

LUTON TOWN

Saturday, September 11, 1999, 3pm

Official Matchday Programme £2.00



v Wrexham

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Nationwide

FOOTBALL LEAGUE

2

Inside Forward

welcome to kenilworth road



DEFENDER Julian Watts this week got his wish to become a Luton Town player - and his good feeling for the club he joined on loan at the start of the season played a major part in the transfer from Bristol City. He even took a considerable pay cut to escape from City's reserves.

The deal had hung in the balance all week, with City boss Tony Pulis unwilling to allow the Town to extend the loan. To be fair to him, City have done the Town important favours in the last few months, so Lennie Lawrence understood his view that if the Town were not willing to sign the defender, the only loan he would consider would be to another club, where a permanent move was on the cards.

According to City, Oxford wanted to sign Watts, while Cardiff and Blackpool asked to take him on loan. Early this week Watts left Kenilworth Road not knowing what was going to happen to him, but fearing that he was about to go into limbo again.

But after talks between Lawrence and Cliff Bassett, the Town made their move a couple of days later, and as we went to press Watts was poised to sign a contract lasting until the end of this season.

He had made it very clear at Ashton Gate that no matter who else was interested, Luton was the club he wanted to join, and as Pulis is still working to cut down his squad to make way for new recruits, he gave the go-ahead.

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



Front cover:

LEADING BY EXAMPLE: Skipper Marvin Johnson, the longest-serving member of our playing staff, in typical action against Bury, when he found time to attack as well as defend.

A much bigger transfer from Ashton Gate this week added new complications to the Town's hopes of bringing back Tony Thorpe. City sold last season's leading scorer Ade Akinbiyi to Wolves for £3.5million, which sets a new record for a deal between Nationwide League clubs.

The question now is whether that means Thorpe is well and truly back in the Ashton Gate fold, or are City intending to re-invest some of the Akinbiyi money on a striker Pulis already has on a private shopping list? But City do not collect the whole of the £3.5million Wolves have paid. It is a touch of real irony that Pulis was manager at Gillingham when he plucked Akinbiyi out of Norwich Reserves. After 28 goals in 63 league appearances, Akinbiyi was sold to Bristol City for £1.2million just over 12 months ago. And Gillingham boss Pulis included a sell-on clause which means that City manager Pulis sees some of this week's profit passed on to his former club. And to think, Gillingham sacked him in the summer!

For the Town, and their hopes of a Thorpe deal, it is a matter of waiting to see how things pan out after the Akinbiyi move. "I really don't know what to think," said Lennie Lawrence. "When I talk to Tony Pulis, he is very non-committal."

City are certain to want a fee if they are willing to let Thorpe go, and the hope a month ago was that it would be very much less than the £1million they paid to Fulham.

But, as regular readers of the matchday magazine may recall, Thorpe did us no favours when he came to Kenilworth Road with Bristol City reserves and played a blinder. Pulis immediately stuck him in the first team squad, and Thorpe is now re-established, and has already netted four goals, including two on Saturday in City's 5-2 thrashing of Blackpool. When he was languishing in the reserves he was very keen on a move back to Kenilworth Road. Now circumstances are very different and he, like Lennie Lawrence, must be awaiting with interest what happens next after the sale of Akinbiyi.

The fact that he is now back in the first team may affect the asking price for Thorpe: as a reserve it was thought City might be prepared to take a big loss on a player bought by a previous manager for £1million just over a year ago. If he keeps popping in the goals, it might well take a lot more cash to prise him away.

City probably think they have now done the Town enough favours, having helped us out last season with the loans of Thorpe and Sean Dyche, and now letting us have Julian Watts.

NATHAN ABBEY this week signed a new contract, having passed his month-long "trial" deal with flying colours. He has signed to the end of the season, confirmation that he is undisputed No.1 keeper. And as



the 21-year-old was agreeing the deal, Matthew Spring and Stuart Fraser accepted extended contracts.

Spring, who will be 20 in November, has become the class act in midfield who attracts considerable interest from other clubs, and his new contract runs through to the summer of 2002. Fraser, also still only 19, has rapidly established himself as a right wing-back, and a valuable contributor to the Town's current formation. He is now committed to Kenilworth Road until the summer of 2001.

But two of the youngsters who came in on one-month contracts, Ryan Davis and David Pearson, have been told "Thanks, but no thanks" and have left the club.

"If they were to be given longer contracts it would be because they were knocking on the door of the first team," said the manager. "I didn't think they were, and I didn't think they were better than the other young players we already have."

LENNIE Lawrence will be guest speaker on Thursday at Luton Town Supporters Club's first open meeting of the season. It will be in the Eric Morecambe Lounge, kick-off 7.30 and the manager will give an informal chat, and answer questions from the floor.

Tickets are on sale on a first come, first-served basis, price £2 for LTSC members, and £3 for others, and are available from the Supporters Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road. You might find it worthwhile to join the Supporters Club at the same time, and thus qualify for cheap admission on this occasion, and others which take place regularly through the season.

IF DAVID Lowe is with the Wrexham squad at Kenilworth Road today, he might well think back to the time when he almost became a Luton Town player. I remember David Pleat telling me about a wonderful attacking midfielder he knew about who was playing for the Wigan youth team in the 1982/83 season. At the end of the season, 17-year-old David Lowe went with the Town youth squad for a tournament in Holland, and he was very bit as good as Pleat and his scouts said he was.

The Town quickly made an offer to Wigan, but it was turned down as being well below a realistic valuation. Pleat was unable to pursue the deal, and the boy became a star striker with Wigan, England youth and England under-21s. He moved on to Ipswich, Port Vale and Leicester before returning to Wigan, where he holds their goal scoring record. He joined Wrexham in the summer, as a Bosman.

LATE last season, when news of receivership broke, Lennie Lawrence got a call from one of our old players, Bontcho Guentchev, the former Bulgarian international, who was given a free transfer a couple of years ago. His offer to come back to help out the team was politely declined, but he has now found a club, having signed for Hendon, to play in the Ryman League Premier Division.

THE CLUB, like the rest of football, is backing the Strip 4 Shelter campaign, a major national fund-raising event on September 24. It hopes to involve more than a million people, and raise £2million to support Shelter's work for the homeless and badly-housed.

The idea is that people will donate £2 to Shelter to wear their team's strip to work, college or school. Children will be asked to donate 50p.

Those who do not have a soccer kit but still want to join in can buy a Strip 4 Shelter T-shirt or sticker, or wear a scarf, paint their face or invent their own outfit for the day. Individuals including Kevin Keegan and Tony Banks are backing the event, and the hope is that companies will give it their support. To order a fund-raising pack, ring Strip 4 Shelter on 0900 111 44 55 before September 21. Calls cost 60p a minute. Or visit the web site at www.strip4shelter.org.uk.

Brian Swain

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The Manager

Lennie Lawrence



DISAPPOINTED but not downhearted is the simple way to sum up my feelings after the game against Bury a week ago.

I thought that over the 90 minutes the draw was probably the right result.

Although we wanted to keep up our 100 per cent home record in the league, it was important not to lose. Each team could look at chances that were created and missed, so Neil Warnock and I could both point to those and make a case for saying we deserved all three points, not just one.

Certainly, Nathan Abbey made a very important save in the early minutes, and it might have been a very different game if we had conceded a goal then. By the same token, we had a couple of good chances in the closing minutes of the first half, and I thought if we had taken either, or both, we would have gone on to win. But Bury were probably the most experienced side we have met so far this season, and as a manager I had to accept that they came with just the right game plan to frustrate us. And Bury finished the last 20 minutes looking stronger than us, which is the first time that has happened to us this season.

It was our third game in eight days, and looking back, perhaps I should have rested a couple of players in midweek at Bournemouth, but that, of course is with the benefit of a wonderful thing called hindsight.

Overall, I have been pleased with the team's performances so far, and today the major requirement is that we extend our unbeaten home record, preferably with another win. It will not be easy home victories are not forgone conclusions. The point I made here a couple of weeks ago was underlined again last weekend - only three of the nine Second Division fixtures were won by home teams.

I never need extra reasons to go into a game seeking victory, but a win over Wrexham today would be all the sweeter for me as a manager, because they have been a bit of a bogey side to us since I came here nearly four years ago.

They are unbeaten in their last six visits to Kenilworth Road, and I have yet to taste victory over Wrexham, home or away, as manager of Luton Town.

So a win for us is long, long, overdue. It will also need a top class team performance, against a visiting side that deserves respect. Wrexham have made a good start to the season, which was sabotaged somewhat when they were beaten on their own ground by Notts County last week.

That will have hurt Welsh pride, and I expect today's game to be a close contest. With half a dozen league games already gone, I suspect Wrexham will have had a good look at us and made plans to cope with the dangers we offer, just as we have looked at them.

We began the season with a couple of surprise packages - for instance the emergence of Matthew Taylor and Stuart Fraser, and the use of Liam George in a withdrawn attacking role.

Bury had done their homework, and set out their formation to frustrate us. Other teams will do the same when they come to Luton. Our job is to produce another surprise or two during the 90 minutes, and stay unbeaten at home for as long as possible.

A good home record can consolidate our position in the league, and if you look at today's Second Division table, with Wrexham just below us, it is obvious how important it is for both teams to gain some reward from today's match.

Having got through a very busy schedule in the first phase of the season, we now have a six-week spell with no midweek games, and that must be turned to our advantage. We will have time to prepare properly and retain match fitness.

The players are responding well to the challenge, and so are supporters. We all want a good win today, and we believe we can get it. Your support is appreciated it - keep it up, and who knows what we might achieve this season?

Lennie Lawrence

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Captain's Log

Marvin Johnson



ONE OF the things that makes football so fascinating is that thousands can watch a game, and thousands have a different view of it. And I know that supporters who saw us play Bury last week fell into two main camps - those who were very disappointed that we did not get the home win we wanted, and those who were quite relieved that we didn't lose.

I am one of those who was glad that we got a point out of a difficult game, because my reading of it was that we were some way short of our best, and perhaps it would have served us right if we had been beaten.

I heard complaints from our supporters that Bury came with a very negative game plan. Perhaps they did, but I don't criticise them for that. And don't forget they created the first good chance of the game, and that we were indebted to Nathan Abbey for making an important save.

We too created chances, and that was the most encouraging aspect of our play. I know we only took one - and wasn't that a great strike by Foti? - but as captain I would be much more concerned if we were not making good openings.

There was a moment when I half-thought I might get on the score sheet when I managed to make a run deep into Bury's half. The way Bury played, Gary Doherty and I had more time and space on the ball than anyone else in our team. I thought I might get all the way when Bury backed off to let me keep going, and my only excuse for not delivering a good shot is that it was on my wrong foot! I know some of the lads think I have two wrong feet, but really I only fancy myself as a bit of a striker when I get my right foot behind the ball.

The good thing for us from last Saturday's match was that it

gives you some satisfaction to come out of a game with a point when you know you have not played that well. But it was not just about our performance - Bury deserve credit for the professional way they stuck to their game plan, even if it is not the style of football I would want to see us adopt when we go away.

I suppose Bury looked at our results to date, and were a little bit wary of what we might do if they did not stay tight at the back. We were not as fluent as we can be, and in all the circumstances we were happy enough with a point.

I suspect Bury would have settled for that result if they had been offered it before the game, although I hear some of their lads went home believing they should have had all three. Like I said, everyone sees the match differently, including those of us who take part!

The good news is that we are still in the top six, and we all want to stay there, and keep within striking distance of the top of the table.

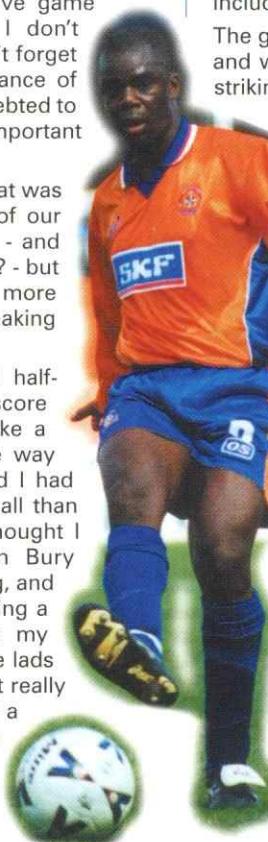
Wrexham are only just below us, so both teams have every reason to go for it today. For some reason they have always been one of the teams who give us more trouble than most.

