

Win At Lincoln Is Needed

TOWN PICK UNCHANGED TEAM FOR VITAL MATCH

With Sheffield United and Huddersfield Town both having, on paper at any rate, comparatively easy home tasks on Saturday, the Town's visit to Lincoln presents another vital stage in their fight to remain in the promotion battle.

As things stand at the moment, they just cannot afford to drop a point and there will be an all-out bid for victory on the Sincil Bank ground.

Some time ago, Sheffield United's manager, Reg. Freeman fixed the target of points necessary for promotion as 58 and, to reach it, the United have to gain nine points from their remaining eight matches which does not seem to be a tremendous task in view of the fact that they still have four to play at home.

To equal that tally, the Town would have to take 17 points from their remaining 10 games of which six are due to be played on opponents' grounds.

Fine Away Form Gives Encouragement

WITH five home matches left, and 45 points already in hand, Huddersfield can reasonably expect to be there or thereabouts the United's target figure, so, for the Town to hold a real chance, it will need a remarkably consistent run from them, beginning with victory at Lincoln on Saturday.

Their fine form away from home gives them hope and they can take encouragement from the fact that none of the six away matches is with teams in the top half of the table.

In addition, there is also the salient fact that Huddersfield have won only one of their last five encounters and only avoided defeat at Bury by a goal two minutes from the end.

Remaining Matches Of The Contenders

REMAINING games of the three teams are:

Sheffield United: Home—Bury, Hull, Notts County, West Ham. Away—Southampton, Nottingham Forest, Leicester, Fulham.

Huddersfield Town: Home—Southampton, Leicester, Everton, Fulham, Plymouth, Ayr—Notts County, Everton, West Ham, Rotherham.

Lincoln Town: Home—Hull, Bury, Nottingham Forest, Brentford. Away—Lincoln, Bury, Blackburn, Everton, Brentford, Doncaster.

Apart from the preponderance of away matches facing them, the Town's programme does not look quite so difficult as those of the others and Huddersfield may well be tested to the full in four of their home matches.

Chose Unchanged Team Unhesitatingly

ANYWAY, the Town's immediate problem is next Saturday and, after their last two

LAST-MINUTE PENALTY DRAMA

Vauxhall Motors 1, Arley Town 0.

Just how evenly matched these two teams are is proved by the fact that after 100 minutes play in the Bedfordshire Senior Cup semi-final there was only one goal difference.

Hero of the Vauxhall team was goalkeeper Johnstone, who saved a last-minute penalty, which was taken by Bottomley, the player who scored Arley's last-second equaliser in the first meeting at Sheffield.

It was a hard-fought game, and although Arley had more of the play territorially, their forwards had no punch and rarely got the better of the Motors' defence, in which Johnstone, Gobby and Humphreys were outstanding.

Vauxhall scored in the seventh minute through BRADHAM, but they spent most of the first half in defence.

Determined to equalise, Arley launched attack after attack after the interval, only to be thwarted by the first-time tackling of the Motors' defence.

Then, with the referee about to blow for full-time, Athol Street, the South Midlands League side's dangerous centre-forward, broke away and was fouled by Johnstone.

Bottomley took the penalty, but Johnstone threw himself to the left and made a brilliant save to give Vauxhall a rather fortunate victory.

Golf

WIN FOR SOUTH BEDS LADIES

In a ladies' match played at South Beds against Doncaster Downs on Monday the home team won by 4 games to three.

