

LUTON TOWN

Saturday, March 11, 2000, 3pm

Official Matchday Magazine £2.00



v Millwall



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Official Matchday

Magazine

Editor

Brian Swain

Design & Layout

Wolff Evans

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Gareth Owen

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



Front cover:
WHITE MAGIC - Alan White salutes the happy away fans at Turf Moor on Tuesday night after his goal had put the Town on the way to victory over the promotion contenders. Report and more pictures - page 38.

Travelling fans

OURS ON THE ROAD

Notts County	1,531
Reading	1,536
Bristol Rovers (WC)	134
Bournemouth	665
Brentford	1,704
Wigan	985
Oldham	451
Oxford	1,523
Millwall	688
Cambridge	2,152
Bristol Rovers	417
Lincoln (FAC2R)	294
Oxford (AWS)	126
Fulham (FAC3)	2,346
Colchester	384
Bristol City	461
Stoke	651
Blackpool	450
Cardiff	286
Bury	554
Wrexham	340
Burnley	286

Total17,964
Average817

VISITORS TO LUTON

Bristol Rovers (WC)	240
Blackpool	464
Cardiff	992
Bury	198
Wrexham	307
Oxford	745
Gillingham	1,241
Wycombe	711
Kingstonian (FAC1)	571
Burnley	1,392
Lincoln (FAC2)	523
Preston	578
Notts County	328
Fulham	907
Chesterfield	274
Scunthorpe	501
Reading	691
Bournemouth	348
Stoke	719
Bristol Rovers	1,158
Brentford	734

.....13,622
.....649

THE minute's silence for Sir Stanley Matthews at the Brentford match held special significance for two men among those standing with heads bowed in the main stand - Ken Hawkes and Allan Brown. Now Town supporters, they played against the most famous player in the world twice in four days in 1959, when we met Blackpool in the sixth round of the FA Cup. Both have special reasons for remembering the games: Hawkes had to mark Matthews, and recalls, with utter truthfulness, that the brilliant winger never got a kick in either game, which goes a long way to explaining why we beat Blackpool, and went on to our only FA Cup final appearance.

For Brown, who had previously played for Blackpool, there was the satisfaction of being the match-winner in the replay. Billy Bingham scored in a 1-1 draw at Bloomfield Road, and Brown got the only goal of the replay. That match was seen by 30,069 fans, despite being on a midweek afternoon, the biggest crowd Kenilworth Road has ever housed. The Brown-Bingham combo did the job for us again in the semi-final, against Norwich. Brown netted in a 1-1 draw at White Hart Lane, and Bingham in the 1-0 replay victory at St. Andrew's, Birmingham.

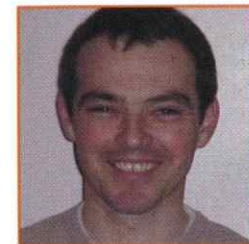
THERE were a few tickets left earlier this week for Monday's meeting of Luton Town Supporters Club, when the guest speakers ready to join in a question and answer session will be Julian Watts and Adam Locke. Admission tickets are £2 for members of LTSC and £3 for others, and if any

are left today they can be bought before and after the game from the Supporters Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road.

FOOTBALL agents often come in for stick, but one astonished the Town and Leyton Orient last week when he treated the crowd to free admission at the reserve match between the clubs.

Phil Graham has a good reputation for finding clubs at the right level for Caribbean players, and is offering the services of Aaron Lawrence to the Town. But the Jamaican international was not allowed to play in the game at Brisbane Road because trials are not allowed in matches where paying spectators are admitted. The agent solved the problem: he handed over £500 to a grateful Orient official, and the fans who turned up were let in for nothing. Lawrence is now training here for a couple of weeks before a decision is made on him. See page 42 for a report on the game at Brisbane Road.

OUR FLORA LONDON MARATHON HOPEFUL



PERRY Glover, our official entrant in next month's Flora London marathon, is in full training for his bid to beat four hours for the first time, and to finish anywhere so long as it is in front of the Watford representative. We invite supporters to back him, with a choice of two good causes. If you would like to help, please fill in the coupon and send it, with your cheque to the Programme Editor, Luton Town FC, 1 Maple Road, Luton LU4 8AW. Please make the cheque payable to the charity of your choice - the Keech Children's Hospice or the Luton and Dunstable Ambulance Appeal. Cheques will not be banked until after the race is run on April 16.

Brian Swain

FLORA LONDON MARATHON

I would like to sponsor Perry Glover, the Luton Town runner in the Football Challenge.

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Postcode	
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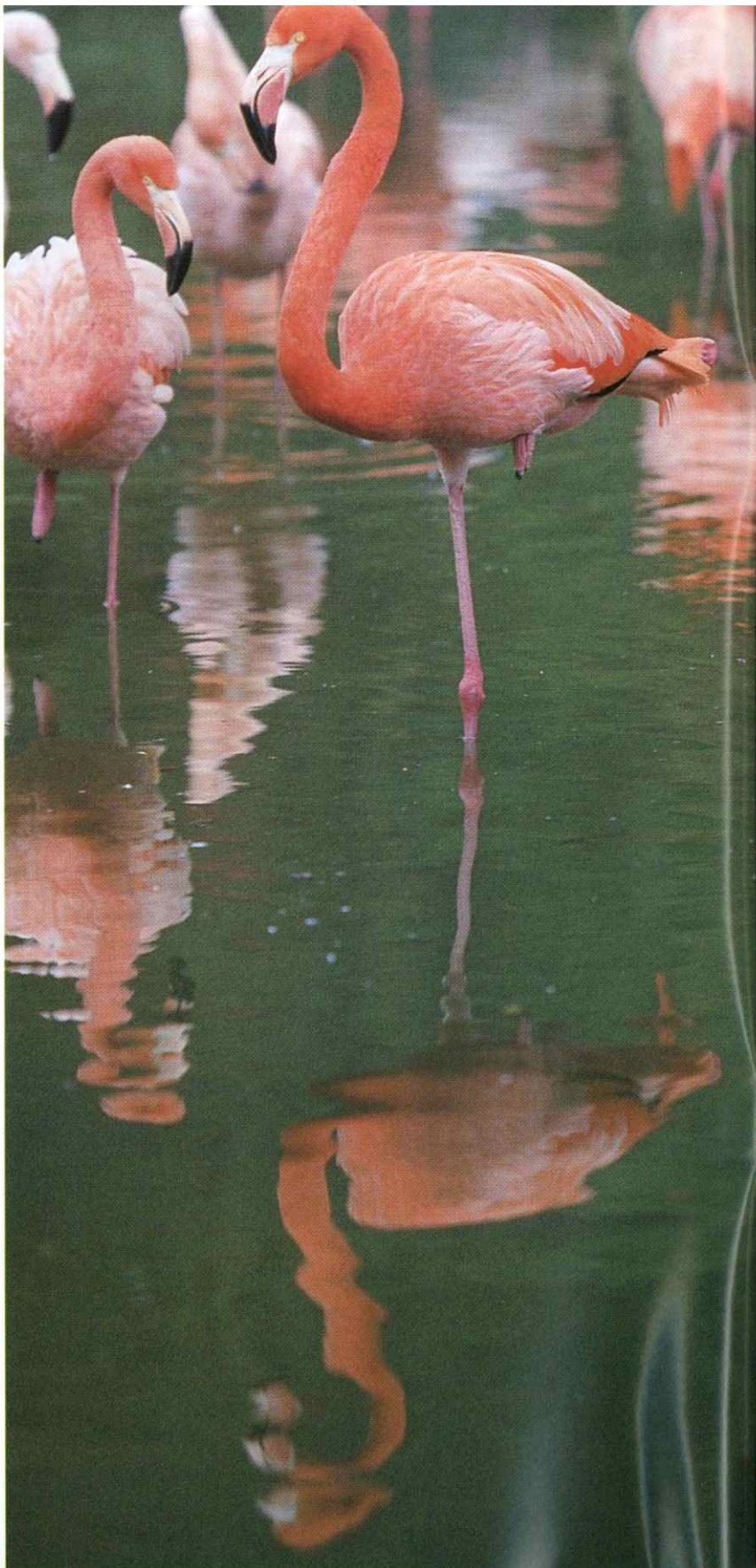
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The Manager

Lennie Lawrence



THERE could hardly have been a more vivid contrast in terms of performances and results than we saw from this week's two away fixtures.

The trip to Wrexham, never one of our most successful grounds in recent years, was another unhappy and frustrating occasion. Having dominated the first 25 minutes, and missed three or four chances, we lost control either side of half time and Wrexham took one of the two or three chances they created.

We were on the offensive in the closing stages, but more chances went begging, and as so often when you are chasing a game we were unable to claw anything back.

That made it four consecutive defeats, easily our worst spell this season, and for all sorts of reasons it was important to stop the rot at Burnley.

We prepared well, both in terms of physical readiness for a tough challenge, and in getting into the right frame of mind by talking over what had been happening, and what we wanted from the rest of the season.

It is strange that Burnley has, in recent years, been a good ground for us, just as much as Wrexham has been a bad one. On the night, to extend that "tradition" needed an excellent performance, and that is what we got. On a very heavy pitch we seized control from the start, scored first, and survived heavy Burnley pressure in the second half after snatching another goal.

We had to be very professional, and we were. It was a night when there were no individual nor team weaknesses whatsoever - our best away performance of the season, against a team I expect to be in the play-offs at least. It was nice to have a glimpse what is possible if we can achieve a greater level of consistency in our performances. We were under pressure because of the four straight defeats, although truthfully we could have taken a point or two from the home games we lost.

But Tuesday's display at Turf Moor was hugely significant, and a reminder that we are capable of

better things than the run of results in February might suggest.

We face another team today who look like having a say in the promotion decisions at the end of the season. Millwall are to be admired for the way they go about their business. Like us they produce many of their own players, but they also have been able to sign and keep a few more experienced players than we have done in recent years. And it is some time since they sold anyone for big money.

In many ways they are a model club, well managed, playing good football, and looking set for a play-off season despite not having huge crowds in their modern stadium. In recent years the trend has been for us to nick a win at the Den, and for Millwall to do it to us at Kenilworth Road, but we dumped that tradition in November, so hopefully we can today avenge the narrow defeat we suffered in South London on that occasion.

Our record against top teams so far this season, Turf Moor notwithstanding, has not been good enough, and supporters can rest assured that we will do everything we can to redress the balance, including, hopefully, a win today.

Professional pride was a major part of the reason we did so well at Burnley, and it must still burn for the rest of this season's games. It might look as though there is little to play for now, but that is not the case. Results and performances are important to individuals and the team for a number of reasons, not least because we already have our thoughts on next season. There will, inevitably, be changes, but it is important that the team keeps going well until the final whistle of the last game, because the way you finish one season has a great bearing on how you start the next.

A win today would do our professional pride no harm at all, and make it a pretty good week for the club despite last Saturday's disappointment, and we are also determined to see no more dents put into our home record.

Finally, our thanks to the fans who went to Burnley on Tuesday - we heard you, and appreciated your backing. I hope we give you plenty more to shout about this afternoon.

Lennie Lawrence

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Today's Referee

DON'T be surprised if the referee is one of the quickest men on the pitch this afternoon - Michael Dean, who is in charge of the game, is a keep fit fan, and includes running among his hobbies. A shift supervisor in the poultry industry, Mr Dean comes from the Wirral, and his other hobbies outside football are golf, cycling, gardening, cinema, theatre and eating out.

He has been a referee since starting in his local Sunday league in Birkenhead in 1986. Within six years he had progressed to refereeing games in the Unibond League, and by 1995 he was a linesman with the Football League, and he is now in this third season as a Football League referee.

We would have liked to see Mr Dean at Wembley in May 1997 - he was a linesman for the play-off final after Crewe got there at our expense to meet and beat Brentford.



TOWN TEASER



OUR "Town Trivia" quiz offers a free prize to another supporter today. Before the game the PA announcer will ask the latest Town Teaser. If you know the answer, listen for your chance to have a go, for a bit of fun and to win a little prize.

THE QUESTION

We went to Wembley twice in the late 1980s, for consecutive finals in the Littlewoods Cup, winning against Arsenal and then losing to Nottingham Forest. Which teams did we beat in the semi-finals, in 1988 and 1989?

