

BASIC TROUBLE IS STILL IN ATTACK

Made Little Impression On A Stalwart Defence

By Chiltern

STAKES occur in the best regulated circles, but they happened all too frequently to the Town at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

Errors brought Chelsea simple goals, not that they were underserving of success but, at the same time, poor enough the Town were, there was a feeling at the end that they could have come out of this match more successfully.

Basically, the trouble still lies in the forward line which showed no signs of increased punch, but the defence did not emerge from this encounter with too much credit, either.

It can be argued with some justification that the shortcomings of the front line are those of a strain on the defence which goes into most matches. The knowledge that more than one goal conceded will be the end of the game.

In the last five matches only three goals have been scored, and does not require a genius to put finger on what is so radically wrong with the Town these days. Odd chances cropped up on Saturday and Pearce could have had no more easy opportunity of putting his name into the list of scorers and increasing his own confidence than when he blazed over the bar from inside the 18-yard line.

Had No Doubt That Bull Crossed Line

A GOAL at that stage would have been a great reviver to the Town, who were then two down, but it was only when the ball crossed the line, hard-hitting Chelsea defence.

The trouble began in the 17th minute, when Nicholas made a header to which Stretton moved across, but not quickly enough, and the ball struck the post. Stretton scrambled the ball away, but the referee was already pointing to the centre of the field, and neither he nor the linesman had any doubt that it had crossed the line.

Nor had the Town defenders, who were quite satisfied that the ball had been a yard over.

McNichol Was Left With Easy Chance

AT the same time, it was a slice of bad luck for the Town, whose last hope to look happy when McNichol was left with the simplest of chances 12 minutes later.

For this, Stretton must take the blame, for he allowed a centre from Tindall to pass under his body.

He took some of the pace off the ball, which had the effect of only making things easier for

McNichol, who had merely to tap the ball through.

Strong, fast and enthusiastic, Chelsea had more of the play for longish spells, but the Town defence held out, aided by some good fortune, until 18 minutes from the end.

Two Mistakes—Two More Goals

THEN a back-heeled pass which Jones intended for Stretton was intercepted by Tindall who pulled the ball back to Brabrook.

With Stretton drawn out of position Owen kicked off the line, but Brabrook regained possession and Nicholas scored from his centre.

Jones neglected to take the elementary precaution of looking up before making his pass, otherwise he must have seen that Tindall was in between him and Stretton.

The final blow three minutes later came as a direct result of a freekick to the Town for offence. Stretton took it, passed the ball to an unprepared Dunne off whom it rebounded to Tindall.

Matthews Dimmed His Debut

FROM this quarter, there was no hesitation at all, for the centre-forward blasted the ball into the net before the Town defenders really knew what it was all about.

Greyhound Racing

TRAPS 5 AND 6 EACH STARTED THREE WINNERS

TRAPS 5 and 6 were the ones on which the limelight fell at Luton Stadium on Saturday for each started three winners.

Four favourites won but there were successes by outsiders, too.

I (410yds)—1. FRONT PAGE (6); 2. Marlin (4); 3. Black Flash (1); 4. Slipalong (5); 5. Hay Time (3); 6. Bill Sykes (2). 2, head, 1, 6, 2, 23.76. Off 6.44. Betting: Evens FRONT PAGE; 7-2 Hay Time; 5-1 Slipalong; 6-1 Bill Sykes; 8-1 Black Flash, Marlin.

Forecast: £1/7/9.

II (470yds)—1. SCURRY (6); 2. Brian's Pal (1) (reserve); 3. Phillip's Choice (4); 4. Hastings (5); 5. Pancho (3); 6. Ron (2). 4, 1, 1, 2, 3, 28.11. Non-runner: R.W. (3). Off 7.05.

Betting: 7-4 Pancho; 3-1 SCURRY; 4-1 Ron; 6-1 Brian's Pal; 7-1 Hastings; 8-1 Phillip's Choice.

Forecast: £3/18/3.

III (410yds)—1. ONE SHORT (4); 2. Joan's Boy (6); 3. Mr Tap-Toes (2); 4. High Tension (3); 5. Brisket (1); 6. Ready-torun (5). 4, 8, 4, 1, distance. 24.16. Off 7.21.

Betting: 7-4 ONE SHORT; 3-1 Mr. Tap-Toes; 5-1 High Tension, Readytorun; 6-1 Joan's Boy; 8-1 Brisket.

Forecast: £3/11/4.

IV (470yds)—1. KING SOL (5); 2. Ballerino (3) and Tin Ribs (6), dead-heat; 4. Noddy (1); 5. Easter Bonnet (4); 6. Trigger (2). 6, dead-heat 1, 1, 2, 27.66. Off 7.47.

Betting: Evens KING SOL; 7-2 Easter Bonnet; 9-2 Trigger; 5-1 Noddy; 7-1 Ballerino; 100-8 Tin Ribs.

Forecast: £1/6/3, £1/0/6.

