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Luton v Everton

BARCLAYS FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION ONE



Saturday, September 12th, 1987 Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

LUTON TOWN

This match is sponsored by: Sunshine Fund for Blind Babies and Young People.

ACTION

SUPER SHOW CRUSHES OXFORD



• **Number two:** Right-back Tim Breacker crashes in the Town's second goal in our 5-2 win at The Manor last Saturday.

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Edited by: Robert Alexander Associates
Pictures by: Apex Photography

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• **Nap hand winners:**
Emeka Nwajiobi (below)
heads the Town's third
goal while Ricky Hill
(top) sets up another attack.



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REPLAY

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Good luck to all from an established winner.

RAY'S REVIEW



After last week's fine win at Oxford, when we played well and took all our chances, we face a tough challenge today against the league champions, Everton. Even though they have had a lot of injuries again, they still seem to be able to field a team full of international and they are sure to test us as we attempt to set off on a long unbeaten run.

Since my last notes, we have been busy both in the transfer market and on the pitch. Marc North has left the club and signed for Grimsby, managed by Bobby Roberts, an old friend of mine, for a fee of £40,000. I think it is a good deal all round. Marc will have a chance to claim a regular place and force his way back into the First Division. He is a good young player.

As you may know, we have also signed a player – Michael Weir from Hibernian. Michael is a very exciting player, a winger and a goalscorer. He will give us a lot more options and will add considerably to the strength of the squad. There are other deals possible in the near future. Robert Wilson has asked for, and been made available for, a transfer.

Enjoyment

I was very pleased with our performance against Arsenal, especially in the first half. If we had been luckier and more accurate we might have run up a good score. At Oxford, we took our chances very well. They were all good goals and once we had the buffer of a good lead, we played with a lot of enjoyment. There was some very good football for the spectators to watch. The goals came at the right time for us and we ran out as very good winners. Now we shall be looking to build on those two successes and start on a good run. We have skilful and intelligent players and they all know what is wanted.

I did not feel until the Arsenal match that the season had really started for us, but I do now. Sometimes, it takes a while to get going and we have had a lot of interruptions with injuries and suspensions. At last, any unforeseen injuries permitting, we have a full strength squad to pick from

Ray. Harford

LUTON TOWN



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CHAMPIONS – DIVISION 2 1981-82



Mailbag

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

Thanks from a disabled fan

Dear Sir,
I was eight years old when my dad took me to Luton. Now I am much older and handicapped.

I am very grateful for what Luton Town FC have done for handicapped people - mine has got worse as I've got older, but thank God for eye-sight!

Best wishes
Ken Taylor
Bedford

Pen-pals, please!

Dear Sir,
My name is Yvonne Dillingham and I live at 21 Dunstable Close, Luton, Beds LU4 8DP.

I would like to correspond with male Luton Town supporters between the ages of 16 and 25.

My hobbies are swimming, tennis and listening to records.

Yours faithfully
Yvonne Dillingham

Just Crazy about You!

Dear Sir,
Nice one you Hatters! The recent game with West Ham was a superb advert for English Soccer at its best (and on a synthetic surface too!).

Brilliant handling by Les Sealey was one of the highlights of

the game, but the all round skills and teamwork of *both* sets of players was delightful for any spectator.

For me Tim ("Karl" Heinz Rummenigge "look-alike") Breacker was absolutely brilliant. Whether defending or attacking down his favourite right wing, he looked strong and full of running right to the end of the game. Tim must be in line for an England "call-up" (again) if he can maintain that level of performance regularly. Young Gary Cobb (another West German "look-alike") showed good touches too and is obviously a good player, who with experience and confidence will become a "top-class" footballer.

Ashley Grimes looks so classy going forward and his free kicks are delightful.

Danny Wilson is a super buy for Luton, as he is so strong in the tackle and adds his support to wherever its needed. Yes, I think our midfield trio of Hill, Wilson and "Preecy" will be hard to better anywhere in the First Division this season.

Darron McDonough shows signs of becoming another "Fozzie" with his strength, determination and leadership. Mike Newell is so fit and enthusiastic - and not only in attack - his goal line clearance from West Ham's Strodder showed what an important "cog" he is in our team - if we are to challenge seriously for

the three major trophies on offer this season.

Big Mick Harford has such silky skills on the ball which is rare for a bustling type of centre forward - I'm sure he is a much better all round and team player than say Clive Allen or Mark Hately, and the England "Lions" could do with his tenacity!

Above all I like Ray Harford's teamwork, after all that is what makes the Liverpools and Evertons so successful.

Good Luck
Geoff Evans

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•Brilliant: Tim Breacker



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CHIT CHAT



Sporting women are no joke

Caller to lowly football club: "What time's kick off?"

Football club: "Depends what time you can get here, and if you bring your boots you can play."

I was reminded of that old joke recently when I went to watch a local side play. They were short of men and asked me to run the line! I'm not sure what their reaction would have been had I agreed.

There's no physical or intellectual reason why women shouldn't be match officials though I imagine the FA has rules prohibiting such involvement. But it's not just the FA that is prejudiced against women in sport. The media is equally blinkered. Recently in a week with 60 hours of sport on TV only four hours was devoted to women's sport. As Celia Brackenridge, of the Women's Sport's Foundation, pointed out, women are rarely involved in sports presentation.

Yet the ability to recognise what is happening and comment intelligently on it isn't confined to those who have participated at a high level in the sport.

Patronising

Men are usually patronising to sporting women;

involved spectators and participants alike. I heard Florence Griffith, the silver medalist in the 200 metres at the World Championship, talked of as the 'glamour girl' of athletics yet no-one's referred to Steve Cram as the 'glamour boy'. A national daily paper even pursues this patronising attitude in its strip cartoon based on a football club.

A female celebrity opening a new stand was portrayed as being bored by the football but keen to meet the 'hunky footballers'. I've never met a woman who's viewed players as 'hunky' – at least not while they're in their singularly unattractive playing clothes: yet the male view of us as dumb blondes persists. This, of course, means a great deal of talent is not used.

Furthermore, in football circles, until women are given high profile roles within the game, the number of female supporters will not increase dramatically – which is a pity. I think increasing female and family support would be good for everyone.

Gale Waller

Anyone wanting to contribute to Chit-Chat, please write to: The Editor, Luton Town F.C., Dunstable Road, Luton, Beds.

Luton News

PICTURE QUIZ



Three points in the bag as Neville Southall is beaten during Everton's visit last season. And you can win a fiver in our free fun quiz: Who scored this goal, and why was he extra happy about it?

Answers to the Sports Editor (Comp), Luton News, Grosvenor House, Alma Street, Luton LU1 2PL by noon on Saturday. The first correct entry drawn out will win £5, so don't forget to include your name and address. Results will be published in the Luton News, along with all the best match coverage and pictures from today's game.

THURSDAYS 14p

GUNNERS' SPIKED

Luton Town 1 Arsenal 1

A fine all-round Town performance, lacking only the final touch in front of goal, went unrewarded when they outplayed Arsenal for long periods in our last home match here on the last day of August. The Gunners, 6-0 hotshots against Portsmouth just 48 hours earlier, were never able to turn the August Bank Holiday fixture into a London away-day special and returned to the capital somewhat fortunate to have retained one point for their efforts.

The visitors opened the scoring in the 14th minute, not long after David Preece had missed from a glorious opening. A low shot by Groves was blocked by Sealey and the ball arched high in the air. Davis hit the rebound and it reached the net via a post and two deflections.

