

LATE SHOW!

85/86(CAC)

By REG DRURY

Luton 2 Everton 2

EVERTON kept alive their bid for a hat-trick of FA Cup final appearances with a dramatic revival which earned them a replay and stretched their unbeaten run to 15 games.

It looked all over for Everton when Luton went 2-0 ahead after 63 minutes with a goal which looked suspiciously offside.

Luton's Mark Stein raced on to a through pass from Andy King and although tackled by Everton goalkeeper Neville Southall outside the area he managed to keep his composure to whip the ball into an unguarded net. But instead of surrendering Everton came storming back and within two minutes a free kick by Gary Stevens was glanced into his own net by Luton's Mal Donaghy.

That was just the spur Everton needed after completely dominating the second half and it was no surprise when Adrian Heath grabbed the equaliser just a few minutes after coming on as a replacement for full back Neil Pointon.

Series

In fact, Everton might have decided it there and then had not Gary Lineker been foiled when clean away by a brave save from Luton's Les Sealey.

During the opening 20 minutes Luton struggled to find a way through a compact Everton defence.

The only breakthrough looked like coming when young Mark Stein managed a shot which goalkeeper Neville Southall saved without worry.

Then, suddenly, after

Everton scrape a replay

22 minutes Luton went ahead with a well worked goal.

It started with a throw from Peter Nicholas which was headed on by centre-half Steve Foster and suddenly a gap appeared which Everton could not plug.

Ricky Hill was on the spot with a first time shot and although the diving Southall pushed the ball away Mick Harford reacted before any of the visiting defenders to sweep the ball into the net.

Everton had lacked their usual pattern until that setback with just a wide shot from Paul Bracewell. Yet stung by the Luton goal we suddenly saw the true Everton as they took command of the midfield and put Luton under constant pressure.



HEADS UP — Luton's Mark Stein challenges Gary Stevens for the ball.