

BAYNHAM'S TRAGIC 10 MINUTES

PUT PLYMOUTH ON THE VICTORY PATH

Town Had Their Chances Despite Being Below Form

By Chiltern

Most woebegone figure in the Town party at Plymouth during the week-end was Ron Baynham, who sadly shouldered the blame for the Town's defeat, which was their first in a League match since November 20.

However, there was nothing but sympathy for Baynham, who was the central figure in one of the most remarkable incidents ever seen on the ground and which produced a simple first goal that rocked the Town back on their heels and gave punch to the fight which Plymouth were already showing.

After picking up a back-pass from Jones, Baynham gently guided the ball straight to Davis and the impression that the referee had been awarded a free kick was all about.

"I definitely heard a whistle," said Baynham afterwards, and he was backed up by other members of the defence.

When referee Mervyn Griffiths saw the goalkeeper so obviously out of play when a goal was awarded, he hit the ball into the net and went running back to see what was all about.

There was no sign of an infringement and I certainly did not hear my whistle," said the referee who recalled that something similar happened in an international match between England and Scotland when an English forward, with the easiest of chances, hesitated because he thought the whistle had gone. The ball was cleared.

Heard Whistle From Another Match

What probably happened is that Baynham heard a whistle in a match which was being played on a pitch just behind the Home Park ground, and was a genuine, if costly mistake.

Believed the player, but it was not a thing I could do," Mervyn Griffiths told the match.

Unfortunately, it occurred just as the Town were showing themselves settling down, and when a simple goal was debited to them ten minutes later it blew from which they took time to recover.

Baynham was much concerned about this, for it was because

he carried the ball too far without bouncing it that Plymouth were awarded a free kick inside the penalty area. Rowley back-heeled the ball to Davis, who blazed away at goal.

Baynham's Most Tragic Ten Minutes

BAYNHAM had it covered all the way, got both hands to it, but the ball slipped from his grasp, over his head into the net to crown the most tragic ten minutes that Baynham has ever come up against in his career.

These happenings apart, Baynham, who was playing with eight stitches in an ear, a legacy from the match at Derby on Wednesday, did very well and made several excellent saves.

Some of his own defenders, particularly Jones, made things more difficult for him by some back-passes that fell so short that Baynham had to risk a further injury by throwing himself at the feet of an oncoming forward on two or three occasions.

Must Quickly Forget This Result

THE main thing now is that Baynham must put this match out of his mind, as must the whole team, for the display was below par and they were scarcely recognisable as the team that has been whipping most opposition so convincingly.

Absent was the rhythm and smoothness in attack and the shooting power, while the defence, too, was not so solid and compact without Owen.

Yet, even though they were below form, the Town had sufficient chances to have come back with

New Date For Rovers' Visit

The Town have arranged to play their home match with Bristol Rovers which was postponed last Saturday week on the evening of April 27.

Likely date for the match at Birmingham is April 20, but the Town are still awaiting confirmation of this from Birmingham.

a point that would have pressed home firmly their promotion drive.

Morton should have put them back into the game shortly after the second Plymouth goal when Shortt was penalised for carrying.

Too Many Passes Were Inaccurate

BECAUSE of that, a free kick inside the penalty area came the Town's way and Cummins cleverly placed the ball away from the defensive wall, to Morton, who was standing unattended.

With the goal yawning in front of him, Morton in his eagerness shot much too high and one of the best chances that came the Town's way went astray.

In the main, though, the attack was sluggish, took too long in which to make progress and there was a spate of inaccurate passes.

At half-time, the Town went off two goals down and with the knowledge that they had had a bad first-half and that it would need a wholesale improvement to salvage anything from this particular wreck.

Morton Atoned For An Earlier Miss

TO the task, they had the best possible start when Morton atoned for his earlier miss by taking full advantage of a bad defensive mix-up in which three defenders got in each other's way and Morton's shot this time was low and on the target.

Even after this, though, the Town could rarely get going in their best style and the rugged Plymouth tackling, combined with the dash and enthusiasm seemed to throw them right out of their stride.

