

Luton Spoil Great Show By Misses

Liverpool 3, Luton Town 0.

IF Luton Town had beaten Liverpool it would have been one of the shocks of the round. Yet only the 40,431 spectators present can realise how near the First Division club were to defeat.

Luton played a magnificent fighting game, and on the day were the better side. Their football in the mud was much superior to Liverpool's, and they were also faster on the ball, quicker in the tackle.

Unfortunately they had no real marksman, and two or three easy chances were lost.

Billington was the chief sinner, once hitting the ball high over the bar from two yards range with the empty goal yawning before him.

Liverpool had that vital spot of punch proved by their three snap goals, although they never were anything like three goals the better side.

Hero of the game was Dunsmore, the Luton left full-back. His display was faultless throughout, and he completely subdued Liverpool's right wing as well as going up into attack.

He had a good partner in King, and Dreyers, who played brilliantly in defence, and frequently upset Liverpool by quick tackling, was a good pivot.

Liverpool's defence had their hardest task for weeks, and they never looked too steady against the good snappy Luton forwards. Busby was easily the best defender, and often pulled Liverpool out of trouble.

Connelly starred in the visiting attack, and it was a pity that his good work should be so often wasted.

Redfern, Stephenson and Billington were also clever, but the centre spoiled his good work by his misses.

Liverpool scored three minutes after the interval. They were awarded a free kick just outside the area. Nieuwenhuys took the kick and placed it to Balmer, who headed home.

Ten minutes from the end Taylor went through unchallenged and centred. Everybody missed the ball but Paterson, who put it into the empty net. The third goal came in another three minutes, Balmer hitting home a knee-high centre.

Liverpool in luck's way.