

# LIVERPOOL.. 3

GOAL...1



1 MIN

GOAL...2



39 MIN

GOAL...3



44 MIN

GOAL...4



54 MIN

GOAL...5



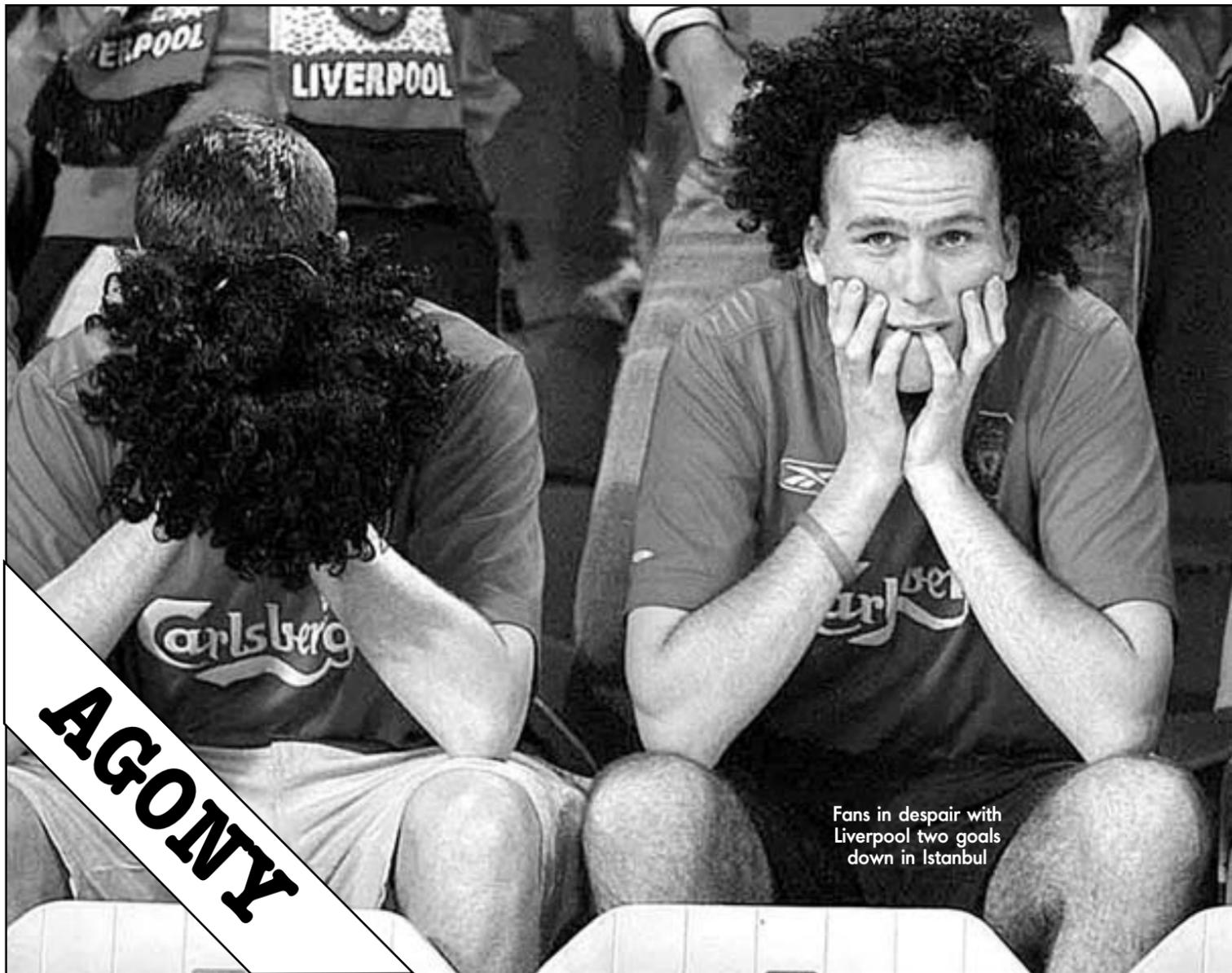
56 MIN

GOAL...6



59 MIN

# TO HELL



Fans in despair with Liverpool two goals down in Istanbul



From **ANDY LINES**, News Sport Correspondent, in Istanbul

**TEARS** of joy flowed in the Ataturk stadium last night as Liverpool were crowned European champions with an incredible fightback against AC Milan.

The Reds won a penalty shoot-out after coming back from 3-0 down to draw with three goals in a blistering six minute period that left the Italian giants shell-shocked.

The Anfield faithful went wild with delight when Milan's Andriy Shevchenko fluffed his spot kick to hand the Merseyside club the trophy for the fifth time - meaning they can now keep it.

Yet at half-time, Liverpool looked dead and buried as Milan tore them apart after taking the lead in the first minute.

But a header from Steven Gerrard started the fightback. Moments later Vladimir Smicer fired in the second and Spaniard Xabi Alonso equalised from the penalty spot.

