

**MOLTEN SPORTS**  
**SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**NEWSLETTER No. 5**  
*By Bill Scholes*

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

**CHALLENGE TROPHY – FIRST ROUND**

A goodly crowd of interested ground hoppers turned up at Amersham Town to see tenants **Bucks Student Union** against **Hadley** in possibly the only competitive non-league game in the country on that night. On a pleasant evening, they were rewarded with an excellent, fast-flowing game of football, which all admitted was a pleasure to watch. There was little to pick between the sides, with chances galore at both ends, and hardly a bad tackle in the game. Hadley eventually won 2-1, after going behind to an early Steve McQueen goal, with two second half goals – one an OG and the winner coming from Dave Pearce with just 8 minutes left. Getting a settled side is always a problem for Student sides, but if those on the park can get their radar right, there could well be a hatful of goals to look forward to. The welcoming hospitality, as always, both on the gate and in the kitchen /clubhouse was a pleasure to behold.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

*Surprisingly, despite the number of goals scored at the weekend, there were only two hat tricks recorded. In the FA Cup, Craig Henney, who seems to be in love with this competition, scored three for Aylesbury against Erith Town – his third hat trick in the FA Cup so far, whilst in the Premier Division Aaron Clark scored four for Colney Heath.*

**F.A. CUP Sponsored by E.ON - First Round Qualifying**

Only one of our 5 clubs competing at this stage are definitely through to the next round, and they are **Harefield United**, who disposed of **Maldon Town** fairly easily. Craig Totton gave the Hares an early lead from the penalty spot, Denver Morris added another shortly after and Totton's second, just before the break, put the home side in control. Maldon scored a consolation goal in the last minute to make the final score 3-1. Two others live to fight another day. **London Colney** put in a tremendous performance to hold Ryman Premier high flyers **Aveley** to a 1-1 draw at home – Bullet Parkinson giving Colney the lead before Aveley equalised with 13 minutes left, whilst **Aylesbury** came back from Kent Leaguers **Erith Town** with a 3-3 draw – Craig Henney being responsible for all three. **Royston Town** were unlucky not to have gained a draw away at Hellenic League side **Flackwell Heath** – they were the better footballing side and scored the best goal of the game through Luke Robins. Both keepers were responsible for ensuring that half time was reached without any score, but Flackwell's slightly

more rigorous approach enabled them to eventually come up with a 2-1 win. In front of a crowd of nearly 300, **Kingsbury London Tigers** were put to the sword away at **Bedford Town**, going down 5-1 – Edson Cata being the Tigers lone scorer.

**PREMIER DIVISION**

**Colney Heath** go back to the top of the table following their surprising 8-3 demolition of **Tring Athletic** at the Grass Roots Stadium. With just under 25 minutes left, the scoreline read 3-3, but 4 goals from Aaron Clark in the space of 17 minutes rather changed the game. Table toppers **Dunstable Town** were ousted from their spot at the top after losing 2-1 at home to **St. Margaretsbury**, who came back from a goal down with goals from Ben Herod and Tom Wade. Another side to miss an opportunity to go top were **Broxbourne Borough**, who lost 1-0 away at **Brimmsdown Rovers** – Rikki Crace scoring the only goal. **Hatfield Town** won their third game of the season, beating **Oxhey Jets** 2-1 with goals from Lewis Field and Dan Staples, leaving them handily placed with games in hand. Hatfield are just edging out **Langford** who, after some heavy defeats, produced a welcome 3-1 victory away at **Chalfont St. Peter**. Cameron Facey gave Langford an early lead, which Adam Louth equalised just after the break. However, two goals in the last 10 minutes, from Mark Wright and Ryan Nichol, sealed the win. **Hertford Town** had a four-goal romp away at local rivals **Welwyn Garden City**, with two goals in each half, whilst Simon Conway scored probably the fastest goal of the day, after just 36 seconds, as **Leverstock Green** returned from **Kentish Town** with a 2-1 win. The other two games in the Division both resulted in draws – **Hanwell Town** and **Biggleswade United** shared two goals at Reynolds Field, whilst the battle of the Boroughs – **Hillingdon** and **Haringey** finished goalless.

