

FUTCHER SEALS IT FOR LUTON

By A Special Correspondent

Luton ... 2 Sunderland ... 0

Sunderland, going for the F.A. Cup and Second Division double, were never in with a chance against positive-thinking Luton; had Ron Fletcher taken his chances Luton could have been three up by half-time.

Luton, irritated by a midweek defeat at Plymouth, showed that they, too are still interested in going back to Division 1.

Some £700,000 in the "red," Luton desperately need First Division gates at Luton again. Saturday's 15,000 for such a vital match was a big disappointment.

Players composed

Luton's players must be given every credit, for while the club is bad news on every financial front they are maintaining the sort of form that promises promotion.

On Saturday they refused to allow the frustration of missed chances to cloud their composure. They had the character to adhere to their man-to-man passing rather than descend to the long ball tactics of the opposition.

It paid off in the 65th minute when Husband, a sparkling forward, forced Moncur into conceding an own goal.

Then Husband beat Montgomery for speed, and shot at the empty net, leaving Ron Fletcher to sweep the ball over the line.

Attacking waves

Luton ended the match with successive waves of attacks that left their fans applauding long after the players had vanished into the tunnel.

Paul Fletcher was outstanding in Luton's defence which handled the lack-lustre Sunderland attack without too much trouble.

Luton. — Barber; Ryan J., Buckley, Chambers, Faulkner, Fletcher P., Husband, King, Fletcher R., West, Fucillo.

Sunderland. — Montgomery; Malone, Bolton, Towers, Clarke, Moncur, Kerr, Ashurst, Holden, Robson, Finney (sub. Greenwood 72min).