

9^D

OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME

Kick-off 3 p.m.

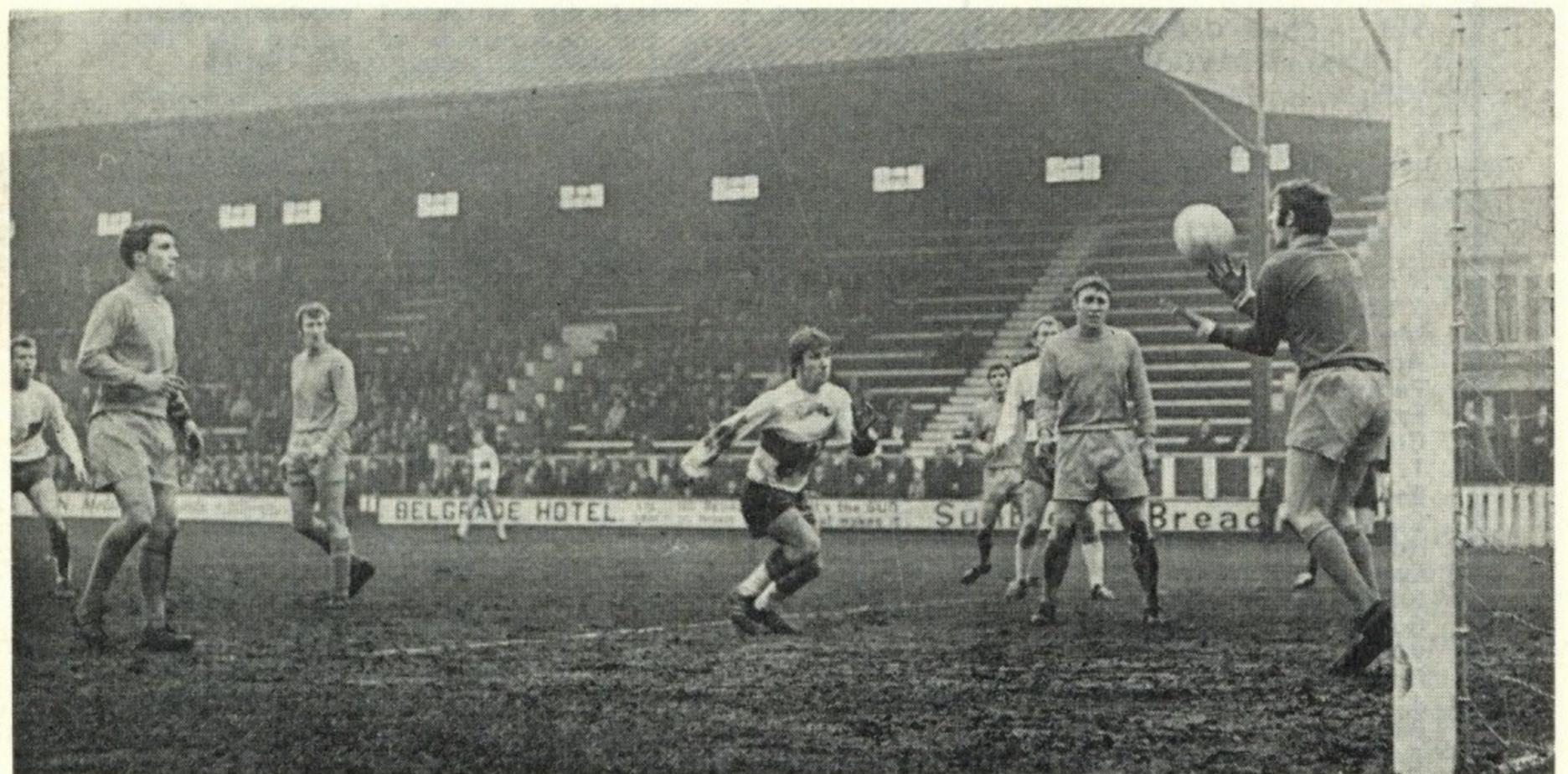
FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION III

STOCKPORT COUNTY v LUTON

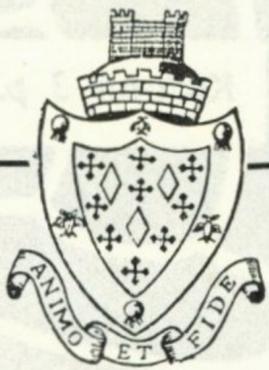
EDGELEY PARK SATURDAY, 31st JANUARY, 1970

SEASON 1969-70

GO GO GO COUNTY



JOHNNY PRICE takes over the role of front runner, moving in on the Southport goal in the match at Edgeley Park as visiting 'keeper John Armstrong collects a long shot from Peter Broadbent.



