

ST. NEOTS TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

MATCH REPORT – SATURDAY 18/8/01
EAGLE BITTER UNITED COUNTIES PREMIER DIVISION

BUCKINGHAM TOWN 2 ST. NEOTS TOWN 2

Nothing less than three points were the prescribed remedy for relieving the symptoms of the previous two league defeats. Unfortunately two goals from Buckingham in the last three minutes was not the remedy Saints required.

Steve Kuhne opened the scoring for Saints, after 22 minutes, from the penalty spot. Paul Bloss had worked his way into the home team's penalty area and was clinically chopped down leaving the referee in no doubt and immediately pointed to the spot.

Paul Bloss was also instrumental in Saints second; his cross to the back post was only cleared to the edge of the Buckingham penalty area. Warren Brown took control of the clearance and powerfully struck the ball back past the outstretched keeper.

Saints did not have it all their own way during the first half and but some outstanding saves by the inform keeper, Ben Webster, the scoreline could have been quite different at the interval.

Paul Bloss had a golden opportunity of putting the game beyond doubt just ten minutes into the second half. A long cross, from the right, was superbly headed back into the goal area, by Steve Kuhne, leaving Bloss the simplest of headers. Unfortunately the simplicity of the task resulted in Bloss putting the ball over the bar from no more than three yards out.

The old adage putting away your chances came back to haunt the visitors late into the game. Buckingham dragged themselves back into the game for the last twenty minutes and began to create some good chances. On 87 minutes Buckingham were awarded a corner, which Nathan Bailey duly converted with a fine glancing header just inside the goal area.

With only a few minutes remaining the travelling away supporters were happy with the fact that although we had not played that well at least we will be going home with three points in the bag. Unfortunately nobody thought to tell Buckingham's Michael Cox. From a free kick deep into the Saints half, and only a couple of yards from the touchline, the ball was delivered just past the Saints back post where Cox collected the ball and fired home a low unstoppable shot.

One point from three games does not do much to inspire the supporters and certainly does not look to good for the visit of the current joint league leaders Desborough next Tuesday evening.(21/8/01).

Team: Webster, Linnel, Bloss, Chapman, McCreanor, Smith, Brown, Buckland, Kuhne, Byrne, Claridge. **Subs:** Petty, Carey, Dear.

Subs Used: Petty for Brown, Carey for Byrne, Dear for Linnel.

Goals: **St. Neots:** Kuhne (26mins), Brown (40mins),

Buckingham: Bailey (Buckingham 84 mins), Cox (Buckingham 90 mins).