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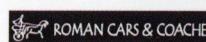
WE ARE UNITED



V LUTON TOWN

Friday 30 March 2018 • 3.00pm
Sky Bet League Two
£3.00 • Issue 23

sky BET LEAGUE TWO | **EFL**



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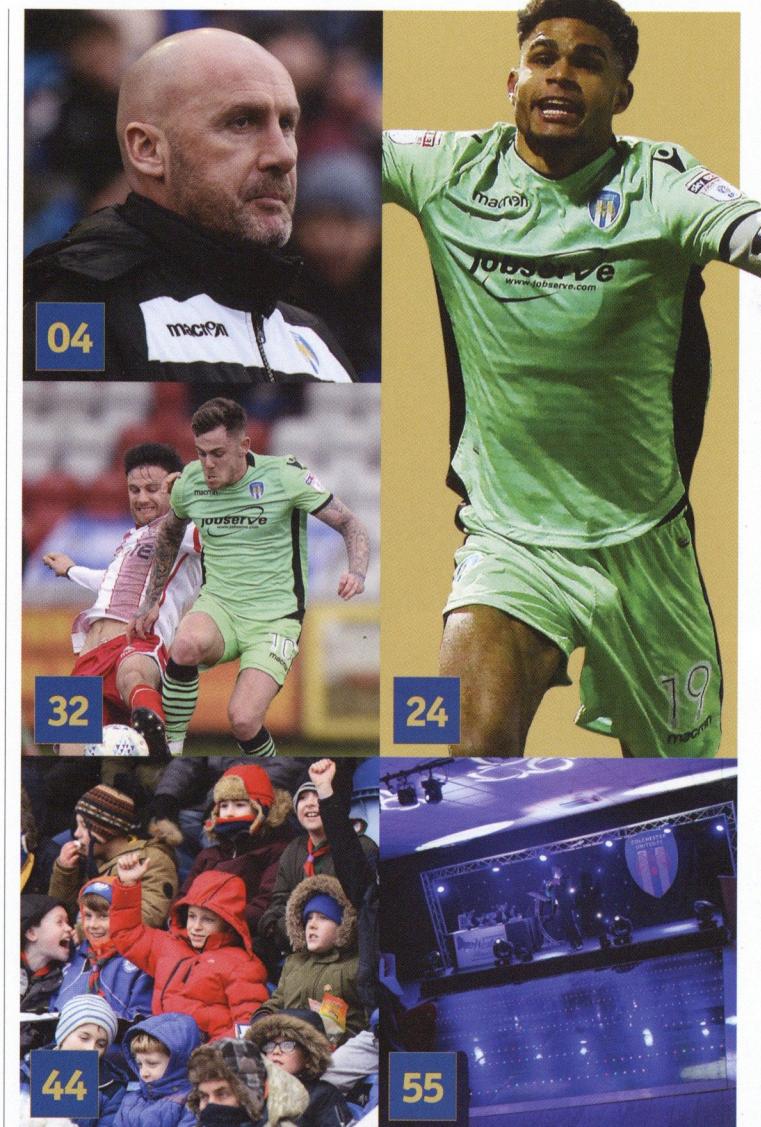
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COLCHESTER UNITED FC

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Switchboard: 01206 755 100

Patron: The Mayor of Colchester
Executive Chairman: Robbie Cowling
Directors: Tony Humes, Tony Ashby
Life President: P.J. Heard
General Manager: Tim Waddington
Director of Football: Tony Humes
Head Coach: John McGreal
Assistant Coach: Steve Ball
Head of Football Operations: Tony Ashby
Goalkeeping Coach: Rene Gilmartin
Sports Scientist: Stefano Russo
First Team Physio: Tony Flynn
Performance Analyst: Michael Still
Academy Manager: Jon De Souza
Head of Coaching: Sean Thacker
Laundry Manager: Martyn Cardy
Football Secretary: Nancy Hayes
Operations Manager: Sean McQuaid
Head Groundsman: David Blacknall
Media & Marketing Manager: Matt Hudson
Press & Communications Officer: David Gregory
Head of Sales: Michelle Tricker
Ticket Office Team Leader: Chris Saward
Community Manager: Corin Haines
Community Development Officer: Tom Taylor
Head of Catering: Karl Smith
Finance Administrator: Tom Green
Club Photographer: Richard Blaxall

HONOURS

League One Runners-Up: 2005/06
Division Three Play-Off Winners: 1997/98
Fourth Division Runners-Up: 1961/62
FA Trophy Winners: 1991/92
Football Conference Champions: 1991/92
Football Conference Runners-Up: 1990/91
Football League Trophy Runners-Up: 1996/97
Southern League Cup Winners: 1937/38, 1949/50
Watney Cup Winners: 1970/71
Essex Senior Cup Winners: 2009/10

MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

Editors: Matt Hudson & David Gregory
Design: Daniel Parker
 **duplexityartwork**
www.duplexity.co.uk | **Tel:** 07748 536 306
Print: Curtis Sport

MATCH OFFICIALS

 **Referee:**
Trevor Kettle
 **Assistants:**
Stephen Finch & Callum Walchester
 **Fourth Official:**
Stephen Brown

|| INSIDE

- 04** **IN CHARGE: JOHN McGREAL**
The boss looks back at an away double-header
- 24** **FEATURE INTERVIEW: MIKAEL MANDRON**
Mikael Mandron shares his delight at reaching double figures this year
- 32** **ACTION REPLAY: STEVENAGE**
All of the action from the U's 1-0 win away at Stevenage last weekend
- 44** **CUBS TAKEOVER**
Local cubs took over at the Yeovil game - we look back at the day here!
- 55** **END OF SEASON DINNER**
All of the details about the upcoming End of Season Dinner



HEAD COACH

JOHN McGREAL



Welcome back for today's game, as we take on Luton Town here at the Weston Homes Community Stadium. We will obviously be going all out for another win, but it will be a tough test with Luton occupying one of the top spots in the league.



"THANKS TO ALL OF YOU THAT MADE ONE, OR BOTH OF THE TRIPS LAST WEEK, IT WAS ESPECIALLY GREAT TO SPEAK TO A FEW OF YOU THAT MADE THE LONG TRIP TO MORECAMBE"

That welcome is extended to Nathan Jones, his players, staff and supporters, and I wish them all a safe trip back to Bedfordshire later this evening. They have been in the top three for the majority of the campaign and will be keen to maintain that, but we have to play to our full potential and prove that we can beat the best teams in League Two.

We have had two tough away trips since we last played here in north Essex, but I'll come onto those games at Morecambe and Stevenage later. I'd love to gloss over the last home game against Yeovil, no-one likes reflecting on a home defeat after all. But it was a game that has been indicative of a lot of games this season – key moments at key times have cost us dearly.

I thought that we started the game relatively well, and had a great chance to go ahead from the penalty spot. We didn't and then a corner fell nicely for their striker to score, two key moments in the game. We huffed and puffed for the rest of the game, but couldn't find an equaliser and we were all extremely disappointed to have lost at home.

On the Tuesday following that game, we travelled to Morecambe for the re-arranged fixture at the Globe Arena, and were determined to get the three points we all wanted. On a difficult surface, although it is obviously the same for both teams, we found it tough to get any good chances in and around their penalty area. On the flip side, we defended strongly and prevented them creating many chances of their own. Unsurprisingly then, it ended in a goalless draw. In the position we are in, a win was what we wanted - but any away point is valuable.

We did get an away win at Stevenage last weekend, and although it was only by the solitary goal, I felt it was pretty comfortable. In the first half, we played some really positive football and we were probably unlucky that we weren't further ahead than the one goal that Mika scored. That was his tenth of the season, a decent tally for a player that also gets through an unbelievable amount of work outside the box for us.

They did put us under a bit of pressure in the last few minutes, but we protected Sam well and came home with the points. Thanks to all of you that made one, or both of the trips last week, it was especially great to speak to a few of you that made the long trip to Morecambe. Keep up the good work today, and let's see where a few more wins can take us between now and the beginning of May.

TICKET OFFICE


FOREST GREEN ROVERS
EASTER MONDAY APRIL 2ND | 3.00PM

Tickets are now on sale for the U's trip to Forest Green on Easter Monday.

Please note that this game is standing only (uncovered terrace), other than 20 tickets for ambulant disabled and two wheelchair spaces for U's fans.

Ticket prices are as follows:-

Standing - Adult: £16 | **Senior (65+):** £12 | **Young Adult (16-21):** £8 | **Junior (U16s):** £5 | **Kids (U11s):**

Free with an adult ticket

Seating - Adult: £19 | **Senior (65+):** £15 | **Young Adult (16-21):** £10 | **Junior (U16s):** £7 | **Kids (U11s):**

Free with an adult ticket

All prices go up by £2 on the day of the game. There are also two car parking spaces set aside for those booking the wheelchair user match tickets. General parking is available at the stadium, but must be pre-booked:

Car: £5 | **Minibus:** £10 | **Coach:** £20


ACCRINGTON STANLEY
SATURDAY APRIL 7TH | 3.00PM

The U's move further into April with a home double, with title chasing Accrington first up. Tickets for this game are currently at the **Saver Rate**, so buy your tickets now to save money on matchday prices!


NOTTS COUNTY
SATURDAY APRIL 14TH | 3.00PM

The second part of that home double sees promotion chasing Notts County head to the WHCS. Tickets for this game are also on sale currently at the **Saver Rate**, so buy your tickets now to save money on matchday prices!

MATCH CREDITS

Match Credits are available to purchase via www.colutickets.com in multiples of five games (5, 10, 25, 50 and 100). These credits are then kept on your account until such time that you decide to redeem them against a game you'd like to attend.

The more credits you buy in one transaction, the cheaper they will be and Match Credits will represent a significant saving on matchday prices.

A full price table, with a cost per credit, can be found on the official website. A credit is valid for one seat in a Football League fixture.

Should you wish to use multiple credits against one fixture, then you are able to do so. Simply select the seats you would like to buy and redeem the relevant number of credits. Furthermore, groups are encouraged to buy credits together to then redeem and attend the games they wish to go to together.

For a full Q&A on Match Credits, take a look at page 66 and see what savings you could make this season!



MATCH PRICING

EARLY BIRD BEST PRICE
UNTIL 5 WEEKS & 1 DAY BEFORE THE GAME

	South	W1/9	W2/8	W3/7	W4/6	E8	E7	E6	E5
Adult	£14.50	£15.50	£17.50	£19.50	£21.50	£15.50	£17.50	£19.50	£21.50
Conc.	£10.00	£11.00	£13.00	£15.00	£17.00	£11.00	£13.00	£15.00	£17.00
18-21	£11.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
U18s	£8.00	£8.00	£9.00	£10.00	£11.00	£8.00	£9.00	£10.00	£11.00
U14s	-	-	-	-	-	£3.00	£4.00	£5.00	£6.00
U11s	-	-	-	-	-	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE

SUPER SAVER
FROM 5 WEEKS BEFORE THE GAME UNTIL 3 WEEKS & 1 DAY BEFORE

	South	W1/9	W2/8	W3/7	W4/6	E8	E7	E6	E5
Adult	£16.00	£17.00	£19.00	£21.00	£23.00	£17.00	£19.00	£21.00	£23.00
Conc.	£11.00	£13.00	£15.00	£17.00	£19.00	£13.00	£15.00	£17.00	£19.00
18-21	£12.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
U18s	£9.00	£9.00	£10.00	£11.00	£12.00	£9.00	£10.00	£11.00	£12.00
U14s	-	-	-	-	-	£3.50	£4.50	£5.50	£6.50
U11s	-	-	-	-	-	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE

SAVER
FROM 3 WEEKS BEFORE THE GAME UNTIL 1 WEEK & 1 DAY BEFORE

	South	W1/9	W2/8	W3/7	W4/6	E8	E7	E6	E5
Adult	£17.50	£19.00	£21.00	£23.00	£25.00	£19.00	£21.00	£23.00	£25.00
Conc.	£12.50	£14.00	£16.00	£18.00	£20.00	£14.00	£16.00	£18.00	£20.00
18-21	£12.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
U18s	£9.50	£10.00	£11.00	£12.00	£13.00	£10.00	£11.00	£12.00	£13.00
U14s	-	-	-	-	-	£4.00	£5.00	£6.00	£7.00
U11s	-	-	-	-	-	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE

ADVANCE
FROM 1 WEEK BEFORE THE GAME UNTIL 1 DAY BEFORE

	South	W1/9	W2/8	W3/7	W4/6	E8	E7	E6	E5
Adult	£19.00	£21.00	£23.00	£25.00	£27.00	£21.00	£23.00	£25.00	£27.00
Conc.	£14.00	£15.00	£17.00	£19.00	£21.00	£15.00	£17.00	£19.00	£21.00
18-21	£15.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
U18s	£11.00	£11.00	£12.00	£13.00	£14.00	£11.00	£12.00	£13.00	£14.00
U14s	-	-	-	-	-	£4.50	£5.50	£6.50	£7.50
U11s	-	-	-	-	-	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE

MATCHDAY
THESE PRICES APPLY ON THE DAY OF THE GAME

	South	W1/9	W2/8	W3/7	W4/6	E8	E7	E6	E5
Adult	£21.00	£23.00	£25.00	£27.00	£29.00	£23.00	£25.00	£27.00	£29.00
Conc.	£16.00	£17.00	£19.00	£21.00	£23.00	£17.00	£19.00	£21.00	£23.00
18-21	£17.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
U18s	£13.00	£13.00	£14.00	£15.00	£16.00	£13.00	£14.00	£15.00	£16.00
U14s	-	-	-	-	-	£5.00	£6.00	£7.00	£8.00
U11s	-	-	-	-	-	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE

WANT TO GET ON BOARD? IT'S NOT TOO LATE!


If you're getting the football bug after the U's recent run up the League Two table, then it's not too late for you get on board for the coming season.

Our fantastic Annual Subscription option allows you to pay a monthly subscription, but still enjoy all of the benefits of a Season Ticket holder. You have to commit to being a member for at least a year but you can join at any time.

That means that, if you get the U's bug after the season starts or can't start coming to games until later into the fixture list, you can still buy yourself a full year's worth of matches.

These are available to buy via the Ticket Office or you can grab one online with just a few simple clicks!


ROMAN CARS
BE THE TWELFTH MAN!

Our official travel partners Roman Coaches are once again offering fans the chance to get to games at fantastic prices this season.

Fans are able to travel to ANY away game for just £12 this season as they seek to make the fans the twelfth man.

Back the boys the length and breadth of the country in 2017/18 by joining the Roman Army!

To book your spot, call
01206 521521





THE FOOTBALL MARCH FOR MEN

26 miles. 15 clubs. 4 routes. 1 cause.
Sunday 22 July 2018

- Walk to Wembley with fans and legends of the game.
- March united against the football family's deadliest opposition.
- Raise money to help stop prostate cancer being a killer.

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PROSTATE CANCER UK

SIGN UP NOW

marchformen.org/footballmarch

Prostate Cancer UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1005541) and in Scotland (SC039332). Registered company number 02653887.

II NEWS FEATURE

PCUK MARCH FOR MEN



PROSTATE CANCER UK

Walk the long road to Wembley with Prostate Cancer UK and help relegate a killer disease.

As many of you will know, Prostate Cancer UK is the Official Charity Partner of the EFL. Their "Man of Men" logo sits proudly in the squad numbers of every one of our player's shirts.

Prostate Cancer UK's "Man of Men" represents everyone who wants to stop prostate cancer being a killer. It's a badge proudly worn by Sky Sports presenter Jeff Stelling and his fellow pundits week in week out on Soccer Saturday.

How can you help? Football fans will be Marching for Men on the road to Wembley on Sunday 22nd July with Prostate Cancer UK, and you can join them.

For the first time, the number of men dying from prostate cancer every year has overtaken the number of women dying from breast cancer, making prostate cancer the third biggest cancer killer in the UK.

