

DEFEAT WAS NEVER ON THE CARDS

CHESTERFIELD 0, LUTON TOWN 0

WHAT has been a disappointing season for the Town in away matches was relieved to some extent at Chesterfield this afternoon when they wound up their programme on opponents' grounds with one of their better displays.

As was the case at Bradford a fortnight ago, they earned a point in a goalless draw, and this should serve to take the tension out of next week's match with York City.

That they earned their success there was no shadow of doubt, because throughout they looked the better-organised team, and in fact had the chances, particularly in the first 20 or 25 minutes, when they were almost wholly in command to have made certain of recording their second away win of the season.

Never did I have much doubt that the Town would avoid defeat in this match, because the Chesterfield forward line, singularly lacking in ideas, seldom made the slightest impression on a Town defence that was covered extremely well, except on the odd occasions, and which made full use of the offside trap with more certainty on this occasion.

In fact had there been more penetration down the middle, goals must have come, but King was much in the grip of Neale and was completely at a loss when the ball was in the air.

As it was, the best attempts came from Allen—a header which finished inches too high—and Rioch—a fine drive that crashed against the bar.

Both these players did a tremendous amount of work in midfield, and Rioch, used as a link man, looked far more effective coming from behind than he has as a front-runner in the orthodox centre-forward position.

Earl yon, French looked as if he would take the Chesterfield defence apart, but he never really fulfilled that promise, partly because the support was not forthcoming and partly because he was heavily marked.

So too was Johnson, who received little opportunity on the left wing to drive home his undoubted promise.

Again the master in the middle, Dougan put the shackles on the dangerous Hollett, while Thomson and Jardine cut out most effectively any potential threat from the extreme wings.

John Moore played on pluckily after damaging an arm just before half-time and was always on hand to cover up any gaps that showed.

Conboy was much in the game, but showed a tendency to lose possession in midfield and then not recover quickly enough.

Read's handling and cutting out of high crosses was impressive. He seemed to have recovered the form that enabled the Town to run on only one goalkeeper for the first months of the season.

Estimated attendance: 3,400.