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Luton v Watford

TODAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION ONE



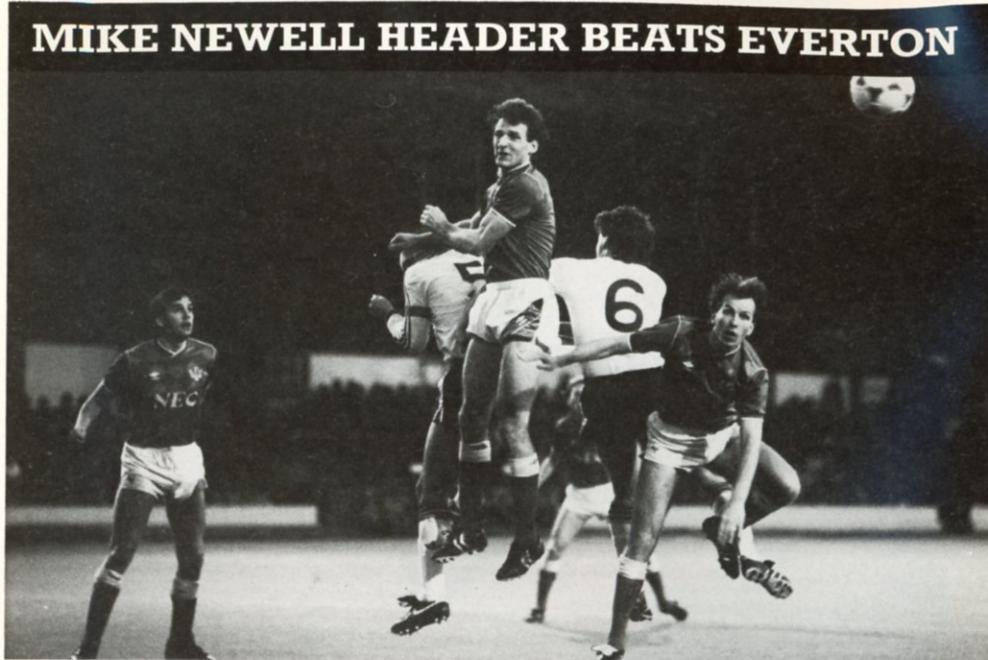
Friday, December 26th, 1986 Kick-off 12 noon

LUTON TOWN

Today's match is sponsored by: Wallspan Bedrooms Ltd.

ACTION

MIKE NEWELL HEADER BEATS EVERTON



• **Rising challenge:** Steve Foster and Mal Donaghy jump to challenge Dave Watson and Trevor Steven during our 1-0 win over Everton.

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Edited by: Robert Alexander
Pictures by: Sportswide Photography

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• **Strikers pressing:**
Mark Stein (above) and Mike Newell (below) look for a breakthrough. Mike headed our winning goal in the second half.



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MOORE ABOUT FOOTBALL

A special warm and seasonal welcome today to Watford, our friends and neighbours with whom it is a pleasure to be playing First Division football, and their manager Graham Taylor who has already helped me in my first experience as a manager with his sound advice. I thank him for that. My own playing memories of meetings with Watford go back to the Third and Fourth Divisions and some exciting matches. In recent years, we have enjoyed First Division football. It has, however, always been a pleasure to go to play at Watford where I have found we always receive a warm and friendly welcome.

In our last home match, we met and succeeded against Everton, for whom I have already expressed my respect. They have had a catastrophic run of injuries and yet remain among the leading challengers. That is why I rate them so highly. They have a tremendous squad of players. I was delighted to beat them. I felt it was a truly marvellous result for us. Any top team that comes to play at Luton now know they face a tough match and they are all sure to pose us with really strong and different challenges. We do not expect it to be any different today.

Desire to win

I told the lads on that day, against Everton, that it was important we got among their skilful players and proved we had the desire to win the match. I knew the first goal was vital and so it proved. Naturally, I took great pleasure from the fact that we kept a clean sheet again. We had to work hard to hold on to our lead and to take three vital points.

Looking back over the season to date, I am pleased to find we have been able to climb into and remain among the leading group. This is particularly pleasant as we have had to cope with so many injury problems. Indeed, we beat Everton without three experienced senior players in Ricky Hill, David Preece and Mick Harford. Only Hill of those three is likely to be in serious consideration for the Christmas and New Year programme of matches which is sure to be a very testing spell for us.

We hope of course to start with a win. Enjoy the game. I wish you all a happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.



LUTON TOWN

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Mailbag

Write to The Editor, Luton Town F.C., Kenilworth Road, Luton by Tuesday a.m.

Smiling again!

Dear sir,
I was a regular attender of Luton Town's home matches up until an April evening in 1985.

Then, having yet again witnessed the loathsome ritual whereby several hundred 'real' men exhibit their manliness, I vowed I would never again risk serious injury for the sake of 90 minutes of football.

I soon found out there were safer, if less exciting ways to spend a Saturday afternoon.

Even when I learned of Luton Town's determination to stop all away supporters from entering their ground, I still could not believe any 'members only' scheme would be able to ensure my safety in the surrounding streets.

Somewhat reassured by the reports I had read, I decided to discover if things have really improved for someone, like myself, who always found comfort in Luton's thrilling style of football before, finally, being frightened off the by the 'real' men's increasingly violent skirmishes.

Feeling a little apprehensive I set off on what once had been a familiar journey. When we arrived at Luton bus station, fel-

low supporters were, as I remembered things, rather foolishly not concealing their Town scarves before emerging from the bus.



•Members scheme:

Great spirit

By the time I approached the stadium, I was feeling strangely relaxed, considering that I was going to watch a game of professional football. I carefully ran my plastic membership card, which I had never expected to use, through the slot, and after a few seconds I was given the privilege of paying at another turnstile. On reaching the newly roofed terrace, I stood, astonished to see so much plastic in such a small place.

At first, I must admit, I did feel - like the odd obscene chant - totally out of place, but by half-time I was captured by the community spirit that now exists within Kenilworth Road,

and the Town's football, which thankfully had not changed.

Sadly, the referee blew the final whistle, and I had to leave with the other smiling faces, but on this occasion I knew that I would be coming back.

M.R. Dennis

3 Beaumont Close,
Hitchin.
(Ed: This letter first appeared in the Luton News).

Any collectors?

Dear Sir,

I hope you do not mind me writing to you, but, do you know of anyone that would be interested in collectors items.

