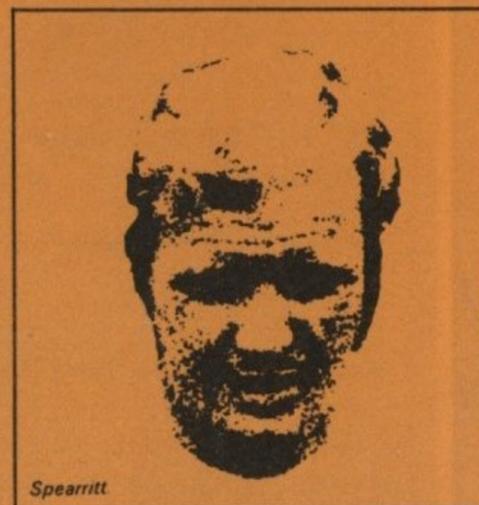
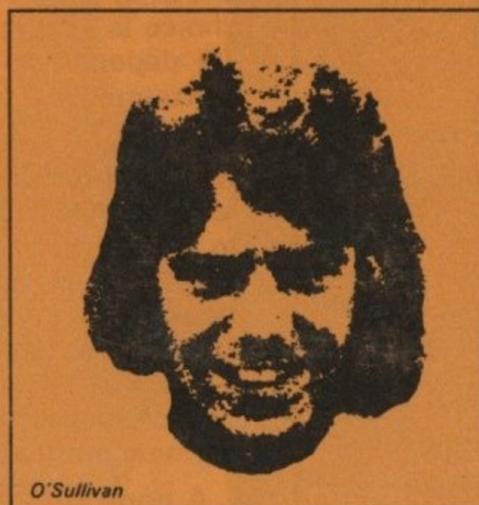
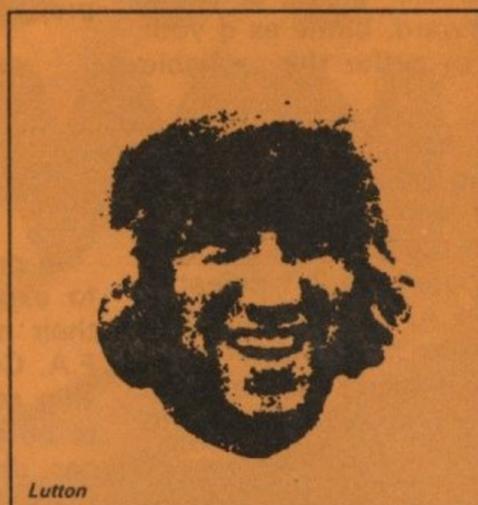
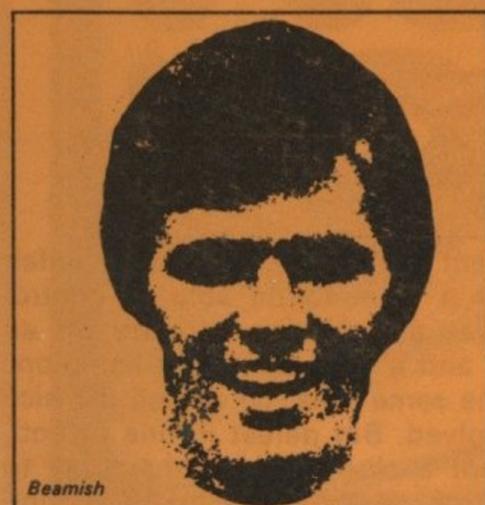
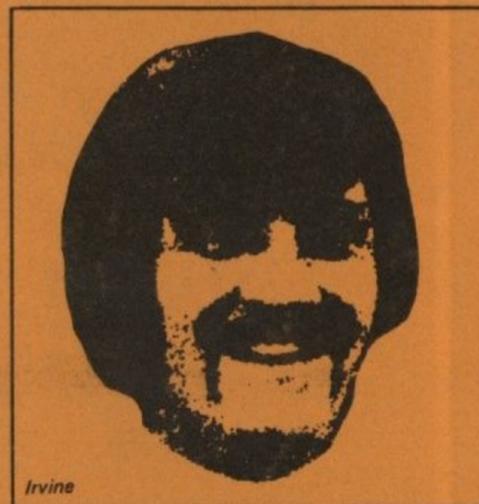
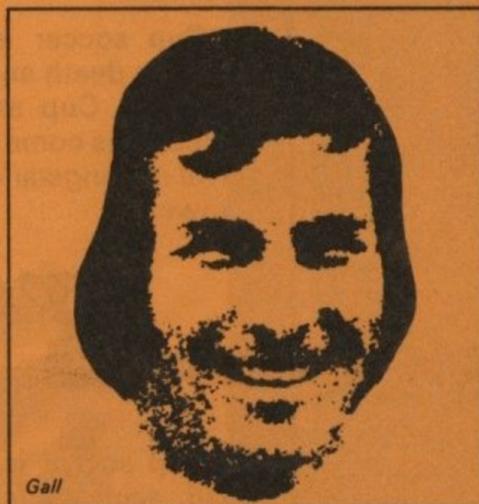
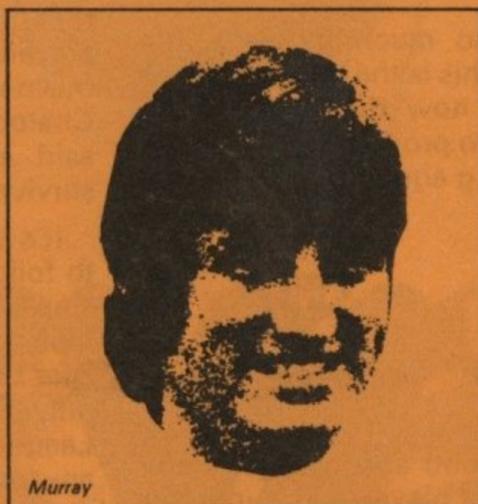
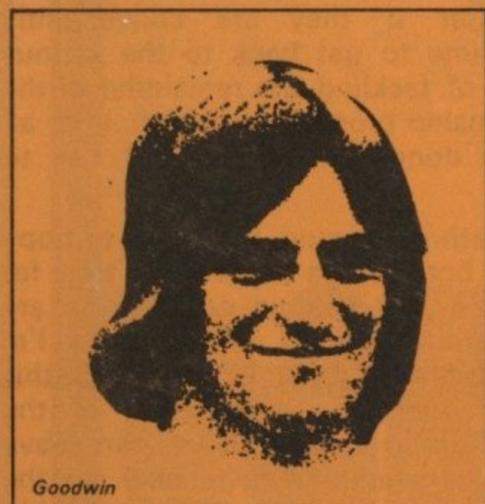
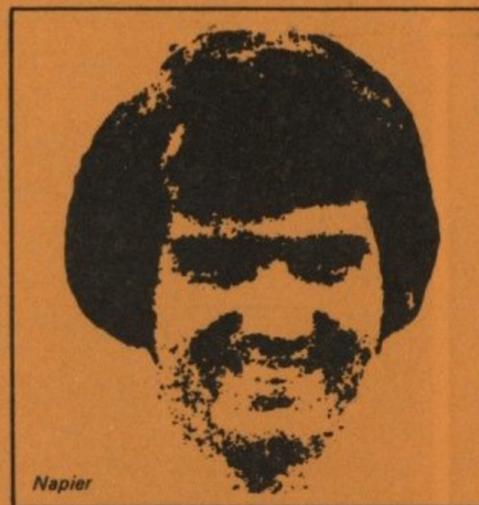
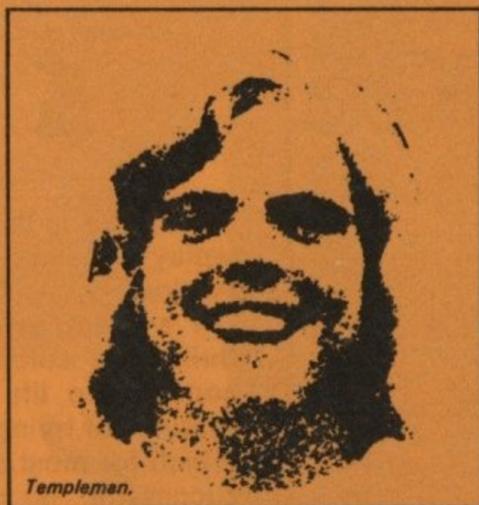
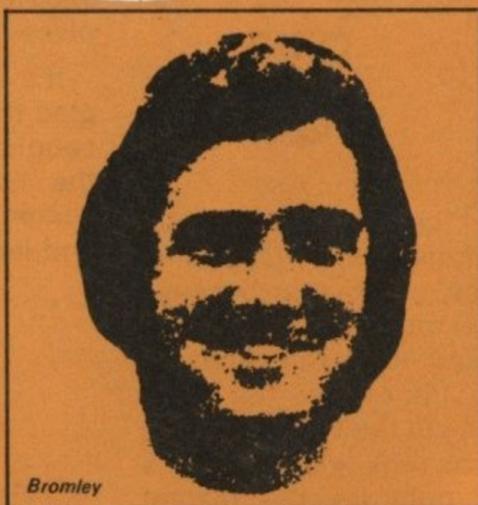
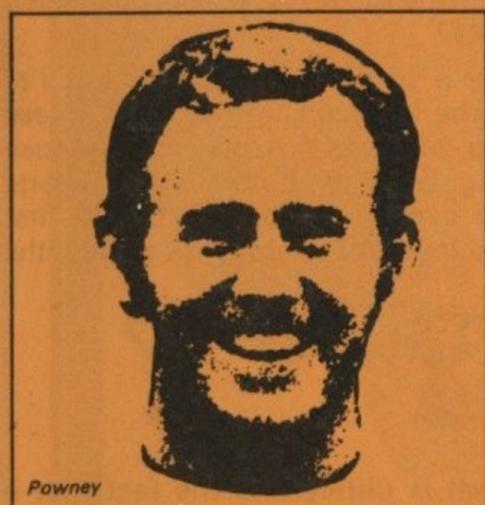


