

Sports News

Italian chance for Irish signing

NORTHERN Ireland defender Darren Patterson makes his long-awaited debut for Luton Town tonight.

He will play at least half the game in Cesena, in the Anglo-Italian Cup, and if he gets through OK there is just a chance he could make his Luton league debut against Oldham at Kenilworth Road on Saturday.

"He will have to do well in Italy, but it is possible," said manager Terry Westley.

Patterson, who was 26 a cou-

BY BRIAN SWAIN

ple of weeks ago, had become the forgotten man at Kenilworth Road after being signed from Crystal Palace for £150,000 in August.

He is known as a strong tackler and very determined individual, but he was struck down by a tendon injury, and has already missed a third of what is so far a very troubled season for Luton Town.

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Stricken boss now faces another crisis

STOKE CITY 5 LUTON TOWN 0

MORTIFIED manager Terry Westley is facing yet another crisis after confessing that the worst defeat since he took charge of Luton Town could have been even more humiliating.

Stoke helped themselves to five goals, four in the last 17 minutes, and the young Luton boss had to admit: "They could have scored ten or 12."

It was all the more painful because he had seen his team fight its way into contention after conceding an early goal.

Stoke, even by the admission of their manager Lou Macari, are not serious championship contenders in the First Division. But they could hardly believe their luck the at the way the Town fell apart after the second goal went in.

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ONE THAT GOT AWAY: (Above) Vidar Riseth fires wide, with the Stoke defence beaten, when he might have scored his first goal in England, early in the second half at the Victoria Ground

FOILED AGAIN: (Below) Dwight Marshall unable to find a way past Mark Prudhoe after the striker had been put through by Graham Alexander



INSIDE: Chairman keeps faith in Westley - Bid for club was a wind-up - Ceri Hughes stands by for Wales

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