

TOWN KEEP FEET ON WINNING PATH

GOAL WAS THEIR SECOND AT HOME THIS SEASON

Forest Shadow Compared With Cup Final Day

By CHILTERN

LUTON 1, NOTTINGHAM FOR. 0

WHEN these teams, Luton Town and Nottingham Forest, last met it was at Wembley before a crowd of 100,000, but ten minutes before kick-off time at Kenilworth-road this afternoon, I doubt whether there were 12,000 on the ground. These included a solid knot of Forest supporters, gaily bedecked in red and white colours, almost bang in the middle of the Bobbers stand.

There was time for the attendance to grow and had the Town's record this season been better, this was the sort of match that would surely have attracted 25,000.

Forest, who completed a double over Sheffield Wednesday in mid-week, were unchanged, but the Town were struck a double blow yesterday when Eire Internationalists Brendan McNally and George Cummins were found to be unfit.

This illustrated the sort of luck that has attended the Town this season, and it caused considerable changing of the side that gained the first win of the season at Manchester on Wednesday.

Back to right-half went Bob Morton, which paved the way for a return by Gordon Turner, relegated to the role of 12th man on Wednesday.

To fill the vacancy left by Cummins, Barry Hawkes switched to inside-left and was partnered by Tony Gregory, who had been left out of the last four matches.

This was the 450th League and Cup appearance made by Jack Burdett, the Forest captain.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, Hawkes (K.); Morton, Kelly, Groves; Bingham, Turner, Brown, Hawkes (B.), Gregory.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: Whitefoot, McKinlay, Burdett, Imlach, Quigley, Wilson, Iley, Gray.

Referee: S. Cowan, Manchester. Right from the first movement of the match the Town were dangerous, with Gregory moving to make a centre that Thomson was glad to send for a corner, from which Turner got the ball awkwardly on the top of his head, because he rubbed it carefully with his hand for a couple of seconds.

Immediately after this there was trouble at the Town end when Morton attempted a back pass to Baynham that did not carry and Iley rolled the ball past the goalkeeper. It was not a very accurate attempt and Kelly was there to kick away, though his clearance rebounded against Wilson, fortunately to safety.

SPARKLING START That apart, the Town were making a sparkling start, with Gregory in the picture again with a pass to Turner, who closed in from an angle and forced Thomson to go full length to save his very good shot.

A great chance slipped by after only three minutes when Brown made an opening for Gregory, who slipped at the vital moment. The Forest defence covered up in a hurry, and the winger's attempt at recovery failed.

Forest were looking very unhappy against this power play by the Town, and it had certainly been a worrying start for them. When Forest settled down, Baynham made a brilliant save from a corner by Gray. Then Barry Hawkes spoiled a smash-and-grab raid, following the clearance, by shooting from too long range, and most inaccurately, after Brown had taken up position.

SEEING SHOTS It was still the Town more dangerous, and despite McDonald's attention, Bingham produced a drive that just missed the woodwork.

Another shot came from Brown, from a push-through pass work by Morton, after good shooting was not all that accurate, at least we were seeing shots, which was a welcome change from some previous matches.

McKinlay cleared well when Turner picked up a pass on the left wing and sought to find Brown in the middle.

Hands by McKinlay prevented a Brown pass reaching Bingham and brought the Town a free-kick, which was cleared after a trouble spot in the penalty area. In point of fact it was never completely cleared because Groves returned the ball to Brown, who slipped it to Turner, and he "topped" his shot, which went weakly wide.

It was another chance lost of gaining the early goal that would have been a confidence-booster.

Again Forest escaped when Gregory by-passed Patrick and let go a shot to which Thomson got two hands but could not hold on to the ball, which fell in front of goal and, fortunately for the Forest, McDonald was on hand to kick away.

In a cracking start, the Town

had just about done everything right, except getting the ball into the back of the net.

When Dunne found Turner out on the wing, the inside man, trying to make contact with Barry Hawkes, merely provided Whitefoot with an easy chance to clear.

For a short period, Forest came into the picture mainly through the efforts of Iley, but they were not showing much sign of punch, and Baynham was having little to do.

Things began to swing the other way, with Forest slowly gaining more control in midfield, with the result that the Town forwards looked less threatening, although there was no increasing danger from the Forest.

