

LUTON TOWN

Official
Matchday
Magazine
Price 50p

CONGRATULATIONS TO
MANCHESTER UNITED ON
REACHING THE
FA CUP FINAL



CANON LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
LUTON TOWN

MANCHESTER UNITED

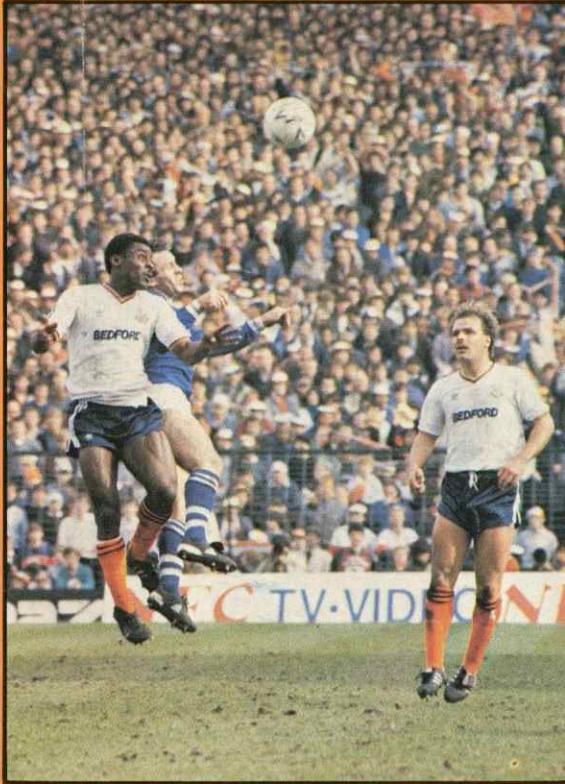
Sunday 21st April 1985

Kick-off 2.30 pm

TODAY'S MATCH IS SPONSORED BY:

BEDFORD
TRUCKS Mr, I hope

GALLANT END TO THE WEMBLEY TRAIL



So, after 780 minutes' of blood, sweat, tears and glory, our gallant Cup run came to an end with just five minutes of extra time remaining in the semi-final at Villa Park against Everton.

Seven different Cup-ties, two against Stoke City, one against Huddersfield Town, three against our great local rivals Watford and one against Millwall had preceded our second semi-final.

Luck had played a part — no more so than when manager David Pleat won the toss of a coin for choice of venue after the fifth round replay at Vicarage Road had ended 2-2 after extra time.

But overall, the great FA Cup run was a terrific achievement by the players, revealing a tremendous depth of character and determination in the squad. No-one who saw the ultimate triumph over Watford, or the sixth round win against Millwall, or the first 85 minutes at Villa Park could argue with that.

Who would have guessed at the future when we struggled to a lame 1-1 draw at home to Stoke in the third round in January, with Steve Foster supplying a late equaliser? 'Fozz' himself sensed something was going to happen — and goals by Mal Donaghy, Ricky Hill and Mick Harford in a 3-2 replay win proved him right.

Donaghy and Brian Stein added to the growing confidence with a goal each in the 2-0 fourth round win over Huddersfield following another home draw and everyone held their breath when Watford came out of the bag for a fifth round clash at Kenilworth Road, 'Stage managed,' said David Pleat.

It took three matches to settle the tie. A 0-0 draw here, was followed by a 2-2 draw at Watford (Hill and Emeka Nwajiobi saving the match with late goals) before Wayne Turner scored the only goal of the second replay on his 24th birthday.

Four days later came the infamous crowd scenes when the Town beat Millwall here 1-0 with a fine goal by Stein to claim their semi-final place at Villa Park.

But the dream ended as unexpectedly as it had started with those late goals by Kevin Sheedy and Derek Mountfield eclipsing a dazzling goal by Hill in the first half.

Not even a rainbow rising over Villa Park could change the Town's fortunes as it seemed, three harsh decisions by referee John Martin — who was in charge at Brighton in 1978 when Lilly Fucillo broke his leg — went against them.

Now Mick Harford expresses everyone's feelings. He said: 'Last year I was in the quarter-finals. This year, the semi-final. Next year, I hope it will be in the final.'

Welcome to Manchester United, welcome to all the supporters of both sides, and welcome to our friends from the television.

Last season, we gave the 'armchair viewers' full value on a Sunday afternoon, when the fixture produced five goals. We shall attempt to play our football, but hope to be less generous. In suggesting that United at this moment in time are matching Everton would not be an understatement. I have watched United twice recently, and of course last Saturday we competed with Everton. It is almost arrogant to suggest at this stage of season 84-85 that season 85-86 will be dominated by Everton, Manchester United, Spurs and Liverpool. But make no mistake, it will — however, we are building powerful structures for the future and our experience at Villa Park will only strengthen our resolve to infiltrate the success of the 'super' clubs.

I would like to thank everyone who supported and suffered with us at Villa Park. It was quite amazing how our players belied all the pre-match predictions that 'nerves would make the youngsters buckle' and 'there has never been a classic semi-final yet'. I do not think it was a classic because it needs two sides to play well to deserve that description. But our players played calm, composed football throughout and I never felt that we

WELCOME

would surrender our advantage. As the game wore on, we were carrying knocks and similar to our 'classic' Cup-tie at Watford the previous season, we could not sustain our effort once they had equalised. Credit Everton with great determination and the ability to take away our advantage once they sensed the victory. We must learn from our bitter experience and do our best never to look back.

Now is the time to appreciate our qualities and burst forward like Everton did from their disastrous results around January 1984. We wish Everton every success in the Final and would like to thank all our supporters for



70-72 KENILWORTH ROAD · LUTON LU1 1DH · TELEPHONE: 0582-411622

CHAIRMAN

DAVID EVANS

DIRECTORS

T. W. BAILEY, R. L. BANKS, E. S. PEARSON, D. PLEAT, R. J. SMITH, J. R. SMITH

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

JOHN SMITH

MANAGER

DAVID PLFAT

GENERAL SECRETARY

GRAHAM MACKRELL

CLUB SECRETARY

JOHN WILKINSON

COMMERCIAL MANAGER

BILL TOMLINS

PRESIDENT

D. MORTIMER

DEPUTY PRESIDENT

J. A. C. BAIN

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

J. RICHARDSON, T. HODGSON

VICE PRESIDENTS

A. G. BERRY F.C.C.A., J. B. BRENT
C. BYGRAVE, C. J. EVANS
B. COLE, B. ENGLAND
N. S. FOOKES, E. FOUNTAIN
C. HOLLOWAY, I. E. HOLMES
L. LEPPINGTON, R. LARKINSON
R. SAFRANEK, R. UNWIN, E. WALLER

HONOURS

FA CUP FINALISTS 1958-59

CHAMPIONS — DIVISION 3(S) 1936-37

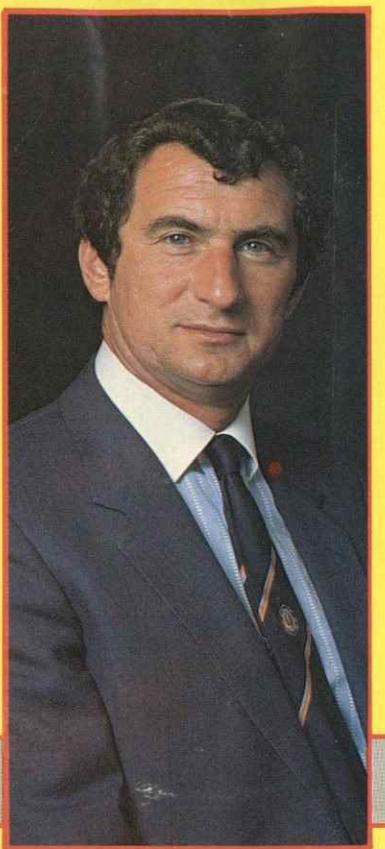
RUNNERS-UP — DIVISION 2 1954-55

CHAMPIONS — DIVISION 4 1967-68

RUNNERS-UP — DIVISION 3 1969-70

RUNNERS-UP — DIVISION 2 1973-74

CHAMPIONS — DIVISION 2 1981-82



TONY COTTEE



LEE CHAPMAN

Tottenham have striker Mark Falco to thank for the three points as the final minutes were ticking away at Filbert Street. He fired in an unexpected shot from 20 yards just as the referee raised the whistle to end the game. If Everton slip and Spurs win the title it will be have goals will travel Falco who deserves the ermine. This was his 14th away goal. They took the lead after 12 minutes when Glen Hoddle finished off a fine move and scored from 12 yards. With only seven minutes left Andy Peake got the equaliser for City before Falco came along with the winner.

