

TOWN—LATE GOAL SPECIALISTS

Stobbart Saved A Point With Three Minutes Left

BY CHILTERN

gaining a reputation for being late goal specialists are the Town, who for the second Saturday in succession snatched a point when the game was in its dying stages.

At this time, at The Dell, Southampton, they left it so late that the Saints' fans were preparing to leave the ground with the thought of two more points to aid their fight for promotion to enliven their New Year celebrations.

There was very nearly no point at all for Southampton, for after George Stobbart equalised with three minutes to go, Willie Davie went close to snatching a winner.

In the 42 minutes of the second half the Town seemed destined to go down to another odd goal and then it happened. Glover and Shanks had reached positions and the out-right, veered over to the right, turning quickly, he turned up the situation. There was Kelly on his goal line, Webber guarding the middle and Stobbart coming through last.

Glover made a slide-rule kick which Stobbart dived full length to meet and send the ball into the net.

This came as such a shock to Southampton that they seemed to go to pieces completely.

Nearly Snatched A Dramatic Win

CONVERSELY, it gave the Town forwards confidence and they produced more goal-mouth snap than they had shown previously. In the last hectic minutes, two corners were forced, and Davie worked his way through only to have the ball kicked away from him as he hoped to make his shot. Even then, the ball missed the post narrowly.

However every member of the Luton party was content with this point that served to emphasise the improvement the team has made during the last week.

It also proved that the Christmas activities were no mere wash in the pan and the tally from the last four matches now stands at six points.

Fighting Spirit Much In Evidence

ALTHOUGH the Town's position is still fraught with danger, on this form, they should get away from the relegation zone.

Success breeds success and with the ball running better for them now, much of the over-anxiety they showed when things

Streten Saved Day's Penalty Kick

BACK went the ball straight to Edwards, who tried a header this time, but Owen had dropped back and he fisted the ball over. So, with the game only five minutes old, the Town found themselves faced with a penalty kick, but their hopes revived when Day, trying to place the ball, merely sent it straight at

No Special Cup Training

THE Town's preparation for their Cup-tie with Portsmouth on Saturday will be along normal lines. It had been hoped to have a day's golf, but the weather has put this out of court.

No serious injuries were collected at Southampton on Saturday. McAuley will not be available for the Cup-tie, and considerable doubt still exists about the date of Cooke's return.

Gates will be opened at 12.30, and there is every evidence of a gate approaching-record proportions.

All stand tickets have been sold.

Goal Came While Aherne Was Off

NARROWEST escapes after that came at the Saints' end when Havenga twice went close, but when Aherne had to leave the field because he felt ill and could not judge the flight of the ball, the Town found themselves up against it.

Streten, who picked it up and kicked away joyously. After the match, Southampton Directors were saying, "If only Bill Ellerington had been playing."

Reason for that is that Ellerington is their penalty kick expert, and he does not miss often.

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Shanks moved to left-back and Southampton crowded on pressure.

Their goal came five minutes before half-time through Bates, who left Streten with no chance from close range.

After that the Town hung on until the interval and were brought up to full strength for the second half since Aherne made a complete recovery.

Centre-Halves Were Dominant Figures

WITH the accent mainly on the defences, the centre-halves, Owen and Webber, were two dominant figures, helped by the number of times the ball was in the air.

Owen carried too many guns for Brown, who was seldom dangerous although he tried to find the open spaces by switching out to the wings.

Day was not so troublesome as had been expected, partly due to the fact that he was closely marked by Aherne, and partly because he rather over-did his attempts to score in the second half.

That policy might have come off, but, for the most part, Streten was able to watch the ball fly harmlessly by.

Streten Playing At Peak Form

STRETEN is now displaying the form that gained him an England cap and he came through this match with great credit, for his anticipation and judgment were never at fault and he made two saves in the first half that could not have been bettered by any goalkeeper.

Wilson had a good match against Edwards, who showed a liking for cutting in goalwards, but Wilson was quick in recovery, tackled hard and kicked well.

Both wing halves played strongly, though Watkins was the more effective and used the ball better than Morton, though he too had difficulty in keeping it on the ground.

Forwards Were In Quieter Vein

THE forwards were in rather quieter vein than they have been recently, but they did not suffer by comparison with the Southampton front line which is the only fair way to judge in such conditions.

Generally, the football they produced was not so good as in the last three matches and until Stobbart's late success, there seemed little hope of an equaliser.

However everybody kept on trying and pegging away and this brought its reward in the end.

Glover's late move was a touch of genius and there is no possible doubt that he can be a match-winner on occasion.

