

TT No.235: *Richard Panter* - Wednesday 25th April 2007; **Nottingham Forest v Port Vale**; Pontins Holiday League Division One Central; Res: 4-3; Att: 127; Entry: free; Programme: no; FGIF Match Rating: 4*.

What could be better, a stroll by the river Trent in the April sunshine ending at the City Ground?

A predominantly young Forest side returned to the top of the league with this spirited performance against an equally young side of Burslem boys. This was the last game of the season. Vale's Danny Glover opened the scoring after five minutes when he was alert enough to bisect a defender and home 'keeper, Rune Pedersen, and steal the ball then chip it home. Twenty minutes later Pedersen was the saviour of the Reds when he saved a weakly struck penalty by Michael Husbands. As is often the case, Forest were enervated by this let off, and the lanky Felix Bastiens sprinted upfield and blasted his team level. The experienced Scott Dobie was having a run out in the reserves as part of his rehabilitation from the effects of a season long injury and it was he, who set up Robert Hughes to score Forest's second goal in thirty-three minutes.

The second half did not live up to the first until the seventieth minute when Port Vales' Joe Cardle deftly lobbed the home defence to score a fine goal. Substitute Emile Sinclair twisted and turned the visiting defence to place the ball wide of the despairing Vale 'keeper and put his side back in front. Four minutes later (76 mins) Husbands made amends, for his penalty failure when he prodded home after an almighty scramble in the Forest box. My man-of-the-match Brendon Moloney, ran at the Port Vale rear-guard, to score the winner four minutes from time.

Seven goals, a free entry and a team sheet for all...a scorcher on a scorcher in fact! It was a real pity that only 127 were there but of course most people were at work at 2.00 pm in the afternoon.