

Luton Town



LUTON TOWN
FOOTBALL CLUB
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Official Matchday
Magazine



Saturday,
October 28, 2000
Kick Off 3pm



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2

Luton Town
v
Wrexham

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Official Matchday Magazine

Editor

Brian Swain

Layout & Printing

Regal Litho

Photography

Gareth Owen

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

Front Cover



A striking picture from Saturday's
game against Brentford, with Peter
Thomson on the ball.

Inside Forward

TUESDAY'S late postponement at Oldham was a mixed blessing for the Town. After the good performance against Brentford, everyone was "up for it" as the saying goes, and both managers told referee Colin Webster that they would like to play.

But when he called it off, Ricky Hill confessed that he was not too displeased, and that perhaps "someone up there" had done us a favour. We would have been without Adam Locke, Stuart Douglas and Emmerson Boyce because of injuries collected against Brentford. Locke, another hamstring victim, is ruled out today, but there is a chance that Douglas might make it, and Boyce has made a full recovery. The striker has been under treatment for a minor hamstring problem, not the one that kept him out for so long before his dramatic two goal return, while Boyce had a big toe injury.

But the postponement was frustrating for others. Fritz Breitenfelder was poised to make his first start in the league as deputy for Locke, and Peter Thomson and Stuart Fraser were looking forward to the chance to stake their claims for a regular league spot.

To be fair to the ref, his judgement was right: the torrential rain that started at about 6pm, 50 minutes before his decision, got worse in the next hour or so, and the Boundary Park pitch drainage system was unable to cope.

One out, one in

ALSO feeling a little frustrated was our latest signing, Rocky Baptiste, who has joined from Conference club Wealdstone for a nominal fee after impressing on trial and in training. At 28, he is keen to make up for lost time in the professional ranks, and was hoping to be on the bench at Oldham.

He was a junior with Chelsea and Brentford before going into non-league soccer, where his regular supply of goals began to attract interest.

A Londoner, he is over six feet tall, and Ricky Hill said: "He has a good physique, and is nimble with the ball at his feet. I have known him for many years, and he has been an outstanding talent at non-league level. You can't have too many strikers, and Rocky is very keen to do well after waiting so long for his chance."

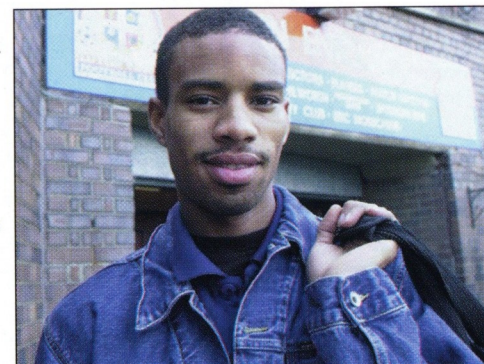
Bermudan Tommy Carter, meanwhile, has left after his three-month contract, with the Town deciding he was not what they wanted. He will be best remembered for his amazing free kick goal at St. Albans in pre-season, but he has not enjoyed his football too much since then, and has gone to Spain in search of warmer weather.

Every picture tells...

IF YOU like a wallow in nostalgia, Roger Wash's latest Luton Town book is for you. The club statistician has gathered together a wonderful photo-

graphic archive in the 160-page illustrated history. And you don't need to be ancient to have memories stirred.

A team group of 1894 is included, but so are pictures from the 1950s - promotion and Wembley - and on to Maine Road 1983 and Wembley 1988. More modern heroes are also in the frame, with Ricky



Rocky Baptiste

Hill figuring as 20th century player and 21st century manager.

Subscribers' votes for the most popular Town player attracted 50 nominations, with Mick Harford top, Ricky Hill second, David Moss third and Brian Stein fourth.

Published by Desert Island Books, it is a superb picture gallery of memories, and can be obtained from the club shop at £16.99.

Last calls

THERE may still be some tickets available today for a Luton Town Supporters Club meeting on Thursday at which Ricky Hill will be guest speaker, although they were selling quickly as we went to press. They are £2 for LTSC members, £5 for others. Apply at the Supporters Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road today. The meeting kicks off at 7.30 in the Eric Morecambe Suite.

You can, of course, save money for this and future speakers' evenings by joining LTSC for a modest donation of at least £7 per season. Today is the last call for any Town supporter wishing to run for the club in the football section of the

Flora London Marathon on April 22 next year. Some applications have been received, and the choice will be made shortly. All we ask is that you have a realistic chance of completing the gruelling 26-mile slog around the streets of London to raise money through sponsorship for charity.

If you are interested, please write to: Marathon Challenge, Programme Editor, Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton, LU4 8AW. Tell us a little about yourself, your athletic experience, and which good cause(s) you wish to support. Please include a phone number at which we can contact you, day-time or evening.

Brian Swain



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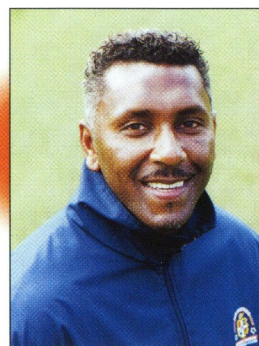
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The Manager Ricky Hill

WE HAD mixed feelings about the late postponement of the match at Oldham on Tuesday. Frustration was top of the list, because after the excellent performance and result against Brentford we were up for the game, knowing we had a chance of overtaking the team just above us in the league table.

We wanted to play, and so did Oldham manager Andy Ritchie. He and I have played in worse conditions than the very wet pitch we looked at an hour before kick-off time. But the ref's view was that it would have been farce, not football, on such a pitch, and with puddles already forming and more heavy rain forecast it would not be fair on paying spectators to start a game if there was little chance of finishing it. There was also a safety aspect to be considered - Oldham people told me that in a recent match played on a very wet surface, players were injured in two incidents, when they made strong sliding tackles, and skidded off the pitch and into an advertising hoarding and a metal barrier.

While I knew our lads were ready for the game, I was not exactly distraught at the decision. We would have been without Adam Locke, Stuart Douglas and Emmerson Boyce, and while Locke is not going to figure today because of his hamstring, the postponement might make it more likely that Douglas and Boyce can recover by today.

Against that, the ref's decision was a particularly disappointment to three other players. Peter Thomson, Stuart Fraser and Fritz Brietenfelder were all looking forward to the chance to make first-team places their own, so they were frustrated at an opportunity denied. Fortunately, results of games that were played on Tuesday evening were kind to us, and we are still within one victory of four teams above us.

If you look at Wrexham's away record it is obvious that we face another good test today. But

if we can reproduce the form and attacking sharpness we saw here a week ago, we must have every chance of enjoying the longed-for luxury of back to back wins.

Brentford's coach Ray Lewington was very complimentary about our performance, and for us it was very good to see the team getting well into its stride from the first minute. I have been hammering the point about the need to put 90 minutes of genuine effort and commitment into every game. Several times we had done it for half a match, which is not good enough. On the other hand, if top form is to be hit for just one spell of 45 minutes I hope it will always be for the first half, and bring a 3-0 lead at the interval!

Stuart Douglas rightly took the main plaudits for his outstanding contribution. Power and pace will always unsettle defenders, but I thought every member of the team deserved credit for the job done against Brentford.

I was a touch disappointed that we did not hit them as hard in the second half as we had done in the first, but it was understandable, and it was obvious that the Brentford coaching staff would try to provoke a big improvement in their performance.

We coped very well, despite the changes that had to be made through injuries, and it was an illustration of what can be achieved if every man, substitutes included, is prepared to work hard and be committed to the cause.

We will need the same today to see off Wrexham. I respect their manager, having played against him a few times, and Brian Flynn has proved his management skill over the years. He turns out teams which concentrate on playing good football, and it should be a good contest today.

And my final thought this afternoon is for the supporters: thanks for your great backing against Brentford, and my heartfelt commiserations with those who made the wasted trip to Oldham on Tuesday. We owe you one!

Ricky Hill

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The Hatters roll-call 2000-2001

Appearances (as sub in brackets)

Goals

	League	WC	Total	League	WC	Total
Nathan Abbey	4	0	4	0	0	0
Emmerson Boyce	14	4	18	0	0	0
Dean Brennan	2(7)	1(1)	3(8)	0	0	0
Friedrich Breitenfelder	0(2)	0	0(2)	0	0	0
Stuart Douglas	1	0	1	2	0	2
Andrew Fotiadis	5	1	6	1	0	1
Stuart Fraser	6(2)	4	10(2)	0	0	0
Liam George	11(3)	3(1)	14(4)	2	0	2
Peter Holmes	7(5)	2(1)	9(6)	0	0	0
Marvin Johnson	2	0	2	0	0	0
Tresor Kandol	6(4)	2(1)	8(5)	3	1	4
Adam Locke	8(3)	1(1)	9(4)	0	0	0
Gavin McGowan	3(1)	0	3(1)	0	0	0
Paul McLaren	12	4	16	0	0	0
Mark Owendale	10	4	14	0	0	0
Andre Scarlett	5(1)	2	7(1)	0	1	1
Matthew Spring	13	4	17	2p	0	2p
Mark Stein	13(1)	3	16(1)	2	1	3
Jude Stirling	1	0	1	0	0	0
Matthew Taylor	14	4	18	0	0	0
Peter Thomson	2(2)	1(1)	3(4)	0	0	0
Julian Watts	14	4	18	1	0	1

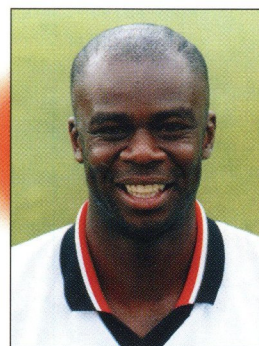
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Captain's Log

Marvin Johnson

I EXPECT I will be sitting in the stand again this afternoon,

watching a game which I had hoped to be playing in. Having been in football for 15 years, I have had enough experience of injuries to learn to live with them, and not get depressed. But I certainly did not expect the latest setback, just when I thought I was very close to being in contention for a recall to the squad.

If you read my column a week ago, you will know that I was well pleased that my long problem with a hamstring injury was over. I got through 90 minutes of competitive football in the reserves, and was feeling good, and ready to answer the boss's call if it came. But then, a day later, I was hit by a stiff neck and chest, and that ruled out any chance of playing against Brentford.

The rest of the lads enjoyed the joke more than I did ... "Plays one game, and is injured again. It's old man Johnson," was one of the kinder cracks, just because I am close to my 32nd birthday.

The pain soon eased off, and I was hoping to be in the reserves on Wednesday against Cambridge, but that game was called off 24 hours before kick-off, so it was more frustration, followed by training. Still, it was no worse than what the rest of the lads suffered on Tuesday.

They had a long day out, travelling to and from Oldham for a match that wasn't played, and the general feeling was that it was a great pity, because everyone was in the mood to continue where we had left off on Saturday.

I thought our first half against Brentford was superb, and it brought back confidence and self-belief. Stuart Douglas reminded us all of what we have been missing. One of the things I like best about him is that you know what Stuart is about - he is a real one hundred per center. I think his long lay-off has made him even hungrier for success than he used to be, and we were all delighted to see him coming back with such a stunning display.

His second goal, in particular, was typical Stuart Douglas, using pace and single-mindedness to break clear for the shot, after joining Mark Stein in a determined effort to find a way through.

I believe that if we can regularly field attacking players like Stuart, Mark, and Liam George, we will cause problems for a lot of defences. I heard comments in the stand that Brentford's centre-halves were pretty poor, but I am not sure that is true. We made them look second rate on the day.

We have a pretty good balance in attack, and with Peter Thomson settling in, and Andrew Fotiadis on the way back from injury, there will be healthy competition for places.

Rocky Baptiste adds a little more, and we have given him a warm welcome. He is a comparative late-comer to league football, but that has never kept a good player down - so was Ian Wright, and here at Luton, Dwight Marshall, Meka Nwajobi and Iain Dowie all did well after spending time in non-league football rather than YTS schemes.

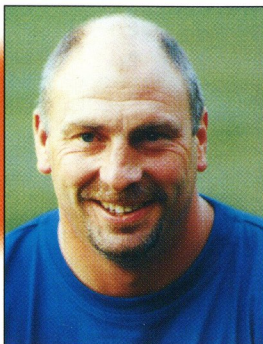
At 28, Rocky wants to grab his overdue opportunity, and we wish him well. He will find us a happy dressing room, and if he has the ability he will get his chance.

