

EVERTON

**EVERTON v
LUTON**

**FA Cup Sixth Round Replay
Wednesday 12th March 1986**

NEC

**OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME**

50p



Howard Kendall



When you are 2-0 down in a Cup-tie, you have to be happy to get another chance, but things are far from over and done with just because we now have home advantage for tonight's replay with Luton Town.

Arsenal did exactly the same in the last round — and they are out of the Cup. Luton are a good side and we had to work hard for what we achieved on Saturday. We adapted quite well to the artificial surface and I was very pleased by the performance. If we had gone out, I would still have thought we had done as much as we could.

There were some good individual contributions and the team work was excellent. Alan Harper did well alongside Pat Van den Hauwe as deputy for Kevin Ratcliffe who has damaged ankle ligaments, although we don't think the problem is too serious.

Obviously, we are pleased to be still involved in the Cup after two difficult away matches last week. At Tottenham, we had to do a fair amount of defending, but we always looked dangerous on the break, and certainly, we seemed unfortunate not to get a penalty when Paul Bracewell went round Ray Clemence.

Spurs were in a determined mood and it was a very competitive game. They left out John Chiedozie and brought in a more defensive player in the middle. This meant there were a lot of bodies in midfield and there was very little time to create anything.

But Trevor Steven had an excellent match. The quality of his crosses from the right was brilliant. He got a lot of pace on them, bending the ball away from the keeper and into our front players.

When we went two up, it might have been all over, but Mark Falco got one back with a great header — and it does take something special to beat Neville Southall at the moment. The back four did a tremendous job, considering that after Kevin Ratcliffe's injury, no-one was in the position they occupied in last season's team. *Although the weather caused a hold-up in the Cup, the undersoil heating at Anfield and Goodison enabled us to win two more League games and open up a six-point gap at the top.*

To be honest, the match with Aston Villa wasn't the best of games. The swirling wind made it difficult for the players and the sun probably added to the problems. The game seemed a little dead, although we had chances in the first-half from mistakes made by their defenders.

Villa troubled us on only two occasions, and one of those was near the end, but the longer it went on, the more you feared it could stay at 0-0. We kept plugging away and in the end, we fully deserved our victory, even if several players were disappointed by their performances. Certainly, there was not a lot of flowing football, but you will always get that these days, and the main thing is to win when you are not at your best.

The good news off the field was that Kevin Sheedy and then Graeme Sharp signed new four-year contracts. Naturally, we want to keep the squad together, and we were very pleased to come to an agreement with Kevin and Graeme.

We decided to announce Graeme's contract over the tannoy before the kick-off against Villa. Normally, the fans tend to hear things secondhand, through the newspapers, TV or radio, and I thought it was a good idea that they should be the first to be given the news on this occasion. They responded well and Graeme was given a tremendous reception.

After the Villa match, we left the heating on so that Paul Bracewell and Kevin Sheedy could come in on Sunday to assess their recovery from injury. Paul proved he was ready to travel to Tottenham and Kevin played in a Reserve game only 15 days after a cartilage operation. That must surely be something of a record, although Luton's Mick Harford got back in slightly less than three weeks after similar surgery in January.



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1914-15, 1927-28, 1931-32, 1938-39,
1962-63, 1969-70, 1984-85
Runners-up: 1889-90, 1894-95, 1901-02,
1904-05, 1908-09, 1911-12
Second Division Champions: 1930-31
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Runners-up: 1960-61, 1976-77, 1982-83

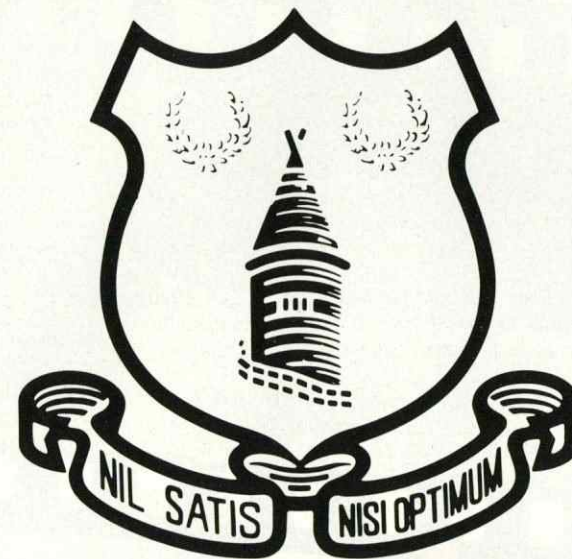
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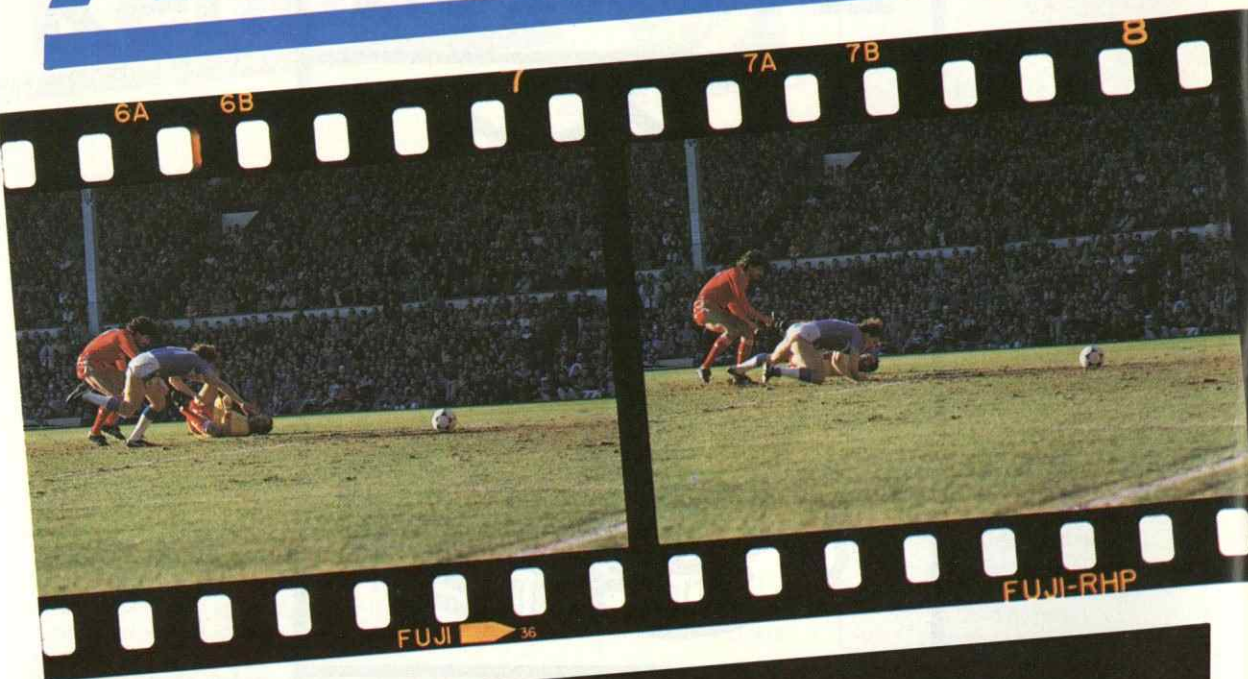
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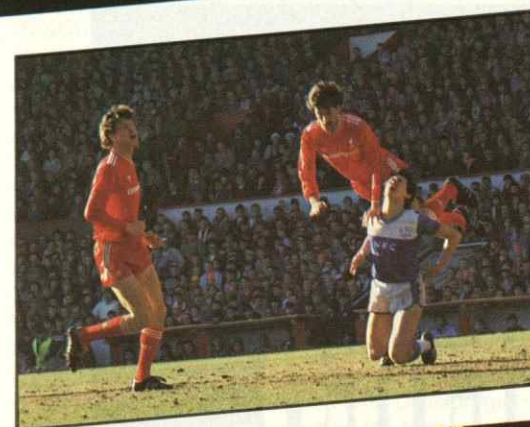
Action



Above & far left: A poor back pass by Mark Lawrenson lets Kevin Richardson in with a chance, but the Liverpool defender recovers to clear off the line.

Left: Was it a penalty? Lawrenson comes crashing down on Lineker, but his penalty claim went unheard.

Below: Kevin Ratcliffe's long range shot beats Grobbelaar to put Everton one up at Anfield. It was his first goal for three years and only his second in his career!





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Comment

The second coldest February this century brought football close to a standstill in parts of the Midlands and the South-East. Arsenal, Villa, Ipswich, Leicester, Watford and West Ham were laid up for a full month in the League.

The repercussions will be considerable. *Certainly* in terms of fitting in the outstanding fixtures in a World Cup year. *Possibly* in terms of persuading clubs to review their options for pitch protection.

The immediate problems are obvious. Starting from 8th March, the scheduled day for FA Cup quarter-finals, the season had only nine Saturdays to run. Counting eight mid-week dates, this gave 17 playing days in the normal construction of two games a week.

However, two of the mid-week periods are due to be kept clear for England's World Cup warm-up games against the Soviet Union and Scotland. Add the inevitable postponements for FA Cup ties and the Milk Cup Final, and you reach only one conclusion — some clubs may have to play three times in a week.

West Ham, for example, have reached the 'quart into a pint pot' situation. Their fourth consecutive blank Saturday in the League, on 1st March, left them five games behind Everton . . . **WITH NO MORE THAN 15 SCHEDULED DATES AVAILABLE FOR THEIR LAST 16 MATCHES.** *No doubt the situation will resolve itself. Somehow the games will be played in the time permitted. What we would hope, though, is that the unusually long period of bad weather will lead to more clubs installing undersoil heating.*

Our system at Goodison Park has been in operation for five years, during which time only one game has been lost — and that because of a late snowfall. The original £70,000 investment has more than paid for itself, firstly, in maintaining cash flow, and secondly, in keeping fixture congestion to a minimum in seasons when the team has pursued the League Championship.

We also believe that our spectators benefit. They **KNOW** that the games here will be played, and our experience surely quells the frequent argument that supporters do not want to turn out in cold weather.

On 28th December, when three First Division games were postponed because of snow and ice, we had the highest attendance of the day — 41,536 against Sheffield Wednesday. On 11th February, when we slotted in the Manchester City game at a time when most other grounds were frozen solid, we had a gate off 30,006.

As always, in a year of severe temperatures, there has been much debate on how to tackle a freeze-up. We have heard all the old chestnuts — a mid-winter break, summer football etc — and, not without good reason, some support for artificial pitches.

Queens Park Rangers and Luton Town were able to play throughout the cold snap, although their motive for 'going plastic' was the wider one of maximising the use of their ground for other sports and entertainments. It is hardly a secret that many First Division clubs have reservations about playing on an artificial surface. Had the choice been left *only* to the other 20 clubs in the top Division, it's possible that Queens Park Rangers and Luton would not have gained the necessary permission.

But, unlike other major decisions in the Football League — which are decided largely by the votes of the 44 full member clubs — the issue of artificial pitches was put to the vote by all 92 clubs.

However, that is another question. What we will say in conclusion is that Everton Football Club believes 100 per cent in undersoil heating as the most satisfactory method of beating the frost.

FOOTBALL AT GOODISON

CANON LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE
EVERTON
v
CHELSEA

Sunday 16th March 1986
Kick-off 2.35 pm

TOFFEE GIRL

Sweets distributed by the Everton Toffee Girl are by courtesy of Barker and Dobson.

BALL BOYS

Tonight's Ball Boys are provided by the Merseyside Youth Association and Everton FC Supporters' Club.

MASCOT

Tonight's Everton mascot is Neil Borrows, of Hilberry Avenue, Liverpool 13. Neil will be 11 later this month. The matchday mascot's kit is supplied by Le Coq Sportif, who have kindly agreed that it should be retained as a lasting souvenir of the occasion.

