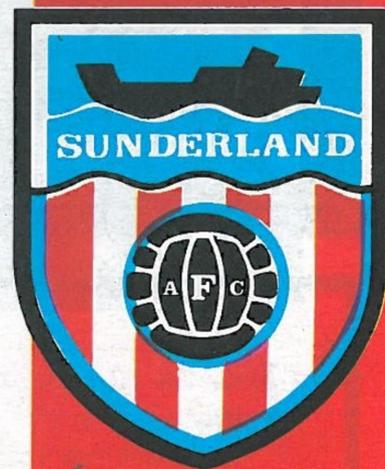


SUNDERLAND AFC

V LUTON TOWN



Canon



40p

VOLUME 12 No. 14
SAT. 31st DEC. 1983
KICK OFF 3.00 p.m.

A Happy New Year
to all
Sunderland Supporters

Sunderland Association Football Club

CLUB LANDMARKS

Football League Division One Champions:

1891/92, 1892/93, 1894/95,
1901/02, 1912/13, 1935/36

Division One Runners Up:

1893/94, 1897/98, 1900/01,
1922/23, 1934/35

Division Two Champions:

1975/76

Division Two Runners-Up:

1963/64, 1979/80

F.A. Cup Winners:

1937, 1973

F.A. Cup Runners-Up:

1913

European Competitions:

Cup Winners' Cup 1973/74

Football League Cup:

Semi-Finalist 1962/63

Record Victory:

11-1, v Fairfield
F.A. Cup First Round 1894/95

Record Defeat:

0-8, at West Ham, Div. One October 1968;
0-8, at Watford Div. One, September 1982.

Record Attendance:

75,118, v Derby County,
F.A. Cup 6th Round Replay,
March 8th, 1933.

Most League Goals:

109, Div. One, 1935/36

Highest League Scorer in a Season:

Dave Halliday, 43, Div. One, 1928/29

Record Average Attendance:

47,832, Div. One, 1949/50

Most Sunderland Appearances:

Jimmy Montgomery,
615 League and Cup, 1961 — 1976



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YEAR FORMED: 1879

TURNED PROFESSIONAL: 1886

LIMITED COMPANY: 1906

PREVIOUS NAME

Sunderland and District Teachers' A.F.C.
1879/80

PREVIOUS GROUNDS

1879, Blue House Fields, Hendon;
1882 Groves Field, Ashbrooke;
1883, Horatio Street, Roker;
1884, Abbs Field, Fulwell Road;
1886, Newcastle Road;
1898, Roker Park built and opened.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE RECORD:

Elected to Division One in 1890.
Division One 1890/91 to 1957/58 (57 seasons).
Division Two 1958/59 to 1963/64.
Division One 1964/65 to 1969/70.
Division Two 1970/71 to 1975/76.
Division One 1976/77.
Division Two 1977/78 to 1979/80.
Division One 1980/81.

DIRECTORS

Chairman: T. Cowie, O.B.E.

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Alan Durban

First Team Coach

Bryan Robson

Youth Development Officer

George Herd

General Manager/Secretary

Geoff Davidson, F.C.A.

Hon. Club Doctor

J. M. Scott, F.R.C.S.

Promotions Manager

Corny O'Donnell

Stadium Manager

Fred Bailey

ALAN DURBAN



We welcome David Pleat's attractive Luton side to Roker Park today, when we will be striving to see out 1983 on a high note.

Looking ahead to the new year, our realistic aims are to continue to make progress up the First Division table and also achieve a long overdue Cup run.

We do our first footing at Coventry on Monday before going to Bolton Wanderers a week today in the third round of the F.A. Cup which, we hope, will be the first step of an exciting run in the competition.

Bolton, who are managed by my former Derby County team mate, John McGovern, are now in the Third Division following their relegation last season, but we know we will face a battle.

Teams from the lower divisions have shown before that they are capable of raising their game when playing a big club in the F.A. Cup.

I can think of worse places to go though than Bolton, including some clubs in the Third Division.

We won at Burnden Park a year ago in a friendly match and that ground will suit us. It's a big stadium, with a big pitch, the type you can play on freely.

While we certainly won't underestimate Bolton, there is no reason at all why we shouldn't travel to Lancashire with confidence.

The need for a Cup run makes it an important match, but we won't concentrate on it to the exclusion of our other priorities. I believe we are capable now of climbing to a higher League position and I am confident that we face a new year without the relegation worries we have had at the beginning of previous years.

It would take four bad injuries — as Luton's neighbours Watford have had — to bring about those problems again.

The task today is to avenge our 4-1 defeat at Kenilworth Road earlier in the season. I know a good result would help provide all our fans with what I and all the players wish them now — a Happy New Year.

Many thanks for your support throughout 1983.

STARS IN STRIPES



Sunderland A.F.C. official strips for season 1983/84 supplied by Nike International, Washington — Howay the Lads!

LUTON TOWN



BACK ROW (left to right): Rob Johnson, Wayne Turner, Ray Daniel, Tim Breacker, Andy Beasley, Stacey North, Mitchell Thomas, Gary Parker, Cahal McConville.

MIDDLE ROW (left to right): John Moore (Youth Team Coach), Richard Money, Clive Goodyear, Les Sealey, Paul Elliott, Mike Saxby, Jake Findlay, Trevor Aylott, Frank Bunn, Trevor Hartley (Reserve Team Coach).

FRONT ROW (left to right): David Coates (1st Team Coach), Kirk Stephens, Ricky Hill, Mal Donaghy, David Moss, David Pleat (Manager), Brian Horton, Raddy Antic, Brian Stein, Paul Walsh, John Sheridan (Physio)

DAVID COATES (Club Coach)

Like David Pleat, David Coates spent most of his playing career in the lower divisions with Hull City, Mansfield Town and Notts County. His coaching career has embraced periods at Villa and Leicester City. Now settled into his role at Luton, Coates has proved a first class right hand man to the manager over the last three successful seasons. Excellent organiser and sound talker on all aspects of the game.

RADDY ANTIC

Antic was Luton's first continental signing. They got him for a bargain price after he had played for Zaragosa in Spain where supporters staged a protest when the transfer was announced. Born in Yugoslavia, he is the holder of five international caps. Effective in defence and midfield, he has the ability to bend shots both ways. Scored the only goal at Maine Road last season which kept the Town in the First Division.

MAL DONAGHY

One of David Pleat's first signings when he snatched Donaghy from Larne, Northern Ireland in the summer of 1978. The classy defender is now a regular in the Northern Ireland International side as well as Luton and can play either in defence or midfield. Scored eight goals during record breaking promotion season. He is an outstanding Club player and is reliable in many positions. Made forty League appearances last season and scored three goals.

