

O'Rourke gives it to lucky Luton

Southend 0 Luton 1 : by FRANK HEYWOOD

LUTON were lucky. Southend should have made the game safe in the first quarter-hour. They cut through the Luton defence time and again, only to squander the chances by wild and senseless shooting. Four times Beesley shots hit Luton defenders.

Twice goalkeeper Baynham stuck out a foot hopefully, and the goal-ward-bound ball hit it. On another occasion McBain headed off the line.

In the second half a Conway effort was headed over by Caleb when all seemed lost for Luton. Those incidents give some idea of Luton's good fortune.

Despite their lowly position, they have now taken four points from Southend this season.

Their goal, in the 75th minute, came when centre-forward Johnny O'Rourke fastened on to a long pass near the halfway line and, with a remarkable turn of speed, out-

distanced Watson to slip the ball past Goy with no one else around.

It was the second such O'Rourke raid. The first time the ball went just over the bar as King went racing in to tackle.

Ray Whittaker was the most attractive forward on the field. It looks as though the ex-Arsenal left winger will prove the solution to a long-standing Luton problem.

He worked well with the rest of the line, although he joined the team only on Wednesday, and was lively in changing positions with O'Rourke.

Most of the game was played on Luton territory. Young Graham Taylor, strong man of the Luton defence, shone against Jim Conway, who never stopped trying.

Bobby Gilfillan, who came in at inside right, did well enough, but there was not sufficient power in the Southend forward line