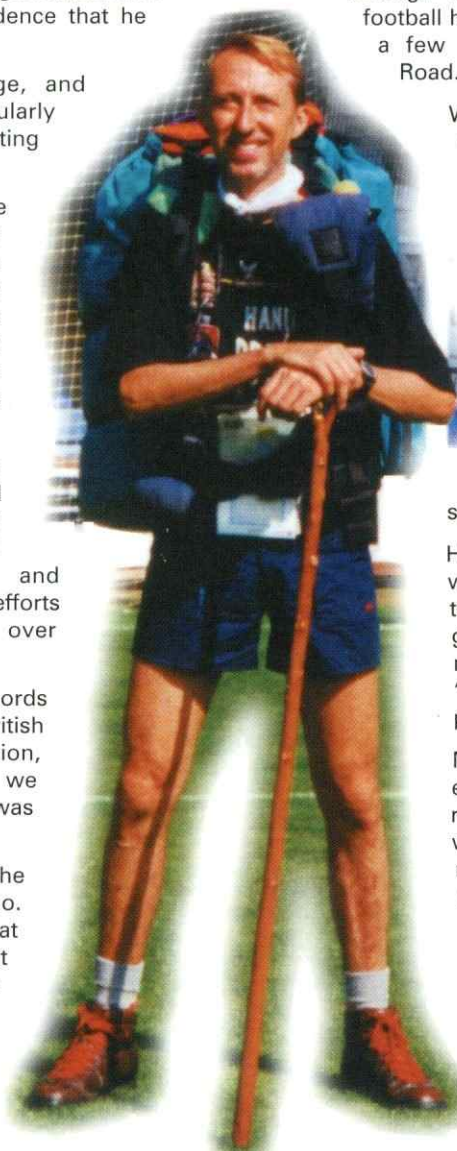
The 500-mile stroll brought him through Luton, and as he likes football he decided to stop off for a few minutes at Kenilworth Road.

We were delighted to offer him refreshments, and sign his documents, and he was in good spirits and good health as he left us, striking out towards Dunstable.

He completed his walk on time, checking in at St. Ives the day before the eclipse, and is currently collecting the sponsorships.

He has also started writing a book about his trip, and we hope we will get an honourable mention somewhere in "Eclipsed" when it is published later this year.

Mr Westley wrote an excellent account of his record-breaking coastal walk, called "And the road below" which is published by Meridian Books. You might well find it in local book shops, or it can be obtained by mail order from Meridian Books, at 40 Hadzor Road, Oldbury, West Midlands, B68 9LA.



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Commercial

John Bailey



A GROUP of old friends - and very good friends of Luton Town - are in our sponsors' lounge today, and very welcome they are too. They call themselves the Regular

Rabble, but of course only one of those two words is an accurate description, which is obviously regular.

They are a bunch of died-in-the-wool Luton Town fans, who turn up regularly at Kenilworth Road, and at grounds all over the country, rain or shine, to support the team.

She and her friends are among those who have proved that sponsoring a match is not the sole preserve of big business. It can be less expensive than you might think, and in thanking them for their support today we hope they all enjoy themselves.

They will, for sure, if we get the right result!

WE also welcome today's match ball sponsors, DAP Consulting, from Bishop's Stortford. As you might guess, they have strong Luton connections. The company's partners are David and Pauline Cain, and although he was born at Hitchin David spent the first 21 years of his life living in Luton.

He was for a long time a genuine fanatic, never missing a match at home or away, and remembers with particular fondness the triumphant 1967/68 season, when we won the Fourth Division championship.

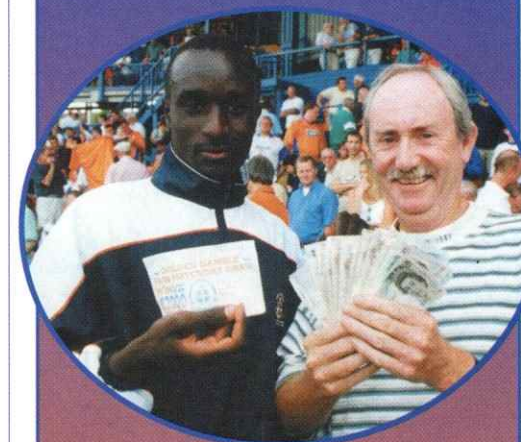
He is a chartered accountant now, and DAP Consulting acts as specialist advisers to governments on all kinds of infrastructure projects, such as roads and hospitals.

His dad was in the crowd when Joe Payne scored his ten goals against Bristol Rovers, and David tells us he hopes that even if we don't have similar results this season, he looks forward to another promotion campaign.

John Bailey

GOLDEN GAMBLE

OUR Golden Gamble jackpots are growing steadily at each home match, and our picture shows a very happy Luton Town supporter clutching a fistful of cash - £478 to be precise, the highest of the season so far.



Malcolm Snaith, from Letchworth, was the lucky winner, whose ticket was pulled out of the drum by one of our very successful youth team, Moses Jerry.

Golden Gamble tickets are on sale at every home game, at £1 each, and the income is split 50-50 between Luton Town FC and the jackpot.

The draw is made at half-time, with the cash instantly available, and so far this season the Golden Gamble has paid out £1,202 to five winners. With luck today's jackpot might top £500, so don't miss your chance to be a winner! We reckon it must be one of the best £1 flutters to be found anywhere.



Hatters v Shakers



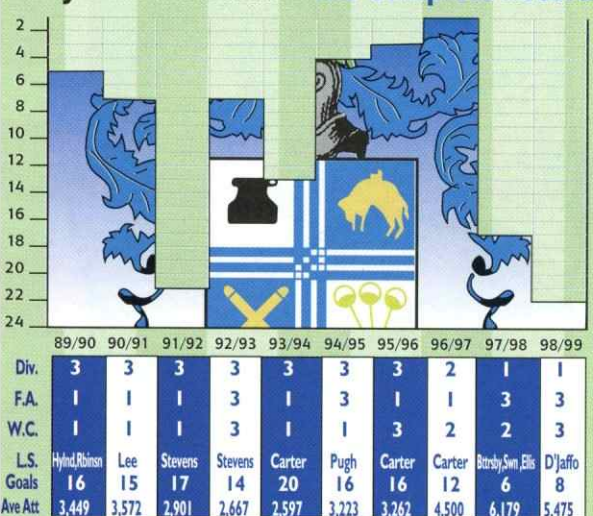
Shakers' Goals For & Against

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Hatters' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



Bury's Last Ten Years - The Complete Record



Bury's Contenders

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Prev Club: Bradford PA Int.:-
- 5 Sam Collins**
Defender 5 Apps 0 Goals
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Prev Club: Huddersfield Int.:-
- 6 Chris Swailes**
Defender 5 Apps 1 Goal
Age 28 Ht 6'2" Wt 13:07
Prev Club: Ipswich Int.:-
- 11 Nick Daws**
Defender 3 Apps 0 Goals
Age 31 Ht 5'10" Wt 10:12
Prev Club: Oldham Int.:-
- 2 Adrian Littlejohn**
Defender 3 Apps 1 Goal
Age 25 Ht 6'0" Wt 13:06
Prev Club: Crewe Int.:-
- 7 Darren Bullock**
Defender 2 Apps 0 Goals
Age 26 Ht 5'11" Wt 12:06
Prev Club: Notts County Int.:-
- 4 Lutel James**
Midfield 5 Apps 0 Goals
Age 29 Ht 5'11" Wt 12:13
Prev Club: Int.:-
- 21 Paul Williams**
Midfield 4 Apps 2 Goals
Age 28 Ht 5'10" Wt 11:00
Prev Club: Oldham Int.:-
- 8 Paul Reid**
Midfield 4(1) Apps 0 Goals
Age 30 Ht 5'9" Wt 12:10
Prev Club: Swindon Int.:-
- 16 Andy Woodward**
Midfield 3(1) Apps 0 Goals
Age 27 Ht 5'8" Wt 11:00
Prev Club: Hyde Utd Int.:-
- 3 Chris Billy**
Midfield 3(1) Apps 0 Goals
Age 29 Ht 5'7" Wt 11:07
Prev Club: Gillingham Int.:-
- 27 Lee Richardson**
Midfield 2 Apps 0 Goals
Age 30 Ht 5'10" Wt 12:07
Prev Club: Huddersfield Int.:-
- 20 Ian Lawson**
Forward 5 Apps 5 Goals
Age 21 Ht 5'11" Wt 11:00
Prev Club: Huddersfield Int.:-
- 18 Andy Preece**
Forward 3(2) Apps 1 Goal
Age 32 Ht 6'1" Wt 12:00
Prev Club: Blackpool Int.:-
- 9 Paul Barnes**
Forward 1 App 0 Goals
Age 31 Ht 5'11" Wt 13:00
Prev Club: Huddersfield Int.:-
- 12 Kemajl Avdiu**
Forward 3 Apps 0 Goals
Age 22 Ht 5'10" Wt 12:08
Prev Club: Esbjerg Int.:-

Luton Town's Goals For & Against



MATCH

Matchmen of the Month

As the season reached it's climax, which players came to the fore? Here's the run-down of each club's top man in May.

Player	Team	GP	SR	Ave
Blackpool	Marvin Bryan	6	2	7.16
Bournemouth	Ian Cox	7	6	8.00
Bristol Rovers	Jason Roberts	4	1	7.50
Burnley	Andy Payton	4	2	7.75
Chesterfield	Mark Williams	7	3	7.14
Colchester	Warren Aspinall	6	2	7.00
Fulham	Chris Coleman	6	2	7.83
Gillingham	Paul Smith	7	2	7.42
Lincoln	John Finnigan	5	1	7.00
Luton	Matthew Spring	7	3	7.14
Macclesfield	Steve Payne	4	1	7.25
Man. City	Paul Dickov	5	2	7.20
Millwall	Neil Harris	5	0	7.40
Northampton	Carlo Corazzini	5	2	7.60
Notts County	Darren Ward	7	2	7.28
Oldham	Lee Duxbury	5	2	7.40
Preston	David Eyres	6	1	7.00
Reading	Darren Caskey	5	2	7.40
Stoke	David Oldfield	7	2	7.00
Walsall	Robert Steiner	7	3	7.28
Wigan	Colin Greenall	6	2	7.50
Wrexham	Brian Carey	7	4	8.00
Wycombe	Martin Taylor	6	1	7.16
York	Chris Fairclough	7	1	7.85

Shakers' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



Bury's Form Guide - Result, Points, Position



Ground:	Gigg Lane	Division:	12 Sept 1997	Record Defeat:	0-10 v Blackburn, FA	Madden, 35, Division 4, 1981-82
Capacity:	11,841	Year Formed:	1885	Cup preliminary round, 1 Oct 1887	Cup preliminary round, 1 Oct 1887	Most Capped Player: Bill Gorman, 11
Pitch Measurement:	112 x 72	Record League Win:	8-0 v Tranmere Rovers, Division 3, 10 Jan 1970	Most Lge Goals:	108, Division 3, 1960-61	(13), Republic of Ireland and (4), Northern Ireland
Record Attendance:	35,000 v Bolton, FA Cup 3rd round, 9 Jan 1960	Record Cup Win:	12-1 v Stockton, FA Cup 1st round (replay), 2 Feb 1897	Most Lge Points:	84, Division 4, 1984-85 and Division 2 1996-97	Most Lge Appearances: Norman Bullock, 506, 1920-35
Record Receipts:	£86,000 v Man City,					

Today's Visitors

welcome to Bury



NEIL WARNOCK MANAGER

Neil's playing career as a winger began at Chesterfield in 1968 but took in numerous clubs as he seemingly picked up nomadic tendencies. He rarely stayed anywhere longer than two years as he played for Rotherham United, Hartlepool United, Scunthorpe United, Aldershot, Barnsley, York City and Crewe Alexandra. In all he played 326 League games and scored 36 goals. His career in management began with Northern Premier League Burton Albion in 1981, moving four years later to Scarborough, taking Boro into the Football League in his first season in charge. Two seasons later he joined Notts County and guided them from the old Division Three to Division One in successive seasons. In 1995 he won his fourth promotion in nine seasons when he took Huddersfield Town into the First Division and a year later he also took Plymouth Argyle to promotion. Neil looks on Wembley with great

fondness, as he has been successful on three occasions in Play-off Finals there - with Notts, Huddersfield and Plymouth. In March 1997 he took over at Oldham but was unable to halt the slump that had set in at Boundary Park and in June 1998 he was Bury Chairman Terry Robinson's only candidate to take over from Stan Ternent. Neil eventually proved unable to prevent the Shakers from unluckily suffering relegation on goals scored on the very last day of the season but he is now hoping to restore Bury into the First Division at the first attempt.

