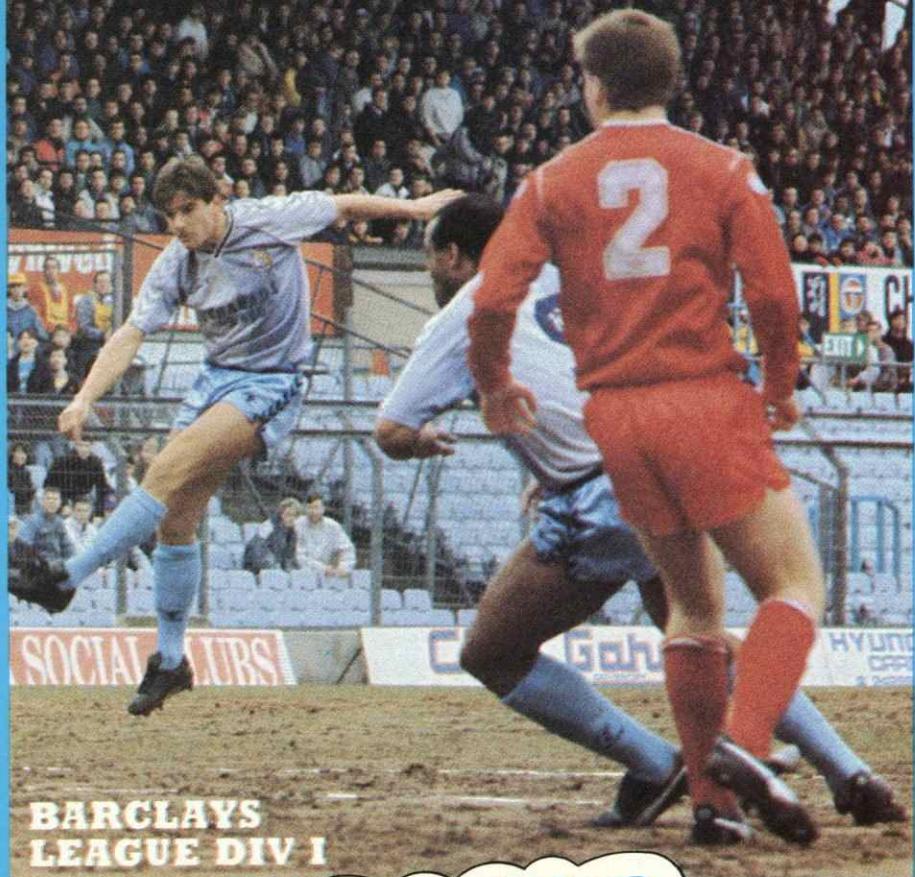




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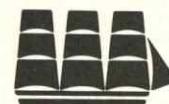


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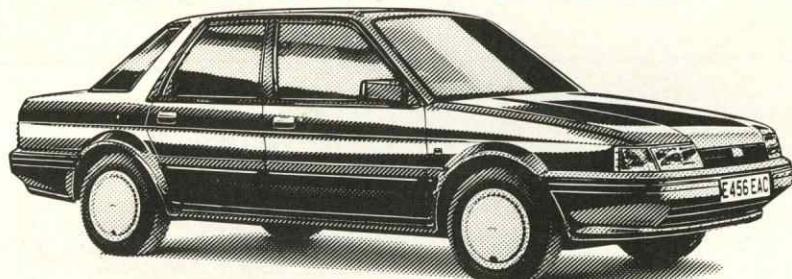
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Front cover - David Phillips fires in a shot against Chelsea.  
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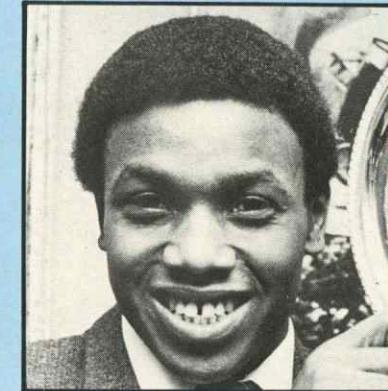
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A feature series in which Neville Foulger spotlights a Sky Blue player who captured his and our imagination.

## **FOULGERS FILE**

Chief soccer writer  
Coventry Evening Telegraph 1973-1987



*Danny Thomas*

## **"HEARTBREAK AND DISAPPOINTMENT FOR DANNY AND STEVE"**

A new year is traditionally the time for optimism, fresh hope and a renewal of ambition.

But for two former Sky Blues favourites, 1988 has already become a year of heartbreak and disappointment. Danny Thomas and Steve Hunt have both had to quit the game as players because of injuries.

Thomas is only 26... Hunt 31. For both, such premature retirement comes as a cruel and unfitting finale to fine careers.

Worksop-born Thomas and Birmingham-born Hunt were two of the most exciting talents to grace the Highfield Road stage during my 14 years of covering City for the Evening Telegraph.

Thomas, a bubbling, enthusiastic and effervescent character was as bright academically as he was as a footballer. He joined the Sky Blues as an apprentice in 1978 having obtained nine GCE 'O' levels and even though he had committed himself to a career in football sensibly continued to study in his spare time in search of 'A' levels. In view of what has now happened to him, that was a wise course of action, and a lesson to all youngsters coming into football.

David Pleat, now manager at Leicester City, was boss of Tottenham Hotspur when the incident occurred which finished Danny's career. A tackle from Gavin Maguire of Queens Park Rangers inflicted the damage last March and despite intensive

treatment and operations on the injured knee, Thomas has now been told he can never play again.

Pleat surely sums up the feelings of all of us who knew Danny when he says: "It is a tragic end to the career of a young man who had the world at his feet. One moment of March madness has changed his life and wrecked his livelihood. It is heartbreaking for Danny and his family and we should all feel for him. He was a quick, alert player who looked to have a great future."

I'm certain Sky Blues fans would echo that. In his five years at City Danny became an immensely popular personality both with the other players and with the supporters who twice voted him "Player of the Year" in the end of season poll.

He could play at full back or in midfield but eventually settled for the No. 2 shirt as his favourite and won caps at Under 21 and full level for England.

Sadly Danny was part of that summer exodus of 1983 and moved on to Spurs where he took some time to settle in and adjust. But following the arrival of Pleat as manager his career began to flourish and blossom again – until the dreadful injury last March.

Danny, I gather, is now thinking about studying for a career in physiotherapy and could still stay in football in that capacity. Sky Blues physiotherapist George Dalton will

know how he feels at the moment, because he too had his playing career cut short by injury.

Midfielder Hunt has at least played five years longer than Danny and clearly had a few more good seasons left in him yet had it not been for the knee injury which has ended his career.

In doing so it meant he had gone full circle for he both started and ended his career at Aston Villa. He first joined them as an apprentice in 1974 but in 1976 left to go to America to play for New York Cosmos. There he was able to line up alongside such great stars as Pele and Franz Beckenbauer and further his soccer education. But when the Sky Blues offered him the chance of a return to English football in 1978 he jumped at it joining them for a £40,000 fee and giving up the prospect of earning a dollar fortune in the States. By the time he left City to join West Bromwich Albion in March 1984 he'd played 200 plus games for the Sky Blues scoring some fabulous goals. During those years Hunt had his ups and downs at the club but at his best was one of the most accomplished midfield players City have had. His temperament sometimes let him down – his ability never did. Football is all the poorer for the untimely retirements of Thomas and Hunt.