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Behind The Scenes



Nigel Coates, who was appointed Lotteries Manager in February, took a roundabout route to his new job in football. He graduated from Brunel University (London) with an Honours Degree in Engineering and then opted for a banking career with NatWest. He worked in their branches at Chester, Frodsham and Warrington before moving to their Marketing Department in London. But he didn't particularly enjoy living in the capital and was looking to move closer to his home in Chester when the opportunity to join Everton cropped up. 'I saw the job advertised and it appealed to me straightaway,' he says. 'Having worked in marketing for a financial organisation, I now have the chance to put my ideas into practice on the other side of the fence. 'It's no good rushing in with two big feet, but there will be changes. The present structure is not what it should be, and at the moment, we are discussing plans to offer new incentives to Agents.' Nigel's appointment is part of a drive to re-build the Lottery after a tapering-down period which has affected most sports clubs' fund-raising. As Promotions Manager Ralph Williams says: 'The prize money offered has not really changed for six or seven years and has been overtaken to an extent by newspapers bingo competitions. 'Things have dropped off generally, but Nigel is starting with new ideas. We'll be getting a canvassing team on the road, with the object of getting back the support that has been lost in recent years.' Although the job itself was an obvious attraction for Nigel, there was a spin-off in his arrival at Goodison Park. He has been an avid Evertonian since he was 10-years-old, and even when he was working in London, he took every opportunity to watch the Blues in matches in the south. 'It's nice to be able to see them at Goodison again,' he says. 'As I've joked with the staff, the object is for us all to work hard enough to make the time for me to watch the matches!' The picture shows Nigel with members of the Development staff — (from left to right) Liz Dears, Barbara Holme, Nicky Clinton and Alison Baxter.

RESERVE REPORT

With very little football played around the country on the last Saturday in February, we managed to beat the weather by completing three fixtures — and didn't concede a goal.

While the first team won at Anfield, the Reserves had a goalless draw at home to Manchester United and a young 'A' team achieved a very creditable 0-0 draw against South Liverpool Reserves. Perhaps the first thing to say about the Central League match is that Manchester United certainly proved the depth of talent at Old Trafford. Even though Bryan Robson and Norman Whiteside were missing from their senior side that day, they still fielded four full internationals at Goodison Park.

Gary Bailey, John Sivebaek, Mike Duxbury and Peter Barnes were in the side, along with Mark Higgins, the former Everton captain who has now been cleared to resume his career following the serious injury which caused his retirement last season.

It's true we had Adrian Heath, Paul Wilkinson and Bobby Mimms to counter some of United's experience, but as coach Alan Kelly commented: 'I think United's team would have frightened a good many Second Division sides.'

For those fans who couldn't get a ticket for Anfield, the match at Goodison was an enjoyable diversion. 'The pitch was good and there was some good football by both sides,' said Alan.

'Overall, we probably had the better chances and were a bit unlucky not to win when Adrian Heath lobbed the ball over Gary Bailey, only for it to come back off a post.

'When we manage to get a few goals, we'll be on our way. We're starting to knock our passes around, and as always, this has to go hand in hand with hard work.' The versatile Darrin Coyle switched to centre-back with good effect, Bobby Mimms did all that was required of him, and there was a steady midfield performance by Jason Danskin.

Saturday 22nd February 1986

CENTRAL LEAGUE

Everton Reserves 0

Manchester United Reserves 0

Team: Mimms, Oldroyd, Rooney, Coyle, Billinge, Danskin, Walsh, Wilkinson, Powell, Heath, London. *Sub:* Rain.

The half-term school holidays meant it was a busy week for Youth coach Graham Smith. Organising

training for schoolboys and two friendly games before what was largely an Under-16 side faced South Liverpool in the Lancashire League.

'Considering it was the third game in the week for many of the kids, they did very well,' said Graham. 'South Liverpool brought virtually their first team, yet most of our lads are a year or two off even Youth level. 'We defended particularly well in the first-half and had a bit more of the play in the second. There were times when we were defending for our lives, but it was very encouraging to see the lads battling against a team of good non-League players.

'Once again, we were able to put on games at Bellefield despite the weather. The pitch was very hard, but it was dry and there was no ice. In fact, it was quite like an end-of-season surface.'

One newcomer to 'A' team football was Jarrard Isherwood, a forward from Wellingborough School who has represented the Public Schools XI.

Saturday 22nd February 1986

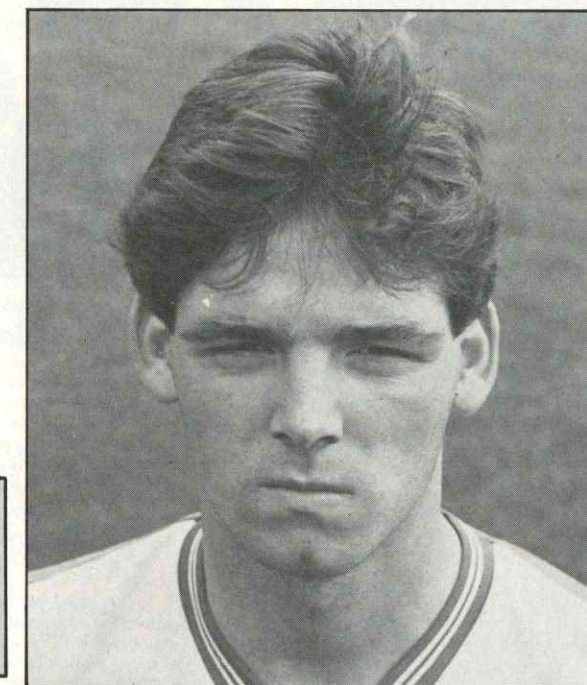
LANCASHIRE LEAGUE

Everton 'A' 0

South Liverpool Reserves 0

Team: Stowell, Cunningham, Youds, Birtwistle, Willis, Jones Phil, (sub: Jones Paul), Ebbrell, Ward, Carberry, Farrelly, Isherwood (sub: Roberts).

● The Reserve game at Leeds was put off because an England Youth international was switched to Elland Road, but the Central League side was back in action with a valuable win against Liverpool at Goodison in the following week. See our next programme for a match report.



JASON DANSKIN
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Blue Mail

BLUE MAIL is open to all Evertonians for their news and views. We don't mind a hint of controversy as long as your opinions are constructive. Write to: Blue Mail, Everton FC, Goodison Park, Liverpool L4 4EL.

From: Ian Hughes, Bromborough . . .
I am writing to express my disgust at the timing of the postponement of the Spurs v Everton FA Cup tie. Having left home at 7.30 am, to be on the coach for 8.30 am, we were already on the M6 when we learned the match was off.

Surely, the same decision could have been made at, say 7.30, as was made at 9.30? Everton should have put pressure on Tottenham Hotspur FC for an early pitch inspection.

Also, as an incentive for top clubs to install effective pitch protection, such as at Goodison and Anfield, the FA should rule that when an 'away' team could stage the fixture, the 'home' team lose home advantage and the match be played at the 'away' ground. Within a couple of years, most First and Second Division clubs should have installed such protection.

Then, a situation such as today's (16th February) shambles would only occur where travelling distances are great (e.g. the postponed Middlesbrough v Southampton tie in January) or when there is a heavy snowfall at the last minute.

EDITOR: We did everything possible on that Sunday morning and no-one booked on official travel organised by Everton FC departed before the news of the postponement.

Train and coaches were due to leave at 9 am, but when Tottenham informed us the inspection would be at 9.25 am, the departure was put back to 9.30 am. As soon as the match was off, we telephoned Press Agencies and Radio stations, but it seems this information was too late for many people, like Mr Hughes travelling with independent operators.

Mr Hughes' other point about switching venues obviously has its attractions. Sadly, though, it would be impossible to make the arrangements at a few hours' notice.

From: Sandra Fearn and Lis Byrne, Cantril Farm . . .

Looking through the Everton Annual for 1979, we noticed the name on the crest was *Adjuvare Mec Inpedure*. We know that it now reads *Nil Satis Nisi Optimum*. Could you please tell us when the name was changed?

EDITOR: We have no knowledge of the club having any motto other than *Nil Satis* etc (Nothing but the best is

good enough) and can only assume that there was a mistake in the 1979 Annual.

From: Bridget Plattier, Liverpool 7 . . .
I am writing to give well-deserved thanks to a long-suffering boyfriend. Every home match, he stands with me in the Gwladys Street, walks round with me when I'm wearing my scarf, and even sits, without complaint, in a blue, yellow and white room that is plastered with pictures, flags and scarves, all to do with The Blues. Maybe that does not sound strange — but he is a lifelong Liverpool supporter!

From: Mr J. G. Sherlock . . .

I am writing with reference to my Uncle, Mr George Sherlock, of Helsby Avenue, Millpark Estate, Eastham, who has been a lifelong supporter of Everton.

He has attended almost every home game since his introduction to Goodison, which was in February 1947, as well as following the team all over the country, as and when his work permits (he is an ambulance driver).

His other claim to fame is that he was responsible for first taking me along to Goodison as a young boy. This will always remain a memorable experience for me, as well as paying for many subsequent visits (he has five children — all girls).

I feel such long-term support of the team, through good times and bad, deserves some recognition from the club.

EDITOR: We are always pleased to hear of our long-standing supporters. Congratulations to Mr George Sherlock on his 39 years' association with Goodison Park. We hope he enjoys many more successful seasons in the future.

From: Stephen Swales, West Bridgeford, Notts . . .

I wonder if any other Everton fans who travelled to Birmingham noticed that, in the focus on the Everton team, they made the same mistake as West Bromwich Albion, referring to Dave Mountfield and Graeme Sharp.

EDITOR: The Birmingham and West Brom programmes are edited and printed by the same company. But let's not be critical — we have made mistakes ourselves! We apologise for 'a slip of the pen' which resulted in an error in the recent caption of a photograph of Warren Aspinall and his mother, Barbara.

From Stephen Hughes, Leyton . . .

As an exiled Evertonian now living no more than a mile from White Hart Lane, I am writing to say what a pleasure it was to see The Blues defeat my 'local' side (1st February).

Peter Reid was superb in his comeback game; the goal said everything about his ability and determination.

May I say 'Hi' to my Father and brother, both of whom hold season tickets in the Street End? This would be a nice surprise for them.

From: Robert Taggart, Glasgow . . .

Everton's players and management must be admired for their playing standard in the long absence of Reid, Mountfield etc. High-scoring has been a feature and with the new partnership of Lineker and Sharp, the absence of Andy Gray is easier to bear.

Some credit must go to Scot Graeme Sharp, who plays a Platini-type of game, not being entirely up front but laying off accurately to teammates and at the same time, managing to score a few goals himself.

From: Ian G. Dayle, Eastham, Wirral . . .

Although the Everton team doesn't depend on one player, I think Paul Bracewell is playing brilliantly. Yet he doesn't get a lot of mention for the way he covered up when Peter Reid was injured. He battled around the park with excellent tackling and superb passes.

From: Alex Finney, Rainhill . . .

My Father and I very often discuss previous memorable Goodison games, So, here are six of mine.

Firstly, for the right reasons . . .

1 — Everton 3 Bayern Munich 1 (1985)

2 — Everton 5 Manchester Utd 0 (1984)

3 — Everton 4 Aston Villa 1 (1978)

And for the wrong reasons . . .

1 — Everton 0 Coventry 0 (1983)

2 — Everton 0 Liverpool 5 (1982)

3 — Everton 2 Manchester Utd 6 (1977)

I would be interested to see other supporters 'memory matches'.

From Mr T. Fearn, Liverpool 11 . . .

Could you publish this photograph of my son, Terry, aged eight, on holiday last with Paul Reaney and soccer coach Colin Reid?

Terry was the proud winner of two medals — for best penalties and winning team, which he captained.



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SUPPORTERS' REQUESTS

Pen-Pal:

Brendan McCabe, of 30 Wigmores, Woodside, Telford, Salop TF7 5NA, is 18 and would like to write to someone, aged 15-20. 'If I couldn't get to see the Blues, it was to be non-League football at Telford United,' says Brendan.

Supporters' Clubs:

Gary Butler, of 1 Apollo Close, Hednesford, Staffs WS11 2TS, wants to know of a supporters' club organising travel from the Cannock area in Staffs.

