

# Luton hand out lesson in the art of finishing

Luton 2 Bristol Rovers 0

98/99

LUTON, two goals up after nine minutes, should have buried Bristol Rovers before half-time.

Skipper Steve Davis struck his fourth goal of the season in the seventh minute and two minutes later Graham Alexander doubled the lead.

Manager Lennie Lawrence said: "It was a great start and we played very good football for the rest of the first half and we should have come in three or four goals ahead at the interval.

"But Bristol Rovers made a lot of things happen in the second half, had much more of the play, and deserved a goal for the way they played. But we know we should have had more before Rovers got going."

Rovers manager Ian Holloway pointed to an early miss when Jamie Cureton was put clear by Barry Hayles in the second minute but shot wide.

Said Holloway: "That was a chance that should have been taken. It was blasted over the bar then a few minutes later Luton got a chance and they put their's away.

"We had a few words at half-time about getting organised and into shape and the second half was much better. We worked hard and had a bit more movement

"We are trying to play

football but in the first half we failed to pressure the ball. On another day we could have had at least one goal but we missed them and all credit to Luton for taking theirs."

Jason Roberts and Hayles were "pretty useful" in the words of Lawrence but Roberts missed a good first-half chance with a shot that was off target and when Robert Trees did set his sights from a free-kick Luton keeper Kelvin Davis made an excellent save.

In the second half Luton were pressed back but Lawrence was delighted with the way his defence protected Davis. There could have been a goal at the other end when Phil Gray caught Rovers on the break but fired straight at Andy Collett.

Luton's Ray McKinnon was stretchered off a minute from time with an ankle injury. Lawrence hopes it is only a sprain and that he will be fit for the Worthington Cup at Ipswich on Tuesday.

**Luton:** Davis, Alexander, McGowan, Spring, Davis, White, McKinnon, Evers, Douglas, Gray, McIndoe. Subs: Fotiadis, Marshall, Thomas.

**Bristol Rovers:** Collett, Leoni, Bassford, Trees, Foster, Tillsdon, Holloway, Meaker, Roberts, Cureton, Hayles. Subs: Low, Smith, Shore.

**Referee:** B Coddington (Sheffield).