

VILLA

Saturday 10th March 1990
BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

ASTON VILLA v
LUTON TOWN



BARCLAYS
LEAGUE



VILLA-MITA £1M DEAL
See Inside...

ASTON VILLA NEWS & RECORD - OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE PRICE £1



Kevin Gage, that man of many parts, is always anxious to get on with the game. Here he takes a quick throw-in to help Villa into attack. Kevin has played defence and midfield and has also knocked in a couple of stunning goals to prove his all-round worth. "He's a better player than he even realises himself," says Graham Taylor.



GRAHAM TAYLOR

Supporters will be well aware that today's fixture was originally postponed because of our FA Cup sixth round commitment and then reinstated because of the delay in Everton and Oldham deciding their fifth round tie.

It is not unusual for fixture changes of this sort to take place when the issues are being sorted out and I can only say that we are glad to be part of such uncertainties.

Fact is that, after seven-months of a busy programme, we are still closely involved in the two most important of those two issues, a situation that every club in the country except Liverpool could envy.

It is as well to remember this in the light of a couple of defeats in the League, because it puts our true position into perspective.

I well remember contributing an article to the club's official diary just before this season commenced.

It was written, remember, in the aftermath of a tight finish at the bottom last May and when the actual formation of this season's team was by no means settled.

Had I predicted then that, come March, we would still be alongside Liverpool with the chance of a Cup and League double, I'm sure most readers would have felt I was entering the realms of fantasy.

Here, in fact, is a passage from what I wrote in August: "I happen to think that Aston Villa ended last season not too far off being a mid-table team and that this has given us something to build on. In other words we can lift ourselves above the level of 'also rans' and take the next step forward."

No-one would have argued with that prediction unless they felt I was slightly optimistic in rating us mid-table in 1988-89 when in fact we escaped going back down by a fraction.

Now, surely, we are entitled to take enormous confidence from the amount of progress we have made while acknowledging that the job of building a squad of players capable of constant



long-lasting success still has some way to go?

Including today we have five more home games and six away from home in which we will give total application to an attempt to re-produce our very best form and put together a run similar to in the past.

In addition we have at least one FA Cup-tie and hopefully more. Here again no effort will be spared in search of success.

I make no apology for repeating what I have said many times on TV and in the press ... we do not shout it from the rooftops when we have a good run, nor do we despair when we lose a game or two.

It has always been the case that, for the clubs trying to win honours, games get more difficult and competitive, as the season progresses.

It is only in the games between teams with little at stake where sometimes slightly easier points may seem to be there for the taking.

In these important final fixtures we will do our level best to combat all the demands placed upon us. Come the middle of May, whether we have tangible rewards or not for all the team's outstanding efforts, we will still have 'taken that next step forward' I was looking for last August, and more.

That alone would not be enough to satisfy us because we are as hungry for honours as any supporter ... but it will be more than many expected when the season started.

Best wishes,
Graham Taylor.

ASTON VILLA CLUB CALL - 0898 12 11 48



NEWS & RECORD

OLDHAM DAYS

Ian Ormondroyd knows what to expect if Villa should have to take on Oldham Athletic's 34-match unbeaten home record for a place in the FA Cup semi-finals.

It was three years ago this month that he signed for Oldham when they were closer to the First Division than at any time since their relegation from the top flight in 1923.

He was at Boundary Park for only two months but that was long enough for him to banish any serious fears about the plastic pitch.

"I don't know whether I would have fancied playing on it for a long time," he says. "But there's no reason to be worried about going there. It was okay to play on and I didn't find any real problems."

"A lot is said about the pitch because Oldham have such a good home record, but they're a good side and better than a lot of people give them credit for."

"There are only four or five players left from when I was there and one of those is Mike Milligan. They've made him captain now and that seems to have added a bit of responsibility to his game."

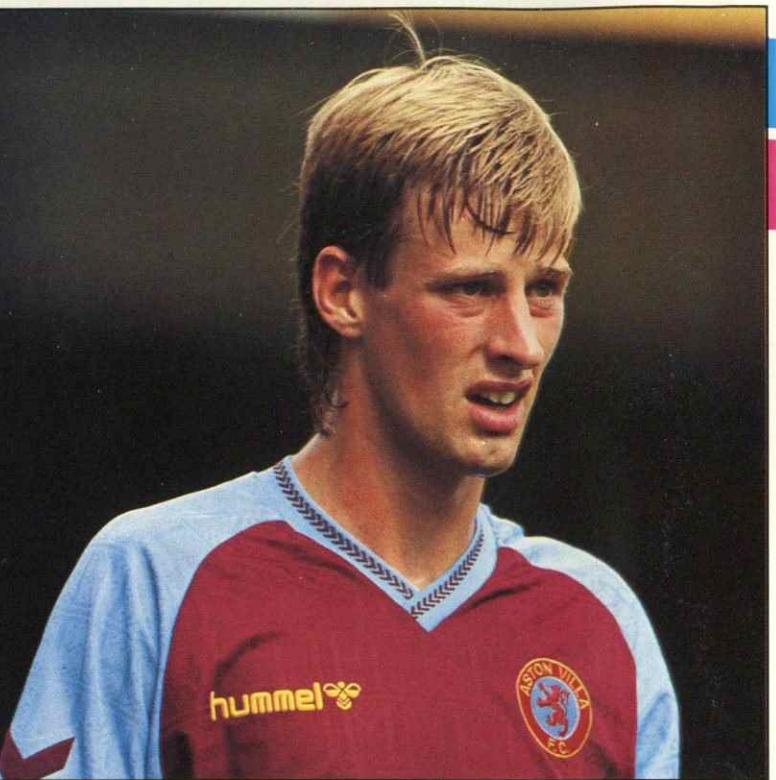
"I think he could go on to better things and maybe it will come by staying where he is because Oldham could go into the First Division."

"Denis Irwin, the right back, is another very good player. They got him from Leeds for next to nothing, but that's how Joe Royle has worked. He has bought very well and I know that his side will make it tough for us if we have to go there next week."

Ian's loan spell with Oldham might have ended with a permanent transfer but The Latics' cash offer was short of what Bradford City wanted.

"I was in and out of the Bradford team at the time," he explains. "The reason for the loan was that Ron Fletcher was at Oldham and Terry Dolan, the manager at Bradford, really wanted him because he needed someone who was going to score goals."

"Joe Royle must have said that the only way Bradford were having Fletcher on a permanent deal was if he could have me on loan. The manager eventually said I could go until the end of the season and that suited me fine."



Ian Ormondroyd is looking forward to a meeting with some old friends in the FA Cup.

"I really enjoyed my time there because it's a club very much like Bradford - small and tightly-knit."

Oldham finished third in Division Two but were denied promotion because it was the first year of a major change.

Ian recalls: "We were beaten by Leeds in the play-offs because of last-minute goals by Keith Edwards in both legs. Everyone was a bit gutted because they had worked so hard during the season."

The quarter-final draw means that Ian will meet up with another old friend if Everton should overcome Oldham in the second replay this afternoon.

The Merseysiders' Scottish World Cup contender, Stuart McCall, was captain at Bradford and they've kept in touch since following different paths into the First Division.

"I've got to give Stuart a ring," said Ian when we talked this week. "I'll be telling him to get his finger out and get Oldham beaten. Not that I'm really fussed which team we have to meet, but it's always nice to play against Stuart."

"He wasn't too happy that we turned Everton over earlier in the season, but from my point of view, it seems that things go well for me against them. We beat them in the League Cup at Bradford last season and I scored my first goal for Villa at Goodison Park."

"It's great to have happy memories,

but it won't mean a lot if we have to play Everton now. In the last eight of the Cup, you have got to go out and hope for the best wherever you are playing."

Stuart McCall was an inspiration to everybody at Bradford because he was so energetic and loved the game. As our captain, he was an example to all the players and a smashing lad as well.

"I was well pleased for him when scored two goals in the Cup Final last year, although it was sad that Everton couldn't win. He's a Yorkshireman who talks just like me, but he's in the Scotland squad because his parents come from up there."

He's been involved in a few things with Scotland this season and I hope he gets to the World Cup.

"The two of us, and John Hendrie as well, were worth the best part of £2m to Bradford. I think we can say we did well for the club, but it's just a shame that they aren't doing very well at the moment. The first result I look for is theirs and I'd like to see them getting out of trouble."

PFA AWARDS

A number of Villa players could feature among the candidates for the 16th Annual PFA awards to be presented in London on Sunday 1st April.

The players' special night of the year

is a time of recognition for representatives of the clubs who have enjoyed success in the previous 12 months, and in particular, the first half of the season.

"I think a few of our lads could be featured," says club captain Stuart Gray. "David Platt must be a contender for the main award and I'd expect Tony Daley and Ian Olney to be in the running for the Young Player. In fact, 'Platty' could be in for both because he's still only 23."

"Any nomination would be a bonus and a compliment for what the team has achieved so far. The votes went in a month ago - a strange time in the season, really - and the one restriction is that you can't name players from your own club."

"Most of the lads here have gone for Matthew Le Tissier or Rod Wallace for the Young Player and there's support for John Barnes for the Players' Player because he's had such an outstanding season."

"The timing can be very important. I was reading an article about Peter Beardsley in which he said that for some reason he always seems to play better after Christmas. He's been playing out of his skin recently but maybe it has come too late for the awards."

In the past, Villa were honoured when Andy Gray won both major awards in 1977 and again when Gary Shaw was Young Player in 1981.

Apart from the individual prizes, PFA members vote for Divisional Select teams. Villa players honoured in this way included:

1973: Bruce Rioch (Division Two).
1974: John Gidman, Ray Graydon (Division Two).
1977: John Gidman, Andy Gray.
1978: John Gidman.
1981: Kenny Swain, Allan Evans, Gary Shaw.
1982: Kenny Swain.
1988: Nigel Spink, Andy Gray (Division Two).

As a matter of interest, here is Stuart Gray's First Division team for this season: David Seaman (OPR), Lee Dixon (Arsenal), Mark Wright (Derby), Des Walker (Nottingham Forest), Stuart Pearce (Nottingham Forest), Paul Gascoigne (Tottenham), Jimmy Case (Southampton), Steve Hodge (Nottingham Forest), John Barnes (Liverpool), Gary Lineker (Tottenham), Matthew Le Tissier (Southampton).

FOR THE RECORD...

Saturday 17th February 1990

F.A. CUP FIFTH ROUND
WEST BROMWICH A. 0 ASTON VILLA 2

Scorers: Mountfield (24 mins), Daley (89). Albion: Naylor, Burgess, Harbey, Robson (sub: Talbot, 8), North, Whyte, Shakespeare, Goodman, West (sub: Foster, 78), McNally, Bartlett.

Villa: N Spink, Price, Gage, McGrath, Mountfield, Nielsen, Daley, Platt, Olney. Cowans, Ormondroyd. Subs (not used): Birch, Gray.

Referee: A. Gunn (Sussex).

Attendance: 26,585.

This long-awaited 'derby' clash goes Villa's way thanks to a Derek Mountfield header and a Tony Daley solo run and shot. Albion never recover from the early blow of losing Gary Robson with a broken leg.

Sunday 18th February 1990

The FA Cup draw, live on TV, gives us an away tie at either Everton or Oldham in our first quarter final appearance in seven years.

Monday 19th February 1990

The reserves are beaten by the only goal of the game against Leicester at Filbert Street.

Tuesday 20th February 1990

Adrian Heath joins Manchester City in a £300,000 deal. He teams up with his former manager Howard Kendall and several other ex-Everton men.

Wednesday 21st February 1990

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
TOTENHAM H. 0 ASTON VILLA 2

Scorers: Ormondroyd (51), Platt (66). Spurs: Thorstvedt, Hughton, Van den Hauwe, Polston, Howells, Mabbett, Walsh, Gascoigne (sub: Moncur, 70), Nayim (sub: Moran, 25), Lineker, Sedgley.

Villa: N Spink, Price, Gage, McGrath, Mountfield, Nielsen, Daley, Platt, Olney. Cowans, Ormondroyd. Subs (not used): Birch, Gray.

Referee: J. Ashworth (Rutland).

Attendance: 32,472.

Villa go top of the First Division for the first time since winning the championship nine years ago.

Back at Villa Park the floodlight tower at the corner of the Trinity Road Stand and the North Stand is dismantled as work continues on the new hotel.



Wimbledon's penalty-saving hero Hans Segers makes another fine save.

Thursday 22nd February 1990

ITV announce that the Villa v Manchester City game will be screened 'live' on 'The Match' on Sunday 1st April.

Friday 23rd February 1990

The fences at the front of the Holte End are removed in time for tomorrow's game with Wimbledon.

