

HASLAM'S HOUDINIS

But Weller sets up

By DENNIS SIGNY

Luton 3 Leicester 0

KEITH WELLER, whose FA Cup goal at Luton last year was voted the score of the season, got another memorable one at Kenilworth Road. But this time it was in his own net!

The goal left Luton manager Harry Haslam chortling: "He's scored some good 'uns in his time, but none better than that."

Chipped

Luton were leading 1-0 when Weller—more than 20 yards out at an angle between his own penalty area and the touchline — tried a back pass.

Weller saw Adrian Alston nearby and chipped

miracle bid

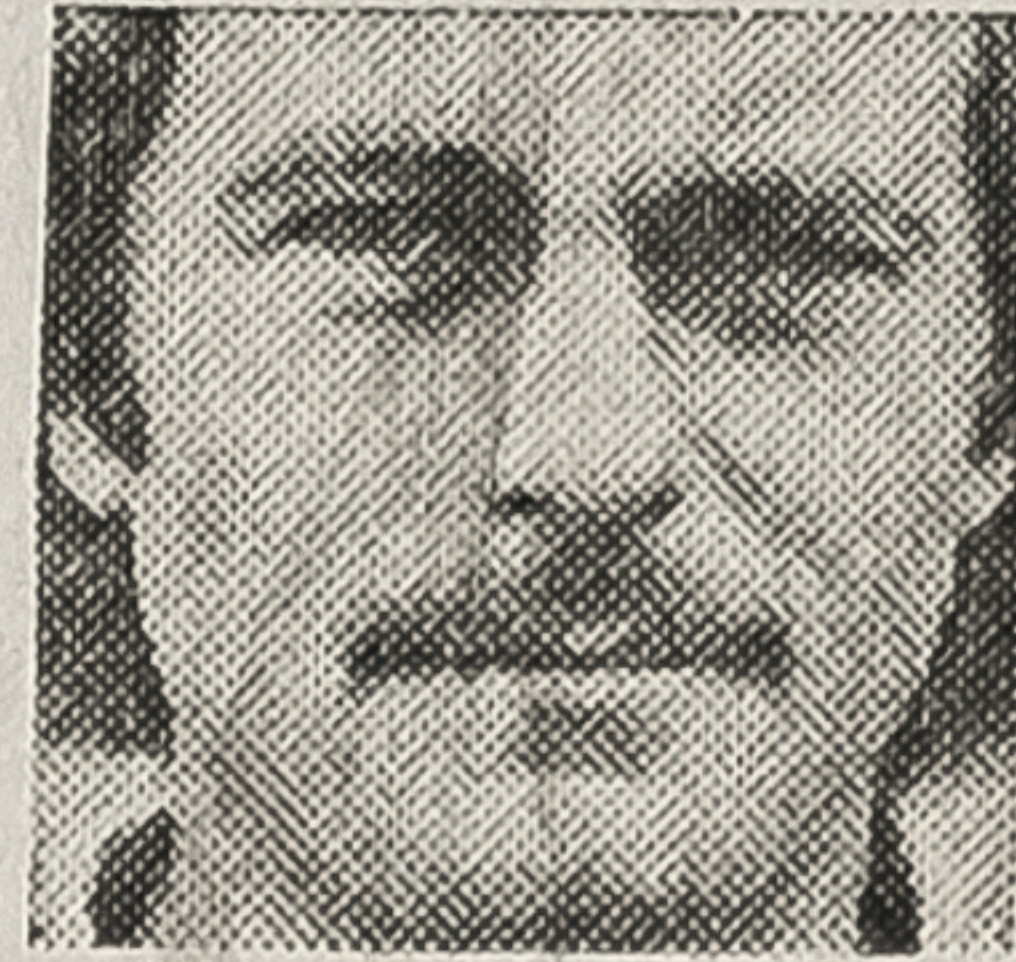
the ball towards Mark Wallington. But the banana kick went across the bemused Wallington, who had moved off his line, and curled in by the far post.

"I felt sorry for him really," said Haslam, "but it was a good chip. Beat three defenders. I'm glad we had him in at our team talk."

Poor Weller, who hasn't had the happiest of seasons, was mercilessly taunted by the fans from then on.

This win was Luton's fifth in eight games and, if they're going down, they're going in style.

"A miracle has to happen for us to survive," said Haslam. "But, while we're winning, its Spurs and



WELLER—unlucky

Chelsea and the others who have got the problems."

Haslam's Houdinis look too good to go down but Leicester, a team of strolling players, made their task easier. It was obvious why Jimmy Bloomfield's men had been in relegation bother themselves until recently.

Weller's freak goal added to a spectacular first scored by former Australian World Cup striker Alston after 22 minutes.

Alan West, outstanding in an entertaining match, made the goal with a long run from his own half followed by a fine cross. The Leicester defence was caught napping, and Alston scored with a fine header.

Alston played a major

part in Luton's third goal, 13 minutes from the end. He burst clear from the halfway line only to see his final shot hit Wallington.

But Alston recovered the ball and fired in a fierce left-foot shot that Wallington failed to hold and Jimmy Husband was there for a simple tap-in goal—only his second of a disappointing season.

LUTON.—Barber 7, Ryan (John) 7, Buckley 7, Anderson 6, Faulkner 7, Litt 6, Ryan (Jim) 7, Husband 6, Alston 7, WEST 9, Aston 7. (No sub).

LEICESTER. — Wallington 7, Whitworth 6, ROFE 8, Lee 6, Blockley 6, Cross 6, Weller 6, Sammels 6, Worthington 6, Birch-enall 6, Garland 6. Sub: Earle.