

Glovers tighten up but draw a blank

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Photograph: Steve Roberts

Yeovil Town 0 Luton Town 0

From Nathan Jones
at Huish Park

YEOVIL TOWN cut out the errors that gifted Nottingham Forest victory at Huish Park on Saturday – but they failed to score for the third successive home game.

The Glovers had given the Reds two of their three goals at the weekend and there was no repeat of such defensive lapses.

But, despite a new formation, Yeovil struggled to take what chances they did create against well-organised opposition.

Manager Russell Slade pushed Marcus Stewart up front from midfield from the start and also used Paul Warne and on-loan Southampton midfielder Simon Gillett in wide areas.

After a non-descript first period, Yeovil dominated the second-half possession and deserved a winner, if only to reward their hugely vocal fans.

However, it doesn't get any easier for the Glovers. They travel to Leeds United on Saturday, although Yeovil can boast of a significantly better away record so far this season.

Luton had been without suspended former QPR and Chelsea striker Paul Furlong and so started with Calvin Andrew as their lone frontman.

And the one-time Bristol City loanee made an early impression when he shrugged off Scott Guyett in the fourth minute and fired across goal, beating everyone.

Yeovil came close seconds later when right-back Lee Peltier's long pass found the advancing Anthony Barry. The midfielder might have tried a shot from an angle but instead tried to pick out Lloyd Owusu only for the pass to go behind Yeovil's top scorer.

David Bell was next to try his luck when he forced his way past Nathan Jones only to shoot wide of the near post.

But otherwise the first half was bereft of excitement as both teams struggled to impose themselves on a sodden surface.

On 50 minutes Luton came closest yet when Darren Currie's corner was headed down by on-loan Bolton defender Jaroslav Fojut and cleared away from the line just as the Pole was about to celebrate.

At the other end Owusu was off target with an acrobatic overhead effort and the Ghana international nodded a clear opening wide of goal from an accurate Jones cross soon after.

Matthew Spring then saw a free-kick blocked for Luton after Marcus Stewart had been harshly penalised for high kicking.

And as if aggrieved by that, Yeovil came to life, with Gillett teeing up Anthony Barry for a 25-yard drive which Ben Alnwick, on loan from Tottenham, dived full length to his left to save.

Yeovil left to rue their misses

Warne was next to go close when his low shot from the left snaked just wide of goal and Owusu almost forced an opening at the near post after good work from Barry.

Yeovil came closer still through the left foot of Peltier on 78 minutes but Alnwick pushed it wide for a corner.

From the flag-kick Andrew appeared to handle but referee Richard Beeby, never a popular figure in South Somerset because of some of his previous refereeing performances, said he had been fouled.

Luton had a golden chance to win it on 85 minutes when Dave Edwards blasted over from 10 yards after a free-kick which saw Guyett need treatment for a head injury.

And Yeovil were left to rue their misses as Luton picked up their first away point of the season at the fifth time of asking.

Yeovil Town (4-4-2): Larrieu; Peltier, Forbes, Guyett, N Jones; Warne, Barry, Rose, Gillett; Stewart, Owusu. Subs not used: Lynch, R Jones, Knights, Alcock, Domoraud.
Luton Town (4-5-1): Alnwick; Perry, Coyne, Fojut, Goodall; Bell (Talbot 46), Edwards, Robinson, Spring, Currie; Andrew. Subs not used: Hutchison, Jackson, Brkovic, McVeigh.



Head first: Scott Guyett, right clears from Luton's Calvin Andrew