For a long time after this, the game was really in the doldrums, but it built up to a grand-stand finish in which the Town twice went within inches of achieving their object of getting on level terms.

Two Narrow Escapes For Plymouth

FIRST, Adam from point-blank range, drove the ball against the bar. It looked a bad miss, but I am told that the ball was deflected by a defender, otherwise it would have been the point-saving goal.

Then Langman all but put through his own goal in trying to clear a low cross by Turner and Short only just managed to reach the ball and scramble it away.

Had the Town shown the same striking power throughout the match as they did in the closing stages, the result could have been a lot different.

As it was, there was a good deal of relief among the Plymouth fans when the final whistle went and they were still clinging on to their narrow lead.

They were a bit lucky to get away with it when all the circumstances are taken into account, for nearly all the clever football came from the Town.

Wing Changes Not A Marked Success

THE trouble was that it too often broke down before sufficient progress had been made and little was seen of the through, down-the-middle pass that has proved so successful this season.

None of the forwards lived up to their reputations and the switching of Cullen to outside-right and the re-introduction of Adam did not work out as had been hoped.

Cullen's effectiveness was curtailed because he wanted to do too much with the ball which tended to hold up the line.

Although Adam made some sparkling runs in the first-half, he did not really make the fullest use of his speed and perhaps is still lacking a little confidence after his long absence from the team.

McJarrow's Close Watch On Turner

CUMMINS made a bright enough start, but faded out of the picture after he had received a knock on the knee early on.

After that, he was in the game only fitfully and Turner had a quiet afternoon, too.



HUGH McJARROW, former Luton forward, who played well for Plymouth on Saturday.

Few opportunities cropped up for him and he was closely watched by McJarrow, who was one of the big successes of the Plymouth team.

He has settled down remarkably well at left-half where he showed a deal of promise when he was with the Town and he did a man-sized job in this match.

After an unproductive first half in which he was rarely out of Langman's grip, Morton was more dangerous in the second, but he still has not regained the form that made him such a success in his early days in the middle.

Vastly Different Playing Conditions

NOT until the Town changed their tactics near the end and really went in to meet the ball, did they look a formidable proposition and they did not really adapt themselves to the conditions.

These were as different from those they met at Derby as can be imagined. Whereas three days earlier, they had had to plough through a morass and deal with a leaden ball, they found the Home Park pitch dry and a bit bumpy in places and the ball was light and lively.

While one could not point to the absence of Owen leading directly to a goal, I feel that his influence was badly missed by the team as a whole.

Owen's Generalship Was Missed

QUITE a big factor in the Town's success has been the generalship of Owen and the defence did not look so compact without him.

Jones did not make any mistakes that turned out to be serious, but he was not dominating enough and he is not good enough in the air for this to be regarded as a permanent solution to the problem of a deputy for Owen.

When the ball was on the ground, he was adequate and he made good use of it, but he is much happier in his own position of right-back.

One of the most consistent of the Town players was Pemberton, who got through a tremendous amount of work, and was constantly helping to start attacks on the move.

Rowley's Presence Gave Confidence

FROM Shanks, there was his usual whole-hearted showing

FOR THE RECORDS

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE . 2
Davis (2)

LUTON TOWN 1
Morton

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE:
Shortt; Ratcliffe, Morgan;
Tilley, Langman (P), Mc-
Jarrow; Davies, Willis, Davis,
Rowley, Anderson.

LUTON TOWN: Bayn-
ham; Dunne, Aherne;
Pemberton, Jones, Shanks;
Cullen, Turner, Morton,
Cummins, Adam.

Referee: B. M. Griffiths,
Newport.

Attendance: 25,995.

and a good deal of the driving power that brought the late rally emanated from the wing-halves.

Rowley's influence on this match lay more in his generalship and the confidence his presence gave than what he actually achieved, and the Plymouth attack had little to commend it except a deal of dash and enthusiasm.

Both Dunne and Aherne were steady and cut down the danger from the extreme wings and, but for those two simple goals, the Town might have gone on to keep another blank sheet, although Plymouth missed several other chances.

Reserves' Luck Out At Birmingham

IN losing 2-1 at Birmingham, the Town Reserves found their luck right out, especially as there was almost general agreement that one of the goals should have been disallowed.

