

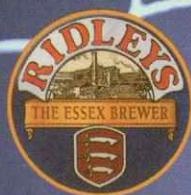
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Geraint Williams'
Friday column



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NEWS



Joe is Back!

On Tuesday we welcomed Joe Dunne back to Layer Road following his short spell at Dover Athletic. Joe, of course, was released at the end of last season but has rejoined the U's for a nominal fee.

Gillingham Away

A reminder that the Boxing Day game at Gillingham is a 1pm kick off due to the Gills inadequate floodlighting arrangements. Our match at Blackpool on Monday 3rd January however kicks off at 3pm. Tickets for both matches can be purchased on the day at the relevant grounds.

Xmas Opening Hours

The ticket office will be open on the following days during the Christmas period:

Monday 20th to Thursday 23rd December
normal hours

Friday 24th to Monday 27th December
closed all day

Tuesday 28th December 9am - 5pm

Wednesday 29th December 9am - 9.30pm

Thursday 30th December 9am - 12 noon

Friday 31st December -

Monday 3rd January

Make sure you don't miss any of the action - book your tickets by calling 01206 508800 or by calling into the ticket office during normal office hours.

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closed all day
Tuesday 4th January
normal office hours

Youth Team

On Monday 20th December the Youth team will play at Layer Road in the Eastern Junior Cup 3rd round against Newmarket Town, kick off 7.45pm. Admission is £3 adults, £1 concessions.

Leeds Away

The Youth Team have been drawn to play Leeds United in the fourth round of the FA Youth Cup. The game will take place on Thursday 20th January with a 7.00 kick off. Admission price is £3 adults and £1 concessions. Should there be the need for a replay, it will take place on Thursday 27th January here at Layer Road. Same kick off time and same admission prices.

Next In Town

Our last home game of the century takes place on Wednesday 29th December here at Layer Road against Wycombe Wanderers, kick off 7.45pm.

Last seasons game saw the U's narrowly win with a last minute penalty from David Gregory, after Steve Forbes had equalised an earlier Wycombe strike. For a long time it seemed as though the Wanderers were destined for the Nationwide League Division Three but the purchase of Sean Devine and his subsequent goals, saw them escape the drop on the final day of the season.

It's been a different story so far this campaign as they are safely tucked in mid table and are in a good position to push for promotion. The management team of Lawrie Sanchez and Terry Gibson, teammates of course from their days at Wimbledon have added an extra bit of steel that has made Wycombe a difficult side to beat. None-the-less the U's will be, hopefully, cheered on by their usual fanatical support against our former Conference days rivals.

Make sure you don't miss any of the action - book your tickets by calling 01206 508800 or by calling into the ticket office during normal office hours.

In Today's Programme

**COLCHESTER UNITED
FOOTBALL CLUB LTD**

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Geraint Williams

Director of Youth Football:

Micky Cook

Club Physiotherapist:

Brian Owen

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R. Cole

Hon. Physician:

Dr D. Withnall -

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Safety Officer:

Gary Tuckwell

Programme Editor:

Brian Wheeler

Club Photographer:

Trevor Benbrook

Films supplied by Colchester Photographic.

Honours:

Division Three Play-Off Winners 1997/98

FA Trophy Winners 1991/92

The Football Conference Champions 1991/92

Auto Windscreen Shield

Runners-Up 1997

Southern League Cup

Winners 1937/38 & 1949/50

Southern League Winners 1938/39

Watney Cup Winners 1971

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Good Evening and welcome to Lennie Lawrence and his Luton team and their supporters. Our last home game against Chesterfield was a very important victory for us in terms of confidence and belief in our ability to win in front of our home fans, especially having lost 0-3 in our previous two home games. It wasn't our best performance recently but sometimes it's more important to get three points than to actually play well for 90 minutes. I thought it was a very nervy first half from both teams which Chesterfield probably had slightly the better of. However, the second half saw us relax a bit more on the ball and get the winner from Lomana, which I thought, we deserved. Then it was down to Swansea again in the Auto Windscreen Shield. Although we had five first team players out that night, it was a very uncharacteristic performance from our lads in the first half which saw an in form Swansea side carve us open on two or three occasions and, if the truth be known, they could have been four up at half time. We managed to get back into it after the interval but got caught on the break going for the equaliser. As people have said since, we can now concentrate on our League position. One positive thing to come out of the game was young Jack Wignall's performance having come on for Alan White, who was injured, in the first minute. He did not look out of place and I'm sure his dad would have been proud.

Our very next thought on the coach home, was a difficult trip back down the M4 to highflying Bristol Rovers. We welcomed back David Greene from suspension, Gavin Johnson, Fabrice Richard from injury and John Vaughan in goal for his last game of his loan period for us, which I thank him for and wish him luck in finding a new Club nearer his home in Leeds. Apart from one lapse in concentration, which led to their goal in the first half, we dealt with everything they could throw at us. Going out for the second half we were confident of getting back into the match with conditions in our favour, however we conceded again with a poor goal from our point of view. We have to work harder at defending and marking in and around our own box. Having said that from then on we started to play the ball around and got in some good crossing and shooting positions with Lomana giving the home side some new problems to deal with. Having got the next goal from Lomana, it looked highly likely that we would then go on and get some sort of result from the game, but the ball wouldn't quite fall for us in the last fifteen to twenty minutes when their goalkeeper was having one of those games. It was the home fans who were really relieved to hear the final whistle, so we must take the positives from this performance and improve on the bits and pieces, which are costing us goals.

As you have probably read in the last week or so, we are trying to bring some new faces to the Club. On Tuesday we completed the signing of the very popular Joe Dunne who I'm sure you will all agree is the kind of player that will only add strength and character to our squad. Sadly we will be without Alan White for tonight's match due to a clause in our agreement with Luton Town.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and successful Christmas from the players, staff and Directors of Colchester United Football Club.

Lets hear your vocal support for the lads tonight and make it an electric Friday night atmosphere here at Layer Road. It really does help the team.

Enjoy the game.

Steve Whitton
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Steve's Message

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In OPPOSITION

LUTON TOWN...

Young, gifted and hard-up!

Colchester have never beaten Luton Town in a senior competition and Lennie Lawrence's young side will be eager to extend that run to 11 matches this evening.

The Hatters are currently in mid-table, having slipped from their lofty top-six perch of the autumn. A lack of consistency can be put down to the youth and inexperience of the squad. Lawrence is a shrewd judge and knows only too well that youngsters, however talented, rarely produce the goods week in and week out in the hurly burly of Division Two.

Luton have regularly been naming a squad of 16 that cost absolutely nothing in transfer fees. The only men on the books to command fees are long-term

injury victim Phil Gray and Alan White - currently on loan here at Layer Road!

Last week the Hatters more than matched Fulham in the FA Cup at Craven Cottage, often dictating the play against a side that cost millions. The humble visitors that afternoon cost nothing whatsoever and all the 16-man squad were home-grown barring three free-transfer men.

When the Kenilworth Road babes hit form they are a match for anyone in this division and a play-off place remains a realistic target. Luton were relegated in 1996, making a return to the lower divisions after nearly 30 years alongside the bigger boys.

Relegation was undoubtedly hastened by a financial situation that enforced the sale of just about everything that came off the end of youth coach John Moore's conveyor belt. Fans have watched with growing anger over the past ten years as the club has sold home-developed assets like Tim Brecker, Kingsley Black, Iain Dowie, Paul Telfer, Mark Pembridge, Ceri Hughes, Scott Oakes, Kelvin Davis, Matthew Upson and Tony Thorpe, to name but ten.

Meanwhile, maverick chairman and chief exec David Kohler has now left the club, having presumably ploughed some of that transfer money into his doomed 'Kohlerdome' project. The club went into receivership around eight months ago, and almost went out of existence as the unpopular Mr. Kohler wrangled over a parting deal that was only settled hours before the new season kicked off. New chairman Cliff Bassett was left to pick up the pieces, and is already proving a far more acceptable leader in the eyes of the long-suffering fans.

Against this chaotic backdrop, manager Lawrence had to cobble a squad together from youngsters, trialists and 'Bosman' players. Youngsters like Liam George (12 goals so far), Matthew Taylor,

Gary Doherty, Nathan Abbey and Stuart Fraser have suddenly become first-team regulars and risen superbly to the challenge.

By virtue of being a fraction more experienced than the new boys, the still-youthful Matthew Spring and Stuart Douglas have had to assume extra responsibility in midfield and attack, respectively. Alongside Spring in midfield has been either Adam Locke or Paul McLaren.

Back-up players on the fringe of the first team are inevitably all under 20, including Emmerson Boyce, Andre Scarlett, Tresor Kandol, James Ayres and Michael McIndoe.

The calming influence has been provided by the older hands in central defence - skipper Marvin Johnson, Julian Watts and Efy Sodje. Incidentally, for those who don't get close enough to read it, Mr Sodje's bandanna bears the words 'against all odds.'

With Phil Gray, Andrew Fotiadis and Gavin McGowan nursing long-term injuries, former terrace hero Tony Thorpe has been recruited on loan and efforts were being made to secure a permanent deal.

Some 21 of Luton's 28 league points so far have been gleaned at home. On their travels they've chalked up wins at Reading (2-1), Oxford (1-0) and Lincoln 1-0. Perhaps best showing of all was last week's 2-2 at Fulham where they came within a whisker of victory at the first attempt. Winner of next Tuesday's replay gets a fourth round home tie with Wimbledon.

Victory tonight would be the U's first ever triumph over the Hatters in a senior match - unless, that is, you count the pre-season Watney Cup encounter in 1971 when Brian Lewis performed a penalty-area tumble that would have impressed David Ginola to create United's winning goal. The irony was that Lewis had earlier played for the Beds club and they'd often benefitted from his sudden attacks of giddiness in opponents' penalty areas! Several of today's staffs can boast service to both clubs. United's Aaron Skelton, David Greene, Gavin Johnson, Alan White and physio Brian Owen are all ex-Luton men, while the Hatters' Adam Locke is an old Layer Road favourite.

ROB HADGRAFT

Lennie Lawrence - Manager
Lennie Lawrence is an experienced manager who took over from Terry Westley in December 1995. It was his know-how of the Nationwide League and his ability to manage on a shoestring budget that attracted Luton to him. As a player, Lennie served non-league clubs Croydon, Carshalton and Sutton United and his first experiences in management were assistant positions at Lincoln City and Plymouth Argyle. He became Charlton Athletic's boss in 1982 and held the post for nine years before joining Middlesbrough in 1991. He led them to the Premier League a year later, but 'Boro were relegated the following season and Lennie was replaced by Bryan Robson. Eighteen months as Bradford's boss followed before joining Luton Town.

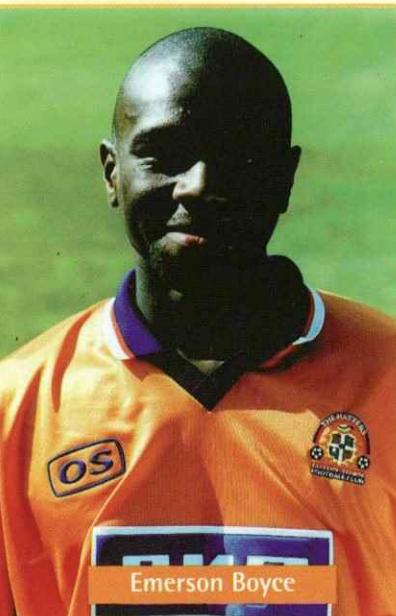
Matthew Taylor - Defender/Wing Back

Taylor's rise to prominence and first team football with Luton underlines that this 17 year old wing-back has a very bright future in football. He was released by Oxford United at 14, but recovered from this disappointment to star in Abingdon United's youth side. Lennie Lawrence spotted the youngster whilst playing for Oxfordshire and quickly snapped up the promising Taylor. He has made rapid progress since joining Luton and he made his debut in the 0-0 draw at Notts County on the opening day of the season.

Julian Watts - Centre-Back

Sheffield born defender Julian signed for Town under the Bosman ruling this summer from Bristol City after falling out of favour with the Ashton Gate side. Watts began his professional career at Rotherham and after just 20 appearances for the Millers, he joined Sheffield Wednesday. His time at Hillsborough was one of frustration as he struggled

to be Nathan Abbey. Nathan has grasped the opportunity to step up into Town's first team following the departure of former number one Kelvin Davis to Wimbledon. Like Davis, Nathan came through the ranks at Kenilworth Road and before this season, the Islington born number one had made just two League appearances.



to break into the first team and he spent a loan spell at Shrewsbury Town to gain first team football. After four years and just 12 League appearances at Wednesday, Watts made the switch to Leicester. Whilst at Leicester, Julian made a promising start, before finding himself in the shadows again. Loan spells at Crewe Alexandra and Huddersfield followed before moving to Bristol City where he played just 17 League games. He spent further loan spells at Lincoln City and Blackpool before moving to Kenilworth Road.

Efetobore Sodje - Defender

Sodje is another defender whom Lennie Lawrence signed during the summer. He joined the Hatters from Macclesfield Town, for whom he played 41 matches, all of which came last season in what was his first in League football. Prior to joining Macclesfield, Sodje had been

Lennie Lawrence



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playing in the Conference with Stevenage Borough and his commanding performances soon caught the attention of Macclesfield boss Sammy McIlroy.

