

Luton Town Football Club



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Official Matchday
Magazine

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Official Matchday Magazine

Editor

Brian Swain

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Gareth Owen

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

Front Cover



BLANKING EXPERT: Carl Emberson, who has conceded only one goal in the last four games, and who made an important early save at Torquay on Saturday.



Action Replay



Torquay Utd 0 Luton Town 1 (HT 0-1)

WHILE one goal was more than enough to see off a team that was made to look second best in every department, the Town might easily have improved their goal difference even more with a solid team display at Plainmoor.

At times they seemed to be coasting: Torquay, desperate for points to escape any lingering fear of relegation to the Conference, were allowed to enjoy plenty of possession. But only in areas where it did not matter too much, and when they did look slightly promising the Town defence, with Russ Perrett and Chris Coyne excellent at its heart, was well on top of its game.

Torquay were restricted to two half-chances throughout the 90 minutes: a 12th-minute 25-yard free kick which Carl Emberson saved well, reading the bounce to shove the ball round the post, and a late break which put in Chris Brandon. His shot was nearer the corner flag than the goal, which summed up much of the day's frustration for Torquay. Their overall quality was a long way short of the Town's.

With Steve Howard and Adrian Forbes suspended, Dean Crowe and Gary McSwegan were given the front-running duties, while Kevin Nicholls returned from suspension to play his usual influential role in midfield.

Joe Kinnear said he had toyed with the idea of playing just one up front, but preferred the twin spearhead pattern, in a shape which asked Ahmet Brkovic and Matt Taylor to cover the flanks at both ends of the park.

They did, working hard in attack and defence alike, with the result that Torquay were flummoxed to discover they seemed to be up against 13 or 14 men, not eleven.

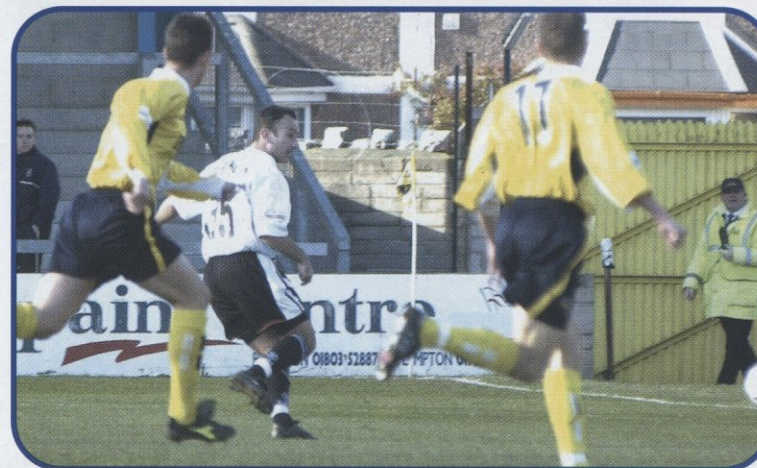
Brkovic slotted in his first league goal for the Town with some style, running onto a through-ball by Nicholls, and going round Luton-born goalkeeper Kevin Dearden before shooting home. Desperation crept into the Torquay team after that, and their confidence factor was zero. Greg Goodridge and Brandon had not the inclination, or perhaps the ability, to take an extra touch when they were 25 or 30 yards from goal, tried their luck, and failed even to hit the target.

The Town simply eased their way through the game, and Dearden pulled off an excellent save just before the break to prevent Brkovic snapping up his second goal. The move, the best of the game, deserved better: McSwegan began it near the half-way line on the right. As opponents were drawn towards him, he swept a 40-yard pass to the other wing, into the path of Taylor, and he had set up Brkovic before Torquay realised what was going on. Dearden did well to fling himself full length to save.

Brkovic had to be subbed at the interval with an ankle injury, but the introduction of Paul Hughes served only to frustrate Torquay further as the Town strolled briskly and confidently towards their record-breaking 11th away win of the season.

Torquay also changed their team to try to find more attacking power. Hapless Jason Rees, skipper against the club where he began his career, was hauled

INSIDE TODAY: Joe Kinnear's column - P 5; Club captain - P 7; Treatment room latest - P 8; Thanks, fans! -P 9; News of the reserves - P 49; Schools of Excellence news - P 39; Picture and profile of Marvin Johnson - P 28/9; Junior Hatters - P 41; Football in the Community: P 31; Latest ticket office news: P 10/11; Summer soccer offer to the Isle of Man - P 27; Blast from the Past: P 22/23; York and Lincoln reports and pictures: Pp 42-45; Town Teaser P 40; Tight at the top: P 53.



MATCH-WINNER: Ahmet Brkovic breezes through the Torquay defence to fire in his first league goal for the Town.

off after 77 unproductive minutes, shortly after he had been booked for a foul on Matt Spring. Another sub, all-action Marcus Richardson, had a bigger impact, with a challenge which reduced Marvin Johnson to a groggy spectator for the last 20 minutes, nursing a lump the size of an egg on his head. The Torquay man was booked. The re-shuffle caused by that saw Emmerson Boyce sent on, with Alan Neilson switching from right to left back, and the formation was just as effective as the previous one had been in denying Torquay any slight hope of saving the game.

In the end they were lucky to escape lightly: Crowe snatched at a shot and put it wide after Taylor had played him into a surprisingly empty penalty area, and Perrett went up for a corner and powered a far-post header inches wide from being a 76th-minute clincher.

Match Details

Luton Town: Emberson; Neilson, Perrett, Coyne, Johnson (Boyce 69 mins); Brkovic (Hughes HT), Spring, Nicholls, Taylor; McSwegan (Valois 81 mins) Crowe.

Unused subs: Ovendale, Hillier.

Booked: Paul Hughes, foul on Jason Rees; Emmerson Boyce, foul on Kevin Hill.

Torquay: Dearden; Holmes, Hazell, Hankin, Lee Russell, Hill; Goodridge (Graham 75 mins), Rees (Benefield 77 mins), Alex Russell; Brandon, Logan (Richardson 53 mins).

Unused subs: Northmore, Tully.

Booked: Marcus Richardson, foul on Marvin Johnson; Jason Rees, foul on Matt Spring.

The Goal: Ahmet Brkovic, 20 minutes, taking a pass from Kevin Nicholls to beat the offside trap, and rounding goalkeeper Kevin Dearden before shooting his second goal of the season, his first for the Town in the league.

Referee: David Crick, Surrey.

Attendance: 3,280, including 1,100 Luton supporters.



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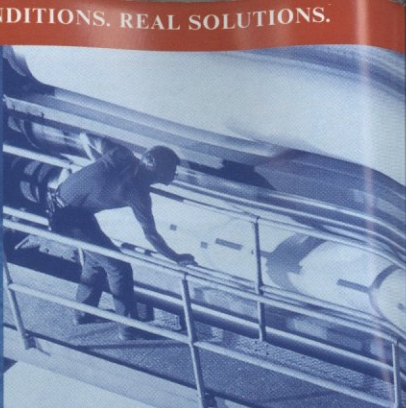
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The Manager



Joe Kinnear

IT HAS been an eventful and successful period since we last played here, and four consecutive victories, two of which were potential banana-skin away games, have put us in excellent shape to continue our push towards promotion.

I have never wavered from day one in my belief that we will do it, and I have been delighted at the way the players have responded to our demands in recent weeks. After the poor display when we lost at home to Scunthorpe, we have scrapped days off on Sundays, and the hard work has brought the desired results, which were all the more welcome in view of the suspensions that restricted team selection. It's nice to win matches when, on paper at least, the team is not as strong as you would like.

We have far greater strength in depth now, and I am trying to improve it still further. Knowing that I was forced to rest Steve Howard and Adrian Forbes, I tried hard to bring in two more strikers, but perhaps other clubs know that I have some money in my transfer kitty, and think I might be a soft touch. No chance! The prices I was quoted were a long way off my valuations, so those deals are off, or at least shelved, until asking prices are more realistic. Our team performances in the run of four straight wins have been fair reward for the effort put in, and that includes the ability to play to a set pattern. I have never been one for worrying about the opposition and dishing out dossiers on opposing players. Let them worry about us, is my philosophy. But you do consider the situation of your opponents, and for the trips to Lincoln and Torquay, we settled for what some would consider grinding out results.

We were up against sides desperate to impress home fans by seeing off a top team, and to gain points to get away from the wrong end of the league table. We set out our stall on each occasion to think about a clean sheet first, and

scoring goals second- and I am always confident we will score.

So it proved, and the only very slight disappointment was that we didn't get more goals. Conditions were very difficult at Lincoln, where we played on a poor pitch and on a cold windy night. We did a good professional job, and thoroughly deserved to win.

At Torquay it was something similar, although I felt the home side were lucky to get away with nothing worse than a 1-0 defeat. They had plenty of possession, but we refused to let them do much with it, and they certainly had no-one to produce the clinical finishing that can turn matches.

We had, and Ahmet Brkovic took his goal well and was unlucky not to have at least one more. Dean Crowe could also have ended his drought, but he should not worry too much about his current blank spell. He played his part in the team effort, and the goal supply will return if he sticks at his game and refuses to let things get on top of him.

Tonight we are playing another team who have not done as well as they had hoped this season, and we can be sure Leyton Orient will be very keen to lower our colours to gain revenge for the 3-1 win we enjoyed at their place in September.

We need points just as much as they do, because anything less than promotion this season will fall short of our ambition. I hope we will be able to play a more open game in front of our own fans, but first and foremost I want maximum points. I know your expectation matches mine, and I must say, yet again, how impressed we have been with the tremendous support we have had on the road. It gives you a lift to see and hear the backing we have had. Long may it continue – and long may the winning run go on as well!

Keep the faith, and enjoy the game.

Joe Kinnear

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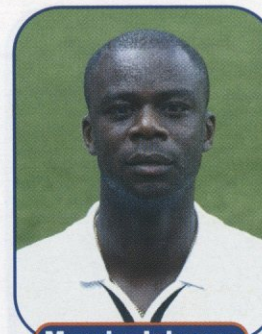
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Marvin Johnson

Club Captain

I AM not sure if I will be playing or watching this evening, but it will be a pleasure to be involved in any capacity as we try to achieve our fifth win in a row. That run has been all the more welcome when you think about the team changes that have had to be made. Naturally, I have been delighted to get back into the side, and I am hoping the head injury I received at Torquay won't prevent me from being available for selection this evening.

It was an accidental clash of heads, one of those things that happens in football, and the pain eased considerably when the final whistle blew and we had chalked up another 1-0 win, the second in a matter of days.

Results are all-important, of course, but we have had considerable professional satisfaction at earning maximum points by grinding out the wins at Lincoln and Torquay, despite the loss of key players through suspensions.

The manager has made full use of the squad he has built up, and proved the value of his work in that respect. I was chatting to Steve Davis – we're friends who still keep in touch – and he admitted to being surprised that Luton had the ability to win away games 1-0 when apparently so much under-strength. It wouldn't have happened in his day!

Trips to Lincoln and Torquay are never going to be easy – they were both in need of points to put space between them and the bottom of the table, and certainly they were hard to beat. But we did a professional job on both occasions, with the style set by a gaffer whose great experience in the game is proving to be invaluable.

I don't suppose they were great spectacles for neutrals, but on the other hand there are not too many neutral spectators in matches in this division, and we got the feedback from supporters that what mattered most to them, as it does to us, was the need to take maximum points.

I AM not sure if I will be playing or watching this evening, but it will be a pleasure to be involved in any capacity as we try to

I have been at Luton long enough to remember plenty of games where we have thrown caution to the winds, played some pretty football, and lost. I don't think that is going to happen too often to us this season. In footballing terms, the gaffer has made us grow up, and realise the need to do a good professional job in being very solid, and very hard to beat.

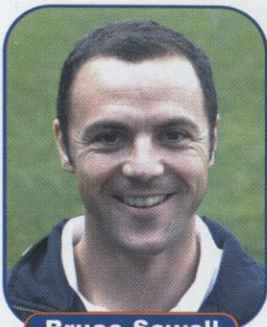
On paper the past three or four weeks could have been a very difficult period for us, but we have come through it with excellent results and performances, and with a continuing self-belief.

We have a well-tested squad system, and having seen what we can achieve when some of our best players have been suspended, we have every reason to believe that even better things are ahead when everyone is available again. Some are going to lose their places, or others fail to regain them, as the result of greater competition within the squad, and the boss has a welcome problem in making his team selection.

I know he does not find that too difficult, and that is one of the most important contributions he has made to this club in his first full season in charge. His team-building has been remarkable. Of the 11 who started Saturday's game at Torquay, eight were with other clubs last season. Yet the squad of players who had never met a few months ago is now one of the best-balanced and effective in the division. We are confident, but not complacent, which is how we approach tonight's game. We want another win, and we want to get it on our own pitch. The away support continues to be fantastic, and we appreciate it very much, and to build on the success of two away victories in five days we need to do the job at home as well. Not only is promotion a realistic target, but we also think we can yet catch Plymouth. We would like to do that, for ourselves and for you, the fans.

Marvin Johnson

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Bruce Sewell

Treatment Room

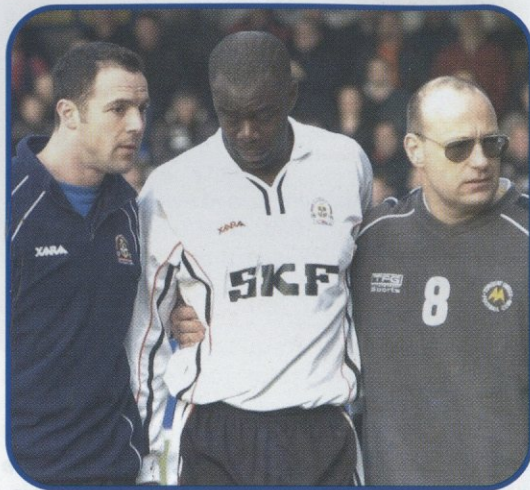
WE HAD three first team men in for treatment on Sunday, with two of them, Marvin Johnson and Ahmet

Brkovic, optimistic about

their chances of being available for selection for this evening's game. The odd man out is Aaron Skelton, who was injured in the York City match.

Skelts jarred his knee in an awkward fall, and has damaged fibres on a ligament. It is not a serious problem, but he will be under treatment for perhaps a week or so before we can think about putting him back into full training. Marvin Johnson took a blow on the head at Torquay, which was quite worrying at the time. It came from a clash of heads, which left Johnson grounded, and with a very large bruise. You always worry about head injuries, but he had not been knocked out, and as I attended to him I questioned him to make sure there was nothing seriously wrong. He felt OK, and wanted to continue with the game, and we were happy to let him carry on. But I stayed close to him on the touchline, just to be sure, and Johnson started to get dizzy. That was the time to force him to leave the field. The Torquay club doctor came onto the field to see if he could help, but Johnson declined the use of a stretcher, and went to the dressing room where the doctor gave him a thorough check-over.

No major damage was the verdict, and although the player did not train on Sunday, he was hoping to be able to resume as normal yesterday and be all right for tonight's game. He is a good, experienced pro, and will give me an honest assessment to help us make the right decision. As it is a home match this evening, we can leave it late before deciding. The same goes for Ahmet Brkovic, and I think there is every chance he will make it, for a game he is looking forward to, as the opposition is his former club. He took a bit of a knock on the leg at Lincoln, but after treatment was



CONCERN: Marvin Johnson, groggy after taking a knock on the head, is helped off the pitch at Plainmoor by the Town physio and the Torquay club doctor.

able to go through the full week's training routine. But at Torquay, just after he scored, he got a kick on the very same spot, and was taken off as a precaution.

It was a case of discomfort rather than anything more serious, and, as with Johnson, we were waiting to see how things developed yesterday and today before making a decision on his fitness. My early feeling was that it was not a major problem.

Carl Griffiths is another who would dearly like to be involved in tonight's game against his old pals. He has been up at Lilleshall as part of his rehabilitation work, and the report from there is that he is doing well, and is having the correct treatment to help him recover from his stress fracture. At present, it is a case of ticking over on general fitness, because we cannot yet allow him to run at full pace. But the recovery process is continuing, and he is looking forward to getting back to a hard training routine before the summer.

Bruce Sewell

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Cherry Newbery

Club Secretary

FIRSTLY this evening I cannot start without mentioning the magnificent away support at Lincoln a

week ago, on a very,

very cold and windy night. It was absolutely fantastic, 889 Luton supporters, making up more than 25 per cent of the total attendance. A big thank-you to everyone – support like that is very much appreciated, especially by the players.

With the team doing so well, we can expect more good away support for the rest of the season, and I know a lot of fans are looking ahead with great anticipation to the final game of the season, at Shrewsbury on April 20.