They won here 2-1 last season, and perhaps you would rather not be reminded of the 5-2 disaster the year before that.

I trust we will do much better today. That 5-2 game was the last Trevor Peake played for us, on the day he became the oldest-ever league player in Luton Town's history. Good job I'm still a mere 30-year-old youngster!

I suspect we might have a more open game today than we did last week, but I don't think our task will be any easier. We need to play better, but we know we can, and hopefully, with your support, we will prove it.

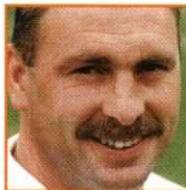
Marvin Johnson



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

Treatment Room

Clive Goodyear



UNTIL Thursday morning it looked as though this column would be one of those "not very much to report" affairs.

But towards the end of a good training session, Phil Gray overstretched going for a ball, and went down in considerable pain.

It was obviously a muscle problem, and at the time of writing we were still checking to ascertain exactly what it was.

Severe cramp was one possibility, in which case there was little to worry about.

The other possibility was that it was a more serious hamstring injury, a strain or a pull, so we were working with Phil in the treatment room yesterday to get an accurate diagnosis.

I doubt if he would have been able to do any training yesterday, and it could well be that we had to wait until this morning before making a decision on whether or not he would be available for this afternoon's match.

I reported last week about the continuing treatment for knee injuries sustained by Gavin McGowan and Landry Zahana-Oni, and today's update is good news for one, not so good for the other.

Both have had scans to help us make the right diagnosis and prescribe the correct treatment, and in McGowan's case things are going according to plan. He is about to go into his second week of rehabilitation and strengthening work, and that should solve his ligament problem.

We were hoping that the same might do the job for Zahana-Oni, who has a slight cartilage tear, but after another appointment with the consultant, it has become clear that he needs surgery on his left knee.



● **FIRST AID:** Gary Doherty under treatment for a head injury during the game against Bury. It turned out to be a very minor knock, and he was able to carry on, and was in no danger of being ruled out of contention today.

Cartilage operations nowadays are much more simple than they were years ago, and because of the so-called keyhole technique, which makes a very small incision, recovery time is a lot quicker than it used to be.

It is a routine operation, and in this case the medical verdict was that if we tried to get by without it, the player stood at least a 40 per cent chance of having the problem flare up again in future.

So Zahana-Oni will have the operation early next week, and then within a day or two start work on the rehab and recovery programme.

It is difficult to forecast how long it will take him to regain full fitness, but he will certainly be doing a few miles on the exercise bike - pedalling one-legged for some of the time!

Clive Goodyear

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Club Secretary

Cherry Newberry



FIRST this afternoon, with the usual welcome to all supporters, I ask for your help on behalf of a good cause. The Herald & Post Life Support Appeal is holding a bucket collection as part of an attempt to raise £40,000. The aim is to set up a specialised ambulance to take good first aid instruction to the general public, and to schools. All of us may benefit one day, so I hope supporters will be as generous as usual.

For the players' sakes, I hope it is not as hot and sticky today as it was for our last home match, when the bright sunshine caused a minor problem, as supporters may have seen.

This season all Nationwide League games use an electronic "scoreboard" to notify the numbers of subs who are going on and leaving during the game, but last week the sun shining straight onto the board was so strong that the lights in the board were barely visible.

I thought it might help if on occasions like that we reverted to the old-fashioned numbered boards that used to do the job. We still have them, ready for an emergency if the electronics go wrong. The Football League replied that we could not do that, whatever the problems with sunlight. Their new boards are part of a commercial venture, and the League insists they are displayed for substitutions, and to advise how much stoppage time is to be played.

There has been some comment about the size of the crowd last week, our lowest league gate of the season. One reason was that Bury did not bring many supporters, but there is another feature of attendances which may interest you.



● **IT WAS** very pleasing to hear supporters voice their appreciation of the pre-match and half-time entertainment by the Biggleswade Majorettes last week. We enjoyed their visit, and will be delighted to have them back again later in the season.

We had 4,663 in the stadium. Yet we had sold 5,072 tickets, and that is not unusual. We have discovered that on average we sell ten per cent more tickets than the eventual attendance.

We carried out a survey to discover why. Reasons people gave for not attending matches after buying tickets include cars breaking down on the way, late call-in to work, wife went into labour, had to go to a wedding and wife made me go shopping. Last Saturday there was another reason given by several people: it was too hot to go to football and a day out to the seaside became more attractive on the final weekend of the school holidays.

Finally today, can I draw your attention to the news item on page 3 of today's programme about the Strip 4 Shelter campaign, on September 24. The club is backing it, and we hope supporters will do so too.

Cherry Newberry

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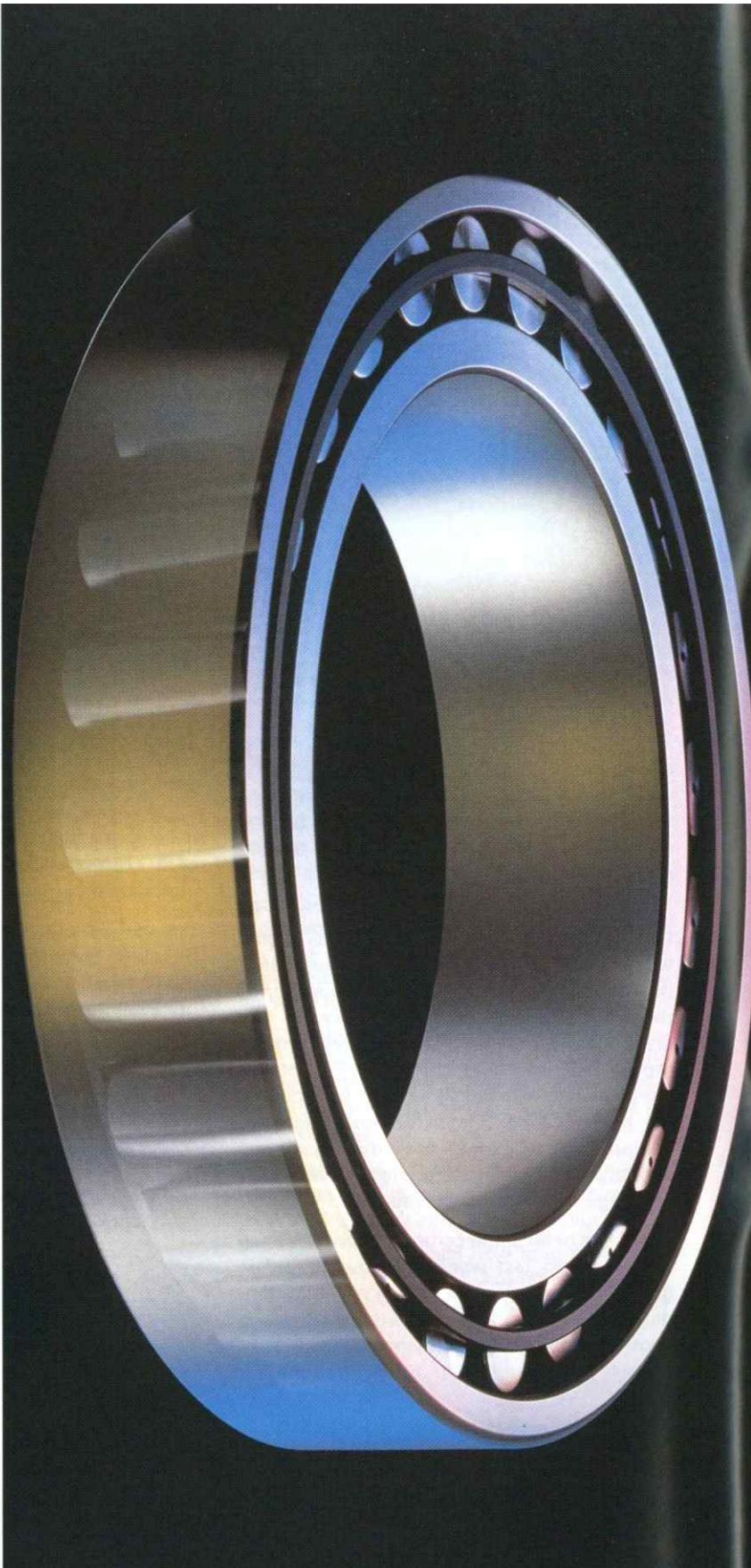
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Nationwide League
Division Two

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Nationwide League
Division Two

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then at normal league prices.
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the day.

Nationwide League
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Nationwide League
Division Two

**Oldham Ath
v Luton Town**

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Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm,

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Saturday 9am to 5.30pm on matchdays;

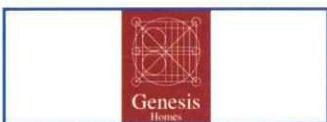
10am until the away coaches depart on days when there is no game at Kenilworth Road.

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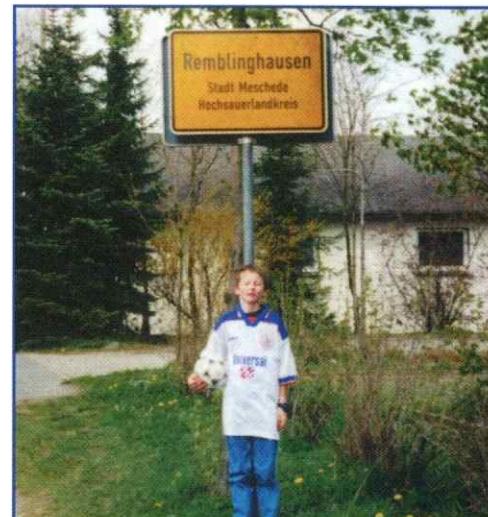
OUR fans featured on this page are normally keen supporters on their travels, but today, for a change, we have a young lad in Germany, who has just become a Town fan.

The photo comes from his sister, Susanne Michaela Konig, from Remblinghausen. Her letter says she was in England for a week's holiday "and was dragged to the Luton v York match by a member of the family I was staying with." She added: "I bought a Luton shirt that day, and forced my little brother to pose in it near our football field.

They sure had never heard about Luton in my village. I saw that you publish pictures of abroad supporters, so have a go on the photographs I did.

"As my brother Martin is on them, some facts about him: he has just turned 12 and he's proudly wearing the Luton shirt and shorts as often as he can. I'll take him to a game some day, so you had better get back into the First Division to make it more exciting for him."

Susanne also asks us to say hi and thanks to the Pingree family. She expects they will send this



programme to her and adds: "Being in the magazine of the team he supports would make my brother happily grinning for ever."



HOW does a Luton Town restaurant come to be in business in Chilumba, Malawi, in the heart of central Africa? Mark Burrows, from Raleigh Road, Exeter, a devoted Hatters fan, supplied the answer and the pictures.

The picture inside the restaurant shows Peter Bliss, on the right, next to the restaurant owner, Thomas Khunga. On a previous visit by Peter and his wife, who works for Lepra, Thomas forged a friendship with Peter, and expressed a desire to find a new name for his restaurant. Being a Lutonian, Peter suggested, tongue in cheek, the name Luton Town. To his surprise, on his next visit, he discovered his suggestion had become reality.

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

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Commercial

John Bailey



WE are delighted to welcome back to Kenilworth Road today our matchball sponsors, DAP Consulting, Special Advisers to Governments, of Bishop's Stortford, a company run by Town supporters David and Pauline Cain.

They are repeating the experience after enjoying the occasion so much at the Bury match, and David said: "DAP Consulting are delighted to be able to sponsor the match ball again, and wish the team lots of luck against Wrexham today. Luton have a great young team, and look like having a successful season. We are also pleased to welcome our guests, Brian, Paul, Neil and James Duncan."

For our part, we too welcome the DAP party to Kenilworth Road today, and hope they enjoy their time with us. Their support is much appreciated.

