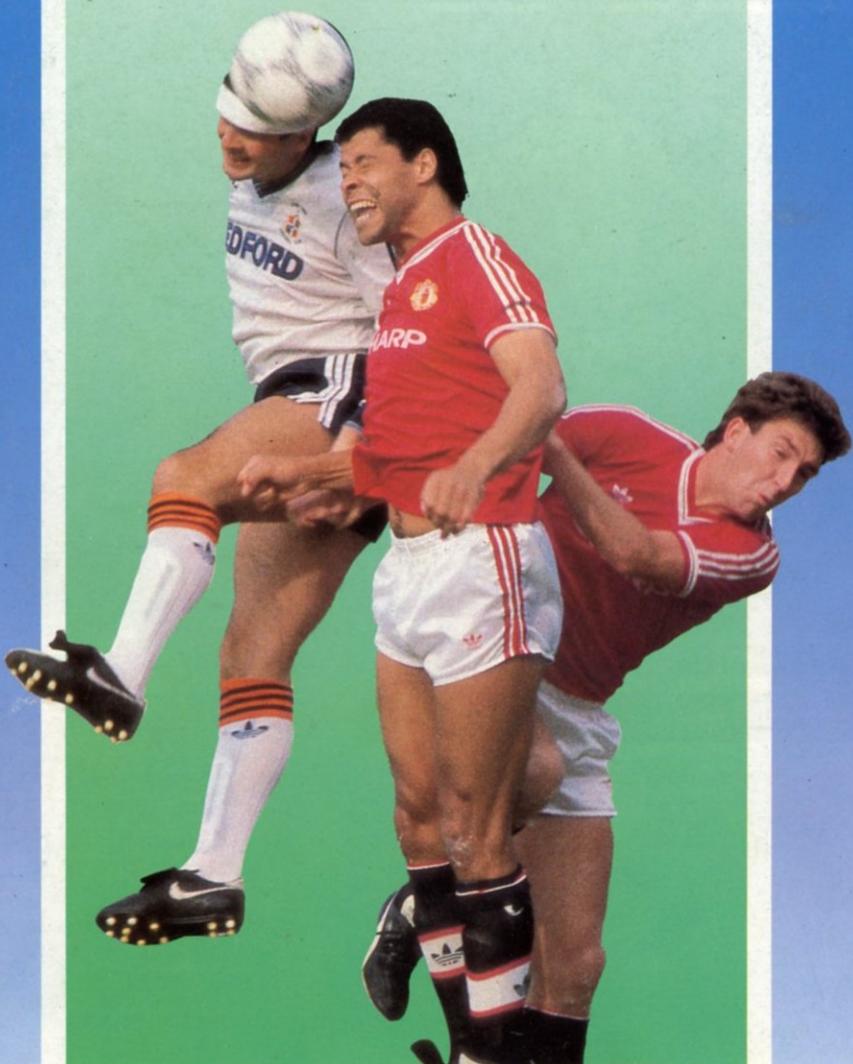


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Saturday, October 17th, 1987 Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

LUTON TOWN

This match is sponsored by: Rotary Club of Luton North.

ACTION

TIM HELPS TO KO WIGAN



• **Determined Tim:** Our right-back Tim Breacker in a struggle for possession against Wigan.

INSIDE TODAY

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Edited by: Robert Alexander Associates
Pictures by: Apex Photography

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• **Goal merchants:** Mick Harford (above) and Darron McDonough (below) shared the goals in our Littlewoods Cup triumph.



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RAY'S REVIEW



Welcome to Wimbledon, a team who deserve our greatest respects for the way in which they have consolidated their place in the First Division after the club's rise from the Southern League. They have good management and players and we can expect a very tough First Division fixture.

We have had an eventful week again with several players away on international duty and the arrival of Ian Allinson, an experienced forward whom I have known about for some time. He has played at the top for Arsenal and knows all about the game at this level. Many of our supporters will know his family are local Hertfordshire people.

Out of luck

Last Saturday, we experienced another away defeat at Portsmouth. I was not happy at all with the result or the performance, but it is fair to point out that we were out of luck in front of goal – twice hitting the woodwork and having a good-looking appeal for a penalty which our players felt was justified turned down – while the opposition seemed to have a day when everything they hit went in. I am sure the lads' determination to put things right will shine through today – please give them your support. It is not always easy to play out of such a patch and the backing of our own fans can be a big help.

I know we are still playing good football and believe it is right to try and entertain and play properly despite our disappointing placing in the league table at the moment. We obviously have plenty of talented players – we have had five away on international duty this week – and we shall show our true form soon. Enjoy the game and give the team your support. Thankyou.

Ray Harford

LUTON TOWN

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Mailbag

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

Hatters' programmes

Dear Sir,
Could you please include the following in a future match day programme:

I have a large collection of Luton Town home and away programmes for sale, all reasonably priced. If any supporters are interested, and they forward an S.A.E. I will send them a full list.

Thank you in anticipation
J. Garrett

43 Crantock Road,
Perry Barr,
Birmingham.



•Bargain signing: Danny Wilson

Excellent hosts

Dear Sir,

I would be very grateful if you could publish this letter in your next home programme. I would like to take the opportunity to thank you and Mr Derek Harding (one of your season ticket holders) for an excellent and enjoyable day at Kenilworth Road on 3rd October. You were an excellent host to my team, Manchester United, and I am grateful to Derek and his friends for making me feel most welcome at the game.

I look forward to returning the hospitality and playing host to Derek Harding when Manchester United play Luton Town in February 1988. It shows that there are genuine supporters after all!

In the meantime, I wish Luton Town all the best for the season.
Yours faithfully
Anthony H. Jones

8A Allport Lane,
Bromborough, Wirral,
Merseyside.

Frustrated fan

Dear Sir,
I am a very enthusiastic fan of Luton Town, but recent performances have frustrated me so much I feel compelled to write you this letter. I feel our manager Ray Harford deserves congratulations on his recent signings, Michael Weir and

Danny Wilson, indeed both were bargains, but I must ask a question about Brian Stein's form and position in the team. Brian runs off the ball a lot, but does not seem to flow so happily with the rest of the team in his new role and I feel our tactics are costing us results at the moment. This is only meant as constructive criticism, but I would be interested to see what other fans felt. I feel Mark Stein is worthy of a run from the start of a game. He has great determination for the ball.