Bingham's luck was out when from an acute angle out on the wing, he beat the grasping hands of Thomson, only to see the ball whip by the far post.

Then Barry Hawkes put the ball over the top of the cover behind the Oak-road goal following a free kick, though there was an excuse; he was being tackled and was caught off balance.

The finishing of the Town showed no real sign of improving and Gregory would have been much better advised to try to find his forward colleagues rather than try to shoot from an angle and let his shot go astray.

PALE SHADOW Forest were still looking a pale shadow of the team that gave the Town such a chasing in the early moments of the Cup-Final and Gray made an awful hash of a shot.

Dunne nearly got the Town into trouble by fiddling with the ball inside the penalty area and then had to beat Wilson in order to extricate himself.

Yet another scoring opportunity went adrift, this time from Brown, who ran into position rather nearer to goal than the penalty spot to accept a pass by Turner, after he had done the initial work himself.

His shot finished safely clutched in the arms of Thomson, who must take credit for the way in which he narrowed the angle.

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How The Goal Came

BROWN for Luton Town after 62 minutes

LUTON TOWN 1, NOTTINGHAM FOREST 0

against the Forest. And from yet another Brown pushed the ball back to Turner who let fly first time.

Thomson was in position to make a smart save.

Immediately before half-time, Forest had two more escapes—first when Barry Hawkes shot over, and then when a raking drive from Morton just missed a post.

The ball went into the crowd. Judging from the handkerchief waving there was another casualty now. Half-time:

LUTON TOWN 1, NOTTINGHAM FOREST 0

Forest were the more prominent at the start of the second half, and Baynham had to save from Wilson and Iley in quick succession.

A long run by Bingham, who beat McDonald for speed, brought a centre, which McKinlay had plenty of time to clear. Then came a cross by Gregory that Barry Hawkes met with his head, though not decisively enough to cause trouble.

CONFIDENT BAYNHAM Forest were looking more dangerous than at any time before the interval, and Iley cleverly beat Morton and Kelly before making a low shot, to which Baynham got down confidently enough.

McKinlay reached a pass with his foot to deprive Turner and Brown of a possible chance.

Immediately after this combination between Turner and Gregory brought a drive from Turner in much his old style, but his luck was out, because, although Thomson was beaten, the ball went inches past a post.

Forest were certainly showing more determination this half and Wilson headed against the outside of the woodwork after a centre by Gray.

Moving well again the Town forced Forest back on the defensive.

Turner, stretching, headed wide from a centre by Barry Hawkes. The referee spoke to Bingham for a foul on Burdett and that followed some Forest pressure during which Ken Hawkes, in timely style, got himself in the path of a shot by Iley.

AT LAST Then the Town did it at last, and took the lead after 62 minutes through BROWN.

It was a smart quick-fire movement in which Turner sent through Bingham with a clear field and, closing in, the winger, who could have shot himself, from an angle, did completely the right thing by placing the ball low across the front of the goal. Brown crashed it into the roof of the net.

This was only the second goal the home fans had seen from the Town this season, and it was greeted with rapturous cheers.

When Forest hit back there were cheers for Baynham, who got off the deck beautifully to pull down a centre by Imlach.

Then came a shock for the Town when Gray, now at outside-right, produced a shot that bounced in front of Baynham and then bounced off the goalkeeper's hands and past a post for a corner.

Imlach was on the left wing, the position for which he was capped for Scotland, but it was the Town still calling the tune.

and they had a free kick for hands midway in the Forest half. Nothing came of this. There followed a short spell of Forest pressure—during which Baynham punched away a lob by Patrick.

In the main the Forest forwards were not causing much concern.

Quigley headed just too high from a centre by Imlach, and Forest were fighting back without giving their followers a deal of encouragement that they could save this game.

Brown was foxed by a feint by McDonald when seeking to reach a through pass from Gregory, and then there was a stoppage when Wilson received attention for a leg injury after a clash with Kelly, for which the centre-forward was penalised.

WELL WIDE The free kick brought a threat to the Forest goal. Kelly again used it well, and Thomson had to pull down a high shot from Bingham. Straight from this, Forest came back, and Gray caused momentary concern to the fans with a drive that, however, landed well wide.

Iley came within inches of levelling the scores with a great shot that missed by a narrow margin and there was an appeal for a corner on the ground that the diving Baynham had finger-tipped it, but the referee did not agree.

