

## MOLTEN SPORTS SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS FOOTBALL LEAGUE

### NEWSLETTER No. 8 By Bill Scholes

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2008

*On a cold and blustery day throughout the region, there were a total of 9 hat tricks scored in both League and Cup competitions. Leading the way was Daniel Hughes of Chalfont St. Peter whose extra time hat trick saw the Saints safely through to the next round, whilst close behind was Charlie Baverstock's centenary celebration for Hanwell Town. Also in the Premier Division, Wes Byrne notched three for Langford. Just the one hat trick in Division One, and that was James Warner's three goals in four minutes for Harpenden Town. The other five hat tricks were all in the B&B Intermediate Cup – Lee Coulter and Lee White for New Bradwell St. Peter, Andre Brown for Mursley Utd, Robbie Morgan for Risborough Rangers and Dan Walker for Stony Stratford Town.*

#### FA Carlsberg VASE FIRST ROUND PROPER

**A total of 12 SSMFL clubs went into Saturday's ties, and 6 live to go into the hat on Monday, along with Harefield Utd, for the draw for the Second Round.**

**Congratulations to all 6, and particularly to Sport London e Benfica who are Division One's sole representatives.**

**Sport London e Benfica** travelled to **Eton Manor's** ground sharing home at Waltham Abbey for only their second game in their inaugural year in the FA Vase and won 2-1. On a cold and blustery day at the Abbey, SLB had to contend with the dismissal after 20 minutes of their keeper for handball outside the area, and with no reserve keeper on the bench, midfielder Rui Martins volunteered his services as shot stopper. Just before half-time, Djibril Djalo scored, as he intercepted a back pass to the keeper and went round the keeper before slotting home. The second finally came, after a number of chances missed by the SSMFL side, as Eton Manor were running out of ideas and despite the 10-men, SLB continued to press and put the backline under pressure. Saulo Nascimento had to take the ball quite wide to the left, as he went round the defender and keeper, and from a tight angle was able to put SLB ahead by two goals. Stand in keeper Rui Martins was finally beaten 2 minutes from the end, but SLB held on to take their place in the next round. No such luck for Division One's other representative, **Royston Town** who took their UCL opponents **Wellingborough Town** to extra time with a last minute equaliser from Rick Young in front of a crowd of 140, but eventually succumbed to a goal in each period of extra time from Martin Thompson. The FA's travelling roadshow, complete with the FA Vase came to **Biggleswade Town's** new ground, literally, as it was on show and available for photographs before their game with **Berkhamsted Town**. Inspired no doubt by the sight of the prestigious trophy, The Waders ran out 2-0 winners over their SSMFL rivals – an excellent early strike from Ryan Redford setting the scene, followed by a Daniel Flack free kick in the second half. **Aylesbury Vale** bounced back from the disappointment of going out of the FA Cup in their replay at Gosport Borough on Tuesday with a convincing

