

Wednesday 8th October 2014

ROMFORD (REDS) 0, BISHOP'S STORTFORD 3
(FOOTBALL CONFERENCE YOUTH ALLIANCE – ESSEX/HERTS
DIVISION)

In his first Academy match Jordan Handscomb notched a hat-trick as his side recorded their first victory on their travels this campaign. The scoreline was a little flattering for the Blues but having not had the rub of the green in the last couple of games it was about time Tim Moylette's squad had a change of fortune.

Romford started the better and early on Josh Brett had a shot saved by Cameron Robson and then Micah Martin hit the outside of an upright from a free-kick.

However, Stortford took the lead in the 14th minute following an attack down the middle involving Ben James and Ben Smith and when the latter played the ball through for **JORDAN HANDSCOMB** the striker netted from close range (0-1).

An acute angled cross by Rene Leacock from the right bounced off the bar five minutes later but the hosts had the edge in midfield for the last twenty five minutes of the half. When Jason Koke broke clear ten minutes before the break Robson had to come out quickly from his goal to clear.

Both defences looked shaky at times and Handscombe nearly took advantage after good work by Ben Smith but Romford stopper James Blake saved well and then seconds later the Blues' goalscorer shot over the bar from close range.

Half time: 0-1

Blake turned away another effort from Handscombe in the 53rd minute but just a minute later he was again on the scoresheet. Lukeman Agbomabiwon began the move with a fine ball out to Ben Smith on the right and when his cross to the back post was nodded back by Jack Isherwood **JORDAN HANDSCOMB** was there to score from a yard or so out (0-2).

Keeper Blake was in action soon afterwards saving from Ben Smith at the expense of a corner and then just after the midway point of the half the Blues' Ben James and Romford's Giani Ashley were shown yellow cards by Referee Jose Cano after an altercation.

The hosts again had more possession as the play became scrappy with the wind picking up. Micah Martin was a foot over the bar from a free-kick and in the 71st minute Taiwo Akindele was unlucky with a good shot that hit the post.

Cameron Robson saved well from substitute Sonda Lombi but **JORDAN HANDSCOMB** completed his hat-trick in the 85th minute. He collected a pass from Lukeman Agbomabiwon and then floated the ball over the keeper from just inside the box and, wind assisted, it dropped under the bar and into the net (0-3).

The Blues could have added to their tally before the end as Handscomb and Ben Smith were close to increasing the winning margin.

Full time: 0-3

BISHOP'S STORTFORD: Cameron Robson; Rene Leacock; Alex Warman; Lukeman Agbomabiwon; Alex Askri; Bryn Thorpe; Aaron Thomas (sub – Danny Palmer 59 mins); Ben James (sub – John Clarke 73 mins); Jack Isherwood; Jordan Handscomb; Ben Smith.
Unused substitute: Stephen Robinson