

SATURDAY, 8th FEBRUARY, 1969

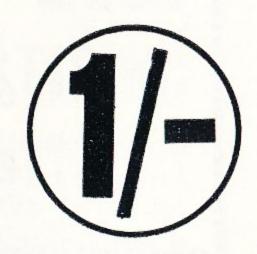
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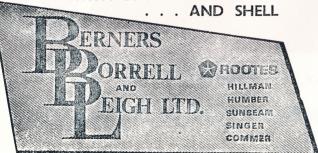
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THE DEVELOPMENT OF TACTICAL FORMATIONS

IPSWICH TOWN

The Ipswich Town side which, under Sir Alf Ramsey, won the Second and First Division Championships in successive seasons, is an excellent example of shrewd management—planning the tactics around the players available so as to make maximum use of their strengths and at the same time conceal, as far as possible, their weaknesses.

The two front runners, Crawford and Phillips were both very dangerous near goal, and together they formed a powerful striking force to spearhead the attack. Most of the Ipswich goals came from this partnership, though outside right Stephenson, playing as an orthodox winger, was able to penetrate down the flank to score goals as well as engineer them.

Two players shared the main burden of creating scoring opportunities. The first of these, inside forward Moran, played intelligently and constructively in midfield supported from behind by the two wing halves. But perhaps the most remarkable player in Ramsey's front line was the veteran Jimmy Leadbetter. Despite being near the end of his career he was still a master at finding and using space and distributing a stream of accurate passes. His job was to stay deep, ready to pick up balls out of defence and feed the more advanced attackers, particularly the twin striking force, a policy which had two very distinct tactical advantages to recommend it:—

- 1. Leadbetter's area of responsibility was fairly clearly defined and not large, so the **physical** demands on him were minimised, thus enabling him to conserve his energy and even occasionally, make an effective surprise appearance in the penalty area to strike at goal.
- 2. He was a difficult player to mark effectively since he lay so deep. The full back was often reluctant to follow him all the way for fear of leaving valuable space behind uncovered, ready to be used by one of the Ipswich strikers drifting out to the wing.

C.F. CRAWFORD

I.L. PHILLIPS

O.R. STEPHENSON

I.R. MORAN

O.L. LEADBETTER

Diagram of Ipswich Town Forward Line

THE "DEEP CENTRE FORWARD"

The great Hungarian International team of the early 1950's caused considerable embarrassment to the orthodox defensive set-up of the WM formation, not only by virtue of their high level of personal skill, but by withdrawing the centre forward (or rather, the man with number nine on his shirt) to a deeper position normally shared by the two inside forwards. These players operated as a twin striking force, while the wingers lay slightly deeper, thereby tempting opposing full backs to come forward and leave space behind them into which penetrating passes could be made.

All this left the stopper centre-half with a difficult choice to make. If he marked the "centre forward" he had to advance and could no longer effectively cover the striking area in front of goal, so the two wing halves would have to mark the twin spearhead, but this would seriously weaken his team's ability to build-up its **own** attacks when possession was gained. On the other hand, he could hardly deal effectively with two "centre forwards" if he remained in his normal position. Needless to say, sufficient confusion and indecision were created to give the attackers the advantage, as results proved.

OUR VISITORS

Welcome to Luton Town, champions of Division IV 1967-68 by a clear margin of five points and for a number of weeks earlier in this season very much among the pacesetters in Division III. Recently the Bedfordshire side has moved down the table but they are nevertheless still in the hunt for promotion this season. They come to Dean Court under their new manager Alec Stock, recently appointed after his success in making Q.P.R. a First Division club. Former manager Allan Brown is now, of course, in charge at Torquay.

PEN PICTURES OF THE LUTON PLAYERS

Sandy Davie (Goalkeeper)

Born at Dundee. Transferred from Dundee United in October last. Sandy has been capped for the Scottish under-23 team.

Max Dougan (Right Back)

First signing made by Allan Brown shortly after he rejoined the club. A fee of about £7,000 changed hands when this ex-Scottish amateur International left Leicester City, his caps having been earned with Queen's Park.

Jack Bannister (Full Back)

Transferred from Crystal Palace last October, formerly with West Bromwich Albion and Scunthorpe. Born at Chesterfield.

Terry Branston (Centre Half)

Born at Rugby where he still lives, Branston spent nine seasons with Northampton Town, accompanying them in their rise from Division IV to Division I.

