



# 18/19 NEWSLETTER - 32



## Match Reports

**9th March 2019**

### **“ROCKIES BEAT A STUBBORN NEWTON”**

#### **SHAFTESBURY RES 2 STURMINSTER NEWTON 0**

This local derby saw Shaftesbury attempting to move further out of the relegation zone. Their opponents on the day, were bottom of the league, but for long periods, the home side found it difficult to break down a resolute visitor's defence, even though they had the lion's share of the possession in the first half. Time and again Shaftesbury forced forwards, but a combination of poor passing and a bobbly pitch frustrated their efforts. It wasn't until the 40th minute that a well-constructed move ended with Aaron Leney slotting low into the far corner to put the home side 1-0 up at the break. The 2nd half continued in much the same way, with the stronger of the sides Shaftesbury, in control of affairs. However again dogged defending from Sturminster Newton meant it took another 14mins into the 2nd half before the Rockies could double their advantage and breathe a little easier. The 2nd goal came courtesy of Nick Hewlett's low drive into the visitors' goal past a stranded keeper. The game then was effectively over for the visitors as the hosts saw out the remainder of the game with little trouble. So, another win for Shaftesbury that sees the Rockies open up a bit of a gap from the other teams at the bottom.

### **“BULLS EVENTUALLY GET THE BETTER OF THE ZEBRAS”**

#### **SHERBORNE TOWN RES 2 HOLT UNITED 3**

Holt arrived late for the game but that didn't stop them coming out the traps fast as they took an early lead in the 2nd minute through Luke Homer's well taken finish. Town regrouped quickly and pressed their defence and soon got their reward as Will Ireland was fouled in the penalty area leaving the official no choice but to award the penalty. Tom Budden duly stepped up to score his 3rd goal in 3 games to bring the scores level. Holt continually looked to their star man Nathan Saxby for inspiration and a delightful through ball to him, set up their second chance of the game as he tucked the ball away to restore the visitors lead. Town kept pressing forward as they had the wind behind them, and found themselves at 2-2 when Darren Rowe got up high to head goalward and the ball was knocked in on the line by Will Ireland, HT 2-2. The second half saw Holt create 2/3 half chances as Town rarely troubled the Holt back 4 and a draw looked like it was on the cards until more magic from Saxby led to another assist for their talisman putting through his strike partner Ali Garard to slot home and give them a 3-2 lead. Town pushed again for another equaliser but looked very tired and rarely troubled the visitors' goal.

### **“FREE SCORING MERLEY HIT PARLEY FOR 5”**

#### **MERLEY CS 5 PARLEY SPORTS 0**

With confidence high having reached the final of the Dorset Senior Trophy last week, Merley wasted no time in Stamping their authority on this game, going ahead after just 4 mins when Asa Phillips tapped home Josh Buck's pinpoint low cross for 1-0. Phillips grabbed his second just 7 mins later with an audacious solo effort having run rings around the Parley defence before firing home from the edge of the box. A defence splitting pass from Lee Wilkins, teed up by Matt Groves for Lewis Mills to side foot home on 32 mins saw the home side go 3-0 up. With a safe lead, Merley continued to push, with Josh Buck adding the fourth just a minute later, latching on to a Brandon Randall through ball. Two minutes later and it was 5-0 with Buck again the scorer, this time with a tap in from a Dan Edwards cross, HT 5-0. The Parley players came out for the second half determined to get themselves back in the game and throughout the second half dominated possession as Merley struggled to find their first half rhythm. Despite the possession, Parley were unable to create any

real solid chances as the Merley defence stood strong. Merley made their three changes and despite showing no sign of their first half dominance came closest to finding the net when Buck couldn't quite get the ball from under his feet to put away what would have been a hat trick for him.

