

CUP FAVOURITES K.O. THE GIANT KILLERS

The soccer world salutes gallant Watford, the minnows of the Third Division who give the big fish, dark-shirted Manchester United, the cup scare of the season. Hot favourites for the Wembley trophy, the Manchester boys come up against a rock-like defence, in which goalie Geoff Morten is the star.

Five internationals make up the Manchester attack, but well though they play, they can't get past that Watford barrier. Though it's not textbook stuff, it's keeping at bay one of the most powerful forward lines in soccer.

Half-time comes with no score and soon after, Manchester's penalty King, Charlie Mitten, misses from the spot. Watford fans breathe again and their favourites, the fighting Blues, tear into it with renewed zest. It's all Watford now, crowding the Manchester goalmouth and goalie Lancaster has his hands full.

Watford keep at it, with centre-forward Dave Thomas charging his way through an overworked Manchester defence. There are only a few minutes left now and it looks odds on a replay - when, suddenly it happens. Stan Pearson sends a long clearance forward, and it's curtains for Watford as Jack Rowley slams it in.

Manchester are through - but never will they have a tougher fight.