

Luton Town Football Club



LUTON TOWN
FOOTBALL CLUB
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**Official Matchday
Magazine**
**Luton
Town**
v
**Shrewsbury
Town**

**Friday
November 9,
2001**

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Official Matchday Magazine

Editor

Brian Swain

Design & Printing

Regal Litho Ltd

Photography

Gareth Owen

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

Front Cover



HAPPY HATTERS: One of the moments to enjoy from our last home game, against Swansea. Super-sub Adrian Forbes has just scored our third goal, and celebrates with the help of Steve Howard.

Inside Forward

THE Town's chase for Mansfield hot-shot Chris Greenacre, whose two goals against the Hatters on Saturday took his tally to 13 for the season, is up against stiff opposition from Field Mill boss Billy Dearden, who offered two big reasons for not accepting Joe Kinnear's £300,000 bid.

For starters, he said, Mansfield consider themselves every bit as good as Luton Town, and would not want to lose a man whose goals could play a big part in winning promotion. Secondly, if they did have to sell, he would not agree to Greenacre moving to another club involved in the promotion battle - "That would be suicidal."

Joe said his offer was realistic, and was still on the table, and the next step was up to Mansfield. It might also be up to the player and his agent, because his contract expires at the end of the season, and he could then, if he chooses, leave on a Bosman free transfer. And as the Town boss said, he might then fancy accepting the £300,000 for himself. Mansfield, in the meantime, might have to think hard about the risk of losing a good striker with no financial compensation in six months time, or accepting whatever they can get before then. They signed Greenacre on a free transfer from Manchester City, where he had begun as a YTS boy, two years ago.

He made only three Football League starts for the Maine Road club, before going on loans to Cardiff, Blackpool and Scarborough.

Loan deal agreed

STRIKER Peter Thomson has joined Rushden and Diamonds on a month's loan, with the Town offering to let him make it permanent on a free transfer. The manager had tried to push Brian Talbot into doing a deal straight away after 24-year-

old Thomson played a couple of trial games at Rushden. Talbot insisted he wanted to see more of the player, and as Thomson does not figure in the Town's first team plans, the loan move was agreed. Earlier this week it looked as though Dean Brennan might also be on his way out of Kenilworth Road. But for the first time this season he forced his way into the 18-man squad that travelled to Mansfield, having been one of the few successes in the LDV Vans Trophy defeat at Dagenham. Scottish First Division club Clyde have made an enquiry about the midfielder, and he can move on if he chooses, but as we went to press there had been no follow-up from Scotland.

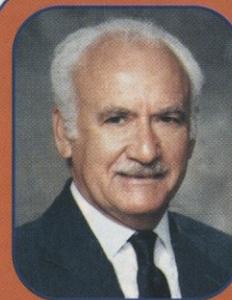
Face to face with fans

AARON Skelton and Matthew Spring will be the guests at the next meeting of Luton Town Supporters Club, in the Eric Morecambe Suite on Monday evening (7.30). They will take a question and answer session with fans, and admission will be by ticket only. They are on sale before and after this evening's game at the LTSC kiosk in Kenilworth Road, priced at £2 for Supporters Club members, £5 for others. Free stewarded parking will be available in Maple Road.

Suspensions hit cup squad

THE contentious question of refereeing standards has been exercising a few minds in and around Kenilworth Road. At Mansfield, where the home side had two sent off in a game that was never malicious, the Town collected eight yellow cards, which means they face an automatic fine from the Football Association. Two of the bookings were for Chris Coyne, which means he is suspended for one game, and will miss Saturday's FA Cup-tie at Southend.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE



I AM sure that all Luton Town supporters share my pleasure at the way things are going this season, despite Saturday's hiccup at Mansfield. Attendances are improving, and all of us, especially Joe and the team, are very appreciative of the wonderful away support.

However, there are a number of people who are not genuine supporters who appear to be intent on attaching themselves to the club simply to cause trouble when we play away.

We don't want them, and I appeal to all genuine supporters to make sure that the trouble-makers get that message.

As a club, we will do everything possible to uphold the law. Football with Luton Town must be a family entertainment, where all are safe in and around football grounds.

I feel very strongly about this. At Mansfield, like you, I was bitterly disappointed to see us lose. But nothing that happens on the field of play can excuse bad behaviour off it. I did not come into football to see our enjoyment spoiled by a minority who are not real supporters. Please help us to eliminate them from football.

Mike Watson-Challis

Mike Watson-Challis

Kevin Nicholls and Steve Howard both collected their fifth bookings of the season, so they too will be suspended for the match at Roots Hall.

Referees have a difficult job to do, and we make no criticism of any of them. But it was ironic that the Mansfield experience should come immediately after another ref actually gave great pleasure to fans, players and managers alike at Kenilworth Road. We were lucky to have Paul Durkin in charge of the game against Swansea - it was an unofficial punishment posting, after he was dropped from the Premiership list after not sending off Chelsea's Graham Le Saux for a foul on Danny Mills of Leeds.

Several fans have written to say what a difference he made to the entertainment at Kenilworth Road - he kept the game flowing, played the advantage rule well, and for

only the second time this season we had a match without a single card being shown. Joe Kinnear was impressed - "I have said in my report that it was a nice change to have a good referee, and can we have him every week..."

Hillier's move confirmed

THE transfer of Ian Hillier, forecast in our last matchday magazine, was duly completed shortly after the Swansea game. Like Dean Crowe, he has signed a two and a half year contract, with the Town paying Tottenham £30,000, with another £20,000 due when he makes his 50th appearance.

Incidentally, a report in the Daily Express that the Town was to be a feeder club for Spurs was emphatically denied at Kenilworth Road.

Brian Swain



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M. Watson-Challis

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Joe Kinnear

The Manager

AFTER the disappointing performance and result at Mansfield on Saturday, we go into this evening's match all the more determined

to bounce back at the first opportunity, to strengthen our hold on a top three place in the league.

Four defeats in the first 17 league games of the season is not disastrous, but a glance at the league table shows how tight things are in the scrap for promotion, which is why we need to win tonight. Shrewsbury doubtless feel the same way, because they are in the play-off places, and after seeing them beat Darlington on Tuesday I know they will give us a good test.

After Shrewsbury this evening, our next home game is against Hull City, and the outcome of those two matches will show just how close we are to attaining our goal.

The Mansfield defeat was all the more frustrating for me because it followed a very good performance against Swansea a week earlier. On that occasion, the only gripe I might have had was that we should perhaps have scored more than three goals, but on the day some of our football was top class, and I was pleased that we put on a bit of a show for home supporters. You can forget about the LDV Vans Trophy game at Dagenham - I have my sights trained firmly on promotion, and an away game against keen non-league opposition was no place to risk any of the players I believe can do it for us. Having said that, I sent out a team that should have been capable of beating a Conference side, and most of the players involved could have done much better. It was a night for them to show me they ought to be regulars in the first team squad. Instead they provided confirmation that most are not good enough, which was why I have made so many changes in personnel since last season.

Dean Crowe and Ian Hillier are the latest to come in on full contracts, and I was pleased to sign them after they did well on loan. Crowe

has done exceptionally well, at a time when we needed his sharpness in the box following the injury to Carl Griffiths.

Those two signings mean that we now have two more vacancies for loans, and I am still working on bringing in more talent. We are reaching a stage where injuries and suspensions are always likely to put a strain on resources, and one of my philosophies is that this game is about 16 good players - I want the bench to be filled by men who can consider themselves unlucky not to be in the starting line-up.

The 4-1 result flattered Mansfield. I don't think I have seen two sides struggling so much in defence all season, and the game could have ended something like 5-4 to either side. But I suppose one good point was that we always looked a threat, and we did create a few clear-cut chances.

On the other hand, what was most disappointing to me was the lack of good defending: we gave away goals very cheaply, and as a back four unit we were very soft. At times we looked like a team waiting for things to happen instead of making them happen. This must be a clear lesson to us about what can occur when you take things for granted and get complacent. We will learn from this. We sat and spoke about it in the dressing room, and believe me everyone was very disappointed with their performance. Sometimes there is no rhyme or reason why it happens, but it is my job to analyse it and let players know where they let themselves down - and also to pick ourselves up again and get in the right frame of mind for tonight.

These players are desperate to put things right. I have faith in them, and know they can. We owe it to the supporters, especially the massive following we had at Mansfield. You didn't get the result you wanted and deserved there, but we can get the win we want tonight if we take our chances.

Keep the faith! And enjoy the game.

Joe Kinnear

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Marvin Johnson

Club Captain

THERE was a good debate among the lads after the disappointment of the trip to Mansfield. We know we are not going to win every match, but the general feeling was that while the 4-1 scoreline might have been a little flattering to the home side, we had too many men playing a notch or two below their best. You never know why it happens - obviously we all want to do well for a lot of good reasons, with professional pride top of the list.

It hurts when you lose, even if the opposition are one of the better teams in the division. On the day we had no cause to complain, but as the boss said it was one of those matches where the outcome could have been different. Mansfield taught us a lesson in taking chances, and deserved the win.

I am still not quite match fit, but there was some pleasure in being able to make a comeback for 90 minutes in the game at Dagenham. Not much pleasure in the result, though! We should never have lost that game - we made more chances than Dagenham and Redbridge, but football is all about scoring goals, and we could not find the finishing touch.

I was pleased to see Mark Stein at the ground - and pleased he was not playing because I know he is still a handy striker. He is still enjoying life, and while some might think it is a bit of a come-down for a man who played at the very top level to be in non-league soccer now, Mark made the point that playing football is still an enjoyable way of earning a living.

It's a view I share completely, although not too many of the lads enjoyed themselves on Saturday. However, we ought not to be dispirited. We have still lost only four times, and three of those have been away from home. I would be much more concerned if we had lost three home games. The defeats have all come against good sides - I include Bristol Rovers in that category because they were in the top three when we went there and lost somewhat unluckily.

We are finding that teams raise their games to meet us, which is a natural reaction after we were installed among the favourites for promotion. I think we are proving that we are genuine contenders, and despite Saturday's little setback we are pretty confident among ourselves that we can do it. It is amazing how well the team has come together so quickly. Of the 13 who played at Mansfield, 11 have been brought in since Joe Kinnear became manager, and he makes no bones about his philosophy. Like us he wants promotion, and if he doesn't think his present squad can do it, there will be more signings.

