

Keeper foils Super Mac

LUTON WILTED as Alan Woodward, Sheffield United's dynamic winger, hit the exciting form that had deserted him in recent weeks. Woodward notched both goals to give his team a win that made them joint leaders of the Second Division with Hull and jolted Luton's own promotion hopes. United, giving one of their most complete performances of the season, exposed Luton as defensively brittle.

Luton, led superbly by the ever-dangerous Malcolm Macdonald, always looked menacing when on the attack.

But their defence leaves a lot to be desired. If they reach the First Division they could be eaten alive.

United had their three new signings—Trevor Hockey, from Birmingham, and John Hope and David Ford, ex-Newcastle—playing in front of their own supporters for the first time.

All three made valid contributions in a quality display that had Division One stamped all over it.

Hope, taking over in goal from Alan Hodgkinson, won the crowd's approval with some daring saves and clean handling.

Hockey, busily patrolling midfield, gave United a smoother link between defence and attack and Ford showed the form that earned him an England under-23 cap not so long ago.

LOW CROSS

Luton looked like scoring in the 26th minute when Hockey's faulty back pass was intercepted by Macdonald, but Hope was quickly out to block his shot.

United's unrelenting pressure brought their first goal two minutes after the interval. Ford put through an astute ball to Gil Reece on the left, and the Welsh international winger sent over a low cross. It beat Read and Woodward just had to tap the ball over the line.

Woodward made and scored the second goal after 66 minutes. His corner from the right was only half cleared. Tony Currie pulled it back and Woodward half-volleyed it into the roof of the net.

Jim Ryan pulled one back for Luton three minutes later after Hope had dropped Alan Slough's free-kick—his only mistake of the match.

United should have added to

by HENRY WESTON

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their score in the 78th minute when Woodward was hauled down by Mike Keen in the penalty area after a sizzling 40-yard run. But Currie slammed his spot kick against the bar.

SHEFFIELD UTD.—Hope; Badger, Hemsley, Powell, Colquhoun, Hockey, Woodward, Ford, Dearden, Currie, Reece. **SUB:** Salmons. J J

LUTON: Read; John Ryan, Slough, Hoy, Nicholl, Moore, Jimmy Ryan, Court, McDonald, Keen, Givens. **SUB:** Bannister.