Cottam hands Luton a point

By CHESTER STERN Luton 2, Nottm. Forest 2

JIMMY Ryan scored an injurytime penalty to snatch an unlikely draw for Luton at the end of a scrappy game which alternated between ecstasy and despair for these two promotion contenders.

Forest made a bright start and it was the explosive right foot of their prolific goal-scorer McKenzie which shot them into a spectacular 12th-minute lead. Lyall took a long throw, Martin nodded it on and McKenzie, with his back to goal, pivoted to hook a volley into the roof of the net.

Luton equalised from the restart. The hall was pumped upfield and although O'Kane and Chapman had plenty of time to clear, both left the job to the other allowing Jimmy Ryan to snake between them and score a simple goal.

Forest manager Allan Brown, who formerly managed Luton, had reshuffled his side, attempting to eliminate the midfield and defensive shortcomings so brutally exposed by West Bromwich Albion last weekend. One of Brown's newcomers, Richardson, was on hand in the 71st minute to drive Forest's second goal from the edge of the area.

The rest was a story of squandered chances on both sides, until the last second drama. Garner hurled a long throw into the crowded box and Cottam stretched up to play the ball needlessly away with his hand. Jimmy Ryan stroked the inevitable penalty wide of Barron's right hand.