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SOUTHAMPTON

LITTLEWOODS CHALLENGE CUP, FIFTH ROUND



Wednesday, January 18th, 1989 Kick-off 7.45 p.m.

LUTON TOWN

This match is sponsored by: Filmergraphic Press, H. & A. Lewis Developments,
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ACTION

F.A. CUP HOPES DIE AT THE DEN



• **Letting fly:** Kingsley Black scores for the Town at Millwall where we lost 3-2 in a thriller.

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Edited by: Robert Alexander Associates
Pictures by: Apex Photography, Milton Keynes



• **Goal-hunters:** Mick Harford (top) and Roy Wegerle (below) take on the Millwall defence at the Den.



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RAY'S REVIEW



A warm welcome tonight to Southampton and their supporters. By a strange twist of fate they were our last visitors to Kenilworth Road on January 2 for a First Division match which ended in a resounding home win. We would love to repeat that result but cannot draw any parallels between the two games. I know Southampton will do their utmost tonight to avenge that defeat and clinch a place in the semi-finals of the Littlewoods Cup by removing the holders. We shall be just as keen to keep the trophy in our grasp.

Since my last notes, which were written before the Christmas and New Year holiday period, we have been knocked out of the FA Cup and the Simod Cup and suffered a heavy league defeat. All three losses were in London where we also drew when we met Tottenham at White Hart Lane on Boxing Day. That goalless game was our seventh without defeat, a run which has now ended. We were out-powered at Wimbledon, but learned the lesson by producing a ruthless finishing display at home to Southampton the following Monday. At Millwall, we were unlucky to lose in a thrilling red-blooded cup-tie in which every chance counted. I made seven team changes for the match at Selhurst Park against Crystal Palace, and have to accept the team was not perfectly-balanced. Palace took full advantage of our discord in the first half and the gap was too big to make up. We were due at Selhurst Park again last Saturday for a very important league game, but printer's deadlines prevent me from commenting on that match.

Tonight, as on Saturday, we were without Mick Harford who is serving a two-match suspension. This gives the other strikers an opportunity to stake their claims for a place in attack. It is a tough game and those who succeed always have to ally determination and dedication to their natural and physical talents. We shall be aiming to find the right blend for success. The treatment room reports could be important. We have had several players in after injuries, but, on the credit side, Tim Breacker has returned to regular action together with John Dreyer and Ashley Grimes. Darren McDonough is working hard to recover. Iain Dowie, after only a month as a professional, has scored for the reserves and the first team and made his presence felt. Enjoy the match and give the lads your full vocal support.

(Ray. Harford)

LUTON TOWN



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Mailbag

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

PYRAMID'S BIRTHDAY

PYRAMID - THE NATIONAL NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL MAGAZINE - is now 5 years old. Each issue of PYRAMID contains: all the news from more than 20 different leagues, features on Clubs/Programmes/Personalities, Photographs of Non-League Grounds, Readers' Letters, and Non-League FIXTURES every month from more than 30 different leagues. The subscription rate from February until the end of the season is a bargain at only £4 from: PYRAMID, PO Box 553, London, N2 8LJ

Born again fan

Dear Sir/Madam,
I am a young soldier serving in BAOR. Since joining the forces I almost lost touch with the club and the supporters in the UK.

I do know that there have been many changes since I last went to a 'home' (or 'many') game, ie - the playing surface, managerial moves

and Big changes in the actual team. The biggest change of all was the win by Luton in last April's Littlewoods Cup Final. That win revived my interests again and it was when I was talking to a Hibernian supporter and the name Mickey Weir cropped up (remember the transfer from Hibs to Luton and back again), that I decided to do something. So I am writing to ask if there are any male/female supporters (females especially appreciated) under 21 that are willing to keep in contact with a 'born again' Luton Town follower.

My working address is in Germany, but my leave address is in Bedford.

I'll close this letter by wishing Luton Town F.C. and its supporters all over the world a prosperous New Year in 1989.

Lets see if we can retain the Littlewoods trophy this year.

Yours sincerely

Paul Thompson

HQ BTY/40 RA
BFPO 30

P.S. Congratulations on today's 6-1 win over Southampton at Kenilworth Road.

Kingsley's look-alike

Dear Sir,

Could you please tell me, is Kingsley Black related to Roger Black, the athlete? To me there is a definite resemblance but not to other people so could you please settle our argument.

Thank you

Yours faithfully

Mrs. S.A. Kightley
45 Ditchling Close
Luton



•Athletic looks: Kingsley Black.

Editor's note: Sorry, Mrs. Kightley, Kingsley is not related to Roger.

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WE'VE ALSO MADE SOME CHANGES TO OUR LINE UP THIS SEASON

Kenilworth Road isn't the only place you can see a new line up this afternoon.

