

Luton Town Football Club



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FOOTBALL CLUB

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**Official Matchday
Magazine**

**Luton
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v
Plymouth
Argyle**

**Saturday
February 2,
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Official Matchday Magazine

Editor

Brian Swain

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Regal Litho Ltd

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Gareth Owen

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

Front Cover



BRIEF DELIGHT: Steve Howard takes the applause after putting the Town ahead at Darlington last week, with Ahmet Brkovic also enjoying the moment. It went wrong after that: see report and more pictures on pages 44 & 45.

Inside Forward

THE search for additions to the Town squad goes on, and this week left back Phil Hardy was the latest to come in as a trialist. The manager is looking for natural left-footers because of the possibility that Matt Taylor could be leaving the club, having attracted interest from higher levels of football and being in a position to leave at the end of the season if he does not agree a new contract.

Hardy, 28, is a former Republic of Ireland under-21 international, who made his name at Wrexham, for whom he played 442 games, before moving to Port Vale last summer.

Vale manager Brian Horton has agreed to let him leave on a free transfer, and Hardy played for the Town reserves at Brentford on Wednesday. They were beaten 2-0 in a game they dominated without taking chances to score a hatful of goals. Adam Locke was sent off just before the interval for two yellow card offences, with coach Brian Stein wondering if either were fouls, let alone worth cautions. Hardy showed a good left foot and a footballing brain, and is hoping that the Town will take him on, probably on loan to start with.

Meanwhile, striker Peter Thomson's chequered Luton career is over: his contract was terminated this week by mutual consent, leaving him free to seek employment elsewhere.

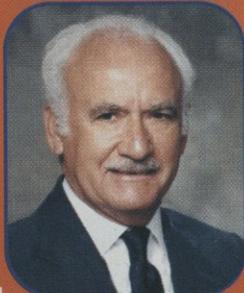
International Call-up

TWO players have gone out on loan: Stuart Douglas has joined Rushden & Diamonds under a two-month agreement and reserve defender Joe Bruce has gone to Wingate and Finchley for a month.

Meanwhile, youth team midfielder Steven O'Leary is in line for international honours. He attended a Republic of Ireland youth training camp during the Christmas break, and this week was selected for the Irish under-17 squad which is to play two friendlies against the Czech Republic in Dublin next week. The games are part of the preparation for the Irish team's participation in the under-17 European Championships qualifying rounds next month.

LIKE all football lovers, Town chairman Mike Watson-Challis is concerned about the unfavourable publicity the game has been attracting recently because of bad behaviour in grounds, and he asks for your support in ensuring we have no problems at Kenilworth Road. He said: "We have worked hard to make Luton Town a family club, with a good atmosphere, and thankfully, our supporters have responded. We are always concerned that a small minority can harm the good name of any club, as has happened elsewhere in recent weeks, and I appeal to all our supporters to help us make sure there are no problems in our ground.

"If there are, we as a club will do everything possible to see the culprits punished, in the courts, and through bans on their future attendance at matches. We have a good reputation at Luton Town, and we want to maintain it. Please helps us to do so, and if you do see any bad behaviour in the ground, please identify those responsible to a steward or police officer. We have a lot going for us at Luton Town at present, and I am sure all genuine football fans will agree that no-one should be allowed to damage our good name."



TOP HATTER: Joe Kinnear, the Third Division Manager of the Month for December, received his award at the last home game, presented by John Baker, Nationwide's regional co-ordinator.

THE TOWN have accepted with good grace a Football League punishment for not playing at Kidderminster on December 1. Manager Joe Kinnear thought we should have been exonerated completely because we had 24 players unavailable through illness or injury, and he had made strenuous efforts to sign replacement players at short notice.

The League felt that the Town should have gone to Aggborough with whatever team they could muster, including youth players, and the Town were fined £20,000 for not fulfilling the fixture, and ordered to pay Kidderminster £10,000 to cover their costs following the postponement the day before the game.

The League has wide powers in such cases and could have taken points off the Town as well, but after an all-day hearing League spokesman John Nagle said: "The panel felt a fine rather than a points deduction was the most appropriate penalty in the circumstances."

The Town manager said: "I was disappointed that we were found guilty, but we broke a regulation by not fielding a team, and the tribunal's decision was probably the right result. If we had gone up there with a team mainly of youth players I think it would have done a dis-service to the rest of the teams in the league."

WELCOME to a new and bigger matchday magazine. The changes have enabled us to include more articles, and we welcome letters or e-mails on any issue that interests supporters. Today's contents include: Joe Kinnear's column - P 5; Dressing room view by the club captain - P 7; Latest from the treatment room - P 8; From the Secretary's office: P 9; News of the reserves - P 49; Youth team latest - P 51; Schools of Excellence news - P 39; Picture and profile of Ahmet Brkovic - P 28/9; Junior Hatters - P 41; Supporters Club news P 37; Reports and pictures of the Carlisle and Darlington games: P 42/45; Football in the Community: P 31; Latest ticket office news: P 11; Blast from the Past: P 22/23; Hatters Abroad P 27; The Road to Rochdale: P 33; Battle for promotion: P 53; Town Teaser P 40.



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The Manager



Joe Kinnear

I WOULD imagine that supporters, like everyone within the club, have been looking forward to today's game even more than usual as we entertain a team who have proved to be the best title contenders so far this season. Plymouth have put together a tremendous sequence of results, but as you know I have set out our target simply enough: we, too, want the championship as well as promotion. Today's result may go a long way towards deciding the issue, although of course there are still a lot more points to play before between now and the season's final whistle, so whoever wins this afternoon, neither team will take anything for granted. Today is the start of a very important month, the first of five games in 25 days, and by the end of February we should have a very fair idea of our prospects. They include games against Rochdale and Scunthorpe, both currently in the play-off places, trying to join us and Plymouth in the top three. We were beaten at Plymouth early in the season in a match which left us all very disappointed: we took the lead, but could not hold on to it after Plymouth were reduced to ten men. It was one of those days when we had enough of the game to have got a point at least, but all the possession in the world is no good if you don't turn it into goals. We were reminded of that again at Darlington, when our eight-game unbeaten run came to an end in very disappointing fashion. We should have been much more professional at both ends of the park. The attack failed to cash in when we created chances, but even so, at 2-1 up with under ten minutes to play, any team with promotion aspirations should be capable of completing the job. To concede an equaliser was a blow, and then to see Darlington nick a late winner was diabolical. As always, we have taken a long look at the video, to highlight the reasons for defeat. It was not, of course, our first-choice defence,

with David Bayliss suspended and Russ Perrett having to go off injured early in the second half. Chris Coyne and Marvin Johnson, who would have been in the frame to deputise for Bayliss, were both ruled out by injury, and we suffered a cruel reminder that we must have a very strong bench if we are to maintain our promotion charge.

We will not go overboard about our first defeat this year. Until we went to Darlington, the players had all done very well to get over the shambles of the Macclesfield defeat, way back in November. They proved they have a hunger for success, and eight games without defeat was a good response to that reverse at the Moss Rose.

Now we must prove it all over again, and this afternoon's test is the ideal examination of our credentials. Promotion and championship bids depend on consistency, and in particular a good home record. We have been beaten only twice on our own park this season, but that's enough. The league table shows that Plymouth have lost only twice on their travels, and no doubt they too do not want to see that figure get any larger.

For both teams, there is every incentive to pull out all the stops for a result. Plymouth have come up with a system that makes them very hard to play against, and their seven-point lead over us proves they are currently the team to beat. They will be saying something similar about us. We want to win to close the gap. They will fancy three points to extend it. They are likely to bring a good crowd with them, and we know that our supporters are also in good heart and good voice. The scene is set for a real cracker of a match. I hope it lives up to expectations, knowing that if we hit our true form we can get the result we want.

Keep the faith, and enjoy the game.

Joe Kinnear

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Marvin Johnson

Club Captain

THERE has been a cracking atmosphere around Kenilworth Road this week, with the dressing room feeling that we are ready

to put things right in our biggest game of the season.

We have not enjoyed the recent blips, taking only one point from the last two games when we knew it could, and should, have been six. It is strange to think that only a fortnight ago we were looking for a home win for the chance to go top of the table, a point clear of Plymouth. We fluffed it against Carlisle, and suddenly, after losing at Darlington last week, we find ourselves seven points behind today's visitors.

I suspect they will come to Kenilworth Road believing that they are playing for the championship. If they go ten points clear, it sets us a monumental task if we are to beat them to the title - and the championship is what we all want.

I only wish I was in line for a place in the squad, but I have cracked a bone in my ankle, so this afternoon it will be a case of sitting in the stand, kicking every ball mentally, and shouting the lads on.

Obviously we will have to rediscover our scoring touch. Plymouth have easily the best defensive record in the division, 21 goals conceded in 29 games. We, however, have the best attacking record by some way, and I hope we have put a few goals in the bank, to be cashed in today, after the dodgy results against Carlisle and Darlington.

What was so disappointing about both of those games was that we had enough possession, and enough scoring opportunities, to have won each match comfortably. But chances have to be put away, and we failed on that score and must put it right today.

We also have a team capable of defending well, but at Darlington we missed David Bayliss, and suffered another blow when Russ

Perrett had to go off. While I wish I was in the back four in the first team, I can't help but agree that at present Russ and Bales have been looking excellent as a central defensive pairing, and I hope both are playing this afternoon.

We know we will have to be at our best, because this is a massive game, with so much at stake for both teams. Plymouth are enjoying an unbelievable season, and all credit to them for topping the table for so long.

We go into the match, as we always do under the gaffer, trying to win. From day one, his philosophy has been to try to win every game, home or away. Other managers have been known to pick out matches where they have told us that avoiding defeat is the priority. Today's Luton Town team instructions never vary on one thing: there are no negative feelings allowed, and always we must try to win.

That is especially true of today's game, and we all of us know how important it is if we are to achieve our ambitions. The gaffer wants the championship, and so do we. I don't think any of us in the dressing room have any winners' medals - the nearest I got was when I was in the squad for the 1988 Littlewoods Cup final, but did not make it into the team. At 33, I am not going to get too many more chances, so I figure it is important to do the business this season.

There is a hunger and desire for success throughout the dressing room, and none of us has any doubts about how important it is to get a good result today. We also appreciate how supporters feel: like me, a lot of you have waited too long to see Luton Town collect a football prize. Hopefully, this is our year - and a nice win against Plymouth will help us. I hope we get it, for our sakes and for yours, and I am sure a packed house will add to the atmosphere and help to spur on the lads.

Marvin Johnson

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phone **01582 411622** and ask for the Club Shop



Bruce Sewell

Treatment Room

UNLUCKY Marvin Johnson is back in the treatment room with another injury, an ankle problem which is causing him discomfort. It

could be a slightly cracked bone: an X-ray examination was not decisive, so he is to have a bone scan which should give us a positive diagnosis. When we have the result of that I will have a better idea of how long he will be out, but at present he cannot play.

There is better news for Russ Perrett. He came off early in the second half at Darlington with a hamstring strain, and his experience and professionalism has stood him in good stead. Because he recognised the symptoms early, it ensured that it was only a minor problem - it would have been worse if he had stayed on the field longer. He was back in training by Thursday, and looking well set to be available this afternoon.

Peter Holmes is also doing well, and is working towards match fitness, having returned to training this week following his ankle and knee

injuries.

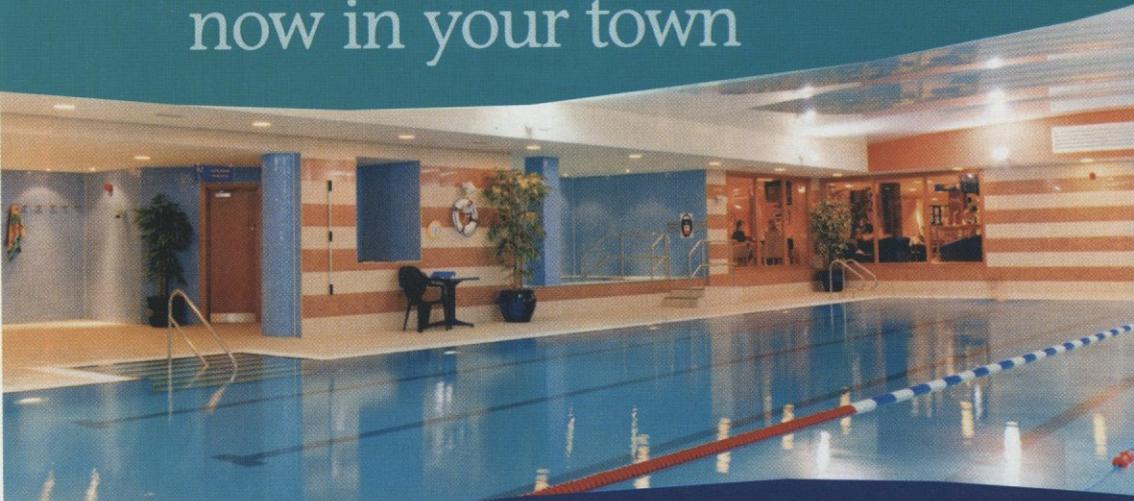
Chris Coyne, however, has had to slow down his training programme after his latest specialist examination. His knee ligament damage is healing nicely, but this week there was still some inflammation of the joint, so we were working to reduce that before committing him to any increase in his training work rate.

Carl Griffiths is feeling a lot more cheerful now as he continues to work towards recovery after his broken leg. He is progressing slowly but surely, and while he is not yet able to do any running, he is working hard on overall fitness, still swimming regularly, walking, and working in the gym.

He has learned all about the need to be patient, having been out of action since September, but at least there is now light at the end of the tunnel. I hope that he will be able to step up his training work within the next week or two, and he is doing everything we ask of him, happy to know that he has a chance of returning to football before the end of the season.

Bruce Sewell

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Cherry Newbery

Club Secretary

FIRST today I want to send, on behalf of all of us at Luton Town, congratulations and best wishes to our club chaplain the Rev Catherine Bell.

Today she marries Anthony Moss, a long-time Luton supporter and season ticket holder, in her own church, St. Mary's, Luton Parish Church. We cannot believe they are getting married on a home match day, but we wish them every happiness for the future.

