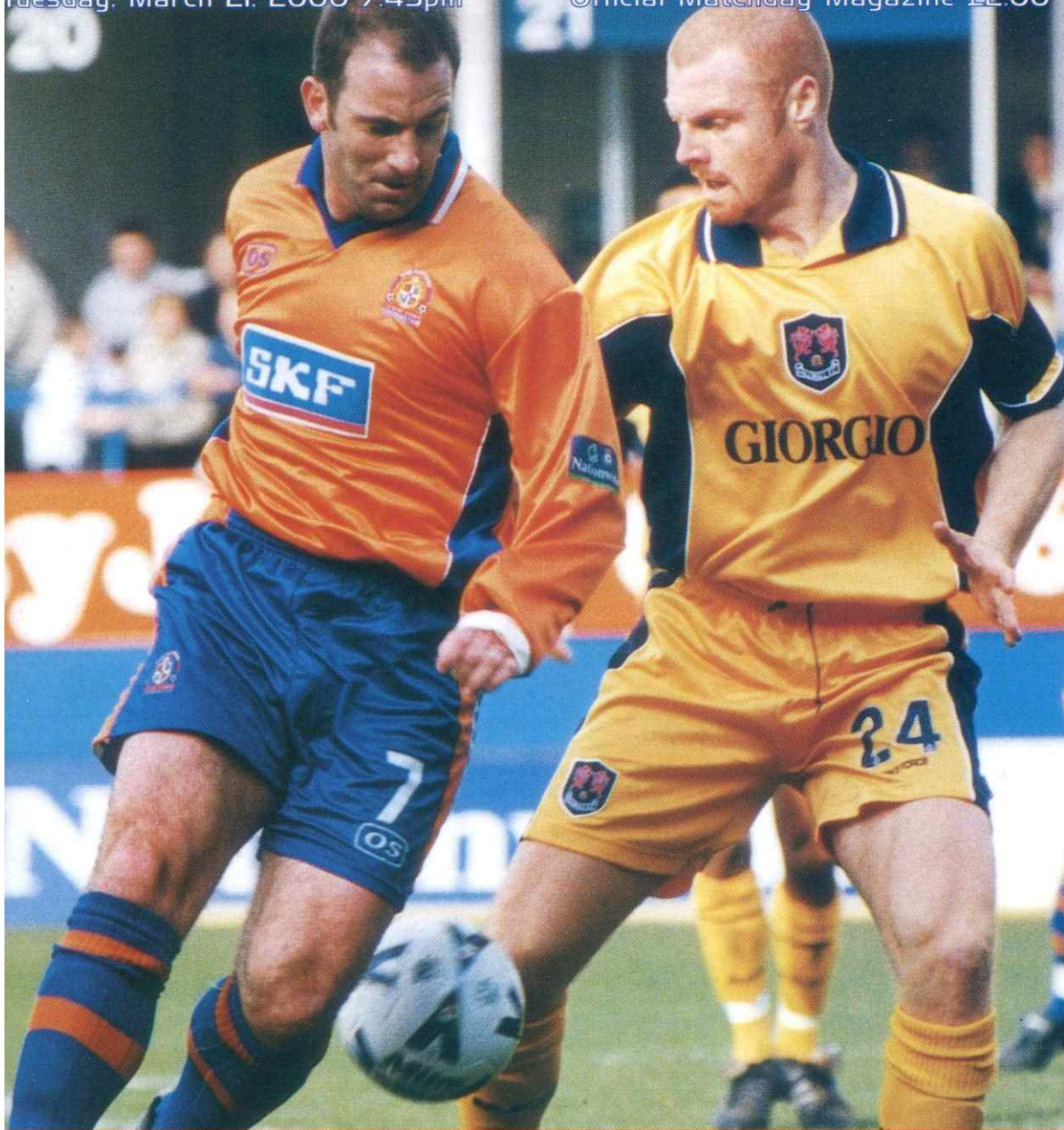


LUTON TOWN

Tuesday, March 21, 2000 7.45pm

Official Matchday Magazine £2.00



v Cambridge United

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Champions 1967-68

Official Matchday Magazine

Editor
Brian Swain
Design & Layout
Wolff Evans
Printing
Regal Litho
Photography
Gareth Owen

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



Front cover:
OLD MATES, NEW RIVALS - Phil Gray and Sean Dyche in competition with each other at our last home game, when Dyche, on loan at Luton last season, made his debut for Millwall. Report and more pictures: pages 38 & 39

YOU had to feel sorry for the Town at Deepdale on Saturday. After doing more than enough to match the Second Division's top team, they left empty-handed after missing a penalty that would have been worth a point.

Talk in the players' bar afterwards confirmed that Preston were well pleased to get away with a win they hardly deserved, and the Town were showered with compliments about the way they went about their business.

The Deepdale Pressbox view was that rarely had Preston been so frustrated this season in terms of their attack being stifled and their defence being put under pressure. The Town's defensive organisation was found wanting once early on, and was ruthlessly punished.

You got the feeling that Preston then realised they were not going to win by a mile, and settled to hold what they had. As Lennie Lawrence said later, even very good performances against teams like Preston will not open up their defence too often, and you need to convert one of the few chances that arrive.

Few will be better than a penalty kick, an award which even Preston accepted was a correct decision by referee Paul Rejer from Stoke.

It came with seven minutes to go, with Andrew Fotiadis running strongly with the ball after robbing Rob Edwards just outside the box. Michael Jackson's mistimed challenge brought down Fotiadis, and Liam George confidently took responsibility for the penalty, only to strike it wide.

Preston fans were getting jittery long before that incident, having seen the home side snatch an early lead, and then content to do little more than protect it.

Iain Anderson had an excellent first 45 minutes for Preston, mainly wide on their right, where he faced Matthew Taylor. Anderson crossed Brett Angell to head powerfully for goal, with Ben Roberts making a good tip-over save. But within a minute Graham Alexander, still looking good going forward, was given time to play in a diagonal ball from the right, and Anderson popped up in the penalty area, unmarked, to fire in the winner after eight minutes.

Preston played a containing game after that, and the Town rarely threatened to break through before half-time. But after the break the Town looked more and more menacing, and Alan White forced Teuvo Moilanen into a diving save to hold a powerful 25-yard drive at the second attempt. Both teams used all their subs in the tactical battle for supremacy, with the Town finishing with three attackers after George replaced Adam Locke for the last 16 minutes.

Fotiadis looked full of energy and determination after replacing Stuart Douglas on 62 minutes, and the all-round team effort made a mockery of the final result.

Preston boss David Moyes said he was relieved to get three points on a day when lady luck had been on his side, not the Town's.

For the visitors, it was painful to see so much good work go unrewarded. "We had more of the play, and passed it really well," said the Town manager. "We made the substitutions at the right time and pushed Preston back for the last 20 minutes. We got up a good head of steam, and it all came down to the penalty. Liam George has taken penalties at all levels, and in all kinds of crucial situations, including European championships and world youth games, and it was harsh that everything should depend on that one kick."

Match Details

Town: Roberts, Boyce, Taylor, Doherty, Watts, Johnson, White (McLaren 80 mins), Gray, Locke (George 74 mins), Spring, Douglas (Fotiadis 62 mins).
Unused subs: McIndoe, Abbey.

Booked: Stuart Douglas, 30 mins, foul on Iain Anderson; Adam Locke, 62 mins, foul on Rob Edwards.

Preston: Moilanen, Alexander, Kidd, Jackson, Murdock, Anderson (Cartwright 77 mins), Gregan, Rankine, Macken (Basham 60 mins), Angell, Eyres (Edwards 60 mins). Unused subs: Gunnlaugsson, Lucas.

Booked: David Eyres, 50 mins, foul on Stuart Douglas.

The goal: Iain Anderson, eight minutes, unmarked to sweep in a diagonal cross from the right by Graham Alexander.

Referee: Paul Rejer, Stoke.

Attendance: 13,731, including 493 visiting fans.

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
Preston	493

Total18,457
Average802

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
Millwall	1,526

.....15,148
.....689

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The Manager

Lennie Lawrence



THE RESULT was not what we wanted, but at Preston we saw one of our better away performances of recent times. On an excellent pitch we did not deserve to lose.

The performance was comparable to the Burnley game, but in different conditions, and with a big difference - we scored first at Burnley, but conceded first at Preston.

But after the early goal we raised our game and for the rest of the first half, and for most of the second, we had the majority of possession.

Preston were below par, as, I gather, they had been in winning against Oxford in midweek. For us, apart from the goal conceded, our game plan enabled us to keep Preston on the back foot, so much so that at the time the penalty was awarded to us we were getting up such a good head of steam that if we had scored we had a good chance of winning, let alone drawing.

Unfortunately the penalty was missed and Preston achieved something that seems to be beyond us - they played poorly, but won. I still think they are the best team in the Second Division, but on Saturday they were not allowed to show it. But for sure they know how to hold onto a lead. There was no question of them chasing a second goal. They sat back and defended well, and got away with it thanks to a big stroke of luck when we missed the penalty.

The defeat left us with the unhappy record of six losses in seven outings, but this one was by far the least justified, and the most unfortunate. Our passing was good and the overall performance was heartening. And but for recent poor home results, the reverse at Deepdale would have been just a minor blip.