V (410yds)—1. SPACER (5); 2. Cokey Boy (1); 3. Opera (3); 4. Our Bob (6); 5. King Arthur (4); 6. Pilot (2). 4, 6, 6, 1, distance. 24.08. Off 8.07.

Betting: 7-4 SPACER; 9-4 Cokey Boy; 6-1 King Arthur; 7-1 Our Bob; 8-1 Pilot; 10-1 Opera.

Forecast: 13/4.

VI (470yds)—1. SILVER HILLS (5); 2. Prelone (3); 3. Handwhen (1); 4. Style (2). Neck, 10, 1. 27.35. Non-runners: Time Signal (4) and Connie's Friend (6). Off 8.25.

Betting: 6-4 Prelone, Handwhen; 4-1 SILVER HILLS; 10-1 Style.

Forecast: 17/4.

VII (470yds)—1. THE BRICK (2); 2. Keep Moving (3); 3. Drummer Boy (1); 4. Patrick M (4); 5. Wings (6); 6. Adios (5). Neck, 3, 4, 1, 6. 27.98. Off 8.47.

Betting: 9-4 Keep Moving; 3-1 Patrick M; 4-1 Adios; 5-1 Drummer Boy; 6-1 THE BRICK, Wings.

Forecast: £2/11/6.

VIII (410yds)—1. BOGARD (6); 2. Blue Cross (5); 3. Woodpecker (2); 4. Meter (3); 5. Squaker (1); 6. Thunder (4). Head, neck, 1, 1, 2. 24.96. Off 9.06.

Betting: 4-5 BOGARD; 3-1 Squaker; 4-1 Meter; 6-1 Blue Cross, Woodpecker; 10-1 Thunder.

FOR THE RECORDS

CHELSEA 4
Nicholas (2), McNichol, Tindall

LUTON TOWN 1
Gregory

CHELSEA—Matthews; McParlane, Sillett; Armstrong, Livingstone, Saunders; Brabrook, McNichol, Tindall, Nicholas, Blunstone.

LUTON TOWN—Stretton; Dunne, Jones; Pemberton, Owen, Smith; Cullen, Pearce, Morton, Cummins, Gregory.

Referee—B. A. E. Buckle, Peterborough. Attendance: 30,823.

To complete the history of mistakes, Matthews rather dimmed what had been an easy debut for him by failing to hold a drive from Cummins three minutes from time and Gregory, following up, had merely to tap the ball through.

Matthews's most difficult task had come early in the second half when he had to throw himself across his goal to deflect a great shot by Pemberton.

Apart from that and a couple of drives by Gregory, there was not much to worry him on what must have been a difficult occasion for him.

Gregory Should Have Had More Support

WHILE at times there was some neat midfield work from the Town forwards, it took too long to develop into anything and there was little in the way of finishing.

Many attacks were nipped in the bud by the strong Chelsea tackling with the result that a high percentage broke down before the penalty area was reached.

Most direct of the forwards was Gregory who could have been given more support with profit, but Cummins was out of touch for long periods, not the best of support came from Smith, with the result that Gregory did not see a lot of the ball.

When he did, he cut in dangerously and he looked as if he might well settle down in this position.

Morton Had To Fend For Himself

ONCE again, Morton mostly had to fend for himself because of lack of adequate support and he was too closely marked to be dangerous consistently.

Hard though he worked, he produced little in the way of shooting and he will certainly not be shown in the best of light until he receives more aid.

Once again, Pearce failed to provide the solution to the inside-right problem that has been brought by Turner's continued absence.

Pearce worked hard, but little or nothing came of it in the end and his shooting was very much off the mark.

With weakness at inside-forward, the Town attack lacked sparkle and Cullen could make little of Sillett who gave him little opportunity to shine.

Strong Man Of The Defence Was Owen

STRONG man of the defence was Owen, who prevented two or three more goals by his intelligent positional play and stood firm when everything seemed to be folding up around him.

Much of the trouble experienced by the Town stemmed from the fact that Jones gave Brabrook far too much room and his failure to tackle quickly enough enabled the winger to get the ball across time and time again.

More bite in the tackle is badly needed from Jones, who is tending to run alongside the winger without really making a challenge in the end. For Smith, it was a rather uncomfortable first half, with things not improved because he was often confronted by two opponents.

Chelsea Cut Out All The Frills

LATER, he was noticeable for the strength of his tackling, much of it last-ditch stuff, and he did not use the ball very accurately.

There was better service from Pemberton who, however, had not Smith's firmness of the tackle and, gradually, the whole defence was worn down by the direct methods of Chelsea, who cut out the frills and took the shortest route to goal.

As a footballing side, Chelsea are no great shakes, but they are

a hard team who make a lot of use of the first-time pass and keep the ball moving forward all the time.

Stretton Gave A Very Mixed Display

TO a large extent, Dunne managed to keep Blunstone reasonably quiet, but the winger was much in the limelight towards the end of the game.

However, he did not create so much damage as did Brabrook, and Dunne's persistence and quick tackling cut down much of his effectiveness.

From Stretton there was a mixed sort of display, with mistakes followed by brilliant saves.

