

SKY BLUES



Official Matchday Magazine of Coventry City Football Club

Thursday 23rd May k.o. 7.30 pm

50p



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Picture by Ian Davis

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Paul Skidmore of Gretna Road, Finham receives a football autographed by the Sky Blue players for correctly answering the Spot the Difference cartoon in the Liverpool Matchday Magazine.

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS' BALLOT

A voucher worth £20 to be spent in one month at The Vaults Restaurant, Regent Hotel, Leamington Spa goes to Mr. V. Carroll of The Leys, Welford, Northampton as this week's winner of the ballot for season ticket holders.

MYSTERY MAN

The Mystery Man in the Liverpool Matchday Magazine was Larry Lloyd. For knowing that fact Mr. R. Owen of Melbourne Road, Earlsdon, Coventry wins two stand tickets.

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DON MACKAY



HECTIC PERIOD

It has been such a hectic period trying to rearrange our match against Everton that right up until the end of the F.A. Cup Final we did not know whether tonight's game would be the second or third game in our three match battle to stay in the First Division.

If the Cup Final had finished all-square this would have been our final match of the season, because we would then have played Everton on Monday. Instead we shall now play them here at Highfield Road on Sunday morning at which time we hope we still have a chance of staying up.

Our visitors this evening came within a whisker of being at Wembley on Saturday having played very well before losing to Everton in the semi-final at Villa Park. Well tonight we look on this as our Cup Final.

Luton have improved in leaps and bounds and but for an indifferent start to their programme they would have been challenging strongly for a place in Europe. But we have to roll up our sleeves and battle for the three points knowing that only maximum points is good enough.

Our determination and attitude in winning at Stoke City on Friday was fantastic. The game left a bit to be desired but the support from Coventry generated a tremendous atmosphere in the Victoria Ground. Tension played a big part, as it will tonight, and I ask our supporters to get behind the team. A win is all that matters tonight and if we achieve that, it will be a tremendous day here on Sunday.
DON MACKAY

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PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Terry Gibson receives his trophy from the
Club Chairman — Mr. John Poynton.

The trophy is donated by the Birmingham
Post and Mail. Also in the picture is Mr. Ian
Willars of the newspaper.

As a matter of interest George Curtis was
the last Coventry City player to win this
award.



I would like to take this opportunity of
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STEVE SQUEEZES HOME

Steve Ogrizovic has done it — by two hundredths of a point. That's how close it was between Sky Blues' goalkeeper Steve Ogrizovic and his skipper Trevor Peake in the Coventry Evening Telegraph-Glazepta Competition. Stuart Pearce was another two hundredths of a point away in third place.

It's Bon Voyage Steve, bad luck Trevor and Stuart. Steve will be presented with his prize, a £1,000 holiday provided by our shirt sponsor Glazepta, before this evening's match.

Steve held on to his tiny lead in the competition with an 8.5 rating in the final match at Stoke City. Trevor also had an 8 and if Steve had notched a 7, the holiday would have slipped away from the goalkeeper by six thousandths of a point — it was as tight as that.

Both men were outstanding in the victory at the Victoria Ground and as were Pearce and Kenny Hibbitt who also rated

marks of 8. But the man they were all watching in the competition was young Lloyd McGrath who came with a late rush to finish fourth.

The competition was based on ratings in each match. They were added up for each player and divided by the number of matches he had played. The qualification was 20 matches.

Final Top Six Placings:

1 Ogrizovic	7.04
2 Peake	7.02
3 Pearce	7.00
4 McGrath	6.82
5 Kilcline	6.75
6 Butterworth	6.71



Steve Ogrizovic v Watford.

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LOOKING BACK

The Sky Blues defeat at Kenilworth Road on Boxing Day was their first by Luton Town in the First Division and you have to delve back beyond 1963-64 to find the last time today's visitors were successful here.

In all that time the clubs paths have crossed on only a handful of occasions and the Sky Blues hold a distinct edge with five victories to only one by Luton.

League Results v Luton Town

Division One

1984-85	Luton Town 2 (Stein, Daniel) Coventry C. 0
1983-84	Coventry C. 2 (Platnauer, Gibson) Luton 2 (Stein, Antic) Luton 2 (Aylott, o.g.) Coventry C. 4 (Gibson 2, Bennett, Gynn)

1982-83	Coventry C. 4 (Whitton 2, Dyson, Thompson) Luton 2 (Horton, Stein) Luton 1 (Donaghy) Coventry C. 2 (Whitton, Melrose)
---------	--

1975-1982 clubs did not meet

1974-75	Coventry C. 2 (Stein, Cross) Luton 1 (Ryan pen.) Luton 1 (Aston) Coventry C. 3 (Alderson 2, Green)
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Division Three

1963-64	Coventry C. 3 (Rees, Farmer, Kletzenbauer) Luton 3 Luton 1 Coventry C. 3 (Humphries 2, Barr)
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			Ties - club motif	£3.90	17
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			Wristwatch	£11.50	50

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KIRK'S MIXED FEELINGS

Kirk Stephens knows all about end of season pressures — he has been though it now for the last five years.

The right-back, who realised his life's ambition to play for Coventry City when he was transferred from Luton Tn last Summer, says: "I just hope today's match against my old club goes the right way for us. It will be nice to see my old friends again from Kenilworth Road where I spent seven happy years, but I shall be desperately keen for them to lose this match."

Meanwhile Kirk has been keeping his fingers crossed that he will have recovered from a hamstring muscle injury in time to play against his former club. He limped out of the Sky Blues match at Southampton in the 35th minute and he says: "It has been feeling easier, but hamstring injuries are funny things. They can last longer than you expect them to and it can be foolish to try and come back too soon."

The Southampton match was the latest chapter of misfortune in Kirk's first season with his hometown club. Before his injury he was the unfortunate scorer of Southampton's first goal.

It was a freak accident and no blame attached to the blonde haired full-back. A corner kick was driven in to the near post and Kirk had to go for the header.

"I dare not let the ball go because I knew there was a Southampton player right behind me. The ball only brushed my hair but it was enough to deflect it past Oggi and into our net. If I tried a hundred times I could not do it again. The previous week against Liverpool Michael Gynn's shot came back off our rounded posts at Highfield Road which shows just how fine is the margin between success and failure — the difference between a coat of paint in one match and a haircut in the next."