As you know, it will be all-ticket for Luton supporters, and the situation with our allocation is, to say the least, very frustrating. Shrewsbury were happy to let us have our tickets, so that we could sell Hull, Swansea and Shrewsbury, the three all-ticket away games, at the same time. That would have reduced inconvenience for our supporters. But Shrewsbury's local police refused to let us have the tickets until three weeks before the game. However, after some discussion with ourselves and Pc Peter Palmer, our own Police Liaison Officer, we now have permission to offer the tickets, but at this stage to our season ticket holders only. Any remaining tickets will go on general sale on Monday April 1 – please see the ticket pages, 10 and 11, for further details, including prices.

At the time of writing we have not received the tickets, but we will take orders from season ticket holders in advance of their arrival. We cannot take orders by phone for this match: it will have to be postal applications or personal callers only, producing cup voucher D.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in giving you this information, but I hope that having read these notes you will understand the problems and frustrations we have had!

One fixture change now confirmed is in our Avon Insurance Combination programme. The away game against Cambridge United, scheduled for Monday March 25, has been changed to the following day, still with a 2pm kick-off at Cambridge. The reason is that Cambridge are involved in the LDV Vans Trophy final in the Millennium Stadium at Cardiff on Sunday March 24.

Our reserves have progressed into the semi-final of the Avon Insurance Cup, and we have been drawn against Gillingham. As both clubs have congested fixture lists, we are still trying to find a date convenient to both of us. I will advise you of arrangements as soon as possible.

Our youth team has a new fixture list for the latter stages of the season following a good campaign in the Football League Youth Alliance. We have been put into an interesting-looking Merit Division, which will broaden our players' experience, because it includes teams we would not normally meet at this level – Plymouth and Cardiff, for instance. Thankfully, the game against Plymouth is at home, not away, although we will have to travel to Cardiff. Full details are on page 51.

Finally, I am pleased to advise you that in conjunction with Luton Town Supporters Club we will be having another of our very popular open days here at Kenilworth Road. It will be on Sunday April 28, a week after the Division Three season ends, and will run from 12 noon to 4pm. All will be welcome, and we will publish more details shortly.

Cherry Newbery

You can e-mail Cherry Newbery on:

clubsec@lutontown.co.uk

Latest News From

FORTHCOMING ALL-TICKET AWAY MATCHES

Nationwide League Division Three

Swansea City v Luton Town

Saturday March 30, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters with no tickets available on the day. Tickets are now on sale to season ticket holders only, by post, by telephone, or in person at the ticket office, on production of cup match voucher C, one ticket per voucher.

Season ticket holders have until 4.00pm on Friday 8th March 2002 to claim their tickets. Any remaining tickets would go on general sale at 10.00am on Saturday 9th March 2002.

Ticket Prices: £10.00 adults £5.00 senior citizens & juniors.

Nationwide League Division Three

Hull City v Luton Town

Saturday April 6, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters, with no tickets available on the day. Tickets are now on sale to season ticket holders only, by post, by telephone, or in person at the ticket office, on production of cup match voucher B, one ticket per voucher.

Season ticket holders have until 4.00pm on Friday 8th March 2002 to claim their tickets. Any remaining tickets would go on general sale at 10.00am on Saturday 9th March 2002.

Ticket Prices: £12.00 adults £6.00 senior citizens & juniors.

Nationwide League Division Three

Shrewsbury Town v Luton Town

Saturday April 20, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match will be ALL TICKET for Luton supporters. At the present time we are waiting for final details regarding tickets for this match. We will advise supporters as soon as possible.

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The Ticket Office

Nationwide League Division Three

Rushden & Diamonds v Luton Town

Saturday March 9, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters and ALL TICKETS HAVE BEEN SOLD



Nationwide League Division Three

Luton Town v Exeter City

Tuesday March 12, 2002, kick-off 7.45pm

Tickets are on sale at normal match day prices

Cash turnstiles will be available on the day, subject to availability, but please note that there are NO CONCESSIONS on cash turnstiles.



Nationwide League Division Three

Luton Town v Kidderminster Harriers

Saturday March 16, 2002, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are on sale at normal match day prices

Cash turnstiles will be available on the day, subject to availability, but please note that there are NO CONCESSIONS on cash turnstiles.



Nationwide League Division Three

Luton Town v Halifax Town

Saturday March 23, 2002, kick-off 3pm

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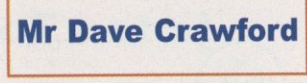
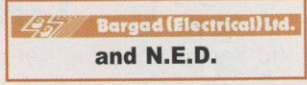
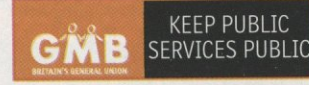
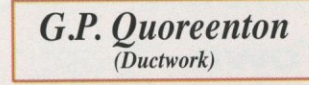
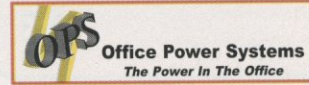
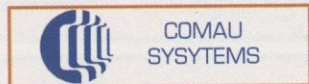
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Luton Belles

WITH the senior Luton Belles once again victims of the weather, this week's action was in the Hertfordshire Girls League. The under-10 squad made the short trip to local rivals Watford. The home side held third place in the league, so a Luton victory was vital to continue their pursuit of leaders Arsenal.

Belles began the brighter, with Lauren Bruton and Yasmin Hickling both forcing saves from the keeper. However, Watford took the lead when a clearance fell to a striker who floated a shot into the net. The Hornets' joy was short-lived though, as Luton went straight on the attack and Yasmin Hickling equalised with a shot into the bottom corner from outside the area.

Lauren Bruton was by now causing havoc in the home defence, and from another of her runs followed by a cross to the far post Yasmin Hickling scored again - especially satisfying for her, being a Hatters season ticket holder.

There were no more goals, but Luton had to thank keeper Sian Hall for a flying save in the last minute to hang on to all three very valuable points.

The Town's under-13s were also involved in a tough encounter, when they played last season's runners-up, Enfield. The first half was hotly contested, but it was Luton who scored

twice in the first 15 minutes, both goals being touched in by Holly Flynn, capitalising each time from scrambles with the Enfield keeper. Enfield then pulled one back, before Michelle Byrne scored her 26th goal of the season after Rebecca Kane had her shot saved.

The scoring did not end there, though, and Enfield netted again when an awful mix-up in the Luton defence gifted them a goal.

The second half action swung from end to end, and it wasn't until ten minutes from the end that Belles wrapped up

the points in style when Fay Rolls beat two defenders on the corner of the penalty area and unleashed a shot high into the net to make it 4-2 and record Luton's eighth away win of the season.

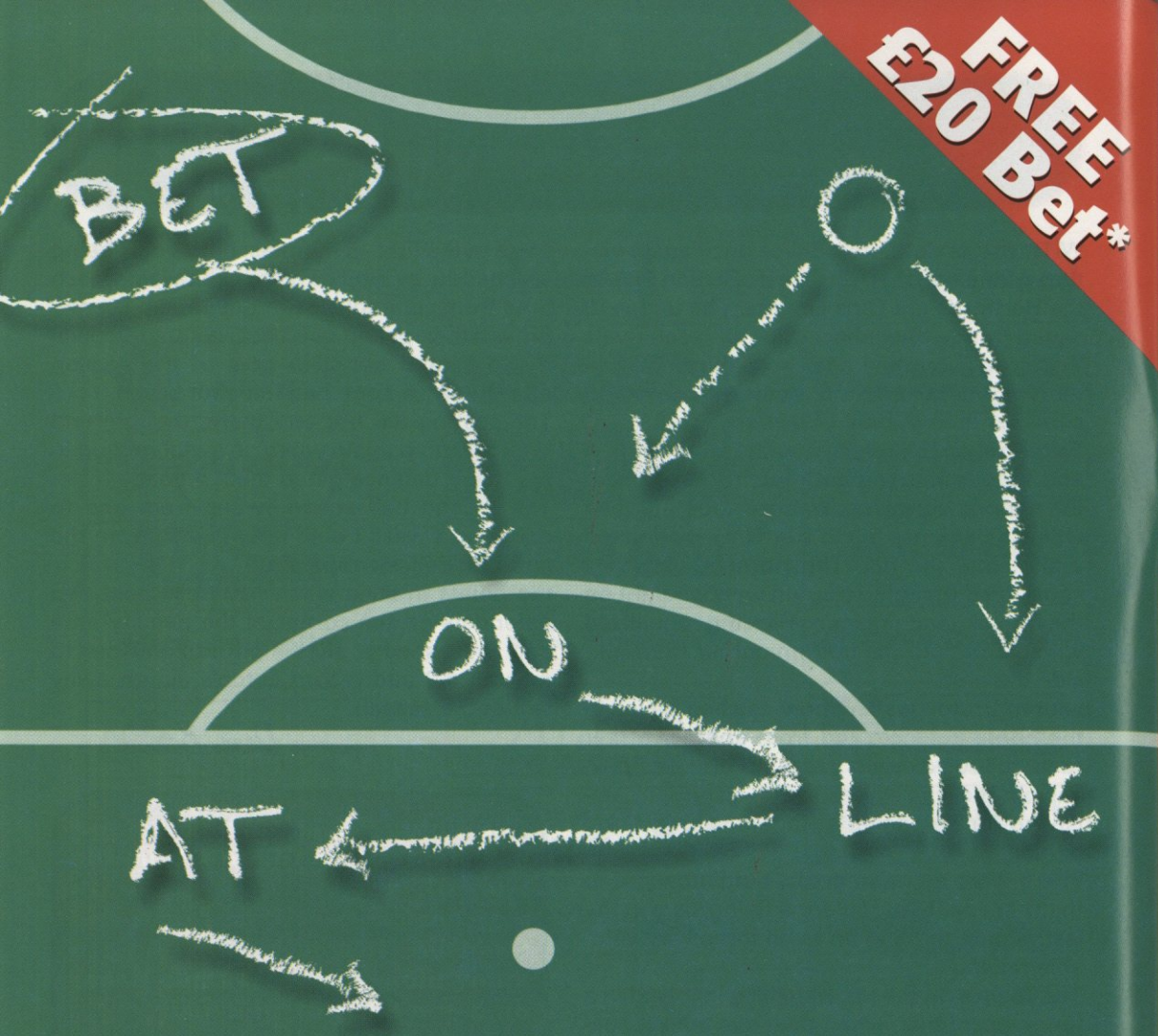
Dave Baker

THE Luton Belles provide football and training for girls from the age of seven upwards, with matches played on Saturdays and Sundays. If you would like to know more, contact Dave Baker on Luton 896140, or e-mail lutonbelles@hotmail.com



EQUALISER: Yasmin Hickling, extreme left, knocks in the Luton Belles goal that wiped out Watford's opener, and gave her the additional pleasure that can only come from being a Luton Town season ticket holder stinging the Hornets!

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Linda Layton

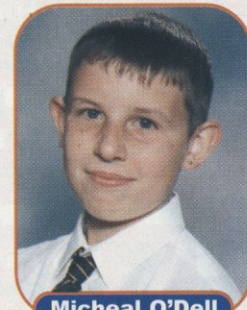
Commercial Corner

GOOD friends of Luton Town are back in our executive lounges this evening, and it is a pleasure to welcome City Plumbing Supplies on their return as match sponsors again. As the country's largest independent plumbing and heating merchants, with a local branch in Bilton Way, Luton, they have had close associations with the football club for the past four years. We value their support of our commercial activities, and join Mick Abbott of City Plumbing in his warm welcome to his company's customers and manufacturers, including representatives of Ferrolli Boilers and Speedfit Plumbing Fittings. We hope they all enjoy their time with us.

We are pleased to welcome a matchball sponsor new to Kenilworth Road. Specialist Cars have two BMW and MINI dealerships; Marsh Road Luton and London Road Stevenage, and a BMW Approved Bodyshop in Wilbury Way, Hitchin. They are one of the largest independently owned dealers in the country and supply cars and aftersales service to both the private and commercial sectors. Their clients include such blue chip names as GlaxoSmith Kline and BT and they also have very good relationships with lots of local businesses throughout Beds and Herts.

Why not pay them a visit to view an extensive range of new and approved used BMWs, and of course the new MINI. Or visit their website: www.specialistcars.co.uk.

WE would also like to welcome companies and guests in our Millennium Suite: Bedfordshire Newspapers, SDC Construction and FPM Facility Services electrical division. We hope they all enjoy their time with us.



Micheal O'Dell

SPONSORSHIP by Sainsbury's, supporting our Football in the Community work, has led to 13 year-old Micheal O'Dell being commercial mascot tonight. He won a competition organised by Sainsbury's, who have local stores at Bramingham Park, West Side Centre and Dunstable.

Micheal will enjoy a real VIP day out, meeting the players in the dressing room before the game, and joining them on the pitch for the warm-up and toss of the coin. Micheal lives at North Drift Way, Luton and attends South Luton High School. His other hobbies, apart from supporting Luton Town, are basketball and playing on his Playstation 2 and he comes to games with his dad.

Having made extensive enquiries to transmit our away game with Rushden & Diamonds back to Kenilworth Road on a large screen, regrettably, it has unfortunately proved to be an uneconomic proposition at this point in time.

Golden Gamble

OUR popular match day lottery, which has now paid out over £10,000 in prize money this season, continues to be a big hit with supporters, with one collecting a very handy wedge of cash at every match.

For the Bristol Rovers game, the jackpot was £520, and a ticket, which cost only £1, collected the prize for Paul Vann, from Corncrake Close, Stopsley. He is pictured receiving the cash from commercial manager Linda Layton.

At the York City game the prize rose to £675, and



was won by Nicole Bowler, from Eaton Valley Road, Luton, who is pictured with Kevin Nicholls, who picked out her lucky ticket. The 50/50 gamble has paid out £10,655 to 17 winners this season, an average of £627. The size of the prize depends on sales - 50p from each £1 ticket goes to the jackpot, and the other 50p to club funds. The draw is made at half time, with the cash available for collection immediately



To advertise in the matchday magazine phone Luton 411622 or e-mail us at: commercial@lutontown.co.uk

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01582 411622

Goals Info:



Where



27 Goals



31 Goals



10 Goals

How

Shots.....	34
Headers.....	20
Volleys.....	11
Penalties.....	3
Free Kicks.....	0
O.G.s.....	0

Top Scorers

Howard.....	13
Crowe.....	10
Taylor.....	9
Griffiths.....	7
Nicholls.....	5
Spring.....	5
Valois.....	4

2001-2002

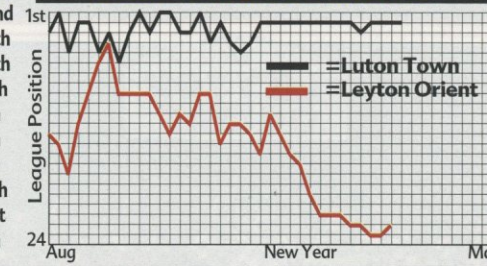
Highest Gate	9,585
vs Plymouth	
Lowest Gate	5,066
vs Lincoln	
Average Gate	6,776
Players Used	34
Clean Sheets	10
Failed to Score	3
Consec. Wins	4 games
Consec. Defeats	2 games

Hatters' Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	Opp Pos
W	Torquay	A	22nd
W	Lincoln	A	20th
W	York	H	20th
W	Bristol Rovers	H	17th
L	Scunthorpe	H	6th
L	Rochdale	A	4th
W	Plymouth	H	1st
L	Darlington	A	19th
D	Carlisle	H	21st
D	Cheltenham	A	7th

check out the stats @ www.soccer-stats.com

Seasonal Progress Comparison



The O's' Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	Opp Pos
W	Halifax	H	24th
D	Darlington	H	14th
L	Rushden	A	9th
L	York	H	21st
L	Shrewsbury	A	7th
D	Swansea	H	19th
D	Torquay	A	22nd
L	Lincoln	A	20th
L	Cheltenham	H	8th
L	Carlisle	A	23rd

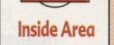
Goals Info:



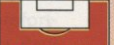
Where



18 Goals



22 Goals



6 Goals

How

Shots.....	27
Headers.....	14
Volleys.....	2
Penalties.....	2
Free Kicks.....	0
O.G.s.....	1

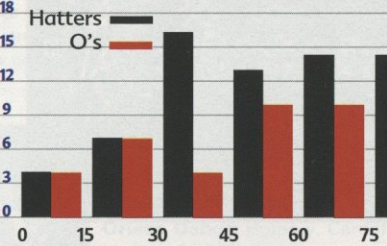
Top Scorers

Watts.....	9
Minton.....	5
Houghton.....	5
Gray.....	5
Ibhehe.....	4
Canham.....	4

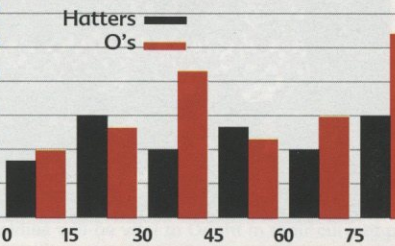
2001-2002

Highest Gate	6,540
vs Luton	
Lowest Gate	3,284
vs Darlington	
Average Gate	4,623
Players Used	37
Clean Sheets	9
Failed to Score	10
Consec. Wins	4 games
Consec. Defeats	5 games