South Beds	Doncaster Downs
Mrs. Crew	1 Mrs. Grear
Mrs. Brown	0 Mrs. Lyle
Mrs. Hill	1 Mrs. Moore
Mrs. Hosler	0 Mrs. Stimson
Mrs. Olney	1 Mrs. Dellar
Mrs. Aldrich	0 Mrs. Barker
Mrs. Thomas	0 Mrs. Seaby
Total	4 Total

Darts

TODDINGTON & DISTRICT LEAGUE

DIVISION "A"				
Dog and Badger	P	W	D	L
Chiquers	23	19	3	1
Flying Horse	23	18	2	3
Fancott Arms	23	14	2	7
Red Lion, Biddisham	23	12	6	5
Angel	23	10	4	9
Groom Man "A"	23	11	2	14
White Hart	23	8	2	13
Carpenter Arms	23	6	4	13
Crofton Sports	23	7	6	10
Swan, Flitwick	23	5	3	15
Sow and Pigs	23	3	0	20
Rising Sun	23	1	1	21

BOGEY

Leading returns in a bogey competition by South Beds Ladies played on Tuesday were:

Mrs G H Cleveley (19) 1 down; Mrs E H V Jorey (22) 5 down; Mrs Robinson (15) 5 down.

Rugby

PLUCKY FIGHT FAILED TO KEEP RECORD

Bedford Athletic 6, Old Lutonians 3.

Beaten for the first time this season, Old Lutonians were far from disgraced and, had they not been deserted by good luck, would probably have beaten the Athletic and thus laid a "bogey."

The Lutonians' forwards played splendidly, but the backs, although having a lot of the ball, did not move smoothly. Main fault was indifferent handling.

Credit must go to the Bedford defence, and especially to Anderson, their full-back, who time and again cleared their line with 40-yard kicks to touch.

During the first ten minutes the Old Boys were subdued and hardly they found their own half, but taking every chance offered, their forwards began penetrating the Bedford defence and were soon pressing. From a quick head ball, travelling the length of the Old Boys' three-quarter line for the line to dive over to score, but the not-too-difficult kick failed.

Attributed to greater efforts the Bedford forwards took play into the Luton half and from a scrum between the points a good heel gave Valentine, their fly-half, a chance for a drop-kick, which was taken successfully. With the score level Bedford continued to press but they were never safe from attack.

During one Bedford rally, Heanue was penalised for passing off the ground and Anderson kicked the goal easily.

Changing round it was the Old Boys who took the initiative and for long periods penned the Bedford side in their own half.

It seemed certain that they would score when Heanue followed up a cross-kick, but the referee awarded a scrum to the defence for offside.

BETTER FORM WAS MAINTAINED

Biggleswade 0, Luton 18.

Maintaining their improved form, Luton gave one of their best displays of the season at Biggleswade.

The scrum backed solidly—although their heeling is still not good enough—and the back division was in top form.

But Jones opened the scoring with a neat try after a reverse pass from the wing and then Temple started a defence-splitting move which enabled Jack Jones to score the second try of the match. The same player scored again after a similar movement.

Luton were well on top at this juncture and after several strong attacks on the right Hammond touched down.

The home side presented a tightly-packed defence in the second half but, even so, Luton added further points through Hammond and Skinner.

DEPLETED TEAM'S DECISIVE WIN

Old Vauxhallians 0, Vauxhall Motors 4.

Although the Motors fielded a depleted side at St. Albans, they were too strong for the Old Boys and dominated the play.

Yet they played with only 14 men and three forward and both half-back positions were filled by reserves.

First-half tries were scored by Holmes and Walter (2) and Price converted two of them. The second half began with Vauxhall "camping" on the Old Boys' line, but although they looked certain scorers on several occasions, they were held off.

Costing the pressure the Motors did not let up for an instant and eventually the home defence wilted and further tries were added by Holmes, Booth and Bland. Price converting one of them.

Man of the match was Booth. Playing out of position at scrum-half, he was always in the line-out, and started many dangerous movements.

Durham, play in the "A" team. They are Folwell (left-back), William Bell (left-half) who had a trial some weeks ago, and Raymond Bell (centre-half) and Williams (outside-left).

Langley Park are a youth team whose players are all under the age of 18.

Vauxhall Leave Well Alone

BACK again to the Spartan League and the need for points to get away from the bottom rungs of the table are Vauxhall Motors on Saturday.

