

NEWELL PRAISES TIRED TERRIERS



LUTON TOWN1

Underwood (57)

HUDDERSFIELD TOWN2

Mendes (14, 36)

04/05

BY TOM COLLOMOSSE

HATTERS boss Mike Newell had plenty of words of praise for Huddersfield Town after the Terriers ended Luton's unbeaten start to the season.

Paul Underwood's second half goal could not save the League One leaders from defeat after Junior Mendes' first half brace.

The Hatters had been seeking to equalise a 35-year-old club record of 13 unbeaten league matches before they slumped to a lively Terriers side.

And boss Newell was first to admit his side's failings as their unbeaten run was shattered.

Newell said: "We put in a poor performance today, particularly in the first half, and

LUTON	HUDDERSFIELD
46	Possession % 54
6	Corners 3
3	Offsides 5
23	Fouls 16
2	Yellows 4
0	Reds 0
5	Shots On 5
11	Shots Off 7
1	Hit Woodwork 0

LUTON: Seremet 6, Foley 6 (Showunmi 79), Coyne 7, Davies 8, Davis 7, Underwood 7 (O'Leary 84), Nicholls 8, Leary 6 (McSheffrey 43), Brkovic 6, Vine 6, Howard 6.

Next game: Walsall (a) 19/10

HUDDERSFIELD: Gray 7, Holdsworth 7, Lloyd 6, Yates 7, Clarke 7, Sodje 8, Brandon 6 (Mirfin 83), Carss 7, Worthington 7, Abbott 6 (Senior 70), Mendes 8 (Fowler 79).

Next game: Tranmere (h) 19/10

Huddersfield could have had more than two at half time.

"To be fair to Huddersfield, they came out and had a go at us. They had a number of corners and kept putting the ball in to the danger area and, in the end, it worked for them.

"They played some decent stuff and came at us rather than sitting back - which can sometimes work in our favour, but it didn't today.

"It was much like the game against Hartlepool the other night where they also had a go at



Mixing it: Huddersfield's Pawel Abbot, centre, and Chris Coyne of Luton Town challenge for the ball as the Terriers win at Kenilworth Road

us, only Huddersfield got the goals and Hartlepool didn't."

Newell added: "We weren't on our game at all today and didn't keep our shape or patience and got a bit desperate at times.

"But it's not going to be a case of having to lift the players - they can be proud of their magnificent start to the season."

Terriers boss Peter Jackson was delighted with the away side's performance, and claimed the win was Huddersfield's best result of the season so far.

And he demanded more of the same from his players as they aimed to consolidate their

position in the Coca-Cola League One.

Jackson said: "Luton had only conceded two at home all season before today and no one gave us a hope here, but to get the three points is absolutely fantastic.

"We were disappointing last week at Torquay and it was important for us to bounce back.

"I thought we were superb in the first half and could have had three or four. We came under a bit of pressure in the second half but we defended excellently and deserved the win.

"We know we are a good side but we've been very inconsistent.

If we can get that consistency, then we can have a very good season ahead of us."

Huddersfield took the lead in the 14th minute after a Luton move broke down on the edge of the Terriers' box.

Mendes picked up the ball on the left, cut inside Hatters defender Kevin Foley, and rifled a shot into the far corner from 20 yards, past diving Luton goalkeeper Dino Seremet.

Sol Davis missed a great chance to equalise for Luton in the 32nd minute, the defender heading over from 12 yards after midfielder Michael Leary put in a

searing right wing cross, which seemed there for the taking.

But by this stage the away side were fully in control of the match.

Huddersfield made it two in the 34th minute, again through Mendes. The striker pounced on a flick-on from Efe Sodje which followed a Tony Carss corner.

Paul Underwood gave Luton hope with a beautiful curler from 15 yards in the 57th minute.

Luton were now using four forwards in a bid for a win.

Steve Howard hit the post with a header in the 71st minute but Huddersfield held on.