

TOWN'S UNBEATEN RUN THEIR BEST IN DIVISION 1

ONE MORE TO EQUAL DIVISION II RECORD

Late Goal Toppled Them From Top Of Table

By Chiltern

NINE matches without defeat constitutes a record for the Town since they gained promotion to the First Division. Previous best, so far as League matches are concerned was last season when, beginning on December 26, they had seven games without being beaten.

And a warning note here. That run of success was broken at Kenilworth-road by Preston North End, next Saturday's visitors, who won 3-1.

THERE was, of course, during that particular run, that unfortunate Cup setback at Stockport.

To equal their previous best, in the Second Division, the Town have to play another match without being beaten because, during their promotion season, they had a spell of 10 matches without defeat and, in addition, won two Cup meetings during that time.

So there is a target and something of a challenge to the Town players who have every reason to feel confident about the outcome of the visit of North End, despite the fact that they have caused some surprises here in the past.

This was a match which they should have made certain of winning during the first half or even in the early part of the second, and if they could have increased their lead to 3-1, much of the fight that Burnley showed in the later stages after the interval would have been taken out of them effectively.

As it was, the Town were in the lead for 86 of the 90 minutes and there were just two minutes to go when Burnley secured the goal that salvaged a point for them.

"Just Did Not Get Near It"—Baynham

THE way in which it came was completely unexpected because there seemed to be no danger at all when Seith received the ball after Newlands had eluded tackles by Cummins and Adam.

From over 30 yards, he hit the ball first time and it flew like

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a rocket into the corner of the net.

Baynham flung himself across his goal, but was too late to do anything about it.

Afterwards, Baynham was inclined to blame himself because, as he said, "I do not know what happened, but I just did not get near it."

On the other hand, trainer Frank King, himself a former goalkeeper, was inclined to the view that it would have beaten any goalkeeper as the positions were.

Went Away To A Flying Start

CERTAINLY Baynham was on the other side of the goal and had a lot of ground to make up.

So there it was, a spectacular, if somewhat fortunate equaliser to make up for a lot of bad shooting by the Burnley forwards.

Half the battle in an away match from the visiting team's point of view is for them to have a good start and the Town certainly got a flier.

In two minutes they were a goal up when Turner took advantage of fiddling inside the penalty area by Shannon, took the ball off him and then stepped aside as Cummins came racing up to crack it into the net.

Turner Exacted Full Toll

WHEN, 15 minutes later, Turner exacted full toll of an opening made by Morton and Bingham, the Town were in easy

street and they proceeded to give Burnley a lesson in controlled, constructive football.

McDonald just saved a low drive from Turner and then was lucky not to concede another goal when he allowed a Bingham shot to drop over his head and Smith smartly kicked off the goal-line.

Often the Burnley defence, uneasy under pressure, was led a merry dance and one felt that it was only a matter of time before more goals came to the Town.

Little More Dash In Finish Needed

WHAT was needed, perhaps, was a little more zest and dash in the finishing to round off the fine approach work in which Brown and Bingham were so prominent on the Town's right wing.

However, they were going easily along until the 30th minute when Newlands put Burnley back into the game with a left-footed cross-shot that gave Baynham no chance.

Forerunner of the corner was an unfortunate pass by Cummins that went straight to Pilkington.

Still the more skilful side, the Town had chances in the early part of the second half.

Desperate Fight By Burnley

McDONALD had to throw himself at the foot of the post to keep out a shot by Bingham, and later Turner shot over from a good position, and again, when he looked a certain scorer, a defender's foot just managed to block the ball as he shot.

Naturally, the longer Burnley found themselves only a single goal behind, the more desperately they fought, and it was obvious that the closing stages would be fraught with danger for the Town.

Yet, though Burnley were having a lot of the play, the Town defence covered well, and it seemed all odds on them holding on to both points when that shock late goal arrived.

