

ONE OUT OF THE HAT

Allcock and Burton hit back and City salvage a point

NORWICH CITY 3 LUTON TOWN 3

WELSHMAN Ollie Burton was Norwich City's hero at Carrow Road this afternoon. After making two goals for Allcock he scored the Canaries' point-saver himself, the last two goals coming in 60 seconds as City were wallowing 3-1 behind.

Burton also got into the referee's bad books in the second half, but he can be forgiven for that. It was a great celebration for his selection for the Welsh Under-23 side.

Until that astonishing two-in-a-minute burst City looked like being beaten at home by the Hatters as ignominiously as they were last season. For a long time they lacked the pace and spirit so necessary to counter Luton's determination. In the end they could be well satisfied with a point.

City had Allcock celebrating his 200th League and Cup appearance for the club and Burton his selection for the Welsh Under-23 side.

NORWICH CITY — Kennon; Kelly, Worrell; Burton, Ashman, Mullett; Oliver, Bryceland, Allcock, Hill, Punton.

LUTON — Baynham; McNally, Bramwell; Morton, Pacey, Groves; Walden, McKechnie, Davies, McGuffie, Jardine.

Referee—G. McCabe (Sheffield).

City kicked off attacking the Thorpe end, but the first threat came from Luton when McKechnie broke away dangerously on the right.

That was the last that was seen of the visitors as an attacking force for several minutes. The Canaries had a couple of corners on the left and dictated matters generally, although it was a curious decision by a linesman that faulted Oliver for offside when the winger came from behind his full-back to run on to a pass from Allcock.

Luton themselves had their first corner when Worrell turned a shot from Walden behind, but the Canaries were soon attacking again. A clever interchange of passes between Allcock and Bryceland presented the Scot with a chance from which he drove into the side netting.

From the third City corner Oliver, in the inside-left position, hooked the ball high, but just wide of the far post. The lights had been switched on at

By Ted Bell

the start on this gloomy November afternoon, but for some time there was little sparkle about the play.

Kennon had to move sharply to take a high centre from Walden, who was giving City's left defensive flank a good deal of trouble.

There were several rounds of applause for clever footwork by Hill, but apart from shots by Punton and Burton that were charged down there was little to show for the Canaries' aggression.

In fact it was Luton who came nearest to opening the score when Walden swept past Burton and this time drove in a sharp shot that rose inches over the bar.

IN OFF KENNON

The Canaries had been moving with a distinct lack of urgency, and in the 20th minute they paid the penalty. Burton, after moving upfield and having a shot charged down, was slow in getting back, leaving Luton with five forwards to City's four defenders.

And when the ball was slipped through the middle DAVIES out-paced Ashman and, although Kennon came out to block the centre-forward's shot, the ball bounced off him and into the net.

Nor was there any immediate sign of City improving on their play so far. They still moved as if they were confident that Luton would present them with the scoring openings.

The Canaries were making really heavy weather of what should have been a comparatively easy task, and time after time their approach work broke down at the final pass.

LUTON HAVE ZEST

Nevertheless Baynham twice did well to cut out high centres from Burton and Bryceland, on the first occasion having to ward off Allcock's challenge as well.

One of the few direct shots at the Luton goal came from Punton, who sent a right-foot shot curling narrowly wide.

But Luton, playing with a good deal more zest than City, repeatedly threatened on the right, where Worrell could so far make nothing of the elusive Walden.

The referee had a word with Bramwell and Oliver after they had clashed near the corner flag—an incident that produced a free kick for City. And for a few seconds it looked as if the Luton defence, under pressure, were going to panic.

Baynham in fact saved them when he dived to clutch an angled left-foot shot



Luton goalkeeper Ron Baynham leaps across the goal to a shot from Punton.

GOALS Time Table

Davies (Luton)	20 min.
Jardine (Luton)	45 min.
Allcock (City)	49 min.
Davies (Luton)	58 min.
Allcock (City)	76 min.
Burton (City)	77 min.
Attendance: 16,776.	

from Allcock, who had cut in from the right wing.

But the Hatters pulled themselves together. Kennon came into action to cut out a cross from the left, and City's attempts to retaliate were almost invariably beaten off by sharp close tackling.

This game looked very much like going the same way as the corresponding fixture last season, when Luton won 4-0, for in the last minute of the first half an appalling error by Kennon presented the Hatters with a second goal.

