

THIS DEFEAT CAN BE FORGOTTEN

TOWN WERE THE MORE CONSTRUCTIVE SIDE

Simple Goals And Missed Chances Caused Downfall

By Chiltern

Occasionally in football there comes one of those matches in which the more constructive side, although playing good football, has to admit defeat, due to a combination of circumstances.

The Town came one of those days at Nottingham on Saturday when they lost a game which they were always promising to save, even though they were in arrears right through from the eighth minute.

I have taken a point from Forest would have been a performance and of considerable value in view of the fact that the Town should have taken the first place, simple goals being two down inside the hour, a woeful performance that silenced temporarily the optimism of the hundreds of supporters who had been particularly vocal and confident before the match.

Speculative Shot Brought A Goal

IT is often said that goals have small beginnings, but although there was quite definitely an ending, there was scarcely a beginning to the Forest first goal which came in the most unexpected fashion.

A speculative low shot by Burkitt from somewhere over the 25 yards range mark somehow got into the Town net just inside the post, with Stretton late in making his dive.

It could have been that he was unsighted, but this counted as the first defensive mistake in a match in which things did not run kindly for the goalkeeper.

Town Had Missed A Chance Previously

THE goal had the effect of rousing the Forest, who had been fighting something of a rear-guard action previously and who had difficulty in staying off early disaster.

Two minutes before the Burkitt bombshell, the Town should have taken the lead when Watkins was left with a great chance about 10 yards out, but with only Walker to beat he scooped the ball over the bar.

There were several periods in this match that could be regarded as turning points and this was one of them, for instead of being one up the Town suddenly found themselves one, then two goals, down.

Another Blow—Then Town Hit Back

SECOND blow came after 15 minutes, and again it was a simple affair. A centre from the right wing by Martin led up to it, and Stretton and Ardron went for the high ball together.

Afterwards, Stretton appealed for a foul against the centre-forward, and it certainly looked as if he was nudged in mid-air.

Instead of catching the ball, all the goalkeeper could do was to push it out to Collindridge who promptly had it in the back of the net.

Things looked grim at that point, but the Luton cheering started again when Pye snapped up a chance in characteristic fashion two minutes later and revived the Town's hopes.

Then Came Fresh Disaster

AFTER that, with the Forest rather shaken, the fight for an equaliser was really on, but the Town's better football just

failed to get results all the time and then came fresh trouble. During a goalmouth mix-up another easy chance fell this time to Martin, who headed the ball into the empty net with Stretton out of his goal.

That was the situation at half-time, and, on the face of things, it was not so desperate as the score would indicate, for the Town had been threatening all the time to hit the Forest defence hard, and to wipe out the arrears did not look to be beyond them.

Threatened To Sweep Forest Off Their Feet

WHEN the forwards really got down to their task in the second half, they looked as if they would sweep the Forest off their feet.

Playing brilliant football, they swooped on the Forest goal time and time again, and the writing seemed to be on the wall for the home team when Mitchell headed a neat goal from Moore's centre.

At 3-2 and with 38 minutes to go, the game was wide open again and the equaliser seemed to be at hand when Moore cut out a glorious opportunity for Pye, bang in front of goal and from no more than six yards out.

"I Shall Dream About That," Said Pye

NORMALLY, this would have been a goal from the word "go", but this was one of those times when things just did not go right and as Pye attempted to place the ball into the net, the ball curled off his toe and soared over the bar.

"I shall dream about that," said Pye afterwards and he did not have much luck with his finishing for on one occasion earlier, the ball broke away from him when he looked a likely scorer.

A goal at that juncture would probably have meant the continuation of the Town's run of consecutive wins for it would have gone a long way towards breaking the Forest's spirit.

Forest Raids Confined To Breakaway

IN addition, it would have had the effect of giving more power to a forward line that was already playing in top gear, but, as was the case throughout this match, despite much pressure, the Town just could not reach equality.

Most of the Forest's raids in the second half were confined to breakaway which were dangerous enough in all conscience, as was illustrated when Stretton had all his work cut out to push a shot from Martin against a post and when Ardron headed against the bar.

Those incidents apart, there seemed a great deal more likelihood of the Town figuring as scorers again, but it was not to be.

