

Boersma two—and one is a buster

Oldham 77/78 (FAC) 1
Luton 2

By DERICK ALLSOP

GOALS by Phil Boersma—one a fluke, the other a gem—gave Luton a fourth round tie at Millwall.

Boersma shot hopefully from 20 yards in the 13th minute. Oldham goalkeeper John Platt got both hands to it, only to lose his grip and turn in anguish to see the ball cross the line.

When the ball was retrieved from the net, Oldham's players pointed out to referee Ron Challis that it had burst, but half-hearted appeals against the goal were dismissed.

Ripped

Platt said afterwards: 'The ball wobbled as it came towards me. When we picked it up we could see why: it had been ripped by a stud.'

But Challis said: 'In my opinion it didn't affect the shot. I believe the seam of the ball popped after it crossed the line.'

After 27 minutes Oldham had a little assistance from Luton goalkeeper Milija Aleksic. A 30-yard shot from Ian Wood bounced off his chest and Alan Young equalised.

Three minutes into the second half Boersma took a pass from Godfrey Ingram, ran round two defenders and coolly struck the winner.

Fletcher and Les Chapman were booked after a second half clash.

Vic Halom threatened to guide the match Oldham's way early on, but his influence waned under the pressure of Luton's industrious midfield—and so Oldham's unbeaten run ended on 10 games.