

Luton's boss is angry

By DENNIS BUSHER

Newport 3, Luton 1

ANGRY manager George Martin stalked from Luton's dressing room to mourn diminished promotion hopes with the frank verdict: "We showed no form, no fight. This has been our weakness this season.

"We'll skin any skilled team but we come unstuck against the industrious sides who are prepared to chase."

Newport can earn Luton's cheers by beating promotion rivals Colchester at Somerton Park—the only result which can still send Luton into the Third Division next season.

Luton's tension allowed an innocuous pass from Len Hill to slice past three defenders to present Newport inside-left Alf Hale with the first goal in the third minute. Whatever chance they had of pulling the game out of the fire disappeared when centre-forward John O'Rourke was injured in the 37th minute and missed the whole of the second half.

But Hale had scored Newport's second through a defence reorganised with substitute Jim Gibson at right-half and Gordon Riddick at centre-forward before Luton's only goal came.

Inside-right John Reid got it, outclimbing the Newport defence to head in

But this was not the start of Luton's long-awaited revival. County winger Ken Morgan killed it with a third goal.