



v LUTON TOWN

Saturday 30th November 1991, kick-off 3.00 p.m.



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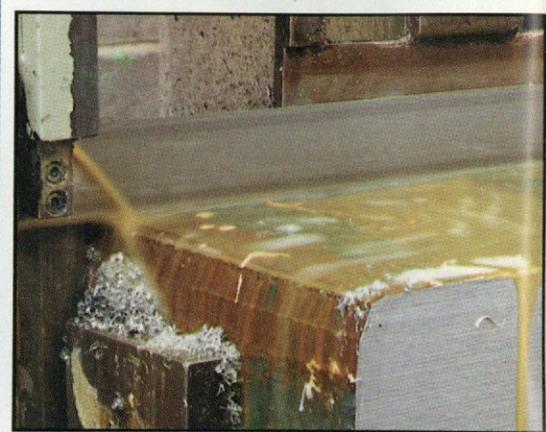
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Cover Picture: Deano and Tommy Cowan get that winning feeling against Wednesday.

Consecutive wins against Sheffield Wednesday and then Tottenham in London have put a new spring in the step of everyone connected with Sheffield United. It was my belief for a long time that we were in a totally false position at the bottom of the First Division but there we were and there was only one way out of trouble — to prove that we are good enough and win enough points to settle all the arguments.

In the aftermath of that win at White Hart Lane I was asked if the derby match had been the turning point of the season and I replied that we might look upon it as such but only if we kept working and winning. One step forward, one step back is no use to us and that is why I was delighted for the players that their tremendous efforts at Tottenham brought them reward.

One of the media people at Tottenham made the point that victory was especially sweet after the events of last season when we were beaten 4-0. My answer was what I honestly believe, that we have a better side now than 12 months ago and I hope it is starting to show.

In our present state where we had not won two games on the trot it was important that we did. I said before the game that our away form had been much better than just one single point, at Norwich, indicated and I said to the lads that if we kept playing as we had been doing, we would start to win games away from home. Sheffield United have not won too often at White Hart Lane so this was especially welcome.

Since our last home match there have been developments that have taken two popular players away from Bramall Lane and I should like to comment upon those items here.

First we agreed to an approach from Brentford to let Bob Booker return to



DAVE BASSETT

his old club. They had noted that Bob was not in the team and I put their approach to Bob explaining that it was down to him; if he fancied it and the security of a new two and a half year contract he could go; if he wanted to stay he would get another year with us.

I do not have to tell you what a terrific player Bob has been for Sheffield United since we drafted him in following a nasty injury to Simon Webster. He has worked hard, come through from the Third to the First with us and I am sure that, even though he decided in the end to return to London, part of his heart will always belong to Sheffield United.

There can be no one in the city who does not wish Bob all the best.

Sadly the departure of a second

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player was not such a happy ending to the story. As you will know, from the information in the programme supplied regularly by our physio Derek French, Cliff Powell has been struggling to overcome an injury sustained on loan at Cardiff.

But after five operations Cliff has had to accept that league football, in the near future at any rate, is beyond him and he has left the club.

It is dreadfully sad when any player goes out of the game with injury but it is particularly depressing when the victim is a young family man who thought he had a career in front of him.

Football is all about headlines, heroes, big transfers and big money. But we would do well to remember that tragedy and premature retirement can only be a game away and Cliff Powell, and others like him, deserve every bit of help the game and the Players Union can give them.

I should officially welcome Kevin Gage to our midst. He is an experienced player and one I know very well. When Tommy Cowan was unfortunately injured and unable to play at Tottenham Kevin came on and gave a very impressive performance. He can play in a number of positions and give us several options as he proved last week, starting at left-back and when John Pemberton was injured then going to the right to mark Paul Walsh. We then used Colin Hill alongside Brian Gayle and asked Paul Beesley to move to the left.

I make no secret of the fact that I would like to take him permanently but he is on loan for three months initially which gives us some time to work on the deal with Aston Villa.

Meanwhile make sure your support of the team is vocally correct as it is important that we continue our run for as long as possible.

Enjoy the game as well!

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KEVIN GAUGES IT PERFECTLY!

27 year old Kevin Gage, vastly experienced with Wimbledon and Villa, made a splendid debut at Spurs last week, coming in for the injured Tom Cowan. His inch-perfect cross caused such confusion that it's still difficult to pinpoint the scorer although Brian Deane has claimed it. Kevin's first appearance suggests his three month loan may well become a permanent one.



JUNIOR BLADES

PLAYERS WANTED FOR U-12, U-15, U-16 SQUADS

Contact Ken Carr on 699207

*Players must not be registered with any other G.T. League Club

FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION

South Yorkshire Branch

Tuesday 3rd December 1991
7.30 p.m.

at the Graves Conference Centre
University of Sheffield
Students Union

It is hoped that PAUL BEESLEY and another Blades player will be amongst the speakers.

Non-members welcome.

HELP WANTED

Unitedite Wayne Cadman has moved to Huddersfield and still goes to our games. He is interested in sharing transport if anyone can offer him a lift. Contact (0484) 421777.

Ladbrokes

TWO GOOD TURNS

Ladbrokes cashier of the year is bubbly South Yorkshire girl *Maxime Barley* and she wins the honour of presenting today's matchball which is donated by her company, Ladbroke Racing.

Maxime hopes she can pass her winning ways onto the Blades. Last month Maxime (25) who joined Ladbrokes on her 18th birthday beat over 5,000 other cashiers to win the title.

YOUTH CUP ON MONDAY

UNITED v BLACKPOOL

(2nd Round)

Monday, 2nd December,
kick-off 7.30 p.m.

South Stand only —
Adults £2, Juveniles
and Senior Citizens £1.

FRIENDLY DETAILS

400 fans braved the elements to watch a United side visit Liversedge F.C. in a match to mark the opening of new floodlights on 14th November. Two goals from Fickling and one each from Circuit, Peel and Reed sealed a 5-1 victory. Our team was: Kite, Harris (Morris 66), Barnes, Circuit, Hartfield, Fickling, Ward, Reed, Peel, Mendonca (Duffield 60), Littlejohn (Payne 45).

PROGRAMMES FOR SALE

Phil Daniels has "bundles of programmes for sale at £8 per 100, post free." For details contact him at 77 Darley House, Wallace House, Oldbury, Warley B69 1HT.

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to all our fans who contributed to the collection taken before the Sheffield Wednesday game. £1,303 was donated to the Sheffield Sports Commentaries Committee for Hospital Patients and the Blind.

Her trophy was presented by racing personality *Brough Scott* and Maxime this became the second South Yorkshire girl to win the national title in three years.

The tipping expertise of *Simon Tracey*, *John Gannon* and *Charlie Hartfield* brought a bonus of £117 to the fund for Cancer Research when they visited Ladbrokes and correctly forecast that *Dane Whitehouse* would score the first goal in the derby.

ROLLERCOASTER 'READY'

Life certainly hasn't been dull for 19 year old *John Reed* this season. He's already experienced enough highs and lows to last most footballers a few campaigns and his exploits should serve as a reminder to all budding players that you never know what is around the corner.

He was plucked from United Reserves last year by ex-Blade Ray McHale and went straight into Scarborough's first team on loan. So successful was he that they came back for him again with talk of a possible permanent transfer for a youngster they rated highly.