We have some great players in our current squad, but our strategy needs to be improved in my opinion.

Yours sincerely
A. Eames

33 Holwell Road
Welwyn Garden City

Pen pal, please

Dear Sir,

My name is Anthony Mcdavitt and I would like to correspond with Luton Town supporters between the ages of 12 and 14.

My hobbies are football, I also play for Lewsey Broncos and swimming.

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CHIT CHAT



Hope springs eternal

"Half an hour before kick off and there's a buzz around the ground. Hearts are light, there's a spring in the step and a feeling of goodwill to our fellow men - even opposition fans. And today our team are going to win. The odds might be against us as we've lost our last five games and we are playing away to the League leaders. But our recent set backs can all be explained; the referee favoured the opposition, the pitch was too boggy, our goalkeeper had 'flu. The opposition are only top of the table because their last two games have been at home, they've been awarded disputed penalties and they've played bottom of the table sides. All fans know a team can't lose forever and today's our day to win."

How many of us have felt that excitement, based on little more than hope and faith in our team? I feel that anticipation of victory almost every Saturday. Mostly, of course, results go to form but occasionally there are upsets, such as when we played Oxford at the beginning of the season. Their recent results against us

should have made us pessimistic. The Cuckoo Stand, reserved for us, was aptly named - we must be mad going to games we're almost certain to lose. We go because we're ever optimistic; today will be different.

Sometimes it is. The form book is upset, we play to our full potential and every minute is a joy to watch. Unfortunately not only do we win against all the odds we are as likely to lose in similar fashion. As the result at Oxford gave us lots to cheer about, and to look forward to, the match at Charlton was enough to sink us into depression for a whole week. We didn't even have the delightful one touch football to watch at Selhurst Park. That miserable afternoon won't put us off, though, we'll all be back again next week and week in week out after that, with hearts light and a spring in our step because we know that each Saturday is our day to win!

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



Darron McDonough tries to break the deadlock during Wimbledon's visit last season. Just for fun, and to Plough Lane?

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 pic-

THURSDAYS 14p

RED DEVILS' DRAW

Luton Town 1 Manchester United 1
A goal apiece by each team's centre-forward left the Town with a well-deserved share of the spoils against Manchester United here a fortnight ago. Mick Harford shot the Town ahead after 19 minutes when he was the quickest to react to Steve Foster's downward header from Michael Weir's corner. Brian McClair equalised for Manchester United ten minutes after the interval with a similar act of opportunism when Les Sealey parried a powerful shot by Norman Whiteside.

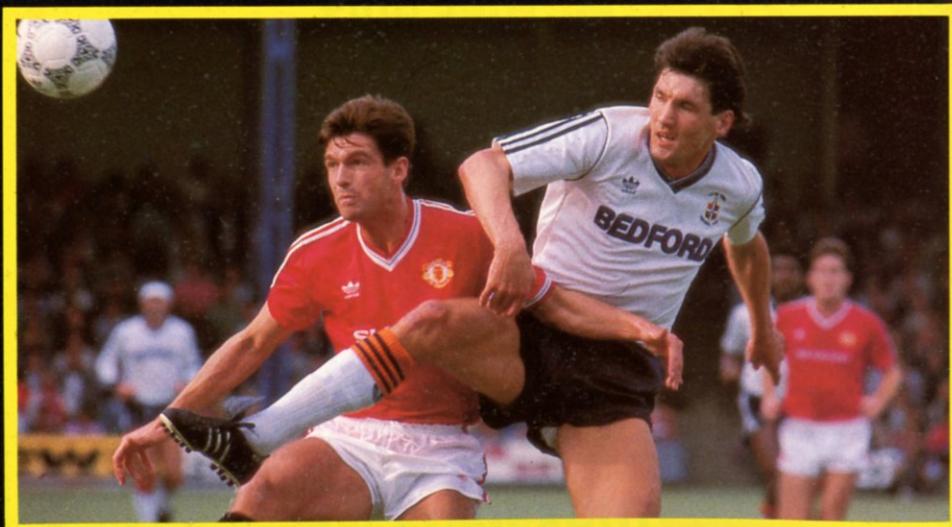
The goals apart, there were few other thrills, but the Hatters were unlucky not to add a second goal to their opener when, shortly after half-time, Foster's powerful header from another corner rebounded off the top of the bar. Had it counted, there can be little doubt the Town would have gone on to secure a victory they had been close to earning for a bright first half display.

United fought back hard in the second half, however, and took control of midfield for much of the time. Sealey made several first interventions, but neither team truly dominated and, at the end, a draw seemed a fair result on the day.

Teams: Luton - Sealey, Breacker, Grimes, Hill, Foster, Donaghy, Wilson, B. Stein, Harford, Black (M. Stein 60), Weir (McDonough 60).
Man Utd: - Walsh, Blackmore (O'Brien 76), Gibson, Garton, McGrath, Duxbury, Robson, Strachen, McClair, Whiteside, Olsen.

Referee - M. Reed (Birmingham).

1st Team ACTION



• **Tough draw:** With two wingers on the attack, the Town found it a tough tussle to beat Manchester United and had to settle for a 1-1 draw in our last home match here two weeks ago. Today's action pictures taken by Josh Levy of Apex Photography show Mal Donaghy, Mick Harford, Michael Weir and Kingsley Black in action during that clash.

FOOTBALL FOCUS

Steve Foster

Player-coach Steve Foster is a firm believer that international recognition has been well deserved by all the Town players who were away on duty with their countries this week – and none more so than Mick Harford. Steve thinks the big striker's call-up for the England B squad's trip to Malta has not come a minute too soon as he explains in this afternoon's Football Focus:

International calls are well-deserved

"Everyone knows that we at the club have felt for a long time that Mick has deserved an international chance so it is long overdue from that point of view. His form and his goals record are fantastic and he is also very consistent. He has been brilliant for us for the last two years or so like the other lads – Ashley, Mal and Danny – he really deserves it all now."

