

FINE DEBUT BY KING

Luton 2, Halifax 0

BEATEN by a fraction of a goal in the race for promotion from Division Four last season, Luton Town duly collected two home points at the expense of Halifax at Kenilworth Road yesterday.

King, who helped Torquay to promotion last season, played a vital roll in the Luton victory. Making his home debut, King scored Luton's first goal in the opening minute of the second half, and less than two minutes later he nodded down a centre from Pleat for Rioch to turn in the second and put paid to Halifax.

Luton's sudden goal-scoring sprint was completely unexpected in view of the rather disappointing attempt to adapt to 4-3-3 soccer in the first half.

But the way in which Luton snapped up the two vital chances got the second half off to a good start, and sent supporters away happy. There is a long road still to be covered, but Luton appear to have a new marksman in King, who could take over from the departed O'Rourke and prove the key man in Luton's new promotion bid.

TOUGH SCOT

Thomson, a tough Scot, was the mainstay of the Luton defence and formed a reliable half-back line with Rivers and Moore. Atkins was the star of a fitful Halifax attack, in which Taylor always tried to use his speed to the best advantage against Slough.

Luton: Read; Slough, Jardine; Thomson, Rivers, Moore; Pleat, King, Riddick, Rioch, Whittaker.

Halifax: White; Russell, Holt; Pickering, Clarke, Smith; Lee, Cliff, Wooler, Atkins, Taylor.

Referee: E. T. Jennings (Stourbridge).