Sports Chat

New Signing By The Town

By Chiltern

FOUR-FIGURE FEE FOR INSIDE MAN FROM WINSFORD

First step in the Town's move to replace forwards with whom they have parted was made on Tuesday evening when they secured the transfer from Winsford United, the Cheshire League club, of Chris Pearce, a 24-years-old inside forward.

After receiving favourable reports on his play from one of their northern scouts who watched him on two occasions, the Town Chairman, Mr. P. G. Mitchell, accompanied by fellow-Directors Messrs. A. F. England and T. Hodgson, went to Stafford to make a final decision on him last Saturday.

They were sufficiently impressed to make an immediate and substantial bid and the deal was clinched at a four-figure fee.

Pearce comes from Liverpool and had experience with Liverpool Marine, one of the strongest amateur teams in the district, before becoming a professional with Winsford.

He is a tall, well-built player, standing 5ft. 11in. and weighing 11½ stone, uses the ball cleverly and has something of a reputation as a marksman, too.

In announcing the signing, the Chairman told me, "We are looking to the future and he is the sort who will be a better player with better players."

He reports for full-time training later to-day.

Baynham-Streten Discussion Goes On

CHIEF topic of conversation in local football circles continues to be the discussion as to the respective merits of Ron Baynham and Bernard Streten.

Adherents of Streten have gone so far as to put their views in writing, both to the Town club and myself, and both the club and myself, and we both have had a copy of a letter signed by 20 fans protesting at Streten being relegated to the Reserves.

They blame Baynham, unjustifiably I feel, for both goals at West Ham, but this is a view that is obviously not shared by Manager Dally Duncan, for he has announced an unchanged team for the important home game with the leaders, Blackburn Rovers, on Saturday.

Ex-Players Did Not Blame Baynham

NOR, may I say, was it the opinion expressed by both the West Ham manager, Ted Fenton, and the famous ex-full-back, Bill McCracken, who is now on the Newcastle United scouting staff.

Football will always produce differing opinions, of that I am well aware. I hold no brief for either player, but I feel that the fans should give Baynham a chance to settle down and reserve their comparisons until he has had a fair crack of the whip.

To know that such opinions are held must be unsettling to Baynham, striving to keep a regular place after remaining patiently in the background for so long.

Bob Morton Having Treatment

AFTER the fine display given by the Town at West Ham, there could have been no thought of team alterations and the only doubt yesterday was about Bob Morton, who has some groin trouble, for which he is having treatment, and which, it is confidently hoped, will clear up by Saturday.

Just how much his presence means to the forward line has been clearly seen since he has taken over the leadership, not only through his capacity to score goals, to the tune of five in three matches, but through the way in which he has helped to weld the line together into the cohesive force we saw last week.

Blackburn Strength Is In Attack

THIS was the sort of attack and the type of football the Town have been striving for all this season and, if they strike similar form this week, then they may pose insuperable problems for a defence that is by no means the strongest department of the Blackburn team.

A glance at the League table will show exactly where the Blackburn strength lies, for they have scored 59 goals in 18 matches and have four forwards who are already into double figures this season.

One of these is the "old enemy," Tommy Briggs, who has done so much damage against the Town on previous occasions.

Will The Match Draw A Bigger Gate?

QUESTION the Town must be pondering now is whether they will at last draw an attendance worthy of their position in the League, and if Blackburn cannot help to do it, then it is difficult to see what club can.

Against a big "gate" is the fact that the kick-off goes to the earliest it will be for a League match this season—2.15—but in these days of the five-day week that should not be a real deterrent.

The best crowd the Town have had this season remains the 19,832 which they drew when Nottingham Forest were here on the first day of the season.

Blackburn Have No Team Problems

TEAM selection does not pose much of a problem to Manager Johnny Carey, for Blackburn have lost only one of their last nine matches, during which period they have gained 14 points.

They have been fortunate in that, with the injured list continually on the light side, they have been able to keep a settled team.

Yesterday, their manager said that one or two players received slight knocks against Hull on Saturday, but these are not serious enough for anyone to be regarded as in the doubtful category, and the line-up will be:

Elvy; Suart, Eckersley; Clayton (R), Kelly, Bell; Mooney, Crossan, Briggs, Quigley, Langton.

Team Little Changed From Last Season

WITH one exception, Clayton for Campbell at right-half, this is the team which beat the Town 2—0 at Ewood Park in March, at which point they seemed assured of regaining their place in the First Division.

In the end they were "pipped" by a single point, and they seem all set this season to make up for that disappointment.

When Blackburn were last here, in March, the Town won 2—1, and, as an illustration of how the Rovers have managed to keep their side together, that team differed in only two positions from the one that will appear here on Saturday. Then, Smith was at right-half and McLean at outside-right. The Town's team to meet them on Saturday will be:

Baynham; Dunne, Aherne; Pemberton, Owen, Shanks; Davies, Turner, Morton, Cummins, Adam.

