

By JOHN ROSS

Nottingham Forest 1 Luton 2

THE FOREST fire that Brian Clough had so brilliantly kindled was extinguished by eager, all-action Luton. 76/77

Two goals in the second half sank Forest without trace. The first was a header by Ron Futch; the second was an angled drive by Aston.

Forest ran into trouble in the shape of the Futch twins. Paul was great in the middle of a magnificent back four. Ron was forever a threat up front.

Said Luton manager, happy Harry Haslam: "I'm going fishing tomorrow. Today I came here fishing for points — and we got them!"

And he added: "Didn't Paul Futch show Don Revie that he must be the next England centre-half? Not only did he stop attacks, but he built up from the back. He was tremendous."

Fuccillo was taken off near the end with a thigh

strain, but Luton will have him ready to meet Blackburn on Tuesday.

Ron Futch gave early warning of his intentions with a drive that Middleton managed to hold.

Aston ran Forest's defence ragged and richly deserved the second goal. He beat McGovern easily and screwed the ball out of Middleton's reach.

The opening goal was scrappy. Said scorer Ron Futch: "It was a gift. The ball dropped at my feet and the 'keeper was behind me, so all I had to do was hit it at an angle. It went in off the far post."

Lloyd scored with a left-foot shot—following a corner — the only Forest consolation.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: Middleton 6—Anderson 6, McGovern 6, Lloyd 5, Clark 7—Bowyer 6, Chapman 6, Haslegrave 6—O'Hale 5, *WOODCOCK 8, Robertson 7.

LUTON: Aleksic 6 — Price 7, Faulkner 7, *FUTCHER P. 9, Buckley 7—Chambers 6, West 7, Fuccillo 7—Husband 6, Futch R. 7, Aston 7. Sub.: Geddis (4 mins.).

Ref.: A. Hamil (Wolverhampton) 8.

HAPPY HASLAM