LUTON TOWN



LUTON TOWN

FOOTBALL AND
ATHLETIC CLUB
LIMITED

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HARRY HASLAM



TALKING TO NORTON JONES

I can't remember the last time Luton Town were drawn at home in a Cup-tie. It may have been only a couple of seasons ago. But I think it would be fair to say that the Town hasn't really had the rub of the green when the numbers have been called out in both the League Cup and the F.A. Cup.



With this in mind I looked forward to the replay against Birmingham City last Wednesday as much as anyone because I'm a great believer in Cup soccer, the thrills, the colour and the excitement all combine to lift a club out of the daily routines of trying to win the championship which for most of the time when a club is successful, is still only on the distant horizon.

Cup soccer is so much different. It's sudden death and this is the great magic of the F.A. Cup and now the League Cup which has come into prominence to clearly rival its longstanding equivalent for pulling power.



Cup soccer is blood and thunder football, each manager, player and supporter knowing the chips are down and the choice is straightforward, battle as if your life depends on it or suffer the probable consequences.

Because Luton has had so much wretched luck in the draw of these Cups, remember last year—we first went away to Crystal Palace in the League Cup and followed a similar route for a 2-1 defeat at West Ham in the F.A. Cup—Kenilworth Road fans have been drained of Cup fever. But I'm sure it won't take a great deal of success in this respect by Luton to fire new enthusiasm into our fans.

A good Cup run is the quickest way to get a club the main talking point in the

conversations which are swapped non-stop every night in various meeting places. The fans will chat about me, the players, the opposition and build themselves up in this way for the match. Eventually all but one are disappointed. But disappointment is a type of total faith in football. If you go out at any round what spectator then doesn't follow the ensuing rounds and piece together a picture which convinces him that if so and so had scored and not hit the post, WE would be in their place today!