Meanwhile, much as we enjoyed the game against Brentford, we will not be carried away by one result, however pleasing and welcome it was. We are still in an uncomfortable position in the league, and none of us enjoys that. But we know we can get moving up the table and we all have a feeling that now we are on our way, and better days are ahead.

I have enjoyed some good tussles with Wrexham in the past, and they have had their fair share of good results at Kenilworth Road, but this afternoon I hope that all of us in the ground will have another day to enjoy. And, finally, a reminder to my team-mates - don't forget it's my birthday tomorrow, but I want my present today - three points, of course.

Marvin Johnson

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Treatment Room

Clive Goodyear

I EXPECT supporters were worried when they saw Stuart

Douglas go down injured, and then being substituted against Brentford last week. He had done brilliantly to return after not very much match practice, and it was bad luck that he collected another knock.

It is a hamstring problem again, but thankfully nothing like as serious as the one that kept him in the treatment room for so long until a week ago. It's the other leg, the right, this time, and we are still not certain if it was a pulled muscle or a kick. All the player knows is that he felt the pain as he scored his second goal.

He would not have been able to play at Oldham, and at the time of writing he was looking very doubtful for today's match.

Adam Locke is certain to be on the sidelines today, after injuring a hamstring early in the



Job well done: Stuart Douglas gets treatment after his dramatic return to the Town side a week ago.

Brentford match. I think it might be connected with a back problem which he has had in the past. Locke has been unable to train this week, and we have to wait to see how it settles down before reaching a firm conclusion. At this stage, I think he will need a couple of weeks treatment before he can think about playing again.

The postponement at Oldham was good news for Emmerson Boyce, because he could not have played, after bruising a big toe. It sounds minor, but for a footballer that is the toe that does most in terms of balancing the whole body. It has responded to treatment, however, and all the signs were that he would be available for this afternoon's match.

Andrew Fotiadis is also getting very close, and is now in full training, but things are not looking quite so good for Gavin McGowan. The ankle injury he picked up at Oxford is healing, and he was expected to be able to train yesterday, but he was still rated as doubtful for today's team. He might return for the reserves on Wednesday and then be in line for Saturday's trip to Bury. Marvin Johnson is also expecting to be back in contention by then, and he might have a chance of being available this afternoon. His full 90 minutes in the reserves ten days ago confirmed that his hamstring problem has cleared up, but he then suffered a mystery shoulder injury. He is not certain how it happened, but it cleared up rapidly.

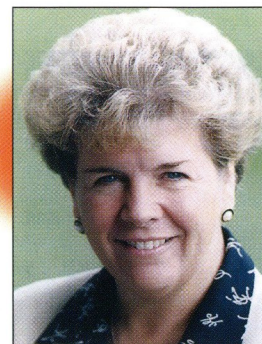
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Club Secretary

Cherry Newbery

IT WAS frustrating for everybody to have Tuesday's game at

Oldham called off so close to kick-off time, and I sympathise with supporters who made the long trip. The match referee was on the ground at 4pm, and at that time there had been little rain in the area, and he was confident that the game would take place. Two hours later there was a downpour and the pitch took a real soaking. It was torrential, and although both managers were ready to play, the final decision rests with the referee.

He took into account the local weather forecast, which said the rain would continue for some time, and that turned out to be right. The major factor for the referee was consideration of the safety of players, and obviously once he had reached his decision we accepted it.

I am very sorry that our supporters were put to inconvenience, but that's football, although it is a pity it should hit us on a game involving such a long journey.

The Football League says that postponed matches should be re-arranged as quickly as possible, but there are special circumstances involving this match, and the League has agreed to waive that requirement.

The reason is that Oldham have serious concerns about their pitch drainage, and they have made arrangements for specialist contractors to go in yesterday to investigate the problem, and come up with ways of solving it. In view of that the League has agreed we need not rush arrangements for a new date, and they agree with us that it does not make a lot of sense to fix another long journey in November, particularly if Oldham still have pitch drainage problems then.

I am keeping in close touch with my opposite number at Boundary Park, and the indications are that the new date could well be in February, subject to cup commitments of both clubs. Obviously I will let you know as soon as we have a decision.

We had another unexpected postponement yesterday, with our reserves fixture at home to Cambridge United call off 24 hours earlier. Cambridge made the application to the Avon Insurance Combination because of injury problems.

We have fixed a new date: Wednesday February 21, 2001, at Kenilworth Road.

The reserves' home game with Crystal Palace, postponed because of heavy rain earlier this month, has been re-arranged for April 18 next year, and we still await a new date for a match at QPR which was called off last month.

Incidentally, the reserves now "move home" for the mid-winter period, playing at Baldock Town, starting with a match against Brentford on Monday November 6, kick-off 7pm. We are sorry if this inconveniences some supporters, but it is for the good of the club as we do everything we can to preserve our good playing surface at Kenilworth Road.

We have to make an admission charge, and it will be £2 for adults, £1 for concessions.

Talking of the pitch, groundsman Richard Bird is looking for a little help on match days. He desperately needs volunteers to help put back the divots after league games and if you can afford an hour on a Saturday evening, he will be very grateful to hear from you.

Supporters should see an improvement in the service in the New Stand catering unit. To increase efficiency, we have recruited extra staff, who will be on duty today and for the rest of the season. We are also putting in place a queuing system, with allocated bays, and we would appreciate it if you would help us make the system work - it helps us to help you.

On a similar subject, can I remind supporters that the season ticket holders bar under the Main Stand is strictly restricted by health and safety legislation to 80 people at any one time. Our apologies if you have been one of the unlucky ones denied access. Another reason why we all want to see our new stadium built as soon as possible!

Finally, today, my thanks to members of Luton Town Supporters Club, who have provided collectors for an NSPCC bucket collection in the ground. I know the NSPCC is grateful for their help, and will be just as grateful for your usual generosity.

Cherry Newbery

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Admission to the Manchester Road West Stand, covered seating:
Adults £14, concessions £7



Luton Town v Bristol City

Saturday November 11, kick-off 3pm

Tickets for this match are now on sale at normal match day prices.
Cash turnstiles will be open on the day.
Supporters are advised to arrive early.



The AXA FA Cup First Round

Saturday November 18, 2000

The draw will be made this evening, live on TV at 5.15pm
When available, details of ticket arrangements will be given to all local media outlets, and to Clubcall and the Luton Town web site at www.lutontown.co.uk

New Matchday Ticket Collection Point

Supporters entering via the Maple Road Bridge turnstiles can now collect their pre-ordered tickets from the Eric Morecombe Lounge Foyer. Please advise the ticket office staff when ordering your tickets that you wish to collect at the Eric Morecombe Lounge Foyer.

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Hatters Away

WE ARE in Lancashire again for our next away match, and as usual supporters who want to see the Town at Bury on Saturday have two coach services to choose from.

Town on Tour, an offshoot of Luton Town Supporters Club, will leave Maple Road at 10am, picking up at Milton Keynes Coachway 20 minutes later. Their fare is £14.50 for members of Luton Town Supporters Club, £12 for concessions, or £16 for passengers who are not in the supporters club.

The Bobbers Travel Club service will set off from Cranfield at 8.30, calling at various villages on the way to Luton, with departure from Kenilworth Road at 9.30. The fare is £13 adults, £11 for children and pensioners.

Tickets need to be bought in advance for both services. Try the kiosks in Kenilworth Road on match days, or for Town on Tour contact the club shop and for the Bobbers phone Paul Deason on 01234 750996. Stewarded car parking is available at Maple Road, at £4 per car, or £3 if the drivers are members of the Bobbers Travel Club or LTSC.

DIY travellers



© Chorley Handford/Premier Image

IN NORMAL traffic conditions, the drive to Bury takes about three hours, but congestion on the M6 in the mid-lands can wreck the best of intentions. Our man sometimes avoids

it by going up M1 beyond the M6 junction, to near the East Midlands Airport, leaving at junction 24. Follow the signs towards Derby, and then the A50 towards Stoke, and back onto the M6. It is usually reasonably quick motoring, but adds a few miles to the journey.

For the shortest route in miles, leave Luton on the M1 north, then take the M6. Continue up to junction 21a, where you leave M6 and turn right onto the M60. Leave M60 at junction 17, and follow the A56 towards Bury town centre. From the motorway exit it is 3.1 miles before a right turn into Gigg Lane. There is a reasonable amount of street parking in the area.

Mileage from Luton: 185

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Commercial John Bailey

MATCH sponsorship is a pleasant way for companies to entertain their

friends and clients, but today we have as our joint match sponsors a group of pals who are Town fanatics, and who are here simply to enjoy themselves and put something back into the club they support.

Grant Janes, from Stapleford Road, Stopsley, has organised the 12-strong party, and says they are basically a bunch of fans who enjoy football, and meeting regularly in the pub to talk about the Town and discuss prospects. They have decided today to call themselves "Don't Wait Up" which apparently is the advice occasionally given to wives who wonder how long their menfolk can spend talking football!

We appreciate their support today, and welcome the DWU team - John Allen, Phil Connah, John Creasey, Adam Freeman, Dick Janes, Grant Janes, Paul Janes, Cliff Large, Martyn Leach, Brian Leggetter, Alan Roberts and Graham Stansfield.

Said Grant: "Most of us have been supporters for many years, hence the lack of hair but not of wrinkles... we are looking forward to a good game and a win for Luton." He added that having been in our sponsorship lounges in the past, the friends all think it is a very pleasant way of watching their favourites, and that the package they buy is very good value for money.

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The other joint sponsors are Sainsbury's, and many young supporters have good cause to be grateful for their community involvement. Sainsbury's are involved in the Kids at Kenilworth scheme, and it has been well supported by both their stores in Luton.

Happy Harry has been a visitor to both, his most recent visit being at the reopening of the refurbished and enlarged Bramingham Park store earlier this month. Many of the staff are Town fans, and as a result of their support for a recent competition there are also 12 customers receiving VIP treatment at today's game as Sainsbury's guests. The company is always interested in local activities, and this has materialised with its relationship with the football club, and the company's commitment to the Luton Lives community project.



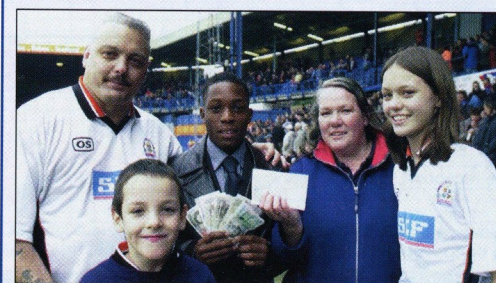
THE perfect birthday present for any Luton Town supporter is being enjoyed this afternoon by Michael Harrison-King, from Churchill Way, Shefford. He was nine yesterday, and today he is our commercial mascot, which means he and his family have a VIP day out at Kenilworth Road. He comes to matches with his dad.

Michael will meet the players before kick-off, and join them on the pitch for the pre-match formalities, and will have plenty of souvenirs to remind him of his day to remember. He will meet his favourite player, but finds it hard to choose between Mark Ovendale and Nathan Abbey. As well as football Michael enjoys drawing and golf.

John Bailey

Joe Payne 10 Goals in 10 Games Lars Elstrup Golden Gamble

WE LIKE to meet happy families at Luton Town, but rarely can there have been one quite so pleased with life at a Town game than the two generations of the Fazekas from



Strathmore Walk, Luton. Not only did they see our best win of the season, against Brentford, but they also went home with £490 to share among the four of them.

It was their jackpot prize in the ever-popular Golden Gamble. Andre Scarlett picked out the winning ticket, to the huge delight of Andy and Ellen Fazekas, and their children Paula and David.

It was the ninth prize paid out by the pound-a-ticket flutter, and so far this season the pay-outs have totalled £3,965, an average of £441.

Another bundle of cash will be won this afternoon. Tickets cost £1 each, and 50p goes into the jackpot kitty and 50p to Luton Town funds, so even if you are not a winner you are helping the club. The draw is made during the interval, and the money is paid out instantly.

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- Invitation to a VIP day to one match during the 2000/01 season along with other sponsors*
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For both the VIP day and presentation evening, this package includes yourself only, but additional tickets will be available at an extra cost of £49.50 (inc. VAT) for any guests you may wish to bring along. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

The Total Cost of the package is £440 (inc. VAT) per sponsorship.

