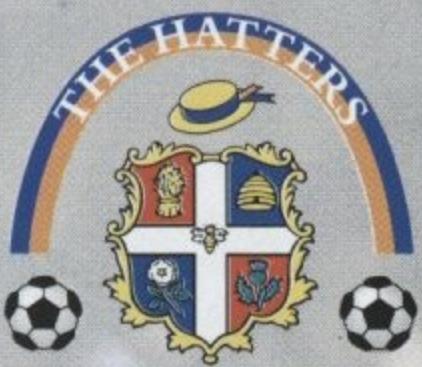


Luton Town Football Club



LUTON TOWN
FOOTBALL CLUB
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Official Matchday
Magazine

Luton
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v
Kidderminster
Harriers

Saturday
March 16,
2002

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**Official Matchday
Magazine**

Editor

Brian Swain

Design & Printing
Regal Litho Ltd

Photography
Gareth Owen

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

Front Cover



POISE: Alan Neilson, who has become
a vital member of a defence which has
kept five clean sheets in the run of
seven victories.

Inside Forward

STRIKER Gary McSwegan returned to Edinburgh this week after his loan spell with the Town was bedevilled by injury, restricting him to just two starts. "He has been unlucky," said Joe Kinnear. "He did ever so well in a reserve game, which was why I decided to take him, but he got injured in the closing minutes of that game, and hasn't been right since."

The boss is now looking at the possibility of another striker being brought in on loan, but injuries have thrown that deal into doubt.

The target is Adam Proudlock, of First Division promotion-chasers Wolves, but plans to bring him in within the next few days have been shelved. Wolves were willing to loan out the 20-year-old, a former England youth international, who has been at Molineux since he was 16. But this week they said the move would have to be delayed. Because of injuries to other members of their squad, they needed Proudlock to stay as cover.

"He's a forceful runner, tall, and very quick," said the Town manager, who hopes to reach an agreement to bring in Proudlock until the end of the season.

Meanwhile, the interest in Matt Taylor and Matt Spring, both potential tribunal bargains at the end of the season, has brought little in the way of firm offers. As we went to press the Town boss reported that just one firm bid had come in, from a First Division club for Spring, and he had rejected it as being a long way short of the Town's valuation of the player.

Your Support Wanted

DAVE Suttle, the Luton Town entrant in the Flora London Marathon, has come through a bit of a crisis in his training schedule, and has had to lower his sights for the big day. He was afflicted by sharp pain in his knees as he stepped up his mileage, and at one time the pain was so bad that he feared he would have to pull out of the race.

But Town physio and sports therapist Bruce Sewell came to the rescue. With treatment and advice, he has got the 46-year-old headmaster on the road again. Said Dave: "I was very worried when I feared I might have to pull out, because I would hate to let anyone down. But Bruce has cleared up the problem, and set a new schedule for me to ensure that I can run the race.

"I have said all along that nothing would prevent me from completing the course. Originally I thought that I would try to do it in quicker time than in my previous marathon, when I did the Washington event in 3 hours 53 minutes. Now, to save the wear on the old knees, my only target is to make very sure I finish the course. I'll do it even if I have to walk round!"

In the Washington marathon Dave raised money for the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust. Now he is collecting sponsorship promises again, and we ask Town fans to back his fund-raising efforts for the CFRT again, and our local Keech Cottage Hospice.

If you would like to support either (or both!) of the good causes, please complete the coupon and send it, with your cheque payable to the charity of your

INSIDE TODAY: Joe Kinnear's column - P 5; Club captain - P 7; Treatment room latest - P 8; From the Secretary's Office - P 9; News of the reserves - P 49; Schools of Excellence news - P 39; Picture and profile of David Bayliss - P 28/9; Junior Hatters - P 41; Football in the Community: P 31; Latest ticket office news: P 10/11; Fans Scene - P 27; Blast from the Past: P 22/23; Rushden and Exeter reports and pictures: Pp 42-5; Town Teaser P 40; Adding up to promotion: P 53.

For all the latest news, views and interviews call

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(Calls charged at 60p per minute at all times)



SPOT OF BOTHER: The moment when the Town felt they should have had a penalty on Tuesday. Chris Curran is the Exeter defender with the handy challenge on Matt Spring which left the midfielder flat out, and minus one boot.

choice - the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust or Keech Cottage Hospice (or two cheques, one for each) - to Marathon Appeal, Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton LU4 8AW.

Please post-date your cheque: it will not be banked until after the marathon is run on April 14. Supporters whose sponsorship is conditional on Mr Suttle completing the course can be assured that their cheques will be destroyed if that happens.

Battle of the Mascots

WE didn't associate Sooty with football, but, the puppet which has been much loved by generations of small children is on a tour of soccer grounds to mark his 50 years as a TV performer, and will be at Kenilworth Road next Saturday. The plan is for Sooty, or rather a very much larger than life version, to take on Happy Harry in a penalty shoot-out at half-time.

Brian Swain

FLORA LONDON MARATHON

I would like to sponsor Dave Suttle, the Luton Town runner, in the Football Challenge, and my post-dated cheque, payable to the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust or to the Keech Cottage Hospice, is enclosed.

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Amount pledged.....

*Please destroy my cheque if Mr Suttle completes less than 26.2 miles.

*I wish to make the donation in any event

*Please delete as appropriate.

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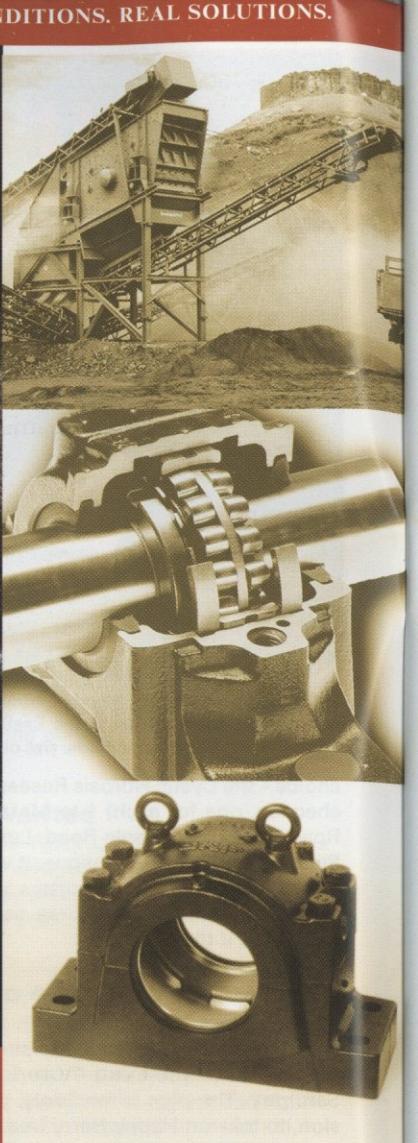
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Joe Kinnear

ANOTHER home win, our seventh victory on the bounce, has kept up our promotion challenge and improved our chances of snatching the league championship as well. We are still a couple of points behind Plymouth, and they now have games in hand, so our recipe for success is quite simple: keep on winning from now until the end of the season!

My guess is that down in the West Country Plymouth and their supporters have been looking over their shoulders with some concern at our recent results. Only a month ago Plymouth were 10 points clear of the field, and at that stage must have felt the title was theirs for the taking. They were going well and we had lost two games in a row, at Rochdale and at home to Scunthorpe. Now we are just two points behind.

Those two defeats in mid-February were a real turning point. They gave us a wake-up call, a sharp reminder that you need to work hard to be successful, and to their credit the players have responded. We are all hungry for success, which is why we would like promotion, but we all want the title even more.

Since that disappointment against Scunthorpe the players have worked every day – including Sundays – and have done so with great enthusiasm, understanding that it will be worth it come the end of the season.

In some ways it will get harder in the closing weeks, but I think this group is more than capable of dealing with the pressure that is bound to build up.

We have proved we can deal with it at home, where supporters' expectation is high. I thought on Tuesday night Exeter were a half-decent side, determined to do well in a game where they were under no pressure at all. They made us work to control the game, but I felt they were never going to hurt us because we defended so well. We won the important battle for mastery of midfield, where Kevin Nicholls

The Manager

and Matt Spring dominated, and as their manager said we had more cutting edge than them. Compare the performance, and the team, with the occasion when we played Exeter earlier in the season at their place, and it is obvious that we have made huge progress in a matter of six months. Changes have been made to improve the squad, and that will continue. Look at our side at St James's Park in early September and the one that took on Exeter again on Tuesday: only Carl Emberson, Matt Spring, Russ Perrett and Matt Taylor were in the team for both matches.

The other major change between then and now is that we are much more solid at the back, and we have taken professional pleasure in our recent run in chalking up five clean sheets in the seven victories. That gives us a firm base, and helps confidence, especially when we know that we are always capable of scoring goals at the other end of the park – 15 in the last seven games is proof of that.

One thing is for sure: we cannot afford to let up in our concentration and determination. Today is the second of three consecutive home games, and they must all yield maximum points.

Kidderminster will be keen to avenge the home defeat they suffered at our hands in January, when our team performance was excellent. They suffered a blow on Tuesday when they surprisingly lost at Halifax, proving yet again that there are no easy games in this league.

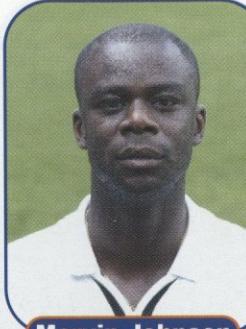
That should serve to make them all the more determined to repair the damage today, and get their play-off campaign back on the road. They will need no motivation. Neither will we! Both teams have every incentive to go for it this afternoon, and I hope we see a good football match, and get the result we all want. So get those vocal cords in action, and cheer on the lads.

Keep the faith, and enjoy the game.

Joe Kinnear



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Marvin Johnson

SEVEN up, three to go, to make it a club record of ten victories in succession. It would be some achievement if we could

do it, but confidence in the dressing room is so high that I wouldn't bet against it.

When I look back at the sequence, starting with Bristol Rovers at home a month ago, I would pick out two matches as more difficult than the others: the game at Rushden last week, and this afternoon's match. As with the Diamonds a week ago, it is a big game for our opponents, who need to get on the winning trail again to try to get into the play-off frame.

For once, there might be as much pressure on the away side as on us at home, although I have to report that we have not felt any real pressure at all recently, home or away. Obviously we enjoy that winning feeling, and we have also got into a smooth rhythm despite team changes.

This is the best run I have experienced in my 16 years at the club – I was still a toddler when the record was set way back in 1970 – and we are looking forward to every game with great anticipation. They can't come round too quickly.

Obviously I want to be involved in every game, but once more I had to sit it out on Tuesday after tweaking my hamstring at Rushden. The gaffer asked if I had been having trouble with my Zimmer frame, so I had to set him straight: my claim is that me and Michael Owen both suffer from slightly dodgy hamstrings because of the searing pace we both have!

I came off the pitch early enough at Rushden to ensure that my injury is not serious, and I hope that I might have a chance of reclaiming my place in the side today. But I know it won't be easy, even if I am super-fit again. It is probably a little unusual that a team on a run of seven straight wins has not been the same XI in each game, which is a tribute to the strength in depth that has been built up here. As I know to my cost, if an injury puts you on the sidelines

Club Captain

there is every chance that your replacement will go in and do a good job to make it difficult for the gaffer to drop him.

Ask David Bayliss: he was an automatic selection from the day he arrived here, but having had to drop out through suspension, he has had to settle for a place on the bench because Russ Perrett and Chris Coyne have done so well as the central defensive pairing. Bayles has proved what a good club man he is, accepting his fate with good grace, despite the frustration, knowing that competition for places is good for the team. And that attitude is typical of the spirit within the squad – it is superb, with everyone willing to accept that it has to be club first, self second. It is a pleasure to be involved, and that feeling is all the greater because I have waited for a long time to be in a promotion squad.

While I wished I had been playing on Tuesday, I enjoyed watching the lads take care of Exeter. It could have been a tricky task against a side that has got a lot better since we last met. But so have we, and I thought we were comfortable winners in the end. In recent games we have hit a welcome pattern of every single player doing well, and when you are not carrying a single passenger you know you will be hard to beat.

Kidderminster will fancy taking us down a peg or two today, especially after we beat them on their own pitch in January. But we are going into matches with huge self-belief, and also with extra enjoyment from playing at home. Our away followings have been tremendous, and a very welcome part of our recent success, but I still like the special feeling you get from playing at home.

We know we have an excellent chance of winning promotion. We also believe we can take the championship: if we win today, and Orient nick a point or three at Plymouth, we will be top, and even with their games in hand the pressure will then be on Plymouth. Wishful thinking? Perhaps, but we have a feeling that dreams can come true!

Marvin Johnson

Treatment Room



Bruce Sewell

ONCE more our players came through the game on Tuesday evening without picking up any extra injuries. Marvin Johnson missed the match because of a hamstring problem. It was not mentioned in this column on Tuesday because there was a good chance the club captain would recover in time to stake his claim to remain in the side, and we did not want to give the opposition any inkling that he might be just a touch less than 100 per cent.