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## Club Name SUPPORT

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**JIGSAW WINNER**  
Ian Hossack is seen here receiving his autographed football from Brian Borrows.

## TODAY'S REFEREE

David Allison of Sandown Road, Hala Carr, Lancaster is a schoolmaster. He is married with two daughters and his hobbies are playing cricket and the theatre. He began refereeing in 1966 and was appointed to the League list in 1980. He refereed an F.A. Youth Cup semi-final in 1984 and an F.A. Trophy semi-final in 1985. He took charge of England v Wales (Under-18) international in 1986.

## JIGSAW WINNER

Frazer Davies of Wiltshire Close, Mount Nod, Coventry sent in the correct solution to the Jig Saw competition in the last Matchday Magazine and wins the football autographed by the Sky Blues.



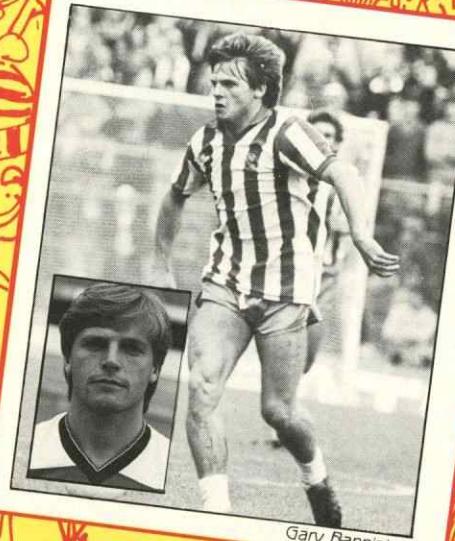
## MASCOTS

Our mascots for the Ipswich game were Timothy Feasey, aged 10, from Radford Semple, Mr. Leamington Spa. His favourite players are Brian Kilcline and Trevor Peake. Antonio Gomez, aged 10, from Coventry. Antonio's favourite player is Dave Bennett.



## Matchball Sponsor

Matchball sponsors for our game against Chelsea were Powell & Company. In the picture are (left to right): David Cooper (Director), Robert Murray (Director), Derrick Richardson (Director of Coventry City F.C.), Chris Ireland (Senior Consultant) and Eddie Bull.



Gary Bannister

## WELCOME BACK GARY

Welcome back to Gary Bannister on his return to the Sky Blues after an absence of nearly seven years. Gary, who comes from Warrington, joined us as an apprentice professional from school and played in 25 Cup and League games, in the days when Mick Ferguson and Ian Wallace were our main strikers. He was transferred to Sheffield Wednesday in July 1981 and has gone on to become one of the most respected goalscorers in the game. He was top goalscorer in each of his three seasons at Hillsborough and has headed the scoring chart in each of his three seasons at Queens Park Rangers. He was Rangers leading scorer this season with ten goals so far. He is no stranger to Coventry even though he has been away. His wife Tracey is a Coventry girl and the couple lived at Banbury until they moved to Berkshire five months ago.



**GRANADA PLAYER OF THE MONTH**  
Player of the Month for January was Steve Ogrizovic, pictured receiving his trophy and presenting the cheque for £100 to Mrs Brady. She accepted it on behalf of Hollis Lodge. On the left is Mr David Goodwin, manager of the Coventry Granada Hippodrome, and on the right, also of Granada, is Mr Richard Chamberlain. Also pictured is Mrs Brady's son Andrew, and Katrina Wiseman.

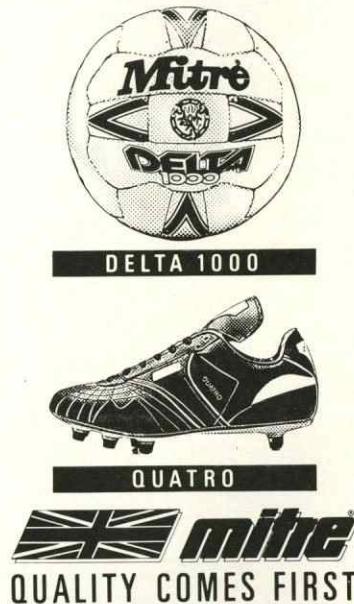


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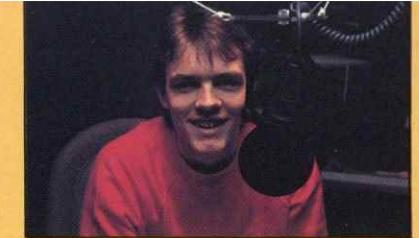


## Inside Track

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### ACTION FOR JOBS

Last week the Government's 'Action for Jobs' campaign reached the Mercia Sound Area, the biggest initiative taken by the Department of Employment for some time. The centre piece being a double decker bus containing not only information on YTS, Job Training, Job Clubs and the like, but also a fully equipped studio for broadcasting programmes on the radio. On Friday, it was in the City centre and Mercia used its facilities to talk to various experts about Coventry's employment situation, and what's being done to help those people who have been out of work for some time.

It proved to be a great success and personally I think made me aware that something positive is at last being done to try and improve job prospects. If you didn't manage to get down to the City centre then I hope you heard Paul Robinson's inserts into 'One to One' presented by Dave Simms.

Now, if you're watching the Sky Blues tonight, and don't live in Coventry then don't worry, because the 'Action for Jobs' bus will be making two further visits to the Mercia Sound area during March. The first of those is on the 23rd when it will be in Moseley town centre, by the George Eliot statue. Again there will be experts on hand to give advice and information about a wide range of opportunities, and if you can't get there in person Annie Othen will be conducting her "Afternoon Call" that day from the bus. Or at least her guest will be answering your questions on the phone, about any aspect of trying to find a job

or about any of the Job Training Schemes you may be eligible for.

And then on the 28th March, the bus moves to the Clock Tower in Rugby town centre, and Jeff Harris will be presenting "Overdrive" 'Live' between 4pm and 7pm, and he'll be finding out about careers for young people and those who'll be leaving school this summer.

I don't suppose for a second that this type of campaign will solve this country's still massive unemployment figure, but it does seem that someone, somewhere, isn't prepared to let the figure increase any further. However, if you are out of work you owe it to yourself to try and see if on board the 'Action for Jobs' bus there may be some help and advice that as yet you hadn't thought of taking any further, and if you do come along to the remaining locations, say 'Hello', because I'll be there too!

### TOP 10

1 (2)	I Should Be So Lucky.....	Kylie Minogue
2 (8)	Joe le Taxi.....	Vanessa Paradis
3 (6)	Together Forever.....	Rick Astley
4 (9)	Doctorin' the House.....	Cold Cut
5 (1)	Beat Dis.....	Bomb the Bass
6 (10)	Crash.....	The Primitives
7 (5)	Gimme Hope Jo'anna.....	Eddy Grant
8 (3)	Get Outta My Dreams.....	Billy Ocean
9 (4)	Suedehead.....	Morrissey
10 (-)	Dominion.....	Sisters of Mercy

(Last week's placings in brackets)

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Back row (l to r): Dave Preece, Erneka Nwajobi, Richard Harvey, Stacey North, Gary Cobb, Kingsley Black, Mark Stein. Middle row: Jim Ryan (Reserve Coach), John Faulkner (Youth Coach), Rob Johnson, Ashley Grimes, Les Sealey, Mick Harford, Andy Dibble, Darron McDonough, Robert Wilson (now Fulham), Mickey Weir (now Hibs), Dave Kirby (Physiotherapist). Front row: Danny Wilson, Brian Stein, Steve Foster, Ray Harford (Manager), Mal Donagh, Ricky Hill, Tim Breacker.



