

PAUL FUTCHER BACK IN STYLE

Charlton 0 Luton 0

The fact that Charlton manager, Andy Nelson, found it necessary to celebrate this scrappy affair sums up the worrying situation which is reducing The Valley to a pale imitation of its former self.

Gone are the breathtaking attacks, the cavalier dashes from defence, the carefree sweeping football. In their place, the anxious Mr Nelson has introduced a stifling, negative 4-4-2 formation, which, he believes, has helped him to turn an important corner.

But he scarcely had cause to celebrate. Luton, who played the better, more creative football, were unlucky not to take both points. Their outstanding player was Paul Futchler, back in action after sustaining head, shoulder, rib and lung injuries in a car crash on Nov. 7.

Charlton.—Wood; Curtis, Warman, Tydeman, Berry, Dugdale, Brisley, Gritt, Flanagan, Peacock, McAuley.

Luton.—Aleksic; Price, Carr, Hill, Faulkner, P. Futchler, Husband, Jones, Fuccillo, R. Futchler, Boersman.