"It is hard to say how good a player Mick is unless you have seen him regularly. There are, in my opinion, some other strikers who have been talked about as England contenders who don't stand comparison with Mick. I only hope he makes the most of his chance. He has got his foot in the door now. The rest is up to him."

"I cannot see any of it affecting him in any way. Even if Mick got into the full England team on a regular basis I don't think it would change him at all. He might get a bigger car some time, but that is about all! He is not that sort of bloke."

Reputation

"In some ways, his reputation as a bit of a hard player may have worked against him for a long time, I think. People are sometimes put off by that, especially in international football. But I think they should not be. In fact, I think it is better to be a bit on the hard side than on the soft side like some players who seem to have had their international chances over and again."

"Ashley is another one who fully deserves his rewards now for all the hard work he has put in in the last year or two. It is not that long ago that things



were not really working out for Ashley and he nearly went to Swindon Town. But he did not and he stayed and battled. He has fully recovered his form and played some terrific games for us. Jack Charlton is a hard man to please and if Ashley is in his squad you can bet he is pleased with him."

"Mal is just an exception really. He is so consistent that in all my time playing with him, I can hardly remember him having a bad game. He is amazingly consistent and very under-rated. A brilliant defender and a great reader of the game. It is no wonder he has got so many caps now."

Great brain

"Danny is another Northern Ireland international, like Mal, and a very very good player. He has terrific feet. Very quick and neat and a great brain. He really keeps it all moving. The boss fancied him for a while and he has proved him right. He is a very skilful player."

"We must not forget just because we have players away with England, the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, that we also have several other international players on the books. Micky Weir, for example, was called up by the Scottish under-21 squad this week – and there are several youngsters in the youth teams for the home counties."

"Success in reaching international football obviously rubs off right through the club and it is especially satisfying if you are someone like Mick Harford who has worked so hard for it. He deserves to enjoy it after getting there the hard way. And so to the other lads too."

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CLUB NEWS

PUBLIC MEETING FOR LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS

Luton Town is to hold another in its series of public meetings at 7pm on Tuesday, October 20th.

Chairman David Evans, Directors and staff will be available to discuss matters of interest to members and local residents. Accommodation is limited to 100, so admission will be by ticket only, obtainable from the Club's offices at 179/185 Dunstable Road, Luton. (Telephone 0582 411622).

FREE FAMILY OFFER

Luton Town today announce a special offer to cut the cost of taking families to football at Kenilworth Road.

Members buying two or more adult tickets can claim a free junior or pensioner ticket worth £3.

The offer applies to all Barclays League matches, starting with our next home match against Liverpool in a week's time. Free tickets can be claimed by post, telephone, or in person from the Kenilworth Road ticket office before gates open on match days.

FORTHCOMING MATCHES AT KENILWORTH ROAD

Barclays League Division One
Saturday, October 24, 1987
Luton Town v Liverpool
Kick-off 3 pm.

Football Combination
Saturday, October 31, 1987
Luton Town v Swindon Town
Kick-off 2 pm.

MATCH REFEREE

Brian Hill
(Kettering)

A cost accountant in the building trade, Brian is married with two children. He began refereeing in 1965 and progressed via the United Counties League and Southern League to the full league list.

He enjoys all sports and listening to music. He is a member of the FIFA panel and has taken control of many top games.

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Match Ball Sponsors



This afternoon's match ball is sponsored by David and Jane Sheridan. We hope they and their guests enjoy the match and have a pleasant day at Kenilworth Road.

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by BILL TOMLINS

THE TOWN

NEW FITNESS CLUB IS SURE TO BE A WINNER

AROUND THE TOWN

WELCOME IAN



• Signing on: Former Colchester and Arsenal striker Ian Allinson joined us this week from Stoke City. He is pictured with our manager Ray Harford.

PUMPING IRON IN THE FITNESS CLUB



• Hard at work: Our attacking right-back Tim Breacker is pictured during a workout in the Healthline Fitness Club. The club has proved popular with the players and is sure to be a hit with members who join up. Details on application.

Good afternoon and welcome to Kenilworth Road, this weekend returning to normal after last week's transformation into one of the country's top hockey venues for the highly-successful Lada International Hockey Classic.

Many of our fans may have taken the opportunity to come along and see the victorious Great Britain team in action and I am sure those who did not recognise Kenilworth Road from the television coverage. On such a wet weekend, it is hard to imagine any other sporting surface that could have produced such entertainment.

Fitness

Many of our fans have had the chance to familiarise themselves with the benefits of our synthetic pitch, by playing on it. Another feature of the club which is sure to become just as popular is the new gym - better known as the Healthline Fitness Club.

The players have exclusive use of it during the mornings when it has become a favourite part of their routine, but for the remainder of the time it is available to members of the Fitness Club.

They hope to better last year's figure of £1750 and we wish them every success in their efforts for such a worthy cause.

machines. They are very helpful for players recovering from injury. Members, of course, will avoid injury with the assistance of qualified instructors who are always on duty.

The club also has a spa pool, sauna and solarium for relaxation after exercise and offers snacks in a lounge bar. It is sure to become a popular meeting place for members. Full details of membership are available on request from the club.

Sponsors

Finally, a warm welcome to this afternoon's match sponsors Luton North Rotary Club. Today, they will be raising money to fund their local charity activities including an outing for some of Luton's old people and a holiday for needy children.

They have been supported in their sponsorship by a number of local firms including R.E. Lay and Sons, Barham Press, National Westminster Bank, Hi-Pro Scaffolding, the Advance Group, County Glazing, Sapsworth Glazing and Decorating, Barry Simmonds PR Ltd and Luton Chiltern Rotary Club.

The players have exclusive use of it during the mornings when it has become a favourite part of their routine, but for the remainder of the time it is available to members of the Fitness Club.

They hope to better last year's

figure of £1750 and we wish them

every success in their efforts for

such a worthy cause.



• Presentation: Our chairman David Evans makes a special presentation to Bedford GM's Eric Fountain before our recent match against Manchester United. Bedford are, of course, our official club sponsors.