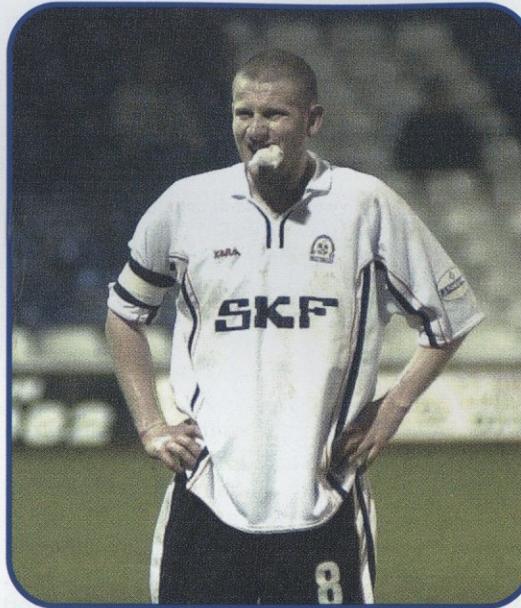
Being a good professional, and very experienced, Marvin did the right thing when he felt a twinge at Rushden. He let us know on the bench so that he could be subbed quickly, before the injury got any worse. He is responding well to treatment, but has not done much in the way of training this week, and I would think his next game might be for the reserves next Wednesday.

Aaron Skelton might also be involved then, or perhaps in Monday's reserve match at Gillingham. He is now back in training after his knee ligament injury, but needs a game or two before he can consider himself ready for League football.

Ahmet Brkovic is still under treatment for his ankle injury. He is working hard, and is coming along nicely, but I don't think he had much chance of being fit enough to be considered for today's match.

Kevin Nicholls, having shaken off an ankle injury, was nursing a sore mouth after Tuesday's game. He took a hard blow to the face, perhaps from a boot, perhaps from some other part of an opponent, and his lip was split as it was pressed into his teeth. He is as hard as a rock, played on while holding a swab to mop up the blood, and is none the worse for the experience.

Carl Griffiths is still waiting impatiently for the chance to step up his training routine after his stress fracture. He saw the specialist again on



FACING A PROBLEM: Kevin Nicholls indulges in a little self-treatment on Tuesday after taking a whack in the face which left him with a split lip.

Monday, and the verdict was that he is still on the right lines, and following the right treatment plan to put him in good shape for the start of pre-season training.

Finally, my compliments and best wishes to Dave Suttle, the headmaster who will be the Luton Town entrant in the London marathon next month.

He was worried when his knees started to give him pain as he trained for the big day. I was able to re-assure him that it was not a serious problem. I felt he might have overdone the training a little, and suggested a slightly different regime from the one he was on. I also advised him to go back to his original running shoes. He had bought new ones for the race, and I suspect they could be part of his knee problem. Whatever the cause, he is now a much happier man, and I hope he has a successful trip around the 26-mile course.

Bruce Sewell

Fancy a party or reception at Kenilworth Road?

Then e-mail us on:

catering@lutontown.co.uk

Club Secretary



Cherry Newbery

SUPPORTERS will probably remember that after considerable discussion with all the parties involved, including the police and the safety authority, we announced a few weeks ago that we would try to open up part of the Oak Road end of the ground to our fans, subject to certain conditions, and for a limited number of matches. Today's game would have been the first to be subject to the experiment, but the decision had to be taken four days ahead of the game, to give us time to organise stewards and police.

The scheme is that once all other areas of the ground had sold out, home seats in one section of the Oak Road stand could be put on sale. But as there was no firm sign on Tuesday that it would be a sell-out this afternoon, we had to make the decision not to go ahead on this occasion. We will be ready to try again for next week's game against Halifax.

However, with tickets already selling very quickly for our last home game of the season, against Macclesfield on April 13, we are fairly sure we will be able to open up part of the Oak Road end for Luton supporters for that match. I will confirm, or otherwise, nearer the date.

Today we have two organisations asking for your help, and I hope supporters will be generous.

Luton North Rotary Club are carrying out a bucket collection in aid of the NSPCC, while members of Luton Town Supporters Club are selling tickets for the grand draw being run in conjunction with the annual player of the year presentation evening. It is being organised jointly by the football club and LTSC, and promises to be a great night's entertainment. See page 27 today for details if you would like to attend.

As well as our short-term plans for promo-



Joe Payne – the ten-goal Hatter who will be commemorated in the new ground, pictured running out with the England team in Helsinki.

tion, the matter of the new stadium is still being pursued, and I was delighted to hear from the chairman that he has just bought some items of very special memorabilia to be included in the trophy cabinet at the new ground. Mike Watson-Challis has accepted offers from the family of the late Joe Payne to buy Joe's England cap, which he won in 1937. Other items bought by the chairman included Joe's Division Three South winner's medal, and a Southern Regional Cup winners medal.

We now have notification of another cup date. Our reserves will be away to Gillingham in the semi-final of the Avon Insurance Combination Cup, at Priestfields, on Monday, March 18, with a 2pm kick-off.

Finally, an Easter reminder: the club offices will be closed on Good Friday, but the shop and ticket office will be open from 10am until 2pm, and on Easter Saturday their opening hours will be 10-4. On Easter Monday, when we play Mansfield, opening times will be from 9am until the 12.30 kick-off, and again after the match, but only for sales of tickets for other games – Mansfield is an all-ticket game, for which no tickets will be sold on the day.

Cherry Newbery

You can e-mail Cherry Newbery on:

clubsec@lutontown.co.uk

Latest News From

The Ticket Office



Nationwide League Division Three

Luton Town v Halifax Town

Saturday March 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 that there are NO CONCESSIONS on cash turnstiles.



Nationwide League Division Three

Luton Town v Mansfield Town

Monday April 1, 2002, kick-off 12.30pm

This is an ALL TICKET match, and none will be available
on the day of the game.

Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices, and supporters are
advised to buy early, due to the strong demand for tickets.
Please note that the kick-off time of this match will be 12.30pm



Nationwide League Division Three

Luton Town v Macclesfield Town

Saturday April 13, 2002, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices
Supporters are urged to buy early, due to the strong demand for tickets.



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FORTHCOMING ALL-TICKET AWAY MATCHES

Nationwide League Division Three

Swansea City v Luton Town

Saturday March 30, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters, with none available on the day
The restriction of sales to season ticket holders only is now over, and if any tickets are still available they are now on
general sale, and until sold out will be on offer until 4pm on Friday March 29
As demand may outstrip supply, we strongly advise supporters to buy as early as possible
Ticket prices: £10 adults, £5 senior citizens and juniors

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
The restriction of sales to season ticket holders only is now over, and if any tickets are still available they are now on
general sale, and until sold out will be on offer until 4pm on Friday April 5
As demand may outstrip supply, we strongly advise supporters to buy as early as possible
Ticket prices: £12 adults, £6 senior citizens and juniors

Nationwide League Division Three

Shrewsbury Town v Luton Town

Saturday April 20, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters, standing terrace available only, with none available on the day.
Tickets are now on sale to season ticket holders only, by post, or in person, at the ticket office on production of cup
match voucher D, one ticket per voucher.
If applying by post, please mark your envelope clearly 66, and enclose a cheque, or full credit card details, including
expiry date and issue number, together with a stamped addressed envelope.
Season ticket holders have until Friday March 29 to claim their tickets.
Any remaining tickets will go on general sale at 9am on Monday April 1.
Ticket prices: SEATS - SOLD OUT
STANDING - adults £10, senior and juniors £6

Ticket Office Opening Hours

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

10am to 4pm, except on Fridays before Saturday home games when it is
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9am to 5.15pm on match days; 10am until the away coaches depart on days when
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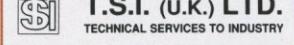
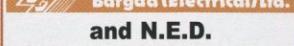
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Luton Belles

THE LUTON Belles continue to keep pace with the Town's Division Three side, winning their two latest Southern Region Women's league fixtures to make it six wins on the bounce.

Luton travelled to Mansfield Road in Oxford and completed the league double over the third-placed side with a fine 3-0 win. Belles were forced to reorganise due to injuries, but dominated the early exchanges and forced several saves from the home keeper before taking the lead. Kaylee Owen burst through two defenders and shot against the post, and the rebound fell to Vicky Moody, who made no mistake. Rhiannon Morgan had a lob cleared off the line and the home side were fortunate to trail by only a single goal at half time.

But they put the Luton goal under intense pressure at times in the second half. The defence held firm, however, inspired by centre back and club captain Lyndsey McKeown. When they were breached keeper Sarah Gailey was on top form, making several fine saves.

Luton weathered the storm and moved forward again. Winger Amy Gray was brought down on the edge of the area and picked herself up to curl in the free kick to make it 2-0. It was Amy's 120th goal for the club, and she is now the all-time top goal scorer. Kaylee Owen went on to net the third with a strong run and shot to complete a hard-earned win.

Tring Athletic were last week's visitors, in a game played in swirling winds which can claim an assist with the opening goal when a Tring clearance was blown back towards their goal and Vicky Moody was the quickest to react to open the scoring. Minutes the Tring keeper spilled a cross and Vicky squared for Kaylee Owen to run in and make it 2-0.

The second half was one-way traffic, and it was no surprise when Kim Hide met a Louise Evans corner to head in number three. Luton began to move the ball around and produced numerous scoring opportunities with Stacey Connell, Amy Gray, Alex Orr and Rhiannon Morgan all going close before a Samantha Mather blast from 25 yards made it 4-0.



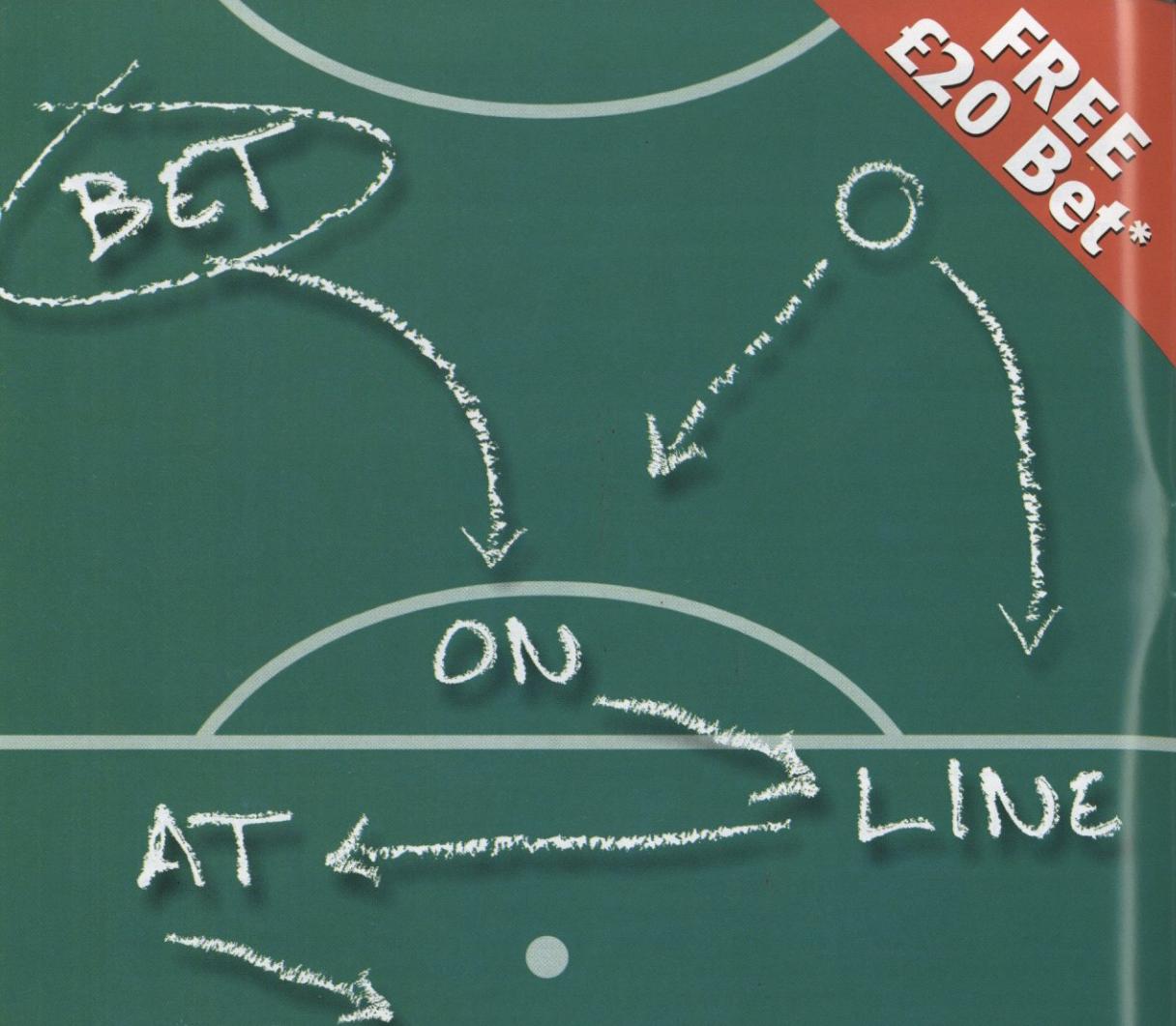
CUP WINNERS: The victorious Luton Belles under-12s.

The first trophy of the season arrived in style when the under-12s beat Sundon Park Rangers in the League Cup final. Sundon boasted just a single defeat in two years, but were soon up against it when Chloe Fensome scored after just two minutes and just before half time Kayleigh Watkins fired in a low shot to make it 2-0. Kayleigh is not a regular on the score sheet, but has scored in all three cup finals she has played in.

