Uniused gouiseppe aux Resce.
CALS: 1-0, Richard Harvy leftfooter after Albion allowed
Steve Davie's long ball to get
through the middle; 1-1 74
mins: Lee Ashcroft header
from right wing cross by
Kevin Donovan; 1-2, 33 mins:
Andy Hunt scrambied effort
from centre by Donovan.
THER ATTEMPTS: Town four
saved, including a penalty by
Steve Davis which was
pushed onto a post by Stuart
Raylor, and four wide. Albion
two saved, one of which they
collaimed was over the line affect

was asset, one of which they claimed was over the line after this a post and was grabbed to line and the line and line

well.
BOOKED: For fouls - Town's
Richard Harvey, lan Feuer and
Graham Alexander and West
Brom's Cunnington, Taylor
and Mardon. For dissent:
Town skipper Davis and Al ATDON'S Reven.
ATTENDANCE: 8,042, highest of

the season so far.
ENTERTAINMENT: Excellent

# Inner doubts leave Town on the rocks

From back page

"When you are losing it becomes as much a habit as winning, but harder to change," he added. Despite being bottom of the First

Division, the players believe in themselves, and there were good reasons at Kenilworth Road on Saturday to think a revival is possible.

But not if the few scoring chances

being created are wasted. The Town looked more menacing than West Brom in their general play until the late stages, but were unable to build on an early goal, and the penalty miss by Steve Davis was as good as giving one to the That would have regained the lead,

but instead West Brom punished the spot kick failure with a late winner to hoist themselves into third place in the

With Johnny Vilstrup, Scott Oake and John Taylor missing through injuries, the Town's reshuffled pack often looked a good unit.

I made Richard Harvey and goalkeeper Ian Feuer the closest contenders to Waddock for the Town man of the



Report by Brian Swain Pictures by Gareth Owen

Jamie Woodsford for his second full Guentchev league game, added a litle more determi-

Manager Westley was left to point out the handful of crucial turning points that cost him the win he and his team so desperately

> West Brom's defence stood and watched when Harvey leftfooted the Town into a 19thminute lead from a through ball by Steve Davis.

> The Town got well on top but could not add the goal that might have killed off a bedraggled visiting outfit.

single shot on target in the first half, but Stuart Naylor tipped and transformed the proceedings. over a thundering volley by the

and Dwight Marshall shot wide from an opening made by Woodsford's surge.

Julian James replaced Trevor Peaker the interval after the veteran had been injured in a collision with Feuer, but for the first ten minutes of the second half the pattern was the same.

A brilliant breakaway from a West Brom corner should have made it 2-0. but after Ceri Hughes and Waddock had David Oldfield the midfielder on forward line duty slightly overran the ball and Naylor made a good save at his feet.

Albion manager Alan Buckley had given his men a rollicking at half-time. and ten minutes later, still unhappy with the way they were second best, he sent on Andy Hunt to replace Dave Gilbert And Hunt had a storming game. He was angry at being dropped, determined to prove he should have been picked,

Albion started to make better use of

improving Graham Alexander, the flanks, their passing improved 100

McLaren

Vilstrup. .

Alexander

Guentchev.

Sommer . . M Johnson

Alexander ...

Taylor.... Guentchev

Goals

Assists

Hughes ....(

Oakes.



STRIKING PROSPECT: 18-year-old Jamie Woodsford, who made the second full league appearance of his career, and earned praise from his manager.

Paul Agnew with a knee injury made little difference to their resur-

Hunt sent Kevin Donovan behind Harvey to deliver a perfect cross from which Lee Ashcroft headed

West Brom claimed that was belated justice: two minutes earlier Stacey Coldicott's shot from Hunt's pass hit the post and was scooped away by Feuer. "It was a goal," said Coldicott later. "I don't know whether it crosssed the line or not," said the keeper. "The linesman said he couldn't see, but it was certainly not a yard over, as some

er, the Town showed the capability

of restoring their supremacy

Referee Graham Barber had a poor game, with over-use of the

per cent, and the loss of defender agreed he was right to give a penal-

and Navlor dived to his right to and Naylor dived to his right to save a side-footed effort that was standing still."

