

Bury Are On The Up-Grade

BUT UNCHANGED TOWN SHOULD DO THE TRICK

After their great win at Doncaster, it was any odds on the Town announcing an unchanged team for their home game with Bury on Saturday, providing the injury position was such that this was possible. Fortunately, the Town's ill-luck with injuries seems to have ended, for the moment at any rate, and the only first team player who has needed treatment this week is Bob Morton, who is a certain starter.

The treatment has not been to the knee which caused him trouble last week, but to the ankle he injured at Derby and which he felt after last Saturday's match. Happily, this is becoming stronger daily, and the Town, with no team doubts, and a run of eight matches without defeat behind them, are in a very happy position.

By beating Bury, a comparatively easy task on paper, the Town could further their challenge to the leaders, but despite the lowly position held by the opposition, the Town will not treat this match lightly.

Bury Are Well On The Up-Grade

BY experience sometimes of the bitter kind, they have learnt that there is no such thing as an easy match in the Second Division, and Bury are fighting to get away from the danger zone, as shown by the results of their last three matches.

Last Saturday they beat Nottingham Forest, the week before that they caused one of the day's surprises by forcing a goalless draw at Birmingham, and in the previous match played a 4-4 draw with Leeds United at Gigg-lane.

These results, following hard on the heels of six consecutive defeats, indicate a decided improvement.

Have Made A Wide Search For Players

RECENTLY they have been involved in a widespread search for players to strengthen their team, but have met with many disappointments, and so far have succeeded only in securing Tilley, an inside-forward from Arsenal.

He seems to have helped considerably, for the start of the improvement coincided with his inclusion in the team. Centre-half has been a somewhat troublesome position to Bury, and they have made bids for several players, including McArthur, of Leicester City, and Leivers, of Chesterfield, who went to Manchester City last week-end.

Meanwhile, Hart, a Bury stalwart for some years, is holding down the centre-half berth.

Imlach Was Injured Against Admira

IF the Town approach this match in the same determined frame of mind as they did the one at Doncaster, there should be no danger, and they will be remembering that Bury emphasised that they have struck better form by beating Admira at Gigg-lane on Monday evening.

That victory might cost them dear, for, in that match, Imlach, their very dangerous outside-left, suffered a groin injury, and is in the doubtful category for Saturday.

However, Bury are hopeful that he will make a quick recovery, and, yesterday, an official said that they have provisionally chosen the team that beat the Forest.

Surprise Resignation Of Bury Manager

THE resignation last week-end of the Bury manager, John McNeil, who was formerly with Torquay, came as a surprise, and, Dave Russell, the former Sheffield Wednesday wing-half, was appointed to the post yesterday. The line-up will be:

LUTON TOWN: Stretton; Dunne, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Watkins; Davies, Turner, Pye, Cummins, Mitchell.

BURY (probable): Gorman; Fairclough, Griffiths; Daniel, Hart, Bardsley; Gleadall, Tilley, Plant, Kelly, Imlach.

Bury have never had a great deal of success at Kenilworth-road, but they always seek to play good football.

Ralph Hann's Last Match With The Town

THIS will be Ralph Hann's last match as trainer to the Town, for he takes over as head trainer of Derby County next Monday, and he will be as keen as anybody to leave on a winning note.

At their meeting on Tuesday, the Directors considered the position produced by Ralph's resignation, but issued no statement.

