

Unhappy Luton hit new low

Wimbledon..... 3

Luton 91 | 92... 0

William Gray

WIMBLEDON and Luton produced a display of ineptness unworthy of the First Division. The quality, or rather non-quality, of football, particularly from Luton, was nearer non-League standards.

So it was fitting that the attendance of 3,231 was the lowest for a First Division game since the war. It came as no surprise to learn that the previous record was set in the corresponding fixture two seasons ago, when fewer than 300 more turned up at Plough Lane.

This time, the situation looked even more ridiculous at Wimbledon's adopted home in Selhurst Park, with a capacity of nearly 30,000. But at least Wimbledon gave their fans something to cheer.

Victory was never in doubt once striker Andy Clarke had put them ahead with a well-drilled shot after 23 minutes. Alan Cork, deputising for the suspended John Fashanu, headed down Fitzgerald's free-kick, and Clarke's shot found the corner of the net from 20 yards.

Luton also had striker Farrell suspended, and, with Black now at Notts Forest and Stein injured, Gray was left to carry the attack.

He volleyed over the bar in the first minute, and Luton's next chance came three minutes from half-time. But Nogan contrived to hit the side netting from 10 yards.

While Luton's attack had a lean time, their defence enjoyed plenty of action, and even assisted Wimbledon's efforts.

The second goal came when Vaughan Ryan's shot from a free-kick was deflected off the wall, leaving goalkeeper Chamberlain stranded.

Ryan completed the rout 15 minutes from time, heading home Barton's free-kick, unmarked inside the six-yard box. As they had been for most of the afternoon, Luton's defence were absent without leave.