**The Manager**  
**Ray Harford**

Today we welcome a club who have like ourselves played in all four divisions of the Football League and who are, again like ourselves, currently interested in league points as well as looking forward to cup success.

It was in 1885 that Luton Town were formed from an amalgamation of the old Wanderers and Excelsior clubs in the town. They turned professional in 1891 and in 1894 joined the Southern League. They finished second in the table in 1895/6 and in 1920 moved with other Southern League clubs to form the new Third Division. They were runners-up to us in 1935/6 and then won promotion a season later when Joe Payne netted 55 goals in the season.

Luton's progress continued after the war with promotion to Division One in 1955, Gordon Turner (father of Wayne Turner) getting 32 goals and they went on to reach the F.A. Cup final of 1959 and to stay in Division One until 1960. Decline

really set in then, however, and by 1965 they were in Division Four. During the same period we were climbing from Division Four to Division One without actually meeting them.

Again the tide turned in the late sixties, Bruce Rioch being a key figure as they won promotion to Division Three at the end of 1968/9 and Malcolm McDonald playing a starring role in 1969/70 as they climbed to Division Two. In 1974 they climbed back into Division One and though they were relegated a year later they went up again in 1982 – and stayed.

In the last five seasons they have finished respectively 18th, 16th, 13th, 9th and 7th. Last season they achieved their highest-ever position and though comment was mixed on the policy of plastic pitch and no away supporters, Luton were rarely out of the news, not least when they put Liverpool out of the FA Cup after two third round replays.



**Les Sealey (goalkeeper)** – Born Bethnal Green. Began as an apprentice with Coventry City and played 158 League games for the Sky Blues before transferring to Luton for whom he has also topped 150 League matches.

**Mal Donagh (defender)** – Born Belfast. Luton Town is his only Football League club and he has played more than 400 games at senior level. Has been capped 50 times by Northern Ireland.

**Ashley Grimes (defender)** – Born Dublin. Another former Sky Blue. Played 90 League games for Manchester United before signing for Coventry City. Moved on to Luton Town two years ago. Is equally at home in any of the left flank positions. Capped 15 times by the Republic of Ireland.

**Tim Breacker (defender)** – Born Bicester, Oxfordshire. Joined Luton from school and is on his way to 150 games for the club. England Under-21 international.

**Darron McDonough (defender)** – Born Antwerp. Began his career with Oldham and played nearly 200 games for the Lancashire club before moving South to Luton where he is now trying to establish himself as a first team regular.

**Ricky Hill (midfield)** – Born London. England International midfielder who joined Luton from school as an apprentice. Cultured player who has topped 400 games for the club at senior level and has won three England caps.

# Welcome To LUTON TOWN

**Mick Harford (forward)** – Born Sunderland. Much sought after striker whose name has been linked with several top clubs this season. Has played and scored goals for Lincoln City, Newcastle United, Bristol City and Birmingham City. At the start of this season he had scored 42 goals in 77 games for Luton.

**Brian Stein (forward)** – Born Capetown, South Africa. Luton Town is his only Football League club and he had scored 118 goals in 360 League games for them at the start of this season. Holds one England cap which he won against France three years ago.

**Mark Stein (forward)** – Born Capetown, South Africa. Younger brother of Brian. Made a bright start with Luton scoring 8 goals in his first 29 League games, and then had a spell on loan with Aldershot.

**Danny Wilson (midfield)** – Born Wigan. Northern Ireland international. Manager Ray Harford's first major signing, from Brighton last Summer. Played for Bury, Chesterfield and Nottingham Forest before transferring to Brighton.

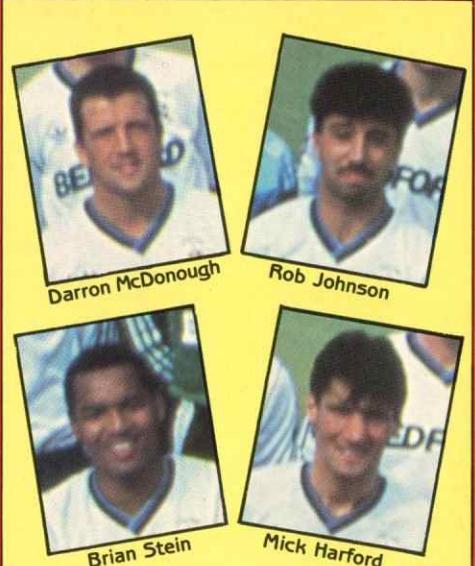
**Ian Allinson (forward)** – Born Hitchin. Played over 300 League games for Colchester United before transferring to Arsenal. Scored 16 goals in 83 appearances for the 'Gunners'.

## THIS SEASON

With Ray Harford, a former Lincoln and Colchester player and Fulham manager, succeeding John Moore as manager during the close season they have now recovered from an opening of five games without a win and have so far won at Sheffield Wednesday, Oxford and Watford in league games. We of course lost to them in the Littlewoods Cup at Filbert Street and they have lost only three home games of any kind so far this season including the opening day defeat by us.

**MICK HARFORD**, who netted two of the Littlewoods Cup goals against us, is likely to be a major threat up front in this his third season since moving from Birmingham and England man **BRIAN STEIN** and younger brother **MARK STEIN** have both been on the mark recently.

**DANNY WILSON** from Brighton and **IAN ALLINSON** from Arsenal are new signings this season in midfield where they link up former Oldham man **DARRON McDONOUGH**, while in defence **BOB JOHNSON** is back this season after spells in Norway and on loan to Lincoln. He may be on the opposite flank from home-grown **TIM BREACKER** with **STEVE FOSTER** (from Aston Villa three years ago) and Northern Ireland regular **MAL DONAGH**Y in the centre and our old friend **LES SEALEY** (nearly 200 games since moving from us in August 1983) in goal.

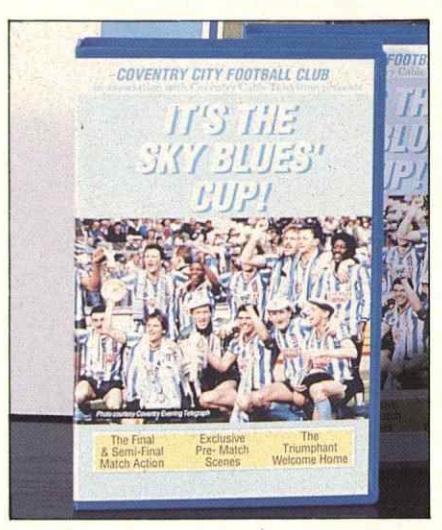


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## MICK HARFORD

by Geoff Allman

£690,000 has been spent already in transfer fees on swashbuckling striker Mick Harford, who has over the past ten years banged home over 160 league and cup goals. He has been on the edge of the England team for much of this time without actually gaining recognition.

