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Town Delay Team Selection

MANAGER AWAITS THE RESULT OF FITNESS TESTS

On the result of fitness tests to be staged later to-day will depend the constitution of the Town's team for their hard task in tackling the Second Division leaders, Sheffield United, at Bramall-lane.

Main doubts are about Bud Aherne, who slightly twisted a knee ligament against Southampton, and Roy Davies, who had the misfortune to receive a kick on the ankle during last Saturday's match.

Until the result of these tests is known, Manager Daily Duncan says that he is not going to attempt to name a team, but he is reasonably certain that he will be able to include Ron Baynam and Bert Mitchell.

Baynam's ankle has been standing up to training this week and it is only a matter of time before any reaction there may be.

It is the right ankle that is affected, and the right foot is the one Baynam uses most in taking goal-kicks.

Constant kicking of a dead ball imposes a strain on the ankle, but Baynam himself says that he will be fit.

Not that there is any real worry about this position, for Bernard Stretton showed plenty of confidence last Saturday.

Six Away Matches Without Defeat

WHILE the Town have been failing at home, the United have gained two absolutely invaluable away wins, and as their manager, Ron Freeman, said to me yesterday, "We are playing well and the ball is running for us, too."

In the last two matches, the Town have not struck their best form, nor have they really had that run of the ball which often means the difference between victory and defeat.

It is a return to peak form could bring the Town reward, and the fact that should not be lost sight of is that they have not lost one of their last six matches on opponents' grounds, including the Cup-tie with Manchester City at Maine-road.

Mitchell's Return Will Be Welcome

MITCHELL has recovered from the illness that kept him out last Saturday and his return will be more than welcome.

The part of Davies' ankle that is affected is not that on which the operation was performed.

That was on the front of the

County Netball In Luton

SATURDAY will be a great day for local netball enthusiasts in that the eastern territorial tournament, is being held for the first time in Bedfordshire, and is being staged at Luton High School.

Bedfordshire's first and second teams have been entered, and they will meet teams from Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk. A really high standard of netball is expected.

Town Have Good Name In Sheffield

THE vital nature of this particular meeting is emphasized by the knowledge that a Luton win would take them to within six points of the United, and there will still be those two games in hand, whereas if Sheffield win through, their lead over the Town will then be 10 points.

Great interest is being taken in this match in the Yorkshire circle, and it may well draw Bramall-lane's biggest League crowd of the season.

"Luton have a very good name in this area and they are regarded as a most attractive team," says Reg. Freeman, who joined the United from nearby Rotherham early this season.

Ten Of Team Beaten At Luton Chosen

HE is in the fortunate position of having no selection worries and, as the team that gained such a fine win over Leeds United at Elland-road last Saturday came through without mishap, he has had no hesitation in announcing an unchanged line-up.

Team: Burgess; Furniss, Shaw (G); Shaw, Toner; Riggall, Hagan, Browning, Brook, Hawksworth.

Ten of these players figured in the team beaten 4-1 by the Town at Kenilworth-road in October and the only change in personnel, that Toner has come in for McN-b.

However, there have been positional changes in that Brook has moved from right-half, a position that has been filled by the switch-in of Shaw (F).

Cobblers' Reserves At Kenilworth Road

NATURALLY, with so much team, the constitution of the Reserves for their home Combination Cup-tie with Northampton Reserves on Saturday, has still to be decided.

If everything turns out right, they will be strongly represented and will be expected to improve their position in their section of the Cup at the expense of the Cobblers whom they have not met previously this season.

So far the Town have gained three points from three matches and the Cobblers' record is five points from five games.

Vauxhall Make Two Changes

BACK to their Spartan League programme, and still badly in need of points, Vauxhall Motors are making two changes for their visit to Ford Sports at Dagenham on Saturday.

Former regular goalkeeper, R. Cullis, is on Service leave and is included, while, at outside-left, J. O'Neill is preferred to E. James, who becomes twelfth man.