It puts us under pressure, but that is no bad thing, and the boss has made some shrewd decisions so far. Ian Hillier and Dean Crowe are the latest to agree contracts, and I was glad to see them both signed up after their loan spells. Ian's experience underlined the point about a new team being put together in quick time: when he made his debut for us, it was with 10 other players he had never met! He soon settled in, and Dean Crowe has also been a pleasure to be with. He's a real busybody of a player, very nippy, and not the sort of striker I would want to meet every week. On top of that, he is a lovely lad, and fits into a very happy dressing room easily.

There is still a good atmosphere about the place, and while we were disappointed to drop out of the top three - apart from anything else it costs us bonus money! - we still believe in ourselves. Hartlepool did us a favour on Tuesday, and although there is a long way to go yet, I think we could go up as champions. But any place in the top three will do, and to achieve that we know we have to get back to winning ways quickly, especially at home. Tonight is another "six pointer" and after letting you down at Mansfield, where the travelling support was again absolutely magnificent, we will be determined to do much better tonight.

Marvin Johnson



Bruce Sewell

Treatment Room

AFTER the difficulties we were having in getting an accurate diagnosis of the injury that was troubling Carl Griffiths, we

now have the answer we were seeking, and while that is helpful, it is not very good news for the striker.

He had undergone a series of scans and X-ray examinations as specialists tried to find out what the trouble was, but a bone scan has now disclosed that he has a stress fracture of the lower leg.

He will be in plaster for three weeks, and will then visit the specialist again before we decide the next stage of his treatment. With an injury like this, time is the only real healer, and until the next scan results are known we cannot give any sort of forecast about when Griff will be able to play again. With luck, he could begin rehabilitation work in a month or so, and meantime he is working well to keep as fit as possible.

Paul Hughes continues to make good progress after his ankle ligament operation, and is working hard to aid his return to fitness. He sees the surgeon again early next week, and hopefully will be given the go-ahead to do more running, although it will have to be low key, with no twisting and turning. At this stage, we cannot give him a target date for a return to the first team squad.

Emmerson Boyce is the other first-teamer still ruled out, having injured his knee and lower leg three weeks ago, against Rochdale. X-rays have shown there is no fracture, and at one stage he looked close to full fitness again, but he is still feeling some pain in his leg.

Thankfully, Marvin Johnson and Stuart Fraser are now well on the way to match fitness, both having returned to first team football in the game at Dagenham and Redbridge, and getting through the 90 minutes with no adverse reactions.

Bruce Sewell



Cherry Newbery

Club Secretary

SUPPORTERS at the last home game came up trumps for local charity again, when a bucket collection was held for the Pasque Hospice. Their community fundraising chairman, Jack Sapsworth, asks me to pass on his very grateful thanks for your generosity - £532.89 was raised for an organisation which provides a priceless local service.

At the same game you will have seen that the new scoreboard is now operational, and seems to be working well. As I said in my last column, teething problems were likely, and my thanks go to the scoreboard operator, Chris Lemare, for doing a very good job in overcoming most of them. The clock started at 45 and counted down, and we have now put that right. It will now show 00 minutes at kick-off and count up to 45. We cannot go beyond 45, incidentally, because of a Football League directive. We were disappointed not to get a home tie in the FA Cup, and please note that the game at Southend is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters. Please see page 10 for details of ticket arrangements for the match, and for a possible replay, on Tuesday November 27.

Speaking of tickets for away matches, our tremendous away support, very much appreciated by everyone at Kenilworth Road, means that some clubs we visit have problems accommodating our fans, and for that reason more and more away games are likely to be made all-ticket for Luton supporters. Again, details will always be given



JOYFUL BELLES: It was a pleasure at the last home game to welcome some of the youngsters who play for Luton Belles, the team who carry our colours in ladies football. They gave us a demonstration of their skills during the interval at the Swansea match, and very impressive they were.

in our ticket news bulletin in the programme. Our youth team was involved in a cup-tie this week, at home to Brentford on Tuesday, and because of that Wednesday's scheduled reserve fixture, also involving Brentford at Kenilworth Road, was postponed by mutual agreement. I will advise you of the new date as soon as it is arranged. Finally, another date for your diary: our fifth annual Christmas Carol Service will be held this year at Luton Parish Church on Monday December 17 (7.30pm). Players, staff and management will be attending, and all supporters will be very welcome, and you will not need a ticket to gain admission - just turn up on the night.

Cherry Newbery

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Ticket News

AXA FA Cup, First Round



Southend United v Luton Town

Saturday November 17, 2001, kick-off 3pm

Due to our exceptional away support, this match is ALL TICKET for Luton Town supporters.

Tickets are on sale now, until 6pm on Friday November 16.

Supporters should not travel without a ticket

Seat prices: Adults £10, senior citizens £5, children £1



If a replay is needed, it will be at Kenilworth Stadium on Tuesday November 27, kick-off 7.45pm.
Season ticket holders would have until close of business on November 23 to claim their seats.

Nationwide League Division Three



Luton Town v Hull City

Tuesday November 20, 2001, kick-off 7.45pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices

There is already a big demand for tickets for this game, and you are advised to buy early.

It is very unlikely that there will be any seats left to sell on cash turnstiles on the night.



Nationwide League Division Three



Macclesfield Town v Luton Town

Saturday November 24, 2001, kick-off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters, with none available on the day.

Prices: Seats £14 adults, £9 senior and junior citizens

Terracing: £10 adults, £6 senior and junior citizens.

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS WILL HAVE PRIORITY TO PURCHASE TICKETS FROM MONDAY 12TH TO SATURDAY 17TH NOVEMBER INCLUSIVE.



Nationwide League Division Three

Kidderminster Harriers v Luton Town

Saturday December 1, 2001, kick-off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters, with none available on the day.

Prices: Seats £13 adults, £9 senior and junior citizens

Terracing: £10 adults, £7 senior and junior citizens.

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Pre-Match Entertainment

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

6.45 Gates Open - music starts

7.00 Club mascot Happy Harry runs on the pitch.

7.10 HMV Album of the Week - THE VERY BEST OF THE CORRS.

7.15 The UK's No1 single - AFROMAN with BECAUSE I GOT HIGH

7.20 Team line up to be announced.

7.25 Dedications announced.

7.30 HMV Single of the Week - THE ALL STAR TRIBUTE with WHATS GOING ON.

7.35 Town Teaser - Check out page 46 for today's question

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

7.43 Final run down of the teams.

7.45 THE BIG KICK OFF

HALF TIME

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

8.40 Repeat of dedications.

8.45 Run down of half time scores from around the country.

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

9.35 FULL TIME

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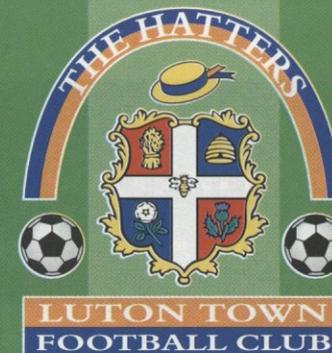
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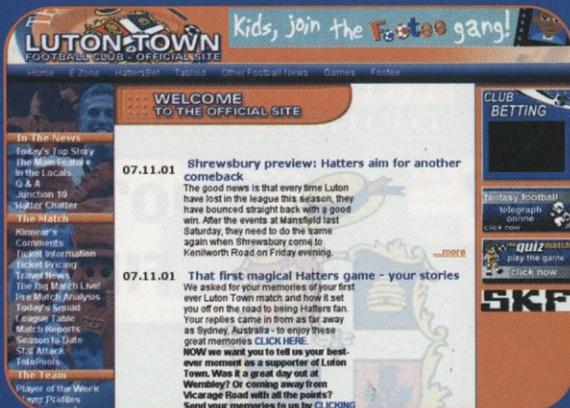
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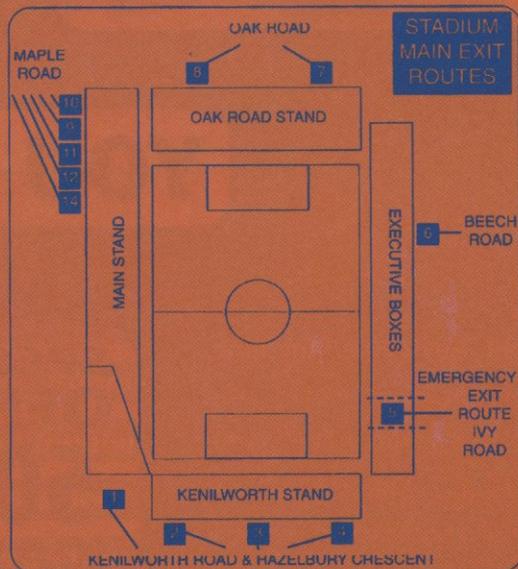


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In the event of evacuation from all or part of the stadium, you will receive instructions over the public address system on how you should leave. In an evacuation of the main stand you will be instructed to use the pitch. Stewards will direct you to 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.



Geoff Lovell, Safety Manager.

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Commercial Corner



Linda Layton

TONIGHT we welcome Regal Litho. Our match sponsor has been our programme printers for the past two seasons. Locally based in Selbourne Road, they are a complete printing service used to demanding deadlines. Telephone Alan Corkhill on 01582 493332 next time you need a quote or have any printing requirements.

Tonight's match ball sponsors are a family company which has flourished thanks to its emphasis on personal service. Don Bruce Bookmakers began way in 1928, with father and son Douglas and William Bruce opening a credit office in Charing Cross, with a string of pitches at racecourses and dog tracks across the country.

In 1960, when legislation allowed, Don Bruce, son of Douglas, opened his first betting shop, and the company has since grown to 11 shops around the Bushey and Ruislip areas, with further expansion plans in the pipeline

NINE-year-old Nico Shaddock enjoys his regular trips to Kenilworth Road, where he follows the family tradition of being a season ticket holder. But it will be an even more memorable experience than usual this evening, because he is our commercial mascot, which means he enjoys VIP treatment.

