



Bedfordshire County Football League

Season 2009-10

News Bulletin Number 35



Midweek Action Round Up

Wednesday evening saw Biggleswade United move themselves up to fourth spot in the Premier Division supported by Sportsform league table with a 6-0 home win over bottom of the table Westoning Recreation Club, a brace of goals from Byn Williams saw United lead 2-0 at the break, before in the second period the tally was added to by Carl Fletcher, David Parker and Jack Gabbitas twice to take United to their fourth home win on the bounce and leave the visitors still searching for their first away win of the season.

Meanwhile just down the road at The Carlsberg Stadium, Southill Alexander came up with only their second home win of the season and their first win in 10 outings with a 5-2 victory over Renhold United, who have now lost their last four games.

United were to take the lead five minutes into the contest via Damion Quigley but just eight minutes later an own goal from Kevin Evans had matters level at 1-1 which remained the scoreline at the break. The second half however was to belong to the home side with Bradley O'Donovan claiming hero status with a hat-trick inside 13 minutes to race them 4-1 ahead, he struck first after 55 minutes to give The Bishops the lead for the first time in the contest and just eight minutes later after United's Paul McKeaveney had upended Matty Pye in the penalty box he coolly slipped the resulting spot kick passed Marvin Green to take the scoreline up to 3-1 then collected his hat-trick in the 68th minute via a near post header.

United's Sean Gilbert with a free kick from 25 yards out on 79 minutes reduced the arrears to 4-2 until David Kane completed the night's scoring five minutes later with the supply ball coming for none other than hero man O'Donovan .

Then just 24 hours later on Thursday evening before a crowd of 70 tonight at Potton United's Hollow Ground, The Bedfordshire County Football League were defeated 3-0 by The North Home Counties Sunday Football League in the final of this seasons Bedfordshire FA Inter-League Centenary Cup.

Colin Waite shooting The Home Counties side ahead seven minutes before half-time and when further goals from Mark Bunker on 54 minutes and Craig Butler seven minutes later followed it was game over.

Action Round-Up from Saturday 13th March 2009

Premier Division supported by Sportsform

Premier Division supported by Sportsform league leaders Blunham were to take their unbeaten ways to 13 games with a 6-1 away win at Biggleswade United Reserves to remain three points clear at the head of the league table. Chris Johnson on target with a hat-trick, Andy Smith netting a brace and Matthew McMahon also finding the back of the net against a lone home reply from James Trundley.

For second place Ickwell & Old Warden it was a tenth win on the bounce, 2-1 at home over fellow title contenders Oakley Sports. Ben Brown giving the visitors a first half lead before a brace of goals from Anup Kalyan won the day in the second period. This defeat dropping Oakley to fourth spot in the standings below now third place Caldecote on goal difference after they won 4-1 at Renhold United. Mark Phillips netting two first half goals to put the visitors in control and when Dave Daniels added a third early in the second period the points were as good as won, United's Karl Anderson however reduced the arrears to 1-3 before Daniels grabbed his second of the afternoon to bring up the final 4-1 scoreline.

Down at the other end of the table it was defeats for all of the bottom three clubs, basement boys Westoning Recreation Club fairing the worse with a 9-3 beating at Campton. 2-0 down inside three minutes following home goals from Daniel Webb and Sam Larsen, The Rec Boys suddenly 10 minutes later found themselves leading the game 3-2 after Dave Shirley had netted twice alongside Luke Redhead. Alas for them by the half-time break Campton via an Adam Larsen penalty and a goal from Andy Hayday were back in the lead 4-3. The second period then seeing the home side net a further five goals, Adam Larsen with a second penalty also completing his hat-trick from open play alongside strikes from Hayday plus Stef Collins and Matty Irvine.

Meanwhile second from bottom of the table Southill Alexander were beaten 3-2 at Woburn. Lewis Murray giving the Safari Boys the lead after 20 minutes, but by the break Jason Lynch had levelled matters up at 1-1. Strikes from Alex Ottaway on the hour mark and Martin Holland 10 minutes later gave the home side a 3-1 lead until Bradley O'Donovan collected the visitors second goal eight minutes from time.

For Dunton, sitting in that third from bottom spot, it was a 1-2 home defeat at the hands of Sharnbrook. Nicky Threadgold shooting Dunton ahead after 20 minutes until goals from Lawrence Bentham five minutes into the second period and a strike from David Miljkovic 15 minutes from time won the day for the visitors.