Town Were The More Assured Team

ON football ability alone, there was no doubt at all that the Town would have been worthy winners. Always they moved with greater assurance, were quicker on the ball, and certainly looked the better marksmen.

However, Burnley were great fighters, as the Town have discovered on previous occasions on this ground, and they really

For The Records

BURNLEY
Newlands, Seith 2
LUTON TOWN 2
Cummins, Turner
BURNLEY: McDonald;
Smith, Winton; Seith, Cum-
mings, Shannon; Newlands,
Robson, Foster, McIlroy,
Pilkington.
LUTON TOWN: Bay-
nham; Dumas, Hawks;
Morton, Owen, Pacey; Bingham,
Turner, Brown, Cum-
mins, Adam.
Referee: L. Howarth,
Beverly. Attendance: 23,768.

steam-rollered their way to a point in the end. Naturally, they had much vocal encouragement from the crowd and they showed plenty of dash without ever matching the smooth way in which the Town forwards moved at times.

Clever Switching By Bingham And Brown

WITH plenty of the ball coming his way, Bingham was a continual threat to the Burnley defence, and Winton had a very struggling time against him right from the start.

Curiously, the ball was over on the right flank for most of the first half, with Bingham and Brown interchanging, a move that often forced the opposition.

With this pair so much in command, this was the period in which more goals should have come, but, mainly, there was only Turner in position for a shot.

He tested McDonald several times, but he could have done with some assistance at times.

Left Wing Did Not Have Much Scope

WITH the left wing not brought much into the game and Cummins occupying mostly his deep role, I thought that Adam could have afforded to drift into the middle more than he did.

At times, the Town made it all look easy, but they could have used a little more punch in their finishing.

After this splendid start, Cummins, with the ball much on the other flank, did not see much of it before half-time, though I can recall a couple of splendid cross-field passes he made.

Perhaps, to act more into the game, he was often found operating at inside-right during the second half and he set several dangerous movements in motion.

Bingham was the best forward, though once or twice in the second half he made shots from

severe angles when it might have been better to have crossed.

Little Danger Came Down The Middle

THERE was more scope for Adam afterwards, but, though he had the beating of Smith, he did not always use the ball accurately, though he often did well in coming back to fight for it.

When Burnley tried the down-the-middle ruse, there was never much encouragement for them from Owen, who was always difficult to pass and who had the mastery in the air.

Nor were the inside-forwards given much room by Morton and Pacey, both of whom were hard in the tackle and the chief danger to the Town emanated from the wingers.

Hawkes Was Given A Worrying Time

FOR Hawkes, there was a worrying second half against the speedy Newlands, whom Pacey quite often had to challenge, and the full-back gave away several free-kicks at ranges too near for comfort.

Dumas always had his hands full against Pilkington, but came out with honours fairly even because of his quickness in recovery.

Until that late goal, Baynham was in the sort of form when he looks pretty near unbeatable.

He made two memorable saves, but most of his work was on during the latter part of the second half was concerned with cutting out material from the wings, which he did splendidly.

Luton Schemed, But Leicester Shot

RARELY has a team worked so hard as Luton Town Reserves did against Leicester City Reserves and finished with a two-goals deficit.

Throughout the match the Luton side had much of the play, but their superiority was brought to nothing because of lack of shooting power in the front line.

On many occasions the Town forwards found great gaping holes in the wide-playing Leicester rearward. Yet, when presented with these chances they inexplicably tried to dribble the ball into the net or blasted in a careless, misdirected shot.

More Fire And Punch Is Needed

LEICESTER were little better in the shooting department. Apart from a period of seven

minutes in this match, they, too, preferred to fiddle with the ball when a snap-shot would have produced the desired result.

But those brief seven minutes produced two goals and, standing between the Leicester's inside-left, pushed the ball through a forest of blindly thrashing legs to give the visitors the lead after 25 minutes.

Seven minutes later inside-right Brian Wright roared between two Luton defenders to smash a well-flighted centre from Calder past Marsh, who should have cut out the ball.