John Moore (Left Half)

Is beginning his fourth season with the Town who stepped in immediately when they heard that Motherwell had given him a free Transfer.

Graham French (Outside Right)

Born at Wolverhampton. Has previously played for Shrewsbury, Swindon, Watford and Wellington before joining Luton in October, 1965. Has several Youth International Caps for England.

Brian Lewis (Right Half)

In the temporary absence of Ian Buxton, Lewis is playing at inside-right where he had considerable experience at Portsmouth and Coventry. However, most of his 20 First Division games last season were in the half-back line.

Keith Allen (Centre Forward)

Was signed from Stockport County in exchange for Derek Keaven and has previous spells with Portsmouth and Grimsby Town.

Mike Harrison (Outside Left)

With Plymouth Argyle last season. Born at Ilford, Harrison began his first-class career with Chelsea, from which he moved on to Blackburn Rovers where he established a first-team place.

Bruce Rioch (Inside Left)

Is a natural footballer whose skill developed quickly last season, when he was easily the Club's leading scorer even though he was used as the midfield link. Was born in Aldershot, but spent most of his schooldays in Luton and has been with the Town since he was 15.

Ray Whittaker (Outside Left)

A Londoner from Bow, he played for the Arsenal with whom he gained England Youth International Caps before coming to Luton in March, 1964.

Alan Slough (Righ Half)

Is a true local product because he was amateur and apprentice with the Town before signing as a full-time player. In his early days he was a full back and could conceivably still be required for this position, but plays extremely well in either wing-half berth.

Laurie Sheffield (Centre Forward)

One of the Town's big close season signings from Oldham Athletic. Born in Swansea has previously been with five League clubs.

Ian Buxton (Inside Right)

When Rodney Green went down with cartilage trouble early last season, there had to be an immediate search for another striker, and Buxton was signed from Derby County for about £11,000.

COACHING SCHOOL

TOO MUCH IMAGINATION OR TOO LITTLE?

It is an interesting and curious fact that two of the most common weaknesses a coach has to deal with when working with young players are almost directly opposite to one another:

- 1. The desire to do too much with the ball. This kind of player is difficult to live with, not only because what he is attempting is often beyond his ability, but also because team-mates find it almost impossible to give him adequate support, since they never know what he is going to do next. He should be encouraged to take a pride in doing the simple things safely and well, for only then will he make a proper contribution to the team's
- 2. With some players, however, the reverse is true. They become too obvious, too predictable and opposing players are able to "read" a situation guickly and foil their efforts. This is particularly noticeable when they find themselves in confined space with a challenging defender closing in, and no immediate support. The ability to do the simple thing well is then useless because at that moment the simple pass is just not on. What these players need is practice in disguising their intentions and it is this problem that we are going to deal with today.

The Importance of Disguise

Nowadays, with defences better organized and more tightly packed than ever before, the ability to disguise one's intentions from the opposition is vital, either in beating a man or simply keeping him guessing until a supporting player can be reached with a pass. The key to success is BALANCE and the player should always remember three things:

- 1. Keep the ball within playing distance.
- 2. Be evenly balanced so you can move in any direction.
- 3. Try to upset your opponent's balance.

Obviously, the only way to practice is against a defender, but if he is allowed complete freedom to challenge from the start, the player in possession will only collect bruises and lose confidence. In the early stages, the opponent's activities must be conditioned a little to enable the "dribbler" to gain experience. and the best way to do this is to practice in the grid as shown below.

PRACTICES IN THE GRID TO ENCOURAGE DISGUISE

At each corner of each square in the grid a small circle should be marked. The players are divided into pairs and each pair uses one side of a square (a line ten yards long). The two players face one another on opposite sides of this line, one with the ball at his feet. Neither player is allowed to cross the line. The "dribbler" attempts to get the ball into either of the two circles at the end of the line and put his foot on it, while his opponent tries to stay in front of him all the time. When the attacker is about to move into the circle, the defender aims to put his foot in first. If he is successful, or if the attacker loses control of the ball over his opponent's line, the two players swap jobs.

Thus a situation has been created which encourages the dribbler to try out methods of dodging and feinting against a real opponent, without constant fear of receiving a crunching tackle. His skill (and especially his balance) is being put to a fair test. At first he will probably make the mistake of trying to do everything at maximum speed and as a result either lose control of the ball or tire himself out without getting into the circle. Then it dawns on him that he is wasting one of the most valuable weapons the dribbler has—change of pace. So he learns to be patient, to slow down a little and watch his opponent's legs as well as the ball. This enables him to see when the defender is sightly off balance and therefore choose the right moment to accelerate away in the opposite direction.