I have twenty paperback books, 1952, full of players and pictures of Luton Town football club years ago, they are in very good condition.

My husband was a Luton supporter all his life from being a young lad, now I am a widow I thought they might be worth something, if you would let me know, I would be obliged.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Pearl Hunt

14 Eastern Way,
Letchworth,
Herts.



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SYNAPSE

GIRL TALK



Food, glorious food!

At this time of year, in holiday mood, our attention turns to having fun with your families, and to food and drink. I'm inclined to view the season as just another excuse for thinking about, and preparing, good food.

Sometimes finding sustenance isn't easy, particularly at football grounds. Many stadia are equipped with refreshment bars, and after seemingly endless queuing all that one is ultimately offered is soggy sausage rolls or "limps" - crisps that are stale and floppy, having passed their 'sell by' date. And to drink we've offered artificial additive-packed cola, or hot bovril.

The former's chemical taste is quite off-putting, and the latter - welcome, perhaps, in the depths of winter to many who shiver on the terraces - doesn't suit my vegetarian habits. I can't even eat the cheese sandwiches offered in some grounds because the margarine on them is the sort made from fish oil! Perhaps I should start a campaign to get healthy snacks available in grounds! I must admit, though,

that I've been impressed by the availability of flavoured milk here at Kenilworth Road.

Players' diet

I wonder, sometimes, what players eat before matches. I remember reading once that the standard diet was cornflakes, fruit juice and grilled fish. Is that combination of high carbohydrate and protein but low fat what League Champions are made of? Our ex-player John Ryan, when manager of Cambridge United, told me about a young player he had in his squad who would never make the grade. I asked what was wrong with this player's skill - or was it his temperament? "It is his diet," said John: "he's a vegetarian, and you can't develop into a super-fit sportsman on a vegetarian diet." If that's true then perhaps one can't develop into a super-fit football supporter on a vegetarian diet either; maybe that's why stadium catering is all hot dogs and bovril!

Gale Waller

Anyone wanting to contribute to Girl Talk, please write to: The Editor, Luton Town F.C., Dunstable Road, Luton, Beds.



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Luton News



Best reports; best pictures

THURSDAYS 14p

Arsenal 3 Luton Town 0

Not a pretty sight - for Town fans, Arsenal fans or the neutrals. The First Division leaders, with an obvious advantage in height and weight, took advantage of a Town team lacking the influence of Steve Foster at the heart of defence, Ricky Hill and David Preece in midfield, and the power of Mick Harford in attack to emerge as easy winners after 70 minutes of deadlock.

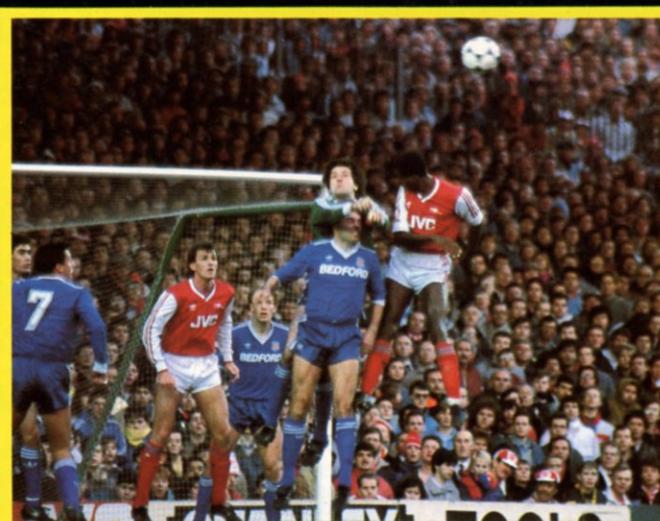
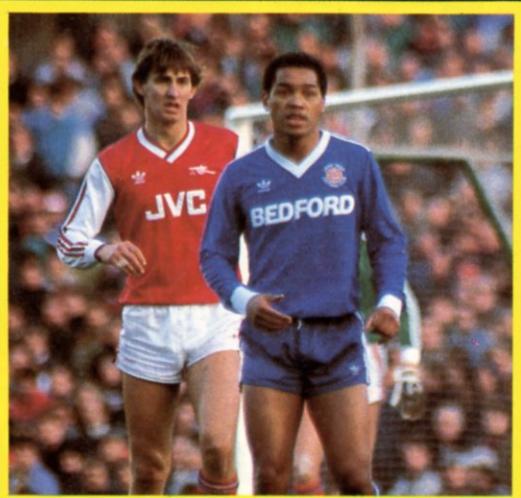
For Arsenal, it stretched their unbeaten run to 15 games. With a five point lead at the top it was an impressive victory on paper. But on a cold and windy day, it lacked any of the necessary inventive flair or variation in play that could warm the spirits of the 28,000 crowd.

Foster dropped out with flu and Stacey North stepped in for his first match of the season. For an hour he dealt capably with the threat of the beanpole Niall Quinn as Arsenal attempted an aerial bombardment. But Quinn finally headed the opening goal in the 70th minute.

Quinn's header from a Paul Davis corner in the 84th minute hit the woodwork to gift Tony Adams the second and a shrewd pass from substitute Charlie Nicholas set up Martin Hayes for the third in the last minute. In reply, the Town rarely threatened a goal with only Mark and Brian Stein looking dangerous.

Teams: Arsenal - Lukic, Anderson, Sansom, Williams, O'Leary, Adams, Rocastle, Davis, Quinn, Groves (Nicholas 78), Hayes, - Luton - Sealey, Breacker, Johnson, Nicholas, S. North, Donaghy, McDonough, B. Stein, Newell, M. Stein, Grimes.
Referee - R. Groves (Avon).

1st Team ACTION



• Out of luck: Despite impressive defensive displays by Mal Donaghy and Rob Johnson in particular, the Town were unable to hold out against Arsenal at Highbury last Saturday where goals from Quinn, Adams and Hayes in the final 19 minutes gave the Londoners a rather flattering victory against an under-strength Luton side. Arsenal manager George Graham said: "The game was a bit scrappy, but we did build some nice moves, particularly in the second half." It was a fair assessment. The Town were never able to rekindle the form which had swept aside Liverpool, Nottingham Forest or Everton in recent weeks.

Pictures by Sportswide Photography.

