

Official Programme
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LUTON TOWN



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Canon League Division One
LUTON TOWN v. SHEFFIELD WED.
Saturday, March 1st, 1986
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

ACTION REPLAY

COVER STORY



Big match action: Town fans are hoping to see the team maintain its good form today.

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Newell's nudge: Town striker Mike Newell is pictured forcing the ball home for our equaliser at Loftus Road last week. Also snapped by Gareth Owen are two anxious moments in the Rangers goalmouth as the Town pressed for a winner.

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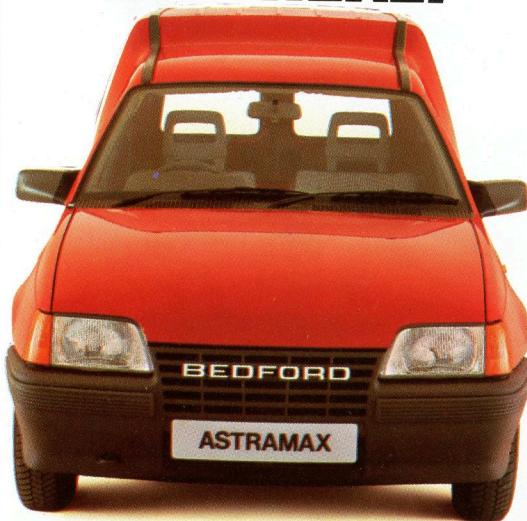


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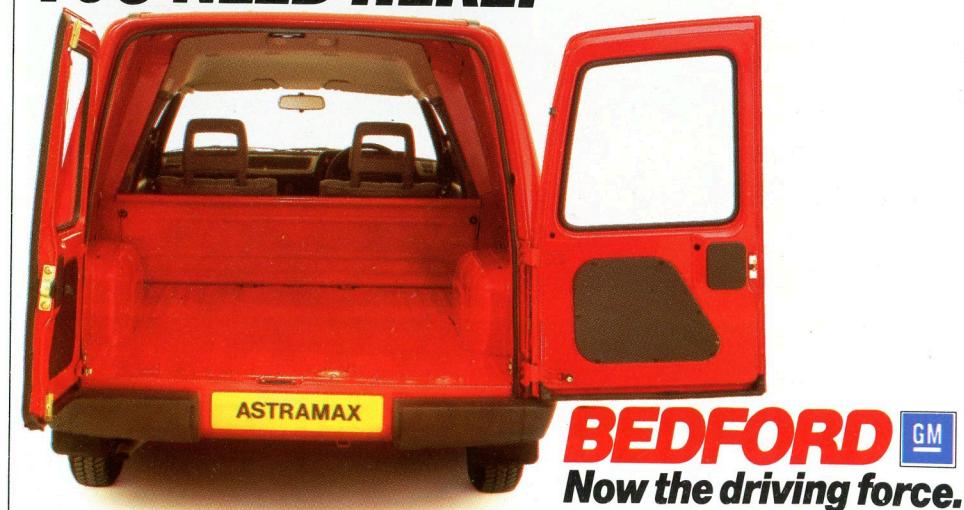
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LUTON TOWN

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100 Years On

Welcome Sheffield Wednesday and Howard Wilkinson. They are a great club with good support and sound ambition. They have just agreed a contract for a completely new covered end which will make their Hillsborough Stadium unrivalled in the North.

Nice to be back home again after three consecutive away games. Not that we have been suffering too much away—we were slightly fortunate to come away from Southampton with three points, having been a little unlucky to concede to Arsenal with a penalty and a free-kick the week previous. Last Saturday we endured the gaze of the television cameras and the press, as we shared a 1-1 draw at QPR. Quite remarkable how the experts stared at every kick, every bounce, every twist and every turn.

All the good gentlemen of the press, the club chairmen and any doubting managers have to do, is put on the kit and the footwear and try it out. Once they have experienced the artificial, they might wonder what they are fussing so much about. Still it makes good copy when there is no football to report.

Outstanding Stein

Brian Stein has been outstanding for Luton this season. Only Bobby Robson was not sure, although Brian plays in a unique position. So it is sad for him to have been put out of the game by a reckless challenge. Brian has strength and character and we wish him well as he works hard on his recovery from his operation. Mick Harford has proved four weeks after recovery that it can be done.

Welcome to Bob Bolder from Sunderland. A little loan deal which will keep me on my

toes for a month. Andy Dibble will play in their first team. Good luck Garry Parker (Hull City £72,000) who follows a long line of players (Small, Carr, Heale, Goodyear, Bunn, Turner) sold after progressing through the youth ranks but falling short of the very top standard. Hull City have gained a clever passer whom we wish well.

After further trials last week, three boys have received invitations to join our staff. Jason Rees, a forward from Merthyr, Paul Gray, a centre-forward, from Bangor, N. Ireland, and Darren McLean, a midfielder from Newcastle. The future of our club is in the quality of the schoolboys and the coaching they receive.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Pleat'.

David Pleat

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GirlTalk

WINTER FASHIONS

WELL—it's winter and, as usual, everyone is asking: "What's the New Look?"

I am sure that there will be quite a few different trends this year which reflect the fast-moving pace of the 80s. At one time you could say "the fifties"—circular skirts, tight sweaters, stilettos and beehive hair-do's. "The sixties"—mini-skirts and short hair. "The seventies"—long hair, flared trousers and platform shoes. But "The eighties"?

If you think about it, a lot of the trends of the Eighties have been influenced by the past. For instance, there is a strong sixties influence at the moment—sleek lines, polo neck jumpers, ski pants, tasselled-jackets. Also, if you look in Vogue, you can see the tapestry jackets and riding habits of the Victorian era!

Bold colours

These are not direct copies, however, but a modern interpretation of the styles of the past, using modern textiles and colours. But at this time of the year, as you know, our most important fashion feature is warmth. There are a lot of new knits about this winter with bold dashing colours and pattern combinations.

Knitwear from head to toe—with ski pants, leggings, jumpers, cardigans and knitted jackets finished off with a snood and gloves. Just the thing for those cold days on the terraces!

