

HONOURS COME THE WAY OF THREE TOWN PLAYERS

A SWITCH CHANGED PEARCE'S CAREER

Cap For Cummins Despite Being In The Reserves

By CHILTERN

THAT you never know what is just around the corner in football is proved by the case of Reg. Pearce, deservedly chosen to play at left-half for the Football League against the League of Ireland at Leeds a fortnight tomorrow.

Yet, it is less than nine months ago that Pearce had a request to be placed on the transfer list turned down and his reason for wanting to leave the club was that he could not command a regular first team place.

At that time, Pearce regarded his best position as inside-right, but thought that he could have settled down on the right wing had he been given an extended run there.

Consolation for him was that at the end of the week in which he made his request, he was included in the Cup team against Aston Villa at right-half which was the turning point in his career.

About that, he was not too happy at the start because he thought that the competition there would be too severe for him to keep a place in the middle line.

Only Injury Has Interrupted His Run

THINGS began to shape that way, too, when after the Cup-ties with the Villa he was moved up to inside-left and the following week, found himself at outside-right.

Then, he was in at left-half in the Ribby Taylor Cup match at Watford, but it was not until February 9 at Leeds that he began his run in this position which, has been interrupted only by injury and in which he has proved to be such a great success.

Yet, it is strange that he should sample six positions before eventually finding his niche.

When Manager Dally Duncan heard the news on Sunday even-

Dunne and Cummins In Eire Team

AT the same time, the manager was rather disappointed that Ron Baynham was not given another chance in goal, but if he maintains his present displays, that will come before the season is much further advanced.

Hard on the heels of the selection of Pearce came the news that Seamus Dunne and George Cummins had been chosen to play for Eire against Denmark in Copenhagen tomorrow week.

Choice of Dunne was expected because he earned three caps last season and, after missing the match with England at Wembley, chiefly because he had been absent through injury, he was recalled for the return in Dublin.

Cummins Has Had No First-team Play

IN that match, when Eire so very nearly won a sensational victory, Dunne displaced the Everton right-back, Don Donovan, who was so impressive here on Saturday.

For Cummins, it is a return to the international scene, mainly because Eire have not considered Manchester United players



Of course they look happy! Reg Pearce (left) and George Cummins had plenty to smile about when they reported for training yesterday. Pearce has been picked to play for the Football League against the League of Ireland at Leeds on October 9. Cummins for Eire against Denmark in Copenhagen a week tomorrow. Seamus Dunne has also been selected to play for Eire, so, despite the fact that the Town lost on Saturday, three of their players have plenty to smile about.—B200R.

because of their World Cup commitments.

That meant that Bill Whelan, who played for them at inside-right last season, was not available and Fitzsimons, of Middlesbrough, moves over to make room for Cummins.

The Luton player goes into this test with no first-team experience this season behind him, and it is nearly two years since he last figured in an international.

Can Town Halt The Slump Quickly?

IS there to be the same sort of falling away after a bright start as occurred last season?

That was the question the Town fans were asking after they had seen their team yield their unbeaten home record to Everton on Saturday.

After beginning with a flourish by collecting 10 points out of the first 12, the Town have gained only one from the last six and it is a question of whether they can halt the slump before it becomes really serious.

A glance at the League table is sufficient to pin-point the trouble, because the Town, with only eight goals against, have the

"Goals For" Column Is Different Story

THE "goals for" column tells another story, because 15 teams have scored more than them and 11 in nine matches cannot be regarded as a satisfactory output.

Admittedly in the last two home matches the Town have had some very bad luck with scoring shots stopped on the goal-line, and they were definitely out of luck on Saturday, especially when Pearce struck the bar with a tremendous drive.

To have gained the confidence of a goal at that time would have been a real tonic to the Town and might have produced a vastly different result.

Clear-cut Openings Were Very Few

HOWEVER, for all the prompting of Pearce, the forwards could not settle down as a cohesive unit.

There was neatness in midfield and a consistent attempt to play constructive football, but it did not carry them to close quarters often enough and few clear-cut openings were created.

