

SCORING SPREE TOOK TIME TO DEVELOP

Town Took Chances And Both Points

By Chiltern

ASTON VILLA 1, LUTON TOWN 3

SUCH a satisfactory way of ending the season so far as the Town were concerned never looked like coming about until 21 minutes from the end when the Villa defence made a bad mistake that enabled Brown to make an easy chance for TURNER.

That began a scoring spree that produced four quick goals and left the Town high and dry with two points which they were rather fortunate to acquire.

At the same time it could be truly said that they gave the Villa a lesson in the art of accepting chances of which they had far fewer than their opponents.

A mixture of poor finishing and superb goalkeeping by Baynham kept the Town level during the first half and enabled them to survive heavy pressure after the interval when the Villa harnessed the strong wind to help their efforts.

However, they wasted chance after chance and although the Town defence never looked completely watertight and was prone

to mistakes, mostly through keeping the ball too close, they survived.

That Turner goal which came after Dugdale and Sims had collided, shook the Cup-finalists, and they re-doubled their efforts for a time.

SMITH equalised eleven minutes from the end with a low cross-shot that was out of Baynham's reach after Dixon had got the better of a tussle with Morton in which there was much pushing and shoving.

With the scores level, it looked as if honour was satisfied so far as both teams were concerned, but four minutes later BROWN scored the best goal of the match when he ran on to a pass by Turner, held off Dugdale's challenge and carefully lobbed the ball over the head of the oncoming Sims.

Just to make sure, TURNER, two minutes from the end, shouted for, and accepted, a through pass by Adam to beat Sims with a well-placed shot.

Maybe Villa were preoccupied with next Saturday's event and perhaps the Town had thoughts of their tour in the front of their minds, but it was never a game about which anyone could raise a great deal of enthusiasm.

BROWN BROUGHT LIFE

The best football came in the last 20 minutes when the Town forwards, ably led by Brown who switched into the middle soon after the interval, looked a more cohesive force than previously.

Brown brought life to the front line, Turner did his part by accepting two chances, and Davies worked hard without really being a success.

Again, there was a lack of material from the extreme wings, where Adam was more impressive than Cullen.

Man of the match, without doubt, was Baynham, who made a series of brilliant saves and was not afforded the best of cover by the men in front of him.

Several times Jones put the goal in jeopardy by ill-judged passes and generally he kept the ball too close, which was a fault shared by Pearce who, however, was always prominent by virtue of the strength of his tackling.

From Kelly there was a reasonably good display and Morton was adequate without being the commanding player he can be.

McNally did not have a great deal of trouble from Pace and the most dangerous of the Villa forwards was Sewell, who missed several chances, in addition to being unlucky two or three times.

ASTON VILLA: Sims; Lynn, Aldis; Birch, Dugdale, Seward; Smith, Sewell, Myerscough, Dixon, Pace.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; McNally, Jones; Morton, Kelly, Pearce; Cullen, Turner, Davies, Brown, Adam.

Referee: C. W. Kingston (Newport). Attendance: 27,000.

Other Critics

FIVE STAR RATING FOR BAYNHAM

Ron Baynham earned all the credit marks — so far as the national newspaper critics were concerned, anyway — when Luton beat Aston Villa 3-1 on Saturday.

Villa were a big disappointment to the home fans, but, probably, were thinking about Saturday's match at Wembley.

Although Luton scored three goals and ended the season on quite a high note, their forwards did not get much praise.

Here are the final "quotes" of the season:

"Although Villa showed flashes of cohesive football it was obvious that many of their players had their minds on next Saturday's Cup Final. Villa should kick themselves for losing this match," Sunday Dispatch.

"Although they were making all the running Villa seemed to be holding something back for next week's important game," Sunday Express.

"It was not Villa's fault that Ron Baynham was on international form. Had it not been for him they would have coasted to an easy victory in the first half," Sunday Pictorial.

"Baynham was certainly the star of this game. His handling and positional play were excellent," News of the World.

"For most of the game it was Villa v. Baynham. Ron amazed, bewildered and perplexed the Villa forwards," The People.