

A Chance To Consolidate

TOWN RELYING ON UNCHANGED TEAM

Performances in the last two matches are a pointer to the fact that the Town have found their form just at the right time for a successful ending to the season which will take them away from the foot of the table. At least, that is what every fan is hoping is the case.

Three points from the last four makes better reading than the rather melancholy run which preceded these successes, and the Town have a great chance to consolidate their position when they meet Cardiff City at Kenilworth-road on Saturday.

For it, naturally enough after the great result achieved at Tottenham, the manager has announced an unchanged team, and it will be the first time no alteration has been made since Christmas.

A fortnight ago, the original team selection showed no change, but the signing of Jimmy Jinks caused a variation of the plan with happy results.

Policy will probably be to make as few changes as possible, and the bright showing of Watkins and Shanks at wing half gave cause for considerable satisfaction last Saturday.

Well Served In The Vital Positions

SO, too, did the form of Kiernan and Stobbart in the inside forward positions, and if the Town are served as well in these vital places in the remaining matches, they will not come to much harm.

Wally Shanks will be making his first home appearance at left half in the League team and he seems admirably suited to the middle line.

It is probable that the full-backs will line up as they did at Tottenham which is how they have operated for most of the season, though a change of flank does not seem to worry either Cooke or Abernethy.

Cardiff Have Two Lively Wingers

CARDIFF can be expected to be lively on the wings, for they have the Welsh International, George Edwards, on the extreme left, and their new signing from Southampton, Grant, on the other side.

However, if Cooke and Abernethy do as well as they did at Tottenham, there should not be a great deal to worry about from this quarter.

Team: Hughes; Cooke, Abernethy, Watkins, Owen, Shanks; Glover, Kiernan, Jinks, Stobbart, Wyldes.

A bigger crowd than the recent average is expected, for Cardiff invariably prove a drawing card in this area.

Gate Of Over 20,000 Is Expected

BIGGEST demand for reserved seats since the turn of the year is reported from Kenilworth-road, and yesterday there were only about a score of tickets for the reserved portion of the stand remaining.

A party of 50 is coming from Cardiff, and others are expected from as far afield as Birmingham and Oxford. Which probably all adds up to a gate of over 20,000, especially in view of the Town's improvement.

The Town's draw at White Hart Lane will probably add to the gate, too, and it is likely to be more like old times at Kenilworth-road or Saturday than it has been for some weeks.



Billy Arnison has started full training again, following his second cartilage operation.

Midnight Is The Transfer Deadline

WITH midnight-to-night as the deadline for new players able to play in vital matches this season, it seems unlikely that the Town will have any new additions to report.

There is always the possibility of a late signing, but, yesterday, this did not seem likely, for last week-end's scouting failed to reveal anything out of the ordinary.

The whole transfer market has been unusually quiet for this time of the year, and big prices are serving to scare off many clubs.

Probably the Town feel that when Billy Arnison is fit again, they will be adequately covered, and news of him continues to be good.

Arnison Resumes Full Training

HE was at Tottenham last Saturday, anxiously cheering on his colleagues, and he told me that he is hoping to get back into harness soon.

On Monday, he was able to resume full training, and has already been kicking a light ball about.

Yesterday, he was golfing at Ashridge with the rest of the players, and the manager is hoping that he will be able to have a try-out in a private practice match next week.

The reserves will hold a watching brief on Saturday, for no match is arranged for them.

Two Newcomers In Vauxhall Attack

FOLLOWING their home defeat by Metropolitan Police last Saturday, Vauxhall Motors made another re-shuffle for their home League match with Huddersfield Town on Saturday which should provide them with the points necessary to remove any fear of their being relegated.

Kelly returns to the defence, and there are two newcomers in attack, A. Jones, formerly of Tottenham, and E. James, formerly of Tottenham, and E. James, formerly of Tottenham, and E. James, formerly of Tottenham.