Unperturbed, the Town raised their attacking tempo with Danny Wilson and Ricky Hill in particularly good form. Wilson was the scorer of the equaliser when he hammered in a penalty awarded after O'Leary had been penalised for a foul on Newell.

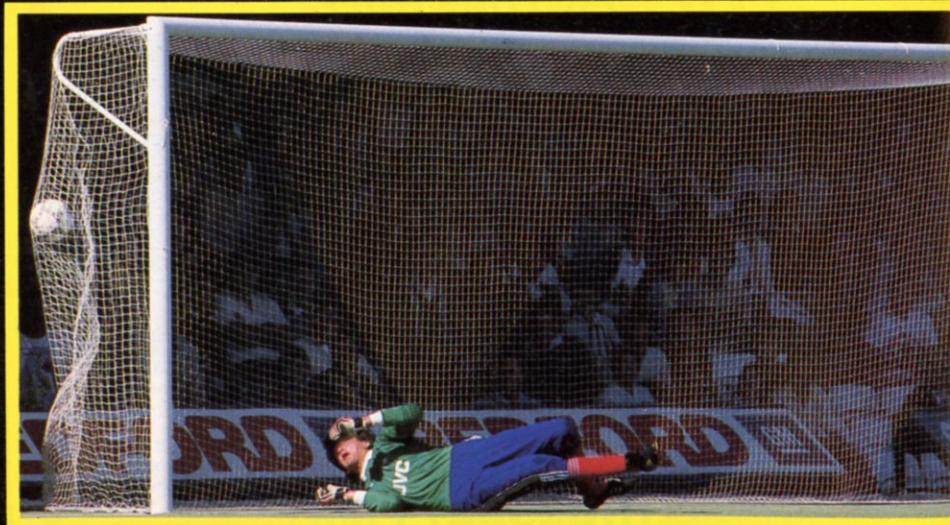
A flurry of cautions for O'Leary (dissent), Williams (violent foul play), Grimes (foul), Groves (dissent) and Donaghy (foul) were to follow before, after a less-exciting second period, the final drama was unfolded when Preece's last-minute header was acrobatically stopped by Lukic.

Teams: Luton – Sealey, Breacker, Grimes, Hill, Foster, Donaghy, D. Wilson, B. Stein, Newell (sub. M. Stein 73), Nwajobi, Preece.

Arsenal – Lukic, Thomas, Sansom, Williams, O'Leary, Adams, Rocastle, Davis, Smith, Groves, Rix.

Referee – R.S. Lewis (Gt. Bookham, Surrey).

1st Team ACTION



• Thrilling action: With a little more luck in front of goal, the Town would have collected three points for the first time this season when they drew 1-1 with Arsenal here on Bank Holiday Monday, August 31. Today's action pictures highlight the Hatters' efforts with David Preece trying to beat Steve Williams, John Lukic diving in vain against Danny Wilson's penalty, and Brian Stein and Ricky Hill doing their utmost to find the winner. Action pictures by Josh Levy of Apex Photography.

FOOTBALL FOCUS

Paul Bracewell

Town fans will remember Everton and England midfielder Paul Bracewell as one of the Blues' FA Cup semi final team in 1985. Since then he has been through one of the most serious injury nightmares any player could face...and is still battling his way back to fitness after five serious ankle operations in less than 12 months. He will be absent from Kenilworth Road as an Everton player today, but his story is a salutary lesson in guts and realism for any aspiring young player, as he told Match magazine's Adrian Curtis. In Football Focus today, Paul reveals the true drama and pain behind his fight for fitness:

The mercy mission to save my career

"When my injury first happened, I went to hospital for x-rays because they thought I'd broken my ankle, but they showed nothing. I came back and played the rest of the season out. Then I had my first operation to remove some of the bone which had flaked off in the tackle (with Newcastle's Billy Whitehurst on New Year's Day, 1986) and then more operations for problems with my tendons and calves.

"It was very depressing. Every time I got back to fitness, I'd have another operation. It was like being on a treadmill. There were setbacks all the way. Finally a London specialist advised the club to send me to Doctor Roger Mann in San Francisco and he came up with the solution which proved I had been right all along.

Flaked bone

"He found a piece of bone which had flaked off in the original tackle and had grown into another bone in my ankle. It answers a lot of questions now, especially why I had trouble with my tendons. It was a nice feeling when he found it because it meant I had been right. I had been complaining of pain after every operation. I think people tend not to believe you after a while.

"It would have been easy for me to say that's it. I've had enough. But that would have been taking the easy way out and I'm no quitter. I wouldn't give up until someone convinced me it would be physically impossible for me to carry on playing.

"The injury couldn't have come at a worse time for me. I'd been in the England squad and gone to Mexico on tour the year before. I was hoping I'd be



Paul Bracewell

included in the World Cup squad by Bobby Robson...

"It was all very difficult. I always knew I was just 70 per cent fit, but it was just a question of getting back the extra 30 per cent. It is the first time I've ever had a serious injury and it's hard to face when you can't do the job you like doing.

"If I knew I couldn't get back to 100 per cent fitness and play at the top then I'd pack in. I wouldn't consider playing at a lower level even if I was 80 per cent right. I don't think you can get away with it and not many clubs would take you on anyway.

No targets

"My main aim is just to get back and play football without any pain. I've not set myself any targets, but if I make it in time for the end of the season then that would be just great.

• Paul, who was one of the most highly-praised young players of his generation, took the first step back towards recovering his full fitness when he flew the 12,000 miles to California in a last-ditch bid to save his career. It was a mercy mission kept secret to avoid fuelling speculation that his career could be over.

He said: "The decision to send me to America was so secret that only the boss, the physio and the rest of the players knew about it. They didn't want to put any pressure on me because it had got to the stage when the Everton medical staff were beginning to ask the question whether I'd every play again."

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CLUB NEWS

JOIN OUR FOOTBALL FUN RUN TO HELP HOSPITAL BABY UNIT

Luton Town FC has teamed up with Luton and Dunstable Hospital's League of Friends in a bid to raise £10,000 towards equipment for the mother and baby unit.

The Club has chosen this project for the Football League Centenary Fun Run being organised as part of the Mercantile Credit-sponsored celebrations. Two national charities providing sports opportunities for disadvantaged children, Coaldiggers and Sparks, will also benefit.

All League clubs are arranging 2.5 mile runs to start simultaneously at noon on Sunday, September 20. Luton's will be the focal point of a family day out in Wardown Park, with the museum, boating lake, playground, sideshows and a car boot sale among other attractions.

The run will be led by Luton Town players and other celebrities. As it is strictly for fun, there will be prizes for fancy dress and the oldest and youngest participants, plus certificates for all.

Application forms are available from Luton Town FC, Mercantile Credit's office at 8 Bute Street, Luton, Luton Council offices, and from race organiser Mary Biswell at 22 Friars Walk, Dunstable.

PRE-MATCH ENTERTAINMENT

This afternoon's pre-match entertainment is provided by the Horace M. Smith Jazzband. Under the direction of their leader, Horace the tiger, they perform a happy Dixieland style of jazz with a touch of tomfoolery - all aimed at a family audience. They have often appeared on television and radio and we hope you welcome them to Kenilworth Road today.



FORTHCOMING MATCHES AT KENILWORTH ROAD

Football Combination
Saturday, September 19, 1987
Luton Town v West Ham United
Kick-off 2 pm.

Barclays League Division One
Saturday, October 3, 1987
Luton Town v Manchester United
Kick-off 3 pm.

