

ONE GOAL, TWO POINTS

EVERTON 0, LUTON TOWN 1

Once they found their stride and something like their true form at Goodison Park, there was never much doubt about the Town taking the points, for they took a grip on Everton in the second half.

Yet, there could have been a different story earlier when Everton, showing a great deal of dash and enthusiasm, had more of the first-half play, but it all produced so few shots that the Town defence, though strained at times, had no great difficulty in holding out.

On the other hand, the Town, with fewer openings, made more and much better attempts at scoring during the first half and O'Neill had a more difficult task than his counter-part.

Even though they did not reach the form they showed at Preston, the Town's football after the interval was still good enough to put them right on top of Everton, who lost their touch so completely that they were subjected to the footballers' scourge, the slow hand-clap.

CULLEN'S BRILLIANT MOVE

That began shortly after MacEWAN had given the Town the lead in the 63rd minute when he capped a brilliant bit of work by Cullen, who left Tansey completely beaten and pulled the ball back from the dead-line.

On the evidence of the play after that, everything pointed to more goals to the Town and to little likelihood of an Everton equaliser.

There were escapes for the home side, especially when Cummins crowned a corkscrew sort of dribble that left three opponents prone on the ground, with a fierce drive that rose just too high.

Much of the speed and enthusiasm produced by Everton in the first half had been quite effective until it came to the point of finishing, but the ordered football came from the Town.

While Everton were content to part quickly, and this brought many high kicks into the Town penalty area, the Town held the ball, tried to scheme an opening and, altogether, looked the more constructive side.

More closely watched than hitherto by his fellow-international, Farrell, Cummins yet contrived to be a danger and some of his footwork was immaculate.

Into this category, too, came Cullen, who hit top form in the second half when he was a real thorn in the Everton defence, who could find no way of subduing him.

MacEWAN A TRIER

These two took the main forward honours, with MacEwan a great trier, battling away in the middle and trying hard to escape the close attentions of the rugged Jones.

Still out of touch, Turner had only a moderate game and Groves's showing at outside-left did little to suggest that he can settle down there permanently.

Keeping a clean sheet and deservedly so, the defence was a sound, hard-tackling combination

in which Morton and Shanks blanketed the activities of the home inside-forwards and Owen won the battle against the promising Jim Harris.

Everton played much into the hands of the Town by continually swinging the ball high into the goalmouth where either Owen's head or Baynham's safe hands, put an end to all their hopes.

Baynham's brilliant work when the ball was in the air left a big impression on the crowd of 44,337.

In the past, Dunne has been none too happy when facing Eglington but there was little danger from this quarter on this occasion and the full-back held him splendidly.

Some early trouble with Brian Harris was experienced by Aherne, but gradually the winger was played out of the game.

EVERTON: O'Neill; Moore, Tansey; Farrell, Jones, Lello; Harris (B), Potts, Harris (J), Fielding, Eglington.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Shanks; Cullen, Turner, MacEwan, Cummins, Groves.

Referee: F. L. Overton, Derby.