But obviously we need a win quickly, otherwise the whole season is in danger of ending in anticlimax. The game at Preston ended a run of six matches against teams from the Second Division's top eight. We managed only one victory in that sequence. Now we meet four teams from the lower reaches of the table, starting with tonight's game.

Cambridge will pose different problems from those we met at Preston. They are fighting for their lives, and their recent away form has been good. Their problems have been mostly at home. They are always capable of scoring goals, but they also concede them.

I expect to make changes in our team. It has got to the point when there is no alternative but to rotate players, to try to bring a new freshness into proceedings, and to start gathering points again.

This week marks the anniversary of the receivers coming in, and but for the recent dents in our playing record, I think it has been a magnificent year considering the circumstances under which we have had to work. Our failure to get into the play-offs has been a disappointment, but the fact that we even thought about it realistically speaks volumes - only last summer many were fearing we would be near-certainties to be down at the other end of the table.

Now, we have to look to a better future. The transfer deadline day is on Thursday, but I do not expect last year's flurry of activity to be repeated. I do not expect any major movements among our playing staff. We have one more loan available, which may be taken up, while hopefully I will be able to reach agreement to extend the loan of Ben Roberts until the end of the season.

I have always preached the need to finish the season on a good note, to give you a chance of a good start to the fresh campaign, and there will be changes in the playing staff during the summer. I hope results between now and then do not force us to think of more than are already in our mind.

Finally, our thanks for your excellent support again at Preston. We need your backing, home and away, and I am sorry we did not give you better fare at the last home match, against Millwall. It is not for the want of trying, but your patience and understanding will always help. Please don't go the other way now, as we try to get the win that can spark a run to give us a respectable finishing position.

Lennie Lawrence

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Tonight's Referee

THE man in charge of this evening's game will have completed a round trip of well over 500 miles by the time he gets back to his home in County Durham. But perhaps Roy Pearson will quite enjoy the journey - he puts down his hobbies as keep fit and driving.

A maintenance technician, he had charge of one of our games last season, at Chesterfield, but this is the first time we have met this season.

Married, with three children, Mr Pearson has been a referee since starting as a youngster in local football in 1978. Within ten years he was a Football League linesman, and he was appointed a FIFA linesman in 1993. Promotion to referee with the Football League followed two years later.

His biggest games have been as a ref's assistant - he ran the line in the 1993 FA Cup final, the following year's European Cup final and the 1995 Coca Cola Cup final. He was also a linesman in the quarter-finals and semi-finals of 1994 World Cup.



TOWN TEASER



OUR "Town Trivia" quiz offers a free prize to another supporter this evening. 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

In what year was Luton Town's record 12-0 victory over Bristol Rovers?

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	17(6)	0(2)	2	1	20(8)	1	0	0	1
Gary Doherty	35	5	0(2)	1	41(2)	1	2	1	4
Stuart Douglas	31(3)	5	2	1	39(3)	3	1	0	4
Andrew Fotiadis	7(13)	0	0(2)	0	7(15)	2	0	0	2
Stuart Fraser	20	5	1	1	27	1	0	0	1
Phil Gray	21(1)	1	2	0	24(1)	8	1	0	9
Liam George	28(5)	5	0(1)	1	34(6)	13(1p)	2	0	15(1p)
Marvin Johnson	35	5	0	1	41	0	0	0	0
Tresor Kandol	1(3)	0	1	0	2(3)	0	0	1	1
Adam Locke	22(4)	3(1)	1	1	27(5)	3	0	0	3
Gavin McGowan	7(2)	0	0	0	7(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(3)	4	1	0	22(3)	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	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Andre Scarlett	2(1)	0	0	0(1)	2(2)	0	0	0	0
Efetobore Sodje	5(4)	1(1)	2	1	9(5)	0	0	0	0
Matthew Spring	36	5	1	1	43	6(1p)	2	0	8(1p)
Matthew Taylor	30(2)	5	1	0	36(2)	2	1	0	3
Tony Thorpe	3(1)	0	0	0	3(1)	1	0	0	1
Julian Watts	36	5	2	0	43	2	0	0	2
Alan White	7(3)	0	2	0	9(3)	1	0	0	1
Landry Zahana-Oni	0(1)	0	0	0	0(1)	0	0	0	0

Captain's Log

Marvin Johnson



THE record books never show the fine detail of football matches, and when this season's results are history few will know that Saturday's defeat at Preston was nowhere near as bad as it might sound. I am still at a loss to understand how we played so well against a top team and got nothing from the game. We wanted a good performance after the indignity of losing at home to Millwall, and Preston, as leaders of the Second Division, were the ideal opponents for us as we looked to regain our professional pride.

We did exactly that in terms of performance, and it was good to hear the Preston players afterwards speak about how well we had played, and how relieved and grateful they were to get three points.

That's all very well, but our need was to get a point or three out of the game, and we know that on the day we could have had a draw at the very least.

Liam George won't forget the game in a hurry, after missing a penalty in league football for the first time in his career. It was a blow to his pride, but he will bounce back. He's not the first player to miss a penalty, and he won't be the last. There was a bit of moaning about it at the time, because we all shared his disappointment, but it's happened, and there is no point in dwelling on it.

We all of us, Liam included, have to bounce back, and we have to build on the knowledge that our team performance on Saturday was one of our better displays of recent weeks. The league table does not lie - Preston are top, and are a very good team, perhaps the best in this division this season.

It was very disappointing to concede an early goal, but once we settled down after that, and got the ball and started playing, we did well.

Graham Alexander enjoyed making the pass that led to the goal, and it was nice to spend some time with him on Saturday evening, and

rake over happy memories from his time at Luton. He is enjoying himself at Preston, and he must have a real chance of playing First Division football next season. They are a very good side.

Which makes it all the more galling for us, after the way in which we matched Preston for much of Saturday's game, but still came home pointless. Graham thought that our performance was the best by any visiting side at Preston this season.

That was nice to hear, but not as welcome as it would have been if we had got the result we wanted and deserved.

I know the previous game was a huge disappointment for everyone, when we managed to lose at home again, to Millwall. That was a day when we did not play anywhere near our best, and we got what we deserved. At Preston, we were much more pleased with our performance, despite the result.

The aim now is to kick on and try to put together a good run of results in the closing weeks of the season, especially in home games.

I think tonight's match sets different problems for us after the Millwall and Preston games, where we were up against teams chasing points for promotion. Cambridge are in a battle for survival after being promoted last season.

We always have good games with them, at the Abbey or here, and tonight we owe it to everyone connected with Luton Town to get a good win, because Cambridge gave us a bit of a tanking at their place in November.

Unlike the game at Preston, we had no excuses on that occasion, and tonight we want to set the record straight. It will be a pleasure to meet old friends John Taylor, David Preece and Ben Chenery again, and I hope that they and Cambridge win their fight to avoid a rapid return to the Third Division. But, needless to say, I trust that they go home disappointed with tonight's result. Just like we did on Saturday.

Marvin Johnson

Treatment Room

Clive Goodyear



WOUNDED pride was the major casualty as we came home from Preston, and at least we got through the game without picking up any more injuries which will affect team selection.

As expected Julian Watts was able to go straight back into the side after sitting out a one-match suspension which also gave his ankle injury an extra chance to heal.

Stuart Fraser has not been so lucky after spraining an ankle in the match at Wrexham. It is responding to treatment, but naturally he is impatient for recovery to be as quick



as possible as we approach the final six weeks of the season.

He is doing OK, and I hope he will be able to step up training to somewhere near full pace during this week, but as yet it is impossible to give him a date for a likely return. It is a matter of keeping an eye on him during training to ensure recovery is complete before you think about league action.

Efe Sodje is in a similar situation. He collected a hamstring injury during the match against Millwall, but I do not think it is too serious. It has been improving steadily and I hope that he can step up his work on it during this week.

The rest of my work in the treatment room yesterday was minor, attending to the routine bumps and bruises that occur in all games, except in the case of Stuart Douglas, who had three stitches



inserted above his left eye after an accidental clash of heads. It is a little uncomfortable and sore, but no more than that, and I have no doubt that as always, he will be desperately keen to be involved in the game tonight.

Gavin McGowan will also hope to be involved, but the odds are against him. He has been suffering from flu, which means that he was told to stay away from the ground last week to prevent the bug getting among the rest of the squad. He is better now - professional athletes always made quick recoveries from illnesses like flu - but he was not able to do much training last week, so his best chance of a return to the first team could well be for the weekend trip to Chesterfield.

Clive Goodyear

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Club Secretary

Cherry Newbery



I MENTIONED in this column at the last home game the possibility that we might lose a Saturday fixture next month, and sure enough we now know that we will be unable to entertain Bristol City on April 15. They have reached the final of the Auto

Windscreens Shield, to be played at Wembley on Sunday April 16, and our Second Division fixture with City will now take place on Tuesday April 18, kick-off 7.45. Tickets, at discounted prices for early purchasers, are now available.

On the subject of fixtures, our youth team is now involved in a Merit Division programme in the Football League Youth Alliance, and because of the amount of travelling involved in some games, the usual 11-am kick-off time has been altered for a couple of games.

Swansea and Plymouth both have long journeys to Luton, and the kick-off for their visits, on March 25 and April 8 respectively, will be at 1pm. As it happens, the first team is away on both dates, so if you cannot get to Chesterfield or Scunthorpe, you might enjoy watching the youth team instead.

