

CHRIS STRIKES

LUTON manager David Pleat was full of praise for his team after they fought back from a goal down and clinched both points with centre-half Chris Turner's headed winner three minutes from time.

Said Peat: "It was a tremendous performance. In the end we got just what we deserved. The attitude was good and the lads stuck to their game."

It was a real shaker for Luton when Simon Garner's 18th-minute diving header put Blackburn ahead in their first raid on the Luton goal after a defence-splitting pass by full-back John Bailey.

Said Pleat: "We were in trouble then and if they had snatched another we would have been dead."

But Blackburn made the error of trying to sit back on

by PETER WOOD

Luton 2 Blackburn 1

their lead. And Luton gradually wore down their defence after the interval when new boy Barry Silkman, on loan for a month from Plymouth, sparkled in the Hatters attack.

Silkman excited the crowd with his skills and speed and was always full of running. At the end of the month Pleat must decide whether he will sign him on a permanent basis.

It was from a corner by the winger that centre-half Turner headed the winner and a minute earlier a flashing cross by him brought a tremendous save by John Butcher from another Turner header.

Luton's 64th-minute equaliser was swept home by skipper Alan West from a cross by David Carr, a player who earned a pat on the back from Pleat for his untiring efforts despite receiving unsympathetic jeers from the Luton fans.