



FA CUP EXTRA PRELIMINARY ROUND

Saturday 19th August 2006

WHEELER'S LATE GOAL NOT ENOUGH FOR WESTBURY

Westbury United 2-3 Slimbridge

Westbury bowed out at the first hurdle, but not without putting up a good fight against their opponents from the Hellenic Premier League.

A downpour early in the match made the pitch slippery and both teams, meeting for the first time in any competition, played some attacking football throughout. Aaron Billett raced down the right wing on six minutes but Matty Smith couldn't make contact as visiting keeper Adam Thomas claimed the ball. In the next attack Tarick Yachou got in but dragged his effort wide of Thomas' right hand post.

Slimbridge also showed pace going forward, the combination of Kacey Johnstone and Robbie Colwell looked to have put them ahead on 17 but Colwell was given offside and his goal disallowed. They did score first on 33 minutes though as Mike Green found himself enough space in the six yard box to head Steve Badham's corner into the net.

Westbury drew level within two minutes with a great goal ; Wayne Wheeler latched onto Steve Seals pass, raced down the right wing and sent in a fizzing cross that was met by Yachou's powerful finish at the back post.

The second half was played with thunder rumbling around and a storm imminent. Westbury were caught flat-footed on 51 minutes when Badham took a quick free kick that found the corner of the goal to put his side ahead again. Jamie Inch put a header wide soon after before things got worse for Westbury on 67 ; Colwell burst through to rifle the ball past Evans and open up a 3-1 lead.

Westbury made a few substitutions and pushed men forward to try and force a replay. David Thompson, who had a fine match in midfield, mishit an effort over the bar after good skill from Wheeler. The latter then gave his side a chance with seven minutes remaining with a coolly taken touch and finish, however it proved to be the final goal.

*STAR MEN : David Thompson (Westbury United) & Steve Badham (Slimbridge)

TEAM - Nick Evans, David Whyte, Lee Morgan, Aaron Billett, Steve Seals, James Dowd,
Nick Beales, David Thompson, Tarick Yachou, Wayne Wheeler, Matty Smith
SUBS - Paul Beavers, Ross Parker, Martin Little (used) Jamie McGuckian (unused)