Marvin Johnson - Defender

Since serving his apprenticeship at Kenilworth Road, Marvin has remained loyal to his only club with over 250 appearances to his name. Johnson is a versatile defender who can play anywhere across the back-line. He is a former 'player of the season' at Kenilworth Road and his loyalty to the club has made him a firm crowd favourite.

Gavin McGowan - Defender

Gavin is a fullback who joined Luton from Arsenal where he found Winterburn and Dixon difficult players to displace. After just six appearances for Arsenal, McGowan had two injury ravaged loan spells at Kenilworth Road, but made the move permanent at the beginning of last season.

Andre Scarlett - Midfield

Born in Brent, Andre is a midfield player who looks to have a bright future. He was given his chance towards the back end of last season and he responded well to the opportunity presented to him by Lennie Lawrence, scoring once in six matches.

Paul McLaren - Midfield

Born in High Wycombe, Paul was still a schoolboy when he was playing youth team football. His astonishingly quick progress was continued when

he signed a professional contract whilst still only 17. He is a very attack minded midfielder who played 23 League matches last season.

Matthew Spring - Midfield

Like his team mate Paul McLaren, Spring was very highly rated as a youngster and was a member of the Luton youth team that reached the FA Youth Cup Semi-Final in 1997. Matthew made his League debut against Bristol City, coming on as a substitute and this was quickly followed with his full debut against Plymouth Argyle. He made great strides last season, making 13 appearances and is a hard-working, competitive midfield player with great potential.

Michael McIndoe - Midfield

Michael is yet another example of the thriving youth system at Kenilworth Road and of the faith that Lennie Lawrence is prepared to place in young footballers. Born in Edinburgh, Michael had not made a single appearance prior to this season but has been given his chance by the Hatter's boss this term. Michael is still only young, but he passes the ball well from the centre of the park.

Liam George - Striker

The pacey and skilful young striker is very highly rated at Kenilworth Road having made the step up from youth to reserve level last season. In Town's Avon Insurance Combination League side, the striker scored 12 goals in 18 games and he was rewarded with four appearances in the

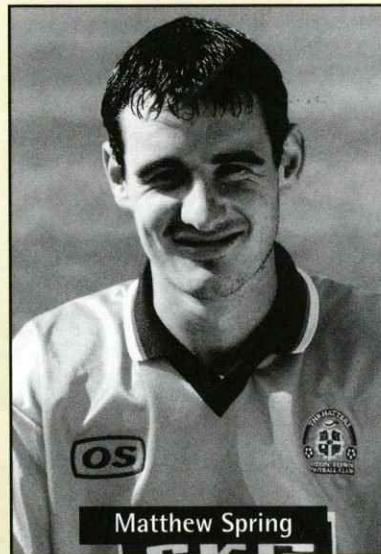
first team last term. He is a regular member of the Republic of Ireland youth team and is another younger Hatter with a bright future.

Stuart Douglas - Striker

Stuart scored goals galore whilst in the youth and reserve teams at Kenilworth Road and as a 17 year old, marked his Luton debut with a goal against Grimsby Town. He has a lot of pace and again, another bright hope for the future.

Tresor Kandol - Striker

Tresor has worked his way up through the ranks at Kenilworth Road and has scored plenty of goals at youth and reserve team level. He made his debut for the Hatters on April 6th 1999 in the club's home match against York City and Luton won that match 2-1. He has had a number of substitute appearances this season and Lennie Lawrence will be keen to see him progress over the coming months.



Matthew Spring

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The U's v Hatters



Hatters' Goals For & Against



Hatters' Hard Men

McLaren	4
Watts	4
Fraser	3
Douglas	2
Locke	2
Spring	2
Taylor	2
Doherty	1
Johnson	1
McIndoe	1
Thorpe	1

n.b
League
Details
Only

The U's Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



Hatters' last time out

Nathan Abbey
Goalkeeper 20 Apps 0 Goals
Age 21 Ht 6'7" Wt 11:13
Prev Club: - Int. -
Julian Watts
Defender 20 Apps 0 Goals
Age 28 Ht 6'2" Wt 13:06
Prev Club: Bristol City Int. -
Marvin Johnson
Defender 19 Apps 0 Goals
Age 31 Ht 6'1" Wt 13:00
Prev Club: - Int. -
Matthew Taylor
Defender 19 Apps 1 Goal
Age 18 Ht 5'10" Wt 11:08
Prev Club: - Int. -
Gary Doherty
Defender 18 Apps 1 Goal
Age 19 Ht 6'1" Wt 13:00
Prev Club: - Int. -
Stuart Fraser
Defender 17 Apps 1 Goal
Age 19 Ht 5'9" Wt 10:06
Prev Club: - Int. -
Matthew Spring
Midfield 20 Apps 2 Goals
Age 20 Ht 5'11" Wt 11:07
Prev Club: - Int. -
Adam Locke
Midfield 6 (4) Apps 1 Goal
Age 29 Ht 5'9" Wt 12:07
Prev Club: Bristol City Int. -
Adam Locke
Midfield 6 (4) Apps 1 Goal
Age 29 Ht 5'9" Wt 12:07
Prev Club: Bristol City Int. -
Liam George
Forward 18 Apps 10 Goals
Age 20 Ht 5'9" Wt 11:04
Prev Club: - Int. -
Stuart Douglas
Forward 15 (3) Apps 2 Goals
Age 21 Ht 5'8" Wt 11:05
Prev Club: - Int. -
Tony Thorpe
Forward 11 (1) Apps 1 Goal
Age 25 Ht 5'8" Wt 12:06
Prev Club: on loan from Bristol City Int. -
Emmerson Boyce
Defender 3 (4) Apps 0 Goals
Age 20 Ht 5'11" Wt 11:02
Prev Club: - Int. -
Efetobar Sodje
Defender 3 (4) Apps 0 Goals
Age 27 Ht 6'1" Wt 12:00
Prev Club: Macclesfield Int. -
Phil McLaren
Midfield 17 Apps 0 Goals
Age 23 Ht 6'1" Wt 13:00
Prev Club: - Int. -
Neil Midgley
Forward 8 (2) Apps 3 Goals
Age 21 Ht 5'11" Wt 11:08
Prev Club: on loan from Ipswich Int. -
Phil Gray
Forward 6 Apps 1 Goal
Age 31 Ht 5'9" Wt 12:07
Prev Club: Sunderland N. Ire

Colchester's Goals For & Against



MATCH

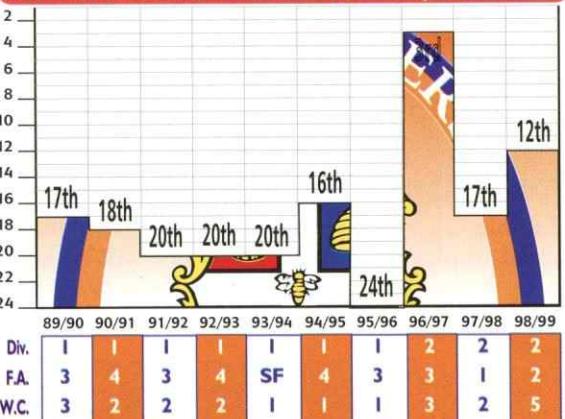
The UK's Biggest Selling Football Magazine!
Matchmen of the Month
The U's star man in November was Richard Wilkins. A string of impressive displays in the U's midfield saw him claim 2 star ratings in 4 outings and an average of 7.50. For the Hatters it was defender Gary Doherty with a Match average of 7.20.

Team	Player	GP	SR	AVE
Blackpool	John Hills	5	3	8.00
Bournemouth	Mark Stein	6	2	7.00
Brentford	Gavin Mahon	6	2	6.83
Bristol City	Mike Bell	5	3	7.60
Bristol Rovers	Stephen Foster	4	1	7.25
Burnley	John Mullin	5	1	7.60
Bury	Chris Swales	5	2	7.40
Cambridge	Neil Mustoe	5	2	7.40
Cardiff	Andy Legg	5	2	7.20
Chesterfield	Ryan Williams	3	2	8.00
Colchester	Richard Wilkins	4	2	7.50
Gillingham	Robert Taylor	4	2	7.50
Luton	Gary Doherty	5	2	7.20
Millwall	Neil Harris	7	3	7.42
Notts County	Ian Richardson	4	1	7.25
Oldham	Craig Dudley	4	1	7.50
Oxford	Rob Folland	5	1	7.00
Preston	Sean Gregan	5	3	7.80
Reading	Nick Forster	3	0	6.66
Scunthorpe	Lee Hodges	5	2	7.40
Stoke	Kevin Keen	5	1	7.00
Wigan	Andy Liddell	6	3	7.33
Wrexham	Gareth Owen	5	0	7.20
Wycombe	Sean Devine	5	3	7.00

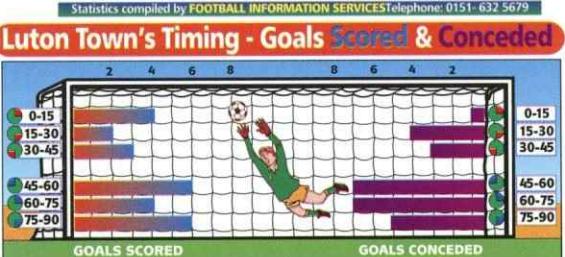
Form Guide shows results so far.
W = Won, L = Lost, D = Score Draw, D = No Score Draw.

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

Luton Town's Last Ten Years - The Complete Record



Luton Town's Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



Hatters' Form Guide - Result, Points, Position

S	W	L	WL	LW	S	W	L	WL	LW	S
11	14	14	17	17	20	21	24	24	27	27
5	3	5	3	8	10	7	7	9	8	10
14	14	17	17	17	20	21	24	24	27	28
3	5	3	8	10	7	7	9	8	9	10

Ground: Kenilworth Road Record Receipts: £115,541.20 v West Ham, FA Cup 6th round, 23 Mar 1994

Capacity: 9,975 Year Formed: 1885 Record Defeat: 0-9 v Small Heath, Division 2, 12 Nov 1888

Pitch Measurement: 110 x 72 Record League Win: 12-0 v Bristol Rovers, Division 3 (S), 13 Apr 1936

Record Attendance: 30,069 v Record Cup Win: 9-0 v Clapton, FA Cup Mar 1959

Record 6th round replay, 4 Mar 1959

1st round replay (after abandoned game), 30 Nov 1927 Top League scorer in a season: Joe Payne, 55, Division 3 (S), 1936-37

Most Capped Player: Mal Donaghy, 58 (91), Northern Ireland

Most Lge Goals: 103, Division 3 (S), 1936-37

Most Lge Appearances: Bob Morton, 494, 1948-64

Most Lge Points: 88, Division 2, 1981-82

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FOOTIE FACTS



OPTA Nationwide Football League

Player head-to-head

JOE KEITH

▼ MATTHEW TAYLOR

They say that you need experience but the performances of two youngsters at Colchester and Luton show that young guns can be key men in the tricky world of Division Two.

Joe Keith has risen to prominence at Layer Road this season with a series of sound performances that have belied his youth. He is a firm favourite with the fans, and after a few years of grizzled veterans he is an example of the Colchester youth and scouting systems.

Matthew Taylor of Luton is another fine prospect. Barely 18-years-old, he has hardly missed a minute for the Hatters this season and looks to have a fine future ahead of him. With Luton's well-publicised financial turmoil, Lennie Lawrence has had to use players of limited experience, but it has not back-fired, as Town stand on the edges of the play-off zone. Both players have similar tackle success rates, though the Luton man has made more challenges. He has also blocked more shots and crosses, though Keith has made considerably more clearances. Going forward Taylor has been far more effective. He plays in a wing-back role for Luton and this has enabled him to get 16 shots on target. He has proved himself to be one of the most accurate dead-ball experts in the division this year. But his passing has not been as accurate as that of Keith's. The Colchester man has been relaxed and accurate on the ball and this shows in his stats. He has committed just 12 fouls all season and has yet to pick up a yellow card. As the U's fight for survival at the foot of Division Two, he should have plenty more opportunities to excel.

KEITH TAYLOR

Minutes On Pitch

1599 1600

TACKLES & BLOCKS

Total Tackles Made	37	56
Last Man Saving Tackles	0	0
Tackles Won %	41	43
Shots & Crosses Blocked	26	31
Interceptions	13	11

CLEARANCES

Total Clearances Made	135	84
Headed Clearances	69	21
Shots Cleared Off The Line	0	1
Corners Conceded	13	15

DISTRIBUTION

Total Passes	480	565
Pass Completion %	58	49

GOING FORWARD

Goals	1	1
Shots on Target	3	16
Shots off Target	2	22

DISCIPLINE

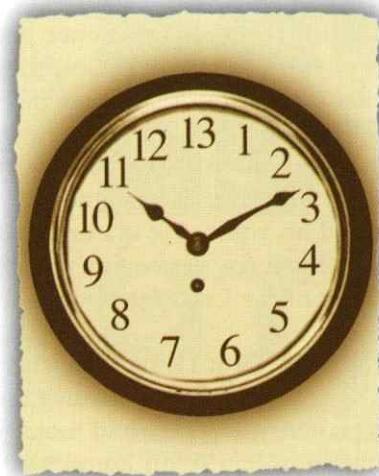
Total Fouls Conceded	12	24
Fouls in Danger Area	6	9
Penalties Conceded	0	0
Yellow Cards	0	0
Red Cards	0	0

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By Rob Hadgraft

QUICK QUIZ

* Answers to these questions can be found with the unrivalled U's match report in Monday East Anglian Daily Times and also in the next U's home programme!