VIEWS from the BENCH

Mick Harford

Mick Harford has been out of first team action through injury all season. He has suffered one blow after another with knee problems and assorted other ailments. Today, in his Views from the Bench, he looks back over the worst period of his career and talks about his views of the first team's progress this season:

Bouncing back from worst spell of my career

"It has been the worst spell of injuries in my career and I have felt especially frustrated because I enjoyed myself and had such a good year last year. Now though I am feeling much better and think things have finally been sorted out with the removal of a bursa which must have been left behind previously. At last it feels clear.

"Nothing is worse really than not being able to play. But at least the team have been playing really well without me. A lot of people thought a new manager with perhaps more defensive methods would come and change things and so on, but that has not happened at all. The lads have kept on producing the same style and I have watched the games and enjoyed them.

"The only game I missed was the Liverpool one - which was probably the best match of the season. The chairman, who has been really great in supporting me and so on, sent me away for four days in the sunshine in the south of France that weekend and I missed it for the best of reasons!

Frustrating experience

"The worst time with an injury like mine is when you have an operation and get back to start work and do some jogging. You think everything is going to be okay and then it goes again. That's the worst thing. Now, though, I hope, I think I am nearly ready again.

"Watching the games has been a very frustrating experience. But I always want to see the team do well and win. They are all my friends. We are all friends in this club. There are no cliques or anything. Everyone is happy. So we all want each other to do well when we are playing.



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CLUB NEWS

TICKET OFFICE NEWS

On Sunday, December 28th, we are away to Nottingham Forest in a Today League Division One fixture, kick-off 3 pm.

On Thursday, January 1st, we are away to Coventry in a Today League Division One fixture, kick-off 3 pm.

On Saturday, January 3rd, we are at home to Chelsea in a Today League Division One fixture, kick-off 3 pm.

On Sunday, January 11th, we are at home to Liverpool in the 3rd round of the F.A. Cup this is an all ticket match for members only, kick-off 3.05 pm.

For ticket and match information, please call Luton 30748 (daytime) or Luton 423293 (24 hour service) or call in to the Ticket Office at 125 Oak Road, Luton.

Pre-match Entertainment

We are grateful again to the Salvation Army band who will be providing the pre-match entertainment today. This is the sixth year in succession that they have supported us and we hope that you will enjoy their festive music.

**A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A PEACEFUL
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FORTHCOMING MATCHES AT KENILWORTH ROAD

Today League Division One
Saturday, January 3, 1987
Luton Town v Chelsea
Kick-off 3 pm.

Football Association Cup, third round
Sunday, January 11, 1987
Luton Town v Liverpool
Kick-off 3 pm: all-ticket match.

MATCH REFEREE

Colin Downey (Hounslow)

Colin is a personnel manager. He is married with one son. He started refereeing in 1965 and progressed via the Spartan and Isthmian leagues to the Football League. He enjoys cricket, and most other sports. He was senior linesman for the 1983 F.A. Cup Final.

Cover story

Our cover picture today shows captain Steve Foster together with Junior Hatter Victoria Wright of St Albans and Santa Claus alias Ashley Grimes. The picture was taken at the Junior Hatters Christmas party.

HOTLINE
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Match Ball Sponsors



Today's match ball is sponsored by Mr Reg Kitchner of Clarendon Hats. He established his business five years ago and is welcome today. We wish him an enjoyable day.



by BILL TOMLINS

THE TOWN

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS....AND A REMINDER ABOUT OUR ALL-TICKET MATCH

Good morning. Let us hope this will be a Boxing Day derby match to remember! Speaking of great matches in prospect, we are all looking forward to Liverpool's second visit to Kenilworth Road this season, in the FA Cup on Sunday, January 11th.

Because of the demand we decided to make special ticket distribution arrangements. Cup vouchers were handed out without prior notice at the Everton match, as the best way of rewarding active members. But the vouchers, which gave the first chance to buy tickets, have now expired.

For the rest of our members, tickets will be on sale between 10am and 4pm this Sunday, at the Kenilworth Road turnstiles.

All-ticket

This is an all-ticket match and no tickets will be available for guests. So you must bring a membership card for each ticket you wish to buy. It is ok to buy tickets for your family or friends as well, providing you bring their membership cards too.

Tickets will be sold to members on a first come, first served basis,

and you should remember that there are no credit card facilities at the turnstiles. Although we are opening the Maple Road car park for your convenience, the ticket office will not be open.

It will be a big help to our staff – and reduce the time you spend queuing – if you have the correct money available. Prices are the same as for League matches.

This big match demonstrates one advantage of being a season ticket holder. They are guaranteed admission at no extra cost, using their existing ticket – so no queuing for them!

Sponsors

Finally a big warm Christmas welcome to today's match sponsors Wallspan Bedrooms, whose chairman Terry Bailey is, of course, one of our directors. Wallspan have long been loyal supporters of the club and sponsored our electronic scoreboards.

Welcome, also, to our executive sponsors Beechin Marketing of Markeyate. We wish them a successful afternoon and a Happy New Year to all our members and fans.

SANTA'S GANG



•Festive: Our mascot and escorts met Santa before the match against Everton when, thanks to the donations of Harold Jackman Ltd of Dunstable, he was able to throw sweets into the crowd.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

I have been around this club a long time, ever since at the tender age of eight, I caught the old number four bus from Stopsley to the Odeon cinema to trek up Kenilworth Road. Like all things, there have been happy memories and sad ones. Happy ones like the day we beat Manchester City in that famous Cup tie which is still in the Guinness Book of Records because Denis Law scored seven goals and was still on the losing side. Sad ones like the time the club was forced to sell one of my all-time favourite players, Peter Anderson, just to keep going.

Christmas is a bit like that. You remember the good times and friends you see and the sad times and friends you miss. Yet, underneath it all, there's hope, hope for the future of mankind. That's what is at the centre of this razzamatazz we call Christmas.

Hope is a funny word. Some of you may have used it today: "I hope the Hatters beat Watford". Yet, in that way, you know you cannot do anything about it because the result is down to the lads on the pitch. But hope for mankind is something you can do something about because, in the end, it actually depends on you, your family, your neighbours and all the other members of the human club. So do your bit, it might help others to do their's a bit better too. HAPPY CHRISTMAS Mervyn Terrett.



AROUND THE TOWN

Antony's Tailor & Laundry, 12, Dunstable Road, Luton. Telephone: Luton 424687.



