Bring on the big boys!

U's hoping to draw a Premier League side in FA Cup after victory over Luton

RICHARD Money is keeping his fingers crossed for a big-money tie in the fourth round of the FA Cup following Cambridge United's 2-1 success at home to Luton on Saturday.

United await tonight's draw knowing there is an increasing likelihood of pulling a big name out of the hat.

Money believes it would be no more than the club deserves after reaching this stage for the first time since 2000.

He said: "No pun intended, but now we need the money tie. I think any of the big boys away from home.

"It's now reached the stage where if we can get the important cup tie, financially it would put this club in an incredibly good position.

"We've worked really hard over the last 18 months to get it back stable and with more than 7,000 again on Saturday, and I guess our average is pushing 5,000 when we've budgeted for a lot less, all that means is we can grow off the pitch as well as on the pitch.

"If we can get the £500,000 tie now it would be absolutely fantastic and just reward for everybody for the amount of work we've done in the last 18 months."

Money was delighted with the way United bounced back from two successive defeats and held off the threat posed by his former club.

He said: "It's probably gone like a lot of the games between us in that the team that's pushed and forced the game has ended up on the losing side.

"But we probably think we were owed that because there have been a number of

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occasions when we've been the better team and not got the result, so it's a bit of a reward for all that work we've put in in the past.

"It's an absolutely massive result for the club, the players, the supporters and the board, and I think you could see what the game meant to both clubs."

United were also boosted by the return of Ryan Donaldson and Tom Elliott to the starting line-up, while Harrison Dunk replaced the former having also returned from injury.

Money was glad to see the trio back in action and felt the display showed how important they were to the cause.

He said: "We tried to keep it as quiet as we could and they haven't done much training, I can assure you of that, but I just can't say how much value they bring to the team.

"The reality is both Ryan and Tommy were always going to come off, but it's how long can you leave them because they're so important to us.

"Just before Ryan came off, he has gone off on another run where you think he can make it three and Tommy is still marauding.

"Eventually, they have to give way because the day, the pitch and the weather meant they had very tired legs between them, and then Harrison has come on and got 20 minutes.

"That's a bonus for us going forward because it will make us look a totally different team."

■ Match report – Sport on Monday. Fans enjoy Cup clash – page 4



Picture: Keith Heppell

CUP JOY: Ryan Donaldson celebrates scoring Cambridge United's second goal in the 2-1

win over Luton in the FA Cup, third round

