

FULL STRENGTH TO CHOOSE FROM FOR THE CUP-TIE?

BUT OWEN RETURNED WITH ANKLE INJURY

Aston Villa Expect To Have No Team Problems By Chiltern

SEVERAL knocks, legacy of the hard tackling of Manchester City, were collected by Town players at Maine-road on Saturday and the one who came off worst seemed to be Sid Owen.

He received a kick on an ankle only five minutes after the start, and at the end, he was heavily strapped up.

On Sunday morning, he was at Kenilworth-road for treatment, but on the journey home, he was saying that he was confident about being fit for Saturday's home Cup-tie with Aston Villa.

It was mainly bruising that the players collected and another to have treatment on Sunday was Gordon Turner who hurt a knee when challenging Trautmann midway through the second half.

George McLeod had a long graz on the front of his leg and Willie Shanks suffered quite considerable bruising.

However, yesterday, Manager Dally Duncan was fairly confident that he will have his full strength from which to choose the Cup team, especially as Seamus Dunne recovered from an attack of shingles, was able to return training yesterday.

Changes Are Likely To Be Few

SO after the improved display at Manchester, changes are likely to be few, but I fancy that some consideration will be given to the outside-left position which has been one of the pressing problems this season.

No special preparation has been planned and it is a number of years since the Town had special training at the seaside before a Cup-tie.

Training will be on normal lines and will include a couple of trial games.

Yesterday, a true assessment of the ticket position could not be

made because there was a big postal delivery in the morning which had to be dealt with.

Villa Expect To Have Dugdale Back

IMPRESSIVE performance of the Villa in holding Blackpool, Stanley Matthews and all, to a goalless draw at Bloomfield-road, emphasised the strength of their back-line defence.

McLeod's mark was obtained without any regular centre-half, Jimmy Dugdale, who because of the illness his first match since leaving the club from nearly two years.

No injuries were received at Blackpool and no other change is contemplated than the return of Dugdale of whom it was said yesterday, is nearly certain to return.

Team Has Changed Very Little

LAST Saturday, the centre-half position was occupied by Birch and the team is substantially the same as that which held the Town to a goalless draw at Kenilworth-road on September 5.

Only changes as compared with that occasion are at right-back where Lynn has replaced Higgs

and at right-half where a 22-years-old local, Crowther, has taken over from Baxter.

The team at Blackpool was.—Simms; Lynn, Aldis; Crowther, Birch, Seward; Smith, Sewell, Pace, Dixon, McFarland.

Up to yesterday, Villa had sold about 1,300 of their allocation of tickets and expectations are that they will have a following of about 2,000.

Thought They Had Earned A Draw

TO have a point snatched out of their grasp so late in the game as the 86th minute was a matter of keen disappointment to the Town, who thought they had earned at least a draw as, indeed, did most City officials.

In fact, they had the chance in the first half to clinch what would have been their first away victory since they succeeded at Charlton on August 25.

I thought things were moving that way during the latter part of the first half when they had the City defence very much on the run and they should have added to the 2-1 lead which they held at the interval.

Turner Nearly Got A "Hat-Trick"

"If only we could have got a third goal then," the Town manager was sighing afterwards, remembering, no doubt, the tremendous save Trautmann made to deprive Turner of what would have been a brilliant hat-trick.

Certainly the powerful drive seemed to have "soar" written all over it after Morton had cleverly pulled the ball back, but Trautmann somehow reached it, but a foot to either side was all that was required to make it impossible to save.

There were other occasions

FOR THE RECORDS

MANCHESTER CITY ... 3
Dyson (2), Clarke
LUTON TOWN ... 2
Turner (2)
MANCHESTER CITY:
Trautmann; Leivers, Little;
Barnes, Evans, Paul; Fagan,
Higgs, Johnston, Dyson,
Clarke.
LUTON TOWN: Stretton;
Jones, Adams; Shanks,
Owen, Smith; Cullen, Turner,
McLeod, Morton, Gregory.
Referee: P. F. Power,
York. Attendance: 27,353.