• Ball winner: Darron McDonough is pictured with Bob Taylor of Priory Farm Foods Ltd our executive sponsors for the recent match against the Reds.



• Half-time music: The Sandy Scouts and Guide band provided terrific half-time entertainment during the match against United.

CAPTAIN'S DIARY



STEVE FOSTER

Fight back

Hello everyone. After our recent away defeats, we are keener than ever to get back on the winning trail today in the league at the end of a week when the club has had several players away on international duty. They have all deserved their call-ups - and so do some of the other lads - and you can read my thoughts on that in my feature in the Football Focus column on page 12.

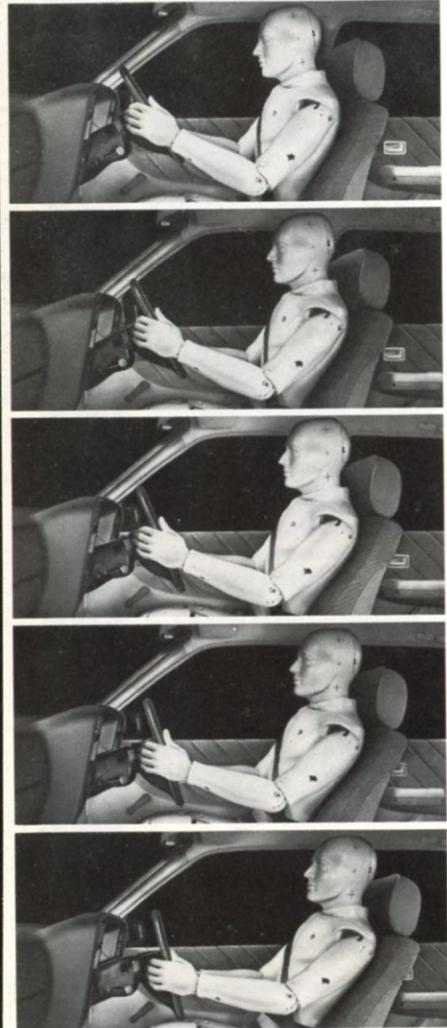
One of the pleasing things this week has been to see David Preece back in training - it is the first time in two weeks we have seen the treatment bench taken off his back! He has had to take some stick, I can tell you.

Settled in

Another lad to have come in for a bit of light-hearted banter has been our new winger Micky Weir. He must have set some kind of club record already by coming into training late three times in the first couple of weeks! Seriously, though, Micky has been settling in really well with the lads and is blessed with a terrific ability and attitude.

We are all looking for a bit of consistency and steadiness in our performances now to steer us up the table and into good form. Let's hope it all starts running for us today. Enjoy the game.

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PHOTO FILE



• **Frustrating trip:** The Town were out of luck at Portsmouth last week where, after controlling much of the game, they ended up on the losing side. Josh Levy's pictures show Michael Weir and Brian Stein trying to find a way through.



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IN PROFILE....

TIM BREACKER



• Hard-worker: Tim Breacker in action against Derby during our opening match of the season.

