FOOTBALL POST AND NEWS

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Forest get slow handclap —lose 4-0

McArthur's incentive

NOTTINGHAM FOREST'S teenage centre forward, Barry McArthur had a particular reason for wanting to do well against Leeds United this afternoon because it was against Leeds at Elland-road last September that McArthur got his first taste of First Division football—late in the game, as substitute for Colin Addison.

"At the crossroads"

FOREST'S official programme for today's game contained sharp criticism of the team's performance in the Cup tie at Hull. After admitting that the bitter words written about the Reds were deserved, the writer goes on—

"We are at the crossroads of the 1965-6 season. That we cannot win anything is a definite fact and, so clearly have a couple of clubs lagged behind to become favourites for the big drop, the the chances are that we are safe enough from relegation. But, repeat performances of last week's poor showing and we could once more be in trouble."

by TONY PRITCHETT

NOTTINGHAM FOREST collapsed startlingly to a splendid Leeds United side at the City Ground this afternoon. Despite their mid-week match in Valencia, Leeds outplayed the Reds throughout and first half goals by Lorimer (two) and 17-year-old substitute Hibbitt gave them a stranglehold on the match.

The pattern was much the same later and Giles scored a fourth for Leeds after Newton had brought down the man of the match, United's fiery wing half Billy Bremner.

At noon the referee was in grave doubts about the pitch being fit. But the sun broke through while he was having lunch and a second inspection soon after one o'clock produced a favourable verdict.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST
Grummitt
Hindley Mochan
Newton McKinlay Whitefoot
Moore Crowe McArthur Barnwell Hinton
O'Grady Giles Madeley Lorimer Storrie
Hunter Charlton Bremner
Bell Reaney
Sprake

LEEDS UNITED

Substitute for Forest : Winfield.
Substitute for Leeds : Hibbitt.
Referee : W. Crossley, Lancaster.
Linesmen : A. Moore (red). K. Goodfellow (yellow).

Leeds got a great welcome from their fellow pit supporters. But it was Forest who made the early running.

Storrie was brought into the game straight away, and in the first minute put over a teasing cross which Sprake did well to cut off.

Moore next appeared in the inside left position but his shot at goal was short of power and the United keeper had no trouble with it.

Leeds' plan, to play the lanky Madeley in midfield alongside Charlton, was soon obvious. They settled down to use Forest and a bad back pass by Hindley, which Grummitt had to leave his area to intercept, caused anxiety.

Hunter made an excellent chance for Storrie but the winger, after moving smartly to it, was hopelessly off balance and put his final shot into the crowd.

REDS CLOSE

Forest came close to an early goal when Hinton won a free kick.

The winger hit it fast and low and Arthur made a splendid effort to turn it into goal. Sprake, however, was on the alert and scrambled the ball away for a corner.

Forest had a let off. An excellent move by Storrie and Bremner saw the right half cross a splendid ball into the penalty area.

Left back Bell, following up, put in a good header which Grummitt could hardly save at the first attempt. With Storrie following up this was a nasty moment for the Reds but Grummitt completed a clearance at the expense of being hurt.

Leeds looked to be gaining an edge and another left wing move again saw Bell surging through.

He crossed a dangerous ball into the forest penalty area but Storrie mistimed his header, putting the ball high over.

After 21 minutes Leeds all-round supremacy brought them a goal. Bremner made a mid-field run before slipping a pass to Lorimer in the penalty area.

Grummitt was stranded but he left goal and see LORIMER shoot past him from a narrow angle.

LEEDS DEPUTY

Leeds received a set-back when Madeley had to go off with a knee injury soon after the goal. This brought on teenager Terry Hibbitt for his first taste of League football.

United continued to do all the work and Grummitt was forced to make a splendid save, tipping a shot from Giles over the top.

ATTENDANCE 26,283

Forest were right out of it at this stage and newcomer Hibbitt was next to go close for Leeds, heading a centre from Bell over the top.

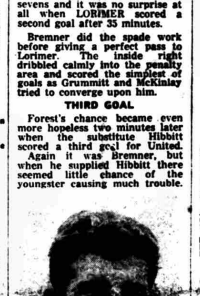
Forest were all at sixes and sevens and it was no surprise at all when LORIMER scored a second goal after 35 minutes.

Bremner did the spade work before giving a perfect pass to Lorimer. The inside right dribbled calmly into the penalty area and used the simplest of goals as Grummitt and McKinlay tried to converge upon him.

