

LUTON 2, HALIFAX 0

DAVID PLEAT, Luton's only aggressive forward in the first half, later got the support he needed and then skilful Halifax started to rock.

Halifax were earlier more dangerous than Luton but lacked thrust in front of goal. Yet manager Vic Metcalfe could hardly have complained. His 12 players, including the substitute, were all he had available.

Three of Metcalfe's players are currently under suspension and two others are injured. So he was quite happy with the Halifax show, particularly in the first half.

Luton seem to have found a goal-grabber to replace transferred O'Rourke. He is Jerry King, from Torquay, who scored their first goal in the first minute of the second half.

Including the friendly at Millwall last week, King has scored in his two appearances so far for Luton.

This second-half spirit followed a demand by Luton manager George Martin for a harder attack.

Within three minutes improved Luton scored another when Bruce Rioch rushed the ball home from Pleat's centre.

LUTON: Read 7; Slough 6, Rivers 6, Jardine 6, Moore 6; *THOMSON 8, Riddick 6, Rioch 5, Pleat 7, King 7, Whittaker 7.

HALIFAX: White 5; Russell 7, Holt 7, Pickering 6, Clarke 6; Smith 7, Lee (R.) 6; Cliff 5, Wooller 7, *ATKINS 8, Taylor 7.

Referee: E. Jennings (Stourbridge) 7.