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The Cameo Collection is making its home debut in what is undoubtedly the most attractive and unbeatable line-up in fitted bedroom furniture in the U.K.

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SHOWROOMS THROUGHOUT THE U.K.

DRESSING ROOM TALK

with Darron McDonough

One of the Town's most dependable and versatile players, Darron McDonough suffered the heartbreak last season of being injured on the eve of the Littlewoods Cup final against Arsenal and missing out on Wembley. The new season started badly too for Darron as he had recurring ankle trouble which finally led to an operation last October. Tonight, in Dressing Room Talk, he looks back on the old year and looks forward to 1989:

Change of Fortune

"I have to admit I really was quite cheeched off after the operation. It takes something to get me down, I can tell you, but I was really subdued. I began to feel really out of it. It hits you when you are stuck at home and sitting on your own.

"But I had a week away in Tenerife at the end of October and that helped cheer me up a lot. I felt a lot better when I got back and came to terms with the work I needed to do to get fit again.

"Now I am alright again. I am back in light training and doing some jogging and kicking a ball around a bit. Everything seems to be going okay. I am not having any bad pain or anything from my ankle even though it swells up a bit.

hard work

"I had a similar injury on the other ankle about four or five years ago so I have a good idea of what it is going to be like. You just have to put up with the time you are out and that is the hardest part.

"The specialist has said I should be back by the end of January and that is what I am aiming to do. Dave, the physio, has been getting me working more and more and my target is to be playing a match again by the end of the month.

"The thing is not to do too much or rush it. That would be silly and might knock everything back again. The operation was originally going to be an exploratory one to take out some floating unwanted bodies but I think they found a bit chipped off the cartilage and had to do more than expected.



• Fighting back: Darron McDonough

"It has meant a lot of spectating for me. In fact, since the injury last April I have only played in the first team a few times in nine months and had to watch a lot of games. I am a terrible spectator. I can only watch a game because it is the lads playing. If it was anyone else I couldn't

Happy New Year

"I have been to most of the games and only missed a few of the away matches because I was back in Manchester for Christmas. I was glad to see the end of the old year. It was a terrible one for me and I am hoping the New Year will be much better.

"I cannot see us being in any serious trouble at the bottom of the table. The real problem has been that we have not really done ourselves justice in the home games. If we had won some that we should have, we would be a lot higher up the table.

"The lads have been playing well. But to be honest I cannot really talk about our performances because I am so involved in it and I don't like to talk about individuals. I think the Southampton game showed what we are capable of doing at home though. We should punish more teams like that at home."



BY BILL TOMLINS

THE TOWN

BRIAN STEIN TESTIMONIAL SET FOR THE END OF THE MONTH

Good evening and welcome to everyone here tonight including Southampton's directors, staff, players and fans for what we hope will be a memorable evening's football. Like everyone else, I am sure our league meeting will not have any bearing on our clash in the Littlewoods Cup quarter-finals.

This is a one-off event and promises to be an occasion to savour. I certainly hope this is true as we have a good relationship with Southampton and have enjoyed our cup engagements of the past, most recently only a year ago in the F.A. Cup.

That match was a closely-fought encounter and I am sure things will be little different tonight though, of course, I am hoping for a similar result in our favour.

Winter break

Since our last home match, we have unfortunately been knocked out of the F.A. Cup. This is a misfortune which has proved to have a silver lining so far as the Brian Stein Testimonial Committee are concerned as it has given them the opportunity to make arrangements for Brian's long-awaited testimonial match.

This is being arranged against Brian's current French First Division club Caen and is due to take place on Friday, January 27, 1989, kick-off 7.45 pm.

Caen, like all the clubs in France, are enjoying a six-week winter

break and plan to be in England for a series of matches in preparation for the second half of the French season.

The break has given Brian the chance to come home and he has been able to pop in and visit his old colleagues. I believe he spent last week in Switzerland training hard for the new 'half-season', particularly hard in Brian's case as he has only recently recovered from a knee injury.

The fixture promises to be a great attraction as it will bring a taste of Continental football to Luton and gives Brian an opportunity to invited several of his old friends back for the night. Had the fixture been on Saturday 28th, when the F.A. Cup fourth round takes place, it would have been more difficult.

Cup-winner

There was also a feeling that many fans would already have made plans for the Saturday following our elimination and that the Friday night fixture would prove to be more attractive. I hope as many fans as possible will be able to come along and support Brian at this match.

It should be a very special night for everyone involved with Brian during a 10-year Kenilworth Road career which culminated in him scoring our winning goal in the Littlewoods Cup final with his last kick for the club.



• Number one: Iain Dowie celebrates his first senior season goal for the club at Crystal Palace last week.

