

This was the crowd at Villa Park braving foul weather to see Manchester City kick off in their semi-final of the F.A.Cup against Sunderland. ~~And~~ With the ground like a swamp, the white-shirted City side kept the ball close. ~~and~~ with these tactics they went into an early attack.

But Fraser was safe in the Sunderland goal.

This was a match that showed up both sides as giants of determination in terrible conditions; here are Sunderland gathering the mud-plastered ball to sweep it down to the Manchester goal ---and Manchester equally determined in defence.

It was in the second half that Manchester had their chance -- and took it: a centre by Hayes --- for Clarke to head the one goal.

Sunderland were beaten --- but they didn't know it; they kept on trying right to the end; --- but the City defence stood like a rock. And it was Manchester City, once again for the Wembley Cup Final.