

Morgan sends Hatters mad

Luton3
Southampton.....2

DEAN Morgan scored a dramatic stoppage-time winner for Luton to give them their second successive victory of the new season.

The League One champions, buoyed by their 2-1 opening day victory over Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park, took the game to the visitors, eyeing the scalp of a second club relegated from the Premiership last season.

An inswinging corner from the left taken by Morgan was cleared by midfielder Matt Oakley, with the ball landing at the feet of Steve Robinson, who fired a superb left footed effort from 25-yards which forced Antti Niemi into making a brilliant save.

However, Southampton took the lead against the run of play.

Full back Danny Higginbotham broke down the left and the oncoming Oakley wrapped his left foot around the cross and tucked it inside the left hand post from 12-yards.

Luton rallied and managed to draw themselves level in the 41st minute when Kevin Nicholls struck a powerful shot from 18-yards past Niemi.

But just four minutes later Kenwyne Jones headed Southampton into an undeserved half time lead.

However, Luton levelled six minutes after the break when diminutive Croatian midfielder Ahmet Brkovic powered a header past Niemi from six-yards.

Then in injury-time Morgan gave Mike Newell's side all three points after cutting in from the right hand side and releasing a fine curled right footed effort that arrowed into the top corner of Niemi's net.

Redknapp still confident

SOUTHAMPTON boss Harry Redknapp insisted he was still firmly focused on winning the Championship despite a last-minute defeat to newly-promoted Luton.

Redknapp said: "Who knows where we're going to finish, but I am looking to finish top.

"But we've not got the quality for sure at the moment. I lost three fantastic strikers last year and two very good left sided players.

"The difficulty is in finding players to replace them because no-one wants to give good players away cheaply, but we've still got a bit of time before the transfer deadline."

For Luton, the win followed a 2-1 success at Crystal Palace and left them second in the table after the first two matches.

But Hatters boss Mike Newell said: "People will no doubt be getting carried away in the euphoria, but it's only two games in and there is miles and miles left to go.

"If you get into the habit of not losing games it is a good habit to have and that's what we are doing at the moment."