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Division One

**NOTTS  
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v. LUTON TOWN

Monday

26th December, 1983

kick-off 11.30 a.m.

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# MAGPIE Manager's call

Nigel Worthington and Pedro Richards figured among the scorers.

The result provided a tremendous boost to morale throughout the club and, yet again, confirmed how rapidly fortunes can swing in this business.

A few days earlier, there was a mood of depression about the place following our Milk Cup defeat by Birmingham City.

The atmosphere swung to the opposite extreme after our win against Sunderland... now it's gone the other way again following the disappointing result at Liverpool.

Losing Martin O'Neill so early in the game at Anfield was a tremendous blow to us and we never got to grips with the situation.

On the day, we gave Liverpool the sort of assistance they don't need and none of us can be happy about the way things went.

But I've learned from experience that at times when life is uncomfortable — as it was after the Birmingham defeat — you have to be tolerant and work things out in a sensible manner.

It was vital that we did achieve a favourable result against

Sunderland because on paper, our December programme looks frightening.

No doubt many experts expected us to be heavily beaten at Liverpool and are presumably predicting the same will happen at Manchester United and Ipswich.

But I can assure you there's no way we will go to Old Trafford tomorrow expecting to be beaten — or to Portman Road on Saturday.

Obviously our lack of consistency alarms me yet when we do put our game together, whether it's at Meadow Lane or in "foreign" parts, we take some stopping.

Hopefully we can shake off that Liverpool defeat and display the brighter side of our two faces against Luton because it's important for us to get among the points.

Finally, on behalf of everyone at Meadow Lane, may I wish you the compliments of the season and offer the sincere wish that we all enjoy a healthy and successful 1984.

*Jimmy Sirrel*

## NOTTS COUNTY FOOTBALL CLUB



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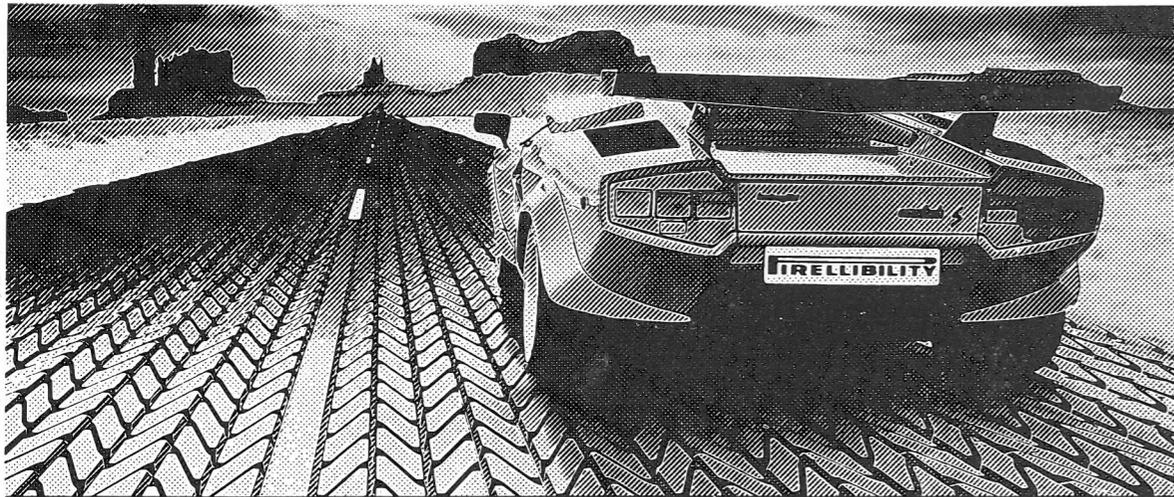
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# MAGPIE

## Man of the Moment



**NIGEL WORTHINGTON**

Nigel Worthington found himself starring in his own version of "Tales of the Unexpected" on the day we met Sunderland.

He even surprised himself by scoring with a diving header... then a telephone call a few hours later provided a double cause for celebration.

It was Northern Ireland manager Billy Bingham, inviting him to report for international duty, and Worthington had no qualms about changing his plans for a quiet weekend.

"One way or another, it was quite a day for me," he said. "And the best part about it was that we had scored six against Sunderland."

Worthington, scorer of three league goals last season, had waited a long time to open his account this term but as he said: "It was worth waiting for."