He will join the players in the dressing room before the game, and go onto the pitch with them for the formalities before kick-off. And it means he will be close to his favourite players, Jean-Louis Valois and Carl Griffiths. Nico lives at Pittman Gardens, Ilford, and goes to the Roding Primary School at Woodford Bridge, and comes to games with his dad, grand-dad, uncle and cousin James. When he is not cheering for the Town, he enjoys riding his bike and his PlayStation.



Nico Shaddock

Linda Layton



DETERMINED to celebrate yesterday's 30th birthday of Town fan Derek Phillips, his family are treating him to a surprise VIP night out in our executive lounges this evening. His dad, Graham, has been a fan since 1955, and took four-year-old Derek to his first game in October 1976. Naturally the little lad was hooked, and he too has been a supporter ever since.

Derek was a founder-member of the Junior Hatters Club, and was chosen as mascot when he was nine years old. He is going to be surprised this evening to see the picture of his moment of glory on Boxing Day, 1980, when he posed with Town skipper Paul Price and Chelsea captain Dennis Rofe before the Town beat the Pensioners 2-0. The ref was Alf Green, who used a 10p piece for the toss-up and gave it to young Derek as a keepsake. He still has it, firmly stuck in the match programme!

We hope he and his family and friends enjoy their evening at Kenilworth Road.

Golden Gamble

WHATEVER tonight's result, one supporter should go home feeling very happy, because once more a hefty wedge of cash is up for grabs in our Golden Gamble. So far this season we have paid out eight jackpots totalling £4,520, an average of £565 each. The prize depends on ticket sales. Half of each pound goes into the prize fund, and the other 50p goes to club funds, so we appreciate your support. Golden Gamble tickets are on sale in all parts of the ground, and the draw will be made at half time, with the cash handed over immediately.



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Welcome to Shrewsbury Town F.C.



The Manager



Kevin Ratcliff

Kevin led Shrewsbury to 15th position last season, his first full term in charge at Gay Meadow following his appointment as boss in November 1999. He had previously spent four years as Chester City manager where he did a good job under difficult financial circumstances.

Born in Mancot, North Wales, Kevin enjoyed a glorious playing career as the captain of Everton and Wales. Capped 59 times by his country, Kevin, a classy central defender, spent 14 years at Goodison Park and, under Howard Kendall, skippered Everton to two league titles, the FA Cup, European Cup Winners' Cup and four Charity Shields.

In Goal

No.1 Ian Dunbavin

Promising goalkeeper who has been in and out of the first team since arriving on a free transfer from Liverpool in January 2000.

Born in Huyton, Merseyside, Ian started his career at Anfield helping them to win the FA Youth Cup when his team mates included Michael Owen and Steven Gerrard. Ian made 21 appearances for Shrewsbury last season and will now be battling it out with Mark Cartwright for the No 1 spot.

No.21 Mark Cartwright

Signed as a replacement for long-serving keeper Paul Edwards in June 2001, Mark was snapped up on a free transfer from Third Division champions Brighton. Born in Chester, Mark's first club was York City where he understudied current Charlton keeper Dean Kiely. After a spell with Stockport, his league breakthrough came with Wrexham.

Tonight's Visitors



In Defence

No.2 Iain Jenkins

Northern Ireland international full back with five caps to his name recruited on a free transfer from Dundee Utd in July 2000.

Club captain Iain was Kevin Ratcliffe's boot boy at Everton and later played under the Shrewsbury manager at Chester.



No.3 Greg Rioch

Son of Bruce, the former Luton and Scotland midfielder, Greg joined Shrewsbury on a free transfer from Macclesfield in March 2001. He started his career with Luton and had spells with Barnet and Peterborough before three years with Hull City.

Greg, born in Sutton Coldfield, captained both Hull and Macclesfield and can play at left back or in midfield.

No.5 Matty Redmile

Bargain £30,000 signing from Notts County. Matt earned rave reviews after breaking through at County and soon

had the talent scouts flocking to Meadow Lane. In need of a new challenge, Matt jumped at the chance of moving to Shrewsbury and he has proved an inspired signing.

No.6 Andy Tretton

Consistent central defender signed on a free transfer from his home town club Derby County in December 1997. Andrew has been unfortunate with injuries, but his finest hour came when he captained Shrewsbury to dramatic league survival on the final day of the 1999-2000 season.

No.12 Peter Wilding

Reliable utility man who never lets down Shrewsbury, his home town club.

Peter had to wait until his late 20's to become a professional when he moved to the Gay Meadow from Conference neighbours Telford United for £10,000. Can play as sweeper, centre half or in midfield.

No.14 Leon Drysdale

A former youth team captain, Leon, born in Walsall, made his league debut at home to Rotherham in April 1999, but then spent more than a year in the reserves.

Kevin Ratcliffe is a big admirer of the determined youngster, who is more comfortable at right back but also performed well at the heart of the defence.



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Luton Town Football Club is delighted to announce the continuation of its ever-popular Kid a Quid Offer.

This offer will be available for the following home match:

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Saturday 22nd December 2001 Kick-off 3.00pm

This offer is subject to availability.

For further details contact the ticket office
on 01582 416976 or email: ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk

No.15 Kevin Seabury

Shrewsbury born Kevin joined the club straight from school and turned pro in 1992. A dependable performer, Kevin is closing in on 300 appearances. Most of his games have come at right back, but has played at centre half, midfield an even as emergency striker.

In Midfield

No.4 Jamie Tolley

Born in Ludlow, Jamie is the youngest player to ever line up in a senior game for the club - he was just 16 and 193 days when he came on as a sub against Oxford in the FA Cup in 1999. A classy midfielder, Jamie has not looked back since scoring at Cheltenham in only his second league start on Boxing Day last season. He ended the season as an international when he was called up to the Welsh Under-21 squad.

No.7 Karl Murray

Another product of Shrewsbury's flourishing youth policy, teenager Karl held down a regular spot in the side last season.

Born in Highbury, North London, Karl made his senior debut in a Worthington Cup tie at Sheffield United when he was aged only 17 and still an apprentice. A powerful, skillful player, Karl is a youngster for whom Shrewsbury have big hopes.



No.8 Mark Atkins

Best known from his days at Blackburn Rovers, utility man Mark, equally comfortable in midfield or defence, won a Premiership medal under Kenny Dalglish during his time at Ewood Park.

Doncaster born, Mark first played for Scunthorpe in 1986 before moving to Blackburn two years later. He eventually joined Wolves for £1 million before spells with York, Doncaster and Hull. Mark joined Shrewsbury on a free transfer in June 2001 and his experience should be vital.

No.11 Sam Aiston

Newcastle born winger signed from Sunderland for £50,000 in July 2000 following a successful loan spell at Gay Meadow.

A delight to watch when he runs at defenders, Sam will be hoping to improve his goalscoring record this term. He netted just twice last season, although one of them was arguably Shrewsbury's goal of the season, a stunning individual effort at Lincoln.

No.16 Steve Jagielka

Last season was Steve's best for Shrewsbury as he held down a more regular place in the side and scored five goals. Steve moved to Gay Meadow on a free transfer from Stoke City in July 1997 and has since been switched from a striker into a hard working wide player.

Born in Manchester, Steve's younger brother, Phil, plays for Sheffield United.

No.18 Josh Walker

The first of Shrewsbury's close season signings when he completed a free transfer switch from Manchester United in June 2001.

Elegant midfield player with good vision, Birmingham born Josh joined the Old Trafford staff direct from school and progressed to professional status, but then found his opportunities limited given the embarrassment of riches at the champions.

Up Front

No.9 Luke Rodgers

Diminutive centre forward who has been handed the No 9 shirt this season. Born in Birmingham, Luke is another of Shrewsbury's exciting home grown discoveries and really exploded on to the scene with a memorable hat-trick in a stunning 7-1 win at Rochdale last season. He closed the campaign with seven goals in thirteen starts, forming a good understanding with strike partner Nigel Jemson.

Strong and quick, defenders always know they have been in a game when they come up against Luke and, happily for Shrewsbury, he signed a new four year contract with the club during the close season.

No.10 Nigel Jemson

Signed on a free transfer from Oxford United in July 2000, Nigel enjoyed a successful first season with Shrewsbury and topped the scoring charts with 15 goals. He also took over the captaincy midway through the season which seemed to bring the best out of the experienced striker. Nigel has enjoyed a nomadic career and Shrewsbury is the thirteenth club he has played for.

Perhaps best remembered as a Brian Clough signing for Nottingham Forest, Nigel scored the winning goal for Forest in the 1990 League Cup Final, later joining Sheffield Wednesday for £800,000.

Once capped by England at Under-21 level, Lancastrian Nigel has also had spells with Preston, Bolton, Grimsby, Notts County, Watford, Coventry, Rotherham, Bury and Ayr.

No.17 Ryan Lowe

Up and coming Liverpoolian striker signed from Unibond League Burscough in July 2000 after hammering 34 goals in his last season for the Lancashire club.

He had to bide his time for his chance in the professional game but has adapted well and has a clever footballing brain.

He scored his first league goal during Shrewsbury's amazing 7-1 win at Rochdale and went on to find the net three more times in the closing weeks of the season as he became a regular.

No.19 Chris Freestone

Signed on a free transfer from Harlepool United in July 2000, Chris, a pacy striker, did not have the most successful first season at Gay Meadow and was placed on the transfer list.

Despite his work rate, Chris failed to score a league goal, although he did find the net in cup game against Preston and Cheltenham.

Born in Nottingham, Chris was a consistent marksman in the non-league game with Arnold until Bryan Robson took him to Middlesbrough.

A prolific scorer in Boro reserves, his first team chances were limited and he moved onto Northampton and then Hartlepool.

TOP PRIZES TO BE WON EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE COMPETITION

In addition to bringing you all the latest news and interviews direct from Kenilworth Road, ClubCall are offering you a chance to win one of four fabulous trips to see one of the top European clubs in action: Barcelona, Real Madrid, AC Milan or Juventus.