BRIAN HORTON

On joining Luton from Brighton he was immediately made Captain and soon earned the reputation of being the hub of the side with his prompting and consistent play. Played a big part in the second division promotion season and only missed two games through injury last term. This campaign is his third at Luton and he seems destined for a coaching/managing post when he bows out.

KIRK STEPHENS

David Pleat went back to his old club Nuneaton to sign this right back. It wasn't long before he was a regular in the side. Not very tall but his speed, tackling and accurate passing have made him a vital link in the Club's success. He has a great passion for soccer and his determination and willingness to work has insured a successful transition from non-league to First Division soccer.

DAVID MOSS

Played for nine seasons for his local club Swindon Town mainly in the Third Division before being persuaded to join the Town. A £110,000 cheque exchanged between the two clubs and he was an immediate success. He makes goals and takes them and is well over the 130 total in the Football League. Has the reputation of being a marksman from the penalty spot. Although near the 30 mark, his fitness and dedication has given him belated success and opportunity at First Division level.

RICKY HILL

Born in North London, Luton beat West Ham for his signature when he was a Youth. Made his League debut at the age of 17 in 1976 and marked it with a goal. Is now the proud possessor of a full England cap. Was picked to play against West Germany at Wembley last season. He did not miss a game last season which was remarkable because he was burdened by a troublesome injury. He is now fully fit. Ricky is a loyal clubman and one of the club's most popular players. Not only skilful and a goalscorer, but has outstanding team responsibility when defending.

WAYNE TURNER

A place in Luton's League squad was just reward for a player who thrives on hard work. Born in Luton, he can play in midfield or defence. He had a spell at Lincoln City in season 81/82 and returned to Kenilworth Road a better player for the experience. Made twenty nine First Division appearances last season. Strong in the tackle. Has the qualities to become a captain. Coaches a local youth club.

BRIAN STEIN

Was playing for Edgeware Town when Luton persuaded him to try his luck as a full time professional in October 1977. Within a month he made his first team debut against Manchester City in the Football League Cup. Since then he has never looked back scoring some fine goals and causing problems with his fast and accurate dribbling. Missed nearly half of last season after breaking a bone in his foot against Manchester City. At that stage, he was leading scorer in the First Division. Was substitute for England against Wales and David Pleat predicts he will become a regular international.

CLIVE GOODYEAR

Born at Lincoln and signed professional forms for Luton in 1978, seized his opportunity of a first team place when Mike Saxby was injured and gained a second division championship medal in his first season in the Football League. Stands over 6 ft. tall and weighs 12½ stone. Steady player with good pace to compete with fast strikers. Recently married to a Luton girl.

PAUL WALSH

David Pleat gave Charlton a big cheque by Luton's standards to secure this lively forward. A regular England Under-21 player and also gained a full cap against Australia during England's summer tour this year. A fast mover with excellent ball control has brought him much praise from opposing teams. Stands only 5 ft. 7 ins. tall but is a real handful for any defence. Missed only one game last season and scored 13 goals including three hat-tricks. Has the ability to develop into an outstanding forward.

FRANK BUNN

Born in Birmingham and is a reliable goal scorer for the reserve side. Made only five Football League appearances including two as substitute last season. Signed professional forms in May 1980 after being an apprentice for twelve months. Strong forward with good skill and ability to shield the ball. A popular player with his colleagues.

RICHARD MONEY

Luton signed the ex-Scunthorpe and Fulham player just before the 1981/82 transfer deadline after a months loan from Liverpool. He settled in very quickly and soon won the fans to his side with his accurate passing and athleticism. Was a regular left back until midway through last season when he broke his nose for the second time against Notts County. Good clubman who thinks about the game and distributes sensibly. Enjoys a game of golf.

MIKE SAXBY

David Pleat's amazing ability to spot bargains in the lower divisions of the Football League took centre-half Saxby to Kenilworth Road in the summer of 1979. But Third Division Mansfield knew that their 21 year old six footer was something special and Luton were happy enough to pay their Club record fee of £200,000 to get him. An injury against Crystal Palace in November 1981 caused the centre-half to miss most of the promotion campaign. Had a two match spell at Grimsby towards the end of last season which helped a lot towards him gaining full fitness and to be in contention for a place in Town's side for this coming season.

ROB JOHNSON

Another player who missed out last season with a bad knee injury but has been training hard throughout the summer to regain his full fitness. Was born in Bedford and has the ideal temperament and attitude to make a first class defender. A big future is predicted. Has the attributes to become a captain.

PAUL ELLIOTT

Admired throughout football for the attacking style last season, Luton's only problem was a poor defensive record. Manager Pleat went to Charlton with a £100,000 cheque to help solve it. He bought Paul Elliott and had no qualms about plunging him straight into the First Division. The 19 year old centre half had an immediate effect — his Luton debut was a rare 0-0 draw after they had conceded 47 League goals in their previous 27 games! A Londoner, Elliott's height and pace marked him out as an outstanding prospect when he joined Charlton straight from school, and he holds eight England Youth international caps.

TREVOR AYLOTT

Injuries which threatened Luton's First Division survival last season helped to give Trevor Aylott's career a new lease of life. A Londoner, he had a brief spell at Queens Park Rangers. Big, strong and brave, he was with Millwall when Luton persuaded him to move for a bargain £50,000 fee late last season. With Brian Stein injured the Hatters needed extra attacking power, and Aylott became an immediate hit with fans and team-mates alike. At 25, he looked as though he had been playing in the First Division all his life.

LES SEALEY

Freedom of contract and a major team rebuilding job elsewhere resulted in Luton changing their goalkeeper last summer. Jake Findlay, formerly of Aston Villa, decided not to accept a new contract after five years with Luton, while at Coventry City new Manager Bobby Gould was making major changes to the staff he took over from Dave Sexton. Les Sealey was happy to leave the Sky Blues after well over 100 League appearances for them, and Luton signed him for £70,000.

GARY PARKER

Was spotted by the town whilst playing for the Oxfordshire Youth side and was signed apprentice in June 1982. Progressed so well that he signed a full professional contract ten months later and made his debut in the Football League at Old Trafford last season. A midfielder player with good vision and a powerful shot and should have a good future in the game. Was selected for the England Youth Team shadow squad for their tour of Denmark during the close season.

RAY DANIEL

An ex-Luton schoolboys player who also played youth soccer with Limbury Boys Club, was offered an apprenticeship with the Town in June 1981 which he took and signed professional in September 1982. A midfielder player who reads the game well and has skill and shooting ability which should enable him to play in good company. Made his Football League debut against Manchester United at Old Trafford last season.

MITCHELL THOMAS

Was given the opportunity to join the Town through the Manpower Services scheme and made such an impression that he was offered a contract at the end of his term on the scheme. Aged 19 a local boy, has all the attributes that a full back needs. Made his first team debut in the Milk Cup match at Charlton last season and has also won England Youth Team Caps. 6 ft. and gangling in stature he has been nicknamed 'Viv' by his colleagues because of his likeness to Forest's Anderson.

