

Dixon tunes up for Wembley

THERE WAS a time when Chelsea fans would have welcomed the prospect of Kerry Dixon running into form in time for an FA Cup semi-final, the only problem was they never reached one during his long stay at the club.

Now they have finally got there, Dixon is with their opponents, and yesterday he eased Luton's lingering relegation concerns, and his own worries, with his first goals since mid-January to defeat a spirited, but limited, Peterborough side.

They took Luton nine

Luton 2, Peterborough 0 **Glenn Moore**

points clear of the relegation zone, with games in hand, and having also avoided addition to their injury list, completed an ideal day for the First Division side.

No-one was happier than Dixon, who was due to be rested after a leg injury, but played after teenager Tony Thorpe reported injured yesterday morning.

His first goal, culminating half-an-hour of fluent Luton pressure, was just a tap-in,

but it restored his confidence enough for him to take his second, which ended a Peterborough revival, in stunning style.

Scott Oakes, who spent most of the game in midfield, injuries forcing a reshaping of Luton's side, found Paul Telfer on the right with an intelligently delayed pass. He crossed for an unmarked Dixon to hit a spectacular volley past the excellent Fred Barber.

Barber had earlier made a string of saves, including an inspired double stop from Alan Harper and John Hartson, before being beaten when Hartson's header rebounded off the post to Dixon.

Even if he were not scoring, Dixon plays a key role in a classic David Pleat side. Trevor Peake, Harper, David Preece and Dixon form their spine, flanked by the youthful pace and flair of Telfer, Oakes and Julian James. They may be overwhelmed by Wembley, but they should not be underrated.