

LUTON RUIN MILLWALL HOPES 71/72

By DEREK WILD

Luton ... 2 Millwall ... 1

MILLWALL'S wish was granted when they won the toss and were able to defend the goal to the left of the main stand at Luton on Saturday.

They planned to hold Luton in the first half, and then plunder a couple of promotion points with a second-half goal when kicking their favourite way—from right to left.

Possee did his bit with a 53rd-minute goal. The only trouble was that the first part of the plan had not worked: Luton were two up at half-time, Nicholl and Anderson heading home crosses as the Millwall cover suffered a New Year's hangover.

Run extended

Millwall tried hard to produce one of their last-ditch rescue acts after Possee's goal, and even got the ball into the net on one occasion, but Luton reasserted their first-half authority to extend their unbeaten run to seven matches.

Luton, in fact, looked like the promotion prospects in a thrilling first half. With Kitchener—later booked for fouling Halom—struggling, and King hobbling, Millwall always looked likely to slip to their third defeat of the season.

Luton.—Read; Ryan, Slough, Keen, Nicholl, Moore, Anderson, Court, Halom, Givens, Hindson.

Millwall.—King; Brown, Cripps, Dorney, Kitchener, Burnett, Bridges, Bolland, Possee, Smethurst, Dunphy (sub. Alder, 49th min).