Defence Has Been Most Consistent

SINCE December 17, when they beat Blackburn 2-1 at Ninian Park, they have played 11 times in the League without being able to register more than one goal in a single match.

Three times they have failed to do even this, with the result that their recent record in attack must make sorrowful reading for them.

Curiously enough, the exceptions during this period were in the Cup-ties against the First Division clubs, West Brom, Charlton, whom they beat after replays.

That there is little wrong with their defence is proved by the fact that they have capitulated only 36 times this season. Of that total, 15 were debited to them in four games by Swansea (5), Leicester (4) and Southampton and Bradford (each 3). Otherwise, they have been playing remarkably consistently.

Return Of Blair To Cardiff's Attack

CITY are making two changes, one positional, in their forward line. Blair, who missed last

Police Beat Motors For Second Time

Vauxhall Motors 0, Met. Police 3

Metropolitan Police completed a good double over Vauxhall when they beat them for a second time in a League match.

Vauxhall almost took the lead in the first half, but after that their attacks petered out, and the Met. Police forwards gradually took the initiative and finally won comfortably.

Starting brightly, the Luton forwards soon had the Police on the defensive, but great work by the visitors' goalkeeper kept them out.

Vauxhall continued to have rather more of the play, but just before half-time the visitors went ahead rather unexpectedly when SIMPSON headed home after a good centre from Johnson.

Finishing on both sides was weak after the restart, and though the Motors tried to steady themselves, they were unable to do so, and were soon fighting an uphill battle.

SIMPSON put the Police further ahead, and VINING settled the issue with a third goal.

Culla, promoted to the Spartan League side for this match, showed quite well, though the forwards did not always work as well together as their visitors' attack, and lacked their finishing power.

Vauxhall Motors—R. Cullis; K. Stanger, G. Coogrove, R. Andrews, R. Lloyd, T. Pierce; R. Chappin, R. Brandham, L. Galloway, J. Biggs, A. Morgan.

Luton League

Brewery's First League Defeat For Six Months

Now needing only three points from their remaining five matches to make certain of winning the Division I title in Luton District and South Beds League are

Shillington.

Their task was made much simpler by the defeat of Luton Brewery at Cockerhove, which was their first failure in the League since September 3.

Lowly Limbury O.B. put up a gallant struggle against the leaders, but they were unable to do more than full justice.

Main interest in Division I now is the fight for second place, in which five teams are involved.

Smart victories by Cockerhove and Luton Brewery increased their chances of winning the title, and Luton Brewery are slightly better placed at the moment.

Seven Goals Against The Amateur

VIEWLEY 7, Luton Amateur 1

The Amateur suffered their heaviest League defeat for two seasons when they visited Viewley on Saturday.

With a slight slope in their favour in the first half, the Amateur were unable to do more than turn around only 2-1 in arrears, their scorers being B. SMITH, who finished off a bright right wing movement.

Two quick goals early in the second half put the home team well on top, and apart from occasional breakaways, the Amateur's defence was kept fully occupied and capitulated on three more occasions.

Viewley were a stronger all-round combination, and their forwards, especially, impressed as a speedy, dangerous force.

Luton Amateur—T. O'Neill; J. Norman, D. Smith; R. Day, S. Fenmore, W. Williams; R. Day, V. Cooper, D. Smith, A. Devenish, A. Russell.

South Midlands League

Shocks Keep Title Race Very Open

Although Potton United had no match on Saturday, their championship prospects in the Premier Division of the South Midlands League were given a decided fillip.

This came about through the failures of their chief challengers, Wootton, Blue Cross and Rushden Town.

It was a remarkable performance by Hitchin-road O.B. to take full points from the latter for, at one time, they were three goals down.

Gootton fell to the improving Stony Stratford Sports, now putting away from the bottom rung, and another surprise was contained in the failure of Cambridge to beat Arlesey, who divided the spoils.

Last weekend record in Division I, won by the hosts in the local derby in which the leaders, Baldock Town lost to Letchworth.

This opens up championship possibilities for Letchworth though Baldock still hold a distinct advantage.

