

Luton remain in the Black thanks to Chamberlain

LEEDS were distinctly unfortunate yesterday to lose their unbeaten record on Luton's plastic pitch. Alec Chamberlain's inspired goalkeeping was just as responsible as Kingsley Black's early headed goal for the Second Division champions' first defeat since promotion.

Leeds' finishing was generally poor, but when they did get the ball on target, Chamberlain stopped everything. It might have been a different story had the Yorkshire club been able to begin the first League match between the clubs for 15 years with a clean bill of health.

Because of the virus that had swept through Elland Road during the week and threatened this fixture with postponement, Leeds could not field a full-strength team and Varadi and Speed were rested

Luton	1
Leeds	0
Colin Malam	

on the substitutes' bench until the second half.

The situation did allow Vinny Jones to make his first appearance for Leeds this season. The ogre of Elland Road put himself about in his usual muscular fashion, but the pace eventually became too much for him and it was he who eventually made way for Varadi.

Jones began the game by jumping at Chamberlain and, before he departed, he damaged Luton's David Preece to such an extent that the Luton midfielder, who felt sick at half-time, was substituted early in the second half and taken to hospital for X-rays.

A complete accident,

insisted Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, of the incident in which Jones's knee caught Preece on the side of the head as the tiny Luton player bent to head a bouncing ball in his penalty area and Jones attempted to kick it.

Luton, mastered comfortably by Manchester United's 10 men in midweek, began as though they were determined to show Leeds there is a big difference between the First and Second Divisions.

Their incisive passing and imaginative running pierced Leeds' square, dozy defence twice before Black scored after only five minutes. It was a cleverly conceived and cleanly executed goal, notable for Hughes's telling decoy run down the left as much as anything else.

Elstrup, the man in possession, waited and waited as he carried the ball forward before delivering the perfect floated centre for Black, last in a queue of Luton players to head the ball firmly past Lukic as he arrived at the far post.

Dowie should have made it 2-0 in the 18th minute when a square pass from the impressive Hughes left him with time and space to spare. But instead of finding the back of the net, the Luton striker drove the ball straight at the advancing Lukic.

McAllister was much more profligate. The first half, Strachan was with



Confusion in the mind on Gordon Strachan as Ceri Hughes almost turns himself inside-out at Kenilworth Road