



***Team Assessment
On***

MORECAMBE

Morecambe - v - Barnet

Saturday, 28 April 2018

League Two

Match Information

Saturday, 28 April 2018

Morecambe 0-1 Barnet

NICHOLLS Alex - 79

	ROCHE Barry	1	21	ROSS Craig			
	McGOWAN Aaron	2	2	BRINDLEY Richard			
	LAVELLE Sam	16	5	SANTOS Ricardo			
	OLD Steven	5	6	NELSON Michael	76	→	
	CONLAN Luke	14	13	TAYLOR Jack			
	KENYON Alex	4	25	AKPA AKPRO Jean-Louis			
	ROSE Michael	24	8	WESTON Curtis			
55	→	CAMPBELL Adam	10	26	SWEENEY Daniel		
		LANG Callum	29	14	AKINOLA Simeon	32	→
		ELLISON Kevin	11	9	AKINDE John		
73	→	McGURK Adam	28	11	COULTHIRST Shaquile	70	→
		FLEMING Andrew	8	4	CLOUGH Charlie		
73	←	OLIVER Vadaine	9	7	WATSON Ryan	76	←
		NIZIC Daniel	12	12	TAYLOR Jack	70	←
		WILDIG Aaron	15	15	BOVER IZQUIERDO Ruben		
		LUND Mitchell	17	23	NICHOLLS Alex	32	←
55	←	WYLDE Greg	21	32	PAYNE Joe		79
		MULLER Max	22	40	LEGG George		

Formation

MORECAMBE

Morecambe used a 4-2-3-1 formation throughout, making two like-for-like changes in the second half, as Wylde was introduced for Campbell on 55 minutes on the right side of midfield, whilst their second and final change saw McGurk replaced by Oliver in attack on 73 minutes. Barnet used a 4-4-2 formation throughout.

TEAM LINE-UP



MORECAMBE

- 1. ROCHE Barry
- 2. McGOWAN Aaron
- 4. KENYON Alex
- 5. OLD Steven
- 10. CAMPBELL Adam
- 11. ELLISON Kevin
- 14. CONLAN Luke
- 16. LAVELLE Sam
- 24. ROSE Michael
- 28. McGURK Adam
- 29. LANG Callum

BARNET

- 21. ROSS Craig
- 2. BRINDLEY Richard
- 5. SANTOS Ricardo
- 6. NELSON Michael
- 8. WESTON Curtis
- 9. AKINDE John
- 11. COULTHIRST Shaquile
- 13. TAYLOR Jack
- 14. AKINOLA Simeon
- 25. AKPA AKPRO Jean-Louis
- 26. SWEENEY Daniel

Key Points - General

MORECAMBE

- In a closely fought game, with both sides very much in a relegation fight, Morecambe didn't do enough to ask questions of Barnet who always looked a threat on the quick counter and created the games clearer-cut chances.
 - Morecambe used a 4-2-3-1 formation, where defensively both Old and Lavelle are robust and physical central defenders, but did at times look unsettled against the physical presence of Akinde, as both McGowen and Conlan in the full back roles had busy games against direct and tricky opponents.
 - Kenyon and Rose operated in holding midfield roles, looking to link up over shorter distances when possible, however were up against an energetic and determined Barnet midfield who denied them much time and space to settle in possession.
 - Campbell on the right side of attacking midfield is quick and direct in his style, plus will offer a threat on the counter, but in the main lacked any real quality with his end product, as Ellison on the left side is tall and robust and offered a good outlet for the longer balls.
 - Lang is a forward by trade but played just in behind McGurk who led the attack, with Lang linking up intelligently with those in quick support, however McGurk showed very little interest in competing for the longer balls, plus his first touch let him down on numerous occasions.
 - Morecambe used quite a direct style of play, however Barnet were always well-equipped to deal with such an approach, as they were alert and determined when the second balls dropped inside the final third.
 - Morecambe have good height and physicality within the side, so should be considered a threat from attacking set plays, however they won just two corner kicks in this game, with Old, Lavelle and Ellison the biggest aerial threats.
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Key Points - Defence

