

BRING ON THE KIDS

LUTON 4 PORTSMOUTH 1
By MICHAEL WEINSTEIN

Safety first — then babes take over

Harford will probably resist the temptation of altering the team before the FA Cup semi-final against Wimbledon on April 9.

He said; "I want to give them at least half-a-dozen games — it's better than giving them just one or two.

"With the points safe there will be less pressure on them. They don't really learn from the first one or two games because they are so keyed up and nervous."

Hatters will have to contain the cheeky genius of Newcastle's Paul Gascoigne and Mirandinha if they are to get the vital three points on Saturday.

But 'flu victim Mick Harford should return after missing Tuesday's win.

Hatters struggled to find first-half form on

Tuesday night — even after Danny Wilson's stunning ninth minute goal.

But they put the Wembley debacle firmly behind them after the break, recapturing the form that has now seen them win their last 12 home games.

Wilson's free-kick came after Billy Gilbert's second appalling foul in the opening minutes.

The Pompey centre-back had been booked as early as the second minute for a brutal challenge on Ian Allinson before his two footed assault on Mark Stein gave Hatters a free-kick 25 yards out.

And Wilson made Portsmouth pay as the defence waited for Ashley Grimes to try his luck.

Kevin Dillon levelled the score eight minutes into the second period,



● Airborne but helpless . . . Pompey 'keeper Alan Knight watches Danny Wilson's free-kick hit the net.

Hatters on film

A BBC crew were at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday night to capture Luton's away fans ban on film.

They were investigating how successful football has been in solving hooliganism for a Brass Tacks programme to be screened on May 3.

but before Portsmouth knew where they were, Mark Stein restored Hatters' lead from a corner.

The unfortunate Paul Mariner headed high into his own net to make it 3-1.

And after Dillon had missed a penalty, Brian Stein ended the goal spree when he collected a loose ball and rounded Alan Knight.