

Luton go down at last ^{70/71}

By DEREK WILD

Luton ... 1 Sunderland ... 2

LUTON let in their first home League goals of the season at Kenilworth Road on Saturday, slipped to their first home League defeat for nearly a year and lost the chance of going to the top of the Second Division.

But how Sunderland managed to score their first away victory of the season most of the 19,202 fans—the biggest League gate at Luton since they won promotion—will never know.

Sunderland, with a five-man back line and only two front runners, obviously had designs on a draw.

But, when Irwin cleared a Givens effort off the line, Todd did the same from Macdonald, who later also hit the bar, and Montgomery saved magnificently from Moore, Court and Macdonald, it did not seem possible that the visitors could remain in the game.

Baker on mark

But, as often happens on such occasions, Sunderland broke away five minutes before half-time and Kerr flicked the ball inside for Baker to graze into the net.

Park hit the bar for Sunderland after the change round, but Luton again made most of the running. Montgomery remained firm until 11 minutes from the end, however, when the lively Macdonald brilliantly hooked home a cross from Jimmy Ryan for his 15th goal in 18 League and League Cup games.

But the cheering had hardly died down when five minutes later Baker chipped a free-kick over Luton's defensive wall and the pint-sized Kerr darted in to head a cheeky winner.

Luton.—Read; Ryan (John), Slough, Hoy, Nicholl, Moore, Ryan (Jimmy), Court (Busby 63 min.), Macdonald, Keen, Givens.

Sunderland.—Montgomery; Irwin, Harvey, Todd, Pitt, McGiven (Chambers 67 min.), Park, Porterfield, Baker, Kerr, Hughes.