Stockport County A.F.C.

EDGELEY PARK
STOCKPORT
Phone: STO 8888

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Vice-Chairman:
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Chief Coach:
MATT WOODS

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Stockport Schools F.A.

Hon. Vice-President:
Mike Yarwood

IMPRESSIONS



By
Mike
Yarwood

HELLO again! I've been asked this week to talk about what instructions I would give to my Minister of Sport if I was really the Prime Minister, instead of just impersonating him.

Well, I would naturally devote most of my instructions to football, because football is an important social phenomenon which is necessary to the community. I would instruct him to look into the possibilities of bringing back the old Third Division (North) and Third Division (South) system which would be of so much benefit to the smaller clubs.

The incentive of clubs in each Division would be greater because only one club would be promoted. I believe the present system of four-up in Division Four wrecks the incentive towards the end of the season.

Another of the big advantages of this system is that it would be more economic. The clubs would not have the big travel and hotel bills they must find nowadays when it costs the earth to travel to a place like Exeter where you won't get a big enough gate to compensate you financially.

PRIDE AT STAKE

Also, there would be more "derby" matches with local or regional pride at stake. For instance, Stockport could always get improved gates when they play Chester, Crewe and Oldham, but these clubs are at the moment in a division below them.

This is the fundamental change I would make to football. But I would also have the Minister of Sport explore the possibilities of Friday night football for more clubs. If I was Prime Minister that is—and the state this country is in I think I'd still prefer to impersonate him, not to be him.

JUNIOR SPORTING CLUB

The Junior Sporting Club are holding their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, February 3rd. This will be held in the County Club commencing at 7-30 p.m. All members of the club are requested to attend this important meeting, when they will have the opportunity of voting for the new committee for the coming year.

Anyone wishing to join the club is also welcome to attend this meeting where they may enrol. Life membership of the club is just 1/- which entitles you to partake in all our functions and activities.

THIRD DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Orient	27	9	3	1	11	6	4	7	3	15	14	36
Luton	26	7	5	2	26	11	7	2	3	20	14	35
Reading	29	9	2	2	22	15	5	5	6	29	32	35
Bradford C.	26	10	2	0	26	5	4	3	7	13	19	33
Barnsley	27	9	2	2	27	14	3	7	4	15	16	33
Brighton	28	8	4	2	21	12	5	3	6	10	14	33
Bristol R.	27	8	4	1	32	17	3	6	5	16	19	32
Rotherham	29	6	5	4	26	14	4	6	4	17	17	31
Rochdale	27	7	3	3	23	14	6	2	6	24	23	31
Torquay	28	6	6	3	23	13	4	5	4	16	19	31
Doncaster	28	8	2	4	21	12	4	4	6	16	18	30
Shrewsbury	28	5	9	1	20	12	3	3	7	18	26	28
Mansfield	26	7	2	4	21	14	4	3	6	12	16	27
Halifax	25	7	5	2	20	17	3	2	6	6	11	27
Bury	28	10	0	4	34	17	1	4	9	22	35	26
Fulham	27	6	7	1	24	18	2	3	8	20	21	26
Plymouth	27	7	2	5	19	13	3	3	7	12	22	25
Walsall	26	7	1	5	19	19	3	4	6	11	20	25
Bournemouth	29	4	6	4	18	19	3	3	9	10	12	23
Tranmere	26	5	3	5	22	21	2	4	7	12	31	21
Southport	26	3	4	5	13	15	3	4	7	14	20	20
Stockport	29	3	5	6	11	17	1	3	11	5	25	16
Gillingham	26	3	3	7	15	20	2	2	9	10	21	15
Barrow	27	3	5	6	13	19	0	2	11	7	33	13

COUNTY COLUMN

THE PAGE WHERE THE
CLUB HAS ITS SAY

WE NEED ALL THE BREAKS . . .



IT'S a hoary old soccer saying I know, but when you are down, luck kicks you in the teeth. You get none of the breaks, and everything piles up against you.

It's not a hard luck story, just a catalogue of the facts. Over the last six games our performances have improved dramatically, yet we have won four points fewer than our form has deserved.

