

SETBACK CAN BE FORGOTTEN

TEAM CAN EASILY SETTLE DOWN AGAIN

Narrowly Beaten After A Terrifically Hard Fight

By Chiltern

When strangers are the Town and defeat these days that the feeling of disappointment by the players went a good deal deeper than would normally be the case after such a close struggle against a team as strong as Everton who, after all, had ground advantage. Reaction of the officials, calculated to dispel the gloom, was: "What is a 2-1 defeat away from home? Now, all we have to do is to forget about it and settle down again."

Several of the officials were rather resentful and two or three told them that they were glad they had to meet the Town a week later when there would have been a full-strength line-up including Jesse Pye and Bob Morrison.

Avoiding that, they were fortunate, but they were deserving of this hard-fought match, while it did not produce the sort of razor edge keen to be expected from a clash of two rivals so deeply embroiled in the promotion battle.

Unsettled Period Was Bound To Come

There was bound to be an unsettled period for the Town after the mishap to Pye, whom everybody recognised would be impossible to replace and, in the Town point of view, unlucky that they should have taken on such formidable opposition in their first match without

however, it is no use dwelling on the past and on what might have been and thoughts of Pye should not be allowed to lie too heavily over the Luton football

Looking back will do no sort of good at all, and the Town must make the best of the material available.

Give Scott Time To Settle Down

PRESENT line of thought hangs that label on Scott and he did enough in this match to re-assure them, of course, he will have time to settle down to this considerable responsibility. Quickness off the mark, speed and willingness to chase everything are his chief assets, and if

First-Minute Goal Was A Bad Blow

THE longer Everton were in arrears, the better was the Town's chance, and this fact must have been drummed into the home players persistently during the interval, for they made the same tearaway start to the second half as they had to the first.

Only a minute had gone before they were on level terms, following a free kick against Cummins.

From this, the ball went over to Eglington, who made a centre of awkward height that Streten attempted to catch.

Challenging him as he did so was Hickson, and the net result was that Streten could not retain his grip on the ball, which fell to the feet of Parker, who made no mistake.

Streten Claimed He Was Fouled

THERE was an immediate appeal by the goalkeeper for a free kick and he was still claiming after the match that he had been charged whilst both his feet were off the ground.

However, the referee did not share this view and Everton had obtained a goal that was absolutely vital to them at this stage.

Not only did it give them new confidence, but it put the crowd solidly behind them and, they have not always had this encouragement at home this season.

So, for a spell, desperate defence was the rule that fell to the Town, but gradually, they got back into the game again.

Bad Luck And Good Luck Came Their Way

BIGGEST slice of bad luck that befell them came when Mitchell sent away Cummins, who beat Moore and then flashed the ball across the goalmouth.

Mitchell had taken up a good position in the middle, but could not quite reach the ball when a touch would have meant a certain goal.

There was a slight deflection which might have saved Everton, but there was no other Town forward near enough to accept the chance and all they got out of it was a corner.

On the good luck side by the Town were amazing misses by Hickson and Parker who both blazed the ball over from close in with the goal at their mercy.

Looked Likely To Hold On To A Point

GOING in to meet the ball far more consistently than they had before the interval, Everton were the more effective in attack during the second half but, even so, the Town defence gave every indication of holding out and, with the minutes flying, a point looked well within their reach.

It was not to be though, for speedy switching of defence into attack by Everton led to them obtaining the winner with a quarter of an hour left.

At first, the move did not appear to hold a dire threat, but Hickson eluded Owen's tackle and then unexpectedly switched the ball to Eglington, who was standing behind Dunne.

Momentary Wait Was Agonising

IN that position, he would have been out of the game nine times out of ten because of off-side, but Aherne, expecting the pass to be made the other way, had stayed behind and, after Eglington had beaten Streten, there was no hesitation on the part of the linesman.

For a second, he was the focus of everybody's attention and it was an agonising second for the Town, even more so when he pointed to the centre of the field signalling a goal.

After that, came the sort of fighting rally that has saved the situation so many times this season and it went close to doing so again.

Last Minute Escape For Everton

O'NEILL had all his work cut out to save what was only a half-hit shot by Turner and then, in a last desperate burst, Scott was prevented from getting a head to a long free-kick by Aherne, only because the ball flicked Farrell's head.

Even then, the Town were not done, for Mitchell's corner-kick ran along the bar—and to safety.

One could not grudge Everton their win on their second-half display, when they showed the

FOR THE RECORDS

EVERTON 2
Parker, Eglington
LUTON TOWN 1
Cummins

EVERTON: O'Neill; Moore, Lindsay; Farrell, Donovan, Lello; Wainwright, Fielding, Hickson, Parker, Eglington.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Dunne, Aherne; Shanks, Owen, Watkins; Davies, Turner, Scott, Cummins, Mitchell.

Referee: A. W. Luty, Leeds.

Attendance: 33,544.

greater capacity for working out openings and were better together and carried more punch in attack.

Marks For Their Fighting Spirit

HOWEVER, there were plenty of marks again for the fighting spirit the Town showed and there is certainly no reason for dismay about this setback. With a little bit of luck, they would have "stolen" a point.

Cummins did as much as was humanly possible, perhaps tried to do a little too much on his own, understandable perhaps on such an occasion, but he was a tremendous worker and he made some good passes down the left wing, of which a below-par Mitchell did not make the utmost use.

