

Luton 2, Man Utd. 1

LUTON maintained their stubborn dream of the First Division title and inflicted Manchester United's first League defeat this year with a comfortable triumph in a game scarred by nasty fouls, writes **Robert Alexander**. 56/87

Even without the influence of their injured captain, Foster, Luton played with supreme confidence. They dominated the opening half with a delightful one-touch play and fully deserved a win which keeps them up amongst the leaders.

Harford, made captain in Foster's absence, gave Luton a third-minute lead. After feeding Stein into space, he arrived at the far post to volley in a well judged Nicholas cross.

Stein added a brilliant second four minutes before the interval. He and the superb Hill carved through United's defence from the halfway line, and the move ended with Stein beating Bailey from 18 yards.

After a Harford header had hit the bar, United clawed their way back in the second half and following cautions for McGrath and Whiteside, Robson scrambled a consolation goal from close range three minutes before the end.

Luton: Sealey, Breacer, Johnson, Nicholas, North, Donaghy, Hill, B. Stein, Newell, Harford, Grimes.

Manchester United: Bailey, Sivebaek, C. Gibson, (Davenport 64), Duxbury, McGrath, Moran, Robson, Strachan, Whiteside, T. Gibson, O'Brien.

Referee: K. Baker.