It's only a personal viewpoint, but I'm glad that the League Cup has more or less caught up with the F.A. version because the timing of it is better. As it starts earlier, so it must come to a climax first and its decided at Wembley no differently.



But what is different is the fact that it gives the successful club—or the losers for that matter if they are conveniently placed—time to get back to the serious business of tackling the remainder of the Championship programme which, after all said and done, is the principal key to survival.

It's a path of pressure for a club to hope to follow both routes at the same time for Cup soccer and League competition are built around different tempos and I'm sure Leeds United and their fans know this only too well. The completion of the League Cup in mid-February can leave any team sufficient time to get back into the more long term rhythm of championship preparation.



In present day football it's totally unfair to expect a team to be able to control their nerves and tension to carry off an F.A. Cup and a First Division Championship at the same time. Of course it's nice to be involved. But defeat in one or both can disrupt a club's evident harmony to the state where it takes a lot of putting together.

NEW TOWN

LES HARFIELD

Harry Haslam has proved himself one of the most shrewd transfer operators of recent years—and very often the success of the Luton manager has been due to his string of friends in the game.

That was how we came to sign former England Youth international left-winger Les Harfield after he had been given a free transfer by Southampton at the end of last season. Harry's phone rang with a message from his old pal, Bill Stroud, the manager of the youth scheme at The Dell.

Bill dropped out the word that Les Harfield could well make the grade in a new club. So we gave the Southampton-born teenager a month's trial and, after only a week, the coaching staff recommended a full professional contract which was agreed when Harry returned from the first-team's Turkish tour.

Les was glad of the chance to make the grade at Kenilworth Road. "Ted Bates, the Southampton manager, had suggested to me that a change might do me good," recalls Les. "I suppose I had become lethargic after a full season in the reserves. I think Luton will offer me more opportunities and it's also nice to be with such a great bunch of lads."

Les started his Hatters career in fine style with two goals in the reserves' 7-0 thrashing of Gillingham, but that was not the first time he had been on duty at Kenilworth Road. "I came here with the England Youth team for the match against Spain the season before last," he says. "Don Shanks, of course, was in the same side."

Later that season, Les made the break into Southampton's First Division side for games against Nottingham Forest and Crystal Palace, and his home debut against Palace in the last match of the campaign was quite a day. Les scored one of the Saints' goals in a 6-0 finale.

Because he felt that Saints had a first-team future for him, Les had already asked not to be considered for England's 'Little World Cup' team in Czechoslovakia. "I thought it best to go with Southampton on a summer tour to America and the Caribbean. It was a wonderful experience to spend four weeks over there, but, unfortunately, it did not lead to more League experience."

Les certainly has the right background for a League player—playing for England Schools in 1967 and then joining Southampton despite competition from West Ham, Arsenal and Coventry.

TALKING ABOUT BRIGHTON



Back row: Ian Goodwin, Kit Napier (now Blackburn), Stewart Henderson, Alan Dovey, Brian Powney, Brian Bromley, John Templeman, John Napier. Front row: Bert Murray, Norman Gall, Willie Irvine, Ken Beamish, Bertie Lutton, Peter O'Sullivan, Eddie Spearritt.

Brighton had to equal a Football League record in order to win promotion last season. That was how tough it was to snatch one of the top two places in probably the toughest Third Division contest since the section was formed 14 years ago.

Brighton's total of 65 points was equal to the highest achieved by a side going up in second place. Yet they finished five points adrift of record-breaking Champions Aston Villa and had only three points to spare over Bournemouth and Notts County for third place.

Brighton's success in taking the runners-up spot was therefore a triumph of will-power and ability to survive an incredibly tense last three months. The pressure built up to breaking point in mid-March when Brighton suddenly cracked, losing successive matches at home to Oldham

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and away to relegation-bound Bradford City.

This was the uneasy backcloth to the 'big one'—an all-ticket occasion against Aston Villa. Brighton went into that game trailing Bournemouth by four points and defeat would probably have finished their chances.

However, a crowd of 29,135 saw Albion cruise to a well-deserved 2-1 victory, a result which took on an even rosier complexion when it was learned that Bournemouth and Notts County had dropped points on the same day.

Brighton clearly responded to this confidence-boost and sailed through their last dozen matches to collect 20 points—though those nerves were stretched to the limit on more than one occasion. In six games, they scored in the last minute or so to salvage precious points.

Ken Beamish, signed from Tranmere Rovers for the final run-in, played a great part by scoring six goals to add to the 17 he had already popped in for his Merseyside club. Beamish brought strength amidst Brighton's attacking skills for the last 12 games and they finished as the third highest scorers in the League with 82 goals.

