

IT LOOKS BLACK

By CHARLES PLUMER
Ipswich 3 Luton 0

STEVE WHITE, rescued from the scrap heap by manager Dave Pleat, failed to instil the bite needed to subdue Ipswich.

White, whose 18 goals helped Luton clinch promotion before he left Kenilworth Road under a cloud, marked his return with a sound performance, but it was not enough.

Pleat, the man who was also responsible for letting White go, blamed defensive errors for the defeat.

He said afterwards: "I'm not worried about our position. I think we will stay up quite comfortably."

Mistakes

"The first two goals came from mistakes in defence and it was academic for the last half hour when Ipswich put in their third."

But Pleat pointed out that they were without Brian Stein and lost Ricky Hill with a ligament injury after halftime.

"That's a problem and I might well bring in some raw youngsters in the weeks ahead who have been promising in the reserves and youth team."

The goal that wrapped up the points in the 56th minute marked yet another Ipswich find in blond bombshell, Trevor Putney. Introduced as a makeshift full-back three weeks ago,

FOR WHITE

82/83

Putney returned to his normal role in midfield and notched his first League goal.

Ipswich had gone ahead after only two minutes when Kevin O'Callaghan's cross was side-footed home by Alan Brazil—the unsettled Scottish striker's first goal since January.

One minute after the restart Putney laid on the second goal with a cross from the right that John Wark headed in at the far post.

Then came Putney's winner. Brazil flicked the ball into Putney's path and, with great coolness, he lobbed over advancing Luton goalkeeper Jake Findlay.

Ipswich might have added two more goals in the closing stages when Paul Mariner had a fine shot saved and Alan Brazil hit a post.

IPSWICH.—Cooper 7, PUTNEY 8, Gernon 7, Parkin 7, Osman 7, Butcher 7, Wark 7, McCall 7, Mariner 7, Brazil 7, O'Callaghan 7.

LUTON.—Findlay 7, Stephens 7, Turner 8, Horton 8, Goodyear 7, Donaghy 7, Hill 7, WHITE 8, Walsh 7, Fuccillo 7, Moss 7, Subi Kellock (48 mins) 7.