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Manager's View

with John Duncan



Luton Town are our opponents in the 2nd of three vital home games. We have one point in the bag and can look positively forward to the Hatters arrival this afternoon and then Bury on Tuesday.

The early part of the Cardiff match was marred by the unusual circumstances surrounding Steve Blatherwick's injury and subsequent substitution. He received a pass from Ryan Williams and as he attempted to manoeuvre away from an oncoming forward his knee gave way, presenting his opponent with an open run on goal and leaving Steve struggling with an unstable joint.

Fortunately, Ian Breckin and Mark Gayle saved the day but the towering centre

half, as keen as he was to stay on, was brought off and hopefully we have avoided a serious long term injury.

Young Gregg Pearce did well to step into the breach at such an early stage. We adjusted quite well but the Cardiff goal was very sloppy from our point of view. Steve Payne's third in as many games cheered us all up and we eventually finished the game by far the stronger team.

Our earlier match at Kenilworth Road was another in which we came back to draw 1-1 this time with a second half goal from David Reeves with a Chris Beaumont assist.

Let's hope we can improve on that result and get the three points we all crave.

“ **Young Gregg Pearce did well to step into the breach at such an early stage** ”



Chesterfield Football Club
Recreation Ground, Saltergate, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S40 4SX

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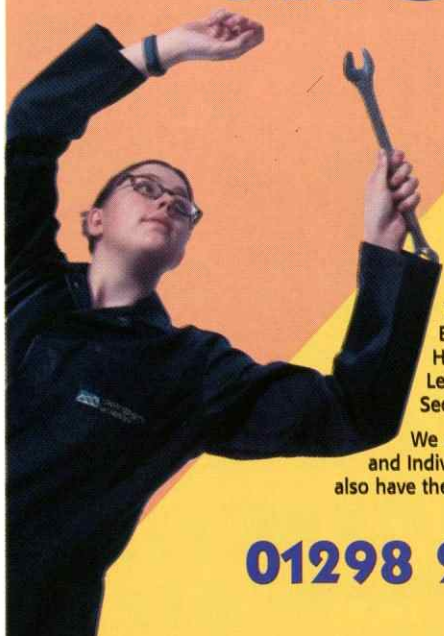
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FOOTBALL LEAGUE

with **Ollie Pardo**

Division Two Update

Preston North End and **Bristol Rovers** really look safe for the top two places, whilst the four play-off spots look likely to be contented by **Millwall**, **Wigan Athletic**, **Burnley**, **Gillingham**, **Notts. County** and **Stoke City**. After last Saturday the Pirates were seven points clear of **Millwall** and **Stoke City** were eight points behind the **Lions** and then comes a ten point gap between the **Potters** and **Brentford** one place below them. With about ten games to go it still looks as if any four of the following six teams will be relegated; **Scunthorpe**, **Cambridge**, **Oxford**, **Cardiff**, **Blackpool** and sadly **Chesterfield**. Last Tuesday there were crucial fixtures none less than our own game with **Cardiff City** the result of which you will know by now.

The other vital games were the Lancashire derby between **Blackpool** and promotion pushing **Burnley** at **Bloomfield Road**, lowly **Bury**, just above the relegation contenders were at home to **Oxford**. This afternoon's visitors **Luton Town** entertained our relegation rivals **Cambridge United** and **Scunthorpe** met **Brentford** at **Glanford Park**.

This afternoons fixtures will be every bit as important especially the University town battle between **Cambridge United** and **Oxford United** at the **Abbey Stadium** and **Cardiff** travel down the **M4** to the **Madjeski Stadium** to take on **Reading**. **Scunthorpe** meet **Oldham** at **Glanford Park**

Its not often that **April Fools** day falls on a **Saturday**, but to mark the occasion next week the **Football League** has decided to play with names as well as balls. Someone in the referees department has teamed up with match officials in a most mischievous way for the games on **April the First**. For instance, the referee and assistance for **Luton v Colchester** are **Messrs Barber, Stone and Head**. **Peterborough v Rochdale** will be officiated by **Lynch, Deadman and Payne**; **Mansfield v Barnett** by **Knight, Castle and King**; **Wycombe v Bristol City** by **Stiles,**



whilst **Blackpool** have the most difficult looking fixture when they go to the **Britannia Stadium**, the home of **Stoke City**. With the **Spireites** at home to **Bury** next Tuesday night when **Scunthorpe** are in **Wales** to play **Wrexham** at the **Racecourse** the ten days from last Saturday to next Tuesday should make the **Second Division** table look a lot clearer. Perhaps we might even see the **Spireites** move off the bottom, and your support is much needed to help them do that.

Downs and Hills. Elsewhere the following assistant referee lineup; **messrs North and West** at **Bristol Rovers v Stoke**, **Francis and Lee** at our own fixture against **Gillingham** at **Priestfield**; **Singh and Torrance** at **Brighton v Swansea**. And the best combination? Well, there's **Messrs Brandwood, Brand and Wood** at **Oldham v Cambridge** or how about **Leek, Coffey and Kettle** at **Crewe v Nottingham. Forest**.

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Reserve Review

with **Kevin Randall**

Chesterfield 2-0 Hartlepool Utd

A back three of Pearce, Woods and Simkins quickly became a back four with Pointon slipping back to full-back as Hartlepool started with three up.

Young **Ian Rushbury** retained his place in midfield after promising appearances in the previous two games. Barratt played alongside Wilkinson up front whilst Lomas, Carss and Willis completed the midfield.

