

1949 - 50



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B. W. Hitchiner

No. 2

August 29th, 1949

From the Board Room

WRITING before our match at Grimsby, we can only comment on the first two games played, and naturally we are disappointed at the results. To lose the first two games is unpleasant, but not serious, and we have little doubt that we shall very soon strike winning form and quickly forget these early reverses. We are not complacent, however, because we are fully aware of the strong opposition which has to be met, and we frankly admit that we expected to commence the season on a better note. Maybe the result at Grimsby was more favourable, but be that as it may, we are determined to remedy any weaknesses that exist as the season advances. It is not easy to do this, as we have already found, but that does not prevent us from trying, and we are confident we shall succeed. With nearly all the season ahead, it is far too early to become despondent at failures or elated with successes, although it is true that a good start is a great inspiration.

There was little relegation form about Sheffield United in our first game, and the display they gave makes one wonder how they came to lose their place in the First Division last season. In the first half in particular, they played some splendid football, and built up a lead which we were never able to wipe off. It was rather a different tale in the second half, however, when we had more scoring chances than our visitors, but we failed to take the same advantage of them as Sheffield had done with their chances in the earlier part of the game. Considering the intense heat, it was a fast game, and it speaks well for the fitness of both sets of players that they were still playing strongly when the final whistle went.

Our game at Luton last Wednesday was rather different, and our side showed weaknesses in positions that we had regarded as being satisfactorily filled, for some of them came from seasoned players who were the backbone of the side last season, players who without doubt should be our first team choice. They quite failed to find their form in this match, but we feel sure it is only a temporary lapse, and that the return to their best form will not be long delayed. Luton Town played well, and deserved to win, but were rather fortunate when they obtained their first goal, which came from a rather long free kick. It is rarely such an effort brings a goal, but it inspired the home team, who played very determinedly afterwards, and ran out winners by two goals to none.

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F		L		R	

Forthcoming Matches

Saturday September 3rd, 1949

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS

League, Division II

Kick-off 3 p.m.

Monday

September 5th, 1949

ARSENAL

Football Combination

Kick-off 6.30 p.m.

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Final Tables, 1948-49

DIVISION I.								DIVISION II.							
				Goals								Goals			
	P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Ag.	Pts		P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Ag.	Pts
Portsmouth	42	25	9	8	84	42	58	Fulham	42	24	9	9	77	37	57
Manchester United	42	21	10	11	77	44	53	West Brom. Albion	42	24	10	8	69	39	56
Derby County	42	22	11	9	74	55	53	Southampton	42	23	10	9	69	36	55
Newcastle United	42	20	10	12	70	56	52	Cardiff City	42	19	10	13	62	47	51
Arsenal	42	18	11	13	74	44	49	Tottenham H.	42	17	9	16	72	44	50
Wolverhampton W	42	17	13	12	79	66	46	Chesterfield	42	15	10	17	51	45	47
Manchester City	42	15	12	15	47	51	45	West Ham United	42	18	14	10	56	58	46
Sunderland	42	13	12	17	49	58	43	Sheffield Wed.	42	15	14	13	63	56	43
Charlton Athletic	42	15	15	12	63	67	42	Barnsley	42	14	16	12	62	61	40
Aston Villa	42	16	16	10	60	76	42	Luton Town	42	14	16	12	55	57	40
Stoke City	42	16	17	9	66	68	41	Grimsby Town	42	15	17	10	72	76	40
Liverpool	42	13	15	14	53	43	40	Bury	42	17	19	6	67	76	40
Chelsea	42	12	16	14	69	68	38	Queen's Park R.	42	14	17	11	44	62	39
Bolton Wanderers	42	14	18	10	59	68	38	Blackburn Rovers	42	15	19	8	53	63	38
Burnley	42	12	16	14	43	50	38	Leeds United	42	12	17	13	55	63	37
Blackpool	42	11	15	16	54	67	38	Coventry City	42	15	20	7	55	64	37
Birmingham City	42	11	16	15	36	38	37	Bradford (P.A.)	42	13	18	11	65	78	37
Everton	42	13	18	11	41	63	37	Brentford	42	11	17	14	42	53	36
Middlesbrough	42	11	19	12	46	57	34	Leicester City	42	10	16	16	62	79	36
Huddersfield Town	42	12	20	10	40	69	34	Plymouth Argyle	42	12	18	12	49	64	36
Freston North End	42	11	20	11	62	75	33	Nottingham Forest	42	14	21	7	50	54	35
Sheffield United	42	11	20	11	57	78	33	Lincoln City	42	8	22	12	53	91	28

