

# RIOCH EMERGING AS A STAR MARKSMAN

By CHILTERN

## LUTON TOWN 3, CHESTERFIELD 2

**B**EGINNING to fulfil now his rich promise of blossoming into a scoring star is the Town's 19-year-old inside-left, Bruce Rioch, whose two goals in this match brought his total to four in the last three, and he is comfortably the club's leading marksman.

More than that, he was much more certain in his finishing than the majority of his colleagues, not that some of the missed chances were to be wondered at, in view of the appalling conditions.

These were so bad after heavy and incessant rain that it was not until an hour before the kick-off that the referee finally made up his mind that play could start.

In the circumstances, constructive football had to be at a premium and it was a credit to both teams that they were able to produce such an entertaining game, with the result always in the balance.

Not that the Town were other than worthy winners because they seemed to adapt themselves better than did Chesterfield, particularly in the first half, when, had things really gone right for them, they would have had a crop of goals.

### WHITTAKER'S COOL GOAL

As it was, they had to be content with one, coolly and cleverly scored by WHITTAKER in the 25th minute and one near miss when Riddick headed against the angle of the woodwork.

Then, just when it seemed certain that the Town would reach half-time with their lead intact, they were shaken when their former colleague, STARK, equalised with a minute to go, and Read badly positioned.

Some quite intense, early activity by Chesterfield was driven off and the Town gradually re-assumed command, so that, after 61 minutes, RIOCH neatly headed them back into the lead after a Pleat-Whittaker movement.

### RIOCH OBTAINED THE WINNER

STARK, however, could not be kept out of the picture for long because he equalised eight minutes later, only for RIOCH to make no mistake when a chance fell to him in

front of goal from a pass by Pleat after 72 minutes.

In view of the uncertainty about there being any play at all, the crowd of 5,096 was satisfactory, and it is certain that considerable interest was centred in the debut of Dougan.

Not that this was any sort of a day on which to make a first appearance, but the former Leicester man gave an impressive performance which suggests that this particular problem has now been solved.

Taking into account the difficulties they faced, the defence as a whole did well and the forwards impressed as a more dangerous line than those of the visitors, though there was again a need for more final thrust.

### TOWN WERE MORE DANGEROUS

Apart from Rioch, Pleat and Riddick worked tremendously hard and Whittaker was more effective than was French because he concentrated on getting the ball over without waste of time, whereas the right-winger was inclined to hold on too long.

LUTON TOWN. — Read; Thomson, Jardine; Slough, Dougan, Moore; French, Pleat, Riddick, Rioch, Whittaker. Substitute: Johnson.

CHESTERFIELD. — Osborne; Holmes, Sears; Anderson, Neale, Hughes; Wilson, Randall, Hollett, Stark, Tait. Substitute: Blakey.

Referee. — K. A. Wynn, Wolverhampton.