David Harris, of 3 Craig Close, Badsaleg, Newport, Gwent NP1 9PE, wants to meet up with Everton supporters' organisation providing travel to games.

NB: If anyone can help Gary or David, please write to them direct.

Match reports:

Carl Yates, of 6 Penryce Court, The Marina, Swansea SA1 3XE, has for sale 25 *Football Echoes* containing reports of this season's Everton games. Price: £5 including postage.

Thanks:

Simon Paul, of The Barn, Ray Mead Road, Maidenhead, Berks, thanks Tony, Sheila and Sally, in Bullens Road, and Andrew, in Gwladys Street, for keeping himself and his brother, Anthony, in touch with Everton and for sending programmes.

Videos:

Joune Pihlaja, Kasarmikatu 24C, 13100 Hameenlinna 10, Finland, wants to hear from someone who is willing to sell or exchange VHS videos of Everton, English League and British international matches. Would exchange for Scandinavian, Bundesliga and Italian League games.

Announcements:

There is now an **Everton Supporters' Club in Plymouth**, running regular monthly trips to Goodison Park at a maximum £10 per head. Contact the Secretary, Mr S. Mapstone, 3 Meadowfield Place, Plympton, Plymouth. Tel: 0752 342186.

The Merseyside Programme Fair will be held at the Adelphi Hotel, Ranelagh Place, Liverpool, on Sunday 6th April (11 am to 2.30 pm). Admission: 20p. Eight top dealers attending, thousands of programmes for sale, including many Everton issues.

Team Talk

Peter Reid ended his 21-week exile from First Division affairs with a vital goal — and thanks to his teammates 'for doing all the hard work while I was away.'

The fact that his comeback coincided with Everton's climb to the top of the table for the first time this season was, in Peter's opinion, a tribute to the squad rather than to his winning goal against Spurs.

'Everyone at Goodison always said we had depth in the squad and this season we have proved it by doing well despite so many injuries,' he stated when the championship-winning midfield players were eventually reunited after five months' disruption.

'We have got to the top of the League with a squad effort,' he explained.

'Lads like Alan Harper and Kevin Richardson come into the side and do a terrific job whenever they are required. And that can't be stated often enough.

'Adrian Heath, too. We all know he's a front man, but he's been in midfield and has got 10 goals. That's a tremendous achievement when he's not in his best position.

'Likewise, it was an outstanding effort by the whole team to claw back 17 points on Manchester United. They have done all the hard work, and as far as I'm concerned it's just great to have come back into a side firing on all cylinders.

'It's a wee bit different to last season, now that we have Gary Lineker up front, but there's no doubt we are the same sort of confident outfit. It's always nice to be on a good streak; football seems easy when you are on a run.

'Speaking as a spectator — which I was for such a long time — the side is very exciting to watch. We've scored more goals than anyone and conceded a few as well. If there's a more entertaining team, I haven't seen them.'

Having had his share of serious injuries during his time with Bolton Wanderers, Peter was mentally prepared for the long slog back to fitness, but this season's problems with Achilles tendons were, in some ways, the most frustrating of his career.

He is the reigning PFA Players' Player, he is anxious to help Everton to more success and he naturally wants to be in Mexico with England.

'The timing was frustrating,' he agrees. 'But it was probably more frustrating from the club's point of view because I was injured in an international.'

'The real disappointment for me was that I got over the original injury to my right ankle but then, on my first day back at work, I did the left one and had to have a second operation. I was thinking I would be back quite soon and then I was back to square one. 'If there is a silver lining, it is that I should be fresh for the run-in.

Hopefully, with a few more games, I'll be firing at my best. Different types of players probably do need more match practice than others. I'm involved in the short passing and tackling and need sharpness more than anything. 'So far, I've improved a little bit with every game. I was really shattered after the first one and I did tire in the last 10 minutes against Manchester City. But that's something you expect and it's a case of gritting your teeth.'

The title race was already simmering when Peter returned to duty and straightaway he was caught up in the self-belief that 'we will be there or thereabouts at the end of the season.' And he added: 'It's an old cliché, but the championship is not a sprint but a marathon. I felt it was significant that the crowd never seemed to think we were out of it. They kept coming along in their thousands and played an important part in helping the team over the injury problems. Now they will be just as important for the final push. 'There are four or five teams who could win it, and I wouldn't bet against us. In saying that, our feet are firmly on the ground — we know what we have to do and we'll be battling all the way.'

Life at the top has been very sweet for Peter in the last two and a half years. He had his share of setbacks with Bolton — suffering relegation and a number of injuries — but everything came good for him after his transfer to Everton in December 1982.

'I did take time to settle,' he says. 'Like anything else in life, you need time to get used to new surroundings, but



once I got in there, things went all one way for me.

'The greatest thing in football is winning trophies. I'm thankful to have played at Wembley so many times and to have won League and European medals. I can honestly say I would have settled for half as much, but once you're involved in success, you want more.

'My belief is that you get what you put into this game. I've always worked hard, and fortunately for me, I got into a football side that has everything — power, skill and now the habit of winning.'

Aside from team triumphs, the greatest moment for Peter was obviously when he won the PFA individual award last March.

'That was a very proud moment,' he says. 'With no disrespect to the sports-writers, the ultimate is to be voted Number One by your fellow professionals. It was a terrific personal honour, but as Neville Southall would agree after winning the Footballer of the Year award, we couldn't have done it without being part of a very good side.'

Peter doesn't hold out any hope of retaining the trophy — 'I don't think four games is enough to qualify,' he joked — but he does have another major ambition to fulfil.

'My eyes are on Mexico,' he agrees. 'I'm not counting on anything because I only take things bit by bit, but it is the ambition of any player to appear in the World Cup finals. I'm just keeping my fingers crossed, and if selected for the warm-up games, I'm hoping to be bubbling along.'

Peter Reid



ATTENDANCES AND CANON LEAGUE DIVISION ONE 1985-86

| Home | League Games | Average | P | W | D | L | F | A | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------|--------------|---------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|-----|
| 51,509 | 31,044 | Everton | 31 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 42 | 15 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 29 | 20 | 65 |
| 45,445 | 33,870 | Liverpool | 32 | 12 | 4 | 1 | 40 | 14 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 23 | 21 | 60 |
| 54,575 | 48,007 | Manchester United | 30 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 26 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 26 | 18 | 59 |
| 42,485 | 21,728 | Chelsea | 28 | 12 | 1 | 2 | 28 | 14 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 18 | 15 | 57 |
| 24,057 | 18,078 | West Ham United | 26 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 28 | 10 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 14 | 14 | 51 |
| 17,454 | 10,729 | Luton Town | 31 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 27 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 21 | 25 | 51 |
| 45,109 | 24,986 | Arsenal | 28 | 10 | 3 | 1 | 20 | 9 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 16 | 22 | 49 |
| 48,105 | 23,777 | Sheffield Wednesday | 30 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 20 | 23 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 19 | 23 | 49 |
| 27,141 | 16,514 | Nottingham Forest | 30 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 28 | 20 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 24 | 23 | 46 |
| 29,670 | 22,655 | Newcastle United | 29 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 26 | 19 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 16 | 24 | 45 |
| 33,835 | 20,908 | Tottenham | 31 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 35 | 20 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 12 | 18 | 41 |
| 48,723 | 25,579 | Manchester City | 32 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 21 | 19 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 15 | 23 | 41 |
| 16,967 | 15,178 | Watford | 27 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 30 | 14 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 29 | 39 |
| 19,012 | 14,763 | Southampton | 30 | 10 | 4 | 2 | 28 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 11 | 10 | 30 | 37 |
| 16,497 | 11,472 | Coventry City | 32 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 27 | 30 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 17 | 26 | 35 |
| 24,621 | 14,679 | Queens Park Rangers | 31 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 21 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 13 | 11 | 37 | 34 |
| 22,008 | 11,472 | Leicester City | 29 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 27 | 23 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 12 | 29 | 30 |
| 13,280 | 10,579 | Oxford United | 30 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 23 | 18 | 2 | 4 | 10 | 22 | 29 | 29 |
| 20,551 | 14,679 | Ipswich Town | 29 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 14 | 18 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 9 | 22 | 29 |
| 27,626 | 15,024 | Aston Villa | 30 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 16 | 22 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 27 | 25 |
| 24,971 | 11,026 | Birmingham City | 31 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 11 | 17 | 2 | 3 | 10 | 11 | 30 | 25 |
| 25,068 | 12,616 | WBA | 31 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 13 | 27 | 1 | 3 | 13 | 12 | 46 | 16 |

CENTRAL LEAGUE
FIXTURES 1985-86

| Date | v | Opponents | F | A |
|---------|---|----------------------|---|---|
| Aug 21 | A | West Bromwich Albion | 0 | 2 |
| Aug 27 | H | Hull City | 0 | 0 |
| Sept 5 | H | Leicester City | 2 | 0 |
| Sept 10 | A | Derby County | 1 | 4 |
| Sept 14 | A | Manchester United | 2 | 4 |
| Sept 26 | H | Leeds United | 0 | 4 |
| Oct 1 | A | Liverpool | 0 | 2 |
| Oct 8 | H | Wigan Athletic | 0 | 1 |
| Oct 16 | A | Aston Villa | 0 | 1 |
| Oct 31 | H | Nottingham Forest | 2 | 1 |
| Nov 6 | A | Barnsley | 3 | 1 |
| Nov 12 | H | Blackburn Rovers | 0 | 3 |
| Nov 20 | A | Sheffield United | 0 | 0 |
| Dec 16 | A | Leicester City | 2 | 1 |
| Jan 18 | H | West Brom. Albion | 2 | 1 |
| Jan 21 | H | Derby County | 0 | 1 |
| Jan 29 | A | Hull City | 0 | 2 |
| Feb 11 | A | Manchester City | 0 | 1 |
| Feb 22 | H | Manchester United | 0 | 0 |
| Mar 4 | H | Liverpool | 2 | 1 |
| Mar 11 | A | Wigan Athletic | | |
| Mar 20 | H | Barnsley | | |
| Mar 22 | H | Newcastle United | | |
| Mar 26 | A | Nottingham Forest | | |
| Apr 2 | A | Blackburn Rovers | | |
| Apr 8 | H | Sheffield United | | |
| Apr 12 | H | Aston Villa | | |
| Apr 17 | A | Newcastle United | | |
| Apr 22 | A | Sheffield Wednesday | | |
| Apr 26 | H | Sheffield Wednesday | | |
| Apr 30 | A | Huddersfield Town | | |
| May 3 | A | Leeds United | | |
| TBA | H | Huddersfield Town | | |
| | H | Manchester City | | |

CENTRAL LEAGUE 1985-86

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Manchester City | 25 | 13 | 5 | 7 | 50 | 30 | 44 |
| Manchester Utd | 24 | 13 | 3 | 8 | 35 | 22 | 42 |
| Derby County | 19 | 13 | 2 | 4 | 44 | 17 | 41 |
| Liverpool | 24 | 12 | 3 | 9 | 53 | 37 | 39 |
| Sheffield Wed | 23 | 12 | 3 | 8 | 41 | 29 | 39 |
| Leeds United | 25 | 13 | 0 | 12 | 54 | 56 | 39 |
| Leicester City | 24 | 10 | 5 | 9 | 46 | 46 | 35 |
| Hull City | 21 | 10 | 2 | 9 | 33 | 34 | 32 |
| Aston Villa | 21 | 10 | 2 | 9 | 37 | 41 | 32 |
| Blackburn | 24 | 10 | 1 | 13 | 45 | 37 | 31 |
| Nott'm Forest | 22 | 10 | 1 | 11 | 51 | 44 | 31 |
| Newcastle | 22 | 9 | 3 | 10 | 41 | 46 | 30 |
| Barnsley | 20 | 9 | 1 | 10 | 31 | 36 | 28 |
| Wigan | 21 | 7 | 2 | 12 | 29 | 39 | 23 |
| Sheffield Utd | 22 | 7 | 2 | 13 | 22 | 55 | 23 |
| Huddersfield | 21 | 5 | 6 | 10 | 35 | 48 | 21 |
| Everton | 20 | 6 | 3 | 11 | 16 | 30 | 21 |
| WBA | 20 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 25 | 41 | 21 |