Lurex is "in" for the evening with gold and silver predominating in the shops. To complement your outfit wear junk jewellery. The chunky gold bracelets, necklaces and earrings around at the moment are inexpensive and can make plain dresses seem exciting!

Cathy Lindsay

Anyone wanting to contribute to Girl Talk please write to:

The Editor,
Luton Town FC,
Kenilworth
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Write to: The Editor,
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Local group

Dear Sir,
On reading the programme for Saturday, February 15th, I notice that in printing my letter on page 8, you have shown the address as "London". You will see from this letter that it should have been Luton, and as I was expressing thanks for help given to a local group I should be pleased if you could correct this in a future programme.

If it is possible you could perhaps mention that if anyone wishes to contact us for help and support they can ring me on Luton 27833.

Mrs. J. L. White,
Chairman, Parkinson
Disease
Society, Luton.

Steve Foster— a smashing bloke!

Dear Sir,
I am writing on behalf of the committee of Harpenden Town FC to say thank you very much for allowing Steve Foster to attend our Sponsors Evening on Monday, February 17th.

What a smashing bloke! He was a credit to you, your club and himself. I hope that does not sound condescending. It is easier to say than write. But we all enjoyed his company and he stayed with us, not dashing away after the formalities were over. Thanks again for helping us to have a "Good night."

B. E. Gatty, Secretary,
Harpenden Town FC.

Collector

Dear Sir,
Thank you for testing me on my collectors badge. I enjoyed my visit and I know my Dad did as well.
I hope Luton beat Arsenal.
Kevin Wilson,
Harpden

Junior Superstars

Dear Sir,
I would be grateful if you could convey my sincere thanks to Mitchell Thomas for coming along on Wednesday, February 12th to present the

Supporters United

Dear Luton Town FC,
Following the January committee meeting of Supporters United, all the committee and Supporters United members would like to express their appreciation of your club's role in the symbolic handshake, between representative fans, at the New Year's Day matches.

This seasonal goodwill gesture united fans nationwide, preceding the matches, at a majority of the League venues. I hope that this atmosphere of the unity of genuine fans, in friendly rivalry, will prosper during 1986 and improve the image of soccer as a spectator sport.

Thank you for your vital assistance.
Judith A. Sweeting,
Assistant Secretary of
Supporters United.

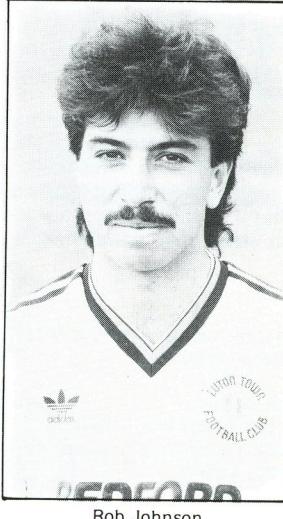
trophies for the above tournament. The presence of a local celebrity was, I feel, a fitting climax to a splendid day.

Once again, thank you for arranging this and may I wish you all the very best for the rest of the season.
C. Tomkowski,
Recreation Assistant, Luton
Regional Sports Centre.

Thank you

Dear Sir,
This is just to thank Mr. Pleat and Rob Johnson for helping out with the Bedfordshire Times photograph. It went very well and will appear in the Bedfordshire Times.

I look forward to working on further projects with you in the future in the meantime could you please pass my thanks on to Rob Johnson.
Charlotte Rowe,
Edelman PR Consultants,
London

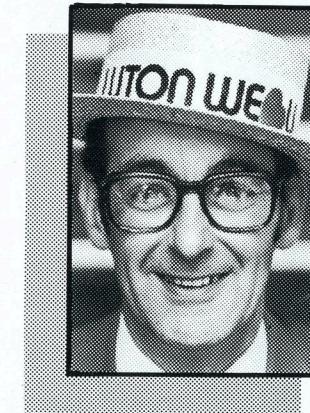


Rob Johnson

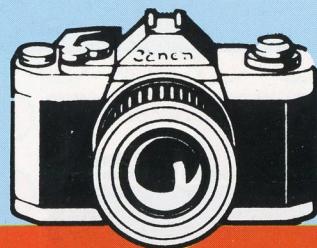
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Luton News



**LUTON TOWN COVERAGE
BY BRIAN SWAIN
THURSDAYS 14p**



First Team ACTION

Luton Town 2 Arsenal 2

Our FA Cup fifth round clash with Arsenal here a fortnight ago produced a replica of the result from our meeting last August when the goals and the points were divided at the end of a scintillating match.

With Rob Johnson brought in to replace Tim Breacker, discomfited by a toe nail, and Arsenal recalling Steve Williams and Tony Woodcock after lengthy absences, the teams were changed from those in action two weeks earlier at Highbury.

Cracking pace

But the match began at an equally cracking pace, our deservedly-recognised England midfielder Ricky Hill scoring the opening goal when he resisted Williams' challenge to control Mitchell Thomas' cross and score from 15 yards.

Arsenal did not wilt, but tore back to equalise through Ian Allinson's left-foot drive off a post and take the lead with David Rocastle's close-range header.

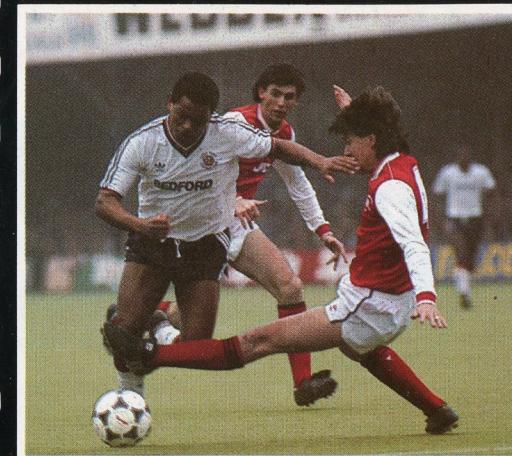
Then Mick Harford, later to be cautioned for a challenge on John Lukic, equalised for the Town from another Thomas cross, beating Sansom to steer a low shot into the net. His strength and skill were highlights of the remaining hour as Arsenal were content to avoid further danger—and the Town were unlucky not to snatch a winner.