5-1 victory over Hellenic Leaguers **Harrow Hill**. Three goals in the first half from Neil Roberts, Vinnie Iannone and Luke Melisi set them on their way, and Aaron Usmani weighed in with another two after the break. **Chalfont St. Peter** had to struggle at home to overcome **Totton & Eling** from the Wessex League, and at one goal each, the game went into a further 30 minutes, and it took a 9 minute hat trick from Daniel Hughes to secure the eventual 5-2 victory. There was a late flurry of goals at Cophthall Stadium as **Kentish Town** progressed to the next round with a 5-2 win over UCL side **Thrapston Town**. They were only leading 2-1 with 7 minutes remaining, but a couple from Larry Miller and one from Jonathon Donaghue saw them safely home. Another club to triumph over UCL opposition were **Biggleswade Utd** who disposed of **Desborough Town** by 3-0. Jason Deverall gave Utd a first half lead, and Shaun Murray and Jake Goodship added two further goals in the last 20 minutes to seal the result. **Oxhey Jets** travelled to **S&L Corby**, also from the UCL, but left disappointed in a game they could and perhaps should have won. The strong wind spoilt the match but the hosts adapted better to the conditions despite playing against the wind in the first half. Failure to clear the ball on the edge of the Oxhey area allowed Paul Djenaralovic to shoot the ball over the advancing keeper to score on 13 minutes. Oxhey responded and wasted a gilt-edge chance to equalise a minute later. Indeed, Oxhey proceeded to miss several other excellent chances and went in at half time a goal down. The second half was only 3 minutes old when S&L won a corner and Mark Forbes sent in a curling kick which the wind took high into the Oxhey goal. The match seemed all over now. Despite Oxhey having another couple of good chances they were fortunate to see consecutive shots from S&L hit the post and then the crossbar. S&L put the icing on the cake when Paul Caswell broke clear on 90 minutes to score at the second attempt and make the final score 3-0. **Leverstock Green** could not make it three wins against UCL opposition as they suffered a last minute smash and grab raid from **Northampton Spencer** in their 3-2 defeat. Despite Green being the better side for most of the match, Leverstock were left to rue two penalties conceded, a controversial (although not from the officials on the park and those watching!) disallowed goal and a host of missed chances. A goodly crowd of 93 saw St. Margaretsbury go down at home by the odd goal in three to Essex league side Romford. All the goals came in the first half as Manzi Mbala put the visitors two up before Brendan O'Brien reduced the deficit. Finally, **Hertford Town**, hit by late withdrawals, could only field a make shift side away to the experienced Jam Makers of **Tiptree Utd** and suffered a rather resounding 8-0 defeat – the well travelled Tommy English leading the way with a hat trick in the first 46 minutes.

#### F.A. Carlsberg VASE – DRAW FOR SECOND ROUND PROPER

Unfortunately there is one all SSMFL tie, but we do have the fairly unique situation whereby all the remaining clubs have been drawn at home. We are certain of at least one representative in the Third round, but if I had Mystic Mick's Crystal ball(s), I reckon we could well have at least another three.

Sport London e Benfica	v St. Neots
Kentish Town	v Biggleswade Town
Biggleswade Utd	v Stanway Rovers
Chalfont St. Peter	v Clanfield 85
Aylesbury Vale	v East Grinstead Town
Harefield Utd	v Barkingside or Bowers & Pitsea

Amphill to regain the lead at 2-1 with 20 minutes remaining, but the Manor drew level again with Owen's second – this time from the penalty spot.

## PREMIER DIVISION

Once again, we have a new face at the top, and this time its **Harefield Utd**, who took full advantage of previous leaders Kingsbury London Tigers dropping two points, as they beat **Holmer Green** 2-0 to leap to the top. The Hares scored both goals in the first half – a 12<sup>th</sup> minute penalty from Adam Willis and a strike from Liam Hand on the hour. **London Tigers** could only manage a draw in their away game against **Colney Heath** -Tarik Ellekhlifi's goal cancelling out Richie Howard's earlier strike. **Langford** also benefited from Kingsbury's slip as they moved up into second place, thanks to their 6– 4 win at home to **Cockfosters**. With just 20 minutes left, Langford were leading 6-1, but three late goals from the visitors put a slightly more respectable slant on the result. **Hanwell Town** moved up into fourth place with a 7-0 walloping of **Welwyn Garden City**, a game that will linger long in the memory of livewire striker Charlie Baverstock who was making his 100<sup>th</sup> appearance for his club, was made captain on the day, and scored a hat trick to boot. Don't get much better than that, do it? **Brimdson Rovers** celebrated their first league win of the season as they overcame visitors **Haringey Borough** 3-0, with goals from Andy Hammonds, an OG and Ryan Gere. This win lifts the Rovers off the bottom, in fact up to fourth from bottom, and relegates Haringey to take their place with Cockfosters and Holmer Green just above them. The day's biggest movers were **Broxbourne Borough**, who moved up 6 places to 12<sup>th</sup> as a result of winning 2-1 at home to **Tring Athletic**, who suffered their first away defeat of the season. Boro's scorers were Danny Ward and Ryan Wade, whilst Chris Salmon replied for Athletic – where was Andy Humphries ?

