

Redfern Was Luton's Matchwinner At Chesterfield

Grand Goals Bring Promotion Two Points Nearer

By Chiltern

CHESTERFIELD 1
McMillen

LUTON TOWN 2
Redfern (2)

CHESTERFIELD.—Middleton; Milburn, Kidd; McMillen, Seagrave, Weightman; Hughes, Lyon, Milligan, Ramage, Luke.

LUTON TOWN.—Coen; King, Dunsmore; Finlayson, Dreyer, Roberts; Carroll, Redfern, Billington, Connelly, Stephenson.

Referee.—G. W. Jones, Nottingham.

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REDFERN WAS THE MATCH-WINNER at Chesterfield on Saturday, and his two goals enabled Luton Town to achieve one of the most notable performances of the season, and at the same time give their hopes of promotion a great fillip.

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BY REGISTERING THIS WIN, the Town completed their seventh double of the season, a record which few clubs in the country can approach, never mind equal. Once again, the Luton players rose to the occasion when it was most needed, and Chesterfield were fairly and squarely beaten.

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THERE WERE NOT SO MUCH clever football as was expected from the meeting of such highly placed teams, but the reason for this was that the wind spoilt the game to a large extent. This, combined with the light ball, made things very difficult, and actually both teams overcame the conditions extremely well.

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CHESTERFIELD HAD THE BETTER of the advantages offered by the elements, for they had a strong wind behind them throughout the first half. When Luton's turn came the wind dropped almost to nothing, and they did not have the amount of second half play that they had expected.

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HOWEVER, THEY DID ENOUGH to win, and win deservedly, but we had several scares before the points were safely in the bag. The home side had rather more of the play, and consequently the more chances. At least four gifts were fozzled, but it is to the credit of the Town defence that, although Chesterfield attacked hard in the first half, they seldom seemed likely to score.

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THE FIRST SHOCK Luton gave to the 20,000 spectators, most of whom were waiting for the "kill," was after five minutes' play, when Carroll slipped the ball into an open space for REDFERN to open the Town's account with a glorious low shot into the corner of the net.

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THE HOME CROWD were inclined to treat this as something that would be wiped out in due course, and when Chesterfield settled down to press hard again, the supporters simply sat down and waited for goals to come.

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WHEN THEY DID NOT, the supporters began to wonder what was amiss, but they were lulled back to security by McMILLEN, who got the equaliser after 26 minutes. It followed a free kick by Milburn which rebounded to McMillen, who hit the ball

first time, and was fortunate enough to see it rebound off the inside of the post into the net.

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AGAIN CHESTERFIELD ATTACKED, but although in midfield they looked as if they might score goals, they showed little idea of finishing when they got to close quarters. As time went on, and still the homesters did not take the lead, the crowd got more and more worried, and there were definite signs of real anxiety at the interval.

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AT THIS STAGE the Town had every excuse for self-congratulation on their feat of remaining on level terms against such a disadvantage, but they could not have dreamed that the wind would play them such a scurvy trick. As it was, Chesterfield reassured the anxious ones by the way they set about their task in the early part of the second half.

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HOWEVER, THEY STILL LOOKED more dangerous than they actually were, and Lyon and Milligan missed very easy chances. Gradually, Luton got on top, and their extra speed on the ball, and their more skilful positioning, made them the more impressive side.

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THEY WORRIED THE HOME DEFENCE, and their reward came 15 minutes from the end, when Billington edged a high ball past Seagrave, and REDFERN pounced on it to beat Middleton again with a well-judged shot. The home supporters still believed there was time to save the game, but the Town kept on top until Chesterfield began their final rally.

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THIS BROUGHT TO LYON one of the easiest chances he is ever likely to have. He was put in possession at five yards range, but with only Coen to beat he trickled the ball weakly along the ground straight at the goalkeeper. After that those self-same supporters were like pricked balloons, while those Lutonians who had made the trip could scarcely stick out their chests far enough.

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CHIEF CREDIT FOR THE WIN must go to the Town defence, for they worked like heroes throughout, and withstood terrific pressure at times. Dreyer was outstanding, and he held the rather difficult Milligan in a grip of iron. Dunsmore and King were two hard-tackling, hard-working backs, who never knew what it was to be beaten, while Finlayson and Roberts were never still and never tired.

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THEY WERE MAGNIFICENT in defence, and when they had the time, made some grand passes to the forwards. Coen made some excellent saves, though he did not have the amount of work he might have had. Redfern was the best of the forwards, with Billington, although closely marked by Seagrave, always a menace.

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CONNELLY WAS INCLINED to do too much occasionally, but apart from this failing, his work was invaluable, and he schemed with all his usual skill. At times Carroll was not direct enough, and Stephenson, despite a lack of support in the second half, was the more dangerous.