



● LIVERPOOL'S John Barnes shadowed by Luton's Mark Pembridge.



● HATTERS' hero Iain Dowie is beaten to this ball by Liverpool keeper Mike Hooper.

DOWIE'S ABOUT

90/91

THAT!

**Iain's
double
sinks
Reds**



● PETER Beardsley evades the challenge of Julian James.

HATTERS' hero Iain Dowie is determined to keep his first team place, and help Luton maintain the winning habit.

A delighted Dowie scored two and made the other for Kingsley Black, as Jim Ryan's side swept past the reigning league champions at a jubilant Kenilworth Road.

The centre-forward, who cost just £30,000 from non-league football, had undone a multi-million pound team of stars with a tireless showing, and not short on skill.

Inevitably much was made of the effect on Liverpool of Kenny Dalglish's departure.

But Dowie pointed out: "I'm sure that's what the papers will say, but there was more effort from Luton and we took the game to them in the second half."

He added: "It was lovely for me to score two goals, and important for the team to get the points."

"I was disappointed to be left out earlier in the season, and that's something only Jim Ryan can explain."

"But I don't hold that against him, the manager is trying to get the results, and now I'm back in the team that's

LUTON TOWN 3 LIVERPOOL 1

Report: Simon Oxley

Pictures: Steve Nicholson

"I worked hard at my game while I was out, and that's paying off now."

It was an inspired Dowie who took advantage of a generous Liverpool defence, on a day when the whole team shone.

Luton, without Steve Williams, found a great depth of spirit and commitment.

Mark Pembridge made sure the only bright part of John Barnes' performance was his red cycling shorts, Lars Elstrup oozed international class, and Graham Rodger confirmed his growing reputation as a class centre-half.

As Dowie pointed out: "When you have a young side it's important to get these wins, and we can now look for-

ward with relish to the next game.

"It was an important three points, because as losing becomes a habit so winning can become one."

"The break has done the world of good for team spirit, and we have come back refreshed."

It was a refreshing performance, which rightly earned a standing ovation after the Hatters recovered from a 1-0 half-time deficit.

Jan Molby's penalty gave Liverpool a 16th minute lead after Julian James was harshly adjudged to have handled, but even when Elstrup saw his effort ruled out for offside heads didn't drop.

Reserve keeper Mike Hooper was looking assured, and had produced a blinding save to deny



● IAIN Dowie in action again. This time an aerial duel with Steve Nicol.

Black, but had no chance two minutes after the break when the same player headed home Dowie's pinpoint cross.

Six minutes later Dowie cut inside from the right, fired his first shot against Elstrup, but then calmly slotted in the rebound.

He added the third 10 minutes from time, getting in front of Glen Hysen to convert Elstrup's low cross.

Manager Jim Ryan was full of praise for his centre-forward.

"I was very pleased for him, because he

works very hard," said Ryan.

"His work in the air has unsettled teams all season, and he was due these goals."

Certainly, losing a manager is no way to prepare for a game, but Liverpool could have few complaints.

A club of their standing should have been well able to shoulder an extra burden.

And as Ryan pointed out: "It would be wrong for the events of the last 24 hours to overshadow the performance of my team."