FOOTBALL POST AND NEWS

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Forest net first but go down 2-1

HIGH FEE ON BAKER

NOTTINGHAM FOREST manager, Mr. Johnny Carey, today cleared up confusion over the club's interest in Arsenal's transfer-listed centre forward Joe Baker.

The Reds telephoned Highbury to get to know the fee on Baker's head. Having been given the information, Forest let the matter drop.

The conclusion must be that Arsenal place a higher valuation on Baker than Forest do, and unless there is an unexpected change in the situation, there will be no further talks between the clubs on this issue.

The Reds, of course, had to check on the situation in case Arsenal were interested in a player-exchange deal.

by TONY PRITCHETT

NOTTINGHAM FOREST conceded their first home goal since November 20th when Newcastle United scored through Suddick at the City Ground this afternoon. After a shaky start Crowe put the Reds in front with a quarter of an hour gone but they were up against it when Frank Wignall had to leave the field with an ankle injury three minutes later.

David Stainwright substituted. In the second half a shaky Forest defence lapsed again and a goal by Hilley put the Tynesiders in control. Forest struggled hard but unsuccessfully and Barnwell was booked by the referee for arguing after having a goal disallowed for offside.

Both teams fielded the sides suc-bility of match substitute to young and untried players. Forest standby man was David Stainwright, and Newcastle named 18-year-old John Craggs.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST

Cargill
Hindley Newton
Hennessey McKinley Whitehouse
Crowe Wignall McArthur Barnwell Hinton
Robson Moore Hilley
Smithson Suddick
Hur McGrath Burton
Clarke Crais
Marshall

NEWCASTLE UNITED

Substitutes for Forest: Sadgrovski, Robertson for Newcastle: Craggs.

Referee: W. A. Handley.

Linesmen: A. Johnson (red), R. Bonser (yellow).

After the offside flag had stopped Forest in the opening seconds, Newcastle came away with an incisive move which almost brought them a first minute goal.

Kettleborough cleverly turned the ball out to Hilley, who found Burton just inside the penalty area. The winger lofted centre in a right foot shot which had Cargill beaten but the ball thudded against the upright.

McGarry seized on the rebound but hit his shot against Hindley and the Reds luckily escaped.

Newcastle made all the early running. They might well have scored when a Kettleborough shot glanced off a defender and bounced the wrong side of the post with Cargill going the wrong way.

It was ten minutes before Forest threatened and then Hinton hammmered Barnwell's short free kick against a wall of defenders.

REDS IMPROVE

Forest improved in length and some fine midfield football by Hennessey and Whitefoot opened the way down Newcastle's left, but Marshall was quickly out of goal to beat Barnwell in a race for the ball.

The Newcastle keeper then saved a Wignall header and followed this up by cleanly taking the ball out of the air, when Barnwell and Hinton tried a short corner.

With quarter of an hour gone Forest went in front—a lead they hardly deserved on the balance of play. Hinton was impeded and from the free kick Wignall headed down for CROWE to nip in behind Clark and score from close range.

After 18 minutes Wignall went down injured. After a long consultation on the touchline with trainer Jack Burkitt and physiotherapist Bob Davies the player went back for a moment to join in injury. But after a few steps he signified that he couldn't continue and David Stainwright came on.

The newcomer almost scored with his very first kick a mistake by Clarke let him through

Verdict on Forest

Under conditions about as perfect as they can be in January, Nottingham Forest had mixed luck against Newcastle. They were fortunate to come unscathed through a lethargic start but were beginning to regain composure when Crowe scored. Then Wignall went off injured.

The absence of three experienced players — Cargill and McArthur were already deputising—threw a great strain on the Reds and things looked ominous when Newcastle equalised. The challenge proved stimulating to Forest and Hindley gave excellent wing play, especially from Crowe, the Reds were again looking the better team by half time.

The youngsters in attack, Stainwright and McArthur, both earned applause for their enthusiasm and they were each unlucky not to gain a first half goal against Newcastle defence which did not always give the agile Marshall good cover.

Early in the second half Forest laboured unimpressively in both defence and attack. United took full toll of the Reds' shortcomings and the outcome was a period of domination by the visitors.

Newcastle's second goal came as a blow but, like the first, it should have been prevented.

ATTENDANCE 21,659

and Marshall had to come right to the edge of his area to prevent the youngster getting a goal.

THE EQUALISER.

After 26 minutes Newcastle equalised—and it seemed that Cargill's lack of inches prevented him from cutting out a dangerous situation.

