

CUP SENSATION!

TEENAGE defender Julian James was sent off on his debut as Hatters kept their defence of the Littlewoods Cup alive at Elland Road last night.

The 18-year-old defender was dismissed for a "professional foul" minutes from the end, and was joined by furious Hatters boss Ray Harford — sent off the field for arguing.

James — who has played just six minutes for Luton as a sub — came into the injury-hit side when full-backs Rob Johnson and Tim Breacker were ruled out.

Harford said later: "It was a great performance but I was disappointed with the sending off because I was going to take him off just minutes before.

"I was annoyed and frustrated at not looking after the kid. He is very upset. It is obvious-

LEEDS 0 LUTON 2
Michael Weinstein reports
from Elland Road

ly very traumatic to play so well and then get sent off."

Hatters patched up Ricky Hill and John Dreyer in time for the kick-off but Mick Harford was also unable to play through injury.

Hatters coped well with the early Leeds pressure.

Oldfield intercepted a

terrible John Sheridan back pass in the fifth minute and was left with only the keeper to beat.

But Mervyn Day was up to the challenge and saved well with his legs

Hatters' old boy Vince Hilaire — given a free role by Leeds — headed weakly into Les Sealey's arms from a pin-point Ian Baird

Boss Harford and debut kid sent off

cross. 89/89 (FLC)

Sealey saved with his legs as Baird shaped to shoot and Hatters broke swiftly.

Steve Williams's cross was headed clear by big Noel Blake, but the ball fell straight to Danny WILSON, who cut inside and curled a cracker from 25 yards past the helpless Day for a 29th minute lead.

Hatters began to show their First Division class when Roy Wegerle sliced through the Leeds' defence, but Oldfield could not get on the end of his pass

Leeds threw everything at the visitors as half-time approached



JULIAN JAMES
... sent off

and Sealey had to race from his line to clear from Blake.

From the throw Baird was left unmarked at the far post and he crashed his shot across goal.

Anxious Leeds — with a fervent crowd behind them — were committed to attack after the break.

Hatters held out and found the unimaginative Leeds pressure easy to cope with.

And they pushed forward themselves at every opportunity.

Hilaire vollied Sheridan's 63rd minute free-kick harmlessly over, and seconds later Hatters made it safe.

Wegerle was first to Sealey's long clearance and he fed OLDFIELD.

The young striker saw his first effort stopped by Day, but the ball slipped under the keeper and Oldfield avoided the challenge to slot into an empty net.

Baird clipped Hilaire's 72nd minute cross on to the top of the bar.

And two minutes later Johnson had to move quickly to clear from Baird.

Wegerle, back helping his defence, cleared off the line from Neil Aspin's weak shot

Then Sealey had to make crisp saves from Davison and Sheridan.

But with less than five minutes remaining, the game threatened to boil over with that James' incident.

The youngster cut down Baird when the striker was clean through and when the players had finished pushing each other around Midgley sent him off.

James left the field in tears with boss Ray Harford swift to commiserate with him on the touchline.

Then Harford came on to the field again to remonstrate with the referee — and was also sent off.

Hatters saw off the last four minutes and despite the late uproar were good value for their win.



• Cracker — Danny Wilson fired Luton in front after 29 minutes.

THE LINE-UP

LEEDS UNITED: Day, Aspin, Snodin, Aizlewood, Blake, Rennie, Batty, Sheridan, Baird, Davison, Hilaire. Subs: Pearson, Stiles.

LUTON: Sealey, James, Dreyer, Williams, Foster, Johnson (M), Wilson, Oldfield, Wegerle, Hill, Black. Subs: Grimes, Allinson.