Luton Greyhounds

RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR SATURDAY

6.30.-410yds: 265 Black Satin, 341 Charlie H, 65 Jasper (Nov 19, to 5, 24.49); 251 Johnny Boy, 546 Nickel Coin, 223 Terry's Pal, reserve 563 Chiltern Boy.
6.50.-470yds: 562 Darius, 441 Max Future, 6 Pat Will, 4 Ruby, 214 Skip It, 656 The Smith, reserve 515 Cliff's Pal.
7.10.-410yds: 1 Black and White, 341 Brickhill Lad, 634 Golden Chance, 262 Good Health, 4 Little Pansy, 212 Whipped Cream, reserve 456 I Suppose.
7.30.-470yds: 555 Hill Crest, 563 Kid-Kat, 311 Miss Carol, 563 Porcello, 662 Sammy, 642 Speckled Band, reserve 225 Chance.
7.50.-470yds: 361 Bentley, 3 Beating Lou, 513 Dark Clouds, 112 King Charles, 152 Golden Penny, 145 Solato.
8.10.-410yds: 515 Agile, Camp (Nov 19, to 4, 24.35; Nov 21, to 2, 24.42); Jackie (Nov 19, to 2, 24.33; Nov 21, to 6, 24.36); Powick (Nov 19, to 3, 24.36; Nov 28, to 3, 24.46); 36 River Bank (Nov 28, to 5, 24.40); 434 Ruffies.
8.30.-470yds: 6 Arm In Arm, 234 Blackbird, 461 Black Jack, 343 Knockers, 5 Redbourne, 243 Snow-drift.
8.50.-410yds: 536 Bow Bells, 636 David's Choice, 453 Flying Officer, 225 Jade, 233 Kye, 232 Marble, reserve 62 Betty D. (Nov 18, to 4, 24.46).
SELECTIONS
6.30: Jasper (Terry's Pal, Nickel Coin); 6.50: Max Future (Ruby, The Smith); 7.10: Whipped Cream (Black and White, Good Health); 7.30: Porcello (Miss Carol, Kid-Kat); 7.50: King Charles (nap); Dark Clouds (Bentley); 8.10: Ruffies (Jackie, Agile); 8.30: Redbourne (Black Jack, Snow-drift); 8.50: Flying Officer (Kye, Jade).

Changes In Reserve Team Are Likely

FOR their visit to Reading in the Combination, there are likely to be some changes in the Reserve team, not because of dissatisfaction, but to give other players an outing.

A place is likely to be found for Wally Shanks, who has not had a game for a fortnight and Ray Smith is another who will come in for consideration.

Chances are that Leslie Jones, whose groin injury is well on the mend, will have recovered sufficiently to resume and there may be one alteration in the forward line. Final selection has been delayed until to-morrow.

Vauxhall Forced To Make A Change

AFTER fielding the same team for several weeks, Vauxhall Motors, who have had a long unbeaten run in Spartan League matches, are forced to make a change.

Gordon Todd is unable to get away from his army unit in time to make the journey to Dagenham where Vauxhall are due to meet Ford Sports and Morgan will deputise at inside-right. Team:

D. Johnstone; J. Burgess, K. Starlin; J. O'Neill, J. Humphrey, F. Bunning, C. Firms, A. Mo'na, W. Lawrence, R. Brandham, E. James.

Strong Opposition Facing Kent's

FOLLOWING their rest last week, Kent's Athletic return to their South Midlands League programme on Saturday when they entertain Liggieswade Town.

The Waders, in the course of a most consistent run, have lifted themselves into third place in the table and their present form suggests that they are one of the strongest teams in the Premier Division.

One change is being made by Kent's, Stockbridge taking over from Naylor, who is not available. Team:

R. Tottenham; W. Day, R. Noble; W. Meyrick, A. Stock-

NAPIER STRENGTHENED GRIP ON LEADERSHIP

Helped Themselves By Their Narrow Win Over Rivals

Results in the Premier Division of Luton and South Beds League on Saturday went a long way towards strengthening the grip of Napier Sports on the leadership.

Not only did they, themselves, account for their nearest rivals, Glendale, after a closely-fought game, but the teams occupying third and fourth positions in the table were beaten, too.

Position now is that Napier have a lead of six points over Glendale, who have two matches in hand. Defeat of Barton Rovers—only their second this season—was completely unexpected, since it was administered by bottom-of-the-table Hitchin-road O.B.

Things seemed to be going according to plan when Barton took an early lead of two goals, but the Old Boys hit back to equalise and, after their goalkeeper had saved a penalty, broke away to gain the decider.

