

Bedfordshire County **Football League**



Season 2009-10

News Bulletin Number 28



Action Review From Wednesday 20th January 2010

With the predicted rain and snow staying away Biggleswade United Reserves took full advantage to move up to fourth spot in The Premier Division supported by Sportsform table with a 4-1 home victory over Sharnbrook. Despite the visitors looking the better side in the opening half it was United who went in at half-time a goal in front after Tony Norman on the backpost headed home a Byn Williams corner just six minutes before the half-time cuppa break.

For those of the 20plus crowd who alongside United's Technical Manager of Football Brian Swords, lingered over the Rosie Lea to long, they suffered the fate of missing the games next two goals. Within three minutes of the re-start Darren Wallinger had levelled matters up for the visitors only to see Jack Gabbitas restored United's advantage just 60 seconds later.

The games real turning point arriving on the hour mark, when visiting goalkeeper Andrew Lawrence planted a goal kick straight at the feet of United's James Honeyman who capitalized on the error to send the ball whizzing back passed him and take United 3-1 clear and on their way to the three points.

Honeyman then sealing the contest with the games best goal of the night 11 minutes from time, a neatly struck volley from the edge of the area to give Lawrence no chance of redeeming himself for his earlier error.

Action Review From Saturday 23rd January 2010

Premier Division supported by Sportsform

Blunham's lead at the head of the Premier Division supported by Sportsform table is now down to five points after their nine game winning run was halted by Sharnbrook who held them to 1-1 draw on their own patch, Matty McMahon shooting the league leaders ahead after 15 minutes only to see Lawrence Bentham level matters up in the games final minute.

Meanwhile, second place Ickwell & Old Warden took full advantage of Blunham's slip up by netting their seventh consecutive league win, with a 6-3 home win over bottom of the table Westoning Recreation Club. However Ickwell were twice to trail

in the contest, Luke Redhead first shooting The Rec Boys ahead before Zak Rowe levelled matters, Dean Gadsden then restored the lead for the visitors only to see Rowe once again hit the back of the net for 2-2, after which two goals from Steve Thomas and strikes from Andrew Vallom and Rakesh Gill were only replied to by another strike from Redhead to leave Ickwell 6-3 winners.

Ickwell's win now takes them six points clear of third place Caldecote who were held to a 2-2 draw at Southill Alexander, Paul Lawrence giving Caldecote a first half lead before two goals from Jason Lynch in the opening 20 minutes of the second period shot the home side in front until a 70th minute strike from Dan Wilson ensured the points were shared.

Still very much in the Championship race are fourth place Oakley Sports, who if they won all their games in hand, would go to the head of the table. However it took a 90th minute strike from John Searle to earn them their sixth away win on the trot and the three points from a 4-3 victory at Woburn. All started well enough for The Sportsman, when goals from Searle and Stuart Kelly took them 2-0 ahead until Martin Holland struck to take the sides in at the break separated by the narrowest of margins.

Kelly was to strike again two minutes into the new period to see Oakley lead 3-1, but a David Stocker penalty to make it 2-3 had their nervous jangling and it looked points lost when home player Andy Skolsky levelled matters on 85 minutes, that was until Searle came to the rescue with his late winner.

Things seem to be going from bad to worse for Dunton, who went down to their eighth straight league defeat when beaten on home soil 1-2 by Renhold United, to give the visitors their first win in six league outings. Damon Quigley placing United in front 15 minutes into the game before James Cooper levelled matters 10 minutes from the break, United's winner then arriving 20 minutes into the second period from a Paul Beattie header.

However, for Campton, it was a return to winning ways after four straight defeats with a 4-2 home win over Biggleswade United Reserves, given the perfect start by a Wayne Goldsmith goal in the opening 60 seconds, they were then to trail when both Dan Thomas and Jack Gabbitas netted inside a minute around the quarter of an hour mark, only to see Andrew Hayday make it 2-2 with the games third goal inside a three minute period 60 seconds later. By half-time Adam Larsen with a strike on 35 minutes and Dan Wood five minutes later had shot the home side 4-2 ahead which was to become the final scoreline mainly due to the second half exploits of home goalkeeper Gary Cullerton.

Bedfordshire FA Senior Trophy Round Three

AFC Kempston Town made their exit from this seasons Bedfordshire FA Senior Trophy when beaten 1-3 at home after extra time by Hereward United Counties League Potton United, trailing to an 11th minute goal from Dave McMurrrough, an Ed L'Erario penalty levelled matters 20 minutes into the contest before United won the game in extra time with a brace of goals from Jez McMurrrough.

