

Honours To The Defence

ROTHERHAM UTD. 0
LUTON TOWN 1

Superlative work by the defence enabled the Town to celebrate their first visit to the Millmoor ground with a victory which was their seventh away from home this season.

Only goal of a hard-fought game in which both sides missed scoring chances came in the 57th minute through MITCHELL.

He drove the ball through from a few yards range after his first shot had been saved and after an attempt by Sexton had struck him.

Until that point, play had been fairly equal, with the Town showing rather the more constructive ideas in attack, but Rotherham being dangerous because of the speed of their wingers.

The goal brought a striking change in the match, for it was as if it was what Rotherham had been waiting for in order to find top gear.

BRILLIANT STRETEN

Immediately, they set up a terrific barrage that brought them a succession of corners and gave Stretten the opportunity to show how agile and how sound a goalkeeper he can be.

Everything that came anywhere near him, Stretten reached, and the ovation he received at the end was fully deserved.

Hard and unrelenting though the pressure was, Rotherham seldom really looked like getting the equaliser for which they fought so hard.

Owen blocked the way down the middle in remarkably capable style, and Shaw had few chances to increase his tally of goals.

Another outstanding figure was Morton, who was strong and accurate in the tackle, and Watkins, too, played a notable part in the success of the defence.

WATERTIGHT DEFENCE

Once Dunne got the measure of White there was little danger from this quarter, and Aherne, too, kept the tricky Grainger well subdued, except on rare occasions when the right-winger showed just how clever he is.

In the whole defence there was no weakness, and their understanding and intelligent covering was a feature of the match.

Because the inside-forwards, Taylor and Sexton, did not strike their normal form, the attack was not so dangerous as it has been in recent matches.

There was not a lot of support for Moore, who seldom got out of the grip of Gibson, hard though he tried, and taking the game through, Shanks was the most successful forward.

Much of Mitchell's approach work was extremely good, but he did not always make the best use of his material.

ROTHERHAM UTD.: Bolton; Selkirk, Williams; Edwards, Gibson, Rawson; Grainger, Marshall, Shaw, Guest, White.

LUTON TOWN: Stretten; Dunne, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Watkins; Shanks, Taylor (J.), Moore, Sexton, Mitchell.

Referee: G. Tedds, Bestwood.
Attendance: 18,000.