

**ST. NEOTS TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB
MATCH REPORT – SATURDAY APRIL 13th 2002**

EAGLE BITTER UNITED COUNTIES PREMIER LEAGUE

LONG BUCKBY 1 ST. NEOTS TOWN 6

Saints reproduced the same scoreline against Buckby as in the home encounter at Rowley Park earlier in the season when the visitors were also beaten by 6 – 1. Chris Howell experimented with a new formation, which the players took time to adapt to, which Buckby took full advantage of and pressed Saints for the early part of the game. The new look 3 – 4 – 3 formation soon began to gel and after 18 minutes the visitors went one ahead through Steve Kuhne. Jason Meeds floated in a free kick into the box and Kuhne cleverly glanced his header past the Buckby keeper from close range.

Saints began to play some very impressive football, considering the hard bumpy pitch, and went further ahead on 32 minutes again through Steve Kuhne. Kuhne picked up a loose ball, some 25 yards out, and unleashed an un-stoppable drive into the top of the net. John Johnson was on target for Saints, three minutes later, when Paul Bloss made a run down the flank and his low hard cross was tapped in by Johnson, from close range.

Paul Bloss made it four, just before half time, cutting in from the left flank he beat the keeper with a powerful shot into the roof of the net.

Buckby came back into the game, 5 minutes after the break, with Elliott Grey pulling a goal back from a well-timed header. The home team had their best spell of the game for the next 20 minutes and created a few good chances. Chris Howell decided to make some changes and brought on Andy Grieve and Glenroy Bell for Ricky Dear and Wes Byrne respectively. Bell soon imposed himself on the game and was instrumental in setting up Steve Kuhne for his hat-rick and Paul Bloss for his second, in the last ten minutes of the game, giving Saints an impressive double over their Northampton hosts.

Team: Young, Dear, Bloss, Chapman, Hicks, Smith, Meeds, Johnson, Kuhne, Byrne, Claridge.

Subs: Bell, Grieve, Buckland, Cavilla.

Subs Used: Bell for Byrne, Grieve for Dear.

Goals: Saints: Kuhne (18, 32, 82 mins), Bloss (45, 85 mins), Johnson (35 mins).

Buckby: Grey (50 mins)