THIRD GOAL

Forest's chance became even more hopeless two minutes later when the substitute Hibbitt scored a third goal for United.

Again it was Bremner, but when he supplied Hibbitt there seemed little chance of the youngster causing much trouble.



JOHNNY GILES scored Leeds United's fourth goal, in the second half, at the City Ground this afternoon.

But HIBBITT from out on the left lobbed in a shot and with Grummitt much too far off his line the ball dropped behind him and just beneath the bar.

Forest completely overwhelmed tried to get back into the game with a good move started by Mochan.

The ball was carried across field but Crowe's final shot at Sprake had neither power nor direction and the keeper collected it calmly.

HALF-TIME:

NOTTM. FOREST 0
LEEDS 3

A good right wing run by Moore, in which he held off three tackles, raised Forest's hopes early in the second half. Bremner headed the final centre out of danger.

Mochan came through to lob in a shot from long range. Sprake saving it coolly.

There was a long hold-up when Hindley brought down Hibbitt just on the half-way line. After treatment the United youngster carried on.

NO MISTAKE

Six minutes after half-time Leeds struck another more with a goal from the penalty spot.

The referee had no option other than to award a spot kick when Newton pulled down Bremner. GILES made no mistake with the kick.

The best Forest attack for a long time was set up by Hindley, who made rapid ground, the move ending when Crowe, going forward for a low header, put a brave effort into the side net.

MOORE SHINES

Moore, Forest's most thrusting forward, was brought down just outside the penalty area after another strong run.

Whitefoot took the free kick but Sprake came off his line to collect. A minute later, with the Leeds defence wide open for the first time, Sprake narrowly beat Barnwell in a race for possession before booting into the crowd.

Newton next had a go, putting in a shot which clipped the top of the United bar.

Forest's goal nearly fell again with 70 minutes gone. Giles gained possession in midfield but Storrie moved forward a fraction too soon and was flagged off-side as he raced through and put the ball past Grummitt.

There was a cheer for McArthur when the centre forward, receiving the ball from Mochan, beat Charlton in the crowded penalty area, but Sprake saved. Forest came even nearer to a goal when Crowe went past Bremner and hammered in a fine drive which the Leeds keeper needed two attempts to stop.

By now, however, it seemed that Leeds had very much eased off.

RESULT:

NOTTM. FOREST 0
LEEDS 4

Verdict on Forest

After an initial flurry Nottingham Forest were no match at all for Leeds United.

Far from being jaded after their midweek trip to Spain, Leeds looked fresher, fitter and faster than Forest and the half-time score was no more than a fair reflection of their domination.

They completely commanded the midfield with wing halves Bremner and Hunter repeatedly harassing Forest's defence into mistakes.

The Reds were hardly in it at all and it was a sad sound when they got the slow hand-clap from their fans just before the interval.

Hopes that there might be a Forest recovery never amounted to anything, and although they showed a little more effort than at Hull, they were never in the match.

Bremner had a superb game, and his spirit typified the vast gap which existed between the two teams.

It was another unhappy performance by Forest. They were well outclassed in a match which Leeds must rank as their easiest away from home all season.

NOTTS. 0-1: 83 MIN. DECIDER

by COLIN SLATER

NOTTS. COUNTY put up a strong defensive fight against FA Cup giant killers Southport at Haig Avenue this afternoon, and had a goal scored against them in 83 minutes.

County's attack was largely out of the picture, particularly in the first half, so that their performance, taken all round, was not an impressive one.

Notts. omitted Beresford from the six forwards from whom final selection of the attack was made.

This meant there was only one County change from a week ago, McNamee replacing Kirkup on the left wing.

Southport had to make one change from the side which put Cardiff City out of the Cup. Peat went down with a muscle injury and it was originally intended that Clarke should take his place.

However, Clarke only arrived at the ground three minutes before the kick off, so Brooks, the substitute, was called up and Clarke became the extra man.

The teams turned out in sunny, spring-like conditions, although earlier rain had left the pitch soft on top.

SOUTHPORT
Reeves
McDonald Parker
Brooks Molyneaux Beenland
Marshall Spence Alty Russell Smith (R.)
McNamee Moulden Still Shiels Flower
Edwards Gibson Sheridan
Agnew Hampton
Smith (G.)
NOTTS. COUNTY

Substitute for Southport: Clarke.
Substitute for Notts.: Barrett.
Referee: W. J. Gow, Birmingham.

Southport started in whirlwind style attacking down the left flank.