KEVIN BLACKWELL ASSISTANT MANAGER

Kevin was appointed as assistant to Neil Warnock in July, having been at Gigg Lane for the previous twelve months as the club's goalkeeping coach. Born in Luton, Kevin's playing career as a goalkeeper took in various league and non-league clubs including Boston United, Scarborough, Notts County, Torquay United, Huddersfield Town and Plymouth Argyle.



Back row (left to right): Steve Redmond, Laurent D'Jaffo (Now at Stockport County), Chris Swailes, Sam Collins, Brian Linighan, Danny Swailes, Paul Challinor, Andy Woodward.

Middle row: Alan Raw (Physiotherapist), Ryan Souter, Paul Williams, Darren Bullock, Pat Kenny, Ian Lawson, Gary Hoggeth, Kemajl Avdiu, Chris Billy, Dean Barrick, Kevin Blackwell (Assistant Manager).

Front row: Lutel James, Martyn Forrest, Nick Daws (Captain), Terry Robinson (Chairman), Neil Warnock (Manager). Paul Reid, Paul Barnes, Adrian Littlejohn.

For the latest ticket and travel information call the Luton Ticket Office on 01582 416976

Today's Visitors

the players

KEMAJL AVDIU

Croatian striker who took up Swedish citizenship when his family emigrated there but played his football in Denmark with Esbjerg F.C. before trying his luck in England. early last season on trial at Gigg Lane. "Kemo" went on loan to Partick Thistle and has been given an extended contract.

PAUL BARNES

Proven goalscorer who joined the Shakers on 15th March 1999 from Huddersfield Town for a £40,000 fee. Paul has regularly scored goals at all his previous six clubs, having started out as an apprentice at Notts County in 1985 before moving to Stoke City for £30,000 in March 1990. After a loan spell with Chesterfield, his career really got underway following a £50,000 transfer to York City in July 1992. Paul enjoyed promotion from Division Three with City and scored 81 goals in 157 games for the Minstermen. A fee of £350,000 prised him away from York in March 1996 to Birmingham City. An identical fee saw Paul move on to Burnley the following September. A player exchange deal took him to Huddersfield Town in January 1998.



CHRIS BILLY

A pacy utility player who arrived at Gigg Lane in September 1998 on a free transfer from Notts County, Chris appeared mainly at right-back or in midfield last season - and wore nine different shirt numbers, something that squad numbers this season has put an end to! Chris began his career as a trainee with his hometown team, Huddersfield. In August 1995 he linked up with Neil Warnock for the second time, joining his old boss at Plymouth before leaving Home Park on a Bosman 'free' transfer at the end of his contract. In summer 1998 he signed for Notts County but failed to settle and after just a few months received a call to reunite with his mentor for the third time, signing for the Shakers in September 1998.

DARREN BULLOCK

Tough tackling midfield man Darren made a debut with a difference for the Shakers last season following a £250,000 transfer from Swindon Town in February 1999. Stepping out against Norwich City at Gigg Lane on 20th February, he was dismissed after just twelve minutes - creating a new club record for 'quickest dismissal'! It was an extremely harsh decision though and Darren has since gone on to win over the Shakers supporters with his determination. In four years with Huddersfield he made 147 appearances and £400,000

exchanged hands when he moved south to Swindon in February 1997.



SAM COLLINS

One of several former Huddersfield Town players currently at Gigg Lane, Sam is one of Neil Warnock's 1999 close-season signings. A strapping central defender, Sam came to Bury as a direct replacement for former Shakers captain Chris Lucketti who had made the opposite journey from Gigg to the McAlpine a few weeks previously. Sam made his league debut with Town as a seventeen year old and went on to feature regularly in the Terriers side during the next two and a half seasons.

NICK DAWS

Nick is surprisingly now one of only two players still remaining at the club from the Shakers' 1997 Division Two championship squad, indicating the massive turnover in players in recent times at Gigg Lane. Nick made his mark at Altrincham. Former Alty boss John King, then a coach at Gigg, was instrumental in bringing Nick to Bury in a £10,000 deal in August 1992 and it has proved to be one of the best money for value transfers in recent times. As he commences his eighth year with Bury, he has taken over the captaincy for the 1999/2000 season. He has been ever-present in each of the last three seasons.

LUTEL JAMES

Pint sized striker signed on 28th August 1998 from Hyde United. Neil Warnock interrupted three successful seasons at Ewan Fields and Lutel became a Shaker.

PAT KENNY

Twenty-one year old goalkeeper who was plying his trade in the Unibond League with Bradford Park Avenue before he was given a trial with the Shakers last July. He signed a contract with the Shakers on 26th August with a fee of £10,000 being paid to Bradford.

IAN LAWSON

Another home-grown product of Huddersfield Town's youth policy, striker Ian made an impact in Town's first team after breaking into the team as a teenager in the 1996/7 season. Good in the air and skilful on the ball, Ian spent two loan spells with Blackpool last season. Ian moved to Gigg Lane on 1st July 1999 on a free transfer from Huddersfield.



ADRIAN LITTLEJOHN

Adrian started as a trainee with West Bromwich Albion before moving on a free transfer to Walsall in May 1989. As a teenager he made his Football League debut with the Saddlers before moving north to Sheffield United in 1991. He played in 69 League games and scored 12 goals for United before moving on to Plymouth in September 1995. It took a fee of £100,000 by Argyle boss Neil Warnock to secure his signature. Adrian scored 17 goals in his first season at Home Park and became a firm favourite with the Devon fans as he helped Argyle to clinch promotion through the play-offs. After three seasons and 110 games for them, he once again followed his old boss to Oldham in an exchange deal involving Phil Starbuck. He linked up with Warnock for a third time on 12th November 1998 when a £75,000 fee brought him to Gigg Lane.

ANDY PREECE

Andy's career began in non-league with his hometown club Evesham before joining Wrexham in March 1990. Stockport County paid £10,000 for Andy in December 1991 and he played alongside the giant Kevin Francis. Together they formed a magnificent partnership. Andy's 42 goals in 89 (+ 8 sub) games attracted a £350,000 bid from Crystal Palace in June 1994 and the striker was on his way into the Premiership. In twelve months at Selhurst Andy scored 4 goals in 20 games before moving on to Blackpool. The Seaside paid £200,000 for his signature in July 1995 and he rewarded them by scoring consistently throughout the next three seasons. Andy left Bloomfield Road on a free transfer in summer 1998 and made the short switch to Gigg Lane.

PAUL REID

Paul moved to Gigg Lane on a 'Bosman' free transfer in July 1999 after turning down previous club Oldham Athletic's offer of a contract. A left sided player who began his career as a trainee with Leicester City, Paul turned professional with them in January 1986 and played 162 games (21 goals) for them before moving on to Bradford City in July 1992. He went to Huddersfield Town in a £70,000 transfer in May 1994. After 70 games for the Terriers, he became a £100,000 capture for Latics.

LEE RICHARDSON

Midfield player who came to Gigg Lane on loan on 26th August from Huddersfield Town. Lee has

previously been with Halifax Town, Watford, Blackburn Rovers, Aberdeen, Oldham Athletic and Stockport County and is known to Neil Warnock from his time as Oldham manager.

CARLOS ROCHA

Tall American striker who is currently on a three month trial at Gigg Lane. Carl holds a Portuguese passport and is hoping to impress Neil Warnock sufficiently to gain a long term contract. Previously played for Boston Bulldogs and New England revolution in the States.

CHRIS SWAILES

Centre-half Chris started his career as a trainee with Ipswich Town but played with Peterborough United, Boston United and Bridlington Town before finally making his Football League debut with Doncaster Rovers. Ipswich paid out a fee of £225,000 to re-sign their former trainee in March 1995. In November 1997 he found himself on the move once again as a £200,000 portion in the player plus cash deal which took striker David Johnson to Ipswich. He missed just three games last season (all through suspension) and picked up the supporters' vote as Player of the season.

DANNY SWAILES

Twenty year old centre-half who is not related to team-mate Chris. Danny started out as a trainee at Gigg Lane and at the end of his two-year stretch was rewarded with a full contract. He is now entering his third season in the pro ranks.

PAUL WILLIAMS

Full-back who started his career as a trainee with Leicester City before joining Stockport County on a free transfer in July 1989. Finances at County dictated that Paul joined Coventry City in August 1993 for a £150,000 fee although he appeared in just 14 Premier League games for the Sky Blues in a two-year period. During that time he was also allowed to spend a loan spell with West Bromwich Albion and two loan spells with Huddersfield Town. Paul eventually left Highfield Road in August 1995 in a £50,000 transfer to Plymouth Argyle, where Neil Warnock was manager at the time. At the end of the 1997/8 season Paul became out of contract, and turned down Plymouth's offer. He signed for Second Division Gillingham but failed to settle down in Kent and was allowed to join Bury on loan on 6th November 1998. Paul signed a permanent contract on 10th November after a fee of £10,000 (plus a further £30,000 based on appearances) was agreed.



