

STREAMLINED TOWN HIT LEADERS

FORWARDS TOOK SCORING CHANCES

But Game Was Poised In Balance At One Stage

By Chiltern

All doubts that were raised by the Town's failure at Huddersfield were completely swept away by the form of the team in gaining a great win over Sheffield United, who came as leaders and played well without being able to match the speed and thrust of the Town.

A margin of three goals was more than the most wildly optimistic Town supporter even looked for, but the night was not so one-sided as the final score might indicate, for there was a time when the match was delicately poised in the balance.

It came early in the second half when the United achieved a goal. Many Luton people feared the game was back into the game with a goal as a reply to the two in the first half.

The score 2-1 with 40 to go, anything might happen, and the United was close to closing the gap by obtaining an equaliser during a period of a quarter of an hour when the Town were on top.

The only time during the match the Town defence, so harassed and ill at ease,

Goal Put New Life Into The United

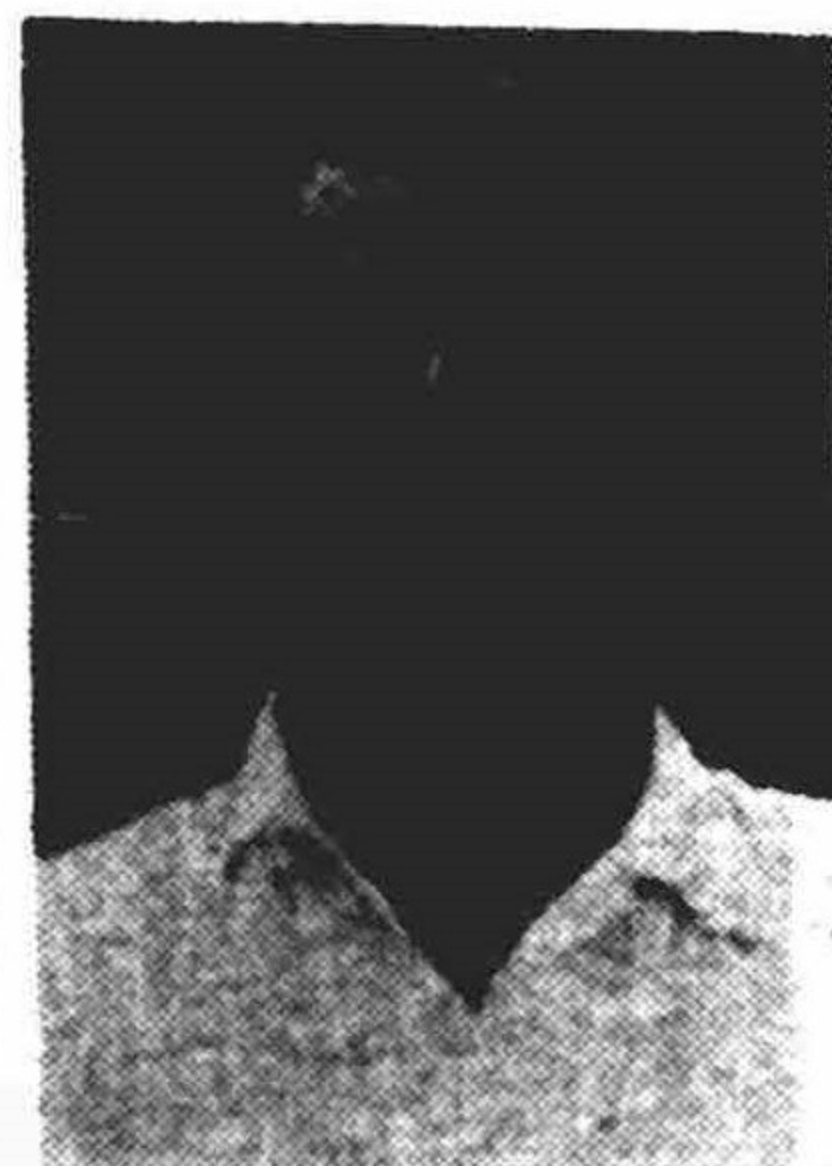
The goal obtained by McNab gave new life into the United. Some minutes it was a desperate attack that the Town were facing with Brook and Shaw being in the assault.