Team: R. Cullis; J. Burgess, P. Gobby; L. Ward, J. Humphrey, E. Lawrence; R. Chapman, R. Morgan, R. Fyfe, R. Bransford, J. O'Neill.

With a replayed Senior Cup-tie on their hands, and much leech to make up in the league, Vauxhall face an extremely busy time between now and the end of the season.

"As You Were" In The Amateur Line-up

AFTER their double-figures victory over Leighton United, a fortnight ago, Luton Amateur have chosen an unchanged team for their visit to Bletchley Town in the League Cup.

On the last occasion the Ama-

Return Of Shanks Would Solve It

THE position would be eased a great deal if Wally Shanks were ready for a return to the team but, although he is making good progress and there are hopes that he will be able to have a match this week-end, he still has to get the "all clear" from the specialist to-day.

Biggest problem of all, of course, is what to do about the troublesome inside-left position, and it would not be surprising if the manager were toying with the idea of moving Charlie Watkins into the attack once again, for there is no doubt that it has missed him a great deal.

Victory Can Change The Position A Lot

AGAINST that move is the fact that the key-man of the United attack, Jimmy Hagan, is now playing at inside-right and, as a team to have any chance of holding the United, Hagan must be subdued and that is a major task.

Yesterday, the manager would

Balance Is £352, BUT- Club Has Soon To Pay £307

That Flansted Cricket Club has a balance of £352 was revealed at the annual meeting held at the "Three Blackbirds" yesterday week. This record-breaking state of affairs will unfortunately last for a few days as £307 has soon to be paid out for the new permanent wicket, for which a grant of £227 has been received from the Lord's Taverners.

The balance, with a little to spare, was raised by the Entertainment Committee during the winter.

The club is hoping that the wicket and opening ceremony on June 20, to be attended by several celebrities, will be the great occasion it deserves to be.

The meeting, a well-attended one, heard the secretary's report, in which he paid tribute particularly to the retiring captain, Mr. J. C. Turner, who came top of the batting averages.

SUCCESSFUL SEASON

He reported a successful season, with 11 games won, 10 lost, drawn, and only one abandoned. A full and improved fixture list for 1953 has been completed.

The impetus given to the club by the permanent wicket was stressed, particularly with regard to the encouragement of young players.

The president, Lord Farrer, was elected, and the main body of the vice-presidents was also elected. Mr. J. Caswell was elected captain, Mr. J. Caswell vice-captain, and the secretary and treasurer, Mr. R. S. Russell and Mr. H. Anstee, were both re-elected.

The committee will comprise Dr. John, the Rev. C. E. Russell, and Messrs. L. Papworth, Hopcroft, E. Smith, J. Caswell, Powell, McDougall, Ferguson, Anstee, and R. S. Russell.

WON ON THEIR OWN COURSE

S. S. Field (scr.), the Dunstable Downs professional, partnered by G. U. Lyle (7), won the 18-holes foursome bogey in the Dunstable Downs Golf Club's 10th annual meeting at Dunstable Downs on Thursday.

They returned two up, second place being taken by J. Harrison (3) and S. White (10), of Northants.

In the morning round, a four-ball medal over 18 holes, leading returns were: E. S. Watson (7) and F. Rawlings (8), Bedfordshire, 65 net; A. Attwood (5) and M. Henderson (5), Dunstable, 67 net; and C. W. Day (7), Bedford and County, 67; J. S. Blake (10) and E. N. Kay (16), Wellingborough, 67; R. Hurl-Hobbs (15) and A. D. Rae (16), Dunstable Downs, 67.

MEDAL COMPETITION

Leading returns in the South Beds Ladies' monthly medal on Tuesday were: W. F. Thomas, 102-24-79; Mrs. L. Ward, 105-25-79; Mrs. V. Joney, 101-22-79.