It's a twist of fate which brings Kirk's old team here today with so much hanging on the result. "I did not want this to happen," he says with a wry smile. "All credit to Luton this season to come back from a dodgy period to reach the F.A. Cup semi-finals. I was pleased and envious at the same time. Pleased for the club and happy for the older players like Ricky Hill and Mal Donaghy, and envious because I would have loved to have played in that one. They were out of relegation trouble last week and immediately left for a break in Cyprus. I hope they have come back in the holiday mood."

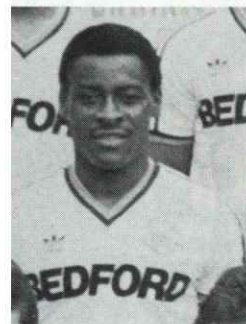
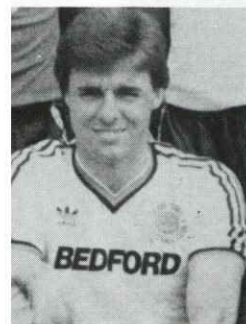
From a personal point of view Kirk has not been happy with his first season with the Sky Blues. "I got a knee injury after only three matches and then my form suffered. In all honesty the Coventry City supporters have not seen the Kirk Stephens of the Luton Town days. I know I can do better and with the Summer break coming up I hope to get my knee injury sorted out and to come back next season to prove it."

As for that end of season pressure Kirk says there can have been no greater pressure than when Luton went to Manchester City in their final match in 1982-83 knowing they had to win to stay in the First Division. To make it worse City needed only a draw to stay up and there were 45,000 spectators cheering for Manchester that day. It's history now that Luton won 1-0 and City were relegated.

KIRK STEPHENS



TODAYS VISITORS



Tim Breacker Mitchell Thomas
Mal Donaghy Brian Stein
Emeka Nwajiobi Ricky Hill

An F.A. Cup semi-final place for only the second time in their history is one side of the Luton coin this season. The other has been their fight to stay in the First Division which they achieved with three victories in a four match spell earlier this month. They beat Arsenal, Aston Villa and eventually Leicester to pull clear of the bottom positions.

Founded in 1885 the 'Hatters' became the first club from the South of England to turn professional when they did so in 1890. They had a short spell in Division Two from 1897 to 1900 before returning to the Southern League and awaiting the foundation of the new Division Three in 1920 in order to return to the Football League.

They climbed into Division Two in 1937 and then in 1955 reached Division one for the first time ever. Four years later they reached the F.A. Cup Final for their one and only time, going down 2-1 to Nottingham Forest at Wembley, but decline set in almost immediately afterwards. They slipped to Division two in 1960, to Division Three in 1963 and to Division Four in 1965 to become only the second team (Brentford were the first) to slip all the way from Division One to Division Four.

To their credit they climbed back up to Division One by 1974, but stayed up for only one season in the midst of severe financial problems. Again they weathered the storm and in 1981-82 they topped Division Two by a clear eight points, losing only four games all season.

In their first season back in Division One they held on to their place after a rare old scramble, finally getting clear of danger when winning 1-0 at Maine Road in their very last game to send Manchester City down. They last season they were as high as third at Christmas, but then came only three wins in their last 23 games and a final position of 16th. A feature of their season was their seven away wins so that 25 of their 51 points were picked up away from home.

THIS SEASON

They have had an inconsistent season. Following an open day win they went seven League games without a victory but picked up form when the Milk Cup came around. They went out in the Fourth Round to Sheffield Wednesday. 1985 brought the F.A. Cup and they delighted their fans by beating Stoke, Huddersfield, Watford and Millwall before going out to Everton in a thrilling semi-final at Villa Park.

Former Lincoln, Sunderland and Birmingham striker MICK HARFORD has been scoring regularly since moving to Kenilworth Road and he is likely to be linking up with consistent BRIAN STEIN (over 100 league games for Luton) and young Nigerian EMEKA NWAJIOBI. In midfield DAVID PREECE has been signed this season from Walsall to link up with England many RICKY HILL and another newcomer PETER NICHOLAS from Crystal Palace. In defence STEVE FOSTER, the ex-Brighton man has arrived this season after a short spell with Aston Villa, partnering Irish international hero MAL DONAGHY in the centre with local lads WAYNE TURNER and TIM BREACKER on the flanks and our old friend LES SEALEY in his second season in goal.

Les Sealey (goalkeeper) – Born London. Aged 27. Joined Coventry City from school and played 158 League matches for this club before transferring to Luton Town in the Summer of 83.

Tim Breacker (defender) – Born Bicester, Oxon. Six feet tall full-back who joined Luton Town straight from school and played two senior games last season.

Mitchell Thomas (defender) – Born Luton. Another six footer at full back. He is a product of Luton's youth scheme and had played 30 senior games before this season.

Steve Foster (defender) – Born Portsmouth and joined 'Pompey' from school. He played 109 League games before moving along the coast to Brighton where he played 172 games and won 3 England caps. A move to Aston Villa did not work out and he transferred to Luton this season.

Peter Nicholas (midfield) – Born Newport and has been capped 33 times by Wales. He joined Crystal Palace from school and played 127 League games before moving on to Arsenal. He wore 'Gunners' shirt 60 times before rejoining Palace on loan. Signed for Luton this season.

Ricky Hill (midfield) – Born London. Luton is his only Football League club and he has topped 300 games winning two England caps against Denmark and West Germany.

David Preece (midfield) – Born Bridgnorth, Shropshire. Snapped up by Walsall from school and played 100 games before joining Luton this season.

Mick Harford (forward) – Born Sunderland. Much travelled centre-forward who has scored goals at every port of call. His previous clubs were

Lincoln City, Newcastle United, Bristol City and Birmingham City.

Brian Stein (forward) – Born South Africa. Joined Luton from non-League Edgware Town and has scored 91 goals in 277 League games. Formed a lethal partnership with Paul Walsh which earned them both an England cap. Walsh is now at Liverpool.

Emeka Nwajiobi (forward) – Born Nigeria and signed from non-league Dulwich. Had played 4 senior games prior to this season.

