

BRAVO, EXETER!

PAYNE SAVES LUTON IN LAST TEN MINUTES

Luton Town 2 Exeter City 2

When Payne fails they all fail has come to be a tag at Luton, and although Payne saved a point with a gem of a goal in the closing stages he missed so many easy chances that the result was not less than they deserved. Indeed, so wholeheartedly did Exeter play that for a long stretch of the second half they had Luton very much in Queer Street.

Stephenson had crowned a series of brilliant attacks by a fine goal early on, and at times Luton almost toyed with the opposition. The City, however, stuck it gamely, Chesters and his backs doing big feats, and eventually the home team lapsed into a scrappy and tame lot, with little semblance of unity of effort.

Williams and Owen put Exeter ahead because they found very wide spaces in the Luton defence, and there seemed little likelihood of Luton drawing level again, but they came with a wet sail in the last ten minutes, and Payne levelled the scores after Roberts had paved the way.

Luton could not have complained had they lost; the only players to shine being Mackey, Roberts and Stephenson. There was too much cleverness at times, and hugging the ball closely in the centre of the field where mud was thick was simply playing into the hands of the opposition.

Exeter's spirit enabled them to pick up the first point Luton have lost at home this season, and they were worth it. They won it mainly because of the work of Chesters, his backs and Bamsey, but all the team worked hard and showed more stamina than Luton. Smith was a speedy raider for the City, and Williams was a thrustful centre-forward.

Luton: Dolman; Mackey, Smith; Martin, Nelson, Fellowes; Hodge, Dawes, Payne, Roberts, Stephenson.

Exeter: Chesters; Brown, Boyle; Clarke, Bamsey, Shadwell; Smith, Johnson, Williams, McGill, Owen.