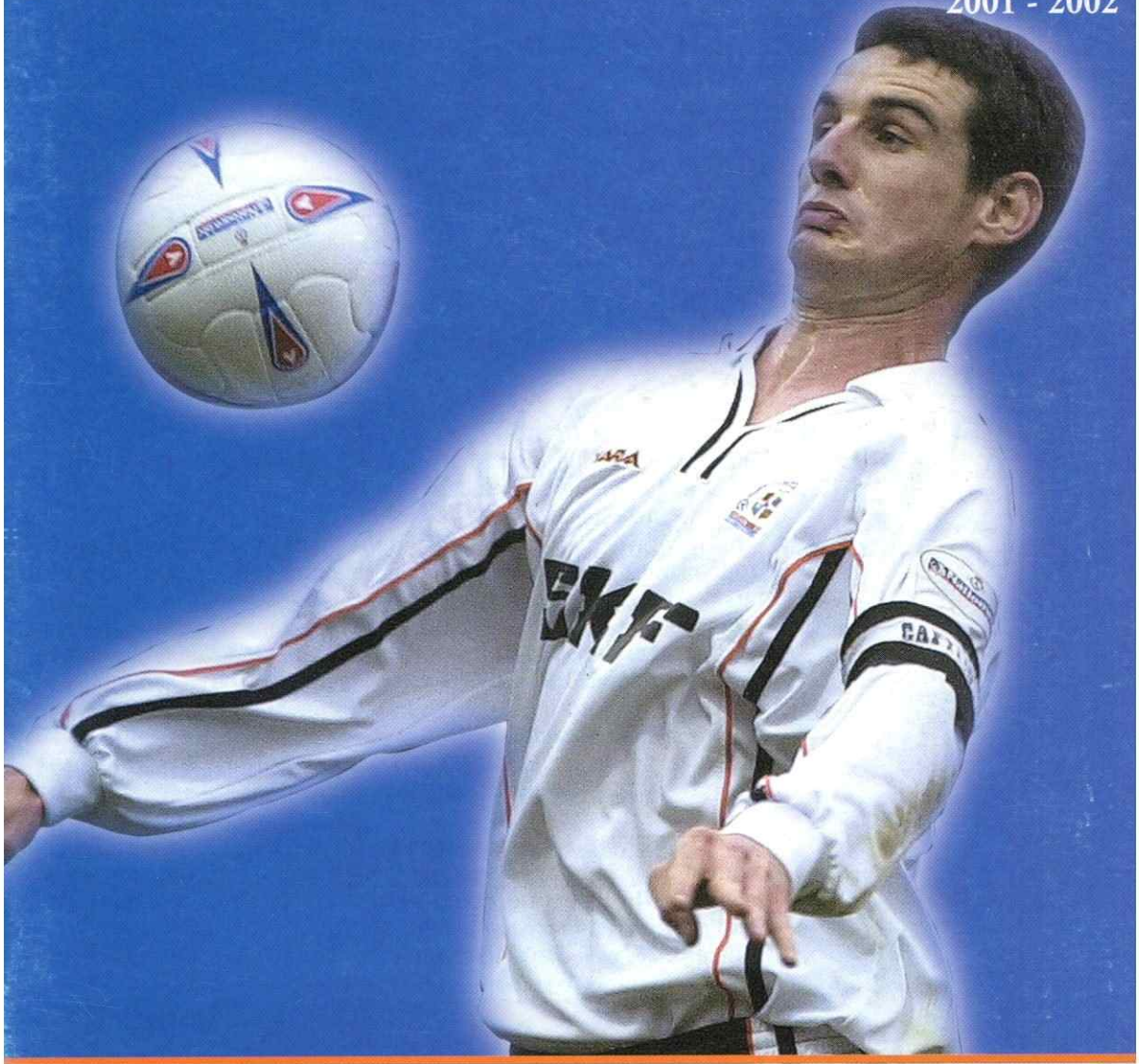
LUTON TOWN

The Hatters

Official Matchday Magazine Price: £2.00
Programme of the Year
2001 - 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.

Cover Story

MIDFIELD MAESTRO: Matt Spring, who has taken over captaincy responsibilities during the absence of Kevin Nicholls, but who has to sit it out today.

Inside Forward

AFTER the recent horrendous run of injuries decimated the squad, lady luck has evened things out to some degree this week. Matt Spring has to miss this afternoon's game through suspension, having been a very capable captain in the month during which Kevin Nicholls was ruled out.

But Nicholls has timed his return to fitness perfectly, and is ready to lead the team this afternoon for the first time since the 3-0 home win over Swindon on September 28.

The influential midfielder missed eight games because of an Achilles injury, but sailed through 90 minutes of reserve team soccer last week – and bit hard enough in the tackle to collect a booking! – and made his league comeback at Northampton, as a sub for the last 12 minutes.

He has suffered no adverse reaction, and is ready to return to the team, today, if selected. His comeback match in the Avon Combination victory over Cambridge also saw the returns of Alan Neilson and Paul Hughes and they too are now back in the pool of fit first team players.

Others are not so lucky, and Andrew Fotiadis and Dean Crowe's injuries leaves the boss short of options in attack. It is one of the reasons he has not yet decided on the strength of the side he will send to Stevenage on Tuesday for the LDV Vans Trophy game.

The Town will go there to win, but the manager admits he will have to think hard about team selection. He opted for a lot of youngsters at Woking, having decided they could do the job. They did, impressively, but no-one doubts that Stevenage pose a tougher test, so we can expect to see a stronger Town side fielded at Broadhall Way. But, said Joe, would it be right to risk the inclusion of Steve Howard and Tony Thorpe if they are still the only two fit senior strikers available?

New Deal Agreement Close

NEGOTIATIONS on a new contract for Steve Howard are nearing completion, and hopes are high that an agreement will be reached shortly. "The talks are going well, and I hope to have a happy ending within a few days," said Joe.

Howard, 26, was Joe's first signing for Luton when a bargain fee of £50,000 was paid to Northampton on deadline day 18 months ago. Howard's strike rate has been remarkable, and stands today at 36 goals in 73 Town appearances.

His current contract expires at the end of this season, but the new deal will add two more years to that.

Happy To Be A Hatter!

IT WAS probably inevitable that when Mick McCarthy resigned as manager of the Republic of Ireland this week Joe Kinnear's should be one of the first names to feature in speculation as to his replacement. The Town boss was born in Dublin, and won 26 caps playing as a full-back for his country.

For the record, the FAI have not approached Joe, nor the Town, about the job, and he said: "I have certainly not applied for it. I have more than two years left on my contract here with Luton. I like the job, and intend to see it through."

Brian Swain

INSIDE TODAY...

The manager's column – P 5; The captain's views – P 7; Match action - reports and pictures on three games – Pp 35-39; Injury crisis easing – P 8; Travel offers to Stevenage – P 10; FLAG's £20,000 community donation – Pp 30-31; In Reserve – P 49; Blast from the Past – Pp 22 & 23; Luton Belles going well – P 45; Junior Hatters – P 41; Thank you Mr Durkin! – P 53.

SHIP TO SHORE: A transatlantic phone call from a Town fan to ask how the team had done in its match that day has led to a link being established between Kenilworth Road and one of Her Majesty's warships. The supporter is Lieutenant Commander Gary Lewis, serving on HMS Montrose, and he was at sea off South America when he phoned the Town one night. By chance, there was still one member of staff still in the office. Joe Kinnear took the call, and found himself talking football to a fan several thousand miles away. "Come and see me next time you're in Luton," said the boss, and at the game against Wigan Lt Cdr Lewis did just that. And as a memento, he presented a ship's crest to the Town, which was accepted with thanks by Mick Harford.

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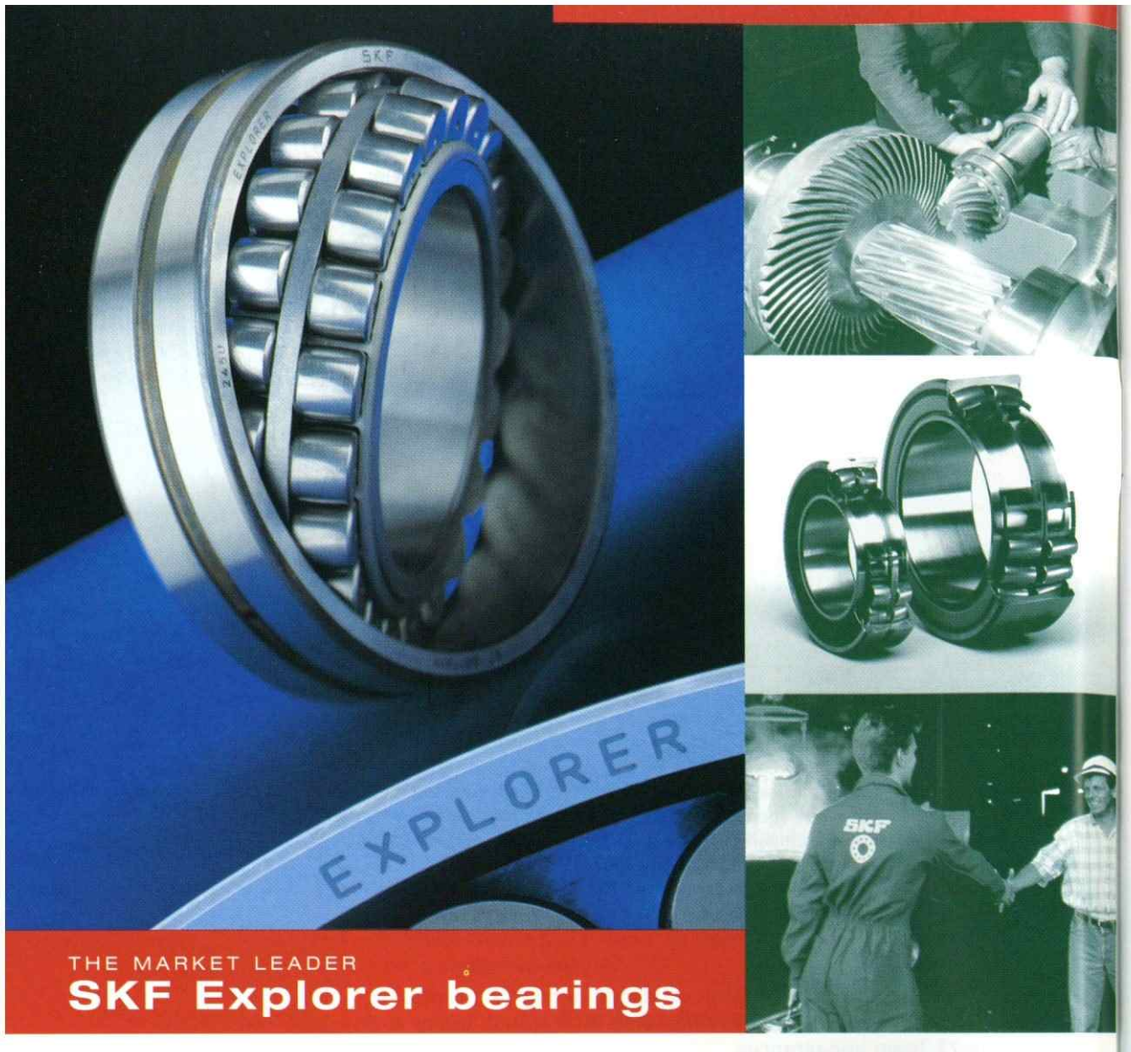

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Manager's View

WE SUFFERED a little setback at Northampton a week ago, but we return to Kenilworth Road today in good heart and determined to kick off another winning run. You can't expect to win every game, try though you might, but I still believe we are capable of winning enough to force our way into the play-off zone before the season ends.

There are no excuses for the defeat at Sixfields even though I thought Northampton benefited from the run of the ball, including a deflection that led to the crucial first goal.

They also had an inspired goalkeeper, particularly when he denied Tony Thorpe from a chance that could have pulled it back to 2-1. If we had got that goal I have no doubt we would have gone on to take at least a point and extend our excellent run to eight league games without defeat. Instead, we gave them the easiest goal they will score this season, and that summed up our day.

On the bright side, the players had done a terrific job in putting us into the league's top ten after our poor start to the season, and their achievements through last month – four wins and a draw from five league matches – were all the more remarkable when you consider how many first team men were ruled out by injuries.

If you were here for our last home game, I think you will agree that we proved against Wigan that we can live with the best in this division. It was an excellent football match, between two very good teams, played at a high tempo. Wigan showed why they are favourites for promotion, and we demonstrated that we are capable of being serious challengers.

I felt two emotions at the end – delighted with our team performance, but disappointed to see two home points slip away to a late goal that should have been prevented. You may have noticed that Wigan's players greeted that equaliser as though it was a cup final winner. They knew they had got out of jail and salvaged a point that looked unlikely until the final five minutes.

For us it was a reminder of the need to concentrate on our jobs for every minute of the game. One moment of slack marking cost us the goal and denied us a home victory which would have been very sweet.

It was, therefore, all the more satisfying to go to Crewe and come home with another clean sheet and three more points against another team who were in very good form, and in the top six.

We put in an excellent team performance in all departments, and while it was a close contest I felt we deserved our win. And it was a nice moment for Steve Howard, getting the late winner a few days after I had asked him a pointed question or two about the marking when Wigan's centre-half stole a point for them!

It was a pity we could not carry the Gresty Road form into the game at Sixfields, but there was no point in going over the top at our first league defeat in eight league games. We have lost six of our 17 league games so far, and as four of those defeats came in the season's first four matches it is obvious that we have got things right since the middle of August.

My advice to the players in the dressing room after the game at Northampton was to get over this disappointment as quickly as possible by embarking on another winning run. Footballers are human beings, not robots, and our squad have shown that they are capable of doing well. If they would like to win seven matches in a row, and then lose one, before repeating the sequence from now until the end of the season, I'll settle for that. It would probably make us champions.

Aiming high? Perhaps, but there is a determination to do well running through all levels of the club, and I hope you will see it bring another good result this afternoon.

Keep the faith, and enjoy the game.

Joe Kinnear

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Captain's View

I AM well pleased to be back in action after my injury, with a full game in the reserves last week and a shorter run-out as a sub at Northampton on Saturday. Mind you, I would rather have sat on the bench for 90 minutes at Sixfields and seen the lads get another result.

The end of our unbeaten run was a big disappointment, and, as is so often the case, a bit of a mystery when we try to work out why it happened.

I have to give credit to Northampton for the way they approached the game. They knew all about the problems Steve Howard could pose, and they were all over him like a rash. But we were poor on the day.

It was all the more disappointing because we had done well against Wigan and Crewe, teams much higher up the table. I thought the game against Wigan was full of good football, and it was heartening to see that for half the match at least we were a better side than the promotion favourites. It was just a shame we couldn't get a second goal, and then conceded an equaliser in the last few minutes.

Incidentally, well done Aaron Skelton, not only for his goal against Wigan, but for the way he has come into the side to do a job.

The lads were all delighted with the way it went at Crewe. That was a great win, and if we had played that well again on Saturday, particularly defensively, we would have brought back the points from Northampton as well.

Sixfields has never been one of my favourite grounds. I never had much success when I played there for Wigan, and as you can imagine I did not enjoy going back there last week.

Northampton were a different kettle of fish compared to Wigan and Crewe. As a general rule, the top sides concentrate on playing their football, which is what we like to do. Others mix it a bit more, using a more physical approach, and work hard to pressurise you. It worked for Northampton, so I am not complaining about it, but I felt the biggest problem was that we didn't defend as a team as well as we can. Certainly Northampton were keen to make sure we had no time on the ball, and on the day they did their jobs better than we did.

My contribution was fairly minor, but I felt good, having proved my fitness, alongside Alan Neilson and Paul Hughes, in the reserves game a couple of days earlier. It was good to be in a winning team, and I enjoyed the match. Thankfully, yellow cards in reserve games don't count this season for first team matches!

I was disgusted by a tackle which put Michael Leary out of the game, but otherwise it was an enjoyable afternoon. The atmosphere is more relaxed than it is in league matches, but I made sure I got a sweat on because I knew I had to test myself physically after my lay-off. I enjoyed playing alongside the good young players we have coming through under the care of Brian Stein. While I was recovering from my injury I spent a lot of afternoons training with the youth players, and we have some good prospects there as well.

My main concern, of course, is about the league side, and getting back to winning ways, especially as we have the chance to do it on our own pitch today, backed by a home crowd. Our mood was subdued after the match at Northampton, but we have talked things over, and the team spirit is still excellent. We enjoy training, and for all the hard work involved, it has its lighter moments too. This week, for instance, because there was no reserve team game, we held a practice match between two sides which were thought to be evenly matched. Mick Harford managed one team and called it Real Madrid and Brian Stein's XI took the field as Barcelona.