The days final top flight contest seeing Wilshamstead take their unbeaten home ways to seven games with a share of the spoils in a 3-3 draw with AFC Kempston Town. Goals in the opening 35 minutes from Marcus Newbury, Dave Benson plus a Michael Jones penalty took the home side into a 3-0 lead, until James Allen begun the fight back with a goal just two minutes from the break, a brace of goals via Danny Pilgrim early in the new period then ensured the points would be shared.

Premier Division supported by Sportsform table at 13th March 2010

14 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Blunham	18	13	3	2	60	30	+30	42
Ickwell & Old Warden	17	13	0	4	46	32	+14	39
Caldecote	19	10	3	6	48	30	+18	33
Oakley Sports	16	11	0	5	44	28	+16	33
Biggleswade United Reserves	20	10	1	9	47	49	-2	31
Campton	18	9	1	8	47	39	+8	28
Wilshamstead	15	6	5	4	40	28	+12	23
Renhold United	20	6	5	9	37	51	-14	23
Sharnbrook AFC	17	6	3	8	29	36	-7	21
Kempston Town	14	6	2	6	35	31	+4	20
Woburn	17	6	2	9	39	45	-6	20
Dunton	18	4	2	12	24	43	-19	14
Southill Alexander	16	3	4	9	34	41	-7	13
Westoning Recreation Club [Saturday]	17	2	1	14	31	78	-47	7

Division One

With league leaders Flitwick Town sitting the afternoon out, second place Caldecote Reserves took full advantage to reduce their lead at the head of the league table to just nine points with a 3-1 home win over Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves. Goals from Paul Gower and Kai Griffiths-Shilton saw them lead 2-0 at the break until Grant Humberstone netted for the visitors to give them hope until Hayden Jones netted the third home goal.

Top scorers of the day in this Division were Sandy, 6-0 home winners over Kempston, to move themselves into the top six of the league table. Ian Hammett netting four times alongside Phil Beal and Charlie Seward to take Sandy's unbeaten ways to seven games.

Meanwhile, Meltis Albion kept their promotion hopes alive by returning to winning ways on the road with a 4-1 win at bottom of the table Kempston Hammers Sports.

Asa Garlick netting twice alongside single strikes from Salvatore Ventriglia and Darren Ashpole, the lone home reply coming from Kevin Short.

The final game in this Division saw FC Meppershall run out 4-3 winners at AFC Kempston Town Reserves, two goals from Darren Bentley plus strikes from Craig Damon and Dave Readman winning the day against a home hat-trick from Ed L'Erario.

Division One League Table at 13th March 2010.

16 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Flitwick Town	22	16	1	5	55	29	+26	49
Caldecote Reserves	21	12	4	5	56	37	+19	40
Meltis Albion	21	11	5	5	47	34	+13	38
Marston Social	19	10	4	5	43	29	+14	34
Leighton United	16	10	3	3	45	23	+22	33
Sandy	21	10	2	9	60	36	+24	32
FC Meppershall	21	9	3	9	59	58	+1	30
Kempston	19	10	0	9	43	48	-5	30
Bedford Sports Athletic	20	8	4	8	51	46	+5	28
Blunham Reserves	22	8	4	10	35	47	-12	28
Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves	18	7	2	9	37	45	-8	23
Henlow	18	7	2	9	36	45	-9	23
AFC Kempston Town Reserves	20	6	2	12	30	54	-24	20
Stevington	20	4	4	12	41	65	-24	16
Campton Reserves	20	5	1	14	37	62	-25	16
Kempston Hammers Sports	18	4	1	13	44	61	-17	13

Saturday, 05 September 2009: FC Meppershall v AFC Kempston Town Reserves - Away Win was awarded

Centenary Cup Semi-Finals

This seasons Centenary Cup Final will be between Blunham Reserves and Leighton United after they both claimed away Semi-Final wins. United with a hat-trick from Kevin Hilton plus a goal from Darryl Smith running out 4-1 winners at Stevington whose lone reply came from Ian Woods, whilst Blunham needed a Carl Warner extra time goal to gain a 1-0 win at Henlow.

Bedfordshire FA Intermediate Cup Quarter-Final

Marston Social became the pride of The Bedfordshire County Football League after they claimed a 4-1penalty shoot-out win over United Counties League Stotfold Reserves on their own Roker Park pitch. 0-0 after 120 minutes successful spot kicks from James Kinnes, Richard Stimpson, Daniel Bullen and Daniel Parkes won the day and a home Semi-Final tie against Lewsey Park.

Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup Semi-Finals

This seasons Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup Final will be between Potton Wanderers and Renhold Village after both emerged Semi-Final away winners, James Hearson, Sam Worthington, Danny Fox and Jessie Mayo netting The Wanderers goals in a 4-3 win at Bedford Hatters for whom Scott Alleyne with a brace plus Michael Fry replied. Whilst Renhold Village upset the formbook with a 3-2 win at Marston Shelton Rovers, Peter Neal, Simon Wade and Dan Luke netting the goals against home replies via James Burraway and Antony Henman.

Division Two

Brache Sparta Community Centre Reserves are now up to third spot in the Division Two league table after taking their unbeaten ways to seven games with a 4-1 victory at Kempston Royals. Martin Collins netting twice alongside Richard Anderson and Chris Littlejohn against a home reply from Lorenzo Jordan.

Arlesey Social Galacticos however were slipped off the promotion pace when held to a 1-1 home draw by bottom of the table Shillington, James Edwards on target for The Social against a Lewis Osborn reply.

Elsewhere, Elstow Abbey remain deep in relegation trouble after being beaten 1-4 on home soil by Harpur FC. Nathan Austin twice plus Martin Ivy and Fabrizio Cataldo on target for the visitors against a home reply from Dave McCarthy.

The final game of the day in this Division seeing Shefford Town return to winning ways with a 4-3 home win over Kings AFC. James Scott twice plus Tom Scurfield and Dan Pinkerton on the scoresheet for The Town, the Kings replies coming from Ollie Plestead, Rowan Hazelwood and Ryan Kelly.

Division Two League Table at 13th March 2010

14 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Bedford Hatters	18	14	2	2	73	24	+49	44
Potton Wanderers	17	13	2	2	67	20	+47	41
Brache Sparta Community Reserves	17	10	5	2	55	25	+30	35
Marston Shelton Rovers	17	10	4	3	55	27	+28	34
Arlesey Social Galacticos	18	9	5	4	39	35	+4	32
Kings AFC	16	7	3	6	55	40	+15	24
Shefford Town	17	7	3	7	45	42	+3	24
Harpur FC	18	7	3	8	47	59	-12	24
Great Barford	20	6	2	12	34	56	-22	20
Kempston Royals	19	5	3	11	30	54	-24	18
Marabese Ceramics	16	5	2	9	17	30	-13	17
Clifton	18	3	7	8	30	47	-17	16
Elstow Abbey 06	19	5	1	13	33	64	-31	16
Shillington [Saturday]	16	0	2	14	24	81	-57	2

Division Three

League leaders Queens Park Crescents were to have their seasons 100 % away record and unbeaten league ways ended when defeated 4-1 at Lidlington United Sports who now move to within five points of them at the head of the standings. Andrew Sims with a hat-trick plus a goal from Scott Kent taking United's own unbeaten ways to eight games, the lone Crescents reply coming via Taz Ali whose sides cause was not helped by the sending off of goalkeeper Yasin Amin just 10 minutes into the game.

At the other end of the table Riseley Sports Reserves remain rooted to the bottom of the table after being beaten 0-4 at home by Dunton Reserves, Sam Manners with a brace plus goals from Carl Mercer and Nicky Albone doing the damage.

Meanwhile, Stopsley Park were returning to winning ways 3-0 winners at Westoning Recreation Club Reserves, Andy Randell the Park hero with all three goals.

Division Three League Table at 13th March 2010

10 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Queens Park Crescents	13	10	2	1	49	18	+31	32
Lidlington United Sports	13	8	3	2	34	19	+15	27
Dunton Reserves	14	7	3	4	38	32	+6	24
Stopsley Park	14	6	4	4	48	35	+13	22
Renhold Village	13	6	2	5	43	33	+10	20
Caldecote 'A'	15	6	2	7	32	62	-30	20
Wilshamstead Reserves	13	5	1	7	37	31	+6	16
Westoning Recreation Club [Saturday] Reserves	12	3	3	6	19	27	-8	12
Sandy Reserves	13	2	2	9	23	47	-24	8
Riseley Sports Reserves	12	2	0	10	30	49	-19	6

Division Four

With Sundon Park Rangers away on Watson Shield duty, Sharnbrook Reserves took full advantage to move to the top of the Division Four league table with a 4-1 victory at Thurleigh. Dan Glos with a brace plus Darren Wallanger and Jordan Baxter netting the vital goals against a home reply from Dan Newton.

