

WYCOMBE wanderers

v Luton Town - Saturday 14th February 2004 - Kick off 3.00pm



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First Eleven



Saturday 21st February 2004

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Saturday 28th February 2004

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At Causeway Stadium kick off 3.00pm

Tuesday 2nd March 2004

BRISTOL CITY

At Ashton Gate kick off 7.45pm

Reserves



Wednesday 18th February 2004

ALDERSHOT TOWN

At Causeway Stadium kick off 2.00pm

Wednesday 25th February 2004

NORWICH CITY

At Causeway Stadium kick off 2.00pm

Youth U19



Saturday 21st February 2004

NO FIXTURE

Saturday 28th February 2004

LEYTON ORIENT

Away, kick off 11am

Youth U17

Saturday 21st February 2004

BRENTFORD

Away

Saturday 28th February 2004

BRIGHTON
& HOVE ALBION

At Molins Sports, kick off 11am

This afternoon we face another tough test against in form Luton. Despite all the off the field problems they are facing on the field has remained solid.

Last Saturday against Brighton we showed for the third week running that progress is being made with another much improved performance. At the start it looked as if the Albion would dominate but we gradually gained confidence and in the end they were grateful for a point. After falling a goal behind we hit back with a fine equaliser from Nathan Tyson on the stroke of half time. A few weeks ago our heads would have gone down and most of us would have doubted if we could get back into the game.

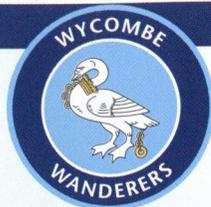
In the second half we took the game to them and created three great chances to take the lead, all to no avail. The best chance came on 63 minutes when a Darren Currie cross found the head of Michael Simpson who headed over from under the bar. It did beg the question how could such a outstanding miss come from such an outstanding delivery!

With three draws from our last three matches it is much more encouraging, however it could have been nine points from our last three and what a difference that would have made.

Tony Adams missed the final throws of the dice as he was called away to be with his girlfriend Poppy. He arrived on Friday to say he might be called away at any time as she was likely to go into labour with their first child. During the interview for Wanderers World he said what a great weekend it would be if we won and Poppy gave birth. Well, many congratulations to Tony and Poppy, they have a baby son who arrived on Sunday morning at 5.20am at St. Mary's, Paddington. He weighed in at 9lbs and is named him Atticus William MacNaughton Adams. Mother and baby are doing well.

Let's get behind the lads once again, it is so important we keep this unbeaten run going, maybe this afternoon the luck will go our way and bring three points.

Editor.

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HONOURS

F.A. Cup Semi-Finalists:	2000/01
Football League Division 3 Play-Off Winners:	1993/94
Conference Champions:	1992/93
Conference Trophy Winners:	1991/92
Conference Championship Shield Winners:	1991/92
	1992/93, 1993/94
Isthmian League Champions:	1955/56, 1956/57
	1970/71, 1971/72
	1973/74, 1974/75
	1982/83, 1986/87
Isthmian League Cup Winners:	1984/85
Isthmian League Charity Shield Winners:	1981/82, 1983/84
	1985/86, 1987/88
Spartan League Champions:	1919/20, 1920/21
F.A. Trophy Winners:	1990/91, 1992/93
F.A. Amateur Cup Winners:	1930/31
Anglo-Italian Trophy Winners:	1975/76
Berks & Bucks Senior Cup Winners:	24 times (latest 1989/90)

'Their latest decision to award the 2005 Champions League Final to Istanbul'

HOW many times have you been at a match where the crowd have started singing 'What a Load of Rubbish?' Well now it seems some clubs are starting to agree. In the last fortnight we have seen the bizarre spectacle of two first division sides offering supporters their money back after disappointing defeats. And in the case of Bradford City the refunds are being paid by one of the players. Bantams keeper Alan Combe was sent off in City's defeat 1-0 defeat at Gillingham for jostling referee David Crick. He was then fined two weeks wages by his club and ordered to give the money to the supporters who made the long and fruitless trip down to the Priestfield Stadium. All Bradford's 119 fans, who paid the £16 admission fee, will now get that money refunded by their goalkeeper - City made the one-off gesture because they felt Combe's sending off had a direct effect on the outcome of the game. I must applaud Bradford for taking that stance. For far too long clubs have taken supporters' loyalties for granted, knowing that they will be there week-in-week-out in whatever the score. I bet most players don't even know how much it costs supporters to get into grounds these days. But Alan Combe will know now. And he won't forget in a hurry just how deep supporters have to dig into

their pockets to watch him and his team-mates.

Thankfully, second-from-bottom Bradford aren't the only first division club feeling guilty about the fare they are serving up. Coventry City have also been in the business of making public apologies to their fans recently. The Sky Blues board were so disgusted by their team's display in their 3-1 FA Cup fourth round replay defeat at second division Colchester United, that they have offered any fans who travelled to Layer Road free admission to the next home match. It is terrific news and the club deserves credit.

However if that gesture were ever to be made at Wycombe Wanderers, I wouldn't mind betting that the supporters wouldn't accept it and would accuse the club of humiliating its players. I am of course referring to that incident at Chesterfield last season when the manager, Lawrie Sanchez, ordered his players over to the away supporters to apologise for the manner of their limp 4-0 defeat, only to be slaughtered for the gesture and be accused of embarrassing his players. I still haven't been able to get my head around that one.

Likewise, I can't get my head around UEFA's latest bombshell. Their decision to award the 2005 Champions League Final to Istanbul is nothing short of bonkers. How they can give

such a showpiece event to a city and a stadium, which less than six months ago was deemed unsafe for England fans to travel to, is incredulous. The decision is also an insult to Leeds fans Christopher Loftus and Kevin Speight, who died in the city before their team's UEFA Cup semi-final against Galatasaray less than four years ago. The Turks have a long and violent history of crowd trouble. I spent one very uncomfortable night in Izmir several years ago being pelted with missiles during an England match and the Turkish fans have done nothing to clean up their act since. Can you imagine what would happen if Arsenal, Manchester United or Chelsea were to reach that Champions League final and take 20,000 fans over to Istanbul with them? The prospect is frightening and one that should never have been allowed. I'm not saying that Turkey should be ostracised from international football, but surely they should have to pass a five-year probationary period before UEFA send thousands of innocent supporters over there.

Dave Peters writes for the Bucks Free Press and the Bucks Free Press Midweek.

Read his match report in Tuesday's Midweek and his big-match preview in the Free Press on Friday.

Congratulations to Andy Reilly who has been selected to join the U21 Scotland squad in Edinburgh tomorrow. This is a well deserved honour for the lad who has done well for us since taking over from the injured Chris Vinnicombe. Andy will be hoping he can make the final selection that play at Livingstone on Wednesday afternoon against Hungary as part of the build up for the UEFA U21 Championships.

With reference to Chris Vinnicombe he played very well against Oxford United last Monday in a specially arranged reserve outing at Iffley Road. The form of Andy Reilly has made it difficult for me as a manager, Chris is now ready to come back and he is more experienced so selection is made harder.

This is what being a manager is all about, to make players fight for places and instill in them that any first team player who does not perform well enough will be under pressure. I don't think this has always happened in the past.

On the injury front Scott Marshall has a damaged hamstring, Keith Ryan is still injured and Andy Thomson has a long term injury that will keep him out for the rest of the season. We wish them all a speedy recovery and look forward to their return to be able to challenge for a places soon.

At the moment the players are giving me everything they have got, not allowing for complacency or lack of commitment. I am a fighter and a professional and always have been, I told them three weeks ago we will drive on to the end of the season and re-assess in the summer. Performances must be kept up as we show everyone we are determined to stay in this division. Confidence is high, I feel the players are sensing success is around the corner but we still have to get that first win. Up to now I have been telling them performance is the most important thing, now it must be result – result – result.

I watched a game on video recently between ourselves and

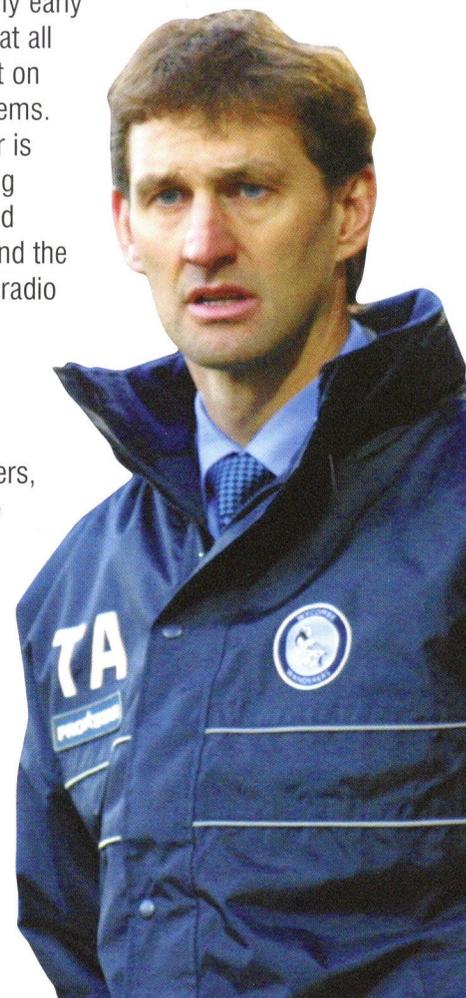
Bristol City where they looked the better team and yet we won. We need that performance where we may not be the better side but win the game. In my early days here performances were poor but now that has changed. We are showing more grit and determination and our physical condition has improved, as we showed against Brighton last Saturday. We have worked hard in training and the players understand their role in the team. You have to keep things simple with players and allow them to understand the job required of them within the pattern of play.

Thank you for your e mails that have been coming in after the matches. We really appreciate your positive feedback from the last three games, it is early days yet but it's nice to know the supporters are recognising the improvement made by the team.

You may have seen my early departure from the bench last Saturday. My girlfriend Poppy had been experiencing contractions every five minutes

and it was important I got away to be with her. I climbed into the car feeling comfortable that we would not throw away a 1-1 draw. In my early days I would have not been at all happy leaving when I did but on this occasion I had no problems. The strength of any manager is being able to leave everything running along like a well oiled machine with Pete Cawley and the team in control. I turned the radio on expecting us to score and go on to beat Brighton rather than have any fear of us losing.

Finally, to you the supporters, thank you once again for the terrific support you gave us last Saturday against Brighton. We shall be requiring more of the same today and hopefully the team will respond to give us all a great weekend with three points.



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Tony Adams

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In an attempt to reduce the number of casualties across Buckinghamshire, events have been going on to promote our 'For My Girlfriend' campaign. New and potential young drivers in schools have been shown a thought provoking play specifically written to highlight the emotional issues surrounding the death of a friend.

Yesterday in Wycombe, Carly Stenson alias Steph from Hollyoaks, posed as a car crash victim and was cut out of the car by the Bucks Fire and Rescue Team in order to show the consequences of driving at speed.

The Safer Roads Team will be on hand before kick off and at half time to promote the 'For My Girlfriend' campaign and to answer any questions you might have. So come and visit us and pick up some freebies.

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What a torrid time Luton Town have been through since the summer. Plunged into administration with debts of £11 million they must have wondered if closure was near. But like other clubs who have faced extinction they battled through it and are close to announcing a new take over consortium. But as we write they are still waiting for the Football League to ratify the take over.

On the pitch they have continued to be one of the teams to beat. They are currently eleventh in the table with two games in hand, should they take six points from those games it could push them into the play off area. Mike Newell was appointed manager in the summer, a real favourite with the fans, the former Hatters striker has pushed the side on. Former Norwich City striker Adrian Forbes is the leading scorer with 14 so far this season and his partnership with Steve Howard has been formidable.

In the F.A. Cup they reached the Fourth Round only to lose to Tranmere Rovers in controversial circumstances. Match referee Mr. R. Messias (not the first controversial incident at Kenilworth Road – see page 50), incurred the wrath of Mike Newell after failing to award a clear cut penalty to Luton in the dying

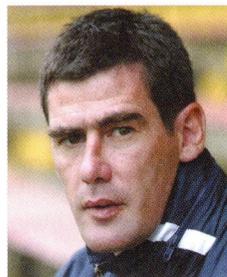


moments. Tranmere went on to win 1-0.

The following week the Hatters were due to travel to Hartlepool United but the match was called off owing to adverse weather conditions in the North East. Last Saturday they were at home to Colchester United, a meeting of two sides still with a chance of a play off spot so it was a big game for both of them. At the start of the afternoon there was one point separating the two teams. A stunning strike from Enoch Showunmi gave the Hatters a most unlikely victory and lifted them to tenth in the table. Showunmi is a 6'4" striker recruited from local parks football in the summer. But a transfer embargo was incurred because of administration prevents them from signing him.

It is about time we gained a victory over Luton, they have been coming here long enough, the time is right for us, we need the points more than they do.

The Manager
MIKE NEWELL



The former striker is unique among managers – Luton fans helped him to get the job in a telephone poll just before the season began. The problems the club went through in the summer, plus the departure of manager Joe Kinnear. On the arrival of the former Luton player Mike Newell he was met by the club going into receivership with debts of £11 million. Luckily the majority of the squad was already in place as the club had been put under a transfer embargo by the Football League.

Mike Newell began his playing career with Crewe Alexandra before moving to Wigan Athletic in 1983. After three seasons he moved to Luton in a £80,000 transfer in January 1986. He was brought in to replace Mick Harford who was injured at the time. Luton were then in the old First Division and Mike did well by scoring 19 goals in 68 appearances for the Hatters.

He racked up a succession of big money transfers, £350,000 to Leicester City, £1.1 million to Everton, £1.1 million to Blackburn Rovers, where he won a Premiership Champions medal.

In November 2002 he landed his first managerial post with Hartlepool United. He guided them to promotion a few months later but his contract was not renewed.

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'Steve Howard - the Hatters' top scorer of the last two seasons'

Steve Howard's two goals at Adams Park last season, the first a great strike from the edge of the area and the second a trademark header from a long throw-in, helped him to a season's tally of 23. A huge fans' favourite, the 27-year old has repaid many times over the £50,000 Joe Kinnear spent in March 2001 to sign the Durham born striker from Northampton.

Howard's 24 goals in season 2001/02 as Town won promotion saw him finish as the Third Division's top league marksman and he was voted the fans player of the year. Last season, when he again finished the club's leading marksman, he was voted the players' player of the season, and his value in the transfer market estimated in excess of £500,000. Howard's career however has also seen some difficult times.

That career started at Tow Law from

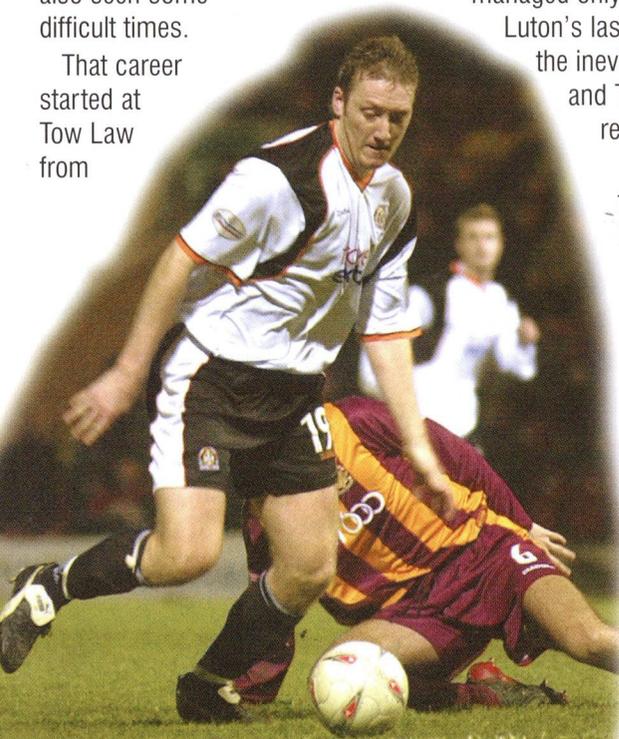
where Howard moved to Hartlepool United in 1995. He soon became a huge favourite with his aerial dominance (he stands at 6' 2") and his never-say-die attitude. His awkward style of play caused opposition defences plenty of problems but at times he was criticised for not being a regular goal scorer. In Feb'99 he became Northampton's record signing when moving for £120,000. Howard however failed to score for the Cobblers that season and was sent-off in only his 3rd appearance.

Howard netted 10 league goals during the 1999/00 campaign followed by a further 8 in 2000/01 before, on transfer deadline day, he moved to Luton. Kinnear was desperate for a new striker whose goals might help Town stay up. Howard however managed only 3 goals in Luton's last 12 games as the inevitable happened and Town were relegated.

Luton started the next season in good form. Howard however was at the centre of controversy in the win at York – an event that almost ended his Luton career. Howard missed a penalty but the referee ordered a retake. Howard

ignored Kinnear's orders to let Aaron Skelton take the second spot kick, took it himself – and missed. He was fortunate to get away with being dropped for a game and a warning. By the New Year he had netted just five times but then came a remarkable 19 goals in 19 games. His superb displays – including a first ever hat trick at Hull – really won over the fans. Howard had long been rated for his ability to hold up play, soak up the physical punishment, and release other players, but now he was also getting much more involved in the penalty area. Much of this improvement was due to the influence of coach Mick Harford – himself an outstanding centre forward.

Last season was another mixture of barren spells and purple scoring patches as Howard signed a new deal committing him to Luton until June 2005. A downside was his 13 yellow cards and 1 red – the physical nature of his game. This season Mike Newell rejected interest from Sheffield Wednesday for Howard, but 2003/04 has mainly been frustrating for the striker. It started well – four goals in seven outings – but a sending-off at Brighton meant a first suspension. A hernia operation sidelined him for 2 months and a second suspension meant Howard having to sit out the FA Cup tie against Tranmere. Howard however will be keen to make up for lost time – the Wycombe defence must be wary of him today.