Saturday 24th February 1990

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
ASTON VILLA 0 WIMBLEDON 3

Scorers: Fashanu (58 pen, 68), Miller (84). Villa: N Spink, Price, Gage, McGrath, Mountfield, Nielsen, Daley, Platt, Olney (sub: Gray, 77). Cowans, Ormondroyd (sub: Birch, 77).

Wimbledon: Segers, Scales, McGee, Ryan, Young, Curle, Anthrobus, Miller, Fashanu, Sanchez (sub: Cork, 77), Wise. Sub (not used): Fitzgerald.

Referee: M.L. James (Horsham, Sussex).

Attendance: 29,325.

A shock to the system after nine successive home League wins. David Platt sees his fifth minute penalty saved by Hans Segers.

The youth team are also beaten, 2-0 at Leicester.

Wednesday 28th February 1990

The club agree a further three-year sponsorship deal with Mita Copiers, worth £1 million.

Saturday 3rd March 1990

Liverpool beat Millwall with a late Gary Gillespie goal to move back to the top of the First Division, apoint ahead of Villa.

Dean Spink scores for Bury in his last game for them on loan. They beat Notts County 3-2. The Villa youngsters beat Nottingham Forest 1-0 in the Midland Purity Youth League at Bodmoor Heath.

Sunday 4th March 1990

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
COVENTRY CITY 2 ASTON VILLA 0

Scorers: Drinkel (51), Smith (52). Coventry: Ogrizovic, Borrows, Dobson, Gynn, Kilcline, Peake, Gallacher, Speedie, Regis, Livingstone (sub: Drinkel, 50), Smith. Sub (not used): Downs.

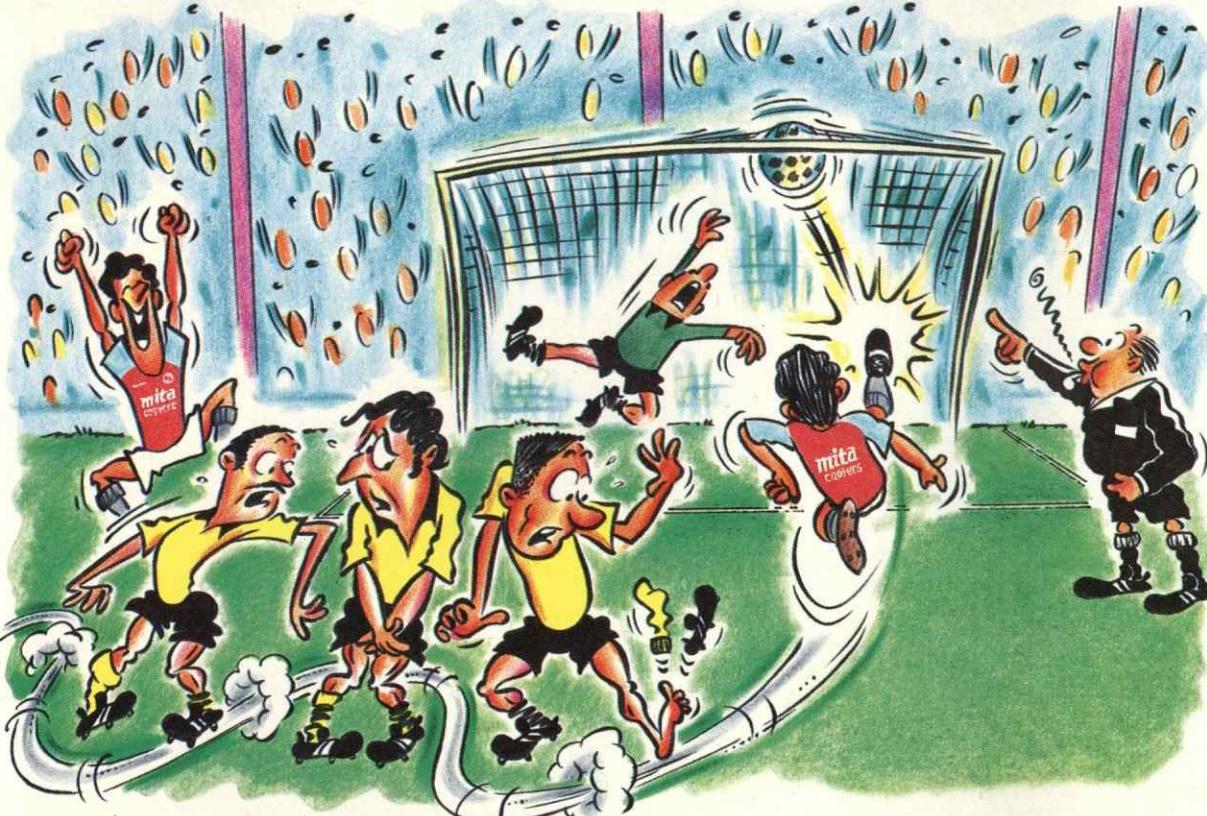
Villa: N Spink, Price, Gage, McGrath, Mountfield (sub: Gray, 53), Nielsen, Daley, Platt, Olney. Cowans, Ormondroyd (sub: Birch, 72).

Referee: G. Courtney (Spennymoor).

Attendance: 17,891.

The Sky Blues score twice in a minute as Derek Mountfield receives treatment for a badly twisted knee. The game is televised 'live' on ITV.

Aston Villa keeps on running...



... so do Mita copiers

Year after year, Mita have proved they're top of the league in copiers.

With a range of machines that has re-defined reliability in the field.

And the kind of national support any team would envy!

(That's because Mita's teamwork makes other teams look as if they're standing still!)

Keep on running with Mita.

The cup-winners in the copier league!



keeps on running!

MITA COPYSTAR (UK) LTD.,
Mita House, Hamm Moor Lane,
Addlestone Surrey KT15 2SB.
Tel: 0932 858266



ASTON VILLA
FOOTBALL CLUB PLC

VILLA PARK, TRINITY ROAD,
BIRMINGHAM B6 6HE.

Telephones:

Club Call 0898 12 11 48
Ticket Line 0898 12 18 48
Club 021 327 6604

Commercial Department 021 327 5399
Souvenir Shop 021 327 2800
Lottery Office 021 328 2246
Travellers Club 021 328 3322
Sports & Leisure Centre 021 328 8330
Stumps Indoor Cricket Centre 021 328 7777
Telex 334695 VILLA G Fax 021 322 2107

PRESIDENT

Harold Musgrave

CHAIRMAN

Doug Ellis

DIRECTORS

J.A. Alderson,
Dr D.H. Targett, P.D. Ellis

MANAGER

Graham Taylor

SECRETARY

Steven Stride

COMMERCIAL MANAGER

Abdul Rashid

STADIUM MANAGER

Ted Small

ASSISTANT MANAGERS

Dave Richardson & John Ward

COACHING STAFF

Bobby Downes, Dennis Booth
and Richard Money

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

Jim Walker

PROMOTIONS MANAGER

Bob Manca

CLUB HONOURS

European Cup Winners: 1981-82

European Super Cup Winners: 1982-83

Football League Champions: 1893-94,

1895-96, 1896-97, 1898-99, 1899-1900,

1909-10, 1980-81. Runners-up: 1888-89,

1902-03, 1907-08, 1910-11, 1912-13,

1913-14, 1930-31, 1932-33

Division Two Champions: 1937-38,

1959-60. Runners-up: 1974-75, 1987-88

Division Three Champions: 1971-72

FA Cup Winners: 1887, 1895, 1897, 1905,

1913, 1920, 1957. Runners-up: 1892, 1924

League Cup Winners: 1961, 1975, 1977

Runners-up: 1963, 1971

FA Youth Cup Winners: 1972, 1980.

ASTON VILLA

NEWS & RECORD

The Official Journal of Aston Villa FC plc

Production & Design: Sports Projects Ltd

Print: Hemmings & Capey (Leicester) Ltd

for Sports Projects Ltd.

Programme Concessionaires:

Gerald Harris & Associates

© All content copyright.

MATCH FOCUS

There was a touch of irony about Ian Olney's first league goal for Villa, not least the fact it came against his home town club on April Fool's day last year!

For Ian was born in Luton and spent the first eight years of his life living there before moving to Gloucestershire.

"I still regard it as my second home because a lot of family friends and relatives still live there," he said.

"They were the first club I supported - my dad used to take me to watch them back in the days when the Futter brothers were playing there - and even now I always keep an eye out for their results."

"So it was a bit special for me to get my first goal against them in that 2-0 win at Villa Park."

At the time Villa had gone eight games without a win and were slipping deeper into trouble near the bottom of the table.

"I'd come on as a substitute and will always remember Nigel Callaghan getting in the cross which I managed to knock back into the corner of the net," said Ian.

But even though he's Villa's second top scorer with 11 goals this season, he hasn't hit one in the league since scoring against



Manchester United on Boxing Day.

"I've had a couple in the Cup but would obviously love to get another one against Luton today."

"They may be down at the wrong end of the table but that will only make them all the more determined to get something out of today's game."

"It's a bonus game for us really seeing as we were originally due to have been playing in the Cup. After messing things up the way we did against Wimbledon in our last home game, let's just hope we make the most of it."

VILLA'S LEAGUE RECORD AGAINST LUTON

	Home					Away					
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A
Division One	21	7	1	2	18	9	1	2	8	6	16
Division Two	6	1	0	2	4	4	0	1	2	2	4
TOTAL	27	8	1	4	22	13	1	3	10	8	20

Biggest home win: 4-1 1937-38 & 82-83

Biggest away win: 1-0 1989-90

Heaviest home defeat: 1-3 1956-57

Heaviest away defeat: 0-3 1957-58

Gordon Cowans
netted twice from the
penalty spot against
Luton.



Attendances:

Highest home: 30,667 1937-38

Lowest home: 10,524 1985-86

Highest away: 29,372 1937-38

Lowest away: 7,696 1984-85

Last season's League meetings:

Kenilworth Rd. - December 17th 1988

LUTON TOWN 1 VILLA 1

Wegerle M Johnson (og)

Attendance: 8,785

Villa Park - April 1st 1989

VILLA 2 LUTON TOWN 1

Daley, Olney Hill

Attendance: 15,640

This season:

Kenilworth Rd. - October 14th 1989

LUTON TOWN 0 VILLA 1

Att: 9,433 Mountfield

■ No Villa player has ever scored a hat-trick in a League game against Luton. Several players, however, have scored twice in a game: **Frankie Broome & Charlie Phillips** (4-1 at home, 1937-38); **Gerry Hitchens** (3-1 at home 1958-59); **Gordon Cowans** (two penalties, 4-1 at home 1982-83); **Paul Kerr** (2-1 at home 1986-87).

■ Among the players who have played for both clubs are George Stephenson, Bruce & Neil Riach, Jimmy Adam, Chris Nicholl, Jake Findlay, Steve Foster and Paul Elliott.

SOUVENIR SHOP HOTLINE - 021 327 2800





LUTON TOWN

A DAY-BY-DAY DIARY

One of the most successful chapters in Luton Town's history effectively closed in January during a run of 11 games without a win.

With the squad seriously weakened by injuries and suspensions, the League position was giving cause for concern when manager Ray Harford departed shortly after a New Year's Day defeat at Everton.

In two-and-a-half years at Kenilworth Road, he was involved in three cup finals and steered The Hatters to a first-ever Wembley triumph against Arsenal in the Littlewoods Cup in 1988.

Last year's Littlewoods defeat by Nottingham Forest was followed by a late dash for safety in the League, but the problems returned this season as Luton slipped to second from bottom at the time of the management change.

Mr Harford's assistant, Terry Mancini, was put in charge for one match and then the club made a permanent appointment by promoting Jim Ryan from the coaching staff.

A 44-year-old Scot from Stirling, he won a European Cup medal as a non-playing substitute with Manchester United prior to joining Luton in 1970. He was a member of their promotion-winning team in 1974.

Mr Ryan was given the toughest possible start to his new job with a trip to Liverpool, but The Hatters took a point at Anfield and later went to Wimbledon to register their first away win in 23 attempts.

We begin our diary of their 1989-90 highlights with a look at the news from last summer...

JUNE

14 Former England midfielder Ricky Hill joins the French club, Le Havre ... Ashley Grimes has also moved abroad on a free transfer to Escuda.

JULY

3 Mr Mancini, a former Arsenal and Republic of Ireland defender, is appointed assistant manager after working on a part-time basis since April.

12 Steve Foster, a successful captain since arriving from Villa in 1984, departs to Oxford in a deal worth £175,000.

26 A League Tribunal fixes a fee of £150,000, plus £100,000 after 60 appearances, for Coventry defender Graham Rodger.

AUGUST

16 Mick Harford will miss the start of the season because of a second ankle operation in three months.

TIM BREACKER



17 Leicester's £300,000-rated midfielder Mick Kennedy moves to Kenilworth Road with full back Rob Johnson going to Filbert Street in part-exchange.