When Chloe Fensome scored her second the game was all but over at 3-0, but further late strikes from Alice Burbury and Nicola Shepherd rounded off a superb 5-0 victory.

To complete a very satisfactory day's work Belles were later honoured by Luton Sports Council in two categories for their outstanding performance in 2001. The under-16 squad was voted Young Sports Team of the Year, and the Belles as a whole were winners of the Luton Sports Club of the Year award. This reflected not just their success on the field but also their contribution to the community in promoting girls and women's football. This was a considerable feat, as the category involves adult and junior clubs in all sports within Luton.

Dave Baker



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www.lutontown.co.uk



Linda Layton

AS IS often the case, we welcome back old friends and loyal supporters today as our match sponsors. They are a group of pals from the Stopsley area of Luton, and for the purpose of their regular sponsorships of matches they call themselves Don't Wait Up in honour of their thoughtful advice to wives or sweethearts on the occasions when they gather for group meetings, usually to watch or talk about football.

"We are all Luton Town supporters, and have been for many years," confirmed Grant Janes, from Stapleford Road, Stopsley. "As usual we are looking forward to a great afternoon's entertainment."

The Don't Wait Up team today is John Allen, Dave Childs, Phil Connah, John Creasey, Tony Foley, Adam Freeman, Dick Janes, Grant Janes, Cliff Large, Martyn Leach, Brian Leggetter and Keith Norris.

We hope their wish for a great afternoon is granted today, and we know it will be if the team produces another good victory. And, as always, we thank our sponsors for their support of our commercial activities.

TODAY'S match ball sponsor is a famous name, Crown Trade Paints, who have been generous supporters of football for a long time. They say their business is "Making life a shade easier." You can see their name on advert boards in soccer grounds all over the country, and their soccer-related selling slogans

include "Crown Trade paints, for wall-to-wall coverage without the irritating pundits."

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Paul Deards

ELEVEN-year-old Paul Deards, from High View, Deanshanger, Milton Keynes, is a keen Luton Town fan, but this afternoon will enjoy his trip to Kenilworth Road even more than usual. He is commercial mascot, which means he has VIP treatment and a look behind the scenes at his favourite football club.

A pupil at Kingsbrook School, Deanshanger, Paul enjoys pool and rugby when he is not supporting the Hatters. He comes to games with his dad Gary and brother Jamie.

Today Paul will join the Town players in the dressing room as they prepare for the game, which means he has the pleasure of a meeting with his favourite, Steve Howard. Another pleasure will be running down the tunnel and onto the pitch with the team before kick-off, to join them for the pre-match rituals, including meeting the match officials and captains for the toss of the coin to decide choice of ends.

Linda Layton

Golden Gamble

WE LOVE giving away money to our supporters, and once again another fan went home with a lot of good reasons to enjoy his visit to Kenilworth Road for the Exeter game on Tuesday. Kevin Maidment, from Dunstable Road, Redbourn, was the night's Golden Gamble winner, and collected £665 in ready cash. He is pictured receiving his prize from Commercial Manager Linda Layton. Our 50/50 lottery is heading for a record season, thanks to its popularity with supporters. They seem to share our view that it is a reasonable flutter - tickets cost just £1 each, and the prize has been several hundred pounds at every game so far. Mr Maidment was

the 19th winner of the season, and with prize money totalling £12,015 the average pay-out has been £667. The jackpot depends on sales, but even losers can take some consolation from knowing they are helping their club: out of each £1 ticket, half the money goes towards the prize and the other 50p to club funds.

As usual, Golden Gamble sellers are on duty in all areas of the ground this afternoon, and once more one ticket costing £1 will scoop the jackpot. The draw is made on the pitch during the half time interval, and the cash is available for collection immediately.



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Goals Info:



Where

Close Range

29 Goals

Inside Area

37 Goals

Outside Area

10 Goals

How

Shots 40

Headers 21

Volleyes 12

Penalties ... 3

Free Kicks.. 0

O.G.s 0

Top Scorers

Howard 16

Crowe 12

Taylor 10

Griffiths 7

Nicholls 5

Spring 5

Forbes 4

Valois 4

2001-2002

Highest Gate

9,585

vs Plymouth

Lowest Gate

5,066

vs Lincoln

Average Gate

6,747

Players Used 34

Clean Sheets 12

Failed to Score 3

Consec. Wins 7 games

Consec. Defeats 2 games

Goals Info:

Hatters' Last 10

Res Opp

W Exeter

W Rushden

W Orient

W Torquay

W Lincoln

W York

W Bristol Rovers

L Scunthorpe

L Rochdale

W Plymouth

Ven Opp Pos

H 14th

A 9th

H 22nd

A 22nd

A 20th

H 20th

H 17th

H 6th

A 4th

H 1st

Seasonal Progress Comparison

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

1st

2nd

3rd

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Welcome to Kidderminster Harriers F.C.



Back Row (Left to Right): Mark Blake Daire Doyle Tony Bird Craig Hinton Mark Shail (left the club) Andrew Corbett Dean Bennett Sam Shilton Parfait Medou-Otse (left the club)
Middle Row: Nigel Clemmet (Kit Manager) Stewart Hadley (left the club) Danny Williams Drewe Broughton Brendan Murphy (left the club) Stuart Brock Sall Abdou Lee Ayres Matt Lewis Jim Conway (Physio)
Front Row: Peter Faulds Ben Davies Ian Joy Paul Webb (left the club) Jan Molby (Manager) Ian Clarkson Gary Barnett (Asst. Manager) Scott Stamps Adie Smith Ian Foster Andy Ducros

Jan Molby - Manager



Jan began his footballing career in his native Denmark at part-timers Kolding at the age of five years old where he went on to spend thirteen years before impressing Dutch giants Ajax, whom he signed for in July 1982 for a fee of £100,000.

Playing in the same side as Johan Cruyff, Jan went on to win the Dutch League and Cup double. After 73 games and 21 goals for the Dutch side, Jan caught the eye of Liverpool boss Joe Fagan who brought him over to England in August 1984 for a fee of £225,000.

Jan wasted little time settling in on Merseyside. As well as acquiring a scouse accent, Jan picked up three League championship winners medals; three League runners-up medals; three FA Cup winners medals; one FA Cup runners-up medal; European Cup runners-up medal and a League Cup runners-up medal.

On the international front Jan went on to play a major role for the exciting Denmark side that graced the 1986 World Cup. Winning 34 caps for his country, Jan also established himself as a crowd favourite at Liverpool, winning three Player of the Year awards, before finally leaving Anfield in February 1996 to take up the post as Player/Manager at Swansea City.

Jan's impact was immediate and he took Swansea City to Wembley in his first full season where they narrowly missed promotion to the Second Division via the play-offs courtesy of a last minute goal. Jan left the Vetch Field five months

later after a take-over at the Welsh club. Jan became Manager of Kidderminster Harriers in May 1999. Jan's wasted no time in making his mark at Aggborough. Despite Kidderminster surprisingly losing four of their first five games at the start of their league campaign, Molby's side soon found their feet and were finally crowned Champions of the Nationwide Conference only 12 months after his appointment.

In Goal

No.1 - STUART BROCK

DOB: 26/9/76

Released by Aston Villa, Stuart signed for Kidderminster in September 1997 after a short spell at Northampton Town. Stuart made his Harriers first team debut in November 1997 and has since battled with a number of keepers to retain a first team spot. A fine shot stopper, Stuart's hard work, determination and impressive form this season has seen him be rewarded with a two and half year contract in December 2001.

No.28 - JOHN DANBY

DOB: 20/9/83

John has made a rapid progression through the club's youth and reserve sides to become the club's new second choice keeper. One for the future.

In Defence

No.3 - SCOTT STAMPS

DOB: 20/3/75

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Today's Visitors



Birmingham born Scott began his footballing career at Torquay United as a trainee where he later progressed into the First Team making over 80 appearances. Colchester United was Scott's next port of call in March 1997 following a £10,000 deal.

Scott spent two years at Colchester before moving to Kidderminster Harriers in September 1999. Scott soon settled at Aggborough and his consistency at left back played a major part in Harriers' achievements in recent years.

No.5 - CRAIG HINTON

DOB: 26/11/77

Craig joined Kidderminster in 1998 after an impressive trial period at Aggborough following his release by Birmingham City at the end of the 1997/98 season. Craig began his career at right back before reverting to a centre-half role halfway through last season. The change of position proved to be the making of Craig who strung together a number of impressive performances in his new role.

Craig, who signed a new three and a half year extension to his existing deal in January 2001, had an impressive debut season in the Football League and has recently courted the attention of a number of higher league sides.



No.6 - ADIE SMITH

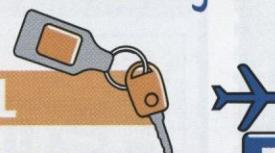
DOB: 11/8/73

Adie signed for Kidderminster in the Summer of 1997 for £19,000 from non-league Bromsgrove Rovers. Adie, who began his career at Willenhall Town, has repaid his transfer fee back many times over with a number of match winning performances.

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son before being forced to miss four months of the season with a broken foot.

No.25 - IAN JOY
DOB: 14/07/81

American-born Ian began his footballing education at Tranmere Rovers as a trainee before winning a professional contract with the Merseyside club.

After leaving Prenton Park Ian moved to Scottish side Stirling Albion before then joining Montrose last season. An Under-20 American international, Ian spent a trial period with Kidderminster in the summer of 2001 before agreeing a new two-year deal with the club.

No.26 - ABDOU SALL
DOB: 1/11/80

Born in Senegal, Abdou began his career with French Third Division side Montauban as youngster where, after impressing many sides, he moved to Toulouse on a free transfer. Abdou, who holds a French passport, spent two years with Toulouse before coming over to England where he spent two weeks on trial with Kidderminster Harriers. After impressing during this period, the 6ft 3in defender signed a two-year deal with the club in August 2001 and has quickly become a big favourite with the Harriers faithful.

No.7 - DAIRE DOYLE
DOB: 18/10/80

Daire began his career back in his native Ireland with Cherry Orchard before being snapped up by Premiership side Coventry City for a nominal fee back in 1998.

Daire impressed during his time at Highfield Road but struggled to break into the First Team. A trial spell at Kidderminster eventually earned the tough tackling midfielder a move to Aggborough in January 2001 on a two and half year deal.

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In Midfield



No.8 - DANNY WILLIAMS
DOB: 12/7/79

Danny began his career as a trainee at Liverpool before moving onto Wrexham where he began to forge a reputation for himself whilst going on to make a number of Under-21 appearances for Wales. Danny enjoyed a loan spell at Doncaster last season sandwiched in between a cluster of games for the Welsh side before Kidderminster snapped up his services on a free transfer in June 2001.

No.11 - SAM SHILTON
DOB: 21/7/78

Sam began his footballing career as a trainee at Plymouth before moving on to Coventry City where he made a handful of appearances for the former Premiership side. Sam, son of former England goalkeeping legend Peter, spent the past two seasons at Hartlepool before the attacking midfielder agreed to a move to Kidderminster in July 2001 on a free transfer.

No.14 - ANDY DUCROS
DOB: 16/9/77

Andy began his career at Coventry City, making a handful of Premiership appearances for the Sky Blues during which time he was invited, as a youngster, to train with England's Euro '96 squad for the entirety of the tournament. Transfer advances from Bristol City, Luton Town and Scunthorpe fell through before Andy dropped down into the Nationwide Conference during the summer of 1999 in order to kick-start his career with Nuneaton Borough.

Andy, who represented England at Under-18 level, soon began to earn rave reviews for his new side and, after only

twelve months at 'Boro, he moved to Kidderminster Harriers in July 2000 for a club record transfer fee in excess of £100,000.

No.17 - BEN DAVIES
DOB: 27/5/81

Ben began his career as a trainee at Walsall before joining Harriers' youth set up towards the end of the 1999/2000 season. Ben's progression as a player was duly noted by Jan Molby who rewarded the youngster with a professional contract and has since made a number of first team appearances for the club. A hard working and tough tackling midfielder, the youngster signed a new twelve-month deal in May 2001.

No.18 - PETER FAULDS
DOB: 26/8/82

Peter is another product of Harriers' developing Youth system and, after playing in the Youth and Reserve sides last season, the tough tackling midfielder signed a twelve-month professional contract with the club in May 2001.

No.20 - DEAN BENNETT
DOB: 13/12/77

Dean joined Harriers in January 1999 for a then club record transfer fee of £30,000 from non-league Bromsgrove Rovers. Dean, who joined Rovers after being released by West Bromwich Albion has made an impressive start to his Harriers career and was rewarded with an England Semi-professional cap against Wales in May 2000.

An exciting attacking player, Dean signed a new two and a half year deal at Aggborough in December 2001.

No.24 - MARK BLAKE
DOB: 16/12/70

Mark began his career at Aston Villa as he joined the club as a trainee where he spent four years before moving to Portsmouth in a £400,000 move. Mark spent a year at Fratton Park before a £360,000 move took the former England U-21 international to Leicester City where he spent two seasons.

Mark made subsequent moves to Walsall and Mansfield before joining Harriers on a free transfer in July 2001 after agreeing a two-year deal with the club.

Up Front



No.9 - DREWE BROUGHTON
DOB: 25/10/78

Drewe initially joined Harriers on a one-month loan deal in January 2001 from Second Division Peterborough United. Drewe began his career as a trainee at Norwich City before moving to Brentford in a £100,000 deal. Drewe's stay at Griffin Park was short and sweet and within a month he moved to Peterborough United for another £100,000 fee.

