

Luton Town's Key To Success

Brilliant Team Work In All Departments :
Sheffield United Well Beaten

By CRUSADER

TEAM WORK at its best was the secret of LUTON TOWN'S success over their previously undefeated guests, SHEFFIELD UNITED. In every department the Town showed a superiority unmistakable, and the victory was the reward of all-round combination and skill.

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EARLY STAGES indicated a hard struggle, and the United played with plenty of confidence, their defence standing up to the Town's sharp assaults, and their forwards showing speed and good ball control. However, there were few attempts at goal that could be regarded as dangerous, though the Town pressed more persistently.

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VINALL was once pushed off the ball right in front of goal, but the appeal for a penalty kick was unheeded, and there were several minor infringements, some of which passed notice. Two or three scrimmages occurred near the United's goal, and once Vinall was given offside when the defence was beaten and he took a forward pass.

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THE BEST SHOT in the first twenty minutes was from Vinall, who put tremendous power behind the drive, but it went straight into the safe arms of Smith. Vinall headed wide, and Smith caught a hard shot from Roberts, and was downed by a good charge from Vinall, but he kept hold of the ball and cleared.

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UNITED'S FORWARDS were given little latitude by the Town defenders, and Dolman only had one teasing moment, and that was when he ran out and knocked the ball away as Dodds dashed up. Dodds once got clear, but as the Town backs closed on him he had to shoot from long range, and the ball went well wide.

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BEFORE THE INTERVAL the United defenders were kicking anywhere for safety, and conceded several corners, and there were many attempts to force the ball through. Right on the stroke of half-time Stephenson dribbled into the centre, and then dodged the tackle and passed to VINALL, who shot promptly and had Smith well beaten amidst a hurricane of cheers. The whistle went for the interval before the game could be restarted.

LUTON TOWN	1
SHEFFIELD UNITED	0

THE UNITED forced the pace on resuming, and their forwards came into the picture a good deal. They were beaten back, and Ferguson was prominent with good work, and Smith made a fine save at full stretch from Loughran, who headed in from the outside-right's centre, the resultant corner being fruitless.

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THE VISITORS ATTACKED, the right wing being conspicuous for clever work, and they maintained the upper hand for a few minutes. Dolman had to handle two or three times, but there was not a respectable shot until Barton tried from a rather sharp angle, and the ball travelled right across goal and went behind.

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LUTON began to find their stride again, and matters became very warm for the United defence. Connelly did a few clever things, but was apt to overdo it, though now and then he had the visiting defence in a tangle. The Town left wing also proved a hot proposition, with Stephenson giving his best and getting the ball over well.

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MANY CORNERS were conceded by the visitors, but not often was the ball middled well from the flag kick. Smith kept goal well, and cleared in spectacular style two or three times; Hopper robbed Stephenson in the nick of time, and then there was a raid by the visitors, but Dodds shot wide again when tackled strongly by Dunsmore.

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FINLAYSON then opened up an attack, which resulted in the second goal. He pushed the ball through the middle, where Vinall and Connelly collaborated, and outwitted the defenders, then slipped the ball out to Ferguson, who was unmarked, and the winger gently lifted the ball in front of goal for CONNELLY to nip in and head into the net.

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THE NEXT MINUTE the United goal had a series of escapes, and after two or three shots had been beaten out by Smith and his backs, Stephenson struck the post with a hard shot, and relief came from a corner kick, which was put behind.

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THE TOWN maintained the aggressive almost incessantly, and many times bored through the ranks of the opposition, and the United defenders had to fight grimly to keep their goal intact. Just before the end Stephenson raced through and drove in at terrific force, but Smith shot out a hand and managed to deflect the ball over the bar.

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UNQUESTIONABLY the Town deserved their success, for they were the better side in every respect. The defence was very safe, the tackling of the backs being remarkably good, and their kicking was strong and sure. Nelson was the best defender on the field, and his half-back colleagues also played finely.

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VINALL led the forwards with great spirit, and Roberts worked tremendously hard, and was unlucky not to score. Connelly was very clever at times, and did bright things, but often spoiled his work by hanging on. Both Ferguson and Stephenson played their parts well, and the team work as a whole was better than in any previous game this season.

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UNITED were well served by Smith. His backs and Tootill could not in any way be blamed for the reverse, for they played finely, and gave nothing away, and the flank halves were also working at top speed all the time. Little was seen of the attack, for Nelson was master of Dodds, and Smith and Dunsmore bottled up the wingers effectively.

LUTON TOWN 2
Vinall, Connelly

SHEFFIELD UNITED 0

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LUTON.—Dolman; Smith, Dunsmore; Finlayson, Nelson, Loughran; Ferguson, Connelly, Vinall, Roberts, Stephenson.

SHEFFIELD UNITED.—Smith; Hooper, Cox; Jackson, Tootill, Settle; Barton, Hampson, Dodds, Richardson, Jones.
Referee—H T Wright, Macclesfield.