Confidence In Town Camp

RECALL OF WATKINS : CULLEN TO MAKE CUP DEBUT

As was confidently expected and, in fact was hinted at by Manager Dally Duncan last week, the Town have restored Charlie Watkins to the inside-left position for their Cup-tie with Manchester City at Maine-road on Saturday.

With Roy Davies definitely out of the running for a place in this match because of an ankle operation from which he has not fully recovered, this will be the only change from the team that gained the fifth away win of the season at West Ham.

This means that Michael Cullen retains the outside-right position and this will be the second time this season that the Town have introduced a young winger into their team for the first Cup-tie of his career.

Other, of course, was Arthur Taylor, who deputised for Mitchell against Blackburn.

Cullen is only 21, made his debut at Birmingham last April and has been in the side for seven League matches this season.

On his showing last Saturday, his presence will not weaken the forward line and his temperament is such that the big occasion will not affect him.

Return To The Old Order In Attack

RECALL of Watkins means a return to the old order of things with the inside-left doing the foraging and linking up in midfield, which will release Bernard Moore for a more completely attacking role than has been the case in the last two matches.

Behind the move, too, is due regard for Watkins's wide experience and the thought that he will be able to prevent the breakthrough by Don Revie, former inside-forward who, although playing right-half these days, still likes to do his share in attack.

No Injuries To Worry About

THE three injured players, Sid Owen, Leslie Jones and Michael Cullen responded to treatment so quickly that they all took part in the private trial on Tuesday morning.

Owen, who received the worst knock of the three, was told he could rest if he liked, but preferred to take part.

During the trial, Jones received a knock on the knee which puffed up a little and was promptly sent away for examination. Verdict, fortunately, was that the injury was slight and he will be right.

So, for a change in a Cup-tie, the Town have no doubts to have to await the last minute to be resolved.

Town Have Plan To Exploit Weaknesses

WHAT of the Town's chances of appearing in the fifth round draw once again?

Confidence is high at Kenilworth-road—in fact I have never known it higher—and the report of the assistant manager, Jack Kelly, who watched the City beat Middlesbrough 5—1 on Saturday, has increased the Town's hopes.

Said Tim to me yesterday, "There are definite weaknesses in the City team, but, naturally, I am mentioning no names for publication.

"The boys have been working on a plan to exploit these weaknesses and I feel confident that we shall win. Middlesbrough are a poor side and had no plan on Saturday."

Town Will Play In White Shirts

AS for the colours problem that caused a bit of furore early in the week, Manager Dally Duncan said yesterday that the Town will play in their usual white shirts.

A fallback to the last City-Town Cup meeting at Maine-road has brought proof that the City played in their usual blue and the Town in white.

They have worn those colours in League meetings since, so there seems no concrete reason why there should be a complicated change of colours.

City Have Agreed To The Colours

TIM KELLY brought back with him from Manchester last Saturday one of the City's shirts and the manager took it along to Tuesday's Board meeting when it was examined along with one of the Town's.

Verdict was that there was sufficient distinction between the two to obviate the necessity of a change and, yesterday, it was announced in Manchester that the City Manager, Leslie McDowall, had now agreed with this view.

There will be no lack of support for the Town on Saturday, for the number of supporters travelling north will run into thousands.

The Bobbers' Stand train is fully booked and British Railways have already sufficient bookings to fill one special train and have arranged to run another.

PREPARED FOR A REPLAY

SHOULD a replay of the Cup-tie be necessary at Kenilworth-road on Wednesday, the Town are well prepared, for they have had the tickets printed in advance and will take the City's allocation with them to Manchester.

Only for the stand, at the usual League prices of 4s., 3s., 2s. 6d. and 5s., will tickets be issued and they will be on sale by personal application at the club's offices from Monday morning.

Season ticket-holders will be able to reserve their usual seats.

Manchester's Tickets Nearly All Sold

HUNDREDS are also making the trip by road, for a large number of coaches has been booked and many people are also going along in private cars.

Stand tickets have been in brisk demand in Luton this week and the report from Manchester yesterday was that all their share of the tickets except a few at 4s. 6d., which were expected to go yesterday, had been disposed of.

Total seating accommodation is 7,800, and the ground is the only portion of the ground for which tickets have been issued.

