

MONDAY SOCCER VERDICT



Spurs try
to tame the
angry Villa

RICARDO VILLA
has been told to
"cool it" by Tot-
tenham manager
Keith Burkinshaw.

An impressive victory that knocked Forest from the top of the table and extended Tottenham's unbeaten run to seven games had Burkinshaw admitting he is concerned about Villa's temper.

Three incidents were mainly responsible for Burkinshaw sending Pat Welton, his assistant, from the directors' box to the touchline in the second half with a general order to "calm down."

Excitable

The excitable Villa—outstanding after the interval, it should be said—was involved in all of them.

Just before half-time, Kenny Burns fouled Osvaldo Ardiles and Villa jumped in to knock over the Scot.

Villa was booked for a 57-minute foul on Trevor Francis... then reacted angrily after being chopped down by Burns.

The bearded Villa had a huge hole in his sock as evidence of the ferocity of that Burns challenge.

Brian Clough had con-

COOL IT!

By HARRY MILLER: Spurs 1, Nottm Forest 0

ceded that Spurs were worth their win and was heading for home as Burkinshaw said: "Ricky is tending to lose his temper a little bit."

"He gets a bit volatile about things and I'm getting a bit scared about it."

"The big fellow is emotional. He is easily upset. But last week, when we won at Leeds, Ricky was aggressive

without losing his temper.

"I've had a word with him. I've told him to cool down."

Yet Burkinshaw is happy to admit that Tottenham are now a more successful side because his players have a physical edge to their game that was missing before.

"We've got plenty of skill," he says. "But in the past we have stood off and let other teams play."

"The best teams mix it a bit. We're starting to do that now."

Praise

The third-minute Glenn Hoddle goal—his ninth of the season—that won it for Tottenham was described as "World Cup class" by Clough.

On an afternoon when Spurs, with better finishing, might easily have won by four or five goals, Clough said: "We like to control a game. We never got a chance to control this one."

Hoddle, who cannot be far away from his first full England call-up, outshone Forest stars such as Francis and Tony Woodcock.

BEATTIE BATTLING FOR ENGLAND SPOT

Ipswich 1, Middlesbrough 0

IPSWICH defender Kevin Beattie finally returned to First Division action after a six-month absence and is determined to win back his England place.

He said: "It will take me one or two games to get back to my best, but my aim obviously is to fight back into England reckoning."

"It has been very frustrating suffering injury after injury, but I never really felt my playing days might be over. Now hopefully that's behind me."

Manager Bobby Robson said: "There are still things we need to get right, but our defence was a lot stronger."

Scottish striker Alan Brazil grabbed Ipswich's vital winner in the 66th minute when he hammered home a defence-splitting pass from Dutchman Frans Thijssen.

RUGBY SECOND DIVISION SCENE

Cup blow for Aberavon

By TOM LYONS

ABERAVON flanker and acting captain Richie Davies on Saturday became the fourth player sent off this season in first-class Welsh rugby.

Davies was dismissed in the second half of a rough clash at Bridgend for a late tackle on winger Ian Davies.

Absent

Aberavon, who lost 19-10, will now be without Richie for their first-round Welsh Cup clash against Maesteg on November 17.

Davies can expect a four-week suspension from the Welsh Rugby Union's disciplinary committee next week.

This is the punishment currently being handed out to first offenders.

CAMPBELL: I DON'T WANT A CONTRACT

By NIGEL CLARKE

Chelsea 0
Fulham 2

FULHAM manager Bobby Campbell will today reject the club's offer of a contract that would keep him at Craven Cottage for the rest of his working days.

Last week, after being linked with the Chelsea job, Campbell was fired, then hired again, and promised a contract for life by chairman Ernie

Clay. But Campbell says: "I didn't have a contract before, and I don't want one now."

"Nor does my assistant."

Ace Robbie caps the lot

Swansea 2, Oldham 0

SWANSEA player-manager John Toshack reckons Robbie James will be his natural successor for Wales, writes Tom Lyons.

The former Liverpool scoring ace said after ending Oldham's ten-match unbeaten run: "I won forty caps in ten years. Robbie's good enough to beat that."

The 22-year-old James toppled Oldham by scoring both second-half goals.