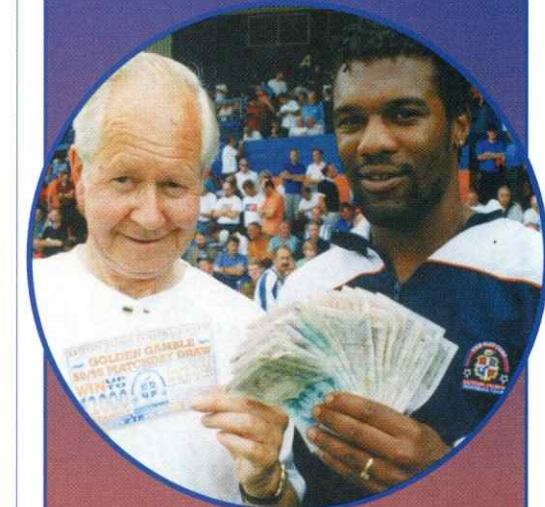
WE OWE Sue Miller an apology today for a mistake which resulted in her name being left out of the article about last week's match sponsors, the Regular Rabble. We know she has Luton Town very close to her heart in more ways than one, and we are sorry gremlins got into the works and blotted out our welcome to her, along with the other supporters who are most certainly regular, and humorously willing to call themselves a rabble. We know they are not, really, and again we thank them for their sponsorship backing last week.

Sponsoring a match is not the sole preserve of big business and we have all kinds of packages on offer, to suit all budgets. Please contact the commercial department for further information, on Luton 411622.

John Bailey

GOLDEN GAMBLE

TOWN fan Clifford Letting will doubtless enjoy seeing his picture in the programme - but he was even happier a week ago, when it was taken, because he was the day's lucky Golden Gamble winner.



The tickets are on sale at every home game, at £1 each, and the income is split 50-50 between Luton Town FC and the jackpot. For the Bury game the prize fund was £452, and Mr Letting, from Harlington, collected the cash from Town player Gavin McGowan.

The draw is made at half-time, with the cash instantly available, and so far this season the Golden Gamble has paid out £1,657 to six winners. There is always a winner, and at a modest £1 stake, what have you got to lose?



Hatters v Robins



Robins' Goals For & Against



Robins' Rogues

Hardy	2
McGregor	2
Carey	1
Connolly	1
Owen	1
Phillips	1
Ridler	1
Spink	1
Williams	1

nb.
League
Details
Only



Wrexham's Last Ten Years - The Complete Record



Robins' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



Wrexham's Form Guide - Result, Points, Position



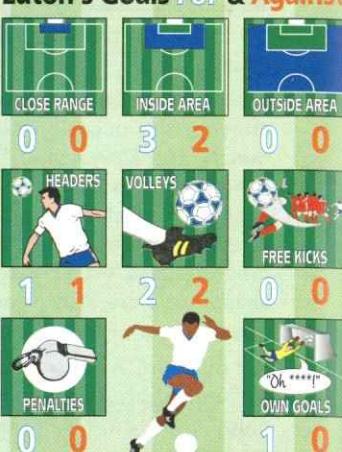
Hatters' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



Robins' Roll Call

1	Kevin Dearden	Goalkeeper 6 Apps 0 Goals
2	Mark McGregor	Defender 6 Apps 0 Goals
5	Brian Carey	Defender 5 Apps 0 Goals
12	Dave Ridler	Defender 4(1) Apps 0 Goals
3	Phil Hardy	Defender 3 Apps 0 Goals
24	Michael Ryan	Defender 3(3) Apps 0 Goals
10	Dean Spink	Defender 3 Apps 0 Goals
18	Danny Williams	Midfield 5 Apps 0 Goals
15	Paul Barrett	Midfield 3 Apps 1 Goal
4	Gareth Owen	Midfield 3(1) Apps 0 Goals
30	Wayne Phillips	Midfield 3 Apps 0 Goals
8	Kevin Russell	Midfield 3(1) Apps 0 Goals
29	Ian Stevens	Forward 6 Apps 2 Goals
9	Karl Connolly	Forward 6 Apps 0 Goals
31	Craig Faulconbridge	Forward 5(1) Apps 5 Goals
11	David Lowe	Forward 2(2) Apps 0 Goals

Luton's Goals For & Against



MATCH

Matchmen of the Month

A double winner of the award this month...Gary Kelly has been kept busy in the Oldham Goal, while Andy Thompson has been a rock in Bristol Rovers' defence.

Player	Team	GP	SR	AVE
Blackpool	Junior Bent	4	1	6.50
Bournemouth	Scott Mean	5	2	6.80
Brentford	Martin Rowlands	3	2	7.66
Bristol City	Gregory Goodridge	4	2	7.75
Bristol Rovers	Andy Thomson	4	3	8.00
Bury	Mitchell Thomas	5	2	7.60
Bury	Ian Lawson	5	2	7.40
Cambridge	Benjamin Butler	5	1	7.00
Cardiff	Danny Hill	3	1	8.00
Chesterfield	Curtis Holland	4	1	7.25
Colchester	Wilkins / Launders / Keith	5	1	6.80
Gillingham	Andy Hessenthaler	5	2	7.20
Oldham	Liam George	4	2	7.50
Millwall	Paul Shaw	4	2	7.75
Notts County	Clayton Blackmore	4	1	7.75
Oldham	Gary Kelly	4	3	8.00
Oxford	Matt Murphy	5	1	7.00
Preston	Jonathan Macken	4	2	7.50
Reading	Darren Caskey	3	1	7.66
Scunthorpe	Logan / Harsley	4	1	7.00
Stoke	Kavanagh / Thorne	4	1	7.00
Wigan	Stuart Barlow	5	1	7.80
Wycombe	Kevin Dearden	5	2	7.40
Wycombe	Jamie Bates	5	2	7.20

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



Ground: Racecourse Ground
Capacity: 9,200
Pitch Measurement: 111 x 71
Record Attendance: 34,445 v Manchester United, FA Cup 4th round, 26 Jan 1957
Record League Win: 10-1 v Hartlepool United, Division 4, 3 Mar 1962
Record Cup Win: 6-0 v Gateshead, FA Cup 1st round, 20 Nov 1976
Record Receipts: £126,012 v West Ham United, FA Cup 4th round, 4 Feb 1992
Year Formed: 1873 (oldest club in Wales)
Most Lge Goals: 106, Division 3 (N), 1932-33
Most Lge Points: 80, Division 3, 1992-93
Top League scorer in a season: Tom Bamford, 44, Division 3 (N), 1933-34
Record Defeat: 0-9 v Brentford, Division 3, 15 Oct 1963
Most Capped Player: Dai Davies, 28 (51), Wales
Most Lge Appearances: Arfon Griffiths, 592, 1959-61, 1952-79

Today's Visitors

welcome to Wrexham



BRIAN FLYNN
MANAGER

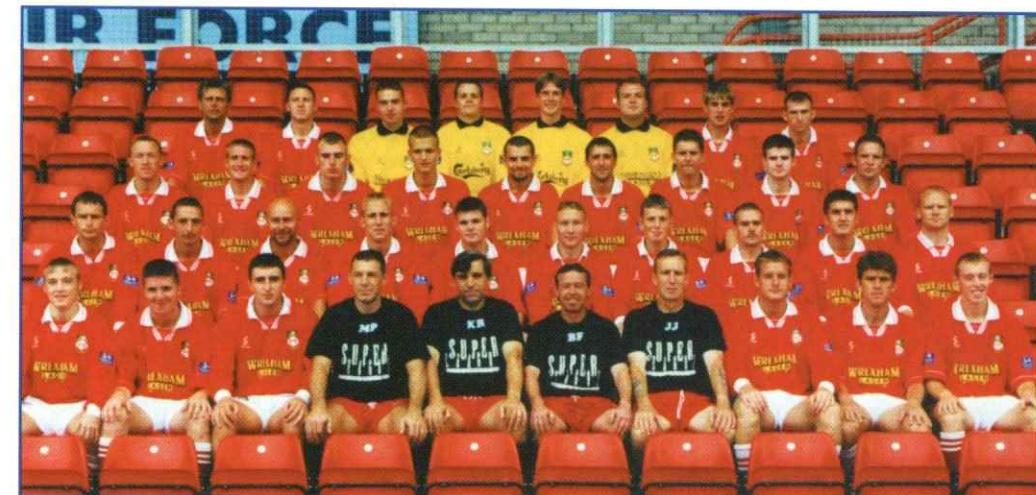
The longest serving manager in the Second Division is in charge of today's visitors to Kenilworth Road. Brian Flynn has been at the helm at the Racecourse since November 1989, when he succeeded former player Dixie McNeil.

Flynn took to management with ease after doing it all as a player, and has packed a lot of football experience into his 43 years. He was a busy little midfielder when he made

his name with Burnley, as part of their very successful side of the 1970's. Born in Port Talbot, he won his first Welsh cap in 1975, and after 120 league appearances for Burnley his international career continued after a transfer to Leeds United.

At Elland Road his first manager, in the post-Revie era, was Jimmy Adamson, who had previously been boss at Turf Moor.

Flynn chalked up 152 league appearances for Leeds before going back to Burnley for a second successful spell there. He was a Burnley player again by the time he made his 66th and final appearance for Wales, in 1984.



Back row, left to right: Dean Spink, Dave Ridler, David Walsh, Kevin Dearden, Kristian Rogers, Mark Cartwright, Craig Faulconbridge, Karl Connolly.

Third row: Andy Morrell, Steve Thomas, Danny Williams, Steve Roberts, Mark McGregor, Phil Hardy, Ian Stevens, Anthony Wolfe, Gareth Owen.

Second row: Tony Humes, Wayne Phillips, Kevin Russell, Neil Roberts, Mark Warren, Deryn Brace, Kevin Hannon, Martyn Chalk, Steve Rishworth, Bryan Carey.

Front row: Robin Gibson, Mark Ryan, Paul Barrett, Mel Pejic (physiotherapist), Kevin Reeves (Assistant Manager), Brian Flynn (Manager), Jory Jones (Coach), Steve Thomas, David Lowe, Steven Cooper.

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

Today's Visitors

the players



PAUL BARRETT (Midfield)
Signed just prior to last March's transfer deadline on a free from Newcastle United. Paul was a schoolboy with his home town team and progressed through their ranks before going professional at St. James' Park.



DERYN BRACE (Full-back)

A native of west Wales, Deryn began his career with Norwich City, but it was following a move to the Racecourse Ground in 1994, that he made his league bow. Has been a regular in the Wales U21 team, but injuries have prevented Deryn adding significantly to his appearances for both club and country.

BRIAN CAREY (Centre-Half)

A case of third time lucky for Wrexham, as the big Republic of Ireland international finally joined the Reds on a permanent transfer in 1996. Twice the Cork born centre-half had been on loan at the Racecourse, but on both previous occasions Wrexham couldn't raise the cash needed to buy him from Manchester United. He eventually joined Leicester City in 1993, but after three seasons at Filbert Street the Reds finally got their man.

MARK CARTWRIGHT (Goalkeeper)

Waited patiently as back-up 'keeper for several seasons, until claiming the shirt as his own in 1998/99. A Wales Under-21 international, Mark served his time with York City before continuing his education in the US. Returned home to sign for Wrexham and is now competing with Kevin Dearden for the starting position after coming to Luton on trial in the summer but then being recalled.



KARL CONNOLLY (Forward)
Discovered playing Sunday League football in his home city of Liverpool, nine years ago, Karl has a great passion for the game, rarely letting injuries stop him from turning out. One of the most skilful players at the club, he gets his fair share of goals whether playing on the left wing or as striker. Recently broke through the 100 barrier and will be looking to be leading scorer at the Racecourse once again this season.

KEVIN DEARDEN (Goalkeeper)

Coming from Luton, he was taken on first by Tottenham Hotspur as a trainee and then turned professional in 1988. Chances were limited at White

Hart Lane and along with two first team outings for Spurs, there were loan periods with seven different lower division clubs, before Brentford signed him permanently in 1993. With over 250 appearances under his belt for the Bees, Kevin found injuries had given

others a chance at Griffin Park and he was more than happy to look for a new challenge in North Wales, signing for Wrexham last May.

CRAIG FAULCONBRIDGE (Forward)

Joined Wrexham for pre-season training and impressed the manager enough to be offered a contract. Originally a schoolboy with Birmingham City, he switched to Coventry City as a youngster and progressed through the junior ranks at Highfield Road. Turned professional in 1997, never played in the senior side for the Sky Blues, but did have successful loan spells with Dunfermline Athletic and Hull City.

PHIL HARDY (Full-back)

Wrexham's regular left-back for the last eight seasons, since he dislodged former European Cup winner Alan Kennedy, when only aged 17. Family qualifications saw Phil selected for the Republic of Ireland U21's and he went on to captain his country at that level. With over 260 league appearances already under his belt, he is now facing tough competition for a first team place from Deryn Brace.

