

Turner Bars Back With A Great Hat-Trick

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TWO MEN SENT OFF: TWO PENALTY GOALS

By CHILTERN

LUTON TOWN 4, SOUTHEND UTD. 1

THE open spaces on the Kenilworth-road terraces seemed wider than ever this afternoon, despite the fact that Southend United brought quite a following, most of whom seemed to be behind the Kenilworth-road goal.

And then, as the visitors came on to the field, we saw a repetition of that stupid habit of throwing paper streamers on to the field, and the ground staff had to be called on to clear them.

The Town, after having announced their team yesterday, made a further alteration some hours later, when Walden, who was named for outside-left, was replaced by Weir.

Apparently Walden, who has been out of form in recent matches, told the Manager that after injuries he was not satisfied that he could do himself justice, and consequently he went into the Reserve team at Tottenham this afternoon.

This cut to four the number of changes as compared with Wednesday, three of them being in the forward line. Fairchild came in on the right, Turner was recalled to centre-forward, and McKeechne switched to his old position of inside-left.

In defence there was just one alteration, McGuffie being preferred to Lownds at left-half.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Morton, Bramwell, Pacey, Fincham, McGuffie; Fairchild, Smith, Turner, McKeechne, Weir.

SOUTHEND UTD.: Rhodes, Neal, King, Bentley, Costello.

Bradbury; Woodley, Smith, Ashworth, Friel, McKinnin.

Referee: H. G. New, Havant.

On the other hand, Southend, with two consecutive victories behind them, were unchanged despite the fact that they made a new signing in Scotland yesterday.

TOWN SCOUTS OUT IN FORCE

Once again, Town representatives were out in force looking for new players today. Searching were three Detectives and the club's chief scout, George Martin. Southend, too, are looking for new men, because Manager Ted Fenton was not with them.

It was a brilliantly sunny afternoon, but no more than 5,000 saw Fincham win the toss and set Southend to face the home side.

Right from the kick-off, Southend came within inches of scoring when Ashworth broke clear down the middle. Only a desperate leap to his right by Baynham saved the situation.

Town reprisal raids were driven off by sound defensive work. Then there came another tense moment at the Town end, when McGuffie, dribbling towards his own goal, turned the ball quickly back to Baynham.

For a moment, I feared a repetition of the Morton own-goal on Wednesday, but Baynham was quick enough to avert the danger.

TOWN GET INTO THEIR STRIDE

Then, Luton's Smith began an attack that developed dangerously. Weir's first attempt to cross the ball was beaten down, and his cross drive missed the far post by a matter of inches.

The Town were coming more into it, and Fairchild was out of luck with a first-time drive that skimmed the far post, with Rhodes well beaten.

Southend, though, were moving with plenty of purpose, and the Luton Smith gave away a corner needlessly, and when the ball came over Bradbury shot through a crowd of players, Baynham must have been unsighted, but just managed to cover it.

Then came an amazing goal for the Town after 11 minutes. There was much by-play between Rhodes, King and Turner in the taking of a goal-kick.

King's obvious intention was to return the ball to the goalkeeper, but Turner kept in the vicinity, after being told by the referee to keep his 10 yards distance.

This he did, and between them the two defenders got themselves into a terrific muddle so that Turner stepped in to take the ball off the goalkeeper and turn the ball into an empty net.

RISKY BACK PASS TO BAYNHAM

This seemed to produce uncertainty in defence at the other end, because Weir made a risky back pass to Baynham, and the goalkeeper only just snatched the ball away from the feet of Ashworth.

In quick succession, Baynham saved from both the Southend Smith and Ashworth, but both attempts were from outside the penalty area and did not cause him much concern.

There was a stoppage when the Luton Ray Smith damaged his right ankle, and he resumed limping heavily.

Turner and McKeechne combined well to launch another Town attack, at the end of which they gained a corner, which was promptly cleared.