Webber Was "The Boss" In The Air

IN this match he did not receive the best of material, chiefly because Shanks could not get going and the majority of the inside-right's passes went astray. Stobbart, too, suffered because

FOR THE RECORDS

SOUTHAMPTON 1
Bates.

LUTON TOWN 1
Stobbart.

SOUTHAMPTON: Kelly; Anderson, Ballard; Elliott, Webber, Mallett; Day, Curtis, Brown, Bates, Edwards.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Wilson, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Watkins; Glover, Shanks, Stobbart, Davie, Havenga.

Referee: L. A. M. Mackay, Fulham.

Attendance: 20,000.

of the number of times the ball came to him high in the air, where the tall Webber was the master of the situation.

For all that, Stobbart never stopped working and his goal was a gem of opportunism.

The left-wing was the better balanced and although Davie was not quite so prominent as he has been, he frequently took the eye with his clever footwork and Southampton always had to keep a weather eye turned in his direction.

Point Was Earned On Run Of The Play

ALMOST until kick-off time, there was a doubt about Havenga playing, but play he did with his wrist and hand amply protected, and he came through without mishap.

He often worried Ellerington's stand-in, Anderson, and was rather unlucky not to score in the first half for he was always on the look-out for the odd chance.

So the Town further improved their already good record at The Dell, and there was no doubt that they earned this point on the run of the play.

Neither team really looked their part. Southampton certainly did not play well enough to strike one as contenders for promotion, while the Town had no relegation look about them.

Hat-Trick Of 1-1 Draws By Reserves

FOR the third match in succession, the Town Reserves were concerned in a 1-1 draw when they met Crystal Palace Reserves at Kenilworth-road.

On a hard, slippery ground, little good football could be expected, and the result was a scrambling sort of game, in which the Town dropped a point, after holding the lead for 72 minutes. Jinks gave them the lead after eight minutes, and although the Palace often threatened an equaliser, it did not come until 10 minutes from the end.

The Town's outstanding player was Jim Pemberton and Jinks was the most dangerous forward.

CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

F.A. CUP—THIRD ROUND

Arsenal v Carlisle Utd.

Aston Villa v Burnley

Birmingham C. v Manchester C.

Bolton W. v York C.

Brighton v Chesterfield

Bristol R. v Aldershot

Bristol C. v Blackburn R.

Charlton Ath. v Blackpool

Derby Co. v West Brom.

Fulham v Sheffield Wed.

Grimsby T. v Exeter C.

Huddersfield T. v Tottenham H.

Hull C. v Everton

Leeds Utd. v Middlesbrough

Leicester C. v Preston N.E.

Luton T. v Portsmouth

Manchester Utd. v Oldham Ath.

Mansfield T. v Swansea T.

Newcastle Utd. v Bury

Newport Co. v Reading

Northampton T. v Barnsley

Norwich C. v Liverpool

Notts Co. v Southampton

Plymouth A. v Wolves

Q.P.R. v Millwall

Rochdale v Chelsea

Rotherham Utd. v Doncaster R.

Sheffield Utd. v Gateshead

Stockport Co. v Brentford

Stoke C. v Port Vale
Sunderland v Coventry C.
West Ham v Cardiff C.

DIVISION III (SOUTH)

Ipswich T. v Walsall

Nottm. Forest v Crystal Palace

Swindon T. v Bournemouth

DIVISION III (NORTH)

Barrow v Accrington S.

Bradford C. v Shrewsbury T.

Darlington v Crewe Alex.

Hartlepool Utd. v Halifax T.

New Brighton v Lincoln C.

Scunthorpe Utd. v Bradford

FRIENDLY MATCHES

Gillingham v Leyton O.

Wrexham v Tranmere R.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

DIVISION "A"

Aberdeen v St. Mirren

Clyde v Airdrieonians

Falkirk v Dundee

Morton v Third Lanark

Motherwell v Celtic

Raith R. v Hibernian

Rangers v Partick T.

DIVISION "B"

Albion R. v Kilmarnock

Alloa Ath. v Stirling

Arbroath v Dumbarton

Ayr Utd. v Hamilton

Cowdenbeath v Forfar Ath.

Dundee Utd. v Stenhousemuir

Queen of South v St. Johnstone

Queen's Park v Dunfermline

FOOTBALL

LUTON TOWN F.C.

LONDON MID-WEEK LEAGUE

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 3rd

LUTON TOWN 'A'

v.

SOUTHEND 'A'

Kick-off 2.30 p.m.

ADMISSION:

Stand and Enclosure only 1/-

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