



Sheeves rushes in to follow up an attack only to see goalkeeper Baynham gather and clear.

Puzzling Luton lose 63/64 control

By MAX REESE

Reading 1, Luton 1

LUTON are a puzzling side. With, on paper, an array of talented players, they should never have fallen from the Second Division and now, in less exacting company, they are still not realising their potential.

At Reading they had two short periods of command in the first half. They started promisingly with Morton inspiring some crisp attacks, but after six minutes Kerr put Reading ahead with a rather lucky volley.

A disciplined and confident team would have brushed this aside, but Luton at once degenerated into a collection of fumbling individualists.

They in their turn were lucky when, in the 27th minute, Salisbury equalised with a slow ground shot that Dixon seemed to mis-judge. Then Salisbury almost scored again, hitting the bar with a tremendous drive and for just a few minutes Luton played as they should.

Five-minute blitz

However, Reading opened the second half with a five-minute blitz that could easily have produced three goals. This shook Luton so badly that for the rest of the game they hardly mustered an attack.

Their own goal—escaped only through some fortuitous goal-line clearances and the liberality of Reading's lapses.

Reading deserved to win if only because they did the obvious things with a certain amount of spirit. They are fighters and they play as though they enjoy themselves. It was sad to see so many of their attacks break down through a wild shot or an ill-considered pass.

Reading: Dixon; Neate, Meldrum; Evans, Spiers, Thornhill; Morris, Wheeler, Kerr, Shreeves, Allen.

Luton: Baynham; Daniel, Bramwell; Morton, Fincham, Pacey; Walden, Turner, Davies, Salisbury, Jardine.

Referee: W. M. Holian (Chesterfield).