Smith, still hobbling, went to outside-left, with Weir going to inside-right. He seemed to be in considerable pain, especially on two occasions when he used his right foot to move forward. In fact, it looked as if the Town were going to be pretty heavily handicapped, and, perversely, the ball kept on going to Smith when he could well have used an interval for recovery.

Fairchild was bundled over by King, and from Pacey's free-kick the ball eluded Costello's head, struck McKeechne on the knee and rolled out of danger.

The Luton Smith showed courage in going firmly into the tackle with his damaged foot, and his pass nearly enabled Turner to find a clear path for goal, but he was stopped by Costello.

when Fincham failed to clear the ball in the air, and McKinnin returned the ball into the centre, where Ashworth's shot was beaten down and booted away by Morton.

Southend were looking quite dangerous at times, and Baynham got the Town out of trouble when he came racing out to grab the ball away from Friel, who collided with him, fell heavily and had to have attention.

Like the Luton Smith, Friel went to outside-left, and there followed more threat from Southend, helped on by hands by Weir and a foul by McKeechne on McKinnin.

Weir sent away Fairchild neatly, but the winger could not beat King. Town's attack continued, however, with Turner securing the ball from a throw-in, although in the end the thrust was broken up by Bentley.

As good a chance as the Town had had fell to McKeechne after Turner had hustled Costello into a mistake, but the inside-left half-stopped the ground so that the ball trickled harmlessly goalwards.

The Town were owing quite a debt to Baynham for his anticipation, and again he came to the rescue by throwing himself at the feet of Woodley.

Once again the Town were being guilty of much inaccurate passing, which was cutting down their effectiveness, and when McGuffie did get one through, Weir just failed to control the ball.

TURNER CAUGHT OFFSIDE

Friel had recovered sufficiently to go back to his old position, but the Luton Smith was still on the left wing.

Neither set of forwards was making much progress at this



Gordon Turner's opportunism gave the Town the lead after only 11 minutes, when he took advantage of a defensive blunder by Southend. Turner also notched a penalty goal after 54 minutes to put Town comfortably ahead. Five minutes later Turner completed his hat-trick with a neatly headed goal.

stage, when defences were holding sway, though there came a determined effort by McKeechne to force a way past two defenders. It brought the Town a corner, and when this was returned into the goalmouth by

Bramwell, Turner was caught offside.

McGUFFIE MAKES A GREAT SHOT

Then, McGuffie produced the shot of the match after having made fully 20 yards of ground, and Rhodes was happy to push the ball hurriedly over. From the corner kick, Pacey, meeting the ball on the volley, blazed it yards wide.

Apparently, Southend had not learned from the error that had cost them a goal, because there was very nearly another goal-kick tangle, with Neal involved this time and Turner again the man. It very nearly forced them into another mistake.

Morton saved the Town with a clever interception to stop McKinnin, after the ball had been deflected by McGuffie's head.

Just before half-time there was a terrific tussle in front of the Southend goal following a free-kick for a foul on McKeechne. Twice, Pacey had attempted to block, and then Smith shot wide. Immediately after that, Turner produced a rip-roaring shot that Rhodes could not beat out, but Weir could not quite reach the rebound. Half-time:

LUTON TOWN 1
SOUTHEND 0

Smith has a sprained right ankle, and it was heavily strapped during the interval.

First incident of the second half was a tremendous rising drive from McGuffie, which Rhodes just pushed over. Town's left-half was in the picture again with a strong tackle, and a pass to McKeechne, who, however, found himself shut out.

With a couple of minutes gone, Weir looking dazed, came across to the trainer's bench for some attention, which included the application of a cold sponge on the back of his neck.

While Weir was still off, there was a snap chance for Friel, from a quick centre from the left, and it was Bramwell who got in a quick challenge, so that the ball flew wide off the Southend player's foot.

