

ACADEMY BACKTRACK BY HAYDON

Following last Saturday's bulletin I was contacted by Lisa Boyer the new Witney Academy secretary who stated that since the resignation of Bob Hayden as Academy Secretary further discussions had taken place which should result in a better working relationship between the two clubs using Marriotts Stadium. Bob Hayden will remain with the Academy as Match Day Secretary, Program Editor and club Physio. This renewed relationship was mirrored in the match result on Saturday as Witney Academy secured a 3-1 win over a Purton side who were unbeaten in six matches played in November & December and received the accolade as Division One (West) team of the month.

KEEGAN SPEAKS

Friday 23rd March is a date for your diary as the evening that Kevin Keegan has agreed to speak at a fund raising dinner supporting Henley Town's youth team development plan. The dinner is being held in the Cedar Room at Reading University, tickets are £45 each with the chance to win £250 in a free prize draw. Kevin has agreed to donate a tracksuit top he wore during his time as England Manager to aid the fundraising. Any clubs interested in purchasing tickets, tables of up to ten are available, should contact Jack Hollidge on 0118 934 1106.

RAILWAYMEN'S MILESTONE

The win over North Leigh last Saturday has given Didcot Town the best ever start to a season with eleven wins and five draws in sixteen League outings so far. Such form, if continued, should put Didcot Town very near the top of the table and in championship contention. Alex Deadman, the Railwaymen's keeper made his 249th appearance for Didcot Town in the win over North Leigh. Very nice to hear of such player loyalty when many players move from club to club for a few extra quid.

LEAGUE AWARDS

Team of the Month

With the awful weather during November & December many teams played a minimum number of fixtures. Due to the intervention of the elements the latest 'Team of the Month Awards' covered November & December. **Swindon Supermarine** won the **Premier Division** award with six wins and a draw in seven outings that saw them top the division in December. The **Division One (West)** is won by another Wiltshire club with **Purton FC** dragging themselves away from the bottom of the table with an unbeaten run of six matches, securing three wins and three draws. In **Division One (East)** the award goes to **Binfield FC** with five wins in five outings during the review period.

A set of training tops will be despatched to each of the winning clubs during the week.

Safe Hands Award

The goalkeeping award goes to **Ross Graham** of **Eton Wick FC** who conceded only one goal in five matches as his team surged up to 3rd spot in Division One (East).

MILTON UNITED

I received a letter last week from Andy Newell, Chairman of the Hellenic Referee's Association who was the match referee on 6th January at Milton United. When Andy arrived and inspected the pitch he pointed out areas of the playing surface that were literally under water, when speaking to the groundsman he said that unless the excess water could be removed then the match would have to be postponed. Within minutes a team of people, including the groundsman and club President John Cannon, were working on the pitch brushing the water away and forking the affected areas. All the work was not in vain as play was sanctioned and a competitive local derby ensued with Didcot Town narrowly winning with a goal on the stroke of half time.

WILTSHIRE FA SENIOR CUP



Saturday 27th January (Kick off 2:00 pm)

V

Purton

Program Addendum

This fixture was due to have been played last week, it being called off due to a frozen pitch in the morning. The program though was produced ready for the fixture. Costs are vital to a club such as ours so we are today issuing the original programs, but with this addendum providing last weekends club results, up to date tables, and the League bulletin 'boot room' chatter. Thank you for your understanding.

Clubs and individuals are invited to submit news items of interest for possible inclusion in Boot Room Chatter. Please send your items to Brian King, General Secretary, 83 Queens Road, Carterton, Oxon. OX18 3YF, fax them to 01993 212738 or E-mail to king.brian@ukgateway.net

CLUB RESULTS SAT 20th, Sun 21st, Tue 24th January

Firsts – travelled to Didcot Town on Tue 24th and came away with a well earned point from a battling performance in torrential rain.

