

*F.A. County Youth Championship  
(Semi-final—First leg)*

## **BERKS & BUCKS CONVINCING WIN**

### **Three goal lead over Bedfordshire**

**Berks & Bucks 5—Bedfordshire 2**

**W**ITH a three goal lead Berks & Bucks F.A. will embark on the second leg of the semi-final of the F.A. Youth County Championship at Bedfordshire full of confidence and with good prospects of entering the final. In the first leg at York-road football ground on Saturday before a crowd of 1,447 they defeated Bedfordshire F.A. 5—2, and but for several smart saves by Ames in the visitors' goal the margin in their favour would have been even greater.

A fine, workman-like side, Berks & Bucks were always on top with E. Smith (Reading Castle St.) and E. Skipper (Bletchley L.M.S.), centre-half and centre-forward respectively, outstanding.

Although productive of very little polish it was a good, clean and fast game. Much the heavier side, Berks and Bucks F.A. won the toss and decided to play with the sun in their faces in the first half. Thrills were plentiful in the first few minutes. Griffin (Reading Castle St.) shot straight at Ames from point blank range, Skipper headed past the upright and then brought the goalkeeper to his knees with a low shot from an acute angle. At the opposite end Smith kicked off the goal-line with Waters (Slough U.) out of his charge and lying on the ground. Fast end-to-end play followed with both goals narrowly escaping until T. HERBERT (Reading) put Berks and Bucks ahead after 15 minutes. Seven minutes later MAILING equalised for Bedfordshire following a melee in front of the home goal. HERBERT, Skipper and J. Tomlin (Marlow) combined neatly in subsequent raids and the former netted again for the home county. Smith and S. Wicks (Reading) broke up several promising Bedfordshire raids, but the latter who was the biggest defender on the field, found Moore, the diminutive visiting right winger, a constant danger.



## MORING'S GRAND GOAL

Five minutes after the resumption DAMON equalised from Moore's pass, and for a brief period it looked as if Bedfordshire were going to make a fight of it, but not so. SKIPPER, always too elusive for Day, put Berks ahead again and then the home county exerted heavy pressure. J. MORING (Marlow) a fine half-back, scored the best goal of the match. Racing through he evaded two tackles and crashed in a shot from 25 yards which Ames failed to hold. SKIPPER atoned for two mistakes by scoring the home side's fifth goal after side-stepping Day. Bedfordshire put in a few spasmodic raids but they failed to break down a rock-like defence. A reproduction of this form will carry Berks and Bucks through to the final.

*Berks and Bucks :* G. Waters (Slough U.) ; R. Tubb (Steventon) and S. Wicks (Reading) ; J. Moring (Marlow), E. Smith (Reading Castle St.) and W. Cook (Wolverton Congs.) ; K. Griffin (Reading Castle St.), T. Herbert (Reading), E. Skipper (Bletchley L.M.S.), J. Tomlin (Marlow) and F. Ball (Marlow).

*Bedfordshire :* P. Ames (Bedford Ave.) ; A. Groom (Dunstable Pioneers) and G. Garner (Luton Town) ; J. Thompson (Electrolux Luton), N. Day (Luton Amateurs), A. W. Day (Luton Amateurs) ; D. Moore (Bedford Ave.), R. Chappin (Vauxhall Motors), R. Damon (Bedford Corinthians.) K. Feasey (Bedford Corinthians.) and S. G. Mailing (Aston Ath., Luton.)



# Berks & Bucks Football Association

Hon. Secretary: Mr. MAURICE LOVE

Saturday, April 6th, 1946

Price 2d.

## Football Association County Youth Championship (Semi-Final—Fourth Leg)

Played at York Road Football Ground, Maidenhead

(By kind permission of Maidenhead United F.C.)

