

Strong man Walley shuts out Rioch

Watford 1 Luton 0: by PETER GILL

WATFORD AVENGED their League Cup defeat by near-neighbours Luton by beating the Third Division leaders at Vicarage Road. The biggest home gate for four years—22,167—saw Watford dominate a game which was full value for money.

Luton disappointed and only in the last 15 minutes of the first half did they look like breaking Watford's stranglehold.

Their highly valued inside-left Bruce Rioch contributed some nice touches in midfield, but was never given a chance by a strong-tackling Tom Walley.

Luton's most dangerous attacker was Brian Lewis, whose unending duel with Watford skipper Keith Eddy was the absorbing feature of the match.

Eddy was the kingpin of the Watford defence that denied Luton a corner until the 88th minute. And Welsh Under-23 goalkeeper Mike Walker was in sound form—making one brilliant save just before the interval from a rasping Mike Harrison drive.

But the goalkeeping honours went to Luton's Tony Read, who denied Watford a big score with a string of splendid saves.

Three times only Read's agility kept out great shots from Walley. Terry Garbett and Stewart Scullion.

But the Luton keeper was at fault with Watford's all important second-minute goal. He stayed rooted to his line as Scullion gained possession in a goalmouth scramble and rolled the ball across the face of the

goal for Roy Low to sidefoot his first goal of the season from five yards.

Scullion threatened whenever he had possession and he was given sound backing by Garbett, whose speed troubled Terry Branston.

But linkman Dixie Hale made the miss of the match in the first half. Put through by Garbett, Hale drew Read from his goal then lobbed the ball tamely over the bar.