

CHANGES FORCED ON TOWN

GROVES, AHERNE AND PEMBERTON ARE IN

Injury-Hit Team's Great Fight At Wolverhampton

INJURIES, plus the well-deserved selection of Bob Morton to play for England "B" against Switzerland "B" at Southampton, posed problems for the Town in choosing their team to meet Bedford Town in the final of the Bedfordshire Professional Cup tomorrow night.

Out of the running are Gordon Turner and Leslie Jones, both of whom damaged ankle ligaments at Wolverhampton on Saturday, but there are some hopes of both being fit for the home match with Aston Villa, though doubt is likely to exist until the end of the week.

THE vacancies are being filled in much the way we expected, with Bud Aherne regaining the left-back position which he lost through injury and then could not regain because of the consistent play of Jones.

To replace Morton and Turner, the Town had the alternative of playing Jim Pemberton or John Groves in the middle line, or either in attack.

Decision that has been reached is to keep Groves at half-back, where he has been doing extremely well for the Reserves, and to enable him to play at left-half Wally Shanks is moving over to the right, something that will cause him no inconvenience.

Pemberton In At Inside-Left

THOUGH Pemberton had a long spell at right-half this season, he is being used tomorrow night at inside-left, where he played with success at Watford last week, and this is a position to which he is no stranger.

To allow him to come in there, Reg. Pearce is being switched to inside-right, which is his natural position, though he has never had a first-team outing there.

While a couple of other players reported slight injuries after the match at Wolverhampton, it is thought that these will wear off in training and the likely line-up is: Baynham; Dunne, Aherne; Shanks, Kelly, Groves; Davies, Pearce, Gregory, Pemberton, Adam.

Morton's Honour Is Belated

THE honour that has come Morton's way is not only thoroughly well deserved but, in the opinion of many Town fans, a belated recognition of his worth.

Previously, the nearest he has come to an appearance in a top-class representative match was when he was chosen as England's only travelling reserve against



BOB MORTON
to play for England "B"
tomorrow

Ireland at Wembley on November 2.

In view of that, there was surprise at his omission from the party to prepare for the game with Spain a month later, nor was he included in the England "B" team against Scotland "B" last month.

Only consolation he received was to be chosen for the F.A. XI against the Army at Newcastle on November 9.

Could Be In Line For A Full Cap

A GOOD show at Southampton could very well put him in line for a cap against Scotland next month, and in view of the way the selectors' attention has swung towards Morton again, it is as well from his point of view that the Town are using him at right-half and that his spell as an emergency centre-forward is now over.

Bob is one of the best Club men the Town have ever had, and this season he has accepted a series of different positions uncomplainingly.

Bedford are expected to field the team that beat Kidderminster 5-2 on Saturday and which includes former Town players in Billy Cooke and Bernard Moore.

Probable team: Pope; Cooke, Quinn; Farquhar, Craig, Carberry; Steel, Yates, Moore, Bowie, Starosick.

Pluck And Football Earned Victory

IN winning 2-1 at Wolves on Saturday, the Town not only provided one of the surprise results of the day, but gave their most courageous performance of the season in gaining a victory that they earned, not only by pluck, but by football ability.

To be reduced to 10 fit men for 70 minutes and to only nine for nearly half an hour and then come back with the points was a great effort, and the success should set the seal on the Town's fight back to full confidence after their long run of non-success during January and February.

Now, with five points out of the last six, they are fairly and squarely on the way back, and this win should do the team a power of good.

Davies Scored While Turner Was Off

IT was while Turner was receiving attention off the field for a damaged ankle that the Town took the lead in the 22nd minute when Davies raced into the inside-left position to meet a corner from Adam, to the surprise of the Wolves' defence, and cleverly steer the ball into the net with his head for a very good goal.

For a time it seemed as if it were Wolves who had been reduced to 10 men, so hard did the Town press.

Before that happened, the woodwork at each end had been struck, Wilshaw hitting the bar and Davies the foot of the outside of the post.

FOR THE RECORDS

WOLVES 1
Hancocks.
LUTON TOWN 2
Davies, Gregory.
WOLVES: Williams; Stuart, Shorthouse; Slater, Wright, Flowers; Hancocks, Broadbent, Wilshaw, Booth, Mullen.
LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, Jones; Morton, Kelly, Shanks; Davies, Turner, Gregory, Pearce, Adam.
Referee—A. E. Moore.
Lowestoft. Attendance.—32,339.

Gregory's First Goal Was A Beauty

HOWEVER, Wolves fought back and three minutes after Turner had returned to limp at outside-right, in the 35th minute, Hancocks equalised from a pass by Wilshaw.

That equality did not last long, however, for four minutes from half-time, Gregory obtained his first goal in League football with a great cross-drive from near the edge of the penalty area which

Sports Chat by Chiltern

sent the ball out of Williams's reach and into the net off the inside of the far post.

