

LUTON IN SERIOUS NEED OF DIRECTING INFLUENCE

Luton T. 0 Plymouth Argyle 2: by JAMES MURRAY

PLYMOUTH most worthily avenged the 3—0 defeat they suffered from Luton at Home Park back in August. Their football had a far more professional look about it in the icy wind—less hopeful chasing and individual dribbling than Luton, more accuracy in passing, better covering in defence.

Luton just were not cool enough for this refrigerated Soccer. Their rushing might have earned them a healthy glow, but it did not add up to purposeful football.

Right half Williams, left half Newman, and inside right Carter all set an example to their Plymouth colleagues by their solid Soccer sense, varying the pace of the game, switching the point of attack, and providing inspiration.

Luton lacked leadership—centre-half Cope devoted himself to subduing Kirby which he did adequately, but he never seemed to influence his side's pattern of play.

Argyle's attack flowed fairly sweetly in tricky conditions—wingers Anderson and Maloy were speedy raiders, and Carter and McAnearney switched with good understanding. And always right-half Johnny Williams would storm through to provide powerful reinforcement.

But Luton's forwards were a stumbling, ill-fitting bunch of

improvisers. They badly need someone to hold the line together.

After 11 minutes Carter out-jumped the taller Groves, Luton's left half, to send a looping header into the net. Williams had made the chance with a cross from the right.

Luton might have equalised, soon afterwards, from their best move, but Ashworth could not quite make contact with Chandler's fine cross.

Six minutes before half-time, after two Carter shots had each numbed a defender, McAnearney headed in. Luton's outside-left Fleming missed narrowly with a good drive in the second half. Chandler provided another goal-yearning pass that was neglected, and McGuffie, luckily put on-side, missed from six yards.

61/62