

Luton3

Southampton.....4

Ivo Tennant 90/91

MATTHEW LE TISSIER and Rodney Wallace are determined to improve on the 45 goals they achieved between them last season and each scored two to take their tally to 28 as Southampton won a thrilling, open game.

Luton equalised Southampton's 10th minute opening goal and then took the lead but Wallace's finishing was too clinical and Le Tissier's touches, feints and shooting held too much class for them to resist.

Wallace's first — a shot which went through Chamberlain's legs — came from a header by Shearer, who was also often involved in Southampton's best moves. Fifteen minutes later Luton scored when Elstrup volleyed in Farrell's left-wing cross.

Farrell then had a drive turned aside by Flowers before his centre was touched in by James at the far post. Southampton, though, equalised just two minutes later when Cherednik's low cross was tucked away by Le Tissier.

When Le Tissier put Southampton 3-2 ahead a minute after half time and Wallace scored his second 12 minutes later, there seemed little prospect of Luton achieving anything further. "Special goals," Chris Nicholl, Southampton's manager, called them, and they were.

The first came through a turn and nonchalant shot into the right corner, the second through sharp first-time finishing from another cross provided by Shearer.

Luton pulled one back when Cherednik pushed Elstrup and Dreyer scored from the penalty. The final 15 minutes were hectic and yet Southampton still had the best moments, Shearer having a close-range effort cleared off the line.

Luton Town: Chamberlain; James, Harvey, Pembroke (Williams 53), McDonough, Dreyer, Elstrup, Preece, Farrell, Beaumont (Dowie 63), Black.

Southampton: Flowers; Cherednik, Adams, Cockerill, Ruddock, Moore (Davis 58), Le Tissier, Horne, Shearer, McLoughlin, Wallace.

Referee: R Lewis (Gt Bookham)