



Geoff Hurst is in a spot of bother. He's finding it difficult scoring from the spot. Luton's Tony Read—like Gordon Banks in the League Cup—foils him with a magnificent save in the thrilling clash at Upton Park.

We deserved replay say unlucky Luton

71/72 (GAC)

West Ham 2, Luton 1

WEST HAM ended another dramatic Cup-tie obviously relieved as a replay at Luton would have been most unwelcome.

They continue their League Cup semi-final marathon against Stoke, at Old Trafford, on Wednesday week and forward Bryan Robson explained: "The last thing we want is extra matches when this play-off is so close."

Yet Luton, driven on by captain Mike Keen and David Court, nearly salvaged

a draw with a great second half rally.

Gordon Hindson hit a post and both Keen and Chris Nicholl went close, though West Ham winger Harry Redknapp also hit the woodwork.

Keen said: "We started the match too wary of what West Ham could do to us. Then suddenly we decided that they should worry about us, and from that moment we were in with a chance. I thought we deserved a replay."

Luton's vigorous finish suggested they could soon be up amongst the Second Division leaders.

Geoff Hurst's headed goal from Trevor Brookings' cross after only ninety-one seconds and Clyde Best's second after twenty-four minutes would have demoralised most sides.

Spark

But the extra spark that Luton needed came as Don Givens leaped to head in Hindson's cross in the 52nd minute.

Goalkeeper Tony Read kept them in the match by making his second penalty save in successive matches from Hurst's kick.

West Ham skipper Bobby Moore, carried off with an ankle injury after eight minutes, had an X-ray which revealed no bone damage.