It's time to greater strides in combating

this disease, so fans from across the EFL, Premier League and Non-League are putting rivalries aside in a bid to raise much needed funds and awareness to help relegate this killer disease.

The Football March for Men consists of four mega marathon marches with the routes kicking off from Millwall, St Albans City, Sutton United and West Ham. Each leg will be 26.2 miles and in total the marches will visit 15 clubs with each marathon converging at Wembley, the home of English football.

Jeff Stelling has put in an unbelievable effort over the last couple of years, and while he's hanging his boots up to take a break, he's urging fans to follow in his footsteps and get involved with one of the Football March for Men events.

He said: "Working with Prostate Cancer UK and their battle to save men's lives has been both uplifting and inspiring for me and it's brilliant to see the charity

continue to march for men across the UK in 2018.

"The football family has long supported the work of Prostate Cancer UK, and I was blown away by the support from fans up and down the country during my two mega walks. By showing their support in the Football March for Men in July, supporters will be stepping up and changing the game for men and their loved ones.

"This all wouldn't be possible without the incredible support of the public, of the clubs and football fans and the passion of the charity. I've met men and their families affected by this devastating disease, and I've also met those scientists helping to inspire change. That's why we march again in 2018. Prepare to be inspired."

If you're interested in signing up to the Football March for Men or would like more information, visit Prostate Cancer UK's website.

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OPEN

*T&C's apply.



IN OPPOSITION

LUTON TOWN

Colchester United welcome Luton Town to the Weston Homes Community Stadium this afternoon.

Nathan Jones' expansive side currently sit top of League Two, ahead of Accrington Stanley on goal difference, so they will be looking to keep their title charge going today.

The Hatters have lost just three league games on the road this season, letting in just 19 away goals; both of those records are the best in the division.

However, they have won just the seven matches away from home, one more than Colchester and the U's will hope that the table-toppers are unable to find the winning formula again today.

Jones watched his side overcome Barnet last time out to keep their noses in front in the race for promotion and said: "It was emphatic, it really was. We were outstanding, the way we moved the ball.

"It was all setup today for us to lose the game. Martin Allen coming back, live on Sky, but we were outstanding from start to finish.

"I keep saying to people, it's not easy to win games here. 4-4-1-1, they don't normally play like that. People don't normally play like that, but they do for us.

"I thought we were excellent start to finish – we were brave and it

could have been more. If it wasn't for the Accrington result (a 2-1 home defeat) it would have been a great month. A really, really good month.

"But others have made more of it and we've answered a few and that takes a lot of character. We have got bags of it."

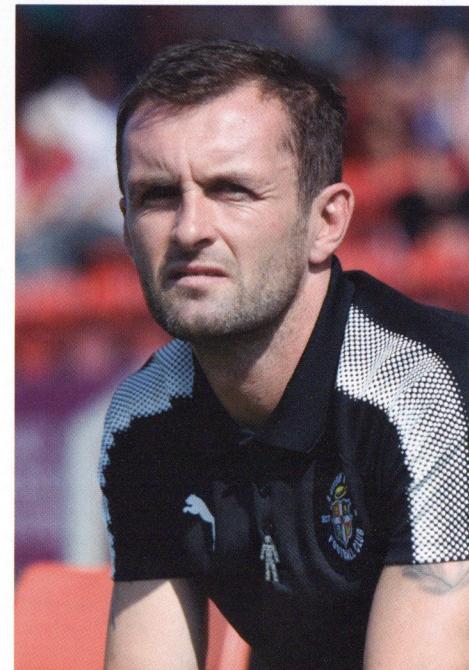
Luton won this season's reverse fixture 3-0 at Kenilworth Road back in August so Colchester will be looking to make amends today.

Danny Hylton didn't get on the scoresheet that day but he has enjoyed an impressive season and was keen to pay tribute to the attacking philosophy Jones has brought to the club.

He told Football League World: "We've got a great bunch of lads that work tirelessly and we've got staff and a manager – and I'm not just saying this – he's amazing.

"His staff are amazing and they work tirelessly with us, on patterns of play. We work on our structure, how we want to play, the runs we want to make.

"It's not luck when we beat teams by seven and I don't mean that arrogantly. It's just stuff we work on in training every day. He's a manager that could go right to the top level. He's so into every bit of detail."



"I THOUGHT WE WERE EXCELLENT START TO FINISH – WE WERE BRAVE AND IT COULD HAVE BEEN MORE. IF IT WASN'T FOR THE ACCRINGTON RESULT (A 2-1 HOME DEFEAT) IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A GREAT MONTH"

WORDS: Sam Preston

NICKNAME
The Hatters



FOUNDED
1885

GROUND
Kenilworth Road

CAPACITY
10,356

MANAGER
Nathan Jones

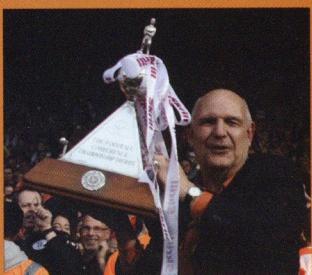
2016/17
League Two, 4th

HEAD TO HEAD

COLCHESTER UNITED:
8

LUTON TOWN:
10

DRAWS:
9



LAST TIME OUT

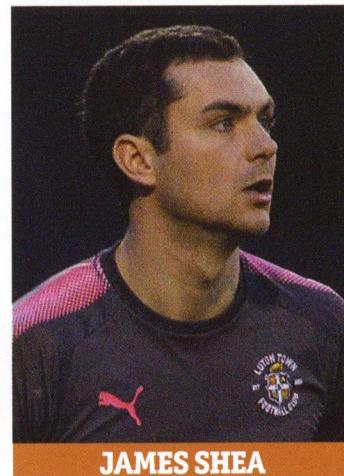
LUTON TOWN 2-0 BARNET

Saturday 24th March 2018

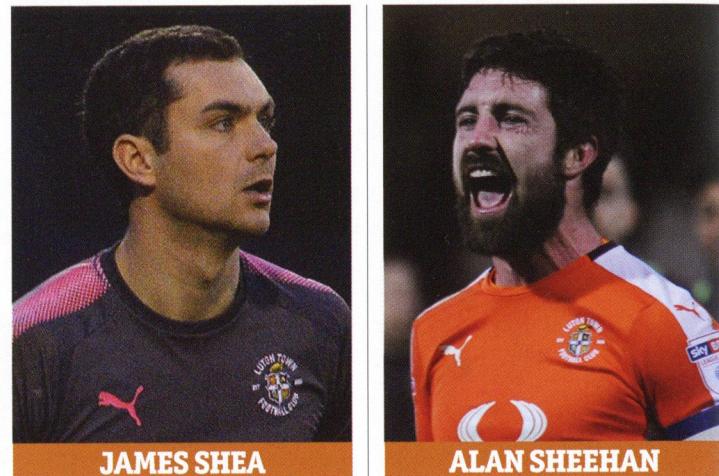


36 Shea
02 Justin
06 Cuthbert
44 Sheehan
03 Potts
18 Berry
04 McCormack
08 Lee
11 Shinnie
19 Collins
09 Hylton

THE KEY MEN



JAMES SHEA



ALAN SHEEHAN

After coming through the academy at Arsenal, the keeper had loan spells with Southampton and Dagenham & Redbridge before plying his trade in Non-League football with Needham Market and Harrow Borough after his release by the Gunners in 2013.

The 26-year-old continued to train with Arsene Wenger's squad on a full-time basis during his year outside the pro game, but returned to the League by signing for AFC Wimbledon in 2014.

He helped the Dons to promotion from Sky Bet League Two in 2015-16, then made 43 appearances for them in all competitions last term, taking him to over a century with the south-west London club.

Signed a one-year deal with the Hatters as a free agent in July 2017.

Cultured defender Sheehan joined the Hatters on loan from Bradford City in January 2016, becoming Nathan Jones' first signing after taking over as manager.

The Irishman made 20 appearances and captained the team for the final seven matches of 2015-16 after Scott Cuthbert suffered a season-ending injury.

The left-footer can operate at either full-back or in central defence, and has made over 300 appearances in his career so far with the majority coming during two spells with Notts County.

Sheehan also counts Leeds United and Swindon Town among his former employers, as well as loans with Mansfield, Crewe, Oldham and Peterborough United, after starting out at Leicester City.

He signed a permanent deal with the Town in May 2016 and made 41 appearances in his first full season, including his 50th in a Luton shirt in a 0-0 draw at Carlisle.

He has Hatters four goals to his name, including three stunning free-kicks that were all nominated for 2016-17 goal of the season.



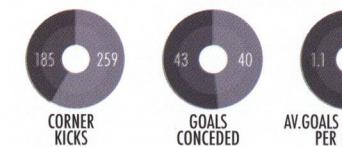
LUKE BERRY

The midfielder joined the Town on a three-year deal for an undisclosed fee from Sky Bet League Two rivals Cambridge United in August 2017.

One of the top scoring midfielders in the division in recent seasons, the 25-year-old netted 22 times in 2016-17 for the club with whom he started his career.

A regular opponent against the Town in the Conference years, Berry made his professional debut in 2010 and went on to play 135 times for the Cambs Glass Stadium outfit before departing for then-League One side Barnsley in 2014.

After one season with the Tykes, he returned to Cambridge, where he made a play a further 105 times – scoring 35 goals – before becoming Nathan Jones' tenth signing of the summer transfer window.



GOAL TIMES
GOALS CONCEDED



JAMES COLLINS

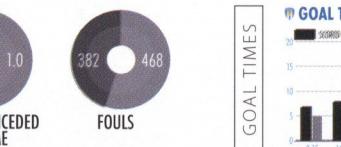
Having netted over 100 career goals – most of which have come in the fourth tier – Collins adds even more firepower to the Town frontline, after signing in June 2017 for an undisclosed fee from Crawley Town on a three-year contract.

Since leaving Aston Villa, the 26-year-old pursued a career in the lower leagues, going onto score regularly for the likes of Shrewsbury Town, Swindon Town and the Red Devils.

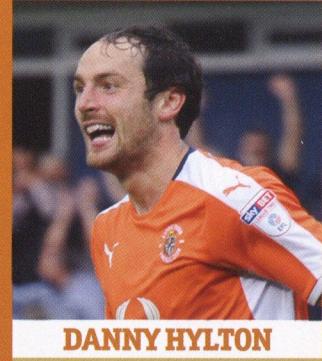
A season in the Scottish Premiership with Hibernian didn't prove as fruitful as planned in the 2013-14 season, but he has netted 54 goals since his return to England, including 22 last term for Crawley.

The Coventry-born former Republic of Ireland U21 international has won promotion three times from League Two; twice with Shrewsbury and once during his loan at Northampton Town in 2016.

The forward netted a hat-trick on his Sky Bet League Two debut for the Hatters, putting three past Yeovil Town in th 8-2 win at Kenilworth Road. Two goals in his next three league appearances for the Town saw him nominated for Player of the Month for August 2017.



GOAL TIMES
FOULS



DANNY HYLTON
STAR MAN

Age: 29
Position: Forward
Signed From: Oxford United
Career Apps: 421
Career Goals: 128

London-born forward who joined the Town last summer alongside Oxford United teammate Johnny Mullins, after the pair had helped the U's to promotion to League One and the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final.

Hylton started his career with Aldershot Town, where he made over 200 appearances in the Conference and League Two before joining Rotherham United in 2013.

He played just one game for the then-League One club, however, and was loaned out to Bury and AFC Wimbledon prior to his move to Oxford two years ago.

While at the Kassam Stadium Hylton hit 30 goals in 84 starts, but turned down the offer of a new contract in order to pen a two-year deal at Kenilworth Road.

The club's top scorer last season with 27 goals, having passed his previous season's best tally of 16 in January, Hylton came in the top three shortlisted for the EFL League Two Player of the Year award as voted by managers in the division, was named in the PFA Team of the Season for the division and won four club player of the year accolades in a memorable campaign.

STATS



2017/18 STATS



GOALS



AV. GOALS
PER GAME



SHOTS
(EX. BLOCKED)



% SHOTS
ON TARGET



CLEAN
SHEETS



% GOALS
TO SHOTS



CORNER
KICKS



GOALS
CONCEDED



AV. GOALS CONCEDED
PER GAME

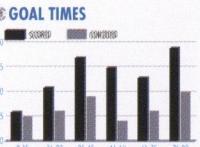


FOULS

GOAL TIMES



GOAL TIMES





IN OPPOSITION UNLIKELY LADS



MATTHEW UPSON

Former Luton Town central defender Matthew Upson gained 21 England caps. Signing professional for Luton Town in April 1996, he made his only League appearance for the Hatters as a substitute in their 1-0 win over Rotherham four months later and joined Arsenal for £1,000,000 in May 1997. He featured in their 1997/98 Premier League title campaign and was a member of the 2001/02 double-winning squad. Loaned to several clubs, he moved to Birmingham City for £2,000,000 in January 2003, then joined West Ham for £6,000,000 in January 2007. He has since played for Stoke City, Brighton, Leicester City and MK Dons.

COLIN TODD

Ex-England international central defender Colin Todd appeared for Luton Town in 1984/85. Initially with Sunderland, he moved to Derby County in February 1971, starring as they won the League Championship in 1971/72 and 1974/75, when PFA Player of the Year. He joined Everton in September 1978, then played for Birmingham City and Nottingham Forest. Reuniting with Jim Smith at Oxford United in February 1984, he helped clinch the Third Division title and moved to Luton in October 1984, playing two League games. He later managed Middlesbrough, Bolton, Swindon, Derby County, Bradford City, Randers and Esbjerg.

MERVYN DAY

Luton Town's former loan goalkeeper Mervyn Day starred in West Ham's 1975 FA Cup final success. The England U23s international was twice ever-present for the Hammers and played in the 1976 ECWC final, moving to Orient in July 1979. He was ever-present three times prior to joining Aston Villa in May 1983, then joined Leeds United in February 1985 and helped win the Second Division title in 1989/90. Loaned to Luton in March 1992, he made four League appearances. Joining Carlisle United in July 1993, he became their manager, then assisted Alan Curbishley at Charlton and West Ham, since holding scouting posts.



ALAN BIRCHENALL

Former England U23s midfielder Alan Birchenall briefly appeared for Luton Town in 1978/79. Signing professional for Sheffield United in June 1963, he joined Chelsea for £100,000 in November 1967 and moved via Crystal Palace to Leicester City in September 1971. He featured in their 1973/74 FA Cup run, then played for Notts County, San Jose Earthquakes, Memphis Rogues and Blackburn Rovers before joining Luton in March 1979. Making ten League appearances, he moved to Hereford United in October 1979, then had a spell as Trowbridge Town's player-boss, becoming Leicester's public relations officer.

PAUL DICKOV

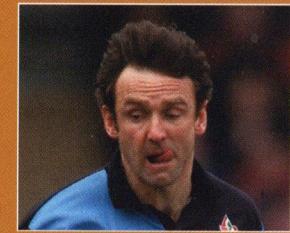
Luton Town's former loan striker Paul Dickov was capped twice by Scotland. Signing professional for Arsenal in December 1990, he was loaned to Luton in October 1993 and scored once in 15 League games. A member of the Gunners' triumphant 1994 ECWC squad, he moved to Manchester City for £1,000,000 in August 1996. Starring in three promotion campaigns, he joined Leicester City in February 2002 and was leading scorer in their 2002/03 promotion success. He then appeared for Blackburn Rovers, Manchester City again, Leicester again and Leeds United, since managing Oldham Athletic and Doncaster Rovers.



Football historian Leigh Edwards profiles ten big-name Luton Town players not usually associated with the club.

PAUL ALLEN

Former England U21s midfielder Paul Allen had a loan spell at Luton Town in 1994/95. From a notable football family, he signed professional for West Ham in July 1979 and was the youngest FA Cup finalist at 17 years 256 days in their 1980 Wembley triumph. He moved to Tottenham Hotspur for £400,000 in June 1985 and was an FA Cup winner again in 1991. Joining Southampton for £500,000 in September 1993, he was loaned to Luton in December 1994 and made four League appearances. He moved to Swindon Town in October 1995. He later played for Bristol City, Millwall and Purfleet and currently works for the PFA.



