

THE WOLVES HAD ALL THE TEETH

LUTON TN. 1, WOLVERHAMPTON 5

WELL, the Town fans at last got the goals they have been asking for, but unfortunately most of them landed in the wrong net.

Not for a long time has a Luton team been given quite such a showing up before its own fans.

When I saw Sid Owen immediately after the match, his reaction was: "It was really too one-sided to comment on."

Once the Wolves took the lead, there didn't seem much likelihood of there being any other result but a victory to them, and a very soft second goal just before half-time, just about put paid to any hopes the Town might have entertained of improving their home record.

The whole point as I saw it was that Wolves were not only stronger physically and faster, but they showed cohesion with which the Town could not compare, and had a wealth of experience on which the Town could not draw.

Whether or not the changes made had any real effect on the ultimate result I doubt, but the plain fact remains that this forward line just did not click.

They had one or two snap chances which were missed, but in the main, they were pretty easy game for a very sound, hard-tackling Wolves defence who were in a no-nonsense mood after their mid-week defeat.

Experiment of playing Pacey at inside-right was abandoned at half-time and even when he was at right-half it seemed to me his shortage of match practice was evident. Of course, Bingham was missed, because Barry Hawkes had nothing like the power of the Irish winger.

On Dixon I would reserve judgment. Here, I think, is a youngster who could develop into a centre-forward, but this was not the sort of occasion, especially when he was short of support, when criticism, constructive or otherwise, can be made.

Gregory was mostly held by Jones, and the attack problems the Town had before are no nearer solution now.

As for the defence, they made mistakes, which probably cost two goals, but at the same time they are carrying the same heavy burden as they have through the last few years.

Kelly, I thought, made a very good job of holding Murray and Morton emerged as the Town's most consistent player, while Groves was much in the game too.

At least this team did show fighting spirit which continued until the end, but determination can never be the answer to class.

Attendance: 22,908.