MATCH REFEREE

Allan Gunn
(Burgess Hill,
Sussex)

A purchasing manager, Allan is married with two daughters. He began refereeing in 1965 in Sussex and progressed via the Football Combination to the Football League list and the FIFA panel. He enjoys swimming and squash. He refereed the FA Youth Cup final in 1980.

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by BILL TOMLINS

HAPPY RETURNS

•Mine host: Mick Saxby was back as a guest at our last home match against Arsenal. He told me he now runs the Yew Tree Inn pub at Mansfield. Injury ended his career last year.

MICHAEL IS READY FOR THE CHALLENGE

•Happy handshake: Our new signing, winger Michael Weir, joined the club from Scottish Premier Division club Hibernian on Tuesday. Michael, 21, joined Hibs as a schoolboy and quickly became one of the most hotly-sought forwards north of the border. He told me: "I am looking forward to the challenge in England. I have seen Luton play on television a lot and they have a reputation as a really good footballing club."

THE TOWN**ATTACKING PHILOSOPHY PAYS OFF AND PROVIDES SUPER ENTERTAINMENT**

After an exciting and eventful fortnight since our last home match, we welcome the league champions Everton this afternoon in a confident frame of mind and looking to extend our run of improved results and superbly entertaining football. I am sure we would all agree that our manager's attacking philosophy paid off with dividends last weekend when we scored five times at Oxford to clinch our first richly-deserved win of the season.

Since then, there have been comings and goings with Marc North joining Grimsby and Michael Weir arriving here from Hibernian. I wish them both the very best of luck in their new clubs. Michael has arrived with a good reputation in Scotland and we are sure he will be a great asset at Kenilworth Road.

Congratulations are also due to Ashley Grimes who was selected to make his return to international action with the Republic of Ireland in their European Championship match against Luxembourg on Wednesday. Well done, Ashley.

Sunshine Fund

Today, I am sure we shall all enjoy seeing a fine match – but I hope we are all able to spare a thought for all the blind people who will never be able to see Luton Town or Everton in action and in particular the children

of the Sunshine School of our match sponsors, the Sunshine Fund for Blind Babies and Young People.

For almost 70 years, the RNIB's Sunshine Schools have been caring for and educating blind children – some blind from birth, others blinded through accident or disease. It costs £38 a day to provide the services which can give these children the help they need for everyday life.

A small donation – perhaps a pound for every goal scored? – would be very gratefully appreciated by the Sunshine Fund.

International

On the same theme, I would like to mention the British Football Association for the Visually Handicapped, which was formed in 1980, and which will have a total of 12 blind, or partially-sighted, teams playing in its league this season.

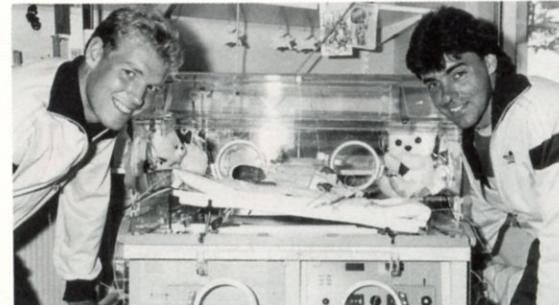
The league is based on a series of 5-a-side tournaments all over the country and fully deserves recognition and support. We at Kenilworth Road are pleased to welcome many of the best players here today for the first international 11-a-side match between visually handicapped players representing England and Scotland and I hope all our supporters and their guests will generously give their support.



•On the ball: Tim Breacker, in brilliant form recently, is pictured with Mr and Mrs Reg Kitchener of Clarendon Hats, the ball sponsors for our Arsenal match.



•Hospital visit: Tim and our Northern Ireland international defender, Mal Donaghy, visited the Special Care Baby Unit at the Luton and Dunstable Hospital last week. They are pictured above with (left to right) Sister Ann Smith, Director of Midwifery Anne Gee, Mary Biswell, Isabel Greer and Sister Katie Burge and (below) baby Ebony Joseph.

**CAPTAIN'S DIARY****STEVE FOSTER****Goals galore!**

Since my last column, we have welcomed Michael Weir, a Scottish winger to the club and said goodbye to Marc North. Michael's arrival could not have been better timed as we are all pleased to have got our first win of the season under our belts with that success at Oxford. And five goals is proof that the boss's attacking policies will bring entertaining football and attract the crowds.

It was great to see the goals go in, but we must not get too carried away on the strength of one performance especially when we are up against the league champions in our next fixture! We know from having played Everton so often in recent years that they are one of the toughest opponents we could face – but we shall be doing our best to keep our good run going.

Great stuff

I think it began really when we played Arsenal on Bank Holiday Monday. That game saw us produce some great football without finding the net. A bit more luck was all that was needed and that came at the Manor Ground last week with some brilliant finishing. Even Tim Breacker found the net!

We have now got both Mick and Mal back from injuries and most of the squad fit and keen to play so we are fully of confidence. I hope that means we can provide a great game today and a good result. There is nothing like winning.

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EVERTON TO WIN

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2-0 11/1	3-1 20/1	4-1 50/1
2-1 8/1	3-2 25/1	4-2 66/1

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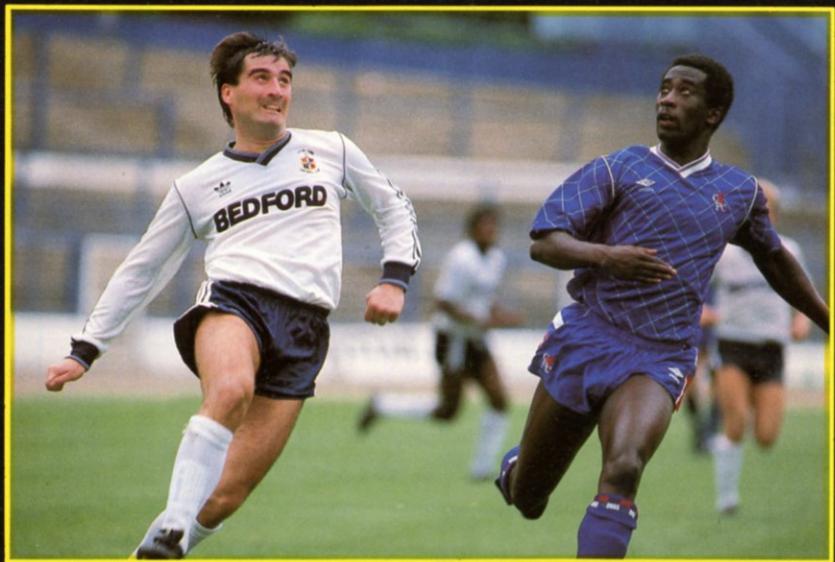
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PHOTO FILE



• **Gloom at the Bridge:** Tim Breacker and Robert Wilson in action at Stamford Bridge where the Town went down 3-0 on August 29.



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IN PROFILE....

MICK HARFORD



•**Finding the net:** Mick controls the ball before scoring the Town's fifth goal at Oxford last week.