This column was going to include an explanation of the ifs and buts surrounding our home match with Bristol Rovers, which has been postponed twice because of their continued interest in the FA Cup. It is a little complicated, so the information is set out below in as simple a form as we could devise.

I have to pass on a request - and a warning - to supporters who park in the Ashburnham Road area on match days. We have received complaints from residents of Rowan Close that supporters are using their private car park, and blocking in residents' cars. Please consider the residents wherever you park, and be aware that we understand a clamping system is likely to be introduced in Rowan Close.

Having heard some comments about the stretcher party that goes onto the pitch when players are injured, I felt you should know a little more about them.

They are all fully trained in handling and carrying stretchers, as required by the Health and Safety regulations. They are not allowed to go onto the pitch until instructed to do so by the referee, and must await his signal. They are not allowed to run across the pitch, in case they slip and injure themselves, or get out of breath by the time they need to carry off the casualty. Carrying a patient on a stretcher on a greasy surface is no easy task, and great care is needed.

Our stretcher parties have always carried out their duties extremely well, and we are indebted to them for their continued assistance.

Talking of assistance, we are looking for some more. On match days, we have vacancies for stewards for our sponsors' lounge and a stadium cleaner to work after matches. We also have three part-time vacancies: for an in-house cleaner, a laundry assistant, and a catering assistant. Anyone interested can reach me on Luton 411622.

Finally, today, for those wanting to book summer holidays, the Football League has announced that next season will begin on Saturday August 10, with the last game of the season being played on May 3, 2003. Before then, the club has accepted an invitation to play in a tournament on the Isle of Man. Full details are not yet known, but other league clubs will be taking part in a competition lasting for a week, starting on July 21.

Cherry Newbery



Nationwide League Division Three

Luton Town v Bristol Rovers

This match, scheduled for Tuesday February 5 is postponed because Bristol Rovers are playing Gillingham in the FA Cup that evening.



If Bristol Rovers lose at Gillingham, the Luton v Bristol Rovers match will be played on Tuesday February 19, kick-off 7.45pm

If Bristol Rovers beat Gillingham, the Luton v Bristol Rovers match will be played on Tuesday March 19, kick-off 7.45pm

If Bristol Rovers draw at Gillingham, the Luton v Bristol Rovers match will be played on Tuesday March 26, kick-off 7.45pm

Tickets bought for the original date will be valid for the match, whenever it is played

You can e-mail Cherry Newbery on:

clubsec@lutontown.co.uk

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Ticket News

Nationwide League Division Three



Luton Town v Bristol Rovers

This match has been postponed from Tuesday February 5
See announcement on page 9.



Nationwide League Division Three



Rochdale v Luton Town

Saturday February 9, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match is pay on the day only for Luton supporters,
with no tickets available from Kenilworth Road.
Prices: £13 adults, £7 senior and junior citizens



Nationwide League Division Three



Luton Town v Scunthorpe Utd

Saturday February 16, 2002, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are on sale at normal match day prices
Cash turnstiles will be available on the day, subject to availability,
but please note there are NO CONCESSIONS on cash turnstiles.



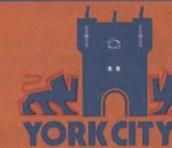
Nationwide League Division Three



Luton Town v York City

Saturday February 23, 2002, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are on sale at normal match day prices
Cash turnstiles will be available on the day, subject to availability,
but please note there are NO CONCESSIONS on cash turnstiles.



Nationwide League Division Three



Lincoln City v Luton Town

Tuesday February 26, 2002, kick-off 7.45pm

This match is pay on the day only for Luton supporters,
with no tickets available from Kenilworth Road.
Prices: £12 adults, £8 senior citizens and students, £4 juniors.



Nationwide League Division Three



Rushden & Diamonds v Luton Town

Saturday March 9, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters, with none available on the day
Tickets are now on sale to season ticket holders on production of
Cup Voucher A (subject to availability).

Season ticket holders have until Friday March 1 2002 to claim their tickets.
Any remaining tickets will go on general sale on Saturday March 2 at 9am
Prices: £11 adults, £6 senior citizens and under-16s, £3 under-12s accompanied by an adult



Nationwide League Division Three



Hull City v Luton Town

Saturday April 6, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters, with none available on the day
Postal applications only are being accepted from season ticket holders, with Cup Voucher B,
one ticket per voucher. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope, and send to:
The Ticket Office, Kenilworth Road, Luton, Beds, LU1 1DH, marking the envelope clearly 64
Prices: Terracing: £12 adults, £6 concessions.

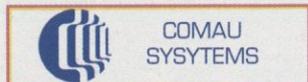
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01582 411622

Luton Belles

THIS week's headlines go to the Under-10 Belles for their tremendous semi-final performance and 6-0 victory over local rivals Watford.

Luton took the lead midway through the first half when Lauren Bruton blasted home a penalty, but Watford responded well and it took some fine saves from Sian Hall to maintain the lead.

Just before half time Yasmin Hickling struck a dipping shot from way out which somehow found its way into the net to give the Belles a 2-0 lead.

The match was played in driving rain throughout, but this did not stop Luton playing some of their best football of the season and Lauren Bruton added to her first-half goal with a second-half hat-trick and the win was sealed with a sixth from Jasmine Hall.

A 2-0 win over Harpenden Colts, with goals from Jade McEntaggart and Lauren Bruton, the week before means the girls have now won 10 of their 11 matches so far this season.

The Under-12 squad turned on the style to reach their cup final as well, with an 8-0 away win against Brickhill Wanderers.

On target were Nicola Shepherd and Alice Burbury to add to braces from Emma

Wells, Natalie Burchnall and Chloe Fensome.

It was this squad's tenth straight win, having previously defeated Kempston WE 6-1, courtesy of a Nicola Shepherd hat-trick and further strikes from Natasha Owens, Chloe Fensome and Natalie Burchnall.

The women's team ran up their third straight win and notched their first league double of the season, against Newport Pagnell.

Luton began well and took an early lead when Rhiannon Morgan crossed for Kim Hide to fire into the bottom corner of the net. Amy Gray then struck the post from a free kick, but the home side equalised on the break just before half time.

This spurred Luton into a non-stop second-half attacking performance, and they were rewarded when centre forward Stacey Connell volleyed in another cross from Rhiannon Morgan to regain the lead. Louise Evans rammed home a third two minutes later and a 4-1 win was secured when Rhiannon Morgan rounded the keeper to score herself. This victory lifts the Belles into fifth place, with a number of games in hand following their early season cup exploits.

Russia on line

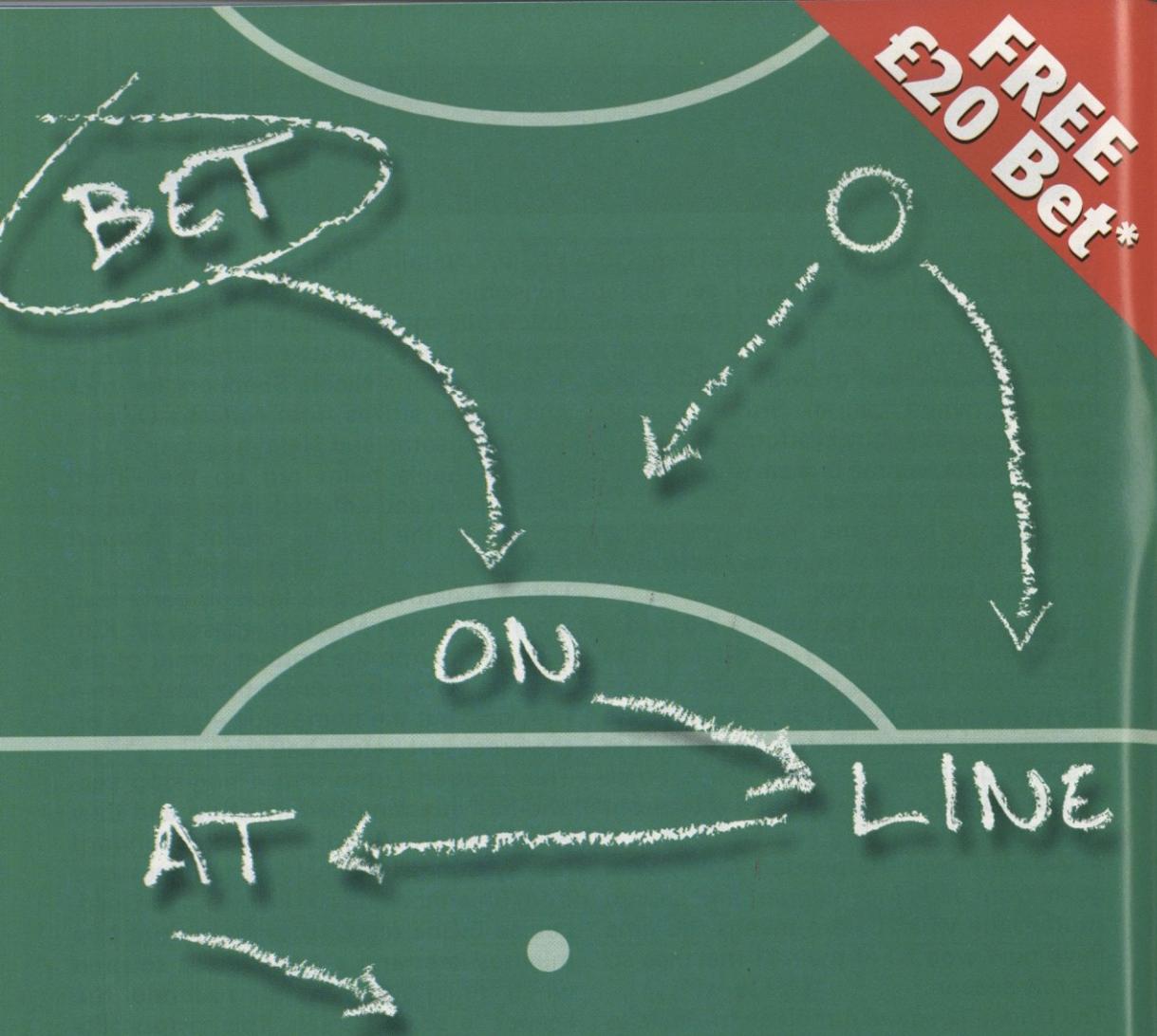
THE wonders of e-mail have brought a plea from a Russian football fan who wants to make friends with a Luton Town supporter, with a view to swapping memorabilia. The details as we received them: "My name is Pavel, 28 years old, live in city S. Petersburg. I am a supporter of my local team, Zenit (S. Petersburg). Me also like FC Luton Town. I have hobby: this collection football souvenirs about FC Luton

Town and enamel badges any English FC. In exchange I can offer football or ice hockey souvenirs, shirts, scarves, badges, pennants, programmes European Cups, stamps, cards, Soviet Army badges. I hope you help me to find new friends. I wait answer on e-mail at pshalaev@mail.ru and post address: Pavel Shalaev, ul.Hasanskaya 18-1-66 S. Petersburg, 195298 Russia."

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www.lutontown.co.uk



Linda Layton

Commercial Corner

WE WELCOME two sets of old friends as our joint match sponsors today - the Bricklayers Arms, Luton, and a bunch of supporters who

call themselves the Regular Rabble.

And despite the rivalry between Luton Town and Plymouth Argyle, both camps are represented in the party being brought from the High Town pub by landlady Alison Taylor and her partner Nick Dale. Their friends joining them include a Plymouth supporter.

The pub was runner-up in the South Beds Pub of the Year awards, and is famous for its wide range of real ales. It is also a regular meeting place for Town fans, and the headquarters of the Scandinavian branch of the Luton Town Supporters Club, and some of them have travelled over for today's game.

This afternoon's commercial mascot, incidentally, is Alison's godson.

The Regular Rabble rarely miss a Luton Town match, home or away, and we hope Sue and Les Miller and their friends enjoy their afternoon with us.

Needless to say, they are not a rabble, but good ambassadors for the club, and their regular sponsorships are just one way in which they express that support. As a club we need every penny we can earn from commercial activities, and we are very grateful to all those who back our efforts.

TODAY'S match ball sponsor is another old friend, Neale Cannon, a Luton Town fanatic, who bought a similar sponsorship last season, when we played

Bury. "We lost 2-1, but although that was disappointing, the experience of being match ball sponsor was most enjoyable," he said. "That's why I am doing it again, and am being joined by my brother Clive, nephew Paul, and good friend Peter.

"Having supported Luton for 28 years, it is encouraging to see them in their current position, and hopefully today's game will continue the trend upwards."

HAVING celebrated his eighth birthday yesterday, Edward Powell is having another "party" today, when he enjoys a VIP day out at Kenilworth Road as our commercial mascot.

He is a regular Luton Town supporter, as is his brother Tom, but this afternoon he has a special part to play in the day's proceedings.

Before the game he will join the Town players in the dressing room, and go out onto the pitch with them for the pre-match rituals, including a close-up view of the toss of the coin for choice of ends.

Edward lives at Dane Barn, Bowers Heath, Harpenden, and goes to Beechwood Park School. He plays football for Harpenden Colts, and also enjoys rugby and skateboarding. His favourite player is Matt Taylor, so he will enjoy the chance to meet the Town star face to face.

Linda Layton



Edward Powell

Golden Gamble

WE LOVE giving away money to supporters through our ever-popular Golden Gamble lottery, but we have been unable to do the honours from our last home game. The jackpot prize was £670, won by a ticket which cost just £1. But, unusually, the winner did not come forward on the day, so we are looking for the owner of ticket No. 15860. The cash is still awaiting collection - if the ticket is yours, please contact the commercial department as soon as possible.

Another wedge of cash will be on offer this

afternoon, in a 50-50 lottery which has so far paid out £7,840, an average of £603 at the 13 home games so far this season. The size of the prize depends on sales - tickets cost £1, from which half goes into the jackpot and the other half to club funds. As usual, Golden Gamble ticket sellers will be on duty in all parts of the ground today. The draw is made at half time, with the cash available for collection immediately.

