

DALLY DUNCAN DECIDES TO ACCEPT BLACKBURN OFFER

WILL GO TOMORROW TO SIGN CONTRACT

Town Board To Consider The Situation Today

By Chiltern

AFTER taking the week-end to think things over, the Town manager, Dally Duncan, decided to accept the Blackburn Rovers managership and, in his words, "will be travelling north tomorrow to sign the contract."

To make final arrangements, he was telephoning the Rovers' Chairman last night and is expecting that he will stay north until the end of the week and probably have his first look at his new team at Burnley on Saturday.

YESTERDAY morning, he called all the professional players together to acquaint them with his decision and said that when football is one's life, one must be prepared to move when the time comes.

He thanked the players for their co-operation, their fine team spirit and the results they have gained in the past, and stressed that there is 100 per cent team spirit in the club.

In particular, he thanked Sid Owen for his co-operation and help ever since 1946 when Dally came to the club from Derby.

Offer He Could Not Possibly Refuse

IN addition, he thanked the Directors, office staff and training staff for their assistance and wished the club all the best in the future.

I know that it is a wrench for Dally to leave Luton where he has been very happy and made a host of good friends, but this was an offer which he could not possibly turn down.

His mind was more or less made up on Saturday and he goes with the good wishes of all at Kenilworth-road.

The position will be considered by the Town Directors at their Board meeting this afternoon.

Baynham Was Back Last Night

MAKING a much quicker recovery than had been expected, Ron Baynham, who damaged his collar-bone at Leicester, was back in the Town team against the Brazilians, Bole Vista, at Kenilworth-road last night.

Had he not reported fit, there might well have been a chance for Alan Collier, who is home on leave from Germany until Sunday. Baynham's return is welcome news for the Town.

Other alteration last night was forced because Billy Bingham flew to Madrid yesterday with the Irish party in readiness for the match with Spain tomorrow. That brought in part-timer Brian Whitby for his first senior appearance of the season.

Faded Away In The Second Half

TWO consecutive defeats by 3-1 have rather taken the gilt off the Town's gingerbread. Yet both so easily might have been avoided. The Leicester story was one of sheer bad luck and the one at Nottingham resolved into a tale of a considerable fadeaway in the second half.

There were, of course, contri-

butory factors and, not least I feel, was the fact that in each half the Town suffered the crushing blow of losing a goal in the opening minutes.

From the first one, which should never have been allowed to happen, they recovered splendidly, but there was no comeback after the second.

Mistake Cost Town An Early Goal

HAD Baynham been wearing the goalkeeper's jersey instead of being a spectator on the trainers' bench, I am certain that the Town would not have been a goal down in three minutes.

So completely safe is he that there is never much worry on the part of the Town defence when the opposition forces a corner.

It was from one on the right that Marsh made his first mistake when he lost his grip on the ball as it came across and Gray was on the spot to ram the ball into the net.

Marsh Did Not Give Others Confidence

FOR Marsh that was an un-nerving experience that had its effect for the remainder of the match because he often fumbled the ball and, altogether, did not inspire confidence in the others.

Mainly, I am sure that was the reason why the Town defence did not live up to its reputation as a watertight department very difficult to break down.

The defenders, particularly Owen, were loth to let the ball go through, as they do with Baynham, nor was the ball often pushed back when a defender found himself in trouble.

Skillful Midfield Play By Town

GETTING back into the game after the early setback, the Town had the chances to build up a half-time lead, and they would have deserved it because their midfield football was way ahead in cleverness and constructive ability of anything the Forest produced.

To a large extent, the Forest concentrated on hard-hitting, straightforward tactics, with many variations in switching which were somewhat confusing to the Town defence.

First clear-cut opportunity came when Bingham went through with a clear field, but, from an angle, he pulled the ball well wide.

One Counted, One Was Disallowed

THEN Turner shot at Thomson from fairly close range, but, with 24 minutes gone, he put the

Town on level terms with a coolly taken goal.