DANNY HITS EQUALISER AT THE DEN

Spot-kick success: Danny Wilson converted his second penalty of the season to make it 2-2 at Millwall, but the Lions roared back for victory, in a tie interrupted by a floodlight failure.



• Match ball sponsor: John Aldridge of T. J. Aldridge Builders receives his match ball from Marvin Johnson and Danny Wilson.



• Big match line-up: Mascot Gary Moore, grandson of our gatekeeper Con, poses with Steve Foster, Jimmy Case and the Southampton match officials.



• Forecast winner: Chloe McLura is pictured with Kingsley Black and sponsors Wallspace Bedrooms director John Bayley.

CAPTAIN'S DIARY



STEVE FOSTER

Cup-tie special

Hello and welcome to Southampton tonight for what promises to be a very tough battle for a place in the Littlewoods Cup semi-finals. The result against them in the league here on January 2 will mean nothing tonight as we both attempt to clinch a place in the last four.

Since my last column, we have enjoyed the great result against the Saints when it was nice at last to see some goals going in at home. But we have also had the cup defeat at Millwall when we were in the game right to the end without getting the break we needed to equalise again.

finisher

Iain Dowie, our recent signing from Hendon, has been in cracking form in training and showed his finishing ability by scoring twice on his reserves debut at Brighton and again on his first team debut at Crystal Palace in the Simod Cup.

It is good to have more competition in the first team squad and we all know that we have to fight to keep a place in the team. Dressing room atmosphere is great and we all had a good Christmas with a private party at the club and our annual carol-singing competition with the apprentices. Ken Gillard got the prize as the worst singer! Enjoy the match.

SAINTS HIT FOR SIX

Luton Town 6 Southampton 1

Two goals in the opening seven minutes set the Town up for their best win of the season when they opened the New Year with a convincing victory over Southampton on January 2 at Kenilworth Road. Kingsley Black crossed for Mick Harford to head the first in the second minute and then shot home the second himself only five minutes later as Southampton were sent reeling.

Continuous waves of attacking football produced further chances with Roy Wegerle hitting the bar and firing wide before scoring twice in two minutes early in the second half to make it 4-1. In between, a defensive lapse allowed Rodney Wallace to pull one back for the Saints.

Ricky Hill cracked in the fifth after 58 minutes and Mick Harford hit the sixth after 71 as the Town continued to seek further goals to make up for the slip at Wimbledon the previous Saturday. Southampton, beaten 4-1 at home by Queen's Park Rangers in their previous outing, were well beaten and were lucky not to suffer a heavier defeat.

The win echoed the Town's 7-0 thrashing of the Saints three seasons ago when Brian Stein hit a hat-trick past Peter Shilton. Saints boss Chris Nicholl praised the Wallace brothers, but criticised his experienced defenders who were torn apart by Harford and Co. Ray Harford said it was the Town's best finishing display of the season.

Teams: Southampton - Burridge, Forrest, Statham, Case, Moore, Osman, R. Wallace, Maddison, Le Tissier, Baker, D. Wallace. Luton Town - Sealey, R. Johnson, Harvey, Preece, Foster, M. Johnson, Wilson, Wegerle, Harford, Hill, Black.

Referee: D. S. Vickers (Ilford).

1st Team ACTION



- Convincing victory: Mick Harford and Roy Wegerle led the way as the Town hammered Southampton 6-1 on January 2. Our action pictures show the best of the brilliant attacking display which brought the goals with Roy Wegerle in the vanguard. Pictures by Josh Levy of Apex Photography, Milton Keynes.

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BOX OFFICE INFORMATION



MAN IN CHARGE

Allan Gunn (South Chailey, Sussex)

A purchasing manager, Allan is married with two daughters. He began refereeing in 1965 and progressed via the Sussex leagues to the Football Combination and the full Football League list. He enjoys swimming and squash. He has officiated at several big matches including the F.A. Youth Cup final in 1980, 1985 Milk Cup semi-final and the World Youth Championship in Chile in 1987. Allan's linesmen tonight are Mr. M. K. Bullivant and Mr. G. T. Pearson. The reserve official is Mr. J. L. Chidley.

POSSIBLE REPLAY ARRANGEMENTS

If tonight's match ends in a draw, the replay will take place at The Dell on January 25, 1989, Kick-off 7.30 pm. Tickets will be on sale from the club's ticket office in Kenilworth Road from 9 am tomorrow (Thursday).

BEDFORDSHIRE PREMIER FLOODLIT CUP

Semi-final

Vauxhall Motors v Luton Town

This match will take place at Vauxhall Motor's ground on Tuesday, January 31, 1989
Kick-off 7.30 pm

FORTHCOMING MATCHES AT KENILWORTH ROAD

South East Counties League

Saturday, January 21, 1989
Luton Town v Bristol Rovers
Kick-off 12.30p.m.

