

England agony for Elliott

84/85 (LC)

PAUL ELLIOTT is doubtful for Saturday's match with Sheffield Wednesday and next week's England under 21 international after suffering concussion against Orient on Tuesday, writes Graham Punter.

The centre-back spent the night in Luton and Dunstable Hospital after being stretchered off in the 34th minute and was described by the hospital as "comfortable" on Wednesday.

Elliott was injured as he made an important tackle to block a shot by Orient's speedy winger Richard Cadette in this Milk Cup second round, second leg tie.

The injury was cruel luck for Elliott, who earlier in the day had been named in next Tuesday's Under 21 squad to meet Finland. Recent impressive performances made him a likely candidate for a cap.

David Pleat said it was "too early" to talk about the line-up for Saturday, but Elliott's likely replacement, Stacey

Luton win so costly

LUTON 3 ORIENT 1
(Agg 7-2)

North, emerged unscathed from the reserves' 4-2 win at QPR on Tuesday.

It was ironic Elliott should be injured in a game so easily within Luton's grasp. They won at a canter, letting the ball do the work while Orient chased everything and anything.

Luton were a bit too quick and a shade too clever for their plucky opponents and with the cushion of a 4-1 lead could afford to be patient.

Orient threatened in the early stages through the left-wing runs of full-back Stride but when winger Hilaire came on after Elliott's injury this channel was

blocked. A 26th minute goal by Frank Bunn, cleverly chipping the keeper, ended the tie as a contest.

Brian Stein, racing through the offside trap, grabbed the second after 53 minutes and Steve Elliott added the third with a bullet header from Stein's cross nine minutes later.

Orient's consolation came after a fine header from Chris Jones was brilliantly beaten out by Dibble, only for ex-Hatter Barry Silkman to rifle the ball in during the confusion that followed.

David Pleat thought his side were "too dreamy" on Tuesday and didn't get behind the visitors' defence often enough. Orient boss Frank Clark had no complaints. "Luton were a bit too good," he said.

LUTON: Dibble, Thomas, Elliott (P), Donaghy, Grimes, Hill, Turner, Bunn, Stein, Elliott (S), Moss. Sub: Hilaire.

ORIENT: Wilmot, Hales, Stride, Corbett, Foster, Banfield, Silkman, Brooks, Jones, Cornwell, Cadette. Sub: McNeil.