

BISHOP'S STORTFORD 1 DORCHESTER TOWN 0

DARREN Foxley hit an 83rd minute winner for Blues as they deservedly took all three Evo-Stik South points,



The victory for the hosts was a deserved one and they looked the more likely side to break the deadlock as the visitors rarely looked threatening which was surprising considering they had netted ten goals in their last two matches.

Josh Simpson and Jack Thomas worked hard in midfield for the Blues as did the defence with Tom Clifford having a fine match and Joe Robinson outstanding.

Kevin Watson made a change to his starting eleven with 16-year-old Callum Taylor being included in the starting line-up for the first time in a league fixture while Jordan Westcott dropped to the bench. Alex Rogers, returning from injury, was also on the bench and Jason Williams was completing a two match ban.



Stortford looked to get on the front-foot from the off. A back post header by Marvel Ekpiteta in the 12th minute was wide

following a Clifford free-kick before Dipo Akinyemi had the ball in the net past keeper Chris Weale a minute later but referee Neil West controversially disallowed the goal. Foxley and Dean Ager were close for the hosts but it was generally a quiet half and Blues keeper Tyler McCarthy only had to deal with a Sam Lanahan header that was straight at him.

Close to the end of the half Foxley rounded off an excellent move with a shot cleared cleared off the line by visiting defender Neil Martin.

The Blues suffered a blow in added time prior to the break as Akinyemi left the pitch with rib injury. He was replaced by Westcott.

Stortford continued to have the edge on the restart with Josh Simpson close with a 20 yard drive and Foxley near to scoring again. George Casey had a shot held at the near post by Weale six minutes after the break whilst at the other end Antonio Diaz shot across the face of goal on the hour mark. Good work by Foxley and Ager led to Westcott seeing his shot tipped over the bar by Weale in the 67th minute and skipper Ekpiteta hit the post from the resultant corner by Clifford.



The only goal of the game followed a foul on Foxley some 35 yard on the left of goal and Clifford's free-kick into the box was met by the on-rushing Foxley who hit an upright and in a split second successfully converted

the rebound into the bottom corner for his first goal since October.

It was always going to be a tense final few minutes and McCarthy denied Dorchester a point in the 89th minute making an excellent save at the near post to keep out Luke Winsper's goalbound header from Mohammad Baghdadi's cross. So with this win Stortford were able to enter the Christmas period in good spirits.

Thomas was shown a yellow card in the closing stages of the contest as were the Dorchester trio of David Jerrard, Neil Martin and Kyle Egan.

STORTFORD: Tyler McCarthy; George Casey; Tom Clifford; Josh Simpson; Marvel

Ekpiteta; Joe Robinson; Dean Ager (Mark Hughes 90); Jack Thomas; Callum Taylor (Alfie Mason 71); Dipo Akinyemi (Jordan Westcott 45+4); Darren Foxley.

Unused substitutes: Max Brassington and Alex Rogers.

DORCHESTER TOWN: Chris Weale; Kyle Egan; Neil Martin; Callum Rose (Tom Blair 88); Ross Carmichael; Luke Winsper; Ed Bastick (Archie Collins 59); Billy Lowes; Sam Lanahan (David Jerrard 69); Antonio Diaz; Mohammad Baghdadi.

Unused substitute: Dom Panesar-Dorer.

Referee: Neil West

Attendance: 228

