

2304

The tide was in at Southend - when Referee Crawford and Manager Harry Warren inspected the pitch. But when the teams finally came out (first Southend.... And then First Division Visitors - Manchester City - for this Fourth Round Cup-tie) - the battle against heavy rains had been won. Southend won the toss - ^{so} ~~for~~ the Maine Road boys (in dark ^{shirts} ~~shorts~~) kicked off - in conditions that called more for the heavy boot than ~~the~~ gentle finesse...

Seemingly more at home - the seashiders attacked ~~hard~~ ^{hard} and often. But Bert Trautman seemed to have arms as long as the famous pier. Then came tragedy for Southend.irate City fans called it "poetic justice!" A long ball stopped dead in the mud - and Joe Hayes got there first - to crash it home.

The City were one-up; but, believe me, it was still no stroll along the promenade for them - with Southend launching determined attacks against defenders bogged down in the morass.

Throughout the second half, Southend never gave up; but always, the rock-like figure of goalkeeper Bert Trautman denied them the sweets of victory.

So a one-nothing ~~win~~ ^{win} went to Manchester City: but perhaps, they, too are used to heavy rain!