Luton: Sealey, Johnson, Thomas, Nicholas, Foster, Donaghy, Hill, Stein (sub Parker), Harford, North, Preece.

Arsenal: Lukic, Anderson, Sansom, Williams, O'Leary, Keown, Allinson, Rocastle, Nicholas (sub Mariner), Woodcock, Rix.

Ref: A. Gunn (Burgess Hill).

Goals: Hill (8 mins), Allinson (16), Rocastle (27), Harford (39).



ACTION REPLAY from Loftus Road



Rob Johnson, who was 24 last Saturday, and David Preece are picture in action at QPR where Mike Newell's goal won us a deserved point last week.

(Photos: Gareth Owen)



GARY TAYLOR

ViEWS

from the fans

These days football is rarely out of the headlines, unfortunately for the wrong reasons, with violence on the terrace giving the game a bad name and persuading people that Saturdays are safer spent watching the "box". As a lifelong Luton Town supporter, recent events have strained the "pull" of the game on a Saturday afternoon, with the Millwall fiasco being shown on television every time football trouble occurs.

"However, despite the violence, our family still kept going to the matches. At a recent home game, we were given an open letter from the manager, requesting that the fans cut out bad language and tried to create a better family atmosphere. At the bottom of the letter was a tear-off section for our names to be put in a hat and drawn out to have lunch with the directors. As one of thousands that must have replied, we thought no more about it until the letter dropped through the letter box with a formal invitation for Mark and Paul to have lunch with the chairman, directors and players.

Charming lady

"On the big day, we arrived to be greeted by a charming lady, Wendy Greaves, who looks after the marketing of the club. We were then taken upstairs to the directors' suite to be met by the chairman, David Evans and fellow directors, John Smith, Terry Bailey and manager, David Pleat, together with players, Ricky Hill and Marc North. A visit to the new artificial pitch and a few shots at the Oak Road goal followed, then the club

photographer took a group photograph.

"Lunch followed with the directors and players, who chatted throughout, asking how we thought the club could improve and making us feel at home. After lunch, a grand tour of the ground, with an explanation of how next season's visiting supporters will be handled and a new family enclosure will be created. Next, into the dressing rooms, with the "big bath", treatment room, which looked like a hospital, the boot room and kit room, even the peg that Steve Foster hangs his headband on!

Upholstered seats

"Up then to the main stand into the director's box, with its upholstered seats and carpet flooring and the television position where John Motson give his commentary. The afternoon ended with the reserves practising out on the pitch and the staff getting ready for the next game.

"The misty afternoon went unnoticed, as they were driven home, with their minds full of all that had happened. This is the stuff that memories are made of and I'm sure the events of the day will stay with Mark and Paul for the rest of their lives.

"It says a lot for the Luton Club that they take the time and trouble to get close to the fans in this way and certainly plan to create the environment for family involvement in the Club.

"Thank you to Luton Town Football Club for giving my sons a day that even "Jim" could not have "fixed" better!"



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Club News

LANDLADIES WANTED

Landladies are urgently wanted by the club for schoolboy players during holiday periods. Anyone who can help in providing much-needed assistance and accommodation is invited to contact Ron Howard at the club offices (Telephone Luton 411622). Thank-you for your assistance.

RICKY HILL TESTIMONIAL

Arrangements are being made for a match between Ricky Hill's Luton XI and Bobby Robson's England XI as a testimonial event for our popular midfield player Ricky Hill. The match will take place at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday, April 8th, 1986.

TICKET OFFICE NEWS

On Monday, March 3rd, we are away to Arsenal in the replay of our fifth round FA Cup-tie, kick-off 7.30 pm. Our postponed home fixture against Liverpool has been provisionally re-arranged for Wednesday, March 16th.

At the present time, we do not know if we shall be playing at home in the sixth round on Saturday, March 8th, or playing away to Manchester United in the League. The possibility of draws in the cup fixtures or further postponements could lead to a wide variety of permutations of the fixture list.

On Saturday, March 15th, we will be at home in the Canon League Division One against Oxford United, kick-off 3.00 pm. For information about tickets and all other match day information please telephone Luton 30748 (daytime) or Luton 33010 (24-hr service).

Forthcoming matches at Kenilworth Road



Canon League Division One
Saturday, March 15th, 1986
Luton Town v. Oxford United
Kick-off 3.00 pm

Saturday, March 22nd, 1986
Luton Town v. Everton
Kick-off 3.00 pm

Travel Club

Our next away fixture is against Arsenal on Monday. The coach will be leaving the Maple Road car park at 4.45 pm and the cost is £3.50. If you are interested in travelling to Arsenal could you please book after today's match.

The following Saturday we are due to play Manchester United.

MATCH REFEREE



David Axcell
(Southend)

A printer, David is married with one son. He has progressed to the Football League list through the South East Counties League and the Football Combination. He enjoys badminton, cross country running and travel. He has refereed many local cup finals and was senior linesman for a UEFA Cup second round match in 1982-83.

Match Ball sponsors



We welcome this afternoon's ball sponsors Princess Packaging and wish them an enjoyable day's entertainment with a first-class match and satisfying result.



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MIKE
NEWELL

TOP HATTER



Born in Liverpool on January 27th, 1965, Mike Newell began his career as a youth and "A" team player at Anfield before joining Crewe Alexandra for a month's loan in which he made three first team appearances. His style impressed Wigan Athletic who signed him in September 1983 and he remained with Wigan until January this year when he was transferred to the Town. A quick, brave and skilful striker Mike was Wigan's leading scorer and he has already added more goals to his tally since arriving at Kenilworth Road.

STUDENT OF INJURIES

In his short career in the game so far our new signing Mike Newell has already developed a considerable understanding of the vital work played by club physios and people capable of treating injuries.

That is why he intends to devote part of his close-season break to studying the treatment of injuries on a course run by the Football Association at Lilleshall.

"It will be very useful course for the future," says Mike. "And I will end up with a certificate at the end of it. I hope to find it useful if I stay in the game in the future."