Regular goal-supply is his trademark



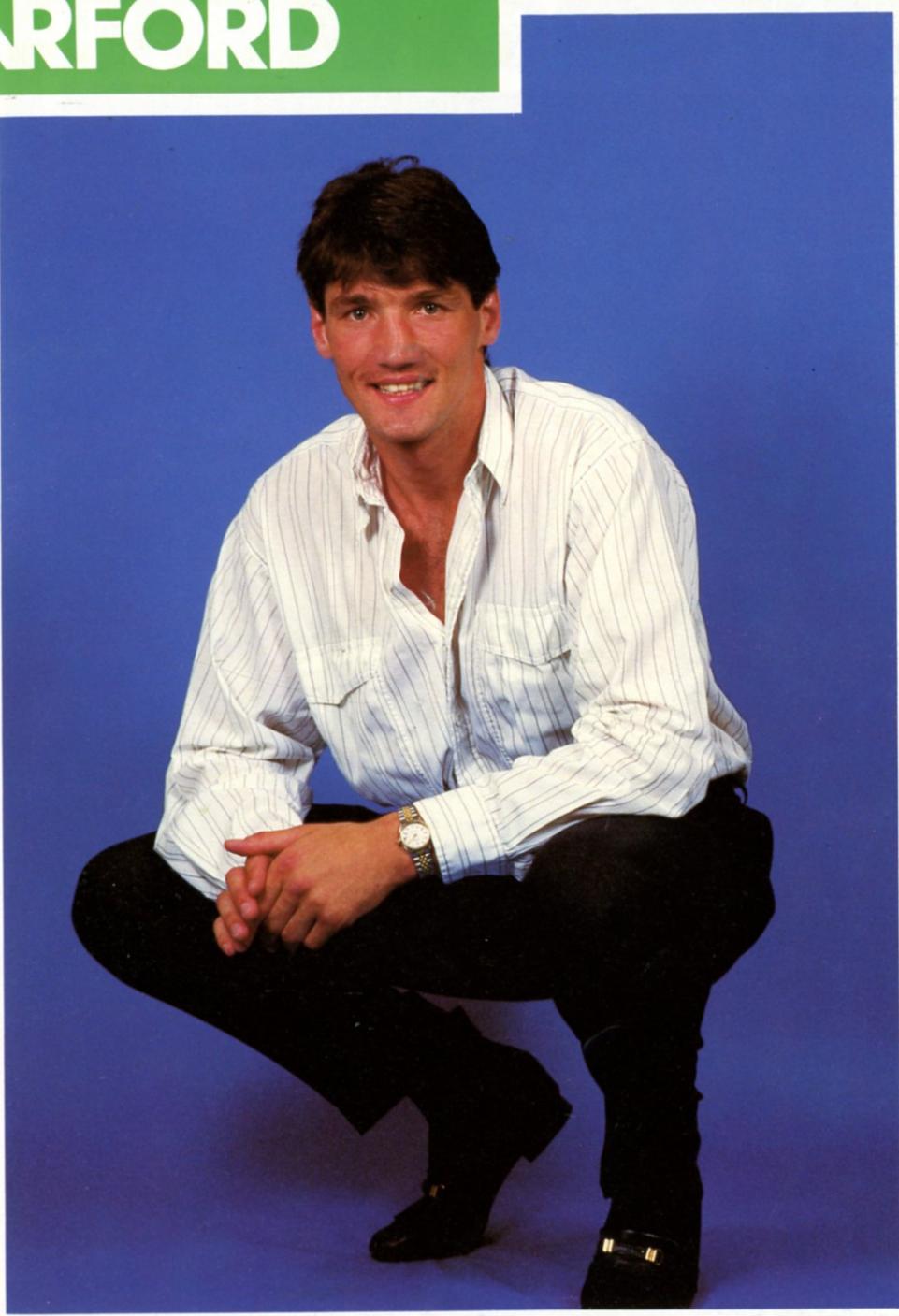
•**In top form:** Mick Harford.

Big Mick Harford came back from suspension to maintain his amazing scoring record with a goal in the Town's 5-2 win at Oxford last week. In more than 100 first team appearances for the Hatters since joining the club in 1984, Mick has maintained an average of a goal every two games ... a phenomenal record for a player in the highly-competitive English First Division.

Mick made his 100th appearance (his 79th in the league) for the Town against Coventry earlier this season and, before kick-off today, had made a total of 103 appearances scoring 51 goals in the process. In the First Division alone, he has scored 44 goals for Luton in 81 games.

Mick was very disappointed at missing the clashes with Chelsea and Arsenal as he always enjoyed his jousts with the London club's defence. "I always seem to play well and often score against them," he said. "So, it was a bit of a sickener to have to miss them and especially as I felt I was in such good form after scoring twice against West Ham in my last match before the suspension began."

MICK HARFORD



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DRESSING ROOM TALK

with Emeka Nwajiobi

Nigerian international striker Emeka Nwajiobi endured a disappointing season last term, making only a bare half-dozen first team appearances, after establishing himself as one of the regular members of the first team squad during the previous two campaigns. But this season, following his summer wedding at home in Africa, Emeka has forced his way back into the first team picture. Today, in Dressing Room Talk, he reflects on his change of fortunes ... and gives some insight into a traditional wedding in his native land.

Back in the big time

"I just didn't feel part of the first team scene last year, but now I am much happier of course. Sometimes, it is very difficult to find any motivation to play when you are always in the reserves. There is no atmosphere and it is hard to get going. But I have always wanted to get back and play in the first team and now I am back in the squad I aim to make the most of it."

"Before last season, I had been a regular and had been part of a one-time first-choice front line with Mick Harford and Brian Stein, but last season, with Mick injured for so long, we never had a chance to play together again."

"Of course, it is down to the manager to pick the team and he picks the team he wants to play. It is a very tough and competitive league to play in and sometimes not easy to make the right decisions against some teams. I felt we were a much better balanced team in our last home match against Arsenal though and that the team enjoyed the game."

Chances

"We were very disappointed not to take all three points. I thought we should have won. We had the chances, but didn't score and their goalkeeper made a great save at the end. Mind you, I don't think he knew much about it."

"My aim now is to try and hold down a regular place. It will be difficult with the competition for forward places in the team - in the Arsenal game, for example, we did not have Mick Harford playing and Mark Stein came on. That showed the strength in depth we have now. It was a very tough game and played in difficult conditions. It



• Change of fortunes: Emeka Nwajiobi.

was pretty hot and a game with a lot of running."

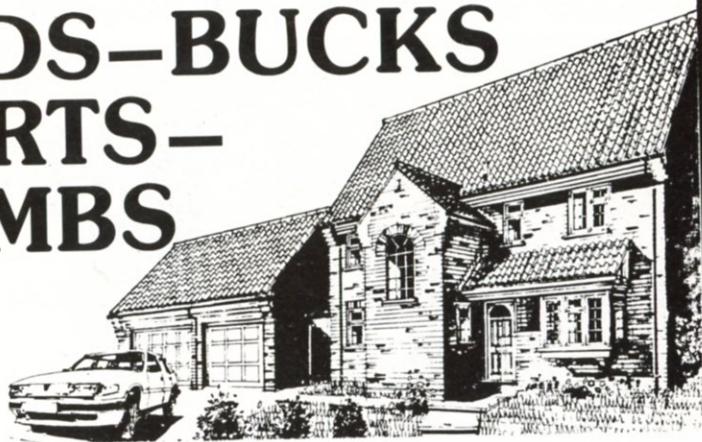
"For me, the main thing is to get the ball. I need the ball or I cannot do anything. I am that kind of player. I know my own strengths now - at 28 I should do!"

Wedding

"During the summer I was married in Nigeria. The wedding was in June and was a traditional wedding for the part of Nigeria I come from. Ours had four stages, but there are longer ones which can go on for a lot longer. One of the last stages of all is the wine stage. All the guests of the groom are invited over to the bride's place. Of course, I invited all the lads except Fossie over ... he would have tried to drink the whole place out! Altogether, the wedding lasted for about four weeks with all the different stages."

"They can go on a lot longer! But my wife, Chinelo, who is a doctor, and I chose to have one of the shorter ones! How many children will we have? Oh, I don't know. Maybe about 18 - then we would have enough for a football team and a netball team."