Which Ground Will Have Bigger Crowd?

THERE will be 64 turnstiles in operation to admit people to enclosures at the usual ground prices to the ground are 3s. 6d. enclosure 2s. 6d. covered terrace and 5s. for the stand seats.

Speculation is rife in Manchester about whether Maine-road or Old Trafford will house the biggest crowd.

The unusual visit of a first-class southern amateur team in Walthamstow Avenue is causing a great deal of interest and, of course, as in other cities where there are two League teams, the United fans are their own following of supporters.

City Delaying Team Announcement

ESTIMATES are that there will be 50,000 at Maine-road and 40,000 at Old Trafford, but, of course, no one can be accurate about this sort of thing.

Apart from arrangements, the City have not yet been able to make a final announcement which they are delaying until to-morrow morning when Eric Westwood (left-back) and Johnny Hart (inside-right), both in the running for place, will have fitness tests after injury.

The other doubtful position is outside-right, where it is regarded as bear-cat between Jimmy Meadows will return for Gunning.

Only One Change Is Thought Likely

MOST of the portents point to only one change in the City team as compared with the one that beat Middlesbrough, and that would involve the return of Meadows.

Little has been playing so well that he is expected to remain at left-back, and Spurdle's three goals last Saturday may keep Hart in the background.

However, the City manager is not making up his mind about his line-up until he knows the result of the tests.

Bearing in mind Hart's four goals against Swindon, most of them laid on by Ivor Broadis, it would be quite a brave decision to leave him out of the team should he be fit.

Turner Travelling As Twelfth Man

GORDON TURNER, who was in the Town team for the last two matches, will go with the party as twelfth man, and if Roy Davies is fit enough to travel he will be taken along, too.

Of course, this was a match that Davies was desperately anxious not to miss in view of the trial period he spent at Maine-road.

TEAMS. — MANCHESTER CITY: Trautmann; Branagan, Little or Westwood; Revie, Spring, Paul Mercer or Gunning, Spurdle or Hart, Williamson, Broadis, Cunliffe.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Jones, Akerman; Morton, Owen, Shanks; Cullen, Moore, Pye, Watkins, Mitchell.

Reserves Start In Combination Cup

ALTHOUGH they have still three Combination matches to arrange in midweek, Luton Town Reserves embark on a search for fresh honours—in the Combination Cup—when they entertain Watford, whom they beat 3—0 at Kenilworth-road only a month ago.

The defence will remain the same as usual, with Hugh McIlroy, again, will lead the attack, and final choice will be made from six forwards, including David Sexton, who has also recovered from injury.

Team: Streten; Dunne, Cooke; Kelly, Hall, Smith; forwards from Bennett, Sexton, Scott, McIlroy, Pemberton, Taylor.

Startin Leads The Vauxhall Attack

AFTER their setback last week, Vauxhall Motors will be keen to avoid defeat on their home to Hitson Institute in the Spartan League and their attack will be led by W. Startin in place of Todd.

They have a doubt about Roy Chappin, who has 'flu, but hopes to be fit. If he is not able to play, the deputy will probably be Cyril Firmin. Gobby retains his place at left-half.

Team: D. Johnston; J. Burgess, F. Gobby; L. Ward, J. Humphrey, E. Lawrence; R. Phillips, A. Wright, W. Startin, R. Brandham, E. James.

After all, the Motors had a representative in yesterday's county match, for Brandham was brought in by Bedfordshire at inside-left.

Attack Line-up Still To Be Decided

NOW second in Division I of the Spartan League, Luton Amateur badly need points from Neville Park to Rickmansworth where they expect a stern test.

Peter Panter is reporting for National duty and he is not available, and although Peter Smith will return, the exact line-up of the attack will not be decided until the state of the going has been seen, and there may be a re-shuffle.

Probable team: A. Janes; B. Hurst, T. Kilby; A. Allin, B. Spavins, A. Rakowski; K. Crawley, G. Clare, L. Jackson, P. Smith, J. Williams.

Expecting Hard Opposition

WHEN they visited Aylesbury earlier in the season, Old Lutonians R.F.C. came near to defeat and the Buckinghamshire side will be eager to be the first side to lower the Old Boys' colours this season when they visit Stockwood Park on Saturday.