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The Hatters have been through a trauma on the goalkeeping front recently when Marlon Beresford walked out to join Barnsley. He had been on a month to month contract but had the opportunity to move closer to his family in the North and signed for the Tykes when the chance came up. With a long term injury to Rob Beckwith the number one spot could have gone to youngster Dean Brill, he made his debut against the Blues back in October last year. A week after the departure of Beresford the manager moved quickly to bring in Danish keeper Morten Hyldgaard.

Morten Hyldgaard (*top left*) joined the Hatters in January 2004 on a free transfer from Scottish Premier side Hibernian. The 6'6" keeper began his career with Danish First Division side Ikast before a £200,000 move to Coventry City. During the 4½ year stay at Highfield Road he made 30 appearances.

Robert Beckwith is a keeper who has been learning his trade via the youth set up. He enjoyed an extended run in the first team prior to the arrival of Marlon Beresford. A nasty knee injury has now halted his progress for the remainder of the season. **Dean Brill** is another young keeper who made his first team debut against the Blues at Kenilworth Road last October. He has good communication and his handling is excellent, regarded as a real prospect for Luton.

The defence carries a range of experienced players who can be used in various positions. **Emmerson Boyce** is one of many to come through the YT scheme at Kenilworth Road. He broke into the league side at the age of 19 and became a regular right back. However it is in the centre of the defence he has made his mark this season making a formidable partnership with Chris Coyne. **Chris Coyne** (*top right*) was signed for the Hammers by Harry Rednapp after spotting the lad playing for Australia U17 at the World Youth Championships of 1994. He moved to Kenilworth Road from Dundee for £50,000 in September

2001.

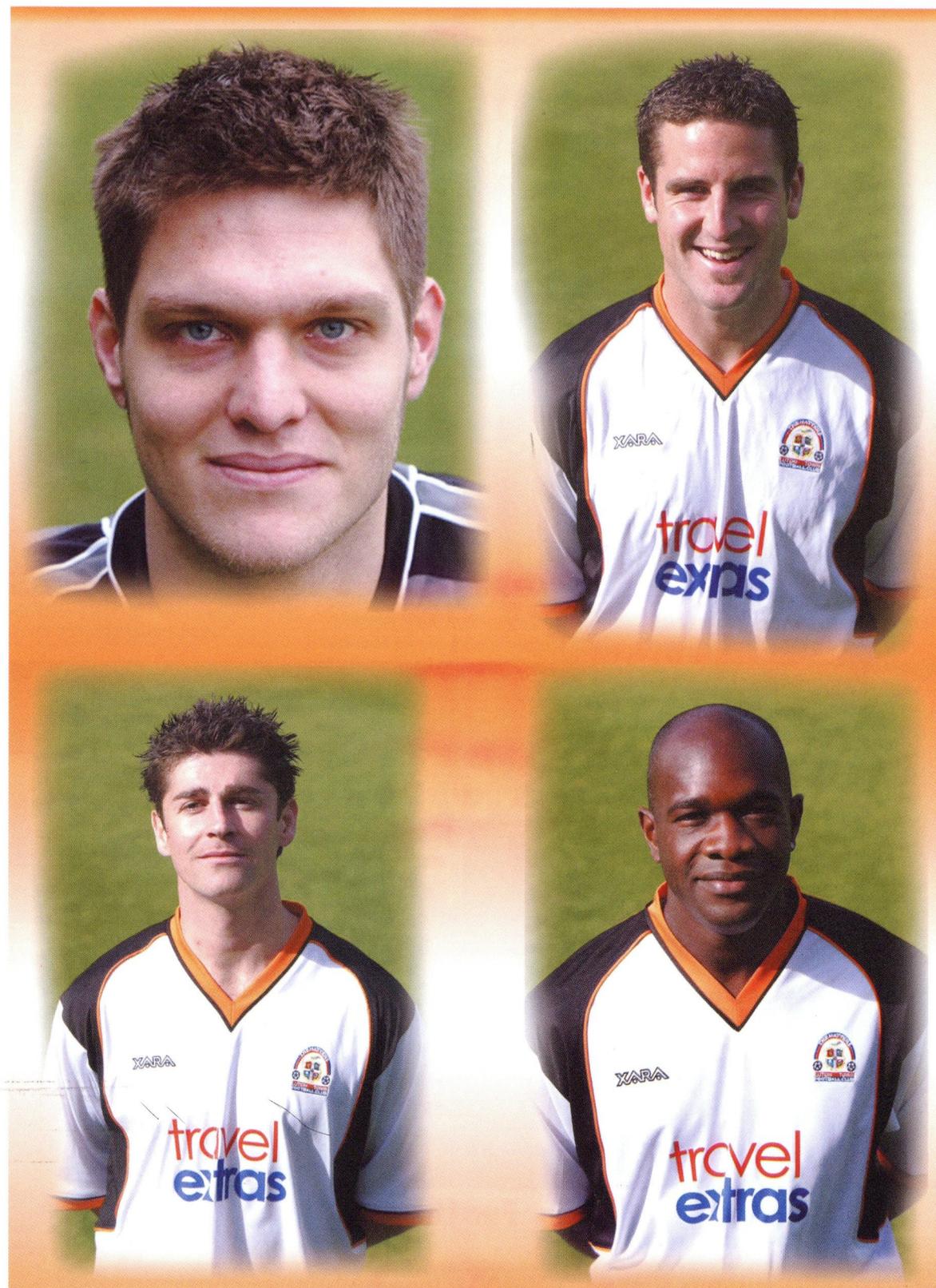
Sol Davis joined Luton in the summer from Swindon Town after the left sided defender turned down the chance to sign a contract with Andy King. It was a huge loss for the Robins that turned into a fine coup for the Hatters. **Ian Hillier** came as a bargain £30,000 signing from Spurs after impressing during loan spell at Kenilworth Road. The Welsh U21 International has made a real niche for himself with Luton. **Alan Neilson** is a versatile experienced defender who has been an important part of the back four. The former Welsh International was signed from Grimsby Town in 2002. Has played at Newcastle, Southampton and Fulham, has been forced to spend a long spell on the sidelines with a niggling calf injury. **Russ Perrett** helped Cardiff City to promotion from the Second Division in May 2001. The big central defender accepted an offer to join Luton when he knew his future at Ninian Park was limited. Has suffered with a string of injuries, missed most of last season and only returned in October of this season. After four weeks he collected another injury which has kept him out so far.

The midfield is the engine room of the team and they have retained a group of players who play to a system that suits them.

Kevin Nicholls is a tough tackling midfielder who was snapped up from Wigan in the Summer of 2001 for £150,000. He began his career with Charlton and they sold him to Wigan for £250,000 in the summer of 1999. He became team captain upon his arrival with the Hatters, returned to playing against Tranmere in the F.A. Cup after being out for over three months with a knee injury. **Steve Robinson** (*bottom left*) came in from Preston North End for £50,000 in the summer of 2002. He made his name with Bournemouth after joining on a free transfer from Spurs. After moving to Deepdale for £375,000 in the summer of 2000 he jumped at the chance to move South after his career had stalled with Preston. **Lee**

Mansell joined Luton as an 11 year old schoolboy and has made the breakthrough into first team football. Because of injuries to key players he was thrust into the limelight and responded by scoring against QPR in an F.A. Cup tie in less than a minute. **Paul Hughes** began with Chelsea learning his trade under the guidance of Glenn Hoddle. He formed a very good partnership with Matt Spring until injury split the two as Paul moved into the treatment room. **Ahmet Brkovic** joined Luton on a Bosman free from Leyton Orient. The Croatian was signed from HNK Dubrovnik by Orient in the Autumn of 1999 and was disappointed when Orient failed to gain promotion at the end of that season. **Matthew Spring** brought a huge sigh of relief around Kenilworth Road when he signed a new contract in the summer of 2002. Matt has been with Luton since a schoolboy and has been a driving force in whatever Luton team he has appeared for. Made his league debut at 17 and clocked up 100 appearances by the time he was 20.

Going forward they have some very good strikers, all of them capable of scoring goals whatever duo is put on the field. **Dean Crowe** was signed on loan from Crewe Alexandra in September 2001 but made such an impact he was signed on a permanent deal. Helped Luton gain promotion in 2001-02 but has had a fight on his hands regaining a regular place in the team. **Adrian Forbes** (*bottom right*) is a former England youth International with considerable experience with Norwich City in the First Division. When he became available in the summer of 2001 Luton were delighted to pay £75,000 for his services. Leading scorer this season with 14 goals in all competitions. **Steve Howard** at £50,000 was really money well spent when the Hatters took this strong goalscoring striker from Northampton. He has been Luton's leading marksman in the past two seasons and is a huge favourite at Kenilworth Road.





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Review of Two by Adrian Wood



Town return to action

Due to their FA Cup commitments – and adverse weather conditions – this afternoon's visitors Luton Town were back in league action last weekend after a break of three weeks. A first ever league goal from Enoch Showunmi was sufficient to earn Mike Newell's side a 1-0 home victory over Colchester. Whilst the Hatters are in receivership – and thus with a transfer embargo placed upon the club – Showunmi is playing just for his expenses. To replace keeper Marlon Beresford (who has joined Barnsley), Newell signed Danish keeper Morten Hyldgaard from Hibernian on a free transfer. The 26-year old keeper was previously with Coventry City for almost five years. Meanwhile Jerome Thomas' £100,000 move from Arsenal to Charlton was unexpected good news for Town. Thomas began as a trainee at Luton before joining Arsenal as a 16-year-old back in 1999, with the Premiership outfit agreeing to give the Hatters a share of the profits from any future sale.

Gap narrows at top

A fine display from Bournemouth keeper Neil Moss earned his side a goal less draw at table topping Plymouth. Moss saved a late penalty from Argyle skipper Paul Wotton whilst the woodwork denied the Pilgrims on four occasions. Cherries boss Sean O'Driscoll admitted – "Plymouth are the best side in the division. They are the benchmark by which we judge ourselves – theirs is the standard I would like my players to aspire to." Meanwhile Queens Park Rangers bounced back from three consecutive away league and cup defeats with a 3-2 home win over Notts County. These results cut Plymouth's lead to 3 points. Rangers' strength is definitely their home form. This latest victory made it eight in succession at Loftus Road and only 3 clubs – including Wycombe – have left there unbeaten. Some consolation for Notts is that they scored twice at Loftus Road where Rangers have only conceded 6 in 15 league fixtures. Rangers' new



signing Jamie Cureton made his debut as a late substitute.

Robins keep up the pressure

Bristol City made it eight wins on the trot and stayed within 2 points of QPR (with a game in hand) after a 3-1 home win over Brentford. Danny Wilson's side however left it late. Eddie Hutchinson equalised for the Bees in the 77th minute only for goals in the last three minutes from Matthew Hill and Leroy Lita to maintain City's marvellous winning run. Meanwhile the division's other "Robins", Swindon Town, extended their current unbeaten run to seven matches with a 4-2 home success over Rushden & Diamonds. Tommy Mooney was again amongst the scorers. He has 14 league goals this season and with striking partner Sam Parkin on 12, the two between them have netted well over 50% of Town's total. The latest win moved Andy King's side up to 4th. Some bad news however for King is that midfielder Steve Robinson will be sidelined for two months because of a leg injury obtained in the 2-2 draw at Blackpool.

Spireites revival continues

Chesterfield moved out of the relegation zone for the first time since late August with a 2-0 win at Peterborough. Roy McFarland's side have only lost twice in their last 10 league outings. Their star at London Road was midfielder Jamie McMaster who scored for the second game running and also laid on the opener for Glynn Hurst. McMaster has just started a second month on loan at Saltergate from Leeds. The result condemned Peterborough to a place in the bottom four and Barry Fry's side have just two home wins all season.



Little toughens up Rovers

Although his side might not be particularly attractive to watch, Brian Little is certainly making Tranmere



a difficult side to beat. In 21 league and cup fixtures since mid-October Rovers have only tasted defeat twice. This run has lifted the side from 21st place to a respectable 15th – despite losing striker Simon Haworth with a double fracture. Last weekend a goal from Iain Hume rescued a point at Prenton Park against Blackpool. Scott Taylor's 26th goal of the season had given the Seaside's the advantage. This weekend Rovers take on Swansea for a place in the quarterfinals of the FA Cup. Best wishes to Rovers – and also to Col U who travel to Sheffield United in the search for further cup glory.



Thordarson strengthens Tykes

Barnsley boss Gudjon Thordarson has been working hard to cement his club's play off ambitions. As well as bringing in Marlon Beresford and Mark Stallard, he has obtained the services of Australian midfielder Jacob Burns from Leeds for the rest of the season. He is also keen to keep Man Utd striker Daniel Nardiello at Oakwell for as long as possible. Nardiello netted his third goal in 3 games for the Tykes in last weekend's eventful 2-2 home draw with Hartlepool. Barnsley had Chris Lumsdon sent-off and Kevin Betsy missed a penalty before Steve Hayward rescued a point 10 minutes from time.

Oldham takeover approved

Good news from Oldham is that the Latics have come out of administration after the takeover of the club by three New York-based businessmen. The club's membership and fixtures have been transferred to the newly formed Oldham Athletic Association Football Club (2004). To celebrate the event, the decision was made to let all supporters into Boundary Park free of charge for last Sunday's game with Grimsby. The result was that a crowd of 13,007 – easily the Latics best of the season – saw a 6-0 home win inspired by a first half hat trick from Scott Vernon. The result was another defensive nightmare for the Mariners who have now gone 10 games without a win conceding 14 goals in their last three outings.





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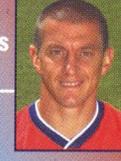
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Agents or Leeches by Brian Lee, Associate Director of WWFC

A particular "evil" has crept into our game in recent years in world football and has now filtered down the lower echelons of the game in this country. That evil is shrouded in the name of Agents, who can be employed by either clubs or players but can only be paid by one or other in any single transaction.

Agents continue to attract bad publicity for a variety of reasons, Saha of Fulham is a recent example, whilst in the well-publicised transfer of Kewell from Leeds to Liverpool the Agent appeared to receive nearly half of the agreed transfer fee.

What about valuation? Clubs usually only buy players when they want them, often to fill an urgent need and subsequently overpriced and not good value for money.

What about free-trading you might ask? Well in the first place we are dealing with people and not machines and quick fixes have cost the game a lot of money that the game cannot afford.

You may have gleaned by now that I do not approve of Agents! You are correct. I do, however support the use of help.

Nearly all professional players are members of their "Union" the Professional Footballers Association. Many engineers are members of their Union, the Amalgamated Engineers Union and I am sure that they would help their members in negotiations with their employers if so requested.

The PFA do act as players Agents in contract and employment situations if asked to, why are they not used at all Club/player meetings? They would have the player's interest at heart, negotiation experience, the clubs standing and very importantly the wider aspects of the game.

Agents are robbing football of money that could and should help clubs, several of whom are on the edge of administration or worse. It is an indefensible position, seeing money oozing out of an industry - our beloved football - when the clubs need it so badly to stay in business.

I would like the Club to change their approach to Agents. Like many other aspects of the game that this Club has felt strongly about and pioneered change we could do the whole game a favour.

Since writing the above, the situation appears to have been exposed at Old Trafford in relation to Saha, Howard and Ronaldo. I rest my case.

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Secret Diary by Keith Allen, Secretary of Wycombe Wanderers

THE SECRET DIARY OF KEITH ALLEN
AGE FIFTY SIX AND A LITTLE BIT
With Apologies to Adrian Mole
(EVERY WORD TRUE)

Friday 30th January

Today is a day I have personally looked forward to all season, a trip to Hillsborough to play Sheffield Wednesday, a magnificent stadium and opposition steeped in history with a massive support. Sad it is not on a Saturday afternoon, but this is partially made up for by the receipt of a cheque for £10,000 as the game is live on Sky.

8-55am Day started with Nathan Tyson and the Manager waiting for me to arrive, I was a little late due to the remains of the snow and ice that eventually arrived. Nathan proceeded to sign the forms that keep him at Causeway Stadium for another month.

9-03am Manager and Nathan leave office, boarding the coach for Sheffield which was scheduled to leave at 9-00am, afternoon rooms having been booked in an hotel near Chesterfield.

Immediately fax forms through to my counterpart at Reading for her signature, Nathan's first months loan does not run out until Monday 2nd February but I do not like to leave things until the last minute.

9-10am Signed forms received return of fax from Reading, not surprising as I had already set up the procedure with her yesterday. Faxed the forms straight through to The Football League and The Football Association.

9-30am Contacted the Secretary of Millwall to gain their agreement to extend the loan of Stuart Nethercott, whose current loan runs out on Tuesday 3rd February, no problems and we are all set.

11-07am Faxed approval received from The Football League for Nathan Tyson's loan extension and as I had received approval from the FA half an hour earlier he was our player until 2nd March 2004.

2-40pm Left for Sheffield with John Goldsworthy, picking up Rod Tomlin on the way and heading North on a very busy M40, A43 and then M1.

4-56pm In very heavy traffic and anticipating an arrival time of 7-00pm at the stadium, not too much of a problem were it not for the fact that I had with me tickets being returned and ten for collection. Rang Wednesday ticket office and read out the names, addresses and ticket numbers of the collections, my time of arrival now not so important as duplicates could be issued.

6-35pm Arrived at the stadium parked in the adjacent Director's car park and crossed the bridge over the river entering the stadium at its magnificent palatial reception area.

Of course being our first visit we were in the wrong palatial reception area, being directed downstairs to an even grander Director's and VIP Reception area, by now I was feeling far more important that I actually am.

The Boardroom and guestrooms are very impressive, but my first action was to climb up the stairs into the Director's Box and my first view of an empty Hillsborough, a sight that took my breath away. I had been there before, as a fan, but to see it empty and in all its glory was indeed an

unforgettable experience. A proper football ground in every way and if the players could not motivate themselves there in front of TV cameras then we have no hope (Of course in the event they did motivate themselves and could well have won the game, being well worth their point).