Huddersfield Had A "DOUBLE-DOUBLE"

Disappointing Town Yield Two Vital Home Points

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN... 0 HUDDERSFIELD TOWN 2

Not only did Huddersfield become the first team to complete a "double" over the Town this season, but they gained the extra distinction of being the first to prevent the Town from scoring in two League matches.

They should not have got away scot-free to that extent, for the Town had their scoring chances of which they failed to make the fullest use.

That injuries and illness deprived them of the services of such regulars as Baynam, Aherne and Mitchell was an unfortunate blow to the Town on the eve of a match in which they needed their full strength if ever they did.

Replacement of these players did not help the team to achieve cohesion and they never looked so well-balanced or so formidable as they did at Huddersfield, who were very strong in defence and showed more constructive ideas in attack.

Yet, throughout the match, the Town entered their share of the play and actually had a good deal more than their share after the interval, though that could have been due to Huddersfield's failure to hold on to their two goals lead.

Once more, with virtually four points at stake, the first goal was an important item.

That it had fallen to the Town, for they had the odd chances early on and only a great leap by Wheeler prevented Pyle giving them the lead a few minutes before the short spell that finally turned the match in Huddersfield's favour.

STRUCK QUICK BLOWS

Two goals in four minutes shook the Town to the core and GLAZZARD got the first with a header and then a header to the unmarked SHINER, who ran on and toe-ended it past the advancing Stretton.

Four minutes later, Glazward and Owen went up for a high ball together and it flicked off a head to the unmarked SHINER, who ran on and toe-ended it past the advancing Stretton.

That was the beginning and end of the scoring in an encounter that did not really produce the glitter that had been expected.

Spells of excitement came and passed, but the finishing of neither side reached a high standard and a couple of good chances passed the Town by after the interval.

Both fell to the Town. The first time Wheeler diverted his shot and when the second dropped up he headed the wrong side of the post with Wheeler out of position.

Pyle worked out a couple of half-chances for himself and failed to apply the finish, and that was about the limit of the openings that came the Town's way, hard though they fought in the second half.

Once again, they earned credit for the way in which they refused to knuckle under against a substantial lead, but although they had few original or even part-worn ideas about the best way in which to split the very strong Huddersfield defence, FORWARDS WERE DISAPPOINTING.

Long before the end, the writing was clearly on the wall and Huddersfield had no real difficulty

SHILLINGTON ARE ODDS-ON TITLE FAVOURITES NOW

Their Rival's Failure Puts Them In A Much Stronger Position

Odds-on favourites now for the championship of the Premier Division of Luton and South Beds League are Shillington, who jumped to the top as the result of their own success, coupled with the failure of Caddington.

Shillington's win at Toddington was a good performance, and Caddington were beaten by Napier Sports, who, after rather a disappointing time, suddenly found the form that gained them the title last season.

The position now is that Shillington lead Caddington by one point and have three matches in hand. Only other team really in the picture at the top of the table are Stopley, who had no match last week, and seven points behind with one game in hand.

Electrolux, still seeking their first victory, fell decisively again, but the villages "derby" between Eaton Bray and Dagnall produced a hard-fought struggle in which a late emerged on top by the odd goal.

What hopes Leagrave B.L. had of overhauling Tottenham, leaders of Division I, were checked by their surprisingly heavy defeat at the hands of the Intermediate Cup finalists, Glendale, who hoisted themselves into this place.

By winning their outstanding matches, Glendale can draw level with Tottenham, and an interesting struggle for honours seems to be in prospect here.

Luton Greyhounds RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR SATURDAY

6.50-470yds: 31 Gem Cutters (Feb 28, to 4, 24.93); 151 Just Janet; 363 River Bank; 153 Roger Boy; 416 Terry's Pat; 535 Sun's Boy. Reserve: 554 Beauty.

7.10-470yds: 164 Baby Low; 632 Deemster; 114 Eagle's Nest; 236 Golden Dawn; 212 12 1 137 Leona. Reserve: 65 Lullaby.