Fans cheered, wept and sang their hearts out

## Heroes snatch glory

as proud skipper Gerrard held the cup aloft after the dramatic shoot-out.

Liverpool legends last night paid tribute to the team who had been written off time and again as they marched across Europe.

Mirror columnist and BBC TV pundit Mark Lawrenson said: "This is an incredible achievement for the club.

"No one gave them a chance at the start of the tournament, but they have gone on to clinch the trophy for a remarkable fifth time."

Former goalkeeper Ray Clemence added: "It's a magnificent achievement, especially as it's more than 20 years since we last won it. We had everything to gain and nothing to lose."

And Kop hero Alan Kennedy said: "The players have done themselves proud and the manager deserves a lot of praise for getting them this far."

Istanbul had earlier been turned into a sea of red as Liverpool fans flocked to the city to

cheer on their team. But traffic hold-ups to the Ataturk stadium, which is 20 miles away, meant many found their route to the ground blocked.

Angry, they abandoned their cars, coaches, and taxis to trek across open fields towards the turnstiles as the kick off neared.

Fan Alan Blair, 43, said: "In all my years of following Liverpool this has got to be the worst stadium. We had a great day in Istanbul and left plenty of time to get to the ground."

"But after sitting in a traffic jam for two hours we got off the coach and started walking. Thousands of fans were doing exactly the same, with people panicking they were about to miss the match."

"There were cars and taxis just abandoned by the roadside. It was appalling and Uefa should be asked hard questions about why this venue was chosen. It is literally in the middle of nowhere and impossible to get to." Inside

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# AC MILAN.. 3

LIVERPOOL WIN 3-2 ON PENALTIES

# & BACK



Fans in Liverpool cheer the team's third stunning goal

## from brink of defeat

the 70,000 stadium, 35,000 Reds fans outnumbered Milan supporters by two to one.

Some had managed to get media tickets, and the neutral section reserved for 7,500 Turks was packed with Anfield faithful.

Many bought the tickets on the black market paying up to £600 a time. Amid the hundreds of banners and flags was a tribute to Liverpool fanatic and Gulf War hero Ian Topping, who died on Monday night.

The 41-year-old had planned to be in Istanbul for the final, but lost his year-long battle with cancer. However, his friends made sure he was there in spirit by unfurling a giant banner with the words Liverpool FC Ian Topping RIP flashed across it.

The former soldier from the Kings Regiment was due to travel with friends from the Alt Park pub in Maghull, Liverpool.

One, Steve Fairley, 47, said: "He should have been here with us today to watch his beloved

Liverpool play in the Champions League final. It's our small tribute to a great man. He was fanatical about Liverpool and it's such a shame he is not here."

Pub landlord Steven Richardson added: "There's about 60 or 70 regulars who went to Istanbul. They were in two minds whether to go, because we were all devastated by Ian's death, but they decided the best way to honour him was to carry on and parade the banner in his memory."

Determined supporter Greg Watson went to the game, despite having a broken leg.

The 35-year-old Liverpoolian flew to Edinburgh to get a special fibre glass cast fitted after being told he couldn't get on a plane with the traditional plaster one.

Even then he still had trouble with staff at John Lennon airport on Tuesday.

Greg said: "They tried to stop me getting on. But there was no way they were going to. There

was no chance I was going to miss seeing Liverpool in the final."

Greg and his friends from the Clarence Pub in Liverpool were drinking in Istanbul's Takism Square before the game.

The fans were boisterous but well behaved. Turkish police opted for a low key approach and stood back letting the fans drink and sing.

A helicopter swooped over the square keeping an eye on them but officers last night reported just one arrest for drunkenness.

Supporters sang the Anfield anthem You'll Never Walk Alone as they enjoyed themselves with locals.

Steve Marshall, from Hammersmith, West London, said: "It has been a great atmosphere and the Turks have been absolutely brilliant."

"Everyone has been so friendly. I have been here since the weekend and I have not seen one incident despite the huge amounts of alcohol consumed."

A handful of supporters organised an impromptu game of football in Taksim Square against some locals.

Thousands of fans who did not have tickets watched the game on giant screens. They went wild when the Reds secured victory.

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## ALAN KENNEDY

Liverpool: 1978-85

“Lots of people never expected the team to get to the final, let alone win it. Now the players will go into history as the fifth Liverpool team to lift the trophy.”



## MARK LAWRENSON

Liverpool: 1981-88

“It's an incredible achievement for the club. No one gave them a chance at the start of the tournament but they've gone on to clinch the trophy – it's truly amazing.”



## TERRY McDERMOTT

Liverpool: 1974-82

“Liverpool are the worthy winners. They have had the toughest draw all the way through this competition and very few predicted they would get this far.”



## RAY CLEMENCE

Liverpool: 1969-81

“It's a magnificent achievement when you consider it's more than 20 years since we last won it. The lads were confident after beating Chelsea and Juventus.”

GREATEST KOP FINAL: SEE SPORT