Fixtures for next season are also beginning to take shape, and we have sorted out three more pre-season friendlies, all away matches. Our only home game will be against Wimbledon on Monday August 7, five days before the new Nationwide League season kicks off.

On the evening of Monday July 24 we will play at Welling United, and 48 hours after we will be away to St. Albans City.

On Friday August 4 we will be away to Rushden and Diamonds, who hope that by then they will have won promotion to the Nationwide League - they are currently second in the Conference, but with games in hand on the leaders, Kidderminster.

Our reserves are approaching the end of their season in the Avon Insurance Combination, but there may well be some extra friendlies for them in late April. We will advise you through the matchday magazine if and when matches are fixed up.

Kenilworth Road's final "fixture" this season will be an open day for supporters, and while we have started making arrangements for it, we cannot yet give you a date. It will be on a Sunday in May, and we intend to ensure that there will be something of interest for all the family. Players will be in attendance, and there will be tours of the ground and side-shows, and I will give you more information as soon as possible.

Our league season will kick off on August 12, and we have had confirmation that the Axa FA Cup will revert to its normal timetable next season - playing the third round in December, as was done this season, was not universally popular, to put it mildly. If you want to mark your diaries, next seasons FA Cup dates are round one November 18, round two December 9, round three January 6,



HAPPY HATTERS: We offered free balloons to youngsters in the ground at our last home game, and as you can see they were delighted to accept the challenge of blowing them up.

round four January 27, round five February 17, round six March 10, semi-finals April 8 and final May 12.

Finally, this evening, may I repeat the request for help in the close season. If you can spare a little time and effort between June 5 and June 30, we would appreciate your help with painting and cleaning work within the stadium. I would be pleased to hear from any volunteers.

HAVING known him for a long time, I was very sad to hear of the sudden death of Ken Williamson, the President of Bedfordshire Football Association. In common with every other club in the county, we will be showing our respect by holding a minute's silence in his memory before tonight's game kicks off.

Cherry Newbery

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Tickets



Nationwide League Division Two

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.

Scunthorpe v Luton Town

Saturday April 8 kick-off 3pm

Admission will be pay on the day only

Adults £13. Concessions £6.50

Terracing: Adults £11. Concessions £6

Luton Town v Colchester Utd

Saturday April 1 kick-off 3pm

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.

Mother's Day Treat

Children of all ages who purchase a ticket for this match can buy another one for their mother, for only **£1**. This offer applies to season ticket holders as well.

Luton Town v Bristol City

Tuesday April 18 kick-off 7.45pm

Please note that this match has been postponed from Saturday April 15.

It will now take place on

Tuesday April 18, kick-off 7.45pm

Tickets are now on sale at discounted prices. Cash turnstiles will be open on the night but to avoid disappointment supporters are advised to book early

RELAUNCH

LUTON TOWN CREDIT CARD HOTLINE

As promised, we have upgraded our Telephone Hotline system, and you can now order tickets (up to **48 hours** prior to any match), using the same telephone number as before,

01582 730748

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,

except on Fridays before Saturday home matches when it is 10am-6pm.

Saturdays: 9am to 5.30pm on matchdays;

10am until the away coaches depart on days when there is no game at Kenilworth Road.

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Head-to-Head

Gary Doherty



Ben Chenery



Tonight's Carling opta Head to Head features two defenders in opposition, the Town's Gary Doherty and Ben Chenery, formerly of Luton but now starring in the Cambridge rear guard

TWO OF the Second Division's most promising players are on opposing sides this evening, with Gary Doherty up against former Hatter Ben Chenery.

Doherty is another to come through the youth ranks at Kenilworth Road, and such is his progress, he has gone on to play for the Republic of Ireland youth side. He has also made the bench for the senior side, and is considered a great prospect for the future.

Chenery has been a huge success since his switch to the Abbey Stadium from the Hatters in August 1997. He endured a nightmare start to his career with Cambridge, when a blow to the head left him unconscious and suffering convulsions against Cardiff. He also suffered a fractured collarbone in the incident, but re-established himself as first choice following the scare.

Chenery was often criticised for his lack of confidence in getting forward, and his ability to cross the ball into the box. However, our exclusive statistics, courtesy of Opta Index, the official statisticians of the Nationwide Football League, would suggest he has overcome his problem. He has seen 50 per cent of his 28 crosses find a teammate, which is considerably better than Doherty, who has seen 20 per cent of his 10 crosses find a colleague.

However, Doherty fairs better in the defending stats, winning 57 per cent of his 74 tackles made. Chenery has won 34 per cent of his 29 challenges, and Doherty has the upper hand in the goalscoring stakes as well, with one league goal before Saturday's game.

Cambridge fans will be looking for Chenery to continue to play his part in their relegation battle, and although the Hatters' dreams of promotion look over for another season, Doherty will no doubt still be fighting tooth and nail for three more points.

	Doherty	Chahill
Minutes on Pitch	3,031	1,350

Goal Attempts

Goals	1	0
Shots on Target (inc goals)	15	1
Shots off Target	9	1
Blocked Shots	4	0

Passing

Goal Assists	3	1
Total Passes	923	594
Pass Completion	56%	59%

Crossing

Total Crosses	10	28
Cross Completion	20%	50%

Dribbling

Dribbles and Runs	25	23
Dribble Completion	92%	91%

Defending

Tackles Made	74	29
Tackles Won	57%	34%
Blocks	98	17
Clearances	336	112
Interceptions	20	2

Discipline

Fouls	48	10
Offside	4	1
Yellow Cards	1	1
Red Cards	0	0

Courtesy of Carling Opta



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John Bailey



FRIENDS old and new are in our guest and sponsorship lounges this evening, and in giving all a warm welcome we single out for special thanks our match and matchball sponsors.

Two organisations are jointly sponsoring the match - Ballyduff Plantsales Ltd, of Kempston Hardwick, and Banks Agriculture and Vogan and Co Ltd of Sandy.

Ballyduff - the name derives from a small village on the west coast of Ireland in County Kerry - is based at Elstow Storage Depot, and has been established for four and a half years. It specialises in buying, selling and hiring new and used construction plant and equipment. Although its main market is the UK and Eire, Ballyduff also sells to customers all over the world, anything from single items to complete packages of mixed plant.

We thank the company for their support tonight, and hope Dennis Diggin and all his guests enjoy their time with us.

The name of Banks, our other match sponsors this evening, is one that will be familiar to many Town supporters because the family firm has long had close links with the club, especially in recent years through Richard Banks, who is a vice president of Luton Town FC. Their sponsorship this evening is being done jointly by Banks Agriculture and Vogan & Company Ltd, both part of the Banks Group.

Vogan's state of the art milling operation, based at Fulbourn, near Cambridge, mills all types of rice, lentils and peas. These raw materials are supplied direct to food manufacturers, and also to specialist packers, and can be found on the shelves of leading supermarkets.

THIS evening's match ball is being sponsored by Weldtite Engineering (Automotive) Ltd, of Thurleigh Airfield Business Park, Bedford. The company was founded by a group of senior executives from other well-established firms specifically to undertake on-site mechanical construction, refurbishment and maintenance services to manufacturing and distribution industries and major building projects. While the head office, factory and main stores are at Bedford, there are several permanent branch offices, including one in Luton.

John Bailey

GOLDEN GAMBLE

WE ARE trying to give away money this evening - £565 to be precise, which was the jackpot prize from the Golden Gamble at the last home game. The winning ticket was number 20407, and was sold in the Main Stand area. Unusually, the winner did not come forward when the draw was made at half-time, but if he or she makes contact this evening we will be happy to hand over the cash.



We also expect to present another big wedge to another winner this evening. The Golden Gamble prize fund depends on sales - 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.

Tonight's winner will be the 25th of the season, and so far the jackpots have totalled £10,493, an average of £437 each, 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 available instantly.



ALEX Bennett is a committed Luton Town fan, and rarely misses matches at Kenilworth Road. But tonight the 11-year-old son of Century Club member Ashley Bennett, of Old Bedford Road, Luton, is much more than an interested spectator.

Alex is this evening's commercial mascot, which makes it an occasion to remember as he meets the team in the dressing room and then runs out with them onto the pitch for the warm-up and toss-up for choice of ends.

His favourite player is Stuart Douglas, and young Alex wants to be a shooting star himself - he plays for Bushmead Wanderers in the Chiltern Youth League, and has been leading scorer for the last two years, for the under-nines and then the under-10s.

We hope Alex and his family enjoy this evening even more than usual, and if you have a youngster worthy of a very special treat at Kenilworth Road, give the commercial department a ring on Luton 411622 for more information.

