

NO LUCK FOR AGGRESSIVE LUTON 74/75

By DOUGLAS PEACOCK

Burnley ... 1 Luton ... 0

THOUGH Burnley joined that long list of clubs who have challenged briefly for the leadership of the First Division, there was little about their victory over Luton to suggest they will still be there in the Spring.

Too often, they were stretched and embarrassed by a Luton side whose skill and energy, particularly in the second half, gave the lie to the statistics which keep them rooted at the foot of the table.

Only a brilliant performance by Burnley goalkeeper Stevenson prevented them from salvaging at least a point from this game.

He made fine, diving saves from John and Jim Ryan, Aston, and former Burnley player West, and dived bravely at the feet of Ron Futchner to foil another effort.

Rattled the crossbar

Luton's attacking policy brought other chances, too. Husband shot over the bar with only Stevenson to beat and Faulkner rattled the crossbar with a fierce drive from 25 yards.

Burnley, lacking the rhythm to sustain their own attacks, had to soak up all this punishment, and as the match progressed, their slender lead looked increasingly fragile.

Burnley had gone ahead after 33 minutes, with a move started by a Fletcher header. Ingham cut inside, exchanged passes with Hankin, and then burst through to draw Horn out of goal before sending a firm shot out of the goalkeeper's reach.

Burnley.—Stevenson; Ingham, Newton, Noble, Thomson, Rodaway, Brennan, Hankin, Fletcher, Collins, James.

Luton.—Horn; John Ryan, Buckley, Anderson, Faulkner, P. Futchner, Jim Ryan, Husband, R. Futchner, West, Aston.