Hatters Roll-Call Season 1999/2000

	APPEARANCES (as sub in brackets)					GOALS			
	League	FAC	WC	AWS	Total	League	FAC	WC	Total
Nathan Abbey	32	5	2	1	40	0	0	0	0
James Ayres	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Emmerson Boyce	15(6)	0(2)	2	1	18(8)	1	0	0	1
Gary Doherty	33	5	0(2)	1	39(2)	1	2	1	4
Stuart Douglas	29(3)	5	2	1	37(3)	3	1	0	4
Andrew Fotiadis	7(11)	0	0(2)	0	7(13)	2	0	0	2
Stuart Fraser	20	5	1	1	27	1	0	0	1
Phil Gray	19(1)	1	2	0	22(1)	8	1	0	9
Liam George	28(3)	5	0(1)	1	34(4)	13(1p)	2	0	15(1p)
Marvin Johnson	33	5	0	1	39	0	0	0	0
Tresor Kandol	1(3)	0	1	0	2(3)	0	0	1	1
Adam Locke	20(4)	3(1)	1	1	25(5)	3	0	0	3
Gavin McGowan	6(2)	0	0	0	6(2)	0	0	0	0
Michael McIndoe	2(14)	0(2)	2	0	4(16)	0	0	0	0
Ray McKinnon	0(3)	0	1	0	1(3)	0	0	0	0
Paul McLaren	17(2)	4	1	0	22(2)	0	0	0	0
Neil Midgley	8(2)	0	0	0	8(2)	3	0	0	3
Paul Read	0	0	0	0(1)	0(1)	0	0	0	0
Ben Roberts	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Andre Scarlett	2(1)	0	0	0(1)	2(2)	0	0	0	0
Efetobore Sodje	4(4)	1(1)	2	1	8(5)	0	0	0	0
Matthew Spring	34	5	1	1	41	6(1p)	2	0	8(1p)
Matthew Taylor	29(1)	5	1	0	35(1)	2	1	0	3
Tony Thorpe	3(1)	0	0	0	3(1)	1	0	0	1
Julian Watts	35	5	2	0	42	2	0	0	2
Alan White	5(3)	0	2	0	7(3)	1	0	0	1
Landry Zahana-Oni	0(1)	0	0	0	0(1)	0	0	0	0

Captain's Log

Marvin Johnson



IF YOU were among the heroes who went to Burnley on Tuesday, you will have seen for yourselves that for all the poor results previously, we are more than capable of rising to a tough challenge and earning a victory that was no less than we deserved on the night.

I suppose first I should apologise for not giving you something to cheer about in the earlier games. Professional pride is hurt when you lose four on the trot, and as skipper I was getting a little worried about the effect it was having on some of our young and inexperienced players. So it proved, but thankfully we did a lot of thinking, a lot of talking and a lot of good work in training, and hopefully everyone will have learned something positive from our worst run of the season so far.

Until the end of January we had been having a pretty good season, but all teams have spells when they dip, and I always figured that if we had a series of setbacks they would be a severe test for young and inexperienced players. So it proved, but thankfully we did a lot of thinking, a lot of talking and a lot of good work in training, and hopefully everyone will have learned something positive from our worst run of the season so far.

We knew we had to fight our way out of it. The fact that the odds were against us at Turf Moor, meeting one of the top teams in the division, made us all the more determined, and we were all well pleased with the way it went.

On a losing streak you discover just how fragile confidence is. You start to worry about every tackle, clearance, shot and header. You get scared that you might make a mistake, so much so that often you hope the ball doesn't come your way. But then the other, more positive side of football thinking kicks in: you remind yourself that you and your team have proved capable of playing good football. You remember days when your confidence was sky high, and you could take care of anyone. And you tell yourself that losing at Wrexham was not the real Luton Town, and you owe it to everyone, not least yourself, to do much better at Burnley.

Kidology? Perhaps, but football is about mental as well as physical preparation, and we were all determined to get it right before Tuesday's match. The fact that we would be up against a couple of old pals in Steve Davis and Mitchell Thomas, added a little bit of extra spice, as did the appearance in their attack of Ian Wright.

We were the underdogs, and Burnley were certainly up for it, having suffered a local derby defeat at

home to Preston on Saturday. But on the night there were no complaints from Stevo or Mitch about the result. It got a bit hectic in our goalmouth in the latter stages, when Burnley threw everything at us - I think we switched formation to 6-2-2 in the closing minutes! The nearest they came was from a tremendous shot by Stevo. Julian Watts got a nick on it to reduce its speed to about 100 miles an hour, and Ben Roberts did the rest, with a touch to ensure it hit the bar and went away to safety.

I am pleased that Ian Wright hardly had a look in, but he is still a very good player. He is full of clever little movements and runs, and if they are disconcerting for defenders, they might also be a problem for his own team - I am not sure other Burnley forwards were on the same wavelength as a player who still has a wonderful touch and instinct for the game, and still enjoys his football. We enjoyed making sure that he drew another blank, in his third game for Burnley.

It's odd how some grounds seem to be jinxed and others always give you good vibes. It's no excuse for a poor performance on Saturday, but in recent years we have always found Wrexham difficult to handle. Equally, Turf Moor has been a happy hunting ground for us.

The same used to be true of the Den. For some time we always seemed to win at Millwall, and then always managed to lose to them at Kenilworth Road. But last time we met, back in November, that little tradition went for a burton because we came home beaten 1-0.

It follows that this afternoon we want to end the tradition of Millwall winning by one goal at Kenilworth Road. We know it won't be easy, because Millwall are among the favourites for a top six finish. So are Burnley!

Tuesday's performance and victory was overdue as well as deserved. Something similar is due today - we have not won on a Saturday since Reading were here in January, and we need to put that right. We also know we owe it to supporters as well as ourselves. Our season is certainly not all over. We want to finish as high as possible up the league table, and to end the season with a bit of a flourish.

A nice little win over Millwall will do us all a power of good, and ensure that our rediscovered confidence gets another boost.

Marvin Johnson

Treatment Room

Clive Goodyear



THE GENERAL fitness level of our players continues to pay good dividends in terms of a treatment room that is not as busy as it often is at this time of the year. The unlucky exception is Stuart Fraser, who is finding life very frustrating at present.

He got back into the league side at Wrexham, but had to come off after only 25 minutes with a sprained ankle. It was a complete accident - he caught his studs in the turf and twisted the joint as he fell, and there may be a little ligament damage.

Fortunately, it is not too serious and he will be under treatment for perhaps another week. The injury has already responded well to treatment - ice-packs and ultra-sound - and I

would think he will be able to resume training within a week.

My other "customer" this week has been Julian Watts, and if he had not been suspended this afternoon he would have been struggling to be fit for the game. He twisted an ankle in the closing minutes of the first half at Burnley, and to be honest he did very well to get through the rest of the game.

As always, general fitness counts for a lot as players overcome injuries, and I have little doubt that Watts will get over his ankle problem pretty quickly. I am sure he will be available, if selected, for the trip to Preston next Saturday.

Clive Goodyear

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Striker Tresor Kandol took a painful whack on the nose while playing for the reserves, an occupational hazard for players who have to mix it in the air with big defenders. Nosebleeds are commonplace, but fractures are rare, and this was one of those occasions when the player was able to carry on after a little first aid.

Club Secretary

Cherry Newbery



WHEN this season started, we included in our fixtures schedule dates for the various rounds in the Auto Windscreens Shield, hoping that we might go to Wembley for the final next month. That was not to be,

but it looks as though we will still have a blank Saturday the day before the final, because Bristol City have an excellent chance of getting there, and if they do their match at Kenilworth Road on April 15 will have to be re-arranged. In the two-legged semi-final, Exeter City have been beaten 4-0 at Ashton Gate, so it will need a remarkable turn-around if Exeter are to go to Wembley and thus release Bristol City to keep to their date at Luton.

If we do lose the fixture on April 15th it will move to Tuesday April 18th, kick off 7.45pm.

Speaking of fixtures, our youth team's games in the Football League Youth Alliance merit table have now been finalised, and full details are on page 43.

May I also draw your attention to the ticket office news page, and a special offer for Mother's Day when we entertain Colchester. If you buy a ticket for the game on April 1, you can have another, for your mother, for just £1. And that is on offer to "children" of all ages, and to season ticket holders.

If you have visited the club shop this week, or the ticket office or our main reception desk, you will have spotted the collecting boxes for the Mozambique appeal. The TV pictures of the dreadful suffering caused by the floods made all of us here wonder what we could do to help. Many have made

their own donations, but we have been delighted with the number of people who were pleased to see the collecting boxes, staff and visitors alike. Thanks to all who have given.

As the season nears its end we are beginning to make our preparations for the close season and for repair and refurbishment of the ground. I understand there are supporters out there who are willing to volunteer for jobs like cleaning and painting. We need help between June 5 and June 30. You will need to wear old clothes. If you can help, please contact me.

Finally, a plea for help from a supporter who went to Wrexham with the Bobbers Travel Club. On arrival back at Luton, he picked up the wrong fleece. It was similar to his own, but larger, and some-one else presumably picked up a medium fleece which is too small for him. Mr. Haydn Rudd, of Baldock, would like to do a swap to get his own well-fitting garment back. If you are the supporter with the other wrong fleece, please contact Paul Deason at the Bobbers Travel Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road.

Cherry Newbery



IN MEMORY: Our thanks to all supporters at the last home game, at which there was a minute's silence in honour of Sir Stanley Matthews. It was observed impeccably in every part of the ground.

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Admission will be pay on the day only,
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Adults £13, Concessions £8.

Luton Town v Cambridge Utd

Tuesday March 21, kick-off 7.45 pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal league prices. Cash turnstiles will be available on the day but to avoid disappointment supporters are advised to book early.

Chesterfield v Luton Town

Saturday March 25, kick-off 3 pm

Admission will be pay on the day only.

Seats: Adults £12, Concessions £7.

Terracing: Adults £11, Concessions £6.

Luton Town v Colchester Utd

Saturday April 1 kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at discounted prices
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RELAUNCH

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But we do promise you a much more effective service, and we will be looking to utilise this improved service next season.

Further information will follow.

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

TICKET OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday: 10am to 4pm,

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Head-to-Head

Adam Locke



Tim Cahill



Today's Carling Opta statistics compare two opposing players at Kenilworth Road - the Town's Adam Locke and Millwall's Tim Cahill

WORRINGLY for Luton boss Lennie Lawrence and his players, today's visitors to Kenilworth Road have been in excellent form lately, rising through the upper reaches of the Division Two table into third place.

And key to that fantastic run has been influential midfielder Tim Cahill, who epitomises the potential running throughout Millwall's team.

The 20-year-old Australian even returned to goalscoring form last weekend, netting twice in the 4-1 win over Bristol City - his first Nationwide League goals since he scored the only goal of the game against Luton in November.

The form of Cahill means that Luton midfielder Adam Locke will have to be on top of his form to help combat the threat the Millwall man can offer.

Former Bristol City man Locke has only played 1,749 minutes of football this term, which is far less than Cahill, but in that time has still managed to show what his game is about.

Locke has scored three goals, had another five efforts saved, created two goals and completed 68 per cent of his passes - a better ratio than Cahill's. He has also put over more crosses than Cahill, despite the difference in the amount of football they have played.

Between them, Locke and Cahill have collected 12 yellow cards this season, which illustrates a competitive streak, and helps to contribute to what is likely to be a crucial clash in midfield today.

	Locke	Cahill
Minutes on Pitch	1,749	2,963

Goal Attempts

Goals	3	8
Shots on Target (inc goals)	8	28
Shots off Target	11	30
Blocked Shots	4	13

Passing

Goal Assists	2	2
Total Passes	730	977
Pass Completion	68%	56%

Crossing

Total Crosses	24	22
Cross Completion	25%	36%

Dribbling

Dribbles and Runs	22	73
Dribble Completion	91%	82%

Defending

Tackles Made	29	83
Tackles Won	59%	58%
Blocks	6	20
Clearances	30	65
Interceptions	4	18

Discipline

Fouls	20	63
Offside	1	5
Yellow Cards	5	7
Red Cards	0	0

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John Bailey



TWO companies who have been part of the local business community for many years are joint match sponsors today, and we welcome all the guests of John Eastaff (Builders

Merchants) Ltd and the Luton News and Dunstable Gazette.