This time around things didn't work out quite so well. Says John "I didn't enjoy it quite so much, the travelling became a bit of a problem, and the Manager substituted me on a few occasions when I thought I'd done O.K. All in all both sides felt it best I return to the Lane — I wanted to come back and I've really enjoyed being here even though regular first-team football at United will be difficult."

John's sudden elevation to substitute against Wednesday shocked everyone as Dave Bassett gave no indication in the announced squad.

"It was a shock to me, too" says John, "I trained with the team on the Friday and I thought I was making the numbers up. Although I wondered about possible selection that night, it still knocked me sideways when the boss told me I was in on Saturday."

"I really wanted to get on after half-time when we were on top, but not so much in the first-half when it was still tense and mistakes possibly fatal!"

Victory was special to Rotherham born John but any thoughts of reaching the big time were dispelled four days later when he was only substitute again for the Reserves versus Newcastle. Games tend to be shared around with so many players at the Lane, but this had a happy ending for 'Reedy' as he came on and scored with a rare header in a 3-1 win.

Dave Bassett has no qualms about pitching people in or leaving them out. As he says "John is a promising player who I rate and I chose him as he's the type who could change a game for us — he was the man for the job in that particular game. As for the Reserve game later, that's all part of a footballer's life. Ups and downs happen every day and John accept that he has to keep his head down and work his way up like everyone else.

Wednesday 6th November

Peter Duffield and Carl Bradshaw (pen.) get the goals in a 2-0 win at Parkgate — a friendly fixture to celebrate new floodlights.

Thursday 7th November

Dave Bassett fined £500 by the F.A. after being reported for comments made to the referee during the Leeds game at Elland Road.

Friday 8th November

The club accepts Notts County's offer of £750,000 for Tony Agana — a club record fee that will stave off immediate financial pressures.

Saturday 9th November

The Juniors, somewhat under-strength through injuries, pick up a point from lowly Darlington in a 0-0 draw.

A hard-earned point, too, for the Reserves at Coventry where two experienced squads battled to a 2-2 scoreline. Fickling and Littlejohn were on the mark and Brian Deane enjoyed a full 90 minutes action.

Monday 11th November

New contracts signed by Dane Whitehouse, John Reed and Adrian Littlejohn, the latter to the end of the current season.

Thursday 14th November

Players on the move as Mark Todd finally signs for Rotherham United for a fee of £35,000, and Villa's Kevin Gage, an ex-Wimbledon man, moves in at the Lane on a three month loan.

One who is staying — Mike Lake — signs a new two-year contract with United.

Saturday 16th November

Roberts and Cherrill, with a penalty, get the goals that should have brought reward for the Juniors at Newcastle but poor play at the back results in a 4-2 defeat.

Sunday 17th November

Barclays League Division One UNITED 2 WEDNESDAY 0
Scorers: Whitehouse (44), Deane (72).

United: Tracey, Pemberton, Cowan, Gannon, Gayle, Beesley, Bradshaw, Hoyland, Bryson, Deane, Whitehouse. Unused subs: Gage, Reed.

Wednesday: Woods, Nilsson, King, Palmer, Warhurst, Anderson, Wilson (Harkes 73), Sheridan, Hirst, Williams, Worthington (Jemson 60). Referee: Steve Lodge (Barnsley). Attendance: 31,803.

Years of waiting and Owls torment swept away by a never-say-die United side bolstered by the return of Brian Deane. Wednesday hardly allowed to settle to their game and a tally of three bookings per side reflects a competitive, yet hardly dirty, contest. No trouble off the park, and Unitedites dance in the streets — with three points and a move off the bottom of the table as a bonus.

Tuesday 19th November

Bob Booker returns to Brentford having been offered a 2½ year contracts — having been paraded to the Lane faithful for a farewell before the derby match.

Unlucky defender Cliff Powell is finally forced to give up full-time soccer because of a long-standing knee injury. Phil Kite goes to Fourth Division Mansfield Town on loan.



A well-timed jump by John Gannon is too much for Carlton Palmer.

TODAY'S VISITORS

Luton Town

Luton Town, who have escaped relegation in each of the past three seasons only by winning their final game, are once again deeply involved in the battle for First Division survival. Manager David Pleat, who returned for his second spell in charge at Kenilworth Road this summer, is under no illusions as to the size of the task before him.

In a bid to halt the Hatters' slide, Mr. Pleat has used no fewer than 30 players in his first-team.

In August he shored up his defence with the signing of centre-back Trevor Peake from Coventry for £100,000. The following month he signed England striker Mick Harford from Derby for £300,000 and more recently he has added midfielder Chris Kamara — signed from Leeds for £150,000 — to his squad.

Other new arrivals over the past few weeks were defender Des Linton and midfielder Scott Oakes, who both came from Leicester in exchange for Steve Thompson.

But now the money has run out and, when he has to make changes, Mr. Pleat is having to call upon some of his more inexperienced players.

Harford, now in his second spell with the Hatters, has been an instant



David Pleat — Manager.

success and, with five goals, he is the club's second-highest scorer. He is likely to be partnered in attack by Brian Stein but Phil Gray — leading scorer with six goals — and Kurt Nogan are other contenders for places in attack.

Just recently the midfield has been lining up with Paul Telfer, Kamara, Mark Pembroke and Oakes. David Preece, Ceri Hughes and Jason Rees could also come into contention for places in midfield.

Newcomer Peake could be playing alongside John Dreyer in the middle of the defence but Graham Rodger has also appeared regularly in this position. Linton and Richard Harvey have recently been filling the full-back positions.

Goalkeeper Alex Chamberlain, signed from Everton for £150,000 in July 1988, took over in the Luton goal towards the end of the following season.

Luton have conceded more away goals (28) than any other club in the whole of the Football League and, so far, they have scored only two league goals away from home.

The Hatters' only away point came from a goalless draw at West Ham on the opening day of the season. All their other away league games ended in defeat at Coventry (0-5), Arsenal (0-2),

Chelsea (1-4), Wimbledon (0-3), Manchester United (0-5), Aston Villa (0-4), Norwich (0-1) and Tottenham (1-4).

Luton were also beaten away to Third Division Birmingham (2-3) in the Rumbelows League Cup, losing the tie 4-5 on aggregate.

The Hatters drew at Ipswich (1-1) in the Zenith Data Systems Cup only to lose that tie 1-2 in the penalty shoot-out.

The Manager...

DAVID PLEAT

It was at Luton he made a name for himself both as a player and Manager. He began his playing days at Nottingham Forest but played only half a dozen first team games before joining Luton in 1964. In 1967 he was transferred to Shrewsbury and later played for Exeter and Peterborough before retiring in 1971.

In 1974 he returned to Luton as Reserve Team Coach and was promoted to first team duties as Coach three years later. He was finally appointed Manager in 1978 and guided Luton into Division One four years later. In 1986 he joined Tottenham Hotspur, guiding them to an F.A. Cup Final appearance before moving on to manage Leicester City in December 1987. He remained at Filbert Street until January 1991 and returned for his third spell at Luton during the summer.

The Players...

ALEC CHAMBERLAIN (Goal-keeper). Alec was signed from Everton for £150,000 in July 1988 and took over in the Luton goal towards the end of the following season. He started his career at Ipswich but failed to make the grade at Portman Road. He made his break in league football at Colchester following a transfer in 1982. Everton signed him for £75,000 in 1987 but, after a loan spell with Tranmere, he moved on to Kenilworth Road.