Boyhood heroes

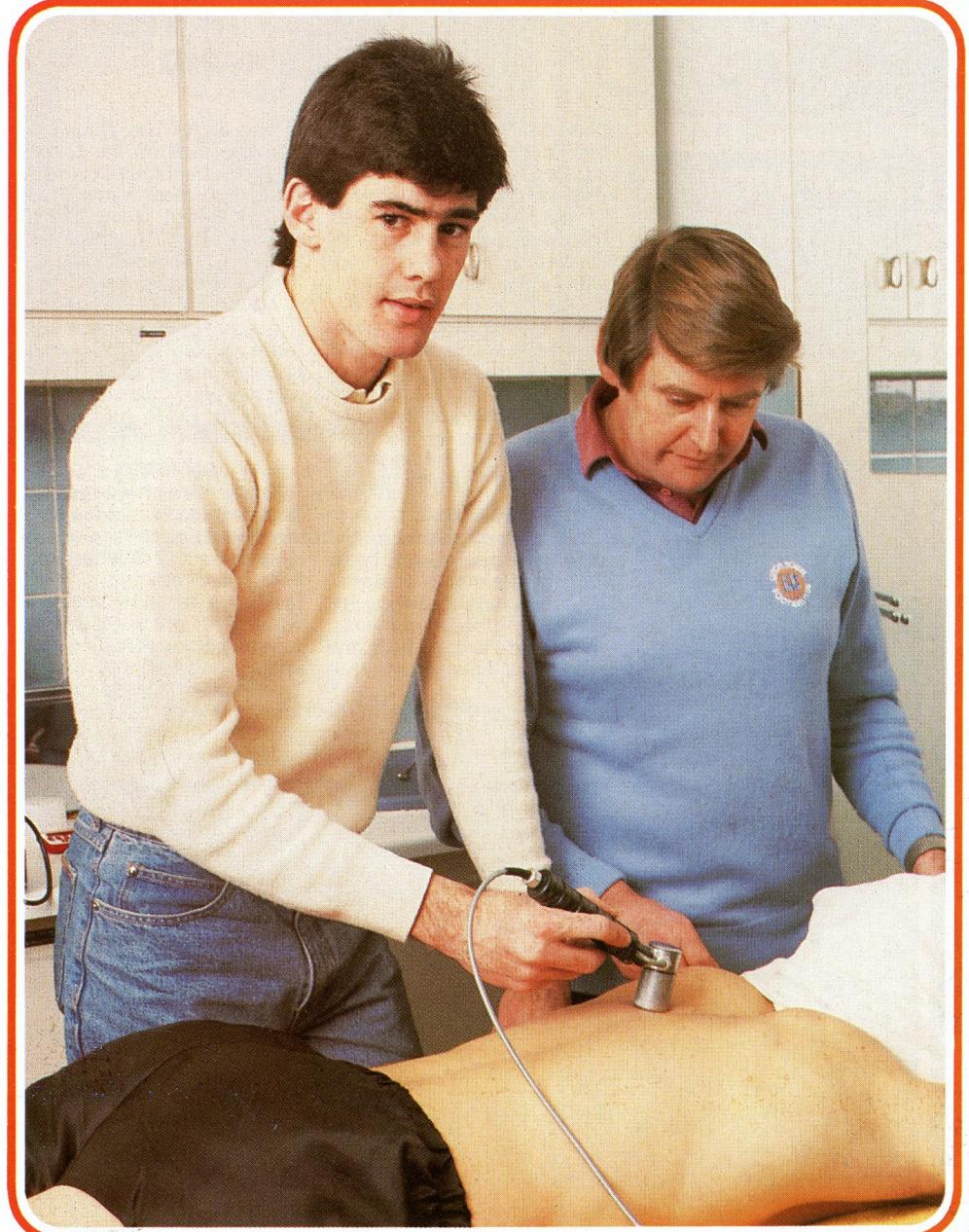
Mike is looking forward to his first chance of playing against his own favourite team—Liverpool. As a boy he supported the Reds and his favourite players were Kevin Keegan, Emlyn Hughes and John Toshack. He is hoping his friends and family will be travelling down to see the match.

"It has gone very well since I moved," said Mike. "I was lucky to go straight in for Mick Harford and I was very pleased to come back after the Cup-ties. It always takes time of course."

Mike has already bought a house in the Northampton direction and now looks forward to a long and successful career with the Hatters.

In his five appearances to date, he has already scored three goals and won admiration among regular fans.

Last week's equaliser at QPR was followed by chants of "Psycho"—a reference to his former nickname given because of his likeness to actor Anthony Perkins.





Bill Tomlins, Commercial Director

AROUND

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Miracle man: Rob Johnson, survivor of two cruciate ligament operations, was 24 last Saturday. He celebrated by playing his part in our fine draw.



Exciting times ahead: our "youth" squad posed for Gareth Owen recently as part of their preparations for end-of-season tournaments at Feyenoord and Blauw Wit in May.

the TOWN

MAGIC CARPET IN VERY HEAVY DEMAND

by Bill Tomlins

Our synthetic pitch has been a big talking point recently—and deservedly so! Apart from providing a playing surface at a time when few other clubs can make their grass grounds playable, it has been also very heavily booked and provided considerable revenue.

Up to last Monday morning—when we played Watford in a youth team match with an 11 am kick-off (a satisfying win too!)—the pitch had been used 33 times by the first team and the reserves and a further 119 times by outside clubs.

BOOKINGS

It is a remarkable total. And already we have take 62 bookings for the month of April.

Unfortunately, owing to ground improvements work, we are not able to keep the pitch available from May onwards.

Later in the year we have plans for a country music festival and other events—and

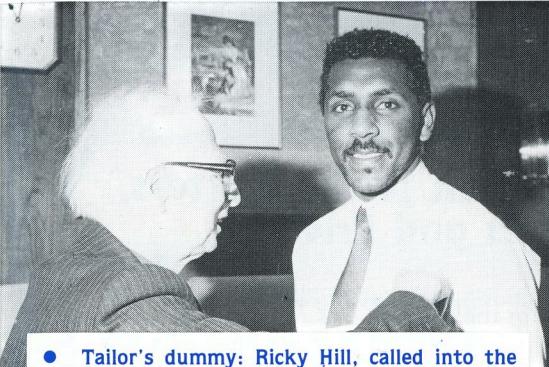
do not forget the ground is now the base of the Luton Fliers and Dunstable Cowboys American football teams. Also, on March 30th, it will host a ladies' football international between England and Italy.

