

PORTSMOUTH EASE UP TOO SOON

— 62/63 —

McCANN'S VITAL ROLE

Portsmouth ...3 Luton ...1

Two clubs with changing fortunes provided football that probably appeared more palatable than it really was because of the soccer famine. There was a great deal of scrappy lifeless play.

This could be expected from Luton, a Cup Final side of not long ago, but now on the brink of relegation to Division Three. But it should not be the hallmark of Portsmouth, a side with a far different tale of fortune—a side once in Division Three but now bouncing strongly back and still interested in promotion.

They certainly looked good for 20 minutes as McCann, once a Luton player, carved the openings for two goals from Gordon and Saunders. Then they rather took things too easily.

Turner scores

Luton might easily have taken a point. Turner, who scored after 27 minutes, was only inches away with a second-half header.

It was not until two minutes from the end that McCann sealed a personally fine performance by slipping in the third.