JAKE FINDLAY

Luton paid their highest fee for a goalkeeper when they started with £100,000 for his transfer in 1979, from Aston Villa. He had languished in their reserve side for nine years before David Pleat gave him a chance to wear the green jersey in the Town's league side. He grasped his opportunity immediately and it wasn't until the match at Highbury last season when he broke his thumb that he missed a large number of matches. With the arrival of Sealey from Coventry City he will now find that he has competition for the first team place.

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DAVID PLEAT AND LUTON GOT THE RESULT THEY DESERVED

David Pleat took Luton to Maine Road, Manchester, on Saturday, May 14th this year needing nothing less than victory to stay in the First Division.

Manchester City themselves needed a point to stay up, having lost eight of their previous 11 matches. The scene was set for the most critical 90 minutes you could possibly imagine — Sunderland supporters will need no reminding of that when you look back to our final fixture in 1981 and 1982.

Five days before the Maine Road skirmish Luton had been cuffed 3-0 by Manchester United at Old Trafford. And two days before that they were thrashed 5-1 at Kenilworth Road by Everton — hardly the best preparation for another trip to Lancashire!

But before the City game David Pleat insisted: "I honestly believe that Luton will be playing First Division football next season.

"I also believe that we deserve to be because the overall quality of our football during the season has been worthy of the First Division."

In their 41 matches Luton had scored 64 goals — a better total than all but a handful in the top flight and better than Manchester United who were to finish third — but they had conceded a staggering 84.

Almost 43,000 flocked to Maine Road for the nailbiting last fixture that was so vital to both clubs.

And how well Pleat and his players handled the pressure-cooker atmosphere.

With skipper Brian Horton inspirational in midfield the Hatters played calm and composed football and really should have built up a commanding lead long before Raddy Antic came on as substitute and fired a late and precious winner. City went down with Brighton and Swansea.

Pleat, not surprisingly, did a jig of joy on the pitch and when the Luton celebrations were over the manager who took office at Kenilworth Road in the Spring of 1978 promised: "We will do better next time."

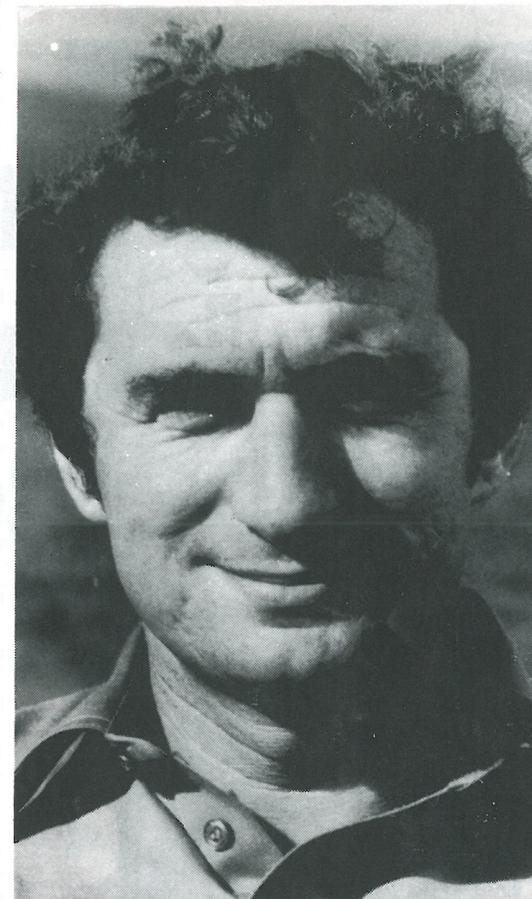
"The first season in the top flight was always going to be difficult, but we have beaten enough teams to know that we can more than hold our own in the 1983/84 campaign".

Prophetic words. Luton, after those traumas of last May, have looked much sounder this time round. They have tightened up at the back without abandoning their natural attacking style and they will not be in trouble this season.

There were some who thought that Luton were taking a big risk when they promoted David Pleat to the manager's office five and a half years ago. But in that time the fully qualified F.A. coach who is accepted as one of the game's deep thinkers has earned himself an enviable reputation as a top class manager.

He inherited a team on the slide and it took him two years to overhaul his playing staff.

After going close in seasons 1979-'80 and 1980-'81 Pleat finally achieved his target of taking Luton to the First Division.



DAVID PLEAT

And they did it in real style, as champions after a record season in which they lost only four League games, scored 86 goals and got 88 points!

His loyalty to Luton stretches back to the mid-sixties. After playing for England at Youth International level he joined the Hatters from Nottingham Forest and played on the wing for them for three seasons.

A back injury finished his playing career, but he stayed in the game as a coach and learned the hard business of management on a limited budget as boss of non-League Nuneaton.

Rejoining Luton as reserve team coach in 1975 he succeeded Harry Haslam as manager three seasons later.

David Pleat is a good manager — he has proved that — but he was never better than at Maine Road last May. We're delighted he is still in the First Division.

When you know the score



Roker Immortals

No. 11: MARTIN HARVEY

by TONY PULLEIN

Martin Harvey spent almost a decade in the Sunderland side of the 'sixties and, at the same time, established himself as an outstanding international wing-half. But it was quite by chance that he came to Roker in the first place.

Martin had been spotted by Burnley's Irish scout Tommy Coulter playing in the Irish Schools' team and was invited to Turf Moor for a trial.

"I went across with Terry Neill and we shared the same digs in Burnley," Martin recalled. "But just as we arrived, during the summer of 1957, Alan Brown left the club to join Sunderland and no one showed much interest in us. So we returned home again.

"A few weeks later Tommy Coulter teamed up with Mr. Brown at Sunderland and he asked me to have another trial at Sunderland. This time things worked out. I started at outside-left in the fifth team and gradually worked my way up."

He was still a reserve team player when he won his first Irish cap, being called up for the match against Italy in Bologna in April 1961. "I had played only ten League games at the time," said Martin.

Martin's problem at the time was that Danny Blanchflower was irreplaceable in the Irish team and English international Stan Anderson occupied one of the wing-half spots in Sunderland's side.

But Martin made his breakthrough in 1963. He took over from the injured Stan Anderson in Sunderland's team and played so well he couldn't be dropped. A few weeks later Anderson was transferred to Newcastle.

Then in October 1963 he received his biggest boost. "I played my first Saturday international for Ireland against Scotland at Windsor Park and for the first time I was picked in preference to Danny Blanchflower. Previously I had only played when he was injured or unavailable.

"I was on top of the world, particularly as we won 2-1. I later played a lot of internationals but that one will always remain for me the greatest moment in my career."

