



Eye on the Tigers: Luton's Rowan Vine, centre, tussles with Hull City's Andy Hessenthaler during the Coca-Cola League One match.

Glad Hatters



LUTON TOWN.....1
Brkovic (89)
HULL CITY.....0

BY JAY STRICKLAND

LUTON manager Mike Newell insisted his table-topping side would not be getting too excited despite sealing a last gaps win over League One rivals Hull City.

Flying winger Ahmet Brkovic swooped to head a last minute winner in front of a sell-out 9,500 Kenilworth Road crowd and put the Hatters four points clear of the Tigers.

But Newell said: "We are delighted, and the lads are delighted, but we are not getting too carried away because it is only three points at the end of the day.

"The other results went for us today well. A bit of daylight has opened up at the top now and we are getting closer, but there are still fifteen games left to go.

On the game, Newell added: "We played some good football around their box in the first half, but we seemed to be looking for the perfect finish."

Hull had looked set to snatch a point after surviving a one-

BRKOVIC A LATE HERO AS LUTON STORM ON

sided first half that saw Luton create a hatful of chances.

Town were missing leading goal-scorer Steve Howard and it looked like they might rue the eighteen goal hitman's absence as Brkovic, Steve Robinson, Rowan Vine and Enoch Showunmi all failed to convert.

Visiting goalkeeper BO Myill superbly blocked efforts from Robinson in the 11th minute and Showunmi in the 37th, with other Luton attempts whizzed just off-target.

Hull almost made Hatters pay when they mustered their first meaningful attack of the game five minutes before the break.

Robbie Stockdale crossed for Stuart Green to force a close range save from Marlon Beresford.

Hull improved after the break without creating clear openings. And instead it was Brkovic who stole the show with his 12th goal of the season when his powerful near-post header bounced up off the arms of Myhill and into the roof of the net



Old dog, new trick: Hessenthaler after Robinson's cross from the right wing.

Tigers boss Peter Taylor said: "Luton were the better side in the first-half and were sharper than us, but I thought we were excellent in the second-half and were unlucky not to get a point.

"I am disappointed with the result, but I am still happy with the position we are in. The last four games haven't been good enough, but I have no doubts we will come back strongly.

"The players have got to stand up and be counted and bounce back to winning ways as soon as possible, starting with the game against Wrexham."

LUTON		HULL
56	Possession %	44
7	Corners	5
5	Offsides	7
14	Fouls	13
3	Yellows	1
0	Reds	0
7	Shots On	2
7	Shots Off	4
0	Hit Woodwork	0
LUTON: Beresford 7, Neilson 7, Coyne 7, Davies 7, Davis 7, Nicholls 7, Foley 8, Robinson 7, Brkovic 8 (O'Leary 90), Vine 7, Showunmi 6 (Andrew 79).		
NEXT GAME: HARTLEPOOL (A) 15/02		
HULL: Myhill 7, Stockdale 6, Cort 7, Delaney 6, Edge 6, Green 6, Ashbee 6, Hessenthaler 7 (Price 90), Lewis 5, Barnby 6, Wilbraham 5 (Facey 45).		
NEXT GAME: WREXHAM (H) 19/02		