

O'Rourke hero in Cup cruncher

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(CAC)

By HARRY MILLER

Luton 1, Romford 0

WITH one cool, clever flick of his dark head, John O'Rourke put Luton through to a second-round F A Cup tie at Corby — on a night of crunching football.

This raw and rugged replay ended with players still pushing and jostling each other as they went towards the tunnel.

Most of the tackling was uncompromising. Much of it was crude.

Romford centre forward Brian Kelly was twice spoken to by referee Reg Payne — after brushes with Matt Woods and Colin

Tinsley — and then was booked.

Southern Leaguers Romford fashioned enough chances to have fought their way to a place among the giant-killers well before half-time.

Luton, after a tongue-lashing from manager George Martin, pulled themselves together in the second half.

O'Rourke had a shot turned on to the crossbar by goalkeeper Stan Earle before he strode in to score the winner in the sixty-sixth minute.