

LUTON BATTLE ON BOLDLY

By RADFORD BARRETT

Luton 3 Leicester 0

Leicester, proud and relieved owners of the second best record in Division One over the past 12 matches, were mistaken, their manager, Jimmy Bloomfield admitted, in thinking of Luton as one of the easier hurdles in their race against relegation.

Derby, who travel to Leicester next Saturday, have the best record over the same crucial stretch, but they will do well to win as emphatically as Luton did at Kenilworth Road.

Their bold, direct play betrayed scarcely a trace of the frozen reflexes that hobble struggling teams.

West's furious dash down the left laid on a fine opening goal for Alston (23 minutes) but Weller's 20-yard back-pass 13 minutes later was the killing blow. The ball curled across a packed goal-mouth, and eluded the stupified, betrayed Wallington at the far post.

Amid happy cheers for Luton and loud advice to "give it to Weller," the match lost its urgency and flow in the second half, in which Husband clinched matters with an easy goal after Alston sprang the offside trap.

Luton.—Barber: John Ryan, Buckley, Anderson, Faulkner, Litt, Jim Ryan, Husband, Alston, West, Aston.

Leicester. — Wallington; Whitworth, Rofe, Lee, Blockley, Cross (Earle, 61min), Weller, Sammels, Worthington, Birchenall, Garland.