Born in Sunderland in 1959, he played for Lambton Star Juniors before signing for Lincoln City in July 1977. He made his debut in a home game against Gillingham in the following December and netted his first goal at Chester later the same month, both in Division Three. He had scored 46 goals by the time he moved to Newcastle in December 1980 for a Fourth Division record fee of £216,000.

His first goal for Newcastle was at Luton in January 1981 in Division Two, but he had limited success on Tyneside and moved to Bristol City in August 1981 for £160,000. He scored 19 goals in nine months before Bristol City's financial crisis

# Man To Watch

forced his sale. In fact in order to pay off money owed on Mick, City transferred him back to Newcastle in March 1982 notionally on a free transfer so that an hour later he could move to Birmingham for £100,000.

At Birmingham he scored on his First Division debut against Brighton and went on to score 34 goals before moving to Luton for £250,000 in December 1984, netting on his debut at Leicester. By the end of the season he had scored 17 goals and then in 1985/86 he got another 25. He was on the injured list for the first part of last season though he returned just in time to play here on New Year's Day. Until this season's Littlewoods Cup game, however, he had not scored against us. His tally so far this season is 12 League and Cup goals including a hat-trick against Wigan. Big and strong but with skilful footwork Mick is one of the most complete strikers in the game today, a powerful finisher with both head and feet.

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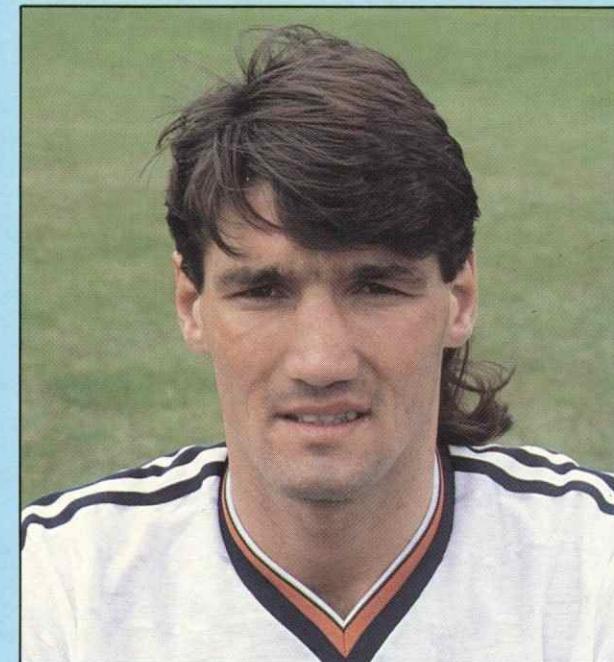
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# Player Profile

## COLLECTOR'S ITEM

This matchday magazine will find a good home in at least one household. Michael Gynn will take it home with him, slip it into a plastic folder and it will join his collection of club programmes.

Michael does not collect any old programmes. He keeps those for matches in which he has played or in which there is an article about him. His collection now totals more than 350 and he jokes: "It will be nice to look back on when I am as old as Trevor Peake."

He began his collection at Peterborough United and it includes youth match programmes as well as those for reserves and first team games. He keeps them all neatly filed and he says: "They are all in almost new condition."

In fact he is quite a collector because his record collection is huge. At the last count he had 1,500 albums, many of them irreplaceable. "I have a couple of friends who run a record shop in London and whenever I hear a piece of music I like I get in touch with them and ask them to try and get it for me. A lot

of my albums are virtually impossible to replace now."

Add to that his collection of 300 or so cassettes and it is easy to see that music plays a big part in his life. "Every spare minute I get I use it to listen to music," said the midfielder who admits that a fair slice of his income is spent on adding to his collection or travelling to concerts with fellow jazz and soul music enthusiasts Cyrille Regis and Dave Bennett.

Only recently the trio was to be found at the Hammersmith Odeon to hear New York Jazz Explosion - "fabulous" says Michael, and they will go a long way to hear Roy Ayres, Tom Brown, Lawrie Liston-Smith and Courtney Pine.

Hence his huge collection of LPs. He began it in 1976 and once spent £500 in a single swoop for a batch of albums.

He has had a lot of time to indulge his favourite pastime in the last three weeks because he has been under treatment for an ankle injury. Fortunately he has made excellent progress and was hoping to be available for selection for tonight's

game.

He collected the injury against Sheffield Wednesday and it was serious enough to keep him out of the Simod Cup semi-final at Reading. "I was disappointed to miss that game because it could have taken us through to Wembley. When I injured my ankle I thought I would only be out for a couple of days but it turned out to be a little more serious than that. I heard the semi-final on the radio and I was feeling quite tense when it went into the penalty shoot out. It's always worse for a player when he can only sit on the sidelines and not be out in the middle taking part."

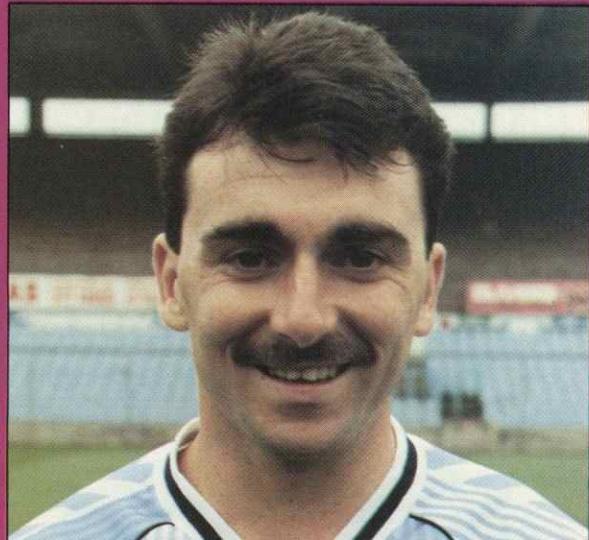
Michael is a country person. His parents live on a farm near Peterborough and when he came to Coventry five years ago he set about finding lodgings in the countryside. And he found the perfect spot and the perfect landlady when he lodged with 'Babs' Miller at Fillongley Village.

"She was marvellous to me and I still keep in touch through birthday and Christmas cards and I went to see her a couple of weeks ago," he says.

Now that he lives alone Michael has had to come to terms with doing his own housework and he says: "I quite like it. I am a tidy person who likes a tidy home so I don't mind a spot of vacuum cleaning." He admits he is not too hot on the ironing however, a lady named 'Tara' is his lifesaver in that department.

Since he was signed from Peterborough in August 1983 he has started a total of 112 Cup and League matches for the Sky Blues, but he has been on the pitch a further 31 times as substitute - no wonder he earned the title 'Supersub'. His best season for appearances was in 1984-85 when he played in 43 matches and his recent injury might well have prevented him bettering that total.

Add together his appearances for Sky Blues with those for Peterborough and Michael has now topped 300 Cup and League matches, testimony to his darting skills and abilities in any number of playing positions.



Picture by: Maurice Ward



DEAN EMERSON

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The clubs have met thirteen times at First  
Division level and the Sky Blues have won nine  
of them and another match ended in a 2-2  
draw.

Luton won at Highfield Rd for the first time  
last season and they went on to complete the  
double, a feat accomplished by the Sky Blues  
the previous season. This time the Sky Blues  
have got off to the right start — a Brian Kilcline  
penalty giving them a 1-0 victory at Kenilworth  
Road in August. One man on the Luton staff  
who appears to relish playing against Coventry  
City is striker Brian Stein who has scored five  
goals in matches between the clubs.

