

NEARLY FREE FROM DANGER NOW

Decisive Blow Struck By Town's Win At Grimsby

(By Chiltern)

run of success that has secured them 10 points out of the last 16 and eight out of the last 12, has put the Town almost out of the reach of the bogey of relegation and their three-points lead over Chesterfield, plus the added factors of a game in hand and a superior goal average, means virtual safety for them.

make absolutely certain, they need three more points from their four remaining matches, for the Derbyshire side would need some big victories to bring their goal average up to that of the Town.

now is that both Grimsby and Grimsby can be 33 points mark, three points away from the Town have at the moment only by winning all their remaining matches which seems unlikely event in view of the present form.

Town will not be leaving much to chance in the remaining matches. By the way they are now, they will be conceding more than three points on their way from the last season.

Second Double Of The Season

now they struck at Grimsby, coupled with the recent defeat of Chesterfield, was a most decisive of the season. In the end, they were easier than the margin shows. This was their second away double of the season and their third "double," the other being Swansea at Christmas. One does not expect to see a game when relegation candidates meet each other—there is much anxiety for that—and a factor, plus the fact that there is a substantial change in the end condition brought a rather topsy-turvy first half.

Lively Ball Played Some Tricks

RANGE that while the Reserves' match at Luton had been postponed because of the rugged nature of the pitch, the Town were playing on firmer

going than has been their lot for some time.

There was overnight rain, but the wind and sun dried the Blundell Park turf to such an extent that throughout the match the ball was lively and prone to do tricks at awkward moments.

Many times in the penalty areas it kicked unexpectedly and struck defenders on the legs and there might easily have been a lot more goals.

Grimsby's Attack Was Lacking In Craft

GRIMSBY, obviously out to stake an early advantage, had more of the first half play, but they lacked craft and method in approach and most of their attacks were launched by means of big kicks ahead and hard following up.

In addition, their forwards were strangely reluctant to have a bang at goal and their liking for hanging on to the ball in the region of the penalty area played into the hands of the Town defence.

What danger there was emanated from McStay, but he, too, spoilt a lot of clever play by trying to beat one opponent too many.

Taylor Made Up For Earlier Miss

THROUGHOUT the first half, there was little of a difficult nature for Stretton to do and the Town forwards, with less of the ball during this period, always

looked the more constructive and better footballing line.

Jack Taylor shot straight at Hayhurst when he should have put the ball out of the goal-keeper's reach, but he amply made up for that six minutes before half-time, when he banged in a shot from just inside the penalty area, following a free-kick by Cooke.

Pemberton had had a shot beaten down and the ball went to Moore, who "set it up" for the inside-right. Hayhurst was probably unsighted by his own defenders.

Pemberton Put The Seal On Victory

THUS, for the second week in succession, a goal from Taylor set the Town on the victory path and having weathered a slight storm from Grimsby in the closing minutes of the half, they came out after the interval to play in confident, assured style.

The seal was set on victory with the half 14 minutes old when Hayhurst went up to clear a high centre from Stobbart, failed to do so, and Pemberton was on hand to blaze the ball into the net from close in for the first League goal of his career.

Town Took Control Completely

AFTER that, except for one let-off when a centre from McStay nearly crept under the Town bar, there was no prospect of a rally from the Mariners.

The Town took complete control with the defence breaking up the home attacks before they could develop and the forwards playing some neat, attractive and effective football.

There might easily have been more goals for the Town, but the lively ball which worried the defenders, was also the cause of some inaccurate shooting, though in their finishing the Town were a street ahead of Grimsby, who showed no punch whatever.

Clean Sheet For Second Week

RIGHT through the second half, the Town were going along easily and in no apparent danger, which meant that the disappointed home fans were resigned to in-

Greyhounds

Three 5-1 Winners At Luton On Saturday

Favourites were less successful than they have been recently at Luton Stadium on Saturday, but, even so, three succeeded. There were three 5-1 winners.

1. (410yds) 1. LITTLE SALLY (2); 2. Black Cutlet (3); 3. Duke (6); 4. Progress (4); 5. Black Beauty (1); 6. Cigar Joe (5); 4, 5, 2, 1, 1, 25.17. Off 6.36.

Betting: 7-4 Progress; 3 LITTLE SALLY; Duke; 4 Cigar Joe; 6 Black Cutlet; 8 Black Beauty.

Forecast: £3 3.9.

II (470yds) 1. CUDDLES (3); 2. Egg Flip (1); 3. Grady (2); 4. Dream Girl (5); 5. House Warmer (6); 6. Emery (4); 4, 5, 5, 2, 2, 28.55. Off 6.55.