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE
FIXTURES 1985-86

| Date | v | Opponents | F | A |
|---------|---|---------------------|---|---|
| Aug 17 | H | Bolton 'A' | 3 | 3 |
| Aug 24 | A | Southport Res | 1 | 0 |
| Aug 31 | H | Burnley 'A' | 1 | 0 |
| Sept 7 | A | Tranmere Res | 5 | 2 |
| Sept 21 | H | Chester Res | 2 | 0 |
| Sept 28 | H | Crewe Res | 2 | 1 |
| Oct 5 | H | Barrow Res | 0 | 2 |
| Oct 26 | H | Bury Res | 3 | 2 |
| Nov 2 | H | Morecambe Res | 0 | 4 |
| Nov 9 | A | Manchester City 'A' | 1 | 4 |
| Nov 16 | A | Manchester Utd 'A' | 0 | 1 |
| Nov 23 | H | Marine Res | 1 | 0 |
| Dec 7 | H | UMIST | 3 | 0 |
| Dec 14 | H | Manchester City 'A' | 0 | 2 |
| Dec 21 | H | Southport Res | 2 | 0 |
| Dec 28 | A | Crewe Res | 5 | 0 |
| Jan 1 | A | Rochdale Res | 1 | 2 |
| Jan 9 | H | Rochdale Res | 2 | 1 |
| Jan 18 | A | Bolton 'A' | 3 | 0 |
| Jan 25 | A | S. Liverpool Res | 6 | 1 |
| Feb 1 | H | Tranmere Res | 2 | 1 |
| Feb 22 | H | S. Liverpool Res | 0 | 0 |
| Mar 1 | A | Burnley 'A' | 2 | 2 |
| Mar 1 | A | UMIST | 1 | 3 |
| Mar 8 | A | Marine Res | 1 | 1 |
| Mar 14 | A | Stockport Res | | |
| Apr 2 | A | Bury Res | | |
| Apr 9 | H | Manchester Utd 'A' | | |
| Apr 12 | H | Stockport Res | | |
| Apr 19 | A | Morecambe Res | | |
| May 3 | A | Barrow Res | | |
| May 7 | H | Alsager College | | |
| TBA | H | Liverpool 'A' | | |
| | A | Alsager College | | |
| | A | Liverpool 'A' | | |
| | A | Chester Res | | |

CENTRAL LEAGUE APPEARANCES
1985-86

| | A | G | | A | G |
|------------|------|---|------------|-------|---|
| Atkins | 4 | — | Oldroyd | 11(1) | — |
| Bailey | 7 | — | Parker J. | 6(2) | 1 |
| Billinge | 6 | — | Pender | 4 | — |
| Brooks | 4(5) | 1 | Pointon | 3 | 1 |
| Coyle | 7 | 2 | Poole | 2 | — |
| Danskin | 20 | — | Powell | 15(2) | 3 |
| Darracott | 2 | — | Rain | 21(1) | — |
| Deamer | 1 | — | Reid | 3 | — |
| Donnelly | 3 | — | Richardson | 8 | — |
| Harper | 5 | 1 | Rooney | 14(1) | — |
| Heath | 7 | — | Sharp | 1 | — |
| Hurst | 1 | — | Steggles | 1 | — |
| Lundon | 14 | — | Wakenshaw | 1 | 1 |
| Marshall | 12 | 1 | Walsh | 17 | — |
| Mimms | 19 | — | Ward | 1 | — |
| Mountfield | 1 | — | Wilkinson | 17 | 5 |

Substitute appearances in brackets

Substitute appearances in brackets

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES 85-86

| Date | V | Opposition | F | A | Att | Pos |
|---------|---|--------------------------|------|--------|-----|-----|
| Aug 17 | A | Leicester City | 1-3 | 16,932 | — | — |
| 20 | H | West Bromwich Albion | 2-0 | 26,788 | — | — |
| 24 | H | Coventry City | 1-1 | 27,691 | 11 | — |
| 26 | A | Tottenham Hotspur | 1-0 | 29,720 | 5 | — |
| 31 | H | Birmingham City | 4-1 | 28,066 | 5 | — |
| Sept 3 | A | Sheffield Wednesday | 5-1 | 30,065 | 2 | — |
| 7 | A | Queens Park Rangers | 0-3 | 16,544 | 4 | — |
| 14 | H | Luton Town | 2-0 | 26,419 | 2 | — |
| 18 | A | Manchester United (SC) | 4-2 | 33,859 | — | — |
| 21 | H | Liverpool | 2-3 | 51,509 | 6 | — |
| 25 | H | Bournemouth (MC 2-1L) | +3-2 | 13,930 | — | — |
| 28 | A | Aston Villa | 0-0 | 22,048 | 5 | — |
| Oct 2 | H | Norwich City (SC) | 1-0 | 10,329 | — | — |
| 5 | H | Oxford United | 2-0 | 24,553 | 4 | — |
| 8 | A | Bournemouth (MC 2-2L) | 2-0 | 8,081 | — | — |
| 12 | A | Chelsea | 1-2 | 27,634 | 6 | — |
| 19 | H | Watford | 4-1 | 26,425 | 6 | — |
| 23 | A | Norwich City (SC) | 0-1 | 12,196 | — | — |
| 26 | A | Manchester City | 1-1 | 28,807 | 4 | — |
| 29 | A | Shrewsbury Town (MC 3) | +4-1 | 10,246 | — | — |
| Nov 2 | A | West Ham United | 1-2 | 23,844 | 7 | — |
| 9 | H | Arsenal | 6-1 | 28,620 | 6 | — |
| 16 | A | Ipswich Town | 4-3 | 13,910 | 6 | — |
| 23 | H | Nottingham Forest | 1-1 | 27,860 | 6 | — |
| 26 | A | Chelsea (MC 4) | 2-2 | 27,544 | — | — |
| 30 | A | Southampton | 3-2 | 16,917 | 6 | — |
| Dec 4 | H | Manchester United (SC) | -1-0 | 20,542 | — | — |
| 7 | A | West Bromwich Albion | 3-0 | 12,206 | 6 | — |
| 10 | H | Chelsea (MC 4R) | 1-2 | 26,373 | — | — |
| 14 | H | Leicester City | 1-2 | 23,347 | 6 | — |
| 21 | A | Coventry City | 3-1 | 11,059 | 6 | — |
| 26 | H | Manchester United | 3-1 | 42,551 | 5 | — |
| 28 | H | Sheffield Wednesday | 3-1 | 41,536 | 3 | — |
| Jan 1 | A | Newcastle United | 2-2 | 27,820 | 2 | — |
| 5 | H | Exeter City (FAC 3) | 1-0 | 22,726 | — | — |
| 11 | H | Queens Park Rangers | 4-3 | 26,015 | 2 | — |
| 18 | A | Birmingham City | 2-0 | 10,502 | 2 | — |
| 25 | H | Blackburn Rovers (FAC4) | 3-1 | 41,831 | — | — |
| Feb 1 | H | Tottenham Hotspur | 1-0 | 33,178 | 1 | — |
| 5 | A | Tottenham Hotspur (SC) | 0-0 | 7,548 | — | — |
| 11 | H | Manchester City | 4-0 | 30,006 | 1 | — |
| 22 | A | Liverpool | 2-0 | 45,445 | 1 | — |
| Mar 1 | H | Aston Villa | 2-0 | 32,133 | 1 | — |
| 4 | A | Tottenham Hotspur (FAC5) | 2-1 | 23,338 | — | — |
| 8 | A | Luton Town (FAC6) | 2-2 | 15,529 | — | — |
| 12 | H | Luton Town (FAC6R) | | | | |
| 16 | H | Chelsea (2.35 pm) | | | | |
| 19 | H | Tottenham Hotspur (SC) | | | | |
| 22 | A | Luton Town | | | | |
| 29 | H | Newcastle United | | | | |
| 31 | A | Manchester United | | | | |
| April 5 | H | West Ham Utd (11 am) | | | | |
| 12 | A | Arsenal | | | | |
| 15 | A | Watford | | | | |
| 19 | H | Ipswich Town | | | | |
| 26 | A | Nottingham Forest | | | | |
| 30 | A | Oxford United | | | | |
| May 3 | H | Southampton | | | | |

