

DRAMATIC GOAL SAVES TOWN IN LAST MINUTE

By CHILTERN

LIVERPOOL 1 LUTON TOWN 1

IN dramatic fashion at Liverpool last night, Luton Town retained an interest in the Football League Cup by forcing a draw when Brogan marked his first-ever appearance in the side by securing an unexpected equaliser.

Before a crowd of 10,502 who paid £1,465, Luton Town earned marks for a plucky fight that was an improvement on their showing in their last two away matches.

The latest changes brought more soundness in defence and extra liveliness in attack.

Town could conceivably have been in the lead in the first half, but for snap chances that were allowed to slip by.

In the second half of this muddy battle, Liverpool were forced back by some relentless defensive work and some fine goalkeeping by the 16-years-old O'Hara. In addition, Liverpool's shooting was not out of the top drawer.

O'Hara put up the sort of display that brought a smile to the face of Sam Bartram, and he was a great deal more confident and efficient than on his previous appearances.

At half-back there was more soundness, with Groves keeping a tight grip on Hickson, Brown playing strongly throughout, and McGuffie well justifying his somewhat belated inclusion.

DANGEROUS TURNER

Of the forwards, Turner was the most dangerous, with McBride working hard with limited support. Brogan looked rather as if the occasion was a bit much for him, though he showed neat touches.

When the final whistle went several of O'Hara's team mates clustered around him to shake his hand—congratulations that were well earned because this was a remarkable display by one so young in conditions that were all against accurate goalkeeping.

Teams:

LIVERPOOL: Slater; Molyneux, Byrn; Wheeler, White, Leishman; Lewis, Hunt, Hickson, Harrower, A'Court.

LUTON TOWN: O'Hara; McNally, Daniel; Brown, Groves, McGuffie; Tracey, Turner, McBride, Brogan, Imlach.

Referee: A E Ellis, of Halifax.

Heavy rain which fell for some time before the start left the ground very heavy and soggy, and visibility was none too good because of a thickish mist.

After an even start, Liverpool nearly took the lead when Harrower tried a long-range shot which struck the bar with O'Hara beaten.

Fighting back, Town had the Liverpool defence in trouble, and Turner forced Slater to throw himself full-length to deal with a strong drive.

Slater also saved well from Imlach, but was right in luck shortly afterwards when Turner, streaming down the middle, let loose a point-blank shot that struck the goalkeeper on the leg as he fell. Making a remarkable recovery, Slater somehow threw himself the other way to keep out a shot from the rebound.

LIVERPOOL LEAD

However, Liverpool were becoming increasingly dangerous, and took the lead after 25 minutes in rather strange circumstances, because Wheeler pushed the ball through to the ever-probing LEISHMAN, who, from the edge of the penalty area, let loose a shot to which O'Hara did not move.

In the next minute there was very nearly another goal, A'Court streaked past McNally and his low cross drive smacked the inside of the far post and rebounded to O'Hara who scrambled it off the line.

For some time there was very little in it, though the Town were

How The Goals Came

LEISHMAN for Liverpool after 25 minutes.

BROGAN for Luton after 89 minutes.

showing more liveliness in attack than was the case at Derby.

HICKSON INJURED

Hickson was injured when brought down by Groves. After having treatment he seemed to have recovered, but came back to the touchline for further attention by the trainer, after which he was able to resume.

There were visions of a Town equaliser when Turner, who was often in the picture, harassed the home defence. The ball went out to Brown, but his first-time shot skidded wide. Half-time:

LIVERPOOL 1

LUTON 0

With the second half only a few minutes old Wheeler missed an open goal when he pulled the ball wide as he and O'Hara slipped in the mud.

Liverpool were having things much their own way, and a fierce drive from A'Court flashed inches wide.

Little or nothing was seen of the Town forwards until Brogan sent Imlach away, but all that came of it was a fruitless corner.

When Town improved Slater allowed a long shot by Turner to bounce off his body, and McBride just failed to meet the rebound. McBride then tested Slater with a great left-foot drive.

O'Hara was in action twice more as Liverpool sought to make this game safe—though at this stage they did not look to be in any particular danger.

In the very last minute the Town forced a replay, which will be at Kenilworth-road next Wednesday evening, when BROGAN headed through from close range after Slater had parried a centre from the right. Result:

LIVERPOOL 1

LUTON 1