Barclays League Division One

Saturday, January 21, 1989
Luton Town v Everton
Kick-off 3.00p.m.

PLAYER PROFILE

DAVID PREECE

Born in Bridgnorth, in May 1963, David Preece joined the Town from Walsall in December 1984 and was immediately plunged into the struggle to keep the team in the First Division. David's debut was a home clash with Aston Villa and he was an immediate success, scoring the winning goal in a 1-0 victory at Kenilworth Road.

His skilful and industrious style on the left side of midfield made him an instant hit with the fans and he became firmly established in the team as the Town climbed out of trouble and enjoyed a run to the F. A. Cup semi-finals that season. Injuries in recent seasons have prevented him from building a big appearances total for Luton, but he has fought his way back this season after being left out in the early weeks.

David started his career with Walsall, signing professional forms in July 1980, and he made 134 appearances for the Saddlers before his £150,000 move to the Town. Up to the end of last season, he had made 101 appearances for us and scored six goals as well as producing some beautifully-measured passes.



•Accurate and industrious: David Preece.



DAVID PREECE

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• Football League Yearbook	£7.95	• V Neck sweaters	£14.99
• Luton Town F.C. coats	£36.00	• Leisure shirt	£12.99
• Luton Town coffee mugs	£1.60	• Teddy Bears	£5.00
• Club pennants	£2.50	• Pens	£0.65
• Caps and ski hats from	£2.30		

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JUNIOR HATTERS!



BY DANNY WILSON

DIFFERENT BALL GAME IN STORE FOR US ALL TONIGHT

We give Southampton a warm welcome to Kenilworth Road for their second visit in this New Year. Tonight's match is in the Littlewoods Cup and, as you know, this is a quite different ball game! So do not let the result in the League game fool you. If we win tonight's game it will put us in the draw for a place in the semi-finals for the second year running.

I said that I would let you all know how much the players enjoyed the Christmas party. Richard Harvey certainly did. It was good to see so many of you enjoying yourselves, dancing to the disco music. Tim Breaker said that his hand was tired from signing his signature for you as Tim was the first of the players to arrive.

The draw for the Mascots and Escorts was good. It was nice to see the smiling faces when your names came out of the drum.

Tonight's Lucky Junior Hatters membership number is S/T 002854. The winning member should contact Bev Tyler in the Souvenir Shop at Oak Road with his or her membership card, for two free tickets to one of our home matches.

Tonight we give Alan Smith and his Junior Saints of Southampton a welcome return to Kenilworth Road. They are sitting in our family enclosure in Oak Road at the invitation of our Junior Hatters. Please make them feel at home.



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COMMENT BY WENDY GREAVES



LOCAL COMPANY SPONSORSHIP

Tonight we welcome five well-known local companies to Kenilworth Road as the match sponsors for our Littlewoods Cup quarter-final clash with Southampton. Filmergraphic Press, H. & A. Lewis Developments, Insulating Windows, Luton and District Transport and F. & R. Cawley Ltd, will, we hope, enjoy a great match and make the most of the ideal opportunity to use the stadium and tonight's fixture as a chance to entertain their staff and clients and promote their own business.

We are able to offer a variety of sponsorship packages to suit all sizes and types of business - The success of our team on the pitch in recent years has given Luton an increasingly high public profile and this is reflected on to the businesses who support the club.

With football always in the public eye and commanding a large amount of media attention at both national and local levels, there can be few better ways in which to combine business and pleasure for firms looking for marketing and promotional opportunities.

Ball sponsors

Another company taking advantage of this is our Ball Sponsor D. F. Bennett and Son. We wish them a very pleasant and successful evening with us at Kenilworth Road.

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Luton Town*

BRIAN STEIN TESTIMONIAL MATCH

LUTON TOWN v F.M. CAEN

**Friday 27th January 1989
Kick-off 7.45 pm.**

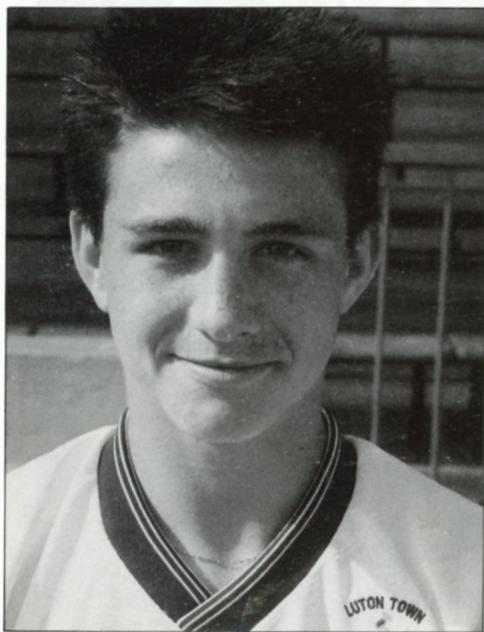
Admission for this match is by Ticket only. Tickets sold under benefit match regulations, No cash admissions allowed.

