

NO SOUTHERN COMFORT AS MAGPIES FIND TONIC

By NICK SCURR

74/75

AFTER a disappointing display of recent weeks it was no surprise when Joe Harvey came up with a re-shuffled side for this afternoon's clash with bottom-of-the-table Luton Town, at Gallowgate.

The most interesting of the changes was the switching of England under-23 left back, Alan Kennedy, to midfield. Although it is regarded as a temporary switch, the tough-tackling Kennedy could prove to be the ball-winning mid-field man Joe has been seeking.

NEWCASTLE U.	LUTON T.
1 McFaul	1 Barber
2 Nattrass	2 Shanks
3 Clark	3 Thomson
4 Cassidy	4 Chambers
5 Keeley	5 Litt
6 Howard	6 Garner
7 Barrowclough	7 Hindson
8 Kennedy	8 Fern
9 Macdonald	9 Anderson
10 Tudor	10 West
11 Hibbitt	11 Aston
12 McDermott	12 John Ryan

Ref.: Mr R. Tinkler (Boston).

While Kennedy took over at No. 8 for Gibb, his place at left back was filled by skipper Frank Clark, and Irving Nattrass, who missed last week's game because of a bad gash over the left eye, returned at right back.

The other midfield change brought Tommy Cassidy in for the off-form Terry McDermott, while up front, Stewart Barrowclough found himself back in favour, taking over from Micky Burns on the wing.

Luton were unchanged after their draw with Spurs last week and included ex-United player, Gordon Hindson, and former Sunderland man Brian Chambers.

PULLED DOWN

When Luton attacked from the start Keeley was fouled by West.

In the second minute a great through pass by Cassidy sent Macdonald clear and, as Barber came out, he hit a left-foot shot over his head. When it looked a certain goal, it hit the underside of the crossbar and came out to be headed away for a corner by Thomson.

In the next minute Hibbitt hit two shots — one was blocked and the other went over the top.

United came again, but Macdonald's long throw was cleared and as Luton broke away, Kennedy pulled down Aston.

RAN CLEAR

From the free-kick the ball went across to Aston whose shot grazed the Newcastle upright.

Clark broke on the left to take a return pass from Hibbitt, but his attempted centre was weak and easily cleared.

Aston forced a corner in the eight minute. It was cleared by Kennedy and, at the other end, when Cassidy put Barrowclough through, the winger failed when he tried to go around Thomson.

Immediately afterwards from a Hibbitt throw-in Kennedy hooked in a shot that hit the far post and ran clear.

BROKE AWAY

Another long throw from Macdonald and Cassidy made a good shot only a foot wide.

United were putting tremendous pressure on Luton and won another corner. It was headed away for a second corner. This, too, was

headed away by Anderson for yet another.

A fourth followed, but this time when Barrowclough hoisted his kick right across goal, Hibbitt racing in put the ball high in the crowd.

Then came a fine run and cross by Barrowclough and Tudor, going in fast, hit a shot just over the bar.

It was almost non-stop pressure on the Londoners. When they suddenly broke away after 18 minutes, Fern got in a header which McFaul just kicked away at the post, but the whistle had already gone for offside.

STEADY RAIN

A long cross by Aston was well taken in the air and when Newcastle hit back, Barber did well to hold a Tudor header near the post. A well-placed pass by Nattrass was just too fast for Barrowclough.

Newcastle had given a much brighter show than in their last game against Leicester, but even after 25 minutes, there was still nothing to show for it. Barrowclough took a good pass from Macdonald to cut in and try a shot which was partly diverted by Litt. Barber was still able to grab it.

When Luton attacked, Aston was again prominent with a good shot that was only just over the bar. Rain was falling steadily now to make conditions difficult.

A fine crossfield pass by Macdonald was picked up by Nattrass, but the full back shot high over the bar.

BADLY HELD

A fine piece of work by Chambers just on the half-hour took him through the home defence and he finished with a shot that brought a splendid save from McFaul at the expense of a corner.

Luton came back again for West to shoot wide.

A fine run by Macdonald on the right took him clear, but his cross was just taken at the second attempt by



NEWCASTLE

Barber as Tudor went in.

At the other end, an Anderson shot was just stopped by McFaul who had to dive to grab the ball as it spun off his hand. Kennedy appeared to be held badly as he went in, but the referee completely ignored the incident.

When Luton attacked they pulled the Newcastle defence open and Barrowclough, who had dropped back, went close to lobbing the ball into his own goal as he put the ball away for a corner.

Newcastle went straight back for Barrowclough to get in a good header, which Barber took at full stretch.

In a strong Luton attack Anderson forced his way through to shoot just wide.

Half-time

Newcastle 0, Luton Tn 0

In the first minute after the restart a bad goal kick by Barber went straight to Macdonald. He failed to control it, and the ball spun off to Barrowclough whose shot almost squeezed under the diving goalkeeper.

Litt sent Macdonald sprawling and with the kick, Hibbitt lifted the ball into the six-yard box. Keeley just failed to reach it.

A Hindson shot was misfired by McFaul and the ball rolled away for a corner. From the kick Fern headed wide.

So far United had failed to recapture their first-half enthusiasm, but in the 58th minute Macdonald burst through from the left only to shoot high over the bar.

LITTLE SKILL

A good ball by Kennedy got Tudor away, but his cross went behind. The game fell

away with Luton playing a bit of possession football.

Then they lost the ball, Newcastle broke quickly and a cross saw Macdonald hit a volley which the Luton keeper took well out of goal. A little higher and it could have been a goal.

A long ball by Kennedy saw Macdonald race through and Barber just beat him to it. Play was sweeping from

end to end, but without a great deal of skill.

A frustrated Newcastle crowd was chanting "Harvey out," but just after this another section of the crowd began to shout in his favour.

GREAT CROSS

After 72 minutes, for a foul on Anderson, Keeley was rather harshly booked by referee Tinkler.

A good run and cross by Macdonald brought a corner in the 76th minute and a goal to Newcastle. Barrowclough's flag-kick was back-headed by Macdonald and TUDOR stabbed the ball home just inside the post.

FINAL:

NEWCASTLE	1
LUTON TOWN	0

Attendance: 30,141

The Luton Town defence easily clears a cross in today's game against Newcastle at St. James's Park. Macdonald and Tudor wait for a chance that never came.