City snatch priceless points from Luton at Filbert-street

SECOND HALF POWER CHASED RELEGATION GLOOM AWAY

By BILLY KING

TWO POINTS HELD FROM THE LAST THREE GAMES SHOULD SEE LEICESTER CITY TO SAFETY, BUT THREE MUST BE THEIR TARGET FOR A FINAL TOTAL OF 34. TO REACH 34, SUNDERLAND MUST TAKE THE MAXIMUM FROM THEIR THREE MATCHES, AND THE MOST SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY CAN GET IS 33.

The City have to play West Bromwich Albion at The Hawthorns next Saturday, Tottenham at home the following week and Birmingham away in the closing game. All tough commitments, but goodness knows, they should have gained terrific confidence from that second half revival against Luton Town at Filbert-street yesterday.

At half-time he who dared to predict a 4—1 win for Leicester would have been called a fool. In the end, it was Leicester who made fools of us all by turning the match inside out, and romping away to that very result.

Luton had one goal on the sheet—a 20th-minute one by Gregory—where there should have been three or four. They had the speed and control, and the right brand of game for a fast ground—how much better they looked, by the way, on a smooth, true surface than on that rugged terrain at Kenilworth-road.

Made them chase

THEIR half-backs were quite sure of themselves and the inside-forward trio of Turner, Gregory and Cummins set the home defenders turning and chasing for some desperate last-ditch relief.

The dubious head-shaking at half-time was amply justified. We just couldn't figure out how Leicester would find the solution to the r problem.

IN THE FIRST MINUTE OF THE NEW HALF THE MATCH EXPLODED. WITH THE START OF AN OFFENSIVE BY THE CITY THAT BLASTED LUTON OUT OF THE PICTURE INSIDE 17 MINUTES.

It was the most exciting switch-round since those astonishing promotion season rallies. Rowley scored after 46 minutes, Hines 10 minutes later and Rowley again in the 63rd.

Great comeback

THESE two goals raised Rowley's bag in three matches to five, his aggregate of Leicester goals for the City to 250, and the total in all matches of his career to 299.

The inside-left has come back grandly at a time when his club have greatest need of his power and experience.

It will always baffle me how teams can suddenly strike their form, as though at the press of a switch, how it is possible for them to mind around without design and conviction as the City did in the first half yesterday, then become a totally changed side.

Whatever dressing-room formula was used this time, it is well worth preserving at Filbert-street. The team sprang into attack as one man.

It became the exception for a Luton player to win the ball in a tussle, and no sooner had the Town extricated themselves from one tangle than they were forced into another.

Irresistible raids

THE Luton defence stood up to it all gallantly enough, and Baynham was great in goal, but there was a limit. The ferocity of Leicester's raiding was irresistible, and in the last minute Gardiner headed a fine goal just to let Luton know that the fire had not gone out.

The City deserve unstinted praise for reducing this smart Luton side to such an impotent state.

Captaincy seems to be spurring Johnny Morris to exceptional effort, and his part in the winning recovery was immense, with bounding runs in support of the forwards and many splendid tackles. All this on the heels of a first half when little would go right.

Hines, at inside-right, made a capital organiser, and the policy of restoring Gardiner to the centre proved sound enough, for his tremendous hustle and his strength in the air were important.

Meant business

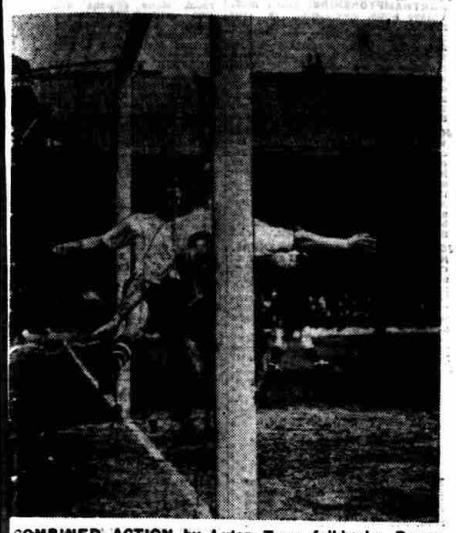
RILEY gave the signal when he rolled up his sleeves and took the ball almost to the left wing in the opening minute of the second half, for Hogg to centre and Rowley to equalise. Riley and Hogg found three times the bite they had shown on the wings at Luton.