To advertise in the matchday magazine phone Luton 411622 or e-mail us at:

commercial@lutontown.co.uk

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16

If you are interested in sponsoring a player's kit please contact the Commercial Department on:

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Goals Info:



Where



25 Goals



23 Goals



9 Goals

How

Shots.....31
Headers.....16
Volleys.....9
Penalties...1
Free Kicks..0
O.G.s.....0

Top Scorers

Crowe.....10
Howard.....8
Taylor.....7
Griffiths.....7
Spring.....5
Valois.....4

2001-2002

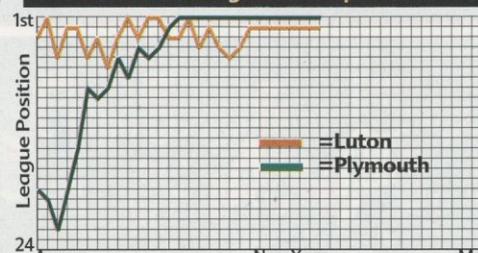
Highest Gate
7,696
vs Rochdale
Lowest Gate
5,066
vs Lincoln
Average Gate
6,722
Players Used 32
Clean Sheets 6
Failed to Score
2
Consec. Wins
3 games
Consec. Defeats
2 games

Hatters' Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	Opp Pos
L	Darlington	A	19th
D	Carlisle	H	21st
D	Cheltenham	A	7th
W	Kidderminster	A	9th
W	Southend	A	12th
W	Oxford	A	17th
D	Hartlepool	H	12th
W	Rushden	H	8th
W	Hartlepool	A	9th
L	Macclesfield	A	23rd

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

Seasonal Progress Comparison



Pilgrims' Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	Opp Pos
W	Oxford	H	13th
W	Scunthorpe	H	8th
L	Shrewsbury	A	5th
W	Hull	H	4th
W	Rushden	H	9th
D	Torquay	H	20th
L	Scunthorpe	A	7th
W	Darlington	H	11th
D	Orient	A	12th
W	Carlisle	H	22nd

Goals Info:



Where



21 Goals



22 Goals



1 Goal

How

Shots.....18
Headers.....16
Volleys.....7
Penalties...2
Free Kicks..0
O.G.s.....1

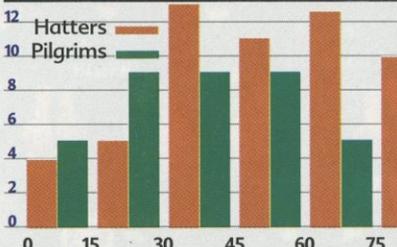
Top Scorers

Friio.....7
Coughlan.....6
Phillips.....6
Stonebridge..6
Evans.....5
Hodges.....4

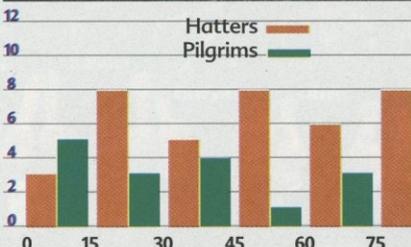
2001-2002

Highest Gate
13,677
vs Torquay
Lowest Gate
3,850
vs Swansea
Average Gate
6,518
Players Used 23
Clean Sheets 16
Failed to Score
6
Consec. Wins
5 games
Consec. Defeats
none

When Goals have been Scored



When Goals have been Conceded



Dean Crowe (Luton) Top Scorers Comparison David Friio (Plymouth)

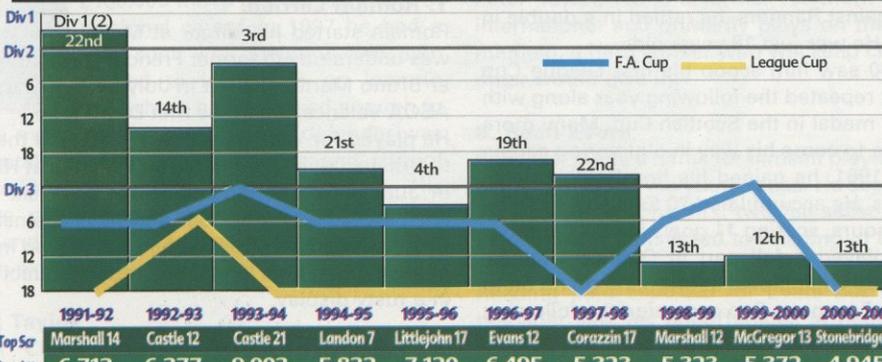
Crowe 34
Goals.....10
Games.....19
Average...0.53

9 games.....Total Games Scored In.....7 games
8 games.....Games Scored 1 Goal.....7 games
1 game.....Games Scored 2 Goals.....0 games
0 games.....Hat-tricks.....0 games
W->L.....0 (0pts)
W->D...5 (10pts)
D->L.....0 (0pts)

Friio 4
Goals.....7
Games.....26
Average...0.27

Season's Results and (loss of points) without the two goalscorers goals
W->L.....0 (0pts)
W->D....4 (8pts)
D->L.....0 (0pts)
3 games.....Maximum scoring run.....2 games
4 games.....Maximum Dry Spell.....7 games

Plymouth Argyle's Last 10 Years - The Complete Record



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Thursday 7 February, ITV Sport Channel
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Sunday 10 February, ITV Sport Channel

Charlton Athletic v Manchester Utd
Sunday 10 February, ITV Sport Select
Everton v Arsenal
Sunday 10 February, Sky Sports 1

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Subject to coverage, terms and conditions.

Welcome to Plymouth Argyle F.C.



Back Row: Jon Beswetherick, Martin Gritton, Romain Larrieu, Luke McCormick, Mickey Evans, Graham Coughlan.
Second Row: David Worrell, Paul Connelly, Steve Adams, David Friio, Miguel Reisinho (no longer on the club), Paul Wotton, Craig Taylor.
Front Row: Sean Evers, Martin Phillips, Ian Stonebridge, Kevin Summerfield (Assistant Manager), Paul Sturrock (Manager), Paul Maxwell (Physio), Joe Broad, Kevin Wills, Brian McGlinchey.

Paul Sturrock - Manager

Paul made his name as a player before entering management. He signed for Dundee United in July 1, 1974. Within three months he was featuring in the first team squad and on December 28 came off the bench against Motherwell to make his league debut. It was, however, the next milestone, which made football sit up and take notice. In April, 1975, in his first game against Rangers, he rattled in a double in a 2 - 2 draw. He was just 18 years old. Season '79/80 saw him scoop his first League Cup medal, a feat repeated the following year along with a runners up medal in the Scottish Cup. Many more honours were to come his way in a glittering career. On May 16, 1981, he gained his first Scotland cap, against Wales. He accumulated 20 full caps and nine under 21 honours, scoring 11 goals for his country. In 1983 he played a full part in Dundee United's Premier League championship triumph - going on to a memorable European Cup campaign the following term. That ended at the semi-final stage, against Italian champions AS Roma. In his years with United, Paul played a total of 604

games, scored 198 goals and was red-carded only once in his professional career. After a period as coach at Tannadice, he embarked on a new phase of his career, taking up the managerial reins with St Johnstone where he did a magnificent job before returning to Dundee United as manager until his recent shock resignation.

In Goal

1. Romain Larrieu.

Romain started his career at Montpellier where he was understudy to former French international keeper Bruno Martini, he left in July 1998 and moved to ASOA Valence, where he met David Friio. He played for Valence for two years and then came to Britain, initially trying his luck on trial at Hibernian in July before coming to Home Park six months later. Hence when he took the field against Bristol City, in December 2000, he had not played in a competitive game for a long time, understandably he put in a rusty display.

23. Luke McCormick

Luke is still only a youngster but made his League



Today's Visitors



debut on the last day of last season where he performed well and kept a clean sheet. Luke is primarily a youth player but has earned the chance to get into the first team and will understudy Romain Larrieu this season. He was chosen to represent his country, England, in a game against a combined Armed forces team last season.

In Defence

2. David Worrell

Former Clubs: Blackburn, Dundee United
 David arrived at Home Park on a three-month loan spell from Dundee United. He had been taken to Dundee by Paul Sturrock while he managed the Scottish club. Paul Sturrock was delighted to sign the right back for Argyle. Dave had a difficult first period at Argyle, receiving a gash on his face in his first League game, then suffering a terrible training ground clash of heads that saw him out for several weeks. Then he suffered a fracture to his ankle in March that kept him out for the rest of the season.

3. Jon Beswetherick

From YTS Trainee. A natural left footed player who has attracted a lot of interest from other clubs. He will reach the target of 100 league games - all for Argyle - early this season. Always likely to turn a defender when pushing forward down the left it is hoped he will get his first senior goal soon.

5. Graham Coughlan



The 26-year-old Irish defender moved from Bray Wanderers to Blackburn Rovers in 1995 in a £100,000 move and started his professional career. In 1997 he had a loan spell with Swindon and then moved to Livingston on loan in 1999 where he impressed enough to make the move permanent. The 6'2" defender was instrumental in the monumental rise and rise of Livingston to the Scottish Premier Division. His departure came partly through a management change and shocked Livingston fans who rated Coughlan extremely highly.

6. Craig Taylor

Previous Clubs: Exeter, Dorchester, Swindon, Argyle(Loan). Craig was born in Plymouth but didn't

start his League career at Home Park. He began his professional life at Exeter and eventually made a name for himself at Swindon Town. Craig is a strong influence in the middle of the defence but will miss the beginning of the season through injury. Craig is blessed with a powerful free kick and is always likely to get on the end of crosses when he moves up into the opposition's box.

12. Steve Adams

Steve, 21, came through the Home Park youth set up and last season justified his high rating as a player. Manager Paul Sturrock is working of Steve to enable him to play a key role in either defence or midfield. He has already begun to show what a prospect he could be in the centre of the pitch with strong tackling, good positional awareness and a deft touch on the ball.

In Midfield

4. David Friio

The French midfielder signed partway through last season impressed with fine midfield displays and became a lynch pin in Argyle's team and is expected to shine evermore this term. Friio and goalkeeper Romain Larrieu were teammates at ASOA Valence, who were in the French second division. Friio made more than 150 appearances for Valence after spending two years two years with Nimes Olympique and three seasons with Epinal.

7. Brian McGlinchey

Former Clubs: Manchester City, Port Vale, Gillingham.
 Brian was signed from Gillingham last season, Paul Sturrock's first signing, where he had been taken by Peter Taylor. He is a former Northern Ireland U21 international and primarily plays on the left side of midfield, a hard worker who will keep chasing when other would give in.

8. Sean Evers

Sean, 24, made a name for himself playing for Luton, coming through the youth ranks. He scored 20 goals from midfield in his first two full seasons for Luton before being transferred to Reading in the March of 1999. Reading paid £500,000 for Evers but a change of manager saw his opportunities at Reading fade, in October he moved to St. Johnstone on loan on the recommendation of Paul Sturrock, who has now

secured the player for himself in March 2001. Sean did not feature much after his move, only starting twice and coming off the bench on five occasions. Despite this manager Sturrock reckons he is very much a player for the season ahead and didn't use him too much as he wanted to check the other players before releasing his retained list - Sean was already in the plans and had little to prove.

11. Martin Phillips

Previous Clubs: Exeter, Manchester City, and Portsmouth. Scunthorpe, Exeter Bristol Rovers on Loan. Martin joined Argyle just before the start of last. "Buster" thrilled Home Park crowds with his skill last year and his wing play will certainly be a feature for Home Park faithfuls to look forward to this season.

He started at local rivals Exeter City and was rated very highly. He moved to Manchester City for big money but found few opportunities to shine. He eventually moved onto to Portsmouth but a change in management again saw him surplus to requirements.



14. Lee Hodges

Lee, 27, signed in August 2001. He had been playing for Reading and Barnet but started his career at Tottenham. While at Spurs he came to Home Park on loan and impressed when he scored twice in six starts.

He eventually was released by Tottenham and moved slightly further north to Barnet where again he put n impressive displays and always likely to weigh in with a goal or two.

Reading were so impressed by Lee that they paid £250,000 for him and he became an important member of their team. He fell out of favour and has

moved to Home Park on a free-transfer, just before the deadline to play against Hull City in the Greens first away game.

15. Paul Wotton

Paul, 24, came through the youth ranks to rightfully claim a place in the first team while still a teenager. His strength and determination brought him to the attention of Sheffield Wednesday, who invited him on trial. Paul often played in midfield last season and carries a lethal shot. He has secured his future to his hometown club until 2004.

Under the guidance of Paul Sturrock Paul is developing as a footballer and deserves the faith that has been placed in him, being able to play in a variety of roles.

17. Kevin Wills

Willsy is only 21 and has also graduated through the Argyle youth system and has been given his first real opportunity since Paul Sturrock's arrival. He appeared in several games at the end of last season and impressed with his no-nonsense performances. The midfielder celebrated his first League goal against hometown club Torquay in April 2001. Kevin will be looking to establish himself this season.



20. Jason Bent

Jason is 24 years old and a Canadian International. Jason was born in Toronto to Jamaican parents.

He was the target of many British clubs in this country but they all failed to gain a work permit for the midfielder. Argyle manager Paul Sturrock had been pursuing the player since he was the gaffer at Dundee United. He had watched Jason playing for Colorado Rapids and was impressed with what he saw, but again the work permit was the problem.

When he came to Home Park a work permit was again denied due to Canada's poor rating in the FIFA's Ranking. Argyle appealed the decision with a well planned presentation and Jason was granted his permit until 2004. He has signed a three year contract and should wow Argyle fans with his displays this season.

He has played in Europe before for FSV Zwickau in Germany.

22. Joe Broad

Joe, 19, has burst into the first team this season. He was due to go to Weymouth on a three month loan deal to gain experience but due to injuries he was retained at Home Park and soon found himself on the bench, including coming of the bench early at Vicarage Road for the Worthington Cup game against Watford.

The midfielder, although young, has displayed a deft touch and a cool head beyond his years and made his first start at Nene Park against Rushden & Diamonds at the end of August where he won praise from both sets of fans.

Joe was born in Bristol but grew up in North Devon.

25. Neil Heaney

Argyle signed Neil Heaney the 30 year old left sided player from Dundee United in December 2001 on a contract that keeps him at Home Park until June 2003.

The player was a target, and acquisition, of Paul Sturrock when he was manager of Dundee United but soon 14 days after Heaney's arrival Sturrock left Tanadice!