7-45pm Game kicked off, impressed by the huge Wednesday following and perhaps even more impressed by our fans away to my left, a good turnout on a foul night, so far away when the game was live on TV.

7-47pm Scored, Ian Simpemba getting injured in the process of notching his first ever Football League goal, being very brave.

7-51pm Ian stretched off to sincere sympathetic applause, left my seat for the dressing room to see how he was. Searched at least six fully equipped treatment rooms before finding him, attended by their Club doctor and two paramedics, he was just coming round. Put my hand on his chest and as he opened his eyes he asked what the score was, the reply of course being 1-0 to us, he then asked who had scored the goal. My reply was that I thought it was he, but he hadn't got a clue what had happened after he had knocked the ball goalwards, he couldn't remember the ball going in!

8-04pm Left the treatment room and was "collared" by Sky TV reporters all anxious for news of Ian to broadcast, told them the doctor was relatively happy but that Ian was to go to hospital for a precautionary scan.

8-23pm Called down from my seat once more, the Sky men wanted me to tell the world live at half time how Ian was. Now I am not shy but I neither medically qualified nor photogenic, so I politely refused and pointed them in the direction of the doctor who had treated him.

10-32pm Game over, well dined but not wine (I was driving) departed for home, encourage by a fine team performance, good news on Ian and some very good hospitality.

Saturday 31st January

12-57am Changed over from John's car, which I had been driving to mine, completing the journey home to waiting arms of the long-suffering wife arriving in Aylesbury at 1-27am.

1-35am Mobile telephone rings, Andy Warboys on the other end informing me that the car park gates were locked and all their cars were inside. Now where have I heard that before? Of course by now the telephone ringing had woken up the long-suffering wife, who had put on the kettle (bless her) and she was actually speaking to me at this point. Fully able to understand the anger of the supporters rang Jim Gardner on the team coach, (still half an hour away) he suggested we asked the 24 hour Security man at McKenzie Myers next door if he had a key.

1-45am Received a called back from a calmer Andy Warboys, who informed me the guard did have a key and everyone had gone home relatively happy. For my part drank a late night cup of tea and then to bed what a most enjoyable day!

ENJOY THE GAME

KEITH



Wycombe Supporters Player of the Month Award

H A N D S

The Hands of Wycombe Supporters Player of the Month Award for January has been won by Jermaine McSporran.

He was presented with his award by his home shirt sponsors, Adams Park Learning Centre, Peter and Ann Emery. His away kit sponsor is Andy Swanzy and he collected his award prior to the kick off against Brighton

last Saturday. Our picture shows: Anne and Peter Emery with Hayley, Jermaine and Rod Tomlin.

Book Signing by Manager

Wycombe Wanderers Manager Tony Adams will be at Wanderers in Town in the Octagon Shopping Centre for a signing session. On Thursday 19th February between 2pm and 4pm Tony will be available to sign copies of his autobiography 'Addicted'. Copies of the book are on sale at Wanderers in Town priced £6.99p.



20% Discount at Wanderers in Town

Wycombe Wanderers are offering all MBNA Wycombe Wanderers Visa Card Holders 20% discount off all WWFC merchandise (including sale items) from 9am until 5.30pm on Thursday 19th February.

There will also be a free entry into a draw for anyone making a purchase in Wanderers in Town on that day. The prize will be a Wycombe Wanderers signed football and six top price tickets, with access to hospitality and car park passes for the match against Hartlepool United on Saturday 28th February.

Fans Forum

There will be an open Fans Forum in the Vere Suite on Thursday 26th February from 7.30pm onwards. The Centre Spot bar will be open from 6pm

onwards and the Vere Suite bar from 7pm. Entry is free to all Blues fans who wish to attend.



Dell extends stay

Defender Stephen Dell has had his loan period at Eastbourne Borough extended by another month. He is now due to return to the club on 23rd

February.

Travel Meeting

Fans should be aware that there is a Travel Meeting in the Keen Lounge on Tuesday 24th February commencing at 7pm. This will be to discuss the progress being made relating to parking problems in and around Causeway Stadium on a match day. Those who are interested are welcome to attend.

Brownie regular feature

For those who are viewers to the Wanderers World video site we now have Steve Brown providing a regular feature. We will be discussing the merits of all our remaining matches coming up with Steve. For those who like a bet it may be a good way of making a few bob as Steve has proved to be a good tipster in the past.



Engage brain before opening mouth!

Former Wanderers boss Alan Smith misjudged the mood of his 250 strong RAC Club audience at a football dinner last week. Asked what it was like being a football manager he replied, "Like Michael Caine in Zulu facing the hordes, only these days the Zulus are in the dressing room". There were wide spread groans from the diners who turned away in embarrassment.

Best wishes Brian

This afternoon sees the final visit of a good friend of mine who has covered Luton for as long as I can remember. Brian Swain is retiring at the end of this season and moving to Cornwall. All Luton fans will know what a great job he has done for the Hatters over many years of coverage. We first met when the two of us were working for Chiltern Radio, we were a Conference side at the time and I always had to wait until Brian had finished his report on Luton before Mike Vince said, "Now we join Alan Hutchinson at Wycombe".



Three Scholars released

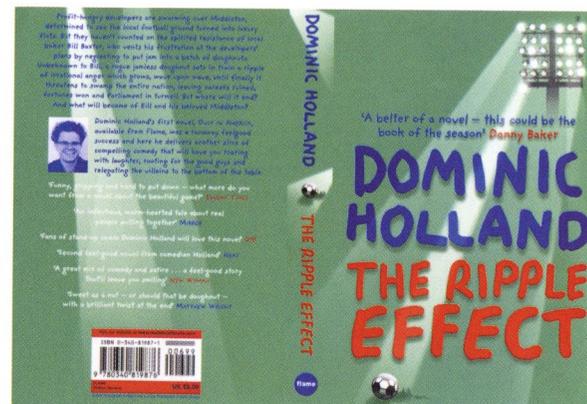
The club have released three scholars all by mutual consent. Striker Billy Harding, midfielder James Rogers and defender Matt Heggie have departed to rekindle their football elsewhere.

The Ripple Effect

A book set in the world of football, which is about to be published. We print a review below sent by Mike Harrison from Bradford City's fanzine, The City Agent.

"funny, gripping and difficult to put down, what more do you want from a novel about the beautiful game?"

This was the question asked by The Sunday Times when asked about The Ripple Effect, written by stand up comic and football fan, Dominic Holland. It is often said that football and fiction aren't happy bedfellows



but this "wonderfully funny" (The Times) feel good novel dispels this myth once and for all.

A third division club is facing destruction at the hands of asset strippers (sounds familiar) and although the fans rally behind their team, it seems that all is lost until one fan, Bill Baxter, a local baker in a fit of pique omits to put any jam into a batch of jam doughnuts. Unbeknownst to Bill, one rogue doughnut sets off a ripple of anger which grows and grows until it engulfs the whole country and eventually coming full circle an, not wishing to ruin the end of the book, but suffice to say that grown men could well weep with joy by its climatic ending.

But The Ripple Effect is more than just a page turning laugh. It's also a football novel with a message. It ruthlessly satirizes the modern game with its increasing dependency on money. Premiership stars behaving badly, agents on the take, chairmen and directors on the make, they all feature and yet it is all done without even a hint of cynicism. Holland clearly knows and loves his football, and quite rightly with any fairytale, football is the champion and wins the day.

Danny Baker described The Ripple Effect as "a belter of a novel. This could be the book of the season." I couldn't agree more.

Our own Alan Hutchinson has also read the book and described it as "hard to put down, so much of it will be very familiar to the regular football supporter up and down the country. A tale that is going on somewhere within football no doubt and written with a lovely tongue in cheek approach. As well as being a good piece of comedy the book carries a real message to everyone serious about football in this country. Every club has a Bill Baxter who is prepared to commit himself to the problems ensnaring his club will survive".

To quote the author, "I am hoping that if

football fans enjoy Bill's journey they will spread the word and create a ripple effect for The Ripple Effect. Of course I am going to say it is a good read. After all, I wrote it" Dominic Holland

'The Ripple Effect' is published by Hodder & Stoughton and is available from bookshops at £6.99p.

Letter from Steven Taylor



Newcastle United FC
St James' Park
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4ST

27 January 2004

To Everyone at Wycombe Wanderers Football Club and, especially, the Supporters,

I would like to say 'Thank you very much' to everyone at the club for all their support and advice for the month I spent at the club over Christmas and New Year. I will always remember the great opportunity I was given to be coached by the manager, Tony Adams and being made to feel really welcome by the players and everyone else at the club.

The way the Supporters encouraged me from my first game with the club, at Notts County, was absolutely fantastic, but that was nothing compared to the way the fans treated me at our home win against Bournemouth and, particularly my last home game against Grimsby

What I didn't expect was the marvellous send off our supporters gave me after the away game at Stockport and I really do appreciate and thank them for that. Those memories will stay with me forever.

To actually be voted the 'Supporters Player of the Month for December 2003' was a complete surprise and a great honour. The glass tankard I received for that takes pride of place on top of the television at home.

I am just a young player starting his career in football but I was given a wonderful opportunity to make my Football League debut for Wycombe Wanderers, for which I will be forever grateful to Tony Adams and the Chairman, Mr Beeks, for giving me that opportunity.

I am sure that the time I spent at the club will benefit me in my future career in football with Newcastle United and, hopefully, with England. The 'Wycombe result' will always be the 'first other result' I look for on Saturdays.

I made some great friends with the players during my short time at the Club, but the Wycombe Supporters are something special and I will always remember them.

Thank you all very much,

Steven Taylor



Youth Player of the Month - December

The Walters Group Player of the month for December selected by Michael Forsyth, Youth Team Manager, was Matt Fox, a promising young midfielder. He was presented with his award by Chris Walters, Director of the Walters Group of Companies prior to the kick off against Brighton last Saturday.

Youth Player of the Month - January



Brighton last Saturday.

The Walters Group Youth Player of the Month for January selected by Michael Forsyth, Youth Team Manager, was Jamie McClurg. Jamie is a promising midfielder and he was presented with his award by Chris Walters, Director of the Walters Group of Companies, prior to the kick off against

This afternoon we look back on two games that brought consecutive defeats and total panic by the fans. Never before had Martin O'Neill lost two on the spin and such was the success under him that it stirred up all kinds of recrimination by the home supporters. After the home defeat by Wigan Athletic one fan decided to take on Martin as he left the field. In those days the tunnel was made of wire mesh and fans could watch the players and management going in and out. "Your should resign O'Neill", came the cry. Whereupon Martin stopped to confront the fan that turned into a tirade of finger pointing and, "Now listen here pal".

would probably prefer to forget the occasion.

For the Stags new signing Stewart Hadley from Derby County gave the Blues defence a torrid afternoon. Playing without Terry Evans and full back Jason Cousins in the centre alongside Andy Kerr, both stood watching as Wayne Fairclough flicked home a short corner from Boothroyd after 27 minutes. Dave Carroll came close to the equaliser when his foraging run and shot floored three home defenders as the ball bounced away to safety.

On the hour Mansfield went further in front when Wilkinson found Hadley completing unmarked on the far post and he gave Hyde no chance with his crisp shot. Within eight minutes the agony was complete when Steve Brown's back pass to Andy Kerr was intercepted by Hadley who rounded Kerr to provide Wilkinson the easiest of chances to make it 3-0. Steve Brown's afternoon was brought to a close when he was subbed by Steve Thompson with twenty minutes remaining. The closes the Blues came to a goal was when Dave Carroll had his effort ruled out for pushing on 87 minutes, by then the game was well and truly lost.

Saturday 12th February 1994

**Mansfield Town 3
Wycombe Wanderers 0**

Referee: Mr. J. Winter

Attendance: 3,009

MANSFIELD TOWN: Ward, Fleming, Boothroyd, Holland, Gray, Fairclough, Timons, Parkin, Wilkinson, Hadley.

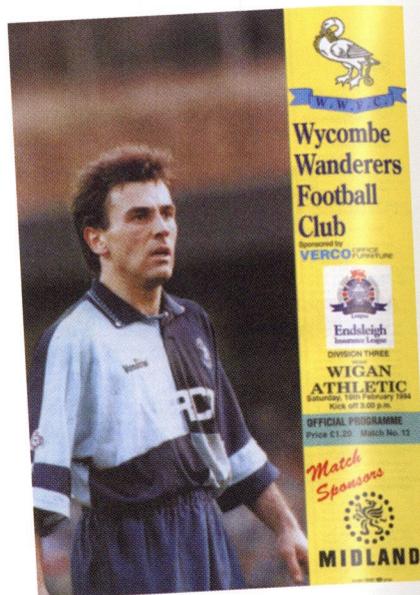
WANDERERS: Hyde, Cousins, Stapleton, Crossley, Kerr, Ryan, Carroll, Brown, Turnbull, Garner, Guppy.



**WEST AND
CREASER ON
LOAN**

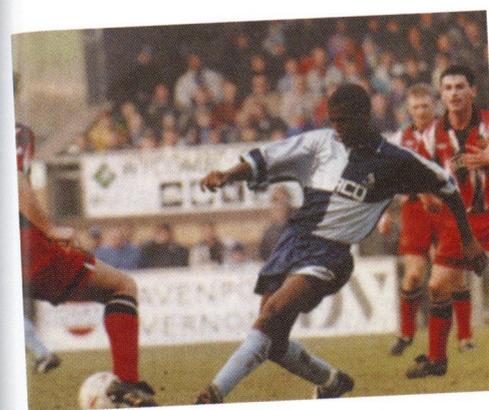
Mark West scored his second goal for Aylesbury United after joining Diadora Premier Division club on a one month loan

two weeks ago. Also there is news of Glyn Creaser who joined Vauxhall Conference club Yeovil on a months loan two weeks ago, he watched Wycombe's defeat at Mansfield.



**WANDERERS
LOSE....AGAIN!**

Blues supporters voiced their dissatisfaction after a second successive defeat in the league, this time at fortress Adams Park. His highly placed team struggled against a side who were prepared to work harder and stop Wycombe being creative. The barracking from the terraces began as Blues became bereft of ideas to turn the tide against Wigan. What was worse is Wigan snatched the lead very early on and at no time were the home side ever able to get on terms. It was Andy Lyons who scored an impressive opener. Wanderers had left Andy Kerr out and his on loan replacement, Steve Blatherwick, was solid enough at the back, until his dismissal. Both new signings Steve Brown and Lee Turnbull struggled to make headway. They were



replaced, to the cheers of the crowd, by Steve Thompson and Tim Langford. Wigan went on to defend stoutly and collect three very valuable points in their search for Third Division survival.

Saturday 19th February 1994

**Wycombe Wanderers 0
Wigan Athletic 1**

Referee: Mr. K. Cooper

Attendance: 4,846

WANDERERS: Hyde, Cousins, Stapleton, Crossley, Blatherwick, Ryan, Carroll, Brown, Turnbull, Garner, Guppy.

WIGAN ATHLETIC: Farnworth, Carragher, Johnson, Robertson, Skipper, Kennedy, Langley, Duffy, Gavin, Morton, Lyons.

**SUPPORTERS
STAND BY O'NEILL**

Wycombe fans have condemned the group of troublemakers for booing and chanting 'O'Neill Out' after the 1-0 defeat by Wigan. Other chants brought 'what a waste of money' after the Blues has lost two games on the spin with new signings

Lee Turnbull, Simon Garner and Steve Brown brought in to give the team a push for promotion. First team coach Paul Franklin said, "The fans pay their money and they are entitled to have their say. But, considering how successful Martin has been at the club it is disappointing they are not getting behind the team in this period of transition".

New signing Simon Garner commented, "The players are working as hard as they can. We need to have the fans behind us to give the lads a lift".

The fact is the Blues need to score to give the team a lift. Overall the general feeling was it was sad to see supporters who had enjoyed so much success could not take it when things are not going so well.

The Blues visit Gillingham next in the league and manager Martin O'Neill will be hoping for a change of fortune, especially with the Autoglass Trophy Southern Area Final against Swansea coming up.

**ONLY TIME THREE IN A
ROW**

This was to be the only time during the Martin O'Neill reign at the club that he lost three games on the spin. Defeats at Shrewsbury, Mansfield and at home to Wigan represented the worst run of matches seen by Wycombe Wanderers for many a season.

COMING NEXT

For our next issue against Hartlepool United on Saturday 28th February we look at the visit to Gillingham where Tim Langford scored the only goal, and our meeting with Swansea City in the Autoglass Trophy. Wanderers within touching distance of Wembley until a third goal dampened the expectations.



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Going to the Match by Graham Peart - Director of WWFC

2

The famous Lowry painting, Going to the Match, depicts grey shadowy figures leaning into the biting north wind while walking towards the stadium where their beloved Bolton Wanderers were playing that day. Not a replica shirt, hot dog, policeman or motorcar is in sight. Since that day sometime in the 1920s, things have improved somewhat and we now sit and watch matches played on well-grassed pitches with under soil heating in stadiums built to a standard that supporters and players of 75 years ago could only dream about.

Although some things haven't changed much. Supporters of all teams still complain about their defence being unable to clear a corner or their centre forward, sorry striker, being seemingly incapable of converting the simplest of chances, even at the highest levels of the game.

Another time-honoured grumble is the difficulty in actually Going to the Match, and indeed the time it takes in getting away afterwards. It is an inescapable fact that when five thousand people or more gather to a sporting event, there will be delays in getting into and away from the bottleneck of the stadium. About 90% of the Wanderers' supporters travel to matches by car. Therefore most of us have the common and sometimes desperate need to find a space to abandon our car.

There are a small but growing number of people who have discovered our best-kept secret; the free car parking and free buses running from Cressex Island, (Wycombe Six) to The Causeway Stadium on match days. This is a good option so why not try it?

