

A Stein roller

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MARK STEIN'S first League goal continued Luton's surprise climb towards the top regions of the First Division, and put Wimbledon back on the slide.

The First Division newcomers, branded villains after their victory in a grisly battle with Tottenham last week, surrendered almost lamb-like this time.

"Perhaps I didn't feed them enough raw meat this week," was the satirical reaction of Wimbledon boss Dave Bassett, who is genuinely offended by allegations of dirty play by his team.

"Seriously," he added, "our main problem today was our final pass which was of a poor standard. Also, we failed to put away the chances we did create and you can't expect much when that happens."

Lawrie Sanchez, sent off at Spurs, made another early exit—limping after a clash with

Wimbledon 0 Luton 1 By WILLIAM PIERCE

Luton fullback Tim Breacker—and Brian Stein also went off injured, damaging an ankle as he was tripped by Wimbledon fullback Nigel Winterburn.

But these were rare moments of aggression and passion in a tame, eminently forgettable match. It was Luton's first meeting with Wimbledon and not too many among the 6,000 crowd will be in too much of a hurry to witness a repeat.

Mark Stein, 20-year-old brother of former England forward Brian, will certainly remember it with affection.

His 58th-minute goal decided the destination of the three points.

Luton worked the ball out to the right where Breacker was on the overlap, and his long cross was headed back from beyond the far post by the tall Mike Newell for Stein to touch it home.