A ball from the right was deflected into the air instead of clearing home to the defence allowed Suddick to come in, hit the bar with his first effort, then in the confusion the woodwork was rattled again. As the ball come down a second time it was Suddick who diverted it into the roof of the net.

With three inexperienced players—McArthur, Cargill and Stainwright in their ranks, Forest found the odds stacked against them.

They raised hopes when Crowe sprinted down his wing and McArthur flashed a first time header just over the top from a narrow angle.

Forest came close to going in front again on the half hour. Stainwright, battling impressively, turned and speedily put out to Crowe but the winger's fierce low shot flashed across goal with no-one there to turn it through.

JUST WIDE

Newton, surging into United territory, laid on a splendid chance for McArthur, but the centre forward, challenging well as Marshall came out, deflected it inches the wrong side of an upright.

Forest's wingers looked their main hopes for victory and both were quickly in action. Hinton went past McCoy but Marshall pulled down his centre.

Then Crowe, sparkling on the right, left Clark for dead in a splendid run, but his final shot from an angle went behind.

Forest fought hard and after more good work by Crowe, Hennessey won a corner but it brought no danger.

HALF-TIME:

NOTTM. FOREST 1
NEWCASTLE UNITED 1

Forest began the second half with great spirit but were soon forced back by United, when the visitors might have had an early goal.

The referee waved play on when Hilley took a free kick very quickly, rolling the ball to Keith Hindley. The local defect responded with a shot of great power which flashed into the side net.

With seven minutes of this half gone Forest were given a let off by Suddick. A bad header by McKinlay went straight to McGarry and he put Suddick in possession inside Forest's penalty area.

The inside right however made a hash of the chance and Cargill was not troubled.

McKinlay's shaky spell continued and there was danger when McGarry beat him and Crowe to a high ball.

The centre forward's first shot was blocked and Newton came over to head down, but Forest were again playing second fiddle.

Forest, inspired once more by Crowe, began combining together. First Hinton missed a good chance and then Barnwell headed a centre from the right winger into the net. But the flag was up for offside, a decision with which Barnwell obviously disagreed.

In fact he argued so forcibly that in the end referee Batty took his name.

HILLEY'S GOAL

After this Forest improvement it came as a shock, therefore, when Newcastle went in front. McGarry on the wing controlled the ball splendidly, but when he centred by the foot of the near post it seemed that the ball should have been cleared, but HILLEY got a foot to it and deflected it through.

Newcastle, well in command, might have had a third but McGarry could get little power behind a header and Cargill held it on the line.

Forest got into further trouble when a misunderstanding between McKinlay and Hindley over a free kick led to Robson gaining possession and going away. The winger's efforts, however, was held by Cargill

MORE SPIRIT.

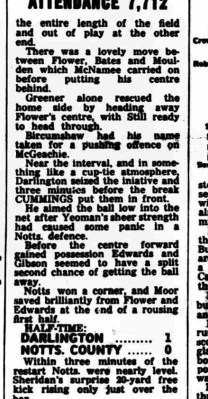
The Reds infused more spirit into their play but Forest never down really looked like scoring. They appealed for a penalty for hands by McGrath.

Things went from bad to worse for Frank Hindley was booked for a foul against Robson and then when Hennessey unsettled this decision, he, too, appeared to have his name taken.

Hinton had a header saved by Marshall near the end as Forest tried to pull a point out of the fire.

RESULT:

NOTTM. FOREST 1
NEWCASTLE UNITED 2



PETER McNAMEE, Notts. County's new forward, played at outside left at Darlington this afternoon.

Last words on Notts.

IT could not be said today that Notts. County were failing to "fight" for away points. They gave Darlington a very hard time of it indeed—and were booed from the field at half-time for their efforts.

However, from a Meadow Lane angle, this must rank as one of County's best performances for a long time.

That is why it was a very chastening experience for them to be a goal down, just before half-time.

And the truth is that the Notts. defence, so resolute up to that point, could have avoided the concession by clearing the danger before Cummings got possession.

NOTTS. IN TERRIFIC TUSSLE

by COLIN SLATER

IN almost a Cup-tie atmosphere, Darlington and Notts. County fought out a thrilling struggle at Feethams this afternoon and it took the home side 42 minutes to get a goal, through centre forward Bobby Cummings.

The determined Magpies' tactics made them a lot of enemies in the partisan crowd, but Notts. refused to yield to anything.