### First Division results v Luton

**1987-88** Luton 0 Coventry 1 (Kilcline pen.)

**1986-87** Coventry 0 Luton 1 (B. Stein)  
Luton 2 (B. Stein, Newell)  
Coventry 0

**1985-86** Coventry 1 (Pickering) Luton 0  
Luton 0 Coventry 1 (Bowman)

## Memory Lane

**1984-85** Coventry 1 (Kilcline) Luton 0  
Luton 2 (B. Stein, Daniel)  
Coventry 0

**1983-84** Coventry 2 (Platnauer, Gibson)  
Luton 2 (B. Stein, Antic)  
Luton 2 (Aylott, o.g.) Coventry 4  
(Gibson 2, Gynn, Bennett)

**1982-83** Coventry 4 (Whitton 2, Dyson,  
Thompson) Luton 2 (B. Stein,  
Horton)

Luton 1 (Donaghys) Coventry 2  
(Whitton, Melrose)

**1975-82** Luton Town not in  
Division One

**1974-75** Coventry 2 (C. Stein, Cross) Luton 1  
(Ryan pen.)  
Luton 1 (Aston) Coventry 3  
(Alderson 2, Green)



### M&B QUIZ PAGE

Guess the Sky Blue players in this  
jigsaw snapshot, and the first  
correct entry opened wins a  
football autographed by the  
players.

Send or take your entry on this  
coupon to Coventry City F.C.

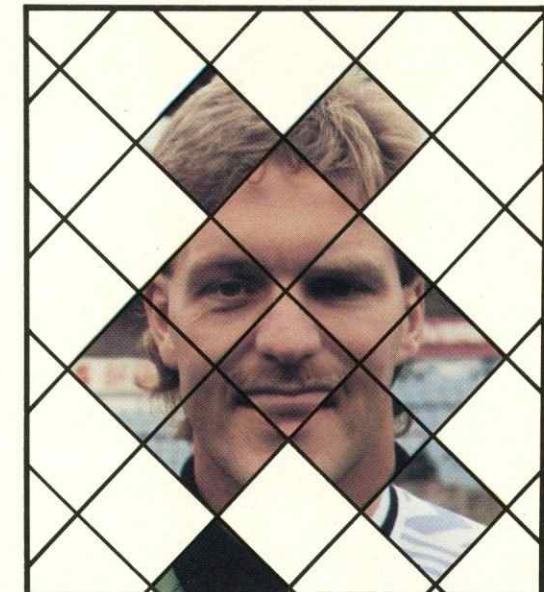
I say the jigsaw players are:

...../.....

Name.....

Address.....

.....



# WE'RE TALKING FOOTBALL.

*"It's worse than losing a war, a national crisis of the highest magnitude"*

LORD WIGG,  
after Poland had knocked out England, 1973.

*"I suppose it will be an all-ticket match."*

DANNY BLANCHFLOWER,  
on being put into the reserves.

*"There is a rat in the camp trying to throw a spanner in the works."*

CHRIS CATTLIN,  
Brighton manager, 1983.

● ● ● **YOU'RE  
BETTER OFF  
TALKING TO  
BARCLAYS**

*"The best team always wins. The rest is only gossip."*

JIMMY SIRREL,  
Notts County manager, 1985.

Source: *The Book of Football Quotations*, Peter Ball and Phil Shaw (Stanley Paul, an Imprint of Century Hutchinson Ltd).

## THEY WERE CHARACTERS

by Steve Evans  
(Chief sports writer  
The Coventry Evening Telegraph)

I don't know why I idolised George Hudson. He didn't walk on water but waddled across the turf in the style of a latterday, sporting Charlie Chaplin. He didn't go around kissing and hugging after scoring, or milking our appreciation. When the ball hit the net, he spat on the ground as if to say, in his lovely Lancashire accent, 'Ave summa that!

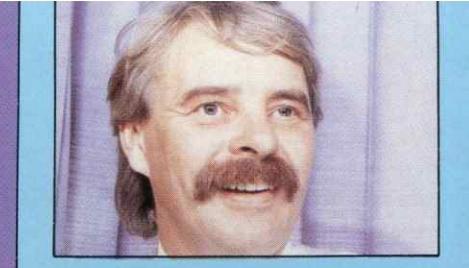
Hudson wasn't a striker, but a centre-forward; a good old-fashioned No. 9 who hustled and barged and bludgeoned a route to goal for Coventry City during the 60s. His breed, I fear, is now extinct.

Whatever happened to the good, old-fashioned centre-forwards who played their game in such an uncomplicated way and who were the galumphing goal-hangers of my day?

Some of us, despite the memories of the summer of '66, have still not forgiven Ramsey for not selecting Greaves for the World Cup final at Wembley. Greaves was the penalty-area pick-pocket who later admitted in his autobiography: "My name is Jimmy Greaves. I am a professional footballer. And I am an alcoholic".

He lost his place in the final to Roger Hunt. He was a workaholic. Suddenly, work-rate had been introduced to soccer's rich vocabulary. Suddenly, the game was all about character – not characters.

Dixie Dean, like Hudson, Greaves and scores of others, was a character. At the height of his career, he suffered from the stirrings of scandalous scribes. Once,



after a match in Germany, he was fined by a magistrate for hitting one of the police. "I didn't mind the fine," said Dean. "But I'd broken my hand on his chin, so I couldn't play cards for two weeks."

There is another tale about an old-fashioned centre-forward. It could easily have been about Dean but could have applied to any of the No. 9's of the day. They were all invariably superb headers of the ball then and, so the tale goes, the centre-forward was walking down the street when he noticed a familiar goalkeeper on the opposite pavement.

The centre-forward nodded. Seeing the sudden jerk of the head, the goalkeeper instinctively became horizontal – and dived under a double-decker bus. If you believe that, you'll believe anything, but the story vividly underlines my theme: That yesteryear's striker had character.

Tommy Lawton was another with that essential ingredient. When England were given their first manager, Walter Winterbottom, the boss called for a blackboard and assembled the team together for their first tactical talk.

"What do you mean?" asked Lawton. "At kick-off, I give it to Carter, who passes to Mannion, who rolls it out to either Matthews or Finney, they beat the back, flight it over to me and I nod it in. What do you mean, tactics?"

George Hudson, in his uncomplicated, spit-and-polish sort of way, might have said exactly the same.

**GET CLOSE  
TO THE BEST**

**hummel**

**SPORT AND LEISURE WEAR**



## **SOCcer QUEEN**

The Finals Evening of the Coventry City 'Soccer Queen' contest will be held in the Coventry City Supporters Club on Saturday April 16th, 1988. The closing date for entries is March 31st, 1988 and all applications should be addressed to the Entertainments Secretary, Supporters Club, Freehold Street, Coventry.

## **SKY BLUES PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

It's 'Player of the Year' time again and you, our fans, have the opportunity to cast your votes for the man you think should be awarded the trophy this season.

Steve Ogrizovic was your vote last season and he is our only ever-present player again this time around. But maybe you have other ideas. As the man in the TV game show says: "The choice is yours."

