

FOSTER INJURY BLOW TO TOWN

86/87
Skipper could miss rest of the season

SKIPPER Steve Foster could be out for the rest of the season after rupturing a knee ligament in Luton's defeat at Liverpool.

Foster had an operation on Sunday and manager John Moore says he'll "probably" miss Town's last dozen games.

But there are no plans to sign a replacement.

"I'll probably bring in Stacey North or Darren McDonough," said Moore. "The loss of Steve Foster is a blow because he's a senior, respected skipper."

Foster got the injury bringing down goal-bound Ian Rush.

He was booked along with four

LIVERPOOL (2) 2
Molby 17, Donaghy (og) 40
LUTON T. 0
Crowd: 32,433

other Hatters at snowbound Anfield.

"I was unhappy we got five booked," added Moore. "It takes two to tango. Steve Foster's offence wasn't any worse than when Craig Johnston kicked one of my players. He should have been sent off."

The boss said: "We didn't adapt to the conditions well enough."

Mick Harford, Robert Wilson, Les Sealey and Ashley Grimes also had their names taken.

Liverpool went to the top of the league for the first time this year thanks to a Jan Molby penalty and Mal Donaghy own goal on Saturday.

Town did not create a worthwhile

chance in the whole game.

Nothing much went right for the visitors, who lost to Liverpool for the first time in five meetings this term.

Brian Stein had Luton's only first-half shot but was well off target from 20 yards.

Ex-Hatter Paul Walsh, who twisted and turned to good effect all afternoon, beat off several challenges before firing a sixth-minute effort at Sealey.

Steve McMahon was narrowly off target in the 16th minute but Luton's relief did not last long.

The Reds won a penalty within 60 seconds when Foster handled after Sealey got down well to block Ian Rush's shot.

Dane Molby converted the kick for his 11th goal of the season. It was 2-0 in 40 minutes when Donaghy helped Rush's cross into his own net.

Sealey twice saved well from Walsh early in the second session.

Then last man Foster received his injury, and a booking, dragging down Rush when the Italy-bound striker looked certain to score.

Easy

Stein had a half-hearted attempt at converting a free-kick in the last five minutes but Bruce Grobbelaar must have had one of his easiest games of the season.

Reds manager Kenny Dalglish said: "We deserved it. I don't think Bruce Grobbelaar had a save to make. Everybody did well."

LIVERPOOL: Grobbelaar, Spackman, Venison, Lawrenson, Whelan, Hansen, Walsh, Johnston, Rush, Molby, McMahon. Sub: Aldridge.

LUTON: Sealey, Breacker, Johnson, Nicholas, Foster, Donaghy, Hill, Stein, Newell, Harford, Grimes. Sub: Wilson (For Foster, 72).

First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	31	18	7	6	55	29	61
Everton	30	16	7	7	54	25	55
Arsenal	30	15	9	6	42	18	54
Tottenham	28	15	5	8	49	29	50
Notts F.	30	14	8	8	52	35	50
Luton T.	30	14	8	8	34	30	50
Norwich	30	12	13	5	41	38	49
Coventry	30	13	7	10	34	33	46
Wimbledon	30	13	5	12	39	36	44
Watford	29	12	7	10	48	37	43
Man Utd	30	10	11	9	39	30	41
QPR	29	11	6	12	30	34	39
Chelsea	31	10	9	12	39	49	39
West Ham	29	10	8	13	43	48	38
Sheff Wed	30	8	11	11	40	46	35
Oxford Utd	30	8	10	12	31	48	34
Sampton	29	9	4	16	45	53	31
Charlton	30	7	8	15	29	42	29
Man City	30	6	11	13	26	40	29
Leicester	30	7	6	17	37	60	27
Aston Villa	31	6	9	16	35	61	27
Newcastle	29	6	7	16	31	52	25



● Snow throw — Grobbelaar practises his aim. He had little else to do.



● Snowblind — Nicholas and two Liverpool players keep their eyes off the ball! Pictures: Steve Poole.