

Luton get much-needed boost

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Luton 1 Leeds 1

SAM Parkin hit a dramatic injury-time leveller as a 1-1 draw stalled Leeds' League One promotion push and boosted Luton's relegation battle.

The visitors looked set for three points after Paul Huntington's first-half opener when he rose to head home Peter Sweeney's free-kick in the 27th minute.

But substitute Parkin earned the Hatters a vital point by touching home Dean Morgan's cross with just seconds remaining.

Leeds were forced to defend for long periods of the game but spurned two good chances on the breakaway during the second half.

Jermaine Beckford rounded goalkeeper Dean Brill in the 63rd minute but could only fire wide from a tight angle, while strike partner Tresor Kandol blasted over with just Brill to beat in the 79th minute.

Luton manager Mick Harford said: "We are disappointed we didn't come away with more than

just a point to be honest — I thought we deserved to win it.

"The first half was very scrappy but Leeds are a competitive side. In the second half we took control and I don't think Dean Brill had to touch the ball.

"The players never stopped for 90 minutes and we thoroughly deserved the goal and probably more. But it's a start for us and for me in my new career at Luton."

Leeds boss Dennis Wise said: "It was a tough game and we knew it was going to be difficult, but we got ourselves ahead on a set-piece that worked perfectly.

"We worked so hard throughout the game to make things difficult for Luton and to get ourselves ahead, only to concede like that at the end.

"It was a poxy goal to concede. It came from a throw-in but it shouldn't have been allowed to happen. We just can't afford to go to sleep like that.

"The aim for us remains the top six. That's what we're looking at but we know it's going to be tough."

Luton's Sam Parkin celebrates scoring

