

Lob by O'Rourke saves the day

Luton 1 Grimsby 1: by GRAHAM BUXTON

THIS sort of form will not get Luton out of their deep relegation trouble, yet they had their chances of making certain of the other point in an untidy game. Such opportunities as Jimmy Gibson and Tommy McKechnie squandered must be accepted because the number of openings being created are so painfully few.

Both shot wide with only Harry Wainman to beat, but in truth this was a game that neither team deserved to win.

What sparked off the stormy incidents involving players and crowd was difficult to understand, because there was little to stir up the passions apart from one or two over-robust Grimsby tackles to which a section of the crowd took exception.

It could have stemmed from disappointment at Grimsby going ahead in the third minute through Ron Cockerill. The tall right half strode into an empty space to snap up a canny pass by Dennis Foster.

In this, justice was served because Cockerill was the game's most dangerous attacker, which is an apt commentary on the ineptness of the forward lines. Foster

was the only real craftsman on view.

For a long time it looked as if that goal would be sufficient because Luton had little to offer.

They are leaning heavily, too heavily it seems, on the opportunism of John O'Rourke who is not match fit yet, but who may yet be their saviour.

At least he saved the day with a clever lob seven minutes after half-time but was not given another chance by the strong Clifton.

Luton directors were away on a search for inside forwards and on this showing they need them.

Apart from his lapse in front of the goal, Gibson did not look the part at inside right and it was left to Tommy McKechnie to produce the most threats.

On the other hand the Luton inside forward trio were not helped by a weakness on the wings mainly because former youth stars Billy Harber and Ray Whittaker would hang on to the ball too long.