Try this practice for yourself. All you need is a line about ten yards long, with a small circle or object at either end. Next week we'll develop it further.

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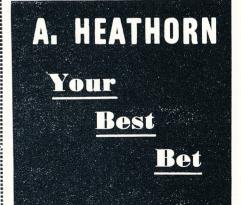
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Spotlight on . . . BOBBY REEVE

Bobby was born at Cosham. He represented his school at football, athletics and boxing and was a member of the Havant and District Boys team that reached the quarter finals of the English Schools Football Association Shield Competition.

After a spell as an Associate Schoolboy with Portsmouth, Bobby came to Dean Court as an Apprentice Professional in 1966, and since then has played in all the Club's teams apart from the League side. As a full professional, he will no doubt be eager to stake his claim to a first team place. Bobby's interests include records and cars.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE, Div. III

(Up to and including 1st February, 1969)

						Goals				
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BOSCOMBE		28	16	4	8	46	26	36		
Stockport Cty Luton Town Plymouth Arg. Tranmere Rov. Torquay United Reading Northampton T. Barrsley Walsall Rotherham Utd. Southport Bristol Rovers Brighton & H. Mansfield Town Orient Crewe Alex. Hartlepool Utd. Gillingham Shrewsbury Tn. Oldham Ath.	A	28 27 28 28 28 28 28 28 27 28 27 28 27 26 26 27 27 28 27 27 28 28 27 28 27 28 27 28 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27	12 14 12 14 12 11 10 9 11 10 9 8 7 9 6 8 7 7	9 5 10 8 4 6 8 8 8 10 6 6	6 9 9 111 100 100 101 110 110 110 110 110	48 40 33 43 43 33 44 43 33 35 40 41 32 30 36 25 37 23 32 32 33 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34	35 26 29 43 28 37 40 42 40 42 43 43 44 45 47 48 49 49 56	343 311 310 299 282 27 27 27 26 26 26 26 24 24 24 24 21 20 15		

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Wednesday, 26th February, 1969 Western Counties Floodlight League SALISBURY Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Saturday, 1st March, 1969 Football League, Division III HARTLEPOOLS UNITED

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SOCIAL CLUB NOTES

MAKE A DATE WITH ST. VALENTINE

We bring to your notice the special Gala Valentine Dance at the Social Club on Saturday, 15th February. This is going to be a special evening and we can promise all our dancing friends a very good time indeed.

On Sunday evening we shall continue with our Bingo session, commencing at 8.30, followed by Mr. Frank Lane with songs at the piano which rounds off the activities.

We have had two darts matches at the club room since forming our darts team, and we are open to challenges from any group of eight or more players who would care to meet us at Dean Court. We can arrange matches on either Monday, Wednesday or Friday evenings. Please enquire at the bar or from the Secretary, and we will arrange a date.

Monday, 24th February is the date for the next Ray Bumstead Dance at 8 o'clock, tickets 5/- each. This is a fancy dress dance with the accent on the Wild West, dresses in the cowboy style for this one.

The raffle tickets are now on sale for Ray Bumstead's "Holiday in Majorca" event, these can be purchased from the club room or most of the agents, price 1/- each. A chance here to solve next year's holiday problems for the lucky winner.

If you have not yet joined the Social Club, we shall be pleased to enrol you. Call at the Club room after the game and become a member.

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CHERRY BEES YOUTH ASSOCIATION

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Since our last home match the Association has undertaken two more away visits, each most successful in every way. The day-trip to Torquay enabled us for the first time to take four coaches, which carried our largest contingent to date, 175 members, who were well rewarded by a highly meritorious goalless draw. When you recall that the club had just suffered four defeats in six games, this figure becomes an even greater tribute to the ever-increasing enthusiasm being displayed by our members. The following Saturday we carried the splendid number of 28 members on the 700-mile round-journey to Barrow—much to the surprise of the home club's officials and supporters. You must agree the sight of a convincing 2-0 victory was a just reward for such stamina.

