

Seniors Nearly "Stole" A Point At Sheffield

By Chiltern

For some time the Town have been able to point proudly to an unbeaten spell by all their three teams which began just before Christmas, but it came to an untimely end on Saturday when each of their teams met with defeat.

Sheffield, the League side nearly snatched a point that would have been of tremendous value to them, but a late goal sent them away empty-handed, with the result that their position in the struggle against relegation is still most critical.

AD the Town held the United to a draw, it would have been a performance something on a par with that which Barnsley achieved against Luton the previous week.

They would not have deserved the run of the play, but had they succeeded, it would have been earned by their fighting spirit and gallant work in defence.

There was a look of real despair about the Town defenders when United got what proved to be the

No Further Injuries

ALTHOUGH two or three players received knocks at Sheffield on Saturday and Sid Owen had to have attention off the field for a couple of minutes, no injury of a serious nature was reported at Kenilworth-road yesterday.

Billy Cooke was training yesterday morning, but it is not known yet whether he will be in the Cup side against Bristol Rovers on Saturday.

Leading goal with only eight minutes to run.

Before that the defence had been holding out against tremendous United pressure in the second half, but they looked like succeeding because Stretten was one of his unbeatable moods.

Free Kick Led Up To The Decider

HIS saves combined with the erratic nature of much of the United's shooting kept the Town's hopes alive all through the second half, and they seemed to have got over the most dangerous period when the shock came.

There was little obvious danger when the referee penalised Shanks for an offence, the nature of which was not clear from the stand.

The Town players were firmly convinced that there had been no offence at all, but the free kick from near the centre line was the forerunner of the winning goal.

Glover, who had anticipated the move by switching inside.

He came across with the ball on his left foot, found a gap in defence as Latham slipped in his attempt to tackle and calmly cracked the ball past Burgin to score a fine goal.

Few Chances For Town In The Second Half

THE first half had been reasonably even, but after the interval, United had long periods of pressure, broken up with quick Town breakaways, which, however, seldom looked like producing goals.

One chance fell to Havenga when, from near the post, he headed the ball downwards when a centre came over from the right.

Had he hit it squarely, he would have had a good chance of scoring, but he might have been distracted by Furniss crossing the flight of the ball.

Other than that, it was mostly United forwards desperately seeking the decisive goal, but being thrown back time and again.

Owen Was Below His Usual Standard

ALTHOUGH the defence was not so sound as usual, it put up a tremendous fight. For one thing, Owen did not get going in his usual style and, strangely enough, did not get the ball in the air with his customary decisiveness.

Bottom's dash worried him a

little, too, and with the United forwards mostly relying on quick passing, the defence, as a whole, was often at full stretch.

Ahern never really got a firm grip on Ringstead, a go-ahead type of winger, and although he played stubbornly and pluckily he was not the Ahern who has been so consistent for so many weeks.

Stretten Was In Brilliant Form

WILSON had a good first half in which his forthright tackling was of great value, but he suffered along with the rest of the defence from over-work after the interval when the ball was continually coming back and Jones became more dangerous.

The outstanding figure in this department was Stretten, who was right up to the mark, and deservedly received an ovation from the crowd at the end.

Time and again, his anticipation enabled him to narrow the angle and save when goals seemed certain, and he had a great game.

Morton Did Well Against Hagan

GOOD marks also went to Morton and Watkins for the way they stuck to their task, especially the former who held a key position in this match in that he had the job of watching the skilful Hagan.

It was a tribute to Morton that

Hagan was kept reasonably quiet.

Watkins played strongly after a slow start and used the ball most effectively at times and, generally, the wing halves had every reason to be satisfied with their afternoon's work.

Stobbert Did Well, But Shot Seldom

BEST of the forwards was Stobbert who did an immense amount of work, distributed the ball cleverly, but seldom had a crack at goal.

If his finishing were matching his brilliance in approach work, he would be one of the best leaders in the Second Division, but, at the moment, he is inclined to pass when a shot would be more valuable.

For all that, he is playing whole-heartedly and well and there was much to admire about his determination, despite a considerable buffeting that came his way.

Glover Should Have Had More Of The Ball

NEXT in line was Glover, who should have been given more of the ball in the second half, for he showed that he had the beating of Cox.

More of the ball, however, went to Havenga, who had a poor day. Seldom could he pass Furniss with the result that many Town attacks stopped short here, and the United repeatedly got on to the offensive again.

Although he did not always make use of the ball with his customary accuracy, Davie impressed with the quality of his footwork and ball control and had a very good spell in the second half, but was handicapped by the fact that his partner could not get going.

Shanks had a reasonably good game and was always foraging, but there was a lack of punch about the finishing of the line as a whole which must have given rise to some anxiety.

Wyldes Proves That He Is Fit

FACING a much more experienced team in Queen's Park Rangers, the Town Reserves disappointed their supporters by losing 3-1.

However, the match brought proof that Bob Wyldes is completely fit again, for he was the most dangerous forward, though the only goal came from Jack Whent.