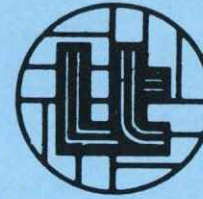
Back row left to right: Mark Stein, Rob Johnson, Tim Breacker, Stacey North, Mark North, Gary Parker, Wayne Turner, Ray Daniel. Centre row: John Moore (Coach), Emeka Nwajiobi, Frank Bunn, Jake Findlay, Paul Elliott, Andy Dibble, Clive Goodyear, Mitchell Thomas, David Coates (Coach). Front row: Trevor Hartley (Coach), Steve Elliott, David Moss, Ricky Hill, Mal Donaghy, David Pleat (Manager), Brian Stein, Ashley Grimes, Vince Hilaire, John Sheridan (physiotherapist). Seated: Michael Doughty, David Oldfield, Ricky McEvoy, Alec Ellistdon.





COVENTRY CITY

TODAYS TEAMS



LUTON TOWN

	Apps.	Gls.	Team changes
1 Steve Ogrizovic	44	—	
2 Ian Butterworth	19	—	
3 Stuart Pearce	29	4	
4 Kenny Hibbitt	32	3	
5 Brian Kilcline	27	1	
6 Trevor Peake	34	1	
7 Dave Bennett	29	2	
8 Lloyd McGrath	22	—	
9 Cyrille Regis	29	3	
10 Terry Gibson	40	18	
11 Micky Adams	32	2	
12			

Orange Flag
P. Jones

Referee
Mark Scott
(Nottingham)

Yellow Flag
B.K. Couldrey



TODAY'S REFEREE

Mark Scott of Nottingham is a security officer. He is married with three daughters and enjoys all sports particularly playing cricket and watching ice hockey. He lined a U.E.F.A. Cup match in 1978 and refereed the 1983 F.A. Youth Cup Final.



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CITY'S WEEK

Sunday May 26th Sky Blues v Everton k.o. 11.30 am

Team changes	Gls.	Apps.	
	—	32	1 Les Sealey
	—	42	2 Tim Breacker
	—	43	3 Mitchell Thomas
	—	17	4 Peter Nicholas
	2	31	5 Steve Foster
	5	52	6 Mal Donaghy
	4	49	7 Ricky Hill
	14	52	8 Brian Stein
	16	28	9 Mick Harford
	9	26	10 Emeka Nwajiobi
	2	19	11 David Preece
			12



SKYBLUES

V. IPSWICH TOWN

Stuart Pearce involved in a knees up with an Ipswich Tn player.



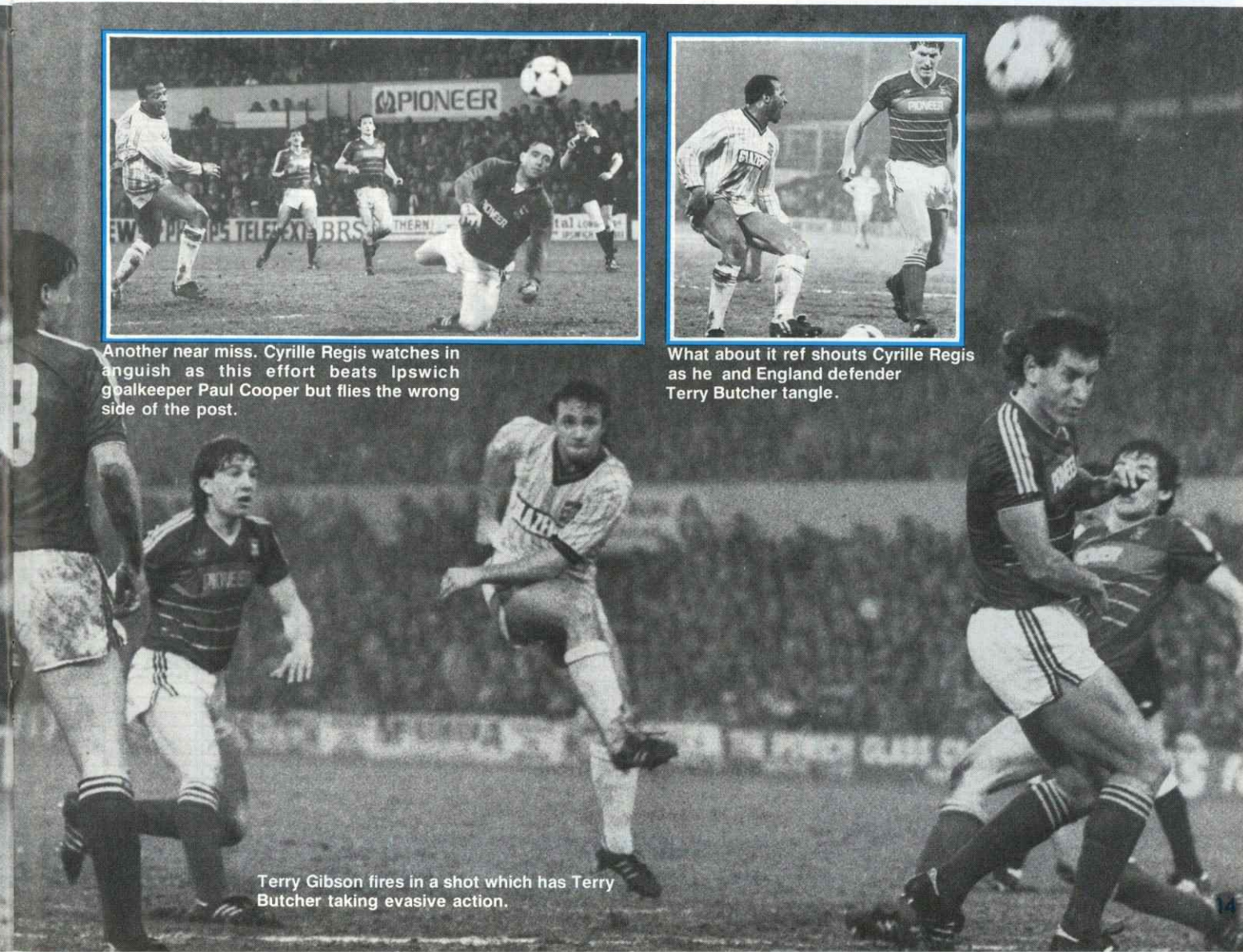
Terry Gibson struggling to outjump an Ipswich player.



Another near miss. Cyrille Regis watches in anguish as this effort beats Ipswich goalkeeper Paul Cooper but flies the wrong side of the post.



