

# Luton celebrate title

04/05

AMAZINGLY, one of the few criticisms of Luton Town this season is that manager Mike Newell does not smile often enough. Well, well, he had plenty to be happy about yesterday as his side unbelievably scored three times in six minutes to celebrate the League One trophy in style.

"The players were absolutely amazing in the second half — and that sums up our season," said a breathless Newell. Luton now remain on course to reach the magical 100-point barrier for the season.

Having endured a difficult start to his managerial career Newell has done an excellent job this season but afterwards he dedicated the victory to the fans. "We have a great home record," he said, "and much of it is down to them."

**Luton** **4**

**Brentford** **2**

**Rob Maul**  
**at Kenilworth Road**

Brentford, however, did their best to gatecrash the party and almost succeeded because Luton's first-half performance was abysmal. True, they went ahead through Croatian midfielder Ahmet Brkovic, who prodded the ball past goalkeeper Stuart Nelson after five minutes. But the visitors fought back, scoring through a Sam Sodje header and then with a clinical finish by Deon Burton.

With time running out

defender Michael Turner foolishly brought down Steve Robinson and captain Kevin Nicholls put the penalty past the excellent Nelson. Substitute Enoch Showunmi then directed a close-range header past Nelson before Robinson slotted Rowan Vine's cut-back into the net.

"I don't fault my players for their dedication and commitment," said Brentford manager Martin Allen.

**STAR MAN:** Stuart Nelson (Brentford)

**Player ratings. Luton:** Beresford 7, Foley 6, Davies 6, Coyne 6, Davis 6, Drekovich 7 (Showunmi 83min, 6), Nicholls, Robinson 7, Underwood 6, Howard 8, Seeney 6 (Vine 72min, 7).

**Brentford:** Nelson 8, O'Connor 6, Turner 6, Sodje 6, Frampton 5, Talbot 7 (Harrold 67 mins, 6), Soloko 6 (Fitzgerald 90 mins, 6), Pratley 6, Hutchinson 6, Gayle 5, Burton 8 (Rankin 74min, 6).

**Scorers:** Luton: Brkovic 5, Nicholls 84pen., Robinson 89, Showunmi 90

**Brentford:** Sodje 21, Burton 26

**Referee:** K Friend

**Attendance:** 9,313