When the Town were awarded a free-kick just inside the Forest half, the referee took the name of Burdett for some reason as the players lined up in readiness for the kick. This was greeted with warm cheers from the crowd.

Barry Hawkes got the ball into the Forest net from a pass by Brown, but the goal did not count because he was just off-side.

For Forest when Baynham went down with a heap of players after a corner by Imlach which, however, went wide.

Another free kick, this time for a foul on Bingham by Imlach, brought another risk to the Forest goal. It was Groves who got his foot to it, but he sent it a foot or so too high.

FIRST HOME VICTORY The Town were within two minutes of their first home victory of the season and were doing the pressing at this stage. A centre from Bingham came across dangerously, but McKinlay cleared it.

Wilson missed a great chance of levelling the scores when he was left on his own by lifting the ball much too high.

Yet another free kick for the Town, well placed by Kelly, brought Thomson into action, and he chose the obvious course of punching it away.

In the last minute Morton and Dunne between them saved the Town in a sudden breakaway, in which the defence had been pulled out of position. Result:

LUTON TOWN 1, NOTTINGHAM FOREST 0

"Big-headed Cup Winners" St. Mirren carried off the Scottish Cup last season after a gap of 33 years (they have home-and-away meetings with F.A. Cup-winners Nottingham Forest before the end of September), but the "Saints" have not exactly hit the highspots so far this term.

Manager Willie Reid has even had to disturb his triumphant Cup line-up to achieve better results, though he is quick to defend his players from any charge of complacency.

"Suggestions which have been made in some quarters about our boys expecting things to be easy, and having a big-headed Cup-winners' complex, are just so much rubbish," says Mr. Reid.

MISSED A FEAST OF SWIMMING

Poor Attendance At Vauxhall Gala

THE people who stayed away from Vauxhall Motors Swimming Section's Annual Swimming Gala at the Waller-street Baths last night — and there were many — missed a swimming feast. Not only did Olympic swimmer, now Vauxhall apprentice, Neil McKechnie, take part in many of the races, but there were demonstrations by other top British swimmers.

Rhodesian swimmer Natalie Steward demonstrated race, turns and starts and speed with ballet-dancer-like grace. Natalie holds the British 110 yards free-style record and the 440 yards women's free-style championship. There was also a demonstration from Pam Powley, a British breast-stroke champion.

Worry Over Village Jinx

Although Kent's Athletic maintained their improved form when they received Stewarby at Waller-avenue last Saturday, the works club are still seeking their first win of the season with five games already played. Two goals up mid-way through the second half, Kent looked all set for two valuable points—but a most unfortunate own goal from centre-half Frank Humphrey plus a last minute equaliser from Stewarby, put paid to Kent's hopes of a victory, and for the second consecutive home game the score ended at two goals each.

Kent's Reserves made the trip to Stotfold last Saturday without the services of goalkeeper Jock Hanley, who for domestic reasons was unable to turn out. The team was re-organised with Reg Noble in goal and Naylor at centre-half and, although defeated by 3 goals to nil, Kent's gave a very good account of themselves. Deputy goalkeeper Noble gave a very sound display including the saving of a penalty kick, and although the attack failed to score there were many good movements prompted by inside-left Bob Redding who appears to be finding his best form again.

On previous visits to Stotfold, Kent's have had the following mishaps: failure of the transport to turn up, a player taken to hospital with a broken leg, travel sickness making last minute changes necessary on the ground, so it is small wonder that the works club regard Stotfold as their jinx.

The first team were due to play there this afternoon so it is to be hoped that there are no more incidents to report. Kent's made one change, Joe Summers takes the place of Joe Griffiths—not available—on the left-wing. With Stotfold's attack scoring 25 goals in only five games, and Kent's defence conceding 15 in the same number, the writing appears to be well and truly on the wall.

Inter-departmental team race, 1 Apprentice School, 2 "X" block, 3 "AA" block.

Nazex De Deux, 1 N McKechnie and Anne Mills, 2 Phil McLoughlin and Grace Tennant, 3 Roy Holmes and Helen Bates.

Invitation Club Medley, 1 Watford S.C., 2 Luton Amateur S.C., 3 Stewarby S.C.

Invitation Club free-style relay, 1 Watford S.C., 2 Vauxhall Motors S.C., 3 Luton Amateur S.C.

