GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHALLENGE TROPHY - PRELIMINARY ROUND

(Played on Tuesday 3rd October 2006)

# MORFORD DOUBLE LEADS THE WAY

**SLIMBRIDGE 4 , TAVERNERS 0**

**Will Morford scored twice and with Jamie Inch and Craig Cole also finding the net, a re-jigged Slimbridge side ran out easy winners in this G.F.A. Challenge Trophy Preliminary Round tie against Glos. County League side, the Nailsworth based, Taverners F.C.**

Slimbridge manager Doug Foxwell started with five changes to the side that faced Chippenham Town last Saturday, with Ashley Thomas taking over the Captains armband from the resting Leon Sterling. For Taverners, the experienced Ryan Gannaway was drafted in for injured goalkeeper, Craig Barnfield.

Taverners gave plenty of effort and commitment, had to live off scraps up front, but managed the first shot of the game when Fran King shot straight at goalkeeper Adam Thomas. However, any thought of a cup upset receded after they conceded an opening goal on 21 minutes. Robbie Colwell put a fierce low drive through a crowded box that Gannaway did well to parry, but Morford scored his first goal of the season by slotting in the rebound.

Matt Green, at last making his first competitive appearance since breaking bones in his foot on Easter Monday in the Hellenic Premier game against Bishops Cleeve, was unlucky to see a deft shot rap the inside of the post but trickle along the goal line to the grateful arms of Gannaway on 41 minutes.

It was 2-0 on the stroke of half-time though, when Jamie Inch headed a Steve Badham cross from the left, into the net via the underside of the bar.

Ten minutes into the second half and Craig Cole went on a run, cut in from the right, but mis-hit his shot with only Gannaway to beat.

On 58 minutes Morford got his second goal, glancing in a header from a run and cross by John Cant, at this point operating on the right.

Colwell then departed the action after a couple of good efforts on goal, then Taverners had their best chance of a goal when some good interplay between Matt Davies and Stewart Lawrence set up Mark Harsant for a low drive on goal, to which Adam Thomas did well to turn round a post from ten yards.

On 70 minutes the game was wrapped up when John Cant went on a breathtaking, jinking run down the middle and slipped the ball for Cole to fire low into the far corner of the net.

**Slimbridge; Adam Thomas, J. Inch, J.Embling, T.Haddock, Ashley Thomas, A.Axton, C.Cole, Matt Green (Mike Green 57), W.Morford, R.Colwell (K.Johnstone 66), S.Badham (J.Cant 45).**
**Taverners; R.Gannaway, M.Thornton, D.Bedwell(M.Davies 45), C.Roberts J.Darby, P.Jennings, M.Blythe, A.Griffiths, M.Harsant (D.Peachey 74), F.King, S.Lawrence.**

**Referee; Mr. A.Matthews (Stonehouse)**

**Attendance; 109**