

POOL WIN WITH LATE RALLY

BLACKPOOL hauled themselves from the depths of a despairing 2-1 deficit with a spirited and gritty second half rally which took them into the lead.

In a match played throughout in pouring rain and with a blustery wind it was Luton who showed more composure in the first half as they took charge of midfield.

Blackpool started shakily and Luton had the impetus of a fifth-minute goal from Anderson after a Blackpool mistake. Blackpool went close three times before Hart equalised to give them parity at half-time, but after the break it was again Luton who took command.

They went ahead after 52 minutes through Spiring after another Blackpool error but Blackpool pulled themselves together to stage a storming recovery.

Luton keeper Barber staged a string of fantastic saves in a furious 10-minute spell of Blackpool pressure but Suddaby sneaked the all-important equaliser after 72 minutes and, as Blackpool piled it on, Walsh hit a glorious winner to give Blackpool an important home win against promotion candidates.

Dave Hatton and Suddaby were impressive in defence with conditions all against defenders, and once Blackpool got hold of midfield late in the second half, chiefly through Suddick's astute distribution, Luton were in trouble.

Torrential rain and a blustery wind greeted the start of the match and this was bound to make conditions difficult.

Blackpool were without Kevin Moore, who had fibrositis, and Steve Harrison stayed at left back, where he played for the second half at Bristol City, with Bill Bentley pushing up into midfield.

Bentley was making his 250th appearance for the Seaside, who had Blackpool youngster Mickey Betts as their substitute for the second time this season.

Luton, who were relegated from Division I last season, dropped Ron Futch and were without the injured Jimmy Husband and John Aston. Luton included Adrian Alston, the former Fleetwood player who became a star with the Australian World Cup team.

TEAMS

BLACKPOOL	LUTON
1 Wood	1 Barber
2 Curtis	2 John Ryan
3 Harrison	3 Buckley
4 Hart	4 Anderson
5 Suddaby	5 Faulkner
6 Hatton	6 Paul Futch
7 Ronson	7 Jim Ryan
8 Suddick	8 Alston
9 Walsh	9 Spiring
10 Ainscow	10 West
11 Bentley	11 Seaman
12 Betts	12 Chambers

Referee:
Mr G. Nolan (Manchester)

The game

The wind started playing tricks immediately, gusting the ball all over the place and there



	Min	Sec
ANDERSON (Luton)	4	38
HART (Bpl)	39	56
SPIRING (Luton)	52	
SUDDABY (Bpl)	72	
WALSH (Bpl)	84	

ran away from him and the goalkeeper saved.

Harrison failed to clear as Luton pressed back and Spiring cut inside the full back to send a left-footer wide of the far post.

Hatton cleared a centre from West.

Walsh picked up a quick throw by Suddick on the right and turned to hit a left-foot shot wide of the far post before Blackpool had a "goal" disallowed.

