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Telegrams : "Football, Stoke-on-Trent"

STOKE CITY

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Manager : Tony Waddington

Secretary : W. C. Williams

SPOTLIGHT



Even if not achieving any soccer spectaculars, Stoke City can point to steady, consistent progress after a decidedly faltering start to their 1960-61 campaign.

A gain of six points from the last four games, two of which have been "away" engagements, provides a very satisfying recovery from the City's earlier football set-backs, and although our League position today—third from the foot of Division Two and still in the danger zone—is not a matter for any elation, it is a reflection on how much more serious the club's status might have been.

A run of four matches without defeat, however, suggests that Stoke have gained a far firmer grip on their soccer affairs generally. It cannot yet be claimed that all is well and ship-shape with the City, but on the evidence of recent games the club appear to have lifted themselves clear

of their earlier defensive rut. In the last four games Stoke have conceded only one goal, which is big headway on the three prior matches in which our club collected a total of ten goals in the "against" column.

A sound defence, it is claimed, is the basis of soccer success, and on that count Stoke can point to an advance. Is this new defensive pattern, however, operating to the detriment of the City's attacking set-up? In ten games we have scored four "home" goals and three "away."

That is a shoe-string return indicative of improved defence at the expense of impaired attack. In away games, in particular, Stoke, as a policy, accent a defensive technique, and the result, though perhaps dictated by circumstances, is reduced creative ability and less attractive soccer. "ARGUS."

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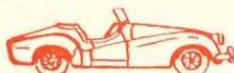
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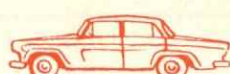
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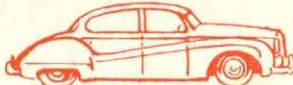
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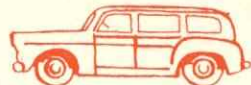
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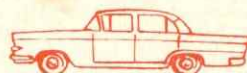
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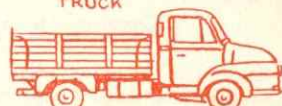
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Saturday, 1st October, 1960.

Kick-off 3-15 p.m.

Our Visitors . . .

LUTON TOWN



After a lapse of six seasons we welcome back Luton Town to the Victoria Ground this afternoon following their relegation from Division I at the end of last term.

Luton, popularly known as the "Hatters," spoiled a 75 years record by their bottom-of-the-table placing in the last campaign for it was the first time the club had been relegated since its foundation.

The first club in the South to employ professional players, Luton Town was formed in 1885 by the amalgamation of "Luton Wanderers" with "Luton Excelsior." After a period in the Southern League they were elected to Division II in 1897, but three seasons later failed to gain re-election and spent a further 15 years in the Southern League up to the beginning of the First World War.

They became members of Division III in season 1920-21 and League III (South) members from 1921-37 when they gained promotion to Division II.

In the 1954-55 campaign Town finished as runners-up for promotion to Division I where they remained until a disastrous return of 30 points from 42 games (50 goals against 73) brought their demotion last term.

Town are currently managed by former Charlton goalkeeper and York City boss, Sam Bartram.

Pen pictures of the Luton players are as follows :—

Ron Baynham (goal)—Joined Luton from Southern League side, Worcester City, in 1951. Played for England on several occasions including matches against Denmark, Ireland and Spain. Has also represented the Football League side twice and was in the England 'B' team against Yugoslavia 'B'.

Seamus Dunne (right back)—Signed from Eire club, Shelbourne, ten years ago he has represented Eire on numerous occasions in the last seven seasons. A strong, hard tackler.

Ken Hawkes (left back)—Made 22 senior team appearances last season. Born in Co. Durham he was signed by Luton from Shotton.

Brendan McNally (full back)—Another signing from Shelbourne, in May, 1956. Has played for the Eire and Eire 'B' teams and is equally at home in either full back position.

Bob Morton (right half)—Local born, he joined the club in 1948. Has been included in England 'B,' Football Combination and Football Association representative teams. Also chosen as an England reserve in 1955 and 1958. Is also a competent leader of the attack in an emergency.

John Groves (centre half)—Signed by Luton when only 15 after winning Derbyshire Schoolboy honours. Makes skilful use of his height and distributes the ball accurately. Has frequently played at inside forward.

Terry Kelly (centre half)—Local born, he played for Hitchin Town and a local works team before joining Luton in 1950. Converted from wing half.

Dave Pacey (left half)—Joined Town in 1956 as a National Serviceman. Two seasons later he was selected by the Football Association for their match against the R.A.F. A regular member of Luton's senior side, he has twice been chosen for the England Under-23 team.

