

# A Stein sealer

81/82

By BILL DAY

Luton 3, Newcastle 2

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LUTON almost certainly promoted, Newcastle likely to be condemned to another season in the Second Division, and a triumph for football and two managers who courageously called for all out attack with no fear of the consequences.

If awards were offered for a "match of the season" this throbbing north v south clash would probably take the honours.

It had everything; five goals, a hat-trick by Luton's Brian Stein, three penalties, three bookings and a crowd invasion at the end.

It also had a story book finale featuring the hero Stein, who shot Luton to victory with a hat-trick in 22 minutes of a pulsating second half in which the league leaders came back from a 0-2 deficit to win the game five minutes from time.

Luton looked dead and buried after Mills and Trewick, from a penalty, had revived memories of the Milburn era with no thought for defence in their quest for victory to keep promotion hopes alive.

Mills on loan from West Bromwich Albion shot Newcastle ahead after 23 minutes from Cartwright's astute pass with Money in misery at left back.

Worse was to follow when Goodyear's shortage of pace was exposed by the lively Mills just after the break. The big centre half resorted to rough house tactics to send the striker reeling and Trewick in for a penalty.

Now Stein showed the predatory powers that clearly deserved wider recognition. White set him up for his 13th goal in the 63rd minute as Luton searched hungrily for goals. White and Antic both struck Newcastle's crossbar with thunderous shots in this epic battle before Stein equalised from a penalty eight minutes from time.

Horton had been fouled badly by Martin, deputising at centre half for Barton from the 11th minute, and to his horror he conceded another penalty, this time fouling Stein in the 85th minute.

The Luton striker made no mistake from the spot to encourage wild scenes of jubilation as Luton head for the First Division.

Luton: Findlay; Stephens, Money; Goodyear, Donaghy, Horton; Antic, Fuccillo, Turner, Stein, White.

Newcastle: Carr; Brownlie, Saunders; Barton (Wharton, 11), Haddock, Trewick; Martin, Cartwright, Waddle, Mills, Varadi.

Referee: A. Seville (Birmingham).