Hartlepool started strongly and it looked as though it was going to be a tough competitive game.

Wilkinson was desperately unlucky when he broke clear on the left and his snap shot hit the inside of the post and came out. Woods and Pointon were both breaking out of defence and providing some excellent service with a Woods cross going across the face of the goal and Willis just failing to get on the end of another Woods centre.

Eventually Wilkinson broke clear on the right and this time his shot hit the inside of the post and went in. Wilkinson continued to cause problems and his measured through ball released Barratt but his shot was saved. Hartlepool battled hard in the 2nd half and some of our play became scrappy. However we continued to defend well with Simpkins especially looking dominant.

Eventually we secured the win when Lomas, who was switched to the right crossed for Wilkinson to turn onto goal. The goalkeeper made a desperate attempt to save but could only palm the ball out to Barratt who scored.

After that we assured our former composure and played out the game with some controlled football. A creditable win, which kept up our recent excellent run of results.



Team: Vaughan, Woods, Pearce, Simpkins, Pointon, Lomas, Carss, Willis, Rushbury, Wilkinson, Barratt.

Subs: Armstrong, Tuckwood, Wilding, Renshaw, James.

PONTINS LEAGUE DIVISION 2

Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Gd	Pts
WIGAN ATHLETIC	14	8	4	2	21	13	8
BURY	14	8	1	5	33	20	28
DARLINGTON	13	8	0	5	33	17	25
MACCLESFIELD T.	15	7	2	6	24	22	24
CHESTERFIELD	14	5	7	2	18	14	2
HULL CITY	12	6	3	3	24	15	3
MANSFIELD TOWN	15	5	2	8	19	27	21
HARTLEPOOL UTD.	14	4	4	6	19	23	17
ROCHDALE	15	3	5	7	18	28	16
CHESTER CITY	15	3	4	8	12	27	14
HALIFAX TOWN	15	3	4	8	12	27	13

Matches up to and including 01/03/00

PONTINS LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

FIXTURES

Date	Home	Score	Date	Away	Score
18 Aug	Rochdale (h)	0-0	5 Jan	Hull City	0-2
9 Sept	Macclesfield Town (a)	1-1	19 Jan	Bury (a) PLC	2-1
15 Sept	Wigan Athletic (h)	1-1	2 Feb	Rochdale (a)	2-2
29 Sept	Bury (h)	1-1	7 Feb	Sheffield Utd (h) PLC	1-1
6 Oct	Hull City (a)	3-3	9 Feb	Hartlepool United (a)	3-0
14 Oct	Bury (h) PLC	2-1	23 Feb	Wigan Athletic (a)	1-1
25 Oct	Darlington (h)	2-0	1 March	Macclesfield (h)	1-0
3 Nov	Chester City (a)	0-4	15 March	Hartlepool (h)	2-0
10 Nov	Sheffield Utd (a) PLC	0-4	5 April	Halifax Town (a)	
17 Nov	Mansfield Town (h)	1-0	12 April	Darlington (a)	
24 Nov	Tranmere Rvs (a) PLC	1-2	17 April	Bury (a)	
1 Dec	Halifax Town (h)	2-0	19 April	Chester City (h)	
8 Dec	Tranmere Rvs (h) PLC	1-3	26 April	Mansfield town (a)	

PLC - Pontins League Cup

NEXT RESERVE MATCH

PONTIN'S LEAGUE
Wed April
19th 2000

v.
Chester City

Kick off 2pm
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THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE



with Alan Young

With no fixture last Saturday it gave the boys a welcome weekend off and time to spend with their families. It also gave our injured players a chance to recover. We have been extremely unfortunate all season with quite a few long term injuries. At the moment we have Ally Mitchell in plaster and Matthew Young with a bad ankle injury. Both look as though they won't play again this season. Both the Rushbury boys are also having treatment, Ian for a kick and Andy with a hamstring problem. As we only have fourteen in our squad, which includes two goalkeepers, it has been rather a testing season in view of continuity in selection of a team.

Because the boys go to college all day Monday and Thursday every week added to the fact that virtually all of them have been involved in reserve team football, quality coaching time has been limited. Now that the lighter evenings are here we have gone a long way to addressing that problem with sessions on Monday and Thursday evenings at our training ground

between 4.30 and 7.15pm. A bit continental don't you think? Anyway it gives us the opportunity to be completely isolated and focussed on individual technique and team tactics. It also allows me to have our Under 16 boys after school which gives them the opportunity to sample what they are likely to encounter in their Scholarship years.

The semi-finals of the FA Youth Cup have been drawn and are as follows: Arsenal v Middlesborough and more interestingly Coventry v Southampton. If you think back to Tuesday 30th November, for an hour we gave Coventry City quite a fright. If you also remember as we had two Under 16 boys up front and three on the bench, with our two main strikers Craig and Richard playing centre midfield, our midfielder Matt Young playing right back and our right back Tim Hogg playing centre back, we didn't do too badly. In fact we should have taken the lead through young Jordan Hall early in the first half. Anyway I would like to wish Coventry the very best of luck.

Sponsors Required

For Chesterfield F. C. Youth Team & Centre of Excellence to help with travelling expenses, kit purchase, etc.

