

Sparkling Play Put Town In Next Round

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 3

Watkins, Arnison, Kiernan

WEST HAM 1

Wade

Giving one of their best all-round displays of the season and reaching heights of positive brilliance at times, the Town gained an easy passage into the fourth round of the F.A. Cup.

The Hammers put up a plucky, but unavailing fight, and after the first half an hour were never in the game with a winning chance.

For the Town, it was a great triumph, for they regained the laurels they lost against Leeds and emphasised the fact that anybody who comes to Kenilworth-road will have their hands full.

Once they settled down and got used to the very sticky pitch, they showed ideas and the ability to execute them, and in a period that began midway through the first half, they took a grip that was never relaxed afterwards.

The Hammers had had a couple of snap chances early on which they allowed to pass by, but the Town went even nearer to scoring when Watkins hit the under-part of the bar.

Despite the fact that the Town were pressing relentlessly towards the interval, it seemed certain that the second half would begin with the teams still on level terms.

A goal from Watkins in the dying seconds of the half changed all that, and gave the Town just the tonic they needed for an all-out drive on the resumption.

Waugh provided the opening for the goal, and WATKINS cracked the ball into the back of the net.

TWO MORE GOALS

By the time the second half was 19 minutes old, the lead had been increased to three through ARNISON who followed up quickly to drive the ball into the net after Gregory had partly saved his first pile-driver, and KIERNAN, who forced a centre from Waugh over the line at the second attempt.

There came a goal from WADE to enliven the later proceedings, but although the Hammers made renewed efforts after this, the Town were never in real danger. They were handicapped in the second half by an injury to Wright, who went to outside left. Dick took over the leadership.

The forwards were lively and moved with a precision which was completely effective. Best of the line was Waugh, who gave a sparkling display in which deft footwork and good use of the ball were outstanding factors.

Next came Arnison, a dashing, fast-moving and clever leader who caused much apprehension among a West Ham defence which scarcely lived up to its high reputation.

Watkins, too, was responsible for much good work in a quiet sort of way, and while the right wing was not quite so effective, Kiernan was able to make an effective contribution, though Brennan was not consistent.

Prominent in the Town's persistent raids were Morton and Gardiner, each of whom provided a grand service and were strong in defence, too.

In this latter department, Hall shone, while Cooke saw to it that the Hammers' supposed plan of wearing down the Luton left flank was doomed to disappointment from the start. Cooke played a great game throughout and, with Gardiner, effectively shut out the Hammers' star wing.

Wilson fitted in with the scheme of things, and Streten gave a faultless display of goalkeeping in which good judgment and a cool head were salient features.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Wilson, Cooke; Morton, Hall, Gardiner; Brennan, Kiernan, Arnison, Watkins, Waugh.

WEST HAM: Gregory; Yeomanson, Forde; Corbett, Walker, Moroney; Woodgate, Parsons, Wright, Dick, Wade.

Referee: J. M. Wiltshire, Sherborne.

Attendance: 21,629