After a long absence from League football, Ogilvie had his work cut out in stepping back for a game of such consequence. The left-back was all right when he warmed up to the required tempo.

On his right, Milburn did a very good job indeed, his peak moments being the three when he stood in the right place beneath the bar to prevent goals.

The lobbed back pass by King that hit a post and ran along the line for Milburn to clear was the most palpitating moment of the match.

Attendance: 32,480.



COMBINED ACTION by Luton Town full-backs, Dunne and Hawkes, to clear this header from Gardiner off the line during the first half at Filbert-street yesterday.

BAYNHAM BEATEN. The Luton goalkeeper could only watch this shot from Hines roll into the net to give Leicester their second goal yesterday. Baynham had the ball covered, but it was deflected out of his reach by one of his co-defenders.

POOLS GUIDE

OUR popular Pools Guide gives you the following information. Left to right: how the last five home matches ended; number of games (in brackets) since a home defeat; Saturday's fixture; how last five away matches ended; number of games (in brackets) since an away win; results of this fixture over past three years; Marker's selection.

DIVISION I

WDWW	(5)	BIRMINGHAM v LEEDS LLLLW	(–)	1 – 1—1
LWWW	(3)	BURNLEY v WOLVES LWWWW	(–)	1 2 1—2
LLDD	(2)	CHELSEA v BOLTON DWLLD	(3)	1 2 x—1
DLWW	(2)	MAN CITY v SUNDERLAND LLWDD	(2)	1 1 1—1
LWW	(2)	NEWCASTLE v ARSENAL WLWLL	(2)	1 1 1—1
WLDD	(2)	NOTTM F v LUTON WWLDL	(3)	2 – – 1
WDWW	(7)	PORTSMTH v BLACKPOOL WLWLL	(3)	1 x x—1
WWWW	(7)	PRESTON v ASTON VILLA LWLLL	(3)	2 2 x—1
WWWL	(–)	SHEFF WED v EVERTON DWLLL	(3)	x – 2—1
WLWD	(2)	SPURS v MAN UTD WDLLW	(–)	2 2 x—1
WWLL	(–)	WEST BROM v LEICESTER DLLLL	(6)	1 – —1

DIVISION II

WWLW	(1)	BRISTOL C v BARNSLEY DLLLW	(–)	– 1 2—1
WLWL	(–)	CARDIFF v WEST HAM DWWLW	(1)	2 1 1—1
WDLW	(1)	CHARLTON v NOTTS CO LWLLL	(3)	– – —1
LLL	(–)	DONCASTER v LINCOLN LLLLL	(8)	x 1 1—1
LLWW	(2)	GRIMSBY v SWANSEA DLDLL	(14)	– – 1—1
DWWL	(–)	HUDDERSFIELD v DERBY WDLDW	(–)	– – —1
DWW	(3)	L ORIENT v IPSWICH LDWLL	(2)	– 2 —1
WWWW	(5)	LIVERPOOL v SHEFF UTD LWWWL	(1)	– – 1—1
WWWW	(8)	MIDDLESBRO v BLACKBRN DLWLW	(–)	1 1 1—x
WWL	(–)	ROTHERHAM v BRISTOL R LLWWL	(1)	1 1 x—2
LLL	(–)	STOKE v FULHAM WWWWD	(1)	x 2 2—2

DIVISION III (SOUTH)