He added: "Heading the ball is not exactly my strong point and I don't think the lads could believe it when that one went in."

"Everyone kept asking what I was doing in the six-yard box and I wasn't too sure myself."

"Fortunately I made it and although I scored against Forest with a header in last season's County Cup Final, that one against Sunderland gave me a lot more satisfaction."

News of Worthington's success soon drifted across the Irish Sea and no doubt influenced Bingham's thinking when he had a vacancy to fill in the Northern Ireland squad.

The full back had been omitted from the party when they beat West Germany and his name was also missing from the list when the squad to face Scotland was originally announced.

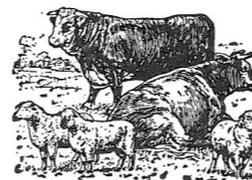
But he explained: "Arsenal's Colin Hill had to withdraw because of injury and I got a 'phone call at 10 o'clock on Saturday night, asking me to report."

"I had to get clearance from Jimmy Sirrel first, of course, and then travelled to Belfast on Sunday."

There was no happy ending to this tale, however, because Worthington, who has travelled the world with Ireland without kicking a ball in international competition, again found himself watching from the substitute's bench.

He added: "It's always nice to be involved with the squad but frustrating not to get a game. All I can do is keep plugging away and hope I don't have to wait too long for my chance."

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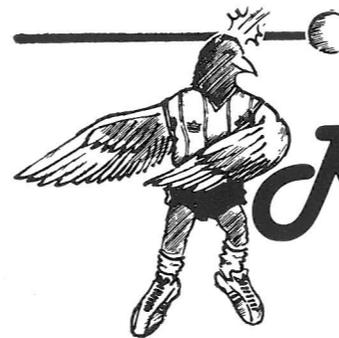
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# MAGPIE Round-up

★ ★

For the benefit of those travelling by road to Manchester United tomorrow and to Ipswich on Saturday, the RAC recommend the following routes:

To Manchester . . . travel North on the M1 to junction 29 and follow A617 to Chesterfield. Take A619 to Baslow and turn right along A623 to Chapel-en-le-Frith.

A6 to Stockport, then follow signs "Manchester (West)" to the intersection with the M63. Travel West along the M63 for eight miles to junction 7 (Stretford A56).

Follow signs "Manchester" along A56 Chester Road and turn left along Warwick Road to Old Trafford.

To Ipswich . . . take A52 to Grantham and travel South along A1. Leave at junction A14 (Huntingdon) to link with A604 and continue on to join A45 Cambridge by-pass. Enter Ipswich by Norwich Road and proceed via Civic Drive and Handford Road to Portman Road.

We shall be fascinated to discover today how our experiment of an 11.30 a.m. kick-off is received by supporters.

Certainly, we are optimistic of attracting a bigger crowd than our previous best this season — the 11,031 who watched the opening home game against Birmingham.

Said secretary Ken Mott: "It was decided before the start of the season that it would be a worthwhile experiment.

"Traditionally people have always enjoyed their holiday football and I can remember when they turned up in droves to matches played on Christmas Day morning. Hopefully we can re-capture that."

Sirrel arrived in time to withdraw Clarke at half-time — then drive him to Holme Pierrepont to join the first-team players for lunch.

★ ★

The 1984 club diaries and calendars are now available and on sale today at the souvenir shop — both priced £2.

Included in the diary are rail and road maps, details of how to get to away grounds and all the facts and figures you could possibly want about Notts County and their First Division rivals.

And the calendar features a "Player of the Month" picture . . . a must for all supporters.

★ ★

Young David Clarke has yet to kick a ball in the First Division this season but that almost changed with his dramatic promotion earlier this month.

When Rachid Harkouk reported unfit on the morning of the match against Sunderland, it presented Jimmy Sirrel with a major problem.

He explained: "I had to find a substitute from somewhere and with our extensive injury list, it had to be one of the lads playing in the "A" team game at Mansfield."

## RAY O'BRIEN'S DIARY

January 4th—Games Night, Earl Manvers, Colwick Road

14th—Disco at the Centenary Association

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March 7th—Stag Night at the Commodore

21st—Boxing Night at Meadow Lane

May 12th—Testimonial Dinner at the Royal Hotel



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# MAGPIE

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## Reserves

Our hopes of enjoying a run in the F.A. Youth Cup for the first time in many years were halted by Manchester United at Meadow Lane recently.