There were few chances for Neville Ronson on his first appearance in the second string, but he showed promise and will probably be persevered with. Forwerth Hughes made a successful comeback after injury.

Arnison Was "More Than Pleased"

PLEASING feature about the "A" team's match at Lagenham was that Billy Arnison came through in good style. His comment afterwards was that he was "More than pleased," and I gather he went better than he expected after his long lay-off.

He went into the tackle wholeheartedly and his distribution of the ball was splendid, but he did not get the chance to have a real shot at goal.

FOR THE RECORDS

SHEFFIELD UNITED 2
Bottom (2)
LUTON TOWN 1
Glover
SHEFFIELD UNITED—Burgin; Furniss, Cox; Hitchen, Latham, Brook; Ringstead, Hawksworth, Bottom, Hagan, Jones.
LUTON TOWN—Stretten; Wilson, Ahern; Morton, Owen, Watkins; Glover, Shanks, Stobbert, Davie, Havenga.
Referee.—G. L. Hiffe, Leicester.
Attendance.—26,000.

FOOTBALL

LUTON TOWN F.C.
LONDON MID-WEEK LEAGUE
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24th
LUTON TOWN 'A'
v.
PORTSMOUTH 'A'
Kick-off 3 p.m.
ADMISSION:
Stand and Enclosure only 1/-



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CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

F.A. CUP, FOURTH ROUND
Luton Town v Bristol Rovers
Millwall v Fulham
Sheffield Utd. v Mansfield T.
Arsenal v Northampton T.
Blackpool v Stockport C.
Preston N.E. v Huddersfield T.
Newcastle Utd. v Bolton Wan.
Exeter City v Chelsea
Stoke C. v West Ham
Manchester Utd. v Leeds Utd.
Derby C. v Birmingham C.
Bristol City v Brighton
Wolves v Aston Villa
Sunderland v Southampton
Hull C. v Rotherham Utd.
Newport C. v Norwich C.

DIVISION I
Charlton Ath. v Liverpool

DIVISION II
Bury v Manchester C.
Doncaster R. v Swansea T.
Q.P.R. v Brentford

DIVISION III (SOUTH)
Bournemouth v Swindon T.
Colchester Utd. v Aldershot
Crystal Palace v Nottm. Forest
Reading v Port Vale
Walsall v Ipswich T.
Watford v Plymouth A.

DIVISION III (NORTH)
Accrington S. v Barrow
Bradford v Scunthorpe Utd.
Chester v Rochdale
Crew Alex. v Darlington
Halifax T. v Hartlepool Utd.
Lincoln C. v New Brighton
Oldham Ath. v Wrexham

Shrews T. v Bradford C.
York C. v Carlisle Utd.
Southport v Gateshead

FRIENDLY MATCHES
Cardiff C. v Tottenham H.
Coventry C. v Portsmouth
Burnley v Blackburn R.
Everton v Notts County
Leicester C. v Sheffield Wed.
Middlesbrough v Barnsley
Southend Utd. v Chesterfield

SCOTTISH CUP, FIRST ROUND

Aberdeen v Inverness C.
Albion R. v Stenhousemuir
Alloa v Hearts
Brechin C. v Berwick
Dumfries v St. Johnstone
Dunfermline v Clyde
Dundee v Dundee Utd.
Duns v Forres Mechanics
East Fife v Celtic
East Stirling v Kilmarnock
Falkirk v Airdrieonians
Hamilton v Elgin C.
Morton v Cowdenbeath
Partick T. v Raith R.
Peterhead v Motherwell
Queen's Park v Arbroath
Rangers v Queen of South
St. Mirren v Hibernian
Stirling A. v Ayr Utd.
Third Lanark v Forfar Ath.

SELECTIONS

Ten Home.—Luton, Derby, Newcastle, Stoke, Manchester Utd., Wolves, Sunderland, Doncaster, Reading, Lincoln.
Four Away.—Fulham, Manchester C., Nottm. Forest, Plymouth.
Three Draws.—Preston v Huddersfield; Charlton v Liverpool; Walsall v Ipswich.

Greyhounds

The Only Blank At Luton Was Drawn By Trap 2

Trap 1 was the most successful at Luton Stadium on Saturday, with three winners, and the only trap to draw a blank was No. 2. Four favourites were first past the post, and the highest priced winner was City Lights, at 6-1.

