



D. Duncan

OFFICIAL JOURNAL



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Football League—Division II

Wednesday, 27th August, 1952

Luton Town v. Birmingham City

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CLUB NOTES

WE begin our home League II programme of the 1952/53 season with a very attractive game, for we have as our opponents the "Blues" from Birmingham, who so narrowly missed gaining promotion last season. This is the team we seem unable to beat, for not once since football was resumed after the war have we been able to finish on the winning side. At each encounter we naturally hope to change this state of affairs, and of course this one is no exception for we do want to start off our home programme with a nice win, especially after our defeat at the hands of a newly promoted Argyle at Plymouth last Saturday. It was lost by the narrowest of margins, but that does not alter the fact that no points were gained. Birmingham did well to make a draw of their match at Rotherham last Saturday, and are no doubt hoping to at least repeat that result here tonight. The "Blues" have always been noted for their strong defence, conceding only 56 goals in their 42 League II matches last season, a very good performance beaten only in our Division by Cardiff City, who had two goals less scored against them. Birmingham have undoubtedly a great deal to thank their International Goalkeeper, Gilbert Merrick for having so few goals scored "against," for he is a goalkeeper who is always consistently good, or so we have always found him.

The conditions at Plymouth last Saturday, were anything but ideal for football. The heat was almost tropical, and they were two very tired teams as they left the field. We of course expected a very hard match for undoubtedly the Argyle wanted to show their supporters that their form last season was no flash in the pan. Our forwards just could not seem to get going, although when they did open their scoring with a goal ten minutes from the end by Bernard Moore after good work by Hugh McJarrow, no one would have been surprised if we had obtained an equaliser. But it was not to be and so Argyle start off with their first big obstacle safely surmounted.

We wish to take this first opportunity of welcoming Jesse Pye to our midst, hoping he will quickly settle down in his new surroundings and be very happy here. He showed us in the practice match that he has not lost any of his skill and that he will undoubtedly be an asset to the side. He played quite well at Plymouth and was our most effective forward.

The conditions here too were rather on the warm side for the Stiffs opening match, which they won quite comfortably in the end by five goals to

one, a very good start to the season. It was good to see Roy Davies stand up to the test so well on his first game after so serious an injury, and we are all hoping his progress will be maintained. Ron Baynham was another who took the eye with his spectacular but quite safe handling of the ball, especially of the high crosses. A very nice run by Jim Pemberton with a perfect pass to Gordon Turner, who had quietly moved in to position, gave him his second goal and a similar run by Roy Davies a few minutes later with a fine pass to Turner who headed in to be what everyone thought would have been Gordon's hat-trick was thwarted by a brilliant save on the part of the Bristol custodian. It is noticed that Bristol Rovers Reserves beat Bristol City Reserves on Monday evening by 4 clear goals. This result puts the Stiffs performance in even better light.

At the Board Meeting held last week it was decided to send a donation of one hundred guineas to the Mayor of Luton in support of his appeal for Funds towards those unfortunate people who lost their all at Lynmouth recently. In addition the Board thought it would be a nice gesture if the spectators at this match tonight were also given the opportunity of making a contribution. The collectors of the Luton Band have very kindly consented to come round with collecting boxes, and all the money so collected will go towards the Lynmouth Fund. We hope there will be a good response.

The Luton Band, we are pleased to say, will again be playing at First Team matches this season whenever they can, as they did last season. Mid-week matches are of course very difficult for them as some of them do not leave work until late, but those of them who can will be here this evening to play during the interval. The contributions you made last season were most welcome and were the means of just keeping the Band's Funds on the right side, although the new instruments and uniforms they are hoping to buy will have to wait a little longer until the necessary cash is at hand. So we are hoping you will all continue to make your contributions each time there is a collection, for it is used in helping to keep Luton well to the front in the Band world, as well as catering for your enjoyment here.

As you see on the cover we are including a photograph of our Team Manager, Douglas "Dally" Duncan. Each First Team programme there will be a similar photograph of a player, starting with our captain Sid Owen, on Saturday next, with a small write-up of his football career. We trust this will be a very popular feature of our programme.

THE COVERMAN—"Dally" Duncan, Team Manager

"Dally" Duncan was given this title by his father, for whenever he was sent anywhere would "dally" on the way, always with a ball at his feet. Left home when only 17 to join Hull City, becoming a professional player at 18. Was transferred to Derby County and while with them gained 9 caps playing for Scotland at outside left in home internationals, also an F.A.

Cup winners medal. Joined Luton Town 25th October, 1946, as player coach, taking over the position of player manager when George Martin left for Newcastle, June 1947, and becoming team manager 26th April, 1948. Believes in the adage so stressed by the great ones of the past, that if you continue to play football, good results will follow.