George Riley scored the goal that saw Newcastle beat QPR 1-0 at St James' Park. Manager Frank Sibley was annoyed with the referee for disallowing a Gary Bannister goal. He said 'The referee changed his mind and overruled the linesman under pressure from the Newcastle players.'

Manager Bobby Ferguson saw his Ipswich side take a step backward in the fight against relegation and fumed 'We didn't play. We couldn't master the wind and the hard pitch.' He also has the worry of his defender Steve McCall having an X-ray on a damaged ankle and is doubtful for a few matches. Sheffield Wednesday looked to have wrapped up the points in the first-half when Marwood scored from the penalty spot. Paul Cooper kept Ipswich hanging on with a superb display and Mick D'Avray scored a 65th minute equaliser. The reprieve lasted only a few minutes before Lee Chapman broke the Ipswich hearts with a scrambled winner. Watford climbed away from the relegation area with two late goals that floored Norwich City. City were relying on the offside trap too much and the supporters of the home club came very close to blotting their family image copy book as referee Mr David Axcell had to have a Police escort from the pitch at the end of the match. The crowd were incensed when he denied

Barnes a penalty and a seemingly clear cut goal from Terry. Apart from a few flashes from Hartford and Channon it was nearly all one way traffic towards Chris Woods in the City goal. Both Watford goals came from corners firstly Barnes scored from close in six minutes from time then two minutes later Rostrom scored with a diving header from Callaghan's corner kick.

Arsenal were all over Nottingham Forest at Highbury yet had to wait until the 82nd minute before grabbing the equaliser through recalled striker Ian Allinson. Forest went ahead after only four minutes when Gary Mills scored



CHRIS WOODS

from eight yards. Graham Rix was the man who should have rapped up the game for Arsenal but he missed twice from only six yards out. Arsenal's dream of European football will be shot to pieces if they carry on missing easy chances in front of the goal as they did in this game.

Referee Neil Midgley reckons that he prevented a riot by not sending off Chelsea's young full-back Keith Dublin. He had good reason to dismiss the irritating youngster having booked him earlier for a series of clumsy challenges. He then clashed with West Ham's Paul Allen but then the referee admitted 'I thought of sending the young lad off, but I like to give players a second chance. I think it might have started a riot and we've all got to be aware of our responsibilities to the game.' Chelsea deservedly went in front after 18 minutes when David Speedie scored from close in. West Ham thought they should have had a penalty when Paul Allen was brought down but later equalised from a free-kick by Tony Cottee who netted from 20 yards. Alan Dickens scored a brilliant solo goal for the Hammers only for the referee to give Paul Goddard offside.

Sunderland put Coventry City deeper into relegation trouble by winning 1-0 at Highfield Road. John Moore getting the only goal after 11 minutes. Coventry only had themselves to blame for the goal as the defenders all missed the cross from Paul Lemon leaving Moore an easy task of netting. They also missed a penalty when Chris Turner brilliantly saved Terry Gibson's spot-kick. To add to Coventry's misery Micky Adams was carried off 15 minutes from time and physio George Dalton was booked for dashing on to aid an injured player.

Leading scorers in the Division are:
Kerry Dixon Chelsea 31 goals
Mark Falco Tottenham 25 goals
Graeme Sharp Everton 25 goals

GLAZING & DECORATING SPECIALISTS

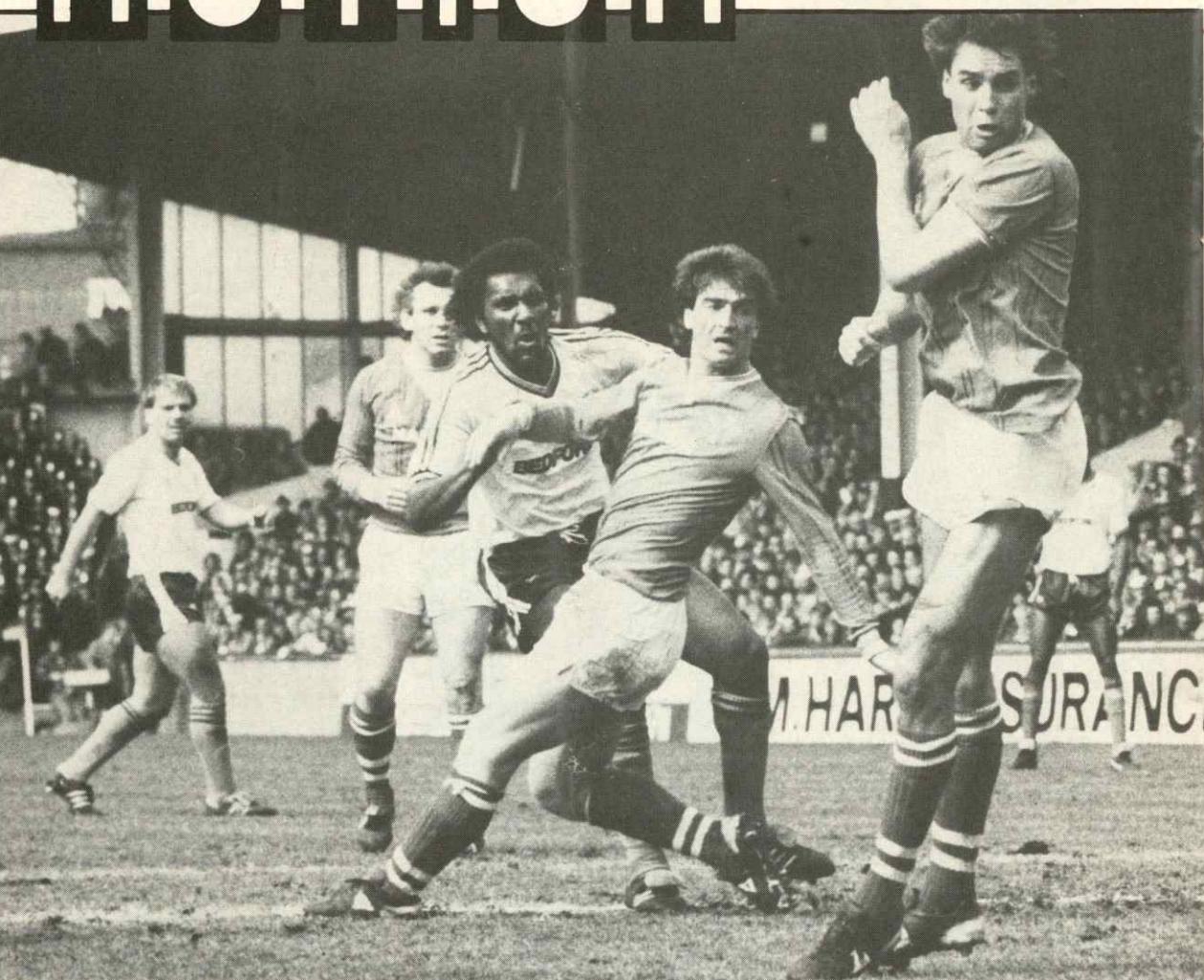
GLAZING REPAIRS & GLASS SUPPLIES
PATIO DOOR & WINDOW INSTALLATIONS
DOUBLE GLAZING (SECONDARY AND SEALED UNITS)
INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR DECORATORS

For Domestic and Commercial enquiries contact Luton 573025/597505
For 24 hour Emergency Service contact Dunstable 666665



J. Sapsworth Limited
92 Marsh Road, Luton, Bedfordshire LU3 2NL
Telephone: Luton (0582) 53025/597505

ACTION REPLAY



FA CUP SEMI-FINAL
LUTON 1
EVERTON 2

MAIN PICTURE: Ricky Hills fantastic first-half goal deservedly puts Hatters in front and in charge.
INSET: 'Ricky Hill', 'Ricky Hill' 'Ricky Hill'. That's the Hatters' chant with Ricky's excellent semi-final goal.



THE LOCAL TASTE AND HOW TO SATISFY IT

We're very definite about our taste in beer around here. A clear light pint is what we look for; with a good, clean smack of malt and hops.