TONY HUMES (Centre-half)

A bargain £40,000 buy from Ipswich Town in 1992, Tony is the club captain and leads by example. Although a native of Blyth, he started in football as an apprentice in East Anglia and spent nearly 10 years at Portman Road. Since coming to Wrexham, Tony has played at the heart of the Reds' defence, but can switch to midfield if required.

DAVID LOWE (Forward)

A very experienced striker who made his name during two stints with Wigan Athletic and holds the record as their record aggregate goalscorer. He was restricted in his appearances last season when the big spending Latics brought in two Premiership forwards, but they still wanted to retain him once again this year. Looking for more regular first team football, David had the choice of several clubs in the summer months but happily decided on Wrexham, which after Ipswich Town, Port Vale and Leicester City becomes his fifth different team.



MARK McGREGOR (Full-Back)
Was captain of the Wrexham youth team, before moving up to the full-time ranks in 1995. More recognised as a centre-half then, he has since made nearly all his senior appearances in the right-back role.

ANDY MORRELL (Forward)

Was working at a Health Club in Leeds when recommended to Wrexham for a trial last year. Initially injured in training, he then returned to show enough promise to gain an extended trial and now a contract for this season.

GARETH OWEN (Midfield)

Still only 26, but now entering his 10th season of first team football at the Racecourse and nearing 350 appearances for the club. Locally born, Gareth joined Wrexham as a schoolboy and made his debut in 1989, since when he has been an important member of the Wrexham midfield. Gained eight Wales U21 caps and another at 'B' level, before being called up to the senior international squad two seasons ago.

WAYNE PHILLIPS (Midfield)

A former trainee with the club, he returned to the Racecourse this summer, after spending 18 months with Stockport County in the First Division. Born in Bangor, Wayne was spotted by the Wrexham scouts at a young age and progressed through the junior ranks until joining as a YTS player in 1987. Offered a professional contract in 1989, he is one of only two current players who were with the club prior to Brian Flynn taking over as manager in November 1989.

DAVE RIDLER (Centre-half)

Came to the club three seasons ago on the recommendation of Karl Connolly, who had seen him playing local football in Liverpool. A chef by trade, Dave had a few attempts at making a career in the game, but eventually succeeded when Brian Flynn offered him a contract.

NEIL ROBERTS (Forward)

Now a third year professional who came through the ranks and finally broke into the first team in 1997/98. A prolific scorer in the reserves, he played his first Under-21 game for Wales when coming on as substitute against Italy in September 97 and played in the recent 'B' international against Northern Ireland.

KEVIN RUSSELL (Midfield)

Having spent two seasons with Wrexham in the late 1980's, he then left the club to continue a career that has seen him turn out in the colours of Portsmouth, Leicester, Stoke, Burnley, Peterborough, Cardiff, Hereford, Bournemouth and Notts Co., before he returned to the Racecourse in 1995.



MICHAEL RYAN (Defence)

Signed from Manchester United at the tail end of last season and finished the year with several impressive displays in the Pontin's League. He continued this progress in pre-season and won promotion to the senior squad, coming off the bench at Blackpool for his league debut, at only 19 years of age. Born in Stockport he joined United as a junior and worked his way up through the ranks at Old Trafford.

DEAN SPINK (Forward/Centre-Half)

Signed in the summer of 1997 from Shrewsbury Town, for a fee of £70,000. Initially made a name for himself in local football around the Birmingham area, and Aston Villa signed him from Halesowen Town. After loan spells with Scarborough and Bury, he joined Shrewsbury in 1990. In seven years at the meadow, Dean played as both centre-half and centre-forward, but it was as a striker that Brian Flynn recruited him.

IAN STEVENS (Forward)

Started as an apprentice with Preston and turned professional with them in 1984. Made a handful of appearances with North End and Stockport County, before being released to Lancaster City. Within four months he was back in the full-time ranks as Bolton Wanderers offered him a contract, but opportunities were rare over the following four years at Burnden Park. It was not until a switch to Gigg Lane in 1991, that Ian found his form and rewarded Bury with 38 goals in 100 league starts. A similar return with Shrewsbury Town began in 1994 and Carlisle United stepped in with a £100,000 deal two years ago. Top scorer with the Cumbrians in both his seasons there, Ian could not help prevent their slide down the table. With his contract at Brunton Park expiring this summer he was happy to step back up a division when Wrexham offered him the opportunity.

STEVE THOMAS (Midfield)

A former YTS trainee and now in his third season as a professional. A native of Hartlepool, Steve has Welsh qualifications and has played for his adopted country many times at youth level, before having his first Wrexham start against Cardiff early in 1997/98.

DANNY WILLIAMS (Midfield/Defence)

A locally born player, Danny has a number of appearances with the Wales Under-21 team under his belt including two in June and another in Belarus last week. He signed a two year contract with Wrexham just before last March's transfer deadline, but had to wait until this pre-season before making the senior squad.



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	In discussions
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MATTHEW SPRING	Brian Hall
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LIAM GEORGE	WHOSH
GARY DOHERTY	Peter Johnson
STUART FRASER	David & Jonathon Siegler
ANDREW FOTIADIS	Sally Mayne & Family
MATTHEW TAYLOR	Mick Garbutt, Inside Media
LANDRY ZAHANA-ONI	AVAILABLE
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LENNIE LAWRENCE	Luton Town Supporters Club, Milton Keynes
JOHN MOORE	Ian Smith
Under consideration	Les Miller, Miller & Company, Bedford
Under consideration	Paul Deason

The sponsorship package includes:

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

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

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

Hatters On Card

Alan Robinson

I HAPPEN to know that the birthday of today's mascot, Matthew Fleckney, is May 14. And few Town fans who were around at the time will ever forget the significance of that date in 1983, exactly ten years before young Matthew was born.

On May 14, 1983, Matthew's parents, David and Elaine, were in a crowd of 42,843 at Maine Road, Manchester, to see perhaps the most important goal any Luton Town player has ever scored. It was the final game of our first season back up in Division One, and in the previous week we had been stuffed 5-1 at home by Everton and 3-0 at Manchester United on the Monday. No-one gave us a hope of avoiding an immediate return to the Second Division (now the First).

All Manchester City had to do was to avoid defeat, and we were down. But if we won, the trapdoor would open up on City instead, even though they had stayed above the relegation zone all season.

Radomir Antic was the man who went on as a sub, and netted the winner, and thousands of us went wild with delight. Having scored such an important goal, it was no surprise that when Match Weekly decided the following year to give away football cards with their magazine, to commemorate great goals, our Yugoslavian hero featured in the 70-card set.

Raddy was David Pleat's first foray into the continental market in the summer of 1980. The elegant midfielder had won five caps in a cosmopolitan career that included spells at Partisan Belgrade, Fernebache of Turkey and then Spanish outfit Real Zaragoza. Although he was over 30 when he left Spain for a £50,000 transfer fee, supporters of Real Zaragoza staged street protests against his departure -

they had just voted him their player of the year. It was the Luton manager's intention to use Raddy as a sweeper once he had mastered sufficient English to communicate with his fellow defenders, but he took a long time to settle down and it was some time before he was utilised in this position.

More often than not he was on the sub's bench - there was only one in those days - but he played a valuable part in the run-in to the Second Division championship in 1982, and the fight to avoid relegation the next season.

In all he played in 100 league matches for Luton, 46 of them as a sub. In the Maine Road showdown, he replaced Wayne Turner with barely 20 minutes left, and smacked in the crucial goal when the season was four minutes from its final whistle.

Apart from that famous goal, which still guarantees him folk hero status in Luton, Raddy will always be remembered as a versatile, classy ball player, with a terrific swerving shot. He was also a perfect gentleman, yet an enigma as a footballer, sometimes frustratingly unable to get involved.

This side of things, of course, was forgotten after that wonderful May afternoon, and he was offered another year's contract. It is doubtful if the offer would have been made if we had been relegated.

After leaving Luton in 1984, Raddy returned home to Yugoslavia. He was a Serb, but we hardly knew about that at the time. He began a coaching career which ultimately led him to become boss of Spanish giants Atletico Madrid.

As for these large-sized cards, it is rare to find a complete set nowadays, but you may be lucky to stumble across No. 13 in the set for around a pound.



**Match Weekly.
Goals and Goalscorers, 1984**

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Notice to All Supporters

- AN INCREASE in unacceptable behaviour in the stadium, particularly obscene chanting, has been apparent in recent matches.
- We are a family club, trying to encourage more children to games, and we will invoke the law to prevent such things as obscene language or gestures.
- Please see the warning notices on this subject displayed in various parts of the stadium, and please help us to stamp out unacceptable behaviour. If there is a culprit you can identify, please contact a steward or police officer as quickly as possible.
- Please be advised that the club will deal in the strongest possible way with any matter relating to unacceptable behaviour either at home or away matches.
- Together, we can all make Luton Town a club to be proud of.**

Football. It's a game of two halves



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

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Hatters Chatter

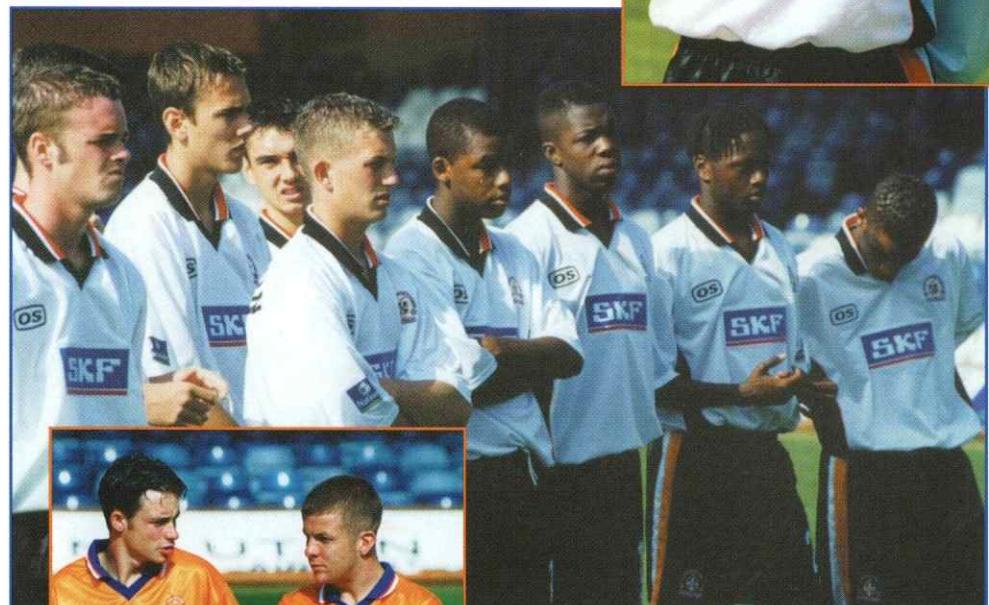
stars in focus

THE ritual of the pre-season photo-call had to be postponed this year because the club was in receivership, but the waiting is now over, and overleaf you will find the official club portrait of the 1999/2000 squad.

While everything was being set up, Gareth Owen snapped away during the preparations, and we thought you might like the close-up of the new away kit. Matthew Spring is the model.

We hope to have replicas available in the Luton Town shop before long - check the shop advertisements in future programmes for details.

The group trying out the new away kit is part of our youth team, left to right Dean Mortara, Ryan Moran, Alex Minton, Lee Mansell, Ezra Mentore, Steve Dogbe, Duane Clarke and Rene Barritau. (For news of the youth team's latest success, in the Football League Youth Alliance, see Page 43).



Meanwhile, as players were being directed to their appointed places for the official photo, Michael McIndoe and Stuart Fraser found themselves settled in good time, with the chance to enjoy a chat.

LUTON TOWN F.C. 1999/2000

SKF Bearings

SKF

SKF

SKF Bearings



Back Row: Left to Right: Paul Lowe (Youth Team Coach), Dean Rastrick (Youth Development Officer), Emmerson Boyce, Adam Locke, Efetobore Sodje, Alan White, Tresor Kandol, Jude Stirling, Gary Doherty, James Ayres, Clive Goodyear (Physiotherapist), John Moore (Coach)

Third Row: Left to Right: Cherry Newbery (Club Secretary), Mandy Malins (Fitness Trainer), Landry Zahana-Oni, Gavin McGowan, Matthew Taylor, Graham Wraight, Nathan Abbey, Daniel Tate, Scott Ward, Paul McLaren, Jerry Moses, Andre Scarlett, Trevor Hartley (Coach), Les Shannon (Scout)

Second Row: Left to Right: Phil Gray, Ray McKinnon, Liam George, Matthew Spring, Chris Green (Director), Cliff Bassett (Director), Marvin Johnson (Club Captain), Lennie Lawrence (Team Manager), Nigel Terry (Director), Stuart Douglas, Andrew Fotiadis, Michael McIndoe, Stuart Fraser

Front Row: Left to Right: Duane Clarke, René James-Barriteau, Steven Dogbe, Alex Minton, Ezra Mentore, Ryan Moran, John Carroll, Dean Mortara, Lee Mansell

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

football NOW!



