

## MOLTEN SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS FOOTBALL LEAGUE NEWSLETTER No. 6

By *Bill Scholes*

SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

*There were 3 hat tricks scored by Spartan South Midlands League players on Saturday, with two of them in the FA Cup. Performance of the day must go to Terrell Lewis of Chalfont St. Peter, who actually scored 4 in the Saints 6-1 away win at Sandhurst Town, whilst Kevin Cooper scored all three of Hertford Towns goals in their 3-3 draw at home to Barkingside. The other hot shot was Lee Hayward of Brache Sparta who scored all 4 goals in their win over Sun Postal Sports.*

### FA CUP sponsored by E.ON

The only one of the 5 SSMFL sides contesting Saturday's games to be definitely through to the next round, and £2,250 richer is **Chalfont St. Peter**. Chairman Denis Mair wore a broad grin following the game, in which the young Chalfont side, the only SSMFL side to be playing away, comprehensively defeated **Sandhurst Town** 6-1 at Bottom Meadow. Chalfont actually went behind after 16 minutes to a powering header from the centre back, following a corner, but this only seemed to stir the Saints in to life, and from then on there was only one side likely to win. Chalfont's speedy forwards regularly tore the Fizzers defence to shreds, and two goals from Terrell Lewis and one from Bradley Bubb, following an exquisite piece of skill, gave the visitors a 3-1 half time lead. The lively forwards continued to torment the home side, and two more from Lewis, plus an excellent solo goal from Adam Bunce sealed the game. In the next round, Chalfont have been drawn away to either Deal Town or Dulwich Hamlet.

Three SSMFL sides kept their dreams alive by earning well-deserved draws, and going into Mondays draw. **Beaconsfield SYCOB** probably had the toughest task, facing a **Chippenham Town** side currently sitting in second place in the Southern League Premier Division, but they had the best of starts when Adrian Sear headed home a Stuart Swift cross after just 5 minutes. Chances came and went, but continued pressure from the Southern League side saw Aaron Cornwall score the inevitable equaliser with just 20 minutes left. **Broxbourne Borough** produced a brave comeback against Ryman Premier side **Bedford Town**, after going a goal down in the first half, through Jonathan Woolf. Broxbourne defended stoutly and were rewarded just two minutes after the half time break, when Sarfraz Pivano followed up to stab home. With Bedford failing to take their chances, Broxbourne hung on bravely, despite being reduced to 10 men following the sending off of Drisdale. There must be something about Bedford that appeals to Boro's Pivano, as he scored three against Bedford FC in the previous round!

**Hertford Town** earned themselves a Monday night replay following their 3-3 draw with **Barkingside** from the Essex Senior League. Kevin Cooper was the Hertford hero with a hat trick, as the Blues were always playing catch up. Barkingside took a very early lead through Mark Doyle after just 2 minutes, and although Cooper equalised on the minute, the visitors found themselves 3-1 up after just 20 minutes, with further goals from Dom Harkins and Mark Steadman. Cooper pulled one back from the penalty spot before half time, but had to wait until the 69<sup>th</sup> minute for the equaliser. Sadly, in the replay on Monday night, Hertford went down 3-

1, in spite of taking a very early lead through Lee Roberts. Dom Harkins tapped home the equalizer after 14 minutes, and Mark Steadman put the Essex side 2-1 up just 10 minutes later. The third goal came on the 34<sup>th</sup> minute from a powerful back post header by Mark Frew. Lots more bookings but no more goals. Interestingly the crowd at the replay was 101, exactly the same number as attended the first game on Saturday. I wonder if they were all the same people? **Billericay Town**, also from the Ryman Premier, proved to be too strong for **Welwyn Garden City** in the remaining tie, and ran out fairly comfortable 8-2 winners. The Citizens were only trailing by 3-2 at half time, but faded in the second half as their visitors ran in a further 5 goals.

