

WE WERE BAD—^{72/73 (FAC)}

LUTON boss Harry Haslam, speaking with difficulty through his stiff upper lip, said candidly: "I've no time for bad losers. So I'm going to say that nobody can possibly quarrel with this result."

"We played badly, and we deserved to lose. Sunderland are through, as they proved they should be. We simply had no spark today."

On the other hand, Bob Stokoe, who has taken once-great Sunderland to within 90 minutes of Wembley for the first time since 1956, was understandably delighted.

"I'm proud of the lads," he said. "It's the greatest day of my life."

"My boys are in the draw with the big fellows on Monday, and thoroughly deserve to be."

And, I can report, it's the "big fellows" who will be scared stiff if they're

paired with Sunderland—especially at Roker Park.

If they fail short on class, they'll certainly lack nous in fighting spirit.

Even if they get no further—and this is the first time in 17 years they have

HASLAM

Sunderland 2, Luton 0

By MAURICE SMITH

reached the semi-final—they have this consolation.

Every manjack of them, especially Stokoe, have done wonders already.

Dave Watson, the centre-back Spurs boss Bill Nicholson came to see, said it all when he claimed they were frightened of nobody—"but if I could pick, it would be Wolves."

SHIVERS

And that will send shivers down the spines of Dougan & Co. . . .

Watson's goal—a flying header to connect with a corner after a 10-yard run—was the turning point after almost an hour of Sunderland frustration.

They had dominated mid-field. But they just couldn't get the final touch.

Luton, with stalwart Slough still unfit, had

rearranged their back four, and the side seemed to suffer. Moore was the anchor man, but the mid-field workers never quite found Sunderland's touch.

And up front Luton were desperate also—rans.

Once Sunderland had taken the lead, victory seemed inevitable. And Guthrie's goal settled it.

"When Pitt headed that ball back to me from a corner, I said 'Boy, this is going to be the killer,'" Guthrie recalled. And so his volley was.

The last word, like the first, belongs to Haslam.

"It was just a pity," he summed up, "that we should have to save our worst display of the season for what should have been our greatest day."

SUNDERLAND: Montgomery 7—Malone 8, Watson 7, *PITT 9, Guthrie 7 — Kerr 6, Horswill 6, Porterfield 7 — Hughes 6, Halom 6, Tueart 7.

LUTON: Barber 7—Ryan (John) 7, Garner 7, *MOORE 8, Thomson 7 — Shanks 7, Anderson 6, Hindson 6 — Ryan (Jim) 6, Busby 5, Aston (withdrawn) 5. Sub.: Hales 5.

Ref.: J. Taylor (Wolverhampton) 9.