

Joyous Luton survive

MICK HARFORD gifted his old Luton team-mates their First Division lifeline with a first half own-goal at Kenilworth Road.

Harford rose above Sean Farrell to defend a Richard Harvey free-kick but succeeded only in flicking the ball over Peter Shilton and into his own net.

That gave Luton the lead just before half-time and they wrapped it up immediately after the interval. David Preece's corner produced a trio of headers with

Luton 2 Derby 0

by Mike Staniforth

Lars Elstrup having the decisive one on the line for his 18th goal of the season.

With Sunderland losing 3-2 at Maine Road, it meant Luton had retained their First Division status on the final day of the season for the third year in succession and the second time in a row against Derby.

Luton fans celebrated by digging up the plastic pitch,

90/91
which has to be replaced next season anyway, and manager Jim Ryan said: "I hope this is the start of something big. Next season will be our tenth in the First Division and that's a decent achievement for a little club like ours."

LUTON: Chamberlain, Beaumont, Harvey, Rees (w'drn 78, sub James), McDonough, Dreyer, Elstrup, Preece, Farrell (w'drn 78, sub Nogan), Pembroke, Black.

DERBY: Shilton, Sage, Forsyth, Williams, Wright, Patterson, Micklewhite, Saunders, Harford, Williams (w'drn 65, sub Hebbard), McMinn (inj 45, sub Cross).

REFEREE: G. Courtney (Spennymoor)