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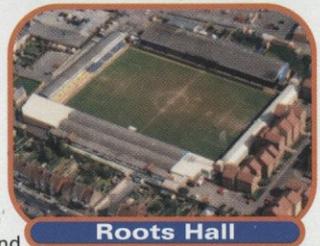
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Hatters Away

SOUTHEND are offering an executive box package for Town supporters on Saturday. They offer VIP hospitality for 10 guests, with car parking, hot and cold buffet, a pay bar and complimentary tea and coffee. The price is £250 plus VAT, and bookings can be made by phone to Brian Wheeler, head of marketing at Roots Hall, on 01702 304147.

DIY to Roots Hall
YOU CAN usually drive to Southend in an hour and a half comfortably, subject to the usual proviso about the motorways running smoothly, but parking in the side streets near the ground



Roots Hall

WE GO to Southend on Saturday for the FA Cup first round, and as usual the Bobbers Travel Club and Town on Tour will be offering coach travel to the game. The Bobbers cater for fans in outlying districts as well as those in Luton, and their service will leave Cranfield at 10.30, picking up at villages en route before an 11.30 departure from Kenilworth Road. The fare is £8.50, or £6 for pensioners and under-16s. Town on Tour is run by the Luton Town Supporters Club and its service will leave Maple Road at 12 noon. Fares are £10 for LTSC members, £9 for members who are senior or junior citizens, and £11 for others. If you are not a member of the Supporters Club, you can join when you book your seat, and claim the discount immediately.

can be a little difficult. Leave Luton on the M1 going south, and then take the M25 east through Hertfordshire and into Essex. Leave M25 at junction 29 to follow the A127 to Southend, 19 miles further on. Follow the signs towards the town centre, and you should pick up signs directing you towards the football ground. At a roundabout near a large Tesco the road turns right, and within half a mile, at the next roundabout, make a right turn, still on the A127 signposted to central Southend, and the ground is just ahead of you, on the right.

Mileage: 80

For all away games the Bobbers Travel Club and the Luton Town Supporters Club have kiosks in Kenilworth Road where seats can be booked on match days. At other times Town on Tour sell through the club shop in Kenilworth Road, while Bobbers bookings can be made by ringing Paul Deason on 01234 750996. The Town on Tour mobile for out of office hours is 07960 567465.

Run For The Hatters

THE SEARCH is on for a fit and brave Luton Town fan to carry our colours in the Flora London Marathon, which will be run on Sunday April 14, 2002. We need a supporter willing to slog round the streets of London to represent the club in the Football Challenge. It is part of the main race, which attracts many more entries than the 30,000 who can be accommodated. Each club in the Football League is guaranteed an entry, and today we invite offers from supporters prepared to run in the race in Luton Town colours. The Flora London Marathon awards a trophy to the first football club runner from each division to cross the finish line after just over 26 gruelling miles, and a prize for the first female runner. Please think carefully before volunteering: we don't expect you to challenge the world records, but the marathon entails serious hard work in preparation as well as on the day itself.

It is also, of course, designed to raise money for worthy charities, and the club will do what it can to help its runner raise sponsorship cash. We have a proud record in the London marathon - every one of our runners has completed the course, including, last year, 42-year-old housewife and mother Lynda Smith. If you would like to represent us next spring, and believe you have a realistic chance of going the distance, please write, telling us a little about yourself, your age, your occupation, your athletics experience and how long you have been supporting Luton Town. Please also tell us what charity you wish to nominate for your sponsorship, and why. Letters can be sent to the Programme Editor, at Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton LU4 8AW, or by e-mail to brian.swain@btinternet.com



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Top Hatter Dean Crowe



Born: Stockport, 6.6.79

Joined Luton: September 2001 from Stoke City

Good at school? Not at lessons, but I was good at sport, and won the sportsman of the year prize, and I knew I was going to be a footballer. I went to Manchester United when I was 11 after playing for my town and Greater Manchester schoolboy teams. But there were too many kids at United - we played 20-a-side games. Stoke took an interest, and they impressed my mum and dad so I went there at 14.

What brought you to Luton? Changes at Stoke! I was very happy there, and signed as a pro for Brian Little. I scored nine goals in 17 games, but then a new manager came in and I never got another league start. He was from Iceland, and brought in his own players. I knew I had to get away for the good of my career. Luton, Oxford and a couple of clubs in Holland were interested. I came here to play trial games, and immediately felt it was the right club for me. The lads in the dressing room are different class, and made me feel very welcome. The manager is brilliant, and Mick Harford is top class as a coach. It's hard to explain how happy I am at Luton after the nightmare of my last two years at Stoke.

How do you relax? I like to play a bit of tennis in the summer, and I like watching football - most weekends I watch my two brothers playing local Sunday league football - they were both YTS boys at professional clubs, but it never worked out for them, which makes me realise how lucky I have been to achieve my ambition. I like to be with the family, and to relax at home - I have got my own bungalow - and I love working on my garden.

Greatest pleasure in football: I walking out on Saturday afternoon to hear the crowd's welcome before kick-off, and to know that so many people have paid good money to watch us do what we enjoy. I think about that a lot - it makes you aware of your responsibilities to everyone, including the supporters.

Life after football: It's not something I worry about - at present I am enjoying being a footballer so much. My family are all Manchester City fans, and I will be back there with them as a supporter when my playing days are over.

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Roger Wash

All our **yesterdays**

Taming of the Shrews

After winning 3-1 at Norwich over Christmas 1981 the Hatters found themselves sitting proud at

the top of the old Division Two, seven points clear of the next side with two games in hand.

During the game at Carrow Road we scored three times in the opening minutes in as devastating a spell of football you would wish to see and this was seen as a culmination to a brilliant first half to a season which had seen us in record breaking form. Unfortunately, bad weather then set in and it was to be over three weeks before another league game was played and in a frantic contest played on a sea of mud at the Valley we fought out a 0-0 draw with Charlton in a less than convincing performance.

We followed this up with a 2-1 home win over Leicester in front of the 'Match of the Day' cameras and then went to Sheffield Wednesday where the home side, using brute force and dubious tactics, were only seconds away from gaining a valuable 'scalp' when Brian Stein stepped up to secure a point with an equaliser we barely deserved.

The free flowing football which had been our trademark in the period leading up to Christmas was no longer in evidence and was creating a few worries behind the scenes as the chasing pack began to close the gap.

Another draw followed, this time at the home of our nearest challengers, Watford, and although Stein was running rings around the Hornets defence all afternoon he could not conjure up that vital winning goal against the old enemy.

Oldham were seen off at Kenilworth Road, but the game was made easier for us when future Hatter, Darron McDonough, was sent off for a bad foul on Lil Fuccillo.

Cambridge then came to Kenilworth Road and from the kick-off seemed set for a draw, employing a ten man defence which we did not seem able to break down. As the game wore on we were becoming increasingly desperate and it took a wonder strike from skipper Brian Horton, with his first league goal for the club, to settle the issue with 20 minutes to go.

There then followed our worst spell of the campaign, with a string of five games without a win, culminating in the loss of top spot to Watford. A dull 0-0 draw at bottom of the table Grimsby was

followed by the end of a run of nine straight home victories when lowly Wrexham came away from Kenilworth Road with a point in another 0-0 score bore.

We were beginning to sense the alarm bells ringing after we went down 3-4 at windswept Barnsley for our first defeat of the year, and our nerves were really jangling when we were pulled back from a leading 3-2 position at Crystal Palace by a late equaliser.

The 0-0 draw at Derby, the following week, signalled the end of our run at the top and the prophets of doom on the terraces were predicting a collapse of mammoth proportions.

Luckily this seemed to be the kick up the backside the players needed and three days later we regained pole position after seeing off Orient at Kenilworth Road. All was then set fair when we beat a physical Blackburn side at home the following Saturday to open up a lead again.

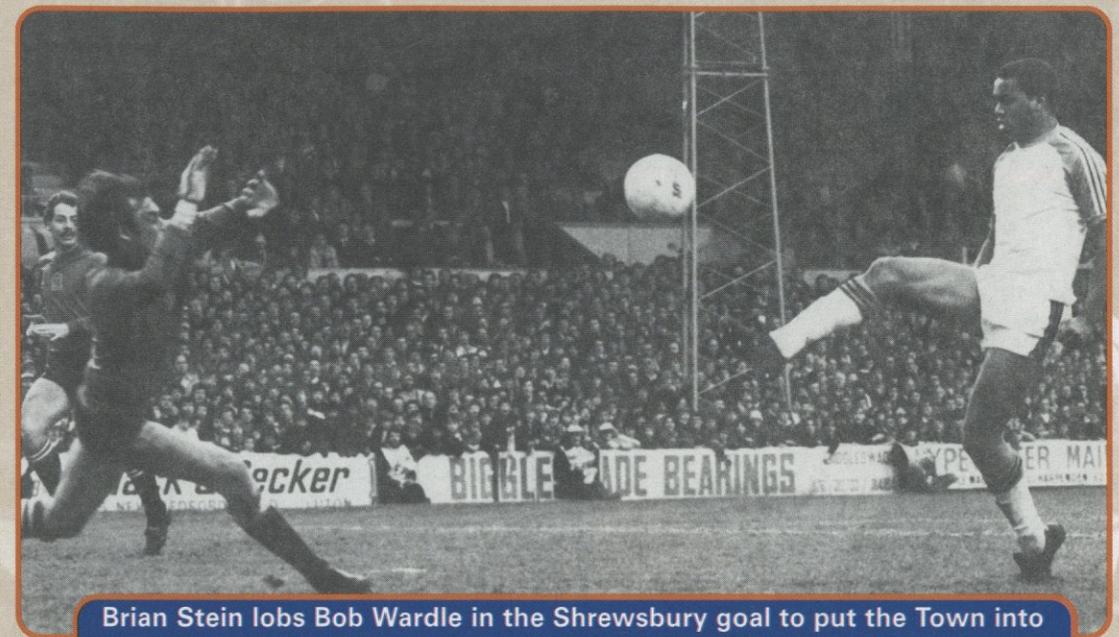
Over 4,000 Luton supporters made the short trip to Cambridge on Easter Saturday to witness a tense 1-1 draw before Norwich, on the crest of a wave, visited Kenilworth Road on the Monday and did everything but score in a one sided first half.

