

Latics Duke it out

Wigan 3 Luton 0

02/03 FAC

WIGAN man-of-the-moment Nathan Ellington made it four goals in two games with another double strike to send his side into the third round with a fine 3-0 win over Luton.

Ellington, two-goal hero of Wigan's midweek Worthington Cup win over Fulham, put the Latics ahead with a 37th-minute strike when he took advantage of a Chris Coyne slip to fire home.

Depleted Luton had the better of the first half chances with Peter Holmes dragging his shot wide before Wigan goalkeeper John Filan saved an Emmerson Boyce shot with his feet.

Then record signing Ellington put Wigan in the driving seat with a brilliant second half effort after 64 minutes, latching onto a through ball from substitute Gary Teale to beat Luton goalkeeper Carl Emberson with a vicious 20-yard drive for his 15th goal of the season.

Wigan's Tony Dinning should have scored but he lifted his shot over the bar before substitute Mike Flynn made it safe when he headed home Nicky Eaden's free kick with four minutes remaining.

Luton Town boss Joe Kinnear felt his injury-ravaged side battled gamely despite the defeat.

Kinnear said: "Considering we had nine first team players missing, including our top four strikers, it could have been worse.

"We did well in the first half and Wigan scored against the run of play."

Wigan boss Paul Jewell was full of

praise for his side and felt the scoreline reflected the Latics' second half dominance.

He said: "I felt a bit sorry for Luton in the first half. I thought they were the better team, but the 'Duke' (Ellington) scored the sort of goal he's capable of and we got better in the second half.

"Ellington's second was spectacular but the first one was the most important because it came just before half time and deflated Luton."



NATHAN ELLINGTON