

Wednesday Surprised By Confident Town

By Chiltern

SHEFFIELD WED. ... 1 LUTON TOWN 1

This came into the category of one of the surprise results of the day, but that the Wednesday failed to do the expected and add two valuable points to their quota, was not surprising to those who saw the match.

Indeed, it was the Town, playing with a confidence and an assurance for which the Wednesday had not bargained, who called the tune for long periods, and certainly they showed the more craft and better team-work.

Admittedly, there was a time in the second half when, by use of what approximated to steam-roller tactics, the Wednesday threatened to snatch the deciding goal, but the steady Town defence saw to it that their opponents had few scoring chances.

We saw the Town defence covering brilliantly, tackling hard and breaking up attack after attack before shooting range had been reached.

For all that, had the Town won, it would have been no more than their due, for they were the undisputed masters in the first half when they gave as good a

display of polished football as I have seen this season.

The attack moved smoothly and easily, and their short, low passing was so accurate that the Wednesday defence, often pulled out of position, seemed to have no counter to it.

Something of a shock was experienced when the Wednesday took the lead in nine minutes, a success which was all against the run of the play.

JORDAN was the scorer with a first-time shot after Rickett centred the ball into the goal-mouth.

WATKINS EQUALISES

Refusing to be unsettled by that, the Town persevered with their constructive football which had its reward after 17 minutes when WATKINS neatly headed through a well-placed corner from Waugh.

For much of the rest of the half, the Town continued to outwit the Wednesday defence, but failed to translate their supremacy into goals.

They had not the best of luck with their finishing and Waugh was particularly unfortunate not to score.

There was a dour battle in the second half in which the Town had quite a share of the play and never forsook their clever play even when injury caused Shanks's removal to outside-right.

Shanks was one of the Town's big successes, and so was Watkins, who took over at inside-left in the capable, unassuming way which we were accustomed to see in last season's Cup-ties.

The improvement at inside-forward had much to do with the line's general efficiency, and Stobbart led the line cleverly and well.

More punch at close quarters was the one thing necessary to turn the attack into a goal-scoring machine, for both Glover and Waugh were lively, go-ahead wingers, who provided plenty of material.

Much of the Town's defensive strength was laid in the half-back line where all three players were in splendid form, and Owen again stood out with another storming display.

Cooke was the better back, and Streten pulled off some daring saves in the second half when Wednesday threw everything into their efforts to gain a goal.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY—McIntosh; Kenny, Swift; Rogers, Packard, Witcomb; Rickett, Quigley, Jordan, Froggatt, Tomlinson.

LUTON TOWN. — Streten; Cooke, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Gardiner; Glover, Shanks, Stobbart, Watkins, Waugh.

Referee: G. L. Iliffe, Leicester.