The interval team talk, which went along the lines that the Canaries could not play any better in the second period, proved to be true as goals from Brian Stein and on-loan Billy Jennings settled the issue.

In a terrific game at Kenilworth Road, Newcastle took a 2-0 lead before Brian Stein stepped up to win the match for us, scoring a hat-trick, including two of the poorest penalties ever seen on this ground! Next in line were Chelsea who pulled in a crowd of 16,185 to Kenilworth Road and were fortunate to escape with a point from a 2-2 draw, as we laid siege on their goal for almost the whole of the match.

Despite the loss of two points we were still pulling away from the pack and promotion was looking an increasing certainty.

Our visit to Rotherham was seen as a tough test as the Millers had enjoyed a terrific second half to the season, and were seeking a first ever promotion to Division One. The match was petering out to a 2-2 draw when Rotherham were awarded a dubious penalty which was well saved by reserve goalkeeper, Alan Judge- effectively ending the Miller's pro-



Brian Stein lobs Bob Wardle in the Shrewsbury goal to put the Town into the lead during the promotion clinching win in April 1982.

motion challenge.

When the dust had settled, it could be seen that a win over struggling Shrewsbury at Kenilworth Road the following Friday evening would clinch promotion back to the top flight.

A tense crowd of 14,563 gathered to watch and transmitted their anxiety on to the pitch, where it became obvious that the Shrews were hoping for a point.

Nerves were settled for a while when Brian Stein latched on to a route one clearance from goalkeeper Jake Findlay in the 14th minute to cleverly lob the Town into the lead.

The Hatters, however, failed to control the midfield and stuttered through the rest of the first half with-

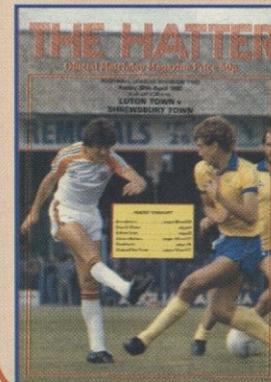
out playing any of the free flowing football that had brought them to the gates of promotion.

Hearts sank when Ian Atkins, with just about the Shrew's only real attack of the game, equalised on the hour with a brilliant volley, but when Raddy Antic was brought on a few minutes later we started to look a team again.

It is now written in Kenilworth Road folklore as to how Ricky Hill ended the stalemate with a volley, after a corner was headed to him by Mal Donaghy in the 78th minute, and with the floodgates now open goals from Steve White and David Moss secured a flattering victory. But did we care? We were up!

Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages



Manager, David Pleat, in his column stated that he hated to tempt providence but then went on to do just that by thanking everyone for their efforts as the Town looked set to return to the top flight.

Elsewhere in the programme much was made of the Town's performance at Rotherham and the point saving exploits of reserve goalkeeper, Alan Judge. Indeed Judge was featured in the 'Spotlight' article where he was predicted to have a long and happy career although it was to be at Reading, Oxford and Hereford rather than Kenilworth Road.

A feature running that campaign was entitled 'Programme Corner' and the Shrewsbury issue included a piece on the forthcoming F.A.Cup final where it was predicted that the price of the programme could well reach the £1 mark!

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Happy Harry

Junior Hatters

AFTER a good day out at Mansfield, it is, unfortunately, impossible for us to run a Junior Hatters outing to Southend for the cup-tie on Saturday. It is a case of circumstances beyond our control.

However, we are planning to go to our next away game, at Macclesfield in a fortnight's time, on November 24, and that should be an enjoyable trip.

We enjoyed our last visit to the Moss Rose Ground, and Macclesfield are promising that their welcome will be just as warm this time. The price will be the usual bargain: £10 for Junior Hatters, and £13 for others.

You can book in the club shop, which is also the place to visit for other information about the Junior Hatters. The club is for all supporters of Luton Town aged 0-16, and subsidised travel to away games is just one of the many benefits Junior Hatters enjoy.

Happy Harry



HOME AND AWAY: Junior Hatters enjoy their football all over the country, thanks to the trips the club organises. The picture above was taken at the last home game, against Swansea, when Ian James Robinson was our mascot. Matthew and Allen Bridgeman were the commercial mascots.

Left is the moment when it was third time lucky for Charles Day, our mascot at Mansfield. He was chosen for the game at York, but missed out because traffic jams made us late, and was then due to do the honours at Scunthorpe, when our coach failed to turn up.



Tonight's Mascot

CAMERON Carter will enjoy his visit to Kenilworth Road even more than usual this evening, because he has been chosen as Junior Hatters mascot, which means he meets his heroes in the dressing room, and goes out with them onto the pitch for the warm-up, kick-about and toss of the coin.

Aged eight, he lives at Heywood



Drive, Luton, and attends Moorlands School. He comes to games with his dad, and watches from the Kenilworth, and when he is not watching the Town his other sporting love is cricket.

Our ball boys are Ricky Allsop, from Heathfield Close, Caddington, and Oliver Groom, from Queen Street, Pitstone

If you would like to join the Junior Hatters,
call the Club Shop on:

01582 411622

In a League of its own



You've probably heard that the ITV Sport Channel shows a lot of live football. 80 live Nationwide Football League games, 15 Worthington Cup ties and 40 UEFA Champions League matches per season to be precise. But do you know what else is on offer for the Nationwide fan? Here's just a taste:

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FOOTBALL FOOTBALL

2nd

3rd

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Action Replay

Dagenham & Redbridge 3 Luton Town 2 (after extra time)

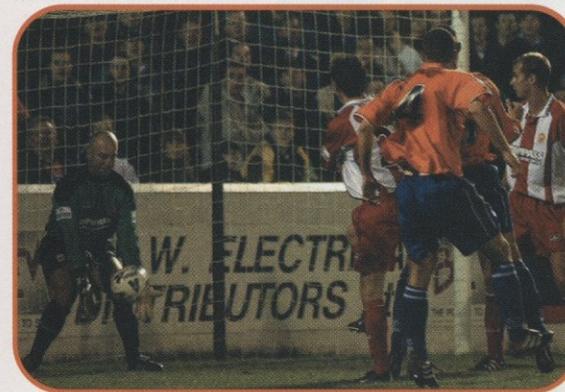
THERE was very little for fans or players to enjoy about a disappointing contest won by the Conference leaders by a golden goal after the Town had fought back from behind to take the lead with 22 minutes remaining. Joe Kinnear rested the team that had started the match against Swansea a few days earlier, and invited his reserves to stake their claims for places in the league squad.

He was bitterly disappointed that no-one forced himself into contention. Rob Gillman, 17, promoted from the youth team, did well on his senior debut, and Dean Brennan scored and earned himself a call-up to the squad which travelled to Mansfield.

Otherwise, it was a tale of a team promising plenty and achieving little, with the inability to convert chances, allied to some poor defending, leading to

an unhappy first experience of the golden goal rule. Dagenham were up for it, although they rested the Conference's top goal-scorers, veterans Mark Stein and Ken Charlery - like the Town promotion is a far more important prize than a run in the LDV. And at least one player had a little personal satisfaction - Stuart Fraser completed the 90 minutes successfully, in his first appearance in the first team since breaking his leg in January.

Otherwise, there was little to enthuse over - the Town often looked the better footballing side, but cavalier football that leaves space at the back is not a lot of good if you don't stick away your chances. It wasn't even that their goalkeeper had a blinder - he didn't need to as shots and headers flew wide of the target more often than not.



BRIEF DELIGHT: The moment when the Town took the lead, with Dagenham keeper Paul Gothard allowing the ball to squeeze through his legs from header by Peter Thomson, who is hidden from view by Andrew Fotiadis.

Match Details

Luton Town: Ovendale, Fraser, Dryden, Gillman, Johnson, George, Mansell (Stirling 89 mins), Holmes, Brennan, Fotiadis, Thomson.

Unused subs: Ward, Murphy, O'Leary, Osborn.

Booked: Peter Holmes, dissent; Lee Mansell, foul.

Dagenham & Redbridge: Gothard, Rooney, Goodwin, Smith, Vickers; McGavin (Broom 77 mins), Hill, Terry, Hayzelden (Janney 77 mins), McDougald (Lock 80 mins), Shipp

Booked: Danny Hill, foul.

The Goals: Steve McGavin for Dagenham, 50

mins, 25-yard free kick; Dean Brennan for the Town, 56 mins, 18-yard drive from a pass played back from the right by-line by Liam George; Peter Thomson for the Town, 68 mins, header through the goalkeeper's legs from a right wing cross by George; Paul Terry for Dagenham, 76 mins, spinning shot in off the bar; Ashley Vickers, golden goal winner for Dagenham, three minutes into extra time, close-range gift after Mark Ovendale dropped a free kick by Terry.

Referee: David Crick, Surrey.

Attendance: 2,433, including 330 Town fans

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Action Replay



Luton Town 3 Swansea City 0 (HT 1-0)

THE reputation Luton Town are earning as one of the best teams in the Third Division might have played a part in the fifth home win of the season, with Swansea boss Colin Addison quietly pleased to go home without suffering greater humiliation.

One of the most experienced managers in the game, he has a lot on his plate at The Vetch, with a struggling team, no money to invest on desperately-needed reinforcements, and under orders to cut the wages bill. His team never looked like causing an upset at Kenilworth Road, with the Town a class ahead in every department. Addison said: "Luton are a magnificent team, without doubt the best we have played this season. We were second best all over the field against a very talented side - we were out-classed on the day, and I know we have a few problems to sort out."

That thinking presumably led to his decision on the use of subs: he started with five at the back, and all three subs sent on were defenders. It seemed that he wanted to avoid a pasting, rather than put on an extra striker and go for broke. You got the feeling he felt a 3-0 defeat was acceptable, and that his comments on the Town's supremacy were designed to prevent any bigger loss of confidence among his under-pressure players.

For Joe Kinnear, the only worry was that it was no more than a one-goal lead at the interval. No matter who are the opposition, he said, a single-goal lead can always be wiped out by a slice of luck at a set piece, or a silly mistake in defence.

But once the second goal went in, he added, he knew it was going to be another win, and even the loss of Dean Crowe, with an ankle injury in the first half, did not hamper the flow of good attacking. Adrian Forbes replaced him, and celebrated, for the third time this season, by getting off the bench and scoring.