Goalscoring Head 2 Head

in the graphics below, Hatters' figure is to the left with the goals scored indicated in orange and Robins' to the right and scored in red

Where



How



Top League Scorers



13 in 14 games Team Goals 20 in 13 games
0.93 goals Ratio per Game 1.54 goals

3 in 10 games Player's Goals 6 in 12 games
0.3 goals Ratio per Game 0.5 goals

Games Scored In
Games Scored 1st Goal 5
Games Scored 1 Goal 2
Games Scored 2 Goals 4
Games Scored 3 Goals 1
Games Scored 3 Goals 0

IMPORTANCE OF GOALS

(Taking out top scorers, how would results be affected)
0 (0pts) Games Won -> Drawn 1 (2pts)
0 (0pts) Games Won -> Lost 0 (0pts)
2 (2pts) Games Drawn -> Lost 1 (1pts)
2 Number of points gained 3

SCORING SEQUENCES

Consecutive Games Scored
2 Games 1
3 Games 1
1 game Maximum Scoring Run 5 games

CONSECUTIVE GAMES WITHOUT SCORING
2 Games 1
3 Games 0
4 Games 1
5 games Maximum Dry Spell 6 games

Hatters' Results

LUTON TOWN GOALS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
OPPOSITION GOALS	0	2	1	1	2	1	1	1

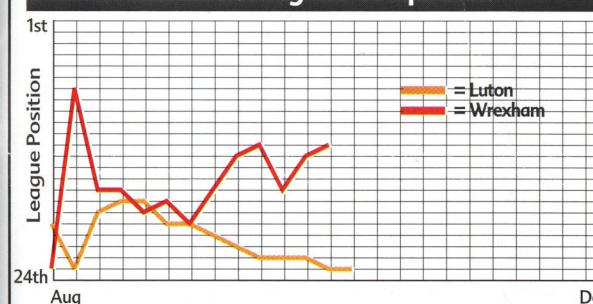
shows the number of results for each scoreline.
eg. Luton have won 1 game 3-1

Robins' Results

WREXHAM GOALS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
OPPOSITION GOALS	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

eg. Wrexham have lost 2 games 1-3
and won 1 game 4-3

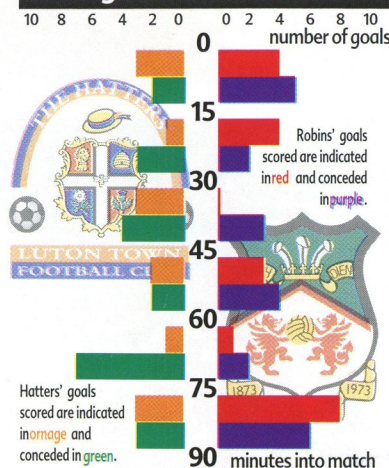
Seasonal Progress Comparison



Stats&Facts

Stats compiled by Football Information Services

When goals scored & conceded



Average time of Scoring / Conceding

97 mins	All Goals for	59 mins
105 mins	Home Goals For	105 mins
90 mins	Away Goals For	39 mins
60 mins	All Goals Against	53 mins
79 mins	Home Goals Against	63 mins
48 mins	Away Goals Against	45 mins

Table shows average time taken for both teams to score and concede goals in home and away games.

Last 10 Games Form Guide Comparison

Hatters	: SLDLLSLLDW	F 10 A 17 Pts 7
Robins	: WLSLWSWLWD	F 15 A 16 Pts 15

Form Guide shows last 10 results. W = Won, L = Lost, S = Score Draw, D = No Score Draw. Most recent result to the right

Wrexham's Last 10 Years - The Complete Record

	DIV	FAC	WC	LS	Gls	Ave Att
90/91	4	1	2	Armstrong	10	1,888
91/92	4	4	1	Connolly/Watkin	8	2,647
92/93	3	1	1	Watkin	18	4,997
93/94	2	1	2	Bennett	32	3,933
94/95	2	4	2	Bennett	29	4,080
95/96	2	3	2	Connolly	18	3,701
96/97	2	QF	1	Connolly	14	4,112
97/98	2	3	1	Roberts N	8	4,109
98/99	2	4	1	Connolly	11	3,948
99/00	2	4	1	Connolly/Faulconbridge	9	3,952

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Today's Visitors

Wrexham A.F.C.

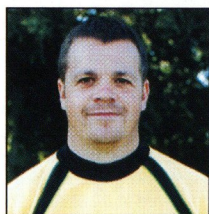


Wrexham A.F.C. - 2000/2001

Back Row (Left to Right): Mel Pejic (Physio), Darren Ferguson, Michael Blackwood, Emad Bouanane, David Walsh, Paul, Whitfield, Kevin Dearden, Kristian Rogers, David Sweet, George Horan, Kevin Russell, George McGowan (Coach).

Middle Row (Left to Right): Jamie Digwood (Fitness Coach), Craig Faulconbridge, David Ridler, Brian Carey, Danny Williams, Joey Jones (Coach), Brian Flynn (Manager), Kevin Reeves (Assistant Manager), Robin Gibson, Wayne Phillips, Paul Barrett, Hector Sam, Mike Williams (Assistant Physio).

Front Row (Left to Right): Kevin Hannon, Gareth Owen, Mark McGregor, Lee Roche, Andy Morrell, Martyn Chalk, Phil Hardy, Ian Cocks, Steve Roberts.



NO.1 - KEVIN DEARDEN - GOALKEEPER

Coming from Luton, he was taken on first by Tottenham Hotspur as a trainee and then turned professional in 1988. Chances were limited at White Hart Lane and along with two first team outings for Spurs,

there were loan periods with seven different lower division clubs, before Brentford signed him permanently in 1993. With over 250 appearances under his belt for the Bees, Kevin found injuries had given others a chance at Griffin Park and he was more than happy to look for a new challenge in North Wales, signing for Wrexham in the summer of 1999.

NO 2 - MARK MCGREGOR - FULL-BACK

Was captain of the Wrexham youth team, before moving up to the full-time ranks in 1995. More recognised as a centre-half then, he has since made nearly all his

senior appearances in the right-back role. Much was expected of this Chester born youngster and he is displaying the temperament to fulfil those hopes. Still only 21, he has already moved through the 120 league appearance barrier. Was voted the supporters' Young Player of the Year for 95/6 and 96/7.

NO 3 - PHIL HARDY - FULL-BACK

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

NO 4 - GARETH OWEN - MIDFIELD

Still only 28, but now entering his 11th season of first team football at the Racecourse and nearing 350 appearances for the club. Locally born, Gareth joined

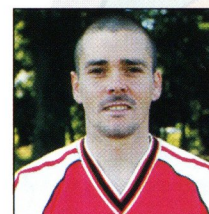
Wrexham as a schoolboy and made his debut in 1989, since when he has been an important member of the Wrexham midfield. Gained eight Wales U21 caps and another at 'B' level, before being called up to the senior international squad two seasons ago and then being on standby for the June qualifiers against Italy and Denmark.

NO 5 - BRIAN CAREY - CENTRE-HALF

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

NO 6 - DAVE RIDLER - CENTRE-HALF

Came to the club four seasons ago on the recommendation of Karl Connolly, who had seen him playing local football in Liverpool. A chef by trade, Dave had a few attempts at making a career in the game, but eventually succeeded when Brian Flynn offered him a contract. Played in Wrexham's early FAW Invitation Cup matches, before starting against Rochdale in the FA Cup two years ago. Since then has become a regular fixture at the centre of defence, with only suspension forcing him out of the team.



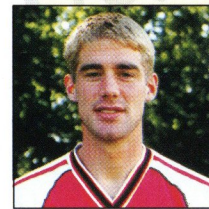
NO.7 - MARTYN CHALK - WINGER

Manager Brian Flynn added to his options by taking Martyn from Stockport County, as part of a deal that saw Kieron Durkan move in the opposite direction in March 1996. Came out of non-league football with Louth

United to join Derby County and then switched to Stockport in a £40,000 deal during 1994. A regular member of the first team squad, Martyn has been playing in a more central role of late, from where he has also scored a couple of goals.

NO 8 - KEVIN RUSSELL - MIDFIELD

Having spent two seasons with Wrexham in the late 1980's, he then left the club to continue a career that has seen him turn out in the colours of Portsmouth, Leicester, Stoke, Burnley, Peterborough, Cardiff, Hereford, Bournemouth and Notts Co., before he returned to the Racecourse in 1995. Kevin now puts his experience to good use in a left-sided midfield role and still scores a few goals into the bargain.



NO.9 - CRAIG FAULCONBRIDGE - FORWARD

Join Wrexham for pre-season training and impressed the manager enough to be offered a contract. Originally a schoolboy with Birmingham City, he switched to Coventry City as a youngster and pro-

gressed through the junior ranks at Highfield Road. Turned professional in 1997, never played in the senior side for the Sky Blues, but did have successful loan spells with Dunfermline Athletic (scoring against Celtic) and Hull City. With a year left on his contract with Coventry, Craig was keen to look elsewhere for first team football and made a scoring debut in a Wrexham shirt at Blackpool, before hitting a double against Bristol Rovers. Since then he has regularly been on the score-sheet and was the first Wrexham player into double figures last season.

NO 10 - DARREN FERGUSON - MIDFIELD

Born in Glasgow, he joined Manchester United as a youngster and progressed through their system to eventually turn professional in 1990. After several years and five caps for the Scotland Under-21 side, Darren moved for £250,000 to Wolverhampton Wanderers in January 1994. In February of this year, Darren took up an option to play in Holland, but decided against extending his stay after helping Sparta avoid relegation. His first goal for Wrexham was the winner against Middlesbrough in last season's FA Cup third round victory.

NO 11 - WAYNE PHILLIPS - MIDFIELD

Born in Bangor, Wayne was spotted by the Wrexham scouts at a young age and progressed through our junior ranks until joining as a YTS player in 1987. Offered a professional contract in 1989, he is one of only two current players who were with the club prior to Brian Flynn taking over as manager in November 1989. With some 250 appearances for Wrexham, he was transferred to Edgeley Park in February 1998, but never really settled with the English club.



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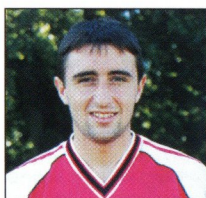
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**NO.12 - PAUL BARRETT - MIDFIELD**

Signed just prior to the transfer deadline in 1999 on a free from Newcastle United. It was his performances in the Pontin's League, which alerted Wrexham to his talents, and

the Newcastle born player has signed a three-year deal at the Racecourse. Paul was a schoolboy with his hometown team and progressed through their ranks before going professional at St.James Park. Having just turned 21, he is looking for first team football and has found it in Wales, gaining his debut at Millwall last season.

NO 14 - ROBIN GIBSON - WINGER

A former trainee who is now in his second season as a professional and made his debut in the January AWS meeting with Hull City. Since then this Crewe born winger has featured in the first team squad on several occasions. Was once on books with the Alex, but since signing for Wrexham is repaying the faith shown in him. Scored his first goal in the 2-0 league victory at Northampton Town.

NO 15 - STEVE ROBERTS - DEFENDER

Broke into the first team last season and has secured a regular place with some assured performances. Now in his third season as a professional, Steve came

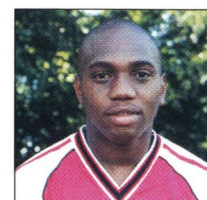
through the ranks at the Racecourse, following in the path of his older brother Neil. A Wales Youth international in his own right and now a regular in the Under-21 squad, he has caught the eye of several Premiership clubs but is concentrating on the task of gaining more experience with Wrexham.

NO 16 - DANNY WILLIAMS - MIDFIELD

Still only 19, Danny has a number of appearances with the Wales Under-21 team under his belt, including two in June and another in Belarus this month. He signed a two year contract with Wrexham just before last March's transfer deadline, but had to wait until this pre-season before making the senior squad, playing in all of the friendly games. He continued this impressive start to the new campaign by making a start in the opening league fixture at Blackpool and remained in the side.

NO 17 - ANDY MORRELL - FORWARD

Was working at a Health Club in Leeds when recommended to Wrexham for a trial last year. Initially injured in training, he then returned to show enough promise to gain an extended trial and now a contract for this coming season. Made his debut at Hull in the AWS, came on as league substitute against Burnley in March and capped his season with a last minute FAW Premier Cup winner at Ninian Park to defeat Cardiff City.