DEREK KEVAN

Inside-left Derek Kevan was capped 14 times by England before joining Luton Town. Initially with Ripon YMCA, he joined Bradford Park Avenue in October 1952 and followed Vic Buckingham to West Brom in July 1953. 'The Tank' was twice ever-present and top scorer on five occasions, moving to Chelsea in March 1963. Later with Manchester City, Crystal Palace and Peterborough, he joined Luton in December 1966 and netted four goals in 11 League games. He moved to Stockport in March 1967, then Macclesfield, Boston United and Stourbridge. Later a driver for Signs Specialists in Hockley, he died in January 2013.

STEVE WILLIAMS

Former England international midfielder Steve Williams was capped six times before joining Luton Town. Signing professional for Southampton in July 1976, he starred as they won promotion in 1977/78, were League Cup finalists in 1979 and League Championship runners-up in 1983/84. He joined Arsenal for £525,000 in December 1984 and featured in their 1987 League Cup final triumph, moving to Luton for £300,000 in July 1988. Scoring once in 40 League games, he reunited with Alan Ball at Exeter City in August 1991. He has worked in magazine publishing and property development, settling in Ottery St Mary.



RON DAVIES

Noted for his aerial ability, Welsh international striker Ron Davies was capped 29 times after leaving Luton Town. Signing professional for Chester in July 1959, he was twice leading marksman, moving to Luton in October 1962. He was top scorer in 1962/63, netting 21 goals in 32 League games before joining Norwich City in September 1963. Moving to Southampton in August 1966, he topped their goalscoring charts three times before joining Portsmouth in April 1973. Later with Manchester United, Arcadia Shepherds, LA Aztecs, Tulsa Roughnecks and Seattle Sounders, he coached in the United States and died in May 2013.

JOHN HARTSON

Welsh international striker John Hartson helped Luton Town reach the FA Cup semi-finals in 1993/94. Signing professional for Luton in December 1992, he netted 11 goals in 54 League games before sold to Arsenal for £2,500,000 in January 1995. He scored in the 1995 ECWC final, moving to West Ham for £3,200,000 in February 1997. Leading marksman in 1997/98, he joined Wimbledon for £7,000,000 in January 1999 and had a spell with Coventry City prior to joining Celtic in August 2001. He starred in their 2001/02 'treble' triumph and joined West Brom for £500,000 in July 2006, gaining a total of 51 caps.





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|| IN OPPOSITION

OPPOSING VIEW

Questions answered today by Luton Town fan Kevin Harper, who tells us: "My passion for Luton Town began when my father took me to my first game in 1989 and ever since then it has only grown stronger! I've been going to home matches for almost 30 years and away games for much of that time and it now takes something pretty significant to stop me going to a match. Such is my enthusiasm for the Town, I took on the role of Media Officer for the Luton Town Supporters Trust three years ago, which has given me an even stronger dedication to the club and is a position I really enjoy. Luton have given me some amazing highs and some unbelievable lows in my time as a fan but I wouldn't want it any other way!"

Hopefully there are plenty more great times to come, starting in a few weeks time!"

The team look well placed to secure automatic promotion, how enjoyable a season has it been so far for the supporters?

It has been a really enjoyable season. Some of the football we have played this season has been a joy to watch. In truth we have been spoilt at times with goals coming in a style that is incredibly pleasing on the eye. Goals have dried up a little as the weather took a turn for the worse but, with the sun due to come back out soon (I hope!), I'm sure it will be an enjoyable end to the campaign.

The team picked up a useful win on Saturday to keep top spot, what will it take performance wise to ensure they stay there by the final game of the season?

I think the key thing is that we do what we do best and that is get on the front foot and attack teams. If we start worrying about what other teams may or may not be doing, then it complicates everything. This team is a talented one and more than good enough to stay top if we stick to our game and focusing on what we do.

Which players have excelled in a positive season for the team?

There really are so many. The obvious ones would be Danny Hylton and Alan Sheehan but you would probably expect that. James Collins has been fantastic this season and could yet end up as the top scorer in the division, while left back Dan Potts has gone from strength to strength this season both in his defensively play and the attacking dimension and goals he provides us with.

And how much has Nathan Jones impressed in the managerial hotseat in his time in charge so far?

Nathan Jones has been a breath of fresh air. His passion, enthusiasm and work rate is incredible and made him an instant hit with Town fans. I'm sure he will admit that he has made some mistakes along the way but the important thing is he quickly learned from those and made the adjustments to make us such a strong side this season.

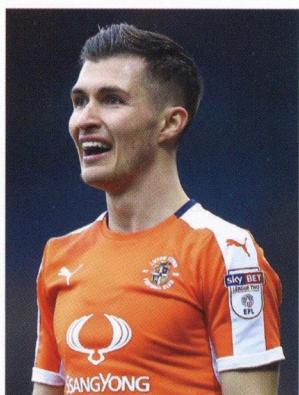
Players are always the key ingredient in success but, having completely transformed the way we play, Jones deserves immense credit if and when we do get promoted.

In the race for promotion, who do you think will be the final quartet to make it to League One?

I expect Luton and Accrington to go up and I can see Coventry making a late dart for the top three. Exeter can go one better than last year in the play-offs.

What do you expect from Friday's match?

Hopefully a much better result than last season! I expect a tough match but a good match to watch. Both teams like to play the right way which should make it an entertaining spectacle. We are due an away win and with the two sides immediately below us in the table facing each other at the same time a victory would be very useful. I'll go for a 2-1 Luton win!



"LEFT BACK DAN POTTS HAS GONE FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH THIS SEASON BOTH IN HIS DEFENSIVELY PLAY AND THE ATTACKING DIMENSION"

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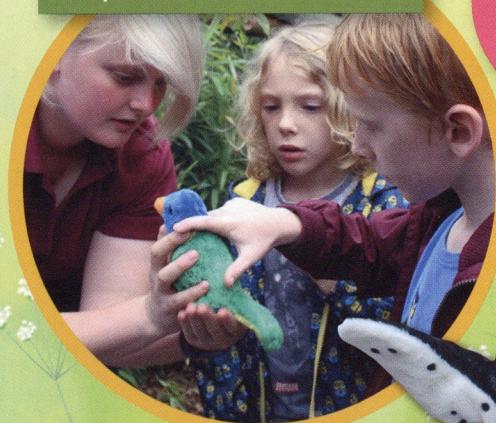
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58k FOLLOWERS

750 FOLLOWING

Happy belated birthday to one of our own! Hope you had a cracking day Karl!

More former U's news, with Johnnie Jackson taking a temporary managerial position at Charlton! Good luck!

The U23s only have a few games remaining of the season after they lost 0-3 to Bristol City last week.

Appearance number 252 for Eastman today!

Big thanks to the 52 hardy U's fans who made the trip to Morecambe for the 0-0 draw.

The moment of the game last week! Mandron scoring the only goal of the game for the U's!

A win for the U's! 1-0 last weekend courtesy of Mikael Mandron's strike!

Thanks to all who came to the Essex Senior Cup final, and also congrats to Billericay who won the game!

Add another 90 after last weekend's game at Stevenage for Sam! The #ColU stopper is ever present in the league this season.

Today's visitors Luton, moved a step closer to promotion last week with a win against struggling Barnet!

Thanks for getting to the game, especially in the poor conditions! Make sure to come back soon to Essex!

TULL100 – FOOTBALL REMEMBERS WALTER TULL NO BARRIERS MEDAL CHALLENGE

Remember Walter Tull and stand up
against discrimination by doing the
No Barriers medal challenge

One hundred years ago, on the 25th March 1918, during the final year of the First World War, footballer Walter Tull was killed in action at the age of just 29.

Before the outbreak of war in 1914, Tull's playing career had seen him make more than 100 senior appearances for Northampton Town, before becoming the first infantry officer of black heritage in the British Army to lead his men into battle. From the football pitch to pitch battle, he made history and was an inspiration to others.

To mark the centenary of Walter Tull's death, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Big Ideas in conjunction with the EFL, Football Association and Premier League's Football Remembers initiative invite schools, football teams and youth, arts and voluntary groups to celebrate his life and achievements through Tull 100 – Football Remembers.

Find out how to earn your medal,
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Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government



Premier
League



Composite First World War football images courtesy of the National Army Museum, Girdwood Collection held by the British Library and Bruce Castle Museum (Haringey Archive and Museum Service).

|| CAPTAIN

LUKE PROSSER

Seven games to go, and there is nothing to do but go all out for a win in every single one of them. Yes, we have made things difficult for ourselves with a few poor results but we are determined to get as many points as possible and see where it gets us. Before I start on the football, Happy Easter and I hope that you all enjoy the long weekend, those of you who have it of course.

We might not win every game, and unfortunately that was the case in the last fixture here at the Weston Homes Community Stadium. No disrespect to Yeovil Town, but they are a team that we should be beating if we are to get the success we all crave. And we should have been ahead before they scored the only goal of the game.

As a defender, every goal we concede is disappointing but it is especially so when it comes from a set-piece. As much as we tried to get back into the game, we couldn't break down a dogged Yeovil defence and the game ended in defeat – safe to say it wasn't a happy dressing room after that final whistle.

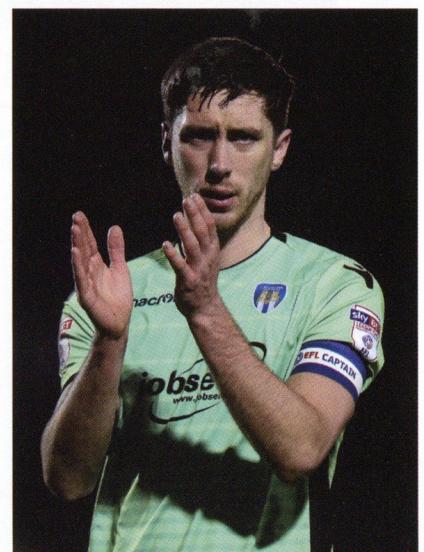
We were determined to put it right when we travelled up to Morecambe, for the game that was postponed from earlier in March. We found it difficult to move the ball around with any fluidity and didn't test their keeper anywhere near enough during the course of the game. It was the same for them to be honest, and we had to be content with the solitary point. Speaking to a couple of people who were there watching, it seems that from the sidelines it looked like a 0-0 from very early on in the game.

You don't get that feeling when you're involved, you just try and do your job and make sure the team as a whole are also trying to get the job done. As I said earlier, you can't win every game, and an away draw is rarely a bad result – especially when you follow it up with an away win.

That was the case last weekend when we went to Stevenage (a much shorter trip), and it was probably the most comfortable 1-0 win I can remember being involved in. We went at them from the start and it was a great move down the left from Kano to find Mika and he swept the ball home. Well done to Mika for getting into double figures, no mean feat considering he works so hard for the team outside the box as well.

Your support at both the away games was fantastic as usual, and the four point haul on the road was a decent return. We must win our remaining games now though, and you can certainly help with the backing you give us. Make plenty of noise and let's get as many of the twenty one points remaining as we can.

Pross



"YOU CAN'T WIN
EVERY GAME,
AND AN AWAY
DRAW IS RARELY
A BAD RESULT –
ESPECIALLY WHEN
YOU FOLLOW IT
UP WITH AN AWAY
WIN"



LATEST NEWS FROM COLCHESTER UNITED U'S VIEWS

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TODAY'S BAND: THE FOUR BLOKES TRIO



We are pleased to welcome 'The Four Blokes Trio' to the Weston Homes Community Stadium this afternoon for their first pre-match visit.

The band play upbeat Americana, the songs of life to sparkling tunes.

Their music has taken them across the local area on the gig circuit and they will be playing at Colchester's Big Sunday in July, as well as Loxley's Corner in Wivenhoe in August!

GLAM! RETURNS IN APRIL

Join us for a great day out as we bring the best in health and beauty to north Essex!

If you're a lover of all things health and beauty, then Glam! is an event you won't want to miss. It's a one stop shop for all things hair, make up and nails, fashion, fitness and much more!

Browse around the 50 exhibitor stands and treat yourself to everything from a hair up do to a manicure, new fashion and accessories, to a luxury spa get away. Find out what's trending this Spring Summer season at the Catwalk Fashion Shows and pick up all the latest health and beauty tips at demonstrations taking place throughout the day.

MEN'S HEALTH DAY RETURNS IN APRIL



Colchester United welcomes the Colchester Men's Health Day back to the Weston Homes Community Stadium in two weeks' time.

Taking place on Thursday 12th April, the event sees CHAPS and the Dementia Action Alliance offer NHS health checks, prostate cancer screening, blood pressure checks, aortic aneurysm screening as well as physio and sports injury assessments.

The health checks are available for men aged 40-74 who are not already on treatment for a heart condition, blood pressure or high cholesterol, kidney disease or diabetes, or who have already had an NHS health check in the last five years.

Prostate cancer screening is for men aged 40 plus, and strongly recommended for black African and Caribbean men and men with a family history of prostate cancer or breast cancer.

You can pre-book an appointment online at www.chaps.simplybook.me or by contacting trish.binks@chaps.uk.com.

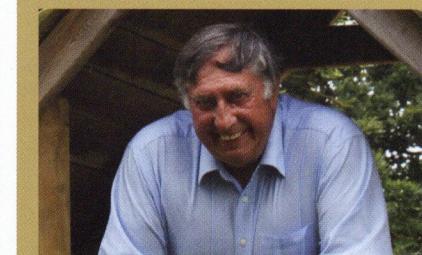
WELCOME JUDY & GRAHAM



A big welcome to Judy and Graham Tyson, who will be dining with their cousin and long time U's fan Margaret Goodwin in the Centennial Suite this afternoon.

Judy and Graham live in the Blue Mountains in Australia and as a child she lived in Luton and supported Luton Town regularly with her father. We hope all concerned have a great day today.

PETER RAWLINGS



Sadly passed away on 13/03/18 aged 74, surrounded by his loving family.

He had been a huge Colchester United supporter since he was a boy and had attended most home games - even if he needed a nap halfway through!

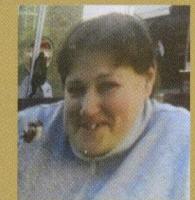
Thank you to those who nudged him awake when a goal was scored.

He will be sorely missed by all but his memories will continue to make us all smile.

REMEMBERING BECKY GLADWIN

Remembering Becky Gladwin, 20 years a Col U fan, who is sadly missed and much loved by her family and friends, as well as daughter Abbie.

The thoughts of all at the club are with the family at this very sad time.



TODAY'S CHARITY COLLECTION: THE ROBIN CANCER TRUST



The Robin Cancer Trust

Testicular cancer affects 2,400 men every year in the UK, and is most commonly found in men aged 15-45. Just two minutes a month checking for the signs and symptoms could save your life - because if detected early, testicular cancer is 98% curable.

Text **BALLS** to **70300** to receive your free monthly reminder to check yourself - awareness direct to your pocket!

The Robin Cancer Trust are the UK's only germ cell cancer awareness charity - based in Colchester we aim to raise awareness, reduce embarrassment & save lives through the early detection of this rare form of cancer, which includes testicular & ovarian cancers. April is #TesticularCancerAwarenessMonth so please join us in #TalkingBollocks to help save men's lives! Learn more by visiting our website and following us on social media:

website: www.therobincancertrust.org
facebook: /TheRobinCancerTrust
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instagram: @rctcharity

FEATURE

#19
**MIKAEL
MANDRON**

"I HAVE REACHED TEN GOALS NOW, I WANT TO PUSH ON AND SEE HOW MANY MORE I CAN GET PERSONALLY AND HOW MANY MORE POINTS WE CAN GAIN AS A TEAM"





Across the country, teams are entering the final stages of a long season and targets are beginning to be reached for players in various positions on the pitch. Keepers and defenders with their clean sheets, young players reaching their target appearances, and strikers making their mark in goals scored.