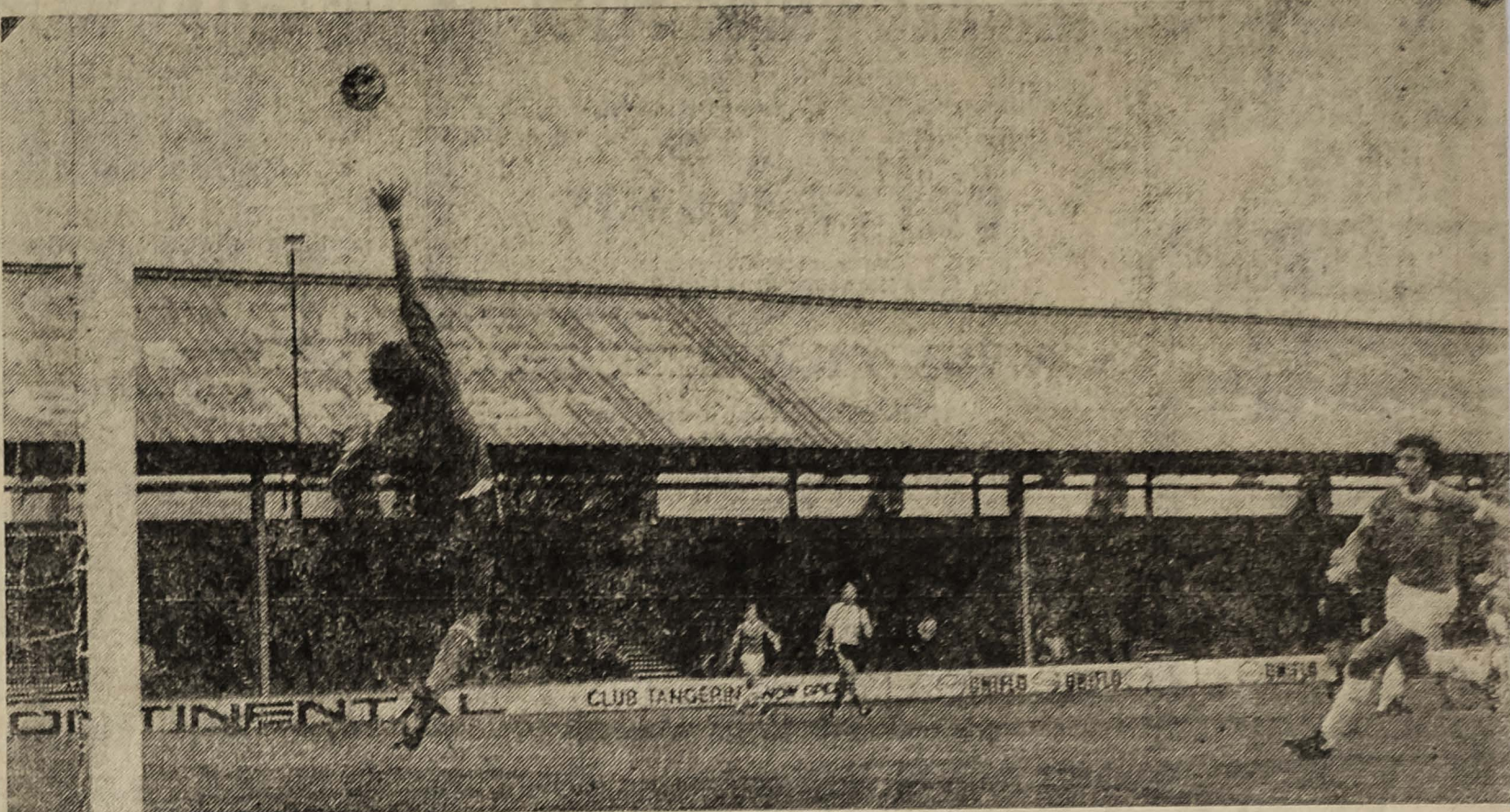
A penetrating move ended with Suddick being found on the right of the Luton box and he fired a cracking shot into the far corner of the net. As he left before an elated Kop to salute the goal, he saw the referee disallow the effort for offside against him.

TIPPED OVER

Ainscow almost did the trick in the 17th minute when he turned to slam in a left-foot shot which Barber tipped over the crossbar.

Hart found Ronson on the right wing, but his cross went behind.

Futch sliced Wood's clearance back to his goalkeeper



LUTON GOALKEEPER BARBER MAKES A DRAMATIC LEAP TO SAVE A SHOT FROM ALAN AINSWOW WITH PAUL HART ON THE RIGHT DURING THE MATCH AT BLOOMFIELD-ROAD THIS AFTERNOON.

knocked out to Bentley, who floated his centre towards the far post, but the wind carried the ball out of play.

Hart had a clear chance as Blackpool came back again.

Bentley forced a throw-in and took it quickly to Hatton whose chip through beat the Luton defence and left Hart with only the goalkeeper to beat. But the ball bounced badly and Hart had to turn, by which time Barber had come out to snatch the ball.

Hart had another chance minutes later when Ainscow had a fierce shot blocked and Walsh slid his pass through to Hart, who again was unable to turn and the ball cannoned off a defender for Barber to make a diving save.

EQUALISER

Another strong run by Ainscow, this time down the left, forced a corner from which Blackpool equalised.

Suddick curled in the corner to the far post and Suddaby got up beautifully to send a forceful header goalwards. HART ran across the flight of the ball and nodded it into the net, apparently off a Luton player.

Hart was lectured for a studs-up tackle on Seaman. Curtis cleared the danger.

Luton came back through Blackpool's failure to clear their lines a second time and Anderson was left with a shooting chance which he fluffed.

Walsh got round the back on the right but ran out of space and hit a low centre into the side netting.

Harrison almost presented Spiring with a clear pot at goal from only two yards out on the stroke at half-time when he misbicked, but did extremely well to recover while on the ground and nudged the ball back to the safe arms of Wood.

Half-time: Blackpool 1, Luton 1.

Second half

Hart intercepted a Luton

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TODAY, SATURDAY
NIGHT ROAD