Good Day For Limbury O.B.

Limbury O.B. teams were the leading scorers in Luton and South Beds Youth League on Saturday.

In Division "B," they got eight goals divided among six players, and the 14/16 years team netted seven, of which A. Perkins claimed five.

Division "A" West Park 3, Old Becclesham 1 (A. Perkins 5, D. Redley, A. Devlin, Old Becclesham "A" 0, Westoning 1 (Mann), Luton Boys Club 5.

Division "B" Barton Y.C. 3 (R. Ginter 2, M. Fisher, Limbury O.B. 4 (D. Blake 1, P. Kent 1, Widdowson 1, Taylor 1).

Becclesham 3, Old Becclesham 1 (D. Redley 2, D. Redley 1, P. Kent 1, Widdowson 1, Taylor 1).

Langley 3, Old Becclesham 1 (D. Redley 2, D. Redley 1, P. Kent 1, Widdowson 1, Taylor 1).

Langley 3, Old Becclesham 1 (D. Redley 2, D. Redley 1, P. Kent 1, Widdowson 1, Taylor 1).

Old Boys Made A Great Rally

Hitchin-road O.B. 4, Rushden T. 3

Hitchin-road Old Boys taught Rushden Town the joys of a team should not rest on its laurels after building up a three-goal lead, and they fought back strongly that they eventually secured a 4-3 victory.

The rally was a fine one, and the race for honours in the Premier Division of the South Midlands League.

Rushden opened strongly, and shortly after the kick-off BRICE opened their account. A few minutes later he scored again, and then MADDAMS put the Old Boys further into arrears when he scored direct from a corner.

The Old Boys showed fine fighting spirit, however, and fought back vigorously, but on half-time their efforts were rewarded when D. STRAPP scored.

After the interval the Luton team dictated the play, and Rushden's defence was badly pressed. INGLE failed to convert a penalty, but shortly afterwards he scored after a clever inter-changing movement with Hillier. Well served by his side forwards, a centre-forward soon obtained a second, and towards the end of play A. STRAPP scored the winning goal with a hard, long-range shot.

HITCHIN-ROAD OLD BOYS: R. Tottinham; J. Burgess, J. Nelson; W. Day, B. McCrum, A. Brown; C. Firmin, A. Strapp, C. Ingle, D. Strapp, H. Hillier.

They Won The Match With Only Ten Men

Middlesex Colony 3, Kington 4

Playing for most of the match with only ten men, Kington did well to beat Middlesex Colony in a Mid Herts League, Division III, game.

The home side scored first, and after the interval the MEAD opened their account, but the home team repaid with another goal, PLAIN and COLLEY the latter from a penalty, won Kington on level terms, and CARTER secured the winning goal for the visitors.

No Tonic Points For Reserves

Luton Town Reserves 0, Leicester City Reserves 2

The Town Reserves, at present limping at the foot of their Section in the Combination Cup, did nothing on Saturday to bode their lively prospects.

Once again they had good chances, but they did not make full use of them, and the Leicester attack, as a whole, was far more dangerous than the Town's. The Town's attack, however, was not so much in the picture.

However, more advantage should have been taken of some of their early centres.

Mulvaney was not so happy at the opening stages but, in the experienced Kirman nine times out of ten. When the full-back eventually got his measure, he was not so much in the picture.

Fifteen minutes later HINES scored another grand goal from twenty yards to clinch matters for the City.

Luton were unlucky when during a melee in front of the Leicester goalmouth the ball was kicked off the goal line and then bounced off a defender before it was picked up by McGraw and cleared to safety.

Mulvaney was not so happy at centre-forward as on previous occasions but he did not receive the best of support from the inside-forwards.

Luton Town Reserves: Stratten; Wainwright, Morton, Hall, Gardner; Small, James, Mulvaney, Slater, Waugh. Leicester City Reserves: McGraw; McGregor, Kirman, Harrison, McArthur, Johnston; Gwynne, Moran, Hines, Ayton, Paterson.

