

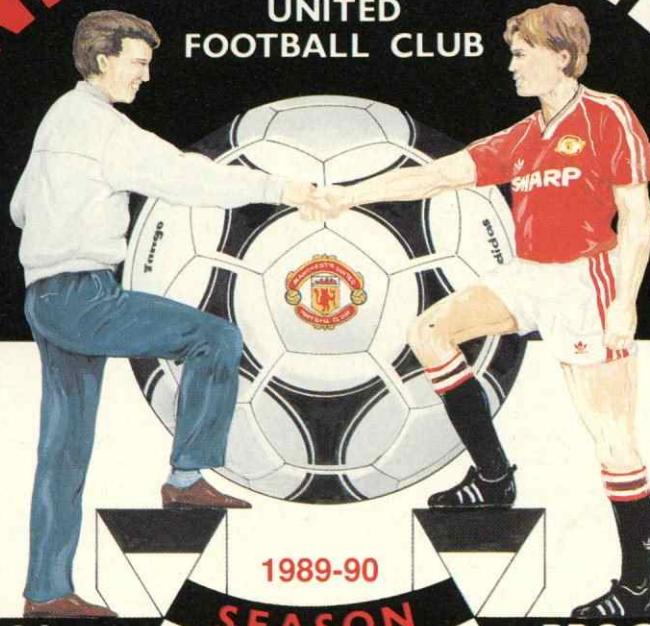
UNITED REVIEW

MANCHESTER
UNITED
FOOTBALL CLUB

BARCLAYS LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE

United
v
Luton
Town

Kick-off 3.00 pm



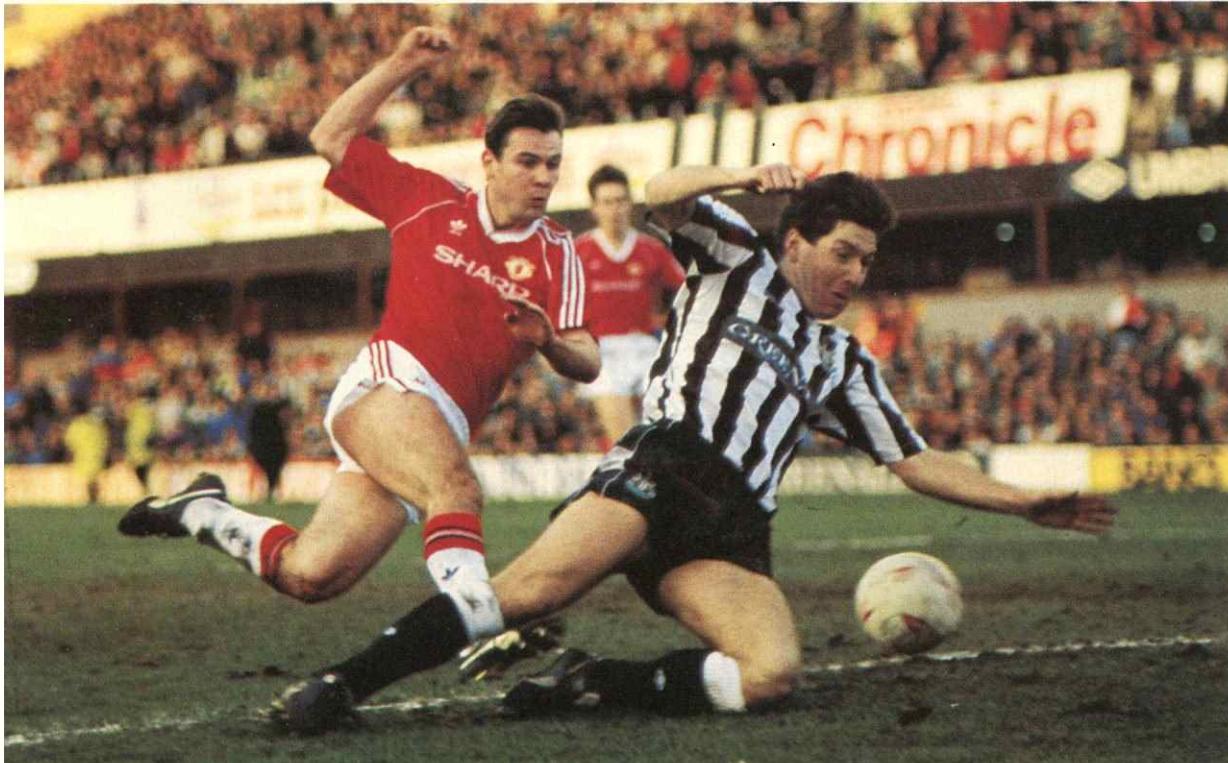
Saturday
3rd March 1990

70p

Volume 51, No. 15

OFFICIAL SEASON PROGRAMME

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European Champions Cup:

Winners: 1968
Semi-Finals: 1957 1958 1966 1969

Football League Division One

Champions: 1908 1911 1952 1956
1957 1965 1967
Runners up: 1947 1948 1949 1951
1959 1964 1968 1980
1987

Football League Division Two

Champions: 1936 1975
Runners-up: 1897 1906 1925 1938

FA Challenge Cup

Winners: 1909 1948 1963 1977
1983 1985
Finalists: 1957 1958 1976 1979
Semi-Finals: 1926 1949 1962 1964
1965 1966 1970

Honours

World Club Championship:

Finalists: 1968

FA Charity Shield

Winners: 1908 1911 1952 1956
1957 1963

Joint Holders: 1965 1967 1977

Finalists: 1948 1963 1985

European Cup Winners' Cup

Semi-Finals: 1984

Inter Cities Fairs Cup

Semi-Finals: 1965

FA Youth Cup

Winners: 1953 1954 1955 1956
1957 1964

Finalists: 1982 1986

Football League (Milk) Cup

Finalists: 1983

Semi-Finals: 1970 1971 1975

MANAGER'S VIEW...



No doubt about it, we have to get this one won this afternoon!

Luton Town are just below us, two points behind, and I don't have to spell out the position should we allow them to beat us. We faced a similar situation when we played at Millwall three weeks ago and responded with an authoritative performance which saw us win 2-1.

Then we went to Newcastle to move into the sixth round of the FA Cup with an exciting 3-2 victory to suggest that we were back on the rails and on the point of banishing the threat of relegation.

I am still confident we will soon move out of the danger zone, but last week's defeat at Chelsea was certainly a huge disappointment coming as it did on the heels of a couple of excellent displays.

It will certainly be a boost to be back at Old Trafford after playing five of our last six League and Cup games away from home, and I am looking for the players to respond and show their appreciation with the right result after the tremendous support we have had on our travels.

We have had a really loyal following this season, despite the anxious time we have been having with some of our results, and though I have mentioned this before, I make no apology for repeating how much all of us at Old Trafford appreciate the backing and encouragement we have received.

It is going to be even more important in the games ahead. Be it League or Cup we are going to need plenty of backing.

As I say, victory today is essential. We have only ourselves to blame for the position we find ourselves in. We have had too many silly

results through giving stupid goals away and failing to take a reasonable percentage of our chances.

Chelsea was a typical example. We gave away a bad goal and then frittered away a stack of opportunities. We had half a dozen really clear chances and didn't even hit the target with some of them. Hopefully it was just one of those days and that it will be a different story this afternoon. Certainly the games before Chelsea suggested that we are finding our scoring feet.

I found the 3-2 win at Newcastle very exhilarating. I would much rather win a match by that kind of score than 1-0. A high-scoring game relates to Manchester United and what the tradition of the club is all about.

I really felt I was in the right place at that match. We are attack minded and we will not change, regardless of how near the bottom of the table we are. I have brought positive players to the club, players who want to score goals and I believe that is the way for us to escape trouble. Having said that we obviously need to tighten up our operation. There are games in which you must scrap and fight, but overall we will go out and try to create and score goals. I believe that is what the fans expect of us and I have every intention of seeing us through our problems with the kind of football which made them Manchester United supporters in the first place.

This coming Monday evening our youth team take on Leicester City, here at Old Trafford, with a place in the FA Youth Cup semi-final at stake.

The youngsters have performed brilliantly in reaching the last eight, especially when you take into account that at least a half dozen first choice players have been unavailable for selection throughout the run. Leicester are one of the fancied sides so it promises to be an interesting evening. The match starts at 7.00pm, so why not come along and give the lads your support. I know it will be appreciated.

CLUB TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Main Switchboard (general enquiries) 872 1661	Membership & Supporters Office 872 5208
Ticket & Match Information Service... 872 0199	(Information Line) 873 8303
Commercial Department 872 3488	Executive Suite 872 3331
Development Association 872 4676	Red Devils Souvenir Shop 872 3398
PLEASE NOTE: CALLERS FROM OUTSIDE OF MANCHESTER SHOULD FIRST DIAL 061	

NEWS & VIEWS FROM OLD TRAFFORD

YOUNG EAGLE



United's under-21 England International, Lee Martin, is seen here receiving his 'Barclays Young Eagle of the Month' award prior to our last home match. Lee must be a very strong contender for the newly inaugurated 'Jimmy Murphy Trophy'. The award has been commissioned by the Directors as a lasting tribute to Sir Matt Busby's former right-hand man who died just before Christmas. Unlike the 'Denzil Haroun Trophy' which is for reserve team players only, the Jimmy Murphy Award will be open to all the Club's young players, irrespective of which team they play in. A panel of club judges, including Nobby Stiles and Brian Kidd who both served under Jimmy, will make their recommendations towards the end of the season.

TICKET NEWS

An announcement regarding ticket availability for our FA Cup quarter final tie will be made today.

On Sunday, 18th March, United are at home to LIVERPOOL in front of the ITV cameras. The kick-off will be at 3.30pm and the last few reserved seats in Stand E are available weekdays from 9.30am to 5.00pm and cost £4.50 adults and £2.30 juniors. All other seats have been sold. To avoid confusion, postal applicants should clearly state when applying, that they are aware that the game takes place on the Sunday, 18th. Admission to the standing accommodation will be by payment at the turnstiles.