Kit Sponsors

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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
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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 The U's

The U's' Goals For & Against

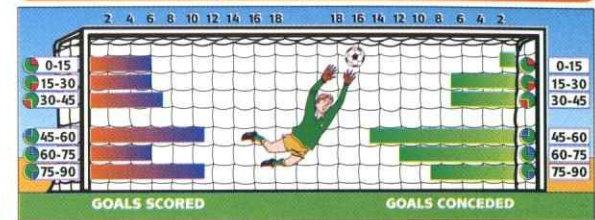


Cambridge's Cards

Benjamin 8	Chenery ...1
Butler ...5	Kavanagh ...1
Eustace ...4	McNeil ...1
Ashbee ...3	Paterston ...1
Cassidy ...3	Van Heussen ...1
Mustoe ...3	Wanless ...1
Wilson ...3	
Joseph ...2	
Mackenzie 2	
Taylor ...2	
Byfield ...1	

n.b League Details Only

Hatters' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



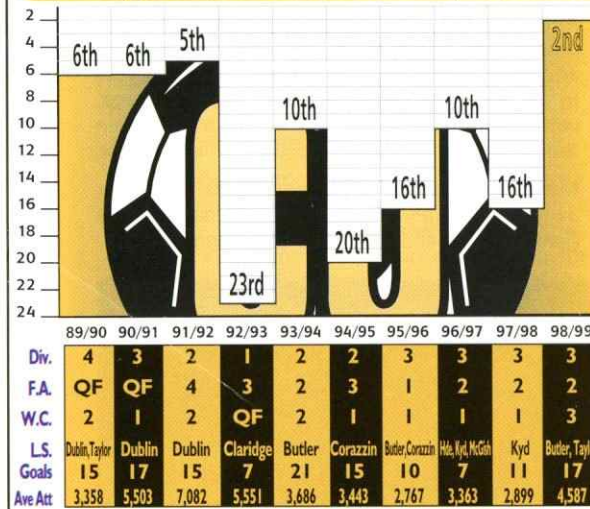
Cambridge's last line up

- 13** Shaun Marshall
Goalkeeper 21(1) Apps 0 Goals
Age 21 Ht 6'2" Wt 12:12
Prev Club: - Int: -
- 3** Ian Ashbee
Defender 33(2) Apps 0 Goals
Age 23 Ht 6'1" Wt 13:04
Prev Club: Derby Int: Eng Yth
- 14** Scott Eustace
Defender 24(2) Apps 1 Goal
Age 24 Ht 6'1" Wt 13:06
Prev Club: Mansfield Int: -
- 25** Martin McNeil
Defender 18 Apps 0 Goals
Age 19 Ht 6'0" Wt 10:09
Prev Club: - Int: -
- 5** Marc Joseph
Defender 17(4) Apps 0 Goals
Age 23 Ht 6'1" Wt 12:12
Prev Club: - Int: -
- 2** Ben Chenery
Defender 16 Apps 0 Goals
Age 23 Ht 6'1" Wt 11:11
Prev Club: Luton Int: -
- 7** Paul Wanless
Midfield 29(2) Apps 2 Goals
Age 26 Ht 6'1" Wt 13:11
Prev Club: Lincoln Int: -
- 9** John Hansen
Midfield 4(1) Apps 0 Goals
Age 26 Ht 5'10" Wt 12:00
Prev Club: Esbjerg Int: -
- 10** Trevor Benjamin
Forward 32(2) Apps 12 Goals
Age 21 Ht 6'2" Wt 13:07
Prev Club: - Int: -
- 15** Tom Youngs
Forward 9(5) Apps 6 Goals
Age 20 Ht 5'9" Wt 10:07
Prev Club: - Int: -
- 8** John Taylor
Forward 9(21) Apps 3 Goals
Age 35 Ht 6'2" Wt 14:00
Prev Club: Luton Int: -
- 16** David Preece
Midfield 1(8) Apps 0 Goals
Age 36 Ht 5'6" Wt 11:01
Prev Club: Derby Int: England B
- 23** Neil MacKenzie
Midfield 17(2) Apps 0 Goals
Age 23 Ht 6'2" Wt 12:05
Prev Club: Stoke Int: -
- 18** Clive Wilson
Defender 26 Apps 0 Goals
Age 38 Ht 5'7" Wt 11:04
Prev Club: Tottenham Int: -
- 6** Neil Mustoe
Midfield 22(4) Apps 0 Goals
Age 23 Ht 5'8" Wt 12:00
Prev Club: Man Utd Int: -
- 1** Arjan Van Heussen
Goalkeeper 14 Apps 0 Goals
Age 27 Ht 6'4" Wt 14:07
Prev Club: Port Vale Int: -

Luton's Goals For & Against

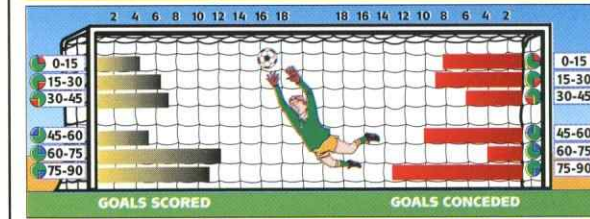


Cambridge's Last Ten Years - The Complete Record



Statistics compiled by FOOTBALL INFORMATION SERVICES Telephone: 0151-632 5679

The U's' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



Cambridge's Form Guide - Result, Points, Position

L	L	D	L	D	W	S	L	W	L	W	L	S	W	W
15	15	16	16	17	20	21	21	24	24	27	27	28	31	34
23	23	22	23	24	23	24	24	23	23	23	23	23	20	20

Form Guide shows last 15 results. W = Won, L = Lost, S = Score Draw, D = No Score Draw.

MATCH

The UK's Biggest Selling Football Magazine!

Matchmen of the Month

Matchman of the Month for February was Bristol City's Scott Murray with an amazing 5 star ratings and an average of 8.00. For the Hatters' Adam Locke came into the top 10 at number 4 with 2 star ratings in 5 outings and a Matchman average of 7.60. For Cambridge, Trevor Benjamin made number 10 with 4 star ratings and an average of 7.33.

Player	Team	GP	SR	Ave	
1	Scott Murray	Bristol City	5	5	8.00
2	Lee Hodges	Scunthorpe	5	4	7.80
3	Glen Little	Burnley	4	1	7.75
4	Adam Locke	Luton	5	2	7.60
5	Ross Yorke-Johnson	Colchester	4	2	7.50
=	Martin Rowlands	Brentford	4	2	7.50
=	Andy Hestenthaler	Gillingham	4	2	7.50
8	Nick Forster	Reading	5	2	7.40
9	David Reeves	Chesterfield	5	1	7.40
10	Trevor Benjamin	Cambridge	6	4	7.33

Ground: Abbey Stadium Manchester United, Rumblewells Cup
 Capacity: 9,617 2nd round 2nd leg, 9 Oct 1991
 Pitch Measurement: 110 x 74 Year Formed: 1919
 Record Attendance: 14,000 v Chelsea, Record League Win: 6-0 v Darlington, Division 4, 18 Sep 1971
 Record Receipts: £83,608 v 6-0 v Hartlepool United, Division 4, 11 Feb 1989

Record Cup Win: 5-1 v Bristol City, FA Cup 5th round (second replay), 27 Feb 1990
 Record Defeat: 0-6 v Aldershot, Division 3, 13 Apr 1974
 Most Lge Goals: 87, Division 4, 1976-77
 Most Lge Points: 86, division 3, 1990-91

Top League scorer in a season: David Crown, 24, Division 4, 1985-86
 Most Capped Player: Tom Finney, 7 (15), Northern Ireland
 Most Lge Appearances: Steve Spriggs, 416, 1975-87

Tonight's Visitors



welcome to Cambridge



ROY MCFARLAND (MANAGER)

This is Roy's fourth managerial appointment following an illustrious playing career, and he is now in his second full season in charge of

Cambridge United having been appointed in November 1996.

Born in Liverpool, he began his career at Tranmere Rovers and impressed in their first team whilst still a teenager. Brian Clough paid £24,000 to take him to Derby County in 1967 and two years later he helped them to promotion from Division Two. He won the first of his 28 England caps in 1971 and then captained Derby County to the Football League Championship in 1972.

After 530 games and 48 goals for Derby County, he took over as player-manager at Bradford City in May 1981, but a year later returned to Derby County where he had spells as assistant manager to Peter Taylor, became caretaker manager and eventually succeeded Arthur Cox as manager in

1993. Two years later he linked up to form a managerial duo with former team mate Colin Todd at Bolton Wanderers, but relegation followed and McFarland sacrificed in favour of Todd.

McFarland was appointed manager of Cambridge United in November 1996, following the acrimonious departure of Tommy Taylor to Leyton Orient. Although he inherited a side lying second in Division Three, he quickly realised that his young charges were in a false position and, sure enough, a slump followed which saw United finish in 10th place.

The following season McFarland found that a number of players were out of contract, whilst a further two had to be sold to balance the books. Although the side finished the season well, patchy form earlier in the campaign undermined any promotion challenge. He was, however, able to lay the foundations of last season's success, with the introduction of, amongst others, Martin Butler, and the return of Abbey Hero John Taylor.

McFarland was named Manager of the Month for January 1999, and Third Division Manager of the Season at the end of the last campaign.



CAMBRIDGE UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB 1999/2000

Back: Darren Cockrill (no longer with the club), Andrew Duncan, Scott Eustace, Marc Joseph, John Taylor, Martin McNeil, Ian Ashbee, Paul Wanless, Ben Chenery.

Middle: Clive Wilson, Larry McAvoy (no longer with the club), Trevor Benjamin, Shaun Marshall, Arjan van Heusden, Martin Butler (no longer with the club), Jamie Cassidy, Ken Steggles (physio).