When goals to the Town looked imminent, as when McLeod twice broke clear of opposition, when Morton just lost control at the vital moment and again when Gregory cut inside, but instead of shooting, as everyone expected, elected to try to find Morton and saw his pass intercepted.

An Uphill Struggle After Early Setback

FACING an uphill struggle after suffering the blow of being a goal down in the third minute, the Town rallied splendidly.

That setback came when Dyson took a short pass from Clarke, sold the dummy to both Jones and Owen and beat Stretton with a shot into the far corner of the net.

For a time, it was mainly defence for the Town, but they equalised after 14 minutes when Turner scored from close in after a cross by McLeod had been deflected by Ewing.

After that the Town forwards played really forceful, purpose-

ful football that led to Turner giving them the lead after 27 minutes.

Vital Goal Just Would Not Come

FROM a corner by Gregory, Turner shot and the ball, which struck Little standing on the goal-line, went straight back to him and he made no bones about blazing it past Trautmann first-time.

Now was the time for the Town to press home their advantage but, although they harassed the City defence, what would have been a vitally important goal which would have sealed the fight out of the City, just would not come.

With the floodlights on for the second half, the City hit back hard and Stretton made several magnificent saves.

Equalised With Only 19 Minutes Left

YET, although there was quite a lot of pressure from them, the City forwards, tending to keep the ball too close in the mud, did not really look likely to reach level terms.

A chance of that decisive goal fell to McLeod, who made a great attempt after a long solo run to beat Trautmann, who just managed to save his shot.

Then, with 19 minutes left, the City equalised and it was again the Clarke-Dyson combination that brought it, with the latter heading through a cross from his wing partner.

That goal really set things alight and, with desperation leading them strength, the City crowded on the pressure.

City Snatched Brand From The Burning

EVEN so, with the minutes ticking away all too slowly, it seemed, it looked as if the Town would hold out.

Then, with just four minutes left, it happened—a goal that should never have happened.

A long cross-field pass into the penalty area started it and Cullen, who was back helping the defence, had the chance to clear first-time.

He did not do so and the energetic Dyson gained possession and made a centre that glanced off Clarke's head just about as far out of Stretton's reach as could be imagined.

Afterwards, Town defenders were vowing that the ball struck Clarke on the head.

Much More Punch In The Attack

A PART from the result which flattered the City, the Town could be reasonably satisfied with this performance and there was an altogether more punchy, goal-hungry look about the forward line.

Appreciating the muddy conditions, they planned their faith on the hard through pass, and these tactics were a trial to the rather clumsy City defenders.

Unfortunately, they did not maintain their danger throughout the second half, but part of the reason for this was that the Town lost their grip on the middle of the field, the City got on top and often the inside-forwards had to go back to help the defence.

McLeod Has Brought New Life And Dash

HOWEVER, if the first-half display is a sample of what we are going to see from the Luton attack in future, then a lot of criticism and anxiety will be removed.

Certainly, it was a happy thought to bring McLeod into the much-discussed centre-forward position because he has brought new life and dash to the line through his dash and persistence.

Unfortunately, he rather lacks shooting power at the moment, but this is something that can be developed.

He gave Ewing a harassing afternoon, took a number of hard knocks philosophically and, while he may not score a pile of goals himself, he will make openings for his colleagues.

Turner Has Regained His Confidence

FROM the look of things, Morton has taken most kindly to the inside-left position, where his strength and determination in the mud were great assets, and he was continually thrusting through.

From Turner, happy now that he is back among the goals, there was the most telling display since he returned from injury and, obviously, he is full of confidence again.

Not only in his shooting, but in his general play, he was continually in the picture, and more than once I noted him making clearances right back in his own penalty area.