In terms of goals scored, the U's had four players that reached double figures last season, but the goals have been harder to come by this time round. Sammie Szmodics has got thirteen to his name, he was one of the four in 2016/7, and Mikael Mandron reached double figures with his winning goal at Stevenage seven days ago.

The main target in terms of the team is obviously getting as many points as possible to finish as high up the league as possible. A striker wants his goals to matter in games, and that has certainly been the case for Mandron, who joined the U's last summer. He has been a regular starter and the ten goals have come in nine matches, with an amazing record of eight wins and a draw.

When he spoke to *We Are United* immediately after the game last weekend, he was pleased, and a little relieved, to have finally reached his first target. He also explained how scoring the goals personally isn't as important as the result the team gets.

"Double figures at last, I've been waiting a little while for my tenth goal and have had to work really hard to get it as well. It comes at a really good time for us because we got the win and the three points. The most important thing was to win because we hadn't won for six matches so it was great to get back to winning ways as a team. It also feels great to be back on the scoresheet of course, but the result was the priority for all of us."



The twenty three year old, who has been a mainstay in the U's team in 2017/18, scored on twenty seven minutes at the Lamex Stadium against Stevenage, but the U's were well on top and had already had a number of chances to open the scoring. Mandron himself admitted he should have done better with an earlier attempt and praised two of the U's youngsters for providing the assist for that chance, and the one he expertly converted to give the U's the win.

With a big grin, he said: "Yes, I did have a chance before the goal, and to be fair, it was a great pull-back from Szmodics [Sammie Szmodics]. I didn't get a good contact and the chance went, but I am going to say I was just warming up and couldn't wait for my next chance to come along."

"Although the final cross for the goal came in from the left, the move started on the right and we moved the ball very well across to the left wing. Kane has got forward so well on loads of occasions this season and I knew that he would beat the man and get the ball in so I sprinted into the box. It was a great ball in and luckily I managed to get on the end of it."

From the sidelines, it didn't look like there was much luck about the finish, Mandron swept it firmly into the corner, giving the home keeper no chance. Mandron wanted to see it again, but said: "I can't wait to see it again, but at the time, I knew I had got a good connection on it and was obviously really happy to see it in the back of the net."



The U's take on Luton Town today here at the Weston Homes Community Stadium, but it is recent games against teams lower in the League Two table that have set the U's back. Before the excellent four points on the road against Morecambe and Stevenage, the U's have failed to beat Crewe, Barnet and Yeovil, with two of those defeats coming in front of the U's fans here in north Essex.

Mandron couldn't put his finger on why the U's hadn't been able to put away those lower teams but was happy to accept that the pressure is on the strikers to score when things aren't going well. And he was hoping that the win at Stevenage will be a starting point for a strong finish to the season, both for him and the U's.

"Of course there is always pressure to beat the teams that are lower than us in the table, especially at home and it's frustrating that we

"I'VE BEEN WAITING A LITTLE WHILE FOR MY TENTH GOAL AND HAVE HAD TO WORK REALLY HARD TO GET IT AS WELL"

haven't managed to do that recently. If we haven't scored after twenty minutes or so, you can sense a bit of frustration but we have to continue playing as best as we can and try as hard as we can.

"Being a striker, you're always going to be expected to score goals, particularly when the team is going through a bad patch like we were before the away games. When that happens, everyone looks to the striker to score goals, but I'm lucky here because I have the team and the staff that have kept their belief in me."

"As long as the chances keep coming and I'm scoring myself, making chances for my teammates and working hard, we are happy. It brings confidence to me and the team and we want that to be there for the next seven matches. I have reached ten goals now, I want to push on and see how many more I can get personally and how many more points we can gain as a team."

FACTFILE

Date of birth:
11 October 1994

Place of birth:
Boulogne-sur-Mer, France

Position:
Forward

19
SQUAD NUMBER

23
AGE

42
U'S APPEARANCES

10
U'S GOALS

3455
17/18 MINUTES



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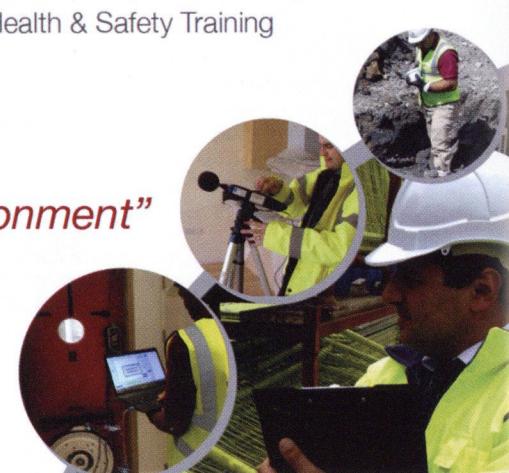
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CUSA

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to the WHCS for today's match against Luton Town. I hope that the visiting players, officials and supporters enjoy their short stay in Essex and have a safe journey home.

Older fans of both clubs will remember the days when the Easter fixtures provided a punishing schedule of three games in four days! With home and away matches against the same opposition on the two Bank Holidays, and another game sandwiched in between on the Saturday, it was certainly asking a lot of the players, particularly in the days before substitutes were allowed.

Back in 1965/66, the first season in which substitutes were permitted, the U's and the Hatters were paired together for the Easter double header. Both sides were in the thick of the promotion race in the old Division Four and on Good Friday a crowd of 10,200 were at Layer Road to witness a 2-2 draw.

Luton were two goals to the good before Reg Stratton scored twice to salvage a point for the home side. If memory serves me correctly, both of Luton's goals were scored by Ray Whittaker who later played for the U's when Dick Graham was manager.

The return match on Easter Monday saw an even bigger gate of 15,245 at Kenilworth Road and once again the points were shared, this time in a 1-1 draw. On that occasion it was Colchester who scored first with another goal from Reg Stratton.

That was a memorable occasion for me as it was the first time that I travelled to an away match on the supporters club coach. In between these two matches, the U's made the long journey to Torquay and gained a 1-0 win with a goal from Barry Aichison! On the final day of the season, in late May, it was still too close to call, with the U's just one point ahead of the Hatters.

A 2-1 defeat for Colchester at Newport meant an anxious wait for the result of Luton's match against Chester which had kicked off fifteen minutes later. Eventually, news came through of a 1-1 draw which confirmed that the U's had gained the fourth promotion spot on goal average as it was then.

In fact, the Hatters actually finished in sixth place as Tranmere Rovers also pipped them on goal average, with all three teams on 56 points. It is interesting to note that if goal difference had been in place at the time, Colchester



would still have finished just ahead of Luton but Tranmere would have been promoted instead!

There will be no such photo finish this time around, as the Hatters look set to gain a well deserved automatic promotion slot while it will be a case of what might have been for all concerned with Colchester United. The defeat against Yeovil was the latest in a number of indifferent home performances and, whilst the players produced a battling display to earn a point at Morecambe, a lack of goals has cost the team dearly.

However, it was good to see the players and management team appreciating the support of the 52 travelling fans who made the long journey north. The CUSA coach had a tricky journey home, with a diversion away from the M6, as part of the motorway was closed, and also getting stuck for a while behind two traffic control vehicles on the A14.

A big thank you to our drivers Peter and Robin who negotiated these obstacles with a minimum of fuss as we safely completed the six hour trip.

A return to winning ways, courtesy of Mikael Mandron's goal at Stevenage, will hopefully have set the team up nicely for today's encounter. Let's hope for a good game in front of what may well be the biggest crowd of the season for a league match at the WHCS.

Not wishing to place any additional pressure on the U's players but we'll be asking our

AWAY TRAVEL



EASTER MONDAY
FOREST GREEN ROVERS
WHCS Departure: 8.30am
Adult Members: £22
Concession Members: £20



SATURDAY 21st APRIL
LINCOLN CITY
WHCS Departure: 9.00am
Adult Members: £22
Concession Members: £20



SATURDAY 5th MAY
EXETER CITY
WHCS Departure: 7.30am
Adult Members: £34
Concession Members: £32

member for their Player of the Season votes very soon. Get your thinking caps on please.

And finally, a massive thank you to Barry Root for a wonderful donation of old programmes to the CUSA collection. Very generous indeed and our programme buffs will certainly enjoy weaving them into our already vast collection

Thank you for your support.

Up the U's!
Trevor Bailey
CUSA Committee member

THINK FAST ACT FASTER

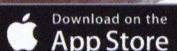


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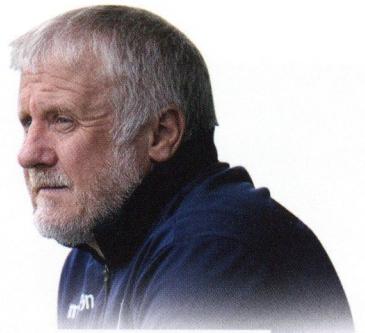
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|| PHYSIO

TONY FLYNN



Welcome back for this afternoon's game, as Luton Town provide what I'm sure will be tough opposition here at the Weston Homes Community Stadium. Before I start on the comings and goings in the treatment room, I'll take the opportunity to wish you all a Happy Easter and hope you enjoy the long weekend if you're lucky enough to have today and Monday off.

The players certainly won't have much time to relax, with games today and Monday, and recovery work to do tomorrow and preparation on Sunday. It is the last time that we have games in quick succession though, after that it's just a case of Saturday to Saturday games until the end of the season. That certainly makes it easier to manage those niggly injuries that keep the players away from training for a couple of days. It'll be tough for anyone who gets a knock today to be fit again on Monday so fingers crossed for the lads then.

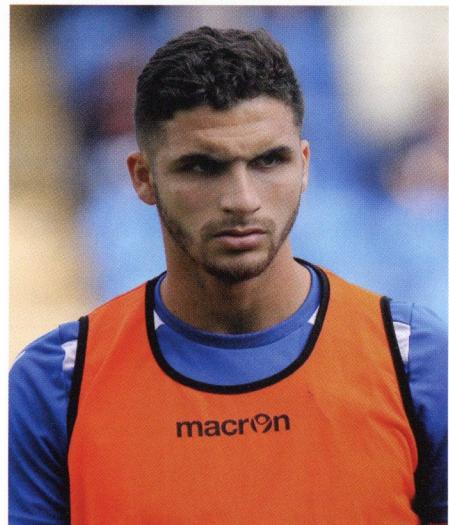
One such knock occurred last weekend in the win at Stevenage, with Drey Wright getting a blow to his Glute (backside). It is a muscle injury just like a dead leg and it's usually sore and stiff initially. That died down quickly in Drey's case and he should be fit for selection this afternoon.

Ryan Inniss has been missing for a few games with a sore knee but he is getting close to full fitness and might even be available over the weekend. He has trained fully this week and hasn't suffered any reaction to the work he has done so it will be up to the Manager if, when and how he uses Ryan.

Two of the lads have been back in action after long term injuries, with Luke Prosser and Brennan Dickenson both starting games since their return to the first team squad. A common occurrence in players returning from these real long term issues is a minor secondary issue that can set them back a bit. They have both been managed well, and did their rehab throughout exactly as prescribed, and that has served them both well.

Unfortunately, Brennan did have to come out of the squad for a short time because he was feeling some soreness and discomfort in his thigh. It wasn't serious though, and only kept him out for the one game so we're confident that he will continue to be involved from now until the end of the season. And with a full pre-season under his belt, he should almost forget he ever had this injury.

That's all from me for now, next time I'll bring you up to date with the only other player in the treatment room at the moment, Louis Dunne. Get behind the lads today, I'm sure that Luton fans will be here in numbers so make more noise than them. Most of all though, enjoy the game.



"RYAN INNISS HAS BEEN MISSING FOR A FEW GAMES WITH A SORE KNEE BUT HE IS GETTING CLOSE TO FULL FITNESS AND MIGHT EVEN BE AVAILABLE OVER THE WEEKEND. HE HAS TRAINED FULLY THIS WEEK AND HASN'T SUFFERED ANY REACTION"



STEVENAGE COLCHESTER UNITED 0 1

SATURDAY 24TH MARCH, 3.00PM

Colchester United beat Stevenage on the road last weekend, thanks to Mikael Mandron's sweeping finish.

Mandron finished off a great move to open the scoring in the first half, and the U's could have been more than one up at the break.

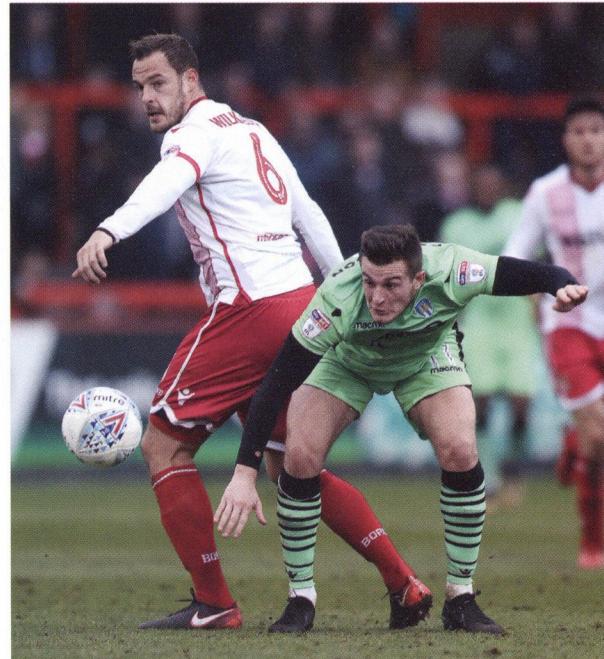
Whilst there weren't the same number of chances in the second period for the U's, the home side were policed very well at the other end and it was a deserved win.

It was the U's that started the game on the front foot, with Sammie Szmodics almost opening the scoring within the first ninety seconds.

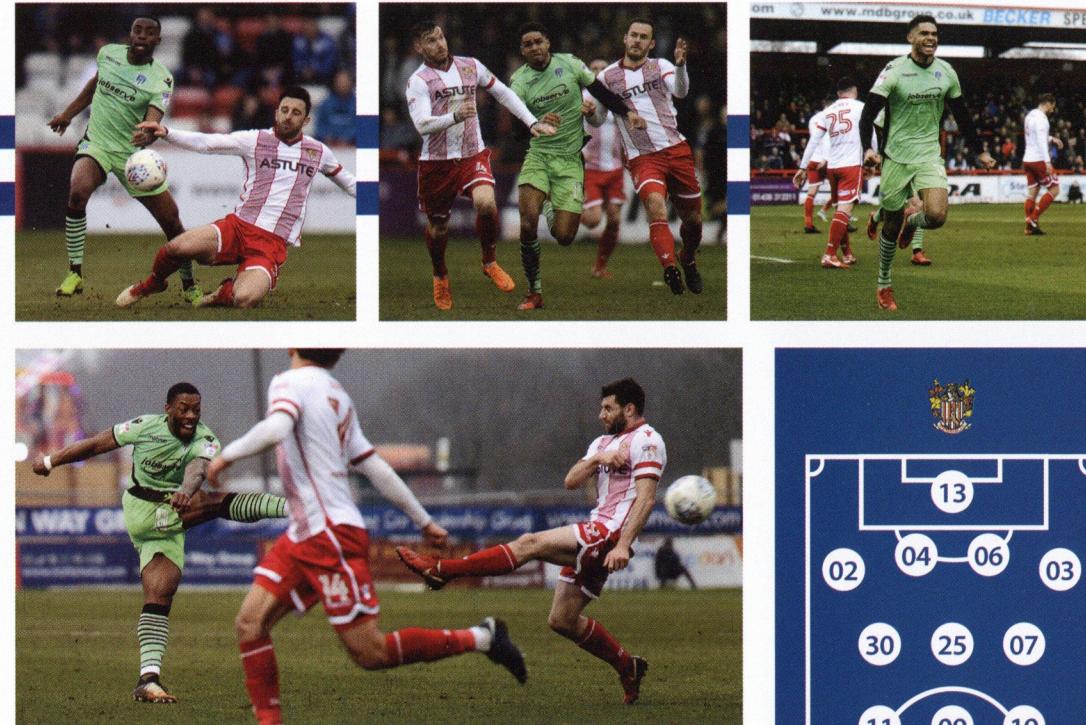
His initial effort was blocked on the edge of the box, but he was first to the rebound and drilled it narrowly past the post.