### PREMIER DIVISION ROUND UP

A slightly truncated programme due to FA Cup ties, but **Brimdown Rovers** took full advantage to record their 5<sup>th</sup> win on the trot to take top spot by beating **Tring Athletic** at home 3-0. Scott Atkinson gave the newly promoted side the lead in the first half with a 30 yard drive, and player/manager Mervin Abraham headed the second after just 10 minutes of the second half. Atkinson added his second goal in the 66<sup>th</sup> minute, but there was still time for Rovers Reece Prestedge to be sent off with just 5 minutes remaining. **Harefield United** moved up into second place, with a 3-0 away win at lowly **Colney Heath**. thanks to goals from Rob Coldrake, Sean Sonner and Ben Hammond. Previous leaders **Aylesbury Vale** slipped back to 3<sup>rd</sup>, as they lost their unbeaten record in the 4-2 away defeat at **St. Margaretsbury**. John Barker and Matt Maskell put the Bury two up, before Billy Perry pulled one back for the Vale before half time, but another from Maskell and a first from Lewis Rose put the home side firmly in control, although Liam Fry scored a consolation for the Vale just before the end. After a stuttering start, the Bury have now moved up to 5<sup>th</sup> place. **Biggleswade Town** missed the chance to consolidate their second place prior to kick off, by conceding three goals in the last 10 minutes to visitors **Holmer Green**. Ben Heron had given the Waders a two goal lead in the first half, but a hat trick from Karim Cisse in the last 10 minutes stunned the home side and gave the Greens their second successive league win. Early season favourites **Leverstock Green** produced what manager Mick Vipond described as "our worst display of the season" in going down 3-0 away to **Hanwell Town**. The pace of Victor Osobu caused the visiting side no end of problems, but Hanwell only had an early goal from Warren Williams to show for their efforts in the first half. Osobu netted the second 10 minutes into the second half, and Williams made it 3-0, right on the stroke of full time. **Cockfosters** are beginning to find their premier Division feet, and leap-frogged over hosts **Langford** by dint of a 3-1 win. Although Wes Byrne put Langford ahead in the first half, Jon Moniatis started Cockfosters recovery with a 50<sup>th</sup> minute penalty, and goals from Nick Page and Dave Pigden sealed their second victory of the campaign. **Kingsbury London Tigers** had a 1-0 victory away at bottom club **London Colney**, whilst **Oxhey Jets** and **Biggleswade United** shared the spoils in their 1-1 mid table draw. Utd took the lead through Darren Sarll in the second half, only for Jamie Arthur to equalise 10 minutes later.

### DIVISION ONE ROUND UP

**Bedford** remained in top spot following their 3-1 away win at **Harpenden Town**. Michael Peters opened the scoring for the visitors in the first half, only for Michael Taasse to bring Harpenden level just after half time. Bedford sealed their win with two more goals from Darek Jozwiak and Luigi Rocco, and sent Harpenden to the foot of the stairs. A first half hat trick, in front of just 8 spectators, followed by a fourth goal in the second half, from Lee Hayward put **Brache Sparta** well on their way to the 4-1 victory over visitors **Sun Postal Sports**, moving

them up to second spot and keeping up the pressure on the leaders. A goal fest at **Winslow United** saw visitors **Haringey Borough** run out 5-3 winners, moving up to third in the process. Surprisingly, only one goal in the first half, from Boro's Bernard Nortey, but the game came to life in the second half as seven goals rattled in – 5 in Boro's favour. There must be something in the half time Jaffas at **Hoddesdon Town**, as the home side battled back from a 3-0 deficit to run out 4-3 winners over an **Amersham Town** side who had won their last three game. Another brace from Jude Eboji and an OG had put Amersham firmly in the driving seat, but a couple from Craig Hinton and singletons from Mathew Spiers and Mark Dawson saw the Lilywhites seal a remarkable comeback. Spectators at **Kentish Town** were treated to a 6-goal thriller against **New Bradwell St. Peter** – both sides scoring three apiece. Ricky Lucas gave Kentish Town an early lead, only for Greg Tite's penalty to level the scores. Tite gave New Bradwell the lead early in the second half, only for Town to go 3-2 up through David Dawson and Tom McMullen, but with just two minutes left, Lea Coulter brought New Bradwell back level. **Cheshunt Reserves** and **Ampthill Town** also shared 6 goals between them and **Cranfield Utd** pulled away from the bottom of the table with a good 4-1 away win against **Arlesey Athletic**, who have leaked 13 goals in their last three games. Second from bottom **Royston Town** also won 1-0, at home to high flying **Buckingham Athletic**, but still remain second from bottom!