Having said that, it was a serious game: we all care about what happens to us this season. We know we have to take the occasional setback, and the boss set the tone for how we approached today's match. One defeat is unwelcome, but not a disaster, so long as we can now begin another run of six or seven games without being beaten. We did it last season, and we have now proved we can do it at a higher level.

This afternoon there will be a real determination to bury the bad memories of a week ago, and put ourselves back on track for the play-off zone. We all believe we can do it.

Kevin Nicholls

Treatment Room

THREE of my "customers" returned to football last week, and I am pleased to report that Paul Hughes, Kevin Nicholls and Alan Neilson are all showing no adverse reactions to playing and training.

They all got through 90 minutes in the reserves, and were then cleared for a return to the first team squad. They all travelled to Northampton, and as you probably know Nicholls and Neilson both played as substitutes in that game.

Unless unexpected problems arose during yesterday's training, all three are available to the manager this afternoon.

Getting quite close to a return is Andrew Fotiadis, who suffered a minor hamstring injury at Crewe, and had to miss the second half of that game, and the match at Northampton.

He was back running again this week, but I doubt if he will be completely fit in time to think about a return to the squad this afternoon. He might, however, be in with a shout for the party to travel to Stevenage on Tuesday.

Dean Crowe, unfortunately, has to wait a lot longer as he works to get over the hamstring tear he suffered at Oldham three weeks ago. It is responding to treatment, and he is much better, but it was an extensive partial tear and I expect it to take several more weeks to heal. He is walking comfortably, but a long way from being able to run.

Adrian Forbes, however, is still looking good as he works to get over his cruciate knee ligament injury. He is running well, and the next stage of his rehab work will be to introduce a little twisting and turning into his routine.

David Bayliss is another who is working hard to regain fitness, following his shoulder operation. There is a good range of movement within the joint, which is very encouraging, and he is doing plenty of running and general fitness work.

The other senior player in the treatment room is Carl Griffiths, who is still making slow but steady progress. He has had another scan, and that suggests there is not enough blood flow through the tissue of his leg, so he will undergo intensive treatment to cure that problem. I have warned him that it means yet more hard work for him, but like all our players he is a very good pro, and ready to do whatever it takes to get back onto the playing field as quickly as possible.

Bruce Hobbs

Club Secretary

FIRST today I want to ask you to be as generous as you always are for a charity collection taking place inside the ground. The bucket collection is in aid of Mencap, Luton, who are neighbours of ours – their offices are not far from the ground, in Avondale Road.

A reminder that in the interest of safety, the Main Stand Enclosure becomes a no-smoking area from today. Those supporters who need to smoke can use the area beyond the New Stand catering unit, near the exit at the top of Kenilworth Road.

Supporters who attended the Northampton match will have noticed that the orange ball was in use. Once again through the winter months Nationwide League clubs will use the Mitre ISO fluo ball, which is thought to be easier to see on gloomy afternoons. We have to use this ball in all League and LDV Vans Trophy games until February 28 2003.

We would not want supporters to think that nothing is being done about the problems at Watford when we played them in the Worthington Cup. Enquiries are still going on, but the Bedfordshire Police and our hands are tied until the Greater Manchester Police have carried out their investigation, as requested by Hertfordshire Police, into the events on the night.

Several supporters have asked me about our new stadium plans. I can tell you there is a lot of hard work going on behind the scenes, and progress is being made, and I am sure it will not be much longer before a full announcement is made.

You will probably know of some changes made to fixture lists recently, and a home game for the reserves against Bournemouth has now been re-scheduled for a second time. It was postponed for the first time to avoid a clash with our Worthington Cup game at Aston Villa, and was due to be played on Wednesday. However, the terrible winds recently gave us a lot of problems with the main stand roof, and for safety's sake repair work had to take priority over a match to which the public would have been admitted. The game is now due to be played on January 22, 2003. It looks as though this match could be one of those that is destined to be moved again and again!

Since our last home match dates have been fixed for various other games, details of which came in after publication. You might like to know the full list.

Our campaign in the Bedfordshire Senior Cup begins with an away game against Wootton Blue Cross on Wednesday November 20, kick-off 7.30.

In the FA Youth Cup our second round tie was, weather permitting, played on Thursday at Tooting and Mitcham, and hopefully by now John Moore's lads will be in the draw for the third round.

I am sure you know about the local derby at Stevenage on Tuesday in the LDV Vans Trophy, but can I remind you that it is all-ticket for Luton supporters, with nothing on sale for away fans at Stevenage on the night.

And next Saturday, of course, we have our first FA Cup tie of the season, at home to Guiseley AFC, from Yorkshire.

They agreed to admission prices being reduced for this game, including children under 16 being admitted for just £1. Full details of prices are elsewhere in this magazine today, but may I please ask supporters to book their tickets early.

Supporters have asked about details of a possible replay. If one is needed it will be on Monday November 25 (7.45pm), at Valley Parade, Bradford City FC's stadium.

The draw for the second round, incidentally, is to be made tomorrow week, the day after we play Guiseley, with the ties due to be played on December 7. The big clubs, of course, don't come in until the third round, which is scheduled for January 4. If we are involved, it would take priority over our home league game with Blackpool.

Cherry Newbery

You can e-mail Cherry Newbery on
clubsec@lutontown.co.uk

LDV VANS TROPHY Southern Section, Second Round

Stevenage Borough v Luton Town

Tuesday November 12, 2002, kick-off 7.45pm

This is an ALL TICKET match for Luton Town supporters, with no tickets available on the evening of the game.

Our allocation is 1,389 tickets, which are being sold as follows:

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

Tickets are on sale to season ticket holders only (one per season ticket), on production of Cup Match Voucher D, until 3pm today November 9.

GENERAL SALE

If any tickets remain after 3pm today they will go on sale at 4.45pm this afternoon to all supporters

Prices: Adults £10 Senior Citizens and Juniors £7

THE FA CUP FIRST ROUND

Luton Town v Guiseley AFC

Saturday November 16, 2002, kick-off 3pm

Tickets for this match are now on sale

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

Season ticket holder's seats will be reserved for them until close of business this evening. However, season ticket holders who filled in a cup match authorisation form during the close season will have their tickets forwarded automatically.

NON SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

All over available seats are now available for purchase by non season ticket holders. Unclaimed season ticket seats will go on sale at 10am on Monday next, November 11.

QUID A KID OFFER: Seats in all sections are just £1 for under-16s

Other prices:

New Stand and Main Stand A-E: Adults £12, Senior Citizens/Students £6

Main Stand F, Enclosure C-G & Kenilworth Upper and Lower: Adults £10, Senior Citizens/Students £5

Main Stand G and Enclosure A, B, H, J: Adults £8, Senior Citizens/Students £6

Hatters Away

WE MEET a lot of old friends on Tuesday for the LDV Vans Trophy second round tie at Stevenage Borough, the side managed by Wayne Turner and currently struggling to get away from the relegation zone of the Nationwide Conference.

The usual coach services are on offer for the match, which is all-ticket so far as Town supporters are concerned.

The Bobbers Travel Club will leave Cranfield at 4.45 and Luton an hour later, with fares £6 for adults and £5 for concessions.

Town on Tour, part of Luton Town Supporters Club, will leave at 6pm and their fares are £6 for LTSC members, £5 for concessions with membership cards, and £7 for others.

Easy Motoring

DRIVING from Luton to Stevenage Borough's ground is easy and quick, 17 miles from ground to ground. Leave Luton on the A505 to Hitchin. As you approach Hitchin, take a right turn at a roundabout to follow the A602 to Stevenage. On the approach to Stevenage you come to a roundabout where the A602 continues to Stevenage, while the A1(M) is signposted to London and the south. Ignore the A602, and take the motorway. Leave at the first turn-off, junction 7, making a left turn to follow the A602 towards Stevenage and Ware, and you will see the football ground signposted. It is about half a mile from the motorway exit: go straight on over two roundabouts and Stevenage Borough FC is then on your right, and the car park is on your left.

For the latest news, views and interviews call:
CLUB CALL on 09068 121123 (calls cost 60p per minute at all times)

Ticket Office News

Nationwide League Division Two

Luton Town v Queens Park Rangers

Saturday November 23, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This is an **ALL-TICKET** match for **ALL SUPPORTERS**, with no tickets available on the day of the game.

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices and supporters are advised to book early to avoid disappointment.

Tranmere Rovers v Luton Town

Saturday November 30, 202, kick-off 3pm

This match is pay on the day only for Luton Town supporters, with no tickets available in advance from Kenilworth Road

Prices: Adults £15, Senior Citizens £8.50, 16 and under £3

PLEASE NOTE: If you are aged between 17 and 22, Tranmere Rovers offer a young persons' discount, with tickets costing £13. However, this is not available on the cash turnstiles. If you wish to take advantage of this offer, you must apply at the Tranmere Rovers ticket office and produce valid ID.

Saturday December 7, 2002

This date is reserved for the second round of The FA Cup

Luton Town v Colchester Utd

Saturday December 14, 2002, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices

Cash turnstiles will be available on the day, subject to availability, but please remember there are NO CONCESSIONS available on cash turnstiles

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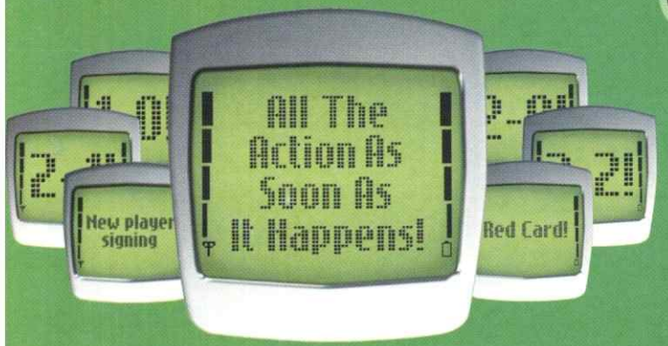

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Commercial Corner

WE HAVE two joint match sponsors this afternoon, and it is a pleasure to welcome them because they are both regular supporters of Luton Town.

Intasport, from Stafford, is an energetic sports promotion and corporate hospitality company which prides itself on giving excellent service to a rapidly expanding client base. Its high reputation within sporting circles has been earned as publishers of fixture charts, year planners, desk pads, team sheets and brochures for football, rugby and cricket clubs, and racecourses.

We welcome the company's representatives and their guests, from local companies which have supported production of fixture charts and desk pads. They are from NOP Research Group, Poole Solicitors, Hunters Health Club, Greene King, Shepherd Interiors, Ella & White Ltd., Barton Dental Surgery and Rossbro Ltd.

ALSO sponsoring this afternoon's game are John Eastaff (Builders Merchants) Ltd., who have been part of the local business scene for many years. They have been supporters of the club, and of our commercial activities, for a long time, and it is a pleasure to welcome them back for today's game.

Based at Elstow Storage Depot, at Kempston Hardwick, the company supplies a comprehensive range of building materials - bricks, blocks, paving blocks, clay and plastic drainage equipment, paving slabs, plywoods and much, much, more. They sell to the trade and to the DIY customer, and a wide range of plant hire is also available. The company is also a registered firearms dealer.

A MEMBER of a family which supports Luton Town, nine-year-old Curtis Sage-Passant is today's commercial mascot. He lives at Tilsworth Road, Stanbridge, and attends Stanbridge Lower School. He comes to games with his mum and dad, and his brother Lewis, but today he is much more than a spectator.

He will meet the team in the dressing room before the match, which will give him a chance to talk to his favourite player, Steve Howard, before going onto the pitch for the pre-match formalities.

TODAY'S match ball sponsor is a regular supporter, Anthony Folbigg, of New Bedford Road, Luton. And what better way to help your favourite club than by backing its commercial efforts to mark a special occasion? Mr Folbigg explained: "Having followed Luton for 50 years, a match ball sponsorship was an appropriate way of marking my 60th birthday, and thanking my guests who have put themselves out to enable me to continue to watch football following a disabling illness. My favourite seasons have been 55-56, 58-59, 67-68, 81-82 and 87-88. My favourite players have been Turner, Bingham, Rioch, Macdonald and Moss, and my most memorable matches include Blackpool in the 1959 FA Cup run, Arsenal at Wembley 88 and the last-day games at Manchester City and Derby County... Happy memories!"

We hope Mr Folbigg and his guests enjoy their time with us today and that everything about the occasion stores up a few more happy memories for them.

Linda Layton

Golden Gamble

OUR Golden Gamble draw lived up to its name at the last home match, against Wigan, when it paid out a whopping wedge of cash. Long-time Town supporter Tony Holmes, of London Road, Luton, won £785 when his ticket was pulled out of the drum by David Bayliss

The 50/50 lottery jackpot depends on sales: out of the £1 ticket price, half goes to the jackpot and the other half to club funds, so even if you are not lucky enough to win, we are grateful for your support.

The Golden Gamble has paid out eight prizes this season, totalling £5,500 an average of £688 each - not bad for a stake of £1. Another cash prize is on offer this afternoon, and the draw is made at half-time, with the prize available immediately.

Kit Sponsors

David Bayliss WHOSH	**Mick Harford** Les Miller Miller & Company Bedford	**Mark Ovendale** Available
Emmerson Boyce Elsie Clubb	**Happy Harry** Available	**Russell Perrett** Graham Bates & Chris Park
Chris Coyne Mel Westwood & Family	**Ian Hillier** St Mary's Church, Luton	**Bruce Sewell Hobbs** Sally & Sue
Dean Crowe John Pyper & John Waterworth "Mad Hatters"	**Peter Holmes** Gill, Julie, Yvonne	**Aaron Skelton** The Bobbers Travel Club
Justin Dealey BBC Three Counties Radio	**Steve Howard** Jeremy Cain of DAP Consulting	**Matthew Spring** Brian Hall
Joseph Deeney Michael Capp & Danny Clubb	**Paul Hughes** Les & Sue Miller	**Brian Stein** Danny Clubb
Tony Thorpe Luton Town Supporters club	**Marvin Johnson** Fred Barrett & Son Licensed Property Valuers	**Alan Neilson** LTFC Barmy Army London Branch
Carl Emberson The Kenilworth Connection	**Joe Kinnear** LTFC Supporters Club (MK)	**Ahmet Brkovic** G&S Ceramics
Adrian Forbes The Regular Rabble	**Lee Mansell** Danny Clubb & Michael Capp	**Alan Kimble** Office Power Systems Ltd
Andrew Fotiadis Sally Mayne & Family	**John Moore** Ian Smith	**Steve Robinson** G.Owen Ceramic Tiling
Robert Gillman Century Club	**Kevin Nicholls** WHOSH	**Kevin Foley** The Regular Rabble
Carl Griffiths Paul Deason	**James Osborn** Michael Capp & Danny Clubb	**Sol Davis** Personal Security Services

If you are interested in sponsoring a player's kit please contact the Commercial Department on: **01582 411622**

Luton Town v Port Vale

Location http://www.soccer-stats.com/headtohead

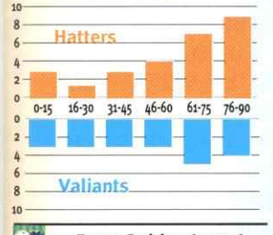
Clubs Comparison

	Goals Scored	
15	Shots	8
7	Headers	6
3	Volleys	4
2	Penalties	3
0	Free Kicks	0
0	Own Goals	0

Where Goals Scored

Where Goals Conceded

When Goals Scored



Form Guide - Last 6

4	Won	1
1	Drawn	4
1	Lost	1
9	For	6
8	Against	6
13	Points	7
1	Goal Difference	0
WWWDWL	Sequence	DDDLWD

Yellow & Red Cards

33	Yellow	26
1	Red	2

Seasonal Progress Comparison

2002-2003 Attendances

Hatters		Valiants
52,814	Aggregate	41,011
7,860	Highest	6,374
6,004	Lowest	3,328
6,602	Average	4,557
66	% of Capacity	24

Average Goals per game

1.59	For	1.24
2.13	Home For	1.11
1.11	Away For	1.38
1.53	Against	1.47
1.63	Home Against	1.44
1.44	Away Against	1.50

2002-2003 Figures

33	Players Used	22
6	Clean Sheets	5
3	Failed to Score	2
	Goals scored from...	
4	Corners	2
2	Free Kicks	2
	Goals conceded from...	
1	Corners	3
2	Free Kicks	0

10 Year Record

Hatters	Avg Pos.	Valiants
53.5	among 92 clubs	44
7,878	Avg Att 1993	8,323
6,602	Avg Att 2002	4,557
-16	+ / - %	-45

Top League Scorers

8	League Goals	5
16	Games Played	14
0.50	Lge Goals/Game	0.36
5	Points Gained	5
4	Scoring Run	1
0	Hat-Tricks	0
4	Close Range	0
3	Inside Area	5
1	Long Range	0
3	Shots	1
4	Headers	1
1	Volleys	1
0	Penalties	2
0	Direct FKs	0

Swings

LT	Games Won from:	P
0	3 Goals Down	0
0	2 Goals Down	0
3	1 Goal Down	2
	Lost from:	
0	3 Goals Up	0
0	2 Goals Up	0
1	1 Goal Up	2
	Drawn from:	
0	3 Goals Down	0
1	2 Goals Down	0
0	1 Goal Down	3
0	3 Goals Up	0
0	2 Goals Up	0
1	1 Goal Up	1

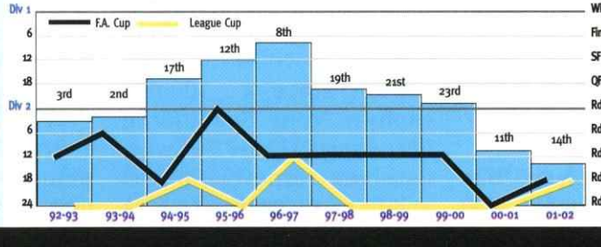
Margins

5	Won by 1 Gl	6
0	Won by 2 Gls	0
2	Won by 3 Gls	0
0	Won by 4 Gls	0
0	Won by 5+ Gls	0
	Games	
4	Lost by 1 Gl	5
0	Lost by 2 Gls	1
2	Lost by 3 Gls	1
0	Lost by 4 Gls	0
0	Lost by 5+ Gls	0

Misc stats

9	Highest Pos.	9
24	Lowest Pos.	2
5	Winning Run	5
7	Unbeaten Run	5
4	Losing Run	4
5	No Win Run	6

Port Vale's 10 Year History



Win	Season	Leading Scorer	Ave.
Fin	01/02	McPhee.....11	5,2
SF	00/01	Naylor.....14	4,4
QF	99/00	Rougier.....8	5,9
Rd.5	98/99	Foyle.....9	6,9
Rd.4	97/98	Mills.....14	8,4
Rd.3	96/97	Naylor.....17	7,3
Rd.2	95/96	Naylor.....12	8,2
Rd.1	94/95	Foyle.....16	9,1
	93/94	Foyle.....18	8,3
	92/93	Taylor.....15	8,0

SP YOUR FREE SPORTS PAPER WITH PEOPLE

Welcome To Port Vale F.C.