	In discussions
GAVIN McGOWAN	Luton Town Supporters Club
MATTHEW SPRING	Brian Hall
ALAN WHITE	Rob Stringer, Epic Records
MARVIN JOHNSON	Space Display Systems
PHIL GRAY	G & S Ceramics
PAUL McLAREN	Elsie Clubb
STUART DOUGLAS	Les & Sue Miller
MICHAEL McINDOE	The Bobbers Travel Club
LIAM GEORGE	WHOSH
GARY DOHERTY	Peter Johnson
STUART FRASER	David & Jonathon Siegler
ANDREW FOTIADIS	Sally Mayne & Family
MATTHEW TAYLOR	Mick Garbutt, Inside Media
LANDRY ZAHANA-ONI	AVAILABLE
EMMERSON BOYCE	In discussions
TRESOR KANDOL	Danny Clubb
JAMES AYRES	AVAILABLE
JERRY MOSES	AVAILABLE
ANDREW SCARLETT	WHOSH
DANIEL TATE	AVAILABLE
JUDE STIRLING	AVAILABLE
SCOTT WARD	AVAILABLE
RYAN DAVIS	AVAILABLE
DAVID PEARSON	AVAILABLE
EFETOBORE SODJE	Graham Group Plc
LENNIE LAWRENCE	Luton Town Supporters Club, Milton Keynes
JOHN MOORE	Ian Smith
Under consideration	Les Miller, Miller & Company, Bedford
Under consideration	Paul Deason

The sponsorship package includes:

- Publicity within the matchday programme for every league and club fixture for season 1999/2000.
- Invitation to a VIP day to one match during the season 1999/2000 along with other sponsors.*
- Presentation evening at the end of the season, to include wine reception, 3-course dinner, entertainment and the presentation by your sponsored player of his match shirt.*

For both the VIP day and presentation evening, this package includes yourself only, but additional tickets will be available at an extra cost of £45.00 (inc. VAT) for any guests you may wish to bring along. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

The Total Cost of the package is £400 (inc. VAT) per sponsorship for season 1999/2000.

Hatters On Card

Alan Robinson

FOR this week's subject I go back on an old favourite, the Bubble Gum card, and to an era when Luton's fortunes were definitely on the up.

The Halifax firm, Anglo Confectionery, produced an 84-card set of football questions which were illustrated on the front with portraits which featured not only star names, but also lesser lights from clubs like Hartlepool, Southport and Newport County.

Luton were represented by Mike Harrison, a well-built left winger who had joined us from Plymouth for a fee reputed to be £7,000 on the eve of the 1968/9 season.

He had shot to fame as a teenager with Chelsea, and played alongside the likes of Jimmy Greaves and Terry Venables. He was capped at under-23 level before enjoying a five-year spell at Blackburn, where he made 160 league appearances.

Harrison's time at Luton was plagued by injury, and he can only be described as a moderate success in his two years at Kenilworth Road. However, he possessed a ferocious left-foot shot, which was probably utilised to the best effect by way of the two goals he scored in August 1968 against Watford in the Football League Cup.

On a personal level, I well remember the excitement at the news that a Luton Town player had moved in round the corner to me in Amptill.

He sometimes used to watch the local team when he wasn't playing for Luton - which was quite often! - and I remember on a couple of occasions he was accompanied by Graham French, who wore dark glasses and a giant kipper tie!

Mike also managed Queensmen FC, a Sunday

league side from Amptill, and his tactics and training methods made them one of the best Sunday sides in the area.

Alec Stock used Harrison sparingly during the push for promotion to Division Two in 1970, but the winger deputised for French in the Easter matches, scoring in the emphatic 5-0 thrashing of Reading, who were, until then, also challenging for promotion. The other goals were a Malcolm Macdonald hat-trick, and a first-ever for Luton by Viv Busby.

After promotion had been achieved Stock told Harrison his services were no longer required, and he moved on to non-league Dover, after only 37 first team outings for The Hatters.

Later he settled in Lincolnshire, and for some years was an insurance agent.

Other players to appear in this interesting set include Ron Davies of Southampton, Bobby Thomson of Birmingham, and George Ley of Portsmouth.

They all had Luton connections at different times, with Davies and Thomson two of the best players ever to grace our pitch. Ley's memories are not so happy - he was appointed youth coach in January 1990, when John Faulkner was promoted to be assistant to Jim Ryan, who had just replaced Ray Harford as manager. Eighteen months later David Pleat sacked Ley to bring in a new youth coach named Terry Westley.

Another face in this set of cards is familiar to football fans - there is a shot of a youthful Graham Taylor in his Lincoln City days.

The set of 84 is difficult to complete nowadays, 30 years after it was produced, but you may be lucky enough to come across card No. 24 featuring Harrison, which should cost around 75p.



Anglo Confectionery -
Football Quiz, 1969

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Hatters Abroad

carrying the colours

WE WERE touring Nova Scotia, on the Atlantic coast of Canada, when we met this couple wearing Luton Town tops. They are running a motel in a glorious beach-side location called Blackpoint, near Halifax.

Eddie and Veronica Patterson ask us to send good wishes to their old friends in Luton, and especially fellow supporters.

Eddie was born to be a Hatters fan... in Avondale Road, barely a long goal kick from the ground, and was a regular through the turnstiles before becoming a programme seller on match days. He played for Beech Hill School, on the other side of the ground, in the days when they were - he claims - the Luton schools champions.

Later he had some success as a centre-half with various local teams, including Vauxhall Motors and Electrolux.

Eddie worked in the distribution department of the Evening Post and Echo, the evening paper that was owned by Lord Thomson, a Canadian, and it was that connection that helped the family decide to emigrate to Canada, where a similar job was on offer.



Early retirement led to them achieving a lifetime's ambition of owning a motel, and although Eddie and his wife, who used to be Veronica Coles, of Chester Avenue, love their occasional trips back to Luton, they say the decision to move, with their young family, has turned out to be one of the best things they ever did.

Having seen their life-style, and enjoyed their hospitality, we understand why, even if some of us could not imagine life being that clever 3,000 miles away from Kenilworth Road!



THE Luton Town strips are in all shapes and sizes when the Fielder family from Harpenden go on holiday. The picture shows three generations of Hatters supporters, Roy Fielder, granddad, Dave Fielder, his son, and James Green the grandson.

The photograph was taken earlier this year on a ski-ing holiday in the French Alps and Roy, from Jameson Road, Harpenden, tells us that the three generations are here at every match, and expecting to cheer on the Town to new peaks of success this season.

WOULD you like to see your picture in the matchday magazine? Whether it's "Hatters Abroad" photographs or any sort of picture that will be of interest to other supporters we would be delighted to consider them for publication. Send them, with a few details, to the matchday magazine editor at Luton Town FC. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want them back.

Top Hatters Gallery



Liam George

Born: Luton 2.2.79

Previous clubs: None

Joined Luton Town: 1995 as a YTS boy.

Luton debut: v West Brom (H), Coca Cola Cup, 16.9.77

Luton Town record to 30.8.99: 22 appearances, 3 goals

Autograph

Fans can have their say on footballNOW! - the new-look Nationwide soccer web site with up-to-the-minute news and features on England's European Championship campaign, the Premiership and all the big European competitions as well as the Nationwide Football League and The Nationwide Conference.

football NOW!

Central to the re-launch of the football site, will be fanFARE - a fans' forum aimed at giving supporters the chance to air their opinions, tell their silly soccer stories and ask key questions to the top names in the game.



The exciting new format includes prize competitions - the first of which is for a trip for two to see England in training, a signed England shirt, a signed England ball and tickets for the Euro 2000 qualifier against Luxembourg - plus special offers on soccer merchandise and, from the autumn, an interactive Manager game in which fans across the nation will be invited to take part.

For all this plus the latest news on the international fortunes of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, domestic competitions such as the F.A Cup and Northern Ireland's Nationwide Gold Cup - and not forgetting Manchester United's participation in the World Club Championship - log on to footballNow! at www.football.nationwide.co.uk

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Hatters Away

travel information

Brentford v Luton Town

Saturday 18th September, kick-off 3.00pm

WE ARE at home again next Saturday, to Wrexham, before hitting the road the week afterwards for a visit to Griffin Park, Brentford. It is not the easiest ground to reach by road, and parking can be difficult, but as usual the two regular coach services will be running to take supporters to and from the game.



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The Bobbers Travel Club is a members-only service, and life membership costs £1, or 50p for under-16s and pensioners. The Bobbers pick up at Cranfield, Amptill, Flitwick, and Westoning. Coaches depart from the top of Kenilworth Road, and also pick up near the hotel next to the M1 junction with Dunstable Road.

Their coaches to Brentford will leave Cranfield

at 11 am and Luton at noon, and the fare is £6.50 for adults, £5.50 for concessions.

Visit the Bobbers Travel Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road on match days for further information.

Town on Tour, an offshoot of Luton Town Supporters Club, offers its best deals to LTSC members, who

also have a kiosk in Kenilworth Road on match days, offering membership and travel tickets. Town on Tour provide secure car parking at Maple Road, from where their coaches depart. That costs £3, but has to be pre-booked, either at the kiosk on match days, or during the week at the Luton Town shop.

The trip to Brentford leaves Luton at 12.45pm, and the fare is £7 for LTSC members, or £6 for concessions. Non-members have to pay £8.

DIY travellers

IF YOU hate coping with London traffic, you might find it worthwhile to go to Griffin Park by train. Brentford station is close to the ground, about a ten-minute walk, and is served by trains running out of Waterloo. Alternatively, there are two tube stations, Gunnersbury on the District Line or South Ealing on the Piccadilly Line, although Gunnersbury is about a mile and a half from Griffin Park, and South Ealing is about a mile. But you can hop on a bus - routes 237 and 267 both go past the ground.

If you want to drive, it's a matter of taking pot luck on choosing a route. The shortest distance, about 40 miles, is via the M1 south, to the very end, then turning right onto the A406, the North Circular Road. You need to follow that all the way to Chiswick roundabout, which is the junction with the M4, but be warned - the North Circular can be an

awful drag with Saturday traffic. For directions from Chiswick roundabout, see below.

Our man, with some experience in travelling to away games, prefers to do extra miles, and risk the M25. He takes the M1 and M25 west, then heads towards London on the M4, with Heathrow on the right.

Again, turn off at the Chiswick roundabout, 8.4 miles after turning on to the M4.

Then take the A205, the South Circular Road (the continuation of the North Circular) towards Kew Bridge. After a third of a mile, the road divides: go straight on, which means not going over Kew Bridge, but instead go into Kew Bridge Road, passing the Kew Steam Museum on your right. After half a mile, turn right at the traffic lights just beyond the Red Lion, and you are in Ealing Road, which runs past Griffin Park.

Mileage on this route: About 45.

For the latest ticket and travel information call the Luton Ticket Office on
01582 416976

Blast FROM THE Past

Roger Wash

Luton Town v Bury

The Town had started the 1969/70 season as if they really meant business. Thirteen games undefeated was the proud boast at the start of the campaign as the Hatters attempted to put behind them the disappointment of narrowly failing to win promotion at the end of the previous season.

With new find Malcolm Macdonald banging in the goals and early season signing Chris Nicholl shoring up the defence the Town were points clear at the top until disaster struck over Christmas. A 0-1 defeat by fellow promotion hopefuls Orient on a mud heap at Brisbane Road on Boxing Day was understandable but a home reversal, the first for over 18 months, to strugglers Gillingham was not.