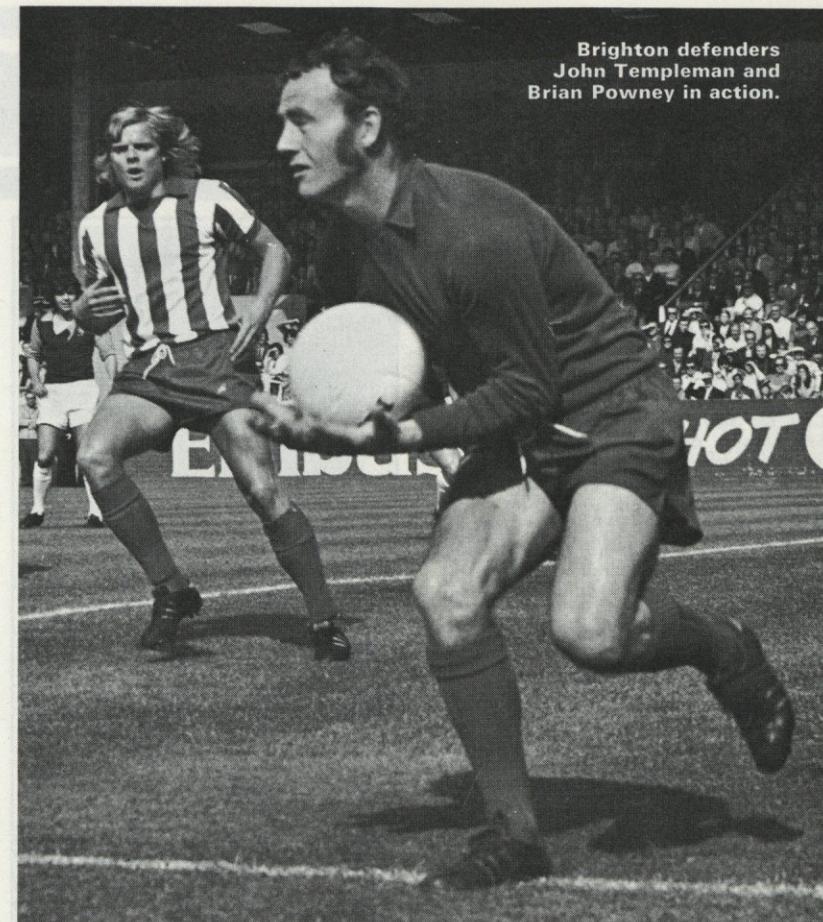
They were spread out quite evenly, with 16 each going to Willie Irvine, the former Burnley striker who later won back his Irish international place, and Kit Napier, who has since been sold to Blackburn Rovers. Bert Murray grabbed 13 and Peter O'Sullivan, a former Manchester United reserve, confirmed his obvious talents with a double-figure return.

Brighton's all-round blend attracted increasingly-higher gates to the Goldstone Ground. From not much more than 10,000 in the first four months, they swelled so that five of the last seven attendances topped the 25,000 mark. Promotion was finally sealed with 34,766 chanting their tributes to manager Pat Saward in the last home game against Rochdale.

The overall average was around 18,000 and this gave Mr Saward greater scope to build the team than in his first season. In those days, Brighton had so little spare cash that the manager spent a lot of his spare time going round the town to promote various fund-raising schemes. He even led a sponsored walk while proving to the public that Brighton had a boss who wanted success at all costs.

In facing up to a new season in the Second Division—a level which Brighton had held for only four previous years in their history—Mr Saward was content at first to let the promotion squad take their chance. He would have bought if the right players had been available, but strengthening then became a priority when Albion crashed 6-2 at Blackpool in only their second game of the season.

Graham Howell, a former Manchester City reserve defender, arrived from Bradford City, where he had just one season of League experience behind him, and he was soon followed by former England forward Barry Bridges, from Millwall. Some of the



Brighton defenders John Templeman and Brian Powney in action.

money was recovered by the departure of Napier and long-serving David Turner to Blackburn Rovers.

The newcomers assisted in a fine performance which brought a 1-1 draw before 30,000 Aston Villa fans, but Brighton still struggled because of injuries. Skipper Brian Bromley was put out by a damaged heel and Ian Goodwin, strong-tackling defender in the Third Division, was laid up by knee trouble.

Mr Saward hastened plans for further

signings, but nothing had transpired by the start of this week. In a search for better things, Willie Irvine, scorer of five goals in the first three weeks of the season, was relegated to the substitute's bench last Saturday when Brighton scored their first win by beating Fulham 2-1.

Like any promoted side, Brighton had had their problems, but there seems little wrong which would not be put right by a couple of wins and freedom from injuries to key players.

Luton v Brighton . . .

Summary of past League results:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Home	21	13	6	2	43	23	32
Away	21	2	5	14	16	39	9
Total	42	15	11	16	59	62	41

Best wins: 4-0 (h) in 1926-27 and 1934-35.

Worst defeat: 4-0 (a) in 1923-24.

Brighton History . . .

Founded: 1900.

Joined League Division Three: 1920.

Ground: Goldstone Ground, Hove.

Record Attendance: 36,747 v Fulham in December, 1958.

Division Three (South) Champions: 1957-58.

Runners-up: 1953-54, 1955-56.

Division Three Runners-up: 1971-72.

Division Four Champions: 1964-65.

Record League Score: 9-1 v Newport County, 1950-51.

Highest League Scorer: H. Valance (30) in 1929-30.

Ten Year Record . . .

Season	Div	Posn	W	F	A	Pts
1971-72	3	2nd	27	82	47	65
1970-71	3	14th	14	50	47	44
1969-70	3	5th	23	57	43	55
1968-69	3	12th	16	72	65	45
1967-68	3	11th	16	57	55	48
1966-67	3	19th	13	61	71	41
1965-66	3	15th	16	67	65	43
1964-65	4	1st	26	102	57	63
1963-64	4	8th	19	71	52	50
1962-63	3	22nd	12	58	84	36

MANAGER CAPTAIN

Pat Saward, who was known as one of the best-dressed players in the country during his successful days with Aston Villa, has shown another kind of smartness in lifting Brighton back to the Second Division after only two years as a manager.

Succeeding Freddie Goodwin when the former boss was appointed by Birmingham City, Mr Saward had a tough time in his first season, during which Brighton did not climb away from the danger of relegation until late in the season.

But his groundwork was good. With little money available for new players, he carefully built up his senior pool by taking several players on loan and judging them in the Brighton system before completing permanent transfers.

The reward was a magnificent team effort last season, with Brighton overhauling more fancied contenders, like Bournemouth and Notts County, and joining Villa on the run-in to promotion. A total of 65 points was evidence enough of Mr Saward's hard work and imagination.

He first learned about the management business with Coventry City, where he joined Jimmy Hill in the early days of the Sky Blues' climb to the First Division. When Noel Cantwell was appointed manager, Mr Saward became his assistant and continued his fine job with the junior team, which reached the F.A. Youth Cup final in 1968 and 1970.

As a player, Mr Saward enjoyed many of the game's top honours. After joining Villa from Millwall, he played in their 1957 F.A. Cup-winning side against Manchester United and later captained Villa's 1959-60 Second Division Championship team.

