

SHOCK FOR STOCK



● Luton centre half Chris Nicholl (left) wins a heading duel with Colchester's Brian Lewis.

-2 MEN BOOKED

WHAT A SHOCK start to the season for Luton . . . knocked out of the Watney Cup by Fourth Division Colchester, two players booked and Don Givens, the man they are banking on to supply the goals now that Malcolm Macdonald has gone to Newcastle for £180,000, hobbling off with an ankle injury after only half an hour.

Manager Alec Stock has certainly got his problems with just a fortnight to go before the League programme gets under way.

Roger Hoy and Dave Court were the players who found their names going into referee Norman Burtenshaw's little black book—Hoy for a second piece of time-wasting and Court for a late heavy tackle on Mick Mahon.

Colchester, last season's sensational F.A. Cup conquerors of mighty Leeds, will now receive Carlisle in the semi-finals on Wednesday.

They fully deserved this reward. They put more into the game. And they tried hard to take advantage of the experiment whereby players can only be off-side in their opponent's penalty area.

The only goal was a penalty 11 minutes from time. Brian Lewis, playing against his old club, was brought down by substitute Ken Goodeve, got up, and scored from the spot himself.

Veteran Ray Crawford ran about like a young terrier contriving to lay on chances for his colleagues.

Both sides used the permitted two of their five substitutes, Luton probably earlier than they expected with Brian Wainwright coming on for Givens.

But even before Givens went off Luton had rarely raised much of a threat mainly because of solid work by Colchester skipper Bobby Cram.

A typical piece of Cram work was the way he headed a Givens drive off the line after 23 minutes.

Colchester - - - 1

Luton - - - - - 0

by JAMES FRENCH

Striker Dave Simmons, back after a double injury that threatened his career earlier this year, missed two fair openings provided by Crawford and Mahon, who had both exploited the offside experiment.

Peter Adamson, Luton's wandering winger, was a great worker and was unlucky not to make full contact with John Ryan's long through ball 10 minutes before the interval.

Colchester resumed their bold attacking policy after the break and Alan Slough did well to head a Brian Gibbs drive off the line.

Lewis was the most dangerous player in the last half hour.

CHASE

From a normally offside position he chased a faint chance and shot into the side netting. And 15 minutes from time he had a good drive well saved by keeper Tony Read.

This was the signal for Colchester to bring off Brian Owen and Simmons for Steve Leslie and Ken Jones. Luton sent on Goodeve for Court and five minutes later Goodeve gave away that vital penalty.

Sadly, the offside experiment did not bring more goals or even give more chances to that fast disappearing breed, the winger.

But it did bring one bonus . . . the end of those annoying interruptions that so often spoil the flow of a game.

COLCHESTER.—Smith; Cram, Owen, Garvey, Gilchrist, Burgess, Lewis, Crawford, Simmons, Gibbs, Mahon. Subs: Leslie, Jones.

LUTON.—Read; John Ryan, Slough, Hoy, Nicholl, Court, Jim Ryan, Busby, Givens, Anderson. Subs: Goodeve, Wainwright.