•Snappy dresser: Our goalkeeper Les Sealey took delivery of his new suit from Antony's in Dunstable Road recently. With a new outfit and nine clean sheets before Christmas, it was no wonder Les was all smiles.



•Hard at play: Tim Breacker and Stacey North were caught flexing their muscles at Staceys old school Lea Manor recently. They were there to help encourage youngsters taking part in the Luton Schools Sports Challenge.



•No membership card: This (we think) Canadian goose was an unexpected arrival at our home match against Everton. Kenilworth the Cat enjoyed the fun!

CAPTAIN'S DIARY



Merry Christmas, everyone!

Hello everyone. I hope you are all enjoying the Christmas holiday and wish you all the season's greetings. As you might guess, most of the players have had to keep away from the festivities, but we did enjoy our own fancy-dress party before the big day came.

That was the night when we all dressed up with Mick Harford nearly stealing the show in his costume! He came to the party dressed up as a US Army Officer and yours truly as a Nun, Darron McDonough was Superman.

Keeping fit

Anyway, that was our bit of fun which was followed, for me, with a bout of the usual winter flu! It is not that much fun either when you have to try and shake it off quickly to keep fit!

Today, welcome to Watford. We have had some great games in the last few years and I hope today's is just as good. I am sure, like us, they spent yesterday and last night preparing for the match. Enjoy it. See you soon.



ASHLEY
GRIMES



CLUB COMMENT

John Smith, Chief Executive.

Supporters show backing for members' scheme

Thousands of words have been written about our membership scheme in what has become a national debate. Now, for the first time, our supporters have had their say as the result of an independent survey.

Your verdict? A convincing vote of confidence in the membership scheme and its success in making matchdays safer, friendlier occasions.

One spin-off from the computerised membership list is the chance to survey a truly representative cross-section of our support. Those selected were telephoned or interviewed personally last month, after seven home matches, and we are grateful for their assistance.

The most important finding was that 98 per cent of members were in favour of the membership card scheme itself. Almost as many, 85 per cent, told us to keep the ban on visiting supporters rather than go back to segregation and fencing inside the ground. Most also felt increased safety was more important than any loss of atmosphere.

Fears dispersed

Sadly, a number of you said you had avoided certain matches in the past because of the reputation of specific visiting supporters. This has disappeared and 45 per cent planned to attend

matches as a result.

The trend towards bigger crowds is now well established, with an average seven per cent rise even before the survey. Most encouraging was the Everton match attendance in which home support alone produced an even bigger gate than last season.

At the turnstiles, four out of five people were confident membership schemes would make other clubs safer too.

The survey also allowed supporters to tell us how our matchday service could be improved. It is clear many would like to buy seat tickets and guest tickets on the day of the match.

Successful scheme

These restrictions were introduced for reasons of ground security. However, the membership scheme has been so successful that we can now relax the rules, although the situation will be kept under review.

So, from the Leicester City match on January 24th onwards, both seat tickets and guest tickets may be purchased at the ticket office on matchdays.

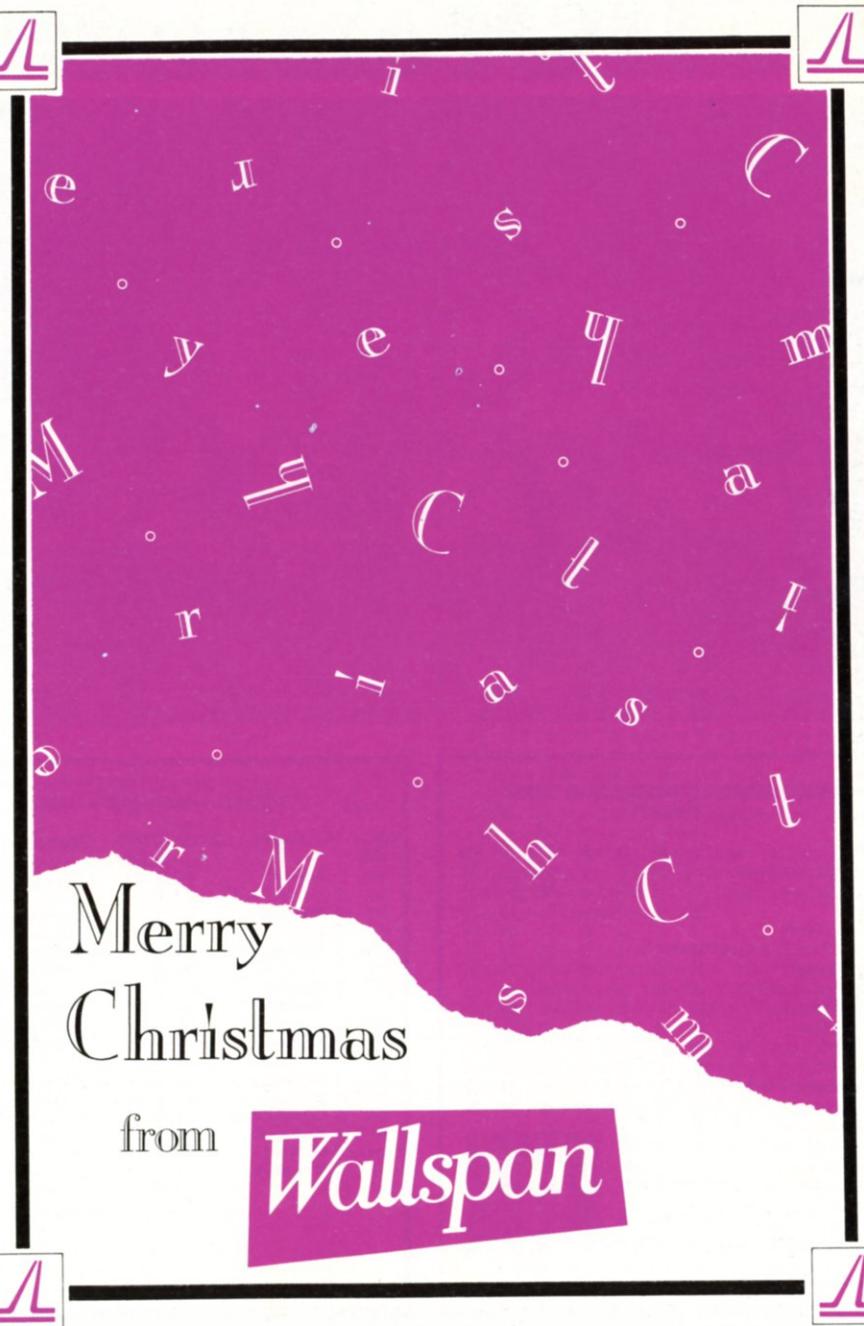
However, the best seats go first, so it is much better to book your place in advance whenever possible.



