



● Scramble! Luton's Alan Slough is beaten by Forest 'keeper Jim Barron.

Slough storms along to lay Luton jinx



● BARRY BUTLIN
... always dangerous

STRONG MAN Alan Slough prised open a defiant Forest defence to demolish Luton's Kenilworth Road jinx and produce a first home League win since September 16. But the man who set the fans buzzing was Forest 'keeper Jim Barron, and for a long spell it looked as though his brilliant reflexes would extend Luton's unhappy run of 10 home League games without a win.

Not that Luton lacked enterprise or the ability to make openings. Much of their forward play was exciting, and Jim Ryan and John Aston used the wings with fine effect.

In Barry Butlin they had a striker always ready to go for goals. And with Slough and Gordon Hindson excellent linkmen, Luton produced the verve that has earned them the best away record in the country.

But for the bold Barron, it might have been a crushing result—and his chief victim was Butlin.

Four times the £50,000 signing from Derby crashed in shots that on another day against another 'keeper would have brought goals. Twisting and turning, the agile Barron reached them all.

Even Luton's 66th-minute winner left Barron with some credit. He did well to block a close-range shot from John Ryan, but this time luck was against him.

The ball bounced to Slough, who jabbed it in after plough-

by PHILIP OSBORN

Luton 1 Nottm. For. 0

ing through the packed penalty area.

With Forest also capable of bright, attacking play—mainly through Jimmy McIntosh and Martin O'Neill—there was enough action to make rain-soaked fans forget all the current Soccer crisis talk.

Luton's goalkeeper, Keith Barber had to be alert as well to tip over a fine shot from John Galley and a skilful lob from McIntosh.

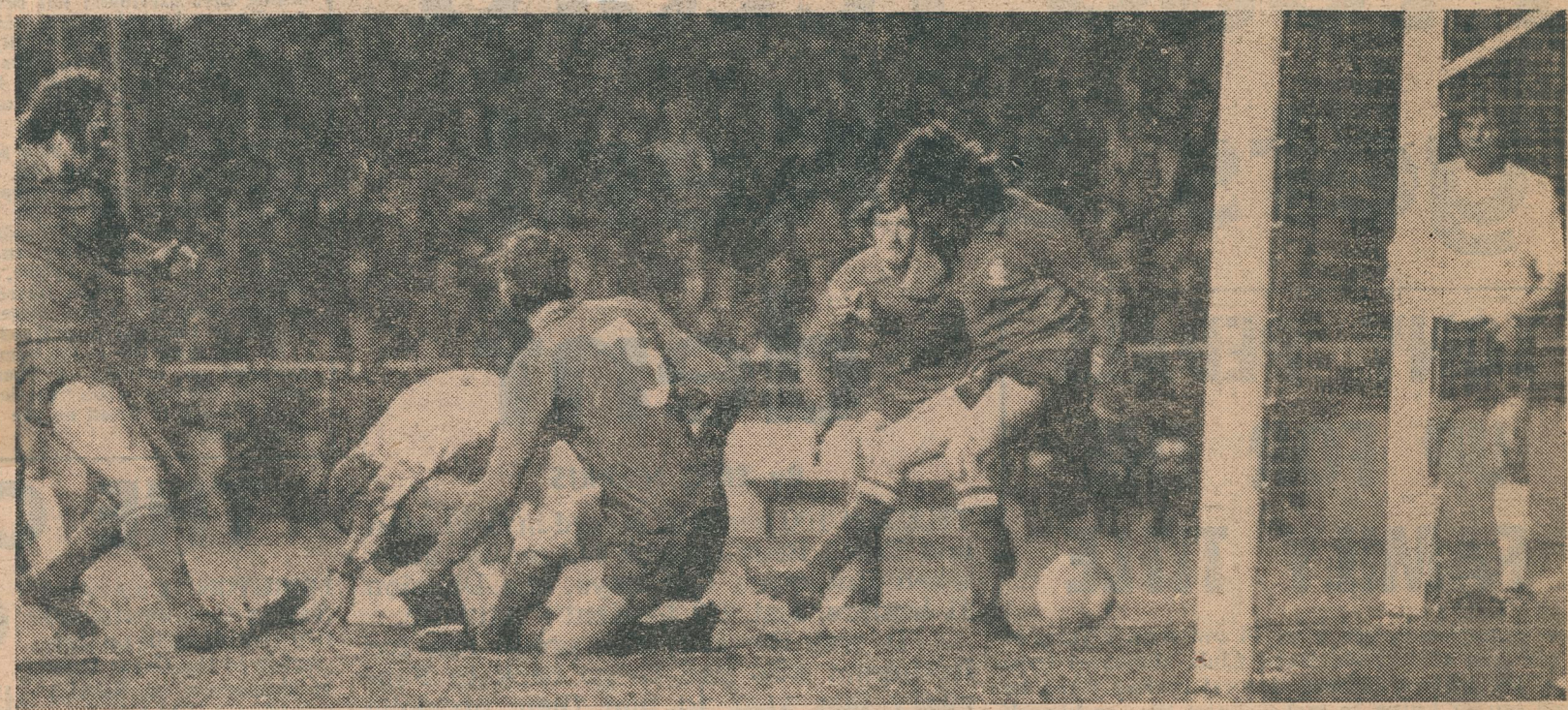
And as Forest pressed for an equaliser Barber was in brilliant action, again pushing away a Galley drive.

Luton manager Harry Haslam was a happy man at the finish. "At last the fans have seen the sort of stuff we've been producing away," he said.

"Now we've got rid of this hoodoo we must be in with a good promotion chance."

LUTON.—Barber: Shanks, Thomson, Slough, Garner, Moore, Jimmy Ryan, John Ryan, Butlin, Hindson, Aston. Sub: Hales.

FOREST.—Barron: Hindley, Winfield, Chapman, Serella, Fraser, McIntosh, Robertson, Martin, Galley, O'Neill. Sub: Lyall.



THE WINNER: Alan Slough lunges through the tangled mass of the Forest defence to stab home the goal that brought the Town two valuable points which keep them in touch with the promotion race. John Ryan, on the right, had pulled the ball back to create the opening. But that was the only time Forest's flying goalkeeper Barron, pictured below, right, was beaten.