Reserves - drew 0-0 away at Wantage Town. Failed to take a hatful of chances, but maintain their unbeaten season to date

A Team - Croft 1 Wootton Bassett 'A' 7, Craig reports :-

An excellent performance on a difficult pitch against a side from a higher division, saw us reach the Semi-Finals of the George Thomas Memorial Cup. We started the game strongly, with 4 goals in the first half, from Steve Davis (2) (one which many disputed to be an own goal, however Steve 'nearly' got there!), Neil Clark with a 30 yard 'scuff' which caught the keeper unawares due to a nasty divot, and Barry Taylor, following excellent work from Mark Hull. The second half saw us score early on with a bullet header from Paul Roberts. We then seemed to lose our shape for 20 minutes, following a couple of substitutions, and left Croft back into the game. Fortunately, they were unable to capitalise on the numerous chances they had, only scoring the one, in a passage of play that could have made the game closer. We eventually regained a stronghold and Barry Taylor scored twice to complete his hat-trick, his final goal an excellent 30 yard chip over the keeper. Overall an excellent performance, with particular mentions for the two Simon's (Jones and Slade) who controlled the game from centre midfield and allowed us to build a strong platform from which to play.

Under 18's - 'A' team won 15-1 away at Athelstan Albion.

Under 16's - no game

Under 15's - match postponed, frozen pitch

Under 14's - lost 0-7 away to Eastville, showing signs of not having played for some 6 weeks. Eastville established a 3 goal lead within 10 minutes, due to lack of defensive organisation. We then rallied and created a few half chances and kept the ball for a while. Confidence grew and the score was not added to before half time. A strong Eastville side with a hard working and good passing midfield came out strongly for the second half and kept the pressure very much on the boys, gaining four further goals before the end.

Under 13's - match postponed, frozen pitch

Under 12's - won 7-1 away to Highworth Juniors. Strong performance from the boys, playing some good pass and move football. The first goal came after 10 minutes, the ball being played to the right for Chris Mochan to shoot home. Further first half goals came from Whaymond, and Harrison latching on to a half cleared ball to shoot home from outside the area. Second half was all one way traffic, with goals and chances coming thick and fast. Walkley got two, Lawro got one, and the other scorer escapes me as my mind and feet had frozen to the spot by then !! Then on to watch the under 14's, and get even more cold !!

Under 11's - lost 3-7 away to Stratton Juniors, Mark reports :-

We crashed out of the cup in style going down to our heaviest defeat ever, losing 3-9 to Stratton Juniors in the end. Disappointing result against one of the best sides in our age group. Early on we did not have the luck, one goal was disallowed and we hit the post twice in the first half but found ourselves 3-0 down at the interval. Pushed an extra man up to try and get back into the game and paid the penalty letting in a further 3 goals before we registered on the score sheet. We managed to get back to 3-7 but let in two further goals at the end. All our goals were scored by Jonny Aitkenhead. Mutterings were heard again about the vice-chairman's curse, two games watched and 14 goals conceded by Bassett (42% of the total goals conceded all season)!

Next week's fixture will need to be rearranged as Stratton Cirencester have yet to play their cup quarter-final. At the time of writing seeking to re-arrange league fixture with either Blunsdon or Malmesbury.

Under 10's – Thursday 18th won 5-0 at home to Malmesbury, Sun 21st lost 2-4 to Stratton Crosslink

Under 9's - no game

Under 8's - no game

Under 7's - Two games that Fred reports on :-

WBTFU U8 10 vs 4 Ashton Keynes Kestrels U8

The game started at a fairly quick pace and Bassett was 4 up after 5 minutes, I was pleased with our performance, but to be fair to the kids, Ashton didn't pass the ball or play in position, and it really turned out to be a one sided event. Noticeable performance from Jake Gosling, who scored the majority of our goals with some excellent control and accurate shooting. Ashton Keynes Goalie was very good (although the score line does not reflect this!). Another excellent performance from Sam Munton in midfield who held up the ball well, and his usual unselfish distribution of the ball.

