

# Luton keep quiet about Cup plans

By DAVID MILLER

IN spite of the astonishing recovery of Luton's goalkeeper, Keith Barber—he is playing again less than a month after breaking a leg—it is probable that Willie Carrick will continue to deputise in the sixth-round FA Cup-tie at Sunderland

"It's one hell of a decision," manager Harry Haslam admitted yesterday after a full training stint for his squad of Second Division outsiders. "But I'm in no hurry. Saturday will do me. Barber's recovery has been fantastic, and I have to give him every chance."

Barber broke his leg in training before the fifth round against Bolton, and was replaced by Garrick, a free transfer from Manchester United, who has himself been replaced by Graham Horn, from Arsenal. But Horn is ineligible for the Cup-tie.

Barber played in the London Midweek League goalless draw against Orient on Wednesday.

He was a bit sore this morning," said Mr Haslam, "but only the kind of general reaction after being out of action. He's been able to exercise while he was in plaster."

The inclusion of Barber is not the only surprise Haslam may spring. Last Saturday, in the League dress rehearsal against

Sunderland at Kentlworth Road which Luton won 1-0, Mr Haslam purposely rested left-winger, John Aston, one of his key players.

"People say there was nothing to learn from that game, with players absent from both sides," he said, "but I'm still debating things, and anything I decide will not surprise the team, even if it does the public."

Luton have no worries about playing in front of a probable 50,000 crowd at Roker Park. They have one of the best away records—eight victories—in the League and have already won three times in the north-east—at Sunderland and Middlesbrough in the Second Division and Newcastle in the Cup.

I suspect Mr Haslam will omit one of his three midfield players—Shanks, Anderson or Hindsor—and include two from Busby, Hales and Fern to play as twin strikers between his wingers, Jim Ryan and Aston.

Luton will be without Barry Butlin, their £50,000 signing from Derby, who is out for the rest of the season with the knee injury received at Millwall. He is due to be operated on next Monday.

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