United emerged as 3-0 winners of the second round tie and as coach Mick Walker said: "We couldn't really have any complaints about the scoreline.

An equaliser wouldn't come, however, and when United grabbed their second against the run of play, the outcome was inevitable.

Added Walker: "There were some pleasing individual performances — especially from central defenders Dean Yates and Paul Smalley — and although the result was disappointing, it was good experience for the youngsters."

## Youth Cup Hopes Dashed

"It was always going to be a very difficult game for us and the fact that the pitch was extremely heavy was an added disadvantage.

"United had three professionals in their team and the rest were apprentices. As we had five school-boys, there was an obvious gap in age and the all-round strength of the teams."

Even so, we held our own during a goalless first-half and after United edged in front early in the second period, we had our best spell of the match.

Iain McCulloch's welcome return to action has been a major feature of our recent Reserves and "A" team matches.

The flying Scotsman, who was injured in the game against Everton on October 1st, made his comeback in the Midland Intermediate League game at Mansfield.

And although he was guilty of a bad miss in the final minutes, McCulloch certainly played his part in the 2-2 draw.

In fact, twice in the opening minutes he went within inches of scoring and it was from the Scotsman's cross that Tony Daws volleyed us in front.

Mansfield hit back well and after Mick Leonard had twice produced fine saves, they equalised . . . then went ahead early in the second half.

Our point was clinched four minutes from time when McCulloch was fouled in the penalty area and Ray O'Brien fired in the spot kick.

It was a highly satisfying return for McCulloch and five days later, he gained more valuable match-practice in helping the Reserves beat Wolverhampton Wanderers 2-0 at Meadow Lane.

That match also featured the return after injury of Brian Kilcline and Gordon Mair and it was Mair who shot us ahead from David Clarke's cross, five minutes before half time.

By then, Wolves had already wasted two clear-cut opportunities but we soon extended our lead with a goal immediately after the interval.

Again it was Clarke who created the opening with a fine through ball and Daws took his chance superbly.

A goal from McCulloch would have completed a successful evening but he was twice denied — first by the crossbar and then by goalkeeper John Burridge after O'Brien had sent him clear.



# MAGPIE

## Mail bag

bottom of the First Division with such talented players in your team.

I remain a loyal Sunderland supporter but after the impression Notts County made on me, I shall follow your fortunes with interest in future.

P.S. If John Chiedozie is looking for a transfer, please send him to Roker Park!

G. BUCHANAN, Wallsend.

### ANTI-CLIMAX

I was unable to travel to Liverpool recently but sat glued to my radio all afternoon — and could not believe what I was hearing.

What an anti-climax after the previous week's superb display against Sunderland. It really is

### COULD HAVE BEEN TWELVE

Long-standing Sunderland fans like myself have seen our team take a few heavy beatings over the years but none more conclusive than at Meadow Lane recently.

Even when we were beaten 8-0 at Watford last season, it was nothing like as one-sided as the game against Notts County.

You scored six, it could have been 12 and it's inexplicable that you should be struggling near the

beyond me how a team can go from one extreme to another in that way.

I know that inconsistency has been a problem since promotion to the First Division and it seems to be getting worse.

It was a treat to see the team perform so well against Aston Villa and Sunderland but unless they can find a reasonable level of consistency, we are in for a very anxious few months.

J. ANTWISS,  
Bilborough, Nottingham.

● Point taken but maybe it's worth considering that the defeat at Anfield was only the third in the last 10 League and Cup matches —EDITOR.

We welcome your contributions to Magpie Mailbag but please keep all letters brief. Send them to Terry Bowles, Programme Editor, c/o Notts County F.C., Meadow Lane, Nottingham.



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# MAGPIE Visitors

DAVID PLEAT provided one of football's most memorable moments last season with his spontaneous show of delight at Maine Road.

It happened on the very last day and no one could deny that the manager was entitled to dance with delight after victory against Manchester City had secured Luton's First Division future.

A goal by Raddy Antic was priceless on that dramatic occasion... but Mal Donaghy's effort against us in the corresponding fixture must rank close behind in the list of important goals.

It seemed that we were on our way to a victory that would virtually remove our relegation fears when John Chiedozie shot us ahead in that April clash.

But Donaghy changed that with a last minute equaliser and while Luton travelled back down the M1 with their survival hopes intact, we were still in trouble.