TO-DAY'S LINE UP—

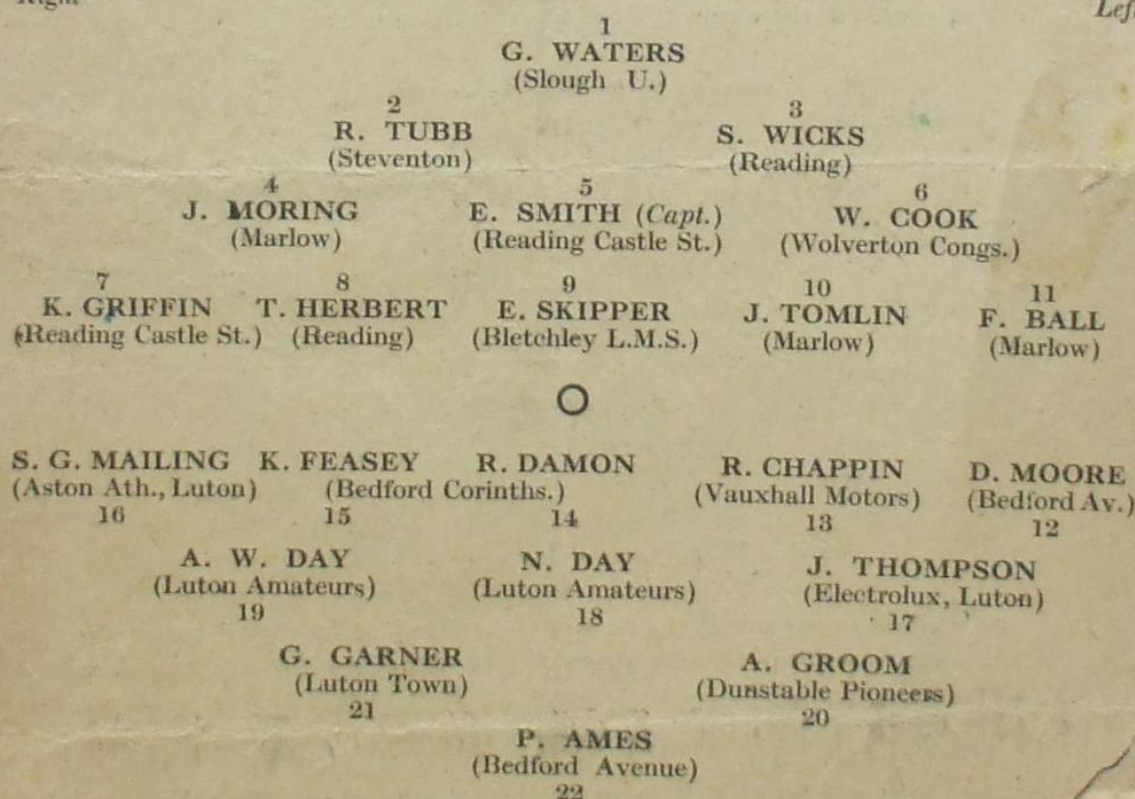
Kick-off 3.30 p.m.

### BERKS & BUCKS F.A.

Colours: Dark and Light Blue Quarters.

Right

Left



Left

Right

### BEDFORDSHIRE F.A.

Colours: Black and White Quarters.

Referee: R. J. Busby (Oxfordshire F.A.)

Linesmen: A. B. Foard and A. F. Mason (Wiltshire F.A.)



# Welcome Bedfordshire!

A warm welcome is extended to the Bedfordshire County Football Association and their young representatives this afternoon on the occasion of their visit to Berkshire in the "first leg" of the competition which has been inaugurated by the parent body—the Football Association—to encourage the game amongst the youth of the Country.

The rival teams have accomplished good performances to reach the semi-final, but we may perhaps claim for our Berks & Bucks boys the better record.

				goals
	p.	w.	For	agst.
Berks and Bucks .....	3	3	29	4
Bedfordshire .....	3	3	14	8

The overwhelming B. & B. win against Dorset accounts for the goal average of nearly 10 per match.

The records in the competition of the two teams are :

## *Berks and Bucks.*

Round					
1st		Bye			
2nd	v	Dorset	(H)	won	19—1
3rd	v	Hants	(A)	"	4—1
4th	v	Wilts	(H)	"	6—2

## *Bedfordshire.*

Round					
1st		Bye			
2nd	v	Cambridge	(H)	"	4—3
3rd	v	Essex	(A)	"	5—4*
4th	v	London	(H)	"	5—1

(\* After extra time)

This afternoon's game is the first of two "legs" to be played before the round is finally decided on goal aggregate; the second meeting will take place on a Bedfordshire ground on a date to be fixed. Two "legs" will also be played in the final.

