



TOWN FLIER: Vine levelled

NEWELL'S SUBS SINK UNLUCKY ARGYLE

Plymouth 1 Luton 2

By NICK PARKINSON

MIKE NEWELL admitted Plymouth were robbed of a "goal" which would have saved them from their first defeat in five games.

The Luton boss felt Vincent Pericard's header for Argyle had crossed the line on 61 minutes – the match officials did not.

And although Akos Buzsaky put the home side ahead nine minutes later, the Hatters battled back to take the points.

"I thought it was a goal to be honest," said Newell.

"But Marlon Beresford said not all the ball crossed the line. If there's any doubt with the linesman he'll not give it. Sometimes these things go for you.

"I'm delighted with the way we came back because we've a patched up side."

Town substitutes Calvin Andrew and Rowan Vine secured the victory. Andrew cancelled out Buzsaky's 79-minute opener and Vine had been on for just four minutes when he struck at the death.

"Calvin has something about him and that was his first senior goal," added Newell. "Hopefully it's the spark he needs to go on.

Hard

"We want to keep the season going and finish on a high but it's hard when there's nothing in these games."

With neither play-offs nor relegation possible for either side, the game lacked urgency until late on.

Argyle boss Tony Pulis gave Leon Clarke a home debut and the striker – on loan from Wolves – should have done better than head wide when unchallenged in the six-yard box.

Pericard had a penalty appeal waved away and team-mate David Norris was twice let down by his finishing. But it was the visitors who finished the first-half strongest, Steve Howard being denied by keeper Luke McCormick.

Luton were reprieved after the break when Pericard's header looked to have crossed the line before keeper Beresford clawed back the ball.

Referee Andy Hall refused to give a goal and Argyle's sense of injustice spurred them into action, leading to Buzsaky's breakthrough.

But Vine struck with an overhead kick and then set up Andrew for a tap-in with two minutes left.

Pulis said: "We lacked a bit of zip and looked jaded."