In Town Today

Luton's current skipper is a one-club man, who has been part of the The Hatters' defence since their days in the top flight in the eighties.

Can you name him?

Hidden Identity

Which current U's player made his FA Cup debut as a raw youngster in a quarter-final between Luton and West Ham at Upton Park in 1994?

Can You Believe It?

Hot-shot Ted Phillips joined Colchester from Luton in 1965.

How many headers did the big man score on his U's debut versus Barnsley?

Layer Road Legend

After several years starring for Colchester, this winger moved into the top flight and in 1987 joined Luton, making his full debut against Liverpool. Can you name him?

Memory Lane

Brian Lewis was a favourite with both Luton and

Colchester fans. Which big striker joined the U's on the same day as Lewis and starred alongside him in the famous Leeds cup tie?

AROUND THE DIVISION

Which Second Division side pulled off an FA Cup shock by winning 1-0 at the home of a Premiership club last Saturday afternoon?

Answers to the questions in the CHESTERFIELD programme:
In Town Tonight: John Duncan • Can You Believe It: Middlesexborough
Hidden Identity: Alan White • Layer Road Legend: Dick Graham
Memory Lane: Gordon Banks • One for the Anoraks: 1992
• Around the Division: Bristol Rovers

One for the Anoraks

When Luton visited Layer Road in April 1965 the game attracted one of the U's biggest league attendances in the past 40 years. How many turned up? (to the nearest 1,000).

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DO U REMEMBER?

Football Historian Leigh Edwards Traces Former Favourites

TONY ADCOCK

Popular striker Tony Adcock played for Colchester United in the 1997 Auto Windscreens Shield final triumph at Wembley. Signing professional at Layer Road in February 1981, he was Colchester's leading marksman in four successive seasons before being sold to Manchester City for £40,000 in June 1987. He was swapped for Northampton Town's Trevor Morley seven months later then had a spell at Bradford City prior to rejoining the Cobblers for £75,000 in January 1991. Moving to Peterborough United with Bobby Barnes for £70,000 in December 1991, he helped them to clinch promotion via the Wembley play-offs in 1991/92. He joined Luton Town for £20,000 in August 1994 and made two substitute appearances in the First Division for today's opponents before

IAN ALLINSON

Versatile winger Ian Allinson was Colchester United's leading marksman in two consecutive seasons. A former apprentice at Layer Road, he made his League debut at home to Preston NE six months before signing professional under Bobby Roberts in October 1975. He featured prominently in Colchester's 1976/77 promotion triumph and successive Cup runs, netting 69 goals in 308 League games prior to joining Arsenal on a controversial free transfer in August 1983. Gaining considerable top-flight experience, he moved to Stoke City in June 1987 and was sold to Luton Town for £10,000 four months later. He scored three times in 32 First Division outings for today's visitors, then rejoined Colchester in December 1988 and netted a further ten goals in 38 League outings before joining Baldock Town

returning to Layer Road on a free transfer in May 1995. Top scorer in the following two seasons, he netted 126 goals in 318 League games overall for Colchester before being released at the end of last season. Tony is currently Caretaker-Manager at Heybridge Swifts.

	L	FAC	LC	T
COL.U	1980/81 1	-	-	1
	1981/82 40	(5)	3 (1)	5 48 (6)
	1982/83 30	(17)	-	1 31 (17)
	1983/84 43	(26)	3	5 (5) 51 (31)
	1984/85 28	(24)	3 (1)	2 33 (25)
	1985/86 33	(15)	-	2 35 (15)
	1986/87 35	(11)	3 (1)	2 40 (12)
	1995/96 41	(12)	1	2 (1) 44 (13)
	1996/97 36	(11)	1	4 (1) 41 (12)
	1997/98 25	(5)	4	2 - 31 (5)
	1998/99 6	-	1 (1)	1 - 8 (1)
Total	318	(126)	19 (4)	26 (7) 363 (137)
LUTON	1994/95 2	-	1	- - 3
Total	2	-	1	- - 3

as player-manager in December 1989.

Subsequently manager of Stotfold, he is employed as a customer development manager for Carlsberg-Tetley in Romford.

	L	FAC	LC	T
COL.U	1974/75 1	-	-	1
	1975/76 5	-	-	5
	1976/77 40	(7)	2	2 44 (7)
	1977/78 45	(6)	4	5 (1) 54 (7)
	1978/79 46	(5)	7	2 - 55 (5)
	1979/80 38	(2)	4	(1) 46 (4)
	1980/81 46	(6)	4	(1) 2 - 52 (7)
	1981/82 42	(21)	5 (3)	5 (2) 52 (26)
	1982/83 46	(22)	1	4 (2) - 51 (24)
	1988/89 25	(7)	3	(1) - - 28 (8)
	1989/90 13	(3)	-	2 - - 15 (3)
Total	346	(79)	26 (6)	26 (6) 398 (91)
LUTON	1987/88 27	(3)	5	(1) - - 32 (4)
	1988/89 5	-	-	1 - - 6
Total	32	(3)	5	(1) 1 - - 38 (4)

ALEC CHAMBERLAIN

Big goalkeeper Alec Chamberlain was ever-present in four successive seasons for Colchester United. He impressed with Ramsey Town prior to joining Bobby Robson's Ipswich Town in July 1981 and followed Allan Hunter to Layer Road in August 1982. Given his League debut at home to Hartlepool United five months later, he starred as Colchester qualified for the Fourth Division play-offs in 1986/87 and made 188 League appearances (including 188 consecutive games) before being sold to Everton for £80,000 in July 1987. He was loaned to Tranmere Rovers prior to joining Ray Harford's Luton Town for £150,000 in July 1988 and was ever-present in two consecutive seasons while at

Kenilworth Road, playing 138 League games before moving to Sunderland on a free transfer in July 1993. Starring in their 1995/96 First Division title success, he joined Watford for £40,000 in July 1996 and was an experienced figure in their rise from the Second Division to Premiership.

	L	FAC	LC	T
COL.U	1982/83 4	-	-	4
	1983/84 46	-	3	5 54
	1984/85 46	-	3	2 51
	1985/86 46	-	1	2 49
	1986/87 46	-	3	2 51
Total	188	-	10	11 209
LUTON	1988/89 6	-	-	6
	1989/90 38	-	1	3 42
	1990/91 38	-	3	2 43
	1991/92 24	-	1	2 27
	1992/93 32	-	2	- 34
Total	138	-	7	7 152

in September 1965. He netted 13 goals in 32 League outings for Colchester prior to joining Maltese side Floriana as player-manager in May 1966. Subsequently with Chelmsford City, Lexden Wanderers, Brantham and Long Melford, he worked for British Telecom and still lives locally.

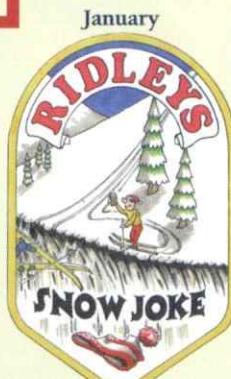
	L	FAC	LC	T
LUTON	1964/65 12	(8)	-	12 (8)
Total	12	(8)	-	12(8)
COL.U	1965/66 32	(13)	2	- 34 (13)
Total	32	(13)	2	- 34 (13)

DO U REMEMBER?



RIDLEY'S

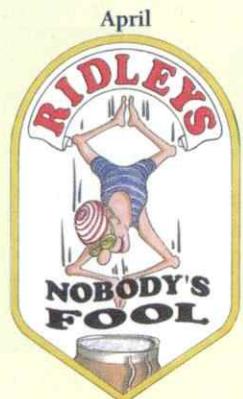
Event Beers



Snow Joke

4.5% abv

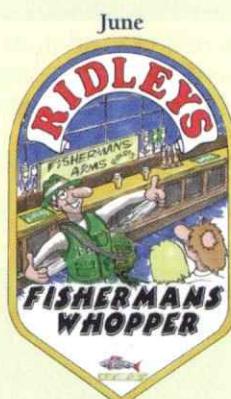
A dark mahogany beer with a hint of blackcurrants, and a chocolate aroma



Nobody's Fool

4.0% abv

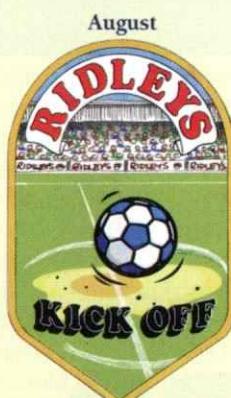
A red, sweet tasting beer with a growing bitterness and a pronounced coffee aroma



Fisherman's Whopper

4.3% abv

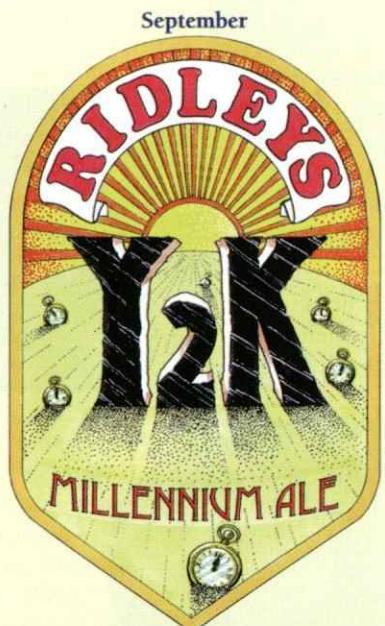
A fresh, crisp, malty beer with citrus flavours and green apple aroma



Kick Off

3.5% abv

A warm, dark, full bodied bitter, with a rich character to match

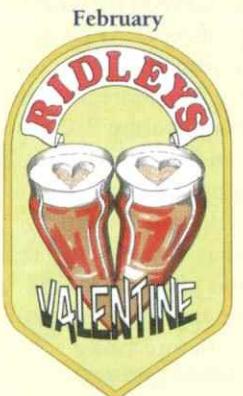


Millennium Ale

4.0% abv

A pale, mid strength, well hopped, bitter ale with a softish character to mark year one of the new millennium

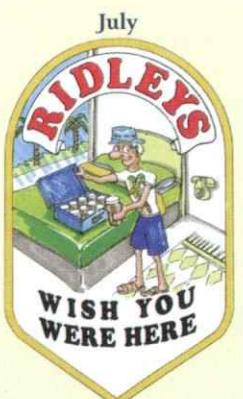
**Hartford End Brewery,
Chelmsford, Essex CM3 1JZ**
Tel: 01371 820316
Fax: 01371 821216



Valentine

3.9% abv

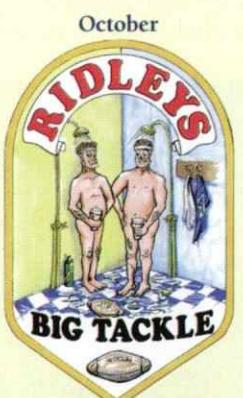
A light, dry beer with a slight bitter after taste and a fresh fruit aroma



Wish You Were Here

3.8% abv

A dry, light coloured beer with a balanced hop aroma with a slight hint of lemons



Big Tackle

4.1% abv

A dark, robust and full flavoured brew with a creamy character balanced by the hops

STARS OF THE FUTURE

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Tonight we give a warm welcome to Luton Town FC. Like us, Luton Town have prided themselves on developing young players through their Centre of Excellence under Paul Lowe. I am sure the friendships between our Centres' staff will continue and we look forward to meeting up again. With Christmas just around the corner, I would like to wish the parents and players of Colchester United FC Centre of Excellence a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

BEST WISHES TO THE FOLLOWING PLAYERS:

U9 SQUAD
Adam Bailey-Dennis
Jacob Buckland
Daniel Chambers
Joe Davis
Josh Day
Lee Howe
Luke Johnson
Lawrence Jones
Josh Kennedy-Edwards
Luke Larke
David Lorimer
Sam McCarthy
Craig Perrin
Jimmy Pirie
Jack Robertson
Jack Stonham
James Webb

U10 SQUAD
Patrick Brothers
Russell Gous
Joe Griffin
Shane Harris
Adam Hewitt
Matt Howard
Kane Hughes
Harry James
Ben Jones
Ifoghale Omuorch
Patrick Oliver
Chris Read
Anthony Russ
Joe Shipton
Mark Stevens
Adam Twydell
Jamie Wright

U11 SQUAD
Jamie Barton
Tom Devaux
Richard Dunne
Jason Griggs
Robert Hearn
Michael Holden
Miles Hooton
Antony Hughes
Harry Laskowski
Tom Manley
Michael Morenas
Carl Pentney
Anthony Russ
Ashley Skeggs
Ashley Sloots
Robert Suttenwood
Joshua Eley

U12 SQUAD
Richard Blaxall
Adam Bloss
Nathan Clarke
Mark Dickenson
Adam Grimsey
Craig Hughes
Damien Lucraft
Anthony Marriott
Michael Hopkins
Matthew Paine
Carl Pentney
Robert Pavey
Ashley Skeggs
Ashley Sloots
David Wareham
Ronnie Worster
Joshua Eley

U13 SQUAD
Matt Allen
Ross Bean
Kevin Coyle
Rob Farrelly
Matt Griggs
Martin Holloway
Jeff Kennedy
Jack Murray
Lloyd Miller
Jon Morton
Marvin Roberts
Wayne Saunders
Bryan Scott
Richard Springett
Ricky Griggs
Angelo Harrop



GEOFF HARROP



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Welcome back Joe Dunne! The popular Dubliner is back at Layer Road after a seven-month absence and went straight into the squad for tonight's game. Defender Joe has signed an 18-month contract following a spell in the Conference with Dover Athletic, where he was skipper and played a key role in a recent unbeaten run of 10 games.