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

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

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

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The authority...

Hatters Away

travel information

Brentford v Luton Town

Saturday 18th September, kick-off 3.00pm

WE ARE away to Brentford next week, and Griffin Park, is not the easiest ground to reach by road. But as usual the two regular coach services will be running to take supporters to and from the game.

And the Town can help with parking for coach passengers - it is available at Maple Road, and under supervision, at a cost of £3 per vehicle, but to use the facility you must book in advance, through the club shop.

Town on Tour, an offshoot of Luton Town Supporters Club, offers its best deals to LTSC members, who have a kiosk in Kenilworth Road on match days, offering membership and travel tickets. Their coaches to Brentford



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leave Maple Road at 12.45pm, and the fare is £7 for LTSC members, or £6 for concessions. Non-members have to pay £8. The Bobbers Travel Club is a members-only service, but life membership costs only £1, or 50p for under-16s and pensioners. The Bobbers pick up at Cranfield, Ampthill, Flitwick, and Westoning.

Coaches depart from the top of Kenilworth Road, and also pick up near the hotel next to the M1 junction with Dunstable Road.

Their coaches to Griffin Park will leave Cranfield at 11 am and Luton at noon, and the fare is £6.50 for adults, £5.50 for concessions. Visit the Bobbers Travel Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road on match days for further information.

DIY travellers

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mileage on this route: About 45.

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

Blast FROM THE Past

Roger Wash

Luton Town v Wrexham



Although both Wrexham and ourselves have been in existence for over a century, clashes in the Football League did not start until 1963 after the Town's relegation to the old Division Three.

Season 1963/64 saw the Town narrowly avoid a second successive demotion at the death and, with Wrexham failing to stay up, the games between the two sides that campaign were not destined to live long in the memory.

The first meeting took place at the Racecourse Ground on November 30th 1963 in front of a crowd of 6,281. We had recorded only one win from the previous eight games, while the Robins had mustered only one point from the previous 12 matches.

Despite the introduction of new big money signing from Northampton, John Reid, the Robins had an easy time of it in winning 2-0 in a scrappy game, with Arfon Griffiths and Mick Metcalf netting the goals, one in each half.

By the time of the return, the following April, we had discovered a new goalscoring diamond in John O'Rourke and were attempting to pull ourselves out of the bottom four. Steve Fleet, in the Wrexham goal, was a hero and kept the score down to 3-1 with a succession of fine saves but he was powerless to stop efforts from O'Rourke, Mark Lownds and Gordon Turner.

We parted company at the end of that season but it was only 12 months before we were meeting again, this time in Division Four.

Both clashes in 1965/66 were early season affairs, and in the game at the Racecourse the Hatters were always second best against a side that included four teenagers.

Sammy McMillan scored both goals for the Robins but was missing in the return three weeks later as the Wrexham forwards squandered a hatful of early chances, only to see Ray Whittaker give the Town the lead with a volley.

It was then the Town's turn to miss chances with Bruce Rioch spurning three good opportunities to

sew the game up, but a contest that could have finished 5-5 ended in a narrow 1-0 win for the Hatters.

In the following campaign we suffered our, by now, normal 2-0 defeat at Wrexham with McMillan again on the scoresheet. In the return, however, we turned the tables once more when two late goals from ex-England international Derek Kevan secured a 3-1 win against a side that was left to consider what might have been, given their domination of large parts of the match.

In 1967/68 we ended up as champions of Division Four, but we started the campaign at Wrexham, proudly parading our new look side. In a rough and bad tempered affair, both Graham French and Wrexham skipper Terry Bradbury were sent off for fighting, and the Town finished with only nine men after substitute Brian Johnson had to limp off following a foul.

Ray Smith gave the home side the lead just after the interval, but the Town bravely fought back and equalised through new boy Rodney Green two minutes from the end.

By the time of the return, in December 1967, we were still managing to hang on to a 100% home record, and the Robins made us fight hard to retain it despite making their intentions known from the kick-off when employing a ten man defence.

After several near misses from Keith Allen, the game came to life in the second period when Rioch gave the Town the lead but, following a Wrexham leveller, it was left to captain Terry Branston to save the points with a late rocket header.

It was to be 11 years before our paths crossed again, this time in the old Division Two with the first reacquaintance taking place at Kenilworth Road in October 1978 at a time when we were going through a 'purple' patch at home scoring a hatful of goals.

When Brian Stein's header and Lil Fuccillo's 20 yard strike earned us a two goal cushion after 13 minutes it looked like a rout was on the cards, but Wrexham fought back and reduced the deficit through Micky Thomas and we were left hanging

STER



Brian Stein puts the Town one up against Wrexham at Kenilworth Road in 1978/79.

on at the end.

We struggled against relegation during the second part of that campaign but had made sure of safety in the penultimate game leaving us with a trip to Wrexham with the pressure off. In a typical end of season affair we went down 0-2 to goals from Steve Buxton and Peter Williams. The second goal was scored after Hatters defender Mark Aizlewood was sent off for dissent, after hotly disputing the referee's decision not to award a penalty for Joey Jones' blatant handball. A sad end to the season but a happy baptism for Wayne Turner who made his full debut for the Town.

In the next campaign we went down 1-3 to a rampant Robins side at the Racecourse with Bob Hatton's late tap-in the only consolation, but in the return we took full revenge with a 2-0 victory.

A wonder strike from David Moss was the pick of the goals as the Town showed the fans what might have been as they narrowly missed out on promotion. Another Luton debut, this time Clive Goodyear who effectively buttoned up the prolific Wrexham marksman Dixie McNeil. Both games in 1980/81 ended in draws with 17 year old Frank Bunn rescuing the Town with a last minute equaliser at Kenilworth Road and two long shots from Raddy Antic that hit the woodwork the only bright spots from a dull 0-0 stalemate in the return.

During our championship winning season of 1981/82 we finally managed a win at the Racecourse with Mal Donagh and Steve White sliding through on a saturated pitch to earn a 2-0 victory- manager David Pleat's first win in Wales at the ninth attempt!

The Robins gained some revenge when they took a point in a 0-0 draw at Luton later on in the season to bring to an end a run of nine straight victories that had taken us to the top of the table. There then followed a long gap before we met up again and battle recommenced when we were relegated three years ago. Unfortunately Wrexham have now firmly established themselves as a bogey side for, in our last six meetings, we have failed to win with only two points gained out of a possible 18. Time for a change of fortune?

Community & Schools Programme



Summer Holiday Coaching Courses

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



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

ntl: Schools Visit Project

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

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



Free Coaching Days with ntl:



Last Monday and Tuesday almost 200 youngsters turned up at our free coaching days in Luton and Dunstable to enjoy the last days of their summer holiday.

The entire day was free for all the children who attended thanks to NTL, our Schools Visit sponsor. This is the second year running we have organised such a day and our thanks go to NTL for making it possible.

With everyone back at school now, our NTL School Visit Programme is back and details of how you can become involved are on the opposite page.

Our thanks also go to all the youngsters we have seen over the summer - we hope to see you very soon.



The Dunstable Gazette

THE Leader

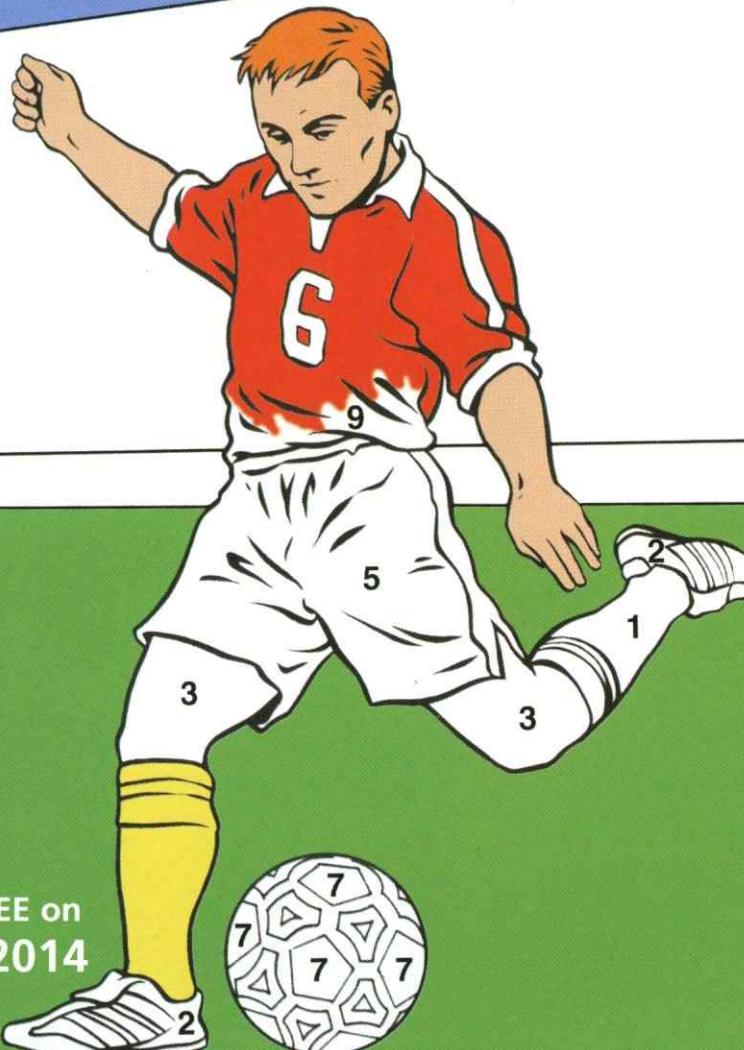
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Junior Hatters

welcome

WITH the schools summer holiday over, our Saturday Club kicked off again today, and for Junior Hatters we think it is a lovely way to make a football match a real treat of a day out

Fully supervised, it starts at Dallow Road Junior School at 12 noon, and packs in a lot of entertainment, including lunch. The price is £5 for Junior Hatters who have season tickets, or £9 including a match ticket. For further information please contact the Luton Town ticket office, on Luton 416976.

There will be a Junior Hatters trip to Brentford next Saturday, with departure from Kenilworth Road at 12.15. We expect to be back at about 6.15. The price, including a match ticket, is £12 for Junior Hatters and £17 for adults and guests.

You can book at the club's ticket office, after today's game, or during the week so long as seats are still available. The ticket office can also tell you more about joining the Junior Hatters. It's good value at £10 for the season.



WE like a bit of style at Luton Town, and we couldn't resist including an extra picture today of Rhian Clare, proving that seven-year-old girls can strike a ball just as well as the boys. She was the Junior Hatters mascot for the Bury game, and as usual, she also went up to the centre circle before kick-off to meet the skippers and match officials. And if the action shot looks pretty classy, no wonder - she probably models herself on Phil Gray, who is her favourite player.

Today's Mascot



SIX-year-old Matthew Fleckney will have a real treat today, having been chosen as the Junior Hatters mascot. Part of his duties will be to meet the team before the game, and run out onto the pitch with them for the pre-match warm-up.

It also means that he will get close to his favourite player, Matthew Spring, and much closer than usual - our mascot normally comes to watch matches with his dad, and they sit in the Kenilworth stand.

Matthew lives at Atterbury Way, Great Houghton, Northampton, and as well as supporting the Town he likes riding his bike, colouring and playing football.

We also have two ballboys today, Shaun Peck, of Plymouth Close, Luton, and Samuel Smith, of Greenhill, Leighton Buzzard.

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

Hatters Chatter

our youngest fans

WE KNOW all kids are cute, but we thought the two pictured on this page had something particularly appealing about them - their excellent taste in replica shirts, for a start!

Wearing the orange top is Josh Duffy, who was three months old when proud mum Angie Duffy, of Linbridge Way, Luton, kitted him out beautifully for the camera.

Mrs Duffy is a season ticket holder in the main stand, and her letter asking for the photograph to be published said that if we could oblige it would be "something special for me and a future Luton Town supporter!"

