



Classic Match

In the spirit of *LLL* magazine, Jon Howe takes a retro look at some of our most memorable moments.

For Revie's great side, not the fitting climax just another function for the eternal bridesmaids...

I don't know what you mean, as far as I'm concerned we won this game. We are Champions of Europe.

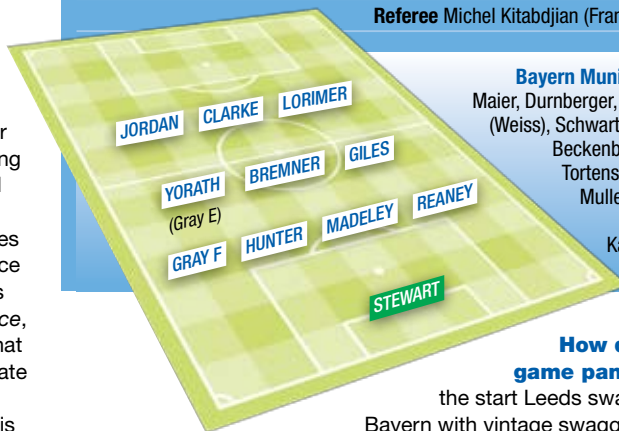
Quite a few people would disagree with that. We clearly lost 2-0! For me we performed to our brilliant best, we dominated the reigning champions – a very defensive-minded German outfit. We scored a legitimate goal and had two indisputable penalties denied. Everything Revie had built since 1961 was geared towards tonight, this was the final chapter, the *coup de grace*, the right and proper occasion for all that work to be recognised in the appropriate way, for this great side to be suitably acknowledged for all eternity. So that is how I choose to remember tonight, and no incompetent officials are going to distort that legacy for me. We won!

Okay, so didn't Jimmy Armfield make some interesting choices in the starting XI? Yes, players like Duncan McKenzie and Trevor Cherry can consider themselves unlucky to miss out, as Armfield remained true to his predecessor and ensured the majority of Revie's side were allowed this stage to achieve their ultimate goal.

Leeds United 0 Bayern Munich 2

European Cup Final Wednesday May 28, 1975, 7.45pm Parc des Princes, Paris, France **Attendance** 48,374 **Goals** Roth 71, Muller 81

Referee Michel Kitabdjian (France)



Bayern Munich (4-4-2)

Maier, Durnberger, Andersson (Weiss), Schwartzbecker, Beckenbauer, Roth, Tortensson, Zobel, Muller, Hoeness (Wunder), Kapellmann.

How did the game pan out?

From the start Leeds swarmed over Bayern with vintage swagger, and barely let their opponents out of their own half. Germany's World Cup-winning trio of Beckenbauer, Müller and Hoeness struggled to contain us and their fellow international goalkeeper Sepp Maier made a string of outstanding saves to keep it at 0-0.

You mentioned penalty incidents?

In the 23rd minute Beckenbauer tackled Joe Jordan in the area and clearly controlled the ball with his arm while on the ground. Then, just before

2 Tragic Number

Bayern shots on goal all night

half-time Clarke took on Beckenbauer, and, approaching the six-yard box, was about to shoot when the Bayern captain wrapped both his legs around Clarke's standing leg and cynically chopped him down (see *left*). The ball trickled out of play as Beckenbauer had not touched it. Incredibly, placed 10 yards away and with a better view than anybody else in the world, the referee immediately signalled a goal-kick. Words can't describe the sense of injustice. Crystal clear, textbook penalty and every neutral observer agreed.

The disallowed goal? In the 66th minute a deep cross was headed back to the penalty spot where Lorimer deliciously volleyed the ball home. Finally our pressure had told and we had belatedly taken a deserved lead. The ground erupted, the ref gave the goal and pointed to the centre spot.

Hang on, you said it was disallowed? Only after the intervention of Beckenbauer who had such a stranglehold over the officials that he was effectively controlling the game himself. He asked the ref to speak to the linesman, who had not raised his flag, but after farcical discussions the ref awarded a free-kick for an offside nobody had seen. Bremner had attacked the initial cross and was running back

onside as Lorimer shot. He was level and any sane person would give the attacker the benefit of the doubt, but Beckenbauer was not in the mood to let fair play prevail.

After that we collapsed? With a collective boiling rage came a loss of focus, as defensive lapses let Bayern in for two soft breakaway goals, their only two shots of the night. Anyone with Leeds connections was spitting with disgust, unable to find words to explain this affront to morality and atrocity of justice. Gone into the Paris night air had blown the last semblance of football decency and righteousness. Gone had blown what was meant to be.

How were the Leeds fans? To compound the polar opposite of the regal crowning this night was billed as, the Leeds fans vented their frustration by throwing coins and seats onto the pitch. It started after the disallowed goal and continued well after the final whistle had brought an end to the misery.

Best Leeds player? From 1 to 11 the players were faithful to the masterplan Revie had drawn up all those years ago, a team in the truest sense, and credit to Jimmy Armfield for resurrecting that spirit one last time.

In a nutshell? We are the Champions! Champions of Europe!



Left: Franz Beckenbauer clearly fouling Allan Clarke for what should have been a penalty.

Above: Peter Lorimer striking the goal that should have been.

Below: Disbelief for Billy Bremner after the goal is disallowed and the scoreboard showing what the history books should be.