Determined defender and a crowd favourite



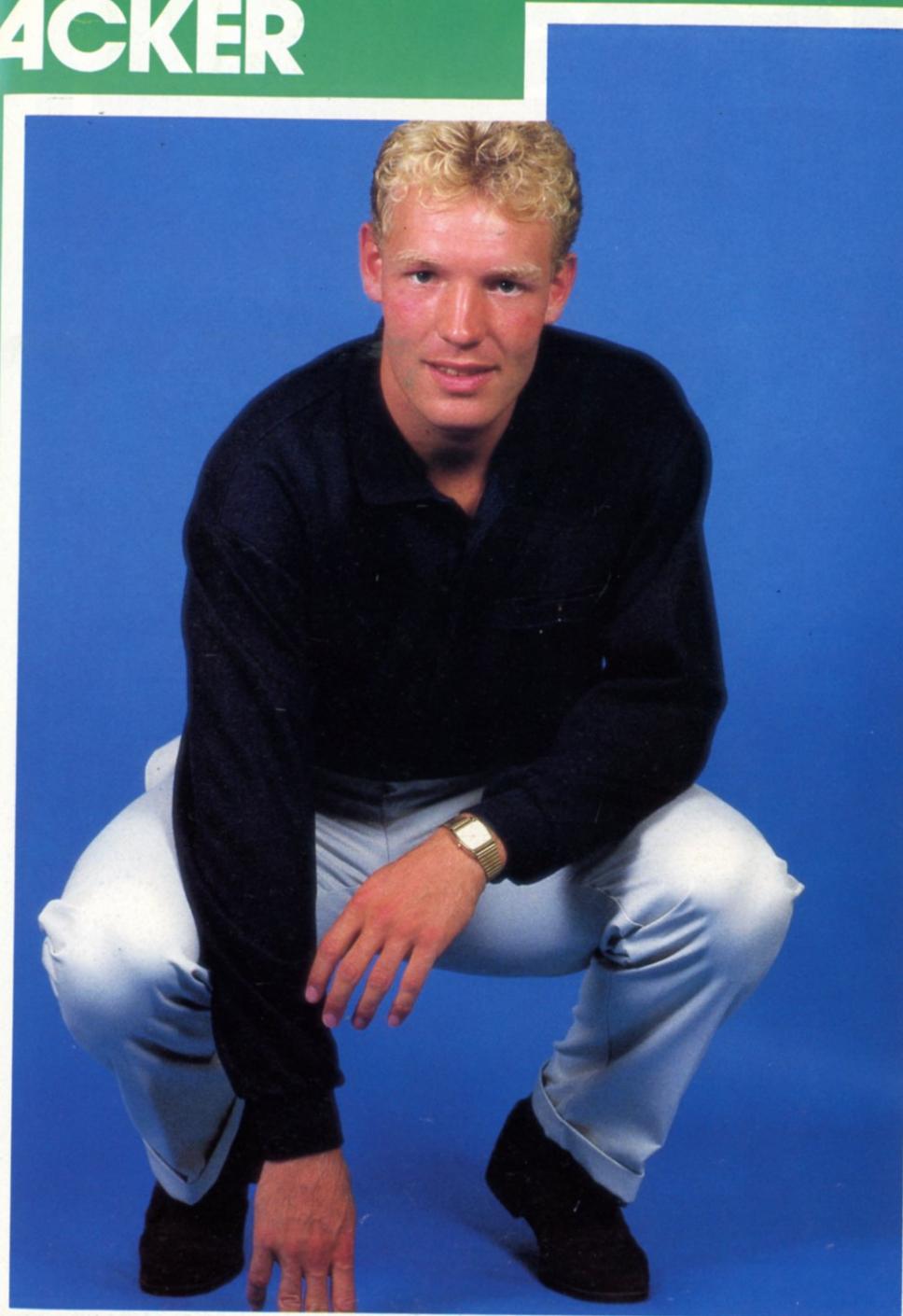
• Attacking defender:
Tim Breacker

Tim Breacker, often mistaken for a variety of famous and athletic West German internationals, has become a crowd favourite at Kenilworth Road since breaking into the team following his debut at Ipswich in 1984. Strong, quick, determined and adventurous, he has been recognised as a never-say-die defender with a liking for an overlapping run on the right wing.

Last year, Tim broke into international recognition when he was picked to play for the England under-21 team and he also broke another duck when he scored his first goal for the club at Newcastle.

Born in Bicester, Tim had made a total of 121 first team appearances for the Hatters up to the end of last season, scoring that one memorable goal. He added to his total at Oxford earlier this season and, as he admits, is always keen to have a shot at goal.

TIM BREACKER



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• Football League Yearbook	£6.50	• Pens (club colours)	65
• Luton Town F.C. coats	£22.50	• Pint tankards	£2.00
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DRESSING ROOM TALK

with Rob Johnson

Bedford-born Rob Johnson has overcome enough adversity during his career to have qualified for a place in the Guinness Book of Records. Two serious knee injuries which would have put most players out of the game have been beaten and Rob has established himself as a First Division player with the Hatters. Today in Dressing Room Talk he reflects on this week's international activity and the start of his own career - influenced by watching top-class international action on television during the 1970 World Cup:

International influence

"There is not any doubt in my mind that a successful international team always helps to boost interest in the league game in England. It really helps to build up the interest. The crowds get bigger and the atmosphere is different somehow. If England are doing well, the crowds come along expecting something good. If England have done badly, they expect to see that reflected in the league action too.

"It is all due to television, I think. It really is a mass medium. And you can see that in all sorts of sport. If there has been a big match on, for example, you will see the kids running out afterwards to play football in the park. If it is Wimbledon, they rush off to play tennis. If it is a test match, it is going to be cricket. Television has a big influence.

"Personally, I think it is very different for the kids now compared even to the time when I first started to become football mad. For me, it was just football and more football. All the time. I did not want to do anything else. But now, they have computers, leisure centres and all the rest to worry about. There is so much choice.

"I cannot remember a lot about the 1966 World Cup, when I was only four, but I do remember the 1970 World Cup well. I can recall a lot of it in detail and all the Brazil matches vividly. I remember the England v Brazil match especially well, Bobby Moore and Pele and that miss by Jeff Astle, which everyone can remember. It all sticks in my mind.

"Brazil were a class ahead of everyone else then. They were the world champions of course, but they also seemed to be able to beat anyone. Even if they were behind, they could always come back again. I remember they were behind against Czechoslovakia and came back. It really caught my imagination. I was about eight then and I really fell for it.



• Back to fitness: Rob Johnson.

"You could say I was quite influenced by all that international football on television at that time, but I am sure it was the same for a lot of people - and of course there were other influences. Chelsea, for me, for example.

Great respect

"They were my team at that time and they had a great side. I remember the Cup-winning team particularly well. I was always a midfield player in those days - I came to Luton as a midfielder - and I liked to watch John Hollins in particular. He was my favourite in that team. A very good professional, accurate, honest and consistent. They had a lot of other good players of course - Peter Osgood, Charlie Cooke, Ron Harris, David Webb, Peter Bonetti and so on, but Hollins was my favourite. He made the England team, but never stayed.

"Today's visitors, Wimbledon, were not even in the Football League in those days - so that shows you what great strides they have made. You have to have a lot of respect for them and their tactics. I remember the first time we played Watford when they introduced their direct style in a reserves match. We were hammered - and we had a good side out. It has been good for the game to have different styles. Wimbledon are above us and we need to get the points. No-one has ever fancied them to do well but they are - and they will be very tough opposition."

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BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

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Available now from the Kenilworth Road ticket office. You may also pay at Leicester City on the night. It is not all-ticket.

TICKET OFFICE



Special Littlewoods Cup Tie Arrangements

Luton Town v Coventry City

This match will now take place on Tuesday, October 27 at the Leicester City ground. Kick-off 7.45 pm.

PRICES

Tickets cost £4 for standing and £6 for seats. There is no reduced price admission.

• **Ticket Supervisor:** Cherry Newbery 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).

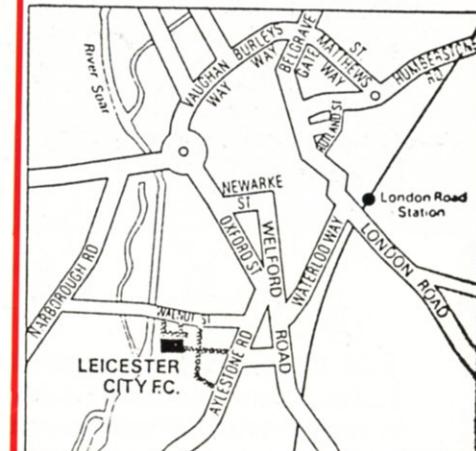
HOW TO GET THERE

TRANSPORT

Special travel has been arranged at the subsidised price of just £1.50 return. Buses will leave from Kenilworth Road at 5 pm.

Tickets can also be purchased at our ticket office up until departure (subject to availability).

Those travelling independently should follow the special traffic signs.





