

Cool Stein wins it

BRIAN STEIN, the former England striker, kept his head while thousands about him were losing theirs to shoot Luton into their first FA Cup semi-final for 26 years.

The 33rd-minute goal which ended Millwall's bid to become the first Third Division club to reach two semi-finals in its history, suggested that the crowd upheaval had a fatal effect on the visitors' concentration.

The irony of the havoc wrought by Millwall's hooligans was that Anton Otulakowski, one of their own favourites, was sufficiently distracted to misdirect a back pass into the path of Stein.

Quality

He duly turned the ball in off a post and there was never much doubt from then on that Millwall's tremendous Cup and League run of ten straight wins was going to an end.

Millwall's organisation and commitment kept them in the game, but Luton's First Division quality was all that really threatened further goals.

Mick Harford had two efforts disallowed—one when blatantly offside, the other when almost deceiving the eye in the act of

Luton.....1 Millwall.....0: By JEFF POWELL

flicking in Stein's cross with his arm.

Referee David Hutchinson, as vigilant on the pitch as he was quite heroic in refusing to give way to the hooligan attempts to force the abandonment of the match, cautioned Lindsay Smith and Keith Stevens of Millwall and Tim Breacker of Luton.

The aggression on the pitch, however, was nothing compared with the outrages in the crowd.

Luton's concentration held the better on a match fragmented by a 25-minute interruption and the constant threat

of further crowd disruption.

They needed to maintain something approaching their best form to overcome the Millwall team which had knocked out Chelsea and Leicester.

Luton will provide worthy opposition for Cup-holders Everton in the semi-final and cannot be discounted from making only the second Wembley appearance.

Match-winner Stein said: 'We should be on a high, but the gloss has been taken off it.'

'I've never played in a match like it. It was unreal.'