Front: Tom Youngs, Dean Armstrong (no longer with the club), Neil Mustoe, Roy McFarland (manager), Michael Kyd, Alex Russell, Andrew Ingham.

Sitting: Jamie Scales (no longer with the club), Adam Wilde (no longer with the club).

the players

ARJAN VAN HEUSDEN (GOALKEEPER)

Van Heusden, 26 arrived at the Abbey on a free transfer from Port Vale in August 1998. He is clearly enjoying first team action after spending the majority of his time at Vale Park in the reserve side. Nicknamed 'Iceman' or 'Ice' because of his cool, calm authority, his heroics between the sticks has meant that the U's boasted one of the best Division Three defensive records last season.

BEN CHENERY (DEFENDER)

Joined United on a free transfer from Luton Town during the 1997 close, Chenery was one of the unsung heroes of last seasons Division Three promotion winning side. An outstanding performance in a Worthington Cup win at Hillsborough against Sheffield Wednesday, saw the right back visibly grow in confidence. Gets forward well, but his real strength is his patience waiting for the right moment to win the ball.

ANDY DUNCAN (DEFENDER)

Central defender signed for £20,000 from Manchester United in April 1998 following a successful three-month loan spell at The Abbey. A solid, consistent player who settled into the heart of the United defence and relished the opportunity of League football. His positional awareness, composure and strength has shown that his transfer fee was money well spent. But a serious leg injury, suffered against Burnley in October, has threatened to bring a premature end to his season

SCOTT EUSTACE (DEFENDER)

Initially signed on a monthly contract in February 1999, Eustace impressed when called into first team action and, after a three month extended trial at the start of this season, has been awarded a deal for the remainder of the term.

MARC JOSEPH (DEFENDER)

A classy central defender, who is also quick enough to be a more than capable right back, Joseph has the added weapon of a prodigious long throw. A product of the Club's YTS scheme, he has already attracted the interest of Premier League Clubs despite injury marring his last campaign.

JASON KAVANAGH (DEFENDER)

Chirpy, experienced right-back signed from Stoke City in December 1999, marking the end of a long

chase to secure his services. A former England Youth International, Kavanagh made his debut against Crystal Palace in the F.A. Cup Third Round.

MARTIN McNEIL (DEFENDER)

In his second season as a professional, McNeil was unexpectedly drafted into First Team action last season, where he acquitted himself extremely well. Another product of the YTS scheme.

ADAM TANN (DEFENDER)

17 year old defender who is equally comfortable at right back on in the heart of the back four, Tann recently won international honours when making his England Under 18 debut against Switzerland in September. A highly promising player, in his first year as a professional.

CLIVE WILSON (DEFENDER)

Vastly experienced defender, who can play on either flank, Wilson initially signed a one-month contract, at the end of July, after being released by Tottenham, but impressed Roy McFarland sufficiently to earn a deal for the remainder of the season.

IAN ASHBE (DEFENDER)

Became Roy McFarland's first signing when he joined the Club in December 1996 from Derby County, making his debut later that month at Torquay. A strong, versatile player, Ashbee is equally at home in midfield or defence. A revelation when drafted into the side last season in a variety of roles, England Youth International Ash, will be hoping for an extended run in the team this campaign

JAMIE CASSIDY (DEFENDER/MIDFIELDER)

Skillful, pacy left-sided defender who was a close season capture from Liverpool. Featured regularly in the Anfield reserves.

JOHN HANSEN (MIDFIELDER)

A classy attacking, left-sided midfielder, who is never afraid to have a shot, Hansen was signed from Danish Club Esbjerg in February 2000 for a small fee. Whilst playing in his native Denmark, Hansen made three European appearances in the UEFA and Intertoto Cups.

Tonight's Visitors



the players

NEIL MCKENZIE (MIDFIELDER)

Signed in October 1999 for a fee of £30,000, his capture from Stoke City ended a five month quest to bring this personable Brummie to the Club. An elegant midfielder, Mackenzie first came to The Abbey on deadline day last season, initially on loan with a view to a permanent move, but an ankle injury brought his loan spell to a premature end. Roy McFarland's efforts to sign him during the close season were thwarted by a change of management at the Britannia Stadium, but the door was reopened when new Stoke boss Gary Megson began his search to sign a Premiership midfielder.

NEIL MUSTOE (MIDFIELDER)

A former Manchester United player signed on a free transfer from Wigan Athletic in July 1998, Mustoe spent much of last season competing for a midfield slot with Ian Ashbee. A combative player who is popular with the fans, Muzzy represented England Schoolboys and won an FA Youth Cup winners medal during his four and a half years at Old Trafford.

DAVID PREECE (MIDFIELDER)

Vastly experienced former Walsall, Luton Town and Derby County midfielder who joined the Club on September 6th 1996 after lengthy negotiations for his signature. An excellent passer of the ball, the England B International assists Roy McFarland with coaching and scouting responsibilities. Now an infrequent starter, Preece's first goal for the Club, a 25-yard screamer, came in a 3-0 victory at Exeter in March last season.

ALEX RUSSELL (MIDFIELDER)

Russell joined United in August 1998 from Rochdale; United fans are still shaking their heads in disbelief that he was signed on a free transfer. A natural player-maker, Russell has a good eye for goal and is deadly from set pieces. Despite missing two months through injury, Russell was instrumental in United's promotion last season.

PAUL WANLESS (MIDFIELDER)

The heartbeat of the side, Wanless is a brave, powerful midfielder whose infectious enthusiasm was rewarded when Roy McFarland made him

skipper. Paul was outstanding last season in the heart of the midfield, scoring eight times for the second consecutive season. He began his career as a trainee at Oxford before a short spell at Lincoln, during which time he managed to serve under three different managers. Paul joined United in the summer of 1996 after a spell on loan at The Abbey the previous season. United's Mr. Versatile, having appeared in goal on three occasions following injury during the game of the regular keeper.

ZEMA ABBEY (FORWARD)



The appropriately named striker joined the Club in February 2000 after impressing on a trial period. A former Hitchin Town under-18 player, Abbey returned to the Hertfordshire Club in March 1998 after spells at Arlesey Town and Baldock Town. Good in the air, Abbey is noted more as a goal-maker than goal scorer, but chipped in with his fair share for the Ryman League side

TREVOR BENJAMIN (MIDFIELDER)

Still just 20, Benjamin is now in his third season as a professional. He made his debut as a 16 year-old during the 1995-96 season, appearing on a number of occasions whilst still a trainee. After establishing himself in the side at the start of last season, Benjamin hit the national headlines with the goals that sent Sheffield Wednesday crashing out of last season's Worthington Cup. A gentle giant off the pitch a number of Third Division defenders will be delighted that they won't be facing this powerfully built striker this season.

STEVE GUINAN (FORWARD)

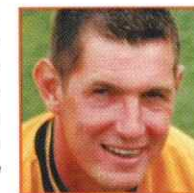
Guinan became Cambridge United's last signing of the Millennium when he signed from Nottingham Forest on Christmas Eve 1999 - his 24th birthday. The Birmingham-born striker, who's loan spell at Scunthorpe was brought to a memorable conclusion when iron boss, Brian Laws insisted on the return of the Club tracksuit in a car park, agree a deal committing him to the Cambridge United until the end of the season.

MICHAEL KYD (FORWARD)

Another product of the Club's successful youth policy, Michael has seen the last two seasons ruined by injury. Started to regain his form and fitness towards the end of last season. A quicksilver striker with a deadly finish, Kyddie' will be desperate to stay fit and put the misery of the last two years firmly behind him.

JOHN TAYLOR (FORWARD)

'JT' is a legend at The Abbey, having starred in the successful U's side of the early nineties alongside Dion Dublin, returning 'home' for a second spell in January 1997 when he joined from Luton Town.



Originally signed by the U's in 1988 from non-league Sudbury Town, he left The Abbey for Bristol Rovers in a player-exchange deal in March 1992. He enjoyed a successful spell with Rovers before moving on to join Bradford City and then Luton Town. A popular, jovial character he is-in charge of the reserve team but still found time to be joint top League scorer last season, breaking Alan Biley's Club records for total number of League goals and overall goals in the process. Taylor firmly refutes the suggestion that he might feature less in the side this season to concentrate solely on the coaching side of this job.

TOM YOUNGS (FORWARD)



An intelligent, creative forward player who is now in his third year as a professional. Made his League debut in September 1997 in our 4-1 win over Colchester, almost scoring with his first touch. Highly thought of at the Club, this borne out by the fact that he was awarded a professional contract despite remaining at school to study for his A Levels. Tom has been with us since the age of ten and has progressed right through our youth development scheme.

KIDS AT KENILWORTH

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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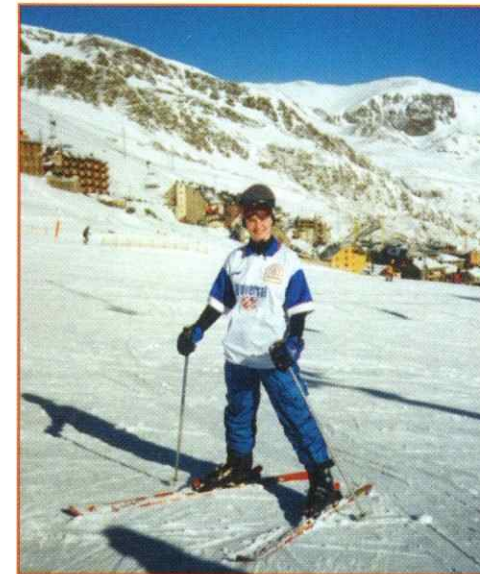
Hatters Abroad

carrying the colours

CONTRASTING weather conditions give the clue to the locations, one each side of the equator, of tonight's Hatters Abroad pictures, even though both were taken last month.

