

ROCHDALE.....0

LUTON TOWN.....2

Robinson (20, pen), Mansell (77)

BY COLIN WESTERN

A STEVE Robinson penalty and a Lee Mansell strike sent Luton into the third round of the FA Cup at the expense of lowly Rochdale.

Robinson, who opened the scoring after 20 minutes, missed a second spot kick but Mansell's effort 13 minutes from time killed off a brief fightback from the home side.

Adrian Forbes won the first penalty when he got to the ball a split second before being caught by defender Simon Grand.

Robinson comfortably side-footed home.

Dale fought back with Patrick McCourt weaving his way into the Luton area before man of the match Emmerson

Boyce made a superb sliding tackle.

Gary Jones tried his luck from 30 yards as the hosts started

to find a foothold in the contest.

All the good work looked to have been undone when Forbes raced down the inside right channel and was felled by Jones. Robinson picked the same spot but Rochdale keeper Neil Edwards guessed right and palmed the ball around the post.

Rochdale's leading scorer, Kevin Townson, came on at

Duo make Dale pay the penalty

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half-time and gave Luton more to think about. The striker headed straight at keeper Marlon Beresford from McCourt's cross and then centred for Paul Connor to do the same.

The response from Luton was clinical. Robinson found space down the left and when his

cross was parried by Edwards, Mansell tucked away the loose ball.

"I was happy with the way we went about it in the first half," said Luton boss Mike Newell. "But we gave the ball away too easily in the second and for 20 minutes it was a bit worrying."

Dale boss Alan Buckley was clearly frustrated after another home defeat. "There was nothing in it but after 20 minutes, we found ourselves having to work very hard to come back into it," he said.

"If you hang your foot out in the box you pay the price and I'm just wondering who's going to make the mistake next week."

ROCHDALE		LUTON
45	Possession %	55
2	Corners	3
3	Offsides	9
19	Fouls	19
2	Yellows	2
0	Reds	0
7	Shots On	6
3	Shots Off	7
0	Hit Woodwork	0

ROCHDALE: Edwards 7, Evans 6, Burgess 6, Grand 6, Simpkins 6, McCourt 6, Beech 5 (Patterson 80), Jones 6, Doughty 5, Bishop 5 (Townson 45), Connor 6 (McEvilly 67).

LUTON: Beresford 7, Hillier 6, Boyce 8, Coyne 7, Davis 7, Mansell 6, Brkovic 6, Robinson 7, Holmes 6, Forbes 7, Howard 6.