Billiards

The Last Match Is Important

On the result of the only outstanding match in Division II, of the Snooker Section of Luton and District Clubs' League depends the destination of the holders of the reserve cup, as Luton Conservatives and Labour "A" are the teams concerned.

There was an entry of 68 for the League's individual snooker championship, which began on Tuesday.

Greyhound Racing

Runners And Selections For Luton On Saturday

6.30 (410/50)—135 Bessie; 454 Clara Joe; 663 Dornalind; 445 Jamie; 412 Per-nap; 352 Phantasm. Reserve: 446 Bessie.

6.50 (470/50)—431 Blurry; P. 422 Brownie; 546 Cattle Mender; 131 Durr. Reserve: 544 Fertiliser.

7.10 (410/50)—421 Black Wing; 231 N. L. 25; 250; 251; 252; 253; 254; 255; 256; 257; 258; 259; 260; 261; 262; 263; 264; 265; 266; 267; 268; 269; 270; 271; 272; 273; 274; 275; 276; 277; 278; 279; 280; 281; 282; 283; 284; 285; 286; 287; 288; 289; 290; 291; 292; 293; 294; 295; 296; 297; 298; 299; 300; 301; 302; 303; 304; 305; 306; 307; 308; 309; 310; 311; 312; 313; 314; 315; 316; 317; 318; 319; 320; 321; 322; 323; 324; 325; 326; 327; 328; 329; 330; 331; 332; 333; 334; 335; 336; 337; 338; 339; 340; 341; 342; 343; 344; 345; 346; 347; 348; 349; 350; 351; 352; 353; 354; 355; 356; 357; 358; 359; 360; 361; 362; 363; 364; 365; 366; 367; 368; 369; 370; 371; 372; 373; 374; 375; 376; 377; 378; 379; 380; 381; 382; 383; 384; 385; 386; 387; 388; 389; 390; 391; 392; 393; 394; 395; 396; 397; 398; 399; 400; 401; 402; 403; 404; 405; 406; 407; 408; 409; 410; 411; 412; 413; 414; 415; 416; 417; 418; 419; 420; 421; 422; 423; 424; 425; 426; 427; 428; 429; 430; 431; 432; 433; 434; 435; 436; 437; 438; 439; 440; 441; 442; 443; 444; 445; 446; 447; 448; 449; 450; 451; 452; 453; 454; 455; 456; 457; 458; 459; 460; 461; 462; 463; 464; 465; 466; 467; 468; 469; 470; 471; 472; 473; 474; 475; 476; 477; 478; 479; 480; 481; 482; 483; 484; 485; 486; 487; 488; 489; 490; 491; 492; 493; 494; 495; 496; 497; 498; 499; 500; 501; 502; 503; 504; 505; 506; 507; 508; 509; 510; 511; 512; 513; 514; 515; 516; 517; 518; 519; 520; 521; 522; 523; 524; 525; 526; 527; 528; 529; 530; 531; 532; 533; 534; 535; 536; 537; 538; 539; 540; 541; 542; 543; 544; 545; 546; 547; 548; 549; 550; 551; 552; 553; 554; 555; 556; 557; 558; 559; 560; 561; 562; 563; 564; 565; 566; 567; 568; 569; 570; 571; 572; 573; 574; 575; 576; 577; 578; 579; 580; 581; 582; 583; 584; 585; 586; 587; 588; 589; 590; 591; 592; 593; 594; 595; 596; 597; 598; 599; 600; 601; 602; 603; 604; 605; 606; 607; 608; 609; 610; 611; 612; 613; 614; 615; 616; 617; 618; 619; 620; 621; 622; 623; 624; 625; 626; 627; 628; 629; 630; 631; 632; 633; 634; 635; 636; 637; 638; 639; 640; 641; 642; 643; 644; 645; 646; 647; 648; 649; 650; 651; 652; 653; 654; 655; 656; 657; 658; 659; 660; 661; 662; 663; 664; 665; 666; 667; 668; 669; 670; 671; 672; 673; 674; 675; 676; 677; 678; 679; 680; 681; 682; 683; 684; 685; 686; 687; 688; 689; 690; 691; 692; 693; 694; 695; 696; 697; 698; 699; 700; 701; 702; 703; 704; 705; 706; 707; 708; 709; 710; 711; 712; 713; 714; 715; 716; 717; 718; 719; 720; 721; 722; 723; 724; 725; 726; 727; 728; 729; 730; 731; 732; 733; 734; 735; 736; 737; 738; 739; 740; 741; 742; 743; 744; 745; 746; 747; 748; 749; 750; 751; 752; 753; 754; 755; 756; 757; 758; 759; 760; 761; 762; 763; 764; 765; 766; 767; 768; 769; 770; 771; 772; 773; 774; 775; 776; 777; 778; 779; 780; 781; 782; 783; 784; 785; 786; 787; 788; 789; 790; 791; 792; 793; 794; 795; 796; 797; 798; 799; 800; 801; 802; 803; 804; 805; 806; 807; 808; 809; 810; 811; 812; 813; 814; 815; 816; 817; 818; 819; 820; 821; 822; 823; 824; 825; 826; 827; 828; 829; 830; 831; 832; 833; 834; 835; 836; 837; 838; 839; 840; 841; 842; 843; 844; 845; 846; 847; 848; 849; 850; 851; 852; 853; 854; 855; 856; 857; 858; 859; 860; 861; 862; 863; 864; 865; 866; 867; 868; 869; 870; 871; 872; 873; 874; 875; 876; 877; 878; 879; 880; 881; 882; 883; 884; 885; 886; 887; 888; 889; 890; 891; 892; 893; 894; 895; 896; 897; 898; 899; 900; 901; 902; 903; 904; 905; 906; 907; 908; 909; 910; 911; 912; 913; 914; 915; 916; 917; 918; 919; 920; 921; 922; 923; 924; 925; 926; 927; 928; 929; 930; 931; 932; 933; 934; 935; 936; 937; 938; 939; 940; 941; 942; 943; 944; 945; 946; 947; 948; 949; 950; 951; 952; 953; 954; 955; 956; 957; 958; 959; 960; 961; 962; 963; 964; 965; 966; 967; 968; 969; 970; 971; 972; 973; 974; 975; 976; 977; 978; 979; 980; 981; 982; 983; 984; 985; 986; 987; 988; 989; 990; 991; 992; 993; 994; 995; 996; 997; 998; 999; 1000.