MORECAMBE

- Roche in goal had a decent game, making a couple of brave blocks from close range, plus showed enough authority when collecting or punching crosses. He kicked well and with good accuracy throughout, plus looked to throw out quickly in order to get the play moving from the back.
 - Morecambe deployed a back four throughout, with Lavelle and Old in the central defensive roles both of a good build and strong aerially, however they were up against a physical opponent in Akinde who did manage to unsettle them and effect a number of their clearance attempts.
 - McGowen and Conlan had busy games against quick and direct opponents, giving up a little to much space for crosses to be worked in to the box, whilst they both showed enough pace and energy to get forward to support their flanks, but rarely did they break past on the overlap - instead preferred to measure crosses in to the box from deep.
 - As a unit they played a relatively deep line and were content to look long with their use of the ball towards both Ellison and McGurk.
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Key Points - Midfield

MORECAMBE

- Kenyon and Rose sat in the middle of the park, both defensively aware but not always quick enough to break up Barnet's quick breakaways in central areas, whereas in possession they were often forced in to quick use of the ball, as a number of their passes forward were wayward and picked off by defenders.
 - Campbell is a more natural winger, displaying pace and agility when in 1-v-1 situations, as Ellison is a tall and robust left midfielder who was targeted with longer balls.
 - Wylde came off the bench for Campbell on 55 minutes, where he was typically busy and creative, but not quite able to fashion many clear cut attacking openings.
 - As a unit they generally struggled to find any real rhythm and consequently created few chances throughout this game, as Barnet were often the more determined and alert to the second balls, whilst energetic with their pressing in central areas.
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Key Points - Forward

MORECAMBE

- McGurk led the attack but was given support in behind from Lang, as they occasionally looked to switch roles but neither looked particularly comfortable when subjected to longer balls aimed their way.
 - McGurk's first touch and composure inside the final third was generally poor, as many potential attacking moves tended to break down around him, whereas Lang used the ball well over shorter distances, being able to operate out of tight spots.
 - Oliver was introduced for McGurk in the latter stages, offering more movement and aerial prowess.
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Additional Information at Set Plays - Attacking

MORECAMBE

Morecambe will always carry a threat from attacking set plays, with good height and power within the side in which to aim for, as Lavelle and Old tended to come up from the back and along with Ellison acted as the biggest targets. They won just two corners (one from either side), both of which were delivered left footed by Rose, whereas from free kicks from deep, they attempted a couple quickly but these were often easily broken down by Barnet.

Additional Information at Set Plays - Defending

MORECAMBE

They defended set plays reasonably well, with Roche in goal showing good authority when coming to either gather or punch, as they tended to situate numbers at the near post in anticipation for the headed flick ons.

Goals For/Against

MORECAMBE

Barnet scored the only goal of the game on 79 minutes when Nicholls hit a volley from the edge of the penalty area in to the bottom left corner.

Throw In's

MORECAMBE

Both full backs tended to take throws from their side, looking long and up the line from deep, whereas Rose possesses a good sided throw which he used from the left side, aiming to pick out Ellison and Old for the headed flick on.

Penalties

MORECAMBE

There were no penalties awarded to either side.

Best Headers

MORECAMBE

1. Old (5) 2. Ellison (11) 3. Lavelle (16) 4. Lang (29) 5. Oliver (9)

Missing Players

MORECAMBE

Garry Thompson (achilles).