The remaining supporters queue to pay and park inside the stadium, or in the adjacent factory unit car parks mostly around Hillbottom and Progress Road or alternatively search out a free parking space in the more distant residential areas.

There is an inbuilt desire to park inside or very close to the stadium to reduce the walk, despite the fact that it will inevitably take longer to exit and be clear of the queuing traffic. However, when keeping away from the residential areas supporters also eliminate the risk of finding the dreaded ticket stuck to their windscreen, demanding £60 and pay or else.

In an ideal world our defence would be impregnable, our strikers rampant, queues for a cup of tea at half time would be eliminated, and all transport would be accommodated within the stadium and adjoining commercial car parks.

Tony Adams and the playing staff are expending a huge effort in improving our defending and scoring record, much work is ongoing to serve half time refreshment faster and by working together we can assist with alleviating car park congestion and exit queues. Utopia must be just around the corner.

It is possible to make some modest but useful gains in minimising the car park problems by simply encouraging drivers to fill their cars with passengers. This means that fewer cars are required to transport a given number of supporters, thereby freeing up car park spaces for those forced to park in residential areas. To focus attention to this matter, for the remainder of this season we are giving a voucher to the driver of each vehicle that has at least three people on board, when paying to park in the upper car park. Bring four vouchers to the office and they will be exchanged for a free upper car park ticket for use at any Wanderers match. A worthwhile discount is received while assisting the club to reduce traffic congestion and also complaints about thoughtless parking from Sands' residents.

The club is also intending to increase the number of useable car park spaces in the upper car park by extending the surface treatment to enable more cars to park safely in wet weather conditions.

If we all work together in a practical and co-operative way to improve transport and parking related matters then we will remove at least some of the frustrations when Going to the Match.

E: WWFC@wycombewanderers.co.uk W: www.wwfc.org

Originally signed on a one month loan from Millwall Stuart Nethercott showed why football people refer to him as a natural leader on the field.

He began his career with Tottenham Hotspur as a trainee in August 1991. He went on to make 54 appearances for Spurs, including cup ties, before joining Millwall. Stu had been out on loan at Maidstone United in September 1991 where he made 13 Football League appearances at the age of 18. That was followed by a month at Barnet a year later where he made three Football League appearances.

Another six seasons passed before he made his move to the Lions on the 22nd January 1998. He really came to the fore in season 2000-01 when Millwall won the Second Division Championship. He initially shared defensive duties with Joe Dolan and Sean Dyche but became an automatic choice after injury to Dolan. A formidable defender who proved an inspirational captain and team motivator. Stuart is regarded as one of the best headers of a ball in the lower divisions but also has all round excellent skills.

We spoke with Stuart about joining the Blues on loan and began with his first game against Grimsby.

AH No doubt you enjoyed your debut

SN Coming here was a consideration as Wycombe were bottom of the table and usually the league never lies. But I have to say the first half against Grimsby was different class. Although we had a sticky patch in the second half the overall performance was excellent.

AH Do you think we can stay up

SN The team need to continue to play in the same manner as they did against Grimsby then I see no reason why not. It is a difficult situation to pull away from but all the signs are it is possible. I was very impressed with those I was playing with and everything about the club itself.

AH How much influence did Tony Adams have on your arrival

SN A lot. He has taken over here and brings a wealth of experience of defending at highest level. Having worked with George Graham and Arsene Wenger at Arsenal plus his England connections he is bound to start building from the back. If we can keep it tight at the back then we have a chance of winning games.

AH Throughout your career you have been known as a leader on the field

SN Yes, I have seen Wycombe are a very quiet team and need a gee up on the field. It is important to be able to communicate on the pitch and that is something I have always been able to do. Hopefully I can bring that to the side, the leadership and organisation skills I had with Millwall.

AH Are you hoping to be here longer than a month

SN Very much so. I am enjoying what I have seen, enjoying working with the manager and if I can get the maximum three months I will be delighted. If there is a chance to look at something here next season then I would be happy to do that too.

AH Did Matt Lawrence tell you about us

SN Yes he did, he said it was a very good club that was well run and everything about the place was impressive. I can confirm that. Matt has had some great times here and has nothing but good memories of Wycombe and told me not to hesitate in coming.

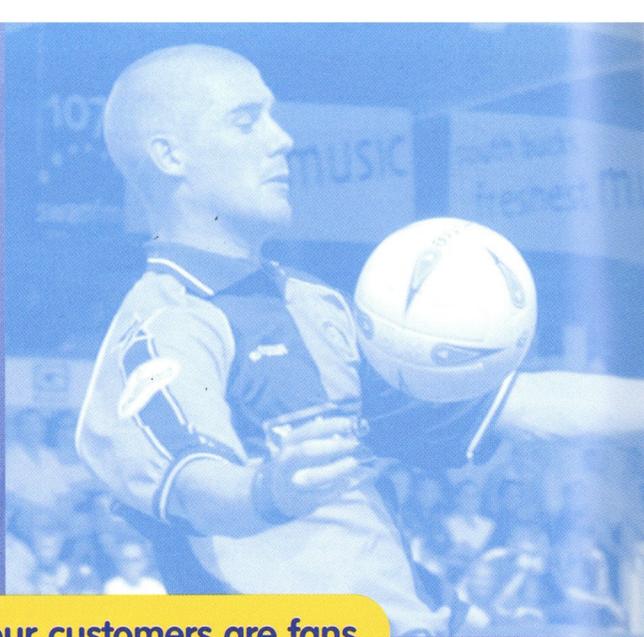
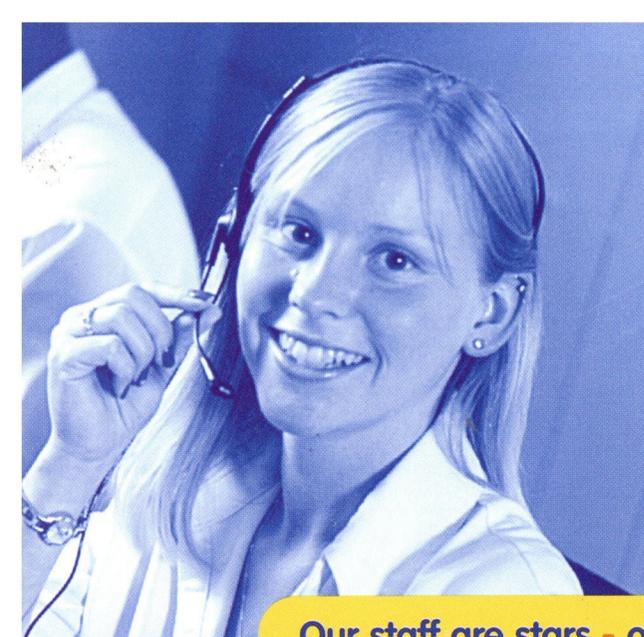
AH Playing in this division is not new to you

SN No, I had two and a half seasons with Millwall before we won the title and so I have the experience of knowing what it's like to battle your way out of it. Naturally the First Division is another step up but I am used to playing at this level and have no fears of doing so. Looking at the fixtures we have some winnable games coming up so hopefully by the time my month is up the team will be in a better position than when I first arrived. Having said that we were very disappointing at Stockport and although we played better against Blackpool it was another home defeat. Although I was credited with the second goal at Chesterfield we could only manage a draw. It was a result that suited nobody but it could be the start of a run we need to try and turn things around.

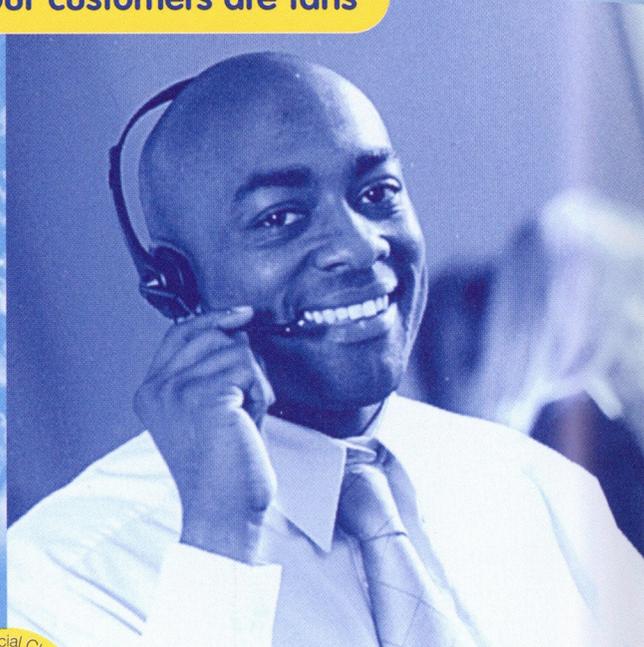
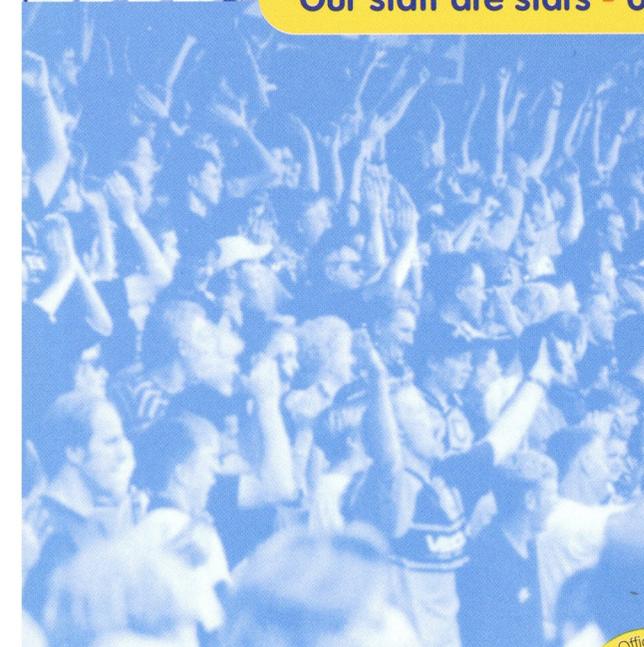
AH Have you enjoyed working with Tony Adams

SN Very much, it's a pity that I haven't had a chance to work one on one with him as I am sure he has a lot of useful tips to pass on. When you are working with someone who has played at the very highest level against some of the best forwards in world football then it's time to listen. This is particularly applicable to the younger defenders here who should be grateful for the arrival of Tony Adams.





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Simon Garner

A Blackburn Rovers legend with 186 goals in over 500 appearances, Simon Garner also enjoyed two successful years with Wycombe Wanderers.

After 14 years at Ewood Park he moved to West Bromwich Albion for £30,000 in August 1992. After two years at Hawthorns he joined Wycombe on a free transfer in February 1994 midway through Wanderers inaugural league campaign. He made his debut at Craven Cottage in an Autoglass Trophy quarter-final against Fulham in a thrilling game which Wanderers won on penalties after a 2-2 draw. Garner scored his first goals for the club in the semi-final but despite finding the net in both games Wycombe lost the two leg tie 3-2 on aggregate to Swansea City.

In the league Wanderers went on to narrowly miss out on automatic promotion, losing a crucial late game at Crewe allowing the Railwaymen to grab the final automatic spot and forcing Martin O'Neill's Wanderers side to compete in the play offs. The Chairboys got past an in-form Carlisle United with Garner scoring in a 2-0 first leg away win, and went on to meet Preston North End at Wembley for a place in Division Two. Trailing 2-1 at half time Garner's strike two minutes into



the second half was the catalyst for a superb second half display. Two goals from Dave Carroll secured a 4-2 success and successive promotions for the Chairboys.

Garner continued to be a regular feature in the Wycombe side during their first Division Two campaign, appearing in 41 of the 46 league games scoring 9 league goals. He also grabbed a hat-trick against Hitchin Town in the FA Cup. Wycombe enjoyed a successful season and were unfortunate that restructuring of the league meant that despite finishing 6th they missed out on a play off place as only one side was automatically promoted.

Martin O'Neill departed for Norwich in the summer of 1995 and this proved a turning point in Garner's Wycombe career.

Garner says of O'Neill in his autobiography "I owe him for rescuing my career, for giving me a chance to play the kind of football I'd always wanted to play in an atmosphere that just couldn't be beaten." However he did not enjoy a good relationship with his successor Alan Smith. Garners contribution the following season was restricted to just 8 appearances, scoring 3 times. Indeed, he didn't appear in the league for Wycombe after a 2-0 away win at Shrewsbury on 23rd December, playing 10 games on loan at Torquay during the second half of the season. He also recalls in his autobiography that he learnt he was to be released at the end of the season via a letter from the club secretary and not from Smith himself.

Garner finished his playing days playing local non-league football for Flackwell Heath and last May he was given a testimonial by Blackburn Rovers.





- TL Keith Ryan moves the ball forward watched by David Kerslake in the 0-0 draw at Kenilworth Road, 7th March 1998.
- TR Steve Brown scores in the 1-1 draw at Adams Park, 28th August 2000.
- BL Ray Wilkins runs out to make his only appearance for the club against Luton Town at Adams Park, 7th September 1996. The Hatters won 1-0.
- BR Steve McGavin scores for the Blues in the 2-2 draw at Adams Park, 1st November 1997.
- TCR Jonny Dixon pokes the ball home in the 2-1 defeat at Adams Park, 28th December 2002.
- BCR Steve Brown makes a point to match referee Mr. R. Beeby following an altercation between the two teams. Luton won this 1-0 at Kenilworth Road, 25th January 2003.

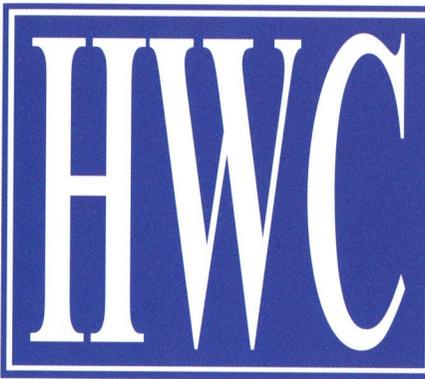


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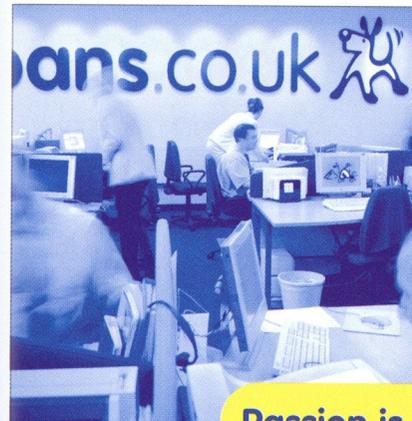
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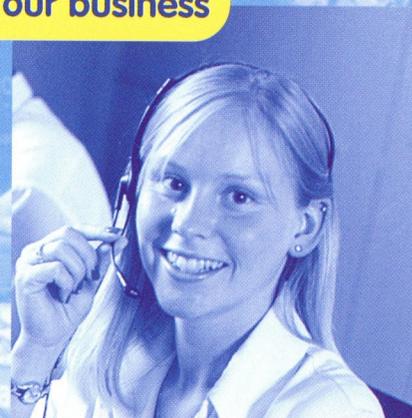
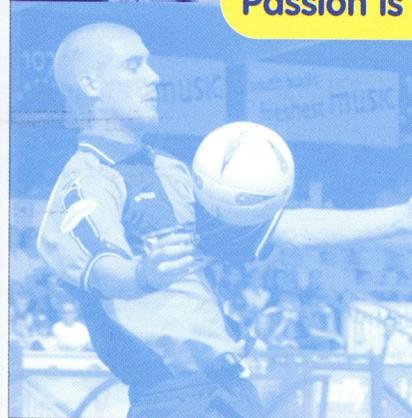
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Mark Philo

Girls in Blue by Marion Lyon

33

The Ladies Reserve side won their B&B Women's County League Cup quarter final tie against AFC Newbury 2-0, setting up a semi-final away at Morris Motors early next month.

The victory proved one of the teams best performances of the season and manager Tracy Sturges was delighted with the way the players approached the game.

There were early chances at both ends, with 'Twinkle' hitting the post on 18 minutes, Becca Hilton's shot tipped over for a corner on 22 and Tracy Sturges saving at the other end in between! Good defensive work by Roisin Nellis, Tracy Jani, Tahli Jenkinson and Laura McLean contained the home side as much as possible.

Freddie and Twinkle were both denied shooting opportunities by very tight offside decisions and corners at both ends created chances but the shots were either wide or safely gathered by the respective keepers. It was a Twinkle penalty, awarded for a handball that eventually broke the deadlock, giving Blues the lead just before halftime.

The second half continued in much the same vain, with chances and saves at both ends. This was an excellent team performance, with good individual work all round the

pitch. Captain Amy Watters had a couple of chances to score, Becca Hilton made a series of strong runs but couldn't finish, Slats came on for Freddie and went close; with just under 15 minutes remaining Twinkle scored her second to give Wycombe a margin as Newbury continued to push forward.

Sturges blocked a goal bound shot on 86 minutes and McLean cleared the rebound off the line to maintain a clean sheet in spite of constant Newbury pressure. The home side named keeper / coach Tracy Sturges as player of the match, while Wanderers nominated Becca Hilton.

Team: Tracy Sturges, Roisin Nellis, Tracey Jani, Laura McLean, Tahli Jenkinson, Jade Harker, Laura Coull, Amy Watters (Capt.), Loretta - Freddie - Semmons-Doel, Stephanie - Twinkle - Dean, Rebecca Hilton. Subs: Karen - Slats - Slater, Buttons

Wycombe Wanderers Ladies FC have open-age teams playing in the Berks & Bucks County Women's League and South Region Premier Division, U14, U12 and U12 Development teams playing in Bucks County Girls' Leagues.

Beginners and experienced players are always welcome, check out our website www.wwlfc.co.uk or contact the club secretary Maz on maz@wwlfc.co.uk or 01494 437 477.