There then followed a terrible 1-5 hammering at Shrewsbury and when the 'Match of the Day' cameras witnessed a 0-2 defeat at Kenilworth Road to Plymouth the knives were out. As the Town were slipping back to third spot after leading the table for so long the Kenilworth Road fans were actually heard to boo a Luton player for the first time for several seasons. The unlucky recipient of this treatment was Mike Keen as he prepared to come on as substitute- his crime was to think several seconds faster than some of his team mates! It was therefore a less than buoyant Luton squad that travelled to Bury on 24th January 1970 for the first meeting with the 'Shakers' since our days in the old Division Two seven years before. Bury had been relegated from that division in 1969 and were finding life fairly tough in their new surroundings due mainly to their poor form on their travels. They did, however, possess the prolific George Jones and Jimmy Kerr in their forward line, were the divisions top scorers, had an impressive home record and had won their last game at Gigg Lane 8-0 with Tranmere on the wrong end of the thrashing.

In those days the players and officials travelled with the supporters on specially chartered trains and the trip to Bury was no exception.

For supporters, the chance to travel all over the country in relative comfort for 25/- (£1.25) return was too good an opportunity to turn down, and as usual the train was fully booked despite the poor form of the team.

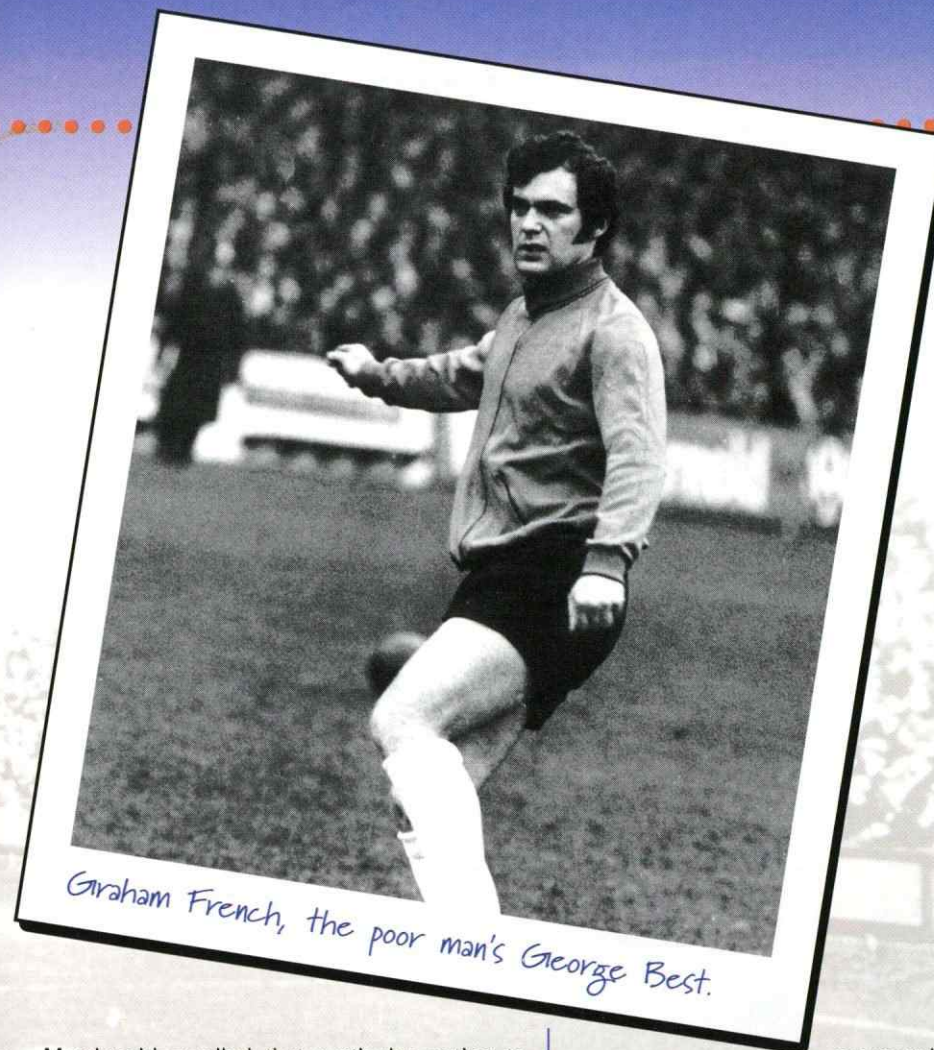
Manager Alec Stock, in a bid to reverse the run of four straight defeats decided to opt for safety first and drafted John Moore back into the half-back line and dropped Keith Allen in favour of Mike Keen. With Moore given the job of man-marking Shakers dangerman Kerr and Chris Nicholl looking after Jones it was fairly obvious that the Town would happily settle for a point. The factor that Stock had not taken into account, however, was the match winning abilities of winger Graham French.

French had one of those afternoons when he displayed all the talents that should have brought many England caps had he not been such a loose cannon. Time and time again he beat Bury full back Roy Parnell to put over a stream of tantalising crosses and even had the cheek, on occasions, to wait for the defender to get up off the grass before beating him again! It was from a French cross that Macdonald opened the scoring after only five minutes and with several defenders now covering the mercurial winger, Matt Tees was left in acres of space to increase the Town's lead on the half hour.

The reasons why French was unable to continue his first half form into the second period was to be revealed later and with the Town slackening off slightly, Bury reduced the deficit after 68 minutes through Ben Anderson. Suitably stung, the Hatters restored the two goal advantage four minutes later when Tees calmly lobbed Shakers goalkeeper John Forrest.

With Moore and Nicholl once again tightly shackling the Bury forwards the Town goal did not come under any further serious pressure and at the final whistle it was realised that the promotion bandwagon was rolling again.

In his book, 'Never afraid to miss', Malcolm



Graham French, the poor man's George Best.

Macdonald recalled that particular outing to Bury.

"The one story that emphasises French's lifestyle came when we were playing away to Bury and all the players had to report to Luton Station early on Saturday morning. Alec Stock, superbly dressed as usual, carried out a roll call and we were one short. French was late."

"The British Rail authorities were keen to get the special train out of the station, but Alec would not budge until French arrived. He was a very valuable member of the team. As the manager paced up and down the platform, I saw Graham staggering towards us in the other direction. He was blind drunk and wanted to tell the world what a great all night party he had been to. Somehow we kept him away from Alec and convinced our left winger that sleep and not another vodka and tonic was his best

pre-match build up."

"He slept the entire journey and again in the dressing room before the match. We eventually woke him up at 2.30 and told him to get changed. French was brilliant from the kick-off. He went past the Bury full back as if he wasn't there and made two goals for Matt Tees and me before Bury knew what had hit them. All we did was give the ball to French and wait for the cross. He obviously tired as the game went on but to this day I do not know whether Alec realised how ill French really was."

Luton: Davie, Ryan, Bannister, Moore, Nicholl, Slough, Collins, Tees (Allen), Macdonald, Keen, French.

Bury: Forrest, Parnell, Tinney, Turner, Lyon, Anderson, Hince, Arrowsmith, Jones, Kerr, Grundy.

Community & Schools Programme

Free Coaching Days with ntl:

We will be holding two free coaching days in Luton at Barnfield College on Monday 6th September and Dunstable Leisure Centre on Tuesday 7th September.

The two days, sponsored by NTL, are open to everyone up to 13 years of age. You can find full details in this week's Luton News and Dunstable Gazette or you can register a place by simply leaving your name with us at the Club on 01582 411622 or 0958 438322.

Summer Holiday Coaching Courses

This year our coaching courses have been more popular than ever with over 500 local youngsters attending throughout the summer holidays. As always, we have had lots of players visiting the courses for presentations and Q and A sessions and the odd impromptu five-a-side game!



Almost every first team player has visited a course this summer and we don't think that there is another club in the country that can say that - it shows great community commitment from Lennie, Marvin and the boys and we know that these visits are the highlight of the week for many of the youngsters.



NTL Schools Visit Project



Back to School Next Week!

With everyone back to school next week our NTL Schools Visit Project will soon be back in full swing with our coaches visiting schools throughout Herts and Beds. In fact visits are already planned for schools in Toddington, Hitchin, Ampthill, Luton and Dunstable.

The project is jointly funded by NTL and Sportsmatch and aims to provide curriculum time PE and football coaching in schools to youngsters of all abilities. If you would like further information about the project or to book a visit from us then it couldn't be easier - just give us a ring at the Club on 01582 411622 and we will do our best to arrange a visit or answer any questions you may have.

ntl:

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MATCH

Your Chance to Play on the Pitch!

We are offering all young footballers an exciting chance to play on the pitch by holding two six-a-side tournaments at Barnfield College. The first tournament will be for Under 9's and will take place on Wednesday evening 8th September with the final being played before the home game against Wrexham on Saturday 11th September.

The second tournament will be for the Under 10's and will take place on Thursday evening 9th September, with the final being played before the home game with Oxford on Saturday 25th September. Further details will be in this week's Luton News and Dunstable Gazette or you can register your team by simply phoning the Club on 01582 411622 or 0958 438322.



ntl:

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AN INCREASE in unacceptable behaviour in the stadium, particularly obscene chanting, has been apparent in recent matches.

We are a family club, trying to encourage more children to games, and we will invoke the law to prevent such things as obscene language or gestures.

Please see the warning notices on this subject displayed in various parts of the stadium, and please help us to stamp out unacceptable behaviour. If there is a culprit you can identify, please contact a steward or police officer as quickly as possible. Please be advised that the club will deal in the strongest possible way with any matter relating to unacceptable behaviour either at home or away matches.

Together, we can all make Luton Town a club to be proud of.

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01582 416976

Junior Hatters

welcome

AS PROMISED last week, we now have all the photographs available from our first Junior Hatters awayday of the season, at Reading.. They are smashing memories, and we look forward to more of the same as the season progresses. In the football match against the Young Royals, we were beaten 7-4, despite a good hat-trick by Daniel Miller. We also lost the half-time relay race round the pitch, but as the picture shows, it was really a case of Happy Harry putting his foot in it! And well done the rest of the team, Charles Day, Michael Wesson, Danny Cornick, Aaron Coleman, Daniel Miller and Rhiannon Morgan.

With the end of the school holidays we are able to look forward next week to the resumption of our popular Saturday club. We had hoped some of the young supporters from Wrexham would join us, but apparently they thought the journey was too long, and will not be coming.

Even so, the Junior Hatters enjoy Saturday Club with or without visitors, and we have space for more if you want to turn match day into a good day out.

Fully supervised, it kicks off at Dallow Road Junior School at 12 noon. We play football and other games, and quite often we are visited by some of the Luton Town players. A lunch of sausage and chips, with a drink, is provided, and we have a quiz in our family room before the big match kicks off. We watch the game from the lower tier of the Kenilworth, and then go back to the family room for parents or guardians to meet up with us. The price is £5 for Junior Hatters who have season tickets, or £9 including a match ticket. For further information



HAPPY AT HOME: Two mascots join the skippers and match officials at Saturday's game against Cardiff. Joe Anderson was the commercial mascot, enjoying his best-possible present for his eighth birthday, while the Junior Hatters mascot was Mark Ansell-Carter, who will be five later this month. We appreciated the way referee Roger Furnandiz helped young Mark get on the ball!

please contact the ticket office, on Luton 416976. Our next away trip will be to Brentford in a fortnight's time. The coach will leave Kenilworth Road at 12.15, and we should be back at about 6.15. The price, including a match ticket, is £12 for Junior Hatters and £17 for adults and guests.