Previous winners were:

86-87	Steve Ogrizovic	78-79	Bobby McDonald
85-86	Trevor Peake	77-78	Ian Wallace
84-85	Terry Gibson	76-77	Jim Blyth
83-84	Micky Platnauer	75-76	Tommy Hutchison
82-83	Gary Gillespie	74-75	Graham Oakey
81-82	Danny Thomas	73-74	Bill Glazier
80-81	Danny Thomas	72-73	Willie Carr
79-80	Gary Gillespie	71-72	Ernie Hunt

I wish to vote for.....

As Coventry City "Player of the Year"

Signed.....

Vote on the coupon and post or take it to the Coventry City Football Supporters' Club, Freehold Street, Coventry. Mark your envelope 'Player of the Year' in the top left-hand corner. Closing date for votes is May 2nd and the winner will receive his trophy before our final home match on May 7th against Queens Park Rangers.

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For details and an application form please contact Gordon Pickard at Sky Blue Executive Club Office, Pools Office, Thackhall Street, Coventry. Tel: Coventry 56231.

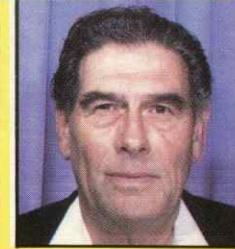
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JOIN TODAY!



## LIKE GROWING AN ARTICHOKE

by John Davies

It was former Luton Town boss Alec Stock who once introduced me to Helenio Herrera, arguably the greatest football manager the world has ever known.

Stock's own record was remarkable enough with an unbroken spell of more than 40 years in the hot seat with FA Cup giant killers Yeovil Town (sensational fourth round conquerors of Sunderland in 1949), Queens Park Rangers, Fulham, Bournemouth and Luton.

He also once had a spell in charge of ace Italian outfit A.S. Roma the club that the fabulous Herrera was managing when we met in London nearly 15 years ago.

Roma was only one stepping stone in Herrera's meteoric career for previously he had twice led Inter Milan to the European Cup title and the World Club Championship.

In Spain he had managed Valladolid, Atletico Madrid, Malaga, Coruna, Seville and Barcelona.

To crown it all this amazing Soccer coach had been, at one time or another, International team manager for three countries – France, Spain and Italy.

The salary Roma were paying him – back in 1973 remember – was £120,000 a year. His income tax was paid by the club, his super-luxury flat in Rome was rent free, his top of the range Mercedes a gift from the A.S. Roma president plus his considerable phone bill paid by the club.

"If someone would pay my income tax at that salary I'd pay my own telephone bill," laughed Stock the man who nurtured the young striking talents of Malcolm "Supermac" Macdonald at Kenilworth Road.

With that incredible background of success in the game Herrera – nicknamed "El Diablo – The Devil" by other European managers – inevitably was full of Soccer wisdom.

"Running a football team is like growing an artichoke," he told me.

"The outer leaves are your senior squad players but at the first sign of them wilting you peel them off and reach for the young green leaves underneath.

"No club can be successful without that flow of young talent coming up beneath. The fact is that the average life of a football team is about three years.

"That does not mean that you must replace every player. But in that three year cycle the whole composition of the side should have been altered by the introduction of new and preferably younger players.

"Holding on to ageing players, however successful they have been, for too long is fatal for any manager. The strength of the club is in the various reserve teams!"

So that was the Herrera recipe for success and one that sounds uncannily like the set-up at Anfield the home of England's most successful club!

From the pinnacle of Kenny Dalglish's Liverpool it is a fact of life however that the English First Division must also include a number of smaller clubs striving to survive on slimmer purse strings.

Luton are a good example of the survival game. Despite gates that rarely reach 10,000 they have been managed wisely over the post-war years by such men as Stock, Dally Duncan, who took them to the 1959 F.A. Cup Final, David Pleat and the present incumbent Ray Harford who was previously coach at Fulham under the management of "Supermac" Macdonald.

Pleat had a brilliant record of buying and selling players at Kenilworth Road before his burning ambition took him to an unfortunate spell in charge of Tottenham.

Harford stepped up from coach to take over when Pleat's successor John Moore resigned after just one season.

Harford has experienced one amusing sidelight in his first season in charge at Kenilworth Road.

"It's been great to see my name featured among the goalscorers nearly every week," he grinned. "Some people get me mixed up with our striker Mick Harford."

Holding on to his namesake has been one of Harford's biggest problems.

That achieved he makes it clear that his ventures into the transfer market are not over.

"I expect to make a few more changes before long," he said recently. "I am conscious that most of the team which took us to our best-ever seventh in the First Division table last season will eventually pass their peak about the same time.

"It is my job to look to the future and do something about that!"

So it seems that the "artichoke" system of running a football club explained all those years ago when Alec Stock introduced me to Helenio Herrera is still in use.

As for the old war-horse Stock himself! He is now in his seventies and only a few weeks ago was a guest at a Midlands Soccer Writers lunch here at Highfield Road.

Clear of eye, sound of mind and full of humour Stock said: "Football is a game that was meant to be enjoyed by those who play it and those who watch it."

The legendary Helenio Herrera would have agreed with that!

# Freeze Frame

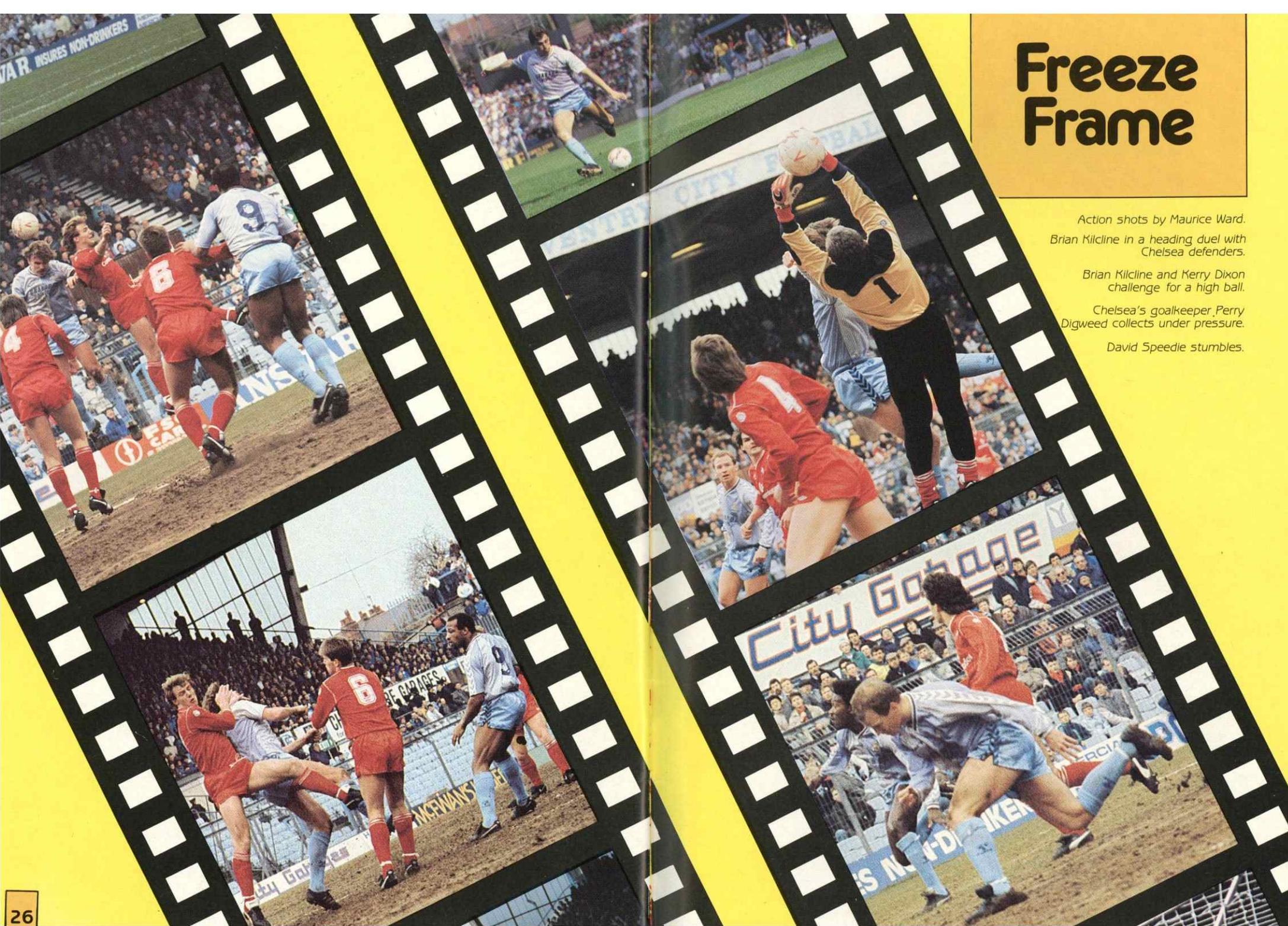
Action shots by Maurice Ward.