Anyone lucky to have tuned in will have finally caught us on the Money Programme last Sunday when the BBC broadcast their film about the club's commercial operation. I believe it made interesting viewing . . . at long last.

SPONSORS

Finally, a warm welcome to this afternoon's match sponsors Broad Street Print whose support for the club has long been appreciated. Tony Lambert's Hemel Hempstead-based firm are suppliers of continuous and computer stationery and business forms. Today's executive sponsors are Hertfordshire BTR. This will be their fifth sponsorship and we wish them an enjoyable day.

ALL SET FOR HOLLAND IN MAY



● Tailor's dummy: Ricky Hill, called into the England squad for their 2-1 win in Israel, joined the party in time to be measured up for his "international" suit. Well done, Ricky.

● On my shoulder: Steve Foster gave Naomi North, our mascot for the Arsenal match two weeks ago, a lift to the game. Naomi did not seem to mind a bit—and Steve certainly seemed to enjoy the job!

(Photos: Gareth Owen)



CAPTAIN'S DIARY

with
Steve Foster

A BUSY TIME OF YEAR

Hello everyone and welcome to today's match. We are at the busy stage of the season now with matches coming thick and fast. I think we all enjoy that. It is better to be kept active than be left out.

Welcome Bob

Welcome to Bob Bolder who recently came to us on loan from Sunderland in a deal which saw Andy Dibble going the other way on a similar loan basis. I hope Bob enjoys himself at Kenilworth Road. We are going to miss Andy, who was a character in his own right, in the dressing room while he is away. He had a knack of being late for everything! Good luck too goes with Garry Parker who has joined Brian Horton's Hull City.

Congratulations again to Ricky Hill on being called in to the England squad again at short notice last weekend after our draw at QPR. It is nice to see his consistency being recognised and great for him, of course, in his testimonial year.

Unlucky Brian

Ricky's good fortune cannot make up for Brian Stein's bad luck though. Unlucky Brian has been having a great season and his knee ligament injury has come at just the wrong time. We all wish him a very speedy recovery from his operation.



Junior Hatters



Sponsored by:
THE HERALD NEWSPAPER
and CHILTERN RADIO



Good afternoon Junior Hatters, Parents and Friends

I hope that you all enjoyed the game against Arsenal when we played them in the fifth round of the FA Cup. It was a pity that we only managed a draw as we have to go to Highbury on Monday next for the replay. When we were there four weeks ago we lost 2-1 so we will have to pull our socks up to see that it won't happen again.

If we do win, we will be at home to Tottenham or Everton in the next round. As you know, Everton beat us in the semi-final last year at Aston Villa. Still, let's put all that behind us and keep up the good run that we have in the league

to see if we can maintain our position in the top six.

Don't forget that we have only lost one league game at home this season which was against Coventry, so let's see if we can make this a new record for us at Luton. There are only seven more league games left for us at home. Enjoy the game.

Peter Nicholas

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Matthew White



Gary Dowkins

MASCOT



Jonathan Butler

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Reserves ACTION REPLAY



STRONG OXFORD TEACH A LESSON

Luton Town Reserves 1 Oxford United 2

One glance at the Oxford team told the story of this game... United fielded their First Division team and although our lads rose to the challenge they could not quite match them.

Missed chances cost us dear and we were two goals down at the interval, but fought back afterwards with Warren Spink pulling a goal back in the 49th minute after a good move.

For the rest, we gave our best but could not break through again. "A good insight into the standards of the First Division," said coach John Moore. Luton: Bolder, Berry, Grimes, McEvoy, North S.,

WHICH WAY?



STRAIGHT AHEAD



● Emeka Nwajiobi: Back in action, Emeka is pictured against Bristol Rovers when we drew 2-2 last month.

Oldfield, Tuite, Nwajiobi, Cobb, Daniel, Spink. Sub: Tighe.

Oxford Utd: Judge, Langan, Trewick, Phillips, Briggs, Shotton, Houghton, Aldridge, Charles, Thomas, Rhoades-Brown.

● Ashley Grimes: Our Eire international shows his skills with Emeka in support.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION						
	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts
1 Arsenal	26	19	5	2	90	20 43
2 Chelsea	27	19	2	6	83	22 40
3 West Ham	25	18	3	4	88	43 39
4 Watford	25	15	4	6	62	31 34
5 Luton	28	14	6	8	38	35 34
6 Norwich	28	14	5	9	51	29 33
7 Tottenham	25	15	2	8	58	37 32
8 QPR	25	14	3	8	56	37 31
9 Ipswich	26	13	4	9	46	39 30
10 Oxford Utd	28	12	5	11	60	45 29
11 Millwall	23	11	2	10	38	44 24
12 Bristol R.	22	10	3	9	42	46 22
13 C. Palace	26	9	5	12	41	60 23
14 Birmingham	26	9	4	13	35	59 22
15 Southampton	24	7	7	10	43	56 21
16 Charlton	24	9	2	13	44	54 20
17 Brighton	27	6	4	17	24	56 16
18 Portsmouth	24	6	4	14	27	39 14
19 Fulham	24	6	2	16	33	63 14
20 Reading	23	5	4	14	26	66 14
21 Swindon	23	3	4	16	37	74 10
22 Swansea	22	2	0	20	16	82 4

(up to and including Mon. Feb 18th)

APPEARANCES and GOALSCORERS

App	Gls	App	Gls
Sealey	5	Tuite	8
Johnson R.	20	Berry	1
Harvey	9	Scott	6
McEvoy	20	Farrell	2
Elliott	12	Black	10
Johnson M.	11	Lewis	2
Cobb	21	Daniel	17
Stein M.	21	Parker	20
Oldfield	24	Ferguson	1
Grimes	22	North S.	16
Dibble	20	Farrell	1
Tighe	1	King	4
North M.	15	Newell	2
Preece	1	Scott	2

