

Friday 24th April 2015

BISHOP'S STORTFORD 6, ROMFORD (REDS) 0
(FOOTBALL CONFERENCE YOUTH ALLIANCE – ESSEX/HERTS
DIVISION)

Tim Moylette's team made it five games unbeaten when they registered a straightforward win over Romford at the ProKit UK Stadium. Once they had gone ahead there was little doubt that the hosts would be victorious. Four goals up at the break they added a further two before the final whistle.

In the seventh minute a Stortford corner was cleared out to Ben James whose goalbound attempt brought out a flying save from Romford stopper Ayaude Ojeikere diving to his left to prevent the ball entering the top corner. Mason Naylor, close to goal, saw a shot blocked and then in the 13th minute a glancing near post header from Jordan Handscomb following a Bryn Thorpe cross from the right was only inches over the bar. The Blues defence was in trouble a minute later as Dare Jean-Pierre broke down the middle but the visiting striker's effort from the edge of the box was held by Callum Lynskey.

The breakthrough came in the 19th minute. Following a short corner routine Mason Naylor played the ball to **BEN SMITH** who whipped in an angled shot over the top of keeper Ojeikere and under the bar (1-0). Dare Jean-Pierre missed out on a golden opportunity to equalise for the Essex side two minutes later by kicking thin air close in following a good move towards the Stortford goal.

Jordan Handscomb and Aaron Thomas were close to adding to the Blues lead before the second goal arrived shortly after the half-hour. A mistake by keeper Ojeikere led to Mason Naylor gaining possession just outside the left angle of the box and he squared the ball inside to **AARON THOMAS** who scored with a firm strike from twenty yards into an empty net (2-0).

Handscomb netted an offside goal and then another move by Romford out of their defence broke down for Stortford to score for a third time in the 43rd minute. Aaron Thomas gained possession of a loose ball and slipped it on for **MASON NAYLOR** to curl a fine shot into the net from outside the area (3-0).

In the first minute of stoppage time at the end of the first half Stortford made it four. An attack originally up the right flank with Rene Leacock prominent saw the ball switched over to the opposite side where Mason

Naylor and Aaron Thomas linked and when Thomas neatly back-heeled into **BEN JAMES'** path the midfielder cut in to score (4-0).

Half time: 4-0

Stortford remained in control and on top on the resumption after the break and Mason Naylor missed a good chance when delaying his shot whilst Rene Leacock and Bryn Thorpe were narrowly wide with headers.

The Blues' fifth goal came with twenty minutes left as a good run on the left by Aaron Thomas ended with a low cross towards the near post and **BEN SMITH** swivelled to fire the ball into the far bottom corner of the net (5-0).

The final goal was scored in the 73rd minute when, with Romford defence in disarray, Aaron Thomas attacking down the inside right channel passed inside to **BEN JAMES** who drove the ball past Ojeikere from twelve yards (6-0).

Aaron Thomas twice nearly added further goals before the end with one of his attempts at goal being cleared off the line by defender Fiedlu Akinyemi. Then, late on, Callum Lynskey saved from Sam Linsell to deny a consolation goal for the visitors.

Full time: 6-0

BISHOP'S STORTFORD: Callum Lynskey; Rene Leacock; Louis Monk; Danny Palmer; Alex Askri; Bryn Thorpe; Mason Naylor; Aaron Thomas; Jordan Handscomb (sub – Arun Melville 67 mins); Ben James; Ben Smith.

Unused substitute: Alex Warman