**DIVISION ONE**

There is a fresh look to the top of the table this season, as **Hadley**, promoted from Div Two, remain top dogs despite not playing. In second place are **Holmer Green**, relegated last season, but now the only unbeaten team in the division. In fact, they are one of only three unbeaten clubs in the League. In the battle of the two relegated clubs, Holmer won 4-1 away at **Cockfosters**, with a brace each from Dean Allen and Joe Bovingdon. All five goals came in the second half, Cockfosters reply coming from the penalty spot and converted by Dean Barker, himself an ex Holmer player. **New Bradwell St. Peter** sit in third following their 3-1 home win over **Bedford**, two goals from Lea Coulter and one from John Mulholland, with **Stony Stratford Town**, 3-2 winners over **Sun Postal Sports**, and **Crawley Green**, 2-0 winners at home to **Sport London e Benfica**, both hot on their heels. **Hoddesdon Town** have made a slow start to the season, but had an excellent 5-1 win at home to troubled **Tokington Manor**, thanks to a brace from Lee Tombs and singles from Kevin Metier, Richie Howard and Tony Neilson. Last season's runners up **Kings Langley** are currently hovering around the mid

table mark, and they beat **AFC Dunstable** 2-0 at home thanks to second half goals from Joe Godwin and Matt Johnson. **Harpenden Town** are also around the mid table mark, and they beat **Ampthill Town** 4-0 away, whilst early pace setters **Buckingham Athletic** got back on track with a 3-1 win at home to **Brache Sparta Community Club**, despite going a goal behind in the first minute. Unlucky Brache remain the only pointless club in all three divisions. Finally in this division, **Cranfield United** and **Amersham Town** eked out a 0-0 draw.

### **DIVISION TWO**

Only four league games played, with **Berkhamsted** moving back to the summit following their hard fought 3-2 win at **The 61 FC**. **Wodson Park** overcame **MK Wanderers** 4-1, with goals from Dan Cooper, Ross Murphy, Ali Waldron and Pete Sawyer, whilst there was a seven-goal thriller at **Mursley United**, with the home side narrowly losing out by the odd goal to visitors **Bletchley Town**. As the visitors contributed with two OG's, they probably did deserve to win! In the other game **Caddington** moved into mid table with a 3-2 home win over **Risborough Rangers**. With the game locked at 2-2 entering the last 10 minutes, Mark Medlin came up with the winner.

### **DIVISION TWO CUP – FIRST ROUND**

Four Cup games this week. One of the early front runners in the League, **Aston Clinton**, topped the pile with a stunning 7-2 victory at home over **Totternhoe**, whilst second placed **Padbury United** romped into the next round with a 4-0 win away at **Kent Athletic...** The match between **Tring Corinthians** and **Pitstone & Ivinghoe** ended all square at 2-2 after 120 minutes, but Pitstone emerged triumphant from the penalty shoot-out. Despite taking the lead after 17 minutes, **Bucks Student Union** went out 2-1 to **Old Bradwell United**, both goals coming in the second half.

### **MOLTEN SPORTS TEAM(S) OF THE MONTH – AUGUST**

Congratulations to all three divisional winners of the August Team of the Month.

Premier Division: **Aylesbury**  
Division One: **Holmer Green**  
Division Two: **Padbury United**

A bright Orange Molten Match ball plus a keeper's plaque will be heading your way in the very near future – if it hasn't already arrived.

Apologies for the slightly truncated Newsletter this week, but I'm off to Cornwall to recover from the excitement of Buckinghamshire winning the Minor Counties Championship and to take part in the Holmer Green Belly Boarding Championships i.e. me v the wife, this week.

**All items of news / views / tittle-tattle etc to  
Bill Scholes Email: [billscholes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:billscholes@hotmail.co.uk)**