And there's only one name that really satisfies the local taste — BB. The Light beer first brewed in Luton during the darkest days of the War by J. W. Green.

Only the finest hops and good, ripe barley go into the making. Then the brew is matured to exactly the right degree to give you a bright refreshing pint with a sound, full flavour.

American servicemen in local wartime bases declared that BB, chilled, was the nearest taste to Stateside draught.

It went down well when Syd Owen ruled the Hatters.

And it's been going down well ever since. Because BB is brewed with a proper respect for quality. To keep up the traditions we value round here.



WHITBREAD



There's a handy man to know at
Graham Ford



Your Comprehensive Builders Merchants

Depots at: KINGSWAY LUTON 31199

BEALE ST DUNSTABLE 603111

LEIGHTON RD LEIGHTON BUZZARD 373486

Home Improvement and
Building Material Centres

Falcon Holidays

QUALIFIED FOR EUROPE

We've been in European competition for 12 seasons. Try a Falcon Holiday this year and find out why we're top of the Holiday League.

Fly direct from your local airport for your winter or summer holiday.

190 Campden Hill Road
London W8 7TH
Telephone 01-221 6298

Falcon
Holidays



With Wallspan fitted bedrooms, a good result is guaranteed.

Wallspan fitted bedrooms are great believers in team work. Over the years we have built up a winning team of professionals who work together to produce a product that is out of everyone else's league.

Free design, free fitting, free delivery, and for a limited period interest free credit.

Unfortunately we cannot guarantee the result of today's match but we do guarantee our result for a full five years.

Come and support our team soon.

Luton Showroom Unit 174 Arndale Centre
Tel: Luton 23015



Throughout the UK



VIEWS FROM THE PRESS

The Town's unlucky semi-final defeat at Villa Park produced a torrent of praise for their performance and plenty of sympathy for the result. This is what a selection of the national newspapers reported:

The Sunday Times: 'It really was a cracking Cup-tie, belying the idea that semi-finals are dull, grinding affairs.'

Sunday Mirror: 'A stunning goal by Ricky Hill in the 37th minute seemed certain to set Luton up for a great win . . . The Hatters were outplaying Howard Kendall's team in just about every department. But they reckoned without an amazing Houdini act as the game approached its 90 minutes close . . . Hill and the rest of Luton's magical marvellous Mad Hatters should have been well on their way to Wembley long before that double blow . . . But there wasn't one Luton player who wasn't a hero — and all deserved the standing ovation they got from their fans.'

Sunday People: 'Everton were playing like a team who thought they should win while Luton performed with the spirit of a side that wanted to win . . . (Foster's) . . . white headband seemed like a magnet for every ball Everton pumped into the Luton penalty area.'

Sunday Telegraph: 'Luton on this important occasion looked far more mature than a team engaged in a relegation struggle.'

The Mail on Sunday: 'Yet even as the exultant anthems of the Mersey tumbled down the terraces of Villa Park, your heart bled for the little team from Bedfordshire. Luton were within four minutes of their first Wembley final since 1959. They were within six minutes of the replay they thoroughly deserved. Yet, somehow, you sensed they were fated . . . But the abiding memory of a breathless semi-final will lie with the effort, the enterprise and the crushing disappointment of Luton Town.'

The Observer: 'It is to be hoped that this misfortune will not undermine Luton's resolve for the looming battle against relegation. For them to drop into the Second Division after this would be a travesty.'

Sunday Mirror: 'Pleat waved to the Luton fans at the end and smiled broadly despite his agony. He said: "We may have lost. We may have been unlucky. But none of our supporters can say we didn't give them plenty to cheer about." Everton boss Howard Kendall said: "My heart goes out to David Pleat. Nobody could have played better than Luton."'

Daily Mail: 'If there had been any justice or romance, Luton would now be preparing to celebrate their centenary on the game's most glamorous stage — an FA Cup final at Wembley.'

Daily Express: 'As the Luton coach pulled out of Villa Park at seven o'clock on Saturday night, three Everton fans climbed out of a car to applaud. If appreciation was all Luton received for a massive contribution to a very special FA Cup semi-final, then there was no higher accolade.'

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

- ANACHEM LTD
- A1 HEATING (WHOLESALE & RETAIL) LTD
- MR W. ASHURNER
- BEARD & MANNING CATERING SERVICES LTD
- BEDFORD COMMERCIAL VEHICLES
- BERVALE MEAD INSURANCE BROKERS LTD
- BERKELEY ASSOCIATES
- BLAKEY ENGINEERING CO LTD
- BLUE ARROW CLEANING GROUP
- BLUE ARROW SERVICES
- BRENGREEN HOLDINGS PLC
- BROAD STREET PRINT
- CANVERMOOR PLC
- GARY CHAMBERLAIN WINDOW FASHIONS
- DUPONT (UK) LTD
- FILMERGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES LTD
- FINE STAMPS LTD
- N. S. FOOKE'S GROUP (PLANT FACILITIES) LTD
- BRIAN E. HANDSCOMBE (LIFE & PENSION BROKERS)
- E. W. HUDSON (HOLDINGS) LTD
- IVOR HOLMES LTD
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LTD
- MARK JAMES (SALVAGE) LTD
- JOHN LAING CONSTRUCTION LTD
- RICHARD C. LARKINSON (CAMBRIDGE) LTD
- MR P. LAYCOCK
- NEAHURST LTD
- OPELVALE GROUP
- MR & MRS PEARSON
- F. W. PEARCE BUILDERS LTD
- PETERS GRAVES & CO
- PILCOURT LTD
- DR & MRS G. L. PLESTER
- PRIORY FARM FOODS
- DAVID RAND & CO LTD
- RAVENMERE LTD
- RICHARDSON & BOTTOMS LTD
- RICHMOND ELECTRONICS (MARKYATE) LTD
- ROBINSON METAL (LUTON) LTD
- ROGERS RESIDENTIAL SALES
- SHAW & KILBURN
- SHOREYS TRAVEL
- TRITRADE LTD
- W. S. TYREMASTERS (DIVISION OF WEST & SELICK (TYRES) LTD)
- R. W. UNWIN & CO LTD
- VAUXHALL MOTORS LTD
- WALLSPAN BEDROOMS
- WEBBEX LTD
- JOHN H. WEBB FCI INVESTMENT CONSULTANT
- WHITE'S STATIONERS LTD
- YARNSFIELD LTD

THE FULL ADDRESSES AND SERVICES OF OUR EXECUTIVE MEMBERS CAN BE OBTAINED THROUGH OUR COMMERCIAL OFFICES — LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

junior hatters



MARK DENTON



ANTHONY VIGOR

CRAIG SIBLEY



PAUL YOUNG

DARREN HALL

Hi and welcome to all Junior Hatters parents and friends to today's vital encounter with Manchester United. It's always an occasion when we entertain United and today with the TV cameras have the importance of the game it's imperative that we have full support. Our mascot today is Mark Denton aged 10 from Bedford Modern School. Mark lives in Barton and plays football for Barton Eagles Cubs and his school team, his interests are football, swimming, snooker and computers.

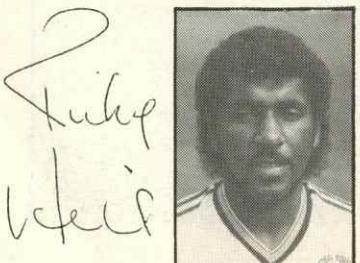
Escorts: Craig Sibley from Challney High School is 12 and plays football for his school team. His interests are football and sport.

Paul Young aged 14 from Caddington attends Queensbury School, Dunstable. He plays football for Caddington Colts and his school team. His interests are football, golf and snooker.

Darren Hall aged 14 from Eaton Bray attends Manshead Upper School, his interests are badminton, football and computers.

Anthony Vigor aged seven from Bushmead Infant School. He plays football for Bushmead Cubs and his interests are football, tennis and squash.

Finally I regret to announce that we will not be able to take the party to play Junior Sky Blues 5-a-side on Thursday 23rd May due to the re-arranged date being an evening kick-off during school term time.