**NO.18 - HECTOR SAM - FORWARD**

The second of our Trinidadians signed in the summer. Played for a local team in Port of Spain and has been capped by his country at several levels including full international.

Only 20, he opened his account for Wrexham with a goal in his first game, a friendly against Sheffield Wednesday. Not the tallest of strikers, Hector certainly has pace and has already proved himself more than a handful for opposing defenders. Six goals in his in first seven matches has been an impressive return and saw him called up to the T&T side for the recent trip to Mexico.

NO 19 - CARLOS EDWARDS - WINGER

Joined the club recently from Defence Force FC, Trinidad, when signed along with Hector Sam. A current internationalist for his country, Carlos was involved in their epic World Cup victories over Canada, Panama and Mexico this season, which means T&T's are through to the final round of qualification for 2002. A tricky winger, who can also operate in midfield, he will add considerably to the manager's attacking options.

NO 20 - MICHAEL BLACKWOOD - WINGER

The first of four summer signings made by Brian Flynn, Michael made the short trip from Aston Villa. Although he did not make their first team, he did gain experience by going out on loan last season and had a spell with Chester City. Already he has made a good impression on the local fans, who are looking forward to more of his exploits on the left wing this season.

NO 21 - LEE ROCHE - DEFENDER

Signed on a year's loan from Manchester United, this Bolton born right-back is looking to gain first team experience from his extended stay in North Wales. He has already had one season as a professional at Old Trafford and will be hoping that his loan spell can help him towards Sir Alex's senior squad.

NO 22 - STEVE THOMAS - MIDFIELD

A former YTS trainee and now in his third season as a professional. Made his senior debut at Newtown in the FAW Invitation Cup and has been on the bench for several Football League games. A native of Hartlepool, Steve has Welsh qualifications and has played for his adopted country many times at youth level, before having his first Wrexham start against Cardiff early in 1997/98. Made his Football League debut against Stoke City in September 1998 and scored our winning goal against Caernarfon Town in the FAW Premier Cup.

NO 23 - KEVIN HANNON - FULL-BACK

On a short-term contract after completing his YTS with the club. Happy to play in several positions on the left side of the field, Kevin comes from Merseyside and made his senior debut against TNS in this season's FAW Premier Cup.

NO 24 - DAVE WARREN - MIDFIELD

Yet to gain a league start, this promising Irish Youth international was picked up from junior football in Cork and has already seen first team action in the FAW Premier Cup. He has an eye for the spectacular goal, scoring a number from distance.

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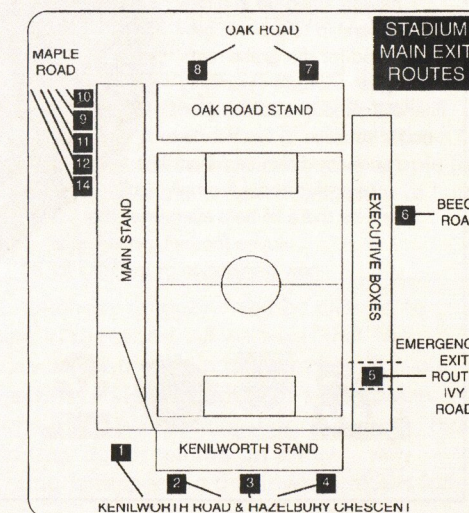
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In the event of evacuation from all or part of the stadium, you will receive instructions over the public address system on how you should leave. In an evacuation of the main stand you will be instructed to use the pitch. Stewards will direct you to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

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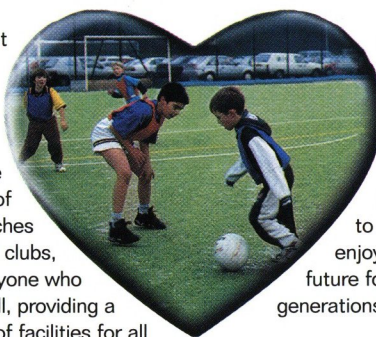
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Hatters Abroad



IF IT'S good enough for Her Majesty the Queen... it's good enough for Luton Town fans as well. You might recognise the splendid background as the Vatican in Rome, where the Queen went to meet the Pope a couple of weeks ago.

Carl Meader, and sons Sam and Joe, are pictured having got there before her, and naturally the lifelong Luton fans, from Highfield Road, Kempston, were proud to wear the Town colours on their sightseeing trips around Rome.

A TELEVISION series has made the background in our other picture famous, and the Lucas family from Bliss Avenue, Shefford, could not resist embellishing the view with their Luton Town display. Paul Lucas is pictured with his wife Karen, and daughters Carly and Samantha. Son Christopher would have been in the shot as well, except that he had to take the photograph. The family was on holiday in Ireland, which might give you a clue to the bar behind them.



Paul explains: "The village is Avoca, which is well-known because the TV series Ballykissangel is filmed there, and we are standing outside the pub that is regularly seen in the series."

Paul has supported the Town for over 30 years, and is well pleased that his daughters are following his good example to make it "a whole family of Luton lovers."

THIS page is open to all Luton Town fans, and the matchday magazine will be pleased to consider for publication photographs from anywhere in the world. All we ask is that the Hatters colours are well to the fore. So if you have an interesting snap of Town kit in far-off places, please send it, with a few details, to the matchday magazine editor at Luton Town FC. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want the photographs back, but please be aware that with the best will in the world they do sometimes go astray. We are also interested in hearing about our very young fans sporting the Town's colours for our occasional "Mini Hatters" series.

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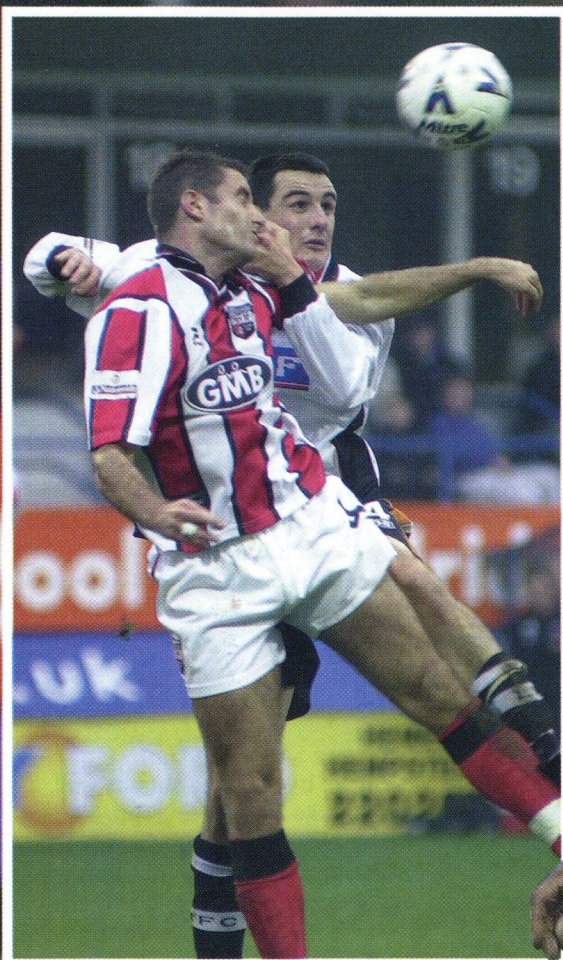
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Photo Action

Luton Town 3 Brentford 1



Far left: Matthew Spring showing that he can mix it when necessary, pictured in close combat with Scott Marshall.

Left: Mark Stein, whose nimble pace and control was a problem for Brentford all afternoon, takes on Scott Marshall.

Below: **HAPPY RETURN**, Stuart Douglas leaves Scott Marshall and Martin Rowlands trailing before firing in his second goal.

Photos: Gareth Owen/LTFC



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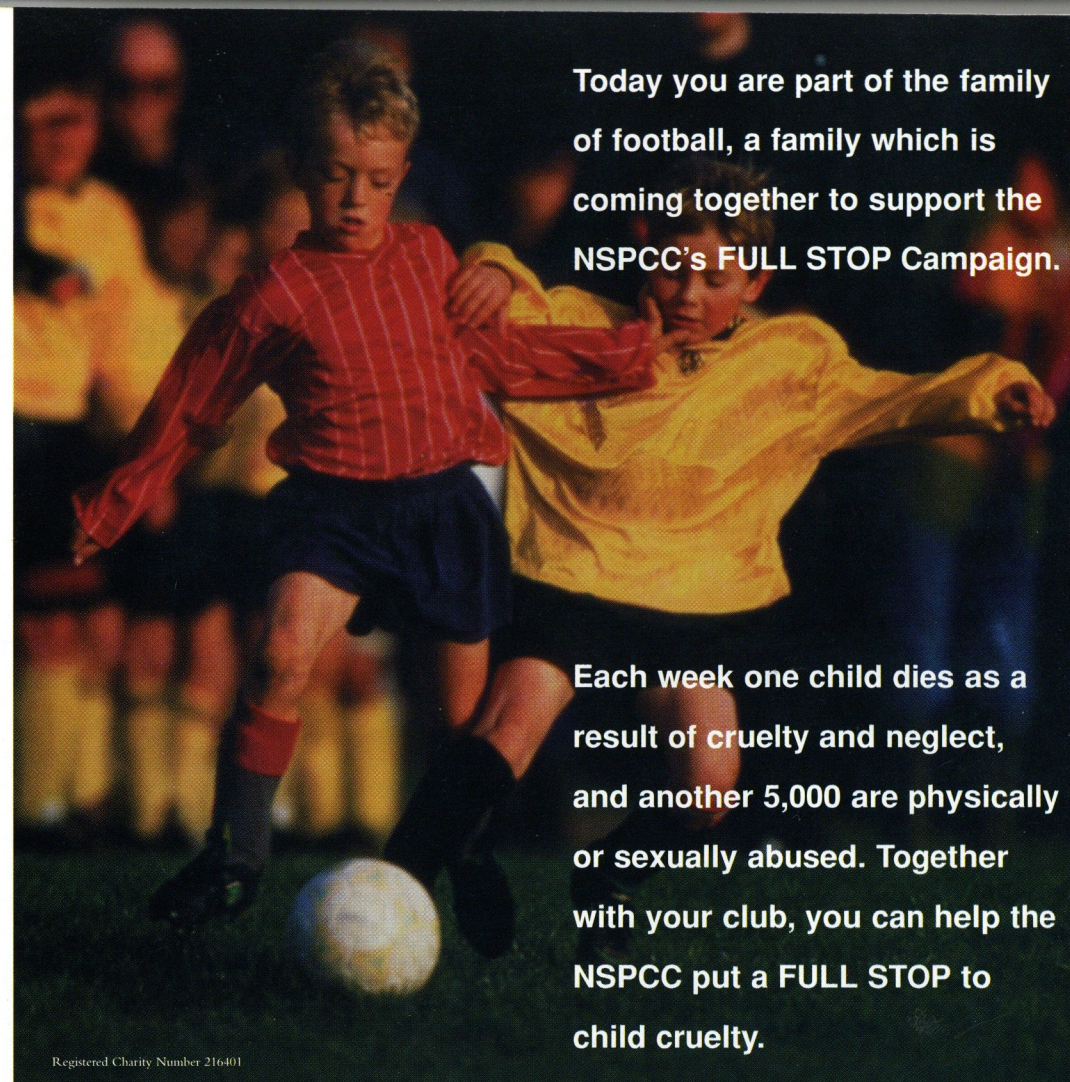
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Blast from the Past

Roger Wash

Honours even with the Robins

As has been chronicled many times before in this column, a new look Hatters side, boasting seven players making their debuts, hammered six second half goals to completely overwhelm poor Oldham on the opening day of the 1978/79 campaign.

They followed this up with home thumpings of Charlton and Cardiff before Cambridge became the first team to escape with a point after stifling the life out of the game in a 1-1 draw.

Wrexham were the next visitors and arrived at Kenilworth Road on the crest of a wave.

Following a narrow miss on promotion from the old Division Three, for the first time in their history, in 1976/77 they made no mistake the following season and had clinched the championship with four games to go. On top of this they had captivated the football world with their recent exploits in the Cup competitions, First division sides Sunderland, Bristol City, Leicester, Tottenham and Newcastle had all fallen to the Robins and for a time you could hardly keep them off the back pages of the national press and their players soon became household names.