If there is still anyone to be convinced of the real interest in away travel existing amongst the young Boscombe fans, here is the undeniable proof of the season's figures so far. Since its inauguration, our Association, whose membership now tops the 500 mark, has attended ALL Boscombe's away League and Cup fixtures plus one friendly. Those of our members with an ever-present record have consequently already covered about 6,250 miles. On eight occasions we have needed more than one coach; indeed, only once has a Saturday morning departure seen one coach suffice. In all, we have hired 30 coaches to visit 17 destinations; these have carried 1,226 passengers over approximately 9,750 route miles.

JOE GOODWIN.

NEWS OF THE YOUNGER PLAYERS

The Reserves were recently engaged in two games with dramatic endings. Firstly at Ashton Gate, Bristol where we were leading by a Derek Burns goal for most of the second half, then Bristol City equalized with the last kick of the match, scored in the ninety-eighth minute; the referee had adjudged that injuries had amassed to necessitate such an extension. Following this game, our fixture at Dean Court against Swansea Reserves ended in similar fashion, only this time we were the team to equalize. "Swans" had taken the lead following a corner midway through the second half, and just when it appeared that this goal would be decisive—ninety minutes had elapsed—when skipper John Hill was brought down in the penalty area whilst going through on a solo effort; John himself stepped up to take the successful spot kick, which was actually the last of this match too!

By virtue of a 2-0 victory at the Stadium against Poole Town, we preserved our 100% record in the Western Counties Floodlight League Competition. This game was in doubt right up to kick off time because of torrential rain which caused pools of water to collect on the playing area; however, in spite of the appalling conditions—the pitch cutting up badly and a steady downpour throughout—the standard of play was very high indeed. Having gone into a five minute lead through Jimmy Dixon, both teams kept up a fast pace in these stamina sapping conditions, and Kevin White put the issue beyond doubt with a well taken second goal, late in the game.

After finding themselves a goal in arrears early on against Bournemouth in a Hampshire League fixture, the "A" Team recovered to run out eventual winners 4-2 with goals scored by Eddie Rowles two, Barry Sawyer and Peter Harman one each. Fortunes in the 2nd Round of the Bournemouth F.A. Senior Cup were not so kind for we lost 3-0 to Christchurch and so were eliminated.

The "B" Team accounted for the Police in a Bournemouth Senior League match by five goals without reply, scored by Terry Mitchell two, Bobby Dennett, Chris Martin, and Alan Green one apiece, but were narrowly defeated by League Leaders Grange Sponts 2-1 the following week. Paul Miller scored our goal, and an encouraging feature of this very young side was the good form shown by schoolboys Philip Thomas, Kevin Rendle, and Keith Clapham.

Congratulations to Paul Miller, Terry Mitchell and Mike Smith, all of whom represented Dorset against Somerset in the National Association of Youth Clubs Competition recently. A replay was necessary as the score was 1-1, Dorset's goal coming from Paul Miller.

Other representative honours have come the way of some of our youngsters—namely Paul Singleton, Kevin Rendle and Andy Marsh, for this trio were selected to play for Bournemouth F.A. Youth XI against the Army in the Hants F.A. Youth Competition. Unfortunately this story did not have a happy ending for Andy Marsh had to withdraw from the Team at the last minute, and although leading 2-1 at the interval, Bournemouth F.A. were defeated 5-3. One bright spot was that Kevin Rendle managed to notch a goal.

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FIXTURES FOR SEASON 1968 - 1969

