

Luton's victory cheers Brown

Luton 2 Crewe A 1: by PETER GILL

WHILE NEW Luton chief Allan Brown is too seasoned a campaigner to be misled into believing that one victory spells the end of the club's troubles, he was pleased with the display.

"I called for maximum effort and I am sure I got it," he said afterwards. In fact, for the first 25 minutes Luton put on their highest-powered display of the season but scored only once through a header by Gordon Riddick.

There should have been other goals which indicates that all is not well yet with the finishing which has been Luton's weakness. But they could point to some slices of bad luck as when Ray Whittaker crashed the ball

against the bar and from the clearance Crewe equalised after 29 minutes.

The opportunist was Graham Matthews who beat Tony Read with a shot that dipped violently. That sort of body blow would have upset some teams, but not Luton's lively youngsters who continued to throw everything into attack with not much improvement in their luck in front of goal.

Apart from Matthews, who hit another "banana" shot which nearly scored, and to a more limited extent ex-Bradford leader John Regan, Luton's strong defence did not have a great deal of cause for anxiety.

In fact, 19-year-old right-half Frank Conboy, who may yet prove that Tommy Docherty made a mistake in letting him go, was able to join the attack and nearly scored twice.

Ironically the winner came mid-way through the second half, not from either of the spearheads Tony Thear or Bruce Rioch, but from Riddick again, whose role was that of deep-lying linkman.