On eight minutes, Szmodics turned provider, crossing low for Mandron, but the chance went begging as the U's striker failed to make good contact.

He made amends just past the halfway stage of the



0 1
Mandron 27



first period, finishing a great U's move.

Tom Eastman and Ryan Jackson were involved on the right before the ball entered the Stevenage half, then Drey Wright found Kane Vincent-Young on the left wing.

He beat the Stevenage right back Ronnie Henry and crossed low for Mandron to sweep his left foot shot past King in the home goal.

He then hooked a shot wide at the near post from another left wing move, as the U's continued to dominate.

The hosts did have a couple of half chances, which didn't even threaten Sam Walker's goal, but they were on the back foot again towards the end of the half.

Szmodics drilled an effort inches past the post, with the suspicion of a fingertip save that the referee didn't give, and Mandron had a header saved in the last few minutes.

After that first half that the U's dominated, it was expected that Stevenage would

endeavour to really take the game to the visitors.

That wasn't the case in the early stages though, with Drey Wright failing to connect as a corner was cleared to him on the edge of the area.

Alex Revell had a rare chance for the U's after fifty minutes but his angled volley went safely over the crossbar.

At the other end, Szmodics hit his effort straight at King seconds later, and Ryan Jackson followed suit on the hour.

Walker had been a virtual spectator and didn't have to work hard to comfortably take a Newton header on seventy three minutes.

The action returned to the Stevenage half two minutes later, with Szmodics again in the thick of things – volleying over when a corner fell to him fifteen yards out.

It was a much quieter half in terms of goalscoring chances, and the defensive display by Prosser, Eastman and the rest ensured that another clean sheet was achieved.



13 King, 2 Smith (White 76), 4 King, 6 Wilkinson, 3 Martin, 30 McKee, 25 Henry, 7 Whelpdale (Conlon 61), 11 Goddard (Amos 45), 9 Revell, 19 Newton



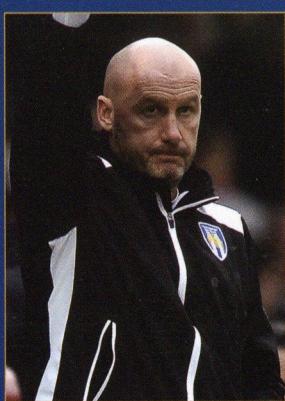
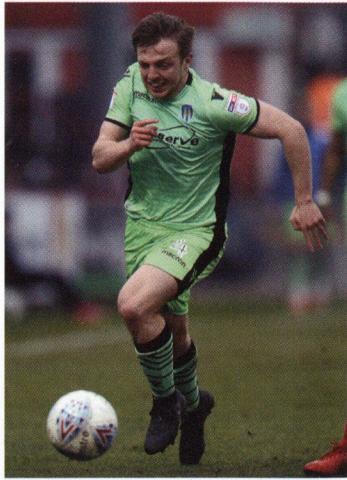
1 Walker, 2 Jackson, 4 Lapslie, 5 Prosser, 22 Vincent-Young, 7 Wright (Murray 72), 18 Eastman, 10 Szmodics, 17 Stevenson (Comley 84), 11 Dickenson (Mandeville 88), 19 Mandron



THE BIG PICTURE:

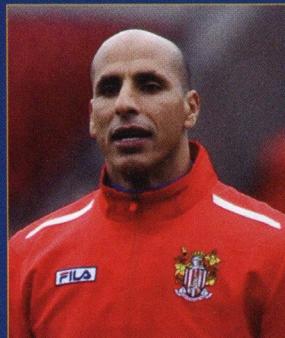
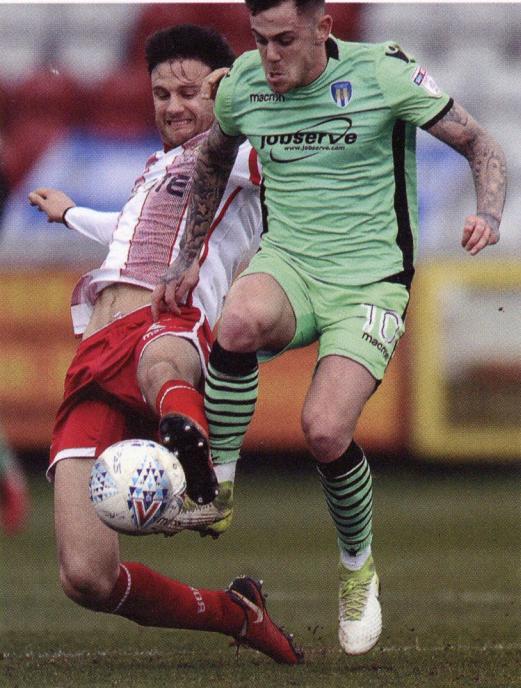
Mikael Mandron wheels away after notching his 10th goal of a productive campaign





JOHN McGREAL

"I always thought that it was good we had a couple of away games, after struggling at home with a couple of poor performances and a couple of poor results. The clean-sheet at Morecambe on Tuesday night has given the lads a lot of confidence, and I thought we were excellent today. I was pleased for the defence to get another clean-sheet, and of course I was delighted for Mikael to get his goal."



DINO MAAMRIA

"I want to instil certain habits. What you don't want to do as a new manager is come in and in two days overload them with too much information. I thought the players worked hard, I thought in the second half we were much better – especially after the substitutions."



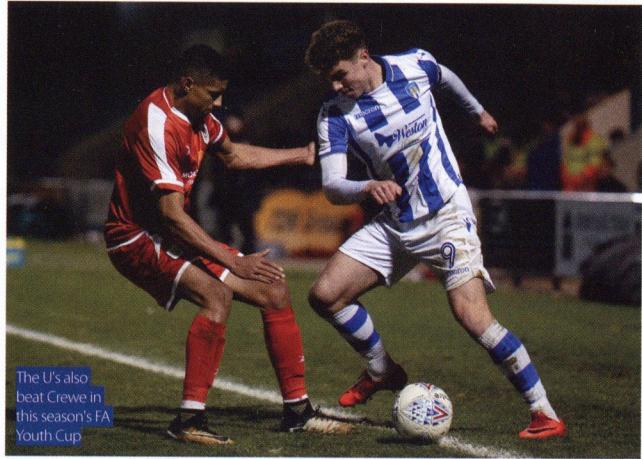
THE U18s

YOUTH TEAM

Crewe Alexandra U18s 1-3 U's

Colchester United's Youth Team outgunned Crewe Alexandra when they travelled up to Cheshire recently, winning 3-1 at the Railwaymen's training ground, Reaseheath. The journey certainly didn't bother the youngsters, with the three U's strikes coming inside the opening half an hour. A Connor Heath second half header did give Crewe a route back into the game, but wasteful finishing thereafter scuppered any hopes of rescuing a result for the hosts.

The U's opening the scoring inside five minutes via an attack down the left flank. Crewe had several chances to clear, but



The U's also beat Crewe in this season's FA Youth Cup



Andre Hassanally was amongst the scorers at Crewe

the Colchester man nipped round a defender and fired low into the bottom corner. The visitors were two to the good on twenty minutes, a mix-up by goalkeeper Will Appleyard and Regan Griffiths allowed the striker in on goal to coolly slot into the corner. Two became three on the half hour, a superb strike from a U's midfielder from twenty five yards sailing over Appleyard and into the roof of the net.

After a stern talking to at half-time, Crewe re-emerged with purpose and vigour and struck back five minutes into the second period, Heath heading home a left-wing corner-kick. Pressing hard throughout the second forty five, the home side did miss a number of good chances, but the U's comfortably held on for all three points.

		STARTING XI												
Sat 19	Huddersfield Town	H	PDL	1-1	Phillips	Michaels	Ferlisi	Anderson	Keys	Jopling	Ager	Chilvers	Jones	Sub 1
Sat 26	Sheffield Weds	A	PDL	0-6	Phillips	Michaels	Ferlisi	Anderson	Keys	Jopling	Hassanally	Chilvers	Ager	Sub 2
SEPTEMBER														
Sat 2	Barnsley	H	PDL	3-2	Phillips	Michaels	Ferlisi	Anderson	Tricker	Jopling	Ager	Chilvers	Jones	Sub 3
Tue 5	Nottingham Forest	A	PDL	0-6	Phillips	Michaels	Ferlisi	Howard	Keys	Jopling	Ager	Chilvers	Mudd	
Sat 9	Burnley	A	PDL	2-4	Phillips	Michaels	Kazeem	Howard	Howard	Tricker	Ager	Chilvers	Stone	
Sat 16	Sheffield United	H	PDL	1-2	Anderson	Tricker	Howard	Howard	Cracknell	Kensdale	Hassanally	Chilvers	Jones	
Sat 30	Watford	H	PDL	4-1	Phillips	Cracknell	Howard	Howard	Howard	Hassanally	Ager	Chilvers	Stone	
OCTOBER														
Sat 3	Bristol City	A	PDL	1-0	Phillips	Madley	Stone	Howard	Keys	Routledge	Hassanally	Anderson	Jones	
Sat 21	Cardiff City	A	PDL	0-3	Phillips	Madley	Stone	Howard	Keys	Madley	Ager	Anderson	Jones	
Sat 28	QPR	H	PDL	4-5	Phillips	Michaels	Antiwi	Howard	Keys	Madley	Ager	Anderson	Jones	
Tue 31	Cheshunt	H	FAYC1	5-4	Phillips	Keys	Madley	Howard	Kensdale	Anderson	Ager ²	Chilvers	Jones	
NOVEMBER														
Sat 4	Millwall	A	PDL	0-4	Clarke	Michaels	Stone	Howard	Keys	Tricker	Hassanally	Anderson	Jones	
Sat 11	Crystal Palace	H	PDL	0-2	Clarke	Bennett	Michaels	Cornish	Cracknell	Howard	Miller	Anderson	Jones	
Mon 13	Bishop's Stortford	H	FAYC2	5-0	Phillips	Keys	Stone	Howard	Kensdale	Madley	Ager ²	Chilvers	Jones ²	
Sat 18	Ipswich Town	H	PDL	1-3	Phillips	Olley	Stone	Howard	Keys	Madley	Ager	Anderson	Jones	
Sat 25	Charlton Athletic	A	PDL	1-4	Phillips	Olley	Kazeem	Howard	Cracknell	Kensdale	Hassanally	Anderson	Sims	
DECEMBER														
Sat 2	Coventry City	H	PDL	1-2	Clarke	Michaels	Stone	Howard	Madley	Cracknell	Hassanally	Chilvers	Jones	
Thu 14	Crewe Alexandra	H	FAYC3	2-0	Seaden	Bennett	Howard	Howard	Keys	Cracknell	Kensdale	Chilvers	Jones	
JANUARY														
Sat 6	Cardiff City	H	PDL	1-4	White	Michaels	Madley	Cornish	Kensdale	Howard	Hassanally	Chilvers	Jones	
Sat 13	QPR	A	PDL	0-2	White	Howard	Keys	Anderson	Cracknell	Howard	Ager	Chilvers	Jones	
Tue 16	MK Dons	H	FAYC4	2-0	Seaden	Howard	Howard	Cornish	Cracknell	Kensdale	Ager	Anderson	Jones	
Sat 27	Millwall	H	PDL	2-5	White	Michaels	Cracknell	Howard	Howard	Howard	Kazeem	Anderson	Mudd	
FEBRUARY														
Fri 2	Ipswich Town	A	PDL	5-1	Coulter	Howard	Kazeem	Krasniqi	Cracknell	Kensdale	Ager	Anderson	Jones	
Tue 6	Reading	H	FAYC5	1-4	Seaden	Howard	Keys	Cornish	Howard	Howard	Ager	Anderson	Jones	
Sat 17	Bristol City	H	PDL	3-1	Michaels	Kazeem	Krasniqi	Cornish	Cracknell	Howard	Ager	Anderson	Jones	
Sat 24	Coventry City	A	PDL	2-0	Coulter	Michaels	Kazeem	Cornish	Howard	Howard	Ager	Anderson	Mudd	
MARCH														
Tue 6	Arsenal	H	FAYCQF	1-5	Seaden	Howard	Kazeem	Keys	Cracknell	Kensdale	Ager	Anderson	Jones	
Sat 10	Crewe Alexandra	A	PDL	3-1	Collins	Michaels	Stone	Cornish	Howard	Howard	Hassanally	Anderson	Mudd	
Sat 24	Birmingham City	A	PDL	12:00										
Thu 29	Crystal Palace	A	PDL	12:00										
APRIL														
Tue 3	Bolton Wanderers	H	PDL	13:00										
Sat 7	Leeds United	H	PDL	11:00										
Sat 14	Hull City	A	PDL	12:00										
Tue 17	Watford	A	PDL	13:00										
Sat 21	Charlton Athletic	H	PDL	11:00										

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Sat 21	Cardiff City	A	PDL	0-3	Phillips	Madley	Stone	Howard	Keys	Madley	Ager	Anderson	Jones	
Sat 28	QPR	H	PDL	4-5	Phillips	Michaels	Antiwi	Howard	Keys	Madley	Ager	Anderson	Jones	
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Thu 14	Crewe Alexandra	H	FAYC3	2-0	Seaden	Bennett	Howard	Howard	Keys	Cracknell	Kensdale	Chilvers	Jones	
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Sat 21	Charlton Athletic	H	PDL	11:00										

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|| THE U23s

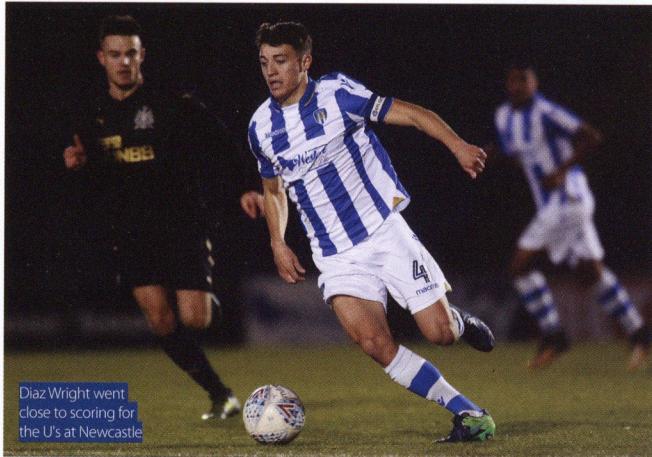
DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

Newcastle United U23s 3-0 U's

Colchester United's U23s finished this year's Premier League Cup group games with a defeat to Newcastle United at the end of last month. The Magpies got off to a flying start and didn't look back at Whitley Park, as they ran out 3-0 winners.

The first goal came after seven minutes with the dangerous Luke Charman sliding the ball past Dom Kurasik to break the deadlock. And Charman, who had also scored in the reverse fixture earlier in the season, headed home from six yards out on the ten minute mark to double the home side's advantage.

Decarrey Sheriff had a good chance for the U's seven minutes later, but it was well blocked by a home defender. Sheriff then went close from a



Diaz Wright went close to scoring for the U's at Newcastle

Tarryn Allarakha cross, but his afternoon was to end in the first half.

A heavy collision with Newcastle's Curtis Good saw him taken away on a stretcher after lengthy treatment. The half finished with Ryan Gondoh striking just wide, but the Magpies took their lead to three just after half time.

Charman turned provider to set up Sangare, who powered his way through and slotted home to extend the advantage. The U's did not let their heads drop, though, and Tariq Issa nearly scored on sixty seven minutes, only to see his shot go just wide.

Callum Jones and Diaz Wright both then had chances to score, but both were denied by the Newcastle goalkeeper. And so Newcastle completed their victory and progress through to the knockout stages.