That at least is my interpretation of the way things have been going. The people I feel particularly sorry for are the players for they have responded magnificently to everything we have asked of them.

TROUBLE

When I came back to County the one big trouble we faced was to get the players going forward—to try and knock out of them the problems of hesitancy and lack of self-confidence brought about by bad performances and bad results.

Now they are moving forward, not holding anything back, giving 100 per cent to fulfil our slight chance of avoiding relegation. We can do it, we've got a tough programme, I agree, but a good run would get us right out of trouble.

RESULTS

We've got 17 games left and we must keep plugging away, keep looking for results. There is no point in giving up hope, something that all of us here appreciate and are determined won't happen.

We are playing with more conviction, much more dedication and the big problem now is not to allow the lack of results to get on top of us, throwing us into a depressed period once more.

BY

MATT WOODS
Chief Coach

I don't think this will happen because no-one knows better than a player himself how he is playing and all the lads here know they are now playing better football than our League position shows.

By keeping things going the breaks just have to come—the shots that hit the post or the bar, or are cleared off the line will start going in, and it is then that we will see the reward for our persistence.

EARN

As I've said, a good run can change the picture but we are going to have to earn every point we get. The real test of ability and character is to fight back when the odds are against you, and the players here have got the temperament and the ability to do this.

Any team playing us know they've been in a match.

MOMENTUM

It's a question now of getting the momentum to start winning games, to reach the point where we punish the opposition for mistakes, not being punished for the ones we make—sometimes the difference between success and failure is as slender as that.

WE ARE SURE THAT WE CAN RESTORE THE BALANCE IN OUR FAVOUR IN THE COMPARATIVELY SHORT TIME LEFT.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

DIVISION I		DIVISION III	
Burnley	v. West Ham	Barrow	v. Barnsley
Chelsea	v. Sunderland	Bournem'th ...	v. Southport
Coventry	v. Arsenal	Bradford C.	v. Rotherham
Everton	v. Wolves	Bristol R.	v. Brighton
M/c Utd.	v. Derby C.	Bury	v. Halifax
Newcastle ...	v. Crystal P.	Doncaster R. ...	v. Fulham
Notts. F.	v. Liverpool	Gillingham	v. Torquay U.
Sheffield W. ...	v. Ipswich	Orient	v. Tranmere
Stoke C.	v. Leeds U.	Plymouth	v. Mansfield T.
Tottenham	v. Southampton ...	Shrewsbury ...	v. Rochdale
West Brom. ...	v. M/c City	Stockport	v. Luton T.
		Walsall	v. Reading

DIVISION II		DIVISION IV	
Birmingham ...	v. Bristol C.	Aldershot	v. Port Vale
Cardiff	v. Blackpool	Brentford	v. Workington
Huddersfield ...	v. Carlisle	Chester	v. Darlington
Hull C.	v. Sheffield U.	Chesterfield ...	v. Scunthorpe
Middlesbro' ...	v. QPR	Colchester	v. Newport
Millwall	v. Oxford U.	Exeter	v. Lincoln
Norwich	v. Blackburn	Grimsby	v. Crewe
Portsmouth ...	v. Charlton	Northampton ...	v. Bradford
Preston	v. Aston Villa	Oldham	v. Hartlepool
Swindon	v. Bolton W.	Peterboro' ...	v. Swansea
Watford	v. Leicester	Southend	v. Wrexham
		York C.	v. Notts. C.

Gamesmanship ?-

It robs only the spectator

BY
MATT D'ARCY

(Manchester Evening
News and Chronicle)



GET OFF MY BACK—that's what a Southport defender seems to be saying as John Rowlands goes up for a high ball.

Picture by Stockport Express

WHOEVER said that rules are made to be broken must have been thinking of football because nowhere else are so many rules "bent" without any apparent way of putting a halt to it.

In last week's match against Brighton I was amazed at the skilful gamesmanship of the visitors who, without doing anything illegal repeatedly stopped play during County attacks.

It was so easy—as County were mounting a series of attacks a defender slumped to the floor holding foot, ankle, shin, knee, thigh, stomach, back, shoulder, head—just take your pick.

BREAK

It served no useful purpose other than to break County's momentum at vital times, to put a sudden break on their attacks.

The referee certainly added plenty of injury time but this did not compensate for County having to cool their heels every time they sensed the hot flush of success just around the corner.

I'd like to see this kind of gamesmanship stopped. Brighton are not the only team to exploit the rules within the rules, because every side in the land would resort to similar tactics in similar situations.

