

Bedfordshire County Football League



Season 2010-11

News Bulletin Number 39



Watson Shield Final. Thursday 12th May 2011. Co-op Sports 5 Royal Oak Kempston 3.

Before a near three figure crowd at Second Meadow Biggleswade United on Thursday evening, Co-op Sports were to lift this seasons Watson Shield with a pulsating 5-3 victory over Royal Oak Kempston.

The games opening chance was to fall 10 minutes into the contest when Co-op's Ashley Jordan broke free, looking up he saw Oak goalkeeper Jack Cunningham rushing off his line and rather than go for glory he unselfishly squared the ball into the path of team-mate James McMulkin who stood in front of an empty net, alas McMulkin pushed the ball off target.

Within three minutes The Oak had taken the lead. A Chris Birdsall effort was cleared off the line by Scott Davis, but with the clearance not clearing the penalty box, Chris Vardy floored Gareth Arzu to see referee Tony Guiry pointing to the penalty spot. Up stepped Sean Boland to shoot his side 1-0 ahead.

However, the game was to turn on its head 10 minutes later with two Co-op Sports goals within 90 seconds. First a Davis free kick was to be dropped by Oak goalkeeper Cunningham onto the boot of Jordan, who said thank you very much for 1-1 then after a Rowan Markland shot had deflected off the Oak wall to McMulkin he made up for his earlier miss with a cool finish to place his side 2-1 ahead.

The Oak were soon hitting back, Co-op goalkeeper Gareth Fear needing his legs to keep out an effort from Oak's own Jordan Lorenzo, before the Oak number nine drew the contest level ten minutes from the break. Andrew Palombella supplying the perfect ball into his path some 20 yards out from goal which saw him unleash an unstoppable shot past Fear for 2-2.

When the teams emerged for the second period, referee Guiry was now the fourth official due to a groin injury and Chris Barton the man in the middle. Barton's first decision seeing him award a penalty against Oak's Darren Minney for handball, his night being saved when Andrew Ayres pushed the spot kick well wide of Cunningham's upright's.

Yet by the hour mark, The Shield was as good as won with The Co-op racing into a 4-2 lead. McMulkin from the edge of the box on 50 minutes sending in a sweet finish for 3-2 and then after Cunningham had denied him his hat-trick with a save on his near post, Vardy with an individual effort took the scoreline up to 4-2.

The Co-op were now on fire, McMulkin racing from his own half to set up Jordan which required another fine stop from Cunningham, then Jordan right in front of goal completely mis-kicked the chance to bring up the nap hand.

Their supporters wait for the fifth goal was however just 60 seconds away, Cunningham beating a Jordan effort out to the edge of the box where Vardy stood to ping back and take his side three goals clear at 5-2.

The Oak's response was not to lie down but to attack, if only Fear had not kept out efforts from substitute Dean Boland with his first touch of the ball followed by another Jordan effort. When Co-op's Lee Murton conceded a penalty two minutes from time for a foul on Palombella, the resulting penalty converted by Sean Boland might well have been for five all and extra time rather than 5-3.

Co-op Sports; Gareth Fear, Andrew Ayres, Robert Cusack, Scott Davis, Rowan Markland, Thomas Miller, Paul Power, Chris Vardy, Thomas Furr, Ashley Jordan, James McMulkin, Subs Used; Dave Mycroft, Kelly Smith and Lee Murton.

Royal Oak Kempston ; Jack Cunningham, Gareth Arzu, Chris Birdsall, Michael Cooney, Lorenzo Jordan, Dave Minney, Andrew Palombella, Lloyd Turner, David Bevan, Sean Boland, Subs Used; Dean Boland, Andy Cunningham and Daniel Detchin- Freeth.

Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup Final. Friday 13th May 2011. Lea Sports PSG 2 Pavenham

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Before an Armadillo Stadium Arlesey Town crowd of 95, Lea Sports PSG duly collected their second trophy of the season with a narrow Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup 2-1 victory over Pavenham.

It was the PSG boys who so nearly had the perfect start to the contest, Martin Collins bringing a fine save out of Pavenham goalkeeper Elliott Wheldon with just two minutes showing on the watch, before the opening exchanges developed into a cagey affair with neither side quite able to boss the park.

Yet with 17 minutes gone, PSG broke the deadlock. Collins robbing Amar Sira of the ball some 30 yards out before delivering the perfect finish past Wheldon to give his side the lead.

Pavenham's first real chance of the game didn't arrive until the half-hour mark when Nick Atkins fired in an effort which PSG goalkeeper Lukasz Nowicki dealt with at ease, but just five minutes later they came up with an equalizing goal.

Tom Rodger from close range seeing Nowicki show his class to divert his effort around his uprights but from Stuart Beasley's resulting flag kick, on the far post was Tim Ellis to head home and take the teams in at half-time all square and all to play for in the second period.

