

Swamped in midfield

IT WAS difficult to believe that Glenn Hoddle, one of the great playmakers and entertainers, could have put out a side which was as negative as the Swindon outfit that came to Kenilworth Road. They were as defensive as Bristol Rovers were three days later.

Swindon are going for promotion, and although Hoddle was not pleased with his team's performance, you had to wonder how responsible he was for the formation which swamped midfield with five men, all on closing down and defensive duties.

As on Saturday against the bottom club, the Town could not find the little touch of flair needed to unsettle it.

One breakthrough might have transformed the game but the best chance of the first half, created by Phil Gray's pass, vanished when Paul Telfer was denied by Fraser Digby's save at his feet.

In the second half Kerry Dixon's power

LUTON TOWN...0
SWINDON.....0

downward header bounced too high, helped on its way over the bar by Digby. "I should have scored," said the striker.

With play locked up in the middle, it made for poor entertainment. Swindon took 83 minutes to get a shot on target, a long range drive from defender Nicky Summerbee, whose dad used to be a good attacker.

Steve White enjoyed coming back to see old friends, but was not happy with the game, in which he managed just one header at goal, three minutes from time.

"We can do better," he said. "We didn't create enough chances."

Nor did the Town, in yet another match where the visitors were much happier with the result than the home side.

Match details

TOWN: Chamberlain; James (Hughes 68 mins), Peake, Dreyer, Johnson; Rees (Williams 86 mins), Telfer, Preece, Oakes; Gray, Dixon.

SWINDON: Digby; Summerbee, Viveash, Calderwood, Taylor, Bodin; McLaren, Ling, Hunt (Marwood 68 mins); Mitchell, White. Other sub: Close.

GOAL ATTEMPTS: Town four saved and seven wide; Swindon two saved and three wide. Corners: 5-5.

REFEREE: Roger Wiseman, Borehamwood. Not the best we have ever seen, and one of his linesman was truly dreadful.

BOOKED: Summerbee, Calderwood and Scott Oakes for a slight fracas when Summerbee and Oakes tumbled over the ad hoardings.

ATTENDANCE: 8,902, third highest league gate of the season so far.

ENTERTAINMENT: Very poor. Swindon swamped the midfield and defended at distance, and the Town could not break them down.