

Boss Pleat notes the reaction by fans

DAVID PLEAT noted that Watford's supporters clapped their side off the field.

"Both sets of supporters appreciated the game. It's nice to see supporters, when their team is beaten 2-0, clap them off. There was a lot of genuine effort out there and a lot of skill out there as well. I thought Oakes did a lot of good things and Hughes did as well.

"I was worried that we had the majority of the game and that we might lose," admitted Pleat when asked how he felt before the Hatters scored.

The Luton boss had an anxious time after Darren Salton was seriously injured in an accident on Thursday night.

"The players were down on Friday but, on Saturday, morning, I sensed they wanted to play. I thought it was important for us to play, not because I think football is more important than life or death but it was better to play than sit around on Sunday afternoon. They wanted to play as opposed to not wanting to play.

"We did not ask for a postponement, we discussed it at length and if five or six of the players on Saturday morning had shown they were in no fit state to play, we would have tried to get the game postponed.

"The boy's father, Mr John Salton, was a very brave man. He wrote us a note which said that they had to carry on leading their lives. You have to keep looking forward but our thoughts were with Darren.

"He and Paul Telfer have been inseparable since they signed as youngsters. The families are very close. They earn nothing like the figure which appeared in a tabloid paper. They don't own a £30,000 Mercedes but rather an old one which is an A registration," he added.