SPORTS & PASTIMES.

ROB ROY v. MILNGAVIE ALLANDER.

Semi-final Dumbartonshire Junior Cup—Undecided Tie.

EXCITEMENT NEAR FINISH.

REFEREE MOBBED.

It has often been said of important matches such as semi-final and final ties, that the occasion does not bring forth the play, possibly for the reason that the players are too vividly conscious of the importance of the day. The latest replayed semi-final tie between the Rob Roy and the Allander at Kilbowie Park, Clydebank, on Saturday could not be an exception to the general rule, but we should say, looking to the ripe experience of most of the participators, that something other than nervousness was accountable for the notable lack of clever football. The heavy ground and gusty wind which blew from goal to goal played havoc with all calculations, and even the skill of the players could not keep the ball under control. Under the circumstances individualism, unless of the breaking-up order, was difficult, and combination was impossible. As a consequence there was a desperate energy, a superabundance of keenness and anxiety, and the game was most one-sided in each half. There were changes in both teams from the last time they met, Kelly and Watson resuming for the Robs, and Jones and Beers found places in the Allander team vice Davie and Young. Bethune was chosen to play inside left and turn up, and Jones was substituted. Before a good attendance of spectators—gate realising £12—the teams lined up as follows:—

Allander—Mitchell; Orr and Provan; Jones, Smith and Logan; Kennedy, Wilson, Porteous, Shanks and Beers.

Rob Roy—Kelly; Todd and Semple; Ure, Johnstone and Michie; Watson, Fitzpatrick, Dalrymple, M'Killop and Forrester.

Referee—Mr. A. Steven, Kilmaurs.

Linesmen—Mr. P. O'Hagan (Kirkintilloch Harp) and Mr. Neilson (Mossfield Amateurs).

"Buff" Smith won the toss for the Allander and chose to kick with the strong wind and sun behind him the first half. Therefore, ten minutes late Dalrymple kicked off and Fitzpatrick immediately attacked, but Provan relieved with a big kick which enabled Allander to get over their opponents' goal line first. Smart breaking up play by Jones gave Beers a chance to shine, and Todd easily cleared. Through sheer anxiety Wilson then shot behind twice, both times going in the direction of the corner flags. Dalrymple then led his forwards away in fine style and passed to Watson, but the international was smartly tackled by Provan, who was deservedly cheered. M'Killop then put Forrester in an opportunity near goal, but the outside man headed past. The home player had the whole picture to himself a minute later. The best Orr on the run and crossed, but the ball went over the bar. The Allander now took up the running and gained an abortive corner. They, however, were not to be denied, and although M'Killop and Forrester tried hard to make ground, they found a hard nut to crack in Jones, who was again cheered for exceedingly clever play. Then Beers Wilson had a good try from the penalty line, which just went past by inches. A heavy shower of rain began to fall after this, which combined with a strong wind, made the Robs' position no sinecure. Notwithstanding, they were putting up a strong fight against the elements at this stage, and M'Killop and Ure were prominent with strong forcing work, but the forwards were easily held in check, Watson especially finding Provan a stumbling-block. Logan then made a clever move to let Porteous away, but the centre was pulled up for off-side. The Allander were not settling to one another's play at all and the wind seemed more to disconcert than favour them, but they improved from this onwards and kept up an almost continuous attack on the Robs' goal. From a fine cross into goal by Beers Kennedy was unfortunate to get offside, and a good chance was lost. Close passing by Porteous and Beers completely beat Ure and Todd, and Porteous crossing into goal, Wilson rushed in and beat Kelly who fell on the ground in attempting to save. This was a smartly taken goal, and was loudly cheered by the Milngavie contingent. From the kick-off Robs got down, but put behind, and Allander immediately returned to the attack. Porteous and Beers worrying Todd and Semple to purpose. From a free kick by Semple, Kennedy crossed beautifully to Porteous, whose parting effort lacked sting, and Kelly easily cleared. The next incident of note was a crowded by Wilson, which he fouled on the goal-line by Kennedy. The ball was going past anyway and nothing was lost. Good head and foot work by M'Killop enabled Forrester to get down, but he kicked against the outside man and brought relief to his side. Orr was next cheered for cleverly bringing up Forrester and M'Killop. The ball processed in turn to Logan, who passed judiciously to Porteous. The latter, rushing on, beat Todd, and was confronted by Semple, who threw the centre rather badly, which brought him under the ban of the referee. The free kick brought no reward to the Allander. Ure was next penalised for a desperate charge, and Logan sent the free kick over the bar. The monotony of the play at this stage was relieved by a telling run by Kennedy, who in grand style beat Semple and passed beautifully to Porteous, the latter letting drive with great force; the ball striking the inside of the bar and rebounding to the ground with Kelly beat to the word. The ball was Allander clearly, but the Allander had decidedly hard lines. The Allander forwards were now playing better, and aided by another slip by Semple, Kennedy again got down accurately, but Porteous on this occasion was surrounded, and could not shoot. The ball came out once more to Kennedy, who, again crossed, and Porteous shot, but headed towards Kelly, who cleared smartly. An unfortunate accident at this point deprived the Robs of Ure's services for the remainder of the half, this finishing player having given his right knee a twist. M'Killop fell back into his place. A grand save by Logan, who kept the ball from going to Watson, with his chest, enabled him to put Porteous into possession, and the centre taking advantage of his splendid position beat Kelly for the second time, and hoof Allander home, to the delighted Milngavie supporters. Fouls were then given against Johnstone and Michie, from the latter of which, Jones headed into Kelly's hands. The Allander were now confining the Robs entirely to their own territory, and Porteous, Wilson, and Beers, were within an ace of scoring, and Kelly saved brilliantly just before the interval, which arrived with the Allander leading by 2 goals to 0.