They go to Harrow with whom they drew 3-3 at Luton earlier in the season and are hopeful of at least repeating that performance.

Wise, the selectors are not changing the team that overcame Arley narrowly in the Bedfordshire Senior Cup semi-final.

Team: D. Johnstone; J. Burgess, P. Gobby; L. Ward, J. Humphrey, E. Lawrence; R. Chappin, J. O'Neill, G. Todd, R. Brandham, A. Morgan.

Another Youngster Chosen By Amateur

THERE is another home match in the Spartan League this week for Luton Amateur who will have Epping Town as their visitors.

As Tony Rakowski is playing in the charity match on the Town ground in the morning, he has to be replaced and this will be accomplished by switching Lou Jackson to left-half and introducing another youngster, Ronald Wilkins, at outside left.

Rakowski reports for National Service next week and is unlikely to play any more for the Amateur this season.

Team: A. Jones; H. Hurst, T. Kilby; P. Smith, B. Sparvis, L. Jackson; K. Crawley, A. Allen, G. Clare, J. Williams, R. Wilkins.

Kent's Home After Spell Away

AFTER three consecutive away games, Kent's Athletic return to their Waller-avenue ground on Saturday for a match with old rivals, Baldock Town.

Harry Naylor is hoping to return to centre-half in which case, Reg. Noble will revert to left-back. Only other doubt concerns Bill Meyrick and if he is available to play at inside left, this should bring much-needed punch to the attack. Probable team:

C. Middleton; L. Morgan, R. Noble, R. Roster, H. Naylor, W. Sing; K. Watts, R. Redding, D. Gummell, W. Meyrick, T. McCurdie.

KEPT IN THE RACE FOR TITLE

Amateur Led Twice, But Dropped A Point

Luton Amateur 2, Saffron Walden Town 2.

The Amateur managed to keep in the Spartan League, Division I, promotion race when they held Saffron Walden to a draw at Stockingstone-wood.

However, this was a scrambling sort of game and had the Luton side displayed their usual initiative they would probably have obtained both points.

Mid-way through the first half CLARE scored to give the Amateur a deserved lead and although PALMER equalised a few minutes later, SMITH scored again, almost on the stroke of half-time.

Chances fell to both sides in the second half, but they were mostly wasted.

Ten minutes from the end PALMER beat Jones again to give Saffron Walden a share of the spoils.

On the run of the play a draw was a just result.

VITAL MEETING ON SATURDAY

Vital match in the 14-18 Division of the Luton Youth League is due to take place on Saturday when Limbury O.B. and Vauxhall meet at Vauxhall.

Both sides will be all out for victory as the result will have a distinct bearing on the final placings in the League.

Last Saturday's results went according to the form book.

14-18

LUTON HOTSPUR 0, ST. MARGARET'S Y.C. 5 (Rushon 2, Glenister 2, opponent).

LUTON TOWN YOUTH XI 7 (Southam 4, Tottenham, Chamberlain, opponent), OLD BEDFORD ROAD O.B. 2.

LUTON CO-OP Y.C. 0, LUTON ARGYLE 8 (Wheelhouse 4, Whitehill, Wilkins, Parrott, Hull).

HART HILL ATH 1 (Tomlin), LIMBURY O.B. 7 (Evans 2, Simpson 3, Barrett, Wood 2).

14-16

KINGSTON ATH 0, LANGLEY RANGERS 7 (Evans 2, Gersch 2, Jones, Bunce, opponent).

LIMBURY O.B. 12, LUTON HOTSPUR 0 (Bedford Road O.B. 7 (Brown 3, Heisterberg 2, Young, Robson), BISCOT MILL Y.C. 2.



BUD AHERNE, the Town's left-back chosen to play for Epsom again, may have a match test with the Reserves at Norwich on Saturday.