Let there be no doubt. Luton have the ability to rise from their lowly League position, but before this can be achieved something will have to be done to add more fire and punch into their lethargic forward line.

Town C.C. Finish On A Dismal Note

LUTON TOWN ended their 1938 cricket programme on a dismal note when Barnet scored a 69-run victory over them on Saturday. The only consolation for the Town was a fine spell of bowling by Martin Ashenden, who took seven Barnet wickets for 31 runs.

Ashenden, however, received little assistance from the other Town bowlers and Barnet, after a poor start—they lost four wickets for 24—recovered to score 120.

The Town's innings was a disaster from beginning to end. Their batsmen never settled down against the bowling of Deller and Robinson. This is spotlighted by the fact that Don Rolt (13) was the only Town batsman to reach double figures.

When their innings closed the Town had scored 51. Deller claimed five wickets for 27 and Robinson four for 10.

CRICKET BRIEFS

BARNET 120 (R. A. Nelson 44, R. P. Deller 19; M. Ashenden 7 for 31). LUTON TOWN 51 (D. P. Rolt 13; R. P. Deller 5 for 27, D. J. Robinson 4 for 10).

CHILTERN 27 (B. Ginnerver 4 for 4, B. Lamb 3 for 3). LAFORTE 26 (C. Hicks 7 for 11, J. Goode 3 for 12).

STEVENAGE/E.E. 68 (Brookfield 22, R. Williams 17; R. Dunn 5 for 31. NAPIER, E.E. 70 for 2 (D. Denchfield 32, N. Prior 21).

CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

DIVISION I Birmingham v Leicester Blackburn v Aston Villa Blackpool v West Ham Bolton v Burnley Chelsea v Nottingham Forest Leeds Utd. v Arsenal Luton Town v Preston N.E. Man. City v Man. United Newcastle United v Portsmouth Tottenham v Wolverhampton W. West Brom v Everton	DIVISION II Brighton v Barnsley Bristol Rvs. v Sunderland Derby Co. v Lincoln City Grimsby Tn. v Huddersfield Tn. Ipswich Tn. v Stoke City Leyton Orient v Fulham Liverpool v Cardiff City Middlesbrough v Bristol City Scunthorpe v Sheffield Wed. Sheffield Utd. v Rotherham Utd. Swansea Tn. v Charlton Ath.	DIVISION III Accrington v Bradford City Chesham v Swindon Tn. Doncaster Rvs. v Norwich C. Halifax Tn. v Hull City Newport City v Brentford Notts. County v Mansfield Tn. Plymouth A. v Bournemouth Q.P.R. v Bury Rochdale v Southend United Southampton v Wrexham Stockport Co. v Reading Trentmere Rvs. v Colchester U.	DIVISION IV Bradford v Chester Conventry C. v Carlisle Utd. Crewe Alex. v Torquay Utd. Darlington v Oldham Ath.
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Greyhound Racing

LATE ROUBLE HAD THAT LITTLE EXTRA

BEST performance at Luton Stadium on Saturday was Late Rouble's winning spurt in the first race. After making a slow start from trap six, Late Rouble created a surprise by pulling out a fine finishing burst to win by seven lengths from 8-1 Red Leather. Molly's Pet, the favourite, was baulked and finished a very poor fourth.

1 (410 yards)—1. LATE ROUBLE (1); 2. Red Leather (5); reserve; 3. King Set (6); 4. Molly's Pet (2); 5. Toll Gate (4); 6. Trump (3). 7, 5, 3, 10, dist. 24.22. Non-runner Jan. Off 6.43.

Betting: 6-4 Molly's Pet; 9-4 LATE ROUBLE; 7-2 King Set; 8-1 Red Leather, Toll Gate, Trump.

Forecast: £3 2s. 11 (470 yards)—1. BIG SUE (3); 2. Interpol (4); 3. Old Farm (5); 4. Mandy (1); 7, 8, 1, 27.28. Non-runners Scrapbook (2), Jim's Gift (6). Off 7.01.