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

	Goals						
	P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Ag.	Pts
Arsenal	30	20	5	5	62	31	45
Portsmouth	30	17	7	6	61	25	40
Southend United	30	17	8	5	48	41	39
Tottenham Hotspur	30	16	8	6	66	34	38
Southampton	30	13	8	9	44	31	35
Millwall	30	12	9	9	41	41	33
Bristol Rovers	30	13	12	5	42	50	31
Charlton Athletic	30	12	13	5	42	45	29
Bournemouth & B.	30	13	14	3	40	46	29
Crystal Palace	30	10	12	8	38	53	28
Leicester City	30	11	14	5	40	40	27
Cardiff City	30	9	15	6	52	74	24
Coventry City	30	10	17	3	37	62	23
Aldershot	30	8	16	6	45	67	22
Fulham	30	8	17	5	46	52	21
Bristol City	30	5	19	6	25	47	16

Interesting Events of the Past

In 1938 Leeds United signed on professional forms twin brothers. They were John and Alfred Stephens, and both were inside forwards.

The first Football League games were played on September 8th, 1888. Five matches were played, and the biggest attendance was approximately 6,000, at the Preston North End v Burnley game.

The first professional footballer to be awarded the V.C. was 2nd Lieut. Donald Bell, a full back registered with Bradford. He won the distinction in 1916 "for most conspicuous bravery" on the Somme, in the first world war.

The most remarkable finish to a game happened at Wrexham on September 10th, 1932. Losing to Halifax Town by two goals to none 15 minutes from time, the home team scored five times in the last quarter of an hour, and ran out winners by five goals to two.

Albert Geldard made football history as the youngest player ever to have played in English League football, when playing for Bradford at Millwall in a Second Division match in 1929. He was exactly 15 years and 156 days old.

John Slater, after forsaking football as a professional full back for Bolton Wanderers, made a large fortune out of coal and cotton, and ultimately became Conservative M.P. for Eastbourne. He died on September 15th, 1935.

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TEAMS for to-day's Match, 29th August, 1949

COVENTRY CITY (Blue and White Shirts and White Knickers)

Kick-off 6.30 p.m.

Right		Wood		Left
	Mason, R. 2		Bell 3	
	Snape 4	Mason, G. 5	Simpson, N. 6	
Warner 7	Dearson 8	Roberts 9	Murphy 10	Lockhart 11

Referee:
E. V. Crook
(Abingdon, Berks.)



Linesmen:
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C. W. Bucknall
(Red Flag)
W. H. Davis

Waugh 11	Gardiner 6	Aherne 3	Taylor 10	Arnison 9	Owen 5	Shanks 8	Watkins 4	Small 7
Left			Streten			Cooke 2		Right

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Fixtures

League Division II.

1949	Opponents	F	A
Aug. 20	Sheffield United	h	2
" 24	Luton Town	a	0
" 27	Grimsby Town	a	2
" 29	Luton Town	h	
Sept. 3	Queen's Park Rangers	h	
" 7	Barnsley	a	
" 10	Preston North End	a	
" 17	Swansea Town	h	
" 24	Leeds United	a	
Oct. 1	Southampton	h	
" 8	Bury	h	
" 15	Tottenham Hotspur	a	
" 22	Cardiff City	h	
" 29	Blackburn Rovers	a	
Nov. 5	Brentford	h	
" 12	Hull City	a	
" 19	Sheffield Wednesday	h	
" 26	(1) Plymouth Argyle	a	
Dec. 3	Chesterfield	h	
" 10	(2) Bradford	a	
" 17	Sheffield United	a	
" 24	Grimsby Town	h	
" 26	Leicester City	a	
" 27	Leicester City	h	
" 31	Queen's Park Rangers	a	
1950			
Jan. 7	(3)		
" 14	Preston North End	h	
" 21	Swansea Town	a	
" 28	(4)		
Feb. 4	Leeds United	h	
" 11	(5)		
" 18	Southampton	a	
" 25	Bury	a	
Mar. 4	(6) Tottenham Hotspur	h	
" 11	Cardiff City	a	
" 18	Blackburn Rovers	h	
" 25	(S.F.) Brentford	a	
April 1	Plymouth Argyle	h	
" 8	Chesterfield	a	
" 10	West Ham United	a	
" 11	West Ham United	h	
" 15	Hull City	h	
" 22	Sheffield Wednesday	a	
" 29	(F.) Bradford	h	
May 6	Barnsley	h	