Crowe had expertly put away his fifth goal in five games in the 23rd minute, on a day when he might have had a hat-trick.

Jean-Louis Valois caught the eye, as usual, with Matthew Spring enjoying the freedom to support the attack, and as the Town boss said: "We played very well, and Swansea were chasing shadows. We kept possession well, defended well, and the only surprise was that we didn't have more goals to show for our efforts. We stuck three in, but it could have been a lot more."

Russ Perrett netted the second goal, and Steve Howard, Ahmet Brkovic and Chris Coyne all went close, while Valois was unlucky with a 20-yarder which came back off a post. Goalkeeper Roger Freestone was as good as anyone in the Swansea team, another illustration of how one-sided the game was. And that despite an enforced team change. With Matthew Taylor suspended, Aaron Skelton returned after injury at right back, with Ian Hillier switching to the left and the rearguard was much too strong for the occasional threats Swansea posed.

Match Details

Luton Town: Emberson; Skelton, Perrett, Coyne, Hillier; Brkovic, Spring, Nicholls, Valois; Howard (Fotiadis 82 mins), Crowe (Forbes 35 mins).

Unused subs: Holmes, Dryden, Owendale

Booked: No-one.

Swansea City: Freestone; Phillips, Sharp (Smith 73 mins), Bound, Todd, Howard; Casey (Watkin HT), Cusack, Coates (Lacey 59 mins), Williams, Tyson.

Unused subs: Mumford, Jones.

Booked: No-one.

The Goals: 1-0 23 mins: Dean Crowe, running

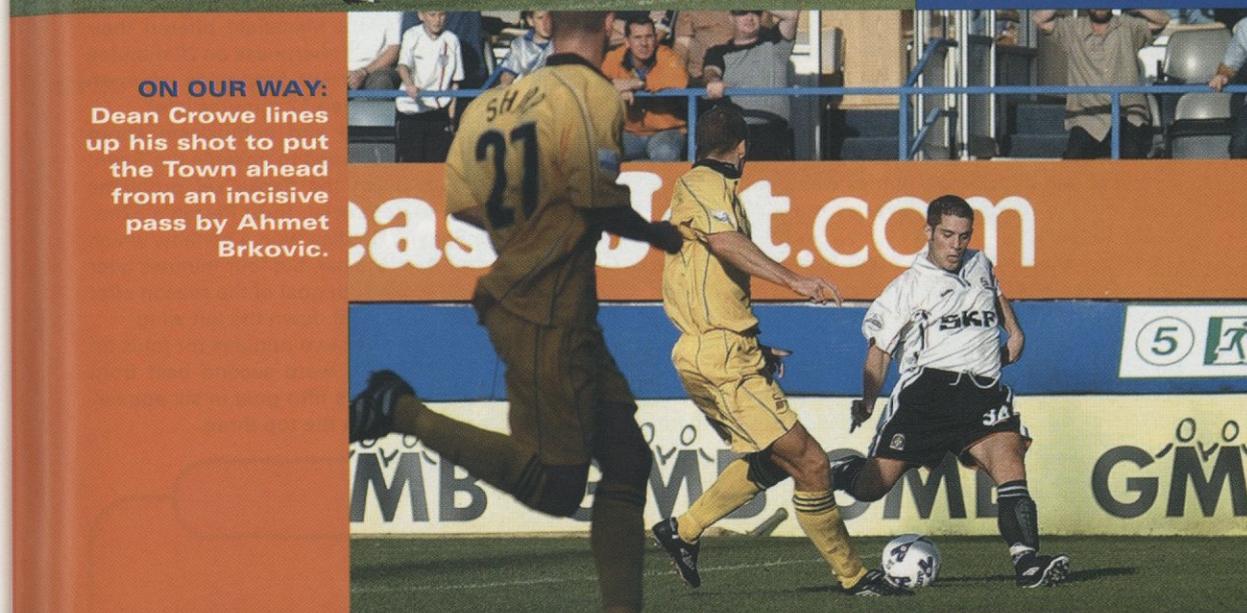
into space to take a pass by Ahmet Brkovic in the inside left channel, and despatching the shot expertly as the goalkeeper advanced; 2-0 55 mins: Russ Perrett, delicate deflection after Jean-Louis Valois whipped in a diagonal low ball following a short corner routine between him and Matthew Spring; 3-0 61 mins - Adrian Forbes, close range header after more good work by the Valois/Spring combination, with Spring chipping in the final pass..

Referee: Paul Durkin, Dorset - the best we have seen here this season.

Attendance: 6,705, with 395 in the away end.



SUPER-SUB: Adrian Forbes finds space to leap in ahead of Matthew Bound to score the third goal, and his third of the season.



ON OUR WAY: Dean Crowe lines up his shot to put the Town ahead from an incisive pass by Ahmet Brkovic.



GOAL-HUNGRY: Steve Howard puts on the pressure, with Jean-Louis Valois in support. Matthew Bound is the defender.

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Action Replay



Mansfield Town 4 Luton Town 1 (HT 1-0)

A STRIKER Joe Kinnear would like to add to his Kenilworth Road squad underlined his worth by spearheading Mansfield's victory charge against a disappointing Town side at Field Mill. Chris Greenacre should have had a hat-trick, but missed a penalty between his two sharply-taken goals. No-one from Mansfield was complaining as they took their chance to close the gap on the promotion-chasers. Being reduced to ten men after 62 minutes was no help to the Town's cause, but by then they were already two down, and very much out of sorts. The goals machine could not get into gear, and uncharacteristically poor defending was punished with a touch of ruthlessness missing from the Town's attacking performance.

Referee David Pugh earned no praise from either side, with Mansfield's afternoon losing a little of its shine when he sent off two of their players in the last couple of minutes. Eleven entries went into his black book, but the game was never as malicious as that might suggest.

On a day when more than 2,000 Town fans went to see their team make a bid to return to the leadership, we were left, in the words of Joe Kinnear "very disappointed."

He added: "It was a game where both defences were very vulnerable. Mansfield took their chances, and we had as many as they did, but failed to take them,

and some of our defending left a lot to be desired. "I thought we should have been two up before they scored, but Greenacre's finishing was head and shoulders above anyone else. We are a better side than what you have seen today, but too many individual performances were not good enough."

In the opening exchanges there was no sign that the Town were about to suffer their worst league defeat since Lil Fuccillo's side was beaten 4-1 at Reading last December. Dean Crowe cracked a volley at the keeper in the first minute, Matt Spring had a drive deflected for a corner and Aaron Skelton had a shot saved. All that was before Mansfield offered their first threat, but Greenacre's sharpness on 20 minutes gave them the lead and Crowe fired wide when an equaliser should have arrived 12 minutes later.

There was an exuberance and enthusiasm about Mansfield's play which seemed to unsettle the Town, and direct running down the flanks set problems which turned out to be crucial. Russ Perrett's 52nd-minute trip on Shayne Bradley won a penalty, which Greenacre blazed over the bar, but four minutes later he helped himself to his 13th goal of the season after Skelton had been by-passed down the left wing.

Coyne was booked twice in two minutes for fouls on Bradley, and the ten men were second best from then on, with Dean Crowe's fifth goal in six appearances too late to keep us in the top three.

Match Details

Luton Town: Emberson; Skelton, Coyne, Perrett, Taylor; Brkovic (Hillier 64 mins), Spring, Nicholls, Valois (Forbes 58 mins); Howard, Crowe.

Unused subs: Ovendale, Dryden, Holmes

Sent off: Chris Coyne, for yellow-card fouls on Shayne Bradley on 59 and 61 minutes.

Booked: Kevin Nicholls, Adrian Forbes, Steve Howard, Russ Perrett, Matthew Spring and Ian Hillier, all for fouls.

Mansfield: Pilkington; Hassell, Barrett, Robinson, Pemberton; Lawrence (Jervis 89 mins), Williamson, Disley, Corden; Greenacre (White 81 mins), Bradley.

Unused subs: Bingham, Bacon, Reddington.

Booked: Goalkeeper Kevin Pilkington for retaliation after a foul by Forbes.

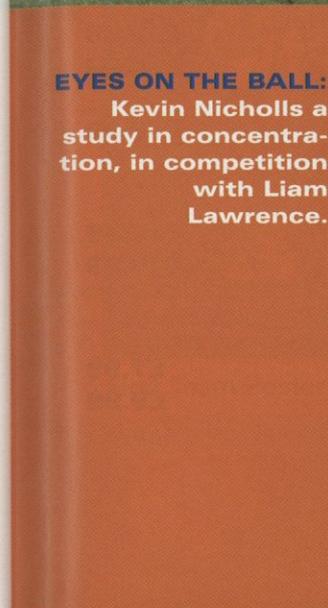
The Goals: 1-0 20 mins - Liam Lawrence got down the right wing and crossed for Chris Greenacre to shoot in after Carl Emberson parried his header; 2-0 56 mins - Greenacre again, poaching from close range from left wing cross by Wayne Corden; 3-0 63 mins - Martin Pemberton, direct from 20-yard free kick awarded when Russ Perrett was sent off for a foul on Shayne Bradley; 4-0 80 mins - Bradley, individual effort cutting in from the right wing and scoring from an acute angle; 4-1 85 mins - Dean Crowe, close range shot after Steve Howard's back heel set up Matt Taylor to deliver the low cross from the left.

Referee: David Pugh, Wirral.

Attendance: 5,973 including 2,166 Town fans.



BATTLING: Dean Crowe in a tight confrontation with Mansfield centre-back Adam Barrett



EYES ON THE BALL: Kevin Nicholls a study in concentration, in competition with Liam Lawrence.



NO WAY THROUGH: Chris Coyne and Dean Crowe looking for a breakthrough, with Steve Howard also in there, but half-hidden from the camera's view.