Flashpoint . . . Glenn Hoddle restrains Kenny Burns after a flare-up with Ricardo Villa, who comes second-best out of the argument.
Picture: MONTE FRESCO

Ball beaten but buoyant

By KEVIN MOSELEY

Southampton 1, Leeds 2

DESPITE their recent slump, Alan Ball believes Southampton are still set for a successful season.

After Saturday's shock home defeat, Ball declared: "We should be kicking ourselves for not being in the top three. My confidence in the team isn't damaged."

Manager Lawrie McMenemy may experiment in a testimonial match at Bristol Rovers this week, possibly partnering Chris Nicholl with England centre half Dave Watson.

Southampton would have run out easy winners against Leeds but for the inspired goal-keeping of 18-year-old John Lukie.

CUNNING KENNY LEADS WAY

THE only luxury Liverpool permitted themselves in a performance of grinding efficiency that suggested the micro-chip had replaced footballers, was something technology could not replace . . . the cunning of Kenny Dalglish.

If Dalglish, despite his two expertly executed goals, was not Liverpool's most influential player he was certainly the most impressive.

His pace and vision were the deciding factors of a Liverpool victory which marked a return to basics for the champions.

City were taken apart by football based on long-established Anfield principles that demand an economic, one-touch approach.

That, I believe, is where Liverpool had been going wrong. Too many players seemed to be suffering from delusions of grandeur and wanted to play football to match. There was no

By DEREK WALLIS

Man City 0
Liverpool 4

hint of it in a game in which Dalglish, Ray Kennedy, Graeme Souness and Alan Hansen started in what, however, was essentially a team performance.

I felt sorry for City as goals were plundered by David Johnson, Dalglish and Ray Kennedy. Yet to City's credit not once did they flinch or surrender.

Billy's back in business

By KEITH MEADOWS

Bolton 1, Crystal Palace 1

PALACE defender Billy Gilbert, detained in a Bolton hospital overnight with double vision and concussion, was given the all-clear and returned to London yesterday.

But his knockout bid to stop Neil Whatmore providing Alan Gowling with Bolton's 46th-minute goal paved the way for a point which Palace hardly deserved.

And 21-year-old substitute Neil Smillie celebrated his first taste of First Division football by grabbing only his second League goal with a coolly-taken 81st-minute equaliser.

Manager Terry Venables said: "I thought Neil would cause some damage and we could have won it as Bolton became panicky near the end."

Jim ambles in for 'Alp'

By TERRY SMITH

BIRMINGHAM 1, Shrewsbury 0
BIRMINGHAM manager Jim Smith, faced with a goal-scoring crisis, is ready to move on Wednesday for Scottish star Andy Ritchie.

Ritchie—known as the "Ambling Alp" because of his size and his deceptively lazy style—was voted Scotland's Player of the Year last season. He recently asked his club Morton for a move, though this was later withdrawn.

Smith is acutely aware that Birmingham's growing promotion challenge could result in a halt if he doesn't sign someone of Ritchie's calibre.

But Don Givens is determined to prove he's the man for the job. Eire international Givens made Birmingham's winner by Alan Ainscow and could have helped himself to a couple of goals.

PAT FLATTENS POOR COUNTY

PAT HOLLAND gave WEST HAM a massive confidence booster by snatching victory at NOTTS COUNTY with a brave second-half header.

It was the only goal of a game dominated by County. But they could not crack a determined Hammers' defence.

Off-form LUTON clung to the Second Division top spot with a 1-1 draw against PRESTON. A late David Moss penalty saved them.

Luton boss David Pleat hopes to sign SUNDERLAND striker Bob Lee, who scored in the Roker club's 2-1 defeat at LEICESTER.

Teenager Gary Lineker hit both Leicester's goals. NEWCASTLE are second to Luton only on

goal difference after dismantling CAMBRIDGE 2-0.

Cambridge were lucky to escape a goal avalanche, though boss John Docherty said: "Newcastle are not the best team we have played."

WREXHAM made light of fullback Terry Durracott's dismissal, adding another goal against woeful WATFORD for a 3-0 victory.

CHARLTON'S new team boss Mike Bailey, a ground staff boy at The Valley twenty-one years ago, made a happy return with a 3-2 win over CARDIFF.

Player coach Ralph Coates was the driving force behind ORIENT'S 2-1 trouncing of BRISTOL ROVERS.