He was then a regular member of the Republic of Ireland side, gracing the international scene with his stylish wing-half play on 22 occasions. He left Villa in 1961 and spent three years with Huddersfield Town before joining Coventry as player-coach.



BERT MURRAY—CAPTAIN

With promotion skipper Brian Bromley recently out of action with a bruised heel, the Brighton captaincy has been in the care of former England Under-23 international Bert Murray.

He is known in Brighton as 'The People's Player' as a result of his transfer from Birmingham City which was largely paid for in March, 1971, by subscriptions to manager Pat Saward's 'Buy a Player Fund'.

Bert was originally one of the Tommy Docherty 'super-kids' who put Chelsea back on the map following their climb back to the First Division in 1963. He won half-a-dozen England Under-23 caps in 1964-65 and, in the same season, made the first of two successive appearances in a losing F.A. Cup semi-final side.

During the summer of 1966, he followed Barry Bridges—then a Chelsea colleague—and now a Brighton team-mate—to Birmingham City. Stan Cullis saw the twin-strikers as the foundation of a potential First Division side and Murray started off in great style with four goals in his first three outings for Blues.

Later in the season, however, he was surprisingly switched to right-back and spent a large part of his Birmingham career in that position. Once again, his luck in the F.A. Cup was unfortunate, with Blues going out in the sixth round and semi-final in successive seasons, but there was personal satisfaction for Murray and Bridges when they helped eliminate Chelsea in the 1967-68 quarter-final.

By the time Freddie Goodwin, the former Brighton boss, had taken over Birmingham's management in 1970, Murray had faded out of the first-team picture and was happy to join Brighton on loan.

Last season, he was back in his old right-wing spot, but returned to full-back for the closing stages and, this term, he has figured in midfield and on the wing.

POINTS ON PLAYERS

KEN BEAMISH, *Forward*

Born Bebbington, Cheshire. Signed from Tranmere Rovers on 9th March, 1972—the transfer deadline—and his six goals in 11 games were a vital factor in Albion's promotion run. His total goals for the season were 23—including 17 with Tranmere. He joined the Birkenhead club from junior football, but obtained qualifications as a draughtsman before signing full-time four seasons ago.

STEPHEN BREACH, *Defender*

Born in Hove, 18-year-old Stephen attended the Nevill school, where he gained representative honours both for Brighton and Sussex Boys. On leaving school, he joined Arsenal as an apprentice for two years, before being released. Following a trial period with Albion, joined the professional staff in November last year.

BARRY BRIDGES, *Forward*

Brighton's second signing of the season, the former England striker joined Albion in a £25,000 move from Millwall this month. An ever-present in Millwall's promotion-challenging side last season, he scored 12 goals and left The Den only because of a disagreement over terms. Born in Norwich, established himself in Tommy Docherty's young Chelsea side, scoring over 80 goals and winning four full caps. He then moved to Birmingham City for £50,000 and after two seasons in the Midlands, joined Q.P.R. to become their top scorer with 21 goals in 1969-70.

BRIAN BROMLEY, *Forward*

Born Burnley. He arrived at Brighton on loan from Portsmouth in December, 1971, and was signed by Albion in the following January. Took over the team captaincy and his experience played a vital part as Albion chased promotion. He first made his mark with Bolton and played in over 160 games before signing for Portsmouth in 1969.

ALAN DOVEY, *Goalkeeper*

Born Stepney. Signed by Albion in July, 1971, after three years with Chelsea, whom he joined from school. Has represented Thurrock Boys as a schoolboy. Alan, who is 20, was on a temporary transfer with Albion in the 1970-71 season and played in two League games.

NORMAN GALL, *Midfield*

Albion's second longest-serving player, he joined the club in March, 1962, from Gateshead, who signed him from Wallsend Boys. He has since made more first-team appearances than any other player on the books. Was an ever-present last season, and has now made nearly 400 first-team League and Cup appearances. Born Wallsend.

GRAHAM HOWELL, *Defender*

Born Manchester. Albion's latest signing, he arrived from Bradford City for an estimated £17,000 last month. A former



BARRY BRIDGES

Manchester City Central League player, he joined Bradford in June, 1971, and made 43 League appearances last season.

IAN GOODWIN, *Defender*

Born Irlam, Lancashire. He represented Lancashire and Stretford Boys while at school and joined Oldham as an apprentice, but left after a year and was snapped up by Coventry. Played ten First Division games for the Sky Blues and joined Albion on a temporary transfer early in the 1970-71 season, making 22 first-team appearances. Injuries limited his first-team appearances last season to 13.

STEWART HENDERSON, *Defender*

Born Bridge-of-Allan, Scotland. Stewart is a former Scottish Schoolboy international, who joined Albion in October, 1965, from Chelsea. He has since made 199 first-team appearances.

WILLIE IRVINE, *Forward*

Born Antrim, Northern Ireland. Signed for Albion in July, 1971, after being on loan for the latter part of the previous season from Preston. Had a distinguished career with Burnley, whom he joined from school, before being transferred to Preston in 1968. An Irish international, he played in all three of the Home internationals last season and has now gained 24 full caps. He was the club's second highest scorer last season with 17 League and Cup goals.

BERTIE LUTTON, *Forward*

Born Bambridge, Northern Ireland. A full Northern Ireland international, he played against England and Scotland in the 1970 Home internationals when he was just 19 years of age. His first-team appearances at

Wolves were limited to 16 and he joined Brighton on an extended loan in 1971 and was eventually signed by Albion on 9th March, 1972. He scored four goals in 11 games last season.

BERT MURRAY, *Defender*

Born Shoreditch. A former England Under-23 and Schoolboy international. He was voted 'Player of the Year' last season. Appropriately he is dubbed 'The People's Player' because a large percentage of his transfer fee from Birmingham City was met by the generous donations of Albion fans to the highly successful and unique 'Pat Saward Buy-a-Player' fund. He initially joined Albion on loan in March, 1971, and was signed just prior to the transfer deadline. Started his career with Chelsea, where he gained his international honours and joined Birmingham in 1966. Made a valuable contribution last season, scoring 13 goals as a winger, and then switching successfully to full-back in the latter part of the campaign.