WWWD	(7)	BOURNEMTH v PLYMOUTH WWWDD	(2)	– – 1—2
WWWL	(–)	BRENTFORD v SOUTHMPTN LWWWL	(1)	2 1 1—1
WLLD	(1)	COLCHESTER v NEWPORT DLDLL	(5)	1 1 1—1
WWD	(9)	COVENTRY v SWINDON LDDWW	(–)	1 1 1—x
WWD	(4)	C PALACE v SOUTHEND WDDLL	(4)	x 2 1—2
LWW	(2)	NORTHAMPTON v EXETER DLLLD	(8)	1 1 x—1
DLD	(1)	NORWICH v PORT VALE LLLLL	(5)	– – —1
WDLW	(8)	READING v GILLINGHAM LLLLL	(18)	x 2 1—1
DWL	(–)	SHREWSBURY v MILLWALL LLDLL	(11)	1 1 1—1
LWL	(–)	TORQUAY v BRIGHTON WDDWD	(1)	1 x 1—2
WWD	(4)	WALSALL v ALDERSHOT WLLLL	(4)	x 1 1—1
WWL	(–)	WATFORD v Q.P.R. LLDLD	(11)	x 2 2—x

DIVISION III (NORTH)

WDWW	(16)	ACCRINGTON v DARLINGTON LLLDD	(9)	1 1 1—1
WDLL	(–)	BARROW v CREWE LLLLL	(16)	2 1 1—1
LLWL	(–)	BRADFORD v HULL WLDDD	(4)	– – 1—2
WWD	(10)	BURY v SCUNTHORPE WWWWL	(1)	– – —x
WWW	(4)	CARLISLE v STOCKPORT LLLWD	(1)	x 1 x—2
DWD	(9)	CHESTER v GATESHEAD LLWLD	(2)	2 1 1—1
WLW	(1)	CHESTERFLD v MANSFIELD LWLDL	(3)	1 1 1—1
LLW	(1)	HARTLEPOOLS v BRAD C LDDWW	(–)	x 1 1—x
DDW	(4)	OLDHAM v WREXHAM LWLWL	(1)	1 x 2—1
LWL	(–)	SOUTHPORT v HALIFAX WWDLL	(3)	1 1 x—2
WDL	(–)	TRANMERE v WORKINGTON DLLLW	(–)	x 1 x—1
WLW	(1)	YORK v ROCHDALE LDWLL	(2)	1 2 1—2

SCOTTISH LEAGUE—DIVISION I

LLWL	(–)	ABERDEEN v QUEEN OF S LDWLW	(–)	1 1 1—1
LWLWW	(2)	CLYDE v QUEEN'S PK WLLLL	(4)	– – —1
WDWL	(–)	FALKIRK v DUNDEE DWLLW	(–)	x 1 x—x
WDWL	(–)	HIBS v KILMARNOCK LWLDL	(3)	1 1 x—1
LDWD	(3)	MOTHERWELL v E FIFE LWLLW	(–)	2 1 x—1
LWWW	(3)	PARTICK v CELTIC DLDLW	(–)	1 1 1—x
LDWW	(3)	RAITH v AIRDRIE LLLWL	(1)	– x 2—1
WLDD	(2)	ST MIRREN v HEARTS WWWWD	(1)	x 1 2—2
WLD	(1)	T LANARK v RANGERS WWDWW	(–)	– – —2

SCOTTISH LEAGUE—DIVISION II

WLDW	(2)	ALBION v FORFAR LLDDW	(–)	x 1 1—1
WWLW	(1)	ARBROATH v HAMILTON DLLWL	(1)	2 2 1—1
WDW	(4)	AYR v COWDBEATH WLLLD	(4)	1 1 —1
WLWW	(2)	BRECHIN v ST JOHNSTONE LLWLW	(–)	1 1 2—1
LLW	(1)	DUMBARTON v STIRLING LLWDL	(2)	– – 2—x
DWW	(4)	DUNDEE U v MONTROSE LWLLL	(3)	– 1 x—1
LWW	(2)	DUNFERMLINE v STRANR'R LLLLL	(21)	– – —1

BEST OF THE BUNCH

HOMES: Manchester City, Preston, West Bromwich, Charlton, Huddersfield, Northampton, Reading, Barrow, Chesterfield, Hyde, Raith.

