

Injury-hit Luton rattle Swansea

Swansea 3 Luton 2 : by HUGH BAILEY

GALLANT Luton, deprived of two players for most of the game and reduced to 10 men at crucial points in the match, almost brought off a shock draw as over-confident Swansea, flushed with a possibility of their first win of the season, relaxed their grip.

Luton manager Sam Bartram has some problems ahead, for not only were inside forward Alec Ashworth and full-back Brendan McNally taken to hospital but inside forward Tommy McKechnie was a passenger with a damaged ankle for most of the match.

It was a busy afternoon for referee Jack Catlin of Rochdale. He booked Swansea's Harry Griffiths and Peter Davies, awarded two penalties, one to each side, and gave out warnings to three more players.

Swansea had 10 men opposing

them from the second minute until half-time. During that period Ashworth was taken to hospital with a broken nose, but after having it reset he resumed for the second half.

In the 70th minute Luton lost right-back McNally with a leg injury and yet contrived to look the more efficient team as Swansea floundered in the sense of over-confidence.

The Welshmen took the lead in the 24th minute when Colin Webster tapped home a loose ball after Brayley Reynolds had shot at Ron Baynham.

Eight minutes later some brilliant ball control from young outside-right Barrie Jones upset the Luton defence and Webster converted his pass.

In the 35th minute Swansea got a penalty when Harry Walden handled a Graham Williams free kick inside the area. Webster took the shot—and shot wide.

Shortly after the interval centre forward Reynolds accepted a through pass from little Reg Davies to put Swansea in a commanding position.

In the 68th minute Peter Davies tripped inside left McKechnie, and Gordon Turner scored from the spot.

Then came the tragedy for Luton in the form of a stretcher for Eire international Brendan McNally.

McNally had clashed in a fierce tackle with Reynolds and was taken to hospital.

It seemed all over for Luton as Herbie Williams, the best player on view, sparked off some of the better attacks by the Swansea forward line, but with the defence looking just a little complacent, Luton got back into the game with a chance via the accuracy of outside-left Jim Fleming who scored after a brilliant solo run.