Ure was able to resume for the Robs with his knee bandaged, but he seemed far from fit. Although the wind had fallen somewhat the Robs were expected to continue where the Allander left off, and this proved to be the case. A cross by M'Killop was headed in by Watson, but Mitchell tipped over the bar, and the resultant corner was abortive. Fitzpatrick then got possession close in, and was about to shoot when Orr nipped in cleverly and cleared. After this Mitchell actually picked the ball from Dalrymple's toe, and from a succeeding corner Ure kicked high over the uprights. Then, Robs missed a great chance, through Dalrymple trying to cut things too finely, and Watson was just a second too late to tip the ball through. Following another fruitless corner for the Robs, M'Killop gave Mitchell a good shot to save, which the goal keeper did after some difficulty, shortly after he tipped a hot shot from Johnstone over the bar. That the Robs had not yet scored was a prodigious testimonial to the Allander's defence, the most prominent member of which was Orr, who defended strongly and skillfully. The game was then stopped for a little to enable Smith to come round. From a foul in favour of the Robs, Fitzpatrick headed past, and Dalrymple followed this up with a clever man effort to break through, but Mitchell came out of his goal and saved splendidly. A breakaway by Porteous saw the centre grazing the far post with a fine effort. Having once got over midfield, the Allander hovered round Kelly, who saved a beauty from Jones, and was loudly by Porteous. For a time play was more open, and, after Kennedy had been given offside, M'Killop was presented with a rare opening which he unaccountably failed to accept. At the other end, Shanks put behind, and grand passing by Kennedy and Wilson came to nought owing to Porteous getting offside. A smart run by the Robs ended with Jones being forced to put behind. The corner kick was beautifully taken by M'Killop, and Mitchell had to tip over the bar. Play bitterly put behind. Forrester and Fitzpatrick were most prominent with gallant attempts to score, the latter putting behind with only Mitchell to beat. Kennedy did his best to pick up the game, only to find Fitzpatrick and Watson wanting, and after all the attempts of the Robs to score, their attack was not to be considered serious. Twenty minutes had gone when M'Killop was sent once again on what turned out to be a hopeless errand, the inside left missing the chance of a lifetime. The Allander had now their backs to the wall in an endeavour to save their charge, and right loyally did they stick to their guns. Shots were aimed from all quarters, and either went behind or were cleared, but at last, after a desperate pressure, M'Killop beat Mitchell from a corner. A free kick was then granted the Allander owing to Michie fouling Porteous, but it was cleared, and Robs again surrounded the Allander's goal, A melee ensued, and, after an exciting time the Allander managed to clear. Wilson subsequently met with an injury, but gallantly stayed on. One of those occasional flashes which relieved the aggravating monotony of the play followed, when Porteous beat Semple and Todd, but his run had been too much for him, and his parting shot lacked sting and Kelly cleared. The Milngavie goal, following this, had another narrow escape, a long shot rebounding luckily off Mitchell's chest into play. Once again Porteous, exhibiting wonderful control of the ball, danced round and evaded opponents after opponent, and passed to Beers, who steadied himself, but the ball cannoned off one of the defenders into the corner. This was well taken, but offside robbed the Allander of a good chance. Then came another rally by Robs. In the course of it, a hot shot was sent in which struck the inside of the crossbar and came to the ground, and Mitchell, without a moment's hesitation, fisted out, but the referee, despite the protestations of the Allander team, ruled in the run and crossed, the field. Therefore, it was the equalizer, though an unsatisfactory one, and all has to be gone through again. The last minute saw the Allander attack strongly, and gain a corner. This was well taken, and Beers, getting possession, had hard lines with a cross shot that just went over. The whistle then sounded with the game again a draw—2 goals each.