Because of bad light, the match between Shillington and Stopley was abandoned with three minutes left, with the former leading by 4-1, and the Executive Committee will consider to-night whether the result will be allowed to stand.

If it does, then Shillington go into third place, two points behind Glendale, who have played a match more.

Leaders of Division I, Woburn Athletic, dropped their second point of the season when they were held at home by Leagrave Athletic and they are being hotly pursued by Bells Park and Leagrave B.L., both of whom won with something to spare.

Change of leadership came in Division II, where unbeaten Luton Social Reserves have taken over from Davis Athletic, who had no match. Neither had Hockliffe, who can equal Social's total of points by winning the match they have in hand.

Shock for Division III leaders, Caddington "B", was contained in the severity of their first defeat of the season at the hands of near-challengers, Sundon Park.

The setback was not sufficient to topple them off the top, but their advantage over English Electric is now only one of goal average, and Sundon Park, who have played a game less, are only one point behind.

By continuing their winning way, both Walcot Athletic and Boys' Brigade O.B. kept in the picture here.

No team in Division IV seems to be able to stop the triumphant progress of Shaw and Kilburn, whose victory over Barton Wood-working was their ninth in succession since they joined the League.

Leadership is retained by Percival Apprentices, whose margin is only one point and they have played two matches more than their rivals.

All Are On Books Of League Clubs

WHAT looks likely to be a hard-fought encounter will take place on Saturday morning, when Bedford Town's ground on Bedfordshire will be seeking to make further progress in the F.A. County Youth Championship.

In their team already announced, there are six players who are on Luton Town's books, and Middlesex, the county's opponents, have chosen a team composed entirely of players who are on amateur forms with League clubs—

T. Sansom; A. Hetherington (Chelsea); R. Yeatman (Brentford); M. Conroy (West Ham); D. Lampe, M. Evans (Fulham); A. Bassett (Brentford); A. Woods (Spurs); R. Wayton (Fulham); D. Underwood (Q.P.R.); A. Court (Chelsea).

First Meeting With Bedford Wanderers

FOR the first time in their history, Old Lutonians R.F.C. meet Bedford Wanderers, the second team of the Bedford club, who are not having a very good season, and, following experimental changes, their team may include several experienced first-team players.

Old Lutonians have chosen the following for the visit to Bedford:—

Reed; Thurlow, Thorpe, Robinson, Smith; Edmonds, Bracey; Adkins, Knapp, Shepherd, Young, Heenan, Cato, Fensome, Kelly.

On Saturday, too, the Old Boys play their annual match with the Grammar School and the following team expects to meet with stiff opposition:—

Witney; Mead, Colley, J. Thorpe; Rayner; Packwood, Macdonald; P. Vaughan, T. Vauxhall, Woods, Jackson, Bicknell, Pile, Allen, Worms.

Boys' Club Stage Boxing Tournament

GOING from strength to strength is the boxing section of Luton Boys' Club, who are staging an amateur tournament on Saturday evening.

Instructor Pat Hinds has seven of the club's own boxers on the programme, and, shaming top billing, are special contests between R. Smythe, of Hitchin Y.C., and F. Woollard, of Callowland, Watford, and F. Arnold (Electrolux), an Irish International, and J. Hall (Vauxhall).

Smythe was a semi-finalist in last season's A.B.S. championships, as was his opponent two years ago. Several of the Davis boxers who did so well at a recent tournament are also on the bill.



Despite the fact that Bury have the worst defensive record in Division II, Lewis Gorman, their goalkeeper, is playing well.

RESERVES OUT OF LUCK

Deserved More Than A Point

LUTON TOWN RESERVES 2, CHELSEA RESERVES 2

But for injuries to Kelly and McJarrow, which necessitated them leaving the field for a quarter of an hour in the first half, Luton would probably have won this Football Combination match at Kenilworth-road.