Betting: 4-5 BIG SUE; 3-1 Mandy; 9-2 Interpol; 6-1 Old Farm.

Forecast: 12s. 3d. 111 (470 yards)—1. HAY TIME (6); 2. Cracklings (3); 3. Noddy (4); 4. Hawk Eye (1); 5. Rumba (2); 6. Sheila's Choice (5). 1, 1, 2, 1, 1. 24.54. Off 7.21.

Betting: 9-4 Hawk Eye; 5-2 HAY TIME; 3-1 Cracklings; 8-1 Rumba, Sheila's Choice; 10-1 Noddy.

Forecast: £1 11s. 9d. 1V (410 yards)—1. DAN DARE (3); 2. Gambler (1); 3. Lilly's Jim (5); 4. King Cole (4); 5. Celeste (3); 6. Refresher (6). 1, head, 2, 6, 10. 23.72. Off 7.41.

Betting: 6-4 DAN DARE; 7-4 Gambler; 5-1 Celeste; 8-1 Lilly's Jim; 10-1 King Cole, Refresher.

Forecast: 10s. 3d. 1V (470 yards)—1. PARTY LINE (6); 2. Jane Eyre (5); 3. Dunno (1); 4. Jim's Boy (2); 5. Rooney (4); 6. Houghton Boy (3). 6, 3, head, 1, 5. 27.18. Off 8.01.

Betting: 5-4 Jane Eyre; 7-2 Rooney; 4-1 PARTY LINE; 5-1 Houghton Boy; 10-1 Dunno, Jim's Boy.

Forecast: £1 2s. 6d. 1V (410 yards)—1. WELL DRESSED (5); 2. Be Off (3); 3. Compere (6); 4. Donna (4); 5. The Case (1); 6. Legal Tender (2). 3, 1, 1, 1, 8. 23.68. Off 8.22.

Betting: 9-4 Compere; 3-1 WELL DRESSED; 7-2 The Case; 4-1 Donna; 5-1 Be Off; 10-1 Legal Tender.

Forecast: £3 18s. 1V (470 yards)—1. DRAM-BUE (1); 2. Icknield (6); 3. Cheetham (4); 4. Speedy (3);

reserve; 5. The Puma (5); 6. Very Useful (2). 2, head, 2, 1, dist. 27.77. Non-runner Squasher. Off 8.43.

Betting: 5-2 DRAM-BUE; 3-1 Icknield, The Puma; 5-1 Cheetham, Very Useful; 100-8 Speedy.

Forecast: £1 3s. 6d. 1V (410 yards)—1. GAY MILLER (1); 2. Compel (2); 3. Freight Train (5); 4. Puzzle (3); 5. Stripe (6); 6. Early Bird (4). 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, dist. 23.98. Off 9.05.

Betting: 6-4 Freight Train; 11-4 Compel; 4-1 GAY MILLER; 5-1 Puzzle, Stripe; 8-1 Early Bird.

Forecast: £1 15s. 9d. 1V (410 yards)—1. HAY TIME (6); 2. Cracklings (3); 3. Noddy (4); 4. Hawk Eye (1); 5. Rumba (2); 6. Sheila's Choice (5). 1, 1, 2, 1, 1. 24.54. Off 7.21.

Betting: 9-4 Hawk Eye; 5-2 HAY TIME; 3-1 Cracklings; 8-1 Rumba, Sheila's Choice; 10-1 Noddy.

Forecast: £1 11s. 9d. 1V (410 yards)—1. DAN DARE (3); 2. Gambler (1); 3. Lilly's Jim (5); 4. King Cole (4); 5. Celeste (3); 6. Refresher (6). 1, head, 2, 6, 10. 23.72. Off 7.41.

Betting: 6-4 DAN DARE; 7-4 Gambler; 5-1 Celeste; 8-1 Lilly's Jim; 10-1 King Cole, Refresher.