Eastaff lorries are a familiar sight on the roads, operating out of the Elstow Storage Depot at Kempston Hardwick. The company supplies heavy side building materials to the trade and to do-it-yourself customers, and is also active in hiring out machinery and equipment, such as mini diggers, compressors, mixers, breakers, pumps, vibration plates, dumpers and so on. To find out more, you can phone the company on 01234 740834.

The Luton News and Dunstable Gazette has been serving our community for more than a century. The local weekly paper has taken pride in its sports coverage since its launch in 1891. Now, 109 years on, the paper boasts eight pages of local sports coverage every week. It includes full reports on Luton Town, as well as a comprehensive round-up of other sporting news from the town and villages. You can get your copy every Wednesday for just 25p.

FOUR supporters have got together to be ball sponsors today, and we welcome Kellie Vincent, David Slater and Bob and Janice Cowley. Kellie explained: "We are all season ticket holders, but felt we wanted to do something extra to help the club - to put a little money in to show that our support is more than just buying a season ticket."

The friends chose ball sponsorship from among the various matchday packages on offer, and if you would like to consider something similar please ring the commercial department on Luton 411622. There are so many deals available we are confident we can find one just right for you.

John Bailey

GOLDEN GAMBLE

THE GOLDEN Gamble competition set a new record at our last home game, against Brentford. The prize was the largest-ever, £610 in ready cash. The lucky winner, and all for a stake of just £1, was long-time Town supporter David Litchfield, from Ketton Close, Luton, who is seen collecting his jackpot winnings from club secretary Cherry Newbery.



The prize fund reflects sales on the day - out of every £1 ticket sold, 50p goes into the jackpot kitty and the other 50p goes to Luton Town funds, so even if you are not a winner you are helping the club. By this afternoon more than £10,000 will have been raised for the club by the Golden Gamble since the start of the season, with a similar amount paid out to lucky winners. We thank everyone who supports one of our vital commercial activities.

Mr Litchfield's nice little earner pushed the total of jackpot pay-outs so far this season to £9,928, shared between 23 winners, an average of £432 each. Someone will win another handful of Golden Gamble cash today, so it's worth a flutter. Sellers are on duty in all parts of the ground offering tickets at £1 each, and the draw is made during the interval, with the money handed over instantly.

NATHAN ABBEY	Paul Deason
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 & Jonathan Siegler
ANDREW FOTIADIS	Sally Mayne & Family
MATTHEW TAYLOR	Mick Garbutt, Inside Media
LANDRY ZAHANA-ONI	Elsie & Danny Clubb
EMMERSON BOYCE	Michael Capp & Danny Clubb, Century Club Members
TRESOR KANDOL	Danny Clubb
JAMES AYRES	E.C. Smith & Sons Ltd
ANDRE SCARLETT	WHOSH
JERRY MOSES	Century Club
DANIEL TATE	Mike and Mark Tearle, Century Club Members
JUDE STIRLING	Century Club
SCOTT WARD	G. Owen Ceramic Tiling Ltd
ADAM LOCKE	Jeremy Cain of D. A. P. Consulting
EFETOBORE SODJE	Graham Group Plc
JULIAN WATTS	Les Miller, Miller & Company, Bedford
LENNIE LAWRENCE	Luton Town Supporters Club, Milton Keynes
JOHN MOORE	Ian Smith
CLIVE GOODYEAR	Christopher O'Toole, Luton Student Union May Ball 2000
JOHN CARROLL	Danny Clubb & Michael Capp, Century Club Members
LEE MANSELL	Danny Clubb & Michael Capp, Century Club Members

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.*



Hatters v Lions



Lions' Goals For & Against



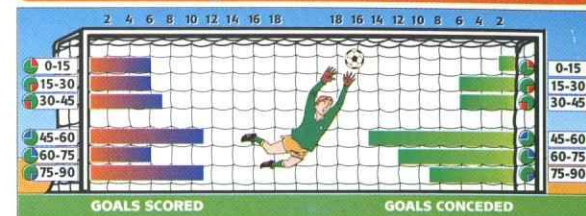
Lions' Cards

Bircham...9	Nethercott...3
Livermore...8	Harris...2
Cahill...7	Moody...2
Neill...7	Shaw...2
Newman...6	Dolan...1
Fitzgerald...5	Ifill...1
Reid...5	Stuart...1
Ryan...4	Tuttle...1
Sadlier...4	Warner...1
Gilkes...3	

n.b League Details Only



Hatters' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



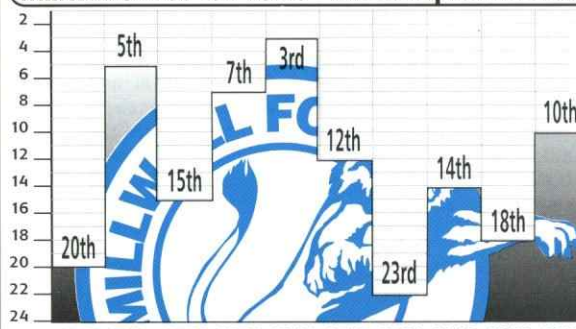
Lions' last line up

- Tony Warner** - Goalkeeper 34 Apps 0 Goals
- Stuart Nethercott** - Defender 34 Apps 0 Goals
- Robbie Ryan** - Defender 25(1) Apps 0 Goals
- David Livermore** - Defender 19(3) Apps 2 Goals
- David Tuttle** - Defender 2 Apps 0 Goals
- Tim Cahill** - Midfielder 34 Apps 9 Goals
- Lucas Neill** - Midfielder 23(1) Apps 0 Goals
- Michael Gilkes** - Midfielder 17(2) Apps 1 Goal
- Paul Ifill** - Forward 27(6) Apps 8 Goals
- Neil Harris** - Forward 23(4) Apps 15 Goals
- Richard Sadlier** - Forward 18(6) Apps 4 Goals
- Steven Reid** - Midfielder 11(10) Apps 0 Goals
- Christophe Kinet** - Midfielder (3) Apps 0 Goals
- Paul Moody** - Forward 18(6) Apps 8 Goals
- Scott Fitzgerald** - Defender 25 Apps 0 Goals
- Marc Bircham** - Midfielder 22 Apps 1 Goal

Luton's Goals For & Against



Millwall's Last Ten Years - The Complete Record



Div.	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
F.A.	4	4	4	3	3	5	3	1	1	1
W.C.	3	3	2	2	3	QF	3	1	2	1
L.S.	Crim.Slight	Overingham	Kerr	Moralee	Rae	Rae	Rae	Crawford	Shaw	Harris
Goals	9	33	12	15	13	10	13	11	11	15
Ave Att	12,418	10,837	7,905	9,202	9,810	7,685	9,571	7,698	7,023	6,958

Lions' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



Millwall's Form Guide - Result, Points, Position

W	W	L	W	S	S	S	W	L	W	L	W	W	W	L
39	42	42	45	46	47	48	51	51	54	54	57	60	63	63
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	3	3	3

Ground:	The Den	Year Formed:	1885
Capacity:	20,146	Record League Win:	9-1 v Torquay United, Division 3 (S), 29 Aug 1927
Pitch Measurement:	100 x 68	Record Defeat:	1-9 v Aston Villa, FA Cup 4th round, 28 Jan 1946
Record Attendance:	20,093 v Arsenal, FA Cup 3rd round, 10 Jan 1994	Record Cup Win:	7-0 v Gateshead, FA Cup 2nd round, 12 Dec 1936
Record Receipts:	Not Disclosed	Record Lge Points:	90, Division 3, 1984-85

MATCH

The UK's Biggest Selling Football Magazine!
Matchmen of the Month
 Star performer for Luton last month was Adam Locke. The Hatters' midfielder claimed 2 star ratings in 5 games and a Matchman average of 7.6! For Millwall, Stuart Nethercott was the top man with 1 star rating and an average of 7.33.

Team	Player	GP	SR	Ave
Blackpool	John Hills	5	3	6.80
Bournemouth	Mark Ovendale	4	2	7.25
Brentford	Martin Rowlands	4	2	7.50
Bristol City	Scott Murray	5	5	8.00
Bristol Rovers	Mark Walters	4	2	7.50
Burnley	Glen Little	4	1	7.75
Bury	Patrick Kenny	5	1	7.40
Cambridge	Trevor Benjamin	6	4	7.33
Cardiff	Andy Legg	4	1	7.25
Chesterfield	David Reeves	5	1	7.40
Colchester	Gavin Johnson	3	1	7.66
Gillingham	Adam Locke	4	2	7.50
Luton	Adam Locke	5	2	7.60
Millwall	Stuart Nethercott	3	1	7.33
Notts County	Kevin Ropley	4	1	7.00
Oldham	Craig Dudley	3	2	7.33
Oxford	Paul Powell	5	2	6.80
Preston	Sean Gregan	5	3	7.80
Reading	Nick Forster	5	2	7.40
Scunthorpe	Lee Hodges	5	4	7.40
Stok	Graham Kavanagh	5	1	7.40
Wigan	Roy Carroll	4	2	7.25
Wrexham	Darren Ferguson	4	1	7.25
Wycombe	Andrew Baird	3	1	7.33

Form Guide shows results so far. W = Won, L = Lost, S = Score Draw, D = No Score Draw.

Key: GP = league games played during month; SR = no. of star ratings achieved during month; AVE = average, sum of divided total ratings points by number of games played during month.

Today's Visitors



welcome to Millwall

ALAN McLEARY (JOINT MANAGER)

'Macca' was elevated to the post of Joint Manager with Stevens during the closed season, although in reality the job had been shared from the start. It was only the greater likelihood of McLeary continuing to fill a playing role during the 1998/99 campaign that led to him filling the Assistant's role, but in practice a niggling ankle problem restricted him to just two League starts. Like Rhino, he will be available to play if required, but the duo intend to concentrate on the management side of the job from now on, hoping that the form and fitness of others will enable them to do so. Macca' progressed through the Millwall Youth ranks alongside his colleague, his senior debut in 1982. He won six caps for England at Youth level and soon established himself as a regular at the old Den, sharing in the promotion successes in 1985 and 1988. His form won him further England recognition at 'B' level and he seemed destined to challenge his managerial colleague in the quest for Barry Kitchener's all-time appearance record. However a falling out initially with Bruce Rioch soured his relationship with the club he had supported as a boy and in 1993 he moved on to neighbours Charlton where he soon



became captain. After a brief spell at Bristol City, he arrived back at The Den in February 1997 and had a major stabilising effect during difficult times under John Docherty and Billy Bonds. The ankle injury sustained at Bristol Rovers in November 1997 put an end to that season for him, and his playing contribution has subsequently diminished. However he is now forging a promising managerial partnership with Stevens, and an exciting young side under their charge has provided grounds for some optimism at The Den.

KEITH STEVENS (JOINT MANAGER)

'Rhino' is something of a Lions legend. A one club man, having joined Millwall straight from school, he made his first team debut at the age of 16 back in 1981 and is still registered as a player although he is now 'for emergency use only'. Only Barry Kitchener has made more appearances for the club, and during his time Rhino has experienced all the joys and despairs of a footballer's life. He was a member of George Graham's promotion winning side from the old Division Three in 1985, and three years later under John Docherty he won a Second Division Championship medal. After two years in the top flight



MILLWALL FOOTBALL CLUB 1999/2000

Back: Steven Reid, Danny Hockton, Scott Fitzgerald, Stuart Nethercott, Joe Dolan, Brian Law, Leon Cort, Paul Moody, Richard Sadlier, Sean Dyche, Paul Ifill.

Middle: Gerry Docherty (physio), Leke Odunsi, Robbie Ryan, Kim Grant, Lucas Neill, Phil Smith, Nigel Spink, Neil Harris, Tony Warner, Richard Barnard, Andy Cook, Marc Bircham, Bobby Bowry, Ricky Newman, Steve Gritt (coach).

Front: Jimmy Carter, Paul Shaw, Tommy Tyne, Jamie Stuart, Ronnie Bull, Alan McLeary, Keith Stevens (Joint Managers), Tim Cahill, Michael Gilkes, Byron Bubb, Mark Hicks, Billy Mead.

the players

relegation followed and after appearing in the Play-Off's twice in the early 90's, Rhino and his beloved Millwall found themselves demoted again, to Division Two in 1996. Worse was to follow early in the 1996/97 campaign when he suffered a severe cruciate knee ligament injury which should have finished his career True to form, however, he fought his way back following a lengthy fitness battle and made four League appearances in addition to a number at Reserve level the following season. In February 1997 he was appointed Reserve team coach by John Docherty during the latter's brief second spell in charge, and it became clear that the time had come for a transition from playing to coaching. Rhino remained in charge of the Reserves under Billy Bonds before succeeding Bonzo as Millwall manager in May 1998 with Alan McLeary as his assistant. His legendary status was further enhanced when he led The Lions to their first ever Wembley appearance in an official fixture during his first year at the helm, the Auto-Windcreens Shield Final in April 1999. He made four appearances as a player during the course of the campaign, but at 35 is resigned to making his contribution from the dug out from now on.