GOALKEEPERS

1. Mark Goodlad
Born Barnsley
DOB 09/09/1979
Current 'Player of the Year' and past winner of the 'Young Player of the Year' Goody's consistent performances give an air of confidence to the back four. Joined from Notts Forest on a free transfer the year old stopper has caught the eye of many of the bigger clubs.

12. Dean Delaney
Born Dublin
DOB 15/09/1980
Young Dean a Republic of Ireland Under 21 International has been restricted to only a handful of performances due to the fine form of Mark Goodlad. Ready willing and able when called upon but will no doubt be another who hopes for more starts this season. His first league club was Everton.

DEFENDERS

2. Matt Carragher
Born Liverpool
DOB 14/01/1976
Club Captain Matty has played well over 100 games for the club since his transfer from Wigan Athletic in the summer of 1997. Happy to play at right back or in the heart of the defence. Enthusiastic both on the pitch and off it.

3. Rae Ingram
Born Manchester
DOB 06/12/1974
Comfortable anywhere on the left side Rae is now in his second season with the club since signing from Macclesfield Town. First team opportunities were limited last season but he proved a dependable deputy when others were injured or suspended. Prone to the odd hairstyle change.

5. Michael Walsh
Born Rotherham
DOB 05/08/1977
'Walshy' made all Vale fans happy in the close season by committing himself to the Valiants for another two years despite overtures from other clubs. A key figure in the heart of the defence his all action style has firmly endeared himself to the Vale Park faithful. Now in his fifth season since a _100,000 capture from Scunthorpe his long throw always deserves respect with his ability to throw the ball as far as most can kick it. Currently nursing a long-term injury and is unlikely to be available for selection today.

6. Sam Collins
Born Pontefract
DOB 05/06/1977

Another long throw exponent Sam joined at the start of the season on a bosman after service with Bury and Huddersfield where he played for Brian Horton. Tall and uncompromising he has become a big favourite with the fans.

13. Levi Reid
Born Stafford
DOB 19/12/83
Promising youngster yet to make his first team bow. A pacy right back who will be hoping to make a claim for first team action soon. Traveled to the recent game at Cheltenham though was not chosen as part of the sixteen.

16. Steven Rowland
Born Wrexham
DOB 02/11/1981
Ever since the 19 year old broke into the first team from nowhere at the JJB stadium Wigan last season his play has been a model of consistency. Tough in the tackle performances have belied his years and he will hope to continue the swift progress he has made. His performances have been recognized by a call up to the Wales U21 squad for the forthcoming game in Azerbaijan this month.

21. Liam Burns
Born Belfast
DOB 30/10/1978
Northern Ireland Under 21 International Burnsy made more starts last season than ever before. Dependable and combative he never lets the side down and can play anywhere along the back four. In his fifth season with the club.

MIDFIELDERS

4. Sean McClare
Born Rotherham
DOB 12/01/1978
Made his loan spell permanent last season when signing from Barnsley after some early sterling performances in the engine-room, lost his place late last season to a resurgent and fit Marc Bridge-Wilkinson but will be looking for more starts this term.

7. Neil Brisco
Born Wigan
DOB 26/01/1978
An in and out season for the ex Manchester City trainee. Suffered from some injuries which limited his number of starts in the first team. Strong and hard working Neil's best games are surely to come in black and white. Neil is currently out of action due to a cartilage operation.

8. Michael Cummins
Born Dublin
DOB 01/06/1978
The Dubliner was ever present last season a rarity in the days of squad rotation. Just pipped for the player of the year award and having scored 10 times from midfield last season he will be expected to continue in the same vein. Signed from Middlesborough in March 2000 and is a Republic of Ireland Under 21 international .

11. Marc Bridge-Wilkinson
Born Nuneaton
DOB 16/03/1979
Marc missed the first half of last season with injury and probably didn't want the season to end as he was just picking up form on his return to the side. The ex Derby talent has returned to the form that saw him pocket 15 goals from midfield in his first season with the club.

14. Mark Boyd
Born Carlisle
DOB 22/10/1981
Much is expected of Mark signed from Newcastle United in the close season. Comes with notes on passing skills on his CV. Vale will see him as one of those to supply the strikers with quality. Learning with the Master, newly knighted Sir Bobby Robson can only have aided his progress. Mark will be looking to make just that. Played for Carlisle United on loan.

FORWARDS

9. Stephen Brooker
Born Newport Pagnell
DOB 21/05/1981
Leads the line with great effect the ex Watford man has consistently proved his worth way in excess of the _15,000 paid for his services in January 2001. Power and strength mark him down as a feared striker defenders love to hate.

Welcome To Port Vale F.C.

Always remembered for the vital strike in the LDV vans final against Brentford which saw Vale lift the trophy.

10. Stephen McPhee
Born Glasgow
DOB 05/06/1981
A real bag of tricks. The young Scot terrorised defences last season and expect the former Coventry man to be prominent again with his pace and guile. Would have collected more strikes in front of goal had he calmed his exuberance. Skill and ability in abundance

15. Ian Armstrong
Born Fazackerley
DOB 16/11/1981
The fleet footed Liverpool youngster was hampered by injuries last season but still showed everyone of an underlying potential to be a star. A mercurial strike against Brentford at Vale Park last season gave notice that an injury free spell will ensure he has a bright future in the game. An England youth international who saw little chance of breaking through at Anfield. Their loss is Port Vale's gain.

17. Paul Byrne
Born South Africa
DOB 26/11/1982
A young forward who has been restricted to a couple of substitute appearances. Port Vale are his first league club.

18. Billy Paynter
Born Liverpool
DOB 13/07/1984

Another young forward with good physic and strength who is just finding his way. Proved an able deputy when called upon in last season. Forced his was into the side this season and has gained rave reviews due to scoring a goal every two games since filling in for Steve Brooker.

20. John Durnin
Born Bootle
DOB 18/08/1965
The Liverpudlian with a vast array of experience joined from none league Rhyl last season and made a major contribution to the side from midfield. Left before the end of last season as a cost cutting measure the 36 year old has now returned to the club in a player coaching capacity. Previous service with Portsmouth and Oxford means his experience will still be called upon this season if required in a playing capacity.

24. Lee Ashcroft
Born Preston
DOB 07/09/72
Much travelled striker who commenced his career with home town club Preston. Hade another spell with The Lillywhites after playing for West Brom and a spell on loan to Notts County. Also starred for Grimsby. He is currently on a month's loan from Wigan Athletic. Has played over 350 games in league football and will be hoping to make his move to Vale permanent though is currently missing through injury.

25. Chris Birchall
Born Liverpool
DOB 05/05/84
Another who will be keen to force his way into the team. Was on the bench for the game at Cheltenham and also in the Worthington Cup last season at Charlton Athletic. Vale are his first club.

Blast From the Past

Port Vale have been fairly infrequent visitors to Kenilworth Road over the years with not many of the clashes living long in the memory. There has to be an exception, however, and the meeting towards the end of the 1965/66 campaign left a crowd of 12,054 breathless with excitement as the Hatters went goal mad.

Relegated to the basement at the end of the previous season the Town had pushed their way up to the promotion places on the back of a superb home record and the goalscoring talents of a young striker, John O'Rourke, who had been signed on a free transfer from Chelsea two seasons before.

With five games left to play, O'Rourke had scored 29 times in 36 outings, including four hat-tricks, and was being watched with envy by a good many clubs from the top three divisions. He was the fulcrum of a free scoring forward line that was to hit the back of the net 90 times by the end of a season that had promised so much but ended, eventually, in massive disappointment both on and off the pitch.

In a bid to be different, the Town had decided to play their home game against Port Vale on the Saturday evening of May 14th, only a couple of hours after the end of the F.A.Cup final.

Probably mindful of the number of people who emerge from an afternoon in front of the television watching the cup final to fill the local parks with a heaving mass of bodies trying to emulate the players they had just seen in action, the Board obviously thought that a real live game was guaranteed to pull in the crowds.

As it turned out, the 12,054 that filled the terraces on a balmy evening was the second highest home crowd of the season and fully vindicated the Directors' optimism and, with appetites whetted by an afternoon of Everton v Sheffield Wednesday, they settled down to a further helping of good football.

Port Vale were making their final appearance of a season which was to see them finish just above the re-election positions while the Town were sitting in sixth position with at least three games in hand on most of the clubs above them. The Hatter's severe fixture backlog had increased the previous Wednesday when, two goals ahead at Sealand Road Chester, the heavy rain that had been falling from the start, turned into a monsoon leaving the referee little option but to abandon the match.

Luton players face the camera at the start of the 1965/66 season.
Back row (left to right); David Pleat, Alan Slough, Dick Edwards, Barry Fry, Colin Tinsley, Ray Whittaker, John O'Rourke, John Reid, Tom McKechnie.
Middle row (left to right-players only); Alan Rivers, Graham Caleb, Tony Read, Gordon Riddick, Ted Phillips, Jim Gibson, Fred Jardine, Bruce Rioch, John Moore.
Front row (left to right-players only); Jimmy Hyde, Chris Long.

Log on to Luton Town's official website at
www.lutontown.co.uk

Saturday night at the football

Still smarting from this disappointment the Town players set about Port Vale with a vengeance and tore great holes in their defence right from the start. After only seven minutes play the Hatters were already two up following strikes from Gordon Riddick and Ray Whittaker and after 18 minutes the lead had doubled after O'Rourke had netted twice in the space of 60 seconds.

Vale player-manager Jackie Mudie switched his young wing-halves John James and Clint Boulton to inside-forward, and pulled back old hands Henry Poole and Terry Miles in an attempt to stem the flow but Riddick headed his second and Luton's fifth after 23 minutes.

Armed with the knowledge that a hard game faced them on the following Monday evening at Halifax, the players were not inclined to take risks after having attained such an impregnable position, with the result that the rest of the game was a bit of an anti-climax. It was probably for the best otherwise the supporters would have had great difficulty in catching their breath!

In the second period what little Vale had to offer up front was easily dealt with by Luton goalkeeper Tony Read, who was making only his second appearance of the season between the sticks after 27 outings wearing the number eight shirt- during which time he had added 12 goals to the cause.

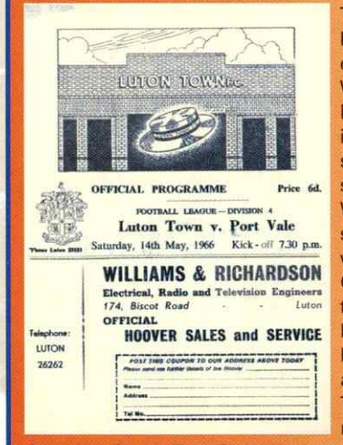
The game ended with O'Rourke shooting straight at Vale goalkeeper Stuart Sharratt from the penalty spot, thus denying himself hat-trick number five of the season. The crowd went home happy, though, having witnessed Everton 3 Sheffield Wednesday 2 on the television and Luton 5 Port Vale 0 in the flesh. They probably went home to watch the cup final again on 'Match of the Day' to round off the day!

Luton: Read, Thomson, Slough, Riddick, Woods, Moore, French, Reid, O'Rourke, Rioch, Whittaker.

Port Vale: Sharratt, Ritchie, Sproson, James, Alcock, Boulton, Donald, Johnson, Mudie, Miles, Rowland.

Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages



LUTON TOWN F.C.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME Price 6d.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION 4

Luton Town v. Port Vale

Saturday, 14th May, 1966 Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

WILLIAMS & RICHARDSON
Electrical, Radio and Television Engineers
174, Biscot Road - - Luton
OFFICIAL
HOOVER SALES and SERVICE

Telephone: LUTON 26262

The Town produced their normal 12 page programme for the visit of Port Vale with much of the editorial comment given over to the abandonment of the game at Chester three days before.

With the Town 2-0 ahead and, according to the reports, playing brilliantly in the torrential rain the players were called off two minutes into the second half. Groundstaff were given a chance to disperse the surface water to no avail and to the intense disappointment of both sets of players- Chester also had eyes on promotion at the time.

When the game was eventually played, on the final Saturday of the season, a much weakened Luton side fought out a 1-1 draw when a win would have seen them promoted.

Given the rows over players promotion bonuses as the season drew to a close leaving the squad depleted and many senior professionals leaving that summer one wonders what sort of side the Town would have put out in the old Division Three if the original score had stood at Chester and we had won promotion? We will never know.

The Town went on to struggle the following season, only avoiding the re-election places at the death. One of the many reasons can be seen from the South East Counties league table shown in the Port Vale programme with the youth team winning only once over the 1965/66 season and conceding over 130 goals in the process! The club's scouting system was obviously struggling at the time.

For the latest news, views and interviews call:
CLUB CALL on 09068 121123 (calls cost 60p per minute at all times)

Luton Town F.C Golf Day

IT MAY be co-incidence, but the best golfers among our footballers are all strikers. We know because of a charity golf day organised by the club through the website recently. Players and management took part, and all involved had to declare their handicaps.

The club's No. 1 on the fairways is Brian Stein, who plays off nine. He is closely followed by Mick Harford and Steve Howard, who are both 10-handicappers, while Matthew Spring is not far behind on 12.

The players had a chance to fight it out when the club held a Golf Day at the Hatfield London Country Club at Essendon, in aid of the NSPCC.

There were 12 teams, each with a Luton player or coach plus three local golfers and Luton fans. The format was a Stableford competition where points are won at each hole. The handicap system makes it harder for the better players to score.

At the end of the day the leaders among the Hatters contingent were Steve Howard (10) and Lee Mansell (24), both with 33 points. Then came Mick Harford (10) 32, Matthew Spring (12) 28, Brian Stein (9) 27, Tony Thorpe (18) 26, Peter Holmes (24) 25, and eighth equal Chris Coyne (20) 24 and Ian Hillier (24) 24.

But they were all beaten to it by the club's Catering Manager Peter Saul, who plays off 22, and came back with 38 points, making him joint fourth in the whole competition.

The day was won by Adrian Danes (22) who scored 40 points, and the team prize was won by Serenade Windows, which included Brian Stein.

One celebrity golfer did pretty well, too. Former player and now Sky Sports pundit Frank McLintock has a handicap of nine, and came back with 38 points to share fourth spot with Peter Saul.

There was a presentation dinner in the evening at which an auction raised £1,675, and a raffle made a further £480 for the children's charity.

