



18/19 NEWSLETTER - 23



Match Reports

Festive Period

22nd & 29th December 2018

22nd December

“ZEBRAS STUN DORCHESTER CIN THEIR OWN BACK YARD”

DORCHESTER SPORTS 0 SHERBORNE TOWN RES 3

The zebras travelled down to Dorchester to play against a young well drilled side. Sherborne who were looking to get some much-needed points took the game to their hosts and had some good chances to go ahead. Dorchester themselves had great spells in the midfield but they could not create much in front of goal. Sherborne went into the break 1-0 up after a 45min goal from Ollie Burns following some great passing football by the Away side, HT 0-1. Burns got his second of the match in the 60th minute after pouncing on a rebound in the Sport's goal mouth. Dorchester kept pressing and scored a goal, but it was ruled out from the linesman after a handball. Sherborne continued to press themselves and hit the bar through Lewis Bloomer before Will Ireland got on the score sheet with a header from new signing Jack Bakers freekick in the 71st minute to put the game out of Dorchester's reach. The Away side took control of the game but couldn't add to their tally but credit to the young Sports side who kept pushing and in fact, missed a couple of decent chances late onto get back into the game.

“REC MAINTAIN THAT WINNING FEELING”

HAMWORTHY REC 4 CORFE CASTLE 2

Rec played their first league game for over a month, picking up another vital three points with this victory over league newcomers Corfe Castle. Rec played some good football in the first half, leading comfortably at the interval. An early second half goal should have opened the floodgates, but the tempo suddenly dropped, and play became scrappy and a late Corfe goal gave the score line an air of respectability. The visitors were grateful to their keeper Brad Hill for a string of fine saves to restrict Rec to just the four. Rec had half-chances early on, but some brave defending frustrated them. But on 20 minutes Rec were awarded a penalty when Chris Long was pushed over in the box, but the Corfe keeper produced a good save, diving to his right. It was John Webb who broke the deadlock just four minutes later when he ran on to a through-ball by Ash Boyt and coolly slotted in for 1-0. With Rec now on top there followed a bizarre moment. George Webb headed home a cross at the near-post, but the referee noticed the linesman's flag and after discussions ruled out the goal and awarded Rec a free-kick for a foul! It mattered not, because on 28 minutes Jordan Basing's low shot fell nicely for Long to tap in from close-range and the young Rec hot-shot was at it again on 38 minutes when Brad Hill set him up for his 9th league goal of the season, to make it 3-0. Some clumsy defending presented Corfe with a penalty, just before the break, which was duly dispatched by Courtney Johnston, despite keeper Andy Knights' brave attempt, HT 3-1. The second half started with George Webb scoring the goal of the game, showing good control in the box before working a shooting opportunity and firing a beauty into the roof of the net and he almost added a fifth minutes later, flicking Richie Sands' cross inches over the bar. Rec seemed to ease off after that but would still have added more but for the Corfe keeper, Hill who produced some great saves to deny Callum Charlton and Jordan Basing from close-range and then saving what seemed a certain third goal for Chris Long. Corfe to their credit kept plugging away and scored a second on 87 minutes through Josh Baker to make the final score 4-2.

“MCS & ROYALS SHARE 6 GOALS AND THE POINTS”

MERLEY CS 3 BLANDFORD UTD 3

A young Blandford side travelled to Merley Cobham this afternoon. The Royals knew they were in for a tough afternoon and things didn't go to plan as the home side blew us away in the opening 20 minutes, going 2-0 up in the process with goals from Matt Groves & Asa Phillips. The Royals then got one back after some neat passage play, Mark Ford latching on to a Craig Knowles through ball to slot past the keeper. Cobham continued to press but the Royals managed to keep the deficit to 1 at half time, HT 2-1. The Second half was much the same as the first, Cobham doing all the pressing but struggling to break down Blandford's improving back 4 with Mike Johnson and Rob Manson starting to build a solid partnership. The away sides hard work paid off as they hit Merley on the counter and earned a corner, the corner was wasted but the ball back in found Rob Manson at the back post to head home the equaliser. That goal woke Merley up and 5 minutes later they took the lead again when Josh Buck scored, but the Royals pressed late on and earned themselves a penalty which Craig Knowles fired home to make it 3-3. An extremely tough game for the Royals today, especially as they were missing some key players but the players that came in, again didn't disappoint.