Gregory Had An Unhappy Day

A NOTHER to achieve success was Cullen, who continually had Little going the wrong way, especially during the first half, and caused a lot of discomfort to the City defence as a whole.

A Cullen in this form is the best man on the books for the right-wing position, and on this occasion he used the ball a good deal better than on some previous appearances.

Had there been as much assertiveness on the left wing the line would have been thoroughly well balanced, but Gregory had a thoroughly unhappy day, being completely held by Leivers, and very little came from this extreme wing.

Must Learn To Combat Offside

ONE thing which the Town must learn to combat though is the offside trap, in which they were caught time and again, particularly in the second half, and that might have had an upsetting effect on them.

From the defence there was a brave fight, and after some initial uncertainty against the City tactics, which consisted of Johnson playing the deep centre-forward role and the two inside forwards lying well upfield, they found the answer to it.

Naturally, there was a deal of interest in the re-appearance of Smith, for whom circumstances

dictated that there was a defensive role.

Smith Carried Out Instructions

PRE-MATCH orders for him were to watch the goal-smashing Hayes, and in pursuance of this Smith was often to be found lying behind Owen.

His strong tackling was useful, and Owen was another who did not spare himself in the tackle, and he was always prominent when the City pressure was at its height.

Aherne was a bit worried by Fagan, who seemed to make a lot of room for himself in the first half, but gradually Aherne adjusted himself, and managed to crowd out the winger later.

It was from the left that the main danger came, and although Jones did well enough, more decision in the tackle might have been a matter of discouragement to Clarke, who had a hand in all three goals.

Stretton Playing Like An International

BECAUSE of the way this match had to be played, Shanks was always the most forward of the half-backs and, probably as a result, Dyson, City's best forward, received a bit more scope than he would have had otherwise.

But Shanks was a great worker and did more prompting to the attack than anybody else.

Without any doubt at all, Stretton is right back in the form that earned him an international cap, and he will be very difficult to displace while he is playing in this fashion.

Several brilliant saves by him helped keep the Town's lead so long, and there was joint applause for both him and the popular Trautmann at the end.

Goal Glut From The Reserves

WHILE the average fan who goes to Kenilworth-road to watch First Division football longs to see a goal glut, the stalwarts who watch the Reserves are getting a bit blasé and the spectacle of the second string banging home goal after goal no longer excites them to any great extent.

On Saturday the Reserves recorded their best win of the season when they beat Crystal Palace Reserves 5-1—and it could quite easily have been a case of double figures.

Adam scored three goals and Davies and Pounder two each. Greenwood, the Palace left-back, also scored an "own goal." The visitors' consolation goal came during the second half.

Greyhound Racing

IN FORM COKEY BOY LIKES TO LEAD THE WAY HOME

COKEY BOY, winner of the fifth race at Luton Stadium on Saturday, is a dog to watch. He has now won four consecutive races.

His first appearance at Luton, in July, was notable for his lack of success. He finished sixth!

Second outing saw him finish third, then followed two races in which he was "pipped" for second place. Then he developed this winning streak, and at the moment, he is certainly the "form" dog.

I (410yds).—1. RON (6); 2. Election Day (2); 3. Lion's Head (5); 4. Very Useful (3); 5. Rose Bud (1); 6. Rita (4).
t. 4. 2. 2. 2. 25.78. Off 6.44.
Betting: 5-4 Lion's Head; 3-1 RON; 7-2 Rita; 6-1 Very Useful; 7-1 Election Day, Rose Bud.
Forecast £3 5s. 6d.

II (470yds).—1. FRONT PAGE (3); 2. Pride and Joy (6); 3. Sammy (5); 4. Mary Ann (4); 5. Running Water (2); 6. Samson (1).
t. 5. 4. 4. 4. 29.32. Off 7.05.
Betting: Evens MARY ANN; 4-1 Pride and Joy; 5-1 FRONT PAGE, Sammy; 6-1 Samson; 8-1 Running Water. Forecast £2 19s. 3d.