JOHN DREYER (Defender). John was an apprentice with Oxford but played league football for both Torquay and Fulham, whilst on loan, during Season 1985-86. He got his chance in the Oxford side the following season. Luton signed him for £140,000 in 1988 and was Club Captain last season.



Back row: Brian Owen (Physio), Julian James, Marvin Johnson, David Beaumont (now Hibernian), Graham Rodger, Andrew Petterson, John Moore (Reserve Team Manager), Alec Chamberlain, John Dreyer, Sean Farrell, Paul Holsgrove, Darron McDonagh, Colin Murphy (Assistant Manager). Front row: David Preece, Mark Pembroke, Kingsley Black (now Nottingham Forest), Ceri Hughes, David Pleat (Manager), Richard Harvey, Jason Rees, Kurt Nogan, Brian Stein.

TREVOR PEAKE (Defender). Trevor was signed from Coventry for £100,000 in August and was immediately made Club Captain. He started his career playing non-league football for Nuneaton Borough before stepping up to league soccer with Lincoln in 1979. He moved to Coventry in 1983 and was a member of their F.A. Cup winning side of 1987.

RICHARD HARVEY (Defender). Richard is a former England Youth International who made his debut as a 17 year old in 1986. He has since established himself in the first team squad and has been a fairly regular member of the side for the past three seasons.

DES LINTON (Defender). 19 year old Des joined us from Leicester City recently in a deal which saw Midfielder Stephen Thompson join the Filbert Street club.

He made his First Division debut in our 0-1 defeat at Norwich on 26th October. He had previously made nine appearances for Leicester at right-back.

MARK PEMBRIDGE (Midfield). Mark is a former Luton Town trainee who made his league debut at Wimbledon on New Year's Day. Almost immediately he gained a regular first team place which was rewarded with Wales B and Under 21 caps. This term he has been instrumental at the heart of midfield and won his first full cap against Brazil in September.

PAUL TELFER (Midfield). 19 year old Paul is another product of the club's successful youth training scheme. He made one appearance as substitute last season, but has been given an extended run out in the first team this term.

DAVID PREECE (Midfield). David made his league debut playing for

Walsall in 1981, winning a regular place two years later. Luton signed him for £150,000 in 1984 and he has remained in the first team ever since. David has played in two Littlewoods Cup Finals and has been capped three times at England B level.

CHRIS KAMARA (Midfield). Much travelled Chris started his career at Portsmouth in 1975 spending two years at Fratton Park before joining Swindon in 1977. After another brief spell in Portsmouth he joined Third Division Brentford in 1982.

He had further spells at Swindon and Stoke before finally playing First Division football with Leeds in 1990. He joined Luton on 31st October.

BRIAN STEIN (Forward). Brian returned to Kenilworth Road this summer on a free transfer after spending the last three years in France, playing for First Division Caen and later Annecy in Division Two. He made his league debut for the Hatters in 1977 and was leading goal scorer for two seasons, prompting an England call up. His last game was in the 1988 Littlewoods Cup Final where he scored two goals against Arsenal.

MICK HARFORD (Forward). Another player who has returned for his second spell at Kenilworth Road, Mick was signed from Derby during September for £325,000. He started his career at Lincoln in 1977 before joining Newcastle in 1980. After a brief spell at Bristol City, he established himself as a class striker at Birmingham, prompting Luton to sign him in 1986. Two years later he was transferred to Derby County for £480,000.

SEAN FARRELL (Forward). Sean completed his apprenticeship with the Hatters but made his league debut on loan to Colchester United during Season 1987-88. He started the season

in attack but has only recently returned from a loan spell with Northampton Town.

PHILIP GRAY (Forward). Philip developed in the junior teams at Tottenham Hotspur, making his debut in 1987. He never really established himself at White Hart Lane, making only brief appearances and spent a loan period at Barnsley two seasons ago. He joined Luton for £275,000 shortly before the start of the season.

KURT NOGAN Kurt is a former trainee who turned professional in 1989. A prolific goal scorer in the Reserves, he made his first team debut in January 1990. This season has seen him return to the first team set up, making valuable contributions from the substitute's bench.

SCOTT OAKES (Forward). Another ex-Leicester player, Scott joined Luton in the same deal as Des Linton. A versatile player he can also play in defence when needed. He made his First Division debut with Luton at Norwich on 26th October.

FORM GUIDE

Luton Town's last six games (to 23rd November 1991).

(Luton's score first).

D1	Sheffield Wednesday	(H)	2-2
	Harford, Nogan		
ZDSC	Ipswich Town	(A)	1-1
	Telfer (lost 1-2 on pen.)		
D1	Norwich City	(A)	0-1
D1	Everton	(H)	0-1
D1	Tottenham Hotspur	(A)	1-4
	Harford		
D1	Manchester City	(H)	2-2
	Harford, Dreyer		

Action from United's 2-1 league win over Luton at the Lane. Glyn Hodges — scorer of a marvellous header — is up against it as Luton's defenders close in.

DID YOU KNOW

Today's game is the 29th league meeting between the clubs. Six games have been in Division One and 22 in Division Two. United's league record against Luton Town is:

P	W	D	L	F	A
25	12	7	9	41	42

The first league meeting was in Division Two, on 11th September 1937. United won 2-0 at the Lane and, five months later, by 3-2 at Kenilworth Road. This was the first of two doubles over Luton — the second being last season.

1955-6 was the first time the clubs met in Division One. Luton did the double, winning 4-0 at the Lane and 2-1 at home. Their other double was in 1976-7.

1955-6 also saw Luton's biggest victory at the Lane — by 4-0. Their best scoreline at home is also 4-0, in 1977-8. United's best home victory also came in 1977-8 — by 4-1, Simon Stainrod (2), Mick Speight and Alan Woodward scoring. 4-1 is also the Blades' best at Luton, in 1960-1, Derek Pace (2), Billy Russell and Ron Simpson scoring.

1955-6 saw the biggest Luton-United attendance at Kenilworth Road — 23,504 (the only time a 20,000 plus crowd has watched United at Luton). The smallest league attendance for United at Luton was the 7,025 in 1976-7.

The best attendance at the Lane to see Luton was in 1952-3 — 38,839, and the lowest, in 1977-8 when only 12,587 saw United's 4-1 victory. In all the previous 14 seasons when the clubs have met, the attendance at the Lane has been bigger than the corresponding fixture at Luton.

If a Blade scores a hat-trick today it will be the first against Luton. Six players have managed two — the most recent being Simon Stainrod in 1977-8 — but no-one has yet managed three.

A BLADE AND A HATTER

Bob Hatton



Date of Birth: 10.4.47.

Position: Striker.

Place of Birth: Hull.

Football League Clubs played for: Wolves, Bolton Wanderers, Northampton Town, Carlisle United, Birmingham City, Blackpool, Luton Town, Sheffield United, Cardiff City.

Bob Hatton made his league debut for Wolves in season 1965-66. It was not until his move to Carlisle United that he really began to make an impact. He hit 18 league goals for Carlisle in 1970-71 as his side finished fourth in Division Two. He moved to Birmingham City in 1971-72 for £80,000 where he helped to create a formidable forward line alongside Trevor Francis and Bob Latchford.

In his first season with City, promotion to Division One was secured as well as an appearance in an F.A. Cup semi-final. He appeared in another F.A. Cup semi-final for City in 1974-75. During his spell at

St. Andrews he was sent off at Bramall Lane in February 1973.

He continued to score goals following his move to Blackpool but despite managing 22 league goals in 1977-78, relegation to Division Three was not avoided.