AWAYS: Wolves, West Ham, Fulham, Southend, Brighton, Hull, Rochdale.

DRAWS: Middlesbrough v. Blackburn, Coventry v. Swindon, Watford v. Queen's Park Rangers, Bury v. Scunthorpe, Hartlepools v. Bradford City, Falkirk v. Dundee.

No title bout for Patterson

FLOYD PATTERSON will not fight the winner of tonight's San Francisco contest between leading contenders, Eddie Machen and Zora Folley, says Patterson's manager, Mr. Cus d'Amato.

He said last night that he would welcome a Congressional investigation, as threatened by two Congressmen if he refused to allow Patterson to fight Machen or Folley.

"Let them take action," he said. I'll give my reasons for doing what I'm doing. I'd be glad to go on television and radio to explain my position."

An investigation, "to prevent monopolistic conduct" if d'Amato refused to allow Machen or Folley a title bout, was threatened by Congressmen from California and Arizona.

They said that the winner of the Machen-Folley bout would be the only logical contender to meet Patterson, and claimed that "small town" fighters tended to be ignored for championship bids.

Machen and Folley come from small towns in California and Arizona, respectively.

Sportsmen's Log by CRUSADER

Marciano too heavy

ROCKY MARCIANO, who retired as undefeated world heavyweight champion two years ago, says he has no intention of making a comeback.

"I have heard that I might get as much as two million dollars (£714,285) by coming out of retirement and boxing Patterson.

"But I could not come back if I wanted to. I have become too heavy and could not get into condition. I am also too old (he is 33). I would not want to have the experience shared by Joe Louis and Ezzard Charles when they tried to come back."

Marciano has a fine house with a swimming pool in South Miami. In addition to refereeing boxing and wrestling contests, he works for a potato growing firm.

J. Gifford rides Merry Bug and J. Lynch Desert Chase in the Midrid Free Handicap at the Curragh on Saturday. Another mount for Gifford is Belle Honor in the Irish Lincolnshire Handicap.

TIGERS MADE IT MEMORABLE TOUR

By Terry McNeill

THEY SAID IT COULD NOT BE DONE. NO LEICESTER TIGERS' SIDE FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS HAS BEEN ABLE TO WIN ALL THREE GAMES ON THE EASTER TOUR, SO THE 1958 SEASON WILL LONG LIVE IN THE PLAYERS' MEMORY, FOR THIS TIME THREE CHAMPAGNE VICTORIES WERE RECORDED.

With Bristol and Plymouth accounted for, only Exeter stood in the way of a hat-trick. But as this was the third match in four days there were fears that the side may have lost its edge.

For the first 15 minutes of yesterday's game that fear looked like becoming a reality. Exeter led by a try and a penalty goal to nil and were much the smarter side.

Then Thompson burst away from the home "25" and though tackled on the line, gave to Chawner, who scored. Gavins goaled with a fine kick and from that point Exeter were never in it.

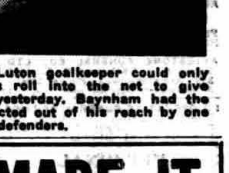
Leicester threw the ball about freely and despite their tiredness were yards faster than their hosts. Exeter were made to look second rate as Elders and his fellow three-quarters shrugged off intending tackles.

Freer in form

It was merely a question of how many points the Tigers would score. Freer, fulfilling the promise of two years ago, dropped a goal to put them in the lead, and then a storming run by Elders ended with Blesadale crossing for a try which Gavins could not convert.

The elusive Freer was Exeter's biggest headache. He made a splendid chance for Shephard, but the winger knocked-on with no home man near him and the line only a couple of yards away.