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SGL Caterers are pleased to supply catering services to Luton Town Football Clubs new executive suite complex, together with all sponsorship and membership areas and will be delighted to receive enquiries for your function, large or small, held either at your own venue or at the stadium, where we offer hire facilities for all rooms.

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ACTION



THE FOOTBALL COMBINATION TABLE
1986/87

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tottenham Hotspur	16	10	4	2	44	15	24
Chelsea	16	11	2	3	39	14	24
Arsenal	15	10	3	2	31	16	23
Swindon Town	18	10	2	6	51	39	22
Queens Park Rangers	16	9	4	3	37	29	22
Norwich City	16	10	1	5	38	30	21
West Ham United	15	8	3	4	27	19	19
Oxford United	15	7	3	5	35	26	17
Ipswich Town	14	8	1	5	20	21	17
Fulham	14	5	4	5	19	19	14
Watford	15	4	6	5	23	25	14
Luton Town	15	6	1	8	30	29	13
Southampton	15	5	2	8	22	24	12
Crystal Palace	15	4	4	7	22	24	12
Charlton Athletic	14	4	3	7	19	25	11
Millwall	14	3	3	8	20	31	9
Portsmouth	15	3	2	10	19	35	8
Reading	12	3	2	7	15	36	8
Brighton & Hove Albion	14	2	0	12	15	41	4
Bristol Rovers	14	1	2	11	9	37	4

FOOTBALL COMBINATION 1986/87

Date	Opponents	Result	Date	Opponents	Result
1986			1987		
Aug 23	Arsenal	2-3	Jan 3	Portsmouth	
Aug 26	Ipswich Town	1-2	Jan 10	Arsenal	
Sept 6	Brighton	3-1	Jan 17	Ipswich	
Sept 10	Reading	1-2	Jan 21	Brighton	
Sept 20	Southampton	4-1	Jan 31	Reading	
Sept 27	Chelsea	0-0	Feb 7	Swindon	
Sept 30	Charlton	1-3	Feb 14	Southampton	
Oct 4	Watford	4-2	Feb 21	Chelsea	
Oct 10	Norwich City	1-2	Feb 24	Charlton Ath	
Oct 18	Bristol R	3-0	Mar 7	Tottenham	
Oct 21	Swindon	3-1	Mar 11	Bristol R	
Oct 25	Tottenham	1-3	Mar 21	Norwich	
Oct 28	QPR	0-6	Mar 24	Fulham	
Nov 8	Crystal Palace	1-2	Mar 28	Watford	
Nov 22	Portsmouth	5-1	Apr 1	Crystal Palace	
Dec 6	Millwall	9-2	Apr 11	QPR	
Dec 20	West Ham	6-1	Apr 14	Millwall	
			Apr 25	West Ham	
			May 2	Oxford	
			May 6	Fulham	



• **Gaining experience:** Ricky McEvoy (left) was one of several younger players who appeared for us in the Guinness 6-a-side tournament in Manchester recently while Ian Scott (above) was our scorer in the youth team's defeat by Spurs.

Reserve & Youth



JIM RYAN



JOHN FAULKNER

IAN SCOTT SCORES, BUT YOUTH TEAM GIVEN SOUND BEATING BY YOUNG SPURS

The reserves and youth teams went through unwanted reactions after their recent storming victories over Millwall and Wolves respectively.

The reserves were out of action until their home match against West Ham last Saturday and the youth team went down to a 5-1 home defeat by Tottenham Hotspur on December 13 before visiting Chelsea for a South East Counties League Cup fixture last weekend.

Pleasure

But both teams have done enough over the course of the first half of the season to have given pleasure, satisfaction and frustration in equal measures to coaches John Faulkner and Jim Ryan.

Ian Scott, for the record, scored the reserves goal against Spurs when an inexperienced team of young players failed to gain a result.

As chief scout Ron Howard said: "It is not easy for young players to adjust to the consistent high and professional demands at a club and we have seen a lot of good things this season."

Contracts

Youth coach John Faulkner has often drawn attention to the same point, but the team included three contract players in Scott, Aaron Tighe and Marvin Johnson.

Johnson, 18, a lanky, but talented, defender, recently celebrated his birthday by signing forms. He has done well since coming to the Town from the Aylesbury area about 18 months ago.



• **Ron Howard:** The Town's chief scout is quietly pleased with the progress of the club's youngsters this season. "Everything seems to be going well from a professional point of view," he said.

REPLAY

INTRODUCING...

WATFORD

Watford arrive at Kenilworth Road today seeking their first league triumph on this ground since April 1984 when goals by Nigel Callaghan and Mo Johnston secured the Hornets a 2-1 win, Paul Walsh scoring in reply for the Hatters. It is a measure of how much both clubs have changed in the two years since that only Callaghan remains with either team – and even he was close to leaving Vicarage Road for Charlton earlier this season.

Last year, and the year before, the Town won by the odd goal in five. In last season's fixture, Mick Harford enjoyed a hat-trick, but he is unlikely to be any more than a spectator today while Watford aim to gain their first away win in the First Division since September when they beat Norwich City 3-1 at Carrow Road.

Since then, they have gone down to Coventry, Arsenal, Everton, Southampton and Tottenham and drawn at Chelsea and Newcastle. Manager Graham Taylor will undoubtedly be hoping for an end to their ill luck on their travels here today.



Back Row from left: Kenny Jackett, John Barnes, Paul Franklin, John McClelland, Iwan Roberts, Steve Terry, Lee Sinnott, Paul Rumble, David Bardsley, Luther Blissett, Tim Sherwood. Middle row: Cliff Powell, Charlie Bishop, Nigel Callaghan, David Holdsworth, Steve Sherwood, Tony Coton, David James, Dean Holdsworth, Malcolm Allen, Worrell Sterling, Neil Doherty. Front row: Wilf Rostron, Neil Smillie, Les Taylor (now Reading), Chris Pullan, Greg Morris, Brian Tolbot (now Stoke City), Gary Eaton, Robert Wignall, Steven Thorne, Nigel Gibbs, Gary Porter.