U's U23s 0-2 Crewe Alexandra

Colchester United's U23s fell to defeat against Crewe Alexandra earlier this month at Florence Park. A goal in each half was enough to send the U's to defeat, with the clinching goal coming from the penalty spot with virtually the last kick of the game.

However, the game did see Doug Loft play the full ninety minutes as he returned from injury. The first half saw Crewe hit the woodwork twice, but it was a goal from Lewis Reilly that broke the deadlock to send the Alex into half time in front.

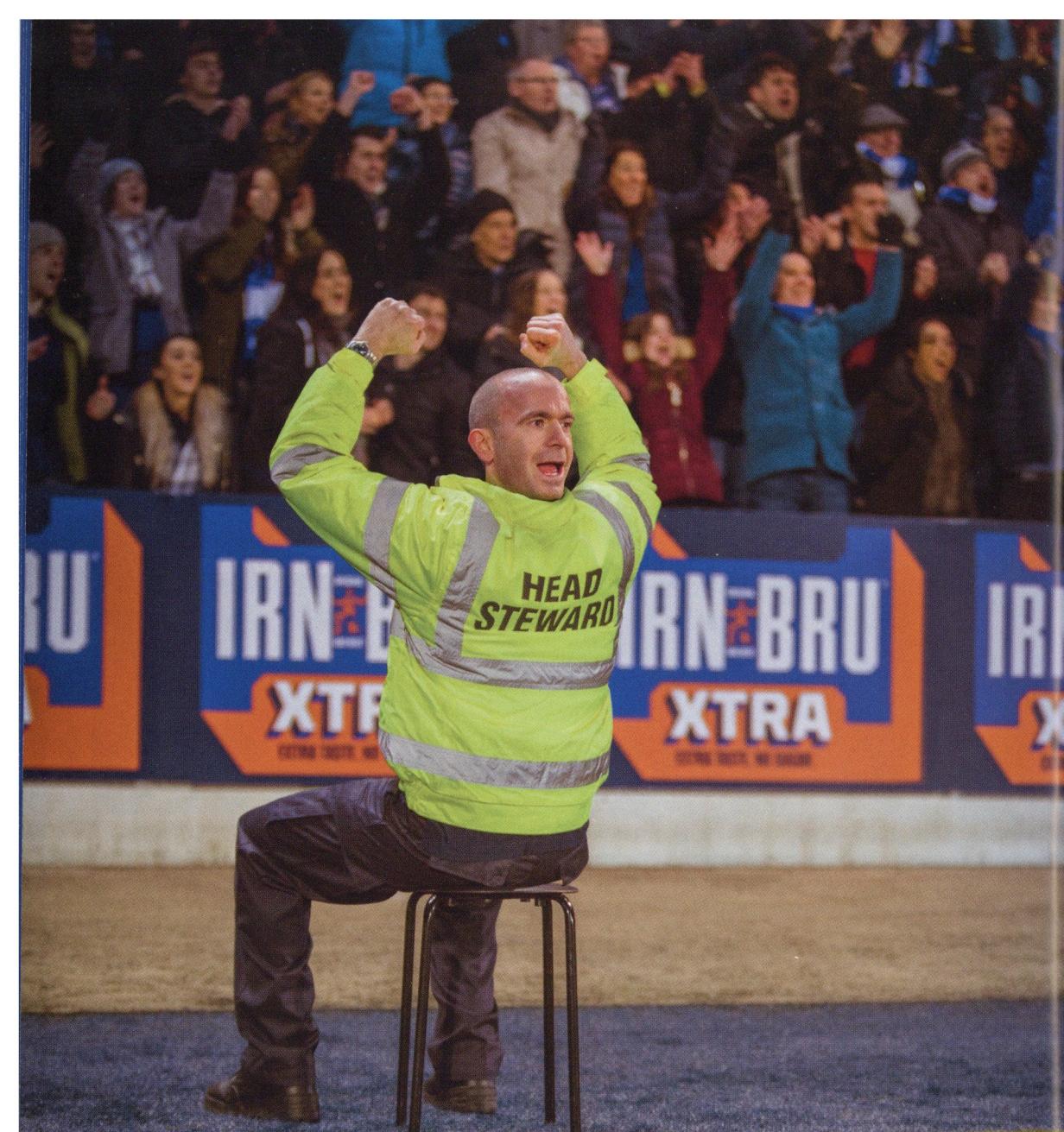
The U's attempted to get back into the game in the second half on a freezing cold afternoon at Florence Park, but the visitors sealed the win late in the day, as Josh Lundstram tucked home a penalty past Dom Kurasik.



Doug Loft got 90 minutes under his belt in the 0-2 reverse against Crewe

			SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 3
McKeown Phipps Phipps	O'Sullivan ² Dunne Jones	Edge Edge Edge	Dunne Ager Sturgess	Senior Jones Mudd	Ager
Hanlan Howard Ager Dunne	McKeown McKeown McKeown McKeown	Edge Jones Dunne Senior	Phipps Ager Jones Wilson	Jefferies Howard Guthrie	Chilvers Wilson Allarkhia
Kabamba McKeown Sheriff McKeown	Odelusi Issa McKeown Issa	Senior Senior Issa Sheriff	Edge Ager Ager Allarkhia	Allarkhia Sheriff Jones Wilson	McKeown Sturgess Edge
McKeown McKeown McKeown Sheriff	Issa Issa Dunne Dunne	Sheriff Senior Senior Senior ²	Kensdale Dunne Sheriff Issa	Ager Sturgess Jefferies McKeown	Warde Sheriff Sturgess
Guthrie Sheriff Sheriff	Issa Issa Issa	Senior Senior Senior	McKeown McKeown Roberts	Allarkhia McKeown	Kensdale
Sheriff Ogedi-Uzokwe ²	Issa Issa	Phipps Sheriff	Warde	Dickenson	Allarkhia
Ogedi-Uzokwe ² Sheriff Phipps Phipps Phipps	Issa Issa Sheriff Chilvers Issa	Sheriff Chilvers Wilson Shodipo Sheriff	Edge Jones Ager Sheriff Wilson	Wilson Jones Wilson Jones	Phipps Chilvers Krasnqi
Jones Jones	Sheriff Sheriff	Kpekawa Kpekawa	Kensdale Wilson	Allarkhia Anderson	Cracknell

KEY:					
Green = 1st substitute			Orange = 2nd substitute		
Red = 3rd substitute			Bold = goalscorer		
		P	GD	Pts	
1	Crystal Palace	24	27	47	
2	Charlton Athletic	24	8	38	
3	Ipswich Town	23	16	38	
4	Coventry City	24	-1	35	
5	Queens Park Rangers	23	0	34	
6	Cardiff City	23	-7	31	
7	Millwall	25	-11	31	
8	Watford	21	8	28	
9	Colchester United	19	-4	26	
10	Bristol City	22	-14	17	



UNBELIEVABLE STUFF

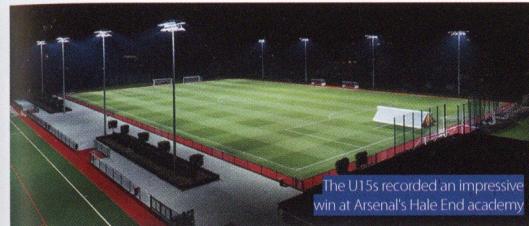


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THE ACADEMY



The U15s recorded an impressive win at Arsenal's Hale End academy

Arsenal U15s 1-2 U's

Colchester United's U15s came from behind to record an impressive win at Hale End, the home of Arsenal FC's Academy in their penultimate Premier League Floodlit Cup game.

With the home side taking the lead midway through the first half the young U's kept their Arsenal counterparts at bay with some resolute defending and reached the halfway stage a goal down.

Gaining more confidence as the game went on, the equaliser eventually came as Tom Stagg raced through to slot home. With Arsenal still threatening, the U15s had to wait for their chances via the counter attack, and eventually Sid Morgan pounced on a mistake and finished calmly into the corner with only ten minutes left on the clock.

A fairly comfortable end to the game saw the U15s run out 2-1 winners and they left with all three points secured. That left the youngsters with just one game left in the group stages.

Leicester City 2-4 U's

Colchester United's U15s staged a stirring comeback at Leicester City to give themselves a great chance of qualifying from the Premier League Floodlit Cup group stages. They fell two behind against the Foxes in the first three minutes - and also missed a first half penalty - but scored one just before half time to give themselves hope in the game.

They eventually got the goals they needed in the final quarter of the match, to run out 4-2 winners. That put them onto ten points in the group but they were pipped when leaders Norwich City were defeated by Arsenal in the final game, giving the Gunners the second qualifying spot.



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CUBS TAKEOVER

We were delighted to welcome over 150 cubs from the local Colchester North District for their latest Cubs Takeover Day against Yeovil.

The match was the third year that the cubs have attended games at Colchester United and they undertook a number of jobs today alongside our staff at the club.

Despite the snowy conditions, the cubs had a fantastic time and we welcomed packs from 1st Myland, 6th Colchester, 1st GT. Horkesley, 44th Colchester, 2nd Lexden, 1st Stanway Normans, 1st Stanway Romans, Stanway Fordham, 2nd Langham, 1st Ardleigh, 7th Colchester, 30th Colchester, 1st West Bergholt Badgers, 1st Marks Tey & Copford, 8th Colchester Tigers, 8th Colchester Lions.



MINI-PHOTOGRAPHER: SAM ANGELL (1ST GT HORKESLEY)



MINI-REPORTER: HAYDEN-LEE WILLSON, FROM 1ST MYLAND CUBS

Report from first half of the match by Hayden-Lee.

Yeovil Town had the kickoff, Colchester started off really well and won a penalty on eight minutes, but then Colchester United missed the penalty as the Yeovil goalkeeper saves it.

At one point in the first half, Colchester United were close to scoring - Yeovil Town slide tackled a Colchester United player giving them a free kick. Yeovil Town scored 23 minutes into the game, leaving the first half score 1-0 to Yeovil Town.

I got to spend some time with Ryan Jackson before the game to ask him few questions.

Hayden: What is your favourite football team?

Ryan: Manchester United

Hayden: Who is your favourite player from Manchester United?

Ryan: Romelu Lukaku

Hayden: What month were you born in?

Ryan: July

Hayden: Do you like fruit or vegetables best?

Ryan: Fruit

Hayden: Have you ever scored a header?

Ryan: No!



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|| NEWS FEATURE

BLUES SEAL SENIOR CUP



Billericay Town have won the 2017/18 BBC Essex Senior Cup following a 2-1 victory over holders Chelmsford City in front of a massive attendance of 2,528 at Colchester United FC's Weston Homes Community Stadium.

Robbie Evans' 23rd-minute strike ignited the contest and put Glenn Tamplin and Harry Wheeler's Billericay side in front, only for Danny Green to level a dozen minutes later as the Clarets took hold of the game. But Rod Stringer's Clarets couldn't build on that and Town went on to maintain the second lead Callum Butcher earned them on the hour.

A huge crowd watched from the stands, that figure being made up of supporters of both sides plus spectators who had guest tickets or had ordered tickets attached to Essex County FA club, coaching, referees and welfare workshops within the stadium beforehand. After a slow start to the game, they would soon be treated to an intriguing final.

Neither goalkeeper was seriously tested during the opening stages as the sides weighed each other up, though the game did eventually gather pace and it was the Blues who stole the initiative. Chelmsford looked for an offside which didn't

materialise but Evans wasn't hanging around and he sprinted into space before calmly slotting past Sam Beasant.

Just two minutes later the Clarets came incredibly close to restoring parity. A corner was half-cleared to the edge of the penalty area where Green was waiting and he drilled through a crowd of players, smacking the foot of the post with venom. On the half-hour mark City could again have considered themselves unfortunate when a frantic scramble in the goalmouth was almost forced home by skipper Anthony Church, then Chris Dickson.

Their pressure eventually told ten minutes prior to the interval. Attacking play was switched to the left-hand side then crossed back over to the right. Green composed himself at the far post before rifling into the near top corner from ten yards. At the other end, Beasant was forced into an acrobatic save to tip the

ball over the crossbar and keep the scores level.

Chelmsford could have laid claim to edging the first half from a creative perspective, though they were to be dealt a severe blow on the hour with the arrival of the match's crucial moment. There was confusion in the Clarets' area as they failed to clear their lines and Butcher made them pay, taking advantage by sweeping home to put Billericay back in front.

There wasn't a great deal of defending to do for Billericay as they sought to preserve their slender advantage though they did have at least two moments of anguish. On 82 minutes it was nearly all-square again as Jonathan Giles' rasper out of the blue from the edge of the area rattled the Billericay crossbar, then keeper Jack Giddens showed strong hands to deny substitute Kudus Oyenuga at the death, meaning Town could lift the Senior Cup for a third time.

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Daily
Gazette

NON-LEAGUE LOCAL LATEST

Defender TJ Amass has revealed that he nearly quit football and had lost his love for the sport before rejoining BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT.

The 29-year-old did not have a regular club and was making occasional appearances in the Essex and Suffolk Border League.

He thought his non-league career could be petering out before a chance conversation with Brightlingsea in early February.

It led to him rejoining a club that he previously helped gain promotion from the Thurlow Nunn League.

And he admits he has not looked back since.

"I took some time out to be with my baby daughter," said Amass.

"And in terms of my football, I thought that was going to be the end for me. I thought I was going to retire. I hadn't been enjoying myself and I'd lost my love of football.

"It was such a shame because I've played since I was seven and only missed one season, when I broke my leg (while playing for Stanway Rovers).

"I've not missed another since, other than the start of this one. But I started to miss it and began thinking about football again one Saturday night, when I was watching Match of the Day.

"Then one of the committee members (senior football secretary Tony Osborne) here, an old schoolfriend, sent me a message saying not to give up.

"He told me I was too good not to be playing. (Manager) Tom (Rothery) was happy for me to come over and train and I ended up signing on. I've loved it ever since."

Amass has been a regular starter since rejoining Brightlingsea and is hoping to play



TJ Amass

playing. I'm getting there, having not played much this season.

"When you're not playing, you lose fitness and then you're not at your best."

"You don't do yourself justice. I'm looking forward to pre-season. Hopefully I'll be kept on and then I'll come back in the summer and give it 110%."

HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS staged an incredible fightback to draw 3-3 in their Division North thriller at Haringey Borough, last weekend.

Jody Brown's side found themselves 3-0 down after goals from Ralston Gabriel, Anthony McDonald and Andre McCollin.

However, Tambeson Eyoung and substitute Matthew Price put them back in contention and despite the latter being sent off, Kresnic Krasniqi fired home a 75th-minute penalty to complete an amazing contest at Coles Park.

MALDON AND TIPTREE'S play-off hopes suffered another dent after they slid to their fourth straight defeat, going down 2-0 at home to in-form Bury.

Jack Lankester put the visitors ahead in the sixth minute, before Cemal Ramadan's late second for the Suffolk side.

It was also a disappointing day for **WITHAM TOWN**, who lost 4-1 at Canvey Island.

Mitchell Gilbey and Ryan Charles put the Gulls in charge at the break, before further goals from Martin Tuohy and Ryan Melaugh.

Chinedu Osadebe provided the Witham consolation.

