

HAZARD HINT AS HODDLE'S 83/84 SUCCESSOR

By A Special Correspondent

Tottenham ... 2 Luton ... 1

TOTTENHAM'S European search to replace the imminent departure of Glenn Hoddle could well be decided at home in the shape of Mike Hazard, judging by Saturday's performance.

Hazard, 24, a Geordie who at White Hart Lane grew up in Hoddle's shadow, looks set to take over Tottenham's play-maker role. And he will not cost big spenders Spurs a penny in transfer fees.

Hazard was the major influence on Spurs' laborious win over Luton, showing an eagerness for the ball in stark contrast to his lethargic seniors.

While Spurs appeared to be suffering a major hangover from the midweek UEFA Cup trek to Yugoslavia, Hazard looked immaculate as goals from Roberts (20th minute) and Falco (83rd) enhanced Spurs' chances of a backdoor entry into Europe should all else fail.

Parker strikes

Yet Luton had their own pearl in midfielder Parker, only 17, who scored the goal of an otherwise boring match in the 88th minute with a long-range volley. He showed an excellent touch on the ball throughout.

Luton badly missed Paul Walsh, their England international striker, but David Pleat, the manager, reported excellent progress in his battle to overcome knee ligament damage and expected him to be fit for tomorrow's trip to West Ham.

Tottenham Hotspur.—Parks; Thomas, Hughton, Roberts, Miller, Perryman, Hazard, Archibald, Falco, Mabbutt, Galvin (Stevens, 77).

Luton. — Sealey; Stephens, Thomas, Horton, Elliott, Donaghy, Parker, Stein, Aylott (Antic, 71). Bunn, Moss.