Big match facts

● TOWN: Sommer; Telfer, Peake, Johnson, Thomas; Marshall, Waddock, Oakes, Preece; Dixon (Williams 88 mins), Biggins. Unused subs Skelton and goalkeeper Davis.

● SOUTHAMPTON: Grobelaar; Kenna, Hall, Benali, Charlton; Magilton, Widdrington, Maddison, Heaney; Le Tissier, Shipperley. Unused subs Hughes, Maskell and goalkeeper Beasant.

● THE GOALS: 0-1, 54 mins: Neil Shipperley, near-post flick after Neil Heaney got down the left wind-past Paul Telfer and Trevor Peake, and crossed low; 1-1, 81 minutes: Wayne Biggins, on his Luton debut, after Graham Marshall went down the right wing past Heaney and pulled the pass back to the near post.

● OTHER ATTEMPTS: Town eight saved, including 6 penalty by Paul Telfer, and nine wide; Southampton five saved and nine wide. Corners: 11-1 to the Town.

● REFEREE: Gerald Ashby, Worcester: both managers felt he could have given more penalties than spers felt he could have given more penalties than one. The Town benefitted, while Paul Telfer and Francis Benali looked very harsh, while Paul Telfer and away with an anti-clearance in the last minute.

● BOOKED: Paul Telfer for a foul on Heaney.

● ATTENDANCE: 9,938, including 2,600 from Southampton. It was the biggest gate since the latest seats were installed, and effectively the new capacity – the only unsold seats were deliberately kept back by the club because they had very restricted views.

● ENTERTAINMENT: A smashing cup-tie, with the Premiership vast much second best in the first half, when the Town should have wrapped it up. And half, when the Town should have gotten behind was a delight; the Town's recovery after going behind was a delight.

Wayne's a big hit on his Hatters' debut

IN THE BAG . . . Wayne Biggins leaves Bruce Grobbelaar down and out as the ball hits the net to earn Town their replay.

WAYNE Biggins, the 33-year-old maestro brought in on loan to replace 19-year-old John Hartson, became an instant hit with Luton Town fans with a late equaliser to earn an FA Cup replay.

His debut goal, expertly taken at the near post after excellent work by Dwight Marshall, gave the Town the least they deserved against Premiership Southampton.

"The only drawback for their fans in a sell-out crowd was that it cracking cup-tie could have been stifled to the acute embarrassment of Matthew Le Tissier and Co before the interval.

Alan Ball, a manager who knew all about winning the big pots as a fiery midfielder, lost one his players at the interval, telling them they were lucky to still be in the game.

The 1966 World Cup winner knew just how close he had been to becoming a loser if there is any difference at class between the middle of the First Division and the lower reaches of the Premiership, it certainly did not show at Kenilworth Road.

Those who came to watch the Le Tissier were treated instead to a virtuoso performance by Marshall, whose direct running and pace caused far more problems for the Saints than the England star could manage.

Because the Town failed to turn their terrific superiority into goals, the game became a near-classic confrontation after the break, with Southampton rang in action by Ball's anger.

They took the lead, saw a harsh penalty awarded and saved by Bruce Grobelaar and finally settled for a second bit late on right to decide who visits Spurs in the 6th round.

Luckless Paul Telfer became the first Town man to miss from the spot this season – Marvin Johnson and David Preece saw the others – but that was a rare blemish as he came through a testing task in emergency right back in place of injured Julian James.

Big cup-ties have usually brought out the best in Luton Town, and there was little to fans to carp about in this performance.

Excellent goalkeeping at both ends restricted the scoring, but the Town created sufficiency chances that the Saints.

While Marshall all but ran the visitors ragged down the right, Preece, operating wide on the left, ran Neil Heaney off again with an air-shot 60 minutes, and a stream of dangerous crosses.

Manager David Pleat decided the Town would use out mark Le Tissier and proved to be a good idea.

Whenever it was clear, more often than not Gerry Peake did the closing-down job to such good effect that the idol

PAUL TELFER . . . Became the third Town player to miss from the spot.