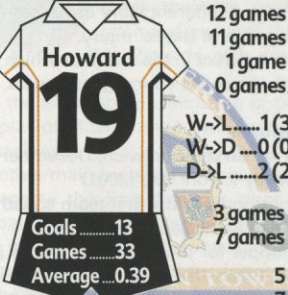
When Goals have been Scored



When Goals have been Conceded



Steve Howard (Luton)



12 games.....	Total Games Scored In	7 games
11 games.....	Games Scored 1 Goal	5 games
1 game.....	Games Scored 2 Goals	2 games
0 games.....	Hat-tricks	0 games

W->L.....1 (3pts)
W->D.....0 (0pts)
D->L.....2 (2pts)

3 games.....Maximum scoring run
7 games.....Maximum Dry Spell

Luton Goals.....68
Luton Games.....36
Luton's Goal Ave.....1.89

Top Scorers Comparison

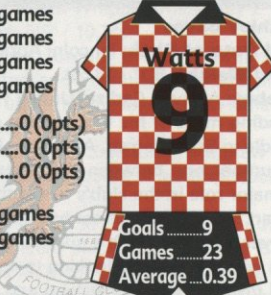
12 games.....	Total Games Scored In	7 games
11 games.....	Games Scored 1 Goal	5 games
1 game.....	Games Scored 2 Goals	2 games
0 games.....	Hat-tricks	0 games

W->L.....1 (3pts)
W->D.....0 (0pts)
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3 games.....Maximum scoring run
7 games.....Maximum Dry Spell

Luton Goals.....68
Luton Games.....36
Luton's Goal Ave.....1.89

Steve Watts (Orient)



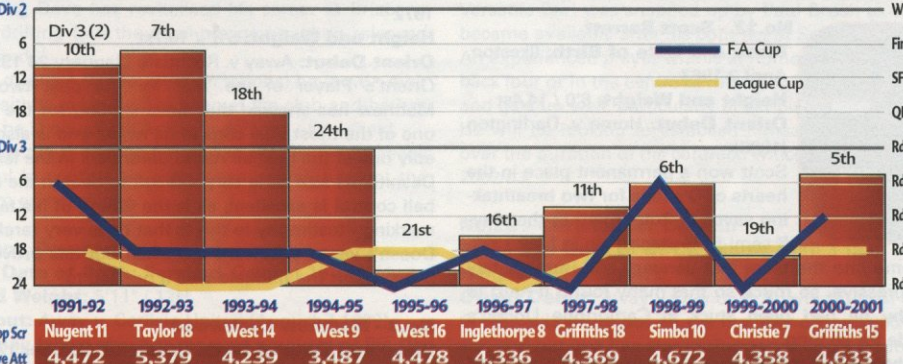
7 games.....	Total Games Scored In	7 games
5 games.....	Games Scored 1 Goal	5 games
2 games.....	Games Scored 2 Goals	2 games
0 games.....	Hat-tricks	0 games

W->L.....0 (0pts)
W->D.....0 (0pts)
D->L.....0 (0pts)

3 games.....Maximum scoring run
8 games.....Maximum Dry Spell

Leyton Orient Goals.....46
Leyton Orient Games.....35
Leyton Orient's Goal Ave.....1.31

Leyton Orient's Last 10 Years - The Complete Record



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Arsenal v Deportivo La Coruña
Tuesday 12 March, ITV Sport Channel
Barcelona v Liverpool
Wednesday 13 March, ITV Sport Channel

Middlesbrough v Liverpool
Saturday 16 March, Sky Sports 1
Burnley v Preston North End
Sunday 17 March, ITV Sport Channel

Welcome to Leyton Orient F.C.



In Goal

No.1 - Ashley Bayes

Place and Date of Birth: Lincoln, April 19 1972

Height and Weight: 6'1" / 13.5st

Orient Debut: Away v. Carlisle United (1999)

After spending most of his first season at the club playing second fiddle to Scott Barrett, Ashley took over the role, and shirt, of number one between the posts for last year and played a major role in the club's run to the play-off final.

A tough start to his Orient career has been overcome and he has won over the crowd with a number of commanding performances which he will be looking to continue.

Gets good distance with his kicking and is dominant in the air, but his main strength is his shot-stopping: either diving full-length across his goal or using his reflexes from close-range, Ashley is a hard man to beat.

Has missed most of the season so far, but is now back in contention after shrugging off a niggling shoulder injury.



No.12 - Scott Barrett

Place and Date of Birth: Ilkeston, April 2 1963

Height and Weight: 6'0" / 14.4st

Orient Debut: Home v. Darlington (1999)

Scott won a permanent place in the hearts of O's fans for two breathtaking saves at Rotherham in the play-off semi-final second leg in May 1999.

He had come into the team that January and immediately looked impressive, so much so that many found it hard to fathom why he had been stuck in Cambridge United's reserve side for so long.

Played in the majority of last season's games and was voted 'Matchman of the Month' for February for his part in our

New Year recovery but lost out to Ashley Bayes at the end of last season and played just a handful of games last term. This season has been a different story as he has been a regular in the side because of Bayes' injury.

Signed a one-year contract in the summer which included a coaching role with the club's young goalkeepers.

No.35 - Glenn Morris

Place and Date of Birth: Woolwich, December 20 1983

Orient Debut: Away v. York City (2001)

Glenn has been promoted to the first team squad whilst still a Scholar because of Scott Barrett's operation.

A reliable shot-stopper for the under-19s with a good command of his area, Glenn has impressed during his time at Orient and is set for a bright future in the game.

In Defence

No.2 - Matthew Joseph

Place and Date of Birth: Bethnal Green, September 30 1972

Height and Weight: 5'8" / 10.7st

Orient Debut: Away v. Rochdale (January 24 1998)

Orient's Player of the Year for the past two seasons, Matthew has showed that since signing for the club he is one of the most vital cogs in its wheel and is also undoubtedly one of the best all round defenders in the league.

Despite his size he is very difficult to beat in the air and his ball control is excellent, as is the timing of his tackling and marking - testimony to this is that he is very rarely booked. Doesn't venture forward too often but has proved that he can support the midfield well if needed to.

No.3 - Matthew Lockwood

Place and Date of Birth: Southend, October 17 1976

Height and Weight: 5'11" / 11.6st

Orient Debut: Away v. Chester City (August 8 1998)



Tonight's Visitors

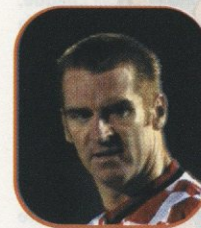


Matthew is a much sought-after left-sided defender who likes to attack and weighs in with his fair share of goals.

Arguably the best free kick taker in the division, Matt scored twice direct from deadball situations in successive matches two seasons ago and weighed in with another last year against Blackpool in the league as well as scoring six penalties - all at home.

His burgeoning talent and impressive performances have prompted interest from a number of top clubs with Ipswich Town, Everton, Southampton, Millwall and Wimbledon all thought to be in the hunt for Lockwood although no offer was made for the player who is rated at £1m.

Was placed on the transfer list in late January after failing to agree a new contract and has spent time on trial at Sheffield Wednesday.



No.4 - Dean Smith

Place and Date of Birth: West Bromwich, March 19 1971

Height and Weight: 6'1" / 12.10st

Orient Debut: Home v. Cardiff City (August 9 1997)

An exemplary club captain, Dean leads the side confidently on the pitch and nurtures the young players into the side with great professional-

ism.

Dean holds the unfortunate distinction of twice leading the side out in play-off finals, only to end up on the losing side on both occasions.

One of the other main highlights of his career at Orient was when he became the first defender since Kevin Hales to score ten goals in a season, a feat he achieved in 1998/1999. A tight man marker, Dean is composed on the ball and solid in the air, and has fully justified the fee Tommy Taylor paid for him in the summer of 1997.

No.5 - David McGhee

Place and Date of Birth: Worthing, June 19 1976

Height and Weight: 5'11" / 12.4st

Orient Debut: Away v. Rotherham (November 12 1999)

Tough tackling Dave has revitalised his career at Brisbane Road after drifting into the semi-pro game when released from Brentford.

His tigerish displays (not to mention tattoos) have won over the Orient faithful since he has been at the club and he has shown that he is equally at home in defence or midfield.

He is dominant in the air and strong in the tackle but needs to be careful to control his enthusiasm which has got the better of him on occasions.

No.6 - Simon Downer

Place and Date of Birth: Romford, October 19 1981

Height and Weight: 5'11" / 12st

Orient Debut: Away v. Carlisle United (August 7 1999)

Simon is being talked about as the next graduate of the O's youth system to hit the big time with reported interest from near neighbours Tottenham Hotspur and West Ham United

already.

Has all the talent to become the complete defender and will learn from the experienced names around him at the club such as Dean Smith and Steve Castle.

Fast, strong and agile, with good aerial skills too, Simon has played with a maturity of men ten years his senior over the past two seasons.

No.19 - David Partridge

Place and Date of Birth: Westminster, November 26 1978

Height: 6'1"

Orient Debut: Away v. Lincoln City (January 22 2002)

David has been signed on loan until the end of the season after expressing his desire to move closer to home after three years in Scotland.

A strong, no-nonsense centre-back, who is more comfortable on the left-side, David has been brought in by Paul Brush in a bid to strengthen the O's leaky defence.

Having played a substantial number of games in the Scottish Premier League, David's experience and battling qualities will be vital to Orient in their current position.

No.20 - Matthew Brazier

Place and Date of Birth: Whipps Cross, July 2 1976

Height and Weight: 5'8" / 10.7st

Orient Debut: Away v. Torquay United (February 2 2002)

Matthew is a talented and versatile left-sided player who was snatched from under the noses of a few other clubs by O's boss Paul Brush.

Equally adept at attacking or defending, Matthew has a cultured left-foot but is also capable of getting stuck in when necessary.

Found himself out of favour at Cardiff and without a chance of regaining his first team place, he impressed Brush on a number of occasions for their reserves and will be looking to find the form he produced so often early on in his career.

No.22 - Carl Hutchings

Place and Date of Birth: Hammersmith, September 24 1974

Height and Weight: 5'11" / 11st

Versatile Carl was snapped up by Paul Brush as soon as he became available after his contract at Southend expired.

An experienced player who is at home anywhere across the back four or in the centre of midfield, Carl is strong in the air and gets up well, particularly at set-pieces.

He will be looking to establish himself in the Orient team over the duration of his contract, which runs until the end of 2002/03.

No.23 - Christopher Dorrian

Place and Date of Birth: Harlow, April 3 1982

Height and Weight: 5'11" / 10.7st

Orient Debut: Away v Plymouth Argyle (August 12 2000)

Chris made his debut on the first day of the 2000/2001 season and put in a five star performance against some experienced players.

One of the most consistent performers in the youth team,

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Chris is a dependable right back who is solid in the tackle and has an excellent pass.

First caught the eye in the friendly against Ipswich Town where he was up against David Johnson and James Scowcroft and then made three appearances over the following season.

No.30 - Billy Jones

Place and Date of Birth: Gillingham, June 26 1983

Height and Weight: 6'0" / 11.5st

Orient Debut: Home v. Kidderminster Harriers, (February 17 2001)

Billy made tremendous progress in last season's under-19s side, culminating in his first team debut and scoring the winning goal at the Millennium Stadium in the Football League Youth Alliance Cup Final.

Billy is maturing in to a solid all-round defender. He is comfortable in possession and moves the ball forward well, supporting the midfield where he can.

Defensively he is strong both in the air and on the ground and he will be looking to make a big impression if he gets the chance this season.

No.33 - Kevin Stephens

Place and Date of Birth: Enfield, July 28 1984

Height and Weight: 5'10" / 12.5st

Powerful Kevin has forced his way in to the first-team squad after just one season in the youth set-up.

A big, strong centre-back who shows no fear against more experienced opponents, Kevin has impressed greatly in his first year at Brisbane Road.

He figured in a number of pre-season friendlies and will be looking to continue at his current rate of progress over the remainder of his Scholarship contract.

In Midfield

No.7 - Andrew Harris

Place and Date of Birth: Springs (South Africa), February 26 1977

Height and Weight: 5'10" / 11.11st

Orient Debut: Away v. Carlisle United (August 7 1999)

Andy was used as a central midfielder by Orient last season - and to excellent effect.

Began his first season at the club as a right back, but as with the team as a whole, struggled for form and lost his place eventually making only 15 appearances.

However, he was 'relocated' to the middle of the park in the pre-season and he has looked impressive there, making the position his own.

A real box-to-box player, Andy helps out the defence with his strength in the tackle and as a man marker and enjoys getting forward too. Scored his first senior goal in his 150th league appearance, at Hartlepool in the final game of 2001.



No.15 - Jeffrey Minton

Place and Date of Birth: Hackney, December 28 1973

Height and Weight: 5'6" / 11.1st

Orient Debut: Away v. Cheltenham Town (August 11 2001)

A well-known midfielder with a good reputation, much is expected of Jeff this season in the centre of midfield.

Possesses excellent vision and a sound passing ability as well as the determination to win the ball in the first place. Had also scored every penalty he had ever taken in professional football until his effort against Rushden & Diamonds in September 2001 was saved.

Jeff made a couple of appearances for Spurs at the start of his career but it was Brighton where he made his name although when he went to Port Vale stories circulated that he was not happy at being out of the London area.

No.17 - John Martin

Place and Date of Birth: Bethnal Green, July 15 1981

Height and Weight: 5'6" / 9.12st

Orient Debut: Away v. Chester City (August 8 1998)

Having made his way through the junior ranks to start at Chester on the opening day of 1998/99, John has made steady progress over the past three seasons.

A versatile player who is comfortable in any position across the middle, John made a real breakthrough last year starting 18 matches and even coming on as a sub in the play-off final.

Probably one of the smallest players in the Football League, John is extremely determined and never shies away from a challenge against considerably bigger opponents.

No. 21 - Neil Gough

Place and Date of Birth: Harlow, September 1 1981

Height and Weight: 5'11" / 11.8st

Orient Debut: Home v. Chester City (April 15 2000)

Had an early taste of senior action with a sub appearance at Grimsby Town in the Worthington Cup two years ago before making his first start against Chester City in April.

Another local boy who has made his way through the youth ranks under the successful guidance of Paul Brush and Peter Johnson, a season in the reserves may be needed before he is fully ready for regular first team action.

No.24 - Phillip Hadland

Place and Date of Birth: Warrington, October 20 1980

Height and Weight: 5'11" / 11.6st

Phill is a skilful winger who impressed at Rochdale last season despite limited appearances.

Has the ability to take on his marker and put in a dangerous cross as well as helping out with the goalscoring. Phill will be looking to secure a regular place in the side and win over the Orient fans.

No.25 - Scott Canham

Place and Date of Birth: Newham, November 5 1974

Height and Weight: 5'9" / 11.3st

Orient Debut: Home v. Darlington (January 30 1999)

Scott has been handed a second bite of the cherry after drifting back in to the non-league game following his first release from Orient.

A versatile midfielder with good vision and the ability to use both feet, Scott trained with the O's throughout last season and impressed sufficiently to award him a one year contract. Forced his way in to the side in December 2001 and has not looked back, scoring three goals and putting in some impressive performances in midfield.

No.28 - Ronnie Gould

Place and Date of Birth: Bethnal Green, September 27 1982

Height and Weight: 5'11" / 11.5st

Orient debut: Away v. Hull City (April 2000) - as a substitute Ronnie became the tenth youth team 'graduate' when he appeared at Hull towards the tail end of the 1999/2000 season.

A determined midfielder with good positional sense and composure on the ball, Ronnie has developed well in the reserves and youth team but will have to wait a little longer for a regular first team squad place but was recently featured in an ITV documentary about young players.

Up Front

No.8 - Jabo Ibehre

Place and Date of Birth: Islington, January 28 1983

Height and Weight: 6'2" / 12.10st

Orient Debut: Away v. Macclesfield (May 5 2001)

Jabo is a tall powerful centre forward who has progressed impressively through the ranks at Brisbane Road.

A regular member of both the under-19 and reserve squads, Jabo broke onto the senior scene with a bang on the final league day of last season, netting twice on his debut at Macclesfield.

He kept his place for all three play-off games and hit the post in the final at the Millennium Stadium.

Jabo could be one of the young stars of this season's third division.

No.9 - Steve Watts

Place and Date of Birth: Lambeth, July 11 1976

Height and Weight: 6'1" / 13.7st

Orient Debut: Away v. Peterborough United (December 8 1998)

The story of how Steve came to be a professional footballer is a remarkable one.

Playing semi-pro football at the time, Steve entered a competition in The Sun for non-professional players to win a contract at Leyton Orient.