We hope she enjoys seeing her young son's picture.



The other very junior Hatter is 18-months-old Modestino Iannaccone, and the photographer went all the way to Avellino, in Southern Italy to prove yet again that we have supporters all over the globe.

The picture came from Amelia Iannaccone, whose parents came to this country and settled in Luton, and the tiny tot is her cousin. The families visit each other regularly, and not surprisingly the Italian branch likes to hear how the Town are doing. Perhaps one day, on a future holiday, Modestino will be the next generation to visit Kenilworth Road.

HAVE you got a tiny tot who looks good in Luton Town colours? We are always interested in supporters' pictures - anything with a Luton Town flavour about it, and if you would like to see your picture included in the programme, please contact the programme editor, at the football club. If you want pictures returned, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

If you would like join the Junior Hatters, call the Ticket Office on
01582 416976

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Hatters Chatter

lads go dutch

MANY OF us at Kenilworth Road were somewhat bemused a few weeks ago when we read a local politician's comments about the need for Luton to be involved in the community. Club secretary Cherry Newbery delivered a telling reply in her column a couple of weeks ago, but we thought supporters might like to know a little about some of the behind-the-scenes work that goes on all the time, normally without any publicity.

As well as our full-time community staff, we run a very full programme of football for youngsters, from the ages of eight upwards. It gives them expert coaching, and, of course, it helps us to keep in touch with the very best available young talent in the area.

Dean Rastrick is in charge of our youth development programme, and we borrowed a few pictures from him to give you a flavour of what goes on.

Paul Lowe, our youth coach, is also heavily involved, and if you doubt how worthwhile the scheme is, for us as well as for the boys, young discoveries who first came to our attention as schoolboy players in recent times included Matthew Upson, John Hartson, Paul Telfer, Kelvin Davis, Chris Willmott, Paul McLaren, Matthew Spring, Sean Evers, Stuart Douglas, Nathan Abbey, Liam George and Matthew Taylor.

The large group photograph shows the size of the project this season: it is the current crop of lads in our centres of excellence - well over 100 of them, from under-9 to under-16.

When they leave school, the best stay with us as YTS boys, giving them the chance to progress all the way to being professional footballers.

"We are very lucky here at Luton to have a lot of people helping us out," said Dean. "We have good scouts all over the country, and that allows us to find good young players from way beyond our own area. You probably won't know their names, but Stuart White and Ugo Cerrone give us excellent service, and in Peter Bull we have a very good manager of our under-13s.

"Our centre of excellence in Luton covers boys from eight-year-old upwards, and we have another at Milton Keynes which concentrates on boys between eight and 12.

"Every age group trains twice a week and the under-12 and under-16 teams play fixtures most weeks in the season, usually against teams from other professional clubs.

"At Luton we have to work hard on finding our own talent at a young age, but it gives us a buzz, especially when we look at a team sheet for a game like Luton v Blackpool. Ten of the 11 players who started the match came through from our own ranks."

As well as routine matches through the season, the centre of excellence fixes up occasional foreign trips, and the other pictures are memories of one made at the tail end of last season, to Holland.

As you can see, the boys and staff were very smartly turned out, and the club is grateful to Murtagh Demolition of Luton for sponsoring the track suits. Two teams, under 12 and under 13, went on the trip, a total of 28 young players.

The destination was Valkenberg, and good contacts set up good matches. Dean used to live at Ipswich, and his family was friendly with one of the neighbours, a certain Bobby Robson. That connection enabled the Town's young tourists to play at PSV Eindhoven, a club Robson once managed.

The other club to take on the Town boys was Fortuna Sittard, thanks to an approach made via Phil Gray, who played there before coming back to Luton.

For the record the Town's under-12 team was beaten 2-1 by Eindhoven, with the under-13s drew 1-1.

At Fortuna Sittard, the under-13s won 3-1, but the highlight came for the under-12 squad. They played their opposite numbers in the stadium, in front of an appreciative crowd, as the pre-match entertainment. A lively game ended level at 2-2, and the boys loved it - "a tremendous experience," said Dean.



● The Luton Town party ready to go Dutch.



(Right)

- The under-12 team at Fortuna Sittard.

(Below)

- The PSV Eindhoven and Luton Town under-12s.

(Bottom)

- The Fortuna Sittard and Luton Town under-13s.



Action Replay

Luton Town 1 Bury 1 (HT 0-0)

Brian Swain reports

LENNIE Lawrence said before kick-off that Bury would be difficult opponents, and the visitors proved it only too well, with a game plan that ensured they almost always had spare defenders in and around their box to outnumber our attackers. It was the classic away-day set-up, and while we took little pleasure in the end of our 100 per cent league home record, the point was still very welcome.

Neil Warnock, the Bury manager, complained afterwards that his team had done more than enough to win, and in that sense he was disappointed. But he paid tribute to the way the Town played and suggested his team's performance should give them confidence because it showed they could do a job against good opposition.

Bury came to Luton on the back of a 5-2 home win over Colchester, but he displayed his respect for us by dropping striker Andy Preece to the subs' bench, and adding another defender, Steve Redmond.

The plan threatened to stifle the game: Phil Gray and Andrew Fotiadis invariably had one defender marking tight, one more close by as cover, and yet another ready to pounce if numerical strength faltered.

The danger in trying to break down teams determined to defend first, and counter-attack second, is that you get sucked too far upfield, and then stretched by the quick counter.

We needed an early goal to thwart Bury's plan. They needed one to give them a lead to protect. In the event, neither got what they wanted: Matthew Taylor saw a screaming 25-yarder punched away by the goalkeeper in the second minute, and four minutes later we were beaten by a break down the middle, and Ian Lawson should have scored. Nathan Abbey did the business, saving well at his feet. "A key moment, that," said Lawrence. "Goodness knows what might have happened if they had scored."

Overall, the Town were not at their best, but were still a match for visitors who were in the First Division last season.

Twice in the last minute of the first half Bury escaped when they should have conceded goals. First a canny pass by Paul McLaren - "the best pass in the game" said the manager - set up Phil Gray, but his first effort was saved, and although he netted on the follow-up, he was pulled up for a foul. Then Liam George wriggled through on a solo run, but tried a shot from a difficult angle, and it was saved, with colleagues waiting in vain for a pass that might have been more productive.

Match Details

Luton Town: Abbey, Fraser, Watts, Doherty, Johnson, Taylor, Spring, McLaren, George (McIndoe 73 mins), Gray, Fotiadis (Douglas 73 mins). Unused subs: Sodje, McKinnon, Tate.

Booked: No-one

Bury: Kenny, Collins, C. Swailes, Billy, Daws, Richardson (Bullock 86 mins), Reid, Redmond, Littlejohn, Lawson, James (Preece 89 mins)

Booked: Paul Reid, 46 mins, foul on Stuart Fraser; Chris Billy, 55 mins, foul on Liam George; Chris Swailes, 65 mins, foul on Paul McLaren

The goals: 1-0 53 mins - Andrew Fotiadis, belting right foot shot into the roof of the net after Nathan Abbey cleared a corner and set up a rapid counter-attack, carried on by Liam George and Matthew Spring; 1-1 69 mins - Lee Richardson, sweeping in a cross from Lutel James, who had been put clear by Ian Lawson's cross-field ball.

Referee: David Crick, Surrey.

Attendance: 4,633, lowest league gate of the season so far, but including only 198 Bury supporters.

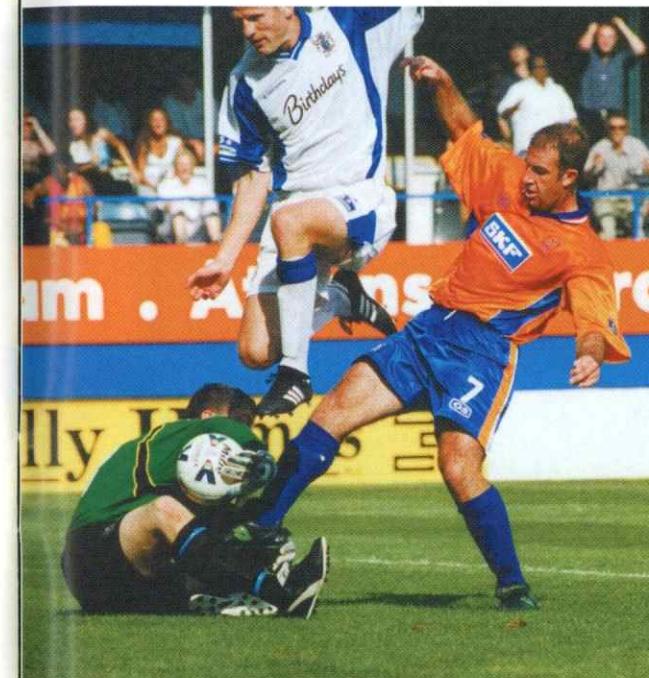
The breakthrough came eight minutes into the second half, and underlined the flaw in Bury's reliance on cover at the back. They won a corner and sent up their big men for the set piece. But the ball finished up in Abbey's capable hands, and his punt downfield caught Bury under-manned. Billy didn't help by falling over, enabling George to go down the right and deliver a low cross to the edge of the box. Matthew Spring could make nothing of it as the cover charged back, but managed to tap off a short pass to Andrew Fotiadis, and he strode through a narrow gap and blasted a drive high into the net.

We thought that might have done the job, but Bury swiftly changed their tactics, and looked all the better for it. Some of their passing was a shade better than ours and a very sharp example involving Lawson and Lutel James led to Lee Richardson, on loan from Huddersfield, netting the equaliser. Ironically, Warnock admitted that just before then he had been thinking of taking off Richardson and James, on a day when hot sunshine meant all the players were tiring.

The Town were, and in the end a draw and retention of the unbeaten home league record was fair reward for all their exertions.



● **ONE UP:** The ball is already bouncing back onto the pitch after being smashed into the net by Andrew Fotiadis for his second goal of the season.



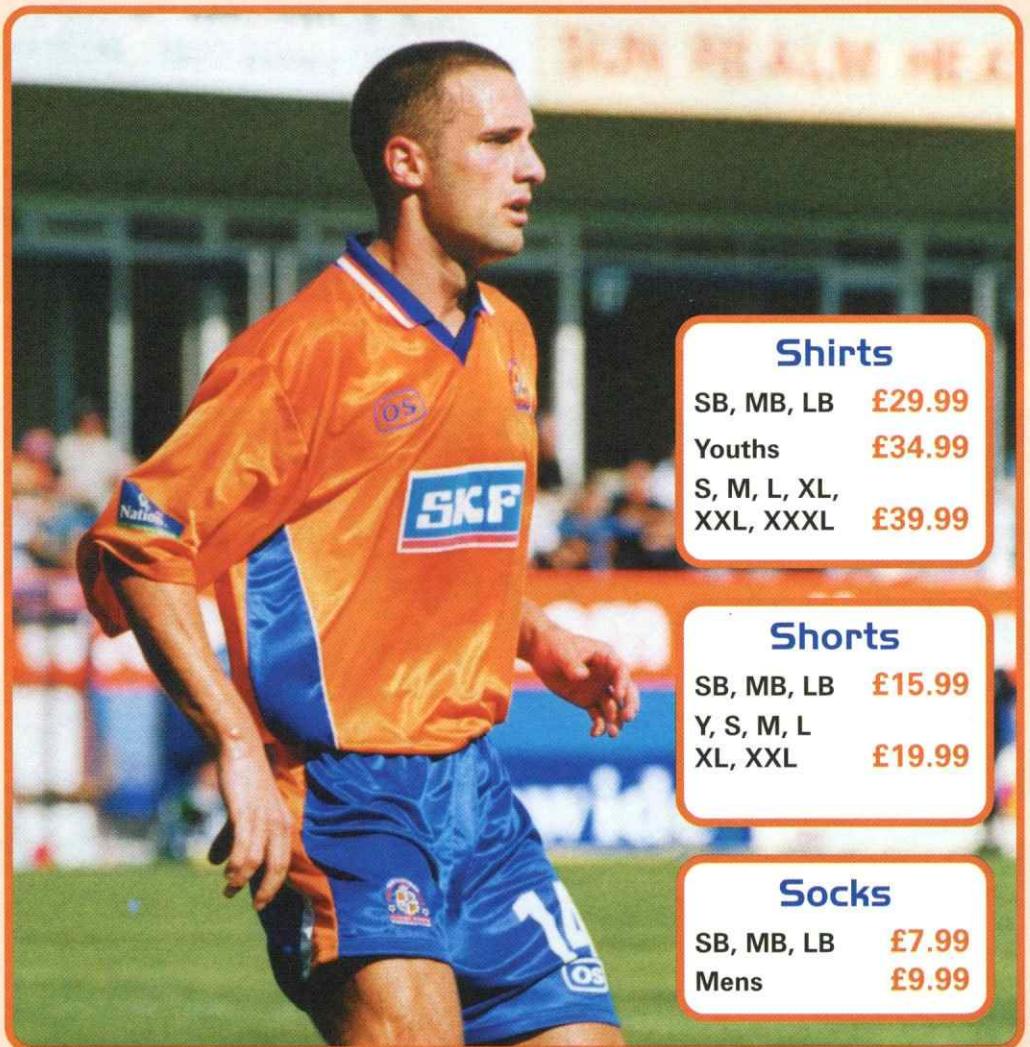
● **RULED OUT:** Phil Gray forced the ball into the net in this incident, late in the first half, but the referee decided the goalkeeper had been fouled, and Bury escaped.



