

BOERSMA PUTS

LUTON IN

By EDWIN CORBETT (FAC)

Oldham 1 Luton 2

In an entertaining replay of freak goals and incidents, Luton got the better of Oldham, one of the League's most difficult teams to beat, through two two goals by Phil Boersma.

The goal that gave Luton the lead in the 13th minute was enough to keep the average saloon-bar pundit busy for a week.

A centre floated into the Oldham penalty area, Holt headed out weakly and Boersma put in a shot that seemed no more powerful just above Platt's head.

The Oldham goalkeeper stretched up for the ball, and then amazingly let it slip over his head into the net. While he was still beating his fists on the pitch, his colleagues were pointing that the ball had gone flat.

Mr Challis refused to be moved by argument that the goal should be disallowed.

Oldham, more fluent because Valentine was producing a series of surging runs, drew level with another freak goal in the 28th minute.

Woods' free-kick from 25 yards was dropped by Aleksic, and Young was there to put the ball in the net. Luton should have finished the first half ahead, but both Husband and Futchner put the ball wide.

Boersma's skill in finishing brought his second goal and put Luton ahead in the 47th minute, after a pass by Ingram who, at 18, was making an impressive first full appearance.

Luton, a calm side determined to play football even under pressure in their own penalty area, sometimes took things too calmly. Young almost caught Alekisc with a back-pass, and Taylor's shot hit a defender on the line and led to a strong claim for a penalty.

Chapman and Futchner were booked after an incident in the 65th minute. And Oldham, already under pressure, were further upset when Young went off injured, but they might have forced a second replay if Taylor had made better use of a chance 10 minutes from time.

Oldham.—Platt; Wood, Holt, Gardner, Edwards, Hurst, Valentine, Taylor, Halom, Chapman, Young.

Luton.—Aleksic; Price, Carr, Hill, Faulkner, Jones, Husband, Ingram, Futchner, Fuccillo, Boersma.