Betting: 5-2 CUDDLES; 3 Dream Girl; 7-2 Emery; 9-2 Egg Flip; 5 Grady; 10 House Warmer.

Forecast: £1 9.6.

III (410yds) 1. HARVEST KING (6); 2. Sea Biscuit (5); 3. Cinders (1); 4. Loose Button (2); 5. Chummy's Lass (4); 6. Royal Blue (3); 4, 3, 5, 1, 25.17. Off 7.18.

Betting: 4-6 Sea Biscuit; 3 Cinders; 5 HARVEST KING; Loose Button; 12 Royal Blue; Chummy's Lass.

Forecast: £1 11.

IV (470yds) 1. PARTITION (6); 2. Engaged (3); 3. King's Fare (1); 4. Margaret's Luck (4); 5. Norrington End (5); 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 28.52. Non-runner: No Bid (2) 7.37.

Betting: 5-4 Margaret's Luck; 5-2 King's Fare; 4 Engaged; 5 PARTITION; 8 Norrington End.

Forecast: £4 6.9.

V (675yds) 1. MOODY GIRL (5) (reserve); 2. Carol (2); 3. Castle Rock (4); 4. Ella's Joy (6); 5. Mischief (3); 5, 6, 6, 5, 41.58. Non-runners: Wild Henry (1), Malcolm (5). Off 7.58.

Betting: 1-2 MOODY GIRL; 5 Castle Rock; 6 Ella's Joy; 8 Carol; Mischief.

Forecast: £13.3.

VI (410yds) 1. CHIEF OFFICER (1); 2. Fates Style (3); 3. Broken Hearted (4); 4. Leopoldina (2); 5. Flying Saucer (6); 6. Bandbox (5); 2, head 2, 3, 6, 24.72. Off 8.18.

Betting: 7-4 Broken Hearted; 2 Fates Style; 4 Bandbox; 5 CHIEF OFFICER; Flying Saucer; 6 Leopoldina.

Forecast: £2 0.6.

VII (470yds) 1. GINGER (5); 2. Step Lightly (1); 3. Ardona (6); 4. Idle Wish (3); 5. Toby Gay (4); 6. Screamer (2); 4, 2, 4, 6, 6, 28.69. Non-runner: Fandango (1). Off 8.38.

Betting: 5-2 GINGER; 3 Ardona; 7-2 Screamer; 4 Step Lightly; Toby Gay; 7 Idle Wish.

Forecast: £2 18.

VIII (410yds) 1. WIN'S BOY (4); 2. Donny (6); 3. Donny (1); 4. Judy Gay (3); 5. Golden Harvest (5) (reserve); 6. Old Road (2); 7, 2, 3, 1, 3, 25.32. Non-runner: Lone Star (5). Off 8.57.

Betting: 7-4 Donny; 3 Destiny; 7-2 WIN'S BOY; 6 Golden Harvest; 7 Judy Gay; 8 Old Road.

Forecast: £1 3.9.

RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR WEDNESDAY

7.30 443 Beau Geste; 352 Fascination; 666 Dusty; 6 Hobo (Mar 31, tp 4, 25.14; April 4, tp 2, 25.13); 455 Popoff; 33F Youma.

7.48 (470yds) 435 Cherry Brandy; 565 Cumbrina; 556 Eastern Silver; 443 Port Barn; 465 Snowey; 433 Squatter; Reserve: 412 Carpenter.

8.06 (410yds) 236 Half-Pint; 321 Lone Eagle; 113 Mighty Atom; 455 Shy Girl; 432 Wilfred; 536 Wind-Break; Reserve: 62 Adrian.

8.24 (470yds) 553 Broadwood; 341 G. Manning; 4. Cassica; 511 Donny

FOR THE RECORDS

GRIMSBY TOWN 0
LUTON TOWN 2
Taylor, Pemberton

GRIMSBY TOWN: Hayhurst; Moody, Harnby; Scotson, Duthie, McKenzie; McStay, Squires, Bloomer, Lloyd, Maddison.

LUTON TOWN: Stretton; Cooke, Lake; Watkins, Owen, Shanks; Stobbart, Taylor (J), Moore, Davie, Pemberton

Referee: G. Roden, Stourbridge.
Attendance: 12,414.

evitable defeat long before the end.

Once again, there was good teamwork from the Town, with the defence keeping a clean sheet for the second match in succession, very much in command throughout.

All the gyrations of Squires, which invariably produced nothing, the hard work of Lloyd and the dash of Bloomer made absolutely no impression on the Town defenders, whose half-backs secured the upper hand in mid-field.

Owen Dominated The Middle

THAT Grimsby's best shots came from right-half Scotson was eloquent of the way in which the attack was held.