That seemed particularly true of

> West Brom took heart from that, while the Town's inner doubts and worries surfaced again, and seven when the surfaced again, and seven when the surfaced again, and seven which was cleared off the line, and minutes from time Hunt nicked the winner, cashing in on a lucky went straight to the goalkeeper bounce and deflection after a cross by Donovan.

and whatever slight pleasure we might take from some of the football the Town played, today's league table makes it seem very slight indeed.

"It's probably the sort of figure a tribunal would have come up ith," said manager Terry Westley. "On the other hand I can't buy a

It means that Preece did not get the free transfer he wanted: Derby

offered £75,000, half of what the Town wanted

Derby. A further £25,000 will be paid if Preece is in a promotion winning side at the Baseball Ground. And if Derby can do it, so can the Town - there are only five points between them today.

Anglo Italian Cup, conceding four goals again.

money and gave up wages or holi-days to go to Genoa made their feelings clear, with manager Terry Westley given the bird by some as he walked across the pitch at half

Genoa, relegated from Italy's top flight on a penalty shoot-out last season, are leading Serie B and season, are leading Serie B and went close to humiliating the Town. Italian Pressmen could no believe an English First Division side could be made to look so poor. In fact it was not the Town's worst performance of the season look is the season of the season of the look of the season of the season of the look of the season of the season of the page of the season of the season of the Fan season of the season of the season of the Fan season of the season of the season of the Fan season of the fan season of the season of the season of the season of the fan season of the se

Fans questioned if too many men were out of their depth – including

the manager.

He spoke to some of them in the airport departure lounge on Thursday. "They wanted explanations, and I tried to give them," he said. "Supporters have the right to have their say. But all of us here,

ty when Paul Mardon brought down
Marshall on a run for goal.
Guentchev, with a 100 per cent
record from the spot, watched from
but were so much better. Their the dug-out as Davis took the kick, movement was brilliant. In this country, compared to that, we play

looking for placing rather than the first 32 minutes, when Genoa eased into a three-goal lead.

In 90 minutes the Town man

a 30-yarder by Scott Oakes which

Between times the Town were chasing shadows, and occasionally suffering from Stoke referee Jim Rushton, who seemed intent on being so impartial that he tended to be a homer on marginal decisions.

Julian James collected the only

Town booking - three to the Italians might have been half a dozen or more – and Town fans enjoyed seeing the ref almost book Doc Berry, who was sitting on a ten-man bench.

James was cut when an Italian player's ring made contact with his face. A linesman saw it, and did nothing, which had Westley up on his feet, pointing an accusing finger at the linesman.

Westley was wearing his specs at

Westley was wearing his specs at the time. The linensman complianed to the ref, who went to the bench and threatened the bespectacled club doctor with a yellow can'd Westley appeared for the second half without specs, and with a tif-ferent top on his training goal. The Town were Peuer, Cert Hughes. The Yor Peake, Gary Waddock and Dwike Marshall, and the tuckless deputies

#### LUTON TOWN 0

In a magnificent stadium Genor varied their play brilliantly, equally comfortable with long and shor passes. They were so much on top they gave the impression of having men to spare all over the field. Looking for positive points was

Looking for positive points was a bit of a struggle, but at least Des Linton and Oakes continued their rehabilitation after long injury absences. Paul McLaren again suggested he might be a good defensive midfielder, but his inexperience showed when Steve Davis moved too for unfield and Genos ence snowed when Steve Davis moved too far upfield and Genoa made deadly use of the space: behind him. No-one dropped back to cover that danger, and in the tiny but energetic figure of Montella the home side had a centre-forward who looked like Paul Walsh in the 1982 videos some of us wetched on

who looked like Paul Walsh in the 1982 videos some of us watched on the journey to Italy. It's no pleasure seeing your team stuffed, but at least Genoa reminded us of how beautiful football and be when top players are on song. A set piece, and questions about Kelvin Davis, led to the 18thminute openere, headed by Skuhravy in Mark Hateley style. Six minutes later a quick break later a wick break who who was the same property of the property of Skir minutes later a quick break caught the Town upfield as the left winger roared forward. By the time he was ready to cross he had two colleagues in readiness, with not a defender in sight, and Montella

A long ball over the top of Steve Davis put in Nicola for the third goal in the 32nd minute and it was

no contest after that.