The 6ft 3in frontman joined Harriers in a £50,000 deal when he signed a 3 year contract at Aggborough in February 2001.



No.10 - IAN FOSTER
DOB: 11/11/76

Ian began his career at Liverpool where he spent the early years of his footballing life at the Anfield Mecca. Ian, who represented England at schoolboy level, was released by the Merseyside club as a 20-year old and soon found his way to Hereford United and then on to non-league Barrow.

Ian signed for Kidderminster in July 1999 on a free transfer and repaid Harriers' faith in him by finishing the Conference-winning season as the club's top goalscorer and his consistency was rewarded with an England Semi-Professional appearance against Wales.

No.22 - ANDREW CORBETT
DOB: 20/2/82

Andrew joined Harriers as a schoolboy and has worked his way through to the first team squad via the Youth and Reserve set-up. Andrew, after impressing boss Jan Molby, was rewarded with professional contract at the beginning of last season. Andrew made a number of First Team appearances last season and showed enough potential to justify the award of a new two-year deal in the summer 2001.

No.23 - MATT LEWIS
DOB: 20/3/84

Matt signed a three-year deal with Kidderminster in July 2001 after bagging 52 goals with Coventry based side Marconi in the previous season.

A bright future is predicted for the pacy youngster who made his Football League debut as a substitute against York in October 2001.

No.27 - COLIN LARKIN
DOB: 27/4/82

The lightning fast youngster signed on loan from Wolves in October 2001 after representing Ireland at under-18 level. Colin, who has made a handful of first team appearances at Wolves, impressed Kidderminster Harriers boss Jan Molby during his initial three-month loan period and, after negotiations with the Molinex club, they agreed to let the young Irishman stay at Aggborough until the end of this season.

No.29 - RICHIE APPLEY
DOB: 18/07/75

Richie began his football career at Newcastle United as a trainee where he spent six seasons whilst representing England at Youth level. Richie then moved to Ipswich Town where he spent twelve months before Jan Molby, then manager at Swansea City, signed him to the Welsh club in August 1996 on a free transfer. Richie impressed during that period, so much so that Molby elected to sign Richie until the end of the 2001/02 season.

No.30 - BO HENRIKSEN
DOB: 07/02/75

Bo began his career as a youngster at Danish Super League side OB Odense. Bomber' signed for Harriers on a 3-month loan deal in November 2001 from Herfølge and scored on his Harriers debut at Leyton Orient.

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All our yesterdays

Do I not like toffee!

Roger Wash

Sixteen years ago this evening the Hatters bowed out of the F.A. Cup at the quarter final stage to Everton, their conquerors in the semi-finals the previous season, and so end another marvellous marathon.

The road to the 'twin towers' had started in January with a trip to Crystal Palace of the old Division Two. The original match was postponed due to the lottery of a frostbound pitch but this was replaced by a boggy surface once the contest went ahead two days later during which time Charlton had managed to play a cup-tie on it!

The game was won on the wings with Ricky Hill and Brian Stein marauding down the right with Mitchell Thomas and David Preece interchanging perfectly down the other flank. The Town's opening goal came after eight minutes when Stein headed in a cross from Thomas but it was not until just before the end, after a series of missed opportunities, that the game was made safe when Preece fired home.

The reward for this victory was a home tie against Division Three side Bristol Rovers. In truth the Pirates were probably beaten before they arrived at Kenilworth Road as they were missing three first choice defenders through injury. To take on a top flight team playing at the peak of its abilities on an artificial surface where ball control and playing to feet were paramount meant that Rovers did not stand a chance. This was one game where the Cup was not going to be a great leveller.

The Town strolled through the game netting two goals in each half to cap an impressive display against opponents who never gave up the fight. Rovers manager, Bobby Gould, was moved to say afterwards that he felt that the Town were well equipped to go all the way to Wembley.

Before doing so the Hatters had to overcome Arsenal who we were paired with at Kenilworth Road in a tie that certainly caught the imagination, as proved when big queues snaked around the ground after tickets went on sale.

In the weeks leading up to the tie the Town had been involved in a bad tempered clash with the Gunners in a league game at Highbury which would be bound to add spice to the occasion.

Record receipts of just under £60,000 and a press box full of Fleet Street's finest certainly made this the game of the season.

The clash lived up to its billing with four goals, two to each side, scored in the first half. A bad injury suffered by Brian Stein, which would see him out of action until April, and accusations levelled by Arsenal manager Don Howe that Luton players, and in particular Mick Harford, used 'bludgeoning' tactics made it a feisty affair.

That being said the Hatters were rather unfortunate to see the tie being taken back to Highbury as they had more than enough chances in the second half to have won. Surprisingly, the normally biased London press corps agreed with this view but those comments were hidden away amongst many column inches of quotes from Arsenal players and management regarding the Town's supposed rough play!

The much hyped replay was postponed due to the failure of the Highbury under soil heating and when the game was played, only five days before the scheduled quarter-final date, the playing conditions were still a lottery. The players slipped and slid through another 120 minutes of football, on a surface that would not be passed playable today, with no goals being scored. Arsenal had the best of the chances, especially in extra time, but the Luton defence held firm with Mal Donaghy, Steve Foster and Les Sealey outstanding.

No golden goals or penalty shootouts in those days with all cup games needing as many replays as necessary. A toss of a coin brought the second replay back to Kenilworth Road only two days later, again a situation that would not be tolerated today.

In one of the best Luton performances I have been privileged to see over the years the Hatters completely steamrollered their illustrious, star-studded North London neighbours fully deserving their eventual 3-0 win. All eleven Town players hit their peak for the ninety minutes and in all honesty they would have beaten anyone that evening. Mark Stein in his first Town game of the season, deputising for the injured Marc North, was on fire, scoring once and forcing David O'Leary to put through his own goal. Even Don Howe, shortly

lose his job, agreed that the Town were worthy winners.

After all the euphoria following that brilliant performance came the reality that we had to take on Everton at Kenilworth Road in the quarter-finals four days later. Everton, the reigning league champions, were neck and neck with Merseyside rivals Liverpool at the top of the table but most importantly they would be fresh while we would be playing our fourth game in seven days.

We had a score to settle with the Toffees as they were extremely fortunate to knock us out at the semi-final stage the previous season. Luton supporters still look at the video of that game and wonder how we lost!

A crowd of 15,529 turned up at Kenilworth Road to see Mick Harford give the Town the lead after 21 minutes when he was quick to react to a Ricky Hill shot that was parried by Neville Southall in the Everton goal. When Mark Stein skipped through a square defence on the hour mark to double the lead we all truly thought that Wembley was our destiny.

Unfortunately, Everton were not regarded as the best team in the country at the time for nothing and, following a clever substitution, they seemed to step up a gear and replied almost instantly through Graeme Sharp.

Everton turned the screw and attacked in waves and it was backs against the wall for the Luton defenders until the inevitable equaliser came with 13 minute left when substitute Adrian Heath latched on to a Gary Lineker overhead kick that could have gone anywhere. It could have been even worse as with tiredness now really setting in



Mark Stein runs towards David Preece after scoring the Town's second goal against Everton.

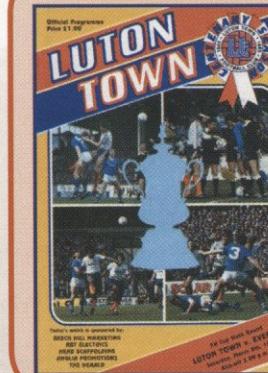
the Luton defenders were grateful to Lineker for missing two simple opportunities in the final minutes. The replay, four days later, was meant to be a walkover as far as the crowd of 44,264 was concerned and with Lineker skinning both Foster and Donaghy before scoring an early goal it seemed they could have been right.

It seemed all over when a penalty was awarded after Lineker was brought down by Sealey, seemingly outside the area, but the Luton goalkeeper saved the spot-kick and this seemed to galvanise the Town into greater effort.

A shot from substitute Ray Daniel shook the woodwork and with Foster joining the attack to create maximum havoc the Everton supporters were howling for the final whistle long before the end. They managed to hold out, however, and Luton supporters leaving Goodison Park 16 years ago this evening were cursing Everton for the second season running.

Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages



The Town caused a stir at the start of the 1985/86 season by becoming the first club to charge £1 for a programme but the resulting production was value for money in the eyes of most supporters. It was a rush job to put out an issue for the visit of Everton, but in those days a great many articles were written in anticipation of what might happen as cup replays took place only days after the original tie.

The Everton issue contained much about the brilliant fifth round, second replay win over Arsenal and also carried praise for the ticket office staff at Kenilworth Road who it was reckoned had been face to face with more than 10,000 people during the course of the previous week.

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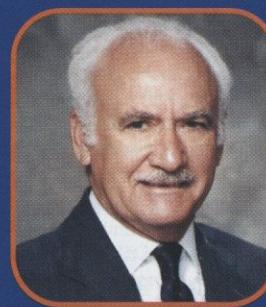
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POLICY STATEMENT - SPECTATOR SAFETY



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.

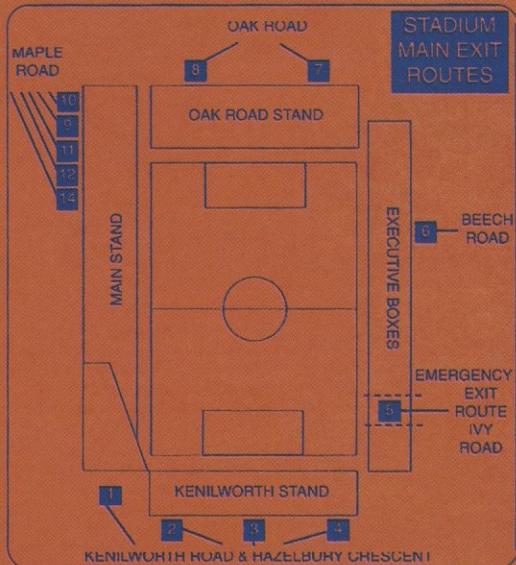
Mike Watson-Challis Chairman

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.

For the latest ticket information call
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Sealed Explorer spherical roller bearings
The SKF Explorer bearing range represents a totally new generation of spherical roller bearings. The Explorer range has accommodated up to 25 per cent higher torque loadings, and provided a 300% increase in service life, compared with the equivalent size of standard spherical roller bearings.

Now, SKF has unveiled a range of sealed-for-life Explorer bearings that reduce grease consumption, lower life cycle cost, lower recycling costs and reduce pressure on the environment.

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SKF SYSTEM 24 is a practical, cost-effective solution to overcome the fact that 36 per cent of all premature bearing failures are caused by poor or inadequate lubrication. It's 'fit and forget' concept between extended scheduled changes reduces demands on maintenance staff bringing new levels of confidence and lowers overhead charges.

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SPEEDI-SLEEVE sealing solution

An oil seal's job is to 'seal in' oil or grease, keeping bearings lubricated and contaminants out. However, in most industrial environments, dirt or other abrasive particles collect and become lodged under the lip of the seal, where they eventually cut a groove in the surface of the shaft. These grooves cause oil to leak out past the seal, ultimately leading to bearing damage.

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The quality of the bearing housing has a dramatic impact on the performance and lifetime of the bearings themselves. Even high quality bearings installed into poor fitting housings have their lifetimes shortened. This occurs for a variety of reasons, such as the bearings becoming distorted due to poor clamping, or misalignment through poor geometry or manufacture.



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- Sealed Explorer SPEEDI-SLEEVE
- SYSTEM 24 SNL bearing housing
- Interactive Engineering Catalogue

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Fans Scene

TICKETS are selling fast for the best Hatters party of the year, the annual presentation evening run jointly by the football club and the Luton Town Supporters Club. See below for details, and if you want to be at a cracking promotion celebration, pop into the Luton Town Supporters Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road before or after today's game.

Town on Tour, part of the Supporters Club, will also take bookings for coach trips to the final away games of the season, as will the Bobbers Travel Club in their kiosk. But please remember that they are all-ticket matches for Luton supporters, so make sure you have tickets for the games before booking coach seats.

Town on Tour are close to finalising

details for their trip to the Isle of Man in July, to watch the Town in a pre-season tournament in Douglas from July 21 to 27. Burnley, Wrexham, Darlington, Rochdale, and the Isle of Man national side are the other teams involved. If there are any places left on the trip, you can get more details and make a provisional reservation through the LTSC kiosk today, or by contacting Mark Chapman by fax on 01296 714073 or e-mail to markchapman65@hotmail.com. You can also leave a message on Town on Tour's mobile at 07960 567465. A £100 deposit will secure your place when details are finalised. Prices, with bed and breakfast accommodation, are expected to range from £249 using a guesthouse to £399 for a five-crown luxury hotel.


Player of the Season Presentation Evening


Sunday 21st April 2002
7.00pm til late
at
The Riverside Suite
Vauxhall Recreation Centre
Gipsy Lane, Luton

Special Guest Speaker
David Croft (Radio 5 Live)

Disco • Hot & Cold Buffet • Presentation Draw
Smart Casual Dress
Tickets: £12 LTSC Members
£15 Non Members

Top Hatter David Bayliss



Born: Liverpool, 8.6.76

Joined Luton: December, 2001, from Rochdale

Were you good at school? I got five GCSEs, but PE was always my best subject, and my ambition was always to be a professional footballer. I joined Liverpool at 14, a dream come true, but it was a bitter blow when they decided not to give me a YTS place at 16. I played non-league football for Marine, and worked as a labourer on building sites. In six months with them I played against junior sides from league clubs, and I was cheeky enough to pester them for trials. Rochdale signed me and the dream had come true again. I took a cut in wages, but it was worth it.