EFFECT

Ronnie Allen, the English boss of Spanish club Barcelona, in an interview some weeks ago was saying that new tactics adopted by soccer chiefs in that country had an astonishing effect on the game.

They simply instructed referees to have an injured man treated off the pitch, unless it was apparent he was too badly hurt to move,

or where the injury could be much more serious than it appeared.

According to Allen this new move has meant that spectators see about 86 minutes of unbroken football where observers in this country estimated in one game 26 minutes of playing time were lost through injury, throw-ins, etcetera.

DRAGGED

In a match last Saturday I saw a player's momentum carry him off the pitch and into the trainer's bucket, hurting his foot. The trainer leapt up, dragged the shaken player back onto the pitch and one of his team-mates drew the referee's attention to him, whereupon the game was stopped, while he had the required treatment.

I'm not blaming the referee because he was following the ball, and didn't see it, but if he had the power to tell the trainer to remove the player from the pitch, it wouldn't have happened and the game would have gone on unchecked.

LOST

Let's face it—if you estimate you lost nearly 30 minutes of a match through stoppages and time-wasting would football like it if you went back and asked for the return of a third of your attendance money?

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MY MATCH TO REMEMBER

BEV WILSON

CHESHIRE BOYS v. HIELBRONE BOYS, GERMANY

WHEN THE MAYOR CAME TO SEE BEV

BEV WILSON, one of County's juniors, is the player next tipped to play in the first team. This powerful youngster who plays in midfield or in defence is a local boy and, like Jimmy Collier, is one of the first products of the youth policy.

He has chosen his Match to Remember because it gave him an experience he'll never forget. For Bev, who comes from Delph, it showed him some of the 'fringe' benefits of being a professional footballer.



BEV WILSON

SELECTED

It happened three years ago in Germany when Bev was selected at left-half in a Cheshire Boys' touring team. The first game was in a town called Hielbrone, where they played the local schoolboys' team. Bev takes up the story.

"They played very much the same style as English football, just as hard, giving a bit of stick, taking it. But after only 20 minutes I was carried off injured—not in a tackle, but when I tried to centre the ball from the wing I twisted the ligaments in my knee. What a way to start a tour!"

END

It didn't mark the beginning of the tour for Bev—it meant the end of it, for he was carried off to the local hospital and spent four or five days there while the rest of the team continued with the tour.

"It was a real sickener and I could only keep in contact with some of the team and officials coming in to see me and let me know how they were doing. I had hoped to see Germany but all I really saw was the inside of a hospital ward."

Germany certainly saw plenty of Bev, for his misfortune was told in all the local papers, and townspeople visited him and sent him gifts. The highlight of his stay in hospital was a visit from the local Mayor with members of the town council.

CELEBRITY

"I felt quite a celebrity. They were determined that I should not suffer for having to stay in hospital and they took good care of me. But nothing could really compensate for not being able to join the lads and play football but their hospitality certainly went a long way towards it."

Bev, who was born in Delph and played for Stockport Boys and Cheshire Boys was spotted by County playing for Stockport at Edgeley Park in the final of the Cheshire Schools' Cup against Birkenhead Boys.

HEARD

"We won 7-1 at Birkenhead, and beat them here 7-0. I didn't score because I was playing in the back four but I heard later that County were interested and I came to Edgeley Park when I left school," he said.

NOW BEV, WHO HAS ACCOMPANIED THE TEAM ON AN AWAY TRIP TO ACCLIMATISE HIM TO FIRST TEAM CONDITIONS IS WORKING TOWARDS MAKING HIS LEAGUE DEBUT.

COUNTY CLUB

Manager: TREVOR PORTEOUS

Concert Secretary: BILL DURR

WEEKLY EVENTS

TONIGHT, SATURDAY, 31st JANUARY

BRENDA BARRY—Vocal

JACKY RICHMOND—Guitarist

SUNDAY, 1st FEBRUARY

PAT SCOTT

also

TONY GARRETT

MONDAY and WEDNESDAY

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MEET THE TEAM WE MEET

LEADERS LUTON AIM FOR PROMOTION

LUTON TOWN halted their slide which carried them to four successive defeats with a well-won 3-1 victory at Bury last week, putting them back on top of Division Three. The victory was based on a solid defensive display with quick breaks prompted mostly by John Moore and left winger Graham French, with Malcolm MacDonald and Matt Tees applying the finishing touches.