Our match at Hillsborough against SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY now takes place on Wednesday, 21st March at 7.45pm and admission to United supporters will be strictly by ticket only. We have an allocation of seats priced £7 for adults and £4.00 for children and these are available after today's match. No standing places are available.

Admission is also strictly by ticket only for our match at The Dell against SOUTHAMPTON on 24th March. We have an extremely limited number of seats at £10 and a small number of terrace tickets at £5 available after today's game and weekdays 9.30am to 5.00pm.

Looking further ahead, United are at home to COVENTRY CITY on Saturday, 31st March at 3.00pm. Postal bookings are now being accepted and should include the correct remittance and sae. Seats are priced £7.20 in the Main Stand (members £6.60) and £6.00 adults, £3.00 children in the Family Stand or Stand F (members £5.50 and £2.80 respectively).

YOUTH TEAM

The next match at Old Trafford is the quarter final of the FA Youth Cup and is against LEICESTER CITY on Monday 5th March at 7.00pm. It promises to be a cracking match and our youngsters really would appreciate your support.

On the night the Young Reds were thrashing Sheffield Wednes-

day 3-1 in the last round, the Chairman's Annual Charity Dinner, sponsored by the Ramada Hotel, was taking place at Old Trafford in the Executive Suite. The highlight was undoubtedly provided by hypnotist, Tony Ray, who, at one stage, had a number of guests under his influence - the most notable amongst them being Manchester Evening News journalist, David Meek, (see right). The fact that Mr Meek can be so easily influenced will come as no surprise to his readers or colleagues at the Evening News. It has been suggested, in some quarters, that he undertakes such sessions prior to writing his United match reports! The evening raised around £3,000 for local charities and United's Danny McGregor already has plans well advanced for our next charity event.

This will take the form of a 'Sportsmans Dinner' on Thursday, 15th March and is a 'black-tie' event with tickets costing £18 each. The Guest of Honour is the legendary Tom Finney, comedy is provided by Johnny Hammond and the event is compered by that other well known 'comedian', local FIFA referee, Neil Midgley! Tickets are available from Danny here at Old Trafford with all profits going to the 'New Heart, New Start' appeal.

REARRANGED DATE

Our twice-postponed home match against EVERTON has now been rearranged for Wednesday, 14th March at 8.00pm, subject to no FA Cup replays!! Match tickets already issued will of course be valid for the new date but anyone unable to attend can obtain a refund providing the tickets are received at the Box Office 24 hours before kick-off. Reserved seats are available during normal office hours.

WELCOME

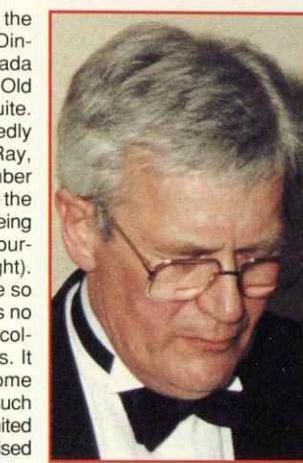
A special visitor to Old Trafford this afternoon is 81 year old Harold Sharratt, who will celebrate his birthday next Tuesday. Mr Sharratt is a former United player who was on the books some 60 years ago. We wish him a very enjoyable return to Old Trafford.

VACANCY

Manchester United FC require a time served plumber/pipe fitter to join our maintenance staff. The person appointed will have a clean driving licence and must be experienced in industrial property maintenance. Those interested should send full CV to the Property Manager, Manchester United FC, Old Trafford, Manchester, M16 0RA.

FRONT COVER

Brian McClair scores the winner against Newcastle United in the FA Cup 5th Round at St James' Park.



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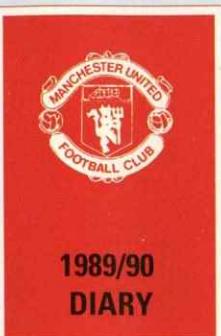
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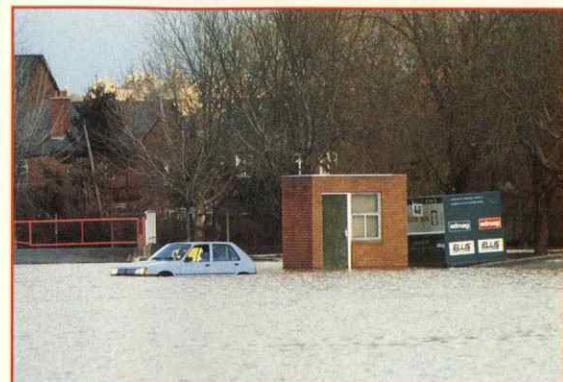
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WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE



United's recent cup-tie at Hereford was not without incident - and we do not mean just on the pitch either! Club officials arriving at the ground early on Sunday morning, were taken aback by the picturesque lake alongside the stadium. It was only when they noticed a forlorn looking 'Pay-and-Display' board in the centre of the lake that they realized that what they were looking at was actually the club car park - and we thought that we had trouble with surface water!

Members returning from the game also fell victim of the extreme weather conditions when the coach on which they were travelling struck a submerged object on one

of the many flooded stretches of road. Fortunately a tow truck from the Manchester Area was passing and within minutes the stricken coach was being hauled from the Herefordshire 'depths'.

A subsequent inspection revealed that it was impossible for the journey to be completed in Britain's newest amphibious transport and so a relief bus was summoned from Manchester to 'ferry' the stranded supporters back to 'port'.

Two weeks later, following an expensive refit the very same coach was back in service for the trip to Millwall.



Cheerful and in good spirits 'Members' Executive Coach No.2 set off for the excursion to London. Forty-minutes later on the southbound carriageway of the M6 a disturbing vibration began to transmit from beneath the vehicle's front end.



Had the spectre of Hereford returned to haunt the 'Coach 2' regulars? No, happily for everyone concerned, it was just a minor problem which was quickly and competently eradicated on the hard shoulder by Neil, Billy and Rene - Finglands own version of the Marx Brothers.

NEWS & VIEWS FROM OLD TRAFFORD

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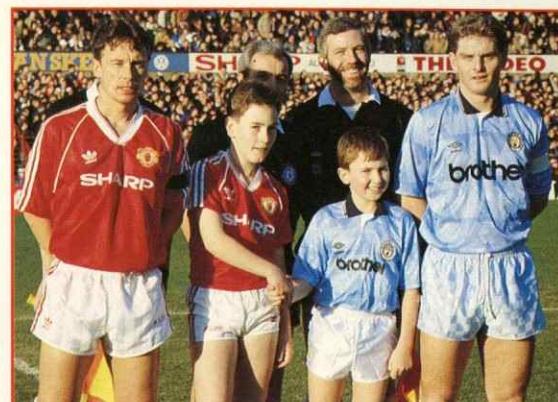
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RIVALS CAN BE FRIENDS



Conscious of the ill-feeling which does unfortunately exist between some factions of United and City supporters, we tried to lead by example in asking the Manchester Evening News to publicise and administer a competition whereby two young pals, who support the opposing teams, could spend the Derby Day at Old Trafford, leading out their favourites before

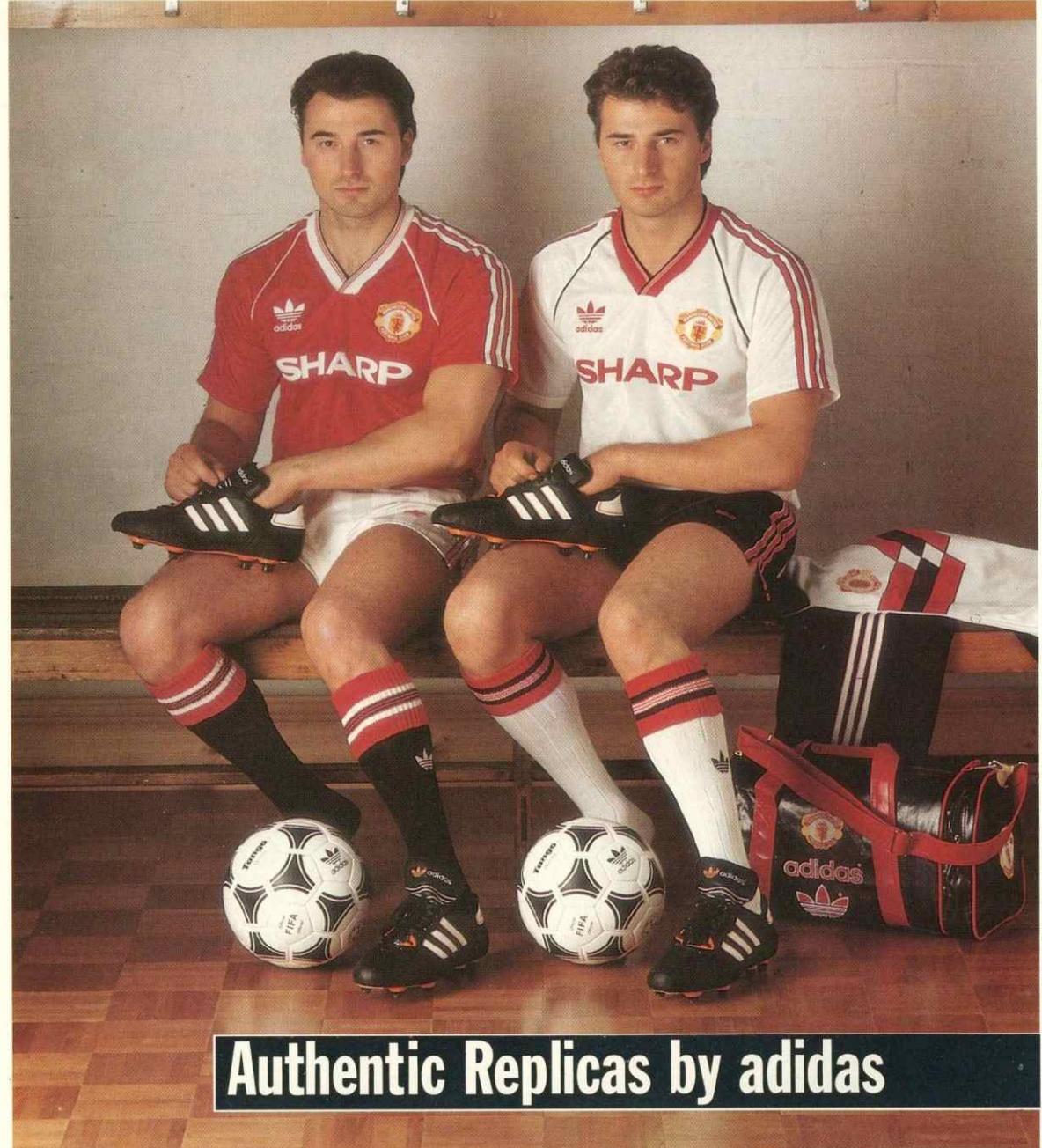
the match. Our photograph shows Paul Lee and Brendan Keane, who both had a super day with United. At the same time, we entertained six young fans from each club to lunch in the Sir Matt Busby Suite and then to seats together in the Family Stand and our picture shows them savouring the atmosphere before the game.

