

Saints Give Luton a Lesson

61/62

By **ROBERT McKINNON**

Luton 1, Southampton 4

LUTON had as much of the play, but nothing to match Southampton's bantam attack who for long periods jinked their way past the home defenders.

Luton's ground is so compact that one pass can transform desperate defence into attack. But only the visitors showed any appreciation of this.

While Luton tried to get through by swinging the ball about hopefully, Southampton created their opening by clever positioning and superb control.

In the 19th minute, following a free kick by Knapp, Reeves headed the ball forward to O'Brien who was unmarked in the goalmouth. He easily steered the ball into goal.

Luton replied with a spell of pressure which yielded two good shots by Ashworth and McKechnie. However, Southampton's superior tactics brought them a second goal in the 35th minute when O'Brien flicked home a fast, low cross by Penk.

Seven minutes after the interval Southampton were four goals up. O'Brien completed a hat-trick and next came a good goal by Penk who volleyed a cross from O'Brien past Baynham.

To their credit, Luton never stopped trying and their reward came ten minutes from time when Turner scored after McKechnie had first struck a post.

On this display, Southampton are a fine team, though their defence is shaky under pressure. Better finishing might have brought Luton two more goals in the second half.

Luton : Baynham; Reed; Bramwell; Morton; Cope; Groves; Walden; Ashworth; Turner; McKechnie; Fleming.

Southampton : Godfrey; Davies; Traynor; Clifton; Knapp; Hixford; Paine; O'Brien; Reeves; Mulgrew; Penk.

Referee : H. P. Hackney (Barnsley)