Two Goals Arrears For Town Again

ONCE again they fell two goals into arrears when Leverton, who had had a very quiet game, slipped through to collect a pass from Ardron and with Stretton leaving his goal and Shanks and Aherne converging on him slipped the ball through and it rolled over the line before Owen could reach it to kick clear.

The relief that this goal brought to the Forest fans could be sensed all around the ground.

There were 14 minutes to go when this happened and, to the credit of the Town, they did not give up the task as hopeless, though it had begun to take on that sort of look.

FOR THE RECORDS

NOTTM FOREST 4
Burkitt, Collindridge, Martin, Leverton
LUTON TOWN 3
Pye, Mitchell (2)
NOTTM FOREST:
Walker; Whare, Hutchinson; French, Gager, Burkitt; Scott, Leverton, Ardron, Martin, Collindridge.
LUTON TOWN: Stretton; Dunn, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Shanks; Davies, Moore, Pye, Watkins.
Referee: R. E. Smith, Newport.
Attendance: 22,774.

Mitchell Gave Town An Outside Chance

SOME jittery moments for the Forest defence followed and, with three minutes to go, an outside chance appeared on the horizon for the Town when Mitchell made no mistake from close range after Davies had challenged Walker successfully for a high ball.

After that, every Town player except Stretton was in the Forest half of the field, but, apart from a determined bid by Pye, who was judged to be offside anyway, there was not much sign of what would have been a highly-dramatic equaliser and the Town went off the field most unlucky losers.

No Need To Worry About This Setback

WHAT remains for the Town now is to forget this match and to carry on in their confident style in the matches that are to come.

There is no need at all for this setback to upset their confidence, for, in normal matches, the display they gave would have been sufficient to make certain of both points.

Afterwards, Forest officials were congratulating the Town on their showing and more than one forecast that Luton will be very much in the promotion hunt at the end of the season.

This was a tribute to the football they played and it was particularly aggravating that simple slips led to their downfall.

Opposition For Pye More Determined

ALTHOUGH Pye met with more determined centre-half opposition from Gager than has been the case in recent matches, he led the line with his usual cleverness.

The Forest knew from where the main danger would develop and Pye was much of a marked man, but, nevertheless, he was always prominent.

So, too, was Moore, who turned in a satisfactory display in which his use of the ball, particularly in the second half, was most accurate.

Much of Mitchell's marksmanship this season has been from the penalty spot, but he got a brace of goals for himself in this match, without the aid of penalties and his shooting was much on the target.

Forwards Did Their Job With Three Goals

THE line as a whole worked particularly well in the second half when Mitchell was most dangerous and Davies was also a source of real anxiety to the Forest, though he had one or two inconsistent patches.

Watkins's shooting was not as good as it ought to have been,

but he did much that was useful, though showing a tendency to hold the ball over-long at times.

Despite missed chances, the forwards could be said to have done their job, for to score three goals away is no mean feat.

Ardron, with his liking for wandering and his accuracy in the air is always a difficult proposition for a centre-half, but Owen coped well and the mastery he achieved in the air was of real value to the team.

Not So Solid, But Defence Was Unlucky

THERE was not quite the all-round solidarity there has been in defence and although he covered a tremendous amount of ground and worked very hard, Morton did not get a complete grip on Martin, Forest's best forward.

Shanks was another hard worker, but did not use the ball as well as he can.

Both did best in the second half.

After some initial anxiety, Dunn held the fast, direct Collindridge and Aherne soon struck his best form following a somewhat indifferent start.

It was not that the defence had a bad day, but they were rather unlucky in the way the goals came and Stretton must shoulder the responsibility for at least two of them.

Probably he was unsettled by the early shocks, for he did not look so confident as usual.

Reserves Regain The Leadership

BACK into the lead in Division II of the Football Combination go the Reserves after their 4-1 defeat of Queen's Park Rangers, which brought them two more points in comfortable fashion.

The setback of being a goal down in two minutes did not upset them and they went on to build up a good lead.

In this they were aided by two penalty-kicks, both converted by their spot-kick expert, Jim Pemberton.