● **BEST FEET FORWARD:** Matthew Spring and Lutel James in close competition for the ball.

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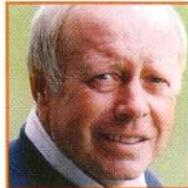
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The RESERVES

Trevor Hartley and John Moore



Luton Town 0 Swindon 1

GOALKEEPER Jimmy Glass, who became a football legend when he scored the goal that kept

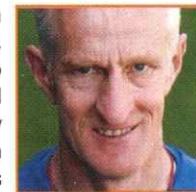
Carlisle in the Nationwide League on the final day of last season, came to Kenilworth Road on Wednesday, and proved that he is still pretty good at preventing goals, as well as scoring them.

But for his excellent work we would have notched our first win of the season in the Avon Insurance Combination, but instead Swindon stole it with a goal eight minutes from time.

Obviously coaches are not best pleased when chances are not converted, but Glass made some exceptional saves, and our team worked hard.

Ray McKinnon made his first appearance in our reserves, at his own request as well as ours, and Michael McIndoe, Efetobore Sodje, Adam Locke and Emmerson Boyce also got 90 minutes of competitive football under their belts.

Being in the first team squad, but among the subs, they need match practice to keep them sharp, and competitive games to show the manager what they can do. It is a pity that this season the league is smaller than it was, and we now face a three-week gap without a reserve game. We are trying to fix up a friendly or two, not least for the benefit of trialists.



Against Swindon we were short of real firepower in attack, despite the best efforts of youth team player Tresor Kandol.

Sodje and Ayres got in good headers which extended Glass, and Andre Scarlett twice went close to an opening goal. Glass also saved well from McIndoe, but we really needed another natural striker in the team alongside Kandol.

Our latest trialist, Darragh Ryan, from Crawley Town, played in the second half in an attempt to persuade us to offer him a contract.

Luton Town: Tate, Locke, Boyce, Sodje, Ayres, Stirling, McKinnon, McIndoe, Scarlett, Kandol, O'Connor (Ryan HT). Unused subs: Jerry, Moran, Carroll, Wright.

WE HAVE no Avon Insurance Combination fixture this week, and our next game, at Oxford, has been postponed for six days because of their involvement in the Worthington Cup. It will now be played on September 28 (7.30). The date of our next home game has also been changed: originally scheduled for Monday October 4, we will now entertain Wycombe on Wednesday October 6. Kick-off at Kenilworth Road will be at 2pm, and admission is £2, half-price for junior and senior citizens, and free to season ticket holders.

Reserve team appearances, including as sub: Tate 3, Locke 3, Kandol 3, O'Connor 3, Ayres 3, Boyce 3, Sodje 3, Scarlett 3, Stirling 2, Pearson 2, Davis 2, White 1, Hunt 1, McKinnon 1, McIndoe 1, Zahana-Oni 1, Jerry 1, Bowes 1, O'Brien 1, Ryan 1

Goals: Kandol 1

Avon Insurance Combination Results and Fixtures			
AUG	Wed 18	Bristol City	H 1-3 (Kandol)
SEPT	Wed 1	Portsmouth	A 0-1
	Wed 8	Swindon	H 0-1
	Tue 28	Oxford	A 7.30pm
OCT	Wed 6	Wycombe	H 2pm
	Wed 13	Brighton	A 7pm
	Wed 27	Bristol Rov	A 7pm
NOV	Wed 3	Norwich	H 2pm
	Wed 17	Ipswich	A 2pm
DEC	Wed 1	Colchester	H 2pm
	Wed 8	Southend	A 7.45pm
	Wed 23	Peterborough	H 2pm
JAN	Wed 12	Cambridge Utd	A 2pm
	Wed 19	Northampton	H 2pm
FEB	Wed 2	QPR	H 2pm
	Wed 9	Barnet	A 2pm
	Wed 23	Millwall	H 2pm
MAR	Wed 1	L. Orient	A 2pm
	Wed 15	Fulham	A 2pm
	Wed 29	Gillingham	H 2pm
APRIL	Wed 5	Bournemouth	H 2pm

Youth Soccer

Paul Lowe



Luton Town 2 Notts County 1

WHILE we were delighted to get our second Alliance win of the season, we knew we were a little fortunate to get the result, because overall it was a very evenly-contested game, with both sides fielding mainly first-year boys. We also included a 16-year-old trialist, Gary Thresher from Basingstoke, while Moses Jerry was both unavailable through injury.

Chances arose at both ends in the early stages, and I was not happy at the way we failed to deal positively with crosses to the back post. We had conceded two goals to that tactic in previous matches, so we worked on it in training. It was to lead to another goal conceded after we had gone two up, so more work is obviously required in defensive organisation.

Our eventual pleasure at the victory was marred in the closing minutes when Steve Dogbe was injured, and had to be taken to hospital.

Our failure to defend well on crosses almost cost us an early goal, because we let in one of their strikers for a chance from six yards, but luckily for us he volleyed over the bar.

We came back to take the lead after 12 minutes, and this time it was our turn to profit from a far post ball. Duane Clarke did the hard work, running into the box, losing possession, then fighting to regain it. His cross to the back post reached James Ayres, and he brought the ball down and volleyed in with his left foot.

Ten minutes later Rene Barriteau crossed from the left, and a defender who went up with Clarke stuck up an arm to give away a penalty which Jude Stirling converted emphatically.

We should then have gone on to take control, but Notts County fought their way back into the game, and although I was annoyed about how their goal came, from another far post cross, it was a goal their performance deserved.

It was a very hot day last Saturday, so credit is due to both teams, but from our point of view there was too much erratic play after we had got ourselves into a good position.

One bonus was Ryan Moran's display. Normally a central defender, he was used in the centre of midfield, which involves a lot of work, and he applied himself well.

We were waiting for confirmation from a hospital check-up in midweek about the extent of the injury suffered by Dogbe. The ball was played over the top of their defence, and as he went after it their goalkeeper

came out, and there was a crunching collision between the two - a challenge that was hard, but fair. Dogbe came off worst, with the keeper's shoulder hitting him full in the face. He was badly dazed and bruised, and as with all head injuries immediate attention was given. We called an ambulance as a precaution, and although Dogbe was allowed to go home after treatment, X-rays at Luton and Dunstable Hospital showed that he had a fractured cheekbone. He may need to have a metal plate fitted, and will not be able to play for some weeks.

Luton Town: Wraight, Mortara, Carroll, Stirling, Ayres, Thresher (Deeney 50 mins), Mansell, Moran, Clarke (Jeffrey 65 mins), Dogbe (Wilson 80 mins), Barriteau. Unused subs: Mentore, Ward.

We were without a league fixture today, but next Saturday we entertain Oxford United. Our home matches are played on Luton Rugby Club's ground at Newlands Road, kick-off 11 am, and spectators are welcome. Admission is free.

Youth team appearances, including as sub: Ayres 4, Wraight 4, Mortara 4, Stirling 4, Moran 4, Clarke 4, Dogbe 4, Mansell 3, Jerry 3, Carroll 3, Barriteau 3, Flaherty 2, Minton 2, de Freitas 2, Jeffrey 2, Deeney 2, Kandol 1, Miller 1, Thresher 1, Wilson 1.
Goals: Kandol 2, Ayres 2, Stirling 1 pen

Football League Youth Alliance South Central Conference

Results and Fixtures

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

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BIGGEST WINS & DEFEATS; TOP SCORERS

Goals	Player	League	Worthington Cup
4-0	Colchester		
1-3	Bristol City / Scunthorpe		
5	Stein	3 / 2	
2-1	Wrexham		
2-5	Bristol City		
4	Ormerod	4 / 0	
2-0	Oldham / Blackpool		
2	No Defeats As Yet		
2	Hreidarsson	2 / 0	
5-2	Blackpool		
1-2	Reading / Wigan		
4	Thorpe	3 / 1	
2-0	Scunthorpe		
1-2	Wrexham		
7	Roberts	4 / 3	
1 goal margin v 4 clubs			
0-1	Bristol Rovers		
3	Payton	3 / 0	
5-2	Colchester		
0-1	Wrexham		
6	Lawson	5 / 1	
3-1	Reading		
2-4	Chesterfield/1-3 Stoke		
3	Burton	2 / 3	
3-2	Oxford		
0-1	Luton		
2	Bowen/Nugent/Hughes	1 / 1 1 / 0 / 1	
4-2	Cambridge/2-0 Preston		
0-1	Colchester / 1-2 Burnley		
8	Reeves	7 / 1	
1-0	Chesterfield / 3-2 Reading		
0-4	Bournemouth		
1	Aspinall/Dozey/Lua/Lua	2 / 1 / 1 / 0 / 1 / 1	
2-1	Oldham		
1-2	Bury/0-1 Bristol Rovers		
4	Taylor	3 / 1	
3-2	Blackpool / 2-1 Reading / 1-0 Cardiff		
0-1	Bournemouth		
2	George / Fotiadis	2 / 2 / 0	
No Wins As Yet			
1-3	Stoke		
2	Cahill/Harris	2 / 2 / 0 / 0	
3-0	Colchester / Scunthorpe		
No Defeats As Yet			
5	Stallard	5 / 0	
No Wins As Yet			
0-2	Brentford		
1	McNiven S / Allott	1 / 0 / 0 / 1	
2-1	Stoke / 1-0 Oldham		
2-3	Cardiff / 0-1 Bristol Rovers		
6	Murphy	4 / 2	
1-0	Oldham / 2-1 Stoke		
1-4	Wigan		
3	Basham	2 / 1	
2-1	Bristol City		
1-3	Cambridge		
2	Scott / Williams / Smith	1 / 2 / 1 / 0 / 0	
3-1	Bournemouth		
0-3	Wigan / Notts County		
2	Humphries/Ipoua	2 / 2 / 0 / 0	
3-1	Millwall / Cambridge		
1-2	Oxford / 1-2 Preston / 0-1 Burnley		
4	Thorne	3 / 1	
3-0	Scunthorpe / 4-1 Preston		
No Defeats As Yet			
8	Barlow	6 / 2	
1-0	Bury / 2-1 Bristol Rovers / 1-0 Wycombe		
1-2	Blackpool / 2-3 Notts County		
5	Faulconbridge	5 / 0	
1-0	Scunthorpe		
0-1	Wrexham		
3	McSporran	1 / 2	

1999-00 SEASON DIVISION 2 CAMPAIGN RECORDS

Highest Gate	13,885 Preston v Wigan 28-Aug
Lowest Gate	2,816 Chesterfield v Cambridge 21-Aug
Highest Aggregate Score	Bury 5-2 Colchester 30-Aug
	Bristol City 5-2 Blackpool 4-Sep
Bigest Home Win	Bournemouth 4-0 Colchester 21-Aug
Bigest Away Win	Preston 1-4 Wigan 28-Aug
Consecutive Wins	Colchester 0-3 Notts County 14-Aug
Games Unbeaten	Burnley, Luton 3
Consecutive Defeats	Notts County, Wigan 5
Games without a Win	Oldham 5
Consecutive Wins	Blackpool, Gillingham, Oldham 5
Current Sequences	Bristol Rovers 2
Games Unbeaten	Notts County, Wigan 5
Consecutive Defeats	Oldham 5
Games without a Win	Blackpool, Oldham 5

