

POINT KEEPS THE TOWN IN STEP

Showed Better Form After An Uncertain Start

By Chiltern

Although they failed to get away from bottom place in the table, the Town gave indications at Loftus-road on Saturday that they will put up a great struggle to retain their position in the Second Division.

Of the teams involved in the relegation struggle, they were the only one with an away match and although none of the others was beaten, the point the Town gained from the Rangers may prove to be invaluable when the final reckoning comes.

TO-NIGHT now turns on their next match, with Bury at Kenilworth-road next Saturday, and on the result of this the immediate future of the club may be decided.

If they can beat Bury and follow up with a reasonably successful Easter, then the way is open for the Town to escape the weeks to come, there is a good deal of "killing" among the lowly clubs, and the fact that Bury and Chester have to meet twice over may be helpful to the Town.

Outlook Was Grim For Half An Hour

FOR half-an-hour at Loftus-road the Luton outlook seemed decidedly grim, for they were mainly struggling to keep level terms against the lively backs of the Rangers' forwards. But the home side were not so or three goals up by that time, and he was entirely due to their failings in front of goal, and Duggan (twice) and Duggan led with opportunities that could have meant goals.

Other danger was staved off by separate defensive measures and brilliant goalkeeping by Stetten, and had the Town goal been during this period, then it might have meant the end of their hopes of anything from a particular match.

Improvement Late In The First Half

THE goal did not fall, and in the closing stages of the first half there were signs that the Town were going to do something on their own account.

The re-formed attack, which had had few chances earlier, and which, in any case, found progress difficult to make against stout defence, suddenly clicked to form.

Quickly the game changed, and the Town got on top, and the Rangers found themselves

harassed and struggling for the first time, in that short spell before the interval.

That was a distinctly encouraging sign from the point of view of the large number of Town fans who made the trip, and it looked, even then, as if the Rangers would rue their missed opportunities.

Davie's Shot Hit The Target

SO it proved, for after that goalless first half, the Town began the second in determined style.

They moved the ball about, and found each other with far greater accuracy than did the Rangers.

Quickness, in taking a throw-in in this instance, brought the first goal to the Town, for when the ball came into the goalmouth from Watkins, it was only half-cleared.

It rolled towards Davie, who ran on to it and made a low, first-time shot from 20 yards that beat Saphin, who must have been badly unsighted, and who made his effort much too late.

Waugh Led Rally By The Rangers

THAT was the signal for heavy pressure from the Town, who threw in everything in an attempt to add to the lead.

Moore surprised Saphin with a powerful free kick from just outside the penalty area, and the ball flew to safety off the goalkeeper's fists.

Then Rangers hit back through the agency of former Luton winger, Waugh. He secured the ball, controlled it quickly and jiggered through the Town defence before crossing the ball for the far post.

Ball Went In Off McAuley's Foot

SHEPHERD closed in quickly and shot hard as Cooke closed in to tackle. McAuley had fallen back to cover up, and made an

attempt to clear the ball which was going away from Stetten.

Unluckily for the left-half, the ball spun off his foot and into the net.

Most of the Town defenders were of the opinion that Shepherd's shot would have missed the target, but McAuley would have had some difficulty in getting out of the way of the ball, in any case, and it was just one of those unfortunate happenings.

More Mobility In The Town Attack

THERE was plenty of activity by both forward lines after this, but, in the main, the game looked set for a draw, for both defences put in some sterling work and one point was a satisfactory result from the Town's viewpoint.

While one could not describe the forward changes as an unqualified success, certainly they made for more mobility and quicker development of the attacks and there was a crisper look about the line once they got into the game after that worrying 30 minutes.

Watkins Did Well At Inside-Right

EXPERIMENT of playing Watkins at inside-right is one that is likely to be repeated, for he turned in a hard-working display and was always strong on the ball.

This game, played on a pitch resembling a mudheap and at a rare pace considering the going, was not one in which clever ball players could shine.

However, Watkins suited his game to the conditions and it was noticeable that he was linking up well with Stobbart in the second half.