JOHN NAPIER, *Defender*

Born Lurgan, Northern Ireland. A full Irish international, he has won honours at every level for his country. Joined Albion from Bolton Wanderers in August, 1967. The club captain, he has now made over 200 first-team appearances.

PETER O'SULLIVAN, *Forward*

A bargain free transfer signing from Manchester United towards the end of the 1969-70 season. Born Colwyn Bay, he joined United from school after gaining three Welsh Schoolboy caps. Has since represented his country at Under-23 level. Was an ever-present last season and netted 12 goals.

BRIAN POWNEY, *Goalkeeper*

Born Seaford. The club's longest-serving player with over 300 first-team appearances to his name. He joined the club in 1961 direct from school after representing East Sussex schoolboys. In recognition of his long-service, he was granted a Testimonial along with Norman Gall during the 1970-71 season.

EDDIE SPEARRITT, *Defender*

Born Lowestoft. Joined Albion at the end of January, 1969, from Ipswich Town as a forward and successfully switched to full-back two seasons ago. Has now made over 150 appearances in the first-team. His first club was Arsenal but he spent only six months at Highbury. Was a member of Ipswich Town's Second Division Championship side of 1967-68.

JOHN TEMPLEMAN, *Midfield*

Born Yapton, Sussex. Joined Albion in July, 1966, after two seasons with Portsmouth, and has now made nearly 200 first-team appearances. A versatile player, he is equally effective at full-back or midfield. Scored seven Cup and League goals last season.

MAN ON THE SPOT

ROGER DUCKWORTH'S VERDICT



AND MATCH REPORT EVERY SATURDAY SPORTS POST

In many ways, certain members of Luton Town's playing staff will be giving more than a hundred per cent effort for manager Harry Haslam this season, a pledge of loyalty and repayment for the confidence Haslam, the scout, had in their ability before they were known at Kenilworth Road.

One such character is Keith Barber, who has won his way through from the ranks of the reserves to begin a term as first-choice goalkeeper for the first time. Both Chelsea and Southampton showed no faith in this 24-year-old Londoner, but Harry Haslam popped up to put Keith Barber into the professional world at Luton.

"This new campaign is important in many ways for me," says Keith. "But, above all, I want to make our new manager re-affirm his faith in me. He was the man responsible for bringing me to Luton and now he has gone even further by extending his confidence by establishing me as the number one goalkeeper."

"Quite obviously, it's a make-or-break season for me personally. I reckon that I have only touched the tip of the iceberg as far as experience at Football League level is concerned. I played the last 12 games for the senior side under Alec Stock. It gave me valuable insight into what is required from a goalkeeper, though it wasn't a very happy spell for the team in general."

Barber's big chance to nail down perhaps the most vital position in any team has arrived three or four years before the point when a goalkeeper should reach his peak. That's Keith's view and he explains:

"It is a position where the older you are, the better you should be able to play. If I am lucky enough to keep my place, I know I will be better than I am now."

"Boil a goalkeeper's duty right down during the 90 minutes and he's in action for probably less than ten minutes. That's one of the reasons why I came in for private training sessions during the summer."

Harry Haslam has pledged a new search for goals—"and we mean to get them even if it means leaving the back door open," says Keith. That's also where Keith comes in. He might well be the man in the firing line this season, an 'Aunt Sally' who could, by accident, be left dangerously exposed if the worst happened.

"From the fans point of view, a 4-3 win might be their idea of a great game. But, if too many of those scorelines creep into Luton's results, one or two questions might have to be answered by yours truly. Every game brings a different situation and something fresh for a goalkeeper to learn," says Keith. "Take our League Cup draw against Birmingham. It was the first time I have been confronted by a First Division attack and every so often, one is reminded of it."

"Birmingham's centre-forward, Bob Latchford, beat me on merit for the equaliser. It was a bitter pill to swallow at the time. But, since he went on to put three past Manchester City, I have felt somewhat better. What did give me a moment of stress was the free kick from Bobby Hope. I didn't think for a minute he could get a direct shot at goal. But he somehow managed to swerve it round the wall and it came so unexpectedly that it nearly took me by surprise."

There is a tale going round that Keith doesn't use tape or gloves, but smears *Bostik* on his hands.

MAN ABOUT TOWN

KEITH BARBER



STATISTICS...