Blame for a couple of the goals can be laid at his door, but the cover afforded him was not always of the best, though he did not look so confident as he has in recent matches.

Altogether, it was a match which the Town will want to forget as quickly as possible, for they emerged with few credit marks.

New Look Forward Line Scored Five

AFTER giving a lethargic, disappointing display for the first 45 minutes of their Combination match with Portsmouth Reserves, the Town second string suddenly found their best form and pounded their opponents unmercifully in the second period.

They won 5-1—and it could quite easily have been a more convincing win.

Their poor first-half form was hardly surprising, considering that there was very much a "utility" look about their forward line, in which Ken Hawkes, normally a full-back, was drafted in as an emergency inside-left.

For much of the game Hawkes looked what he was—a full-back doing his best in the forward line—but every now and then he flashed into the game in such a way as to suggest that he might settle down in his new-found position.

Two Good Goals From Ken Hawkes

HE scored two good goals and was unlucky with one brilliant long-range effort which hit the woodwork.

His brother, Barry, also scored, and McNally netted with a long-range shot which Drinkwater failed to stop, presumably because he expected McLeod to intercept it and shoot from close range. All these goals came in the second period.

Legate had given Luton a lead which they just deserved a couple of minutes before the interval, and Penk scored a consolation goal for the visitors in the second half.

It was such a good second half that any pre-interval shortcomings were forgotten by the time the end came.

Youth Teams Clash Tomorrow Night

SOME attractive football can be expected at Kenilworth-road tomorrow night, when the Town's youth team meets Chelsea in the Southern Junior Floodlight Cup.

Chelsea are one of the favourites for this trophy, and a win for the Town would give a tremendous fillip to their chances.

They have already beaten Charlton in this competition and, in addition, in the F.A. Youth Cup they have a victory over Wolves and a draw at Birmingham to their credit.

Luton are hoping that David Hetherington, who had to stand down from Bedfordshire's team last week because of an ankle injury, will be able to play.

FOOTBALL

LUTON TOWN F.C.
Southern Junior Floodlight Cup Competition

Round II

WEDNESDAY, 21st NOV.

LUTON TOWN

versus

CHELSEA

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CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

DIVISION I
Aston Villa v. Chelsea
Blackpool v. Newcastle Utd.
Bolton v. Burnley
Charlton Ath. v. West Brom.
Everton v. Sheffield Wed.
Leeds Utd. v. Arsenal
Luton Town v. Cardiff City
Manchester City v. Portsmouth
Sunderland v. Birmingham City
Tottenham H. v. Manchester Utd.
Wolves v. Preston N.E.

DIVISION II
Barnsley v. Grimsby Town
Blackburn R. v. Middlesbrough
Bristol City v. Stoke City
Fulham v. Notts County
Lincoln City v. Leyton Orient
Nottingham F. v. Bristol Rovers
Port Vale v. Bury
Rotherham Utd. v. Huddersfield T.
Sheffield Utd. v. Doncaster R.
Swansea Town v. Liverpool
West Ham v. Leicester City

DIVISION III (SOUTH)
Colchester Utd. v. Brentford
Coventry City v. Watford
Crystal Palace v. Ipswich Town
Exeter City v. Walsall
Newport County v. Swindon T.
Northampton T. v. Torquay Utd.
Norwich City v. Aldershot
Plymouth Argyle v. Brighton
Q.P.R. v. Millwall
Reading v. Gillingham
Southampton v. Shrewsbury T.
Southend Utd. v. Bournemouth

DIVISION III (NORTH)
Barrow v. Hartlepool Utd.
Bradford v. Chesterfield
Grays, Alexandria v. York City

Darlington v. Chester
Derby County v. Oxford Ath.
Gateshead v. Southport
Hull City v. Carlisle Utd.
Hull City v. Bradford City
Rochdale v. Accrington Stanley
Scunthorpe Utd. v. Tranmere R.
Wrexham v. Stockport County
Wrexham v. Mansfield Town

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
DIVISION I
Celtic v. Partick Thistle
Dundee v. Airdrieonians
Dunfermline v. Ayr Utd.
East Fife v. Hibernian
Hearts v. Queen's Park
Kilmarnock v. Raith Rovers
Motherwell v. St. Mirren
Queen of South v. Falkirk
Rangers v. Aberdeen

DIVISION II
Albion Rovers v. Clyde
East Stirling v. Berwick Rangers
Forfar Ath. v. Alloa
Montrose v. Dundee Utd.
Morton v. Dumbarton
St. Johnstone v. Brechin City
Stirling Albion v. Arbroath
Stirling Albion v. Stranraer
Third Lanark v. Hamilton

SELECTIONS
TEN HOME—Blackpool, Wolves, Fulham, Nottingham Forest, Sheffield United, Newport, Southampton, Southend, Derby, Scunthorpe.
FOUR AWAY—West Brom., Leicester, Brighton, Hartlepool.
THREE DRAWS—Tottenham v. Manchester United, Bristol City v. Stoke, Q.P.R. v. Millwall.

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