

Hatton crushes Cardiff

by PETER WOOD

Luton 7 Cardiff 1

LUTON TOWN manager, David Pleat, could see only one small cloud on the horizon after his side had thrashed Cardiff City.

Luton are the Second Division's leading scorers, with a 100 per cent home record which has brought them 15 goals on their own pitch. But away from home they have yet to win a point.

Cardiff boss Jimmy Andrews, once assistant manager at Luton, went scouting so missed his team's humiliation.

But another ex-Luton man, goalkeeper Keith Barber, did turn up and he must have wished he had not. He received a warm welcome from Luton fans but an even hotter reception from his former team.

Veteran Bob Hatton led the Luton forward line with energy and enthusiasm and Cardiff's central defenders Keith Pontin and Dave Roberts were left chasing shadows as Luton piled on the pressure.

At half time Cardiff could feel lucky to be only two goals down. Both were the result of slack marking in defence with David Moss heading the first and Hatton taking the second.

In the second half Luton's pressure brought two goals in four minutes from Brian Stein, and Puccillo made it 5-0 with a penalty.

Bishop headed a goal for Cardiff from a corner by Micky Burns but Moss scored the goal of the match with a 30 yard curling shot and three minutes from time Phil Dwyer turned a cross from Hatton into his own net.