The switching of Bates and Flower to form a new right wing pair and the introduction of McNamee meant County's first changes for six matches.

With Moulden partnering him, McNamee's baptism gave County a complete left wing of former Peterborough players.

Darlington, playing for the first time for three weeks, were untested at home since last August and were at full strength.

To avoid a colour clash, the Magpies turned out in the amber strip.

DARLINGTON

Moor

Fawcel Keable
Yeoman Grosser Jacques
Allison Sproates
McGeachie Cummings Johnstone
McNamee Moulden Still Flower Bates
Edwards Gibson Sheridan
Bircumshaw Hampson
Smith

NOTTS. COUNTY

Substitutes for Darlington: L. Hooper.
Substitutes for Notts.: Barnwell.
Referee: L. J. Hamer (Bolton).

ATTENDANCE 7,712

The first quarter-hour showed that a tough match was in prospect, there were five free kicks against Notts. in that period and an ugly incident in which Darlington conceded a free kick.

Smith did well to field a couple of well-flighted free kicks, first by Johnstone and then by Yeoman.

The clash developed between Yeoman and Moulden in midfield and three County players clustered round the referee to protest about it.

Edwards was taken on one side for a word by the referee and in another "incident" Bircumshaw was lectured.

The Yeoman incident brought a Darlington-taken free kick, and before this was beaten off Notts. had won a couple of corner kicks, both cleared.

WELL SAVED

After 10 minutes the lively Sproates beat Sheridan down the right wing and Cummings allowed his forward to pass to Johnstone who, cutting well inside, created a certain scorer. However, Smith turned the left winger's drive round the upright quite brilliantly.

County's reply was led by Mouden, who, shooting from too long a range, drove wide.

Continuous recent rain had made the pitch soft and it soon cut up, although it was in good condition really.

Notts. were playing well and in determined style, and in 20 minutes, McNamee, coming into the picture for the first time, slipped inside and squared a low ball for Still, who had no more to do than tap it over the line at short range. However, the centre forward was quite properly ruled offside.

There was a long hold-up for treatment to Flower, who, when he recovered, headed a Hampton-taken free kick straight into Moor's arms. It was continuing to be an extremely robust affair, in which Notts were giving as good as they got in every respect.

A goal kick by Smith carried the entire length of the field and out of play at the other end.

There was a lovely move between Flower, Bates and Moulden which McNamee carried on before putting his centre behind.

Greener alone rescued the home side by heading away Flower's centre, with Still ready to head through.

Bircumshaw had his name taken for a pushing offence on McGeachie.

Near the interval, and in something like a cup-tie atmosphere, Darlington seized the initiative and three minutes before the break CUMMINGS put them in front.

He aimed the ball low into the net after Yeoman's shoot strength had caused some panic in a Notts. defence.

Before the centre forward gained possession Edwards and Gibson seemed to have a split second chance of getting the ball away.

Notts won a corner, and Moor saved brilliantly from Flower and Edwards at the end of a rousing first half.

HALF-TIME:

DARLINGTON 1
NOTTS. COUNTY 0

Within three minutes of the restart Notts. were nearly level. Sheridan's surprise 30-yard free kick rising only just over the bar.

Edwards, under no pressure, gave away a corner and it was as well for Notts. that Allison failed to control a misdirected back pass by Gibson.

Still won a corner off Greener and when McNamee placed this, Bates got in a low shot which Moor saved, diving in the way.

Darlington swarmed back and it was a pressure close call to a penalty for them when Bircumshaw felled Yeoman a hair's breadth outside the box.

That free kick came to nothing. Neither did one when Edwards fouled McGeachie just afterwards.

Notts. recovered from this severe pressure and began to look for an equaliser, but Darlington's defence stcorded Moor master-covering.

The switch of Flowers to inside forward was proving a distinct success.

Both teams were retaining a remarkable pace considering the conditions.

In the last quarter of a hour gallant Notts set up a spirited revival.

Greener saved a certain goal by stopping a shot from Moulden on the line after McNamee had created the chance.

Then Bates receiving from Moulden ran across the face of the goal, but the right winger came again, this tim sheeting Moor, and another Greener come to the rescue.

In midfield Greener had his name taken after an affray with Still.

Still shot over from six yards as lucky Darlington had another let off.

RESULT:

DARLINGTON 1
NOTTS. COUNTY 0

ANOTHER FOR CROWE

Chris Crowe, the Forest outside right, shoots past Gordon Marshall, Newcastle's goalkeeper, to score in the City Ground match this afternoon.

