

YEOVIL'S SPEED LEAVES BATH BEHIND

Hamilton, Foulds Score

BATH City unexpectedly had more of the play in the first 20 minutes of their match against Yeovil at Twerton Park to-day.

The Yeovil goal had two narrow escapes from the Bath forward who seemed the more aggressive.

Shortly after the kick-off Bath were given a free kick which Onslow played past the post. Snook, Bath right winger, had to follow through his own pass when he was not accepted, but he was robbed by the advancing side. Yeovil retaliated through Mansley and Ray, and Yeovil looked as though they might score. But Mills, Bath's inside left, came back to help Corbett baulk the attack.

Then followed Yeovil's two escapes. A bad clearance by a Yeovil defender after a high ball from Mills, was seized by Kelly. He pushed another shot in and Snook rushed to take it, but was robbed on the goal-line. From the corner which followed, the ball went from Kelly across the goal to McManus, and then to Mason, who blazed in a shot which hit the cross-bar.

Yeovil swung into action more, seized control of the game and after 27 minutes scored. Rae, on the right wing, managed to elude the watchful Corbett and centred. FOULDS smashed it past Cousins.

Bath were now on the defensive and Cousins had to fust clear when Rae bored in from the right again. Ted Owens, Bath's right back, headed clear on the goal line a minute later with Cousins out of position.

At one time for about two minutes, none of the Yeovil side except their forwards touched the ball. When Kelly broke away and tried to initiate a Bath attack, there was no-one up with him. Yeovil's superior speed was demonstrated with their second goal. HAMILTON fastened on to a pass, flashed past Owens and screwed in a diagonal shot past Cousins. Half-time: Bath City 0, Yeovil 2.

The game had been fierce in the first half, with the Yeovil team eventually winning superiority through the speed with which they fastened on to the loose ball when it came out of the scramble. The second half opened with less intense play, but with Bath obviously determined to go on fighting.

McManus ran on to a long pass from Mill, but as he raced goalwards Hickman harassed him so much that the Bath forward put his running shot well past the upright. Kelly and Snook managed to work their way past Mavis, and Snook took the ball through the Yeovil defence to McManus, standing all alone on the left. But he wasted a perfect chance by sending his shot over the crossbar.

Dyke's Fine Work in Merthyr Match

YEOVIL FALL FOR OFFSIDE TRAP

Always welcome to the Welsh town, Yeovil were given a hearty welcome when they came on to the field against Merthyr Tydfil.

BOTH sides attacked in the opening minutes. Outside-right Coffey sneaking through for Yeovil only to be robbed of the ball by Phillips.

Merthyr were quick to fight back, and finding a gap in the Yeovil defence, Centre-forward Jarman sent Winger Jackson through.

Keeton and Hickman easily cleared, however, and at the other end Foulds was only stopped by a determined defence when he attempted a solo effort up the middle.

Yeovil had a narrow escape after 8 minutes, when half-back Lowe centred into the goalmouth. Jarman shot at Dyke, and only desperate work by Davis and Hickman cleared the loose ball as Merthyr crowded round.

Thrills continued, a grand save by Sellick in the Merthyr goal stopping a long dropping shot by Haines.

Davis, the Merthyr inside-left, was carried off after 13 minutes, but returned later.

Merthyr pressed hard, and the Somerset side had a narrow escape when, following a centre from McIlvenny, Jarman headed against the cross-bar. From the rebound Lloyd sent in a first-time drive, Dyke winning applause with a brilliant save.

Coffey and Mansley continued to be dangerous at every opportunity, and were being carefully watched by the Welshmen. Yeovil's efforts were nullified by their falling easy victims to the off-side trap repeatedly set by Merthyr.

Just before the interval they were under heavy pressure and, with their defence proving shaky at times, were fortunate to escape, especially when, with Dyke beaten, a long-range drive from Lowe struck the cross-bar from 35 yards.

Half-time:

MERTHYR TYDFIL 0
YEOVIL TOWN 0

Merthyr again attacked for Jackson to miss an almost certain score following a well-placed pass from Davis. Although showing a little more cohesion, the Yeovil defence was still being rattled too easily, and the forward line was lacking in enthusiasm when near goal.

Merthyr continued to be the more aggressive, and the Yeovil goal bore a charmed life, shots from all angles sometimes being stopped more by luck, it seemed, than by judgment.

The Welsh club piled on the pressure, but Davis crashed the ball into the side rigging and McIlvenny shot wide of the upright.

Then in a sudden breakaway only a brilliant save by Shellick stopped Yeovil taking the lead against the run of play. A similar feat by Dyke saw a pointblank shot by Jarman safely held.

Result:

MERTHYR TYDFIL 1
YEOVIL TOWN 0

CUP-TIE TEAM AT BEDFORD

Despite Lapses Yeovil Succeed

BRINGING the side to Bedford which played in the 5th Round FA Cup tie at Manchester, Yeovil were given a great welcome. Bedford had to re-arrange their

forward line owing to Trevor Smith, the old Yeovil player, going down with influenza on Friday.

In the opening minute Dyke relieved an awkward situation for Yeovil as Kinnear was racing through and at the other end Wright twice made good efforts testing the goal keeper and then shooting too high. Bicknell cleared well after a clever raid by Stock and Hamilton. During further Yeovil pressure Roy missed a fine chance and Wright almost scored, the goal keeper turning his header against the bar.

Bedford's right-winger Hallam, left the field injured and was taken to hospital. Despite handicap the home forwards launched several dangerous counter-attacks. Sharp went close with a high dropping shot and Comerford harassed Dyke. After 38 minutes Yeovil went ahead through BRYANT who headed past Coleman from Stock's pass. Half-time: Bedford Town 0, Yeovil 1.

ROY quickly increased Yeovil's lead, the ball coming off the cross bar. Bryant and Stock made further attempts to crack Bedford's overworked defence. A third goal by Yeovil was a practical certainty when Bryant slipped through but he judged his shot badly and hit the side net. Kinnear slipped by Blizzard but Dyke who had been almost neglected cleared. Kinnear missed an open goal following a run by Watling.