

HARFORD'S PLAN FAILS TO PAY OFF

87/88

United block out wingers experiment

ALMOST but not quite yet must be the verdict of Ray Harford's experiment to use two wingers.

For while Luton Town's wide-men Micky Weir and Kingsley Black created havoc in a lively opening half, visitors Manchester

United intelligently cancelled out the problem and looked like running away with the game.

In the end the Luton manager said he was pleased to get a result and he added: "I thought they played better than us, passed the ball better than us, and they looked a good team."

He said he was pleased with the experiment of using wingers but felt more work had to be done on that venture.

It was from a winger's cross that led to Luton taking the lead in the 19th minute.

Billy Garton, under pressure, gave away a corner and Weir's, flag kick was headed on by Steve Foster into the path of Mick Harford who forced the ball home from close range.

Brilliant

Les Sealey than had to be on his best form when he pulled off two brilliant saves in the 22nd minute, both off Brian McClair.

His first effort was stopped by a defender and as the ball bobbled out, Norman Whiteside knocked it back into space and McClair ran on to strike and Sealey saved well.

Luton Town 1,
Harford (19)
Man United 1,
McClair (54)
Attendance: 9,137
Referee:
Michael Reed
(Birmingham)

Report by:
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Luton almost went further ahead in the 47th minute when another Weir corner caused trouble for the United defence. Foster came steaming in and struck a powerful header that crashed against the crossbar.

That certainly shook up the visitors and in the 54th minute, United were level.

Whiteside hit a pile driver from the edge of the box which Sealey could only parry and McClair rushed in to head home.

United, with Bryan Robson playing well, began to take advantage and Harford made a double substitution on the hour taking off the wingers and reverting to a familiar pattern of play.

And that change saw Mick Harford, Britain's most wanted striker, showing his aerial power in the 76th minute with a brave header which flew just wide of a post.

The one black spot of the game for Luton came in the 17th minute when



● One-up Mick Harford heads home Luton's only goal.

● United 'keeper Gary Walsh is left sprawling on the ground as Harford's headed ball hits the back of the net.

Foster was booked after a challenge on Jesper Olsen.

After the match, United manager Alex Ferguson

said of his team: "It wasn't a bad performance."

LUTON: Sealey, Breack-er, Grimes, Hill, Foster,

Donaghy, Wilson, B. Stein, Harford, Black (M. Stein 60), Weir (McDonough 60).

MANCHESTER UNITED: Walsh, Blackmore (O'Brien

75), Gibson, Garton, McGrath, Duxbury, Robson, Strachen, McClair, Whiteside, Olsen.

Substitute: Albiston.