

Luton lead, then sag

EXETER 1, LUTON 1

LUTON lost the lead, and in the end were lucky to survive.

Whittaker put them ahead in the first half. He swung a free kick round a wall of Exeter players just outside the penalty area and Smout dived too late to stop his drive.

Exeter showed more fight in the second half. Luton's unsteady defence creaked and finally cracked.

Keeley gathered the ball in a goalmouth mix-up to slam it home.

Luton's defence took a mauling after this, but Exeter couldn't make another breakthrough. McLean was close with two acrobatic headers and Godfrey hit a fierce shot into the side netting.

Luton's attack looked quite snappy on the rare occasions it was seen. But there was a complete lack of punch in the penalty area.

EXETER CITY: Smout 6; Smyth 7, *LEY 8, Wilkinson 7, Harvey 5; Blain 7, Godfrey 5; Keeley 6, McLean 6, Thompson 4, Buckingham 4.

LUTON: Read 7; Thomson 7, Jardine 6, Conboy 6, Moore 7; Slough 6, Johnson 6; Pleat 6, Riddick 6, Rioch 6, *WHITTAKER 8.

Referee: D. W. Smith (Stonehouse) 7.