

SUPER KNIGHT

SEVENTEEN - YEAR - OLD Tony Knight, making only his second appearance in goal for Luton, sailed through with flying colours.

Deputising for Keith Barber who broke a couple of ribs last week, Knight had a busy afternoon.

But he stood firm to hold out Blackpool's eager forwards in this exciting tussle on an icy pitch.

It was obvious from the start that Blackpool were going to exploit his lack of experience by shooting at every available opportunity. Yet Tony handled the ball with masterly composure for one so young.

Blackpool's Derek Spence was probably the most dangerous striker on view, and he and Mickey Walsh were most impressive in their build ups.

Paul Futchter was magnificent at the back for Luton. Calm under pressure, his distribution helped in the build-up of many Luton attacks.

by DENIS COMPTON

Luton 0 Blackpool 0

Unfortunately for Luton, winger John Aston, who can be so menacing with his precision crosses, was snuffed out by the tenacious Paul Gardener.

Luton had a fright in the first 30 seconds when Paul Futchter cleared a Paul Hart header off the line with Tony Knight beaten.

At the other end, Blackpool goalkeeper George Wood made tremendous saves from Ronnie Futchter and Alan West.

The best chance, however, in the first half fell to Luton's Dixie Dean. He fastened on to a faulty backpass, but with only Wood to beat he fired the ball over the bar.

Then in the second half it was Luton's turn to breathe a sigh of relief. Dicky Spence turned inside with the ball and from 25 yards he hit a terrific shot which crashed against the cross bar.