It all ended happily for both clubs, of course, and Luton have provided plenty of evidence in recent months to confirm that they learned from the experience.

In fact, as the league programme approaches the halfway stage, they

are nicely poised to make a serious challenge for a place in Europe.

And throughout the good times and bad, Pleat's insistence that Luton will always strive to attack and entertain has never wavered.

They earned themselves a reputation last season as one of the most attractive sides in the country — and nothing has changed this year.

Goals seem to flow at both ends whenever they are in action but after conceding 84 goals last season — the worst record in the First Division — something had to be done to tighten up at the back.

Pleat made a positive move to achieve that in March when he paid £145,000 to Charlton Athletic for talented young central defender Paul Elliott.

And when goalkeeper Les Sealey arrived from Coventry during the summer, the manager had reason to believe his side were well equipped at both ends of the pitch.

Kirk Stephens, a £5,000 buy from Nuneaton, is now firmly established in the right back spot while former apprentice Wayne Turner and teenager Mitchell Thomas have been competing for the No. 3 shirt.

Versatile Irishman Mal Donaghy, who has made more than 200 league appearances for Luton, regularly figures alongside Elliott to complete the defensive formation.

Although now approaching his 34th birthday, Brian Horton continues to display the same skill and aggression which proved so effective during his lengthy spells with Port Vale and Brighton.

And Horton's experience has undoubtedly had an influence on the emergence of Ricky Hill as a player of genuine international class.

London-born Hill has already appeared for England and with his natural skill and ability to get goals, there will surely be more international honours to follow.

The same applies with strikers Paul Walsh and Brian Stein, who have already figured in Bobby Robson's plans and rank as two of the most reliable marksmen in the country.

We have special cause to remember Walsh, whose first goals for Luton following his £400,000 move from Charlton Athletic, came in the shape of a hat-trick against us at Kenilworth Road last season.

And despite being restricted by injury to just 20 first-team appearances, Stein still managed to finish last term with a haul of 14 goals.

Even without the injured David Moss to provide his telling crosses in recent weeks, Luton have maintained their place as the First Division's top scorers.

And although Walsh and Stein normally capture the headlines, Trevor Aylott and Frankie Bunn can always be relied upon to make a contribution near goal — so can "resident" substitute Antic, who engraved his name in Luton's history with that crucial winner against Manchester City.

Photo opposite : RICKY HILL

# LUTON TOWN



## MEET THE BOSS

The Luton Town boss is no stranger to these parts, of course, and he's remembered by many people as the finest young prospect ever to come out of Nottingham schools football.

For one reason or another, David Pleat never fulfilled his potential as a player but in his first job in league management, he's rapidly making up for previous disappointments.

Pleat won England Schools and Youth caps during his time with Nottingham Forest and after figuring on the wing for Luton for three seasons, he also served Shrewsbury, Exeter and Peterborough before a back injury halted his playing career.

After collecting a good grounding in the management business at Nuneaton, he returned to Kenilworth Road as youth team coach in 1975.

When Harry Haslam left to join Sheffield United three years later, Pleat was upgraded to manager and initially, life was a struggle.

But after winning a relegation battle in his first season then twice finishing frustratingly close to promotion, his efforts were rewarded when Luton won the Second Division title in 1981-82 — and a place among the elite.

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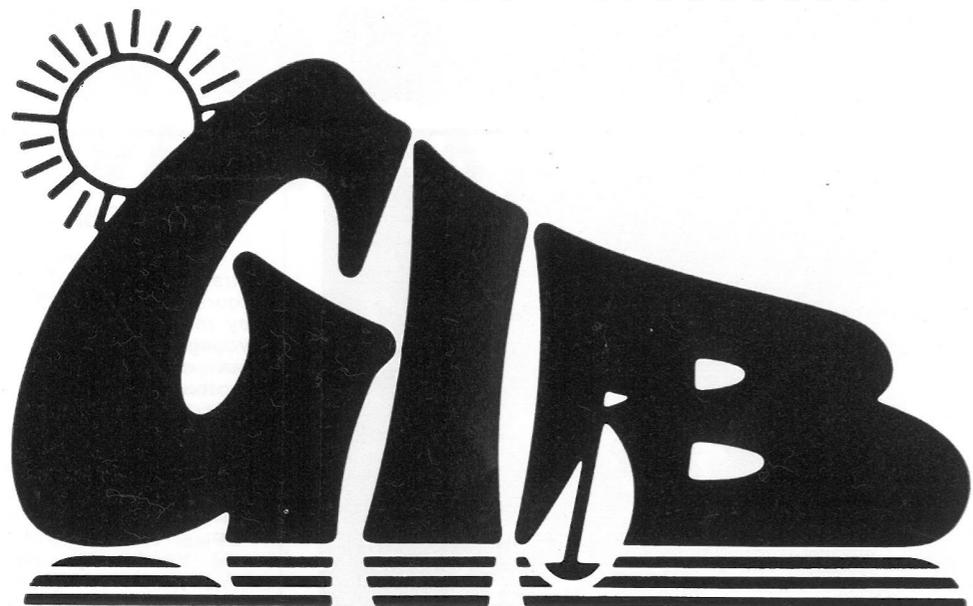
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# MAGPIE Favourites