KEY TO CUP COMPETITIONS

MC = Milk Cup

SC = Screen Sport Super Cup

FAC = FA Cup

RESULTS · ATTENDANCES · APPEARANCES AND GOALSCORERS

| Date | V | Opposition | FA | Att | Fvs | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|--------|---|--------------------------|------|--------|-----|----------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Aug 17 | A | Leicester City | 1-3 | 16,932 | — | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Mountfield ¹ | Reid | Steven | Lineker | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy* | Heath● |
| 20 | H | West Bromwich Albion | 2-0 | 26,788 | — | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Marshall | Harper | Steven | Lineker | Heath ² | Bracewell | Sheedy | Atkins |
| 24 | H | Coventry City | 1-1 | 27,691 | 11 | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Harper | Marshall | Heath | Steven | Lineker | Sharp ¹ | Bracewell | Sheedy* | Atkins● |
| 26 | A | Tottenham Hotspur | 1-0 | 29,720 | 5 | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Marshall | Harper | Steven | Lineker ¹ | Heath* | Bracewell | Sheedy | Sharp● |
| 31 | H | Birmingham City | 4-1 | 28,066 | 5 | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Mountfield | Reid | Steven ¹ | Lineker ³ | Heath | Bracewell | Sheedy | Sharp |
| Sept 3 | A | Sheffield Wednesday | 5-1 | 30,066 | 2 | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Mountfield ¹ | Reid* | Steven ¹ | Lineker ² | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy | Heath ¹ ● |
| 7 | A | Queens Park Rangers | 0-3 | 16,544 | 4 | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Mountfield | Reid | Steven | Lineker | Sharp | Bracewell | Heath | Marshall |
| 14 | H | Luton Town | 2-0 | 26,419 | 2 | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Mountfield | Harper | Steven | Lineker | Heath* | Bracewell | Sheedy ¹ | Sharp ¹ ● |
| 18 | A | Manchester United (SC) | 4-2 | 33,869 | — | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Marshall | Harper | Steven | Lineker ¹ * | Sharp ¹ | Bracewell | Sheedy ² | Heath● / Bailey |
| 21 | H | Liverpool | 2-3 | 51,509 | 6 | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Marshall* | Harper | Steven | Lineker ¹ | Sharp ¹ | Bracewell | Sheedy | Heath● |
| 25 | H | Bournemouth (MC 2-1L) | +3-2 | 13,930 | — | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Marshall ¹ | Harper | Steven | Lineker ¹ | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy | Heath |
| 28 | A | Aston Villa | 0-0 | 22,048 | 5 | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Marshall | Harper | Steven | Lineker | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy | Heath |
| Oct 2 | H | Norwich City (SC) | 1-0 | 10,329 | — | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Marshall | Harper | Steven | Lineker ¹ | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy | Wilkinson/ Richardson |
| 5 | H | Oxford United | 2-0 | 24,553 | 4 | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Marshall | Harper | Steven | Lineker | Sharp ¹ | Bracewell ¹ | Sheedy* | Richardson● |
| 8 | A | Bournemouth (MC 2-2L) | 2-0 | 8,081 | — | Southall | Stevens | Bailey | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Richardson ¹ | Steven | Lineker ¹ | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy | Wilkinson |
| 12 | A | Chelsea | 1-2 | 27,634 | 6 | Southall | Stevens | Bailey | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Richardson* | Steven | Lineker | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy ¹ | Heath● |
| 19 | H | Watford | 4-1 | 26,425 | 6 | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Marshall* | Heath ¹ | Steven | Lineker | Sharp ² | Bracewell ¹ | Sheedy | Harper● |
| 23 | A | Norwich City (SC) | 0-1 | 12,196 | — | Southall | Stevens | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Harper | Heath | Steven | Lineker* | Sharp* | Bracewell | Sheedy | Wilkinson● / Richardson● |
| 26 | A | Manchester City | 1-1 | 28,807 | 4 | Mirms | Stevens | Harper | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Heath ¹ | Steven | Lineker | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy* | Richardson● |
| 29 | A | Shrewsbury Town (MC 3) | +4-1 | 10,246 | — | Southall | Stevens | Harper | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Heath ¹ | Steven | Lineker | Sharp ¹ | Bracewell | Sheedy ¹ | Richardson |
| Nov 2 | A | West Ham United | 1-2 | 23,844 | 7 | Southall | Stevens | Harper | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Heath | Steven ¹ | Lineker | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy | Richardson |
| 9 | H | Arsenal | 6-1 | 28,620 | 6 | Southall | Harper | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Stevens | Heath ² | Steven ¹ | Lineker ² | Sharp ¹ | Bracewell | Sheedy | Richardson |
| 16 | A | Ipswich Town | 4-3 | 13,910 | 6 | Southall | Harper | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Stevens | Heath ¹ | Steven ¹ | Lineker | Sharp ¹ | Bracewell | Sheedy ¹ | Richardson |
| 23 | H | Nottingham Forest | 1-1 | 27,860 | 6 | Southall | Harper | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Stevens | Heath | Steven | Lineker | Sharp | Bracewell ¹ | Sheedy | Richardson |
| 26 | A | Chelsea (MC 4) | 2-2 | 27,544 | — | Southall | Harper | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Stevens | Heath | Steven | Lineker | Sharp | Bracewell ¹ | Sheedy ¹ | Richardson |
| 30 | A | Southampton | 3-2 | 16,917 | 6 | Southall | Harper | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Stevens | Heath ¹ | Steven ¹ | Lineker ¹ | Wilkinson | Bracewell | Sheedy | Richardson Pointon● / Sheedy |
| Dec 4 | H | Manchester United (SC) | -1-0 | 20,542 | — | Southall | Harper* | Van d Hauwe | Ratcliffe | Stevens | Heath | Steven | Lineker | Wilkinson | Bracewell | Richardson | Pointon● / Sheedy |
| 7 | A | West Bromwich Albion | 3-0 | 12,206 | 6 | Southall | Harper | Van d Hauwe ¹ | Ratcliffe | Stevens | Heath | Steven | Lineker ¹ | Wilkinson | Bracewell* | Sheedy ¹ | Pointon● |
| 10 | H | Chelsea (MC 4R) | 1-2 | 26,373 | — | Southall | Harper | Van d Hauwe* | Ratcliffe | Stevens | Heath | Steven | Lineker ¹ | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy ¹ | Marshall● |
| 14 | H | Leicester City | 1-2 | 23,347 | 6 | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Marshall | Heath | Steven | Lineker | Sharp | Bracewell | Richardson ¹ | Harper |
| 21 | A | Coventry City | 3-1 | 11,069 | 6 | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Heath | Steven | Lineker ² | Sharp ¹ | Bracewell | Sheedy | Richardson |
| 26 | H | Manchester United | 3-1 | 42,551 | 5 | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Heath | Steven | Lineker ¹ | Sharp ² | Bracewell | Sheedy | Harper |
| 28 | H | Sheffield Wednesday | 3-1 | 41,536 | 3 | Southall | Stevens ¹ | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Heath* | Steven | Lineker ² | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy | Harper● |
| Jan 1 | A | Newcastle United | 2-2 | 27,820 | 2 | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Heath | Steven ¹ | Lineker | Sharp ¹ | Bracewell* | Sheedy | Harper● |
| 5 | H | Exeter City (FAC 3) | 1-0 | 22,726 | — | Southall | Stevens ¹ | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Heath | Harper | Lineker | Sharp | Richardson | Wilkinson | Danskin |
| 11 | H | Queens Park Rangers | 4-3 | 26,015 | 2 | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Heath | Harper | Lineker ¹ | Sharp ² | Richardson | Sheedy* | Wilkinson ¹ ● |
| 18 | A | Birmingham City | 2-0 | 10,502 | 2 | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Harper | Steven | Lineker ² | Sharp | Richardson | Heath | Wilkinson |
| 25 | H | Blackburn Rovers (FAC4) | 3-1 | 41,831 | — | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe ¹ | Richardson | Steven | Lineker ² | Sharp | Bracewell | Sheedy* | Harper● |
| Feb 1 | H | Tottenham Hotspur | 1-0 | 33,178 | 1 | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Reid ¹ | Steven | Lineker | Sharp | Bracewell | Richardson | Wilkinson |
| 5 | A | Tottenham Hotspur (SC) | 0-0 | 7,548 | — | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Marshall | Van d Hauwe | Reid | Steven | Coyle | Wilkinson | Billinge | Richardson | Walsh / Danskin |
| 11 | H | Manchester City | 4-0 | 30,006 | 1 | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Reid | Steven | Lineker ³ | Sharp ¹ | Bracewell | Sheedy* | Richardson● |
| 22 | A | Liverpool | 2-0 | 45,445 | 1 | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Ratcliffe ¹ | Van d Hauwe | Reid | Steven | Lineker ¹ | Sharp | Bracewell* | Richardson | Harper● |
| Mar 1 | H | Aston Villa | 2-0 | 32,133 | 1 | Southall | Stevens | Pointon | Ratcliffe | Van d Hauwe | Reid | Steven | Lineker ¹ | Sharp ¹ | Heath | Richardson | Harper |
| 4 | A | Tottenham Hotspur (FAC5) | 2-1 | 23,338 | — | Southall | Harper | Pointon | Ratcliffe* | Van d Hauwe | Reid | Steven | Lineker ¹ | Sharp | Bracewell | Richardson | Heath ¹ ● |
| 8 | A | Luton Town (FAC6) | 2-2 | 15,529 | — | Southall | Stevens | Pointon* | Harper | Van d Hauwe | Reid | Steven | Lineker | Sharp ¹ | Bracewell | Richardson | Heath ¹ ● |

Statistics

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES, SCORERS 1985-86

| Player | Birthdate | League 1985-86 Apps Gls | Cups 1985-86 Apps Gls | Everton League Career Apps Gls | Previous League Career Apps Gls |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Warren Aspinall | 13.9.67 | — | — | — | 37 13 |
| Peter Billinge | 24.10.64 | — | 1 | — | — |
| Paul Bracewell | 19.7.62 | 28 3 | 12 1 | 65 5 | 167 9 |
| Darrin Coyle | 27.3.65 | — | 1 | — | — |
| Jason Danskin | 28.12.67 | — | — | 1 | — |
| Alan Harper | 1.11.60 | 16(4) | 11(1) | 52(9) | 1 |
| Adrian Heath | 11.1.61 | 22(4) | 9 6(3) | 134(5) | 48 95 |
| Gary Lineker | 30.11.60 | 31 24 | 13 8 | 29 24 | 194 95 |
| Ian Marshall | 20.3.66 | 8 | 4(1) | 8 | — |
| Bobby Mimms | 12.10.63 | 1 | — | 1 | 83 |
| Derek Mountfield | 2.11.62 | 5 2 | — | 74 15 | 26 1 |
| Darren Oldroyd | 1.11.66 | — | — | —(1) | — |
| Neil Pointon | 28.11.64 | 12(1) | 5(1) | 12(1) | 159 2 |
| Kevin Ratcliffe | 12.11.60 | 30 1 | 12 | 184(1) | 2 |
| Peter Reid | 20.6.56 | 8 1 | 3 | 85(1) | 5 225 23 |
| Kevin Richardson | 4.12.62 | 7(3) | 1 8(1) | 85(15) | 14 |
| Graeme Sharp | 16.10.60 | 25(2) | 16 12 3 | 157(10) | 74 40 17 |
| Kevin Sheedy | 21.10.59 | 25 4 | 8 4 | 122 30 | 54 4 |
| Neville Southall | 16.9.58 | 30 | 14 | 150 | 48 |
| Trevor Steven | 21.9.63 | 30 7 | 13 | 93(4) | 20 76 11 |
| Gary Stevens | 27.3.63 | 31 1 | 13 1 | 141(1) | 6 |
| Mike Stowell | 19.4.65 | — | — | — | — |
| Pat Van den Hauwe | 16.12.60 | 29 1 | 14 1 | 60 1 | 123 1 |
| Derek Walsh | 24.10.67 | — | — | 1 | — |
| Paul Wilkinson | 30.10.64 | 2(1) | 1 3(1) | 6(2) | 3 71 27 |
| Own Goals | — | — | 3 | — | — |

ALSO PLAYED: Ian Atkins (now Ipswich) — (1) League; John Bailey (now Newcastle) 1 League, 1 Cup.

Substitute appearances in brackets for 1985-86 and Everton League career.

Previous League career includes substitute appearances and games while on loan from Everton.

(Up to and including Saturday 8th March 1986)

FIRST DIVISION STATISTICS 1985-86

Highest Attendance:
54,575 Manchester United v Tottenham — 16.11.85

Lowest Attendance:
6,856 Birmingham v Ipswich Town — 11.1.86

Highest Home Win:
Luton Town 7 Southampton 0 — 19.10.85

Highest Away Wins:
Sheffield Wed 1 Everton 5 — 3.9.85
WBA 1 Manchester United 5 — 21.9.85

Most Goals in a League Match:
3 Colin West (Watford) v WBA — 24.8.85
3 Gary Lineker (Everton) v Birmingham — 31.8.85
3 Steve Moran (Southampton) v Watford — 5.10.85
3 Brian Stein (Luton) v Southampton — 19.10.85
3 Peter Davenport (Nott'm Forest) v Arsenal — 26.10.85
3 John Aldridge (Oxford) v Ipswich — 23.11.85
3 Mick Harford (Luton) v Leicester — 1.1.86
3 Neil Webb (Nott'm Forest) v Coventry — 1.1.86
3 Gary Lineker (Everton) v Man City — 11.2.85
3 Jesper Olsen (Manchester Utd) v WBA — 22.2.86
3 Carl Shutt (Sheffield Wed) v B'ham — 8.3.86

Leading Scorers
(Including League, Milk Cup, Super Cup, Full Members' Cup, FA Cup)

32 Gary Lineker (Everton)
23 John Aldridge (Oxford United)
22 Mike Newell (Luton Town)
21 Kerry Dixon (Chelsea)
21 Frank McAvennie (West Ham United)
21 Ian Rush (Liverpool)
19 Mick Harford (Luton Town)
19 Graeme Sharp (Everton)
18 Paul Walsh (Liverpool)
17 David Speedie (Chelsea)
16 David Armstrong (Southampton)
16 Tony Cottee (West Ham United)
16 Mark Falco (Tottenham)
16 Charlie Nicholas (Arsenal)
16 Simon Stainrod (Aston Villa)
16 Brian Stein (Luton Town)
15 Lee Chapman (Sheffield Wednesday)
15 Jan Molby (Liverpool)
15 Alan Smith (Leicester City)
14 Peter Beardsley (Newcastle United)
14 Peter Davenport (Nott'm Forest)
14 Terry Gibson (Manchester United)
14 Colin West (Watford)
13 Mark Hughes (Manchester United)
13 Mark Lillis (Manchester City)
13 Brian Marwood (Sheffield Wednesday)
13 Kevin Wilson (Ipswich Town)
12 Gary Bannister (QPR)
12 Jesper Olsen (QPR)
12 Imre Varadi (WBA)
12 Neil Webb (Nottingham Forest)
12 Billy Whitehurst (Newcastle United)
12 Danny Wallace (Southampton)
12 Adrian Heath (Everton)

Fact File

No. 22 DEREK MOUNTFIELD

Full name:

Derek Neal Mountfield.

Birthplace:

Old Swan (Liverpool).

Birthdate:

2nd November 1962.

Married: To, Julie.

Where live: Heswall.

Car: Toyota Celica.

Nickname: Don't have one.

Previous club:

Tranmere Rovers.

International honours:

England Under-21 and 'B' caps.

Club honours: FA Cup, League

Championship, FA Charity Shield

(2), European Cup-Winners' Cup.

Best English stadium played

in: Old Trafford.



Best foreign stadium played in:
Olympic Stadium, Munich.

