

ST. NEOTS TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

EAGLE BITTER UNITED COUNTIES PREMIER LEAGUE MATCH REPORT – SATURDAY 29/09/01

DAVENTRY 0 ST. NEOTS TOWN 1

Saints struggled to gain any sort of composure during the first half of this match on a very bumpy pitch that made the best ball players look ordinary. Daventry hustled and bustled and were never taken to task by the referee for persistent late challenges and pushing from behind.

Trevor Smith had Saints best chance early on in the game but could not get his shot on target with only the keeper to beat. Daventry also squandered a good chance when, on 39 minutes, Michael Christie, blasted wide of Steve Young.

After the break Jason Meeds was pushed up front with Steve Kuhne and Wes Byrne and although it gave Saints more firepower up front the team was totally void of any width.

Steve Kuhne looked certain to score, fifteen minutes into the second period, but his shot was well blocked by the keeper. Wes Byrne worked tirelessly up front and did well to beat two of the home team defenders, 3 minutes later, but his shot did not match his approach play and was easily saved. Byrne was on hand again a few minutes later providing the lay back for Kuhne but again the finish flashed over the bar. During this ten minute spell Meeds was also guilty of not hitting the target with another shot that went high of the cross bar.

During the last quarter of the game Chris Howell replaced Byrne and Deer for two wide players Paul Carey and Andy Grieve. Both players started to attack the flanks and stretch the Daventry defence.

But it was from a free kick that Saints got the winner they deserved. Kuhne headed on Warren Brown's free kick and Meeds slotted the ball home between keeper and upright.

Team: Young, Smith, Bloss, Chapman, Fairholme, Brown, Deer, Buckland, Kuhne, Byrne, Meeds.

Subs: McCreanor, Carey, Grieve, Grant.

Subs Used: Carey for Byrne, Greive for Deer

Goals: Saints. Meeds (85)