WORTHWHILE

A small step perhaps, and certainly insignificant in the light of the trouble which occurred in the city centre hours after the game had finished. Nevertheless, it was a worthwhile exercise and, for our part, we shall continue to hammer home the message to young fans that rivals **can** be friends.



NEWS & VIEWS FROM OLD TRAFFORD



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OLD BOYS' GALLERY

David Meek traces the career of Bobby Noble

Bobby Noble noted the arrival of Howard Kendall in Manchester with mixed feelings.

Not surprising really because when the two of them were at school, Howard broke Bobby's ankle and ruined his chances of becoming an England schoolboy international.

The Manchester City manager was on the opposite side in one of the final trials and Bobby's big rival for the right half berth.

"It was an accident of course, but the injury effectively stopped me competing with him for a place in the England team," explained Bobby.

Later they played together in the same England youth team, only with Noble now at full back and Howard the captain of the team at wing half.

"It was a good side. We won the mini-World Cup in Holland that season with David Sadler also in the team along with people like John Hollins and Don Rogers," he said.

Bobby arrived at Old Trafford from Broadway Secondary School in Cheadle. He had captained Stockport and Cheshire Boys, and but for Kendall would most probably have reached international level.

He certainly caught the eye of United's scouts and took to the professional life with ease. He quickly played his way through the junior teams to be made captain of the United eleven which won the FA Youth Cup season 1963-64.

It was another top-notch side featuring players like George Best, David Sadler, John Aston, Jimmy Rimmer, John Fitzpatrick and Willie Anderson.

Two years later he forced his way into the first team, making two League appearances towards the end of season 1965-66 as a promising left back. The following season United crashed 4-1 at Nottingham

Forest and he displaced Shay Brennan, playing at left back with Tony Dunne switched to the right flank.

He shared in a 2-1 win at Blackpool and held his place for 29 games to collect a League championship medal in what was basically his first year of senior football.

It was a remarkable achievement and only came to an end with a late night car crash following the team's return from a goalless draw at Sunderland.

The head and other injuries he received paled the broken ankle of his youth into insignificance, for they were to end his career.

"I stayed on at Old Trafford but eventually they had to let me go because I wasn't going to be able to play at that level again. I trained with Mossley and Buxton but the car crash was the end really," he said.

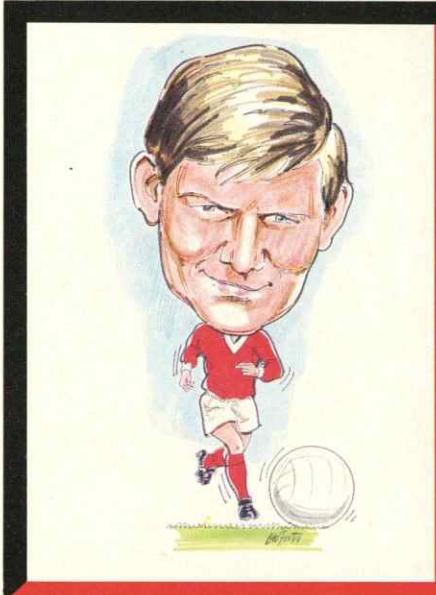
Bobby used to tackle like a snake, his striking in the tackle so quick and deadly. He had every chance of graduating to the full England side, and it is one of the tragedies of United that he was never able to play again.

He has lost count of the jobs he has had since then. His longest work was with a printing firm in Broadheath for five years. Now he works for Bonar Cooke Cartons near Old Trafford cricket ground.

He still lives locally in Fairlands Road, Sale. Now 44, he has four boys ranging from 16 to 22.

Football is full of irony. His Youth Cup and championship medals were the last to come to Old Trafford in both competitions.

Bobby has a modest job which I am sure brings him in only a fraction of what his peers earn today without being anywhere near winning the League Championship.





'DERBY' No. 112

UNITED . . . 1 CITY . . . 1

Clayton Blackmore puts United into a 70th minute lead with a diving header from Danny Wallace's cross. Sadly, our joy was short-lived, for three minutes later City's Ian Brightwell scored the equaliser with a spectacular long range shot.

THICK and THIN

BY DAVID ROWE



DAILY
Mirror Mirror
SUNDAY

THE TOP TEAM FOR SPORT
-in colour!

WHISTLING IN THE DARK

by Mike Dempsey



Steve Bruce returns to Old Trafford action today after a three-match suspension that was more the result of bad timing than any vicious assault during his last home match against Derby. The truth is that had he committed a similar foul the week before it would just about have rated, at most, a yellow card and a good ticking off. It was clumsy rather than malicious. Bruce was doubly unfortunate in that the offence came precisely at the time when referees had been issued with yet another get-tough epistle from the Football League.

Referees must now be whistling in the dark when it comes to coping with the on-off directives being launched by a football hierarchy that obviously cannot make its mind up whether it wants to get tough or not. Now if the Football League really wants to re-examine the roles of referees and do something constructive on behalf of the game and its followers, it would clearly need to start by tackling the twin problems of consistency and communication.

Let's recall that match against Derby. In one instance Viv Anderson was quite rightly penalised for stealing yards at a throw-in. Yet only minutes later Derby took a free kick from at least ten yards in advance of where it should have been without so much as a peep out of the referee. And then, to cap it all, United were hauled back for doing exactly the same thing.

The onus in all these instances is obviously down to the liaison between the referee and the linesmen. Sometimes, however, you get the impression that referees treat their linesmen with extremes. They are always right; or too often ignored.

There has been much talk in the game about players and referees getting together. How about officials getting together with themselves?

Another unwelcome aspect of the Bruce sending off was the part that Derby played in it, on and off the field. The fouled player went down as if never to rise again, yet he seemed as mobile as ever once he had recovered.

Meanwhile, on the sidelines, Derby people were leaping from the dug-out adding unnecessary extra heat to an already explosive situation.

It always astonishes me how far fellow professionals are prepared to go in order to make sure that opponents pay the fullest possible penalty for whatever foul they commit. The punishment for any offence is, surely, only ever the preserve of a referee.

This is not to say Bruce was innocent. It was a clumsy, calculated foul and had it happened the other way around doubtless it would have brought yelps of anger from United and a deluge of abuse from the fans. Nevertheless a referee must always resist any temptation to act under the influence of outsiders.

Would this punishment have been so severe had referees not that very weekend been instructed to apply stronger action where hitherto a word would have sufficed?

Would the Bruce sending off happened had the opposition not made such a song and dance about it?

Only the referee could answer that. Unfortunately the Football League has always frowned on referees who talk about controversial incidents. Which is another outdated petty restriction designed with total disregard for the paying customer. Why should fans be kept in the dark?

Why should those who fork out the bulk of football's money not be privy to information that their support entitles them?

Far from being discouraged, referees should be instructed by the Football League that it is the fans' right to know what goes

on and why; and that it is the duty of the referee to explain for the benefit of the paying public.

Soccer has for too long been obsessed with after-match secrecy and, sadly, it has always been so, I well remember an incident at Huddersfield in the long gone days when Town were pretty high fliers.

Around 40,000 had turned out on a freezing winter's day to watch a third round FA Cup-tie against Luton Town. With only a couple of minutes left and Luton in the lead by 1-0 a mighty roar erupted from the far end of the ground, which by then, was enveloped in fog.

This was followed by an even mightier round of boos and those of us in the dark suspected that the ball had been in the net for an equaliser, but disallowed.

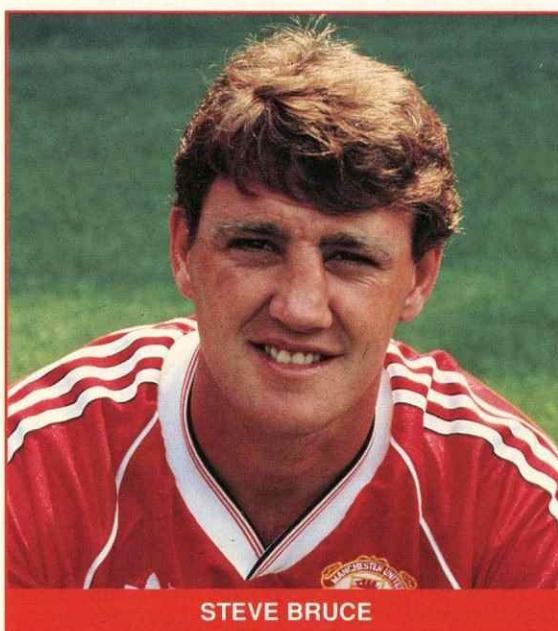
After the game a reporter was elected to discover what had happened because the incident had been outside the range of the Press Box. In the interests of accuracy and on behalf of thousands of fans who couldn't see, either, this was a perfectly reasonable inquiry.

