

BIG CROWD SEE THE TOWN TAME WOLVES

Gates Were Closed To The Late Arrivals

By Chiltern

AN excited crowd of 26,542 saw the Town gain their second consecutive victory after as tough and as fast a struggle as they will have this season, at Kenilworth-road last night.

Although the crowd was below the record before the latest extension was made all the gates were closed and it was explained afterwards that this was due to the fact that many thousands arrived together just before the kick-off and packing was made difficult.

It was a game that had all the elements of a blood stirring Cup-tie and all tenseness was not confined to the field of play for afterwards the Wolves manager, Stan Cullis, no doubt in the heat of the moment, was involved in an incident with Town director Tom Hodgson for which Wolves directors apologised to the Town Chairman.

It was difficult to believe that the pace of this struggle could last so long and it is to the credit of the Town that they matched the great speed and strength of the tearaway Wolves with so much courage.

There were times, particularly in the first half however, when Wolves, obviously seeking a shock start, pressed hard and the Town defence had to be right at its best.

The only goal was a coolly the Town's best forward for he worked non-stop, often worried the England captain Wright and was the player from whom Wolves had most to fear.

The right wing was more contented effort by Morton, easily consistent than the left, with Cullen trying the whole time, but Turner was not so prominent nor so dangerous as on Saturday, mainly because the through passes did not come from Groves, who had an unhappy sort of match.

It was the defence though that had to take the strain and the star of it was Streten who played a game reminiscent of his best, and was given a great ovation.

Another stalwart was Owen, who dominated the middle, but the whole defence came through with the greatest credit.

At the start, Wolves, moving the ball about briskly, were the more impressive and had more of the play.

Slater shot just wide after good work by Mullen, and Streten saved comfortably enough from Booth.

A movement by the Town came when Adam slipped past Stuart and made a swinging pass to Cullen, but it ended when Morton's centre was intercepted.

Gaining confidence, the Town forwards began to settle down, and when Stuart tripped Morton a yard outside the penalty area, Shanks was not far off the target following the free kick.

FORCED BACK

The Wolves began to do more of the pressing, and Streten went full length to save from Booth.

It was a cracking pace, and, with the Town forced back on the defensive, Streten was in action again from Mullen.

When the Town had a turn, Turner just failed to gain possession of a grand through pass by Cullen.

Then Wolves escaped when Morton challenged Williams, who was injured and had to have attention.

Almost immediately after he was tested when Morton closed in from the right to shoot.

The Town escaped when Broadbent pushed the ball across the face of the goal with no one near enough to make contact. Then Streten brought down the house with a brilliant, point-blank save from Murray.

With 34 minutes gone, the Town took the lead through Morton when Wolves fell into their own offside trap.

It was a quick move, started by Cullen, who pushed through a shrewd pass down the middle. The Wolves defence stopped to appeal for offside, but MORTON took no notice, went straight on, dribbled round Williams and walked the ball into an empty net.

After this it was Wolves turn for a harassing time in defence.

Half-time:

LUTON	1
WOLVES	0

The terrific pace continued in the second half, and after Williams had saved from Morton, Pemberton made a terrific drive that was inches wide.

Only a brilliant full-length save by Williams, who grabbed the ball in mid-air from Morton, saved Wolves from going further in arrears.

AT FULL STRETCH

The better shooting in this half was coming from the Town, and Williams was again at full stretch to keep out a shot by Turner.

For a time the Town had the edge but there was always a threat when these busy Wolves were on the move and the Town's lead nearly disappeared during a scramble in front of goal when Owen managed to get his body in the path of a drive from Broadbent, made from a few yards out.

As time went on there was no easing at all in the tension there had been throughout, but there was a little light relief when Flowers caught the ball in the belief that it had gone out of play and was penalised.

From the free-kick there was what looked to be a blatant case of handling inside the penalty area by Wright but the referee ignored appeals.

From this Shorthouse came right up to make a great drive that Streten saved as he fell.

A possible chance of getting the goal that would have clinched matters came when Wolves again found their offside trap going astray but Cullen's attempt to find Morton was intercepted.

Streten made another spectacular save from Slater, and at the other end Williams punched over a header by Adam.

Result:

LUTON TOWN	1
WOLVERHAMPTON ...	0

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Dunne, Aherne; Pemberton; Owen, Shanks; Cullen, Turner, Morton, Groves, Adam.

WOLVES: Williams; Stuart, Shorthouse; Slater, Wright, Flowers; Hooper, Broadbent, Murray, Booth, Mullen.

Referee: E. S. Oxley, Pontefract.