Part of the reason for this was the speed and strength of the Everton defence which covered up splendidly but they were helped by the fact that the inside forwards, Turner and Brown, were out of touch.

When the former is out of shooting form, then the line wears a very threadbare look so far as scoring potential is concerned.

Not Much From The Wings, Either

AT the moment, Brown is finding the ball too lively for him and although he distributed some accurate passes, he is not playing with the drive he showed last season, and Turner was out of touch for longish periods.

Nor did a great deal come from the wings and it is largely a matter of opinion whether the wingers were affected by the inside men being below par, or

whether the converse is really the case.

At any rate, Cullen never had the measure of Tansey, was by no means direct enough, and McLeod found his speed matched by that of Donovan who gave him little scope.

Have Proved That Ability Is There

FOR Morton there was not much support and he had to do much foraging on his own account and was often seeking an open space on the right wing.

There is more than sufficient football talent in this front line for it to be a real success and we have recent evidence that it can be.

Only a fortnight previously, they played grand stuff against Wolves and just before that had turned on a first-class exhibition at Blackpool.

So, the ability is there, of that we have proof, and it may be merely a matter of waiting until they settle down again and hoping that it will not be too long before that happens.

Everton May Prove To Be Team Of Year

IT very well might turn out that time will show that the Town had a man-sized task on their plate on Saturday because Everton could well turn out to be the team of the year.

Hard, fast and strong, they will be a difficult lot to overcome and they deserved their narrow win because their forward line, on the day, was the livelier and the better together.

Yet a draw would not have been an unfair result because, on balance, the Town had slightly more of the play, and they might well have held the lead at half-time, especially after a storming ending to the first half during which the Everton defence was hard put to it to survive.

Seven Minutes Left When Goal Came

THEN, just as this entertaining game entered its final phase, Fielding struck the blow that decided the issue.

There were just seven minutes

FOR THE RECORDS

LUTON TOWN 0
EVERTON 1

Fielding
LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, McNally; Groves, Owen, Pearce; Cullen, Turner, Morton, Brown, McLeod.
EVERTON: Dunlop; Donovan, Tansey; Rea, Jones, Meagan; J. Harris, Temple, Hickson, Fielding, B. Harris.
Referee: G. McCabe, Sheffield. Attendance: 19,767.

left when Meagan secured the ball from a throw-in and pushed through a neat pass.

Fielding reached it and made a toe-ended shot as Turner challenged him and as he was falling.

Baynham, covering his near post, could not get across the goal quickly enough to prevent it entering the far corner of the net.

Previously, Baynham had saved the situation several times with brilliant clearances and he looked more assured than did Dunlop, who is supposed to be one of his rivals for representative honours.

Outstanding Form Of Pearce

ONE player who certainly did not deserve to be on the

losing side was Pearce, who put up another outstanding display and was absolutely brilliant all through the first half.

Showing tremendous energy both in attack and defence, his was a great showing and he was the best Town player.

Another to earn high credit marks was Owen, who met the dash and enthusiasm of Hicks most solidly and successfully, and not a lot of threat came down the middle, where Owen was generally the master.

Speedy Wingers Were Troublesome

THERE was a high rating, too, for Baynham, but both Dunne and McNally found some trouble from the directness of the Harris on the extreme wings.

For McNally, it was his first League appearance of the season, and after a shaky sort of start he settled down to give quite an adequate display, though the distribution of Jones was missed.

Dunne did nothing seriously wrong, but his kicking was not so clean as it might have been.

As for Groves, I cannot see that he is really achieving what was expected of him, mainly because he is not assertive enough, and more drive from him would be welcome.

Greyhound Racing

Five The Lucky Number At Luton On Saturday

"Five" was the lucky number at Luton Stadium on Saturday. Trap 5 started five winners and there were four 5-1 successes.

I (410yds.)—1, VERY USEFUL (5); 2, Bendigo (2); 3, Blue Cross (6); 4, Dumb Blonde (4); 5, Jasper (3); 6, Rose Vale (1). 10, 2, 3, 4, 6. 24.41. Off 6.46.

