

Luton lose their proud record

Luton 1, Sunderland 2

LUTON lost their unbeaten home record, but had only themselves to blame because they had at least half a dozen highly acceptable chances.

But let no one detract from the merit of Sunderland's first away win of the season. Nearly always they were on the receiving end but they weathered a series of distressing storms. In doing so they owed a deep debt to Montgomery.

A series of brilliant saves came from him but there were times when he should have had no chance whatever nor would he have had if the Luton strikers had been in their usual sharp form.

Unlucky

At the same time they can point to a considerable amount of bad luck when two shots were cleared off the goalline and MacDonald thumped the ball against the bar.

Two penalty appeals were turned down as Sunderland fought to keep in the game with any semblance of a chance, and in this torrid period they owed much to Todd, Pitt and Harvey as well as Montgomery.

Five minutes from half-time came the unlikely event of Luton conceding their first home goal of the season. Baker got it as the result of some indecisive covering.

At that point this did not seem to be all that serious as Luton were so clearly superior. Yet as the second-half wore on they did not get the breaks in front of goal and other chances were missed before MacDonald levelled matters 14 minutes from the end. Then Sunderland came again and Kerr won the game with a diving header.

Sunderland overcame the handicap of losing McGiven, carried off with a badly bruised leg, and replaced by young Chambers.

Luton: Read; Ryan John, Slough, Hoy, Nicholl, Moore, Ryan Jimmy, Court, MacDonald, Keen, Givens. Sub.: Busby.
Sunderland: Montgomery; Irwin, Harvey, Todd, Pitt, McGiven, Park, Porterhouse, Baker, Kerr, Hughes. Sub.: Chambers.

Referee: D. Pugh (Chester).