Brown made the opening when, following a free kick, he pushed the ball down the middle with deadly accuracy to Turner, who flicked it past Thomson with the outside of his right foot from the inside-left position.

Adam was unlucky with a shot that struck a post, and then Turner raced through in typical style to beat Thomson again, but had the goal disallowed for off-side.

Forest's Effective Offside Trap

THERE could have been no more than inches in it, and it was a much closer call than many of the offside decisions that went against the Town.

These defensive tactics are not pretty to watch, but the Forest have developed them effectively, and the Town seemed to have no answer to them.

Once, Pacey pointed the way by going through on his own, but in the main the Forest found the Town falling into their trap with ease, particularly in the second half.

Forest's Halves Were In Command

AFTER Dwight had given the Forest the lead again three minutes after half-time, much of the steam seemed to be taken out of the Town and there were few occasions after that when they looked as if they would be able to snatch a point.

Most of their raids broke down long before the penalty area was reached, either by virtue of the off-side trap or through resolute tackling by the Forest half-back line.

Whitefoot, McKinlay and Bur-kitt, between them, swung the game the Forest's way after the interval by taking possession of the middle of the field.

Quicker Use Of The Ball Was Needed

CUMMINS, who had been responsible for some clever work and neat distribution



Dally Duncan

earlier, seemed to lose his touch. Brown could rarely get out of McKinlay's grip, and this left Turner as the main hope of saving the match.

However, well though he positioned himself, the chance would not come his way, but it might have done had there been quicker use of the ball by his inside colleagues.

Because it usually was not parted with quickly enough, Turner was often caught off-side.

Third Goal Ended All Town's Hope

GOING in to meet the ball all the time, the home half-backs were dominating and the Town were fairly struggling all through the half.

Hope went finally eight minutes from the end, when Wilson put on a third goal when Dwight found him with a pass that went between Owen and Hawkes.

Just once after that, there was a sign of a Town revival and then Cummins had a shot stopped by Bur-kitt and an appeal for a penalty for hands disallowed.

It was vastly different from that the Town produced in the second

half, compared with their display before the interval.

Should Have Used The Wingers More

AT that time, Town officials were in a happy frame of mind and were confidently predicting victory, but that early second goal upset all their calculations.

Most dangerous of the forwards was Turner and, while Brown used the ball quite well in the first half, he is nowhere near his best form at the moment.

Maybe, the Town would have been better off had they made more use of Bingham and Adam.

In fact, the latter had the beating of Where for speed when he was given the chance to break through which was all too infrequently.

Insufficient Support For Bingham

BINGHAM, too, was brought into the game only spasmodically and, as a result, this was certainly the quietest match he has had since joining the club.

Perhaps because of the worry about the uncertainty of Marsh, Owen was not quite the power he has been in most previous matches.

Hard though he tried to stave off danger and marshal the defence into a closely-knit unit, the wandering and thrust of Wilson was somewhat harassing to him.

Morton was below his normal form in that he was not so forth-right as usual.

Pattern Of Lack Of Usual Confidence

ON this occasion, I thought that Pacey, who was pretty competent, tended to concentrate overmuch on defence which was, perhaps, all part of the general pattern of lack of the usual confidence.

Dunne tended to give Gray too much room in the first half but tightened up afterwards and Hawkes stuck gamely to the task of holding the dangerous Dwight, who was always looking for the ball.

Although Marsh could only be faulted directly for one goal, I feel that this is not a match he will want to remember, and his handling was always more than suspect.

First Home Win Well Deserved

LUTON TOWN Reserves scored their first home win of the season against Cardiff City Reserves on Saturday, and were worthy of it. For more than an hour the Welshmen desperately held on to a one-goal lead—thanks to the brilliant form of their young goalkeeper, John Jones.

Jones's daring and split-second anticipation was the highlight of this match. Three times during the first half only the young Welshman stood between the Town and a well-deserved lead.

