



● Bury 'keeper John Heath dives to his left to save at the feet of Tommy McKechnie as the Luton inside left forces his way through.

ASHWORTH AND TURNER ARE SHARP LUTON MARKSMEN

Luton 4 Bury 0: by GRAHAM BUXTON

NO one at Luton was wildly enthusiastic about this result, which mainly served to underline the moderate nature of the opposition. Bury manager Dave Russell was realistic about it. He commented: "We needed far too many passes to make too little ground."

That time factor helped a Luton defence which was not so impregnable as the score line would indicate. In fact, there were times when young centre-half Mike Collins looked crude. But he was well covered by Brendan McNally and John Bramwell, and Luton for a change, kept a clean sheet.

Their manager, Sam Bartram, was satisfied. "I thought the show a considerable improvement," he said.

But he could not have been completely happy about the display. There remains a query against the centre-half position, though Collins may settle down with extra experience.

Forward there was a bad weakness on the left wing, where Jim Fleming held the ball too long. Yet Luton persisted in playing to Fleming, instead of exploiting the clear supremacy Harry Walden had gained over Conroy.

The four-goal margin flattered Luton. They won because of the well directed twin spearhead formed by Alec Ashworth and Gordon Turner.

The latter secured the first goal in 12 minutes, immediately after Bury had, unluckily, had a "goal"

by Don Watson disallowed for off-side against Bill Holden.

On the stroke of half-time Ashworth darted in to score. Seven minutes after the break, Stokoe misjudged a goal kick by Jim Standen, and Turner had the ball in the back of the net before John Heath knew what was happening.

After that Luton, although never in complete command, were always the more dangerous and Ashworth gained his second goal eight minutes from the end with a shot Heath should have saved.

Apart from a couple of efforts by Frank Beaumont and Holden. Bury seldom looked like improving their situation—all because they were much too elaborate in approach.

Luton can play better than this. But they were never in any real danger, which probably produced a feeling of complacency.