

Luton avenge the Cup Final disappointment

ONLY GOAL GAVE THEM VERDICT AGAINST FOREST VISITORS

IN appearing against Luton, the club his team defeated in the memorable Cup Final, the Forest captain made his League and Cup total 450. Unfortunately, the Reds, up to the interval, failed to reproduce their Wembley display and at the break the score sheet was blank.

Forest, unbeaten in their last six games, had nine of their Cup Final players on view. The two exceptions were the former Derby County defender Roy Patrick, and Spurs' wing half Jim Iley. Luton paraded seven of the men who were seen on duty at Wembley.

Eire internationals Brendan McNally and George Cummins were hurt in the match at Manchester on Wednesday, and Morton was moved to right half from inside right, where Turner was recalled after missing one game. Gregory returned in place of Cummins with Barry Hawkes moving inside.

Forest, who fielded an unchanged team, had a big following of enthusiastic supporters.

LUTON TOWN

Baynham
Dunne Hawkes (K)
Morton Kelly Groves
Bingham Turner Brown Hawkes (B) Gregory

O

Gray Iley Wilson Quigley Imlach
Burkitt McKinlay Whitefoot
McDonald Patrick
Thomson

NOTTINGHAM FOREST

Referee: F. Cowen, Manchester.

Play opened at a cracking pace with Luton on top.

In the first attack, Gregory went through from a Groves pass to bring Thomson to a jumping save. From the corner which followed from the same wing, the ball was sent accurately across for Turner's header to clear the bar.

Forest were equally dangerous in their first assault. Iley raced away from Morton in grand style to flick the ball from Baynham's grasp. Kelly, covering closely behind, booted the ball at Wilson and Groves cleared from an empty goal.

Luton, showing greater speed, had seven chances in the opening stages. Turner tested Thomson with a shot in one move. Gregory missed an open goal from Brown's pass in the penalty area after five minutes. The left winger slipped on the turf as he was shaping to shoot from 12 yards.

HARASSED DEFENDERS

Forest's defence was rather harassed for some minutes and Bingham cleared the goal with a shot from 20 yards. Brown was given a scoring chance by Morton, only to drive outside.

Luton continued to force the pace with Turner and Brown often prominent.

In an attack which started on the left, Turner was stopped by McKinlay. In counter raids on the Forest left Baynham collected a centre from Gray beneath the bar.

Then Hawkes came to the rescue with a cool clearance from Groves' centre. The ball was curling dangerously across when the left back headed away. After a shaky start, Forest improved to tighten their play in the middle of the field. Generally, however, they were misfiring in attack and right winger Imlach had seen little of the ball.

A SCARE.

Brown was penalised for pushing McKinlay and Forest's free kick led to trouble at the other end. Baynham had to advance at the double to take the ball off Iley. This followed a Burkitt move which split the defence wide open.

Bingham caused a real scare when he shot hard to beat Thomson. The ball, however, flashed inches wide of the left-hand post.

In further attacks a Brown header was blocked by Patrick in the penalty area. Brown wasted a golden chance from Turner's pass by delaying his shot. His final effort was a tame affair, and the ball sailed into Thomson's hands.

NARROW FOREST ESCAPES.

Forest's goal was in jeopardy again in the following minute. Burkitt was penalised for a foul on Bingham, in the centre circle, and the free kick was taken by Dunne. Again the ball was lobbed accurately to Brown's head, and McKinlay relieved dramatically. Bingham returned the ball quickly for Patrick to beat Gregory's challenge.

Forest countered with an Iley thrust, but Kelly beat Wilson to the ball. Burkitt conceded another free kick for a foul on Turner in the middle of the field. Kelly's lob was fisted away by the leaping Thomson. McDonald, in trying to turn the ball aside almost put it into the net. McKinlay came to the rescue by forcing it away near the foot of a post.

Luton kept up a speedy attack without finding accuracy in their finishing.

HALF-TIME:

LUTON TOWN 0
NOTTM. FOREST 0

Iley inspired the opening raid of the second half, and Forest became more confident, using the ball to greater purpose.

From his pass to the left of the goal, Wilson shot when tackled by Kelly, to see the ball smothered on the line.

In the next offensive, the Reds' leader sprinted away to shoot again, and for Baynham to clear after falling to the ground.

A clever move by Iley almost cracked the Strawplaiters'. Although he was challenged by Kelly and Morton, he forced the goalkeeper to a save on his knees. Luton's attack was also determined in mid-field moves, and Patrick relieved superbly from Gregory by heading the ball into Thomson's hands.

Forest returned quickly to the attack and almost scored in 50 minutes. Iley dribbled past Kelly and Morton to bring Baynham to a brilliant save inside the post.

Play continued lively and McKinlay was applauded for a grand clearance from Alan Brown, darting through to a pass by Bingham.

QUIGLEY'S COSTLY ERROR.

A terrific shot by Turner went close as Thomson dived full length. At the other end, Wilson headed against the angle of the woodwork from Gray's centre—a narrow escape.

Luton gradually increased their pressure and Burkitt and McKinlay cleared their lines. For the brief spell Forest were in trouble.

Bingham was penalised for a foul on Burkitt and received a warning from the referee.

Luton snatched the lead in 62 minutes. A mistake by Quigley let in Bingham and BROWN scored from the winger's pass with a strong shot into the roof of the net.

Gray and Imlach changed places in the Forest attack and the Reds soon replied with left wing pressure. Baynham was lucky with a Gray shot which struck his shoulder and passed outside.

Forest were showing plenty of spirit in this half. Kelly cleared brilliantly with his head from Gray's centre.

Shortly afterwards a Quigley header skimmed the bar. This followed a neat cross by Stewart Imlach. Iley suffered atrocious luck in 80 minutes when he cleverly evaded Morton's tackle. He shot hard from the right of the goal to beat Baynham only to miss the target by inches.

Burkitt was booked by the referee after several struggles with Turner in the middle. In the closing stages there were more escapes at either end. Gray seizing an Imlach corner, slammed the ball yards wide. Groves also almost scored with a rising shot which skimmed the bar.

Two decisions by the referee were slow handclapped by a section of the crowd. In the last minute Forest made determined efforts to save the game and forced a corner on the left of the field. Imlach's flag kick was cleared by Kelly.

RESULT:

LUTON TOWN 1
NOTTM. FOREST 0