Tel: Alan Young on 01246 237160

NEXT YOUTH MATCH Sat 1st April 2000

v Wigan Athletic

At Chesterfield Cylinders - Kick-Off 12 noon

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE		DIVISION TWO NORTH									
	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts			
HALIFAX TOWN	3	3	0	0	6	2	4	9			
DARLINGTON	2	2	0	0	5	0	5	6			
CHESTERFIELD	3	1	1	1	4	4	0	4			
WIGAN ATH	2	1	0	1	1	2	-1	3			
CHESTER CITY	3	0	2	1	3	5	-2	2			
LINCOLN CITY	3	0	2	1	3	6	-3	2			
GRIMSBY TOWN	2	0	1	1	2	3	-1	1			
ROCHDALE	2	0	1	1	1	2	-1	1			
TRANMERE	2	0	1	1	2	3	-1	1			

Matches up to and including 12/03/00



FIXTURES

13 Aug	Wrexham (h)	5 - 0
28 Aug	Mansfield Town (h)	1 - 0
4 Sept	Rotherham United (h)	2 - 3
18 Sept	Lincoln City (a)	0 - 0
25 Sept	Chester City (h)	1 - 2
2 Oct	Stockport County (a)	2 - 3
16 Oct	Sheffield United (h)	2 - 0
18 Oct	Rochdale (FA Rd 1) (h)	1 - 1
23 Oct	Halifax (FL Cup) (a)	0 - 3
28 Oct	Rochdale (FA Rd 1) (a)	0 - 3
30 Oct	Sheffield Utd (FL Cup) (h)	1 - 4
6 Nov	Rotherham Utd (FL Cup) (a)	0 - 5
9 Nov	Lincoln Utd (FA Rd 2) (h)	2 - 1
13 Nov	Port Vale (a)	0 - 1
20 Nov	Bradford (FL Cup) (h)	1 - 3
26 Nov	Wrexham (a)	0 - 2
30 Nov	Coventry (FA Rd 3) (h)	0 - 3
11 Dec	Mansfield Town (a)	0 - 2
21 Jan	Lincoln City (h)	2 - 1
26 Jan	Port Vale (h)	0 - 1
12 Feb	Sheffield United (a)	2 - 2
15 Feb	Chester City (a)	2 - 1
19 Feb	Rotherham United (a)	1 - 4
26 Feb	Lincoln City (a)	3 - 0
4 Mar	Darlington (a)	0 - 3
10 Mar	Grimsby (h)	1 - 1
25 Mar	Rochdale (a)	
1 April	Wigan Athletic (h)	
8 April	Halifax Town (a)	
15 April	Tranmere (h)	
22 April	Chester City (h)	



Centre of Excellence

with Jonathan Pepper

If you were at the Cardiff City game on Tuesday evening you may have noticed two of our age groups (Under 12 and Under 10) demonstrating their skills on the pitch at half time.

I'm sure this was a great experience for the boys and also a proud moment for their family and friends who were watching from the stands. Hopefully, you may see some more of our young players parading their skills today.

This forthcoming week is assessment week for the players. All our young players are assessed 3 times a year, which allows our coaches to inform the players and parents of their individual progress, highlighting in particular their strengths and weaknesses. All the

boys get a little bit nervous around this time as we also have to inform them whether they are being retained or released for next season. Unfortunately some boys are released from the club but we believe that as they do leave they will be better players than when they arrived. It is also important that any players involved in our programme enjoy and learn from the experience.

Tomorrow, Sunday 26 March, we have a full programme of games at Hasland School, where we will be entertaining teams from Rotherham Utd, Bradford City and Notts County. Games will be kicking off from 10.30am onwards. Make your way up to Hasland where you will see our Under 10, 11, 12 and 14 age groups performing.



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Spireites Hotline



with **Geoff Mitchell**

500 Not Out!

Jamie Hewitt marks a personal milestone today when he chalks up his 500th League appearance for Chesterfield.



The Saltergate stalwart is second, in number of appearances, only to veteran Dave Blakey who played 617 League games for Spireites between 1948 and 1967.

Jamie's reign dates back to 1986 when he joined his hometown team as a trainee after supporting Spireites from the terraces with dad Les.

The utility man moved to Doncaster Rovers in August 1992 but returned just over a year later.

He celebrated a testimonial season in 1998-99 and the current campaign has seen him almost ever-present in the Chesterfield squad, missing just one game.

But 31-year-old Jamie's proudest moment came in Spireites' epic FA Cup semi final with Middlesbrough at Old Trafford, when his dramatic last-minute goal earned Chesterfield a 3/3 draw and a replay at Hillsborough.

Reevsey Sits It Out for 3 Games

A spur of the moment kick at Wigan's former Barnsley defender Arjan De Zeeuw in the final moments of that game mean a three match suspension for Chesterfield's leading goal-scorer. After being red carded he now misses today's game against Luton, as well as next Tuesday's home game against Bury and next weekend's trip to promotion hopefuls Gillingham.

Midfield Duo Out for Season

Recent signings Mick Galloway and David D'Auria are both out for the rest of the season. Mick needs to have a knee operation, and David as an unusual foot injury which requires long rest.

New Oldham Date

There is a new date for Chesterfield's Match at Oldham which was postponed recently. It will now be played at Boundary Park on Tuesday 18th April.

Steve Blatherwick Appeal

Chesterfield have appealed against the harsh sending off of Steve Blatherwick in last week's game at Bristol Rovers. Referee Mark Warren adjudged the defender to have denied Jamie Cureton a goal scoring opportunity, but its more likely he was influenced by the 8700 crowd for what was no more than as innocent, clumsy challenge.

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LUTON TOWN

We welcome LUTON TOWN to Saltergate for this afternoon's game.

