Evo Stik Southern League South & West

Saturday 12 March 2016

Slimbridge 1 – 3 Banbury United

The Swans battled out an entertaining game at Wisloe Road today against leaders Banbury United. With few chances for either side it was the visitors clinical finishing that told in the end to keep them top of the table.

Slimbridge started the game brightly taking the game to the visitors with Paul Fahey shooting wide on 5 minutes having been played in by Sean Lawson. Banbury got back into the game with both sides playing some neat attacking football but failing to make any headway. A Banbury free kick from Mark Bell on the left was sent high and wide on 17 minutes, followed soon after by a Slimbridge free kick wide on the right culminating in a weak shot from Dean Turner straight at the visiting keeper.

On 32 minutes the first corner of the game from Banbury resulted in Darius Browne's shot from the right just clearing the Slimbridge bar. At the other end Adam Mace's shot was blocked by the visitors defence on the edge of the area.

The first goal came on 37 minutes, Micheal Hopkins pinpoint cross from the left was headed home unopposed by Ricky Johnson. Five minutes later Banbury got a second when Slimbridge Keeper George Burton was unable to hold Browne's 15 yard shot from the left leaving Leam Howards an easy tap in at the far post.

Slimbridge started the second half brightly and reduced the arrears on 56 minutes with an 18 yard strike from Mace after some neat play from Fahey.

As the visitors piled the pressure on the home defence Sam Turl made a last gasp saving tackle on visiting substitute Felipe Barcelos just as he was about to shoot. On 76 minutes Burton kept Slimbridge in the game

with a double save at close range from Felipe Barcelos and Johnston. Five minutes later Miles Welch-Hayes shot from the right cannoned off the angle and had to be cleared by the home defence to safety.

Banbury sealed the game on 83 minutes when Barcelos latched onto Mark Bells through ball to slot home for victory.

The Swans host local rivals Cinderford Town on Wednesday evening (7:45pm) followed by a trip to Hampshire to face bottom club Bashley on Saturday (3pm).

Team: Burton, Turl, Brown(Martin 70), Hoyle, Rich Thwaite (Ward 59), Ry Thwaite, Turner, Twyman, Fahy, Lawson(Adam Mahmood), Mace

Supporters MOM : Jack Twyman

Attendance: 116