

New-look Luton in merry mood ^{61/62}

Norwich 0 Luton 4: by VICTOR CHURCHER

THERE will have been plenty of week-end hand-shaking for Luton boss Sam Bartram on the success of a reshuffle of his players at Norwich. On the other hand, managerless Norwich City had, in this four-goal home defeat, their most emphatic humiliation since they joined the Second Division.

Little went right for the City against what turned out to be a revitalised Luton side, inspired by three goals in the first 35 minutes.

At the end of that time the result seemed certain, so purposeless were most of the attacking efforts of the bewildered looking Canaries. When they did succeed in producing a semblance of a football pattern, it was mostly with passes in the wrong direction.

There was one occasion when Gerry Mannion was reaping ironical cheers from the crowd for man uvring the ball across the front of his own goal.

Right from the sixth minute, when he seized on a pass from John Groves to score his first goal, Alec Ashworth justified his selection as a leader.

He got his second goal 10 minutes before the interval, giving another nasty jolt to goalkeeper Cannon who was completely floundering. Ashworth had changed the course of a forward ball from Tom McKecknie into the net.

Between times, Rowland Legate had also hit the back of the City net.

The City's blacket day for several seasons was sealed by a second-half "own goal" from young Dick Scott. The left half attempted the dual task of holding off Ashworth and passing back to his advancing goal-keeper.

All he succeeded in doing was to lob the ball under his own cross-bar.

Norwich looked despondent, ragged, long before the end, though Bill Punton worked hard enough on the left to bulldoze his way goalwards, and George Waits and Terry Allcock tried valiantly. But it was all to no avail against a defence which outclassed them.

Back at centre half after a

month's absence, Ron Cope produced—in this unrecognisably go-ahead Luton side—some of his best form, and Jim Fleming turned out to be every bit as good on the right wing as he has been on the left.

Bob Morton, centre forward a week earlier, made himself a useful wing half.

Yet, so lacking in ideas was this Norwich side generally, that the reorganised Luton side may well have looked a great deal better than they really were.