He was tantamount to a free transfer as his registration was cancelled by Dundee United, although some form of compensation was involved as the player had 18 months to run on his contract.

Previous to his time at Tanadice Heaney played for Darlington and helped take them to Wembley, where they lost in the play-off final. He was a star player in that Darlington team and his performances drew the attention of Paul Sturrock.

He has also played for Manchester City and Southampton and started as a trainee at Arsenal where his number was the same as it will be at Home Park - 25.

Up Front

9. Mickey Evans

Mickey is a Plymouth lad that made good. He moved to Southampton from Home Park in a £600,000 move in the spring of 1997 and saved the Saints from relegation with a good run of goals, he was also voted Carling Player of Month in his first month at the Dell.

A change of manager at Southampton saw Mickey out of favour and he soon moved to the midlands with West Brom. During his time at the Hawthorns he was plagued by injury. He finally moved towards Plymouth when in the autumn of 2000 he was snapped up by Bristol Rovers for £250,000.

A change of manager at the Memorial Ground again saw him surplus to requirement and he was delighted to move back to Plymouth on transfer deadline day 2001 in a £30,000 move. He played in 10 games towards the end of the season scoring four times.

10. Ian Stonebridge

Age 20 Ian came through the youth system at Tottenham but was picked up by Argyle when Spurs released him.

Ian very soon came into the first team and with a bang last year. He displayed a lot of strength for a youngster with an eye for goal. His ability was acknowledged with an international call up to the England Under 18 squad within a month of his first senior game, he won his first cap against Switzerland. He went on to be capped three more times and notched two international goals during the qualifying rounds of the U18's European Championships.

Unfortunately a groin injury cut short his first senior campaign and also affected a lot of last season but "Stoney" did return again to top form and finished the season as top scorer with 11 league goals from 16 starts and 13 subs appearance.

16. Martin Gritton

Martin, 23, came from Non-League football in Cornwall. He joined the club initially on a month's contract and did enough to earn a two-year deal, which has been extended by another year. He is still learning the professional game but has become an important member of the first team squad and will be looking to prise his way into the side.

Always likely to turn defences with his turn of pace and go for goal attitude. He has come into this season fitter and ready than ever before.

19. Marino Keith

The 26 year old started his professional career at Dundee United; he joined them in a £35,000 move from hometown club Fraserburgh in October 1995. He never really made the grade at Tannadice only appearing as sub in five games.

He was sold to Falkirk for £40,000 in the September on 1997. He played over 70 times for The Bairns scoring 31 times.

In July 1999 he moved to rising club Livingston and featured in 27 games scoring 10 goals, before signing for Plymouth last November.

PLYMOUTH fans who are far from home might like to know that there are two Argyle supporters' clubs for exiles, and we are pleased to publish details they supplied.

Plymouth Argyle Supporters Association, London Branch (PASALB), formed in 1976, has over 400 members throughout the country and overseas who receive a monthly newsletter keeping them informed of the latest goings on at Home Park. The newsletter also gives details of all PASALB's sporting and social events.

Members also receive a travel guide for away games, and the club arranges travel to most away matches, and plays football, darts and pool against other London-based supporters clubs.

To join, write to Jan Walaszkowski, 32 Montpelier Rd, Purley, Surrey, CR8 2QA, or phone (H) 020 8668 8001. Alternatively you can access the website at www.pasalb.co.uk, or email pasalb@email.com

THE PLYMOUTH Argyle Cornish Supporters' Association was formed in 1995, for the benefit of Argyle supporters living in the extreme South West, and for all Cornish exiled fans in other parts of the country.

They hold regular socials in Cornwall and organise help with all-ticket matches, home and away. Members also receive "The Janners Journal", a bi-monthly newsletter.

For more information contact Bob Gelder, at 9 Shortlands, Pyworthy, Holsworthy, Devon, EX22 6SY, or phone 01409 253791 (evenings). The e-mail address is pacsa@email.com, or you can visit the website www.pacsa.co.uk

Up and Running!
Luton Town's very own official website.
www.lutontown.co.uk



Roger Wash

All our *yesterdays*

Youngsters see off the Pilgrims

After the narrow failure to win back a Division One place at the first attempt in 1996/97 Luton manager, Lennie Lawrence, knew he had a tough time on his hands galvanising the squad to make another tilt for promotion. Little did he realise how tough it would be.

The new campaign opened with a lacklustre 0-1 defeat at sunny Blackpool followed by a limp 1-0 win over Southend at Kenilworth Road. We did not suspect, however, that this was to be the only victory from the opening ten games.

An injury epidemic was put forward as the main reason for the poor run and, in truth, rarely has a team seen so many of its first choice players paying a visit to the treatment table. In those first ten games a total of 27 players were called upon including 40 year old Trevor Peake who became the oldest player to turn out for the Hatters.

Unfortunately, Peake's swansong was not a happy one as the Town were hammered 2-5 at home by Wrexham. Nor were the debuts of teenagers Robert Kean and Matthew Spring as substitutes together with Liam George at Bristol City headline making as a 0-3 reversal was recorded.

The poor run culminated in a 0-4 thrashing by old enemies Watford at Kenilworth Road with all the goals coming in the opening half hour. The locals were not happy with this first victory by the Hornets over the Town for ten years and sounded off at Lawrence in no uncertain terms as the match threatened to boil over.

Luckily, the Town had another home game on the following Saturday to put things right with the visitors, fellow strugglers Plymouth, having also recorded only one victory at that stage in the season.

Luton welcomed back Graham Alexander and Julian James to the previously fragile defence and this seemed to settle the side down with the result that the opening half was markedly different from that of a week before. Having controlled the game from the back the Town edged forward and opened the scoring after 36 minutes when

Tony Thorpe was on the end of a route one clearance from goalkeeper Kelvin Davis to sidefoot home.

Just after the interval Davis pulled off a wonder save from the Pilgrims Mark Saunders before Gary Waddock dispossessed Paul Wotton and set up Thorpe for his second goal.

Spring was enjoying his full debut for the club and was spraying the ball around like a veteran but a rush of blood saw him dismissed with 20 minutes to go for a two footed tackle on Argyle's Martin Barlow. If the crowd was upset by the decision it had nothing on Plymouth manager Mick Jones who went on to the pitch to remonstrate with the referee pleading to let the youngster stay on!

After Davis performed another miraculous save, this time from Ronnie Mauge, the points and the much needed win were sewn up with eight minutes left when substitute Simon Davies calmly slipped the ball over the advancing Plymouth goalkeeper Jon Sheffield for his first goal since joining the club in the summer from Manchester United.

Luton: Kelvin Davis, Alexander, Small, Waddock, James, White, Spring, McLaren, Oldfield, Thorpe (Evers), Doherty (Davies).

Plymouth: Sheffield, Collins, Williams, Mauge, Heathcote, Wotton, Barlow, Saunders, Littlejohn, Billy, Wilson (Jean).

This win had a positive effect on confidence and the Town went on a mini-run of two wins and two draws from the next four games to haul themselves out of the relegation positions. Another inconsistent streak then followed with four home defeats on the trot before a run of three straight wins made us all wonder what we had been worried about.

We soon had that worried feeling again in this most inconsistent and frustrating of seasons when another run of seven games without a victory sent the alarm bells ringing once more.

Again Plymouth, still struggling at the wrong end of the table, were our next opponents as we attempted to put in a run to enable us to pull clear from the bottom positions.

In the week before the trip to Home Park a bombshell had been dropped when it was announced that top scorer Tony Thorpe was on his way to Kevin Keegan's Fulham for £800,000. Many supporters were up in arms at the decision to sell a proven goalscorer at a critical stage in the season. Older fans had seen it many times before and fully realised that the club had always needed to sell to survive.

The opening 45 minutes at Plymouth was a tame affair with resolute defence the order of the day but gradually the game opened out with both sides going close as the contest drew to a close.

David Oldfield appealed in vain for a penalty when he was upended by Sheffield in the area before the play moved to the other end where Barlow brought a flying tip over save from Davis. The breakthrough came with twenty minutes left when a harmless header into the box from Sean Evers saw Argyle defender Jason Rowbotham leave his goalkeeper woefully short with a back header leaving substitute Andrew Fotiadis to nod the ball home.

A blatant trip by Steve Davis on Saunders in the area went unnoticed by the referee before Fotiadis missed a sitter at the other end. The game was then made safe when a cross from Phil Gray was slammed home by Evers for his first goal for the club.

The Town were, however, not yet out of the wood and in fact went on another four game run with-



Andrew Fotiadis heads the Town into the lead at Home Park in 1998.

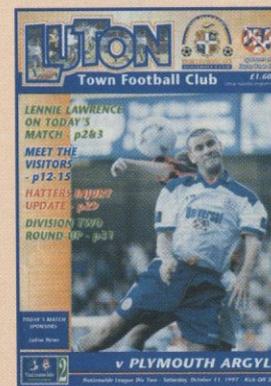
out a win before a young striker on loan from Tottenham by the name of Rory Allen saved the season. But that is another story!

Luton: Kelvin Davis, Alexander, Thomas, Waddock, Steve Davis, Patterson, Evers, McLaren, Oldfield, Gray, Marshall (Fotiadis/Doherty).

Plymouth: Sheffield, Collins, Williams, Saunders, Heathcote, Rowbotham (Wotton), Barlow, Conlon, Littlejohn, Corazzin, Billy.

Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages



The Town produced their normal 48 page programme for the visit of Plymouth on October 11th, 1997.

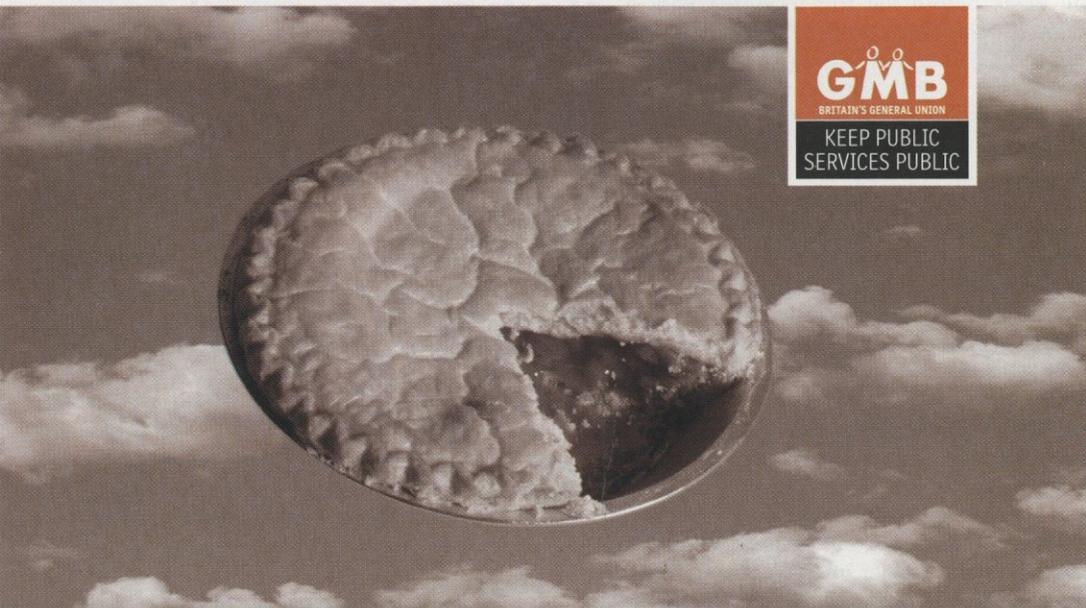
Much of manager Lennie Lawrence's notes was given over to the previous week's 0-4 home defeat at the hands of Watford. No excuse was given apart from the incredibly long injury list which had dogged the club since the beginning of the season. Even new £400,000 signing, Phil Gray, was now receiving treatment and would not be turning out for the visit of Plymouth that afternoon.

Elsewhere it was announced that all reserve team games had been postponed for the time being due to the injury problems. On a more positive note, though, it was reported that Graham Alexander and Steve Davis were due to resume training.

There was, of course, a silver lining to this particular cloud as it enabled the likes of Matthew Spring, Gary Doherty and Liam George to gain first team experience rather earlier than they would normally have expected. It is said

that youngsters either sink or swim in these circumstances which is of great credit to the three mentioned that they survived and prospered.

Although only a little over four years ago, the 'Kit Sponsors' page shows 29 players and staff of which only four remain at the club!



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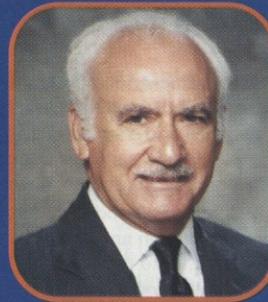
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POLICY STATEMENT - SPECTATOR SAFETY



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

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

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

Mike Watson-Challis Chairman

Reviewed August, 2001.

EVACUATION PROCEDURE

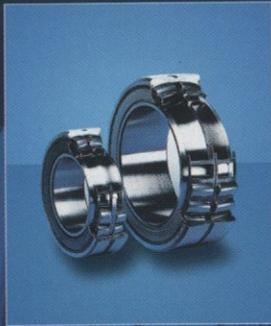
IN THE event of any emergency in the stadium, Luton Town FC and the emergency services have agreed on an evacuation procedure which is designed to ensure the safe and controlled evacuation of the crowd, and to ensure their safe dispersal from the area, to allow the emergency services to carry out their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

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



Geoff Lovell, Safety Manager.

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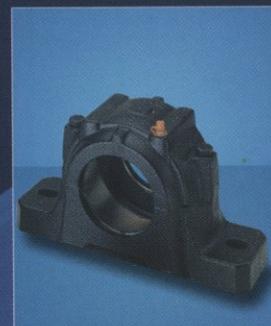
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Hatters Abroad

ONE of the benefits of publishing a bigger match day magazine, which will be on offer for the rest of the season, is that we will have more space to include more regular "Hatters Abroad" features - provided, that is, fans help us out.

If you have a photograph of Luton Town kit in far and away places, and would like to see it published, please sent it to the programme editor at Luton Town FC. Enclose a self-addressed envelope if you would like the picture back, but please don't submit pictures if they are valuable - with the best will in the world they go astray sometimes.

