

Scott dazzling in first half FOREST GET DOUBLE OVER LUTON

By A. J. TURNER

Nottingham Forest ... 2 Luton Town ... 1

FOREST completed an early season double over the once-fancied promotion candidates Luton Town, and earned the spoils from the second leg at the City Ground on their first-half display alone.

In that period they deserved their two goals success, and, mainly by reason of some bewildering switching along the whole front line, had the Luton defence chasing a will-o'-the-wisp.

But the second half, with the white ball, saw the Reds in a grey mood until stung to reaction by a Luton goal.

Neither side could be faulted in defence except that Jones was uncertain on the visitors' left, the two fair-haired pivots generally holding the middle but while all four wing-halves were thrustful. Luton's pair moved the ball smartly, whereas French and particularly Burkitt occasionally overdid the close dribbling.

Stream of passes

Main reason for the monopoly of play held by the home side in the opening spell was the craft and ball manoeuvre of Scott, who returned to inside right to ply a constant stream of threatening passes.

He played further back in the second half and with Capel not coming into the picture until late on when a sizzling drive scraped an upright and another effort was plucked from under the bar by Streten, the hard-working Leverton was invariably a lone figure with the two wingers coming in on some occasions in support.

But Luton had only one man to try a shot, inside right Turner, who, justifiably, scored their goal when acting as attack leader in a post-interval rearrangement of the forward line.

All Luton's progress was on the wings, but it was wasted effort, for once the ball was crossed the insides rarely made pursuit nearer than the 18-yard line.

While Walker made one or two very fine saves, his task was by no means as onerous as that of Streten, who had full scope for his desire to exhibit acrobatics.

Forest's overwhelming first half was football at its best, all five forwards buzzing around the goal with a sting. Luton fought better in the drabber second patch, the winners making a come-back late on.

Early on Forest's interchanging "lost" Luton's defence and the

Reds were a goal up in five minutes from a cool application of finish by Alan Moore. A long clearance by Gager reached Leverton in the mid area and as Jones went in to the tackle he tried to pass back.

The attempt went awry and Moore was given a clear run for goal. Cutting in the winger went right up to the advancing Streten, beat the goalkeeper's last-minute tackle, took the ball on a couple of strides and shot inside the near post of a now untenanted goal.

From then on it was all Forest, Walker handling for the first time after 18 minutes.

A great shot by Leverton after Collindridge's persistence took the paint off the top, a volley from Capel was pulled down by Streten and Burkitt with Collindridge provided neat interpassing.

Once again Leverton was only inches high after a Capel-Scott move. Turner fooled the visitors' only opportunity of the half and in 41 minutes Leverton rounded off a brilliant move with a drive from near the penalty spot.

Scott swept the ball out to Moore, whose accurate centre reached Scott again. The latter pushed it back and Streten never saw Leverton's shot.

With that lead Forest seemed content and forsook the former penetrative methods until in 77 minutes Turner enlivened the game with his goal.

Second-half ease-up

Walker had tackled him to save in the neck of time and had to kick out for a thrown-in. Bernard Moore threw to Turner, who raced on to the converging Gager and Hutchinson and shot between them with Walker unsighted.

Forest grand to the interval not so good afterwards.

Nottingham Forest: Walker, Whars, Hutchinson, French, Gager, Burkitt, Moore, A. Scott, Leverton, Capel, Collindridge.
Luton Town: Streten, Dunn, Jones, Morton, Owen, Watkins, Oullen, Turner, Moore B., Downie, Taylor.
Referee - R. J. Burgess (Reading)

Derby seize chance

Derby County — 1 Stoke City ... 1
FOR ten minutes Derby County opposed only ten Stoke men and they took their chance and scored an equaliser. It was only for this brief spell that Derby looked the better side.

For the rest of the game Stoke did most of the attacking and gave Ray Middleton a bad time. Finney was unlucky not to score early. Taking a pass from Siddall he faced an open goal—and hit the post.

He was the best of an enterprising Stoke forward line and he got his reward after 38 minutes. Running towards the Derby goal he fired wide, but the ball hit Maye and swerved into the goal.

In the second half, when Derby were still full of fight, three or four players piled up in front of the Stoke goal. Frank Mountford had to be carried off on a stretcher.

Derby took their chance, and Dunn scored with a nod following a headed pass from Lee. For a few minutes Derby revelled in their superiority.

Then Mountford returned and play once again swung from end to end. Although Finney was as usual full of tricks Dunn was the player most applauded by the crowd.

Elliott held at least half a dozen shots from the Derby inside right.



Bernard Streten, former Notts. County goalkeeper, makes a spectacular save from a Leverton shot, but (below) diving too late to stop a fluffe drive from the same Forester, the Luton 'keeper glances over his shoulder to see the ball hitting the net for the second goal.