The Old Boys Never Settled Down

Credited Old Boys' 8, Hitchin-road O.B. 8

Hitchin-road Old Boys were out of luck when they visited Credited for a friendly match, and never settled down. Credited, however, took a 1-0 lead in the first half, and after a shaky start improved to give a first-class, polished display.

As for Hughes, he certainly did not suffer by comparison with Hitchin-road, and apart from some very little scope, and a few shots, he impressed by the way in which he cut out dangerous centres and by his safe handling.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: Ditchburn; Ramsey, Withers; Nicholson, Clarke, Burgess; Walters, Rees, Duquemin, Hall, Medley.

LUTON TOWN: Hughes; Cooke, Abernethy, Watkins, Owen, Shanks; Glover, Kiernan, Jinks, Stobbart, Wyldes.

Referee: R. E. Tarrant, Hornham.

Attendance: 53,145

Golf

He Needed Only One Stroke For 126 Yards

A member of South Beds for over 30 years, a season, held in one at the 5th (126 yards) on Sunday afternoon.

Football

Luton Town F.C. The League: Division II

SATURDAY, MARCH 10th

LUTON TOWN

V.

CARDIFF CITY

Kick-off 3.15 p.m.

ADMISSION: Centre Stand 5/-, Stand and Enclosure 3/6; 2/-, Ground (under cover) 2/-, Ground (Kenilworth Road) 1/3; 1/-, 1/-.

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