We welcome Luton town to Saltergate for this afternoon's game. The Hatters currently occupy a mid table position in Division Two. They seem certain to finish this season in a similar spot with a play off place now out of reach and it would take a disastrous run of results for Luton to be dragged into the relegation battle.

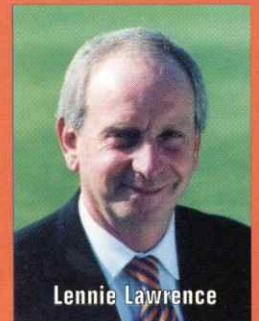
Lennie Lawrence's side have not had the best of times on there travels this season, having picked up just 12 points from the 51 available and having conceded over 50 goals in the process.

Leading scorer is Liam George he has 12 goals in the league and has forged a good

partnership with the highly rated Stuart Douglas. Another player rated very highly at Kenilworth Road is Gary Doherty he has been linked with Leeds United recently, a fee of over £1m has been rumoured. One man familiar to the Spireites is goalkeeper Ben Roberts, Roberts is currently on loan from Middlesbrough and played in our famous F.A.Cup Semi Final of three years ago.

Last time out Luton were held 2-2 in midweek against Cambridge United, a late goal from Gary Doherty salvaging a point. Lets hope Luton's poor run away from home continues this afternoon and the Spireites can gain a much needed three points.

the manager



Lennie Lawrence

Lennie became Manager at Luton in 1995 following the departure of Terry Westley.

His Managerial career started as assistant at Plymouth and then Lincoln. He moved to Charlton on Reserve team coach before taking over as Manager in 1982.

In 1991 he took over at Middlesborough and led them into the Premiership a Year later Following Boro's relegation Lawrence moved to Bradford City before becoming Luton's 21st manager.

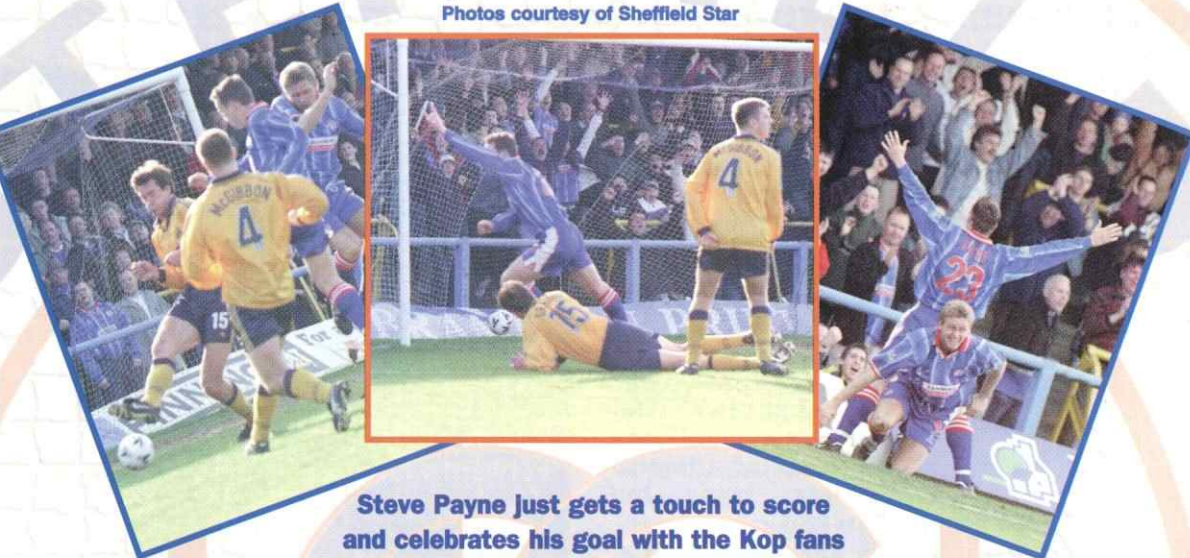
Lennie has worked with no money at Kenilworth Road and being forced to sell many of his young stars whilst still keeping Luton on the fringe of the Play-offs.



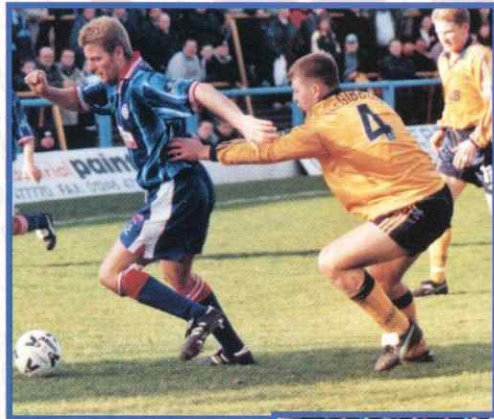
ACTION REPLAY

Vs Wigan

Photos courtesy of Sheffield Star



Steve Payne just gets a touch to score and celebrates his goal with the Kop fans



David Reeves holds off the challenge of Wigan's Pat McGibbon.



Ryan Williams fires narrowly wide under pressure from Darren Sheridan

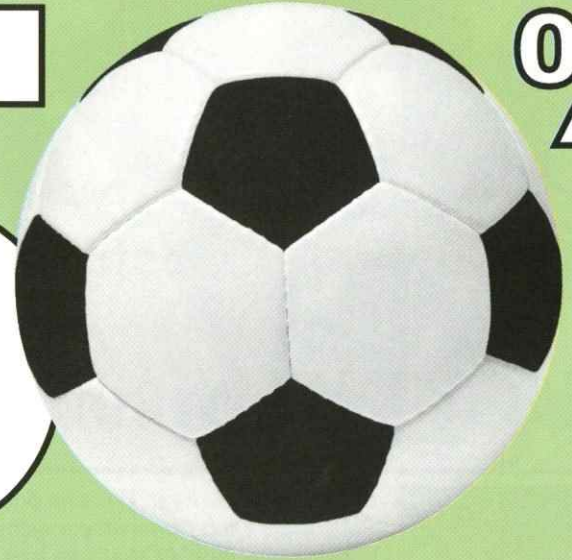


Jonathan Howard is fouled by Wigan keeper Roy Carroll.

