

ST. NEOTS TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB
MATCH REPORT – SATURDAY 5th OCTOBER 2002

EAGLE BITTER UNITED COUNTIES PREMIER LEAGUE

St Neots Town 0 Raunds Town 1

“Here we go again” was the call from the main stand at Rowley Park as yet another inauspicious display by the match officials conspired to dictate the outcome of an entertaining game. Despite having the lions share of the match and with nothing to separate the sides bar a controversial offside decision the Saints ended the match point less.

Opening the brighter of the two sides the Saints played much the more controlled football and caused Raunds defence all manner of problems but keeper Pete Earl was in inspired form keeping the Saints at bay. Trevor Smith’s volley on 12 minutes brought possibly the best save of the afternoon when Earl twisted mid air to tip the effort over the bar. A succession of Saints corners where both Wes Byrne and Richard Beckett went close followed but the Saints could not find a way past Earl, to break the deadlock.

Then as half time beckoned Raunds broke quickly on the right and as the ball was whipped across the box the Saints line stepped up and left Richard Bunting a good three yards offside in the area, but as the assistant referee struggled to keep up with play he struck his shot off the under side of the bar and into the net.

Obviously knocked off their stride the Saints struggled to find their rhythm in the second period, and were left chasing a match they should not of had to. With few chances at either end in the second half, Raunds were happy to play out the half and take three points back to Kiln Park.

They say you make your own luck and decisions even themselves out over a season but as more than one of the many disgruntled home supporters was heard to say leaving the ground, “we’re due some luck and surely the officials will get it right one day, won’t they?”

Saints: S. Young, M. Doyle, (W. Brown) P. Bloss, T. Smith, J. Hicks, R. Beckett, N. Worker, G. Grant, S. Kuhne, W. Byrne, N. Finney.

Subs not Used: N. Buckland, A Nalliah, H. Phillips, I. Morris.