Why did you come to Luton? I was happy at Rochdale until Steve Parkin, a brilliant manager, left to go to Barnsley. The new man left me out of the side, and as it happened Luton had a bit of an injury crisis and made an approach. Mick Harford and Joe Kinnear told me about their ambitions, and I signed. I love it here. The players are a brilliant bunch. The management team are winners, and that rubs off on us. We are very competitive. Even in training none of us likes getting beaten.

Do you like other sports? I play tennis when the weather is hot, and I watch a lot of cricket. That's a nice way to relax and chill out. I play a bit of golf, and will watch just about any sport.

How do you relax? I don't, very often! I like to be with my fiancée, Jayne, but during the football season especially I like to keep active so quite often after training I work out in the gym. I want to improve my game – I realise how very lucky I am to be earning a living as a professional, and I want to earn a new contract for next season! Joining Luton was the best thing that has happened to me in my career so far.

The worst thing? When I was at Rochdale, aged 19, and they were drawn to play Liverpool at Anfield in the FA Cup. On the Wednesday I signed a new contract, and was in the team. But by Saturday I had been dropped, and that was heart-breaking – I really wanted to play against "my team" that I had supported all my life. I also wanted to show Liverpool that they made a mistake when they let me go at 16. Rochdale were hammered 7-1. I'll never know what it might have been if I had been playing... probably Liverpool would have scored ten! My other worst moment was getting the red card on my return to Scotland.

What are your plans when you have to finish playing? I hope that is a long way off. When my professional days are over I will still want to play somewhere, even Sunday morning pub league football. But I have always continued to learn. I have done a computer course, and I have my first qualification towards becoming an FA coach. I don't think I want to be a manager, but I would like to stay in the game, probably coaching. I will always love football: when I can't play I will watch, at every level.



Football in the Community



Stuart Smith

THE FIRST thing I would like to do this afternoon is to welcome the Community Department's guests, St Martin's Junior Football

Club to the game.

St Martin's are one of the many local clubs who have expressed a desire to forge closer links with this Football Club.

They have decided to take advantage of the expert professional coaching we can offer. To this end we have put together a course of evening sessions for around 90 of their players. This opportunity is of course open to all local Football clubs.

I now like to use the remainder of today's column to inform you of all the courses we are currently running. This includes everything for the Easter break.



The above picture shows children enjoying Community Coaching at the Sainsbury's Bramingham Soccer School

VENUE	AGE GROUP	START DATE	DAY & TIME	TOTAL WEEKS	WEEKS REMAINING	COST
Bramingham Primary Boys & girls	7 - 11	12/1/02	Sat 10.00 -11.30am	10	3	£2.50pw
Ashcroft High Boys	12 - 15	1/2/02	Fri 4.30-6pm	7	2	£2.50pw
Luton Regional Sports Centre Boys & Girls	5 - 6	25/2/02	Mon 4 - 5pm	10	7	£2.50pw
Luton Regional Sports Centre Boys	7 - 11	28/2/02	Thurs 4-5pm	10	8	£2.50pw
Luton Regional Sports Centre Girls	7 - 11	28/2/02	Thurs 5-6pm	10	8	£2.50pw

EASTER HOLIDAY COURSES.

All courses available are set out on the facing page along with a form for you to return if you wish to enrol.

This Easter course take place at venues in Luton and Dunstable between 28/3/02 and 4/4/02. The courses cater for children from the ages of 5 to 15 yrs and include a specialist 2 day goalkeeping course and an Elite one day session (for the more advanced player). This course will be delivered by a top UEFA 'A' Licence Coach.

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COURSE CODE	NO OF DAYS	VENUE	DATE	TIME	COST	COURSE TYPE
LSC 1	2	Hillborough Primary School Luton	Thur 28 - Fri 29 Mar	10.00am - 3.00pm	£20.00	7 - 11 yrs
LSC 2	3	Bushmead Primary School Luton	Tue 2 - Thur 4 Apr	10.00am - 3.00pm	£30.00	7 - 11 yrs
LSC 3	1	Bushmead Primary School Luton	Thur 4 Apr	10.00am - 3.00pm	£10.00	5 - 6 yrs
DGK 1	2	Queensbury School Meadow Dunstable	Thur 4 - Fri 5 Apr	10.00am - 3.00pm	£20.00	8 - 13 yrs
DSC 2	3	Queensbury School Meadow Dunstable	Wed 3 - Fri 5 Apr	10.00am - 3.00pm	£30.00	7 - 11 yrs
DSC 3	2	Queensbury School Meadow Dunstable	Wed 3 - Thur 4 Apr	10.00am - 3.00pm	£20.00	12 - 15 yrs
DSC 4 ELITE	1	Queensbury School Meadow Dunstable	Fri 5 Apr	9.00am - 3.00pm	£12.50	14 - 17 yrs

TO RESERVE A PLACE ON A COURSE

1. Please return completed application form. One form per child must be signed by a parent or guardian. Extra forms can be obtained from Stuart Smith at the Football Club on 01582 411622.
2. Please make cheques payable to: Luton Town Football in the Community.
3. Please enclose stamped, self addressed envelope for confirmation of your booking.
4. Send application forms together with your cheque, to reach club before 5pm 27/3/02, To: Stuart Smith Football and Community Development Officer Luton Town FC Kenilworth Stadium 1 Maple Road Luton Beds

PLEASE NOTE TO SECURE A PLACE ON ANY COURSE CHILDREN MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE COMMUNITY OFFICE AND ALL PAYMENTS MADE BY 27/2/02.
NO REGISTRATION OR PAYMENT ACCEPTED ON THE DAY UNLESS BY PRIOR AGREEMENT WITH STUART SMITH AT LUTON TOWN FC.



Please reserve a place on the above course (pls put course code in the box on right).

Name: Age:

Address:

Postcode:

Home Tel No: School:

Any Health Problem Disorders or Medication? Please ring to give details.

I acknowledge and accept that Luton Town FC, their football in the community scheme, or the organisation providing facilities and their respective agents, servants and employees, are not under any liability whatsoever in respect of personal injury, loss or damage however caused whilst in attendance on the above course.

Signature of Parent / Guardian:

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01582 411622

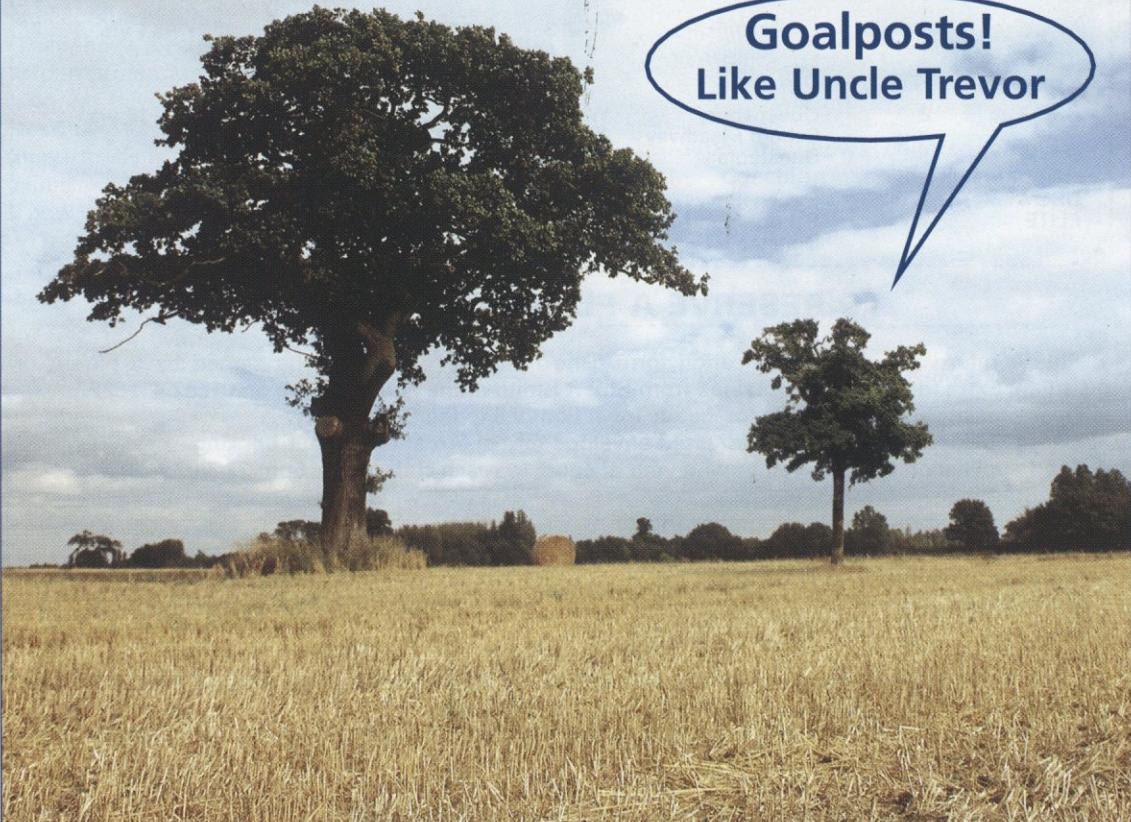
The Luton News

FOOTBALL



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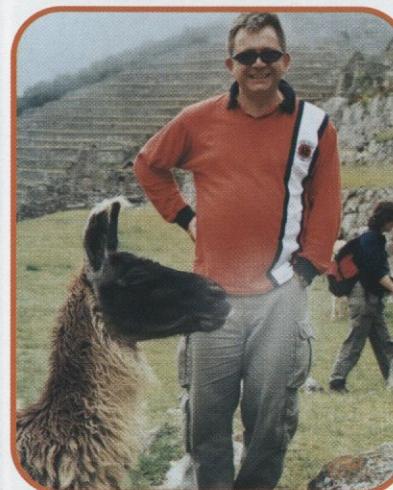
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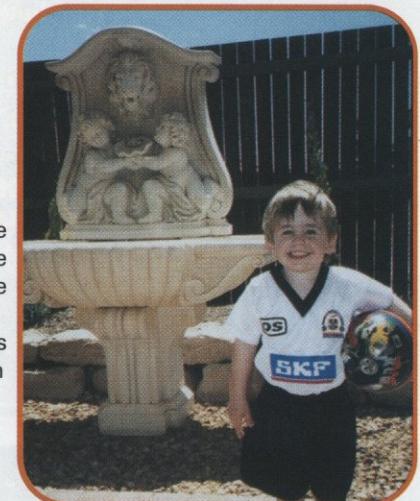
Offer ends 30th April 2002 and you must subscribe to the **ITV Sport** Channel
until the end of the season to take up the offer.

Premier League pay-per-view matches are available individually.

Hatters Abroad



WE ARE at one of the world's more exotic locations today in the continuing story of well-travelled Luton Town kit. The photo of season ticket holder Richard Gray was taken in the lost city of the Incas, Machu Picchu, in Peru. The llama, ubiquitous in that part of South America, is notorious for spitting at people, and Richard admits he was a little concerned that this one was too close for comfort. But he has returned home intact!



WE HAVE to take our correspondents' word for it that the picture of three-year-old Thomas Old Smith was taken on the other side of the world. He lives in Brisbane, Australia, but as you can see his football heart is here in Luton.

Thomas is the cousin of staunch Town fans Matt and Chris Larkins, and our thanks to them for sending in the photograph



A MORE familiar backdrop is the scene in which five fans are showing off their Luton Town connections. The picture was taken in the Nou Camp stadium, Barcelona, and shows, left to right, Martin Rust, Jack Bradman, Bob Miller, Steve Hamil and John Pyper. They work it out that this one picture illustrates over 200 years of support for the Town.

FOR THIS occasional series we are pleased to receive pictures of Town colours anywhere in the world. If you have an interesting snap of Hatters gear in far-off places, please send it, with a few details, to the editor at Luton Town FC. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want the photographs back, but please remember that with the best will in the world they sometimes go astray.

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

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Dean Rastrick

Youth Development

SOME of our schoolboy players are looking forward to travelling abroad in the near future as the club responds to invitations to take part in various tournaments. We will be able to report on the trips after they happen, and perhaps even mention a few results.

In our domestic football programme, in which we play teams from other clubs, results are considered to be purely incidental, and by order of the Football League we are not allowed to publish them. You can be sure, however, that the results matter to the lads, for all the times they are reminded that at their age it is about learning to play the right way. I thought today it might be nice to name some of our squads, players who are in our Centre of Excellence programme. All of the players listed below are registered as schoolboy players with Luton Town.

