

WASTEFUL LUTON

Luton 1

Port Vale 1

WATCHED by their biggest crowd of the season, 11,449, Luton lost the chance of sharing top place in the Third Division. But they were unlucky not to continue in their winning run because they had plenty of chances.

The man who might have taken those chances, O'Rourke, was sitting on the trainer's bench still nursing his damaged ankle.

His deputy, Riddick, was well held by Nicholson, Vale's outstanding defender.

Riddick switched with Mc-

Kechnie in the closing stages, but Luton's raids continued to founder in their tightly packed penalty area.

When Poole gave Vale the lead after 18 minutes Luton were rocked, but they soon recovered.

Vale's hopes of a first win were dashed 20 minutes from the end when Pleat scored a glorious first goal for his new club.

FAIR PLAY: Luton 80%, Port Vale 75%.

Luton.—Baynham; McBain, Bramwell; Pacey, Fincham, Lowndes; Pleat, McKechnie, Riddick, Reid, Whittaker.

Port Vale.—Hancock; Alcock, Sproson; Steele, Nicholson, Miles; Rowland, Poole, Andrews, Porter, Smith.

Town centre-forward Gordon Riddick duels for a high centre from the right.

