

Positive Luton show how it should be done

By Trevor Williamson

87/88

Oxford Utd..... 2, Luton..... 5

LUTON'S manager, Ray Harford, has accentuated the positive in his side's approach to the game — and the strategy led to their sparkling first win of the season at Oxford.

He admitted afterwards that he did not see why an attacking game should not be played differently away from home. Many fans will wish more managers subscribed to the notion and so reduced negative play.

Certainly, Brian Stein and Harford, back in harness again, gave Oxford's defence a grueling in the sun.

Stein, who went off just before the end — “I was shattered,” he said — scored the first (33 mins) and played a major part in the next two goals, either side of the interval, by Breacker (44) and Nwajiobi (46).

Nwajiobi injured

The Nigerian international seemed to enjoy playing in mid-field, but his joy was spoilt by a leg injury. He had treatment yesterday, and hopes to be fit for next Saturday's match against Everton.

Hill and Harford teamed up to produce goals for each other and Hill gave another polished display in the engine room.

Oxford, whose performance was described by manager Maurice Evans as “rubbish,” pulled a goal back late in the game through the persevering Foyle — making it a total of three goals in seven minutes. Slatter scored United's first in 41 minutes.

Mr Evans is hoping some of his injured players will be fit for the journey to Liverpool next Saturday.

If Luton persist with their attacking theory that it does not matter if you let in four provided you score five, there will be no complaints at Kenilworth Road.

Oxford Utd. — Hucker; Langan, Dreyer, (Rhoades-Brown 83), Reck (Mustoe 46), Slatter, Caton, Houghton, Foyle, Whitehurst, Hebberd, Saunders.

Luton Town. — Sealey; Breacker, Grimes, Hill, Foster, Donaghy, Wilson, B.Stein (M.Stein 83), Harford, Nwajiobi, Preece (Johnson 73).