Flitwick Town Reserves meanwhile, were taking their unbeaten ways to six games with a share of the spoils in a 2-2 home draw with Clifton Reserves. Chris Breeds and Stuart Harvey on target for The Town against Clifton replies from Jordan Spencer and Mark Gearing.

The third and final game in this Division seeing Stewartby Village resume winning ways with a 4-3 home victory over Kempston Athletic. George Wheelhouse, Ben Sparks and James Churchman plus a Michael Cook penalty outscoring an Athletic brace from Gary Whitbread plus a strike from Robert Booth.

Division Four League Table at 13th March 2010

11 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Sharnbrook Reserves	14	11	1	2	49	13	+36	34
Sundon Park Rangers [Saturday]	16	10	3	3	68	22	+46	33
M & DH Oakley	14	9	0	5	43	24	+19	27
Flitwick Town Reserves	15	8	2	5	44	45	-1	26
Dinamo Flitwick	14	6	2	6	38	30	+8	20
Thurleigh	14	6	2	6	36	37	-1	20
Clifton Reserves	13	5	2	6	36	35	+1	17
Eastcotts	13	5	2	6	31	31	+0	17
Stewartby Village	14	5	0	9	33	44	-11	15
Kempston Athletic	13	3	0	10	31	63	-32	9
Bedford Park Rangers	16	3	0	13	20	85	-65	9

Watson Shield

The Watson Shield last 16 line-up is now known after the playing of the final two group games. In Group Four, Eastcotts emerged 2-1 winners at M & DH Oakley to claim the second of the best third place spots and a trip to Sharnbrook Reserves next weekend. Tony Milioti netting both goals against a home reply from Matty Vance.

In Group Five, Sundon Park Rangers 6-0 win at Wilshamstead Reserves means they will qualify as Group Winners and enjoy home advantage next weekend over Dinamo Flitwick thanks to a hat-trick from Matthew Conway, a brace from Nicky Buttigigg and a single strike from Chris Ward, whilst Wilshamstead Reserves will now travel to face Flitwick Town Reserves as Group Five runners-up.

Preview 20th March 2010.

Perhaps the centre of attention in this weeks programme falls on to the two remaining ties in Round 2 of this season's Britannia Cup. At Moggerhanger Playing Fields,

current Premier Division supported by Sportsform league leaders Blunham will be the firm favourites to progress to a last four home tie against Southill Alexander when they take on Woburn. Whilst in the other tie, its a return visit for Westoning Recreation Club to Second Meadow to face Biggleswade United Reserves just 10 days after being defeated heavily in league action at the same venue, a home semi-final tie against Caldecote awaits the winners.

In the Premier Division supported by Sportsform league action there are just four games, at their temporary Houghton Conquest home, Wilshamstead now unbeaten in their last seven home encounters host title seeking Ickwell & Old Warden who travel looking for their sixth away win on the bounce. Whilst for fellow title contenders Oakley Sports, its a trip on the road to Horseshoes Close to face a Dunton side who will be looking for their first home success since beating Southill Alexander back in early September some seven games ago.

Other action comes at Rectory Road, where Campton go in search of home win number five on the bounce against the visiting Sharnbrook who travel having won their last two away games.

Whilst Hillgrounds is the venue for AFC Kempston Town home encounter with Southill Alexander, the visitors travelling looking for their first away win in eight outings against a home side that has failed to win any of its last three games.

In Division One, league leaders Flitwick Town will be making their way to Groveside to face a Henlow side that has been beaten just three times in home league action this season. Whilst second place Caldecote Reserves look to take their unbeaten ways to six games when hosting bottom of the table Kempston Hammers Sports at Harvey Close.

Still also very much in the title race are Leighton United who take on Blunham Reserves at Stanbridge Road, United defending a six game unbeaten league run against a Blunham side that visit looking for away win number three on the bounce, in what is now a dress rehearsal for this seasons Centenary Cup Final.

Meanwhile over in Mowsbury Park, FC Meppershall seek to avenge an early season pasting from Sandy when the Bedford Road boys pay them a visit and come in search of their third away win on the bounce.

Elsewhere on The Green, Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves will be entertaining AFC Kempston Town Reserves, the hosts now unbeaten in their last three home games, the firm favourites to collect the points against a Town side that has lost its last five away outings.