He then had two seasons with Luton Town between 1978-80 after a £50,000 transfer. He scored for Luton against the Blades in 1978-79. His 18 league goals in 1979-80 almost helped the Hatters win promotion to Division One.

He moved to Bramall Lane in the Summer of 1980 for £75,000 and was arguably Harry Haslam's best signing. He hit 34 goals in 95 league games. He was a member of the Blades team relegated to Division Four who then helped the team win the Fourth Division Championship in 1981-82. He was a popular player with Unitedites and many felt he was allowed to leave a season too soon. Events seemed to prove this when he helped Cardiff City win promotion to Division Two in 1983.

THE LAST 10 MEETINGS

v Luton Town		(United's score first)	
D2	22.1.77	H	0-3 16,257
D2	27.12.77	A	0-4 10,885
D2	25.3.78	H	4-1 12,587
Stainrod (2), Speight, Woodward			
D2	30.9.78	H	1-1 15,295
Anderson			
D2	10.2.79	A	1-1 7,025
Hamson (p)			
LC	24.9.85	H	1-2 8,948
Foley			
LC	8.10.85	A	1-3 5,660
Edwards			
D1	26.12.90	A	1-0 10,004
Deane			
FAC	5.1.91	H	1-3 13,897
Bradshaw			
D1	30.3.91	H	2-1 18,487
Bryson, Hodges			

Questions provided by C. W. Quiz Services — contact Chris Wintle on Sheffield 749756 or 746546.

1. Who was manager of Luton immediately before David Pleat's first reign in 1978?
2. Who did Luton lose to in last year's F.A. Cup?
3. Luton lost 6-1 in a league game last season. Who was the victorious club?
4. Which current Sheffield Wednesday player made 110 appearances for Luton Town?
5. Which Midlands club signed former Rangers winger Ted McMinn from Spanish League team Seville in 1988?
6. Which was the last team to win the Football League Championship on goal average?
7. In August 1987, which was the first club to visit Scarborough for a football league match?



QUIZ BREAK

8. Which is the only ground other than Wembley to have staged a post-war F.A. Cup Final?
9. Which member of Brazil's all conquering 1970 side had to quit football because of eye trouble?

10. What is the nickname of both Crewe Alexandra and Lokomotiv Leipzig?
11. Which former Liverpool and Eire star became boss of Oxford United in April 1988?
12. Which former league club was expelled from the GM Vauxhall Conference in 1989?
13. Which was the last London team other than Arsenal to win the First Division?
14. From which club did Everton sign striker Bob Latchford for £350,000 in 1974?
15. Name the manager who led Manchester City to promotion in 1989.

Answers on page 28.

TODAY'S MATCH SPONSORS

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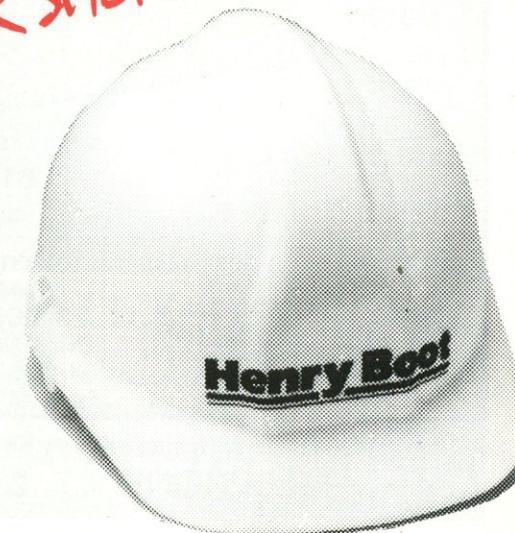
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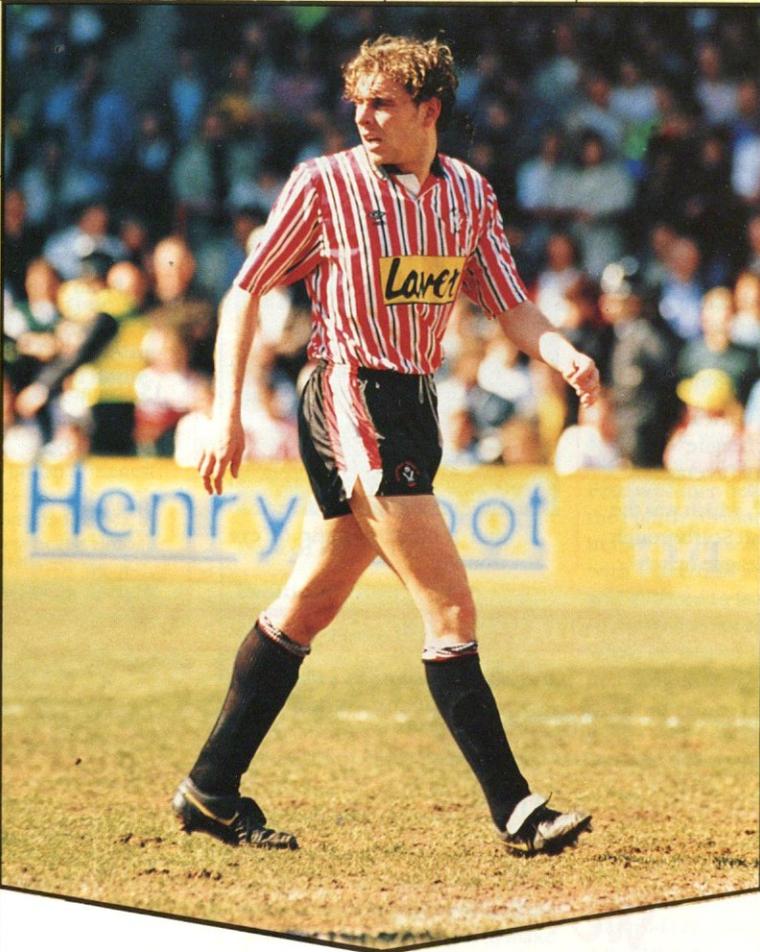
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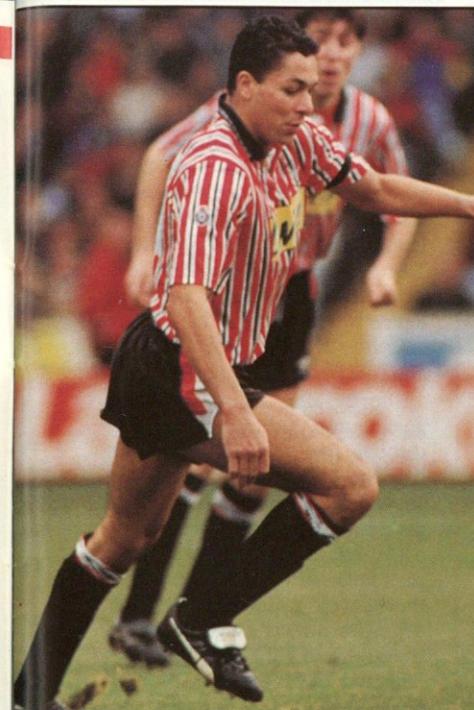


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“After consecutive wins over Sheffield Wednesday and Tottenham there is only one way to approach this afternoon's match against Luton Town — we must make believe we are playing Wednesday all over again.

