

HALF POINTS FOR TOWN FROM EASTER PROGRAMME

WERE BROUGHT BY TURNER'S SHOOTING Win Over Bolton Ended Long Run Without One

By Chiltern

WITH three points from what was regarded as a tough Easter programme, the Town can be reasonably well satisfied and it was a better result than most supporters expected after their rather melancholy run of non-success.

Now, they have lifted themselves clear of the bottom rungs of the table and can afford to contemplate with complacency, their final match at Villa Park on Saturday and to look forward to their tour of Germany which begins next Monday.

WITHOUT doubt their best display of the three was at Bolton on Friday, when they were decidedly unlucky not to gain both points, and generally produced the brand of constructive football that has been missing these last weeks.

In view of that, it was most surprising that they failed so completely against the Wednesday, at Sheffield, the following day, when their team showed only one change at right-half where Smith stood in for the injured Morton.

They were not recognisable as the same team and simply had nothing to offer when the Wednesday went ahead seven minutes after half-time through a penalty, the award of which the Town hotly disputed.

Turner Was The Point Earner

IN the last half an hour, they were simply sunk without a trace of fight in the forward line and Wednesday's victory would have been much heavier but for some brilliant goalkeeping by Baynam.

Which brings us to Monday, and the end of a run of seven matches without a victory, when Bolton went down by the only goal in a match that was something of a disappointment to an abnormally low holiday crowd of under 14,000.

As was the case at Bolton where he scored both goals, Turner was the point earner when he snapped up a chance in the last half minute of the first half after Gregory and Edwards had clashed and the ball somewhat fortuitously ran loose.

Bolton Will Miss Lofthouse

EARLIER on, Bolton had looked rather the more dangerous, especially through Lofthouse, whose long association with the Wanderers appears to be drawing to a close because of his decision to go into the hotel business.

If he does leave Burnden Park, he will cause a gap that will be extremely difficult to fill because he is still one of the most dangerous leaders in the business. He might very well have given Bolton an early lead with a shot at Baynam seemed to think he was going wide, but which hit the post with the goalkeeper powerless to do anything about it.

Could Have Been A Vital Reverse

THAT could very easily have counted as the reverse from which the Town have found it so difficult to recover in the past, but they kept firmly in the game and Gregory missed two good opportunities of giving them the lead. Then, just when it seemed that the first half would be goalless,

Turner did another of his goal-snatching acts with a hard drive into the roof of the net from inside the penalty area.

Bolton hit back early after the interval and Holden missed a great chance from a rebound after Baynam had made a brilliant save from him and Kelly kicked away in the nick of time.

Wrapped Up Well Before The End

BOTH goals had further escapes, particularly when Gregory struck the bar from an acute angle and Turner ran the ball across the face of the goal.

Long before the end, though, the Town seemed to have this game wrapped up, despite the slender nature of their lead, and in the closing stages only Holden looked as if he might save the Wanderers a point, but his drive was splendidly saved by Baynam.

Bolton thought they had done enough to deserve a point, but they could not break down a defence that showed a good deal more soundness than had been the case in the previous match.

Jones Completed His Return To Favour

STRANGELY, Kelly has had his best games this week-end against the vastly experienced Lofthouse and he put up quite a solid performance on Monday.

Perhaps it was the return of Morton which enabled the defence as a whole to cover better and

FOR THE RECORDS

FRIDAY

BOLTON WANDERERS 2
Lofthouse (2)
LUTON TOWN 2
Turner (2)
BOLTON WANDERERS:
Hopkinson, Hartle, Banks;
Hennin, Edwards, Bell; Birch,
Stevens, Lofthouse, Farry,
Holden.
LUTON TOWN: Bay-
nam, McNally, Jones; Mor-
ton, Kelly, Pearce; Cullen,
Turner, Davies, Brown,
Adam.
Referee: F. L. Overton.
Derby. Attendance: 18,666.

SATURDAY

SHEFFIELD W 3
Quixall, Froggatt, Ellis
LUTON TOWN 0
SHEFFIELD WEDNES-
DAY: Pils, Stanforth,
Carris, McAnnamay, McEvoy,
O'Donnell; Wilkinson,
Quixall, Ellis, Froggatt,
Broadbent.
LUTON TOWN: As at
Bolton, except Smith (R) for
Morton.
Referee: R. G. Warrack.
Coventry. Attendance: 22,497.