Vauxhall Switches To Replace Gregory

BECAUSE Vauxhall's youth team are visiting R.A.F., Halton, in the F.A. Youth Cup, the Motors will be without Tony Gregory for what is expected to be a hard Bedfordshire Senior Cup replay at Shefford.

To fill the vacancy which is left at centre-forward some re-shuffling is done, which means that there is a place at left-half for Soper, who has been in the Reserves.

Morgan moves from that position to inside-left, with Brandham switching to the other flank and Todd again assuming the leadership as he did halfway through last Saturday's match, when Vauxhall were somewhat surprisingly held to a draw.

Must Show Measure Of Improvement

ON current form Vauxhall, who are the holders of the cup, can still be fancied to make progress, but they know that they will have to show a measure of improvement on their last Saturday's showing. Team:

R. Cullis; J. Burgess, W. Lawrence; J. O'Neill, J. Humphrey, D. Soper; T. Dolan, R. Brandham, G. Todd, A. Morgan, L. Franklin.

Along with Halton, Vauxhall are the only team left in the youth competition not associated with a professional club, and they have big hopes of making further progress. Team:

J. Kershaw; C. Field, M. Eells; D. Ellingham, P. Elliman, R. Kilacky; B. Whitby, or J. Harris, J. Graves, M. Tomlinson, A. Gregory, A. Waller.

Kent's Make Their Longest Journey

DISMISSED from the County Senior Cup last Saturday, Kent's Athletic return to their South Midlands League programme by making what is their longest journey—to Histon Institute.

Disappointed though they were by their narrow defeat at the hands of Cranfield United, Kent's were satisfied with the form of the team and hope to be unchanged.

Joe Summers had a recurrence of a former injury, but is expected to be fit, in which case the team will be:

R. Tottingham; W. Day, T. Kilby; H. Jackson, H. Naylor, R. Router; P. Feakes, J. Hull, K. Peel, A. Dickens, J. Summers.

Reserve Full-Back Keeps His Place

A FULL-BACK promoted to Old Lutonians' R.F.C.'s senior team last Saturday because the regular occupant of the position was not available, gave such a capable display of handling and kicking that there could be no thought of replacing him for the visit to Isleworth to meet Borough Road College.

He is Billy Reed, who retains the place which Derrick Yorke usually holds, and the only change from last week's successful side is the return of Alan Pakes to fly-half.

Strength of the College varies from year to year, but they are usually good enough to ensure an enjoyable game.

Team: Reed; Walters, Thorpe, Fensome, Thurlow; Pakes, Folland; Adkins, Vaughan, Shepherd, Young, Heanue, Cato, Kelly, Packwood.

EDDIE QUIGLEY

Blackburn's costly inside-left, who is their leading scorer with 17 goals.

AMATEUR BOXERS GAVE A LUTON CROWD GOOD VALUE

Army Team Gained A Narrow Victory Over Electrolux

Amateur boxing has a large following in Luton and some of the best amateur boxers in the town are members of the Electrolux amateur club.

On Saturday, at the Electrolux canteen, spectators saw a team of Electrolux boxers meet a selected Army team. The Army team won 3-2, but the local boxers all gave creditable performances and there was certainly no disgrace in their narrow defeat.

The two successful Electrolux men were G. Arnold, who won his welterweight clash with T. Molloy, and P. Menard, who beat Guardsman Paterson in a heavyweight contest.

Menard, an American Serviceman who is at present a member of Electrolux, certainly did not have things all his own way, but had more style than his tough opponent and deserved the decision.

D. Connell, an Irish international and a semi-finalist in the European championships, was also a more stylish boxer than O. Paul, his coloured opponent from Battersea B.C., who met him in a supporting lightweight bout.

Connell showed that there is little he does not know about ringcraft, but he must have considered himself lucky to win, for Paul took the fight to his opponent from the start, landed hard blows to Connell's head and body and gave the Irishman plenty to think about. Connell will seldom have a harder fight than this and win.

Certainly the majority of the spectators considered Paul a clear winner.

Two of the best bouts of the evening were junior contests.

BRIGHT FUTURE

In one of these H. Amiss, a young member of Markyate B.C. who seems assured of a bright future, beat J. Whitehill (Vauxhall).

Amiss had everything in his favour—height, reach and style, but Whitehill received a deserved ovation at the end for he was not lacking in courage or tenacity and gave a very plucky display.

There was loud applause, too, at the end of a schoolboy contest between C. Nurse (Electrolux) and G. House (Markyate). Here again both youngsters fought pluckily and skilfully and the decision, which went to Nurse, was close.

Among the spectators were Sir Frederick Mander, Dr. Charles Hill, M.P., Mr. Norman Cole, M.P., and the Mayor of Luton, Cllr. H. C. Lawrence. Cllr. Lawrence presented the prizes at the end of each bout.