Players likely to be on duty today:

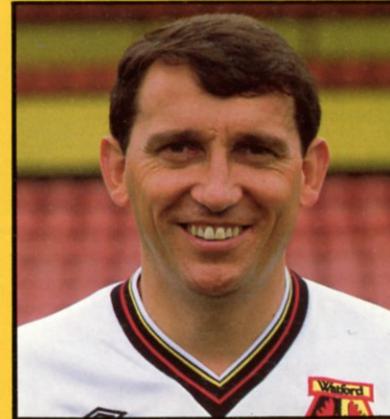
Tony Coton – Tall and agile goalkeeper, signed from Birmingham City for £300,000 in 1984. Was Player of the Season for Watford in 1985-86.

David Bardsley – Overlapping, attacking right-back with plenty of pace and energy, David is 21 and was born in Manchester. Joined from Blackpool in 1983 for £150,000. England youth international.

Wilf Rostron – Originally a left-winger, 29-year-old Wilf has settled down to become a top class left-back and captain of the Hornets. Signed from Sunderland for £150,000 in 1979, he has twice won the Watford Player of the Year Award.

Kevin Richardson – Midfielder Kevin played against Watford in the 1984 FA Cup final. Joined the Hornets from Everton for £225,000 in September this year and scored on his debut in a 3-1 win at Norwich. Born in Newcastle.

Steve Terry – A tall and commanding centre-half, Steve, like our own Steve Foster, wears a headband to protect



Watford manager Graham Taylor is one of the most respected and admired men in the First Division. Now in his 10th year at Vicarage Road, he has taken the Hornets from the Fourth Division to the First, led them out in a Wembley F.A. Cup final and taken them into Europe. But above all, he has kept Watford in the First Division, stabilising the club and earning it full recognition as one of the most progressive teams and clubs in the league. Prior to joining Watford, Graham also had shown his managerial ability at Lincoln City. He led them to the Fourth Division title in 1976.

scar tissue. He holds the middle of the back four with John McClelland. Aged 24. Joined Watford as an apprentice.

John McClelland – A seasoned Northern Ireland international, John came to Watford in November 1984 from Glasgow Rangers for a £225,000 fee. Has played in all four English league divisions and all four home countries.

Nigel Callaghan – Now 23, Nigel has rediscovered his best form after an indifferent spell which culminated in a possible transfer to Charlton. He has won England B and England under-21 caps. A fine striker of the ball both on the run and from dead ball situations.

Luther Blissett – A fractured knee-cap kept Luther out for much of last season. Now, aged 28, he is aiming to revive his best days with the Hornets when he scored plenty of goals and won England caps before joining AC Milan.

Mark Falco – Signed from Tottenham in October following the departure of Colin West to Glasgow Rangers, Mark has continued to score freely and fully justify his £340,000 fee. He hit a hat-trick on his home debut against Aston Villa – the first achieved by a Watford player on his home debut for 56 years.

Kenny Jackett – Tenacious and busy midfielder Kenny is a Welsh international and an expert from the penalty spot. Still only 24, he joined the Hornets as an apprentice in 1978, turning professional in 1980.

John Barnes – One of the most dangerous forwards in England, John proved in the Mexico World Cup that he has the skill to take on any defence. Aged 23, he has already well passed 200 appearances for the Hornets.

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JUNIOR HATTERS!

BY PETER NICHOLAS

GREAT NIGHT OUT AT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Today's lucky Junior Hatters membership number is 594. The winning member should contact Bev Tyler in the ticket office at Oak Road with his or her membership card for two free tickets to one of our home matches.

Didn't we all have a good night at the Junior Hatters Christmas party. All the players that attended had a good time. I am sorry that my team won for the second time. But I must say that you

Junior Hatters put up a good fight.

I thought that Silly Billy was good with all his tricks that he had up his sleeve. He was nearly as good as Paul Daniels.

I trust you all had a very good Christmas and have a very good New Year.

Today we welcome our neighbours Watford to Kenilworth Road. Have a good day and I will see you all at our next home game when we play Chelsea.

ESCORTS



Stuart Armitage



Ashley Larman

MASCOT



Matthew Jenkins

ESCORTS

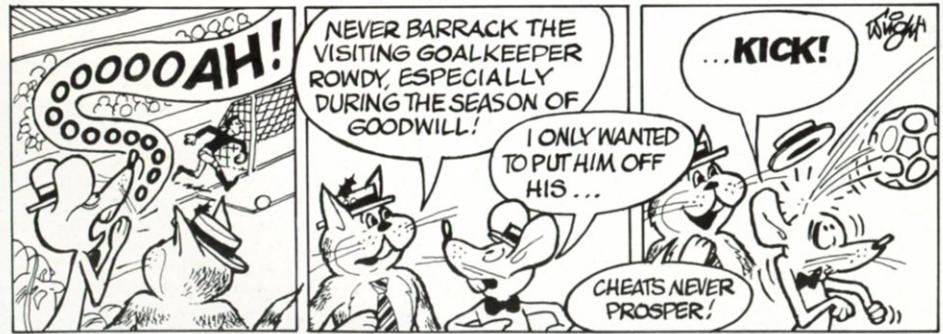


Ricky Broadhurst



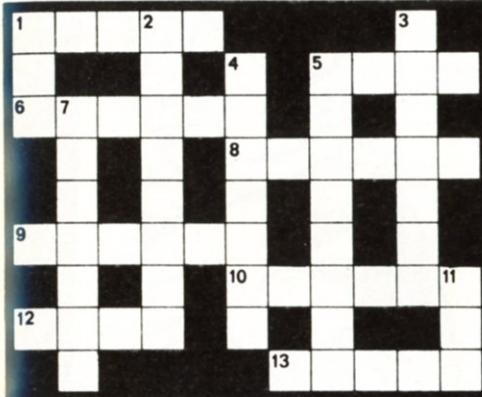
Scott Neto

KENILWORTH THE CAT



QUIZ

Soccer Ninety-Niner No. 6



Across

1. Work on one's physical efficiency between matches (5)
- 5& 9ac. Dundee, Spurs and Derby forward who went into player-managership with Scunthorpe and later won a divisional title with Chesterfield (4,6)
6. Midfielder who netted over 150 League goals in some 500 showings, mainly for Huddersfield with others for Halifax and Workington (6)
8. Put the ball in the net (6)
9. See 5 across
10. Big defender and big gun in Palace's rearguard for a dozen and more seasons (6)
12. Blue –, well-known Wearside 11 down club (4)
13. Old Manchester United and England full-back whose first name appears at 5 across and whose surname is half a Midlands club (5)

Down

1. One of the game's RITCHIES (3)
3. One of Jack Rollins' football fact books, an A to Z tabulation of players around at the time (4,3,2,6)
4. The back lines as opposed to the front line (8)
5. The world's most-capped player (8)
7. A mobile forward ace with Benfica and Portugal in the sixties, Jose – later managed the national side (7)
11. –League (3)

The answers to this crossword will appear in the next programme.

