



STALEMATE!

Collins goal earns replay

2919

Bournemouth 1 Luton Town 1

Replay Tuesday, at Kenilworth Road (7.30)
By ROGER DUCKWORTH

LUTON still have an interest in the Cup, but they can count themselves fortunate after saving up their worst away performance of the season for today.

For a Cup-tie it was a disappointing attendance at Bournemouth this afternoon. A few minutes before the kick-off there were wide open gaps on the terraces, but perhaps this was because Southampton were playing at home to Leeds.

Despite the thinness of the crowd, there was a large following from Luton, with two train loads of fans travelling south and a lot more coming by road.

Luton inside-forward Brian Lewis, suffering from a foot injury, was in Bournemouth last week to see them beat Stockport 1-0, and he gave manager Alec Stock the lowdown on the recent changes in the Bournemouth side.

Before the game today he told me: "They didn't look as good as when we played them last. They have a peculiar set-up and I think they are lacking a bit in the middle of the field."

Luton lost the toss and kicked off against a strong sun. But they were the first in attack and Allen was only a second too late in finishing off a good move between Collins and Tees.

And as the ball came back into the Luton half, Collins collapsed clutching an ankle after challenging for a bouncing ball with the Bournemouth centre-half. He had to have treatment and was hobbling badly when the Luton trainer left the field.

Anxious

Luton had an anxious moment when Branton took a free kick for the right and Slough had to do a quick shuffle to scramble the ball away as the Bournemouth defence raced in to the penalty area.

The ball was cleared to touch on the other side of the field, and in a skirmish Graham French received a knock but carried on after treatment.

French began to look dangerous, but he encountered some hard tackling from Gulliver as the Town went forward.

The next time the Luton winger and his mentor came together there was a dogged tussle and Bournemouth were awarded a free kick for an offence by French right under the nose of rigid referee Kerkhof, who is an Army Sergeant-Major.

One down

After a good deal of aimless play in midfield by Luton, Bournemouth went ahead after ten minutes. It began with a splendid through pass from full-back Terry Gulliver who sent MacDougall away. He crossed from the by-line and Hartley, racing in, powered a shot at Davie's goal.

Davie stopped the ball but it ran loose among the retreating defence. HARTLEY followed up and put a low shot into the Luton net.

This was a real upset for the Town's plans in view of their recent performances away from home. It was some slackness in marking that caused the goal, and Davie cannot be blamed after saving the first attempt which was even more powerful than the one which put Bournemouth ahead.

And after 17 minutes Luton might easily have gone further in arrears. Again it was Gulliver who caused the trouble and his good through ball was well met by Hold. It took some bravery from Davie to save on the ground before Luton got the ball away.

Luton were looking more jittery than on any of their trips so far this season and it was a welcome relief when Tees broke away and tested Baker with a long shot which the Bournemouth goalkeeper dived to turn round for a corner. The flag kick was cleared but at least Luton got some respite.

It's amazing what an early goal can do for a cup fighting team. Right from the moment

TEAMS	
BOURNEMOUTH:	Baker, Gulliver, Foote, Summerhill, Stocks, Powell, Hartley, MacDougall, White, Hold, Meredith. Sub: Rowles.
LUTON:	Davie, Ryan, Bannister, Keen, Branton, Slough, Collins, Macdonald, Tees, Allen, French. Sub: Jardine.
Referee:	Mr M. Kerkhof (Bicester).
GOALS	
HARTLEY (Bournemouth), 10 min	
COLLINS (Luton) 45 min	
Attendance:	7,362

they got their goal, Bournemouth looked a different side from the one that the Town met here in August. They were winning 50-50 balls and looking keener in the tackle than Luton.

Slow Town

In the 21st minute Bournemouth could have gone further ahead. Meredith put a centre over right into the path of Hold, and it took some acrobatics from Bannister to head the ball away for a corner.

Luton came back via French, who beat two defenders in splendid fashion before centering, but the Bournemouth defence were up to it and they cleared everything could come of Luton's hopes.

Less than a minute later Keen forged forward, and with the help of Collins sent Macdonald away on a long run. He got the ball back from a narrow angle, but Baker made a diving save.

With Luton now showing greater determination, Tees sent away Allen and his through ball to Collins was nearly diverted into the goal before the Bournemouth defence somewhat gracefully conceded a corner.

French had to have further treatment for a head injury.

When Collins took the corner there was a tremendous surge of enthusiasm from Luton, and Macdonald and Allen both fought for possession in front of goal before Bournemouth cleared.

From Luton's point of view this was a disappointing start but they should have gained some encouragement from the work Allen was putting in both in defence and attack. He was showing up well in both departments and trying to send away his apparently "handcuffed" forwards.