The final action in this division at Cutler Hammer sees Kempston, winners of their last three home games, host Stevington who have only won once this season on their travels.

For Marston Social its action in the Semi-Final of this seasons Bedfordshire FA Intermediate Cup when they host Lewesy Park at their Playing Fields Headquarters.

It's also Semi-Final day in The Jubilee Cup for the leading two clubs in Division Two, when Potton Wanderers take on Bedford Hatters at Mill Lane just seven days after their Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup clash in which The Wanderers emerged 4-3 winners.

This cup tie giving the trio of sides chasing the top two for a promotion spot this season the chance to close the gap on them at the head of the league table. Marston Shelton Rovers travelling to The Bedford Hockey Centre to face a Harpur FC side now unbeaten in its last four home games. While Arleseey Social Galacticos hit the road to Digswell Playing Fields for local derby action against Shefford Town.

The trio of promotion chasing sides being made up by Brache Sparta Community Reserves, who defend their seasons unbeaten home record at Foxdell Recreation Ground when paid a visit by a Elstow Abbey side that has won its last two away games.

Down at the other end of the table, Great Barford will be in home Playing Fields action against Kings AFC. While in Hillgrounds, Kempston Royals take on Marabese Ceramics who travel looking for their first win in five league outings.

Meanwhile, the final Division Two action comes at Greenfield's where bottom of the table Shillington host Clifton who travel looking to extend their unbeaten away sequence up to five games.

For the other lower Division sides its action at the last 16 stage in this seasons Watson Shield. Division Three Renhold Village hosting Division Four Stopsley Park at Renhold Playing Fields for the right to travel and meet the winners of the Lidlington United Sports v Thurleigh tie which takes place at Hurst Grove.

At Oakley Playing Fields, its an all Division four clash between hosts M& DH Oakley and visitors Clifton Reserves, the victors to hit the road in the next round to meet the winners of the Sundon Park Rangers v Dinamo Flitwick tie being held in Stockwood Park.

Over at Lodge Road, Sharnbrook Reserves entertain Eastcotts, the firm favourites to make it into the last eight and earn a trip to face the winners of the Flitwick Town Reserves v Wilshamstead Reserves tie taking place at Steppingley Road.

For Division Three league leaders Queens Park Crescents, its home Mowsbury Park action against Caldecote A, the winners then to visit the victors of the other all Division Three clash at Gold Street between Riseley Sports Reserves and Dunton Reserves at the last eight stage.

Action then moves onto Tuesday evening when in The Four Leagues Trophy, The Bedfordshire County Football League take on The Northampton Town League at Cranfield United. Kick Off 7.45pm.

Before, just 24 hours later, its a return to Premier Division supported by Sportsform action at The Carlsberg Stadium where Southill Alexander host local rivals Biggleswade United Reserves. Whilst at Greenfield's in Division Three, Shillington

are paid a visit by promotion seeking Brache Sparta Community Reserves. Both games kicking off at 7.45pm

A Travellers Tale by Brian Buck

201st game of the season. (Match 9,624) Wednesday 17th February 2010. Biggleswade United Reserves 4 Ickwell & Old Warden 5 (Biggleswade & District Knock Out Cup 1st Round) att 25 approx. Tonight was a cold one, but surprisingly we saw a very good game, the sort which would be very typical when I first started watching football. You remember those days, the days when teams actually tried to win games rather than trying not to lose them. Ultimately though it was United who perhaps might have hoped that they could have defended a little better. Mind you I was told that they had already been kicked out of the competition twice for not arranging this game on time, but they were let back in. It was Ickwell who got off to a good start and by the 18th minute they were 2-0 up. The first goal looked offside and the second one came from the spot after a foul. But amazingly United not only levelled the score by the break they went in 3-2 up by way of goals on 25, 32 and 45 minutes. The wag sitting next to me commented that Ickwells keeper Day might not be so good at night! The game then swung Ickwells way as they made it 3-3 on 57 minutes, but United made it 4-3 with a sweet goal by Honeyman on 70 minutes. You thought that this effort might be enough to give them victory but Ickwell equalised again on 81 minutes and then grabbed what proved to be the winner on 88 minutes. This was the best goal of an enjoyable night when the scorer beat three or four players on a mazy run on goal before slotting the ball home, bringing back memories of Jimmy Greaves goal for Spurs against Ipswich Town in October 1968!