

You little beauties

Keegan's big-shots humbled by Luton super show



JOHN Hartson knocked Kevin Keegan's Newcastle out of the Cup last night—and set up a family reunion back home in Wales.

The 18-year-old Swansea lad scored the 16th minute goal that ignited this inspired replay victory by David Pleat's First Division side.

So Newcastle joined the alarming list of Premier League giants already resting on the Cup scrapheap.

But Keegan could not deny Luton their rightful place in the fifth round at Cardiff where Hartson will have family support.

Classy

"I haven't scored for a couple of months so that goal was very welcome," said Hartson. "I am looking forward to going to Cardiff because I'll have plenty of family support."

Hartson's goal will have spoiled the 30th birthday celebrations today of Newcastle goalkeeper Mike Hooper.

He came off his line to race Hartson for a long ball from Andy Peake. But he was never going to make it and the youngster clipped the ball round him and stroked it into an empty goal.

But long before Scott Oakes sealed this success with a second, classy goal 12 minutes from the end Luton had weathered the worst of the Newcastle storm.

It was a victory for their concentration and organisation for they worked hard at closing down Newcastle and denying them space.

If the glory goes to Hartson and Oakes in Pleat's mind there will be deeper appreciation of his defence who kept their shape and discipline with exemplary application.

But they have fine young players too, in the stylish Oakes, Des Linton, Hartson and Tony Thorpe, scorer in the first game and substitute last night.

It was a night, as Kee-

gan commented, when the entertainers in his side didn't entertain, when Cole was anonymous and not responding to Peter Beardsley's baton.

Perhaps they missed the influence of the cagey Paul Bracewell. Without him operating in front of their defence United

looked vulnerable. Former England manager Graham Taylor sat stone-faced in the directors box as Beardsley strove to weave some magic into the Newcastle attack.

Here was the man who might have saved Taylor's neck but Beardsley certainly could not wring the

neck of this Luton side. First he put in Lee Clark only for Linton to make the cleanest of tackles and then he shimmied and dummied before shooting over himself.

But it was Hartson who opened the game up and set the tone for a night of high drama and purring action.

Hartson might have ended it just before half-time in another lightning Luton counter-attack only to see Barry Venison hook off the line in spectacular style.



Heroes: Luton goalscorers Scott Oakes and John Hartson celebrate victory



By **STEVE CURRY**
Luton Town 2
Newcastle 0