Brian Kilcline in a heading duel with Chelsea defenders.

Brian Kilcline and Kerry Dixon challenge for a high ball.

Chelsea's goalkeeper, Perry Digweed collects under pressure.

David Speedie stumbles.



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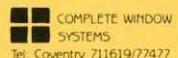


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1987

Tue.	Sep. 22	BLACKPOOL	W 6-0 Culpin 2, Livingstone, Jones, Emerson, Sedgley
Wed.	Oct. 7	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	W 4-0 Culpin 2, Emerson, Speedie
Tue.	Oct. 13	Everton	L 0-4
Thur.	Oct. 29	ASTON VILLA	D 2-2 Livingstone 2
Tue.	Nov. 3	Manchester United	D 0-0
Tue.	Nov. 10	GRIMSBY TOWN	W 6-0 Livingstone 2, Jones 2, D. Smith, Shepstone
Mon.	Nov. 16	Leicester City	D 0-0
Thur.	Nov. 26	Derby County	L 0-2
Tue.	Dec. 1	SHEFFIELD UNITED	D 1-1 D. Smith
Wed.	Dec. 9	Hull City	L 1-4 Regis
Tue.	Dec. 15	LIVERPOOL	D 0-0
Tue.	Dec. 29	BRADFORD	D 1-1
<b>1988</b>			
Tue.	Jan. 5	Manchester City	D 1-1 D. Smith
Wed.	Jan. 27	Nottingham Forest	L 1-2 Livingstone
Tue.	Feb. 2	MANCHESTER UNITED	W 3-1 Rodger, Sedgley, Speedie
Tue.	Feb. 10	Blackpool	D 0-0
Tue.	Feb. 16	SUNDERLAND	L 0-1
Tue.	Feb. 23	EVERTON	(POSTPONED)
Wed.	Mar. 2	Huddersfield Town	D 0-0
Tue.	Mar. 8	Bradford City	D 0-0
Mon.	Mar. 14	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	(PROVISIONAL)
Wed.	Mar. 16	Aston Villa	
Tue.	Mar. 22	LEICESTER CITY	
Tue.	Mar. 29	Grimsby Town	
Wed.	Apr. 6	DERBY COUNTY	
Mon.	Apr. 11	LEEDS (7pm)	
Wed.	Apr. 13	MANCHESTER CITY (7pm)	
Wed.	Apr. 20	HULL CITY	
Tue.	Apr. 26	Liverpool	
Wed.	May 4	Sheffield United	

## CENTRAL LEAGUE FIXTURES

W 6-0 Culpin 2, Livingstone, Jones, Emerson, Sedgley  
W 4-0 Culpin 2, Emerson, Speedie  
L 0-4  
D 2-2 Livingstone 2  
D 0-0  
W 6-0 Livingstone 2, Jones 2, D. Smith, Shepstone  
D 0-0  
L 0-2  
D 1-1 D. Smith  
L 1-4 Regis  
D 0-0  
D 1-1

D 1-1 D. Smith  
L 1-2 Livingstone  
W 3-1 Rodger, Sedgley, Speedie  
D 0-0  
L 0-1  
(POSTPONED)  
D 0-0  
D 0-0  
(PROVISIONAL)

## MIDLAND INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE

1987

Mon.	Sep. 14	Q.P.R. (S.J. Cup)	H L 0-1
Sat.	Sep. 26	Derby County	A L 0-3
Sat.	Oct. 3	LEICESTER CITY	H D 0-0
Sat.	Oct. 10	Mansfield Town	A L 0-1
Sat.	Oct. 17	NOTTS COUNTY	H W 1-0 Cockerill
Sat.	Oct. 24	Nottingham Forest	A L 2-3 Jones, Hurst
Sat.	Oct. 31	PETERBOROUGH UTD	H W 4-2 Jones, Shepstone, Galley 2
Sat.	Nov. 7	Port Vale	A D 2-2 Jones 2
Sat.	Nov. 14	NOTTINGHAM FOREST (L.C.)	H L 0-8
Sat.	Nov. 21	Walsall (L.C.)	A D 1-1 Jones
Sun.	Nov. 29	STOKE CITY (L.C.)	H W 3-0 Middleton, A. Smith, Jones
Sat.	Dec. 5	West Bromwich Albion (L.C.)	A W 1-0 Cockerill
Mon.	Dec. 7	WOLVERHAMPTON (F.A.Y.C.)	H W 3-2 C. Middleton 2, Shepstone
Sat.	Jan. 2	WOLVERHAMPTON W.	H L 0-3
Mon.	Jan. 11	LIVERPOOL (F.A.Y.C.)	H L 1-3 Galley
Sat.	Jan. 16	Aston Villa	A D 1-1 Galley
Sat.	Jan. 23	BIRMINGHAM CITY	
Sat.	Jan. 30	Chesterfield	A W 2-1 Patterson, Galley
Sat.	Feb. 20	DERBY COUNTY	H L 1-3 C. Middleton
Sat.	Feb. 27	Leicester City	A A. Smith
Sat.	Mar. 5	MANSFIELD TOWN	H D 0-0
Sat.	Mar. 12	Notts County	
Sat.	Mar. 19	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	
Sat.	Mar. 26	Peterborough Utd	
Sat.	Apr. 2	PORT VALE	
Sat.	Apr. 9	Stoke City	
Sat.	Apr. 16	WALSALL	

