

# Luton have the Holden jitters

57/58  
(FAC)

by **ARTHUR WALMSLEY**

**STOCKPORT C. 3, LUTON T. 0**

**W**ONDERFUL, wonderful Bill Holden. This year's F.A. Cup competition will not see an individual display to surpass the brilliant performance of Stockport County's centre-forward in this game.

With inside forwards Moir and Jackson playing as much in defence as in attack, Stockport had only a three-man attack for most of the game.

But the dazzling Holden so completely mastered the Luton defence with every trick of the Soccer trade that he was able to hold the ball until his inside men got up with play and offset the handicap of Moir and Jackson playing deep.

This was the main reason for Stockport's victory for when Luton attacked they found a solid wall of Stockport players in the penalty area and rarely looked like breaking through it.

Shocks came early for Luton when from a back pass by Moir, Franklin centred a glorious cross which Jackson, running in at full speed, met with his head to flash the ball past Baynham and put County ahead after three minutes.

Luton looked the more polished side in midfield for a spell after this, but the goal danger always threatened from Stockport.

The looked-for revival by Luton after the interval just never came because Stockport, and particularly Holden, didn't allow it. After 58 minutes Holden sent the County supporters almost hysterical with the goal of a lifetime.

## Miskick

Sid Owen miskicked just inside his own half and Holden ran 40 yards, resisting challenges from Owen and Dunne, before placing the ball calmly past Baynham.

From then on Luton were a beaten side, and seven minutes from time Stockport sliced through the Luton defence with an almost half-pace Clempson-Jackson-Finney move which left Holden alone in front of Baynham to crash in Stockport's third.

Even allowing for a shaky Luton defence which got the Holden jitters early on, there was no fluke about this victory.

It was a triumph of skill and guts against a Luton team which was never allowed to find its feet.

**MATCH VERDICT.**—On this display Stockport are going to be as tough Cup opposition at Edgeley as any of their more exalted rivals are likely to find. Lesson for Luton is the need for tightening up a defence which had big gaps on either side of centre half Sid Owen.