Our thanks go to all who took part, and to the generous supporters of the event: Martin Iles of Grosvenor Casino for sponsoring the golf day, Christina Casserley for use of an apartment in Marbella, John Leach, Private Car Hire, Carvells Car Rental, Marbella, Derek Farr of Critical Research, Gus & Jessie Murchie of Copthall Farm Private Shoots, Greg Carris of Livingwell Health Club, Luton, John & Lorraine of El Oceano Hotel, Marbella, John Hazell of Arsenal Football Club, Brendon Sherry of Box Developments, Pete Layton of Ladyswood Ltd, Steve Doyle of Templeview Developments, Pat McGirls of McGirls Money Management, Wayne Phillips of W. A. P. UK Services, Steve McCormack of Dunham Jaguar, Peter Gowans of Charles Wells, and Mike Donovan of Specialist Cars.

A further Golf Day will be planned for the Spring. If anyone would like to join us, call the Commercial Department for further information on 01582 411622

The winner: Adrian Danes, who carded a magnificent total of 40 points, with his victor's trophy

Second place: Mick Turner, who played in Brian Stein's team, receives his trophy from Commercial Manager Linda Layton

Star men: Brian Stein and Mick Harford with competition adjudicators Sylvia and Don Heath

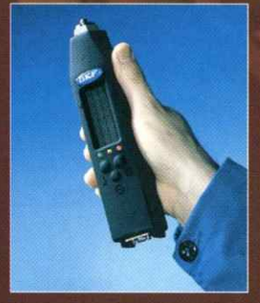
Third place: John Ashton and Linda with his trophy and the signed Arsenal football that he bought in the auction

EasyPull bearing puller
A new lightweight design of bearing jaw puller with a spring mechanism for faster gripping behind the component is reckoned to be one of the easiest and most efficient pullers currently available and has now been launched by SKF. As part of the design, a shear pin has been included, to ensure operator safety in the event of excessive force being applied.

Some 16 per cent of premature bearing failures can be attributed to bad fitting. The most common fault is the use of brute force, while ignorance or laziness regarding use of the correct tools for the task is a major contributor. Available in three sizes to provide maximum withdrawal forces between three and eight tonnes (30 kN to 80 kN), the pullers have been designed in a modular fashion to allow simple replacement of worn or damaged parts.

SYSTEM MultiPoint automatic lubricator
SKF's SYSTEM MultiPoint is a new, automatic lubricator for multiple grease lubrication points. It can automatically lubricate each point simultaneously with the correct amount of lubricant and therefore removes human error and neglect in installations where multiple lubrication points prove to be time consuming and liable to be forgotten. With research showing that 36% of all bearings fail prematurely due to incorrect lubrication, SYSTEM MultiPoint will facilitate longer bearing life and increased uptime.

SYSTEM MultiPoint's high-pressure capability, of 40bar / 600psi, allows grease to be dispensed at the high rates required in multiple bearing applications. Feed lines can be run to five metres in length, with up to eight lines connected to the lubricator. An alarm function warns of blocked feed lines and empty cartridges, and it also stops the lubricator operating when a machine isn't running.



MARLIN condition detector (MCD)
The MCD from SKF enables a simple but extremely effective means of checking the health of a machine. Vibration and temperature are measured to assess the machine's state.

Providing an inexpensive, easily learned first step into condition monitoring, the MCD is ideal for users unfamiliar with machine diagnostic measuring techniques. At the same time, when coupled with an extensive range of sister units and accessories, the condition detector can be integrated into broader plant-wide condition monitoring strategies.

By measuring vibration velocity the user can identify problems such as imbalance, misalignment, mechanical looseness or wear. SKF employs a vibration monitoring technique within the MCD that involves the use of acceleration enveloping, which makes gear and bearing wear easier to detect.

OilCheck monitor
A new hand-held and extremely simple to use method of determining the degree of degradation and contamination of mineral and synthetic oils is now available from SKF, along with the facility to provide a full diagnostic service through detailed lubrication analysis procedures

The hand-held monitoring device is a comparative instrument, which enables optimised intervals to be maintained between oil changes. It detects and measures the dielectric constant in a used oil sample, which is compared against results taken from an unused lubricant of the same type and brand.

All that is required is for a few drops of sample oil to be placed in a circular recess from which a sensor will determine the appropriate value. The display is via a green/red grading indicator and a 1-100 numerical readout.

Added-Value Solutions

SKF's Integrated Maintenance Solutions (IMS) programme consists of an extensive range of quality products and services, designed to maximise your overall plant efficiency and profitability.

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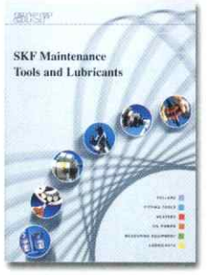

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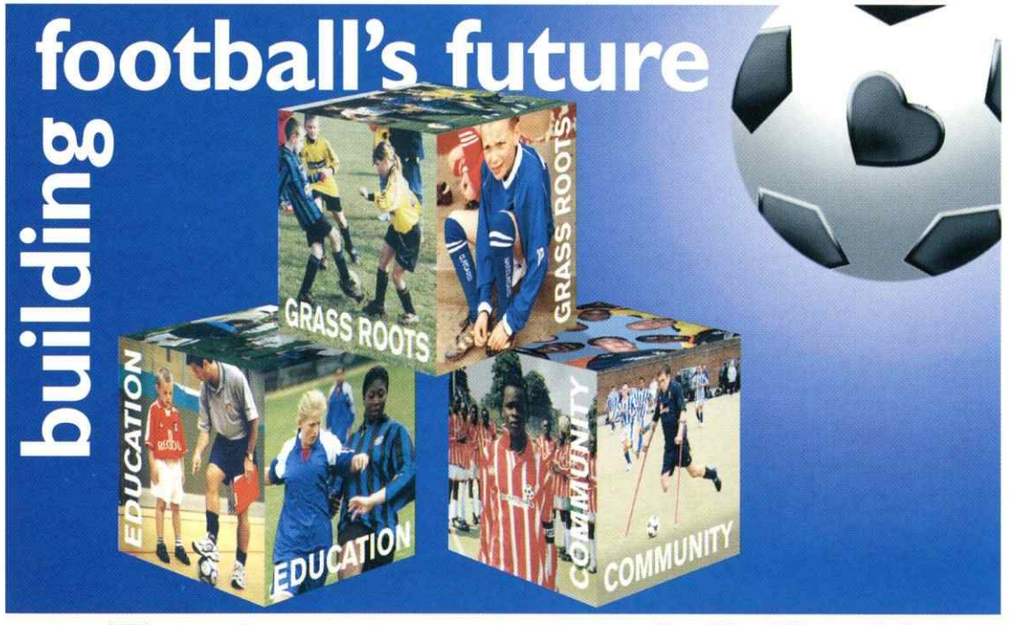
Fans on the road

FOR THE fourth time this season the Town's following at Northampton was into four figures, with the visitors' end at Sixfields packed solid while there were plenty of gaps in the home fans' sections. Even so, it was Northampton's highest gate of the season so far.

Hatters Away		Visitors to Luton	
Blackpool	781	Peterborough	990
Plymouth	773	Barnsley	504
Cardiff	314	Chesterfield	366
Brentford	1,493	Notts County	341
Watford(WC)	4,404	Mansfield	160
Huddersfield	700	Swindon	404
Aston Villa (WC)	4,588	Cheltenham	328
Stockport	680	Wigan	425
Oldham	610		
Woking (LDV)	262		
Northampton	1,250		
Total:	**15,855**		**3,114**
Average:	**1,441**		**445**



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Action Highlights

Crewe Alexandra 0
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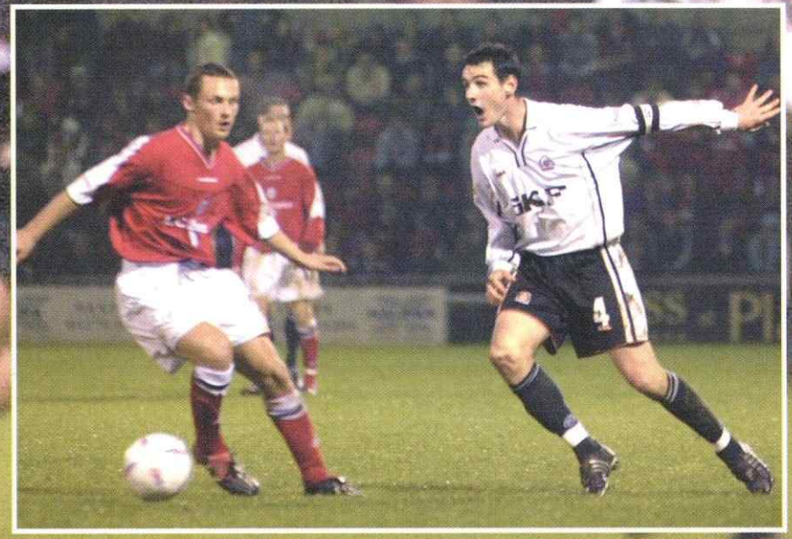

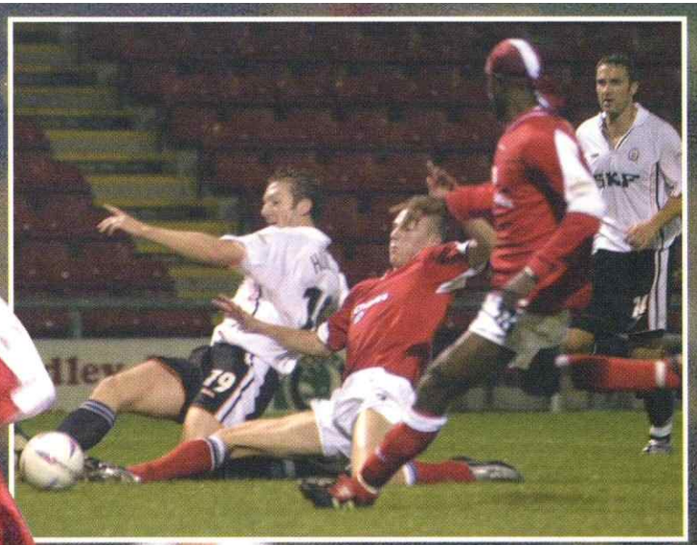

WINNER AND LOSER: Steve Howard, whose ninth goal of the season gave the Town victory at Gresty Road, takes on former Town defender Efe Sodje.
Top right: Howard slides in to get past Richard Walker and fire off a shot at goal.
Above: Acting skipper Matt Spring straining every muscle and urging on his side.

LTFC in the Community

Working in conjunction with Bedfordshire Football Association

I WOULD like to use today's column to tell you about an amazing project that the Community Department has been delighted to help co-ordinate.

About three months ago, during a meeting with Helen Barnett, the Luton Borough Council Manager for PE and Sport, I was asked if I could provide any suggestions as to where Farley Hill Junior School might be able to find the balance of funding required to enable the school to build their new sports complex. It consists of two multi-use games areas, along with floodlights and changing facilities.

At the time I had been in discussions with the members of FLAG, the supporters' organisation formed to help the football club when it was faced by receivership, assisting them in finding a suitable project in which they could invest their money.

It had been specified that the project should be primarily of benefit to the community, as it was these people who had donated the money in the first place.

Sometimes it is truly amazing how two projects that match so perfectly can fall into your lap at the same time. I made the necessary phone calls and arranged the meetings, and everything came together perfectly.

FLAG agreed to donate the necessary £20,000 to complete a project that will provide the communities adjacent to our current ground, and hopefully our new ground too, with a much-needed sports facility.

There is an added bonus with the money being used in this manner. Because the cash is being donated to a project that is aiding sports development, the school will be able to apply for what is called Sportsmatch. This is a government scheme that will match pound for pound money donated to such projects should they satisfy specified requirements.

We are investigating this possibility and the initial signs suggest that we have every chance of being successful. If we are, the school will have the additional money available to spend on setting up and delivering a variety of coaching initiatives within the centre. The football aspect of these will be delivered by the Luton Town Community Department, the money we receive from this will in turn give us the ability to deliver a wider range of activities. In particular we would extend the volume of free curriculum time school coaching that we deliver.

How else will Luton Town benefit? First of all it will give me a free venue where I can deliver a range of courses. This in turn means that our charges will stay at a minimum. In addition, as our project grows, the long term relationship with the school will enable us to instigate educational programmes using sport for children and adults alike.

I can see other benefits. The department, in conjunction with Beds FA and the local councils, is working hard to develop girls' football in the county, and this project in the long term will lead to a girls' Centre of Excellence. The school will provide us with a natural home for this Centre. Also our own ladies team, Luton Belles, are looking for a long term training base and Farley Junior School might well provide the solution.

Finally, I would like to welcome to today's game the players, manager and parents of Stotfold Youth FC, who have been the department's guests for the day at our Match Day Soccer Club. I hope they have enjoyed their time with us.

Stuart Smith

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£20,000 donation from FLAG

ON BEHALF of everyone involved with FLAG (Fans of Luton Action Group) I would like to say how delighted we are to be making a £20,000 contribution to Farley Junior School's 'Space for Sport & Arts' project. This will help the school to build two outdoor multi-purpose sports pitches, with floodlights and changing facilities.

It has taken many months of meetings and discussions, not to mention set-backs, for FLAG to find a project which is the perfect fit for our aim of promoting football in the community.

From the outset, the FLAG committee was determined to find a project that would not only fulfil this aim but also be sustainable in the long term. By supporting the Farley Junior School project, we think we will be doing just that.

Pupils at the school will benefit from the superb new facilities, encouraging them to take part in more sports activities both during school hours and at after-school clubs. Local sports teams will also be able to use the new pitches as will the general public, giving the local community more much-needed recreational facilities.

Both FLAG and Luton Town's community department will have logo boards around the pitches, reflecting their involvement with the club's local community.

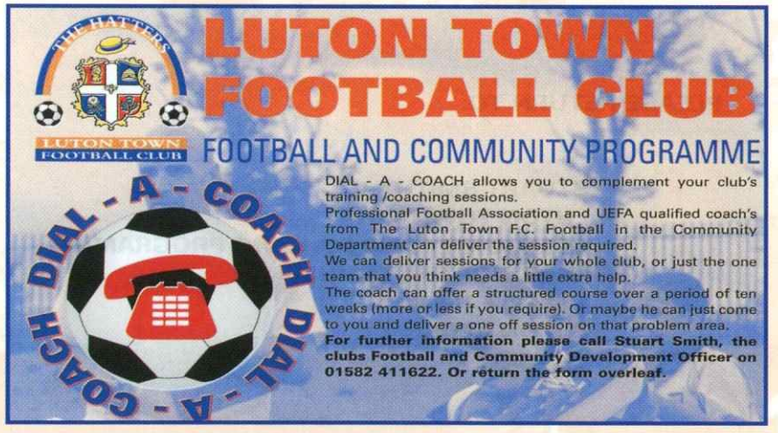
Crucially, Luton Town FC's community department will also reap huge benefits from the establishment of these facilities. Stuart Smith's department will be able to use the pitches for after-school sessions, as well as holiday coaching and other community activities, and FLAG are delighted to be able to contribute towards the department's work in this way.

Luton Town Chairman, Mike Watson-Challis, has also thanked FLAG for this most welcome contribution to the community department's work..

FLAG would like to thank all those who contributed to its funds and thank the supporters for their patience while we searched for the ideal project. As most of you will be aware, FLAG funds were used to put together a bid to buy the club on behalf of the community and the donation of £20,000 to Farley Junior School represents the majority of the remaining monies. A small amount has been kept back for contingencies.

We hope that this will be the start of a long and mutually beneficial relationship between the club's community department and you, the supporters, who were so generous in your backing of FLAG.

Yvonne Fletcher
Director, Luton Town FC
Director, FLAG



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Action Replay

Luton Town 1
Wigan Ath 1
(HT 1-0)

ALTHOUGH he was bitterly disappointed that the Town gave away a sloppy equaliser to the league leaders two minutes from time, manager Joe Kinnear and his opposite number Paul Jewell agreed that we had seen a cracking football match.

It was full of everything except the two or three extra goals both sides might have had, and on balance of play the result was probably right. Wigan, costing £8million to assemble, were the best team we have seen at Kenilworth Road this season, but despite being at less than full strength, the Town were a match for them. It was just a tad galling that the Town were leading until the 88th minute, three minutes after the then league leaders were reduced to ten men.

Each side had spells when it threatened more than it achieved, and it was ironic that two defenders should be the goal scorers on a day when slick high-tempo football saw plenty of opportunities created for strikers.

Visiting goalkeeper Jon Filan was man of the match by some distance, making several top class saves as the Town had Wigan on the ropes. The Latics had conceded only three goals in their seven previous away games, and were defending a run of 11 league and cup games without defeat.

