

Gleghorn's winner

By David Horridge

Birmingham City 3 Luton Town 2
(Birmingham win 5-4 on agg)

THIRD DIVISION Birmingham City added to Luton's frustrations when they put them out of the Rumbelows League Cup with an 89th minute winner from Gleghorn.

Luton failed to demonstrate their superior status in the first half and Birmingham were good value for their 29th minute lead.

Donowa's pace was an embarrassment to the First Division side and he used it to good effect before crossing a ball for Peer to score with a glancing header.

Luton won the trophy in 1988 and were runners-up the following year, but their form only emphasises their decline. In two previous visits to the West Midlands this season, they had conceded nine goals to Coventry and Aston Villa.

Even with the return of Harford and Preece, Luton were second best to Birmingham, playing a refreshing brand of football. Rodger-son's skill and Donowa's

speed were causing problems down the flanks and they nearly undid Luton in the 23rd minute.

Rodgers met Donowa's centre on the volley and Harvey cleared the ball off the goal line. The diminutive Sturridge was also a threat, but when he ended a good move with a hopeful shot, he would have done better to pass to the unmarked Gleghorn.

Birmingham went two up on the hour with a powerful header by Gleghorn from Frain's free kick, although within a minute Gray pulled one back with another well placed header.

Two minutes later Gray ran clear to equalise with Birmingham waiting for an off-side whistle that didn't come from referee Burge.

Birmingham City: Thomas; Clarkson, Matthewson, Donowa, Hicks, Mardon, Rodgers, Frain, Peer, Gleghorn, Sturridge.

Luton Town: Chamberlain; Jackson, Harvey, Thompson (Nogan 45), Beaumont, Peake, Telfer, Gray, Harford, Pembrige, Preece.

Referee: W K Burge (Tonypandy).