As if to make up for this lapse, Shephard intercepted a pass on the half-way line and streaked over, but the referee decreed that he has stepped into touch.



Elders Freer

Task made easier

When Exeter did manage to win the ball their outsides ran indecisively. They were apprehensive whenever Elders and Wade shaped to tackle so the Tigers' task was made easier.

Elders crowned the tour — he played in all three games—by running from the home "25" to score under the posts for Gavins to goal and place Leicester 16-6 ahead.

More chances were squandered through over-eagerness before Freer kicked ahead, gathered, and won the race for the touch for another try which Gavins converted.

It was a particularly happy occasion for Freer as the six points he scored were his first for the club since he joined them three seasons ago.

Coventry results

Yesterday's results. — 11.0 1 HOTPOT OF SELSDON (2) 7-2, 2 Midland Wonder (5) evens fav. T. 9/3: 3/9, 2/6: F. 18/9, 11.15: 1 MERRY DON (2) 5-2, 2 Hallman of Selsdon (1) 3-1: T. 8/6: 3/9, 4/6: F. £1/8/0. Shining Colonist (6) 9-4 fav. 11.30: 1 HOOVER OF SELSDON (6) 3-1, 2 Astley Caorsie (5) 5-2 fav: T. 7/6: 3/3, 4/6: F. 15/- 11.45: 1 BALLYCAUM BLACKIE (4) 5-4 on, 2 Hero's Pal (6) 7-2: T. 4/3: 3/6, 4/9: F. 12/-. 12.6: 1 BERAGH LAD (2) 3-1, 2 Moylish Chapple (5) 7-1: T. 7/6: 3/9, 7/3: F. £1/2/6; Princeton King (1) 6-4 fav. 12.24: 1 BROADWAY PRINCE (1) 5-4 on, 2 Orion's Safe Traveller (4) 3-1: T. 3/9, 3/-, 5/9: F. £1/13/6. 12.43: 1 BLUE OLLY (4) 5-4-on, 2 Golden King (1) 8-1: T. 4/-: 3/3, 6/3: F. £1/1/3. 1.0: 1 ERRIS CHAMPION (4) 5-2, 2 Middleton Duchess (5) 3-1: T. 5/3: 3/3, 4/-: F. £1/4/3. Fella (1) 9-4 fav. 7.0: 1 ASTWOOD NICHOLAS (1) 3-1, 2 Astwood Villa (5) 10-1: T. 5/-: 3/3, 5/6: F. £1/18/-. Host of Selsdon (8) 5-4 fav. 7.15: 1 JUST YONDER (5) 4-1, 2 Ballycaum Champ (1) 3-1: T. 12/3: 5/9, 5/-: F. £2/9/3. Treasure Stone (6) 5-2 fav. 7.30: 1 HILARIOUS BALLYMAC (3) evens fav. 2 Drummen Hill Chance (6) 10-1: T. 5/-: 3/3, 4/3: F. £2/12/6. 7.48: 1 CHICKEN SANDWICH (1) 6-4-on, 2 Jealous Pal (4) 6-4: T. 3/3: 3/3, 3/6: F. 10/-. 8.6: 1 CLAY BIRD (1) 2-1 on, 2 Glenside Darkie (4) 7-1: T. 3/3: 3/9 4/3: F. £1/1/9. 8.24: 1 CARRIGLEA CHESTNUT (1) 11-8 fav. 2 Bangs Bangsher (2) 4-1: T. 8/6: 3/3, 4/3: F. £1/11/3. 8.42: 1 PAUL'S FLASH (4) evens fav. 2 Christmas Box (6) 4-1: T. 4/6: 3/-, 4/6: F. 15/6. 9.0: 1 HILARIOUS BALLYMAC (5) 11-10 fav. 2 Knockdrena Boy (3) 7-1: T. 4/-: 3/6, 3/-: F. £1/8/6.

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