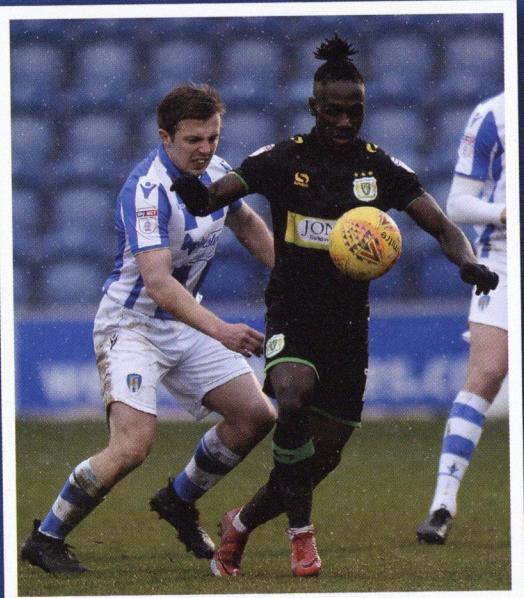
Junior U's



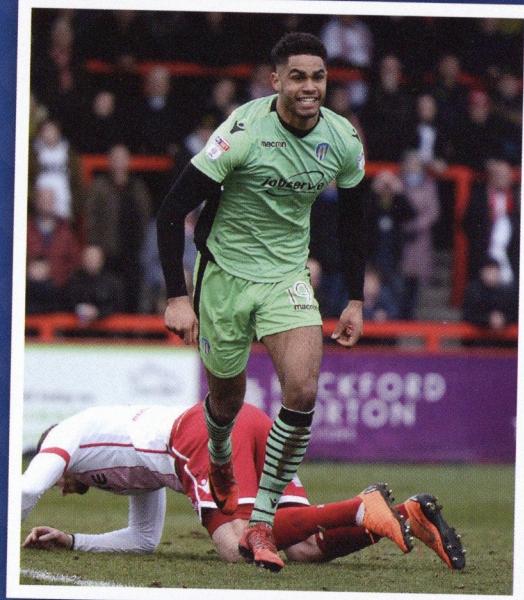
Good afternoon and welcome along to Colchester United Football Club for today's match against high flying Luton Town!

It is also Good Friday, so let's hope it lives up to its name and The U's can put in a good performance here today.

Last time out here the U's faced Yeovil Town which didn't go to plan as we went down 1-0 in what was one of the coldest days ever at



WHCS with snow and wind making it hard to keep warm, even with my fantastic feathers! After this we faced our re-arranged match with Morecambe where we managed to get a 0-0 draw and a useful point on the road, this point had even more value with how we followed it up with our next away match at Stevenage.



MASCOTS



Oliver Price

Age: 7, but 8 tomorrow!
From: Colchester
Hobbies: Watching and playing football, sports, Pokemon and FIFA 18
Fav Player: Ben Stevenson



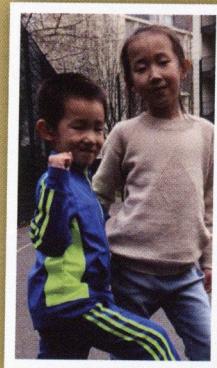
Matthew Ower

Age: 12 today!
From: Tiptree
Hobbies: Watching Arsenal and the U's, playing football and FIFA 18
Fav Player: Sammie Szmodics



Chloe Sheppard

Age: 21 yesterday!
From: Watford
Hobbies: Football and music
Fav Player: James Justin



HELLO...

WELCOME JUDE

A big welcome to Jude Monger, who is here for his first ever match this afternoon! We hope Jude has a great day and helps to cheer the team onto victory.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WILLIAM

William Lamers, happy 8th birthday! Enjoy the game! Hugs and kisses, Mummy, Papa, George, Freddie and Albert.

HUIXIN AND HUICHENG XUE

A big welcome to both Huixin and Huicheng Xue who are here for their first Colchester United game - have a great afternoon and we hope to see you again!

St Helena Hospice

MIDNIGHT WALK 2018

hats and hairdos

Saturday 23rd June

Ladies and gentlemen don your hats and wigs for our 10th anniversary!

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END OF SEASON DINNER

It is now only just over a month until the winners of Colchester United's awards are decided at our fantastic End of Season Dinner at the Weston Homes Community Stadium.

We will welcome fans, sponsors and of course the players and management team to the home of the U's, as we unveil this year's top achievers on the pitch, as well as around the local community.

As the event draws closer, you're now able to register your votes for three of the awards that will be decided on the night.

Official Player of the Year (sponsored by Weston Homes)

Who has been your overall top player in a U's shirt this season? In a year where we've been strong at the back, will it be a defender or goalie Sam Walker who'll get the nod? Or has someone further up the pitch caught your eye?

Young Player of the Year (sponsored by The Millennials Coach)

The U's take great pride in producing home grown talent and many of our Academy graduates have shone in the first team over the past nine months. But which player aged under 21 do you think should lift the crown this time?

Goal of the Season

Which of the U's goals this season have wowed you the most? Whether it was the perfect team goal or an absolute screamer from distance, all of our league and cup goals this season are under consideration!

This award is also available for sponsorship – take a look at our Gold Sponsor package below for more details!

This year, we will also be welcoming former Colchester United winger Perry Groves as our guest speaker.

Dynamic winger Perry broke through to the U's first team nine days before his

17th birthday and didn't look back from that point. His incredible speed made him a nuisance for opposition defenders and he wrote his name into U's folklore with two hat-tricks against Southend in the space of eight weeks.

He moved to Arsenal as George Graham's first signing in 1986, with the Gunners paying £50,000 for his services. He was a League Cup winner in 1987, setting up the crucial goal for Charlie Nicholas and appeared 21 times in the Arsenal title winning campaign of 1988/89.

Southampton was his next stop, as the Saints paid £750,000 for his services, before injury cut short his career.

He has since carved out an impressive media career as a pundit on all things football.

TICKET INFORMATION

The evening will also include an arrival drink and three-course meal.

Gold Sponsor Tickets

Sponsor one of our prestigious awards - £625 +VAT for four guests.

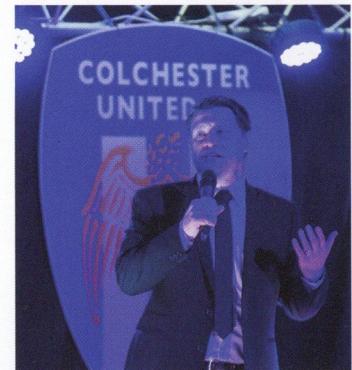
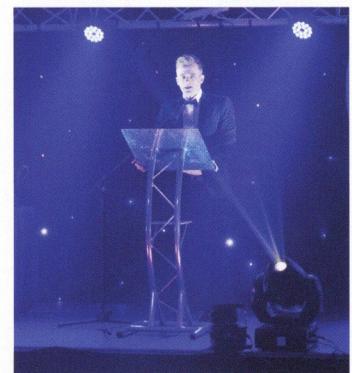
Includes: Prime location table, choice of players to join your table, logo on the event programme and screens, opportunity to present the award on the night, post-event pictures.

Silver Tickets

- £600 for a table of ten
- £66 per person

BOOK NOW

Give us a call on 01206 752020 or e-mail commercial@colchesterunited.net to find out more.



NEW

ORANGE!

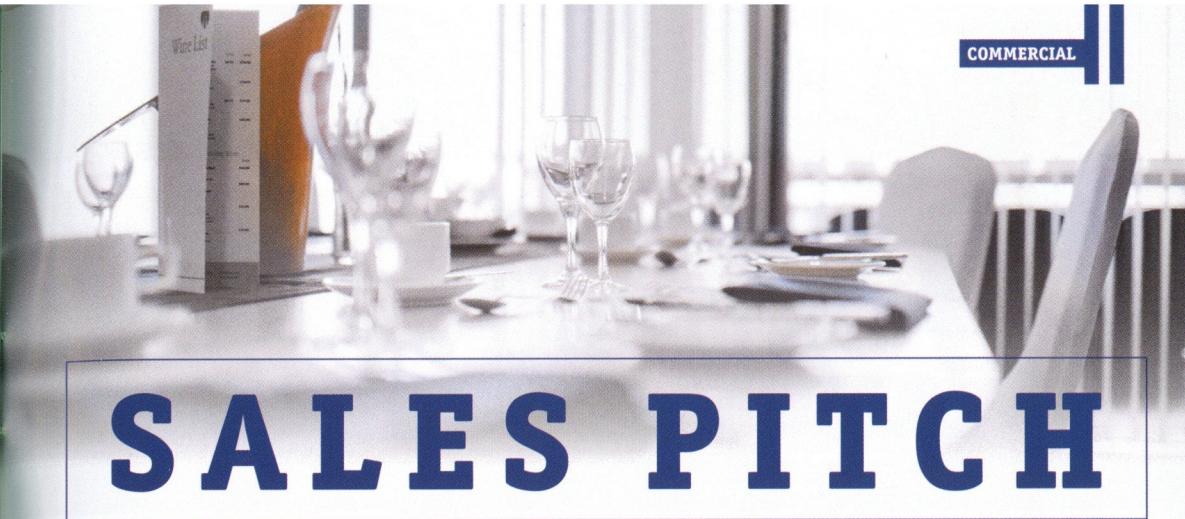
TASTES
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*EXCEPT 'SPORANGE'



COMMERCIAL



SALES PITCH

MATCH SPONSOR: BIDFOOD

We would like to welcome this afternoon's Match Sponsor, Bidfood.

Bidfood's mission is to deliver service excellence, making life easier and helping their customers to grow. Everything they do has the customer at heart, and is led by research and insights, be it into food trends supporting them to keep a step ahead of the curve, or into the latest technological advances allowing them to continuously develop their service offering.

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and engagement that ensures the company's continued success.

Their teams also take our commitment to challenges shared by the industry very seriously, and this led to the launch, in 2015, of their CSER initiative plate2planet which provides a forum for advice, debate and innovation amongst caterers, suppliers and industry bodies.



MATCH HOSPITALITY

There's no better way to enjoy the final push than enjoying some hospitality with us, with a wide variety of packages to suit everyone. From a three-course meal in our Centennial suite through to executive boxes for 10 guests.

Contact the commercial team on 01206 752020 or e-mail commercial@colchesterunited.net to find out more



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DAY OF ACTION A SUCCESS

Colchester United's Football in the Community team enjoyed a busy day ten days ago, as they joined in on the EFL's Community Day of Action.

Clubs around the country celebrated the great work they do in their local communities and the U's community scheme, which recently launched its 2018-21 Unite Our Communities strategy, was busy at work across the local area.

The day started with a Year One multiskills session at Langenhoe Primary School, before our coaches headed to Boxted to provide a Premier League Primary Stars session with the pupils there.

One of our newest projects is United

Against Knife Crime and we were at a number of primary and secondary schools to spread the word on the dangers of knives.

We were also joined by Look East, who spoke to project coordinator Tom Tayler about the successes of the scheme so far.

Later in the day, our Development Centre players were met by U23s winger Ryan Clampin, with Eoin McKeown and Sam Warde heading to the dome for our evening Premier League Kicks sessions!

Thanks to all of the players for their participation and thanks to the schools for hosting us as we continue to spread the word on the U's into the local community.



PLAYER VISITS

Colchester United Football in the Community have been celebrating partnerships with local schools they deliver to on a weekly basis.

Colchester United first team and U23s players will be out visiting the schools, supporting the sessions and meeting the participants.

While they are visiting the schools they have presented to the school a plaque showing the partnership between Football in the Community and the school, which will be displayed in the main entrances of the schools.

If you wish to get your school involved in working with Colchester United Football in the Community, please contact ben.elmer@colchesterunited.net or call 01206 755160.



SLEEP OUT SUPPORTS NEW DISABILITY PROGRAMMES

Colchester United Football in the Community coaches and supporters, members of the Colchester Rough Sleepers Group as well as people from across the local area participated in our first Sleep Out at the Weston Homes Community Stadium last Friday.

The night raised over £3,300 for the Colchester Rough Sleepers Group and the two new recently launched disability programmes, run by our community scheme.

The U's community scheme has received funding to launch pan-disability football, along with frame and wheelchair multi-sport, and the schemes are also supported by the fundraising from last year's Football in the Community trip to Kenya.

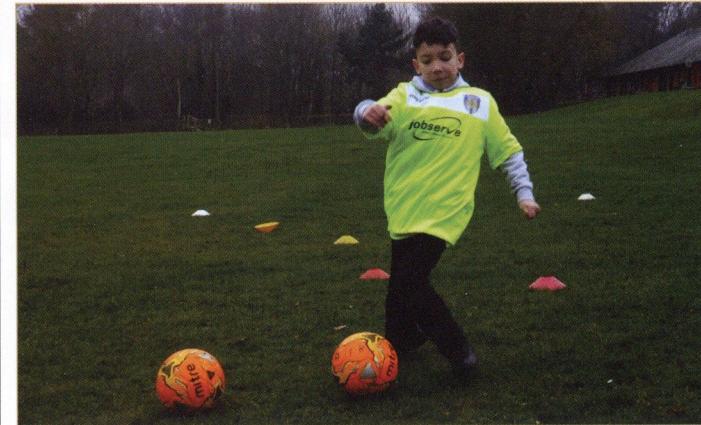
Details of the two schemes are as follows:-

Pan-Disability Football

Starts: Thursday 19th April
Age Groups: 8-12 and 13-16
At: Outdoor sessions at Shrub End Community Sports Centre, CO2 9BG
Cost: FREE first session, then £2.50 per session

Our pan-disability football sessions will run throughout termtime and are aimed at all differing impairments.

The programme will take place on our state of the art 3G pitch, and offer the opportunity to



participate in exciting and engaging practices. As well as developing skills within football, the programme will also help improve social skills and confidence.

Frame & Wheelchair Multisport

Starts: Monday 16th April
Age Groups: 8-12 and 13-16
At: Indoor sessions at Leisure World Highwoods, CO4 9PU
Cost: FREE first session, then £2.50 per session

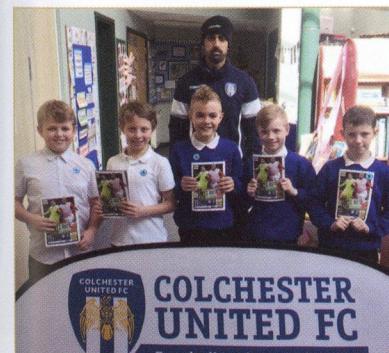
Our frame and wheelchair multi-sport sessions will run throughout term time and will consist of various sports delivered

indoors to participants using either frames or wheelchairs.

The aim of our programme is to create an enjoyable and safe environment for everybody to enjoy sport. During this programme, we will look to develop sporting skills, as well as social skills and confidence.

Get Involved!

To find out more about either programme, please contact callum.murphy@colchesterunited.net or pre-book your place via our Official Soccer Schools website.



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EASTER COURSES

With March now underway, we're busy preparing for our Easter courses with the U's Football in the Community programme.

The club's community scheme has a range of fantastic courses coming up in the Easter holiday period, with activities on offer for children of all ages.

Courses will be taking place at the Weston Homes Community Stadium and Shrub End Community & Sports Centre and you can read more about what's on offer in the table below.

