

Mick's note sparks win

HATTERS 5 WREXHAM 1

A FINAL message from former Hatters Director of Football Mick Harford sparked Luton's biggest win of the season against struggling Wrexham.

Harford, 45, joined up with ex-Town boss Joe Kinnear as assistant manager of Nottingham Forest after leaving Kenilworth Road on Friday.

But he had one last note to act as inspiration to Hatters' shocked squad of players before Saturday's home game.

Written on a flip chart in the home dressing room were the words: "I believe this dressing room is full of champions - go and do it. All the best, Mick Harford."

And the gesture clearly had some effect as Luton followed the previous week's super 4-0 win over Bradford by netting through Steve Robinson, Stephen O'Leary, Steve Howard, Ahmet Brkovic and a first ever goal in professional football for full-back Sol Davis.

Harford, who began work at Forest on Monday, yesterday delivered a bunch of flowers to the staff at Luton as a show of appreciation for his time at the club.

But Town boss Mike Newell is concentrating on the future rather than the past.

He said: "We will miss Mick and miss having him around the place, but there's no point in dwelling on it."

"He's made a decision and we wish him all the luck in the world - we just have to get on with it now. He made a massive contribution to what we've done, but it's about the players and I believe we've got a good side here."

On a replacement, Newell added: "I haven't even given it a thought to be honest. We will take our time, but at this

Final message from Harford to 'Champions'

moment I haven't even looked at that." While Luton's players were left surprised by the speed of Harford's departure last week, they didn't let it affect their form on the field as the Town took apart a shambolic Wrexham side.

The Dragons face a winding up order on November 17 due to a £900,000 unpaid Inland Revenue bill. But they have problems on the field as well as off the pitch.

Hatters kept faith with the same team that beat the Bantams, but Slovenian goalkeeper Dino Seremet replaced Rob Beckwith on the bench after injury.

After former Spurs striker Chris Armstrong had somehow contrived to miss an open goal in the eighth minute, Town took the lead five minutes later when Howard nodded back Kevin Foley's cross and Robinson headed in from 10 yards.

Davis' memorable moment came when he latched on to Brkovic's cheeky 17th minute chip and fired past Matt Baker, in for injured ex-Luton Andy Dibble in goal.

Stephen O'Leary hit his first of the season in the 22nd minute firing home Rowan Vine's centre and Howard got his eighth of the campaign by heading in another Foley centre before the break.

Dennis Lawrence hit the post for Wrexham after the interval before Brkovic nodded his eighth of the season after Paul Underwood's header was parried.

Substitute Hector Sam hit the Dragons' consolation with 17 minutes to go.



SOL DESTROYER: Sol Davis hits his first ever professional goal.

MIKE NEWELL'S VERDICT



"THE first-half performance was very similar to that against Bradford.

"The goals were the icing on the cake, but we played some decent stuff.

"The lads have got a desire to keep a clean sheet and although they didn't do that, it's only to be expected that they might take their foot off the gas at 5-0 up.

"But it's nice to score goals at home, it sends

out a message and people will be in fear when they come here.

"That's what I want. I want it to be a fortress here and for us to give teams a good hiding and we've done that two weeks in a row now.

"Wrexham had a lot of injuries and players missing, but you can only beat what's in front of you and the lads went about it in the right way."

STAR HATTER



AHMET BRKOVIC: The Croatian Sensation continued his amazing run of form by bagging his eighth goal in 13 league starts so far.

Hatters' fans' October Player of the Month was at the centre of Luton's attacking play, setting up Sol Davis for his goal and generally tormenting Wrexham.

His movement saw him ghosting away from his right midfield slot to fine effect throughout.

Bez and Unders night

HATTERS first team players Paul Underwood, right, and Marlon Beresford will be the special guests at the first Luton Town Supporters' Club's players' evening next week.

Versatile left midfielder Underwood, 31, and goalkeeper Beresford, 35, are two of the Town's more experienced squad members.

And the pair will be answering

fans' questions at the Eric Morecambe suite at Kenilworth Road on Thursday, November 18 at 7.30pm.

Tickets for the evening are priced £3 for Supporters' Club members and £5 for non-members.

For entrance, leave your name and details with the Supporters' Club on 01582 508273 and a ticket will be left on the door.