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO															
HOME					AWAY					*Home Gates		Team	†Leading Scorers		
P	W	D	L	F A	W	D	L	F A	P	Best	Average				
7	4	0	0	11	4	1	0	2	4	6	10	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	23,109	20,483	Joicey 7, Sunley 4
6	2	2	0	9	4	1	1	0	3	1	9	BURNLEY	14,804	12,143	James 3, Thomas 3
6	2	1	0	4	1	2	0	1	4	4	9	ASTON VILLA	34,843	31,355	Rioch 3
6	2	1	0	8	3	1	1	1	2	2	8	BLACKPOOL	14,797	11,758	Dyson 3
6	2	0	1	5	2	2	0	1	3	2	8	LUTON TOWN	11,507	10,177	Aston 3, Anderson 2, Halom 2
6	2	1	1	3	2	1	1	0	2	1	8	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	13,175	10,230	McKenzie 2, O'Neil 2
6	2	0	0	4	2	1	2	1	4	4	8	SUNDERLAND	12,658	12,166	Lathan 4, Tueart 3
6	2	2	0	6	1	1	1	2	3	5	7	OXFORD UNITED	8,428	8,255	Clarke (D) 4, Cassidy 3, Skeen 3
6	2	1	0	4	1	1	0	2	3	7	7	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	12,840	9,893	Gowling 3, Smith (D) 3
5	1	1	0	6	4	0	3	0	4	4	6	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	12,977	11,789	Givens 3, O'Rourke 3
7	2	2	0	5	3	0	0	3	3	8	6	SWINDON TOWN	15,304	12,729	Peplow 3, Rogers 2, Treacy 2
6	1	0	2	4	5	1	1	1	3	2	5	PORTSMOUTH	16,419	14,062	Lewis 3, Reynolds 3, Hiron 2
6	2	1	0	4	0	0	0	3	2	7	5	HULL CITY	11,189	9,319	Pearson 3, Knighton 2
6	1	1	1	2	2	1	0	2	3	4	5	PRESTON NORTH END	17,371	11,583	Wilson 2, Young 2
6	1	2	0	5	4	0	1	2	3	8	5	BRIGHTON & HOVE A.	16,839	16,120	Irvine 5, Murray 2
6	2	0	1	4	3	0	1	2	2	8	5	MIDDLESBROUGH	24,145	15,118	Mills 3, Smith 3
6	1	0	1	4	2	0	2	2	3	5	4	CARLISLE UNITED	7,747	7,686	Owen 3, Balderstone 2
6	0	1	1	3	4	1	1	2	4	5	4	BRISTOL CITY	15,648	14,010	Spiring 3, Galley 2, Gow 2
6	2	0	2	4	5	0	0	2	2	5	4	CARDIFF CITY	16,364	13,650	Bell 3, Clark 2, Showers 2
6	1	0	2	2	3	0	1	2	3	5	3	MILLWALL	13,207	11,817	Smethurst 2, Wood 2
5	0	1	1	2	4	1	0	2	3	6	3	FULHAM	10,285	8,962	Richardson 2, Went 2
6	1	1	2	3	4	0	0	2	0	3	3	ORIENT	7,249	5,838	Bowyer 2, Downing 2

Up to and including Sat 9th Sept.

*League games only

†League and Cup games

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO 72-73					MID-WEEK FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIXTURES—SEASON 1972-73				
Date	Opponents	Att	F A	Date	Opponent	F A	Date	Opponent	F A
Aug 12	Cardiff City	16,364	1 2	Aug 23	Gillingham	7 0	Dec 5	Northampton Town	
19	Preston North End	11,507	1 0	30	Brighton & Hove A	1 0	13	Colchester United	
26	Orient	6,494	1 0	Sept 6	Cambridge United	5 0	Jan 3	Millwall	
30	Oxford United	10,891	0 1	27	Cambridge United		10	Brighton & Hove	
Sept 2	Huddersfield Town	8,133	4 1	Oct 11	Millwall		17	Orient	
5	Birmingham City (L.C.2)	20,962	1 1	18	Watford		24	Southend United	
9	Nottingham Forest	9,495	1 0	25	Watford		31	Charlton Athletic	
13	Birmingham City (L.C.2 replay)	13,806	1 1	Nov 1	Gillingham		Feb 7	Watford L.C.	
16	Brighton & Hove Albion			8	Northampton T.		14	Watford L.C.	
23	Sheffield Wednesday			15	Southend United		28	Northampton L.C.	
26	Swindon Town			21	Charlton Athletic		Mar 6	Northampton L.C.	
30	Burnley			29	Colchester United		14	Orient	
Oct 4	League Cup—3								
7	Blackpool								
14	Sunderland								
21	Hull City								
28	Bristol City								
Nov 1	League Cup—4								
4	Swindon Town								
11	Portsmouth								
18	Aston Villa (F.A.C.1)								
22	League Cup—5								
25	Carlisle United								
Dec 2	Fulham								
6	League Cup—S.F.								
9	Q.P.R. (F.A.C.2)								
16	Millwall								
20	League Cup—S.F.								
23	Middlesbrough								
26	Sheffield Wednesday								
30	Preston North End								
Jan 6	Orient								
13	F.A. Cup—3								
20	Huddersfield Town								
27	Nottingham Forest								
Feb 3	F.A. Cup—4								
10	Brighton & Hove Albion								
17	Cardiff City (L.C. Final)								
24	Millwall (F.A. Cup—5)								
Mar 3	Blackpool								
10	Sunderland								
17	Hull City (F.A. Cup—6)								
24	Bristol City								
31	Carlisle United								
Apr 7	Fulham (F.A. Cup—S.F.)								
14	Queen's Park Rangers								
21	Aston Villa								
23	Middlesbrough								
24	Burnley								
28	Oxford United								
May 5	F.A. Cup—Final								

BACKTRACK

MATCH BIRMINGHAM CITY v LUTON TOWN
GROUND ST. ANDREW'S, BIRMINGHAM
DATE TUESDAY, 5th SEPTEMBER, 1972
ATTENDANCE 20,962
COMPETITION FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP—ROUND TWO
TEAMS BIRMINGHAM: Cooper; Howitt, Want; Campbell, Hynd, Harland; Pendrey, Francis, Latchford (R), Hope, Taylor (sub: Burns).
 LUTON: Barber; John. Ryan, Thomson; Anderson, Faulkner, Garner; Jimmy Ryan, Fern, Busby, Halom, Aston. Sub: Slough.

SCORERS Birmingham: Latchford (54 mins). Luton: Anderson (8 mins).

RESULT BIRMINGHAM CITY 1, LUTON TOWN 1

PAPER TALK *Daily Mirror*: "Luton goalkeeper Keith Barber bravely earned his side a replay with a fine second-half display as newly-promoted Birmingham fought desperately to save their First Division faces. John Aston and Jimmy Ryan caused no end of trouble and Birmingham were blatantly rattled before burly Bob Latchford forced home a fine equaliser." *Daily Mail*: "Luton's new attacking policy caught Birmingham by surprise only six months after they were booed off the same ground for their ultra-defensive tactics."

Birmingham Evening Mail: "Latchford's goal was magnificently taken and enough to lift Blues out of the lethargy and uncertainty which had brought half-time jeering and slow-handclapping from the crowd." *Roger Duckworth, Evening Post*: "Latchford was Birmingham's biggest threat and Faulkner had one of his best matches so far in keeping the bearded centre-forward relatively quiet."

FORTHCOMING MATCHES...

