

Blood and thunder

KENILWORTH ROAD'S biggest crowd of the season, 18,506, were treated to 90 furious minutes of the blood and guts qualities that count in FA Cup soccer.

The blood came from Watford's courageous full-back Wilf Rostron, whose stitched head wound sprayed his yellow shirt scarlet.

And the guts came from both sets of players who withstood a mutual barrage of power-play and aggression, writes Graham Punter.

If Rostron epitomised Watford's character then first in the queue yet again for Luton's accolades was Mick Harford, who impresses more with each game.

If there is a better

player of his type in England at the moment he has yet to visit Kenilworth Road and Bobby Robson must surely show some interest before long.

With a little more luck Harford could have easily won for Luton a fifth round tie they

**LUTON 0
WATFORD 0**

Derby clash

84/85 (CAC)
is a cracker

shaded on points.

With Preece and Nicholas cup-tied David Pleat brought in Wayne Turner and Ray Daniel. The difference was marked, not because of any direct comparison but because it resulted in Luton playing a dramatically different game.

The old football-through-the-midfield that has been revived during the last three

league games largely disappeared in favour of, yes, a Watford lookalike long ball game.

Watford had their problems too, with Barnes sidelined with a hamstring injury and Kenny Jackett still ruled out.

Luton came nearest to scoring after 26 minutes when Turner's floated free kick was headed against the bar by Harford.

Another cross by Turner saw the Luton striker put a header just wide and then a side-footed shot by Harford from Daniel's cross

went just the wrong side of the post.

When Daniel exploded past Watford's off-side ploy Harford nicked the crossed ball a fraction wide.

Watford's Graham Taylor thought his side should have had a penalty when Jan Lohman appeared to be pulled down inside the box as the Luton back four rushed out of defence.

Referee Brian Hill decided the offence was just outside the box and Nigel Callaghan sent the free kick against Sealey's bar.

Other moments could have turned the game. Nwajiobi had the ball in the net but the celebrations were stifled by a free kick given earlier in Luton's favour.

And a slick move involving Harford and Nwajiobi ended with

Daniel crashing a real screamer inches wide.

LUTON: Sealey, Breacker, Foster, Donaghy, Thomas, Hill, Turner, Daniel, Nwajiobi, Harford, Stein. Sub: Parker.

WATFORD: Sherwood, Sinnott, Terry, McClelland, Rostron, Taylor, Lohman, Callaghan, Gilligan, Blissett, Sterling. Sub: Bardsley.