However, Old Lutonians have other ideas and the following side should be strong enough to retain their fine record.

Reed; Hine, Bavister, Thorpe, Thurlow; Edmonds, Robinson; Allbury, Knapp, Shepherd, Hessme, Fendom, Cato, Kelly, Packwood.

Hockey

EAGLES PUT UP HARD FIGHT

South Saxons 6, Bedfordshire Eagles 3

This fixture, resumed after a number of years, resulted in an enjoyable game at Hastings.

Although they won by a three-goals margin the Southerners had to fight hard, and the result was in doubt until the end.

Both sides played excellent hockey on a perfect pitch. The Saxons scored first, but McKELVIE soon put the visitors on terms almost immediately. When the home side scored again THOMPSON ran through to equalise.

Brilliant forward movements brought Saxons two more goals before the interval.

In the second half, they increased their lead, but THOMPSON put the Eagles within striking distance, only for Saxons to score again in the last minute.

CHILTERN LADIES 4 (Handcombe 1, Hickman), WATFORD LADIES 0

Golf

BIG WIN IN SECOND DIVISION FINAL

Four up after the first 18 holes in the final of the Second Division Trophy at South Beds, M. A. Clark (16) went on to increase his lead over A. J. Thursby (17) in the second round and won by 8 and 6.

Leading returns in the monthly medal were:

DIVISION I

F. Oliver (11) ..... 73 net
J. Miller (16) ..... 73 net

DIVISION II

J. W. Clark (15) .... 70 net

Rugby

OLD LUTONIANS' PLAYER BROKE A LEG

Old Lutonians 16, Borderers 3

On a day when nothing went right, it was the scrum was more often than not just a jumbled mass of players and the three-quarter line little better. Old Lutonians did extremely well individually to beat the Borderers so convincingly.

The game was marred by an accident to Lyons, of the home side, who suffered a broken leg.

Against a weighty but fast breaking pack, the backmen to the Old Boys' team were at a disadvantage. In consequence the opposing team did not get as much of the ball as usual and were not able to make use of their obvious pace.

At the outset the Old Boys were hard pressed and it was some time before their backs and heavy pack forwards were able to take play into the home half. From one breakaway Thorpe dribbled upfield and Cato carried on to score.

Play continued indecisively interrupted by minor injuries, but the advantage remained with the home side and during an attempted three-quarter movement Thorpe was able to intercept and carry the ball through for a goal. Towards the end of the half Borderers scored a try.

After the interval, the Old Boys spent a considerable time on their own line in desperate defence, but eventually pressed forward to the attack. At this stage Lyons was tackled rather heavily by two players and in the ensuing melee a home player handled the ball illegally and a penalty was awarded to the Old Boys. Lyons was, however, still prostrate and it was discovered that his leg had been broken.

Adkins kicked the penalty and the Old Boys were soon in the last two minutes of the game with gusto. Cato scored the fifth try, Thorpe converted on a dropped pass almost on the goal-line and divided over to score and Adkins converted.

Gained Grip Gradually

Vauxhall Motors 16
Old Dunstablians 8

Beaten by Old Dunstablians earlier in the season, Vauxhall were able to avenge that defeat.

At the start the Old Boys threatened to get on top, but the Motors appeared to become stronger as the game progressed and finished worthy winners.

Before Vauxhall had settled down they found themselves eight points in arrears, for Malla and Morgan scored for the Old Boys and Eyles converted one of them.

Unable to hold on to this lead, the Dunstablians were pushed back on to the defensive and, eventually, Bland scored for the Motors and Hobbs converted.

Due to the very close marking of the Old Boys' backs, Vauxhall were unable to use their speedy three-quarters to advantage and their forwards did most of the attacking. Bonds and Bland both touched down and Hobbs once added the extra points. Hitchin-Young then kicked Vauxhall a very good goal.

Eyles, for Old Boys, very Vauxhalls best player, the latter having settled down well in full-back. Malla (Hendon) and Cooper were best for Old Boys.

OTHER RESULTS

Luton G. Bedford Ath. 29.
Bedford Ath. Rse. 11, Luton "A" 0.
Luton Ex. "A" 11, Bedford Ath. Ex. "A" 3.

