

TOWN THREW THE POINTS AWAY

65/66

LUTON TOWN 1, CHESTERFIELD 2

IF ever two points were thrown away, they were by the Town at Kenilworth Road this afternoon. They had far more of the play than they did in the mid-week match with Wrexham, which they won, and that probably provides just another of the odd quirks of football.

Even when Chesterfield took an early lead, ironically through one of the players with whose services the Town had dispensed, Gareth Salisbury, there seemed little danger.

O'Rourke had been in lively and dangerous form and, in fact, provided the flick that enabled Stark to snatch the equaliser.

Ideally, that seemed to be a position from which to build successfully, but although there was much promise of the Town doing so, somehow or other it was never quite fulfilled.

There were plenty of near misses, but in the end it was mainly a lack of decision and accuracy in front of goal that beat them.

Really, they had sufficient opportunities to be ahead at half-time, and they continued to crop up afterwards, but somehow nothing would go right in front of goal, although due allowance had to be made for some good saves by Osborne and for some good covering by the strongly-built Chesterfield defence.

Defeat always seemed to be the last consideration, especially, as for 20 minutes or so in the second half, Chesterfield played as if they were quite content to remain on level terms.

O'Rourke tried hard, was unlucky once or twice, but really needs better support than was forthcoming. Stark was lively, but was another guilty party in the matter of missed chances. Rioch's contribution was modest, to say the least.

I would say that Riddick was an improvement on the right wing, but he didn't part with the ball readily enough, and Whittaker, who could have been brought more into the game, provided the better supply of centres.

Without doubt, Reid obviously relishing his return to the half-back line, was the Town's outstanding player. Rivers was bothered by the bustling Hollett and Moore fell below his recent standard.

Jardine again played well and Thomson tightened up after some lax marking in the early stages, but it was difficult to understand why the gaps appeared in the middle in the later stages, proving fatal.

So, there it was. Chesterfield, perhaps the poorest combination we have seen so far, got away with the points.