

Derbyshire at the double

06/07 (CAC)

One who got away ruins Newell's day

LUTON 0

BLACKBURN 4

Derbyshire (10, 56), McCarthy (37), Pedersen (74)

By Ian Ridley



CLASS APART:
Matt Derbyshire
scores
Blackburn's
opening goal

Picture: JIM STEELE

positional play. He's got a great future, we think,' Newell agreed. 'One who'll get better and better,' he said.

Newell was bleeding another 20-year-old striker in Drew Talbot, picked up from Sheffield Wednesday for £250,000, and though he worked willingly, he never quite had the same touch and finishing power. It helps, mind, to have better players around you. David Bentley and Aaron Mokoena had comfortable control of the midfield and everything flowed from there.

Blackburn rarely needed to get out of second gear. They had a lead in the 10th minute when Derbyshire con-

verted Benni McCarthy's through pass with a neatly-angled shot and were largely untroubled from then on.

They doubled their lead eight minutes before half-time when Morten Gamst Pedersen sent in a low cross that Derbyshire headed back across goal for McCarthy to tap home his 15th goal of the season.

Victory was confirmed 11 minutes into the second half when Brett

Emerton crossed from the right and Derbyshire rose to head home his second. The rout was completed when Zurab Khisanishvili's cross was headed out only to Pedersen and his left foot sent a drive into the net via a post.

Hughes said: 'When you see the amount of Premier League teams going out, you think you might have a chance to play the later stages if we avoid the big boys. There's a real prize at the end

of it this year, with the final at Wembley and the Queen presenting the trophy. We would love to be part of that.'

LUTON (4-4-2): Beresford; Foley, Perrett, Coyne (Keane 21min), Davis; Bell (Morgan 58), Robinson, Langley, Emanuel; Boyd, Talbot (O'Leary 82). **Subs (not used):** Brill, Spring.

BLACKBURN (4-4-2): Friedel; Khisanishvili (Gallagher 76), Henchoz, Nelsen (Samba 70), Warnock; Emerton, Bentley, Mokoena, Pedersen; Derbyshire, McCarthy (Jeffers 67). **Subs (not used):** Enckelman, Nonda. **Booked:** Khisanishvili. **Referee:** S Bennett (Kent).

THINGS come back to haunt you in this game and the FA Cup always seems to highlight them. Luton Town manager Mike Newell tried several times to sign Matt Derbyshire on loan and could only watch and rue his failure as the 20-year-old Blackburn striker scored two goals and set up a third.

Luton were outclassed and blown away by a ruthless and efficient Rovers in a tie that had looked as if it might produce one of the round's upsets. But that was to overlook that, along with a host of injuries to his players, Newell has been forced to sell £9million-worth of talent in the past year, including striker Rowan Vine to Birmingham for £2.5m last week.

The magic of the Cup? A team is disappearing before the eyes of the Kenilworth Road faithful.

'Their extra quality shone through,' said Newell. 'I was half expecting this. It's not a massive shock.'

Derbyshire, bought for just £20,000 from non-League side Great Harwood Town, certainly made the right choice in staying with Rovers. His lean, leggy strike-play cut through Luton and he has now scored five goals in six games, including one in the four-goal demolition of Everton in the third round.

'He's had an impact every time he's had a chance,' said Rovers manager Mark Hughes. 'He's got an eye for goal and affects teams with his energy and