Luton sunk by Tudor

Newcastle 1, Luton 0

By BOB WOOD

A GOAL in the 77th minute by John Tudor denied Luton a valuable point and kept them firmly stuck at the foot of the First Division. The goal was also a life-saver for a disappointing game which deteriorated as it progressed.

Admittedly Newcastle left it late but there was no reason why they should have done had they followed the example of their leader Macdonald when he almost scored in the first minute.

Macdonald no doubt anxious to net his first league goal in nine games raced clear to unleash a shot that was stamped a goal all the way but the ball hit the underside of the bar and came out for Litt to head clear.

It was indeed a bitter blow for United who moved the ball well at the start with Kennedy and Hibbitt in fine form. There was another let off for Luton in the 12th minute when a lobbed centre from Kennedy ricocheted from the far post.

United's failure to find the net began to affect their play and mistakes were made all round. These lapses enabled Luton to raise the standard of their game with an inspiring Aston and lively Chambers both bringing good saves out of McFaul.

Barrowclough, Macdonald and Tudor struggled hard to break the deadlock. In contrast, Luton were also firing disappointedly and the only time that the United goal came near to danger was when McFaul failed to handle a long range effort from Hindson. Fortunately for Newcastle, the ball went just outside.

The goal came just after an outburst of chanting from the crowd who among other things called for the head of manager Joe Harvey. But all appeared to be forgotten when Newcastle took the lead following a corner from Barrowclough which was headed on by Macdonald to the far post where Tudor forced the ball home. While Newcastle tried to better their account Luton held on and the only blemish on the game was the booking of Keeley after he had floored Anderson in the 73rd minute.

Newcastle: McFaul: Nattrass. Clark: Cassidy Keeley. Howard: Barrowclough. Kennedy. Macdonald. Tudor. Hibbitt. Sub.: McDermott.

Luton: Barber Shanks, Ihomson: Chambers Litt Garner: Hindson. Fern. Anderson. Vest. Aston. Sub. t