1 (410yds).—1 WIN'S BOY (1), 2 Little Sally (5), 3 Emery (2), 4 Black Beauty (3), 5 Duke (4), 6 Miss Muffett (6), 3, 1, 4, 1, 1, 25.39. Off 6.35.
Betting: 3 WIN'S BOY, Emery, 7-2 Black Beauty, 4 Miss Muffett, 9-2 Little Sally, 6 Duke, Forecast £2/12/- (11/40yds).—1 KITCHEN BOY (3), 2 Salad (2), 3 Hair Clip (4), 4 Landlord (1), 5 Eastern Silver (5), 6 Cumberland (6), 5, 1, 2, 8, dist. 28.56. Off 6.54.
Betting: 3 Eastern Silver, 7-2 Salad, Landlord, 4 KITCHEN BOY, 7 Hair Clip, 8 Cumberland, Forecast £2/10/6.
111 (470yds).—1 WILD HONEY (6), 2 Whistling Wind (1), 3 Grady (5), 4 Toby Gay (3), 5 Pat's Dislike (2), 6 The Abbot (4), 2, 1, 2, 3, 8, 28.59. Off 7.15.
Betting: 2 WILD HONEY, 7-2 Grady, Toby Gay, 9-2 Whistling Wind, 6 Pat's Dislike, 10 The Abbot, Forecast £1/9/3.
1V (410yds).—1 BLACK SATIN (6), 2 Malcolm (2), 3 Robby (5), 4 Chimes (3), 5 Broadwood (1), 6 Meg's Pet (4), 5, 4, 4, 5, 8, 25.08. Off 7.35.
Betting: 5-4 BLACK SATIN, 7-2 Robby, 4 Chimes, 9-2 Meg's Pet, 5 Malcolm, 100-8 Broadwood, No Tote.
V (470yds).—1 STEP LIGHTLY (1), 2 Partion (5), 3 Snuff (2), 4 Black Mask (4), 5 Muriel (3), 2, 4, dist. 28.51. Off 7.55.
Betting: 5-2 Partion, Black Mask, STEP LIGHTLY, Muriel, 10 Snuff, Tervy Pal, No Tote.
VI (470yds).—1 KELLING (5), 2 Rockafella (2), 3 The Pheasant (4), 4 Royal Flush (3), 5 No Bid (6), 2, 2, 5, 2, 98. Non-runner Wally's Pup (1) Off 7.49.
Betting: 7-4 The Pheasant, 2 KELLING, 7-2 Royal Flush, 10 Rockafella, No Bid, Forecast £1/6/9.
VII (470yds).—1 CASTLE ROCK (1), 2 Don't Arise (6), 3 Margaret's Pal (3), 4 Jack Mack (2), 5 Queen's (5), 3, 6, 1, 1, 28.63. Non-runner Park (4) Off 8.10.
Betting: 6-4 CASTLE ROCK, 7-2 Margaret's Pal, 10-8 Jack Mack, Forecast 13/6.

VIII (410yds).—1 CITY LIGHTS (4), 2 McGrane's Wish (6), 3 Wind-Break (2), 4 Glen Mist (5), 5 Red Coat (3), Neck, 1, 1, 4, 25.39. Non-runner Royal Blue (1). Off 9.0.
Betting: 5-4 McGrane's Wish, 7-2 Red Coat, 4 Glen Mist, 9-2 Wind-Break, 6 CITY LIGHTS, Forecast £1/10/-.
RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR TO-MORROW
7.30 (410yds).—5 Charmaine, 456 Fascination, 166 Local Lad, 2 Musical Box, 55 Plain Jane, 162 Popoff, Reserve 232 Eastern Silver.
7.48 (470yds).—3 Ashwood, 466 Dusty, 444 Ella's Joy, 555 Ian's Pet, 625 Mole's Money, 225 Snowey, 8.06 (410yds).—144 Lazy Loafer, 15 Miss Primrose (Jan 17, to 2, 25.00), 465 Peabody Boy, 424 Shy Girl, 211 Speakeasy, 636 Waincoat.
8.24 (470yds).—111 Binky, 645 Destiny, 312 Gourmet, 443 Laughing Girl, 141 Marvex, 563 Red Peg, 8.42 (470yds).—42 Alderman, 124 Ginger, 354 Handy Bill, 523 Johnny D, 213 Petty Officer, 331 Sam's Song, Reserve 224 Rockafella.
9.00 (410yds).—511 Ajax, 254 Carly O'Connor, 56 Hillside (Jan 17, to 1, 24.63), 322 Playboy, 441 Joe Jolly, 443 Tony.
9.18 (470yds).—516 Cherry Brandy, 436 Garry, 221 Marigold, 643 Max Future, 142 Molly, 145 Smartly Girl, Reserve 333 Charmotte.
9.36 (410yds).—163 Comus, 534 Katie, 142 Mighty Atom, 165 Neapolitan, 655 Rubber Band, 35 Sam (Jan 17, to 4, 25.04), Reserve 163 Wind-Break.
SELECTIONS
7.30 Plain Jane (Musical Box, Popoff), 7.48 Mole's Money (Ian's Pet, Ian's Pet), 8.06 Peabody Boy (Shy Girl, Waincoat), 8.24 Laughing Girl (Red Peg, Gour), 8.42 Binky (Ginger, Alderman), 9.00 Playboy (Hillside, Joe Jolly), 9.18 Cherry Brandy (Molly, Garry), 9.36 Sam (Katie, Mighty Atom).

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