What about it ref shouts Cyrille Regis as he and England defender Terry Butcher tangle.



Terry Gibson fires in a shot which has Terry Butcher taking evasive action.

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DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Everton	39	15	3	2	57	17	12	3	4	29	20	87
Liverpool	41	12	4	5	36	19	10	7	3	32	15	77
Tottenham	42	11	3	7	46	31	12	5	4	32	20	77
Man. Utd.	42	13	6	2	47	13	9	4	8	30	34	76
Southp'ton	42	13	4	4	29	18	6	7	8	27	29	68
Chelsea	42	13	3	5	38	20	5	9	7	25	28	66
Arsenal	42	14	5	2	37	14	5	4	12	24	35	66
Sheffield W.	42	12	7	2	39	21	5	7	9	19	24	65
Nottm. F.	42	13	4	4	35	18	6	3	12	21	30	64
Aston Villa	42	10	7	4	34	20	5	4	12	26	40	56
Watford	42	10	5	6	48	30	4	8	9	33	41	55
W.B.A.	42	11	4	6	36	23	5	3	13	22	39	55
Newcastle	42	11	4	6	33	26	2	9	10	22	44	52
Luton Tn.	40	11	5	4	38	22	3	4	13	17	38	51
Leicester C.	42	10	4	7	39	25	5	2	14	26	48	51
West Ham	41	7	8	5	27	20	6	4	11	24	45	51
Q.P.R.	42	11	6	4	41	30	2	5	14	12	42	50
Ipswich	42	8	7	6	27	20	5	4	12	19	37	50
Norwich	42	9	6	6	28	24	4	4	13	18	40	49
Coventry C.	40	9	3	7	24	21	4	2	15	18	42	44
Sunderland	42	7	6	8	20	26	3	4	14	20	36	40
Stoke City	42	3	3	15	18	41	0	5	16	6	50	17

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES

	Lge	Gls	MC	Gls	FA	Gls	Apps	Gls	Total
Ogrizovic	40	2	—	2	—	—	44	—	44
Stephens	32	2	—	2	—	—	34	2	36
Pearce	27	4	—	2	—	—	29	4	33
Jol	15	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	15
Kilcline	24	1	1(1)	—	—	—	27(1)	1	28
Peake	31(1)	1	2	—	1	—	34(1)	1	36
Bennett	27(5)	2	2	—	—	—	29(5)	2	34
Gynn	32(6)	4	2	—	1	—	35(6)	4	40
Withey	1(1)	—	—	—	—	—	1(1)	—	1
Gibson	36	14	2	1	2	3	40	18	58
Platnauer	9(1)	2	—	—	—	—	11(1)	—	12
Hibbitt	30(2)	3	1	—	1	—	32(2)	3	36
Latchford	11(1)	2	2	—	1(1)	—	14(2)	2	17
Spring	3(1)	—	2	—	—	—	5(1)	—	6
Butterworth	17(3)	—	2	—	—	—	19(3)	—	22
Thompson	1	—	—	1(1)	—	—	1(1)	—	2
Adams	28(1)	2	2	—	2	—	32(1)	2	36
Singleton	2	—	1	1	—	—	3	1	4
Regis	28(1)	2	—	—	1	—	29(1)	2	31
McGrath	20(1)	—	—	—	2	—	22(1)	—	23
Bowman	9(1)	—	—	—	1	—	10(1)	—	11
Barnes	18	2	1	—	—	—	19	2	21

(Appearances as substitute in brackets)