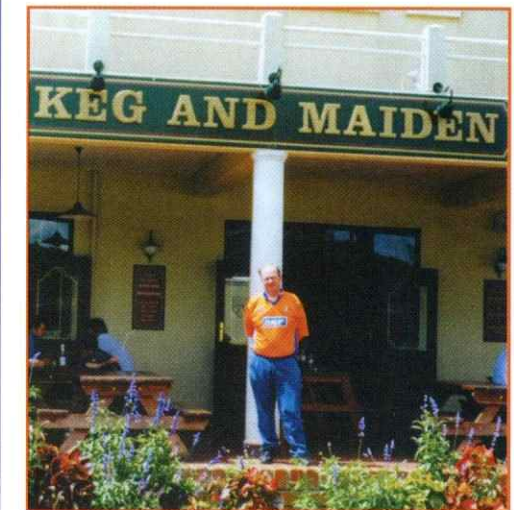
Laura Noble, from Amersham, was snapped facing the wrong way down the mountain while on a skiing holiday in Andorra with fellow students from St. Mary's University, Twickenham.

"I managed to make room in my suitcase for my beloved Luton Town shirt, and I was glad I did," she told us. "... all those miles away from home and I still managed to bump into a Watford supporter on the slopes."



Ian Smith's picture is from Zimbabwe, and encapsulates his two sporting loves - football and cricket.

He is a good friend of Luton Town - he sponsors John Moore's kit - and naturally his own Hatters strip went with him when he went to watch England's cricketers in Africa.



Ian is treasurer of Amptill Town CC and Bedfordshire County Cricket Club, and the photograph was taken outside the pavilion of the Harare Sports Club prior to England's win against Zimbabwe in the one day international on February 20.

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.

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Top Hatters Gallery



Andrew Fotiadis

Born: Hitchin, 6.9.77

Previous clubs: None

Joined Luton Town: Summer 1994

Luton debut: v Burnley (H) 17.8.96

Luton Town record to 17.3.00: 82 appearances, 9 goals

Autograph



Last Season
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Hatters Away

Bobbers on the road

WE carried an article recently about Town on Tour, one of the travel organisations offering a service to supporters to get to the Town's away games. But in terms of experience, they are miles behind the original, the Bobbers Travel Club. Les Miller, the Bobbers treasurer, writes:

The Hatters have one of the best-equipped physio rooms in the Football League, and much of the credit for this must go to the Bobbers Travel Club because over the years they have purchased more than £20,000 worth of equipment for the treatment room.

The Bobbers Travel Club was formed during the 1978/79 season, named because it was based at the Bobbers Club, which was then underneath the Bobbers Stand, where the executive boxes are now.

Things got off to a bad start when the first planned trip had to be cancelled when the game at Burnley was called off. But the Bobbers got under way with a trip to Cambridge, and have organised travel to every competitive Luton away match in this country ever since.

Within a year of being formed, the Bobbers Travel Club sponsored a match, a 3-0 win over Charlton.

Match balls have also been sponsored, and the kit of a number of players, including Steve Claridge, Ian Benjamin, Alan Harper, Bontcho Guentchev, Trevor Peake and currently Michael McIndoe.

Many players' wives, girlfriends and parents have made use of the Bobbers coaches over the year, and one of the former committee members is the current Town groundsman, Richard Bird.

The Bobbers endeavour to keep travel costs to a minimum, and while they cannot guarantee videos or toilets on their coaches, they are available on the vast majority of trips.

Coaches leave from Kenilworth Road, but there are several other pick-up points, including Cranfield, Marston Moretaine, Ampthill, Flitwick, Westoning, and Dunstable Road, near junction 11 of the M1.

Bookings can be made at the Bobbers kiosk in Kenilworth Road before first team home matches, on the return journey from away games, or by phoning travel co-ordinator Paul Deason on 01234 750996. The Bobbers is a members-only travel club, but life membership is available for only £1, (50p for juniors and senior citizens).

travel information

Chesterfield v Luton Town

Saturday 25th March, kick-off 3pm

CHESTERFIELD is Saturday's destination for Town on Tour and the Bobbers Travel Club. Town on Tour, an offshoot of Luton Town Supporters Club, leave Maple Road at 11.30, and call at Milton Keynes Coachway about 20 minutes later. The fare is £11 for LTSC members, £9 for junior and senior members, and £12.50 for others.

The Bobbers will leave Cranfield at 10 am, picking up at various points en route to Luton before departing from Kenilworth Road at 11am. The fare is £10.50 for adults, £8.50 for pensioners or under-16s. Stewarded car parking is available for all coach travellers at Maple Road, price £3.

DIY Travellers

DRIVING to Chesterfield is simple: head up the M1 all the way to junction 29, and then follow the signposts towards Chesterfield. Five miles on from the motorway you come to a roundabout, where you take the second exit, signposted towards the town centre. Another roundabout comes up quickly, where you take the first exit, going towards Bakewell and Buxton. Take the third exit at the next roundabout and you are in Foljambe Road and the stadium is ahead of you, to the right.

Mileage from Luton: about 125.

For the latest ticket and travel information call the Luton Ticket Office on
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Blast FROM THE Past

Roger Wash

Local Derby Clashes



A warm welcome this evening to one of our closest neighbours and a chance to avenge the thrashing handed out at the Abbey Stadium at the back end of last year when we were overpowered by a Cambridge side that finally put their Luton 'bogey' well and truly to rest.

Cambridge United only entered the league in 1970, replacing Bradford P.A, but by 1978 they had forced their way through to the old Division Two. Our first clash therefore took place at Kenilworth Road early in the 1978/79 campaign at a time when we could do no wrong at home.

An opening day hammering of Oldham to the tune of 6-1 (after we were a goal behind at the interval) was followed by a 3-0 victory over Charlton and a 7-1 thumping of Cardiff. It naturally followed that new boys Cambridge would also roll over and die and the crowd of 10,801 settled down to witness a goal avalanche after Brian Stein headed home in the second minute.

Unfortunately, United were made of sterner stuff and weathered the early storm before equalising through ex-Hatter Alan Biley who netted from the spot after Graham Jones had fouled Steve Spriggs in the area. The game eventually petered out into a stalemate as did the return that season at the Abbey which saw both defences dominate with a bore draw the only likely result.

Cambridge were the first visitors to Kenilworth Road at the start of the following season and it was that man Biley again whose 25 yard shot, which bounced down off the bar and over the line (according to the referee), with ten minutes to go seemed to have won the points. It was left to David Moss to earn us a share of the spoils with a trademark free-kick at the death.

By the time of the return, three months later, we were sitting proudly at the top of the table but made hard work in overcoming a Cambridge side

that had gone seven games without a win. Two goals in three minutes, from Bob Hatton and a spot-kick from Moss, finally settled the issue although Biley pulled one back just before the finish to make it an uncomfortable last few seconds.

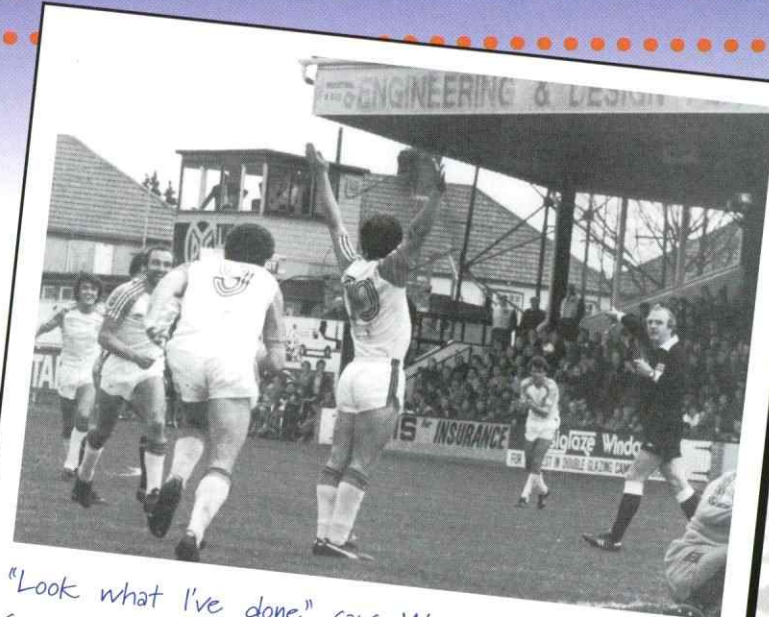
We missed out on promotion that season but by the time of our next meeting the top flight was furthest from our thoughts as we struggled at the wrong end of the table. A dismal run of results meant that avoiding defeat at the Abbey was vital but returning with both points, achieved with ten men for a large part of the game, proved to be the turning point in the season.

