

TWO A PIECE FOR LUTON WINGERS

Luton 5, Leeds 1: by GRAHAM BUXTON

NEW-LOOK Luton swept Leeds off their feet, and in doing so gave their hypercritical supporters the surprise of their lives. The team that has been struggling vainly in the mud and suffering defeat after defeat suddenly found the poise and confidence that had been missing for so many weeks.

Leeds had right-back George Ashall a near passenger on the right wing, with a suspected fractured wrist, for three-quarters of the game. But Luton were always winning it.

On the skating-rink surface they were far more sure of their foothold. They did the right thing by making the ball do the work—and letting Leeds make the mistakes.

These were inevitable in the circumstances, and long before the end the Leeds defence, reshuffled of necessity, was in tatters.

The score might well have been doubled, especially as goalkeeper Roydon Wood had a fumbling match in which he scarcely handled a shot cleanly.

Not that he was to blame for the score against Leeds although he was very fortunate on several occasions.

Where Luton held a big pull was in the new-found speed and directness of their wingers. Tony Gregory came in at outside left to supply the dash and a finishing power that have been sadly lacking there.

On the other wing Billy Bingham gave Grenville Hair a night-mare match. With the delicacy of a top-class skater he glided over

the frozen surface, and it was his goal in the 16th minute that had a settling effect on the Luton team.

By half-time Leeds, although only a goal behind, were showing every sign of being run into the ground.

Then Gregory scored from the penalty spot, after Wood had saved his first shot. Archie Gibson pulled down George Cummings to give the spot kick away.

With an hour gone the game flared into violent life, with Leeds scoring through Alan Shackleton, who fastened on to a rebound when Crowe's free kick was beaten out.

Before they had time to adjust themselves to their improved position Leeds were two goals down again, for new Luton leader Bob Morton scored from close range.

In the closing stages came further hammer blows from Bingham and Gregory.

Leeds, even taking into account their handicap, were vastly disappointing. They had neither Luton's directness on the wings nor their hard endeavour at inside forward.

Luton hush moaners

By John Bowman

LUTON 5, LEEDS 1

JUST look at the score and guess how easy it was. Luton have taken a panning from the fans for weak play, but here was their answer—a five-goal glory day that very plainly told the moaners to shut up.

So for the seventh successive season Leeds are out of the Cup at the first go. But even the fact that they had to reorganise in the first minutes, when right-back Ashall injured an arm, does not excuse this flop.

Three men made the Luton win possible — left-winger Tony Gregory, inside-left George Cummins, and outside-right Billy Bingham.

What a game for Gregory! He is a reserve inside-forward playing on the left wing for the first time this season. But he started the Leeds collapse by laying on a goal after 16 minutes.

Then early in the second half he sent the fans crazy by scoring from the penalty spot—Luton's first success in five attempts.

United showed only one real flash of power, and that was when Alan Shackleton put them in the game after an hour by bashing in a rebound from Chris Crowe's shot to make it 2—1.

But Luton pounced back and within a minute stand-in leader Bob Morton had restored the two-goal lead.

After that, between further goals by Bingham and Gregory, it looked almost like shooting-in practice.

On a hard, slippery ground Town's passing and shooting was something to wonder at.

LUTON.—Baynham 6; McNally 6; Hawkes 6; Groves 6; Owen 7; Pacey 6; Bingham 8; Brown 6; Morton 6. ★ **CUMMINS** 9; Gregory 7.

LEEDS.—★ **WOOD** 8; Ashall 5; Hair 5; Cush 5; Charlton 6; Gibson 5; Humphries 5; Crowe 5; Shackleton 6; Revie 6; Overfield 5.

Referee: R. J. Leafe (Nottingham) 7.

LUTON? WHAT A BANKER ON ICE

By JOHN MORGAN

Luton 5 Leeds 1



PUT Luton on ice and they will win the Cup! The chirpy, hantam-weight Irishman right-winger Billy Bingham and inside-left George Cummins put over the message convincingly on Luton's skating-rink ground.

Cummins was brilliant. His dainty but deadly ball control and passing set the pattern for this runaway win.

Leeds chased and slithered. Luton let the ball do the work.

Don Revie worked harder than any other Leeds player, but with no success. Luton would have had double figures but for the treacherous conditions, looking much easier than they really were under a two-toned sand surface.

Bingham started the goal rush in the 16th minute. Left-winger Tony Gregory—what a shot he has!—ended a run of four missed penalties after Cummins had been brought down in the 52nd minute. But only just.

His first shot was parried by Royston Wood but Gregory slammed the rebound high into the net.

Bob Morton got the third in the 61st minute, Bingham the fourth (76min.) and Gregory the fifth (83min.).

Leeds looked like making a fight of it in the 60th minute when centre-forward Allan Shackleton scored from Chris Crowe's free kick. But the Morton goal within a minute set Leeds right back on a leg weary defence.

If there is more ice for the next two rounds I'm tipping Luton for a long run in the Cup. Dainty, Soccer-crafty Cummins makes them a banker.