They had not started their Division two campaign particularly well, however, with only two wins in their opening eight games but they had lost only once away from the Racecourse.

Despite this the Town were favourites to win the first meeting of the sides since our Division Four championship winning season of 1967/68, and continue their sparkling home form.

A crowd of 8,683 were present on a sunny afternoon (all home matchdays that autumn were sunny) to see the Hatters move into an early lead. Bob Hatton, one of the summer signings, pulled the Wrexham defence out of position with a clever run down the left before putting over a perfect cross which was headed in with some power by Brian Stein. Shortly afterwards the lead was doubled after David Moss put over

a long cross which seemed to be going out but the ball was retrieved by Ricky Hill who played it into the path of Lil Fuccillo who fired home through a forest of legs.

The crowd sat back expecting another goal avalanche and although Hatton hit the bar with a header from Hill's cross and Robin's full-back, Graham Whittle, almost put the ball into his own net the third, and probably decisive, goal would not come.

Then, for a period of perhaps ten minutes either side of the interval, Wrexham's Micky Thomas decided to show the crowd his full range of footballing tricks and dominated the game. Thomas, who was to eventually parade his skills at the highest level, led the Town's defence a merry dance and after setting up a gilt edged chance for player manager Arfon Griffiths which was spurned, decided to show his team-mates how it was done.

Forcing his way past Paul Price, Thomas sent in a swerving shot across goalkeeper Milija Aleksic's body which was a goal all the way.

Fortunately, Thomas could not keep up this virtuoso display and gradually the Luton midfield resumed control of the contest and it was only a brilliant save from Wrexham goalkeeper, Eddie Niedzwiecki, that prevented the Town winning the game more comfortably than the final score-line suggested.

Luton: Aleksic, Price, Aizlewood (Jones), Turner, Donaghy, Hill, West, Fuccillo, Stein, Hatton, Moss.

Wrexham: Niedzwiecki, Hill, Whittle, Davies, Roberts, Thomas, Sutton, Griffiths (Lyons), Cartwright, Shinton, McNeil.

The Town's season went into freefall not long afterwards due, in the main part, to injuries to key players. Lil Fuccillo, who was being talked

about in some circles as being in line for an international call-up by Italy, had his leg broken by a crude tackle at Brighton while influential winger, David Moss, was absent for long spells with a deep seated groin strain. Once the home record, which was magnificent early season, started to wane the Hatters began to wobble especially as the away form was nothing to write home about. As the campaign drew to a close relegation seemed a real possibility and the heady days of autumn seemed light years away.

I, for one, could see no way back after a run of four defeats in a row in March but aided by opposition defenders who gifted goals to the Town in four consecutive matches and David Moss, who was called into action despite being less than fit because of his ability to turn a game, the players clawed their way to safety with a game to go.

The final game of the campaign, at Wrexham, was therefore deemed meaningless but a good number of Luton supporters travelled looking forward to a match without having to worry about relegation.

The Robins were just about safe themselves but still had four more games to play, the bad winter affecting them more than it did the Town. The Hatters included Wayne Turner for the first time but although he was bright and enthusiastic the game had 'end of season' written all over it.

Wrexham took the lead after 30 minutes with a goal out of the blue. Steve Buxton out wide fired in a tremendous cross shot from a ridiculous angle which flew over Luton goalkeeper, Jake Findlay, into the net. The Town took off Turner and brought on Brian Stein to add more beef to the attack and the young South African was almost immediately put through by a clever ball from Hill but saw his effort smothered by Robin's goalkeeper, Dai Davies.

In the 72nd minute the Hatters produced a rare move of quality which was to end in controversy.



The ball is on it's way into the back of the net for the Town's second goal against Wrexham at Kenilworth Road in 1978.

The ball was swept from one end to the other and a final back header from Hill was destined for the unmarked Hatton when Wrexham's mid-season signing from Liverpool, Joey Jones, palmed the ball away.

Everyone in the ground saw the offence apart from the officials and Mark Aizlewood was dismissed for taking his protests too far. The ten men hardly had time to settle down before Peter Williams netted the Robins second with his head following a pin-point cross from Buxton. A disappointed Town manager, David Pleat, said afterwards, "We played as though it was the end of the season and the referee played as though it was his last game. I don't condone Mark Aizlewood's action, but he only said what the rest of the lads were saying. There could have been a lot of trouble if promotion or relegation had been at stake."

Luton: Findlay, Stephens, Aizlewood, Donaghy, Philipson-Masters, Price, Hill, West, Taylor, Hatton, Turner (Stein).

Wrexham: Davies, Cegielski, Dwyer, J. Jones, F. Jones, Giles, Sutton (Roberts), Fox, Williams, McNeil, Buxton.

Roger Wash

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FRIDAYS

Cardinal Newman High School
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FRIDAYS

Lealands High School
School Years 1 to 3 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
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THURSDAYS

Manshead Upper School
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School Years 4 to 8 at 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm

FRIDAYS

Northfields Upper School
School Years 1 to 3 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
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Vandyke Upper School
School Years 1 to 2 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
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Alameda Middle School
School Years 1 to 3 at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
School Years 4 to 8 at 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

HARLINGTON

THURSDAYS

Harlington Upper School
School Years 1 to 3 at 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
School Years 4 to 8 at 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm

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Junior Hatters

WE are hoping that our young counterparts from Wrexham have been able to join the Junior Hatters today, hopefully with enough members to take part in a football competition with our boys and girls as part of our Saturday Club, which meets on home match days at Dallow School.

We have plenty of pre-match entertainment, and a sausage and chips lunch, with a drink, before watching the game. The price is only £5 for Junior Hatters with season tickets, or £9 including a match ticket. For more information, or to join the Junior Hatters, please contact the Town shop in Kenilworth Road.

ALTHOUGH Bury no longer offer facilities to take Junior Hatters on an exchange visit to Gigg Lane, we have received an invitation to visit Stoke on December 2. Their family enclosure has PlayStations for young supporters, and we will join them there before the game. Tickets for the trip are now on sale, and as usual thanks to our sponsors the price is a bargain, £10 for Junior Hatters and £13 for others, match ticket included. We will leave at 10am, and you can book through the club shop.

THREE mascots were on duty for the Brentford game, and they are pictured before kick-off, meeting the captains and match officials. Ten-year-old Adam Currington, of Riddy Lane, Luton, was the Junior Hatters mascot, while the other two youngsters are commercial mascots Oliver Clements, 8, and five-year-old Jordan Balls.



Today's Mascot

THOMAS Skinner is today's lucky Junior Hatter, picked out at random to be our mascot. He is a regular at Kenilworth Road, and comes to matches with his dad. But today he will be part of the entertainment, meeting the players in the dressing room, joining them for the warm-up, and then going up to the



centre circle to meet the officials and opposing captain.

Thomas comes from Powers Close, Sandy, and goes to Bedford Modern School. As well as football he likes drawing and reading, and his favourite player is Stuart Douglas.

Today's ballboys are 13-year-old Joseph Wesson from Blakeney Drive, Luton, and Thomas Miller, 12, from Glenfield Road, Luton.

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Hatters on Card

Alan Robinson

AS ONE who saw the league debut of a raw teenager at Wimbledon in March, 1988, it seems incredible that this player now has over 400 senior appearances under his belt, and celebrates his 32nd birthday tomorrow. I am referring, of course, to our club captain, Marvin Johnson, who has unfortunately been out of the side recently through injury. What a nice way it would be to start his birthday celebrations this weekend if he could lead the Town to victory over Wrexham as well as starting on this page!

The card, showing Marvin in vocal mood, comes from the Shooting Stars series of trading cards issued by Merlin in 1991.

Born in Wembley, Marvin joined Luton as an apprentice straight from school in July 1985, and he made his debut at Goodison Park. It was in the Simod Cup, when another youngster, David Oldfield, also made his debut, and scored both goals in a 2-1 victory over Everton. Johnson kept his place for the following round, a 4-1 home win over Stoke.

After his league bow at Plough Lane, he figured in eight more games in the hectic finish to that memorable Littlewoods Cup-winning season. The first half of the following campaign saw Marvin get an extended run alongside Steve Foster in the back four. It was during this spell that he lobbed one of the most spectacular own goals many of us have ever seen, beating a bemused and unamused Les Sealey from distance. Fortunately Roy Wegerle scored for us to make it 1-1 against Aston Villa.

The recruitment of John Dreyer and Dave Beaumont meant that Marvin's opportunities as a central defender became limited, but the sale of Tim Breacker to West Ham in October 1990

created a No. 2 shirt vacancy which Marvin filled for the rest of the season.

The Town hung on to their top flight place by the skin of their teeth, but relegation could not be avoided the following year, although Marvin played no part in that campaign because of injury. But he came back to figure in 43 of the Town's Second Division games in 1992/93, and found the net, at the right end, three times, including a memorable bender in a 2-0 win at Tranmere.

Merlin Publishing Co Shooting Stars (1991)



Although he missed the 1993/94 FA Cup run to the semi-final at Wembley, Marvin has been a regular in the side since then, subject to injuries and the odd suspension. In terms of appearances, 1994/95 was his best season, when he made the full quota of league and cup matches. Marvin will always be respected for his determination, effort and loyalty, which Kenilworth Road crowds have always appreciated, especially when he sets off on one of those mazy runs deep into the opposition territory. A testimonial was well deserved, and in January 1999, after Steve Davis went back to Burnley, Marvin was the natural choice to take

over as skipper. Mr favourite memory of him will be the look of sheer delight on his face after scoring the last-gasp winner over Ipswich in the Worthington Cup that September. Other Luton players joining Marvin in this mammoth "Shooting Stars" series are Dave Beaumont, John Dreyer, Jason Rees, Mark Pembroke, Alec Chamberlain, Richard Harvey and David Preece. The cards are still quite easy to obtain, selling for around 50 pence each.

Alan Robinson

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Action Replay

Luton Town 3 Brentford 1 (HT 3-0)

THE MANAGER reminded us after Saturday's excitement at Kenilworth Road that one victory, welcome though it was, had not changed the facts of Luton Town life, and that more of the same is needed to enable us to climb up the league table.

Ricky Hill decided to take a chance on recalling Stuart Douglas, who had been out of football since pre-season with a hamstring injury, and had played just 70 minutes for the reserves in midweek. The 22-year-old striker responded with a display of pace and power which brought him two goals in the first half-hour, and frightened Brentford's big defenders every time he or anyone else ran at them. A penalty by Matthew Spring after 35 minutes just about ended the contest, and apparently there were harsh words spoken in the visitors' dressing room at the interval.

"We always have a problem against pace," said Brentford head coach Ray Lewington. "But our defending was very disappointing. Luton looked far better than a bottom side, and I am sure their season will turn. We didn't create enough chances, and our goal came too late to affect the outcome."

The Town's performance, with every single man playing well, brought a lovely response from the crowd, and Douglas showed us just how much we miss his pace and power, and direct running. He might have had two goals before his 17th-minute opener, on a day when a wet pitch meant that the ball zipped off the surface at speed. Douglas, Mark Stein and Liam George were nimble and tricky on a day when the Town's superior passing was the major difference between the sides.

The only disappointment for the manager, who dedicated the win to the fans and his departed assistant Chris Ramsey, was that the Town understandably relaxed after the break.

By then Douglas had gone off with a knock collected when he scored the second goal, giving Peter Thomson another chance to show his paces. Brentford were lucky to escape a hammering, but were gifted a consolation goal when the Town pushed too far upfield and Andy Scott used the resulting wide open space to run through and score.

That apart, it was a cracking afternoon's entertainment for home supporters. Brentford came as a mid-table team, and were seen off with professional ease by a side working well for each other.

More of the same will surely see a steady climb up the table.

Match Details

Town: Abbey, Boyce, McLaren, Watts, Locke (Brietenfelder 18 mins), Spring, Holmes, Taylor, George (Brennan 86 mins), Stein, Douglas (Thomson 44 mins). Unused subs: Kandol, Ovendale.

Booked: No-one.

Brentford: Gottskalksson, Crowe, Marshall, Ingimarsson, Evans (Williams 56 mins), Mahon, Quinn, Partridge (Pinamonte 62 mins), Scott, Rowlands, Gibbs. Unused subs: Theobald, Folan, Smith.

Booked: Martin Rowlands, 15 mins, foul on Matthew Taylor.

