

Bedfordshire County

Football League



Season 2011-12

News Bulletin Number 37



Brian Buck's Travellers Tales calls in on The Bedfordshire County Football League.

324th game of the season. (Match 10,432) Wednesday 25th April 2012. Lea Sports PSG 2 Bedford Sports Athletic 4 (Bedfordshire County League Division 1) (Played at Pirton) (6.30pm kick off) att 10 approx. This particular day was a fairly awful day, weatherwise and heavy rain in the morning meant you didn't want to travel too far in case the match was called off. I'd already seen a 13-1 match on a 3G pitch in Baldock in the afternoon and was glad to accept the choice of the leagues Press and Media Officer, Peter Francis, to watch this match. He mainly was interested in taking a photo of Lea Sports, but I was happy because they have a stand with seats here, useful when it rained a bit during the game. The visitors were to finish second in the league and they were up for it at the start, perhaps too much in the refs eyes, as he wasn't one for any nonsense. Soon he was taking to the away manager telling him that if he talked to him like that anymore then he would be off the pitch, although he had to clarify this when the Bedford manager pointed out to him that he was already off the pitch! Bedford had the best of the first half, taking the lead on 20 minutes. Lea Sports then had a player sent off on 31 minutes for disputing an offside decision too abusively. Four minutes later Bedford got their second goal and when they added a third one on 51 minutes it looked like game over, but on 56 minutes Lea Sports pulled a goal back and then another one four minutes later with a cracking 30 yarder. It was now anyones game but it became Bedfords when they scored a fourth goal on 76 minutes.

327. (10,435) Saturday 28th April 2012. Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves 2 Bedford Panthers 2 (Bedfordshire County League Division 4) (11am kick off) att 10 approx. And then it rained a lot more, rendering the need for an early kick off to make way for cricket irrelevant. But they went with it anyway, although by the time everyone got their act together we finally started nearly 15 minutes late, probably done on purpose just to make it slightly more difficult for me to get to my second match on time! So in pouring rain and despite the conditions we saw a match worthy of a higher division. The hosts went 2-0 up by half time, but their veteran keeper was pulling off great saves to keep the visitors at bay. With the players ready to restart the second half, long before the ref reappeared from the changing room(s), he got a sarcastic cheer when he returned to the playing arena. The second half saw Panthers equalise by way of goals on 57 & 61 minutes, but in this entertaining match Ickwell then had 'the winner' ruled out for offside five minutes from time.

330th game of the season. (Match 10,438) Monday 30th April 2012. Kempston Hammer Sports 1 Sundon Park Rangers Colts 11 (Bedfordshire County League Division 3) att 20 approx. I'd seen a match at this pleasant ground on the edge of Kempston once before, on 5 April 1989 when AFC Stanley lost 3-1 to Bedford United in a Bedford & District League Premier Division match att 15 approx. But it's gradually losing its once rural feel to it as new houses are seem certain to be built to 'fill in' the by-pass land. Kempston Hammer Sports are the old Hunting Athletic and then Reddings Wood clubs. With both sides entrenched in mid-table a close encounter was expected and in the first half it was, from a goals scored point of view. But, with the wind behind them, goals for the Colts on 32 and 40 minutes whet their

appetite, which was a shame for the home keeper and captain who had performed miracles to keep the scoreline down. But immediately after the break he let in a rather soft shot and both his and his teams confidence took a massive nose dive after that and the Colts rammed in a further eight goals before the end. So the Hammers were hammered and for the visitors it was a good Colt 45!

Bank Holiday Monday 7th May 2012.

Britannia Cup Final, Oakley Sports 1 Shefford Town & Campton 0

Before a Second Meadow Biggleswade United crowd of 194 on Bank Holiday Monday afternoon the league form book was turned upside down when a lone goal from Jamie Endersby 20 minutes from time took Oakley Sports to a 1-0 victory over Shefford Town & Campton to engrave their name on the famous old trophy for the very first time.

It was The Town who started the game much the brighter, Chris Clark driving his way into the Oakley penalty box only to see his effort come back off the legs of Oakley goalkeeper Stuart Kelly, before Kelly was again riding his luck 10 minutes later when after Clark had lobbed the ball into the path of Andrew Hayday he could only stand and watch as Hayday's chip over his head came back off the woodwork and away to safety.

