

# Town sink in south coast mud

86/87  
LUTON were all at sea on Tuesday night when they slipped and slid to their heaviest defeat this season.

Their hopes of jumping ahead of Arsenal into third place sunk in the first 14 minutes at a muddy Dell.

That's how long it took Southampton to go two up in the re-arranged First Division showdown.

Only three minutes had gone when 18-year-old Matthew Le Tissier skipped up the right wing and pulled back a cross for Danny Wallace.

His shot was blocked on the line by Andy Townsend who turned and forced the ball home.

Eleven minutes later Le Tissier laid the ball neatly to George Lawrence who turned past Mal Donaghy and lashed a shot into the net.

**S'TON (2) 3**

Lawrence 14, 75

Townsend 3

LUTON T. 0

Lawrence wrapped things up in the 75th minute when he seized on to a Townsend pass to beat Les Sealey.

Things might have been different for the Hatters had Mike Newell's 44th-minute effort not been disallowed for offside against



● Harford — hit the bar.

Mick Harford, later booked for a foul.

The only other time Town really tested Peter Shilton was in the 68th minute when the England 'keeper pushed a Harford header on to the bar.

● Luton are at home to



● Newell — 'goal' disallowed.

Spurs on Saturday.

● Marc North has joined Birmingham on a month's loan.

● Town have rejected a £250,000 enquiry for transfer-listed Ricky Hill by Rangers from the Scottish League.