

Match facts

TOWN: Sommer, James, Peak, Johnson, Thomas, Telfer, Allen (Marshall, 72 mins), Waddock, Preece, Dixon (Harrison, 72 mins), Oakes.

GOALKEEPER: sub Barber.

DERBY COUNTY: Sutton; Harkes, Short, Williams, Kavanagh, Sharridge, Carlsby, Kuhl, Thompson, Johnson, Stallard, Sains, Cowan, Cooper and goalkeeper Hammond.

GOAL ATTEMPTS: Town five saved and 11 wide. Derby three saved and three wide. Corners: 6-3 to the Town.

REFEREE: Keith Cooper, Swindon, had a busy afternoon with neither side causing any problems.

BOOKED: Marvin Johnson for a foul on Derby's Tommy Johnson.

ATTENDANCE: 6,400, second lowest of the season at Kenilworth Road so far, but not bad on a day when the game was shown live on TV.

ENTERTAINMENT: Not up to the standard the Town can set, with the inability to convert chances the major disappointment. Derby chances the main effort in the first half, but they have also been seen off in the first half, and their striker, Steve Sutton, had a much busier afternoon than Juergen Sommer.

Sutton returns to



SO CLOSE: David Preece is grounded as his second-minute goal shuts the diving Steve Sutton... but Derby escaped as the ball went wide of the post.

on Town Channel - 089 121 123

Wally Sport

STEVE Sutton, the goalkeeper who might have prevented Luton Town dropping into the First Division three years ago, returned to Kenilworth Road on Sunday to put another dent into our hopes of getting back out of it.

He made the best and most important saves of a poor match as the Town once again failed to deliver on home soil, against a Derby side that had precious little to offer in attacking terms.

Sutton's performance was little surprise to those who recall his three months on loan at Kenilworth Road.

He came in Monday 10 to bolster a struggling team in what is now the Premier League, but after 14 games in which the Town looked capable of scraping clear he had to go back to Nottingham Forest reserves, because Luton could not find the £300,000 transfer fee.

Derby, cooled, and he joined them instead. And now, at 35, he is enjoying a new burst of glory after Derby's first choice Martin Taylor broke his leg six weeks ago.

Sutton broke a few Luton hearts on Sunday, and must have been close to the man of the match award which ITV gave to David Preece.

The midfielder, celebrating ten years

case and frustrate



A HARDY CHALLENGE: Scott Oakes on the ball, with a Derby defender using a crafty hand to try to pull him back.

How they stand

ENGLISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	Pts	
Sheff Wed	21	8	1	2	2	4	3	5	1	27	
Sheff Utd	21	8	1	2	2	4	3	5	1	27	
Tranmere	21	7	2	0	2	6	2	1	4	5	9
Sheff Utd	21	7	2	1	8	5	3	3	5	15	9
Sheff Wed	21	7	3	5	1	6	7	3	2	5	9
Sheff Utd	21	4	0	1	2	10	6	5	2	2	14
Sheff Utd	21	7	2	2	2	19	8	2	3	3	15
Sheff Utd	21	6	4	1	18	9	2	4	4	11	16
Sheff Utd	21	7	1	2	14	9	2	3	6	5	16
Sheff Utd	21	6	2	1	24	18	6	3	3	1	17
Sheff Utd	21	6	2	2	18	11	2	2	6	10	17
Sheff Utd	21	5	4	1	14	9	2	4	5	11	17
Sheff Utd	21	4	4	2	13	8	3	3	5	5	17
Sheff Utd	21	5	4	2	19	12	1	3	6	6	17
Sheff Utd	21	1	6	3	8	10	4	4	3	14	17
Sheff Utd	21	5	2	3	15	10	1	4	6	6	17
Sheff Utd	20	2	5	2	12	11	3	5	4	5	18
Sheff Utd	20	3	3	3	4	14	4	2	5	5	18
Sheff Utd	21	5	5	2	18	14	1	0	8	1	18
Sheff Utd	21	5	2	2	11	11	2	3	5	11	18
Sheff Utd	21	3	5	1	11	17	2	4	4	11	18
Sheff Utd	21	3	3	5	9	15	12	1	7	7	18
Sheff Utd	21	3	3	5	9	14	1	2	8	7	18