

AVENGEERS

By PETER GORMAN
Luton 2 Everton 1

Luton smash title race wide open

JUBILANT Luton boss David Pleat downed a whisky and said: "It's just great to smash the Championship race wide open."

This was sweet revenge as Luton ended the 18-match unbeaten run of the side that had put them out of the FA Cup sixth round.

Booked

And the success was seen by England supremo Bobby Robson.

Pleat crowed: "Our win is good for football and it's nice to see the changes it will bring at the top."

Luton had four players booked by referee Ray Lewis, who comes aptly enough from the village of Great Bookham, and that angered Pleat.

"The PFA must look at players and anyone conning referees should be sorted out," he said.

"There was too much

time-wasting and players went down as though they'd been pole-axed. They got the trainer on, took a breather and carried on."

Luton's cautioned four were Peter Nicholas, Steve Foster, Rob Johnson and Mitchell Thomas.

"All these bookings are a

stigma. We are not an over-physical side - in fact we are a bit timid," said Pleat.

Foster headed the equaliser after 81 minutes and claimed the winner five minutes later.

But Pleat said: "The winner is being claimed by Mike Newell. He's a

nice lad and we all believe him." 85/86

Mick Harford missed a sitter in a goalless first half before Kevin Richardson put Everton ahead.

But those Everton smiles vanished with Luton's late bombardment.

LUTON: Sealey, Johnson, Thomas, Nicholas, Foster, Donaghy, Hill, Newell, Harford, Breacker, Preece. Sub: King.

EVERTON: Southall, Harper, Pointon, Van Den Hauwe, Mountfield, Richardson, Steven, Lineker, Sharp, Bracewell, Sheedy. Sub: Marshall.

CANON SUNDAY BEST-
Harford



FOSTER - equaliser