Magic moment in football:
Scoring the FA Cup semi-final

winner against Luton last season.

Worst moment in football:

Losing the FA Cup Final. It was definitely no consolation that we had won at Wembley the previous year.

Most memorable match: The European Cup-Winners' Cup Final.

Player for the future:

Gary Powell.

Favourite other team:

Tranmere Rovers.

Favourite other player:

Andy Gray.

Club supported as a boy:

Everton — I had a season ticket at The Street End.

Biggest influences on career:

Bryan Hamilton, at Tranmere, and all the coaches at Everton.

What would you like to change

in football: Hooliganism. We

must get rid of the rowdy element

and make it a family game again.

Favourite other sports:

Baseball, American Football, Golf.

Favourite other sports

personality: Steve Cram.

Favourite TV show: EastEnders

— my wife has got me hooked on the series now!

TV show you like least:

Emmerdale Farm.

Favourite reading: Sports

autobiographies.

Musical taste: Dire Straits.

Best film seen recently:

The Natural.

Dislikes/likes: Being

injured and losing/Going out for a nice meal with my wife.

Hobby: At the moment,

it's decorating, after moving into a new house!

Holiday spots last year:

Cornwall and Anglesey.

Favourite food/drink:

Macaroni Cheese/

Southern Comfort.

Pre-match meal:

Scrambled eggs

on toast.

Who would you most

like to meet:

Dennis Taylor.

For information on space in this programme and perimeter advertising sites at Goodison Park, please contact:

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121 Upper Aughton Road, Birkdale,

Southport, Merseyside

Telephone: Southport (71) 66423

Down The Years

5 YEARS AGO:

We were engaged in another sixth round FA Cup replay, at Manchester City. Though we held out to the interval at 0-0, two goals after the break from Bobby McDonald and another from Paul Power gave City a 3-1 win. Peter Eastoe scored our goal. We had drawn 2-2 in the first game at Goodison Park, Peter Eastoe and Trevor Ross (penalty) getting our goals. Luton were out of the Cup but were trying to catch up in the chase for promotion from the Second Division. A goal from Brian Stein had given them a useful 1-0 victory away to second placed Notts County the previous Saturday. Arsenal, out of the Cup, saw probably their last chance of catching the main contenders for the Championship disappear when they went down 0-1 at Leicester the previous Saturday. Tommy Williams scored Leicester's goal. Three of the four sixth round FA Cup-ties had gone into replays, the only outright winners on the Saturday being Tottenham who beat Third Division Exeter City 2-0 at White Hart Lane. A goal from Arnold Muhren gave Ipswich a 1-0 replay victory over Nottingham Forest at Portman Road. The teams had drawn 3-3 at Nottingham. Wolves, who had drawn 1-1 at Middlesbrough, won their replay 3-1. Mel Eves, John Richards and Norman Bell got the goals. In a mid-week League match, Tottenham were held at home to 2-2 by Stoke City.

15 YEARS AGO:

Our opponents in the sixth round of the FA Cup were Fourth Division Colchester, who had created a sensation by knocking out the then all-conquering First Division leaders Leeds United in the previous round. But, from the moment when Howard Kendall put the Toffees in front in the 23rd minute, there was never any chance of another giant-killing act. The 53,028 fans at Goodison relaxed as Kendall scored again and further goals came from Joe Royle and Jimmy Husband before the interval. The pace slackened after the break but Alan Ball added a fifth for the Toffees in the 83rd minute. In addition to the big crowd at Goodison, a further 54,731 packed Anfield to watch the goalless draw with Tottenham in the sixth round. Liverpool later won the replay 1-0 at White Hart Lane to qualify for a semi-final confrontation with the Toffees. A Charlie George goal was sufficient to give Arsenal a 1-0 replay win over Leicester at Highbury after the teams had drawn 0-0 at Leicester. Two goals from Ken Wagstaff gave Second Division Hull City an early 2-0 lead at home to First Division Stoke. Terry Conroy scored for Stoke on the stroke of half-time and two goals from John Ritchie after the break took Stoke through. In League football, a hat-trick from Tony Brown helped West Bromwich to a 4-3 home win over Manchester United. Blackpool lost 0-2 at Chelsea and, in another First Division game, Burnley went down 0-1 at home to Southampton.

25 YEARS AGO:

We were no longer interested in the FA Cup but, on the previous Saturday, a goal from Jimmy Gabriel had given us a 1-0 home win over Fulham. An own-goal by former Everton player John Bramwell left Luton a goal down at home to Derby in a Second Division game. Jim Fleming scored the goal that earned the Hatters a point. Arsenal, out of the FA Cup, drew 2-2 at Aston Villa on the Saturday. Joe Haverty and John Barnwell were their scorers. Tottenham, holding a nine-point lead in the First Division, were trying to become the first club this century to win the Cup-League double. Though Cliff Jones gave them the lead at Sunderland in their sixth round tie, Willie McPheat equalised. A crowd of 64,797 packed White Hart Lane for the replay and thousands more were locked outside, as Spurs really went to town. Les Allen, Bobby Smith, Terry Dyson (2) and Dave Mackay all scored as Tottenham won 5-0. Only one of the four sixth round ties was resolved at the first attempt, a hat-trick from Bill Russell giving Sheffield United a 3-1 win at Newcastle. After drawing 0-0 at Hillsborough, Burnley beat Sheffield Wednesday 2-0 in their replay, seen by 48,000 at Turf Moor. Third Division Barnsley were highly optimistic after holding First Division Leicester to 0-0 at Filbert Street. Their replay drew 39,250 to Oakwell but it was Leicester who came out on top 2-1. Wimbledon, the club currently chasing promotion to the First Division, were in the Isthmian League but they also had Wembley in sight. The Dons drew 2-2 away to Whitley Bay in a third round replay in the FA Amateur Cup.

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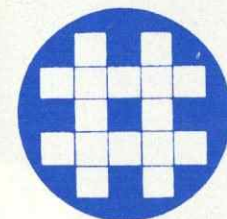
Puzzle Page

FITNESS TEST No. 23

Re-arrange all the letters of MARTIN DOBSON to create four four-lettered words that fit down the edges of the diamond.



ON THE BALL No. 23



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

Defend effectively
Bartley maybe
One of soccer's Clarkes . . .
. . . one of his brothers

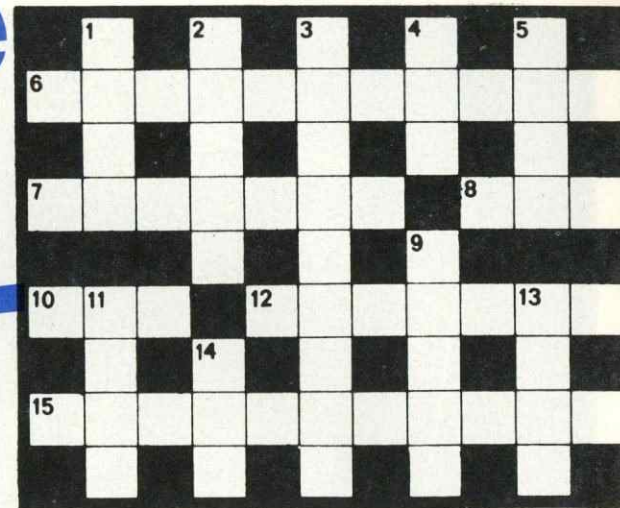
SOCCER CENTURION No. 23

Tot up exactly a ton adding the numbers indicated by these clues:

- Real Madrid's European Cup wins
- Sir Stanley Rous was president of FIFA until 19__
- Top score this century (UK) by Stirling Albion in 1984

QUICK QUIZ No. 23

1. Which country hosts at the 'Stadium of 23rd August'?
2. Who was born on 23rd August 1941 and had a record run with Wrexham, the club he later managed?
3. In 1985 the England v Scotland series reached 40 wins apiece with 23 drawn - true or false?
4. Which Derby and Middlesbrough scoring ace won 23 England caps . . . and netted 28 goals?
5. What famous national stadium opened in 1923?



SOCCER NINETY-NINER No. 23

Across:

6. Blackburn's overall top scorer in each of the last four seasons (5, 6)
7. A special match laid on by a club to provide a loyalty bonus for one of its long-servers (7)
- 8 & 10. Basically Bournemouth's strip (3, 3)
12. One of the things a supporter may wear to show his allegiance (7)
15. In which, for example, Oldham opposed Portsmouth this season (8, 3)

Down:

1. Bob Latchford's goal tally for England (4)
2. Defender who began with Bolton in 1970 and stayed there until 1983, when he transferred to Huddersfield (5)
3. Keeper whose career has run: Chesterfield, Liverpool, Shrewsbury, Coventry (9)
4. It could be the pitch condition at the start or end of the season (3)
5. Norman ____, Wolves and Blackburn striker struck down by injury (4)
9. Former Celtic, Luton and Scotland 'Dixie' (5)
11. ____ Gerets, Belgian star reinstated in the national side this season after a long time out following the country's bribery scandal (4)
13. It could come after Ipswich for instance (4)
14. The number of clubs John Smith served in the 1960s and 1970s after his century of turn-outs for West Ham in the 1950s (3)

ANSWERS:

Quick Quiz: 1. Romania; 2. Arfon Griffiths; 3. True; 4. Steve Bloomer; 5. Wembley.
Soccer Centurion: (6 + 74 + 20)
On The Ball: (clear) (Danny) (Wayne) (Allan)
Fitness Test: (Tomb/Bind, Tors/Sand)
Ogrizovic; 4. dry; 5. Bell; 9. Deans; 11. Eric; 13. Town; 14. six.
all red; 12. rosette; 15. Division Two. Down: 1. five; 2. Jones; 3. 10.
Soccer Ninety-Niner - Across: 6. Simon Garner; 7. benefit; 8 & 10.



GARY JUST KEEPS ON SCORING . . .

Another goal for Gary . . . this time scoring Everton's second goal against Liverpool, bringing his tally to 30 this season.

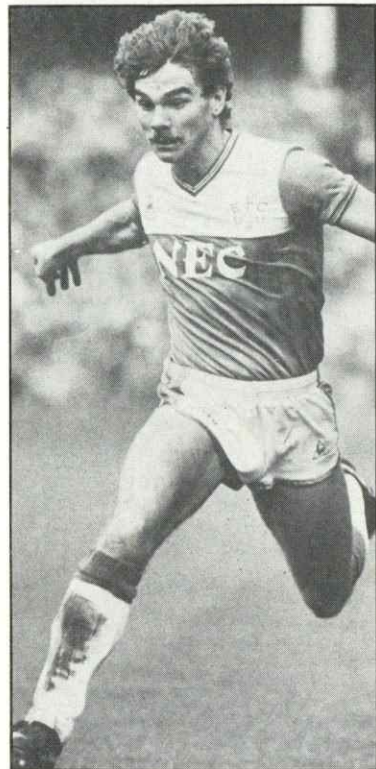


News Desk...

NEIL'S NEW LANDMARK

Neil Pointon reached another landmark in his fast-climbing career when he made his first appearance in the Merseyside derby.

'And it lived up to all my expectations,' said the 21-year-old left-back who surpassed his wildest dreams by playing in a dozen League games in his first three months after leaving



NEIL POINTON

the Fourth Division with Scunthorpe United. 'The atmosphere at Anfield was tremendous,' he added. 'I was almost frightened to look at the crowd, but I had a good look as I was coming off at the end. I regard it as a privilege to have played on one of the best-known grounds in the world.'

'The pace of the game was very quick and I thought it passed me by at times. I was trying to do the right things, but there wasn't always the time to get the ball down. Still, it was good experience and I enjoyed every minute.'

When Neil joined the club, we were 12 points behind Manchester United and he didn't expect to be in the first team. Yet now he has been in a side leading the League for more than a month.

'Only the other day, I was looking in the paper at the table showing current form, and to be part of a run like we've had is tremendous,' he says.

'But all I'm hoping is that I'm showing signs I can be a good player for the future. At first, I didn't find the First Division too different, but I'm finding it different now. The players I'm up against are top-quality, and I've got to step up my game to deal with them.'