We triumphed in that fixture for all sorts of reasons but perhaps chief amongst them was our desire to be first in every race. It meant so much to everyone at the club but, at the end of the day, there are just as many points at stake against Luton and any thoughts that they are bottom of the division should be dismissed. If we think in any way that Luton are not in our class, that is the way to trouble.

We know from our own experience that, when we were bottom, we went to so many away grounds believing we could win and came away feeling distinctly unlucky. The two Manchester clubs are prime examples and so Luton will have no complex about coming here; they will be every bit as determined as we were at White Hart Lane last weekend.

In the past we have sometimes let ourselves down after one good performance but at Tottenham we kept the derby day spirit going and of course we have to continue in the same pattern. Frankly I thought the team was terrific at Tottenham and it was a pleasure to skipper them.

At Tottenham we got the vital goal. Some people will say it was a lucky break but we know that we have deserved a bit of luck; I have lost count of the times when the breaks have gone against us.

I have been about a bit in the game and the spirit in the side is a bit special. But every time I played in any Dave Bassett side we wanted to win; they didn't go out with any other attitude. Dave is very good at taking the pressure off us and putting it upon himself.

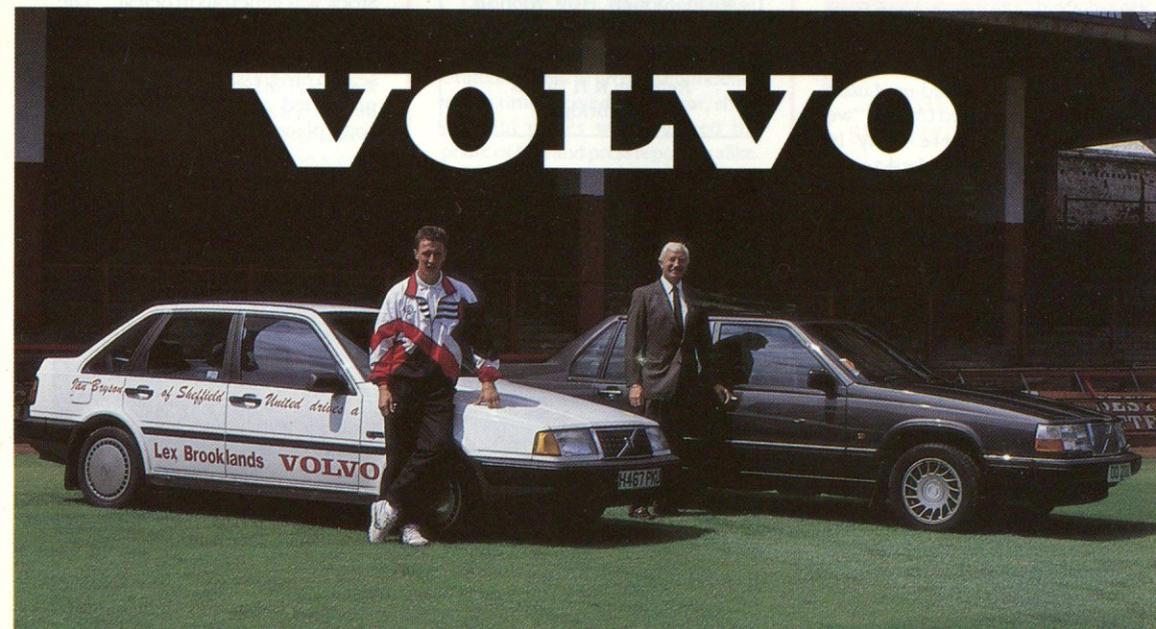
At Tottenham we gave them nothing and we have to do the same today. Playing teams in the lower half of the league will always be a battle. We simply have to treat Luton with the utmost respect. We had reports on them at Tottenham where they led 1-0 until a floodlight failure interrupted the game but the electrician was not on Spurs side when we played them.

We have a lot of players in this club who just go out and give 100 per cent and I like to think that this is my own strength. Then, if we get a result, I am more than happy.

I am not particularly interested in publicity about my own performance although every player wants to do well. I am here to see that Sheffield United do well in the First Division and then in the Super League.

At the end of the day we must keep plugging away and if we can continue to put on performances like our last two, I cannot see why we should not achieve everything the club wants.

Finally, Kevin Gage, a player I know well, joined the struggle at Tottenham and did very well but it was hard on John Pemberton to get any injury so early in the game and have to leave before the glory of that first away win. ”



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PAST ENCOUNTER

WOODWARD DOUBLE BOOSTS BLADES' PROMOTION HOPES.

United manager, John Harris, had made his promotion ambitions clear in the last week of January 1971 when he involved the club in frantic transfer activity. He signed midfield terrier, Trevor Hockey, from Birmingham City for £40,000 and swapped striker John Tudor for Newcastle United's reserve goalkeeper John Hope and forward David Ford.

Hockey and Hope made their debuts at Oxford as the Blades triumphed 2-1. This victory left United in second place behind Hull City. Luton Town were third, trailing the Blades by one point but having two games in hand. Luton were having a tremendous season on their return to the Second Division following promotion from Division Three at the end of the 1969-70 season.

In the pre-match build-up, Luton boss Alec Stock praised United: "we beat United 2-1 here early in December and they looked a very good side to me. I think they have the edge on most teams in the Second Division."

The main team news was that David Ford made his debut for the Blades in place of Frank Barlow. Hope and Hockey made their home debuts. Hope's selection in goal meant the end of the Alan Hodgkinson era. "Hodgy" had been left out for form reasons for the first time in 17 years. Mike Keen returned to Luton's team after injury.

The first half was very tight as Luton's defence held United at bay. Luton possessed the best defensive record in Division Two and one of the sharpest strikers in Malcolm Macdonald who earlier in the season had scored a hat-trick at Hillsborough. Eddie Colquhoun contained Macdonald well for the full 90 minutes.

The first 20 minutes of the second half saw the Blades lay siege to Luton's goal. Tony Currie and Bill Dearden hit the woodwork, Chris

by Dave Burkinshaw

Football League Division Two

6th February 1971

SHEFFIELD UNITED 2

(Woodward 2)

LUTON TOWN 1

(Jim Ryan)

Attendance: 30,986

United: Hope Badger, Hemsley, Hockey, Colquhoun, Powell, Woodward, Ford, Dearden, Currie, Reece.

Luton Town: Read, John Ryan, Slough, Hoy, Nicholl, Moore, Jim Ryan, Court, Macdonald, Keen, Givens.

Referee: K H Burns (Stourbridge).

Nicholl bravely blocked a Woodward shot and Tony Read saved a bouncing Currie shot with his shoulder. In this period, the Blades scored twice through **Alan Woodward**. His first was from close range after fine work by Ford and Reece and his second was a fierce shot after his own corner had been chipped back by Currie.

Shortly after United's second goal, Luton reduced the arrears through **Jim Ryan**. The goal was disputed by United as Hope appeared to be fouled as he failed to gather Alan Slough's free-kick.

United should have extended their lead in the 78th minute when they were awarded a penalty after Woodward was brought down by Keen. However, Tony Currie's penalty kick hit the bar.

After the game, Luton boss Alec Stock was generous in defeat; "The result was very fair". The result proved to be a crucial one as the season progressed. The Blades were promoted and Luton finished in sixth place, five points behind.



'Woody' is sent sprawling in the box but Tony Currie crashed the resultant penalty against the bar.

AWAY DAYS

by Dave Wickett



Gage, making his United debut, crossed deep to the far post and there was Deane to glance it in. Fortunately it was right in front of the United fans and what celebrations followed.

