

UNLUCKY THIRTEEN

PLUCKY Macclesfield ended Luton's run of 12 consecutive wins with a goalless draw at Kenilworth Road.

Luton were well below par against the lively Silkmen, who could easily have caused a massive upset.

Lee Glover should have scored in the first half but shot wide from a good position and Michael Welch was denied in the final minute by goalkeeper Carl Emberson's diving block.

Emberson also had to save with his legs from Steve Hitchen after seeing the shot late.

Luton's 23-goal striker Steve Howard had few chances, although he did have a header into the net ruled out for a foul.

Former fans' favourite David Moss returned to Kenilworth Road and guided Macclesfield to a gritty 0-0 draw which might have ended Luton's hopes of taking the Third Division title.

The fans still made it a party day, with Luton already promoted, but Moss' thoughtful defensive tactics stopped Luton from extending their club record run of 12 consecutive victories.

They kept leading scorer Howard quiet and with Luton a notch below their best, neither side looked like breaking the stalemate.

Moss played in the last Luton team to win promotion, to the old First Division 20 years ago which was the beginning of the

most successful decade in Luton's history.

He was given a warm welcome by the fans, but later said: "It was a wonderful reception — but I came here to spoil the party.

"I have lovely memories of Luton but now my main concern is

Macclesfield. I am well pleased with that performance and with the point and also pleased with the progress we have made.

"I learned a lot at Luton under David Pleat and his coaching staff and I use a lot of what I have learned in my own coaching and management.

"I worked with the defenders because I knew we had to keep Luton quiet for the first 20 minutes or so.

"We did that and I suppose we did have chances on the break which might have enabled us to take all three points, although I am happy with one."

Luton boss Joe Kinnear said: "I suppose it was sod's law that our winning run should end in the 13th game.

"Macclesfield got 10 men behind the ball. They set their stall out to nick a point and went home happy with it. I don't think they had a decent chance in the whole game until that one in the last minute.

"There is an expectation among the fans that we will win every week. We were desperate to get three points out of this game because we needed them to keep going for the title."

01/02

Luton 0

Macclesfield 0

