

This Was No Epic

LUTON TOWN 2

Duggan, Brennan

BLACKBURN

ROVERS 0

There was nothing of an epic about this match, watched by 18,796 spectators, at Kenilworth-road on Monday. In fact, it had some of the attributes of a dog fight, but for most of the Town fans, victory was adequate consolation.

If they expected the Rovers to display something above usual Division II fare in view of their recent place in the higher sphere, then they were doomed to disappointment, for they brought little skill to a game in which this factor was lacking.

The Rovers were hard fighters, but it was left to the Town to supply the moves which were worth remembering. Two of them brought goals and each was worthy of the result.

The first after 22 minutes came from an Arnison-DUGGAN inter-passing movement in which the inside left fastened on to the ball and slammed it past Hayhurst.

Until four minutes from the end, the Town held this narrow advantage, though there were times in the second half when the Rovers' defence had a terrific task to keep the score down.

However, the Town's finishing was not accurate, and the expected second goal did not arrive until four minutes from the end when BRENNAN opened his account for the season with a flashing left foot drive after splendid work by Gardiner had found a gap in the defence.

In the main, the spoiling tactics of each defence made scoring shots few and far between. Centre-half Holliday, kept a tight grip on Arnison, who had few scoring opportunities, but was always seeking to make openings for his colleagues.

Duggan was as useful a forward as the Town had, and Brennan may gain confidence from his goal and resume his role as one of the Town's leading scorers. He played some good football in mid-field, but often had the tendency to hold up the line.

Finishing power let Waugh down and he might have made

more of the opportunities which his clever footwork brought for him. Small was patchy though there were times when his speed made him most dangerous.

All was not always well with the defence, but they came through without mishap, and the most pleasing thing to me was the return to his best form of Hall, who followed the example of Holliday in shutting the opposing centre-forward out of the game.

Wilson was a very able deputy for Cooke. He showed a sound sense of positional play, and his kicking was invariably good.

Gardiner was a more successful wing half than was Owen, who has not reached peak form yet, and Lindsay had some moments of trial against Campbell and did not always come out on top.

Luton Town.—Streten; Wilson, Lindsay; Gardiner, Hall, Owen; Small, Brennan, Arnison, Duggan, Waugh.

Blackburn Rovers.—Hayhurst; Gray, Eckersley; Baldwin, Holliday, Bell; Campbell, Crossan, Westcott, Graham, Wilkinson.

Referee: E. V. Varney, Derby.