The reporter knocked on the ref's dressing room door, announced himself and explained what he wanted. The ref confirmed that the ball had indeed been in the Luton net, but he had disallowed it.

The reporter then asked: "Why?" and the referee with an absurd display of pomposity, answered: "Because it wasn't a goal".

Just too bad if you had paid up, half seen a match because of fog and still been unable to get an explanation of an incident that had such a vital bearing on the outcome.

Things don't change much, do they? That referee, I recall, came from Darlington. So does the one who sent off Steve Bruce!



STEVE BRUCE



WELCOME TO LUTON TOWN



Back row (left to right): Jason Rees, Mick O'Brien, Alec Chamberlain, Graham Rodger, Les Sealey, Iain Dowie, John Dreyer, Richard Cooke.

Middle row: Les Shannon (Coach), John Faulkner (First Team Coach), Julian James, Marvin Johnson, Tim Allpress, Kurt Nogan, Sean Farrell, Darron McDonough, Richard Harvey, Paul Gray, Dave Galley (Physio), George Ley (Coach).

Front row: David Preece, Mick Kennedy, Danny Wilson (Captain), Jim Ryan (Manager), Tim Brecker, Kingsley Black, Lars Elstrup.

What a relief it was for Luton when they ran out 2-1 winners at Wimbledon last month. It was their first away win in the League for 13 months, ending a run of 21 trips without full points.

It was rather ironical, then, that their victory should have been witnessed by a mere 3,496 fans - the smallest attendance at any First Division match since the second world war.

New manager Jim Ryan now believes the Hatters can pull out of relegation trouble. He appreciated that the team needed to show a big improvement away from home if they were to have a chance to escape. And the Hatters have certainly shown a marked improvement in away form since he took charge in January.

For the first game, Mr Ryan had the daunting task of taking his side to Liverpool. But, at one stage, the Hatters led 2-1 and a final 2-2 draw was highly satisfactory. Then came that win at Wimbledon and, though a few days later, Luton lost at Charlton spirits are considerably higher at Kenilworth Road at the moment.

With four of their eight away points having been accumulated from their last three away games, confidence has been given a much needed boost. They had earlier collected away points from drawn games at QPR (0-0), Millwall (1-1), Crystal Palace (1-1) and Sheffield Wednesday (1-1).

Luton have been beaten at Tottenham (1-2), Coventry (0-1), Manchester City (1-3), Southampton (3-6), Arsenal (2-3), Everton (1-2) and Charlton (0-2).

They did win away to Third Division Mansfield (4-3) in the second round of the Littlewoods Cup and, by later winning the

return by 7-2 Kenilworth Road, they had a comfortable passage into the third round.

But they were then well beaten at Everton (0-3).

That result came as a bitter disappointment as Luton have reached the final for the past two seasons. In 1988 they pulled off a fine 3-2 victory over Arsenal at Wembley to win the club's first major trophy.

Last season they were beaten 1-3 by Nottingham Forest at Wembley.

Two days after conceding those six goals at Southampton, Luton crashed 1-4 at Crystal Palace in the second round of the Zenith Data Systems Cup. In the previous round they had won at Oxford (3-2).

They did not have any job in the FA Cup, either. The Hatters crashed 1-4 away to Second Division Brighton in the third round.

There have been many changes at Luton over the past year, at board room, administrative and playing levels. When former manager Ray Harford left in January, reserve-team coach Jim Ryan was appointed.

Earlier the Hatters had lost two key forwards. Roy Wegerle was sold to QPR for £1-million whilst England striker Mick Harford joined Derby for £480,000.

It is almost eight years since Luton returned to the First Division and this has proved to be the most successful period in their history, particularly as far as Cup football is concerned. The Hatters appeared in the semi-finals of the FA Cup in 1985 and 1988.

Our Visitors from Kenilworth Road

by Tony Pullein

Though in 100 years Luton had only once previously appeared at Wembley - for the 1959 FA Cup final - in 1988 they played at the national stadium on three occasions!

They qualified for the Football League Centenary weekend tournament and they battled their way to the final of the Simod Cup, only to be surprisingly beaten 1-4 by Reading. But Luton returned to Wembley in triumph to defeat Arsenal 3-2 in the Littlewoods Cup final.

They reached the final again a year later but, as mentioned, they were beaten by Nottingham Forest.

The club was formed in 1885 and was initially elected to the Second Division of the Football League in 1897. They lost their place three years later but returned to the League fold as founder members of the Third Division (South) in 1920.

They remained at that level until winning promotion to the Second Division in 1937 and it was in 1955 that they first tasted life in Division One. In 1959 they were beaten by Nottingham Forest in the FA Cup final.

That marked the start of a dramatic decline. Relegated from the First Division in 1960, Luton were a Fourth Division club five years later.

When they returned to Division One in 1974 Luton became the first club ever to drop from the First to the Fourth Division and then regain their place at the top.

Sadly, they survived for only one season but in 1982 they won promotion again and the Hatters have remained proud members of the First Division ever since.

The LUTON TOWN Squad

Alec Chamberlain (Goalkeeper) Alec was signed from Everton for £150,000 last season and took over in the Luton goal towards the end of the campaign. He was a reserve player at Ipswich but soon stepped into League soccer with Colchester after a transfer in 1982. Everton signed him for £75,000 in 1987 as cover but, after a loan spell with Tranmere last season, he moved on to Kenilworth Road.

Tim Breacker (Defender) Tim is a former Luton apprentice who got his League chance in 1984. Within a couple of years, he was in the England Under-21 side, winning two caps. Tim won a Littlewoods Cup Winners' tankard in 1988 and a runners-up award in the same final last season.

Julian James (Defender/Midfield) Julian joined the club as a trainee and he was introduced to First Division football two seasons ago, playing three times as substitute. After returning to the side in midweek this season, he later switched to defence.

John Dreyer (Defender) John was an apprentice with Oxford but played League soccer for both Torquay and Fulham, whilst on loan, during the 1985/86 season before getting his chance in the Oxford side the following season. Luton signed him for £140,000 in 1988.

Richard Harvey (Defender) Richard is a former England youth international. He made his League debut in 1986 and has been holding his place at left-back in recent weeks.

Marvin Johnson (Defender) Marvin is a former Luton apprentice who broke into the first-team for a few games in 1987/88. Last season he enjoyed a lengthy run at centre-back.

Paul Gray (Defender) Paul joined Luton as a trainee and he has been eased into their senior side this season, playing mostly as substitute.

Danny Wilson (Midfield) Danny played League football for Bury and Chesterfield before joining Nottingham Forest in a £100,000 deal in 1983. He spent a loan period with Scunthorpe, then made a full transfer to Brighton in 1984. Whilst with the Seagulls, Danny was introduced to the Northern Ireland side. He is now a regular for his country, with 16 caps. Luton signed him in 1987 and he scored at Wembley in their victory over Arsenal when in the 1988 Littlewoods Cup final.

Mick Kennedy (Midfield) Mick joined the Hatters a few days before the start of this season in an exchange deal. He broke into League soccer with Halifax in 1978, moving on to Huddersfield two years later. Middlesbrough signed him for £200,000 in 1982 but, two years later, he became a Portsmouth player. Bradford City signed him for £250,000 in 1987 but last season he moved on to Leicester, where he remained until his latest move. Mick has played for the Republic of Ireland on two occasions.

David Preece (Midfield) David made his League debut for Walsall in 1981, winning a regular place two years later. Luton invested £150,000 when signing him in 1984 and he later played in two Littlewoods Cup finals for the Hatters. Last season he was capped three times by England 'B'.

Steve Williams (Midfield) Steve made his name with Southampton and he played for England on six occasions during his eight seasons with the Saints. Arsenal signed him for £550,000 in 1984 and he moved on to Luton for £300,000 in 1988. In addition to his full caps, Steve also played for England at under-21 and 'B' levels.

Richard Cooke (Midfield) Though he played only occasionally in Tottenham's first-team, Richard played for England at youth and Under-21 levels. He really made his name, though, after moving to Bournemouth in 1986 and, it was after he had starred in the Cherries' exciting FA Cup run last season that Luton secured his transfer of £140,000.

Jason Rees (Midfield) Jason is an ex-trainee who made his First Division debut on New Years' Day as a substitute against Everton.

Kurt Nogan (Forward) Kurt is a former trainee who turned professional last July. He was a prolific scorer in the reserves and was elevated to the first team last month. On his debut, a 2-2 draw at Liverpool, he scored.

Iain Dowie (Forward) Iain was happy playing in non-League soccer with St Albans, Hertford, Cheshunt and Hendon until Luton invited him to join them for £30,000 in December 1988. He had scored 80 goals in 2½ seasons with Hendon. Iain celebrated his Luton debut with a goal against Crystal Palace in a Simod Cup tie last season.

Kingsley Black (Forward) Kingsley made a remarkable impact after being introduced to the Luton side two seasons ago. He starred in their Littlewoods Cup win at Wembley and, within weeks, was in the Northern Ireland side. He now has seven full international caps.

Lars Elstrup (Forward) Lars was signed from Odense for £650,000, with striker Raphael Meade also going as part of the deal, in August. He scored five times in his first two Littlewoods Cup games for the Hatters but he didn't get off the mark in the First Division until scoring in the 1-1 draw at Millwall just over a week ago. Lars has been capped by Denmark on 12 occasions.