19 Kennedy makes his debut in an opening League defeat at Tottenham ... Former Everton 'keeper Alec Chamberlain, who took over from Les Sealey in April, retains the No 1 spot.

21 Lars Elstrup, scorer of eight goals in 12 internationals for Denmark, is signed from Odense for a club record £600,000.

22 New captain Danny Wilson scores in a 2-0 win against Sheffield Wednesday.

26 Elstrup appears as substitute in a goalless game at home to Liverpool.

SEPTEMBER

9 With Steve Williams sidelined after a cartilage operation, Elstrup is in the starting line-up for the first time as Charlton are beaten by a Wilson penalty.

19 Williams, out for less than three weeks, returns in a Littlewoods Cup win at Mansfield.

23 A costly point against Wimbledon ... Centre back Darron McDonough dislocates a shoulder and Kennedy faces suspension after being sent off.

OCTOBER

2 Former British Aerospace engineer Iain Dowie learns that he is in Northern Ireland's World Cup squad while on loan to Fulham.

3 Elstrup scores his first hat-trick in English football as Luton make it 11 goals in two legs against Mansfield.

14 Rodger is given his League debut but The Hatters are beaten by Derek Mountfield's goal for Villa.

21 Norwich lose their 11-match unbeaten record from the start of the season in a 4-1 mauling at Kenilworth Road.

24 Hopes of a third successive Littlewoods Cup Final disappear with a 3-0 defeat at Everton.

28 McDonough dislocates his shoulder for a second time during a 1-1 draw at Millwall.

NOVEMBER

4 Dowie replaces the injured Roy Wegerle and scores his first goal in Division One to clinch victory over Derby.

18 Luton are now without all three senior centre backs as Dave Beaumont (ankle) joins McDonough and Rodger on the injured list ... Full back John Dreyer partners 21-year-old Marvin Johnson in a home defeat by Manchester United.

25 The troubles continue when Johnson limps off with a twisted ankle in a 6-3

HATTERS' ROLL CALL 1989-90

Player	Birthplace	Previous Clubs	Lge & Cup Apps	Gls
Tim Allpress	Hitchin	-	1	
Dave Beaumont	Edinburgh	Dundee United	17	
Kingsley Black	Luton	-	28(1)	6
Tim Breacker	Bicester	-	33	
Alec Chamberlain	March	Ipswich, Colchester, Everton	-	
Richard Cooke	Islington	Tottenham, Bournemouth	3(8)	1
Iain Dowie	Hatfield	Hendon	17(5)	6
John Dreyer	Alnwick	Wallingford, Oxford	32	3
Lars Elstrup	Raaby(Denmark)	Odense	16(6)	9
Sean Farrell	Watford	-	(1)	-
Paul Gray	Belfast	-	1(3)	1
Richard Harvey	Letchworth	-	18(9)	-
Julian James	Tring	-	10(1)	1
Marvin Johnson	Wembley	-	9(4)	-
Mick Kennedy	Salford	Halifax, Huddersfield, Middlesbrough, Portsmouth, Bradford, Leicester	27	
Darron McDonough	Antwerp	Oldham	10	
Kurt Nogan	Cardiff	-	6	2
David Preece	Bridgnorth	Walsall	26(2)	2
Jason Rees	Aberdare	-	1(3)	-
Graham Rodger	Glasgow	Wolves, Coventry	3	-
Aaron Tighe	Banbury	-	1(1)	-
Steve Williams	London	Southampton, Arsenal	15	1
Danny Wilson	Wigan	Bury, Chesterfield, Nottingham Forest, Brighton	31	7

ALSO PLAYED: Mal Donaghy (on loan from Manchester United) 5 apps; Mick Harford (to Derby) 2(3) app; Roy Wegerle (to QPR) 18(2) apps, 6 goals.

Figures for League, Littlewoods Cup, FA Cup & Zenith Cup.

League results: Tottenham (A) 1-2, Sheffield W. (H) 2-0, Liverpool (H) 0-0, QPR (A) 0-0, Charlton (H) 1-0, Coventry (A) 0-1, Wimbledon (H) 1-1, Manchester C. (A) 1-3, Aston Villa (H) 0-1, Norwich (H) 4-1, Millwall (A) 1-1, Derby (H) 1-0, C. Palace (A) 1-1, Manchester Utd. (H) 1-3, Southampton (A) 3-6, Tottenham (H) 0-0, Sheffield W. (A) 1-1, Arsenal (A) 2-3, Nottm F. (H) 1-1, Chelsea (H) 0-3, Everton (A) 1-2, Liverpool (A) 2-2, QPR (H) 1-1, Wimbledon (A) 2-1, Charlton (A) 0-2, Southampton (H) 1-1, Manchester Utd. (A) 1-4. **Littlewoods Cup:** Mansfield (A) 4-3, (H) 7-2, Everton (A) 0-3. **Zenith Data Systems Cup:** Oxford (A) 3-2, C. Palace (A) 1-4. **FA Cup:** Brighton (A) 1-4. (Up to and including Saturday 10th March).

setback at Southampton.

27 Wilson and David Preece are sent off while The Hatters concede four more goals in a Zenith Cup-tie at Crystal Palace.

DECEMBER

11 Wegerle joins the ranks of £1 million footballers on signing for QPR.

16 Former favourite Mal Donaghy starts a month's loan with his old club but Luton are now in the bottom three after going down 3-2 at Arsenal.

26 Harford, out for eight months after a third ankle operation, begins his season with a 45-minute outing in a 1-1 draw at home to Forest.

30 Elstrup is now out after a cartilage operation.

JANUARY

3 Manager Ray Harford leaves Kenilworth Road, saying: "I had some of my happiest days at Luton and leading the side out at Wembley was one of the highlights of my life."

11 New chairman Roger Smith announces Jim Ryan's appointment as manager.

13 Teenager Kurt Nogan scores on his

debut as Luton lead at Liverpool before being held to a 2-2 draw.

17 Mick Harford goes to Derby for £480,000, five years after arriving from Birmingham for £250,000.

31 Luton report a profit of £586,000 last year thanks to their transfer dealings and the sale of the ground to the local council.

FEBRUARY

14 A last-minute goal by Dowie at Wimbledon clinches a first away victory in 14 months.

16 Israeli striker Ronnie Rosenthal, who is available for transfer from Standard Liege, arrives for a trial.

24 Dowie scores in three minutes but a 1-1 draw with Southampton leaves The Hatters without a home win for 16 weeks.

MARCH

1 Elstrup has a second cartilage operation and negotiations are opened to sign Rosenthal as a replacement.

3 With Kennedy out because of a collar bone injury, 20-year-old Jason Rees makes his full debut in a 4-1 defeat at Manchester United.

TALKING SHOP



Lottery

This week the Lottery had two £1000 winners on their Money Magic Tickets. The winners are Darren Tranter from Small Heath and Joanne Williams from Kingshurst. Our lucky winners are seen (above) fanning themselves with money.

Joanne has decided to put her winnings towards buying a car and Darren is going to invest in driving lessons and having a holiday.

Travel Club

Over the years the Travel Club has been the main link for our fans to travel home and abroad supporting their team.

If we think back to our League Championship days of 1981, over 80 coaches made the trip to Highbury to see Aston Villa lift the First Division Championship. A year later our army of fans converged on Rotterdam, in total 10,000 fans enjoyed luxury travel by coach, sea and air to see Aston Villa become European Champions for the first time in the club's history.

The next two months could well see Aston Villa in a very similar situation, with more Villa fans wanting to support

their team away from home in the run up to the League Championship.

The Travel Club, along with Central Liner, pride themselves on offering an excellent service throughout the season. A joining fee for the season of £2.50 along with two passport size photographs will enable you to enjoy the comforts of luxury travel from Villa Park to any away league or cup fixture. Our executive coaches have videos, drink and toilet facilities and are all stewarded by our staff who have had many years' experience in this field.

In line with every other area of Aston Villa Football Club we set our standards very high and will not tolerate bad behaviour from anyone travelling with us.

We also, where possible, try and ensure that Travel Club members can purchase match tickets from us when booking an away fixture.

Our members do not need to come to Villa Park to book, our Travel Club Hotline accepts bookings by both Access and Visa, thus cutting out unnecessary time and expense.

If you wish to join for the rest of the season please contact the Travel Club office on (021) 328 3322 and ask for details.

Details of forthcoming trips to the FA Cup tie with either Everton or Oldham, and the Barclays League fixtures at Derby and Crystal Palace and are printed elsewhere in today's programme.

FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY



Football is more than a game of 90 minutes. Every day clubs throughout Britain are extending their activities far beyond the pitch and into the lives of their local communities.

Social clubs and transport for the elderly, the provision of creches, projects to counter racism and sexism, artificial pitches for local use, the coaching of junior sides and the encouragement of women's football are only a few of the community based initiatives undertaken by clubs.

Much of this work has received help from The Football Trust. Each year the organisation receives over £9.5 million from the Spotting-the-Ball competition run by Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters and spends it on projects that benefit all levels of the game throughout the United Kingdom.

TRAVEL CLUB HOTLINE - 021 328 3322

PAPER TALK

So far, looking at sport in general, it's been the decade of the mega-shock.

Mike Tyson dumped down for the count (albeit a controversial one), and robbed of his World Heavyweight title ... the West Indies beaten in a Test match in Jamaica by what was dubbed a Micky Mouse England team.

Suddenly we realise that, not only does Eddie 'The Eagle' Edwards, maybe have an Olympic Gold Medal chance after all, but at the world end of the sporting spectrum the winners truly do earn their corn.

The question is: how much corn?

That thought occurred to Jeff Powell, the Daily Mail's Chief Sports Feature writer, and he (with the help of researchers, no doubt!) came up with some interesting figures.

For instance, the top earner in 1989 was Sugar Ray Leonard with, wait for it, an annual income to keep the wolf from the door of ... £17.35m.

Tyson was next with a meagre half of that amount to keep the bank manager quiet for a few weeks while he recovers from the sizeable dent which Buster Douglas inflicted on his previously unblemished pride.

When you get to Powell's football section you find Diego Maradona scratching out a crust on £1.4m followed in the big ball game's earning list by Marco Van Basten (£1.3m), Ruud Gullit (£1.2m), Ronald Koeman (£1.2m) and Hugo Sanchez a mere £0.85m.

Not a Brit in sight as our top stars limp along in comparative poverty, lucky if they can get near to the 'desirous' £100,000 mark.

It makes you wonder how they manage to pay the gas bill...

Money apart, a big, big topic in the

THE TOP EARNERS

1989 TOP TEN	
1, Sugar Ray Leonard.....	£17.35m
2, Mike Tyson.....	£8.23m
3, Tommy Hearns.....	£6.47m
4, Roberto Duran.....	£4.8m
5, Ayrton Senna.....	£4.7m
6, Alain Prost and Nigel Mansell.....	£3.53m
8, Patrick Ewing.....	£2.35m
9, Evander Holyfield.....	£2.12m
10, Frank Bruno.....	£1.88m

FOOTBALL

1, Diego Maradona (Napoli).....	£1.4m
2, Marco Van Basten (Milan).....	£1.3m
3, Ruud Gullit (Milan).....	£1.2m
4, Ronald Koeman (Barcelona).....	£1.1m
5, Hugo Sanchez (Real Madrid).....	£850,000

From the Daily Mail.

press has been that of grounds, new ones or re-vamped ones that is.

Since the 'all-seater' warning came in clubs have had to study not merely the immediate future but the demands of the year 2,000 and beyond.

Local papers came up with a supply of information about Villa's plans.

"VILLA RIP DOWN HOLTE END FENCES," announced Ian Willars' piece in the Evening Mail.

"Our team is top of the league and we want to see our supporters top of their league, too," explained chairman Doug Ellis in placing them on trust.

Three days later Willars' colleague Leon Hickman had an 'Exclusive' tag on a story under the banner: "NEW STADIUM AT COVENTRY".

This revealed that the FA are considering a plan to build a new national stadium, to replace Wembley, in partnership with Coventry City and near the junction of the M6-M69. Somewhat confusing that because the Council were thought to be near agreements with the FA for a similar scheme at Bickenhill.

Hickman's article explained: "The site to the east of Coventry could be just as ideally placed as the NEC where the concept could founder on two details."

More recently the 'Express and Star', in Wolverhampton, came up with details of a scheme to convert Villa Park to an all-seater stadium in line with proposed government policy.

Villa have certainly been a newsworthy target for the press in recent months with no stone unturned, as the saying goes.

The Birmingham Post got into the act with a story about plans for a new pitch.

"Chairman Doug Ellis has called in a Scottish firm of turf specialists and plans are afoot to relay the whole surface in the coming summer."

Michael Ward's story added: "...problems with drainage compounded by the recent bad weather, have been blamed for the steady deterioration this season and the club are determined to rectify matters as soon as possible."