MONDAY

LUTON TOWN 1
Turner
BOLTON WANDERERS 0
LUTON TOWN: Bay-
nam, McNally, Jones; Mor-
ton, Kelly, Pearce; Davies,
Turner, Gregory, Brown,
Adam.
BOLTON WANDERERS:
Hopkinson, Bell, Banks;
Stanley, Edwards, Bell; Birch,
Stevens, Lofthouse, Webster,
Holden.
Referee: F. L. Overton.
Derby. Attendance: 13,374.

take up more accurate position, and there was strength at wing-half with Pearce again very resourceful, strong in the tackle and emphasising the understanding he has struck up with Jones. In the case of the latter, his return not only to form but to favour, was completed on Saturday when he was given the captaincy at Sheffield in the absence of Morton and, in that match, he was one of the few players whose reputation did not suffer.

Splendid Form Of Ron Baynam

ON Monday, he was again cool and polished, and McNally, despite the fact that he still shows a tendency to run with the ball, came through adequately, too. Behind them was Baynam, safe in handling and anticipation and his recent displays have been sharp reminders to the England selectors that he is on

CHILTERN'S

DIVISION I
Aston Villa v Luton T.
Birmingham C. v Manchester C.
Cardiff C. v Everton
Cardiff C. v Manchester Utd.
Portsmouth v West Brom
Preston N.E. v Chelsea
Tottenham H. v Blackpool

DIVISION II
Bristol C. v Swansea T.
Leyton O. v Notts Co.
Lincoln C. v Barnsley
Liverpool v West Ham
Port Vale v Rotherham Utd.
Sheffield Utd. v Nottm Forest

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

DIVISION III (NORTH)
Bradford v Huddersfield T.
Crewe Alex. v Mansfield T.
Darlington v Bradford C.

FORECASTS

Derby Co. v Southport
Gateshead v Chester
Hull C. v Tranmere R.
Hull C. v Carlisle Utd.
Rochdale v York C.
Scunthorpe Utd. v Oldham Ath.
Wrexham v Accrington S.
Wrexham v Chesterfield

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
DIVISION I
Airdrieonians v Dunfermline
Celtic v Hibernian
Dundee v Raith R.
East Fife v St. Mirren
Falkirk v Motherwell
Hearts v Aberdeen
Kilmarnock v Queen's Park
Partick T. v Ayr Utd.
Queen of South v Rangers

DIVISION II
Aston v Arbroath
Cowdenbeath v Albion R.
Forfar Ath. v Stenhousemuir
Hamilton v East Stirling
Montrose v Stranraer
Morton v Brechin C.
St. Johnstone v Berwick R.
Third Lanark v Stirling A.

SELECTIONS
TEN HOME: Birmingham, Preston, Liverpool, Brentford, Brighton, Ipswich, Torquay, Derby, Gateshead, Scunthorpe.
FOUR AWAY: Nottm Forest, Colchester, Southampton, Mansfield.
THREE DRAWS: Tottenham v Blackpool; Port Vale v Rotherham; Gillingham v Newport.

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THE GREEN UN

Every Saturday Night

the verge of recognition again. Forward, it was a surprise to learn that Cullen had been omitted for the home match—a surprise because he had been the liveliest of a poor forward line at Sheffield.

Apparently, he was passed over in an endeavour to bring more directness through moving Davies to the wing and introducing Gregory into the middle.

Problem That Must Be Tackled

THIS could not be said to have achieved more than passing success. Davies did little out of the ordinary and Gregory was dangerous only occasionally against the hard-tackling Edwards.

Centre-forward is one of the problems that the Town must tackle during the close season, because none of their various attempts to solve it have come off.

Greyhound Racing

Tony Token Won Luton's Easter Sweepstake

WINNER of the £40 Easter Sweepstake final at Luton Stadium on Monday night was Tony Token, who has now won his last three races.

Tony Token beat Gaynor by seven lengths in a rather disappointing final. Gaynor was 10 lengths in front of Gusto, who was eight lengths ahead of Bill Bogey. Reason for these big distances was that Bill Bogey and Rinty collided and fell, causing a "pile-up."

Return Fare won the Consolation Final.

I (410 yds)—1, OUTCAST (4); 2, Tin Ribs (5); 3, The Jet (6); 4, The Lodger (3); 5, Gold Star (2); 6, Not So Rough (1); 5, 1, 3, 12, 6; 24.18. Off 6.42.
Betting: 2-1 The Lodger; 9-4 OUTCAST; 5-1 Tin Ribs, The Jet, 8-1 Not So Rough, 10-1 Gold Star.
Forecast: £11/8/9.