Team Managers

Under 12s Manager	Under 13s Manager	Under 14s Manager	Under 15s Manager
Martin Bradshaw	Neil Rodney	Gary Worth	Lee Cowley

Players	Players	Players	Players
Ashley Harrison	Sean Power	Stuart Sinclair	Nicky Mountford
Dominic Easter	Ian Whitlock	Bradley Newman	Tom Freeman
Dean Hamilton	Robert Sinclair	Zach Barrett	Paul Danaher
Toby Ascroft	Ryan Quinn	Stuart Richardson	Luke Maitland
Jack Goodacre	Ryan Cowley	Steven Cunningham	Keith Keane
Tom Randall	Russell Preston	Paul Kelly	Jack Nelly
Ryan Charles	Rob Bannister	Liam Smyth	David Deeney
Paul Marsiligo	Matthew Chapman	Josh Green	Darren Blake
Matt Hill	Graham Sands	Jermaine Hall	Danny McCarthy
Gary Ogilvie	Ed Asafu-Adjaye	Darren Pond	
Paul Read	Cory McNally	Chris Pendleton	
Joe Selby	Ashton Campbell	Lui Field	

These boys play in the Football League Excellence programme. All games are played on Sunday mornings at St Christopher's School, Letchworth, and provide good entertainment for players and spectators alike, even though there are no league tables.

Tournaments both in this country and in Europe we are currently preparing for are:

Age Group	Tournament	Participating Teams
Under 10/11	Largs, Scotland	Rangers, Celtic, Kilmarnock, QPR
Under 12/13	Euabonne, France	St Dennis, PS Paris, PS Red Star
Under 14/15	Nantes, France	FC Metz, FC Nantes, FC Nice

Also, at the start of next season, we have been invited to participate in the Watford and London International festival of football. We will enter teams in the five-day tournament at under 9/10/11/12 and 13 age groups.

Like all tournaments, it will be invaluable experience for the lads, and a useful guide to our managers and coaches as to how they are progressing. Most of all, they are football occasions to enjoy.

Dean Rastrick

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TOWN TEASER

IF YOU know your Hatters trivia, you might go home with a little prize this afternoon in our fun quiz. At Tuesday's game we asked for the name of the mid-fielder whose season started with the game at Exeter, and who had been ever-present ever since, and the answer was Matt Spring.

Today we have another simple question: 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.

TODAY'S QUESTION

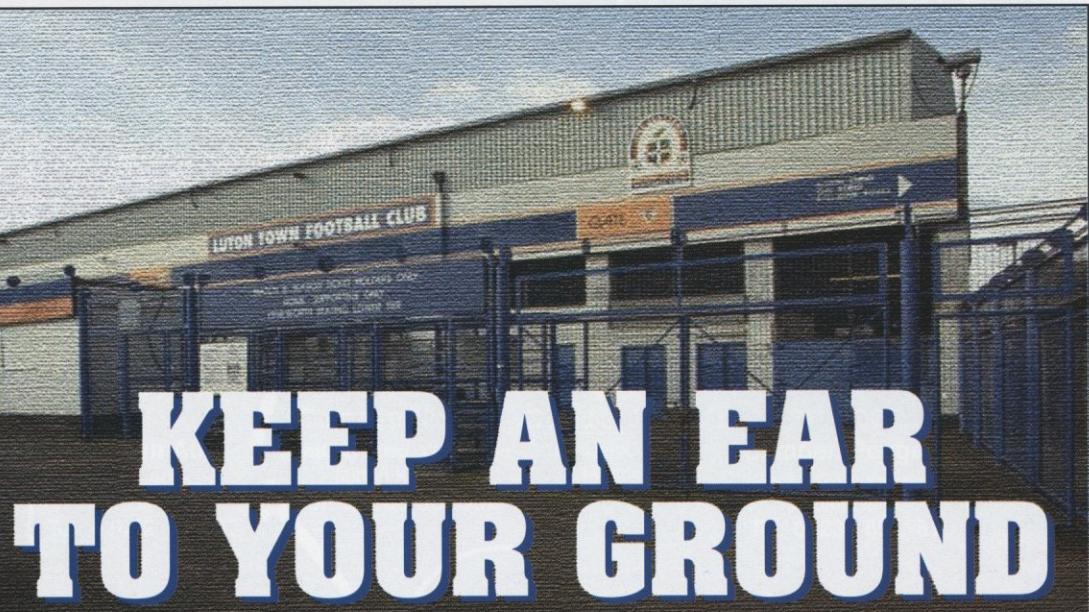
We beat Kidderminster 4-1 on their ground in January. Who scored our goals?

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Junior Hatters

WE HAD a tremendous day out at Rushden, with the big match result more than making up for a couple of minor disappointments for our Junior Hatters party.

Rushden were kind and generous hosts, and we thoroughly enjoyed it when they gave us a conducted tour of their magnificent stadium. Their training facilities are top class, and we were able to sample them in a football tournament against our opposite numbers. Our under-10s were beaten 2-1 and the seniors lost 4-0, but we evened things up a bit by winning the penalty shoot-out competition at half-time.

Then, of course, we shouted our heads off as the Town won the important game in the second half. Our picture shows the friendly rivals who took part in the shoot-out contest. We came home with the prize, a signed Rushden football!

Our Saturday club was back in business this afternoon, and we are also looking further ahead to our final awayday football trip of the season, to Shrewsbury next month. We had to disappoint a lot of members at Rushden because the demand for tickets was greater than the supply, but we are hoping to have a bigger allocation for the Shrewsbury match, although that too is an all-ticket game. We will give more information in a later match day magazine.

Happy Harry



TOP PEOPLE: Two mascots were on duty on Tuesday, for the Exeter game. Ryan Essam, 8, from Warden Abbey, Bedford, was representing the Junior Hatters, while the commercial mascot was Matthew Collett, of Truro Gardens, Luton. They are pictured with the skippers and match officials before kick-off.

Our apologies to Micheal O'Dell whose name was given incorrectly in Tuesday's programme.

Today's Mascot

FOND of all sport, but especially keen on supporting Luton Town, 11-year-old Tom Falconer, from Rosslyn Crescent, Luton, will enjoy his day at Kenilworth Road even more than usual this afternoon, because he has been chosen to be the Junior Hatters mascot.

It means he is part of the entertainment, meeting the players in the dressing room and then going out onto the pitch with them for the pre-match warm-



up. He will also be able to meet his favourite, Matt Taylor.

Tom attends Icknield High School, Luton, and lists his hobbies as football – he plays for Bushmead Wanderers under-12s – running, tennis, swimming and playing drums. He comes to Hatters games with his parents, and they watch from the family stand.

We also have two ball boys, Mike Iacano, of Cutenhoe Road, Luton, and Todd Beasey-Webb, from Mangrove Green.

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



Action Replay



Rushden & Diamonds 1 Luton Town 2 (HT 0-0)

BRIAN Talbot became the latest in an ever-lengthening line of managers to pay tribute to the quality and style of the Town's football, and forecast that promotion is as good as certain. He had seen his Rushden team become the Town's fifth double victims this season, despite having a fair part of the game. "On the balance of play it is disappointing to lose like that," he said. "But Luton are a good side, with no weak areas, and I wish them god luck in the Second Division next season."

"We missed chances, and should have got more shots on target. Luton had three in the second half, and scored twice, so fair play to them."

For the big Town following at Nene Park's first-ever league game between the sides, one of the many enjoyable aspects was the storming performance of Matt Taylor. Twenty-four hours after the news broke that he is almost certain to leave, he turned in a marvellous show of determination and sheer commitment. Anyone wondering if he was still committed to the promotion cause should have seen his reaction after laying on the winning goal: his body-language and screaming celebration was as exuberant as anything on the other side of the pitch boundary as he and the fans were united in delight. The miracle was that anyone could play good football on a day when a howling gale made it hard to stand up outside the ground. The stands gave a little shelter, but not much, and before kick-off there was much discussion in the Town dressing room about tactics. Do you kick against the wind in the first half, hope to keep the score down to one at the most, and then take advantage of the elements in

the second? That was the Town's decision. The alternative was to hope to use a wind-assisted attack before the interval, and score enough goals to just about settle it in 45 minutes. That, it turned out, was the Rushden plan. So when they won the toss to choose ends, both sides got what they wanted.

Rushden would also have got the goals they needed but for three first-half saves by Carl Emberson, two of them excellent stops to deny Ritchie Hanlon and Scott Partridge and the other a more routine, but equally important, tip-over from Paul Hall.

"It was difficult to play in the first half and we were relieved to get to half-time with the score still 0-0," said Joe Kinnear. His decision to recall Steve Howard after suspension paid off handsomely, with the striker doing his usual good aerial work in defence, and then heading in the winner.

Taylor's pace and tremendous crossing meant that the Town created far more danger in the second half, and the confidence running through the team made them look unbeatable, despite conceding the first goal.

The wind seemed to drop for the second half, and it was only three minutes old when Rushden, needing points to sustain a bid for a play-off place, got their noses in front. Emberson then made another good save against Partridge, before the Town took command in midfield and silenced the majority of Nene Park's biggest attendance of the season with goal by Dean Crowe and Howard, both expertly Taylor-made.

Match Details

Luton Town: Emberson; Neilson, Perrett, Coyne, Johnson (Bayliss 75 mins); Forbes (Hughes 67 mins), Nicholls, Spring, Taylor; Howard, Crowe.

Unused subs: Ovendale, Boyce, Valois.

Booked: Matt Taylor for dissent over a penalty not given when Dean Crowe seemed to be fouled; Kevin Nicholls for a foul; Paul Hughes for time-wasting.

Rushden & Diamonds: Turley; Mustafa, Peters, Tillson, Underwood; Hall, Hanlon, Wardley, Burgess; Partridge (Darby 75 mins), Lowe

Unused subs: Brady, Setchell, Sambrook, Dowell.

Booked: No-one.

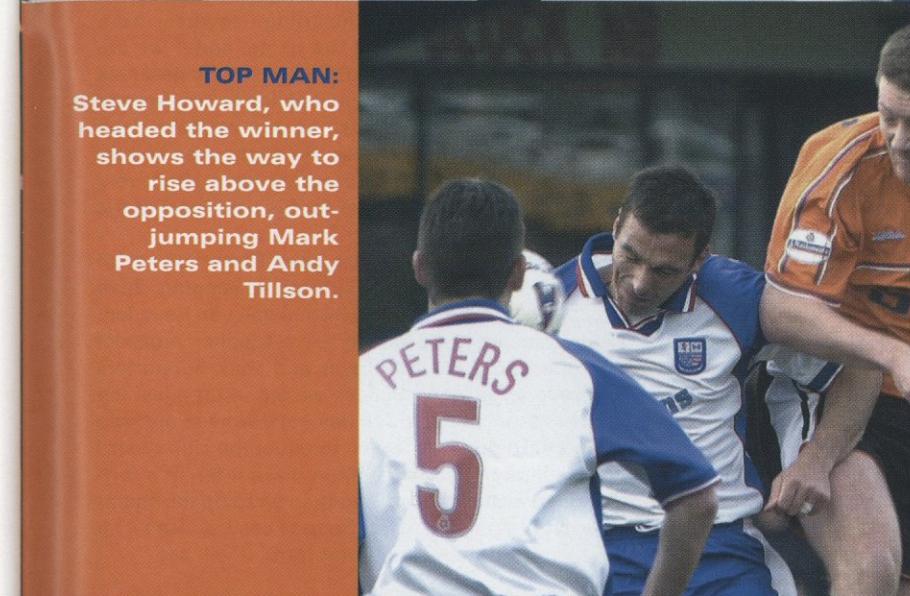
The Goals: 1-0 48 mins – Paul Hall, close range after Onandi Lowe cut in from the left wing and fired across a hard driven cross; 1-1 57 mins – Dean Crowe, 12th of the season, simple short-range shot after Kevin Nicholls put Matt Taylor away down the left for a run past Hanlon and low cross; 1-2 82 mins – Steve Howard header from another pinpoint centre by Taylor.

Referee: Mark Fletcher, West Midlands.

Attendance: 5,876, Rushden's best for three years, including 1,395 Town fans.

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TWICE AS HAPPY:
Dean Crowe has just knocked in the equaliser, and Matt Taylor, who laid on the opening, is as delighted as he is to see the Town back in the game.



UP AND AT 'EM:
Adrian Forbes jumps to it to leave Andy Burgess in his wake.



Action Replay



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

PROMOTION is now well within the Town's grasp, and even the championship, an unlikely bet a few weeks ago, is a distinct possibility after Tuesday's game took the current run to seven straight wins. It was not always as easy as 3-0 might sound, but the Town never looked like losing to an Exeter side that offered nothing in attack as potent as Steve Howard. John Cornforth, manager at a club where there are considerable difficulties, said: "I only had 16 players available, and I have to be pleased that we were as good as Luton for the first hour. But we didn't have a cutting edge, and they did. If Howard had been playing for us it would have been a different result."

Perhaps so, but that summing up ignored the fact that the mastery that mattered most stemmed from midfield, where the Town were a lot too strong for the visitors.

Kevin Nicholls was the dynamic hub, with Matt Spring also playing well, and once Howard had knocked in the opener, the result was never in real doubt.

The performance, said Joe Kinnear, illustrated the progress made since the Town were held to a draw at Exeter in September. They are a far more deadly outfit now, strong in defence, capable of spoiling and creating in equal measure in midfield, and able to score more goals than any other team in the land except Manchester City.

Free kicks by Nicholls brought two of Tuesday's, Howard's first and a clever third headed in by Matt Taylor, while Exeter were never given the chance to test Carl Emberson.

Improved strength in depth has rarely been better illustrated than by the sight of David Bayliss on the

bench. He was ever-present until he lost his place through suspension, but Russ Perrett and Chris Coyne have refused to give him the chance to return. Five clean sheets have been crucial in the seven straight wins.

