

Sanchez starts to repay outlay as

Sam Wallace
CHIEF FOOTBALL
WRITER
at Huish Park



Yeovil Town **0**

Manchester United **4**

Rashford 41, Herrera 61, Lingard 89, Lukaku 90

Att: 9,195

The Alexis Sanchez era began at Manchester United with victory at Huish Park in the FA Cup fourth round, where the locals told him in no uncertain terms just what a waste of money they considered him before voting the English game's best-paid player the man of the match award.

A bit early for any definitive verdict, but there were two assists for Sanchez in a solid B-string performance against Yeovil Town, currently placed 87 places below United in the pyramid.

Jose Mourinho's team went through to the fifth round without any fuss, while Sanchez was kicked on more than one occasion, generous in creating Ander Herrera's goal, United's second, and came off after 71 minutes without calamity or injury.

It seems that Mourinho views him as a left-sided attacking player in much the same way as he was at Arsenal, and that was where he started with a few switches during the course of the game in which United finally took the lead before half-time through Marcus Rashford.

At Yeovil, where there are fears of a fall back into non-league this season, Sanchez, the highest-paid player in the Premier League, was an exotic curiosity.

It is not as if English football and all its strange rites is anything new to Sanchez, who has won two FA Cups himself and has nothing to fear from the English lower leagues, given his own tough route to the top from his hometown in northern Chile.

There was a risk for Mourinho in throwing him into a largely second-choice side, but United never looked in any trouble against a Yeovil side who barely got close to the away side's goal save for set-pieces. By the end, Mourinho

had sent on the 17-year-old Angel Gomes as a substitute for Rashford and, not long after, he almost scored, before finally Jesse Lingard, another substitute, was given the time and space to score the third and Romelu Lukaku the fourth.

There were 10 changes from the United side that beat Burnley on Saturday, with Juan Mata the sole survivor at Huish Park, not quite the tumultuous FA Cup cauldron of folklore but by no means an easy ride for the visitors.

That was evident from the first minute, when Francois Zoko picked up a booking for a foul on Marcos Rojo, before any of his team-mates had even managed a touch of the ball.

Darren Way, the Yeovil manager, had selected a two-man attack of Zoko and Sam Surridge to keep busy the defensive partnership of Rojo and Victor Lindelof, although one would be hard-pushed to say that they were much discomfited before the break.

The greatest Yeovil threat came from set-pieces. The enormous centre-half Omar Sowunmi went forward in search of the ball into the area and he forced a save out of Sergio Romero early on, without ever threatening again before half-time.

There was also the pace of left winger Jordan Green for United to think about when they did not have the ball, which was seldom during a first half of 73 per cent possession.

As captain, it was just Michael Carrick's second game of the season and he started in a midfield three with Herrera and Scott McTominay.

That left Sanchez cutting in on that famous right foot from the left side and, in the early stages, he seemed over-anxious to make an impact.

There was a wayward pass that turned over possession to Yeovil and another that went straight into the stand, the source of much delight to the home fans.

The new signing took precedence for free-kick duties in the first half and it was also him who created the opening goal for Rashford, or at least it was Sanchez who started the move.