Mansfield are beaten in goals spree

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

MANSFIELD TOWN were on the receiving end at the Goldstone Ground this afternoon, where Brighton swept into a 5-2 interval lead. The Stags found great difficulty in containing Brighton outside left Tawse, who scored two of the goals.

Livesey also scored two first half goals but Mansfield, to their credit, never gave up fighting and Anderson pulled the score back to 5-3 after 74 minutes.

Brighton brought in Oliver at inside left for the suspended Collins.

Brighton: Piper; Ward, Ellis; Oliver, Livesey, Tawse; Mansell, Howell, Anderson, Treharne, Ellis.

Mansfield: Fisher; Hollyman, Hodgkinson; Hodgkinson, Hodgkinson, Hodgkinson; Hodgkinson, Hodgkinson, Hodgkinson, Hodgkinson, Hodgkinson.

Referee: C. F. Parrott, Hayward.

There was a slight drizzle when the teams kicked off.

Mansfield made progress with Cheesebrough putting Macready away and Oliver gained possession to run through on the Brighton right and forced a corner.

From this TAWSE slammed the ball past Treharne to give Brighton a quick lead. The Mansfield defence looked unsettled and Oliver and Livesey both went close.

Within five minutes, however, Anderson went through to set up MACREADY who ran on to score a brilliant equaliser.

This was developing into an entertaining display and in the eighth minute Brighton were in front again.

Oliver dropped the ball into the goalmouth and after two Brighton players had tried their luck SMITH popped up to drive the ball home.

PROBLEM

The game was played at a rare pace as both sides concentrated on attack but the all-grey surface presented its problems and both sides made their mistakes.

In the 15th minute LIVESEY took a long cross from the right to give Brighton a 3-1 lead with a long range effort and three minutes later from close in LIVESEY was again successful from a short pass from Tawse.

But Mansfield were not to be outdone, and in the 21st minute ANDERSON taking an accurate pass from Macready reduced the arrears.

Treharne was having a busy time now and he foiled every a cross from Tawse to avert certain danger.

HIT THE BAR

Brighton were the more purposeful and Tawse on the left wing was having a great game. A Brighton free kick taken by Turner slammed against the bar with Treharne beaten and at the other end Gall kicked away after a good run by Curtin.

Five minutes from the interval TAWSE sent in a glorious shot just out of Treharne's reach to notch Brighton's fifth.

HALF-TIME:

BRIGHTON 5
MANSFIELD TOWN 2

Brighton were without Charlie Livesey when ends were changed. The centre forward was limping in the last few minutes of the first half and Cassidy took his place.

Cassidy was soon in action pushing the ball into the goalmouth but Smith's shot hit a colleague and was cleared.

In the next Mansfield raid Doug Curtain and Bill Richardson combined on the left wing but the left back's centre went just behind.

Richardson had to receive attention after landing heavily on the gravel surround but he soon resumed.

CONFIDENT

Anderson and Curtin, on Mansfield's wings, were still causing the home defence some concern and although Brighton seemed to have a commanding lead they could not afford to slacken.

Brighton looked more confident, however, although they were missing Livesey's touches of finesse in midfield.

Tawse sent a hard drive into the sidenetting and Colin Nelson blocked a Smith shot on the goal line.

Mansfield comment

MANSFIELD, trailing 5-2 at half-time and facing their fourth successive defeat, still showed plenty of spirit and their not infrequent raids brought cheers from the home crowd.

True Brighton might have been the more polished side but they could never afford to take things easy at any stage of the game.

ATTENDANCE 13,000

Mansfield broke away and ANDERSON got their third following a corner in the 74th minute.

CHEESEBROUGH (e.g.) scored for Brighton in 88 minutes.

ALDRIDGE scored for Mansfield after 89 minutes.

RESULT:

BRIGHTON 6
MANSFIELD TOWN ... 4

Notts. RFC caught out by slick Police

by JIM McLEES

NOTTS. RFC, who missed their last two matches because of bad weather, showed no lack of match fitness when they met Metropolitan Police at Imber Court, London, this afternoon. In a fast, exciting game they were a good match for the fit policemen although they were frequently mastered in the line-outs.

Notts. who were late arriving and had to change on the bus, made one change, John Shackleton came on to the left wing for Kevin Kelly who was not available

Metropolitan Police.—D. Edwards; S. Hayward, R. Hall; J. Bell, J. Pearce; R. Harrison, M. Ellery, C. Crockford; T. Fenner, R. Hall,