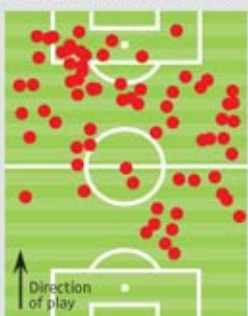


## Duds of the weekend



**Tévez touches**  
**Carlos Tévez**  
 Man Utd away to Birmingham City



United's succession of 1-0 wins has resulted not from a negative approach but from the fact that, generally, defenders have excelled and the attackers struggled. Tévez was poor again on Saturday



**Beye touches**  
**Habib Beye**  
 Newcastle Utd away to Man City



Each of Newcastle's back four made bad errors against City, notably Beye, signed last month from Marseilles. The right back gave the ball away in dangerous positions several times



**Kalou touches**  
**Salomon Kalou**  
 Chelsea home to Fulham



Kalou has played reasonably well recently and, on Saturday, got into several good goalscoring positions despite starting on the left, but his many poor finishes meant Chelsea drew 0-0

## Meltdown for Icelander



Brynjar Gunnarsson, Reading's Icelandic midfield player, was at least partly to blame for four of Portsmouth's seven goals at Fratton Park. Here, he loses the ball in midfield to Papa Bouba Diop, leaving his defence exposed, and Portsmouth score on the counter-attack through Benjani



Gunnarsson ambles along the halfway line, declining to make a challenge, allowing Diop plenty of time and space to pass to Benjani, who charges towards the penalty area, staying ahead of the heavy-legged Gunnarsson, and slides the ball home



Sulley Muntari dispossess Gunnarsson on the halfway line, after which he sends Benjani, his Portsmouth team-mate, clear on goal to complete a hat-trick



Gunnarsson, with no opponent near him, hooks the ball hurriedly straight to Sean Davis, of Portsmouth, who is standing on the right edge of the penalty area. Davis's cross is headed home by Niko Kranjcar

## Adventure: back to front



**Herman Hreidarsson goal for Portsmouth v Reading**

Portsmouth played boldly at times against Reading. Their third goal was headed home by Hreidarsson, the left back, whose unexpected advance vacated space into which Sylvain Distin, a centre back, ran as Reading were left confused

## Dissecting Fratton chaos

**1-0 Brynjar Gunnarsson**, of Reading, loses possession to Papa Bouba Diop, causing a three-on-three break and Benjani scores  
*Blame: Gunnarsson. Acclaim: None*

**2-0 Gunnarsson** fails to close down Diop, who sends Benjani away to score  
*Blame: Gunnarsson. Acclaim: Benjani*

**2-1 Sulley Muntari** fails to stop Graeme Murty finding Kevin Doyle, who crosses for Stephen Hunt's goal  
*Blame: Muntari. Acclaim: None*

**2-2 Dave Kitson**, of Reading, runs on to Hunt's long pass, yet David James flies out from goal. Kitson rounds him and scores  
*Blame: James. Acclaim: Kitson*

**3-2 Marcus Hahnemann** tries to punch clear Distin's cross but Hreidarsson beats him to the ball to head home  
*Blame: Hahnemann. Acclaim: None*

**4-2 Gunnarsson** is tackled by Muntari. He finds Benjani, who rounds Hahnemann  
*Blame: Gunnarsson, Hahnemann. Acclaim: Muntari*

**5-2 Gunnarsson's** clearance falls to Sean Davis. He centres to Niko Kranjcar to score  
*Blame: Gunnarsson. Acclaim: None*

**5-3 Fluke. James Harper's** shot for Reading goes in via Shane Long's back  
*Blame: None. Acclaim: None*

**6-3 Davis's** shot is deflected into the goal by Ivar Ingimarsson of Reading  
*Blame: None. Acclaim: None*

**7-3 Muntari** converts a penalty after Harper clumsily ends Kranjcar's fine run  
*Blame: Harper. Acclaim: Kranjcar*

**7-4 Fluke. Nicky Shorey** drives home for Reading via Sol Campbell's leg  
*Blame: None. Acclaim: None*