Betting: 4-5 VERY USEFUL; 9-2 Blue Cross, Jasper; 6-1 Bendigo, Dumb Blonde; 8-1 Rose Vale.
Forecast £1 3s. 6d.

II (470yds.)—1, POPPY (3) and CORAL BEAD (5), dead heat; 3, Speedy Ash (4); 4, Jim's Gift (1); 5, Quick Step (6), reserve; 6, Jampt (2). Dead heat, 14, 3, 4, 5. 27.68. Non-runner, Orinthia (6). Off 7.07.

Betting: 2-1 Quick Step; 5-2 Jim's Gift; 3-1 CORAL BEAD; 5-1 POPPY, Speedy Ash; 100-8 Jampt.
Forecasts £1 8s. 3d. and £1 0s. 9d.

III (410yds.)—1, BALLY'S SON (5); 2, Smoky Joe (4); 3, Old Coat (2), reserve; 4, Boston Browne (3); 5, Picture Lady (1); 6, Red Light (6). 3, 3, 7, 2, 2. 24.82. Non-runner, Nervous (2). Off 7.27.

Betting: 4-6 BALLY'S SON; 7-2 Picture Lady; 4-1 Smoky Joe; 7-1 Boston Browne; 8-1 Old Coat; 10-1 Red Light.
Forecast 13s. 6d.

IV (410yds.)—1, PINEAPPLE (5); 2, Hay Time (3); 3, Gina (6); 4, Call Boy (4); 5, Golden Sun (2); 6, Skiffle (1). 8, 14, 1, 2, 2. 24.02. Off 7.47.

Betting: 2-1 Golden Sun; 3-1 PINEAPPLE; 4-1 Hay Time, Call Boy; 6-1 Gina; 8-1 Skiffle.
Forecast £2 9s. 6d.

V (470yds.)—1, NIGHT LIFE (4); 2, Wings (2); 3, Whattaday (5); 4, Coniston (6). 8, 14, 14. 27.05. Non-runners, Squeaker (1) and Ribbon (3). Off 8.07.

Betting: 5-4 Wings, Coniston; 5-1 NIGHT LIFE; 7-1 Whattaday.
Forecast £1 10s.

VI (410yds.)—1, DIANE (2); 2, Return Fare (4); 3, Rhapsody (5); 4, Stroller (1); 5, Frances (3). 2, 4, 5, 6. 23.98.

Non-runner, Mad Jack (6). Off 8.27.

Betting: 7-4 Return Fare; 9-4 Rhapsody; 7-2 Stroller; 5-1 DIANE; 20-1 Frances.
Forecast £2 2s. 3d.

VII (470yds.)—1, BALLERINO (3); 2, Chub (1); 3, New Mexico (4); 4, Netta (5); 5, Houghton Boy (6); 6, Tai (2). 1, 4, 2, 6, 10. 27.48. Off 8.48.

Betting: 9-4 BALLERINO; 7-2 Chub, New Mexico, Netta; 6-1 Houghton Boy; 10-1 Tai.
Forecast £1 0s. 3d.

VIII (410yds.)—1, HI' GANG (5); 2, Sweet Martini (6); 3, Outcast (4); 4, Tiffy (2); 5, Double R (1). 4, 1, 2, 6. 24.30. Non-runners, Cough Drop (3), Silver Lining, reserve. Off 9.08.

Betting: 5-2 Sweet Martini; Double R; 3-1 Outcast; 5-1 HI' GANG; 6-1 Tiffy.
Forecast £2 11s.

RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR LUTON TONIGHT

7.30 (410 yds.)—3 Alice; 135 Billy Boy (Sept 17, up 2, 24.89); 315 Mr Tap-Toes; 445 Cinderella; 631 Rebecca; Western Boy (Aug 22, up 2, 24.82); Sept 17, up 2, 24.70.

7.50 (470 yds.)—362 Dark Invader; 634 Drummer Boy; 422 Lucky Jim; 444 Mini; 661 Ron; 232 Rose Bowl; reserve 444 Black Pete.

8.10 (410 yds.)—Dare Not (Sept 5, up 4, 24.20); 313 Leopard; 132 Sheila's Choice; 121 Tiny Tot; 3 Tom-Pom; 124 Tony Tokes; reserve 254 Learner.