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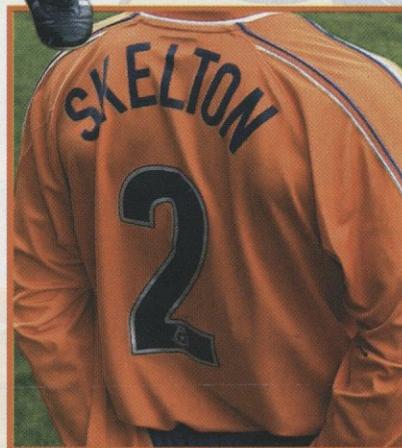
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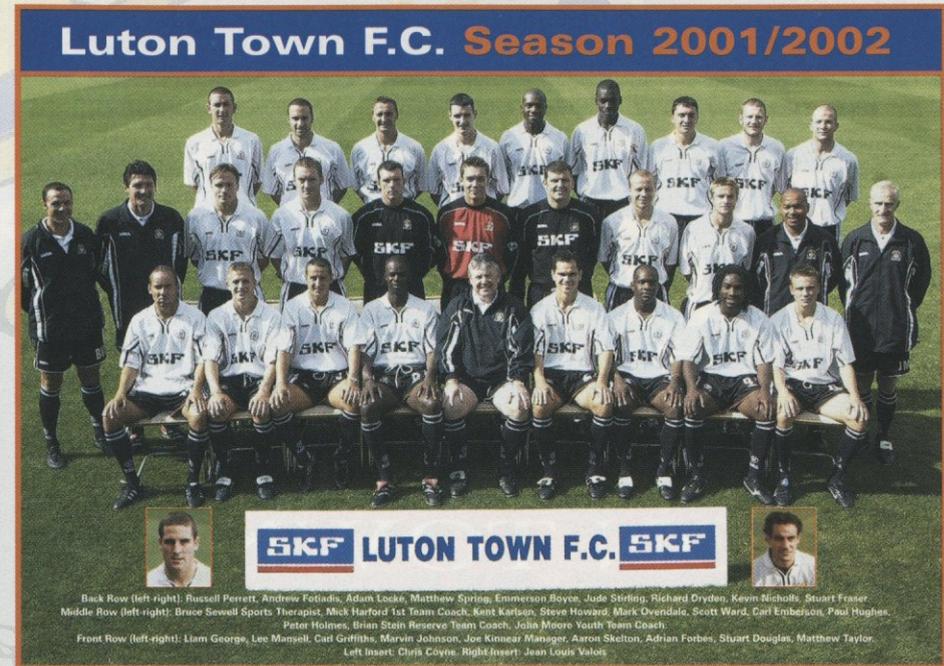
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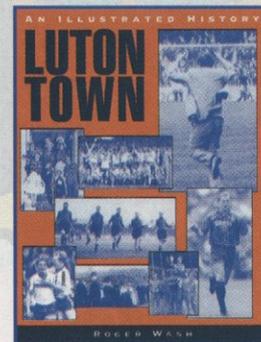
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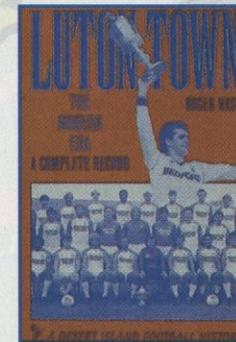
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Youth Soccer



John Moore

**Football League Youth Alliance
Peterborough 0
Luton Town 3**

PERHAPS the only disappointment in a deserved victory at Peterborough was that we did not add more goals than the three we netted in the first half. We were on song, especially in the first 45 minutes, and created a lot of chances in both halves.

John Carroll gave us a lead inside the first minute with a powerful long-range drive, and it was good to see certain players working harder than of late, particularly the attackers. Matthew Judge scored two well-taken goals, and at the interval I asked that we made sure we kept a clean sheet. Perhaps mentally we turned off a bit, but we were strong at the back, and on the day Peterborough were lucky not to suffer a heavier defeat.

Luton Town: Brill, Dogbe, Carroll, O'Leary, Davies, Gillman, Foley, Judge, Dillon, Osborn, Okai.

**FL Youth Alliance Cup
Luton Town 2 Southend Utd 0**

TWO UP in the first ten minutes, too many players then turned off, perhaps thinking it was all too easy, and possibly having Tuesday's big FA Youth Cup game in mind. The goals were well taken, Chris Dillon going through to beat the keeper in a one-on-one, and Matt Judge netting with an overhead kick.

**Football League Youth Alliance
Results and Fixtures**

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

After that the game was disappointing. Southend offered no real threat - Dean Brill had only one real save to make in the 90 minutes - and we were able to take off a couple of seniors after 35 minutes to use boys who would be available for Tuesday's under-18 cup-tie. We gave a debut to Richard Mansell, whose brother has already done well after starting with us at the same level.

Luton Town: Brill, Dogbe (Howells 35 mins), Carroll (Okai 35 mins), Foley, Davies, Gillman, Jeffrey, Judge, Dillon, Osborn, Mansell (Barnett 69 mins).

**AXA FA Youth Cup, second round
Luton Town 0 Brentford 2**

WE DID not play well enough to make further progress in the FA Youth Cup, and I was very disappointed with our performance. Our group was not strong enough on the night, and did not have the character to affect the result after Brentford scored twice in the first half-hour.

Football is not just about ability - spirit, desire, character and attitude all come into it as well, and on those grounds we were short of what is required.

No-one played up to their best, while Brentford were big and strong. We didn't get going until after they had scored twice. A foul by Curtis Davies gave them a penalty from which they took the lead on 15 minutes, and the second goal came when we were slow to react to a set piece routine from a corner.

We had a few chances to get back into the game in the second half, but apart from a couple of scrambles we did not look like scoring. One goal might have given us a lift, but we could not get it, and Brentford deserved to go through. Our players need to look hard at themselves, and learn lessons about what must be done to earn success in football.

Luton Town: Brill, Howells (Barnett 60 mins), Foley, O'Leary, Davies (Deeney 83 mins), Gillman, Jeffrey, Judge, Dillon, Osborn, Okai.

Appearances (as sub in brackets): Okai 10(2), Osborn 10(2), Gillman 10(1), Carroll 9(1), Jeffrey 9(1), O'Leary 9, Foley 8(4), Dillon 8(2), Davies 8(1), Judge 7(3), Dogbe 7(1), Leary 7, Murphy 7, Chatfield 6, Bruce 5(1), Brill 5, Howells 3(1), Barnett 1(2), R. Mansell 1, Beckwith 1, Shire 1, Deeney 0(1), Burrell 0(1).

Goals: Judge 6, Osborn 4(1p), Murphy 4, Davies 3, Leary 1, Carroll 2, Dillon 2, Gillman 1, Jeffrey 1, Foley 1, O'Leary 1.

WE RETURN to Football League Youth Alliance football tomorrow, with a home fixture against Notts County at Luton Rugby Club, Newlands Road, Farley Hill, with an 11 am kick-off. Admission is free, and spectators are welcome.



OUR reserves have had another blank week in the Avon Insurance Combination, but the regular column by Brian Stein will be in the next matchday magazine. On Wednesday his team are at home to Bristol City, with a 2pm kick-off at Kenilworth Road.

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

Average Attendances

	2000	4000	6000	8000	10000
Bristol Rovers					7,490
Carlisle					3,109
Cheltenham					3,548
Darlington					4,223
Exeter					3,534
Halifax					2,073
Hartlepool					3,543
Hull					9,770
Kidderminster					2,823
Orient					4,894
Lincoln					2,964
Luton					6,561
Macclesfield					1,987
Mansfield					4,402
Oxford					6,156
Plymouth					5,063
Rochdale					3,420
Rushden					4,367
Scunthorpe					3,431
Shrewsbury					3,652
Southend					4,041
Swansea					3,747
Torquay					2,504
York					2,715

Goals - When Scored

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

Form Guide: Home & Away

Home Form	most recent results to left	Away Form
LLDDW	Bristol Rovers	DLDDL
DWWDW	Carlisle	DDLLL
DDWWW	Cheltenham	LDLWL
LLDWW	Darlington	LDDL
WWWDD	Exeter	DLWLL
DLDDD	Halifax	DLLLW
WLWWD	Hartlepool	LWLLL
WDWWW	Hull	LWDDL
WWDL	Kidderminster	LWDL
WLLLW	Orient	LDWLD
DWLWL	Lincoln	DLWLD
WLWWD	Luton	LWWLW
DLLL	Macclesfield	LWDLW
WWLWW	Mansfield	LWLDL
DDLDW	Oxford	WLDDL
WWWWW	Plymouth	WWDDW
WDDWW	Rochdale	LWWLL
WDWWD	Rushden	DWDDD
WWLWD	Scunthorpe	DWDDD
WDLWD	Shrewsbury	LWLDL
WWLWD	Southend	LLLL
DWLLD	Swansea	LWLD
WWWWD	Torquay	LLLWL
WWLDL	York	DLLWD

Third Division Scene



Brian Swain

THE PAIN of losing at Mansfield, which knocked the Town off the top of the table and down to fourth place, was eased by a real tonic on Tuesday evening - without kicking a ball we were elevated back into the third automatic promotion place. It was all about goals. On Saturday our goal difference took a knock as four were conceded for the first time this season in the league. Hull City, won 5-1 at home to Cheltenham, and for the first time their goal difference figure, at plus 17, was one better than ours. It edged them above us in the table, and put us out of the top three for the first time since mid-September. Hull also had a game in hand, and as that was away to bottom club Hartlepool on Tuesday, must have fancied their chances of going second. Instead, Hartlepool did us, as well as themselves, a huge favour with a 4-0 win, which put Hull below us again. It was only their second defeat of the season, the other being 4-2 at Mansfield. Hull are our next visitors, on Tuesday week. Plymouth Argyle are still the surprise packets, and our defeat at Home Park looks less embarrassing as the weeks roll by: Plymouth lost their first two home games of the season, but have since gone 14 without defeat. Paul Sturrock was manager of the month again, his second consecutive award, for an October record showing five

wins and no losses or draws, and Plymouth kicked off November with their sixth home win of the season, although it was only 1-0 against Hartlepool. Rochdale remain second after a 2-0 home win over Torquay. Their sub when they won at Kenilworth Road was a little bundle of energy named Kevin Townson, and the 18-year-old is now a regular in the starting line-up. He got both goals at Spotland, taking his tally to ten, six of them in the last four games. But the promotion-chasers seemed likely to be dealt a blow this week, with First Division Barnsley trying to prise away Spotland boss Steve Parkin to be manager at Oakwell. Surprise packets for all the wrong reasons are Bristol Rovers, well fancied by the bookies at the start of the season to accompany us straight back into the Second Division at the first attempt. It's not looking too likely now, despite their win over us in August, when they were in the top three. They are now 15th after ten games without a win, and only one goal in their last seven league outings. Shrewsbury, by contrast, have failed to score in only two of their 17 league games so far, and look for a win this evening to cement their place in the play-off zone. They were held to a 1-1 draw at home by Lincoln on Saturday, but it was not a bad result because they were down to ten men for more than an hour. Mick Heathcote gave them an early lead, but goalkeeper Mark Cartwright - once the Wrexham keeper Lennie Lawrence tried to sign for the Town - was sent off for a 26th-minute foul on Dave Cameron, which led to Lincoln's penalty equaliser. Sub goalkeeper Ian Dunbavin kept out everything else after the spot kick. On Tuesday evening Shrewsbury were comfortable 3-0 home winners over Darlington, to move up into sixth place. They bring a decent away record with them: three wins, two draws and three defeats. The victories were at Plymouth, Oxford and Leyton Orient, while draws were achieved at Bristol Rovers and Swansea. The defeats came at Mansfield, Scunthorpe and Torquay.