LEAGUE DIVISION III Results Atten- 1968 F A dances 1968 F A dances	en-
	200
Aug. 10 Hartlepools Utd. A 1 - 1 6,791 13 Tu +1 SOUTHEND UTD. H 1 - 6 7,182 17 PLYMOUTH ARG. H 0 - 1 8,389 24 Bristol Rovers A 2 - 3 6,761 28 W CREWE ALEX'DRA H 4 - 0 6,208 31 SHREWSBURY T. H 2 - 0 7,528 31 SHREWSBURY T. H 2 - 0 7,528	
14 STOCKPORT CO. H 1 - 0 8.457 14 Oxford A 2 - 1 18 W SWINDON TOWN H 2 - 0 12.217 21 ARSENAL H 1 - 3 1.4 21 Watford A 0 - 1 7,682 23 M READING H 1 - 1 6	38
28 WALSALL H 1 - 0 8,645 FOOTBALL COMBINATION	
Oct. 5 BRIGHTON & H. H 2 - 0 7,842 Oct. 2 W Reading A 0 - 3 12 IPSWICH H 1 - 1 7 12 Mansfield Town A 1 - 3 5,094 16 W †4 CRADIFF H 0 - 1 8	80
	94
30 W †5 Nov. 2 BARNSLEY OVER TORQUAY UTD. OVER TORQUAY UTD. OVER SPARK R. OVER SPARK R	85 98
23 Luton Town A 1 - 1 14,150 1969 30 GILLINGHAM H 2 - 0 7,782 Ian. 4 Crystal Palace A 1 - 2	
Dec. 4 W †SF	
7 *2 BRISTOL ROVERS H 0 - 0 11,014 16 Bristol City A 1 - 1 10 Tu Bristol R. (Replay) A 0 - 1 11,898 25 SWANSEA H 1 - 1 7	74
20 F Southport A 1 - 2 4,126 Feb. 1 LUTON H 0 - 0 7 26 Th Brighton & Hove A. A 1 - 4 14,693 28 ROTHERHAM UTD. H 1 - 0 8,738 15 Peterborough A	76
1969 22	
Jan. 4 *3 TRANMERE ROV. H 3 - 4 8,247 Mar. 1 Birmingham A 11 Barnsley	
Feb. Barrow A 2 - 0 3,228 29 Bristol Rovers A	
15 Gillingham A Apl. 7 M SWINDON H	
22	
17 M Orient A	
22 *SF Shrewsbury Town A WESTERN COUNTIES FLOODLIGHT	
Apl. 4 F	74
† League Cup * F.A. Cup	

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Everton	V	Bristol Rov.	23	N	Portsmouth	V	Hull City	
Leicester C.	V	Liverpool		O	Crewe A.	V	Southport	
Mansfield T.	V	West Ham		P	Hartlepools	V	Oldham A.	
Tottenham	V	Aston Villa		Q	Northampt'n	V	Brighton	
West Brom.	V	Arsenal		R	Reading	V	Torquay U.	
Notts. F.	V	Q.P.Rangers		S	Walsall	V	Barrow	
Cardiff City	V	Oxford Utd.		T	Doncaster R.	V	Aldershot	
	Chelsea Everton Leicester C. Mansfield T. Tottenham West Brom. Notts. F.	Blackburn v Chelsea v Everton v Leicester C. v Mansfield T. v Tottenham v West Brom. v Notts. F. v	Blackburn V Manch. City Chelsea V Stoke Everton V Bristol Rov. Leicester C. V Liverpool Mansfield T. V West Ham Tottenham V Aston Villa West Brom. V Arsenal Notts. F. V Q.P.Rangers	Blackburn V Manch. City Chelsea V Stoke Everton V Bristol Rov. Leicester C. V Liverpool Mansfield T. V West Ham Tottenham V Aston Villa West Brom. V Arsenal Notts. F. V Q.P.Rangers	Blackburn v Manch. City Chelsea v Stoke Everton v Bristol Rov. Leicester C. v Liverpool Mansfield T. v West Ham Tottenham v Aston Villa West Brom. v Arsenal Notts. F. v Q.P.Rangers L Manch. City M M R Notts	Blackburn v Manch. City Chelsea v Stoke Everton v Bristol Rov. Leicester C. v Liverpool Mansfield T. v West Ham Tottenham v Aston Villa West Brom. v Arsenal Notts. F. v Q.P.Rangers L Crystal Pal. M Huddersfield N Portsmouth O Crewe A. P Hartlepools Q Northampt'n R Reading S Walsall	Blackburn v Manch. City Chelsea v Stoke Everton v Bristol Rov. Leicester C. v Liverpool Mansfield T. v West Ham Tottenham v Aston Villa West Brom. v Arsenal Notts. F. v Q.P.Rangers L Crystal Pal. v M Huddersfield v N Portsmouth v O Crewe A. v P Hartlepools v Q Northampt'n v R Reading v S Walsall	Blackburn v Manch. City Chelsea v Stoke Everton v Bristol Rov. Leicester C. v Liverpool Mansfield T. v West Ham Tottenham v Aston Villa West Brom. v Arsenal Notts. F. v Q.P.Rangers L Crystal Pal. v Millwall M Huddersfield v Fulham N Portsmouth v Hull City O Crewe A. v Southport P Hartlepools v Oldham A. Q Northampt'n v Brighton R Reading v Torquay U. S Walsall v Barrow

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