

Morton's Dramatic Goal Ended Cup-Tie Marathon

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 3 BRENTFORD 2

The third and final episode of this Cup-tie serial at Highbury on Monday proved to be even more thrilling than the two that had gone before and there was a grandstand finish with the Town snatching a spectacular victory eight minutes from the end of extra time.

Match-winner was Bob Morton, who made a long solo run, with the Brentford defence backing away and, espying a gap, he crashed the ball with his left foot into the corner of the net.

Great Start By McJarrow

Luton Town 3,
Nottingham Forest 3

Quick to make his mark on the Luton football scene was the Town's new centre-forward from Sheffield Wednesday, Hugh McJarrow, who made a most auspicious debut at Kenilworth-road on Saturday.

Twice in the first 35 minutes, he had the ball in the back of the Forest net—both well-taken goals—and he seemed to have put the Town well on the way to their first League win in 1952.

McJARROW'S first came after 15 minutes when he weaved a way through the defence, calmly rounded Walker and then shot into an empty net. Stobbart laid that pass on for him and also provided the chance for McJARROW to head the second goal.

Forest revived when MOORE reduced their arrears five minutes before half-time and in a remarkable rally, gained the lead inside 13 minutes of the second half through two goals by LEVERTON.

The equaliser came from MITCHELL, from an opening made by Stobbart and McJarrow.

Both teams missed opportunities, but a draw was a fair result of a game that produced surprisingly-good football considering the heavy state of the pitch.

McJarrow made a very good impression and so did Stobbart at inside-left. Taylor had a fair game, but Davies was out of touch altogether and Mitchell was the more dangerous winger.

During the period the Forest were on top, the Town defence looked decidedly leaky, mainly because Ardron drew Owen out of the middle and the Town full-backs could not keep the fast-moving, quick-switching Forest wingers quiet.

However, Cooke showed signs of his old form, but Morton and Watkins were the outstanding successes in the Town defence, with the latter in particularly good form.

Owen injured his ankle during the second half and spent the closing stages at outside-left.

Streten was not at his best, his judgment being faulty when the last two Forest goals were obtained.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Cooke, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Watkins; Davies, Taylor (J), McJarrow, Stobbart, Mitchell.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: Walker; Thomas, Hutchinson; Morley, Gager, Burkitt; Moore, Scott, Ardron, Capel, Leverton.

Referee: F. W. Chadwick, Leicester. Attendance: 18,369.

It was a goal worthy of the occasion and gave the Town a well-deserved right to go through into the fifth round after a total battle of 5½ hours with the Bees.

Fact was that they should have been through without the necessity of the game going to extra time again, for, apart from a spell of four minutes when Brentford enjoyed equality, the Town were ahead from the first half-minute until eight minutes from the end of normal time.

Opportunity to really drive home their advantage and make the score 3—1 was denied them in the most amazing fashion 17 minutes from the end.

This occurred when Taylor beat the whole defence, dribbled around Gaskell and was on the point of tapping the ball into an empty net when he was pulled down from behind by the goalkeeper.

Taylor ended flat on his face in the mud and the ball was scrambled almost off the goal-line.

NO PENALTY AWARD!

Almost everybody in the crowd expected the Town to be awarded a penalty kick for this obvious offence, but to the general astonishment, the referee waved on play.

This could have been a very serious turn for the Town since not only had they lost a certain goal, but Taylor was injured and had to move to the wing.

A third goal at that stage would have put completely out of court any possibility of a Brentford rally of the calibre of that which brought them their second equaliser from DARE.

It came during a terrific bombardment during which the Town packed their goalmouth, and although the ball was cleared repeatedly, it came back just as often because there were not sufficient Town players upfield to keep it there.

Eventually Dare slipped the ball into the net from Monk's pass, and Brentford, who had looked a beaten team, drew new encouragement from this turn of events.

The start of the game was as sensational as that of the replay at Leicester three years ago when Brennan scored almost before the City knew the game was on.

Brentford had certainly had no time to settle down before the ball was in their net with less than half a minute gone. TAYLOR was the scorer and his shot was deflected past the prone Gaskell by Horne.

LEVEL—FOR FOUR MINUTES

DARE levelled matters after 32 minutes from a corner by Monk, immediately after he had shot against a post when left with only Streten to beat, but four minutes later, MOORE restored the Town's lead with a well-placed shot following smart work by Taylor.

Then followed that hard-fought second-half and Morton's dramatic decider just when people were talking of a fourth meeting between the teams at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

Right through the piece, the Town sought to play ordered, constructive football and their forwards were better at this art than were the Brentford front line.

Taylor emerged at his full stature with a display that should silence for ever those foolish folk who barrack him at Kenilworth-road.

Always he was the danger man to the Brentford defence and it was a stroke of genius to move him to centre-forward for the second spell of extra time.

Another to have a great game was Stobbart, perfectly happy in his new-found, old position of inside-left, and the clever foot-work of this pair upset the Brentford defence.

Between them, Moore fitted in splendidly during the first half, though he rather fell away afterwards.

No one worked harder than Davies, who turned in his best display for some time, and Mitchell did quite well and deserved to score with at least two of his drives.

One of the Town's heroes was Hall, who stepped into Owen's shoes so successfully. He secured a grip on Dare, stopped nearly everything that came down the middle, and his big clearances were of great benefit to his side.

Sharing the defensive honours with Hall was Aherne, who found no difficulty in keeping quiet experimental outside-right Monk. Cooke was not always so successful against Ledgerton, and his timing was faulty at times.

Both Morton and Watkins worked tremendously hard, without gaining the grip on the middle of the field that they have in most recent matches, and Streten, apart from one mis-directed punch in the first half that nearly brought a goal, did everything that was required.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Cooke, Aherne; Morton, Hall, Watkins; Davies, Taylor (J), Moore, Stobbart, Mitchell.

BRENTFORD: Gaskell; Horne, Munro; Harper, Greenwood, Hill; Monk, Coote, Dare, Sperrin, Ledgerton.

Referee: W. Ling, Stapleford. Attendance: 37,269; receipts, £4,905.