Jones held firm until the 65th minute. Then Middleton, Luton's stocky leader, blazed a path through the Cardiff defence and fired in a terrific shot which thumped the back of the visitors' net before Jones had chance to move.

McGuffie Hit The Winner

MIDDLETON'S goal cancelled out Cardiff's one-goal lead, scored by centre-forward Kelly in the fourth minute and, more important still, it proved to the Town forwards that Jones could be beaten.

Town stormed back and barged the Cardiff goal, but more often than not their forwards were over-eager, and instead of taking

careful aim they fired in mis-directed shots from long range.

Then, in the 75th minute, right-half Alwyn McGuffie suddenly popped up in the Cardiff penalty area and was right on the spot to crash a Whitby centre into the roof of the City's net.

Hard luck on Jones it may have been, but for the Town it was just the normal course of justice.

Whitby Worried Ron Stiffall

THEY fully deserved their first victory before their own crowd, because for the first time in many weeks they produced the fire and punch that had been so regrettably lacking.

Speed and thrust of Whitby gave Welsh international full-back Ron Stiffall a very unhappy afternoon. Another improvement was Ray Middleton's inclusion at centre-forward. He held the line together in an efficient manner and was a constant menace to the

Greyhound Racing

LEGAL TENDER HITS THE JACKPOT

LUTON Stadium's photo-finish equipment had an extensive work-out at Saturday's meeting. The judges called for photo verdicts in five races.

Winner carrying the longest odds was Legal Tender (6-1). Legal Tender won the seventh race by a short-head from 3-1 Faith. This combination paid out £6 15s. 3d., the biggest forecast dividend of the meeting.

I (410 yards).—1, GOLDEN SUN (5); 2, Chub (2); 3, Freddy's Pet (1); 4, Sagittarius (3); 5, Why Not (4); 6, Ascot (6); 8, short head, 3, 5, 2. (Photo finish for 2nd place) 24.91. Off 6.44.

Betting: 7-1 GOLDEN SUN, 7-2 Chub, 4-1 Freddy's Pet, Sagittarius, Why Not, 6-1 Ascot. Forecast: £1 2s. 9d.

II (470 yards).—1, RED LEATHER (4); 2, Mandy (1); 3, Pluto (3) reserve; 4, Tramp (5); 5, Pat's Friend (2). Mr. Chips (6) did not finish, 4, short head, 8, 1. (Photo for 2nd place) 29.04. Non-runner Bon Ton. Off 7.07.

Betting: 7-4 Mr. Chips, 2-1 Mandy, 5-1 RED LEATHER, Tramp, 10-1, Pluto, Pat's Friend. Forecast: £2 8s. 3d.

III (410 yards).—1, CREPELLO (6); 2, Toll Gate (1); 3, Arden Girl (5); 4, Jenny (4); 5, Iza (3); 6, Tosca (2). 7, head, neck, 13, 3. (Photo for 2nd place) 24.30. Off 7.27.

Betting: 2-1 Iza, 3-1 Jenny, 7-2 CREPELLO, 4-1 Toll Gate, 8-1 Arden Girl, 100-8 Tosca. Forecast: £1 18s. 0d.

IV (410 yards).—1, HOUGHTON BOY (3) reserve; 2, Phadadis (6); 3, Dough (4); 4, Rooney (5); 5, Shamrock Lad (2); 8, short head, 3, 4. (Photo for 2nd place) 24.02. Non-runners: Mixer (1), Chotah. Off 7.50.

Betting: 7-4 Shamrock Lad, 7-2 HOUGHTON BOY, Rooney, 5-1 Dough, 6-1 Phadadis. Forecast: £2 19s. 0d.

V (470 yards).—1, JACKIE JONES (5); 2, Cokey Boy (1); 3, Ash Tray (2); 4, Donna (3); 5, Tonto (4) reserve; 6, Well Dressed (6); 11, 5, 3, 2, dist. 27.53. Non-runner: Dan Dare. Off 8.12.