NOT-SO-NEUTRAL!

Derek Mountfield did not claim to be a neutral when he joined the BBC Radio Two team broadcasting the second-half from the derby match at Anfield.

'Neutral? You must be joking!' said Derek. 'I was the most excited person on the commentary stand when Kevin Ratcliffe scored the first goal.'

'Peter Jones was commentating at the time and I was a couple of seats away from him. When Kevin got the ball, I was shouting, "Rats — don't shoot!" But he did and when the ball went in, I was up out of my seat like any supporter!'

'It was the first time I had done any broadcasting on national radio, and I enjoyed the day. It was nice to be asked and

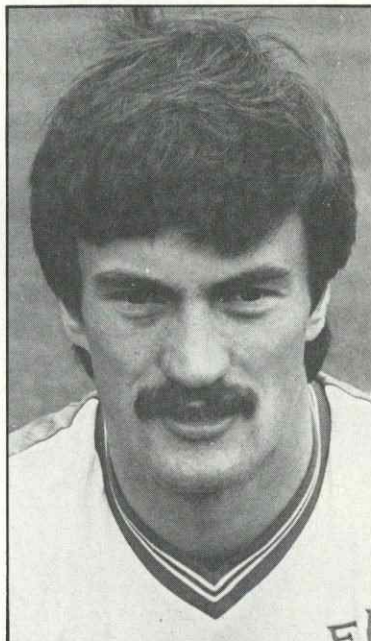
even nicer to do so because we won.'

Derek came back from three weeks at a rehabilitation centre in Farnham in good spirits and confident that his knee is ready to stand the test of a comeback game, around six months since his cartilage operation.

'I think it was nearly right before I went to Farnham,' he says. 'Going there was the last stage. The knee gave me no trouble at all, and the only problem was that I got a thigh strain in my other leg when I came back here.'

'It was hard work down there — seven sessions a day. But everything was different and better for me than doing the same things every day at Bellefield.'

'There were about 50 people down there and we were split into groups. There were



DEREK MOUNTFIELD

one or two other footballers — Eamonn O'Keefe and David Mills — but the other people came from all walks of life.' On his return, Derek had to wait for the hard ground to thaw out before he could make his comeback appearance. He eventually came through a good work out against South Liverpool in the Senior Cup.

MICK SIDELINED...

The coaching staff is not immune from the injuries which have affected the team.

Mick Heaton has been struggling since Christmas with a tendon problem in the heel of his right foot.

At first, it was hoped that an injection, followed by a fortnight's rest, would cure the trouble, but Mick was back to square one when he pulled up in pain towards the end of his first comeback session in a seven-a-side game in the indoor arena.

WELCOME...

Our latest schoolboy signings are...

Richard Scanlan, a midfielder with Sefton Under-14s, who attends Holy Family HS, Thornton, and Jason Bridge, a centre-forward from Priory HS, Burscough, who plays for Dynamo Burscough and has represented the Craven Minor League.

CABARET AT GOODISON

Saturday night is Cabaret night at Goodison Park. You can enjoy top local acts and dancing to resident DJ Pete Turner for only £1.50 (pay at the door). Forthcoming attractions...

March 21st: Royal Variety Showband (Comedy Show).

April 5th: Airtight (4 Boys Showgroup).

April 12th: Vision (Boy/Girl Duo) and Derek Allen (Comic).

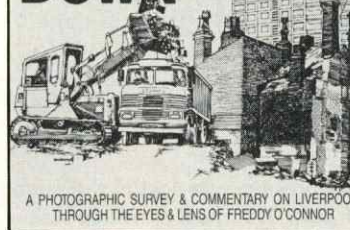
April 19th: Fizzy Drinks (Bee Bop and Rock and Roll Group).

HOW LIVERPOOL TUMBLED DOWN...

Two brothers who have supported Everton for 30 years have produced a fascinating book which chronicles the re-development of Liverpool.

The title says everything. 'It All Came Tumbling Down' is a graphic record of the streets and buildings which were home to real Scousers before the demolition

LIVERPOOL IT ALL CAME TUMBLING DOWN



contractors moved in during the last two decades.

Freddy O'Connor, the writer and photographer, and his brother, Frank, who is credited as the inspiration behind the book, have largely ignored the obvious changes in the city centre and concentrated on the Liverpool of the people.

'In so many cases,' writes Freddy, 'it was all I could do to get there with my camera before the bulldozer destroyed the evidence.'

The result is 80 pages of pure nostalgia yet also a valuable social document which, in time, will surely take its own place in the history of the city.

The project occupied a little over four years, but was not allowed to interfere with the O'Connor brothers' enthusiasm for Everton. 'We've been going to Goodison for 30 years — since our Boys' Pen says for ninepence!' says Frank, who actually played here in April 1962 for his school team, Our Lady Immaculate RC.

'Our joint regret is that we never saw the great Dixie Dean. My Father, Fred, has supported The Blues since the 1920s and myself and four brothers were raised on the exploits of Tommy Lawton, Joe Mercer, Cliff Britton and their likes.'

'I have two brothers now living abroad, so Freddy and myself take his two two

children, Paul (10) and Stephen (8), to every home game on the Gwladys Street terrace. This should mean the O'Connor-Everton line will continue for many years.'

● 'It All Came Tumbling Down' is published (price £2.95) by Brunswick Printing and Publishing Co Ltd, Gibraltar Row, Liverpool 3.

FANTAIL FLYING HIGH

Congratulations to Fantail Autex on reaching the semi-finals of the FA Sunday Cup, in which they were drawn to meet the Wirral club, Avenue.

Fantail, who won this All-England competition in 1980 and 1981, are sponsored by the Autex Group. They are members of the Liverpool Sunday League and play their home matches at Kirkby Town's ground.

SHAREHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION

Everton Shareholders' Association will hold their Annual Dinner and Dance at the Royal Blue Restaurant, Goodison Park, on Monday 14th April (7 pm for 7.30 pm).

Tickets (price £6) are now available for Shareholders and friends from: Mrs E. Jones, Honorary Secretary, 19 Magazine Brow, Wallasey. Tel: 051-639 1709. Early application is essential.

PROGRAMME FAIRS

The Manchester United Programme Fair will be held on Sunday 23rd March (11 am to 3 pm) at Stretford Sports Centre, Old Trafford.

The Manchester City Programme Fair will be staged on Sunday 27th April (11 am to 3 pm) at the Social Club, Maine Road.

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LUTON TOWN

Tonight's re-run of last season's Everton-Luton Town FA Cup semi-final takes place in very different circumstances for David Pleat's talented side from Kenilworth Road.

When the teams met at Villa Park last April, Luton were in 20th place and heavily involved in relegation matters, but this year, The Hatters went into the quarter-finals holding sixth position in the First Division.

Their development is a credit to Mr Pleat's skill as a transfer wheeler-dealer — not forgetting that Luton also have an excellent Youth policy — and his passion for playing the game in the right spirit.

After eight years' building up the club from the lower reaches of the Second Division, the 41-year-old East Midlander is now the fourth longest-serving manager in Division One. Only John Lyall, Brian Clough and Graham Taylor

have been in their present jobs for a longer period of time.

Mr Pleat is perfectly cut out for Luton's requirements, both as a businessman and a football purist. A good example of his ability to make money for the club came when he bought Paul Walsh and Paul Elliott for around £545,000. He has since doubled his money by selling the former Charlton pair.

The present side cost in the region of £800,000, most of which was spent on four players who were brought in to lift Luton to safety last season. Steve Foster, Peter Nicholas and Mick Harford introduced inspirational qualities through the middle of the team, while David Preece moved in from the Third Division and immediately became an important figure in the play-making area.

Nicholas and Preece were ineligible for the FA Cup exploits, but the big men — Foster at centre-half and Harford at centre-forward — were figureheads on a trail that ended one stop short of Wembley.

If one of the newcomers could be picked out as a special influence on Luton's impressive progress, then many people would nominate Harford. The 27-year-old striker is now on the fringe of the England squad and has a considerable fan club, supporting his claim to be on the plane to Mexico in May. The change in Luton's fortunes since they bought him from Birmingham City for £250,000 some 15 months ago must be linked in part with Harford's goal-scoring.

When he made his debut in December 1984, The Hatters were 20th in the League with 17 points from 18 games. They finished last season with 51 points and already this term, they have 51 from 31 matches.

Significantly, Harford scored 16 goals in 22 League games last season and has reached 16 in 28 League outings in the current campaign. It's a record which puts him alongside the best, and with Brian chipping in with 14 League goals so far this season, Luton have one of the most successful partnerships in the country. Mr Pleat sees Harford as 'another option' in a side that has always been noted for its footballing

ideals. 'If we get stuck, we can just knock the ball in the box, knowing that somebody might get on the end of it,' says manager. 'We've always had to work for every chance before.'

Luton have again been busy in the transfer market since they were last at Goodison Park in the League in September.

Former Everton favourite Andy King returned in December to the club where he began his career. Luton paid a five-figure fee to sign him from Wolves, for whom he scored 10 goals in 20 League games in the early part of this season.

Paul Elliott, who lost the centre-half position to Foster while recovering from a broken leg, moved to Aston Villa for £400,000 soon after King's arrival. Mr Pleat then invested £85,000 in Wigan's top scorer, Mike Newell, to provide valuable cover when the regular strikers hit injury troubles. Nigerian international Emeka Nwajiobi was out for more than three months because of a broken bone in his foot. Harford was also missing in January but made a remarkable recovery from a cartilage operation, returning to the side in less than three weeks. Almost as soon as Harford came back, Stein went into hospital for a similar operation. As Newell was Cup-tied, this meant an extended run for teenager Mark North, until Luton recalled Stein's younger brother, Mark from a loan spell

LUTON TOWN STATISTICS 1985-86

| Player | Birthplace | Previous Clubs | League Career | | 1985-86 League | |
|-----------------|---------------|--|---------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| | | | Apps | Goals | Apps | Goals |
| Tim Breacker | Bicester | — | 63 | — | 31 | — |
| Ray Daniel | Luton | — | 26 | 4 | 2(3) | 1 |
| Andrew Dibble | Cwmbran | Cardiff | 84 | — | 7 | — |
| Mal Donaghy | Belfast | Larne | 319 | 15 | 40 | — |
| Steve Foster | Portsmouth | Portsmouth, Brighton, Aston Villa | 345 | 18 | 34 | 3 |
| Ashley Grimes | Dublin | Bohemians, Man United, Coventry | 134 | 11 | 2(2) | — |
| Mick Harford | Sunderland | Lincoln, Newcastle, Bristol City, Birmingham | 306 | 113 | 36 | 19 |
| Ricky Hill | Paddington | — | 346 | 46 | 37 | 5 |
| Rob Johnson | Bedford | — | 12 | — | 11 | — |
| Andy King | Luton | Luton, Everton, QPR, WBA, Everton, Wolves | 313 | 81 | 5 | — |
| Mike Newell | Liverpool | Crewe, Wigan | 80 | 27 | 6 | 3 |
| Peter Nicholas | Newport | C. Palace, Arsenal, C. Palace | 283 | 15 | 38 | — |
| Mark North | Ware | — | 16 | 3 | 14(4) | 5 |
| Stacey North | Luton | — | 9 | — | 1 | — |
| Emeka Nwajiobi | Nigeria | Dulwich Hamlet | 51 | 14 | 21 | 5 |
| David Preece | Bridgnorth | Walsall | 162 | 8 | 38 | 3 |
| Les Sealey | Bethnal Green | Coventry | 256 | — | 33 | — |
| Brian Stein | Capetown | Edgware | 318 | 106 | 35 | 16 |
| Mark Stein | Capetown | — | 5 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Mitchell Thomas | Luton | — | 96 | 1 | 38 | 1 |

ALSO PLAYED: Paul Elliott (now Aston Villa) 3(2) apps; Garry Parker (now Hull) 5(5) apps.

*League career record covers English and Scottish League and includes substitute appearances.

In 1985-86 record, substitute appearances are in brackets.

