

Brave Luton earn another replay

77/78 (FLC)

By PETER KEELING

Manchester City 0, Luton 0
(after extra time)

GARY HEALE, 17, will no doubt be able to push into the background last night's League Cup replay at Maine Road, but this morning he probably feels the cares of the world on his shoulders.

For this promising young winger from Canvey Island, who was playing in only his fifth senior game, missed an open goal seconds from the end of normal time when it would have been easier to earn Luton a Fourth-round tie against Ipswich.

Luton, despite their Second Division ranking, had looked to have the extra class throughout, and with referee Frank Phipps looking at his watch the game seemed over for City when Corrigan could only divert a Ron Futch drive to the unmarked Heale.

Standing at the far post, two yards from goal, Heale somehow miskicked the ball wide of the post.

It would have been an injustice if the physically stronger First Division side had worn the more imaginative Luton down in extra time.

But in the period when they looked weary and ready to be taken, Luton found a hero in goalkeeper Aleksic, who made many impressive saves.

Corrigan's fine save

City's goalkeeper, Corrigan, also had his moments of glory. In the 26th minute, despite being unsighted, he got down at a post to stop a devastating low drive by Buckley.

Referee Phipps, who moved in-field from the line to take over in the 11th minute from referee Roger Kirkpatrick, who twisted his right ankle, quickly raised the ire of the home crowd.

He turned down confident claims by City for a penalty when Paul Futch appeared to pull down Channon from behind — and then he disallowed a 36th-minute Barnes "goal" for pushing by another home player.

Barnes was City's only forward who looked capable of swaying the match the way of the First Division club.

Typical of City's efforts was the 65th-minute incident when Royle ponderously booted over an open goal from a Channon move.

The replay is at Old Trafford next Tuesday — if Manchester United give permission.

Manchester City. — Corrigan; Clements, Donachie, Doyle, Booth, Kidd, Barnes, Channon, Royle, Hartford, Power.

Luton. — Aleksic; Price, Buckley, West, Faulkner, Futch (P.), Husband, Hill, Futch (R.), Fuccillo, Heale.



Milija Aleksic, the Luton 'keeper, goes up to punch clear from Mick Channon. Paul Price (left) provides cover.