Over 700 entered and Steve was the lucky winner - with some effect.

A speedy forward with excellent ball skills and a powerful shot, Steve was originally used mostly as a substitute brought on to run at tiring defenders but forced his way in to the starting line up and scored some valuable goals including against Hull City in the play-off semi-final second-leg.

No.10 - Ilyseden Christie

Place and Date of Birth: Coventry, November 14 1976

Height and Weight: 6'2" / 12.10st

Orient Debut: Away v. Carlisle United (August 7 1999)

It took time for him to find his goalscoring touch at Brisbane Road, but once he recorded his first - at Chester in December 1999 - he found the net with increasing regularity ending the season as joint top scorer with seven goals.

A powerful forward with incredible pace, Ilyseden is at his best with the ball at his feet running at opponents. Can also shoot with either foot, but stronger on the left side. His strength is a big plus and combined with his speed off the mark, he has shown he is also capable when used as a left winger.

No.11 - Gary Fletcher

Place and Date of Birth: Liverpool, 4 June 1981

Height and Weight: 6'0" / 11st

Gary was rated as the best striker outside the League last season after some explosive performances for Northwich Victoria.

He actually scored twice against the O's for the Vics in the FA Cup Second Round and his price tag rocketed with Everton showing an interest in the youngster.

He has struggled to come to terms with the switch to the full-time game but is now finding his feet and has looked sharp in recent reserve games.

No.13 - Aaron McLean

Place and Date of Birth: Hammersmith, May 25 1983

Height and Weight: 5'6" / 10.2st

Orient Debut: Away v. Cardiff City (March 6 2001)

Lively forward Aaron enjoyed a dream debut when he netted our equaliser at Shrewsbury in just his fifth senior appearance with a fine bullet header at Gay Meadow.

Possesses plenty of pace and skill and is strong on the ball despite his lack of height.

No.14 - Christopher Tate

Place and Date of Birth: York, December 27 1977

Height and Weight: 6' / 11.10st

Orient Debut: Away v. Cheltenham Town (November 17 2000)

A big, strong striker with an eye for goal, Chris has been the subject of two big money moves already in a career that has lasted just five years.

With cash-strapped Scarborough keen to ease their wage bill, Chris' name was circulated to third division clubs and Tommy Taylor signed him on a month's loan in November 2000 before making the move permanent.

He celebrated his signing with his first goal for the club, away at Northwich Victoria in the FA Cup second round.

A double at Barnet including an impressive overhead kick secured three valuable points in the league and he then scored a dream goal in the play-off final against Blackpool after just 30 seconds.

No.16 - Kevin Nugent

Place and Date of Birth: Edmonton, April 10 1969

Height and Weight: 6'1" / 13.3st

Orient Debut: (1) Home v. Scarborough (August 22 1987), Away v. Torquay United (February 2 2002)

Kevin has returned to the club where he began his career back in 1987 after finding himself out-of-favour at Cardiff City, despite having been made club captain at one stage.

A tall forward who can act as a target man to hold the ball up and bring the midfield in to play, Kevin is hard to beat in the air as well as having a powerful shot.

He has scored goal prolifically in the past and has been involved in promotion winning teams at almost every club he has played at.

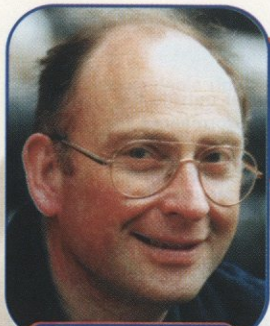
No.18 - Wayne Gray

Place and Date of Birth: London, November 7 1980

Height and Weight: 5'10" / 12.7st

Orient Debut: Home v. Plymouth Argyle (December 1 2001)

A pacy forward currently on loan from Wimbledon. Made his debut at the start of December, showing some good touches as a second-half substitute against Plymouth Argyle, his appearances at the O's will be restricted.



Roger Wash

All our **yesterdays**

Honours even in battle for the championship.

We felt cheated. Having finished in third position in the old Division Three in 1969 with 61 points (equivalent to 86 today), the Town failed to win promotion as only the top two went up in those pre-play off days. It was even more galling to note that the fourth placed club, Bournemouth, sat ten points behind us.

The summer of 1969 was therefore seen as a huge anti-climax which was made worse when it was announced that golden boy, Bruce Rioch, was to be sold for a Division Three record fee of £100,000 to Aston Villa.

Although manager Alec Stock was handed back the money to spend on strengthening the side the new summer signings, John Ryan, John Collins and a young full-back from Fulham, Malcolm Macdonald, hardly sent the pulses racing.

As such it was a quiet and sombre crowd that gathered on the opening day to see a poor Barrow side turned over 3-0. Because of pre-season injuries, Macdonald had been moved from full-back to the wing and then to inside forward where his enthusiastic play, speed and strength caught the eye, but would he adequately replace Rioch? No, was the general opinion.

Those opinions changed slightly when Macdonald scored the only goal of the game at Bournemouth the following week. In what was to become a trademark strike, Macdonald surged through a slow defence before rounding the goalkeeper and netting with ease.

Next up were Orient (as they were then called) at Kenilworth Road in an early season top of the table clash between two unbeaten sides that had yet to concede a goal. The Town were protecting a 30 game unbeaten home record and started brightly against a team that had only avoided relegation the previous season by winning their final game.

Macdonald twice went close in the early stages but it was Orient that opened the scoring in the 14th minute with a goal out of the blue. With just about their first attack of the game Orient won a free-kick on the edge of the Luton area and as the Town players were organising a wall, full back Mick Jones hammered the ball home.

Stung by the goal the Town players swarmed all

over the Orient defence, where everyone had been pulled back, with Macdonald in particular leading them a merry dance but was unable to put the ball in the net.

Orient were relying on the occasional breakaway and completely against the run of play doubled their lead on the hour mark when Micky Bullock headed home from point blank range after a swift raid through a depleted Luton defence.

The Town's long unbeaten home record was now in grave danger and even the introduction of the previous season's top scorer, Brian Lewis, in place of the largely ineffective Laurie Sheffield failed to galvanise the forward line.

With fifteen minutes left, and the crowd accepting the inevitable, a lifeline was thrown out when Keith Allen squared the ball for Collins, who had moved in from the wing, to slam home.

Most Luton supporters felt that this was merely a consolation but five minutes later they went wild when Graham French scored a brilliant goal that has thankfully been preserved by London Weekend Television who were recording the game. A long clearance from goalkeeper Tony Read was headed on by Macdonald to Allen who tangled with the Orient keeper Ray Goddard. The ball rebounded out to French, some way out of the area, who quickly sized up the situation and lobbed it back over the stranded Goddard and the rest of his defenders.

It was all Luton now and as the seconds ticked away a free-kick, swung in by skipper Mike Keen, was headed home by the effervescent Macdonald who had fought his way through a crowd of defenders. No wonder the crowd of 13,761, which included new supporter Eric Morecambe who had sponsored the ball, went away happy and singing the praises of Macdonald. Who was that Bruce Rioch?

Luton: Read, Ryan, Bannister, Keen, Branston, Slough, Collins, Macdonald, Sheffield (Lewis), Allen, French.

Orient: Goddard, Jones, Rofe, Taylor, Mancini, Harper, Slater, Bullock, Allen, Dyson, Brabrook. The Hatters continued their winning spell and Orient soon got over their defeat and by the time of the return, on Boxing Day 1969, both sides were

fighting it out at the top of the table.

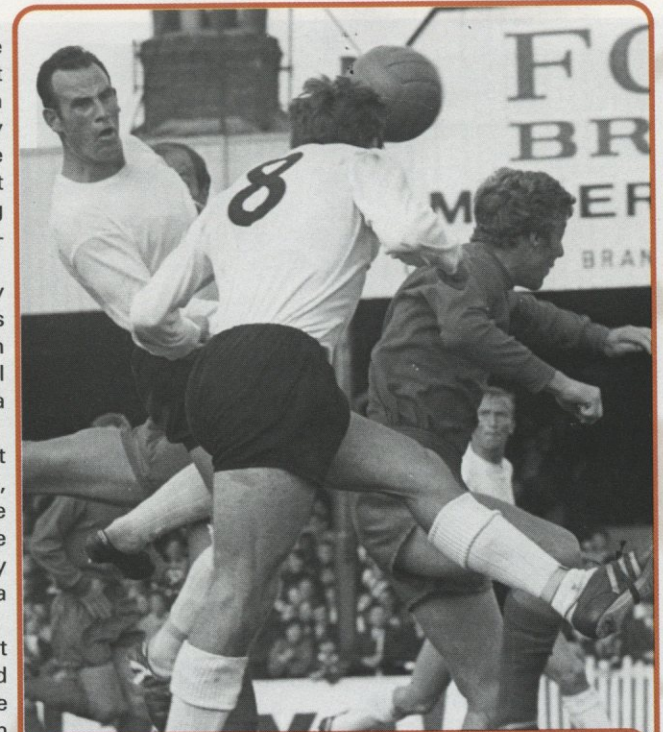
A crowd of 17,619, the best in the league at Brisbane Road since 1966, turned out on a miserable morning to see this clash of the giants. The pitch was a muddy morass which would certainly not have been passed fit today but both teams got on with it in a match which will long remain in the memories of those who witnessed it.

Orient took a fortunate lead after only seven minutes when Keith Allen and his namesake Peter thundered into each other on the edge of the area with the ball flying into the corner of the net past a bemused Sandy Davie in the Luton goal. Spurred on by this stroke of luck, Orient had the best of the opening half hour but, as the mud took a toll on tired legs, the Town's superior fitness told and for the remainder of the game it was virtually one way traffic with Macdonald missing a trio of good opportunities.

Battle though the Town did they could not find a way through the Orient rearguard and at the final whistle the crowd gave both teams a standing ovation. Luton chairman, Tony Hunt, said afterwards, 'That was one of the best games I have ever seen. I would like to see it all over again- even knowing that the result was going to be the same.'

Little did we know at the time that the victory for Orient clinched the championship for them as they finished two points ahead of the Town who were runners-up. Happy days!

Luton: Davie, Ryan, Bannister, Keen, Nicholl,



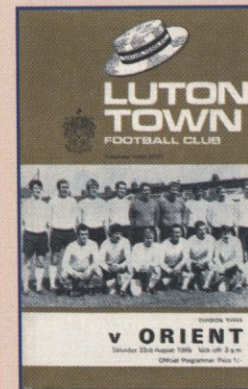
Malcolm Macdonald (8), gets his head to the ball as Laurie Sheffield looks on. Action from the Town's victory over Orient in August 1969.

Slough, Collins, Macdonald, Phillips (Lewis), Allen, French.

Orient: Goddard, Jones, Rofe, Taylor, Mancini, Harper (Fairbrother), Lazarus, Bullock, Allen, Dyson, Brabrook.

Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages



The Town had completely revamped their programme at the start of the 1969/70 season and the result was one of the best in the league, certainly in Division Three.

The programme for the visit of Orient was issue four in this new series and Eric Pugh ('Chiltern' of the 'Luton News'), was given the lead article and commented on the level of support for the Town at Bournemouth the previous week. Over 1,000 supporters travelled on a journey that was far more difficult than it is now and in the middle of the holiday season to boot. It was well worth it though!

Also in his article Pugh confirmed that the Town had made a £60,000 bid for Coventry's Tony Hateley (Mark's dad), showing the Board's determination to bring Division Two football to Kenilworth Road.

Elsewhere, it was announced by Entertainments Manager, Harry Haslam, that the new Hatters Club (now the Eric Morecambe lounge) was to be opened that afternoon for the first time. In the evening there was to be dancing to Tommy Thompson and his music as well as a top London artiste. We had simple tastes then!

Up and Running!

Luton Town's very own official website.

www.lutontown.co.uk



How likely is it that the private sector will improve public services?

GMB Luton office 01582 494492



funding the future... Grass roots Community Education

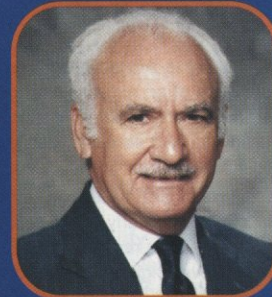


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POLICY STATEMENT - SPECTATOR SAFETY



The Chairman and Directors of Luton Town Football Club undertake to ensure as far as humanly possible that all activities that take place at the Kenilworth Road Stadium are conducted in such a way that as far as is reasonably practical the safety of everybody at the stadium is assured.

It is the policy of the Chairman and Directors to ensure that the conditions set out in the General Safety Certificate, issued under the Safety at Sports Grounds Act, 1975, are fully complied with.

It is the Club's policy to provide at any activity sufficient and competent staff and management systems to ensure as far as humanly possible the safe admission, accommodation and exiting of spectators attending the stadium. These systems will be subject to continual monitoring, testing and updating where necessary.

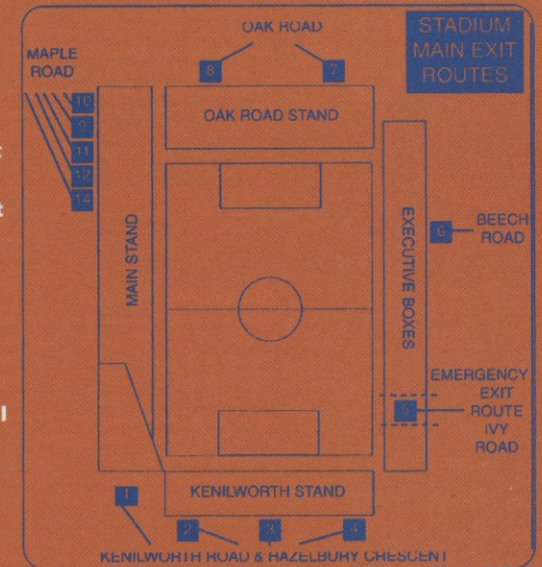
Mike Watson-Challis Chairman

Reviewed August, 2001.

EVACUATION PROCEDURE

IN THE event of any emergency in the stadium, Luton Town FC and the emergency services have agreed on an evacuation procedure which is designed to ensure the safe and controlled evacuation of the crowd, and to ensure their safe dispersal from the area, to allow the emergency services to carry out their tasks.

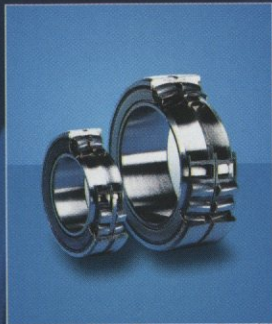
In the event of evacuation from all or part of the stadium, you will receive instructions over the public address system on how you should leave. In an evacuation of the main stand you will be instructed to use the pitch. Stewards will direct you to the nearest exit. It may be that your normal exit route will not be available. On leaving the stadium, you will find some roads closed to pedestrians, to enable swift and unobstructed access for the emergency services. Please leave the area of the ground as quickly as possible, by the route directed. Your co-operation will be most appreciated.



Geoff Lovell, Safety Manager.

For the latest ticket information call the Luton Ticket Office on:

01582 416976



Sealed Explorer spherical roller bearings

The SKF Explorer bearing range represents a totally new generation of spherical roller bearings. The Explorer range has accommodated up to 25 per cent higher torque loadings, and provided a 300% increase in service life, compared with the equivalent size of standard spherical roller bearings.

Now, SKF has unveiled a range of sealed-for-life Explorer bearings that reduce grease consumption, lower life cycle cost, lower recycling costs and reduce pressure on the environment.

Sealed Explorer bearings are supplied in normal and high temperature versions. The normal version uses a nitrile rubber double lip seal and a standard grease. The high temperature version, which is primarily suited to low speed operation, has a fluoro rubber seal and a high-temperature grease, and can withstand high axial and radial loads and tolerate up to 0.5° misalignment.

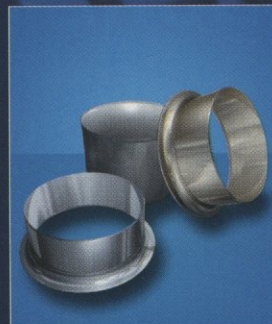


SYSTEM 24 automatic lubricators

SKF SYSTEM 24 is a practical, cost-effective solution to overcome the fact that 36 per cent of all premature bearing failures are caused by poor or inadequate lubrication. It's 'fit and forget' concept between extended scheduled changes reduces demands on maintenance staff bringing new levels of confidence and lowers overhead charges.

SYSTEM 24 is ideal for applications such as pumps, fans, compressors, chain drives, cranes and especially machinery running around the clock as part of a continual process.

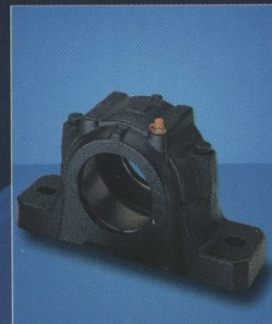
Each SYSTEM 24 cartridge is hermetically sealed to prevent ingress of dirt and foreign matter. Grease flow rate is set via a simple Allen key adjustment. A transparent container shows visually the dispense rate, and lubricant cartridges are available pre-filled with a variety of greases or oils.