TONY WARNER (GOAL KEEPER)

Signed for Millwall on July 6th 1999 after leaving Liverpool at the end of the 1998-99 season. Tony joined his home town club in 1994 after training to be an accountant and playing local football, but opportunities for first team action at Anfield proved limited with David James and Brad Friedel around. He had a spell at Swindon on loan in 1997/98 making his League debut against Bradford City. Last term he gained further experience at Celtic and Aberdeen. During the summer Tony arrived for a brief trial period at The Den and after playing in a couple of training games both he and the Millwall management team were convinced that his future lay in SE16.

ROBBIE RYAN (FULLBACK)

A bargain £10,000 capture from Huddersfield Town in January 1998, Robbie was brought in to fill the trouble some left back slot, and did so with some aplomb during a difficult time for the club. Robbie's displays were rewarded during the summer of 1998, when he was called into the Irish Under 21 squad for games against Northern Ireland and Wales. He has subsequently gone on to establish himself as an international at that level. The arrival of Jamie Stuart brought stiff competition for the left back spot last term, and in the end the role was largely shared with each taking advantage of the other's absence through suspension or injury Sadly an ankle injury deprived Robbie of the chance of appearing at Wembley but he recovered to feature for the Irish Under 21 's again in the close season. Certainly

Ryan's rivalry with Stuart will be intense again this year making this an area of the team in which The Lions are particularly well served.

LUCAS NEILL (MIDFIELD/FULLBACK)

Having exploded onto the scene during the 1996/97 season culminating in winning a full cap for Australia, the Millwall Player of the Year award, and reportedly attracting an offer of £1 million plus from Glasgow Rangers, Lucas suffered a major setback when broken bones in both feet decimated his attempts to fulfil his potential. The first injury occurred during the Mini World Cup' tournament in Malaysia in June 1997 when the seeds of the second problem were also sown. An attempted comeback in November 1997 was short lived, when the other foot gave out at Bristol City on Boxing Day 1997. Lucas's ill fortune returned last season, when after being virtually ever present in the side for much of the campaign he suffered an injury against Blackpool on April 5th 1999, which ruled him out of a Wembley appearance and indeed he only returned for the final game of the season. He began his Millwall career as a central midfielder but has played for lengthy spells at both right back and left wing. In May 1999 he linked up with the Australian squad for a game against Japan.

PAUL IFILL (MIDFIELD/STRIKER)

Paul made his debut in an unfamiliar right wing role at Lincoln on February 13th 1999 and remained a regular in the side for the rest of the season. He progressed through the Youth ranks as a central striker but grew into the right wing position increasingly with every game. His pace causes defenders real problems and he revelled in the wide open spaces of Wembley in the AWS Final. He scored his first League goal in the 2-2 draw with Preston in April 1999.



MICHAEL GILKES (WINGER/MIDFIELD)

Vastly experienced left sided player who spent the majority of his career with Reading, helping them to two Promotions and a Wembley triumph in the 1988 Simod Cup During his time at Elm Park he made 393 League appearances, scoring 43 times before moving on to Wolves in 1997 He was released by the Midlands outfit during the summer of 1999 and offered a one year deal at The Den.

TIM CAHILL (MIDFIELD)

Tim enjoyed a remarkable first season in the senior ranks, playing 42 first team games, scoring 8 goals and appearing at Wembley at the age of 19. He was

Today's Visitors



the players

duly voted Millwall Young Player of the Year. Many seasoned observers believe that Tim has what it takes to go to the very top in the game, and the experience gained last season can only stand him in good stead. He covers a tremendous amount of ground during a game, is a solid tackler who likes to run with the ball and strikes well from distance. In addition he is very strong in the air for a player of average height. Tim also displays a maturity beyond his years as you might expect from a young man who left friends and family behind at 16 to travel halfway round the world because of his desire to become a professional footballer

RICHARD SADLIER (STRIKER)

Another very exciting prospect from the Millwall production line. After scoring three goals in just three League starts in 1997/98, Richard fell victim to a hernia problem which proved to be more complicated than originally thought, and he missed the remainder of the campaign. Having recovered from that setback he went on to make 39 senior appearances last term, although competition for striking places with Neil Harris and Paul Shaw meant that a good number of these were as substitute. Already capped at Under 21 level by the Republic of Ireland, Richard represented his country in the Junior

World Cup in Nigeria in April 1999. Their exit at the hands of the host nation just enabled him to arrive back in time to play for The Lions at Wembley He finished the season strongly and will doubtless learn much from Paul Moody in the coming months whilst vying with him for the target man role. Richard signed a new four year contract in June.

PAUL SHAW (MIDFIELD/STRIKER)

Joined Millwall from Arsenal in September 1997 for a fee which could reach upwards of £400,000 and went on to become The Lions top scorer for the season and Player of the Year Many of Shaw's goals were spectacular strikes from outside the box, making him one of the best long range sharp shooters in the Division. Having previously played only a handful of senior games at Highbury some adjustment was necessary for Shaw who visibly tired towards the end of the Campaign in which he played 40 consecutive League games. Last season he was hampered by a hernia injury which ultimately required surgery and he never quite recovered full fitness before the end of the campaign. However he still weighed in with 14 goals making him the second top scorer and signed a new three year contract in the summer

PAUL MOODY (STRIKER)

A summer signing, Paul joined The Lions from Fulham on July 1st for £150,000. He was a late entrant into League football when Southampton picked him up from Waterlooville at the age of 24. His opportunities were limited at The Dell, and after a brief loan spell at Reading he moved to Oxford United for an £80,000 fee in 1994. A big bustling striker, Paul has always weighed in with his share of goals and netted 49 times in some 136 League appearances whilst at The Manor Ground. In August 1997, Fulham Boss Kevin Keegan made him one of his first signings at £150,000, and Moody rewarded him with 15 goals in 33 League games as The Cottagers reached the Play-Off's. Last term Moody was blighted by a knee injury but still managed to bag a hat-trick against Preston in the final game of the season. Millwall had been keeping tabs on him for a couple years and had previously made enquiries as to his availability and having finally got their man Messrs Stevens and McLeary are hoping that Paul can lend his experience and goal power to The Lions' promotion push.



he coaches keepers at Birmingham City in addition to his playing duties at The Den.

STEVEN REID (MIDFIELD)

Former England Under 16 international who made his debut at the age of 17, coming on as a substitute in the final game of the 1997/98 season against Bournemouth. Following an injury to Jimmy Carter in November Reidy became a regular in the side playing wide on the right and occasionally left. He has made tremendous progress already for one so young and had barely turned 18 when he appeared at Wembley in April 1999. Steven is one of the cohort of locally produced youngsters in whom Millwall have entrusted their future and will doubtless play a big part this season.

DAVID LIVERMORE (MIDFIELD/DEFENDER)

David joined Millwall on loan from Arsenal prior to the start of the 1999/2000 season and made his debut as a substitute on the opening day at Cardiff. He had come to the attention of Millwall management two seasons previously when playing for Arsenal reserves against the Lions, and both Rhino and Macca maintained a watchful eye on his progress. When it became apparent that opportunities would be limited at Highbury, David agreed to move to the Den, initially on a three month loan. But on September 6th both club and player decided to make the move permanent, with Arsenal receiving a £30,000 transfer fee. to date the 19 year old has operated predominantly on the left side off midfield although he played at centre back for much of his short Arsenal career.

STUART NETHERCOTT (CENTRAL DEFENDER)

Former England Under 21 international who grew up with the likes of Sol Campbell at Tottenham, for whom he made over 50 League appearances without ever establishing himself as a first choice centre back. Nevertheless, he won eight caps for England at Under 21 level and at the age of 25 elected to leave White Hart Lane in search of regular first team football. His move to The Den was initially on a loan basis, and in keeping with the Club's fortunes on the injury front, he suffered a dislocated shoulder at Fulham in March 1998 and his season was over. However, he signed for Millwall on a permanent basis before the end of the campaign and after an operation and recovering full fitness he went on to play a major role during 1998/99, making 44 appearances and leading the side out at Wembley.



JOE DOLAN (CENTRAL DEFENDER)

Made the breakthrough into the first team in February 1999 with an excellent debut against Gillingham in the AWS Area Semi-Final. He won the Man of the Match Award that night for a calm display against Carl Asaba and Bob Taylor, and went on to retain his place in the side until suffering a facial injury against Fulham in April. With less than a dozen League games under his belt, he appeared at Wembley in the AWS Final at the age of just 18. He is one of the numerous promising youngsters to have progressed from the Youth ranks last season.

NIGEL SPINK (GOALKEEPER)

Still going strong in his forties, Nigel's professionalism and dedication is an example to others and resulted in his landing a new contract in the summer of 1999. Having made 361 League appearances for Aston Villa and won a European Cup winners medal in 1982 when he dramatically came off the subs bench early in the Final against Bayern Munich to keep a clean sheet, he knows all about life at the highest level. After a spell at West Bromwich Albion he was signed by Billy Bonds for a £50,000 fee in September 1997 and has subsequently made over 50 senior appearances for The Lions in spite of suffering injuries which have necessitated surgery in each of the last two seasons. He still has much to offer, and with the Millwall management's blessing

KIDS AT KENILWORTH

SPONSORED BY SKI BARCLAYS Sainsbury's

Kids at Kenilworth is a new sponsorship package soon to be introduced at the Club. It is designed for organisations to provide disadvantaged children and young supporters with an opportunity to watch Luton Town play at Kenilworth Road for Nationwide League matches for the 1999/2000 season.

There are many benefits for the sponsoring organisation as well as helping the children.



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Hatters Abroad

carrying the colours

SOME of the world's greatest players have graced the two famous football grounds in Lisbon - and so have some of the world's top soccer kits, as our pictures prove thanks to five Town season ticket holders.

Jim Kincaid, from Wallis Mews, North London, sent us snaps to revive holiday memories of late last summer. The other Luton strips are worn by Francis Brennan, Christopher Higgins and brothers Stacey and James Sellars.

They went to both stadia in the Portuguese capital, the Estadio de Alvalade, home of Sporting Lisbon, and Estadiu da Luz, headquarters of Benfica.

Jim reports: "The Lions ruled Portuguese football in the 1940s and 1950s, but their last title was in 1982 under Malcolm Allison, while The Reds have been thwarted by financial problems and poor management. To make matters worse, northern rivals Porto have assumed the mantle of the country's leading team.

"Despite this, the Lisbon stadia are a must see for every discerning football fan. The lads agreed that the Stadium of Light gets the nod over Sporting's multi-purpose athletic stadium.

"From the outside the stadium looks like an impenetrable fortress, and then you must walk past the statue of the great Eusebio before reaching the club's

eagle crest over the entrance - all very imposing. The inside is just as impressive, with 76,000 red seats surrounding the circle of lush green."

The lads intend to visit Germany at the end of this season, to take part in a football tournament hosted by fans of Armenia Hanover, and promise to see in more pictures of their well-travelled Town kit.



IF YOU have an interesting snap of Town kit in far-off places, we would like to consider it for publication. Please send it, with a few details, to the matchday magazine editor at Luton Town FC. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want the photographs back.

We are also interested in hearing about our very young fans sporting the Town's colours for our occasional "Mini Hatters" series.

Football. It's a game of two halves

Many sides play their football in magnificent stadiums. Others play theirs on park pitches. At the Football Trust, we're here to make sure that everyone is a winner thanks to the grant aid we can offer at every level, from ground redevelopment and safety work at league clubs right down to the very grass roots. And now pools income is boosted by annual contributions from The Football Association, The F.A. Premier League, The Football League, the Professional Footballers Association and Sport England. Together, we are working hard to ensure a healthy future for our national game... now, and for generations to come.