Tickets may be purchased in advance and up to kick-off from the Ticket Office in Kenilworth Road.

Admission Prices

Kenilworth Standing Section	£3.00	J/OAP's	£1.50
Main Stand Seating	£5.00	J/OAP's	£3.00
Main Stand Seating Blocks F & G	£4.00	J/OAP's	£2.00
Main Stand Enclosure	£4.00	J/OAP's	£2.00
Oak Stand Seating	£4.00	J/OAP's	£2.00

Tickets on Sale from 9 am
Thursday 19th January 1989.



•Ceri Hughes: No luck at Arsenal.



•Tim Allpress: Unlucky at Highbury.



•Darren Salton: Defensive Stalwart.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE DIVISION TWO 1988/89

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Swindon Town	15	10	3	2	32	19	23
Wimbledon	14	9	1	4	36	20	19
Brentford	14	8	3	3	31	18	19
Oxford United	15	9	1	5	24	23	19
A.F.C. Bournemouth	15	8	1	6	26	21	17
Luton Town	14	6	4	4	36	23	16
Southampton	13	6	4	3	28	17	16
Crystal Palace	14	6	2	6	30	19	14
Bristol City	13	3	7	3	16	16	13
Colchester United	15	5	3	7	25	27	13
Brighton & Hove Albion	15	3	5	7	19	26	11
Reading	16	5	1	10	26	49	11
Northampton Town	13	3	3	7	25	33	9
Tottenham Hotspur	15	4	1	10	21	38	9
Bristol Rovers	15	3	1	11	16	41	7

OVENDEN FOOTBALL COMBINATION 1988/89

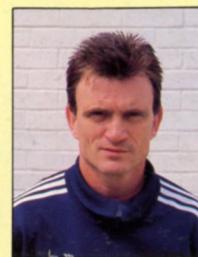
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tottenham Hotspur	20	14	5	1	51	16	33
Arsenal	18	14	4	0	49	19	32
Luton Town	23	10	9	4	51	31	29
Wimbledon	20	12	2	6	38	20	26
Watford	19	10	6	3	44	28	26
Chelsea	18	10	3	5	32	22	23
Oxford United	21	9	5	7	45	48	23
West Ham United	21	7	6	8	33	31	20
Fulham	18	8	3	7	29	28	19
Crystal Palace	19	7	5	7	27	27	19
Swindon Town	17	7	3	7	33	30	17
Southampton	19	6	5	8	29	35	17
Brighton & Hove Albion	19	5	7	7	27	36	17
Norwich City	18	7	2	9	33	34	16
Millwall	16	5	5	6	30	25	15
Ipwich Town	18	6	3	9	29	40	15
Charlton Athletic	18	4	4	10	28	38	12
Queens Park Rangers	19	2	4	13	15	36	8
Portsmouth	18	3	1	14	17	54	7
Reading	19	1	2	16	17	59	4

(Up to and including January 7)

OVENDEN PAPERS FOOTBALL COMBINATION 1988/89

Date	Opponents	Result	Date	Opponents	Result
1988			1989		
Aug 27	Southampton	3-2	Jan 4	Brighton	2-2
Sept 6	Norwich City	2-3	Jan 7	Crystal Palace	0-0
Sept 10	Swindon T	1-1	Jan 14	Reading	4-1
Sept 17	Watford	2-2	Jan 17	Chelsea	
Sept 24	Oxford United	1-1	Jan 21	Wimbledon	
Oct 1	Arsenal	2-3	Jan 28	Southampton	
Oct 5	Norwich	2-1	Feb 7	Millwall	
Oct 11	Brighton	3-0	Feb 14	Swindon T	
Oct 15	Watford	4-0	Feb 25	West Ham	
Oct 18	Charlton A	1-0	Mar 4	Arsenal	
Oct 22	Wimbledon	0-2	Mar 15	Crystal Palace	
Oct 29	Reading	4-2	Mar 21	Charlton A	
Nov 1	Fulham	0-3	Mar 25	West Ham	
Nov 5	Ipswich Town	2-1	Apr 1	Fulham	
Nov 9	QPR	1-0	Apr 11	Ipswich T	
Nov 12	Chelsea	1-1	Apr 22	Portsmouth	
Nov 15	Portsmouth	7-0	May 13	Tottenham	
Nov 22	Millwall	2-2			
Nov 26	QPR	1-1			
Nov 30	Oxford United	3-3			
Dec 31	Tottenham	1-1			

COACHES' CORNER



UNLUCKY DEFEAT FOR YOUTH TEAM AT HIGHLIGHTS

After their brilliant win at Villa Park in the F. A. Youth Cup second round in December, our youth team were very unlucky to be knocked out of the tournament at Arsenal on January 5. The Gunners, who were left desperately clinging on for the final whistle, won a very close game 3-2. Kurt Nogan and Gary Crawshaw had put the young Hatters 2-1 ahead in the first half, but Arsenal had one individual who was able to snatch the goals they needed for an undeserved victory on a difficult pitch.

