

POMPEY SCUTTLED BY RYAN

Portsmouth 0, Luton 3

By BILL DAVID

RESHUFFLED Luton swept to their biggest away win of the season in Pompey's shop-window display of four open-to-transfer men. If anyone was around looking for bargains, then the display was a flop.

Luton's changes pivoted on the conversion of John Ryan, after more than 100 games at right back, to a midfielder looking for goals. He got them.

Said Luton manager Alec Stock: "There's been a clamour for more goals and I moved Ryan up to put more life in our front running. But I'll have to talk to him about that one he missed!"

Ryan's comment, after scoring one in each half: "I fancied myself getting one but never two."

Goalkeeper Milkins had a nightmare of a match. He was all at sea when Ryan got his second.

Nothing went right for Pompey from the moment Blant was judged to have handled in the area with Ryan haring in. It was a harsh decision by referee Norman Pagett that gave Givens the penalty for Luton to go ahead.

Doomed

Ryan's first goal showed Luton's mastery. Keen put through a perfect ball for Givens, whose cross was headed in by Ryan.

Pompey went from bad to worse except for fleeting glimpses of spirit by Wilson and Munks.

Poor Portsmouth shaped as though they had never seen one another before and could have been mistaken for a side doomed to relegation.

Ryan got the third to round off a left-wing move.

Collins trying to clear, put the ball at Ryan's feet.

Manager Stock has had his fan troubles, so he could understand what is happening at Fratton these days. The last minutes of Pompey's rout were played out before fast-emptying terraces.

PORTSMOUTH: Milkins 4—Smith 6, Collins 5, Blant 4, Youlden 6—Munks 6, *WILSON 7, Ley 5—Piper 5, Reynolds 5, Hiron 6.

LUTON: Barber 7—Slough 6, Shanks 6, Garner 6, Moore 5—Wainwright 6, *RYAN 8, Keen 6—Halom 7, Givens 7, Hindson 6.

Ref.: N. Pagett (Coventry) 5.