Luton leave it late

TWO goals in the last 15 minutes saved the day for Luton.

Colchester scored first when Luton defender Julian Watts ambled up field for a free-kick by Matthew Spring and was left unmarked in the penalty area to head his first goal of the season after nine minutes.

Jason Dozzell lobbed the ball over an empty net as Colchester tried to launch a fightback, but for the rest of the first half Luton enjoyed almost total domination without making another breakthrough.

Steve McGavin hit a splendid equaliser on 52 minutes as the Luton defence kindly stood off him, and seven minutes later a mix-up between goal-keeper Ben Roberts and centre-back Alan White gave Tony Lock the opening to give Colchester the lead.

But the shock seemed too great for the visitors' defence,

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and Luton battled back with Doherty equalising on 75 minutes and teenage wing-back Matthew Taylor firing a spectacular winner eight minutes from time.

Luton coach John Moore complimented the homegrown team for "a magnificent victory".

He admitted that Luton had not played as well as they can but added: "Every player deserves enormous credit for the way they fought for that result, and I cannot speak too highly of them."

Colchester boss Steve Whitton said: "We look top six in terms of attacking but bottom six in defending."