Answers to First Eleven Competition No. 5

Eamonn Dean Steve Brendan Club: PETERBOROUGH	Mike Norman Sammy Dave	Nigel Paul Ken
--	---------------------------------	----------------------

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Views from the media

An objective view of our Everton win

Our 1-0 win over Everton produced an unexpected reaction from the media, many of whose correspondents used Paul Power's post-match comments as an eye-catching angle. But one correspondent notably did not, preferring to rely on his own objective Press box view of the match.

The Independent - "Of all the arguments advanced against Luton's exclusion of away supporters, the least convincing came from Paul Power after Everton had lost there. Power, one of several Everton players who claimed a late penalty when the ball made contact with Steve Foster, said: "It definitely hit him full on the arm and, if we had had even a handful of supporters here, they could have made their feelings known. The referee was influenced by the home supporters."

"With due respect to the 33-year-old Power, a graduate in law, I considered this a tenuous sliver of advocacy. No referee worth twopence is going to give penalties on the say-so of a few partisans. Nor, to answer Paul Power's point about the home supporters, is one ever likely to be swayed by a Luton atmosphere that is about as intimidating as a garden fete.

Obvious reason

"Mr Reeves made his decisions dispassionately (as Foster discovered when he upended Graeme Sharp in the first half and, despite the lack of popular outrage, was cautioned). The alleged penalty was not given for the reason, obvious from where I sat, that deliberate handling had not occurred. But there is nothing more resourceful than a footballer looking for a fresh excuse.

"Sometimes the old excuses are the best. Seven teams, including Liverpool and Nottingham Forest, have come to grief at Kenilworth Road this season, not because they were denied penalties, but because Luton use the artificial surface more effectively than any side had done since alternatives to grass were permitted."



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GONFIDENOLIES

CLIVE GOODYEAR - OUR LAST CHRISTMAS CRACKER!

We welcome back Watford, after an absence of four years, to the popular Christmas slot and hope the result of Boxing Day 1982 is repeated although, it is appreciated, the circumstances are somewhat altered, writes club statistician Roger Wash.

Luton were lying in 19th position fresh from a 5-0 thrashing at Everton whilst Watford were 4th and enjoying their best ever season. A crowd of 21145 assembled at Kenilworth Road to witness a mishit Clive Goodyear shot, through a crowd of players, give us a narrow victory.

Today's game will be our 59th league meeting with Watford but before that first encounter in 1920-21 we regularly clashed in the southern league and before that in friendly games. From the year of our formation 1885 until becoming founder members of the southern league nine years later we played only friendly games apart from all too brief excursions in to the F.A. Cup and amongst our earliest opponents were West Herts FC the forerunners of the present day Watford club.

Eagerly-awaited dates

West Herts were formed in 1891 the same year that professionalism came to Luton and it was not long before games between our two clubs became eagerly awaited dates in the fixture list attracting what, for those days, were large crowds.

The first recorded friendly game took place on 28th November 1891 at Dallow Lane, Luton, when the Herts club ran out 4-3 winners with W.S. Coles scoring all their goals. Harold Oclee and William Cheshire replied for Luton in front of a 2000 crowd.

The return game that season took place on 30th January 1892 and resulted in a 2-2 draw. The goal that gave West Herts a 1-0 interval lead provided the first controversial talking point to litter a "derby" game between our two sides as it was alleged that Luton keeper John Burley had saved the shot from Butler. The referee, who was the brother of two of the Watford players, said the ball had crossed the line and gave a goal.

Luton captain Arthur Taylor immediately began to lead his players from the field but was persuaded to return on the understanding that the goal was in dispute! It did eventually stand, however, thus fuelling the intense rivalry between the two sides which has only recently begun to diminish.

In the following season with professionalism presumably beginning to produce more committed Luton play the Town won 4-1 at home and 3-0 at Watford in a game reduced to 30 minutes each way because of the late arrival of the Luton players following a train delay.

Hugh Galbraith, that famed Luton centre-forward, was on target in both games in 1893-94. Wins of 3-1 and 3-2 putting that first meeting defeat firmly in the background.

Guest invitations

The rivalry was really beginning to show by now and for the game at Watford in that particular season the home sides anxiety to achieve a win resulted in invitations to "guest" being sent to several players including England International A.T.B. Dunn. For various reasons those invited all declined to play.

In 1894-95 with Luton now involved in the competitive cut and thrust of southern league football only one friendly game was played against our neighbours. This resulted in an 8-0 home win for the Hatters with Galbraith scoring twice.



• **Wayne Turner:** Luton-born and bred, Wayne Turner shot in the decider in our sixth round second replay against the Hornets in 1985.



• **Well done fans:** Cheers and praise were in order in 1982 when we drew 1-1 at Vicarage Road.



• **Tight challenge:** Brian Stein shows his strength during our league clash at Vicarage Road last season.

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shows you the weekend's action in full colour. And everyday, along with colour pictures, you'll get the latest on your team from our team: Bob Harris, Alan Thompson and Roy Collins.