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helping the game

1 Waterhouse Square, 138-142 Holborn, London EC1N 2ST. E-mail: enquiries@football-trust.org.uk

Top Hatters Gallery



Stuart Douglas

Born: London, 9.4.78
Previous club: None
Joined Luton Town: As YTS boy, summer 1994
Luton debut: v Oldham (H) 11.11.95
Luton Town record: 115 appearances, 18 goals.

Autograph

Last Season
The Nationwide Football
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Roy Hunter (Northampton Town) & Ray Warburton (Rushden & Diamonds)

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Hatters Away

travel information

Preston v Luton Town

Saturday 18th March, kick-off 3pm

WE RETURN to Lancashire in Saturday, for one of the toughest tests of the season, at Preston. As usual two coach services are on offer, one run by Town on Tour and the other by the Bobbers Travel Club. Town on Tour, an offshoot of the Luton Town Supporters Club, leaves Maple Road at 9.30, picking up at Milton Keynes Coachway 20 minutes later. The fare is £15.50 for adult members of LTSC, £13.50 for concessions, and £17 for all others. You can book at the LTSC kiosk in Kenilworth Road before or after today's game, or through the club shop at other times.

The Bobbers leave Cranfield at 8am, with various pick-up points on the way to Luton, and departure time from Kenilworth Road is 9am. The fare is £13.50 adults, and £11.50 for junior and senior citizens and tickets can be bought at the Bobbers Travel Club kiosk before home matches, or by phone call to Paul Deason after 6pm on 01234 750996.

Stewarded car parking is available for all coach travellers at Maple Road, price £3.

Away fans at Deepdale use a corner of the Bill Shankly stand, and admission is pay on the day, £13 for adults, £8 for concessions.

DIY Travellers

IF ROAD conditions are good you can drive to Preston in about three hours, or a little longer, because it is motorway nearly all the way.

Leave Luton on M1 north, and then take the M6 all the way up to junction 31. Take the A59, signposted towards Preston and after a mile, at a mini-roundabout by the Hesketh Arms, take the second exit, which is signposted ring road, Blackpool and football ground. Just follow the signs from there: straight on for just over a mile and filter left, signposted towards the town centre and football ground into Deepdale Road, and the ground is on your left.

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Blast FROM THE Past

Roger Wash

Clashes with the Lions



Millwall are a club that must surely be labelled as being amongst our oldest opponents in competitive football with records going back well over a century.

The 'Dockers', as Millwall were then called, and ourselves were founder members of the Southern League back in 1894 and for the first two years of that competition the pair of us were head and shoulders above the rest. Unfortunately, we finished runners-up on both occasions to our neighbours from London.

After our brief period in the Football League at the end of the last century, our regular meetings with Millwall were resumed in the Southern League in 1900 with results tending to favour the London side in the period leading up to the First World War.

We also met twice in the F.A.Cup around this time, with Millwall coming out on top, winning 3-0 in 1902-03 and 2-1 in 1908-09.

Despite all these set-backs we gained the upper hand as both teams became founder members of the Football League Division Three in 1920.

We managed to go ten consecutive games undefeated against the Lions before going down 0-7 at the Den in December 1925. Millwall repeated this scoreline a year later but this came two days after the Town had beaten the Londoners 6-0 at Kenilworth Road. Amazingly, the Hatters fielded the same eleven in both games!

Millwall won promotion to the old Division Two in 1928 but came back down six years later just at a time when we were beginning to build promotion aspirations ourselves, a feat we eventually achieved in 1937. During that championship winning campaign a best of the

season crowd of 32,629 gathered at the Den to witness a full blooded tussle which we won 2-0.

Overshadowing the win were the bookings of Town centre-half Jack Nelson and Millwall striker Dave Mangnall for fighting which was witnessed by the Secretary of the F.A, Stanley Rous. He decided to make an example of both players and called them to a hearing at which they received lengthy bans. The ramifications of this 'underhand' punishment reverberated around the football world for weeks in what was an early example of 'bringing the game into disrepute' and a forerunner to today's trial by television.

The return match that season came at a time when the Town's promotion hopes appeared to be slipping but with seven home games from the remaining nine fixtures hopes were there of a late surge. As it turned out we won through easily, 5-0, against a side that probably had one eye on their forthcoming F.A.Cup semi-final appearance, the first side from Division Three to reach that stage of the competition.

Millwall joined us in Division Two a year later, but after their relegation in 1948 regular meetings did not take place again until 1970 with both sides enjoying varying fortunes in the intervening period.

In season 1970-71 a disastrous Easter for the Town, which included a 0-4 thrashing at the Den, effectively ended our promotion hopes, but in the following campaign goals from Chris Nicholl and Peter Anderson gave us a 2-1 home win while a brace from Anderson earned us a 2-2 draw at the Den. Millwall would have won promotion to the top flight that season for the first time in their history had they gained just one more point!

In the following campaign the home clash with the Lions has gained almost mythical status



Ricky Hill in the thick of the action against the Lions at Kenilworth Road in 1979.

over the years due to the return of one man. Graham French, a God like figure to a great many Luton supporters, came back into the side for the first time since his release from prison and when he scored the second Hatters goal in the 2-2 draw the cheer was said to have been heard in Dunstable. (I said it was mythical).

A winning double for the Town over the Lions was achieved during our promotion season of 1973-74 with a 3-0 home victory, late in the campaign, virtually ensuring our steady rise back to the top.

The Lions gained their own revenge three years later with a double of their own but two seasons after that suffered relegation and a further parting of the ways.

Our meetings resumed in 1988-89 following Millwall's promotion to the old Division One, and the Lions quickly made up for lost time by beating the Town 2-1 at Kenilworth Road and 3-1 at the Den. As if to prove there has never been much to choose between the sides we took four points from the Lions the following season as the London side slipped back to Division Two.

Since our own relegation in

1992 results have tended to favour the home side more particularly since both ourselves and the Lions were further relegated to Division Two in 1996. Whereas Millwall have been successful at Kenilworth Road in each of the past three seasons we have returned the compliment at the New Den.

In December 1996 a very late mis-hit shot from Ceri Hughes crept in to clinch all three points whilst in the following campaign the Hatters netted twice in the final minute to claim a victory.

On the final Saturday of last season loanee Tony Thorpe made it four goals in four games as the Town made it a winning end to the campaign.

Unfortunately, the sequence was ended when the Lions scraped through 1-0 at the New Den last November in a game that could have gone either way.

Community & Schools Programme

ntl: Schools Visit Project

Our photo today shows some of the lucky Year Three pupils from Putteridge Junior School in Luton who took part last week in our NTL School Visit Project.

Each and every school day our coaches are out and about visiting schools all over Beds and Herts providing curriculum time PE and football coaching lessons as part of the schools visit project. The project is jointly funded by NTL and Sportsmatch and many schools have now experienced football coaching lessons as part of the school curriculum absolutely free of charge.

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 to answer any questions you may have. We look forward to receiving your call.



February Half Term Indoor Coaching Courses



Highlights

Our recent half term coaching courses proved even more popular with hundreds of youngsters coming into our local school halls and sports centre halls.

As always, the highlight of the week are player visits for our presentations and pictured today amongst the youngsters are Emmerson Boyce, Andre Scarlett, Gavin McGowan and Adam Locke at our Mid Beds coaching centres at Shefford and Harlington along with some of the youngsters who attended a course a little nearer to home in Luton and Dunstable.

With Spring on the way and daylight hours becoming longer our programme of weekly and holiday coaching will soon be moving outdoors for the Spring and Summer months. Look out for full details of all our venues which will appear in our next matchday programme - we're sure there will be a course running near you!



INDOOR WINTER COACHING PROGRAMME

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WEDNESDAYS Luton Regional Sports Centre School Years 4 to 8 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm	FRIDAYS Northfields Upper School School Years 1 to 3 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm School Years 4 to 8 at 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm	HOUGHTON REGIS WEDNESDAYS Houghton Regis Sports Centre School Years 1 to 2 at 4.00 pm to 4.50 pm School Years 3 to 4 at 4.50 pm to 5.45 pm
FRIDAYS Cardinal Newman High School School Years 1 to 3 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm School Years 4 to 8 at 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm	LEIGHTON BUZZARD MONDAYS Cedars High School School Years 1 to 3 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm School Years 4 to 8 at 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm	
HARLINGTON THURSDAYS Harlington Upper School School Years 1 to 3 at 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm School Years 4 to 8 at 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm	THURSDAYS Vandyke Upper School School Years 1 to 3 at 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm	

To book a place or for further information please contact the Community & Schools Department on

01582 411622



Hatters On Card

Alan Robinson

TWENTY-five years ago this month Luton Town were staging a valiant bid to avoid relegation from the old First Division. Promoted the previous May, the Town had found life tough at the top, and looked dead and buried by Christmas. However, a revival in the second half of the season gave cause for hope that the big drop could be avoided.

The Town's reappearance in the top flight meant that they were afforded the honour of being featured in Bassett's set of Famous Footballers which was included in the company's packets of sweet cigarettes.

John Aston appeared on card No. 42 of the series of 50, and his performances on the Town's left wing helped their cause no end. In mid-March he scored what was for him a rare headed goal in a 2-1 success at fellow-strugglers Carlisle, and he followed this up with an early strike against Leeds at Kenilworth Road the following week, which resulted in another vital win.

Aston was born in June 1947, the son of a famous Manchester United fullback of the same name. John junior joined United straight from school, and it was not long before he was appearing in the same side as George Best, Denis Law and Bobby Charlton. One of his finest games for United was in their 1968 European Cup final victory at Wembley over Benfica, but a broken leg soon afterwards took him out of the limelight.

Nevertheless it was considered something of a coup when, in the summer of 1972, Hatters boss Harry Haslam tempted Aston south, for a bargain fee of £30,000. The arrangement was that Aston would continue to live at Ashton-under-Lyne, and train at Oldham.

The left winger soon became a hit with the Luton fans, and in addition to being a scourge of Second Division full backs with his speed and

trickery, he packed a venomous shot, and scored some important goals. Two of the most memorable came in Luton's epic 2-0 cup-tie victory at Newcastle. That set off a cup run which eventually ended in the quarter-finals at Roker Park, to a Sunderland team which was also to deliver a shock result in the final, by beating Leeds.

The disappointment of defeat at Sunderland was forgotten the following season as Aston helped Luton to promotion to the First Division, now the Premiership, as runners-up to Jack Charlton's Middlesbrough. Sadly, the Town and Carlisle dropped straight back down again - Chelsea were also relegated and Spurs had a dodgy last-day win to escape at our expense - but Aston stayed at Kenilworth Road for two more seasons. However, his refusal to live closer to Luton increasingly became a bone of contention, and Aston and Haslam fell out. Things came to a head in September 1977, when after 201 appearances and 37 goals Aston vowed never to pull on a Luton shirt again.

Actually, this did not quite turn out to be true, because when he next appeared at Kenilworth Road it was for Mansfield Town in December of that year. Mansfield brought the wrong kit with them, and to avoid a colour clash had to borrow the Town's away strip for the game!

After that season with Mansfield, Aston had a dozen outings for Blackburn Rovers before retiring in the summer of 1980 to concentrate on the family pet-food business.

Like many of these relatively modern "trade card" sets, this Bassett's series has rapidly increased in value recently. In the 1990 Murray's card catalogue, the entire set was quoted at £5. In the latest list it appears at 80p for each card - £40 for the set.



Geo Bassett & Co Ltd
Football Stars, 1974

Junior Hatters

welcome



WE WERE given a very warm and friendly welcome at Wrexham last Saturday, and as the picture shows we were invited to send on our own mascot to take part in the pre-match rituals. Our choice, made on the coach going to Wales, was ten-year-old Paul Punter, from Carisbrook Road, Luton. He is a regular on our Junior Hatters awayday trips, and goes to Downside Junior School, and plays for their football team.

The young Robins at Wrexham were good company, and we are pleased to report that in the football match between us we won 6-2 even though we hadn't a clue what their players were saying to each other - we had no-one who speaks Welsh!

Today it is our turn to entertain visitors, and we give a warm welcome to Dave Coates and his

coachload of Young Lions. They are joining us for football and other Saturday Club activities, and they have also brought their own mascot, 14-year-old Neil Cooper who attends Woolwich Polytechnic School. His favourite players are Paul Shaw and Neil Harris.

Next week we hit the road again, heading for Preston, where we always enjoy ourselves. They have laid on ten-pin bowling and football before the big game, and we are now taking bookings for the Junior Hatters coach.