They were perhaps a touch lucky to save that record in view of the lateness of their goal, but they had earlier shown why they are favourites for promotion.

For the fans, it was tremendous entertainment, between two excellent footballing sides, with plenty of incident and endeavour, and no quarter asked. Neither manager rated the ref too highly, and even Joe had some sympathy for Matt Jackson, whose return to his first club ended with a red card for his second yellow card offence on Steve Howard.

Wigan had always looked vulnerable to the double spearhead of Howard and Andrew Fotiadis, and might easily have conceded the second goal the Town needed to douse their enthusiasm.

Aaron Skelton slid in to net his first goal of the season from close range in the 24th minute after Pete Holmes slung over a deep cross which Howard headed back across the face of goal.

Having looked the better side in the first half, the Town were pinned back for much of the second, but just before Jackson was red-carded Howard saw another header brilliantly saved. Matt Spring had brought an equally thrilling save from Filan earlier.

Inevitably, the ten men, desperate to preserve their promotion chances, threw everything in for the last attacking effort, and the equaliser was a double disappointment for the Town manager.

Russell Perrett, the Town's man of the match just ahead of Chris Coyne, was pulled up for a foul on Neil Roberts which few inside the ground saw. The ref did, to Joe's disgust, and the manager was even more niggled at the failure to defend the set piece. Steve McMillan's free kick went to the far post, and Wigan skipper and centre-half Jason de Vos was given space and time to help himself to a simple header. Wearing a headband over stitches from an earlier game, he looked like a latter-day Steve Foster.

Luton Town: Berthelin; Boyce, Perrett, Coyne, Davis; Robinson, Spring, Skelton, Holmes; Howard, Fotiadis. Subs, all unused: Thorpe, Brkovic, Hillier, Kimble, Emberson.

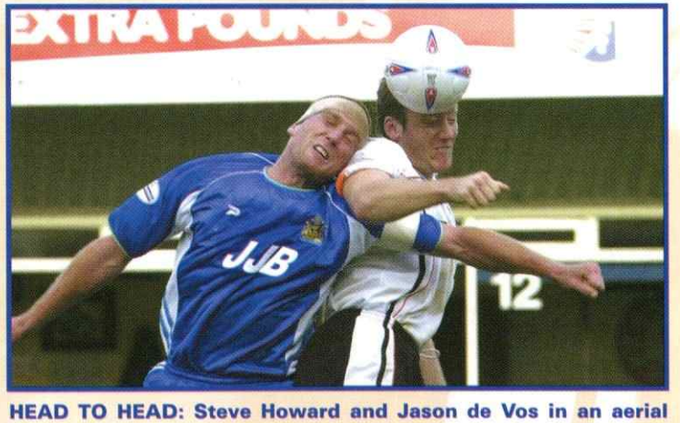
Booked: Matt Spring and Steve Howard for fouls.

Wigan: Filan; Eaden, Jackson, de Vos, McMillan; Teale (Liddell 53 mins), Dinning, Jarrett, McCulloch; Roberts, Ellington. Unused subs: Mitchell, Kennedy, Green, Beasant.

Booked: Matt Jackson twice, fouls on Howard after 8 and 85 mins, and so red carded for the second; Teale and Roberts for fouls.

Referee: Steve Tomlin, Sussex.

Attendance: 7,364, including only 425 supporting the league leaders.



HEAD TO HEAD: Steve Howard and Jason de Vos in an aerial duel.

Action Replay

Crewe Alex 0
Luton Town 1
(HT 0-0)

THEY left it late to get the goal, but the Town turned in a highly professional performance at Gresty Road to earn their fourth away win of the season, at the expense of one of the teams in the play-off zone.

They had stars in just about every department, quickly settling into a well-organised unit which never looked like being beaten. All we wanted to make the evening complete was to get a goal on the break, and Steve Howard duly delivered, with his ninth of the season five minutes from time.

Joe Kinnear left out Peter Holmes and replaced him with Ahmet Brkovic to play it tighter in midfield, and it worked a treat. He had to make a change in defence, with Russell Perrett laid low by the groin strain that he had been carrying for some time. Ian Hillier deputised, and he and Chris Coyne were tremendous.

Crewe very rarely looked like breaking through, and neither side was allowed to create too many clear-cut chances. The Town made the best, although former Hatter Efe Sodje brought a good save out of Cedric Berthelin with a header from a corner. The only other time the Town were remotely near conceding a goal was when Kenny Lunt's long-range drive was pushed round a post.

Both those efforts came in a first half in which you could feel the home side's frustration mounting as the Town took control with ever-growing ease. Howard had one shot saved and put another wide as the Town settled for contain first, attack second.

For once Andrew Fotiadis looked out of sorts, despite being as willing as ever to run at opponents, and was replaced at the interval. Tony Thorpe might have made better of his chance to shine: a superb ball by Matt Spring sent him acing clear, but having done so well to get onto the end of the pass and leave defenders trailing his chip was wide of the target.

As the minutes ticked away the Town looked more and more confident against a team reduced to chasing shadows. And with five minutes to go Spring sent Sol Davis away for a run at the home defence. The defender powered his way through a couple of attempted tackles to reach the edge of the penalty area, and then drove a pass across the face of goal for Howard to come in at the far post and smash his shot into the top of the net.

Crewe boss Dario Gradi could hardly believe it, claiming that a draw would have been the right result. "One goal was always going to decide it, and it was a bit cruel on us that Luton should get it," he said. "I never thought that Luton were going to open us up, but I have to admit that also we didn't look like opening them up."

Joe Kinnear called it "a great team effort" and found himself nodding energetically as the press questions suggested various contenders for man of the match. Yes, he said, Spring and Skelton were outstanding in the middle. But Brkovic and Robinson played a vital part in that department, keeping the midfield tight. Coyne and Hillier the star men? Yes, they also played well.

The important feature of the Town's performance, said the boss, was that they had worked out their pattern for the game. Players know the jobs they had to do, and did them, and once more Steve Howard had come up with the goods to put the icing on a very palatable cake.

Luton Town: Berthelin; Boyce, Hillier, Coyne, Davis; Robinson, Spring, Skelton, Brkovic; Howard, Fotiadis (Thorpe HT). Unused subs: Emberson, Holmes, Kimble, Mansell.

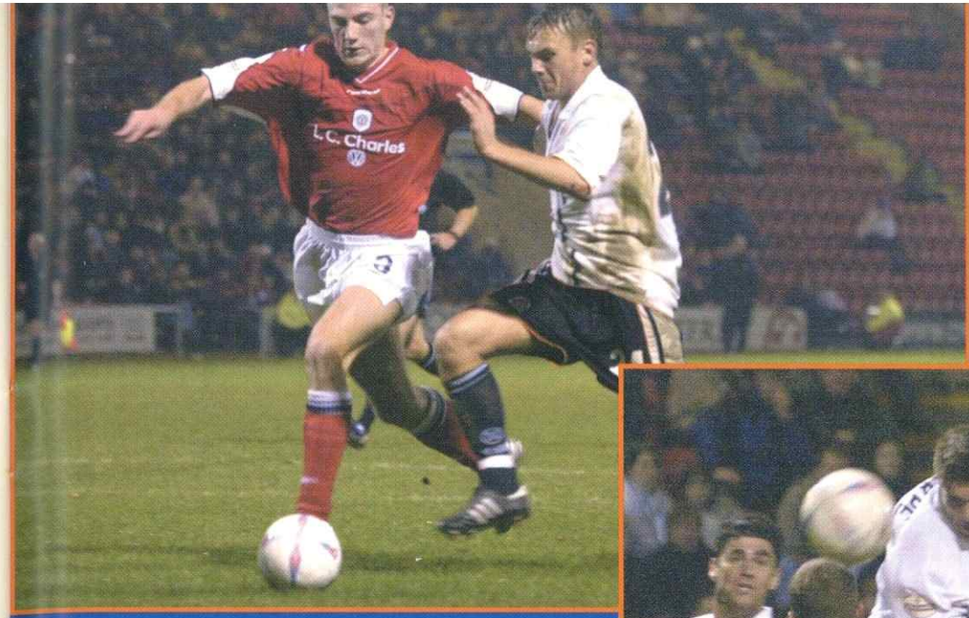
Booked: Steve Robinson and Ahmet Brkovic for fouls.

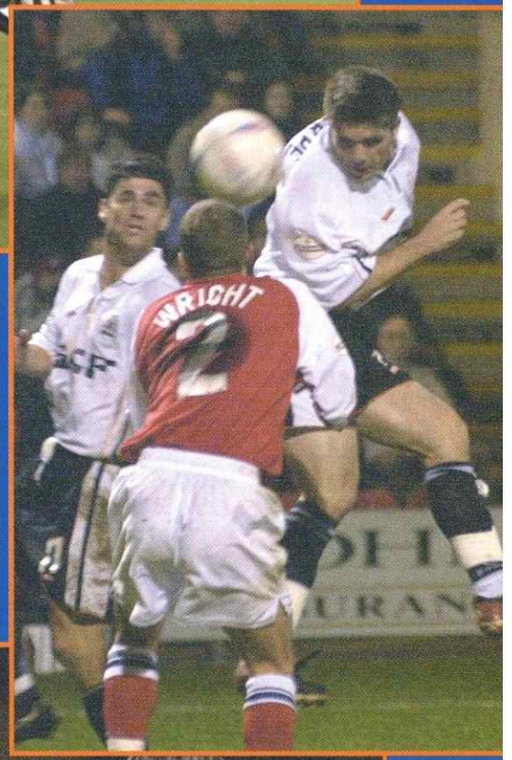
Crewe Alexandra: Ince; Sodje, Walker, Foster, Wright; Sorvel (Rix 71 mins), Lunt, Brammer, Jones (Ashton 71 mins); Hulse, Jack. Unused subs: Bankole, Walton, White

Booked: No-one.

Referee: Tony Bates, Staffordshire.

Attendance: 6,030, including 585 Hatters fans.

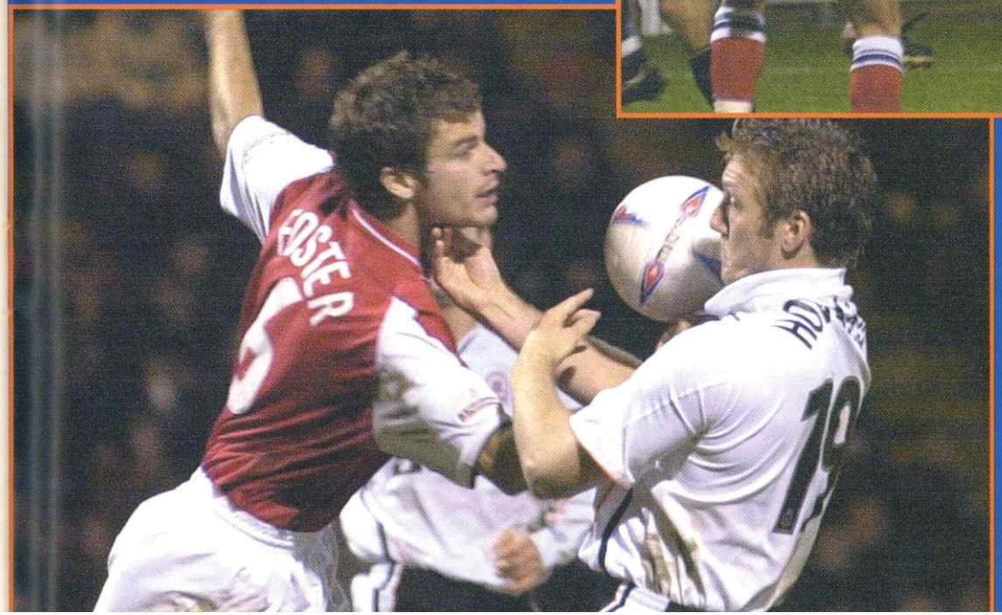




QUALITY SERVICE: Sol Davis taking on and beating Richard Walker in the run that led to the Town's winner.

Right: Tony Thorpe getting above David Wright for a header at goal.

Below: Steve Howard and Steve Foster at very close quarters.



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Action Replay

Northampton Tn 3
Luton Town 0
(HT 2-0)

THE END of the Town's magnificent league run of six wins and a draw was a real dampener for their big following at Sixfields. The team that had more than matched top six sides Wigan and Crewe was swamped on a wet and windy afternoon by a side struggling to halt a slide towards the relegation zone after four defeats on the trot.

The formbook counted for nothing as the Town had one of those days when nothing went right for them, against a team which was up for it and hungrier for success.

Failures in both penalty areas were the problem, admitted Joe Kinnear, after seeing the Cobblers become the first league side this season to score three against us with no reply.

As the boss says elsewhere today, it was disappointing, but not the end of the world – win six and lose the next one, then repeat it again and again, and we'll be champions!

Conditions might have been a bit of a leveller – the incessant rain produced a greasy surface where passing weight and timing of tackles was always problematical. On the day, said the Town boss, you could not take it away from Northampton that they had been the better side, with the help of a little luck.

He and home manager Kevan Broadhurst agreed that there were two turning points: one in the first half when Tony Thorpe missed a chance to pull a goal back when the Town were two down, and the other when the next crucial goal was scored soon after the interval. The Town desperately needed a quick reply after going in two down at half time, but instead wily striker Marco Gabbiadini caught Cedric Berthelin out of position and punished him with an exquisite chip.

The Town had enough chances to have got something out of the game despite being below their best, but the Cobblers also missed a few themselves.

They played it simple and uncomplicated on a day when the Town were, in the word of their manager, poor by comparison with their norm. Two goals in the first 20 minutes gave Northampton a huge lift, with Jamie Forrester the marksman each time. His first was a shot from the inside left position after a diagonal pass by Paul Harsley reached him because Ian Hillier slipped on the treacherous surface when he would normally have made an easy clearance. Forrester's shot took a deflection off Chris Coyne to ensure Berthelin was left stranded. Eleven minutes later a quick attack down their right produced the second goal, Forrester netting from close range after Gabbiadini whipped over a low cross.

Thorpe netted for the Town after 26 minutes, but referee Paul Durkin ruled that Howard had fouled the keeper to make the ball run loose, which ensured that the big striker had to endure a chorus of jeers from his former admirers every time he went near the ball after that.

Thorpe's miss came on 32 minutes: Coyne's clearance down the middle was headed on by Howard, and Thorpe was as quick as ever to latch on to the ball and race clear. But Lee Harper charged out to meet him, and saved with his left leg.

At the interval both managers were telling their team that the next goal would be crucial. The Town had to chase the game, and were caught stretched when a clearance over the top sent Gabiadini scampering through from midfield, in the inside right channel. Berthelin decided to act as sweeper, but then changed his mind, and was running back towards his unguarded goal as Gabbiadini floated the ball over him to make it 3-0.

The Town never flagged in terms of effort, but the class touch deserted them, and when they did threaten Harper made good saves from Ahmet Brkovic, Thorpe and Peter Holmes.

Luton Town: Berthelin; Boyce, Hillier, Coyne, Davis; Robinson (Nicholls 78 mins), Spring, Skelton (Neilson HT), Brkovic (Holmes 78 mins); Howard, Thorpe. Unused subs: Kimble, Emberson.

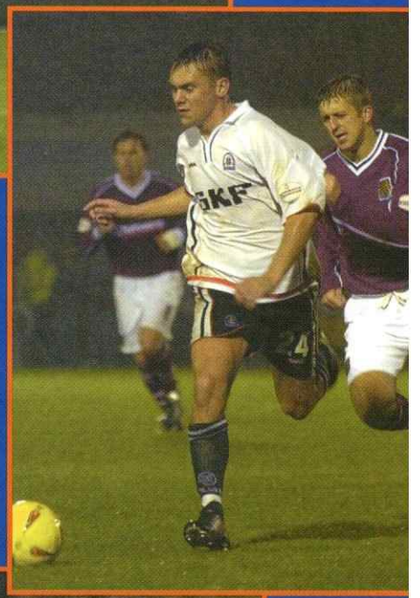
Booked: No-one.

Northampton: Harper; Gill, Sampson, Burgess, Frain (Carruthers 13 mins); Asamoah (Rickers 84 mins), Harsley, Trollope, Hargreaves; Forrester, Gabiadini (Hope 88 mins). Unused subs: Abbey, Lincoln.

Booked: No-one.

Referee: Paul Durkin, Dorset.

Attendance: 5,750, including 1,250 in the away end and one or two more Town fans keeping pretty quiet in the main stand!



SO CLOSE: Cobblers goalkeeper Lee Harper makes a vital save, to prevent Tony Thorpe from scoring as the Town battled to come back from two down.

Right: Sol Davis in attacking mode, taking on Paul Rickers.