FOOTBALL LEAGUE, DIVISION TWO
 SATURDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER, 1972
 LUTON TOWN v BURNLEY
 KICK-OFF: 3-00 pm

TODAY'S LUTON MASCOT IS: MASTER S. GLADWELL

(Opening end of February 1973)



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Every goal scored by Luton Town in first-team matches this season is worth £1 to the club—thanks to a generous offer from Mr Bill Powers, of Shaw and Kilburn. Mr Powers, a Hatters Vice-President, started us off with a £25 kitty and will be happy to see the money 'counter' on his company advert grow with each game.



LUTON 4
HUDDERSFIELD 1

Vic Halom races in to score Luton's first goal



TOWN IN ACTION

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NOTTINGHAM
FOREST 0
LUTON 1

left
Barron is well and truly beaten by John Aston's shot and Luton gain another 2 points

A brave save by Barron prevents Viv Busby from going through

MEMORY MAN

Not many Luton fans will have forgotten the flying, dare-devil goalkeeping escapades of Ron Baynham, a principal character in one of Luton's best post-war spells. In the days when Stanley Matthews, Nat Lofthouse and Tom Finney used to be regular visitors to Kenilworth Road, action-man Baynham was the last-line hero who defied them all.

But quiz the majority of the supporters on where this future England international came from and what happened to Ron's career at the finish and there would be a fair number who would be stumped for the answer.

It was a meteoric rise from Southern League soccer with Worcester City which fired this Birmingham-born National Serviceman into the firing line at Luton. "Until I left school I might not have even kicked a 'competitive' football more than twice, I was daft on cricket."

But my brother scratched up a local side and I was dumped in goal, the best place, they thought, for someone who had never played. I never got beyond that team until I went into the Army and was spotted in a B.A.O.R. semi-final against the Para's."

"A scout arranged with Stan Cullis, then manager of Wolves for me to have a trial when I was back in England. But I turned it down because I didn't think I was good enough. Finally an old friend, Arthur Haynes, a former Villa and Walsall player persuaded me to join Worcester City."

The City more famous for sauce and a cathedral later sold probably the best goalkeeper they ever produced when Ron Baynham came to Kenilworth Road less than two seasons after joining them.

Why did he come to Luton? "No one else was interested in me," Ron told us during his lunch and a break from the painting and decorating business he now runs. But what a clanger Wolves and all the other top teams of the day dropped when just four years after Ron Baynham progressed to win three caps for England.

They were great days and I loved every minute of it. I used to train all day while there was someone around to supply the action. I



RON BAYNHAM

don't think there was anyone any keener than me when my first opportunity came.

We asked Ron what he considered his biggest achievement, winning an England cap or making an appearance at Wembley. "Both were tremendous highlights. But I rated Wembley for the Cup Final, even though it also brought me the biggest disappointment of my career."

"Looking back I realise we lost the Cup when we beat Nottingham Forest 5-1 only a few weeks earlier. They came out with nothing to lose while we thought we could only win. It's a mental

approach which does nothing but bring defeat and that day I thought we all played the worst game I can remember."

"It was purely a Cup team. Our League performances were only standard. But Daly Duncan kept faith all through in the same 11 for the Cup, even at the expense, in my opinion, of better players."

Was it Wembley nerves that brought the shock downfall. "No" says Ron. "We tackled it wrongly and I'll admit I could shoulder the responsibility for one of the goals by failing to come off my line. Perhaps such an error would have inspired Luton on any other occasion. But, sadly, the team that day didn't play like the team I knew."

Ron's reign and a fantastic career reached its inevitable termination in 1965. But it came as a cruel, abrupt halt which soured Ron's love for the sport and at the same time slashed his career to a dead stop overnight.

"I had been troubled by injury for many weeks which I assumed, after what I had been told, was a pulled muscle. It was often too painful to even kick a ball. But George Martin, the manager, decided eventually, that I should play against Reading Reserves.

"It turned out to be the last time I pulled on a goalkeepers jersey. Readings attack slapped five past me and I was lucky it wasn't more. My injury had given me hell and there was one or two heated exchanges afterwards."

What came out afterwards explained why the former England goalkeeper had been little more than an aunt sally at Reading. "I was forced to go into hospital to get my injury problem cleared up and I was rather glad I did."

That is an understatement really. Ron Baynham's complaint was so serious that the specialists advised him never to play again otherwise he could be crippled for life. They discovered that the strength of his leg muscle and tendons had ripped away a piece of his pelvis structure and taken it right down inside his leg. It was a tragic way for a star to finish. But Ron Baynham proudly went out like he came in—in super quick style.

SCORES

List One

Arsenal v Liverpool	A	
Coventry v Newcastle	B	
C Palace v W. B. Albion	C	
Derby C. v Birmingham	D	
Everton v Southampton	E	
Ipswich v Stoke	F	
Leeds v Leicester	G	
Man City v Tottenham	H	
Sheffield U v Chelsea	K	
West Ham v Norwich	L	
Wolves v Manchester Utd	M	
Aston Villa v Swindon	N	

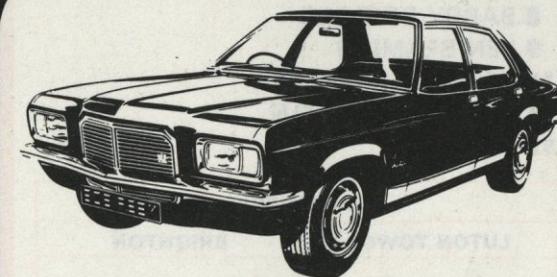
SCORES

List Two

Blackpool v Orient	A	
Bristol C. v Middlesbrough	B	
Carlisle v Cardiff	C	
Fulham v Huddersfield	D	
Hull v Burnley	E	
Oxford v Millwall	F	
Portsmouth v Preston	G	
QPR v Nottm Forest	H	
Sunderland v Sheffield W	K	
Blackburn v Watford	L	
Bournemouth v Southend	M	
Charlton v Scunthorpe	N	



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