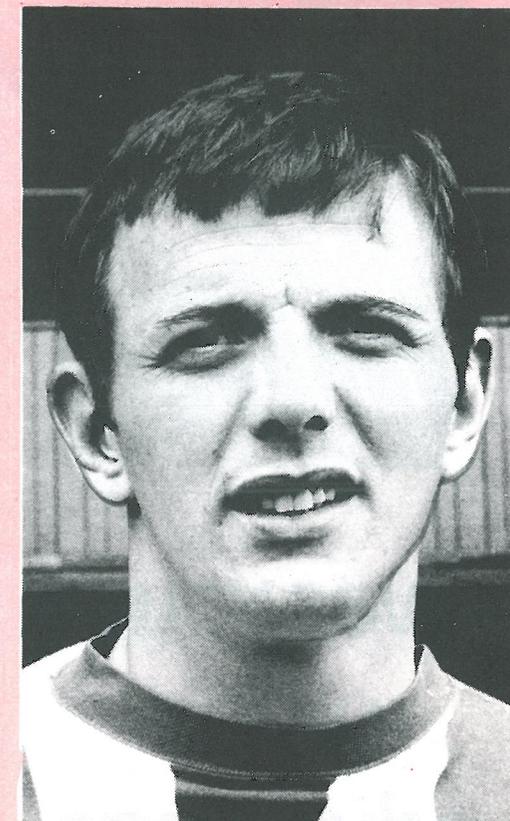
BOUNCED BACK

When Martin Harvey lost his place in Sunderland's none too successful side in 1969/70, many critics said he was finished in international football and, probably in top class League soccer.

But he bounced back to top form, missed only one club game the following season, and regained his place in the Northern Ireland side. He finally won 33 caps. It was typical of his fighting spirit.

Sadly, that wasn't enough when an injury brought his playing career to a premature end.

In addition to his full international honours, Martin won one "B" cap and three Under-23 caps for Northern Ireland.

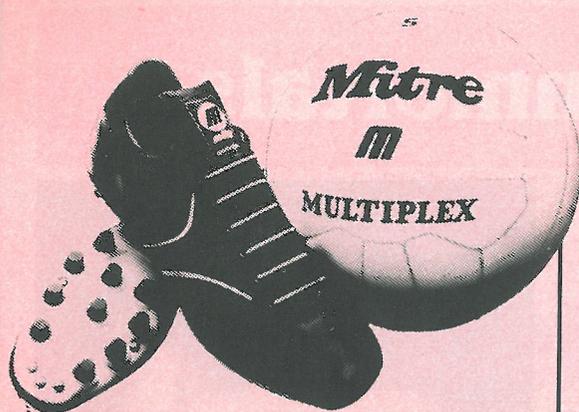


He later took up coaching and became assistant manager to Bobby Moncur at Carlisle. When Moncur left Martin took over as manager. But he was never happy in the role and eventually resigned.

Martin teamed up with Moncur again at Plymouth and he was given another chance to go into management with Argyle when Moncur left a few weeks ago. This time he declined, preferring to carry on with his job as coach.

MARTIN HARVEY'S LEAGUE RECORD

		Apps.	Goals
SUNDERLAND	1959/60	5	—
	1960/61	5	—
	1961/62	4	1
	1962/63	9	—
	1963/64	32	—
	1964/65	38	2
	1965/66	39	1
	1966/67	27	—
	1967/68	23	—
	1968/69	37(1)	—
1969/70	18(2)	—	
	1970/71	40(1)	—
	1971/72	31(1)	—
		308(5)	4



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**DAVID'S A CENTRE
FORWARD — AND LEFT
BACK**

DAVID MARK MACHIN is centre forward and
captain at new Silksworth Junior School — and plays
for his Sunday School team, Silksworth Independent
Methodists at left back.

He's 10 years old today — happy birthday, David —
and this afternoon he ends the old year in memorable
style when he leads out our team as mascot.

"He couldn't possibly have a better present", says
his Mum, Mrs. Linda Machin, whose 15 year old
daughter Sharon actually wrote the letter asking Alan
Durban if David could do the honours today.

Sharon and her sister Amanda (14) are also
Sunderland supporters — but then that's hardly
surprising because father Peter has been attending
games at Roker Park for many years.

His memorable day, of course, was in May 1973
when we lifted the F.A. Cup and Peter brought David —
then just a few months old — to Roker Park to be
photographed with the famous trophy.

"Peter was at Wembley and it's a day none of us will
ever forget", says Mrs. Machin. And she adds: "All of
us will be at Roker to see David run on to the pitch.

"It was a lovely idea Alan Durban had to let
youngsters be mascot. He can be sure that the facility is
very much appreciated by families like ours."

The Machin family can also be sure that their
support for Sunderland Football Club is also much
appreciated. We hope they have a lovely day.



DAVID MARK MACHIN

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**Head and shoulders
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PAUL HETHERINGTON of the
Newcastle Evening Chronicle

reviews an eventful year at Roker Park.



JANUARY: A fighting goalless draw at Nottingham Forest on January 1st, followed by a 1-0 win at Notts County two days later made it a Happy New Year for Sunderland. After six successive clean sheets, Sunderland were denied a club record when Terry Gibson scored for Spurs at White Hart Lane — the first goal conceded by the Roker side in 573 minutes of First Division action. A penalty — converted by Stan Cummins in the absence of Gary Rowell — brought another good result though, a 1-1 draw.

While Sunderland were unbeaten in the League throughout this month, they suffered a big disappointment when Manchester City knocked them out of the F.A. Cup 2-1 at Maine Road after a goalless draw at Roker in the third round tie.

Welsh international Leighton James joined the club on a free transfer from Swansea and George Herd returned to Roker to assist with scouting and the coaching of schoolboys and apprentices. It was announced that Sunderland's two longest-serving employees, Youth Development Officer Charlie Ferguson and physiotherapist John Watters, were to retire.

FEBRUARY: A 2-0 defeat at Southampton ended an unbeaten League run of eight matches, but home wins against Coventry and Manchester City ensured that the revival was maintained.

Reserve striker Barry Wardrobe joined Scottish Premier League St. Mirren for a three-month spell.

MARCH: Rowell scored Sunderland's goal of the season — a magnificent effort — to clinch a 1-0 win at Stoke. Mark Proctor arrived on loan from Nottingham Forest and another good month saw the side unbeaten in four matches.

But chairman Tom Cowie, worried by disappointing attendances, called a Press conference at which he appealed for greater support. He said he wanted to see an improvement of 10,000 and even posed the question: "Are we going to have to put Sunderland up for sale?"

The gate for the following match — against Swansea — improved, but only slightly to 17,445.

APRIL: Sunderland slid back into trouble, failing to win any of their seven matches. They also "lost" two players, Jimmy Nicholl returning to Toronto Blizzards and Proctor being recalled to Forest.