In making for himself this shooting position, he made both Wright and Shorthouse go the wrong way and it was an excellent effort.

Nearly Increased The Lead Twice

WITH Turner still at half-speed at outside-right, the Town resumed for the second half and, in the early stages, it looked as if Wolves might wear them down, for there was heavy pressure at the start.

However, the Town forwards soon made their presence felt again and Williams saved at full length from Turner, who also hit the foot of the post from a centre by Adam during the time that the Town were again reduced to ten men by the injury to Jones, who was off the field for ten minutes.

When he came back, he went to outside-left, with Adam moving inside, Pearce going to left-half and Shanks to left-back.

Forwards Moved In Much Better Style

DESPITE their great handicap, the Town hung grimly on to their slender lead and the defence did heroically in saving off all the efforts of the Wolves' forwards who did not show a lot of method and whose finishing rarely suggested their ability to save a point.

Even with Turner a near passenger, but a spirited one who might well have had a couple of goals, the Town forwards were the more dangerous and it was good to see them moving again in a style reminiscent of their best.

Gaining confidence and experience from playing against top-class players, Gregory is filling the bill well at centre-forward.

Every Town Player Pulled His Weight

WHILE at the start of the match, he was much in the grip of Wright, he learned by experience and began to seek the open spaces with success.

Not only was he beating opponents cleverly, but he used the ball well and never hesitated to have a shot.

This was a match in which every Town player pulled his weight to the full, with Davies, as an emergency inside-right and Pearce fighting for everything in midfield.

Adam showed a considerable improvement on recent form and the line as a whole had cohesion and method that made them look a goal-scoring formation again.

Defence Was Solid And Compact

THE defence, too, was a solid, compact affair, with Kelly having perhaps his best game yet, giving Wilshaw little chance to shine in his new position and preventing yet another centre-forward from scoring.

Morton was in outstanding form, constantly getting the ball in the tackle and bringing it through strongly, while Shanks covered a tremendous amount of ground covering here and covering there.

Until his injury, Jones was playing stylishly and well, though Hancocks was dangerous early on until the full-back took his measure.

On the other flank Dunne had something of a tussle with Mullen, but came out on top in the end.



JOHN GROVES

will be making his first appearance at left-half in the first team tomorrow

Immaculate Display By Baynham

ABOUT the whole of the defence and, in fact about the whole of the team, the key-note was fighting spirit and team spirit which was good to see.

The handicaps seemed to spur them on to greater efforts and, metaphorically, they rolled up their sleeves determined to hold what they had gained.

Behind it all was the immaculate goalkeeping of Raynham, who made not the slightest semblance of a mistake and showed the Wolves' crowd by the quality of his work just why Williams cannot make the England team these days.

Reserves Hit By Injuries, Too

THE Reserves suffered their third consecutive defeat on Saturday when they were beaten 1-0 by a hard-tackling, rugged Norwich side.

In many respects it was a disappointing performance by Luton, and even taking into consideration the fact that McLeod was injured early on and spent much of the game on the left wing, they had enough of the play to have forced a draw, at least.

Dallas was another casualty, and he left the field with an injured shoulder a few minutes from the end. Allen was unable to play and his place was taken by Barry Hawkes, who, while obviously inexperienced, made quite an encouraging debut.

Norwich Took Lead Unexpectedly

NORWICH took a somewhat unexpected lead in the eighth minute when Heffer, their left-winger, scored from point blank range, and afterwards only good saves by Nethercott prevented MacEwan from equalising.

MacEwan had more shots at goal than all the other Luton forwards combined, but he was not always on target.

There was not much cohesion about the Luton attack, but this was understandable with McLeod playing out of position.

The defence was sound with Dallas doing much useful work, but McGuffie did not appear to be as confident as usual.

FOOTBALL

LUTON TOWN F.C.

WEDNESDAY, 21st MARCH
FLOODLIGHT MATCH
Bedfordshire Professional Trophy

LUTON TOWN

v.
BEDFORD

TOWN

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Admission: Centre Stand 5/-;
Wing Stand and Enclosure 3/6,
Boys 2/-; Bobbers' Stand 2/6,
Boys 1/3; Terrace 1/6, Boys 1/-.
(ALL PAY)

LUTON TOWN CRICKET CLUB

Welcomes Applications

for

PLAYING MEMBERS

for their five Elevens during the coming season.

Apply: G. H. HAWLEY, Hon. Sec., Ayot St Peter, Welwyn.
Phone Cudicote 316

Nets Available From Mid-April



SHOP BLINDS
renowned the world over

DEANS of Putney

R. P. SHEARMAN
2 Milton Road, Bedford
Tel: Bedford 66554

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100