## DAVID COATES

It's bound to bring back memories for David Coates this morning when he takes his seat on the touchline.

And although Luton's chief coach cannot recall the 3½ years he spent at Meadow Lane as one of the more successful spells of his career, it's a period that he refuses to dismiss.

In fact, for the past 10 years he has joined forces with Dick Edwards to organise an annual get-together for former Notts players.

He said: "We tell the same stories every year but they still raise a laugh and it's always a tremendous night out."

After eight years with Hull City and a spell under Raich Carter at Mansfield, Eddie Lowe paid a modest fee to bring Coates to Meadow Lane in 1964.

"I played under six different managers while I was with Notts and to be honest, the club was in a state of turmoil," he recalled.

"We weren't a very good team and as every penny had to be watched at that time, there wasn't much chance of it being improved.

"It was like a merry-go-round but despite all the comings and goings, plenty of people made significant contributions on their way through.

"For example, supporters tend to forget that Billy Gray signed Don Masson from Middlesbrough and that must rank as one of the most important contributions anyone has made in the history of Notts County.



Beattie offered him the chance to take charge of the reserves and youngsters, it was the start of a new career for him.

He added: "I had always been under the impression that only the good players got jobs in coaching and management and I never regarded myself as anything more than an average player.

"In that sense, it came as a surprise to be offered the opportunity but I'll always be grateful to Andy Beattie for making it possible for me to stay in the game.

"Andy was a very impressive man. You didn't often see him joking with the players but everyone respected him — and there wasn't much about football and the people in the game that he didn't know.

"I learned an enormous amount during the year I spent coaching at Notts and it was typical of him that the first job he gave me to do was designed to make me feel important."

Coates was sent to Leicester to sign a young apprentice called David Needham... and that wasn't the only important day's work he did during that spell on the coaching staff.

While some had doubts about the potential of Dave Watson, he pressed Notts to sign the 19-years-old central defender and they had no cause to regret their decision.

Coates eventually left to join the Aston Villa coaching staff — then moved on to Leicester City where he stayed for almost 10 years.

He's now in his sixth season as chief coach at Kenilworth Road and although he has twice been back to Meadow Lane with Luton in the past, every return trip is a journey down memory Lane for the amiable Geordie.

"From my own point of view, I never really played as well as I could — at least not until Andy Beattie converted me into a sweeper.

"The switch came in 1967 when we looked as though we would be applying for re-election but in the end, we just managed to pull clear of trouble."

Coates retired as a player at the end of that season but when

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**MAGPIE  
Supporters  
News**

See in the New Year, in style, at the Meadow Club. A real New Years Eve party night is in prospect with music, fun and games a plenty. Last year this function was an outstanding success and if ticket sales so far are any guide this year looks like being even more popular. Tickets priced at only £1 are now on sale from the Meadow Club and County '75 or you can pay on the door.

**GLENN ROEDER**

At the time of writing the response to the Supporters Club's "Buy Glenn Roeder Appeal" has been slightly disappointing.

Although the initial pledges totalled a creditable £50,000, so far less than £30,000 has actually been received in cash. It is extremely encouraging to find that those loyal supporters who have honoured their pledges have contributed well in excess of the amounts actually pledged. However, only 25% of those making pledges have actually honoured them. Promises are no good to us, we need hard cash and we need it now if we are to have any chance of achieving our target. We appreciate that Christmas time is an expensive time for most of us but at the end of the day what you

care is what you do, not what you promise to do. If we are unable to sign Roeder through lack of cash the responsibility will lie squarely on the shoulders of those supporters who sat back and did nothing.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

As is customary at this time of year I would like, on behalf of the Supporters Club Committee, to convey our sincere good wishes to Notts County supporters everywhere and wish you all a successful, happy and prosperous New Year.