The moral of the story is that if British clubs are restricting wage bills to sensible proportions while investing in future safety, comfort and convenience for those who ultimately fund the wage bills, then it is an encouraging sign that common sense will prevail.



Look, no fences!

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB - BUY YOUR VILLA GEAR FROM THE CLUB SHOP

FA CHALLENGE CUP 6TH ROUND TICKET DETAILS

Providing there is a definite result from today's FA Challenge Cup 5th Round 2nd Replay between Oldham Athletic and Everton, our 6th Round Tie will be played on one of the following dates:

Everton v Aston Villa - Tuesday, 13 March 1990, 7.30 pm
Oldham Ath. v Aston Villa - Wednesday, 14 March 1990, 7.30 pm

Tickets for either of these **all-ticket** matches will initially only be available to season ticket holders, who must submit Voucher No. 28 from their season ticket books.

EVERTON v ASTON VILLA

Seating season ticket holders - should apply to the main Ticket Office either after today's match until 6.00 pm or tomorrow (Sunday) between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon. Seat tickets are priced £7.20 or £6.50 (one per voucher).

Standing season ticket holders - should apply to the Trinity Road Enclosure Ticket Kiosk after today's match until 6.00 pm, or the main Ticket Office tomorrow (Sunday) between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon. Standing tickets are priced £4.00 (one per voucher). In the event of our allocation of standing tickets being sold, standing season ticket holders may have to accept seat tickets at the above prices.

General sale - any remaining tickets will be placed on general sale from the main Ticket Office at 9.15 am on Monday, 12th March 1990 when the ticket office will be open until 7.00 pm.

To check on the availability of tickets, we recommend non season ticket holders to telephone the Club's Ticketline Tel: 0898 12 18 48.

OLDHAM ATHLETIC v ASTON VILLA

Seating season ticket holders - should apply to the main Ticket Office either after today's match until 6.00 pm or tomorrow (Sunday) between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon. Seat tickets are priced £6.75 (one per voucher). In view of the extremely small allocation of seating tickets for this match, seating season ticket holders may have to accept standing tickets.

Standing season ticket holders - should apply to the Trinity Road Enclosure Ticket Kiosk after today's match, until 6.00 pm, or the main Ticket Office tomorrow (Sunday) between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon. Standing tickets are priced £4.00 (one per voucher).

General sale - any remaining tickets will be placed on general sale from the main Ticket Office from 9.15 am on Monday, 12 March 1990 when the Ticket Office will be open until 7.00 pm and on Tuesday, 13 March 1990 between 9.15 am and 5.00 pm.

To check on the availability of tickets, we recommend non season ticket holders to telephone the Club's Ticketline. Tel: 0898 12 18 48.

FA CUP 6TH ROUND - POSSIBLE REPLAY

ASTON VILLA v EVERTON / OLDHAM ATHLETIC

In the event of our FA Challenge Cup 6th round tie against either Everton or Oldham Athletic requiring a replay, this will be staged at Villa Park on **Monday, 19 March 1990**, kick-off 7.45 pm and will be **all-ticket**.

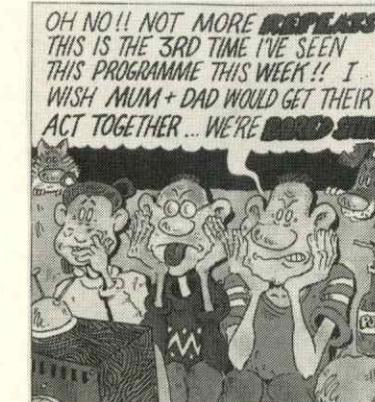
Tickets will be on sale the day following our 6th round tie (i.e. Wednesday, 14 March or Thursday, 15 March).

Seating season ticket holders - wishing to retain their own seats must apply to the Ticket Office no later than 12.00 noon on Saturday, 17 March submitting Voucher No. 26 from their books.

Standing season ticket holders - should also apply to the Ticket Office no later than 12.00 noon on Saturday, 17 March submitting Voucher No. 26 from their books to be guaranteed a standing ticket.

Non season ticket holders - should also apply to the Ticket Office on either of the following dates for : Seat tickets priced £9.00, £8.50 or terrace tickets @ £6.00.

Wed 14 March 9.15 - 7.00 pm Sat 17 March 9.15 - 12.00 noon
Thur 15 March 9.15 - 7.00 pm Sun 18 March 10.00 - 12.00 noon
Fri 16 March 9.15 - 7.00 pm Mon 19 March 9.15 - 7.45 pm



WE'LL BEAT ANYONE'S PRICE BY AT LEAST £10.

★ Installed within 48 hours ★ Monthly Terms available
★ 6 months FREE subscription to *Satellite Times* with all orders
★ 5 Year Guarantee available ★ Unbeatable Prices!!
★ Full Package of TV/Video available
See Press for details or call now - 021 384 7468.

COLORVISION

ERDINGTON UNIT 22, 224 High Street, 0321-384 7468

Unbeatable Quality AT A PRICE YOU CAN AFFORD



Finesse
Windows Ltd

Showroom: 1400 Pershore Road Birmingham
Tel: 021 433 3027 Evenings: 747 3053



VILLA TICKETLINE 0898 12 18 48



mita

VILLA-MITA NEW DEAL



Chairman Doug Ellis presents a Villa share certificate to Mita's managing director Toshikazu Yonezu at the press conference to announce Mita's continuing support for the club.

Aston Villa and club sponsors, Mita, the world-wide photocopier company, are to complete a full ten-year link.

When a new three-year deal was recently struck and announced jointly it completed one of the most successful partnerships in British soccer. For the club it is a 'double-your-money' deal with the contract worth in excess of £1 million.

The newly-won status as genuine Championship contenders has vastly increased Villa's appeal for business promotion, a fact readily accepted by Mita.

The Japanese company are one of the world's leading soccer sponsors with a 'family' of eleven clubs around the globe.

"We feel that Aston Villa are an integral part of our international footballing fraternity," said UK managing director Mr. Yonezu.

"Using football has enabled Mita to become Europe's No. 2. in the photocopying market.

"We shall shortly be opening a new midland regional office, which can be beneficial and conducive to our sponsorship of Aston Villa."

Villa chairman Doug Ellis said: "Mita are a major international blue chip company who have supported the club for many years through the bad times as well as the good. We hope in the future to be going into Europe together, during the period of the new contract."

The Mita 'League' of top clubs is: Aston Villa, RC de Strasbourg (France), Hjeltefjord (Denmark), FC Aarau (Switzerland), Waldhof Mannheim (Germany), Djurgarden IF (Sweden), Como (Italy), Atletico Madrid (Spain), Independiente (Argentina), SM Caen (France), FC Haarlem (Holland).

Test the MG heritage.

We want you to appreciate a rather remarkable car with all the sporty performance you associate with the MG heritage.

Power: 2-litre 115PS fuel-injected engine, close-ratio 5-speed gearbox. 0 to 60 in 8.6 seconds*, surging on to 113 mph where allowed.*

Good looks: front and rear spoilers, alloy wheels, all-body colour coachwork.

Comfort: sports front seats with sculptured velvet facings, four-speaker stereo sound, tinted glass, central locking and sunroof. It's the Maestro MG 2.0i.

At just £11,490 why not arrange to try it out!



*MANUFACTURER'S DATA. PRICE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS EXCLUDING NUMBER PLATES AND DELIVERY.
FOR DETAILS OF YOUR NEAREST ROVER DEALER AND A FREE BROCHURE ON THE ENTIRE MAESTRO RANGE, RING 0753 696100.

THE NEW ROVER 200. A CAR WITHOUT EQUAL.

There is no car to equal the new Rover 200 Series. Its 16 valve, all aluminium, fuel injected engine delivers exceptionally high power, and great performance with leaded and unleaded fuel.



Its fully independent suspension provides excellent handling and road-holding. And, as you would expect from Rover, you can specify power steering and electronic ABS on any of the new Rover 200 Series.

Prices range from £8,775 to £10,940. Arrange for a test drive in the car without equal.



THE NEW ROVER 200 SERIES

Colliers
1-37 Sutton Road, Erdington
021-377 8888



CAR SHOWN: ROVER 214 GSi 16V PRICE £10,418.
*ALL PRICES QUOTED,
CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.
EXCLUDE NUMBER PLATES AND DELIVERY.

NATION WIDE

■ Ian Baird is to miss a Wembley appearance with his new club, Middlesbrough, but he's still expecting a medal at the end of the season.

The £500,000 striker played 24 games for Leeds United before moving to Ayresome Park and is confident that his old club will land the Second Division championship. He says: "Barring accidents, I can't see any reason why they won't win it by five to ten points. And I'll be qualified for a medal."

Baird is ineligible for the Simod Cup Final and his priority is to make sure that Boro stay in the Second Division in a relegation struggle which could well involve as many as eight or nine clubs.

"As far as I'm concerned," says Baird, "the main thing is to get 50 points. That means you are safe."

■ Sheffield Wednesday's highly-rated goalkeeper, **Kevin Pressman**, has changed his transport that he can stay mobile while recovering from injury.

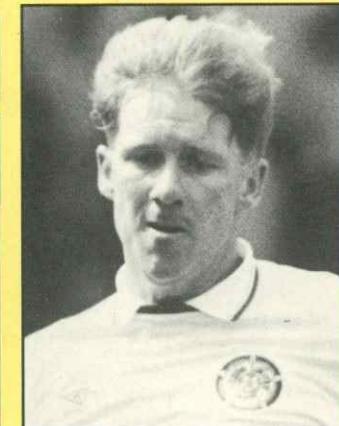
With his left leg in plaster after tearing a knee ligament away from the bone, Pressman couldn't operate the clutch pedal in his car but solved the problem by buying a replacement with an automatic gearbox. He is making good progress under the care of club physio Alan Smith, who has been appointed to work with the England B team as well as being placed on stand-by for the medical squad at the World Cup.

■ Doncaster Rovers' injury-hit goalkeeper, **Paul Malcolm**, could be forgiven for wondering if the fates turned against him on the day he declined a move to Darlington last April.

The former Barnsley and Shrewsbury understudy attracted a £20,000 bid but decided to stay because he was enjoying his first season at Doncaster so much.

Only a few days later, he suffered a complicated leg fracture which had to be pinned by a ten-inch plate. He is now resigned to hanging up his boots at the age of 25 and the club are to arrange a Testimonial game for him.

Meanwhile, Doncaster are celebrating a bargain transfer which could put Black Country-born striker John



Ian Baird - medal hopes.

Muir at Wembley only three months after leaving the Beazer Homes League. After being signed from Dudley Town for £5,000, Muir went straight into Doncaster's first team for a successful debut against Halifax in the Leyland DAF Cup. Now a Wembley chance hinges on two legs against Tranmere Rovers in the Northern Area Final.

Muir, 27 in April, played for Willenhall and Worcester before striking it rich with 85 goals in 117 appearances for Dudley.

But he nearly missed his big day with Doncaster. He narrowly avoided a pile-up in front of him while driving north and was delayed for two hours until the road was cleared. This meant he was too late for a matchday training session and it was only in the hour before kick-off that he met some of his new team-mates for the first time.

■ **Wally Downes**, a Wimbledon regular on their climb from the Fourth Division, has taken up an appointment at Millwall as reserve coach in new manager Bob Pearson's backroom team. Downes followed former Dons boss Dave Bassett to Sheffield United two years ago but had to retire with an ankle injury and moved back to London to play in non-League football.

■ **Les Chapman** was quickly reminded of the uncertainty of football management on becoming caretaker at Preston following the departure of John McGrath.

The Deepdale club lost 6-0 at Reading in his first match but bounced back a week later with a hat-trick by winger Steve Harper in a 4-0 win against Cardiff. In between the two games, Mr Chapman signed John Thomas from Albion for £50,000 for his second spell with Preston. And his arrival coincided with the end of a five-match losing sequence.

■ Bradford City dropped into the bottom three in Division Two in a seven-match run without a win. With relegation worries building up, former Leeds and England defender Norman Hunter was replaced as first-team coach by Arthur Graham, the ex-Leeds and Scotland winger who was previously in charge of the youth squad.

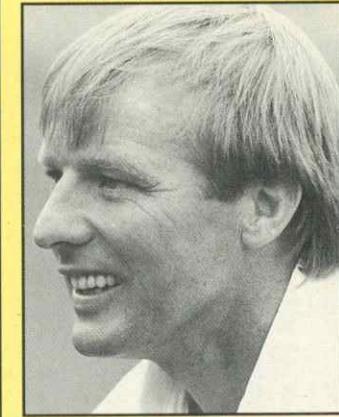
■ QPR applied for a work permit for Nigerian striker **Dominic Iorfa** after agreeing a fee of £120,000 for his transfer from the Belgian club, Royal Antwerp.