DATE	MATCH	GATE	SCORE	LAST YEAR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12					
Sat Aug 25	Aston Villa	20,970	L 0-1	L 0-2	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Jol	Kilcline	★	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Withey	●	Gibson	Platnauer	Hibbitt			
Tue Aug 28	Norwich City	10,632	D 0-0	W 2-1	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Jol	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Latchford	Gibson	Platnauer	Hibbitt					
Sat Sep 1	Leicester City	13,510	W 2-0	W 2-1	Ogrizovic	Stephens	●	Pearce	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett	(1)	Gynn	Latchford	(1)	Gibson	Platnauer	Hibbitt			
Tue Sep 4	West Ham United	14,949	L 1-3	L 2-5	Ogrizovic	Gynn	Pearce	(1)	Jol	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett	Hibbitt	Latchford	Gibson	Platnauer	Spring				
Sat Sep 8	Everton	20,012	L 1-2	D 0-0	Ogrizovic	Gynn	Pearce	Jol	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett	Hibbitt	Latchford	Gibson	(1)	Platnauer	Butterworth				
Sat Sep 15	Manchester United	18,482	L 0-3	D 1-1	Ogrizovic	Gynn	Pearce	Jol	Kilcline	★	Peake	Bennett	Thompson	Latchford	●	Gibson	Platnauer	Butterworth			
Sat Sep 22	Sunderland	16,308	D 0-0	L 0-1	Ogrizovic	Spring	Adams	Hibbit	●	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Latchford	Gibson	Platnauer	Butterworth				
Tue Sep 25	Walsall (M.C. 2nd Rd 1st leg)	8,399	W 2-1		Ogrizovic	Spring	★	Adams	Butterworth	Kilcline	Peake	★	Bennett	★	Gynn	Singleton	(1)	Gibson	★(1)	Platnauer	Thompson
Sat Sep 29	Arsenal	14,394	L 1-2	L 1-4	Ogrizovic	Spring	Adams	Hibbit	Butterworth	★	Peake	Singleton	Gynn	Jol	●	Gibson	(1)	Platnauer	Withey		
Sat Oct 6	Watford	15,184	W 1-0	W 3-2	Ogrizovic	Spring	Adams	Hibbit	Butterworth	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Barnes	●	Gibson	(1)	Platnauer	Kilcline			
Tue Oct 9	Walsall (M.C. 2nd Rd, 2nd leg)	9,214	L 0-3		Ogrizovic	Spring	Adams	★	Hibbit	★	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Platnauer	Gibson	Barnes	●	Kilcline	★		
Sat Oct 13	Newcastle United	14,091	D 1-1		Ogrizovic	Stephens	Adams	★	Hibbitt	★(1)	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Regis	Gibson	Barnes	Platnauer				
Sat Oct 20	Queens Park Rangers	10,427	L 1-2	L 1-2	Ogrizovic	Stephens	★	Adams	Hibbit	Butterworth	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Regis	(1)	Jol	Barnes	Kilcline			
Sat Oct 27	Sheffield Wednesday	14,348	W 1-0		Ogrizovic	Stephens	Adams	Hibbit	Butterworth	McGrath	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Regis	Gibson	(1)	Barnes	Latchford			
Sat Nov 3	Chelsea	17,306	L 2-6		Ogrizovic	Stephens	Adams	Jol	McGrath	Peake	Latchford	(1)	Gynn	(1)	Regis	★	Gibson	Barnes	Spring		
Sat Nov 10	Ipswich Town	8,790	W 1-0	L 1-2	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Adams	(1)	Hibbit	Butterworth	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Latchford	Gibson	Jol	Singleton				
Sat Nov 17	Nottingham Forest	9,894	L 1-3	W 2-1	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Adams	Hibbit	Butterworth	Peake	Singleton	Gynn	Regis	Gibson	(1)	pen	Jol	Latchford			
Sat Nov 24	West Bromwich Albion	12,742	L 2-5	D 1-1	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Adams	★	Hibbit	★	Peake	Jol	★	Gynn	Regis	(1)	Gibson	●	Barnes	(1)	Bennett
Sat Dec 1	Tottenham Hotspur	14,518	D 1-1	L 2-4	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Adams	Hibbit	●	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Regis	(1)	Gibson	Barnes	Butterworth			
Tue Dec 4	Liverpool	27,237	L 1-3	L 0-5	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Adams	Butterworth	●	Kilcline	★	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Regis	Gibson	Barnes	Platnauer			
Sat Dec 15	Southampton	10,369	W 2-1	D 0-0	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Adams	Jol	Kilcline	★	Peake	(1)	Gynn	Bowman	Regis	Bennett	Barnes	Latchford			
Sun Dec 23	Leicester City	18,016	L 1-5	D 1-1	Ogrizovic	★	Stephens	Adams	★	Jol	●	Kilcline	Pearce	★	Gynn	(1)	Bowman	★	Hibbit		
Wed Dec 26	Luton Town	9,237	L 0-2	W 4-2	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Adams	Jol	●	Kilcline	Pearce	Gynn	Bowman	Regis	Gibson	Barnes	Bennett				
Sat Dec 29	West Ham United	10,775	L 1-2	L 1-2	Ogrizovic	Stephens	(1)	Pearce	Bowman	★	Kilcline	McGrath	Hibbit	Gynn	●	Regis	Gibson	Barnes	Adams		
1985																					
Tue Jan 1	Stoke City	9,829	W 4-0	L 2-3	Ogrizovic	Stephens	(1)	Pearce	Bowman	★	Kilcline	McGrath	Hibbit	(1)	●	Gynn	Latchford	Gibson	(2)	Adams	Bennett
Sat Jan 5	Manchester City FA Cup (3)	15,642	W 2-1		Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Bowman	Kilcline	McGrath	Hibbit	Gynn	Latchford	Gibson	(2)	Adams	Regis				
Sat Jan 12	Manchester United	35,992	W 1-0	L 1-4	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Bowman	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett	McGrath	Latchford	●	Gibson	(1)	Adams	Regis			
Sat Jan 19	Aston Villa	15,226	L 0-3	D 3-3	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Bowman	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett	●	McGrath	Regis	Gibson	Adams	★	Latchford			
Sat Jan 26	Manchester United (FAC4)	38,000	L 1-2		Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Hibbit	★	Kilcline	Peake	Gynn	McGrath	Regis	Gibson	(1)	Adams	Latchford			
Sat Feb 2	Arsenal	21,791	L 1-2	W 1-0	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	(1)	Hibbit	Kilcline	Peake	Gynn	McGrath	Regis	Gibson	Barnes	Bowman				
Sat Feb 23	Chelsea	11,430	W 1-0		Ogrizovic	McGrath	Pearce	Hibbit	Kilcline	Peake	Stephens	Gynn	Regis	Gibson	(1)	●	Barnes	Bennett			
Sat Mar 2	Sheffield Wednesday	20,422	L 0-1	L 2-3	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Hibbit	Kilcline	McGrath	Bowman	●	Gynn	Regis	Gibson	Adams	Bennett				
Sat Mar 9	QPR	8,988	W 3-0	W 1-0	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Hibbit	Kilcline	(1)	McGrath	Bennett	Gynn	Regis	Gibson	(2)	Adams	Barnes			
Sat Mar 23	Watford	9,794	W 3-1	L 1-2	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Hibbit	Kilcline	McGrath	Bennett	Gynn	Regis	Gibson	(2)	Adams	(1)	Barnes			
Sat Mar 30	Norwich City	14,067	L 1-2	D 0-0	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Hibbit	Kilcline	McGrath	Bennett	Gynn	(1)	Regis	●	Gibson	Adams	Peake			
Sat Apr 13	Sunderland	9,668	L 0-1	W 2-1	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	★	Hibbit	Butterworth	★	McGrath	Bennett	Gynn	Regis	Gibson	Adams	●	Bowman		
Wed Apr 17	Newcastle United	9,578	W 1-0		Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Hibbit	●	Butterworth	Peake	Bennett	(1)	McGrath	Regis	Gibson	Barnes	Gynn			
Sat Apr 20	Nottingham Forest	12,990	L 0-2	L 0-3	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Hibbit	Butterworth	Peake	Bennett	●	McGrath	Regis	Latchford	Barnes	Gynn				
Sat Apr 27	West Bromwich Albion	10,356	W 2-1	L 1-2	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Hibbit	(1)	Butterworth	Peake	Bowman	●	McGrath	Regis	Gibson	Barnes	(1)	Gynn		
Sat May 4	Tottenham Hotspur	16,711	L 2-4	D 1-1	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	(1)	pen	Butterworth	Peake	Adams	●	McGrath	Regis	Gibson	(1)	Barnes	●	Gynn	
Mon May 6	Liverpool	18,951	L 0-2	W 4-0	Ogrizovic	Stephens	Pearce	Hibbit	Butterworth	Peake	Gynn	McGrath	●	Regis	Gibson	Adams	Bennett				
Sat May 11	Southampton	15,735	L 1-2	L 2-8	Ogrizovic	Stephens	●	Pearce	Butterworth	Peake	Bennett	McGrath	Regis	(1)	Gibson	Adams	Gynn				
Tue May 14	Ipswich Town	14,038	D 0-0	L 1-3	Ogrizovic	Butterworth	Pearce	Hibbit	●	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett	Gynn	Regis	Gibson	Adams	McGrath				
Fri May 17	Stoke City	6,930	W 1-0	W 3-1	Ogrizovic	Butterworth	Pearce	(1)	Hibbit	●	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett	McGrath	Regis	Gibson	Adams	Gynn			
Thur May 23	Luton Town			D 2-2																	
Sun May 26	Everton (11.30am)			D 1-1																	

