

Harford sparks a fighting finish

84/85
EVERTON 2 LUTON TOWN 1

LUTON'S Merseyside misery was complete as Everton carried on where Liverpool left off.

But it was a much more adventurous side at Goodison Park on Tuesday and the result was in doubt to the end.

Hatters made two changes to the side beaten at Anfield on Saturday — see report inside.

David Preece returned after a bout of flu to replace Daniel on the left side of midfield. And winger David Moss claimed his number 11 shirt back from Frank Bunn, who was substitute.

The changes produced far more attacking ideas with Breacker, surging down the right, and

Town back in trouble

Preece, creating on the opposite flank, causing uneasy moments in the home defence.

Luton, in fact, could have put two goals past Southall in the first half with Stein the unlucky player on both occasions.

First the striker skipped round Ratcliffe, only to be denied by a superb save from the Welsh international keeper, and then Stein was foiled by a late saving tackle by Ratcliffe.

Everton had chances to improve on their goal tally and Curran was guilty of two bad misses, once hitting a post when it looked easier to score.

And Foster, beginning

to look a snip at £70,000, cleared off the line from Sheedy.

It was no match for the faint hearted as physical challenges grew in severity and frequency.

Preece felt the full force of Reid's tackles, and Foster and Sharp maintained close contact. Surprisingly there were no cautions.

Everton's first goal came after 11 minutes when Steven found himself alone as he connected with a high cross from Sheedy.

The same player put the home side further ahead after 70 minutes when he poked in another cross, this time from Bracewell.



● STEVE FOSTER... looks a snip at £70,000.

Luton's reply came after 80 minutes when Mick Harford was able to take advantage of a collision between Bailey and his goalkeeper to head in Turner's long-range free-kick.

That goal set up a nerve-wracking last 10 minutes for Everton, but they held out to leave Luton back in the relegation zone.

EVERTON: Southall, Bailey, Van den Hauwe, Ratcliffe, Mountfield, Reid, Steven, Curran, Sharp, Bracewell, Sheedy. Sub: Atkins.

LUTON: Sealey, Breacker, Foster, Donaghy, Thomas, Hill, Turner, Preece, Stein, Harford, Moss. Sub: Bunn.

● Crowd: 31,682.



● BRIAN STEIN... so unlucky.