

Gillies blames replay on that snapped post

By ROY BENTLEY: Nottm F 1, Luton 1 (FAC)

UNNATURAL breaks are not confined to soccer TV. They actually happen on the field of battle. And, says Forest chief Matt Gillies, they make a mess of things.

Gillies blames the 15-minute hold up after a goalpost had snapped for Luton getting into this Cup act. "We lost our momentum after that—but if we can again make as many scoring chances in the replay, we should win."

But Forest had better make special plans to check striker Malcolm Macdonald. With only two men for attacking support at the County Ground, mighty Mal's opportunities were few... But he could cause havoc in tomorrow night's replay.

Macdonald took his 69th-minute equaliser superbly. His first-time drive from a Jimmy Ryan cross bounced back off a defender—and he calmly headed in.

"Jimmy Ryan, Don Givens and I were given a roving commission in the second-half," said Macdonald. "We were outnumbered, but still managed to worry Forest plenty."

Forest, short of luck but never spirit, hit Luton from every angle in their late desperate efforts to pull out a winner.

Jimmy McIntosh, playing his third first-team match, had put them ahead in the 16th minute.

Victory

And he looked the man who might snatch victory.

Luton survived, thanks to on-the-line clearances from full-backs John Ryan and Jack Bannister and a few shaky saves from below-form goalkeeper Tony Read.

The crashing goalpost incident came after 35 minutes when Forest back John Winfield rushed into the netting in an attempt to save a Macdonald shot.

Said Winfield afterwards: "That was the finest crack I've ever made."

Luton are not worried about the replay. "We'll play a lot better—and Forest can't relish the idea of coming to Luton," said skipper Mike Keen.



Casualty at Forest—keeper Jim Barron supports the tottering goalpost while the referee signals for first aid. The post came down when John Winfield crashed into the net—all because Forest recently removed the iron stanchions.