You can book at the club's ticket office, and it is first come, first served. The ticket office is also the place to visit to find out more about joining the Junior Hatters. It's good value at £10 for the season.



● **NOT SO FLEET OF FOOT:** This is the moment when we lost the relay race around the pitch at Reading, and we think we can be forgiven for suggesting there was a spot of gamesmanship afoot. Look at Happy Harry's "running shoes" as he takes the baton on the last leg but one from Daniel Miller. We were slightly ahead and looking good, but the Reading furry thing was very conveniently wearing trainers. But Harry's big smile was beaming even more soon afterwards when Liam George popped in our winning goal!

● **ALL FRIENDS TOGETHER:** Reading very kindly offered facilities for a Luton Town mascot at the Madejski Stadium, and on the coach going to the match Happy Harry drew out the lucky name. It was Nathan Osborne, and he is pictured at the pre-match formalities. He is ten and lives in Telscombe Way, Luton, and goes to Someries Junior School. He plays football for the school team, and for Crawley Rams, and as well as football he likes swimming and running. He is close to his hero in the picture - Nathan's favourite player is Town skipper Marvin Johnson.



● **UNITED IN SPORT:** Junior Hatters and Young Royals line up for the camera before their football match.



● **TOP TEAMS:** The two relay squads get to know each other before doing their stuff round the pitch during the half-time interval.

Today's Mascot



YOU don't have to be a boy to enjoy football, and this afternoon two of our three Junior Hatters team of mascot and ball boys are in fact girls.

Our mascot is seven-year-old Rhian Clare, who comes from Shephall Green, Stevenage, and is already a keen Luton Town fan. She comes to matches with her mum and dad, and her brother Jonathan, and they watch from the Kenilworth upper tier.

Rhian goes to the Giles Junior School at Stevenage, and as well as football she likes swimming, dancing, gymnastics and playing her keyboard.

Today, while she will enjoy meeting all the players, she will be most pleased to be close to her favourite, Phil Gray as she joins the Town squad before kick-off and then join in the pre-match rituals.

We have one Junior Hatter ballgirl, Sophie Channing, from Nightingale Walk, Hemel Hempstead, and a ballboy, Christopher Chaplen, of Crabtree Way, Dunstable.

Action Replay

Luton Town 1 Cardiff 0 (HT 0-0)

Brian Swain reports

VISITING manager Frank Burrows went back home to South Wales on Saturday evening still puzzling about how his team could play so well, but fail to get a point at least. It's a two-word answer: Phil Gray.

His first goal of the season, expertly and imperiously swept into the net from the edge of the box, was the extra touch of quality that divided two very good teams.

Said Burrows: "To put all that effort in, after extra time in a cup-tie on Wednesday, and get nothing for it is hugely disappointing.

"It was a cracking game. They played well, and we played well, and we deserved something out of it." It was, of course, a biased view, as it should be. From Lennie Lawrence's standpoint, the result was no more than the Town deserved. He had hoped for a first-half goal, which could well have opened the floodgates for a visiting side bound to be still feeling some of the after-effects of a Worthington Cup victory on penalties at Queens Park Rangers three days earlier.

We learned last season how hard it is to win on the first Saturday after that kind of occasion, but newly-promoted Cardiff showed signs they could go home with a decent result.

Play was hectic and end to end, with tension off the park adding to an electric atmosphere. All 28 players who took part deserve every credit for keeping it crackling on a very hot afternoon. Referee Roger Furnandiz did much to keep it going, even to the point of letting the occasional foul go unpunished.

The difference eventually boiled down to the fact that the Town got five scoring attempts on target, and Cardiff only one. There were a lot of near-misses at both ends, and after so much hustle and bustle it seemed only right that the experienced Gray should come up with the vital moment of composure ten minutes from time to beat Jon Hallworth. And the build-up wasn't bad, either - Stuart Fraser breaking forward, to feed Stuart Douglas in the inside right position. One touch shifted the ball to towards the right hand side of the penalty area, and Liam George hit an immediate pass into Gray's path.

The story was told, said Lennie Lawrence, by the fact that Hallworth had to be man of the match on a day when Nathan Abbey was never seriously extended. Cardiff's closest calls were when they appealed in vain for a penalty when Jason Bowen was robbed by Gary Doherty, and then when Craig Middleton forced his way deep into the box but was denied by Stuart Fraser deflecting the shot

Match Details

Luton Town: Abbey, Fraser, Watts, Doherty, Johnson, George (McKinnon 84 mins), McLaren (McIndoe 81 mins), Gray, Spring, Fotiadis (Douglas 66 mins), Taylor. Unused subs: Sodje, Tate (GK).

Booked: No-one.

Cardiff: Hallworth, Faerber (Phillips 73 mins), Legg, Young, Ford, Bowen, Nugent, Brazier, Fowler (Middleton 26 mins), Eckhardt, Cornforth (Carpenter 70 mins). Unused subs: Hughes, Kelly (GK).

Booked: No-one.

The goal: Phil Gray, sweet left-foot volley from left side angle of the penalty area, leaving even the excellent Hallworth helpless. Cardiff's defence had been sliced open by quick-fire passing involving Stuart Fraser, Stuart Douglas, and the final ball across the box by Liam George.

Referee: Roger Furnandiz, Doncaster.

Attendance: 5,374 including 992 supporting the visitors.

over the bar with his back.

"If we had scored in the first half I think it would have been a different story," said Lawrence. "We said at half time that we needed to be patient and disciplined, and be ready to grind out a result. Cardiff only kept in it because it was still 0-0 and they had a good crowd of supporters giving them a lift.

"But overall, I thought we deserved to win, and for sure Phil Gray deserved that goal for the effort he put in."

Gray might have made the breakthrough earlier, with a thumping header which Hallworth saved brilliantly, flying sideways to concede the corner. But even he could do nothing about the mixture of power and precision which beat him in the end. Perhaps on the day Hallworth deserved better, but, as Mr Burrows said, in football you don't always get what you deserve.

For Lawrence and Town fans there was immense satisfaction not only in the result, but in the performance and the continued unbeaten league record which pushed us up to the dizzy heights of second in the league table, and level on points with first-placed Wigan.

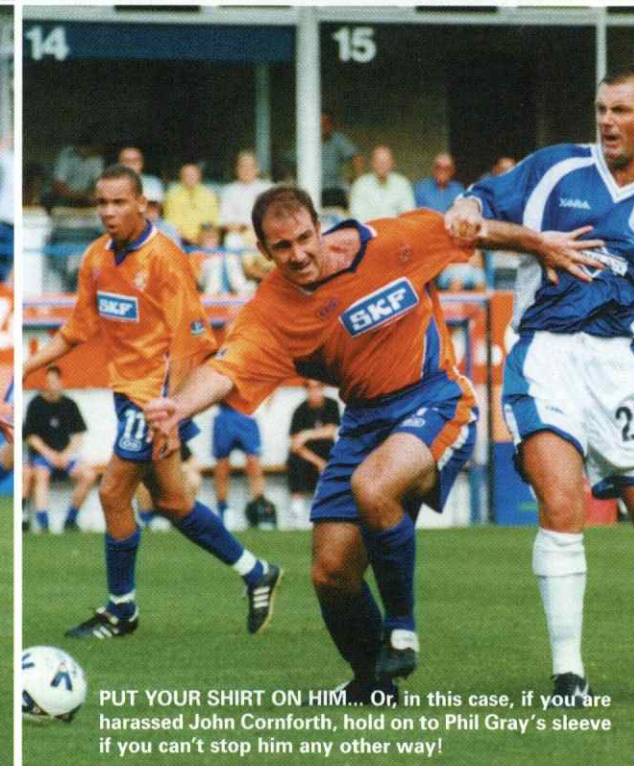
Said the manager: "It was a very good game, a wonderful advert for the Second Division, with plenty of excitement and incidents. It was certainly a good game to win. Cardiff are a very good side, but I felt we were value for the points."



UP FOR IT: Players and fans alike salute the winner against Cardiff. It was Phil Gray's first goal of the season, and he is on his way to celebrate in front of the Kenilworth End.



BEST FOOT FORWARD: Andrew Fotiadis on the ball.



PUT YOUR SHIRT ON HIM... Or, in this case, if you are harassed John Cornforth, hold on to Phil Gray's sleeve if you can't stop him any other way!

Action Replay

Bournemouth 1 Luton Town 0 (HT 0-0)

Brian Swain reports

THE FIRST defeat of the season was a disappointment, but there was not too much wrong with the Town's overall performance at Bournemouth, where losing by the odd goal is getting to be a habit. It has happened on four of the five occasions we have been there since Lennie Lawrence became manager, the only exception a 1-1 draw (Dwight Marshall scored) two years ago.

We could well have got at least one point with a touch more luck and sharpness in attack, because Andrew Fotiadis sent a clever lob over the keeper from 25 yards in the first half, only to hit the bar, and late in the second, after we had gone one down, Phil Gray looked a certain scorer until goalkeeper Mark Ovendale intervened with what looked at first like a late but reckless decision to close down the striker.

Between times, the pens flying over notebooks in the Pressbox were only slightly more busy than the referee's. On Saturday, in the blood and thunder confrontation with Cardiff, Roger Furnandiz let the game flow despite the occasional fouls. On Tuesday at Dean Court Anthony Bates, of Stoke, contrived to spot a total of 27 fouls by the Town and 12 by Bournemouth, and waved seven yellow cards.

The Town manager has his say about it in his column today (page 5) including a justified moan about time-wasting that was not punished.

Perhaps Saturday's exertions had taken more out of some of the Town team than they or we realised, but the overall performance did not hit the same heights. And perhaps we ought not to expect it in view of the tender age of some of the team.

But it was still 100 per cent in terms of effort, the major difference being that we did not create as many openings against a defence which had conceded only one goal in its three previous home matches,

Our own rearguard emerged with credit, with Nathan Abbey making a vital early save when Ian Cox burst through for a left foot shot.

Three minutes afterwards came Fotiadis's effort against the bar, followed by another excellent save by Abbey, this time diving at full stretch to keep out a header by Steve Fletcher.

As the game went on it became obvious that one goal would probably settle it, with 0-0 the most likely result as defences and both goalkeepers played well - Stuart Douglas, on as sub for Fotiadis, forced a one-handed save from Overdale, and Matthew Taylor's stinging left foot drive brought

Dean Court Details

Luton Town: Abbey, Fraser, Watts, Doherty, Johnson, Taylor, Spring, McLaren (McIndoe 81 mins), George, Gray, Fotiadis (Douglas 60 mins). Unused subs: Sodje, McKinnon, Tate.

Booked: Matthew Taylor, 44 mins, foul on Scott Mean; Paul McLaren, 45 mins, foul on William Huck; Stuart Fraser, 47 mins, foul on Huck; Michael McIndoe, 89 mins, foul on Steve Fletcher.

Bournemouth: Ovendale, Young, Warren, Howe, Cox, Huck, Mean, Robinson, Stein (Watson 92 mins), Fletcher, Hughes. **Unused subs:** Jorgensen, Tindall, Hayter, Stewart (GK)

Booked: Neil Young, 23 mins, foul on Andrew Fotiadis; Richard Hughes, 39 mins, foul on Matthew Spring; Ernie Howe, 50 mins, dissent.