Betting: 2-1 Ash Tray, 5-2 JACKIE JONES, 7-2 Donna, 5-1 Well Dressed, 6-1 Cokey Boy, Tonto. Forecast: £1 17s. 6d.

VI (410 yards).—1, GAY FOX (4); 2, Compere (6); 3, Lilly's Jim (2); 4, Lay Off (5); 5, Fallon (3); 6, Nerve Tonic (1) reserve. 24, 13, 1, 11, 24.44. Non-runner: Sing-Song. Off 8.33.

Betting: 2-1 GAY FOX, 9-4 Compere, 5-1 Lilly's Jim, Fallon, Nerve Tonic, 100-8 Lay Off.

FOR THE RECORD

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: Gray, Dwight, Wilson. LUTON TOWN: Turner.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: Thomson; White; McManis; Whitefoot; McKinlay; Bur-kitt; Dwight; Quigley; Wilson; Bally, Gray.

LUTON TOWN: Marsh; Dunne; Hawkes; Morton; Owen; Pacey; Bingham; Turner; Brown; Cummins; Adam.

Referee: J. Kelly. Attendance: 28,187.

Cardiff defenders when he was operating in their penalty area.

During the early stages of the first half the Luton defenders were inclined to play a little too far apart, but this was remedied after the interval, and then the Luton team had a more solid look than in previous matches.

CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

INTERNATIONAL MATCH
Wales v Scotland

DIVISION I
Arsenal v Wolves
Birmingham C. v Nottingham F.
Bolton W. v Blackpool
Burnley v Blackburn R.
Everton v Manchester Utd.
Leeds Utd. v Aston Villa
Leicester C. v Tottenham H.
Luton T. v Chelsea
Manchester C. v Portsmouth
Preston N.E. v Newcastle Utd.
West Brom. v West Ham

DIVISION II
Bristol R. v Barnsley
Derby Co. v Rotherham Utd.
Fulham v Liverpool
Ipswich T. v Huddersfield T.
Leyton O. v Sheffield Utd.
Lincoln C. v Middlesbrough
Scunthorpe Utd. v Brighton
Sheffield Wed. v Grimsby T.
Sheff. City v Bristol C.
Sunderland v Charlton Ath.

DIVISION III
Bradford C. v Colchester Utd.
Brentford v Stockport Co.
Chesterfield v Rochdale
Halifax T. v Bury
Hull C. v Reading
Mansfield T. v Plymouth A.
Notts Co. v Doncaster R.
Southampton v Norwich C.
Swindon T. v Tranmere R.
Wrexham v Bournemouth

DIVISION IV
Aldershot v Watford
Barrow v Port Vale
Carlisle Utd. v Bradford
Coventry C. v Northampton T.

Darlington v Torquay Utd.
Exeter C. v Worthington
Gateshead v Chester
Gillingham v York C.
Millwall v Hartlepool Utd.
Oldham Ath. v Crystal Palace
Shrewsbury T. v Crewe Alex.
Walsall v Southampton

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
DIVISION I
Aberdeen v Hibernian
Aberdeen Utd. v Celtic
Clyde v Dundee
Dundee Utd. v St. Mirren
Falkirk v Motherwell
Hearts v Partick T.
Kilmarnock v Queen of South
Rangers v Raith R.
Third Lanark v Stirling A.

DIVISION II
Alloa v Forfar Ath.
Aberdeen v Stenhousemuir
Berwick R. v Albion
Brechin C. v Ayr Utd.
Dumfries v Cowdenbeath
East Fife v Queen's Park
Hamilton v East Stirling
Montrose v Montrose
Stranraer v St. Johnstone

SELECTIONS

TEN HOME: Bolton, Preston, West Brom, Bristol R., Fulham, Sheffield Wednesday, Brentford, Swindon, Millwall, Shrewsbury.

FOUR AWAYS: Manchester Utd., Middlesbrough, Plymouth, Torquay.

THREE DRAWS: Arsenal v Wolves; Halifax v Bury; Gillingham v York.