

PAST ENCOUNTER

WOODWARD DOUBLE SEES OFF THIRD DIVISION LEADERS

In Round Two of the 1969-70 Football League Cup competition, United had a thrilling 2-0 victory at home to First Division Newcastle United. Winger Alan Woodward had played the last 15 minutes in goal owing to an injury to Alan Hodgkinson. Third Division leaders, Luton Town, had progressed to Round three by beating Second Division Millwall. United manager John Harris warned his team not to be complacent:

"Don't think of Third Division Luton, think of First Division Newcastle."

United were doing well in the Second Division at the time and stood in second position at the time of this game.

Both teams were forced to make changes. Tony Currie failed a fitness test and was replaced by Dave Staniforth but the star of the Newcastle game, Dave Powell, was pronounced fit. Luton had to make a change at centre-half as Chris Nicholl had been cup-tied earlier in the season while playing for Halifax Town. His replacement was Terry Branston.

Luton were the best team in the first 20 minutes with Graham French particularly causing

by *Dave Burkinshaw*

Football League Cup
Third Round

22rd September 1969

SHEFFIELD UNITED 3

(Woodward 2, Tudor)

LUTON TOWN 0

Attendance: 16,884

United: Hodgkinson, Badger, Heaton, Barlow, Colquhoun, Powell, Woodward, Addison, Tudor, Staniforth, Reece.

Substitute: Salmons (for Powell) 80 minutes.

Luton Town: Davie, Dougan, Bannister, Keen, Branston, Slough, Collins, Macdonald, Tees, Allen, French. Sub: Sheffield (for Tees) 65 mins.

problems. Alan Hodgkinson was forced to save smartly from Malcolm Macdonald and John Collins in this period.

Gradually, United began to take control and John Tudor headed

narrowly over the bar in the 21st minute. Seven minutes later, United took the lead through *Alan Woodward*. Colquhoun passed to Staniforth who beat a defender and knocked the ball to Woodward who beat Sandy Davie in the Luton goal.

In the second half United maintained the dominance they had exerted in the latter half of the first 45 minutes. They increased their lead in the 55th minute when *Woodward* steered Gil Reece's left-wing cross into the net. Woodward almost completed his hat-trick two minutes later but shot just wide. In the 61st minute Staniforth missed a glorious chance to make it 3-0 after being set up by Woodward and Tudor.

The third goal came in the 77th minute when *John Tudor* slammed the ball home following a run and pass from Reece. Luton substitute Lawrie Sheffield almost pulled a goal back for the Hatters near the end. Sheffield came on for Matt Tees who finally lost out in his battle with United's Eddie Colquhoun.

In the next round, United lost 2-0 at Leicester City. They also failed to win promotion and finished sixth in the Second Division. Luton finished the season as runners-up in the Third Division and were promoted.



The Luton goalkeeper is prostrate as Alan Woodward is congratulated by John Tudor after scoring the first of his two goals.