WBTFU U7/8 13 vs 6 Ashton Keynes Kestrels U7/8

Again another one sided game, in which Bassett had the vast majority of the play. Excellent performances from Alec Daley and James French. The next two games are against much stronger opposition, and we need to concentrate on stopping the opposition scoring, which is currently the weakest part of our game.

League Tables up to and including 21st January.

<u>Premier Division</u>									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD	
1 Swindon Supermarine	18	16	1	1	43	13	49	30	
2 Highworth Town	18	14	1	3	49	21	43	28	
3 Didcot Town	16	11	5	0	27	6	38	21	
4 Brackley Town	15	11	1	3	29	20	34	9	
5 Yate Town	17	8	3	6	40	25	27	15	
6 Wootton Bassett Town	18	7	5	6	30	35	26	-5	
7 Fairford Town	18	7	3	8	27	24	24	3	
8 Carterton Town	13	7	2	4	26	18	23	8	
9 Tuffley Rovers	13	7	2	4	24	19	23	5	
10 Abingdon United	13	6	2	5	21	16	20	5	
11 Cirencester Academy	12	6	1	5	25	17	19	8	
12 Bicester Town	13	5	3	5	17	17	18	0	
13 Pegasus Juniors	13	5	1	7	23	31	16	-8	
14 Almondsbury Town	20	5	1	14	22	34	16	-12	
15 Harrow Hill	18	3	5	10	19	33	14	-14	
16 Wantage Town	17	4	2	11	21	43	14	-22	
17 Shortwood United	13	2	6	5	20	23	12	-3	
18 North Leigh	12	3	3	6	14	24	12	-10	
19 Cheltenham Saracens	16	3	2	11	15	36	11	-21	
20 Milton United	17	0	1	16	7	44	1	-37	

<u>Division One (West)</u>									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD	
1 Ardley United	17	13	0	4	54	23	39	31	
2 Gloucester United	14	12	1	1	46	8	37	38	
3 Bishops Cleeve	13	9	1	3	25	17	28	8	
4 Headington Amateurs	17	8	3	6	32	30	27	2	
5 Letcombe FC	13	6	5	2	22	13	23	9	
6 Witney Academy	14	7	2	5	23	27	23	-4	
7 Middle Barton	14	4	6	4	18	20	18	-2	
8 Clanfield FC	14	5	2	7	27	34	17	-7	
9 Cirencester United	14	4	3	7	18	27	15	-9	
10 Easington Sports	11	5	0	6	18	29	15	-11	
11 Malmesbury Victoria	11	4	2	5	23	24	14	-1	
12 Old Woodstock Town	17	3	5	9	21	28	14	-7	
13 Kidlington	14	3	4	7	14	25	13	-11	
14 Purton FC	15	2	6	7	21	34	12	-13	
15 Worcester Coll OB	16	3	2	11	17	33	11	-16	
16 Ross Town	8	2	0	6	12	19	3	-7	
* 3 Pts Deducted									

<u>Division One (East)</u>									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD	
1 Henley Town	14	11	1	2	40	16	34	24	
2 Finchampstead	17	9	5	3	44	24	32	20	
3 Eton Wick	15	9	3	3	31	17	30	14	
4 Southall Town	15	7	6	2	28	19	27	9	
5 Rayners Lane	16	7	4	5	41	28	25	13	
6 Chalfont Wasps	18	8	1	9	36	44	25	-8	
7 Quarry Nomads	12	7	3	2	24	13	24	11	
8 RS Basingstoke	14	6	3	5	26	19	21	7	
9 Martin Baker Sports	17	5	6	6	34	33	21	1	
10 Binfield	13	6	2	5	25	21	20	4	
11 Peppard	15	5	5	5	26	34	20	-8	
12 Harrow Hill Rovers	10	6	1	?	19	16	19	3	
13 Drayton Wanderers	18	6	1	?	28	45	19	-17	
14 Englefield Green Rov	14	4	3	7	28	35	15	-7	
15 Prestwood	12	3	3	6	17	28	12	-11	
16 Penn & Tylers Green	14	3	1	10	25	30	10	-5	
17 Aston Clinton	18	0	0	18	21	71	0	-50	