REFEREE MOBBED.

As Mr. Steven was leaving the field, the excited spectators kept the paling and surrounded him. He was subjected to severe squeezing, and, although one or two made an attempt to strike him, they were not successful. The police were near at hand, but their assistance was not required, as James Orr, the Allander back, put his arm round the referee's neck ,and led him safely into the pavilion. The affair passed off quickly, and there was no further disturbance.

NOTES.

Taken all over, the result must be considered as a correct one, though it was unfortunate that the Robs should have got the equaliser with a disputed goal. Nevetheless, their hot pressure in the second half was only in keeping with that of the Allander in the first half, but the latter were more dangerous in their breakaways than were the Robs. It was really a one-goal match, the wind confining nearly all the play to the one end each half.

Coming to the players, the goalkeepers may be dismissed with the remark that they did their parts well. They were as sure as mean responsible for any of the shots that beat them.

Some doubts exist about the backs. Orr and Todd were a superior class to Semple and Provan. Orr, in fact, played a great game, having speed, tackling power, and endless resource. Provan played well enough, but in the first half he tired towards the finish under the desperate attack. Semple misked repeatedly, and was not at home against Kennedy.

Of six hard-working halves, Jones and Ure may be classed as the best. Jones's play was a revelation,and has never been seen to such great advantage. He was looking for work everywhere, and fairly held M'Killop and Forrester, the latter especially. Ure possessed all the stamina and vim of eager youth, and, despite his accident, played well throughout. Logan also deserves a word of praise for the smart manner in which he controlled the wing. Watson was hardly ever seen in the game. Johnstone was strong with his head in the second half. "Buff" Smith played hard throughout.

Of the forwards, it is impossible to speak nightly. As a five, Allander were more dangerous, but Robs had in M'Killop the most hard-working. In the second half, Porteous demonstrated he was capable of winning the game single-handed if he got the least rope, and throughout played the game for the ground. With the exception of Forrester and Dalrymple, the other two can be mercifully left alone. Kennedy was good on the Allander right, but, with the exception of Porteous, the others were below form.

HARP v. MORTON AMATEURS.

(Scottish Junior League.)