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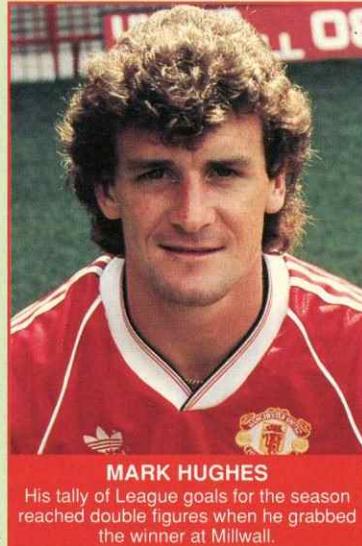
RING THE RED-HOT LINE

HALF TIME SCORES

A	Charlton Athletic v Norwich City
B	Liverpool v Millwall
C	Nottingham Forest v Man. City
D	QPR v Arsenal
E	Sheffield Wed. v Derby County
F	Southampton v Chelsea
G	Tottenham v Crystal Palace
H	Wimbledon v Everton
J	Blackburn v Wolverhampton
K	Brighton v Oldham Athletic

LOOKING BACK

Saturday March 5th, 1977
United were fourth in the table, seven points behind Liverpool - but we had two games in hand. Manchester City were immediately above us in the table, four points ahead of us. So there was everything at stake as 58,595 fans packed Old Trafford for the derby match with City. The crowd erupted as United scored twice, within a seven-minute period, mid-way through the opening half. Stuart Pearson and Gordon Hill were the heroes of the day. The match was ten minutes into the second-half when Steve Coppell hit a third to make victory almost certain. But City made a bid to get back into the game, Joe Royle scoring in the 62nd minute. United held out to win 3-1. With Liverpool winning 1-0 at home to Newcastle, the situation at the top remained the same.



MARK HUGHES

His tally of League goals for the season reached double figures when he grabbed the winner at Millwall.

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Saturday 3rd March 1990

TODAY'S TEAMS

UNITED

Red Shirts, White Shorts

Jim Leighton

1

Viv Anderson

2

Lee Martin

3

Steve Bruce

4

Mike Phelan

5

Gary Pallister

6

Mike Duxbury

7

Paul Ince

8

Brian McClair

9

Mark Hughes

10

Danny Wallace

11

12

14

LUTON TOWN

White Shirts, Blue Shorts

Alec Chamberlain

Tim Breacker

Richard Harvey

Mick Kennedy

Julian James

John Dreyer

Danny Wilson

Kurt Nogan

Iain Dowie

David Preece

Kingsley Black



‘David Meek has been acknowledged for many years as *the* authoritative sports writer with regard to **Manchester United FC.**’

Follow David Meek every night in the Manchester Evening News

MEMBERS TRAVEL NEWS

Coach bookings are now being taken for our next away game and the details are as follows:

Sheffield Wednesday - Wednesday 21st March - Kick-off 7.45 pm

Executive Coach £5.50

Luxury Coach £3.40

Departure Time 4.30 pm. Estimated Return Time to Old Trafford 11.30 pm. Travel arrangements for our FA Cup 6th Round tie will be announced via our 24 hour information line on 061 873 8303. For ticket and match information, please telephone 061 872 0199.

Members must be in possession of a match ticket before booking a place on the coach. All coaches depart from our Number 1 Car Park. Postal bookings are accepted by sending a SAE and a cheque or postal order made payable to Manchester United FC PLC, quoting your membership number.



LARS ELSTRUP

Previously with crack Dutch side Ajax Amsterdam, Lars, a Danish international, joined Luton in exchange for £650,000.

LOOKING BACK

Saturday March 5th, 1977

Luton were in a rather similar position in the Second Division. In fifth place, they trailed leaders Chelsea by five points but they had a game in hand.

The Hatters had a real promotion battle as Wolves - second in the table and four points above them - travelled to Kenilworth Road.

Backed by a crowd of 19,800, Luton also scored two quick goals. Jimmy Husband opened the scoring in the 35th minute and, within another 60 seconds, they were 2-0 up thanks to 'Lil' Fuccillo.

The score remained 2-0 with Luton rising to fourth place in the table.

FOLLOW UNITED HOME AND AWAY WITH TOM TYRRELL



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GOOD NEWS

by Cynthia Bateman of The Guardian

One of the best bits of news for United is that Neil Webb is up and running and looking forward to beginning to play again about the middle of March. It is bound to be a while before Neil is first team match fit, but he is optimistic and believes all the signs are good.

"I started running about three weeks ago and I haven't had any adverse reaction, so I am very pleased," he said. "Once you start running, you are over the psychological barrier. I do a different sort of running every day." But 20 laps of the training pitch at The Cliff is well within his capabilities now. "When you snap an Achilles," which is what he did in England's game against Sweden in September, "the running is the problem. I'm not worried about kicking a ball; it is getting the legs back into working order which is the priority."

Neil, 28, who comes from Reading and started his career at his home town club before moving to Portsmouth and then Nottingham Forest, came to Old Trafford in a £1.4 million move in the summer. But he played only four games for the club before the injury halted a promising start to the season in which he scored a goal on his Old Trafford debut.

It was a video recording of that 4-1 win over Arsenal that kept his spirits up during the first few weeks of his injury, when his leg was in plaster for six weeks and he was largely inactive. "I was awful to live with," he said. "I felt really sorry for myself. It hit me hard for the first

couple of weeks, but I knew I had to snap out of it. My wife had to do everything for me, as well as look after our three-year-old son Luke and our two retrievers.

"We were in rented accommodation at the time, which made it worse. But we are settled in the area now.

"It was two months before I was able to start any sort of exercise. First of all I began swimming, and then top half weight exercise for my stomach and arms." The next step was cycling, but the real spurt back to fitness came with a family holiday on the Caribbean island of St Lucia where the sunshine and the relaxation, said Neil, worked wonders.

"I came back raring to go," he said. And once I found I was running with no adverse effect, then my confidence started to build up."

He says he couldn't really say whether it was more frustrating not being able to play and help out United when they were losing league games or not taking part when they were doing well in Cup ties. "It is just frustrating all the time," he said. "Even watching the juniors or the reserves is frustrating. I just want to get my boots on and get out there."

Neil was the 1,000th player capped for England when he went on as substitute against West Germany in September 1987. He replaced England's playmaker

Glenn Hoddle on that occasion, and since then has established himself as a cultured and stylish midfielder on the international scene.

But he has only three months to get himself fully fit before the World Cup finals in Italy. He joined the England squad's get together in Lilleshall last month and says: "Bobby Robson has been very good to me. But my priority is to get back playing for United. I can't think about playing for England, until I'm back wearing a Red shirt regularly."



Neil Webb scores on his debut against Arsenal.

JUNIOR MEMBERS' PRIZE WINNERS... NEWS... VIEWS... COMMENTS & CONTRIBUTIONS

Little Devil's Christmas Special Competition Winners

Well kids, here's the moment you have all been waiting for! Here we go with the list of prize winners for Competitions 1, 3, 4 and 5.

Competition 1 - Who's Santa

This one fooled a lot of you, with most of the answers being Gary Pallister when in fact Lee Sharpe was dressed up as Father Christmas.

Michael Marsh from Blackpool was the first correct entry pulled out of the hat and wins an autographed football signed by the first team squad. The following 9 runners-up will receive a Manchester United Football Annual:

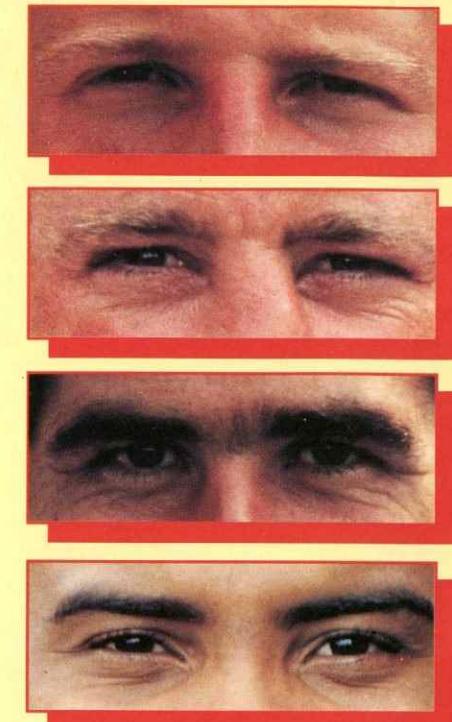
Fiona Neligan, Exeter	Jamie Dickinson, Worsley,
Darren Mogg, Yeovil	Manchester
John Dowding, Morpeth	Leon Noel, Warrington
Richard Owens, Hull	Tommy Tansoe, Norway
Jamie Fitzpatrick, Stockport	David Kingsnorth, St Ives



Competition 3 - Who Am 'Eye'?

