

GOALS FORMULA HAS BEEN FOUND

SAINTS HARASSED BY TOWN ATTACK

Well-Earned Win Might Have Been More Decisive

By Chiltern

At their early difficulties, there seems no doubt now that the Town have found the forward line formula that will produce the goals and that they have scored eight times in the last two matches is the most encouraging thing that could have happened. New-found punch, plus the fact that the defence is settled down into a formation difficult to break down has brought, not only confidence, but a useful rise in the League table.

What happened several times at The Dell, the Town gave Southampton a lesson in attack, more than that, they showed the effects of an early goal, a result of which they carried after only nine minutes.

It is to guess the thoughts of the officials when Walker, forward they had sought to sign during the week, got off the mark with his first goal at this early stage.

Not Disappointed At The End

HESS, the officials must have thought that their decision was justified, but they had a change of mind at the end, for after this goal, Walker became just a player, was largely shut out of the game and, on this show, was not so successful as either Moore or Watkins.

Southampton showed up at their best immediately before and after they scored that goal, and they were completely unprepared for the attack that came their way in the last two minutes.

Both Goals Started On The Left Wing

THERE was a good deal of similarity about the two goals in that both emanated from the left wing.

Walker was responsible for the first, after 20 minutes, and Pye finished off the goal with a glorious shot.

After the ball came across, he half-kicked it into the net with his left foot.

Walker was the equaliser and the Saints had really got back, the ball was in the net again, this time by Moore.



CHARLIE WATKINS who gave another clever display at inside-left for the Town at Southampton.

Another Goal For Jesse Pye

HOWEVER, it was not long before he Town obtained the goal that stressed their superiority and this time, a grand bit of work by Morton set Davies on the move.

He passed the ball back to Moore whose shot was half-blocked and Pye coolly booted the rebound into the net from about 10 yards out.

After that success 12 minutes after the start of the second half, there was no danger to the Town.

Certainly there was much flurry and hard work by the Southampton forwards in an effort to improve the situation, but they sadly lacked method.

Might Easily Have Been Other Goals

NEVER did they move with the efficiency of the Town attack and a large percentage of their raids simply broke down against the relentless tackling of the Town defence.

There might easily have been other goals for the Town as the result of movements which left the Saints' defenders standing heavy-footed, and others came to nothing because of the persistency with which Southampton used the offside trap.

This the Town did not spring as well as they did against Notts County, but there was always the thought that these tactics would bring a further reverse and they should have done a minute or so before the end.

Some Chances Went Astray

THIS occurred when Moore weighed up the situation quickly and went through with the ball at his feet.

He looked a certain scorer, but the oncoming Kiernan got a hand to the ball which spun away towards the post.

Moore regained possession but was too angled to have a shot. Instead, he pulled the ball back to Mitchell, who lunged at it first-time and sent it flying past the post.

One or two other chances went astray, but one is not inclined to carp at this, for three opportunities were snapped up and that was sufficient for two more points.

Showing Willingness To Have A Shot

THE refreshing thing about the front line at the moment is their willingness to have a crack at goal.

Certainly, some chances will be missed, but goals will come, too, and they are coming as the result of this new spirit.

Apart from the finishing, a good understanding has developed between the men in the front. Their passing is accurate and they are making the utmost use of the open spaces.

Success Of Inside Forward Contrast

IN having two players of such widely differing styles as Moore and Watkins at inside-forward, the Town seem to have solved this particular problem.

Watkins is doing the scheming, getting the ball under control, beating an opponent and then using the low pass.

All this has made for greater order and cohesion in the front line and, in the other inside-forward position the thrust of Moore is a great asset.

He was a driving force in this match, foraging and working and keeping the game open with well-made passes.

Keeping The Ball On The Ground

ALTHOUGH he is missing the odd chance, he is getting goals, too, and he has scored in each of his last three matches with the first team. With Pye also on the goalward

trail and snapping up chances in most deadly fashion, there is a dangerous look about this attack which may spell trouble for a lot more teams before the season is out.

Not only is Pye providing the finish, but he is holding the line together cleverly, distributing the ball finely.

He gets the ball under control quickly and keeps it on the ground and the line as a whole is playing the sort of football that is most effective with the ball kept low.

Davies Has Regained Full Confidence

ANOTHER refreshing feature is that Davies has recovered full confidence and he turned in a splendid game on Saturday, especially in the second half when he threw on the good support from Moore and Morton and provided a stream of centres.

Mitchell, too, was a danger and although he is a bit off the mark with his shooting at the moment, goals will start to come from him, too, soon.

So there it is, the Town have no worries about the attack as they are playing at the moment, and precious little anxiety is necessary about the defence either.

Owen Had Mastery Of Judd

HERE, Owen was again a dominant figure, to such an extent that Judd, almost completely shut out of the game, was switched to outside-left in the closing stages.

Every ball in the air was Owen's and, as he had the beating of Judd on the ground as well, the centre-forward had a completely unproductive afternoon.

Although he made an early mistake which led directly to the first goal, Morton was again a shining light.

Once he got the measure of his immediate opponent, Walker, the inside-left, never lived up to the five-figures tag.