SANDY DAVIE is the goalkeeper, solid, brave and dependable, who dominates his goal area. Bought 15 months ago from Dundee for £8,000—as it turned out, a bargain fee.

JOHN RYAN, right back, was a close-season signing from Fulham where he made 45 first team appearances in the previous two seasons. Only 21 and strongly built, he was originally with Arsenal.

ALTERNATES

JACK BANNISTER, left back, played in over 100 League games for Crystal Palace before Luton paid £8,000 for him. Previously with West Brom and Scunthorpe and alternates between full-back and left-half, playing midfield. Even from left back still crops up amongst the forwards, usually breaking through in the inside left position.

JOHN MOORE, right half, was drafted into the team at Bury in place of former County striker Keith Allen to add more bite to a defence that was giving too much away. Strongest tackler in the Luton club, he was previously with Motherwell.

CHRIS NICHOLL, centre half, a tall, powerful stopper who was signed from Halifax Town for £35,000 after being picked up by Halifax for a tiny fee from Cheshire League side Witton Albion.

ALAN SLOUGH, left half, generally plays a twin centre-half role. He is a local boy, only 21 years-old who was so worried by rumours that he might be transferred, he asked for a long-term contract and signed on the dotted line for no less than six years. He must be one of Luton's most dedicated supporters.

JOHN COLLINS, right wing, was formerly with Reading, Q.P.R. and Oldham. He is a fast, direct player, who makes a habit of coming inside, trying to grab a few goals.

MALCOLM MACDONALD, inside right, is another former Fulham player who cost Luton £17,500 which is a hefty figure for a 19 year-old to a Third Division outfit. When he arrived he was switched from striking to full back, but has now reverted to striker.

MATT TEES, centre forward, was signed for £25,000 from Charlton. He is a fast, tricky striker who grabbed two opportunist goals last week at Bury.

MIKE KEEN, inside left, cost £18,500 from Q.P.R. where he played for ten seasons, captaining them in their meteoric rise from Division Three to the First Division, not missing a match in all that time. Principally a defensive player.

GRAHAM FRENCH, outside left, plays on either wing and has always had plenty of potential since his days starring in England's youth team while he was with Shrewsbury. Went to Swindon, then Watford and faded into Southern League with Wellington Town before Luton paid £5,000 for him. Dangerous player when his determination matches his skill.

SUCCESS

KEITH ALLEN, forward, ever-present until he was left out for the Bury game, when he came on as sub. Was of course with Stockport and moved to Luton with great success, in exchange deal for Derek Kevan.

Other Luton stars are PETER PHILLIPS, centre forward, who gained a B.A. and soccer Blue at Cambridge and two England amateur caps before turning professional,

KEITH HARRISON, former Blackburn winger who has been dogged by injuries, TERRY BRANSTON, a thoroughly effective centre-half, and BRIAN LEWIS, inside right, who cost Luton £20,000 from Coventry and scored 22 goals last season.

THE TEAMS

STOCKPORT C. (1)

Colours: Shirts, White with
Blue Chestband — Shorts,
Blue — Stockings, White

- 1 ALAN OGLEY
- 2 BILLY HAYDOCK
- 3 BARRY HARTLE
- *4 FRED GOODWIN
- 5 JOHN CODDINGTON
- 6 JIM SMITH
- 7 JOHN PRICE
- 8 ~~HUGH RYDEN~~
BROADBENT
- 9 JOHN ROWLANDS
RYDEN
- 10 PETER BROADBENT
- 11 JIM COLLIER

Sub.: To be announced
ELGIN

REFEREE:

K. STYLES
Barnsley

LUTON (1)

3,922

Colours: Shirts, White
Shorts, Black
Stockings, White

- 1 SANDY DAVIE
- 2 JOHN RYAN
- 3 JACK BANNISTER
MOORE
- 4 ~~MIKE KEEN~~
- 5 CHRIS NICHOLL
- 6 ALAN SLOUGH
- 7 JOHN COLLINS
MACDONALD
- 8 ~~MATT TEES~~
TEES
- *9 ~~MALC MACDONALD~~
KEEN
- 10 JOHN MOORE
- 11 GRAHAM FRENCH

Sub.: KEITH ALLEN

LINESMEN:

Red flag: G. Earnshaw
Yellow flag: R. Bowling

COME AGAIN!

OUR NEXT HOME MATCH IS

HALIFAX

at Edgeley Park

Monday, Feb. 2nd

Kick-off 7-30 p.m.