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An oil seal's job is to 'seal in' oil or grease, keeping bearings lubricated and contaminants out. However, in most industrial environments, dirt or other abrasive particles collect and become lodged under the lip of the seal, where they eventually cut a groove in the surface of the shaft. These grooves cause oil to leak out past the seal, ultimately leading to bearing damage.

To combat this problem, SKF has introduced SPEEDI-SLEEVE for fast and effective refinishing of seal-worn shafts. SPEEDI-SLEEVE is quicker and more efficient than remetalizing or regrinding and, in contrast to these methods, provides a perfect seal, even in the harshest environments. SPEEDI-SLEEVE bridges the gap between a standard sleeve and an expensive custom shaft treatment such as diamond coating, and the super hardened surface provides protection against corrosion and abrasion.



SNL bearing housings

Split plummer block bearing housings are primarily used to simplify self-aligning bearing installation. SKF's SNL bearing housing range is a premier quality product that has increased stiffness and improved lubrication to provide an economical solution to demanding applications. Available for shafts from 20 to 160mm diameter, together with the new Large SNL range for shafts from 150 to 500mm diameter.

The quality of the bearing housing has a dramatic impact on the performance and lifetime of the bearings themselves. Even high quality bearings installed into poor fitting housings have their lifetimes shortened. This occurs for a variety of reasons, such as the bearings becoming distorted due to poor clamping, or misalignment through poor geometry or manufacture.

Value-Added Solutions

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Version 2.0 now available

For further information please complete the relevant areas and return to:
SKF FREEPOST MK1540 Luton LU3 4BR.

- Sealed Explorer
- SPEEDI-SLEEVE
- SYSTEM 24
- SNL bearing housing
- Interactive Engineering Catalogue

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Fans Scene

AS WE look forward to a promotion run-in, Luton Town Supporters Club is already planning two events for the end of the season.

The annual Player of the Year presentation evening, will again be run jointly by LTSC and Luton Town FC. Details are given below, and tickets are now on sale. There is a discount for LTSC members, and you can qualify for it by joining now. Memberships taken out between now and the end of the season will run through to the end of next season.

Check with the Supporters Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road before or after matches, or write to Luton Town Supporters Club, care of Luton Town FC.

In July the Town take part in the Isle of Man football festival in Douglas. Town on Tour, part of LTSC, is planning to run a trip if there is enough interest to make it viable.

It looks very likely. There has been a good response so far, and only a few more customers are needed to confirm the trip. The decision will be taken in a week or so, and if you would like to go please put your name down quickly.

The Festival runs from July 21 to 27, and will also

feature Burnley, Wrexham, Darlington and Rochdale, and the Isle of Man national side.

Town on Tour are offering a choice of packages and prices, ranging from £249 in a bed and breakfast guesthouse, to £289 in a three-crown hotel and £399 in a five-crown luxury hotel.

If you are interested call at the LTSC kiosk tonight, or contact chairman Mark Chapman by fax on 01296 714073 or by e-mail to markchapman65@hotmail.com. You can also leave a message on Town on Tour's mobile at 07960 567465.

Two other events take place in the next fortnight: on Thursday Kevin Nicholls, David Bayliss and Ahmet Brkovic are the platform guests at an "Any Questions" session starting at 7.30. Admission, by ticket only, is £2 for LTSC members, £5 for others.

On Thursday week, March 14, Yvonne Fletcher, the supporters' representative on the Luton Town board, will host a fans forum, to answer questions on any Luton Town topic you care to raise. Admission is free – just turn up on the night for a 7.30 kick-off.

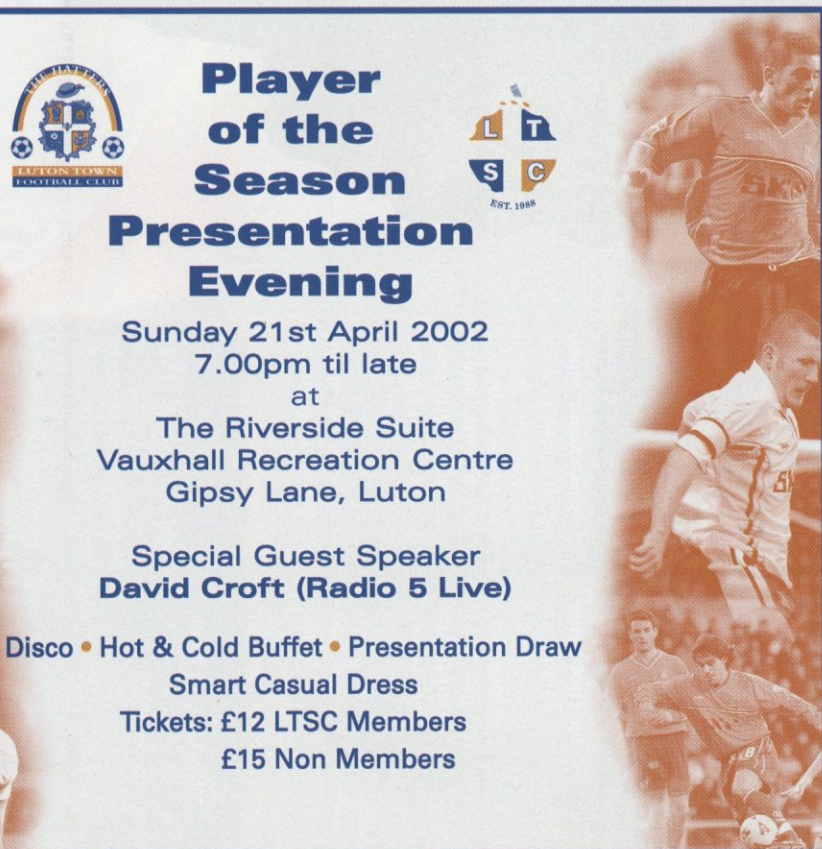
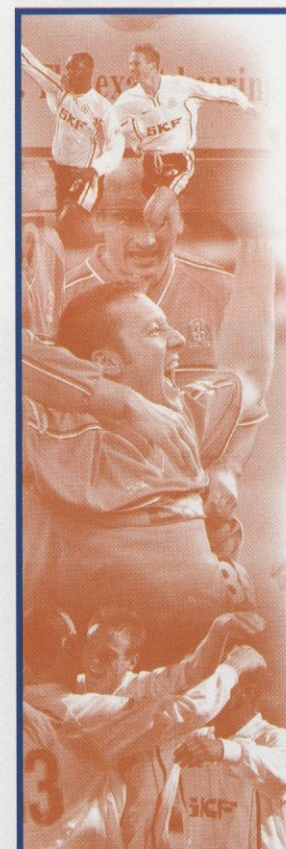



Player of the Season Presentation Evening

Sunday 21st April 2002
7.00pm til late
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**Special Guest Speaker
David Croft (Radio 5 Live)**

Disco • Hot & Cold Buffet • Presentation Draw
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Tickets: £12 LTSC Members
£15 Non Members



Top Hatter Marvin Johnson



Born: Wembley, 29.10.68

Joined Luton: As a 15-year-old schoolboy, then apprentice in 1985

Were you good at school? I enjoyed lessons, especially PE, maths, geography and science, and I left with six GCEs.

Boyhood ambition? Always, from the moment I could first kick a ball, to be a professional footballer. I was determined that I would do it, no matter what.

Why did you join Luton? CI was playing for Bearbrook Rangers in youth football at Aylesbury, where I grew up. We played a Luton Town schoolboy team, and that led to an invitation to train at Luton. I was 15, settled in immediately, and became an apprentice when I left school at 16. David Coates was the youth coach, and I owe him everything. What success I have had – and I have thoroughly enjoyed my career – was down to him because he taught me so much. Aston Villa scouts got in touch with my dad, but I was happy at Luton, and stayed. My mum and dad supported me, and I know I owe them a lot, because they worked hard to give me a good start in life.

Family life? I am married to Cassandra. We've been together ten years, and have two children, Kristian who is nine, and four-year-old Yazmin.

Do you play other sports? I'm the unofficial No. 1 seed at tennis in the club! I play a lot every summer, but I hear Jean-Louis Valois and Kev Nicholls are after my title! The man to beat was Brian Stein, but that gets easier every year – he's getting old! I like cricket as well, particularly the Children in Need games.

Do you like watching other sport? I have been to Wimbledon a couple of times, and enjoyed that immensely. It's amazing to see how hard and accurately pro tennis players can hit a ball.

Your greatest career pleasure so far? Winning the South East Counties League championship and the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup with the Luton youth team. Then being involved in the 1988 Littlewoods Cup final – I didn't get into the team, but to be in the squad to enjoy the build-up and the tremendous atmosphere at Wembley was something I will always remember.

Biggest drawback? Injuries. I've had more than my share, but I have always been positive about overcoming them.

What will you do for a living when footballing days are over? I would expect to finish as a pro at 35, but I would then want to play as a part-timer. I still have a hunger for the game and feel a buzz and a nervousness before I go out to play. In the summer I begin a course to become a personal trainer, which is what I want to do for a living when I have to pack in pro football. I hope that in four or five years, when Luton are in the Premiership, they will make me their European scout! Or give me any scouting job, because I would love to have some connection with Luton. I'll always be a Luton supporter, and a regular spectator at Kenilworth Road and in the new ground. I love the club.

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Stuart Smith



Football in
the Community

Good evening and welcome to tonight's game. Last week, as you all know, was half term in local schools, and the football coaching courses

that we organised throughout the week were very well received. We have already had some very encouraging feedback from participants, congratulating us on the standard of coaching, and the content of the courses.

As a department I am making a considerable effort to ensure that the coaches I use are of the very highest standard. Every coach who heads up a Luton Town course is, and will continue to be, a

UEFA 'B' Licence holder, or at the very least will have undertaken the UEFA 'B' Licence course, and currently will be working towards their final assessment.

The courses will continue to be fun for all involved, but in accordance with the requests I have received will be concentrated in future much more towards the improvement of the players' skills than in the past.

Details of the various courses currently running in Luton are given below. If you want to participate in any of them, please give me a call on Luton 411622. Last Friday we held our local heats of the Smoby Table Football Championship's 2002 tournament. The children involved had a fantastic day, and a hard-fought competition ended with a final between Oliver Falconer and Christopher Chaplen. Oliver managed to win a very competitive final 10-6. He now progresses to the area finals at Vicarage Road, Watford, on March 16. In addition to the certificate he won on the day, Oliver will receive a medal and a book token. We were also able to give him a tour of the ground, and his enjoyment of that was all the greater when he met some of the first team players, and was able to obtain their autographs.



Oliver Falconer

Stuart Smith

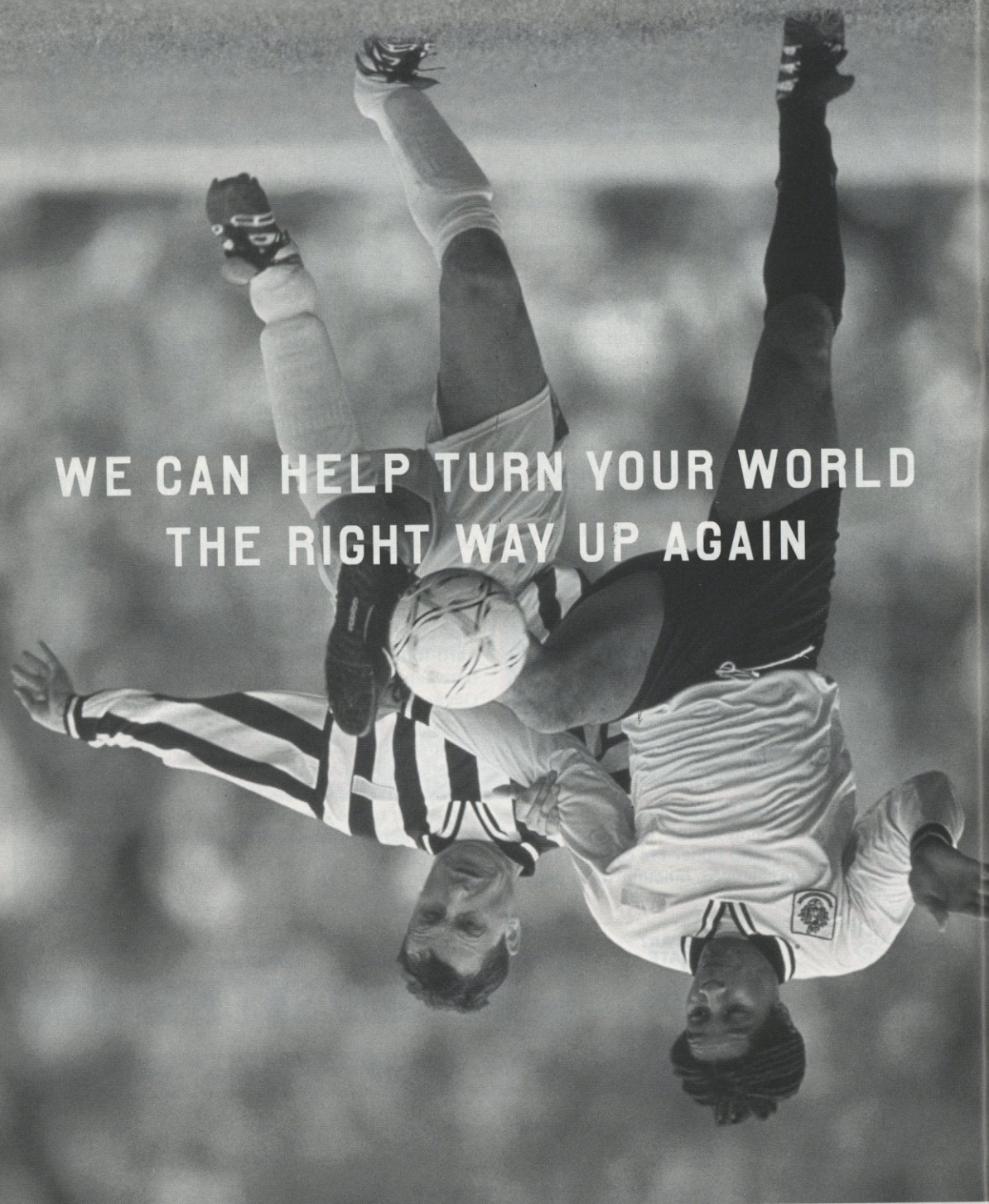


WE ARE always pleased to welcome young supporters and footballers, and at the last home game, against York, Barton Colts under-11s came to see us, and are pictured on the pitch, meeting Town players Ian Hillier and Lee Mansell.

VENUE	AGE GROUP	START DATE	DAY & TIME	TOTAL WEEKS	WEEKS REMAINING	COST
Bramingham Primary Boys & girls	7 - 11	12/1/02	Sat 10.00 -11.30am	10	4	£2.50pw
Ashcroft High Boys	12 - 15	1/2/02	Fri 4.30-6pm	7	3	£2.50pw
Luton Regional Sports Centre Boys & Girls	5 - 6	25/2/02	Mon 4 - 5pm	10	8	£2.50pw
Luton Regional Sports Centre Boys	7- 11	28/2/02	Thurs 4-5pm	10	9	£2.50pw
Luton Regional Sports Centre Girls	7 - 11	28/2/02	Thurs 5-6pm	10	9	£2.50pw

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Our Marathon Man

PROMISES of support are coming in steadily for the Luton Town entrant in next month's Flora London Marathon, and we invite all supporters to join us in trying to raise money for good causes, on the back of the physical effort Dave Suttle is putting in on our behalf.

The 46-year-old headmaster will carry the colours of his favourite team in the football section of the world's biggest athletic event, and hopes to raise a lot of cash for two charities.

Dave lives in Blackheath now, but has been a Town fan since boyhood, following in his father's footsteps, and while the gruelling training regime he has set himself is hard work, he says he is happy to go through it for the honour of representing Luton Town in the race.

He is determined to finish the course, and if you would like to support him please use the coupon on

this page, or a photocopy if you do not want to mutilate your matchday magazine.

Dave intends to help two charities, the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust, and our own local good cause, the Keech Cottage Hospice.

To pledge a donation, please complete the coupon and send it, with your cheque payable to the charity of your choice – the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust or Keech Cottage Hospice (or two cheques, one for each) – to Marathon Appeal, Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton LU4 8AW.

Please post-date your cheque. It will not be banked until after the marathon has been run on April 14. Supporters whose sponsorship is conditional on Mr Suttle completing the course can be assured that their cheques will be destroyed if that happens. He promises it won't!

