LUTON DO DOUBLE

64/65

A costly mistake gives Town only goal of game

By ARTHUR WOOD

Colchester ..... 0 Luton 1

LUTON TOWN completed an early-season League double over Colchester United at Layer Road last night when a bad mistake led to Whittaker scoring the all-important goal in the 23rd minute.

It was a disappointing result for the U's after their fine win at Vale Park on Saturday. But there was still not enough punch in attack and too many good moves broke down in the penalty area.

Manager Neil Franklin, who showed his faith in the team by fielding an unchanged side against Port Vale, had no hesitation in again announcing "No change" after their success at Vale Park.

The U's were lively in attack, and Connolly laid on a fine through ball for Stark, but he lost possession in trying to take it round Baynham, who was forced to advance.

NO PENALTY

There was an appeal for a penalty when the ball hit Bramwell's hand, but it was obviously a case of accidental handling by the Luton left-back from Grice's centre. Referee R. A. Payne (Southall) was well up with the play and waved it on.

Luton had their first real shot at goal after a quarter of an hour when Reid tested Ames with a long-range drive on the run. Later the Town inside-left again brought the Colchester goalkeeper into action, but McKechnie and Riddick both missed when well placed as the visitors came more into the game.

Stark had to receive attention for a leg injury, and subsequently limped badly on the left-wing after switching positions with Aitchison.

Later he moved inside again and Aitchison resumed his place on the wing.

Luton took the lead in the 23rd minute when Aitchison tried to dribble the ball out of the Colchester penalty area, lost it and WHITTAKER netted to round off the ensuing move.

Just before the interval Grice tested Baynham.

Some of the floodlights at the Supporters' Club corner of the ground were out of action, but did not really affect visibility too much.

Early in the second half Riddick received a leg injury but resumed limping after attention.

Aitchison and Salisbury were both off target for the U's, but Trevis was nearer after a long ball from Griffiths had been partially cleared.

Baynham did well to tip over an awkward one from Grice, though generally Colchester's moves broke down in the penalty area. Nevertheless, Trevis and Connolly both had worthwhile attempts with a shot and a header respectively.

Six minutes from the end Forbes came to Colchester's rescue as Pleat looked like breaking clear to goal.

At the other end Connolly sent wide when in a good shooting position after fine work by Trevis, who was outstanding in Colchester's vain efforts to save the game.

Attendance: 5,115.

A Luton defender heads away leaving Colchester's Aitcheson and Connolly as disappointed onlookers.