Bayliss did get his chance, however, when the boss decided that Jean-Louis Valois, for all his wonderful talent, was not doing the job demanded by the manager. He was subbed after the first half, with Bayliss going to right back, Alan Neilson switching to the left, and Taylor operating where he is at his most devastating, as a left winger driving forward.

A gaggle of scouts, including several from Premiership clubs, were at the game, and if we are sad to know we will lose the 20-year-old, he deserves huge credit for his professional ability to concentrate on his job, and do it as well as any we have seen since the days of David Moss. He might even be better than Moss, who would surely have been very proud of Taylor's deft header for his tenth goal of the season.

On the right Adrian Forbes gave Exeter plenty of problems, and was unlucky with a stinging drive which brought a good save from Arjan van Heusden. Kidderminster will probably be a tougher prospect this afternoon, but the Town and their supporters have every reason to believe we are in for a last lap of the season to enjoy. Joe has got it worked out: win today and again next week, to equal the club record of nine straight victories, then make it ten in a fortnight's time at Swansea, and then wrap up the championship a week after that. Sounds easy, doesn't it? If the team can maintain current form, it will be!

Match Details

Luton Town: Emberson; Neilson, Perrett, Coyne, Taylor; Forbes (Hughes 71 mins), Nicholls, Spring, Valois (Bayliss HT); Howard, Crowe.

Unused subs: Ovendale, Boyce, Fotiadis.

Booked: Chris Coyne and Matt Spring for fouls; Dean Crowe for dissent.

Exeter City: Van Heusden; Buckle, Watson, Curran, Power, McConnell; Barlow, Richardson, Roscoe (Breslan 82 mins; Read (Flack 70 mins), Roberts.

Unused subs: Fraser, Whitworth, Tomlinson.

Booked: No-one.

The Goals: 1-0 27 mins – Steve Howard far post header from right wing free kick by Kevin Nicholls; 2-0 65 mins – Howard again, getting round the keeper at the second attempt after good work by Russ Perrett and Chris Coyne opened up the Exeter defence; 3-0 79 mins – Matt Taylor looping header, after eluding his marker to meet a down-the-middle free kick by Kevin Nicholls.

Referee: Steve Tomlin, Sussex

Attendance: 6,327 including 154 heroes from South Devon.

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01582 411622

ON OUR WAY:
Steve Howard maintains his scoring habit with the opener, a far post header from a free kick by Kevin Nicholls.



DOUBLE UP:
Howard on his way round the goalkeeper to make it 2-0 with his 16th goal of the season.



ON HIS OWN:
Matt Taylor makes space for the header which gave him his tenth goal of the season.



Baby Hatter



Christening

Satin Suit	£23.00
Satin Hat	£5.50
Satin Boots	£4.00



Sleep Suit

0-3m, 3-6m, 6-12m, 12-18m
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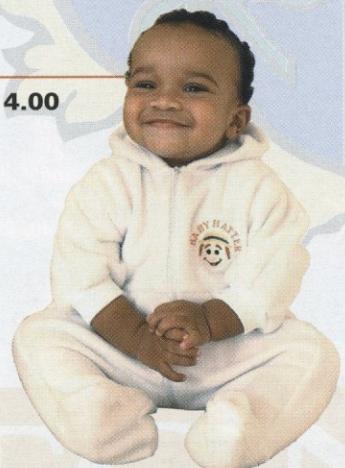
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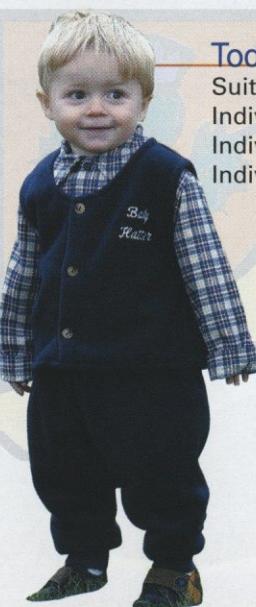
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Individual Navy Waistcoat £7.99
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2-3 Years £22.99



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Easter Opening Hours:

Good Friday: 10.00am - 2.00pm

Easter Saturday: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Easter Sunday: Closed

Easter Monday: Match versus Mansfield k.o. 12.30pm. The Club Shop will open at 9.00am till kick off at 12.30pm. Closed for match duration and then open for up to 1 hour after the match.

Telephone: 01582 411622 Ext249
Email: clubshop@lutontown.co.uk

Fans on the road

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
Plymouth	1,900
Scunthorpe	359
Bristol Rovers	197
York City	280
Leyton Orient	580
Exeter	154
Total:	10,585
Average:	557

Hatters Away

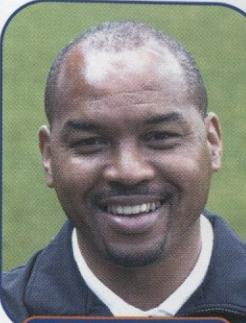
Carlisle	1,097
Reading(WC)	889
Bristol Rov	761
Exeter	712
York	849
Orient	2,089
Plymouth	461
Scunthorpe	961
Halifax	774
Dagenham(LDV)	330
Mansfield	2,166
Southend(FAC)	1,560
Macclesfield	741
Hartlepool	346
Oxford	2,646
Southend	1,710
Kidderminster	1,096
Cheltenham	1,597
Darlington	464
Rochdale	1,163
Lincoln	889
Torquay	1,100
Rushden	1,395
	25,796
	1,122

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



The authority...

The Quality of the Football



Brian Stein

In Reserve



WEDNESDAY'S match against Peterborough was postponed a few hours before kick-off because the pitch was waterlogged. It was a big disappointment to a lot of us. As coach, I was looking forward to the game because we are on a good run, with four successive victories taking us into fourth place in the Avon Insurance Combination Table.

It was also a blow to several players, lads on the periphery of the first team, who had been looking forward to showing the manager what they can do to improve their prospects of winning places in the senior squad.

I had been planning to have a look at some of our youngsters: scholars James Osborn, Steven O'Leary and Kevin Foley were all set to be in the team, as was Lee Mansell, who is naturally very keen to regain his place in the first team squad. He understands the need to work at his game after his experiences last season. He got into the first team, and did remarkably well, but that, of course, was in a struggling side. Our league squad this season is of a much higher standard thanks to the men the boss has brought in, and Lee realises that technically he is still a 19-year-old boy learning his trade.

Supporters have seen the big improvement in the first team squad since last season, and to some extent that is being reflected in the reserves as well. We're getting better all the

time, and players are taking on board the fact that they have to be right mentally as well as physically to do well. Your attitude has got to be spot-on, even if you are frustrated because you are in the reserves and not in the first team. We are still waiting for a new date to play Peterborough, but we have a busy week coming up. On Monday we go to Gillingham in the semi-final of the League Cup, and I will probably have a strong squad to choose from. For the first time in two months the first team has no midweek game, which means that some senior players, for instance those who have been on the bench recently, might benefit from a run-out.

On Wednesday we are away to Southend in the league, and our next scheduled home game is not until Wednesday April 3, against Reading, with a 2pm kick-off at Kenilworth Road.

Appearances (as sub in brackets): Fotiadis 17(2), Holmes 15(1), Brennan 14, Fraser 13(3), Mansell 12(2), Ovendale 11, Locke 10(3), Gillman 9(2), Hillier 9, Dryden 8, Skelton 8, Foley 7(1), Johnson 7, Hughes 7, George 7, Stirling 6(3), Leary 6(2), Bruce 6, Emberton 6, Murphy 5(7), Osborn 5(5), Thomson 5(4), Brkovic 5(1), Ward 5(1), Mortara 4(1), Douglas 3(4), Dogbe 3(1), Everitt 3, Valois 3, Boyce 2, McSwegan 2, Coyne 2, Bogaczek 2, Okai 1(4), Jeffrey 1(3), Crowe 1(1), Dillon 1(1), Forbes 1, Spring 1, Perrett 1, Deeney 1, Ofodile 1, Neilson 1, Jeffrey 1, Mendy 1, Dally 1, Ofori 1, Iagnostal 1, Hogg 1, Bouchu 1, Djorkaef 1, Maher 1, Hodges 1, Menetrier 1, Huck 1, Street 1, Martin 1, Fernandez 1, Hardy 1, Davies 0(1), O'Leary 0(1), Hall 0(1), Postan 0(1).

Goals: Fotiadis 10, Brennan 5(2 pens), Thomson 3, Brkovic 2, Murphy 2, Skelton 2, George 2, McSwegan 2, Ofodile 2, Holmes 2, Mansell 2, Leary 2, Jeffrey 1, Locke 1, Gillman 1, Everitt 1, Bruce 1, Dillon 1, Hodges 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 12	Swindon	H 1-0 Holmes
	Wed 19	Portsmouth	A 7pm
JAN	Wed 9	Brighton	A 0-1
	Mon 21	Wootton (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 1-2 Skelton
	Wed 13	Norwich	H 5-1 McSwegan 2, Ofodile 2, Holmes
	Wed 20	Cheltenham	A 3-2 Mansell, Jeffrey, Fotiadis,
	Wed 27	Colchester	H 1-0 Fotiadis
MAR	Wed 6	Oxford	A 3-1 Leary, Mansell, Dillon
	Wed 13	Peterborough	H Postponed
	Mon 18	Gillingham(LC)	A 2pm
	Wed 20	Southend	A 2pm
	Tue 26	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
Portsmouth	18	11	4	3	32	17	37
QPR	18	10	6	2	42	19	36
Brentford	16	9	4	3	34	23	31
Luton Town	18	9	4	5	30	21	31
Crystal Palace	15	8	2	4	32	18	29
Norwich	19	8	5	6	33	34	29
Cardiff	18	7	5	6	27	23	26
Millwall	16	7	5	4	26	24	26
Gillingham	15	7	4	4	22	13	25
Barnet	17	8	1	8	23	24	25
Cheltenham	18	7	4	7	22	29	25
Reading	16	7	3	6	26	17	24
Peterborough	17	7	2	8	27	30	23
Southend	17	6	5	6	21	18	23
Leyton Orient	17	7	2	8	28	42	23
Oxford	19	5	7	7	20	31	22
Bristol Rovers	17	6	3	8	20	22	21
Wycombe	17	5	3	9	21	26	18
Brighton	14	3	8	3	18	15	17
Colchester	20	4	5	11	25	34	17
Northampton	19	3	8	8	20	34	17
Cambridge	16	4	3	9	21	26	15
Bristol City	13	3	5	5	15	20	14
Bournemouth	15	3	4	8	14	30	13
Swindon	15	2	4	9	13	22	10

Up and Running!
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Pre-Match Entertainment

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

1.45 Gates Open - music starts

2.00 Club mascot Happy Harry runs on the pitch.

2.05 A track from the HMV album of the week - **PURE GENIUS - COMPILATION ALBUM**

2.10 The UK's No1 track - **WILL YOUNG - EVERGREEN / ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE**

2.15 Team line up to be announced

2.25 HMV Single of the week - **ALI G AND SHAGGY - ME JULIE ...**

2.35 Dedications announced

2.45 Town Teaser - Check out page 40 for today's question

2.55 Teams runout to - 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

Matchday music supplied by



Arndale Centre.

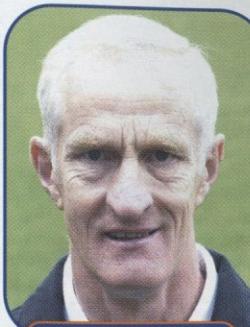
If you would like your dedication read out, please contact the Club prior to matchdays.

The Best in post-match reports

The Luton News **The Dunstable Gazette**



ON SALE EVERY WEDNESDAY



John Moore

Youth Soccer



Luton Town 1 Portsmouth 0

A VERY strong wind made football very difficult, but we were the better team on the day, and the only criticism might be that we could have had more than the single goal scored by Lee Mansell. He came into the side at his own request, looking for match practice to regain his sharpness after injury.

The wind was swirling in all directions, and Portsmouth elected to play a defensive formation in the early stages. In the first 20 minutes or so we played very well as they sat deep, but could not take any of the three good opportunities we created. Our attack was a bit lightweight - Daryl Murphy has gone on loan to Harrow, and Chris Dillon and Matt Judge were out through injury. The goal came on 22 minutes, with Mansell striking an excellent 25-yard free kick into the bottom corner. The keeper probably ought to have saved it, but even so we were good value for our lead. Dean Brill had only one save to make in the whole game because the defence coped comfortably with everything Portsmouth had to offer. For the last 20 minutes they switched to three up front, but that helped us more than them. They were trying to use the long ball, and we were able to make more use of the space behind their attacks, through Steven Dogbe and Parys Okai on the flanks. If we had had our regular forwards on the field we would probably have won by three or four goals, but the lads worked hard for this result against strong and workmanlike opponents.

Luton Town: Brill, Mortara, Carroll, Davies, Barnett, Foley, Mansell, Dogbe, Okai, Jeffrey (de Souza 78 mins), Osborn.

OUR are away to Rushden next week, and then at home to Plymouth on the following Saturday, March 30, at Luton RFC, Newlands Road, Farley Hill. That will be our last game of the season there: our last two fixtures will be midweek games at Kenilworth Road.

