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THERE'S NO HOLDING GOAL-HUNGRY REDS

JOHN LAWSON at the City Ground

NOTTINGHAM Forest drew on reserves of character to regain the lead in an exciting, free-scoring game against Burnley here this afternoon.

Terry Curran gave them the fillip of a second-minute lead, but as he was limping off injured, Brian Flynn snatched an equaliser in the 20th minute.

Malcolm Smith put Burnley ahead just after half-time, but Forest bounced bravely back to move ahead once more through goals by John Robertson (penalty) and Barry Butlin.

FOREST:	BURNLEY:
Middleton	Peyton
Anderson	Scott
Clark	Pashley
McGovern	Noble
Lloyd	Thomson
Bowyer	Rodaway
Curran	Cochrane
O'Neill	Smith
Withe	Fletcher
Butlin	Flynn
Robertson	Morley
Sub: Barrett	Sub: Ingham

Referee: A. J. Hamill, Wolverhampton
Linesmen: F. A. Harwood, red; J. A. West, yellow

There was excitement at both ends inside the first minute as Forest and Burnley pressed for an early goal.

The visitors created the first threat, when full back Scott crossed low into the area for Smith to turn sharply and he was only denied a close-range shooting chance by the authority of McGovern's tackle.

Then Curran, back in the side after missing the mid-week victory over Ayr, set Robertson up for a right-foot shot that Peyton got down to.

But it was a terrible mistake by the Burnley 'keeper that gave Forest the lift of a second-minute goal.

SAVED

A free kick was awarded after Peyton had saved Robertson's shot, but the 'keeper inexplicably placed his clearance straight at CURRAN'S feet.

The Forest winger was quick to seize on the error and rounded Peyton before hammering in his fifth League goal of the season.

The action flowed furiously and Burnley were near to an equaliser when a shot from Fletcher was deflected by Anderson, forcing Middleton into a diving save at the expense of a corner.

But Forest, buoyed by

Attendance: 15,299

their goal, surged forward and the Lancashire side were fortunate to escape a series of near misses.

Twice in quick succession Curran and Butlin appeared to be brought down inside the area but on both occasions referee Hamill refused to listen to penalty claims, which mainly came from the enthusiastic crowd.

Anderson joined in on the action and following an overlapping run on the right, the young full-back drilled a cross in front of the Burnley goal.

CLOSE

True to their manager's word, Burnley threw men forward into attack and Fletcher was again close to levelling the scores.

He again created space for himself inside the area and forced Middleton into a

Gordon, he tried to resume, but eventually had to be led off the field.

The loss of Curran's penetration was a blow to Forest and before they could introduce substitute Barrett the Reds had the further setback of a Burnley equaliser.

RAID

It came from a raid on the left and after Morley had fed FLYNN, the diminutive Welshman strode through to send a scorching drive past Middleton and into the corner of the net. Barrett then joined the action as an extra midfielder man with O'Neill pushing forward a little more.

Forest maintained the pressure and after Barrett had seen a cross finish just beyond the far post, the Reds posed more danger after Robertson had been brought down by Noble.

The free kick from Robertson was met by Bowyer at the far post, but he was stretched to get in a header and his effort finished off target.

To a certain extent Burnley succeeded in taking the initiative from Forest and strung together several useful moves without promising a second goal.

Noble, captaining Burnley, was an inspiration to his side and he thwarted another Forest attack when he dispossessed Robertson on the fringe of the area.

CROSS

Burnley were always dangerous on the break, but when Forest were short of cover at the back, recent signing Cochrane mis-hit a cross to the unmarked Smith.

Although O'Neill got through some useful work on the right, Forest clearly missed Curran and for a time there was a total lack of penetration.

Withe, however, fired in a low shot which Peyton held and soon afterwards the Burnley 'keeper was stretched to push away a typical left-foot drive by Bowyer from long range.

When Burnley tried to counter-attack again through Fletcher and Morley, Lloyd produced a timely and vital tackle on the £100,000 winger.



Following a bad clearance by the Burnley goalkeeper Gerry Peyton, Terry Curran the Forest winger rounds the 'keeper to put Forest one goal up at the City Ground, this afternoon

Noble, the most influential player on the field, broke up another Forest attack to send his side moving forward, but Cochrane's through-ball to Smith was again misdirected, costing Burnley the chance of creating danger.

Forest came back just before the interval for Barrett to win a right wing corner but it came to nothing and Forest left the field with a lot of work ahead in the second half.

HALF-TIME:
FOREST 1
BURNLEY 1

Forest resumed on the attack and when Withe chased a speculative through ball from Clark, the Reds' striker earned a corner. Robertson's kick landed at the near post, but Peyton was there to punch away.

And from that incident Burnley swept downfield to take a shock 47th minute lead.

SMITH, on loan from Middlesbrough, was faced by Lloyd just outside the area. He moved inside and released a curling right-foot shot which dipped over Middleton's dive and into the top corner of the net.

Forest faced a bitter struggle, but they fought back immediately to equalise in the 51st minute.

McGovern, joining the attack, tried to force his way through to the right of goal and as he made inroads, was brought down by Flynn.

With Curran missing, ROBERTSON was entrusted with the penalty and shot low to Peyton's right. The keeper moved in the right direction, but the shot still beat him.

The crowd, largely subdued during the first half, came to life as Forest set about regaining the lead.

A menacing cross to the near post by Robertson almost found Butlin, but the joint efforts of Peyton and Rodaway came to Burnley's rescue.

FORWARD

Forest maintained the attacking tempo and in the 54th minute moved ahead with a goal by BUTLIN.

The danger came once Barrett had knocked the ball into the area and Butlin moved in before any Burnley player could challenge to slide home his effort.

The jubilant Reds came forward once more and Robertson was only inches away from scoring a fourth goal with a right-foot drive.

It was stirring play by Forest and the crowd sensed another goal when Withe crossed low into the

box, but Rodaway was on hand to produce a crucial clearance.

Lloyd earned applause for a fine piece of defensive covering, when he dispossessed Flynn to set Forest on the march forward once more.

In Forest's next attack, O'Neill shrugged off a dual challenge from Noble and Pashley to curl in a cross that drifted just beyond Forest players at the far post.

A touch of class from Robertson created Forest's next threat, but his cheezy chip-shot just cleared the bar.

Forest were playing their best football of the match and in the 76th minute they took a 4-2 lead with their 19th goal in the last four home games.

Robertson's skill carved open the Burnley defence and when he hammered in a low cross, Butlin had a shot blocked on the line. The ball bobbed about and anyone of four Forest players could easily have scored, but O'NEILL stabbed it in.

The rampant Reds went in search of further goals and O'NEILL scored his second and Forest's fifth in the 81st minute.

RESULT:
NOTTM. FOREST 5
BURNLEY 2

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