

Luton defy great rally, win points

Luton 3 Huddersfield 2 : by GRAHAM BUXTON

THE better footballing team lost, but Huddersfield did what Luton have often done in the past and played too much across the field. It took them too many passes to make little progress and they did not wake up to the seriousness of their situation until they were three goals down.

Then they staged a tremendous rally to save a point and failed only by inches more than once.

Luton turned to youth and enthusiasm in their attempt to stop their slide and it paid. As leader of the attack they brought in former schoolboy international Robin Chandler and, although he has not the polish of his opposite number, Les Massie, he kept Ken Taylor on tenterhooks.

Luton had a great start when Ray Wood only half-saved a shot from Chandler and Freddie Jardine was on the spot to put Luton ahead after six minutes.

Huddersfield began to come into the game ominously as half-time approached. But they did not carry enough punch and reeled from two hammer-blows at the start of the second half.

First, Turner headed past Wood, and then, in a terrific scramble in

front of goal, the ball cannoned off Bettany's back into Huddersfield's goal.

Luton became too cautious after that and lost command of the middle of the field, so that Huddersfield made a fine recovery.

Chris Balderstone pulled back a goal, and when Mike O'Grady scored brilliantly 21 minutes from the end, Luton had to fight hard and, aided by some good luck and smart goalkeeping by Ron Baynham, they hung on to their lead.

McHale and O'Grady tormented the Luton full-backs with their speed and precision, but Terry Kelly stood firm in the middle.