

Grey Grimsby steal win

HATTERS 1 GRIMSBY 2

STRIKER Tony Thorpe may have left Luton the previous day, but he still had an influence on Saturday's encounter at Kenilworth Road.

The forward was unfortunately featured on the front cover of the match day programme, much to the annoyance of fans.

And his controversial £50,000 move to the Hatters' Division Two rivals QPR was clearly playing heavily on the minds of some of his former teammates as Luton contrived to lose a game they had been in control of from start to finish.

Grimsby, without a win before the game, scored from their only two efforts on target during the entire match - a 20-yard thunderbolt from Iain Anderson after 33 minutes and a powerful header from Michael Boulding in the 77th minute.

Luton, who clearly missed the presence of Thorpe in the final third, bossed the game without ever creating clear chances. Skipper Kevin Nicholls' 84th minute penalty gave the home side a brief flicker of hope, but by then it was too little too late.

Luton gave a first start to new loan signing Gary McSheffrey who replaced Thorpe upfront, while Matthew Spring returned

in midfield at the expense of Ian Hillier after missing the Stockport clash with a migraine.

The game was delayed by five minutes due to a colour clash with Grimsby's grey kit that saw the Hatters donning their away strip even though they were at home.

And although Grimsby matched their kit colour with a frustrating, defensive display, the Mariners did strike the woodwork twice in three minutes at the end of the first half after rare attacking forays.

STAR HATTER: Emmerson Boyce. Marshalled the defence superbly and will never know how Grimsby managed to score.