TEAM MATCH

Light welterweight, Gdsn. Benstead (Army) bt. R. Clear (Electrolux). Welterweight, G. Arnold (Electrolux) bt T. Molloy (Army). Light middleweight, L/Cpl. Sellick (Army) bt. B. Hastings (Electrolux). W. Tiffany (Army) bt. J. O'Connor (Electrolux). Heavyweight, P. Menard (Electrolux) bt. Gdsn. Paterson (Army).

SPECIAL BOUTS

Junior bout, H Amiss (Markyate B.C.) bt J. Whitehill (Vaux.). Junior lightweight, C. Allen (Luton B.C.) bt. T. Raggett (St. Albans B.C.). Schoolboy contest, C. Nurse (Electrolux) bt. G. House (Markyate B.C.). Featherweight P. Cummins (Davis B.C.) bt. E. Nash (Balliol B.C.). Lightweight, D. Connell (Electrolux) bt. O. Paul (Battersea B.C.). Light welterweight, P Lilley (R.A.F.) bt. T. Rodgers (Electrolux). T. Nash (St. Albans B.C.) bt. T. Vigor (Battersea B.C.). J Stokes (Liverpool) bt. Cpl. Towler (R.A.F Abingdon).

Golf

SUMMER TROPHY IN NOVEMBER

When Dunstable Downs' Summer Trophy was played for originally in May, R. A. Howard and G. G. Glenister tied for first place.

In the replay, they again finished all square, but in the second replay on Sunday, Glenister was successful by one hole.

Pairs composed of one senior, member of the club and one junior member who had joined through the C.C.P.R. scheme for juniors last year met in teams led by the captain and vice-captain on Saturday

Scores were:

Captain's team		Vice-Captain's team	
T Woods and		W R S Osborne	
G Burton	0	and D G James	1
J Facer and A		R G Durrant	
Gilchrist	0	and D Kilby	1
S H Jones and I		G U Lyle and	
O W Pothecary	1	D W Gammon	0
E H Jones and		P G Bond and	
D Staniforth....	0	J Marriott	1
H Brandon and		T Moore and	
Clarke	0	P H Gilder ..	1
Mrs Moore and		Mrs Stimson and	
Miss M Brown	0	Mrs James	1
	1		5

Godfrey Cup For Mrs. W. F. Thomas

In last week's report of the annual meeting of South Beds (Ladies' Section) Golf Club, Mrs. C. W. Tomson was said to have received a replica of the Godfrey Cup. This should have read Keens Cup. The winner of the Godfrey Cup was Mrs. W. F. Thomas.

Rugby

WILL REMEMBER FIRST VISIT HERE

Old Lutonians 27, Gidea Park 0

The Gidea Park players will long remember their first trip to Stockwood Park where, as they admitted themselves, they were well beaten by an Old Boys' team which mastered the greasy conditions, handled well and ran hard and straight.

The Lutonians hit top form from the start and, in next to no time, had built up a lead of 11 points.

The blanket of fog which had persisted for most of the morning lifted shortly before the kick-off and with the sun shining brightly the Lutonians played attractive rugby.

Adkins, one of the stars of the game, dummied his way through a hesitant defence before passing to Shepherd who opened the score. Adkins added the extra points himself.

Thurlow touched down soon afterwards and then Adkins scored the simplest try of the match.

Awarded a penalty kick near the Gidea Park line he tapped the ball forward, picked it up and dived over the line before the visiting players realised his plan.

At this stage the Essex team improved and their pack began to play a spoiling game. Result was long periods of inactivity for the backs for the forwards were locked together in one loose maul after another.

It was midway through the second half before the Old Boys' added to their score with two uncoverted tries by Packwood who showed a remarkable turn of speed on both occasions.

In the gathering gloom the Old Boys' pack began to get the ball again and Thurlow, after several "near things," burst through the defence to score between the posts and Walters finally rounded the tiring Gidea Park defence to touch down again. Heanue converted both efforts.

The splendid displays of the Old Boys' in the last few matches, and their high rate of scoring, mean that they have now scored 203 points in 11 matches. In the same time they have conceded 57 points.

GREASY BALL BEAT BOTH

Old Fullerians 0, Luton 0

When these two teams met at this time last year neither had won a match.

Unfortunately for the struggling injury-ridden Luton side, it was the Fullerians, who improved their record.

Last week however, two confident and successful teams took the field to battle it out in thick, swirling mists with a ball that was greasy and difficult to handle.

In these conditions it was not surprising that scoring movements never really got under way, petering out into loose scrums after a few yards.

Honours were even in the scrums and lines-out but both back divisions had a rough passage and conditions would have to be a lot better in order to decide the better team.

A MAN SHORT —BUT THEY WON

Vauxhall Motors 3 pts. Biggleswade nil

This was a fine achievement by Vauxhall, for they played with only 14 men as one of their forwards was "stranded" in Leighton Buzzard because of the foggy conditions.