E: WWFC@wycombewanderers.co.uk W: www.wwfc.org

Good afternoon and welcome to today's game against Luton Town. I wonder how many of you have received a Valentine's card today and how many of you sent them to someone you care about. Maybe some of you will get together with your valentine due to the card you've sent!!!!

Birthdays

If any parents out there would like a Birthday Package for their son or daughter who is a Junior Blue, please give me a call at the club (01494) 472100. The Package includes a signed birthday card from the first team player of your choice and a mention in the matchday programme.

Photos & Letters

Once again we are now in short supply of your photo's and letters and without them this page becomes very boring. So if there is something you'd like to tell me or a joke you would like to tell, then write in and I will print them in the next programme.

Interesting facts

There are varying opinions as to the origin of Valentine's Day. Some experts state that it originated from St. Valentine, a Roman who was martyred for refusing to give up Christianity. He died on February 14th, 269 A.D., the same day that has been devoted to Valentines Day. Legend also says that St. Valentine left a farewell note

for the jailer's daughter, who had become his friend, and signed it "From Your Valentine".

Gradually, February 14th became the date for exchanging love messages and St. Valentine became the patron saint of lovers. The date was marked by sending poems and simple gifts such as flowers. There was often a social gathering or a ball.

Valentine Traditions

Hundreds of years ago in England, children dressed up as adults on Valentine's day and went out singing from home to home. One verse they sang was:-

Good morning to you, valentine;
Curl your locks as I do mine —
Two before and three behind.
Good morning to you, valentine.

In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who their valentines would be. They would wear these names on their sleeves for one week. To wear your heart on your sleeve now means that it is easy for other people to know how you are feeling.

Some people used to believe that if a woman saw a robin flying overhead on Valentine's Day, it meant she would marry a sailor. If she saw a sparrow, she would marry a poor man and be very happy and if she saw a goldfinch, she would marry a millionaire!

In some countries, a young woman may receive a gift of clothing from a young man. If she kept the gift it meant she would marry him.

I hope you have enjoyed learning about Valentines Day.

Enjoy the game.
Nicky

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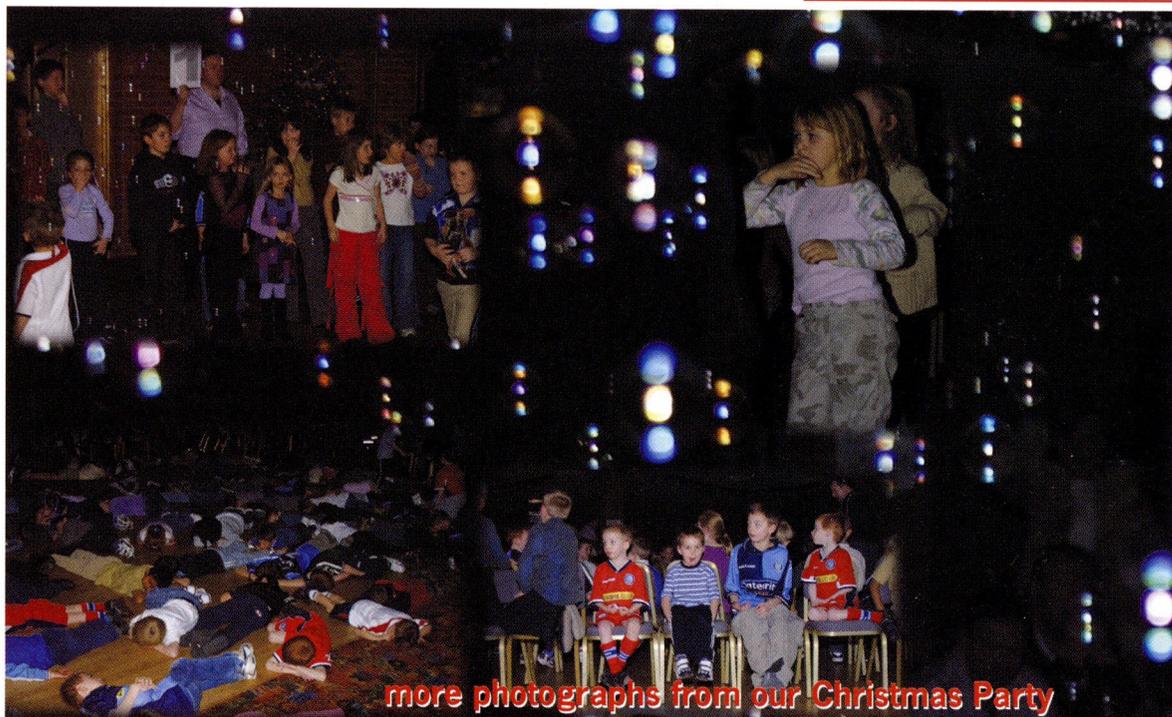
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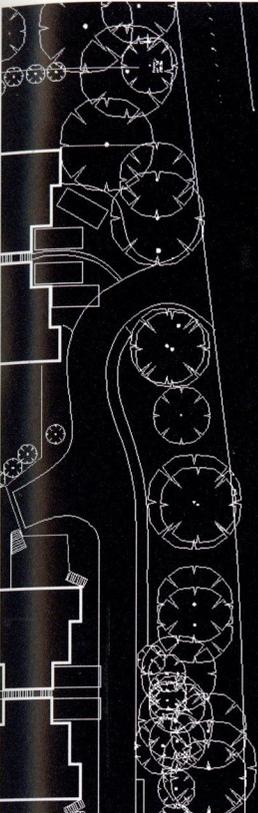
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At The Causeway Stadium

Date: Saturday, February 28th
Kick-off: 3.00pm
Opponents: Hartlepool United



A fortnight today we will welcome Hartlepool United on their first ever visit to Wycombe. By gaining promotion at the end of last season, Pool ended their 9-year stay in Division 3. Under the management of Neale Cooper, Hartlepool have had a very respectable season not once been out of the top half of the table. In mid September they were as high as 2nd and remain well placed for a bid for a play-off spot. Their away form is good with five wins and three draws from 14 outings – victories have come at Peterborough, Stockport, Chesterfield, Oldham and Port Vale. Leading marksman is Eifion Williams, a £30,000 signing from Torquay, with 8 league goals to date.

The Pool form guide 2003/04

Dec 28th	Oldham Athletic	A W 2-0	10th
Jan 10th	Peterborough Utd	H W 1-0	7th
Jan 17th	Tranmere Rovers	A D 0-0	8th
Jan 24th	Bristol City	H L 1-2	9th
Jan 27th	Port Vale	A W 5-2	8th
Feb 7th	Barnsley	A D 2-2	9th

The corresponding fixture at Victoria Park on October 25th ended 1-1 and was watched by a crowd of 5,153 (United's average this season is 5,355). This was one of our best away performances this season and only teenage home keeper Jim Provett denied us victory. Darren Currie gave us the ideal start, converting a Chris Vinnicombe cross in the 3rd minute. Pool equalised in the 40th minute when skipper Mickey Barron's 25-yard shot squeezed through a crowded area and went in off the upright. Both sides had chances second half with Provett keeping out efforts from Steve Brown and Gavin Holligan.

On our travels



Date: Tuesday, March 2nd
Kick-off: 7.45pm
Opponents: Bristol City

The Robins form guide 2003/04

Dec 28th	Bournemouth	H W 2-0	3rd
Jan 10th	Notts County	A W 2-1	3rd
Jan 17th	Chesterfield	H W 4-0	3rd
Jan 24th	Hartlepool United	A W 2-1	3rd
Jan 27th	Colchester United	H W 1-0	3rd
Feb 7th	Brentford	H W 3-1	3rd

Recommended Road Directions

Take the A404 south, leading to the A404(M) and the westbound M4. Exit the motorway at Junction 19, taking the M32 to Bristol. At the end of the motorway turn left (signposted All Other Routes, Broadmead, Temple Meads). Get in right hand lanes into underpass (sign posted Temple Meads, Bristol Airport). After the underpass, get in lane sign posted City Centre, Bedminster, Bristol Airport. At next two roundabouts follow signs to "Taunton A38, Weston A370" onto Coronation Road that runs parallel to the river Avon. After 1.5 miles the road divides. Keep left (signposted Bath A4, Wells A37, Taunton A38) onto the A3029 Brunel Way. Keep in the left hand lane and come off at the next exit (signposted Taunton A38) into Winterstoke Road. The ground is in Ashton Road that is off to the left.

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Travelling by rail?

Temple Meads station (trains from London Paddington) is some 1.5 miles away. I am told there is a bus service, number 528, which runs to the ground from the station. If you decide to walk, turn left into Temple Gate, go over the river, and turn right into York Road. This leads into Corporation Road. Turn left into Raleigh Road for the shortest most direct route to the ground.

Previous encounters

This will be our 8th visit to Ashton Gate for a Division 2 fixture with our record standing at two wins, two draws and three defeats. Our 3-0 defeat there in the early stages of last season ended our two game winning sequence at Ashton Gate and later in 2002/03 we also lost there by the same score line in the southern area quarter final of the LDV Vans Trophy.

Our best result at Ashton Gate was in season 2000/01. This was an important game for both sides – City still had a chance of making the play-offs whilst we had slipped towards the danger zone. A crowd of 11,643 saw us come from behind to take a deserved 2-1 victory with goals from Danny Senda and a last minute winner from Guy Whittingham – his only goal in Wycombe colours. We also played particularly well there the next season. We only arrived at 2.55pm due to motorway problems but still produced an excellent performance to win 1-0 - thereby inflicting a first home defeat of the season on high riding City. Our match winner was Jermaine McSpornan who could easily have ended up with a hat trick.

In earlier seasons we earned just two points from our first four visits and these were from goalless draws in 1995/96 and in 1999/00. Our solitary goal in those four games was a Keith Scott penalty when we lost 1-3 in 1997/98. The previous season we had gone down 0-3 – Steve Brown donned the goalkeeper's jersey that evening after Brian Parkin had been sent off.

The attendance of 11,643 for the fixture three years ago was the largest for a game between the sides at Ashton Gate.

Accommodation for visitors

Away supporters are housed at one end of the ground in the Wedlock Blackthorn Stand, where the normal allocation is 2,800. The acoustics are excellent, so even a small number of away fans can generate some noise. The facilities are pretty standard, plus there are a number of supporting pillars running across the front of this stand, that might impede your view.

Please refer to last Saturday's programme against Brighton for a preview of next weekend's trip to Barnsley

BOXoffice

For our match with Barnsley on Saturday 21st February ticket prices will be as follows: Adults £16 Concessions £9 and entry will be via the North Stand.

The match programme has 68 pages and costs £2.50p.

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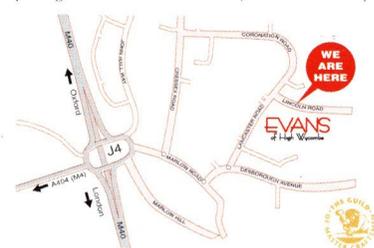
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Interest free credit available on all items ordered over £500. Subject to status, written quotations available on request.

Good afternoon and welcome to this afternoon's game with local rivals Luton Town. With any luck the rain will stay off today and we will bag three points.

Birthday News

A big welcome and Happy Birthday to Charlie Clarke who is celebrating his 8th birthday with me and a few of his friends. The boys will have a McDonalds lunch on arrival, then be taken on a tour of the ground with a look behind the scenes. Charlie's package not only includes lunch and a tour but he will also receive a Birthday Card signed by the players and a gift from the scheme.

As we only have a few games left this season for the party matchday option for they are filling up quickly so if you are interested please give me a call at the club.

Matchday double whammy!!

Phoenix St Johns are our visitors today for both the matchday package and penalty shoot out. The boys from Aylesbury have had a two hour coaching session this morning, McDonalds lunch on arrival at the Causeway Stadium followed by a tour of the ground and tickets to this afternoons game. I hope all the boys and coaches have had an enjoyable day and it will be one to remember. If you are interested in a treat for your team then ring Alan Dunham at the club.

Our photographs show Crendon Corinthians U10s at last Saturday's match.

February Half Term

Well its half term next week and Wycombe Wanderers have got

some fun packed courses for you, if you haven't already booked on one of our courses its not too late. You can just turn up on the morning of your chosen course and book on with the head coach. The courses we have running are;

1A	Cressex Astro	5 days	£45
1B	Holtspur Sch	5 days	£45
1C	Misbourne	5 days	£45
1D	Manor Farm	3 days	£35
1E	Great Marlow	2 days	£25
1F	Stokenchurch	2 days	£25
1G	Cressex GK	1 day	£15
1H	Holtspur GK	1 day	£15
1I	Misbourne GK	1 day	£15

5A	Teikyo Sch	5 days	£45
5B	Newlands Park	5 days	£45
5C	Chesham Leisure	5 days	£45
5D	Teikyo Sch GK	2days	£25
5E	Chesham Leisure GK 1 day		£15
5F	Newlands GK	2 days	£25
9A	St Pirans	5 days	£50
9B	Windsor Boys Sch	5 days	£50
9C	St Pirans Sch GK	5 days	£30
9D	Windsor Boys GK	5 days	£25

If you want any more information on any community courses or packages please ring the community scheme. I hope you enjoy the game and have a safe journey home. Come on the Blues.



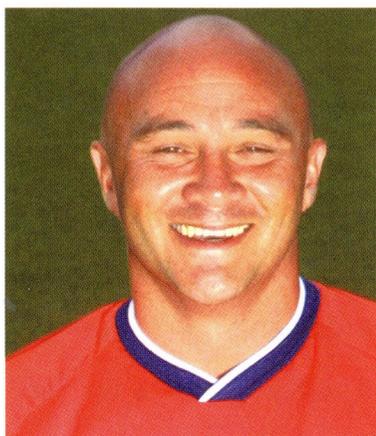
Don Perkins



With the reserve fixture programme running out we decided to arrange a friendly with Leyton Orient at Brisbane Road for Tuesday 3rd February. It was a splendid opportunity for us to field a number of trialists as we look toward next season for players we can sign.

We introduced four trialists, a goalkeeper Scott Ward from Tooting & Mitchum, central defender David Tirie from Norwich City, two midfielders, Sam Swannell from Watford and Mario Noto from Reading. It was also an opportunity for Chris Vinnicombe to play his first game since being injured against Brighton on Boxing Day. Roger Johnson also made a return to playing since serving a three match suspension having been sent off against Brighton. Charlie Mapes came back after suffering from a virus and youngsters Leon Gordon, Mark Philo and Matt Fox were included. Craig Faulconbridge was also down to start but phoned in sick and his place was taken by Rob Tungatt.

This was a very good exercise in terms of looking at players. We trailed 1-0 at half time but fought back well



in the second half with Roger Johnson playing up front. His height and general aggression caused all kinds of problems for the Orient defence. The match ended 2-2 with Roger scoring both the goals, with a bit more luck he could have taken a hat trick but for slipping at the vital moment.

Two of the four trialists caught the eye, goalkeeper Scott Ward from Tooting looked very tidy and the central defender David Tirie was commanding. As for our own lads Chris Vinnicombe made a good return and completed the 90 minutes. Midfielder Matt Fox had a very steady game in the centre of the field, but it was Mark Philo who collected the plaudits from manager Tony Adams. He said, "I have seen Mark play in three games now and he has performed well in all of them. Without

doubt Mark is knocking on the door of the first team".

Tuesday 3rd February

**Leyton Orient 2
Wycombe Wanderers 2**

Team: Ward, Noto, Johnson, Trier, Vinnicombe, Mapes, Philo, Fox, Swannell, Gordon, Tungatt.



FIXTURES 2003-2004

Wed Aug 27	Reading #	H	2-4
Wed Sept 3	Southend Utd	A	2-3
Wed Sept 10	Gillingham	H	1-2
Wed Sept 17	Oxford United <i>friendly</i>	H	1-3
Wed Sept 24	Crystal Palace	H	0-0
Wed Oct 8	Reading	H	1-2
Wed Oct 15	Aldershot Town #	A	1-5
Wed Oct 22	Colchester Utd	A	1-2
Tue Oct 28	Chesham Utd (B&B)	A	2-3
Wed Nov 12	Brentford #	H	1-2
Wed Nov 19	Northampton T.	H	1-1
Tue Nov 25	QPR *	A	0-1
Wed Dec 3	Swindon Town #	H	1-1
Wed Dec 16	St Vincent & Grenadine	H	1-2
Tue Jan 27	Millwall	A	1-3
Tue Feb 3	Leyton Orient	A	2-2
Mon Feb 9	Oxford United <i>friendly</i>	A	1-0
Wed Feb 18	Aldershot	H	2-00pm
Wed Feb 25	Norwich City	H	2-00pm
Wed Mar 10	Brighton ~	A	7-00pm
Wed Mar 24	Peterborough Utd	H	2-00pm
Wed Apr 7	Brentford	A	7-00pm
Wed Apr 21	Cambridge Utd	H	2-00pm
Wed May 12	League Cup Final		
#	= Cup		
*	= played at Northwood		

PONTINS HOLIDAYS COMBINATION

Central & East Division

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Reading	7	6	1	0	+20	19
Gillingham	6	6	0	0	+14	18
Millwall	9	5	2	2	+ 5	17
Northampton	7	4	2	1	+ 1	14
Brighton	7	3	2	2	+ 4	11
Colchester	9	3	2	4	+ 2	11
Cambridge	8	3	2	3	0	11
Peterborough	8	2	4	2	- 2	10
Norwich	6	2	2	2	+ 2	8
C Palace	6	2	2	2	0	8
Wycombe	8	1	2	5	- 5	5
Aldershot	7	1	1	5	-19	4
Brentford	6	0	3	3	- 6	3
QPR	4	1	0	3	- 6	3
Southend	6	0	1	5	-10	1

We now reach the stage of the Merit Division Three fixtures for those clubs who finished in the bottom half of their divisions. We open our programme against Southend United away this morning. They finished just above us in the table and so we know what to expect. We are scheduled to play seven additional matches culminating with Cirencester Town away on Saturday 24th April.

