

# Blues 0 Braintree Town 2

Blues wrapped up their pre-season games with a good performance, but it was visitors Braintree Town who left the ProKit UK Stadium with a 2-0 win on Saturday. It was the Vanarama National League side's 13th win in their last 14 games against the Blues, but there were encouraging signs for boss Gordon Boateng ahead of next week's league opener against Hampton & Richmond Borough.



Boaeng gave a debut to new signing Cladliu Vilcu, but it was the visiting side who took the lead in the fifth minute when a low shot from the edge of the box beat Tom Lovelock at the far post. Tambeson Eyong went close for the Blues before Bradley Woods-Garness forced an

excellent save from Iron keeper Jimmy Butler.



Butler also did well to save a Ryan Auger free-kick just before the break but Boateng was forced to make a change at half-time with Joe Wright replacing Lovelock after the latter had been kicked in the chest. Braintree doubled their lead eight minutes into the second half when a good cut-back from Cheek found Lee Barnard who fired past Wright.

Blues went close to pulling a goal back in the 58th minute when Mikel Suarez shot just wide after good work from Paul Rodgers before a rash of substitutions saw the game peter out.