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Pics & Presentations



Dear Chesterfield F.C.,
 Thank you for giving me such a lovely time when I was a mascot on 11th March.
 I had great fun kicking the ball on the pitch. I especially enjoyed kicking with Ryan Williams and Steve Blatherwick. Chester the Mouse was very friendly too. It was a shame we didn't win the match but my family and I really enjoyed the game.
 We got some good photos and I have copied some for you to look at. Please say a special thank you to Ryan, Steve and Chester for me.
 Lots of love from
 Peter Cornell.

All four photographs were sent in courtesy of recent mascot, Peter Cornell - Thanks Peter!



Blues midfielder Ryan Williams presents former Chesterfield F.C. Supporters Club Committee member Kathleen Barlow with an autographed football. Kathleen was a guest of Wigan matchball sponsors Mike Barlow Motorcycles Training.



Wigan match mascots Daniel Kirk and Peter Jonathan Cornell pictured with Captains, Chester and Officials before kick-off.

Mick Wilson, General Manager of Wigan match sponsors C.P.L. Distribution receives an autographed football from Ryan Williams in appreciation of their valued support.



Blues on the Move £1000 top prize winners for week 40 Mr. & Mrs. Dickens from Boythorpe receive their cheque from Blues striker Jon Howard.

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Opta Head to Head Chesterfield v Luton Town



Despite not joining Chesterfield until November, exciting young midfielder Ryan Williams has had a major impact on the Spireites season - as the Opta stats prove.

The former Tranmere man has put over 71 crosses

and corners this season, while he has embarked on 53 dribbles, the joint second highest total for a Chesterfield player.

The highest number of dribbles attempted by a Saltergate star is 107, the amount striker David Reeves has made as he endeavours to save Chesterfield's season in an attacking sense.

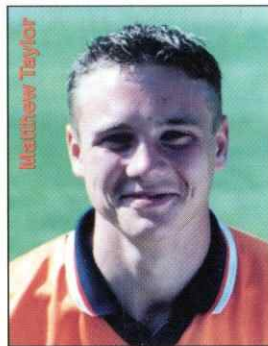
In terms of crosses, veteran wing back Jamie Hewitt is top dog having whipped over 122 balls in this season. He sees off the challenge

of Anthony Carss as top archer.

For the visiting Luton, left-sided Matthew Taylor features highly in both of the top five charts. In fact, the youth team product is top in crosses with 208 centres to his name. Matthew Spring, another home grown talent, comes in at second with 172 crosses delivered this campaign.

On the dribbling front, Spring is top with striker Liam George second and Taylor in at third.

They are three players who, if fit and selected, have the talent to give Chesterfield's defence a hard time this afternoon, and they will certainly require tight marking.

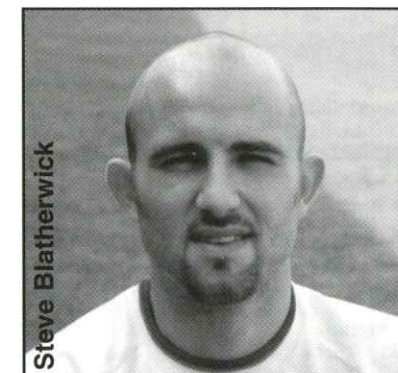


Chesterfield			Luton Town		
Player	Total Crosses	Crossing Accuracy	Player	Total Crosses	Crossing Accuracy
Hewitt	122	43.44%	Taylor	208	27.88%
Carss	73	35.62%	Spring	172	30.81%
Williams	71	32.39%	Boyce	51	25.49%
Woods	70	27.14%	Fraser	49	32.65%
Beaumont	61	37.70%	George	42	28.57%
Total Dribbles			Total Dribbles		
Player	Total Dribbles	Dribbling Success	Player	Total Dribbles	Dribbling Success
Reeves	107	70.09%	Spring	82	79.27%
Bettney	53	60.38%	George	77	53.25%
Williams	53	77.36%	Taylor	54	88.89%
Beaumont	46	82.61%	Johnson	50	96.00%
Hewitt	41	92.68%	Douglas	47	55.32%

statistics supplied by Carling Opta



with Dave Rushbury



These notes were written immediately after the midweek game v's Cardiff. The treatment room was quite busy, with players turning up to review the bumps, bruises, aches and strains from the night before.

The most obvious was Blathers, it was important to re-assess his jarred knee for any clinical signs which may hinder his immediate progress. Fortunately he was clear of any swelling. The mechanics of what happened to him and the lack of stability in the knee soon after, still warrant further investigation. Therefore, he will have seen a consultant before a decision is made for today's game.

Mark Gayle and Jon Howard were nursing tight groins, they should be available for training after a couple of days. Ryan Williams made his debut in the treatment room, he twisted his ankle early in the game and a late decision will be made on him. Finally, Tony Carss arrived with very sore blisters he should be okay for today's game. Good news for Marcus Ebdon, he has come through some minor setbacks and is available for first team duty.