CLUB COMMENT

John Smith, Chief Executive
WE OPT FOR NEUTRAL PITCH IN LITTLEWOODS CUP

Most of you now know that we have decided to give up home advantage and stage our third round Littlewoods Cup tie on a neutral ground. Opponents Coventry City have agreed to the match taking place at Filbert Street, Leicester on Tuesday, October 27 and Leicester have accepted the fixture. Other grounds are nearer of course, but have fixtures of their own or were otherwise unacceptable or inappropriate, I know Leicester will make us welcome.

Our difficult decision was made after talks with both Coventry and local police chiefs, only two days after we accepted visiting supporters for the first time in more than a season, when Wigan Athletic played here in the second round.

Unlike Wigan, however, Coventry wished to take their full 25 per cent share of tickets. We are unable to accommodate more than 2,000 visiting supporters in safety and comfort for all, as I detailed in an earlier Club Comment this season. The crucial thing was that we would not have complied with our Safety Certificate rules if we had not had the support of the police.

We looked carefully at ways of accommodating Coventry's requirements. However, we had to face

the fact that this stadium, and in particular the poor access, are unsuited to large numbers of visitors. Our initial plan was to stage the tie at Fulham but police costs were prohibitively high.

There was also a strong indication that the presence of visiting supporters would once again be a focus for hooligans, attracting local troublemakers who have stayed away under the membership scheme. On this matter, and also for their assessment of Coventry supporters at away matches, we felt bound to accept the advice of our police.

In these circumstances, we decided to put the safety of supporters and townsfolk before home advantage for our team. We are sorry for the inconvenience to our supporters who must travel to Leicester and are grateful for the co-operation of both Coventry and Leicester City.

But our record of 30 home matches without a single arrest or serious incident inside or outside the ground – with all that implies for the peace and prosperity of our town – was just too important to put in jeopardy.

Details of ticket and travel arrangements are on page 25.



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RESERVE



•**At the double:** Mark Stein scored twice for the reserves during their 7-0 win over Bristol Rovers during the week.

THE FOOTBALL COMBINATION 1987/88

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portsmouth	6	5	1	0	25	10	11
Luton Town	6	5	1	0	14	7	11
Watford	6	5	0	1	9	4	10
Tottenham Hotspur	6	4	1	1	14	6	9
Millwall	6	3	2	1	10	7	8
Queens Park Rangers	5	3	1	1	12	6	7
Arsenal	6	3	1	2	11	6	7
Chelsea	6	2	2	2	10	6	6
Norwich City	6	3	0	3	13	10	6
Southampton	6	3	0	3	11	9	6
West Ham United	6	3	0	3	11	10	6
Ipswich Town	5	1	3	1	11	8	5
Charlton Athletic	5	2	1	2	8	10	5
Swindon Town	6	2	0	4	6	16	4
Fulham	4	1	1	2	8	10	3
Crystal Palace	6	1	1	4	3	10	3
Brighton & Hove Albion	6	1	1	4	5	14	3
Oxford United	5	1	0	4	15	22	2
Bristol Rovers	6	0	1	5	5	17	1
Reading	6	0	1	5	8	21	1

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



•**In the air:** Darron McDonough was on target twice against Bristol Rovers.

COACHES' CORNER



BRISTOL ROVERS TROUNCED

Our young reserves bounced back to winning ways with a vengeance on Tuesday when they beat Bristol Rovers 7-0 in a Sunday Mirror Football Combination fixture at Kemilworth Road. A strong Hatters team really piled on the misery for the west country team and ran out convincing winners.

The goals came from Mark Stein, who scored twice, Darron McDonough, who also found the net twice, Marvin Johnson, Emeka Nwajiobi and Aaron Tighe. But the performance was a good all-round effort by the team which was - Andy Dibble, Neil Poutch, Richard Harvey, Ian Scott, Stacey North, Marvin Johnson, Gary Cobb, Mark Stein, Darron McDonough, Emeka Nwajiobi and Aaron Tighe. Ricky McEvoy was our substitute.

The club wish to thank our youth team sponsors –

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The youth team also enjoyed a recent match against west country opposition but they lost to Swindon Town 3-1 in the South East Counties League. For coach John Faulkner it was a disappointing result after an earlier home defeat by Colchester. The youth team's goal came from Kurt Nogan. The team was: Jason Edworthy, Neil Poutch, Ken Gillard, Mick O'Brien, Julian James, Jamie Husband, Gary Cranshaw, Paul Gray, Kurt Nogan, Jason Rees, Mark Pembridge, Kevin Shanley and Allan O'Sullivan.

& YOUTH

INTRODUCING...

WIMBLEDON

Today we entertain a side who share our experience of playing in all four divisions of the Football League and who picked up exactly the same number of points as ourselves last season. At the time of writing, they are having a similar season to us with a tie to look forward to in the Littlewood Cup Third Round and a slight advantage over us in the First Division table. But in dramatic terms our history cannot match the romance of Wimbledon's rise from the Southern League to the top half of Division One in the space of ten years.

Founded in 1889, Wimbledon's one major honour in the next 75 years was the winning of the FA Amateur Cup in 1963 when Eddie Reynolds headed all four goals in a thrilling 4-3 win over Sutton Town in the final. They turned professional in 1964 and made their mark in the Southern League with two Southern League Cup wins and two Southern League Championships, but it was their remarkable FA Cup performance that started people talking and when it was realised that Wimbledon could be synonymous with something other than tennis and that 'Wombles' could mean something other than fictitious litter-gathering creatures!

Up to 1974, the limit of Wimbledon's FA Cup achievements had been to progress to round two on four occasions. In 1974-5, however, they reached round three for the first time ever, then proceeded to win at First Division Burnley and to draw at Leeds at a time when the latter were generally reckoned the top team in the land. The penalty save by Dickie Guy from a Peter Lorimer spot-kick has become immortalised as one of the most famous of all time. The replay was held at Selhurst Park in order to accommodate the crowd stirred by

Wimbledon's brave feats and another tremendous battle ended in a single goal win for Leeds. 45,701 saw the game.

In 1977, Wimbledon took another First Division team Middlesbrough to a replay, again lost by just a single goal and well deserved their election to the Football League a few months later in place of Workington. How well they have repaid the confidence placed in them.