Of course there were some tense, nailbiting moments for the travelling fans but as the match progressed United seemed to grow in confidence and at times played some neat, short midfield passes which gained the praise of fans and press reporters alike.

Naturally comparisons were made between Lineker, who had just signed for a Japanese club and Brian Deane. On this performance there was no comparison, Brian was streets ahead.

Of course Lineker has had a marvellous career and undoubtedly will score more great goals in the future but on last Saturday's performance Brian Deane seems well suited to take over his England place. In the same England team should be

What a way to end a marvellous week, an away win at White Hart Lane that was as satisfying and deserved as our win earlier against Wednesday. A couple of months ago, when United received a drubbing nearby at Highbury, nobody would have rated United's chances of gaining away points against a Tottenham side containing such names as Lineker, Durie, Mabbutt and Walsh, who is always a thorn in United's side.

But now the confidence has returned affecting not only the team but the supporters as well. The optimism amongst the fans before the match was the highest since the opening match at Norwich and the level of support they gave the team showed as much. Dave Bassett was quoted as saying before the match that he thought United would win and his feeling seemed to spread throughout the team.

United, of course, needed an away win, not having managed one this season, and what was so welcoming was not just the result but the manner in which they achieved it. The attack always looked dangerous and in truth could have score more. If this is how Brian Deane plays when he's only 80% fit, what have we got in prospect when he returns to full fitness? One run in the first half when he collected the ball well in his own half and ran past five Spurs defenders like a knife through butter was a good as anything we've seen from him in the past. It was a pity that his final shot was just wide of the post or it would have been one of the goals of the season.

We only had to wait until the 54th minute for the goal to arrive. Kevin

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Simon Tracey. The previous Sunday he'd outshone the current England keeper and on Saturday he made some tremendous saves and fully justified the manager's decision to recall him to the team, replacing the unfortunate Phil Kite.

The Football League's fixture computer is making some curious decisions this season. After two matches in Manchester, there follows three matches in London. Next Saturday its Queen Park Rangers away, another vital six pointer, as this morning both sides were level on points. United won there last season and the points earned ensured First Division survival. With Rangers out of sorts, it appears they were booted off after last Saturday's 3-1 defeat at home to Oldham, let's hope the Blades can get three more vital points.

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BOB BOOKER

For the benefit of those that don't know, **Bob Booker** has returned to his former club Brentford on a free transfer.

There have been more exciting or contentious deals at Bramall Lane in the past but few that could have provoked such goodwill and warmth at both ends of the deal — both clubs know exactly what they are losing and gaining and it won't be measured in the balance sheets at Bramall Lane or Griffin Park.

Quite simply Bob is an anomaly, a one-off whose relatively modest talents have belied his appeal to the fans. In an age where money talks and many players betray their loyalty he has selflessly earned a reputation built on values too easily forgotten or discarded.

Bob's contribution has been well documented and needs little repeating here but it took nerve to uproot at his stage of career and move north in the first place. To cope with the initial barracking and won the fans over was even more impressive, especially as his then girlfriend and relatives were still 150 miles away — times can be hard and lonely in a big city when things aren't going too well.

Maybe some fans might now be a little more patient with newcomers who are finding their feet in future.

Bob's off-field contribution to all manner of events and duties was immense, partly as a means of filling in time but basically out of his sheer humility and pleasure in being a soccer player. The trick was to be like that and yet still enjoy the respect of his fellow players. He certainly did.

Almost exactly three years in Sheffield brought Bob moments of achievement and joy the likes of which he couldn't possibly have envisaged — the Second Division, the First, goals, captaincy and his very own chant! In all honesty 'Roy of the Rovers' almost pales into insignificance when you consider Bob was just about washed up and 30 when he came here.

Now back in familiar territory with another 2½ years of playing to look forward to he is chasing



promotion again as Brentford sit at the top of the Third Division. He could have stayed here, of course, but the lure of regular action and the chance to really put down his roots was irresistible, but "leaving Sheffield has been an even bigger wrench than I thought. Leaving so quickly has been a shock but it's getting better day by day".

Old friends, like Wilf Rostron and Graham Benstead, are there and Brentford play a similar style to United under Manager Phil Holder. "They are getting results and I think our style is the only way to get out of the Third with. So many competitive teams are stopping each other from playing their way out" says Bob, who doesn't feel any pressure in returning as a First Division player — "I'm not worried because I'm confident and playing the best football of my career, thanks to United."

Bob's first game at Bournemouth last week was a clash of in-form teams that ended 0-0. He recalls "Mark Morris and Paul Wood chatted to me on the pitch in the warm-up and then I had another tussle with Jimmy Case in midfield. Overall it went quite well and I'm delighted to get a game under my belt."

As a Blades player Bob often used to stay on in the south after games down there, and now fully expects to do the same in reverse as "there are so many friends in Sheffield I still want to see — I can't thank Sheffield enough."

Bob, the pleasure has been all ours and we wish you all the very best. On second thoughts you probably don't need our help. With the way your career has taken off you'll probably sign for Liverpool for £5 million in about three years time! "Ooh-aah" wouldn't sound right in Scouse, though!

BOB BOOKER'S UNITED CAREER

	App.	Sub.	Goals
League	91	18	13
FAC	4	2	—
RC	3	1	—
ZDS + SVanT	6	1	1
	104	22	14

First appearance:
26th November 1988 v Bristol City
Last appearance:
5th October 1991 v Leeds United

During that time Bob missed playing in just 18 of a possible 127 league games. He took the field in many positions and wore all the shirts but numbers 1, 5, 7 and 11.

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SHORT CORNERS

It was frustrating to hear Gary Lineker enthusing about the clever short corner move which brought about Leeds' third goal during last Sunday's televised match.

"That was probably worked out on the training ground," he said, obviously unaware that this particular move has been used to good effect by Sheffield United many times this season.

Now that it has been seen widely on television, others will surely copy it. No doubt Howard Wilkinson and Leeds will get the credit when in fact the move came out of Bramall Lane — if indeed that's where it originated.

There is no copyright on piece moves in football, and it's no secret that Wilkinson and Bassett are neighbours. Could it be possible that they spend their spare time watching the same soccer coaching videos?

PAIN THRESHOLD

Ted, an acquaintance of mine, has — only recently — become a football fan. Despite discovering the game rather late in life he takes it very seriously and is as sick as the proverbial parrot on a Monday morning if the team has lost.

His pride and joy happens to be Luton Town and, considering the

way things have gone for our respective teams this season, we have indulged in a fair amount of mutual commiseration on Monday mornings.

A few weeks ago, when first division teams had a blank Saturday before the international matches, I mentioned the bleak prospect of a weekend with no football. "Yes," he said cheerfully, "what a relief".

Clearly, his dedication to the cause still has some way to go before it matches those of us with forty-odd years of soccer watching under our belt. Sorry Ted, but there's a lot more pain for you to endure. And hopefully it starts today!

MEMORY MATCH

If anyone really believed that "football is only a game", they should have been at Bramall Lane a week last Sunday. Blades v Owls matches are always a bit special, but to both sets of fans the occasion was much more than "just a game".

After a troubled few weeks the Blades needed to win this one more than the Owls. All credit to Dave Bassett and the team for coming up with the goods and giving us a result that will be remembered for many years to come.

