

BEATEN LUTON APPLAUD BEST

Luton ... 0, Fulham ... 2

Even when it became obvious that their team was going to lose the Luton crowd could not help cheering Rodney Marsh and George Best at Kenilworth Road.

Their flair and obvious enjoyment when they achieved something seemingly impossible has made Fulham the biggest crowd-pullers in the Second Division.

Marsh had the spectators blinking in amazement as he strolled round four defenders and flipped the ball into the net for Fulham's second goal in the 64th minute.

They had gone ahead in the 33rd minute when Barrett finished off a move started by Best. The Luton forwards rarely troubled goalkeeper Mellor who had a capable defence to thank for his easy afternoon. Howe and Moore were outstanding.

Persistent Aston

Paul Futchler and Rvan were Luton's best players, but there was great persistence from left-winger Aston and centre-forward Deans, who had a difficult task against the massive Howe.

Fulham's Evanson (foul) and Best (dissent) were booked as was Luton's Faulkner for a foul on Marsh. None of these incidents took the edge off a thoroughly enjoyable match that attracted 20,000 people—double Luton's usual gate.

Luton were outplayed in midfield, where Evanson and Slough, a former Luton player, put in a tremendous amount of hard work.

Slough, the Fulham captain, said afterwards: "We are going really well at the moment. It is a joy to play alongside George and Rodney. They work so hard and take the pressure off the rest of the lads with their skills."

Luton.—Barber; Price, Faulkner, P. Futchler, Buckley; Ryan, West, Fuccillo; Husband, Deans, Aston. Sub: Hill (for Fuccillo 72min).

Fulham.—Mellor; Cutbush, Howe, Moore, Strong; Slough, Evanson, Barrett; Best, Marsh, Mitchell.