

HATTERS' TITLE DREAM JOLTED

WREXHAM 2 LUTON TN 1

THEIR second defeat in five days has left Luton Town looking anxiously over their shoulders.

They could claim they were dreadfully unlucky to be beaten by Millwall at Kenilworth Road on Saturday but there was no fluke about the result at the Racecourse Ground last night.

They had the boost of taking the lead, but threw it away within a minute and then were second best as Wrexham tore into them.

The Welshmen were desperate to make amends for their FA Cup quarter final defeat at Chesterfield on Sunday and put on a spirited display.

It was basic football, much of it long ball, but it held the edge over a Luton team which is now looking much less confident than it did before Christmas.

Last night's match was their game-in-hand over second division leaders Brentford and now the pressure is on for Luton to get a result at Crewe on Saturday and to stop the play-off chasing pack from catching up.

Everything was looking good in the early stages at Wrexham with Steve Davis heading a spectacular goal from a free kick by Ceri Hughes.

But straight from the restart Wrexham swept downfield, Marvin Johnson brought down Martyn Chalk with a clumsy tackle and Gary Bennett equalised from the penalty.

And Bennett struck again nine minutes into the second half as Wrexham's power play put them on top.

Manager Lennie Lawrence took off both strikers with an

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hour gone, but subs Dwight Marshall and Kim Grant fared no better than Tony Thorpe and David Oldfield had done.

Luton launched a furious attacking burst in the closing minutes, with centre-half Davis playing as an additional striker. But Marshall wasted a good chance by shooting high over the bar and in the last minute massed defence by Wrexham aided by a little luck gave the Welshmen the points they need to boost their play-off chances.

The result was a massive disappointment for Lennie Lawrence who had told his men he wanted at least four points from their two matches at Wrexham and Crewe.

Luton: Feuer; Patterson, Davis, Johnson, James; Alexander, Hughes, Waddock (McLaren (69 minutes), Showler; Oldfield (Marshall 59 minutes), Thorpe, (Grant 59 minutes).