CUP FORM DISAPPOINTS

Poor Display By Reserves

IPSWICH TOWN RES. 4, LUTON TOWN RES. 1.

Seemingly unable to find the form in the Combination Cup that earned them honours in the League competition, the Town Reserves have only four points to show out of 10 so far, and their defeat at Portman-road, only their third this season, was also their heaviest.

In addition, this was the most disappointing display they have put up and almost the only crumb of comfort for them was that Shanks came through his first test after injury successfully.

Otherwise, it was a most undistinguished showing from the Town, with the forwards failing to get going and showing a lack of "devil" in their play.

Apart from Shanks, whose distribution was good, there was also weakness in the middle line, from which Hall is being missed. For Kelly could not master Higgins and Smith was well below his best.

With Sexton looking far from happy on the wing, and Moore still not over the bad patch that cost him his first team place, the right-wing accomplished little, and McJarrow slowed down things by his fondness for holding on to the ball too long.

Scott caught the limelight at times, but his passing was inaccurate, and Taylor would have done a deal better had he not shown too much of an inclination to shoot from acute angles.

Almost the only players who showed something like normal form were Dunne, Cooke and Stretton.

Cooke had the better of the tussle with his former colleague, Havenga, and Stretton had no chance with any of the four goals obtained by Ipswich.

The first did not arrive until three minutes from half-time, when HIGGINS scored from close range, but the second was not long in arriving through DOBSON in the first minute of the second half.

Hopes of the Town were finally sunk when FLETCHER coolly accepted a chance after 58 minutes, and the fact that MOORE reduced the lead in the closing stages was merely incidental, especially as DOBSON put on the home team's fourth two minutes before the end.

IPSWICH TOWN RES.—McMillan; Feeney, Snell; Fletcher, Clarke, Murchison; Havenga, Dobson, Higgins, Callaghan, Marsh.

LUTON TOWN RES.—Stretton; Dunne, Cooke; Shanks, Kelly, Smith; Sexton, Moore, McJarrow, Scott, Taylor.

TWO LOOK WELL SET FOR LEAGUE HONOURS NOW

Caddington Are First Premier Club To Score 100 Goals

With not the slightest suspicion of a shock result in the matches in which the leading Luton and South Beds League teams are concerned, it is a case of "as you were" at the top of each of the divisions.

Not one title has been captured yet but, in two divisions, the Premier and Division IV, Shillington and Sundon Park respectively, seem to be all set for the final run in.

Even should Caddington win their four outstanding matches, they could total only 42 points, a tally Shillington can top by merely averaging one point from each of their last six matches.

Stopsley, third in the table with 46 points, but even in the somewhat unlikely event of that happening, Shillington should have plenty to spare at the end, judging by the consistent way in which they are playing.

On the other hand, Sundon Park, with a clear lead of seven points, require only four points from their last five matches to make certain of the title.

Shillington's win at Dagnall was a good performance as was that of Caddington in taking full points from Toddington and, by scoring four goals, they earned the distinction of being the first Premier Division team to reach a century. Shillington still require six to achieve that feat.

At the other end of the scale, Hitchin-road O.B. fighting against the possibility of relegation, gained two valuable points from their meeting with Barton, and bottom team, Electroflux, again found that first victory elusive when they drew with Luton Social.

Each of the first three teams in Division I, Tottenham, Leagrave B.L. and Glendale, scored seven goals, but the palm for prolific scoring has to be handed to Division II leaders, Bells Park, who reached 14 against Warden Hill.

Not that that made their place any more tenable, for they are in the position of having to await slips by Chapel End Athletic who are not giving much sign of making them, judging by the way in which they accounted for Luton United.

Luton Brewery fielded two teams in this Division and lost both matches, quite decisively.

PREMIER DIVISION

NAPIER SPORTS 5 (Weston 2, Duffy, Hewitt, oppo.), LIMBURY O.B. 1 Dagnall 1 (Thorne), SHILLINGTON 4 (Gardner 3, Film).

