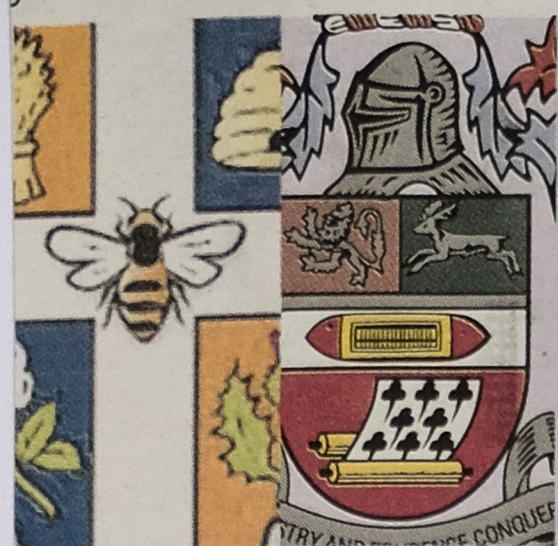




LEAGUE TWO

LOTON TOWN 0 ACCRINGTON 5 2

Brown 47, Gornell 84

Att: 7,467 Rating: ★★

Ref: Peter Bankes 5/10

15/16



PUNCH LINE:
Stanley keeper
Ross Etheridge
clears the danger

PICTURES:
Gareth Owen

By Mike Simmonds

ACCRINGTON STANLEY boss John Coleman has challenged his side to stay in the League Two automatic promotion spots after victory at Luton Town.

Goals from Scott Brown and Terry Gornell saw Stanley climb above Bristol Rovers and Plymouth Argyle to go into the top three for the first time this term.

And Coleman wants his troops to get comfortable.

"Now the next job is to stay there, that in itself will pose problems as there are some great teams below us, some great teams above us, and we class ourselves as a good side, so there's a lot to play for," he said.

"I thought it was a great advert for League Two football, on another day they could have gone in 2-0 up, but we missed a couple of chances ourselves in the first half.

"It was refreshing, they took the game to us and it was an open game of football. At times it was backs to the wall, they pinned us back but we stood firm and I thought we defended really well second half.

"It was a classic attacking performance and in the last 15 minutes we managed to force them back which was testament to how well the players have played."

Josh Windass fired an early warning narrowly past Elliot Justham's post as an action packed opening ten minutes saw Jack Marriott denied by Ross Etheridge from close range, before Gornell couldn't quite divert Sean McConville's excellent low cross into the net.

COLEMAN'S TOP-THREE AMBITIONS

Hatters should have been ahead on ten minutes though, when Marriott's shot wasn't held by Etheridge only for Josh McQuoid to somehow blast the rebound well over from five yards out.

Back came Accrington as Windass' angled volley drew a fine stop from Justham, who parried clear, while Cameron McGeehan might have done better too, side-footing wide after being picked out by Jonathan Smith's cross.

Gornell was only narrowly over from the dangerous Piero Mingoa's cross from the right as neither side could find a goal in the first period.

However, the deadlock was broken immediately in the second half as Windass sprinted away on the right and his cross was clinically tucked away by Brown.

Hatters had to bring on Paul Benson for the injured Marriott and he

glanced a chance over the top, while Gornell escaped the attentions of the home defence to shoot well over for the visitors.

Accrington then sealed victory with seven minutes to play, Gornell brilliantly glancing in Tariqe Fosu's excellent cross.

Luton chief Nathan Jones said: "It's disappointing, I thought performance-wise we showed a vast, vast improvement from last week.

"In terms of conceding weak goals, we did it at Barnet twice, at Stevenage, and we've done it here and I'm bitterly disappointed."

**STAR
MAN
PIERO
MINGOIA**
Accrington

LUTON: (4-3-3): Justham 6, O'Donnell 5, Rea 6, Sheehan 5, Potts 5 (Musonda 85 N/A), Smith 4 (Banton 73 5), Lee 5, Ruddock Mpanzu 6, McGeehan 5, McQuoid 4, Marriott 6 (Benson 61 5)
Subs not used: King, Lawless, Pigott, Justin
ACCRINGTON: (4-5-1): Etheridge 6, Halliday 8, Davies 7, Hughes 7, Pearson 7, Mingoa 9, Brown 7, Conneely 7, Windass 8, McConville 8 (Fosu 72 7), Gornell 8
Subs not used: Winnard, Proctor, Little, McCartan, Buxton, Mooney



ALL OVER: Terry Gornell enjoys scoring the second