The goal: Steve Fletcher header from a right wing cross by Neil Young in the 73rd minute.

Referee: Whistle and book-happy Anthony Bates, Stoke.

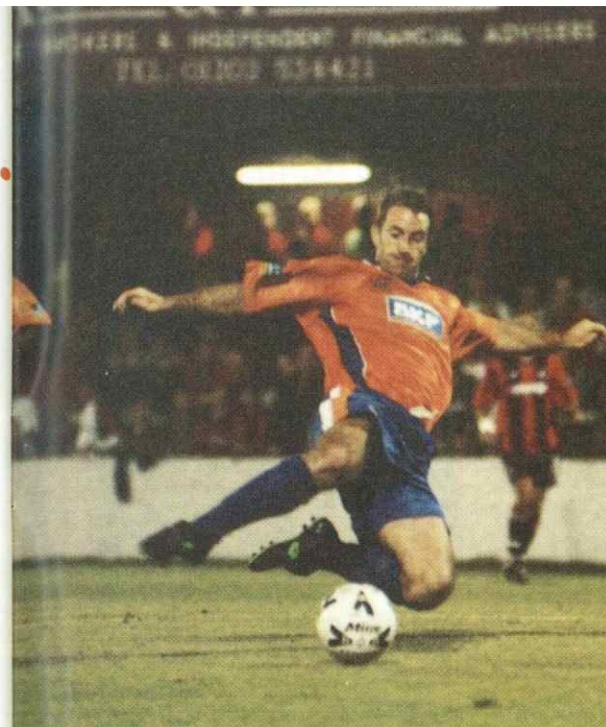
Attendance: 4,797, including 665 away fans.

the goalkeeper full length to prevent an opening goal.

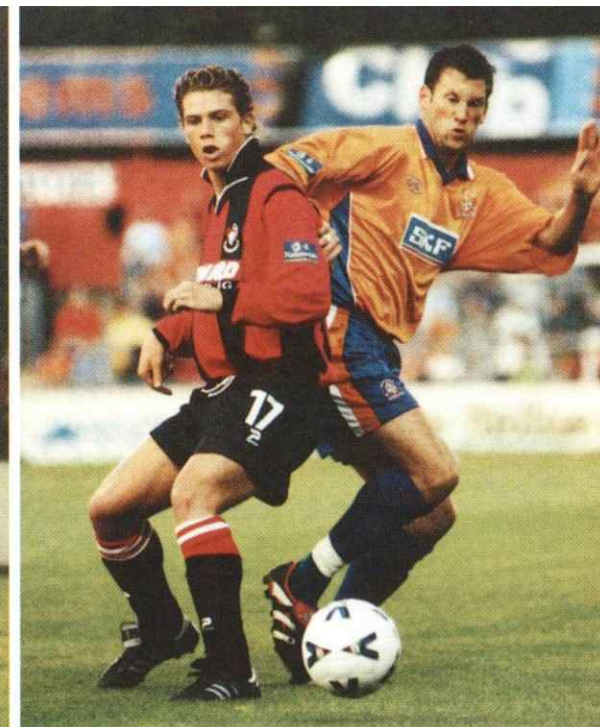
Then the Dean Court jinx struck again, with Neil Young and Scott Mean working the ball down our left flank, and Steve Fletcher heading a quality goal from Young's cross.

The peak of our frustration with the ref came when Douglas went on a run deep into the penalty area. Ian Cox brought him down, but, in the words of Town boss Lawrence, the ref bottled it. "Either it was a penalty, or Douglas should have been booked for diving," said the manager.

To compound our misery, Gray missed a great chance of an 87th-minute equaliser, allowing Overdale time to smother the shot, and after the sign went up announcing two minutes of stoppage time the ref played exactly that, despite Mark Stein taking an eternity to walk off "like a tortoise" in Lawrence's words, as Bournemouth put on a 92nd-minute sub. It just wasn't our night, but for all the disappointment there was again plenty of evidence that this team is capable of doing well in the Second Division.



THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY: Phil Gray ready to deliver a shot which looked like being an equaliser until goalkeeper Mark Ovendale closed him down remarkably quickly.



MIDFIELD TUSSELE: Paul McLaren in close competition with William Huck.



HANDS OFF: Liam George and William Huck in a shoving match.



MY SHOUT: And my ball as Julian Watts clears an aerial attack.

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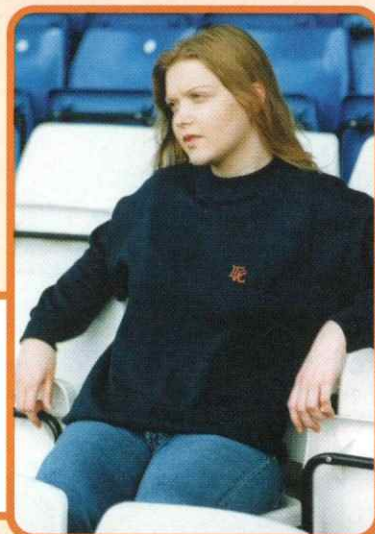
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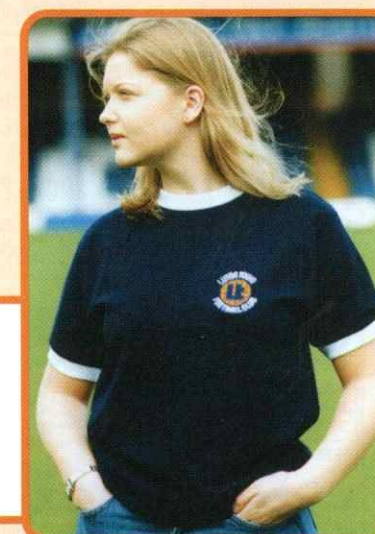
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AVAILABLE NOW IN THE CLUB SHOP

The Reserves

Trevor Hartley and John Moore



Portsmouth I Luton Town O

THE performance was much better than in our first game of the season, but we could have no grumbles about another Avon Insurance Combination defeat at Fratton Park on Wednesday, despite the narrow margin.

There were some plus points, mainly the solid showing by the back three, Effy Sodje, Emmerson Boyce and Alan White.

We have a deliberate policy of setting up the reserve team formation in the same style the first team use in the Nationwide League. The idea is simple enough: if Lennie Lawrence loses a first team player, we hope that we have one in reserve who can slot straight in as a replacement.

Lennie has already put it on the record that the formation of three at the back, wing-backs, and one forward playing "in the hole" behind two front runners was decided for him by what he had available for Second Division matches.

Unfortunately, not all the players we have in the reserves are suited to the same style, but we still

ask them to adapt for the benefit of the club.

At Portsmouth, for instance, we used Andre Scarlett as the floating forward, but that is not what he is best at, and hard though he tried it did not really work out.

Another problem which should now ease off as the club comes out of receivership, is that we have several players unsure of their futures as they approach the end of one-month contracts.

They want to impress, for obvious reasons, but may not always be comfortable in the roles we ask them to play in games which for them are important trial matches. At Fratton Park we also had a trialist, Nicky Hunt, who was once a junior at Tottenham.

While Portsmouth deserved to win, we did have a couple of chances, with David Pearson forcing two good saves out of their goalkeeper.

Our major failing was that the midfield closing-down was below par, but there was not too much wrong with the defence, with Sodje having an excellent game as he tries to show Lennie Lawrence he is ready for the first team.

Portsmouth had a lot of players needing to do the same, and one of them, John Durnin, got the only goal. The ball was played over the top from the right, and although Daniel Tate palmed away a cross-shot, Durnin followed up to score.

Luton Town: Tate, Locke, Davis (Ayres 80 mins), Boyce, White, Sodje, Scarlett, Pearson, Kandol, Hunt (Stirling 75 mins), O'Connor. Unused subs: Moran, Mansell, Ward

WE ARE at home to Swindon on Wednesday. Kick-off at Kenilworth Road will be at 2pm, and admission is £2, half-price for junior and senior citizens, and free to season ticket holders.

Reserve team appearances, including as sub:

Tate 2, Locke 2, Davis 2, Ayres 2, Boyce 2, Sodje 2, Scarlett 2, Pearson 2, Kandol 2, O'Connor 2, White 1, Hunt 1, Stirling 1, Zahana-Oni 1, Jerry 1, Bowes 1, O'Brien 1

Goals: Kandol 1



Youth Soccer

Paul Lowe

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE
YOUTH ALLIANCE



Cambridge Utd 4 Luton Town 1

OUR preparations for the match at Cambridge went horribly wrong in the 24 hours leading up to kick-off, and after doing so well in the first two fixtures, our first defeat, and by such a heavy margin, was all the more

disappointing.

We knew well in advance that we would be without our leading scorer, Tresor Kandol, after he had been promoted to the Nationwide League party, but we then had to make two other late changes - Alex Minton was ruled out by a thigh injury received in training the day before the game, and as we set off for Cambridge Lee Mansell reported in with a swollen knee, so he too had to be left out of the starting line-up.

With both central midfielders unavailable, and too late to do much about Mansell's absence, it was difficult to organise the team.

Skipper James Ayres, who normally plays at centre-half, was asked to fill in as a central midfielder, and deserves every credit for the way he responded to the challenge. He has the right character, and coped quite well for the first 15 or 20 minutes when we looked as though we might get something out of the game.

We almost got the all-important opening goal, when John Carroll hit a tremendous free kick. It got round the wall, but the Cambridge goalkeeper made a very good save, punching the ball clear.

But two goals in ten minutes at the other end put the home side in charge.

The first was a touch unfortunate, with Ayres misjudging a tackle, and giving away a penalty from which Cambridge took the lead.

The second was much more disappointing for us, because a Cambridge player was allowed to cut in from the right and run across the box with the ball. Two defenders watched, but took no decisive action, and a low left foot shot was struck perfectly into the net. It was a good strike, but a spot of basic closing down could well have prevented it.

When you are two down at half time, you look for ways to stimulate a better performance in the second half, but we had few options because on the bench we had a schoolboy, a trialist, and Mansell, who could have gone on only if it had been a dire emergency.

Cambridge were physically stronger than us, and in general older and more experienced, and played some good direct football.

They scored a third goal ten minutes after the break, once again after a forward was not pressurised enough. The Cambridge back four had been dominant, and to try to stop the ball coming back to us so consistently we changed formation and gave Ayres a spell as a centre-forward.

He won a lot in the air, which helped us, and completed

a good individual performance by lobbing a goal in the 75th minute, a fair reward for all his hard work.

Briefly, we hoped we might stage a late revival, but within five minutes Cambridge scored again, this time with a far post header, and our miserable morning ended with Steve Dogbe being sent off for a two-footed tackle. We had no argument with the ref's decision, although we felt it was a genuine attempt to win the ball as it spun away from him after he had been fouled.

He and Ayres had been our best players, working tremendously hard, but Dogbe is now facing an automatic suspension. Like the rest of the team, he will have to learn from the day's difficult experience.

Luton Town: Wright, Moran, Stirling, Carroll, Mortara (Miller 80 mins), Jerry, Ayres, Clarke, de Freitas (Deeney 70 mins), Dogbe, Barriteau. Unused sub: Mansell.