HITCHIN-ROAD O.B. 1 (Allison), BARTON ROVERS 0.

ELECTROFLUX 2 (Golding 2), LUTON SOCIAL 2 (Jackson 2).

TODDINGTON ROVERS 0, CADDINGTON 4 (Thorn 2, Upton, Austin).

DIVISION I

SHILLINGTON "A" 2 (Hare, Aldridge), LAPORTE 1 (O'Neill).

TOTTENHAM 7 (Brody 3, Bowers 2, Walte 2), ENGLISH ELECTRIC 2 GLNDALF 7 (James 2, Kelly 2, Jones, Knapp, Palmer), PIONEER CORINTHIANS 0.

FOOTBALL LUTON TOWN F.C.

SATURDAY, 21st MARCH Metropolitan and District League

LUTON TOWN "A" v. WINDSOR & ETON

Kick-off 3 p.m.

ADMISSION: Centre Stand 2/-; Wing Stand and Enclosure 1/6; Boys 1/-; Bobbery Stand 1/3; Boys 10d. (separate entrance); Ground (not covered) 1/-, Boys 9d.

THE TRAFFIC WAS MOSTLY ONE WAY

Inexperienced Barnsley No Match For The Town

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 6 BARNSELEY 0

This very nearly came into the category of the slaughter of the innocents, for Barnsley had far too great a levelling of inexperience to provide anything more than a reasonably serious practice match for the Town.

Or, at least, that was the impression this game left, with the Town winning in a canter and rarely seeming in the slightest danger of conceding a goal.

Apart from the satisfaction the fans took from seeing the Town among the goals again after their comparatively barren patch, this was not the sort of meeting the average supporter would want to see every week.

Once the Town took the lead, the exchanges became too one-sided, with the exception of occasional Barnsley breakaways to be really interesting, and the only cause for wonderment at the end was how Barnsley escaped with only six goals to add to their "against" column.

Some embarrassment by the Barnsley forwards in the early stages, including one sickening movement that had the Town defence in real trouble for almost the only time during the afternoon, was amply countered by two quick blows Turner struck in the 16th and 18th minutes.

Before this, the Town had not been moving any too smoothly. Their passing of the lively ball was sending it anywhere but where it was intended, but the successes steadied the line and began a long spell of good football.

TOO HOT TO HOLD

A switch out to the left-wing by Pye brought the first and TURNER was waiting by the far post to head through coolly the accurate centre when it came across.

Two minutes later, Mitchell made a drive that Hough found too hot to hold and when the ball ran loose, TURNER was there to tap it into the net.

Then, with 31 minutes gone, a low centre by Mitchell found WATKINS unmarked and the inside-left did the rest to score his first goal since the one he obtained at Barnsley in October.

After one or two raids in the early part of the second half, Barnsley were quickly forced to resume their defensive role and YUELL tried to stave off the disaster threatened by another Pye centre. Instead, he crashed the ball past the surprised Hough to put the Town four up after 61 minutes.

There followed a period in which more goals always seemed likely to come the Town's way, but the next success was delayed for a quarter of an hour.

Then, a slip by McNeil left CULLEN facing Hough and he calmly took the ball around the goalkeeper before triumphantly driving it into the net.

Four minutes later CULLEN completed the scoring, again from close range and again with Hough left hopelessly placed after a defensive lapse.

This victory marked the completion of the Town's third "double" of the season and, judged on this showing, there was no weak link in the team.

BLANK SHEET WITHOUT DIFFICULTY

No fault could be found with the re-organised defence which kept a blank sheet without any obvious difficulty and Hall again showed just how unfortunate he has been to have to put up with such a prolonged spell of reserve team service.

Morton and Owen were much in command and so much were their visiting inside-forwards under a cloud in the second half that both were able to join in the Town's attacks.