Joe, still only 26, was released last May by then-manager Mick Wadsworth in the infamous clear-out which saw nine players shown the door at Layer Road. Dunne's was certainly a departure that caused raised eyebrows among U's fans, who were sorry to see him go and he is sure to receive a big welcome from his fans on the Barside if selected this evening.

Manager Steve Whitton believes Dunne still has plenty to contribute and has brought him back for a nominal fee. Dunne, who spent nearly six years at Gillingham before first joining the U's, will be keen to add to his current tally of 216 Football League appearances (29 as a substitute), plus 37 in the three cup competitions (six as sub).

Dunne notched just four goals in his first spell in the blue-and-white stripes, but these were all vital strikes, particularly the two in 1998 against Lincoln and Hull that helped us gain a play-off place and subsequently promotion. With Eire Under-21, youth and schoolboy caps to his name, Dunne first arrived at Layer Road in March 1996 on a free transfer from Gillingham. He arrived in the same week that Martin Grainger was sold to Birmingham for £40,000 and his

first appearance came as a substitute in a 2-1 defeat at Hartlepool.

His full debut followed in mid-April in a 2-2 draw with Fulham at Layer Road. His second full game was a vital away encounter at Mansfield and he became the hero of the hour by notching a last minute winner to help us into the play offs.

He was a regular last season, but broke his arm in the home win over Walsall on April 10 this year, and a month later found himself rather

surprisingly released. His painful exit against the Saddlers looked like being our last sight of him - until this week's happy reunion.

ROB HADGRAFT

Next Reserve Action...

The Reserves are back in action on Tuesday 21st December at:

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Wed Aug 25	A.F.C Bournemouth	1-1	A								
Wed Sep 8	Bristol Rovers	3-1	H	SWINDON	10	8	2	0	24	11	26
Thur Sep 23	Norwich City	1-1	A	IPSWICH	9	7	2	0	28	12	23
Tue Sep 28	Ipswich Town (AIC 1)	1-3	A	QPR	10	7	2	1	28	11	23
Tue Oct 5	Ipswich Town	1-5	H	FULHAM	10	5	3	2	16	10	18
Tue Oct 12	Queens Park Rangers	1-3	A	PORTSMOUTH	8	6	0	2	15	9	18
Wed Nov 3	Cambridge United	0-0	A	PETERBOROUGH	9	4	2	3	13	10	14
Tue Nov 9	Southend United	1-5	A	NORWICH	10	3	6	1	18	10	15
Wed Dec 1	Luton Town	1-1	A	OXFORD	11	4	2	5	19	18	14
Tue Dec 21	Millwall	2.00pm	A	BOURNEMOUTH	9	4	2	3	13	17	14
Wed Jan 5	Peterborough Utd	2.00pm	H	MILLWALL	8	3	4	1	11	8	13
Wed Jan 12	Leyton Orient	2.00pm	H	CAMBRIDGE	11	3	2	6	10	17	11
Wed Jan 19	Gillingham	7.30pm	A	LEYTON ORIENT	10	3	2	5	13	22	11
Wed Jan 26	Northampton Town	2.00pm	H	BRISTOLCITY	6	2	3	1	12	10	9
Wed Feb 2	Fulham	2.00pm	H	BRISTOLROVERS	9	2	3	4	15	14	9
Wed Feb 9	Bristol City	2.00pm	A	LUTON	10	2	3	5	12	16	9
Wed Feb 16	Barnet		H	BRIGHTON	7	2	1	4	12	14	7
Wed Feb 23	Portsmouth	2.00pm	H	COLCHESTER	8	1	4	3	8	13	7
Wed Mar 1	Swindon Town	2.00pm	A	GILLINGHAM	7	2	1	4	5	19	7
Tue Mar 14	Wycombe Wanderers	2.00pm	H	SOUTHEND	9	2	1	6	11	24	7
Wed Mar 29	Oxford United	2.00pm	H	NORTHAMPTON	9	1	3	5	12	18	6
Wed Apr 5	Southend United	7.45pm	A	BARNET	9	1	1	7	12	20	4
Wed Apr 12	Norwich City		H	WYCOMBE	8	1	1	6	4	13	4



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Five Lakes Hotel, near Maldon on 01621 868888.

No Easy Ride For Lennie

Lennie Lawrence has conjured up the odd miracle in his time as a football manager, but if he can lead Luton Town to promotion this season the Second Division really will have witnessed something extraordinary!

Lawrence spent the late 1980s keeping Charlton Athletic in the top division for longer than anyone can reasonably have expected, and then led Middlesbrough to promotion before being ousted to make way for the charisma and pedigree of ex-England skipper Bryan Robson. Those colourful years at The Valley and Ayresome Park were a rare blend of success and failure and Lawrence could have been forgiven for arriving at Luton exactly four years ago this week thinking he'd seen just about everything. Not so. His 48 months in charge at Kenilworth Road have been a real education, even for this mature student of the game. Relegation, play-offs, cup giant-killings, off-field wrangling, amazing injury crises, official receivership - it's all happened at Luton since 1995. Lawrence has been criticised by the demanding Luton fans for doing badly in the transfer market, but in truth he's had so little to spend, shopping is not a task he's familiar with.

Thankfully the Luton youth scheme, marshalled by coach John Moore, has produced a high quality succession of talented teenagers - because Luton's off-field troubles have meant that no money has been available for players for many a month.

Lawrence must cast envious eyes towards the likes of Wigan, Bristol City and Reading, who have splashed out on new players in recent years - not always with successful results. And that's precisely why last weekend's splendid draw at Fulham in the FA Cup must have been hugely satisfying for the man who celebrated his 52nd birthday this week. Fulham's squad cost millions to assemble, yet they were second best at Craven Cottage to the youthful Hatters. The entire Bedfordshire side's squad of 16 that afternoon cost absolutely nothing in transfer fees and 13 of them were true home-grown players.

Luton nearly went out of existence in August while in receivership, yet within weeks of the new season starting their rather makeshift young side were up there in the top six. Naturally that exuberant start could not be maintained at full speed, but they remain realistic contenders for the play-offs. If Lawrence can keep the Premiership vultures away from his young talent and promotion is achieved, then he and chairman Cliff Bassett ought to copy their Nigerian defender Effy Sodje and start wearing one of those 'Against All Odds' bandannas!

ROB HADGRAFT

FOOTBALL TALK

with Rob Hadgraft

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TONY NASH

Passed away on 25th November after a short illness aged 48. Tony was a regular Barsider, at every home and away game. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends and everyone on the terraces.

PEN PAL

I am a boy aged 16 and I'm finishing my secondary education this year. Christianity is my religion and football is my favourite sport of which I believe I have a talent in playing it. In English soccer, my favourite team is Colchester United of which I've been a proud supporter since 1997 when it was in Division Three. I always read magazines which have some information on the games played by Colchester. In Colchester, I'm mainly concerned about the way it's players play. I would like to pass my thanks giving to David Gregory 'utility man' who completed a marvellous season by scoring the penalty winner at Wembley that took us to the Second Division, that was very wonderful. I hope we haven't returned to Division Three yet!

Now, please Sir, may you do me a favour and find me some people who want to be my pen-pals but may they be mainly supporters of Colchester United. Please write to me, Blessed Jonas, at 13739 Cowdray Park, P.O. Llilveve, Bulawayo, ZIMBABWE.

Bye for now, may God bless you. I wish you all the best in the English premier League games hoping that you are improving and very soon we will be in Division One.

Blessed Jonas

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

Charity No. 207711

There are 11 million people in the UK with arthritis and rheumatism, over 4 million of whom are disabled. 88 million UK working days are lost to arthritis every year! 14,500 children, one in every thousand, suffer from arthritis - so it is not just an 'old persons' disease. Even footballers have been known to develop arthritic problems after injury. Do you have someone near and dear to you who suffers in some way from one of these diseases?

Our charity funds extensive medical research through hospitals and medical schools to investigate the cause and cure of arthritis and rheumatism. We also produce a range of free information booklets concerning arthritis and rheumatic diseases which are available through hospitals and doctors surgeries. We constantly need to raise money by our own efforts as Arthritis Research Campaign relies entirely on the generosity of the general public to fund their work.

The Colchester branch Chairman is Mrs Erica Siggs, ably supported by a dedicated team of Committee members. Recent moneymaking ventures included a Tea Dance in the Moot Hall and several Antiques Valuation Days sponsored by Reeman Dansie, Auctioneers. We also have a Charity Shop in Crouch Street run by a team of hardworking volunteers.

Members of our Committee are collecting for us this evening. Please give generously.

THANK YOU.

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS
TO ALL U'S FANS
FROM EVERYONE
AT LAYER ROAD**

DON'T FORGET TO MAKE USE OF COLCHESTER UNITED'S PARK & RIDE.

Follow the signs to Sabron Barracks on the Circular Road. Parking is £2 per car, which includes bus travel to and from the ground for all occupants of the car.

For All The Latest Colchester News **09068 400 222 - THE U'S LINE**



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oining us tonight are representatives of our Official Sponsors, the East Anglian Daily Times, Ridleys - The Essex Brewers - who are of course our main home and away sponsors. Lancaster Volvo and Lancaster Rover - our Official Car Sponsors plus our Youth Team Sponsors - Freelance Insurance Consultants.



Thank you all for your continued support.

tonight Sponsors

Gold Sponsors

Falcon Plumbing and Heating Supplies Ltd are this evenings Gold Sponsors and it's their second consecutive visit Layer Road this season, as they were Silver Sponsors for our victory



against Chesterfield a fortnight ago. In fact Falcon have become a good luck charm for the U's because we have only lost one game in all the time that they have sponsored a match, against Manchester City last season. When you consider that they sponsor at least three games each season and have done so for the past five years, it's not a bad record. All we have to do now is convince them to sponsor every game - the Championship would be guaranteed. Lets hope their luck continues tonight!

Bronze Sponsors

We are at full capacity in the Sponsors Lounge tonight with no less than three Bronze Sponsors. Firstly we welcome Steve Ivell and his guests from **Ivell Holdings Ltd.** Steve has become a Vice Resident at Layer Road this season having supported the Club via a variety of sponsorship packages, for many years. Although Steve is a self confessed Leicester City fanatic, he has been a good friend of the U's and has made sure that his 'home' town club have benefited from his own company's success story.

Our second Bronze Sponsor is also a regular at Layer Road and has consistently backed the U's locally and financially through good and not so good times. Pete Newstead of **Newstead Estates** is a welcome guest in the Sponsors Lounge and we hope

that Pete and his guests have a great evening.

Our third Bronze Sponsors are from Clacton and they sponsored last seasons game against the Hatters which ended in a 2-2 draw. **Carlton Hotel** and friends are hosted by Jack Green, who is in fact 'mien host' at the Carlton Hotel. We know that Jack had a great day back in January and we're sure he will again tonight.

Legends Lounge

Our Legends Lounge is open this evening to Paul Barrett and his friends who are enjoying their first hospitality visit to Layer Road. Paul will be entertaining twelve guests and promises that

if all goes well tonight, he will be back for more in the future. Fingers crossed then Paul!!

Ridleys Back The U's

Great news for the U's! Ridleys, the Essex Brewer, who are, of course our main away sponsors this season, have agreed to renew their spon-

MILLENNIUM SPECIAL
BY POPULAR DEMAND, WE HAVE RE-INTRODUCED THE FREE BAR TO THE HOSPITALITY PACKAGES IN OUR SPONSORS LOUNGE. TO HELP TO CELEBRATE THE COMING OF A NEW CENTURY WE HAVE NOW DECIDED TO REVERT TO THE OLD SET UP, SO THAT ALL DRINK IS FREE IF YOU ARE DINING IN OUR SPONSORS LOUNGE.

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EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES

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sorship for another season at least, which will take them into the year 2001. This announcement has come as a timely boost for the club after a difficult start to the 1999-00 season. At a time when Colchester United needs all its fans and friends to get behind the Club and back it with firm support - Ridleys have taken the lead.

Managing Director of Ridleys, Greg Jephcott said of the announcement "Football is just like life - full of ups and downs. Ridleys felt that Colchester United needed support right now and I am delighted to confirm our away shirt agreement for an extra season." Ridleys are of course, regular visitors to Layer Road and are usually represented by the multi-talented Jayne Hansell and Jackie Davies, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to promote Ridleys Brewery all over the country.

Ridleys recently opened their sixty-ninth public house at Rowhedge, the Freemasons, and were joined by the Commercial Team as well as Aaron Skelton, Karl Duguid and Tony Lock for the launch. (pictured left)

No doubt they will be expanding even further in the months and years ahead and its exciting

news that Essex's number one brewery have teamed up with the regions number one football club.

Lets all raise our glasses to Ridleys and the U's - cheers!!

The Commercial Team would like to wish our Sponsors and all U's fans, a very Merry Christmas.