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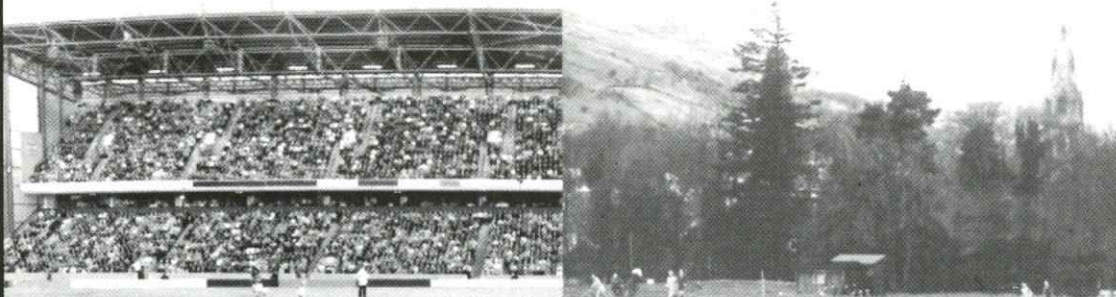
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in RETROSPECT

Ten-goal Joe and the Derbyshire Connection

Recently, Steve Payne moved into our forward line and followed the likes of Jimmy Cookson and Roy Poole, each successful converts from defence to attack. Sixty-four years ago our visitors did the same with a man from Brimington Common named Joe Payne, and the result was quite spectacular.

The Hatters entertained Bristol Rovers as leaders of the Third Division (South) on April 13th, 1936. Handicapped by injuries among their forwards, they turned to a reserve wing-half to lead the line. Joe Payne had had experience up front, being a regular inside-forward for Bolsover Colliery's Derbyshire League side in the early 'Thirties, but he had no great pedigree as a goalscorer. Nevertheless, Luton's Manager, the former Chesterfield Town centre-forward Harold Wightman, saw something in him. A spell with Sheffield Wednesday on amateur forms had led to nothing, and he joined Luton at the end of the 1934-5 season.

Back to the match. Payne waited 23 minutes for his first, but completed his hat-trick seventeen minutes later as Luton turned round with a 4-0 halftime lead. The second half was one-way traffic. Luton piled on eight more goals and, although the Bristol Evening Post headline read "Luton man scores nine against Rovers!", Payne was officially credited with ten goals. There was some confusion

over a Payne header that appeared to be saved before a Luton player bundled the keeper and the ball into the net, but the referee later confirmed that Payne was the scorer. Earlier that season, Ted Drake scored seven for Arsenal at Aston Villa, and Tranmere's Bunny Bell broke a League record with nine goals in his

side's 13-4 win over Oldham. Payne's effort is unlikely ever to be surpassed at Football League level.

After the game Joe reportedly said "They told me to go out and get two or three goals, if I could. But they didn't tell me what to do afterwards, so I just carried on." Luton had to apply to the League for permission to present Payne with the match ball. An item that would be worth a fortune now, no longer exists: it was said that Joe's lad wanted a football

and, unable to afford a new one, Joe gave him the Bristol Rovers ball to kick about.

Joe scored 55 goals as Luton won promotion to the Second Division in '36-7 but was already beginning to suffer from ill-health when he was sold to Chelsea. The war took away much of his career, but gave him the chance to play for Chesterfield. He appeared as a guest against Notts County in December 1944, and scored three goals. In all, he scored 110 goals in 116 League games and will forever retain his place as one of the greatest goalscorers in football history.

Stuart Basson



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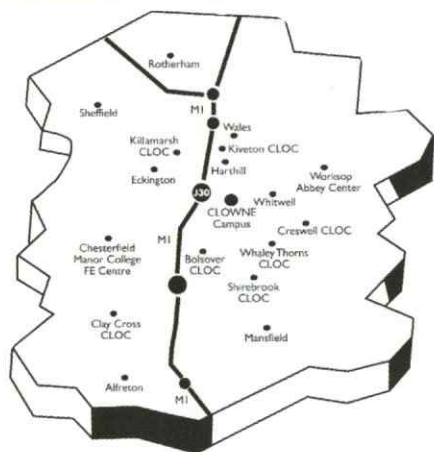
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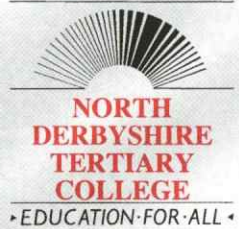


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Football Matters

Howard Borrell

Football's female invasion

Many moons ago when I first started attending football matches almost the only females to attend games were the ones serving you in the tea bars. Nowadays football has started to recognise that those days are way behind as, at many clubs, the new nouveau riche are the career women with serious money to spend on their new hobby - or so the recent statistics suggest.

The female percentages of the Premiership crowd varies from 5% at that bastion of male chauvinism, Newcastle United to a staggering 22% at our county neighbours Derby County and Leicester City are a mere percentage point behind, so maybe there's something in the Midland air (Midland ?? I always consider Chesterfield to be northern - is the dividing line

somewhere in Derbyshire?). Don't ask me for any detailed analysis of why but I do know that I'm now used to seeing many more women at matches and what a good thing too!

Football has had, for most of its history, a male dominated football crowd - and has had to suffer the consequences. Footballs problems (of the 1960s and 70s) with crowd violence, obscene chanting and racism would surely have been diluted if football had always been a 50/50 split in terms of gender. It seems certain that, as the fabric of society has changed and women have gained more freedom from domestic drudgery, the appeal that football has always had for males started to instigate similar interest for women.