During the period in which they were in the dressing-room, Chelsea scored through LEE, but as soon as Luton were back to full strength again they were looking for the equaliser which came from SCOTT who scored from point-blank range after Downie had centered accurately.

Lee, the Chelsea centre-forward, was also taken to the dressing-room for treatment, but had returned a few minutes before Scott scored.

Luton opened the second half with an all-out attack and the Chelsea defence was ripped open and again. It was against the run of the play when CHARLTON restored Chelsea's lead, but after this it looked as if they were going to hang on to their slender advantage.

Their defence put up a better show for a spell, but two minutes from the end Pemberton broke up a Chelsea raid with a long pass to Taylor.

The winger made ground and passed to Cullen who, after having a shot charged down, flicked the ball out to MOORE. The inside-right took careful aim and blasted the ball home to give Luton a well-deserved point.

So Luton, after playing seven matches in Division I of the Combination, have been beaten only once and are still in fourth place in the table.

With any luck at all they would have beaten Chelsea who were disappointing.

The Town attack was ably led by Joe Scott who had the beating of Saunders, while Moore and Downie were often dangerous. In defence Pemberton was sometimes worried by the speed of Campbell, for all that he gave Lie winger little scope.

Hawkes practically blotted the young amateur player, Miles Spector, out of the game, and the half-backs, considering the fact that both Kelly and McJarrow were severely shaken in the early stages, came out of the game with considerable credit.

LUTON TOWN RESERVES: Baynham; Hawkes, Pemberton; Kelly, Hall, McJarrow; Cullen, Moore, Scott, Downie, Taylor.

CHELSEA RESERVES: Thomson; Sillett, Tickridge; Rule, Saunders (J.), Bowman; Campbell, Charlton, Lee, Edwards, M. Spector.

TOUGH MATCH IN YOUTH CUP

Vauxhall Motors Colts 1, Luton Town Youth XI 2

As expected, this F.A. Youth Challenge Cup match between these local rivals was a hard-fought affair.

Luton had a lot for which to thank their brilliant young goalkeeper, Alan Collier, who made many courageous saves, particularly during the last fifteen minutes when Loasby was off the field injured.

LOASBY scored the only first-half goal to give Luton a slight interval lead, but two other good chances were wasted.

Vauxhall equalised through SINFIELD, but NELSON restored Luton's lead almost immediately.

Then came the injury to Loasby, but although Vauxhall threw everything into attack they could not beat Collier.

Rugby

O.B.s' THRASHING FOR THEIR LOCAL RIVALS

Old Lutonians 28, Vauxhall Motors 0. Unbeaten since October 3rd, Old Lutonians were too strong for their rivals in this local "derby."

They won by two goals and six tries to nil and but for some indifferent handling and mediocre place-kicking the score would have been higher.

The Motors' forwards held the Old Boys' pack but once the ball was sent to the home three-quarters they were always able to make progress.

Smith scored in the early stages, after a grand run and the Lutonians never looked back.

FULFILMENT OF THAT LATENT PROMISE

Town's Fine Football In Great Win At Doncaster

By Chiltern

DONCASTER ROVERS 1, LUTON TOWN 3

Justice was done at Belle Vue, Doncaster, on Saturday in that the honours went to the team with the more ideas, the more constructive skill and the greater ability to make the most of scoring chances.

The Town went into the match expecting a tough struggle, and how right they were, for the Rovers were doughty opponents who did not give up the fight even when they were three goals down.

For some weeks, the Town have been promising to settle down into a first-class combination, but just missing complete fulfilment, but here it was in this match in which they were a team without an obvious weakness.

Against a team that put its trust to a large extent in speed of movement and straightforward methods, the Town's ordered, clever football offered a marked contrast and proved an interesting trial of strength of two vastly differing methods of approach.

The first half produced a battle in keeping with the importance of the occasion for, virtually, there were four points at stake, and although Doncaster missed a couple of relatively easy chances, a lot of goals did not seem likely, so well did both defences play.