8.50 (470 yds.)—614 Black Ben; 414 Happy; 311 Nigger Boy; 145 Old Timer; 114 Rapsody; 421 Who Cares; 9.10 (410 yds.)—Anything (Sept 19, up 2, 24.05); 221 Cockey Boy; 125 Nice Fella; 111 Rumba; 14 Saucy Jack; 1 Westbourne.

9.30 (470 yds.)—353 Ash Shaggy; 134 Fly Miss; 653 Pancho; 361 Powder Puff; 133 Old Mick; 226 Old Sal.

9.50 (410 yds.)—271 Dead Loin; 11 Penny Adams; 53 Leroy Laps; 21 Lucy (Sept 17, up 6, 24.44); 66 Peggy; 122 Puzzle.

SELECTIONS

7.30—Mr Tap-Toes (Billy Boy, Alice); 7.50—Ron (Lucky Jim, Mini); 8.10—Gina (map); (Dare Not, Wheezy); 8.30—Sheila's Choice (Leopard, Tiny Tot).

8.50—Nigger Boy (Happy, Old Timer); 9.10—Rumba (Cockey Boy, Westbourne); 9.30—Old Mick (Pancho, Fly Miss); 9.50—Dead Loin (Lucy, Peggy).



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CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

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Arsenal v Leeds Utd.
Aston Villa v Leicester C.
Barnsley v West Ham
Birmingham v Notts Co.
Bolton W. v Portsmouth
Burnley v Newcastle Utd.
Everton v Blackpool
Manchester C. v Tottenham H.
Nottingham Forest v West Brom
Preston N.E. v Chelsea
Sheffield Wed. v Birmingham C.
Sunderland v Luton T.
Wolves v Manchester Utd.

DIVISION II

Barnsley v West Ham
Bristol R. v Notts Co.
Charlton Ath. v Liverpool
Derby Co. v Ipswich T.
Doncaster R. v Cardiff C.
Fulham v Sheffield Utd.
Huddersfield T. v Stoke C.
Leyton O. v Middlesbrough
Lincoln C. v Grimsby T.
Rotherham Utd. v Bristol C.
Swansea T. v Blackburn R.

DIVISION III (SOUTH)

Albion v Gillingham
Brentford v Coventry C.
Colchester Utd. v Walsall
Crystal Palace v Reading
Newport Co. v Southampton Utd.
Norwich C. v Bournemouth
Plymouth A. v Exeter C.
Port Vale v Q.P.R.
Southampton v Brighton
Swindon T. v Millwall
Torquay Utd. v Shrewsbury T.
Watford v Northampton T.

DIVISION III (NORTH)

Barrow v Accrington S.
Bradford v Hartlepool Utd.
Carlisle Utd. v Tranmere R.
Crewe Alex. v Stockport Co.

Darlington v Workington
Gateshead v Mansfield T.
Oldham Ath. v Bury
Rochdale v Halifax T.
Scunthorpe Utd. v Bradford C.
Southport v Chesterfield
Wrexham v Hull C.
York C. v Chester

SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP SEMI-FINALS

Celtic v Clyde
Rangers v Brechin C.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE DIVISION I

Dundee v Kilmarnock
East Fife v Queen's Park
Hibernian v Airdrieonians
Partick Thistle v Hearts
Queen of South v Raith R.
St. Mirren v Aberdeen
Third Lanark v Falkirk

DIVISION II

Arbroath v Stranraer
Ayr Utd. v Forfar Ath.
Dumbarton v Dundee Utd.
East Stirling v Dunfermline
Hamilton v Alloa
St. Johnstone v Morton
Stenhousemuir v Albion R.
Stirling A. v Montrose

SELECTIONS

TEN HOME.—Arsenal, Aston Villa, Bristol R., Fulham, Lincoln, Colchester, Plymouth, Port Vale, Rochdale, York.

FOUR AWAY.—Tottenham, Bristol C., Southampton, Bury.

THREE DRAWS.—Leyton v Middlesbrough; Southampton v Brighton; Southport v Chesterfield.

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