



sky BET FOOTBALL LEAGUE TWO

LUTON TOWN 0

PLYMOUTH 1

Blizzard 68

LUTON TOWN

FORMATION: 4-3-3

MARK TYLER (7)

Some good stops in the first half and played the sweeper role well at times

PAUL CONNOLLY (6)

Early booking for the right-back against his first club

STEVE McNULTY (7)

Good battle with Reid but beaten too easily for the goal

ALEX LACEY (7)

Deserved start for the youngster. Good in the air and tidy in possession too

SCOTT GRIFFITHS (7)

A real bundle of energy on the left side, both in defence and attack

LUKE ROONEY (7)

Saw plenty of the ball in the first half but his threat waned as the game wore on

ANDY DRURY (7)

Much more of an influence than in recent weeks with a fine array of passing

PELLEY RUDDOCK MPANZU (8)

Full of drive and athleticism in the centre. Genuine box-to-box midfielder

LUKE GUTTRIDGE (7)

Focal point of Luton's attack although unusually sloppy in possession at times

MARK CULLEN (6)

Few sighters of goal for the striker and made way early on for Lafayette

JAKE HOWELLS (7)

Had the best of the chances for Hatters but his failure to take them was costly

SUBSTITUTES

LAWLESS 6; FOR HOWELLS (69)

LAFAYETTE 5; FOR CULLEN (71)

STEVENS 5; FOR DRURY (79)

NOT USED: SMITH, WALL, JUSTHAM, WILKINSON

PLYMOUTH

FORMATION: 4-3-3

LUKE McCORMICK (8)

First-half hero for Argyle as his two stops were the basis for an excellent away win

KELVIN MELLOR (7)

Kept a tight reign on Luton's attackers and ventured forward when the opportunity arose

CURTIS NELSON (8)

Early booking, but was dominant in the air, clearing anything that came his way

PETER HARTLEY (8)

Another who relished the aerial challenge and very rarely put a foot wrong

CARL McHUGH (7)

Solid throughout as Luton could not create much on his flank

ANTHONY O'CONNOR (6)

Got through plenty of donkey work without ever really imposing himself on the game

DOMINIC BLIZZARD (7)

Made the difference as his little bit of skill and measured finish was decisive on the day

LEE COX (6)

Another who put in plenty of effort as Plymouth gradually won the midfield tussle

JASON BANTON (5)

Anonymous display as his threats on the left were sporadic at best

REUBEN REID (8)

Led the line with real class. Masterful display from the front man

LEWIS ALESSANDRA (7)

Missed an early chance but kept going and was a willing runner all afternoon

SUBSTITUTES

BRAY 5; FOR BANTON (58)

SMALLEY 5; FOR BRAY (69)

NOT USED: BITTNER, PURRINGTON, NORBURN, HARVEY, THOMAS

BLIZZARD FLATTENS HATTERS LATE ON

Plymouth's first away win



LATE DRAMA: Dominic Blizzard celebrates his matchwinner

Star Game

By Mike Simmonds

DOMINIC BLIZZARD'S fine individual strike saw Plymouth win away for the first time in League Two this season and Pilgrims boss John Sheridan singled out his midfielder for special commendation and admiration.

Blizzard weaved his way through Town's defence to fire home on 68 minutes as Luton continue to struggle to adapt to life in League Two.

And Plymouth boss Sheridan couldn't get enough of Blizzard with the Pilgrims now pushing towards the play-off places.

And Sheridan said: "I think it was a great goal, great composure and great feet, but he's got that in his game.

"I'm really pleased for him, he missed a lot of football due to injury, so hopefully he can get back playing as he's a really good player when he's fit.

"He's not really been fit since he's been at the club and hopefully getting the winning goal will give him a big boost.

"We were under the cosh a bit, but that happens a little bit away from home. I told the players, stay solid, and be organised as they do pass the ball and the two little players up front get into areas and cause you problems.

"But I think Luke McCormick had one save to make and I'd like to concentrate on the second half as we took the game to them. We looked really solid and caused them problems."

MATCH STATS		
LUTON v PLYMOUTH		
3	Shots on target	4
8	Shots off target	6
10	Corners	5
2	Offside	1
4	Fouls conceded	4
1	Yellow Cards	3
0	Red Cards	0
55	Possession %	45
Att: 7,864 Rating: ★★★		
Ref: Mick Russell 7/10		

LUTON STILL LACK A CUTTING EDGE

LUTON'S much-heralded return to the Football League continues to stutter.

After romping to the Conference title, with over 100 goals and 100 points to their name, Town's alarming lack of

Match Verdict

potency in League Two continues to stunt their progress, as they have only scored twice in four games on home soil.

It wasn't through lack of trying though as the home side dominated much of the first half but found Argyle keeper Luke McCormick an unbeatable barrier.

The failure to break the deadlock always looked

like coming back to bite them as Hatters' poor record in front of TV cameras was to haunt them in the second period. Having ridden the storm, visitors Plymouth were then good value for a first away win of the season.



WINNER: Dominic Blizzard scores the only goal of the game for Plymouth at Kenilworth Road

PICTURES: Pinnacle

Meanwhile Hatters manager John Still was left bemoaning his team's lack of goals. He said: "The start was as good as anything I've seen since I've been here, I was really pleased with our play.

"Did we not have a cutting edge? I don't know. We had opportunities, we got shots off, the pace of our game was good.

"Second half was OK, they came into it in fairness. I just thought we played really well but haven't got that cutting edge at the moment, that's what we missed.

"Like last year, of course you have concerns and when you work in training – the

week had been terrific, the finishing had been terrific – all you can do is carry on working.

"It's like anything else that's not quite right, you have to investigate, so we'll sit down and have a look.

"But the job of all teams is to win matches and once we got into it last year, we found it not easy to win matches, but easier as we got into that groove and we've got to work hard to get into that groove."

It was Luton who started stronger as Luke Guttridge saw his free-kick palmed over by Luke McCormick and then sent

another effort straight at him. Luke Rooney then half volleyed over, before Argyle missed a glorious chance as Lewis Alessandra couldn't beat Mark Tyler when one on one.

Mark Cullen and Alessandra then both sent efforts wide, and Luton should have lead on 28 minutes as Jake Howells' scuffed shot was tipped wide by McCormick. Blizzard's daisy-cutter was too close to Tyler and Reuben Reid volleyed over.

Just before the break, Luton sliced their way through with some wonderful passing but Howells was denied by a brilliant McCormick block.

In the second period, Argyle looked to have weathered the storm, although were thankful to a brave

block by Kelvin Mellor on Ruddock Mpanzu's fierce drive.

With an hour gone, Plymouth were inches away from breaking the deadlock too as Reid teed up Blizzard whose side-footer skimmed just wide.

However, Blizzard then notched what proved to be the winner with some lovely skill and measured finish as Town went to sleep.

Blizzard then should have put the result beyond doubt, but tamely prodded wide from Reid's cross and Hatters never seriously looked like equalising. The closest they came was when sub Ross Lafayette fired wide while Steve McNulty was also off target and Guttridge's late shouts for a penalty were turned down.

