

Defences On Top At Luton

LUTON TOWN 0
WEST HAM 0

Had the Town snatched the odd goal, too, in their home match with the Hammers, they would have been deserved winners, but they were kept out by a sound defence.

This was aided by some good fortune in the first half when scoring attempts by Daniel and Shanks were cleared by the full-backs with Gregory out of position.

Generally, however, the Town's forward play was not strong enough in the region of goal, and after the first half escapes, goals looked a somewhat remote possibility.

The Town had their let-off when Stephens, evading the attentions of Hall for once, shot against a post, but apart from that, the Hammers seldom threatened to break down a Town defence, which was in top form.

Duggan made the best effort in the second half with a low drive which Gregory did well to collect.

The Town had more of the play throughout, but just could not translate this territorial advantage into goals.

In defence there was not the semblance of a weak spot. Gardiner, Hall and Owen dominated the middle of the field and Lake had one of his best games this season. Not only was his tackling and positional play good, but he consistently used the ball well.

Cooke, too, was sound, and Streten, far from over-worked, yet contrived to make himself extraordinarily useful with his interventions.

The forwards promised more than they achieved, and Duggan was the best of the line. With more support, he might have proved to be the match-winner.

Brennan did much of value, but the right wing was rather disappointing. Waugh tried very hard, though his finishing was not always good.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Cooke, Lake; Gardiner, Hall, Owen; Shanks, Daniel, Duggan, Brennan, Waugh.

WEST HAM: Gregory; Cater, Forde; Corbett, Walker, Moroney; Woodgate, Parsons, Stephens, Yeomanson, Wright.