

# Harford is the hit man

## Two-goal Mick sends Coventry crashing

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(F.L.C.)

★ **MICK HARFORD**, priced at £1 million by Luton, did massive damage to Coventry's millionaire dreams last night.

Coventry have built ambitious plans after winning the FA Cup, but this Littlewoods Cup exit was their fourth successive defeat.

Harford, booked for a 43rd-minute challenge on Brian Borrows, hit Coventry with two goals, leaving them with serious problems to solve.

Harford's 29th-minute goal encouraged doubt to spread everywhere and there was no Lloyd McGrath to lead them out of trouble by example.

McGrath was led out of the third-round tie after only 20 minutes with blood oozing from a head wound, just when Coventry needed him.

The Sky blues had looked tentative from the start and the way Harford was allowed to take his goals underlined the fact.

### Cope

For the first, Brian Stein had made nothing of Tim Breacker's cross, but when the ball broke loose it was Harford who reacted positively, sweeping in a shot that left Coventry goalkeeper Steve Ogrizovic scrambling on his knees.

It was the same story six minutes into the second half when Stein provided the cross. Coventry couldn't cope and Harford again beat Ogrizovic.

Trevor Peake and Brian Kilcline, both long-term injuries, were the bedrock of Coventry's revival last season and now, without them and McGrath, the core of the side was gone and Coventry could not cope.

The evidence was there again when Luton claimed their third goal in 54 minutes, Micky

By **JOHN WRAGG**  
**Luton 3 Coventry 1**

Weir being allowed the time and opportunity to drive his shot wide of Ogrizovic.

David Speedie, under pressure to get goals with £800,000 of Coventry's FA Cup winnings invested in him, blew up at North London referee Tony Ward and was booked.

Coventry had hoped that moving the game from Kenilworth Road to Leicester's Filbert Street because of Luton's ban on away fans would help them out of trouble.

Coventry's fans turned up in force from only 25 miles down the road but by the time Luton had established their shock three-goal lead they were chanting: "What a load of rubbish!"

Nick Pickering's first goal of the season in the 69th minute silenced the terrace moans.

Harford had a great chance to complete a hat-trick when Luton were awarded a penalty but Ogrizovic saved it.