The 6ft 4ins-tall Iorfa was on trial with Sheffield United last month. He scored in a Central League match at Coventry but The Blades decided that the fee was too high. Manager Dave Bassett said: "A gamble of that size for someone who could not go straight into our side was too much for us to undertake."

■ The recruitment of overseas players continued with a West Ham debut for Czechoslovakia's World Cup goalkeeper, **Ludek Miklosko**, who cost a reported £300,000 from Banik Ostrava. This gave The Hammers another international 'keeper in addition to Phil Parkes, capped once by England in 1974, and Allen McKnight, who was first-choice for Northern Ireland until losing his club place a year ago.

■ A number of clubs have opened up connections with the **Soviet Union**. Ipswich led the way last season by signing Sergei Baltacha and now Brighton have taken on midfielder Sergei Gotsmanov from Dynamo Minsk and Southampton have bought defender Alexei Cherednik from Dnepro.

Wigan Athletic also forged an Anglo-Soviet friendship on drawing 0-0 with Moscow Torpedo. The Third Division club plan to visit the USSR for a return match which may be filmed by the BBC for a documentary programme.



Dave Bassett - refused to gamble.

ASTON VILLA CLUB CALL - 0898 12 11 48





ACTION REPLAY



DAZZLING DALEY - Tony Daley jinks past Coventry's Brian Borrows (left) in last Sunday's 'live' TV game and (inset) takes on Tony Dobson. The other inset picture shows Daley's curling long-range shot beating Steve Ogrizovic, but unfortunately going the wrong side of the post. Above: Ian Ormondroyd gets a header in on goal. Below: Ian Olney and Brian Borrows recover from a clash, but who pinched the ball?



MITA COPIERS SPONSOR ASTON VILLA

ASTON VILLA CLUB CALL 0898 12 11 48

Calls cost 37p/min. peak, 25p/min. off peak



WHATEVER YOUR BUSINESS,
WE'LL HELP
GET THE BALL ROLLING.



*** YOU'RE
BETTER OFF
TALKING TO
BARCLAYS

MEMBER OF IMRO

We're always interested in new business, so come down to see us and we'll help you kick off your new ideas.

THE PANINI FAMILY CLUB



■ GLAD TO OBLIGE

There has been an SOS from Watford who want us to stage a Soccer Special for them on Saturday, March 17.

No, you haven't mis-read that sentence. Yes, Watford ARE in Division Two. Of course, we're not playing them...

Fact is that Watford are playing West Bromwich Albion that day but unfortunately The Hawthorns club cannot accommodate the Hornets with the pre-match activities they enjoy.

So, in order to avoid their being disappointed and to maintain our happy relationship with them, a 'Special' is being staged.

There will be no coaching, just a morning of five-a-side football at the Broadway School, The Broadway, Perry Barr, kick-off 10.30pm.

Obviously the request to our members is to come along and support this extra event to re-new old friendships and make some new ones ready for the PONTINS EASTER BREAK.

■ FOOTBALL FESTIVAL

Watford are one of the clubs joining us over Easter at the Pontins Seacroft Holiday Village, Norfolk.

This is from Tuesday April 17th to Saturday April 21st, inclusive, when a Family Football Festival is being staged.

During the four days there will be tuition and coaching by professionals, skills competitions, visits by soccer personalities and a visit to Norwich City FC at Carrow Road, among other attractions. Available accommodation has en suite facilities, colour TV and tea and coffee-making facilities.

The package is FULL BOARD plus use of all amenities at the holiday village.

The price, inclusive of luxury travel, is £98 per adult and £56 per child or £15 for the under-twos, all inclusive of VAT.

If transport is not required there is reduction of £11 per person (children under-two travel free).

Payment can be made by access or visa.

Names as soon as possible please to either Dave Wallis or the Commercial Department, but no later than March 23.

■ SCOUSE TRAVELLER

A pronounced Liverpool accent was to be heard in the clubroom at the Wimbledon game a couple of weeks back.

It sounded slightly out of place on a day which ought to have been dominated by Brummies and Cockneys.

However, that Merseyside sound was most warm and welcome and came from

11-year-old Stephen Bird from Wallasey. Stephen checked in resplendent in his Villa kit showing clearly where his loyalties lie as the Championship battle heats up.

Dave Wallis, who bought him along, introduced him to other members explaining to them that he knew one of the Villa players. Ah! a clue there... which Villa player has Merseyside connections? None other than Derek Mountfield who happens to be Stephen's uncle.

Obviously the young Villa members were most impressed with this, sending Stephen home with some new, admiring mates.

■ NO SPECIAL

Due to booking problems as a result of rearranged games there is no Soccer Special until Sunday April 1, apart from the Watford date, covered earlier.

On that Sunday, Villa play Manchester City in ITV's live screening of 'The Match'.

Hopefully, former Villa skipper and assistant manager Ron Wylie will be along to give a coaching session.

Ron is the club's Community Relations Officer. Why not come along and join in.

■ GUEST

A special guest at the Wimbledon game was Nathan Holmes (8) from Atherstone, together with his friend James Acker.

Nathan was brought to the game by his grandad as a special treat.

Another party in the enclosure was conducted by John Emmanuel from Llansamlet, Swansea (he HAD to be Welsh with a surname like that ...!)

John had a party of 18 from Burcugrove Colts under-11s. The party was most welcome to the fold. Hopefully we shall be seeing them again, perhaps at a Soccer Special.

■ GUESS

A prize awaits Matthew Parish who guessed a crowd of 29,301, just four less than the actual attendance. If he's here today he must look up Dave Wallis.

■ CHEERS

A team of American-style cheerleaders, Energy Plus, will be in action at our next home League game against Manchester City on Sunday 1st April.

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB - BUY YOUR VILLA GEAR FROM THE CLUB SHOP



**YOUR CHANCE TO WIN
MEMBERSHIP TO THE
OFFICIAL DAVID PLATT
FAN CLUB**

Five places available!!

The newly-formed 'Official David Platt Fan Club' offers a quarterly news bulletin, member's certificate, autographed photograph and the opportunity to win prizes.

You can win free membership to this club by answering these five simple questions about the England international's career.

1. With which club did David start his career?
2. Against which team did he make his Villa debut?
3. How many goals did he score against Ipswich in the Littlewoods Cup last season?
4. Who were England's opposition when he gained his first full international cap?
5. How old is he?

Write your answers on a postcard and post to:

**David Platt Competition,
Commercial Department, Aston
Villa Football Club plc, Villa Park,
Trinity Road, Birmingham B6 6HE.**

The first FIVE correct entries picked out of the 'hat' on Friday 23rd March, 1990 will receive a year's FREE membership to the Official David Platt Fan Club.

*Full details of how to join the Fan Club (if you are not one of our lucky winners) can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:
New Decade Promotions Ltd.,
PO Box 1772, Birmingham B5 5BA.*

SIGN PLEASE



IN SEARCH OF THE LIONS

Eric Woodward (pictured right) continues his series of interviews with former Villa players. This week he talks to Harry Burrows.

It can now be revealed, 16 years too late, that Harry Burrows almost became an Aston Villa player for the second time in 1973.

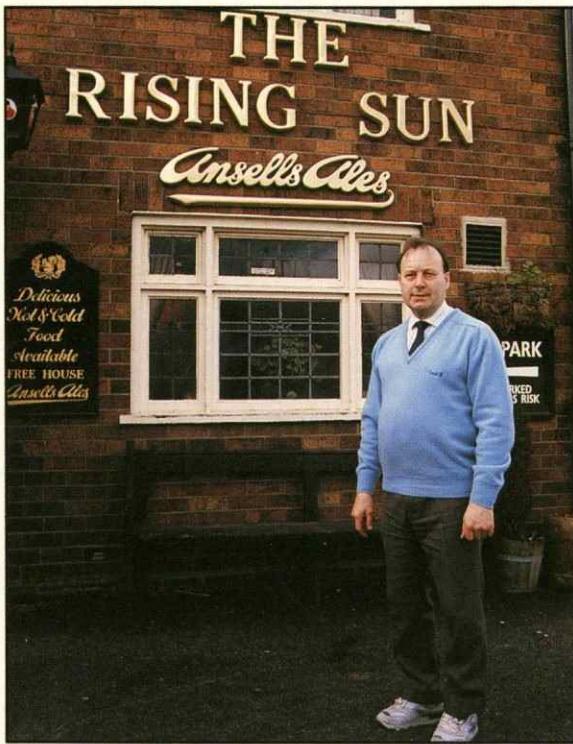
The story emerged when talking to this popular winger with the explosive left foot from his pub, The Rising Sun, Scholar Green, North Staffs.

Harry, you may remember, spent five years on first team duty at Villa Park after signing for the club on his birthday in March, 1958.

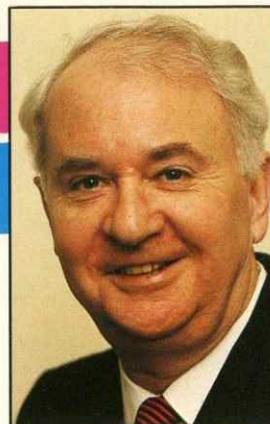
In all he played 181 games and scored 73 goals in this period and his tremendous

shooting prowess always raised a ripple of excitement whenever he was on the ball. In fact, it was quite a surprise when he left the club in March 1965 for Stoke City.

Burrows explained: "I didn't really want to go. I had been very happy at Villa and enjoyed my time there, but I left, in the end on a matter of principle. The club had just signed Johnny MacLeod from Arsenal and I was recently married. I wanted an extra fiver in my wage packet and was turned down.



Harry Burrows, outside his North Staffordshire pub.



"Now it was obvious that MacLeod was coming to Villa Park for a better basic wage than I had been given, and I thought I was worth more. The club wouldn't budge so I thought it was better to go elsewhere.

"To Stoke City, where they gave me £15 more on my basic wage. In fact, I had only been there two months when the manager, Tony Waddington, called me into his office, ripped my contract up and gave me a new one with an extra fiver. So I was £20 a week better off within two months of leaving Villa Park, and for a smaller club. I never could work that out..."

Burrows had a successful time with Stoke, surrounded as he was by a lot of mature talent, and in his eight years at the Victoria Ground scored almost 80 goals in around 270 games.

From there, he went to Plymouth Argyle which was his last league club, but how he got to the West Country is another matter altogether.

The then Villa manager, Vic Crowe, told me "Harry was always a better player than he was given credit for and when we were re-building the team and noticed he was available at Stoke, we moved in. But Tony Waddington wanted £30,000 and I thought it was too much at that stage in his career."

Burrows admits: "I would have loved to have gone back to Villa Park. I had played with Vic during my time there, and my wife is a Birmingham girl, so it would have been just right for us. The trouble was that Tony Waddington did not want me to go to another Midland club.

"In the end, I had a choice of going to Portsmouth, Carlisle United or Plymouth – presumably sufficiently distanced from the Midlands. And I went on a free transfer."

Burrows would have stayed with Villa as long as they would have wanted him, but for that £5 difference. "Sounds a bit pitiful these days, I suppose, but an extra fiver was badly needed as a newly married man, and I felt I had no alternative but to go."

Harry Burrows is one of the quiet ones. He speaks with a soft Lancashire accent and played for the same school team as Walter Hazelden, the well-built lad who set a new Villa record as the youngest first



Burrows pictured in 1961.



team player in the club's history, a record since overtaken by Jimmy Brown.

Burrows is also something of a surprise. When he was forcibly taken out of football by a recurring knee problem, he decided to stay in one place for a while.

"The kids were growing up and I felt we needed a little more stability, so I looked for something. Eventually I gained a Class 1 HGV licence and started a transport business with three articulated lorries.

"The recession in the late 70s became too much of a difficulty, and although I am a qualified F.A. coach, I didn't want to stay in football – so I became licensee of The Rising Sun."

It proved a happy turn in his life, and he is particularly proud that his children have done so well with their education.

The eldest son (now 24) graduated from Lancaster University with a degree in Physics and Electronics, their daughter is in her final year at Norwich University and the youngest son will be at University from next term studying politics and business management.

Harry is doing a spot of teaching himself. "It's only part-time" he said. "I teach at a local Education Centre on Do-it-yourself crafts. I was a painter and decorator for my Dad before I took up football, so I'm quite used to it."



Burrows evades a tackle from Blues' Stan Lynn at Villa Park.

an F.A. coach I think coaches must bear some of the responsibility. There are too few kids coming into the game and too many youngsters have had too much coaching. It all seems so regimented and footballers really do have a duty to the public to entertain."

Harry Burrows comes from Haydock. "It's Rugby League country in that part of the world and, to be frank, I get more pleasure nowadays out of watching that than soccer."

Meantime, Burrows is happy at The Rising Sun, and bought the tenancy about four years ago. If you are going north on the A34 sometime, he'd be delighted to see you. His pub is at Scholar Green, between Congleton and Stoke.