Below: Ahmet Brkovic putting pressure on Paul Harsley, with Aaron Skelton in support.

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Junior Hatters

THERE IS no official party from Port Vale visiting us today, but we would like to welcome all visiting supporters, especially younger ones, to this afternoon's match.

We can be sure there will be a good turn-out of Junior Hatters, with many of them enjoying our Saturday Club. It starts at noon, with Dallow School the venue for games, usually including football, before moving on to our family room underneath the Kenilworth Stand for a sausage and chips lunch, and more entertainment.

The family room is open again during the interval, and at the end of the match, and all activities are fully supervised. The price is £5 for Junior Hatters with season tickets, or £11 including a match ticket.

We have now finalised arrangements for our next away trip, on November 30 to see the Town play Tranmere Rovers. The price is £10 for Junior Hatters and £13 for guests, including a match ticket. Seats are already selling well, and if you want to go my advice is to book early, by visiting the club shop, which is the Junior Hatters headquarters.

Happy Harry

TODAY'S MASCOT

TEN-year-old Lee Ephgrave is a regular spectator at Kenilworth Road, but today he will enjoy a VIP visit, because his name was picked out of the computerised drum to be the Junior Hatters mascot. Lee comes to games with his mum and dad, and sits in the Kenilworth Stand.

Today he will be here early to meet the team in the dressing room, and then go out with them onto the pitch for the pre-match rituals. Best of all, he will be able to chat to his favourite, Matthew Spring.

Lee, of Westside, Leighton Buzzard, goes to Leighton Middle School, and when he is not supporting the Town he enjoys playing football for Leighton Corinthians. His other favourite past-time is his PlayStation.

We have a ballgirl and ballboy on duty this afternoon, Emily Lynch, of Fieldfare, Luton, and George Etherington, from Long Lane, Toddington.

AT THE home game with Wigan, eight-year-old Emma Gale came to the rescue when our original choice of mascot had to cry off at the last minute. She stepped into the breach, and performed her duties perfectly.

Emma, pictured right and at the start of the game with the skippers and match officials, lives at Claymore, Hemel Hempstead, and she will treasure this picture because it includes her favourite Town star, Matt Spring.

She attends Aycliffe Drive School, Hemel Hempstead and as well as supporting Luton Town she enjoys swimming and ice skating. She comes to matches with her nan and grand-dad, watching from the Kenilworth Stand.

Also in the group are the Wigan mascot, with whom Emma exchanged club pennants, and eight-year-old Luke Bottaro, who was the commercial mascot.

Junior Hatters membership is open to any boy or girl aged from 0 to 16 who supports Luton Town, and if you want to know more please contact the club shop. There are lots of advantages, including value for money trips to away games, and the chance to be picked out as mascot at home matches - the choice is made at random, with names drawn out of the computerised drum.

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

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With Justin Dealey and Steve Faulkner

TODAYS MATCH:

2.15 Team line up to be announced

2.20 HMV Single of the week
Missy Elliott - Work It ...

2.35 Dedications announced

2.40 Town Teaser - See Page 55

2.45 Player Track See Right

2.55 Teams runout to - The Blues Brothers "Gimme Some Lovin"

3.00 THE BIG KICK OFF

HALF TIME

3.50 Golden Gamble - Winning ticket drawn on pitch

3.55 Run down of half time scores from around the country

4.00 Dedications

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

4.55 - FULL TIME

Player Track

Marvin Johnson
MARY JANE GIRLS
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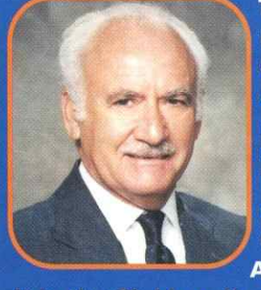

The Chairman and Directors of Luton Town Football Club undertake to ensure as far as humanly possible that all activities that take place at the Kenilworth Road Stadium are conducted in such a way that as far as is reasonably practical the safety of everybody at the stadium is assured.

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, 2002.**

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Luton Belles

THE BELLES returned to league action against Rover Oxford, and came away with a hard-earned 1-0 win in a match that sometimes resembled a battleground. Luton dominated much of the game and restricted a capable Oxford attack to just a single shot during the 90 minutes.

Town finally won the midfield battle, but their efforts were either just wide or kept out by the inspired Oxford keeper. Just as it looked as though Belles would have to settle for a point a stroke of ingenuity from Rhiannon Morgan 12 minutes from the end won all three points. A corner fell to Rhiannon with her back to goal, and she conjured up a back heel which rolled into the net for a well-deserved winner.

This victory proved just how far the young Belles have progressed as they dealt well with the spoiling tactics of an experienced Oxford team. The week before saw the Belles bow out of the FA Cup to Denham United who are two leagues above them in the pyramid. However, the difference was not noticeable. Luton grabbed a sixth-minute lead through Fay Howell but conceded two goals in a ten-minute period either side of half time due to some slack defending. Despite applying heavy pressure the equaliser would just not come, with four efforts fizzing a foot wide of goal with the keeper well beaten. It's not an excuse, but even the elements were against the Belles - having fought hard against a gale in the first half the wind completely died after the interval.

The under-12s continued their good form with victories against St Martin's and Flitwick Eagles. St Martin's were beaten 6-0 with double strikes from Nicky Shepherd and Micky Osman to add to efforts from Natalie Burchnall and Brittany Murtagh. Flitwick Eagles found themselves up against a Belles side who played their best football of the season. The same four goalscorers were again on target, but this time Nicky Shepherd notched four, Brittany Murtagh scored twice and Natalie Burchnall and Micky Osman were again on target. The scoring had begun with a Sarah Hawkins volley to record her first goal for the club. Belles now sit at the top of the table, with a 100% record, having scored 56 goals and conceded just two.

STRIKING SUCCESS: Natalie Burchnall, a regular scorer for the Belles under-12s and under-13s.

The under-11s were in action against second-placed Garston, and despite a valiant effort from the Hertfordshire outfit Town ran out 4-1 winners, with goals from Lauren Bruton (2), Robyn Wilfort and Jade McEntaggart. Their team spirit and footballing ability is of the highest quality as they sit on top of an age group containing 22 teams from the Home Counties.

The senior youth team at under-14 level continue to impress, and despite having been inactive for two weeks they demolished Hatfield with an 11-1 win courtesy of hat-tricks from Michelle Byrne and Theresa McMullen, two from Shelley Miller and single goals from Natalie Forbes, Fay Rolls and Holly Flynn.

Luton's under-13s remain at the top of an evenly contested league despite an unlucky 1-2 home defeat by Tottenham Hotspur. Luton performed well throughout but could not convert their chances, with the exception of Ann Folan's second goal of the season. In an end to end contest Town keeper Charlotte Bland was the star performer, pulling off a string of fine saves.

Dave Baker

LUTON Belles organises football for girls of all ages, from ten upwards. If you want to know more, or fancy being involved, e-mail Dave Baker at lutonbelles@hotmail.com The Belles also have a website – pay a visit to www.lutontownbelles.com

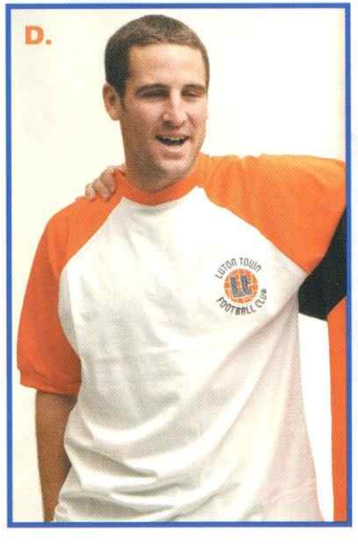
Available in The Club Shop

A. Zara Navy/Orange V-Neck T-Shirt

S,M,L,XL,XXL **£19.50**

B. 1st Phase V-Neck T-Shirt

S,M,L,XL,XXL **£18.50**



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S,M,L,XL,XXL **£24.99**

E. Fun Lamp

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AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION

Cambridge Utd 0
Luton Town 1

A GOOD result came from a mixed performance, although we were deserving winners in the end. Cambridge had the better of the first half, but we improved to murder them in the second.

The match was not only about winning: it was a comeback game after injuries for Kevin Nicholls, Alan Neilson and Paul Hughes, and they all came through the 90 minutes well enough to return to the first team squad at Northampton three days later.

I thought that with such a powerful midfield we would be much too good for Cambridge, but for some reason our first-half performance was dreadful – it was amazing how we found it difficult to send a pass from A to B.

Mark Ovendale made one very good save to keep us in the game, while at the other end Matthew Judge shot wide from the only decent chance we created in the first 45 minutes.

At half time the instructions were to simplify it, and make the ball do the work. I was pleased at how well the players responded. The performance was very much better, and you wouldn't have thought it was the same team that had struggled so much in the first half. We made progress by using one or two touches instead of trying to do it with five or six.

The only goal came on 70 minutes, when 16-year-old Leon Barnett clipped in an accurate shot after good work by James Osborn, Hughes and Judge.

Cambridge were restricted to just one chance, a header which went wide, and with a little luck we could have had more goals – Neilson hit the bar with a volley and Joe Deeney had a shot cleared off the line.

The day's bad luck fell to Michael Leary, who had to be subbed in the first half because of an ankle injury.

Luton Town: Ovendale, Foley, Kimble, Neilson, J. Deeney, Leary (Osborn 36 mins), Hughes, Nicholls, Judge, L. Mansell, Okai (Barnett 55 mins).

OUR next fixture in the Avon Insurance Combination is on Wednesday, when we entertain QPR. Kick-off at Kenilworth Road will be at 2pm. We should have played Bournemouth last Wednesday, but the game has been postponed, and will now take place on January 22.

APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets: L. Mansell 8, Skelton 7, Leary 6(2), Foley 6, Fotiadis 6, Holmes 6, Hillier 5, Gillman 4(1), J. Deeney 4, Neilson 4, Okai 3(3), Barnett 3(1), Hughes 3, Ovendale 3, Kimble 3, Griffiths 3, Osborn 2(6), Judge 2(2), Eberendo 2(2), Beckwith 2, Howell 2, Brill 2, Thorpe 2, Brkovic 2, Howell 2, O'Leary 1(4), Barnett 1(1), Kovacevic 1, Emberson 1, De Souza 1, Berthelin 1, Nicholls 1, Davis 0(2).

Goals: Fotiadis 3, Judge 3, Griffiths 3, Thorpe 2, Brkovic 2, Howell 2, Skelton 1, Eberendo 1, Holmes 1, Gillman 1, Barnett 1.

Brian Stein

AVON COMBINATION TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crystal Palace	8	7	1	0	29	7	22
Portsmouth	8	7	0	1	18	6	21
Luton Town	**8**	**6**	**1**	**1**	**20**	**6**	**19**
Norwich	9	5	3	1	17	6	18
Brighton	7	5	1	1	16	6	16
Cardiff	9	4	3	2	15	8	15
Reading	7	4	2	1	16	4	14
QPR	8	4	2	2	11	12	14
Swindon	9	4	2	3	11	12	14
Colchester	7	4	2	1	8	6	14
Gillingham	9	3	3	3	14	12	12
Southend	8	3	2	3	11	10	11
Brentford	9	3	2	4	12	19	11
Millwall	8	3	1	4	7	7	10
Bournemouth	8	3	1	4	11	16	10
Oxford	7	3	0	4	8	10	9
Peterborough	9	3	0	6	13	17	9
Plymouth	8	3	0	5	10	17	9
L. Orient	7	2	2	3	16	15	8
Bristol City	7	2	2	3	9	15	8
Bristol Rov	10	1	4	5	10	16	7
Wycombe	9	2	0	7	11	26	6
Northampton	9	2	0	7	10	26	6
Cheltenham	6	1	2	3	14	12	5
Cambridge	7	1	1	5	3	14	4
Barnet	7	0	1	6	7	22	1

August			
Wed 14	Bristol City(LC)	A	0-3
Wed 21	Reading	A	1-2 Skelton
Wed 28	**Bristol Rov**	**H**	**1-1 Griffiths**
September			
Wed 4	**Millwall**	**H**	**2-1 Griffiths 2(1p)**
Wed 18	Swindon	A	4-0 Fotiadis 2, Eberendo, Howell
Wed 25	**Peterborough**	**H**	**4-1 Thorpe 2, Fotiadis, Holmes**
October			
Wed 9	Plymouth	A	4-0 Brkovic 2, Gillman, Judge
Wed 16	**Wycombe**	**H**	**3-1 Judge 2, Howell**
Wed 30	Cambridge	A	1-0 Barnett
November			
Wed 13	**QPR**	**H**	**2pm**
Wed 20	Wootton (BSC)	A	7.30pm
Wed 27	Northampton	A	2pm
December			
Wed 4	Southend	A	2pm
Wed 11	**Barnet**	**H**	**2pm**
January			
Wed 8	Brighton	A	7pm
Wed 15	**C. Palace**	**H**	**2pm**
Wed 22	**Bournemouth**	**H**	**2pm**
Wed 29	Leyton Orient	A	2pm
February			
Wed 5	**Bristol City**	**H**	**2pm**

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Youth Soccer - U17s

Wycombe 1 Luton Town 4

I HAVE always believed that good sides should be dangerous after being beaten, and so it proved at Wycombe as we bounced back from defeat for a very good victory. Mutsa Mugadah, from Dunstable, enjoyed the game – he got all four goals! We fielded a side entirely of schoolboys, and although Wycombe looked sharper than we did for the first ten minutes we never looked back after that spell was ended by Mugadah's close range shot. That settled us down, and he netted again with a volley five minutes later.

We should have been further ahead by the interval, when the team instructions were to ensure we did not let Wycombe back into the game. But we did, within two minutes, when sloppy defending was punished. That set a test of character, but the lads passed with Mugadah netting again in the 60th and 80th minutes. The spine of the team was right, and Mugadah's hard work and pace earned its reward.

Luton Town: Hurst, Smyth, Green (Shea HT), D. Deeney, Mountford, Reid (Sinclair 48 mins), Blake (Clark 75 mins), Ridgway, Mugadah, Keane, Blythe.

Leyton Orient 3 Luton Town 1

THE RESULT was a disappointment, but I was delighted with the overall performance of the team: except for our poor finishing it was our best performance of the season. Our main three strikers were unavailable, but we still should have got something out of the game, because Orient had only three scoring chances. They took them, while we missed five of the six openings we made.

We went a goal down on 35 minutes when we lost possession going forward and were hit by a break from midfield, and just before the interval Orient scored a good goal when a striker outpaced David Deeney and shot home.

We changed to 4-3-3 for the second half, and within five minutes Sean Ridgway scored with a 20-yarder, and we were flying. Our three front men were causing Orient all sorts of problems, and the passing and movement was excellent. I have seen teams play a lot worse and win. But we couldn't find the equaliser, and on the hour another good finish gave Orient their third goal.

Even so, our lads did well, and we gave a special welcome back to Paul Danaher, who went on as a sub for the last 20 minutes, his first game after being out for a year with a broken leg.

Luton Town: Hurst, Smyth, Shea (Pendleton 75 mins), De Souza. Deeney, Mountford, Blake (Skelton HT), Ridgway, Clark, Mugadah, Blythe (Danaher 70 mins).

WE ARE at home to Cambridge United next week, and spectators are welcome. Kick off at Luton RFC, Newlands Road, Farley Hill, is at 11am

APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets: D. Deeney 10, Ridgway 10, Blake 9(1), Blythe 9, Mountford 9, Shea 7(3), Smyth 7(2), Mugadah 7(1), Reid 7, Clark 6(2), Brill 6, De Souza 6, Keane 3, Hurst 3, Green 2(4), Freeman 2, R. Mansell 2, McCarthy 1(2), Maitland 1(1), Barnett 1, Barrett 1, Howell 1, Sinclair 0(7), Richardson 0(2) Pendleton 0(2), Skelton 0(1), Danaher 0(1).