The Berks and Bucks F.A. takes this opportunity of extending thanks to the Maidenhead United F.C. for placing their ground and equipment at its disposal for to-day's match and also thanks the Clubs officials and Committee for their assistance and co-operation in making arrangements. Thanks are also due to Mr. A. J. Hooper, the Association's Council Member, in charge for his assistance in many ways.

M.L.



## **B. & B. qualify for final**

The Berks & Bucks team just managed to qualify for the final of the F.A. County Youth Championship at Luton on Easter Monday. Bedford, who lost the first leg of the semi-final at Maidenhead by 5—2, won the second 3—1, thus losing the round on an aggregate of 5—6. I am told that B. & B. were lucky to get through but would, at the same time, have been unlucky to lose, for Smith, their centre-half who played such a magnificent game at Maidenhead and who is in the services, had been inoculated during the week and after making two mistakes which led to goals, collapsed and had to leave the field. Moring (Marlow) went to centre-half and Herbert (Reading Castle St.) moved from inside right to right half. When Smith was able to resume he played at inside right but was obviously ill and collapsed again. This was bad luck for B. & B. who were three down at half-time. They held Bedford in the second half and Skipper scored their only goal a minute from time. The first leg of the final against Durham will be played at Elm Park, Reading, on May 4, and the second leg at Roker Park, Sunderland, on May 11.

\* \* \*



# *F.A. County Youth Championship*

## **Berks & Bucks 3—Durham 1**

**A**T Elm Park, Reading, on Saturday, Berks & Bucks won the first "leg" of the final for the F.A. County Youth Championship with a margin in hand of two goals to carry forward to the second "leg" at Roker Park, Sunderland, next Saturday.

Berks & Bucks led by two goals to one at half-time, both their goals being scored by Ronald Weeks, the young seventeen-year-old Maidenhead player, who replaced Ball of Marlow at outside left.

A run by Griffin to the corner flag, a back pass to Herbert who saw Weeks waiting unmarked, put Berks & Bucks in the lead after ten minutes when WEEKS drove the ball home with a low drive. He added the second a few moments later by positioning himself for a pass and scoring from close range.

Durham, who were much faster on the ball than B. & B., attacked, but the B. & B. defence with Wicks outstanding, held out until HEATHERINGTON made a great run from the half-way line and finished up with a fine goal.

Berks & Bucks resumed strongly and Herbert who was the best forward on the field, repeatedly sent Griffin away and from one of his centres the ball struck a defender's hand and the referee awarded a penalty—a decision which seemed rather drastic as the offence was obviously unintentional. HERBERT took the kick, the ball entering the net off the post to make the score 3—1. Durham were feeling the effect of their first-half efforts, and B. & B. retained their lead to the end.

Weeks and Harker both justified their inclusion; Cook and Tomlin were not at their best.



# *F.A. County Youth Championship*

## **Berks and Bucks fine performance**

**Durham F.A. (1) 2—**

**B. & B. F.A. (3) 1**

**(B. & B. win on 4—3 aggregate)**

**A**T Roker Park, Sunderland, on Saturday, the Berks & Bucks F.A. team lost the second leg of the final round of the Championship by 2—1, but their two goal lead gained at Elm Park, Reading, the previous Saturday enabled them to win the Championship by the odd goal in seven.

The deciding goal was scored by Griffin, the B. & B. outside-right, at the end of the game when the aggregate scores stood at 3—3 and it looked like extra time.

But the combined counties were well worth their win, playing delightful football and delighting a crowd of 11,400 keen Sunderland critics who generously conceded that they deserved the trophy.

For the first half hour of the game Durham were penned in their own half and but for the fine goalkeeping of Brown in their goal, the southerners must have established an early and substantial lead. Weeks, the Maidenhead F.C. outside left once made a fine opening for himself but kicked the ground as he shot.

Hetherington, who signed on pro. forms for Sunderland after the match, scored Durham's first goal and Thordon added a second.

Wicks and Moring were outstanding players on the B. & B. side, with Weeks and Griffin not far behind.