NATIONWIDE DIVISION 2 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

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

How Clubs have scored goals... and conceded them

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

Key to chart: H = Header CR = Close Range OB = Outside Box OG = Own Goal
V = Volley FK = Free Kick P = Penalty

Referee G R Y Ave Club Y R Points

Referee	G	R	Y	Ave	Club	Y	R	Points
Warren	2	0	14	7.00	Wrexham	11	3	20
Hill	3	1	20	6.67	Bristol Rovers	10	2	16
Bates	5	4	24	4.80	Oxford	10	1	13
Wilkes	4	1	18	4.50	Colchester	9	1	12
Knight	3	1	9	4.50	Preston	6	2	12
Lynch	4	3	17	4.25	Cambridge	11	0	11
Rennie	1	0	4	4.00	Burnley	10	0	10
Foy	5	2	19	3.80	Chesterfield	6	1	9
Walton	4	1	15	3.75	Notts County	9	0	9
Ryan	4	3	15	3.75	Reading	9	0	9
Kirkby	3	2	11	3.67	Scunthorpe	6	1	9
Jordan	3	1	11	3.67	Blackpool	5	1	8
Beeby	3	2	11	3.67	Bristol City	5	1	8
Bennett	2	0	7	3.50	Millwall	8	0	8
Tomlin	4	0	14	3.50	Stoke	8	0	8
Messias	2	0	7	3.50	Bury	7	0	7
Wolstenholme	3	0	10	3.33	Luton	7	0	7
Parkes	3	1	10	3.33	Wycombe	7	0	7
					Cardiff	3	1	6
					Gillingham	6	0	6
					Oldham	6	0	6
					Bournemouth	5	0	5
					Brentford	2	1	5
					Wigan	3	0	5

2nd DIVISION SCENE

Brian Swain



BOTH teams at Kenilworth Road today are bidding to stay in the play-off places, and while it needs an unlikely combination of results, it is just possible that either we or Wrexham could be top of the Second Division by 5pm.

Our first experience of dropping home points after suffering a first defeat of the season at Bournemouth dropped us to fifth place, a point ahead of Wrexham and only two adrift of joint leaders Bristol Rovers and Burnley. Wigan, Brentford and Notts County are the only teams left yet to taste defeat, although Wigan and Brentford have played only five games. They were out of action last Saturday because of international matches. Bristol Rovers went top for the first time with a 2-0 victory at Scunthorpe. Inevitably, both goals came from Jason Roberts, one header and one right foot drive. He now has seven goals, and their only other league scorer is Jamie Cureton with three, including one penalty. He should have four, but missed from the spot at Scunthorpe.

The Division's leading scorer is David Reeves, of Chesterfield, with eight goals, but he could afford a blank day on Saturday as the Spirerites heaped more indignity on Preston. Among the promotion favourites at the start of the season, Preston have collected only eight points from their first six matches, and have lost two of their three home games to date. They haven't won since the second game of the season. It should make for a tasty Lancashire derby this afternoon - Preston v Burnley, which is the local version of Luton v Watford. Doubtless Burnley defender Davis will be chatting amiably with Preston striker Kurt Nogan about their happy days at Kenilworth Road! Burnley went top of the table briefly with a Friday night victory at home to Bournemouth, in front of more than 10,000 fans. The Luton connection scored at both ends: Mark Stein netted for Bournemouth 35 seconds after Burnley had taken the lead, but Steve Davis headed his first of the season to leave the Cherries with a weird record: they are 100 per cent at home, with a 7-1 goals aggregate, but have lost all three away, with a 3-8 goals tally. Pity we were at their place a couple of weeks ago, and not at Kenilworth Road! Another Luton old boy on Saturday's score sheet was David Oldfield, with one of the two Stoke netted in the last nine minutes to win 3-1 at Cambridge.

Tony Thorpe was also on target for Bristol City, as we report on page 2. Things were going well for Blackpool at Ashton Gate after Brett Ormerod gave them the lead, but then Phil Robinson got sent off, for a foul on Thorpe and City coasted home 5-2.

Wrexham blew their chances of sharing the lead when they went down to their first home defeat of the season to surprise packets Notts County. It looked all

The Second Division								
HOME				AWAY				
P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L
Bristol Rov	6	2	1	0	2	0	2	1
Burnley	6	3	0	5	2			

Statistics

fixtures 1999/2000

date	opposition	result	scorers	league place	attnd.	team	substitutes									
SAT 7	Notts Co	A	0-0		6,141	Abbey Fraser Watts White Johnson Douglas McLaren	Gray	Spring	McIndoe	Taylor	Boyce for Taylor, 70 mins. Unused: George, Scarlett, Zahana-Oni, Tate					
TUE 10	WC1 (1) Bristol Rov	H	0-2		2,984	Abbey Fraser Watts White Boyce Gray McLaren	Douglas	Spring	McIndoe	Taylor	Doherty for White HT; Fotiadis for Douglas 60 mins; George for McIndoe 60 mins. Unused: Zahana-Oni, Tate					
SAT 14	Blackpool	H	3-2	(George 2, Spring)	5,176	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	Douglas	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	McKinnon for Fotiadis 75 mins; Zahana-Oni for Douglas 83 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 89 mins. Unused: Boyce, Tate					
SAT 21	Reading	A	2-1	(Fotiadis, George)	8,741	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	McIndoe for Fotiadis 79 mins. Unused: Sodje, White, McKinnon, Tate					
WED 25	WC1 (2) Bristol Rov	A	2-2	(Kandol, Doherty)	4,414	Abbey Locke Sodje Boyce White Watts Gray McKinnon	McIndoe	Kandol	Doherty for Douglas 67 mins; Fotiadis for Kandol 67 mins. Unused: Scarlett, Davis, Ward							
SAT 28	Cardiff	H	1-0	(Gray)	5,374	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Douglas for Fotiadis 66 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 81 mins; McKinnon for George 84 mins. Unused: Sodje, Tate					
TUES 31	Bournemouth	A	0-1		4,797	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Douglas for Fotiadis 60 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 81 mins. Unused: McKinnon, Sodje, Tate					
SAT 4	Bury	H	1-1	(Fotiadis)	4,633	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Douglas for Fotiadis 73 mins; McIndoe for George 73 mins. Unused: McKinnon, Sodje, Tate					
SAT 11	Wrexham	H	3pm													
SAT 18	Brentford	A	3pm													
SAT 25	Oxford Utd	H	3pm													
SAT 2	Wigan	A	3pm													
SAT 9	Oldham	A	3pm													
SAT 16	Gillingham	H	3pm													
TUE 19	Wycombe	H	7.45pm													
SAT 23	Oxford Utd	A	3pm													
SAT 30	FA Cup 1		3pm													
TUE 2	Millwall	A	7.45pm													
SAT 6	Burnley	H	3pm													
SAT 13	Cambridge Utd	A	3pm													
SAT 20	FA Cup 2		3pm													
TUE 23	Preston	H	7.45pm													
SAT 27	Bristol Rov	A	3pm													
SAT 4	Notts County	H	3pm													
TUE 7	AWS 1		7.45pm													
SAT 11	Stoke City OR FA Cup 3	H	3pm													
FRI 17	Colchester	A	7.45pm													
SUN 26	Chesterfield	H	3pm													
TUE 28	Bristol City	A	7.45pm													
MON 3	Scunthorpe	H	3pm													
SAT 8	Stoke OR FA Cup 4	A	3pm													
TUE 11	AWS 2		7.45pm													
SAT 15	Blackpool	A	3pm													
SAT 22	Reading	H	3pm													
TUE 25	AWS 3		7.45pm													
SAT 29	Cardiff OR FA Cup 5	A	3pm													
SAT 5	Bournemouth	H	3pm													
SAT 12	Bury	A	3pm													
TUE 15	AWS Semi		7.45pm													
SAT 19	Bristol Rov OR FA Cup 6	H	3pm													
SAT 26	Brentford	H	3pm													
TUE 29	AWS area final (1)		7.45pm													
SAT 4	Wrexham	A	3pm													
TUE 7	Burnley	A	7.45pm													
SAT 11	Millwall	H	3pm													
TUE 14	AWS area final (2)		7.45pm													
SAT 18	Preston	A	3pm													
TUE 21	Cambridge Utd	H	7.45pm													
SAT 25	Chesterfield	A	3pm													
SAT 1	Colchester OR AWS Final	H	3pm													
SAT 8	Scunthorpe	A	3pm													
SUN 9	FA Cup semi-final		3pm													
SAT 15	Bristol City	H	3pm													
SAT 22	Gillingham	A	3pm													
MON 24	Wigan	H	3pm													
SAT 29	Wycombe	A	pm													
SAT 6	Oldham	H	3pm													

The FA Cup final will be on May 20

Today's Referee

A REFEREE in the Football League since 1995, Mick Fletcher is paying his first visit of the season to Kenilworth Road this afternoon. He was the man in the middle last season when we entertained Northampton. A local government worker from Warley, in the West Midlands, Mr Fletcher began his refereeing career in his early twenties in the Birmingham area, and within four years of starting in parks football passed his Class One exams. He became a linesman in the Football League in 1990, and a referee five years later. He has already had international experience, as a linesman in the UEFA Cup when Famagusta played Juventus in 1992. In this country he has also been a linesman at FA Cup and Coca Cola Cup semi-finals, and he was referee at Wembley at the end of last season, in charge of the Colchester v Torquay Division Three play-off final. Outside of football, he enjoys playing golf and snooker, and watching most sports.

Town Teaser

ONE supporter is certain to go home with a little prize today, thanks to our "Town Trivia" quiz. Listen to the PA announcer before the game, and if you know the answer to today's Town Teaser watch and listen for your chance to have a go.

TODAY'S QUESTION

Who was the former Town hero who scored an own goal for us when we beat Derby County 2-0 in the final game of the 1990/91 season?

Hatters Roll-Call Season 1999/2000

	APPEARANCES (as sub in brackets)			GOALS		
	League	WC	Total	League	WC	Total
Nathan Abbey	6	2	8	0	0	0
Emmerson Boyce	0(1)	2	2(1)	0	0	0
Gary Doherty	5	0(2)	5(2)	0	1	1
Stuart Douglas	2(3)	2	4(3)	0	0	0
Andrew Fotiadis	5	0(2)	5(2)	2	0	2
Stuart Fraser	6	1	7	0	0	0
Phil Gray	5	2	7	1	0	1
Liam George	5	0(1)	5(1)	3	0	3
Marvin Johnson	6	0	6	0	0	0
Tresor Kandol	0	1	1	0	1	1
Adam Locke	0	1	1	0	0	0
Michael McIndoe	1(5)	2	3(5)	0	0	0
Ray McKinnon	0(2)	1	1(2)	0	0	0
Paul McLaren	6	1	7	0	0	0
Efetobore Sodje	0	1	1	0	0	0
Matthew Spring	6	1	7	1	0	1
Matthew Taylor	6	1	7	0	0	0
Julian Watts	6	2	8	0	0	0
Alan White	1	2	3	0	0	0
Landry Zahana-Oni	0(1)	0	0(1)	0	0	0

Today's Teams



Luton Town

NATHAN ABBEY	1
STUART FRASER	13
JULIAN WATTS	40
GARY DOHERTY	12
MARVIN JOHNSON	6
LIAM GEORGE	11
PAUL McLAREN	8
PHIL GRAY	7
MATTHEW SPRING	4
ANDREW FOTIADIS	14
MATTHEW TAYLOR	15
Substitutes	
RAY McKINNON	27
EMMERSOON BOYCE	17
EFETOBOR SODJE	3
MICHAEL McINDOE	10
DANIEL TATE (GK)	22

V



Wrexham

1	KEVIN DEARDEN
2	MARK McGREGOR
5	BRIAN CAREY
8	KEVIN RUSSELL
9	KARL CONNOLLY
10	DEAN SPINK
11	DAVID LOWE
15	PAUL BARRETT
24	MICHAEL RYAN
29	IAN STEVENS
31	CRAIG FAULCONBRIDGE

Substitutes

14	DERYN BRACE
27	JAKE EDWARDS
28	ANDY MORRELL
3	PHIL HARDY
20	MARK CARTWRIGHT (GK)

Today's Officials

Referee: Mick Fletcher, Warley, West Midlands

Assistants: M. A. Maynard, Hereford (red flag)

P. W. Melin, Frimley (yellow and red flag)

Reserve official: J. D. A. Hopkins, Hockley

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