

FINNEY FOILS THE POMPEY BATTLEERS

BY REG BETTS

LUTON 3, POMPEY 3

Pompey still seek their first League win — after sharing six goals at Luton in a hectic struggle, which had sufficient goalmouth drama to pack half a dozen matches — and two bookings.

For Ron Davies and Brian Lewis today's match marked a return to one of the stopping off places in their careers. Davies was top scorer for Luton during his brief stay at Kenilworth Road.

POMPEY VERDICT

Excuse me while I draw breath after a wild and woolly match which could have finished with a Rugby score. Luton's all-attacking policy could have brought three goals in the first five minutes and Pompey struggled until Kellard scored with a perfectly placed shot.

After that Pompey gained control for a while, but soon the match developed into a nightmare for the two defences. Two goals in two minutes sent the match swaying Luton's way, but Pompey came back strongly after the break and it was their turn to sweep ahead.

There was a strange incident when Kellard showed his annoyance as Lewis took a penalty kick, but there was joy all round when Davies rose magnificently to head home Piper's cross.

Luton came back fighting, and a draw was the right result for a match which was at times over-competitive and needed firmer control by the referee.

Graham Horn, Luton's young goalkeeper, played for Pompey in the corresponding match last season.

LUTON TOWN		PORTSMOUTH	
Horn	1	Tilsed	
Shanks	2	Roberts	
Thomson	3	Wilson	
Anderson	4	Piper	
Faulkner	5	Stephenson	
Garner	6	Hand	
Ryan (Jim)	7	Marinello	
Ryan (John)	8	Kellard	
Butlin	9	Davies	
Finney	10	Lewis	
Aston	11	Hiron	
Cruse	12	Reynolds	

Referee: Mr. W. J. Hall (Preston).

Pompey had an escape in the first minute. Shanks raced up on the overlap and hoisted a dangerous cross, which inched above Butlin's head.

Pompey conceded a free-kick on the edge of the penalty area and Butlin came within inches of scoring. Luton had a third chance, this time when Butlin intercepted a poor clearance by Tilsed, only to roll his shot wide with the goal yawning in front of him.

Having survived three desperate moments, Pompey made a little impact, Kellard seeking Davies's head with a penetrating cross from the left.

Luton switched the attack to the left and Stephenson sliced the ball away from the goal line. The defence was again in trouble when a Kellard back pass was picked up by Butlin, who struck his shot into the side netting.

Confident

A long, strong drive from Hiron's right foot was held confidently by Horn down by a post, but Pompey were rarely able to develop an aggressive move.

Hand and Tilsed collided and luckily scrambled away the centre from Aston.

Intercepting quickly near the corner flag, Hiron slipped the pass inside to Davies, but the Welsh international screwed his shot well wide.

Pompey were beginning to find some co-ordination, and Piper, striding forward quickly, passed through to Davies, who lobbed his shot over Horn and inches over the crossbar.

A fine cross from Marinello was turned away for a corner — and Pompey took the lead from

In the 64th minute Pompey at long last found the wits needed to outflank the Luton defence. Piper darted away down the right and pulled back a perfect cross for DAVIES'S head to do the rest. The Welsh striker rose with all his old authority to pull the ball past Horn and put Pompey ahead.

There was a minute stoppage while goalkeeper Tilsed had treatment and Roberts, went across to the trainer's bench complaining about an apparent arm injury.

The name of Thomson went into Mr. Hall's book for holding back Marinello when the winger flew past him on a dangerous run.

Marinello won a corner, Davies made contact again with his lethal head, and Shanks headed off the line to prevent another goal.

Luton appealed for a penalty when Garner went down but Mr. Hall pointed to the corner flag and another hectic scramble followed in the Pompey goal mouth.

In the 75th minute, Luton were level again. Garner's long throw was touched down by Butlin to FINNEY, who swept in the equalizer with the Pompey defence rooted the turf.

It was the Luton striker's fifth goal in four matches. Mr. Hall gave Anderson a long lecture for a late tackle on Lewis, but this time he kept his note book in his pocket.

THE GOALS

17min. . . KELLARD
33min. . . Thomson
35min. . . . Garner
56min. LEWIS (pen.)
64min. . . DAVIES
75min. . . . Finney



Bobby Kellard — shot Pompey ahead.

Final:	
LUTON	3
PORTSMOUTH	3

becoming the first football club to have a full-time stadium since 1966. First Division match again club that had transferred curiously sweet triumph of comparatively few players City to Plymouth Argyle. Outside-left Harry Burd months ago. £30,000 for midfield players their biggest in history the late Leon Lewis in of Notts County. The £25 for over 20 years now. ● It's rare indeed for a drew a blank? Current Division match in which row 14 years ago next month in the goal rush! That was and the centre-forward, o imagine it — a team win and former Swindon out. Paine began the season mark. Southampton and were regarded as wingers. There are only two in the enough in the game to hi ● Will any extreme wing of the ticket situation by and inhospitability? Well, O notified all others to the barest minimum to the practice of issuing becoming the first football