The goals: 1-0, 17 mins - Stuart Douglas, angled shot in off the far post after collecting and controlling an incisive through-pass by Liam George; 2-0, 29 mins - Douglas again, shooting over the goalkeeper's desperate advance after taking a short headed pass from Mark Stein and muscling his way past the lumbering Marshall; 3-0, 35 mins - Matthew Spring penalty after Ivar Ingimarrson brought down Mark Stein as he jinked into the box; 3-1, 73 mins: Andy Scott, running into a huge area of space as the Town pushed upfield, and collecting Gavin Mahon's clearance and expertly going on to shoot his ninth goal of the season.

Referee: Steve Dunn.

Attendance: 5,382, including 695 supporting the visitors.



NEARLY FOUR: A second half scramble when Brentford were lucky to avoid conceding another goal, either through Peter Thomson, who is in the thick of the action, or via the legs of goalkeeper Ollie Gottskalksson, whose desperate save was inches away from being an own goal.



Tough luck, Liam... the ball is in the net after 13 minutes, but Liam George's celebration was premature, because an offside decision chalked off the goal.



Stuart Douglas takes aim and powers in the shot which brought his first goal of the season, just 17 minutes into his first league game of the campaign.

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Hatters Chatter

Emerging talent



WHILE all of us worry most about what goes on in the Nationwide League, if it were not for a group of dedicated workers we might not have a Luton Town team at all. In most matches, it is commonplace for us to name at least ten players out of the 16 on duty who have come up through the ranks.

"Didn't cost a penny in transfer fees," we say. But in fact a lot more than money has been spent in producing good footballers.

Youth development officer Dean Rastrick heads a group of 28 Luton fans with coaching qualifications who are a vital part of the club. They are responsible for the running of the club's school of excellence, which currently has 118 players registered, from under-9 to under-16.

The picture shows some of the under-10s and under-11s, with, on the left Tony Hymas, a youth liaison officer, and on the right Steve Samuels, who co-ordinates youth coaching.

The knack is to find young boys who have that something extra that might turn them into the Ricky Hills of the future. The competition is fierce, with Spurs, West Ham and Aston Villa particularly busy in the Luton area. Recently a local schoolboy was being

courted by Villa but the boy's hero was Liam George. We take fewer boys, which means they are more likely to get a chance if they are good enough, just as Liam did. The boy and his parents were very tempted by the stadium and facilities at Villa Park, but opted for Kenilworth Road in the hope that the lad will follow in the footsteps of his hero.

Dean accepts that some boys slip through the net, with Premiership clubs being able to afford extensive scouting networks. He won't comment on reports that back-handers paid by other clubs also influence parental choices.

Schoolboy talent is now subject to official "transfer fee" deals. The Town had a boy of 12 last season, a Londoner, who left to join Chelsea. The Football League decided that Chelsea should pay the Town £2,000 immediately, compensation for the money the club had invested in the lad's development, with another £5,000 to come if he signs as a YTS boy at Stamford Bridge. If he becomes a full professional, a further £10,000 will be due. The money will be gratefully received, of course, but the Town would rather have kept the player.

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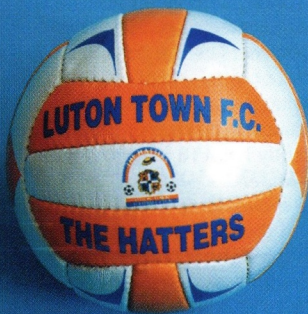
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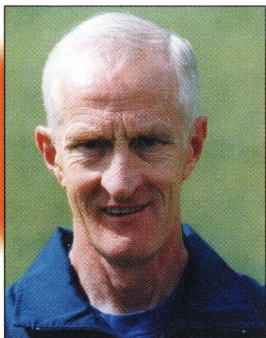


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The Reserves

John Moore



Avon Insurance Combination Cup game scheduled for Kenilworth Road on Wednesday was also called off, at the request of Cambridge United, who said an injury crisis meant that they had only eight players available. It was bad news for several players, not least more trialists who had been hoping to show us that they might be worth contracts. More senior men were also unhappy with the postponement - Marvin Johnson and Andrew Fotiadis would have played as

NOT only the first team suffered frustration this week because of a match postponement. The reserves'

another step on the road back to match fitness, and Rocky Baptiste would have had his first start in a competitive game after signing a contract last week. On top of that Mark Ovendale desperately wanted a match. The goalkeeper is a very good pro, thinks intensely about his job, and has a real work ethic about him. He knows that it is difficult to stay really sharp if you are not playing regularly, and it is to his credit that he was actually looking forward to a reserve fixture.

However, looking at the team that might have been, it is good to see that we are reaching a stage when we have strikers and goalkeepers competing for places in the league side. We organised a full scale practice match on Wednesday for all the players affected by the week's two postponements, but with the best will in the world it is very difficult to use such exercises to form judgements on, for instance, young trialists - we have no problems with all of our staff being willing to work hard in training, but that can never compare with the real thing, competitive games.

We had pencilled in four trialists for Wednesday's reserve fixture, but we might now have to make our judgements on them from what we see in training.

We have an away game at Reading on Wednesday, but at this stage we do not know how many of the trialists will still be here then.

Our next home game is the following Monday, November 6, and that will be the first of our mid-winter matches at Baldock Town. Kick-off will be at 7pm.

Appearances (as sub in brackets): Breitenfelder 5, Stirling 5, Brennan 4, Ayres 4, Abbey 4, Standen 3(3), Carter 3, Scarlett 3, Glasgow 2(2), Minton 2(1), Kandol 2, Carroll 2, Walker 2, Thomson 2, Dogbe 1(1), McGowan 1, Ward 1, Mortara 1, Fraser 1, Murfin 1, Codner 1, Tait 1, Ovendale 1, Johnson 1, Douglas 1, Fotiadis 1, Onachie 1, Locke 1, Dickie 1, Carham 1, Joynson 1, Mason 1, Showunmi 1, Rose 1, Gray 1, Pihamma 1, Holmes 1, Piercewright 1, Mansell (1), Clarke (1), Newell (1), Baptiste (1), Downer (1).

Goals: Brennan 4, Thomson 3, Kandol 2, Carter 1, Ayres 1 pen.

Avon Insurance Combination

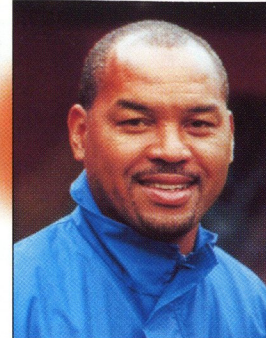
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
QPR	6	6	0	0	14	4	18
Swindon	8	5	1	2	18	7	16
Norwich	6	4	2	0	17	8	14
Fulham	6	4	1	1	14	8	13
Reading	7	3	2	2	10	8	11
Cambridge	7	3	2	2	9	7	11
Brighton	5	3	1	1	19	11	10
Brentford	6	2	4	0	8	5	10
Gillingham	5	3	1	1	7	5	10
Millwall	6	3	1	2	6	6	10
Bristol City	7	2	3	2	10	9	9
Portsmouth	5	2	2	1	9	7	8
Oxford	7	2	2	3	12	13	8
Luton Town	4	2	1	1	8	5	7
Crystal Palace	5	2	0	3	5	8	6
Bristol Rovers	6	2	0	4	8	12	6
Northampton	5	2	0	3	5	9	6
Cheltenham	6	2	0	4	6	11	6
Peterborough	7	1	2	4	7	12	5
Southend	7	0	4	3	4	9	4
Colchester	6	1	1	4	4	10	4
Wycombe	5	1	1	3	4	12	4
Bournemouth	5	0	3	2	3	11	3
Leyton Orient	3	0	0	3	2	6	0
Barnet	4	0	0	4	3	9	0

Avon Insurance Combination League Results and Fixtures

AUG							
Wed 16	Barnet	H	3-1	Brennan 2, Kandol			
Mon 21	Peterborough (LC)	H	2-1	Kandol, Carter			
Tues 29	Millwall	A	0-2				
SEPT							
Wed 13	L. Orient	A		postponed			
Wed 20	Gillingham (LC)	H	1-1	Ayres pen			
Tues 26	QPR	A		postponed			
OCT							
Wed 4	Fulham	H	4-1	Thomson 3, Brennan			
Wed 18	Gillingham	A	1-1	Brennan			
NOV							
Wed 1	Reading	A	2pm				
Mon 6	Brentford	H*	7pm				
Wed 15	Bristol City	A	2pm				
Wed 29	Swindon	A	2pm				
DEC							
Mon 4	Portsmouth	H*	7pm				
Wed 13	Colchester (LC)	A	2pm				
Mon 18	Oxford Utd	H*	7pm				

JAN				FEB				MAR				APRIL			
Thurs 4	Norwich (LC)	A	7.30pm	Mon 12	Cheltenham	H*	7pm	Thurs 8	Norwich City	A	7.30pm	Tues 3	Northampton	A	2pm
Wed 10	Wycombe	A	2pm	Mon 19	Bournemouth	A	2pm	Wed 14	Southend	H	2pm	Wed 18	C. Palace	H	2pm
Mon 15	Brighton	H*	7pm	Wed 24	Bournemouth	A	2pm	Mon 19	Peterborough	A	2pm				
Wed 24	Bournemouth	A	2pm	Mon 29	Bristol Rov	H*	7pm	Wed 28	Cambridge Utd	H	2pm				

*To be played at Baldock Town.



Youth Soccer

Brian Stein

**Brentford 0
Luton Town 0**

THE result was a slight disappointment, but the performance by the whole team was encouraging, and Brentford trooped off knowing they had been fortunate to get a point. They did so thanks to a combination of very good display by their goalkeeper, and a little wayward finishing by us at times.

We played well against a decent team, and on another day, and against a lesser goalkeeper, we would have won by three or four goals.

As a striker myself, I never liked missing chances, but I would be more worried if we were not creating them, and our attacking play was overall very good. But the goalkeeper made a string of good saves, three or four of them excellent.

It was ironic, because he might well have been sent off after only two minutes, when he handled just outside his box. I expected to see a red card, but he escaped with a yellow. If that happened in a first team game I would be pretty annoyed, but on this occasion I did not mind.

A sending-off at such an early stage could have given everyone a false impression of the two teams, and from my point of view, being in charge of the side for the first time, I wanted to see us playing against

11 men, not ten.

Our young players coped well with the task on the day, and with the changed circumstances of switching from a flat back four to three at the back, with wing-backs. Throughout the club it is essential that players know the job they have to do in any game, and against Brentford the effort, commitment and attitude was all spot on, and I was pleased with the way everyone competed.

We certainly played the better football in terms of creating scoring opportunities, and at the same time looked strong at the back when Brentford tried to put on pressure. I will not pick out individuals because all 11 players did well, on a day when no subs were used because I did not want to interrupt the successful pattern of play.

Luton Town: Ward, Bruce, Deeney, Gillman, Dogbe, Mansell, Osborne, Leary, O'Leary, Clarke, Dillon.

Appearances (as sub in brackets): Gillman 10, Dogbe 10, Mansell 10, James-Barriteau 9, Dillon 9, Ward 9, Bruce 8, Carroll 8, Clarke 7(1), Leary 6(1), O'Leary 5(5), Deeney 5(1), Osborne 4(3), Mortara 3, Nurse 2(2), Jeffrey 1(6), Meike 1(1), Chatfield 1, Carter 1, Minton 1, Fashanu 0(1), Ramirez 0(1),

Goals: Dillon 7, Carroll 2, James-Barriteau 1, Gillman 1, Leary 1, O'Leary 1, Mansell 1

FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE South East Conference Results and fixtures

AUG				SEPT				OCT				NOV				DEC				JAN				FEB			
16	Southend	H		2	Portsmouth	H	1-1	7	Barnet	A	4-0	4	Gillingham	A		2	Northampton	H		13	Barnet	H		3	Brentford	H	
26	L. Orient	A	0-4	9	Wycombe Wdrs	H	2-0	14	Brighton	H	1-2	11	Southend	A		16	Wycombe Wdrs	A		20	Cambridge	A		10	Colchester	A	
				16	Northampton	A	1-1	17	FAYC1 Lincoln Utd	A	2-2	18	L. Orient	H						27	Brighton	A					
				23	Cambridge	H	1-2	21	Brentford	A	0-0	25	Portsmouth	A													
								28	Colchester	H																	
								31	FAYC1R Lincoln Utd	H																	

WE were at home to Colchester this morning in the Football League Youth Alliance South East Conference, and on Tuesday we have a cup-tie at Kenilworth Road - a replay in the FA Youth Cup first round, against Lincoln United, kick-off 7.45. We are away to Gillingham in the Alliance next Saturday.