It was the one that put Birmingham one up in the first half, and the Town claimed that the ball went out of play by at least a foot before Hill centred it to Bradbury.

On the run of the play they deserved a point, for they played the better football.

The defence was sound, with Hawkes, standing in for Jones, doing very well despite the fact that he was playing on the opposite flank to that on which he usually appears.

Groves was the best of the forwards, but MacEwan showed plenty of dash and caused the home defence no little trouble.

Valuable Points For Town "A"

THE Town "A" played West Ham "A" at Kenilworth-road on Saturday and picked up two valuable points in their fight to get away from the bottom rungs of the Metropolitan League.

They won 4-2, but it is doubtful whether they were two goals better than their opponents. In fact, West Ham hit the crossbar three times in the second half and had enough of the play to have forced a draw at least.

Luton opened brightly with a goal in the first minute from Clark, and Battersby, a young centre-forward from Sheffield, added two more before the interval.

Collar and Murphy scored for West Ham in the second half but in between these goals Pitt, the visitors' right-back, needlessly put through his own goal.

Chiltern's Forecasts

F.A. CUP (6th ROUND)
Birmingham C v Manchester C
Huddersfield T v Newcastle Utd
Notts C v York C
Sunderland v Wolves

DIVISION I
Arsenal v Aston Villa
Burnley v Sheffield Wed
Cardiff C v Charlton Ath
Leicester C v Portsmouth
Preston NE v Tottenham H
West Bromwich v Sheffield U

DIVISION II
Bury v Liverpool
Hull C v Swansea T
Ipswich v Port Vale
Leeds Utd v Bristol Rov
Luton T v Fulham
Middlesbrough v Derby C
Nottm Forest v Plymouth A
Rotherham U v Blackburn R
Stoke C v West Ham

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

DIVISION III (NORTH)
Accrington S v Bradford
Barnsley v Stockport C
Barrow v Carlisle Utd

Bradford C v Hartlepool Utd
Halifax T v Darlington
Mansfield T v Grimsby T
Oldham Ath v Gateshead
Scunthorpe Utd v Tranmere R
Southport v Crewe Alex
Workington v Chester
Wrexham v Rochdale

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
DIVISION "A"
Celtic v Partick T
Dundee v Hibernian
East Fife v Motherwell
Hearts v Aberdeen
Kilmarnock v Falkirk
Queen of South v Raith Rovers
Rangers v Clyde
Stirling A v St. Mirren.

DIVISION "B"
Albion R v Dunfermline
Arbroath v Brechin C
Cowdenbeath v Airdrieonians
Hamilton v Alloa
Morton v Forfar Ath
Queen's Park v Dundee Utd
St. Johnstone v Third Lanark
Stenhousemuir v Ayr Utd

SELECTIONS
TEN HOME.—Arsenal, Burn-
ley, Middlesbrough, Nottingham
Forest, Bristol C, Coventry, Ley-
ton Orient, Accrington, Barnsley
Scunthorpe.

FOUR AWAYS.—Wolves
Plymouth, Swansea, Northamp-
ton.

THREE DRAWS.—Cardiff
Charlton; Ipswich v Port Vale
Barrow v Carlisle.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

SUNDON PARK ESTATE LUTON

SEMI-DETACHED HOUSES FOR SALE

3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, bathroom and separate w.c., well-fitted kitchenette ALL WITH SPACE FOR GARAGE

£1,875

FREEHOLD

£190 deposit Repayments 43/10d. pr. wk.

Also 3-BEDROOM BUNGALOWS from £2,195 Freehold NO ROAD CHARGES

Reserve your house and we will BUILD WHILE YOU SAVE

POSSESSION CAN BE GIVEN IN 2-3 MONTHS

Decorations to choice

From Luton Station take 59 bus to Fourth Avenue and inspect

SHOWHOUSE OPEN DAILY INCLUDING WEEK-ENDS

For descriptive pamphlet and further details apply: Please send details of Sundon Park Estate to:

Estate Office 4 The Square

Sundon Park LUTON

Phone Luton 6325

NAME

ADDRESS