FOOTBALL COMBINATION FIXTURES

A	Oct	2	Oxford United	1-1
A	Oct	9	Brighton & H.A	2-0
H	Oct	12	Queens Park Rangers	1-1
H	Oct	15	Ipswich Town	2-3
A	Oct	19	Southampton	2-2
H	Oct	26	Swansea Town	2-0
A	Oct	31	Swindon Town	5-1
H	Nov	6	Norwich City	1-0
H	Nov	9	Crystal Palace	0-2
A	Nov	16	Watford	4-1
H	Nov	23	Fulham	1-0
A	Nov	26	Chelsea	0-2
A	Nov	30	Tottenham Hotspur	0-3
H	Dec	14	Arsenal	0-2
A	Dec	21	Bristol Rovers	1-1
A	Jan	4	Arsenal	0-3
H	Jan	11	Charlton Athletic	1-0
A	Jan	21	Ipswich Town	2-1
H	Jan	25	West Ham	3-0
H	Feb	1	Bristol Rovers	2-2
A	Feb	15	Swansea	0-1
H	Feb	22	Oxford	1-2

Youth Team

Youth team
kept active with
5-a-side tournament



● Nine for five: our youngsters are caught smiling for the camera recently before taking part in a 5-a-side tournament. The nine players formed the Town squad for the day.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts
1 Southampton	20	15	3	2	70	28 33
2 Swindon Town	19	12	3	4	50	28 27
3 Bournemouth	19	10	4	5	44	35 24
4 Wimbledon	17	11	1	5	47	18 23
5 Luton Town	21	9	5	7	64	50 23
6 Bristol R.	18	6	5	7	36	37 17
7 Brentford	18	5	7	6	39	43 17
8 Oxford Utd.	18	6	5	7	32	37 17
9 Colchester	17	6	4	7	30	36 16
10 Reading	21	6	3	12	29	58 15
11 Crystal P.	19	5	4	10	46	57 14
12 Brighton	20	6	2	12	20	39 14
13 Tottenham	20	5	3	12	34	53 13
14 Southend	17	4	3	10	18	40 11

Up to and including Feb. 24th

Introducing Sheffield Wed.



Sheffield Wednesday arrive at Kenilworth Road this afternoon fresh from a tough 1-1 draw in the fifth round of the FA Cup at the Baseball Ground, Derby, on Wednesday night. In that much-postponed fixture, they owed their goal to an own goal from their hosts' Trevor Christie.

Last Saturday, they were beaten at home by Tottenham Hotspur—a result they hardly needed in their efforts to keep in touch with the leading pack in the First Division.

Wednesday have spent most of the season hovering within reach of the leaders with their tremendous home record making up for any lapses on their travels.

They have a reputation for playing a physical long-ball game, but this view gives insufficient credit to their skill and fitness.

Players likely to be on duty today:
Andy Blair—Midfield. Joined Wednesday from Aston Villa for £50,000 on June 28th 1984. Earned Scottish under-21 caps while playing for Coventry. Played 41 League games last

season scoring three goals.

Lee Chapman—Striker. Joined from Sunderland July 1984 for £100,000. Arsenal paid half a million to Stoke for this prolific goalscorer. Played 40 League games, scoring 15 goals last season.

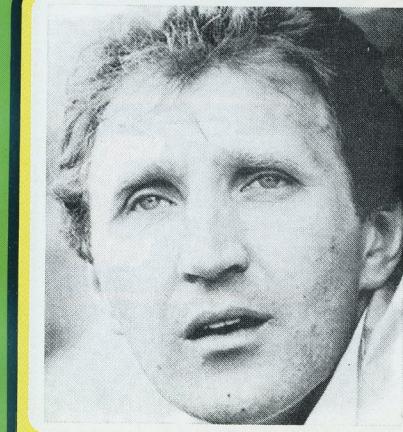
Melvyn Sterland—Defender. Another local product and a very popular player. Joined as an apprentice in June 1978.

Martin Hodge—Goalkeeper. Born Southport. Mr. Consistency for Sheffield Wednesday played all 42 League games during the year promotion was gained and again last season. Joined from Everton for £50,000 in 1983. Lawrie Madden—Defender. An ex-Millwall player who joined in August 1983 and was an important member of the squad during the last two seasons. Played 19 League games last season giving him a total of 57 League games for Wednesday.

Brian Marwood—Winger. Joined from Hull at the beginning of 1984-85 season. A fast direct player who can play on either wing. Played



Back row, from left: Laurie Madden, Mike Lyon (now Player/Manager Grimsby Town), Martin Hodge, Iain Hesford, Lee Chapman, Paul Hart.
Middle row: Peter Eustace (Asst. Manager), Gary Shelton, Chris Morris, Peter Shirtliff, Gary Thompson, Mark Smith, Andy Blair, Brian Marwood, Alan Smith (Physiotherapist).
Front row: Glyn Snodin, Mel Sterland, Nigel Worthington, Howard Wilkinson (Manager), Siggi Jonsson, Mark Chamberlain, Carl Shutt.



Sheffield Wednesday manager Howard Wilkinson joined the club as a player in 1962 and left for Brighton in 1966. He returned to Sheffield in 1971 and became a physical education teacher at Abbeyvale Grange School. He was always interested in coaching and training and became a Football Association staff coach. He joined Notts County in 1980 as first team coach under Jimmy Sirrell, stepping up to manage the team. He joined Wednesday as manager in 1983 and steered them back to the First Division in his first season.

in all 42 League games last season, scoring seven goals.

Chris Morris—Midfield. Joined as a professional in September 1982. An England Schoolboy player.

Paul Hart—Defender. Born Manchester and has played for four other clubs. Joined last summer.

Gary Thompson—Forward. Wednesday's most expensive signing. Joined in 1985 from West Brom. Has a number of caps at under-21 level. was born in Birmingham and joined Coventry City as an apprentice before West Brom. Hails from Manchester.

Gary Shelton—Midfield. A popular player—"Player of the Year" for many Owls' supporters. Has played an important part in the promotion and continued success of the club. Played 41 League games last season.

Peter Shirtliff—Centre-half. A popular player who was on schoolboy forms for Sheffield Wednesday. Joined as an apprentice in June 1977 and became a full professional in 1978.

Glynn Snodin—Midfield. Born in Rotherham—joined from Doncaster Rovers this summer.

