



TOGETHER AGAIN: Luton's Julian Watts (left), rises above Bury's Ian Lawson (right)

PICTURE: Action Images

Warnock's warriors make brave Luton sweat for point

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BOTH managers praised every player for sweating it out at Luton on a hot afternoon in a game that could have gone either way.

Bury's Neil Warnock thought his side did enough to become the first to take three points away from Kenilworth Road this season.

His game plan frustrated a young Luton team, with Phil Gray and Andrew Fotiadis invariably marked by three men.

And Luton were caught on the break occasionally leaving Warnock to point out that if Bury had taken their chances they might have won.

The best chance of the first half fell to Ian Lawson but Luton's 21-year-old goalkeeper Nathan Abbey saved at his feet.

"If that one had gone in things might

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have turned out differently," agreed Luton boss Lennie Lawrence.

"This is a very young team and with hindsight perhaps I should have rotated the squad and made a few changes after our game at Bournemouth on Tuesday.

"You never know with young players how they will react but this was one of those days when I was pretty pleased not to be beaten."

Bury's five-man defence set problems which Luton could not solve at first.

But in the 53rd minute for once it was Bury caught on the break following a Bury corner.

A long ball upfield was switched from Liam George to Matthew Spring and then to

Fotiadis who drove in his second goal of the season.

It served only to provoke Bury into a more attack-minded frame of mind and it was no surprise when Lee Richardson swept in a 69th-minute equaliser.

It was his first start for Bury after being signed on loan from Huddersfield.

Although he is willing to make the switch permanent manager Warnock said he does not know if he could have money to complete a deal.

A draw was just about the right result, although battling Bury ploughed forward late on in a desperate bid to try to win the match.

If the quality was not always of the

highest calibre no-one could ever doubt the commitment of two clubs who put courage and a battling spirit above skill on many occasions.

If Luton had the best of the early sparing, it was Bury who looked the stronger of the two teams as the match wore on.

Goalscoring always looked like it was going to be a major problem for both sides, although Bury looked like they could sneak it at the very end.

Luton: Abbey, Doherty, Watts, Johnson, Fraser, Spring, George, McLaren, Taylor, Gray, Fotiadis. Subs: McKinnon, Douglas, Sodge, McIndoe, Tate.

Bury: Kenny, Collins, Redmond, Swailes, Billy, Daws, Richardson, Reid, James, Littlejohn, Lawson. Subs: Avdiu, Preece, Bullock, Rocha, Williams.

Referee: D Crick (Worcester Park).