Football Combination

1949	Opponents	F	A
LEAGUE			
Aug. 20	Cardiff City	a	1
" 22	Queen's Park Rangers	h	0
" 27	Northampton Town	h	3
" 31	Luton Town	a	
Sept. 3	Queen's Park Rangers	a	
" 5	Arsenal	h	
" 10	Millwall	h	
" 17	Northampton Town	a	
" 19	Millwall	a	
" 24	Leyton Orient	h	
" 26	Luton Town	h	
Oct. 1	Arsenal	a	
" 8	Leyton Orient	a	
" 15	Crystal Palace	h	
" 22	Fulham	a	
" 29	Bristol Rovers	h	
Nov. 5	Reading	a	
" 12	Leicester	h	
" 19	Southend United	a	
" 26	Reading	h	
Dec. 3	Leicester City	a	
" 10	Southend United	h	
" 17	Cardiff City	h	
" 24			
" 26	Swansea Town	a	
" 27	Birmingham City	a	
CUP COMPETITION			
" 31	Watford	h	
1950			
Jan. 7	Ipswich Town	a	
" 14			
" 21	Norwich City	h	
" 28	Birmingham City	h	
Feb. 4	Norwich City	a	
" 11	Northampton Town	a	
" 13	Northampton Town	h	
" 25	Birmingham City	a	
Mar. 4			
" 11	Ipswich Town	h	
" 18	Watford	a	
" 25	Leicester City	h	
April 1	Leicester City	a	
" 8	Luton Town	a	
To be arranged—Luton Town		h	
LEAGUE			
" 7	Birmingham City	h	
" 10	Swansea Town	h	
" 15	Crystal Palace	a	
" 22	Fulham	h	
" 29	Bristol Rovers	a	

Our Visitors

LUTON TOWN are our visitors this evening, and although this is only our fourth game, to-night's match will complete our meetings for the season, following our game at Luton last Wednesday. Our visitors commenced the season by drawing with West Ham United at Luton by two all; and followed this with a home win against ourselves. The result of their game against the United at Sheffield is not to hand at the time of writing. Last season, although having a moderate season, they were never in any danger, and finished up in the respectable position of tenth from top of the league table, with forty points from their forty-two games.

Luton Town are an old established club, being formed in 1885, and their greatest feat since that date was no doubt the winning of the Third Division (South) Championship in season 1936-37, the year following our own elevation to the Second Division. They have had many good runs in the F.A. Cup Competition, their best being in season 1932-33, when they reached the sixth round. On April 13th, 1936, they recorded the biggest score in their league history by defeating Bristol Rovers by 12 goals to 0 at a time when they badly needed to improve their goal average. We were leaders, with Luton lying second, and our records were so close that goal average might easily have been the deciding factor. We won by a point, however, and Luton followed us into the higher league the next season.

Our old rivals will no doubt make every effort to complete the double this evening, but we shall be just as determined to prevent it, and even up the position. We won the corresponding game last season by two goals to none.



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Players' Appearances and Goals Scored

	F.L.		F.C.		U.C.		Cup-ties		Total	
	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G
Goalkeepers										
Gilbert, W. A.	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Taylor P. T.	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Wood, A. R.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Full Backs										
Barratt, H.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Bell, J.	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Dearson, D. J.	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Mason, R. J.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Sneddon, A.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Timmins, C.	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....
Half-backs										
Alderton, J. H.	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Bache, R. D.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cook, L.	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....
Cox, R. B.	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Crawley, T.	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Gray, W. M.	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Hawkins, R.	.....	.....	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Mason, G. W.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Simpson, N. H.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Snape, J.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Forwards										
Bull, W. H.	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....	2	1
Evans, J. J.	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Hawkings, B.	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Hill, J.	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Hill, P.	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Jamieson, J. W.	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1
Lewis, T.	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1
Lockhart, N.	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Marsh J. K.	2	1	2	1
Murphy, P.	2	1	2	1
Roberts, E.	2	2
Shore, E.	1	1
Simpson, D. E.	1	1	2	2	2
Warner, L. H.	1	1



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