Chip and Block Handicap, 1 C Appleby and Son, 2 R Holmes and Son, 3 J Tomin and Son.

TELEVISION DEBUT

Sixteen-years-old Paul Racey of Bromham, Bedford, who represented Bedfordshire in their county table tennis team last season and played for England Juniors in four Internationals, appears on the I.T.V. programme "Seeing Sport" with table tennis star Johnny Leach, on Monday. The programme is screened at about 5 p.m.

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29	5	12	19	29	5	12	19	29	5	12	19	29	5	12	19
Aberdn	2	0	3	Chesfld	0	0	0	Leeds	1	2	2	Rothrm	3	1	3
Acrqtn	2	0	1	Clyde	1	1	1	Lecster	3	0	0	St Jnstr	3	1	7
Aldrie	2	1	1	Clichstr	2	2	4	Leyton	O	4	1	St Mirren	2	5	8
Albion	4	0	0	Coventry	1	3	3	Lincoln	0	0	0	Scnthp	0	1	1
Aldrht	6	1	0	Cdnbth	1	1	1	Liverpl	5	1	1	Sheff U	1	2	1
Alloa	1	0	3	Crews	1	0	0	Luton	0	0	2	Sheff W	1	1	5
Arbrth	1	4	1	Crysl P	1	0	5	Man C	0	4	1	Shwsby	3	1	1
Arsenal	3	1	3	Drlngtn	2	1	1	Man U	3	1	1	Sthpnt	2	4	4
Aston V	1	1	3	Derby	1	1	5	Mdsfld	1	1	1	Sthend	0	1	2
Ayr U	5	0	5	Dncstr	3	1	0	Mdsbro	7	6	2	Sthport	0	0	0
Barnsly	2	4	4	Dmbtn	1	3	2	Millwll	1	4	1	Stnhmr	2	2	1
Barrow	1	0	0	Dundee	2	3	0	Mntre	2	3	1	Strling	2	3	1
Berkw R	0	2	0	Dndee U	4	0	8	Morton	1	1	0	Stockpt	3	4	3
Brmhm	0	1	2	Dnfmn	2	2	1	Mthwll	4	4	2	Stoke	2	2	1
Blkbrn	2	3	1	E Fife	4	2	1	Nwscle	2	1	2	Strner	4	2	3
Blkpool	0	0	0	E Stirling	3	6	6	Newpr	0	0	2	Sndrdl	0	2	2
Bolton	2	0	5	Everton	1	0	1	Nrmptn	2	0	2	Swneea	0	1	3
Bnmth	2	2	4	Exeter	2	2	1	Nrwch	4	3	5	Swindn	5	1	1
Bradfd	1	1	1	Falkirk	3	2	1	Notts C	1	0	1	Thrd L	3	5	0
Bradfd C	2	1	0	Forfar	1	1	1	Nottm F	2	1	1	Trquay	2	1	2
Brechtn	2	1	4	Fulham	1	0	4	Oldham	1	1	0	Totnmh	0	1	5
Brentfd	2	3	2	Gatshd	1	0	0	Partick	1	0	2	Trnmre	1	6	4
Brightn	0	3	3	Gilghm	1	3	1	Plymth	1	2	0	Walsall	3	3	3
Bristol	C	2	2	Grmsby	2	4	2	Ptsmth	2	1	1	Watfd	0	0	6
Bristol R	1	1	2	Halifax	1	2	1	Pt Vale	0	0	1	W Brom	1	5	1
Burnley	1	1	2	Hamltn	2	3	3	Preston	1	2	3	W Ham	3	1	1
Bury	4	4	0	Htlpls	0	2	2	Q.P.R.	4	3	2	Wolves	3	6	3
Cardiff	1	4	2	Hearts	2	2	4	Q of Sh	1	4	2	Wkgtn	0	0	2
Carlisle	1	0	3	Hiberns	2	2	0	Qns Pk	0	2	1	Wrxhm	2	1	1
Celtic	2	1	3	Hdsfld	0	1	2	Raith	3	3	2	York	1	1	1
Charltn	2	4	1	Hull	3	0	1	Rngrs	3	3	1	Saturday matches only			
Chelsea	1	4	1	Ipswich	1	3	1	Reading	2	3	2	— not including this			
Chester	1	3	0	Kilmnk	4	0	3	Rchdle	0	1	2	afternoon's scores			