

# Battling Luton can play it again

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Liverpool ..... 0, Luton ..... 0 (aet): By COLIN WOOD

THE WHEEL of FA Cup fortune swung back in Luton's favour at Anfield last night as holders Liverpool faced a return to the plastic pitch they dislike so much — and without support — in defence of the most glamorous leg of their great double.

Luton won all the crucial decisions surrounding this third round replay and will now be even more encouraged about their chances of victory when battle is resumed at Kenilworth Road tomorrow night.

Even before the kick-off Luton must have realised this could be their night when they won the toss to decide the venue for a second replay. Liverpool suggested a neutral venue, Luton turned them down, won the toss of the coin for a home trip and then earned it with two hours of defensive resilience.

As Luton skipper Steve Foster said later: 'It was not easy for us to come and hold out here so we deserve the chance to get an advantage.'

## Controversy

Luton had their moments of fortune out on the pitch, too. The first came midway through the first half of normal time, with Liverpool pressure at its most fierce. Ian Rush, almost unbelievably, missed the kind of chance he would usually take blindfold.

Then, in the 16th minute of extra time, Jan Molby saw a shot stay out of the Luton net after striking the inside of a post and keeper Les Sealey's legs.

In between Luton proved that, for all the controversy over their plastic pitch, they can play on grass, too. Skipper Foster led the resistance

## Out of Europe

LIVERPOOL, whose fans' involvement in the Heysel disaster led to English clubs being banned from Europe, have had to turn down an invitation to play a friendly in Bordeaux — even though they had the all-clear from UEFA. A fixtures pile-up keeps Liverpool at home and Everton will go instead.

movement in magnificent fashion and Sealey supported him with fine saves from Craig Johnston, Paul Walsh and John Wark.

Despite having their backs to the wall much of the time Luton still broke intelligently to keep Bruce Grobbelaar on his toes. Twice the Liverpool keeper was stretched, first in keeping out a low shot from Brian Stein after 36 minutes and then by an Ashley Grimes free kick after 58.

Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish said: 'We are not too disappointed with this result because it means we are still in the Cup.'