

Late winner in tough cup battle

Sheffield United 1, Luton Town 2

Luton's milk-snatchers grabbed a last gasp victory as Sheffield Utd's hard men finally lost their bottle.

With just seconds left Hatters' striking star Emeka Nwajiobi popped up unmarked in the penalty area to steer the ball wide of 'keeper Burridge.

But for most of Tuesday night's bruising clash in the first leg of the Milk Cup second round the Hatters had struggled against a battle-seasoned side well marshalled by former Liverpool veteran Phil Thompson.

And Luton skipper Steve Foster needed all his experience to snuff out the brawny threat of old Aston Villa star Peter Withe.

The game suddenly caught fire in the dying minutes of a dour first half as one David Preece shot whistled against a post and another was saved by Burridge at full stretch.

But the Second Division side pumped the ball

by Rod Jones

upfield and Foley ghosted in for a header which sent Luton 1-0 down at the interval.

The Sheffield defence hung on grittily after the break and when Hill side footed a golden chance wide after 62 minutes the Hatters must have felt the tie slipping away from them.

But 10 minutes from the end the Sheffield defence finally cracked as Stein turned the ball in.

That set up Nwajiobi's last-minute winner which gives Luton a comfortable cushion for the second leg at Kenilworth Road.

David Pleat's men will be back in the Yorkshire city on Saturday for a tough Division One tussle with Sheffield Wednesday.