LUTON TOWN 1
SOUTHAMPTON 1
(Half-time 0-0)

ON ITS WAY . . . Dwight Marshall leaves Francis Benali in his wake and is about to deliver the low cross which brought the Town's equaliser.

Luton Town's season at a glance

DATE...	OPPONENTS...	RESULT...	TOWN SCORERS...	ATTENDANCE...	LEAGUE POSITION
	SHOLEBLEAGUE DIV I				
	August 1994				
13 West Brom	(H)	1-1	(Oakes)	8,640	
20 Derby Co	(A)	0-0		13,066	
27 Bolton Wan	(H)	2-2	(Hartson, Hughes)	5,918	17
30 Tranmere	(A)	2-4	(Hughes, Hartson)	5,480	20
	September				
3 Port Vale	(A)	1-0	(Marshall)	8,541	15
10 Burnley	(H)	3-1		6,811	8
13 Bolton	(H)	0-3		3,784	20
17 Watford	(A)	4-2	(Telfer 2, Dixon)	8,881	13
			(Oakes)		
24 Millwall	(A)	0-0		7,150	16
	October				
1 Bristol City	(H)	0-1		6,633	20
9 Stoke City	(A)	2-1	(Marshall, Preece)	11,712	18
15 Middlesboro	(H)	1-1	(Marshall 2, Parkin,	8,412	17
			Harrison, og)		
22 Sheffield Utd	(A)	5-1	(James, Dixon, og)	13,317	7
29 Barnsley	(H)	0-1		7,212	10
	November				
1 Grimsby Tn	(H)	1-0	(Oakes)	5,839	10
5 Wolves	(A)	3-2	(Preece, Marshall)	26,749	8
			(Dixon)		
12 Oldham Ath	(A)	0-0		7,907	8
19 Portsmouth	(H)	2-0	(Dixon, Preece)	8,218	8
26 Swindon	(A)	2-1	(Dixon, Oakes)	9,455	5
	December				
3 Sheffield Utd	(H)	3-6	(Harbison, Johnson, og)	8,516	8
10 Derby Co	(A)	0-1		6,406	12
18 West Brom	(A)	0-1		14,392	12
26 Reading	(H)	0-0		11,623	9
27 Sunderland	(H)	3-0	(Oakes 2, Harbison)	8,953	9
31 Notts County	(A)	1-0	(Telfer)	6,249	9
	January 1995				
2 Charlton Ath	(H)	0-1		7,642	8
14 Barnsley	(A)	1-3	(Dixon)	4,808	11
	February				
4 Oldham Ath	(H)				
11 Grimsby	(A)				
18 Swindon	(H)				
25 Portsmouth	(A)				
	March				
4 Millwall	(H)				
7 Port Vale	(H)				
11 Reading	(A)				
19 Tranmere	(H)				
21 Burnley	(A)				
25 Watford	(H)				
	April				
1 Bolton	(A)				
8 Derby County	(H)				
15 Sunderland	(A)				
17 Reading	(H)				
22 Charlton Ath	(A)				
29 Middlesboro	(H)				
	May				
6 Stoke City	(H)				
	Wolves	(H)	TO BE REARRANGED		

COCA-COLA CUP (First Round)

	August 1994				
15 Fulham	(H)	1-1	(Oakes)	3,287	
23 Fulham	(A)	1-1	(Marshall)	5,134	
				Luton lost on penalties.	
	FA CUP (Third Round)				
	January 1995				
7 Bristol Rov	(H)	1-1	(Hartson)	7,571	
8 Bristol Rov	(A)	0-1	(Marshall)	6,218	Replay
			(Fourth Round)		
28 Southampton	(H)	1-1	(Biggins)	9,938	
	February				
8 Southampton	(A)				Replay

