

STOCK FORM, 70/71 BUSBY!

By Maurice Smith

LUTON 3, BIRMINGHAM 2
FIGHTING STOCK some
call him. That's Alec—
whose qualities brought
Luton back from near-
disaster yesterday.

And nowhere are the
Luton manager's attributes
more in evidence than in
Viv Busby, his 21-year-old
amateur from Wycombe.

His two goals inside seven
minutes did not just put
Luton back into the game
but put them right on top,
with their spirits high.

Slough hammered a 35-
yard drive past Kelly soon
after half-time and Birming-
ham were done.

It was a full-house thriller
and there was merit enough
on both sides which seemed
worth Division One.

Yet both, I felt, are right
now stronger in attack than
defence. Nicholl was at fault
when Latchford slipped
through to score Birming-
ham's first. Goalkeeper Read
was slow to move when
Summerill headed the sec-
ond.

Bounced

But Luton at least plugged
the gaps. Moore took a
close grip on the boy goal-
king Francis. And then it
was Birmingham's turn to
make mistakes.

Hynd and Page couldn't
decide which of them should
clear when Busby slipped
between them for his first
goal.

His second came when a
Macdonald shot hit a de-
fender and rebounded.

So I didn't get a chance
to see Francis the sharp-
shooter in striking action
after all.

He looks quick enough in
thought and movement but
doesn't—on this evidence—
compare with the five-year-
older Busby for industry off
the ball. But he is young
enough to catch up.

LUTON: Read 6; Ryan (John) 6,
Nicholl 5, Slough 7, Moore 7;
Givens 6, Ryan (Jim) 7, Keen 7;
*BUSBY 8, Macdonald 7, Ander-
son 5.

BIRMINGHAM: Kelly 6; Martin
7, Hynd 5, Robinson 6, Page 6;
Smith 7, Campbell 6, Taylor 6;
*LATCHFORD 8, Summerill 7,
Francis 6.

Ref.: F. Nicholson (Manchester) 9.