

Leighton writes off

By ROY BENTLEY
Luton 2, Burnley 3

GOALKEEPER Keith Barber gave his Luton teammates a pre-match message: "Stamp out Leighton James; he can give us hell."

Seven days earlier, when Luton's match with Everton had been called off, Barber went on a spying mission to see Burnley annihilate Newcastle 4-1.

Neat

But Luton defenders did not, or perhaps could not, put Barber's instructions into operation.

Welsh ace James scored one of the goals which sank Luton and was prominent in the build-up of the other two, neatly slotted in by young Ray Hankin.

Barber was reluctant to

Luton

74/75
speak about the errors of the men in front of him, but James was not so shy.

"Luton must have the poorest back four in the First Division," he said. "They are certainties to be relegated."

James may be right, and the sad fact is Luton are providing some bright, entertaining football and getting nowhere.

Evergreen

Magnificent Alan Stevenson, like Gordon Banks in style and mannerisms, kept out West, Spiring, Anderson and Ryan before Burnley

launched the blitz that brought five goals in 18 minutes.

Not far behind Stevenson was Burnley's ever-green Peter Noble—kicking off the line at one end and prompting Fletcher and Hankin at the other.

Spiring marked his home debut with a goal and one ferocious charge on James. He was lucky to escape a booking from the competent and tolerant Jack Taylor.

MoM: Alan Stevenson (Burnley).

SPORT TODAY

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
FA CUP
(1st rd replays)

Kettering v Swansea
Weymouth v Peterborough
RUGBY UNION.—Aberavon v Swansea (7.0).