South East Conference

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cambridge Utd	8	6	1	1	18	9	19
Brighton	7	5	1	1	12	5	16
Wycombe Wdrs	8	4	3	1	18	7	15
Colchester	7	4	2	1	14	10	14
Leyton Orient	8	3	2	3	19	12	11
Brentford	8	3	2	3	14	10	11
Southend	7	3	2	2	16	18	11
Luton Town	8	2	4	2	11	10	10
Portsmouth	8	1	3	4	12	20	6
Gillingham	7	1	2	4	8	17	5
Barnet	8	0	3	5	8	19	3
Northampton	8	0	3	5	6	19	3

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Division 2 2000/01 Ave. Attendances

	2000	4000	6000	8000	10000	12000	14000
Bournemouth	3,731						
Brentford	4,707						
Bristol City	9,669						
Bristol Rovers	7,734						
Bury	3,285						
Cambridge	4,450						
Colchester	3,570						
Luton	5,573						
Millwall	9,465						
Northampton	5,816						
Notts County	4,595						
Oldham	4,360						
Oxford	4,568						
Peterborough	6,035						
Port Vale	4,469						
Reading	11,370						
Rotherham	4,088						
Stoke	12,902						
Swansea	6,474						
Swindon	6,464						
Walsall	5,917						
Wigan	6,115						
Wrexham	3,938						
Wycombe	5,283						

Division 2 General Stats

	PU	CS	FS		PU	CS	FS
Bournemouth	25	2	4	Oxford	28	2	8
Brentford	23	5	3	Peterborough	22	4	5
Bristol City	27	5	5	Port Vale	22	2	6
Bristol Rovers	26	3	3	Reading	24	6	4
Bury	21	7	5	Rotherham	21	5	0
Cambridge	19	3	3	Stoke	22	4	3
Colchester	22	4	6	Swansea	22	6	7
Luton	22	3	6	Swindon	22	3	7
Millwall	29	6	1	Walsall	19	6	3
Northampton	19	5	2	Wigan	22	6	4
Notts County	25	5	4	Wrexham	22	2	3
Oldham	25	3	4	Wycombe	19	6	7

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

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

Division 2 Campaign Records

Highest Gate	15,443 Reading v Wycombe
Lowest Gate	2,126 Wrexham v Rotherham
Highest Aggregate Score	Brentford 2-6 Bristol Rovers
Biggest Home Win	Cambridge 6-1 Rotherham
Biggest Away Win	Reading 5-0 Oldham, Millwall 5-0 Oxford
Wins	Walsall 5
Games Unbeaten	Wigan 10
Defeats	Bristol C, Bury, Colchester, Oxford 4
Winless Run	Oldham, Luton 10
Games	168
Home Wins	70 (42%)
Away Wins	52 (31%)
Draws	46 (27%)
1-1 Draws	23 (14%)
0-0 Draws	14 (8%)
Average goals per game	2.57
Yellow cards	497
Red cards	27

Statson2

Stats compiled by Football Information Services

League Scorers: the difference their goals made

		Gls	Gms	GI/Gm	W>L	W>D	D>L	Pts	Run	Dry
Northampton	Forrester	10	12	0.83	1	3	3	12	5	2
Notts County	Stallard	8	15	0.53	0	4	1	9	3	3
Brentford	Scott	7	13	0.54	1	2	1	8	4	3
Stoke	Thorne	5	6	0.83	1	1	2	7	2	1
Wigan	Haworth	6	10	0.60	1	1	1	6	2	2
Cambridge	Youngs	8	13	0.62	0	2	1	5	3	4
Millwall	Harris	11	12	0.92	0	2	1	5	3	1
Bristol City	Thorpe	6	11	0.55	0	1	2	4	1	5
Oldham	Dudley	3	10	0.30	0	2	0	4	2	7
Swindon	Reeves	2	13	0.15	0	2	0	4	1	4
Walsall	Leitao	7	15	0.47	0	2	0	4	3	3
Wycombe	Rammell	4	10	0.40	0	2	0	4	2	4
Bournemouth	Hayter	5	11	0.45	1	0	0	3	1	5
Bristol Rovers	Ellington	5	10	0.50	0	0	3	3	3	3
Colchester	Duguid	3	13	0.23	0	1	1	3	1	6
Peterborough	Clarke	4	15	0.27	0	1	1	3	2	7
Rotherham	Robins	7	11	0.64	0	1	1	3	2	2
Wrexham	Sam	6	12	0.50	0	1	1	3	5	6
Bury	Littlejohn	2	15	0.13	0	1	0	2	1	6
Luton	Kandol	3	10	0.30	0	0	2	2	1	5
Port Vale	Naylor	5	12	0.42	0	1	0	2	2	5
Reading	Butler	12	14	0.86	0	0	2	2	5	2
Oxford	Beauchamp	3	14	0.21	0	0	0	0	1	7
Swansea	Bound	3	13	0.23	0	0	0	0	1	5

Each club's leading league scorer and their goals per game (GI/Gm). Next 3 columns show taking off their goals how many games change from Win to Loss (W>L), Win to Draw (W>D), Draw to Loss (D>L) and Points (Pts) lost. Last 2 figures show best scoring run, and longest dry spell in consecutive games.

Division 2 Results Grid

HOME GOALS									
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
AWAY GOALS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	14	18	11	6	6	2			
1	22	23	8	9	2	2	1		
2	9	5	6	4	1				
3	1	5	2	3					
4		4	2						
5			1						
6			1						
7									
8									

Grid shows the number of games ending with each results. e.g. 22 matches have resulted in a 1-0 away win

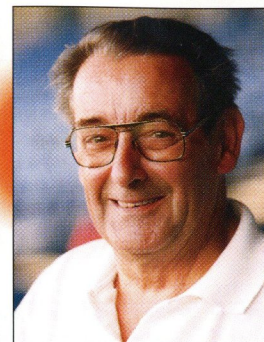
Referee's Report

	Gam	Red	Yell	Av.Yell
Prosser	7	3	34	4.86
Olivier	9	3	43	4.78
Hall	8	5	38	4.75
Fletcher	7	0	32	4.57
Riley	4	1	18	4.50
Wilkes	7	2	29	4.14
Bates	7	0	29	4.14
Dowd	10	6	41	4.10
Hill	8	0	32	4.00
Jones T	10	7	40	4.00
Foy	7	2	28	4.00
Jordan	7	2	27	3.86
Winter	3	0	11	3.67

Division 2 Hotshots - Each club's most prolific marksmen

GS							1st GI	1 GI	2 Gls	3 Gls	GS							1st GI	1 GI	2 Gls	3 Gls						
Bournemouth	Hayter	2	0	1	0	1	Oxford	Beauchamp	2	1	1	1	0	Brentford	Scott	6	3	5	1	0	Peterborough	Clarke	4	2	4	0	0
Bristol City	Thorpe	4	2	3	0	1	Port Vale	Naylor	3	2	1	2	0	Bristol Rovers	Ellington	4	1	3	1	0	Reading	Butler	9	7	7	1	1
Bury	Littlejohn	2	1	2	0	0	Rotherham	Robins	6	4	5	1	0	Cambridge	Youngs	6	1	4	2	0	Stoke	Thorne	4	2	3	1	0
Colchester	Duguid	3	1	3	0	0	Swansea	Bound	3	2	3	0	0	Luton	Kandol	2	0	1	1	0	Swindon	Reeves	2	2	2	0	0
Millwall	Harris	7	4	4	2	1	Walsall	Leitao	7	3	7	0	0	Northampton	Forrester	8	7	6	2	0	Wigan	Haworth	4	3	3	0	1
Notts County	Stallard	8	5	8	0	0	Wrexham	Sam	5	2	4	1	0	Oldham	Dudley	2	2	1	1	0	Wycombe	Rammell	3	1	2	1	0

GS=Number of Games Scored In; 1st GI=Games Scored 1st Goal; 1 GI=Games Scored 1 Goal; 2 Gls=Games Scored 2 Goals; 3 Gls=Games Scored 3 Goals



WHILE we were kicking our heels at Oldham on Tuesday night, companions

in distress at the wrong end of the Second Division table were all pretty kind to us. And for Oldham there was a surprise bonus: they moved up one place in the table without kicking a ball.

The reason was that Swindon, previously ahead of Oldham on goal difference, lost 2-0 at home to Millwall, and the damage to goal difference dropped Colin Todd's men back into 22nd place behind Oldham. Swindon have won only two of their first 13 league games, at Kenilworth Road, and at home to Oxford.

Todd has had enough - on Wednesday he left after 17 months in charge, to return to Derby, where he had his best days as a player. He is now assistant to Jim Smith, who was 60 this week, and is likely to retire, or "move upstairs" as the Rams fight to avoid relegation from the Premiership.

Joe Kinnear, once of Wimbledon, has been brave enough to return to football after heart trouble to become a consultant with Oxford, but they need a miracle-worker. Tuesday's home defeat, 2-0 against Wigan leaves Oxford six points adrift of the field, with only one win from their first 15 fixtures, at home to Bury in mid-September.

On our enforced night off, a perfect set of results for us would have been defeats for Oxford, Swindon, Port Vale and Bournemouth, and we almost got it. Brian Horton's Port Vale were the only one of those sides to take a point. It was very nearly three - Brentford, smarting from their trip to Luton,

Nationwide Division Two Table

	HOME					AWAY					Pts
	P	W	D	L	F A	W	D	L	F A		
Walsall	15	5	3	0	18 7	4	1	2	11 8	31	
Reading	15	6	1	0	25 5	3	1	4	7 11	29	
Wigan	14	5	1	0	10 4	2	5	1	9 7	27	
Rotherham	15	4	1	3	16 12	4	2	1	9 9	27	
Millwall	13	4	1	2	14 4	4	1	1	14 8	26	
Wycombe	15	5	1	1	13 5	2	3	3	3 6	25	
Northampton	13	3	2	0	8 4	4	1	3	9 7	24	
Bury	15	4	1	3	9 11	3	1	3	6 8	23	
Cambridge	13	4	1	3	15 9	2	2	1	6 5	21	
Stoke	13	3	2	1	11 4	2	3	2	9 11	20	
Bristol Rov	13	0	4	1	5 6	4	2	2	17 9	18	
Wrexham	13	2	1	4	6 10	3	2	1	14 12	18	
Peterborough	15	3	2	2	8 9	2	1	5	7 11	18	
Notts County	15	1	3	3	9 11	4	0	4	6 10	18	
Brentford	13	3	3	1	8 9	1	3	2	6 11	18	
Bristol City	13	2	2	3	11 9	2	3	1	4 2	17	
Colchester	15	3	2	3	9 8	1	3	3	5 8	17	
Swansea	13	2	2	6	5	2	1	4	6 11	15	
Bournemouth	15	1	4	3	7 7	1	3	3	13 14	13	
Port Vale	14	3	3	2	13 7	0	1	5	2 14	13	
Oldham	14	3	1	3	9 9	0	2	5	6 18	12	
Swindon	13	1	2	3	6 12	2	1	4	4 11	12	
Luton Town	14	2	1	4	6 8	0	4	3	7 13	11	
Oxford Utd	15	1	2	5	5 10	0	0	7	5 23	5	

2nd Division

Brian Swain

made changes, and nicked a last-minute equaliser through one of their recalled strikers, Lloyd Owusu.

A late penalty by Notts County's Mark Stallard, his 12th goal of the season, sent Bournemouth to their third home defeat of the season, and undid some of the good work they achieved on Saturday, when they enjoyed the day's most surprising result, a 5-2 away win over Bury, who entertain us next week.

It might be a good time to take on the Shakers, who were second in the table at the beginning of the month, but have now slipped out of the play-off frame. They suffered their fourth consecutive defeat on Tuesday, this time at the hands of Reading, and they face a tricky visit to Wigan this afternoon.

Old friends who made various kinds of impact in this week's Second Division action included Tony Thorpe netting his seventh goal of the season on Tuesday in Bristol City's 2-1 home win over Peterborough. Martin Williams was on the scoresheet on Saturday, but not so happy - it was an own goal for Bristol Rovers to help them to a 3-1 win at Swindon, which was good news for us.