FLORA LONDON MARATHON

I would like to sponsor Dave Suttle, the Luton Town runner, in the Football Challenge, and my post-dated cheque, payable to the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust or to the Keech Cottage Hospice, is enclosed.

Name..... *Please destroy my cheque if Mr Suttle completes less than 26.2 miles.
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 Amount pledged..... *Please delete as appropriate.

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Hatters Away

THE TOWN pay their first-ever league visit to Rushden and Diamonds on Saturday, seeking another double in front of a sell-out local derby crowd. If you haven't got a ticket, there's no point in going.

As usual Town on Tour, part of Luton Town Supporters Club, and the Bobbers Travel Club are both running coaches to the game.

The Bobbers service sets off from Cranfield at 11.30 am, picking up at various villages on the way into Luton before departing from the Town ground at 12.30. The fare is £7 for adults, £6 for senior citizens and children under 16.

Town on Tour plan to leave Maple Road at noon, picking up at Milton Keynes Coachway about 20 minutes later. Members of Luton Town Supporters Club can travel for £10, or £9 for concessions. The fare for non-members is £11. You can join LTSC when you make your booking, and qualify for the discount immediately.

Easy Drive

THE road to Nene Park could hardly be easier for Luton fans. It's not even worth using the motorway because by car you will get quicker on the more direct route. Leave Luton on the A6 going north, and go to and through Bedford. You need to keep your wits about you to negotiate Bedford's one-way system, but follow the signs towards Kettering.

Go through Rushden, and within five minutes or so, still on the A6, you will see Nene Park on your right. It is far cry from the old Irthlingborough Diamonds ground, which used to stand there! There is a 750-space car park next to the ground, but as there is only one road in and out, getting away after the game can be tedious. A lot of fans park elsewhere.

Mileage: About 40.

THE Bobbers Travel Club and Luton Town Supporters Club both have kiosks in Kenilworth Road which are manned on match days, where seats can be booked to travel to away games. At other times Town on Tour seats are sold at the club shop, or via their mobile phone on 07960 567465. Bobbers Travel Club bookings can be made on the phone to Paul Deason on 01234 750996.



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Youth Development



Dean Rastrick

THE senior members of the coaching staff at Kenilworth Road are familiar to most supporters, with Joe Kinnear, Mick Harford, Brian Stein and John Moore all highly respected for their expertise and work for Luton Town. But below that top level, important though it is, there is a team of unsung heroes doing work which is also very valuable – members of the youth staff involved in our Centre of Excellence training scheme.

We currently employ a number of staff in a variety of roles at the club, and it is an expanding structure all the time as we make every possible effort to identify promising young footballers, bring them into the Luton Town community at an early age, and help them develop as footballers, and as individuals.

Lee Cowley is manager of our under-15s, and has been at the club for eight years, working in various capacities within the youth structure He played for St Albans and Barton Rovers. As well as running our under-15 side, he also coaches at the Milton Keynes satellite centre.

Our under-14s are managed by Gary Worth, from Dunstable. He joined us four years ago from Leighton Town Youth. Gary played locally for a number of years before managing Caddington and then moving to join our youth department.

Neil Rodney manages the under-13s. He is from Flitwick, and joined the club at the start of this season. Previously he was involved at Bedford Town FC, and an indication of his ability, and the high regard in which he is held, is the fact that he is the manager of the Bedfordshire Football Association under-16 and under-18 squads.

Another experienced coach is Martin Bradshaw, who is manager of our under-12s. He has been involved in youth football in the Stevenage area for a number of years, and joined the club two years ago, working with the under-9s before becoming under-12 manager at the start of this season.

In charge of the under-11s is Pete Bull, who comes from Bedford and joined us three years ago. As well as working for Bedford Borough Council, Pete runs his own football coaching company called Samba Soccer in Bedford.

Dean Cole is manager of our under-10s. He lives in Borehamwood and came to the club at the start of this season. Dean was involved at Borehamwood FC as their Football in the Community Officer and currently works for Camden Council in London as a Sports Development Officer.

Mark Ridgway, our Youth Recruitment Officer, is another who brings top class experience to his job. He lives in Elstree, and has worked in the past for West Ham United and Norwich City. He joined Luton Town earlier this season, and it is his job to co-ordinate and develop the local recruitment network for the club.

Rob Carr is our youth athletics coach. He joined us four years ago to work with our schoolboy players, and currently works twice a week with the under-14, under-15 and under-16 squads, and full time with John Moore's youth team. He is a fully qualified UK athletics coach who has worked with a number of top athletes.

Our youth team physio is Julie Frost, who also heads the medical department for the centre of excellence. Jules is from Northampton, and has been at Kenilworth Road for three years. She is the medical co-ordinator for the Northamptonshire FA, and lectures on child protection and medical courses for the Football Association.

Roger Spicer is one of our specialist goalkeeper coaches, and has worked for the club for some years, nurturing a number of young goalkeepers. He lives in Hitchin, and runs his own football coaching company in North Hertfordshire. Nick Webb is also a goalkeeper coach. As some supporters will remember, Webby was a professional goalkeeper at the club before moving on to play for Hitchin Town. Nick organises his own sports coaching company for schools throughout Hertfordshire.

We have a number of other staff who make valuable contributions to the youth department at Luton Town. For more information, you can always contact me at the club, on Luton 411622.

Dean Rastrick

Ever thought about being a match ball sponsor?
Call the Commercial Department on:
01582 411622

TOWN TEASER

WE HAVE another little prize on offer this evening to a supporter who knows a little bit about today's Luton Town squad. Listen to the PA announcer before kick-off for your chance to have a go, and he will pick out an entrant at random. At the last home match we asked who scored his first-ever Luton Town goal in the victory at York, and the answer was Ian Hillier

TONIGHT'S QUESTION

Two players in our squad were with Leyton Orient last season. Who are they?

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Happy Harry

Junior Hatters

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: Mascots get close to all the important people at Town matches, as our pictures show. Before kick-off they accompany the skipper to the centre circle to meet the visiting captain and the match officials, and watch the toss of the coin for the choice of ends. Below left: Holly Kemp was Junior Hatters mascot for the Bristol Rovers game, with David Fazekas joining the official party as commercial mascot. Below right: the group before the York game - Jack Cowland was commercial mascot while Jonathan Allan represented the Junior Hatters.

Happy Harry



THOSE lucky enough to have tickets for the sell-out game at Rushden on Saturday are looking forward to our Junior Hatters trip. Our picture shows the squad from which we will be choosing teams to take on our friends from Nene Park, and we are hoping to turn the day into a treble success - Junior Hatters victories at football and in a penalty shoot-out contest, followed by Luton Town completing the double for three more league points!

Tonight's Mascot

A REGULAR supporter at Kenilworth Road is nine-foot-year-old Angus Berry, and being a keen Town fan was more than enough reason for him to join the Junior Hatters. This evening, he gets an extra treat from that membership, because his name was picked out of the computerised hat to be our mascot.

He will join the Town stars in the dressing room before the game and run out with them onto the pitch for the pre-match warm-up and kick-about. If he's lucky Angus will be able to exchange passes with Jean-Louis Valois, who is his favourite



Tyler Edwins, from Bury Rise, Tilsworth.

Angus lives at Fairfield Road, Biggleswade, and attends St. Andrew's Lower School. He comes to matches with his dad, watching from the main stand. When he is not cheering on the Hatters, Angus likes playing football for his school team, and also enjoys cricket, golf and snooker.

Our ball boys this evening, also chosen by lucky draw, are Stuart Atha, of Wisley Gardens, Farnborough, and



Action Replay



Luton Town 2 York City 1 (HT 1-1)

WITH three key players suspended, fans could be forgiven if they worried a little about the visit of York City, who came to Kenilworth Road on a run of four games without defeat, and only two points dropped in that sequence.

The worries might have deepened when York snatched the lead. But with two-goal Steve Howard in tremendous form, the flow was turned round, and while York deserved credit for putting up a good fight, the second Town win in five days was well deserved.

It was a triumph for Howard, a perfect reversal of his fortunes when he last faced this opposition and got involved in a row over penalties which might have cost him his job. Thank goodness he stayed! Having been asked by the manager to do more damage close to goal, he has responded dramatically. Not only is he the club's leading scorer, but the improvement in his strike-rate has been startling. He had just four goals from his first 21 starts this season. The double against York made it 13 from 32, six goals in the previous six and seven in nine games since the turn of the year.

"I set him a target of 15 goals for the season," said Joe Kinnear. "Now I've moved the goal posts. I want 20 from him now."

On his form against York, Howard will do better than that, and make goals for others as well. For the first time he was paired with Adrian Forbes in attack, and Forbes had a cracking game, giving the Town extra pace and shooting power, while at the back Alan Neilson, on his Luton debut, slotted in neatly alongside Chris Coyne in a rearguard that was rarely in real danger after York's opening goal.

They were more than adequate replacements for David Bayliss and Russ Perrett, and with Aaron Skelton and later Paul Hughes in midfield - Kevin Nicholls was our

third suspended absentee - the Town had too much in all departments for the visitors.

The Third Division championship might still be a mountain too high to scale, but this win put the Town seven points above fourth place, and few of us will moan if we celebrate promotion with or without the title.

Joe said: "It was important to get three more points out of this game. We were a little bit off the pace in the first half, but in the second we speeded it up, and we deserved to win."

Neilson delighted the boss with his part in the victory, and the manager added: "It's always nice to get a result when key players are missing. That's the biggest difference between now and a year ago - losing three men at once is a blow, but we have shown we can cope with it because we have much more strength in depth."

York tried to be positive, although we will never know how they might have played it if Howard had not cancelled out their opener within two minutes. They had no chance to shut up shop, although they organised an off-side trap that caught out the Town 11 times.

While Howard took the major honours, the rest of the team played its part, including Carl Emberson, with an important early save. But Alan Fettis, in the other goal, had to work harder, denying Howard the hat-trick he deserved with an excellent late stop and frustrating Ahmet Brkovic twice.

Forbes deserved a goal for his hard work and enthusiasm, and was denied by the referee: the ball was on its way into the net when Forbes was penalised for allegedly shoving an opponent out of the way before smashing in a thundering cross-shot. York boss Terry Dolan reckoned his men were unlucky to lose. Some of us felt they were lucky not to be beaten more decisively.

Match Details

Luton Town: Emberson; Boyce, Neilson, Coyne, Taylor; Brkovic, Spring, Skelton (Hughes 58 mins), Valois (Johnson 65 mins); Howard, Forbes.

Unused subs: Ovendale, Crowe, McSwegan.

Booked: Matt Spring for a foul.

York City: Fettis; Basham (Wise 56 mins), Hobson, Parkin; Edmondson, Brass, Bullock, Potter; Duffield (Mathie 73 mins), Nogan, Proctor

Unused subs: Howarth, Richardson, Wood.

Booked: Michael Proctor and Darren Edmondson for dissent; Stuart Wise and Chris Brass, both for fouls on Matt Taylor.

The Goals: 0-1 17 mins - Michael Proctor, expert curling shot from the inside left angle of the penalty area after a swift counter attack built by good passing from midfield; 1-1 19 mins - Steve Howard, carefully-aimed header from a right wing cross by the overlapping Emmerson Boyce; 2-1 51 mins - Howard again, with a mishit "shot" off his knee to wrong-foot the goalkeeper. ("If Luton continue to have luck like that they're sure of promotion!" said the York manager).

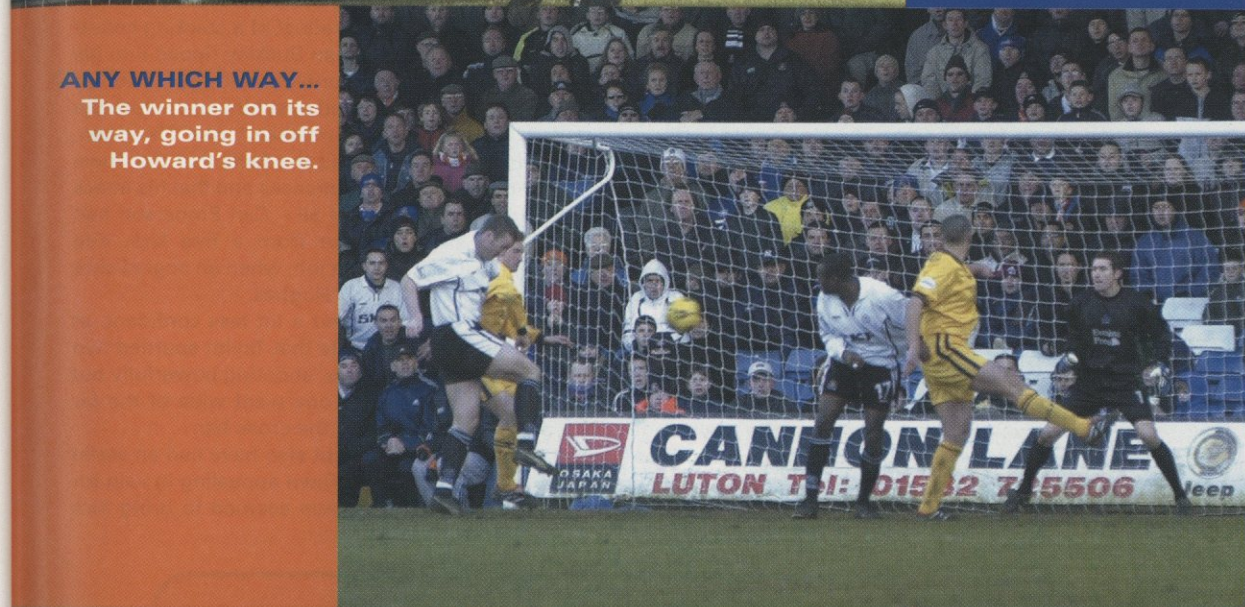
Referee: Rob Harris, Isle of Wight.

Attendance: 6,188, including 280 supporting York.



TOP MAN: Steve Howard is well above York's on-loan defender Jon Parkin to head the equaliser.

ANY WHICH WAY...
The winner on its way, going in off Howard's knee.



DEBUT: Alan Neilson, during a first appearance for the Town which impressed everybody.



Action Replay



Lincoln City 0 Luton Town 1 (HT 0-1)

THERE might have been only one goal in it, but there was no doubting the Town were the better team at Sincil Bank as they chalked up their tenth away win of the season to equal a club record set in 1970, when they won promotion from the old Third Division.

Joe Kinnear changed his formation, and it was not as cavalier a performance as we have become used to, but it was still highly professional, built on a solid defence and midfield, and pace on the break to give rapid support to Steve Howard, who was often the only man upfield when the Town had to close ranks at the other end.

It all worked a treat, and Lincoln were made to look very ordinary. Matt Taylor fired the winner, and missed chances that should have brought him his first hat-trick in league football.

Marvin Johnson returned at left back, which released Taylor to deploy his pace and powerful left foot in a midfield attacking role. Jean-Louis Valois was on the bench, and quite likely thought that was as near to pleasant as any place could be on a bitterly cold night. The stodgy pitch made it an occasion for direct passing rather than delicate ball skills.

With Russ Perrett returning after suspension, Alan Neilson's second appearance for his new club was at right back, where he was a very steady and effective defensive influence without offering the exuberant overlapping ability of Emmerson Boyce, who was also demoted to sub.

In midfield, with Aaron Skelton back in the treatment room, Paul Hughes was given his first start since suf-

fering a serious ankle ligament injury in September, and dug in so purposefully that suspended Kevin Nicholls was hardly missed.

And there was another delight for the Town's following: a year ago, if two or three players had been ruled out, even Lincoln would probably have been too good for the remnants. Now, with players to spare, and keen to make an impression, the team can cope with absences much better.

The cruel irony for Lincoln was that the only goal should have been prevented, while they were lucky not to concede others on three later occasions.

The winner was the end product of a cracking counter-attack, but Imps boss Alan Buckley ripped into his goalkeeper Alan Marriott for his statue impression as a 30-yard cross-shot ambled past him just before the interval. "Beaten by one mistake," was his moan, which conveniently ignored the facts that the Town had created all the decent chances and that his attack posed no real problems at all - Carl Emberson had one routine save to make from a free kick, and another, more of a reaction job, when an angled shot took a sharp deflection off Hughes.

Marriott was far busier, and a lot less confident, at the other end, and fortunate that Taylor spurred two decent second-half chances, shooting powerfully but inaccurately both times - one went wide of the far post and the other clipped the cross bar.

Hard-working Howard might also have had an assist at the very least, with the Town appealing in vain for a penalty when Grant Brown seemed to bring him down.

Match Details

Luton Town: E: Emberson; Neilson, Coyne, Perrett, Johnson; Brkovic, Spring, Hughes, Taylor; Howard, Forbes

Subs, none needed: Ovendale, Boyce, Valois, Crowe, McSwegan

Booked: Russ Perrett for a foul.

