

PENALTY ENABLES COLCHESTER TO KILL GIANTS AGAIN

By ROBERT OXBY

71/72 (WC)

Colchester United ... 1, Luton ... 0

COLCHESTER produced another of their traditional giant-killing acts to overcome Luton, a Second Division club of some quality, at their charming Layer Road ground. They now meet Carlisle in the Watney Cup semi-final on Wednesday.

In Colchester, as apparently elsewhere, the off-side experiment did not have the pronounced effect everyone expected. Both managers strenuously denied that their players went easy on the experiment because it could sow the seeds of bad habit in the League.

Luton, who so narrowly missed promotion to the First Division last season, were a disappointment.

Don Givens, wearing the number nine shirt following the departure of Macdonald for a huge fee to Newcastle, was quickly put out of the game by a bruising tackle after seven minutes. He gamely struggled on for 30 minutes before Wainwright replaced him.

Doughty warrior

Hoy, that doughty midfield warrior, qualified for an FA disciplinary commission with his third caution in 12 months. His offence, which he must regret today, involves kicking the ball away at a free kick so that he could tie his bootlace. Court was also booked for an awkward tackle on Mahon.

Luton began as if ready to paralyse the Fourth Division side but the bravery of Smith and the steadiness of Gilchrist and Cram drove them to the edge of frustration.

Lewis, a former Luton player, took a penalty when in a normally offside position, he was brought down by Goodeve, Luton's substitute defender. Lewis sent Read the wrong way, and that was that.

Colchester.—Smith; Cram, Garvey, Burgess, Gilchrist, Owen, (sub. Jones 72 mins.), Lewis, Gibbs, Mahon, Crawford, Simmons (sub. Leslie 72).

Luton.—Read; Ryan, Nicholl, Slough, Moore, Court (sub. Goodeve 72) Hoy, Keen, Anderson, Givens (sub. Wainwright 50), Busby.