Bontcho Guentchev and Oldfield never looked like matching the threat of the Genoa attackers, and the most the Town could hope for in the second half was damage lim-

ing 25-yarder, but the Town almost avoided further embarrassment until five minutes from time until five minutes from une -Kelvin Davis charged out of his area, made a hash of a clearance attempt, and presented Montella with his second goal. To be fair to Davis, he then pulled off the best save of the game to prevent further disaster after Skuhravy struck an incredible volley, with his body horizontal three feet or more off the

NEWS/GAZETTE, October 18 1995 - 4

and Johnny Vilstrup should be fit again to join Luton

Ipswich on Sunday.

Both aggravated old injuries in Genoa, in the Anglo-Italian Cup, and missed the game against West Brom

Yesterday manager Terry
Westley said: "If it had been against West Brom. But it

game on Sunday, we have n extra day to get everyone fighting fit to try to give us

the victory we need."
The Town's major doubt is Trevor Peake, who has recently in the three-ma earguard. He is under treathip after colliding with Ian Feuer and an Albion player He had to miss the second too early to say if he will be all right for the TV match at

If Peake is ruled out Julian

must be to recall out of form Bontcho Guentchev in the hope he will be fired up to have a go at his old club.

Jamie Woodsford ousted

him against West Brom, and Westley said: "He tried his socks off. I felt I wanted to change things in attack and knew that Woodsford would liven things up.
"But I wanted him to be a

bit more of a goal threat - he is brave in the box, but never really got a chance to show it. But he will score

> Woodsford is one for the future, Westley said he was hinking over the "very interesting' question of whether Portman Road was

the right place to give
Guentchev another chance ing him out does nothing for the Bulgarian's confidence but nor does putting him in if he cannot find the goal

about the whole team," said

#### Agent slammed

TERRY Westley blasted a soccer agent this week over Press reports that Irish under-21 international David Greene was

reports that Irish under-21 international David Urence was about to join Coventry City on los completely wrong. I can only assume it was put out by David Greene's agent, because Ron Akinson and I had spoken about Greene, but neither of us mentioned it to anyone else.

"The only other persons who knew was the player. If the

agent was hoping to provoke a transfer, he has failed.

"Alkinson and I had a general conversation about various players, and several names were mentioned on both sides. There is a rule that allows a club to take a player from another label." hub on trial, to play him in a couple of reserve games to have

a look at him.

"We spoke about Greene in that context, as a possibility, and
that might still happen. But I don't think it will - Ron Atkinson
is no happier than I am at the way a garbled story has come

#### Juniors back on form

AFTER being beaten in the South East Counties League by Wimbledon, the Town youth team returned to form with a 4-1 home win over Brentford.

Coach John Moore was more pleased than usual, because

to the mindled seven first-year apprentices and a school-his team included seven first-year apprentices and a school-boy. And he was delighted with the way they responded after conceding a goal early in the second half after going two up by

The goals came from Andrew Barr, Andrew Smith, Steve

The goals came from Andrew Barr, Andrew Similed, Seeve Augustine and Chris Willmort (penalty). The lads are at home to Crystal Palace on Saturday in the League Cup, with the kick-off at Newlands Road at 11 am. The reserves play Charlton at Kenilworth Road tenight

#### Preece peace deal

THE dispute over the transfer of David Preece has finally been resolved, with the Town expecting to pick up £100,000 from Derby

player of his ability for that money."

offered 675 cook

After haggling, the clubs settled for £75,000 to be paid immediately, with a further £25,000 due when Prece completes 25 appearances

#### Aussie trial

A LUTON Town fan on the other side of the world has been instrumental in providing the latest trialist at Kenilworth Road, 18-year-old world renowned Australian Institute

Last year he was vice-captain of Australian under-17 squad, low working in Perth. He maintains his links with Luton, through his fat. father and his Sports Editor cousin, and when Carbone's parents spoke gade in England Luton Town was be obvious destination.

### Westley lands a striker while John Taylor is getting over

ested in him. Several agents were hawking him around in various

would say that he is just ahead of, for instance, Jamie Woodsford. If he had been here, I would have put him in against West Brom.

his operation.

"The price is good - it's more than the player would fetch if he moved within Norway, but over

amounts for players. rejected the chance to buy 28-year-old Keith Scott for £300,000 from Stoke, and 31-year-old Paul Wilkinson for £500,000 from

local paper is disappointed to see Riseth leave. "He's very good with

his head," he said. "He scores plenty of goals with it, and makes them for others. He plays well, and will get better, and I think he is right for the English football."

latest import to wrap up the paper-work details on Monday, he dis-

prepared for another player, name. position and club undisclosed, to boost the chances of pulling away from the foot of the First Division.