Coach John Faulkner was full of praise for his team's performance. He said: "The weather conditions were difficult. We were the team that played the most football and we had the players who coped the best. It was very disappointing to lose as I felt we were the better team."

The youngsters showed their character a few days later, however, when they travelled back to north London to meet Tottenham and won 3-2 in a highly-entertaining match at Mill Hill. Goals by Darren Salton, Paul Telfer and Stuart Brown secured the win.

"This was very entertaining to watch," said John. "Both teams always tried to play positive football and we were always superior. We might have won by more goals. Our passing was excellent."

DOWIE OPENS ACCOUNT

The reserves have continued to hold their third place in the Football Combination and extended their unbeaten run to 10 games with draws against Tottenham, Brighton and Crystal Palace since Christmas. Spurs were held 1-1, Brighton 2-2 and Palace 0-0, with new signing Iain Dowie scoring both goals at Brighton.

"He looked sharp and we hope this is an accurate indication of his future at Luton," said coach Jim Ryan. Mick O'Brien scored the Town's goal against Spurs in a match Jim said was one of the most competitive of the season at Kenilworth Road.

THE CHALLENGE

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We continue to see our latest challenge as playing a part in making football a family occasion at clubs throughout the country and making football grounds happier places to visit.

In short, our aim is to play a part in keeping this National game of ours where it belongs:- **AT THE TOP**.

If our continued involvement can go some way towards helping to realise these aims then it is a challenge we consider worthy of accepting.



Littlewoods

PHOTO FILE



• Point taken at Tottenham: Les Sealey (above) pulled off a brilliant penalty save at White Hart Lane in our 0-0 draw on Boxing Day. Mick Harford and David Oldfield (below) challenge for the ball.



LUTON TOWN Goal'den Oldies

AN EXCITING EASTER BEFORE THE WAR

On the Saturday before Easter, 1939, promotion hopefuls Luton Town had lost to second-place Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough writes club statistician Roger Wash.

After seeing Jock Finlayson score the Town's solitary goal in the 4-1 defeat, the Luton supporters in the 28,051 crowd were sadly thinking that the season had ended which was a pity considering the many fine performances put up especially since the introduction of young centre-forward Hugh Billington to the side the previous November.

Billington had been missing through injury for the trip to Hillsborough, but was fit to return for the Good Friday home fixture against Southampton. James Carroll was also drafted back into the side on the right wing and a holiday crowd of 15,949 settled down for a seemingly meaningless game against the mid-table Saints.

"Billington hit two hat tricks against Southampton in the space of three days over Easter 1939"

Eddy Connelly opened the scoring for the Town in the 6th minute after narrow misses at both ends and after further open play the Hatters suddenly went goal mad in the period leading up to half-time. After 28 minutes, Billington scored with a ferocious shot followed up shortly afterwards with a Bill Redfern penalty. The same two players scored again before the break to send the Town in 5-0 ahead.

Straight from the kick-off, Billington completed his hat-trick and as Luton eased off Southampton scored twice to take a certain amount of gloss from the proceedings.

The Town were at home again the following day and the team remained unchanged to face another mid-table team in Fulham. This time the game was scoreless at the interval and, despite heavy Luton pressure, Fulham opened the scoring after a breakout from defence.

Back came the Town and, after several corners, the breakthrough finally came when a flag-kick from George Stephenson was headed home by Connelly. Fulham were now hanging on for a point but with the minutes ticking away Billington beat three defenders to the ball to hammer home what proved to be the winner and send 16,322 happy

souls home to check the League table.

For a third successive game an unchanged side turned out for the return against Southampton at the Dell on Easter Monday. The 15,114 crowd was well re-inforced by Town supporters who had suddenly got the slight whiff of promotion again.

The Luton fans were not disappointed as the team put on a sparkling display with Billington again scoring a hat-trick. With every player hitting peak form, Stephenson opened the scoring after 17 minutes heading home a centre from Carroll with Billington crashing home his first shortly before half-time.

The second half was all one-way traffic and after Billington had completed his hat trick the last 30 minutes saw the Town "weave pretty patterns through the Southampton rearguard".