The four players are Lee Martin, Neil Webb, Steve Bruce and Danny Wallace. The following will receive a 1989-90 Panini Yearbook:

Claire Battersby, Stalybridge, Cheshire	Sarah Kershaw, Little Lever, Bolton
Robert Kenworthy, Dakinfield, Cheshire	Richard Sinclair, Worsley, Manchester
Daniel Hough, Shrewsbury	Simon Mellor, Sale
Richard Gledhill, Blackburn	Sharon Finney, St Helens
David Fitzgerald, Adare, Ireland	Tommy Tansoe, Norway
Svein Pedersen, Norway	David Bird, Abergavenny
Stewart Brotherston, Sandbach, Cheshire	Graham Edwards, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan
Andrew Brown, Huddersfield	Steven Brown, Longsight, Manchester
Andrew Broadhead, Cheadle	David Kingsnorth, St Ives, Cornwall
Danny Moulding, North Lancing, West Sussex	David Cutler, Wimborne, Dorset
Clive Lawrence, Tamworth, Staffs	Andrew Bennett, Huntingdon, Cambs
John Toner, Magerafelt, Ireland	Paul Hughes, Barnsley
Kapil Vaswari, Bushey Heath, Herts	Iain Finney, St Helens
Stewart Bettinson, Wellington, Somerset	Salim Patel, Dewsbury



Michael Wymer, Rotherham

Terry Bennett, Huntingdon, Cambs

Lindsay Hindle, Eccles

David Grimes, Tyldesley, Manchester

Paul McGinn, Belfast

John Doherty, Co Donegal, Ireland

Nicola Wymer, Rotherham

Shane Dunne, Co Laois, Ireland

Gavin Price, Mid Glamorgan

Zuber Patel, Dewsbury

Mark Croft, Blackpool

Sajid Patel, Bolton

Paul Martin, Middleton, Manchester

Michael Marsh, Blackpool

Thomas Kemp, Nantwich

John Whyte, Warrington

Robert Horan, Stockport

Steven Hodge, Shepperton, Middlesex

Andrew Spencer, Morecambe

John Colburn, Salford

Dean Bailey, Rugeley, Staffs

Mark Leighfield, Swindon

D Penny, Redford, Notts

Carmel Stenson, Birmingham

Idris Patel, Dewsbury

Martin Down, Chorley

Gavin Brotherston, Sandbach

Christopher Connor, Wakefield

Anthony Quint, Swansea

Christopher Houghton, Ancoats, Manchester

John Williams, Mold

Darren Hogg, Yeovil

Jamie Dickinson, Worsley, Manchester

Andrew Dickinson, Worsley, Manchester

Martin Oldham, Huddersfield

Amanda Parnall, Wigan

Sam Rowe, Seaton, Devon

John Finucane, Belfast

Leigh Hill, Newton-le-Willows

Chris Haynes, Glossop

Simon Oakendon, Newport, Gwent

Dale Ankers, Broughton, Nr Chester

Ian Leather, Bolton

Andrew Lowe, Poynton, Nr Stockport

Competition 4 - Question Time

The answers to the 15 questions on United are as follows:
1 United's nickname is 'The Red Devils'.

2 The Club was formed in 1878 under the name of 'Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Newton Heath'.

3 1909 was the first year we won the FA Cup.

4 Tommy Taylor's transfer fee from Barnsley was £29,999.

5 Brian McClair has the nickname 'Choccy'.

6 Paul Ince was signed from West Ham United.

7 We last won the championship in 1967.

8 Juventus beat United in the semi-finals of the European Cup Winners Cup in 1984.

9 Brian McClair scored 31 league and cup goals in season 1987-88.

10 Chris Turner was transferred to Sheffield Wednesday in September 1988.

11 Nobby Stiles joined the coaching staff in the close season.

12 Steve Bruce played for Gillingham and Norwich before joining United.

13 United reached the final of the Milk Cup in 1983.

14 Mike Phelan joined United from Norwich.

15 Tony Adams (own goal) scored United's goal against Arsenal on 2nd April 1989.

David O'Sullivan from Fleetwood was the first drawn out of the hat and wins a year's free subscriptions of the Match Magazine. Consolation prizes of Match 1990 Football Yearbooks go to the following:

Paul Stone, Worsley, Manchester	Stewart Brotherston, Sandbach
Gavin Brotherstone, Sandbach	Svein Pedersen, Norway
Mark Croft, Blackpool	James Pluck Jnr, Dublin
Michael Wymer, Rotherham	Darren Mogg, Yeovil
Gareth Powell, Gwent	Padraig Dooley, Co Cork, Ireland
Stuart Hill, Nottingham	James Taylor, Crawford, Kent
David Harley, Sale	Gary Hindle, Oswaldtwistle, Lancs
Steven Branigan, Bury	Sharon Atkinson, Lowton, Nr Warrington
Anita Corns, Salford	Ian Leather, Bolton
Susie Brown, Norwich	Michael Marsh, Blackpool
Jamie Davies, Moston, Manchester	Anita Corns, Salford
Ryan Jackson, Cleveland	Susie Brown, Norwich

Competition 5 - Connections

The correct answer, as so many of you rightly guessed, is Mike Phelan. Ian Leather from Bolton was the first lucky winner drawn out of the hat and wins 'Manchester United - The Inside Story' video and two consolation prizes of a selection of souvenirs go to Robert Kenworthy from Dukinfield, Cheshire and John Dowding from Morpeth.

You might be wondering what has happened to competitions 2 and 6. We decided to keep you in suspense a little longer - so read the next programme to see who has won the Sharp colour portable TV in the 'Why I Support United' competition and who will lead the team out as mascot at one of our home games by designing a Kit For the Year 2000 - IT COULD BE YOU!

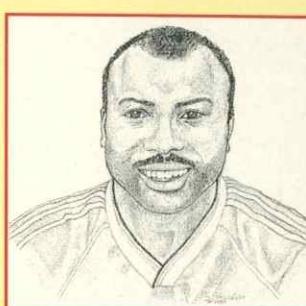
There's no need to claim your prizes, they will be sent to you by post.

Congratulations to all our winners and if you didn't win a prize, never mind there's still two competitions to go (or if not there's always next year!)

Junior Views

Star Prize this time goes to 15 year old David Holcroft from Winwick, Warrington for his superb drawing of Danny Wallace which he tells us took him hours to do.

Incidentally, David, Danny thinks it's a great drawing and for your efforts you will be receiving a copy of 'The Inside Story' video, which seems to be a popular prize amongst our previous winners.



Billy's Boots
Billy was a brilliant footballer because he had a pair of magic football boots. They grew when his feet grew and made him play brilliant. One day when Billy was playing the street, he accidentally kicked the ball through Mr Wilson's window. As you can guess, Mr Wilson was very angry. Billy's school was beaten 3-0 and Billy played terribly. He played terribly because he couldn't find his boots. That night he went round to apologise to Mr Wilson. When he knocked on the door, Mr Wilson came out with his boots! He had taken them to get them repaired. Now Billy had them and felt great. He scored a hat-trick for the school in their next match. by Colin Warren

Birthday Wishes

Happy birthday to Anthony O'Brien who was 15 on 26th February. Best wishes are sent from Mum, Dad, Lee, Lisa and Carlie. Belated birthday greetings to Ian Marshall from Chadderton, Oldham who was 10 on 11th February. Ian is a LMTB holder in the Family Stand and best wishes come from Mum, Dad and Jacqueline.

Happy birthday to Ian Leather from Great Lever, Bolton who became a teenager on 16th February. Best wishes come from Mum, Dad and Sharon.

Happy birthday to David Jones from Wythenshawe who was 9 years old on 23rd February. Best wishes are sent from Mum, Dad, Anthony and Laura.

Happy birthday to Jenny Neville from Lytham St Anne's who will be 12 on 11th March. Best wishes come from Mum, Dad and Kenneth.

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

Monday 5th March 1990

FA YOUTH CUP - FIFTH ROUND

UNITED YOUTH v LEICESTER CITY YOUTH

at Old Trafford Kick-off 7.00 pm



Marcus Brameld scores from the penalty spot against Blackburn Rovers 'B'.

Tuesday 6th March 1990

PONTIN'S LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

UNITED RESERVES v NOTTINGHAM FOREST RES.

at Old Trafford Kick-off 7.00 pm

POCKET DYNAMOES

Our juniors are just ninety-minutes away from making their 16th appearance in the semi-final of the FA Youth Cup.

A last-eight tie with Leicester City at Old Trafford now awaits our lads, and they really couldn't ask for much more than home advantage in the last round before the contest moves into the two-leg formula for the semi-final and final.

Our ticket to the quarter-final was booked with a marvellous win over Sheffield Wednesday in front of a 1,017 crowd.

Wednesday invariably have a team of young giants representing them and this latest crop were from the very same mould.

Robust and physically stronger they may have been, but they didn't have an answer to United's set of 'pocket-dynamoes'.

Adrian Doherty, a youngster from Belfast, was the most eye-catching starlet of the United team on an evening when they all did us proud.

Doherty's nippy, direct wing play left Wednesday in turmoil time and time again, and they knew what he was about from the 9th minute when he beautifully chipped a shot over there keeper only to see his effort strike the bar.

'Doc' was a perpetual thorn in Wednesday's side and two minutes after the break his sorcery on the right-wing coupled with an inch-perfect cross set-up Colin McKee to head United back into the lead.

Earlier, in the 17th minute of the game, 'mighty-stom' Lee Costa had put United in front with a shot just inside the post. It was Costa's 4th goal in this season's competition and preserved his record of having scored in each round. On the half-hour United lost Paul Sixsmith through injury following an opponent's rather overzealous challenge.

Sixsmith's departure temporarily upset United's rhythm and six minutes before the interval Wednesday equalised through Richard Holmshaw.

It was at this point that Doherty took over, firstly with his afore-mentioned contribution and in the 56th minute when his low shot beat Owls' keeper Daren Bekisz to put United 3-1 up. United were comfortably in charge from then on as they headed for a place in the last-eight.

FA YOUTH CUP - Fourth Round

Thursday 8th February

UNITED YOUTH 3, SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY YOUTH 1
Bosnich, McReavie, McAuley, Sharples, Lydiate, Sixsmith, Doherty, Costa, McKee, Taylor, Wilson R.Substitutes: Shields (not used), Gordon (for Sixsmith).
Scorers: Costa, McKee, Doherty.

Andy Rammell shoots for goal against Manchester City 'A' at Platt Lane.

Wednesday 14th March 1990

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

UNITED v EVERTON

at Old Trafford Kick-off 8.00 pm

*Subject to there being no FA Cup replay



RESERVES & JUNIORS

by Cliff Butler

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

Saturday 10th February

UNITED 'A' 0, UMIST 0

Pollitt, McAuley, Gibson, Sharples, Carey, Doherty, McKee, Bullimore, Rammell, Maiorana, Wilson R.
Substitutes: Costs (not used), Switzer (for Maiorana).

Saturday 17th February

MANCHESTER CITY 'A' 2, UNITED 'A' 2

Pollitt, Costa, Gibson, Lydiate, Carey, Wilson D., Doherty, McGuinness, Rammell, Graham, Bullimore.
Substitutes: McAuley (not used), Wilson R. (for Bullimore).
Scorers: Gibson, Graham.