Goals: Mugadah 6, Ridgway 5, Blythe 2, Keane 2, Maitland 1, Shea 1, Barnett 1, Freeman 1, Clark 1, R. Mansell 1

Mark Ridgway

FL Youth Alliance Under-17

August				
17	Brighton	A	0-3	
24	Peterborough	A	6-0	Shea, Barnett, Blythe, Freeman, Keane, Maitland.
September				
7	Southend	A	2-1	Ridgway 2 pens
14	**Portsmouth**	**H**	**1-0**	**Mugadah**
21	Gillingham	A	4-3	Ridgway 2, Clark, Mansell
28	Cambridge	A	0-0	
October				
5	**Colchester**	**H**	**3-0**	**Mugadah, Keane, Blythe**
19	**QPR**	**H**	**0-2**	
26	Wycombe	A	4-1	Mugadah 4
November				
2	L. Orient	A	1-3	Ridgway
9	**Brentford**	**H**		
16	**Cambridge**	**H**		
23	Colchester	A		
30	QPR	A		
December				
7	**Wycombe**	**H**		
14	**L. Orient**	**H**		
January				
11	Brentford	A		
18	**Brighton**	**H**		

FLYA UNDER-17 SE CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Peterborough	9	7	1	1	21	10	22
Luton Town	**9**	**6**	**1**	**2**	**20**	**10**	**19**
Brighton	9	6	1	2	18	9	19
L. Orient	9	5	2	2	21	11	17
Gillingham	9	4	1	4	25	25	13
Colchester	9	3	3	3	10	13	12
Cambridge	9	3	2	4	18	17	11
Wycombe	9	3	2	4	18	28	11
QPR	9	2	4	3	10	12	10
Portsmouth	9	2	1	6	18	18	7
Brentford	9	2	0	7	14	23	6
Southend	9	1	2	6	13	30	5

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Youth Soccer - U19s

Luton Town 3 Rushden & D 1

THE result was welcome, of course, but this was not a very good game. Perhaps our players were a little tired, with some of them in action for the third time in eight days.

We were two up at the interval, when it should have been at least double that. We didn't hit the target often enough to round off our superiority.

Matthew Judge shot powerfully from the edge of the box to give us the lead on 23 minutes, and in the 35th minute Tom Freeman added another from Kevin Foley's pass at the end of a good flowing move.

Our third goal came on 62 minutes, with a quick free kick and good passing setting up James Osborn, and the day's big disappointment was that we failed to keep a clean sheet, conceding an 84th-minute goal from a corner.

Luton Town: Brill, Howell, R. Mansell, Foley, Davies, J. Deeney, Judge, O'Leary, Osborn, Freeman (Barnett 72 mins), Okai.

Luton Town 5 Oxford Utd 1

A SLOW start was punished as we conceded a goal after only four minutes, but after that we got into our stride, and eventually were much too good for the visitors. Matthew Judge collected a hat-trick, and we were 2-1 up by the interval. At that stage we should have been doing much better, but the team responded well to our half-time orders, and persisted with good passing football.

Our marking was at fault when Oxford took the lead: we had cleared a corner, but one of their midfielders was allowed to break forward and lash in a low shot through a crowded penalty area.

Judge equalised on 13 minutes, bending a drive around the goalkeeper, and nine minutes later he did it again, but this time bending the ball the other way. It was disappointing to lead by only 2-1 at half-time, leaving Oxford hope that they might get back into it. But we were rarely in trouble defensively, and the value of chasing a lost cause was illustrated when we made it 3-1 after 58 minutes. Richard Mansell chased a long ball which seemed as though it might go out of play. He got to it just before the line, and put over a cross which gave Tom Freeman an easy close-range headed goal.

Judge completed his hat-trick on 66 minutes, turning down the chance to pass to a colleague in a better position. He had a go himself and potted it – a case of being greedy in the box, which is all right if you score. Eight minutes from time James Osborn completed the scoring after robbing a defender who took too long to make a clearance.

Luton Town: Brill, Howell, Barnett, Foley, J. Deeney, Gillman, Judge (Keane 75 mins), O'Leary, Osborn, Freeman, Mansell.

WE were at Tooting and Mitcham on Thursday in the FA Youth Cup second round, and a report will appear in next Saturday's programme. It was the first of three consecutive away games – today we had a trip to Cambridge and next Saturday we are away to Brighton in the Alliance League Cup.

APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets: Howell 11, Barnett 10(1), Freeman 10, Okai 9, Judge 9, J. Deeney 9, O'Leary 9, Davies 7(2), Maitland 7(1), Osborn 7(1), Foley 7, R. Mansell 6(2), Beckwith 6, Brill 5(2), Gillman 5(1), Keane 2(3), Ridgway 1(1), De Souza 1(1).

Goals: Freeman 7, Judge 6, Osborn 4, Okai 2, Barnett 1, O'Leary 1.

John Moore

FL Youth Alliance Under-19

August				
17	**Walsall**	**H**	**0-0**	
31	Kidderminster	A	1-0	Freeman
September				
7	Brentford (LC)	A	2-0	Freeman, Okai
14	**Oxford (LC)**	**H**	**4-1**	**Osborn 2, Okai, Freeman**
21	**Wycombe (LC)**	**H**	**2-2**	**Judge, Barnett**
28	**Northampton**	**H**	**0-1**	
October				
12	Peterborough	A	1-3	O'Leary
19	West Brom	A	0-1	
23	Brentford(FAYC1)	A	3-0	Judge, Freeman 2
26	**Rushden**	**H**	**3-1**	**Judge, Freeman, Osborn**
November				
2	**Oxford Utd**	**H**	**5-1**	**Judge 3, Freeman, Osborn**
9	Cambridge	A		
16	Brighton (LC1)	A		
30	**West Brom**	**H**		
December				
7	Rushden & D	A		
14	Oxford Utd	A		
January				
11	**Cambridge**	**H**		
18	Walsall	A		
25	**Kidderminster**	**H**		
February				
1	Northampton	A		
8	**Peterborough**	**H**		

FLYA UNDER-19 SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Brom	6	5	0	1	10	4	15
Northampton	6	4	1	1	9	4	13
Walsall	6	3	1	2	12	6	10
Luton Town	**7**	**3**	**1**	**3**	**10**	**7**	**10**
Peterborough	5	3	0	2	13	5	9
Cambridge	5	2	1	2	7	9	7
Kidderminster	6	2	0	4	9	14	6
Rushden	7	1	2	4	6	16	5
Oxford	6	1	0	5	5	15	3

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Highest & Lowest Attendances

	High	Low		High	Low
QPR	15,491	11,010	Crewe	7,683	5,138
Cardiff	13,564	11,546	Brentford	7,145	5,177
Bristol City	13,205	9,597	Swindon	7,564	4,136
Huddersfield	11,989	8,467	Notts County	6,548	4,797
Plymouth	11,922	8,530	Stockport	6,468	4,601
Barnsley	10,495	9,134	Mansfield	7,258	3,414
Blackpool	8,201	6,377	Cheltenham	6,382	3,852
Tranmere	8,153	5,980	Port Vale	6,374	3,328
Luton	7,860	6,004	Peterborough	5,332	4,203
Oldham	8,256	5,490	Northampton	5,750	3,663
Wigan	8,047	5,358	Chesterfield	4,676	3,189
Wycombe	8,383	4,897	Colchester	3,300	2,721

Scored just before Half-Time

FOR	30-45	Tot	%	AGAINST	30-45	Tot	%
Crewe	6	23	26	Mansfield	8	42	19
Swindon	5	19	26	Wycombe	6	25	24
Wycombe	5	24	21	Wigan	4	13	31
Oldham	5	30	17	Crewe	4	14	29
Bristol City	5	31	16	Colchester	4	22	18
Cheltenham	4	17	24	Notts County	4	22	18
Brentford	4	24	17	Stockport	4	23	17
QPR	4	28	14	Cheltenham	4	24	17
Wigan	4	30	13	Northampton	4	24	17
				Port Vale	4	25	16
				Barnsley	4	26	15

1st 2nd 3rd

TOP GOALSCORERS

MEMO

scored from volleyed shots			scored from headers		
Player	Club	Tot	Player	Club	Tot
Earnshaw	Cardiff	5	Ferguson	Rangers	5
McVeigh	Norwich	3	Merson	Portsmouth	4
Cureton	Reading	3	Hunt	Brentford	4
Byfield	Rotherham	3	Dickov	Leicester	3
Stallard	Notts County	3	Lee	Rotherham	3
Beckett	Stockport	3	Asaba	Sheff Utd	3
Weatherstone	Boston	3	Aranalde	Walsall	3
Tinkler	Hartlepool	3	Simpson	Rochdale	3
Melligan	Kidderminster	3	Morrell	Wrexham	3

Goals conceded from Set Pieces

CLUB	Co	FK	CLUB	Co	FK
Mansfield	8	8	QPR	3	1
Blackpool	6	5	Stockport	4	0
Huddersfield	4	6	Luton	1	2
Barnsley	3	5	Plymouth	1	2
Cheltenham	3	4	Port Vale	3	0
Tranmere	5	2	Wycombe	1	2
Northampton	1	5	Bristol City	0	2
Notts County	2	4	Cardiff	1	1
Peterborough	3	3	Chesterfield	2	0
Swindon	1	5	Crewe	0	2
Colchester	4	0	Brentford	0	1
Oldham	2	2	Wigan	0	1

Co = Corners FK = Free Kick Routines

COMEBACKS

Won from	-3	-2	-1	Tot
Blackpool	0	0	3	3
Luton	0	0	3	3
Swindon	0	0	3	3
Tranmere	0	0	3	3
Mansfield	0	0	2	2
Oldham	0	0	2	2
Port Vale	0	0	2	2
QPR	0	0	2	2
Wigan	0	0	2	2

THROWAWAYS

Lost from	+3	+2	+1	Tot
Cheltenham	0	0	4	4
Plymouth	0	0	3	3
Barnsley	0	0	2	2
Notts County	0	0	2	2
Port Vale	0	0	2	2
Stockport	0	0	2	2
Wycombe	0	0	2	2

number of games when clubs have come behind to win or been ahead and lost.

Margins of Victory

Gms won by	1 gl	2 gl	3 gl	4 gl	5+ gl
Oldham	5	3	0	2	1
Bristol City	3	4	3	1	0
Cardiff	7	2	1	1	0
Wigan	2	7	1	0	0
Brentford	5	2	0	0	1
Crewe	3	3	1	0	1
Chesterfield	6	1	0	1	1
QPR	1	5	1	1	0
Blackpool	4	2	2	0	0
Luton	5	0	2	0	0
Tranmere	5	1	1	0	0
Port Vale	6	0	0	0	0
Stockport	3	2	0	0	0
Wycombe	3	2	1	0	0
Northampton	2	1	2	0	0
Plymouth	4	1	0	0	0
Swindon	2	3	0	0	0
Mansfield	2	1	0	0	1
Barnsley	4	0	0	0	0
Cheltenham	2	2	0	0	0
Colchester	3	1	0	0	0
Huddersfield	2	1	1	0	0
Peterborough	1	1	0	1	0
Notts County	1	0	2	0	0

Scorers' Points Gained & Scoring Run

		Gls	Pts	SR
Robert Earnshaw	Cardiff	11	9	3
Sam Parkin	Swindon	9	9	3
Luke Beckett	Stockport	13	8	4
Rob Hulse	Crewe	11	7	3
Paul Wotton	Plymouth	5	7	4
Iyseden Christie	Mansfield	8	6	1
Marco Gabbiadini	Northampton	8	6	1
Steven Howard	Luton	8	5	4
Marc Bridge-Wilkinson	Port Vale	5	5	1
Bruce Dyer	Barnsley	4	5	1
Martin Smith	Huddersfield	4	5	1

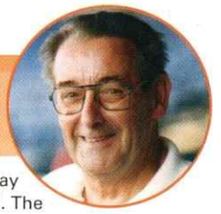
eg if player scores the goal in a 1-0 win, the goal is worth 2 pts as score would have been 0-0, or if 2 goals in 2-1 win, goals worth 3 pts

Goals from close range

Scored inside 6 yard box		Conceded inside 6 yard box	
Wycombe	12	Mansfield	17
Wigan	11	Barnsley	11
Blackpool	10	Blackpool	9
Luton	10	Colchester	8
Brentford	9	Peterborough	8
QPR	8	Port Vale	8
Stockport	8	Tranmere	8
Barnsley	7	Cheltenham	7
Cheltenham	7	Chesterfield	7
Notts County	7	Northampton	7
Oldham	7	Notts County	7
Peterborough	7	Swindon	7
Port Vale	7		
Tranmere	7		

THE SP YOUR FREE SPORTS PAPER WITH THE PEOPLE

Second Division Scene



THE fourth away win of the season, at Crewe, lifted the Town to ninth in the Second Division, their highest position since February 2000. But the defeat at Sixfields cost a place, as the Town were overtaken by Chesterfield, who edged a 1-0 home win over crisis club Barnsley.

The Tykes, in administration and fighting for survival, dropped into the bottom four for the first time this season. Since their 3-2 win at Kenilworth Road in August Barnsley have managed just two more victories in 13 attempts. They have also lost Steve Parkin, who guided them to the win at Luton having done the same with Rochdale the season before. He was sacked by the administrators to save money, and caretaker boss Glyn Hodges has taken only two points from his four games in charge.

At the top, Cardiff City still look good for promotion, with only two defeats in their first 17 league matches. Peterborough were the latest to be seen off at Ninian Park, beaten 3-0 after having defender Simon Rea sent off after just 15 seconds for a "professional foul" on Robert Earnshaw.

Red cards were the order of the day elsewhere as well, on an afternoon when the Town, for the first time this season, played a game in which neither side received a card of either colour. Thank you, Premiership ref Paul Durkin!

Our old pal Alan White of Colchester was the weekend's first red card victim, in a Friday night six-pointer with Mansfield. The Stags are still bottom, despite a 4-2 success at Layer Road, only their second win in eight attempts since their surprise victory at Kenilworth Road. Iyesden Christie netted the winner in that 3-2 success, and at Colchester he got all four. White got his second yellow card for fouling the striker, when the game was all but finished.

Crewe Alexandra were another team who finished with ten men. Elsewhere today are pictures of Richard Walker in strong defensive mode against the Town. He was again at Wigan, sent off after only seven minutes to give Wigan a penalty from which they took the lead. An own goal made it 2-0 to take Wigan's run to 14 games without defeat.

They still had to settle for third place, because Iain Dowie continues to lead Oldham from success to success, except when he comes up against the Town. Our win at Boundary Park last month is the only reverse Oldham have suffered in their last 12 league games.

Today's visitors were involved in another red card affair, in a goal-less draw at home to QPR. Visiting goalkeeper Simon Royce was sent off after 36 minutes for handling outside his area, but Port Vale were unable to make the extra man count.

Brian Horton's men come to Kenilworth Road needing to win by three goals to overtake the Town in the table. Their away record isn't bad – three wins, two draws and three defeats, with 11 goals scored and 12 conceded.

The victories were 1-0 at Wigan in August, 2-1 at Swindon in early September, and 1-0 at Cheltenham two weeks later. The draws were 2-2 at Huddersfield on October 5 and 1-1 at Brentford a fortnight later. The defeats were 1-3 at Cardiff and 1-2 at Chesterfield in August, when Vale went to the bottom of the table for a couple of weeks, and 2-3 at Blackpool seven weeks ago. Vale have lost only once in their last six league outings, at home to Crewe.

