

# BETRAYED KIELY IS GLAD AS A HATTER

Southampton 2 Luton 1

06/07 By **JAMES NURSEY**

DEAN KIELY has vowed to help Luton turn their season around after admitting he felt betrayed by Portsmouth boss Harry Redknapp.

The keeper played a crucial role in helping Pompey survive in the Premiership against the odds last season after joining on a free from Charlton in January.

But Kiely has made just one Carling Cup appearance for Redknapp's side this season following the arrival of David James.

And Kiely hopes to repay Hatters for rescuing him from the reserves at Fratton Park by halting their freefall down the Championship during his one-month loan spell.

The 36-year-old said: "I contributed last season to making sure Portsmouth did not get relegated but now it seems I have just been dumped.

"I have been sitting on the bench virtually all season at Portsmouth and it is a relief to get out and play.

"Some footballers are happy to do as little as possible but I will work my socks off for a month for Mike Newell and the lads."

## Screw

Despite an impressive debut from Kiely, Luton slumped to their seventh consecutive defeat after trailing at half-time to Chris Baird's header and Grzegorz Rasiak's 11th goal of the season from a disputed penalty.

The Hatters responded after the break when Russell Perrett headed in and Kiely was impressed with the side's fightback which almost yielded a point. "From what I have seen Luton are only half a turn of the screw away from climbing the table," he said.

Baird's goal was his first for Saints in 50 appearances and the defender reckons it will have netted his relatives some money. He said: "My wife Sarah's step-dad Graham Saunders backs me every week for the first goal and he has lost a few quid. But I was 40-1 today."

Baird reckons Saints could be celebrating at the end of the season too.

"It has taken us a while to gel but we are playing really well and are on a good run," he said.