Other goals came from Turner and Taylor and the Town gave a good display in difficult, heavy conditions.

Chiltern's Forecasts

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

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

DIVISION III (SOUTH)
Aldershot v Northampton
Bristol Rovers v Brighton
Colchester v Torquay
Coventry v Crystal Palace
Exeter v Newport
Gillingham v Southampton
Millwall v Watford
Norwich v Bristol City
Q.P.R. v Ipswich
Shrewsbury v Reading
Swindon v Leyton Orient
Walsal v Bournemouth

DIVISION III (NORTH)
Accrington v Rochdale
Barrow v Crewe
Bradford v Chester
Chesterfield v Gateshead
Grimsby v Southport
Halifax v Bradford City
Mansfield v Stockport
Oldham v Scunthorpe
Tranmere v Hartlepool
Workington v Darlington
Wrexham v Port Vale
York v Carlisle

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
DIVISION "A"
Celtic v East Fife
Dundee v Airdrieonians
Falkirk v Clyde
Hibernian v St. Mirren
Motherwell v Rangers
Partick Thistle v Third Lanark
Queen of the South v Aberdeen
Raith v Hearts
DIVISION "B"
Albion v Ayr
Alloa v Dundee United
Arbroath v Stirling
Cowdenbeath v Hamilton
Kilmarnock v Stenhousemuir

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PETTY OFFICER WAS A 6-1 WINNER AT LUTON But Average Winning Price Was Lower Than Usual

Outsiders had a thin time at Luton Stadium on Saturday. Although Petty Officer won at 6-1, the average winning price was less than 3-1.

The third race, won originally by Office Boy, was re-run after Office Boy had been disqualified.

1. (410yds.)—1 MY OLD MATE (2) 2 Johnny D (3), 3 Black Flash (4), 4 Roger Boy (1), 5 Klaxton (6), 6 Fluid Bobby (5), 21, 11, 1, 3, 2, 25.66, Off 6.41.
Betting: 3-1 MY OLD MATE, Klaxton, 7-2 Johnny D, Black Flash, 5-1 Roger Boy, 6-1 Fluid Bobby. Forecast: 11/16 3.

II. (470yds.)—1 MARY'S SON (6), 2 Beauty (2), 3 Star Signal (4), 4 Spring (5), 5 Light Ale (3), 6 Chevalier (1), 8, 10, 2, 2, 28.94, Off 6.59.
Betting: 6-4 MARY'S SON, 3-1 Beauty, 4-1 Star Signal, 6-1 Light Ale, 7-1 Spring, 10-1 Chevalier. Forecast: 12/9 3.

III. (410yds.)—1 PETTY OFFICER (1), 2 Pylon (4), 3 Guttersnipe (3), 4 River Bank (2), 5 Mol (6), Neck, 5d, 1, 10, 25.72, Non-runners Office Boy (5), Billy's Boy reserve, Off 9.14.
Race re-run.
Betting: Evens River Bank, 5-4 Guttersnipe, 6-1 PETTY OFFICER, 8-1 Pylon, 20-1 Mol. Forecast: 14/11/9.

IV. (470yds.)—1 TRACER (3), 2 Kit-Kat (2), 3 Arm In Arm (1), 4 Kelling (4), 5 Chief Officer (5), 6 It's Easy (6), 1, 21, 4, 8, dist. 28.33, Off 7.40.
Betting: 6-4 Arm In Arm, 3-1 TRACER, 4-1 Kit-Kat, 6-1 Kelling, Chief Officer, 8-1 It's Easy. Forecast: 11/9/3.

V. (470yds.)—1 MIRZA (4), 2 Flying Officer (2), 3 Biscay (1), 4 Grand Style (3), 5 King-Kong (6), 6 King's Fare (5), 6, 2, 1, 1, 1, 28.17, Off 8.01.

VI. (410yds.)—1 NICKY (1), 2 Jimmy J (5), 3 Young Pete (2), 4 Curly O'Connor (3), 5 Tessa (6), 6 Good Evans (4), 4, 3, 6, 1, 6, 24.79, Off 8.20.
Betting: 7-4 Jimmy J, 5-2 NICKY, 6-1 others. Forecast: 11/16/9.