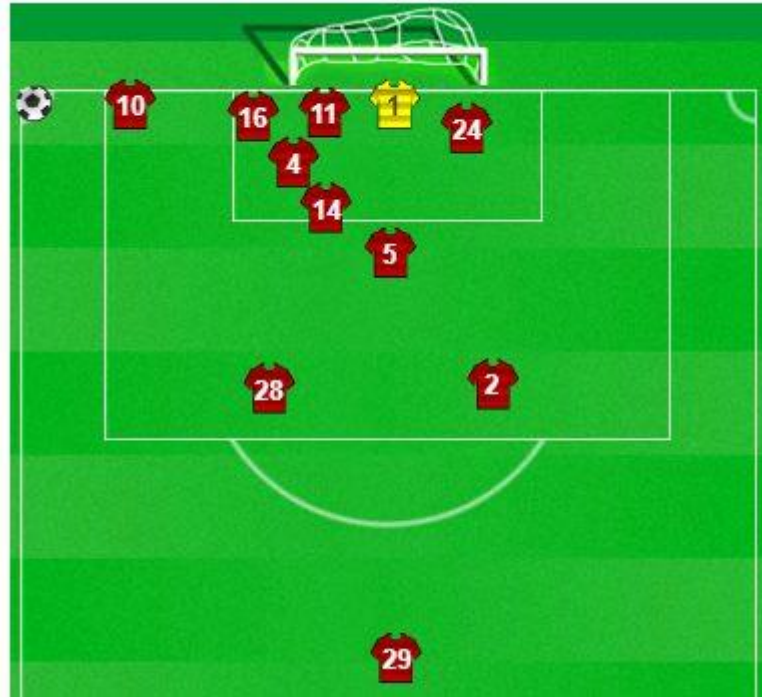
Overall Assessment

MORECAMBE

Morecambe will feel hugely disappointed by this home defeat against relegation rivals Barnet, where it was a missed opportunity to secure their safety but will instead go in to the last game hoping to pick up a result. Morecambe struggled to find any real fluidity in this game, where they created few clear-cut attacking openings, as Barnet looked the more determined and organised, plus pressed energetically and posed a threat on the quick counter. Morecambe's more direct style of play was well suppressed by Barnet who were well-equipped to deal with the longer balls, plus more alert to any second balls when Ellison did manage to win his headed flick-ons. Morecambe offered few threats from attacking set plays, winning just two corners throughout, however they do have good physical and aerial threats within the side. In truth, Barnet were the more organised and determined and probably just about deserved to pick up a massive three points courtesy of Nicholls' excellent volley 10 minutes from time, as Morecambe will now go to Coventry in the hope to avoid defeat in order to preserve their football league status.

DEFENSIVE CORNERS

They had five corners to defend in total, where from the first Campbell was alert to any short corner attempts, as Lavelle, Kenyon and Ellison took up the near corner edge of the six yard box. Old and Conlan picked up their man in a central area of the six yard box, with Rose standing just off the far post. McGowen and McGurk tracked any late runners in to the box, leaving Lang furthest forward. Roche in goal opted to punch on one occasion.



Morecambe

1. ROCHE Barry

5. OLD Steven

14. CONLAN Luke

28. MCGURK Adam

2. MCGOWAN Aaron

10. CAMPBELL Adam

16. LAVELLE Sam

29. LANG Callum

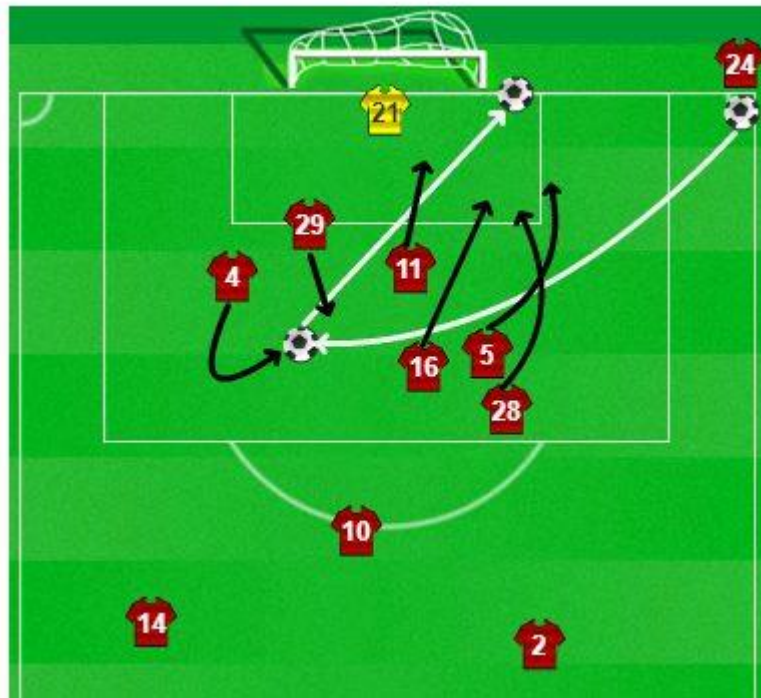
4. KENYON Alex

11. ELLISON Kevin

24. ROSE Michael

CORNERS - RIGHT (1)

They won just one corner from the right side, delivered in left footed and deep by Rose, as Kenyon had to angle his run to meet the ball, heading back in to the six yard box as McGurk, Old and Lavelle looked to attack the second ball, however it just went out for a goal kick.