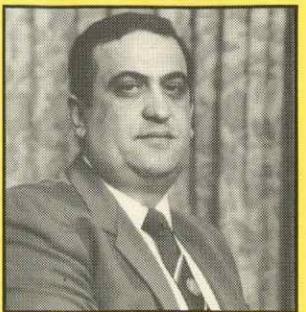
SPONSORED BY THE HERALD NEWSPAPER AND CHILTERN RADIO

NEWSDESK NEWSDESK



REFEREE

Tom Bune is a Computer Sales Manager. Married with two boys. Commenced refereeing in 1955 while still at school. Progressed via Spartan and Isthmian League. Interested in long distance walking, cricket and swimming. Linesman UEFA Cup match 1982, referee FA Vase Final 1984.



NEW DIRECTOR

At Luton Town's recent AGM and EGM changes to the share structure were agreed to allow the Board to add to its numbers.

Currently we are discussing with a number of local people the possibility of them joining the Board.

Meanwhile, we are proud to announce the unanimous adoption of Mustafa A. Aleyan a long-distance supporter of the club and an avid football fan.

Mustafa is 44 and is Lebanese by birth although he now resides in Kuwait.

His business interests are worldwide, including offices in London.

He is also the partner of our chairman, David Evans, in their Middle-East cleaning division.

Mustafa flew over from Kuwait for the semi-final. He said 'It was a fantastic performance by the Hatters and one of the most memorable days of my life. I am proud to belong to a club with so much commitment. The fans were so colourful and supportive.'

TODAY'S EXECUTIVE SPONSOR

Welcome for the second sponsorship of the season to our executive sponsor Mark James (Salvage) Ltd.

Mark James are based in Luton but their business operations take them all over the world.

Their services include collection and storage of salvage, own auctioneer premises, own retail outlet, de-labelling of branded goods plus additional storage to cover any quantity of stock.

Mark James managing director Bob Yates and his sons Robert and Mark are all keen Town fans and we thank them for their support this afternoon.

FORTHCOMING MATCHES AT KENILWORTH ROAD CANON LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

v
NOTTINGHAM FOREST
Wednesday 24th April
Kick-off 7.45 pm

Seats for this match are available for sale from our Ticket Office priced £5, £4, £3 (£2 Juveniles and Senior Citizens — Main Stand Enclosure). Postal applications must contain SAE. 24 hour booking service accepted by credit card (Access & Visa) on Luton 30748.

CLUB INFORMATION:

- OFFICE HOURS 9 am-5 pm
LUTON (0582) 411622
- ADVERTISING & PROMOTIONS
RING — MIKE BEEVOR
PROJECTS & ADVERTISING
EXECUTIVE
LUTON (0582) 411622
- SOUVENIRS — TRAVEL —
JUNIOR HATTERS
LUTON (0582) 412418
- MATCH TICKETS & LOTTERY
ENQUIRIES
RING — JOHN GORNALL,
DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE
LUTON (0582) 30748
- BANQUETING & FUNCTION
FACILITIES
RING — CLIVE HUSTWITT,
CATERING MANAGER
LUTON (0582) 411526
- MATCH ENQUIRIES —
24-HOURS SERVICE
LUTON (0582) 33010

RESERVES + YOUTHS

5th April 1985
Football Combination
LUTON TOWN 1 OXFORD 1

This was a game we were expected to win handily, but as is often the case the opposition refuse to be a willing sacrifice.

In the first-half they ran around as if their lives depended on it, and we found it hard to build our pattern play because of pressure from our opponents.

When they took the lead in the 32nd minute, it was because we failed to pressure the man on the ball. He was allowed to cross the ball unchallenged and found his centre-forward, who placed his header just inside our far post. HT: 0-1.

The second-half was a complete contrast to the first and our players were unrecognisable as the strolling performers of that period.

We set about the opposition with a relish not previously shown and chances began to come thick and fast. However we failed to convert any until awarded a penalty in the 57th minute which Ashley Grimes slotted in. After this it was all one way traffic but we could not pierce a resolute defence and if we did Alan Judge our former goalkeeper was in brilliant form behind them.

If we had played in the first-half like we did in the second we would have won easily, but we failed because it took us until half-time before pulling together as a unit.

TEAM: Dibble, McEvoy, Elliston, Turner, Johnson, Scott, Parker, Stein M., Bunn, Grimes, Moss. **Sub:** Oldfield.



JOHN MOORE



DAVID COATES

M., Bunn, Parker, Stein M., Moss, Daniel, Grimes. **Sub:** Oldfield.

19th March 1985
Football Combination
NORWICH 0 LUTON TOWN 0

On a cold snowy night Norwich players started off as if they were playing for a place in the Milk Cup Final team. They certainly had an aggressive edge to their play and our left-back Alex Elliston had to have treatment three times in the first-half and finally had to retire injured before half-time. Having the better chances in the first-half, they hit the bar twice in that period, but failed to get the vital first goal.

We also had isolated opportunities, however our shooting or final pass let us down, when we badly needed the boost of a goal.

In the second-half they were reduced to 10 men, but our young team looked tired and jaded and only produced patches of good football. Having said that, we definitely had the better chances to snatch a win, from a game in which our passes repeatedly went astray.

Our back four with Richard Harvey filling in at left-back for the second-half, stood firm against considerable pressure and assured us of at least a point.

On the night our team performance left a lot to be desired, but we kept a clean scoreline against for the second successive game.

