FA CUP SPECIAL

THEY'RE IN THE



the season, with an angled drive which went in off up to the 31st minute strike. He lost control to the far post. Anton Otulakowski is the Millwall man give Meka Nwajiobi the chance to set Stein free.

DECIDER: Brian Stein lashes in his 12th goal of desperately trying to cover. His mistake had led

"It was a very good goal, even if it did come from a mistake," admitted Millwall boss George Graham, who left Kenilworth Road wishing Luton Town good luck for the semi-final at Villa Park next

But victory turns sour as yobs go on the rampage

THE WORST violence any mob has inflicted upon Kenilworth Road in my lifetime took the shine off Luton Town's celebrations last night,

Their first FA Cup semi-final ticket in 26 years turned into bitter despair as hooligans from Millwall came to Luton determined to wreck the town, the stadium and the very game that gave them the excuse to gather.

But the achievement by a Town team fighting for First Division survival deserves better than to be buried under the memories of mayhem and madness.

No-one could find answers to the frightening scenes which may have set back Luton Town's hopes of becoming a family club for a very long time.

But so far as the soccer action was concerned, for all the unreal atmosphere sur-rounding the game, Millwall boss George Graham had no doubts.

"We lost because Diton had the extra class and quality of First Division style," he said,

The Third Division promotion-chasers, who came to Luton with ten consecutive wins behind them, expended plenty of energy and willing determination, and were beaten by a team that put its movements together with much more accuracy.

The decisive goal, brilliantly put away by Brian Stein in the 31st minute, was the perfect illustration of the extra talent the Town dis-

They should have won

more handsomely. Ricky Hill, working to make skill overcome physical opposition from Les Briley, had a header cleared off the line just before the goal, and Garry Parker sent in two drives which screamed past the woodwork with the goal-keeper hopelessly beaten.

Meles Newsitohi also flashed

BRIAN SWAIN

reports on last

night's big FA

Cup quarter-final

match with

Millwall at

Kenilworth Road.

Pictures by

MARK RICHARDS

Meka Nwajiobi also flashed a half-volley over the bar, while at the other end Les Sealey hardly had a serious save to make all night.

Once again Steve Foster and Mal Donaghy were that Millwall could not hope

Both teams deserve credi



THAT'S HANDY: Mick Harford tries to pinch a second-half goal. Brian Stein did the early work, with a brilliant right wing run past two men but Harford couldn't quite get his head to the cross. The ref spotted the handball.

SEMI-FINALS!



for getting through the game with an atmosphere of brooding violence hanging like a cloud over everything. The visitors' following simply stormed the gates at the Kenilworth Road end, overflowed on to the pitch, and made play impossible after barely 15 minutes.

At that stage it looked

At that stage it looked fairly non-violent, and after

fairly non-violent, and after 25 minutes the players returned from the dressing room to resume the game. Millwall produced a couple of long drives from defenders, and took a gamble for the last quarter of an hour by taking a man out of defence and sending on sub Kevin Bremner as an extra Kevin Bremner as an extra

attacker.

It made no difference to the general pattern of the play, with Third Division hustle and bustle foundering on a rock-solid team unit. Tim Breacker and Mitchell Thomas gave the Town extra width and options by backwith and options by backing attacks, Wayne Turner
tackled and ran—and got
into the box a few times to
look for his second goal of
the season—and Nwajiobi,
Stein and Mick Harford
always had the Millwall defence on edge

fence on edge.

Stein's goal was a beauty, his 13th of the season, and well worth the honour it

brings to his club. They will meet league leaders Everton at Villa Park, Birmingham, on April 13.

The odds may well be against the Town reaching Wembley for the first time since 1959, but the spirit and football enjoyment this rebuilt team shows could pose problems for the Merseysiders.

The great tragedy for Luton Town is that they will rarely be allowed to remember last night with the pride the result deserved.

The aftermath of a night of shame for London—but not for Luton, whose fans waited patiently behind their barriers during the trouble—will be the thing most remembered about this cup quarter-final.

"I'm just flattened . . I don't know what to say," said Town boss David Pleat.

Like all of us who support the Hatters he was weeping

said Town boss David Fleat.
Like all of us who support
the Hatters he was weeping
inwardly on a night when
we should all have been able
to enjoy life and a little glow
of success that the players
earned.
The eripsinals from London

The criminals from London who invaded Luton and turned the pitch into a battleground that looked like the worst of the pit strike wislenge have a lot to answer. violence have a lot to answer

Match Details

His attacking runs caused major problems for the visitors, and this was a second-half drive from

LUTON TOWN 1 MILLWALL 0 HALF-TIME 1-0

TOWN: Scaley; Breacker, Foster, Donaghy, Thomas; Hill, a second-nail drive from a near lay-back by Brian Turner, Parker; Nwajiobi, Stein, Harford. Sub: Moss, not Stein which flew narrowly needed.

MILLWALL: Sansome; Stevens (Bremner, 75 mins), Smith, Cusack, Hinshelwood; Lowndes, Briley, Chatterton; Lovell, Fashanu, Otulakowski.

THE GOAL: Brian Stein, 31 minutes, quicksilver turn and shot from Mek Nwajiobi's short pass after Otulakowski lost control of the ball just outside his own penalty area. OTHER STRIKES: Town nine saved, six wide and one dis-allowed because Mick Harford used a crafty hand instead of his head; Millwall six saved and four wide. Corners: 6-5 to Millwall.

SOCCER TRAGEDY: Millwall's fans overshadowed almost everything by seeking violence, mainly with the Police, and causing a 25-minute stoppage.

REFEREE: David Hutchinson, Handled everything superbly.

A police inspector from Yorkshire, he might have thought he was back on the pit picket battlefield at one stage as

ATTENDANCE: 17,470 was the official figure, but at least 2,000 villains from South London smashed their way into the ground.

the ground.

ENTERTAINMENT: Stark fear took all the shine off what should have been a lovely night for Luton Town, with their first semi-final appearance in 26 years lined up.

THE BRIGHT SPOT: Luton fans, in the main, stayed on their side of the fences and did not get involved. Then Millwall animals were intent on picking fights with the



● ELUSIVE: Two defenders try to stop Brian Stein working his magic.