Certainly the victory was worth singing about at White Hart Lane

last week. Not fully appreciating the passion created by Sheffield football, the Spurs fans were amused to hear the Blades supporters singing "Two-nil, we've beaten Wednesday two-nil". By the end of the match, when the words had been changed to "We've beaten Tottenham one-nil", the home crowd were beginning to understand.

But one thing puzzles me about this new addition to the Kop songbook. If I'm not mistaken, the tune is taken from "Blue Moon" — and blue is hardly the favourite colour of Unitedites!

GALLYSAN

So Gary Lineker is going to play football in Japan next year. Apparently he has been chosen because he is a great player and a thoroughly nice bloke.

However, considering the well-known problems that the Japanese have with the English language, I would have thought that "Gary Lineker" is just about the worst possible name for the locals to get their tongues around.

No doubt they'll come up with some suitable name for Gary-san, but the Japanese could have saved themselves a lot of trouble if they had selected someone with a nice easy name. Like Vinnie Jones, perhaps...?

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ARGENTINA...0 CAMEROON...1

WORLD CUP FINALS 1990

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LOOK BACK

with Denis Clarebrough

The idea of such a golden period is not for me. Nostalgia is fine but I wouldn't allow my memories of the past to influence my judgement of present standards of football. Comparisons are odious and benefit little. Better to enjoy the present as well as the past.

My ideas didn't prevent me from enjoying this book however and it would make an excellent Christmas present for any soccer fan.

The author's 'Golden age' is the immediate post-war period, commencing in 1946 and drawing to a close in 1953. I was amused to discover that his opinions are based on reading and listening for it was not until 1954 that he saw his first Football League match. No matter, for the flavour of that far off period, including political economic and social aspects are well portrayed.

Perhaps it was a golden age of football, but then for me, they have all been so. My childhood was filled with talk of the days of Brelford, Sturgess, Kitchen and Utley, of Gillespie, Green and Tunstall. I was taken to see Jack Smith, Ernest Jackson, Jock Dodds and Jack Pickering. It wasn't a bad start in life for a soccer fan, and soon to come would be all the excitement of any away match at war-time Millmoor – well, it seemed exciting at the time.

The immediate post-war period was a golden age. Many of the great pre-war players were still around. Frank Swift, Joe Mercer, Raich Carter, Tommy Lawton, Stanley Matthews and our very own, the incomparable Jimmy Hagan, and we could still believe for a short period, that British football was the best in the world.

It really was, of course, the golden age for attendances. Over fifty thousand spectators regularly passed through the Highbury turnstiles and Newcastle United had an average attendance figure for the 1947-48 season of over 56,000. The biggest single day attendance came on the 27th of December 1949 when 1,253,039 spectators attended the league matches, with over 50,000 of them at the Lane to

THE GOLDEN AGE OF FOOTBALL

Do you recall a 'golden age of soccer'? Is there a period you remember that can never be bettered? My thoughts turned to these questions as a result of reading 'The Golden Age of Football' by Peter Jeffs which was published this year.

see United defeat Preston in a Second Division fixture.

The book by Jeffs covers the period season by season, and he has additional interesting sections on leading teams, managers and players (including Hagan) of the time. The book is not without error. Reg Lewis of Arsenal was not a

'ball artist', and Alex James was a journalist rather than a player in the period covered by the book, and Joe and Graham Shaw are still not brothers in spite of the attempt of this book and many football programmes to make them so.

In no sense could 1953 mark the end of a golden age however. Wolves were a great side and this was the era of the Busby Babes. Television was widening our horizons and we marvelled at the Hungarians, at Brazil, Real Madrid and the Tottenham side of 1961. Look back by all means, but there is always great soccer to come.

The Golden Age of Football by Peter Jeffs is published by Breedon Books of Derby at £14.95. Other recent soccer books of theirs include The Derby County Story by Rippon and Ward at £16.95 and volumes in their Complete Record series on Accrington Stanley, Burnley, Chelsea, Coventry City, Millwall and Nottingham Forest.



Tommy Lawton leads out an England side. Jimmy Hagan is seen to the rear.



JUBILANT JAMIE TELLS THE WORLD

Sheffield born Jamie Hoyland couldn't contain his joy at beating Wednesday, especially as Dad Tommy had done the same. Radio Hallam Presenter Dave Kilner, himself an ardent Unitedite, was delighted to let Jamie speak for both of them.



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inosine and essential vitamins and minerals. Glucose and Fructose are both instant sources of energy which are rapidly absorbed by the body. For best results take during and after training (diluting two table spoons to ½ pt of water).

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(Two tablets three times per day after meals).

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FRENCHIE'S FILE

Richard Lucas. Had a cartilage out. Also has a ruptured cruciate legament which *may* need an operation in December. Doing strengthening work on the joint at the moment before the surgeon decides.

Tom Cowan. Strained knee ligaments against the Owls.

John Pemberton. Got a 'dead leg' at Spurs.

Ash Fickling. Landed on his heels v Newcastle Reserves and damaged ligaments in his back.

Glyn Hodges. Still recovering from toe injury.

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FAIR ENOUGH

N. INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE
Saturday 9th November 1991
DARLINGTON 0 UNITED 0

United had an ideal opportunity to put the cup defeat at Bradford behind them as they travelled to lowly Darlington in their next league match.

Injuries to Brocklehurst, Godwin, Myhill and Evans, and Battersby's suspension, did, however, result in a changed side. In addition, Darlington felt moved to apologise for the state of their pitch which was atrocious for developing skills.

The game was generally poor although our youngsters applied themselves quite well in the first period, wanting to pass the ball well and atone for the Bradford game. Our centre-backs did much better and performed their defensive duties very solidly.

Trialist goalkeeper David Long, from our Scottish scouting system, did quite well and has been invited down for training at the Club.

Ward and Dickerson up front made great efforts in virtually new roles down the middle but the back-up from wide positions was not good enough to create many opportunities.

Roberts struck our best one at the

'keeper but really a draw was a fair result and our boys will know that, well as they played in some areas, our combination work in the final third of the field was below par.

United: Long, Kent, Cope, Cherrill (Butterfield 55), Wainwright, L., Foreman, Anthony, Ward, Dickerson, Reaney, Roberts. Unused, sub: Wainwright, D.

SAD BLADES SUNK BY BLUNDERS

N. INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE
Saturday 16th November 1991
NEWCASTLE U. 4 UNITED 2

United latest debutant Lee Innes — our Associated Schoolboy from the North East — had a 15 minute outing as substitute for Shane Kent at the end of a game which was heartbreaking in its lack of reward for our boys.

A 4-2 defeat looks conclusive but even the home camp were forced to concede that for the most part United were stronger and more organised than their hosts. Once again catastrophic defensive boos cost us dearly and the boys conceded four goals for the third time in five games.

Newcastle took a 2-0 lead without really deserving to do so. Firstly a blocked shot fell nicely for them to grab the lead on 14 minutes and this was followed by a six-yard volley after a corner was flicked on at the near post.

United hit back with *Dean Roberts* coming in off the left flank to sidefoot a goal from a right wing cross. The lads were doing very well now and looking likely winners until a sequence of events put the home side 3-1 up. Ward fell over the ball on the half-way line, Newcastle regained possession and crossed only for Wainwright in goal to come for and miss the ball which travelled on and rebounded off a startled Kent into goal.

Back came the Blades with a counter within seconds; Brocklehurst was brought down in the penalty area and *Matthew Cherrill* converted the spot-kick.

