

Extra time goals settle a cracker

**SOUTHAMPTON
LUTON TOWN**

After extra time

THIN WALLS AND loud voices at Kenilworth Road played a major part in the Town's superb replay victory at The Dell which earned them a place in the semi-final of the Littlewoods Cup.

A marvellous contest was decided in extra time after both sets of fans had been lifted then deflated by a cracking cup-tie.

The Town should have been at least two up by half time, but Roy Wegerle and Kingsley Black missed golden opportunities when Southampton were being cut apart.

Southampton should have won in the second half, when Danny Wallace was switched from right wing to left.

They were kept out by gritty defending and excellent work by Les Sealey, and by a controversial decision to rule out what looked like a goal by Rod Wallace.

Southampton abandoned the five at the back formation which had stood them in good stead at Kenilworth Road, and Town boss Ray Harford forecast correctly that they could be beaten when they had to try to attack in front of their own fans.

The Town's midfield won a Titanic battle in that department, with Ricky Hill and Danny Wilson pulling Southampton out of shape on the Town's right and David Preece capitalising on the left.

Hill's cross and Roy Wegerle's back-header led to Mick Harford thundering in to head the Town into the lead in the tenth minute of extra time.

Eight minutes later it looked all over when slick passing by John Dreyer, Wegerle and Harford put Hill through on the break. His clinical finish from the edge of the box was his fourth goal of the season, all in the Littlewoods Cup.

But with two minutes to go Matthew Le Tissier attacked down Southampton's right and Rod Wallace scored to set up a heart-stopping finish.

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LITTLEWOODS CUP

have settled it, at a time when Southampton were really buzzing. A linesman flagged to award a free kick to the Town, for a foul on Breacker before the cross was delivered.

"I couldn't see any foul from where I sat," said Saints boss Chris Nicholl, "It looked like a classic goal to me. But the officials saw it differently and we had other chances to have made the game safe."

Mr Nicholl also had no complaints about the last minute red card for Ray Wallace, for a foul on Kingsley Black. He had been booked earlier for a foul on Preece.

It was the second time this season Southampton had been beaten at home in a cup replay after getting a draw away.

And Danny Wilson explained why the Town had been so much on top of their game at The Dell, with sleeves rolled up to do a cup-tie job.

"At Kenilworth Road we could hear them in the dressing room after the game, shouting and singing because they had got a draw.

"It sounded as though they were taking the Mick, yelling about having got the job done in the first game. They really thought they had beaten us and it was a pleasure to prove them wrong."

MATCH DETAILS

LUTON TOWN: Sealey; Breacker, Foster, Dreyer, Grimes; Wilson, Hill, Preece; Wegerle, Harford (Oldfield, 115 mins), Black. Other sub: Rob Johnson.

SOUTHAMPTON: Burridge, Ray Wallace, Moore, Osman, Cook; Baker, Case (Benali, 105 mins), Cockerill; Danny Wallace, Rideout (Le Tissier, 105 mins), Rod Wallace.

THE GOALS: Mick Harford header, 100 mins; Ricky Hill drive, 108 mins; Rod Wallace for Southampton, 118 mins.

OTHER GOAL ATTEMPTS: Town five saved and seven wide; Southampton one disallowed, seven saved, two hit the outside of the woodwork, and seven wide. Corners: 11-5 to Southampton.

REFEREE: Tony Ward, London. Did it by, and with, the book. Town cautions: Les Sealey; John Dreyer, David Preece, Tim Breacker. Southampton: Ray Wallace for a foul on David Preece, then red carded for a last-minute foul on Kingsley Black.

ATTENDANCE: 18,872. The Dell's second highest of the season, with only Liverpool attracting more.

ENTERTAINMENT: A marvellous cup-tie, full of action, excellent football and a heart-stopping finale.



• **ON OUR WAY:** Mick Harford's soaring header puts him above the Southampton defence, and the ball over the groping fingers of John Burridge for the Town's first goal at The Dell.