

Luton hopes are still flickering

Luton 3, Leicester 0

LEICESTER, who have fought clear of relegation with style and skill, would appreciate the spirit of Luton in time to emulate them.

Although time is running out, Luton deserve to succeed by this convincing win which follows their midweek defeat of title challengers, Everton. It was Leicester who looked like a side dreading the drop and they could not match the determined onslaught built up by the Hatters in which skipper West and Alston worked tirelessly.

Their zeal put Luton ahead after 22 minutes following good shots by Husband and Anderson which had earlier been blocked.

West collected a long goal kick from Barber, raced clear along the left flank and centred brilliantly for Alston to head past Wallington at the far post.

Twelve minutes later, a classic own goal by Weller increased Luton's lead. Blockley, Whitworth and Weller played possession football deep in their right quarter when under great pressure from Alston and Aston.

In an attempt to clear the dangers, Weller at the touchline, suddenly turned and hit a 25 yard drive at Wallington. The keeper,

slow to react, could not reach it and the ball slipped in by the post.

It was ironic that Weller should be the inevitable target for taunting chants for the remainder of the half considering that he scored one of the best goals ever seen at Kenilworth Road when Leicester beat Luton 4-0 in a Cup tie last season.

Worthington and Lee tried hard to instil some force up front for Leicester after the break and Earle replaced Cross to help them after 60 minutes.

Husband completed the scoring from a few yards in the 78th minute after Alston broke clear down the right, had his first shot blocked by the advancing Wallington, and the second parried into Husband's path.

Luton: Barber; Ryan (John), Buckley; Anderson, Faulkner, Litt; Ryan (Jim), Husband, Alston, West, Aston. Sub.: Spring.

Leicester: Wallington; Whitworth, Rofe; Lee, Blockley, Cross; Weller, Sammels, Worthington, Birchenhall, Garland. Sub.: Earle.