Morecambe

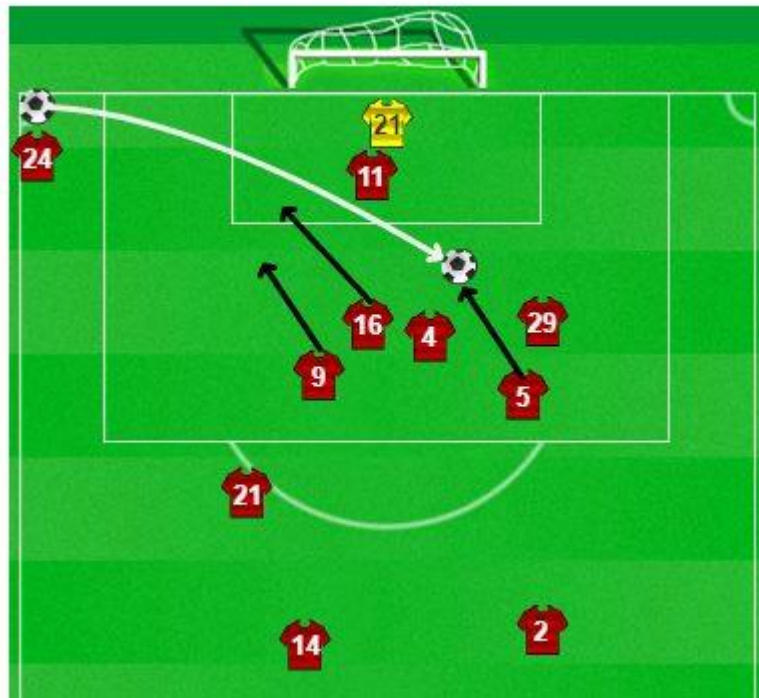
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- 24. ROSE Michael

- 5. OLD Steven
- 14. CONLAN Luke
- 28. MCGURK Adam

CORNERS - LEFT (1)

From their first and only left sided corner which was won late on, Rose floated in a left footed delivery towards a central area, with Old looking to attack the ball but beaten to it by a covering defender, where it was eventually cleared to safety.



Morecambe

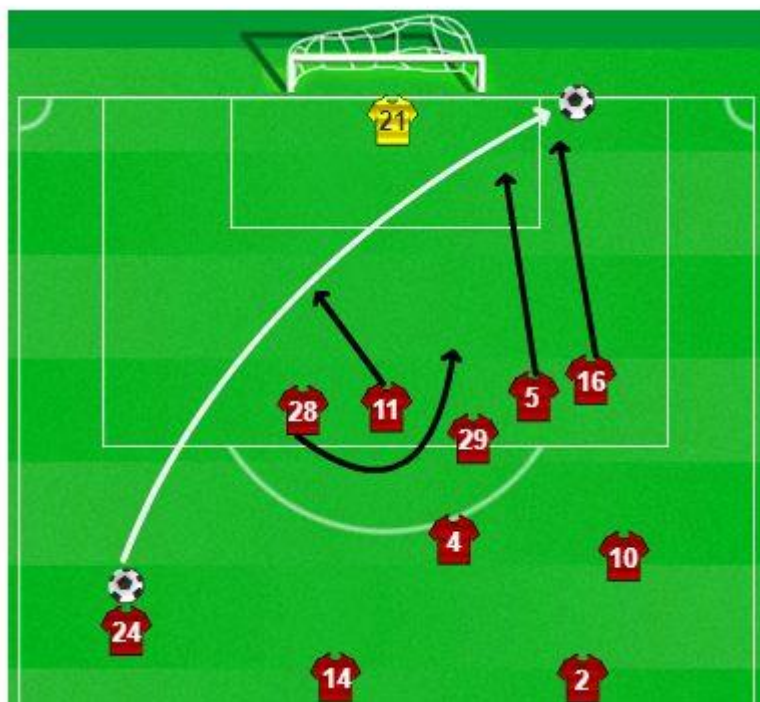
2. McGOWAN Aaron
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4. KENYON Alex
 11. ELLISON Kevin
 21. WYLDE Greg

5. OLD Steven
 14. CONLAN Luke
 24. ROSE Michael

FREE KICK - LEFT

They won two free kicks in a wide left area, both about 45 yards from goal, as Rose delivered both left footed, with the first aimed towards the far edge of the six yard box but slightly over-hit with Old and Lavelle looking to attack the ball. The second was under-hit and easily cleared by the first defender.