Pavenham goalkeeper Wheldon was again back in action 10 minutes into the new period to save a Collins effort fired in from range, but just 60 seconds later he must have been the most relieved man in the stadium, after rushing off his line to foul James Awofisan outside his area, to see referee Corey Mayes only deem his action a yellow card offence. Who said it was Friday the 13th?

However, Awofisan was to gain his revenge just nine minutes later when after Collins had inter-linked with him inside the Pavenham penalty box he slotted what turned out to be the cup-winning goal passed Wheldon for a 2-1 scoreline.

Pavenham were far from accepting defeat, Sira placing an effort just over the crossbar before Awofisan should have put the contest beyond their recall 14 minutes from time. Darting into the Pavenham penalty box unchallenged somehow from close range he pushed his final effort wide of Wheldon's posts.

This miss so nearly proving costly four minutes later but for Nowicki producing a flying save at full stretch to keep out a John Coles blockbuster. The closing effort of the game then so nearly saw a third PSG goal, Ken Okolie's curling effort just inches off target.

Lea Sports PSG; Lukasz Nowicki, James Smith, Dean Lewis, Ryan Coote, Dion Brown, Rory Smith, Hayden Fletcher, Glen Collins, Ken Okolie, James Awofisan, Martin Collins, Subs Used; Tommy Feeney and Paul Collins.

Pavenham; Elliott Wheldon, David Netherway, Thomas Ellis, James Styles, Alan Craigen, Stuart Beasley, Josh Martiello, Nick Atkins, Amar Sira, Tom Rodger, John Coles, Sub Used; Dan Gray.

Jubilee Cup Final 16th May 2011. Kings AFC 0 Westoning Recreation Club 4.

The Bedfordshire County Football League season drew to a close on Tuesday evening when before a Second Meadow, Biggleswade United crowd of 80. Westoning Recreation Club engraved their name on the cup for a third time with a 4-0 victory over Kings AFC.

It was The Rec Boys who quickly gained the games ascendancy and it was no surprise when leading goalscorer Ian Buckingham shot them into a 10th minute lead, twisting and turning in the penalty box to send a close range effort past Kings AFC goalkeeper Michael Craddock.

Just five minutes later it could have been 2-0, alas Tom Smith's blockbuster from 45yards out just flew inches to high over Craddock's crossbar.

In a rare adventure onto Westoning soil, Nathan Clements brought about his sides first shot of the night, easily dealt with by Rec Boys goalkeeper Steven Templeman on his near post.

However, the action was soon back at the other end, Glen Cooksley fluffing his lines after being set free by the perfect ball from Jack Barnwell, then Craddock needing to show his class to tip a Buckingham free kick over his own woodwork fired in from range.

In fact only Craddock kept his side in the contest as the half-time break approached, making a double barrelled stop to deny first Smith then Buckingham.

The second period however was to see Kings come much more into the contest and trade blow for blow with their opposition in front of goal. Rowan Hazelwood and Josh Clements missing opportunity's to level the contest, whilst at the other end Barnwell twice and Buckingham once failed to double the scoreline.

With 75 minutes showing on the watch King's looked to be back in the contest when Clements headed home, alas for them the offside flag was flying and the goal ruled out.

This was to be the last we saw of them, The Rec Boys adding three goals to their tally in the closing five minutes. On 88 minutes a powerful run by Cooksley brought about a goal for Smith on the backpost to make it 2-0. Then after John Watts had floored Buckingham in the box two minutes later, The Rec Boys number 8 slammed the resulting spot kick past Craddock for goal number three.

Then with the final whistle about to be blown, total disarray in the Kings penalty box saw Nick Willis added the night's final goal.

Kings AFC; Michael Craddock, Chris Greene, Rowan Hazelwood, Mark Loosemoore, Ollie Plestead, Chris Stelling, Marcus Tomlin, Josh Clements, Dean Dummett, Nathan Clements, Danny Cain, Subs Used; Guiseppe Lamerti, Lee Morgan, John Watts,

Westoning Recreation Club; Steven Templeman, Jack Archer, Alex Barnwell, Ian Buckingham, Glen Cooksley, Simon Neasham, Tom Smith, Jack Willison, Lewis Wilson, Sean Gadsden, Jack Barnwell, Sub Used ; Ian Dawson, Matt Barnes, Nick Willis,

That's it folks for Season 2010-11

This issue brings to a close our 2010-11 season News Bulletin's, however coming soon will be The Bedfordshire County Football League Full-Time report for 2010-11 which we be uploaded onto www.bedfordshirefootballleague.co.uk as soon as possible.

Just to make you smile going into summer, the league can confirm that the rumours in circulation that the championship medals of a certain club have been held back due to a player failing a drug test are completely untrue.

Indeed an unknown substance that could only be identify as a "yellow product" was under test found in their goalkeepers system, however the full analysis suggest his blood may just have been contaminated with the designer drug called "**Hein-E-Ken**'

There were also traces of a Belgian stimulant, "**Artois**, sold throughtout Europe by an agent known only as "**Stella**"