Lincoln City: Marriott; Bailey, Morgan, Brown, Bimson; Smith (Battersby 64 mins), Hamilton (Buckley 83 mins), Walker, Gain (Sedgemore 64 mins); Thorpe, Cameron

Unused subs: Horrigan, Mayo. (Kingsley Black was on the injured list)

Booked: No-one.

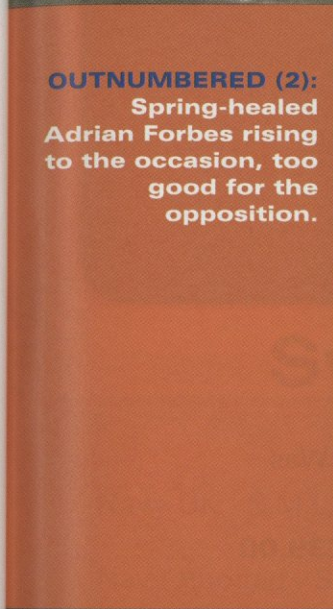
The Goal: Matt Taylor, 42nd minute, 30-yard low cross-shot from the left wing following a swift counter-attack after he cleared from a Lincoln corner. Adrian Forbes collected the long ball on the right, made ground quickly, and then switched play with a superb cross-field pass into Taylor's path. The goalkeeper very kindly stood and admired the scenery as the ball went past him into the net at no great pace.

Referee: Tony Bates, Stoke.

Attendance: 2,921, including 889 freezing but happy Town fans.



OUTNUMBERED (1): Matt Taylor in attack mode, with two Lincoln defenders on hand to stop him this time. But they were unable to get close when he fired the Towns winner, his ninth goal of the season..



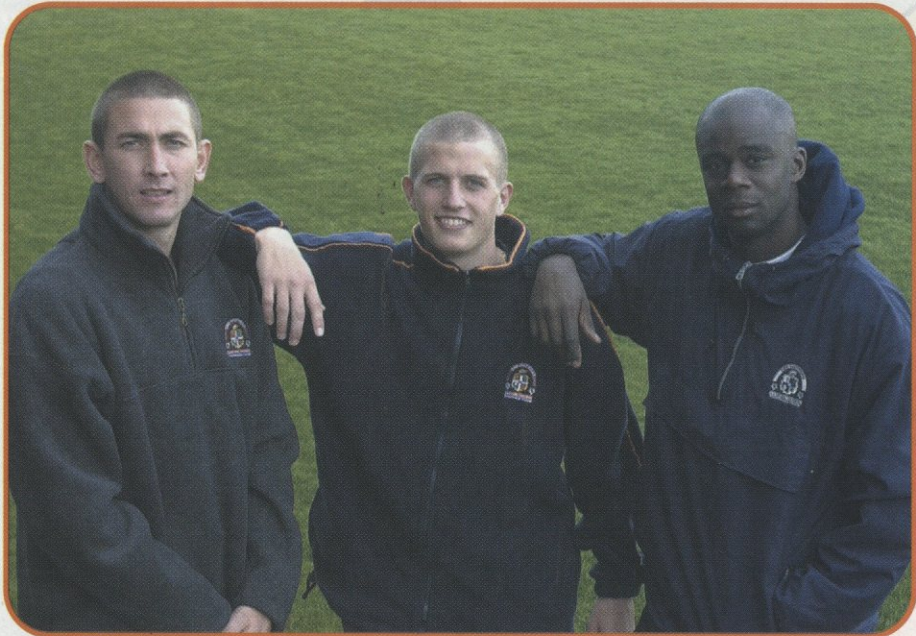
OUTNUMBERED (2): Spring-healed Adrian Forbes rising to the occasion, too good for the opposition.



OUTNUMBERED (3): Lincoln unable to prevent attacking spearhead Steve Howard getting in a header.

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Fans on the road

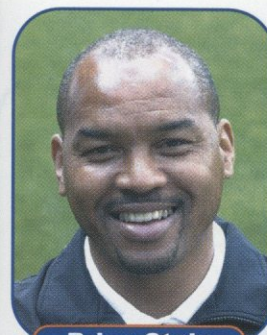
THIRD Division clubs continue to appreciate Luton Town's contribution to their well-being off the pitch, whatever the results on it. At Lincoln last Tuesday, on a very uncomfortable cold night, the attendance would barely have got past the 2,000 mark, but for the Town's following, who made up more than a quarter of the gate.

Visitors to Luton

Cheltenham	.467
Southend	.912
Oxford	.869
Lincoln	.217
Torquay	.326
Darlington	.302
Rochdale	.679
Swansea	.395
Shrewsbury	.351
Hull	.887
Rushden	.1,134
Hartlepool	.220
Carlisle	.356
Plymouth	.1,900
Scunthorpe	.359
Bristol Rovers	.197
York City	.280
Total:	.9,851
Average:	.579

Hatters Away

Carlisle	.1,097
Reading(WC)	.889
Bristol Rov	.761
Exeter	.712
York	.849
Orient	.2,089
Plymouth	.461
Scunthorpe	.961
Halifax	.774
Dagenham(LDV)	.330
Mansfield	.2,166
Southend(FAC)	.1,560
Macclesfield	.741
Hartlepool	.346
Oxford	.2,646
Southend	.1,710
Kidderminster	.1,096
Cheltenham	.1,597
Darlington	.464
Rochdale	.1,163
Lincoln	.889
Total:	.23,301
Average:	.1,110



Brian Stein

In Reserve



Luton Town 1 Colchester Utd 0

AFTER starting very well, it was a big disappointment that we did not build on a good opening spell and run in several more goals. We really should have murdered

Colchester, but after taking the lead we seemed to drop off.

On balance of play, and chances created, we ought to have won by five or six, and Andrew Fotiadis passed up the chance of a hat-trick after taking the opening goal very well.

We could have conceded early on, because Stuart Fraser was harshly adjudged to have brought down an attacker. However, justice was done when Mark Ovendale made a very good save.

The goal that turned out to be the winner came after 14 minutes, with Fotiadis heading in from a right wing cross by Lee Mansell. The major disappointment was that our performance dropped off after that. We seemed to make the pitch too big, and give Colchester too much respect. Our play became frantic, and Jean-Louis Valois and Fotiadis both missed opportunities to put the game out of reach of a side which was very much second best in the early stages.

We almost paid for it, because although Colchester rarely threatened our goal, they almost nicked an equaliser in the last minute, with Ovendale having to make another

very good save to secure the win.

While the result was welcome, the performance was disappointing, because it should have been a much more decisive win. French trialist Bogaczky did not enjoy the happiest of afternoons, and will not be coming back.

Luton Town: Ovendale, Mortara (Foley 69mins), Gillman, Hillier, Fraser, Holmes, Locke, Mansell, Valois (Okai 69 mins), Fotiadis (Jeffrey HT), Bogaczky.

WE ARE away to Oxford tomorrow, but return to Kenilworth Road a week later, March 13, for an Avon Insurance Combination fixture against Peterborough. Kick-off will be at 2pm. Our away game with Cambridge has been put back 24 hours, and will now be played on Tuesday March 26 (2pm).

Appearances (as sub in brackets): Fotiadis 16(2), Holmes 14(1), Brennan 14, Fraser 12(3), Mansell 11(2), Ovendale 10, Locke 9(3), Gillman 9(2), Skelton 8, Hillier 8, Foley 7(1), Dryden 7, Johnson 7, Hughes 7, George 7, Stirling 6(3), Bruce 6, Emberson 6, Murphy 5(7), Thomson 5(4), Osborn 5(4), Leary 5(2), Brkovic 5(1), Ward 5(1), Mortara 4(1), Douglas 3(4), Dogbe 3(1), Everitt 3, Valois 3, Coyne 2, Bogaczky 2, Okai 1(3), Jeffrey 1(3), Crowe 1(1), Forbes 1, Spring 1, Perrett 1, Boyce 1, Deeney 1, McSwegan 2, Ofodile 1, Neilson 1, Jeffrey 1, Mendy 1, Dailly 1, Ofori 1, Iagostal 1, Hogg 1, Bouchuers 1, Djorkaeff 1, Maher 1, Hodges 1, Menetrier 1, Huck 1, Street 1, Martin 1, Fernandez 1, Hardy 1, Davies 0(1), O'Leary 0(1), Dillon 0(1), Hall 0(1), Postan 0(1).

Goals: Fotiadis 10, Brennan 5(2 pens), Thomson 3, Brkovic 2, Murphy 2, Skelton 2, George 2, McSwegan 2, Ofodile 2, Holmes 2, Mansell 1, Jeffrey 1, Locke 1, Gillman 1, Everitt 1, Bruce 1, Leary 1, Hodges 1.

Brian Stein

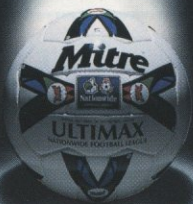
Avon Insurance Combination Results and Fixtures

AUG	Wed 15	Barnet	A	3-0	Fotiadis 2, Hodges
	Wed 29	Millwall	H	1-0	Brennan pen
SEPT	Wed 12	Leyton Orient	A	3-2	George, Brkovic 2
	Thur 20	Barton (BPC)	A	5-0	Gillman, Locke, Brennan, Thomson, Fotiadis
	Wed 26	Gillingham	H	0-0	
OCT	Tue 2	Cardiff	A	1-2	Fotiadis
	Mon 8	QPR	H	3-3	Everitt, Brennan pen, Thomson
	Mon 15	Crystal Palace	A	0-1	
NOV	Wed 14	Bristol City	H	1-1	Fotiadis
	Wed 21	Cambridge(LC)	H	3-1	Skelton, Fotiadis, George
	Mon 26	Leighton Tn(BPC)	A	4-2	Brennan 2, Murphy 2
	Wed 28	Norwich(LC)	A	0-0	
DEC	Wed 12	Swindon	H	1-0	Holmes
	Wed 19	Portsmouth	A	7pm	
JAN	Wed 9	Brighton	A	0-1	
	Mon 21	Wooton (BPC)	A	1-2	Thomson
	Wed 23	Bournemouth	H	2-1	Leary, Fotiadis
	Wed 30	Brentford	A	0-2	
FEB	Wed 6	Bristol Rov	A	1-2	Skelton
	Wed 13	Norwich	H	5-1	McSwegan 2, Ofodile 2, Holmes
	Wed 20	Cheltenham	A	3-2	Mansell, Jeffrey, Fotiadis
	Wed 27	Colchester	H	1-0	Fotiadis
MAR	Wed 6	Oxford	A	2pm	
	Wed 13	Peterborough	H	2pm	
	Wed 20	Southend	A	2pm	
	Tue 26	Cambridge	A	2pm	
APRIL	Wed 3	Reading	H	2pm	
	Wed 10	Northampton	H	2pm	
	Tue 16	Wycombe	H	2pm	

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portsmouth	18	11	4	3	32	17	37
QPR	18	10	6	2	42	19	36
Brentford	16	9	4	3	34	23	31
Luton Town	17	8	4	5	27	20	28
Norwich	18	8	4	6	31	32	28
Crystal Palace	14	8	2	4	27	17	26
Millwall	15	7	5	3	26	20	26
Cardiff	18	7	5	6	27	23	26
Gillingham	15	7	4	4	22	13	25
Barnet	17	8	1	8	23	24	25
Reading	16	7	3	6	26	17	24
Peterborough	17	7	2	8	27	30	23
Southend	16	6	4	6	21	18	22
Oxford	17	5	7	5	18	23	22
Cheltenham	17	6	4	7	19	29	22
Bristol Rovers	16	6	3	7	19	20	21
Leyton Orient	16	6	2	8	26	41	20
Wycombe	16	5	3	8	21	25	18
Colchester	20	4	5	11	25	34	17
Brighton	13	3	7	3	16	13	16
Northampton	18	3	7	8	20	34	16
Cambridge	16	4	3	9	21	26	15
Bristol City	13	3	5	5	15	20	14
Swindon	15	2	4	9	13	22	10
Bournemouth	14	2	4	8	13	30	10

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League saw an Increase in
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Pre-Match Entertainment

This afternoon's pre-match and half time entertainment is managed by our PA announcers Justin Dealey and Steve Faulkner.

6.45 Gates Open - music starts

HALF TIME

7.00 Club mascot Happy Harry runs on the pitch.

8.35 Golden Gamble - Winning ticket picked by Luton Town Player.

7.05 A track from the HMV album of the week - PURE GROOVE, THE VERY BEST 80'S SOUL FUNK

8.40 Run down of half time scores from around the country

7.15 HMV single of the week - SMOKE 27 - BEEN THERE DONE IT.

8.45 Repeat of dedications

7.20 Team line up to be announced

8.50 Teams arrive back on pitch to theme song "Gimme Some Lovin".

7.25 The UK's No1 track - ENRIQUE IGLESIAS - HERO

9.35 FULL TIME

7.30 Dedications announced

Matchday music supplied by

7.35 Town Teaser - Check out page 40 for today's question



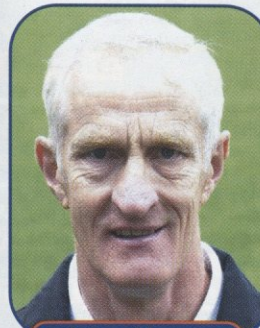
Arndale Centre.

7.40 Teams run out to our new song - The Blues Brothers "Gimme Some Lovin".

If you would like your dedication read out, please contact the Club prior to matchdays.

7.43 Final run down of the teams.

7.45 THE BIG KICK OFF



John Moore

Youth Soccer



Luton Town 2 Peterborough 1

WITH no neutral match officials turning up, I had to become an emergency referee because both teams wanted to play the game, so I had a closer look than usual at how our lads played, and for the most part was pleased with what I saw.

I had no real problems controlling the game, despite having no notebook, red or yellow cards, or even a coin for the toss. Our second goal, which turned out to be the winner, was a penalty, fortunately very clear-cut when I was within four yards of the incident. Peterborough had no complaints, and were kind with their after-match comments. Football is still about sportsmanship as well as professionalism! A high wind made it a difficult game, and we put out a very young side, including five schoolboys. Injuries kept out our main strike force of Marcus Jeffrey and Matthew Judge, but James Osborn, a midfielder, did very well as an attacker, and scored both the goals.

Peterborough were bigger and stronger, and tried to dominate, but our youngsters handled the situation very well on a day when constructive football was difficult because of the gale. At times goalkeepers were clearing upfield and seeing the ball blown back to their own 18-yard line.

Osborn gave us the lead on eight minutes, with a good finish

in a one on one with the keeper after a good passing move put him through.

The penalty came on 23 minutes, when Osborn was brought down, and then converted from the spot, but Peterborough replied on 34 minutes when our defence and goalkeeper should have done much better.

Playing against the wind in the second half, we created four or five good chances, and I couldn't believe how we missed them all, although the goalkeeper made some good saves.

Luton Town: Brill, Gardner (Mortara 75 mins), R. Mansell (Carroll 71 mins), O'Leary (Wright 88 mins), Davies, Howells, Foley, Dogbe, Barnett, Osborn, Okai.

OUR regular season in the Football League Youth Alliance is now complete except for a match at Kidderminster which was postponed in January, and has not yet been rearranged. We began our fixtures in the Southern Section Merit Division Two at Northampton on Saturday. This Saturday we are at home to Portsmouth, kick-off 11am at Luton RFC, Newlands Road, Farley Hill. Spectators are welcome.

Appearances (as sub in brackets):

Okai 18(2), Osborn 18(2), O'Leary 17, Foley 16(4), Davies 16(1), Carroll 14(3), Dillon 13(2), Brill 13, Jeffrey 12(4), Dogbe 12(4), Judge 11(4), Gillman 11(1), Leary 7, Murphy 7, Chatfield 6, Bruce 5(1), Deeney 5(1), Barnett 4(4), Howells 4(2), R. Mansell 3, Gardner 3, Roberts 1, Beckwith 1, Shire 1, Garrett 1, Palmer 1, Mortara 0(3), Burrell 0(1), Wright 0(1).

Goals: Osborn 9(2p), Judge 8, Murphy 4, Davies 4, Dillon 4, Jeffrey 3, Foley 3, Carroll 2, O'Leary 2, Gillman 1, Leary 1.