**Away Travel — Follow the Magpies**

**To Manchester United**

on Tuesday, 27th December  
Coaches depart Meadow Lane at  
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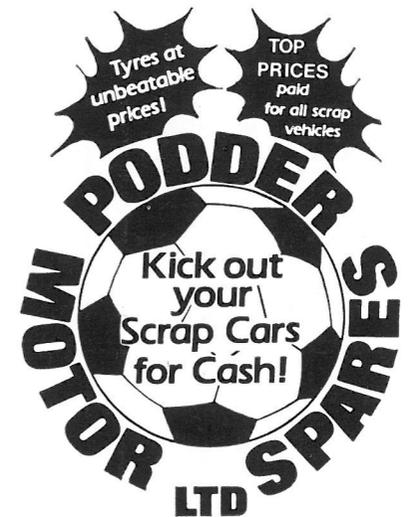
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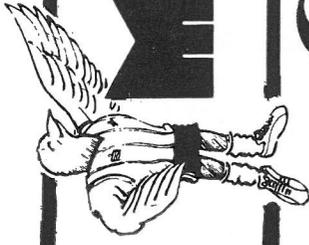
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# MACPIE facts & figures

## CANON LEAGUE FIXTURES Division One

Home matches and scorers in heavy type  
 † Player withdrawn  
 \* Substitute Used

Date	Opponent	ATT	D	F	A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug. 27	Leicester City	14,838				McDonagh	Lahtinen	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie†	Fashanu	Christie‡	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
Sept. 3	BIRMINGHAM CITY	11,031	4-0			McDonagh	Lahtinen	Worth 'ton	Goodwin†	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	Christie*
6	Coventry City	9,203	0-2			McDonagh	Lahtinen	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	Christie*
10	Watford	10,912	1-3			McDonagh	Lahtinen	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	Christie*
17	ARSENAL	10,217	0-4			McDonagh	Benjamin	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	Christie*
24	West Ham United	20,613	0-1			McDonagh	Benjamin	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	Chiedozie*
Oct. 1	Everton	7,949	0-1			McDonagh	Benjamin	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	Mair*
4	Aldershot M.C. 2 (1)	4,458	1-3			McDonagh	Benjamin	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	Richards*
16	Nottingham Forest	26,658	1-1			McDonagh	Benjamin	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	O'Neill*
22	STOKE CITY	7,684	0-1			McDonagh	Benjamin	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
25	ALDERSHOT M.C. 2 (2)	3,439	0-1			McDonagh	Benjamin	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
Nov. 8	Tottenham Hotspur	29,198	0-2			McDonagh	Benjamin	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
5	West Bromwich Albion	10,821	0-2			McDonagh	Benjamin	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
8	BIRMINGHAM CITY (M.C.3)	10,484	0-2			McDonagh	Benjamin	Worth 'ton	Goodwin	Kilcline	Hunt	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
12	NORWICH CITY	7,882	1-1			McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
19	Southampton	15,009	2-0			McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
22	ASTON VILLA (M.C.3 Replay)	8,207	0-0			McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
26	ASTON VILLA	8,960	0-0			McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
Dec. 3	Birmingham (M.C.3 Replay)	9,678	0-0			McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
29	Queen's Park Rangers	10,217	0-1			McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
5	BIRMINGHAM (M.C.3 Replay)	7,361	1-3			McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
10	SUNDERLAND	7,126	6-1			McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
17	Luton Town (11.30 a.m.)	22,436	0-5			McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
26	Luton Town					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
31	Manchester United					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
1984 Jan. 2	WEST HAM UNITED					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
8	BRISTOL CITY (F.A. CUP 3)					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
14	LEICESTER CITY					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
21	Arsenal					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
28	WOLVES (F.A. Cup 4)					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
Feb. 4	Everton					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
11	WATFORD					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
18	TOTTENHAM (F.A. Cup 5)					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
25	SOLESBY CITY					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
Mar. 3	WEST BROMWICH ALBION					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
10	Nonich City (F.A. Cup 6)					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
17	COVENTRY CITY (M.C.F.)					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
24	Birmingham City (M.C.F.)					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
31	NOTTINGHAM FOREST					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
April 7	Wolves					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
14	SOUTHAMPTON (F.A. S.F.)					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
21	Luton Town					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
23	MANCHESTER UNITED					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
28	Aston Villa					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
May 5	QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
12	Sunderland					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*
*2	LIVERPOOL					McDonagh	Goodwin	Worth 'ton	Richards	Hunt	Roeder	Chiedozie	Fashanu	McCll'ch	Harkouk	O'Neill	McP'land*

