

Luton pay for missed chances

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Chelsea ... 2, Luton ... 0

IT IS difficult to be charitable about the first-half display of two teams who bore the hallmarks of relegation strugglers at chilly Stamford Bridge.

That well known Luton director, Eric Morecambe, might have been tempted to ask: "What do you think of it so far?"

In the first half Luton lost the chance of gaining at least one point. Alston and Spiring will never know how they came to miss two gift chances in the penalty area.

Chelsea showed in the second half how to finish. Hutchinson headed home a centre by Garland, who had collected an appalling goal kick, four minutes into the half. Kember, who played a real captain's role, scored the second 15 minutes from time, following a quick throw by Hutchinson.

Hutchinson threat

Hutchinson was the big threat to Luton, whose defence were too often caught square, though young Paul Futchler came through his opening League game with credit.

Another youngster, Ray Wilkins, caught the eye for Chelsea. Operating in midfield, he linked well with Kember and initiated many promising raids, often involving his brother, Graham, on the left flank of Chelsea's reshaped defence. Changes were necessary because Droy cried off at the last moment with a throat infection.

While Luton look certain to spend next season in the Second Division—they have only one win in 20 attempts—Chelsea cannot be all that complacent.

Chelsea. — Phillips; Locke, Wilkins (G.), Hay, Harris, Wilkins (R.), Cooke, Kember, Garland, Hutchinson, Sissons.

Luton. — Horn; Ryan (John), Buckley, Anderson, Faulkner, Futchler, Ryan (Jim), Alston, Spiring, West, Aston.