

WOLVES DEVOUR LUTON

By ROGER MALONE

Wolves ... 5 Luton ... 2

LUTON went boldly looking for the win they needed in their desperate situation and did, in fact, lead 2-1 after half an hour at Molineux yesterday.

But their defence crumbled, one mistake after another being ruthlessly punished by a Wolves side still seeking safety points themselves.

So, in successive games, Luton have conceded 10 goals. Davies, of Derby, scored all five against them on Saturday, and yesterday it was Hibbitt who enjoyed himself scoring three.

As against Derby, Luton's goalkeeper Barber and his defence contributed to their own destruction, beginning in the seventh minute when Barber allowed Carr's in-swinging corner to elude him.

Luton's 16th minute equaliser, though, was a good one. Faulkner moved upfield to retain possession of Aston's corner, and then clipped back a low centre.

Seaseman, the recent recruit from Tranmere, dived forward bravely to head home.

Fifteen minutes later, after

surviving another Barber error, when he missed the lively Daley's centre, Luton actually went ahead with the game's best shot—a thunderous effort from 30 yards by Jim Ryan.

Were we to see fortune favouring this adventurous Luton front-line? Could they bail out their leaky defence? Wolves supplied a rapid answer, scoring twice in the next 10 minutes.

Hibbitt, clean through, veered wide of the outrushing Barber and shot. West saved with his hands and Hibbitt underlined his efficiency from the penalty spot. Next, Luton's defence bunched fatally on one side, leaving Hibbitt free on the other, and he again demonstrated his deadly shooting.

Luton, still only one goal down at half-time, kept pushing forward, but then errors by Buckley and Faulkner let in Hibbitt and Withe for well-taken goals.

Faulkner goes into hospital today for treatment for a suspected broken hand received when he collided with an advertising hoarding at the side of the Molineux pitch.

Wolves.—Pierce: Williams, Parkin, Jefferson, Munro, McAlle, Hibbitt, Carr, Withe, Kindon (Gardiner, 61mins.), Daley.

Luton.—Barber: John Ryan, Buckley, Anderson, Faulkner, P. Futchner, Jim Ryan, Seaseman, R. Futchner (Spiring, 68mins.), West, Aston.