They were out of position as they were stuck to their guns and the United were denied another goal which might well have put them to hang on to the lead.

Their resistance ceased after an exciting spell during which the Town scored twice and were absolutely certain that the game would stay with them.

Two Goals In Minute Settled Things

The first and the third for them came in the afternoon, arrived in minutes from Pye and the fifth in the last four



SEAMUS DUNNE may win his first International cap against France.

more than the tally of Pye and Turner.

This was the Town at their best, with the forwards fast, direct and shooting whenever the opportunity offered, and the defence, coming in to meet the ball all the time, taking a grip on the United forwards.

From the occasions when they fluttered into action, it was obvious that there could be considerable threat from this United attack if they were given any scope at all.

Watching Hagan Was A Full-Time Job

HOWEVER, the defence covered well, and their strong tackling broke up many a raid before it had developed into anything approaching danger point, except during that quarter of an hour after half-time.

Hagan, certainly, always looked to be likely to pull something out of the bag, and it was a full-time job for Shanks to keep tabs on him.

He did not succeed completely in his aim, for he found Hagan difficult to tackle, but what wing-half does not?

Shanks did well to keep him as quiet as he did, and the remaining half of that dangerous wing was well looked after by Aherne.

Caps Likely For Dunne And Aherne

FROM the reaction of the two Eire selectors after the match, I should say that both Dunne and Aherne will be in the team to meet France on November 16.

They were much impressed with the play of both, but were a bit disappointed that Ringstead did not receive more of the ball.

That factor, combined with the close attentions of Aherne who was always playing close up to the winger meant that Ringstead had few chances.

Obviously bearing in mind the memory of Metcalfe the previous week, Dunne was there with Hawkesworth when the ball arrived, with the result that the winger seldom had the chance to get the ball under control before he had to meet the full-back's challenge.

Down-The-Middle Raids Unsuccessful

WITH the wingers largely cut out of the game, the United tried to make some down-the-middle sallies, which met with no more success because of the powerful display of Owen.

He was another who went in to meet the ball and found the method paying dividends, for Browning had little chance to be the dangerous centre-forward he has shown himself to be on previous visits to Luton.

Owen was in command for most of the game, playing cool assured football and was seldom in real trouble.

Nor was Morton, who played an immensely strong game both in defence and attack and the selectors were wishing that both he and Owen had been Eire-born.

Only One Blemish In Streten's Display

THOUGH Streten looked to be at fault when United obtained their only goal, it was an awkward ball with which to deal, for Browning's centre bounced on the corner of the woodwork and when he grabbed at the ball as it fell, Streten only helped it on to McNab.

That apart, the goalkeeper gave a completely competent exhibition in which the highlight was a full-length save from Hagan in the first half.

It was a low drive directed for the corner of the net, and Hagan looked really disappointed when Streten reached it at full stretch.

Inside Trio Were In Brilliant Form

SO we come to the forward line, in which the leading roles were played by the three inside men

Queer that only a few short weeks ago, we were bemoaning the shortage of inside-forwards at Kenilworth-road in view of the displays given by Moore and Watkins in this match.

In particular, Moore's showing was something of a revelation, and he disturbed the early calm of the United defence by his rushes in the opening minutes and the persistence with which he harassed Burgin when he had possession of the ball.

Apart from that dash, Moore revealed real football ability in the way he beat an opponent and distributed the ball and this was his best display for the Town.

Pye Was Too Clever For Latham

CLEVER and effective, too, was Watkins, to whom the start of several attacks could be traced and, throughout, he was a craftsman whom Brook found difficult to hold.

His footwork was neat and his passing precise, and he kept the attack moving with a stream of accurate passes.

When the ball reached Pye on the ground, it required more than the attentions of Latham to prevent him from becoming a menace.

Always when he had possession of the ball he had the beating of Latham, and he was constantly dangerous with his shooting.