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BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

For Your Diary

Our next First Division fixture is at Charlton Athletic at Selhurst Park next Saturday September 19th, kick-off is 3.00 pm.

The following Tuesday, September 22nd, we are away to Wigan Athletic in the Littlewoods Cup, 1st leg, kick-off is 7.45 pm.

On the 26th we are away again to Queens Park Rangers in the Barclays League, kick-off is 3.00 pm.

Manchester United are our next Barclays League visitors, on October 3rd, kick-off 3.00 pm.

Luton play the second leg of their Littlewoods Cup-tie at Kenilworth Road on October 6th, kick-off 7.45 pm.

TICKET OFFICE



Ticket Supervisor: Cherry Newberry is Luton Town FC Ticket Supervisor, following in the footsteps of Bev Tyler who has taken over as the Souvenir Shop manager. The Ticket Office is at the top of Kenilworth Road (telephone Luton 30748 or 423293/4) and the Souvenir Shop is on the corner of Oak Road (telephone Luton 412418).

Littlewoods cup tickets

Tickets for the first leg match, at Wigan on September 22, are on sale from the Kenilworth Road ticket office. The allocation is 272 seats at £4 and 2,000 terrace tickets at £3.

As part of the overall membership experiment, special arrangements have been made for the return leg on October 6, which will see visiting supporters at Kenilworth Road for the first time since the membership scheme was introduced.

It will be an all-ticket match, with no ticket sales on the day of the match itself. Tickets are due to go on sale to season ticket holders after the Everton match on September 12 and to all other membership card holders from October 1.

Special prices apply. Main Stand, Blocks A to E, £6. Blocks F and G (visiting supporters only) Main Stand Enclosure and Oak Stand, £5. Kenilworth Stand, £3; juniors and pensioners in all areas, £1.

To assist in crowd control and to meet the segregation requirements of our police and the Football League, Wigan supporters will use the K1 section of the Kenilworth Stand and the Maple Road turnstiles leading to Blocks F and G of the Main Stand.

This means home supporters accustomed to using the Maple Road entrance to the Main Stand and Enclosure must instead use the alternative turnstiles at the top of Kenilworth Road.

HALF PRICE BUS FARES

Luton Town FC supporters can take advantage of an exclusive new arrangement between ourselves and Luton and District Transport.

On matchdays, membership card holders and holders of matchday tickets will be able to travel to and from the match for half the price of the normal stage fares, on all Luton and District buses. This does not apply to senior citizens who already have their own reductions.

Forty pubs have already linked up with Luton Town to bring groups of supporters to matches at special rates. If you fancy watching Luton with the lads from the local and saving money - ask your landlord to contact Colin Moore on Luton 411622.

Another way to save money is to travel here by train. Saturday parking is free at most Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire stations on the Bedford to St Pancras line.

And, from Bedford, you can save £1.05p on the return fare by buying a British Rail Network Card.

Sample Network card fares are: Return from Bedford £2.05, from Flitwick £1.15, from Harpenden 80p, and from St Albans £1.20.

Of course, the £10 annual network card also provides cheaper travel throughout the South East.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Next Saturday, our reserves are at home to West Ham United, kick-off 2.00 pm. On Saturday, September 26, they are at home to Chelsea, kick-off 2.00 pm, and on Tuesday the 29th, they are away at Queens Park Rangers, kick-off 2.00 pm.

On Tuesday October 6th they play away to Portsmouth, kick-off 2pm.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE

Next Saturday, September 19th, the youth team play Arsenal in the South East Counties League Cup, kick-off 11 am.

On the 26th, they are away to Oxford United, kick-off 11 am, in the South East Counties League. On October 3rd, they play Colchester at Kenilworth Road, kick-off 11 am.

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CLUB COMMENT

John Smith, Chief Executive

EXCITING VIEW OF THE FUTURE

The exciting revelations about the possible building of a £175 million stadium on the edge of Luton have give club officials and supporters a glimpse of what might become the home of our football club.

The revolutionary new stadium with a covered pitch and acoustic screening is part of a futuristic project at Sundon Springs and has caught, deservedly, the imagination of sportsmen all over the country.

But its arrival on the sporting scene would be of particular help to Luton Town as we search for new premises away from our congested Kenilworth Road home.

I have already told the chiefs of the London development company Brookmount and their partners, Blue Circle Industries, that a move to the £250 million Sundon Springs development, just outside the town boundary, would be in the club's best interests.

Details will be discussed over the next few months, but the working party set up to consider the possibilities of the club moving to new quarters is convinced a move to the 90,000-seat stadium is not only logical, but an exciting prospect.

Immediately solved would be the club's access and car-parking problems, but as Luton participates in the organisation of what could become one of the country's most important national stadiums, all sorts of advantages would accrue.

The hydraulic fold-away roof would give the club the choice of playing on turf or re-creating an artificial pitch.

All seats in the stadium would be covered and it would be possible to control the amount of rain which fell on the pitch.

In turn, this would allow the stadium to be used more intensively and all sorts of other sports are envisaged, including major athletics, on an eight-lane track, and horse riding events.

On other days, acoustic screens could be dropped into place to create a more intimate atmosphere for regional boxing tournaments, classical or pop concerts.

Other facilities planned for the 355-acre Sundon Springs site are a leisure water park, exhibition hall, conference centre, 400-bedroom hotel, museum and 580,000 sq ft of shopping space.

As our members already know, access to the M1 motorway is included in the plan and British Rail have promised a new station which can be used by commuters as well as visitors to Sundon Springs.

Mr Eric Fountain, chairman of the working party, has said that the Springs site offers the best possible future for the football club and this is obviously our aim as we look ahead to the 1990's and the next century.



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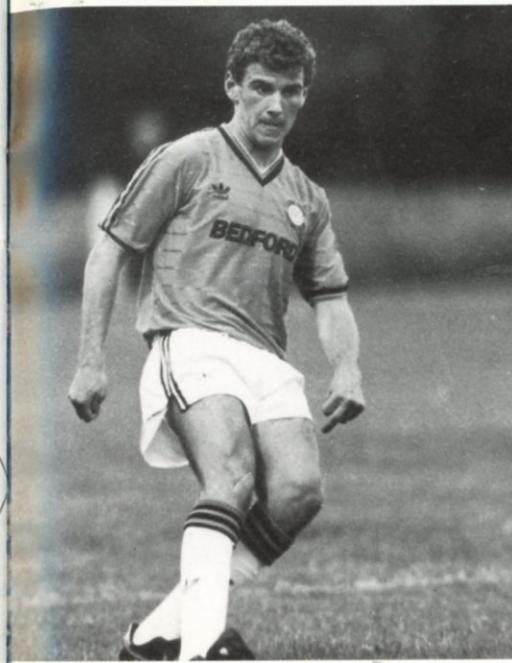
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RESERVE



•**On the wing:** Kingsley Black was on the wing as the reserves kept up their bright opening form.

•**Winning start:** Neil Poutch was in the young reserves' team which chalked up its third win last week.



COACHES' CORNER



RESERVES CONTINUE THEIR WINNING WAYS

Strangely, while the first team had to wait a few weeks to enjoy the satisfaction of their first win of the new season, the reserves have experienced exactly the opposite sort of start to their campaign in the Sunday Mirror Combination. The young team's 2-0 win over Charlton Athletic on September 5 was their third of the season and has given them a maximum points record after only three games.

