

DANNY'S THE BOY FOR REVENGE WIN

LUTON 1 CHARLTON 0

By **DOMINIC BIGGS** 87/88

THE YEAR ended on a high note for Hatters.

In their final game of 1987 Luton gained revenge for their ignominious 1-0 defeat by Charlton Athletic at Selhurst Park.

By reversing that scoreline Luton also erased the memory of their Boxing Day mauling by Everton.

They also put an abrupt end to Charlton's four-match unbeaten run. But there was little in their method to admire for Monday's 7,243 Bank Holiday crowd, lured in optimistic anticipation of a handsome home win against struggling Athletic.

The action hardly merited the goal with which Danny Wilson embellished it four minutes from the interval.

Luton went off at a sprint and only four minutes had passed when Darron McDonough, enjoying a regular first team place these days, headed just over from Mick Harford's cross.

The bird-brained Robins, meanwhile, flew headlong into a tedious series of offside

Bubbly Wilson

POCKET dynamo Danny Wilson, Monday's match-winner, carried off the bottle of champagne as man-of-the-match.

It was the first time he has won the honour since arriving from Brighton in the close season and the confident midfielder commented: "The first one is always nice."

positions, from which they were duly called back and the game stopped.

Not until the 36th minute did the match spark into life again when Foster's header sent Harford through and the centre-forward's



● **TAKE THAT!** Danny Wilson blasts Luton's winner.

astute lob was matched by back-peddalling Bob Bolder's lunge, to turn it around a post.

Harford was at the heart of Luton's breakthrough, heading down Mark Stein's raking cross, for an unmarshalled Wilson to stroke home from 10 yards.

And two minutes after the interval Harford showed a turn of speed to reach a lazy back pass, sending a difficult lob just wide of the target.

Charlton subs Bennett and Lee injected some life after replacing Mark

Stuart and Paul Williams, but they were fighting a lost cause as the second period struggled on.

Donaghy, who was later booked for a telling trip on Bennett, unaccountably escaped punishment other than the free-kick conceded when he caught the ball in mid air.

But his constructive footwork, Foster's aerial domination and Tim Breacker's pace and tenacity squashed any threat from Athletic.

And Breacker made a last-ditch effort to lift the game out of the mundane, but from his cross Brian Stein's studied header was tipped over acrobatically

by Bolder.

LUTON: Sealey, Breacker, Johnson, McDonough, Foster, Donaghy, Wilson, B. Stein, Harford, M. Stein, Allinson. Subs: Black, Oldfield.

CHARLTON: Bolder, Humphrey, Reid, Mackenzie, Shirtliff, Thompson, Stuart, Campbell, Jones, Williams, Mortimore. Subs: Bennett, Lee.