### **"SWANAGE AT THEIR BEST TO BEAT THE ROYALS"**

#### **BLANDFORD UTD 2 SWANAGE TOWN & H 3**

Swanage secured all 3 points with a 3-2 away win against Blandford United in The Dorset Premier League. Keeper Dan Beeston produced a great save after 3 minutes and apart from the hosts hitting the post the Swans controlled the first half and deservedly led 2-0 at half time with goals from top scorer Paul Best following a superb pass from Parslow, then the maker became scorer when Elliot Parslow hit a speculative shot that nestled in the far corner of the net, HT 0-2. The Royals seemed more determined in the second half and produced some good chances; however, the Swans gave the hosts a lifeline with a defensive error which Mark Ford took advantage to score from close range for 1-2 and game on. The home side were now pressing for the equaliser with several near misses but it was the Swans who increased their lead when skipper Paul Best completed his brace and seventeenth goal of the season with a great finish from close range following a superb cross from Atkinson. The Royals never gave up and Ben Oxtoby reduced the arrears to produce a tense finish but the Swans held firm for the 3 points.

### **"WESTLAND SMASH THE BLUES FOR 7"**

#### **PORTLAND UTD RES 0 WESTLAND SPORTS 7**

Portland United Reserves fell to a heavy defeat on Saturday at The Weyline Stadium in The Dorset Premier League to title chasing Westland Sports. In a torrid game where The Blues were 2nd best in every department according to Portland United Reserves Manager Justin Faulkner. The Blues found themselves 3-0 down at half time and from then on there was no way back. Looking back at the game Faulkner commented "On the day we were 2nd best in every department, to be in with a chance of getting anything we needed to be at our very best and they would need to have an off day, that didn't happen. Quite the opposite, we had the worst game of this season and they have had the best display in a very very long time according to their Social Media outlets. They are the only team to have comfortably beat us this season and they have done that twice." Scoring for Westlands were, Anthony Herrin, Henry Lawrence-Napier (2) Joshua Payne, Callum Thompson (2) & Nick Voss.

### **"BALTI LEAVE IT LATE TO BEAT BATTLING CORFE"**

#### **BALTI SPORTS 4 CORFE CASTLE 3**

Balti Sports survived a tumultuous test from Corfe Castle to edge a 4-3 victory in their Dorset Premier League clash at Weymouth College. Balti fell behind inside the first minute when Sammy Nichols' poor touch was pounced upon by Corfe's Courtney Johnstone who lobbed goalkeeper Andy Nott with a sublime 25-yard finish. But the in-form Sean Zima soon equalized for the hosts when the midfielder curled a left-footed corner directly in, beating the visiting gloveman at the far post. Zima scored his second screamer of the day 10 minutes later, showing supreme technique to volley a diagonal cross into the top corner first time from 25 yards. Zima's brace was at odds with a lackluster Balti performance and Corfe soon levelled when a mistake from captain Ryan Dovell allowed the lethal Courtney Johnstone in to round Nott and score his 21st league goal of the season. Worse was to follow for the hosts as a slack pass from Scott Walker was picked off by Corfe's forward Ryan Cattano who lobbed Nott for a second time to establish a 3-2 half-time lead. Balti rampaged the Corfe goal after the interval as Danny Andrews missed a one-on-one while both Dovell and Nichols missed clear chances at the back post. Sports got the equalizer their incisive play deserved when Andrews took an early shot from a scything Ricky Lane through ball. Suddenly, Balti sensed the win and after a barrage of corners and crosses into the Corfe box, Phil Anderson headed down for Dovell to touch home from a yard out to complete a topsy-turvy victory. Speaking to Echosport, Balti boss Marco Nott admitted he was perplexed after winning the game amid what he perceived to be a poor performance from his side. He

said: "We were awful, I'm not going to paint a picture. (Corfe) deserved a draw. "I felt a bit embarrassed after that win because we were so poor. It's very rare I have to say a few words at half-time – that was one of them. "It was a shocking display in that first half. We just let ourselves down, there was no energy, no tempo, no nothing. "We went in there and took them for granted, we were so lucky to get away with the three points." On Corfe, Nott added: "They're a tough team. They concede a lot but they are dangerous and do score a lot. "You can see why they get points because if teams aren't at the races, they can beat anyone because they do work their socks off."

