

END OF AN ADVENTURE

Magpies' ^{12/13} crash out ^(A9) of Trophy

LUTON TOWN 3
O'Donnell 11, Walker 17, 69
DORCHESTER TOWN 1
Thompson 85

BY MIKE SIMMONDS

DORCHESTER'S FA Trophy adventure was ended as they went out against Blue Square Bet Premier side Luton Town last night.

At the same venue that the Magpies had seen their FA Cup dreams dashed on Saturday, Phil Simkin's men never really threatened an upset this time round.

Simkin made three changes from Saturday's clash with Lewis Morgan, Richard Logan and Sam Malsom coming in for Nathan Walker, Jamie Gleeson and Jon Garcia.

The visitors studied their higher-league opponents early on, only to find themselves behind to a goal out of the blue on 11 minutes when JJ O'Donnell collected Jon Shaw's knock down and sent his volley from 20 yards into the bottom corner.

The Magpies tried to mount an immediate comeback as Sam Malsom was denied by a fine sliding intervention from Alex Lawless, before Jake Gosling wriggled his way into the area and saw his shot deflected behind.

The visitors' task got even harder on 17 minutes when a long ball was noddied on by Shaw and Dan Walker raced clear to round Jason Matthews with ease before side-footing into the net.

Striker Richard Logan threatened with a header that home keeper Dean Brill flipped over the top, while the visitors had a huge escape when James Dance hammered wide from a good position.

The Magpies were forced into a change on 37 minutes when Jake Smeeton replaced Neil Martin and they had calls for a penalty shortly afterwards.

Lewis Morgan, in acres of space, saw his low drive blocked by what looked like Simon Ainge's hand, but referee Charles Brakespeare waved the appeals away.

Magpies' striker Logan had another sighting on 40 minutes, scuffing a low drive straight at Brill from 20 yards.

After the break, Charlie Clough advanced from his central defensive position to send a shot that was blocked into the hands of Brill, before Dorchester had their best opportunity with a low ball caught out Lawless as Logan's low shot was held by the Luton stopper.

Malsom got his angles all wrong as his wayward effort earned some rueful cheers from the home fans, while the Hatters almost had a third when first Walker shot into the side-netting and then Lawless curved wide from 20 yards.

The pace of Walker was causing Dorchester problems, as he beat Clough and then saw O'Donnell side-foot wide from close range.



MARVELLOUS CROSS: Jake Gosling, above, played a great ball for the Magpies' consolation, scored by Dan Thompson

It was 3-0 on 69 minutes when Walker was played in once again and he rounded the onrushing Matthews before passing into the net for his second of the night.

The forward was close to a hat-trick but just could not reach Stuart Fleetwood's cross while Matthews dived to save Matt Robinson's low shot.

Dorchester did gain a consolation on 85 minutes with the goal of the game as Gosling's marvellous cross was superbly volleyed into the net on the run and at full stretch by substitute Dan Thompson.

Hatters: Brill, Rowe-Turner, Lawless, Shaw, Ainge, Watkins, Lacey (Howells 24), O'Donnell (Woolley 82), Dance (Fleetwood 66), Robinson, Walker. Subs not used: Mendi, Gray.

Magpies: Matthews, Jermyn, Martin (Smeeton 37), Clough, Pugh, Morgan, Gosling, Nicholls, Watson (Thompson 81), Logan, Malsom (Crittenden 78). Subs not used: Nathan Walker, George Colson.

Attendance: 897 (16 Magpies' fans)

■ Dorchester Town Reserves beat United Services Portsmouth 4-1 in the third round of the Wyvern League Challenge Cup last night. Report in tomorrow's Echo.

■ The Avenue Stadium hosts a Christmas Shopping Evening tonight from 6.30pm.

The event will include an array of stalls and a raffle, and the bar will also be open and includes discounts for affiliation card holders.

All are welcome with the entry fee £4, which includes a drink.

Under-16s go free. Stalls include: Pampered Chef, the Body Shop, party candles and holly wreaths, flower arrangements, gift cards, jewellery, special reserves and hair and beauty.

■ Bridport crashed out of the Dorset Senior Cup at the quarter-final stage after going down 4-1 to Poole Town last night.

Ryan Dorell scored the Bees' consolation at Tipton.

■ Yeovil Town reached the semi-finals of the southern section of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy last night after beating Wycombe Wanderers 2-0 at Huish.

Goals from Edward Upson and Sam Foley was enough to see off the Chairboys after they had Matt Spring sent off in the 26th minute.

Hatters have the final say



LUTON T 3 MAGPIES 1
BY ADAM SUMMERS

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PHIL Simkin is now focusing on a push for the play-offs after his side's extraordinary cup exploits came to an end at Kenilworth Road last night.

The Magpies were looking to gain revenge over Luton for Saturday's loss in the FA Cup but once more the Blue Square Bet Premier outfit got the better of them.

Speaking after the 3-1 FA Trophy defeat, Simkin said: "We drew with them at our place but over the three games they were better than we were."

NEXT MATCH

SUTTON UTD (h, Sat, Dec 8, 3pm)

"However, all credit to the lads because we gave it a good go and if we play like we did in the second half last night in the league, we will have every chance of making the play-offs."

"We conceded two horrendous goals and it gave us a mountain to climb but after the break we played really well."

Dan Thompson grabbed the late consolation for the Magpies, who also saw Arran Pugh (groin) and Neil Martin (hamstring) pick up injuries.

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