

FIRST AWAY VICTORY FOR SMASH-AND-GRAB LUTON

Middlesbrough 0 Luton 2: by JOHN POOLE

BOTTOM-OF-THE-TABLE Luton, aided by a little luck, staged a smash-and-grab raid to run off with their first away win this season. The spot of luck that put their tails up came in the eleventh minute, after Middlesbrough had been doing all the pressing.

In their first attack, Luton inside left Alwyn McGuffie tried an optimistic-looking long-range shot from about 35 yards. Lightening was right behind the ball, but a few yards from his hands it dropped in a gust of wind and completely deceived him.

Back came Middlesbrough and an Orritt shot looked a winner all the way until it bounced from lucky Baynham's legs. Gibson, Peacock, and Neal all had near-misses within a few minutes and, with Middlesbrough having nearly all the play, it just looked a matter of time before they equalised.

But instead it was Luton who went further ahead in another breakaway raid.

This time it was a gem o'fa goal engineered by McGuffie—their man of the match.

The tall Scot ran on to a long ball and, judging his pass to perfection, gave centre-forward Turner a great chance to smash the ball home. Middlesbrough's costly half-back signing Neal, from Birmingham, and Nurse, from Swansea, had left a yawning hole through which Turner slipped with ease.

For the first five minutes of the second half, Middlesbrough looked as if they might get back into the game.

First Bramwell and then McNally kicked shots off the line with Baynham beaten, but they survived constant pressure and after this Middlesbrough never looked like penetrating the blockade round the Luton goal.

Passes started to go astray and with England centre-forward Peacock having one of his worst games of the season, the scoring power of the forward line was cut by half.

Ten minutes from time, disgusted Middlesbrough supporters, already streaming home, decided to take the ball with them. After a chase it was recovered.

At the end, it was Luton who were attacking. They could never match Boro for clever football, but they took their chances—and the points.