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Club Comment

A boost from Littlewoods

AFTER writing two weeks ago of Canon's withdrawal, I am pleased today to be able to turn the spotlight on to the emergence of Littlewoods as the new sponsors of the former Football League Cup competition. The announcement was made shortly before Christmas, but earned little attention in the pre-festive season. From the start of the 1986-87 season, the tournament will be known as the Littlewood Challenge Cup.

It is further proof of soccer's continuing ability to market itself and also to provide a platform for others to market themselves. The Littlewoods Organisation is, of course, a big one—based in Liverpool with 35,000 employees, a retail chain with a £500 million turnover and a mail order business with a £400 million turnover. The group will be investing more than two million pounds over three seasons.

Future prosperity

At the time of the launch, Football League president Jack Dunnott said "I'm extremely pleased to welcome the support of the Littlewoods Organisation. They have confirmed their belief in the future well-being and prosperity of the League's premier cup competition."

Football League secretary Graham Kelly said "Littlewoods as a retail-based organisation have demonstrated their faith and commitment to league football by sponsoring this competition. With their extensive presence in the High Street and the home, this will assist the league in re-establishing the same level of confidence with both spectators and the public."

I echo both comments. The return of football to our television screens—even excepting the BBC's Money Programme—has emphasised the part the game has to play in the fabric of our national lifestyle. The recent entertainment provided has been first-class, proving, if proof were needed, that soccer is well and truly alive and kicking.

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The synthetic pitch debate

Amid the welter of postponements due to the weather recently, the debate over the future of synthetic pitches has warmed up considerably. A recent glance through the press illustrated the renewed interest being shown:

The Times: "The pitch has paid for itself already" said Rangers commercial director Tony Ingram. Luton fitted their own artificial pitch in time for the start of this season. It cost them £350,000. "We budgeted for an income of £100,000 a year from hiring of the pitch" said executive director John Smith. "We shall have met his after eight months."

Luton's football pitch has been used for hockey, lacrosse, netball, bowling, women's football and American football. It has also been used for such non-sporty things as exhibitions. The pitch was in use for 10 hours last Sunday and staged five sporting events—while sport across the country was frozen off.

"Invest in land" said Mark Twain. "They ain't making it anymore." And with pressure on land a fact of life in all cities, it is a nonsense to have a major site that can only be used for 25 or so times a year—and can't be used at all during a cold snap."

Plastic pioneers

Daily Express: "Luton manager David Pleat would be the first to admit that plastic does not make perfect. Given the ideal situation, Pleat would prefer his team to display their multi talents on a pitch like Wembley at its best. But Pleat knows that is asking the impossible. Reality to a club like Luton and indeed Queens Park Rangers, the plastic pioneers they have joined, is far removed from the ideal."

"Saturday's encounter—the first between the pair at Loftus Road since both clubs covered their grass roots—provided the perfect stage for the latest series of arguments about synthetic pitches."

In a league of their own.



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Supermac, Malcolm Macdonald, cracked a stunning hat-trick for Luton at Hillsborough in 1970 when we won our only victory there 5–1. Mac made 88 League appearances for the Town and scored 49 goals.



All Our

HEAVY DEFEATS, HAT-TRICKS AND WAR-TIME TRIUMPHS

Our first meeting with Sheffield Wednesday took place on December 2nd, 1899 during our last season in the Football League for 20 years. Wednesday had been relegated the previous season and were on their way back to Division One with a vengeance and hammered the Hatters 6–0. "Had it not been for the fine goalkeeping of Luton custodian Daw, a very heavy defeat would have been administered," wrote the local scribe.

In the return at Luton on April 7th, 1900, we went down by a more respectable 1–0 to the eventual champions—thus setting a trend in our results which have shown Wednesday's great strength at home through the years. Such was our plight at this time, however, immediately before our withdrawal from the league, that no fewer than six team changes were made from the team which had turned out only four months earlier.

We had to wait nearly 40 years for our next meeting, but the scorelines to follow remained depressingly similar until we finally broke our duck in a game that is not officially counted in the record books. Only one home game was played by the Town in 1939–40 before war broke out, but in beating Wednesday 3–0 and then winning 3–0 at Bradford Park Avenue and drawing at Fulham we became Second Division leaders—a position we were to hold for seven years!

First post-war treble

The 1939–40 fixture list was retained for 1946–47 so the Owls were our first visitors after the war and we duly went one better by winning 4–1 before a crowd of 21,105. Only two Town players, Hugh Billington and Horace Gager, spanned the two games, but the spotlight fell on Mel Daniel who became the first post-war

THE LUTON TOWN STORY



SHEFFIELD Wednesday have figured throughout the long history of Luton Town, sometimes suffering crucial defeats at the hands of the Hatters, more often delivering powerful performances and painful thrashings. In 1981–82, for example, their 3–0 victory at Kenilworth Road in September, a classic away performance inspired by the elusive Terry Curran, set in motion several team changes which resulted in the creation of our marvellous Second Division championship-winning side.

Reprint for March

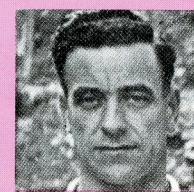
It is an episode fully described in our official club history, *The Luton Town Story 1885–1985*, by Timothy Collings, written to mark our centenary. The book, which contains a fully-documented record of the club, reports of many of the great matches and sketches of the players, management and staff as well as a fully-researched statistical section, is being reprinted after the first edition sold out in little more than three months before Christmas. It is hoped the second edition will be available by mid-March.

Order your copy now to avoid disappointment—it's a book every supporter will be proud to read.

Tony Read made 197 league appearances for the Town, scoring 12 goals, between 1965 and 1972. A goalkeeper who also played inside-right, he began his career with Wolves before joining Sheffield Wednesday. He came to Kenilworth Road from Peterborough.



Hugh Billington made 86 league appearances for the Town in a career that spanned the war and he scored 63 goals. A brilliant goalscorer, he enjoyed playing against Wednesday and scored in his final Town appearance, against them, in March 1948.



Yesterdays

Football League player to score a hat-trick.

Billington signed off with a goal in his final game for the Town in a 1–1 draw the following season, but generally games in the 1940's were low-scoring affairs.