That the Motors' pack should be a man short was unfortunate, as the Biggleswade pack is particularly strong and heavy.

However, the home side gave as good as they received in a hard struggle, and Buckingham scored the points that gave them victory when he converted a penalty from the touch-line midway through the second half.

Outstanding player for Vauxhall was Irvine, a centre three-quarter whose defensive covering was first-class.

VISITORS SHORT

Luton "A" 3, Old Fullerians "A" 0

As the visitors arrived short-handed the match was played with 13 men in each side, and the consequent need for re-shuffling upset the balance of both teams.

Despite their small margin of success, Luton were better in all departments except the set scrums. Wiser distribution of the ball in midfield would have given the energetic Luton backs the chances they deserved.

Cannon scored Luton's points after a fine dribble.

TELLS OWN STORY

Old Fullerians Extra "A" 3
Luton Extra "A" 43

The score tells its own story of Luton's all-round superiority but the Fullerians never gave up trying. The Luton vice-captain, Holliday, "stood in" for the Old Boys at scrum-half and courageously handled what was at times a hopeless assignment.

Tries were scored by Tollack 5, Fraberne 3, Soames, Bailey, Williams, Webb, Hogg. Bailey converted two of them.

OTHER RESULT

Biggleswade "A" 12 pts., Vauxhall "A" nil.

Greyhound Racing

BLUE CROSS A SURPRISE WINNER ON TUESDAY

Blue Cross caused a surprise at Luton Stadium on Tuesday night by winning the fifth race at 8-1. Second dog past the post was Ribbon — also an 8-1 shot.

I. (410 yards).—1, NANCY (6); 2, Cliff's Pal (1); 3, Wee Chris (2); 4, Sporting Express (3); 5, Firefly (5); 6, Petty Officer (4). 3½, 6, 5, 1, 10. 25.57. Off 7.43.

Betting: 2-1 NANCY; 3-1 Cliff's Pal; 7-2 Wee Chris; 5-1 Firefly; 7-1 Sporting Express, Petty Officer.

Forecast: 16s.

II. (470 yards).—1, LYNNE (3); 2, Speckled Band (6); 3, Whipped Cream (2); 4, Bantam (1); 5, Coffee Bean (5); 6, Dee Dum (4). 1, ½, 3 ½, 3. 29.16. Off 8.01.

Betting: 2-1 Speckled Band, Coffee Bean; 7-2 LYNNE; 6-1 Dee Dum; 8-1 Whipped Cream, Bantam.

Forecast: £1 9s. 6d.

III. (410 yards).—1, STILL WAITING (6); 2, Brickhill Lad (5); 3, West Mead (1); 4, Snowflake (2); 5, Nutty Slack (4); 6, Mitzi (3). 2, 8, 3, 3, 4. 25.56. Off 8.19.

Betting: 2-1 STILL WAITING; 3-1 Brickhill Lad, Nutty Slack; 4-1 Snowflake; 6-1 Mitzi; 10-1 West Mead.

Forecast: 12s. 6d.

IV. (410 yards).—1, TOM TIDDLER (2); 2, Royal Glen (5); 3, Black Hawk (4); 4, Do-Do (6); 5, Bert Cert (1); 6, Kerry Dancer (3). 6, 10, 2, ½, dist. 25.04. Off 8.36.

Betting: 7-4 Royal Glen; 3-1 TOM TIDDLER; 7-2 Kerry Dancer; 4-1 Black Hawk; 8-1 Do-Do; 10-1 Bert Cert.

Forecast: £1 4s. 6d.

V. (470 yards).—1, BLUE CROSS (1); 2, Ribbon (5); 3, Snob (4); 4, Black Shadow (3); 5, Santa Maria (2); 6, Jinky (6). 10, 10, dist., dist., dist.

Betting: 6-4 Jinky; 7-2 Santa Maria; 4-1 Snob; 9-2 Black Shadow; 8-1 BLUE CROSS, Ribbon.

Forecast: £5 9s. 3d.

VI. (410 yards).—1, JOYFUL (3); 2, Old Coat (5); 3, Knocker (4); 4, Office Boy (2); 5, Gordon (1); 6, Nut Brown (6). ½, 5, 3, 4, ½. 25.48. Off 9.12.

Betting: 7-4 Knocker; 9-4 JOYFUL; 4-1 Old Coat; 6-1 Nut Brown, Office Boy; 8-1 Gordon.

Forecast: £3 4s. 6d.

VII. (470 yards).—1, SUNLIGHT (1); 2, Skip It (4); 3, Violet (6); 4, Piebald (2); 5, Princess (3). Reserve 6, Twilight (5). 4, 7, 4, 1, 1. 29.93. Non-runner Egg Cup (3). Off 9.30.

Betting: 11-10 Violet; 7-2 Skip It; 6-1 SUNLIGHT, Twilight; 8-1 Piebald; 10-1 Princess.

Forecast: £4 4s.