Premier Division supported by Sportsform Table at 23rd January 2010

14 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Blunham	15	11	2	2	47	23	+24	35
Ickwell & Old Warden	14	10	0	4	37	29	+8	30
Caldecote	14	7	3	4	31	18	+13	24
Oakley Sports	11	8	0	3	28	17	+11	24
Renhold United	15	6	5	4	32	33	-1	23
Biggleswade United Reserves	14	7	1	6	30	29	+1	22
Wilshamstead	11	5	3	3	30	20	+10	18
Campton	14	6	0	8	26	33	-7	18
AFC Kempston Town	10	5	1	4	26	16	+10	16
Sharnbrook	14	4	3	7	21	30	-9	15
Woburn	13	4	1	8	25	31	-6	13
Dunton	14	3	1	10	15	33	-18	10
Southill Alexander	12	2	3	7	22	30	-8	9
Westoning Recreation Club [Saturday]	13	2	1	10	25	53	-28	7

Division One

With second place Leighton United away on Bedfordshire FA Intermediate Cup duty, league leaders Flitwick Town took full advantage to move five points clear at the head of the Division One league table with a 8-2 victory at Bedford Sports Athletic. Dean Warren leading the way with a hat-trick, Jim Lewis netting twice, whilst Ben Wallington, Chris Bull and Martin Byne also found the back of the net for The Town against home replies from Paul Nigao and Daniel Bond.

Up into third slot now are Meltis Albion, 2-1 home winners over Blunham Reserves. Jason Rainbow was to give the visitors the lead until Asa Garlick levelled matters before the break and a Salvatote Ventrigrria goal won The Albion the points in the second period.

At the other end of the table, it was a grand day for Kempston Hammers Sports, who moved off of the bottom of the table at the expense of Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves, all thanks to a 6-5 away win at FC Meppershall. Sean Winconek and David Brown both hitting braces alongside goals for Jimmy Grandidge and Mattew Mossop for The Hammers, whilst the home replies came via a Darren Bentley brace, Tommy

Donavan, Craig Damon and Jason Nice, four of these goals arriving in the games closing 15 minutes.

For Sandy, it was a 7-0 home win over AFC Kempston Town Reserves, only 1-0 ahead at the break via a goal from Sam James, the second period was to see James complete his hat-trick alongside goals for Niko Stanchev, Daniel Bailey, Charlie Seward and Chris Baines as the home side romped home against a Town side forced to play the second period with just nine players due to injuries and the fact that they had no substitutes to use.

The day's final game in this section ending all square at 3-3, between Stevington and Campton Reserves. Andy Carlin, Aaron Fletcher plus an own goal on the home scoresheet, whilst the Campton replies came via Carl Bilcock, Gary Russon and Andy Fennel.

Division One League Table at 23rd January 2010

16 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Flitwick Town	17	12	1	4	43	24	+19	37
Leighton United	15	10	2	3	44	22	+22	32
Meltis Albion	16	10	2	4	35	24	+11	32
Caldecote Reserves	15	9	2	4	41	26	+15	29
Marston Social	15	8	3	4	34	24	+10	27
Kempston	15	9	0	6	41	37	+4	27
FC Meppershall	17	7	2	8	51	50	+1	23
Blunham Reserves	18	6	4	8	28	39	-11	22
Bedford Sports Athletic	16	6	3	7	37	37	+0	21
Sandy	16	6	1	9	39	32	+7	19
Henlow	14	5	2	7	26	37	-11	17
AFC Kempston Town Reserves	15	5	2	8	24	44	-20	17
Campton Reserves	17	5	1	11	35	49	-14	16
Stevington	17	4	3	10	34	51	-17	15
Kempston Hammers Sports	14	4	1	9	37	43	-6	13
Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves	13	4	1	8	27	37	-10	13

Bedfordshire FA Intermediate Cup Round Three

The day's activities in Round Three of The Bedfordshire FA Intermediate Cup leaves just Leighton United to represent the league in the Quarter-Finals. United running out 3-1 home winners over Caldecote Reserves, a Darryl Smith penalty opening the scoring before Jack Boyd had matters level by the break, United with another goal from Smith and a strike from Asim Munir winning the day in the second period.