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Right Back

4
Morton
Right Half

7
Sexton
Outside Right

8
McJarrow
Inside Right

Referee—
Mr. G. W. THORPE
(Swindon)

11
Wardle
Outside Left

10
Murphy
Inside Left

6
Warhurst
Left Half

3
Martin
Left Back

BIRMINGHAM CITY

Shirts Blue
Knickers White
Stockings Blue and White Rings

Streten
Goal

3
Aherne
Left Back

6
Watkins
Left Half

10
Pye
Inside Left

11
Mitchell
Outside Left

Linesmen—
Red Flag: Mr. N. W. COLLOP
(Coulsdon, Surrey)
Orange Flag: Mr. P. H. T. STRATEN
(Romford)



9
Briggs
Centre

8
Purdon
Inside Right

7
Stewart
Outside Right

5
Badham
Centre Half

2
Green
Right Back

Merrick
Goal

Football League—Division II

Kick-Off 6.30 p.m.

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TODAY'S HALF-TIME SCORES

NOTE: The letter in the Programme corresponds with the letter on the Board—thus A 0-1 means that the first-named club has scored 0 and their opponents 1.

FIRST LIST

A
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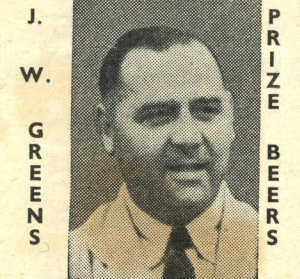
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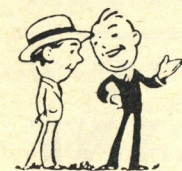
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FIXTURES 1952-3

FIRST XI Division II

F. A.

RESERVE FIXTURES Football Combination F. A.

Date	Time	Home	Away	Score
Sat., Aug. 23		Plymouth Argyle	...	1 2 A
Wed., .. 27		Birmingham City	...	2 4 H
Sat., .. 30		Rotherham United	...	1 1 H
Wed., Sept. 3		Birmingham City	...	1 3 A
Sat., .. 6		Fulham	...	...
Wed., .. 10		Swansea Town	...	2 2 H
Sat., .. 13		West Ham United	...	6 1 H
Thurs., .. 18		Swansea Town	...	3 0 A
Sat., .. 20		Leicester City	...	3 3 A
Sat., .. 27		Notts County	...	6 0 H
Sat., Oct. 4		Southampton	...	3 2 A
Sat., .. 11		Huddersfield	...	...
Sat., .. 18		Sheffield United	...	2 1 H
Sat., .. 25		Barnsley	...	2 1 A
Sat., Nov. 1		Lincoln City	...	...
Sat., .. 8		Hull City	...	2 1 A
Sat., .. 15		Blackburn Rovers	...	1 1 H
Sat., .. 22		Nottingham Forest	...	0 2 A
Sat., .. 29		Everton	...	1 1 H
Sat., Dec. 6		Brentford	...	3 3 A
Sat., .. 13		Doncaster Rovers	...	1 4 H
Sat., .. 20		Plymouth Argyle	...	...
Fri., .. 26		Leeds United	...	2 1 H
Sat., .. 27		Leeds United	...	1 1 A
Sat., Jan. 3		Rotherham United	...	1 0 A
Sat., .. 10		F.A. Cup—Round 3	...	...
Sat., .. 17		Fulham	...	...
Sat., .. 24		West Ham United	...	0 3 A
Sat., .. 31		F.A. Cup—Round 4	...	...
Sat., Feb. 7		Leicester City	...	1 2 H
Sat., .. 14		Notts County (5)	...	4 5 A
Sat., .. 21		Southampton	...	2 1 H
Sat., .. 28		Huddersfield (6)	...	...
Sat., Mar. 7		Sheffield United	...	0 3 A
Sat., .. 14		Barnsley	...	4 2 H
Sat., .. 21		Lincoln City	...	...
Sat., .. 28		Hull City	...	1 1 H
Fri., April 3		Bury	...	1 0 A
Sat., .. 4		Blackburn Rovers	...	1 2 A
Mon., .. 6		Bury	...	2 1 H
Sat., .. 11		Nottingham Forest	...	3 3 H
Sat., .. 18		Everton	...	3 1 A
Sat., .. 25		Brentford	...	0 2 H
Sat., May 2		Doncaster Rovers	...	1 1 A

