

Hoodoo hits Hatters

04/05

Luton 1
Huddersfield 2

TWO goals from Junior Mendes made it unlucky 13 for Luton as they lost their first league match of the season in a 2-1 defeat to Huddersfield.

Mike Newell's side were seeking to equal a 35-year club record of 13 unbeaten league matches at the start of the season, but were undone by a below-par first half performance.

Luton were stunned when Mendes cut inside and unleashed a right foot scorcher past the diving Dino Seremet.

And Mendes struck again before the interval, knocking the ball home after Efe Sodje had flicked on a corner from Tony Carss.

Luton used four forwards as they dominated the second half and Paul Underwood gave them hope with a fine curling shot.

Steve Howard hit the post with a header and Ahmet Brkovic hammered the rebound over, while Ian Gray saved well from Gary McSheffrey and Chris Coyne as Huddersfield held on.

Luton boss Mike Newell had words

of praise for Huddersfield, saying: "To be fair to Huddersfield, they came out and had a go at us.

"They had a number of corners and kept putting the ball into the danger area and in the end, it worked for them.

"They played some decent stuff and came at us rather than sitting back which can sometimes work in our favour, but it didn't.

"It was much like the game against Hartlepool the other night where they also had a go at us, only Huddersfield got the goals and Hartlepool didn't."

Terriers boss Peter Jackson claimed the win was Huddersfield's best result of the season — and he demanded more of the same from his players.

"Luton had only conceded two at home all season before this and no one gave us a hope here, but to get the three points is absolutely fantastic," he said.

"I thought we were superb in the first half and could have had three or four.

"We came under a bit of pressure in the second half, but we defended excellently and deserved the win."