We are also pleased to hear about very young Town supporters - our "Mini-Hatters" feature will appear occasionally, and any photo of youngsters in the appropriate Hatters kit will be welcome. But again, please remember that pictures do sometimes get lost in the system, or in the post.

If you prefer, you can e-mail your items, including pictures, direct to the editor, at brian.swain@btinternet.com

OUR fans come from all walks of life, but few can have jobs which take them as far afield as Private Chris Boston, from Harpenden.

From our distant memories of military good order and discipline he probably risked a rollicking for mixing civvy garb with his army uniform when he posed for this picture, but we thought it was one of the best Hatters Abroad snaps we have received in a long time.

A Town fan since he was 14, Chris is in the Royal Anglian Regiment. His Army duties have taken him to various overseas postings, and the photo was taken on the prairies in Canada, where he was on exercises for three months. "I get to games whenever I can," he said, "And when I am away I keep up to date by going on the Town website."



THE LOCATION of today's other Luton Town kit wearer is obvious enough: Tony Allboner, a season ticket holder from Mulberry Walk, Kempston, packed his Hatters strip for a holiday in the middle east, and is seen wearing it near the great pyramid of Cheops, just outside Cairo. The temperature was a sweltering 115 degrees F!

Up and Running!
Luton Town's very own official website.
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Top Hatter Ahmet Brkovic



Born: Dubrovnik, 23.9.74

Joined Luton: From Leyton Orient, October 2001.

Were you good at school? Pretty good, and like all Croatian children (although it was Yugoslavia then) we learned English as our second language, and I got on well with that, and with Italian. I also speak a little German. I was glad of my English when I met Emily, the girl who is now my wife: she was half-English and half-Croatian, living in London but visiting Dubrovnik regularly to see her family. They lived near me, which was how we met. We fell in love, married, and settled in Romford..

What was your boyhood ambition? Just to be a footballer. Apparently I started kicking a ball as soon as I could walk. I joined the Dubrovnik academy when I was seven, and I have loved football ever since. My dad died of cancer when I was ten, but my mother has always supported me, and she never suggested I should follow any other career but football - she knew how much it meant to me.

Why join Luton? When I came to England four years ago I had six months with Millwall, before moving to Leyton Orient. I had two years there, but they were not ambitious. It was a club going nowhere, and I wanted to play at a higher level. I turned down a new contract at Orient and came here because Joe Kinnear was determined to get promotion, and wanted players who felt the same. I did, and I think we will do it.

How do you relax? Mainly by being with my family - our daughter Emilia is three and our son Jack is 14 months old. We love taking them to the park to feed the ducks. I play tennis reasonably well and I like watching just about all sports, live or on TV. Football first, of course, but my other favourites are tennis, American football and basketball.

Your best experience in football? Playing for Varteks against Majorca in the European Cup quarter-finals in 1997, even though we lost 3-1. Before that, my greatest moment was being chosen for my country's under-18 team - I was very proud of that.

The worst? Losing the final of the play-offs with Leyton Orient. We had beaten Hull, and were 2-1 up at half-time against Blackpool, but lost 4-2. I admit I cried in the dressing room afterwards.

What will you do when playing days are over? I am not sure yet. I want to play until I am 34 or 35, and I think I might like to stay in football working with youngsters when I have got my coaching qualifications. But I also think I might like to open and run an Italian restaurant. I will always be a football fan, and go to watch games. I will probably become a regular supporter of Arsenal, although I also like to watch West Ham as well.

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Stuart Smith



Football in the Community

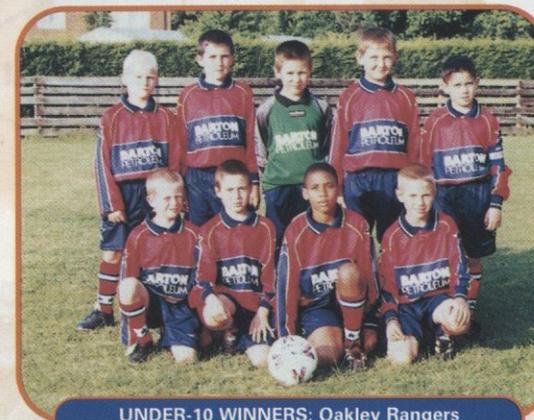
HUNDREDS of youngsters enjoyed football tournaments put on by the Football in the Community department for teams from local youth clubs. More than 50 games took place in two groups, under-10s and under-12s, and it was high-quality football throughout. Our thanks go to all the enthusiastic players, and to the helpers who played their parts in giving enjoyment to participants and spectators alike.

Our pictures show the winners and runners-up in each section.

In the younger age group semi-finals Barnfield Colts beat Icknield Tigers 1-0 and Oakley Rangers got through 5-3 on penalties after a 2-2 draw with Mid Beds Tigers. In the final a single goal by Matt Kraus gave Oakley victory.

The under-12 semi-finals saw Leighton Town beat Barnfield Colts 1-0, while Bedford Park Rangers B beat their own club's A squad 6-4 on penalties after a 0-0 draw. In the final Leighton won 3-0, with two goals by Michael Frost and one by Joe Wright.

Stuart Smith



UNDER-10 WINNERS: Oakley Rangers



UNDER-10 RUNNERS-UP: Barnfield Colts



UNDER-12 WINNERS: Leighton Town

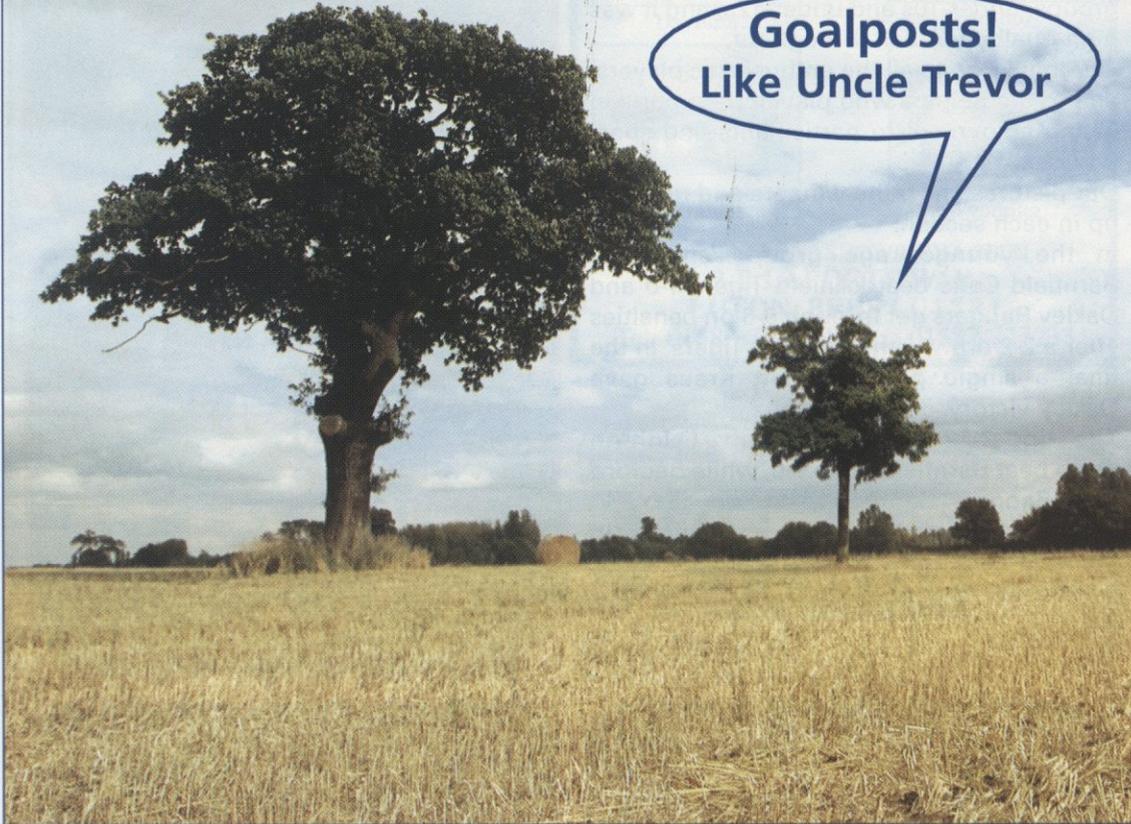


UNDER-12 RUNNERS-UP: Bedford Park Rangers B

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Hatters Away

THE Town play at Rochdale on Saturday, for the first time since celebrating promotion from the old Division Three with a 2-1 victory on the last day of the 1969/1970 season.

As usual two coach services are on offer to take supporters to Spotland. The Bobbers Travel Club will set off from Cranfield at 8.30, leaving Luton an hour later, and the fare is £14 for adults, and £11.50 for under-16s and pensioners.

Town on Tour will leave Maple Road at 10am, calling at Milton Keynes Coachway 20 minutes later. Their fares are £13 for members of Luton Town Supporters Club, £11 for junior and senior citizen members, and £15 for all others.

The Road to Spotland

THERE is a choice of route to Rochdale, and with the M6 so often subject to delays our man will take the slightly longer route, up the M1 and over the Pennines. The alternative is taking M1 and M6 north, and in Lancashire, after crossing the Thelwall viaduct, take M62 east, towards Leeds.

Our preferred route ignores the M6. Stay on the M1



Spotland Stadium

into Yorkshire, to junction 42, and join the M62 heading west.

Either way, leave M62 at junction 20 to follow the signs towards Rochdale on the A627(M). Watch for a roundabout with the A644 signposted towards Bury. Take that left turn, into Edinburgh Way. At the next roundabout take the second exit, towards Blackburn and you come to the ground in about a mile and a half.

Mileage: Around 200 via M1 and M6, about 220 via M1 and M62.

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 number for out of office hours is 07960 567465.

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Hatters Chatter

ONE of the best ways to enjoy football at Kenilworth Road is to hire an executive box for the day, and enjoy a VIP experience. The photograph shows a family group who did exactly that, to mark the birthday of Peter Pollard, whose support of the Town stretches back nearly 70 years. Rosemary Sellars, from Bletchley, sent in the photo, and explained: "We hired executive box 28 for the Hartlepool game, and had a smashing time. We treated my father, for his 82nd birthday. He has been coming to Luton since he was 15. He knows he saw a few matches before, but his first clear memories are of the game against Bristol Rovers when Joe Payne scored his ten goals.



"I have been watching Luton for 32 years, as has my husband Jim, and our boys have been coming for 22 years. We now bring my nephew, who has six years under his belt, and my friends at work, who have been coming for five years. "Our little grandson is the next convert - he's three, so we'll probably start him off next season. The lot of us in the photo have a combined total of 240 years watching Luton!" And they enjoyed their day on the executive side so much that they have already decided to do it again next season.



WHEN members of a mad keen Luton Town family have a wedding to celebrate, you can be sure that the Hatters will be involved somewhere down the line, and the pictures from Carol and David Hewitt prove the point. Carol told us: "We are the third generation of loyal Luton Town fans to celebrate our wedding in the colours of our favourite team. With father and grandfather it was just rosettes, but for us it was the complete ceremony. We were married at St. Christopher's, Barton, and the pictures are from the reception.

"Barton Village Hall was completely decorated in orange, blue and white, with the wedding cake a three-tiered array of boaters. "Our parents and grandparents were proud of the black and white colours, and mum and dad feel the new kit is back to the gold old days, with that bit of orange from Harry Haslam and Eric Morecambe's time."



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The Fans Scene



JOE KINNEAR was the star turn at the latest meeting of Luton Town Supporters Club, keeping a packed audience enthralled for more than two hours with frank answers to questions from the floor. Because the manager was off the record, we will not go into great detail, but his openness and straight talking was much appreciated. We are not breaking any confidences in passing on his optimism about this season: promotion will be achieved, he said, and he will do everything possible to bring the championship to Luton. His plans include recruiting more players, on loan or by paying transfer fees. He paid tribute to the backing he had received from the board, with more money still available to strengthen the squad.

The meeting, at the Eric Morecambe Suite, was a sell-out, with demand for tickets so great that only members were able to buy them, and Joe received a standing ovation at the end of the evening, having fielded a host of questions on a wide range of topics. The Supporters Club is an independent body, run by its members, and guest night evenings are a regular feature of its activities.

Members also receive a regular newsletter, which is particularly appreciated by Luton Town fans scattered all over the country. And there could soon be new branches for some of the exiles: a mad keen Hatter from Devon is planning to form a sub-branch after finding he is not the only Town fan in that part of the country. Another sub-branch, based on Bristol, is also a possibility. For those living locally, regular meetings

with players and coaches are always popular, and the biggest social event of the year is the end of season presentation night, when the fans pay tribute to everyone connected with Luton Town, especially their favourites, with supporters' votes deciding on various awards, topped by the choice of player of the year.

Arrangements for this season's celebration, confidently expected to be a promotion party, are well in hand, and full details will be appearing in the programme at a later date. As always, priority for tickets will go to members of Luton Town Supporters Club. If you would like to join, pop in to the LTSC kiosk before or after any game.

Membership includes the right to subsidised travel to away matches, on executive coaches operated by Town on Tour, which is part of the Supporters Club.

Another popular annual event is a quiz night, where players join fans for a contest which is not always treated as deadly serious, but is still pretty competitive. Our picture shows this season's winners: Kevin Nicholls led the top team, and the others, left to right, are "Fred" Mayne, Denise Samuels, Gary Long, Trish Johnson, Sue Miller, Sally Mayne, Mark Chapman and Les Miller.



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Dean Rastrick

Youth Development

WELCOME to a new addition to the match day programme, which gives me a chance to report on a department which is crucial for Luton Town and its future.

Youth development has long been an integral part of the club, and we have a proud tradition of developing young players for careers in professional football. We bring them through from young schoolboys to contenders for our first team, and, quite often, they go on to other clubs and bring in much-needed revenue.

Players such as John Hartson, Matthew Upson, Gary Doherty, Kelvin Davis and Paul McLaren are recent examples of lads who have progressed through the ranks into our senior squad, and then on to other clubs. Paul McLaren, who left under the Bosman ruling a year ago, became a free transfer by his own choice, but the others brought in a total of well over £5million.