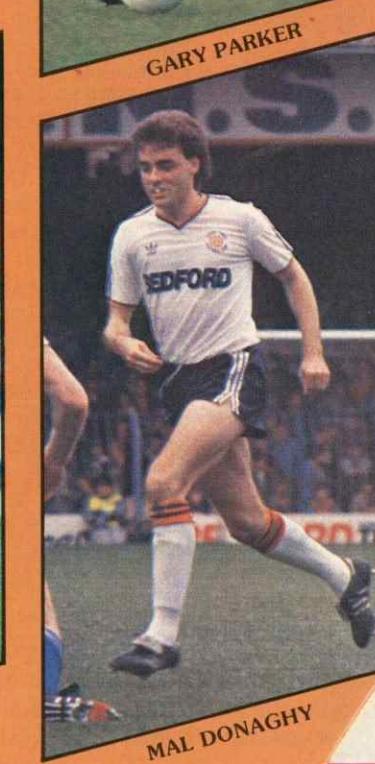
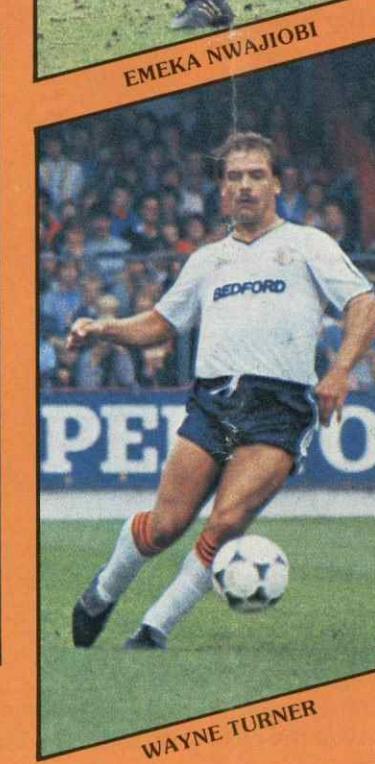
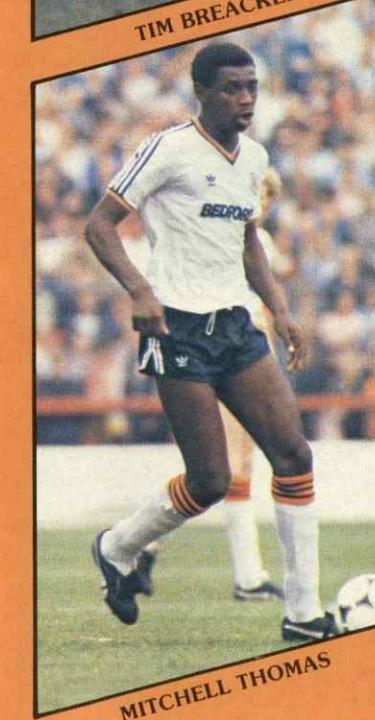
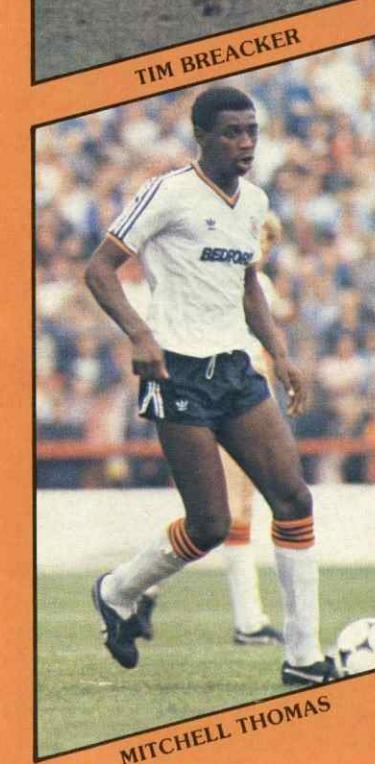
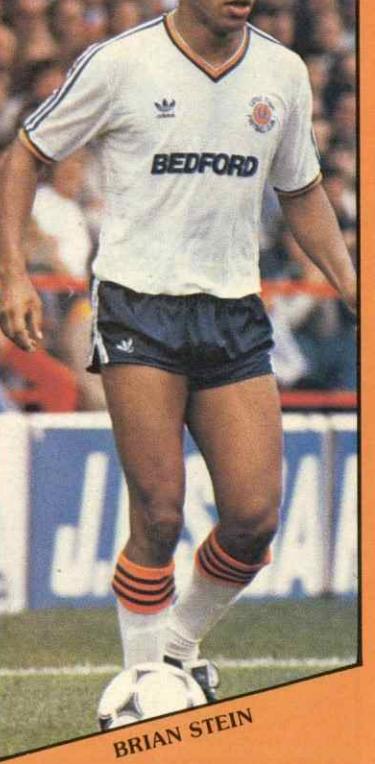
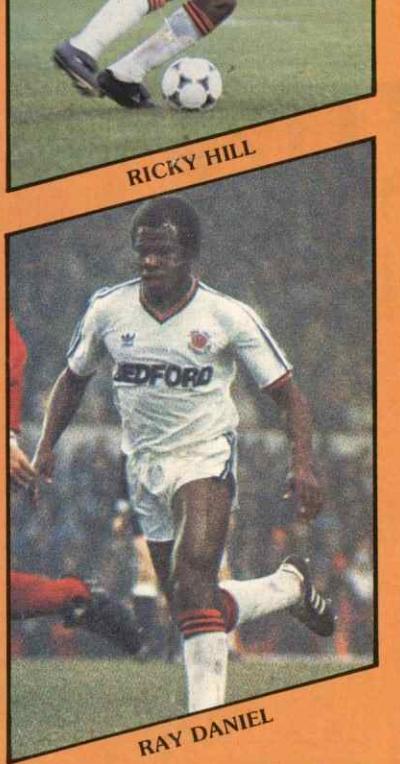
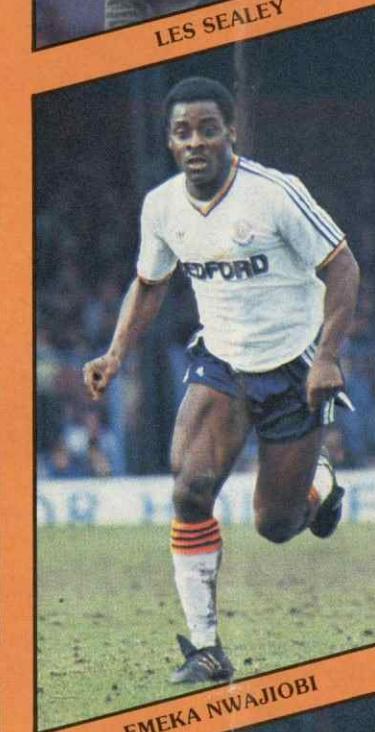
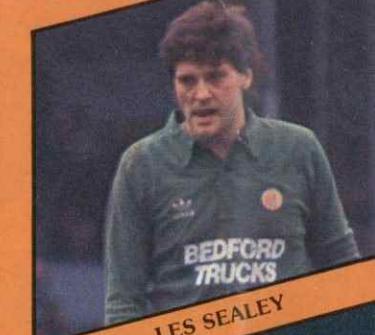
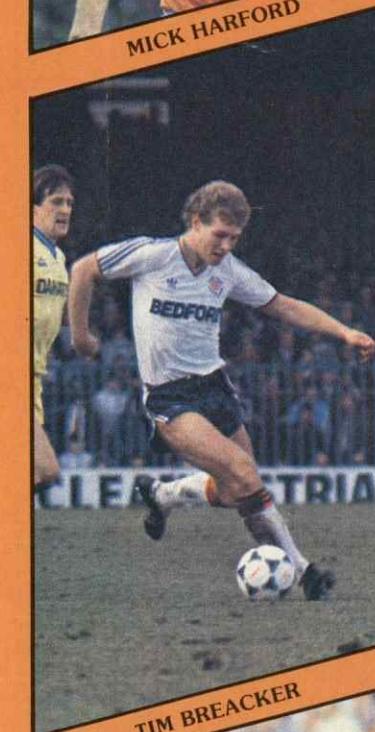
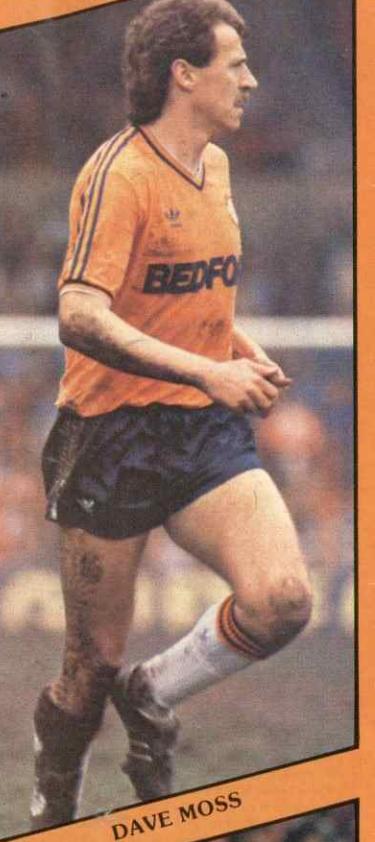
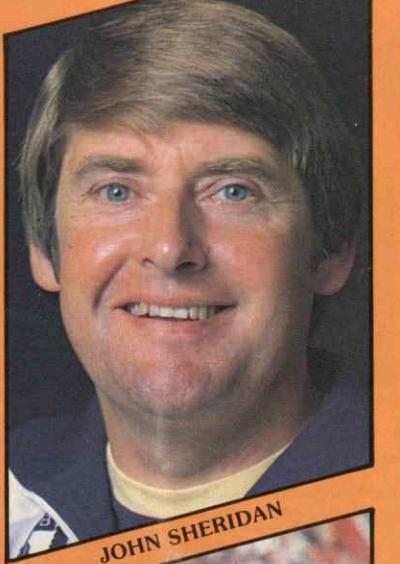
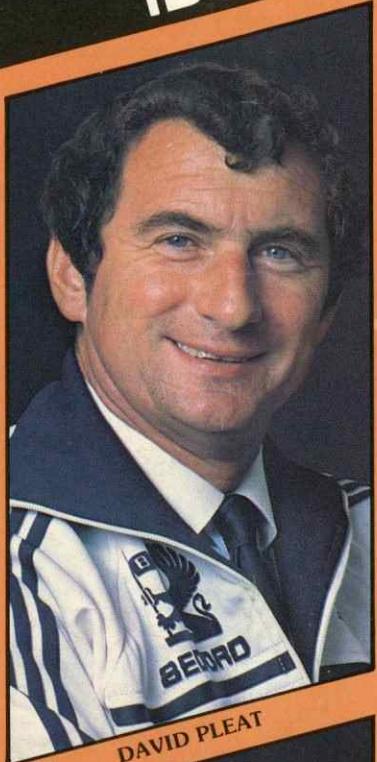
TEAM: Dibble, Scott, Elliston, McEvoy, North M., Grimes, Cobb, Stein M., Oldfield, Daniel, Moss. **Sub:** Harvey.

Anglia Television

Proud to serve
the
East of England.



F.A. CUP 1985



OUR VISITORS

MANCHESTER UNITED



Manchester United manager Ron Atkinson has not given up hopes that this season's League title will end up on the Old Trafford sideboard despite what people may think at Goodison Park.