For Marston Social, it was a case of what might have been at AFC Dunstable Reserves, 2-0 ahead at half-time thanks to goals from James Armstrong and Daniel Bullen, the home side were to draw level by the 90 minute mark then win the game 3-2 in extra time.

Not so close were Henlow, 3-1 losers at St Joseph's. Trailing 3-0, a Jack Rennie goal saw the half-time score stand at 3-1 before a goalless second period.

Elsewhere, Kempston had just a pair of goals from Jacob Corbin to show for a 2-10 home defeat by The 61 FC Luton Reserves.

Division Two League Table at 23rd January 2010

14 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Bedford Hatters	15	12	2	1	60	18	+42	38
Potton Wanderers	14	10	2	2	59	20	+39	32
Marston Shelton Rovers	14	9	4	1	51	19	+32	31
Arlesey Social Galacticos	15	8	3	4	34	33	+1	27
Brache Sparta Community Reserves	12	6	4	2	31	20	+11	22
Kings AFC	13	6	2	5	42	31	+11	20
Shefford Town	14	6	2	6	38	34	+4	20
Kempston Royals	15	5	2	8	24	40	-16	17
Marabese Ceramics	13	5	1	7	17	27	-10	16
Harpur FC	13	4	2	7	31	40	-9	14
Great Barford Clifton	15	4	2	9	26	44	-18	14
Clifton	14	3	4	7	21	35	-14	13
Elstow Abbey 06	15	3	1	11	21	50	-29	10
Shillington [Saturday]	12	0	1	11	19	63	-44	1

The limited action in Division Two was to see Shefford Town's six game unbeaten run come to an end when beaten 4-2 at home by Clifton, goals from Tom Allen, Barry Hallybone, Alex Fisher and Paul Rowe doing the damage against Town replies from Tom Scurfield and Ryan Welton.

Meanwhile, Kempston Royals came up with their first win in six outings when netting a 1-0 home win over Great Barford, Lorenzo Jordan bagging the only goal just five minutes into the contest.

Elsewhere, Elstow Abbey are still looking for their first away win of the season after being defeated 3-2 at Arlesey Social Galacticos, Mark McMillian twice plus an own goal from Abbey's John Watts on The Social scoresheet against replies from Adam Flint and Aiden MacDonald.

Division Three Table at 23rd Januaruy 2010

10 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Queens Park Crescents	10	8	2	0	42	11	+31	26
Lidlington United Sports	10	6	2	2	27	16	+11	20
Stopsley Park	11	5	4	2	41	28	+13	19
Dunton Reserves	10	6	1	3	27	24	+3	19
Renhold Village	10	4	2	4	33	27	+6	14
Caldecote 'A'	11	4	1	6	22	50	-28	13
Wilshamstead Reserves	10	4	0	6	32	26	+6	12
Westoning Recreation Club [Saturday] Reserves	9	3	2	4	17	21	-4	11
Riseley Sports Reserves	9	2	0	7	25	38	-13	6
Sandy Reserves	12	1	2	9	22	47	-25	5

With league leaders Queens Park Crescents away on Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup duty, second place Lidlington United Sports took full advantage to close their lead down to six points with a 3-2 away win at Caldecote A. Goals from Alex Burrows, Jack Weeden and Darren Sims taking them 3-0 ahead before late home strikes from Neil Giles and Martin Steer brought the deficit back to a single goal.

Now up into third slot are Stopsley Park Rangers, 5-4 away winners at Wilshamstead Reserves, Andy Randell with a brace plus an own goal and strikes from Omar

Richards and Craig Petit doing the damage against home replies via a pair for Jack Wiggs plus Phil Zeltobruhov and Colin Merritt.

The day's final game in this Division, seeing Riseley Sports Reserves lift themselves off the bottom of the league table at the expense of Sandy Reserves over whom they netted a 5-3 home victory. Paul Brown bagging a hat-trick alongside goals from John Caper and Ian Staniforth, whilst the Sandy replies came via a Danny Hoole brace and Dean Hains.

Division Four

Division Four action saw Dinamo Flitwick make it three away wins on the trot with a 6-0 victory at bottom of the table Bedford Park Rangers, Danny Hollis with a hat-trick plus goals from Carl Bunyan, Ben Canning and Richard Wilson doing the damage.

Meanwhile, Eastcotts are now unbeaten in their last five home outings after holding league leaders Sundon Park Rangers to a 1-1 draw. Liam Parker their marksman against a Rangers reply from Matt Conway.