Saturday 24th February

UNITED 'A' 2, MANCHESTER CITY 'A' 2

Pollitt, Tonge, Gibson, Brazil, Lydiate, Wilson D., Doherty, Bullimore, Carey, Rammell, Maiorana.
Substitutes: Costa (not used), McAuley (not used).
Scorer: Rammell 2.

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

Saturday 3rd February

UNITED 'B' 1, BLACKBURN ROVERS 'B' 2

Stanger, McReavie, Potts, Shields, Sharples, Gordon, Smyth, Gough, Noone, Brameld, Gray.
Substitutes: Bates (for Noone), Davies (for Gough).
Scorer: Brameld pen.

Saturday 10th February

UNITED 'B' 1, OLDHAM ATHLETIC 'A' 1

Wilkinson, Gordon, Potts, Shields, McReavie, Gough, Brameld, Davies, Ferguson J., Noone, Gray.
Substitute: Bossons (not used).
Scorer: Brameld pen.

Saturday 17th February

CREWE ALEXANDRA 'B' 2, UNITED 'B' 0

Wilkinson, Gordon, Potts, Shields, McReavie, Davies, Gough, Renton, McKee, Taylor, Switzer.
Substitutes: Gray (for Shields), Noone (for McKee).

Saturday 24th February

UNITED 'B' 1, BURY 'A' 1

Wilkinson, Taylor L., Potts, McReavie, Shields, Gough, Gordon, Davies, McKee, Taylor G., Wilson R.
Substitutes: Noone (for McKee), Switzer (for Taylor L.).
Scorer: Switzer.

ON-FORM

United Reserves are breathing down Liverpool's neck in the race for this season's Pontin's League Division One title. The 'on-form' Reds have certainly got the scent of success in their nostrils having stretched their unbeaten run to ten games with a draw at Notts County two weeks ago.

In was in fact, the closest they had come to defeat in months, only snatching a point in the last minute with Paul Ince shooting home from a Wayne Bullimore corner. It was the very least they deserved after spending virtually all the second half on the offensive.

This draw followed two convincing victories over Everton at Goodison Park and Leicester City at Old Trafford.

First half goals from Andy Rammell and Deiniol Graham clinched the points on Merseyside whilst it was Mark Robins who returned to the goal trail against Leicester. He scored two goals, Tony 'Jesse' James - own-goal - go the other, as United romped to a 3-0 win.

All good things, however, come to an end, and in the case of our Reserves it happened against Blackburn Rovers at Old Trafford, ten days ago.

Our unbeaten run of ten games without defeat was terminated by a Rovers side which thoroughly deserved their success.

United fielded a side packed with experienced players, but it was the 'lesser-lights' from Ewood Park who shone brighter.

A first half goal from Jason Wilcox and one after the break from Lennie Johnrose were enough to win the match and prevent United from gaining any further ground on leaders Liverpool.

PONTIN'S LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

Saturday 3rd February

EVERTON RESERVES 1, UNITED RESERVES 2

Crossley, Brazil, Carey, Lydiate, McAuley, Wilson D., Bullimore, McGuinness, Graham, Rammell, Maiorana.

Substitutes: Doherty (not used), Sixsmith (for Bullimore).

Scorers: Graham, Rammell.

Tuesday 6th February

UNITED RESERVES 3, LEICESTER CITY RESERVES 0

Crossley, Duxbury, Brazil, Carey, Beardsmore, Graham, Wilson D., Bullimore, Maiorana, Rammell, Robins.

Substitutes: Shields (not used), Smyth (not used).

Scorers: Robins 2, James o.g.

Wednesday 14th February

NOTTS COUNTY RESERVES 1, UNITED RESERVES 1

Bosnich, Brazil, Ince, Carey, Bruce, Wilson D., McGuinness, Rammell, Graham, Bullimore, Maiorana.

Substitutes: McAuley (for McGuinness), Lydiate (not used).

Scorer: Ince.

Tuesday 20th February

UNITED RESERVES 0, BLACKBURN ROVERS RESERVES 2

Bosnich, Beardsmore, Brazil, Donaghy, Gibson, McGuinness, Milne, Ince, Graham, Rammell, Maiorana.

Substitutes: Carey (not used), Wilson (not used).

Scorer: Ince.

Wednesday 21st February

UNITED RESERVES 1, SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY RESERVES 1

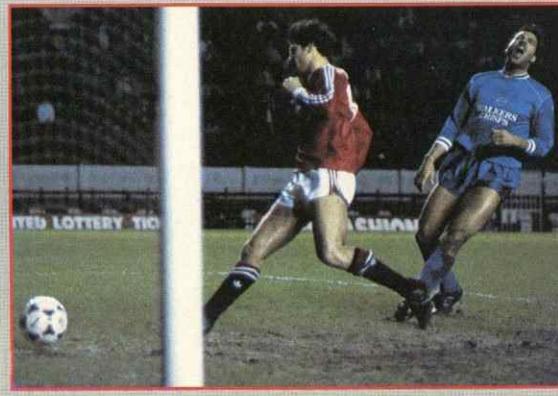
Bosnich, Brazil, Ince, Carey, Bruce, Wilson D., McGuinness, Rammell, Graham, Bullimore, Maiorana.

Substitutes: Carey (not used), Wilson (not used).

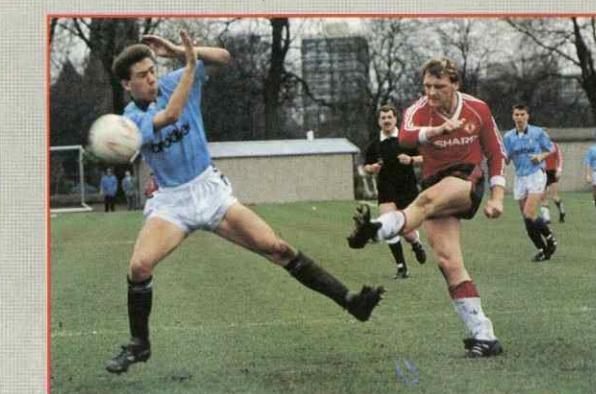
Scorer: Ince.



Colin McKee heads United's second goal in the FA Youth Cup-tie against Sheffield Wednesday.



Leicester City's Tony James (blue shirt) puts through his own goal in the recent Pontin's League game at Old Trafford.



Andy Rammell shoots for goal against Manchester City 'A' at Platt Lane.



Action EXTRA

Chelsea's Kenneth Monkou watches as Mark Hughes heads wide at Stamford Bridge last Saturday.

'Sparky' scores the winner against Millwall at The Den to chalk up his tenth goal of the season.



INTO THE LION'S DEN

by Stephen Kelly



On the Saturday morning of May 5th 1934 Manchester United travelled to Millwall for the final game of the season painfully aware that nothing short of victory could save them from the Third Division North. They were facing one of the most crucial matches in their history with most pundits having already written off their chances of remaining in the Second Division. The Manchester Evening News reckoned they were already doomed. They stood next to bottom on 32 points. Below them and already relegated were Lincoln while Millwall were just above them on 33 points. If United won then Millwall would be relegated. The fixture compilers had somehow contrived an end-of-season epic of nerve-wracking proportions.

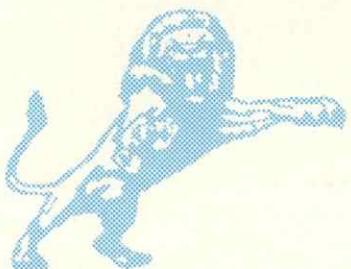
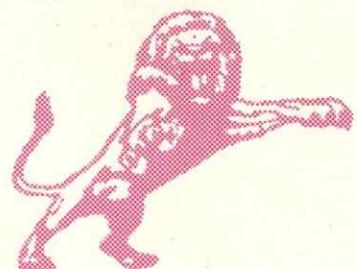
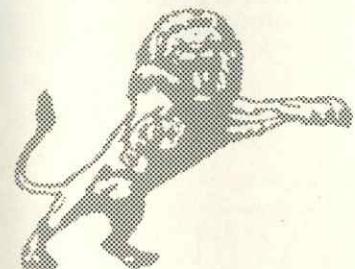
Millwall had drawn at Old Trafford earlier in the season and boasted a fairly useful home record for a club facing relegation. United on the other hand had not travelled well that season losing thirteen games away from their beloved Old Trafford. Yet as the season wound to its conclusion they had strung together a run that had seen them lose only one of their last six matches. Much of this latter success had been due to four new signings made as the club desperately delved into the transfer market to dig themselves out of trouble. Bill McKay, a Scottish wing half and fullback John Griffiths had arrived from Bolton while another half-back Robertson came from Stoke and the one time England goalkeeper

Jack Hacking was signed from Oldham Athletic. All four lined up against Millwall.

The clash attracted the biggest crowd of the day with 35,000 squeezed into The Den. United showed just a couple of changes with George Vose pulling on the number five shirt after an absence of two months and Hughie McLennan and Tommy Manley preferred up front. They were to be crucial changes that would alter the course of United's history.

Millwall began with a flourish and for a time it looked as if the pundits might be right and United bound for the Third Division but then with eight minutes gone and against the run of play Manley fed a useful pass to Cape out on the left wing. The pint-sized winger seized his chance and pushing the ball down the flank chased it into open space before returning a centre for Manley to slam into the back of the net.

It marked the turning point as Millwall's spirit evaporated and United suddenly rediscovered their confidence. At half time the score remained 1-0 but within two minutes of the restart Cape had added another. There was no way back for Millwall now and United clung comfortably to their lead. As the final whistle blew United's travelling band of supporters swarmed on to the pitch and more than 3,000 of them turned up at Central Station later that night to welcome their heroes home. It was as if they had just won the cup, reported the Evening News. But then that is typical of United supporters - loyal to the end.