Lost ground

With the half hour approaching, Luton rarely looked like scoring. One good move on the left between Bannister, Tees and French came to little, and as Bournemouth cleared, the Town gave little impression of winning any honours as they continually lost ground in midfield.

At one stage it got so bad that even Tees was helping out the defence, and he had to make one hurried clearance into touch from just outside the penalty area as Bournemouth surged forward.

Bournemouth went close again when Hold had Davie tied up in the net with a header from Gulliver's cross. Luckily for Luton it went over the top. But Luton should have learnt a lesson from this one, for again the move was set off by goalscorer Hartley who was given a surprising amount of room by the Town defence.

With Luton giving their worst away performance of the season things became desperate at the back. Branton had to resort to a hefty foul on White just outside the penalty

area, but nothing came of Bournemouth's free kick.

This was just as well for the Town as they were having enough trouble with Bournemouth's flowing movements, let alone having to deal with as set-up dead ball situation.

Luton gave a brief show of enthusiasm via French, but he lost the ball and Hartley embarked on a dazzling run which mesmerised the Luton defence and ended up with MacDougall shooting just wide.

Luton appeared to be having trouble in keeping their feet, whereas Bournemouth were running crisply and using the ball intelligently.

Bournemouth were tackling far too fast for Luton's liking. But right against the run of the play, as everyone was waiting for the half-time whistle, Luton equalised.

For about the first time in the match French escaped on the left. He made ground and floated a centre across on to the head of the waiting COLLINS, who picked his spot and headed past Baker as Macdonald raced in hoping to finish it off.

HT: Bournemouth 1, Luton 1

French's first half marking had taken its toll, and he was missing when the teams reappeared. He was replaced by Fred Jardine who took up a position over on the left wing, but was expected to play a half-and-half role.

With the wind and sun in their favour, Luton could be expected to do better, but in fact it was Bournemouth who made the early running in the second period.

And after only five minutes, Bournemouth nearly went ahead again. A free kick by Gulliver was banded about in the middle, and Hold nipped in with a speculative attempt from just behind the penalty spot. Davie was well out of position, and the shot hit a post. This was a real let off for Luton.

Luton's marking did not improve, and full-back Gulliver was given all the room he wanted to try one from 35 yards. Davie made the shot look difficult as he punched it over the top, and from

Hartley's corner Summerhill went close in a goalmouth skirmish before Bannister cleared.

The Luton attack was obviously missing the wiles of French, although Jardine was putting in some hard work on the left.

From one move on the left Macdonald challenged and Keen was presented with a long shot which he put over the top.

A couple of minutes later it was Keen again who floated across a long centre, and Tees rose well to head a soft one into Baker's hands.

Best forward

Hold found an opening for Bournemouth, but he lobbed a soft one towards Davie. And as the tempo changed a little White went up for a long one with goalkeeper Davie, but his header went wide.

The best forward on show was Bournemouth's Hartley, who took part in most of the home side's attacks. But he did not really have a lot of opposition as both sets of forwards looked a bit rusty.

There was another scare for the Luton defence when White moved well into an open space

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before centering. But his effort was headed away for a corner by Ryan.

A free kick for a foul on Macdonald was taken by Keen and won a corner for Luton. This was taken on the right by Collins and from it Baker was fortunate to catch a fair looking header from Tees.

There was some brief amusement as White and Davie had a shoulder-to-shoulder barging match, but White retreated, with the help of a pat on the head from Branton, before the referee intervened in Luton's favour.

A good clearance by Keen found Tees on the right and Macdonald seemed well positioned for his centre in the air when a defender intervened and another Luton chance went begging.

Bournemouth hit back, and danger man Trevor Hartley found himself some space, which was at a premium this afternoon, and almost surprised Davie with a long-range shot which went just wide.

Close shot

After a move between Collins and Keen, Jardine went away and showed that he still owned a legacy from his outside left days when he swung across a good centre. But there was nobody in the middle to make use of it.

The action went from end to end but there was little to excite the crowd. Biggest impression seemed to be: "I hope someone scores, we don't want a replay."

And then, with one of the best moves of the match, Luton very nearly moved into the second round.

Jardine broke on the left and swung a perfect cross into the goalmouth. It was nudged on by a Bournemouth defender out of Macdonald's way, and Collins, running intelligently, half-volleyed the ball a couple of inches over the crossbar from close range.

It was one of the most pleasant-looking moves of the afternoon, and brought the crowd to their toes for a moment.

Meredith burst through down the left and swung across a tricky looking centre which Davie met with one hand, patted it on, and then dived to collect.