

V FOR VICTORY STOPS JEERS

71/72

Luton 3, Sheffield W. 1 By BOB MORLEY

LUTON striker Vic Halom, answered the jeering Luton crowd with a Harvey Smith salute, plus a fine late hat-trick which staggered Sheffield Wednesday. "All's well that ends well," said relieved Luton manager Alec Stook.

Wednesday blundered in trying to sit on an early lead by Joicey, for Luton steadily increased pressure throughout the second half until the defence cracked.

Drive

The turning point was Stook's switch of Givens from midfield to the forward line. Givens replaced Slough, who went off with a cut nose, and his drive and dash got the others moving.

Wednesday's 19-year-old third-choice goalkeeper Trevor Pearson had no chance of saving any of Halom's goals. Norton Woodseats Working Men's Club, Pearson's Sunday League team, can sink a pint or two in tribute to him.

His bravery spread confidence among his defence—until Thompson and Todd lost their grip on the Luton strikers and Pearson was left stranded.

With Keen out of touch, Wednesday had dominated the midfield, until Luton summoned up their last reserves of energy.

Garner gradually got a grip on Joicey, and Moore, replacing Slough, tightened up on Sinclair.

LUTON: Barber 6—Ryan (John) 6, Garner 7, Slough (Inj.) 6, Shanks 6—Keen 5, Moore 7, Court 6—*HALOM 3, Anderson 7, Busby 6. Sub.: Givens 7.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY: *PEARSON 8—Rodrigues 6, Thompson 7, Todd 7, Clements 6—Pugh 7, Craig 6, Sissons 6—Sinclair 6, Joicey 6, Sunley 6.

Ref.: K. Sweet (Aberdare) 7.