II (470 yds)—1, TIGER (2); 2, Normal Service (3); 3, Old Coat (1); 4, Hay Time (4); 5, Rusty Boy (5); 6, Black Stick (6); head, 1, 4, 1; 27.93. Off 7.03.
Betting: 9-4 Old Coat, 5-2 Rusty Boy, 5-1 Hay Time, 6-1 TIGER, Normal Service, 7-1 Black Stick.
Forecast: £5/19/6.

III (470 yds)—1, PLASMA (6); 2, Phadad (4); 3, High Tension (2); 4, Snob (1); 5, Page One (3); 4, neck, 2, 2; 27.76; Peter's Pal (5) d.a.f. Off 7.24.
Betting: 4-5 PLASMA, 3-1 Phadad, 7-2 Snob, 10-1 Page One, 100-8 others.
Forecast: 15/-.

IV (410 yds)—1, GOLDEN SUN (3); 2, Nice Fella (1); 3, The Orphan (2); 4, Parade Prince (5); 5, Sandman (4); 6, Charcoal (6); 2, 6, 3, 10, dist; 24.02. Off 7.44.
Betting: 2-1 The Orphan, 9-4 Nice Fella, 4-1 Charcoal, 6-1 GOLDEN SUN, Sandman, 8-1 Parade Prince.
Forecast: £3/8/3.

Sweepstake Final (410 yds)—1, TONY TOKEN (1); 2, Gaynor (6); 3, Gusto (2); 4, Bill Bogey (3); 5, Drumbue (5); 6, Rinty (4); 7, 10, 8, 1, dist; 23.85. Off 8.06.
Betting: 5-4 TONY TOKEN, 5-2 Bill Bogey, 5-1 Drumbue, 7-1 Gaynor, 10-1 Gusto, 100-7 Rinty.
Forecast: £11/1/6.

Consolation Final—1, RETURN FARE (2); 2, Cracklings (3); 3, Our Sally (6); 4, Mickey Drip (4); 5, Bally Mac (5); 6, Pan-Yan (1); neck, 1, 6, 10, 10; 24.23. Off 8.27.
Betting: 4-5 RETURN FARE, 4-1 Our Sally, Bally Mac, 7-1 Pan-Yan, 10-1 others.
Forecast: £2/7/6.

VII (470 yds)—1, NEW MEXICO (4); 2, Butcher's Pal (6); 3, King Sol (5); reserve; 4, Sheila's Choice (2); 5, Pluto (1); 6, Crayon (3); 7, 2, 3, 3, dist; 27.38; non-runner Banger (5). Off 8.46.
Betting: Evens NEW MEXICO, 7-2 Butcher's Pal, 4-1 King Sol, 8-1 Sheila's Choice, 100-8 Pluto, Crayon.
Forecast: 10/6.

VIII (410 yds)—1, NEW BANGO (3); 2, Learner (5); 3, The Brick (6); 4, Frances (2); 5, Fanny Adams (4); 2, 2, 8, 12; 24.11; non-runner Old Nick (1). Off 9.04.
Betting: 6-4 Learner, 5-2 The Brick, 3-1 NEW BANGO, 6-1 Fanny Adams, 8-1 Frances.
Forecast: £1/3/-.

MORNING MEETING

I (410 yds)—1, COUGH DROP (3); 2, Ray's Girl (2) and Dumbell (4), dead heat; 4, Rob Roy (5); 5, Brickhill Lad (1); 6, Lucky Jim (6); 4, dead heat, short head, 2, 3; 24.83. Off 11.09.
Betting: Evens COUGH DROP, 4-1 Ray's Girl, 7-1 Dumbell, Lucky Jim, Brickhill Lad, 8-1 Rob Roy.
Forecast: 9/-, £1/5/6.

Sweepstake Heats (410 yds):
Heat I—1, GUSTO (5); 2, Cracklings (2); 3, Jimmy's Lil (4); 4, Ron (1); 5, Very Useful (6); 6, Pancho (3); 1, 5, 3, 4; 24.41. Off 11.30.
Betting: 4-5 GUSTO, 7-2 Very Useful, 5-1 Cracklings, 7-1 Pancho, 8-1 Jimmy's Lil, Ron.
Forecast: 18/9.

Heat II—1, DRAMBUIE (6); 2, Pan-Yan (1); 3, Persil (4); 4,

Perhaps it was because the conditions were made difficult by rain which produced a soft surface on the bone hard ground underneath, but there was good football only in flashes and the Town attack lacked smoothness and rhythm.

If Only Adam Could Find Finish

BECAUSE he was always liable to get a goal, Turner was always the most dangerous of the front line, but in approach he was too often running with the ball and, as a result, being caught in possession.