ROY PAUL, Manchester City's Welsh international half-back.

ATTACKS HELD UP

Reserves Drew First Blank

LUTON TOWN RES. .. 0
LEICESTER C. RES. .. 0

A close game was expected when Luton Reserves, leaders of the Football Combination, Division II, met Leicester Reserves at Kenilworth-road, and expectations were realised, for the result indicates just how evenly the teams drew.

Luton still enjoy a three-points lead, and with three more games to play they look a safe bet for the championship.

Although there was little to choose between the teams, play was not so exciting as it has been in meetings between Luton and more lowly-placed teams than Leicester.

Reason for this, perhaps, was that Luton's forward were not the power they have been in the past, and they were unable to get the better of Leicester's exceptionally strong defence, which included players of the calibre of Milburn, Jackson, Halton, McArthur and King—players of vast experience.

Without McIlarrow to lead the line, the attack failed to achieve its usual harmony. Scott, who took over the leadership, tried hard enough, but did not always get the best of support from Watkins and Pemberton, who were given little scope by the City's wing-halves.

Taylor tended to wander into the middle too much, particularly in the second half, and Bennett started well, but faded before the interval.

This was a game in which defences were dominant, and Luton's rearguard did well to quell some dangerous raids.

Lee Hall was never in any trouble, and the half-backs did a lot of hard work.

In Worthington, Leicester had a most accomplished forward. He was the mainspring behind most of Leicester's raids, and it was fortunate for Luton that he was not always on the mark with his shooting.

Once he did get in a powerful drive that beat Streten, but struck an upright and bounced back into play.

Similarly, Scott was unlucky when he tried a back-flick after Taylor had cut in on the opening.

Nine times out of ten this would have brought a goal, but in this case Dickson was standing directly in the way of the ball and cleared easily.

On the run of the play, a draw was a fair result, but the fact that this was the first time in 27 matches that Luton failed to score is a pointer to the strength of Leicester's defence.

LUTON TOWN RES.: Streten; Dunne, Cooke; Kelly, Hall, Smith; Bennett, Watkins, Scott, Pemberton, Taylor.

LEICESTER CITY RES.: Dickson; Milburn, Jackson; Halton, McArthur, King; Hogg, Worthington, Littler, Rushworth, Small.

NO SIGNS OF FALTERING BY ANY OF THE LEADERS

Sundon Park's Decisive Victory Over Their Nearest Rivals

There were no signs of faltering by any of the leaders in Luton and South Beds League on Saturday and the results were strangely free from anything in the nature of a complete surprise.

Most valuable victory of the day was that gained by the Division IV leaders, Sundon Park, in accounting decisively for their nearest rivals, Bidwell.

With two-thirds of their league programme played, Sundon Park now hold a lead of seven points, but have played one game more than Bidwell, who must have been acutely disappointed at the severity of their defeat.

Another telling blow struck was that by Hockliffe—rather uneasy leaders of Division III. Their 7—0 success over Offley Boys, bottom club in the championship race, was an impressive performance, but Hockliffe are in the position of having to await slips by Stopsley Reserves.

So far, Stopsley have given little sign of these happening, for they have dropped only two points out of 30, though they had a hard struggle to beat Waleat Athletic, and succeeded only by the odd goal.

Position at the top of the Premier Division remains unchanged, with Shillington still holding an advantage over their rivals in the matter of matches in hand.

They had no difficulty in beating plucky Luton Social, and maintained their defensive record of having conceded less than one goal a match.

Recent defeats have caused Caddington hopes to fade, but they hang on to the leadership, and registered a good win over Barton Rovers, who have caused a few surprises this season.

Stopsley have stepped into third place, but the biggest jump this week was by Eaton Bray, who rose from ninth place to fifth, due to a combination of their own success and the failures of Dagnall, Napier and Barton, who were immediately above them.

Lengthy visit to Division I is held by Totternhoe, but Glendale, with leeway of unplayed matches to make up, are still very much in the picture, here.

Number 13 was not unlucky for Chaul End Athletic, who brought their run of consecutive victories to this number by accounting comfortably for bottom - of - the - table Old Lutonians.