And John Dreyer gave away a penalty for one of the goals as Cambridge were beaten 2-0 at Colchester, which was not quite such good news, for him or us.

Our visitors today have similar problems to us so far as home results are concerned. Their record at the Racecourse is identical to ours except that they have conceded two more goals. They notched their first home league draw of the season on Tuesday, 0-0 against Wycombe Wanderers, with the visitors admitting they had pinched a point on a night when their goalkeeper had an inspired match.

Wrexham's away results have played the major part in hoisting them to mid-table - they have been beaten only once on their travels, 4-1 at Reading a couple of weeks ago. They collected draws at Colchester and Northampton, and they have enjoyed three away wins, at Bury, Bournemouth and Oxford.

Brian Swain

Today's other 2nd Division Fixtures

Brentford v Walsall
Bristol Rovers v Oldham
Millwall v Cambridge
Northampton v Rotherham
Notts County v Swindon
Peterborough v Colchester
Reading v Oxford
Stoke v Bournemouth
Swansea v Port Vale
Wigan v Bury
Wycombe v Bristol City

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Statistics Fixtures

2000 / 2001

	Date	Opposition	Result	Scorers	League Place	Attn.	Team
AUGUST	Sat 12	Notts County	H 3pm 0-1		-	7,059	Ovendale Boyce Watts McLaren Johnson
AUGUST	Sat 19	Wigan	A 3pm 1-2	Watts	-	6,518	Ovendale Boyce Watts McLaren Johnson
AUGUST	Tue 22	Peterborough WC1(1)	H 7.45pm 0-0		-	3,175	Ovendale Boyce Watts McLaren Fraser
AUGUST	Sat 26	Bournemouth	H 3pm 1-0	Spring pen	18	5,221	Ovendale Boyce Watts McLaren Fraser
AUGUST	Mon 28	Wycombe Wdrs	A 3pm 1-1	Kandol	17	6,001	Ovendale Boyce Watts McLaren Fraser
SEPTEMBER	Sat 2	Rotherham Utd	A 3pm 1-1	Fotiadis	17	4,061	Ovendale Boyce Watts McLaren Locke
SEPTEMBER	Tue 5	Peterborough WC1(2)	A 7.45pm 2-2	Stein, Scarlett	17	4,286	Ovendale Boyce Watts McLaren Fraser
SEPTEMBER	Sat 9	Northampton Town	H 3pm 0-2		19	6,712	Abbey Boyce Watts McLaren Fraser
SEPTEMBER	Tue 12	Walsall	H 7.45pm 0-0		19	4,362	Abbey Boyce Watts McLaren Locke
SEPTEMBER	Sat 16	Swansea City	A 3pm 0-4		20	6,011	Ovendale Boyce Watts McLaren Locke
SEPTEMBER	Tue 19	Sunderland WC2(1)	A 7.45pm 0-3		20	24,668	Ovendale Boyce Watts McLaren Fraser
SEPTEMBER	Sat 23	Swindon Town	H 3pm 2-3	Stein, George	21	4,933	Ovendale Boyce Watts George Fraser
SEPTEMBER	Tue 26	Sunderland WC2(2)	H 7.45pm 1-2	Kandol	21	5,262	Ovendale Boyce Watts George Fraser
SEPTEMBER	Sat 30	Bristol Rov	A 3pm 3-3	Kandol 2, George	22	7,901	Ovendale Boyce Watts George Fraser
OCTOBER	Sun 8	Millwall	H 12pm 0-1		22	5,345	Ovendale Boyce Watts George McGowan
OCTOBER	Fri 13	Cambridge Utd	A 8pm 1-2	Stein	23	6,191	Ovendale Boyce Watts George McGowan
OCTOBER	Tue 17	Oxford Utd	A 7.45pm 0-0		23	4,537	Abbey Boyce Watts George McGowan
OCTOBER	Sat 21	Brentford	H 3pm 3-1	Douglas 2, Spring pen	23	5,382	Abbey Boyce Watts George Locke
OCTOBER	Tue 24	Oldham	A 7.45pm	Postponed, pitch waterlogged			
OCTOBER	Sat 28	Wrexham	H 3pm				
NOVEMBER	Sat 4	Bury	A 3pm				
NOVEMBER	Sat 11	Bristol City	H 3pm				
NOVEMBER	Sat 18	FAC1	3pm				
NOVEMBER	Sat 25	Port Vale	A 3pm				
DECEMBER	Sat 2	Stoke City	A 3pm				
DECEMBER	Sat 9	FAC2	3pm				
DECEMBER	Sat 16	Colchester Utd	H 3pm				
DECEMBER	Sat 23	Reading	A 3pm				
DECEMBER	Tue 26	Peterborough	H 1pm				
DECEMBER	Sat 30	Wigan	H 3pm				
JANUARY	Mon 1	Bournemouth	A 3pm				
JANUARY	Sat 6	Notts County OR FA Cup 3	A 3pm				
JANUARY	Sat 13	Wycombe	H 3pm				
JANUARY	Sat 20	Peterborough	A 3pm				
JANUARY	Sat 27	Reading OR FA Cup 4	H 3pm				
FEBRUARY	Sat 3	Rotherham Utd	H 3pm				
FEBRUARY	Sat 10	Northampton Tn	A 3pm				
FEBRUARY	Sat 17	Swansea City OR FA Cup 5	H 3pm				
FEBRUARY	Tue 20	Walsall	A 7.45pm				
FEBRUARY	Sat 24	Swindon	A 3pm				
MARCH	Sat 3	Bristol Rov	H 3pm				
MARCH	Tue 6	Cambridge Utd	H 7.45pm				
MARCH	Sat 10	Millwall OR FA Cup 6	A 3pm				
MARCH	Sat 17	Oxford Utd	H 3pm				
MARCH	Sat 24	Brentford	A 3pm				
MARCH	Sat 31	Colchester	A 3pm				
APRIL	Sat 7	Stoke City OR FA Cup S-F	H 3pm				
APRIL	Sat 14	Oldham	H 3pm				
APRIL	Mon 16	Wrexham	A 3pm				
APRIL	Sat 21	Bury	H 3pm				
APRIL	Sat 28	Bristol City	A 3pm				
MAY	Sat 5	Port Vale	H 3pm				

The FA Cup final is on May 12

FANS ON THE MOVE

BRENTFORD'S following at Kenilworth Road last week was in marked contrast to the previous visiting team from London - Millwall brought almost twice as many fans. Latest stats for away supporters:

Visitors to Luton

Notts Co	606
Peterborough (WC)	360
Bournemouth	539
Northampton	1,240
Walsall	313
Swindon	531
Sunderland (WC)	1,366
Millwall	1,389
Brentford	695
Total:	7,039
Average:	782

Away-day Hatters

Wigan	640
Wycombe	1,266
Rotherham	603
Peterborough (WC)	908
Swansea	285
Sunderland (WC)	332
Bristol Rovers	333
Cambridge	1,210
Oxford	817
Total:	6,394
Average:	710

Town Teaser

OUR "Town Trivia" quiz will be asked again this afternoon, offering a prize to one lucky supporter. The question at the last home game was about the player who celebrated his 24th birthday with our winner against Watford in an FA Cup replay. The answer was Wayne Turner.

This afternoon the PA announcer will ask another Town Teaser, and if you know the answer listen for your chance to step up and have a go. If you don't know the answer, it is to be found elsewhere in this magazine.

Today's Question

ONE of our longest-serving and most popular players will be 32 tomorrow, so happy birthday to.... Who?

Substitutes

Taylor	Spring	Locke,	George,	Stein	Fotiadis	Holmes for Locke 57, Fraser for Watts 78. Unused: Stirling, Brennan, Abbey.
Taylor	Holmes	Locke	George	Stein	Fotiadis	Fraser for Johnson HT, Scarlett for Locke 73, Brennan for Holmes 83. Unused: Stirling, Abbey
Taylor	Holmes	Spring	George	Stein	Fotiadis	Brennan for Fotiadis 81. Unused: Stirling, Locke, Scarlett, Abbey.
Taylor	Holmes	Spring	George	Stein	Fotiadis	Brennan for George 57, Locke for Holmes 86. Unused: Stirling, Kandol, Abbey.
Taylor	Scarlett	Spring	George	Stein	Fotiadis	Brennan for George 55, Kandol for Fotiadis 76. Unused: Locke, Stirling, Abbey.
Taylor	Scarlett	Spring	Holmes	Stein	Fotiadis	Kandol for Fotiadis HT; Brennan for Holmes 65; George for Stein 81. Unused: Stirling, Abbey.
Taylor	Scarlett	Spring	Brennan	Stein	George	Holmes for Brennan 74; Locke for Spring 105; Kandol for Stein 113. Unused: Stirling, Abbey
Taylor	Scarlett	Spring	Brennan	Stein	George	Holmes for Spring 75; Kandol for Brennan 60. Unused: Locke, Stirling, Brietenfelder.
Taylor	Scarlett	Spring	Brennan	Stein	Thomson	George for Brennan 52; Kandol for Thomson 72: Holmes for Scarlett 82. Unused: Fraser, Ovendale.
Taylor	Stirling	Spring	Holmes	Stein	Kandol	George for Stein 75. Unused: Fraser, Scarlett, Thomson, Abbey.
Taylor	Scarlett	Spring	Holmes	Stein	Kandol	George for Stein 70; Thomson for Kandol 70. Unused: Brennan, Stirling, Abbey.
Taylor	Scarlett	Spring	Holmes	Stein	Kandol	Locke for Spring 66; Thomson for Kandol 72. Unused: Brennan, Ayres, Abbey.
Taylor	McLaren	Spring	Locke	Thomson	Kandol	Brennan for Thomson 81. Unused: Holmes, Breitenfelder, Ayres, Abbey.
Taylor	McLaren	Spring	Locke	Thomson	Kandol	Mc Gowan for Fraser HT; Stein for Thomson HT; Holmes for Spring 79. Unused: Brennan, Abbey
Taylor	McLaren	Spring	Locke	Stein	Kandol	All unused: Brennan, Holmes, Stirling, Scarlett, Abbey.
Taylor	McLaren	Spring	Locke	Stein	Kandol	Holmes for Kandol HT; Brennan for McGowan 89. Unused: Fraser, Breitenfelder, Abbey.
Taylor	Fraser	Spring	Holmes	Stein	Kandol	Breitenfelder for McGowan HT; Brennan for Kandol 79. Unused: Locke, Thomson, Ovendale.
Taylor	McLaren	Spring	Holmes	Stein	Douglas	Brietenfelder for Locke 18 mins; Thomson for Douglas 44 mins; Brennan for George 86 mins. Unused: Kandol, Ovendale.

Last Season
The Nationwide Football
League saw an Increase in
Attendance of 13.5%;
Why...?



The authority...



The Quality of the Football

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The Big Match

Today's Teams

Today's Teams

Today's Teams

The Big Match

Luton Town

Wrexham



Manager : Ricky Hill

NATHAN ABBEY 16

PAUL McLAREN 12

MARVIN JOHNSON 6

EMMERSON BOYCE 17

JULIAN WATTS 5

MATTHEW TAYLOR 15

PETER HOLMES 20

FRIEDRICH BREITENFELDER 26

LIAM GEORGE 11

STUART DOUGLAS 9

MARK STEIN 10

Substitutes

DEAN BRENNAN 22

PETER THOMSON 7

STUART FRASER 13

ROCKY BAPTISTE 28

MARK OVENDALE 1

Changes

Today's Officials

Referee:

Mark Cowburn

Assistants:

F. Graham (red flag)

P. J. Griffin (yellow and red flag)

Fourth Official:

T. Pollard



Manager: Brian Flynn

1 KEVIN DEARDEN

2 MARK McGREGOR

6 DAVID RIDLER

7 MARTYN CHALK

9 CRAIG FAULCONBRIDGE

10 DARREN FERGUSON

12 PAUL BARRETT

19 CARLOS EDWARDS

21 LEE ROCHE

28 CHRIS KILLEN

33 EMAN BOUANANE

Substitutes

4 GARETH OWEN

14 ROBIN GIBSON

18 HECTOR SAM

31 ADRIAN MOODY

25 KRISTIAN ROGERS

Changes

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