● Substituted ★ Booked ■ Sent Off Goalscorers in Bold

FIRST DIVISION HIT MEN (Including all cups)

- 36 Dixon (Chelsea)
- 30 Sharp (Everton), Lineker (Leicester)
- 29 Falco (Spurs)
- 28 Bannister (Q.P.R.)
- 26 Rush (Liverpool), Wark (Liverpool), Blissett (Watford)
- 25 Hughes (Manchester Utd)
- 22 Cotee (West Ham)
- 21 Thompson (W.B.A.)
- 19 Strachan (Manchester Utd), Chapman (Sheffield W.), Varadi (Sheffield W.), Crooks (Spurs)
- 18 Gibson (Coventry C.), Deehan (Norwich)
- 17 Beardsley (Newcastle), Moran (Southampton)
- 16 Speedie (Chelsea), Sheedy (Everton), Gates (Ipswich), Smith (Leicester), Harford (Luton), Waddle (Newcastle), Davenport (N. Forest), Jordan (Southampton)
- 15 Rideout (A. Villa)

REPORT REPORT REPORT REPORT REPORT



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Cyrille Regis gets in a header despite the close attentions of two Ipswich defenders.

Picture by John Bassett of the Coventry Evening Telegraph

Coventry City Res 6 Stoke City Res 3

"Stoke fielded an inexperienced side," says Assistant Manager Frank Upton, "But we had a few youngsters in our team and I was pleased with their performance. Because we also had a few very experienced players in the team I always felt we would win quite comfortably and so it proved with goals by Bob Latchford (2), Dave Bennett (2), Andy Spring and Micky Adams. It was pleasing to see the younger lads maintaining their consistency."

Derby County Res 2 Coventry City Res 0

"Conditions were very difficult. It was a bumpy pitch, but to be fair to our lads I thought they played the better football — up to the edge of the penalty area," says Frank. "I thought we should have had two goals at least. Derby fielded an older more experienced side and because it was quite a physical match they came out on top. We were unlucky to go a goal behind from a breakaway, but I blame our lads for lacking discipline at the crucial moment. We conceded another near the end and this has been a common failing in the club and one which we have to work hard to rectify."

Coventry City Res 3 Sheffield Wed Res 1

Gareth Evans and Peter Barnes were praised by Frank after this victory. "Evans is showing a lot of potential and I felt that Peter Barnes worked harder and used the ball well," said Frank. "But generally it was a good team performance."

"Sheffield played their usual 'up and under' style, using their big strong players to harry and chase, but I thought our defence coped with it well and we played some good football at times."

Bob Latchford, Gareth Evans and Jeff Doyle, from a penalty, were the Sky Blues goalscorers.

West Bromwich Albion Res 1 Coventry City Res 0

"Albion were generally older and more experienced than ourselves, but our lads did reasonably well against the likes of Tony Morley, Ken McNaught and David Cross," says Frank Upton. "It was a very good entertaining game and we were unlucky not to score before half-time but in the end we lost to a magnificent goal by Morley after a solo run."

"But we did not make too many mistakes and on this showing I am certain we are developing some good young players."

"I thought Rodger and Sedgley did well and it was good to see Brian Kilcline coming through his comeback match okay."

Midland Intermediate League Leicester City Youth 2 Coventry City Youth 0

The match was ruined by a gale force wind blowing straight down the pitch. Sky Blues had the advantage in the first half but could not put the ball into the net. Leicester got the winning goals when it was their turn to use the gale.

Nottm Forest Youth 2 Coventry City Youth 1

Forest fielded a lot of experienced players but the Sky Blues youngsters played their part in a very good game of football. A goal by Jeff Doyle from outside the penalty area made it 1-1 at half-time but Forest grabbed the winner midway through the second half.

MIDLAND INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE

Aug 25	Mansfield Tn (a) L 1-3 Stratford
Sept 1	Walsall (h) W 5-1 Evans 3, Gethfield, Doyle pen
8	Shrewsbury Tn (a) D 0-0
15	Aston Villa (h) W 3-1 Evans 2, Smith
22	Birmingham (a) D 1-1 Stratford
29	Leicester C. (h) L 1-2 Doyle
Oct 6	Derby Co. (h) L 0-3
13	W.B.A. (a) L 0-1
20	N. Forest (h) L 1-4 Evans
27	Port Vale (a) W 2-1 Evans 2
Nov 3	Stoke C. (h) D 2-2 Evans 2
10	Wolverhampton (a) L 0-1
17	Shrewsbury Tn (h) L 2-5 Evans, Thompson
24	Notts Co. (a) W 2-0 Dobson, Gethfield
Dec 22	Aston Villa (a) L 0-1
Jan 26	W.B.A. (h) D 3-3
Feb 2	Port Vale (h) D 0-0

March 16	Walsall (a) D 3-3 Doyle, Stratford, Keates
23	Mansfield (h) L 1-3 Hathaway
30	Stoke (a) L 2-3 Evans, Keates
April 11	Notts Co. (h) W 4-1 Livingstone 3, Hathaway
13	Derby Co. (a) D 2-2 Evans, Keates
20	Birmingham C. (h) W 5-1 Keates 3, Sedgley, Rodger
25	Wolverhampton (h) L 2-3 Doyle, Keates
May 1	Nottm. Forest (a) L 1-3
11	Leicester C. (a) L 0-2

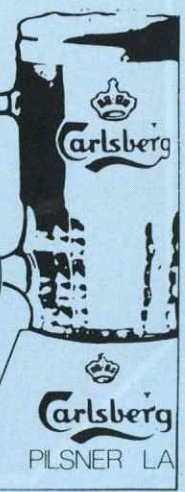
LEAGUE CUP

Dec 1	Stoke C. (a) L 0-4
8	W.B.A. (h) W 3-1 Evans, Shaw, Merriman
15	Walsall (a) D 3-3 Evans, Smith, Merriman
March 9	Shrewsbury T. (a) L 0-1
April 16	Birmingham C. (a) L 1-2 Gethfield
25	Wolverhampton (h) L 2-3 Doyle, Keates

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FRANK UPTON



SOME NOT GOOD ENOUGH — FRANK UPTON

They don't come much blunter than Frank Upton when it comes to assessing professional footballers, and he pulls no punches when he looks back on his, to date, short spell in charge of the reserve team.

