

BOYCE WHO LIKE GOALS: Emmerson Boyce is almost a Blur as he leaps to convert Matthew Spring's cross and put Luton 1-0 ahead.

Thurrock dazzle Town

THURROCK 1 HATTERS 1

THE lights almost went out on Luton Town's FA Cup campaign in more ways than one in deepest Essex.

Non-league Thurrock marked the biggest occasion in the club's history with a sparkling performance to grab a 1-1 draw and a replay at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday.

Hatters players appeared to be in the dark for most of the second half as they struggled to find ideas to open up their Ryman Premier League opponents.

But both sets of players were almost plunged into gloom after the club's main floodlights failed just before half-time. Luckily, Thurrock had spent £12,000 in installing additional lighting for the

evening and electricians were able to restore the full power before players resumed for the second period.

Thurrock owner and vice-chairman Tommy South told the *News-Gazette*. "They went out for about four minutes and there was a bit of a panic but we had electricians on stand by."

Beach footy star forces FA replay

them back on. It was a bit of a blessing in disguise really, because if there was a time for them to go then it was then.

"But we were prepared for anything and the whole night was absolutely superb. It was a feather in our cap that we can hold games of that scale and even I was surprised myself!"

He went on: "The people from Luton were fantastic and very nice people, but I was a bit disappointed with the team."

"In fact I was watching the tape of the game again the other night and I had a feeling we'd come back into it in the second-half!"

Emmerson Boyce put the Hatters ahead with his first goal of the season six minutes before the break, but Luton never looked comfortable.

And following wave after wave of attacks from the home side, it was England international beach footballer

Terry Bowes who coasted through the Town defence to make shore of a replay with the equaliser in the 80th minute.

While Luton never got into any sort of rhythm on the field, Thurrock attacked from the start with Hatters keeper Marlon Beresford saving David Collis' free-kick in the second minute and superbly tipping David Lee's 20-yard volley around the post in the ninth.

Former Hatter trainee Cliff Akurang had a penalty claim turned down in the 27th minute and three minutes later he had the ball in the net only for his effort

NEWELL'S V

to be disallowed for offside. Luton took the lead after Chris Coyne's header was tipped round the post by Paul Gothard and Boyce poked home Matthew Spring's cross following a short corner routine with Ahmet Brkovic.

Collis threatened again in the second period but ex-Luton striker Tresor Kandol should have won the game for Thurrock in the 86th minute. He ran clean through for the second time in the half but Boreford again came out on top.

STAR HATTER: Marlon Beresford, superb showing between the sticks.

NEWELL'S VERDICT



"WE didn't want enough of the ball and we weren't brave enough to get the ball and pass it and believe we were the better side."

"That's the only way to beat teams like this; to let your ability come out.

"They're no mugs. They beat Dagenham and Redbridge in the last round

and we expected them to be up for it.

"We kept giving the ball away and kept giving it to people in tight positions.

"They always looked like scoring and if it wasn't for our keeper we'd be

out. But we've got professional players and should have enough to win the replay."



Thurrock

Attendance	1551
Abs on Target	6
Abs Off Target	5
Comers	7
Offsides	6
Fouls	13
Booked	1
Kickouts	1
Set Pieces	1

Luton

Bowes	39
Ballen	Thorp
Chorland	5
Goedhefue	5
Colles	5
McFarlane	5
Lee	5
Brown	5
Haffer	5
Lee	5
Brinkin	5
Korhies	5
Kendall	5
Langer	5
Allen	5

Where Scored For/Agt

6 yd	6
18 yd	21
Outside	2
18 yd	2

When Scored For/Agt

0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
12	10	10	10	10	10

Luton Town's Scorers

Gary McSheffrey	8
Adrian Forbes	6
Steve Howard	4
Thorpe	2
Kevin Foley	2
Barnard Perrett	1
Chris Coyne	1
Matthew Judice	1
Kenshalie	1
Daniel Phillips	1
Shawcross	1
Michael Nelson	1
Anthony	1
Paul Hughes	1
Matthew Sprina	1

Seasonal Progress Chart



Last 6 Matches

Opponents	W/L/D	Score
Bristol City	A 1-1	Drawn when behind
Peterborough	H 1-1	Lost when ahead
Bournemouth	A 3-4	Drawn when ahead
Brentford	A 2-6	Set Piece Goals
Wycombe	H 3-1	Scored from Corners
Tranmere	H 3-1	Scored from Free Kicks

Now Scored For/Agt

1	Shots	16	11
1	Headers	9	10
1	Volleys	1	5
1	Penalties	2	3
1	Free Kicks	0	0
1	Own Goals	1	1

Goals in last 10 mins

Goals Scored	5
Goals conceded	6

Goals & Offsides

Avg Goals/Game	13.35
Div 2 Goals	16
Avg Offsides/Game	4.47
Offsides	2

Top Scorers in each category

Headed Goals	Perrett	2
Long Range Shots	McSheffrey	2
Penalties scored	Nicholls	1
Set Pieces	McSheffrey	1

Attendance Figures

Highest Attendance	8,339
Lowest Attendance	5,000