

LUTON BEATEN BY A PENALTY

First-half goal sinks Hatters' defensive fight

ROGER DUCKWORTH REPORTS

A PENALTY by Lee in the 26th minute after a foul by Moore ended Luton's run in the FA Cup at Maine Road this afternoon.

The Hatters showed great fight and spirit, and sometimes showed skill which entertained the Manchester crowd. To keep the League Champions to a single goal was a credit to Luton.

It rained all morning in Manchester, but Town manager Alec Stock, who took his players to have a look round the huge Maine Road stadium this morning, said he thought the pitch, which had a good covering of grass, would play well.

After the players, poised for their most important engagement of the season, went for a stroll round the shops in the city centre.

There was certainly an air of tension about, but everyone was in good spirits, and there was plenty of laughter in the Luton camp.

Last night Mr Stock and the players saw Liver at the cinema. This morning they were all given an 8.00am call — so there was no late lying-in.

Luton were faced with one of the toughest tasks of the Third Round, but there was an air of "we might just upset the City" about the Luton party, which was quietly competent of giving a good display.

Same team

Town kept the team that has won the last two matches and which ended an appalling away run with a win at Northampton last week.

City were without England international centre forward Mike Summerbee, who failed a fitness test on an ankle yesterday morning. He was replaced by Bobby Owne, City's acquisition from Bury.

The Luton bus, which took the team from its city centre hotel to the ground, was escorted into Maine Road by policemen on white horses. And there was a brass band to entertain the crowd before the kick-off — a rare sight these days.

Sporting cheer

There was obviously little worry about getting hold of tickets for today's match, and

Man. City 1 Luton Tn 0

Luton too were doing some entertaining, and French, Allen and Dougan received a big cheer for a neat piece of football on the right.

Bannister made two timely tackles to avert threats from Lee, and Slough and Rioch showed a good understanding in the Luton attack.

City were playing their football at a tremendous pace, and Lee and Bell showed their class before Bell set Young up with a fine chance from the edge of the penalty area. But instead of thumping the ball hard he tried to side-foot it home and the effort went tamely wide.

City had another chance in the ninth minute when Oakes put Coleman away and after a good, speedy run the winger's shot was well cut out by Moore, who conceded a corner. From this Young shot high over the bar.

Thankful

A minute later Dougan was thankful to concede another corner when Coleman threatened to cut inside. From this the Luton defence found itself in a real mix-up and Slough did well to clear.

Bruce Rioch set off on an ambitious run through the middle but pushed the ball too far ahead and was easily robbed by Pardoe. From this clearance Coleman again set off to be robbed by Dougan.

In the 12th minute Sandy Davie pulled off a brilliant save when he hurled himself to the left to finger-tip a terrific drive from Pardoe round the angle of the posts.

French was working hard, and one particularly good cross aimed for the onrushing Rioch

TEAMS

MANCHESTER CITY: Dowd; Pardoe, Mann; Doyle, Booth, Oakes; Lee, Bell, Owen, Young, Coleman. Sub: Bowles.

LUTON TOWN: Davie; Dougan, Bannister; Slough, Branston, Moore; French, Lewis, Allen, Rioch, Harrison. Sub: McDerment.

Referee: Mr K. H. Burns (Wordsley, Stourbridge).

GOALS

LEE (Manchester City, pen) 26 min.

the goal just out of Lewis's reach.

In the 26th minute a tragedy struck for the Town when City were awarded a penalty. I felt it was rather a harsh decision by Mr Burns, who penalised Moore for bringing Lee down near the by-line.

But the referee immediately pointed to the spot and LEE converted the kick with a terrific rising shot which Davie almost reached after choosing the right way to dive.

Soon after this reverse the referee stopped play in the City half and walked 30 yards to talk to Luton skipper Terry Branston after first having a word with a linesman.



Post picture wired from Manchester

Luton centre forward Keith Allen harasses City goalkeeper Harry Dowd at Maine Road — but the danger was cleared

Despite the size of their task Luton were showing both spirit and courage in their fight for the goal they so badly needed.

Skill

The defence, although stretched to its limit, played with great heart and a lot of skill against perhaps the best attack in English football.

Branston was policing Owen well, and the City centre forward got away with very little indeed. Just before the interval, however, he beat the Luton skipper for speed and won a corner which Dougan cleared.

HT: MANCHESTER CITY 1, LUTON 0.

The second half began with Lewis chasing a hard clearance from Bannister, with Dowd coming out of his area to fly-kick the ball clear.

Lewis received a warning and was eventually booked by the referee for a foul on Pardoe.

Within three minutes of the restart Luton had a fantastic escape.

Mann pushed a low ball into the goalmouth and there was a fantastic flurry of arms and legs as both Bell and Lee had point-blank chances blocked by Branston, Dougan, and Bannister, and it was eventually Slough who cleared the danger.

Although Luton were still being rocked on their heels by the high speed skills of the City they were always ready to break out and make attacks against the solid City defence.

Appeal

City had an appeal for another penalty turned down after John Moore, who had conceded the first penalty, appeared to handle in the box. Moore's relief was mirrored in a gritty run and good clearance from the danger area.

City's attack was elegant and exciting, and Coleman continued to worry the Hatters with some good crosses.

Luton were still striking quickly from the back. One break by Harrison resulted in shots from Lewis.

entertaining run by shooting over the top.

In the 64th minute Lewis left the field to be replaced by Billy McDerment. His arrival was greeted by a terrific overhead shot from Lee which again was only just wide.

Rioch and Harrison were still working well together, and Rioch tried to find his winger with a defence-splitting pass which was spotted just in time by Pardoe.

In the same Luton raid French had a chance but shot wide from a good position, although Dowd appeared to have narrowed the angle effectively.

Branston was in commanding mood and did a splendid job holding Owen, who had to receive attention after an apparently serious injury which left him lying prostrate. But he was all right after a dab with the sponge.

Confidence

As the three-quarters mark approached Luton began to have things a little bit more their own way.

French and Rioch had efforts saved by Dowd, and for the first time Dougan found time to lend his weight to the attack.

Some of their moves, as their confidence grew, brought appreciation from the crowd, and the Town were helped somewhat by a period of bad passing from the City.

Their ardour was dampened by a City move which ended with Young flashing a shot inches over the top after both Bell and Owen had attempts blocked in the goalmouth.

Again Luton hit back and a good centre from French was well caught by Dowd.

Safety

Luton had another let-off when Davie dived to stop Lee scoring. On these occasions there always seemed to be a Luton boot ready to hammer the ball to safety.

Slough and Doyle were involved in a bad tempered tussle and the free kick went to

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Pepper

Four policemen were hurt at Dungiven, County Londonderry, when they tried to divert the marchers to another route to prevent possible clashes.

Three police were treated after having pepper thrown in their eyes, and an inspector

Forty people had been taken to hospital after clashes in which a car was burned out and windows smashed.

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the organisers, said "this procession was a great victory for the non-violent Civil Rights campaign."

"Freedom of procession was denied to us but we took it for ourselves."

It was feared that Loyalists would again bar their way along the route to London-derry, where many towns-people oppose the march.