Belle Park, who top this division, had no match. Their advantage over Chaul End has been cut down to two points, and Chaul End have played two matches fewer.

PREMIER DIVISION

SHILLINGTON ATH 4 (Bucknell 3, Saunders 2, Flint), LUTON SOCIAL 0

CADDINGTON 5 (Fullarton 2, Thorn, Austin, opponent), BARTON ROV 1 (A. Virtue, Anderson)

STOPSLEY 2 (Wright 2), Push 2), NAPIER SPORTS 0

RAMPTON 3 (Ashby, G. P. Simmons 2), Offley 2), HITCHIN-ROAD O.B. 1 (Hillier)

DAGNALL 2 (Munt, Osborn), COCKERNHOE 3 (Ayres, Whitbread, Tomlinson)

DIVISION I

LEAGRAVE B.L. 5 (Richards 3, Pain, Wilkins), WEST PARK 2 (Vince 2)

SKEFKO ATH 1 (Martin), GLENDALE 3 (James 2, Crawford)

ENGLISH ELECTRIC 4, LAPORTE 6 (Mitchell 2, Howard 2, Lea, Burrows)

TOTTERNHOE 4 (H Witts 2, Keep, opponent), LUTON O.B. 1 (Martin)

HITCHIN-ROAD O.B. "A" 3 (Wright, Payne, opponent), PIONEER CORINTHIANS 3 (Smith 3)

DIVISION II

OLD LUTONIANS 0 (Abrahams), CHAUL END ATH 5 (Beasley 3, Harris, Dillingham)

GLENDALE RES 3 (Jowett 2, Jones), BEECHWOOD Y.C. 7 (Skinner 3, Clarkson 2, Brown, Smith)

LUTON SOCIAL RES 4 (Ward, Chambers, Jackson, Shorn), LUTON UTD 6 (Gilpin, Woodhouse, Auburn, opponent)

HARLINGTON 1 (Pickles), CADDINGTON 3 (Thorn 3 (R Gibson, Cornish, Hughes)

WARREN HILL ATH 2 (Holt 2), PERCIVAL ATH 3

DIVISION III

CRESCENT UTD 1 (West), ROBIN HOODS 3 (Fitt 2, Goodman)

ADAMANTS ATH 0, LUTON BREWERY 7 (Greenwell 3, Boardman 2, Poulton, Robinson)

ALLIANCE HOTEL 0 (Clews 2, Mayne, Boylan, Smith), BOYS' BRIGADE O.B. 1 (Glencross)

WALCOT ATH 1 (Parsons), STOPSLEY RES 2

HAYWARD-TYLER 3, DAVIS ATH 0

BOYS' BRIGADE 1 (West), ROBIN HOODS 3 (Fitt 2, Goodman)

ADAMANTS ATH 0, LUTON BREWERY 7 (Greenwell 3, Boardman 2, Poulton, Robinson)

ALLIANCE HOTEL 0 (Clews 2, Mayne, Boylan, Smith), BOYS' BRIGADE O.B. 1 (Glencross)

WALCOT ATH 1 (Parsons), STOPSLEY RES 2

HAYWARD-TYLER 3, DAVIS ATH 0

MOCKLEFFE 7 (Mizall 4, Kingham, Bull, Hillier), OFFLEY BOYS 0

NAPIER SPORTS "A" 3 (Skeath 2, Eaton), LUMOCO SPORTS 3 (Armstrong 2, Byrne)

DIVISION IV

ENGLISH ELECTRIC "B" 3, WILLS DEN ATH 1 (Thorpe 4, Hull, Culling, Parsons)

LUTON RES 3 (Bayliss 2, Gibbins), EATON BRAY RES 4 (Brigginshaw, Beaton, Abrahams, Rowley)

BROWN AND GREEN 2 (Kendall 2), TOTTERNHOE RES 2 (Brown, Rowley)

VILLA ROVERS 0, R.A.F.A. RES 2 (Greenwell, Mitchell)

SUNDON PARK 7 (McGavney 3, Watson 2, Warren, opponent), BIDWELL 1

HEXTON 3 (Mollitor 2, Shaw), PROPHETS 1 (Brown, Newrington)

LAPORTE RES 2 (Fletcher, Dann), ROOTES SPORTS RES 4

VAUXHALL JUNIORS WELL BEATEN

Vauxhall Motors Colts 1, Huntley and Palmers 6

Vauxhall Colts were well beaten by Huntley and Palmers in the F.A. Youth Challenge Cup on Saturday morning, and so a fine run came to an end.