7.30-410yds: 2 Anna Belle; 63 Elbow's Jade (Feb 19, to 6, 24.70); 111 Lone Eagle; 134 Signer; 454 Whiskers. Reserve: 45 King-Kong (Feb 28, to 1, 24.80).

7.50-470yds: 125 It's Easy; 462 Please Do; 345 Ribby; 451 Rich; 54 Scrubber; 214 Tint.

8.10-470yds: 115 Friday; 115 Gambler; 1 Gold Flash; 121 Kit-Kat; 621 Tracer; Watry (Jan 29, to 3, 24.51).

8.30-470yds: 123 Bill Badger; 124 Carpicose; 135 Greenies; 2 Miss Taker; 341 Rosie's Boy; 315 Violet.

Angels: 124 Tanager; 212 9 122 Charlie H; 146 Hopeless; 123 My Old Mate; 534 Riverside; 142 Tony. Reserve: 554 Gilt.

SELECTIONS

6.50: Just Janet (Gem Cutters, Win's Red Lion, 151 Just Janet, 153 Roger Boy, 416 Terry's Pat, 535 Sun's Boy, Reserve: 554 Beauty).

7.10: Eagle's Nest (Baby Low, Golden Dawn), 115 Friday, 115 Gambler; 1 Gold Flash; 121 Kit-Kat; 621 Tracer; Watry (Jan 29, to 3, 24.51).

8.30-470yds: 123 Bill Badger; 124 Carpicose; 135 Greenies; 2 Miss Taker; 341 Rosie's Boy; 315 Violet.

Angels: 124 Tanager; 212 9 122 Charlie H; 146 Hopeless; 123 My Old Mate; 534 Riverside; 142 Tony. Reserve: 554 Gilt.

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Angels: 124 Tanager; 212 9 122 Charlie H; 146 Hopeless; 123 My Old Mate; 534 Riverside; 142 Tony. Reserve: 554 Gilt.

GOOD WIN FOR THE LEADERS

Limbury O.B., 14-18 Section leaders in Luton Youth League had a good win over Beechwood last week and Vauxhall, and Luton Argyle recorded comfortable wins.

In the 14-16 Section Limbury surprised Poynters Road, beating them by five goals. Beechwood, however, beat the meeting between Langley Rangers and Vauxhall Minors. Langley won, but only after a very hard fight.

14-18 BEECHWOOD Y.C. 2, LIMBURY O.B. 13 (Evans 6, Simpson 2, Lavery 3, Fenwick, Smith).

14-16 VAUXHALL MINORS 0, LANGLEY RANGERS 2 (Evans, Newton).

KINGSTON ATH. 3 (Devonald, Cunberland, Sheppard), OLD BEDFORD ROAD O.B. 2 (Whitby, Robson).

POYNTERS ROAD 2 (Punter, Hawkins), LIMBURY O.B. 7 (Ockelton, 3, Tomlinson 2, Richardson, Killackey).

Angling

LAST CLUB MATCH OF SEASON

On Sunday, 25 members attended the last Leighton Buzzard club match of the season in the river Ousel at Water Eaton "Deeps". Sport was patchy and the winner caught only four fish which were all perch.

Results: Mr. V. Watson 3lb 10oz, Mr. E. Read 3lb 5oz, Mr. E. Wells 3lb 4oz 12drms.

The big fish prize was won by Mr. V. Watson with a perch of 1lb 6 oz 9 drms. Stewards in charge were Mr. C. Holdom and Mr. E. Read.

HOCKEY RESULT

Vauxhall Ladies 2, Chiltern Ladies 7

FOOTBALL

LUTON TOWN F.C.

SATURDAY, 7th MARCH
Combination Cup

LUTON RESERVES

v.

NORTHAMPTON RESERVES

Kick-off 3 p.m.

ADMISSION: Centre Stand 2/-; Ring Stand 1/-; Backs Stand 1/-; Boys 10d. (separate entrance); Ground (not covered) 1/-; Boys 9d.

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