

DERBY COUNTY SURPRISES MANCHESTER UNITED.

Manchester's Mains Road puts on the highlight of soccer's opening day. A million people push and squeeze into Britain's football grounds to watch the big kick-off. 50,000 brave Manchester weather to see Derby-skipper Jack Howe win the toss in their dual with Manchester United. The cup-holders - in dark shirts - field last season's all-conquering eleven - the same team that trounced Derby County in the Cup Semi-final. Their attack again blends well and Charlie Mitten - No. 11 - is as tricky an outside-left as ever.

Derby's speedy winger - Reg Harrison - No: 7 - tries hard to get his forwards going - but the Manchester defence has taken on a stonewall look.

Pick of the Derby forwards is Scottish international - Billy Steel - No: 10. A brilliant inside-left, he'll worry many teams this season.

With no score, Derby kick off for the second half - determined to avenge last year's defeat. Old timer Frank Broome - No: 11 - leads their attack on the Manchester goal. In his duel with skipper John Carey - another veteran - Broome comes out on top and rams home Derby's first goal.

Manchester hits back. Rowley's first-time shot is brilliantly punched over the bar. From the resulting corner, the United forwards - now pressing hard can make nothing.

From a goal mouth-scrabble the Derby attack breaks away again. Finishing up a slick passing movement across the slippery turf, Broome dribbles through and Harrison puts Derby two up.

Manchester supporters are silenced. But, renowned for their tenacity and 90 minute football, the United put on a fighting rally.

From a Delaney centre, Stan Pearson heads home their consolation goal.