STRIKERS CAMP

Date(s)	School Yr	Time	Venue	Code	Price
3, 4 & 5 April 2018	2 - 6	9.30 - 15.00	WHCS ●	WHCS9	£50.00

MINI KICKERS

3, 4 & 5 April 2018	Rec - 2	10.00 - 12.00	WHCS ●	WHCS10	£20.00
9, 10 & 11 April 2018	Rec - 2	10.00 - 12.00	Shrub End ●	SE27	£20.00

TOURNAMENT DAY

5 April 2018	2 - 6	9.30 - 15.00	Shrub End ●	SE28	£17.50
5 April 2018	7 - 11	9.30 - 15.00	Shrub End ●	SE29	£17.50
6 April 2018	2 - 6	9.30 - 15.00	WHCS ●	WHCS11	£17.50
6 April 2018	7 - 11	9.30 - 15.00	WHCS ●	WHCS12	£17.50

COMMUNITY HOLIDAY CLUB

3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 April 2018	8 - 14 yrs	8.30 - 17.30	Shrub End	SE30	Five Days £120.00 ★
3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 April 2018	8 - 14 yrs	8.30 - 17.30	Shrub End	SE31	Three Days £75.00 ★
3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 April 2018	8 - 14 yrs	8.30 - 17.30	Shrub End	SE32	Two Days £50.00 ★
3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 April 2018	8 - 14 yrs	8.30 - 17.30	Shrub End	SE33	One Day £27.50 ★

SOCCER CAMP

9, 10 & 11 April 2018	2 - 6	9.30 - 15.00	Shrub End ●	SE34	£50.00
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TRAIN LIKE A PRO

9, 10 & 11 April 2018	7 - 11	9.30 - 15.00	Shrub End ●	SE35	£50.00
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GOALKEEPERS CAMP

9, 10 & 11 April 2018	2 - 6	9.30 - 15.00	Shrub End ●	SE36	£50.00
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GIRLS ONLY SOCCER CAMP

9 & 10 April 2018	2 - 6	9.30 - 15.00	Shrub End ●	SE37	£35.00
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FUTSAL FUN DAY

9 April 2018	2 - 6	9.30 - 15.00	Shrub End ●	SE38	£17.50
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MULTI-SPORTS FUN DAY

10 April 2018	2 - 7	9.30 - 15.00	Shrub End ●	SE39	£17.50
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SPORTY TOTS

10 April 2018	2 - 4 yrs	10.00 - 11.00	Shrub End Hall	SE40	£5.00
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TOURNAMENT DAY

12 April 2018	2 - 6	9.30 - 15.00	Shrub End ●	SE41	£17.50
13 April 2018	7 - 11	9.30 - 15.00	Shrub End ●	SE42	£17.50
13 April 2018	2 - 6	9.30 - 15.00	WHCS ●	WHCS13	£17.50
13 April 2018	7 - 11	9.30 - 15.00	WHCS ●	WHCS14	£17.50

• Early drop off service available for an additional cost of £5.00 per day at Shrub End and WHCS only from 08.15 – 9.30.

★ Half day options available from 8.30am-1pm or 1pm-5.30pm for just £15.00.

												
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JUNIOR OGEDI-UZOKWE HOME SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR AWAY SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	KURTIS GUTHRIE FULL SPONSOR FANS OF "COLCHESTER UNITED...PAST, PRESENT AND THE FUTURE" FACEBOOK PAGE. COME & JOIN THE BLUE & WHITE ARMY ONLINE - UP THE U's!	RENE GILMARTIN HOME SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR AWAY SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	TARIQ ISSA HOME SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR AWAY SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	DIAZ WRIGHT HOME SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR AWAY SPONSOR OUT ON LOAN	LOUIS DUNNE HOME SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR AWAY SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	CAMERON JAMES HOME SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR AWAY SPONSOR OUT ON LOAN	CHARLEY EDGE HOME SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR AWAY SPONSOR OUT ON LOAN	EOIN McKEOWN HOME SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR AWAY SPONSOR OUT ON LOAN	JOHN McGREAL HOME SPONSOR CUSA AWAY SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	STEVE BALL HOME SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR AWAY SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	TONY FLYNN HOME SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR AWAY SPONSOR AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	



2017/18 STATISTICS

DATE OPPONENTS COMP RES ATT VIS POS

DATE	OPPONENTS	COMP	RES	ATT	VIS	POS
AUGUST						
Sat 5	Accrington Stanley	A EFL2	L 1-3	1,625	329	21
Wed 9	Aston Villa	H EFL2	L 1-2	6,603	1,559	-
Sat 12	Stevenage	H EFL2	D 1-1	3,330	348	20
Sat 19	Luton Town	A EFL2	L 0-3	7,865	445	23
Sat 26	Forest Green Rovers	H EFL2	W 5-1	3,047	152	16
Tue 29	Reading U21s	H CTG1	D 2-2*	527	49	-
SEPTEMBER						
Sat 2	Cambridge United	A EFL2	L 0-1	4,511	791	20
Sat 9	Crawley Town	H EFL2	W 3-1	2,923	188	14
Tue 12	Chesterfield	H EFL2	D 1-1	2,552	117	16
Sat 16	Cheltenham Town	A EFL2	L 1-3	2,718	200	17
Sat 23	Wycombe Wanderers	H EFL2	L 1-2	3,562	537	20
Tue 26	Grimsby Town	A EFL2	D 2-2	3,438	89	21
Sat 30	Yeovil Town	A EFL2	W 1-0	2,556	152	16
OCTOBER						
Tue 3	Gillingham	H CTG2	L 0-1	684	89	-
Sat 7	Mansfield Town	H EFL2	W 2-0	3,262	339	15
Sat 14	Carlisle United	H EFL2	L 0-1	3,402	236	16
Tue 17	Newport County	A EFL2	W 2-1	2,704	136	14
Sat 21	Coventry City	A EFL2	D 0-0	7,149	349	15
Sat 28	Crewe Alexandra	H EFL2	W 3-1	3,088	185	13
NOVEMBER						
Sat 4	Oxford City	H FAC1	L 0-1	1,775	153	-
Tue 7	Southend United	A CTG3	L 0-2	2,781	150	-
Sat 11	Barnet	A EFL2	W 1-0	2,301	610	10
Sat 18	Morecambe	H EFL2	D 0-0	2,872	64	12
Tue 21	Lincoln City	H EFL2	W 1-0	3,102	475	9
Sat 25	Notts County	A EFL2	L 1-2	6,770	346	11
DECEMBER						
Sat 9	Exeter City	H EFL2	W 3-1	3,102	278	10
Fri 15	Swindon Town	A EFL2	W 3-2	6,020	160	5
Sat 23	Port Vale	H EFL2	D 1-1	3,485	151	8
Tue 26	Crawley Town	A EFL2	W 2-0	2,154	375	5
Sat 30	Chesterfield	A EFL2	D 0-0	5,537	257	8
JANUARY 2018						
Mon 1	Cambridge United	H EFL2	D 0-0	4,789	777	8
Sat 6	Cheltenham Town	H EFL2	L 1-4	2,886	102	9
Sat 13	Wycombe Wanderers	A EFL2	L 1-3	4,386	580	11
Sat 20	Grimsby Town	H EFL2	D 1-1	3,016	336	11
Sat 27	Port Vale	A EFL2	D 2-2	4,044	143	11
FEBRUARY						
Sat 3	Newport County	H EFL2	W 2-0	2,874	184	10
Sat 10	Carlisle United	A EFL2	D 1-1	4,006	144	11
Tue 13	Coventry City	H EFL2	W 2-1	3,319	438	10
Sat 17	Crewe Alexandra	A EFL2	L 0-1	3,548	200	11
Sat 24	Barnet	H EFL2	L 0-1	3,121	235	12
MARCH						
Sat 10	Mansfield Town	A EFL2	D 1-1	4,050	163	13
Sat 17	Yeovil Town	H EFL2	L 0-1	2,772	109	13
Tue 20	Morecambe	A EFL2	D 0-0	893	52	13
Sat 24	Stevenage	A EFL2	W 1-0	2,709	390	11
Fri 30	Luton Town	H EFL2	15:00			
APRIL						
Mon 2	Forest Green Rovers	A EFL2		15:00		
Sat 7	Accrington Stanley	H EFL2	15:00			
Sat 14	Notts County	H EFL2	15:00			
Sat 21	Lincoln City	A EFL2	15:00			
Sat 28	Swindon Town	H EFL2	15:00			
MAY						
Sat 5	Exeter City	A EFL2		15:00		

*won 6-5 on penalties

KEY: GK: Goalkeeper, RB: Right Back, RW: Right Wing, LB: Left Back, LW: Left Wing, CB: Centre Back, CM: Centre Midfield, AM: Attacking Midfield, FW: Forward, U: Unused Sub, SUB: First Substitution, SUB: Second Substitution, SUB: Third Substitution, replacing same colour, Y: Yellow Card, R: Red Card, D: Dismissed for two bookable offences, Bold: Goalscorer and number of goals



	P	GD	PTS
1 Luton	39	41	74
2 Accrington	37	24	74
3 Wycombe	39	19	70
4 Notts County	39	19	66
5 Exeter	38	9	66
6 Coventry	38	16	64
7 Mansfield	38	16	63
8 Lincoln City	38	13	61
9 Swindon	38	1	60
10 Carlisle	39	7	57
11 Colchester	39	4	55
12 Newport	38	-1	53
13 Crawley	39	-5	53
14 Cambridge	39	-12	51
15 Cheltenham	39	1	48
16 Stevenage	38	-6	44
17 Crewe	39	-14	43
18 Yeovil	37	-10	42
19 Morecambe	38	-10	41
20 Forest Green	39	-20	40
21 Port Vale	39	-13	39
22 Grimsby	39	-29	37
23 Chesterfield	37	-26	34
24 Barnet	39	-24	30

17/18 CUFC APPS GLS

01 Walker	42	0	208	0
02 Jackson	36(2)	2	38	2
04 Lapslie	28(1)	0	93	3
05 Prosser	7(2)	0	26	0
06 Kent	39	3	95	3
07 Wright, Drey	35(5)	1	141	7
08 Loft	11(2)	0	22	0
09 Johnstone	1(2)	0	35	2
10 Szmodics	26(7)	13	107	23
11 Dickenson	3(3)	0	45	12
12 Kepkawa	6(2)	0	14	0
14 Comley	27(6)	1	33	1
15 Shodipo	(2)	0	2	0
16 Murray	18(15)	3	49	3
17 Stevenson	4(3)	1	7	1
18 Eastman	39(1)	2	275	13
19 Mandron	39(3)	10	42	10
20 Senior	6(6)	3	12	3
21 Mandeville	1(4)	0	5	0
22 Vincent-Young	33(1)	1	73	1
23 O'Sullivan	1(3)	0	7	0
24 Slater	2(8)	0	42	3
25 Barnes	0	0	2	0
26 Inness	19	0	19	0
27 Ogedi-Uzokwe	3(2)	1	5	1
28 Guthrie	8(5)	1	49	13
29 Gilmartin	2	0	2	0
31 Issa	1(2)	0	4	0
32 Wright, Diaz	1	0	2	0
33 Dunne	0	0	5	0
35 James	7(4)	0	27	0
39 Edge	0	0	1	0
42 McKeown	(1)	1	1	1

ALSO FEATURED IN 2017/18

03 Kinsella	7(7)	0	29	0
15 Kabamba	4(6)	0	10	0
17 Reid	15(4)	3	19	3
21 Hanlan	11(9)	2	20	2
27 Odelusi	2(8)	1	10	1



FAQ: MATCH CREDITS

Colchester United have always tried to provide innovative and flexible ways for fans to watch their favourite team in action at the best possible price.

From our progressive pricing to the wide range of benefits around a Season Ticket, fans have been spoilt for choice when it comes to booking their spot for U's matches.

Supporters can now also purchase Match Credits, providing you with another way to get to the Weston Homes Community Stadium and watch the boys in action.

WHAT ARE MATCH CREDITS?

Match Credits are available to purchase via www.colutickets.com in multiples of five games (5, 10, 25, 50 and 100). These credits are then kept on your account until such time that you decide to redeem them against a game you'd like to attend.

HOW MUCH WILL THEY COST?

Season Passes and Annual Subscriptions will always represent the best value for attending games.

However, the more credits you buy in one transaction, the cheaper they will be and Match Credits will represent a significant saving on matchday prices.

A credit is valid for one seat in a Football League fixture.

HOW DO I REDEEM MY CREDITS?

Credits can be redeemed via www.colutickets.com and can be used against the game(s) of your choice when you're ready to buy. Disabled concessions must be redeemed at the Ticket Office but can be bought online.

Credits can be redeemed immediately, unless

they are bought on a matchday, where they can then only be redeemed the following day.

DO THEY GUARANTEE ME MY SEAT?

No – you will only be able to select your seat when you redeem your credit(s) against a particular match. However, you can redeem your credits at a time that suits you and for as many games as you wish at any given time.

I WANT TO BRING A FRIEND WITH MY CREDITS – CAN I?

Yes! Should you wish to use multiple credits against one fixture, then you are able to do so. Simply select the seats you would like to buy and redeem the relevant number of credits. Furthermore, groups are encouraged to buy credits together to then redeem and attend the games they wish to go to together.

Here are just four ways that you could use your credits:-

Example 1

You know you will attend multiple games in the next year but work and family commitments mean you don't know until the last minute when it will be so you can never take advantage of buying cheaper, earlier. Buying a batch of Match Credits allows you to buy at a competitive rate and then convert a credit into a match ticket at the last minute.

Example 2

You attend several games each year in a group but not everyone in the group goes to all of the same games. Buying a batch between the

group will make tickets cheaper to purchase and for each game you just convert the number of credits into match tickets that you need to.

Example 3

You run a business and like to mix business with pleasure and invite your customers and potential customers to games. You want to attend all of the games but if you buy a number of season tickets you know that some games are less attractive to your customers than others. Buying Match Credits allows you to invite more customers to the attractive fixtures and yet still come yourself on that cold Tuesday evening in January without wasting any tickets.

Example 4

A large group of you want to attend a game but it's too late to buy the cheaper Match-day tickets. You can simply buy a large batch of Match Credits at a cheap rate and then go online and convert them into match tickets.

WHAT IF I WANT TO BUY MORE CREDITS?

Credits are always available to purchase in the multiples mentioned above. Simply follow the instructions to add additional credits to your account.

HOW LONG DO THEY LAST?

Match Credits are valid for twelve months from the point that the first credit is redeemed.

For more details and to buy your first batch of credits, visit www.colutickets.com!



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ADULT

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JUNIOR

Shirts	£35.00
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www.cufcretail.com



COLCHESTER UNITED

HEAD COACH: John McGreal

- 01 Sam **WALKER**
- 02 Ryan **JACKSON**
- 04 Tom **LAPSLIE**
- 05 Luke **PROSSER**
- 06 Frankie **KENT**
- 07 Drey **WRIGHT**
- 08 Doug **LOFT**
- 09 Denny **JOHNSTONE**
- 10 Sammie **SZMODICS**
- 11 Brennan **DICKENSON**
- 12 Cole **KPEKAWA**
- 14 Brandon **COMLEY**
- 15 Olamide **SHODIPO**
- 16 Sean **MURRAY**
- 17 Ben **STEVENSON**
- 18 Tom **EASTMAN**
- 19 Mikael **MANDRON**
- 20 Courtney **SENIOR**
- 21 Liam **MANDEVILLE**
- 22 Kane **VINCENT-YOUNG**
- 23 Tommy **O'SULLIVAN**
- 24 Craig **SLATER**
- 25 Dillon **BARNES**
- 26 Ryan **INNIS**
- 27 Junior **OGEDI-UZOKWE**
- 28 Kurtis **GUTHRIE**
- 29 Rene **GILMARTIN**
- 31 Tariq **ISSA**
- 32 Diaz **WRIGHT**
- 33 Louis **DUNNE**
- 35 Cameron **JAMES**
- 39 Charley **EDGE**
- 42 Eoin **McKEOWN**



LUTON TOWN

MANAGER: Nathan Jones

- 01 Marek **ŠTECH**
- 02 James **JUSTIN**
- 03 Dan **POTTS**
- 04 Alan **McCORMACK**
- 05 Johnny **MULLINS**
- 06 Scott **CUTHBERT**
- 07 Jack **STACEY**
- 08 Olly **LEE**
- 09 Danny **HYLTON**
- 10 Jordan **COOK**
- 11 Andrew **SHINNIE**
- 14 Harry **CORNICK**
- 15 Jake **JERVIS**
- 16 Glen **REA**
- 17 Pelly **RUDDOCK MPANZU**
- 18 Luke **BERRY**
- 19 James **COLLINS**
- 20 Flynn **DOWNES**
- 21 Jack **SENIOR**
- 22 Luke **GAMBIN**
- 24 Lawson **D'ATH**
- 27 Aaron **JARVIS**
- 28 Lloyd **JONES**
- 35 Arthur **READ**
- 36 James **SHEA**
- 38 Elliot **LEE**
- 39 Akin **FAMEWO**
- 40 Harry **ISTED**
- 44 Alan **SHEEHAN**

NEXT AT THE WHCS



ACCRINGTON STANLEY

Saturday 7th April 2018

3:00pm

Sky Bet League Two

sky BET LEAGUE TWO | **EFL**



Notts County

Saturday 14th April 2018

3:00pm

Sky Bet League Two

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