## LIONS SNATCH

# LEAGUE POINTS

TIVE goals, one player carried off on a stretcher, one booked, and the debut of a highly promising young goalkeeper. It all

appened at Millwall on Monday nightexcept the right result after the Town ame back from the dead.

In the end, without really breaking nto a sweat, the Town had done enough o jolt lively Millwall out of their complacency, but not quite enough to win.

And while the loss of a couple of league points s not too serious, the damage sustained by Barry butlin to his left knee might be. It would be a tragedy f it knocks him out of the next cup match.

For Butlin, pictured right, has been playing a rate role in the Town atack, taking most of the ront line weight, and kilfully using the ball and holding it when chemary.

Triput a damper on Town abiliation which had broken at seconds before as John stron accepted a gift goal to at the Town level. Until that gift, the Town, rith Gordon Hindson, Kin tyan and Wille Carrick all ested, had looked lethargic and not particularly interested in winning the gome free their exertions on heturdey.

The brightest apor was the orm of goalkeeper Graham form, making his first appearance for the Town



Barry Butlin

after his £25,000 transfer

He had a good game, made several good saves, and looked safe on high crosses into his goolmouth. He also packs a mighty clearance kick—one was so long it cought Town forwards offside in the other half of the field.

Certainly, the goalkeeper

**ASTON** 

Viv Bushy showed up in patches, Graham French did not have a happy time of it and for the first hour a header by Slough, brilliantly saved by King, was the nearest the Town came to

But two goals in four minutes from John Aston rocked Millwall. The first was after 1 hopeful cross-cum-shot was headed back

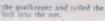


JOHN Aston hits the Town's first goal at Millwall: his first attempt had been headed straight back to him, and he made no mistake with the second

chance, placing it accurately over the goalkeeper's head.

With the goalkeeper off his line Aston chipped a perfect goal over his head from the 18-yard line,

It was brilliant — and so was the second when Dunphy rolled a back pass straight to him. Aston must be one of the deadliest men in the game in this situation; he carefully dribbled round



Unfortunately, Dunphy atoned for his error by dighting a free kick beautifully into the penalty area for Bolland to score with a diving header — a carbon copy of the one by Ted MacDougall they keep showing on the box.

Having dragged them selves back into the game once, the Town could not find the energy to do it all over again, and their cause was not helped by Butlin's

Goodeve came on as substitute and Don Shanks was pushed upfield, where he proved that he is a brilliant full-back.

### .. AND **STRIKES** AGAIN

THIS is the goal that brought John Aston's tally so far this season to 12, putting him well clear as the Town's leading scorer.

The picture, by Andy Wright, shows how the Mill-wall defence was caught cold by one of their own players.

Eamon Dunphy, outside his own penalty area, tried to pass back to his goal-keeper, but did not hit the ball hard enough.

Aston did—be intercepted and left Millwall goalkeeper Bryan King completely baffled by a body swerve, and even the Millwall fans applauded the ice-cool precision of the goal.

#### MATCH DETAILS

#### MILLWALL 3, LUTON TOWN 2

Half-time: 1-0

TOWN: Horn, Shanks, Thomson, Slough, Garner, Moore, French, John Ryan, Butlin (Goodeve, 69 minutes), Busby, Aston.

MILLWALL: King, Brian Brown, Cripps, Dorney, Kitchener, Burnett, Steve Brown, Smethurst, Wood. Bolland, Dunphy. Sub: Hill, not used.

GOALS: Bolland, Millwall, 33 minutes; Smethurst, Millwall, 46 minutes; Aston, twice for Luton, 64 and 68 minutes; Bolland, Millwall's winner, 75 minutes.

REFEREE: Ron Perkin, Stafford: competent.

ATTENDANCE: 10,504.

ENTERTAINMENT: Good, except for the result. At least the fans got what they want-goals.

#### Goalkeeper Horn By BRIAN SWAIN

THREE players in the Town team on Monday night were fighting for their places: Viv Busby, Graham French and new goalkeeper Graham Horn.

Morn.
And of the three, the goal-keeper looked the one who had done most to earn another chance.
Which shows what a crazy game football can be—he let in three goals, while Willie Carrick kept a clean sheet at Bolton.
My guess would be that Horn has ousted Carrick from the Town team—except that he is cup-tied with Portsmouth, so Willie has at least one more chance to

Portsmouth, so Willie has at least one more chance to make the place his own in the next cup march.

The next roolem will be when Keith Barber is fit again. He is doing what exercises he can, but his broken right leg is still in plaster, and will be for at least two more weeks.

looks good

A fully fit Barber would give the Town the luxury of two good keepers for the first team, plus a more than useful reserve. And that's a lot of goalkeepers for a club which has to count the generales.

For Viv Bushy and Graham French, Monday's game did not prove very much.

They both showed signs that they can produce the goods, yet neither really mposed himself on the game, and their lost weeks in the Reserves have done nothing for the sort of sharpness needed in league matches.

