

LUTON TOWN1

Howard (3)

CHESTERFIELD0

03/04
BY ANDY THOMAS

ONE goal was enough to give Luton a victory which keeps alive their hopes of reaching the play-offs.

While Luton look strong on the pitch, their financial problems could soon be eased with the club expected to come out of administration shortly.

"It looks as though there is some light at the end of the tunnel," said manager Mike Newell.

For Chesterfield, defeat meant another addition to the Second Division's worst away record - they have not picked up three points on the road since Boxing Day 11 months ago.

Their veteran goalkeeper Carl Muggleton was unlucky when Steve Howard's third-minute header squeezed past him for the winner.

The goal came from a slick Luton passing move and a top-class cross by Adrian Forbes. Muggleton got a hand to Howard's header but succeeded only in pushing the ball against the crossbar and in.

He made five fine saves in the first-half as Luton tried to extend their lead and after the

Howard's early strike takes win

interval Chesterfield showed signs of getting back into the game.

Newell added: "I have to admit our performance was unconvincing, but I'm very pleased with the three points.

"We could have beaten them out of sight in the first 20

minutes when we had four or five very good chances.

"I would expect to see us take one or two of those but you have to give credit to Chesterfield for sticking at it and making things difficult for us."

Chesterfield manager Roy

McFarland added: "I thought we deserved to get something out of that game. We worked hard in defence but we lacked that little bit of quality in attack."

Over the 90 minutes Chesterfield failed to trouble Luton goalkeeper Marlon Beresford and McFarland said: "While we were solid defensively I know the squad needs to be freshened up."

LUTON	CHESTERFIELD
43	Possession % 57
2	Corners 4
6	Offsides 7
19	Fouls 11
3	Yellows 2
0	Reds 0
9	Shots On 0
6	Shots Off 3
0	Hit Woodwork 0

LUTON: Beresford 6, Hillier 6, Coyne 6, Boyce 6, Davis 6, McSheffrey 7, Robinson 7, Spring 7, Brkovic 5 (Holmes 74), Howard 7, Forbes 6.

CHESTERFIELD: Muggleton 6, Dawson 6, Blatherwick 5, Evatt 6, O'Hare 6, Uhlenbeek 5, Howson 6, Allott 6, Innes 6 (Rushbury 81), Brandon 7, Reeves 5 (Robinson 66).