Obviously our antiquated facilities here at Saltergate won't have been the stimulating factor in gaining female interest for the Spireites but I'm sure the introduction of modern all-seater stadia throughout the country has had a big effect in attracting more women (and families generally) into football and, hopefully, improving the crowd mix to an extent that an improvement in atmosphere is now noticeable. Our new stadium (if it ever comes to fruition) should take female needs into account i.e. crèches rather than just a flushing loo if we are to gain in a similar way to the Premiership clubs.

Of course, despite my initial comment, there has always been a female presence at games but

the task for football now is to make that interest grow. Ladies Football is flourishing (2 consecutive record attendances at Barnsley and Norwich for Womens internationals confirm that interest) and most of those fans are potential attendees at league games. Fulham recently had a Ladies Day where all female fans received for their £5 admission payment a free goody bag that contained a programme, toiletries and a voucher to bring a friend for free at their next visit; the way to boost attendances generally is logically through innovative schemes such as Fulham's that offers value and makes the fans feel valued, something we'd all like to feel and goes some way to retaining interest rather than just creating it.

The days of blind loyalty have gone and grim seasons like this one make it hard to attract anyone to games (let alone convince females to start attending). Reading's recent initiative of setting up a web site to unload (after 1p.m. on the day of the game) tickets for £1 - rather than have the seats empty shows a sensible approach to reaching out to hook fans in but ALL clubs MUST recognise the changing face of the leisure industry and adopt policies that encourage women, children and men to a club that appreciates and nurtures their support.

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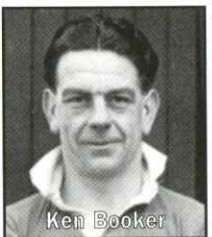


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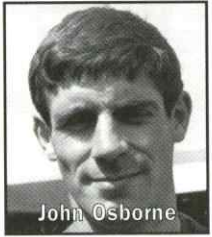
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'Hatters Capped'

October 12th 1946
Division Two
Chesterfield 2
Luton Town 1



'Top Hatters'

December 10th 1966
Division Four
Luton Town 3 - 2
Chesterfield

An enjoyable game at Saltergate in which Chesterfield were made to fight hard to maintain their unbeaten home record. Spireites forwards impressed as they took every opportunity to shoot at goal. The defence was as usual very strong. Bywater in the Luton goal had a gruelling time but he displayed confidence on his debut. The Hatters set a good example in clever passing, and Driver the ex-Sheffield Wednesday centre forward was impressive, playing against Bill Whittaker - a great contest ensued.

On a badly waterlogged pitch, Luton had most of the play throughout. Had the Spireites managed to salvage a point no one would have begrudged them, from an absolutely gruelling game for both sides, in which the Spireites forced Luton to battle all the way. Whittaker opened the scoring for Luton after 25 minutes with a well taken goal. Just before half time Billy Stark, Ex-Hatter, seeing Read off his line calmly lobbed the ball over his head to give the Spireites the equaliser. Chesterfield were indebted to a wonderful display of goalkeeping by John Osborne making a series of brave saves. Heavy pressure from the Blues in the second half almost resulted in the Spireites taking the lead as they came close on several occasions. The Hatters were not to be denied and Rioch gave Luton the lead when he headed past Osborne. The Spireites came back to make the score 2-2, from a Wilson corner Stark drove home for his second goal from 10 yds.

Goodfellow and Booker passed well from wing half to the Spireites forwards. Irish International Dudley Milligan, leading the Blues attack, was quick and direct, he and Swinscoe setting up Roberts for good probing runs down the wing. After 29 minutes of fast entertaining football Milligan gave the Spireites the lead. Goodfellow started the move to Booker, who beck heeled to Ottewell. He jumped over the ball to allow Milligan, in the clear, to score. 1-0 at half time, and it took only 5 minutes for the Hatters to equalize through Driver. With the Spireites appealing for offside, Middleton came off his line, and Driver lobbed the ball over the 'keeper's head to score. Six minutes later Syd Otterwell gave the Blues the lead. A throw in taken by Booker to Ottewell who hit a first time low shot on the turn past Bywater in the visitors goal. A good clean game, played in the best tradition, neither trainers were called upon.

In the 72nd minute, Rioch, an outstanding player, settled the game with a very well taken goal to give the points to the Hatters. Luton's new centre half from Leicester Dougan had a good game against the Spireites Hollett just returning after injury. For Chesterfield Stark and Wilson were the most dangerous forwards. Sears, Weale and Hughes stood out in defence.

CHESTERFIELD: Middleton, Watson, Kidd, Goodfellow, Whittaker, Booker, Collins, Ottewell, Milligan, Swinscoe, Roberts.

LUTON TOWN: Read, Thomson, Jardine, Slough, Dougan, Moore, French, Pleat, Riddick, Rioch, Whittaker, (Sub: Johnson).

LUTON TOWN: Bywater, Lake, Beech, Goodyear, Gager, Cooke, Steen, Soo, Driver, Connelly, Wath.

CHESTERFIELD: Osborne, Holmes, Sears, Anderson, Neale, Hughes, Wilson, Randall, Hollett, Stark, Tait, (Sub: Blakey).

ATTENDANCE: 13,500.

ATTENDANCE: 5,096.