In their first season, they finished in mid-table and then won promotion at the end of 1978-9. They then set up an all-time record by changing division in six successive seasons. Twice they went up to Division Three and slipped straight back down again, but then they went up again and this time won promotion to Division Two a season later. This was in 1984 and by this time Dave Bassett, a former player, had taken over as manager.

The fairy story continued, as after a season of consolidation in Division Two they went up to Division One at the end of 1985-6. They kept up their record as giant killers as well by beating Nottingham Forest twice in the space of three seasons, once in the League Cup and once in the FA Cup.

Last season, in Division One for the first time, they made the best possible start by topping the table after four games and though they then lost six of their next seven games they came good in February and March with an unbeaten run of nine games in the Football League and FA Cup wins over Sunderland, Portsmouth and Everton before going out in the sixth round to Spurs.

They ended the season on a high note with four successive wins, one of them at Old Trafford and in fact a few weeks earlier they had achieved another 'impossible' feat by



Back Row: Paul Fishenden, Peter Cawley, Lawrie Sanchez, Dave Beasant, Brian Gayle, Andy Thorn, Alan Cork. Middle Row: Sid Neal (Kit Man), Don Howe (Coach), Carlton Fairweather, Paul Miller, Mick Smith, Eric Young, Simon Tracey, John Fashanu, John Scales, Vince Jones, Clive Goodyear, David Kemp (Youth Team Manager), Steve Allen (Physiotherapist), Ron Stuart (Chief Scout). Front Row: Wally Downes, Andy Clement, Andy Sayer, Terry Phelan, Steve Galliers (now at Bristol City), Bobby Gould (Manager), Dennis Wise, Vaughan Ryan, John Gannon, Kevin Bedford, Ian Hazel.



Bobby Gould — pictured above in his playing days — was a much-travelled striker whose passport to the First Division was always a good scoring ratio. Bobby played for clubs up and down the country, enjoying particularly a successful spell at Coventry City, and later made his first step into management in the West Country with Bristol. A bubbly and infectious player, he has always maintained a great enthusiasm for the game and continues to as a manager with Wimbledon where he took over in the summer.

beating Liverpool at Anfield.

Their final position of sixth amazed the many who forecast that the bubble would burst and we can take some pride in the fact that we were the only team in Division One that they did not score against last season.

This season

Now with **Bobby Gould** at the helm in place of Dave Bassett, who has moved on to Watford, there is every sign that they can continue to create surprises. They have already won at Derby and Newcastle while at home they have beaten Charlton, drawn with Everton, Watford and West Ham and lost to QPR. They struggled a little to beat Rochdale 3-2 on aggregate in the Littlewoods Cup and they now face Newcastle in round three.

Still scoring regularly is former Derby man **Alan Cork**, who has been with them since 1977 and has scored freely in all four divisions. He is likely to be linking up with powerhouse striker **John Fashanu**, who is now in his second full season since moving from Millwall and top scored with 14 goals last season. **Carlton Fairweather** is another useful striker in his third season while from midfield ex-Reading man **Lawrie Sanchez** was recently on the mark at Portsmouth.

He may be linking up with **Vince Jones** who came from Wealdstone last season, **Denis Wise**, a one time Southampton apprentice, and up and coming **Vaughan Ryan**, who has been substitute recently.

In defence, **Eric Young** has arrived from Brighton this season to link up with home-grown **Andy Thorn** with another newcomer **John Scales** from Bristol Rovers and **Terry Phelan** (ex-Leeds and Swansea) on the flanks.

In goal, **Dave Beasant**, a former Edgware Town player, has given tremendous service in the course of over 350 league and cup games, many of them consecutive. Nor must we forget home-grown experienced defender **Brian Gayle** that exciting little striker **Terry Gibson**, a recent arrival from Manchester United after spells with Spurs and Coventry... nor our own former centre-half **Clive Goodyear**.

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JUNIOR HATTERS!

BY BRIAN STEIN

A MATCH INVITATION FROM WATFORD

We have been invited by Watford to visit them when we play them on December 12th. This is on a Saturday. It will include a game in the morning with the Junior Hornets. The age group will be ten to 13-years-old. If you are interested in being a member of that team, please write to Bev at the Oak Road shop.

We will be running one or two coaches to this game, so if you don't make the team you can come to support the Junior Hatters and have a good day out. I will let you have some more information in next weeks programme.

Today's lucky Junior Hatters membership number is A030930. The winning member should contact Bev Tyler in the Sports Shop at Oak Road with his or her membership card for two free tickets to one of our home games.

Today, we welcome Wimbledon to Kenilworth Road. Have a good day and I will see you all next week when we are at home to Liverpool.

ESCAPES



Adam Freeman



Ricky County

MASCOT



Andrew Peacock

ESCAPES



David Mumford



Claire Tonkinson

KENILWORTH THE CAT



QUIZ TIME

STAR IS BORN

SORT OUT THE FIVE TEAMS AND PUT THEM INTO THEIR CORRECT PLACES. YOU WILL THEN FIND THE NAME OF PAT JENNINGS' PLACE OF BIRTH READING DOWN.



1 C R D S E A O T N

2 N B I E N A I H R

3 I W N D O S

4 O E U O H R T M N U B

5 C K D N E A Y B L

SOCCER GIRL

CROSS OUT THE ELEVEN FOOTBALL CLUBS HIDDEN IN THE GRID AND THE REMAINING LETTERS WILL SPELL OUT SOCCER GIRL'S FAVOURITE TEAM.



1 C A L L O A C L U T O N E

2 L D E R B Y L E T H U L L

3 Y O R K T I R R E A D I N G

4 D C A M B R I D G E

5 E M O N T R O S E C



The answers to last week's Quiz Time are:
Spot the Difference 1. Referee's hair 2. Badge of No.8 3. Flag missing 4. Cuff of No.8 5. Stripe on shorts of No.2. 6. bottom of floodlight 7. Player's collar black 8. No.7 on shorts black 9. Leg of No.2's shorts longer 10. Stripe on ref's boot.
Mystery Star is Paul Sturrock.

