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Norwich chief carpets Cup coach

'FED-UP' COOK STUNS ARCHIE

By BOB PENNINGTON

WILLIE COOK, coach and trainer of Norwich City, will be "on the mat" before his manager, Archie Macaulay, this morning.

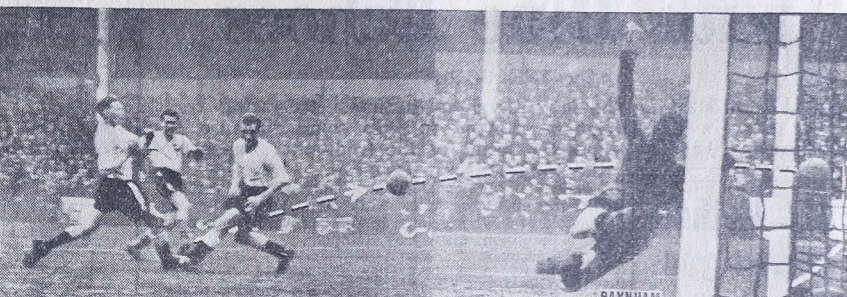
Angry Macaulay will demand an explanation from Cook, former Everton and Ireland back.

"Why have you said you are fed up and looking for a job? Why have you become disgruntled when the club is having such success?"

After Cook has given his answer, Macaulay will decide whether his outspoken coach will be present at Wednesday's replay against Luton Town.



SAD MOMENT for Norwich. Over comes a free kick. Up goes Luton's Allan Brown and his smart header beats Crowe, Butler—and goalkeeper Kennon.



JOY MOMENT for Norwich. Bobby Brennan races in and shoots. Ron Baynham dives but the ball is in the net, and Norwich are still in the Cup.

Can Kennon the Cat save them again?



SO LITTLE NORWICH SMASH ALL THOSE 'GATE' RECORDS!

Norwich City 1 Luton Town 1

★ **SANDY KENNON**, the Big Cat who saved the Canaries, is so rightly the hero of Norwich this morning. He is also more dubiously Luton Town's main hope of winning the replay at Birmingham on Wednesday, writes BOB PENNINGTON.

Walk with me along the chill corridor under White Hart-lane while the white heat of this F.A. Cup semi-final thriller still generates in the two dressing-rooms to give this amazing paradox.

Kennon, the 6ft South African goalkeeper Luton believed would crack, is being saluted—and shot at—by Luton.

Their England goalkeeper Ron Baynham says simply: "Kennon was magnificent—some of the finest saves I've ever seen. But can anyone be so good again?"

There are others who optimistically believe: "It was just a one match wonder—a blinder by a keeper who is still very suspect." Along the corridor, 24-year-old Kennon is being hugged by the man he replaced, Ken Nethercott, still nursing a dislocated shoulder.

"We'd have lost by four goals if I had been playing," says Nethercott. "I told you you were a great goalkeeper, son, and this time you really showed 'em."

Kennon has tears in his eyes. But the pride is stamped on the thin face of Sandy, 19th child of old Jack Kennon, who was born 92 years ago in Doon-side, Ayrshire.

THE REASON

"I couldn't let old Jack down," he says. "He was listening to the broadcast in Durban. And I couldn't let you or Norwich down for having faith in me."

Nethercott sat pumping confidence into Kennon before he started. But in the first few minutes it was as if this little cat of a man was twitching on a hot tin roof.

A stumble, a fumble, drew hysterical gasps from the Norwich fans around me. And then two fine saves from

Cup semi-finals

NORWICH (0) 1 LUTON (1) 1
Brennan 61.300
(At Tottenham)
Replay St. Andrew's, Birmingham, on Wednesday.

NOTT M (0) 1 A VILLA (0) 0
Quilley 63.107 2.16.04
(At Hillsborough, Sheffield)

Luton outside-left Tony Gregory and Kennon became nerveless and nearly unbeatable.

In front of him, Norwich were very Third Division where it mattered most—wing half and inside forward.

And at half-time Luton knew they should have had more than a 15th-minute goal beautifully headed in by Allan Brown. They should have smashed Norwich—despite Kennon.

Luton skipper Syd Owen lashed his men at the interval: "We must have one more at least."

Owen's fears were justified. The real Norwich came out fighting and thinking, Bobby Brennan, their match-winner, roared to life after being strangely neglected.

