

O'ROURKE BOOSTS LUTON

Luton 3, Wrexham 1

LUTON took a step nearer Third Division safety but once again owe a lot to young centre forward John O'Rourke.

He showed more spirit and dash than most of his team-mates put together and his second half goal was a real gem.

A brilliantly angled header from Harry Walden's corner flashed in and only a miracle save by Steve Fleet robbed him of a repeat goal just before the break.

Despite Luton's sluggishness they must have won more handsomely but for Fleet's spectacular work.

Several times he performed acrobatics to get to shots and headers which looked net-bound and his handling was superb. But he had no chance with any of the goals.

Luton went ahead after twenty-five minutes when Mark Lownds beat the

Wrexham offside trap to dribble past Fleet.

O'Rourke's goal came after fifty-five minutes and three minutes later Gordon Turner netted a penalty awarded when Fleet fouled Lownds.

O'Rourke apart, Luton's attack lacked fire and penetration.

Experienced inside forwards Turner and John Reid were rarely in it.

Walden showed flashes of brilliance but had long spells of mediocrity, too.

Only one slip, which let in Clive Colbridge to score Wrexham's goal after 71 minutes, marred a sound Luton defence display, but they were never really tested.

Wrexham, despite the rallying efforts of player-manager Ken Barnes, played as if they were doomed for the Fourth Division.

And on this showing they almost certainly are.