Last season we managed to reach the top Merit Divisional play off matches by finishing in the top half of our division and faced the likes of West Brom, Wolves and Portsmouth. It is all part of a good learning curve for the younger players who will meet new teams once again. Other clubs taking part in the play off matches are: Leyton Orient, Kidderminster Harriers, Bristol Rovers, Exeter City, Rushden & Diamonds, Northampton Town and Cirencester Town.

Next season there will be changes to

the set up of the youth policy, as outlined by Colin Barnes in the Brighton programme last week. These will be confirmed when all the final details have been completed before the start of the new campaign.

As for our U17 side they will be continuing in their division through to the middle of March when their programme is due to finish. We will bring you news of the games played for both U19 and U17 teams right through to the end of the season.

South East Conference

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Colchester	14	8	3	3	+11	27
Gillingham	14	8	2	4	+13	26
Brighton	14	6	5	3	+ 3	23
Brentford	14	6	3	5	+ 5	21
Portsmouth	14	5	5	4	+ 8	20
Southend	14	3	4	7	-20	13
Leyton Orient	14	3	3	8	- 9	12
Wycombe	14	2	5	7	-11	11

UNDER-17's and 19's

FINAL FIXTURES

U19's IN BOLD

Sat 7	Feb	No Game		
Sat 14	Feb	MERIT DIV. THREE		
		Southend	A	11-00
		Gillingham	H	10-45
		Oxford United	H	11-00
Tues 17	Feb	MERIT DIV. THREE		
Sat 21	Feb	NO FIXTURE		
		Brentford	A	10-45
Sat 28	Feb	MERIT DIV. THREE		
		Leyton Orient	A	11-00
		Brighton & Hove	H	11-00
Sat 6	Mar	Brentford	H	10-45
Sat 13	Mar	MERIT DIV. THREE		
		Kidderminster H	H	11-00
Sat 20	Mar	MERIT DIV. THREE		
		Bristol Rovers	H	11-00
Sat 27	Mar	MERIT DIV. THREE		
		Exeter City	A	1-00
		Southend	H	10-45
Sat 3	Apr	NO FIXTURES		
Sat 10	Apr	MERIT DIV. THREE		
		Rushden & Diamonds	A	11-00
Sat 17	Apr	MERIT DIV. THREE		
		Northampton Town	H	11-00
Sat 24	Apr	MERIT DIV. THREE		
		Cirencester	A	11-00
Sat 1	May	IN SERVICE		
Sat 8	May	END OF SEASON		
TBA		Cambridge United	A	

FOR MY GIRLFRIEND...

I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL YOU

I'M SORRY, I WAS DRIVING TOO FAST. I REALLY MISS YOU.

On average, 3 young people (17-25 years) are killed or seriously injured on Buckinghamshire's roads each week.

For more information about this campaign contact Road Safety on 01296 382338

Good afternoon and welcome back to Causeway Stadium. I hope young and old are very well. I would like to welcome Luton Town to the Causeway Stadium - the Bedfordshire town holds a special place in my life because I grew up there and lived in the area for 12 years. It was a special part of my life; I have some very good memories of Luton and the friends I made there.

I have to admit that I did watch them play when they were in the old Division One and have good memories of the Littlewoods Cup Final against Arsenal - sorry Tony but it was a great final!

I would also like to welcome my Mum and Dad, Geoff and Barbara, to the Causeway Stadium for the first time and I would like to thank them for their constant love, friendship and support. Also a big welcome goes to my wife Shirley and my two boys, Simon and George, and not forgetting my sister Lynn, her husband Martin and family (Sinead and Danielle). I love you all.

Moving on, I would like to tell you that I have secured European Funding for all the stewards to receive NVQ Level 2 training. The NVQ is a nationally registered qualification and is built around modules in fire, first aid and crowd management, in all of which the stewards are asked to take a small exam. The assessor comes to the stadium and watches them in the workplace. It does not end there

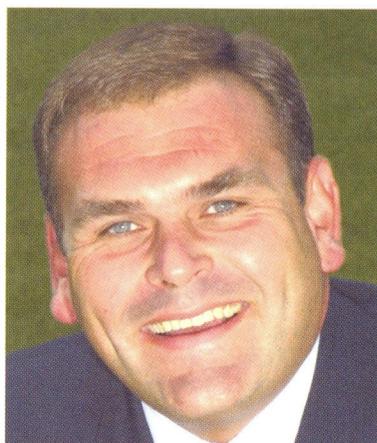
though because you are then assessed continually by a Wycombe assessor, so that the standards are constantly being watched. I wish all the stewards every success in the tests ahead.

As you can see, I am trying very hard to take this club forward because it has been stuck in a time warp. Stewards need to know they have an opinion and should be listened to. Communication is everything and is something that I believe in very strongly, so have implemented this into Wycombe. They may have felt that their opinion does not count but it does, I could not do my job without them and they cannot do it without me, so together we make a good team and will go forward; no-one should ever question their ability.

Moving back to the European Funding, the best part of it is that it's free, no cost to the club, yes FREE! But it also means that you, the spectators, can feel assured that Wycombe Wanderers do take your safety very seriously.

We at Wycombe will move forward in safety because we have a good board of directors who believe in safety first, which makes my job a lot more enjoyable. I am not constantly fighting my corner, we work together because winners work in teams.

"It's a funny old game" is something we have heard so many times but today I have two



teams who are very dear to me, my whole family down for the day and my assessor, who is watching me throughout the game for my Safety Officers Diploma in crowd management. Don't worry, I am qualified so don't start leaving.

I am only 35 and one of the youngest safety officers in the country. I just want the best qualifications for Wycombe and myself so, when we reach Division One, the fans will know they have a good safety officer already in place. So, please support the stewards, they are fans just like you, they care about this club but have to think safety first.

Let's remember, it doesn't cost anything to smile, so let's get behind the lads.

Oh lads, don't forget February 14 is Valentines Day so make sure you treat the wife, girlfriend or mistress to some flowers or chocolates, otherwise she may not let you come back again!

Have a fun day and drive home safely.

ALWAYS SAFETY FIRST



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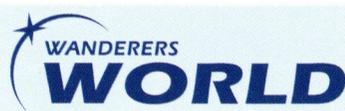


Terry Evans

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Dr. Chris Trower



Two programmes in a week - doesn't happen often, does it! It's only occurred on four occasions already this season and there's still another one to come after today's game against Luton. That will be against Tramere and Swindon at Easter.

In my last set of programme notes for the match against Brighton last weekend, you may remember I told you about our latest on-line auction. Well, for those who didn't catch what it is all about, I'm going to repeat the details in this issue. The closing date for this auction is noon on Monday 16 February, so you've got time to get your bids in for a belated Valentine's gift for your footie-mad partner. Oh, don't tell me you'd forgotten that today is Valentine's Day! I certainly hadn't ... but then I always live in hope of perhaps receiving a card, or having a bunch of flowers delivered, or finding a box of chocolates on my desk from an admirer - so far, nothing! Not sure exactly what that says!

Anyway, back to the auction. To commemorate Wycombe Wanderers' 10th Anniversary as a Football League club, we are offering a fantastic framed 10th Anniversary T-shirt to the highest bidder. The shirt has been signed by then manager Martin O'Neill and a host of players, including Paul Hyde, Steve Guppy, Glynn Creaser, Simon Stapleton, Dennis Greene, Andy Kerr, Hakan Hayrettin, Tim Langford and Kim Casey, amongst other well known names from Wanderers' inaugural League season.

Bidding is currently not as 'hot' as we had anticipated and we understand that the starting price may look steep for this item but it is the ONLY one of its kind in existence. We are looking for a starting price of £200, we believe a small price to pay for such an unusual piece of Wycombe Wanderers' history, so why not put in a bid - you could be the

proud owner of an item that is signed by a unique set of players.

However, this is not the only item up for grabs, so if you can't quite afford £200 then why not take a look at what else we have to offer. There are a number of football programmes available for your enjoyment at lower prices should be finding cash a bit short at the moment:

To make an offer for any of these items, all you need to do is visit the official website for the latest and e-mail james.skitt@wycombewanderers.co.uk with a few details and your bid. Don't forget, the closing date is Monday 16 February at noon and the auction is based on a 'highest offer gets it' policy.

It's been a while since we mentioned our Wanderers World service too, since we've had a few away games in between, so here's an update for you. We've had some excellent interviews with long-term injury victim Chris Vinnicombe, recent treatment room casualty Andy Thomson, Manager Tony Adams, Ian Simpemba (the goal hero at Sheffield Wednesday), striker Craig Faulconbridge, loanee defender Stuart Nethercott (who scored at Chesterfield) and giant keeper Scott Bevan. There has also been a full-length feature interview with Nathan Tyson, our December/January Goal of the Month feature and a regular new edition called 'Brownie's', where he gives his predictions ahead of each game.

Something else we've recently introduced to the official website is our 'Pop The Question' feature. This provides an opportunity for you, our loyal supporters, to pose those

questions that you've always wanted to ask to the manager. The aim was to run this feature for a one-month trial period, starting with Sheffield Wednesday away on 30 January and ending with Hartlepool United at home on 28 February. At the time of writing we have only encompassed the first of these matches, against The Owls, which proved quite successful. If this trend continues during the 'honeymoon' period, the feature will then be extended until the current season finishes and reviewed at the end of this time.

If you would like to ask Tony a question relating to today's game against The Hatters, just e-mail your name and question (putting 'Luton Town' in the subject box) to catherine.long@wycombewanderers.co.uk. You can submit your questions from the final whistle today until 10am on Tuesday 17 February. We will then put all your queries to Tony, who will do his best to answer them all, and the results will then be posted as a feature on the official website.

Depending on the popularity of this feature, it may not be possible to publish all questions and answers on the site. Therefore, every supporter who e-mails a question that does not make the feature will receive a reply from Tony by return. The person who submits the best question for each match will have the option to receive a pair of tickets to a home match of their choice.

That's it for another set of Wanderers World notes, catch you all next time. In the meantime, here's to three points against Luton today!

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You'll also receive a truly personal service - something that can be sadly missing at other loan companies. For example many people can't easily get a loan: the self-employed, the retired or those with credit problems. Loans.co.uk are able to help, not only in these circumstances, but in lots of others as well.

Lets hope our lads can 'do the business' on the pitch today, just as well as Loans.co.uk 'do the business' for people who need a loan.

Enjoy the game



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Today's Programme is sponsored by Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College (BCUC) is firmly established as the principal provider of university education in the region and continues to

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The club would like to wish John Heygate-Brown and all his staff, friends and guest a very pleasant afternoon at Causeway Stadium. John is both a long standing Vice President of WWFC and a regular matchday sponsor.

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With only eight home Nationwide Football League matches left, including this afternoon's local derby against the Hatters, we will clearly need to win most of them if we are to avoid a change of Divisional status. Whatever the outcome, I do not accept that relegation is "the end", or the start on a slippery slope to the Nationwide Conference, as some doom and gloomers appear to fear. Fear is simply False Expectation Appearing Real, and things rarely turn out as bad as one fears they will. I do not deny we will need to sharpen our focus and be even more careful with the precious resources we grateful receive, but "To be a champion, you have to believe in yourself when nobody else will." (Sugar Ray Robinson)

On the positive side, even if we do drop after 10 successive seasons in Division II, more Clubs get promoted out of Division III, than any other Division. To make the play-offs you have to finish in the top seven, rather than the top six in Divisions I & II and top five in the Conference. I am simply suggesting that whatever situation we find ourselves in we look to make the best of it, as it is important to get up off the canvass, if knocked down, as "Champions don't give up they get up". At the end of the day promotion and relegation are the very life-blood of football, and practically most sports. In my view there is no point in fearing the possibility of relegation (if that is indeed, what happens), once might as well embrace it, face it, deal with it and plan to bounce back at the earliest opportunity. After all "Failure is not failure to meet your goal. Real failure is failure to reach as high as you possibly can." (Dr. Robert Schuller) Since I have done this in my own mind (well I think I have anyway), I've been far more bullish and absolutely determined to bounce back and look to have a more successful season in 2004/2005,



Mark Austin

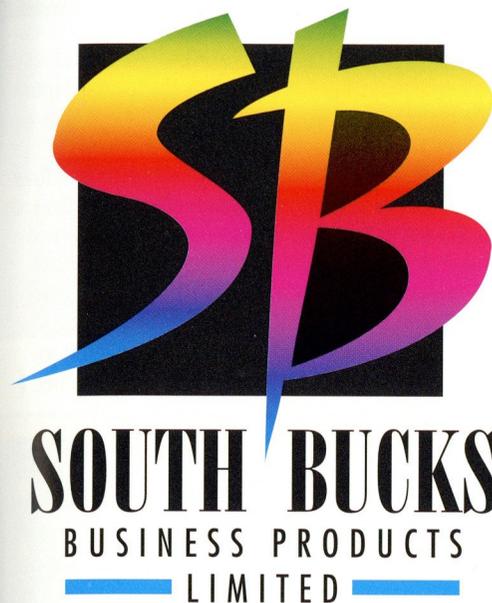
whichever Division we end up in.

Recently, I've been reading a book I was given for Christmas called "Chicken Soup for the Sports Fans Soul", which contains "101 stories of insight, inspiration and laughter" from the World of Sports. All the accredited quotations in this article are in this publication. What has struck me about many of the stories is that you do not have to win to be a true "winner". There are several stories about the enormous determination of ungifted "athletes" to finish the race they have entered, or achieve the goal they set for themselves. As an example take the case of the multiple sclerosis sufferer who through sheer determination to achieve her goal, eventually completed the New York Marathon in a wheelchair even though it took her 25 hours to do it. I find myself asking myself, in the scheme of life who was the bigger winner, the one who came first or last?

Moving on to this afternoon's clash with Luton Town, I am delighted to welcome Peter Davis, the Hatters Commercial Manager, along with his party of about 40 VIP guests and trust they thoroughly enjoy our magnificent guest hospitality. Peter has arranged several away day packages for his sponsors this season, having already taken parties to Rushden & Diamonds, Swindon Town and Charlton, with Queens Park Rangers yet to come. I would be delighted to assist any large group of sponsors and/or Blues supporters who would like to go on an executive trip. While, I can not always promise to get the packages cheaper at all 92 professional football clubs, I do have some good contacts amongst the Commercial Managers having been the Southern Area Chairman of the

Commercial and Marketing Managers Association for the past five or more years. For example, many of you know Mike Sullivan, the Sales & Marketing Manager at Swindon Town, who was with us in 2001 as Sales Manager. You can rely on Mike (as long as he is still there, as he is "famed" for having more Clubs than Nick Faldo), to offer a good value for money matchday package at the County Ground when Wycombe Wanderers next play there. Looking after sponsors on guest hospitality is something I trust we do well here at Causeway Stadium. Going on the amount of repeat business we get, I think our in house Food & Beverage team, do a fantastic job of consistently serving up high quality meals, earning us a good reputation amongst visiting sponsors. Over the last 10 years or so there has always been close links between Luton Town and Wycombe Wanderers Commercial teams, with a group of our sponsors going there and vice-versa. We have a similar close association with AFC Bournemouth, with their Commercial team of Diane Rackley and Claire Thackery already having brought a group of sponsors down on the Saturday before Christmas. Likewise I will be at the Fitness First Stadium on Saturday 6th March hosting a group of Wycombe Wanderers sponsors.

Unlike the on the pitch rivalry between various football managers, Commercial Managers are able to share appropriate commercial information with each other as they are not competing against each other to the same extent. So when we meet 2-3 times a season to share best practice, successes, failures and discuss the merits of new ideas and possible fund raising schemes, it is rare to go away from these meeting empty handed. As Louise Heath Leber stated "There is always room for improvement, you know - it's the biggest room in the house."



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Officially Speaking

Welcome to the supporters who have travelled from Luton today, have a safe journey home and enjoy your stay with us.

The series of consultation meetings with the members regarding the future direction that the Board of Directors consider that the club should take has now been completed. They are now going to consult other stakeholders in the club before coming up with specific proposals. As I said in the last programme notes, we shall have to look at the small print before making up our minds on any proposals that they produce. I have no doubt that the club needs to examine where we are and where we are going very carefully, and while I personally am not against change and progress quite the reverse in fact, we do need to ensure that the long term future of Wycombe Wanderers is safeguarded.

Ivor Beeks has now had his initial meeting with the Chairmen of the two Supporters clubs, as a result of the initiative by Andy Warboys our Chairman. The discussions were wide ranging covering such topics as the Wasps deal, the potential for increasing the accommodation available for away supporters on targeted matches to increase the revenue where clubs have a large away following, ground capacity and of course the club Constitution. I have no doubt that these meetings will prove beneficial to all parties.

I would like to mention the conduct of the Brighton supporters at the last match, they have a huge grievance and demonstrated in very sensible and dignified way. I hope that the Government pulls its finger out and gives them permission to develop a new stadium soon, they have worked hard to ensure the future of their club and without a new stadium they could fold. As well as supporting their own side, they also gave the youngsters at the half time shoot out a great round of applause.

We need three points today, the team need our support so lets get behind them.

Coaches

Rena will be taking bookings for this next away match as usual in the entrance to the Vere Suite before and after today's match.

Barnsley

The Adult members fare for this is £13.50 with the usual concessions for students and

Senior Citizens. There is a £3.00 surcharge for non members (you can of course avoid this by joining us, and if you do this, you get your membership fee back in a couple of coach trips). Coaches will leave the Football Ground at 9.30 am.

You can also book by telephone on 01296 429307 but please use this facility with consideration, in particular late at night is not acceptable.

And finally

Quote from Chris Waddell before the Sheffield away match, 'if these players get promoted they will find Division One is a different league' – Really!!!

