

SPORTSMAIL MONDAY VERD

Hit-man Heath plans a getaway



ADRIAN HEATH (arm raised) celebrates Everton's equaliser.

NO AMOUNT of glory for Everton nor wealth for himself will persuade Adrian Heath to remain a Merseyside reserve next season.

Heath's two goals in five days—first at Tottenham, then to complete Everton's comeback to 2-2 at Luton on Saturday—have kept the championship leaders on course for the FA Cup half of a classic double.

But both were scored in the No. 12 shirt and little Heath regrets he will be unable to accept not playing regular first team football next season.

Manager Howard Kendall was already turning his atten tion to Wednesday's quarterfinal replay against Luton as the man whose equaliser made that possible faced up to a future elsewhere.

Heath, 25 and coming to the end of his contract at a time when Scotland's Graeme Sharp has signed for another four years in striking partner-ship with England's Gary Lineker, said: 'Even if Ever-ton do the League and Cup double and I draw massive bonuses I won't stay on as a substitute.

'I hope the club win everything but no matter how much money I might earn and medals I might qualify for, they cannot compensate for not going out to start first team matches on important Saturday afternoons like this

'I'm out of the side through

Luton... 2 Everton... 2 BY JEFF POWELL

no fault of my own. It was just bad luck for me that no sooner did I get over a long injury than Everton went out and signed a great player like Gary Linekar.

'But I've got to consider my own future. Sad as it may be, it's obvious that's going to be elsewhere.

Arsenal Nottingham Forest and the team he knocked out of the fifth round of the cup last week, Spurs, are among the many clubs keen to offer the that apportunity

Heath that opportunity.

Kendall, whose sustained success with Everton has aroused the interest of European champions Juventus— coach Gianni Trappatoni moves on to Inter-Milan next season—voiced sympathy for Heath's frustration.

There was no reduction in Everton's admirable character and determination when Kendall gambled by replac-ing full-back Neil Pointon with the goal potential of Heath.

Quality

In fact, even at two down, they did not look like losing. No sooner did Heath arrive than Sharp responded with a magnificent header. Then

magnificent header. Then Heath plundered the equaliser in typically alert style.

There was no complaints from Luton, despite the memories of how their F.A. Cup dream was shattered by a late Everton equaliser in last season's semi-final.

Luton manager David Pleat said: 'In the second half, Everton showed themselves to be the best team in the coun-

be the best team in the country. It would have been much more disappointing to loose our lead to a poor side.'

'We were like a young boxer trying to hang on but not knowing how to do it, while Everton had quality players well aware of what they were up to.

With Trevor Steven back to his World Cup-contending best on the right flank, Paul Bracewell dominating mid-field and the reshuffled defence excelling, Everton looked worthy of all the hon-ours apparently coming their way this season

One man determined not to miss Wednesday's replay is Luton's former Everton striker Andy King, who went off with a broken nose but says he expects to be fit to play.

LUTON. — Harford (12mins.), Stein (63). EVERTON.—Sharp (65), Heath