Richard Wilkins presents Chris Head of H & H Scaffolding with his momento before the Chesterfield game



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Commercial Wheels

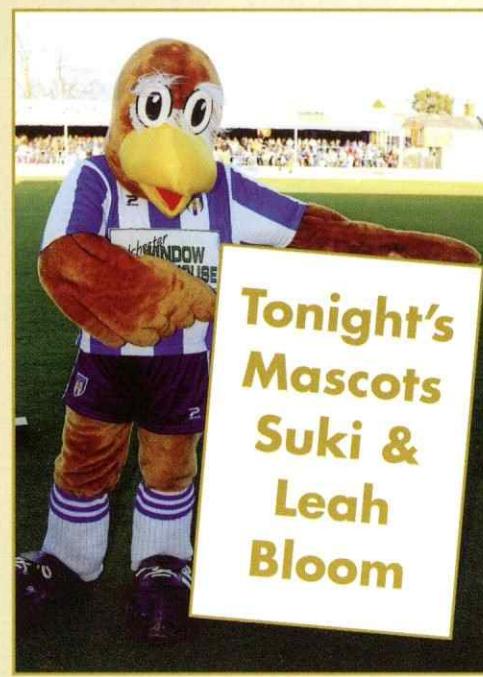
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GO - CHESTER



M TODAY'S S COT

Tonight we have two mascots who are sisters, all the way from Australia. Eleven year old Suki Bloom attends Somerville House School in Brisbane and lists her hobbies as swimming, sports and dancing. Her younger sister Leah, aged eight loves swimming and all sports. We hope that both of you have a great time this evening!

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

www.football.nationwide.co.uk



OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE
NATIONWIDE CONFERENCE



Mitre
CONFERENCE

AWAY WITH THE U's

with DUNCAN STONEHOUSE...

...at STOKE CITY

The Fans

Over 200 U's fans made the trip to The Britannia Stadium, a good turn out especially after recent home performances, Stoke's supporters were extremely loud, once something woke them up, perhaps a goal?

The Match

Talking about the game, it would be impossible to leave out the incident which saw the Stoke mascot (a Hippo, see if you can work that out) getting asked to move and to calm down, by the referee after a request by the linesman because it looked like an extra player on the far side, (of course, most Stoke players looked like Hippo's!).

After quarter of an hour, Fabrice Richard powerfully headed Karl Duguid's corner goalbound, but the Stoke keeper was equal to the Frenchman's effort. As it happened, Fab's header was the only other effort on target in the game, bar the two goals. The U's defence looked solid, Alan White, making his debut from Luton, slotted in superbly alongside Greene and Skelton, as well as Fabrice and Joe Keith who both played well, and the midfield was superb with Gavin Johnson and Jason Dozzell outstanding. After 71 minutes a good move started with Aaron Skelton,



Stoke City's Britannia Stadium

to Dozzell, who sent Duguid through, his brilliant cross was met by Skelton who scored his second goal of the season. Soon, though, Stoke equalised when a free kick was met by Lightbourne from close in. John Vaughan finally getting a chance to touch the ball with his hands, to pick the ball out the net, after 81 minutes!

The Food

COLCHESTER UNITED FC

The large serving area provided a large choice for supporters, though they had run out of a lot of the popular football fare at half time, still with huge queues. The Steak and Kidney Pie was heavily recommended, in the sense it was recommended by a heavy person who knows his pies! (And perhaps doesn't know that I'm talking about him, as he didn't notice me standing beside him) As I didn't have the chance to sample the fare, I can't really rate it on taste, but everything looked nice! 6/10.

TEAM LINE-UP..

Colchester United

33	Vaughan
2	Richard
3	Keith
5	Greene
23	Skelton
6	White
8	D Gregory
4	Johnson
11	Dozzell
7	Duguid
30	McGavin

Subs: Lock(7), Farley(23)
Lua Lua, Pinault, Brown

MAN OF THE MATCH

ALAN WHITE
fitted in well

SUMMARY

Perfect response to disappointing home games.



adidas FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY

with Steve Bradshaw

Colchester United F.C. Christmas Football Party 'Blue Eagles' Junior Members

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS!



Dear 'Blue Eagle',
We would like to invite you to attend the spectacular Colchester United 'Blue Eagle' Junior Members Club Christmas Football Party on Thursday 23rd December 1999 at the 'Community Soccer Centre'.
The Christmas Football Party includes the following fabulous events: -

- ◆ Football activities & small sided match tournament
- ◆ World Cup Table Football
- ◆ A chance to meet first team players
- ◆ Guest appearance by Eddie the Eagle!
- ◆ Christmas gift
- (ticket to see 1st team against Wycombe on Wed 29/12/99)
- ◆ Buffet & Juice

.....All this and great memories for just £10.00 per 'Blue Eagle' member.



This Christmas Football Party is not to be missed and has been specially discounted for the Colchester United 'Blue Eagles' Junior Members Club. There are two parties, one for the under 8's, 2pm to 4pm and one for the over 8's 5pm to 7pm on Thursday 23rd December. With places being limited to 40 for each party it will be done on a first come basis so be quick and return the attached form.



Please return this slip complete with payment.

Name DOB Age

Address

Post Code Tel No 'Blue Eagle' No:

Payment can be made by post to: - Colchester United FC, 'Community Soccer Centre', Layer Road, Colchester, CO2 7JJ. Please make all cheques payable to 'Community Soccer Centre'. If you have any questions please ring Steve Bartlett on 01206 508810.



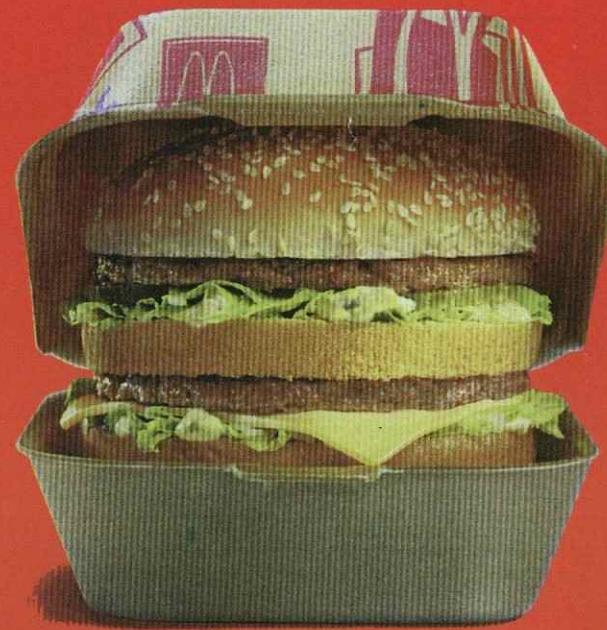
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CHRISTMAS OPENING

The Club Shop will be open from 10am till 4pm each Saturday until Christmas

**FOR ALL YOUR U'S
CHRISTMAS GOODIES**

Layer Road - **01206 508809**

Welcome to you all this evening for our clash with Luton Town, we hope that we can carry on as we did against Chesterfield recently. It was a very important victory against Chesterfield and the three points were all that mattered. Also to keep a clean sheet, only our second in the League, was morally just as important, even though the Chesterfield players felt that they had the better goalscoring opportunities. It was John Vaughans last home performance for the Club, as he has now returned to Lincoln, and he was outstanding on the night and made two or three fantastic saves. With John going back, this enables Simon Brown to re-establish his first team place again following his back injury, after a difficult and pressurised start to the season, hopefully the break has done Simon some good. On the loan front it's unfortunate but understandable that Luton do not want us to play Alan White this evening, so we will have to plug the gap he leaves as best we can. I would also personally like to welcome Joe Dunne back to the club and I'm sure that all U's fans will give Joe a tremendous reception.

Our trip to Bristol Rovers last Saturday ended pointless but we were very unfortunate not to get the point that our second half performance deserved. Their keeper, Jones, was on top of his game and denied Lomana his second goal with a magnificent save with five minutes to go, we pressed hard in the dying minutes, but didn't get the break we deserved.

It's good to see another youth player taking his first team opportunity well, as Jack Wignall did so at Swansea in the Auto Windscreen last Tuesday. I see in Jack a lot of the qualities that his father possessed: enthusiasm, determination and wholeheartedness. Obviously circumstances dictate at certain times, but when the youth team players have come into the first team set up, they have not let anybody down. This only emphasises what a good job Micky Cook, Geoff Harrop and Adrian Webster are doing with the youngsters that are coming through the Clubs Youth Development system.

My injury is coming along fairly well at the moment and on Monday I will see the specialist again to see how the neck is progressing. I am hoping that the injury has settled and the offending disc has retracted enough for me to step up my training programme. Hopefully the news will be of a positive nature in the New Year for myself and also Andy Arnott and Steve Forbes.

All the players visited the children's ward at Colchester General Hospital on Monday and tried to put a smile on the faces of the brave children. A visit like this puts everything into perspective and you realise that the problems that you are experiencing are very trivial in comparison.

On behalf of the players, we wish you a Merry Christmas and hopefully three points this evening will start your festivities.

Enjoy the game

Wilko



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FROM THE DRESSING ROOM

By Richard Wilkins

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Anyone out there fancy a gamble? Plus if there's anyone out there that fancies a hospitality day out for you and four friends?

Well if there is why don't you take part in our
SUPER MILLENNIUM BONANZA DRAW?

We are giving away four prizes of a table for five persons for the full hospitality package for our home game against Wycombe Wanderers on Wednesday 29th December 1999 the last game of the Millennium -

The package includes:

- A three course dinner with wine
- A complimentary bar (all drinks)
- A complimentary programme
- A seat in the Vice Presidents enclosure
- Half time tea or coffee
- Plus the opportunity to take part in the Man of the Match presentation after the game.

It's a tremendous package and to take part all you have to do is send £10 with your name, address and telephone number to the Commercial Department by no later than Monday 20th December. You can enter the draw as many times as you like, as long as you send the £10 each time.

YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!
Don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity!

Someone's going to win - make sure you have the chance. Send your £10 today and don't delay!! The draw will take place on Tuesday 21st December and the four winners will be notified accordingly. Please note that the prize is not transferable.

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Seasons Greetings to you all, and on behalf of Colchester United Supporters Association, I would like to welcome all U's fans and their Luton counterparts to Layer Road for the last time before the Christmas holiday.

An awful lot has been happening in the past two weeks. Sadly, I missed the home win against Chesterfield - not the most riveting of games I hear, but nevertheless, three immensely valuable points that dragged the U's out of the bottom four.

Onto Swansea in the Cup yet again, and thirteen hardy souls boarded the CUSA coach for the trip to Wales. The fans were in great spirit and voice, as the linesman nearest to us will no doubt testify. The U's started badly but despite the absentees, when Jamie Moralea pulled one back, we showed greater spirit and almost equalised. Alas it was not to be, and the U's can at least now focus on Division Two survival.

The next evening saw the U's youth team overcome Walsall in the FA Youth Cup and were subsequently drawn away to Leeds United. The next round will be played on January 20th and the CUSA are strongly thinking about organising coach travel to the game. Please contact myself or one of my colleagues as soon as possible if you are interested.

The lads play very attractive football and are worthy of your support. A special mention must go to Jack Wignall who has come on leaps and bounds this season - one for the future, I hope!

The following night saw entertainment of a different nature as we ate, drank and boogied the night away at the football club Dinner and Dance. I lost count of the number of people who danced with young Lomana. Pat and Les Oakes also strutted their stuff, but the star of the show was our very own Geoff Walther with his blend of John Travolta, Fred Astaire and Michael Jackson. Wo!! What a performance!!

Last Saturdays trip to Bristol Rovers was well attended by the U's faithful. I can see both sides of the argument for not starting with Lomana, but when he turns the game like he did, it makes you wonder why just a little more faith is not shown in him. Rovers were shocked by what the U's threw at them in the later stages, but when your team gives 110% and gets no reward you feel just a little bit conned. Good goalscorer that Jason Roberts is, I can't understand just how he gets away with the sort of physical abuse that he dishes out - unbelievable!

There was quite a Christmas atmosphere on the coach, we had mince pies and plenty of Christmas music - did you all enjoy my 'White Christmas'?

Tomorrow night the Christmas cheer continues at the CUSA func-

tion at Wivenhoe Town FC. Admission is by ticket only, so please come and see us tonight if you wish to come.

Don't forget the Boxing Day trip to Gillingham. It is essential that you book your coach seat as soon as possible because for obvious reasons we need to order our vehicles early. Also contrary to my previous notes, this is now a 1.00pm kick off so the coaches will be leaving at 9.30am.

The CUSA would like to wish a Happy Birthday to Swansea stalwart, Anthony Boud, who will be celebrating his 19th Birthday on Christmas Day.

Lastly I would like to wish a very Merry Christmas to all U's fans everywhere. May Santa bring you all that you desire.

Up the U's
Jon Burns, CUSA

DIRECTIONS TO GILLINGHAM

Exit M2 at junction 4 and at motorway roundabout follow signs to Gillingham A278. Stay on A278 over two roundabouts and at third roundabout turn left onto the A2. Straight on for 0.5 miles then turn right at lights into Woodlans Road. After 0.7 miles turn left into Chicago Avenue. The ground is at the end of the road and it is advisable to park this side of the ground for a quicker getaway.