Keith Blagbrough

Independent Thinking

What a tremendous fighting display by the team in last Saturday's game against Brighton but we could not quite pull off the victory we so deserved. It was the best team performance all season. At 1-1 it was the third consecutive draw, but it could have been so different after hitting the cross bar twice, having at least 1 justifiable penalty claim turned down, and then having a breakaway goal by Jocky turned down for off-side. When you are down things do not seem to go for you.

After the game on Saturday Tony Adams rushed off to attend the birth of his child by his partner Poppy Teacher. I trust all went well.

I wish the Brighton supporters success in their campaign to get planning permission for their proposed new 22,000 capacity stadium. It really is a dreadful ground they have at present both for their own and away supporters.

Brian Kane has returned from his business commitments in America and has taken up the role of Marketing Director at the club.

The club have had on trial a 22-year-old goalkeeper Scott Ward from Ryman League side Dulwich Hamlet who was previously on the books of Luton Town. He will get a further chance by the club to show his worth over the next week.

It was interesting to see according to a report in last Sunday's 'Sunday Mirror' that Gerard Houllier will be keeping an eye on emerging Newcastle United defender Steven Taylor over the coming months. I am sure after his loan period with us at Wycombe everyone will wish him well in his future career. Many observers believe Steven is ready for a first team chance at Newcastle but so far Sir Bobby Robson has resisted. The possible outcome is if Steven does not get into the first team by the end of the season that Houllier will make a move for him.

The third and final chance for Club members to hear the Board's initial thoughts on future options for the structure of the Football Club took place on Wednesday evening last week at a meeting in the Woodlands Suite.

Wasps are still in discussion with the football club about extending their ground share agreement after the end of this season, one of the major points of issue is that the rugby club want the ground capacity increased before concluding any deal. If approval to increase the capacity is eventually agreed I hope this will not involve doing away with the terracing at the home end. If our dreams eventually come to fruition in the coming years and Wycombe Wanderers get into the first division of the football league there is still a five year period before we would be legally bound to make the stadium all seating.

Anyone wishing to travel to Barnsley on a WWISC coach next Saturday please call at our table in Hillbottom Road today or phone Colin Butler on (01494-536270).

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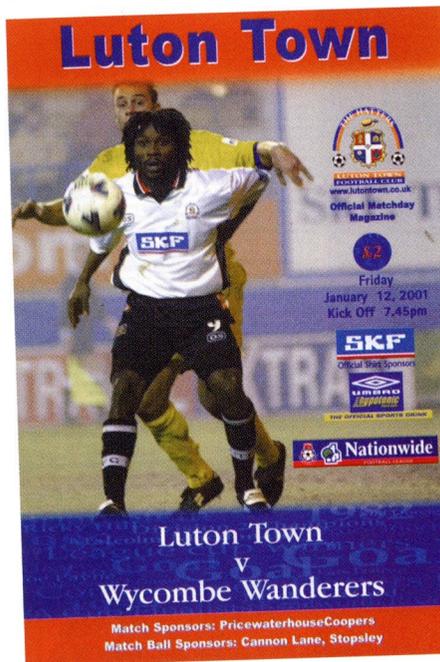
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The Best



Friday 12th January 2001

Luton town 1
Wycombe Wanderers 2

This was the Blues first ever win against Luton in ten attempts. The match was shown live on Sky TV and it was possibly the worst half of football Wanderers had put on all season. It would have been interesting to record how many people stayed with it to watch the second half as both teams looked woeful. Wycombe had the best chance of the half early on when Andy Rammell sent his shot against Owendale following a Simpson cross after four minutes.

It was the home side who took the lead on 19 minutes after Cousins had twice cleared with his head. On the second occasion Adam Locke drove the ball onto the foot of a post that flew back and hit Wanderers keeper Taylor on the head before going into the net.

If Luton had extended the lead as they threatened to do then it may have been different.

At the start of the second half manager Lawrie Sanchez made three changes, Andy Baird was replaced by Sam Parkin, Matt Brady gave way to Martyn Lee while Mark Rogers replaced Steve Brown. It was a Lee corner on 50 minutes that drew Wycombe level when Andy Rammell powered a header beyond Owendale. The passing of Martyn Lee began to create chances for Wanderers but the final touch and finish were lacking. As the Blues pressurised the Luton goal it was only a matter of time before a second goal arrived.

On 64 minutes Lee fed Parkin down the right and the on loan Chelsea man fired in a shot that Owendale failed to hold. Senda pounced on the rebound and fed Rammell who stabbed it home for his and the team's second. Wycombe should have gone on to win by a greater margin in what turned out to be a much more entertaining second half performance. The win lifted the Blues into eighth place in the table with an outside chance of a play off spot.

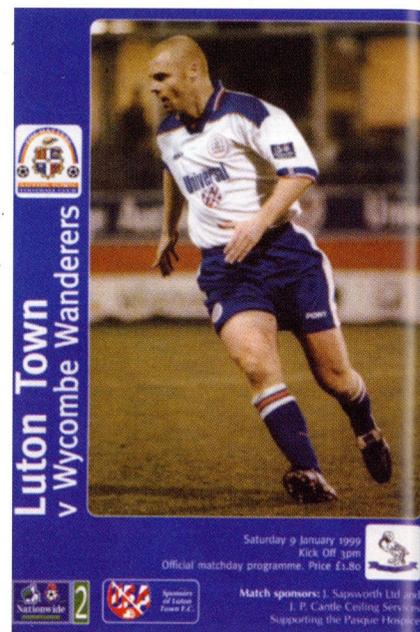
LUTON TOWN: Owendale, Fraser, Boyce, Brietenfelder, Whitbread, Taylor, Locke, Spring, George, Thomson, Douglas.

WANDERERS: Taylor, Vinnicombe, Senda, Cousins, McCarthy, Brady (Lee 46), Bulman, Simpson, Brown, (Rogers 46), Baird (Parkin 46), Rammell.

Referee: Mr. T. Parkes

Attendance: 4,551

The Worst



Saturday 9th January 1999

Luton Town 3
Wycombe Wanderers 1

The Blues dropped to third from bottom after seeing two players dismissed at Kenilworth Road that was a mixture of indiscipline and poor refereeing. It began as early as the fifteenth minute, midfielder Matt Spring drove a 20 yard shot beyond the Blues defence to nestle in the far corner of Mark Westhead's net. Shortly before the break Paul Emblen was sent crashing to the ground by Phil Gray in the Blues penalty area. While they struggled on the floor Paul McCarthy moved in to use his shoulder against Gray. Moments later Macca and Gray were shown the red card by referee Messias for what was nothing more than handbags at six paces.

At the start of the second half



Wanderers were down to nine men when Keith Ryan was shown red when he brought down Stuart Douglas as he approached goal. To say the referee applied the letter of the law would be to give him a huge benefit of the doubt. Ryan became the referee's fifteenth red card victim of the season! The biggest injustice by the official was when McSporrnan was scythed down inside the Luton area by keeper Davies while en-route for goal and the referee just waved play on. The second Luton goal came from a miskick by Dave Carroll in his own area as Sean Evers tucked it away.

On seventy five minutes it was game over as Douglas strode onto a through ball from Evers to shoot



past a helpless Westhead for 3-0. Wycombe finally managed to score when Keith Scott was fouled in the are and Dave Carroll dispatched the spot kick on 88 minutes.

After the match the Board of Directors called manager Neil Smillie and his assistant Gary Micklewhite to a meeting and were relieved of their duties.

LUTON TOWN: Davis, Harrison, White, Spring, Dyche, Johnson, Evers, McLaren, Douglas, Gray, Zahana-Oni.

WANDERERS: Westhead, Lawrence, Kavanagh, Ryan, Cousins, McCarthy, Simpson, Emblen, McSporrnan, Scott, Carroll.

Referee: Mr. R. Messias

Attendance: 5,063

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C2339 MRS G PEARCE, STOKENCHURCH.
WINNING AGENT 1015 SCOTT MARTINDALE
D8251 MR A IVES, HIGH WYCOMBE.
WINNING AGENT 1033 SUE ALLEN
E6198 MRS M BRAISHER, HIGH WYCOMBE.
WINNING AGENT 1010 VINCENT NURSEY

£10 WINNERS

B7745 MRS E BRITNELL, LANE END.
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A7267 MRS D PAYNE, HAZLEMERE.
AGENT 1047 BRIAN BALDWIN
B6874 MRS C FLYNN, HIGH WYCOMBE.
AGENT 6009 CAROL FLYNN
C1803 MR A THOMAS, LOUDWATER.
AGENT 1020 GRAHAM WILSON
B3725 MR J TOMPSON, HADDENHAM.
AGENT 9002 EDWARD SNEYD
C4081 MR & MRS WHARTON, HAZLEMERE.
AGENT 1037 SUE PETRIE
C8600 MRS NORTH, HIGH WYCOMBE.
AGENT 8017 EMERY'S DAIRY
A5567 MR P BAYRES, LOUDWATER, HIGH WYCOMBE.
AGENT 1021 LISA NOVERRE
B1350 MR D JENKINSON, STOKENCHURCH.
AGENT 3006 VALERIE JENKINSON
D5224 MR A REID, HIGH WYCOMBE.
AGENT 1005 RUSSELL GRAYELL

£5 WINNERS

D4500 MRS BROWN, THAME
AGENT 9018 NATALIE ENSOLL
D3629 MR BOWLER, LANE END
AGENT 1026 RETA STONE
A5036 MR KEMSLEY, HIGH WYCOMBE
AGENT 8018 TONY STALLWOOD
B4983 MR SPENCER, HIGH WYCOMBE
AGENT 6009 CAROL FLYNN
E6852 MISS RICHARDSON, AYLESBURY
AGENT 9012 SARAH SMITH
D9528 MR MAYNARD, AYLESBURY
AGENT 9004 HANNAH TWITCHEN
D7671 MRS ROBERTSHAW, WALTERS ASH
AGENT 9011 KELVIN SMITH
E9316 MR PIKE, WIDMER END
AGENT 7005 STANDING ORDER MEMBER
A3541 MRS FRYER, HAZLEMERE
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A4599 MR TINNELLY, WIDMER END
AGENT 1019 MARK ALLAN

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In the last programme I told you that we have had 13 different goalkeepers appear in the Football League. Today I thought that we could look at some of them in detail. Paul



Hyde was the first, having joined us in 1991 and being an integral part of the side that won promotion to the League. He appeared in the first 93 games

that we played before missing the game at home to Peterborough on 9th September, 1995, which finished 1-1. He was actually suspended for this game after being sent off at Leyton Orient in a stormy Coca-Cola Cup match, which we lost 2-0. We finished that game with nine men as Paul Hardyman was also dismissed. Paul then played in the next 12 games before falling out with manager, Alan Smith, over a new contract. He left to join up with old boss, Martin O'Neill, at Leicester, where he acted as goalkeeper cover. He then signed for Leyton Orient and soon became first choice before breaking his leg. This forced him to quit the full-time game and he dropped into non-league football. He has now been at Dover for several seasons and at 40 years old is still holding his own. In all competitions, at League and non-league level, he played in 248 games for us.

For that game against Peterborough, his place was taken by Chuck Moussaddik, who played his

one and only Football League match for us. Chuck had actually joined us in 1989, after having trials with Tottenham and Wimbledon. He made just a handful of appearances in his seven years at the Club as second to first, John Granville, and then Paul. A larger than life character (though not in stature!), who represented Morocco at under 21 level, he is now known as Chuck Martini and is one of several of our old boys playing for Windsor & Eton.

For the rest of that season (1995/96), after Paul had left, we relied on loan signings, the first of which was a young man, Ben Roberts, who arrived from Middlesbrough. In his three months with us he became very popular with the supporters, although there was never any chance of us signing him and he returned to the Premiership side, who gave him a new three-year contract. Next in line was Dutchman, Sieb Dykstra, who came in from Q.P.R. Rather unorthodox at times, he was sent off in our last home game of the season, a 4-0 win over Carlisle, after an altercation with the visitors' David Reeves, who was also dismissed.



The following season we signed Brian Parkin, an experienced campaigner, on a free transfer from Bristol Rovers. Unfortunately, he was past his best and, after Alan Smith

was sacked, he lost his place under new manager, John Gregory. He was replaced by John Cheesewright, who had had Football League experience with a few clubs, but who actually joined us from non-league Braintree Town. Cheesewright in turn was then dropped later in the season for Parkin to return, only for Mr. Gregory to bring in Martin Taylor on loan from Derby. I'm sure I don't need to remind you all about Martin's career here after he signed permanently during that summer (1997). He was voted player of the year three seasons in succession and is our sixth highest appearance-maker in the Football League with 238. He also holds the record for consecutive Football League appearances for us with 115, a run which stretched from 18th January, 2000 until 17th August,



2002, before Frank Talia became first choice. On the few occasions that Martin was missing, Mark Westhead (4 appearances), Stephen Bywater (2) and Mark Osborn (1) took his place.



I bumped into Brian Parkin, who had a second spell at Bristol Rovers after leaving us, earlier this season when I took in a game at Team Bath. He is the goalkeeping coach for the university side.

PREVIOUS RESULTS HERE WITH TODAY'S VISITORS

1996/97	Wycombe 0	Luton 1 (Oldfield)	6,471
1997/98	Wycombe 2 (Stallard, McGavin)	Luton 2 (Oldfield, Thorpe)	6,219
1998/99	Wycombe 0	Luton 1 (S. Davis)	5,252
1999/00	Wycombe 0	Luton 1 (Taylor)	5,379
2000/01	Wycombe 1 (Brown)	Luton 1 (Kandol)	6,001
2002/03	Wycombe 1 (Dixon)	Luton 2 (Howard 2)	7,740



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Form Guide:

Won: 1
Drawn: 3
Lost: 2
Scored: 8
Conc: 10
Points: 6
Goal Diff: -2
Last 6: WLLDD
Last 5 Home: WLWLD
Last 5 Away: DLLDD

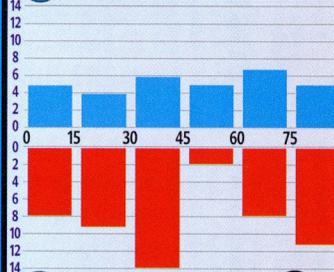
Miscellaneous

Players Used: 36
Clean Sheets: 6
Failed to Score: 9

The Guys to Watch

Headed goals	Patterson	2
Long range shots	Currie, McSparran	2
Inside 6 yards	Moore	3
Shots from 6-18 yards	Mapes	3
Volleyed shots	McSparran	2
Penalties	Currie, Brown	1
Scored 1st Goal in match	Currie	2
Most goals in last 10	3 players	1
Points gained from goals	Mapes	4

When Goals Scored & Conceded



Goalkeeping

Opp. attempts on target	177
Goals conceded	52
On target/goals scored	3.40
Division 2 rating	22

Goalscoring Strike Rate

Shots on target	140
Goals scored	32
On target / goals	4.38
Division 2 Rating	12

Goals in last 10 mins

Goals For, last 10	3
Points won	0
Goals Against, last 10	9
Points lost	8

Fouls & Offsides

Average fouls per game	12.87
Div 2 Rating (1=least, 24=most)	17
Average Offsides per game	3.20
Div 2 Rating	7

Swings

WON when behind	0
DRAWN when behind	2
LOST when ahead	2
DRAWN when ahead	5
WON 2 down	0
WON 1 down	0
LOST 2 up	1
LOST 1 up	1
DRAWN 2+ down	0
DRAWN 1 down	2
DRAWN 2+ up	1
DRAWN 1 up	4

Attendances

Aggregate	77,352
Highest	6,567
Lowest	4,401
Average	5,157

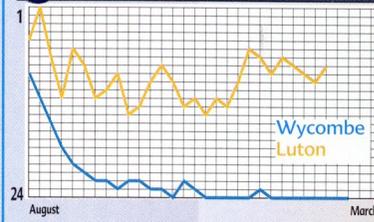
Where Goals

Close Range	8
Inside Area	32
Outside Area	4

How Goals

Shots	21
Headers	5
Volleys	4
Penalties	2
Free Kicks	0
Own Goals	0
Shots	25
Headers	11
Volleys	3
Penalties	3
Free Kicks	0
Own Goals	2

Seasonal Progress Comparison



Set Piece Goals

Scored from C	1
Conceded from C	10
Scored from FK	6
Conceded from FK	6

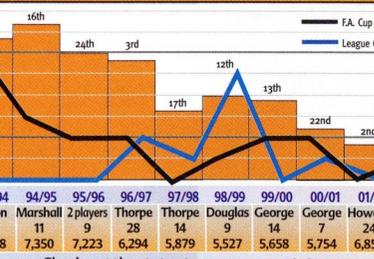
Cards

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Margins

WON BY:	1 Goal	1 Goal
LOST BY:	2 Goals	2 Goals
WON BY:	3 Goals	3 Goals
LOST BY:	4 Goals	4 Goals
WON BY:	5+ Goals	5+ Goals
LOST BY:	6	2
WON BY:	6	2
LOST BY:	0	3
WON BY:	4 Goals	0
LOST BY:	0	5+ Goals

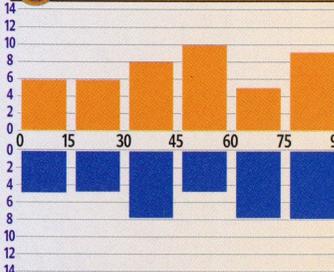
Luton Town's 10-Year Record



The Guys to Watch

Headed goals	Howard, Perrett	2
Long range shots	Forbes, Robinson	1
Inside 6 yards	Perrett	2
Shots from 6-18 yards	Forbes	6
Volleyed shots	Robinson, Boyce	1
Penalties	Nicholls	2
Scored 1st Goal in match	Howard, Forbes	3
Most goals in last 10	5 players	1
Points gained from goals	Howard	8

When Goals Scored & Conceded



Goalkeeping

Opp. attempts on target	157
Goals conceded	39
On target/goals scored	4.03
Division 2 rating	17