## DIVISION ONE

**No change in the top 3 positions, with both Bedford Town Reserves and Kings Langley only managing a point apiece, and Winslow Utd being involved in County Cup action. Bedford Town Reserves** were rather surprisingly held to 1-1 draw away at **Brache Sparta**( particularly after the home side had their keeper sent off) – a late goal by Shibli Mea for the home side cancelling out Ashley Deverell's first half strike, whilst **Kings Langley** failed to find the net as they were held 0-0 away at **Sun Postal Sports**. **Hatfield Town** moved up from 6<sup>th</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> as they overcame lowly **Arlesey Athletic** 2-1, despite going behind to a Terry Lock goal after just 4 minutes. Jason Beck levelled the scores up just before jaffa time, and Trevor Golder notched what turned out to be the winner just after the hour mark. The biggest league win of the day came at **Harpenden Town**, as the home side walloped an under strength **Bedford FC** by 10-1. A brace from Chris Gregory plus one from Ben Dawes put the Town 3-1 up at the break, but it turned into a bit of a route in the second half which included a hat trick in just 4 minutes from James Warner. A goal apiece from Paul Danslow and Greg Shaw gave **London Colney** a 2-0 victory away at **Crawley Green**, whilst **Hoddesdon Town** were another side who came from behind to record a 2-1 win. Their opponents were **Cranfield Utd** who took the lead through a Dominic Lawless penalty after 17 minutes, but two goals from Emeka Nwamada, one in each half, secured all three points. **Amphill Town** shared four goals in their 2-2 draw at home to **Tokington Manor**. After a quiet first half, Danny Hollis opened the scoring for Town on the hour mark, but it took only seven minutes for the visitors to strike back through Dan Owens. Jon Lewis then netted via a corner for

## DIVISION TWO

League leaders **The 61FC** had a convincing 3-1 victory away over one of their nearest challengers **AFC Dunstable** – a brace from Hayden Wills and a single from Aaron Lewis putting them three goals up with just an hour played, although Lee McCulloch pulled a goal back for Dunstable just before the end. **Wodson Park** move back up to second following their 3-0 home win over **Kent Athletic** – Tyler Hatherly, Michael Ryan and Ross Murphy contributing the goals, whilst **Hadley** slip back to third as they were only able to come back from **Caddington** with a solitary point in their 1-1 draw. **Tring Corinthians**, at home to **Markyate**, were able to leapfrog over their visitors and up to 5<sup>th</sup> place as they eventually ran out 4-2 winners. With just over an hour played, the game was very even at 2-2, but two very late goals from Luke Byrne and Ngogy (his second) gave Corry the vital three points. Daniel Douglas, with a pair, was on the score sheet for Markyate.

## BERKS & BUCKS INTERMEDIATE CUP – FIRST ROUND

Eleven SSMFL clubs triumphed in this First Round, two of them against fellow SSMFL clubs. **Mursley Utd** had an easy 9-2 win over struggling **Bletchley Town**, but **Winslow Utd** needed extra time to finally see off the spirited challenge of **Pitstone & Ivinghoe**. **New Bradwell St. Peter** walloped Mandeville 11-0, **Stony Stratford** ran in 5 without reply against St. Johns, and **Risborough Rangers** beat Maidenhead Town 5-1. There were also wins for **Padbury Utd**, **Buckingham Athletic**, and **Amersham Town**, whilst two of our Reserve teams also won through although both needed extra time – **Holmer Green Res** beat Iver Heath Rovers 4-2 and **Aylesbury Vale Res** beat Wing Village 4-3. **Bucks Student Union** made their debut at this County Cup level, and celebrated with a 3-2 win over **Eastcote**. Now when I was a young man at school, I was enamoured of a bird that lived in Eastcote, which I know from long cycle rides, was well and truly in Middlesex! Apparently, a club known as Eastcote now play in the East Berks League – don't ask! In front of a large crowd, and a Magician, fully kitted out in Hunting Pink, - it was the opening of the new sports clubhouse at Chalfont - the students were indebted to keeper Mathew Tongue in the first half for some tremendous saves, and to Daniel Springett for marshalling his defence against a strong and physical Eastcote attack. The students went 2-0 up just after Jaffa time, through Perry Northey and Steve McQueen, but the visitors fought back to level the scores with just 7 minutes left. Gerald Kelly scored the winner with a minute left. The only SSMFL club to suffer defeat against a club from another league was **Aston Clinton**, who went down 2-0 away at Steeple Claydon.

