

Tees header saves Luton

By C. A. COUGHLIN

Luton 1, Torquay 1

NON-STOP attacks in a pulsating second-half rally did not bring promotion-chasing Luton the victory they deserved. Torquay, who also have their sights on Division Two, will cherish the point they took, an unfortunate gift through an own goal by Luton right back Ryan in the 22nd minute.

After Tees, who led the Luton front line brilliantly, equalised with a dramatic header in the 57th minute the Luton attack dominated the game.

Tees had another fine header booted off the goal line by outside-right Benson. Macdonald went close with a header and a 20-yard drive in injury time and Torquay survived a justified penalty appeal for hands three minutes from the end.

But with Torquay centre-half Young in commanding, although ruthless and violent form, Luton could not snatch the winner. A more stern referee would have at least booked Young for some of his tackles on Lewis.

Overall it was an exciting physical encounter by two evenly-matched strong and skilful sides.

Torquay's more open style sent their left-winger Scott chasing a ball along the left touch line to put them ahead. Scott cut inside Ryan and laid back a short ground pass to the on-coming Mitchinson. The inside-right hit a 20-yard rising shot that Davie had well covered. But Ryan, leaping to intercept, deflected the ball home under the bar.

A bad foul by Young on Lewis, who had replaced Collins (cut eye), brought the great equaliser for Luton. Skipper Keen hit a long free kick taken halfway inside the Torquay half to the left of the goal. Allen met it with his head almost on the byeline and flicked it into the goal-mouth. Gallant Tees out-leapt a wall of Torquay defenders to head the ball home.

Luton: Davie; Ryan, Bannister; Keen, Nicholl. Slough. Collins, Macdonald, Tees, Allen, French. Sub.: Lewis.

Torquay: Donnelly; Sandercock, Glozier; Dunne, Young, Kitchener, Benson, Cave, Rudge. Mitchinson, Scott. Sub.: Welsh.