Who's who

APPEARANCES... GOALS

League appearances		Williams	(1)
(as sub in brackets)		Wright	(1)
Sommer	27	**League goals**	
Peake	27	Oakes	5
Peake	27	Dixon	5
Johnson	27	Marshall	5
Telfer	27	Hartson	5
Thomas	27	Preece	4
Marshall	21 (2)	Telfer	2
Thomas	21 (2)	Hughes	2
Williams	21 (1)	Johnson	2
Oakes	20 (6)	Johnson	1 pen
Dixon	17 (2)	Peake	1
Harbison	11 (9)	**Assists**	
Hughes	8 (11)	Telfer	8
Greene	6	Marshall	5
Allen	4	Preece	5
Linton	3 (2)	Hartson	4
Harbison	3 (2)	Thomas	4
Houghton	1	Oakes	4
Davis	1	James	1
Adcock	1 (2)	Hughes	1
Woodstock	(2)	Johnson	1

CUP APPEARANCES... GOALS

Cup appearances		Greene	2
Sommer	5	Linton	1
Peake	5	Biggins	1
Johnson	5	Harbison	1
Telfer	5	Houghton	1
Thomas	5	Davis	1
Oakes	4 (1)	Williams	(1)
Marshall	4 (1)	Stanton	(1)
Dixon	4	Adcock	
James	3	**Cup goals**	
Thomas	3	Marshall	3
Woddock	3	Oakes	3
Hughes	3	Hughes	1

DELIGHT AND DESPAIR . . . Wayne Biggins, , also pictured inset, the instant hero after his debut goal, shows his pleasure, while Bruce Grobbelaar and the Southampton defence feel a very different emotion.

FRUSTRATED . . . Bruce Grobelaar goes down to save from Dwight Marshall, with Kerry Dixon the other Town man in attendance.

DAVID PLEAT

DWIGHT MARSHALL

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Ball blasts Saints alive

ANGRY Southampton manager Alan Ball wasted a lot longer than ten minutes at half-time to tell his players just what he thought of them for their first-half performance.

Both managers felt that over the 90 minutes the draw was the right result, but Ball, a fiery midfielder in his playing days, said: "If I was David Pleat I would be disappointed because in the first half we were awful. It was the worst we had played for a long time.

"Then after we went one up we missed chances to bury them. But Luton played some good football and they put in under the cosh and then got what they deserved."

When Ball stalked away from the dug-out for the interval it was obvious from his expression that he was angry with his men.

Asked if he had had a few words with them, he replied: "I had plenty. I could have done with ball on hour to tell them what I thought about their first half.

"It was so poor that a few words had to be said, and were.

"But the players responded, and we were a lot better in the second half."

Ball was offered the chance to use the absence of Southampton's Kevin Moskiko as some sort of excuse for the poor start, but said: "Give Luton the credit. They played well and worked very hard.

"I am pleased that we pulled ourselves up. Matthew Le Tissier is not 100 per cent fit – he has had a niggling calf strain for the past couple of weeks, and Julian Hall got off the treatment table to play in central defence."

Ball said he was not happy with two penalty decisions. On the one that was given, he said: "I presume Francis Benali for handling a cross by Dwight Marshall, the Saints boss said: "The ball hit the leg. And the linesman was in line, looking straight at it. He could tell it was in the box I'll never know.

"And my lads thought it was a blatant handball by Telfer in the last minute, and I was complaining about it and could be another good game in the replay."

Town manager Pleat said he was pleased that his team had got the boot they deserved, "considering the first half exhilarating start.

He was just as pleased with the final few minutes: "There is always a tendency in the last 15 minutes when you are trying to get desperate.

"We didn't, but I feel we deserved something out of the game. It's just a shame we didn't score. Then for the last minutes that was a value for money game. I hope the replay is as good."

Vale do Town a favour by beating Southend

LUTON return to First Division action on Saturday after Vale did Town a favour in this week's truncated league programme.

Vale pulled off a surprise 2-1 win at Southend, to stop the home club overhauling the Town. The Shrimpers needed a win to knock the Town down a place, to 13th.

But Kenilworth Road dreams of moving into the play-off positions took a knock on Saturday, moved painfully following a 2-1 home win over bottom club Notts County, who had just seen the twin on the foot for the first time this season following the appointment of Howard Kendall as manager.