Morecambe

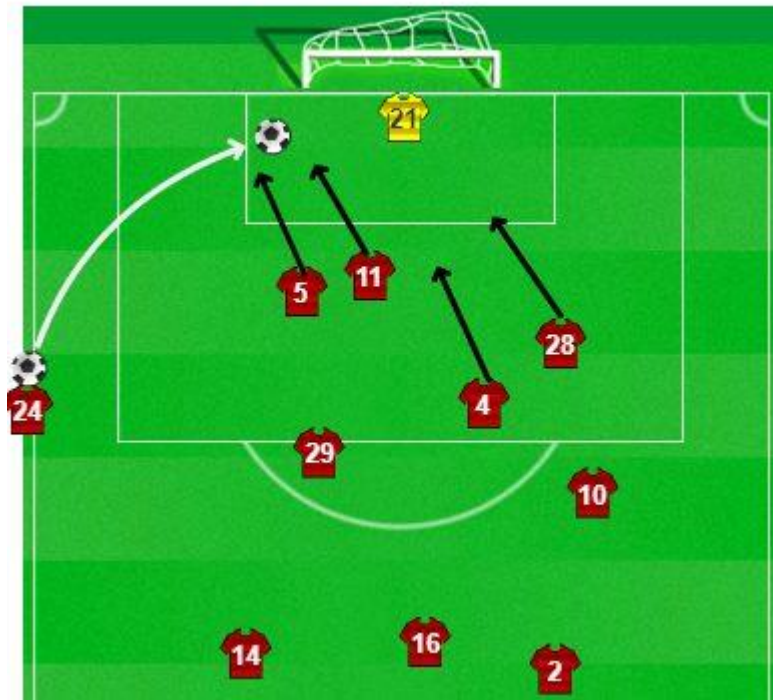
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LONG THROW - LEFT

From a throw in on the left side, Rose used his decent sized throw, aiming towards the near edge of the six yard box for both Old and Ellison to attack, however it was headed clear by Barnett.



Morecambe

2. McGOWAN Aaron
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Player Comments - Morecambe

1 - ROCHE Barry Age : 36 Height : 6' 4" Position : Goalkeeper

Tall with a robust build, right footed, goalkeeper. He is an experienced and imposing goalkeeper who showed good authority inside his box when gathering crosses, however did flap at one deep delivery which had to be hurriedly cleared. He made a couple of smart stops, displaying his bravery and alertness when coming from his line to block at the feet of opponents. He kicked well and with good accuracy throughout, dealing well with back passes under pressure and occasionally looking to throw out quickly to get the play quickly moving from the back.

2 - McGOWAN Aaron Age : 21 Height : 5' 11" Position : Right Back/Wing Back

Tallish with an average build, right footed, right full back. He was eager to get tight to his man out wide, occasionally managing to get some well-timed foot-ins to break up the play, however this approach did see him beaten for pace and quick feet, allowing Barnet to get some dangerous low crosses in to the box from his side. In possession he was reasonably assured and managed to play short and simply when given time, however did opt to play a number of longer, diagonal balls towards Ellison on the opposite flank. He pushed forward more in a supportive capacity, with a couple of crosses aimed in to the box from deep.

16 - LAVELLE Sam Age : 21 Height : Position : Central Defender

Tall with an athletic build, right footed, right sided central defender. He was firm in the tackle and determined when competing for the loose balls that dropped his way, however is lacking in pace and did struggle at times when taken on in 1-v-1 situations. He wasn't always able to win headers cleanly against the tall and physical Akinde, but did take up some intelligent starting positions when heading clear crosses aimed in to the box. He was composed in possession, displaying a steady first touch and the confidence to carry the ball in-field in order to secure passes in to feet.

5 - OLD Steven Age : 32 Height : 6' 2" Position : Central Defender

Tall with a robust build, right footed, left sided central defender. A solid and combative defender who generally stood up well in 1-v-1 situations, getting across the back line steadily where he managed to make some important interceptions, using his strength to out-muscle opponents. He is lacking in pace and this was highlighted when in wider areas and against quick and direct opponents, whereas aerially he had a good battle against Akinde, plus will always carry a threat from attacking set plays. On the ball he tended to look long and towards either wide channel.

14 - CONLAN Luke Age : 23 Height : 6' 0" Position : Left Back/Wing Back

Tall (6'0) with an average build, left footed, left full back. He had difficult game, where although a good athlete and determined with his pressing, did leave space in behind and generally struggled against Barnet's quick counter attacking style - with a number of crosses being worked in to the box from his side. He was energetic enough to get forward, supporting his flank and linking up accurately in to the feet of those in support, occasionally finding the space to supply deep crosses in to the box.