DETAILS OF AWAY TRAVEL

- Boxing Day 26th December - Gillingham
Coach departs Layer Road at 9.30am

Adult Member	£8
Junior/OAP Member	£6
Adult Non-Member	£12
Junior/OAP Non-Member	£9

- Monday 3rd January - Blackpool
Coach departs Layer Road at 7.00am

Adult Member	£16
Junior/OAP Member	£13
Adult Non-Member	£21
Junior/OAP Non-Member	£17

- Saturday 15th January - Notts County
Coach departs Layer Road at 9.30am

Adult Member	£14
Junior/OAP Member	£11
Adult Non-Member	£19
Junior/OAP Non-Member	£15

Colchester United's SUPPORTERS CLUB

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GETTING TO KNOW...

DAVID GREENE

David became the last U's player to lose the 'ever present' tag when he was suspended for last weeks Auto Windscreen Shield game at Swansea last Tuesday. The former Luton Town defender was the U's Supporters and U's player of the season last year but has, so far, struggled to reproduce the kind of form that made him so popular with the U's faithful. In recent weeks, however, the signs have been good as the U's have began to climb away from the bottom of the Division, aided by Greeney's winner at Boundary Park last month.

As one of the Clubs longest serving players, David's experience will no doubt be called upon throughout the coming months and, who knows, he could be the U's fans number one again come the end of the season.

Q: David you must be looking forward to tonight's match against your former club?

DG: To be honest I look forward to every game but this one is a little bit special I suppose. I served my apprenticeship at Kenilworth Road and I still have some very fond memories of my time at the club. I still live in the area so I'm surrounded by Luton supporters and it would be nice to get one over my old mates. There's a bit of a Luton connection at Layer Road at the moment as we have Alan White on loan - although he won't be playing tonight - and, of course, Aaron Skelton who was also at Luton when I was there. Plus my old pal Adam Locke will be part of Luton's squad for the match and he was a former U's favourite and very popular with the U's crowd, so it should be an interesting evening. Last season we drew at Layer Road and lost in the away game, so hopefully it's our turn to gain a victory - it will be all the sweeter if we do.

Q: It's been a difficult season so far, especially in defence where there have been a number of changes. Do you think that the changes have been the major reason for our indifferent defensive record?

DG: The changes obviously haven't helped but as a unit we have been guilty of making unfortunate errors at key times in a number of games. We have had to shuffle the pack quite a few times and it is difficult to form an understanding when you make so many alterations. The majority of the changes have been enforced, and not by choice, so you have to get on

with it. I honestly believe that we are not far off getting it right, we just need to concentrate and cut out the silly mistakes.

Q: Last season you swept the board with the Player of the Year Awards but how do you feel you're doing so far this season?

DG: I think that everyone knows that I'm not playing to the best of my ability but I feel that my recent form has been a lot better. I didn't particularly enjoy the pre-season training as I felt that we were not worked hard enough and perhaps I've suffered more than most because of it. You also have to consider that we started the season with almost a new back five. Simon Brown and Joe Keith had not played League football previously, Sagi Burton had only played a handful of games and Fabrice didn't speak much English, which made communication very difficult. If you look at the situation now, Skelts is back and playing well, Joe Keith has been playing well and I've been playing alongside Alan White who I played with at Luton, so it is no surprise that we are improving plus Joe Dunne is back at the Club, so his experience will prove very valuable.

Q: You've picked up a few cuts and bruises this season - is there any truth in the rumour that you're sponsored by the stitch?

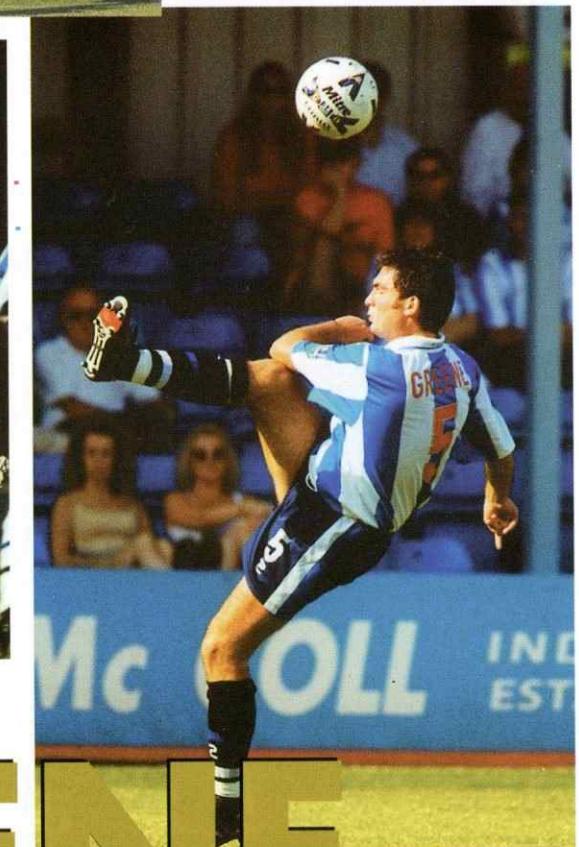
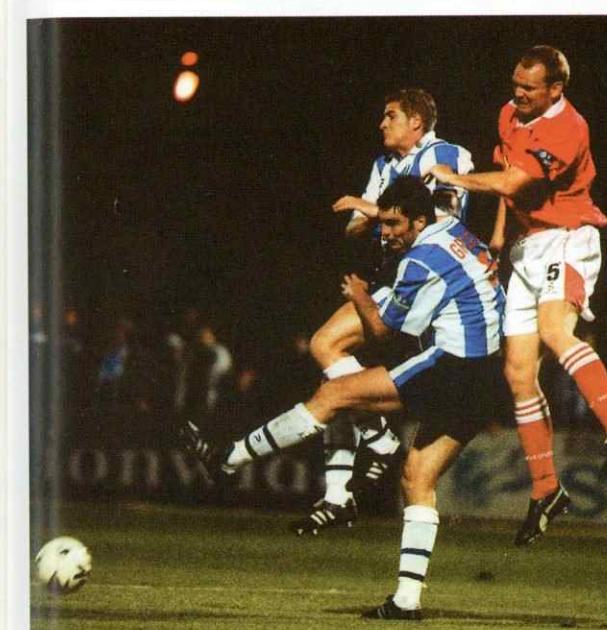
DG: I should be because I would have made a fortune. I don't know why I've picked up so many knocks, but it's all part of the game and no doubt I'll pick up some more in the future. I aim to be around for quite a while as I'm currently in contract talks with the club. Hopefully, I will be extending my contract because I love playing for Colchester, I know that we will avoid relegation and I want to part of the success of the Club.

Q: Finally David only one goal so far this season, are we going to see more?

DG: Definitely and hopefully at least one tonight - maybe even two! Seriously, though I always look to score ten goals and I've been close to that target in the last two seasons. For some reason I hadn't been getting the opportunities to score until the last few games. I'm just getting my range right and then I'll score for fun, so make sure you get your money on me tonight!

Thanks for the tip Dave - cheers!

DAVID GREENE



DAVID GREENE

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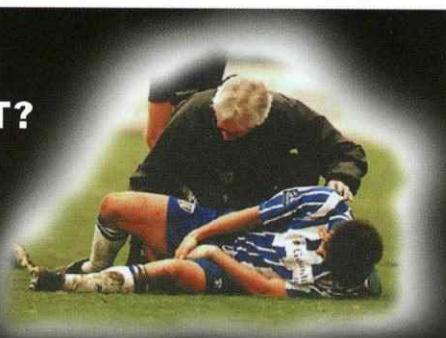
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NATIONWIDE Review

Pirates sail on upwards with Wigan and Preston in FA Cup action last weekend, **BRISTOL ROVERS** grasped the opportunity to close in and put the pressure on them at the top of the Division Two table. Rovers overcame **COLCHESTER** 2-1 at The Memorial Ground with two strikes by lethal Jason Roberts, who now has 13 for the season. Roberts is attracting attention from the bigger clubs, just like Lomana Tresor Lua Lua, who pulled a goal back for United shortly after coming on as a substitute and went close with another brilliant effort from distance. Rovers are just a point off the top, but are being chased hard by fast-improving **MILLWALL**, who went to **WYCOMBE** and grabbed their sixth away win of the season by 2-1. The two Pauls, Ifill and Moody, scored for the Lions in the second period either side of a goal by home skipper Keith Ryan.

The match marked a successful return to football for Merseysider Gary Ablett, who has been given a chance to resurrect his career by Wycombe boss Lawrie Sanchez following a horrendous knee injury nearly a year ago.

NOTTS COUNTY also powered their way into the top six with an impressive 5-1 caning of **BOURNEMOUTH** at Meadow Lane. Brett Angell, signed on loan from Stockport and making his County debut, scored twice within the opening eight minutes! Between these strikes, County's Ian Richardson headed home in the seventh minute to send the home fans delirious.

Visiting boss Mel Machin admitted that Angell frightened his defenders to death and it was one of the worst defensive performances he'd ever witnessed in his years at Dean Court. Mark Stallard made things worse for the Cherries with a fourth goal just before the break. Angell completed his hat-trick before the hour



mark, and as County eased up a little, John O'Neill slipped home a consolation just before the end.

Five Nationwide Second Division clubs were celebrating on Saturday night after pulling off excellent results against opposition from a higher league in the third round of the Axa-sponsored FA Cup.

BURNLEY went to the home of anxious Premiership side Derby County and, as expected, posed them all sorts of problems, winning the tie through a 62nd minute strike by Andy Cooke. Burnley have the chance of repeating their giant-killing in the next round, for they've been drawn away to Coventry City.

WREXHAM tipped Premiership Middlesbrough out of the cup with a 2-1 triumph at the Racecourse Ground, despite falling behind to a 42nd-minute shot from Brian Deane. Five minutes after the break Robin Gibson took Darren Ferguson's pass and cracked the equaliser into the bottom corner. On 68 minutes the Welsh fans were roaring again as Ferguson rifled home a real beauty to win the tie, with his admiring father - Sir Alex - watching proudly from the stands. The next stage will not be quite so glamorous for Brian Flynn's boyos, for they've been drawn at home to **CAMBRIDGE UNITED**.

The Abbey Stadium club put their indifferent league form behind them to see off inconsistent **CRYSTAL PALACE** last Friday evening. Palace had a man sent off as Roy McFarland's side roared into the fourth round with goals by Paul Wanless and Trevor Benjamin in the final 16 minutes.

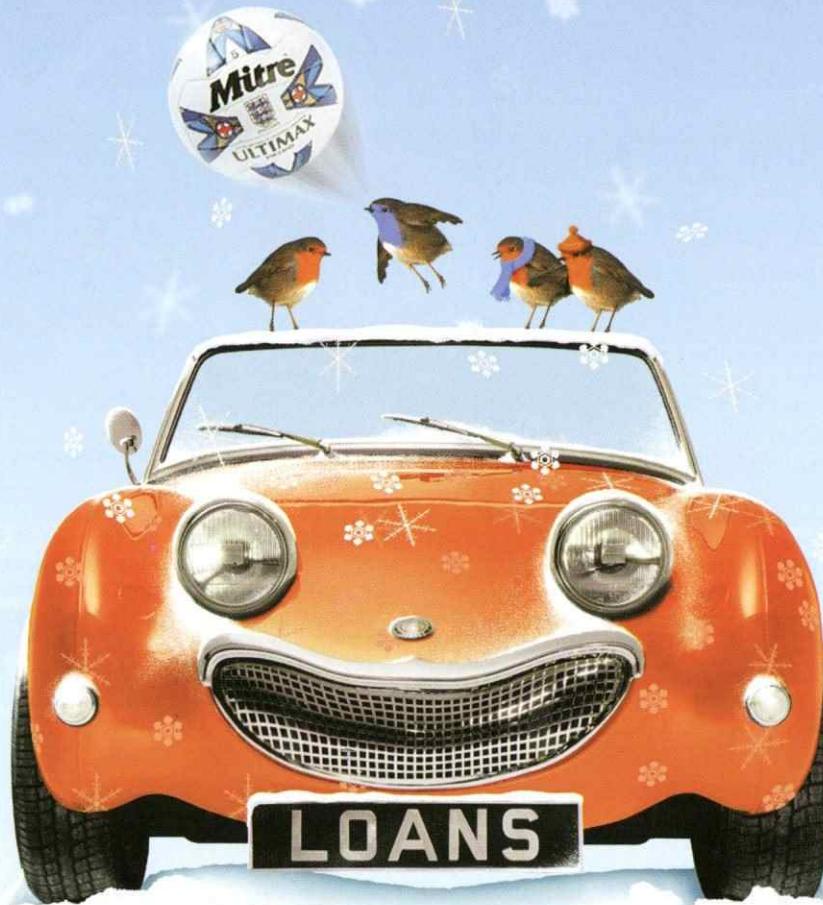
Tonight's Layer Road visitors **LUTON TOWN** took a team that cost absolutely nothing to the home of moneybags **FULHAM** and came away with an excellent 2-2 draw. Liam George knocked home the opener after just six minutes, but Paul Bracewell's star-studded side quickly hit back and were 2-1 ahead by the 15th minute after close-range goals by Geoff Horsfield and



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NATIONWIDE Review

All the latest news from around the Nation!

Sean Davis.