“TANGERINES HIT THREE TO LEAVE THE BLUES FEELING BLUE”

GILLINGHAM TOWN 3 PORTLAND UTD RES 0

Gillingham ran out winners in an entertaining game, on a sticky pitch at Woodwater Lane, however were pressed all the way by Portland. Portland started brightly and should have taken the lead with their first attack of the game, the striker somehow clearing the stand behind the goal when he looked odds on to slot the ball home unmarked six yards out. However slowly Gillingham found their way into the game and after some neat play Ross Aimson wriggled through the defence, rounded the keeper and guided the ball past a covering defender to open the scoring. Despite conceding Portland always looked threatening and Nick Thomson in the Gillingham goal was called upon, either side of half-time to make excellent saves, which were to ultimately prove crucial. As the second half wore on, Gillingham started to dominate the game, finding gaps within the Portland defence at regular intervals. On one occasion the ball fell to Alex Staffie, who slipped the ball past the keeper to double the lead. Staffie then sealed the match with a sublime finish, bending the ball into the top corner from the edge of the penalty area. The result saw Gillingham leapfrog Portland and move into fourth place at the half-way point of the season.

“BULLS BEAT THE ROCKIES AT PETERSHAM”

HOLT UNITED 4 SHAFTESBURY RES 2

Holt picked up a deserved 3 points after this comfortable win against a spirited Rockies side, Holt's ace marksman was at it again as Nathan Saxby helped himself to a hat trick with the Bulls other goal being scored by Sonny Wilkinson, Shaftesbury 2 goals came courtesy of Tom Carter.

29th December

League

“HOLT WIN 9 GOAL THRILLER AT THE FORTRESS”

CORFE CASTLE 4 HOLT UNITED 5

Corfe Castle throw away 3 points in a thriller at the Fortress. The hosts were left disappointed as they twice threw away leads to a Holt Side indebted to Ali Garard who scored all 5 of their goals. Castle led 2-1 at Half Time thanks to two sensational strikes from Brendon Flockton, with Garard getting Holts solitary strike. Holt came out strong in the second half and soon equalised with a deft finish from Garard. The hosts didn't fold and soon found themselves 4-2 ahead thanks to another Courtney Johnstone brace. With only 25 minutes to go it looked like a fourth win in five for the home side. Unfortunately for Corfe, teams in this league don't fold and Holt continued to press and got themselves back into the game courtesy of some sloppy home defending which Holt and Garard took full advantage off including 2 penalties to finally see the Bulls take all 3 points.

“BALTI WIN CLOSE ONE AGAINST THE BEES”

BALTI SPORTS 3 BRIDPORT RES 2



Charlie Kenderdine played a starring role from off the bench to help Balti Sports to a 3-2 victory over Bridport Reserves in the Dorset Premier League. Goals from Scott Walker, Danny Andrews and Stef Stavrianous earned Balti's first league win since October, after Bridport boss Shaun Annetts was sent off after 25 minutes. The Bees took the lead after a great ball from Riley Weedon, who played it down the right to Alf Ward, who charged

into the box and slid an effort under Andy Nott in the Balti goal after 15 minutes. Balti reacted well, when Chris Reader played a long free-kick into the Bridport box and on hand was Walker to craft a bullet header into the bottom corner after 20 minutes. Danny Andrews then had a goal disallowed as Balti began to improve. Annetts was then sent off after frustration with not being given a penalty after a tackle on Finn Cooper, where the referee brought the game back to an earlier foul with no action taken from the tackle on Cooper. However, from the free-kick, Bridport took the lead again. The ball was swung in towards Dan Baggs, who tapped it into the net to hand the Bees the lead once again. However, the match changed with Kenderdine's introduction shortly into the start of the second half. Kenderdine went into the centre of the park and helped keep the attack together. Carl McClements, Ethan Devaney, Andrews all had chances saved by the superb Billy Fleet in the Bridport goal. The breakthrough came via a long throw-in, after Walker threw the ball in, McClements played the ball up towards Andrews who volleyed home. A brilliant goal decided the contest, via Stavrianous, who cut inside and thrashed the ball into the net from 20 yards to hand Balti a much-needed victory. Balti boss Marco Nott said: "It was a fantastic derby really, it kind of had everything: crunching tackles, their manager getting sent off, goals, last-minute drama. It was a great game really, a typical Dorset Premier League game."