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FIRST TEAM UPDATE 1986-87 SEASON

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION ONE (Up to and including 21 December 1986)

HOME				AWAY							
P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	APs	
20	7	3	0	18	3	Arsenal	5	2	3	16	7
20	7	3	0	22	7	Nottingham Forest	4	0	6	20	21
20	6	3	1	23	8	Liverpool	4	2	4	16	14
20	6	3	1	23	8	Everton	4	2	4	14	12
20	6	4	0	24	11	Sheffield Wednesday	2	4	4	12	17
20	4	3	2	12	11	Tottenham Hotspur	5	2	3	16	12
20	7	3	0	14	4	LUTON TOWN	2	2	6	8	15
20	5	2	3	18	16	West Ham United	3	5	2	13	16
20	6	3	1	16	11	Norwich City	2	4	4	12	19
19	7	2	1	14	6	Coventry City	1	4	4	5	10
20	5	1	4	14	11	Wimbledon	4	0	6	12	14
20	6	2	2	2	9	Watford	1	3	6	13	19
20	5	4	1	18	12	Oxford United	1	3	6	6	22
19	5	1	3	18	14	Southampton	2	2	6	17	25
20	5	2	3	18	11	Manchester United	0	5	5	7	14
20	4	2	4	16	14	Newcastle United	1	4	5	7	17
20	4	3	3	14	13	Queens Park Rangers	1	3	6	5	13
20	3	4	3	15	14	Leicester	2	1	7	7	18
20	2	4	4	10	13	Charlton Athletic	3	1	6	9	17
20	4	2	4	14	18	Aston Villa	1	3	6	13	25
20	4	3	3	16	13	Manchester City	0	4	6	5	15
20	1	3	6	6	20	Chelsea	2	4	4	13	19

APPEARANCES AND GOALSCORERS (1986/87)

League		League			
Aps	Gls	Aps	Gls		
Tim Breacker	11	-	Peter Nicholas	20	-
Mal Donaghy	20	-	Marc North	(23)	-
Steve Foster	19	1	Stacey North	1	-
Ashley Grimes	14	-	Emeka Nwajobi	6	-
Richard Harvey	1	-	David Preece	7	-
Ricky Hill	14	1	Brian Stein	18	7
Rob Johnson	19	-	Mark Stein	13(2)	5
Darron McDonough	6(4)	-	Les Sealey	20	-
Mike Newell	20	6	Robert Wilson	9(3)	1

Leading goalscorers

Division One
23 - Allen (Tottenham)
20 - Rush (Liverpool)
19 - Aldridge (Oxford)
17 - Cottie (West Ham)
16 - Clarke (Southampton)
13 - Birtles (Nottingham Forest)
12 - McMahon (Liverpool)
Webb (Nottingham Forest)
Chapman (Sheff Wed)

Today's action

Aston Villa v Charlton
Leicester v Arsenal
Liverpool v Man United
Man City v Sheff Wed
Newcastle v Everton
Norwich v Notts Forest
QPR v Coventry
Southampton v Chelsea
Tottenham v West Ham
Wimbledon v Oxford

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FAC = F.A. Cup

(*) indicates player substituted (♦) indicates substitute used Home fixtures in **Bold** Scorer's name in **Bold** P = Penalty + denotes own goal



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Voucher No. 11

Luton Town F-A Att Pos 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Aug 23	Leicester City	1-1	9801	-	Sealey	Breacker	Johnson	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	(Wilson)	Nwajobi
Aug 26	Southampton	2-1	8777	-	Sealey	Breacker	Johnson	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	Wilson	North
Aug 30	Newcastle United	0-0	9254	2	Sealey	Breacker	Johnson	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	Wilson	Nwajobi
Sept 3	Aston Villa	1-2	13122	12	Sealey	(Breacker)	Johnson	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	Wilson	North
Sept 6	Chelsea	3-1	13040	7	Sealey	Johnson	Grimes	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	Wilson	Preece
Sept 13	Arsenal	0-0	9876	8	Sealey	Johnson	Grimes	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	(Nwajobi)	McDonough
Sept 20	West Ham United	0-2	19133	13	Sealey	Johnson	Grimes	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	M. Stein	Wilson
Sept 27	Manchester City	1-0	9731	10	Sealey	Johnson	Grimes	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	Preece	McDonough
Oct 4	Tottenham Hotspur	0-0	22738	10	Sealey	Johnson	Grimes	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	(M. Stein)	Wilson
Oct 11	Norwich City	0-0	10022	11	Sealey	Johnson	Grimes	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	(M. Stein)	Wilson
Oct 18	Manchester United	0-1	39927	12	Sealey	Breacker	Grimes	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	(Grimes)	McDonough
Oct 25	Liverpool	4-1	13140	10	Sealey	Johnson	(Grimes)	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	M. Stein	Wilson
Nov 1	Queens Park Rangers	1-0 (†)	9085	7	Sealey	Johnson	Harvey	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	(Preece)	McDonough
Nov 8	Wimbledon	1-0	5928	5	Sealey	Breacker	Johnson	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	M. Stein	Wilson
Nov 15	Nottingham Forest	4-2	11097	4	Sealey	Breacker	Johnson	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	(Grimes)	McDonough
Nov 22	Sheffield Wednesday	0-1	21171	6	Sealey	Breacker	Johnson	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	M. Stein	Wilson
Nov 29	Charlton Athletic	1-0	9373	5	Sealey	Johnson	Grimes	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	B. Stein ¹	Newell	McDonough	North
Dec 6	Oxford United	2-4	8804	7	Sealey	Johnson	Grimes	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Breacker	B. Stein ¹	Newell	M. Stein	Wilson
Dec 13	Everton	1-0	11137	5	Sealey	Breacker	Johnson	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	McDonough	B. Stein ¹	Newell	Grimes	Wilson
Dec 20	Arsenal	0-3	28217	6	Sealey	Breacker	Johnson	Nicholas	S North	Donaghy	McDonough	B. Stein ¹	Newell	M. Stein	Wilson

STAR-MAN STEVE



• **Top player:** Bob Driscoll, chief football writer with the Star newspaper, presents Steve Foster with his award as player of the month for November.

Vauxhall Teamcheck.

Luton Town

0

- 1 Les Sealey
- 2 Tim Breacker
- 3 Rob Johnson
- 4 Peter Nicholas
- 5 Steve Foster
- 6 Mal Donaghy
- 7 Ricky Hill
- 8 Brian Stein
- 9 Mike Newell
- 10 Mark Stein
- 11 Ashley Grimes
- Sub

Watford

2

- 1 Tony Coton
- 2 David Bardsley
- 3 Wilf Rostron
- 4 Kevin Richardson
- 5 Steve Terry
- 6 John McClelland
- 7 Nigel Callaghan
- 8 Luther Blissett
- 9 Mark Falco
- 10 Kenny Jackett
- 11 John Barnes
- Sub

Referee: C. DOWNEY (Hounslow)

Linesmen: M.H. BROWN (Red Flag) R.J. HORSWELL (Yellow Flag)

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