

Match Report

Cheshire Senior Cup. Quarter Final.

Tuesday 13th November.2007.

Northwich Victoria 0 v NANTWICH TOWN 1

Danny Griggs (pen) 7.

Referee: Mr A.D Hutchinson.

Attendance.234.

NORTHWICH VICTORIA: Ben Connett. Richard Battersby ©. Danny Jarrett. Greg Strong. Ryan Brown. Jake Johnson. Simon Rusk. Josh Wilson. Luke Horrocks. Brad Maylett. Lee Steele. Substitutes: Scott Tynan G/K. Michael Welch. Michael Carr. Dominic Taylor. Dino Maamria.

NANTWICH TOWN: Lee Jones. Kelvin Mellor. Gyorgy Kiss. Richard Smith. Ryan Dicker. Phil Parkinson ©. Ashley Carter. Glyn Blackhurst. Andy Kinsey. Robin Gibson. Danny Griggs. Substitutes: Pavol Suhaj. Adam Beasley. Nick Linford.

'The Dabbers' took a 7th minute lead through a Danny Griggs penalty. The penalty was awarded after Ryan Brown blocked Andy Kinsey's goal bound shot on the line with his left arm. Brown was shown a straight red card by referee Mr Hutchinson leaving the Blue Square Premier bottom club to play with 10 men for the remainder of the tie.

Kelvin Mellor's shot looked destined for the back of the net until a split second reaction from 'Vics' 'keeper Ben Connett denied the 16 year old with a turn around the post for a 'Dabbers' corner. 'Kins' followed shortly afterwards with a close range shot that Connett just managed to tip over the bar, whilst a further effort from 'Kins' came via a rising shot that fizzed past the 'keepers right hand post. 'The Dabbers' were enjoying playing on The Victoria Stadiums' excellent surface, stroking the ball around with consummate ease at times, and looking the most likely to notch a further goal in the first period. On the quarter hour, Ryan Dicker went close with a header from a 'Griggsy' free kick before central defender Danny Jarrett was booked for a heavy challenge on 'Kins' just as he was about to break through on goal from 12 yards out. In a further 'Dabbers' assault, Battersby hooked the ball off the line at the expense of a corner followed by 'Blacky' whose fierce shot from the edge of the box was deflected away from the target by the under pressure 'Vics' back line. Meanwhile, the home sides' first shot on target arrived in the 38th minute when striker Brad Maylett shot from distance, albeit without troubling Lee Jones who, up to that point, had largely been troubled.

Half time: Northwich Victoria 0 v NANTWICH TOWN 1

Within a minute of the restart, 'Blacky' had a close range shot blocked by the Northwich defence before 'Kins' was fouled just outside the area. 'Griggsy' elected to take the free kick before witnessing the ball fall a yard wide of the right hand post. 'Parky' and 'Kins' fired close range shots that were hacked off the line but, for all their endeavor, 'The Dabbers' were denied by a combination of bad luck, quality goalkeeping, and a number of delayed efforts when first time shots may well have brought further reward.

Northwich introduced Bury centre half loan signing Dominic Taylor at the expense of Danny Jarrett whilst current manager Dino Maamria and Michael Carr entered the fray a while later. Connett pulled off the save of the tie when he denied 'Ash' Carter's close range shot to palm away the strike made on the turn whilst on the hour, Battersby saved his 'keeper from embarrassment after Connett had messed up a Robin Gibson centre before losing out to eagle eyed 'Blacky' who nipped in to strike the loose ball before the Northwich captain cleared from under the bar.

A rare mistake by Ryan Dicker almost let in Michael Carr during a late stage of the tie but, Carr wasted the opportunity to pull his side level. In fairness to the home side, albeit with 10 men, their second half performance was an improvement, and acquired more of the possession as the half wore on but, it was never really enough to seriously threaten 'The Dabbers' who may have nicked a goal close to the whistle had 'Kins' strike from a 'Griggsy' inside ball been on target after central defender Taylor was caught napping.

Northwich goalkeeper Ben Connett was by far the busiest of the two 'keepers throughout the evening but, credit to him for keeping out 'Kins', 'Blacky' 'Ash' Carter and, the penalty apart, match winner 'Griggsy', whilst 'Dabbers' right back Kelvin Mellor earned growing respect of the considerable Nantwich following with a mature display against considerably older, and far more experienced players.

Cheshire Senior Cup. Semi Final. Tuesday 29th January.2008.

NANTWICH TOWN

v

CAMMELL LAIRD (Holders)

@ The Weaver Stadium

Kick Off.7.45pm