

Luton fail to check leaders

by JOHN POOLE

Hull 3 Luton 1

64/65

THIRD DIVISION leaders Hull missed chances galore against Luton before they made sure of victory with a two-goal burst near the end.

Chris Chilton's delightful diving header after 26 minutes was all Hull had to show at half-time for almost 45 minutes non-stop pressure.

Obviously this was not enough for a team with promotion ambitions. It should have been five or six even at this stage and Ken Wagstaff must shoulder some of the blame.

Mixed with some brilliant football by the entire Hull team there were some appalling misses. Wagstaff started the mby allowing brave young goalkeeper Colin Tinsley to charge down a shot when a goal seemed certain.

Relaxed

Several Luton raids looked like stealing an equaliser, but the home fans relaxed as Ken Houghton, £40,000 inside left back in the Hull attack after a fortnight, showed his undoubted class in the 77th minute by hitting home a fine left-foot goal.

Then Wagstaff, just to show he had not forgotten he is the Third Division's leading scorer, ran through on his own and controlled a bouncing ball beautifully before beating Tinsley. This young keeper showed such splendid anticipation behind overworked back that the former international Ron Baynham was not missed.

Unfortunately for Luton's relegation fears they have not a marksman in the attack. But in the last six minutes Jack O'Rourke headed a goal for them.

Luton's descent to the Fourth Division is certain unless they learn to finish.