



**HARFORD:** Accused of attack.

# A HOTHEAD

## Bosses clash over

By **TERRY SMITH**  
Ipswich 1, Luton 1

**MICK HARFORD**, England's World Cup hopeful striker, last night stood accused of "smacking Alan Sunderland on the jaw."

In a verbal battle that followed the match, Luton manager David Pleat countered by calling Ipswich striker Sunderland "a nutcase."

The incident happened in the 78th minute with Ipswich leading 1-0 when Sunderland slumped to the ground as he waited for a corner.

Seconds later, Sunderland

sprinted half the length of the pitch to hack Harford to the ground and collect a booking.

Ipswich manager Bobby Ferguson said: "Alan got a smack on the jaw. It was Harford."

"You say 'don't retaliate',

but when someone does that and the ball is miles away it's not easy.

"We know Harford is like that. He's an ill-tempered player."

Harford, currently the best No. 9 in the country, refused to comment, leaving the talking to his manager.

And Pleat said: "Harford is as fair a player as you'll find

# AND A NUTCASE

## the Harford and Sunderland bust-up

in the First Division. He's not in any way nasty.

"There was only one nasty player on the field and you saw him. He's a nutcase."

Harford was also involved in a 42nd-minute clash that left Ipswich defender Ian Cranson suffering from double vision.

But Ipswich skipper Terry Butcher said: "The two

players just clashed heads. Harford wasn't to blame—it was just one of those things.

"I didn't see the other incident. All I saw was Sunderland poleaxed on the floor.

"I enjoy playing against Harford. He's a hard player, but I've had no problems with him."

Cranson had been ready to come out for the second half

after treatment but Butcher said: "Ian suddenly looked spaced out—he was in no state to play. It looked serious."

### Penalty

Ipswich had taken the lead through Nigel Gleghorn in the 10th minute.

And Gleghorn certainly

seemed to have earned a penalty minutes later when he was pulled back by Tim Breacker.

But there was no denying that Luton, who missed chances galore, deserved at least a point.

They got it in the 82nd minute when Mark North, a one-time goalkeeper at Luton, slid in the equaliser.



**SUNDERLAND:** Raced to retaliate.