Date	Time	Home	Away	Score
Sat., Aug. 23		Bristol Rovers	...	2 7 H 5 1
Thurs., .. 28		Queens Park Rangers	...	...
Sat., .. 30		Watford	...	1 1 A
Wed., Sept. 3		Brighton & Hove A.	...	2 3 H
Sat., .. 6		Southend United	...	...
Thurs., .. 13		Leiston Orient	...	...
Sat., .. 13		Bournemouth & B.	...	0 4 A
Wed., .. 17		Leiston Orient	...	...
Sat., .. 20		Aldershot	...	...
Sat., .. 27		Leicester City	...	...
Wed., Oct. 1		Brighton & Hove Albion	...	4 4 A
Sat., .. 4		Bristol City	...	5 2 H
Wed., .. 8		Swindon Town	...	1 1 A
Sat., .. 11		Swansea Town	...	...
Wed., .. 15		Swindon Town	...	3 3 H
Sat., .. 18		Ipswich Town	...	1 1 A
Sat., .. 25		Crystal Palace	...	...
Sat., Nov. 1		Brentford	...	...
Sat., .. 8		Brentford	...	...
Sat., .. 15		Southend United	...	...
Sat., .. 22		Queens Park Rangers	...	...
Sat., .. 29		Bristol City	...	0 1 A
Sat., Dec. 6		Bournemouth & B.	...	2 1 H
Sat., .. 13		Crystal Palace	...	...
Sat., .. 20		Bristol Rovers	...	3 2 A
Thurs., .. 25		Aldershot	...	...
Sat., .. 27		Ipswich Town	...	1 2 H
Sat., Jan. 3		Watford	...	2 1 A
Sat., .. 10	
Sat., .. 17		Swansea Town	...	...
Sat., .. 24		Leicester City	...	...
Combination Cup				
Sat., Jan. 31		Watford	...	0 2 H
Sat., Feb. 7		Coventry City	...	1 1 A
Sat., .. 14		Coventry City	...	2 2 H
Sat., .. 21		Leicester City	...	2 4 A
Sat., .. 28	
Sat., Mar. 7		Northampton Town	...	5 3 H
Sat., .. 14		Ipswich Town	...	1 3 A
Sat., .. 21		Norwich City	...	1 1 A
Sat., .. 28		Watford	...	1 2 A
Fri., April 3		Norwich City	...	6 2 H
Sat., .. 4		Ipswich Town	...	4 0 H
Sat., .. 11		Northampton Town	...	1 1 A
Sat., .. 18		Birmingham City	...	3 3 H
Sat., .. 25	
To be arranged				
..		Birmingham City	...	3 3 A
..		Leicester City	...	1 1 H

League Table, 1951-52

FINAL POSITIONS

LEAGUE DIVISION II

Club	Pld.	Won	Drn.	Lost	For	Agst.	P.
Sheffield Wed.	42	21	11	10	100	66	53
Cardiff City	42	20	11	11	72	54	51
BIRMINGHAM CITY	42	21	9	12	67	56	51
Notts Forest	42	18	13	11	77	62	49
Leicester City	42	19	9	14	78	64	47
Leeds United	42	18	11	13	59	57	47
Everton	42	17	10	15	64	58	44
LUTON TOWN	42	16	12	14	77	78	44
Rotherham Utd.	42	17	8	17	73	78	42
Brentford	42	15	12	15	54	55	41
Sheffield United	42	18	5	19	90	76	41
West Ham United	42	15	11	16	67	77	41
Southampton	42	15	11	16	61	73	41
Blackburn Rovers	42	17	6	19	54	63	40
Notts County	42	16	7	19	71	68	39
Doncaster Rovers	42	13	12	17	55	60	38
Bury	42	15	7	20	64	68	37
Hull City	42	13	11	18	60	70	37
Swansea Town	42	12	12	18	72	76	36
Barnsley	42	11	14	17	59	72	36
Coventry City	42	14	6	22	59	82	34
Queens Park Rangers	42	11	12	19	52	81	34

NEXT MATCHES

Saturday, 30th August, 1952

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION II

Luton T. v. Rotherham U.

Kick-Off 3 p.m.

Prices of Admission

Centre Stand 7/6 : Wing Stands 5/-
Enclosure (standing only) 3/6, Boys 2/-
Bobbars Stand (covered) 2/-
Terraces (not covered) 1/9 Boys 1/-

Wednesday, 3rd September

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Luton T. Res. v. Brighton Res.

Kick-Off 6.15 p.m.

Prices of Admission: Centre Stand 2/-
Wing Stands & Enclosure 1/6, Boys 1/-
Bobbars Stand (covered) 1/3
Terraces (not covered) 1/- Boys 9d.
All Prices include Entertainment Tax

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