The City keeper, standing somewhere near the penalty spot, bent down to collect a by no means dangerous effort by Jardine. TO THE CROWD'S HORROR THE BALL SLIPPED THROUGH HIS HANDS AND ROLLED GENTLY OVER THE LINE.

Half-time—

NORWICH CITY	0
LUTON TOWN	2

The Canaries were being shaken out of their stride and early in the second half Kennon was in action saving from Jardine.

But the Canaries were beginning to play now with a shade more fire. Allcock had a centre cleared and a Burton shot was pushed round the post at full length by Baynham.

From the flag-kick, however, City got a goal back. It was Hill who went out to take the corner, and his kick was nodded onwards by Burton. ALLCOCK was perfectly placed to meet it, and his own header flashed into the roof of the net.

A minute later the Luton defence were opened up again, but this time Allcock shot far too tamely and Baynham had no trouble in saving.

As the pace had warmed up so, too had tempers, and there were several scrimmages that looked a

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Verdict

LUTON must have been as staggered as were the crowd by City's recovery act. Leading 2-0 at half-time, 3-1 midway through the second half, they looked to have two points safely in their keeping.

With Walden looking very effective on the right wing and Davies leading his line intelligently, they looked more menacing in front of goal than City, who were woefully off-colour for most of the first half. Give the Canaries credit, however, for the way they fought back. Even so, their attack never moved with the smoothness of which they are capable, and Hill, after a bright start, spent much of the second half on the right wing with Oliver roaming inside.

IN THE END THINGS TURNED OUT REASONABLY WELL FOR CITY—BUT THEY HAD A LOT FOR WHICH TO THANK BURTON.



Baynham, the Luton goalkeeper, has to move quickly to get to a centre from Punton.



Bryceland gets his head to a Punton corner, but his effort is wide of the Luton goal.

WING-HALF BURTON CELEBRATES HIS UNDER-23 CAP

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trifle dangerous. The referee also had a word with Worrell after a foul by the City full-back.

There was an ironic cheer from the crowd when Kennon, faced with another shot similar to the one that gave Luton their second goal, made very sure that he got his body behind the line of the ball.

But just when it seemed that City were coming back into the game Luton struck with a third goal and again Kennon seemed at fault. DAVIES moved out to the right and brought the ball in from the wing before letting fly with a fierce, low shot that squeezed through the gap left by Kennon and the post.

To City's credit they fought back with tremendous spirit. Allcock got in a shot that Baynham dropped, but somehow the 'keeper managed to grab the ball as Bryceland tried to force it home.

THEN WHEN OLIVER NODDED THE BALL INTO THE GOALMOUTH A LUTON DEFENDER PUT THE BALL OVER HIS OWN BAR FOR A CORNER.

FOREST OF DEFENDERS

Nothing would go right for the Canaries. Luton kept nagging away at them, and frequently, as they tried too much individualism, they were tied up by a forest of Luton defenders.

But, 20 minutes from the end, City spoiled a wonderful chance of a second goal. From a right-wing corner Kelly raced in to slam a fierce shot against the underside of the bar.

As it rebounded Allcock met it with his head only for Baynham to produce a brilliant save and turn the ball for a corner.

For some time now the Canaries had switched their attack with Hill playing out on the right wing and Oliver forming a double spearhead with Allcock.

Although by no means a great game this had plenty of excitement for the crowd, but there was one nasty moment when, with Punton making tracks for goal, the referee stopped play and had a word with Burton. He also spoke to Pacey, after the centre-half pulled the ball down with his hands.

The Canaries resumed their more normal formation, but they continued to use Burton in an attacking role and it was the Welshman, celebrating his Under-23 cap, who transformed the game in the space of two minutes.

PINPOINT CORNER

In the 76th minute he moved out to the right-wing and pinpointed his centre to the far post, where ALLCOCK met it with his head to notch City's second.

Sixty seconds later BURTON stormed through on his own, and hit a 20-yard drive that completely beat Baynham, who stood helpless as the ball flashed past him through a gap of players.

With 15 minutes to go this had suddenly become anybody's game. Walden tried as Davies had done to find the gap between Kennon and the upright, but this time the 'keeper was equal to the occasion. At the other end Allcock, making tracks for goal, was blatantly obstructed by Pacey.

Neither side seemed content to play for the draw, and even in the last few minutes both Canaries and Hatters kept the crowd entertained. But the scoring burst had ended, it seemed, although City had a free-kick when Kelly was obstructed. Result—

NORWICH CITY	3
LUTON	3