Offenders for the Rovers were Lawlor and Harrison, both of whom shot wide when left with only Stretton to beat, and the Town's nearest approach to a goal came when a header by Turner was turned on to the bar by Hardwick.

EARLY BLOW BY MITCHELL

So, the interval was reached with the score sheet blank and both teams reasonably satisfied, though I thought that the thrusts of the Rovers' forwards made them look a little more dangerous potentially.

In the first minute after the resumption, the Town struck a blow that went a long way towards assuring them of these valuable points.

This was the sort of match in which the team obtaining the first goal gains an inestimable advantage and it fell to the Town almost before the home crowd knew the play was on again.

Straight from the kick-off, Davies intercepted a ball which went on to Pye, who slipped through a grand pass down towards the inside-left position where MITCHELL fastened on to it.

In making a bee-line for goal, he was strongly challenged by Makepeace, held off his charge and drove the ball hard and low out of Hardwick's reach.

So, Mitchell kept up his remarkably consistent scoring record for the Town, for this was the fifth consecutive match in which he has found the net.

A goal against the Rovers on their own ground is an unusual event but, certainly, neither they nor their supporters were prepared for the happenings that began when 19 minutes of the second half had ticked away.

Then, a long dribble by Cummins, enabled him to work his way along the goal-line to make a centre of awkward height that Hardwick could not reach.

It looked as if GRAHAM, standing near the far post, tried to hook the ball for a corner, mindful, obviously, of the presence of Turner.

GRAND GOAL FROM PYE

To the left-back's dismay, the ball went into his own net off the inside of the post and complete glumness settled over the ground in the next minute when a crisp movement ended with Turner pulling the ball back for PYE to score a grand goal.

That seemed the end of everything for the Rovers but, to their credit, they fought back and were rewarded after 68 minutes when LAWLOR, at full-length, got his head to a shot by Tindill and diverted it into the net.

That was the shot in the arm they needed and, for perhaps 10 minutes, they tested the quality of the Town defence, which was steady under pressure, and, helped by some spectacular saves by Stretton, came through the danger period without too many hair-raising experiences.

Failing to obtain another quick goal, the Rovers wilted, were thrown back on the defensive again by some copybook football by the Town and although they came again strongly at the end, were pushed back without a great deal of trouble.

This was a grand exhibition by the Town team as a team, with the defence close-knit and covering splendidly.

The nippy Harrison was scarcely allowed any scope at all by Owen, and Morton, despite the thrusts of the bustling McMorran, and Watkins, were indefatigable and most successful at wing-half.

Golf

MEDAL ROUND IN IDEAL CONDITIONS

There was an entry of 48 for South Beds November Medal played in ideal conditions on Saturday. Leading returns were:

FIRST DIVISION
J. E. Miller 71 - 4 = 67
J. Cattanach 73 - 3 = 70
B. C. Godfrey 75 - 4 = 71
W. Radford 81 - 9 = 72
L. G. Randall 73 - 8 = 73
O. M. M. Carter 86 - 10 = 76
V. Jorey 89 - 11 = 78

SECOND DIVISION
H. D. Connolly 92 - 22 = 70
T. N. Nightingale 95 - 24 = 71
J. B. Wright 85 - 13 = 72
J. Timmins 90 - 18 = 72
R. F. Harris 92 - 20 = 72
F. Freeman 92 - 20 = 72
J. E. Kay 98 - 24 = 74
D. Harris 90 - 16 = 74
F. Cain 95 - 20 = 75
C. Lampert 89 - 14 = 75

FOOTBALL

LUTON TOWN F.C.

The League: Division II

SATURDAY, 5th DECEMBER

LUTON TOWN

versus **BURY**

Kick-off: 2.15 p.m.
ADMISSION: Centre Stand 7/6; (standing) 5/-; Enclosure (standing only) 3/6, Boys 2/-; Bobbers' Stand (covered) 2/-, Boys 1/3 (separate entrance); Terraces (not covered) 1/9, Boys 1/-.