But if you are a Villa fan don't ask him what his most memorable moment in football was – because it happens to be the game when Stoke beat Villa 6-1.

And Harry, who left over a fiver, scored three of them.

FACTS & FIGURES

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE TABLE

Home Lge Attendances		Home		Away									
Highest	Average	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
38,730	36,404	Liverpool	27	8	4	1	24	8	7	4	3	27	18
41,247	25,733	Aston Villa	27	10	2	2	28	15	6	5	15	11	52
26,766	21,149	Nottingham F.	26	7	4	3	21	13	5	3	4	18	12
46,132	35,571	Arsenal	26	10	2	0	29	7	3	2	9	9	20
31,833	23,533	Chelsea	28	5	5	4	24	22	6	4	4	21	19
19,605	14,586	Coventry City	26	10	1	3	19	12	2	3	7	7	20
20,501	16,334	Southampton	27	6	5	2	30	20	4	4	6	23	26
33,944	26,768	Tottenham Hotspur	28	7	1	6	24	20	4	5	5	15	16
24,176	17,784	Derby County	26	8	1	5	24	12	3	4	5	9	11
14,625	8,208	Wimbledon	27	4	4	5	16	17	5	7	2	18	12
42,453	28,290	Everton	26	9	2	2	23	11	2	3	8	12	23
20,210	17,259	Norwich City	27	5	7	1	17	10	5	1	8	13	21
18,804	12,917	Q.P.R.	26	6	3	3	16	12	3	6	5	14	17
32,732	19,316	Sheffield Wed.	29	7	6	2	18	9	1	3	10	6	28
29,870	16,991	Crystal Palace	27	6	4	4	20	19	3	2	8	12	32
47,245	39,282	Manchester U.	27	5	4	4	19	12	3	3	8	15	25
43,246	27,362	Manchester C.	27	7	2	5	21	17	0	5	8	7	25
12,620	10,028	Luton Town	27	4	6	3	13	12	1	5	8	16	29
17,265	12,704	Millwall	28	4	5	5	19	16	1	4	9	14	32
17,692	11,539	Charlton Ath.	28	3	5	6	14	16	2	3	9	9	22

APPEARANCES 1989-90

	League	Cup	
Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls
PAUL BIRCH	4 (6)	-	(2) 3
6.11.62 West Bromwich			
MARK BLAKE	3 (3)	-	(1)
16.12.70 Nottingham			
LEE BUTLER	-	-	1
30.5.66 Sheffield			
NIGEL CALLAGHAN	6 (1)	-	1 (1)
12.9.62 Singapore			
ANDY COMYN	2	-	(1)
2.8.68 Wakefield			
GORDON COWANS	23	1	12
27.10.58 Durham			
TONY DALEY	20 (1)	4	10 (1)
18.10.67 Birmingham			
KEVIN GAGE	16	3	12
21.4.64 Chiswick			
BERNIE GALLACHER	6 (1)	-	2
23.3.67 Johnstone			
STUART GRAY	16 (2)	-	6 (2)
19.4.60 Withersea			
PAUL McGARTH	24	-	11
4.12.59 Ealing			
DEREK MOUNTFIELD	27	4	13
2.11.62 Liverpool			
KENT NIELSEN	23 (2)	1	10 (1)
28.12.61 Fredriksberg			
IAN OLNEY	23 (4)	9	13
17.12.69 Luton			2
IAN ORMONDROYD	16 (5)	3	10 (1)
22.9.64 Bradford			
DAVID PLATT	27	16	13
10.6.66 Chadderton			
CHRIS PRICE	23 (1)	-	11 (1)
30.3.66 Hereford			
NIGEL SPINK	27	-	12
8.8.58 Chelmsford			
GARETH WILLIAMS	3 (4)	-	2 (1)
12.3.67 Isle of Wight			
OWN GOAL	-	2	1
Also played: Adrian Heath (now Manchester City) 8 Lge Apps, 1(2) Cup Apps.			

STATISTICS 1989-90

DIVISION ONE FACTS & FIGURES

(League games only)

Highest Attendance

47,245 Manchester U. v Arsenal 19.8.89

Lowest Attendance

3,496 Wimbledon v Luton - 14.2.90

Highest Home Score

Liverpool 9 Crystal Palace 0 - 12.9.89

Highest Away Scores

Chelsea 2 Wimbledon 5 - 2.12.89

Chelsea 2 Liverpool 5 - 16.12.89

Most Goals in a Match

3 Mark Hughes (Man U) v Millwall - 16.9.89

3 Trevor Francis (QPR) v A. Villa - 23.9.89

3 Gary Lineker (Spurs) v QPR - 30.9.89

3 Gary Lineker (Spurs) v Norwich - 3.2.90

3 Matthew Le Tissier (Southampton) v

Norwich - 27.2.90

LEADING SCORERS

(including Cup games)

21 David Platt (Aston Villa)

20 Dean Saunders (Derby County)

19 Matthew Le Tissier (Southampton)

19 Gary Lineker (Tottenham Hotspur)

19 Ian Rush (Liverpool)

18 Kerry Dixon (Chelsea)

18 Rodney Wallace (Southampton)

18 Kevin Wilson (Chelsea)

17 John Barnes (Liverpool)

14 Peter Beardsley (Liverpool)

13 Dalian Atkinson (Sheffield Wednesday)

13 Mark Bright (Crystal Palace)

12 Robert Fleck (Norwich City)

12 Paul Goddard (Millwall)

FIRST TEAM 1989-90

Date	V	Opposition	F-A	Att.	Pos.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Sub	Sub	
Aug 19	A	Nottingham Forest	1-1	26,766	-	N Spink	Price	Gray	McGrath	Mountfield 1	Nielsen	Birch	Heath	Platt	Cowans	Daley	Olney(10)	Callaghan(11)	
Aug 23	H	Liverpool	1-1	35,796	-	N Spink	Comyn	Gray	McGrath	Mountfield	Nielsen	Birch	Heath	Platt 1	Cowans	Callaghan	Olney(11)	Williams(8)	
Aug 26	H	Charlton Athletic	1-1	15,236	-	N Spink	Price	Gray	McGrath	Mountfield	Nielsen	Birch	Heath	Platt	Cowans	Daley	Gallacher(11)	Olney(6)	
Aug 29	A	Southampton	1-2	14,401	15	N Spink	Price	Gallacher	McGrath	Mountfield	Nielsen	Birch	Heath	Platt 1	Gray	Callaghan	Ormondroyd(11)	Olney(6)	
Sep 9	H	Tottenham Hotspur	2-0	24,769	11	N Spink	Price	Gallacher	Gage	Mountfield	McGrath	Platt	Heath	Olney	Olney 2	Gray	Callaghan	Nielsen(8)	Ormondroyd(9)
Sep 16	A	Sheffield Wednesday	0-1	17,509	13	N Spink	Price	Gallacher	Gage	Mountfield	McGrath	Platt	Heath	Olney	Gray	Callaghan	Nielsen(8)	Ormondroyd(9)	
Sep 20	H	Wolves (LC 2 - 1st Leg)	2-1	27,400	-	N Spink	Price	Gallacher	Gage	Mountfield	McGrath	Platt 1	Heath	Olney	Gray 1	Callaghan	Nielsen(8)	Ormondroyd(4)	
Sep 23	H	Queen's Park Rangers	1-3	14,170	17	N Spink	Price	Gallacher	Gage	Mountfield	McGrath	Platt 1	Heath	Olney	Gray	Callaghan	Nielsen(11)	Ormondroyd(4)	
Sep 30	H	Derby County	1-0	16,245	13	N Spink	Price	Gallacher	Gage	Mountfield	McGrath	Platt 1	Heath	Olney	Gray	Callaghan	Nielsen	Ormondroyd(9)	
Oct 4	A	Wolves (LC 2 - 2nd Leg)	1-1	22,754	-	N Spink	Price	Gallacher	Gage	Mountfield	McGrath	Platt 1	Heath	Olney	Gray	Callaghan	Nielsen	Ormondroyd(9)	
Oct 14	A	Luton Town	1-0	9,433	10	N Spink	Price	Gallacher	Platt	Mountfield	Nielsen	Blake	Heath	Olney	Cowans	Gray	Daley(3)	Birch(8)	
Oct 22	A	Manchester City	2-0	23,354	9	N Spink	Price	Gage	Blake	Mountfield	Nielsen	Daley	Platt 1	Olney	Cowans	Gray	Ormondroyd	Birch(4)	
Oct 25	H	West Ham United LC3	0-0	20,898	-	N Spink	Price	Gage	Birch	Mountfield	Nielsen	Daley	Platt 2	Olney	Cowans	Gray	Ormondroyd(9)	Birch(4)	
Oct 28	H	Crystal Palace	2-1	15,724	7	N Spink	Price	Gage	Blake	Mountfield	Nielsen	Daley	Platt 1	Olney	Cowans	Gray	Ormondroyd(9)	Birch(4)	
Nov 5	H	Everton	6-2	17,637	4	N Spink	Price	Gage	McGrath	Mountfield	Nielsen 1	Daley	Platt 2	Olney 2	Cowans 1	Ormondroyd	Heath(9)	Blake(3)	
Nov 8	A	West Ham United LC3 Replay	0-1	23,833	-	N Spink	Price	Gage	McGrath	Mountfield	Nielsen	Daley	Platt 1	Olney	Cowans	Ormondroyd	Callaghan(7)	Comyn(3)	
Nov 11	A	Norwich City	0-2	18,186	5	N Spink	Price	Comyn	McGrath	Mountfield	Nielsen	Callaghan	Platt	Olney	Cowans	Ormondroyd	Blake(4)	Williams(11)	
Nov 18	H	Coventry City	+4-1	22,803	3	N Spink	Price	Gray	McGrath	Mountfield	Nielsen	Daley	Platt 1	Olney	Cowans	Orm'droyd 2	Blake	Williams(9)	
Nov 25	A	Wimbledon	2-0	5,888	2	N Spink	Price	Gray	McGrath	Mountfield	Nielsen	Daley	Platt 1	Olney	Cowans	Ormondroyd	Williams	Price(6)	
Nov 28	A	Hull City ZC2	2-1	2,888	-	N Spink	Price	Gray	McGrath	Mountfield	Nielsen	Daley	Platt 1	Olney	Cowans	Ormondroyd	Williams	Price(6)	
Dec 2	H	Nottingham Forest	2-1	25,575	2	N Spink	Price	Gray	McGrath	Mountfield	Nielsen	Daley	Platt 1	Olney	Cow				

AVIS LOCAL
e.g. 3 day weekend car rental from only £13 per day

As a supporter you're entitled to very special deals on weekend, week day and holiday car rental from Avis Local. With any Avis rental you get a free upgrade to a better car, for example a Sierra for the cost of an Escort.* All you have to do is 'phone your Avis Local Office, say you are a supporter and book the car you wish to drive. When you collect your car, simply show your Membership Card, match ticket or programme and Avis will charge you one group less.

Avis Rent-a-Car Ltd., 7/9 Park Street, Birmingham, B5 5DY.

Avis Local offers the best deal in town:
 • Fully Inclusive Rates.
 • No Hidden Extras
 • Free upgrade
 • All Avis cars are on average less than 4 months old.
 • Free maps in every car.

At last a national name at local prices
 *Subject to availability

RESERVE & YOUTH

The youth team suffered an upset in their challenge for league and cup honours.

After registering seven wins in an eight-game unbeaten spell, they went down 2-0 in the top-of-the-table meeting with Leicester City.

Their first league defeat for nearly four months allowed Leicester to open up a ten-point gap, but the race was not over with the Villa youngsters holding three games in hand.

Coach Richard Money said: "It was a big game in terms of winning the league, but I think most people know our views by now. Performances matter more than results at this level, although it would have been nice for the boys if they had won this one."

The position was unchanged after last Saturday's results. We won 1-0 against Nottingham Forest and Leicester took over as the league's leading scorers with a 5-0 victory at Coventry.

The last cup option of the season brings a home tie against Coventry on the semi-final of the League Cup at Bodymoor Heath on Wednesday 21st March (kick-off 1.00 p.m.).

Last week's Central League match was postponed because Sheffield United were unable to raise a team, but the Reserves were scheduled for two games this week.

They were due at Everton on Tuesday and then at home to Atherstone United on Thursday in the semi-final of the Birmingham Senior Cup.

Dean Spink completed a month's loan with Bury last Saturday by scoring his first goal for the Third Division club in a 3-2 win against promotion-chasing Notts County.

MATCH DETAILS

Saturday 24th February 1990
 Midland Purity Youth League
LEICESTER CITY 2 ASTON VILLA 0
 Villa: Livingstone, Crisp, Small, Liddle, Smith, Elliott, L. Williams, Yorke, Carruthers, Froggatt, Mooney. Subs (not used): Morgan, Bullivant.



