



Maurice Johnston keeps Watford's Cup hopes alive as he scores from the penalty spot against Luton for the equalising goal.

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Johnston stays cool to foil Luton

By COLIN GIBSON

Luton 2, Watford 2

MAURICE JOHNSTON, Watford's £200,000 signing from Partick, is determined to ride the rough and tumble of the First Division in an attempt to establish himself as a major force in English football.

Johnston, small, quick and strong, has already scored nine goals in 10 games since his move south of the border and showed on Saturday that he can take the buffeting which so often exposes Scottish forwards' weaknesses.

On Saturday Johnston was laid out—unintentionally claims Kirk Stephens, the other player involved in the clash—and took a nasty knock on the knee but still had enough confidence to volunteer to take a penalty.

When Stephens brought Barnes crashing with the score at 2-1 Johnston raced forward, grabbed the ball off Barnes who had taken the penalty at Spurs on Monday, and calmly slotted the ball low to Sealey's right.

Nwajiobi strikes

Graham Taylor, the Watford manager, said: "We do not have a set penalty taker. The player who feels confident takes it. Johnston has been more of a success in England than I imagined. He has taken everything in his stride very well."

Another player well on his way to establishing himself in the First Division is, Emeka Nwajiobi, the Nigerian snapped up from Dulwich Hamlet before Christmas by David Pleat, the Luton manager.

Nwajiobi, who is still search-

ing for full fitness, scored his second goal in two games with a deflected shot from the edge of the area to put Luton ahead in the 19th minute. He will have to wait until tomorrow evening, though, before learning if he is included in the replay.

Stein put Luton further ahead with another deflected shot eight minutes later on a mud heap of a pitch which finally strangled attempts at football. Watford clawed their way back with a Barnes free kick in the 29th minute and then Johnston stepped up.

Luton: Sealey, Stephens, Thomas, Horton, Elliott, Donaghy, Hill, Stein, Wals, Bunn, Nwajiobi (Antic. 72).

Watford: Sherwood, Bardsley, Roston, Taylor, Sims, Franklin, Callaghan, Johnston, Reilly, Jackett, Barnes.