Moss shot the Town into the lead from the spot after 20 minutes but George Reilly levelled shortly afterwards with a scrambled effort. Clive Goodyear, with his first for the club, put the Hatters ahead converting a Moss free-kick, before goalkeeper Jake Findlay was carried off with cracked ribs following a strong challenge from Reilly.

With the substitute already used and defender Mal Donaghy in goal we had to face the final 25 minutes with only ten men. As so often happens in these situations the ten men played like twelve and Donaghy was so well protected that he had only one shot to stop before Brian Stein caught the Cambridge rearguard on the break to lob a third Luton goal in the final minute.

The home game in March 1981 was another scoreless stalemate and twelve months later the identical fixture seemed to be going the same way much to the annoyance of a promotion seeking crowd of 10,597. United had announced their intentions when they lined up with three centre-halves and immediately pulled eight men back.

Cambridge manager, John Docherty, admitted that it was his priority to stop the Town from scoring and then hope to snatch a goal at the other end. "It is not our job to come here and let Luton turn us over. We are coming to prevent that happening" warned a defiant Docherty.



"Look what I've done" says Wayne Turner after he scores against Cambridge at the Abbey in 1982.

During the first 45 minutes Cambridge managed to stifle the Hatters and were booed from the pitch at half-time. The fans had rather more to cheer about in the second period, however, as the Town managed to open the game up and started to create meaningful chances.

Richard Key in the Cambridge goal then earned star billing with a series of saves with all parts of his anatomy. He saved from Moss with his legs and stopped a rocket shot from full-back Kirk Stephens with his chest and was then fortunate to see strikes from Stephens and Ricky Hill hit the woodwork.

With the minutes ticking away we were all resigned to yet another frustrating draw against United when skipper Brian Horton picked up the ball 30 yards from goal, side stepped two defenders and let fly with a shot that was too good even for the admirable Key. There was no coming back from this as the Town earned three more valuable points on their way to the championship.

Before clinching the title, however, we had to face the return with Cambridge and over Easter 1982 over 4,000 Luton supporters swelled the crowd at

the Abbey to a best of the season 8,815. The match itself was a disappointment with the only bright spot being a first ever league goal from Wayne Turner, who took advantage of a poor pass from Les Cartwright before smacking the ball home. The game ended all square when Reilly bundled in one of his specials but an away point at that stage of the campaign was more than acceptable.

Over ten years were to pass before paths were to cross again when we met briefly in the new Division One in 1992-93. We were bottom of the table when we travelled to the Abbey in November 1992 and could not believe our eyes when two goals from Phil Gray and a strike from Scott Oakes put us into a commanding lead. A close range effort from Lee Philpott with 17 minutes left seemed like a consolation but the Town defence collapsed and we were lucky to finish with only one point from a 3-3 draw.

Both teams were still in the mire when the return came about but two quality efforts from the Town, which were out of character with all that had gone before, earned a vital victory. A volley from Kerry Dixon and Oakes' diving header were deserving of a far bigger stage.

Community & Schools Programme

ntl: Schools Visit Project

SPRING/SUMMER COACHING PROGRAMME

LUTON COACHING CENTRES

WEDNESDAY

Stopsley Junior School

School Years 1 to 3 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Icknield Junior School

School Years 1 to 3 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
School Years 4 to 7 at 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

Sommeries Junior School

School Years 1 to 3 at 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
School Years 4 to 7 at 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm

FRIDAY

St Josephs Junior School

School Years 1 to 3 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
School Years 4 to 7 at 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

Lealands High School

School Years 1 to 3 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
School Years 4 to 7 at 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

SATURDAY

Ferrars Junior School

School Years 1 to 3 at 10.00 pm to 11.00 pm
School Years 4 to 7 at 11.00 pm to 12.00 pm

SUNDAY

Barnfield College (New Bedford Rd)

School Years 1 to 3 at 10.00 pm to 11.00 pm
School Years 4 to 7 at 11.00 pm to 12.00 pm

MID BEDS COACHING CENTRES

MONDAY

BARTON

Arnold Middle School

School Years 1 to 3 and 4 to 8 at
4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

SHEFFORD

Robert Bloomfield 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

TUESDAY

FLITWICK

Kingsmore Lower School

School Years 1 to 4 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

AMPHILL

Redborne 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

WESTONING

Westoning Lower School

School Years 1 to 4 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

TODDINGTON

Parkfields Middle 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

SOUTH BEDS & BUCKS COACHING CENTRES

MONDAY

WING

Overstone Combined School

School Years 1 to 3 and 4 to 8 at
4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

LEIGHTON BUZZARD

Cedars High School, Linslade

School Years 1 to 3 at 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
School Years 4 to 7 at 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm

THURSDAY

LEIGHTON BUZZARD

Gilbert Inglefield Middle School

School Years 1 to 3 at 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
School Years 4 to 7 at 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm

THURSDAY

EDLESBOROUGH

Edlesborough Combined School

School Years 1 to 3 and 4 to 7 at
4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

DUNSTABLE

Watling Lower School

School Years 1 to 4 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Millvale Middle 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

To book a place or for further information
please contact the
Community & Schools Department on
01582 411622



As you can see on the page opposite our spring and summer after schools coaching programme keeps us fairly busy right across our region. However, during school time our coaching staff are equally as busy thanks to our Schools Visit Project which provides free curriculum time PE and football coaching lessons throughout Beds and Herts.

The Project is jointly funded by NTL and Sportsmatch and as you can see from our photos, thousands of schoolchildren have now benefited from the scheme - in fact we are now fast approaching 15,000 school children since the scheme began last January.

The scheme covers a huge area with school visits in the next couple of weeks seeing us visit Hitchin, Letchworth and Baldock over in Herts as well as many visits in Beds throughout Luton, Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard and the Shefford area.

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.



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Junior Hatters

welcome

OUR efforts to foster good relationships between our Junior Hatters and young fans of other clubs came to nothing when we tried to organise a trip to next week's game at Saltergate. Unfortunately Chesterfield no longer run a club for their youngsters, and could offer no facilities for a visit by ours.

But we are talking to Scunthorpe United about a Junior Hatters trip to see our game there on April 8. If we can get something arranged, we will tell you about it in the Colchester programme on April 1.



BOTH teams had mascots for the Millwall match, and it was nice to see another old friend involved in the centre circle before kick-off - Sean Dyche, on his league debut for Millwall, was the Londoners' skipper. Our Junior Hatters mascot was six-year-old Antony Foreman from Lidlington. The Millwall mascot was 14-year-old Neil Cooper.



FRIENDS IN SPORT: We had a good day out with our opposite numbers from the Racecourse Ground when the Town played Wrexham, and in this picture are gathered the goalscorers for the two sides after the Junior Hatters beat the Young Robins 6-2 in the day's first football match.

Tonight's Mascot



THE MASCOT computer-search came up with the name of Sophie Channing, from Nightingale Walk, Hemel Hempstead, to be this evening's very important Junior Hatter.

As our mascot, she will meet the team in the dressing room, and join the players for the formalities and rituals before the game kicks off. And while she will enjoy kicking around with the team in the warm-up, Sophie is likely to want to get close to one player in particular - Stuart Douglas is her real favourite.

Sophie is 11, comes to games with her dad and her brother, and they sit in the lower tier of the Kenilworth Stand. She goes to Sacred Heart School, Watford, and when lessons are over she loves sport, particularly netball and football.

If you would like join the Junior Hatters, call the Ticket Office on
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Hatters Chatter

our marathon man

THE picture is two years old, but for Perry Glover it is a reminder of a day he will never forget, and one he is ready to re-live, despite some of the memories being painful.

He is to be our official entrant in next month's Flora London marathon, and the picture shows him on the Victoria Embankment, approaching the finish in 1998.

He clocked four hours and ten minutes on that occasion, but having had a lot more experience since then expects to do better this time.

Perry, 32, is looking for sponsorship, and invites 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.



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We also visit students in year 9 upwards in local schools and colleges. So the next time the team visits your school or college take the opportunity to get invaluable advice and guidance through group sessions and individual interviews.

Opening Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9.30am-4.30pm (except Leighton Buzzard; Thurs. 9.30am-4.00pm)
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Hatters On Card

Alan Robinson

WE WELCOME back two former Hatters tonight, both now with Cambridge Utd in the dual role of player-coach.

Although striker John Taylor did not enjoy the best of times here in 1995/96, it was a different story for David Preece, whose ten-year spell at Kenilworth Road culminated in a bumper testimonial against Manchester United following a total of 394 first team outings.

During his time at Luton Preece appeared in many trade card series, including the one illustrated here, produced by Topps as a Stadium Club series in 1992.

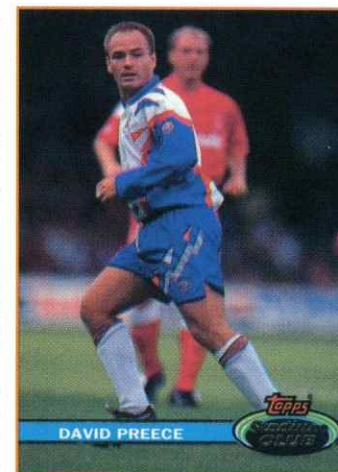
It was in November 1984 that Preece, then 22, joined the Town from Walsall in a deal said at the time to value him at £150,000 - David Pleat paid £80,000, plus striker Steve Elliott. He wanted a competitive midfielder as part of a major strengthening operation on a team which was bottom but one of the old First Division when Preece arrived. Steve Foster and Mick Harford were to follow soon afterwards, and the season was turned round.

