

Last minute goal saves it

86/87

LATE STRIKE DENIES TOWN

THE return of two top Hatters transformed Luton into a fighting force on Sunday.

Mick Harford played for the first time this season and Steve Foster came back after missing two games with flu.

And the good news was injury-plagued Harford came through all right and even had a hand in the first Town goal.

He said: 'I'm very pleased. My knee stood up well and I felt pretty sharp. I tired in the last 25 and got cramp in the end.'

Forest, beaten 4-2 at Kenilworth Road in November, needed an injury-time goal to salvage a point in an entertaining cut and thrust affair.

Luton, who drafted in Robert Wilson for injured Darren McDonough, relegated unlucky Mark Stein to the bench to make way for Harford.

Neil Webb troubled the visitors twice in the first eight minutes.

First he had a headed "goal" disallowed then he crashed a 20-yarder

NOTTS FOREST (0) 2

Clough 73

Bowyer 90

LUTON TOWN (1) 2

B. Stein 10

Newell 86

Crowd: 20,273

against a post.

It was Luton who pounced first though. Harford nodded on Ashley Grimes' corner for Brian Stein to grab his eighth goal of the season.

Les Sealey was called into action to deny Webb and Chris Fairclough before Grimes drew Hans Segers into a good save with a snap-shot.

Webb had another chance on half-time but fired wide in space.

Sealey kept an interval blank sheet with a flying tip-over from Stuart Pearce's free kick.

Town created two good openings early in the second session but Mike Newell drove wide and Grimes volleyed over.

Forest levelled matters after 73 minutes through boss's son Nigel Clough.

Des Walker burst out of defence

and fed Franz Carr whose shot fell perfectly for Clough.

Gary Mills wasted a chance for Forest and Mal Donaghy brought a save from Segers.

Then four minutes from time Luton struck what they must have thought was a killer blow.

A huge Sealey kick deceived the home defence and Newell capitalised. Sealey celebrated with a half lap of honour.

A minute and a half into injury time Forest wiped the smile off his face when Ian Bowyer thundered in the equaliser with a little help from a Nicholas deflection.

"We tried to be too clever at the death," said Luton manager John Moore.

"We tried for a third goal instead of consolidating what we had."

FOREST: Segers, Fleming, Pearce, Walker, Fairclough, Bowyer, Carr, Webb, Clough, Campbell, Mills. Sub: Metgod.

LUTON: Sealey, Breacker, Johnson, Nicholas, Foster, Donaghy, Wilson, B. Stein, Newell, Harford, Grimes. Sub: M. Stein (for Wilson, 80).

**Pictures:
STEVE POOLE**