VIII. (410 yards).—1, BOSTON BROWNIE (4); 2 Poacher (5); 3, Quality Street (1); 4, Tic-Tac (3); 5, Mary Ann (2). 2, 8, 1, 2. 25.41. Non-runner Chevalier (6). Off 9.46.

Betting: 2-1 Poacher; 11-4 Mary Ann; 5-2 BOSTON BROWNIE; 5-1 Quality Street; 7-1 Tic-Tac.

Forecast: 13s. 9d.

RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR LUTON ON SATURDAY

6.30 (410 yards).—552 Charlie H. 646 Dinky-Do, 453 Sally Ann, 26 Shamrock, 441 Small Bass, 265 Sun Blind.

6.50 (470 yards).—64 Double Six, 632 MacNab, 513 Madhat, 555 Mary's Son, 324 Ronald, 254 Rum Chicken.

7.10 (410 yards).—351 Jany, 624 Kyt, 314 Lucky Jim, 233 Needy Friend, 561 Noroog, 253 Silver Dollar.

7.30 (470 yards).—553 Hypon, 125 Jackie, 342 Little Jojo, 145 Red Cross, 6 Salote, 133 Very Game; reserve, 36 Mayfair (Nov. 16, tp 3, 24.53).

7.50 (470 yards).—515 Arm In Arm, 121 Blue Cross, 262 Jackdaw, 111 Kit-Kat, 313 Patrick M, 125 Revue; reserve, 515 Santa Maria.

8.10 (410 yards).—Blue Streak (Nov. 18, tp 4, 24.28, Nov. 20 tp 5, 24.26), 345 Cabby, 121 Gerald, Mat Man (Aug. 26, tp 6, 24.49, Nov. 18, tp 5, 24.37), 665 Pet Lip, 3 Skipper (Nov. 16, tp 1 24.41); reserve 545 War Drum.

8.30 (470 yards).—13 Blackbird, 312 Gay Linda, 521 Jimmy's Lil, 231 Legion, 144 Longfellow 416 Rodney.

8.50 (410 yards).—Blue Midge (Nov. 18, tp 5, 24.87, Nov. 20, tp 5, 24.62), 411 Foxlaw, 464 Red Head, 463 River Side, Susan Pat (Nov. 18, tp 5, 24.60, Nov. 20, tp 1 24.55), 562 Whistler; reserve, 241 Nigger.

SELECTIONS

6.30, Dinky-Do (Sally Ann, Sun Blind); 6.50, MacNab (Rum Chicken, Madhat); 7.10, Noroog (Jany, Silver Dollar); 7.30, Jackie (Red Cross, Little Jojo); 7.50, Blue Cross (Kit-Kat, Revue); 8.10 Gerald (map) (Blue Streak, Skipper); 8.30, Legion (Rodney Gay Linda); 8.50, Red Head (Whistler, Foxlaw).

BECAME TOP SCORERS

Reserves Hit City For Seven

Luton Town Reserves 7, Coventry City Reserves 0

Luton Reserves have scored more goals than any other team in the Football Combination competition—19—and they obtained seven of them on Saturday in a match in which they hit their best form after a somewhat uncertain start.

The home forwards deserve every credit for the way in which they rammed home their advantage after getting on top.

In the opening stages, Coventry looked the better team and it was against the run of the play when KELLY gave Luton the lead in the 17th minute. A few minutes later there was another shock for Coventry and then another for first KELLY increased the Town's lead and then PETERSEN made it three.

Coventry still had plenty of fight left at this stage and they launched one or two dangerous raids. In fact in one spell they forced three corners in quick succession but the Luton defence cleared these and just before the interval ALLEN scored Luton's fourth goal after brilliant work by Cullen and thus ended all hopes of a Coventry recovery.

After the interval Coventry seemed a well beaten side but Luton, on the other hand, were eager for more goals. They did not have to wait long for in the 50th minute they were awarded a free kick a yard outside the penalty area.

Thompson placed this accurately for GROVES, running in, to head past Taylor. Five minutes later GROVES scored again and KELLY added a seventh with a neat header after Watkins had lobbed the ball into the goalmouth from yet another free kick.

So one-sided was play at this point that Luton might easily have taken their score into double figures but the Coventry defence badly rattled and resorting to over-robust methods, somehow prevented this.

NO WEAK LINK

There was not a weak link in the Luton side. The defence, busy at first but able to coast along in the later stages, was confident and strong. Streten had an easy time, but made two good saves in the first fifteen minutes. Jones and Thompson gave the opposing wingers no scope at all and the middle line tackled hard and used the ball well.

The forwards had the Coventry defence running in circles at times. They moved the ball surely on the tricky surface and shot for goal whenever an opportunity presented itself.

For the South African amateur outside-left Peter Petersen there was an encouraging debut. He made the first goal, scored the third and impressed as a winger who knows the value of a quick, accurate centre.

On the other wing Cullen was at his best. He did not score but led Timmins a real dance and at times his footwork was brilliant.