Report courtesy of the **DorsetECHO**

Photo courtesy of Finnbar Webster

DPL 2018-2019 – NEWSLETTER 23

December 22 & 29, 2018

“SWANS LIKE THE TASTE OF CHERRIES”

STURMINSTER NEWTON 0 SWANAGE TOWN & H 1



Sturminster Newton United football club welcomed Swanage & Herston FC to Barnett's Field today. In a scrappy first half there were two main chances, one for both teams. On 10 minutes James Neal got put through one on one in which his poor effort was saved by the Swanage goalkeeper, 10 minutes later Swanage striker Garan Bennett broke through the Stur

defence and coolly lobbed the goalkeeper to make it 0-1 to the visitors. The second half was a mainly even contest up until the last 10 minutes in which Stur started piling on the pressure, however, numerous saves and goal line clearances and solid defensive work from the visitors meant that Swanage were able to hold on and take away the 3 points.

“RANGERS TAME THE ISLANDERS”

PORTLAND UNITED RES 1 WAREHAM RANGERS 2

Portland United Reserves suffered their 4th defeat in a row at the hands of relegation threatened Wareham Rangers who recorded only their 2nd win of the season in The Dorset Premier League on Saturday. The Blues went in to half time 2-0 down despite dominating possession for long periods, however Wareham took their chances through Nick Bennett & Sam Lench. Portland also hit the woodwork twice through Adam Anstey and Aaron Ryan whilst also having the ball cleared from on the goal line. After the break Portland reduced the arrears when Sean Zima found the net off the underside of the crossbar but were unable to find an equaliser as Wareham defended for their lives. Looking back at the game Portland United Reserves Manager commented "We have picked up where we left off against Gillingham last time out where as we kept the ball well, passed up some good chances to score only to be caught out and give away a cheap goal. Then we are chasing the game and for the second week running I am saying we should have been 2-0 up before they've even had a sniff of goal. We knew what to expect, they have a couple of quick lads and they like to get it forward early with long balls in to those players. Unfortunately having possession of the ball doesn't score you goal, or we would have won at a canter." Faulkner also added "Unfortunately availability this time of the year is tricky, that coupled with injuries and 1st team call ups has not helped. It's not a moan, as a reserve side we know what to expect but it is frustrating not to get consistency which is clearly not helping us at the moment. We move on to next week at Shaftesbury Reserves which will be another big test for us. We are not getting too down because the 1st half of the season was fantastic for us; this season is about consolidation in the league and staying up. The aim hasn't changed all that much."

“GILLS CLAIM BRAGGING RIGHTS BUT ONLY JUST”

GILLINGHAM TOWN 1 SHAFTESBURY RES 0

Gillingham triumphed in the North Dorset derby as Alex Staffie beat a defender to a dangerous cross to apply the finishing touch to settle matters fifteen minutes in to the second half. In a game of few chances, on a heavy, bobbly pitch, it was Shaftesbury who started brightly, but as the half wore on it was Gillingham who started to take control and carved out a great opportunity that Buddy O'Shea put wide. Whilst there was the inevitable passion, creative football was at a premium and as half time arrived the stalemate probably reflected the game well. The second half saw Gillingham come out with a greater attacking intent and created a few half chances before Staffie sealed the win with a close-range finish. A couple of sin bin visits for both sides and a red card for a Shaftesbury attacker meant the game petered out into a comfortable, yet not

wholly convincing victory for Gillingham, on a day when the victory, rather than the manner was the most important thing.