They were playing for a place in the last eight and, considering this competition is open to clubs sponsored by professional teams, Vauxhall did quite exceptionally well to reach the last stage.

GABBINI (2) and ROSE scored for the visitors before GILKS reduced the Motors arrears. Before half-time Vauxhall wasted many easy chances. Had these been converted there might have been a different result.

Three goals apiece had Huntley and Palmers scored through BRINSON, LAMBERT and ROSE.

Mastered Hammers, Then Mitchell Scored Winner

By Chiltern

WEST HAM UNITED 0 LUTON TOWN 1

One ground on which the Town defence almost invariably does well is that of West Ham, for in nine League visits there they have conceded only seven goals and have prevented the Hammers from scoring on six occasions.

However, on the other hand, the Town forwards have never shown any marked liking for these surroundings as is evidenced by the fact that they have never managed to score more than one in any of the nine encounters. Yet, despite this, the Town have averaged a point a match at West Ham over the years.

Set in the old, familiar pattern was the latest meeting, the defences taking such a grip that a goalless draw seemed the most likely result, barring a mistake by one of the many sure-footed defenders.

Sure enough, it happened, and it was the home centre-half, Allison, who had been putting up one of his best displays of the season who was the unfortunate culprit.

He bungled a clearance in front of goal when he could have pushed the ball back to the goalkeeper and MITCHELL, coming on strong in the region of the centre forward position, gain possession.

Ernie Gregory pushed out his first terrific rightfooted shot but Mitchell met the rebound with his left foot and this time the goalkeeper had no chance.

It was just over 20 minutes from the end and there were few among the Hammers' supporters who had any real confidence that their team could hit out a goal.

A single goal was as much as this match ever looked like producing and, fortunately for us, it was the one that brought the Town a brace of invaluable points to keep them in the promotion hunt with a real chance.

OWED BIG DEBT TO DEFENCE

For the success, the Town owed a considerable debt to a cast-iron defence which crossed the intentions of the Hammers' attack, especially in the inside forward positions.

Neither inside man could make much impression on Morton and Shanks who broke up attack after attack before it had really got under way.

The tackling of both was extremely good and Morton made look as if he had enough his forceful, accurate play.

Kearns never even looked like making a breakthrough. Hewitt was the master throughout and he never lost command of the situation even though he was handicapped a little by a painful ankle injury.

Sound contributions came from the Full-backs and there was a well-built look about the whole defence.

While the Hammers' forwards did have plenty of the ball and there was some considerable pressure during the early part of the second half, their shooting caused Baynham little trouble.

Once though, he had to produce a sensational save to keep out a brilliant cross drive from Andrews and all throughs he showed keen anticination and looked most capable.

In attack apart from the first 10 minutes when they showed such snarkle that it looked as if the Hammers might be over-run, the Town forward line did not strike out as being a thoroughly cohesive force.

PYE CLOSELY WATCHED

Part of this was due to the fact that Pye was allowed little scope by the close-marking, hard-tackling Allison and although the centre-forward tried all his wiles and displayed footwork that remarked him as the cleverest forward on the field, he could never entirely escape the attentions of the centre-half.

From Cullen, back in the team for the first time for four months, there was a good day's play and he had a splendid spell in the second half when he pushed forward to the Hammers' Bond.

Cullen did not make the mistake of being too artistic, but used his deft footwork to round an opponent and then make use of the ball.

The inside forward set-up was not completely satisfactory and the switch between Moore and Turner made in the latter part of the second half was not a real success.

Moore accomplished rather more than Turner, although since the position of Watkins he has been forced to change his style a little in order to do some of the hard work in the middle of the field.

Turner's main forte is his ability to score goals, but he had little opportunity of doing so in this match and although he made some good attempts, his general play did not impress.

Mitchell came one of those opportunist goals during a time when he was not being brought much into the game and he saw most of the play from the centre-half position, gained possession, and then, with a real chance, made the most of it.

