

BISHOP'S STORTFORD 4, PETERBOROUGH UNITED XI 2

Blues wrapped up pre-season with a dominant display to beat Peterborough United on, Tuesday.

Rod Stronger's certainly made their mark in the opening period of the game as they built up a three goal lead.

It took only two minutes for the hosts to open the scoring when skipper Mikel Suarez had a header deflected on to the roof of the net and from the resultant corner Anythony Furlonge's far post header went across the keeper and into the opposite side of the goal.

Within 30 seconds Matty Fanimmo broke down the centre but Posh keeper Dion-Curtis Henry made a strong blocking save.

Stortford keeper Tom Lovelock made a high stop in the fifth minute to save an angled effort from Souleymane Coulibaly but the Blues doubled their lead in the 20th minute as Johnny Herd on the left pulled the ball back to Frankie Merrifield who fired into the top corner from 25 yards. Lovelock saved well under the bar four minutes later and Stortford went further ahead in the 31st minute when Furlonge scored again as Josh Ekim's free-kick from the left into the box was met by a glancing header as the defence hesitated.

Ten minutes from the break Lovelock was in action going full length to his right to turn away a firm shot from Posh skipper for the night and ex-Blues' striker Kyle Vassell.

Stortford suffered a blow almost immediately after the restart as Furlong had to come off with a suspected hamstring problem. Then, in the 50th minute, the visitors reduced the arrears with Vassell finishing clinically after he had fastened on to a long ball down the middle from Jack Payne. Vassell and Coulibaly were close to adding another for Peterborough but Stortford netted a fourth goal in the 58th minute. A good move on the right finished with substitute Jake Gordon crossing in towards the box and Suarez scored after a first attempt from Merrifield was blocked. Elliott Buchanan almost opened his account as a shot and a free-kick from the new striker were both saved by Posh stopper Henry. Then the visitors notched a second goal as Coulibaly, at he back post, converted a cross in from the right wing by Harry Beautyman.

That goal came in the 70th minute and Vassell almost had the last say as he headed against the bar before the end and shot over the top with the last kick of the match as Stortford were left to celebrate a notable victory.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD: Tom Lovelock (Louie Lobjoit 77); De'Reece Vanderhyde; Johnny Herd; Spencer McCall (Triallist 77); Kenzer Lee (Adam Bailey-Dennis 71); Anthony Furlonge (Ejiro Okosieme 50); Frankie Merrifield (Sheldon Sellears 77); Josh Ekim (Jay Dowie 77); Mikel Suarez (Billy Lobjoit 63); Elliott Buchanan (Tom Derry 77); Matty Fanimmo (Jake Gordon 46). Unused sub: George Allen.

Attendance: 222