

Elstrup highlights Forest's weakness

90/91

Nottingham Forest.....2, Luton..... 2 **Roland Orton**

TWO brilliant goals by Danish international Lars Elstrup gave Luton a point they fully deserved and must set Brian Clough, Forest's manager, wondering whether he should spend the £1 million Spurs are asking for midfielder Vinny Samways, the England Under-21 international who earlier this week requested a transfer.

Spurs, who have a £12 million debt, may be tempted to accept an offer from Mr Clough who made inquiries about Samways earlier this season. Forest are certainly not short of money and on their show in this match obviously need a midfielder.

Elstrup's first goal in the 16th minute had the crowd gasping in astonishment, as, in a 30 yards plus race with Walker, recognised as one of the fastest defenders in Europe, he outpaced the Forest man, cleverly shielding the ball as he did so, and before Walker could make a tackle, the ball was in the net.

His second goal was probably the best seen at the City Ground this season. A cross by

Johnson was headed on by Black and the Dane controlled it before unleashing a high curling shot into the left hand corner of the net.

The goal put Luton 2-1 in front, Carr, who is on a weekly contract, having given Forest a sixth-minute lead from Parker's pass.

Forest's two defeats in eight days, both in local derbies, probably accounted for their tenseness in the first half. At times their defence was positively uneasy and Luton, who had conceded 18 goals in their seven away games, must have been surprised at their opponents' lack of power in attack.

Clough, who scored three goals in eight minutes against Coventry on Wednesday, made little impact until he snatched the equaliser 15 minutes from time. But Luton, to their credit, held out against Forest's desperate attempts to snatch the winner.

Nottingham Forest: Crossley, Laws, Pearce, Walker, Chettle, Keane, Carr, Parker, Clough, Jemson (Starbuck 37), Crosby.

Luton: Chamberlain, Johnson, Harvey, Williams, McDonough, Dreyer, Elstrup, Preece, Dowie, Hughes, Black.

Referee: R Dilkes (Lancashire).