

Pilgrims pinch a point

03 04

Luton 1 Plymouth 1

LUTON was cruelly denied a well deserved victory over leaders Plymouth as Steve Adams headed home an injury-time equaliser to salvage a 1-1 draw.

Having taken the lead through skipper Chris Coyne's first half header, Luton overcame the sending off of Kevin Nicholls to keep the Pilgrims on the back foot for most of the game.

Peter Holmes was unlucky when his goalbound shot was deflected past Argyle goalkeeper Luke McCormick and onto the post.

At the other end, Nathan Lowndes missed from a matter of feet when a long throw reached him at the far post.

His shot hit a surprised Morten Hyldgaard instead of the back of the net.

Nicholls clashed with Lowndes at the start of the second half and referee Graham Salisbury brandished the red card.

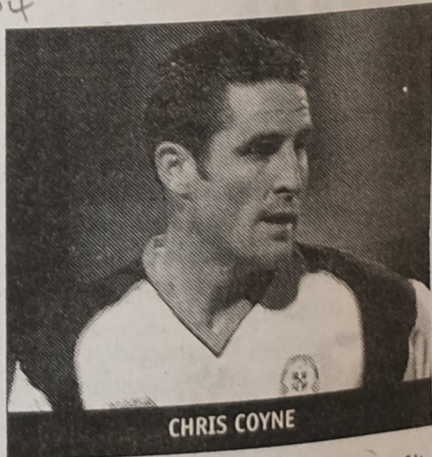
And it was only as the Hatters' tired in the dying minutes that Adams snatched a point.

Luton manager Mike Newell admitted that he did not see the incident which led to the dismissal of Nicholls.

Nicholls was sent off after allegedly elbowing Lowndes.

Newell said: "I didn't see the incident but the referee said Nicholls put his forearm into the lad's face. If that's the case he deserved to be sent off.

"But their man made a meal of it and that upsets me. I get really annoyed when



a player goes down and makes a meal of it. It's not a man's game any more."

After Nicholls' departure Luton battled hard before Plymouth scored a stoppage-time equaliser.

Newell added: "Having had the better of the first half and created more chances I had felt we deserved the lead and to concede a goal so late left us all feeling gutted. We thought we had got there and I felt we had done enough to win."

Plymouth's caretaker boss Kevin Sumerfield said: "The game lasts for 90 minutes and I'm glad the boys kept going.

"But conditions spoiled it as a spectacle because in the swirling wind some areas of the pitch were virtually impossible to play in.

"But at this time of year it's not going to be a spectacle when both teams have so much to play for. I have to admit we were a little disappointing and I am relieved to have got a point out of it."