

Jimmy inspires Luton to great fight-back

Luton 3 Carlisle 3: by HENRY COPE 70/71

AN EIGHTY-NINTH-MINUTE equaliser by leading scorer Malcolm Macdonald saved promotion-contenders Luton in this rip-roaring game. It was a fitting climax to a remarkable rally. With 17 minutes to go Luton were three down and Carlisle, playing confidently and competently, looked to have the game sewn up.

Then powerful, roving Macdonald, showing tremendous zest, began to evade the attentions of Graham Winstanley on the muddy pitch. And his shining example lifted the rest of the team to heights they had not previously attained.

Carlisle also had a lively leader in Bob Hatton, who was well supported by Bobby Owen and Chris Balderstone. Francis Ternent was a prodigious worker and Joe Davis gave Winstanley strong backing.

UNLUCKY

A point apiece was a fair result of a match Luton could have won but for faulty finishing in the first half.

They were unlucky in the fifth minute when a Macdonald shot was turned against an upright by Allan Ross, who caught the rebound.

Carlisle's neat approach work brought its reward after 12 minutes when right back Derek Hemstead, following up the attack, sent a surprise 30-yard drive past the unsighted John Read.

Five minutes later Chris Nicholl impeded Hatton on the edge of the penalty area and Balderstone hit a swerving shot through the Luton barrier for No. 2.

Luton's pressure carved several openings, but both Givens and Macdonald blazed wide with only Ross to beat.

The home team started the second half aggressively by forcing three corner kicks, yet inside 10 minutes Carlisle went further ahead.

Hatton headed Balderstone's corner kick down for Dennis Martin to swivel and slide the ball in.

DESPERATE

Luton began to show their desperation by attempting long shots which never troubled Ross. Then, suddenly, they were back in the match.

From a corner Nicholl headed against the cross. Macdonald hit the rebound against Davis, then Jimmy Ryan (73mins) netted.

This goal had an electrifying effect on Luton, and within a minute left-back Alan Slough drove the ball into the net through a crowd of defenders.

Soon afterwards John Moore was injured (for the second time) and Vivian Busby came on as substitute. And Busby had a hand in that final goal which set the crowd alight.

LUTON.—Read: Ryan (John), Slough, Hoy, Nicholl, Moore, Ryan (Jimmy), Court, Macdonald, Keen, Givens. Sub.: Busby.

CARLISLE.—Ross: Hemstead, Davis, Ternent, Winstanley, Sutton, Martin, Barton, Hatton, Owen, Balderstone. Sub: Gorman.



● Luton's Malcolm Macdonald (white) blasts just wide from in front of goal