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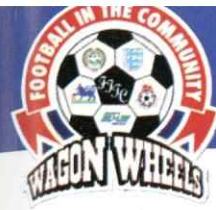
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JULY

6	25th/26th/27th	
	3 Day Course (Matlock)	£18

AUGUST

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Chester's Column

Hi Kids,

I hope you all had a good time at the game on Tuesday and that the lads came away with a win. Today it is Luton Town or as they are known 'The Hatters' well there is only one person as mad as a hatter and that is David Beckham. Fancy paying £300 to have your hair cut like MINE!! My mum could have made a better job with

those old garden sheers we have at the farm.

Anyway he might have the money but I have got the looks, so ladies don't forget to give me a wave and blow a kiss just to let me know you still care about me.

See ya soon...

Chester





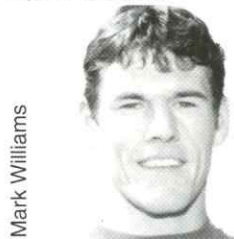
Supporters' Club News

with Steve Yorke



Presumably everyone who went on the Supporters' Club weekend trip to Weston-Super-Mare had an excellent time. Playing one of the front runners in the division was always going to be difficult, and to be a goal down with only ten men made it twice as hard, although a good goal by Ryan Williams kept us in the game until well into the second half.

The Supporters' Club are taking bids for the two Mark Williams shirts they have in their possession and this will continue until the end of the season. The first is a CFC home shirt as worn in league games last season, and the second is the Northern Ireland International shirt 'Bomber' wore in the friendly match against the Republic of Ireland.



It was a benefit game for the victims of the Omagh bombing and there is also a match programme from this game, which you can also bid for, if interested. Any sensible bids will be considered and these can be handed in to a committee member, or at the Supporters' Club address at:-

Chesterfield F.C. Supporters' Club
P.O. Box 1866
Chesterfield
S40 3SX

There is still one 'Player of the Month' award to be handed out, but also on the horizon now is the Supporters' Club 'Player of the Year' trophy to be voted for, and members should have received a voting slip in the recent edition of the newsletter 'Forever Blue'. Slips can be handed in to the Kop Shop at the forthcoming home game and the deadline for this is the home match with Wrexham on April 22nd. We then hope to present the trophy on the following Saturday before the final home game against Notts' County. So get voting!

Our next away game, sees us make the long journey to Kent to play Gillingham at the ever-changing Priestfield Stadium, next Saturday. Coaches leave Cross Street at 9.45 and the fare to Kent is £12.50 & £7.

Get behind the Blues this afternoon, they need you more than ever!

AWAY TRAVEL

GILLINGHAM

Saturday 1st April 2000
Nationwide League Div.Two
Kick-off 3 p.m.

Car Parking: Street parking was available

Programme Price: £2

Admission Price: £10 Adults £8 Oap's £5 Juv's under 16

Disabled Facilities: Disabled FOC Helper Normal Prices. Book in advance

Tel: Secretary on 01634 - 851854

Away Travel Time:

Leave Cross St :9.45 a.m.

Price: £12.50 Adults £7 OAP/Juv (members)

£13.50 Adults £8 OAP/Juv (non-members)

PLEASE BOOK AT THE COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT ONLY

Tel: (01246) 231535

Recommended Route:

Exit M2 Junction 4 and follow the link road B278 to the 3rd roundabout. Turn left onto the A2 and go across the roundabout to the traffic lights. Then turn right into Woodlands Road. The ground is on the left after about 1/4 mile

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4. Tom CURTIS
5. Steve BLATHERWICK
6. Ian BRECKIN
7. Jonathan HOWARD
8. Mick GALLOWAY
9. David REEVES
10. Marcus EBDON
11. Steve WILKINSON
12. Roger WILLIS
13. John VAUGHAN
14. Chris BEAUMONT
16. Michael SIMPKINS
17. Gregg PEARCE
18. Ryan WILLIAMS
19. Danny WILLIAMS
20. Danny BARRETT
21. James DOOLEY
22. Chris PERKINS
23. Steve PAYNE
24. Steve WOODS
25. James LOMAS
26. Mark GAYLE
28. David D'AURIA
30. Joel ARMSTRONG
33. Neil POINTON

LUTON TOWN

1. Nathan ABBEY
2. Gavin McGOWAN
3. Efetobore SODJE
4. Matthew SPRING
5. Alan WHITE
6. Marvin JOHNSON
7. Phil GRAY
8. Paul McLAREN
9. Stuart DOUGLAS
10. Michael McINDOE
11. Liam GEORGE
12. Gary DOHERTY
13. Stuart FRASER
14. Andrew FOTIADIS
15. Matthew TAYLOR
16. Landry ZAHANA-ONI
17. Emmerson BOYCE
18. Tresor KANDOL
19. James AYRES
20. Jerry MOSES
21. Andre SCARLETT
22. Daniel TATE
23. Jude STIRLING
24. Scott WARD
28. Adam LOCKE
32. Ben ROBERTS
40. Julian WATTS

Match Officials

R.J. BEEBY

Referee:

We welcome Richard Beeby a Local Government Officer as our match official to Saltergate this afternoon. Richard commenced refereeing with Northamptonshire F.A. and obtained his class 1 status in 1990. Progressed through the Southern and United Counties Leagues before joining the Panel list in 1996 and the National list of Referees in 1999. He includes cricket amongst his hobbies and is a keen supporter of Northamptonshire C.C.C.

Assistant Referee:

K.J. NIND

Assistant Referee:

G.STOTT

4th Official:

W.D. LOMAS

Next at

Saltergate

Tue 28th March 2000

Nationwide League

Division Two

Bury

Kick-off 7.45pm

Season Ticket Voucher No. 12

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