



ABOVE (JK4809B) an anxious moment in their goalmouth for the Wrexham defenders, as Fleet dives at the feet of O'Rourke to smother the ball while a couple of Wrexham players race back into position.

Luton reward for offside homework

Luton 3 Wrexham 1: by GRAHAM BUXTON

THERE was not much jubilation in the Luton camp about this victory. Truth to tell, Luton have played much better at home this season and lost, which is a sad reflection on yesterday's opposition. Wrexham were ably marshalled by their player-manager, Ken Barnes.

They looked to have plenty of midfield ability but no definite aim in view.

With considerable accuracy they moved the ball about, yet they never gave the slightest suggestion of being a goal-scoring outfit.

With a less effective build-up in midfield, because both their inside forwards Gordon Turner and John Reid were out of touch, Luton carried more punch.

All week they had practised a way of beating the Wrexham offside trap, and they did it in the 25th minute when left-half Mark Lownds strode into an open space to round Steve Fleet and tap the ball through.

The only other highlights of the first half were some brilliant saves, principally from John O'Rourke and Harry Walden, by Fleet who was applauded off the field at half time.

In the 55th minute O'Rourke headed a brilliant goal from a corner by Walden, and three minutes later Turner crashed the ball just under the bar from the penalty spot, after Lownds had been pulled down by Fleet.

Wrexham's hopes were raised in

the 71st minute, when Clive Colbridge seized on a mistake by Bob Morton to score. And Luton might have been in trouble had a shot from Ernie Phythian been a foot more accurate.

Luton's defence, in which Dave Pacey and John Bramwell stood out, had almost a holiday against the worst forward line seen at Kenilworth Road this season.

Luton had a great enthusiast in O'Rourke, and a potentially dangerous winger in Walden. But this match held all too little to get excited about.



AGAIN the Town are on the attack, but this time, Fleet comes to the rescue of Wrexham by saving this header from Town right-winger, Walden.—JK4814B.