# Fact Focus

DAY	DATE	MATCH	GATE	SCORE	LAST YEAR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sat.	Aug. 15	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	24,681	W2-1	W4-5	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	<b>1</b> McGrath	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Tue.	Aug. 18	Luton Town	7,506	W1-0	W0-2	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline (pen)	<b>1</b> Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Aug. 22	Norwich City	15,726	W1-5	DL-1	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline (pen)	<b>1</b> Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Aug. 29	LIVERPOOL	27,657	W1-4	W1-0	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Mon.	Aug. 31	Sheffield Wednesday	17,171	W3-0	D2-2	Ogrizovic	Phillips	Downs	McGrath	Rodger	<b>1</b> Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Sept. 5	MANCHESTER UNITED	27,125	DO-0	DL-1	Ogrizovic	Phillips	Downs	McGrath	Rodger	Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Sept. 19	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	17,519	W0-5	W1-0	Ogrizovic	Phillips	Downs	McGrath	Rodger	Peake	Speedie
Tue.	Sept. 22	Cambridge Utd. L.C. (1st leg)	5,166	W1-0		Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Rodger	Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Sept. 26	Everton	28,155	W2-1	W1-5	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Pickering	McGrath	Sedgley	Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Oct. 5	WATFORD	16,111	W1-0	W1-0	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Pickering	McGrath	Sedgley	Peake	Bennett
Tue.	Oct. 6	CAMBRIDGE UNITED L.C. 2	10,096	W2-1		Ogrizovic	Borrows	Pickering	McGrath	Sedgley	Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Oct. 17	Chester	16,699	W0-1	DO-0	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Pickering	McGrath	Rodger	Sedgley	Bennett
Tue.	Oct. 20	SOUTHAMPTON	14,522	W2-5	DL-1	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Pickering	McGrath	Rodger	Sedgley	Bennett
Sat.	Oct. 24	NEWCASTLE UNITED	18,585	W1-5	W3-0	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Gynn	Rodger	<b>1</b> McGrath	Bennett
Tue.	Oct. 27	Luton Th. at Leicester L.C. 3	8,115	W1-5		Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Rodger	Sedgley	Bennett
Sat.	Oct. 31	Derby County	15,738	W0-2		Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Emerson	Rodger	Gynn	Bennett
Sat.	Nov. 7	Oxford United	7,856	W0-1	W0-2	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Emerson	Kilcline	Smith K.	Bennett
Sat.	Nov. 14	WIMBLEDON	15,966	DO-5	W1-0	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Emerson	Kilcline	<b>1</b> Smith	Bennett
Tue.	Nov. 17	L.C. 4										
Sat.	Nov. 21	Charlton Athletic	4,956	D2-2	DL-1	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Pickering	Emerson	Smith K.	Downs	<b>1</b> Bennett
Sat.	Nov. 28	WEST HAM UNITED	16,450	DO-0	W1-5	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Pickering	Emerson	Smith K.	Downs	Bennett
Sat.	Dec. 5	Portsmouth	15,002	DO-0		Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Emerson	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Sun.	Dec. 13	ARSENAL	17,557	DO-0	W2-1	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Emerson	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Fri.	Dec. 18	Queens Park Rangers	7,299	W2-1	W1-5	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Emerson	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Tue.	Dec. 22	ST MIRREN (Anglo-Scot Chal.)	5,351	DL-1		Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Cook	Rodger	Peake	Bennett
Mon.	Dec. 28	Nottingham Forest	51,061	W1-4	DO-0	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Fri.	Jan. 1	Liverpool	58,790	W0-4	W1-2	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline	Smith K.	Bennett
Sat.	Jan. 9	TORQUAY UNITED (F.A. 5)	16,815	W2-0		Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline	<b>1</b> Smith K.	Bennett
Sat.	Jan. 16	Tottenham Hotspur	25,650	D2-2	W0-1	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Tue.	Jan. 19	WIMBLEDON (SIMOD CUP)	5,547	W2-1		Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Jan. 23	LUTON TOWN	Postponed									
Sat.	Jan. 30	WATFORD (F.A. 6)	22,479	W0-1		Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Feb. 6	Manchester United	57,144	DL-1	DL-1	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline	Peake	Sedgley
Tue.	Feb. 9	IPSWICH (SIMOD CUP)	7,607	W2-0		Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Wed.	Feb. 10	L.C. Sem-final (1st leg)				Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	McGrath	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Feb. 13	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	14,382	W3-0	W1-0	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Sedgley	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Feb. 20	NORWICH CITY	15,577	DO-0	W2-1	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Sedgley	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Wed.	Feb. 24	L.C. Sem-final (2nd leg)				Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Sedgley	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Feb. 27	Watford	12,052	W1-2	W5-2	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Sedgley	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Wed.	Mar. 2	Reading (Simod SF) lost pen	15,348	DL-1		Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Sedgley	Kilcline	Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Mar. 3	CHELSEA	16,816	DS-3	W3-0	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Sedgley	Kilcline	<b>1</b> Peake	Bennett
Sat.	Mar. 10	Southampton	12,914	W2-1	W0-2	Ogrizovic	Borrows	Downs	Sedgley	Kilcline	<b>1</b> Peake	Bennett
Tue.	Mar. 15	LUTON TOWN	Postponed									
Sat.	Mar. 19	DERBY COUNTY	Postponed									
Tue.	Mar. 22	St. Mirren (Anglo-Scot Chal.)	Postponed									
Sat.	Mar. 26	Newcastle United	Postponed									
Sat.	Apr. 2	OXFORD UNITED	Postponed									
Tue.	Apr. 3	Wimbledon	Postponed									
Sat.	Apr. 9	CHARLTON (FA Cup 5.F.)	Postponed									
Sat.	Apr. 25	West Ham United	Postponed									
Sun.	Apr. 24	L.C. Final	Postponed									
Sat.	Apr. 30	PORTSMOUTH	Postponed									
Mon.	May 2	Arsenal	DO-0									
Sat.	May 7	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	W4-1									
Sat.	May 14	F.A. Cup Final	Postponed									

8	9	10	11	12	14
Gynn	Regis	Speedie	1	Pickering	Houchen*
Gynn	Speedie	Houchen	Pickering	Rodger	Sedgley
Gynn	Regis	Speedie	Pickering	Houchen*	Phillips*
Gynn*	Regis	Speedie	Pickering	Houchen*	Phillips*
Sedgley	1	Houchen	Speedie	1	Pickering
Sedgley	Houchen	Speedie	Pickering	Regis*	Gynn
Sedgley	Houchen	Speedie	Pickering	Houchen*	Kilcline
Sedgley	Houchen	Speedie	Pickering	Regis*	Gynn
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Rodger
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Dobson
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
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Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Downs
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone
Phillips	Regis	Speedie	Gynn	Houchen	Livingstone*
Phillips					



# Todays Teams

## COVENTRY CITY

## LUTON TOWN

Steve Ogrizovic	1	Les Sealey
Dave Phillips	2	Tim Breacker
Greg Downs	3	Ashley Grimes
Steve Sedgley	4	Rob Johnson
Brian Kilcline	5	Darron McDonough
Trevor Peake	6	Mal Donaghy
Dave Bennett	7	Danny Wilson
Gary Bannister	8	Brian Stein
Cyrille Regis	9	Mick Harford
Dave Speedie	10	Mark Stein
David Smith	11	Ian Allison
	12	
	14	

Yellow Flag  
C. Jones

Referee  
David Allison (Lancaster)

Yellow flag with red trim  
K.A. Leach

## HALF TIMES

A Swindon v Barnsley.....  
B Aldershot v Mansfield.....

C Cambridge Utd v Hartlepool.....  
D Carlisle v Halifax.....  
E Darlington v Peterborough.....