Most Shooting Came From Turner

THERE was little of the match-winning look about Mitchell, and Davies had rather a thin time, too, especially in the second half, when he seemed unable to lose the close attentions of Lindsay.

Too often he was standing with the ball, and he felt into his old habit of turning back with it.

Scott would have thrived on more through passes down the middle, and most of the shooting came from Turner, who was a bit unlucky not to get among the scorers.

The forwards as a whole were much more in the grip of the Everton defence than they had been earlier, and it was then that they missed the experienced direction of Pye most.

Lost Control In The Middle Of The Field

THE defence had its moments of trial, but could fairly be said to have come through well what was quite an ordeal.

When the heaviest pressure came it was because the Town had lost control in the middle of the field, and the task of both Shanks and Watkins was made more difficult by the way in which the home wing-halves came through with the ball.

Watkins was the more successful of the two, and Shanks seems to have lost some of his former assertiveness, or is it that he suffers by comparison with the formidable Morton?

Streten Earned The Ovation He Received

NO one could have done more than Owen to stem the tide. Attack after attack broke up when it reached him, nearly every ball in the air was his, and he button-holed the dashing Hickson most effectively.

The solid, reliable Aherne came through the first half with colours flying, had more on his plate in the second, but did creditably.

Although Dunne played the right sort of waiting game against Eglington, he could not prevent the winger from having a hand in both goals, but quite a lot of work was thrown upon him, and his was a gallant effort.

The player the home crowd took to their hearts, though, was Streten, for his many brilliant saves and general competence, and he deserved the ovation at the end.

Reserves Shot Without Waste Of Time

THE Town Reserves climbed into fourth place in Division I of the Football Combination by virtue of their grand 5-2 victory over Leicester Reserves at Kenilworth-road on Saturday.

This was one of their best performances and they won by three goals because they shot for goal as soon as possible, and wasted few chances.

Although Leicester occupy a lower position in the Combination than is usual for them, they brought an experienced team and, in fact, had quite a lot of the play.

But although Baynham was beaten twice in the first half he gave a splendid display throughout and made some first-class saves.

Experiment Was A Success

THE experiment of playing full-back Leslie Jones at centre-forward was a success. He took a little while to settle down, but when he did he used the ball well, opened out the game and showed good shooting ability.

Once or twice he received applause for dashes down the middle which were almost reminiscent of Jesse Pye.

His inside-men, Moore and Downie, also played well and Bennett and Adam on the wings were always dangerous.

There was another extremely promising display from the young amateur wing-half, McGuffie, while Smith found his best form again. Goals were scored by Webb (o.g.), Bennett (2), Jones and Adam.

Town "A" Lost A Three-Goals Lead

IN a curious match at Newbury, the Town "A" literally ran away with the first half, during which they built up a lead of three goals and then had to struggle after the interval to save a point.

Wilkinson, Cullen and Taylor obtained the goals during their period of complete supremacy, and it was not until just before half-time that the home team replied.

Then, in an amazing rally, Newbury took control and, but for some fine saves by Williams, the Town might have been beaten. As it was, they gained a 3-3 draw.

Chiltern's Forecasts

DIVISION I

Aston Villa v Wolves
Blackpool v Arsenal
Bolton W. v Charlton Ath.
Chelsea v Cardiff C.
Huddersfield T. v Sunderland
Liverpool v West Brom
Manchester C. v Sheffield Utd.
Newcastle Utd. v Middlesbrough
Preston N.E. v Burnley
Sheffield Wed. v Manchester Utd.

DIVISION II

Derby Co. v Bury
Doncaster R. v Blackburn R.
Hull C. v Lincoln C.
Leeds Utd. v Nottm Forest
Luton T. v West Ham
Notts Co. v Birmingham C.
Oldham Ath. v Brentford
Plymouth A. v Fulham
Rotherham Utd. v Leicester C.
Swansea T. v Stoke C.

DIVISION III (SOUTH)

Brighton v Walsall
Bristol C. v Newport Co.
Exeter C. v Aldershot
Ipwich T. v Coventry C.
Leyton O. v Northampton T.
Millwall v Gillingham
Norwich C. v Crystal Palace
Q.P.R. v Colchester Utd.
Shrewsbury T. v Swindon T.
Southampton v Bournemouth
Southend Utd. v Watford
Torquay Utd. v Reading

DIVISION III (NORTH)

Accrington S. v Halifax T.
Barnsley v York C.
Bradford v Rochdale

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

DIVISION "A"

Aberdeen v Stirling A.
Clyde v Celtic
Falkirk v Airdrieonians
Hamilton v St. Mirren
Hearts v Partick T.
Queen of South v East Fife
Raith R. v Dundee
Rangers v Hibernian

DIVISION "B"

Albion R. v Dumbarton
Alloa v Motherwell
Ayr Utd. v Arbroath
Dundee Utd. v Stenhousemuir
Dunfermline v St. Johnstone
Forfar Ath. v Third Lanark
Morton v Cowdenbeath
Queen's Park v Kilmarnock

SELECTIONS

TEN HOME: Bolton, Chelsea, Huddersfield, Derby, Doncaster, Brighton, Millwall, Norwich, Barnsley, Wrexham.

FOUR AWAY: West Brom, Birmingham, Northampton, Port Vale.

THREE DRAWS: Aston Villa v Wolves; Oldham v Brentford; Carlisle v Gateshead.

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