III (470yds).—1. COOKIE (2); 2. Smoky Joe (1); 3. Tony's Pet (5); 4. Rambler (3); 5. Temper (4).
t. 4. 2. 4. 28.97. Office Boy (6), reserve, d.n.f. Non-runner Bricket (6). Off 7.24.
Betting: 4-5 COOKIE; 5-1 Smoky Joe, Rambler; 6-1 others. Forecast 10s.

IV (410yds).—1. BALLY'S SON (5); 2. Lobby Lud (1); 3. Daz (3), reserve; 4. Timber (4); 5. Blue Cross (6); 6. Coq D'Or (2).
t. 1 4. 6. 3. 4. 25.22. Non-runner Easter Bonnet (3). Off 7.44.
Betting: 9-4 Timber; 3-1 BALLY'S SON, Lobby Lud; 7-2 Daz; 5-1 Blue Cross; 6-1 Coq D'Or. Forecast £1 13s.

V (470yds).—1. COKEY BOY (5); 2. Spacer (3); 3. Bootblack (2); 4. Hot Coals (6); 5. New Mexico (1); 6. Silver Hills (4).
t. 8. 4. 2. 4. 27.78. Off 8.03.
Betting: 5-4 COKEY BOY; 5-2 Spacer; 9-2 Bootblack; 6-1 Silver Hills; 8-1 New Mexico; 10-1 Hot Coals. Forecast 9s.

VI (410yds).—1. SHEILA'S CHOICE (3); 2. Sometimes (1); 3. Tony Token (4); 4. Can't Wait (5); 5. King Arthur (2); 6. King Sol (6).
t. 6. 4. 5. 1. 25.10. Off 8.25.
Betting: 5-4 Can't Wait; 3-1 SHEILA'S CHOICE; 4-1 Tony Token; 5-1 King Sol; 8-1 Sometimes. King Arthur. Forecast £5 6s. 9d.

VII (470yds).—1. PATRICK M (5); 2. Old Timer (2); 3. Rinty (3); 4. Drummer Boy (1); 5. What's This (6); 6. Our Bob (4).
t. 3. 4. 4. 3. 28.46. Off 8.43.
Betting: 9-4 Old Timer; 5-2 PATRICK M; 7-2 Our Bob; 6-1 What's This; 7-1 Drummer Boy; 8-1 Rinty. Forecast £1 5s.

VIII (410yds).—1. MADHAT (6); 2. Yap (3); 3. Shallowyn (4); 4. Lucky Blackie (5); 5. Kismet (2); 6. Lady Rom (1).
t. 4. 8. 5. 1. 2. 25.28. Off 9.01.
Betting: 7-4 MADHAT; 2-1 Yap; 7-2 Shallowyn; 6-1 Lucky Blackie; 10-1 Kismet; 100-8 Lady Rom. Forecast £1 0s. 6d.

RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR LUTON TONIGHT
7.30 (410 yards)—335 Adams; 341 Bunter; 355 Little Albert; 522 Lucky

Jim; 436 Pukka Gen; 345 Slingshot; 48 (470 yards)—254 Budge; 166 Blue Jet; 325 Dark Invader; 234 Popul-Cole; 142 Sugar Lane; 444 Tommy-Woody.

8.05 (410 yards)—351 Brichhill Lad; 134 Emperor; 65 Glen; 655 Mickey Drip; 641 Mike Pauline; 36 Twaddle (Dec 11, up 2, 24.20); reserve 6 Betty. 8.24 (410 yards)—655 Dile; 326 Double R; 351 Sandman; 34 Sugar Puff; 323 The Lodger; 422 Valant. 8.46 (470 yards)—555 Dumbell; 521 Jimmy's L&I; 441 Molester; 331 Pease; 212 Spanglers; 355 Woodpecker.