United arrive at Kenilworth Road this afternoon knowing that they must win to maintain their hopes of catching Everton and Atkinson reckons that the title race is by no means wrapped up.

'Don't write us off . . . and don't write off Tottenham,' was his battle cry a week ago. 'I said at the start of the season and I still think that the title race could be set for a cliff-hanger of a finish and it might not be decided until the final games of the season.'

While Everton remain firmly in the driving seat, United are still in a position to pounce if Howard Kendall's squad show any signs of slipping up as they tackle their hectic run in to the season's climax.

Home wins against Leicester, Aston Villa and Stoke in the last few weeks have reinforced the Old Trafford title challenge after at one stage they seemed to have slipped out of contention. And although their minds were on their FA Cup semi-final replay with Liverpool last week, United's immediate aim is to keep the pressure on Everton right through to the last match.

So it's an important Sunday afternoon for both teams today and United would no doubt settle for something approaching their last visit to Luton, again for a televised Sunday match 14 months ago, when they won here 5-0 with Bryan Robson and Norman Whiteside scoring twice each.

The two are again key figures in United's title push this season. Robson, now back in business after injury problems earlier in the season, remains an outstanding player of world class while Whiteside has emerged recently in a midfield role showing all the power that marked his game when he played up front.

One of the features of the side's season has been the emergence of Welsh striker Mark Hughes. Virtually unheard of 12 months ago, Hughes has made a tremendous impact on both the domestic and international scenes in the last

nine months and is the PFA's Young Player of the Year.

Frank Stapleton has regained his first team place to partner Hughes in the last few weeks and two more players to establish themselves in the United set-up in recent months have been central-defender Paul McGrath and ex-Villa and Everton full-back John Gidman.

Gidman, capped once at full level by England while at Villa Park, has held down the number two spot from another England man Mike Duxbury since Christmas and Atkinson says: 'On current form there is no better right-back in the country.'

Another relative newcomer alongside McGrath in the middle of the United defence is Scottish Under-21 cap Graeme Hogg who made his debut last season but who has progressed in the last few months into a tremendous prospect.

He could follow Arthur Albiston into the Scotland side before too long and another important member of Jock Stein's squad at Old Trafford is Gordon Strachan, nearing the end of his first season in England after his move last summer from Aberdeen.

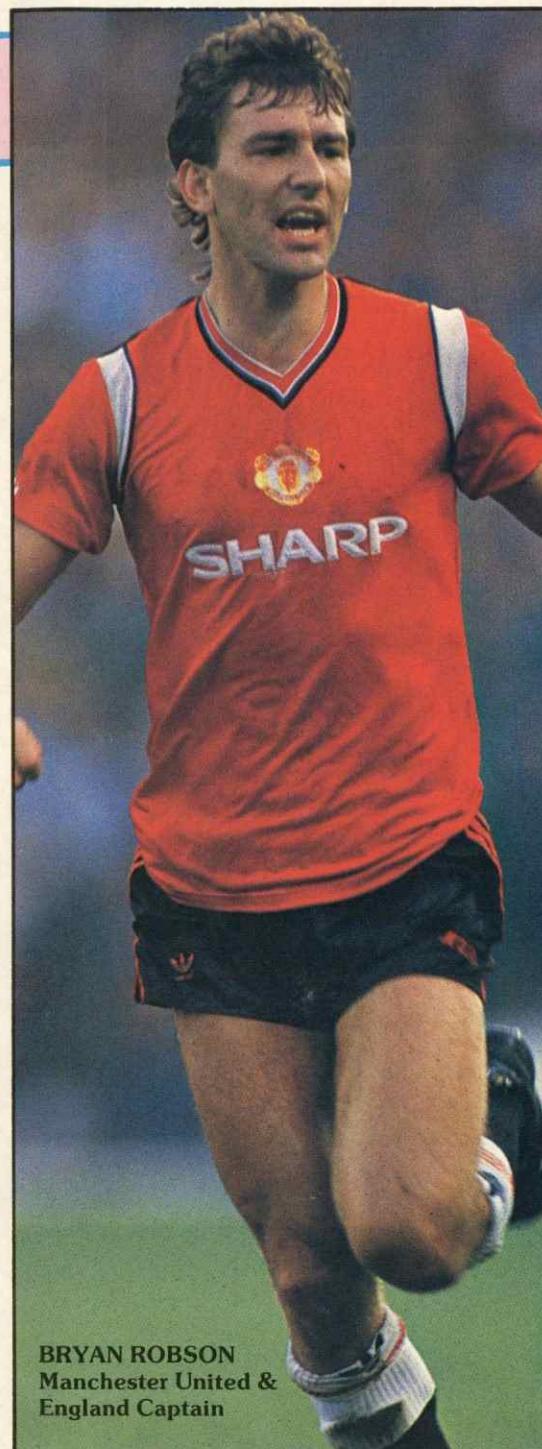
Danish international Jesper Olsen was United's other big close-season buy from Ajax. He needed a while to settle into the League game but has been showing top form in recent weeks.

United's strength in depth is clearly underlined by the fact that in recent weeks they've been able to field a side containing internationals like Gordon McQueen, Alan Brazil, Arnold Muhren and Arthur Graham — at Reserve team level.

And when keeper Gary Bailey has been missing through injury this season, youngster Stephen Pears has proved a highly capable understudy to the South African-born number one who won his first full cap in England's game with Eire last month.

This afternoon's televised game gives a massive audience the chance to judge United's title chances for themselves and you can bet that no-one will be looking closer at their performance today than Everton boss Howard Kendall.

For if Everton do get the jitters over the next few weeks then United hope to be the side to benefit.



BRYAN ROBSON
Manchester United &
England Captain

GARETH OWEN PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography for Luton Town FC and First Division Companies in the area

STUDIO 9
GUILDFORD STREET
LUTON, BEDS
LUTON (0582) 418025

B. DOHERTY SKIPHIRE

34 MOUNT PLEASANT ROAD
LUTON
Telephone: 54633 and 54799

SHOREY'S FUELS



ANTHRAHITE
PHURNACITE
COALITE
REXCO
HOMEFIRE
COAL

YOUR NATURAL WARMTH
FROM YOUR LOCAL
SOLID FUEL MERCHANT

28 Sheepfold Hill, Flitwick, Bedfordshire
Telephone: Flitwick 713289 Silsoe 60694

MARTIN SMITH MOTORS

USED COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SALES
REPAIRS · SERVICING · MOT TESTING

LEAGRAVE MARSH GARAGE

MOUNT PLEASANT ROAD
LEAGRAVE, LUTON

Telephone: Luton 574455 or 572806

Blue Arrow Cleaning Group

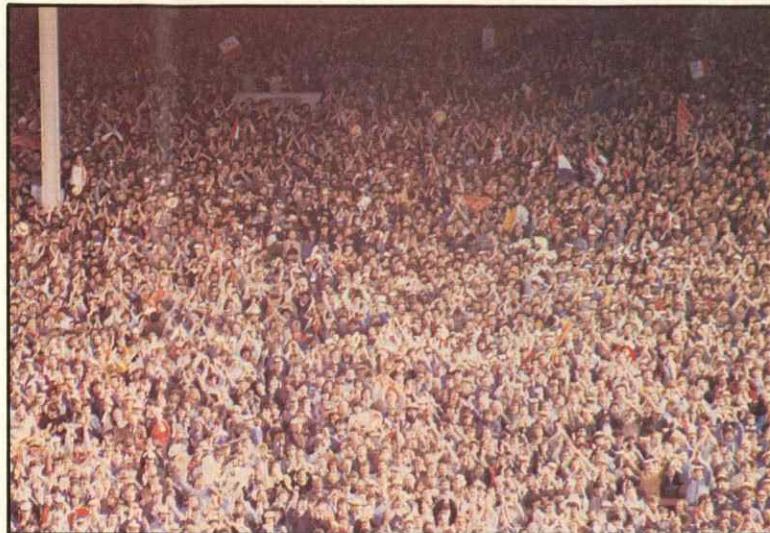
The Professional Approach to
Your Cleaning Problems
84 Aldermans Hill N13
Official Cleaning Contractors to
Luton Town FC
Telephone: 01-882 4626

FAN TASTIC

Luton Town fans did the club proud with their warm and colourful support for the team in the recent FA Cup semi-final at Villa Park. And the club appreciated it enormously. A fleet of 32 coaches organised by the clubs Travel Club, the Bobbers Club carried the fans to Birmingham.