There are currently 14 players in our professional ranks who have progressed through the youth department, including Matt Spring, Marvin Johnson, Stuart Fraser, Andrew Fotiadis, Matt Taylor, Emmerson Boyce, and Lee Mansell, all of whom have figured in the league team. Others are making progress in the reserves, working for the chance to make the breakthrough into the first team squad.

Since the introduction of the 'Charter for Quality' by the Football Association, youth football has undergone a number of changes, with some clubs operating youth academies and others running centres of excellence, which is what we have at Luton Town.

We cater for players aged between nine and 18, and have 102 players signed within our school-boy and junior ranks.

This programme involves identifying, recruiting and developing young players to progress to first team level - Lee Mansell joined us as an 11-year-old, Gary Doherty was ten, and Matt Spring was 14.

Players aged between nine and 16 are regis-

tered as schoolboys. They train twice a week under the guidance of experienced and qualified managers and coaches, and play matches against other professional clubs on a weekly basis. The results of these matches are not published, in accordance with Football League regulations.

Currently we employ 42 members of staff within our youth department, ranging from fully-qualified coaches and managers, to specialist goalkeeping and athletic coaches and others involved with medical, recruitment and welfare matters.

The Staff provide the young players with the foundations to build a career in football, and to become a responsible people off the pitch.

The training programme is based on a system of developing a sound technical base for players aged between eight and 12, who also take part in a conditioning programme to develop co-ordination and agility, under the guidance of UK athletics coach Rob Carr.

The training programme for youngsters between 13 and 16 involves the development of their technical, tactical and physical ability, hopefully to prepare them for joining the full-time ranks, as Luton Town scholars when they are 16. Players aged 16-18 are on scholarship contracts and work under the guidance of John Moore.

His aim is to turn the young hopefuls into players good enough to be worth professional contracts when they reach their 18th birthday. It means a lot of hard work for everyone, including the lads themselves, and while the rewards can be huge for the few who make it to the very top, experience shows that they are the minority. Only a proportion of the young lads who start out with great hope actually make it all the way. Our job is to try to help their development so that more and more do work their way through the ranks, all the way up into the first team squad.

If any supporters require any further information about the centre of excellence please contact me at the club on 01582 411622.

Dean Rastrick

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TOWN TEASER

ONE lucky supporter will win a little prize today in our Town Trivia quiz. Listen to the PA announcer before kick-off for your chance to have a go. If you don't know the answer, it can be found elsewhere in this programme.

For the Carlisle game we asked why Carl Griffiths and Paul Hughes particularly enjoyed making their Luton Town debuts at Brunton Park. The answer of course, was that they scored in our 2-0 win.

TODAY'S QUESTION

Who was the debut boy who scored for Luton at Plymouth in September?

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Happy Harry

Junior Hatters

WELCOME to all young supporters to Kenilworth Road for what promises to be one of the biggest games of the season. We are enjoying watching the Town this year, and next week Junior Hatters have the chance to see another big game, at Rochdale.

We enjoyed their company when young fans from Spotland were our visitors earlier in the season, and on Saturday they will return our hospitality. The coach leaves Kenilworth Road at 8.15 so that we arrive at Rochdale in good time to enjoy a football tournament with our hosts. Bring your kit if you want to play!

As usual the price is a bargain. Junior Hatters will have to pay only £10 for the trip and admission to the match. For adults, the fare is £13, but they will have to buy a £9 match ticket at Spotland.

If you want to go - and for Junior Hatters it will be the first-ever chance to see Luton play at Rochdale - bookings are taken at the club shop in Kenilworth Road. It is also the place to visit if you are aged 0-16 and want to join the Junior Hatters

Happy Harry



MAJOR PLAYERS: Two mascots were on duty at our last home game, against Carlisle, and pictured meeting the match officials and skippers are Jonathon James, who was on duty for the Junior Hatters, and Graeme Flanagan, who was commercial mascot.

Today's Mascot

THIRTEEN-year-old Adam Smith, from Telscombe Way, Luton, is the lucky Junior Hatter whose name was picked out of the computerised drum to be today's mascot.

It puts him right at the heart of the action before the game, including visiting the players in the dressing room and going out onto the pitch with



them. He is a keen Luton Town supporter, but names Carl Emberson as his favourite.

Adam goes to Putteridge High School, and normally comes to games to watch from the New Stand with his dad. He plays football for Crawley Rams, and his other sporting hobby is cricket.



WE are always pleased to see young supporters from visiting clubs, and today we offer a special welcome to Jamie Ray, 11, who is Plymouth Argyle's mascot. His dad, Pete, is here as a journalist who covers a lot of Plymouth games.

The family live in Birmingham, and while he is an Argyle fan first and foremost, Jamie's other teams are Aston Villa and Luton! Why Luton? "I am amazed as you are," said his dad. "He has a season ticket at Villa, watches Argyle with me whenever possible and has this confounded love for Luton!"

Jamie plays in goal for a local youth team in Birmingham, and also enjoys drama and reading. We hope he has a smashing day with us, and will not be too disappointed if the Town win.

If you would like to join the Junior Hatters, call the Club Shop on: **01582 411622**

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Action Replay



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

BOTH managers shared similar views after the Town failed to complete a double which would have taken them back to the top of the table. To be fair to Carlisle, they were a vastly different side from the one which was comfortably beaten at Brunton park on the opening day of the season, and in fair better frame of mind after two top notch results, a 6-1 home thrashing of Leyton Orient and a first away win of the season, at Hull City.

They came uncomfortably close to upsetting another promotion bid at Kenilworth Road, with a stifling game plan that took the Town a long time to overcome. For the sixth consecutive match the Town had to come from behind to get something out of the game. Joe Kinnear blamed a mixture of poor finishing and bad luck for the failure to beat visitors who "tried to bore us to death and nearly got away with it." Matt Spring and Adrian Forbes both saw good efforts hit the crossbar, and several other decent opportunities were spurned on a day when Dean Crowe and Steve Howard struggled against smothering tactics. Carlisle boss Roddy Collins admitted he had set out to frustrate a team he respected. He fielded five in midfield, with any or all of them funnelling back to bolster the defence, and it worked. The Town, in near-full

control for the first half, desperately needed a goal to open up the game, but failed to get it. Carlisle's rare attacks never looked much of a threat, although Steve Soley felt cheated when he netted in the first half, and had the goal chalked off because a colleague was offside. He felt much happier when the Town defence failed to deal with a corner and he scored one that did count.

The response was for the Town to send on Adrian Forbes in place of Ahmet Brkovic, followed by the return of Marvin Johnson for Crowe, which led to Matt Taylor going upfield, and looking much better in attack than he had done in defence.

His free kick led to Russ Perrett heading an equaliser, and after that, for the last 20 minutes or so, Carlisle worked hard to hold on to what they had. "A very good point," said Collins. "I am just disappointed we could not have held on longer to take all three."

The Town boss countered: "In the first 20 minutes we destroyed them, without having anything to show for it. And they must have thought their pools had come up when they scored, because they hadn't seen the ball for 40 minutes."

Match Details

Luton Town: Ovendale; Boyce, Perrett, Bayliss, Taylor; Brkovic (Forbes 52 mins), Spring, Nicholls, Valois; Howard, Crowe (Johnson 66 mins).

Unused subs: Emberson, Skelton, Hughes.

Booked: Ahmet Brkovic, foul.

Carlisle: Keen; Andrews, Winstanley, Rogers; Birch (Hopper 56 mins), Soley, Whitehead, Green, Murphy; Foran, Stevens (Halliday 70 mins).

Unused subs: McAughtrie, Thwaites, Dickinson.

Booked: Steve Soley, dissent; Dave Rogers, foul on Steve Howard.

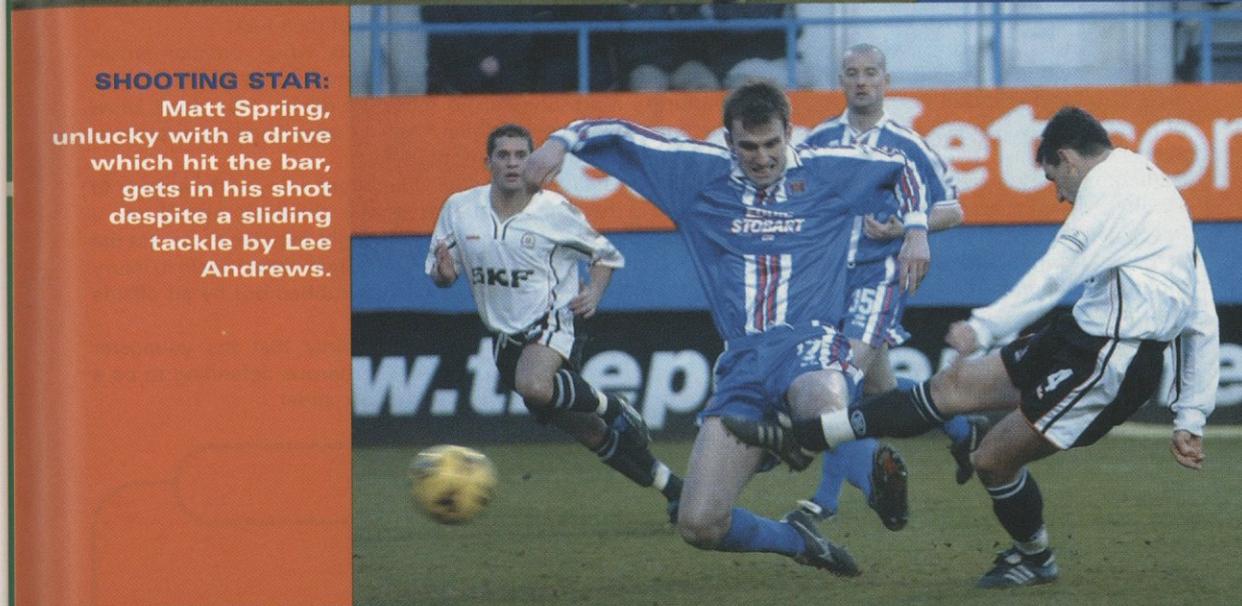
The Goals: 0-1 52 mins - Stuart Green's right-wing corner to the near post not dealt with, and ball flicked on via Matt Taylor and Mark Winstanley for Steve Soley to head in from close range; 1-1 67 mins - Matt Taylor's free kick from the left delivered to the far post, for Steve Howard to head back towards goal and Russ Perrett to launch himself through a crowd of players for the point-saving header.

Referee: Paul Alcock, Kent

Attendance: 6,647, including 356 visiting fans.



STRIKING DEFENDER: Russ Perrett goes into the crowded goalmouth to head the equaliser.



SHOOTING STAR: Matt Spring, unlucky with a drive which hit the bar, gets in his shot despite a sliding tackle by Lee Andrews.



RIISING TO THE OCCASION: Adrian Forbes and goalkeeper Peter Keen get airborne together.



Action Replay



Darlington 3 Luton Town 2 (HT 1-1)

THE eight-game unbeaten run came to an end at Feethams, when the opportunity to collect the tenth away win of the season was thrown away in the last eight minutes. From 2-1 up and looking good, the Town became losers, unloaded by a 19-year-old YTS boy sub.

Joe Kinnear afterwards bemoaned the failure to do the business in both penalty areas: Dean Crowe and Steve Howard missed chances that seemed easier to take, and when Darlington staged their rumbustious grandstand finale the defence fell apart.

It was under-strength before kick-off. David Bayliss, never yet a loser in a Town shirt, was out through suspension, for two bookings with Rochdale and three with the Town, and while Emmerson Boyce filled in nicely alongside Russell Perrett, the early departure of Perrett, with a hamstring strain, proved to be one absence too many.

Darlington, slaughtered 5-2 at Kenilworth Road in October, deserve credit for coping well with their fourth game in eight days, including an FA Cup defeat at Peterborough. That cost them the chance of a mouth-watering derby clash with Newcastle in the cup, but they refused to let anti-climax overtake them. Not for the first time this season, we heard opposition supporters say afterwards that the Town's visit had provoked the home team to one of its best perform-

ances for some time.

Even so, they should not have been allowed a sniff of a point, let alone three. Crowe missed a sitter in the early stages, but the Town were the better team for most of the first-half, and deserved the lead given them by Steve Howard after 12 minutes. And Darlington were lucky with an equaliser 16 minutes later, with a deflection beating Mark Ovendale.

After Perrett limped off, the Town still looked comfortable, and a lovely goal by Jean-Louis regained the lead on the hour mark. Ten minutes later Howard put a free header wide when it should have been 3-1, and Darlington made the most of their luck.

Their fans howled protests when popular striker Barry Conlon was subbed shortly afterwards, to allow Mark Sheeran to make his debut. "You don't know what you're doing," was the anguished cry directed at Darlo boss Tommy Taylor.

The former Leyton Orient boss enjoyed the answer to that shout: the energetic Sheeran picked up a rebound to equalise with eight minutes to go, got the winner on 87 minutes, and then netted again in injury time, but had his hat-trick rubbed out by an offside flag.

Joe Kinnear commented drily that the youngster should not expect such generous defending to be a regular feature of his future career.

Match Details

Luton Town: Ovendale; Hillier, Boyce, Perrett (Dryden 50 mins), Taylor; Brkovic, Spring, Nicholls, Valois (Hughes 83 mins); Howard, Crowe (Forbes 63 mins).

Unused subs: Emberson, Skelton.

Booked: Ahmet Brkovic, Jean-Louis Valois, Richard Dryden, Matthew Spring, all for fouls.

Darlington: Collett; Brumwell, Liddle, Pearson, Heckingbottom; Atkinson, Ford, Maddison (Hodgson 34 mins); Wainwright (Harper 75 mins), Conlon (Sheeran 73 mins), Clark.

Unused subs: Convery, Harper.

Booked: Phil Brumwell, foul on Valois; Brian Atkinson, foul on Brkovic; Gary Pearson, foul on Valois.

