

MAT FINISH!

Brush-off for Kenny

By GRAHAM NICKLESS
Luton 3, Liverpool 0

KENNY DALGLISH saw red once more last night as holders Liverpool crashed out of the FA Cup.

Dalglish's public condemnation of Luton's plastic pitch backfired on the Anfield boss as their goal-hungry strikers made him pay for his outbursts.

Dalglish had slammed after the first game: "This pitch should be ripped up and thrown away."

But last night it was his own defence which was torn to pieces as Luton booked their rightful place in the fourth round — and a home meeting with QPR on Saturday.

Despairing

After being held in Monday's first replay, Liverpool never fancied the return to Kenilworth Road. That fact was amply summed up when coach Ronnie Moran walked onto the plastic at half-time and mockingly stamped his foot on the ground as if to flatten an imaginary divot.

Said Dalglish: "Under the circumstances I feel that this third meeting should have been played on a neutral ground."

"We came here for the first game but Luton didn't turn up at our place when they should have."

"Under amateur rules any team failing to turn up would be instantly kicked out of the competition."

England star Brian Stein drew first blood after 34 minutes, curling a shot around the Liverpool wall into the top left-hand corner to beat Bruce Grobbelaar's despairing dive.

Cheers

Grobbelaar came to the rescue when he denied Liverpool-born Mike Newell a second goal with a spectacular save.

Mick Harford hit his first goal of the season from a 79th-minute penalty after Jan Molby had toppled the ever-dangerous Stein.

Then Newell brought rapturous cheers from Luton's biggest crowd of the season — 14,687 — when he drove home Harford's pass.



STEIN ROLLER... Foster and Newell congratulate Brian Stein after the first goal