Goals scored by Gary Cobb and Paul Gray carried them to victory over Charlton to add to the previous wins against Reading and Ipswich. The team against Charlton was Andy Dibble, Neil Poutch, Mark Pembridge, Ricky McEvoy, Stacey North, Colin Barker, Gary Cobb, Paul Turner, David Oldfield, Paul Gray and Kingsley Black. Ian Scott was substitute.

THE FOOTBALL COMBINATION 1987/88

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	2	2	0	0	6	0	4
Portsmouth	2	2	0	0	9	3	4
Tottenham Hotspur	2	2	0	0	7	3	4
Luton Town	2	2	0	0	6	3	4
Watford	2	2	0	0	4	2	4
Chelsea	2	1	1	0	7	2	3
Charlton Athletic	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Ipswich Town	2	1	0	1	6	3	2
West Ham United	2	1	0	1	5	3	2
Queens Park Rangers	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
Oxford United	2	1	0	1	7	6	2
Millwall	2	1	0	1	3	4	2
Southampton	2	1	0	1	3	4	2
Crystal Palace	2	0	1	1	2	6	1
Fulham	2	0	1	1	2	6	1
Norwich City	2	0	0	2	2	5	0
Reading	2	0	0	2	4	9	0
Bristol Rovers	2	0	0	2	3	8	0
Brighton & Hove Albion	2	0	0	2	1	6	0
Swindon Town	2	0	0	2	1	7	0

SUNDAY MIRROR COMBINATION 1987/88

Date	Opponents	Result	Date	Opponents	Result
1987			1988		
Aug 22	Reading	3-1	Jan 9	Reading	
Aug 29	Ipswich Town	3-2	Jan 12	Ipswich Town	
Sept 5	Charlton Ath	2-0	Jan 19	Charlton Ath	
Sept 9	Oxford		Jan 30	Oxford	
Sept 12	Arsenal		Feb 6	West Ham	
Sept 19	West Ham		Feb 13	Arsenal	
Sept 26	Chelsea		Feb 16	Chelsea	
Sept 29	QPR		Feb 27	QPR	
Oct 6	Portsmouth		Mar 2	Bristol R	
Oct 13	Bristol R		Mar 5	Portsmouth	
Oct 20	Fulham		Mar 16	Fulham	
Oct 31	Swindon		Mar 19	Swindon	
Nov 4	Millwall		Mar 22	Tottenham	
Nov 14	Tottenham		Apr 2	Millwall	
Nov 20	Norwich City		Apr 9	Norwich City	
Nov 28	Crystal Palace		Apr 13	Crystal Palace	
Dec 5	Watford		Apr 23	Southampton	
Dec 12	Southampton		Apr 30	Watford	
Dec 16	Brighton		May 7	Brighton	

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE DIVISION TWO 1987/88

Date	Opponents	Result	Date	Opponents	Result
1987			1988		
Aug 15	Crystal Palace	2-1	Jan 2	Bristol R	
Aug 19	Reading	1-1	Jan 9	Southampton	
Aug 22	Tottenham	1-2	Jan 16	Brighton	
Aug 25	Northampton	1-3	Jan 23	Bristol City	
Aug 29	Bristol R	1-0	Jan 30	Oxford	
Sept 1	Birmingham	1-3	Feb 6	Colchester	
Sept 5	Brighton	2-2	Feb 13	Swindon	
Sept 12	Bristol City		Feb 20	Bournemouth	
Sept 19	Arsenal		Feb 27	Luton Town Free	
Sept 26	Oxford		Mar 5	Wimbledon	
Oct 3	Colchester		Mar 12	Brentford	
Oct 10	Swindon		Mar 19	Southampton	
Oct 17	Bournemouth				
Oct 24	Luton Town Free				
Oct 31					
Nov 7	Wimbledon				
Nov 14	Brentford				
Nov 21	Crystal Palace				
Nov 28	Reading				
Dec 5	Tottenham				
Dec 12	Northampton				
Dec 19					

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Mixed fortunes

The youth team, by contrast, have had a mixed start to the season and recently went down 3-1 at St Andrews, Birmingham, in their first outing in defence of the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup. Since then, they have won one, lost one and drawn one, the latest result being a 2-2 draw at Brighton last Saturday.

John Faulkner said: "We fought back very well in that match. The pitch, conditions and some injuries made it very difficult for us to get into any pattern of play and we did well in the second half. We showed a lot of determination and spirit."

"By the end I thought we deserved to win. We kept the ball in their half all the way through the second period and would have scored more but for some good goalkeeping and erratic finishing."

The youth team line-up was: Edworthy, Husband, Gillard, O'Brien, James, Alpress, Shanley, Crawshaw, Nogan, Hughes, McLean, Welch, Jackson. Scorers: Nogan and Hughes.

& YOUTH

INTRODUCING...

EVERTON

Everton arrive at Kenilworth Road today among the early season challengers at the top of the First Division in new manager Colin Harvey's first season in charge since taking over from Howard Kendall, who left Goodison Park to take over at Athletic Bilbao in Spain at the end of last season.

As convincing league champions last season - they finished nine points ahead of city rivals Liverpool in the final table - Everton proved what strength in depth they had in their squad. And this season, already, they have proved the same again despite a long injured list.

Last weekend, the Toffees were held to a 0-0 home draw by Tottenham, but the previous week they crushed Sheffield Wednesday 4-0 - the perfect antidote to a 6-1 hammering by Real Madrid in a friendly in Spain only three days earlier. England midfielder Trevor Steven scored twice against the Owls.

Steven finished last season as Everton's leading scorer in the First Division with 14 goals, one more than Kevin Sheedy and three more than Adrian Heath. In all, Everton scored 75 league goals last term when their average home league attendance was an impressive 34,190. Goodison's modern capacity is 52,691 and the ground record - set in 1948 against Liverpool - is 78,229.



Back Row: D. Mountfield, I. Marshall, M. Stowell, N. Southall, R. Mimms, D. Watson, P. Power. Middle Row: J. Clinkard (Physiotherapist), T. Darracott (Assistant Manager), P. Van den Hauwe, P. Bracewell, G. Stevens, G. Sharp, I. Snodin, N. Pointon, W. Clarke, N. Adams, M. Lyons (Coach), G. Smith (Youth Coach). Front Row: T. Steven, A. Heath, K. Ratcliffe, C. Harvey (Manager), P. Reid, K. Sheedy, A. Harper.

Players likely to be on duty today:

Bobby Mimms - An England under-21 international goalkeeper, Bobby began his career with Halifax and left for Peterborough before joining Everton in 1985. A more than able deputy for Welsh international Neville Southall.

Alan Harper - Alan joined Liverpool as an apprentice and served an Anfield apprenticeship. He joined Everton in 1983, played against Liverpool in the 1984 Milk Cup final and last season proved valuable and versatile during Everton's injury crisis.

Pat Van Den Hauwe - Injured for much of last season, Pat has fought his way back for both Everton and Wales. He joined Everton from Birmingham in 1984 for £100,000 and is a defender with more than 200 league appearances under his belt.

Kevin Ratcliffe - Another Welsh international and the team captain, Kevin has become a hugely-influential figure at Goodison with his speed and reading of the game. A skilful central defender.

Dave Watson - Signed from Norwich early last season for £950,000, Dave is an England centre-half who also played for Liverpool earlier in his career. Tall and powerful in the air, he is also quick on the ground.



