HATTERS MADE TO FIGHT HARD

02/03

Luton 1 Plymouth o

TONY Thorpe scored his 11th goal of the season to give Luton a vital 1-0 victory over Plymouth which maintains their hopes of reaching the Second Division play-offs.

Plymouth made the Hatters work hard for the three points, although the home side hardly helped their own cause by missing a number of good chances.

Luton always had the edge and Steve Howard had a header cleared off the line by Brian McGlinchey.

Matt Spring then had a goal ruled out for offside before they finally opened the scoring after 50 minutes.

Thorpe burst through in a crowded penalty area to scramble the ball into the back of the net following Ian Hillier's long throw.

Plymouth had their chances, but McGlinchey wasted the best chance when he ballooned the ball over the bar from close-range.

Hatters' debutant goalkeeper Lars Hirschfeld, also made good saves from Micky Evans and Lee Hodges, but Luton held on to claim an important win.