Luton matched their opponents in all areas and missed two great chances just after the break before delighting their big following of fans with an 82nd minute leveller. Matt Spring cracked home a brilliant goal from outside the area to force a replay in Bedfordshire. The winners on Tuesday evening will entertain Wimbledon.

OXFORD UNITED also went to the home of First Division opposition and came away with a draw. Under-pressure NOTTINGHAM FOREST boss David Platt thought his side were on their way into Round Four when Dougie Freedman opened the scoring on 39 minutes. Paul Powell had other ideas and deep into the second half his goal gave improved Oxford a draw. Oxford's incentive to win the replay is a fourth round tie away to Chelsea.

GILLINGHAM went to First Division WALSALL and looked set for a win after Nicky Southall's first-half strike. Mark Robins kept the home side in the cup by equalising in the final quarter-of-an-hour from the penalty spot. Winners of the replay will be at home to Premiership strugglers Bradford.

Second Division leaders WIGAN experienced the unaccustomed taste of defeat when WOLVES pinched some cup glory in the very last minute at the JJB Stadium. Carl Robinson's powerful header came in stoppage time and was a real heartbreaker for brave home keeper Roy Carroll who'd played superbly. Wolves now tackle Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough in the fourth round.

BRISTOL CITY fancied their chances of causing an upset at the home of Wednesday, who are marooned at the bottom of the Premiership, but Danny Wilson's side squeezed through thanks to Andy Booth's goal midway through the first period.

Wednesday's eager young sub Alan Quinn came off the bench after 88 minutes but showed too much enthusiasm when he clattered into City's Shaun Taylor and got a red card just seconds after coming on! The

Nationwide
FOOTBALL LEAGUE

CONTINUED

challenge looked worse than it was, and Taylor urged the referee not to take action, but the card was already out of the pocket.

READING's season continues to be a miserable one. In the bottom four of Division Two, they failed to beat Third Division PLYMOUTH at the Madejski Stadium, having to settle for a 1-1 draw after Chris Hargreaves levelled for the

Pilgrims in the closing stages. The winners of the Home Park replay will face PRESTON, who overcame neighbours

OLDHAM 2-1 at Deepdale via goals by Jon Macken and Graham Alexander. Oldham youngster Mark Hotte earned a red card to add to boss Andy Ritchie's gloom. Second Division BLACKPOOL put up a battling show in front of 3,000 of their fans at Arsenal on Monday night, equalising through Phil Clarkson just before the break, but finally going down 3-1.

CARDIFF's trip to BOLTON last Saturday was postponed, but if the South Wales side can get through they'll face a grim away trip to GRIMSBY at the next stage. Former United midfielder Paul Buckle was in action for EXETER CITY as they did Devon proud by holding Premiership Everton to a goalless draw at St. James' Park. Everton will be at home to BIRMINGHAM if they can dispose of Peter Fox's brave lads in the Goodison replay.

TORQUAY just about matched the achievements of neighbours Exeter when they travelled to the capital and held First Division QPR to a 1-1 draw at Loftus Road. Former Saffron Walden defender Stuart Wardley continued his remarkable debut-season in senior soccer by scoring yet again to get Rangers off to a great start. Gerry Francis' side could not add to this, however, and they paid the price when Mick O'Brien equalised with a superb free-kick with just eight minutes remaining.

ROB HADGRAFT



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45



THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE
YOUTH ALLIANCE

FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE
SOUTH EAST CONFERENCE

(As at 07/10/99)

		H	1-2								
Sat Aug 14	Leyton Orient	H	1-2								
Sat Aug 21	Southend United	A	2-2								
Sat Aug 28	Gillingham	H	2-1								
Sat Sep 11	Wycombe Wanderers	H	2-1								
Sat Sep 18	Portsmouth	A	1-0								
Sat Sep 25	Brighton & H. A	H	1-0								
Mon Sep 27	Stevenage B (E.J.C.F)	H	7-1								
Sat Oct 2	Barnet	H	2-0								
Sat Oct 16	Brentford	A	1-2								
Wed Oct 20	Heybridge Swifts (E.J.C.2)	A	3-1								
Sat Oct 23	Cambridge (Cup 1)	H	1-4								
Wed Oct 27	Hinckley (FA YCI)	A	2-0								
Mon Nov 8	Cambridge United (FAYC2)	A	2-1								
Sat Nov 13	Southend United Cup	H	1-2								
Sat Nov 20	Luton Town Cup	A	1-0								
Wed Nov 24	Barnet (Cup 2) *	H	0-1								
Sat Dec 4	Wycombe Wanderers	A									
Wed Dec 8	Walsall (FAYC3) *	H									
Sat Dec 11	Portsmouth	H									
Sat Dec 18	Brighton & H.A	A									
Mon Dec 21	Newmarket Town (EJC3) *	H									
Sat Jan 8	Brentford	H									
Sat Jan 15	Barnet	A									
Sat Jan 22	Leyton Orient	A									
Sat Jan 29	Cup 2										
Sat Feb 5	Southend United	H									
Sat Feb 12	Gillingham	A									
Wed Mar 1	Cup Quarter Final										
Wed Mar 22	Cup Semi Final										
Sun Apr 16	Cup Final										

* Played at Layer Road
Second phase Merit Division matches begin 26/2/2000.

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leyton Orient	7	7	0	0	22	4	21
Colchester United	7	5	1	1	10	5	18
Brighton & Hove Albion	6	3	1	2	8	4	10
Brentford	7	3	0	4	7	7	9
Gillingham	7	2	1	4	8	14	7
Wycombe Wanderers	7	1	3	3	6	11	6
Southend United	7	1	3	3	5	12	6
Portsmouth	6	1	2	3	5	8	5
Barnet	6	1	1	4	6	12	4

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MICKY COOK

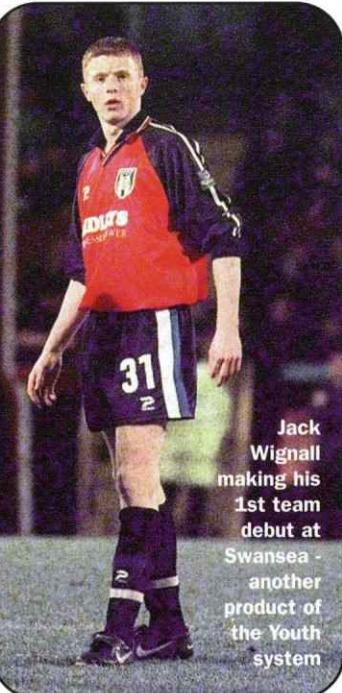
South East Youth
Alliance League
Saturday 4th
December 1999

Wycombe Wanderers 1
Colchester United 2
The young U's travelled to Wycombe
needing a win to hold
their second spot in

the table, and even more importantly, to
build some confidence for the FA Cup third
round tie against Walsall in the following
week.

It was a cold, blustery morning in
Wycombe, which caused the U's to start the
game slowly, and were under pressure from
the whistle.

Wycombe
came close to
scoring as the
conditions
meant U's
Keeper, Andy
Walker, strug-
gled to deal
with a cross.
Wycombe
were then
awarded a
penalty when
Marc Canham
brought their
striker down in
the box. The
penalty was
however well



Jack
Wignall
making his
1st team
debut at
Swansea -
another product of
the Youth
system

stopped by the U's
Keeper.

It was long before
Wycombe finally
broke down the U's defence, when a player
was allowed to get across his marker and
head home with an impressive finish. KKA
Opara came close to equalising, but for a
good stop by the Wycombe Keeper. The U's
went into half time losing 1-0.

In the second half, the young U's
equalised with an excellent free kick from
Sean Hillier. Wycombe were however still
putting on the pressure but failed to capi-
talise. An amazing run from Thomas Pinault
saw the U's take the lead when he finished
well.

Wycombe were then given hope when
again their striker was brought down in the
box, to gain another penalty. However, U's
Keeper, Andy Walker, was again up to it for
his second penalty stop of the game.

The introduction of U's striker Ricki
Metcalfe and tricky right winger Paul
Delaney late in the game meant the U's had
some fresh legs. The final kick of the game
was a blistering shot from Delaney, which
went just inches over the bar.

The young U's showed real character in
this game, which set them up nicely for their
following FA Youth Cup game.

ODEON
Man of the Match
ANDY WALKER



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ODEON
Man of the Match
ANDY WALKER



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and Thomas Pinault**



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SKELETON RULES THE BRITANNIA

Aaron Skelton's first headed goal of his career almost gave the U's three valuable points at a very cold and blustery Britannia Stadium. Stoke's largest crowd of the season had turned out to welcome their new Icelandic owners and management team, who had trounced Wycombe on their own patch four days previously. However it was the U's that went home the happier having kept the home fans quiet for the majority of the day's proceedings.

To be fair, it wasn't the prettiest game of football to watch, however after two consecutive home defeats, it was important that the U's came away from the impressive Britannia Stadium with at least a point. In the end though, the lads left Stoke knowing that once again, victory was denied them in the final five minutes when Kyle Lightbourne headed home from Kevin Keens free kick, to level the score. Lightbourne's effort was the home sides only effort on goal in the entire ninety minutes, a sign that the U's defence had played superbly, in front of on loan keeper, John Vaughan.

The U's attack, in all honesty, didn't create much more than its opponents but the opening goal was a classic, not only for the rarity of a Skelton header, but also because of the quality of the build up.

With seventy minutes on the clock, Joe Keith cleared the ball to Steve McGavin who was standing just inside the City half on the left touchline. McGavin controlled the ball instantly and passed neatly to Skelton who had only minutes earlier been pushed into midfield from his usual centre-back role. Skelton played the ball into Jason Dozzells path and continued his run while Dozzell found Karl Duguid on the right wing. The ever-lively Karl Duguid crossed superbly into the danger area, where Skelton's perfectly timed run ended with a downward header into the bottom left hand corner.

The expected charge of the light brigade from City never really materialised and just when it seemed that the U's were about to win their second consecutive away game, Lightbourne equalised.

A good away point though and a big boost to everyone's confidence.

U'S GET THAT DOUBLE FEELING

The U's completed a League double for the first time this season, against a very spirited Chesterfield side who found U's keeper John Vaughan in sparkling form, denying the visitors on no less than four occasions. The victory and the weekend's results pushed the U's out of the relegation zone for the first time since the beginning of September.

The Spireites had the better of a good first half but were unable to convert their opportunities. Vaughan saved three times from Chesterfield's Payne, in the space of a few minutes. The first from a free header and the second from a volley that seemed destined for the top corner. Joe Keith headed off the line to deny Payne for the third time and Vaughan dashed from his line to thwart Howard. The U's best first half efforts came from the head of David Greene, the first brought a save from Spireites keeper Gayle, the second sailed inches over the cross bar.

The introduction of Lomana Tresor Lua Lua following the interval, was the turning point in the game. On for the injured Karl Duguid, Lua Lua gave warning of his intentions within two minutes of his arrival, smashing a powerful drive against the Chesterfield cross-bar. The U's fans didn't have to wait long for the breakthrough and it was Lua Lua that provided the killer goal. Picking up the ball on the right hand side, from a Gavin Johnson pass, he jinked one way and then the other, leaving two defenders in his wake, before firing low past the helpless Spireite keeper.

Steve McGavin almost doubled the lead, however his effort was deflected away for a corner. With time running out, Vaughan was called into action one more time as he parried Agogo's header onto the upright. Soon after Referee Mark Halsey sounded the final whistle, much to the relief of the home crowd who had witnessed only the second home win of the season.