Division Four League Table at 23rd January 2010

11 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Sundon Park Rangers [Saturday]	12	8	2	2	62	18	+44	26
Sharnbrook Reserves	11	8	1	2	37	12	+25	25
M & DH Oakley	11	8	0	3	36	16	+20	24
Dinamo Flitwick	13	6	2	5	34	25	+9	20
Flitwick Town Reserves	11	6	0	5	33	40	-7	18
Eastcotts	11	5	2	4	27	22	+5	17
Thurleigh	11	4	2	5	29	29	+0	14
Clifton Reserves	10	4	1	5	29	28	+1	13
Stewartby Village	10	4	0	6	26	32	-6	12
Kempston Athletic	9	2	0	7	24	48	-24	6
Bedford Park Rangers	13	1	0	12	15	82	-67	3

Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup Round Three

The result of the day in Round Three of The Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup belonged to Division Three league leaders Queens Park Crescents, who netted a 7-4 home win over Division Two side Kings AFC. Shezad Satter on target four times, Jeremic

Blagan with a brace and Ayaz Hussain netting the other goals against Kings replies from Rowan Hazelwood with a brace plus Ryan Kelly and an Oliver Pleasted penalty.

For Potton Wanderers, it was a 8-1 home win over fellow Division Two outfit Shillington, James Hearson with a hat-trick, Ricky Aris with a brace plus goals from Joe Harrington, Danny Fox and Jesse Moyo doing the damage, the lone visitors reply coming from Richard Claravella.

Meanwhile, Division Two league leaders Bedford Hatters made class tell with an 8-3 away win at Division Four side M& DH Oakley. Scott Alleyne leading the way with four goals, Daniel De Feo on the mark twice, to support single strikes from Michael Fry and Richard Cook against home replies from Dan Lupton, Adam Emms and Shaun Cafferty.

Still on the cup march also are Marston Shelton Rovers, 6-1 home winners over Stopsley Baptist Church, Xennon Paul and Lee Dudley both netting twice alongside single strikes for Aaron Franks and Nick Hurrell.

For Marabese Ceramics, it was a 2-1 home win over Brache Sparta Community Reserves, Dave Banasiak giving the visitors the lead before a brace of goals from Gary Wing won the day.

Also currently in the hat for the last eight draw are Harpur FC, 2-1 winners at Renhold Village, yet this tie could now well go to a Bedfordshire FA inquiry over player eligibility, Fabio Cataldo and Richard Andrews netting the Harpur goals against a home reply from Michael Luke.

Meanwhile, Westoning Recreation Club Reserves scheduled home tie with Heath Panthers United was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch at Greenfield Road.

Watson Shield

In Group Six action, Thurleigh took a giant step towards the last 16 with a 4-0 home win over Stewartby Village, goals from Sam Queely, Stephen Pladge, Dan Newton and Ben Stock doing the damage. Whilst in Group Seven, the top slot and a home tie at the last 16 knock-out stage is still in the melting pot after Clifton Reserves and Flitwick Town Reserves shared a 1-1 draw. Greg King on the hour mark shooting Clifton ahead before Mark Bartlett replied for the visitors two minutes later.

Watson Shield Group Six Table at 23rd January 2010

3 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Renhold Village	4	4	0	0	23	7	+16	12
Thurleigh	3	1	0	2	7	14	-7	3
Stewartby Village	3	0	0	3	4	13	-9	0

The scheduled Group Three clash between Sharnbrook Reserves and Kempston Athletic was a victim of a waterlogged surface at Lodge Road.

Watson Shield Group Seven Table at 23rd January 2010

3 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Flitwick Town Reserves	3	2	1	0	9	4	+5	7
Clifton Reserves	4	2	1	1	13	9	+4	7
Sandy Reserves	3	0	0	3	5	14	-9	0

Preview Saturday 30th January 2010

Premier Division supported by Sportsform action this weekend should, subject to ground availability, take league leaders Blunham on the road to Greenfield Road, to face bottom of the table Westoning Recreation Club looking for their sixth consecutive away league win against their hosts who have won just twice on home soil this season. The game is in danger of being postponed if Westoning Recreation Club Reserves fail to find an alternative pitch for their delayed Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup tie at home to Heath Panthers United. (please log onto www.bedfordshirefootballleague.co.uk during the week for details)

Whilst for second place Ickwell & Old Warden, who now only trail them by five points with a game in hand, it's also a trip on the road in search of their eighth win on the bounce, when they journey to Jubilee Playing Fields to face a Wilshamstead side that has lost just once in it's last seven outings and who will be no easy nut to crack.