The Goals: 0-1 12 mins - Steve Howard header

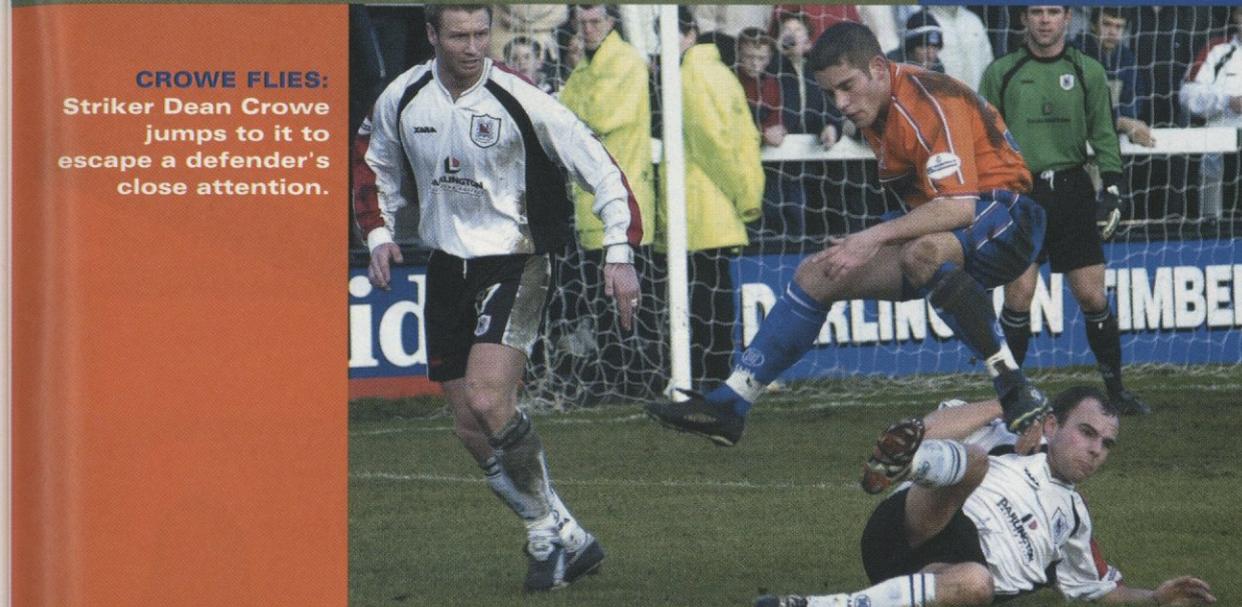
from the first corner of the game, swung in to the near post by Jean-Louis Valois; 1-1 28 mins - Gary Pearson from a 20-yard free kick touched off to him, the low drive wrong-footing Mark Ovendale because of a deflection off Jean-Louis Valois; 1-2 60 mins - a Jean-Louis Valois special, controlling Ahmet Brkovic's diagonal cross with his right thigh, then half-volleying in with his left foot from the inside left position on the edge of the penalty area; 2-2 82 mins - Mark Sheeran tap-in after Mark Ovendale failed to hold a drive by Pearson; 3-2 87 mins - Sheeran header, unmarked after a free kick was half-cleared and the ball played back in over an advancing defence.

Referee: Eddie Wolstenholme

Attendance: 3,564, including 464 Town fans



HANDY OPENER: Two defenders are trying to get to grips with Steve Howard, but still cannot stop him heading the Town into the lead with his eighth goal of the season.



CROWE FLIES: Striker Dean Crowe jumps to it to escape a defender's close attention.



CLOSE CONTACT: Jean-Louis Valois shows he is willing to use his head as well as his feet on a day when he produced another classic goal.

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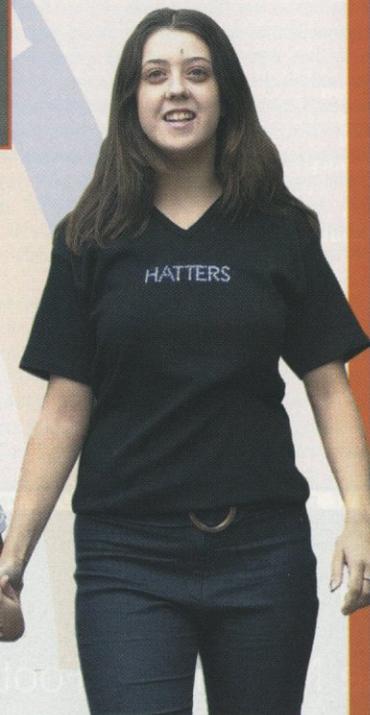
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Fans on the road

BECAUSE of restricted accommodation at Feethams, the Town's backing at Darlington dropped below four figures for the first time in a month, but the average is still well over 1,000 at all away games so far this season, which is double the average who have come to Kenilworth Road with visiting teams. The figures:

Visitors to Luton

Cheltenham	.467
Southend	.912
Oxford	.869
Lincoln	.217
Torquay	.326
Darlington	.302
Rochdale	.679
Swansea	.395
Shrewsbury	.351
Hull	.887
Rushden	1,134
Hartlepool	.220
Carlisle	.356

Hatters Away

Carlisle	.1097
Reading(WC)	.889
Bristol Rov	.761
Exeter	.712
York	.849
Orient	2,089
Plymouth	.461
Scunthorpe	.961
Halifax	.774
Dagenham(LDV)	.330
Mansfield	2,166
Southend(FAC)	1,560
Macclesfield	.741
Hartlepool	.346
Oxford	2,646
Southend	1,710
Kidderminster	1,096
Cheltenham	1,597
Darlington	.464

Total:7,115
Average:547

.....21,249
.....1,118

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



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The Quality of the Football

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In Reserve



Brian Stein

Wootton Blue Cross 2 Luton Town 1

THERE was some very harsh talking in the dressing room after this fiasco saw us go out of the Bedfordshire Premier Cup. We should have won easily against enthusiastic amateurs, but senior players let us down. It was tough on younger men, who put themselves out to try to get a result, but if professionals can't beat a village team they deserve shooting. I lost count of the number of scoring chances we threw away - we should have been at least three up at half-time, especially after a very good opening: after only two minutes Andrew Fotiadis crossed for Peter Thomson to rifle in a superb opening goal. But it was downhill all the way after that. Wootton had a man sent off mid-way through the second half for his second yellow card, but within a couple of minutes Fotiadis was also dismissed, for taking a swipe at an opponent. Wootton hit us on the break three times to complete our miserable evening.

Luton Town: Ward, Foley (Dillon 87 mins), Okai (Dogbe 50 mins), Fraser, Bruce, Mansell, Leary, Osborn (Jeffrey 85 mins), Thomson, Fotiadis, Murphy.

Luton Town 2 Bournemouth 1

WE TRIED a new formation for this Avon Insurance Combination match, with five in midfield and one up front,

and it looked OK, with 18-year-old Darryl Murphy doing well as the striker, and Aaron Skelton and Paul Hughes breaking from midfield.

Michael Leary gave us the lead ten minutes before the break, and for the second half we switched to 4-4-2, with Skelton going into the back four and Andrew Fotiadis sent on as the extra striker. We created lots of chances, and Fotiadis hit a cracking goal on 60 minutes, swivelling and volleying in from a cross by Joachim Fernandez, a trialist who has been released by Dundee United. Unfortunately, despite being well on top, we got sloppy in the last ten minutes, and the showboating cost us a late goal.

Luton Town: Emberson, Locke, Fraser, Hillier (Fotiadis HT), Dryden, Skelton, Hughes (Holmes 87 mins), Fernandez (Mansell 70 mins), Murphy, Mortara, Leary.

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

Goals: Fotiadis 8, Brennan 5(2 pens), Thomson 3, Brkovic 2, Murphy 2, George 2, Hodges 1, Gillman 1, Locke 1, Skelton 1, Evritt 1, Holmes 1, Bruce 1, Leary 1

Brian Stein

Avon Insurance Combination Results and Fixtures

AUG	Wed 15	Barnet	A	3-0	Fotiadis 2, Hodges
	Wed 29	Millwall	H	1-0	Brennan pen
SEPT	Wed 12	Leyton Orient	A	3-2	George, Brkovic 2
	Thur 20	Barton (BPC)	A	5-0	Gillman, Locke, Brennan, Thomson, Fotiadis
	Wed 26	Gillingham	H	0-0	
OCT	Tue 2	Cardiff	A	1-2	Fotiadis
	Mon 8	QPR	H	3-3	Everitt, Brennan pen, Thomson
	Mon 15	Crystal Palace	A	0-1	
NOV	Wed 14	Bristol City	H	1-1	Fotiadis
	Wed 21	Cambridge(LC)	H	3-1	Skelton, Fotiadis, George
	Mon 26	Leighton Tn(BPC)	A	4-2	Brennan 2, Murphy 2
	Wed 28	Norwich(LC)	A	0-0	
DEC	Wed 5	Oxford	A	postponed	
	Wed 12	Swindon	H	1-0	Holmes
	Wed 19	Portsmouth	A	7pm	
JAN	Wed 9	Brighton	A	0-1	
	Mon 21	Wooton (BPC)	A	1-2	Thomson
	Wed 23	Bournemouth	H	2-1	Leary, Fotiadis
	Wed 30	Brentford	A	0-2	
FEB	Wed 6	Bristol Rov	A	7pm	
	Wed 13	Norwich	H	7pm	
	Wed 20	Cheltenham	A	2pm	
	Wed 27	Colchester	H	7pm	
MAR	Wed 13	Peterborough	H	7pm	
	Wed 20	Southend	A	2pm	
	Mon 25	Cambridge	A	2pm	
APRIL	Wed 3	Reading	H	2pm	
	Wed 10	Northampton	H	2pm	
	Tue 16	Wycombe	H	2pm	

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Q.P.R.	14	8	5	1	35	15	29
Portsmouth	14	8	3	3	25	14	27
Crystal Palace	14	8	2	4	27	17	26
Brentford	12	7	2	3	27	19	23
Peterborough	14	7	2	5	25	24	23
Gillingham	12	6	3	3	19	10	21
Cardiff	13	6	3	4	23	17	21
Norwich	13	6	3	4	23	18	21
Reading	12	6	2	4	22	12	20
Millwall	13	5	5	3	22	18	20
Oxford	14	5	5	4	14	18	20
Cheltenham	15	5	4	6	14	25	19
Wycombe	12	5	2	5	18	18	17
Luton Town	11	4	4	3	15	12	16
Bristol Rovers	11	4	3	4	11	12	15
Southend	12	4	3	5	14	16	15
Brighton	10	3	4	3	12	9	13
Barnet	12	4	1	7	14	21	13
Leyton Orient	13	4	1	8	18	35	13
Colchester	15	3	3	9	19	27	12
Cambridge	12	3	2	7	16	19	11
Northampton	13	2	5	6	12	22	11
Bristol City	10	2	4	4	10	14	10
Bournemouth	12	2	4	6	11	26	10
Swindon	13	2	3	8	12	20	9

Pre-Match Entertainment

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

- 1.45** Gates Open - music starts
- 2.10** Club mascot Happy Harry runs on the pitch.
- 2.15** A track from the HMV album of the week - STARSAILOR'S - LOVE IS HERE
- 2.20** Team line up to be announced.
- 2.25** The UK's No1 track - ENRIQUE IGLESIAS - HERO
- 2.30** Dedications announced.
- 2.35** HMV single of the week - MARY J BLIGE FEATURING COMMON - DANCE FOR ME
- 2.40** Town Teaser - Check out page 40 for today's question
- 2.55** Teams run out to our new song - The Blues Brothers "Gimme Some Lovin".
- 2.57** Final run down of the teams.
- 3.00** THE BIG KICK OFF

HALF TIME

- 3.50** Golden Gamble - Winning ticket picked by Luton Town Player.
- 3.55** Run down of half time scores from around the country
- 4.00** Repeat of dedications
- 4.05** Teams arrive back on pitch to theme song "Gimme Some Lovin".

4.55 FULL TIME

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

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Youth Soccer



John Moore

Notts County 1 Luton Town 4

THIS WAS a very satisfactory result from an unsatisfactory game.

Unusually, in the Football League Youth Alliance, it was an over-physical and intimidating match, and three or four players could have been sent off. Steven O'Leary was put out of the match by a ridiculous challenge, which needed hospital treatment for a hole in his leg made by studs. The ref didn't even see it as a foul, and I was pleased that our boys managed to keep their composure in difficult circumstances.

They learned a hard lesson: walk away, keep calm, and don't let the opposition's methods ruin your composure. You have to be brave and hard, but also fair, and I was glad that we got the result, to show that good football can come out on top against intimidation. The right response was to hurt them by scoring goals, and we did.

We went one down after eight minutes, but rallied as the boots and tackles went flying in. Marcus Jeffrey's persistence took him through for a 23rd-

minute equaliser, and after that we coped well with our opponents' direct style. James Osborn put us in front just before the interval, and that helped to calm us down, with Chris Dillon and Curtis Davies adding goals early in the second half, both from free kick routines.

The only danger after that was if we failed to stay out of trouble in an unsavoury game. The boys deserve credit for sticking together as a unit and passing a difficult test, despite the loss of O'Leary with 20 minutes to go.

Luton Town: Brill, Dogbe (Mortara 85 mins), Carroll, O'Leary (Judge 70 mins), Davies, Deeney, Foley, Osborn, Dillon, Jeffrey, Okai.

SATURDAY'S home game with Peterborough was postponed because of a waterlogged pitch, and that match has now been re-arranged for February 23. We are away to Rushden & Diamonds next Saturday, and at home a week later, February 16, to Walsall. Kick-off at Luton RFC, Newlands Road, Farley Hill, is 11am, and spectators are welcome.