Report courtesy of the **DorsetECHO**

### **"DORCHESTER HIT THE RANGERS FOR 8"**

#### **DORCHESTER SPORTS 8 WAREHAM RANGERS 1**

Dorchester Sports recorded their biggest win of the season, with Will Turland plundering four goals, in an 8-1 thrashing of Wareham Rangers in their Dorset Premier League clash at the Clayson Stadium. Sports were on the front foot in the early stages and took the lead on 15 minutes when Ryan Ross was played in by Gareth Will, taking his pass round the keeper to slot home. Ashley James' men doubled their lead shortly after when Jamie Samways' clever pass enabled Turland to fire past the away stopper. Ross could have made it three but this time the keeper made a good save, while Wareham's best efforts were from long-range and twice Sports needed Antony Frost to make superb saves to keep them two goals ahead until the in-form Turland added a third just before the break. Sports started strongly after the resumption and Adam Steele got his first goal of the season when he turned two players in the box and fired in. Samways then added a quick brace with two goals from close range before Wareham pulled one back courtesy of Josh Hewson in the 65th minute. But Turland was in no mood to relent and duly notched his hat-trick before adding a fourth late on as Sports moved into ninth place in the table. Speaking to Echosport following the victory, James was delighted to have picked up a convincing win. He said: "It's a good feeling. It was a good performance, a great result and hopefully gives us a bit of confidence going into the final six games of the season. "What pleased me most was that we kept going in the second half. At 3-0 we said we didn't want to start going gung-ho and start losing our shape, getting players all over the place. "I thought we stayed quite disciplined and because of that we scored more goals at the end. It's pleasing the way we kept going forward and, in the end, we were clinical, which we haven't been in a few games this season. "Every time we took a shot it seemed to end up in the back of the net." James reserved praise for Frost and Turland's contributions. On Frost, he said: "It could've been different if it wasn't for Antony's two saves, they were two top saves. It could've been 2-2, so we've got him to thank for that. "(Will) was really good, we know he can score goals. Hopefully it gives him some confidence to go and do it in the next few games. Hopefully we can keep creating chances for him because if we do that, he will put them away."

Report courtesy of the **DorsetECHO**

### **"LATE PENALTY SALVAGES A POINT FOR REC"**

#### **HAMWORTHY REC 1 GILLINGHAM TOWN 1**

A late penalty salvaged a point for Rec in this crucial battle with Gillingham. It looked as if the recent Gill hoodoo was to strike again (Rec having lost their last three games against them) when the visitors took the lead early in the second half and seemingly in control. But a good last twenty minutes earned Rec a vital point. Gillingham never let Rec settle and too often the final ball from the hosts was not accurate enough, in a game of few clear-cut chances. Gillingham started the stronger and a good attempt from distance was saved by Harry Phillips, in the home goal, before they put Rec under pressure with a succession of corners. Rec's first venture forward saw Brad Hill deliver a perfect cross, but neither Sam Carter or John Webb could make decent contact and the ball ran wide. Carter then produced a classy turn and shot, but again, wide of target, before another Hill cross caused panic in the Gill defence, before the managed to clear. George Webb had half a chance, running on to a through-ball, only to be thwarted by the keeper, HT 0-0. Just seven minutes

into the second half Gillingham went in front. A high ball down the middle was not dealt with by the home defence and a good low finish from Aaron Wallis made it 0-1. Rec responded and George Webb saw his shot tipped over and from the resulting corner Carl Edwards flashed his shot wide. Rec were now having a better spell, but a combination of good defending and inaccurate finishing looked like they were to be denied until the 85th minute when the Gill keeper was deemed to have picked up the ball for a second time, incurring an indirect free-kick. Gill protested strongly and the incident took around five minutes to clarify. When the shot from the kick eventually came in a defender handled on the line, giving Rec a penalty. Sam Carter kept his cool and slotted in the equaliser. There was still time for either side to win it as the referee played around ten minutes of additional time, but Carter fired wide and Chris Long's header looped over the bar.