"I feel that some of the players are just not good enough for the future of Coventry City Football Club and I am certain that Don Mackay will be sorting the matter out in the close season. You cannot off-load players in mid-season. You have to make the best with what you have and I believe that if we have managed to stay in the First Division of the Central League we shall have not done too badly.

"Since I came in February I think we have improved a little in the matter of players' self-discipline in matches, but there is still a long long way to go to make sure the young players are learning their craft thoroughly."

"Once this season is over I am looking forward to developing my ideas. It makes a great difference being able to start a season from day one after a thorough pre-season build up. We shall have our plans laid out and will be able to lay our foundations for the new season.

"There is no guarantee in football. Everyone has to work at it, and then hope they get a lot of luck.

"The game is all about good habits, self-discipline and concentration — and repetition. I am not saying something dramatically new. It was always that way and it always will be. All this applied to me as a young player. Running, jumping, heading, passing, dribbling have not changed, but nowadays it is done more quickly. I learned from people like Paddy Ryan, Tommy Powell, Jesse Pye and Alf Wood. Like in any craft or trade, young people learn by listening to and watching the master craftsman.

"But coaches and managers can only advise. If the young players don't want to do it then they will find themselves out of this club."

"I would like to think that the Coventry people who came to watch our reserve games saw some good football and long may that continue."

FRANK UPTON

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CENTRAL LEAGUE

DATE	OPPONENTS
1984	
Tue. Aug. 28	Manchester United L 0-3
Wed. Sep. 5	NOTTS COUNTY D 1-1 Evans
Tue. Sep. 11	Manchester City L 2-3 Evans, Adams
Tue. Sep. 18	ASTON VILLA D 1-1 Evans
Wed. Oct. 3	EVERTON L 0-3
Thurs Oct. 11	SHEFFIELD UNITED W 2-0 Kilcline, Thompson
Wed. Oct. 17	Barnsley W 2-0 Withey, Platnauer
Wed. Oct. 24	Huddersfield Town D 1-1 Withey
Tue. Oct. 30	NEWCASTLE UNITED L 1-2 Singleton
Tue. Nov. 13	BRADFORD CITY L 2-4 Singleton 2
Wed. Nov. 28	Nottingham Forest L 0-3
Wed. Dec. 5	WEST BROMWICH ALBION L 1-2 Platnauer
Thurs Dec. 13	Stoke City L 2-3 Thompson, Withey
Tue. Dec. 18	LIVERPOOL W 1-0 Evans
1985	
Tue Jan. 2	Blackburn L 0-4
Tue. Jan. 22	MANCHESTER CITY W 2-0 Latchford 2
Wed. Jan. 30	Aston Villa W 3-0 Adams 2, Latchford
Tue. Feb. 5	Everton L 1-2 Keates
Thurs Feb. 21	Bradford City L 0-1
Tue. Feb. 26	DERBY COUNTY L 1-2 Bowman
Wed. Mar. 6	Newcastle United W 3-1 Latchford, Bennett, Barnes
Thurs. Mar. 14	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN W 1-0 George
Wed Mar. 20	BARNSELY L 1-2 Evans
Wed. Mar. 27	Sheffield United D 0-0
Tue. Apr. 2	Sheffield Wednesday L 1-3 Evans
Wed. Apr. 10	NOTTINGHAM FOREST Postponed
Mon Apr. 15	Notts Co. W 2-1 Doyle, Bayly
Mon Apr. 22	Liverpool L 0-3
Wed Apr. 24	MANCHESTER UNITED L 1-3 Doyle
Tue. Apr. 30	STOKE CITY W 6-3 Bennett 2, Latchford 2, Adams, Spring
Thurs May 2	Derby Co. L 0-2
Tue May 7	Sheffield Wed. W 3-1 Latchford, Evans, Doyle pen.
Thur May 9	West Bromwich Albion L 0-1
Thur May 16	BLACKBURN L 2-3 Latchford, Doyle

CENTRAL LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man. Utd.	33	22	2	9	75	31	68
Liverpool	31	20	7	4	61	32	67
Aston Villa	33	19	6	8	66	32	63
Nottingham F.	32	15	10	7	65	48	55
Blackburn R.	31	15	7	9	52	39	52
Sheffield W.	28	15	4	9	56	41	49
Manchester C.	31	15	4	12	49	50	49
Everton	30	15	2	13	70	55	47
Derby Co.	28	12	5	11	39	42	41
Huddersfield T.	32	11	7	14	52	63	40
Sheffield U.	31	12	3	16	45	51	39
Barnsley	29	8	7	14	34	45	31
Coventry C.	29	9	4	16	38	51	31
Newcastle U.	30	8	7	15	40	59	31
W.B.A.	31	9	4	18	28	47	31
Stoke C.	31	8	6	17	43	65	30
Bradford C.	31	9	3	19	42	67	30
Notts Co.	33	8	6	19	38	75	30

CENTRAL LEAGUE APPEARANCES

	Apps	Gls		Apps	Gls
Suckling	32	—	Gould	1	—
Hormantschuk	14(1)	—	Rock	(1)	—
Hillson	7	—	Dobson	2	—
Stratford	10(3)	—	McCarthy	2	—
Spring	23	1	Murphy	(1)	—
McGrath	12	—	Pearce	2	—
Singleton	13	3	Bennett	9	3
Evans	20	7	Sedgley	9(3)	—
Withey	10	3	Barnes	10	1
Doyle	20(2)	4	Smith	3(1)	—
Thompson	17	1	Jackson	2	—
Gethfield	7(1)	—	Bowman	16	1
Butterworth	6	—	Trickett	1	—
Merriman	4(1)	—	George	8(1)	1
Adams	6	4	Keates	1(2)	1
McDonald	5	—	Preece	4(1)	—
Hibbitt	5	—	Hathaway	3(1)	—
Stephens	2	—	Marlowe	1	—
McGrory	13	—	Peake	4	—
Kilcline	6	1	Gynn	2	—
Baker	1	—	Rodger	11(1)	—
Jol	5	—	Bayly	5	1
Latchford	17	8	Creedon	1	—
Platnauer	4	2	Williams	2	—
McGranaghan	3(1)	—	Fearn	1	—