Wootton Bassett Town

FROM :-

- Richard Stevens []
- Paul Davis []
- Lee Marshall []
- Paul Harper []
- Simon Green []
- Rich Merchant []
- Paul Patel []
- Jeremy Newton []
- Bryan Wood []
- Jon Davis []
- Mickey Goodwin []
- Lee Stoddart []
- Nathan Hall []
- Simon Jones []
- Paul Harrison []

Manager-Barry Giles

Purton

FROM :-

- Luke ALFORD []
- Arron CRUMBIE []
- Scott CRUMBIE []
- Matt DIXON []
- Mark McMEEKING []
- Paul GILLETT []
- Craig ALEXANDER []
- Michael HEATH []
- Jimmy WRIGHT []
- Stuart COLE []
- Courtney CHESSELL []
- Neil SKINNER []
- Richard WATKINS []
- Russ KENT []
- Chris AYRES []

Manager-Keith Skinner

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Assistants
 Ted Lear (Swindon)
 Graham Dancer (Highworth)

Next Home Fixtures
Sat 27th Jan (3:00) Lge
 Firsts v Yate Town
Sat 3rd Feb (3:00) Lge
 Firsts v Fairford Town

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WBTFC



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Purton

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Secretary:	Rod Carter
Treasurer:	Roger Williamson
Youth Section Secretary:	Carol Brady
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1st Team Assistant Manager:	Malcolm Chivers
Joint Reserve Team Managers:	Pete Yeardley & Paul Burke
Life Member:	Mick Woolford

Honours

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Wilts Senior Cup Runners Up 1902/03, 1903/04, 1987/88
Hellenic Division 1 Cup Winners 1989/90, 1993/94
Hellenic Division 1 Cup Runners Up 1994/95
Wilts Div 2 Champions 1984/85
Wilts Div 1 Champions 1987/88
Ghia Junior Cup Winners 1983/84
Ghia Junior Cup Runners Up 1988/89
Subsidiary Cup Winners 1978/79

Wiltshire County Football Association

Senior Cup - 2nd Round

Wootton Bassett Town v Purton

Saturday 20th January 2001 K.O. 2.00p.m.

Good afternoon and welcome to Rylands Way for today's County Cup 2nd Round fixture. This afternoon we welcome the players, officials and supporters of local rivals Purton. We hope they enjoy their visit and that they will join us in the bar after the game. We also wish them a safe return journey. We wish all our supporters and visitors a Happy New Year and to hopefully some prolonged Saturdays of football till the end of the season.

Since our last home fixture back on the 18th November we have played three fixtures. At Wantage Town on an unplayable pitch we went down 3-2 with both goals coming from **Lee Stoddart**. **Paul Davis** was taken to hospital following an horrendous tackle, but thankfully no bones broken. The Tuesday evening before Xmas we traveled to Carterton to take on the fourth in the table side. With a side depleted of seven regulars and with our evergreen chairman **Paul Harrison** in midfield we came away with a creditable 1-1 draw, with **Nathan Hall** getting the equaliser five minutes from time. Next came Abingdon United away some three weeks since our last fixture. Rusty at the start and a goal down we eventually found some rhythm and 2 goals in five minutes from **Lee Stoddart** saw us 2-1 ahead at half-time. A sterling second half performance saw us complete our first double of the season.

Last Saturday saw us travel to Tuffley Rovers in Gloucester. We expected yet another tough fixture. We did not start too well and fell behind midway through the first half. Eventually we got our game together and came out in the second half with more determination. Tuffley proved difficult to breakdown and it was going to need something special to bring us level. Up stepped **Lee Marshall** with a 30 yard thunderbolt which the keeper could only watch go bye him into the top corner. A **Mickey Goodwin** free kick almost won us the game in the dying seconds after **Jon Davis** had been brought down.

