

Hatters bob along!

SWINDON 2 HATTERS 3

HATTERS kept bobbing along with a super first-half showing at the Robins. But in the end they were made to hang on for their second successive win of the new season.

A Kevin Nicholls penalty and Rory Fallon own goal saw Luton race into a two goal lead before Sam Parkin pulled one back against the run of play in first-half stoppage time.

Steve Howard's second goal of the campaign – and seventh strike in six games taking into account his run at the end of last term – saw the Town go 3-1 up. But Alan Reeves' 65th minute header caused Hatters a nervy end to the game.

Boss Mike Newell said: "The way we performed in the first-half, we had to just sit back and enjoy it.

"Unfortunately we couldn't continue it in the second half, but you would expect Swindon to come out and have a go.

"But we believe our players have more of that in them and can sustain it for longer periods

"I thought everyone looked really sharp and the way they passed it about and looked comfortable on the ball, that's what we've been asking them to do."

Newell added: "It's very early days and we're not getting carried away, but we were pleased with their performance."

Loan striker Rowan Vine hit the post in the fifth minute before winning the 24th

minute spot kick that Nicholls tucked away. Stephen O'Leary, Howard and Paul Underwood all went close before Fallon headed Steve Robinson's 37th minute free-kick into his own net.

Chris Coyne and Sol Davis then threatened before Coyne's mistake allowed Parkin to lob Marlon Beresford.

Coyne set up Howard for Luton's third in the 51st minute, heading back Davis' deep free-kick for the Luton forward to make no mistake from four yards.

But Reeves prompted a frantic finish by nodding home Brian Howard's corner after the hour mark.

STAR HATTER: Sol Davis. Effective in attack as well as defence and didn't allow ex-Luton loan star Sammy Igoe a sniff.



GOALSCORERS: Howard battles with Swindon's Reeves.