The price will be £10 for Junior Hatters and £13 for guests and adults, which is tremendous value, because it includes admission to the game. For more information or to book seats call at the ticket office in Kenilworth Road, or phone Luton 416976.

Today's Mascot



SIX-year-old Antony Foreman is today's mascot, after his name was picked out at random from the Junior Hatters membership list. He lives at Whitehall, Lidlington, and watches games from the main stand. But today he will be much closer to the action, meeting the players as they get ready in the dressing room, and then running out with them onto the pitch for the pre-match rituals and formalities.

Antony goes to the Thomas Johnson Lower School at Lidlington, and top of his hobbies list is playing and watching football. He also likes pool, and PlayStation with football games. His favourite footballer is Stuart Douglas.

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Action Replay

Luton Town 1 Brentford 2 (HT 1-1)

Brian Swain reports

A FOURTH defeat in February's five games completed a B nightmare month for the Town - the home win over Stoke was a beacon of flickering promotion hope that flared and died among the defeats by Bournemouth, Bury, Bristol Rovers and finally Brentford.

The Londoners needed to win to maintain their hopes of a second successive promotion, and in the end the Town made it all too easy for them to complete a double. An early goal by Phil Gray, his fourth in as many matches, should have been the springboard for success, but other chances went begging and in stoppage time at the end of the first half the defence was caught too far upfield by a long clearance. The pace of Lloyd Owusu took him clear for a 35-yard run, and then beyond debutant goalkeeper Ben Roberts to slot in an equaliser.

Brentford, second best until then, improved considerably after the break, with Scott Partridge's arrival bringing a change of tactics - they passed to feet instead of hopefully to heads, and that and the pace of Owusu finished

the job for them. The match programme visitors pen pictures spoke about the long-range shooting ability of Paul Evans, and he duly illustrated the point with a 35-yarder which Roberts admits he should have saved, and a miserable afternoon for the Town was complete when Julian Watts was sent off for illegally ending Owusu's break for goal down the middle.

Match Details

Luton Town: Roberts, Boyce (McGowan 69 mins), Watts, Doherty, Johnson, George (Fotiadis 69 mins), Locke, Douglas (White 75 mins), Spring, Gray, Taylor. Unused subs: McLaren, Abbey.

Sent off: Julian Watts, 75 mins, for bringing down Lloyd Owusu.

Brentford: Woodman, Boxall (Scott 79 mins), Anderson, Quinn, Powell, Evans, Mahon, Owusu, Ingimarrson, Jones (Partridge HT), Rowlands.

Booked: Andy Woodman, 7 mins, handling outside the penalty area; Darren Powell, 32 mins, foul on Phil Gray; Martin Rowlands, 45 mins, dissent; Ijah Anderson, 84 mins, foul on Adam Locke.

The goals: 1-0 8 mins - Phil Gray from the rebound off the defensive wall after Andy Woodman conceded a free kick for hands inches outside the penalty area and Matthew Spring's shot was blocked; 1-1 45 mins - Lloyd Owusu using his pace to break clear of a defence hoping for offside five yards from the centre line, Ben Roberts failing in his attempt to play as sweeper when left dreadfully alone and exposed; 1-2 62 mins - Paul Evans, 25-yard shot into the bottom corner after Marvin Johnson and Emmerson Boyce both fluffed clearance attempts.

Referee: Kevin Lynch, York

Attendance: 6,029, including 734 away supporters.



GETTING SHIRTY: Liam George finds it's difficult enough being marked by three men, especially when one of them, Martin Rowlands, apparently wants to swap shirts during the game.

Action Replay

Wrexham 1 Luton Town 0 (HT 0-0)

Brian Swain reports

FAILURE to take chances to get the all-important first goal led to the Town's fourth consecutive defeat, this time against a Wrexham side desperate for points to get away from the relegation zone. Their hunger and desire turned out to be the narrow difference between two sides playing with a marked lack of confidence, and for entertainment it was not much of a spectacle.

The Town made three changes to try to shake the team out of its recently-acquired losing habit, but by the end the changes were wiped out by an injury and substitutions, and made little difference on a day when the Town were well below their best.

Stuart Fraser, Gavin McGowan and Andrew Fotiadis came in for Emmerson Boyce, Matthew Taylor and Liam George, but Fraser limped off with an ankle injury after only 25 minutes. By then Fotiadis had failed with two decent chances, both from thoughtful flick-on passes by Phil Gray. Fotiadis got in his shots each time, but the first was wide and the second saved by Kevin Dearden's legs.

The keeper was nearly embarrassed by Gray when he rushed out of his area as a sweeper to head the ball away. Gray returned it instantly over the keeper's head, but unfortunately over the bar as well.

Matthew Spring hit a shot straight at Dearden after a lay-off by Stuart Douglas, before Wrexham's first threat came three minutes before the break, with Ben Roberts saving well from Karl Connolly's header.

Until then the Town had looked the better side, but Wrexham came out for the second half in much more determined mood. Danny Allsopp, an Australian Olympic prospect on loan from Manchester City, shot over the bar after racing through a ponderous defence, but then got everything right after 54 minutes, taking a through-pass by Gareth Owen in the inside-right channel and dispatching the shot under Roberts.

The Town gambled by sending Gary Doherty upfield as an extra attacker, but cheers when he slammed the ball into the net after 84 minutes turned to groans from the away fans as the

offside flag was seen to be waving.

Wrexham boss Brian Flynn put the result down to his side's "fighting qualities" in the second half, while Lennie Lawrence spoke about being more concerned about what was happening than at any time in the previous two and a half years.

"In the first half we started better than Wrexham, and we had chances to get a goal. But we defended poorly either side of half-time, and got away with it until their goal.... Never in all the time since last summer has the lack of senior players in the team been so seriously apparent, and I am extremely concerned about that. This was a game where the spark was not there. We have too many young players, and too many are too tired.

"We have lost our way badly and need to find it again, or the season's finish will be a massive anti-climax."

Happily we got the response we wanted at Burnley on Tuesday.

Match Details

Luton Town: Roberts, McGowan (Taylor 70 mins), Watts, Doherty, Johnson, Fotiadis (George 59 mins), Locke, Douglas, Spring, Gray, Fraser (Boyce 25 mins). Unused subs: Scarlett, Ward.

Booked: No-one.

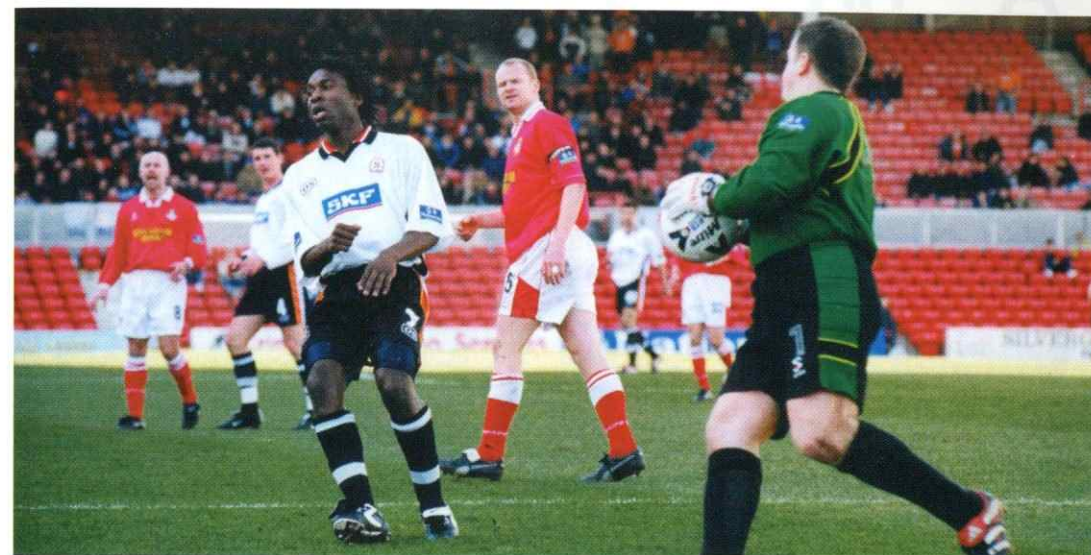
Wrexham: Dearden, McGregor, Hardy, Owen, Carey, Russell, Connolly, Gibson, Ridler, Ferguson, Allsopp. Subs, all unused: Chalk, Williams, Morrell, Stevens, Rogers (gk).

Booked: Karl Connolly, 58 minutes, handball.

The goal: Danny Allsopp, 54 mins, low angled drive after being given too much room in the penalty area to take a through-pass by Gareth Owen.

Referee: David Laws, Whitley Bay.

Attendance: 2,703, including 340 away supporters.



● **Above:** LUTON v LUTON: Kevin Dearden, the Wrexham goalkeeper playing against his home town club, gets to the ball first, leaving Stuart Douglas looking suitably cheesed off.

● **Right:** LEGGING IT: Andrew Fotiadis, restored to the starting line-up, is brought down by Dave Ridler's challenge.

● **Below:** TAKE THEM ON: Gavin McGowan, at right wingback, finds Wrexham ready to use two men at a time to stop him.



Action Replay

Burnley 0 Luton Town 2 (HT 0-1)

Brian Swain reports

FUNNY old game it may be, but having suffered agonies at Wrexham on Saturday, Town fans were given a real treat at Turf Moor on Tuesday, with a performance by every single man responding to the call to regain professional pride.

It is odd how the Town rarely do well at Wrexham, but in recent years have done the business at Burnley, where the task should be so much more difficult.

It was not exactly easy on Tuesday, which made it all the more satisfying as teamwork and collective determination put together the right mixture to see off a home side which will almost certainly have a say in the promotion placings at the end of the season.

Alan White was recalled as the extra defender in midfield, and not only played an important part in the Town's first clean sheet this century, but popped up with his annual goal to complete an opening period in which the Town looked strong at the back, and menacing on the counter.

Conditions did not favour defenders, with heavy rain and a strong wind swirling around, and leading to the ball playing tricks with players, sometimes skidding away, sometimes sticking in puddles.

Stuart Douglas's pace worried even the redoubtable Steve Davis and Mitchell Thomas, while veteran Ian Wright was much less effective at the other end, where Gary Doherty, Julian Watts and Marvin Johnson usually held the upper hand.

White's strike, for his first goal in 14 months, rounded off a neat passing move in the 26th minute, and from then on a touch of desperation grew among Burnley's ranks.

They battered away without upsetting a defence that was prepared to throw bodies everywhere to protect the goal, and Douglas, having done his bit for the first goal, repeated the trick just before the break, but this time White's low drive was tipped around the post by Paul Crichton.

Burnley were bound to try to step it up after the break, but had not threatened before their defence was all over the place following a corner by Matthew Spring, and Phil Gray whacked his

ninth goal of the season into the roof of the net.

Burnley redoubled their attacking efforts. The Town reorganised defence in depth, and the last ten or 15 minutes was a little scary. The fear was that if Burnley could make a breakthrough, they might well be capable of doing it more than once.

Davis hasn't changed a lot - having seen his forwards fail to make an impression, he moved upfield to show how it should be done. A 71st-minute thunderbolt from his right boot would have done mortal damage to anyone brave enough to get in its way, but Ben Roberts risked a handful of fingers to ensure the crossbar shuddered without the net bulging.

Spring and Douglas were close at the other end after a clever quick free kick by Gray, but the dying minutes were a case of everybody back to work for the cause, and although it took one or two goal-line clearances it was heartening to see the commitment and determination to complete the job.

Match Details

Town: Roberts, Boyce, McGowan, Watts, Doherty, Johnson, White, Gray, Locke, Spring, Douglas (Fotiadis 87 mins). Unused subs: George, McLaren, Taylor, Abbey.

Booked: Gavin McGowan, 32 mins, trip on Glen Little.

Burnley: Crichton, Branch (Mellon HT), Cook (Payton 56 mins), Davis, Johnrose, Little, Mullin (Smith HT), Thomas, Wright, Cooke, Cox. Unused subs: Jepson, West

Booked: No-one.

The goals: 0-1 26 mins - Alan White, low right foot drive from 25 yards after Matthew Spring sent Stuart Douglas away down the left wing for a quick burst of a run and perfect pull-back into White's stride; 0-2 54 mins - Phil Gray's ninth goal of the season, struck emphatically into the roof of the net from six yards after Burnley failed to clear a corner by Spring.

