

Watford VIP show fades out

By PAUL WEAVER

Watford 1 Luton 2

WATFORD manager Graham Taylor has been watching too many disarmament summits on TV.

His side are without a win in seven games and have now lost their unbeaten home league record.

But Taylor still reckons a team that has scored just four times in five games can do without Luther Blissett's speed and transfer-seeking Nigel Calaghan's wing skills.

Not even the presence of England manager Bobby Robson and Sports Minister Dick Tracey could inspire Watford to one worthwhile move in the opening half hour.

Luton needed a Steve Terry own-goal three minutes from time to give them victory, but they deserved a more leisurely win.

The only true class play came from Luton left-back Mitchell Thomas. And he looked so forlornly imprisoned in the mediocrity of this game he could have been waiting for Terry Waite to rescue him.

Robson must have been taken with his mix of power and skilful touch.

Luton went ahead in the 29th minute when Thomas scored his first goal for the club from a sharp angle but Watford equalised eight minutes from time through Brian Talbot.

But Luton saw justice done five minutes later through Terry's own goal.

Taylor said afterwards: "We deserved to equalise — then we handed it to them."

WATFORD. — Coton; Beasley, Rostron, Talbot, Terry, Sinnott, Sterling, Allen, Barnes, Jackett, Porter. Sub: Smilie.

LUTON. — Sealey; Breacker, Thomas, Donaghy, Foster, Nicholas, Hill, Stein, Harford, Nwajiobi, Preece.

CANON SUNDAY BEST: Thomas.