There was not a lot of material for Stobbart before the interval, but he was quite prominent afterwards.

Does Not Look A Permanent Solution

IT was perhaps expecting a lot of Shanks to put him in a position of which he has had only slight experience, and I would not say that on this showing he looks likely to provide a permanent solution to what has become quite a besetting problem.

FOR THE RECORDS

Q.P.R. 1
McAuley (own goal)
LUTON TOWN 1
Davie
Q.P.R.: Saphin; Poppitt, Ingham; Parkinson, Woodward, Clayton; Waugh, Duggan, Addinall, Farrow, Shepherd.
LUTON TOWN: Stetten; Cooke, Ahern; Morton, Owen, McAuley; Stobbart, Watkins, Moore, Davie, Shanks.

For all that, he did not do it all badly in an unorthodox kind of way, and he put in good service by the way in which he came back to challenge Waugh, who caused quite a lot of fluttering among the Town defence.

Times When Davie's Class Shone Through

SHANKS was whole-hearted in everything he did and he pushed through some good passes, particularly in the second half.

There were times when Davie's undoubted class shone through the gloom like a beacon and others when the dual opposition of the mud and the Rangers' quick tackling, caused him to lose possession, but he always needed careful watching.

Moore spent quite a lot of his time switching out to the wing in an attempt to lose Woodward and there was not a lot of down-the-middle stuff for him, though he twice shot wide from reasonable positions.

There were more attempts to find him than in the previous match, but, in the main, he was held effectively.

Owen Was In His Most Determined Mood

HAVING conceded only one goal in each of the last three matches, the defence can be said to be playing its part well in the Town's fight and they put up a great resistance in this match.

Owen was in his most determined mood and staved off Rangers' attempts to make

ground down the middle time and again.

Bickling him up finely was Cooke, who turned in a first-rate display against a winner, in Shepherd, who could have been a great source of danger to the Town.

Waugh Was A Threat To Town Defence

IN front of him, Morton was strong in defence and quite happy in the heavy going, though his constructive work was not so good as it might have been.

Chief threat to the Town usually came on the Rangers' right, and Waugh took quite a lot of looking after. In the first half, particularly, Ahern gave Waugh time to get the ball under control though a full-back is always faced with difficulty when a winger lies deep waiting to pick up the ball.

Quite often, McAuley had to switch out to challenge the winger and the left-half did not appear in too good a light before the interval.

McAuley Distributed The Ball Well

THE second half told a different story, for McAuley staged a come-back, and his use of the ball was outstandingly good, especially some cross-field passes to Stobbart.

This pitch was the sort that means difficulties for goalkeepers and always there is the chance of mistakes, but Stetten made none, and his confident work early in the match helped to lay the foundation for this success by the Town.

Jack Taylor's Winner For Reserves

BY a goal from Jack Taylor after 12 minutes, the Town Reserves kept alive their chances of heading their section of the Combination Cup. They pegged back a strong Leicester City team and were deserved winners.

The "A" team gained a run-away success against Callender's, and supporters should note that their London Mid-Week League match with Reading "A" has been transferred to Hitchin Town's ground, to save further wear to Kenilworth-road.

CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

DIVISION I

Aston Villa v Burnley
Blackpool v Newcastle Utd.
Charlton Ath. v Stoke C.
Derby C. v Arsenal
Bolton W. v Huddersfield T.
Fulham v Middlesbrough
Liverpool v Sheffield Wed.
Manchester Utd. v Everton
Sunderland v Chelsea
Tottenham H. v West Brom.
Wolves v Portsmouth

DIVISION II

Barnsley v Notts C.
Blackburn R. v Birmingham C.
Brentford v Cardiff C.
Doncaster R. v Coventry C.
Hull C. v Manchester C.
Leeds Utd. v Q.P.R.
Luton T. v Bury
Sheffield Utd. v Preston N.E.
Southampton v Grimsby T.
Swansea T. v Leicester C.
West Ham v Chesterfield

DIVISION III (SOUTH)