Appearances (as sub in brackets): Okai 20(2), Osborn 20(2), Foley 18(4), Davies 18(1), O'Leary 17, Carroll 16(3), Dogbe 14(4), Brill 14, Jeffrey 13(5), Dillon 13(2), Judge 11(4), Gillman 11(1), Leary 7, Murphy 7, Barnett 6(4), Chatfield 6, Bruce 5(1), Deeney 5(1), Howells 4(3), R. Mansell 3, Gardner 3, Mortara 2(3), Roberts 2, Beckwith 2, L. Mansell 1, Ray 1, Shire 1, Garrett 1, Palmer 1, De Souza 0(1), Burrell 0(1), Wright 0(1).

Goals: Osborn 9(2p), Judge 8, Murphy 4, Davies 4, Dillon 4, Jeffrey 3, Foley 3, Carroll 2, O'Leary 2, Gillman 1, Leary 1, Dogbe 1, Roberts 1, L. Mansell 1

John Moore

MERIT LEAGUE DIVISION TWO Results and Fixtures

MAR		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
2	Northampton							2-0 Dogbe, Roberts
9	Portsmouth							1-0 Mansell
16	Cardiff							
23	Rushden							
30	Plymouth							
APRIL								
13	Bristol Rov							
*22	Wycombe							
*24	L. Orient							

*Kenilworth Road k.o. 2pm

FL Youth Alliance South Central Conference Final League Table

(Unplayed games declared null and void)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cambridge Utd	16	9	3	4	31	18	30
West Brom	15	8	4	3	28	21	28
Rushden & D	16	7	2	7	26	30	23
Luton Town	15	7	1	7	33	31	22
Walsall	15	5	6	4	33	28	21
Notts County	13	5	3	5	15	20	18
Northampton	14	5	2	7	19	20	17
Peterborough	16	3	5	8	16	24	14
Kidderminster	14	4	2	8	18	27	14

FLYA Southern Section Merit Division Two League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rushden	2	2	0	0	6	2	6
Luton Town	2	2	0	0	3	0	6
Leyton Orient	2	1	0	1	5	3	3
Bristol Rov	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Cardiff	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Wycombe Wdrs	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Plymouth	2	0	1	1	0	4	1
Northampton	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Portsmouth	2	0	0	2	1	4	0

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

Average Attendances

	2000	4000	6000	8000	10000
Bristol Rovers	6,715				
Carlisle	3,240				
Cheltenham	3,762				
Darlington	3,863				
Exeter	3,409				
Halifax	2,079				
Hartlepool	3,523				
Hull	9,436				
Kidderminster	3,006				
Orient	4,593				
Lincoln	3,113				
Luton	6,747				
Macclesfield	2,118				
Mansfield	4,530				
Oxford	6,384				
Plymouth	7,811				
Rochdale	3,293				
Rushden	4,285				
Scunthorpe	3,582				
Shrewsbury	3,595				
Southend	3,958				
Swansea	3,683				
Torquay	2,522				
York	3,020				

Records

Average Gate
4,279
Highest Gate
16,369
Plymouth v
Exeter
Lowest Gate
1,227
Halifax v
Kidderminster
Highest
Avg ScoreRochdale5
York4
Biggest
Home Win
Scunthorpe7
Darlington1Biggest
Away Win
Exeter0
Scunthorpe4Consec. Wins
Luton7
Games
Unbeaten
Plymouth19Consec. Defeats
Bristol Rovers
Halifax6
Winless Run
Bristol Rovers 14Total Games
456
Home Wins
2249%
Away Wins
11224%
Draws
12227%
1-1 Draws
5011%
0-0 Draws
4510%Swansea
Mamady Sidibe 7 5 1 0 25 0.28 7 2
Darlington
Barry Conlon 7 5 1 0 32 0.22 7 1
Macclesfield
Lee Glover 8 6 1 0 36 0.22 6 2
Hartlepool
Gordon Watson 14 9 1 1 24 0.58 5 3
Lincoln
Lee Thorpe 11 9 1 0 30 0.37 5 2
Rushden
Onandi Lowe 8 8 0 0 18 0.44 5 3
Kidderminster
Dean Bennett 8 8 0 0 36 0.22 4 7
Halifax
Paul Harsley 7 5 1 0 38 0.18 4 2
Orient
Steve Watts 9 5 2 0 26 0.35 0 3

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

Goals - When Scored

	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
BR	2	6	9	4	5	10
CU	8	12	6	7	2	6
CT	3	10	10	6	17	10
Da	2	7	8	6	13	11
EC	5	6	7	9	11	3
HT	4	7	5	4	2	5
HU	7	6	10	5	16	13
HC	6	11	6	10	8	11
Ki	6	7	6	9	7	13
LO	5	8	6	10	10	11
LC	1	8	7	6	6	11
LT	4	8	17	15	16	16
MT	3	4	7	6	6	8
MT	9	9	12	8	7	16
OU	6	7	7	11	7	10
PA	6	10	13	9	8	9
Ro	8	6	8	8	8	13
RD	6	8	12	5	6	13
SU	11	15	12	8	8	14
ST	10	3	11	8	11	14
SU	6	4	5	10	6	4
SC	10	9	7	4	6	11
TU	4	5	4	3	8	12
YC	6	4	7	7	5	11

Form Guide: Home & Away

Home Form	most recent results to left	Away Form
DLWW	Bristol Rovers	DLLL
WDWL	Carlisle	DLDD
WDWDD	Cheltenham	WWWW
LLLD	Darlington	LWL
WLLDD	Exeter	LLLW
WLLLD	Halifax	LLLL
DDWW	Hartlepool	LLDW
LWLWD	Hull	LDWL
WWWLD	Kidderminster	LDLL
WWWDL	Orient	LLDL
LWLLW	Lincoln	LDWL
WWWWL	Luton	WWWL
DLWLW	Macclesfield	LWWWD
WWWW	Mansfield	LLWLW
DLWDD	Oxford	LDWL
WWWW	Plymouth	DWLL
WWWDW	Rochdale	DWDL
LWWDW	Rushden	DDLL
WWWDW	Scunthorpe	WLDWD
WWWWD	Shrewsbury	LLDL
DDWLD	Southend	LDLL
WDWWL	Swansea	LLWL
WLDD	Torquay	LWL
WWDDD	York	LLLW

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Macclesfield	2,118				
Mansfield	4,530				
Oxford	6,384				
Plymouth	7,811				
Rochdale	3,293				
Rushden	4,285				
Scunthorpe	3,582				
Shrewsbury	3,595				
Southend	3,958				
Swansea	3,683				
Torquay	2,522				
York	3,020				

Clubs' top scorer & the points their goals have won

see key below	Leading Scorer	GS	Sc1	Sc2	HT	Gms/Gls/Gm	Ps	Run
Mansfield	Chris Greenacre	19	13	3	0	35	0.54	14 4
Shrewsbury	Luke Rodgers	20	15	1	1	31	0.65	13 5
Cheltenham	Julian Alsop	19	13	3	0	33	0.58	13 5
Hull	Gary Alexander	16	12	2	0	35	0.46	13 5
Bristol Rovers	Nathan Ellington	15	9	0	2	25	0.60	13 4
York	Michael Proctor	11	9	1	0	34	0.32	13 2
Rochdale	Kevin Townson	12	6	3	0	33	0.36	10 3
Scunthorpe	Steve Torpey	12	6	3	0	33	0.36	10 1
Carlisle	Ritchie Foran	11	11	0	0	28	0.39	10 3
Exeter	Chris Roberts	10	4	3	0	35	0.29	10 2
Plymouth	David Frii	8	8	0	0	34	0.24	10 2
Oxford	Paul Moody	12	9	0	1	29	0.41	8 3
Torquay	Alex Russell	7	4	0	1	26	0.27	8 2
Luton	Steve Howard	16	12	2	0	35	0.46	7 3
Southend	Tesfaye Bramble	9	7	1	0	34	0.26	7 2
Swansea	Mamady Sidibe	7	5	1	0	25	0.28	7 2
Darlington	Barry Conlon	7	5	1	0	32	0.22	7 1
Macclesfield	Lee Glover	8	6	1	0	36	0.22	6 2
Hartlepool	Gordon Watson	14	9	1	1	24	0.58	5 3
Lincoln	Lee Thorpe	11	9	1	0	30	0.37	5 2
Rushden	Onandi Lowe	8	8	0	0	18	0.44	5 3
Kidderminster	Dean Bennett	8	8	0	0	36	0.22	4 7
Halifax	Paul Harsley	7	5	1	0	38	0.18	4 2
Orient	Steve Watts	9	5	2	0	26	0.35	0 3

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

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Brian Swain

Third Division Scene

Brian Swain

THE TOWN will pass the first promotion milestone of the season if they win today. Three points will guarantee that they finish in the top seven of the final league table of the season –

certain of a play-off spot at the very least.

Victory over Kidderminster would take the Town's tally to 81 points, with six games still to play, and of the teams out of the top three only Cheltenham, Scunthorpe and Rochdale have a mathematical chance of beating that total. Shrewsbury can match the 81-point mark, but are 19 goals worse off than the Town.

None of us who remember the Town's only previous experience of the play-offs, in 1997, would relish the prospect of going through that agony again – a third place finish in the Second Division led to a play-off semi-final against Crewe, who were fifth, and the Railwaymen derailed our hopes.

This time, automatic promotion looks much more likely, and a month after trailing Plymouth by ten points the Town are now in a position where they could overtake them.

The other bonus from the current winning run is that the Town have put daylight between themselves and third-placed Mansfield, and their two games in hand are not

enough for Mansfield to close the nine-point gap. Cheltenham have emerged as the new leaders of the chasing pack, moving up to fourth place on Tuesday evening with a 1-0 win at Lincoln. Julian Alsop got the goal, his 24th of the season, as Cheltenham took their run to 16 games without defeat.

Kidderminster need to beat the Town today if they are to have much chance of getting into the play-offs. They have suffered through an iffy away record, showing four wins, three draws and 11 defeats.

But they are due for a bit of success on the road: they have gone six away games without a win since a 4-1 success at Torquay in early January, and on Tuesday they became only the fourth team this season to lose at bottom club Halifax.

PROMOTION RIVALS' REMAINING FIXTURES

Plymouth - HOME: Leyton Orient (today), Bristol Rovers (30/3), Southend (5/4), Cheltenham (20/4) AWAY: Lincoln (23/3), Rochdale (26/3), Hartlepool (1/4), Carlisle (13/4), Darlington (15/4).

Mansfield - HOME: Rushden (30/3), Bristol Rovers (6/4), Cheltenham (9/4), Carlisle (20/4). AWAY: Swansea (today), Leyton Orient (19/3), Torquay (23/3), Luton (1/4), York (13/4).

Cheltenham - HOME: Rochdale (23/3), Kidderminster (26/3) Hull (1/4), Oxford (13/4), AWAY: Halifax (today), Scunthorpe (30/3), Macclesfield (6/4), Mansfield (9/4), Carlisle (16/4), Plymouth (20/4).

Scunthorpe - HOME: Carlisle (today), Cheltenham (30/3), Rushden (6/4), York (20/4). AWAY: Southend, Leyton Orient (1/4), Darlington (13/4).

Rochdale - HOME: Hartlepool (today), Plymouth (26/3), Leyton Orient (30/3), Darlington (6/4), Hull (9/4), Bristol Rovers (20/4). AWAY: Cheltenham (23/3), Torquay (1/4), Lincoln (13/4).

Shrewsbury - HOME: Torquay (30/3), Carlisle (6/4), Luton (20/4). AWAY: Exeter (today), Rushden (23/3), Lincoln (1/4), Southend (13/4

Statistics and all the fixtures

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Today's Squads

Luton Town

10	Mark Ovendale	1
10	Aaron Skelton	2
10	Matthew Spring	4
10	Russell Perrett	5
10	Marvin Johnson	6
10	Adrian Forbes	7
10	Kevin Nicholls	8
10	Carl Griffiths	10
10	Chris Coyne	12
10	Stuart Fraser	13
10	Andrew Fotiadis	14
10	Matthew Taylor	15
10	Carl Emberson	16
10	Emmerson Boyce	17
10	Adam Locke	18
10	Steve Howard	19
10	Peter Holmes	20
10	Scott Ward	24
10	Paul Hughes	27
10	Jean Louis Valois	28
10	David Bayliss	30
10	Lee Mansell	32
10	Ian Hillier	33
10	Dean Crowe	34
10	Ahmet Brkovic	35
10	Alan Neilson	43

Kidderminster Harriers

1	Stuart Brock	10
3	Scott Stamps	10
5	Craig Hinton	10
6	Adie Smith	10
7	Daire Doyle	10
8	Danny Williams	10
9	Drewe Broughton	10
10	Ian Foster	10
11	Sam Shilton	10
12	Ian Clarkson	10
14	Andy Ducros	10
16	Lee Ayres	10
17	Ben Davies	10
18	Peter Faulds	10
20	Dean Bennett	10
22	Andrew Corbett	10
23	Matt Lewis	10
24	Mark Blake	10
25	Ian Joy	10
26	Abdou Sall	10
27	Colin Larkin	10
28	John Danby	10
29	Richie Appleby	10
30	Bo Henriksen	10

tick if playing tick if substitute

Today's Officials

Referee: Grant Hegley, Hertfordshire

Assistants: Stephen Artis, Norfolk (yellow flag); Mark Ives, Bedfordshire (red and yellow flag)

Fourth Official: Sukhdev Thiarra, Bedfordshire

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