Wing Halves Took A Grip On Things

IN the second half when the Town had a formidable grip on the situation, Morton was able to give full rein to his power in attack as, too, was Shanks, who was a little bothered in the first half by Dudley, though this occurred mostly when the ball was in the air where Dudley had a height advantage.

After the interval, Morton and Shanks were in command and that so little of a difficult nature came the way of Stretton was largely due to the strength of the middle line as a whole.

Stretton always looked more assured than his International counterpart, Kiernan. He always caught the ball cleanly and snapped up anything loose in the penalty area.

Day Had Little Chance To Shine

IN the past, Day has been something of a thorn in the side of Luton teams, but he had little chance of causing danger in this match because Ahern's clever positional play left him little scope.

Throughout, Ahern was very much the master and his kicking was an object lesson.

For Dunne, there was some-

FOR THE RECORDS

SOUTHAMPTON	1
Walker	
LUTON TOWN	3
Pye (2), Moore	
SOUTHAMPTON:	Kiernan; Ellerington, Sillett; Elliott, Clements, Mallett; Day, Dudley, Judd, Walker, McDonald.
LUTON TOWN:	Stretton; Dunne, Ahern; Morton, Owen, Shanks; Davies, Moore, Pye, Watkins, Mitchell.

Referee: A. Bond, Fulham. Attendance: 17,553.

thing of a struggling first half, mainly because he was too far away from McDonald, who was inclined to be deep.

However, once he settled down, Dunne was much more assured and he had a very good second half.

Reserves' Great Run Continues

WITH a 4-0 win over Bristol City Reserves, the Town Reserves played their 12th match of the season without meeting defeat and registered their ninth win before a 4,000 crowd.

As Leicester were beaten at Bournemouth, the Town now hold a clear lead of three points in Division II of the Combination. Despite a much-changed forward line, they carried too many guns for Bristol and goals came from Cullen, Kelly, McJarrow and Taylor.

Best of the front line were the wingers, Cullen and Brown and with a little more steadiness from the inside men, there would have been more goals.

Doubt About The Team At Swindon

THE first half was fairly even and the Town defence did most capably with Hall holding a grip on the middle of the field.

After the interval, when the Town really got on top, Kelly and Smith were able to come through with the ball and the defence, as a whole, had an easy time.

To-morrow, the Town are due at Swindon and, as is usual in mid-week, are having some difficulty in completing the forward line. Gordon Turner is still not available and George Bradley will return at inside-right.

This is likely to be the only change if Neville Brown can obtain leave from his Army unit.

If he cannot, then the Town will have to cast around for either an inside-left or an outside-left.

Surprise Defeat For Town "A"

ONLY discordant note on an otherwise triumphant day was produced by the defeat of the "A" team by Callenders who picked up their first points of the season.

The margin was narrow—2-1—but the Town lacked punch in attack, though Allen made a satisfactory return after his long lay-off through injury.

Willie Dallas, on his first appearance for the Town, showed a great deal of promise at centre-half and the club seem to have made a good capture here.

Chiltern's Forecasts

DIVISION I

Arsenal v Sheffield Wednesday
Aston Villa v Middlesbrough
Blackpool v Burnley
Bolton v Liverpool
Charlton v Cardiff
Chelsea v Preston
Derby v Tottenham
Manchester United v Stoke
Portsmouth v Manchester City
Sunderland v West Brom
Wolves v Newcastle

DIVISION II

Barnsley v Plymouth
Blackburn v West Ham
Brentford v Southampton
Doncaster v Bury
Everton v Notts County
Huddersfield v Luton Town
Hull v Fulham
Lincoln v Rotherham
Nottm Forest v Leicester
Sheffield United v Leeds
Swansea v Birmingham

DIVISION III (SOUTH)

Bournemouth v Colchester
Brighton v Q.P.R.
Bristol City v Gillingham
Crystal Palace v Walsall
Ipswich v Coventry
Leyton Orient v Exeter
Newport v Shrewsbury
Northampton v Bristol Rovers
Reading v Norwich
Southend v Aldershot
Torquay v Millwall
Walford v Swindon

DIVISION III (NORTH)

Bradford City v Barrow
Cardiff v Halifax

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

DIVISION "A"

Aberdeen v Third Lanark
Clyde v Celtic
Falkirk v Airdrieonians
Hearts v Partick Thistle
Motherwell v St. Mirren
Queen of the South v East Fife
Raith v Dundee
Rangers v Hibernian

DIVISION "B"

Albion v St. Johnstone
Alloa v Hamilton
Ayr United v Arbroath
Dundee United v Stirling
Dunfermline v Kilmarnock
Forfar v Cowdenbeath
Morton v Dumbarton
Queen's Park v Stenhousemuir

SELECTIONS

TEN HOME: Arsenal, Blackpool, Portsmouth, Everton, Sheffield Utd., Southend, Carlisle, Crewe, Port Vale, Bournemouth.

FOUR AWAY: Tottenham, Birmingham, Millwall, Grimsby.

THREE DRAWS: Charlton, Cardiff, Reading v Norwich, Chester v Tranmere.

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