

# Luton pass the City test

PETER SWALES chose to spend yesterday lunchtime in a television studio rubbing Luton's principled stand against that plague on football — the hooligans.

The Manchester City chairman and his board had already shown their disapproval of Luton's experimental ban on away fans by vacating their privileged seats in the directors box.

Luton, whose players have taken second place to politicking this week, should have won yesterday by as wide a margin as the chairman's vote will be against them on the Littlewoods Cup issue on Monday week.

Unfortunately, their shooting does not possess the accuracy or the venom of their chairman's arguments. Only when Brian Stein pounced, eight minutes from

## Luton 1, Manchester City 0 by NEIL HARMAN

time, did City and especially their goalkeeper Perry Suckling have to bow to pressure which had become irresistible.

Had it not been for the young keeper's acrobatics, Luton would have ended the week in which they have been football's main attraction, with its most impressive victory.

On a surface which illuminates the passing deficiency which afflicts so many professional sides City were most vividly shown up.

Neil McNab's promptings proved worthless as City persisted in giving the ball away, so much so that caretaker

manager Frizzell said later: "We tried to get people forward, but players should be capable of passing the ball and we couldn't even do that."

Luton's coach Ray Harford accused his side of being wasteful. True, especially once they had penetrated into City's penalty area they showed more inclination to thump the ball into the stands rather than direct towards Suckling's net.

It was an irony that their goal should come moments after City had squandered the one opportunity they created for themselves when Darren Beckford shot wide of a post.

Luton broke away for Rob Johnson, Mike Newell and younger brother Mark to combine to give Brian Stein a chance to shoot right footed first time inside Suckling's far post.