Realistically, just four other clubs remain in the 2009-10 Season Championship race, of these Oakley Sports at the moment look the biggest danger as they make the short journey to Lodge Road and a meeting with local rivals Sharnbrook, the Sportsman travelling winners of their last six away games to face a home side that last lost on home soil way back in late September.

Whilst for Biggleswade United Reserves who last won on their league travels some five league games ago it's a trip to face one of the other challengers Renhold United at their Playing Fields Headquarters, where the hosts will be looking for their first home success since turning over Sharnbrook in early November.

The other Championship chasing club are of course Caldecote, who host local rivals Dunton at Harvey Close, the visitors travelling having lost all of their last eight league outings.

Elsewhere, other top flight action comes at Hillgrounds, where AFC Kempston Town, beaten just once on home soil this season in league action receive a visit from Southill Alexander, who travel looking for their first win on the road in six outings and at Rectory Road, the venue for Campton's home encounter with Woburn.

The Division One league programme is restricted to just four games due to the delayed playing of four ties in Round One of The Centenary Cup. In those quartet of games league leaders Flitwick Town go into Steppingley Road action seeking their fifth home win on the bounce against Marston Social who last tasted success on the road as long ago as late September at Stevington.

Meanwhile over at Cople Playing Fields, Bedford Sports Athletic receive a visit from promotion chasing Meltis Albion, who travel in search of their fourth away win on the bounce. Whilst other action comes at Moggerhanger Playing Fields, where Blunham Reserves host Henlow and at Bedford Road Recreation Ground, the venue for Sandy's home encounter with Kempston.

In that quartet of Centenary Cup ties, it's local derby action on The Green between Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves and Campton Reserves for the right to host either Kempston Hammers Sports or Leighton United who meet at Cutler Hammer in a last eight tie the following weekend.

Meanwhile, just down the road from The Green at Harvey Close, Caldecote Reserves will be in home action against FC Meppershall, the reward for the winners is a trip to Henlow. The fourth tie seeing Stevington host AFC Kempston Town Reserves in the knowledge that victory will give them another home tie at the last eight stage against Bedford Sports Athletic.

In Division Two, the Championship title race already looks down to a three club race with current league leaders Bedford Hatters who host Brache Sparta Community Reserves at Miller Road, the firm favourites for the silverware; but don't tell that to current second placers Potton Wanderers, who head to Groveside for a tricky looking fixture against Marabese Ceramics or to third place Marston Shelton Rovers who host Great Barford now unbeaten in their last twelve league outings.

The pick of the remainder of the Division Three action sees Shefford Town look to return to winning home ways when they host local rivals Arlesey Social Galacticos, who travel themselves looking to repair the damage of losing their last two away games. Whilst it will be a major surprise at King George VI Playing Fields if Kings AFC, now unbeaten at home in league action since the opening day of the season, fail to collect the full three points when paid a visit by bottom of the table Shillington, who travel for their 13th league encounter of the campaign still seeking their first win of the season.

Other action in this Division comes at The Bedford Hockey Centre, where Harpur FC, winners of their last two home games host Kempston Royals and at Whiston Crescent, where Clifton go in search of their first home league win of the season against a travelling Elstow Abbey side that is yet to win on the road this campaign.

With another series of Group games taking place in The Watson Shield, the Division Four league action comprises of just four games, yet those games will see the top two sides in action. For league leaders Sundon Park Rangers, it's a defence of their seasons unbeaten home record when they host Stewartby Village in Stockwood Park.

Whilst second place Sharnbrook Reserves hit the road for Hillgrounds and a meeting with Kempston Athletic.

Hillgrounds is also the venue for Eastcotts home fixture with Flitwick Town Reserves, the hosts looking to take their unbeaten home ways to six games against a Town side that has won it's last three away league encounters.

Elsewhere at Keysoe Road, Thurleigh will be the firm favourites to collect the three points on offer when visited by a Bedford Park Rangers side whose away record to date reads, played six, lost six.

In those Watson Shield games, It's still all to play for in Group One where the action comes at Gold Street when Riseley Sports Reserves host Dinamo Flitwick and in Group Two, a point all better for visitors Liddington United Sports at Horseshoes Close against Dunton Reserves will see them safely into the last 16.

The final action being a Group Four meeting between hosts M& DH Oakley, who currently head the group standings and Queens Park Crescents who travel trailing them by just three points in second spot.