

LUTON MUST FIND A GOAL- SCORING FORWARD

Luton 0 Leyton Orient 1 : by GRAHAM BUXTON

GHOSTS flittered about the Kenilworth-road ground—those of the departed Billy Bingham and of Jackie Mudie whom Luton were within hours of signing this week.

Either could have turned this shambles of a Luton forward line into something like a striking force, and Luton may have cause to regret changing their minds about signing Mudie.

On this showing manager Sam Bartram, away on a scouting mission for a centre-half, must change his ideas and find a scoring forward.

Just one forward with a shot could have scuppered Orient, who made things difficult for themselves by over-reliance on defence in the second half after they had proved to their own satisfaction their forward line was much superior to that of Luton.

Experience of forwards like Eddy Brown and Tom Johnson was largely wasted after the interval because Orient tempted the fates and tried, successfully as it turned out, to hang on to their one-goal lead.

They were aided by some over-robust tactics from their defence, and they were fortunate to escape being penalised at least once inside the area.

The only goal, after 23 minutes, was something of an oddity. Eddy Brown leaped hopefully into the

air to meet with his head a centre by Terry McDonald which was going wide.

Unerringly the ball found the space just inside the angle of the posts with young Michael O'Hara helpless.

Bright spots for Luton were few. The tall, somewhat ungainly inside left David Brogan showed football ability and it was a pity his more experienced colleagues did not make more use of his work.

Mike Tracey was not the successor to Bingham and it looks as if some of the Bingham money will have to be spent to replace him.

Orient had more constructive ideas than Luton.

One of several surprise decisions by referee Mr. C. W. Kingston of Newport was a disallowed goal by Phil White near the end.

Newcomer from Everton Alec Ashworth will not be a success in the middle if this is the sort of season he can expect.

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BROG