

Clive goes so quietly

By HARRY HARRIS: Tottenham 2 Luton 1

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CLIVE ALLEN finished his Spurs career with a standing ovation at White Hart Lane last night.

But a small section of the crowd turned the club's final game of the season into a protest over a planned new £5 million stand.

Allen went out with a whimper,

leaving the spectacular goal-scoring to his skipper Gary Mabbutt and Steve Hodge.

But Spurs' season to forget came to a close amid angry protests by fans that their beloved "Shelf" will be replaced by executive boxes.

Allen was substituted 20 minutes from the end and it was a bitterly disappointing finale to his four years in Spurs colours.

Yet Allen was the club's most prolific scorer of all time in one phenomenal season, with 49 goals making him the double Footballer of the Year.

The fans forgave him for an ineffective final performance, preferring to recognise his illustrious goalscoring feats of last season as they responded to his farewell wave as he left for Bordeaux.

After Mabbutt's superb volley, his first goal in nine months, ended the season on a winning note, manager Terry Venables was chirpy and confident about a resurgence next season.

He said: "I enjoyed that. It was a terrific goal to seal it and a nice way to end.

"I'm sure Clive would have loved to have scored.

"But now I've got time to reflect and prepare for next season."

Venables enjoyed only his sixth League win since taking over at the turn of the year.

Steve Hodge opened the scoring in the 30th minute.

Ashley Grimes equalised seven minutes later with an outstanding goal.

But Mabbutt's winner was special. He struck a half-volley into the top corner from 25 yards