Lake had rather an uncomfortable first half against McStay, but he kept going and was rewarded by achieving considerably more success after the interval when his clean, accurate kicking was a feature of his play.

I cannot recall one dangerous shot from Bloomer, which shows what an ascendancy Owen established over him, and the centre-half was the complete master of the middle of the field.

Again and again the Grimsby attack broke down when they reached him and Owen made a big impression.

Hard Tackling Was A Big Asset

PLAYING their part ably, too were the wing halves, Watkins and Shanks, and their hard

tackling was a great asset. Recall of Shanks to the defence has tightened up things considerably and he was a non-stop worker throughout the match.

Another substantial item on the credit side for the Town was the great determination of Cooke, who was extremely strong in the tackle, and Maddison had few chances to shine against him.

This may have been one of the reasons that there was little support for the left-winger in the second half, but whenever he gained possession Cooke was there to bar the way.

Town Forwards Were More Constructive

ALTHOUGH there was not a lot of difficult work for him, Stretton was sound and extremely safe, and he was seldom left to face any really sticky situation.

Although they showed cleverness and good combination spasmodically in the first half, it was not until after the interval that the forwards really moved in their recent lively style.

Always, though, they had more ideas than had Grimsby and there was a lot more craft and thought about their movements.

Right Wing Was Often Dangerous

THE right-wing came through best in this match, with Taylor, who has made a lot of difference to the attack with his strength and accurate distribution of the ball, qualifying for the title of the best forward.

Stobbart, too, had a successful match, for he clearly had the beating of Harnby, who often had to resort to near-panic measures.

Stobbart got the ball across consistently and it was from this quarter that Grimsby had to look for the main threat.

Although he did many things that marked him as a class player, Davie was in quieter mood than of late. He blossomed out in the second half after a rather subdued first period.

Fitness Test An Hour Before The Start

IT was not until an hour before the kick-off that he was passed as fit to play, following some sharp sprints along the Cleethorpes promenade and, in the circumstances, he did well.

Pemberton did not see so much of the ball as on his previous appearances on the wing, but, once again, he showed ability to get the ball into the middle, and he was very much on hand when a scoring chance came along.

There was not much down-the-middle stuff for Moore, who was closely marked by Duthie, but he played a notable part, for all that, by the way in which he worked and contrived to find the open spaces.

Reserves' Match Has Been Re-arranged

THERE were two inches of water on the top of the Kenilworth-road pitch on the Bobbers' Stand side on Saturday and the remainder was in a bad condition, too.

Said secretary Phil Coley, "If the Reserves' match had been played, it would not have been a football match at all, but a sliding match."

The fixture with Coventry Reserves has been re-arranged for April 25, the Youth Cup (under 16) final being moved to May 9.

Yesterday, the "A" team's match at Southampton was postponed because The Dell pitch was under water. The message came through before the Town party made a start on the trip.

CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

INTERNATIONAL MATCH

England v Scotland

DIVISION I

Aston Villa v Portsmouth
Blackpool v Middlesbrough
Bolton v Sheffield Wednesday
Charlton v Newcastle
Derby v Chelsea
Fulham v Arsenal
Liverpool v Burnley
Manchester Utd v West Brom
Sunderland v Everton
Tottenham v Huddersfield
Wolves v Stoke

DIVISION II

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

DIVISION III (South)

Aldershot v Bristol City
Brighton v Ipswich
Bristol Rovers v Walsall
Colchester v Watford
Crystal Palace v Leyton Orient
Newport v Plymouth
Northampton v Southend
Norwich v Reading
Nottm Forest v Bournemouth
Port Vale v Exeter
Swindon v Millwall
Torquay v Gillingham

DIVISION III (North)

Bradford City v Scunthorpe
Chester v Rotherham
Crewe v Oldham
Darlington v Carlisle
Gateshead v Bradford
Halifax v Southport
Hartlepool v Tranmere
Lincoln v York
New Brighton v Wrexham
Rochdale v Mansfield
Shrewsbury v Barrow
Stockport v Accrington

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

DIVISION "A"

Aberdeen v Falkirk
Airdrieonians v Hearts
Clyde v Hibernian
East Fife v Morton
Partick v Motherwell

DIVISION "B"

Hamilton v Ayr
Queen's Park v Alloa
Stenhousemuir v Q'n of South

SELECTIONS

TEN HOME: Derby, Manchester Utd, Tottenham, Brentford, Doncaster, Bristol Rvs, Norwich, Nottm Forest, Bradford City, Lincoln.

FOUR AWAYS: Preston, Bristol City, Rotherham, Carlisle.

THREE DRAWS: Fulham v Arsenal, Sheffield Utd v Cardiff, Crystal Palace v Leyton Orient.

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