(Appearances as substitute in brackets)

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Coventry City 'B' Team

Suburban League Div 2

is (h) L 1-2 (Mahan)	Newdigate (h) L 0-4
(a) D 2-2 (Livingstone, Bodkin)	(a) L 1-3 (Cassidy)
co (h) D 0-0	Lanchester Poly (h) L 3-4 (Bodkin 2, Melia)
(a) L 1-2 (Stubbington)	(a) W 1-0 (o.g.)
undon Court (h) W 3-1 (Bodkin 2, Murphy)	Wickmans (h) W 6-0 (McGrory, Cassidy, Reay, Bodkin, Stubbington 2)
(a) L 2-3 (Shaw, Stubbington)	(a) W 4-2 (Cassidy, Bodkin (2 pens), Shaw)
bbinton (h) D 0-0	M.S.A. (h) L 0-1
(a) W 3-1 (Melia, Gould pen., Bodkin)	(a) W 3-0 (Bodkin, Shaw, Shepherd)
nley Phildown (h) W 3-2 (McCann, Cassidy, McGrory)	W.C.C. (h) W 3-0 (McGrory, McCann, Marlow)
(a) W 5-1 (Keates 2, McCann, Bodkin, ibbington)	(a) W 6-1 (Marlow, Cassidy, Bodkin 2, Reay, McCann)
rcia (h) W 3-0 (Bodkin pen., Shepherd, Shaw)	Scorers: Bodkin 14, Stubbington 8, Shaw 6, Shepherd 3, Reay 3, McCann 4, Marlow 4, McGrory 3, Cassidy 5, Keates 3, Mahan 2, Melia 3.
(a) W 5-1 (Mahan, Melia, Keates, Shaw, ibbington)	
ly Lane (h) W 2-0 (Shepherd, Shaw)	
(a) W 5-1 (Marlow 2, Stubbington 2, Reay)	

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IT'S ABOUT ATTITUDE

Wanted! A school leaver with the right attitude and determination to make it to the top in professional football. There could be a vacancy at Coventry City Football Club for you.

Bert Edwards, Sky Blues' Youth Manager says that often the one factor, the major quality which pushes young footballers beyond their contemporaries, is that magic ingredient ATTITUDE.

Says Bert: "The attitude of young players nowadays is my biggest problem as a youth coach. I have noticed a dramatic change even in the last five years from the time when Gary Bannister, Mark Hateley, Andy Blair, Paul Dyson and Garry Thompson were here. There is an easy-come, easy-go outlook among youngsters these days. Obviously it is not just footballers I am talking about but most youngsters in any walk of life.

"I can only speak of footballers because that is my field. But there is a reluctance these days for young players to get down to hard work which is what soccer is all about.

"Among boys of 12 and 13 there is as much skill as there was in their counterparts of 10 to 15 years ago. The one difference is attitude. It astonishes me. Professional football is a highly competitive business but the rewards can be great yet there is this lackadaisical approach to what could be their future career among young players."

Bert travels hundreds of miles a year watching and assessing the best youngsters, but after noting their basic skills and abilities always he then applies the final yardstick to their attitude.

At the moment he has signed only a handful of apprentice professionals for the next season and he says: "If there is a young school leaver locally with all the right credentials there is still a chance of being invited to join the club."

In 1986 the authorities have decided there will be no apprentice professional footballers as such. They will be termed 'trainees' and all will serve two years.

Bert is all in favour of the new plan. "Often boys are late developers and others take six months to get accustomed to the routine of a football club and living away from home and so on. Under the present scheme we are having to assess many boys within 18 months and that does not give them long enough to show their true potential."

Bert is also very keen on youngsters learning their craft under the 'on-field' gaze of a senior professional player who can correct their faults as the game is in progress. "From the touchline you can see the errors but often by half-time or the end of the game it is too late to do anything about it. I would like to see a senior pro out there playing matches alongside the boys. They would learn the right and wrong way instantly because the senior player would be right on the spot to tell them."

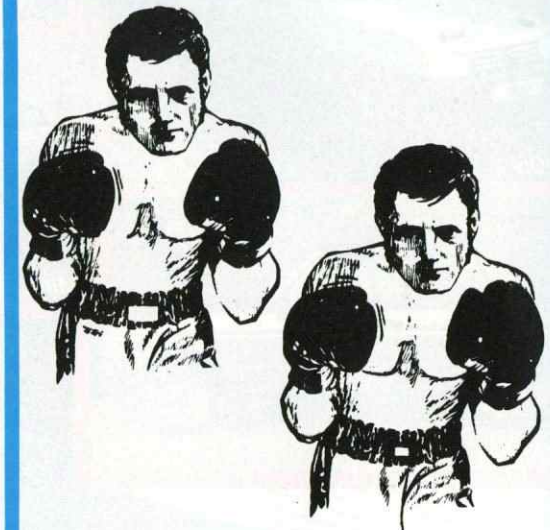
The highlight of the season for the Youth team was to reach the quarter-finals of the F.A. Youth Cup, although Bert was disappointed with the 2-0 defeat at Newcastle Utd. Ironically no other Coventry City youth team had gone so far in the competition since the 1968-69 group reached the Cup Final against Spurs. Willie Carr and Dennis Mortimer player in that match against Graeme Souness and Steve Perryman. You could not think of a better quartet with the right attitude.

Carling



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BRAINTEASERS



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Find six differences between the two pictures and you have a chance of winning a football autographed by the Sky Blue players. Send in your solution to Coventry City F.C. as soon as possible. The first correct entry drawn from the hat wins the football.

MYSTERY MAN

Guess the identity of the mystery man described below and send your answer along with your name and address to C.C.F.C., King Richard Street, Coventry. The first correct solution drawn from the hat will receive two stand tickets for the next home game.

He is married to the cousin of a Sky Blues player. Both men are playing today.

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