

Kingsley sparks a Luton hat-trick

Luton.....2

Swindon.....1

AET: 1-1 at 90 mins

By **BRIAN SCOVELL**

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LUTON can thank the fresh young legs of Kingsley Black for clinching their third trip to Wembley this season.

This Simod Cup semi-final, was an epic decided in extra time by the 19-year-old left-winger who has only broken into the first team regularly this season.

Black came on in the 106th minute for the fading Rob Johnson and twice made killing runs to the by-line. From the second, following a quickly-taken free kick, Bobby Barnes failed to pick him up and his cross was headed back by Mick Harford for little Mark Stein to head in from close range.

Hardest

That was in the 109th minute and it was enough to take Luton into the March 27 final against another Second Division club, Reading. Having not been to Wembley since 1959, Luton are now in this final, the Littlewood's Cup final and have qualified for the Centenary Festival. Their next match is on the fourth route in the FA Cup quarter-finals against Portsmouth on Saturday.

'I feel sorry for our players because they won't get such a golden opportunity again,' said Swindon manager Lou Macari. 'Everything went wrong at the end. The luck didn't go with us.' Luton manager Ray Harford agreed with him. 'Tonight's was the hardest game we have had for a long time,' he said. 'In the first half we played as well as we have played for weeks but they came storming back at us.'

Luton's superior passing put them well on top in the first half, and they led when Brian Stein headed Tim Breacker's cross past a gallant Fraser Digby in the 28th minute, and if anyone deserves a Wembley medal it is this exemplary professional.

Penalty

Swindon then forsook their usual long ball game, and could have had three quick goals.

Jimmy Quinn had a 30 yard shot beaten away by Sealey. Darron McDonough robbed Keiran O'Regan when he was through and Mal Donaghy cleared off the line.

Sealey failed to hold Quinn's free kick in the 67th minute and O'Regan rammed in the rebound. Luton were awarded a penalty in the 76th minute when Barnes tripped Ian Allinson but Digby made a magnificent save, punching Harford's spot kick clear.

Swindon substitute Steve Foley volleyed against a post in the 104th minute and Dave Bamber hit the rebound against Sealey's body. Then, little Stein had the last word.