Back to today's task we must maintain our level of performance as we have been doing in the Premier Division. Purton I am sure are looking for a scalp in a season that has seen them languish in the bottom three of Division One for the majority of the season. Last season in Division One saw the sides share the spoils Purton winning at the Red House and Bassett here at Rylands Way. Should the scores be level at 90 minutes then 30 minutes of extra time will be played. Should the scores remain level then there will be a replay next Saturday at Purton. K.O. 2p.m.

Next Saturday we entertain Yate Town in a Premier League fixture and Kick Off reverts back to 3p.m

Best wishes,

Roger

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Dug Out Views

Good afternoon, and a belated happy new year to everyone. Today we welcome Purton to Rylands Way for our first home game of 2001. We have a number of games to catch up on since my last program notes.

The first was away to Wantage on the 16th Dec, our first game for a month due to the weather. On a boggy surface that should have seen the game called off it was impossible to get the ball down and pass. After going a goal down early on we equalised just before half time through Lee Stoddart, and could have gone in at half time in front, but Paul Harper's free kick came back off the post. Within two minutes of the re-start the points were lost as we ball watched and suddenly found ourselves 3-1 down. Despite a late rally which saw Lee score a fine volley, we couldn't quite get the equaliser. The game was marred by a terrible tackle on Paul Davis - thankfully despite needing a pre-cautionary check at hospital Paul is okay.

On the following Tuesday we travelled to Carterton with some seven first team players unavailable. The game started with us on the back foot and Carterton had most of the possession, but we kept the goal scoring chances to a minimum and slowly worked our way into the game. Goalless at half time, we frustrated them for much of the second half and threatened on the break, but fell a goal behind with 15 minutes remaining. Credit must go to the lads though, as we kept at it, and the work rate and commitment paid off with a last gasp equaliser from Nathan Hall. The players that came in that night were absolutely brilliant, and after a performance like that it is hard to pick anyone out for special mention, but Nathan was outstanding up front, and 'H' put a lot of younger players to shame with his fitness.

Sat 7th Jan saw us away at Abingdon, and another battling performance saw us come away with a 2-1 victory. We fell behind through another slow start, but responded with two goals for Lee Stoddart in as many minutes. We gave possession away to cheaply in the second half and put pressure on ourselves, but resolute defending meant we grabbed all three points.

Last week we were away at Tuffley Rovers, and again found ourselves a goal behind at half time. We raised our game in the second half and equalised through a superb Lee Marshall strike, and finishing the stronger probably could have nicked the winner. Once again good character and resilience earned us a point.

Today sees a break from the League action as we take on Purton in the Wilts Senior Cup - another tough encounter following our recent travels. Although it's an important game for us, cup success is a bonus in a season where establishing ourselves in the Premier division is the priority, with a tough trip to Didcot next up.

Here's to 2001 - Giler

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Chairmans Chat

Good afternoon and welcome to you all and our visitors and near neighbours, Purton. Due to weather these are my first program notes of the new year so can I also wish you all a very peaceful and successful 2001.

In the last article published (seems ages ago now due to the weather and fixture arrangements) I discussed the appointment of Sven Goran Errikson to the England job. Of course the other major article that followed that announcement was regarding the card games that allegedly went on under Keegan's charge. Well I thought you might enjoy a selection of games that Football365.com came up with that failed to work with the England squad !

Jenga: It took too long to fall down for Emile Heskey's liking.

Scrabble: Proved unpopular with David Beckham who was still smarting after Brooklyn beat him with the Alphabetti Spaghetti.

Musical Statues: Being so good at standing around doing nothing gave Steve McManaman an unfair advantage.

Operation: Darren Anderton liked it so much he took it home with him.

Twister: Had to be abandoned when David Seaman couldn't get back up.

Happy Families: The Manchester United and Liverpool lads refused to play.