Billy Bingham (outside right)—Came to Luton from Sunderland during the 1958 close season at Town's highest ever transfer fee. A leading Irish international he has played in every match for his country in the past eight seasons.

Gordon Turner (inside right)—Came to Luton as a wing half after demobilisation from the Navy and was later converted to inside forward. Represented the English League versus the Scottish League in 1955 and played for an F.A. eleven against the Army in 1958.

Allan Brown (centre forward)—A Scottish international signed from Blackpool in 1957. Unlucky to miss two Cup Finals while at Blackpool through injuries but was a member of Luton's Cup Final team. Is also a competent wing half performer.

Hugh McBride (inside left)—A former Wolves player who came to Luton when he was unable to command a regular senior team place for the Staffordshire club. Has also played for Kilmarnock.

Mike Tracey (outside left)—A former English Amateur International, he is now a full-time professional for Town. Played for Lancashire from 1954 to 1956 and in 1958 won an F.A. Amateur Cup Final medal while with Crook Town. In his last amateur season he represented England against Western Germany, Holland and Scotland.

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SKEELS (4) ANDREW (5) ASPREY (6)
BENTLEY (7) RATCLIFFE (8) KING (9) HOWITT (10) WILSHAW (11)

Referee :—
H. P. HACKNEY,
(Barnsley)



Linesmen :—
R. Egan, Yellow Flag
F. Giles, Red Flag

IMLACH (11) TRACEY (10) McBRIDE (9) TURNER (8) BINGHAM (7)
PACEY (6) GROVES (5) MORTON (4)
HAWKES (3) O'HARA DUNNE (2)

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LUTON TOWN

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Club Soccer Topics . . .

"Gates" at Victoria Ground matches continue to be far below the level required for the economic self-sufficiency of our club. Attendances in the four senior team home games to date have aggregated 49,420, an average of under 12,500. And, as one of the attendance figures was 14,690, it is a disturbing pointer to the shrinking volume of soccer viewers. Last season's "gate" of 15,000 involved the Stoke club in a loss. For economic operational purposes our club needs an average home match attendance of at least 18,000.

In their quest for a left winger for first team requirements Stoke made an approach to Arsenal F.C. regarding Joe Haverty, Dublin-born Irishman. Manager George Swindin's reaction to City's transfer overture, however, was short and to the point. Arsenal, he made it clear, are not parting with Haverty.

Discount reports that Stoke have a transfer interest in Roy Isherwood, Blackburn Rovers' reserve right winger, and Louis Bimpson, Blackburn forward. "Stoke have not had an interest in either player," says City Manager (Mr. Tony Waddington).

John McCue, former Stoke City full back, is having a month's soccer trial with the Oldham Athletic club.

How's this for a chapter of soccer accidents. In a recent group of matches each of the City's four teams had only ten effective players. At Derby County, the senior team had John Anderson injured for three parts of the game; at home to Derby, our Reserves had Bob Cairns injured after twenty minutes; in the Third team Paul Dobell was an injury victim after ten minutes; and Fourth team goalkeeper Bill Billington had injured ribs.

Bill Johnson (goal), Les Parton (full back) and Gerald Bridgewood and Alan McGrath, inside forwards, were four of Stoke's young amateurs selected for the Staffordshire v. Shropshire inter-county game at Shrewsbury.

Holders of Cup Final ticket winning programmes for the Stoke v. Sheffield United and Portsmouth games respectively were:—(3529) Mr. G. Shenton, 9, Fraser Street, Cobridge; and (1590) Miss G. Rigby 18, Elm Place, Blurton.

CLUB SOCCER TOPICS . . .

Soccer dates :—October 5th—F.A. Youth Cup, 1st round, Stoke v. Mansfield, Victoria Ground, 7-15. October 10th—Supporters' Cup, Port Vale v. Stoke City (1st leg at Vale Park) 7-15. October 18th—League Floodlit Cup (2nd round), Doncaster Rovers v. Stoke City, 7-15. (Reserved tickets are available for this game for stand accommodation, prices 5/6d. and 3/6d.)

Geoff Hickson, City's Reserve team goalkeeper, is due shortly for National Service call-up.

Joint membership of the Stoke Supporters' Club, and Sportsmen's Association is steadily expanding. It now totals 1,300 and a target figure of 3,000 is aimed at by the end of the year. As funds accrue, they are to be made available to the parent Stoke club for meeting the costs of the new Booth stand.

