

Oh what beauties Luton!

By Dave Wharton

LUTON 5, NOTTS CO. 1

LUTON ploughed through the mud to smash in five great goals. And the man who really rubbed the County noses into the quagmire was lanky inside-right Tony Read.

Read, a goalkeeper converted into a forward, grabbed a brilliant hat-trick. But praise the entire Luton team, who turned on a display of fast, skilful football.

Their half-backs—Reid, Woods and Moore—took an early grip and never let Notts get into their stride.

The pattern of the game was set when Whittaker ran on to a quickly-taken free-kick, sprinted 30 yards and shot hard and low into the goal.

From one of their few attacks, Notts equalised when Shiels, a lively centre-forward, flicked through a Still centre.

Then Luton really went to town. Read got his first driving in a direct free-kick from just outside the penalty area.

Great goal

Luton right-back Thomson and Still seemed lucky not to have their names taken after a fiery squabble on the touchline.

O'Rourke, the man wanted by a number of First Division clubs, got Luton's third when he ran on to a loose ball in mid-field, rounded Gibson and slid the ball delicately past Butler.

Read, who was giving Sheridan a complete run-around, snatched his second by controlling a bouncing ball and placing it perfectly into the net.

Then came the goal of the match. Whittaker took a high turning corner and Read, running in from the wing, rocketed his header right through the startled County defenders.

LUTON: Tinsley 8; Thomson 7; Edwards 7; Reid 8, Woods 8, Moore 8; Harber 8, *READ 10, O'Rourke 8; French 7, Whittaker 8.

NOTTS COUNTY: Butler 6; Hampton 5, Bircumshaw 6; Coates 6, Gibson 5; Sheridan 4; Bates 7, Mouldon 6; *SHIELS 8, Still 7, Flower 7.

Referee: G. W. Davis (Romford) 7.