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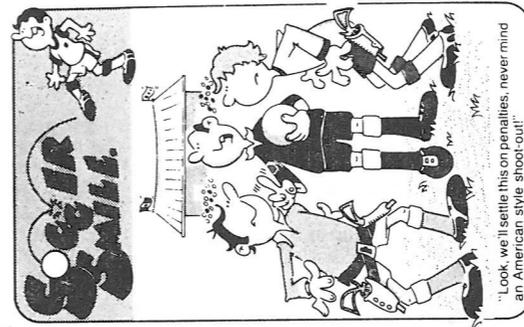
### CANON LEAGUE — DIVISION ONE

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	18	11	4	3	31	13	37
Man. United	18	11	3	4	34	19	36
West Ham Utd.	18	10	3	5	30	17	33
Q.P.R.	18	10	2	6	29	16	32
Coventry City	18	9	5	4	28	20	32
Luton Town	18	10	2	6	33	27	32
Southampton	18	9	4	5	20	14	31
Aston Villa	18	9	3	6	29	26	31
Forest	18	9	3	6	33	25	30
Norwich City	19	8	5	5	26	21	30
Tottenham H.	18	8	5	5	30	27	29
Arsenal	18	8	0	10	30	26	24
Albion	18	7	2	9	21	27	23
Sunderland	18	6	5	7	19	27	23
Ipswich Town	18	6	4	8	27	26	22
Everton	18	6	4	8	11	20	22
Birmingham	18	5	2	11	15	22	18
Notts County	18	5	2	11	24	33	17
Leicester City	19	4	5	10	26	36	17
Watford	18	4	4	10	29	35	16
Stoke City	18	2	7	9	18	33	13
Wolves	18	1	5	12	12	45	8

### CENTRAL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO FIXTURES

Date	Home	Score	Away
1983 Sept. 5	CHESTERFIELD (7.30 p.m.)	2-1	H
13	Coventry City	0-1	A
20	PRESTON NORTH END	4-0	H
28	Barnsley	0-2	A
Oct. 5	GRIMSLEY TOWN	1-0	H
12	MIDDLESBROUGH	0-0	A
17	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	7-0	H
27	MANCHESTER CITY	0-1	H
Nov. 8	Huddersfield Town	2-0	A
15	Bradford City	3-1	A
22	BLACKPOOL	0-5	A
Dec. 15	WOLVES	1-2	H
1984 Jan. 17	Grimsby Town	A	A
24	COVENTRY CITY	A	A
31	Preston North End (7 p.m.)	A	A
Feb. 7	BARNESLEY	A	A
21	WIGAN ATHLETIC	A	A
Mar. 13	Middlesbrough	A	A
20	MANCHESTER CITY	A	A
Apr. 3	Oldham Athletic	A	A
10	PORT VALE	A	A
17	Huddersfield Town	A	A
24	BRADFORD CITY	A	A
31	Blackpool (7 p.m.)	A	A
7	ROTHERHAM UNITED	A	A
14	Wolves (7 p.m.)	A	A

To be arranged Wigan (away), Port Vale (away) Rotherham United (Away), Chesterfield (Away)