In cold, raw weather, with bright blinks of sunshine alternating with light showers of rain, the above teams faced each other at Clydebank Park on Saturday afternoon last. There was a fair attendance of spectators, when, an hour late, owing to several of the Amateurs having missed their connection, the teams lined up as follows:

Harp—Frew; Pendreloth and Carruthers; Johnstone, Hendrie, and M'Keehnie; M'Dowall, Lister, Miller, Pender, and Sullivan.

Morton Amateurs—Mills; Mitchell and M'Donald; M'Keenan, Duncan, and M'Gowan; "Thomson," Davidson, Archer, Crawford, and Ayre.

Referee—Mr. Paterson, Bridgeton.

Having the luck of the coin, the Amateurs chose to face the east goal, and the homesters had to play against both wind and sun, factors which were indeed potent at the start of the game. M'Dowall early took the eye of the home right with neat slipping of the defence and perfect centering of the ball. Moreover, he was the first to extricate himself from the visitors' goal Mills saving a clever shot of his in fine style. The Harp, despite the wind and sun handicap, were pressing hard at this stage of the game, and, early in and around the penalty area, M'Keehnie contrived to drive the ball into goal with some force behind it. Mills, however, was on the spot, and cleared alright. The visitors' left wing transferred the scene of operations, and the home defence, with the goalkeeper in charge, saved their vision. That the Harp had not yet scored was a prodigious testimonial to the Allander's defence, the most prominent member of which was Orr, who defended strongly and skillfully. The game was then stopped for a little to enable Smith to come round. From a foul in favour of the Robs, Fitzpatrick headed past, and Dalrymple followed this up with a clever man effort to break through, but Mitchell came out of his goal and saved splendidly. A breakaway by Porteous saw the centre grazing the far post with a fine effort. Having once got over midfield, the Allander hovered round Kelly, who saved a beauty from Jones, and was loudly by Porteous. For a time play was more open, and, after Kennedy had been given offside, M'Killop was presented with a rare opening which he unaccountably failed to accept. At the other end, Shanks put behind, and grand passing by Kennedy and Wilson came to nought owing to Porteous getting offside. A smart run by the Robs ended with Jones being forced to put behind. The corner kick was beautifully taken by M'Killop, and Mitchell had to tip over the bar. Play bitterly put behind. Forrester and Fitzpatrick were most prominent with gallant attempts to score, the latter putting behind with only Mitchell to beat. Kennedy did his best to pick up the game, only to find Fitzpatrick and Watson wanting, and after all the attempts of the Robs to score, their attack was not to be considered serious. Twenty minutes had gone when M'Killop was sent once again on what turned out to be a hopeless errand, the inside left missing the chance of a lifetime. The Allander had now their backs to the wall in an endeavour to save their charge, and right loyally did they stick to their guns. Shots were aimed from all quarters, and either went behind or were cleared, but at last, after a desperate pressure, M'Killop beat Mitchell from a corner. A free kick was then granted the Allander owing to Michie fouling Porteous, but it was cleared, and Robs again surrounded the Allander's goal, A melee ensued, and, after an exciting time the Allander managed to clear. Wilson subsequently met with an injury, but gallantly stayed on. One of those occasional flashes which relieved the aggravating monotony of the play followed, when Porteous beat Semple and Todd, but his run had been too much for him, and his parting shot lacked sting and Kelly cleared. The Milngavie goal, following this, had another narrow escape, a long shot rebounding luckily off Mitchell's chest into play. Once again Porteous, exhibiting wonderful control of the ball, danced round and evaded opponents after opponent, and passed to Beers, who steadied himself, but the ball cannoned off one of the defenders into the corner. This was well taken, but offside robbed the Allander of a good chance. Then came another rally by Robs. In the course of it, a hot shot was sent in which struck the inside of the crossbar and came to the ground, and Mitchell, without a moment's hesitation, fisted out, but the referee, despite the protestations of the Allander team, ruled in the run and crossed, the field. Therefore, it was the equaliser