4 - KENYON Alex Age : 25 Height : 5' 10" Position : Central Midfield

Average height and build, right footed, central midfielder. He was typically dogged and determined in this role, competing well for the loose balls that dropped his way, however did at times showed a lack of pace whenever Barnet looked to break forward on the counter. In possession, he was generally steady and secure with shorter passes in to feet, where he always looked to create the angles for a return pass, whilst he did look to play longer balls in to the channels from deep. Aerially, he lost out to a number of headed duels when Akinde dropped deep from the front line.

24 - ROSE Michael Age : 35 Height : 5' 11" Position : Central Midfield

Tallish with an athletic build, left footed, central midfielder. An experienced and influential member of the side, who did reasonably well to get the side ticking over in possession from deep, but when quickly pressed in numbers, resorted to playing longer, hopeful balls which lacked enough accurate to create attacking opportunities. Off the ball he was prepared to get tight, although not always reacting quickly to the loose balls that dropped his way, but he showed good defensive awareness and managed to track late runners in to the box. Possesses a good sized throw and took all their attacking set plays.

10 - CAMPBELL Adam Age : 23 Height : 5' 8" Position : Right Midfield

Smallish in height with an average build, right footed, right attacking midfielder. He displayed glimpses of pace and agility in the wide areas, where he did well to link up with those around him, however did often over-complicate his play when in full stride as he struggled to create many openings when inside the final third. He was prepared to track back and was diligent with his pressing in defensive areas, whilst he will always offer a good outlet for the quick counter attack. In the main he had a disappointing afternoon, before he was replaced by Wylde on 55 minutes.

29 - LANG Callum Age : 19 Height : 5' 11" Position : Forward

Tallish with an athletic build, right footed, attacking midfielder/forward who is currently on loan from Wigan athletic. He worked hard in this role, prepared to scrap for the loose balls that dropped his way, where in possession he looked to use the ball short and simply to those in quick support. He made some intelligent movements in to the channels, getting in to a couple of dangerous areas, but his first touch at times did let him down and Barnet were able to clear. He is just 19 and still developing certain aspects of his game, but generally worked hard throughout, displaying good maturity in his playing style.

11 - ELLISON Kevin Age : 39 Height : 6' 1" Position : Left Midfield

Tall with an athletic build, left footed, left attacking midfielder. A vastly experienced member of the side who acted as a target for the longer balls, winning his fair share of headed duels whilst he will always pose a threat from attacking set plays. His determination and work-ethic was impressive throughout, where he demonstrated a decent change of pace for a man of his build, plus was always prepared to track back and close down out wide. He linked up intelligently over shorter distance and made some intelligent runs in the box, being a powerful and confident finisher, however his chances in this game were at a premium.

28 - McGURK Adam Age : 29 Height : 5' 10" Position : Forward

Average height with an athletic build, left footed, forward. He had a largely ineffectual game, where he was largely isolated and lacking much in the way of supply, being targeted with longer balls that he never looked likely to win in the air against taller and more robust opponents. He looked to drop deep to become more involved in the play, however his first touch let him down far too often, as attacking moves tended to break down around him. He showed the odd glimpse of pace when running the channels and at times showed a willingness to chase the lost causes, but in the main had a disappointing game, before he was replaced by Oliver on 73 minutes.

Substitutes - Morecambe

9 - OLIVER Vadaine Age : 26 Height : 6' 2" Position : Sub - Forward

Tall with an average build, right footed, forward who replaced McGurk on 73 minutes. He added more athleticism and pace in to the attack, where he managed to win the occasional headed flick on, whilst showed decent pace when running the channels. His first touch was generally decent and helped the side to settle in possession inside the final third, however had no real opportunity in front of goal in this short time on the field.

21 - WYLDE Greg Age : 27 Height : 5' 9" Position : Sub - Left Back/Wing
Back

Average height and build, left footed, attacking midfielder who briefly switched sides with Ellison. He replaced Campbell on 55 minutes, being a creative, agile and pace midfielder who linked up well with those around him, plus managed to supply some nicely weighted crosses in to the box from either side. He was prepared to work hard off the ball and chase the lost causes, but ultimately didn't quite do enough to unlock the stubborn Barnet defence.