The biggest blow, though, was to goalkeeper Chris Turner, who fractured his skull at Norwich in a collision with Keith Bertschin and was ruled out for the rest of the season.

Twenty-year-old Mick Whitfield made his debut in that 2-0 defeat in which Nick Pickering had to take over in goal.



GARY ROWELL . . . top scorer for fifth time in six seasons.

MAY: A 1-0 win at Arsenal — Sunderland's first in nine matches — followed by Luton's defeat at Manchester United, ensured First Division safety again. The season ended with a 1-1 home draw against West Brom.

Sunderland finished the season in 16th place — their highest for 15 years. The average League attendance at Roker 17,370 — lowest for 11 years. Rowell, for the fifth time in the last six seasons, was top scorer on 18 goals.

The reserves won promotion to the First Division of the Central League, free transfers were given to Mick Buckley, Whitfield, Paddy O'Donnell and Wardrobe — who later was re-engaged on a one-year contract — and there was also a significant friendly win against Celtic.

Colin West hit a hat-trick as the Scottish giants were slain 3-1 at Berwick in a match playing in aid of the Ian Cashmore Appeal.

JUNE: The close season it may have been, but it was still a hectic month for Sunderland. Ally McCoist and Frank Worthington were transferred to Rangers and Southampton respectively for £200,000 and £25,000. Mick Docherty resigned as youth and reserve coach to become manager of Hartlepool and Paul Bracewell was signed from Stoke for £250,000.

Pickering became the club's first full England international for seven years when he played against Australia.

JULY: The comings and goings continued. IN came Bryan Robson as first-team coach for his third spell at Roker, Proctor in a £115,000 transfer from Nottingham Forest and Nigel Walker, who had been on trial in the previous season before joining Crewe.

OUT went Peter Eustace, who resigned to become assistant manager at Sheffield Wednesday and Cummins, who was awarded a free transfer by the Football League Appeals Board, who ruled he had been offered inferior terms by the club.

AUGUST: Sunderland won a pre-season tournament in the Isle of Man with 17-year-old Paul Atkinson scoring in all three matches. His reward was a League debut against Norwich on the opening day of the season — a 1-1 draw.

The new campaign also saw Sunderland back in their traditional look of broad red and white stripes and black shorts.

SEPTEMBER: Wolves were defeated 3-2 to bring Sunderland's first win of the season, but the season had still started disappointingly.

Chairman Tom Cowie defeated a shareholders' attempt to remove him from office. Keith Collings and Peter Heyward resigned from the board, Barry Batey was co-opted and an extraordinary general meeting called off. Meanwhile, back on the pitch, the month ended with an important win against the First Division's side of the season — Coventry.



NICK PICKERING . . . won our first full England cap for seven years.

OCTOBER: A good month started with the best result of the year — a magnificent 1-0 win at Liverpool. Sunderland lost only one of six matches.

David Cole, a 21-year-old central defender who had impressed manager Alan Durban in the Isle of Man, gave up his bank job there to join Sunderland on a three-month contract.

NOVEMBER: A month of fluctuating fortunes included the major disappointment of losing at home to Norwich in the Milk Cup third round replay. Sunderland got what they deserved in that match, but were plain unlucky to lose at Roker against championship-chasing West Ham.

On the credit side excellent wins were achieved at Arsenal, at home to Watford and Birmingham — the club's first win there for 26 years. Mark Prudhoe joined Hartlepool on a month's loan.

DECEMBER: A shock 6-1 defeat at Notts County was the heaviest beating for almost 15 months. Rob Hindmarch joined Portsmouth on loan with a view to a permanent £40,000 transfer and Sunderland became the first of the North East's big clubs to stage a Sunday match in the League — against Leicester City.

LUTON TOWN'S FINEST ERA WAS IN THE FIFTIES

By Tony Pullein

Luton's return to Division One in 1982, completed a recovery unique in the history of the Football League. In the five years between 1960 and 1965 they plummeted from the First Division to the Fourth!

No other club has ever bounced back from such a fall to regain its First Division status.

The club was formed at a meeting in the council chamber of Luton Town Hall in April, 1885 when it was decided to wear navy blue and pink halved shirts and that each player should wear a cap!

For nine years, until becoming a founder member of the Southern League, they played only friendly matches.

Luton were runners-up in each of their first two seasons and they kept up a respectable position to earn them sufficient support to gain election to the Second Division of the Football League in 1897, a year after their initial application had been turned down.

When they finished second from bottom of Division Two in 1900 they didn't bother to apply for re-election, considering a return to the Southern League would be in their best interests.

They returned to the League as a founder member of Division Three (South) in 1920 and eventually returned to Division Two in 1937.

FANTASTIC FINISH

They established themselves as a good Second Division outfit until they entered their finest era in the fifties. Season 1954/55 saw them participate in a fantastic finish which had them level on points with Birmingham City and Rotherham United and only one ahead of Leeds.

Luton and Birmingham enjoyed the best goal averages and they were the two to rise into the First Division.

The Hatters surprised most people by acquitting themselves particularly well in the First Division and shook the world by reaching the F.A. Cup Final in 1959 after defeating Leeds (5-1), Leicester (4-1 after a 1-1 draw), Ipswich (5-2), Blackpool (1-0 after a 1-1 draw) and the giant killing Norwich City 1-0 in a semi-final replay.

Perhaps they were over-awed at Wembley but, against a Nottingham Forest side reduced to ten men by an early Roy Dwight injury, they were never in control of the situation and went down 2-1.

In a sense it was at Wembley that day that Luton went out in a blaze of glory. Things were never the same afterwards. Twelve months later they were relegated from the First Division to begin their remarkable fall from grace.

The Hatters' recovery started with the Fourth Division championship in 1968. By 1974 they were in Division Two and, finally in 1982 they stepped proudly back in Division One.

Luton took over their present ground at Kenilworth Road in 1905. Over the years it has become antiquated and, with a new road threatening to cut through part of it, the club expects shortly to move to a multi-million pound all-sports complex in Milton Keynes.

Many local supporters and business men are strongly opposed to the move, but there is little doubt that, if Luton do eventually move to a modern new ground, they will be the envy of very many rival Football League clubs.

ARTHUR APPLETON reviews a fascinating book about football grounds.

Simon Inglis, a Manchester freelance who writes for the Guardian, 'phoned me some months ago just before eleven one night for some information about grounds of North East clubs.

It was the first of a number of late night calls which reveals how the young man worked at his book, just published, *The Football Grounds of England and Wales*.

When he was here for the Manchester United game he told me ruefully that the book had taken him a year. I've done a fair bit of writing, but I've never produced such an impressive outcome after only a year's work.

He visited all the 92 League clubs, and mentions that Alan Durban was the 92 Club's first honorary member as a consequence of Alan playing on his ninety-second ground in 1976.