The inside trio was always dangerous. Kelly's opportunism brought him three goals while Allen and Groves were both industrious and skilful.

LUTON TOWN RESERVES: Streten; Jones Thompson; Watkins, Dallas, Smith; Cullen Allen Kelly, Groves P. Petersen.

COVENTRY CITY RES.: Taylor; Wassall, Timmins; Lane Dickinson Cook; Hawkins Jamieson, Reynolds, Rowley, Hill.

BIG SHOCK FOR HOLDERS

Saved Only By A Late Penalty

As expected, there were some hard fights in the first round of the Bedfordshire Senior Cup on Saturday — and none was harder than the battle between Vauxhall Motors and Shefford Town—the two finalists of last season.

Then Vauxhall won the trophy but, on Saturday Shefford looked as if they would obtain their revenge by knocking Vauxhall out of the competition.

The South Midlands League side took the lead in the first half when Smyth scored a minute before the interval.

Although Vauxhall re-arranged their forward line and had much more of the play in the second half, it was not until a few minutes from the end that the Shefford defence panicked and conceded a penalty to give Brandham the chance of keeping Vauxhall in the competition.

Brandham made no mistake from the spot and so the teams will meet again in a replay at Shefford on Saturday, when Vauxhall will have to produce better form than they did last week if they hope to make further progress.

Shefford, on their own ground, are an exceedingly tough nut to crack.

There was another drawn game between Electrolux and Skefko Athletic, but the other two Luton teams in the competition, Hunting Percival and Kent's Athletic were both knocked out—by Potton United and Cranfield United respectively.

However, both did well and were beaten by only one goal.

RESULTS

Ampthill Tn. 1, Eaton Bray 0
Barton Rovers 3, AC-Delco 5
Electrolux 2 Skefko Ath 2
Hunting Percival 2, Potton Utd. 3
Kempston Rovers 5 Biggleswade Res. 1
Kent's Ath. 1, Cranfield Utd. 2
Vauxhall Mtrs. 1, Shefford Tn. 1
Waterlow's 1, Stotfold 3

Hockey

GOOD PLAY WAS IMPOSSIBLE

Old Dunstablians II 1, I.C.I. Welwyn 1

The condition of the pitch made good hockey impossible.

Playing one short in defence, the Old Boys were hard pressed in the first-half but improved after the interval when Loader gave them the lead.

I.C.I. soon equalised, but in the latter stages of the game the Dunstablians missed several good chances.

Other result: Tring 4, Old Dunstablians III. 1.

TOWN FOUND THAT ONLY GOALS COUNT

Brilliant Football Went Without Any Reward

By Chiltern

WEST HAM ..... 2 LUTON TOWN 1

Not often does it happen that a team so vastly superior as the Town were in this match is denied the consolation of even a solitary point.

That they should have been beaten by a late goal after giving as brilliant a display of football as the Hammers' supporters have seen for some time was almost unbelievable but, there it was, and all the Town received for their work was an increase in their reputation as a footballing team and a lot of sympathy for their undeserved failure.

Failure it was so far as the bare result is concerned, but there was triumph, too, contained in the fact that the forward-line blend, for which the Town have searched so hard and with which they have experimented so much this season, was there for all to see.

If this form can be taken as a guide to the future, and there seems no reason why it should not, then there is trouble in store for opposing defences, especially if the front line can retain the fast, crisp movement that caused the Hammers' defence so much concern.

But this game, apart from the near - miraculous escapes which the home goal had at times, really turned on two fortunate, or unfortunate, goals, which ever way you care to look at it, one of which came before the game was properly into its stride and the other which arrived in the dying minutes.

One gave the Hammers a narrow advantage they never deserved to hold and the other netted for them two points that they could never have expected once they had experienced the quality of the Town's football.

OWN GOAL SHOCK

DUNNE was the central figure in both incidents. In the fourth minute he elected to pass back, caught Baynham on the way out, and the ball rolled ever so gently over the line with the goalkeeper making an unsuccessful scramble to try to retrieve the situation.

Once the Town were over the shock of this, they really began to give the Hammers a lesson, and the marvel is that they did not wipe out this reverse and take a substantial lead by the interval.

Brilliant movements brought shots at Taylor from all angles and Taylor was so much in action that there was an ovation for him at the interval.

All the Town forwards found employment for him and he always seemed to be on the verge of being forced to pick the ball out of the back of the net but, somehow, it never happened.

There were missed chances, too, such as when Cummins and Adam gave the impression of leaving the ball to each other when the defence had been pulled all over the place but, in the main, there was a lot of good shooting that just did not experience any luck at all.

The second half brought no change in the tempo, with the Town raiding incessantly and the home team having to be content with breakaway which seldom seemed dangerous.

When, after 50 minutes, MORTON stepped in to collect the ball after Taylor had fumbled a pass by Malcolm, and dribbled it into an empty net, all then seemed set for the result which the trend of this match had indicated all along.

