

OFF! OFF!

Aldridge

85/86

OXFORD striker John Aldridge and Luton defender Mitchell Thomas were "sent off" twice at the Manor Ground.

Ray Lewis shocked the crowd by ordering both players off for an incident he didn't see in the first half.

Then, in the second half, when he spotted them showered and dressed on their respective benches, he waved them out of sight for the second time.

Players and spectators were totally mystified when the referee sent the pair packing for the first time after an intervention by linesman Biddle.

The official explanation later was that the linesman had seen the pair kicking each other.

When Hebberd equalised a first-half goal by Stein it brought Justice, but only just in time.

Luton were leading by Stein's early effort when Harford headed invitingly down to Hebberd goalmouth.

Defeats

So Luton ended a run of three away defeats with a cliff-hanging display which owed much to Sealey's saves.

Both managers were appalled by the sending

By DENNIS SHAW

OXFORD 1 LUTON 1

off decision. Luton's David Pleat said: "I saw them stumble into each other. They did not fight, they did not strike each other, they did not kick each other."

OXFORD: Hardwick 6, Langan 7, Briggs 6, Shotton 6, Slater 6, Houghton 7, PHILLIPS 8, Hebberd 6, Rhoades-Brown 6, Aldridge 5, Thomas 5, Sub.: Charles 6.

LUTON: SEALEY, Breacker 6, Foster 6, Donaghy 7, Thomas 5, Hill 6, Nicholas 6, Preece 6, Stein 7, Harford 6, Nwajiobi 6, Sub.: Charles 6.

Ref: R. Lewis (Bookham) 6.

WINNER NORMAN

NORMAN WHITESIDE of Manchester United has won the Fiat Young Player of the Month award for September.