Roker Park is one of five grounds pictured on the front jacket. Inglis recalls the ground's ceremonial opening in 1898 when pipe bands marched, extra steamboats brought people across the river, and Lord Londonderry opened the little gate on to the pitch in front of the wooden stand with a golden key. It was there until the new stand was built in 1929.

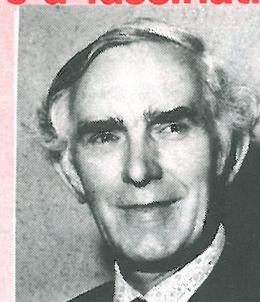
The designer of the new stand was the little-known man who was responsible for the appearance of most football stadiums — Archibald Leitch of Glasgow.

He began at Ibrox, Parkhead and Hampden at the turn of the century, and the design he used at these Glasgow grounds was used again and again throughout England; it was a full length two tier grandstand on one side of the pitch, and three open sides of terracing.

THE CLOCKSTAND

Inglis says Leitch's trademark was the criss cross steelwork balcony. Roker Park's grandstand was a smaller version of his largest stand built at Ibrox in 1928 which seated 10,000.

One of Leitch's last two major works, at the age of seventy, was the rebuilding of Roker's Clockstand in the summer of 1936.



The book is a mine of new or little known information, such as that the trendsetter in recent times in grandstand design, the first cantilever stand, was built not by one of the major clubs but by Scunthorpe United in 1958. Inglis says such a stand was quick to build, gave perfect viewing and was attractive in appearance.

And that Old Trafford and Goodison are the only grounds which have seating and standing provision on all four sides; that Arsenal's pitch is the smallest League pitch in London; and that pitches are generally smaller in Scotland — Brechin City's pitch is no less than 2031 square yards smaller than Maine Road's.

Inglis was intrigued by the old concrete Roker end, at those concrete struts which held up the terracing for seventy years.

"Rising fifty feet above the street, the Roker End was like an unfinished tower block, its guts exposed to the passer-by, who could see deep into a dark cavernous web of beams. Truly there was never terracing like it, nor ever will be again."

I'm full of admiration for this book, dealing with a multitude, a myriad of facts and details, and assembling and writing them up in an acceptable, readable and fascinating way is far from easy.

Rarely does Simon Inglis give himself licence, but he does once — an allowable alliteration — when he says: "Between the fall of Rome and the rise of Roker not one stadium was constructed in Britain."

The Football Grounds of England and Wales by Simon Inglis, is published by Collins Willow in association with the Football League and the National Dairy Council. £9.95.

BOLTON v SUNDERLAND

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In the event of the match at Burnden Park ending in a draw seat tickets for the replay will be available at Roker Park on MONDAY, JANUARY 19th from 10 a.m.

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Do You Remember?

IAN ATKINS scored his first goal for Sunderland at Luton's last appearance at Roker Park on November 13th of last year.

His late equaliser rescued a point for us as Luton were leading through a David Moss goal.

Atkins, back in the starting line-up after a three match absence, also had his name taken — as did Jimmy Nicholl.

That match was watched by a crowd of 14,238 and the teams were:

SUNDERLAND: Turner, Nicholl, Munro, Atkins, Elliott, Pickering, Cummins, Rowell, McCoist, West, Venison, Sub. (Cooke).

LUTON TOWN: Judge, Stephens, Money, Horton, Turner, Donaghy, Hill, Stein, Walsh, Kellock, (sub. Bunn), Moss.

Later in the season, though, we won 3-1 at Kenilworth Road in the return fixture. Nick Pickering scored twice and Leighton James got the third — his 100th League goal — with a brilliant chip.

Luton's goal was a Brian Horton penalty which equalised Pickering's first effort.

That match, watched by a crowd of 11,221, was played on March 26th and the teams that day were:

LUTON: Godden, Stephens, Elliott, Horton, Goodyear, Donaghy, Hill, Aylott, Walsh, Turner (sub. Daniel), Moss.

SUNDERLAND: Turner, Nicholl, Munro, Atkins, Chisholm, Proctor, Venison, Rowell, Worthington, James, Pickering, Sub. McCoist.

This season we were at Kenilworth Road on September 3rd — and what a disastrous second half we had.

There were no goals at the interval, but within 14 seconds of the restart Ricky Hill scored from 15 yards and just before the hour Paul Walsh made it 2-0 after a clever 1-2 with Brian Horton.

Fine work by young Paul Atkinson allowed Colin West to cut the deficit in 68 minutes, but three minutes later we boomed badly with an own goal — Iain Munro trying to find Chris Turner with a backpass and the 'keeper off his line could not reach the ball as it dropped over him — and that really finished the game as a contest.

Luton added a fourth through Brian Stein with 13 minutes left and that 4-1 victory took Luton into fifth spot with seven points from three games and left us with only one point from our three.



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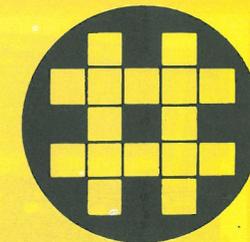
Isle of Man

On The Ball

Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where he rest must go.

ON THE BALL QUESTIONS . . .

They're always on the Town!
They're in the net
City of Juventus
Ashcroft as an example



QUICK QUIZ

QUICK QUIZ . . .

1. In 1983 Roy Race was transferred from Melchester to what other Rovers?
2. What was stolen from Hampden Park in March 1983?
3. Who captained Sheffield Wednesday, Rotherham and Cardiff to promotion in recent seasons?
4. How many League goals were scored in 1982/83?
5. Who are the "The Borderers"?

MIXED DOUBLES . . .

Re-order the letters in each of the words **SINNED** and **DONGED** to find the names of two men called *Tony*.

PICK-NICK . . .

Solve this cryptic clue to a club's nickname and then identify the club: What you'd expect from "The Gunners"?

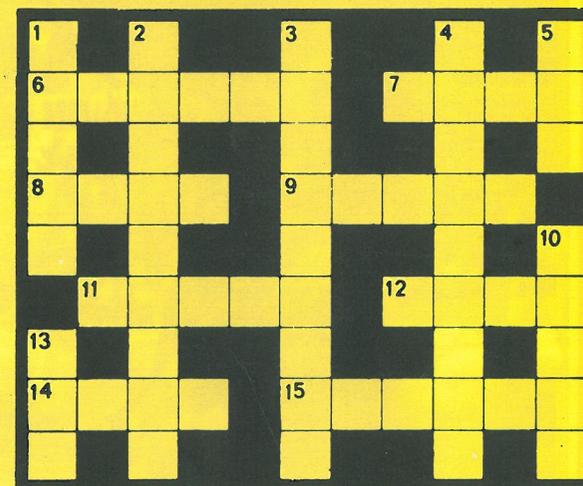
Across:

