MIDLAND CLUBS' UNHAPPY MEMORIES OF LUTON

FINE FIGHTING RALLY AFTER CUP FAILURE

Moderate Villa Held Them Up For A Long Time

By Chiltern

EVEN if they were not all that impressive in beating Aston Villa, the Town have certainly made a fighting come-back with three points out of four following their Cup dismissal at Stockport.

So now, four Midland clubs have left the points at Kenilworth-road to the tune of 14 goals against two, a much better result than could have been anticipated in view of the fact that at least two, West Bromwich and Birmingham, have been bogy teams to the Town in the past.

OF their last seven League matches, the Town have lost only one and, from them, they have gained 10 points.

More than that, Saturday's team on the five occasions it has played together in League games, is unbeaten and have taken nine points out of a possible 10.

To overcome a very moderate Aston Villa, the Town took a long time to turn their considerable superiority into a winning margin and they should have had this match well and truly sewn up by half-time.

'PICTORIAL' WEEK-END SPORTS SPECIAL

Town Kept The Ball Much Too Close

VILLA'S chief quality was a certain ruggedness in defence which showed quite good anticipation in intercepting passes, though they were helped by inaccuracies in this respect on the part of the Town forwards.

So much on top were the Town in the first half, that it was amazing that the score sheet should still be blank at half-time.

However, there had been some tendency to keep the ball too close and not sufficient shooting from reasonable range.

Passes within the penalty area were not calculated to break down the Villa rearguard.

Brown Paved The Way To Victory

APART from the work of Brown, who was always in the picture, either probing down the wings or harassing in the middle, the Town forward line as a whole was a disappointment before the interval.

Brown it was who paved the way to victory eventually after 55 minutes when he raced down the right wing from a pass by Adam and carefully drew the defence out of position before laying on a gilt-edged opportunity for the outside-right, who calmly tapped the ball into the net.

This was one of the best movements from the Town and Adam showed good anticipation in taking up position for the return pass.

Two Clear-cut Chances Came Villa's Way

ALTHOUGH Villa had not been much in the game, they had two clear-cut chances of going into the lead. Southren nearly put them there before the interval with a shot to which Baynham just got a hand, and Hitchens missed a golden opportunity soon after the interval.

For once, he gave Owen the slip to run on to a pass by Myerscough, but, with only Baynham to beat, he sent inches wide of the near post.

After the goal, Villa's slender hopes just disappeared, and their earlier good covering was completely missing when the second goal came to the Town six minutes later.

FOR THE RECORDS

LUTON TOWN 3
Adam, Turner, McLeod
ASTON VILLA 0

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, Hawkes; Morton, Owen, Pearce; Adam, Turner, Brown, Groves, McLeod.

ASTON VILLA: Sims; Lynn, Ashfield; Crowe, Birch, Crowther; Southren, Sewell, Hitchens, Myerscough, McParland.

Referee: J. W. Hunt, Portsmouth.

Attendance: 16,602.

Turner Was Left With A Simple Chance

RARELY can Turner have been presented with a more simple chance than was left him by a low cross from Groves.

Almost standing on the goal-line, he had plenty of time in which to tap the ball through. Villa appealed for offside, but the linesman did not signal, and, apparently, the ball touched a Villa defender after Groves parted with it.

Two other offside decisions, when first Brown, then Turner, looked dangerous, went in Villa's favour, as did appeals for a penalty when Turner was grounded by Birch.

Two Gift Goals Aids To Justice

A BAD defensive mistake paved the way to the Town's third goal after 77 minutes, when Birch made a bad back pass that beat Sims, and although Crowe tried to clear off the line, he could only hit the ball against the boot of the onrushing McLeod, from whom it rebounded into the net.

So, with those two gift goals, the Town attained some measure of what was due to them by virtue of their superior team-work, and there was nearly another in the last minute, when Lynn cleared off the goal-line a shot from Turner with Sims well beaten.

Brown Pressed Home International Claims

RATHER more thrust and freedom of movement came from the Town forwards in the second half, but they were not at their best as a cohesive line, perhaps because of greasy conditions

Brown was the outstanding forward on the field, leading the line brilliantly, linking up with his colleagues and making openings for them.

Birch scarcely knew from which direction to expect him next and that old centre-forward problem that used to face the Town is now no more than a memory.

