

Wednesday 18th March 2015

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

Played on an uneven pitch virtually next door to Southend Airport the win was relatively comfortable once the Blues had taken the lead although they did look unsettled in defence at times.

Jack Isherwood found the net in the fifth minute but the goal was over-ruled due to an offside decision and after looking the stronger side took Blues finally took the lead in the 17th minute. Isherwood crossed from the right and when Mason Naylor at the far side of the area laid the ball back into the middle Lukeman Agbomabiwon scored his first goal of the season with a 12 yard shot inside a post.

Five minutes later Ben Smith was prevented from doubling the score when he was well tackled in a good position by Jimmy Markham and Smith also hit the top of the bar with an acute angled effort after Naylor had crossed in towards the near upright from the right wing.

Naylor and Aaron Thomas went close before the Blues' second goal arrived in the 33rd minute. Following an attack down the middle Jack Isherwood headed on for Thomas to score with a low angled shot past keeper Matt Ellis.

Shortly afterwards when the Stortford defence failed to deal with a free-kick Ramblers' Matt Naylor headed in from close range but fortunately for the Blues an offside decision was given.

Mason Naylor was close early on after the restart with a shot over the top from a Thomas centre and then Ramblers' stopper Ellis held a Danny Palmer header under the bar.

Midway through the half with Stortford having most of the play a strong run down the left flank from Rene Leacock saw him cut the ball back to Isherwood whose first time shot just cleared the target and then the Blues' skipper had a diving header that was over.

Substitute Louis Monk completed the scoring 15 minutes from time with a fine solo goal taking the ball down the middle past a couple defenders and then lifting it over the keeper.

In the closing minutes Stortford nearly increased their tally on several occasions with another substitute Alex Warman heading narrowly over from a Ben James' corner whilst Burnham's Brandon Scorey missed out on a chance of grabbing a consolation goal late on when he shot wide late

BISHOP'S STORTFORD: Cameron Robson (sub – Callum Lynskey 80 mins); Rene Leacock; Ben James; Lukeman Agbomabiwon (sub – Louis Monk 55 mins); Alex Askri; Bryn Thorpe; Mason Naylor (sub – Alex Warman 55 mins); Aaron Thomas; Jack Isherwood; Danny Palmer; Ben Smith.

Unused substitutes: None