Colin Harvey - One of the great Everton midfield of championship-winning team 1970-vintage, Colin took charge at Goodison in succession to Howard Kendall during the close season. A telephone call was all it took to lure him into the manager's office after he had been found on holiday with his family in Wales. "I had no hesitation," said Colin of the job offer he had never expected to come his way after proving such a successful number two to Kendall in recent years. Colin is a Merseyside man through and through and just as much an Evertonian. As a player, he was the perfect mixture of determination, skill and work, in a career which saw him win international honours.

Peter Reid - Despite lengthy injury problems, Peter fought his way back to play for England in recent years. A midfielder with an eye for the telling pass, he began his career with Bolton and joined Everton in 1983.

Trevor Steven - An England international winger-cum-midfielder, Trevor made his name when he burst successfully into England's World Cup team in Mexico. Quick, skilful and dangerous in front of goal, Trevor joined Everton from Burnley in 1983 for £325,000.

Wayne Clarke - Joined Everton from Birmingham late last season and scored five goals in 10 league games, including a hat-trick against Newcastle, to help secure the title. A striker, Wayne is one of five brothers to have played for league clubs.

Graeme Sharp - Scottish international striker Graeme joined Everton from Dunbarton, at the end of 1979-80 for £125,000 and has established himself as a powerful leader of the Blues' attack. Played for Scotland in Mexico World Cup.

Ian Snodin - Ian signed from Leeds for £840,000 in January 1986. An England under-21 midfielder, he began his career at Doncaster. Skilful and competitive.

Neil Pointon - Neil joined Everton two seasons ago from Scunthorpe and he has established himself as a very versatile member of the squad. Last season, he played in defence, but he may be seen in midfield today.

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JUNIOR HATTERS!

BY BRIAN STEIN

FULL STRENGTH TEAM IN WINNING MOOD

Our win at Oxford last Saturday has made it look better for us in the league table.

Now that we have Mal Donaghy and Mick Harford back from suspension, it will put the team back to full strength. We will have to improve on our position in the league.

As our next two games are away to London clubs, the first is Charlton and a week later we play Queens Park Rangers.

I know that a lot of you Junior Hatters travel to away games with your parents. Let's hear you cheering us on to victory!

ESCORTS



Christopher Misson



Michael Scales

MASCOT



Daniel Southerden

ESCORTS



Anthony Jessup



Daniel Smith

KENILWORTH THE CAT

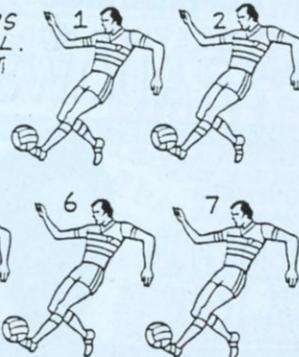


QUIZ TIME

junior
spot

no.
1

ONLY TWO OF
THESE PLAYERS
ARE IDENTICAL.
CAN YOU SPOT
WHICH ONES
MAKE THE
PAIR?



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The answer to this week's puzzle will appear in our next programme.

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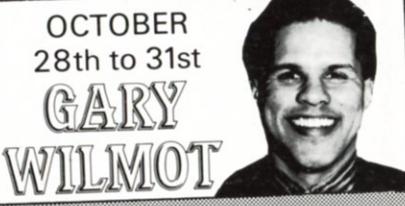


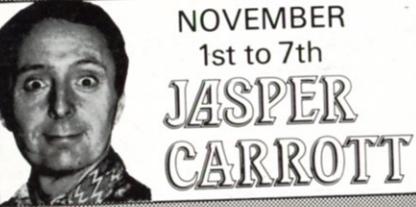
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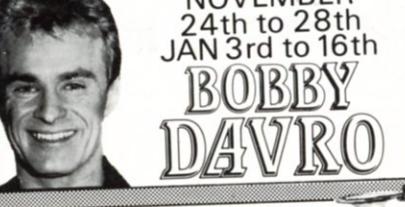


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Views from the media

WONDERFUL GAME WENT UNREPORTED

A casual and untrained reader of the sports pages glancing at the reports of our 1-1 draw with Arsenal might easily have gained an impression that most reporters of the national (London-based) press write only for their London-based readers. Is this true? Judge for yourself by reading these selected comments from the one-time serious 'quality' newspapers:

The Times: "It was back to normal – if such a thing is possible in the unnatural environment of Kenilworth Road – for Arsenal yesterday after their excesses against Portsmouth on Saturday. Confronted by a less submissive Luton Town defence, Arsenal's new-look attack was nothing like as menacing."

The Daily Telegraph: "Arsenal left Kenilworth Road last night still mystified at why the momentum provided by their sparkling 6-0 victory over Portsmouth on Saturday had evaporated so quickly. It seems certain that in any Highbury inquest the majority of the blame will be piled on the shoulders of Ray Lewis, the over-enthusiastic referee. For it was his bizarre decision in the 17th minute which offered Luton, still searching for their first victory under Ray Harford's management, a way back into the game."

Wilson penalty

The Independent: "The momentum Arsenal worked up in crushing Portsmouth 6-0 on Saturday was dissipated at Kenilworth Road yesterday by a puzzling penalty which defied explanation by either side. George Graham was mystified by the decision which allowed Danny Wilson to cancel out the 13th minute lead supplied by Paul Davies and Luton's Ray Harford was equally bemused. 'I didn't see any offence' he admitted. 'The referee said there was a push, but it must have been a gentle one.'

Readers with verdicts on the reports or comments on any other aspects of the game or Luton Town FC are welcome to write in to the Programme Editor, c/o Luton Town FC.



WHEN LUTON GET NEAR THE BOX TODAY, WE HOPE THEY'LL BE WATCHING ANGLIA.



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LUTON TOWN GOALS GALORE FOR THE INNOCENTS

After their "whistle stop" tour of Division One in 1974/75, the Town eventually returned at the end of 1981/82 with an infinitely stronger set-up, writes club statistician Roger Wash.

The talking point of the summer had been the signing of Paul Walsh from Charlton in exchange for a large fee and the previous season's second leading scorer Steve White. Walsh was expected to form a double spearhead with Brian Stein in what was hoped to be the most potent forward line in the First Division.

The season opened brightly enough with a fighting 2-2 draw at White Hart Lane against the Cup-holders Tottenham, but it was soon learnt that things were going to be far from easy when West Ham, playing very professionally, came to Kenilworth Road three days later and won 2-0.

Hat-trick

Little had been seen of Walsh so far but that was soon to change when he scored a hat-trick in the next home game when Notts County were beaten 5-3. His third goal, often repeated on television, when he beat several County defenders, three stewards and a policeman in a mazy dribble brought it home to the Town fans why David Pleat had invested heavily in this largely untried youngster.

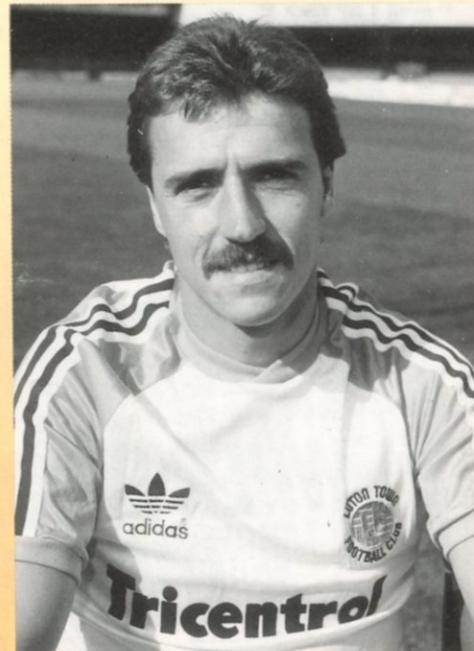
The goals continued to rain in at both ends. A 4-1 defeat at Aston Villa was followed by an incredible 3-3 draw at Anfield where each of the Liverpool goals was scored against a different Luton goalkeeper. Jake Findlay conceded the first, was then injured and replaced by Kirk Stevens who let in the second. With Pleat realising that perhaps Stevens was not the world's best, half time saw Mal Donaghy take over and subsequently let in number three.