In the next decade, Sheffield Wednesday were known as the "yo-yo" club as they hovered between Division One and Two. When we were able to catch up with them, results tended to go with the home team, but Roland Legate, David Noake and Mike Tracey are all probably glad we did meet as they all made their Luton debuts against Wednesday during the 1950's.

Superb Macdonald

Following our relegation from the First Division in 1960, we had

our own fair share of moving through the divisions, of course, and we next met Wednesday in a Second Division game at Hillsborough on October 10th, 1970.

It was a game that had the football world buzzing and sent the media clamouring to Luton games for the rest of the season. The reason? A resounding 5–1 Luton win with a superb hat-trick from Malcolm Macdonald as the highlight. To add to the moment, the television cameras were present to prove to the masses something we had known for months—Macdonald was a superb goalscorer.

The "Mac the knife" show somewhat overshadowed a fine team performance that day and in particular the unselfish play of Don Givens who scored the other

A summary of our League matches against Sheffield Wednesday (Luton score first)

	Home	Away
1899-1900	0–1	0–6
1937-38	2–2	0–4
1938-39	1–5	1–4
1946-47	4–1	1–1
1947-48	1–1	0–1
1948-49	2–1	0–0
1949-50	0–0	1–1
1951-52	5–3	0–4
1956-57	2–0	0–3
1957-58	2–0	1–2
1959-60	0–1	0–2
1970-71	2–2	5–1
1971-72	3–1	2–2
1972-73	0–0	0–4
1973-74	2–1	2–2
1980-81	3–0	1–3
1981-82	0–3	3–3
1984-85	1–2	1–1
1985-86		2–3

Overall summary of results:

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	18	8	5	5	30	24
Away	19	1	7	11	20	47
Total	37	9	12	16	50	71

Club statistician: Roger Wash



Brian Stein in action against the Owls in 1984 when Frank Bunn scored our goal in a 1–2 defeat.

two goals. Considering the ease of that particular victory, it is surprising that it is our only success at Hillsborough.

Games since then have had a tendency to pale by comparison though several Town players have good cause to remember Sheffield Wednesday. Keith Barber, for example, made his debut in the home clash in 1970–71, a game which saw Peter Anderson's first league goal.

UPDATE

Canon League Division One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Everton	30	11	2	2	40	15	8	3	4	29	20
2	Manchester U.	29	10	3	2	26	6	8	2	4	26	17
3	Liverpool	30	11	4	1	36	13	4	5	5	21	20
4	Chelsea	27	11	1	2	27	14	5	5	3	18	15
5	West Ham	26	9	2	1	28	10	6	4	4	14	14
6	Luton Town	30	8	5	1	26	8	5	4	7	21	25
7	Nottingham F.	29	8	2	5	28	20	6	2	6	24	22
8	Arsenal	26	10	3	1	20	9	3	4	5	12	20
9	Sheffield Wed	28	8	4	2	25	22	5	3	6	19	22
10	Newcastle	28	7	3	3	25	19	4	6	5	16	24
11	Manchester C.	30	7	5	3	21	16	4	3	8	15	22
12	Watford	27	9	2	2	30	14	2	4	8	16	29
13	Tottenham	29	7	1	6	29	18	4	4	7	12	18
14	Coventry City	31	4	4	8	27	30	5	4	6	16	24
15	Southampton	29	9	4	2	27	11	0	3	11	10	30
16	QPR	29	8	3	4	21	12	2	1	11	10	31
17	Leicester City	28	4	7	3	25	22	2	2	10	12	29
18	Oxford Utd.	29	5	4	5	23	18	1	4	10	19	39
19	Ipswich Town	28	4	4	6	13	18	3	1	10	9	22
20	Aston Villa	28	2	6	6	15	18	3	4	7	16	25
21	Birmingham C.	29	4	1	10	9	17	2	3	9	10	25
22	West Brom	30	2	4	8	13	27	1	3	12	12	41
												16

League table as February 23rd, 1986

LEAGUE, and CUP APPEARANCES and GOALSCORERS

	League App	Milk Cup Gls	Cup App	Gls	FA Cup App	Gls
T. Breacker	26		3		2	
A. Dibble	7					
M. Donaghy	30	3		3		
P. Elliott	3(3)					
S. Foster	24	2	3		3	
A. Grimes	2(1)		(1)			
M. Harford	27	15	2		3	2
R. Hill	27	2	3	1	3	2
R. Johnson	5	1			1	
P. Nicholas	29	2		3		
E. Nwajiobi	17(1)	4	3	1		
G. Parker	4(4)	1		(1)		
D. Preece	29	1	2	1	3	1
B. Stein	29	14	3	1	3	1
M. Thomas	29	1	2		3	
M. Stein	1					
L. Sealey	23		3		3	
M. North	8(3)	3	1	1	3	1
R. Daniel	1(2)	1	1			
A. King	2					
S. North	1					
M. Newell	5	3				
Own goal		1				1

(up to and including February 24th)

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MC = Milk Cup FAC = Fa Cup * Indicates player substituted • Substitute used Home fixtures in bold Scorers name in bold + Own goal

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30—Lineker (Everton)
 22—Newell (Luton—19 for Wigan)
 21—Dixon (Chelsea)
 20—McAvennie (West Ham)
 19—Aldridge (Oxford), Rush (Liverpool)
 18—Walsh (Liverpool)
 17—Harford (Luton), Speedie (Chelsea)
 (up to February 23rd)



Photos by
 Gareth Owen
 Photography
 Luton 418025

Editor:
 Robert Alexander



Vauxhall Teamcheck.

Luton Town

1 Les Sealey
2 Rob Johnson
3 Mitchell Thomas
4 Peter Nicholas
5 Steve Foster
6 Mal Donaghy
7 Ricky Hill
8 Brian Stein
9 Mick Harford
10 Marc North
11 David Preece
Sub

Sheffield Wednesday

1 Martin Hodge
2 Mel Sterland
3 Chris Morris
4 Paul Hart
5 Lawrie Madden
6 Gary Megson
7 Brian Marwood
8 Andy Blair
9 Gary Thompson
10 Lee Chapman
11 Glynn Snodin
Sub

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