### DIVISION TWO ROUND UP

The game of the day was the top of the table clash took place at **Kings Langley**, where the leaders hosted second placed **Kent Athletic**. The visitors however ran up a 3-0 lead through Mishan Cole, Junior George and Nathan Miller, before Lee Johnson scored a consolation for the home side in the last minute. **Tring Corinthians** have moved up into 3<sup>rd</sup> spot, following their 4-2 home win over **Totternhoe**. On the score sheet for Corries were Joynul Hoque with two, and Oliver Waite and Luke Byrne, whilst Gary Simpson and Nick Beasily replied for Totternhoe. Just behind Tring, on goal difference, are **Mursley United**, who won 2-1 away at **Caddington**, and **AFC Dunstable**, who lost 4-0 away to **Aston Clinton**. **Pitstone & Ivinghoe** relied on a brace each from Roy Henney and James Mountfort to overcome **Markyate** 4-2, Tyrone Bere's 10<sup>th</sup> minute goal was enough to see **Padbury United** to a 1-0 win over **Old Bradwell United** and **Risborough Rangers** were on the end of a heavy 5-0 defeat at home to **Crawley Green**.

### NOT ALL REFEREES ARE B\*\*\*\*\*S

At a recent Blue Square Premier Division (the Conference in old money) game between Woking and Weymouth, Paul Forrester was an Assistant referee, whilst son Lee was 4<sup>th</sup> Official – the first time that father and son had been out together. Proud grandfather Tony Forrester – the League Treasurer – was of course in the Stand. Whilst on the name game, a few years ago the referee at the Amersham Reserves v Holmer Green Reserves game (in the days when the players could toboggan down the slope in winter) was Mark Scholes, one of his lino's was Bill Scholes, and playing for Holmer was Tim Scholes. At the end of the game, the referee said, “ there was a lot of abuse aimed at someone called Scholesy, but I wasn't sure if it was at me, the lino, or the player ” – I think it was probably the lino, Mark!

### SOME HAVE EVEN DONE QUITE WELL!

We thought you might be interested in the progress of ex SSMFL referees who get promoted up the system. All of the referees below have gone on to greater things, having passed their apprenticeship on the Spartan South Midlands League! My thanks to Eric Methusala Harrison for the information – any mistakes, please blame him.

Graham Horwood - Level 1 - Football League Referee  
 Pat Miller - Level 1 - Football league Referee  
 Mick Russell - Level 1 - Football league Referee

John Farries - Level 2 - Conference Referee and Football league Assistant

Mark Scholes - Level 3 and Premiership Assistant  
 Gary Young - Level 3 and Football league Assistant  
 Matty McLaughlin - Level 3 and Football League Assistant

Paul Forrester, Lee Forrester, Gavin Muge, Chris Williams, Adrian Gillett, John Scott, Robert McKay, Ashvin Degnarain, Richard Kendall, and Wes Linden are all Level 3 and officiate as Referees on the Contributory Leagues (i.e. Ryman and Southern) and as Assistant Referees on the Conference, Football Combination, and Premiership Reserve League.

The following were promoted to Level 3 but have since “retired”.

Paul Toyer, Carl Couzens (was Football League Assistant), Ian Batchelor, Neil Lewis, Sam Orsini, Peter Younger, Ian Whan, Sean Comerford, Steve Fay, John Simmons, John Wynne (was promoted to level 3, but is now Level 4)

Level 5 referees that were once Level 3 and are now officiating on the SSMFL are Frank Grosso, Peter Hern, Mark Ives, Roy Pardoe, Mike Taylor, and Ray Ward- all were either Football League Referees or Assistants.

If you know of any omissions, or if you are one, please let me or Eric know and we will publish addendums.

### SNIPPETS

**Chalfont St. Peter** is in danger of losing their three young talented forwards – **Bradley Bubb, Terrell Lewis, and Jerome Okimo**. All three have caught the eye of Darren (son of Alex) Ferguson, the manager of Peterborough United, and are poised to join the League two club on a trial with the prospect of a permanent move. Manager Danny Edwards, who has brought the lads through his Football Academy, stated “They are very talented players, bursting with pace, and with a bit of consistency they can make it at a much higher level. We want to encourage their development, and help them move on and up, and we will not stand in their way.”