

# GREGORY WINS IT FOR LUTON

59/60

Luton 2, Everton 1: by GRAHAM BUXTON

**H**AD Luton not won this match it would have been a miscarriage of justice, as Everton manager Johnny Carey was quick to admit afterwards.

Luton's main trouble lay in an inside forward trio who were well below par, partly because of the absence of George Cummins, for whom the conditions were made to measure.

Everton had football ability but little in the way of finish, and they must be beginning to regret having parted with the bulldozing Dave Hickson. He could have exploited an obvious Luton weakness down the middle where Terry Kelly never looked safe.

Luton were handicapped because Allan Brown was so overshadowed by 19-year-old centre-half Brian Labone, whom Johnny Carey believes will become one of England's great players.

With more accurate finishing, Brown could have ensured that Luton did not have to hang on until the last minutes before being sure of two invaluable points.

Yet Brown could point to lack of adequate support from his inside forward colleagues particularly from Bob Morton, who is clearly unhappy in the attack.

Luton will find it difficult to

restore him to the half-back line. John Groves and Dave Pacey were the strong men of the defence, and Scottish international Bobbie Collins can rarely have had a quieter match.

Tony Gregory, who has collected all manner of criticism during his in-and-out career at Luton, was the match-winner. In the 16th minute he timed his first-time shot beautifully to crack home a centre from Billy Bingham.

Early in the second half he was on hand to ram the ball in from point-blank range after Gordon Turner had headed on a corner from Bingham.

At that stage Luton looked safe, but their old habit, easing up after they had scored, reasserted itself. They were struggling again when Jimmy Harris, the most dangerous Everton forward, put his side back into the game after 64 minutes.

But the Everton finishing was so pathetic that they could not seriously worry Ron Baynham, back in the Luton goal after a month's absence through injury.