

BIRMINGHAM BEAT ARSENAL

The question at Highbury was whether the brilliant young Arsenal forward-line (Arsenal playing in light sleeves) could master the strongest defence in the country, Merrick in goal, Hall and Green at back and three great halves.

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56 Four minutes before half-time City inside-right Peter Murphy put Birmingham two up.

Arsenal began the second-half two goals down and were soon on the attack. The forwards had the misfortune to be up against Gil Merrick in England form. Three of his saves were of the near-miracle class.

94 Five minutes after the resumption Peter Murphy gave a perfect pass to Eddie Brown; the unmarked City centre-forward shot Birmingham's third goal.

(121) As Arsenal's forwards couldn't score, up came right-back Charlton to shoot their consolation goal.

So Birmingham got through to the semi-final (when they meet Sunderland) without playing one tie at home.

A wonderful record.