

TEAMS



Doncaster Rovers were without central midfielder Ricky Ravenhill who started a two match ban.

John Doolan (pictured) came in for Ravenhill in the only change to the side which drew 2-2 at Bristol City last time out.

Striker Neil Roberts, who had been sidelined in recent games with a rib injury, returned to action but had to settle for a place on the bench.

Luton were without keeper Marlon Beresford, who was ruled out with a back injury.

Dino Seremet came off the bench to replace him.

Striker Rowan Vine was preferred to recent signing Warren Feeney - a target for Rovers before joining the Hatters - alongside leading scorer Steve Howard in attack.



DONCASTER ROVERS

Turner
Mulligan
Fenton
Foster
Ryan
Coppinger
Doolan
Green
McIndoe
Fortune-West
Guy

Subs:
Blundell, Roberts, Nelthorpe,
Brown, Warrington



LUTON TOWN

Seremet
Foley
Coyne
Perrett
Davis
Brkovic
Underwood
Nicholls
Robinson
Vine
Howard

Subs:
Beckwith, Holmes, Leary, Feeney,
Showunmi

Referee
Scott Mathieson (Cheshire)

Honours even as champions foiled

LEAGUE One champions Luton Town needed just one point from today's game against Doncaster Rovers at the Earth Stadium to set a new club points for the season record.

Central midfielder Paul Green was presented with the Supporters' Club Player of the Season award before kick off, with left back Tim Ryan receiving the Disabled Supporters' Award.

Rovers were looking to extend their end-of-season run to four games and were boosted when they took the lead within 30 seconds - the fastest goal of the season at the Earth Stadium this season.

Doolan picked out Coppinger on the right and his cross found GUY in the box.

The striker's first shot was cleared by a defender but he was not to be denied and beat the Luton keeper with a low shot.

Rovers striker Fortune-West was booked on four minutes after clashing with Nicholls.

Despite having the blustery wind at their backs, little had been seen of Luton as an attacking force so far.

Fortune-West conceded a corner clearing the danger from a free kick on the edge of the area, following a foul on Luton's 21-goal top scorer, Howard.

Luton's left sided midfielder Robinson had a shot blocked from a corner by Rovers' skipper Foster.

Luton keeper Seremet then beat Fortune-West to a left wing cross by Coppinger as Rovers returned to the attack.

McIndoe, who started his career at Luton, got away down the left but Nicholls was there to cut out his cross into the box at the expense of a corner.

McIndoe then shot wide of the right hand post from just outside the area from Coppinger's corner.

McIndoe, who was having a good game, shot just wide of the far post on 26 minutes after getting a toe onto a poor backpass by Foley.

Ryan became the second Rovers player to be booked following a foul on Vine.

Luton levelled on 32 minutes when Coyne got a head to a free kick by Nicholls and steered the ball into the path of PERRETT who nodded past Turner to make it 1-1. Perrett went close to make



Reaching out: Michael McIndoe in action against his first club

Picture: Steve Taylor



STEVE HOSSACK
at Belle Vue

blocked a goalbound shot by Fortune-West in stoppage time.

Half-time
Rovers.....1 Luton2

Luton got the second half underway looking to be well placed to record their first Victory at Belle Vue in 50 years.

Town were the first to

threaten in the second half with Vine going past a couple of defenders after cutting in from the left on 48 minutes.

McIndoe got Guy away down the left but the ball ran dead before he could cross it. Rovers drew level on 51 minutes, when ROBINSON put the ball into his own goal trying to clear the danger from a cross by Fortune-West.

Rovers made the games first substitution seconds later, teenager Brown coming on for Coppinger on the right of midfield.

Rovers suffered a blow on 55

minutes when skipper Foster was stretchered off with what appeared to be a leg injury.

Youngster Craig Nelthorpe came on for his league debut at left back with Ryan moving to centre back.

Nelthorpe was quickly in the action and tried to pick out McIndoe down the left, but Perrett got the better of the Scot.

McIndoe saw the ball come off the wall and go for a throw after he had taken a quickly taken free kick.

But for Davis clearing his shot off the line at the far post, Green would have put Rovers ahead again but NICHOLLS restored Luton's lead on 64 minutes, rifling the ball home from 30 yards after getting on the end of a headed clearance from Howard.

Rovers drew level a minute later when GUY beat the Town keeper with a low angled shot after cutting in from the flank. Green had won the ball in a tackle and sent him away down the right.

It was cracking entertainment for what looked to be close to a full house. Luton made it a double substitution with Feeney and Showunmi replacing Vine and Brkovic respectively.

Rovers made their third substitution on 75 minutes, Roberts coming for Fortune-West who received a rousing reception from the home fans.

It was Roberts' - who scored the Rovers goal in the 1-1 draw at Luton in November - first appearance since the 3-1 defeat at Huddersfield in early April.

Neither side looked ready to settle for a draw and it was end to end football.

Seremet headed clear just outside his area beating Roberts to a long ball.

Guy, whose pace had troubled Luton's defence all game, shot over from the edge of the box.

Ryan needed treatment after being struck by Turner but was able to carry on.

The six-foot-four Seremet needed all his height to keep out a dipping deep cross come shot by McIndoe on 86 minutes. Green then skimmed the crossbar.