

## St. Neots Town F.C. - Match Report 2004/05

### Eagle Bitter United Counties League Premier Division

St Neots 1 Wootton 4

Having seen his former side humble his present squad St Neots Manager Kenny Davidson offered no excuses. 'We got exactly what we deserved tonight' he said. 'They wanted to win and we just were not bothered.' That was a fair summing up for in a first half that was sometimes almost one-sided St Neots produced a defensive display that can only be described as woeful. In the first real chance after just seven minutes Wootton skipper Ben Chambers was somehow allowed to keep possession in the home penalty area whilst surrounded by three defenders and he slipped the ball to the unmarked Chris Johnson who scored with a low shot past the unsuspected Steve Corry. Chambers then twice might have added to the score but his first effort was well saved by the goalkeeper and his second blocked. After 20 minutes and against the run of play St Neots were level with a stunning goal and the lively Barry Dellar fed Clive Woodland on the left and his pulled back cross was hammered home from 20 yards by Simon Claridge giving the keeper no chance. However it was no surprise when the visitors regained the lead after 26 minutes although it was a fortunate goal. Chambers did the work outpacing Paul Bryant and when Darek Joswiak completely miskicked the ball returned to Chambers who scored with a low shot. Wootton then sealed their first half domination with a third goal six minutes before the break when Johnson crossed and Joswiak totally unmarked headed firmly home from ten yards.

St Neots looked to be influenced by the half time condemnation they must have received because they resumed looking a different side and within three minutes they could have been level. Ryan Jenner had replaced Paul Bryant and with his first touch he brought the save of the match from the flying Michael Kavenagh. Then Claridge should have doubled his goal tally for the evening but he headed over the bar when scoring looked the easier option. St Neots sent on Marcus Cumberbatch to add to their attacking options but their play was riddled with poor passing as the final ball went astray in almost every attack. Having survived the onslaught Wootton regained control and went on to score a fourth goal twenty minutes from time that clinched the result. Ironically the goal was created by a former Rowley Park player as Alex Giscome robbed Jenner in midfield and swept a pass wide to Leon Cashman who went past the statuesque Jason Mannion to beat Corry with a fierce shot. And that was that with nothing further to note except a series of substitutions and a final shot from distance by Jenner that was too high to bother Kavenagh.

**St Neots:** Corry, Bryant (Jenner 46m), Lawes, Taylor, Hurst, Claridge, Mannion, Hobbs, Dellar, Atkins (Stevens 71m), Woodland (Cumberbatch 64m).

**Subs not used:** Dubas and Humphrey

**Goals:** (St Neots) Claridge 20m  
(Wootton) Johnson 7m, Chambers 26m, Joswiak 39m, Cashman 70m.