WEST HAM UTD.—Gregory (E); Wright, Bond; Parker, Allison. O'Farrell; Woodgate, Gregory (J), Kearns, Foan, Andrews.

LUTON TOWN. — Baynham; Jones, Akerman; Morton, Owen, Shanks; Cullen, Moore, Pye, Turner, Mitchell.

Referee—W. B Everett, Beccles. Attendance.—23,500.

S. Midlands League

CHALLENGERS SHARE POINTS While Arlesey Increased Lead

There were few surprises in the South Midlands League last Saturday and results went largely according to the form book.

In the Premier Division Arlesey Town, the leaders, beat AC-Delco and the vital duel between Shefford Town and Kent's Athletic resulted in a goalless draw.

Result is that although Arlesey increased their lead by a point their position at the top is still in danger.

Shefford are two points behind, while Kent's have arrears of five points but have two games in hand.

Next Saturday, Arlesey are without a match and both Shefford and Kent's have what, on paper, look like fairly easy games.

Kent's meet Dunstable Town and opposition for Shefford will be provided by Wootton Blue Cross.

Wootton may spring a surprise, for they beat Potton last week. However, if Shefford win they will take over the leadership as they have a better goal average than Arlesey.

Meanwhile, Ampthill continue to carry all before them, and although they are in no position to challenge, the Stagsing boys are completely out of trouble now.

Biggleswade Town, leaders of Division II, beat Stotfold Electrolux, but Houghton Rangers collected two points from St. Neots St. Mary's.

There was a minor shock in Division II when the leaders, Skefko Athletic, were held to a draw by Bedford Athletic.

Skefko lead by five points at present although Bletchley B.R.O.B., who are in second place, have played a game less.

PREMIER DIVISION

Ampthill Utd 5, Harrold Utd 2
Arlesey Tn 4, AC-Delco 1
Bedford Tn "A" 5, Bedford Corinth 2
Fearnree Old Boys 7, Baldock Tn 1
Potton Utd 1, Wootton Blue Cross 2
Shefford Tn 0, Kent's Ath 0
S. Stratford Spa 2, Dunstable Tn 2

DIVISION I

Bedford St. Cuth. 2, Biggleby Tn 4
Houghton Rngrs 4, St. Neots St. M 1
Histon 2, Queen's Works 0
Percival Ath 2, Cranfield Utd 2
Maxton Shelton 3, Langford 5
Stotfold Electrolux 1, Waterloo's 0
Vauxhall Motors 1, Arlesey Tn 4

DIVISION II

AC-Delco 1, Hitchin Utd 3
Baldock Tn 1, Britannia Works 2
Queen's Works 2, Stewartby Works 2
Bletchley B.R.O.B. 3, Skefko Ath 7
Flitwick Ath 8, Marston Shelton 2
Kent's Ath 1, Bedford North End 1
Skefko Ath 3, Davis Ath 3
Wootton Blue Cross 10, Fearnree Old Boys 2

"A" LACKED FINISHING POWER

Hendington Utd. Res. 1, Luton Town "A" 1

While there was no mean performance on the part of the Town "A," they could have had both points had their finishing been more accurate.

Several good opportunities were allowed to slip by and they could have built up a much more substantial lead than that given them in the first half by their best forward, ALLEN.

Hendington equalised with a goal that ought to have been prevented and then failed to make use of a penalty kick.

The defence was the best part of the Town team with Miller playing very strongly at right-half and Hawkes and Thompson a sound pair of full-backs.

EASY VICTORY FOR AMATEUR

Luton Amateur 7 Sawbridgeworth 0

Sawbridgeworth are at the bottom of the Spartan League (Division I), and when they met the Amateur on Saturday they did not belie their lowly position.

Luton Amateur could not cope with the Luton team's lively forwards, and their attack was seldom in the game.

GEORGE CLARE, who scored both his side's goals the week before, was the star of the Amateur attack, scoring four of the seven.

He opened his account soon after the start, and added a second a few minutes later. C.R.A.W.L.E. and JACKSON obtained further goals before the interval, and afterwards others were added by CLARE (2) and ALLIN.