Preece made an immediate impact, scoring the only goal for a home victory over Aston Villa, but he was unable to play any part in the magnificent run to the 1985 FA Cup semi-final against Everton because he was cup-tied with Walsall.

Relegation was comfortably avoided in the end, and the diminutive midfielder went on to establish himself in a formidable Luton side over the next few seasons. However, a couple of lengthy spells out through injury threatened to jeopardise his progress, and he was almost forced to miss the Littlewoods Cup final against Arsenal in 1988. He had been out of the side for six months, but after a successful try-out against Queens Park Rangers a few days before the

final, he played his part in our Wembley triumph.

He returned to Wembley the following season, this time experiencing defeat at the hands of Nottingham Forest, and after that it was a constant battle against relegation, which we suffered in 1992, thus missing the beginning of the Premiership.



**Topps & Co
Stadium Club
Footballers, 1992**

But there had been bright spots for "Mini" Preece, in the shape of three England B caps. Following relegation, Preece stayed on at Luton and his experience proved vital in avoiding a second consecutive drop. Not generally known for his goalscoring, his strikes in successive away games at Derby and Sunderland towards the end of that season earned vital points. Another crucial goal came at Cardiff, the winner in a 2-1 success in the fifth round of the FA Cup. That led to another Wembley appearance for Preece, but on the day Luton were well beaten by Chelsea in the semi-final.

Preece opted for one more season, his eleventh, at Luton, before moving to Derby County

in the summer of 1995, amid some controversy - he wanted a free transfer but the Football League backed Luton's claims for a fee. In the event, Preece did not stay long at the Baseball Ground, going to Birmingham and Swindon on loan deals before joining Cambridge as player-coach in the summer of 1996.

Although his appearances on the pitch are infrequent these days - Mini will be 37 in May - I wish him, and recently-married John Taylor, all the best in their careers, after tonight's final whistle, of course.

The 200-strong series of Stadium Club cards from which tonight's card is selected also features Trevor Peake and Richard Harvey in Town colours, and these items are still easily obtainable at around 25 pence each.

Action Replay

Luton Town 0 Millwall 2 (HT 0-2)

Brian Swain reports

THE manager apologised to supporters for an "absolutely disgrace" of a first-half defensive performance which left the Town with too much to do to avoid another defeat.

It has to be conceded that Millwall, third in the table, looked a very good side as they dominated the first half, then rode their luck at times in the second to clinch their eighth away win of the season. For home supporters it was another illustration of the astonishing and frustrating inconsistencies that have been seen recently. A few days earlier the Town were brilliant at Burnley, but little of that quality was seen against Millwall.

The odd thing, as Lennie Lawrence said later, was that in the second half the Town had enough chances to have got something out of the game, but the lacklustre final shot was no better than the defending had been earlier.

The influence of suspended Julian Watts was much missed, and the return of Efe Sodje in his place, with Alan White continuing as a defensive midfielder, was not a great success. The boss changed it at the interval, with the substitution adding Liam George as a third attacker.

By then Millwall had demonstrated the clinical art of taking chances offered by sub-standard defending, with midfielder Tim Cahill netting twice in the first 38 minutes.

Phil Gray might have equalised after the first, but after running clear of a stretched defence he was foiled by Tony Warner's dive at his feet.

Sean Dyche, an impressive defender when he was with the Town on loan last season, made an equally impressive debut for Millwall, having been kept out of action by injury since joining them last summer. He was part of a team which was much the better side in the first half, but the balance swung back towards the Town's favour after the break.

Crucially, for only the second time this season, we could not find a goal in a home league game, with a string of near-misses threatening but not achieving as the Town perked up considerably in the second half. Gavin McGowan had a close-range effort blocked by the goalkeeper, then put the rebound over the bar, Phil Gray had two attempts well saved, and George and Andrew Fotiadis were both close, but not close enough, as Millwall were forced back in the late stages.

But both managers agreed that the critical periods had come in the first half. "We had to hang on a bit in the second," said Lions joint boss Alan McLeary. "But I thought our first-half performance was excellent."

Match Details

Town: Roberts, Boyce, McGowan (Taylor 65 mins), Sodje (George HT), Doherty, Johnson, White, Gray, Locke, Spring, Douglas (Fotiadis 69 mins). Unused subs: McLaren, Abbey.

Booked: No-one.

Millwall: Warner, Dyche, Tuttle, Ryan, Neill, Ifill, Bull, Gilkes, Cahill, Sadlier, Harris (Moody 82 mins). Unused subs: Odunsi, Kinet, Dolan, Smith.

Booked: Lucas Neill, 36 mins, foul on Marvin Johnson.

The goals: 0-1 17 mins - Tim Cahill, allowed to get deep into the penalty area unmarked to meet a diagonal cross played in from the left by Robbie Ryan; 0-2 38 mins - Cahill again, his 11th goal of the season, first to react to snap up the rebound after Ben Roberts parried an angled 20-yard shot by Richard Sadlier.

Referee: Michael Dean, Wirral.

Attendance: 6,341 including 1,526 supporting Millwall, the biggest away following of the season so far.



● (Above) **LIVING DANGEROUSLY:** Millwall get away with it as the Town press forward in the second half, with Gavin McGowan involved in the opposition's penalty area.

● (Right) **TANGLE:** Goalkeeper Tony Warner is rewarded for his bravery, scrambling the ball away from Phil Gray to prevent a first-half equaliser.

● (Below) **WELL TACKLED:** Stuart Douglas goes in hard with Millwall's Ronnie Bull as old Bristol City mates Sean Dyche and Adam Locke wait to see which way it breaks.



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IN THE CLUB SHOP



Current form guide - the last six Division 2 games.

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts, and Sequence for various teams like Bristol Rovers, Millwall, Gillingham, etc.

When Clubs have scored goals... and conceded them

Table with columns for goal ranges (0-15, 16-30, etc.) and club names with their respective goal counts.

Nationwide Division Two Leading Goalscorers 1999-00

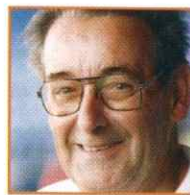
Table listing leading goalscorers like Jonathan Macken, Jason Roberts, Andy Payton, etc., with columns for Goals, Lge, FA, and WC.

1999-00 Attendances

Table showing attendance statistics for various clubs, including Highest, Lowest, Average, and Capacity.

2nd Division Scene

Brian Swain



WE MIGHT be cheated off that the play-off dream has vanished, but tonight's visiting fans would probably

swap places with us. Runners-up in Division Three last season, Cambridge have spent most of this campaign battling to avoid a rapid return.

They have been regulars in the bottom four, but climbed to the safety line two weeks ago with a useful 3-0 home win over Bristol City, and followed up with another 3-0 victory at Scunthorpe.

Amazingly Cambridge hit three again on Saturday, with a brace by Tom Youngs making it five goals in three matches for him, only for Wrexham to sneak victory with the odd goal in seven.

That reverse had Cambridge looking over their shoulders again, because although they stayed in 20th place they are ahead of Oxford United only on goal difference.

They are also only one point ahead of 22nd-placed Cardiff City, and this evening the Welshmen have a

real six-pointer, at Chesterfield.

It's our turn to go to Saltergate on Saturday, and while Chesterfield look near-certainties for one of the relegation places they are showing a stubborn streak in their recent home record.

They look very good for promotion, and quite likely for the championship as well, although Bristol Rovers continue to keep up the pressure.

The title chase could change this week - Preston are at Notts County this evening while Rovers are away to Reading tomorrow.

The promotion battle is now a matter of eight teams fighting for three places as Brentford followed us out of the reckoning. They were in with a chance when they won at Kenilworth Road, but then faltered with a home draw against Cambridge, and a 2-0 reverse at Griffin Park on Saturday against Bournemouth was the end of their hopes.

That left the Bees in ninth place, with a gap of ten points between them and Stoke, who are eighth.

The Second Division

Table showing league positions and statistics for teams in the Second Division, categorized by Home and Away performance.

Today's other Second Division fixtures

Table listing today's fixtures: Blackpool v Burnley, Notts County v Preston, etc.

Tonight's Teams



V



Luton Town

BEN ROBERTS	32
EMMERSON BOYCE	17
JULIAN WATTS	40
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
ALAN WHITE	5
NATHAN ABBEY	1

Cambridge United

13	SHAUN MARSHALL
2	BEN CHENERY
5	MARC JOSEPH
14	SCOTT EUSTACE
25	MARTIN McNEILL
15	TOM YOUNGS
7	PAUL WANLESS
8	JOHN TAYLOR
9	JOHN HANSEN
10	TREVOR BENJAMIN
3	IAN ASHBEE

Substitutes

16	DAVID PREECE
23	NEIL MacKENZIE
22	ZEMA ABBEY
21	ADAM TANN
1	ARJAN VAN HEUSDEN

Tonight's Officials

Referee: Roy Pearson, Peterlee

Assistants: D. Deadman, Cheshunt (red flag)
A. C. Harvey, Croxley Green (yellow and red flag)

Reserve official: P. T. McCaul, Huntingdon

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Sun 10.30 - 4.30pm



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