Referee: Paul Danson, Leicester

Attendance: 12,080 including 286 in the away end.



● **Above:** GETTING STUCK IN: Matthew Spring and Steve Davis in close competition.

● **Middle:** MIXED EMOTIONS: Phil Gray and Alan White enjoy the moment as the Town go two up, with Burnley goalkeeper Paul Crichton not the happiest man on the field.

● **Below:** CLOSE QUARTERS: Stuart Douglas, who led Burnley a bit of a dance, tries a stand-off as Ian Cox marks tight.



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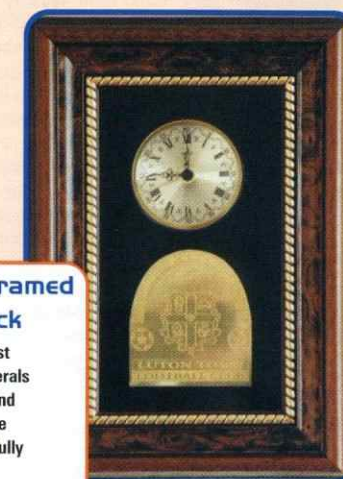
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The Reserves

Trevor Hartley and John Moore



Leyton Orient 2 Luton Town 0

PROBABLY the youngest reserve team we have ever fielded - eight of the starting team and all five subs still qualify for under-18 youth football - worked hard with no reward at Brisbane Road.

Another trialist came into the side, Jamaican international goalkeeper Aaron Lawrence, and he did well. He will train with us for a spell before we make a decision on his future. We also included Dean Standen, in his second appearance for us after impressing while playing against us for Welling Utd in the FA Youth Cup. Mark Jones, currently with Wimbledon, was also playing his second trial game for us on the left of midfield.

Southend had a much more experienced side, but the important first goal was a double blow for us. Centre-back Ryan Moran suffered concussion in a collision with an opponent in the build-up, and had to be taken off. It meant that for the next 85 minutes we had to play with a makeshift team. With Alan White and Jude Stirling both suspended, Dean Mortara and John Carroll, normally full backs, had to play at centre-back, while midfielders Andre Scarlett and Michael McIndoe had to fill in as full backs. Scarlett, incidentally, at the grand old age of 20, was skipper of the side, and has been ragged a bit as a result - he's known as Captain Scarlett now! The whole team put everything into the game, and although we conceded another goal, from a corner, in the second half, but we did create some chances - Tresor Kandol and Moses Jerry missed one

each, and Carroll had one cleared off the line.

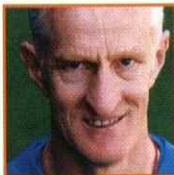
Overall, it was not too disappointing on a night when team selection was more about who was available rather than who we wanted. Not for the first time this season, first team squad calls had to take priority as we prepared for the Second Division games at Wrexham and Burnley. Paul McLaren was suspended and Efe Sodje was injured. James Ayres is on loan at Stevenage, while Stuart Fraser, Gavin McGowan and Andrew Fotiadis were left out to make them available for the first team.

Luton Town: Lawrence, Mortara, Carroll, Standen, Moran (Barriteau 5 mins), Minton, Scarlett, Jerry, Kandol, McIndoe, Jones. Unused subs: Dogbe, Clarke, Mentore, Ward.

Reserve team appearances, including as sub: Kandol 16, Stirling 15, Scarlett 15, Ayres 13, Jerry 13, Tate 12, McIndoe 12, Boyce 10, Moran 10, Sodje 8, White 7, Fotiadis 7, Minton 5, Locke 5, Ward 5, Fraser 5, Barriteau 4, Zahana-Oni 4, Mortara 3, McLaren 3, Mansell 3, O'Connor 3, Graham 3, Clarke 3, McGowan 3, Standen 2, Read 2, Gray 2, Pearson 2, Davis 2, Brkovic 2, Dogbe 2, Harrison 2, Murphy 2, Smith 2, Carroll 2, Jones 2, Wright 1, Barnett 1, Lawrence 1, Cummings 1, Thorpe 1, Hunt 1, Bowes 1, O'Brien 1, Ryan 1, Jack 1, Antunes 1, McKinnon 1, Estebar 1, Quailley 1, Whitby 1, Jones 1.

Goals: Kandol 9, Jerry 2, Scarlett 1, McIndoe 1, Fotiadis 1, McLaren 1, OG 1.

NEXT Wednesday we are away to Fulham in the Avon Insurance Combination (2pm), a fixture which was originally scheduled for April 12.



Youth Soccer

Paul Lowe



Portsmouth 4 Luton Town 0

A TERRIBLE start left us three down after 20 minutes as we began our Merit League programme in the Football League Youth Alliance. In terms

of team selection we were down to the bare bones, and used the game to have a look at schoolboy Bruce Wilson from Leighton Buzzard.

Our problems started with a silly early goal conceded - goalkeeper Graham Wraight tried to clear the ball with a throw, but hit one of our players, and the bounce fell nicely for a Portsmouth striker to help himself to a gift. Their second goal soon followed, and this time Portsmouth deserved credit for its creation, although we were guilty of poor defending as a far post header was converted.

As so often happens when things seem to be running against you, a touch-and-go offside decision fell Portsmouth's way in the build-up to their third goal. A

forward chased a long ball, and lobbed Wraight as he tried to close him down.

At the interval the team talk was about salvaging self-respect and professional pride, and the need to concentrate more in defence. Alas, concentration was found wanting in the first minute of the second half, when Portsmouth scored again more through our mistakes than by their good play.

They played a long ball down the middle, and Dean Mortara was ready to clear with ease until Wraight gave him a late call and the upshot was that neither made decisive contact and a Portsmouth man was gifted an easy goal.

Luton Town: Wraight, Mortara, Deeney, Carroll, Dogbe (Osborne 60 mins), Mansell, Minton, Jerry, Wilson (Clarke 70 mins), Jeffrey, Barriteau. Unused sub: Mentore.

WE WERE without a fixture today, but next Saturday we are at home to Brentford, at Luton RFC, Newlands Road, kick-off 11am. Spectators are welcome, and admission is free.

Youth team appearances, including as sub: Mortara 25, Moran 24, Clarke 23, Carroll 23, Mansell 23, Barriteau 22, Dogbe 22, Stirling 21, Jerry 18, Deeney 16, Jeffrey 15, Ayres 15, Mentore 13, Minton 13, Ward 12, Wraight 12, Flaherty 6, Crane 6, Kandol 6, Oughan 3, Thresher 3, Wilson 2, Milton 2, Coktas 2, Osborne 2, de Freitas 2, Talbot 2, Tate 1, Dosdogru 1, Cooper 1, Miller 1, Nurse 1.

Goals: Stirling 6, Clarke 4, Ayres 3, Jeffrey 3, Kandol 3, Moran 3, Flaherty 2, Jerry 1, Mentore 1, OG 3.

WE ARE reaching the time of year when difficult decisions have to be made about young players, and three boys from the youth squad have been told that they are being released. We hope that by making the decisions early Ryan Moran, Moses Jerry and Daniel Tate may have a better chance of finding clubs elsewhere.

At more senior level, Landry Zahana-Oni, who has been bedevilled by a knee injury, is also being allowed to leave on a free transfer.



Avon Insurance Combination Results and Fixtures				
AUG	Wed 18	Bristol City	H	1-3 (Kandol)
SEPT	Wed 1	Portsmouth	A	0-1
	Wed 8	Swindon	H	0-1
	Tue 28	Oxford	A	2-4 (Jerry, Kandol)
OCT	Wed 6	Wycombe	H	5-2 (Kandol 4, OG)
	Wed 13	Brighton	A	2-1 (Jerry, Kandol)
	Wed 27	Bristol Rov	A	0-0
NOV	Wed 3	Norwich	H	1-1 (Kandol)
	Wed 17	Ipswich	A	0-2
DEC	Wed 1	Colchester	H	1-1 (McIndoe)
	Wed 22	Peterborough	H	0-4
JAN	Wed 12	Cambridge Utd	A	1-3 (Fotiadis)
	Wed 19	Northampton	H	0-1
FEB	Wed 2	QPR	H	0-2
	Wed 9	Barnet	A	1-1 (Scarlett)
	Wed 16	Southend	A	2-0 (McLaren, Kandol)
	Wed 23	Millwall	H	0-1
MAR	Wed 1	L. Orient	A	0-2
	Wed 15	Fulham	A	2pm
	Wed 29	Gillingham	H	2pm
APRIL	Wed 5	Bournemouth	H	2pm

Avon Insurance Combination, Division One							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Millwall	16	10	5	1	33	13	35
Ipswich	15	10	3	2	37	22	33
QPR	16	10	3	3	34	13	33
Swindon	15	9	2	4	26	19	29
Fulham	15	8	3	4	25	15	27
Bristol City	12	7	4	1	23	13	25
Peterborough	17	7	4	6	31	22	25
Cambridge	17	7	4	6	32	27	25
Norwich	17	6	6	5	25	17	24
Bournemouth	14	7	3	4	20	21	24
Portsmouth	13	7	2	4	21	18	23
Leyton Orient	16	6	3	7	23	33	21
Bristol Rovers	14	4	6	4	20	17	18
Gillingham	12	5	1	6	15	21	16
Colchester	15	4	4	7	20	32	16
Oxford	18	4	3	11	25	39	15
Brighton	12	4	1	7	18	21	13
Luton Town	18	3	4	11	16	30	13
Northampton	13	3	3	7	16	24	12
Southend	15	3	1	11	19	39	10
Barnet	14	2	3	9	15	24	9
Wycombe	12	2	2	8	12	26	8

Football League Youth Alliance South Central Conference				
AUG	Sat 14	Walsall	H	0-0
	Sat 21	West Brom	H	2-1 (Kandol 2)
	Sat 28	Cambridge Utd	A	1-4 (Ayres)
SEPT	Sat 4	Notts Co	H	2-1 (Ayres, Stirling pen)
	Sat 18	Oxford Utd	H	1-1 (Jerry)
	Sat 25	Wolves	A	0-5
OCT	Sat 2	Northampton	H	3-1 (Jeffrey, Clarke, Stirling)
	Sat 16	Shrewsbury	A	0-2
	Wed 20	Sutton Utd (FAYC1)	H	2-0 (Moran, Flaherty)
	Sat 23	Southend (FLAYC)	A	1-2 (Ayres)
	NOV	Sat 6	Cambridge (FLYAC)	H
Wed 10	Maidenhead (FAYC2)	H	5-0 (Clarke 2, Stirling 2, Jeffrey)	
Sat 13	Barnet (FLYAC)	A	0-1	
Sat 20	Colchester (FLYAC)	H	0-1	
Sat 27	Notts Co	A	0-0	
Mon 29	Welling (FAYC3)	A	3-1 (Flaherty, Jeffrey, Clarke)	
DEC	Sat 11	Oxford Utd	A	2-2 (Stirling, Moran)
	Sat 18	Wolves	H	2-2 (OG, Kandol)
JAN	Sat 8	Shrewsbury	H	1-3 (Stirling)
	Tues 11	Southampton (FAYC4)	A	0-4
	Sat 15	Northampton	A	2-0 (Moran, Mentore)
Sat 22	Walsall	A	0-2	
FEB	Sat 5	West Brom	A	0-1
	Sat 12	Cambridge Utd	H	1-0 (OG)
MERIT TABLE				
MAR	Sat 4	Portsmouth	A	0-4
	Sat 18	Brentford	H	
	Sat 25	Swansea	H	
APR	Sat 1	Wycombe Wdrs	A	
	Sat 8	Plymouth	H	
	Sat 15	Wolves	A	
Sat 22	Exeter	A		
TBA:	Notts County	H		

League Table														
	Home					Away					Pts			
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A				
Cambridge	16	6	1	1	18	9	3	3	2	14	8	31		
West Brom	16	6	1	1	23	8	3	0	5	13	14	28		
Walsall	16	6	1	1	14	4	2	3	3	14	17	28		
Notts Co	16	2	4	2	7	6	5	1	2	12	5	26		
Wolves	16	5	1	2	16	11	1	3	4	7	12	22		
Luton Town	16	4	3	1	12	8	1	2	5	5	16	20		
Oxford	16	3	3	2	12	13	1	2	5	4	17	17		
Northampton	16	2	1	5	14	16	2	1	5	12	20	14		
Shrewsbury	16	2	2	4	11	14	1	2	5	8	18	13		