We were at home to Notts County this morning, but have no league fixture next Saturday. The following week, September 18, we entertain Oxford United, with whom we have had some good tussles in the past, in the South East Counties League.

Our home matches are played on Luton Rugby Club's ground at Newlands Road, kick-off 11 am, and spectators are welcome. Admission is free.

Youth team appearances, including as sub: Ayres 3, Wright 3, Mortara 3, Stirling 3, Moran 3, Clarke 3, Dogbe 3, Jerry 3, Flaherty 2, Minton 2, Mansell 2, de Freitas 2, Carroll 2, Barriteau 2, Jeffrey 1, Kandol 1, Deeney 1, Miller 1.

Goals: Kandol 2, Ayres 1

Football League Youth Alliance South Central Conference

Results and Fixtures

AUG	Sat 14	Walsall	H	0-0
SEPT	Sat 21	West Brom	H	2-1 (Kandol 2)
	Sat 28	Cambridge Utd	A	1-4 (Ayres)
SEPT	Sat 4	Notts Co	H	
	Sat 18	Oxford Utd	H	
	Sat 25	Wolves	A	
OCT	Sat 2	Northampton	H	
	Sat 16	Shrewsbury	A	
	Sat 23	Cup prelim 1		
	Sat 30	Cup prelim 2		
NOV	Sat 6	Cup prelim 3		
	Sat 13	Cup prelim 4		
	Sat 20	Cup prelim 5		
	Sat 27	Notts Co	A	
DEC	Sat 11	Oxford Utd	A	
	Sat 18	Wolves	H	
JAN	Sat 8	Shrewsbury	H	
	Sat 15	Northampton	A	
	Sat 22	Walsall	A	
	Sat 29	Cup rd 2		
FEB	Sat 5	West Brom	A	
	Sat 12	Cambridge Utd	H	
MAR	Wed 1	Cup quarter-final		
	Wed 22	Cup semi-final		
APRIL	Sun 16	Cup final		

	Goals	Player	League / Worthington Cup
	4-0	Colchester	
	1-3	Bristol City / Scunthorpe	
	4	Stein	2 / 2
	2-1	Wrexham	
	0-2	Brentford	
	3	Ormerod	3 / 0
	2-0	Oldham / Blackpool	
	No Defeats As Yet	Hreidarsson	2 / 0
	3-1	Bournemouth	
	1-2	Reading / Wigan	
	3	Akinbiyi/Thorpe	2 / 1 0 / 1
	1-0	Gillingham / Oxford	
	1-2	Wrexham	
	5	Roberts	2 / 3
	2-1	Chesterfield / 1-0 Oldham / 1-0 Stoke	
	3	Payton	3 / 0
	2-1	Gillingham	
	0-1	Wrexham	
	6	Lawson	5 / 1
	3-1	Reading	
	2-4	Chesterfield	
	5	Butler	2 / 3
	3-2	Oxford	
	0-1	Luton	
	2	Bowen/Hughes	1 / 2 1 0 / 1
	4-2	Cambridge	
	0-1	Colchester / 1-2 Burnley	
	7	Reeves	6 / 1
	1-0	Chesterfield / 3-2 Reading	
	0-4	Bournemouth	
	1	Aspinall/Dorell/Lua	2 / 1 0 / 1
	1-2	Bury/0-1 Bristol Rovers	
	3	Taylor	2 / 1
	3-2	Blackpool / 2-1 Reading / 1-0 Cardiff	
	0-1	Bournemouth	
	2	George	2 / 1
	1-3	Stoke	
	2	Cahill/Harris	2 / 2 0 / 0
	3-0	Colchester / Scunthorpe	
	4	Stallard	4 / 0
	0-2	Brentford	
	1	Allott	0 / 1
	2-1	Stoke / 1-0 Oldham	
	2-3	Cardiff / 0-1 Bristol Rovers	
	6	Murphy	4 / 2
	1-0	Oldham / 2-1 Stoke	
	1-4	Morgan/Parham	1 / 2 1 0 / 1
	2-1	Bristol City	
	1-3	Cambridge	
	2	Williams	2 / 0
	3-1	Bournemouth	
	0-3	Wigan / Notts County	
	2	Humphries/poua	2 / 2 0 / 0
	3-1	Millwall	
	1-2	Oxford / 1-2 Preston / 0-1 Burnley	
	2	Sigurdsson/Thorne	3 / 2 0 / 1
	3-0	Scunthorpe / 4-1 Preston	
	8	Barlow	6 / 2
	1-0	Bury / 2-1 Bristol Rovers / 1-0 Wycombe	
	1-2	Blackpool	
	3	Faulconbridge	3 / 2
	1-0	Scunthorpe	
	0-1	Wrexham	
	3	McSporran	1 / 2

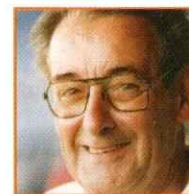
Highest Gate.....	13,885 Preston v Wigan	28-Aug
Lowest Gate.....	2,816 Chesterfield v Cambridge	21-Aug
Highest Aggregate Score.....	Bury 5-2 Colchester	30-Aug
Biggest Home Win.....	Bournemouth 4-0 Colchester	21-Aug
Biggest Away Win.....	Preston 1-4 Wigan	28-Aug
	Colchester 0-3 Notts County	14-Aug
Consecutive Wins.....	Burnley, Luton	3
Games Unbeaten.....	Brentford, Burnley, Luton, Notts County, Wigan,	
	Wrexham, Wycombe	4
Consecutive Defeats.....		Oldham 4
Games without a Win.....	Gillingham, Millwall, Oldham	4
Current Sequences		
Consecutive Wins.....		Burnley 3
Games Unbeaten.....	Brentford, Burnley, Notts County, Wigan,	
	Wrexham	4
Consecutive Defeats.....		Oldham 4
Games without a Win.....	Gillingham, Millwall, Oldham	4

H	CR	OB	V	FK	P	IB	OG		H	CR	OB	V	FK	P	IB	OG
3	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	Bournemouth	2	1	0	0	0	1	3	0
4	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	Blackpool	1	1	1	1	0	0	3	1
2	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	Brentford	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	Bristol City	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	0
1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	Bristol Rovers	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	Burnley	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0
3	3	1	0	0	0	3	0	Bury	2	1	1	0	0	0	3	0
5	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	Cambridge United	4	1	1	0	0	2	1	0
1	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	Cardiff City	1	1	0	2	0	2	0	0
1	0	1	1	0	3	0	0	Chesterfield	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
1	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	Colchester United	4	4	1	1	1	0	3	0
1	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	Gillingham	3	2	0	0	0	1	1	0
1	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	Luton Town	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0
1	1	0	2	0	2	0	0	Millwall	1	0	2	1	0	2	2	0
2	2	0	0	1	0	2	0	Notts County	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Oldham Athletic	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
2	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	Oxford United	1	1	0	3	0	0	1	0
2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	Preston North End	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
2	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	Reading	3	2	0	3	0	1	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	Scunthorpe United	2	0	0	2	0	1	4	0
2	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	Stoke City	4	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
3	0	3	1	0	2	4	0	Wigan Athletic	2	0	0	2	0	2	0	0
1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	Wrexham	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	Wycombe Wanderers	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	0

Referee	G	R	Y	Ave	Club	Y	R	Points
Hill	1	0	7	7.00	Wrexham	11	3	20
Jordan	1	0	7	7.00	Bristol Rovers	8	2	14
Warren	2	0	14	7.00	Colchester	9	1	12
Lynch	3	2	16	5.33	Oxford	9	1	12
Bates	3	3	14	4.67	Preston	6	2	12
Wilkes	3	1	14	4.67	Burnley	10	0	10
Knight	2	1	9	4.50	Cambridge	9	0	9
Bennett	1	0	4	4.00	Notts County	9	0	9
Dean	4	0	16	4.00	Chesterfield	5	1	8
Fletcher	3	1	12	4.00	Millwall	8	0	8
Foy	3	1	12	4.00	Reading	8	0	8
Messias	2	0	8	4.00	Bristol City	4	1	7
Olivier	2	1	8	4.00	Gillingham	7	0	7
Parkes	2	1	8	4.00	Luton	7	0	7
Beeby	3	2	11	3.67	Stoke	7	0	7
Tomlin	3	0	11	3.67	Cardiff	3	1	6
Walton	3	1	11	3.67	Wycombe	6	0	6
Kirkby	2	2	7	3.50	Bournemouth	5	0	5
Butler	3	0	10	3.33	Blackpool	5	0	5
Wolstenholme	3	0	10	3.33	Brentford	2	1	5
Rejer	4	2	13	3.25	Bury	4	0	4
					Oldham	4	0	4
					Scunthorpe	4	0	4
					Wigan	3	0	3

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Brian Swain



AS THE league table begins to settle down, we go into today's game hoping still to be in second place in Division Two, thanks to Bank Holiday weekend results being kind following the victory over Cardiff City.

Defeat at Bournemouth was not too costly, although it was

galling to know we might easily have got more out of it, and even gone top of the table.

This column had to be written before last night's matches in which Burnley and Wrexham were both at home, and thus able to reach for top place.

Before those games, we were one of four teams level on ten points.

Top favourites Wigan did us a favour on Monday by only drawing at home to Cambridge, although their major pleasure from the weekend was a 4-1 stuffing of local rivals Preston at Deepdale. Preston were looking good when they were given the lead by Steve Basham, whose transfer from Southampton has been valued at £200,000 by a tribunal.

His celebrations did not last long: goalkeeper David Lucas conceded a penalty by upending Andy Liddell, and was sent off. His replacement, Teuvo Moilanen, had a bit of a nightmare from the moment Stuart Barlow beat him from the spot for the first goal of his hat-trick.

Wrexham shot up ten places in the table by taking six points out of six, to join the bunch chasing Wigan. They beat Bristol Rovers at home on Saturday, despite being reduced to ten men when Dave Ridler was sent off. It probably helped that we had softened up Rovers in the Worthington Cup three days earlier. Wrexham followed up with a 1-0 win at Wycombe on Tuesday.

Bristol Rovers kept in touch when a Jamie Cureton penalty enabled them to edge out Burnley at the Memorial Ground on Monday.

That result was a good one for us, because Burnley had won 1-0 at home to Stoke 48 hours earlier, to take their tally to ten points.

Bury come to Kenilworth Road knowing that a win would lift them above us after a productive bank holiday weekend. Ian Lawson grabbed a hat-trick in a 5-2 home thumping of Colchester on Monday, and already has six goals to his name. Adrian Littlejohn's strike earned a point for Bury at Bristol City 48 hours earlier.

Colchester's embarrassment at Gigg Lane was not quite what they were hoping for to welcome in a new boss in his first away match.

Boss Wadsworth walked out as manager after Colchester dropped to 19th place following a 4-0 reverse at Bournemouth. Steve Whitton took over, and enjoyed a 3-2 home win over Reading on Saturday, before the joy abated somewhat on Monday as Bury scored five. Reading are surprisingly down among the strugglers, still looking for their first away win.