Brian Swain

Nationwide League Division Two

	HOME						AWAY							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Cardiff	17	7	1	1	18	5	4	3	1	10	7	16	37
Oldham	17	6	0	3	21	7	5	3	0	9	3	20	36
Wigan	17	5	3	1	17	9	5	2	1	13	4	17	35
Bristol City	16	7	0	1	18	3	4	0	4	13	12	16	33
QPR	17	8	1	1	17	6	2	4	3	11	11	11	29
Brentford	17	4	4	1	12	4	4	1	3	12	15	5	29
Crewe	17	4	1	3	7	5	4	3	2	16	9	9	28
Blackpool	17	5	2	1	16	8	3	1	5	8	14	2	27
Chesterfield	17	6	2	1	12	5	2	1	5	4	14	-3	27
Luton Town	**17**	**3**	**2**	**3**	**17**	**13**	**4**	**2**	**3**	**10**	**13**	**1**	**25**
Tranmere	17	6	2	1	12	7	1	0	7	5	21	-11	23
Wycombe	17	4	2	3	19	15	2	2	4	5	10	-1	22
Port Vale	17	3	2	4	10	13	3	2	3	11	12	-4	22
Stockport	17	3	2	3	14	13	3	0	6	7	10	-2	20
Plymouth	17	3	2	3	10	11	2	3	4	11	14	-4	20
Northampton	17	4	2	3	13	7	1	2	5	4	17	-7	19
Swindon	17	3	1	4	10	9	2	2	5	9	17	-7	18
Notts County	16	1	4	3	9	13	2	4	2	11	9	-2	17
Huddersfield	17	2	4	2	8	7	2	1	6	5	13	-7	17
Colchester	17	3	2	3	6	5	1	3	5	8	17	-8	17
Barnsley	17	2	4	2	8	11	2	1	6	8	15	-10	17
Cheltenham	17	2	2	5	9	14	2	2	4	8	10	-7	16
Peterborough	17	2	2	4	8	7	1	3	5	11	18	-6	14
Mansfield	17	3	0	6	14	22	1	2	5	10	20	-18	14

Today's Other Second Division Fixtures

Barnsley v Cardiff
Blackpool v Wigan
Colchester v Bristol City
Crewe v Brentford
Huddersfield v Wycombe
Notts County v Mansfield
Peterborough v Chesterfield
Plymouth v Oldham
QPR v Northampton
Stockport v Cheltenham
Swindon v Tranmere

You can email the programme editor at brian.swain@btinternet.com

Statistics and all the fixtures

Date	Opponents	Venue	Kick Off Time/Result	Score (LT first)	Attendance	Competition/Position	Referee	Yellow Cards (LT first)	Red Cards (LT first)
Sat 10 Aug	PETERBOROUGH UNITED	H	L	2-3	7,860	16th	B Curson	2/1	0/0
Tue 13 Aug	Blackpool	A	L	2-5	6,377	22nd	M Clattenburg	2/2	0/0
Sat 17 Aug	Plymouth Argyle	A	L	1-2	10,973	23rd	T Parkes	4/1	1/0
Sat 24 Aug	BARNSLEY	H	L	2-3	6,230	23rd	R Beeby	1/1	0/1
Mon 26 Aug	Cardiff City	A	D	0-0	13,564	24th	P Danson	3/1	0/0
Sat 31 Aug	CHESTERFIELD	H	W	3-0	6,060	21st	P Taylor	1/3	0/0
Sat 7 Sep	Brentford	A	D	0-0	7,145	21st	D Pugh	2/1	0/0
Tue 10 Sep	Watford	A	W	2-1	14,171	WC1	P Walton	2/1	0/0
Sat 14 Sep	NOTTS COUNTY	H	D	2-2	6,456	21st	A Kaye	2/2	0/0
Tue 17 Sep	MANSFIELD TOWN	H	L	2-3	6,004	23rd	B Knight	2/0	0/0
Sat 21 Sep	Huddersfield Town	A	W	1-0	9,249	19th	F Stretton	2/0	0/0
Sat 28 Sep	SWINDON TOWN	H	W	3-0	6,393	15th	P Joslin	1/1	0/0
Wed 2 Oct	Aston Villa	A	L	0-3	20,833	WC2	C Webster	2/0	0/0
Sat 5 Oct	Stockport County	A	W	3-2	5,932	14th	M Cowburn	2/2	0/0
Sat 12 Oct	CHELTENHAM TOWN	H	W	2-1	6,447	10th	C Penton	1/1	0/0
Sat 19 Oct	Oldham Athletic	A	W	2-1	6,916	10th	C Boyeson	3/2	0/0
Tue 22 Oct	Woking	A	W	2-0	1,216	LDVVT1	M Thorpe	1/2	0/0
Sat 26 Oct	WIGAN ATHLETIC	H	D	1-1	7,364	10th	S Tomlin	2/3	0/1
Tue 29 Oct	Crewe Alexandra	A	W	1-0	6,030	9th	T Bates	2/0	0/0
Sat 2 Nov	Northampton Town	A	L	0-3	5,750	D2	P Durkin	0/0	0/0
Sat 9 Nov	PORT VALE	H	3:00pm			D2			
Tue 12 Nov	Stevenage Borough	A	7:45pm			LDVVT2			
Sat 16 Nov	GUISELEY	H	3:00pm			FAC1			
Sat 23 Nov	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	H	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 30 Nov	Tranmere Rovers	A	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 7 Dec						FAC2			
Tue 10 Dec						LDVVT3			
Sat 14 Dec	COLCHESTER UNITED	H	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 21 Dec	Bristol City	A	3:00pm			D2			
Thu 26 Dec	CARDIFF CITY	H	12:00pm			D2			
Sat 28 Dec	Wycombe Wanderers	A	3:00pm			D2			
Wed 1 Jan	Chesterfield	A	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 4 Jan	BLACKPOOL (or FAC3)	H	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 11 Jan	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 18 Jan	Barnsley	A	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 25 Jan	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	H	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 1 Feb	Peterborough United	A	12:00pm			D2			
Sat 8 Feb	Port Vale	A	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 15 Feb	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	H	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 22 Feb	BRENTFORD	H	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 1 Mar	Notts County	A	3:00pm			D2			
Tue 4 Mar	Mansfield Town	A	7:45pm			D2			
Sat 8 Mar	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	H	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 15 Mar	Wigan Atletic	A	3:00pm			D2			
Tue 18 Mar	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	H	7:45pm			D2			
Sat 22 Mar	CREWE ALEXANDRA	H	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 29 Mar	Cheltenham Town	A	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 5 Apr	TRANMERE ROVERS	H	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 12 Apr	Queens Park Rangers	A	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 19 Apr	BRISTOL CITY	H	3:00pm			D2			
Mon 21 Apr	Colchester United	A	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 26 Apr	STOCKPORT COUNTY	H	3:00pm			D2			
Sat 3 May	Swindon Town	A	3:00pm			D2			

Goalkeepers

Date	1 Mark OVENDALE	16 Carl EMBERSON	33 Dean BRILL	34 Ben ROBERTS	35 Cedric BERTHELIN
Sat 10 Aug					
Tue 13 Aug					
Sat 17 Aug					
Sat 24 Aug		●			
Mon 26 Aug		●			
Sat 31 Aug		●			
Sat 7 Sep		●			
Tue 10 Sep					
Sat 14 Sep				x	
Tue 17 Sep					
Sat 21 Sep					
Sat 28 Sep					
Wed 2 Oct					●
Sat 5 Oct		●			
Sat 12 Oct		●			
Sat 19 Oct		●			
Tue 22 Oct			●		
Sat 26 Oct		●			
Tue 29 Oct		●			
Sat 2 Nov		●			
Sat 9 Nov					
Tue 12 Nov					
Sat 16 Nov					
Sat 23 Nov					
Sat 30 Nov					
Sat 7 Dec					
Tue 10 Dec					
Sat 14 Dec					
Sat 21 Dec					
Thu 26 Dec					
Sat 28 Dec					
Wed 1 Jan					
Sat 4 Jan					
Sat 11 Jan					
Sat 18 Jan					
Sat 25 Jan					
Sat 1 Feb					
Sat 8 Feb					
Sat 15 Feb					
Sat 22 Feb					
Sat 1 Mar					
Tue 4 Mar					
Sat 8 Mar					
Sat 15 Mar					
Tue 18 Mar					
Sat 22 Mar					
Sat 29 Mar					
Sat 5 Apr					
Sat 12 Apr					
Sat 19 Apr					
Mon 21 Apr					
Sat 26 Apr					
Sat 3 May					

Defenders

Date	2 Aaron SKELTON	3 Alan NEILSON	5 Russell PERRETT	6 Marvin JOHNSON	12 Chris COYNE	17 Emmerson BOYCE	22 David BAYLISS	23 Ian HILLIER	31 Alan KIMBLE	24 Sol DAVIS	42 Joe DEENEY	45 Leon BARNETT
Sat 10 Aug						●	●					
Tue 13 Aug		x	●									
Sat 17 Aug									●			
Sat 24 Aug							●	●				
Mon 26 Aug		●					●					
Sat 31 Aug			1		sus	x						
Sat 7 Sep					●							
Tue 10 Sep					●							
Sat 14 Sep		x	1									
Tue 17 Sep		●										
Sat 21 Sep	●	●								x		
Sat 28 Sep		●						●				
Wed 2 Oct			x									
Sat 5 Oct												
Sat 12 Oct		x			1							
Sat 19 Oct	x											
Tue 22 Oct				x							1	
Sat 26 Oct	1							●	●			
Tue 29 Oct									●			
Sat 2 Nov	x								●			
Sat 9 Nov												
Tue 12 Nov												
Sat 16 Nov												
Sat 23 Nov												
Sat 30 Nov												
Sat 7 Dec												
Tue 10 Dec												
Sat 14 Dec												
Sat 21 Dec												
Thu 26 Dec												
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Sat 11 Jan												
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Sat 1 Mar												
Tue 4 Mar												
Sat 8 Mar												
Sat 15 Mar												
Tue 18 Mar												
Sat 22 Mar												
Sat 29 Mar												
Sat 5 Apr												
Sat 12 Apr												
Sat 19 Apr												
Mon 21 Apr												
Sat 26 Apr												
Sat 3 May												

Midfielders

Date	4 Matthew SPRING	7 Adrian FORBES	8 Kevin NICHOLLS	11 Steve ROBINSON	18 Ahmet BRKOVIC	20 Peter HOLMES	21 Paul HUGHES	32 Lee MANSELL	30 Robbie WINTERS	38 Michael LEARY	39 Steven O'LEARY	40 James OSBORN	44 Parys OKAI
Sat 10 Aug				x	1								
Tue 13 Aug	x			●		x							
Sat 17 Aug	x		x										
Sat 24 Aug	1		1x		x								
Mon 26 Aug							x						
Sat 31 Aug							x						
Sat 7 Sep					x		x						
Tue 10 Sep	1				x		x						
Sat 14 Sep				●			x						
Tue 17 Sep			1		x	●	x						
Sat 21 Sep				x									
Sat 28 Sep			x	1	●								
Wed 2 Oct					●	x							
Sat 5 Oct	2				●	●							
Sat 12 Oct							x						
Sat 19 Oct					x	x							
Tue 22 Oct						1					●	x	
Sat 26 Oct					●								
Tue 29 Oct						●		●					
Sat 2 Nov				x	x								
Sat 9 Nov													
Tue 12 Nov													
Sat 16 Nov													
Sat 23 Nov													
Sat 30 Nov													
Sat 7 Dec													
Tue 10 Dec													
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Sat 22 Mar													
Sat 29 Mar													
Sat 5 Apr													
Sat 12 Apr													
Sat 19 Apr													
Mon 21 Apr													
Sat 26 Apr													
Sat 3 May													

Forwards

Date	9 Tony THORPE	10 Carl GRIFFITHS	14 Andrew FOTIADIS	15 Dean CROWE	19 Steve HOWARD	41 Kevin FOLEY	43 Matthew JUDGE	Own Goals
Sat 10 Aug	x			1				0
Tue 13 Aug	1				1			0
Sat 17 Aug	x		●		1			0
Sat 24 Aug								0
Mon 26 Aug	●							0
Sat 31 Aug	●		●	1	1			0
Sat 7 Sep	●							0
Tue 10 Sep		●	●		1			0
Sat 14 Sep		●			1			0
Tue 17 Sep					1			0
Sat 21 Sep				x	1			0
Sat 28 Sep			1x		1			0
Wed 2 Oct			x					0
Sat 5 Oct	●		1x					0
Sat 12 Oct	●		1x					0
Sat 19 Oct	1		1	x	sus			0
Tue 22 Oct							x	0
Sat 26 Oct	●							0
Tue 29 Oct			x		1			0
Sat 2 Nov								0
Sat 9 Nov								
Tue 12 Nov								
Sat 16 Nov								
Sat 23 Nov								
Sat 30 Nov								
Sat 7 Dec								
Tue 10 Dec								
Sat 14 Dec								
Sat 21 Dec								
Thu 26 Dec								
Sat 28 Dec								
Wed 1 Jan								
Sat 4 Jan								
Sat 11 Jan								
Sat 18 Jan								
Sat 25 Jan								
Sat 1 Feb								
Sat 8 Feb								
Sat 15 Feb								
Sat 22 Feb								
Sat 1 Mar								
Tue 4 Mar								
Sat 8 Mar								
Sat 15 Mar								
Tue 18 Mar								
Sat 22 Mar								
Sat 29 Mar								
Sat 5 Apr								
Sat 12 Apr								
Sat 19 Apr								
Mon 21 Apr								
Sat 26 Apr								
Sat 3 May								

	Goalkeepers					Defenders							Midfielders													Forwards							
Started Match	1	8	0	5	6	5	5	14	1	14	16	6	4	3	17	1	0	19	0	12	12	12	5	11	1	1	1	0	1	0	5	0	7	8	18	0	1	-
Substitute (Used)	0	1	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	2	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	5	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	6	8	0	1	0	-
Total 2002/2003 Apps	1	9	0	5	6	5	11	14	1	16	17	7	7	3	17	1	1	19	0	13	17	15	9	11	1	1	1	0	1	1	7	0	13	16	18	1	1	-
Total 2002/2003 Goals	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	4	2	9	0	0	0
Substitute (Unused)	0	10	1	0	1	1	4	1	0	2	1	3	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	6	2	3	0	0	0	0	-
Single Yellow Card	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	1	1	0	4	0	0	5	0	4	3	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	6	0	0	-
First YC leading to RC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Second YC = RC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Straight Red Card	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Total LTFC Career Apps	48	44	0	19	6	28	19	55	438	47	141	25	31	3	17	1	1	232	42	56	17	37	41	34	33	1	1	0	1	1	161	11	136	51	73	1	1	-
Total LTFC Career Goals	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	5	10	4	4	0	1	0	0	1	0	25	5	8	1	3	3	3	7	0	0	0	0	0	65	7	18	17	36	0	0	-
Squad Number	1	16	33	34	35	2	3	5	6	12	17	22	23	31	24	42	45	4	7	8	11	18	20	21	32	30	38	39	40	44	9	10	14	15	19	41	43	-
Position	Goalkeepers					Defenders							Midfielders																		Forwards							-

Penalties

2 (S)cored 0 (M)issed = 100% Success

24 Aug K.Nicholls (S); 28 Sep S.Robinson (S)

Potential Cup Dates

LDVVT: SF (21 Jan), Area Final (18 & 25 Feb), F (6 Apr)

FAC: R4 (25 Jan), R5 (15 Feb), R6 (8 Mar), SF (13 Apr), F (17 May)

Attendance Statistics

(All Competitions)

Highest Home	7,860
Average Home	**6,602**
Lowest Home	6,004
Highest Away	20,833
Average Away	**9,013**
Lowest Away	1,216

Key

X Substituted **1** Goal

SUS Suspended

Luton Town FC Statistics Chart designed and updated by David Newman

TOWN TEASER

IF YOU know your Hatters trivia, you could win a pair of match tickets this afternoon in our Town Teaser competition. Listen to the PA announcer before kick-off for your chance to have a go.

At the last home game we asked about the most recent player to move from Wigan to Luton, and the answer, of course, was Kevin Nicholls.

TODAY'S QUESTION

WHY has Port Vale's manager got very happy Luton Town memories of a sunny day in May 1983?

Ever thought about being a match ball sponsor? Call the Commercial Department on **01582 411622**

For the latest news, views and interviews call: **CLUB CALL on 09068 121123** (calls cost 60p per minute at all times)

SQUAD CHECK

LUTON TOWN

Manager: Joe Kinnear

1	Mark Ovendale	□○
2	Aaron Skelton	□○
3	Alan Neilson	□○
4	Matthew Spring	□○
5	Russell Perrett	□○
6	Marvin Johnson	□○
7	Adrian Forbes	□○
8	Kevin Nicholls	□○
9	Tony Thorpe	□○
10	Carl Griffiths	□○
11	Steve Robinson	□○
12	Chris Coyne	□○
14	Andrew Fotiadis	□○
15	Dean Crowe	□○
16	Carl Emberson	□○
17	Emmerson Boyce	□○
18	Ahmet Brkovic	□○
19	Steve Howard	□○
20	Peter Holmes	□○
21	Paul Hughes	□○
22	David Bayliss	□○
23	Ian Hillier	□○
24	Sol Davis	□○
31	Alan Kimble	□○
35	Cedric Berthelin	□○

tick if playing ■ tick if substitute ●

PORT VALE

Manager: Brian Horton

1	Mark Goodlad	□○
2	Matt Carragher	□○
3	Rae Ingram	□○
4	Sean McClare	□○
5	Michael Walsh	□○
6	Sam Collins	□○
7	Neil Brisco	□○
8	Michael Cummins	□○
9	Stephen Brooker	□○
10	Steve McPhee	□○
11	Marc Bridge-Wilkinson	□○
12	Dean Delaney	□○
13	Levi Reid	□○
14	Mark Boyd	□○
15	Ian Armstrong	□○
16	Steven Rowland	□○
17	Paul Byrne	□○
18	Billy Paynter	□○
19	Phil Charnock	□○
20	John Durnin	□○
21	Liam Burns	□○
23	Ian Brightwell	□○
24	Lee Ashcroft	□○
25	Chris Birchall	□○
50	Iain McIntosh	□○

Today's Officials

Referee: Paul Robinson, Hull

Assistants: Chris Francis, Cambridgeshire (yellow flag); Eric Mackrell, Hampshire (red and yellow flag)

Fourth Official: Gavin Ward, Kent

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12 Months AA Assistance Mileage Check
30 Day Exchange Plan
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- 12 months/15,000 mile Guarantee
- 114 point service
- 30 day exchange pledge

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Mon-Fri 9am-7pm
Sat 9am-5pm
Sun 10.30-430pm