



WELLING UNITED 2

Clarke 28, Healy 44



LUTON TOWN 1

Benson 57

13/14 (FAC)



WINGS ARE FLYING: Joe Healy nets Welling's second goal

PICTURE: Gareth Owen

By Paul Carter

THE HUNTER became the hunted. This was maybe not an upset in divisional terms, but Welling killed off last year's big headline grabbers Luton.

It left the Hatters to rue a lacklustre first half performance against Jamie Day's side whose greater desire in the opening half proved the difference.

Luton, who beat Premier League Norwich City to create history last season, won't see a repeat this time – they got a taste of their own medicine at Park View Road.

"The first half wasn't a cup performance and the second half was so I am disappointed" reflected Town manager John Still after the game.

"We are looking to develop a club and I have brought people in to remind me what they can do, so I am unhappy that we have lost because we conceded two soft, soft goals."

Luton could have taken the lead in the 18th minute as Lee Butcher produced the first of several fine saves to deny Paul Benson.

Welling's top scorer Ross Lafayette was then denied by Luton keeper Elliot Justham in the 25th minute before setting up the opening goal two minutes later.

Lacey looked favourite to see the ball over the byeline, but Lafayette out muscled the defender to pull the ball back, and skipper Lee Clarke bundled the ball in.

Lafayette should have made it 2-0 shortly after but fired against the post after holding off Steve McNulty.

Luke Guttridge should

LUTON GET A TASTE OF THEIR OWN MEDICINE!

have done better after Butcher came for a ball he couldn't get to.

That miss proved crucial a minute before the break as Lafayette played in Joe Healy to tuck his shot under Justham and double the hosts' lead.

Welling started the second half in similar fashion

with Lafayette's shot blocked by his own team mate Alex Dyer, and Dyer then saw his shot deflected inches over.

Luton reduced the arrears in the 57th minute when Butcher somehow kept out Benson's header but was powerless to stop the striker heading in the rebound.

Two minutes later Parry looked to have levelled but was denied by a superb save low to his left from Butcher.

Backed by a vociferous away support, Luton dominated the rest of the second half, but didn't produce another chance until five minutes from time as Lacey headed over from Lawless' free-kick.

The Wings' keeper also denied Benson and Lawless as his side held on for the win.

"Butch showed why he has played so many games in the football league," Day said.

"I thought we were excellent in the first half and deserved our lead. Credit to Luton because they came out and had a good go but I'm pleased to get through."

MATCH STATS

WELLING v LUTON

4	SHOTS ON TARGET	6
5	SHOTS OFF TARGET	7
6	CORNERS	1
2	OFFSIDE	3
10	FOULS CONCEDED	12
1	YELLOW CARDS	1
0	RED CARDS	0

STAR MAN: Lee Butcher (Welling)
ATT: 1,555

ENTERTAINMENT: ★★★★★
REF RATING: Ben Toner 4/10

WELLING: (4-4-2): Butcher 8; Fazakerley 8; Obersteller 6; Franks 8; Hudson 7; Guthrie 7 (Hughes-Mason 85); Dyer 7 (Beautyman 85); Gallagher 7; Clarke 6; Healy 7; Lafayette 8. **Subs not used:** Turner; Webb; Corne; Day.
LUTON: (4-4-2): Justham 6; Parry 6; Cullen 6; McNulty 6; Lacey 6; Martin 6 (Lawless 58; 7); Stevenson 6; Smith 7; Howells 7 (Banton 90); Guttridge 6 (O'Donnell 81); Benson 7. **Subs not used:** Tyler; Taiwo; Griffiths; Robinson.