

## LUTON TOWN MATCH VERDICT



By **ROGER  
DUCKWORTH**

THIS Luton side did not play as if it realised that several of the players were playing for their places. They performed like paper tigers and Charlton were good value for the win they so badly needed.

Even so, Luton can call themselves unlucky. Charlton's first-half goal came direct from a Rogers corner and their second-half clincher came from the penalty spot through Went after Court had fouled Peacock.

Luton's goal flair has really deserted them. Anderson worked desperately hard but he would have had more encouragement had he converted a good cross from Givens early in the second half.

### Double

Givens, too, worked with a will and in the second half Busby began to do better. He obviously did not like it when he was pulled off in favour of Halom in the 58th minute.

Luton were on the wrong end of a double today — but these were two very average sides.

Luton could not seem to create scoring chances, even when their approach work was at its best, and something is obviously going to have to be done about it.

Barber, who came into goal for Read, had a brilliant first half, and his first mistake was when he let Rogers's corner go straight in.

Halom was unable to make any difference when he went on.

# TOWN HIT BY FLUKE GOAL AND PENALTY

## CHARLTON 2 LUTON 0

IT TOOK a fluke and a penalty to beat Luton today.

The fluke — a goal scored direct from a corner — was floated in by Charlton's Rogers just before half-time. The penalty came half an hour from the end after Court had fouled Peacock inside the area.

Town manager Alec Stock waited until this morning to announce the news that he had dropped centre-forward Vic Halom and brought back leading scorer Peter Anderson.

Halom was sub today. The only other change from last week was in the Luton goal, where Keith Barber came in for out-of-favour Tony Read.

The game was watched by a minute crowd who looked absolutely lost in the 70,000 capacity stadium.

From the kick-off Charlton went forward and in the opening seconds Treacy grabbed hold of a loose ball outside the penalty area and banged in a hopeful shot which went well wide.

In the second minute Luton might have had a penalty. A bad goal kick from Dunn was chested down by Givens and as he raced back towards the penalty box he was brought down by Warman. But the offence was just outside and Keen's free kick shot narrowly past a post.

From another good move Keen put a low centre over and a first-time shot from Court's left foot went just over the top.

For Charlton, Hunt and Flanagan worked well together on the left and it took

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some good anticipation from Slough to cut out Hunt's cross and to concede a corner which Barber took confidently under pressure.

Both sides continued to play attractive football and in the eighth minute Luton very nearly collared a goal from it. Slough found Anderson on the left wing and raced through at top speed for the immaculate return, which he hit first time — only to see Dunn catch it neatly.

### Brave

In the 11th minute Barber pulled off a brilliant save to prevent Charlton from going ahead. Hunt pushed a delightful ball through for Went and he shot hard from a good position. But Barber was up to it and dived quickly to his left to make a fine save and push the ball out to Slough, who cleared quickly.

And a minute later Barber again looked confident when he easily stopped a header from Treacy following a fine cross on the run from Warman.

Court put his goalkeeper in trouble with a long back pass but Barber again acquitted himself well, going in bravely at the feet of Hunt and collecting the ball, despite taking a kick.

Luton's first corner came in the 20th minute. Court took the kick and the Charlton defence was in a real mess as Givens and Busby worked hard before Slough shot over.

Anderson had been taking some rough treatment from time to time and in the 24th minute Shipperley was booked for tripping the Luton striker.



Charlton right-half Paul Went and Mike Keen in a tussle for possession during a Luton attack



Viv Busby heads towards the Charlton goal

## MATCH FACTS AT A GLANCE

**CHARLTON:** Dunn; Jones, Warman; Went, Shipperley, Davies; Peacock, Treacy, Hunt, Rogers, Flanagan. Sub: Plumb.

**LUTON:** Barber; John Ryan, Slough; Keen, Nicholl, Moore; Wainwright, Court, Anderson, Givens, Busby. Sub: Halom.

**Referee:** Mr E. Jolly