

HARRY'S SO WILD



Adrian Alston mobbed after snapping Luton's second goal.

HARRY HASLAM'S delight at his team's superb victory was somewhat spoiled by the late incident in which Jimmy Ryan was sent off after a skirmish with Burns.

The Luton manager snapped: "It was diabolical. Burns thumped Jimmy, and my lad has a thick ear to prove it.

"Then Burns writhed around as though he had broken a leg when he had hardly been touched. It was a disgrace."

Luton already have decided to appeal against Ryan's dismissal.

Coach Roy McCrohan was just as angry as Haslam. He jumped out of the dugout on the final whistle and made straight for Burns. There was a brief scuffle before they were pulled apart.

UPSET

McCrohan said: "What really upset me about the Jimmy Ryan incident was that it knocked some of the gilt off a magnificent performance."

Luton's recipe for pro-

longing their First Division lives was simple.

Haslam said: "Plenty of aggression, plenty of work on the wings and plenty of running at Birmingham — that's what I asked for and that's what I got."

Rewards flowed as John Ryan hammered in a 30-yard free-kick, Alston scored two beauties, and Husband rounded it off after a shocking blunder by Page.

There should have been even more Luton goals.

Francis scored one of his solo specials for Birmingham but all he got was a pat on the head from skipper Kendall. Nobody else looked bothered.

RESIGNED

Goodwin — Birmingham fans called for his resignation after the match — said: "I am very disappointed at our display but we are professionals and must put this result behind us. We still need one more point to be sure of avoiding relegation."

Haslam said: "We play Manchester City at home next week and I am absolutely positive we shall beat them. Chelsea and Tottenham will have to do just as much worrying as us."

BIRMINGHAM CITY: Latchford 6—Page 5, Gallagher 5, Pendrey 6, Bryant 6—Calderwood (w'drawn) 6, Kendall 6, Taylor 5—*FRANCIS 7, Burns 5, Hatton 5. Sub.: Smith 6.

LUTON TOWN: Barber 5—John Ryan 8, Faulkner 7, Litt 7, Buckley 6—*JIMMY RYAN 9, Anderson 8, West 6—Husband 6, Alston 8, Aston 7.

Ref.: D. Richardson (Blackburn) 6.

By **KARL KERSHAW** Birmingham 1 Luton 4