Again, the goal that would really have clinched this match was elusive. There were more saves by Taylor, deflections of drives that had the "goal" label all over them, a quota of missed chances—all of which added up to nothing tangible.

A POINT WOULD HAVE BEEN VALUABLE

There would not have been real disappointment had a point been retained, for that was what the Town were hoping for from this match, and there seemed nothing more certain than this would be the case until the second disaster happened.

This time, DICK swung round quickly on the ball for a shot that Baynham had covered, but the ball struck Dunne and was deflected to the other side of the goal.

Just before that happened, the Town had survived the shock of seeing the ball fly into their net from a header by Andrews, who was judged by the linesman to be offside.

So there it was a case of the righteous going unrewarded, but the work of the forwards was really heart-warming.

Most ably led by Morton, who has taken to his new position as a fish to water and with Turner and Cummins both using the ball accurately and continually getting on with the job without waste of time, this line was a constant danger.

A good response, too, came from Davies, who was a long way ahead of Adam in this match. The outside-left had a very quiet time and could not make a lot of Bond.

From both Pemberton and Shanks there was splendid support for the men in front and both were so strong in the tackle that many West Ham raids were broken up before they could develop.

In the middle, Owen effectively barred the way, with the result that Sexton had a very lean time against his former colleagues and that was the experience, too, of England prospect, Hooper, who was rarely in the picture.

His unfortunate part in the goals apart, Dunne was in top form, too, and wisely, he did not allow the early disaster to upset his confidence

As for the much-discussed Baynham, I thought it possible to fault him to some extent on the first occasion, but cannot see what he could have done about the deflection that brought the second goal.

He did not have a lot to do in this match, but he shone by the way in which he dealt with high crosses.

WEST HAM: Taylor; Bond, Kinsell; Malcolm, Brown, O'Farrell; Hooper, Foan, Sexton, Dick, Andrews.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, Aherne; Pemberton, Owen, Shanks; Davies, Turner, Morton, Cummins, Adam.

Referee: L. Callaghan, Merthyr Tydfil. Attendance: 23,000.

STOPSLEY ARE HELD AND THEIR RECORD GOES

Now Sundon Park Res. Are The Only 100 Per Cent Team Left

With Stopsley dropping their first point of the season in a tense Premier Division battle at Caddington, Sundon Park Reserves remain the only 100-per-cent team in Luton and South Beds League.

The latter have played 11 matches, averaged five goals a match, have had only five scored against them and are already looking certain champions of this division, especially as those teams who appeared to hold the brightest chance of catching them, are faltering.

Despite the loss of a point, Stopsley maintain fourth position and, on the basis of games played, are still best placed in the Premier Division.

The lead here is held by Glendale, whose consistent form has brought them 12 points out of 14, and they found no difficulty in disposing of lowly Toddington Rovers. Blaxill scored six of their goals.

At the other end of the table, Napier have at last found form more worthy of champions, and although they had to struggle against Dagnall, they triumphed to gain their second victory and to move up one position.

Glimmer of hope, too, came for Eaton Bray, who had behind them the grim record of having lost eight matches in a row. They caused something of a surprise in holding Luton Social to gain their first point, and their defence put up a much-improved display.

No such happy result came the way of Luton United Hospitals, for the number of their defeats in succession was brought into double figures when they again went down heavily to the strong Luton Town "C" team.

In Division I, the situation remains the same, with Bells Park, winners after a hard fight with Electrolux, maintaining their three-points lead over the Town "C."

Close at hand are Leagrave Athletic and Laporte both handsome winners, but the honour of being top scorers of the day went to Lilley Rangers for their 13-1 success over a weakened English Electric. In this match Weston got among the goals to the tune of seven

NINE FOR SUNDON PARK

Continuing to pile on the goals, Sundon Park got nine against Hunting Percival to bring their total to 60 in only nine matches, but although they are top of Division II they cannot shake off the challenge of Warden Hill, who share the leadership with them.

Warden Hill did some marksmanship on their own account in accounting for Skefko, and another match that produced plenty of goals was that in which Robin Hoods beat Caddington "A" 8-3 and kept themselves within a point of the leaders.

Another team bang in the picture in this division are Luton Social Reserves, though they had quite a tussle against Davis after holding a biggish lead.

Encouragement for Spandit Sports came in the arrival of their first victory of the season, but because K.A.F.A. also added to their meagre total of points they do not make progress.

In more convincing style than has been the case recently, Hayward Tyler, leaders of Division III, for whom Newton scored six, made sure of two points against Napier Apprentices, and it begins to look as if the chief challenge to them will come from newcomers Luton Spartans.

They did themselves a good turn by beating Boys' Brigade O.B., the team immediately above them, and with two games in hand are five points behind the leaders.

Bidwell also came into the reckoning by their double-figures win, and Shaw and Kilburn are also climbing the table steadily.

