

Pacey has Luton in fine form

Luton 2 Shrewsbury 0

A MINOR revival is going on at Luton, but these two points were secured by sheer determination and fighting spirit rather than pure football ability (writes **GRAHAM BURTON**).

Shrewsbury played it hard and tough which seemed to come as a shock to some of the Luton players accustomed to the more genteel approaches of the upper circles.

However, to their credit, they withstood some hard tackling and accepted a situation that called for a good deal of grit.

In the opening stages Shrewsbury, moving smoothly, looked as if they might have the Luton defence in trouble. However, 18-year-old Graham Caleb, making his home debut at centre half, settled down and the defence in general was brilliantly marshalled by Dave Pacey who has cheerfully accepted the burden of captaining a struggling team.

Hard tackling

And that was no more than Luton were because their attempts to be constructive largely came to an untimely end in the face of some uninhibited tackling.

Had Shrewsbury had someone in the front line with a real thrust, they could have placed themselves in a commanding position in the first half hour. By then though, John O'Rourke, four-goal hero at Brentford the previous week, had put Luton ahead.

Play degenerated so much that it became more of a pitched battle, culminating in a penalty award when Albert Harley pulled down Harry Walden. Tommy McKechnie made no mistake from the spot.