

Red masters teach Hatters a lesson!

88/89

THE ANFIELD academy gave Hatters a soccer lesson to remember on rain-lashed Merseyside.

Liverpool's school of excellence kept a clean slate and smashed five past Les Sealey.

Boss Ray Harford marvelled at the football masters' performance but said: "I'm very deflated — it was awful to get beaten by five goals."

"The players are shell shocked — they have had an education."

The manager had no complaints about the margin of Liverpool's win, saying: "We were probably a bit open, we tried to make it a football game, and for our sins, I suppose we did."

"Liverpool made the pitch look gigantic — but the annoying thing is that the goals were scruffy."

Hatters were torn apart by Liverpool's swift intelligent football and Harford summed up their

LIVERPOOL 5 LUTON 0

style when he said: "They play chessboard football."

"They move you around, wear you down and take all your energy away."

Both sides had come close to scoring before lethal John Aldridge netted from a suspiciously offside position.

Ray Houghton struck a post and Darron McDonough mis-hit from eight yards when Bruce Grobbelaar planted the ball at his feet from David Preece's tricky cross.

Liverpool ran riot after Aldridge's goal and the striker made it two when Sealey parried John Barnes' shot into his path — virtually on the goal line.

Ricky Hill curled Hatters' best second-half chance agonisingly close but it was 25 minutes after the re-start before Liverpool really made

their dominance pay.

Aldridge robbed David Beaumont, after Kingsley Black's pass had put the defender in all sorts of trouble, and gave Peter Beardsley the chance to run on and score through Sealey's legs.

Four minutes later Steve McMahon picked up Gary Gillespie's pass and fired from way out — his shot taking a wicked deflection off Beaumont's heel and over Sealey.

And Aldridge completed the rout from the penalty spot.

L'POOL: Grobbelaar, Ablett, Staunton, Nicol, Whelan, Gillespie (Watson), Beardsley, Aldridge, Houghton, Barnes (Burrows), McMahon. **LUTON:** Sealey, Breaker, Grimes, Preece (Dowie 66), Johnson, Beaumont, Wilson, McDonough, Harford, Hill, Black. Other sub: Dreyer.

Attendance 31,447.