

Luton wreck the party



LUTON mercilessly wrecked West Brom's hopes of a Christmas revival.

David Pleat's stylish Luton side hit bottom of the table Albion with breakaway goals from rookie Mark North and Mick Harford in the first half.

Pleat declared: "West Brom have some good players, but do not seem to be playing as a team. I think we just deserved to win but, considering the conditions, both teams did their best to entertain."

West Brom had fought back

West Brom dreams shattered by Harford

By **JOHN DAVIES**
West Brom 1 Luton 2

resolutely after North, who originally joined the club as a goalkeeper, headed Luton ahead in the fifth minute. Brian Stein had hit the bar

with a smart back-heel shot and 20-year-old North dived to score from the rebound.

West Brom responded with a verve and skill that belied their precarious position.

And their eager efforts were justly rewarded with a headed equaliser by Imre Varadi from a Mickey Thomas cross in the 36th minute.

But Albion, heartened by a rare home victory over Watford last Sunday, were given only five minutes to dream of a second success in a row.

That dream was shattered by Harford in the 41st minute when he drove Luton into the lead from 25 yards after a free kick from Ricky Hill.