Appearances (as sub in brackets): Okai 15(2), Osborn 15(2), O'Leary 14, Foley 13(4), Carroll 13(2), Dillon 13(2), Davies 13(1), Dogbe 11(2), Gillman 11(1), Jeffrey 10(4), Brill 10, Judge 9(4), Leary 7, Murphy 7, Chatfield 6, Bruce 5(1), Deeney 4(1), Howells 3(1), Barnett 2(3), Roberts 1, R. Mansell 1, Beckwith 1, Shire 1, Garrett 1, Palmer 1, Mortara 0(1), Burrell 0(1),

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

John Moore

Football League Youth Alliance Results and Fixtures

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

FL Youth Alliance South Central Conference League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cambridge Utd	13	7	2	4	25	15	23
West Brom	12	7	2	3	23	19	23
Notts County	12	5	4	3	14	18	18
Walsall	12	4	5	3	23	20	17
Northampton	13	5	2	6	19	18	17
Rushden & D	11	5	2	4	18	18	17
Luton Town	12	5	1	6	25	24	16
Kidderminster	11	3	2	6	13	19	11
Peterborough	12	2	3	7	13	22	9

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Records

- Highest Gate **13,677**
- Plymouth v Torquay
- Lowest Gate **1,251**
- Halifax v Southend
- Highest Agg Score
- Scunthorpe7
- Darlington1
- Bristol Rov5
- Orient3
- Biggest Home Win
- Scunthorpe7
- Darlington1
- Biggest Away Win
- Exeter0
- Scunthorpe4
- Consec. Wins
- Plymouth5
- Games Unbeaten
- Plymouth19
- Consec. Defeats
- Torquay,
- Orient5
- Winless Run
- Bristol Rov14
- Total Games **348**
- Home Wins **166**48%
- Away Wins **85**24%
- Draws **97**28%
- 1-1 Draws **36**10%
- 0-0 Draws **40**11%

Average Attendances

	2000	4000	6000	8000	10000
Bristol Rovers					7,006
Carlisle					2,919
Cheltenham					3,711
Darlington					3,888
Exeter					3,400
Halifax					1,946
Hartlepool					3,522
Hull					9,424
Kidderminster					3,029
Orient					4,793
Lincoln					3,143
Luton					6,722
Macclesfield					2,161
Mansfield					4,311
Oxford					6,411
Plymouth					6,518
Rochdale					3,282
Rushden					4,174
Scunthorpe					3,622
Shrewsbury					3,616
Southend					4,099
Swansea					3,622
Torquay					2,587
York					2,900

Goals - When Scored

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

Form Guide: Home & Away

Home Form	most recent results to left	Away Form
WDWWL	Bristol Rovers	LWLLD
WWWLL	Carlisle	DDWLD
DDDWW	Cheltenham	WWWLL
WWDWW	Darlington	DLLLL
LDDLW	Exeter	LWWWW
DWLWD	Halifax	LLDLD
WWDWL	Hartlepool	LDLWL
WWLDW	Hull	LLLLL
WWLWW	Kidderminster	DLWLW
LWDWL	Orient	LLLLL
WLWDL	Lincoln	LLDLD
DDWLW	Luton	LDWWW
WLLDW	Macclesfield	LWDWL
LWLDW	Mansfield	WLWLW
DWWLW	Oxford	LDLDL
WWWWL	Plymouth	LLDWD
DWDLW	Rochdale	DWDLW
WWWWW	Rushden	LLWLL
WLLWW	Scunthorpe	LLDLL
WLWDL	Shrewsbury	LLDDL
DWWLW	Southend	DDDWL
LDWDL	Swansea	LLLDW
WLLDL	Torquay	DDDDD
WDDDL	York	LLDDL



Brian Swain

Third Division Scene

TODAY'S visitors must have been delighted to see the Town's last two results: we went into the home game with Carlisle a fortnight ago two points behind Plymouth, hoping to overtake them at the top. It needed a home win for us and a defeat for the Pilgrims at Shrewsbury. It did not go according to plan: play-off contenders Shrewsbury did us proud, with a 3-1 victory, but we dropped two home points. And the one-point deficit was rapidly extended, with Plymouth beating Scunthorpe at home to use their game in hand over us, and then on Saturday seeing off Oxford 4-2 at Home Park while we were losing at Darlington. Other weekend results went against us. Mansfield had a day off, their away game at Leyton Orient postponed because Orient were going to Everton to be whipped in the FA Cup. But play-off contenders closed the gap, with Rochdale, Hull and Scunthorpe all winning. Rochdale boss John Hollins must have enjoyed his Saturday afternoon at Spotland - his team beat crisis club Swansea, who had sacked him late last year. Fortunately for us, Tuesday's midweek programme produced a crop of results which were kind, so thank-you to a few unlikely lads - Hartlepool, Kidderminster, Carlisle

and York. Mansfield entertained Kidderminster, needing to win to go one point below us, with a game in hand, but our good friends from the Aggborough went home with a 1-1 draw. Scunthorpe wanted a Tuesday tonic to break back into the play-off zone, but were beaten 3-2 at Hartlepool, having been 2-1 up until 13 minutes from time. Rochdale had hopes of snatching third place, needing a home win over Carlisle, but the rejuvenated Cumbrians grabbed a 1-1 draw, while the best result of the night from our point of view came at York. The Minstermen, bottom but one, and in deep financial trouble, entertained money-bags Hull City, and beat them 2-1. The bookies favourites for promotion are still stuck in the play-off frame, their title bid undermined by poor away form - it was their eighth defeat on their travels. We won't dwell too much on one of their three away victories! What price Hull improving things today, when they are at bottom club Halifax? We know that some of the chasing pack are bound to drop points, with Mansfield and Rochdale meeting at Field Mill and Shrewsbury entertaining Scunthorpe. Our requirement is to peg back the best team in the division. It might not be the championship decider today, but if Plymouth achieve their seventh away win of the season they will be ten points clear, with a better goal difference. A Town win cuts the deficit to four points, and as we have seen that kind of gap can be closed remarkably quickly. It will not be easy: Plymouth's only away defeats in the league this season were 1-2 at Scunthorpe just before Christmas - which ended a run of 19 league games without defeat - and 3-1 at Shrewsbury a couple of weeks ago. Their six away draws came at Hull, Kidderminster, York, Oxford, Cheltenham and Leyton Orient. It was 1-1 at Oxford, and the other five were 0-0. Plymouth's six away victories were 3-2 at Rushden, 1-0 at Torquay, 3-2 at Exeter, 3-0 at Mansfield, 2-1 at Bristol Rovers and 1-0 at Southend.

Brian Swain

Nationwide League Division Three

	HOME					AWAY					GD	Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F A	W	D	L	F A				
Plymouth	29	12	1	2	28	10	6	6	2	16	11	23	61
Luton Town	29	7	4	2	24	11	9	2	5	33	27	19	54
Mansfield	28	9	3	2	29	13	6	3	5	14	15	15	51
Rochdale	29	6	7	1	22	11	7	3	5	17	18	10	49
Hull City	30	10	4	1	29	6	3	4	8	14	25	12	47
Shrewsbury	31	8	3	4	23	14	5	4	7	19	23	5	46
Scunthorpe	30	9	3	3	33	16	3	6	6	21	22	16	45
Kidderminster	29	9	4	2	23	9	4	2	8	13	19	8	45
*Cheltenham	28	6	8	1	25	16	5	3	5	15	18	6	44
Rushden & D	30	8	4	2	24	12	3	5	8	14	25	1	42
*Southend	30	9	3	4	27	15	2	4	8	9	19	2	40
Hartlepool	28	8	4	4	33	16	3	2	7	8	15	10	39
Exeter	29	5	6	5	16	22	5	2	6	15	23	-14	38
Darlington	28	9	3	2	24	10	1	4	9	10	28	-4	37
Oxford	30	6	4	5	26	19	1	6	7	13	22	-2	34
Bristol Rovers	28	6	4	4	21	18	3	3	8	8	16	-5	34
Macclesfield	29	4	5	6	16	17	4	4	6	10	19	-10	33
Lincoln	29	6	3	5	18	15	1	8	6	12	24	-9	32
Swansea	30	3	6	5	13	14	5	2	9	22	32	-11	32
Carlisle	28	6	3	4	19	10	1	7	7	12	23	-2	31
L. Orient	28	6	2	5	24	18	2	4	9	15	33	-12	30
Torquay	30	6	2	7	17	23	1	7	7	10	22	-18	30
York	27	5	4	6	14	18	2	3	7	16	28	-16	28
Halifax	29	3	7	3	13	12	2	3	11	9	34	-24	25

Today's other Third Division fixtures

- Carlisle v Hartlepool**
- Halifax v Hull**
- Macclesfield v Exeter**
- Mansfield v Rochdale**
- Oxford v Bristol Rovers**
- Rushden & Diamonds v Darlington**
- Shrewsbury v Scunthorpe**
- Swansea v Kidderminster**
- Torquay v Leyton Orient**
- York v Lincoln**

Clubs' top scorer & the points their goals have won

see key below	Leading Scorer	GS	Sc1	Sc2	HT	Gms/Gs/Gm	Pts	Run	
York	Michael Proctor	9	7	1	0	27	0.33	13	2
Bristol Rovers	Nathan Ellington	12	6	0	2	17	0.71	12	4
Shrewsbury	Luke Rodgers	17	12	1	1	28	0.61	11	4
Mansfield	Chris Greenacre	15	11	2	0	27	0.56	10	4
Hull	Gary Alexander	14	8	2	0	27	0.52	10	5
Luton	Dean Crowe	10	8	1	0	19	0.53	10	3
Scunthorpe	Steve Torpey	11	5	3	0	25	0.44	9	1
Carlisle	Ritchie Foran	9	9	0	0	22	0.41	9	3
Cheltenham	Julian Alsop	12	8	2	0	25	0.48	8	2
Oxford	Paul Moody	11	8	0	1	22	0.50	8	3
Exeter	Chris Roberts	8	4	2	0	26	0.31	8	2
Plymouth	David Frio	7	7	0	0	26	0.27	8	2
Torquay	David Graham	5	5	0	0	25	0.20	8	1
Rochdale	Kevin Townson	9	5	2	0	25	0.36	6	3
Macclesfield	Lee Glover	8	6	1	0	27	0.30	6	2
Darlington	Barry Conlon	6	4	1	0	24	0.25	6	1
Lincoln	Lee Thorpe	8	6	1	0	21	0.38	5	1
Swansea	Mamady Sidibe	6	4	1	0	16	0.38	5	2
Hartlepool	Gordon Watson	13	8	1	1	20	0.65	4	3
Halifax	Paul Harsley	7	5	1	0	29	0.24	4	2
Southend	Tesfaye Bramble	6	6	0	0	27	0.22	3	2
Kidderminster	Dean Bennett	7	7	0	0	27	0.26	2	7
Orient	Steve Watts	9	5	2	0	17	0.53	0	3
Rushden	Duane Darby	7	3	2	0	19	0.37	0	2

Biggest Wins & Heaviest Defeats

Club	Win - vs.	Defeat - vs.
Bristol Rov	4-1 Swansea	1-3 Ornt, Rsh
Carlisle	6-1 Orient	0-3 Plymouth
Cheltenham	4-1 Maccsfield	1-5 Hull
Darlington	4-0 Exeter	1-7 Scunthrpe
Exeter	2-0 Torquay	0-4 Scun, Darl
Halifax	3-0 Lincoln	1-6 Oxford
Hartlepool	5-1 Rushden	0-3 Mansfield
Hull	5-1 Cheltenham	0-4 Hartpool
Kidderminster	4-1 vs 3 clubs	0-4 Shrewsbys
Orient	5-0 Lincoln	1-6 Carlisle
Lincoln	3-0 Swansea	0-5 Orient
Luton	5-1 Torquay	1-4 Man, Mac
Macclesfield	4-1 Luton	0-4 Mansfield
Mansfield	4-0 Maccsfield	0-3 Plymouth
Oxford	6-1 Halifax	0-3 Ornt, Hull
Plymouth	3-0 vs 3 clubs	1-3 Shrewsbys
Rochdale	3-1 Mansfield	1-4 Kiddermstr
Rushden	3-0 York	1-5 Hartpool
Scunthorpe	7-1 Darlington	0-3 Carlisle
Shrewsbury	4-0 Kiddermstr	0-3 Hull
Southend	4-1 Halifax	0-2 vs 4 clubs
Swansea	3-0 Exeter	1-4 Bristol Rv
Torquay	2-1 vs 5 clubs	1-5 Luton
York	3-0 Torquay	0-4 Hull

Numbers

PU	CS	FS
28	8	11
34	9	10
23	10	6
32	8	10
30	9	11
25	10	14
26	7	9
29	13	10
27	12	10
34	8	7
21	9	9
32	6	2
26	7	14
22	11	6
27	6	10
23	16	6
29	11	5
37	12	12
25	11	7
23	9	7
26	10	9
29	8	13
38	4	13
27	5	8

Key: GS=Goals Scored, Sc1=Games Scored 1 Goal, Sc2=Games Scored 2 Goals, HT=Hat-Tricks; Each club's leading league scorer and avg. goals per game (G/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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Bradford City v Birmingham City Sunday 10 February, ITV Sport Channel	Everton v Arsenal Sunday 10 February, Sky Sports 1



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You can e-mail the programme editor at brian.swain@btinternet.com

Today's Squads

Luton Town

1	Mark Ovendale	1
2	Aaron Skelton	2
4	Matthew Spring	4
5	Russell Perrett	5
6	Marvin Johnson	6
7	Adrian Forbes	7
8	Kevin Nicholls	8
10	Carl Griffiths	10
12	Chris Coyne	12
13	Stuart Fraser	13
14	Andrew Fotiadis	14
15	Matthew Taylor	15
16	Carl Emberson	16
17	Emmerson Boyce	17
18	Adam Locke	18
19	Steve Howard	19
20	Peter Holmes	20
21	Richard Dryden	21
23	Jude Stirling	23
24	Scott Ward	24
27	Paul Hughes	27
28	Jean Louis Valois	28
30	David Bayliss	30
32	Lee Mansell	32
33	Ian Hillier	33
34	Dean Crowe	34
35	Ahmet Brkovic	35

Plymouth Argyle

1	Romain Larrieu	1
2	Dave Worrell	2
3	Jon Beswetherick	3
4	David Friio	4
5	Graham Coughlan	5
6	Craig Taylor	6
7	Brian McGlinchey	7
8	Sean Evers	8
9	Michael Evans	9
10	Ian Stonebridge	10
11	Martin Phillips	11
12	Steve Adams	12
14	Lee Hodges	14
15	Paul Wotton	15
16	Martin Gritton	16
17	Kevin Wills	17
18	Nicky Banger	18
19	Marino Keith	19
20	Jason Bent	20
22	Joe Broad	22
23	Luke McCormick	23
24	Paul Connolly	24
25	Neil Heaney	25

tick if playing tick if substitute

Today's Officials

Referee: Phil Joslin, Nottinghamshire

Assistants: Kevin Merchant, Surrey (red flag); Jamil Singh, Middlesex (yellow and red flag)

Fourth Official: Graham Horwood, Bedfordshire

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