

DEFENSIVE ERRORS

COST LUTON TOWN THE POINTS

(By CRUSADER)

LUTON TOWN failed badly in their home game with **TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR**. In spite of the fact that the home team had much the better of the general exchanges, there was lacking that unity of effort that had marked previous games, and the defence broke down badly through sheer lack of understanding between Coen and his co-defenders.

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PLAY WAS FAIRLY EVEN in the first half, with the Spurs goalkeeper having more work than Coen, but the visiting defence was stubborn, and quick tackling and hard kicking gave their forwards plenty of openings for raids. On the whole, however, the Town forwards were the more aggressive, and again and again had the Spurs' defence hard pressed, and there was much kicking out of play.

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REDFERN opened the score for the Town after thirty minutes, seizing a chance following a well-placed free kick, and tricking the goalkeeper very cleverly before putting the ball into the net. Griffiths only just failed to get a goal a minute or two later, and then the Spurs went away, and, following a mix-up in the Town defence, **MILLER** equalised with a hard shot as Coen left his charge.

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MORRISON put the Spurs ahead immediately afterwards, getting a clear run through while the Town defenders stood appealing for offside. The Spurs had to defend stubbornly during the remaining period before the change-over, and they were fortunate to see their goal escape.

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LUTON RESUMED VERY STRONGLY, and attack after attack was fiercely launched, but the resistance continued to be very stubborn, and appeals for penalties were ignored. Eventually **REDFERN** brought the scores level with a brilliant effort after cleverly beating Fullwood.

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AFTER FURTHER PRESSURE by the Town, the defence again let down the side very badly, for a free kick to the Spurs was uncovered by any Luton player, and the Spurs inside forwards were left with only Coen to beat, and **MORRISON** had no trouble to score. Coen should have come out for the ball in the first place, but stayed at home until too late.

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A FIERCE STRUGGLE followed, with the Town forwards and halves, and even Mackey coming into the attack, and Hall made many good saves, and his backs and halves had to concentrate wholly on keeping the Town attack at bay. Only at rare intervals did the Spurs get going, though, when they did, the Town defence was never safe.

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MANY FREE KICKS were given against

the Spurs, and again and again the forwards endeavoured to rush the ball through, but Hall and his backs fought defiantly and stubbornly, and with success. Two minutes from the end, the Spurs again got going on the right, and **SARGENT** raced in and beat Coen to make the issue safe.

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LUTON'S DEFENCE was unsound, lack of understanding giving away three goals. The kicking and tackling was good though the visiting wingers were allowed too much rope. Nelson played well at half, and, from the aspect of attack, both Finlayson and Fellowes did well, but, with the exception of Payne and Redfern, the forwards generally were outgeneralled by the speedy and resolute play of the Spurs' defenders.

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TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	4
Miller, Morrison (2), Sargent	
LUTON TOWN	2
Redfern (2)	

LUTON TOWN.—Coen; King, Mackey; Finlayson, Nelson, Fellowes; Griffiths, Redfern, Payne Hogg, Stevens.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR.—Hall (J); Ward, Fullwood; Howe, Page, Buckingham; Sargent, Hall (W), Morrison, A H Gibbon, Miller.

Referee.—T Smith, Atherstone.