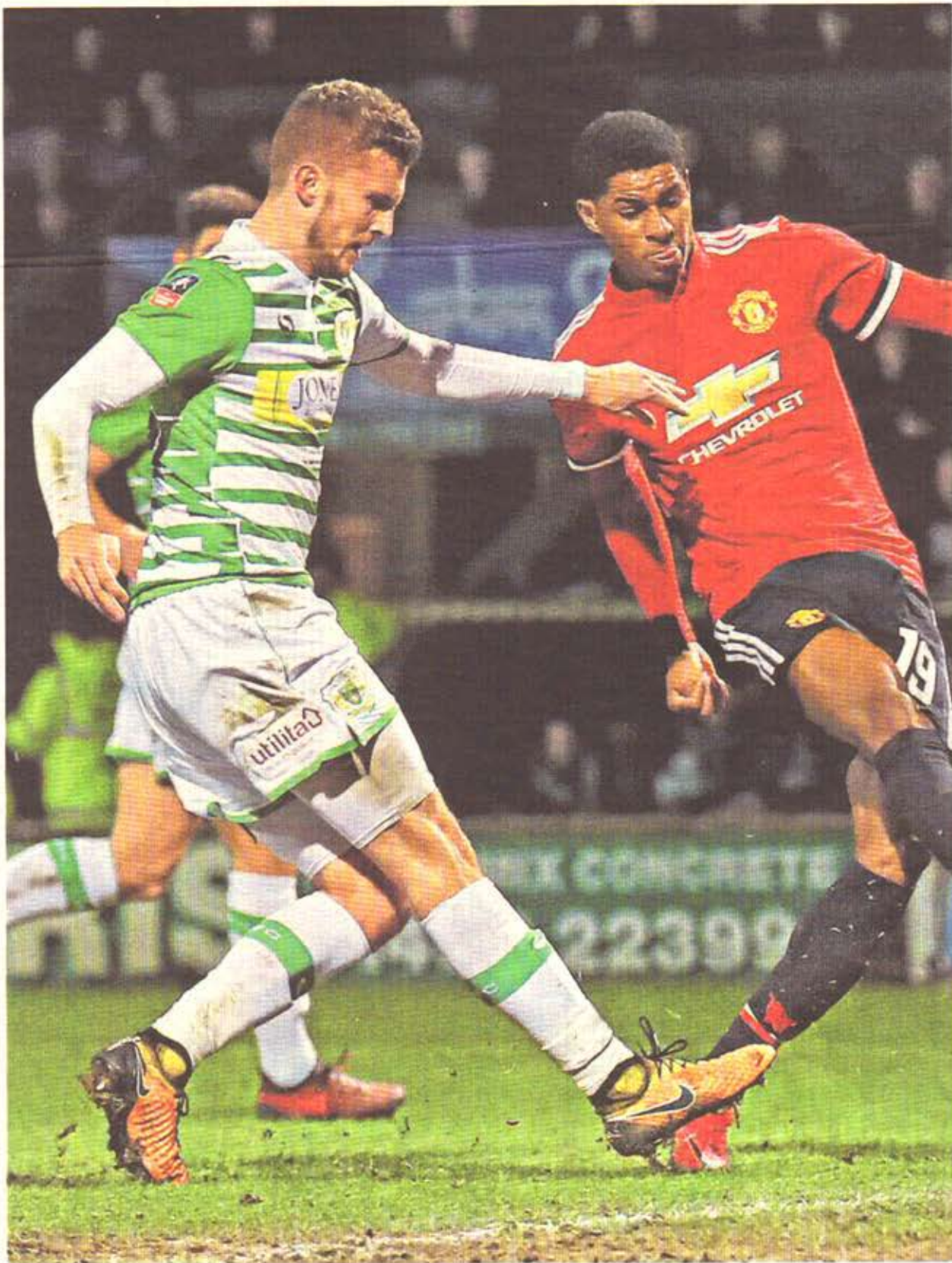
The young Englishman had skipped through the middle onto Sanchez's pass, but was crowded out and Thomas James was in possession when Rashford realised the Yeovil full-back had forgotten about him.

James was idly guiding the ball back to goalkeeper Artur Krysiak, unaware of Rashford's proximity, and the United man nipped back in and tucked a shot into the net.

The softest of goals for Yeovil to concede after a decent first half of hard graft, during which United's team had struggled to come together to overwhelm their opposition. The team placed 21st in League Two had largely been able to cope with an opponent that had very little width and rarely released the pace of Rashford before the break.

Sanchez was generally well-marked and the home side had been drilled on his favourite move, cutting inside on his right foot.

They had forced a save from



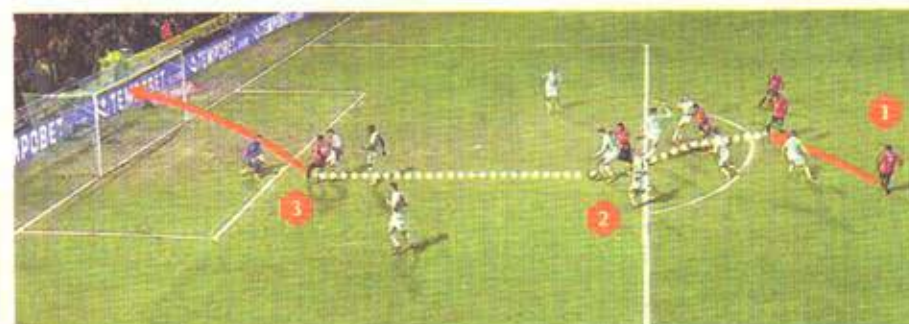
Romero early on - that was Green's shot - but the challenge now was to score a goal that would keep them in the Cup and take them back to

Old Trafford. Way's team just did not see enough of the ball and, when they did win it, the home team were so far away from goal

that United held them at arm's length with ease.

It was hard work chasing down the Premier League side and, when

Red alert How Rashford surprised League Two side



Alexis Sanchez finds Marcus Rashford on the edge of the D (1). Rashford moves forward but is crowded out by defenders and loses the ball (2). Yeovil defenders attempt to usher the ball back to their goalkeeper but are ambushed by Rashford (3).

Player ratings

Yeovil Town	Manchester Utd
4-4-2	4-3-3
6 Krysiak	6 Romero
5 James	6 Darmian
6 Sowunmi	6 Lindelof
5 Smith	7 Rojo
5 Dickson	6 Shaw
6 Gray	7 Herrera
6 Wing	6 Carrick
6 Bird	6 McTominay
6 Green	7 Mata
5 Zoko	6 Rashford
6 Surridge	6 Sanchez

Yeovil	Man Utd
Browne (Bird 56), Fisher (Green 69), Smith (Wing 83)	Lukaku (Mata 65), Lingard (Sanchez 65), Gomes (Rashford 88)
Not used: Madisson, Whelan, Santos D'Abadia, Goben	Not used: Smalling, Young, Matic, Perreira (g)

Referee Paul Tierney (Lancashire)