Ron Smith was, in fact, the first of their forwards to have a possible scoring chance. In three minutes he shot across the face of the goal, but ball eluding Smith but flashing outside the far upright.

It was again a close call to a Southport goal when Spence took a long pass through the middle, dribbled round Gibson and found only Smith in front of him. The goalkeeper came out, cleverly preventing Spence from getting in a real shot, and Agnew eventually got the ball away.

George Smith was hurt in the process and needed attention, as Sheridan had done a little earlier.

Ron Smith, in Southport's next raid, dribbled round Hampton, and cut inside, but he was tackled in the nick of time.

There was an extremely good save by George Smith when he fingered over the bar an inswinging corner from the ever-threatening Ron Smith.

Yet, in 17 minutes, Notts. created a clear cut chance for themselves. Sheridan hit a delightful ball into the penalty area and Still just failed to get his head to it—otherwise he must have turned it through.

OVER THE TOP

Southport's Smith continued to be a regular source of danger. One of his centres caused panic when Gibson mishit the ball towards his own goal, George Smith having frantically to turn it over the bar as Alty moved in menacingly.

Last words on Notts.

EXCEPT that their hard working defence avoided a goal concession, it was a disappointing first half display by Notts. County in the crucial match of the Southport

The muddy pitch did not favour good open football, but County were a long way from displaying their best form.

Their attack was woefully inadequate.

The home side—without even looking the ex-Cup giant-killers—supplied what good football there was in the first 45 minutes.

There was some improvement from County in a somewhat tame second half.

Southport, probably running up against a better defence than they expected, were clearly frustrated by the lack of a goal until seven minutes from the end.

Southport goalkeeper Reeves can hardly ever have had an easier afternoon than Notts. gave him.

ATTENDANCE 5,297

County's attack, not moving well, was seldom in the picture.

Reeves, however, made a scrambling save from Still after McNamee had touched Hampton's free kick to him.

Then Sheridan, trying a shot from 20 yards, drove over the top.

FULL STRETCH

Reeves, at full stretch, made another save from Still, this time after a nice four-player move.

Later, the Southport goalkeeper saved from Sheridan after some spirited work by Moulden.

Alty and Ron Smith combined delightfully for Southport, giving Parker a possible chance. The left back was brought down by Hampton a yard outside the penalty box and County beat off the freekick with some difficulty.

Faulty Southport shooting alone had stood in the way of the home side taking command.

HALF-TIME:

SOUTHPORT 0
NOTTS. COUNTY 0

Southport's defence, now with the sun in their eyes, had to defend desperately in the opening moments of the second half.

However, they soon struck back and Parker hammered in a spectacular 30-yard shot which George Smith turned over brilliantly.

The corner gave Marshall a chance and his drive skidded off

GEORGE SMITH. Notts. County's goalkeeper, made some desperate saves in the first half, at Southport this afternoon.

Gibson's foot for another corner which Notts. cleared.

George Smith made yet another great save from Ron Smith, and when Southport's left winger broke clear again claims for a penalty when Hampton pulled him down were waved aside by the referee.

There was a complete lack of punch hereabouts in County's front line, in which at least two of the forwards were thoroughly ineffective today.

Southport, getting anxious, rushed Molyneux—who was married this morning—to try to meet a freekick from Parker. The back headed the ball badly—it passed into the crowd.

Taking a pass from McNamee, Moulden shot past the post with a chance of giving Notts. a shock lead.

Then Shiels, receiving from Moulden, drove wide when shooting on the run with Beenland harrassing him.

At 83 minutes Southport went in front. McDonald joined in the attack and his transfer found SPENCE who was not closely guarded enough, and the inside right drove the ball just inside the upright.

Southport came strongly again after that success which, on the balance of play, they had deserved.

However, two minutes later Still missed his footing with a completely open goal at his mercy from four yards. It seemed impossible for the centre forward to miss.

County forced a corner but Southport beat it off.

Southport achieved their own first double of the season, and this is the first double County have conceded.

RESULT:

SOUTHPORT 1
NOTTS. COUNTY 0

Mansfield comment

MANSFIELD were badly let down by their defence. Haphazard marking and an all-round lack of understanding made it comparatively easy for Bristol Rovers.

To add to their troubles, Humphreys was far from confident in goal.

Mansfield's defensive attack received scant service and gave the home defence an easy time.

Mansfield are crushed at Eastville

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

MANSFIELD TOWN paid the penalty for some slack defensive play at Eastville this afternoon and with half an hour's play left, were trailing 5-0 to Bristol Rovers.

