

HATTERS FANS DANCE ON THE TERRACES AS LUTON STAYS UP

THE GLORY BOYS

82/83



Ugly scenes as Manchester City fans invade the pitch and confront Luton players

LUTON Town's fanatical supporters danced on the terraces and in a string of motorway cafes on their triumphant journey home from Manchester.

Hundreds of cars and a fleet of 22 coaches carried more than 5,000 Luton fans up the M1 to see their Glory Boys hang on to a precious place in the First Division with a 1-0 victory over Manchester City.

As the team coach left Manchester the ecstatic players waved and applauded the fans who had

followed them to the last kick of the season.

Back in Luton the celebrations continued into the night in pubs and clubs all over the town — putting to shame even the wild promotion celebrations of a year ago.

Luton fans sang and danced on the terraces for 40 minutes after the final whistle at Maine Road.

Veteran supporter Doug Frost from Chesham was overcome with emotion.

He said: "I've been supporting this club through thick and thin for 50 years. I thought we'd manage to get a draw today but to win is fantastic."

Christopher O'Gorman, of the Mile House estate in St Albans, was prepared to support the team in the Second Division.

He said: "I have supported them in the Fourth Division so I wouldn't have deserted them if they had gone down but we deserved to win today. It

turn to page 12

**Victory,
then
players
and fans
face fury
of City
wild men**

— Page 12

Club is 'not moving out ... yet'

By ERIC HARRIS

LUTON Town FC today officially announced they have NO imminent plans to move to a new multi-million pound stadium in Milton Keynes.

The club admitted it had been negotiating with the Milton Keynes Development Corporation for at least three and a half years, since Bedfordshire County Council signalled its intention to take a large slice of the Kenil-

worth Road stadium for a relief road system.

But executive director John Smith stressed there is still many discussions to take place.

He said Luton Council's refusal to allow the club to build a stadium at Lewsey Park and the Brache estate had given the development corporation "fresh impetus" to accommodate the club there.

"It is no fault of ours that land vital to our

future is being compulsorily purchased by the county council.

"It is not our fault that our ambition to relocate in Luton's immediate catchment area has been rejected by the borough council after they gave us initial encouragement.

Decline

"We have looked at 14 sites in the area and have received a letter from South Bedfordshire Coun-

cil which, in effect, said they didn't want us there.

"The club is currently losing money and cannot sustain First Division status at Kenilworth Road. We have to rely on directors' subsidies to maintain ourselves.

"The loss of vital land will add to those losses and it will require much greater subsidies to maintain our status. Otherwise the club will quickly decline.



"But I must stress that no irrevocable decision on our future has yet been taken."

Mr Smith said that Hatters would not be in a position to issue a definite statement on their future until just before the start of next season.