

Hayles silences the jeers as double sees off Luton

99/00 (FAC)



Hayles: constantly
jeered by Luton fans

FULHAM striker Barry Hayles, booed and jeered throughout by Luton fans, provided the perfect answer with two quick second-half goals. Hayles struck first in the 57th minute when Lee Clark crossed and he slid a low shot past keeper Nathan Abbey. His second came three minutes later as he shrugged off two challenges before steering another low shot into the net.

The home supporters had clearly not forgotten Hayles' tackle which ended the career of defender Julian James two seasons ago. The incident happened when

By DAVID McDONNELL

Luton Town	0
Fulham	3

Hayles was playing for Bristol Rovers but he faced a torrent of abuse whenever he touched the ball. To make matters worse, Hayles was wrongly booked in a case of mistaken identity. Wayne Collins brought down Paul McLaren with a late challenge but referee Graham Frankland showed the yellow card to Hayles, whose sustained protests fell on deaf ears. Luton began well, showing a fluency and composure which belied

their Second Division status. Captain Simon Morgan came close with a header after 16 minutes but thereafter it was Lennie Lawrence's side who fashioned the best first-half chances.

A move borne out of instinctive passing almost gave them the lead after 27 minutes. After some intricate movement in midfield, McLaren's clever flick was met by Matthew Taylor, whose swerving shot almost found a way past Maik Taylor.

Steve Hayward ended Luton's hopes with the First Division side's third from a free kick in the 63rd minute.