

BIRMINGHAM BEAT W.B. Albion

West Bromwich Albion kicked off at the Hawthornes, playing in white shirts. 57,000 braved the icy weather to see this tremendous local derby, Albion at home to Birmingham. On a pitch like a skating rink it was amazing what good quality football these two crack sides served up. For nearly the whole time defences were on top. <sup>Early</sup> Birmingham shooting was off the mark, ) It seemed as though Albion might earn a winning lead by half-time; but Merrick in goal and the whole Birmingham defence kept the raiders *out.*

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(78)

No score at half time. In the second-half Albion were soon on the attack, though they just could not get the ball into the net.

(Crowd)

But now, Birmingham <sup>superiority</sup> ~~superiority~~ made itself felt. Their wingmen played further up. A corner quickly resulted, though it came to nothing.

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When the game was 81-minutes old Birmingham centre-forward Brown passed to outside-left Peter Murphy and he scored perhaps the best goal ~~anywhere~~ in the competition.

Birmingham deservedly won; the score, 1-0.