The game was just 10 minutes from the break before Oakley's first live chance arrived, Paulo Barbarisi tackle on the half-way line on Town's Michael Jones breaking into the path of Shaun Barnett who raced clear only to push his final effort just wide of the posts until the last chance of the half fell to Town's Gary Ansell-Carter who failed to test Kelly from distance.

The second period begun with Oakley looking the more likely to break the deadlock, referee Stuart Wells waving away their penalty claims for handball against Adam Chambers then Barnett drawing a fine save out of Town goalkeeper Reece Lewis.

However, Town were soon regaining the ascendancy, Kelly needing two grabs to thwart Adam Larsen before his legs once again came to his sides rescue to keep out Hayday. It now looked odds on The Town would soon find a way to break the deadlock and on 68 minutes when Hayday skinned Barbarisi his effort once again found Kelly's legs blocking the way only to rebound back for him to set up Clark right in front of goal who completely miss kicked to waste the chance of the match thus far.

It proved to be a costly miss when 60 seconds later Oakley took the lead, Carl Warner out wide on the left flank cutting inside to find Barnett whose knock-on to Endersby allowed the veteran striker to slam the ball into the roof of the net passed a rooted to the spot Lewis.

Endersby then so nearly turned from hero to villain escaping with only a yellow card for his spot of handbags with Town's Larsen, but hero he was as Town despite Hayday going close in the final 10 minutes with two headers failing to find a way passed Kelly to take the game into extra time.

Oakley Sports : Stuart Kelly, Shaun Barnett, Paul Beattie, James Cooper, Jamie Endersby, Ray Patrickson, Mark Smith, Alex Strange, Carl Warner, Paulo Barbarisi, Harry Atherton, Subs Used: Daniel Kelly, Ian Strange, Rhys Allen,

Shefford Town & Campton : Reece Lewis, Lee Bilcock, Adam Chambers, Chris Clark, Andrew Hayday, Michael Jones, Adam Larsen, Tom Scurfield, Daniel Webb, Gary Ansell-Carter, Subs Used: Philip Bright, Adam Spoors,

Watson Shield Final, Bedford Park Rangers 2 Goldington 4

Just 88 spectators were present at Second Meadow Biggleswade United in the evening for last of this season's Bedfordshire County Football League finals which turned out to be the best of the quartet as Goldington ran out 4-2 winners over Bedford Park Rangers.

Action came from minute one, first Goldington's Brian Day and Karl Anderson saw their efforts blocked away inside a crowded Rangers penalty box, whilst at the other end Goldington goalkeeper James Morris needed to be quickly off his line to thwart Shaun Finlay and then save well at his near post from the same player.

Goldington finally taking the lead 20 minutes into the contest when after Rangers had failed to clear their lines from a corner Justin Muircroft was on hand to punish them with the games opening goal. Within six minutes the scoreline had been doubled, Chris Huckle delivering a free kick from his own half deep onto Rangers territory which saw Muircroft take the gamble and ghost in for his second strike of the evening as the Rangers defence stood and watched.

Rangers now knew they needed a goal before the break and but for Morris in the Goldington goal standing up well to save from Finlay and then blocking out the rebound sent flying in by Martin Danobrega that would have arrived in the 35th minute, or even two minutes from the break when Morris raced off his line to boot away just ahead of the in rushing Finlay.

It looked game over on 51 minutes when from a Karl Anderson cross Muircroft claimed his hat-trick in sending a powerful header flying passed Rangers goalkeeper Michael Patterson to place his side 3-0 ahead, but someone had forgotten to tell The Rangers. Eight minutes later a long punt from Jamie Carter found Danobrega on the far post who headed home for 3-1, then with just 12 minutes to play, Danobrega raced clear to reduce the deficit to a single goal with a cool finish to set up a grandstand finish.

Tempers were now rising high to such an extent that Jordan Wright who had already been booked and substituted saw red from The Rangers dugout as only a fine save from Morris prevented his replacement Josh Geary levelling matters in the 85th minutes until in time added on Goldington sealed their victory when Anderson arrived late on the backpost to overhead kick goal number four.