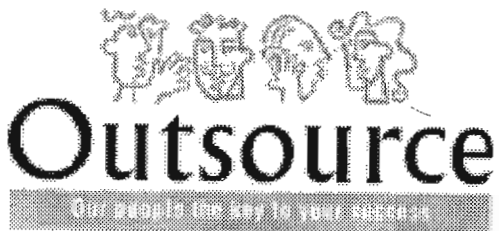
Hide And Seek: Phil Neville got the hump because no-one went to look for him.

Monopoly: There were fears it could lead to embarrassing moments if Lee Bowyer or Jonathon Woodgate picked up the Go To Jail card.

Pictionary: The players thought someone had said dictionary and they weren't interested in that.

Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?: No-one could find anyone who wasn't already

Here's to a good game, Cheers - 'H'



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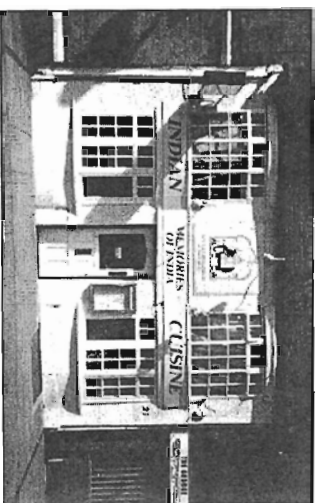


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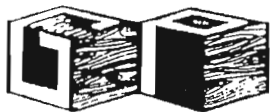
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Premier Division

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Division One (West)

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11 Malmesbury Victoria	11	4	2	5	23	24	14	-1
12 Old Woodstock Town	17	3	5	9	21	28	14	-7
13 Kidlington	14	3	4	7	14	25	13	-11
14 Purton FC	15	2	6	7	21	34	12	-13
15 Worcester Coll OB	15	3	2	10	15	29	11	-14
16 Ross Town	8	2	0	6	12	19	3	-7

* 3 Pts Deducted

Reserve Div Two (West)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
1 Wootton Bassett Town	10	7	3	0	23	7	24	16
2 Almondsbury Town	10	7	2	1	30	10	23	20
3 Old Woodstock Town	10	7	1	2	25	13	22	12
4 Kidlington FC	11	5	2	4	22	14	17	8
5 Brackley Town FC	11	5	2	4	26	20	17	6
6 Milton United FC	11	3	4	4	18	19	13	-1
7 Middle Barton FC	11	3	2	6	10	14	11	-4
8 Easington Sports	7	3	0	4	12	13	9	-1
9 Clanfield FC	11	2	2	7	10	27	8	-17
10 Wantage Town FC	9	2	2	5	15	33	8	-18
11 Quarry Nomads	7	1	2	4	6	13	5	-7
12 Letcombe FC	6	1	0	5	6	20	3	-14



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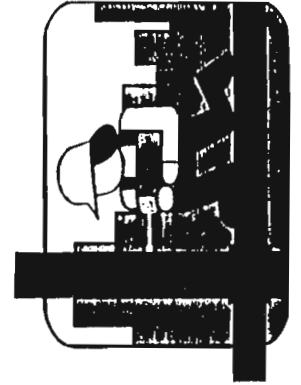
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RESERVE DIVISION 2 (WEST)

Six results to catch up since the last programme. Wantage Town Res in the Reserve Cup 1st Round 1st Leg and 2nd Leg. League action at Middle Barton. and at home to Quarry Nomads, Brackley Town and Kidlington in the league.

At Wantage the reserves went in at half-time 2-1 to the good. On a heavy pitch that did not suit their passing game they took a strong hold on the 1st leg coming away with a 4-1 win and a comfortable cushion for the 2nd leg next Saturday. **Syd Jackson, Martin Cooper, Justin Hyde and Jon Davis** getting the goals.

At Middle Barton on a rail sodden pitch which was only just playable the reserves battled their way to a 1-0 league victory. Bassett played some good football in the first half and the goal came from an excellent cross from **Shaun Walsh** giving **Martin Cooper** a headed goal to clinch the game. The surface took it out of both sides and Bassett kept together to ensure they remain the only unbeaten side in the Reserve Div 2 (West).