6. Famous manager who was born in (and hammered in goals galore for) Middlesbrough . . . though his name doesn't rhyme with it (6)
7. & 12ac. One of soccer's boxes (4-4)
8. It's usually the offside one! (4)
9. Forward . . . Maybank moved from Fulham to Holland whereas . . . (5)
11. & 4dn. . . this is one of the midfield men who hopped from Holland to The Hawthorns (5,9)
12. See 7 across.
14. . . Black shot to the fore with Aberdeen in 1983 (4)
15. Clubs give them to youngsters with potential (6)

Down:

1. Defensive midfielder who played his 250th first class game for Burnley in 1983 (5)
2. One of the Manchester United men seen in the World Cup finals in Spain (9)
3. Long-in-the-game ex-England man; previously with Bolton, he was a summer mover to Mansfield (9)
4. See 11 across.
5. The first name of a former England manager (3)
10. Stiker who played under Tommy Docherty at QPR then moved to one of "The Doc's" old clubs, Porto (5)
13. Exeter City can be seen in it (3)

NINETY-NINER



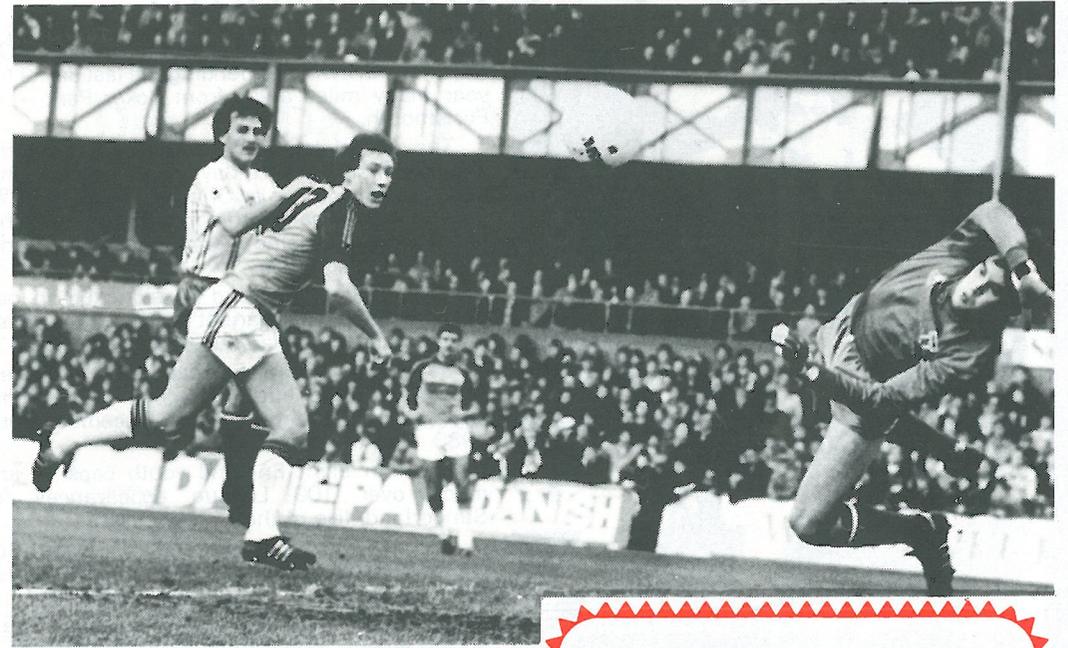
ANSWERS ON PAGE 23



After a disappointing 1-1 scoreline against Luton Town at Roker Park last season (November 13th) we had 14 points from as many matches and were third from bottom.

But a year earlier we had only eight points from 14 games so we were hardly depressed. But we were irritated by a failure to beat the Hatters, who had won only one of their previous seven matches.

David Moss gave Luton the lead in the 76th minute and we had Ian Atkins to thank for a share of the spoils. His equaliser — his first goal for Sunderland — came with only three minutes left.

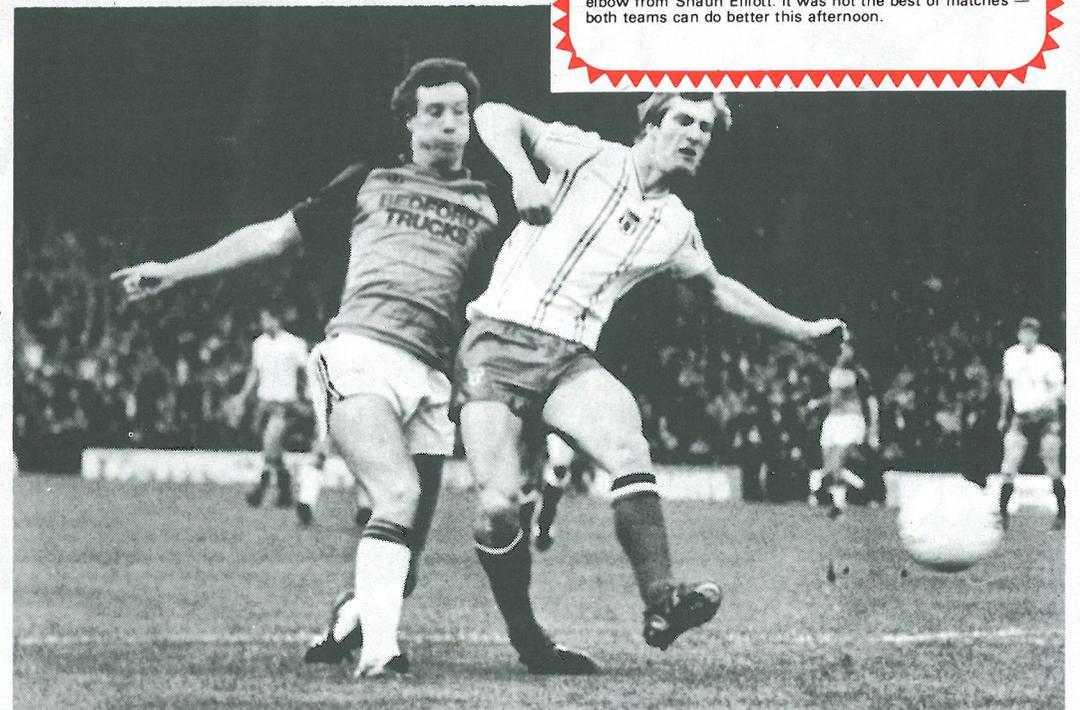


TOP LEFT: Gary Rowell gets in a shot despite the attentions of Luton defender Mal Donaghy — but 'keeper Alan Judge was on hand to save.

BOTTOM LEFT: Wayne Turner tangles with Ally McCoist, who, by the way, had scored six times in 13 League games prior to this fixture.

TOP RIGHT: Billy Kellock almost beats Chris Turner with a header — Stan Cummins is the onlooker.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Kellock huffs and puffs — and gets the elbow from Shaun Elliott. It was not the best of matches — both teams can do better this afternoon.