Highest placing

A 5-0 home win over Brighton saw the Town up to 11th position and three games later after a 3-2 win at Birmingham a highest placing of 8th was reached. In between a 4-4 draw at Stoke had been achieved in a game that should have secured three points at David Moss missed a penalty in the last minute.

Ashley Grimes then scored for Manchester United in a 1-1 draw at Kenilworth Road but despite the overall satisfaction of a relatively high league placing the Town were beginning to be "musc led out" of games.

Pretty "wall pass" moves were breaking down as defences were making sure that the player of the first pass was not there to receive the return and



• **Vital striker:** David Moss's goals helped the Town stay up in 1983.

professionalism versus innocence was creeping in.

The Town kept on attempting to play positive football however and when they came across a team prepared to play a part such as Southampton in a 3-3 home draw the fans were in for a treat.

Following the win over Birmingham the Town went eight games without another victory until the 3-1 beating of Manchester City on December 11th. The win had its price, unfortunately, as Brian Stein broke a bone in his foot which effectively kept him out of regular contention until the season's end.

Defeats followed into the New Year with the only real bright spot a 3-2 win at West Ham with Paul Walsh scoring the winner and his third in the final minute.

Entrenched

By Easter the Town were firmly entrenched in one of the relegation positions and the drop looked inevitable but then, for whatever reason, an amazing transformation took place starting with a home win over Aston Villa when the winner was scored by David Moss with the last kick of the game.

The transformation was such that with three games to go a home win over Everton would have seen the Town safe, but, in a terrible performance, the "Toffees" won 5-1 on a day when all the other strugglers recorded victories.

The final match of the season at Manchester City when the Town won 1-0 is written into the Club's history as one of the great games sealing a momentous season.

The Town's football, despite some heavy defeats, met nationwide acclaim as noted by the T.V. companies who screened 19 League games featuring Luton. What a time to own your first video recorder!



• **Down to work:** Kirk Stephens went in goal at Anfield.



• **Parisian strike-force:** Brian Stein and Paul Walsh teamed up for the first time in 1982 and later played together for England against France.

FIRST TEAM

UPDATE

1987-88 SEASON

BARCLAYS FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
1987-88

HOME						AWAY						
P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	APts	
6	2	1	0	4	1	Queens Park Rangers	3	0	0	5	0	16
6	2	1	0	5	1	Manchester United	1	2	0	5	3	12
6	3	0	0	9	4	Chelsea	1	0	2	4	4	12
6	3	0	0	7	1	Tottenham Hotspur	0	2	1	2	3	11
6	1	2	0	6	3	Wimbledon	2	0	1	3	2	11
6	1	2	0	4	3	Nottingham Forest	2	0	1	6	5	11
6	1	1	1	3	5	Coventry City	2	0	1	5	3	10
6	2	1	0	5	0	Everton	0	2	1	1	2	9
3	0	0	0	0	0	Liverpool	2	1	0	7	3	7
6	0	2	1	3	4	Southampton	1	2	0	6	5	7
6	1	1	1	4	3	Norwich City	1	0	2	1	3	7
5	1	0	1	7	2	Arsenal	0	2	1	1	3	5
4	1	1	1	1	1	Derby County	0	1	0	1	1	5
6	0	2	1	3	4	LUTON TOWN	1	0	2	5	6	5
5	1	1	1	3	4	West Ham United	0	1	1	3	4	5
5	1	0	1	6	7	Oxford United	0	2	1	2	5	5
6	1	1	1	4	6	Portsmouth	0	1	2	2	10	5
5	0	0	2	1	3	Newcastle United	1	1	1	3	4	4
5	1	1	1	2	2	Watford	0	0	2	0	3	4
6	0	1	2	1	5	Sheffield Wednesday	0	1	2	2	7	2
4	0	0	3	2	6	Charlton Athletic	0	0	1	1	4	0

APPEARANCES AND GOALSCORERS
(1987/88)

League	Appeareances	Goals	League	Appeareances	Goals
Tim Breacker	6	1	Mike Newell	4	-
Gary Cobb	2	-	Stacey North	(1)	-
Mal Donaghy	4	-	Emeka Nwajobi	3(1)	1
Steve Foster	6	-	David Preece	6	-
Ashley Grimes	6	-	Brian Stein	3	1
Mick Harford	4	3	Mark Stein	(2)	-
Ricky Hill	6	1	Les Sealey	6	-
Rob Johnson	(1)	-	Danny Wilson	5	1
Darron McDonough	2(1)	-	Robert Wilson	3	-

- First strike: Brian Stein hit his first goal and our opener against Oxford last week.



Today's action

Liverpool v Oxford Utd
Manchester Utd v Newcastle Utd
Norwich City v Derby County
Nottingham Forest v Arsenal
Portsmouth v Charlton
QPR v Chelsea
Sheffield Weds v Watford
Tottenham v Southampton
Wimbledon v West Ham

Luton Town

F-A Att Pos 1

Aug 15	Derby County	0-1	17204	-	Sealey
Aug 18	Coventry City	0-1	7506	-	Sealey
Aug 22	West Ham United	2-2	8073	16	Sealey
Aug 29	Chelsea	0-3	16075	19	Sealey
Aug 31	Arsenal	1-1	8745	18	Sealey
Sept 5	Oxford United	5-2	6804	14	Sealey
Sept 12	Everton				

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Breacker	Grimes	Hill	Foster	Donaghy	D. Wilson	B. Stein	Harford	(R. Wilson)	(Preece)	M.N.D.M.
Breacker	Grimes	Hill	Foster	McDonough	D. Wilson	Harford	Newell	(R. Wilson)	Preece	Nwajobi
Breacker	Grimes	Hill	Foster	(McDonough)	D. Wilson	Cobb	Newell	Newell	Preece	North
Breacker	Grimes	Hill	Foster	R. Wilson	Hill	Cobb	Nwajobi	Nwajobi	Preece	K.B.S.N.
Breacker	Grimes	Hill ¹	Foster	Donaghy	D. Wilson ¹	B. Stein	Harford ¹	Nwajobi ¹	Preece	Stein
Breacker ¹	Grimes	Hill ¹	Foster	Donaghy	D. Wilson	(B. Stein) ¹	Harford	(Preece)	M.S.R.J.	

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Luton Town *R*

- 1 Les Sealey
- 2 Tim Breacker
- 3 Ashley Grimes
- 4 Ricky Hill *I*
- 5 Steve Foster
- 6 Mal Donaghay
- 7 Danny Wilson
- 8 Brian Stein *I*
- 9 Mick Harford
- 10 Emeka Nwajiobi
- 11 David Preece

Subs

Everton *I*

- 1 Bobby Mimms
- 2 Alan Harper
- 3 Pat Van Den Hauwe
- 4 Kevin Ratcliffe
- 5 Dave Watson
- 6 Peter Reid
- 7 Trevor Steven
- 8 Wayne Clarke
- 9 Graeme Sharp
- 10 Ian Snodin
- 11 Neil Pointon

Subs

Referee: A. GUNN (Burgess Hill, Sussex)

Linesmen: A.J. BUNCE (Red Flag) M.J. WALKER (Yellow Flag)



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