Certainly Brown has pressed home his claims for further International recognition these last weeks.

Quiet Celebration For Turner

FOR Turner, his 200th League appearance was a very quiet affair.

With a bit of luck, he might have marked it with a goal early on, but although during the first half he was often in position in the open space, the ball just did not get through to him.

By and large, little went right for him and he spent quite a lot of the second half on the right wing

Maybe this was because Adam suddenly developed a liking for straying into the middle and even going back into defensive positions.

Through Passes From Groves

OF the wingers, Adam was the more dangerous because, although McLeod improved somewhat after the interval, he had a poor first half and he is taking far too long in which to make up his mind what to do with the ball.

Nor did he use it accurately and he could have created much more danger.

Next in line to Brown in the attack was Groves for the amount of work he did in midfield and for the way in which he continually tried to push the ball through.

Many of his passes in the second half were effective, and more should have been made of them.

High Confidence Of Pearce

DOUBTLESS, the defence would like to have the sort of easy passage that came their way in this match much more often and the Villa forwards had little to commend them.

There was some dash and bustle from Hitchens, who received little support, and some thrusts by Southren, and that was about all they had to worry about.

Early on, Pearce demonstrated his superiority over Sewell, and was so confident that he was not afraid to devote quite a lot of his energies to an attacking role.

Several times, after starting an attack, he went streaming down the middle anticipating a through pass.

ALLAN BROWN
Luton centre - forward, who played a leading part in the Town's 3-0 victory over Aston Villa on Saturday. Brown received "rave" notices from the national newspaper critics.

Villa Inside Trio Completely Held

PEARCE was always in the game, breaking up an attack or starting one, and his command of the middle of the field, combined with that achieved by Morton against whom Myerscough did little, gave the Town a very strong advantage.

With Hitchens capably held by Owen, who is playing as if he will go on for ever instead of contemplating giving up League football at the end of this season, the Villa inside-trio was well and truly held.

On previous occasions, the Town have had good cause to remember McParland, but the winger looked jaded and tired after the hectic programme he has been through.

Little Danger Came From McParland

IN addition, Dunne showed a return to something more in keeping with his best form, and McParland seldom emerged as a danger.

Incidentally, Dunne also completed 200 League appearances in this match. There were a few occasions when Southren succeeded in getting free of the attentions of Hawkes, but generally Hawkes again came through well and was sound and dependable.

As for Baynham, he did not have a lot of chance of demonstrating his ability and good though Sims was in his anticipation, I could see no evidence for the view held in some quarters that the Villa man is the best goalkeeper in England. What about Baynham?

Will Want Report On Aberdeen Weather

UNTIL a week on Saturday, at Everton, the Town are free of worries about the struggle for League points and are preparing for their friendly match at Aberdeen, for which they are due to leave on Friday morning.

However, judging by reports, there has been heavy snow in Aberdeen and, doubtless, Town officials will be seeking a report on conditions there in the next day or two.

It would be a pity if the weather prevented the Town from making their first ever trip to Scotland.

Yet Another Goal From Cullen

CONSOLATION for the Reserves for the long journey to Swansea they made on Saturday came in the shape of winning bonus by 2-0 as the result of a goal in each half in each of which Cullen had a hand.

Cullen, who has been remarkably consistent as a scorer since he moved to inside-right put the Town ahead just before half-time after beating two opponents.

Twenty minutes from the end, Cullen found Legate, from whose centre Gregory was able to score from close range.

Welsh Selector Watched Jones

A WELSH selector was there to watch Jones, who, although he did some polished work, was inclined to give Beech too many opportunities to centre.

However, the defence was strong, with Aherne steady and the half-back line of Pacey, Kelly and McGuffie very solid.

From the forwards, too, there was some good football, with Cummins having brilliant patches, Cullen good in possession of the ball and Gregory showing speed off the mark at times.

Whitby continues to show promise and Legate was prominent during the second half.

Greyhound Racing

CLOSE FINISHES AT LUTON ON SATURDAY

THERE were two dead-heats at Luton Stadium on Saturday—in the first and fourth races.

Fairy Tale was a 10-1 success, sharing first place in the first event and Phadadis (8-1) was involved in the second dead-heat of the evening.