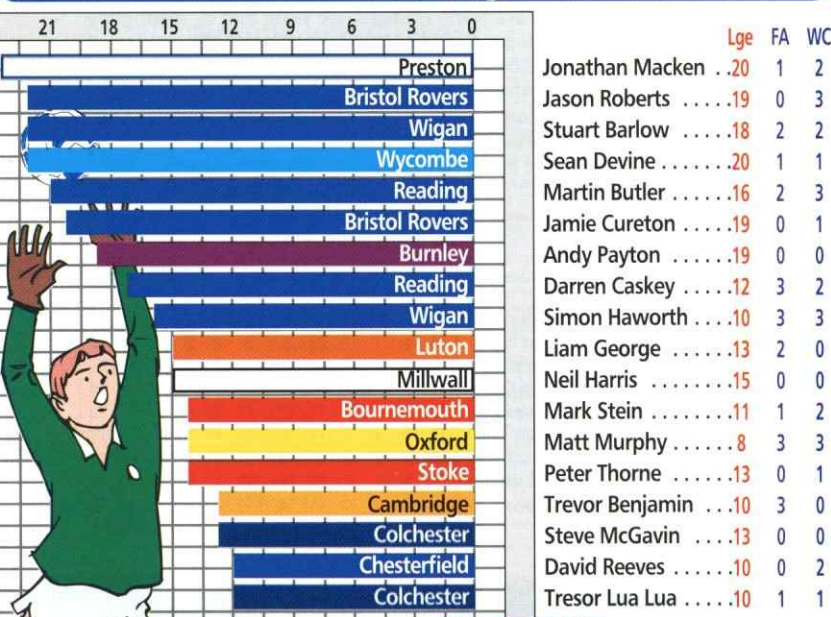
Current form guide - the last six Division 2 games.

Team	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Sequence
Reading	4	1	1	11	5	13	WWLDDWW
Gillingham	4	1	1	9	2	13	LWWWWWD
Millwall	4	0	2	11	6	12	LWWWLW
Bristol Rovers	3	2	1	11	5	11	WDWWDL
Notts County	3	1	2	10	9	10	WLWDLW
Cambridge	3	1	2	9	7	10	WDLWLW
Colchester	3	1	2	7	10	WDLWLW	
Burnley	3	1	2	4	6	10	LLWDDWW
Stoke	3	0	3	9	8	9	WWLWLL
Wrexham	3	0	3	9	9	9	WWWLLL
Bournemouth	3	0	3	7	8	9	WLWLLW
Preston	2	2	2	9	8	8	LWLDWD

When Clubs have scored goals... and conceded them

0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	
3	6	12	11	5	10	Bournemouth	9	9	8	8	10	8
7	4	8	10	0	8	Blackpool	4	6	7	13	9	21
4	6	5	10	10	8	Brentford	5	4	6	7	8	15
0	4	9	8	8	12	Bristol City	6	3	7	7	8	11
8	9	7	14	8	11	Bristol Rovers	4	1	1	3	10	8
5	5	10	5	7	11	Burnley	5	5	5	4	8	3
5	4	5	13	9	9	Bury	2	4	8	7	10	13
4	5	7	5	11	10	Cambridge United	8	9	6	10	4	13
3	3	5	7	7	7	Cardiff City	3	10	4	11	8	11
1	1	3	4	7	5	Chesterfield	5	3	9	10	7	8
2	5	7	10	8	13	Colchester United	7	8	10	13	9	15
7	11	6	8	11	10	Gillingham	5	2	2	9	9	8
6	6	7	11	6	11	Luton Town	2	6	6	15	12	9
6	8	6	12	6	16	Millwall	4	3	3	11	8	8
9	4	9	9	10	10	Notts County	0	7	7	7	7	11
6	4	5	3	9	11	Oldham Athletic	8	3	6	5	11	9
7	4	2	3	7	6	Oxford United	4	8	7	9	8	19
2	7	6	13	17	14	Preston North End	5	2	5	7	7	5
4	4	6	7	10	13	Reading	4	7	8	13	9	12
2	6	6	8	4	7	Scunthorpe United	4	7	16	11	4	9
3	9	4	9	9	15	Stoke City	2	6	3	5	5	13
8	4	8	10	10	16	Wigan Athletic	4	8	2	3	4	7
2	4	3	11	8	9	Wrexham	4	6	11	13	8	7
5	8	7	11	3	9	Wycombe Wanderers	5	4	6	11	6	9

Nationwide Division Two Leading Goalscorers 1999-00



1999-00 Attendances

(Bands behind represent average gate as percentage of ground capacity)

Club	Highest	Lowest	Average	Capacity
Bristol City	11,109	5,397	8,097	11,110
Bury	7,801	5,884	6,713	10,600
Blackpool	7,638	4,318	5,764	9,572
Luton	7,205	4,633	5,738	9,975
Reading	16,821	8,506	12,229	21,412
Blackpool	22,310	8,944	12,341	22,546
Reading	7,042	4,345	5,361	10,000
Bury	6,194	2,557	3,708	7,556
Reading	11,168	4,389	7,050	14,660
Reading	6,007	4,202	5,009	10,770
Reading	16,011	7,777	10,023	21,479
Reading	15,354	7,054	11,124	24,054
Reading	7,100	4,055	5,797	12,763
Reading	6,211	3,162	4,270	9,617
Reading	5,336	2,851	3,994	9,183
Reading	7,872	2,473	3,917	9,200
Reading	12,077	5,202	8,173	20,146
Reading	9,432	3,807	5,573	13,559
Reading	5,274	2,819	4,366	11,295
Reading	9,115	3,088	4,213	11,841
Reading	4,726	2,254	3,155	8,880
Reading	13,348	5,393	8,085	24,200
Reading	8,229	4,020	5,571	20,300
Reading	11,986	4,338	6,738	25,000

2nd Division Scene

Brian Swain



HAVING dropped back to 12th place in the table after the defeat at Wrexham, the Town returned to 11th thanks to Tuesday's cracking performance at Turf Moor.

Burnley was not the only place where the form book seemed to have been thrown aside as several promotion contenders came unstuck.

They included today's visitors, surprisingly beaten at home, for only the second time this season. Preston's 2-0 win in October at the New Den was no real shock, but on Tuesday lowly Scunthorpe came back from a goal down to win 2-1. The coaching staff at Kenilworth Road noted with interest that the winning goal came from Brian Quail.

He is on loan to Scunthorpe from West Brom, having failed to impress when he came to Luton on trial a couple of months ago. He played for the Town reserves in a 3-1 defeat at Cambridge, and returned to the Hawthorns.

Millwall's stumble on Tuesday followed an impressive 4-1 demolition of Bristol City on Saturday, which ended City's run of 11 league games without defeat.

Bristol Rovers go marching on at the top, and stretched their lead on Tuesday with a 1-0 home win over Wycombe, their ninth game without defeat, including two 4-1 away wins in succession, at Luton and Oldham.

The Second Division

	HOME					AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A
Bristol Rov	34	11	5	1	24	10	10	2	5	33	17	70
Preston	33	10	3	4	28	20	9	6	1	31	11	66
Millwall	35	11	5	2	31	15	7	4	6	23	22	63
Wigan	33	11	3	3	31	12	5	11	0	25	16	62
Burnley	33	12	2	3	29	14	4	8	4	14	16	58
Stoke	34	8	6	3	26	16	8	3	6	23	18	57

Notts Co	35	8	3	6	27	21	8	5	5	24	18	56
Gillingham	31	10	2	4	30	16	6	5	4	23	19	55
Brentford	35	8	5	5	24	21	5	5	7	19	24	49
Bristol City	35	5	12	0	22	11	5	4	9	19	31	46
Luton Town	35	9	4	4	33	25	4	3	11	14	25	46
Bournemouth	35	9	4	4	29	14	4	2	12	18	38	45
Wycombe	34	8	3	5	25	19	3	8	7	18	22	44
Colchester	35	7	3	7	26	30	5	5	8	19	32	44
Oldham	33	6	3	7	20	20	5	5	7	18	22	41
Bury	32	6	7	4	29	27	3	6	6	16	17	40
Wrexham	34	5	5	6	16	20	5	5	8	21	29	40
Reading	34	6	8	3	20	14	3	4	10	24	39	39
Scunthorpe	34	4	5	8	13	23	4	6	7	20	28	35
Cambridge	34	5	5	7	26	26	2	5	10	16	24	31

Blackpool	35	3	6	8	19	29	4	4	10	18	31	31
Oxford	34	4	4	10	17	32	4	3	9	12	23	31
Cardiff	34	3	10	5	18	24	2	4	10	14	23	29
Chesterfield	33	4	5	7	11	13	1	5	11	10	29	25

Preston, who take us on at Deepdale next Saturday, were on top of the world after beating Burnley 3-0 at Turf Moor, and must have been delighted on Tuesday to hear of our success on the same pitch. Except that they had little to cheer about from their game, because they were beaten 3-2 at home by mid-table Colchester.

Millwall's stumble against Scunthorpe enabled Wigan to close the gap on the Londoners. Leaders of the division for much of the first half of the season, Wigan had endured their worst run of the campaign so far with eight games without a win. They put it right with a vengeance on Tuesday, hammering relegation candidates Blackpool 5-1, their first home win since Christmas.

Cambridge United, our next visitors on Tuesday week, are making valiant attempts to stave off relegation. Chesterfield look dead and buried after a 5-1 hammering at Stoke but Cambridge climbed out of the bottom four by drawing at Brentford and then beating Bristol City 3-0 at The Abbey on Tuesday. The Luton connection is still strong at Cambridge, with Ben Chenery, John Taylor and player-coach David Preece all in the squad.

The result ought not have been too much of a surprise, because the old manager of the month curse was at work again, with Bristol City the victim again. Tony Fawthrop created a little bit of history when he was named Second Division manager of the month for February - he is the first caretaker to win the award, having filled in after the departure of Tony Pulis to Portsmouth.

The prize was well-deserved - City were unbeaten in their seven games during February, including a 4-0 first leg win over Exeter in the Southern Area final of the Auto Windscreens Shield. Tony Thorpe has now netted a dozen goals for City, and seems to be settled at Ashton Gate again.

But the manager of the month accolade brought its usual quick response for Mr Fawthrop - their March record reads Millwall away 1-4 and Cambridge away 0-3.

City are due at Kenilworth Road next month, but the date of their visit is almost certain to be changed. The fixture list has it down for Saturday April 15, but City are likely to be at Wembley in the Auto Windscreens final on the following day, in which case the league game will switch to Tuesday April 18 (7.45).

Today's other Second Division fixtures

Blackpool v Cardiff	Notts County v Stoke City
Bournemouth v Preston	Reading v Brentford
Bristol City v Gillingham	Scunthorpe v Cambridge Utd
Bury v Bristol Rovers	Wrexham v Burnley
Chesterfield v Wigan	Wycombe v Oldham
Colchester v Oxford Utd	

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Today's Teams



Luton Town

BEN ROBERTS	32
EMMERSON BOYCE	17
ALAN WHITE	5
GARY DOHERTY	12
MARVIN JOHNSON	6
LIAM GEORGE	11
ADAM LOCKE	28
MATTHEW SPRING	4
PHIL GRAY	7
STUART DOUGLAS	9
GAVIN MCGOWAN	2

Substitutes

PAUL McLAREN	8
ANDREW FOTIADIS	14
MATTHEW TAYLOR	15
ANDRE SCARLETT	21
NATHAN ABBEY	1

V



Millwall

1 TONY WARNER
15 STUART NETHERCOTT
5 DAVID TUTTLE
19 ROBBIE RYAN
14 LUCAS NEILL
11 PAUL IFILL
26 DAVID LIVERMORE
25 MICHAEL GILKES
4 TIM CAHILL
20 RICHARD SADLIER
9 NEIL HARRIS

Substitutes

18 STEVEN REID
10 CHRISTOPHE KINET
12 PAUL MOODY
21 PAUL SHAW
13 NIGEL SPINK

Today's Officials

Referee: Michael Dean, Wirral

Assistants: B. L. Baker, Warminster (red flag)
P. B. Wing, Hinckley (yellow and red flag)

Reserve official: P. W. English, Chelmsford

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