Bedford Park Rangers: Michael Patterson, Jamie Carter, Martin Danobrega, Shaun Finlay, Warren Godfry, George Pinney, Luke Rayner, Elliot Stamp, Jordan Wright, Dan Carter, Mark Reynolds, Subs Used: Josh Geary, Adrian Pinney, Matthew Westwood,

Goldington: James Morris, Karl Anderson, Steve Daniels, Brian Day, Kevin Evans, Nicky Ginn, Chistoper Hutchinson, Justin Muircroft, Damion Quigley, Chris Huckle, Tom Mills, Subs Used: Jason Calvert, Jonthan Hutchinson, Charlie Rogers,

Division Four

Caldecote A concluded their Harvey Close season with a 4-2 home victory over Bedford Panthers to finish the season in seventh spot. George Melrose, Ryan Ambrose, Gary Allum and Jordan Goodman on the scoresheet against replies from Ashley Farooqui and Kevin Southby.

Wednesday 9th May 2012

Division Two action tonight saw Elstow Abbey ended their season on a high with a 2-0 victory at Potton United Reserves, goals from Dave McCarthy in the 7th and 34th minutes of the game winning the day. Whilst in division three, Sundon Park Rangers Colts missed the chance of a top five finish when beaten 2-1 at home by Wilshamstead Reserves for whom Liam Philip and Kieron Colclough netted the vital goals against a lone home reply from Ashley Wadhams.

Saturday 12th May 2012.

The curtain came down on the 2011-12 Premier division supported by Sportsform season when league champions Shefford Town & Campton made it 15 wins on the bounce with a 3-2

victory at Renhold United. Adam Larsen shooting them ahead 37 minutes into the contest before United's Sheldon Washington levelled matters 15 minutes from time. However, cometh the day cometh the man and up stepped Town's Michael Jones to shoot home a brace of goals to take his side 3-1 clear before Washington added United's second with the very last kick of the game.

The scheduled game between Woburn and Caldecote being postponed due to a waterlogged pitch and will now be cancelled.

Premier Division supported by Sportsform League Table Season 2011-12

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME	AWAY	OVERALL	GDPTS
			WDL F A	WDL F A	WDL F A	
1	Shefford Town & Campton	24	11 1 0 48 10	10 0 2 41 14	21 1 2 89 24	65 64
2	Caldecote	23	11 0 1 46 15	7 2 2 32 16	18 2 3 78 31	47 56
3	Bedford Hatters	24	8 1 3 29 17	8 2 2 31 23	16 3 5 60 40	20 51
4	Renhold United	24	5 3 4 28 22	7 0 5 30 17	12 3 9 58 39	19 39
5	Oakley Sports	24	5 4 3 21 14	5 3 4 36 25	10 7 7 57 39	18 37
6	Wilshamstead	24	4 3 5 27 29	6 3 3 26 22	10 6 8 53 51	2 36
7	Arlesey Town Reserves	24	4 2 6 16 19	5 1 6 22 25	9 3 12 38 44	-6 30
8	Blunham	24	8 0 4 31 22	1 3 8 14 32	9 3 12 45 54	-9 30
9	Sharnbrook	24	4 3 5 16 28	4 1 7 16 33	8 4 12 32 61	-29 28
10	AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College	24	3 1 8 22 34	3 4 5 21 30	6 5 13 43 64	-21 23
11	Flitwick Town	24	4 1 7 19 28	2 3 7 16 27	6 4 14 35 55	-20 22
12	Dunton	24	3 2 7 17 30	1 1 10 12 34	4 3 17 29 64	-35 15
13	Woburn	23	1 2 8 19 42	2 0 10 13 41	3 2 18 32 83	-51 11

Woburn v Caldecote game fixture unplayed

In Division Three, Westoning Reserves claimed their fourth win from their last six outings to finish the season in tenth spot with a 2-0 home victory over Wilshamstead Reserves. Gareth White and Michael Draycott bagging the vital goals.

