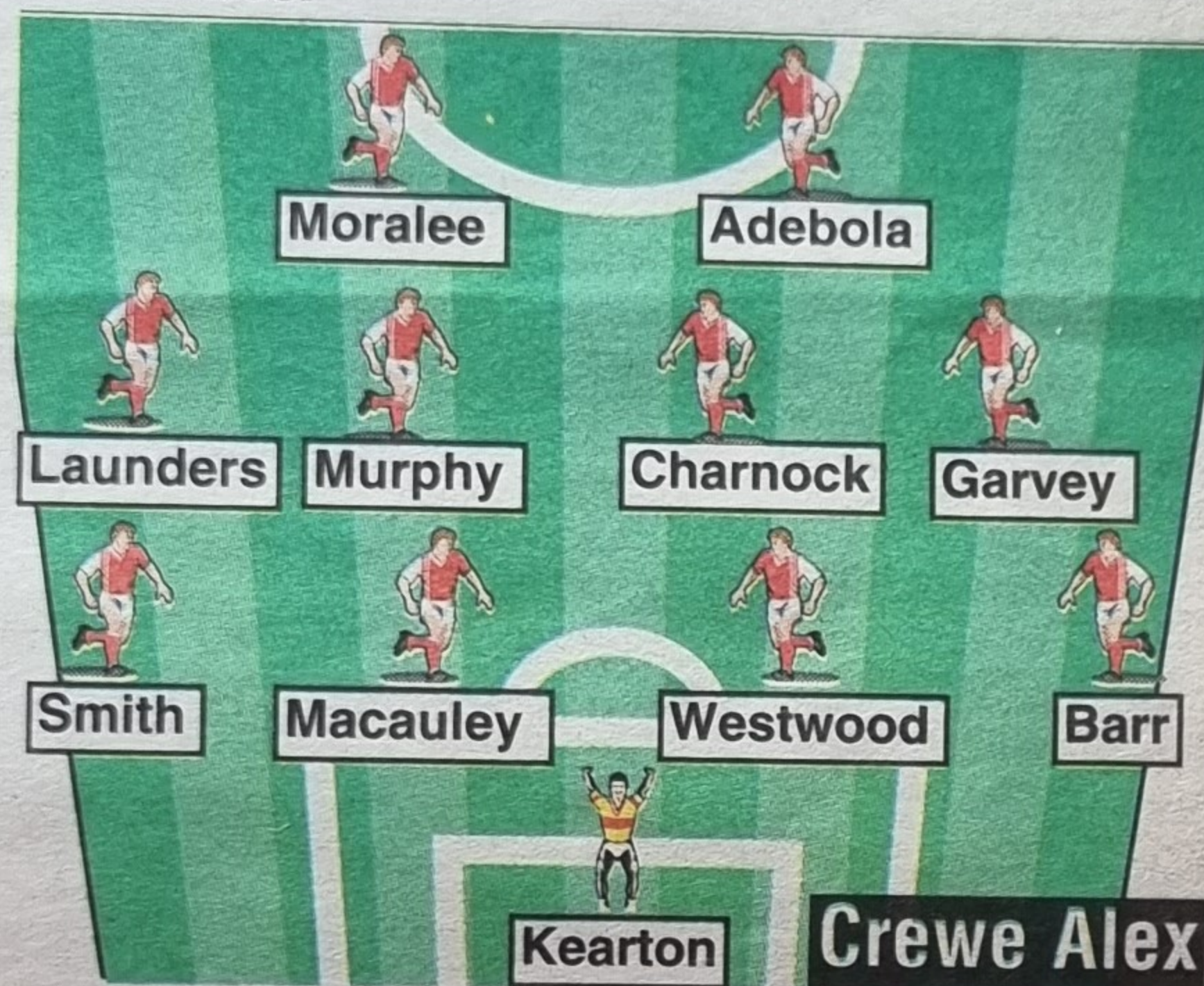


Luton Town



TOWN SUBSTITUTES: Kim Grant for Dwight Marshall, 72 minutes; David Oldfield for Tony Thorpe 76 minutes. Unused: Des Linton.

CREWE ALEXANDRA: Lee Unsworth for Billy Barr 32 minutes, Colin Little for Steve Garvey, 67 minutes; Peter Billing for Jamie Moralee, 76 minutes.



Full match details

GOALS: 2mins 22 secs: Graham Alexander drive from the rebound after Tony Thorpe's shot was parried by the goalkeeper;

20 mins: Thorpe volley from Alexander's right wing cross;

29 mins: Thorpe penalty after Shaun Smith brought down Dwight Marshall and was sent off;

60 mins: Thorpe's hat-trick, with his knee deflecting a shot by Alexander into the net;

64 mins: Paul Showler, far post header from right wing cross by Alexander;

90mins 41 secs: David Oldfield from opening made by Showler.

OTHER ATTEMPTS: Town nine saved, ten wide and header by Steve Davis netted but disallowed for a push; Crewe two saved and three wide.

CORNERS: 3-2 to Crewe.

FOULS: Town 17, Crewe 10.

OFFSIDE: Town 7 times, Crewe 9.

SENT OFF: Smith for the foul on Marshall that led to the third goal; Ashley Westwood for two yellow cards, a 17th-minute foul on Marshall and then a clattering of Thorpe after 75 minutes.

ALSO BOOKED: Julian James and Phil Charnock for fouls.

REFEREE: Steve Bennett of Dartford – a touch too pernickety, but applied the letter of the law with consistency.

ATTENDANCE: 5,455, with only a small following from Crewe.

ENTERTAINMENT: Who could ask for more? Six goals, an irresistible team performance, two sendings-off, the eighth consecutive home league win, top scorers in the division, and up to third place in the table, with a six-pointer against the leaders to come tonight. If we can have a happy Christmas at Millwall and Gillingham, a very prosperous new year should follow.