League Cup Quarter Finals

“HOLDERS EDGE THROUGH AFTER TIGHT REC ENCOUNTER”

WESTLANDS SPORTS 1 HAMWORTHY REC 0

In a repeat of last year's final, both teams served up an enthralling match at Alvington Lane on Saturday. The league leaders looked sharp in the first half and put Westlands under pressure with a number of shots at goal, most of which sailed over the bar. However, Sam Watts, the Sports keeper, was called on to make a couple of good saves to keep the visitors out, aided by the crossbar on one occasion. 0-0 at half time with Westlands a bit fortunate not to be behind. Ham Rec started the second half quickly with a couple of efforts but gradually the home side, who had tweaked the formation a bit at half-time, began to push forward and create some good chances. Eventually, in the 82nd minute, the crucial match winning goal came. Westlands Steve Ormrod put a good ball into the box where Louis Irwin fired in a shot that Rec keeper Andy Knights managed to block. The rebound fell to Ant Herrin who took a touch and fired the ball into the corner of the net for the only goal of the game. Hamworthy tried to hit back and created two or three decent chances before the end but eventually they ran out of time. A cracking match played in a good spirit throughout and a credit to not only the League but to both sides.

“BLANDFORD PROGRESS AFTER ROYAL COMEBACK”

BLANDFORD UNITED 3 SHERBORNE TOWN RES 2

Royals book place in another semi final !! The Royals hosted Sherborne Town Res in the Dorset league cup quarter final today, but with several players out they knew it wouldn't be as easy as the last time these 2 sides met, the Royals dismantled them 7-1. And sure enough that proved to be the case, the young Royals found themselves 1-0 down after 25 mins from a low hit free kick, taken by Jack Baker, found its way through the wall and beat the flat footed home keeper, the home side continued to press creating the majority of chances in the first half but to no affect, HT 0-1. The home side came storming out the blocks knowing they needed to get something quick, but it was the visitors that furthered their advantage, countering down the left with Scott Martin shaping one into the top corner of the net, leaving Blandford's keeper stranded. The Royals had some work to do being 2-0 down with 30mins to go. So inspirational substitute Joe Wells was brought on who made an instant impact, his deliveries into the box were causing mayhem and his ability to put the balls in the channels was exactly what was needed. But it was Dan Holland's long throw into the box that got us back on track as Sherborne defender Matt Watson headed in for an own goal. The Royals continued to press then got the equaliser soon after, Joe wells put a ferocious ball into the back post where Captain Rob Manson headed home to take it to 2-2. Things then went from bad to worse for the visitors especially Watson who after conceding an own goal was also then sent off, The hosts sensed their chance to win the tie and another fine ball in from Joe Wells again found man of the hour Rob Manson to fire home his second of the afternoon and to put the hosts into the hat for the Semi Final draw. A superb comeback for the second week in a row, and some good performances from the younger players showing that they have what it takes to step up. Another excellent game from 16-year-old Lewis Freak at left back. Fans favourite Joe Wells made a difference when he came on and captain Rob Manson was exceptional at Centre Back.

“MERLEY CS FINALLY SEE OFF PARLEY TO PROGRESS”

PARLEY SPORTS 1 MERLEY CS 2

Merley CS progressed into the semi-finals after this hard-fought victory at Parley, in a tight game throughout where chances for both sides were at a premium, it took a defensive error to finally settle this tie. After a cagey 1st half where both sides cancelled each other out, the hosts took the lead following an error by Aaron Drayton in the Merley goal as he dropped a Parley Free Kick at the feet of Lee Orchard who gleefully slotted the gift home. Drayton then atoned for his error by saving well at the feet of Jack Voisey as he was bearing down on goal. Back came the visitors and Taylor Hibbs saved well, low to his right as Cobham broke quickly. With 15 minutes to go the scores were level as Steve Gilbert headed home at the far post and moments later 2 Parley defenders went for the same long ball and between them, they completely missed the ball allowing Josh Buck to run through and beat the keeper to settle the tie.



League Cup Semi Final Draw



v



v



Date for Ties – T.B.C