In the second league of the league cup against Wantage the reserves took the overall aggregate score to 8-1 with a further four goals from **Syd Jackson, Simon Edwards & Jon Davis 2**. The opposition were very poor and we won with ease and could have scored more.

At home to Quarry Nomads on 16th December the reserves had their sternest test yet when Quarry Nomads fielded several first team players. In fact we took the lead with a great headed goal from **Syd Jackson** his fifth of the season. Unfortunately we could not hang on and Nomads grabbed an equaliser late in the game.

Brackley Town proved a poor side arriving late and with only nine men. The game was over in the first ten minutes when we went 3-0 up. Eventually winning 5-0. Kidlington last Saturday was a much tougher encounter and we continued our unbeaten run 2-1 with goals from **Steve House and Justin Hyde**.

This afternoon they travel to Wantage Town looking for a further 3 points and edge closer to a possible championship season.

Last Weekends Club Results

- ✔ Firsts drew 1-1 at Tuffley Rovers
- ✔ Reserves won 2-1 at home to Kidlington
- ✔ 'A' Team drew 1-1 at home to Highworth KQ
- ✔ U18's lost 1-3 to Swindon Supermarine on Thursday at home
- ✔ U16's no game
- ✔ U15's won 5-1 away at St Joseph's, reslut of the week
- ✔ U14's match postponed, frozen pitch
- ✔ U13's lost 4-5 to Warminster in an epic Wilts cup match
- ✔ U12's match postponed, frozen pitch
- ✔ U11's won 4-1 away at Shaw
- ✔ U10's result not known
- ✔ U9's didn't play
- ✔ U8's won 3-0 at home to Purton, a good omen for today hopefully!
- ✔ U7's didn't play

Club News/Requests

- Pitch maintenance is absolutely vital to providing the right surface for our teams to play their football on. Critical is the ability to undertake work as weather permits. Do you know anyone who may be willing to help the club by providing just a few hours a week helping to maintain the pitch – please contact us if you do.
- The club urgently needs secretarial assistance in the control of bookings of pitches for our 3rd and youth teams, and also training at the Lime Kiln. This is not an arduous task, with full training and assistance available. If you could help with this then please give 'H' or Carol a call.

Can you help our football club ??

The football clubs primary aim is *"To promote and develop football within Wootton Bassett through the provision of playing opportunities for as many age groups as possible, and the maintenance of a senior team and stadium in keeping with the Town's stature."* . The club is growing as it works towards this goal. Can you help by offering assistance to the club in it's facilities maintenance, matchday hosting, program production or pitch preparation ?

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Bulletin No 23

Boot Room Chatter

13 January 2001

SCOUSE IS BACK

January 6th 2001, Highworth Town Reserves v Headington Amateurs is hardly a fixture prospect to set the pulse racing. But for Graham (Scouse) Sunners it was, perhaps, one of the most important in the football career of the prolific Highworth Town goal scorer. It was the day that must have seemed a world away back on 2nd of October 1999 when he laid on the damp turf of the Loop Meadow Stadium, Didcot with a broken right leg in what seemed an endless wait for an ambulance to arrive. The break was bad, career threatening, which needed setting twice before mending satisfactorily. It has been a long, hard road back for Liverpool born Graham, 27, who started his career with Bootle, before arriving at Highworth in February 1997 where he scored the winning goal in the 1997-98 Wilts Senior Cup Final and 29 times the following season in a dream partnership with Justin Miller. One step at a time was the 'key' - plaster off - crutches thrown away - walking - running - training - tackling - and finally the reserve match - so keen was the former RAF electrician, that he arrived at the club at least an hour before the rest of the players! The match itself proved to be the highlight of the day for all associated with Highworth Town (the 1st team were 'stuffed' at Brackley) as 'Scouse' scored 3 times in a 6-2 win. He's back and he's worked like a Trojan to do it - there will be bad times ahead but let's hope many more good ones - he deserves it.