25th MATCH WAS FATAL

After playing 24 consecutive South Midlands League matches this season without meeting defeat, Skefko Athletic, leaders of Division II, caused a surprise on Saturday by losing at home to Leighton United.

As their nearest rivals, Bletchley B.B.O.B., gained an easy away win, the position has been opened up again and Skefko's lead is whittled down to three points.

Failure of Cranfield at Langford also caused a change in the set-up at the head of Division I, and installed Biggleswade, worthy winners over Bedford St. Cuthbert's, as firm favourites for the title.

Although Electroflux now move into second place, they are two points behind the leaders and have played two matches more.

PREMIER DIVISION

Amphill Tn 3, Potton Utd 2; Bedford Corinthians 2, Baldock Tn 1; Darnley Tn 1, Wootton B. Cross 5; Harrold Utd 2, Ken's Ath 0; Kempton Roy 1, Peartree Old Boys 2; Shefford Tn 7, Leitchworth Tn 1.

DIVISION I

Arley Tn 2, Houghton Rangers 2; Histon 2, Queen's Works 2; Bedford St. Cuthbert's 0, Biggleswade Tn 1; Langford 2, Cranfield Utd 0; Percival Ath 2, Stortford 2; St. Neots St. Mary's 0, Electroflux 5; Vauxhall Motors 0, Marston Shelton 2.

DIVISION II

Baldock Tn 2, Flitwick Ath 1; Bedford Works 4, AC-Delco 2; Britannia North End 2, Bleckley B.B.O.B. 6; Skefko Ath 1, Leighton Utd 2; Marston Shelton 3, Davis Ath 1; Peartree Old Boys 0, Emsworthy Wks 1; Wootton B. Cross 0, Stortford Abbey 3.

Luton Greyhounds

RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR SATURDAY

6.30—410yds: 464 Captain Cutler; 656 Father's Glory; 644 Lady; 165 Neapolitan; 353 Plastic; 222 Solitaire. Reserve: 534 Golden Harvest.

6.50—470yds: 1 Gem Cutters; 554 Leicesters; 544 Manor Park; 156 Mary's Son; 633 River Bank; 265 Rockafella. Reserve: 255 Sam's Sons.

7.10—410yds: 362 Brown Amber; 433 Half-Pint; 36 Jill; 466 Michael Karl; 466 Princess; 546 The Bride. Reserve: 135 Jim Fanny.

7.30—410yds: 566 Biddy (March 14, tp 1, 24.78); 562 Greenings; 445 Here's Hoping; 346 Radwell; 243 River Side; Vesp (Feb 19, tp 1, 24.43); May 5, tp 2, 24.80). Reserve: 542 Mol.

7.50—675yds: 131 Black Jack; 423 Mad Swinner; 341 Quick Answer; 412 Scrubber; 131 Sporting Express; 114 Tracer.

8.10—470yds: 14 Flying Saucer (March 14, tp 2, 24.49); 4 Fox Hunter; 551 Gambler; 12 Gold Flash; 3 Vanhook; 423 Slater.

8.30—410yds: 6 Camry; 341 Card-sharper; 114 Echo; 244 Lord Luck; 4 Moch Melody; 451 Whiskers.

8.50—410yds: Cynic (March 3, tp 3, 24.62); March 7, tp 1, 24.64); 5 Good Corona (Feb 25, tp 1, 25.06); Feb 28, tp 6, 25.01); 154 Lone Badger; 253 Mr. Murphy; 3 The Pees; 31F Viola. Reserve: 534 It's Easy.

SELECTIONS

6.50: Gem Cutters (Rockafella, Mary's Son); 7.10: Midway (Karl, Greenings); 7.30: Vesp (Radwell, Greenings); 7.50: Sporting Express (snapper) (Tracer, Quick Answer); 8.10: Slater (Gambler, Gold Flash); 8.30: Whiskers (Moch Melody, Echo); 8.50: Viola (The Pees, Lone Badger).

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