9.04 (410 yards)—355 Men Man; 311 Parties-Vous; 333 Pilot; 626 Pio-Toss; 154 Tiger Lad; 41 West Manor. 9.22 (470 yards)—644 Borne; 51 Floot; 383 High Tension; 4 Huxley; 165 Mr. Tap-Toss; 4, Red Cross; reserve 653 Old Com; 333 Shanon Browne; 544 Dan and Glen; 6 Dumbell; 136 Marfins; 521 Old Sal; 354 Whistler; reserve 364 Plasterer.

SELECTIONS
7.30—Little Albert (Pukka Gen, Adams).
7.48—Sugar (Popul-Cole, Dark Invader).
8.05—Brichhill Lad (Emperor, Glen).
8.24—The Lodger (Valant, Sugar Puff).
8.44—Molester (Pease, Jimmy's L&I).
9.04—Parties-Vous (West Manor, Pilot).
9.22—Borne (Floot, Huxley).
9.40—Dan and Glen (Dumbell, Old Sal).

CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

F.A. CUP, THIRD ROUND
Aston v. Stoke C.
Barnley v. Port Vale
Bolton W. v. Blackpool
Bournemouth v. Accrington S.
Bristol C. v. Rotherham Utd.
Burnley v. Chesterfield
Bury v. Portsmouth
Cardiff Utd. v. Birmingham C.
Doncaster R. v. West Brom
Everton v. Blackburn R.
Hartlepool Utd. v. Manchester Utd.

Huddersfield T. v. Sheffield Utd.
Hull C. v. Bristol R.
Ipswich T. v. Fulham
Leeds Utd. v. Cardiff C.
Leyton O. v. Chelsea
Luton T. v. Aston Villa
Middlesbrough v. Charlton Ath.
Millwall v. Crystal Palace
New Brighton v. Torquay Utd.
Newport Utd. v. Manchester C.
Newport P. v. Southampton
Nottingham Forest v. Gillingham
Notts Co. v. Rhyd.
Petersborough Utd. v. Lincoln C.
Preston N.E. v. Sheffield Wed.
Southend Utd. v. Liverpool
Sunderland v. Q.P.R.

Tottenham H. v. Leicester C.
West Ham v. Grimsby T.
Wolves v. Swanton T.
Wrexham v. Reading

DIVISION III (SOUTH)
Brighton v. Swindon T.
Colchester Utd. v. Coventry C.
Northampton T. v. Gillingham
Norwich C. v. Walsall
Plymouth A. v. Exeter C.

DIVISION III (NORTH)
Bradford v. Halifax T.
Crewe Alex. v. Derby Co.

Gateshead v. Rochdale
Mansfield T. v. Chester
Stockport Co. v. Tranmere R.
Warrington v. Darlington
York C. v. Bradford C.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
DIVISION I
Aberdeen v. St. Mirren
Falkirk v. Hibernian
Heart of Midlothian
Kilmarnock v. Dundee
Motherwell v. Partick T.
Queen of Scots v. East Fife
Queen's Park v. Celtic
St. John's v. Ayr Utd.
Rangers v. Airdrieonians

DIVISION II
Aberdeen R. v. East Stirling
Alloa v. Stirling A.
Barnack R. v. Stranraer
Clyde v. Brechin C.
Cowdenbeath v. Hamilton
Dunfermline v. Stirling Albion
Dundee Utd. v. Arbroath
Forfar Ath. v. St. Johnstone
Montrose v. Thistle Lanark

OTHER MATCH
Shrewsbury T. v. Oldham Ath.

SELECTIONS
TEN HOME.—Arsenal, Burnley, Everton, Leeds, Preston, Tottenham, West Ham, Wrexham, Mansfield, Stockport.

FOUR AWAY.—Portsmouth, Manchester Utd., Chelsea, Liverpool.

THREE DRAWS.—Huddersfield v. Sheffield Utd.; Newport v. Southampton; Gateshead v. Rochdale.



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