Rovers went ahead in the first minute and although the Stags did get the occasional breakaway, they never really looked in the hunt.

Mansfield had made two changes from the side which beat Queen's Park Rangers a fortnight ago. Humble and Gregson were still unfit and their places were taken by Richardson and Middleton.

Bristol Rovers: Nail (D.); Hilliard, Jones; Jarman, Bryant, Bragg; Biggs, Meek, Bruton, Prole, Jones (R.).
Substitute: Bolland.
Mansfield Town: Humphreys; Richardson, Hollis; Middleton, Aldred, Storey; Morgan, Fletcher, Crawford, Dobson, Phillips.
Referee: J. E. Taylor, Wolverhampton.

Bristol Rovers gained a dramatic lead in the opening minute. In their first attack they were awarded a free kick, taken by full back Hilliard.

His kick was nodded into the corner of the net by BIGGS as Humphreys alithered helplessly on the muddy goal line.

The well taken goal fired the whole side. But Mansfield came back strongly and a hooked shot by Aldread was not far off target.

Mansfield's defence had been moving uncertainly in the early stages. Williams was at fault in allowing Brown to sidestep him and get him a shot at goal.

Fortunately for Mansfield, the Rovers inside forward was wide.

Lack of direction was in evidence again two minutes later when Biggs provided an equally good chance for Brown.

OVER THE BAR

Anderson volleyed high over the bar and in the next minute, Middleton on the other wing, almost netted with surprise shot from the middle of the field. His effort landed on the roof of the net.

After 22 minutes there was a remarkable mix-up in the Rovers' goalmouth.

Mansfield had exerted considerable pressure and as the ball bounced inside the six-yard box at least a dozen players were involved in the scuffle for the ball.

But Mansfield failed to force the ball over the line and in fact, the home team were awarded a free kick.

The visiting defence looked set for a busy afternoon. It was underlined by defensive mistakes which cost them two goals within a minute.

SPECTACULAR

Nelson, who was having trouble in checking Jones, allowed the winger to provide the pass for BIGGS to head a spectacular goal in the 24th minute.

And it was a blunder by Humphreys—a far from happy goalkeeper — which led to BROWN'S goal after 25 minutes.

There was no let-up for Mansfield. Their lax covering and indecisive tackling frequently ran them into trouble.

A fiery drive from Jones bounced out of Humphrey's arms before being scrambled away.

There was clever individual work by Middleton, Aldread and Macready but the Mansfield attack was not functioning smoothly and was making no headway against a strong home defence.

Middleton might once have scored if his shot had held more power. His effort brought a diving save from Hall.

Mansfield were repeatedly in trouble against the speedy Rovers wingers and they were lucky to escape another goal when Jones eluded Nelson once more.

HALF-TIME:

BRISTOL ROVERS ... 3
MANSFIELD TOWN ... 0

There were signs of improvement by Mansfield early in the second half. The forwards began to show more cohesion and for the first time the home defence was seriously tested.

An accurate five-man movement by the visitors was wasted by Anderson when he lost possession.

ATTENDANCE 7,477

Mansfield went further behind however in the 77th minute. Brown and Biggs figured in the move which ended with JONES having only Humphreys to beat. He steadied himself before netting the ball cleverly under the advancing keeper.

AT FAULT AGAIN

Mansfield were thoroughly demoralised by the time PRUDE found Jarman in centre for number five after 82 minutes. Again the Mansfield defence could be faulted.

Despite the margin of the deficit Mansfield moved well in their sporadic raids. But apart from a stray shot from Macready they were unable to penetrate the Rovers' rearguard.

Belatedly, Mansfield's defence now had a look of more solidarity. Middleton was sticking firmly to Biggs, although Jones was allowed to slip through for what should have been a goal. He shot wide from eight yards.

RESULT:

BRISTOL ROVERS ... 6
MANSFIELD TOWN ... 0

Notts. RFC on top in tough mud battle

NOTTS. RFC fought hard in the mud against Hartlepool Rovers this afternoon and were unlucky not to be well in front.

This first visit of Notts. since 1961 was marred by a switch of venue due to the weather.

Rovers won this particular encounter by 3 points but Notts. won their last two games against the Hartlepool club who had no late chances.

Hartlepool—J. Chapman; A. Caswell, J. Allen, R. Rees, J. Wardell; J. Allen, R. Rees, J. Wardell; J. Allen, R. Rees, J. Wardell;