Once again, Adam underlined what a great player he could become if only he could find finishing power to match his skill and speed in approach. Unfortunately, he produces this only occasionally, with the result that much fine preliminary work goes to waste.

Although Brown did rather

better than in other recent home matches and made some useful passes, he continues to be way below the form he showed when he first joined the club.

Not Memorable Note On Which To End

HOWEVER, he finished the game strongly, coming well into the picture in the last 20 minutes, but once again it was difficult to see where goals would come from if Turner did not produce them.

Altogether, it was a game that heralded the end of the season and the finish of the holiday programme, and was not a memorable note on which to close the League season at Kenilworth-road, even though it brought a most welcome victory.

At Bolton, Turner broke the long run without a goal in the 18th minute from a fine movement by Adam and Pearce when he met the latter's centre on the volley and crashed the ball past Hopkinson.

Two Decisions Caused Some Argument

BY comparison, the equaliser from Lofthouse nine minutes later was a scrambling affair in which he got the "break" of the ball in a tussle with Kelly, and Baynam could do no more than stick out a foot at the ball.

There was much argument about Lofthouse's second goal 17 minutes after half-time because Baynam was charged as he went up to collect a free kick and lost possession as he fell.

The Town also thought the referee was wrong when a shot by Turner appeared to hit the roof of the net, the ball was scrambled away and the official decided on a corner after consultation with a linesman.

It seemed as if the Town's luck was right out, especially when Davies made a sizzling drive that Hopkinson nearly allowed to spin over the line.

Late Free Kick Saved A Point

AS things turned out, they saved a point six minutes from the end with a free kick taken a couple of yards outside the penalty area by Turner.

Perhaps the defence was distracted by some "feinting" by Jones and Kelly, but somehow Turner squeezed the ball between the angle of the bar and post.

Apart from Baynam, Jones was in a class by himself in this match with a brilliant display.

Next in line was Pearce, but Morton, troubled by a knee injury, was a bit below his best; Kelly kept going with a reasonable amount of success, except that he was beaten consistently in the air, and McNally, although he often looked worried, came through fairly adequately.

More Method From The Forwards

MORE method and more shooting came from the forwards, with an improvement in the wing play being brought by Cullen and Adam and with Turner always on the lookout for even the half chance.

Davies worked hard enough without looking the part of leader and although Brown was responsible for some good distribution, he missed two or three good scoring chances.

After gaining this somewhat unexpected point, it was a great disappointment to see the Town failing at Sheffield, where they had thought they had the better chance of reaping some success.

Baynam The Man Of This Match

MAINLY due to the brilliance of Baynam, they muddled through to half-time still on level terms, but they just went out of the game completely when Kelly was penalised for a mild offence against Ellis, who was a source of trouble to him throughout the match. As a result, Wednesday got right on top and after Quixall's easy penalty success, further goals came from Froggatt and Ellis and there would have been others but for the work of Baynam, who stood between them and a debacle.

No doubt that Baynam was Luton's man of the match and it was difficult to find another unless it was Jones, who was the only other member of the defence not to lose his composure.

Forwards Had A Bad Day, Too

UNTIL Broadbent suddenly began to thrive on a supply of good passes, many of them from Quixall, McNally was doing reasonably well, but he had something of a second-half "chasing."

With Kelly consistently out-headed by Ellis, whose bustle he found harassing continually, and Smith and Pearce failing to get a grip on things, the Wednesday were able to gain command of the middle of the field.

Partly because the support from behind was poor, but also because they showed little method or thrust, the forwards had a bad day, with Turner and Brown seldom in the picture, Davies being held pretty firmly and only the wanderings of Cullen and some early activity by Adam worrying the home defence.

And after the first goal, the Town seemed to give up all idea of attack.

Two Points For The Reserves

ALTHOUGH they lost only one of their Easter matches—the one at Norwich on Monday, when they went down 3-1—this was their best performance with what must be considered a "scratch" eleven.

Bud Aherne had a run out at right-back and came through well, and Collins switched to centre-half had quite a good game, although he was inclined to be too casual. Ray Smith was given a trial at centre-forward, and tried hard, while McGuffie moved up to inside-left but was not a success there. Legate scored Luton's only goal.

On Friday Groves scored for Luton in a dull 1-1 draw with Norwich, and on Saturday the Reserves figured in another draw when they shared the points with Leyton Orient.

Each side scored twice, Luton's goals coming from Chambers and Gregory.

FOOTBALL

LUTON TOWN F.C.
Football Combination
TONIGHT, 24th APRIL
LUTON RESERVES
versus
BOURNEMOUTH
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Kick-off 6.30 p.m.

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