And it was Brennan who lashed his own 34th birthday present with a right-foot drive that scorched Brendan McNally on its way into the net.

Norwich were level with 25 minutes to go. And for the first time they were breaking more than even. But the last cheers were for Luton and Kennon.

With 11 minutes left, Kennon was groping 10 yards out of goal as John Groves lobbed over the bar. With seconds left Kennon, Soccer's supreme enigma, made the save of his life from Billy Birmingham.

I believe Luton and Norwich will both improve at St. Andrew's.

Norwich City: Kennon; Thurlow, Ashman, McCrohan, Butler, Crowe; Brennan, Allen, Bly, Hill, Brennan; Luton Town: Baynham, McNally, Brooks, Morton, Pacey; Birmingham: Groves, Owen, Pacey; Birmingham: Groves, Owen, Pacey.

THE CRISIS

The Norwich directors discussed the crisis over Cook yesterday morning. And they decided unanimously.

Cook's future here must be left to the manager to decide. Said chairman Geoffrey Wainwright: "We very much regret this controversy at such a time. Willie Cook is still on the staff. Whether he continues on the trainer's bench for the replay will be decided tomorrow by Mr. Macaulay."

Manager Macaulay and Cook both declined to speak last night over a row that has shocked football, but has caused no real surprise to those close to the Norwich club.

Cook, portly but still a master at ball control, has previously been advised to consult the club doctor. This advice came after reports of several incidents in Norwich which were reported to the club.

And in the last week Cook has been under the impression that he was unlikely to be with Norwich next season.

THE ODD ONE

During Cup preparations for the semi-final with Luton, Cook was the odd man out in the club atmosphere at Garrow-road.

He said: "I resent getting none of the credit and publicity during this Cup run. You see, I am the man behind it all. When I came here just over four months ago the team was not playing well. All these great wins are mostly due to my influence with the players."

"When the players were given a rise recently I was not included. I am still not getting the money I rate."

"Now I would like a job as team manager somewhere else; the chance to show what I can do."

A Norwich official answered Cook last night: "This is a tragedy. If Willie Cook had kept quiet he would have been in a good position whatever we decided about next season. Now with this bad publicity for him the situation is critical."

THE ABILITY

"His ability is not doubted. The reasons for this fare-up are purely domestic and can never be made public."

All I can say is that Norwich have nothing to reproach themselves over in this sad business. Luton outside-left Tony Gregory was yesterday released from the Army team playing at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday to make an unchanged team in the semi-final replay.

Centre half Syd Owen and centre forward Bob Morton both had treatment yesterday for minor bruises.

Norwich manager Macaulay also reported: "No change. Although outside right Errol Crossen has bruising on his calf, thigh, and hip."



HONEST Ken Nethercott (left), injured Norwich goalkeeper, congratulates his stand-in, Sandy Kennon, on those stirring semi-final saves against Luton. Says Nethercott: "Well done, Sandy. If I had been playing Luton would have scored four."

Express Soccer reporter Bob Pennington listens in.

Islander in history to figure in a Cup Final. The first was another Guernsey-born player, Bill Spurdle, outside right in Manchester City's beaten team in 1953.

★ **WHAT** a change in the fortunes of Irish international outside right Billy Birmingham and Scottish international left back Joe McDonald.

Last season they were in the first time ever. Now they will be in direct conflict in the Wembley final if Luton win the replay against Norwich.

★ **FOREST** have not met Luton in the Cup, and their only previous tie against Norwich dates back to 1915. Then Norwich, as a Southern League club, shocked Forest with a 4-1 triumph at Nottingham.

WEMBLEY or not, Norwich City have already smashed an attendance record. As a Third Division club they have performed before more spectators in the Cup this season than any other club.

The Norwich ties to date have drawn an aggregate of 383,583. Nottingham Forest have drawn 320,143 and Luton only 236,018.

If Norwich, having already fulfilled 10 Cup matches this season, reach Wembley, they will equal the existing record for the highest number ever played by any finalist in the 87 years of F.A. Cup history.

That record belongs to Barnsley, who played 12 games in winning the Cup in 1912.

★ **NOTTINGHAM FOREST'S** advance can be put down largely to the wonderful record and co-operation among their backroom boys.

The acreage service with the club of manager Billy Walker, secretary Noel Watson, trainer Tommy Graham, and masseur Bob Davies exceeds 100 years. Forest right-back Bill Whare becomes the second Channel