TURNER GETS HIS THIRD GOAL

With 59 minutes gone, TURNER made this a tremendous come-back to the team for himself by completing a hat-trick with a neatly headed goal from near the far post, following an accurate centre by Smith.

The cheer that greeted this third goal was heart-warming, and the crowd were now solidly behind the Town, who thoroughly deserved to be in this comfortable position.

However, they were not having much luck in the way of injuries, and Turner became the next casualty but it was not serious, and he was quickly all right again.

Town were playing with far more confidence now, often troubling the Southend defence, and Smith after having positioned himself well, was unlucky not to find the ball quite coming through to him.

A fine crossfield pass by McGuffie gave Fairchild a chance to break through, but he was finding King too much of a stumbling block, and again fell a victim to a firm tackle.

WEIR GETS HIS FIRST GOAL

With 66 minutes gone the Town's superiority was emphasised when McGuffie took a pass by Turner and let go a tremendous drive that cannoned off a post and fell at the feet of WEIR who calmly tapped it into an empty net to score his first goal for the club.

The goal brought amazing scenes as the Southend players appealed for offside, and Bentley



In the 66th minute winger Jimmy Weir scored his first goal for Town—a calmly taken chance.

ably, and this was followed by a threat at Town's end, from the right-wing pair, with the upshot that Smith drove over.

After 54 minutes the Town were awarded a penalty, and their was no mistake about it, Costello pulling McKeechne down after the inside-left had rounded him.

There was some argument before TURNER was able to take the kick, and he made no mistake with a low, hard drive wide of the goalkeeper's right hand.

Two or three times Southend seemed on the point of breaking through, but were driven off by solid defensive work, particularly by Fincham and Morton.

Then, Pacey dribbled through, attempted too much and lost the ball. The same happened to McGuffie in the next minute.

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picked up the ball and booted it over the Bobbers stand before running across to protest to the linesman.

Then, before the match could be restarted there was further argument on the centre-line, in which Bentley joined in, but the referee adhered to his decision.

TWO MEN SENT OFF THE FIELD

The game threatened to get out of hand, with several Southend players losing their tempers, and there was an incident between Friel and Pacey, the upshot of which was that the referee sent them both off the field.

I thought Pacey was a bit unlucky to receive marching orders, but he did retaliate.

Even that did not quieten things down, because there was a foul by Bentley, and Southend were plainly rattled by the goals they had conceded.

Play was still rough, with Bentley penalised for another foul. Then Fincham, making a long run upfield, was up-ended on the edge of the penalty area, but this time the referee thought that no offence had been committed.

After having been driven to desperate defensive measures for some time, Southend make a quick breakthrough, in which McKinnin shot over when he certainly should have scored.

Southend now had Woodley at inside-left, and in the Town's line-up Fairchild had dropped back to take Pacey's place.

BRAMWELL MAKES AMAZING SAVE

Things had calmed down again, and Southend came more into the picture.

Shor, back in defence, stopped a shot from Ashworth, and then

How The Goals Came

TURNER for Luton after 11 minutes.

TURNER (pen.) for Luton after 54 minutes.

TURNER for Luton after 59 minutes.

WEIR for Luton after 66 minutes.

BRADBURY (penalty) for Southend after 84 minutes.

Every time Bentley touched the ball he was roundly booed by the crowd, and then the referee had a word with Weir for casually tripping King from behind.

Luton's Smith was obviously still in pain, and twice he came to the trainer's bench to have cold water sprinkled on his ankle.

PENALTY GOAL FOR SOUTHEND

Then came a penalty against the Town when Bramwell went in to tackle Woodley.

This happened after 84 minutes, and BRADBURY scored from the spot with a shot that rose into the top corner of the net.

Turner was now at right-half for the Town, and then he popped up in the forward line, so that there was no-one in the gap left by Pacey. As a result, McKinnin made a long run, at the end of which he drove well wide. Result:

LUTON TOWN 4
SOUTHEND UNITED ... 1