

Scuffle after Luton debacle

By **JOHN RICHARDSON**

DAVID MILLS and Luton's Northern Ireland international **Mal Donaghy** clashed angrily in a behind-the-scenes flare-up after Saturday's explosive match at Kenilworth Road.

The normally placid Mills and defender Donaghy had to be separated after blows were struck in the tunnel and down a corridor in a running fight.

The Newcastle player had to receive treatment for a facial cut in an amazing

sequel to a stormy game.

It was a match which saw United's two-goal lead evaporate when Birmingham referee Alan Seville awarded two penalties in the dying minutes of a controversial encounter.

United had already lost David Barton — victim of the Luton injury curse — and the return to the dressing room proved expensive after personal belongings were found to have been stolen.

Mills and Newcastle United will be hoping that there will be no repercussions over the incident with Donaghy.

I believe that Mills had been baited

during the game and the flashpoint came after the final whistle with Newcastle, generally, seething over the double penalty climax.

In the end, Mills and Donaghy had to be separated in a corridor.

Luton Town are expected to try and reimburse United after their dressing room was raided. Only three players were unaffected by the theft which included cash, watches and personal documents.

It appears that the locked changing room was entered in the first few minutes after the kick-off — just before the injured Barton returned to the dressing room.

Said Scottish international John Brownlie: "It was a terrible feeling and it just about summed up the whole afternoon.

"I don't think any of us have had a day quite like it. Some players, like Mick Martin and Imre Varadi had expensive gold watches stolen."

Luton chief executive John Smith said: "Luton will replace, either through insurance or through ourselves, the total value which went missing from the Newcastle changing room.

"As a club we are embarrassed and will do everything in our power to find the culprit."