

Hotch-potch 65/66 Luton lucky

LUTON 2, NEWPORT 1

WHETHER Luton can continue to secure success with so many square pegs in so many round holes may be open to question.

Partly because of injuries, they have been driven to such outlandish experiments as playing a goalkeeper at centre-forward and a full-back at outside-right.

Nearly all the persistent threats came from Newport and their lead at half time might have amounted to more than a goal by Morgan, who was left with an easy chance after 19 minutes.

Nobody was prepared to give much for Luton's chances, but suddenly they found fire and determination.

After a couple of chances had been missed, Williams needlessly pulled down McKechnie in the penalty area and Reid made no mistake from the spot.

That gave Luton a confidence they had never shown before and for the first time the Newport defence, which had been so ably marshalled by Rathbone, began to wilt. They were all over the place when, shortly afterwards, Moore secured his first goal in English football with a first-time shot from the edge of the penalty area.

Newport fought back bravely, led by the dashing Reynolds, but they found the Luton defence in happier mood.

LUTON: Tinsley 8; Thomson 8, *JARDINE 9; Edwards 6, Rivers 6, Moore 7; Slough 5, Gibson 6, Read 5, Reid 6, McKechnie 7.

NEWPORT: Weare 8; Williams 6, Bird 8; Cook 8, Rathbone 7, Rowland 7; Morgan 5, Pugh 5, Reynolds 6, Hill 5, *JONES 9. Sub.: Frowen (5).

Referee: J. R. Osborne (Ipswich) 6.