In Division IV, Shepherd scored six of Sundon Park Reserves' eight goals and the surprise here was that Wilsden, who met with their first defeat the previous week, went down again to the much-improved Villa Rovers.

As Walden Rangers also dropped a point, Lumoco Sports are jointly in second place.

PREMIER DIVISION

GLENDALE 7 (Blaxill 6, Allen), TODDINGTON ROVERS 0.
NAPIER SPORTS 5 (Welham 2, Duffy, Fields, Tompkins), DAGNALL 4 (Cutler 2, D Osborn, Hunt).
CADDINGTON 2 (Kempson, Pearson), STOPSLEY 2 (Bachini, J Manton).
LUTON SOCIAL 2 (Hampshire 2), EATON BRAY 2 (Burgess, Pratt).

DIVISION I

BELLS PARK 2 (Fensome, opponent), ELECTROLUX 0.
LEAGRAVE ATH 6 (Tansley 3, Clarkson 2, Cloke), HOCKLIFFE 0.
LILLEY RANGERS 13 (Weston 7, Walsh 2, B Carr 2, L Carr, Mitchell), ENGLISH ELECTRIC 1 (Hazard).
STOPSLEY RES. 3 (Goodman, Lawrence, Clarke), SHILLINGTON "A" 4 (E Day, Butts, Martin).
LEAGRAVE B.L. 0, LAPORTE 6 (Horsler 4, Muir, Smith).
LUTON UNITED HOSPITALS 1 (Coppin), LUTON TOWN "C" 6 (Chamberlain 3, Nelson 2, Jenkins).

DIVISION II

LUTON SOCIAL RES. 5 (Smith 5), DAVIS ATH. RES. 4 (Evans 3, Henderson).
SPANDIT SPORTS 5 (Jones 3, Griffiths 2), LEAGRABE PRESS 1 (opponent).
SKEFKO ATH. 2 (Douglas 2), WARDEN HILL ATH. 7 (Tomblin 4, Holt, Kenrick, Wilson).
ROBIN HOODS 8 (Mead 3, Bunyan 2, Knapton 2, Fitt), CADDINGTON "B" 3.
OLD LUTONIANS 1 (Abbott), R.A.F.A. 3 (Dobinson, Riley, Cutting).
HUNTING PERCIVAL 0, SUNDON PARK 9 (Smith 3, Meehan 3, Dixon 2, Knappett).

DIVISION III

SUNDON O.B. 3 (E Smith, Hall, MacLaren), LUTON BREWERY 2 (Pearce, F Grummitt).
B.B.O.B. 0, LUTON SPARTANS 2 (P King 2).
SHAW & KILBURN 6 (Mills 2, Farendon 2, Flanagan 2), BARTON WOODWORKING 1 (Toyer).
BIDWELL 11 (McLachlan 4, Gamgee 4, Meyrick 2, Bird), BARTON ROVERS RES. 0.
HAYWARD TYLER 9 (Newton 6, Simpson 2, Brand), NAPIER APPRENTICES 1 (opponent).
WALCOT ATH. 3 (Chambers, Tingey, Walker), HUNTING PERCIVAL APP. 2 (Taylor, Wills).

DIVISION IV

SUNDON PARK RES. 8 (Shepherd 6, Knappett, Robins), LUTON O.B. 1 (Turner).
TOTTERNHOE RES. 3 (Gore, Oakes, Griffiths), ROOTES SPORTS 5.
VILLA ROVERS 2 (Bland, Roberts), WILSDEN ATH. 0.
B.B.O.B. RES. 0, LUMOCO SPORTS 3 (Peddar 2, Evans).
LAPORTE RES. 1 (Sinfield), WALDEN RANGERS 1 (Hale).
TODDINGTON ROVERS RES. 4 (Davies 3, Bowers), GIDAN ATH. 2 (Radon, Smith).

FOOTBALL

LUTON TOWN F.C.

SATURDAY, 27th NOVEMBER

League — Division II

LUTON TOWN

versus

BLACKBURN ROVERS

Kick-off 2.15 p.m.

Admission Centre Stand (Season Tickets only); Wing Stands (Unreserved) 5/-; Enclosure 3/6, Boys 2/-; Bobbers' Stand 2/-, Boys 1/3; Terraces (not covered) 1/9, Boys 1/-.

S. Midlands League

MANY TEAMS HAD CUP-TIES

Langford Take Over Division I Lead

Only two matches were played in the Premier Division of the South Midlands League on Saturday, but as a result of one of them Dunstable Town have moved back into second place at the expense of Ampthill Town.

However, Dunstable, who have now played 14 league matches, have only two more points than Ampthill, who are in the fortunate position of having six games in hand.

There was practically a full programme in Division I, where Langford moved in front by virtue of a 2-1 victory over Houghton Rangers.

Hunting Percival, who until Saturday were sharing first place, were involved in a Bedfordshire Senior Cup match and, incident