Aldershot v Leyton O.
Brighton v Exeter C.
Bristol R. v Reading
Colchester Utd. v Plymouth A.
Crystal Palace v Southend Utd.
Newport C. v Bournemouth
Northampton T. v Bristol C.
Norwich C. v Gillingham
Nottm. Forest v Watford
Port Vale v Millwall
Swindon T. v Ipswich T.
Torquay Utd. v Walsall

DIVISION III (NORTH)

Bradford C. v York C.
Chester v Accrington S.
Crewe Alex. v Rotherham Utd.
Darlington v Bradford
Gateshead v Mansfield T.
Halifax v Wrexham
Hartlepool U. v Scunthorpe U.
Lincoln C. v Tranmere R.
New Brighton v Barrow
Rochdale v Carlisle Utd.
Shrewsbury T. v Southport
Stockport C. v Oldham Ath.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

DIVISION "A"

Celtic v St. Mirren
Dunder v East Fife
Falkirk v Hearts
Hibernian v Third Lanark
Morion v Rangers
Motherwell v Aberdeen
Partick T. v Airdrieonians
Raith R. v Clyde

DIVISION "B"

Albion R. v Arbroath
Alloa v Cowdenbeath
Dunfermline v Stenhousemuir
Forfar Ath. v Dumfries
Kilmarnock v Stirling A.
Queen's Park v Dundee Utd.
Queen of South v Ayr Utd.
St. Johnstone v Hamilton

SELECTIONS

Four away.—Bolton, Manchester Utd., Tottenham, Leeds
Southampton, Norwich, Nottm Forest, Bradford C., Chester Stockport.
Four away.—Burnley, Preston Plymouth, Rotherham.
Three draws.—Blackpool v Newcastle; Brentford v Cardiff; Halifax v Wrexham.

Trap 6 To The Fore Again At Luton Stadium

Half the winners at Luton Stadium, on Saturday, started from trap 6, and three of the remainder from trap 2.

I (410yds).—1. PEABODY BOY (6). 2. Ashwood (2). 3. Beau Geste (3). 4. Carpenter (4). 5. Ian's Pet (5). 6. Clonmear (1). 7. 1. 2. 4. 26.16. Off 6.38.

Betting: 6-4 Ashwood, 5-2 Peabody Boy, 7-2 Carpenter, 8 Ian's Pet, Clonmear, 10 Beau Geste. Forecast £11/3.

II (470yds).—1. SMARTLY GIRL (2). 2. Emery (6). 3. Duke (1). 4. Port Barn (4). 5. Eastern Silver (5). 6. Snowey (3). 5. sh hd, 3. 3. 2. 29.15. Off 6.58.

Betting: 5-2 SMARTLY GIRL, 3 Snowey, Emery, 4 Eastern Silver, 7 Duke, 8 Port Barn. Forecast 18/9.

III (410yds).—1. McGRANE'S WISH (6). 2. Rockafella (5). 3. Repute (4). 4. Rubber Band (1). 5. Judy Gay (2). 6. County Clare (3). 4. 10. 6. 8. dist. 25.64. Off 7.17.

Betting: 6-4 McGRANE'S WISH, 2 Rockafella, 5 Rubber Band, County Clare, 6 Judy Gay, Repute. Forecast 13/3.

IV (470yds).—1. MALCOLM (2). 2. Castle Rock (1). 3. Robin (6). 4. Playboy (4). 5. Kitty Wee (3). 6. Biro (5). 2. 3. hd, 4. 4. 29.03. Off 7.37.

Betting: 5-2 MALCOLM, Playboy, 3 Castle Rock, 4 Kitty Wee, 6 Robin, 10 Biro. Forecast £14/9.

V (470yds).—1. WRENTHAM (4). 2. Margaret's Luck (1). 3. The Pheasant (5). 4. Evening News (6) reserve, 5. Petty Officer (2). 6. Glengil (3). 4. nk. 3. 1. 2. 28.45. Non-runner, Seagull (6). Off 7.57.

Betting: Evens WRENTHAM, 3 The Pheasant, 4 Evening News, 5 Margaret's Luck, 6 Petty Officer, 7 Glengil. Forecast £11/12/3.