NEARLY FORCED A REPLAY

Plymouth Schoolboys 2, Luton Schoolboys 0

After making their longest journey ever in the English Schools Football competition, Luton Schoolboys looked as if they would at least force a replay with the strong Plymouth side. For eight minutes from the end, Luton's right-back, HARRY, put through his own goal while attempting to clear.

This fortunate lead gave Plymouth confidence and five minutes later PRESTON added Plymouth's appearance in the last 16 when he scored during a goalmouth scramble.

Plymouth deserved their victory for they were the more aggressive side. Luton, perhaps inspired by their home crowd, did not play so well as in previous rounds.

Their best forwards were Grech and Whitby but, until the closing minutes, the defence was more impressive than the attack.

EXPENSIVE MISSED CHANCES

Vauxhall Motors 1, Ware 2

Missed chances in the half proved expensive for Vauxhall, who are still in the "danger-area" of the Spartan League.

They more than held their own in the first half and Todd missed a splendid opportunity give them an early lead. Ware made two dangerous raids but were foiled on each occasion by goalkeeper Johnson.

Soon after the interval Ware took the lead through FANDMAN and went further ahead through WILKINSON.

This was the signal for a Vauxhall rally, but although CHAPPIN reduced their arrears they were unable to equalise, despite terrific pressure.

Luton Greyhounds

RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR SATURDAY

6.30 (410yds)—265 Billy's Boy, 131 Charlie H, 414 Here's Hoping, 4 Marvex (Jan. 21, to 6, 24.8), Jan. 22, tp 6, 24.90), 135 Mr. Murphy, 253 Sally Ann, Reserve 111 Just Fancy.

6.50 (470yds)—5 Fine Last, 44 Lizard, 336 Mary's Son, 245 Philip's Pet, 404 Scakefalla, 126 Rich, reserve 166 Moody Girl.

7.10 (410yds)—512 Brown Amber, 146 Hopscotch, 221 My Gold Mate, 222 Johnny D, Red Wind (Jan. 15, to 4, 24.82, Jan. 21 to 4, 24.87), Scotch (Jan. 22 tp 3, 25.09; Jan. 24, tp 5, 24.94), reserve 354 Glint.

7.30 (470yds)—356 Chief Officer, 511 Echo, 154 Emperor, The Moke (Jan. 15, to 6, 24.65; Jan. 17, to 5, 24.40), 151 Shaun Ban, 131 Tiger.

7.50 (470yds)—126 Chance Boy, 511 Greeting, 115 Gun Smoke, 4 Leonora, 4 Pat Will, 432 Singer.

8.10 (410yds) — 125 Flying Officer, 215 Jim Crow, 232 Sunset, 112 Kilkat, 221 Reiver, Roddy (Jan. 15, tp 6, 24.40; Jan. 17, tp 5, 24.30).

8.30 (470yds)—4 Brick Dust, 144 Fly Boy, 434 Gypsy, 233 It's Easy, 222 Tony, 132 Yolande, reserve 431 Press On.

8.50 (410yds)—134 Ware, 66 Glenji (Jan. 8, tp 5, 24.75), Kilkat Sunset (Jan. 15, to 6, 24.62; Jan. 22, tp 3, 24.65), Jim Crow (Jan. 22, tp 6, 24.99; Jan. 24, tp 6, 24.63), 421 Quick Answer, 531 Sporting Express, reserve 511 Thomas.

SELECTIONS.

6.30, Charlie H (Sally Ann, Billy's Boy); 7.0, Red Wind (Lizard, First Last); 7.10, My Old Mate (Brown Amber, Scotch); 7.30, Tiger (Tracer, The Moke); 7.50, Singer (Gun Smoke, Leonora); 8.10, Flying Officer (Kilkat, Jim Crow); 8.30, Yolande (Brick Gypsy); 8.50, Sporting Express (nap) (Mad Swinney, Carr).

FOOTBALL

LUTON TOWN F.C.

SATURDAY, 31st JANUARY
Combination Cup

LUTON RESERVES v WATFORD RESERVES

Kick-off 3 p.m.

ADMISSION: Centre Stand 2/-; Wing Stand and Enclosure 1/6, Boys 1/-; Bobbers' Stand 1/3, Boys 10d. (separate entrance); Covered Terrace 1/-, Boys 9d.