

One magic moment

86/87

FORMER KENILWORTH ROAD favourite Kirk Stephens was among the Coventry fans who marvelled at his old mates' ability to nick the first points of 1987 at Highfield Road.

Retired because of a knee injury, he summed it up as "one moment of magic by Brian Stein and a lot of good defending."

Coventry should have scored four or five, but missed some with wayward shooting and ran up against an inspired Les Sealey. Home fans taunted him as a "Coventry reject" before the start, and his response was to break their hearts. He was man of the match, with Steve Foster and Mal

COVENTRY 0 LUTON TOWN 1

Donaghy in close contention.

It was another whole-hearted defensive performance by the whole team, with only two real strikes at Coventry's goal. Mick Harford volleyed over from a crossfield pass by Ashley Grimes, and the second strike settled it, with Stein collecting a loose ball on the edge of the penalty area and driving his ninth goal of the season into the far corner.

"If you don't take your chances, you don't win . . . that's life," said Coventry boss George Curtis.

Dave Bennett's tricky dribbling down the wings discomforted the Town, particularly in the first 25

minutes, when the back four struggled to keep their shape. After that Coventry ran out of ideas and every Town man worked well to protect the lead.

"Coventry played well and were a bit unlucky not to get anything out of it," admitted Town manager John Moore. "Les Sealey made some tremendous saves. The fans who jeered should have left him alone — all they did was to gee him up."

MATCH DETAILS

TOWN: Sealey; Breacker, Foster, Donaghy, Johnson; Wilson, Nicholas, Grimes; Brian Stein, Newell, Harford. Sub: Mark Stein, not needed.

COVENTRY: Ogrizovic; Borrows, Sedgley, Kilcline, Pickering; Bennett, Emerson, Gynn, Phillips; Regis, Houchen. Sub: Painter, not needed.

THE GOAL: Brian Stein, 40th minute. Other strikes: Town four saved and six wide. Coventry nine saved and seven wide. Corners: 9-5 to Coventry.

ATTENDANCE: 16,656.

REFEREE: Ffrangcon Roberts, North Wales.

ENTERTAINMENT: Always exciting, with Coventry attacking well and the Town defending even better.