John Moore

Football League Youth Alliance Results and Fixtures

AUG	25	Rushden & D	H	1-2	Leary
SEP	1	Walsall	A	4-4	Osborn 2 (1p), Murphy, Davies
	8	L. Orient (Cup)	A	0-0	
	15	Kidderminster	H	3-1	Carroll, Davies, Murphy
	22	Cambridge	A	1-2	Judge
OCT	6	Northampton	H	4-2	Murphy, O'Leary, Osborn, Dillon
	11	Cheltenham (FAYC)	A	4-3	Gillman, Judge, Osborn, Jeffrey
	13	Colchester (Cup)	H	2-3	Foley, Murphy
	20	West Brom	A	2-3	Judge, Davies
	27	Peterborough	A	3-0	Carroll, Judge 2
NOV	3	Southend (Cup)	H	2-0	Dillon, Judge
	6	Brentford (FAYC2)	H	0-2	
	10	Notts County	H	1-2	O'Leary
	24	Cambridge	H	0-2	
DEC	15	Northampton	A	0-4	
JAN	5	Kidderminster	A	postponed	
	12	West Brom	H	2-1	Osborn, Dillon
	19	Notts County	A	4-1	Jeffrey, Osborn, Dillon, Davies
FEB	9	Rushden & D	A	1-2	Foley
	16	Walsall	H	5-4	Judge 2, Jeffrey, Osborn, Foley
	23	Peterborough	H	2-1	Osborn 2(1p)

MERIT LEAGUE DIVISION TWO Results and Fixtures

MAR	2	Northampton	A
	9	Portsmouth	H
	16	Cardiff	A
	23	Rushden	A
	30	Plymouth	H

FL Youth Alliance South Central Conference League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cambridge Utd	16	9	3	4	31	18	30
West Brom	15	8	4	3	28	21	28
Rushden & D	16	7	2	7	26	30	23
Luton Town	15	7	1	7	33	31	22
Walsall	15	5	6	4	33	28	21
Notts County	13	5	3	5	15	20	18
Northampton	14	5	2	7	19	20	17
Peterborough	16	3	5	8	16	24	14
Kidderminster	14	4	2	8	18	27	14

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Records

Average Gate	4,260
Highest Gate	16,369
Plymouth v Exeter	
Lowest Gate	1,251
Halifax v Southend	
Highest Agg Score	
Rochdale5	
York4	
Biggest Home Win	
Scunthorpe7	
Darlington1	
Biggest Away Win	
Exeter0	
Scunthorpe4	
Consec. Wins	
Plymouth5	
Games	
Unbeaten	
Plymouth19	



Consec. Defeats
 Orient, Swansea,
 Torquay,
 Bristol Rovers 5
 Winless Run
 Bristol Rov....14



Total Games
 428
 Home Wins
 20648%
 Away Wins
 10625%
 Draws
 11627%
 1-1 Draws
 4711%
 0-0 Draws
 4210%

Average Attendances

	2000	4000	6000	8000	10000
Bristol Rovers					6,896
Carlisle					3,245
Cheltenham					3,751
Darlington					3,926
Exeter					3,409
Halifax					2,085
Hartlepool					3,535
Hull					9,280
Kidderminster					3,027
Orient					4,623
Lincoln					3,173
Luton					6,776
Macclesfield					2,118
Mansfield					4,508
Oxford					6,459
Plymouth					7,645
Rochdale					3,293
Rushden					4,249
Scunthorpe					3,623
Shrewsbury					3,612
Southend					3,986
Swansea					3,683
Torquay					2,537
York					3,020

Goals - When Scored

	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
BR	2	6	8	4	4	10
CU	7	10	6	7	2	6
CT	3	9	9	6	14	8
Da	2	7	8	6	13	11
EC	5	6	7	8	10	3
HT	3	7	4	4	2	5
HU	7	5	10	5	16	12
HC	5	10	6	9	8	10
Ki	5	7	5	9	6	12
LO	4	7	4	10	10	11
LC	1	8	7	5	6	11
LT	4	7	16	13	14	14
MT	3	4	7	6	6	7
NT	9	8	11	8	7	15
OU	6	7	7	10	7	9
PA	6	10	12	9	8	9
Ro	8	6	8	8	8	11
RD	6	8	10	4	6	13
SU	11	15	12	7	8	13
ST	9	3	10	7	10	12
SU	6	4	5	10	5	14
SC	10	9	7	4	6	10
TU	4	5	4	3	7	11
YC	6	4	7	7	5	11

Form Guide: Home & Away

	Home Form	most recent results to left	Away Form
LLWWD	Bristol Rovers	LLLL	LLDLD
WWLWW	Carlisle	LDDDD	LDDDD
DWDDD	Cheltenham	WWWWW	WWWWW
LDLDW	Darlington	LDLWL	LDLWL
WLDD	Exeter	LWLWL	LWLWL
LLDL	Halifax	LLLL	LLLL
WWWWD	Hartlepool	LLDLW	LLDLW
LWDWW	Hull	LDWLL	LDWLL
WWLDW	Kidderminster	LLDLW	LLDLW
WDLDL	Orient	LLDLL	LLDLL
WLLWW	Lincoln	WLLLD	WLLLD
WWLWD	Luton	WWLLD	WWLLD
DLWLW	Macclesfield	WVDLL	WVDLL
WWWWD	Mansfield	LWLWL	LWLWL
LWDDW	Oxford	DWLLL	DWLLL
WWWWW	Plymouth	DWWLL	DWWLL
WWWDW	Rochdale	LDLDW	LDLDW
WDWWW	Rushden	DDLLL	DDLLL
WDWWW	Scunthorpe	LDWDL	LDWDL
WWDWL	Shrewsbury	LDLLL	LDLLL
DWLDW	Southend	LDLDD	LDLDD
WDWWL	Swansea	WDLLL	WDLLL
LDDDW	Torquay	WLLDD	WLLDD
WWDDD	York	LWDWL	LWDWL

Clubs' top scorer & the points their goals have won

see key below	Leading Scorer	GS	Sc1	Sc2	HT	Gms/Gls/Gm	Pts	Run
Mansfield	Chris Greenacre	19	13	3	0	33	0.58	14 4
Shrewsbury	Luke Rodgers	19	14	1	1	30	0.63	13 4
Hull	Gary Alexander	16	12	2	0	33	0.48	13 5
York	Michael Proctor	11	9	1	0	33	0.33	13 2
Bristol Rovers	Nathan Ellington	14	8	0	2	22	0.64	12 4
Rochdale	Kevin Townsend	12	6	3	0	31	0.39	10 3
Scunthorpe	Steve Torpey	12	6	3	0	31	0.39	10 1
Carlisle	Ritchie Foran	11	11	0	0	27	0.41	10 3
Exeter	Chris Roberts	10	4	3	0	32	0.31	10 2
Plymouth	David Friio	8	8	0	0	33	0.24	10 2
Cheltenham	Julian Alsop	15	11	2	0	30	0.50	9 2
Oxford	Paul Moody	11	8	0	1	27	0.41	8 3
Torquay	Alex Russell	6	3	0	1	24	0.25	8 2
Southend	Tesfaye Bramble	9	7	1	0	33	0.27	7 2
Swansea	Mamady Sidibe	7	5	1	0	23	0.30	7 2
Darlington	Barry Conlon	7	5	1	0	32	0.22	7 1
Macclesfield	Lee Glover	8	6	1	0	34	0.24	6 2
Luton	Steve Howard	13	11	1	0	33	0.39	5 3
Lincoln	Lee Thorpe	11	9	1	0	27	0.41	5 2
Rushden	Onandi Lowe	8	8	0	0	16	0.50	5 3
Hartlepool	Gordon Watson	13	8	1	1	22	0.59	4 3
Kidderminster	Dean Bennett	8	8	0	0	33	0.24	4 7
Halifax	Paul Harsley	7	5	1	0	35	0.20	4 2
Orient	Steve Watts	9	5	2	0	23	0.39	0 3

Biggest Wins & Heaviest Defeats

Club	Win -vs.	Defeat -vs.
Bristol Rov	4-1 Swansea	0-3 Luton
Carlisle	6-1 Orient	0-3 Plymouth
Cheltenham	4-1 Maccsfield	1-5 Hull
Darlington	4-0 Exeter	1-7 Scunthorpe
Exeter	4-2 Darlington	0-4 Scun, Darl
Halifax	3-0 Lincoln	1-6 Oxford
Hartlepool	5-1 Rush, S'end	0-3 Man, Chel
Hull	5-1 Cheltnham	0-4 Hartpool
Kidminster	4-1 vs 3 clubs	0-4 Shrewsbury
Orient	5-0 Lincoln	1-6 Carlisle
Lincoln	3-0 Swansea	0-5 Orient
Luton	5-1 Torquay	1-4 Man, Mac
Macclesfield	4-1 Luton	0-4 Mansfield
Mansfield	4-0 Maccsfield	0-3 Plym, Shw
Oxford	6-1 Halifax	0-3 Ornt, Hull
Plymouth	3-0 vs 4 clubs	1-3 Shrewsbury
Rochdale	3-1 Mansfield	1-4 Kidmnstr
Rushden	3-0 York	1-5 Hartpool
Scunthorpe	7-1 Darlington	0-3 Carlisle
Shrewsbury	4-0 Kidmnstr	0-3 Hull
Southend	4-1 Halifax	1-5 Hartpool
Swansea	3-0 Exeter	1-4 Bristol Rv
Torquay	3-1 Darlington	1-5 Luton
York	3-0 Torquay	0-4 Hull

Numbers

PU	CS	FS
29	10	14
34	11	10
23	13	6
32	9	12
31	9	14
27	10	18
26	8	11
30	14	12
27	13	11
37	9	10
23	10	10
34	10	3
29	9	16
25	11	8
28	8	12
23	20	7
30	13	5
38	13	12
28	12	7
25	11	9
29	10	10
29	10	14
39	4	15
29	7	8

Key: GS=Goals Scored; Sc1=Games Scored 1 Goal; Sc2=Games Scored 2 Goals; HT=Hat-Tricks; Each club's leading league scorer and avg. goals per game (Gls/Gm). Next column shows taking off their goals, how many Points (Pts) lost. Last figure show best scoring run in consecutive games.

NUMBERS : PU = Players Used CS = Clean Sheets FS = Games Failed to Score

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Arsenal v Deportivo La Coruña
 Tuesday 12 March, ITV Sport Channel

Barcelona v Liverpool
 Wednesday 13 March, ITV Sport Channel

Middlesborough v Liverpool
 Saturday 16 March, Sky Sports 1

Burnley v Preston North End
 Sunday 17 March, ITV Sport Channel



Brian Swain

Third Division Scene

OUR OLD friend David Moss did us a favour on Saturday, helping the Town trim Plymouth's lead at the top of the table. Paul Sturrock's men had responded admirably to the shock of losing at Kenilworth Road a month ago, and reeled off five wins on the bounce. But on Saturday Moss's Macclesfield halted that run, a 1-1 draw enabling the Town and Mansfield to close the gap on first place by two points.

Moss has become a big favourite at Macclesfield. His first home league game in charge was a touch painful for Hatters, because he guided Macca to victory over us. It was a surprise, because at the time Macclesfield were bottom but one. Moss has now guided them to a very respectable 15th place, so perhaps he won't mind too much if we gain sweet revenge over him and his team when they wind up Kenilworth Road's home season next month.

By then perhaps Plymouth will have had the blip that hits teams at some stage of the season, but at present they are proving to be very consistent. Mansfield continue to chase hard, still three points below the Town and with a game in hand. And if we would rather they had not beaten Scunthorpe on Saturday, after being behind at the interval, their 2-1 win did at least peg back one of the play-off chasers.

Rochdale took advantage to go fourth again with a 1-0 home win over Shrewsbury, who dropped out of the top seven as a result. Cheltenham went into the top six for the first time, with Julian Alsop's 20th goal of the season earning a 1-1 home draw with Rushden which took Cheltenham's run to 13 league games without defeat.

A play-off finish still looks the best they can hope for, but spare a thought for Hull City's fans. Their expectations must have been even greater than ours when the season kicked off. They were hot favourites not only for promotion, but also for the title, with well over £1million invested on a big squad.

They were second in the table in September, but have been on the slide ever since. As the title expectation gently evaporated, they settled for expecting automatic promotion. Now, with Hull only just clinging on to seventh place, they are hoping for a play-off spot. The failure to realise great expectations cost Brian Little his job. He was sacked after a home defeat at the hands of David Moss's merry men, but the change was hardly successful: Hull managed to lose at Swansea, and that was their ninth away defeat of the season. And something has to give this evening, because Mansfield are the visitors to Boothferry Park.

Away results have been a bit of a problem for our visitors this evening, although Orient come into the game after a comfortable 3-1 success over Halifax at Brisbane Road on Saturday. That ended a run of 11 league games without a win.

On the road, they have managed only two league victories, 2-1 at Southend last September, and 1-0 at Swansea in October, a few days after Paul Brush took over as manager following the departure of Tommy Taylor.

Orient collected draws at Cheltenham, Halifax, Hull, Exeter and Torquay. The 11 away defeats were suffered at York, Darlington, Mansfield, Scunthorpe, Macclesfield, Bristol Rovers, Hartlepool, Carlisle, Lincoln, Shrewsbury and Rushden.

But, lest Town fans think it might be a doddle tonight, Orient enjoyed a much better FA Cup campaign than we did, including away victories at Bristol City and Portsmouth, before going out in the fourth round at Goodison Park.

Brian Swain

Nationwide League Division Three

	HOME					AWAY					GD	Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F A	W	D	L	F A				
Plymouth	36	15	1	2	34	11	8	7	3	20	14	29	77
Luton Town	36	10	4	3	33	15	11	2	6	35	28	25	69
Mansfield	35	13	3	2	40	18	7	3	7	18	20	20	66

Rochdale	35	9	7	1	29	15	7	4	7	20	24	10	59
Scunthorpe	37	11	4	3	37	18	4	8	7	29	30	18	57
Cheltenham	33	7	10	1	30	18	7	3	5	19	18	13	55
Hull City	36	11	5	2	32	9	4	5	9	16	27	12	55

Shrewsbury	37	10	4	4	29	16	5	5	9	22	28	7	54
Rushden & D	37	11	5	2	30	15	3	7	9	17	29	3	54
Kidderminster	35	11	5	3	29	14	4	2	10	15	23	7	52
Hartlepool	36	10	4	4	42	18	4	4	10	13	24	13	50
Exeter	35	6	6	6	20	25	7	2	8	19	29	-16	47
Swansea	37	6	7	6	21	20	6	3	9	25	34	-8	46
Southend	36	10	4	5	31	19	2	5	10	13	28	-3	45
Macclesfield	37	5	6	8	20	22	6	5	7	13	21	-10	44
Darlington	37	9	5	4	29	19	2	5	12	18	39	-11	43
Oxford	37	7	5	6	29	22	3	7	9	17	27	-3	42
Lincoln	35	8	3	7	23	21	2	8	7	15	27	-10	41
Carlisle	33	8	3	5	23	13	1	8	8	15	28	-3	38
Bristol Rovers	35	7	4	6	24	21	3	4	11	10	23	-10	38
York	33	6	4	6	15	18	4	4	9	25	37	-15	38
L. Orient	35	7	4	6	30	23	2	5	11	16	36	-13	36
Torquay	37	6	5	8	20	27	2	7	9	14	29	-22	35

Halifax	36	3	8	6	14	17	2	3	14	11	41	-33	26
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You can e-mail the programme editor at

Tonight's Squads

Luton Town

1	Mark Ovendale	1
2	Aaron Skelton	2
4	Matthew Spring	4
5	Russell Perrett	5
6	Marvin Johnson	6
7	Adrian Forbes	7
8	Kevin Nicholls	8
10	Carl Griffiths	10
12	Chris Coyne	12
13	Stuart Fraser	13
14	Andrew Fotiadis	14
15	Matthew Taylor	15
16	Carl Emberson	16
17	Emmerson Boyce	17
18	Adam Locke	18
19	Steve Howard	19
20	Peter Holmes	20
24	Scott Ward	24
27	Paul Hughes	27
28	Jean Louis Valois	28
30	David Bayliss	30
32	Lee Mansell	32
33	Ian Hillier	33
34	Dean Crowe	34
35	Ahmet Brkovic	35
42	Gary McSwegan	42
43	Alan Neilson	43

Leyton Orient

1	Ashley Bayes	1
2	Matthew Joseph	2
3	Matthew Lockwood	3
4	Dean Smith	4
5	David McGhee	5
6	Simon Downer	6
7	Andy Harris	7
8	Jabo Ibehre	8
9	Steve Watts	9
10	Ilyseden Christie	10
11	Gary Fletcher	11
12	Scott Barrett	12
13	Aaron McLean	13
14	Chris Tate	14
15	Jeff Minton	15
16	Kevin Nugent	16
17	John Martin	17
18	Wayne Gray	18
19	David Partridge	19
20	Matthew Brazier	20
21	Neil Gough	21
22	Carl Hutchings	22
23	Chris Dorrian	23
24	Phill Hadland	24
25	Scott Canham	25
28	Ronnie Gould	28
30	Billy Jones	30
32	Craig Brown	32
33	Kevin Stephens	33
34	Daniel Hatcher	34

tick if playing tick if substitute

Tonight's Officials

Referee: Clive Penton, Sussex

Assistants: Darren Deadman, Hertfordshire (yellow flag); Robert Smith, Essex (red and yellow flag)

Fourth Official: Steve Tinknell, Hertfordshire

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