THE FAMILY GAME

More and more clubs are providing modern facilities to enable families to watch and enjoy our national game in safety and comfort.

Family stands and enclosures are a common feature of League grounds and form part of a major programme to improve football stadia throughout the United Kingdom. This season will see further projects including new and better toilet facilities, especially for female fans, the provision of seating in existing covered areas and improved accommodation for supporters with disabilities.

The Football Grounds Improvement Trust is responsible for all these measures. Each year it receives half of the £9.5 million donated by Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters from their Spotting-the-Ball competition and spends it on schemes to improve standards at League grounds in Britain.



MEAN REDS - WE THINK NOT!

Mr Paul Lazenby, an avid United supporter from Denton, sent the following letter:

"I have been a United supporter now for over 30 years. I have followed United all over. At present, I have a League Match Ticket Book in the Family Stand and attend with my son, who is nearly 14. I was appalled to read an article in the Manchester Evening News about the Amanda Turner Scanner Appeal. Amanda Turner, who is 21 years old, has only 6 months to live and she is trying to raise 1 million pounds before she dies, for a Cancer Scanner for Tameside Hospital. She has had money donated from everywhere, including collections, sponsors, Charities, etc - and then I read that United are donating 2 ball point pens to a football charity match which is in aid of the appeal. Lots of my friends who also watch United, could not believe how meagre this was."

Even City have donated a signed football. So come you Reds, surely you can do better than this. I have enclosed the Article in the Manchester Evening News. Many Thanks".

"We are sure that many other United fans shared Mr Lazenby's concern after reading the Manchester Evening News. However, had the journalist concerned taken the trouble to check his facts with the club, he would have learnt that the club have already made a number of donations to various people organising fund raising events for this very worthwhile cause. For the record, the Evening News did add a footnote to one of their stories a week later, correcting the erroneous information given earlier but as is often the case with such corrections, it lacked the eye-catching headline of their first story!"

NEWS & VIEWS FROM OLD TRAFFORD

MEMBERSHIP & SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

Oldham Branch

Membership of our newly formed Oldham Branch is absolutely booming and we wouldn't be too surprised if they became one of our largest branches before the Season ends. It costs only £1.50 for adults and 75 pence for juniors to join the Branch. If you live in this area and are interested in joining the Branch, please contact Egan Wild on 678 0034 or Graham Horton on 633 9278. For information regarding travel arrangements, please contact Steve Gibson on 620 1452.

Next Trip

This Thursday we travel up to Scotland when we meet with our Scottish supporters to discuss the possibility of forming our first branch in Bonnie Scotland. This informal meeting will take place at The Kelvin Park Lorne Hotel, 923 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, commencing at 7.30 pm. If you require any further information on this meeting, or indeed any other branch, please contact Barry Moorhouse or Mike Maxfield on 061 872 5208.

Hereford Branch

Whilst on branches, we thought we would tell you about the amazing achievements of one of the Hereford Branch members, William Eytton.

William is a disabled young man and has been competing in the Stoke Mandeville Games since 1970 and also the Bristol, Port Talbot and Cheltenham games. The medals and trophies he has won are well in excess of 100 for his efforts in the track and field events, including 60 metres run, 100 metres walk, lawn darts, obstacle race and bomber darts.

William, pictured here with just some of his trophies, is a quiet but popular member of the branch and his hobbies apart from his sporting activities, are watching United of course, playing skittles and listening to country and western music.



Glyncorrwg Branch

Branch Secretary Ian Jones has changed his address and the details are as follows: 2 Cavell Street, Glyncorrwg, Port Talbot Tel: 0639 850300

Sad News

Bridgwater & South West Branch

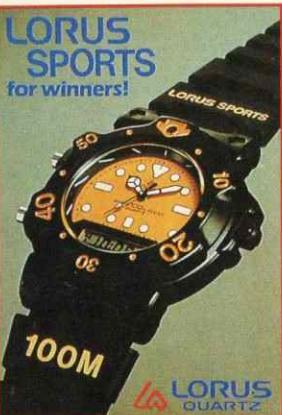
Gordon Fisher, who has been the Branch Treasurer for many years, sadly passed away on 2nd February. Our condolences go to Gordon's family at this very sad time. Gordon will be sadly missed by all members of the Bridgwater & District Branch.

Birthday Wishes

Happy birthday to Lindsay Higgin from Radcliffe, Manchester who was 17 on 21st February. Lindsay's favourite player is Bryan Robson and best wishes are sent from Mum, Dad and sister Becky and your friend Clare McClean.

Belated birthday wishes to Richard Bryant from Calver, Derbyshire who celebrated his 17th birthday on 4th February. Best wishes are sent from all the family.

Life begins again for Sue Humphries from Wilmslow who celebrates her 40th birthday on Wednesday. Best wishes are sent from your son, daughter and husband John.



Members Watch Competition

Clayton Blackmore's goal against Manchester City on Saturday 3rd February was timed at 69 minutes 47 seconds, and Daniel Horton from Harlow, Essex, was definitely the closest with his prediction of 69 minutes 35 seconds.

This free competition is open to members only and all you have to do is tell us the time the first goal was scored by either team in our next home match. In the event of a goalless draw, the first corner will be timed. The winner will be the member who has made the closest prediction.

In the event of there being more than one correct answer, a draw will be made. The decision of our timekeeper will be published in our next Review. Entries can be made by post up to and including first post on the day of the match, or members can drop their entry in at the Membership Office **at least 30 minutes before kick-off**.

'Branching Out'

This is the third in the series of our feature on membership branches this time it's the turn of Norman Elliss from our Hereford Branch relating their involvement in the 'big build up' to the FA Cup tie with Hereford United.

'Local papers and BBC Hereford & Worcester have covered the excitement of United coming to Hereford very extensively and we, the local Hereford Branch were invited to press and radio interviews, etc to give our opinions on why we support the greatest Club in the world and not our local team - this led to some obvious teasing but I'm proud to say that our members and myself have represented MUFC with distinction in these turbulent times.'

'We competed in a Sports Quiz on BBC Hereford & Worcester Radio against Hereford United supporters club and won the match by 3 points to 33. We received a trophy donated by the BBC and local shops donated gift vouchers to the value of £15.00. Needless to say we enjoyed the evening very much'.

Best United Team of the 80s

We recently received a letter from member Gary Neile from Stanwix Carlisle who suggests that United's best team over the past 10 years is as follows:

1	BAILEY		
2	DUXBURY	5	McGRATH
4	WILKINS	7	ROBSON
8	COPPELL	9	STAPLETON
			WHITESIDE
			ALBISTON
			11
			HUGHES

Do you agree with Gary's choice or do you have other ideas? Why not let us know by writing to: 'Best United Team of the 80s', MUFC Membership Office, Old Trafford, Manchester M16 0RA. Please quote your name, address and membership number.

MEMBERS' COMPETITION PAGE



Correctly identify the current United personality and you can win a super Sharp Personal Stereo.

COMPETITION OPEN TO MEMBERS ONLY

The winner will be the first correct entry opened after the next First Team home game. Make sure your entry is received at least one day before that match, otherwise it won't be considered for the competition.

Last week's personality was
COLIN GIBSON



United v / 90
To: Pauline Temple
Manchester United Football Club, Old Trafford, Manchester M16 0RA

The photo shows:.....

NAME..... MEMBERSHIP No.....

ADDRESS.....

PHONE No.....

SHARP

MEMBERSHIP & SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

Opinions

In our last programme we mentioned our involvement in the Ladies Football Team and it was quite coincidental that a recent 'World in Action' television programme highlighted the importance of women in soccer whether it be playing football or indeed as a spectator. It was suggested that if more females actively participated or watched the game, it may eventually eradicate ground violence, reduce foul language and bring a family atmosphere to the game.

The programme also interviewed a number of male supporters who were all of the same opinion that football is a man's game and football grounds are places whereby they 'let off steam'. Apparently this country falls way behind many other countries for female involvement in the game, with the USA being the front runner with more than 3 million women playing football.

What do you think? - Is there a place for women in football or do you think it's a man's game? Why not write and let us know what your view of this subject or indeed you can write to us on any topic based on football to: 'Opinions', MUFC, Membership Office, Football Ground, Old Trafford, Manchester M16 0RA.

We must point out that although this feature can obviously be read by all supporters, we can only accept contributions from Club member, therefore, we would ask you to quote your membership number, together with your name and address.

It is also to be noted that these are your views and not necessarily those of the Club.

Members Quiz

Last Tuesday we held a Football Quiz in the Trafford Suite with all questions based on football played in the last decade. 38 teams of 4 competed in the quiz and the winners will be published in the next programme.

Influence 5-a-Side football

You may be aware that as well as an open-age competition, we have introduced the junior competitions who will all play for the Influence Cups which have been kindly donated by competition sponsors Kumar Bros. We are now reaching the interesting stages of the competition, the quarter-finals and semi-finals, with one of the finals being played before our game versus Aston Villa on 17th April and the other two finals on Saturday 5th May before our game versus Charlton Athletic.

Player of the Year

We now have the mid-season voting for this season's Player of the Year and tying in joint first place is Bryan Robson and Mark Hughes, closely followed by Gary Pallister.

Details of your second and final vote will be published on this page on Saturday 31st March when we meet Coventry. The Player of the Year will be determined by the aggregate votes cast and he will be presented with his trophy on the day of our home game versus Charlton Athletic by one of the members who voted for him.



Girls v Boys

When Mike Maxfield from our Membership Office visited Kingsway Primary School in Davyhulme, the girls told him that they thought they were better footballers than the boys. A challenge match was arranged with Nobby Stiles refereeing the contest. Our pictures show the two teams shortly before the action commenced.

The boys narrowly beat the girls but everyone had a great afternoon.





With Sharp involved in your business, your goals could be just as spectacular.

SHARP

FOR PEOPLE WHO MEAN BUSINESS

