

COMBINATION COMMENT

CHELSEA Reserves lost the lead in the Football Combination following defeats on the last two Saturdays. At Norwich (December 9) our run of eight games unbeaten came to an end with a 0-2 reverse, and the timing of those Norwich goals was a portent of "things to come" in the League Cup semi-final first leg here four days later, for both were scored in the first twelve minutes.

We fought back well after such a bad start, with right-back Gary Locke not only excelling at



IAN BRITTON
Stylish wee Scot

the back but also going upfield for two good shots. "Butch" Wilkins had a 20-yard volley cleared off the line, and 18-year-old Ian Britton, our little Scottish mid-field dynamo from Dundee, continued in the form that has made him our most consistent Reserve in the first half of the season.

Britton again stood out in last Saturday's home game against Bristol City (0-1), and so did defender John Sparrow, who is only fifteen and was the youngest player on the field. John Boyle was back to his best in midfield.

After 20 minutes we lost Bobby Brown with a recurring back injury. We were not impressive up front, and City held on to win by the goal which their centre-back headed from a corner.

(Team line-ups for the above games appear under Match Summaries on page 19.)

WITH THE JUNIORS

IN the S.E. Counties League Division I, we beat Brentford 1-0 at home at Mitcham (December 9). Normally, we would have fielded a much stronger side, but with five Juniors on duty with the Combination side at Norwich, we were satisfied to take both points, although by the only goal.

It came ten minutes after half-time from a corner by Mike Brolly. David Lucas did well to get in behind the "wall" and scored with a header.

Last Saturday, we met another of our challengers for the S.E. Counties Championship, Arsenal at London Colney, and although we were beaten 2-1 Youth Manager Ken Shellito reports that this was the best match of the season in which Chelsea's Juniors have been engaged.

Arsenal went ahead after 15 minutes with a 40-yard shot. Five minutes before half-time, Steve Finnieston was brought down and "Butch" Wilkins equalised with the penalty.

We were at our best in a second half of bold attacking by both teams. Twice we were close to taking the lead, but with two minutes left, Arsenal scored the winner—another long shot, this time a 30-yarder through a ruck of players.

Cup Tickets: Notice to Season-Ticket Holders

HOME matches, including replays, in the League Cup or F.A. Cup are treated strictly in the order played at this ground. As announced on your season-ticket renewal form, 25% of all seats must be allocated to the visitors and in the circumstances at one out of every four such ties season-ticket holders will not be able to apply for their own seat.

All season-ticket holders were sent, with their book, an S.R.S. ticket which carries details of their door, row and seat number, and in the top left-hand corner a code number. The first two figures, before the / of the code number, determine when you can or cannot apply for your own seat. The following will show how the system works.

If the first two figures of your code number are:	}	10/ or 11/	you cannot apply for your own seat for the 1st or 5th cup-tie
		20/ or 21/	you cannot apply for your own seat for the 2nd or 6th cup-tie
		30/ or 31/	you cannot apply for your own seat for the 3rd or 7th cup-tie
		40/ or 41/	you cannot apply for your own seat for the 4th or 8th cup-tie

For the match or matches at which we are unable to allocate you your own seat, you can apply for a bench seat in the West (open) Enclosure.