I.—410yds: 1, FAIRY TALE (4) and ARDEN GIRL (5), dead-heat; 3, Junior (6); 4, Cuba (3); 5, Linda's Pal (1); 6, Melbourne (2). Dead-heat, 2, 4, ½, 2. 24.45. Off 6.47.

Betting: 5-4 ARDEN GIRL; 4 Cuba, Linda's Pal, Melbourne; 10 FAIRY TALE, Junior.

Forecasts: £3 13s.; £1 11s. 3d.

II.—470yds: 1, G.C.E. (4); 2, Ever Ready (5); 3, Topper (6); 4, Tramp (2); 5, Pluto (3); 6, Who Cares (1). ½, ½, 6, 3, dist. 29.17. Off 7.07.

Betting: 5-2 Topper, Who Cares, 3 Ever Ready; 5 G.C.E.; 7 Others.

Forecast: £3 4s. 3d.

III. — 410yds: 1, LION'S HEAD (5); 2, Cookie (1); 3, Puzzle (2); 4, Old Fella (3); 5, Ryan's Rose (4). 6, head, 2, 6. 25.50. Non-runner: Shiner (6). Off 7.25.

Betting: 7-4 LION'S HEAD; 2 Puzzle; 4 Old Fella; 9-2 Cookie; 5 Ryan's Rose.

Forecast: £1 16s. 9d.

IV.—410yds: 1, RASPUTIN (3) and PHADADIS (6) dead-heat; 3, Quaint (4); 4, Sheila's Choice (1); 5, The Orphan (2); 6, Les's Pride (5). Dead-heat, ½, 3, 2, 3. 25.39. Off 7.47.

Betting: 7-4 Sheila's Choice; 3 RASPUTIN; 4 Quaint, Les's Pride; 7 The Orphan; 8 PHADADIS.

Forecasts: £1 6s. 6d.; £1 15s. 6d.

V.—470yds: 1, WINGS (1); 2, Tea Cosy (4); 3, Persil (5); 4, Jean (2); 5, Bally Fairy (6); 6, Flare (3). 1, head, 1, 4, 4. 28.65. Off 8.06.

Betting: 9-4 Jean; 5-2 Flare; 4 Persil; 5 WINGS, Tea Cosy; 8 Bally Fairy.

Forecast: £4 14s. 3d.

VI.—410yds: 1, DOUBLE R (6); 2, Some Cash (5); 3, Rumba (4); 4, Villa (3); 5, Laughing Boy (1); 6, Michael Two (2). 1½, 1½, ½, 7, dist. 25.26. Off 8.10.

Betting: 5-2 Some Cash; 3 Michael Two; 7 Laughing Boy; 4 DOUBLE R; 5 Others.

Forecast: £1 14s. 3d.

VII. — 470yds: 1, SCRAPBOOK (1); 2, Coq D'Or (5); 3, King Sol (2); 4, Oh Effie (6); 5, Page One (3); 6, Hawk Eye (4). Head, head, 2, 8, dist. 28.82. Off 8.47.

Betting: 9-4 Coq O'Or; 5-2 SCRAPBOOK; 4 King Sol; 5 Hawk Eye; 6 Others.

Forecast: £1 0s. 6d.

VIII.—410yds: 1, DRAMBUIE (1) (reserve); 2, Red Leather (5); 3, Holiday Fun (2); 4, Gaynor (6). 1½, 2, ½. 25.58. Non-runners: Netta (1), Poppy (3), Olive (4). Off 9.05.

Betting: 6-4 Red Leather; 2 DRAMBUIE; 4 Gaynor; 5 Holiday Fun.

Forecast: 18s.

CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

F.A. CUP, 4th ROUND

Bristol R. v **Burnley**
Cardiff C. v **Leyton O.**
Chelsea v **Darlington**
Everton v **Blackburn R.**
Fulham v **Charlton Ath.**
Liverpool v **Northampton T.**
Manchester Utd. v **Ipswich T.**
Newcastle Utd. v **Scunthorpe Utd.**
Notts Co. v **Bristol C.**
Sheffield Wed. v **Hull C.**
Stoke C. v **Middlesbrough**
Tottenham H. v **Sheffield Utd.**
West Brom v **Nottm Forest**
West Ham v **Stockport Co.**
Wolves v **Portsmouth**
York C. v **Bolton W.**