Brian Swain

Nationwide League Division Three

	HOME					AWAY				
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A
Plymouth	17	6	0	2	14 5	5	4	0	13	6 37
Rochdale	17	5	4	0	16 6	5	0	3	11	11 34
Luton Town	17	5	2	1	19 7	5	1	3	19	15 33
Hull City	17	7	2	0	21 5	2	4	2	10	13 33
Mansfield	17	7	1	1	21 10	2	3	3	8	11 31
Shrewsbury	17	5	2	2	16 10	3	2	3	12	12 28
Scunthorpe	17	4	3	2	14 9	2	4	2	13	10 25
Rushden & D	17	3	3	2	11 9	2	5	2	7	6 23
Cheltenham	17	3	4	1	15 11	2	3	4	9	14 22
L. Orient	17	4	1	3	15 13	2	3	4	9	15 22
York	17	4	1	3	9 8	2	2	5	14	21 21
Torquay	17	5	1	2	9 8	1	2	6	5	15 21
Darlington	17	4	2	2	12 4	1	3	5	9	18 20
Southend	17	5	1	2	14 8	1	1	7	5	14 20
Bristol Rovers	17	3	3	2	10 10	2	2	5	4	9 20
Kidderminster	17	4	4	1	9 4	1	1	6	3	13 20
Exeter	17	4	3	3	13 16	1	2	4	7	16 20
Lincoln	17	3	2	3	9 7	1	5	3	8	11 19
Oxford	17	2	3	4	10 12	2	4	2	7	6 19
Hartlepool	17	3	2	3	13 7	2	1	6	5	10 18
Swansea	17	2	4	3	11 11	2	1	5	11	18 17
Carlisle	17	3	3	2	7 7	0	4	5	8	15 16
Macclesfield	17	1	4	4	7 11	2	3	3	5	8 16
Halifax	17	1	6	2	6 9	2	1	5	5	14 15

Tonight's other Third Division fixtures

Cheltenham v Plymouth
Southend v Macclesfield
York v Scunthorpe

Tomorrow

Bristol Rovers v Rochdale
Carlisle v Mansfield
Darlington v Oxford
Hartlepool v Exeter
Leyton Orient v Kidderminster
Lincoln v Hull
Rushden & Diamonds v Halifax
Torquay v Swansea

Records

- Highest Gate 10,755 Hull
- v Plymouth
- Lowest Gate 1,356 Macclesfield v Hartlepool
- Highest Agg Score Luton.....5
- Darlington.....2
- Macclesfield...4
- Scunthorpe...3
- Biggest Home Win Mansfield.....4
- Darlington.....4
- Exeter.....0
- Hull.....4
- York.....0
- Luton.....5
- Torquay.....1
- Mansfield.....4
- Macclesfield...0
- Shrewsbury...4
- Kidderminster.0
- Hull.....5
- Cheltenham...1
- Hartlepool...4
- Hull.....0
- Biggest Away Win Exeter.....0
- Scunthorpe...4
- Consec. Wins Plymouth.....5
- Games Unbeaten Plymouth.....14
- Consec. Defeats Rushden, Orient, Darlington.....4
- Winless Run Bristol Rovers, Halifax.....9

Clubs' top scorer & the points their goals have won

see key below	Leading Scorer	GS	Sc1	Sc2	HT	Gms	Gls/Gm	Pts	Run
York	Michael Proctor	7	5	1	0	17	0.41	11	2
Hull	Gary Alexander	11	7	2	0	16	0.69	10	4
Shrewsbury	Luke Rodgers	13	8	1	1	17	0.76	9	4
Mansfield	Chris Greenacre	11	9	1	0	16	0.69	8	4
Carlisle	Ritchie Foran	6	6	0	0	13	0.46	7	3
Torquay	David Graham	4	4	0	0	17	0.24	7	1
Plymouth	David Frio	6	6	0	0	15	0.40	6	2
Cheltenham	Julian Alsop	7	3	2	0	15	0.47	5	2
Macclesfield	Lee Glover	7	5	1	0	17	0.41	5	2
Exeter	Chris Roberts	6	4	1	0	16	0.38	5	2
Luton	Carl Griffiths	7	4	0	1	10	0.70	4	2
Darlington	Barry Conlon	4	4	0	0	17	0.24	4	1
Halifax	Paul Harsley	4	2	1	0	17	0.24	4	1
Southend	Kevin Maher	3	1	1	0	14	0.21	4	1
Bristol Rovers	Kevin Gall	3	3	0	0	17	0.18	4	2
Rochdale	Kevin Townson	7	3	2	0	15	0.47	3	3
Scunthorpe	Martin Carruthers	7	5	1	0	16	0.44	2	2
Oxford	Jamie Brooks	5	3	1	0	11	0.45	2	1
Lincoln	Lee Thorpe	5	3	1	0	12	0.42	2	1
Orient	Jeff Minton	4	4	0	0	16	0.25	2	2
Swansea	Jonathan Coates	3	1	1	0	16	0.19	2	1
Hartlepool	Gordon Watson	6	3	0	1	10	0.60	1	2
Rushden	Duane Darby	5	1	2	0	10	0.50	0	2
Kidderminster	Drewe Broughton	3	1	1	0	13	0.23	0	1

Biggest Wins & Heaviest Defeats

Club	Win -vs.	Defeat -vs.
Bristol Rov	3-2 Luton	1-3 Orient
Carlisle	2-1 York	1-3 Hartlepool
Cheltenham	3-1 Exeter	1-5 Hull
Darlington	4-0 Exeter	2-5 Luton
Exeter	3-2 Oxf, York	0-4 Scun, Darl
Halifax	2-0 Swansea	1-4 Southend
Hartlepool	4-0 Hull	0-2 Hart, Linc
Hull	5-1 Cheltenham	0-4 Hartlepool
Kidderminster	4-1 York	0-4 Shrewsbury
Orient	4-2 Rochdale	1-4 Scunthorpe
Lincoln	3-0 Swansea	1-3 York
Luton	5-1 Torquay	1-4 Mansfield
Macclesfield	2-0 Oxf, Bstl R	0-4 Mansfield
Mansfield	4-0 Macclesfield	0-3 Plymouth
Oxford	2-0 Hfx, Sthnd	0-2 Macclesfield
Plymouth	3-0 Hfx, Mnfld	1-2 Rochdale
Rochdale	3-1 Mansfield	2-4 Orient
Rushden	3-1 Mansfield	2-3 Plym, Oxf
Scunthorpe	4-0 Exeter	0-2 Luton
Shrewsbury	4-0 Kidderminster	1-3 Hart, Scun
Southend	4-1 Halifax	0-2 vs 3 clubs
Swansea	4-2 Exeter	0-3 Linc, Lutn
Torquay	2-1 vs 5 clubs	1-5 Luton
York	3-0 Torquay	0-4 Hull

Numbers

PU	CS	FS
26	5	8
30	5	6
23	5	3
23	5	6
28	4	5
19	7	10
24	4	8
23	7	4
24	7	9
28	4	3
19	6	4
30	4	1
23	6	10
21	5	4
23	5	6
19	9	4
25	7	2
29	9	7
24	7	5
21	6	2
22	5	6
26	4	7
31	3	9
25	4	4

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

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

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Tonight's Squads

Luton Town

<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark Ovendale	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Aaron Skelton	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Matthew Spring	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	Russell Perrett	5
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marvin Johnson	6
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adrian Forbes	7
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Nicholls	8
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carl Griffiths	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Liam George	11
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Coyne	12
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stuart Fraser	13
<input type="checkbox"/>	Andrew Fotiadis	14
<input type="checkbox"/>	Matthew Taylor	15
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carl Emberson	16
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emmerson Boyce	17
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adam Locke	18
<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Howard	19
<input type="checkbox"/>	Peter Holmes	20
<input type="checkbox"/>	Richard Dryden	21
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dean Brennan	22
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jude Stirling	23
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scott Ward	24
<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Hughes	27
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jean Louis Valois	28
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lee Mansell	32
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ian Hillier	33
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dean Crowe	34
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ahmet Brkovic	35

Shrewsbury Town

1	Ian Dunbavin	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Iain Jenkins	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Greg Rioch	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Jamie Tolley	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Matty Redmile	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Andy Tretton	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Karl Murray	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Mark Atkins	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Luke Rodgers	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Nigel Jemson	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Sam Aiston	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Peter Wilding	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Leon Drysdale	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Kevin Seabury	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Steve Jagielka	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Ryan Lowe	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Josh Walker	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Chris Freestone	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Mark Cartwright	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Darren Moss	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Mick Heathcote	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Chris Murphy	<input type="checkbox"/>

tick if playing tick if substitute

Tonight's Officials

Referee: Fraser Stretton, Leicestershire

Assistants: Darren Cann, Norfolk (red flag); Russell Evans, Kent (yellow and red flag)

Fourth Official: Phil Sharp, Hertfordshire

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