

King boosts slick Luton

HARRY HASLAM'S band of fighters took another step towards saving crisis club Luton with their seventh successive victory, although they left it late before making Blackburn suffer for some slack work in midfield and defence. Luton, still facing bankruptcy, badly need a Cup run to raise money, but none of the club's cash troubles is affecting the players. 75/76 (CAC)

Luton fans worried their fans with some early mistakes, but then took command and once Brian Chambers and Alan West took over in midfield Luton were on their way.

Manager Haslem has no fears about the next round. Luton travel to meet the winners of yesterday's drawn tie between Norwich and Rochdale.

Said the happy Luton boss: "The way we are playing, we have no need to worry about who wins the replay — the club's money worries are forgotten once the lads get out on the pitch. They are doing

by PETER GILL

Luton 2 Blackburn 0

wonders for us and things look promising, don't they?

Blackburn, with Jimmy Mullen back in action after an 11-month lay off with a broken leg, gradually slid out of the game after Mullen made his only real mistake of the afternoon.

Big Derek Fazackerley sent over a long cross and Mullen jumped brilliantly to beat the Luton defence with a header but the ball skidded wide.

Referee Brian Daniels, of Essex, raised the crowd and Luton's team to anger when he gave a goal to Andy King following a brilliant run but then ruled it offside after checking with his linesman.

Blackburn's supporters missed all of the first half because their train was two hours late reaching Luton, and in the end, the only thing they had to cheer was a close call when Bobby Svarc had a header tipped over the bar by Luton goalkeeper Keith Barber.

Blackburn tried to settle down to hold the game in midfield and defence but their plans were knocked cock-eyed when Ron Futeher broke the deadlock after 70 minutes.

Nineteen year old Andy King who has become Luton's find of the season, laid on a chance for Brian Chambers and, although goalkeeper Roger Jones parried the shot, Futeher nipped in to score from close range.

Six minutes later King beat three men in a run down the wing and crossed for Chambers who placed a right foot lob into the top corner of the net.