VII. (470yds.)—1 ROCKAFELLA (6), 2 River Side (4) reserve, 3 Deemster (3), 4 Young Tan (2), 5 Camper's Boy (1), 6 Chance (5), 1, 14, 3, 3, dist. 29.43, Non-runner Carbon Copy (4), Off 8.39.
Betting: 9-4 Young Tan, 5-2 Chance, 3-1 ROCKAFELLA, 5-1 River Side, 7-1 Camper's Boy, 8-1 Deemster. Forecast: 14/12/3.

VIII. (410yds.)—1 MR MURPHY (4), 2 HERES HOPING (5) dead-heat, 3 Determination (1), 4 City Lights (1), 5 Rich (6), 6 Dainty Piece (2), 3, 4, 1, 4, 25.75, Off 8.57.
Betting: 5-4 MR MURPHY, 4-1 HERES HOPING, Determination, 7-1 Dainty Piece, City Lights, 8-1 Rich. Forecast: 5/9, 13/0.

RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR LUTON TO-MORROW
7.30 (410yds.)—5 Alma Lass, 546 Cuddles, 36 Father's Glory, 524 Salsol Lass, 515 Waincoat, 354 Whip Strap, reserve 326 Whipped Cream.

7.48 (470yds.)—226 Brookside, 462 Cornie, 443 Cristo, 655 Needy Friend, 542 Rosebud, 614 Willy Fairy, reserve 226 Light Ale.

8.06 (410yds.)—4 Alma Lass, 42 Rocket, 321 Sunlight, 533 Turn Right, 21W Tony, 4 Wendy, reserve 66 Friday (Nov. 8, tp 1, 24.60).
8.24 (410yds.)—133 Barry, Chance Buy (Nov. 13, tp 3, 24.60; Nov. 15, tp 1, 24.64), 42 Gun Smoke (Nov. 19, tp 6, 24.52), 254 Jasper, 131 Lone Eagle, Philip's Pet (Nov. 13, tp 6, 24.67; Nov. 15, tp 3, 24.61), reserve 255 Sporting Express.

8.42 (470yds.)—122 Ad Lib, 511 Bananas, Churchill (Nov. 13, tp 4, 24.44; Nov. 15, tp 6, 24.31), Light Shadow (Oct. 16, tp 2, 24.43; Oct. 9, tp 1, 24.36), 514 Light Metal, Rem Day (Sept. 26, tp 4, 24.28; Oct. 3, tp 4, 24.47; Nov. 13, tp 4, 24.54).
9.0 (410yds.)—142 Gerald, Jetty (Nov. 13, tp 2, 24.45; Nov. 19, tp 1, 24.48), 2 Joseph, Jupiter (Nov. 13, tp 2, 24.45; Nov. 19, tp 1, 24.48), 6 Reviver (Nov. 13, tp 4, 24.66), 534 Slim.

9.18 (470yds.)—514 Bow Bells, 334 Charlie H, 233 Mary's Pride, 561 Maura, 134 Sam's Song, 311 Vivo, reserve 111 Julie.
9.36 (410yds.)—66 Black Satin, 351 Clancy, 246 Lindy, 66 Molly (Nov. 12, tp 4, 24.96), 145 Skip It, 462 The Bize, reserve 431 Princess.

SELECTIONS
TEN HOME: Cardiff, Preston, Sheffield Wednesday, Leicester, Plymouth, Rotherham, Coventry, Norwich, Grimsby, Tranmere.

FOUR AWAY: Arsenal, Sheffield United, Northampton, Gateshead.

THREE DRAWS: Liverpool v Blackpool, Bury v Blackburn, Mansfield v Stockport.

9.00—Gerald (Sim. Joseph)
9.18—Vivo (Bow Bells, Sam's Song)
9.36—Cancy (Molly, The Bride)

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Businesses, Rounds

3 STORES for sale as going concerns. Well situated in Chiltern. Good living accommodation. Audited accounts. Write Box 7606, Home Counties, Luton.



Walker Nottingham Forest goalkeeper catches a high cross-shot by Bernard Moore in the game at the City Ground on Saturday, when Luton's long run of success was ended by a 4-3 verdict for Forest.