LEAGUE RESULTS: Nottingham Forest (H) 1-1, Newcastle (A) 2-2, West Ham (A) 1-0, Arsenal (H) 2-2, Aston Villa (A) 1-3, Chelsea (H) 1-1, Everton (A) 0-2, QPR (H) 2-0, Sheffield Wednesday (A) 2-3, Ipswich (H) 1-0, Manchester United (H) 1-1, Oxford (A) 1-1, Southampton (H) 7-0, Liverpool (A) 2-3, Birmingham (H) 2-0, Spurs (A) 3-1, Coventry (H) 0-1, Watford (A) 2-1, Manchester City (H) 2-1, Newcastle (H) 2-1, Nottingham Forest (A) 0-2, West Ham (H) 0-0, WBA (A) 2-1, Ipswich (A) 1-1, Leicester (H) 3-1, Chelsea (A) 0-1, Aston Villa (H) 2-0, Arsenal (A) 1-2, Southampton (A) 2-1, QPR (A) 1-1, Sheffield Wednesday (H) 1-0. MILK CUP: Sheffield United (A) 2-1, (H) 3-1, Norwich (H) 0-2. FA CUP: Crystal Palace (A) 2-1, Bristol Rovers (H) 4-0, Arsenal (H) 2-2, (A) 0-0, (H) 3-0, Everton (H) 2-2.

Up to and including Saturday 8th March 1986

with Aldershot. The 21-year-old striker responded by scoring in the fifth round replay win against Arsenal.

In February, Mr Pleat was busy again, selling midfielder Garry Parker to Hull City for £70,000 and loaning Welsh Under-21 goalkeeper Andy Dibble to Sunderland. In an unusual swap deal, Sunderland loaned their keeper, former Liverpool Reserve Bob Bolder, to Luton.

Bolder was then the deputy for Les Sealey, the former Coventry player who proved himself the No. 1 at Kenilworth Road after originally losing the job following Dibble's arrival from Cardiff City last season. Sealey plays behind a very settled defence. Tim Breacker, 20, and Mitchell Thomas, 21, have been the regular full-backs for more than a year, while Foster, an England player during the 1982 World Cup Finals, is well entrenched alongside Northern Ireland's Mal Donaghy in the middle of the back four.

The midfield department is equally well settled. Nicholas, a shrewd capture at £165,000 from Crystal Palace, is the ideal foil to the attacking style of Ricky Hill, who collected a well-deserved third England cap in Egypt in January. Until Nwajiobi's injury at the end of November, Luton's attacking formation was well established, but with Brian Stein, Newell and Nwajiobi unavailable for last week's Cup action with Arsenal, King was brought into the side. Luton were also without full-back Breacker for a month and this vacancy was filled by Rob Johnson, who courageously won a long battle to overcome three operations on his left knee and another on the right. Johnson is part of a back-up squad which includes Eire international Ashley Grimes, young midfielder Ray Daniel (who scored in a 7-0 win against Southampton in October) and Mark North's brother, Stacey, a defender who was on loan to Wolves before Christmas.



Back row (left to right): Mark Stein, Rob Johnson, Ricky McEvoy, Stacey North, Mark North, Ray Daniel, David Preece, Marcus Tuite.
Third row: John Moore, Emeka Nwajiobi, Tim Breacker, Les Sealey, Paul Elliott (now Aston Villa), Andy Dibble, Mick Harford, Mitchell Thomas, John Faulkner.
Second row: Trevor Hartley, Gary Parker (now Hull City), Ricky Hill, Mal Donaghy, Steve Foster, David Pleat, Peter Nicholas, Brian Stein, Ashley Grimes, John Sheridan.
Front row: Ian Scott, John Kennedy, Gary Cobb, John Kennedy, Aaron Tighe, Richard Harvey, Paul Lewis, Matthew Bowden, Duncan Berry, Marvin Johnson, Sean Farrell.

Back Track

Until being held to a draw at Kenilworth Road, the Toffees had a 100 per cent record against Luton in Cup-ties.

On both occasions, when we have met at Goodison Park, the tie has gone our way by a large margin. We hit the Hatters for six in this corresponding round in 1933 whilst, in September 1968, we put five past them in a League Cup-tie.

There was nothing so clear-cut when we met at Villa Park in last season's semi-final, though. We were chasing a Treble of FA Cup, European Cup-Winners' Cup and League Championship and we went into that game unbeaten in 21 matches.

Luton rose superbly to the occasion and Emeka Nwajiobi considered himself unlucky not to have scored twice before Ricky Hill thumped home Luton's goal in the 37th minute.

Luton controlled the game for long periods and defended superbly. It just looked like one of those days when nothing would run for the Toffees.

Hopes were running out when, four minutes from the end of normal time, Everton were awarded a free-kick a few yards

outside Luton's penalty box.

Luton protested vehemently about the decision, but Kevin Sheedy kept his cool and curled a perfect free-kick through Luton's defensive wall and goalkeeper Les Sealey had absolutely no chance of reaching it.

Luton fans might still consider Everton lucky to have been awarded that free-kick. It came at a critical moment and, from that point, Everton gained control.

Just to rub salt into the wound, Sheedy took another free-kick five minutes from the end of extra-time and Derek Mountfield rose to head the ball home for Everton's winner.

Howard Kendall could not disguise his delight. 'My team has lost the capacity to surprise me,' he said. 'There's incredible character in the side. They never accept defeat until the final whistle blows.'

Luton manager David Pleat, left to reflect upon what might have been, said: 'We looked winners and felt winners, but teams in Everton's position make their own luck.'

Tonight he hopes his team will take the opportunity to atone for that hard-to-bear defeat.

JOE ROYLE . . . Scored twice against Luton in the League Cup in 1968.



PAST CUP CLASHES

FA CUP

1932-33 Round Six

EVERTON 6 LUTON 0

1984-85 Semi-final

EVERTON 2 LUTON 1
(after extra-time)

LEAGUE CUP

1968-69 Round Three

EVERTON 5 LUTON 1

Our last Cup meeting at Goodison:

League Cup Third Round

24th September 1968

EVERTON (3) 5

Husband, Royle 2 (1 pen), Ball, Morrissey

LUTON (0) 1

Sheffield

30,405

EVERTON: West, Wright, Brown, Kendall, Labone, Harvey, Husband, Ball, Royle, Hurst, Morrissey.

LUTON: Read, Dougan, Jardine, Slough, Branstion, McDermont, French, Lewis, Sheffield, Buxton, Harrison.



VILLA PARK 1985 . . . A header from Derek Mountfield (out of picture) puts Everton through to Wembley in extra-time against Luton.

Insight

Luton's fifth round replay victory over Arsenal was particularly sweet for Peter Nicholas, the Hatters' Welsh international midfielder player. Almost three years ago his career was at a crossroads when he was squeezed out of the Arsenal side following the arrival of his namesake, Charlie Nicholas.

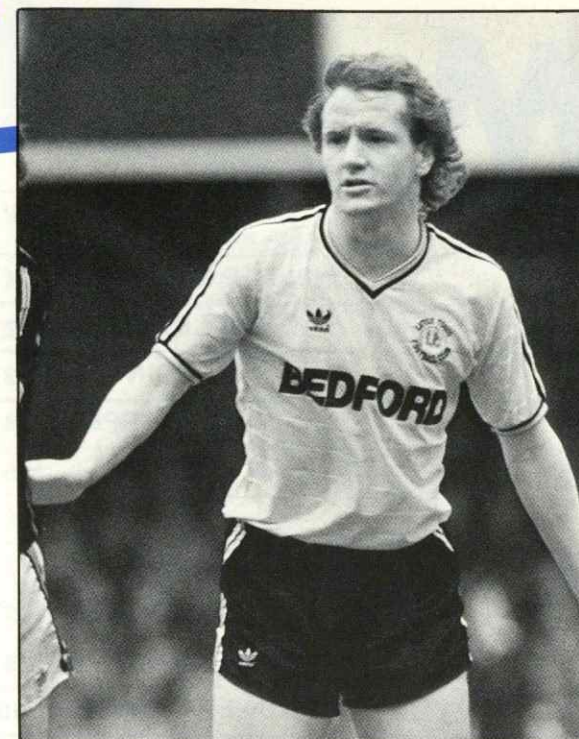
Though the highly priced Scot was a striker at the time, the Arsenal side was rearranged to accommodate him and Peter was the man pushed out. 'I realised that there would be no future for me at Highbury,' he said. 'So when my old club Crystal Palace invited me to return, initially on loan, I agreed.'

For a while it seemed the bottom had fallen out of his career. It meant stepping down from a successful First Division outfit to a club struggling to hold onto its Second Division place. He was dropped from the Wales' team and the future looked black for him. But, true to character, he gritted his teeth and fought back. By the end of the season he was playing so well that he was recalled to the Wales team and, not long after that, he would be playing First Division football again.

Yet, when he first returned to Selhurst Park, Peter wondered if his wheel had turned full circle. Would his career end where it had begun with Palace?

Newport-born Peter initially joined Palace as an apprentice. In his early days he was a full-back and it was in the number two shirt that he made his League debut for the club, at Millwall, on the opening day of the 1977-78 season. By December he had won a regular place in the Palace side though he was used mainly in midfield. In February, only two months after becoming a firm member of his club side, he was in the Wales' Under-21 team against Scotland — at right-back. Peter won three caps at that level. By 1978-79, he had switched permanently to a midfield role for Palace and his performances reached such a high level that he was invited to join the full international squad.

He made his debut in the Wales team when called on as substitute against Scotland in the British Championship in May 1979. He played as substitute again in the N. Ireland match and he played his first full 90 minutes against Malta, marking the occasion with one of his rare goals. The following season he played himself into the Wales' team. Though playing exclusively in



PETER NICHOLAS

midfield for Palace, he was usually played in defence by his country.

Palace had by now won promotion to the First Division but life was always a struggle for them at that level and the time seemed ripe for Peter to move on to a more successful club.

He eventually did that shortly before transfer deadline day in March 1981, Arsenal paying £500,000 for him.

His firm tackling brought a touch of steel to the Gunners' midfield play and, for much of the 1981-82 campaign, he held a regular place in the side. During the closing weeks, however, the up-and-coming Stewart Robson took over from him. Peter overcame that challenge, plus a bout of injury, and during the latter weeks of 1982-83, he was back in the Arsenal side.

He did not read much into it when Arsenal invested £750,000 in Scotland international striker Charlie Nicholas during the summer of 1983. But, as things turned out, the Arsenal team was rearranged and Peter became the odd man out. So he returned to Crystal Palace to sort out his career. With his usual determination, he regained his old form and last season Luton signed him for £165,000 to take him back into First Division football.

Now he is part of the most successful Luton team in club history and he is still adding to his collection of international caps. Peter played his 41st game for Wales in Saudi Arabia last month.

Matchtax



| EVERTON <i>Royal Blue Shirts, White Shorts</i> | v | LUTON <i>White Shirts, Navy Shorts</i> |
|--|----------|--|
| NEVILLE SOUTHALL | 1 | LES SEALEY |
| GARY STEVENS | 2 | ROB JOHNSON |
| NEIL POINTON | 3 | MITCHELL THOMAS |
| ALAN HARPER | 4 | PETER NICHOLAS |
| PAT VAN DEN HAUWE | 5 | STEVE FOSTER |
| PETER REID | 6 | MAL DONAGHY |
| TREVOR STEVEN | 7 | RICKY HILL |
| GARY LINEKER | 8 | MARK STEIN |
| GRAEME SHARP | 9 | MICK HARFORD |
| PAUL BRACEWELL | 10 | MARK NORTH |
| KEVIN RICHARDSON | 11 | DAVID PREECE |
| | 12 | |

Officials

REFEREE: KEITH HACKETT (Sheffield)

LINESMEN: K. N. MAUGHAN (Whaley Bridge)

C. E. TYE (Washington)

Keith Hackett, who started refereeing in Sheffield in 1960, is now one of the most experienced officials in Europe. He was appointed to the FIFA panel in 1982 and has controlled many international and club games in Europe. Only last week, he refereed Bayern Munich v Anderlecht in the European Cup.

EVERTON



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