Junior Spot 1E, 2H, 3G, 4I, 5J, 6A, 7B, 8D, 9F, 10C.

The answers to today's Quiz Time will appear in our next home game programme.

junior spot

no. 3

HOW MANY FOOTBALLS CAN YOU FIND HIDDEN IN THIS CROWD SCENE?



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NOVEMBER
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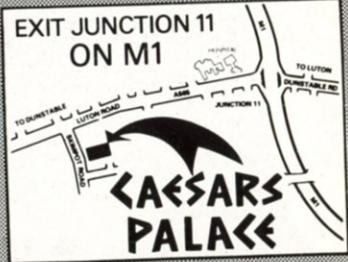
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Views from the media

NO LUCK AT POMPEY

An unjustly heavy defeat at Portsmouth last weekend left the Town with little to enjoy in the newspapers on Sunday and Monday as the match reporters handed the headlines to Pompey's recalled Kevin Dillon. A series of missed chances by the Hatters and an unfair ration of ill luck elevated Dillon to stardom and left Luton readers searching hard for a line of hope. Here is a selection of the comments:

Mail on Sunday: Alan Ball found the right word for it. Unbelievable... Kevin Dillon picked up a flick-on by Ian Baird and from fully 30 yards smashed a vicious low half volley wide of Les Sealey's dive and off the base of a post into the net... "You won't see a better half-volley than that," drooled the Pompey manager afterwards, "It wasn't even a half-chance," countered his rival Ray Harford ruefully.

Final flurry

Sunday Telegraph: Luton started to hit back, but then Hilaire burst through on the right and Sealey, coming out of goal, brought him down. The penalty, somewhat harsh, was hit home by Dillon. Luton had started to regain their concentration and in a final flurry did manage to score when Ball handled a shot by Hill and Harford made no mistake from the spot."

The Times: "For a side whose superior football was illustrated by the complaint from the £1 million rated forward Harford that he had hardly seen the ball in the air, Luton deserved rather more than the last-minute penalty from the big man."



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LUTON TOWN GOAL'DEN OLDIES

TAME END TO AN EXCITING SEASON

In failing to win their final three games of 1938-39, the last season before the War, the Town missed out on a promotion place from Division Two that would have been fully deserved, writes club statistician Roger Wash.

Although eventually finishing seventh which was obviously a great disappointment to many, great strides had been taken both on and off the field and the club was barely recognisable from that of two years before when promotion from the Third Division south had been achieved.

The season started badly when a shirt-sleeved crowd of 24,377 watched the Town beaten 3-0 at West Bromwich. Two narrow home wins followed but by the middle of October with away games still being lost and points now being dropped at Kenilworth Road changes had to be made.

Out went goalkeeper Humphrey Dolman, full back Tom Smith, wing half Joe Loughran and centre forward Ted Vinall to be replaced by Joe Coen, Tom King, Fred Roberts (moved from the forward line) and local lad Hugh Billington. Bill Redfern took Roberts place in the forward line.

Goals galore

The inclusion of Billington came as a bit of a surprise as he was fresh from playing local league football for Waterloos but the Town management was confident in his ability to make the big time. 14 goals in only 15 reserve games has helped cement this decision.

Billington scored twice on his debut in a 3-2 win at Tranmere and followed it up with another pair at Bury two weeks later. In that particular game the Town were two goals down at half-time but equalised within two minutes of the restart. The Town delegation missed these goals but as Luton scored a further three times they at least went into the boardroom at the end of the game happy. Apparently it was not until later in the evening that they knew the correct score!

With Billington continuing to find the back of the net regularly including four in the 5-0 home thrashing of Chesterfield the Town were beginning to climb the table. Unfortunately the week after this fine win Captain and centre-half Jack Nelson badly injured his nose in the game at Millwall and such was the subsequent form of his young replacement Gordon Dreyer he was never to play for the Town again.

Nelson must have hated the name Millwall as he was sent off on his previous visit to the Don during the promotion season of 1936-37.

With the Town climbing the table, scoring plenty of goals and playing particularly well away from home bigger clubs started to take note and large offers were made for Billington, Tom Dunsmore and "the cleverest inside forwards in the land" Redfern and Eddy Connelly.



• **Prolific marksman:** Hugh Billington made a big impact after joining the Town from non-league football.

The Town resisted these bids in the hope of promotion which began to look promising as Easter approached.

For once Easter proved highly successful with home wins over Southampton and Fulham 6-2 and 2-1 respectively and a 4-0 victory at the Dell in the return with the Saints. Excitement now reached fever pitch and when the Town won 2-0 the following week at fellow promotion aspirants Chesterfield a tremendous end to the season was in prospect.

With three games to go five points would have seen the Town up but promotion nerves set in and the 20,109 who witnessed a miserable 0-0 home draw with Millwall perhaps feared the worst. A 2-0 defeat at Newcastle, watched by only 10,341, meant the end of promotion hopes

and to cap a disappointing finish to the season Coventry completed a double by winning 3-1 at Kenilworth Road in the final game.

On a plus point Billington finished with 28 goals in only 27 appearances to finish the top scorer in the Second Division. Considering he only scored in half the games he played in this was some achievement.

On the debit side this promising team was not to play together again because of the War.

As an interesting post-script it is reported that police with truncheons had to break up a pitched battle between Luton and Coventry "fans" after the last game of the season. Of course we are much better behaved nowadays!



• **Picture poser:** Four from the old days. The picture was taken in 1968 – who are the players? Answer in next week's programme.

Vauxhall Teamcheck.

Luton Town 2

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

Subs

Wimbledon 0

- 1 Dave Beasant
- 2 Vaughan Ryan
- 3 Terry Phelan
- 4 Vince Jones
- 5 Eric Young
- 6 Andy Thorn
- 7 Terry Gibson
- 8 Alan Cork
- 9 John Fashanu
- 10 Lawrie Sanchez
- 11 Carlton Fairweather

Subs

Referee: B. HILL (Kettering)

Linesmen: M. L. JAMES (Red Flag) B. R. SMITH (Yellow Flag)



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