Luton even had the luxury of coming close several more times when down to ten men after centre-half Gordon Dreyer went off to have treatment for a gash over the eye.

Promotion fever helped to swell the crowds"

Promotion fever was now apparent again and many Town supporters swelled the crowd at Saltergate the following Saturday when the Hatters met fellow high-flyers Chesterfield. Another fine performance resulted in a 2-1 win, with Bill Redfern scoring both, to send the Town up to third position level on points with second-place Sheffield Wednesday.

A crowd of 20,109 turned up at Kenilworth Road on 22nd April to see the game against Millwall and with only three matches to play one last push was required. Unfortunately try as they might the Town failed to breakdown a strong Lions' rearguard and a 0-0 draw was the final frustrating outcome.

The teams immediately below the Town all won that day and with Sheffield United also winning with a game in hand the situation looked bleak again. With the Town accepting the inevitable a poor display at Newcastle resulted in a 2-0 defeat and to rub salt in the wound great rivals Coventry won at Kenilworth Road in the last game of the season to leapfrog above the Hatters sending them down to a final seventh position.



• **Celebrations at the Dell:** Brian Stein after scoring at Southampton in 1986

Luton News

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INTRODUCING...

SOUTHAMPTON

For the second time in 1989, we welcome our friends from Southampton. Despite that 6-1 defeat a fortnight ago, and their F.A. Cup exit at the hands of Derby a week ago, we can expect them to be battling all the way to turn the tide after their recent unhappy run, writes *Geoff Allman*.

Like ourselves, they have the Littlewoods Cup as their main hope of glory from this season and a semi-final place is of course, at stake tonight. Over the years, the Saints have created quite a few surprises in cup competitions.

Founded in 1885, as Southampton St Mary's, they got a taste for cup-tie football when winning the Hampshire Junior Cup in four successive seasons before entering the F.A. Cup for the first time in 1891/2. They joined the Southern League in 1894 and in the same season as they topped the table there in 1897/8, they reached the semi-final of the F.A. Cup and took Nottingham Forest to a replay.

After another Southern League Championship, in 1899, they went all the way to the F.A. Cup final in

1900, going down 4-0 to Bury at the Crystal Palace. Another Southern League Championship followed in 1901 followed by another F.A. Cup final replay defeat, this time by Sheffield United, in 1902.

Then, after further Southern League Championships in 1903 and 1904, there was a quiet spell before they joined the new Division Three in its first season, 1920/1. Only one club went up at that time, but after being runners-up to Crystal Palace in that first season they topped the table a year later to reach Division Two.

There they made an immediate impact by consistently being on the edge of the promotion race and they made further F.A. Cup semi-final appearances in 1925 and 1927.

Then came something of a decline in the thirties, but they strove successfully to stay out of Division Three and, just after the war, they just missed out on promotion to Division One in both 1948 and 1949. A season later they were even closer when pipped only on goal average.

Then, despite reaching the fifth round of the F.A.

Cup in 1953 they slipped down to Division Three and stayed there until 1960. Their greatest days still lay ahead. They celebrated the advent of the Football League Cup by reaching the last eight in its first season, 1960/1, and then in 1962/3 reached the F.A. Cup semi-final, going down to Manchester United at Villa Park. Then in 1966 the Saints climbed into Division One for the first time ever.

1969 saw them reaching the last eight of the League Cup again, but it was after slipping back to Division Two, in 1974, that they confounded everyone by winning the F.A. Cup in 1976, gaining revenge for earlier defeats by Manchester United by beating them 1-0 at Wembley.

1978 saw them back in Division One and 1979 saw them back at Wembley for a Football League Cup final that they lost 3-2 to Nottingham Forest. 1984 saw another F.A. Cup semi-final appearance and on this occasion they lost to Everton.

Two years later they lost to Liverpool at a similar stage and then, in the re-named Littlewoods Cup, they reached the semi-final two years ago and again lost to Liverpool.

Last season the Saints went out to Bournemouth in the second round of the Littlewoods Cup and to us in the fourth round of the F.A. Cup. All the goals came in the second half with Colin Clarke getting their goal, but Derek Statham landed the ball in his own net for one of our goals.

It was the same **Derek Statham**, who netted a penalty to earn them an F.A. Cup replay with Derby only for them to go down 2-1 at The Dell with another defender **Gerry Forrest** (ex-Rotherham) on the mark. **Kevin Moore** (ex-Grimsby) is another defender who has found the net recently while the defence may be completed by **Ray Wallace**, who this season has joined in the first team his brothers **Rod Wallace** and **Danny Wallace**, who may be in midfield and attack respectively.