Manager David Pleat said: 'They were tremendous. It was a wonderful thing to have so many travelling supporters with us at such an important match. The support was superb. I am sure as well that not one fan could have gone home saying they didn't have anything to cheer about.'

Chief Executive John Smith said: 'It was a truly lovely day out for the club and for the fans and the fact that we could sell more than 17,000 tickets and take such a following

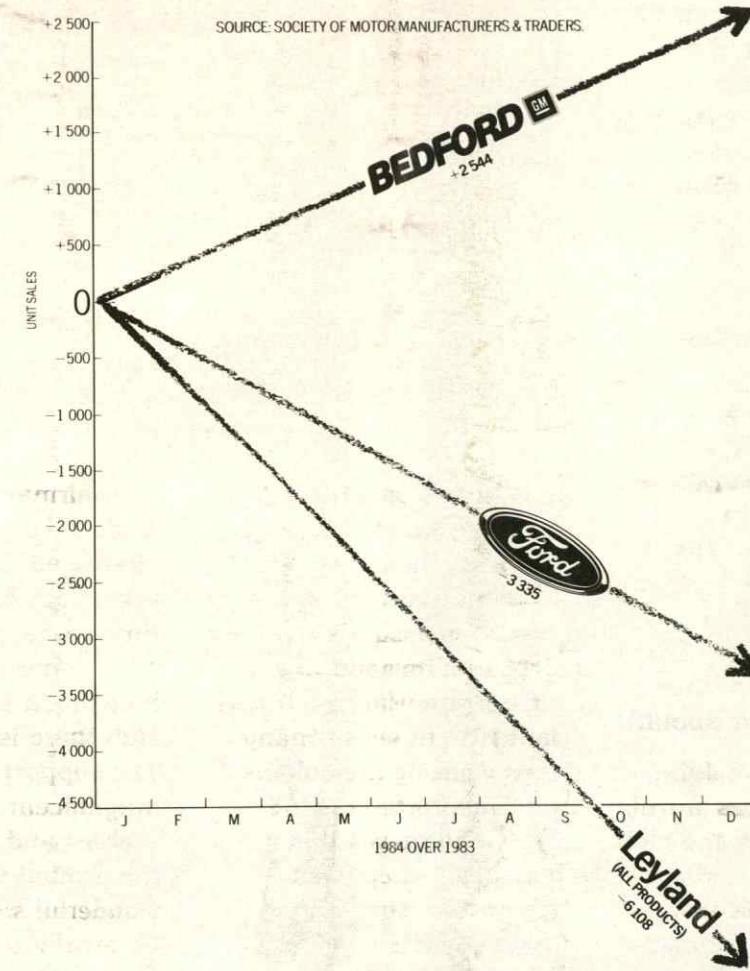


shows how much support and goodwill for the club exists. It shows too that if we could have a really decent ground we would be able to command much bigger attendances. It was fantastic to see so many fans wearing the colours and the boaters at Villa Park and proves there really is a deeply felt support for the football played by David Pleat's team and for the club.'

Chairman David Evans said: 'To see so many cars, buses and mini-buses taking our fans to Birmingham to support the team proves beyond doubt how much loyalty to the club there is in the town. The support was magnificent. The boaters, scarves and colours around the ground were a wonderful sight and a great lift for the team and the whole club.'



COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SALES IN 1984 HELD SOME SURPRISES. EVEN FOR BEDFORD.



While overall van and truck registrations grew by only a modest 0.4 per cent in 1984, UK registrations of Bedford's rose by 6.9 per cent. Other major manufacturers were hit by losses of thousands of vehicles, but demand for Bedfords increased by an additional 2,544 vehicle registrations over 1983.

BEDFORD GM
Now the driving force.

Bedford Commercial Vehicles, Division of General Motors Overseas Commercial Vehicles Corporation, P.O. Box No. 3, Luton LU2 0SY.

LET'S AROUND THE TOWN

TODAY'S MATCH SPONSOR

Luton Town are Bedford's flag ship in the sports world and as match sponsors today Bedford Trucks introduced to you the new Techliner 'flagship', a product of Bedford's continuing programme of aerodynamic studies. The Techliner's specification offers a sleek and effective package which both reduces drag and presents an exciting 'new look' model.

The Techliner's aerodynamic package incorporates:

- A variable-angle, cab roof mounted dragfoil module, which is manually adjustable for optimum performance. It also retracts fully for access where headroom is limited.
- An under-bumper dam to reduce chassis drag,



and provide integrated locations for auxiliary lights.

- A flush grille panel to provide a smooth frontal appearance and optimise air-intake.
- Flush wheel covers, front and rear.

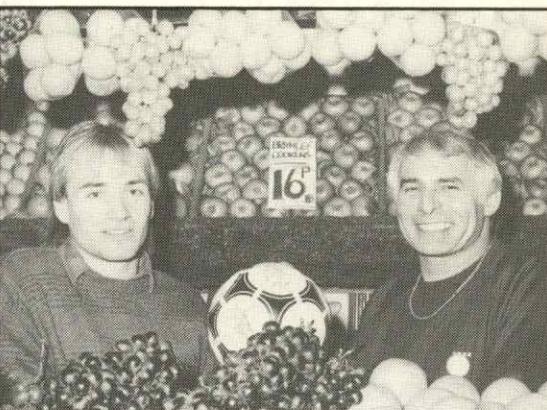
The aerodynamic characteristics of the Techliner are matched by its strikingly impressive appearance.

The sleek looks of the truck are enhanced by silver and red metallic paint finish, special tri-colour decals and special badging.

The Techliner incorporates all of the cab interior and exterior features of the mainstream TL range. The distinctive Techliner package will be available for most models in the TL range.

OFF TO MARKET

One of the strengths behind the Commercial Departments success is the support received from the players. David Preece is pictured when he called in at John Scott's Fruit and Veg stall at the Luton Arndale Market to present John with the ball from the Queens Park Rangers match which the Luton Market Traders sponsored.



DAY OUT AT VILLA PARK

What a memorable bitter-sweet day out it was for the Town at Villa Park! Not even a superb and much-praised performance could wipe out the disappointment of a narrow and late defeat by treble-chasing Everton. But for the players, it was an even harder pill to swallow than for the fans who could not have supported the club more impeccably than they did.

The players had spent a day at Henlow Grange, relaxing, in midweek as the media and publicity pressures built up. On Thursday they had a day off, and on Friday they trained in the morning before travelling to stay overnight at the Bedford Arms Hotel at Woburn. 'It was quite busy and most of the lads went to bed early to have a good rest,' said Brian Stein.

On Saturday morning, the Town coach joined the thousands of cars and buses and mini-vans travelling up to Birmingham on the motorway. At one point, surrounded by cars bedecked in Luton scarves and boaters, the Town were side by side with the Spurs' players' coach!

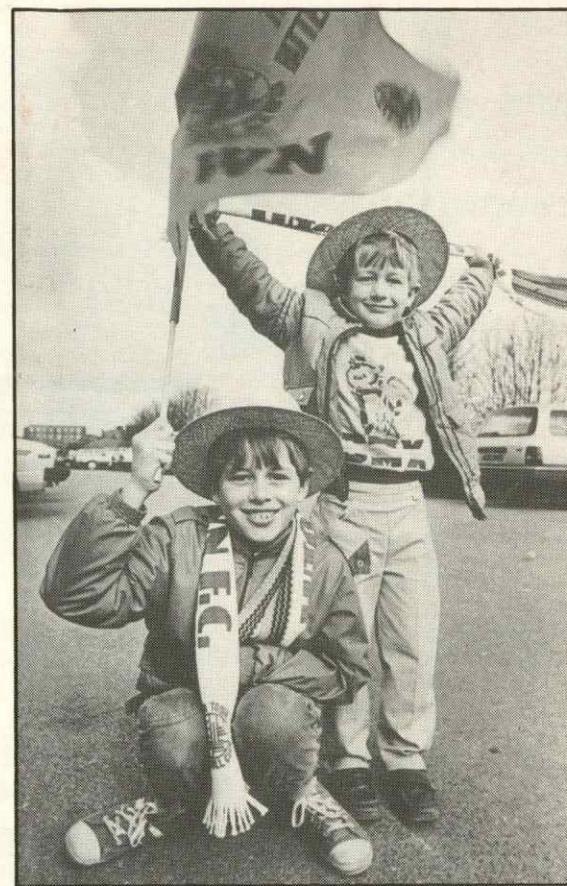
After lunch at the Post-House Hotel, near Rugby, the players went on to Villa Park where a terrific crowd and noisy atmosphere were guaranteed. The Town's following of 18,000 or more did the team proud.

