

OFFSIDE TRAP FAILS TO HOLD LUTON'S TOMMY McKECHNIE

Huddersfield 1 Luton 2: by ANDREW EVANS

THOSE knowledgeable Soccer experts Luton centre forward Gordon Turner and Huddersfield wing half Pat Saward spent this match on the sidelines—and how their teams missed them.

In a drab game both teams badly needed a player with the skill to hold the ball and make an accurate pass. Luton scored their first League goals since December 2 and ended a four-match losing sequence, but manager Sam Bartram cannot be happy about their prospects.

full-backs Brendan McNally and John Bramwell formed a solid defensive trio but the switching of defence into attack was never smooth.

Right-half Bob Morton finished up the hero of the day with his 77th-minute winner, but he and left-half Dave Pacey will have to brush up their work in support of the attack.

Huddersfield suffered similarly. John Bettany, who has had most of his experience at inside forward, was far from happy as Saward's right-half deputy, and left-half Peter Dinsdale, although doing some solid defending, was guilty of many misplaced passes.

Luton's attack was more impressive than Huddersfield's. In inside-left Tommy McKechnie they had the best attacker on the day.

Huddersfield wingers Kevin McHale and England under-23 star Mike O'Grady were disappointing.

But they received little support from inside-forwards Jim Kerry and Les Massie.

The result was that centre-forward Derek Stokes didn't get one good shooting chance.

Luton leader, 19-year-old Robin Chandler, fared little better, but

once or twice he used his height and weight to upset Town centre-half John Coddington.

An indication of the type of game it was comes from the fact that all three goals were lucky affairs.

McKechnie's 25th-minute effort for Luton was a direct result of the home defenders standing and appealing for offside, and when Coddington equalised for Town it was from a penalty awarded rather harshly when outside-right Harry Walden clashed with England and Huddersfield left-back Ray Wilson.

The winner was a speculative effort by Morton, but at least it was on the target which was more than could be said for most of the other finishing efforts.

Town manager Eddie Boot was away watching Aston Villa—Huddersfield's fourth round Cup opponents.

Whatever weaknesses he may have spotted in the Villa line-up won't compensate for the deficiencies in his own team.

And Luton, who meet Ipswich in a third-round replay tomorrow night, will have to organise a sharp improvement in their midfield play

MORTON'S WINNER

Huddersfield 1, Luton 2

★ Luton deserved both points, if only because they at least knew what they wanted to do. Huddersfield didn't.

★ But Luton's first goal—in the twenty-sixth minute—smacked strongly of offside. Inside left Tommy McKechnie was stranded when right half Bob Morton fed him a through pass.

★ But play was waved on and, with everyone

watching, still baffled, McKechnie scored.

★ It wasn't till the sixty-eighth minute that Huddersfield equalised—from the penalty spot.

★ Right winger Harry Walden tripped raiding left back Ray Wilson and John Coddington netted from the spot.

★ That at least woke up the match, but nine minutes later Luton were in front again.

★ Right half Morton picked up a square pass from the right wing and with a quick glance at goal hammered a brilliant thirty-yarder past Fearnley.