## Town's season at a glance.... APPEARANCES... GOALS

**ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE DIV I** 

6,427 1, 8,550 20 976 22

COCA-COLA CUP (First Round) August 1995

15 **Bournem'th (H)** 1-1 (Marshall ) 2,728 22 Bournemouth (A) 1-2 (aet) (M Johnson) 4,844 (Bournemouth win 3-2 on aggregate)
ANGLO ITALIAN CUP

October 11

Genoa (A) 0-4

**AERIAL BATTLE: Steve Davis stretches in** 

Brom under first-half pressure

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	Leicester	12	2	2	2	10	10	4	2	0	9	4	
	Millwall	12	2	2	2	6	6	4	2	0	7	3	
	West Brom	12	4	1	1	8	3	2	2	2	9	9	
	Sunderland	12	2	3	1	8	6	3	2	1	6	5	
ı	Birmingham	12	3	3	0	9	3	2	1	3	10	9	
ı	Norwich	12	3	2	1	7	4	2	2	2	10	9	
ı	Barnsley	12	3	2	1	10	11	2	1	3	9	13	
1	Tranmere	11	2	3	1	10	8	2	2	1	7	4	
ı	Charlton	12	3	2	1	9	6	1	3	2	7	6	
ı	Oldham	12	3	2	1	11	6	1	3	2	5	6	
ı	Grimsby	12	2	4	0	6	4	2	1	3	6	8	
ı	Southend	12	4	1	1	7	4	1	1	4	5	9	
	Ipswich	12	4	0	2	14	10	0	4	2	6	8	
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	Reading	12	3	1	2	12	10	0	5	1	4	6	
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	Derby Co	12	1	4	1	5	5	2	1	3	8	11	
	C.Palace	11	1	3	1	6	6	2	2	2	6	7	
	Wolves	12	2	2	2	9	8	1	2	3	7	10	
	Watford	12	2	2	2	8	6	1	2	3	7	10	
ı	Sheff Utd	12	2	ĩ	3	8	10	1	1	4	8	12	
ı	Portsmouth	12	1	2	3	6	8	1	2	3	8		
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t Brom	12	4	1	1	8	3	2	2	2	9	9	2:
derland	12	2	3	1	8	6	3	2	1	6	5	20
ningham	12		3	0	9	3	2	1	3	10	9	10
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isley	12	3	2	1	10	11	2	1	3	9	13	15
mere	11	2	3	1	10	8	2	2	1	7	4	1
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rich	12	4	0	2	14	10	0	4	2	6	8	14
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mouth	12	1	2	3	6	8	1	2	3	8	11	10
Vale	12	0	2	4	4	10	2	2	2	6	5	10
n Town	12	1	1	4	7	11	1	2	3	2	5	9

League appearances (as S Davis.

Vilstrup

Thorpe.

Oakes

Thorpe

Woodsford

Guentchev Oldfield Guentchev Marshall S Davis. . Feuer James Cup goals Hughes. M Johnson Taylor. Waddock K Davis G Johnson

Assists S Davis. Alexander Anglo Italian Cup K Davies. Skelton S Davies. Thorpe . Guentchev League goals

Harvey

Alexander.

Assists

Thorpe James Waddock

Waddock Marshall and Mary Johnson 1 each
Assists Steve Johnson and Alexander 1 each long Carbone, a graduate of the ber of other clubs who were inter-

which brought him to the attention of oach Peter Swain a Tours of the state of the

"He's quick and strong, but of giving him a chance to make the don't expect him to play in every game for the rest of the season. But we needed someone, particularly

here I have been asked ridiculous In the last week Westley has

In Kongsvinger my oppo on the

And while Westley waits for his

ground.
TOWN: K. Davis; James
(Alexander 30 mins), S. Davis, M.
Johnson; Linton, McLaren,
Vilstrup, Harvey; Oakes,
Guentchev (Woodsford 57 mins),
Oldfield (Thorpe 73 mins), Unused
subs: G. Johnson, Chenery, Abbey

ATTENDANCE: 3,759, includ-

ing 200 from Luton. ENTERTAINMENT: Provided

almost entirely by Genoa, who played some lovely stuff. The Town were outclassed.

closed that he may be able to announce another deal before then After talking it over with chair man David Kohler, a bid has been