BIG ROB'S AT PORTSMOUTH

If everything has gone according to plan **ROB HINDMARCH** will be spending the last day of his year many miles away from Roker Park — at Portsmouth.

The central defender who was a few months short of his 17th birthday when he made his League debut for us at Orient in January 1978 joined Pompey earlier this month and made his debut in the 3-0 home victory over Derby County three weeks ago today.

Rob joined the Second Division club on loan with a view to a permanent transfer after failing to command a regular back-four place.

Let's not forget that Rob became the youngest skipper in Sunderland's history when he led the team at Nottingham Forest on December 20th, 1980 — at the age of 19.

He won eight England youth caps — and made over 100 League appearances for Sunderland, five of them this season.

In our picture on the left we see Rob challenging West Ham's Steve Whitton on his last League appearance for us last month.

And, below, a rare goal from the big man, scored against West Brom' two seasons ago.



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Quiz Answers

QUICK-QWIZ ANSWERS . . .

1. Walford; 2. Centre-spot; 3. Jimmy Mullen;
 4. 5,627; 5. Berwick Rangers.

ON THE BALL ANSWERS . . .

Luton, goals, Turin, Billy

PICK-NICK ANSWERS . . .

Shots, Aldershot

MIXED DOUBLES ANSWERS . . .

Dennis, Godden

NINETY-NINER

ACROSS: 6. Clough; 7. & 12*ac*. goal-area; 8. trap;
 9. Teddy; 11. & 4*dn*. Romeo Zondervan; 12. See 7
 across; 14. Eric; 15. trials.

DOWN: 1. Scott; 2. Jovanovic; 3. Whitworth;
 4. See 11 across; 5. Alf (Ramsey); 10. Walsh;
 13. red.

The Man in Charge . . .

ARTHUR ROBINSON

(Radcliffe, Greater Manchester)

Arthur began refereeing over a quarter of a century ago — back in 1958 in the Radcliffe Amateur League — and progressed to the Football League Linesmen's list in 1975 via the Bolton Combination and the Lancashire Combination.

He reached the League's list of referees in 1981 and has officiated in Lancashire Combination semi-finals and finals.

Married with two sons, Arthur is an official of a Professional Executor and Trustee company. His interests include travelling and the cinema — and he's also fond of walking.

Linesmen today are Mr. G. Busfield from Keighley in Yorkshire with the red flag and Mr. J. Wray from Burnley in Lancashire with the yellow flag.

Seven have Represented Durham Boys

The Sunderland Schools' F.A. turn to their close neighbours in the South Tyneside Schools' Football Association to nominate the South Tyneside Under-15 Team to be our guests this afternoon.

Until their recent defeat in the fourth round of the English Schools' Gillette Trophy at Sheffield this team had been beaten only once in over two seasons.

And having beaten Sunderland Boys they are now favourites to win the Sunderland Children's Hospital Cup and the Tyne and Wear Championship.

Seven of the squad have represented Durham County Boys — Jowens, Brown, Curry, Caizley, Thompson, Scott and Tilley — and Scott and Tilley have had England trials.

The Team Manager is Mr. Alan Coulson, Chief Coach is Mr. John Shippen and the boys scheduled to see out the old year at Roker today are: John Gowans (captain), Peter Connolly, Mark Brown and Shaun Richardson (all St. Joseph's), Graham Curry, Craig Tilley, Kevin Caizley and David Hallam (Hebburn), David Scott, Kevin Smallcombe and Philip Telford (Westoe), Richard Alderson and Stephen Halliday (Springfield), Christopher Hutchinson and Andrew Ryan (St. Wilfred's), Paul Thompson (Brinkburn) and Paul Downs (King George).



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SUNDERLAND 2 (c)

- 1 CHRIS TURNER
- 2 BARRY VENISON
- 3 NICK PICKERING
- 4 IAN ATKINS
- 5 GORDON CHISHOLM
- 6 SHAUN ELLIOTT
- 7 PAUL BRACEWELL
- 8 GARY ROWELL *CHAPMAN*
- 9 COLIN WEST
- 10 MARK PROCTOR
- 11 LEIGHTON JAMES
- 12 *ROBSON*



(c) 0 LUTON TOWN

- 1 LES SEALEY *JOHNSON*
- 2 ~~KIRK STEPHENS~~
- 3 WAYNE TURNER
- 4 BRIAN HORTON
- 5 PAUL ELLIOTT
- 6 MAL DONAGHY
- 7 RICKIE HILL
- 8 BRIAN STEIN
- 9 PAUL WALSH
- 10 ~~TREVOR AYLOTT~~ *BUNN*
- 11 ~~DAVID MOSS~~ *DANIEL*
- 12 *ANTIC*

Referee:

ARTHUR ROBINSON
(Radcliffe,
Greater Manchester)

Linesmen:

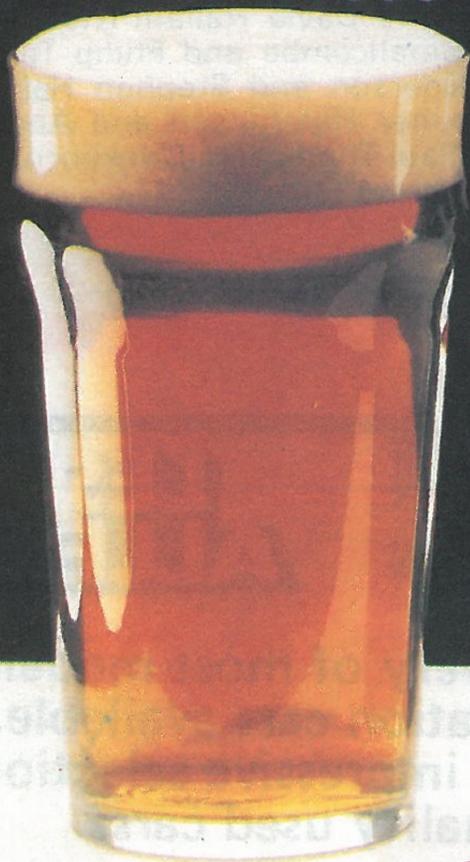
Red Flag: G. BUSFIELD
(Keighley, Yorks)

Yellow Flag: J. WRAY
(Burnley)

Half-Time Scoreboard

A Arsenal v Soton	F Man. Utd. v Stoke	L Barnsley v Man City
B A. Villa v QPR	G Nottm. F. v Liverpool	M Carlisle v S. Wedy
C Everton v Coventry	H Watford v Birmingham	N Leeds v Midsbro'
D Ipswich v Notts Co.	J West Ham v Spurs	P Oldham v Newcastle
E Leicester v W.B.A.	K Wolves v Norwich	R Hartlepool v Northampton

**FULL
TIME...**



**..HALF
TIME**



**..FILL
TIME!**



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