

ND FINISHED 17th IN THE DIVISION.

How did you do it Stanley?

SUNDERLAND are finally saved from relegation: that is the news. But what they did at Anfield with a one hour performance that evoked memories of schoolday heroes' tales of gritty men who defended Empires and bridges and thin red lines, was the romance of the affair.

Once they scored, it was every-one back and all hands to the pumps. But it was glorious in its own way, because they were more committed than opponents likely to win the European Cup.

A fine goal from Stan Cummins on the half hour proved to be enough. Although Sunderland managed only one other strike towards their opponents' goal all afternoon, and that a weak header by Brown, there was an incident before a ball was kicked which hinted that this might turn out to be Sunderland's day.

For the first time ever, Liverpool won the toss and played

By **TONY STEVENS**
Liverpool 0, Sunderland 1

towards Spion Kop in the first half.

Uninspiring as they subsequently played, with the inexperience of the three front runners used offering no real challenge to Elliott, and the uncompromising Hindmarch, Liverpool still had opportunities to score.

Within the first five minutes Souness hit a fierce low shot only a foot wide and Gayle — later to be withdrawn, battered and visibly losing confidence — was as close as Souness had been with a 30-yard free kick.

Yet the best was to come from a defender, the light-footed and elusive Hansen, who won through from the halfway line, interchanged passes with Kennedy, struck a sweet shot against the far angle of Siddall's woodwork, and with hardly any backlift

At this stage Sunderland were

more aggressive in forward positions than their opponents, winning seven of the nine first half corners. But the Cummins goal was to both elate them and to stifle their adventure.

It came when Rowell brushed through a tackle, found the ball bouncing kindly and sent Cummins clear into the penalty area. The shot, just inside the angle, was good enough to prove that even Clemence is occasionally beaten at the near post.

After that goal the match degenerated as a spectacle into a series of fruitless assaults on massed defenders by a Liverpool running out of ideas.

One was to replace Gayle with Russell, the 23rd player tried this season by the ex-champions;

Liverpool: Clemence, Neal, Irwin, Hansen, Money, Lee, McDermott, Souness, Kennedy, Rush, Gayle (Russell 60 mins.).

Sunderland: Siddall, Hinnigan, Eolton, Hindmarch, Elliott, Rowell, Buckley, Ritchie, Brown, Cummins, Chisholm (Allardyce 88 mins.).