But for a taste of real despair, have a thought for

	HOME						AWAY						Pts
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A		
Wigan	5	2	1	0	6	2	1	1	0	7	4	11	
Luton Town	5	2	0	0	4	2	1	1	1	2	2	10	
Wrexham	5	2	0	0	3	1	1	1	1	3	3	10	
Burnley	5	2	0	0	3	2	1	1	1	2	8	10	
Bristol Rov	5	2	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	2	2	10	
Bournemouth	5	3	0	0	7	1	0	0	2	2	6	9	
Notts Co	4	1	1	0	3	0	1	1	0	4	1	8	
Brentford	4	2	1	0	4	0	0	2	0	2	2	8	
Bury	5	2	1	0	9	5	0	1	1	1	2	8	
Preston	5	1	0	1	3	5	1	2	0	4	3	8	
Oxford	5	1	0	1	3	3	1	1	1	3	3	7	
Cardiff	5	0	3	0	3	3	1	0	1	3	3	6	
Wycombe	5	0	2	1	2	3	1	1	0	3	2	6	
Colchester	5	1	0	1	3	5	1	0	2	3	9	6	
Cambridge	5	1	1	0	4	2	0	1	2	4	7	5	
Blackpool	5	1	2	0	4	3	0	0	2	2	5	5	
Bristol City	4	1	1	0	4	2	0	0	2	2	4	4	
Chesterfield	4	1	0	1	4	3	0	1	1	2	3	4	
Stoke	5	1	1	1	5	4	0	0	2	1	3	4	
Reading	5	1	1	1	5	5	0	0	2	3	6	4	
Scunthorpe	5	1	0	1	3	2	0	1	2	1	7	4	
Millwall	4	0	2	0	4	4	0	1	1	2	4	3	
Gillingham	5	0	1	1	2	3	0	2	1	3	4	3	
Oldham	4	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	3	3	

*Not including last night's games, Burnley v Bournemouth and Wrexham v Notts County

Oldham, the only club in the whole of the Nationwide League without a goal or a point to their name. They were beaten by a penalty which gave Oxford their first home win of the season on Saturday.

Gillingham, with former England under-21 coach Peter Taylor in charge after Tony Pulis left to join Bristol City, are struggling, apparently trying to prove the point again that play-off one season can rapidly be followed by dire disappointment the next.

At Wembley in May they were within minutes of a famous promotion-winning victory over Manchester City. Today, they are one off the bottom of the Second Division, with only three points from their first five matches. Two of those came over the holiday weekend, 2-2 at home to Wycombe and 1-1 at Stoke.

Brentford, our next away opponents, are among the group of teams within one victory of the top six, and after winning the Division Three championship last season they took their record to 20 league games without defeat with a 2-0 victory at home to Blackpool on Saturday.

Bristol City v Blackpool
Cambridge Utd v Stoke
Gillingham v Oldham
Oxford Utd v Wycombe
Preston v Chesterfield
Scunthorpe v Bristol Rov

Last night

Burnley v Bournemouth
Wrexham v Notts County

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	date	opposition	result	scorers	league place	attd.	team
AUGUST	Sat 7	Notts Co	A 0-0		-	6,141	Abbey Fraser Taylor Watts White Johnson Gray
	Tue 10	WC1 (1) Bristol Rov	H 0-2		-	2,984	Abbey Fraser Watts White Boyce Gray McLaren
	Sat 14	Blackpool	H 3-2	(George 2, Spring)	7	5,176	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren
	Sat 21	Reading	A 2-1	(Fotiadis, George)	3	8,741	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren
	Wed 25	WC1 (2) Bristol Rov	A 2-2	(Kandol, Doherty)	3	4,414	Abbey Locke Sodje Boyce White Watts Gray
	Sat 28	Cardiff	H 1-0	(Gray)	2	5,374	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren
	Tues 31	Bournemouth	A 0-1		2	4,797	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren

SEPT	Sat 4	Bury	H 3pm				
	Sat 11	Wrexham	H 3pm				
	Sat 18	Brentford	A 3pm				
	Sat 25	Oxford Utd	H 3pm				

OCTOBER	Sat 2	Wigan	A 3pm				
	Sat 9	Oldham	A 3pm				
	Sat 16	Gillingham	H 3pm				
	Tue 19	Wycombe	H 7.45pm				
	Sat 23	Oxford Utd	A 3pm				
	Sat 30	FA Cup 1	3pm				

NOVEMBER	Tue 2	Millwall	A 7.45pm				
	Sat 6	Burnley	H 3pm				
	Sat 13	Cambridge Utd	A 3pm				
	Sat 20	FA Cup 2	3pm				
	Tue 23	Preston	H 7.45pm				
	Sat 27	Bristol Rov	A 3pm				

DECEMBER	Sat 4	Notts County	H 3pm				
	Tue 7	AWS 1	7.45pm				
	Sat 11	Stoke City OR FA Cup 3	H 3pm				
	Fri 17	Colchester	A 7.45pm				
	Sun 26	Chesterfield	H 3pm				
	Tue 28	Bristol City	A 7.45pm				

JANUARY 2000	Mon 3	Scunthorpe	H 3pm				
	Sat 8	Stoke OR FA Cup 4	A 3pm				
	Tue 11	AWS 2	7.45pm				
	Sat 15	Blackpool	A 3pm				
	Sat 22	Reading	H 3pm				
	Tue 25	AWS 3	7.45pm				
	Sat 29	Cardiff OR FA Cup 5	A 3pm				

FEBRUARY	Sat 5	Bournemouth	H 3pm				
	Sat 12	Bury	A 3pm				
	Tue 15	AWS Semi	7.45pm				
	Sat 19	Bristol Rov OR FA Cup 6	H 3pm				
	Sat 26	Brentford	H 3pm				
	Tue 29	AWS area final (1)	7.45pm				

MARCH	Sat 4	Wrexham	A 3pm				
	Tue 7	Burnley	A 7.45pm				
	Sat 11	Millwall	H 3pm				
	Tue 14	AWS area final (2)	7.45pm				
	Sat 18	Preston	A 3pm				
	Tue 21	Cambridge Utd	H 7.45pm				
	Sat 25	Chesterfield	A 3pm				

APRIL	Sat 1	Colchester OR AWS Final	H 3pm				
	Sat 8	Scunthorpe	A 3pm				
	Sun 9	FA Cup semi-final	3pm				
	Sat 15	Bristol City	H 3pm				
	Sat 22	Gillingham	A 3pm				
	Mon 24	Wigan	H 3pm				
	Sat 29	Wycombe	A 3pm				

MAY	Sat 6	Oldham	H 3pm				
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The FA Cup final will be on May 20

Today's Referee

ALL referees start at the bottom, and progress up the league ladders as they gain experience. But today's man in charge, David Crick, is one of those who started getting his experience early - he passed his first exam, to be a Class III referee, when he was only 14. That was in 1970, and 11 years later he was a referee for the Isthmian League. He was promoted to the panel leagues in 1992, to the FIFA register of assistant referees three years later, and reached the Football

League list in 1997. His biggest games have been as an assistant referee, including at the 1997 FA Cup final and 17 matches abroad, at the request of FIFA. Married, with a son and two daughters, Mr Crick works an associate with the Financial Services Authority in the City of London, and outside of football he lists his hobbies as his family, music and swimming. He is also secretary and treasurer of the Surrey Referees Association.

Town Teaser

OUR Hatters Trivia competition continues today with one supporter certain to go home with a little prize. Listen to the PA announcer before the game, and if you know the answer to today's Town Teaser watch and listen for your chance to have a go.

TODAY'S QUESTION

We failed at the last hurdle in 1989 to retain the Littlewoods Cup we had won 12 months earlier. Nottingham Forest beat us 3-1. Who scored our goal?

substitutes

McLaren	Douglas	Spring	McIndoe	Boyce for Taylor, 70 mins. Unused: George, Scarlett, Zahana-Oni, Tate
Douglas	Spring	McIndoe	Taylor	Doherty for White HT; Fotiadis for Douglas 60 mins; George for McIndoe 60 mins. Unused: Zahana-Oni, Tate
Douglas	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	McKinnon for Fotiadis 75 mins; Zahana-Oni for Douglas 83 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 89 mins. Unused: Boyce, Tate
Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	McIndoe for Fotiadis 79 mins. Unused: Sodje, White, McKinnon, Tate
McKinnon	Douglas	McIndoe	Kandol	Doherty for Douglas 67 mins; Fotiadis for Kandol 67 mins. Unused: Scarlett, Davis, Ward
Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Douglas for Fotiadis 66 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 81mins; McKinnon for George 84 mins. Unused: Sodje, Tate
Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Douglas for Fotiadis 60 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 81mins. Unused: McKinnon, Sodje, Tate

Hatters Roll-Call Season 1999/2000

	APPEARANCES (as sub in brackets)			GOALS		
	League	WC	Total	League	WC	Total
Nathan Abbey	5	2	7	0	0	0
Emmerson Boyce	0(1)	2	2(1)	0	0	0
Gary Doherty	4	0(2)	4(2)	0	1	1
Stuart Douglas	2(2)	2	4(2)	0	0	0
Andrew Fotiadis	4	0(2)	4(2)	1	0	1
Stuart Fraser	5	1	6	0	0	0
Phil Gray	4	2	6	1	0	1
Liam George	4	0(1)	4(1)	3	0	3
Marvin Johnson	5	0	5	0	0	0
Tresor Kandol	0	1	1	0	1	1
Adam Locke	0	1	1	0	0	0
Michael McIndoe	1(4)	2	3(4)	0	0	0
Ray McKinnon	0(2)	1	1(2)	0	0	0
Paul McLaren	5	1	6	0	0	0
Efetobore Sodje	0	1	1	0	0	0
Matthew Spring	5	1	6	1	0	1
Matthew Taylor	5	1	6	0	0	0
Julian Watts	5	2	7	0	0	0
Alan White	1	2	3	0	0	0
Landry Zahana-Oni	0(1)	0	0(1)	0	0	0

Today's Teams



Luton Town

NATHAN ABBEY	1
STUART FRASER	13
JULIAN WATTS	40
GARY DOHERTY	12
MARVIN JOHNSON	6
LIAM GEORGE	11
PAUL McLAREN	8
PHIL GRAY	7
MATTHEW SPRING	4
ANDREW FOTIADIS	14
MATTHEW TAYLOR	15

Substitutes

RAY McKINNON	27
EMMERSON BOYCE	17
EFETOBORE SODJE	3
MICHAEL McINDOE	10
DANIEL TATE (GK)	22

V



Bury

13	PADDY KENNY
5	SAM COLLINS
6	CHRIS SWAILES
7	CHRIS BILLY
4	NICK DAWS
27	LEE RICHARDSON
3	PAUL WILLIAMS
16	LUTEL JAMES
21	ADRIAN LITTLEJOHN
20	IAN LAWSON
18	ANDY PREECE

Substitutes

12	KEMAJL AVDIU
17	STEVE REDMOND
24	DANNY SWAILES
26	CARLOS ROCHA
3	PAUL WILLIAMS

Today's Officials

Referee: David Crick, Surrey
Assistants: A. J. Conn, Royston (yellow flag)
 P. J. McGirl, Bedford (yellow and red flag)
Reserve official: R. Parkes, King's Lynn

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