Approval, it is announced, has also been given to the plan for erecting a new social club and headquarters for the two Supporters' organisations on a site in Booth Road opposite to the new Booth stand. Work on the project is to start about next April and it is planned to have the new club headquarters available to members before the start of the next soccer season. Cost of the scheme is in the region of £15,000.

After giving soccer trials at the Victoria Ground to two young Rhyl F.C. wing half backs, William Winder and Roy Griffiths, Stoke have signed both players as full time professionals. Both players are aged 18.

HALF-TIME SCORES

announced by public address system



Bristol R. v. Swansea.....
 Charlton v. Portsm'th.....
 Leeds U. v. Ipswich.....
 Liverpool v. Derby C.....
 Middlesbro v. Brighton.....
 Norwich C v. Huddersfield.....
 Plymouth v. Sunderland.....
 Rotherham v. Leyton.....
 Sheff. U. v. Lincoln.....
 South'pton v. Scunthorpe.....
 Swindon v. Port Vale.....
 Workington v. Crewe.....

Second Division

FIXTURE LIST 1960-61

Central League

Date	Opponents	Goals		Date	Opponents	Goals	
		F	A			F	A
1960				1960			
Aug. 20	Plymouth Argyle.....A	1	3	Aug. 20	Aston Villa.....H	1	2
" 22	Sunderland.....H	0	0	" 24	Barnsley.....A	1	2
" 27	Norwich City.....H	1	1	" 27	Bolton Wanderers.....A	1	4
" 31	Sunderland.....A	0	4	" 29	Barnsley.....H	1	2
Sept. 3	Charlton Athletic.....A	1	3	Sept. 3	Wolverhampton W.....H	2	2
" 7	Portsmouth.....A	0	1	" 5	Blackburn Rovers.....H	0	3
" 10	Sheffield United.....H	2	0	" 10	Sheffield United.....A	0	0
" 12	Portsmouth.....H	1	0	" 14	Blackburn Rovers.....A	1	4
" 17	Derby County.....A	1	1	" 17	Derby County.....H	1	1
" 24	Swansea Town.....A	0	0	" 24	Blackpool.....H	2	1
Oct. 1	Luton Town.....H			Oct. 1	Everton.....A		
" 8	Leyton Orient.....H			" 8	Preston North End.....A		
" 15	Scunthorpe United.....A			" 15	Liverpool.....H		
" 22	Ipswich Town.....H			" 22	Burnley.....A		
" 29	Brighton & Hove Albion.....A			" 29	Manchester City.....H		
Nov. 5	(1) Middlesbrough.....H			Nov. 5	Leeds United.....A		
" 12	Leeds United.....A			" 12	Newcastle United.....H		
" 19	Southampton.....H			" 19	West Bromwich Albion.....A		
" 26	(2) Rotherham United.....A			" 26	Bury.....H		
Dec. 3	Liverpool.....H			Dec. 3	Chesterfield.....A		
" 10	Bristol Rovers.....A			" 10	Sheffield Wednesday.....H		
" 17	Plymouth Argyle.....H			" 17	Aston Villa.....A		
" 24	Huddersfield Town.....H			" 24	Manchester United.....A		
" 26	Huddersfield Town.....A			" 26	Manchester United.....H		
" 31	Norwich City.....A			" 31	Bolton Wanderers.....H		
1961				1961			
Jan. 7	(3) Charlton Athletic.....H			Jan. 7	Wolverhampton W.....A		
" 14	Sheffield United.....A			" 14	Sheffield United.....H		
" 21	(4) Derby County.....H			" 21	Huddersfield Town.....H		
Feb. 4	Swansea Town.....H			Feb. 4	Derby County.....A		
" 11	(5) Luton Town.....A			" 11	Blackpool.....A		
" 18	Leyton Orient.....A			" 18	Everton.....H		
" 25	(6) Scunthorpe United.....H			" 25	Preston North End.....H		
Mar. 4	Ipswich Town.....A			Mar. 4	Liverpool.....A		
" 11	(S.F.) Bristol Rovers.....H			" 11	Burnley.....H		
" 18	Middlesbrough.....A			" 18	Manchester City.....A		
" 25	Lincoln City.....A			" 25	Leeds United.....H		
" 31	Rotherham United.....H			" 25	Newcastle United.....A		
April 1	Lincoln City.....H			April 1	Huddersfield Town.....A		
" 3	Southampton.....A			" 4	West Bromwich Albion.....H		
" 8	Leeds United.....H			" 8	Bury.....A		
" 15	Liverpool.....A			" 15	Chesterfield.....H		
" 22	Brighton & Hove Albion.....H			" 22	Sheffield Wednesday.....A		
" 29	(Final)			" 29			
May 6				May 6			



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