Much-travelled **John Burridge**, who actually played for Workington in their league days and was in Aston Villa's League Cup winning side in 1977, has recently replaced **Tim Flowers** in goal while **Russell Osman** is an addition to the defence this season from Leicester after previous service with Ipswich. Former England centre-half **Russell** is currently under suspension.

Jimmy Case, a one-time Liverpool protege, is still a powerful midfielder as is former Lincoln, Sheffield United and Swindon man **Glenn Cockerill**. Up front, **Matthew Le Tissier** is leading scorer in his third season while **Paul Rideout** on his return from Italy and **Graham Baker** (coming through from midfield) are the other likely threats to our goal together with the **Wallaces**.

The Saints have beaten Lincoln 4-2 on aggregate, Scarborough 3-2 on aggregate and Spurs 2-1 to earn this quarter final place in the Littlewoods Cup.

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Back Row (left to right) Paul Rideout, Andy Townsend, Matthew Le Tissier, Colin Clarke, Alan Shearer. Middle Row: Rodney Wallace, Gordon Hobson, Graham Baker, Tim Flowers, Glenn Cockerill, John Burridge, Andy Cook, Gerry Forrest, Derek Statham. Front Row: Don Taylor (Physiotherapist), Russell Osman, Kevin Moore, Chris Nicholl (Manager), Jimmy Case, Danny Wallace, Dennis Rose (Trainer).

Luton Town

BARCLAYS FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

1988-89

HOME					AWAY										
W	P	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Ps	Oct	11	Burnley (LC2)	
21	4	6	2	16	14	Arsenal	8	2	2	29	13	43	Oct	22	Middlesbrough
20	5	2	1	16	8	Norwich City	6	2	1	14	8	38	Oct	25	Arsenal
21	5	2	3	16	9	Coventry	4	4	3	13	12	33	Oct	29	Queens Park Rangers
21	3	5	2	10	7	Millwall	2	5	4	13	17	33	Oct	29	Queens Park Rangers
20	7	1	1	17	7	Liverpool	5	3	3	16	11	32	Nov	2	Leeds United (LC3)
20	5	2	4	13	13	Manchester United	1	5	4	9	11	30	Nov	5	Millwall
20	4	2	6	12	11	Everton	3	3	4	8	11	30	Nov	12	Coventry City
20	5	3	2	18	11	Derby	4	3	1	10	5	29	Nov	19	West Ham United
20	2	5	2	9	10	Nottingham Forest	4	5	2	16	13	28	Nov	26	Norwich City
21	2	5	5	15	20	Wimbledon	3	2	4	11	14	28	Nov	29	Manchester City (LC4)
21	5	3	3	17	14	Middlesbrough	2	2	7	12	22	28	Dec	3	Newcastle United
20	4	4	3	19	17	Aston Villa	1	5	4	14	18	26	Dec	10	Derby County
21	6	4	1	19	7	Southampton	2	4	3	14	21	26	Dec	17	Aston Villa
21	3	5	1	15	8	Tottenham Hotspur	3	2	4	11	13	25	Dec	26	Tottenham Hotspur (11.30 am)
21	4	4	4	20	19	Queens Park Rangers	2	4	6	12	14	24	Dec	31	Wimbledon
21	4	2	3	11	7	LUTON TOWN	2	3	7	8	18	23	Jan	2	Southampton (3 pm)
21	6	2	2	15	10	Sheffield Wednesday	2	4	4	7	14	22			
20	3	3	4	10	14	Charlton Athletic	2	3	4	7	12	20			
21	1	3	6	10	19	West Ham United	3	2	6	8	17	17			
21	2	3	5	10	14	Newcastle United	2	2	7	7	24	17			

APPEARANCES AND GOALSCORERS (1988/89)

© The Football League. FAC = F.A. Cup. () indicates player substituted

[] indicates substitute used Home fixtures in **Bold** Scorer's name in **Bold** P = Penalty + denotes own goal

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VAUXHALL TEAM CHECK.

Luton Town

- 1 Les Sealey
- 2 Rob Johnson
- 3 Richard Harvey
- 4 David Preece
- 5 Steve Foster
- 6 Marvin Johnson
- 7 Danny Wilson
- 8 Roy Wegerle
- 9 David Oldfield
- 10 Ricky Hill
- 11 Kingsley Black

Subs

Southampton

- 1 John Burridge
- 2 Gerry Forrest
- 3 Derek Statham
- 4 Mark Blake
- 5 Kevin Moore
- 6 Ray Wallace
- 7 Matthew Le Tissier
- 8 Jimmy Case
- 9 Danny Wallace
- 10 Graham Baker
- 11 Rod Wallace

Subs

Referee: A. GUNN (South Chailey, Sussex) Linesmen: M. K. BULLIVANT (Yellow Flag) G. T. PEARSON (Red Tum)

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