Forrest ends the tedium for Town

by NEIL THOMAS

IT would be misleading to say that last night's Zenith Data Systems Cup match was settled with a penalty shootout.

Judging by the efficiency of the spot-kickers at Portman Road, this was a penalty miss-out.

Just three of the required ten penalties were successfully converted — and only one of the final eight attempts as each goalkeeper effected two saves and the woodwork was struck three times.

Steve Whitton and Romeo Zondervan scored the two penalties that took Ipswich through to round three, but Jason Dozzell and David

lpswich1 Luton1 Ipswich won 2-1 on penalties

Lowe had efforts saved while skipper David Linighan rattled a post from their final kick.

The Town hero, however, was keeper Craig Forrest who made a stunning save from Darren Salton from kick number three and then blocked youngster Jason Rees's effort to save the crowd from the further pleasures of a sudden-death shoot-out.

For that most fans should be grateful. The game had already progressed well beyond its sell-by date thanks to a sudden flurry of action in the last ten minutes of normal time.

Both sides had performed with much endeavour but no attainment until the arrival of Rees as a 78th minute substitute.

Within seconds he played a perfect pass to send Kurt Nogan clear and was then on hand to administer the chip from which Paul Telfer headed Luton in front.

Ipswich have a good record in this cup competition for First and Second Division clubs and responded with their best spell of the night.

However, only 40 seconds of injury time remained when a free-kick was flicked on into the Luton box to give Lowe a

simple chance to net from six yards.

That was the only occasion on which Town got the better of Luton keeper Alec Chamberlain, who started his career as a junior with Ipswich before serving Colchester United and Everton.

Chamberlain showed his worth with a succession of sound saves, highlighted by a diving 31st minute stop from a Dozzell header.

Ipswich: Forrest, Yallop (sub Edmonds 83), Thompson, Stockwell, Wark (sub Palmer 90), Linighan, Lowe, Zondervan, Whitton, Dozzell, Milton.

Luton: Chamberlain, Telfer, Allpress, Hughes, Salton, Rodger, Williams (sub Rees 78), James, Harford (sub Campbell 83), Nogan, Pembridge.

Referee: Brian Hill (Kettering).
Booking: Salton (foul).
Attendance: 5,750.