

|             |   |               |   |
|-------------|---|---------------|---|
| Bristol Rov | 0 | Shrewsbury    | 0 |
| Carlisle    | 1 | Rochdale      | 2 |
| Cheltenham  | 2 | Torquay       | 2 |
| Exeter      | 2 | Luton         | 2 |
| Kidd'ster   | 1 | Mansfield     | 1 |
| Lincoln     | 1 | Darlington    | 1 |
| Maccles'ld  | 4 | Scunthorpe    | 3 |
| Oxford Utd  | 3 | Rushden       | 2 |
| Southend    | 1 | Leyton Orient | 2 |
| York        | 1 | Halifax       | 0 |

# Two-goal Taylor wins point for the Town

## Exeter City 2 Luton Town 2

A FIXTURE they would have expected to win in the end yielded a valuable point as Luton Town were reduced to ten men for almost all of the second half.

They just about managed to hang on with Richard Dryden the star defensively and Matthew Taylor the two-goal hero as they claimed a share of the spoils against the bottom of the table side who had lost all of their previous home games this season.

Taylor's fine 35th minute strike equalised City's opener and his terrific diving header put the ten men in the lead after Paul Hughes' sending off.

Two fairly innocuous bookings saw the midfielder shown the red card which gave him first use of the soap a minute after the interval.

Exeter poured men forward and the

Luton defence survived by the skin of their teeth and with the help of the woodwork before a defensive disaster presented the home side with their equaliser, a Lee Mansell own goal. The Hatters almost snatched a winner when substitute Liam George rattled the crossbar in the dying minutes.

City manager Noel Blake, with his job on the line after poor home performances climaxing in a 4-0 reverse, shuffled his pack by including several youngsters. They certainly looked lively and definitely not second best in the early exchanges.

The Town could have punished them on 17 minutes when Dryden's diving header was only stopped on the line by keeper Van Heusden at the second attempt.

### Error

But a Russell Perrett error after twenty nine minutes, when he misjudged a high through ball, allowed Steve Flack to run on unchallenged and plant a low shot past Emberson.

Matthew Spring, making his first appearance of the season after a cartilage operation, set up the equaliser by running at the home defence.

He beat his man and pulled back a pass for Carl Griffith to hit, it was blocked for Taylor to seize on the rebound and smash home a powerful daisy-cutter.

### Header

After the break and down to ten men, Taylor gave them a 53rd minute lead when Stuart Douglas put a deep cross beyond the far post and Taylor would not be denied a decisive header.

City proceeded to take the town defence apart. They missed a couple of golden chances and Emberson was forced to an excellent save turning a blinding Flack header onto the cross bar.

But on 68 minutes the lack of composure at the back finally told. Boyce, not really under pressure hacked a clearance against Mansell only for it to bounce back into the corner of the net.

Another piece of Taylor brilliance almost produced all three points when he beat two men down the left and fired in a great cross that substitute George got his head to only for the ball to cannon onto the cross bar.

**Luton Town:** Emberson, Boyce, Perrett, Dryden, Johnson, Mansell, Spring, Hughes, Taylor, Douglas (Fotiadis 56, Holmes 70), Griffiths (George 56). Subs not used: Ovendale, Howard.

Attendance 3,088.

Luton MoM: Matthew Taylor.



Matthew Taylor celebrates his second goal (left), Matt Spring in an aerial battle (top) and Paul Hughes gets his marching orders