

Defence stands firm

AFTER playing tremendous football in the first half at Edgeley Park, the Town had to show the battling side of their abilities to save a point in the second.

Stockport were played off the park for 45 minutes, with Ceri Hughes and Gary Waddock dominating midfield, and Graham Alexander and Paul Showler providing attacking width.

Steve Davis headed the opening goal from a 26th-minute corner by Alexander. Kim Grant missed a couple of decent chances, but in the second half it was the Town's turn to suffer as Stockport started to get their game together.

A series of four corners in quick succession, won by sweat and endeavour rather than flair, led to Brett Angell diving into a ruck to head the equaliser.

Town teams of the recent past would have caved in after that, because Stockport played with remarkable passion and commitment.

But the defence steadied, and when real danger threatened Ian Feuer made a brilliant save from Angell.

STOCKPORT COUNTY 1
LUTON TOWN 1

MIDWEEK MATCH DETAILS

TOWN: Feuer; James, Johnson, Davis, Thomas; Alexander, Hughes, Waddock, Showler; Thorpe (Oldfield 65 mins), Grant. Unused subs: Guentchev and McLaren.

STOCKPORT: Jones; Connelly, Flynn, Gannon, Todd; Durkan (Cavaco 75 mins), Bennett, Marsden, Jeffers; Angell, Mutch.

GOALS: Steve Davis header for the Town, 26 minutes; Brett Angell header for Stockport, 57 mins.

OTHER STRIKES: Town three saved and five wide; Stockport four saved and three wide. Corners: 15-13 to Stockport.

OFFSIDES: Town eight, Stockport seven.

FOULS: Town conceded 13, Stockport 8.

REFEREE: David Laws, Whitley Bay.

BOOKED: Kim Grant for playing on after being given offside and Stockport's Mike Flynn for a foul on David Oldfield..

ATTENDANCE: 5,352.