'The players were very relaxed and enjoying themselves,' said David Pleat. 'It was tremendous that none of them froze on the day.' Plenty of tipsters



had suggested a Luton win, but few could have guessed that the team would play so well with so little luck. Not even a first-minute ankle injury to striker Mick Harford — he needed treatment and a pain-killing jab at half-time — could upset the team's pattern and form. And Ricky Hill's brilliant goal was richly deserved.

But, after late goals in normal time and extra-time (the first time extra-time has been played in an FA Cup semi-final), it was a choking experience for



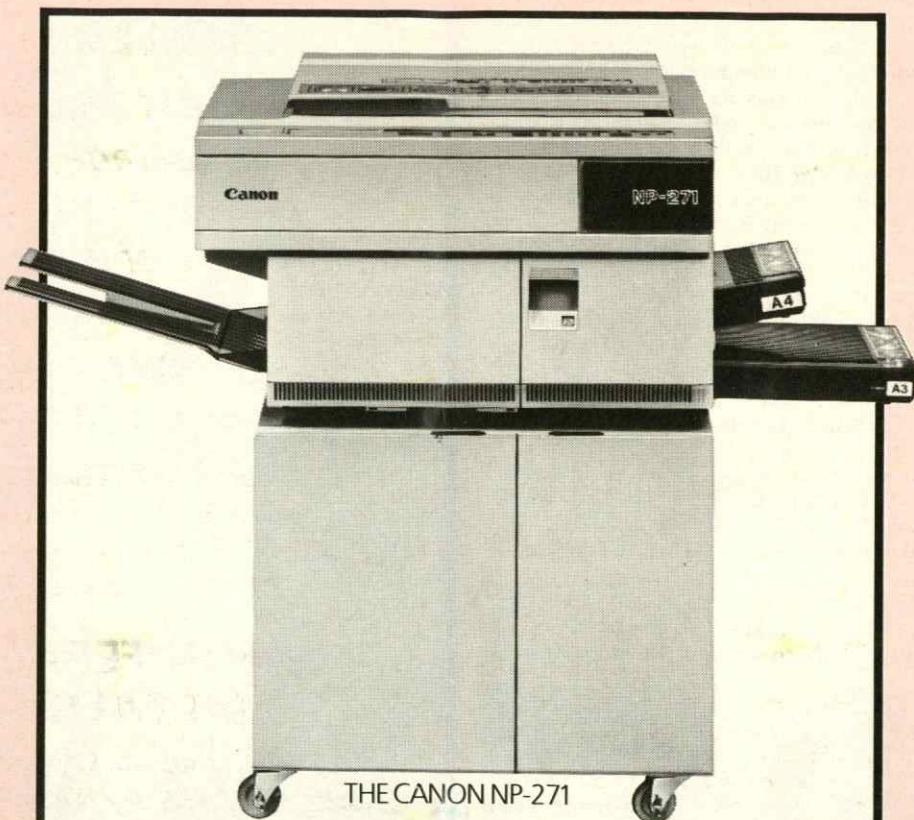
players and fans alike. Coach John Moore even had to help the distraught Les Sealey off the field at the final whistle as the Town wept in utter dismay and Everton shed tears of relief.

Everyone was gutted at the result. But there was a significant moment afterwards when Trevor Brooking caught David Pleat in a quiet moment and said he hoped the Town would carry on playing in the same attacking style. It was a great tribute to the team from one of the most elegant players to have played for England.



**LUTON AND ADIDAS-
A GREAT TEAM.**





**More hard working
than the mid-field.**

Canon
Office copiers
We'll help you look good on paper.

MANUFACTURERS OF COPIERS, CAMERAS, ELECTRONIC TYPEWRITERS, CALCULATORS, COMPUTERS, FACSIMILE AND MICROFILM EQUIPMENT

YOUTH CHAMPIONS

For the first time in the club's history, the Town's Under-17 team have convincingly won the South East Counties League junior championship — and with a team that is still young enough to be playing in the Under-16's.

Coached and managed by David Coates and the Town's chief scout Ron Howard, the junior team have turned on some superb performances and deserve the congratulations of everyone at the club. After 20 matches, they had lost only once and had scored 64 goals and conceded only 18.

'They have definitely exceeded all my original expectations,' said Coates. 'But we have some exceptionally talented players in all positions right through the team. Everyone has played magnificently.'

With the reserves fielding many youngsters and riding high in the Football Combination, the future looks distinctly rosy if the Town's younger players can continue their development.

'I've never coached a team of this age group before and at first I found it difficult, but it has been a great delight to watch them play and succeed,' said Coates.

There is no doubt the highlight of the season was the team's magnificent 13-1 win at Oxford — who are likely to finish as runners-up. The performance that day was so good that club manager David Pleat stayed on right to the end even though he had a first team match to return to in the afternoon, said Ron Howard. 'It was just spellbinding,' said Coates.

The team has worked hard for everything it has won with players supporting each other and creating a real team effort. As a result, the club are applying to run two youth teams in the South East Counties League next year — one at Under-18 and one at Under-17.

And a record nine or ten players are likely to be taken on as apprentices — a sure sign of the quality of the boys. Neither Coates nor Howard could pick out any individuals as stars — but the team does boast four schoolboy internationals — Mathew Bowden (Wales), Duncan Berry (England), Richard Harvey (England) and John Kennedy (Wales).

'The set-up here is excellent for young players coming to the club,' said Howard. 'Everyone takes an interest. If boys like Ian Scott and Richard Harvey — the two centre-backs — keep working hard I think they have exceptional futures ahead of them.'

The team are due to be presented with their championship medals on the pitch this afternoon before the match against Manchester United, a club, appropriately, with a rich reputation for the spotting and development of young talent.

MARK JAMES (SALVAGE) LIMITED

*International Marine and
General Salvage Buyers
of damaged Insurance
losses of every
description*

FIRE DAMAGED FLOOD DAMAGED

ie SHOPS — WAREHOUSES —
HOUSEHOLD GOODS
GOODS IN TRANSIT —
POLICE RECOVERIES

ALL NON-FERROUS METALS

COPPER, TIN, ALUMINIUM,
STAINLESS STEEL, NICKEL, ETC

ALL COMMODITIES

COCOA, COFFEE, SUGAR,
SPICES, GRAINS & FEEDS,
SOYABEAN, VEGETABLE OILS,
COTTON, WOOL, RUBBER,
CHEMICALS, ETC

ALL FROZEN GOODS — MEATS,
FISH, VEGETABLES

*For further information do not hesitate to
contact either Bob Yates, Gordon Pettitt
or Robert Yates (Jnr), where every
assistance will be given.*

MARK JAMES (SALVAGE) LTD
GRANGE HOUSE,
10 COMPTON AVENUE, LUTON,
BEDS

Tel: (0582) 503777 (5 lines)
Telex: 825082

Vauxhall Teamcheck.

LUTON TOWN

LES SEALEY
TIM BREACKER
MITCHELL THOMAS
PETER NICHOLAS
STEVE FOSTER
MAL DONAGHY
RICKY HILL
BRIAN STEIN
MICK HARFORD
EMEKA NWAJIOBI
DAVID PREECE

MANCHESTER UTD

1 GARY BAILEY
2 JOHN GIDMAN
3 ARTHUR ALBISTON
4 NORMAN WHITESIDE
5 PAUL McGRATH
6 GRAEME HOGG
7 BRYAN ROBSON
8 GORDON STRACHAN
9 MARK HUGHES
10 FRANK STAPLETON
11 JESPER OLSEN
12

Referee: T. G. BUNE Linesmen: J. L. GODFREY (Red Flag) P. COX (Yellow Flag)

**LOOK OUT FOR THE
NEWCOMER IN OUR LINE-UP.**



THE NEW 126MPH VAUXHALL ASTRA GTE.

Remember, we got here first.