VI (410yds).—1. BANDBOX (6). 2. Engaged (4). 3. Muriel (5). 4. Lilian (3). 5. Tracker (2). 6. Johnny D (1). 4. 2. 7. 3. dist. 24.96. Off 8.15.

Betting: 7-4 Lilian, 2 Muriel, 4 BANDBOX, Engaged, 5 Tracker, Johnny D. Forecast £3/5/6.

VII (470yds).—1. CURLY O'CONNOR (2). 2. Toby Gay (1). 3. Ella's Joy (5). 4. Destiny (6). 5. Recorder (4). 6. Scatterbrook (3). 24. 4. 1. 6. 3. 28.98. Off 8.36.

Betting: Evens CURLY O'CONNOR, 5-2 Ella's Joy, 4 Toby Gay, 7 Scatterbrook, Destiny, 8 Recorder. Forecast 11/3/4.

VIII (410yds).—1. MISCHIEF (6). 2. Half-Pint (2). 3. Max Future (1). 4. Wilfred (5). 21. 1. 3. 7. 25.58. Non-runner, Smiling Bess (4). Off 8.53.

Betting: 7-4 Wilfred, Half-Pint, 3 MISCHIEF, 4 Judge, 5 Max Future. Forecast £1/11/3.

RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR WEDNESDAY

7.30 (410yds).—231 Cigar Joe, 3 Gypo, 243 Lazy Loafer, 33 Sam, 362 Speakeasy, 453 Wind-Break. Reserve, 541 Why Tell.

7.48 (470yds).—453 Egg Flip, 551 Idle Wish, 413 Puck, 444 Snuff, 232 Waincoat, 334 Wild Honey. Reserve, 326 Comus.

8.06 (410yds).—163 Charmaine, 324 City Lights, Dainty Piece (Mar. 1, tp 1, 24.93, Mar. 3, tp 4, 24.94), Non-Stop (Mar. 1, tp 2, 24.90, Mar. 3, tp 2, 24.85), 316 Plain Jane, Turn Left (Nov. 2, tp 2, 24.98, Feb. 7, tp 2, 24.86). Reserve, 154 My Son.

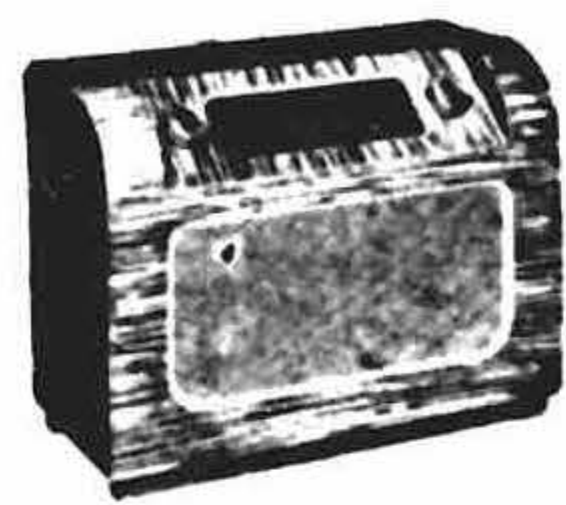
8.24 (470yds).—212 Gilsland, 215 Good Corona, 241 Gourmet, 213 Leopoldina, 111 Referee, 433 Sam's Song, Reserve, 111 Tony.

8.42 (470yds).—131 Cobios, 611 Dintoloy, 21 Garter Knight, 121 Last Hope, 1 St. Simon, 151 Zolkie. Reserve, 351 Marvex.

9.0 (410yds).—624 Darkie's Delight, Husky (Jan. 25, tp 3, 24.32, Jan. 27, tp 5, 24.09), Jay (Feb. 8, tp 5, 24.13, Mar. 3, tp 4, 24.33), 414 Norrington End, 133 Partition, The Rogue, Feb. 17, tp 4, 24.46). Reserve, 55 Seagull.

9.18 (470yds).—631 Brookside, 135

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