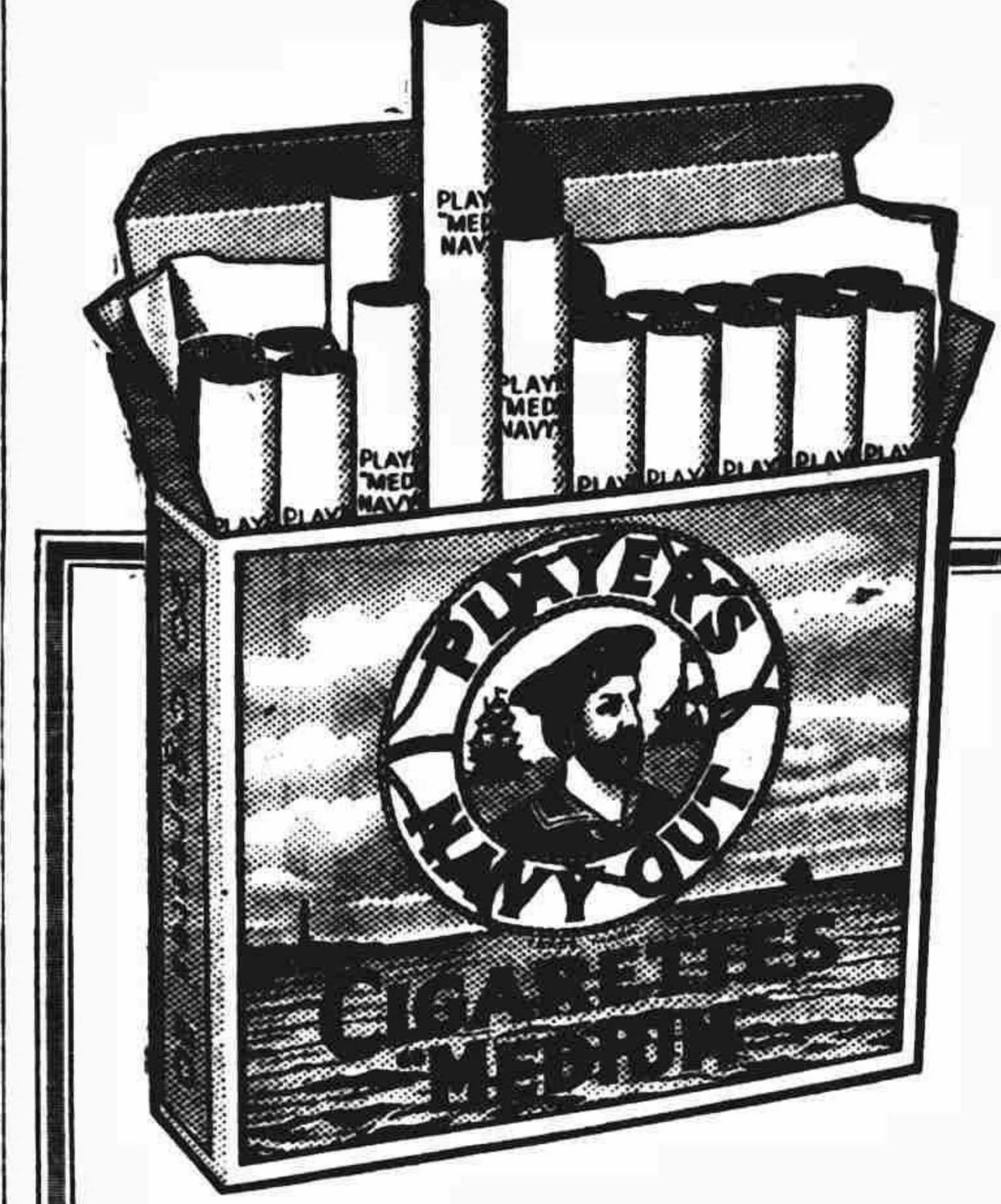
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