He has struck up, too, an understanding with Moore which is yielding dividends.

Forwards Cut Out Needless Frills

PERHAPS the most pleasing feature of the whole display was the way in which the forwards got on with the job.

There was no waste of time over needless frills and on this form the front line will get a lot of goals.

The one discordant note was that the wingers did not reveal quite the same bright form.

For one thing Mitchell did not receive the same support that came Davies's way and that was a main reason why he was not so prominent as was expected.

This was due to the fact that Watkins was often working into the middle with the ball and that Shanks was preoccupied by the need for keeping Hagan quiet.

Rise In The League Table Is Likely

ON the other hand there was quite a lot of material for Davies, who had a patchy sort of game in which a fault was that he did not finish accurately.

However, those were minor blemishes on a display that has set the fans talking and which suggests that the Town may well give themselves a decided lift in the League table before long.

The match at Huddersfield apart, the freedom with which goals are being scored, plus the soundness of the defence is underlining this possibility.

Reserves Kept Fine Record Intact

THERE is just no stopping the Reserves who kept their unbeaten record intact in their

FOR THE RECORDS

LUTON TOWN 4

Watkins, Moore, Pye, Mitchell (penalty)

SHEFFIELD UNITED ... 1

McNab

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Dunne, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Shanks; Davies, Moore, Pye, Watkins, Mitchell.

SHEFFIELD UNITED: Burgin; Furniss, Shaw (G.); Brook, Latham, Shaw (J); Ringstead, Hagan, Browning, McNab, Hawkesworth.

Referee: F. L. Overton, Derby. Attendance: 18,185.

sixteenth match at Ipswich on Saturday when they recorded their fifth away win of the season.

It was a splendid game watched by the biggest reserve gate of the season at Portman Road—5,500—and the Town, playing fast, constructive football, were worthy winners.

Both the goals, scored in the first half by Gordon Turner and Joe Scott, were excellent efforts and the forwards, ably led by McIlrarrow, were always dangerous and showed more ideas and skill than any reserve attack seen previously at Ipswich this season.

Thompson Will Be Out For A Fortnight

THE one disappointing feature was that Alan Thompson, young left-back, had a further recurrence of the thigh muscle trouble which has been so troublesome this season and is likely to be out for another fortnight.

Always, the defence was too sound for the Ipswich forwards with great strength once more in the middle line. Jones gave a display more in keeping with his best form, while Thompson had a very good second half and kept going despite the fact that he felt his muscle 15 minutes from the end.

"A" Team Completed A Hat-Trick

TO complete a very satisfactory day, the Town "A" beat Dunstable in a Metropolitan League Cup match.

They have now beaten Dunstable three times this season. On Saturday both their goals were scored by centre-forward Cardwell, who was always dangerous.

He received good support from inside men Allen and Bradley but, rather surprisingly, Bennett and Brown, the Town's wingers were given few chances by the Dunstable backs.

Centre-half Dallas blocked the middle effectively until he injured a thigh. He was off the field for 10 minutes, but is expected to be fit in time for next Saturday.

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Chiltern's Forecasts

DIVISION I

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

DIVISION II

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

DIVISION III (SOUTH)

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

DIVISION III (NORTH)

Bradford City v York
Carlisle v Oldham
Chester v Workington
Crewe v Halifax

Darlington v Barrow
Gateshead v Wrexham
Hartlepool v Bradford
Port Vale v Accrington
Rochdale v Grimsby
Scunthorpe v Chesterfield
Southport v Mansfield
Stockport v Tranmere

SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP FINAL

Dundee v Kilmarnock

SCOTTISH LEAGUE DIVISION "A"

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

DIVISION "B"

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

SELECTIONS

TEN HOME: Blackpool, Bolton, Portsmouth, Everton, Huddersfield, Brighton, Reading, Northampton, Gateshead, Port Vale

FOUR AWAY: Tottenham, Leicester, Millwall, Grimsby.

THREE DRAWS: Derby, Cardiff, Hull v Plymouth, Scunthorpe v Chesterfield.