Goalscoring Strike Rate

Shots on target	174
Goals scored	44
On target / goals	3.95
Division 2 Rating	8

Goals in last 10 mins

Goals For, last 10	5
Points won	1
Goals Against, last 10	7
Points lost	8

Fouls & Offsides

Average fouls per game	13.07
Div 2 Rating (1=least, 24=most)	19
Average Offsides per game	4.50
Div 2 Rating	23

Swings

WON when behind	3
DRAWN when behind	4
LOST when ahead	2
DRAWN when ahead	5
WON 2 down	1
WON 1 down	2
LOST 2 up	0
LOST 1 up	2
DRAWN 2+ down	0
DRAWN 1 down	4
DRAWN 2+ up	0
DRAWN 1 up	5

Attendances

Aggregate	91,131
Highest	8,339
Lowest	5,002
Average	6,075



Hatters



Form Guide:

Won: 3
Drawn: 3
Lost: 0
Scored: 10
Conc: 5
Points: 12
Goal Diff: 5
Last 6: DWDDWW
Last 5 Home: LWDWW
Last 5 Away: DDWDD

Miscellaneous

Players Used: 33
Clean Sheets: 7
Failed to Score: 4

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Month	Date	Match	Attendance	Away Fans	Notes
Aug	Sat 9	STOCKPORT CO	1-0	4,826	581
	Tue 12	WIMBLEDON (CC1)	2-0	1,986	113
	Sat 16	Blackpool	2-3	5,960	315
Sep	Sat 23	CHESTERFIELD	3-3	4,529	268
	Mon 25	Grimsbury Town	1-3	4,512	138
	Sat 6	SHEFFIELD WED	1-2	6,444	1,478
Oct	Sat 13	Queens Park R.	0-0	4,192	677
	Tue 16	COLCHESTER U	1-0	13,618	817
	Sat 20	OLDHAM ATH	2-5	4,401	309
Nov	Tue 23	ASTON VILLA (CC2)	0-5	4,725	384
	Sat 27	Port Vale	1-1	6,072	1,677
	Tue 30	Teamware Fov	1-2	6,822	151
Dec	Sat 4	PLYMOUTH ARG	0-0	6,847	58
	Sat 11	Luton Town	1-3	5,708	1,340
	Tue 21	BRISTOL CITY	3-0	4,613	752
Jan	Sat 25	Hartlepool Utd	1-1	5,153	183
	Tue 4	Swindon Town	0-2	5,681	561
	Sat 8	SWINDON T (FAC1)	4-1	4,738	1,127
Feb	Sat 15	BRENTFORD	1-2	6,445	1,078
	Sat 22	Wrexham	0-0	3,208	158
	Fri 29	PETERBOROUGH	1-2	4,669	316
Mar	Sat 5	MANSFIELD (FAC2)	1-1	3,212	548
	Tue 9	COLCHESTER (LDV3)	2-3	1,873	326
	Sat 13	Notts County	1-1	5,014	357
Apr	Tue 16	Mansfield T (FAC2R)	2-3	5,512	173
	Sat 20	BOURNEMOUTH	2-0	5,205	819
	Fri 26	Brighton & Hove	0-4	6,141	243
May	Sun 28	RUSHDEN & D	0-2	5,421	569
	Sat 10	Stockport County	0-2	4,406	219
	Sat 17	BLACKPOOL	0-3	4,834	467
Jun	Sat 24	Chesterfield	2-2	3,576	188
	Fri 30	Sheffield Wed	1-1	19,596	102
	Sat 7	BRIGHTON & H	1-1	6,567	1,627
Jul	Sat 14	LUTON TOWN			
	Sat 21	Barnsley			
	Sat 28	HARTLEPOOL			
Aug	Tue 2	Bristol City			
	Sat 6	Bournemouth			
	Sat 13	Notts County			
Sep	Tue 16	Colchester U			
	Sat 20	QUEENS P.R.			
	Sat 27	Oldham Ath			

Month	Date	Match	Attendance	Away Fans	Notes
Apr	Sat 3	PORT VALE			
	Sat 10	Plymouth Arg			
	Mon 12	TRANMERE R			
May	Sat 17	SWINDON TN			
	Sat 24	Brentford			
	Sat 1	WREXHAM			
Jun	Sat 8	Peterborough U			
	Sat 15	Sheffield Wed			
	Sat 22	Sheffield Wed			
Jul	Sat 29	Sheffield Wed			
	Sat 5	Sheffield Wed			
	Sat 12	Sheffield Wed			
Aug	Sat 19	Sheffield Wed			
	Sat 26	Sheffield Wed			
	Sat 3	Sheffield Wed			

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Johnsons If it's Honda it has to be

Month	Date	Match	Attendance	Away Fans	Notes
Apr	Sat 3	PORT VALE			
	Sat 10	Plymouth Arg			
	Mon 12	TRANMERE R			
May	Sat 17	SWINDON TN			
	Sat 24	Brentford			
	Sat 1	WREXHAM			
Jun	Sat 8	Peterborough U			
	Sat 15	Sheffield Wed			
	Sat 22	Sheffield Wed			
Jul	Sat 29	Sheffield Wed			
	Sat 5	Sheffield Wed			
	Sat 12	Sheffield Wed			
Aug	Sat 19	Sheffield Wed			
	Sat 26	Sheffield Wed			
	Sat 3	Sheffield Wed			

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Plymouth Arg	30	10	4	1	38	17	60
Q.P.R.	30	12	3	0	34	22	57
Bristol City	29	10	4	1	27	14	55
Swindon Town	30	8	4	3	29	17	48
Barnsley	30	6	8	1	21	22	47
Brighton & H	30	10	3	2	26	10	46
Port Vale	29	10	3	2	33	21	45
Luton Town	28	10	3	2	28	14	45
Wrexham	29	5	5	16	12	8	44
Hartlepool U	29	6	6	2	21	8	44
Bournemouth	29	7	5	2	21	15	40
Rushden & D	29	7	4	3	30	19	39
Blackpool	30	6	2	19	18	5	39
Colchester U	29	6	6	2	17	13	38
Tranmere Row	29	7	6	2	21	14	37
Oldham Ath	30	7	3	5	25	17	36
Sheffield Wed	30	3	8	4	17	17	36
Brentford	30	6	2	7	22	26	36
Chesterfield	30	5	6	4	22	19	31
Grimsbury Town	28	4	4	5	19	15	30
Peterborough U	30	2	6	7	21	24	29
Stockport Co	30	2	6	7	18	25	28
Notts County	30	3	5	7	18	20	25
WYCOMBE W	30	4	3	8	21	25	22

DIVISION TWO LEADING SCORERS

Player	Goals
Leon Knight (Brighton & H)	19
Scott Taylor (Blackpool)	15
Onandi Lowe (Rushden & D)	13
Steve McPhee (Port Vale)	13
Tommy Mooney (Swindon Town)	13
Michael Boulding (Grimsbury Tn)	12
David Frito (Plymouth Arg)	12
Kevin Gallen (Q.P.R.)	12
Lee Peacock (Bristol City)	12
Sam Parkin (Swindon Town)	12

ROLLCALL

Player	League	Cup	Wycombe Career
Andy Bell	3 (8)	0	5 (8)
Scott Bevan	4	0	4
Matt Bloomfield	1 (1)	0	1 (1)
Guy Branson	9	0	11
Steve Brown	10 (4)	1 (3)	381 (51)
Dannie Bulman	21 (7)	0 (1)	184 (48)
Lewis Cook	1 (4)	0 (2)	8 (20)
Darren Currie	29	5	112 (18)
Steve Dell	3 (1)	0	3 (1)
Jonny Dixon	1 (4)	0	16 (14)
Craig Faulconbridge	4 (3)	0	41 (9)
Billy Harding	0 (2)	0	0 (2)
Richard Harris	6 (4)	0	7 (25)
Gavin Holligan	8 (5)	2	27 (23)
Roger Johnson	13	0	56 (11)
Charlie Mapes	9 (2)	3	11 (4)
Scott Marshall	8	0	9
Jermaine McSpornan	23 (2)	5	135 (43)
Luke Moore	6	4	6
Stuart Nethercott	6	1	6
Luke Oliver	0 (2)	0	0 (4)
Iffy Onuora	6	0	6
Simon Patterson	3 (1)	2	4 (1)
Andy Reilly	4	0	5
Stuart Roberts	5 (11)	0	45 (38)
Mark Rogers	12	0	390 (87)
Keith Ryan	10 (7)	1	148 (18)
Danny Senda	21 (3)	0	131 (67)
Ian Simpmba	8 (1)	1	11 (2)
Michael Simpson	26	1	306 (21)
Frank Talla	16	0	58
Steven Taylor	6	0	6
Andy Thomson	11	1	5 (3)
Nathan Tyson	5	2	5
Chris Vinicombe	22	0	245 (4)
Steve Williams	10	4	14

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Bournemouth	v	Notts County
Brentford	v	Q. P.R.
Chesterfield	v	Rushden & D
Grimsbury Tn	v	Brighton & H
Peterborough U	v	Bristol City
Port Vale	v	Oldham Ath
Sheffield Wed	v	Hartlepool U
Stockport Co	v	Swindon Town
Wrexham	v	Barnsley

Nationwide Division 2 Statistics

Margins of Victory

Games Won by	1 gl	2 gls	3 gls	4 gls	5+ gls
Plymouth	3	9	2	1	2
QPR	8	2	4	1	1
Bristol City	9	3	1	1	1
Brighton	5	5	2	1	0
Port Vale	8	2	2	1	0
Swindon	7	5	0	1	0
Wrexham	9	3	0	1	0
Barnsley	7	4	1	0	0
Luton	6	6	0	0	0
Hartlepool	5	4	1	0	1
Blackpool	8	1	1	1	0
Rushden	4	5	1	1	0
Bournemouth	9	0	1	0	0
Colchester	8	2	0	0	0
Brentford	7	1	0	1	0
Oldham	4	1	2	0	1
Sheff Wed	5	2	1	0	0
Tranmere	7	0	1	0	0
Grimsby	2	4	0	1	0
Chesterfield	4	2	1	0	0
Notts County	4	1	1	0	0
Peterborough	3	1	2	0	0
Stockport	4	1	0	0	0
Wycombe	1	1	2	0	0

Comebacks

WON from	-3	-2	-1	Total
Bournemouth	0	0	4	4
Port Vale	0	0	4	4
Blackpool	0	1	2	3
Luton	0	1	2	3
Rushden	0	0	3	3
Wrexham	0	0	3	3
Barnsley	0	0	3	3
Bristol City	0	0	3	3
Chesterfield	0	0	3	3
Swindon	0	0	3	3

Throwaways

LOST from	+3	+2	+1	Total
Peterborough	0	1	2	3
Grimsby	0	0	3	3
Oldham	0	0	3	3
QPR	0	0	3	3
Rushden	0	0	3	3
Wycombe	0	1	1	2
Blackpool	0	0	2	2
Brentford	0	0	2	2
Luton	0	0	2	2
Port Vale	0	0	2	2
Sheff Wed	0	0	2	2
Swindon	0	0	2	2

Scoring Chances per Game

No. of Shots per game	ON Target	OFF Target
Plymouth	8.47	6.20
Bristol City	6.93	5.21
Oldham	6.00	5.90
Swindon	6.27	5.10
QPR	6.13	5.13
Notts County	5.50	5.50
Wrexham	6.21	4.79
Bournemouth	5.62	5.34
Rushden	6.62	4.28
Luton	6.21	4.50
Peterborough	5.90	4.77
Colchester	5.31	5.28
Blackpool	6.13	4.43
Brighton	5.97	4.27
Barnsley	6.00	4.20
Grimsby	5.71	4.43
Tranmere	5.69	4.45
Port Vale	5.48	4.59
Hartlepool	5.34	4.24
Sheff Wed	4.90	4.47
Chesterfield	4.83	4.43
Stockport	4.77	4.33
Wycombe	4.67	4.07
Brentford	4.70	3.83

Scorer's Points Gained & Scoring Run

Player	Gls	Gls/Gm	Pts	Run	1st Gl
Leon Knight	19	0.66	17	3	5
Scott Taylor	16	0.53	17	3	6
Tommy Mooney	14	0.47	12	4	7
Lee Peacock	12	0.48	12	3	7
Wayne Andrews	10	0.37	11	4	6
Steve McPhee	15	0.52	10	3	6
Warren Feeney	9	0.33	10	4	2
Kevin Betsy	9	0.30	10	1	3
Michael Boulding	12	0.44	9	4	4
Kevin Gallen	12	0.41	8	3	6
Aaron Wilbraham	7	0.26	8	2	3

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. Also shown is goals per game figure and number of games player scored 1st goal

Headed Goals

Player	Club	Goals
Friio	Plymouth	7
Coughlan	Plymouth	5
Mooney	Swindon	5
Dadi	Tranmere	5
Lawrence	Wrexham	5
Hutchinson	Brentford	4
Peacock	Bristol City	4
Evans	Plymouth	4
Lowe	Rushden	4
Barlow	Stockport	4

Fouls & Offsides per game

Team	Games	Fouls	Average
QPR	30	487	16.23
Tranmere	29	429	14.79
Barnsley	30	419	13.97
Notts County	30	409	13.63
Colchester	29	380	13.10
Luton	28	366	13.07
Plymouth	30	388	12.93
Brighton	30	386	12.87
Wycombe	30	386	12.87
Brentford	30	385	12.83
Bristol City	29	372	12.83

Team	Games	Offsides	Average
Rushden	29	142	4.90
Luton	28	126	4.50
Bristol City	29	130	4.48
Peterborough	30	133	4.43
Hartlepool	29	127	4.38
Chesterfield	30	129	4.30
Oldham	30	122	4.07
Blackpool	30	118	3.93
Grimsby	28	110	3.93
Stockport	30	116	3.87
Colchester	29	111	3.83

Average is number of Fouls/Offsides per game. Clubs are ordered by highest number of Fouls/Offsides per game.

Shots from Long Range

Player	Club	Goals
Wotton	Plymouth	5
Peacock	Bristol City	3
Anderson	Grimsby	3
Strachan	Hartlepool	3
Padula	QPR	3
Lowe	Rushden	3
Jack	Rushden	3

Late Goals Scored

Player	Club	Goals
Lita	Bristol City	3
Boulding	Grimsby	3
Friio	Plymouth	3
Evans	Plymouth	3
Mooney	Swindon	3
Parkin	Swindon	3
Taylor	Tranmere	3

Scored in last 15 mins

FOR	76-90	Total	%
Bristol City	15	43	35
Tranmere	10	33	30
Peterborough	10	35	29
Swindon	13	46	28
Grimsby	8	31	26
Chesterfield	7	29	24
Plymouth	15	65	23
Stockport	8	38	21
Colchester	6	29	21

Against	76-90	Total	%
Brentford	18	46	39
Sheff Wed	12	39	31
Brighton	10	33	30
Notts County	13	52	25
QPR	7	28	25
Peterborough	10	43	23
Chesterfield	10	46	22
Swindon	8	37	22
Rushden	10	47	21
Wycombe	11	52	21
Luton	8	39	21

Set Piece Goals

Scored from	Corner	Free Kick	Total
Plymouth	9	10	19
QPR	4	9	13
Stockport	4	9	13
Brentford	8	4	12
Bristol City	8	4	12
Hartlepool	5	7	12
Port Vale	6	6	12
Rushden	7	4	11
Brighton	6	4	10

Conceded from	Corner	Free Kick	Total
Brentford	11	5	16
Wycombe	10	6	16
Chesterfield	8	5	13
Stockport	4	9	13
Bristol City	5	7	12
Bournemouth	5	6	11
Oldham	6	5	11
Colchester	4	6	10
Rushden	5	5	10

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0 / The Teams

- 1 Frank TALIA
- 2 Danny SENDA
- 3 Chris VINNICOMBE
- 4 Andy THOMSON
- 5 Roger JOHNSON
- 6 Mark ROGERS
- 7 Darren CURRIE
- 8 Keith RYAN
- 9 Craig FAULCONBRIDGE
- 10 Jermaine McSPORRAN
- 11 Dannie BULMAN
- 12 Richard HARRIS
- 14 Stuart ROBERTS
- 15 Jonny DIXON
- 16 Lewis COOK
- 17 Luke OLIVER
- 18 Steve WILLIAMS
- 19 Charlie MAPES
- 20 Gavin HOLLIGAN
- 21 Andy BELL
- 22 Scott BEVAN
- 23 Ian SIMPEMBA
- 25 Stephen DELL
- 26 Tom GOTT
- 27 Mark Philo
- 28 Michael SIMPSON
- 29 Scott MARSHALL
- 30 Steve BROWN
- 31 Andy REILLY
- 32 Stuart HOLE
- 34 Matt BLOOMFIELD
- 35 Nathan TYSON
- 36 Stuart NETHERCOTT
- 37 Jamie McCLURG

- 1 Morten HYLDGAARD
- 3 Alan NEILSON
- 4 Matthew SPRING
- 5 Russell PERRETT
- 7 Adrian FORBES
- 8 Kevin NICHOLLS
- 11 Steve ROBINSON
- 12 Chris COYNE
- 16 Enoch SHOWUNMI
- 17 Emmerson BOYCE
- 18 Ahmet BRKOVIC
- 19 Steve HOWARD
- 21 Paul HUGHES
- 22 David BAYLISS
- 23 Ian HILLIER
- 24 Sol DAVIS
- 27 Peter HOLMES
- 31 Curtis DAVIES
- 32 Lee MANSELL
- 33 Dean BRILL
- 34 Dean CROWE
- 36 David DEENEY
- 37 Keith KEANE
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- 39 Steven O'LEARY
- 41 Kevin FOLEY
- 43 Matthew JUDGE
- 44 Parys OKAI
- 45 Leon BARNETT
- 47 Rob BECKWITH



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Match Result

Half-Time Score

Attendance

Scorers
Home
Away

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