ARDLEY UTD

Former Purton Goalkeeper and Player of the Year Steve Hale has been appointed Assistant Manager to Paul Spittle at Ardley Utd. Hale who was also player of the year last season at Larkhall Athletic from the Screwfix Western League broke his arm playing Sunday football which has sidelined him for the rest of the season. Steve has also agreed to take on the vacant position of Press Officer at the club.

HAYDON LEAVES WITNEY ACADEMY

Bob Hayden who was heavily involved in setting up Witney Academy has resigned as club secretary he is replaced by Lisa Boyer. Haydon cites, as the main reason for his resignation, the manner in which Witney Town manager Brian Hughes has called up dual registered players without any reference to the management of the 'Academy' club. Roger Alder, Witney Town's Director of Football has stated that Witney Town wish to have a good working relationship with the 'Academy' and has offered help to the offshoot club acknowledging that the continuance of the 'Academy' is in the best interests of all concerned.

PROMOTION POSSIBILITIES

Current Premier Division table toppers Swindon Supermarine are looking for promotion to the 'Dr Martens' League. The club have submitted their application to the Hellenic League for consideration should they finish in a promotion position and their ground facilities are brought up to the required standards of the 'Dr Martens' League, an inspection of the 'Marine' facilities will be undertaken later this month. Yate Town, who were relegated from the 'Dr Martens' last season are looking for promotion back to the 'Dr Martens', but not this season, club secretary Terry Tansley has stated that the club intends to use this season as a period of re-evaluation and hope for a top half of the table finish to the season, the 'Bluebells' are hoping to achieve their promotion within three seasons.

MCCABE SUFFERS BROKEN JAW

North Leigh striker Andy McCabe suffered a serious injury to his jaw in the 2nd half of the cup-tie against Highworth Town on Wednesday evening. He was taken to Oxford's John Radcliffe Hospital and underwent surgery on Thursday night this included fitting a metal plate to repair the jawbone.

Clubs and individuals are invited to submit news items of interest for possible inclusion in Boot Room Chatter. Please send your items to Brian King, General Secretary, 83 Queens Road, Carterton, Oxon. OX18 3YF, fax them to 01993 212738 or E-mail to king.brian@ukgateway.net

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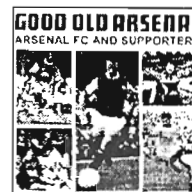
2nd Sept	Quarry Nomads	A	1-0 (Jackson)
9th Sept	EASINGTON SPORTS	H	2-1 (S.Edward,, Dodd)
23rd Sept	CLANFIELD	H	4-0 (S.Edwards 2, Hyde, Cooper)
7th Oct	Old Woodstock Town	A	2-2 (Jackson,OG)
14th Oct	LETCOMBE	H	3-0 (Neale 2, Green)
21st Oct	ALMONDSBURY TOWN	H	2-2 (Green, Dodd)
18th Nov	Wantage Town (Res Cup)	A	4-1 (Jackson,Cooper,Hyde,JDavis)
25th Nov	Middle Barton	A	1-0 (Cooper)
9th Dec	WANTAGE TOWN (Res Cup)	H	4-0 (Jackson, S.Edwards, J Davis 2(1Pen)
16th Dec	QUARRY NOMADS	H	1-1 (Jackson)
6th Jan	BRACKLEY TOWN	H	5-0 (Jackson, Hyde, Dodd, Cooper, Byrne)
13th Jan	KIDLINGTON	H	2-1 (Howse, Hyde)
20th Jan	Wantage Town	A	
27th Jan	Milton United	A	

Goalscorers

Jackson	-6
Hyde	-4
S.Edwards	-4
Cooper	-4
J.Davis	-3
Green	-2
Dodd	-3
Neale	-2
Byrne	-1
Howse	-1
O.G.	-1

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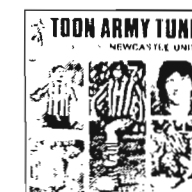
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