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Pedro Richards	Anthony John Kells	The Supporters Club	The Supporters Club
Trevor Christie	The Supporters Club	R. H. Freight (Services) Ltd.	R. H. Freight (Services) Ltd.
Ray O'Brien	R. H. Freight (Services) Ltd.	Mr. Giles, Strelley	Mr. Giles, Strelley
Aki Lahtinen	Westminster Hotel, Nottingham	Carr Farm Kennels	Carr Farm Kennels
Mark Goodwin	Ian Mills	Alan Waldron	Phil, Magpie Farm, Kavieng, PNG
Rachid Harkouk	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.
Iain McCulloch	Robert and Michael Woodhouse	Doreen Gosling, Newark	Julie and Phillip Gosling, Newark
Gordon Mair	Sue and Ann Cox, Hucknall	D. Wood, Insurance Brokers, Arnold	D. Wood, Insurance Brokers, Arnold
David Hunt	KLG Glass	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.	KLG Glass
John Chiedozie	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.	KLG Glass	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.
Tristan Benjamin	KLG Glass	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.	KLG Glass
Nigel Worthington	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.	KLG Glass	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.
Brian Kilcline	KLG Glass	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.	KLG Glass
Justin Fashanu	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.	KLG Glass	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.
David Clarke	KLG Glass	Penny Turner, Linwood Turner Ltd.	KLG Glass
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# Slater's MAGPIE

It's five years since Nottingham staged its only previous Christmas football match with a morning kick-off. Then, Forest and Derby opted for a pre-lunch start and their reward was to attract a crowd of over 34,000 to the City Ground.

So it's going to be interesting (to say the least) to see how today's experiment affects the Meadow Lane gate. As proved by County's efforts to switch the F.A. Cup tie with Bristol City from Saturday to Sunday clubs are increasingly willing to try different kick-off times and different days as they endeavour to pull in the customers.

One wholesale experiment went awry at Christmas, 1979 when it was decided to play virtually a full league programme on Friday evening, 21st December, the following day being traditionally the worst Saturday for gates because of the clash with Christmas preparations.

The weather was among the factors which conspired to ruin the experiment, for on an icy night only 262,000 spectators watched 34 matches, down on the previous year when games were played on

the corresponding Saturday and only 27 fixtures pulled in 322,000.

As it happened Notts did not share in that experiment, meeting Newcastle United instead on the traditional Saturday afternoon. Their reward was a crowd of over 11,000, a thrilling match and a point from a 2-2 draw . . . thanks to two Ray O'Brien penalties.

I fully expect to find more experiments taking place in order to determine which is the best day and the best time to attract bigger audiences, for that persists as being football's number one problem as we move into 1984.

It is hardly seasonal to reflect that more and more clubs are in increasing financial difficulties, although this will surely dominate the discussions and the headlines in the coming year as in the past.

From somewhere football generally needs a great shot in the arm, which various devices (for example, three points instead of two for a win) have so far failed to deliver.

You would have thought Notts would already have secured that injection by having risen from the Fourth Division to the First in a

decade of remarkable progress. Gates revenue has actually slumped alarmingly in the process! How do you explain that?

Interesting to reflect that in some senses the rise and rise of Notts was really ignited ten years ago this Christmas. On Boxing Day, 1973 they beat Watford 1-0 at Meadow Lane thanks to a Colin Franks own goal and four days later battled back from being two goals down at Bolton to earn a 2-2 draw.

Those results in the last matches of 1973 set them up for a marvellous run in which they were almost unbeaten in the rest of the season and soared from mid-table to second place to clinch promotion to the Second Division.

Such success had seemed extremely unlikely in the period up to Christmas and although the First Division may impose a stiffer examination than the Third it just shows what could be possible in 1984 at Meadow Lane.

From being relegation candidates today Notts could still finish in a position way up the table. They will achieve it if they find the one key ingredient missing from their season so far. Consistency, my friends, is the watchword as we all cross the New Year threshold.

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# Magpies <sup>o(o)</sup>

White Shirts, Black Shorts

1. Seamus McDonagh
2. Mark Goodwin
3. Nigel Worthington
4. Pedro Richards
5. David Hunt
6. ~~Tristan Benjamin~~ <sup>KILCLINE</sup>
7. Martin O'Neill
8. Justin Fashanu
9. Trevor Christie
10. ~~Ian McParland~~ <sup>McCULLOCH</sup>
11. John Chiedozie
12. ~~Iain McCulloch~~ <sup>HARKOVK</sup>  
<sub>McCULLOCH</sub>

# TODAY'S *Jeams*

# Hatters <sup>(1)3</sup>

Orange Shirts, Navy Shorts

1. Les Sealey
2. Kirk Stephens
3. Mitchell Thomas
4. Brian Horton
5. Paul Elliott
6. Mal Donaghy
7. Ricky Hill
8. Brian Stein
9. Paul Walsh
10. Trevor Aylott
11. Ray Daniel
12. ~~To be announced~~ <sub>ANTIC</sub>

# Play it Black



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