Craig Liddle - winning goal v. Forest.

Saturday 3rd March 1990
 Midland Purity Youth League
ASTON VILLA 1 NOTTINGHAM F 0
 Scorer: Liddle (pen.).

Villa: Livingstone, Liddle, Small, L. Williams, Smith, Elliott, Crisp, Carruthers, Yorke, Froggatt, Mooney. Subs (not used): Bullivant, Morgan.

YOUTH APPEARANCES

	League	Cups		
	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls
Bullivant	18	-	5	-
Carruthers	22	17	6	5
Crisp	20(1)	6	5	2
Elliott	19	3	5	1
Fenton	(1)	-	-	-
Froggatt	20(2)	4	6	-
Hoban	5(3)	-	-	-
Livingstone	21	-	6	-
Liddle	17	2	6	3
Mooney	19	13	6	3
Morgan	9(5)	1	2(1)	-
Nicholas	5(1)	-	-	-
Shepherd	1	-	-	-
Slocombe	2(1)	1	-	-
Small	16	1	6	1
Smith	21	1	6	-
Travis	4(2)	-	(2)	-
Tyrrell	3(3)	-	(1)	1
Walker	4(2)	1	-	-
K.Williams	2	-	-	-
L.Williams	22	3	6	1
Yorke	3	1	-	-
Own Goal	-	1	1	1

(Up to and including Saturday 3rd March 1990).

PONTIN'S LEAGUE FIXTURES 1989/90

Aug 21 H	Huddersfield Town	2-1
Sep 5 A	Liverpool	3-1
11 H	Nottingham Forest	1-3
19 A	Bradford City	0-0
25 H	Leicester City	5-1
Oct 5 A	Sheffield United	1-2
9 H	Everton	4-3
18 A	Notts County	6-0
26 A	Manchester City	2-3
30 H	Oldham Athletic	3-0
Nov 6 H	Coventry City	1-1
14 A	Derby County	1-2
20 H	Blackburn Rovers	3-0
29 A	Newcastle United	0-1
Dec 6 A	Hull City	3-1
11 H	Leeds United	4-2
19 A	Manchester United	2-2
Jan 2 H	Liverpool	6-3
18 A	Huddersfield Town	2-3
22 H	Bradford City	1-3
Feb 7 A	Blackburn Rovers	2-2
12 H	Newcastle United	5-0
19 A	Leicester City	0-1
Mar 6 A	Everton	1-2
12 H	Notts County	
19 H	Manchester City	
27 A	Oldham Athletic	
Apr 2 H	Hull City	
11 A	Leeds United	
17 H	Manchester United	
24 A	Coventry City	
30 H	Derby County	
TBA	A Nottingham Forest	
	H Sheffield United	

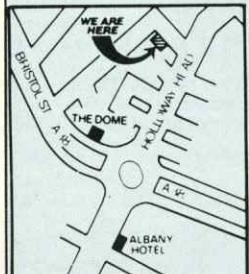
PURITY YOUTH LEAGUE FIXTURES 1989/90

Aug 19 A	Notts County	2-2
26 H	Coventry City	0-2
31 H	Wolves (MYC 1)	3-4
Sept 2 A	Walsall	7-2
9 H	Port Vale	3-2
13 H	Luton Town (SJFC 1)	0-1
16 A	Chesterfield	3-2
23 A	Shrewsbury Town	2-0
30 H	Derby County	2-5
Oct 7 A	Birmingham City	2-0
14 H	Leicester City	3-2
21 A	Nottingham Forest	2-0
28 H	Stoke City	1-1
Nov 1 H	Hednesford (FAYC 1)	9-0
4 A	West Bromwich Albion	1-4
11 H	Wolverhampton W.	3-3
18 A	Mansfield Town	1-1
21 A	Watford (FAYC 2)	1-2
25 H	Peterborough United	4-2
Dec 2 H	Leicester City (LC 1)	2-1
9 A	Peterborough United	0-0
22 H	Notts County	2-0
Jan 6 H	Walsall	4-2
13 A	Derby County (LC 2)	3-0
20 H	Shrewsbury Town	4-0
27 H	Chesterfield	3-1
Feb 10 H	Birmingham City	5-0
24 A	Leicester City	0-2
Mar 3 H	Nottingham Forest	1-0
10 A	Stoke City	
14 A	Derby County	
17 H	West Bromwich Albion	
21 H	Coventry City (LC 5)	
24 A	Wolverhampton W.	
31 H	Mansfield Town	
Apr 7 A	Port Vale	
TBA	A Coventry City	

KEY: FAYC = FA Youth Cup
 SJFC = Southern Junior Floodlit Cup
 MYC = Midland Youth Cup
 LC = League Cup

Panasonic KEY DEALER

• VISIT THE WINNING TEAM •
 IN CAR ENTERTAINMENT



OPEN
ALL DAY
SATURDAY

- OVER 100 AUDIO UNITS DISPLAYED
- FULL RANGE OF SPEAKERS IN STOCK
- LATEST COMPACT DISC SYSTEMS
- FULL AUDIO REPAIR FACILITY AVAILABLE
- EXPERT SALES & FITTING SERVICE

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
 OPEN MON - SAT

GITTINS CAR AUDIO

15 SUTTON STREET BIRMINGHAM B1 1DG

021 692 1201

TRAVEL CLUB HOTLINE - 021 328 3322

SIDE LINES

■ FENCE-LESS

Not defenceless ... but definitely fence-less: at our last match against Wimbledon fans were able to enjoy the freedom of the Holte End with no fence to impede the view.

The step has been taken as a demonstration of trust in supporters to help set a lead to the rest of the country in terms of common sense behaviour (see Steve Stride's message on the opposite page).

Since the Hillsborough tragedy perimeter fences have been systematically torn down by clubs around the League.

They do so in the knowledge that it encourages supporters to take on a responsible attitude in avoiding pitch invasions, the cause of their being erected in the first place.

Discussions are well in hand to bring about the necessary up-grading of Villa Park for the future.

No schemes have yet been finalised because of the complicated issues involved and the need for planning permission.

If legislation enforces seating on the Holte End the capacity of the ground will be vastly reduced and the roof will have to be significantly extended.

To make up for the loss of capacity an extra deck could perhaps be added on to the Witton Lane Stand but such



possibilities are merely in the 'possibility' stage.

One project which looks likely to go ahead is the up-grading of the pitch which has deteriorated from its former excellence due to unfavourable weather and years of usage.

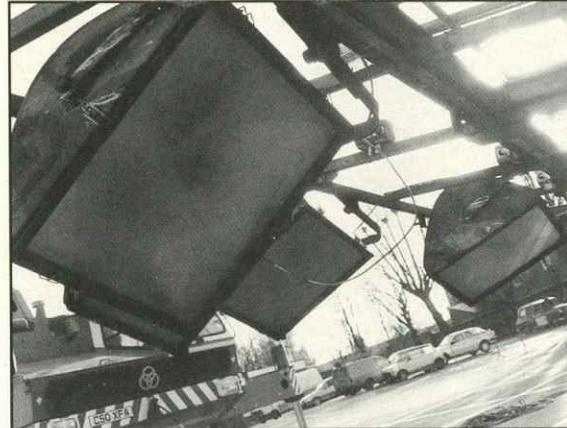
Experts are being consulted and if their verdict is that a new pitch should be created then the work will be carried out in the close season.

■ LIGHT-LESS

Another Villa Park feature was removed as the floodlight at the junction of the Trinity Road and North Stands was recently dismantled and taken away (see pictures).

The demolition is part of the preparation for the construction of a hotel and new offices, work on which will be starting soon.

In effect, the loss of that particular light is not a problem. Fact is that



much of its benefit was falling on the roof of the stand, anyway!

As part of the new development the floodlighting question will be comprehensively covered.

■ GOOD SCOUTS

Eleven of the club's valued scouts around the country were entertained at Villa Park a fortnight ago.

They're a formidable team as the picture (right) shows in this line-up with assistant manager John Ward.

Normally they are around and about the country spotting talent for both the present and the future.

Occasionally, in order to ensure that they are very much part of the action, they are invited in to Villa Park for a chat and a get-together. Then it's back to those touchlines again.

■ THANKS, STATUS

Villa director Dr. David Targett said a big 'thank you' to representatives of Status, the Suit Leasing Company, who sponsored the Wimbledon

Seen with Dr. Targett in the picture (opposite) are sales executive Alex Thomson and marketing director Zahir Moghal.

Status have also supplied Villa players and club officials with blazers and trousers ... designed to match current status, but of course.



■ VIP VISITORS

There is always a contingent of VIPs at Aston Villa games, two of the most recent being club President Harold Musgrave, the retired Austin-Rover chief, and the Bishop of Birmingham, a Villa fan, seen together below right.

■ SPONSORS ROLL CALL

Aston Villa warmly welcome Boardroom Sponsors Wilson Construction and their guests today.

Pearce & Cutler, today's Houghton Suite Sponsors welcome their guests from Tarmac Contract Housing.

A very warm thank you is extended to Finesse Windows for sponsoring today's matchball.

■ BEST OF THE FIVES

On Sunday 28th January, 42 Ladies' five-a-side football teams entered the West Midlands Regional Fives Competition.

The Villa Aztecs ladies entered four senior and two junior teams into the four categories on the day.

After a full day of good football, run by a well-organised committee, Aztecs 'C' were runners-up in the senior competition and Aztecs 'A' won the shield in the select senior competition and will be representing the West Midlands at the All England 5-a-sides on 20th May at Woking, Surrey.

■ SUPPORT WELCOME

Today you will also have the chance to support your other local team - The Birmingham Settlement - who have been working with disadvantaged people in this area since 1899.

Anything you can afford to give will

be used direct to help people in this area of Birmingham.

■ TEST CRICKET AT VILLA

Stumps Indoor Cricket Centre is proud to announce that it has been chosen to host the Fifth Test Match in the Indoor Cricket Ashes series between England and Australia.

The teams will be playing for the Manulife Trophy on Friday 16th March (B game 6pm, Test match 8pm). Admission £5.50.

This series is the first ever between these great cricketing rivals at this level.



■ PERIMETER FENCES

Following discussions with the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services and the Local Authority, Aston Villa F.C. have decided to remove the wire mesh perimeter fencing from the Holte End standing terraces.

The decision has been ratified by our Advisory Group on Supporter Safety. If this is successful, we may also remove the perimeter fencing from the Witton End standing terraces.

This is being done principally in the interests of safety of supporters at our ground. However, the excellent behaviour of the fans this season is another factor and we hope the removal of the fencing will not encourage supporters to come onto the playing area.

We are, therefore, placing our trust in you, the supporters, not to let your team or Club down by doing anything which might cause us to replace the fencing.

We hope the removal of the fencing will enhance your enjoyment of coming to Aston Villa and this is just the start of many improvements which you will see at the ground in the years to come.

Remember it will be you, the fans, who will determine whether the fences stay down or go back up again. All of us at Aston Villa hope you will not let our Club down.

S.M. STRIDE
Secretary

VILLA VIEW

Villa's youth policy was the bedrock of a successful club when players such as Cowans, Deehan, Gibson, Gidman, Hunt, Little, Shaw and Williams rolled off the conveyor belt in the 1970s.

And maybe it was no coincidence that the slump towards the Second Division began as the junior supply line dried up in later years.

While it's true that Tony Daley and Ian Olney emerged in difficult times, Graham Taylor recognised that the set-up needed re-building from the foundations when he arrived at the club nearly three years ago.

Dave Richardson was brought back from Leicester to organise youth development and for two seasons he worked in tandem with Bobby Downes. When Bobby moved up to the reserve team, Richard Money was appointed as youth coach last October.

After five months at Villa Park, the former England B defender expresses "a great deal of satisfaction" with what he has seen at YTS level and looks forward to his part in establishing continuity over a long period.

"The work done in the last two years is now beginning to come to fruition," he says. "Boys coming in next season, and even more so those who will come in a year after, will have been at the club for two or three years.

"Obviously, this means they will be influenced into our way of thinking before they actually arrive at the club. This wasn't the case in the last two years because Dave Richardson had to take boys who had no previous connection with Villa. That isn't an ideal situation and it has taken two years to get that right.

"Now we are getting a flow through all the age groups. We are down to 11-year-olds and there's a good chance that we'll be getting some of these lads into the club in the next four or five years."

The target is always to find a new Gordon Cowans or a new Brian Little, but Richard's definition of a successful youth scheme is broader-based.

He explains: "If you find a first-team player every two years, you have done well, but it's not only about boys who are good enough for the first team. There will be others who we think are good enough to be professionals but may not



Number 20

RICHARD MONEY

"It was a good grounding for me in that I had to do everything. If anything was needed, I had to do it."