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THE U'S IN ACTION

1. Chase Me!! - David Gregory gets away from two Spireites



2. With the aid of his dancing feet Luca Luca scores the winner...



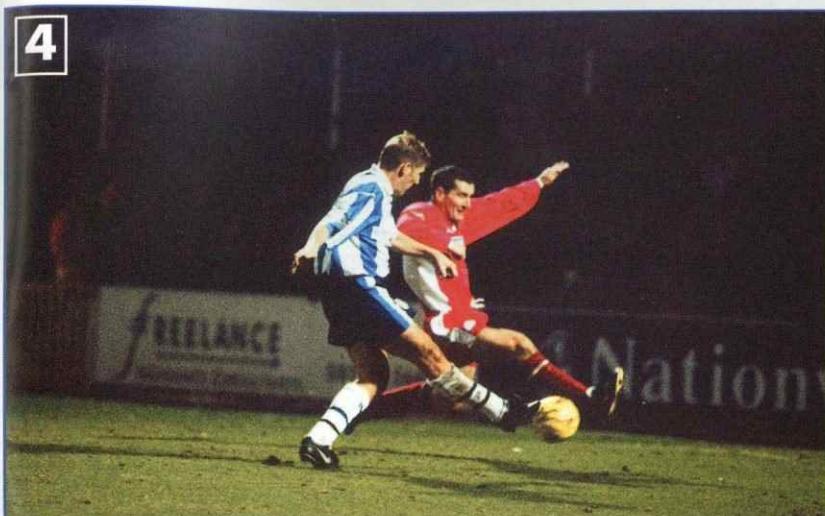
3. ...time to celebrate with the "Lomanba"



Colchester Utd v Chesterfield
Nationwide League Div 2

3/12/99

Score: 1-0



THE U'S IN ACTION

4. Steve McGavin goes close to doubling our advantage but this effort is blocked

5. New boy Alan White powers this header goalwards

6. John Vaughan saves spectacularly in the dying seconds to deny Chesterfield an equaliser.



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Date	Opponents/Venue	F-A	Att	Brown	Wilkins	Burton	Greene	Duguid	Keith	Aspinall	D.Gregory
Aug 7	Chesterfield	A 1-0	2,930	Brown	Wilkins	Burton	Greene	Duguid	Keith	Aspinall	D.Gregory
Aug 10	Crystal Palace	W.C1/1 H 2-2	4,242	Brown	Wilkins	Burton	Greene	Duguid	Keith	Aspinall	D.Gregory
Aug 14	Notts. County	H 0-3	3,986	Brown	Wilkins	Burton	Greene	Duguid	Keith	Aspinall	D.Gregory
Aug 21	A.F.C Bournemouth	A 0-4	4,508	Brown	Wilkins	Burton	Greene	Duguid	Keith	Aspinall	D.Gregory
Aug 24	Crystal Palace	W.C1/2 A 1-3	5,470	Walker	Keith	Burton	Greene	Aspinall	Duguid	D.Gregory	Launders
Aug 28	Reading	H 3-2	3,443	Brown	Wilkins	Burton	Greene	Duguid	Keith	Aspinall	21 ^P D.Gregory
Aug 30	Bury	A 2-5	3,360	Brown	Wilkins	Burton	Greene	Duguid	Keith	Aspinall	D.Gregory
Sep 11	Scunthorpe United	H 0-1	3,280	Brown	Wilkins	Greene	Duguid	Keith	Aspinall	Richard	D.Gregory
Sep 18	Burnley	A 0-3	10,090	Brown	Wilkins	Greene	Duguid	Farley	Aspinall	Richard	D.Gregory
Sep 25	Millwall	A 0-1	7,161	Brown	Farley	Greene	Burton	Keith	Wilkins	Arnott	D.Gregory
Oct 1	Wrexham	H 2-2	3,315	Brown	Farley	Greene	Burton	Keith	Wilkins	Arnott	D.Gregory
Oct 15	Cambridge United	A 2-5	5,039	Brown	Farley	Keith	Burton	Greene	Wilkins	Arnott	D.Gregory
Oct 19	Bristol City	A 1-1	7,777	Brown	Farley	Keith	Greene	Wilkins	Arnott	D.Gregory	Dozzell
Oct 23	Millwall	H 1-2	3,392	Brown	Farley	Keith	Greene	Wilkins	D.Gregory	Dozzell	Duguid
Oct 26	Wigan Athletic	H 2-2	2,915	Brown	Farley	Keith	Greene	Wilkins	D.Gregory	Dozzell	Duguid
Oct 30	Swansea City FAC	1Rd A 1-2	3,622	Brown	Farley	Keith	D.Gregory	Richard	Dozzell	McGavin	
Nov 2	Oxford United	A 1-1	4,444	Brown	Farley	Keith	Greene	Wilkins	Richard	Skelton	Dozzell
Nov 6	Preston N.E	H 2-2	3,818	Brown	Richard	Keith	Greene	Skelton	Dozzell	Duguid	McGavin
Nov 14	Oldham Athletic	A 2-1	5,147	Vaughan	Richard	Keith	Greene ^P	Wilkins	Skelton	Dozzell	D.Gregory
Nov 19	Brentford	H 0-3	3,464	Vaughan	Richard	Keith	Greene	Wilkins	Dozzell	D.Gregory	
Nov 23	Cardiff City	H 0-3	2,557	Vaughan	Richard	Keith	Skelton	Greene	Johnson	Dozzell	D.Gregory
Nov 27	Stoke City	A 1-1	14,183	Vaughan	Keith	Richard	Greene	Johnson	Dozzell	Duguid	McGavin
Dec 3	Chesterfield	H 1-0	3,027	Vaughan	Keith	Richard	Greene	Johnson	D.Gregory	White	Skelton
Dec 7	Swansea City AWS	1 A 1-0	1,222	Brown	Farley	White	D.Gregory	Skelton	Keith	Dozzell	McGavin
Dec 11	Bristol Rovers	A 1-2	7,023	Vaughan	Keith	Richard	Greene	Skelton	White	McGavin	D.Gregory
Dec 17	Luton Town	H									
Dec 26	Gillingham	A									
Dec 29	Wycombe Wanderers	H									
Jan 3	Blackpool	A									
Jan 8	Bristol Rovers	H									
Jan 15	Notts. County	A									
Jan 22	A.F.C Bournemouth	H									
Jan 29	Reading	A									
Feb 5	Bury	H									
Feb 12	Wigan Athletic	A									
Feb 19	Stoke City	H									
Feb 26	Burnley	H									
Mar 4	Scunthorpe United	A									
Mar 7	Preston North End	A									
Mar 11	Oxford United	H									
Mar 17	Cardiff City	A									
Mar 21	Oldham Athletic	H									
Mar 25	Gillingham	H									
Apr 1	Luton Town	A									
Apr 8	Blackpool	H									
Apr 15	Wycombe Wanderers	A									
Apr 22	Cambridge United	H									
Apr 24	Wrexham	A									
Apr 29	Bristol City	H									
May 6	Brentford	A									

KEY: *Italic* - Sub Not Used ● () - Time of Substitution ● Scorers in Bold ● ? Own Goal ● P Penalty

SPECIAL Notice!

Following recent complaints would you please take note of the following Ground Regulations as published by the Football League and the F.A. Premier League.

7. The Following are offences under the Football (Offences) Act 1991 and are strictly forbidden:
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Thank you.

Launders	Dozzell	Lua	Lua	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Germain</i> ⁽⁸⁹⁾	Pinault	Opara	(90)	Walker
Launders	Dozzell	Lua	Lua	<i>Richard</i> ⁽⁸⁰⁾	<i>Germain</i>	Pinault	Opara		Walker ⁽²⁾
Launders	Dozzell	Lua	Lua	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Germain</i>	<i>Pinault</i> ⁽⁷⁶⁾	Opara	(45)	Walker
Launders	Dozzell	Lua	Lua	<i>Richard</i> ⁽⁷³⁾	<i>Germain</i>	<i>Pinault</i> ⁽⁶¹⁾	Wiles		Walker
Dozzell	Lua	Lua	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Moralee</i> ⁽¹⁵⁾	<i>Germain</i>	<i>Pinault</i> ⁽⁸⁵⁾	Williamson		
Launders	Moralee	Lua	Lua	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Germain</i>	Pinault	Forbes	(65)	Walker
Launders	Moralee	Lua	Lua	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Germain</i>	Pinault	Forbes	(35)	Walker
Launders	Moralee	Lua	Lua	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Germain</i>	Pinault	Forbes	(35)	Walker
Launders	Moralee	Lua	Lua	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Germain</i>	Pinault	Forbes	(35)	Walker
Launders	Moralee	Lua	Lua	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Germain</i>	Pinault	Forbes	(35)	Walker
Moralee	Germain	Burton		Walker	<i>Walker</i>	<i>Pinault</i> ⁽⁷⁵⁾	Lua	Lua	<i>Opara</i> ⁽⁸⁰⁾
Dozzell	Moralee	Duguid		Pinault	Opara	Lua	Lua	(86)	<i>Opara</i> ⁽⁵³⁾
Dozzell	Moralee	Duguid		Pinault	Opara	Lua	Lua	(86)	<i>Walker</i>
Dozzell	Moralee	Duguid		Pinault	Opara	Lua	Lua	(65)	<i>Lock</i> ⁽⁴⁵⁾
Dozzell	Moralee	Duguid		Pinault	Opara	Lua	Lua	(65)	<i>Skelton</i>
Dozzell2	Duguid	Lua	Lua	Walker	Lock	Skelton	(90)	McGavin	<i>Moralee</i>
Duguid	Skelton	Lua	Lua	Walker	Lock	McGavin	(20)	Moralee	<i>Richard</i>
McGavin	Skelton	Lua	Lua	Walker	Moralee	(80)	Lock	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Opara</i> ⁽⁷⁵⁾
McGavin	Skelton	Lua	Lua	Walker	Lock	McGavin	(20)	<i>Opara</i> ⁽⁷⁵⁾	<i>Opara</i>
Duguid	Skelton	Lua	Lua	Walker	Lock	(71)	Moralee	<i>Opara</i>	<i>Pinault</i>
Duguid	McGavin	Lua	Lua	Walker	Lock	Moralee	<i>Pinault</i>		<i>Wignall</i>
Wilkins	D.Gregory	Lua	Lua	Walker	Lock	(90)	Moralee	<i>(83)</i>	<i>Farley</i>
McGavin	Duguid	Lua	Lua	Walker	Farley	(55)	Moralee	<i>Lock</i> ⁽⁶⁰⁾	<i>Johnson</i>
McGavin	Opara	Lua	Lua	Brown	Farley	Moralee	(75)	<i>Lock</i> ⁽⁶³⁾	<i>Johnson</i>
Duguid	McGavin	Lua	Lua	Brown	Lock	(63)	Farley	<i>(67)</i>	<i>Pinault</i>
Duguid	McGavin	Lua	Lua	Walker	Wignall	(30)	Pinault	<i>Hillier</i>	<i>Opara</i> ⁽⁶⁵⁾
D Gregory	Skelton	White		Farley	(80)	Pinault	Lua	Lua	<i>Opara</i>
McGavin	Duguid	Moralee		Brown	Pinault	Farley	Lua	Lua	<i>Opara</i>
Lock	Moralee	Lua	Lua	Walker	Wignall	(30)	Pinault	Hillier	<i>Opara</i> ⁽⁶⁵⁾
Johnson	Moralee	Dozzell		Brown	Lua	Lua	(62)	Wignall	<i>Farley</i>

Nationwide Football League

2

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

as at Tuesday 14th December 1999

P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	GDPts
Wigan	20	8	2	0	21	6	3	7	0	19 13 21 42
Preston	20	7	1	2	15	9	5	5	0	15 9 15 42
Bristol Rovers	20	6	3	1	14	6	2	2	13	6 15 41
Millwall	21	5	4	1	16	8	6	2	5	18 14 12 39
Gillingham	20	7	1	2	21	9	4	2	17	14 15 38
Notts County	21	5	3	3	18	12	6	2	2	17 11 12 38
Burley	20	8	1	1	20	6	2	6	2	6 14 37 57
Stoke	20	4	2	2	13	9	5	2	7	12 14 34
Brentford	21	6	3	2	19	13	3	4	5	13 14 5 34
Luton	20	6	3	1	20	13	2	7	5	14 2 28
Bournemouth	21	6	2	2	18	8	2	7	11	25 4 28
Wycombe	21	4	5	4	15	16	2	4	4	10 13 4 25
Bury	20	4	4	2	20	17	1	5	4	9 10 2 24
Bristol City	20	3	7	0	15	8	2	2	6	11 19 1 24
Oxford	20	2	4	4	11	12	3	2	5	8 12 5 21
Oldham	20	3	5	11	12	3	5	5	9	14 6 20
Scunthorpe	20	2	2	6	9	17	3	5	4	12 16 12 20
Wrexham	20	3	4	3	12	12	1	4	5	7 10 13 20
Cardiff	20	2	6	2	11	11	2	1	7	11 17 6 19
Colchester	21	2	3	5	11	20	2	5	6	11 24 22 18
Reading	19	3	4	5	11	11	1	1	7	12 26 14 17
Blackpool	20	2	4	4	11	17	1	3	6	10 18 14 16
Cambridge	20	3	3	4	18	18				

We make a winning team!

Evening Gazette &

ESSEX COUNTY
STANDARD

COLCHESTER UNITED

Colours: Blue & White striped shirts, Navy Blue shorts

Manager: Steve Whittton

FROM:

1	Simon BROWN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Fabrice RICHARD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Joe KEITH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Gavin JOHNSON	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	David GREENE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Joe DUNNE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Karl DUGUID	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	David GREGORY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Jamie MORALEE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Jason DOZZELL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Andy WALKER	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Lomana TRESOR LUA LUA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Richard WILKINS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Tony LOCK	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Thomas PINAULT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Craig FARLEY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Aaron SKELETON	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Kelechi OPARA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Sam OKAFOR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Andy ARNOTT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	Steve McGAVIN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	Jack WIGNALL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: MR. L.E. CABLE

(WOKING, SURREY)

ASST. REFEREES:

Mr. R.E. BRAYNE (HARLOW, ESSEX)
& Mr. M.S. YERBY (ASHFORD, KENT)

4TH OFFICIAL:

Mr. C.R. SMITH (LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK)

LUTON TOWN

Colours: Orange Shirts & Shorts

Manager: Lennie Lawrence

FROM:

1	Nathan ABBEY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Efetobore SODJE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Matthew SPRING	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Marvin JOHNSON	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Phil GRAY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Paul McLAREN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Stuart DOUGLAS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Michael MCINDOE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Liam GEORGE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Gary DOHERTY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Stuart FRASER	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Andrew FOTIADIS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Matthew TAYLOR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Emmerson BOYCE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Tresor KANDOL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Andre SCARLETT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Daniel TATE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Jude STIRLING	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	Adam LOCKE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	Paul REED	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
39	Tony THORPE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
40	Julian WATTS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Next Home Game

WYCOMBE WANDERERS

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

DIVISION TWO

WEDNESDAY 29TH DECEMBER 1999

KICK-OFF 7.45PM