DIVISION II

Rotherham Utd. v **Grimsby T.**

DIVISION III (SOUTH)

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

DIVISION III (NORTH)

Bradford C. v **Chesterfield**
Crewe Alex. v **Southport**
Halifax T. v **Bradford**
Mansfield T. v **Accrington S.**
Rochdale v **Carlisle Utd.**
Workington v Chester

SCOTTISH LEAGUE DIVISION I

Clyde v Queen of South
Falkirk v Partick T
Hearts v Third Lanark
Kilmarnock v East Fife
Motherwell v Dundee
Queen's Park v **Hibernian**
Raith R. v Celtic
Rangers v St. Mirren

DIVISION II

Albion R. v Cowdenbeath
Alloa v Ayr Utd
Berwick R. v **Dumbarton**
Dundee Utd. v Brechin C.
Dunfermline v Hamilton
Forfar Ath. v East Stirling
Montrose v St. Johnstone
Morton v **Stirling A.**
Stranraer v **Stenhousemuir**

OTHER MATCHES

Aberdeen v **Luton T.**
Bury v **Barnsley**
Colchester Utd. v **Birmingham C.**
Derby Co. v **Manchester C.**
Peterborough Utd. v **Leicester C.**
Swansea T. v **Arsenal**
Wrexham v **Huddersfield T.**
Lincoln C. v Leeds Utd.
Boston Utd. v **Tranmere R.**

SELECTIONS

TEN HOME.—Everton, Liverpool, Manchester Utd., Newcastle, Tottenham, West Ham, Wolves, Brighton, Southampton, Bradford C.

FOUR AWAY. — Burnley, Bolton, Grimsby, Norwich.

THREE DRAWS.—Fulham v Charlton; Exeter v Shrewsbury; Crewe v Southport.

RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR LUTON TONIGHT

7.30 (410 yds)—565 Hay Time; 6 Good Intent; 144 Johnny B.; 526 Parlez-Vous; 45 R.W.; 621 Sammy; reserve 124 Mr Tap-Toca.

7.48 (470 yds)—1 Adios; 651 Ballerino; 524 Honolulu; 532 New Mexico; 566 Robin Hood; 121 Smoky Joe.

8.06 (410 yds).—224 Bobby A; 424 Easy Custom; Free Gift (Jan 9, tp 2, 25 13), Jan 14, tp 4, 24.74); Nicholas (Jan 9, tp 1, 24.74, Jan 14, tp 2, 24 76); Late Mick (Jan 9, tp 5, 24.63, Jan 14, tp 5, 24.72); reserve 556 Stroller

8.24 (410 yds)—155 Fish & Chips; Gladstone (Jan 9, tp 6, 24.58, Jan 14, tp 1, 24.66); 21F Golden Sun; 623 Hi' Gang, 414 Ian; 364 Rabbit.

8.44 (470 yds).—331 Derek; 31 Forecast; 412 Honey; 112 Nice Fella; 225 Scatty, 131 The Dove.

9.04 (410 yds)—Bartholomew (Jan 9, tp 2, 24 76, Jan 14, tp 4, 24 66); 414 Blue Jet; 23 Grannie (Jan 1, tp 6, 24.79); 212 My Guinness; 222 Reject; 442 Rhapsody.

9.22 (470 yds)—451 Coniston; 22 My Goodness, 244 Nerve Tonic; 121 Pip Emma; 331 Sorrowful; 155 Spirit.

9.40 (410 yds)—23 Ecko; 466 Irene; 224 Office Boy, Our Prince (Dec 5, tp 6, 24 84, Jan 14, tp 5, 25 04); 413 Sunpark; 225 Trigger; reserve 5 Texas (Jan 14, tp 3, 24.96).

SELECTIONS

7.30—Hay Time (Sammy, Parlez-Vous)
7.48—Smoky Joe (Adios, Robin Hood)
8.06—Time Limit (Nicholas, Bobby A)
8.24—Golden Sun (Rabbit, Ian)
8.44—Nice Fella (Honey, The Dove)
9.04—My Guinness (nap) (Blue Jet, Reject)
9.22—Pip Emma (Coniston, Spirit)
9.40—Sunpark (Irene, Our Prince)

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