Richard believes that young players would be all the better for seeing what life is like in the lower divisions. "I started off at Scunthorpe, worked my way to the top at Liverpool, then went back down and started coaching at the bottom. I honestly think that this experience has stood me in good stead.

"Boys who come from school to a club like Villa haven't got a clue about life in the Fourth Division. I'm not being critical because they were good enough to come to a club which is better able to look after them.

"The young pros certainly don't realise what goes on elsewhere, although this is probably less so with the YTS players because their general duties are much the same at any club."

Richard was looking to climb the coaching ladder in the way that his playing career progressed with a £45,000 move from Scunthorpe to Fulham and then a £330,000 transfer to Liverpool.

The opportunity to join Villa represented a completely fresh challenge in a new set-up. As he said: "Different clubs have different ways of doing things, and the one thing that I knew would happen was that the manager would let me get on with it. That's how it has been; he has allowed me to do what I want to in training.

"The YTS scheme in football is the same as in any industry. We have to teach boys basic techniques and then put them through different styles and different systems.

"That doesn't mean moving them into different positions. If we know a player can play in two or three positions, then that's useful to me and beneficial to the boy. But with the majority, we have an idea where they should play and try to keep to that and not complicate things.

"I have played with a sweeper but I tend to think that 4-4-2 is the best way to teach youngsters."

Richard is pleased with the standard he has found here but is understandably cautious in assessing first-team potential. "Let's say that I would be disappointed if there isn't a player in this squad who will go on and make a reasonable living out of football."



FAN MAIL

Write to The Editor, Aston Villa News & Record, Villa Park, Birmingham B6 6HE.

From: Mrs Janet S. Hart, Worcester Road, Sutton, Surrey.

I would be most grateful if, through the matchday programme, you could thank your supporters for the warmth of their reception and their congratulations after last Saturday's match.

My husband and I are regular Wimbledon supporters and have travelled to most grounds in the First Division. On similar occasions when the Dons have pulled off 'shock' wins, the fans have not so readily appreciated the quality of the victory and have sometimes been hostile.

However, as on previous visits, this has not happened at Villa and we were especially touched by the concern of one of your supporters who was sitting with us in the stand when Lawrie Sanchez was injured and another Villa fan ran up to us after the match to let us know the nature of the injury.

We thank everyone concerned with the match for making our visit so pleasant and wish the team every success for the rest of the season. If the team does not stay at the top of the League, the Villa fans certainly should.

From: Peter Aldridge, 28 Savill Road, Lindfield, West Sussex RH16 2NX.

In a letter published in the programme for the Sheffield Wednesday game, Brenda Hughes points out that when they last beat Charlton Athletic away from home, in 1957,

■ TERRY'S PICTURE POSER

Can you identify the two Villa players celebrating a goal at Notts County in this picture?

If you know the answer to that simple question you could win two tickets for a forthcoming Villa match. Send your answer on a postcard (please mark your entry 'Luton' in the top left hand corner) to Terry's Picture Poser, Commercial Department, Aston Villa F.C., Villa Park, Birmingham B6 6HE. The closing date for entries is Friday 23rd March.

Recent winners:

v. Blackburn, Katherine Woodhouse, Northfield. Answer: Barnsley.
v. Leeds, John Shaw, Tamworth. Answer: The ball hit David Rennie and went through his own goal.
v. Southampton, Dusan Popratnjak, Aldridge. Answer: Chris Nicholl.
v. Port Vale, P. Hadley, Tipton. Answer: Leicester City in 1969.



■ AWAY WITH VILLA

Everton or Oldham v Aston Villa
FA Cup Sixth Round
Tuesday/Wednesday 13/14th March 1990. Kick-off: 7.30pm.

Tickets:

This match will be ALL-TICKET. Full details are printed elsewhere in today's programme.

Travel Club:

Everton - Coaches depart from the Leisure Centre at 3.30pm (Fare £7) on Tuesday 13th March.

Oldham - Coaches depart at 3.30pm (Fare £7) on Wednesday 14th March.

Please note - the Travel Club office will be open tomorrow between 10am and 12 noon for the sale of FA Cup travel tickets if the game is due to take place next week.

Travelling by car:

Everton - Leave Birmingham via M6 north and continue to junction 21A. Follow signs Liverpool to join M62 to junction 5. In 1.5 miles at traffic signals turn right A5058 (signs Southport). In 4 miles at crossroads turn left A580. 1 mile farther turn right into Goodison Road.

Oldham - Leave Birmingham via M6 north and continue to junction 21. Join M62 (signs Leeds) and exit at junction 20. Take A627M to junction with A664. Take first exit at roundabout onto Broadway then first right into Hilbre Avenue for car parking.

Derby County v Aston Villa
Barclays League Division One
Saturday 17th March 1990
Kick-off: 3.00pm.

Tickets:

This match is ALL-TICKET. Season ticket holders have had until today to claim tickets, remaining tickets will go on general sale at 9.15 am on Monday 12th March and during normal office hours thereafter. Prices: Seats £8, Terrace £5.

Travel Club:

Central Liner coaches will be leaving the Leisure Centre car park at 12.00 noon. Fare £6.00.

Travelling by car:

The route to Derby was printed in our last programme, v. Wimbledon.

Programme Price: £1.00.

Crystal Palace v Aston Villa
Barclays League Division One
Saturday 24th March 1990
Kick-off: 3.00pm.

Tickets:

Supporters are strongly advised to purchase tickets before travelling. See the Statistics page for details.

Travel Club:

Central Liner coaches will be leaving the Leisure Centre car park at 10.30am. Fare £7.50.

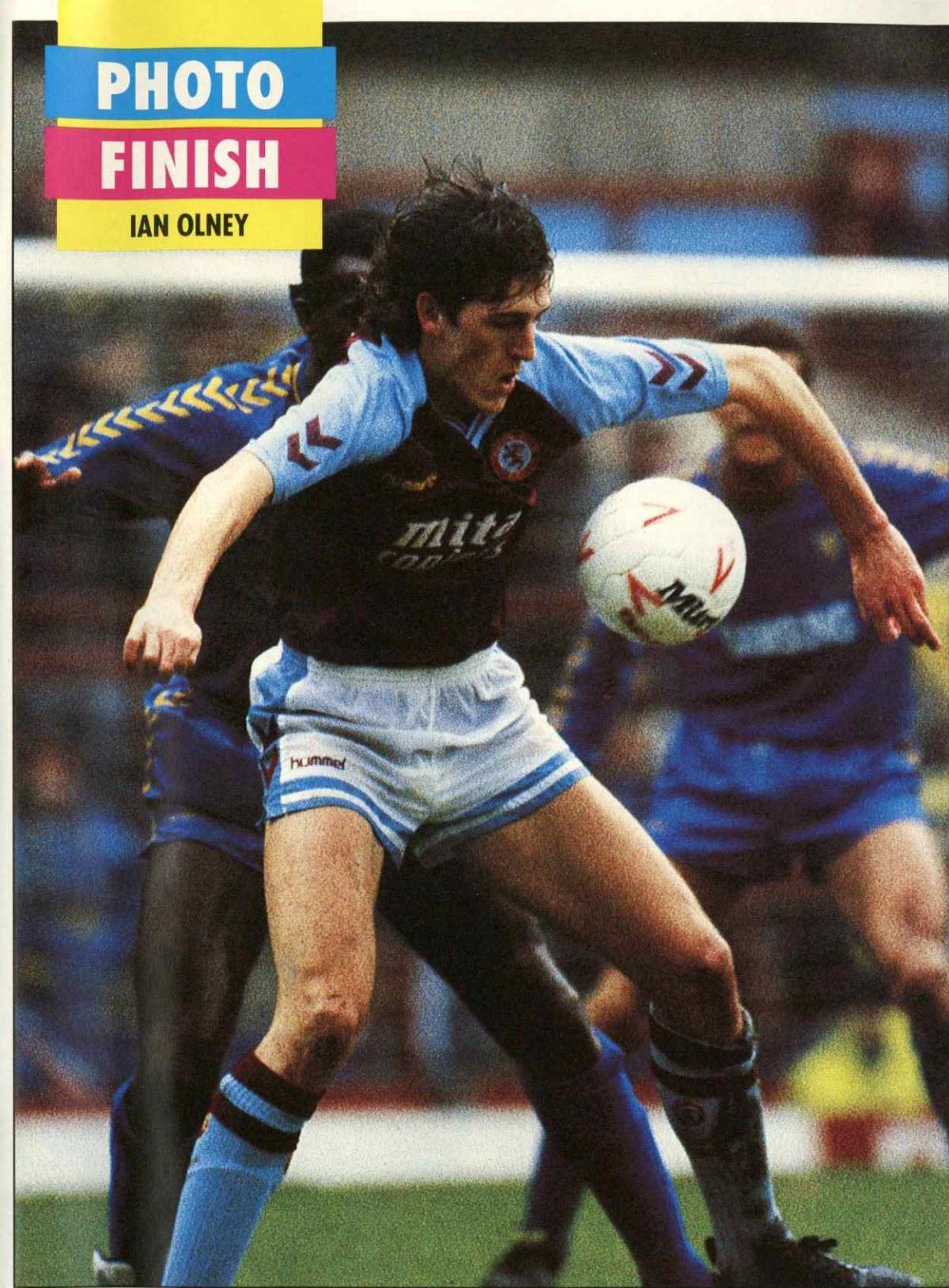
Travelling by car:

Follow the route printed for our visit to Charlton Athletic in the programme v. Arsenal.

Programme Price: £1.00.

PHOTO FINISH

IAN OLNEY



TRAVEL CLUB HOTLINE - 021 328 3322

ASTON VILLA TICKETLINE 0898 12 18 48 Calls cost 37p/min. peak, 25p/min. off peak

TEAM CHECK

■ MATCH OFFICIALS:

Referee: Mr. J.E. Martin
 Linesmen: Mr. P.J. Robinson (red trim)
 Mr. K.J. Hawkes (yellow trim)
 John Martin, a commercial accountant from Four Marks in Hampshire, began refereeing in 1958 and progressed through the Surrey Senior and Isthmian Leagues to the Football League list in 1977/78. He has refereed many 'big' matches - an FA Cup Semi-final, Simon Cup Final, Charity Shield and Trophy Final.

ASTON VILLA v LUTON TOWN

NIGEL SPINK	1	ALEC CHAMBERLAIN
CHRIS PRICE	2	TIM BREACKER
KEVIN GAGE	3	RICHARD HARVEY
PAUL McGRATH	4	JASON REES
DEREK MOUNTFIELD	5	JULIAN JAMES
KENT NIELSEN	6	JOHN DREYER
TONY DALEY	7	DANNY WILSON
DAVID PLATT	8	KURT NOGAN
IAN OLNEY	9	IAIN DOWIE
GORDON COWANS	10	DAVID PREECE
IAN ORMONDROYD	11	KINGSLEY BLACK
	12	
	14	

NEW VILLA STRIP BY



VILLA MASCOT

This afternoon's Villa mascot is five-year-old Kevin Prew, of Yorkminster Avenue, Chelmsley Wood, Birmingham.

Kevin attends Windy Arbor Infant School, his hobby is football and his favourite player is David Platt.

VILLA VOUCHER 22

Aston Villa v Luton Town
 March 14th 1990



■ SCORECHECK

F.A. Cup Fifth Round 2nd Replay
 Oldham Athletic v Everton
 F.A. Cup Sixth Round
 Cambridge United v Crystal Palace
 Barclays League Division One
 Chelsea v Norwich City
 Manchester City v Arsenal
 Nottingham Forest v Coventry City
 Southampton v Derby County
 Tottenham Hotspur v Charlton Ath.

Division Two

Blackburn Rovers v W.B. Albion
 Bradford City v Stoke City
 Hull City v Middlesbrough
 Ipswich Town v Brighton & H.A.
 Oxford United v Leeds United
 Plymouth Argyle v Swindon Town
 Port Vale v Bournemouth
 Sunderland v Leicester City
 Watford v Newcastle United
 West Ham United v Portsmouth
 Wolves v Barnsley

Division Three

Walsall v Birmingham City

■ FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL AT STUMPS

Five-a-side football is coming to the Stumps Indoor Cricket Centre. Bookings are now being taken. For further information please telephone 021 328 7777.

■ PROGRAMMES

Back issues of the Villa 'News & Record' are available from Gerald Harris & Associates, 77 Highbridge Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B73 5QE.

Send a stamped addressed envelope for a full list of programmes available.



mitre

TODAY'S MITRE MATCHBALL SPONSOR

SEE OUR ADVERT INSIDE TODAY'S PROGRAMME



First & Foremost
Finesse
 Windows Ltd

Showroom: 1400 Pershore Road Birmingham
 Tel: 021 433 3027 Evenings: 747 3053



MITA COPIERS - OFFICIAL CLUB SPONSORS