Division Three Final League Table Season 2011-12

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME	AWAY	OVERALL	GDPTS
			WDL F A	WDL F A	WDL F A	
1	Cranfield United Reserves	25	8 0 4 25 13	11 1 1 43 17	19 1 5 68 30	38 58
2	Eastcotts AFC	26	11 0 2 38 19	7 1 5 27 24	18 1 7 65 43	22 55
3	Goldington	26	9 1 3 45 23	7 3 3 34 21	16 4 6 79 44	35 52
4	Renhold Village	26	8 0 5 38 22	9 1 3 32 22	17 1 8 70 44	26 52
5	Stevington	26	10 0 3 39 17	6 1 6 27 28	16 1 9 66 45	21 49
6	Sundon Park Rangers Colts	26	6 2 5 36 18	9 0 4 53 18	15 2 9 89 36	53 47
7	Riseley Sports	26	8 2 3 33 21	6 2 5 24 27	14 4 8 57 48	9 46
8	Wilshamstead Reserves	26	7 0 6 29 24	4 3 6 14 22	11 3 12 43 46	-3 36
9	Potton Town	26	6 4 3 22 17	3 0 10 26 44	9 4 13 48 61	-13 31
10	Westoning Reserves	26	5 0 8 26 34	4 2 7 28 32	9 2 15 54 66	-12 29

11	Kempston Hammers Sports	26	4	2	7	22	40	4	1	8	27	33	8	3	15	49	73	-24	27
12	Royal Oak Kempston	26	2	1	10	17	43	6	0	7	21	24	8	1	17	38	67	-29	25
13	Flitwick Town Reserves	26	3	1	9	21	42	1	0	12	19	47	4	1	21	40	89	-49	13
14	Dunton Reserves	25	1	2	10	18	51	1	0	11	9	50	2	2	21	27	101	-74	8

Cranfield United Reserves v Dunton Reserves fixture unplayed

In Division Four, this seasons silver medals now belong to Marsh Leys after a lone strike from Alex Clipson in the 65th minute took them to a 1-0 home win over Dinamo Flitwick, taking them above Thurleigh in the final league standings after they were placed under Beds FA suspension in midweek for non-payment of fines and not allowed to play their last game of the season at home against Bedford Park Rangers, who thus will be awarded the points.

This defeat for Dinamo Flitwick seeing them drop to a final position of 13th in the league table after Bedford Panthers jumped above them with a 6-4 home win over Shefford Town & Campton A. Ray Cochrane netting three times, Ricky Wong twice and Kevin Southby once. The Town replies coming via Wayne Haxton, Carl Bilcock, Scott Dora and Jake Brown.

Elsewhere, Clifton Reserves ended their season on a 12 games unbeaten run following their 8-1 victory at bottom of the table Dunton A. Tony Norman with a hat-trick, Vince Kernaghan with a brace being supported by single strikes from Mitch Verdia, Sam Nightingale and Steve Hart.

Division Four Final League Table Season 2011-12

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME			AWAY			OVERALL			GDPTS							
			WDL	F	A	WDL	F	A	WDL	F	A								
1	Bedford Park Rangers	27	11	1	2	59	23	120	1	56	20	23	1	3	115	43	72	70	
2	Marsh Leys	28	8	3	3	36	21	112	1	54	21	19	5	4	90	42	48	62	
3	Thurleigh	28	8	3	3	44	19	110	3	56	29	19	3	6	100	48	52	60	
4	Clifton Reserves	28	7	3	4	54	32	9	3	2	44	26	16	6	98	58	40	54	
5	Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves	28	8	2	4	27	22	6	3	5	36	28	14	5	9	63	50	13	47
6	Stewartby Village	28	6	1	7	35	36	5	6	3	31	25	11	7	10	66	61	5	40
7	Caldecote A	27	5	4	4	44	31	6	2	6	33	31	11	6	10	77	62	15	39
8	Sandy Reserves	28	4	1	9	34	47	7	3	4	37	38	11	4	13	71	85	-14	37
9	Wootton Village	28	8	2	4	31	25	3	1	10	24	39	11	3	14	55	64	-9	36
10	Shefford Town & Campton A	28	6	2	6	34	35	4	3	7	34	41	10	5	13	68	76	-8	35
11	Kempston Athletic	28	6	2	6	37	31	3	3	8	32	58	9	5	14	69	89	-20	32
12	Bedford Panthers	28	5	1	8	23	33	3	4	7	21	35	8	5	15	44	68	-24	29
13	Dinamo Flitwick [former Reserves]	28	5	3	6	44	49	2	3	9	27	34	7	6	15	71	83	-12	27
14	Goldington Hammers	28	3	3	8	33	55	2	0	12	19	60	5	3	20	52	115	-63	18
15	Dunton A	28	1	2	11	16	60	1	0	13	15	66	2	2	24	31	126	-95	8

Caldecote A v Bedford Park Rangers fixture unplayed

