

MILTON MAGIC

95/96



● Simon Milton, who shot Ipswich into a fifth minute lead against Luton at Kenilworth Road this afternoon. Picture: RICHARD RACKHAM

LUTON TOWN1
IPSWICH TOWN.....2

TWO-GOAL Simon Milton boosted Ipswich Town's First Division promotion hopes against struggling Luton Town at Kenilworth Road today.

The 32-year-old Milton, one of several senior soccer citizens in the Town squad hoping for a new contract at the end of the season, increased his chances with crucial strikes in the fifth and 51st minutes to grab three precious points for George Burley's Blues.

Luton flooded the pitch with water before the start to make a difficult surface. But Town were never bogged down and richly deserved a win over the Hatters that gained revenge for that 1-0 defeat at Portman Road in a live Anglia Television game at the end of October.

Milton opened the scoring after five minutes. Wright pumped the ball forward and Marshall headed back to Stockwell who got in a shot. Luton keeper Feuer stopped it but the ball spooned out to Milton who came in from the left to score.

Town went in deservedly ahead at the interval, but they were in a spot of bother just after the break when Luton's new £250,000 striker signing from Charlton Kim Grant put them level.

Stockwell lost the ball in midfield and Oldfield broke up field to supply Grant who beat Wright with a cracking right foot shot.

But Milton was the man of the moment again soon after. In the 51st minute he smashed home from close range the winner for what was his eighth goal of the season.

Feuer had dived to keep out a



By Dave Allard

shot from Marshall and instead of leaving it for his keeper to smother again, right back James tried to bring the ball away and lost control. Milton was on it in a flash to make no mistake and fire high into the roof of the net.

Milton came off the field looking to be struggling from a thigh injury in the 72nd minute. But the long-serving Town player, who is hoping to get a testimonial in his next contract, had more than done his stuff as Town acquitted themselves well from back to front to gain a key victory.

On Tuesday night the Blues are in home action again when second-in-the-table Derby County visit Portman Road.