

~~Newsarticle~~

West Brom. V Birmingham

20th Feb. 56

Cup-winners two years ago, West Bromwich kicked off against local rivals, Birmingham City (in white shorts), ~~in this great Midland derby~~ - watched by 57,000 fans at the Hawthorns.

On the snow-bound pitch, it was obvious that the team who failed to master the conditions would go sliding towards defeat. D

Twenty-five years ago, West Bromwich beat their neighbours in a Wembley final.- Now the "Blues" were all-out for revenge. D

The home team sweep down on the offensive: but with both teams sound in defence - goal-chances were few.

A slack moment for Sanders: but look-out, Jim, here they come!

No need to worry - he had that one well covered.

Still it proved a real contrast of styles, ~~with the~~ Albion ball-players matching their skill against the solid Birmingham side - ~~back-up~~ <sup>BACKED UP</sup> by a great defence.

The second half - and West Bromwich (who've never lost a cup-tie against the City - launch a series of all-out attacks. But Birmingham's quick tackling means hurried shooting ~~and that means~~ <sup>IF'S</sup>

Birmingham now - sweeping down in a determined raid - ~~rewarded~~ rewarded by a corner.

Over it comes - a real beauty. An eager Birmingham head goes up....

~~.....~~ <sup>BUT</sup> No score.

Then, just as the game had "treble chance" written all over it - Murphy found Brown, ~~then~~ took a grand return-pass, to slam home the winner...

~~Birmingham beat West Bromwich 1-0.~~ And with a trip to Arsenal in Round Six - the Blues are heading towards Wembley.