## MOLTEN SPORTS TEAM(S) OF THE MONTH -AUGUST

Those of you paying attention to the issue of the Monthly Committee minutes will have noticed that thanks to Molten's generous sponsorship, we will now have a Team of the Month for each Division.

The worthy winners for August are.....to be announced next week!

## THE LONG ARM OF THE LAW – PART 2

Following last weeks revelations about the happenings at Hoddesdon Town, it is good to know that Premiership referees have been quick to follow the SSFL example. At the Everton v Newcastle game on Sunday, the 4<sup>th</sup> official clearly asked the local bobby standing behind him to remove poor old Joe Kinnear from the Tunnel entrance – and he hadn't even started to swear !

*Join Pedro's Bonus Ball Special*

*(in aid of the Carl Couzen's Memorial Fund)*

**Want to win 50 smackaroonies for basically doing nothing except for parting with a tenner ( half of your match fee for 1 game ) all in a very very good cause., then read further to find out what you have to do.** It is very simple; it has to be to get a tenner out of Mick!!! To be fair to Mick, he was one of the first to part with his TENNER!! OK guys what you have to do is:-

Either a) **Click** on the “**Count Me in**” button on this e-mail or b) **Text** me on **07740537486** with the message “**Count Me in**” along with your name

**Send** me a cheque for **£10** (to address below) . On acceptance of your entry you will be given a number between **1 and 49**. If that number matches the bonus ball number in the main lotto draw on the following **Saturdays October 11<sup>th</sup>, October 18<sup>th</sup>, October 25<sup>th</sup> or November 1<sup>st</sup>** you win **£50**. That is it –simple. If **more than 49** people subscribe, we start a **second** pool, our aim is **200** entries, which means **A GRAND** for Carl's fund so guys, we need you to part with that tenner. Winners will notified by e-mail or carrier pigeon for those without e-mail **Ideally** I need the tenner **PRIOR** to the **11th October**, but since you guys are of good credit I will include you in the first week's draw if you click the button, so come on guys...**Click the Button** or **Hit the Text** . Remember clicking the button and not paying the Tenner will ensure you receive top billing on Mick's Name and Shame list

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## UPDATE ON BIGGLESWADE UTD

You may recall last year that Biggleswade United launched a new interactive club ownership website – [www.mybufc.com](http://www.mybufc.com) . The response so far has been very promising

with over 800 members signed up and although the target of 5,000 wasn't reached the commitment from the club's sponsor (Harmony Internet) and the website designer has seen tremendous advances made to the website and the overall concept. This includes the video recording of recent matches against Biggleswade Town and Brimsdown Rovers which have been watched by members as far away as Canada and Australia. And you don't have to be a member to watch them - just go to the website. Further advances will include live blogs prior to matches including interviews with the opposition's manager / coach together with live match reports, statistics and analysis as United's games are being played, both home and away. All of which can be accessed by non-members. The additional opportunities for members include the ability to vote on proposals put to the members by the club which recently have included seeking their approval for spending the budget collected so far on for example: the renovation of the floodlights, new kits for the players and the facilities upgrade. The club are hoping that the new website advances will see a further influx of members.

## BABY SITTING CLUB

Now available, an experienced pair of ex Referees turned Baby Sitters for all your requirements-even on Saturdays, although Mick Ewen stipulates that the house should have a Bar, and Eric Harrison will only officiate in houses that have a TV and is tuned in to Strictly Come Dancing.

**All items of news, interest, tittle-tattle, etc. re your club, are very welcome.**

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