Thoughts of a comeback were squashed when Danny Wainwright fumbled a straightforward angled shot over the line and we were left bitterly disappointed at the final outcome.

United: Wainwright, D., Kent (Innes 75), Cope (Ward 59), Cherrill, Wainwright, L., Foreman, Anthony, Brocklehurst, Dickerson, Butterfield, Roberts. Scorers: Roberts, Cherrill (pen.)

PONTIN'S LEAGUE DIVISION ONE 1991/92

October		
1 Tu	Sunderland	1-1
9 W	Rotherham United	2-2
15 Tu	Manchester City	2-4
24 Th	Blackburn Rovers	0-3
30 W	Bolton Wanderers	0-0
November		
5 Tu	Everton	2-0
9 S	Coventry City	2-2
21 Th	Newcastle United	3-1
28 Th	Sheffield Wednesday	
December		
5 Th	West Bromwich Albion	
11 W	Nottingham Forest	
17 Tu	Liverpool	
23 M	Barnsley	

GOOD GOALS EARN A POINT

PONTIN'S LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
Saturday 9th November 1991
COVENTRY CITY 2 UNITED 2

Kite returned in goal for the Blades, but Booker was missing through injury, and his place was taken by Ashley Fickling, who lined up alongside Colin Hill, recently named in the Irish squad, in the heart of the defence. Nathan Peel was named as substitute, together with Circuit, thus allowing Brian Deane to begin his first game in almost two months.

Coventry City fielded a very strong side, including £600,000 signing from Norwich City, Robert Rosario, Micky Gynn, and the scourge of many a United side over the years, Kevin Drinkell.

Although the teams took the field to a cold, icy crossfield wind, conditions could be considered perfect for soccer, with the Highfield Road pitch, looking in immaculate condition.

Coventry kicked-off and threatened twice inside the first 60 seconds. First, Smith fired across Kite's goal, and then Lake intervened as the referee waved aside the hopeful penalty appeals. On five minutes, United launched their first attack. Ward won a corner kick on the right, and Lake was inches wide from Littlejohn's delivery. Good work from Mendonca let in Ward, but he lost his footing just inside the box.

Coventry led after 10 minutes. Rosario headed down into the path of Gynn who raced into the box before firing past Kite's despairing dive. Within four minutes, United could have been level. Mendonca and Deane linked well, but Baker just managed to flip the ball away. Kite then blocked Emerson's short range shot, and Hill did well in shepherding Rosario's raids.

After 20 minutes, however, the Blades drew level. Ward forced a corner on the left, and his delivery was only half cleared. Wilder whipped in a curling cross and Fickling dived headlong to turn it past the startled Baker from a very acute angle. Within seconds, United almost struck again. Hill supplied Deane, but his header was fractionally too strong for Mendonca.

On 29 minutes, City should have regained the lead. Gynn fed Smith who found Rosario who seemed yards offside just four yards from goal, but Kite managed to block the effort with his legs, much to the dismay of the home following!

The referee signalled off-side against Ward, as Deane pounced, and Lake swung in a deep cross which Baker just managed to turn away from Littlejohn's desperate lunge, but it was the Sky Blues who went in front again, on 40 minutes.

First Rosario headed wide, unbelievably, from just two yards, but then split the visitors' defence with a superb ball which Smith gratefully accepted and wrong footed the advancing Kite. The half-time whistle sounded with United feeling rather aggrieved at trailing.

Circuit deputised for Lake during the interval, and Ward's deep cross was left unopposed by the home defence, and bounced invitingly for Deane, but his delicate lob just cleared the bar. After 53 minutes, United almost levelled. A set piece was hooked back across the goal, and Fickling's crashing header was cleared off the goal-line by desperate defending.

Strangely, United then almost fell to a sucker punch. The short-corner routine, regularly employed by our forwards was effected by The Sky Blues and once again, the defender's were thankful for Kite's acrobatics.

Mendonca found room but was impeded on the edge of City's box, but Hill's thundering drive was blocked by the defensive wall. Phil Kite's long up-field punts, aided by the strong wind, were rather disappointingly uncontented by United's strike force, and possession was easily gained by City's rearguard, allowing frequent attacks on our goal.

Smith supplied Rosario with a free header, but once again, Kite was equal to anything City had to offer. Deane and Mendonca both had attempts blocked by Baker when one could have been forgiven for expecting more accuracy.

However, with 14 minutes remaining, United equalised for a second time. Littlejohn produced a smart turn out of the blue, and unleashed an unstoppable left foot strike past the bemused Baker. The goal appeared to give the Blades a new lease of life and on a few occasions they threatened to snatch all three points. With barely a minute remaining the performance was marred by the twin-booking of Charlie Hartfield and Ashley Fickling, following a brawl involving several players.

When considering Coventry's record in the Pontins League, United can be well pleased with the hard earned point, following the victory over Everton, just four days earlier.

Coventry City: Baker, Booty, Hurst, Edwards, Billing, Emerson, Woods, Gynn, Rosario, Drinkell, Smith. Unused subs: Middleton, Fleming.

United: Kite, Wilder, Barnes, Fickling, Hill, Hartfield, Lake (Circuit 45), Ward, Mendonca, Deane, Littlejohn. Unused sub: Peel. Scorers: Fickling (20), Littlejohn (76).

GEORDIES JUST NOT IN IT

PONTIN'S LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
Thursday 21st November 1991
UNITED 3 NEWCASTLE UNITED 1

Carl Bradshaw's brother was in the visiting line-up which faced a United side giving debuts to the on-loan 'keeper Jim Will from Arsenal, Kevin Gage similarly employed from Villa and 18 year old Australian trialist Adam Poric.

Newcastle were first into their stride and Will fumbled a long shot for a corner by the Blades soon gained the initiative and held it for prolonged periods. Gage and Povic both tested McNary from distance but it was a break down the left that opened up the defence for United's first goal on 19 minutes.

Barnes overlapped and hit a low centre that Peel did well to control under pressure close to

N. INTER. LEAGUE FIXTURES 1991/92

October		
5 S	Hull City	2-2
12 S	Barnsley	3-3
19 S	Huddersfield Town	1-1
26 S	Scarborough	4-2
30 W	Burnley (Cup)	2-0
November		
2 S	Bradford City	1-4
9 S	Darlington	0-0
16 S	Newcastle United	2-4
23 S	Scunthorpe United	2-2
30 S	Middlesbrough	
December		
7 S	Doncaster Rovers	
14 S	Leeds United	
21 S	York City	
28 S	Halifax Town	

goal — Mendonca did even better, however, seizing on the ball and driving it firmly into the roof of the net from the corner of the six-yard box.

Ward almost got to a flick by Peel and then the latter provided Gage with an excellent centre that was volleyed well only for McNary to push round the post.

The visitors threatened briefly but a Wilder header and a splendid Hill tackle meant that Will had only a couple of punched clearances to make.

Ward showed up well, hitting the crossbar with a corner and then having a 28 yard free-kick tipped over. Peel was inches away from Littlejohn's cross and then United's number 11 had a close range effort deflected for a corner. Good interplay on United's right gave Wilder the chance to force the mistake that gave us a 2-0 lead four minutes before the break; his low cross was diverted into his own net by Anderson.

John Reed joined the action on 48 minutes as substitute for the unfortunate Ward who was fouled and injured. Worse was to follow nine minutes later when Newcastle pulled a goal back from out of the blue. Elliot's cross caught United napping and Robinson strode forward to finish well from 15 yards.

United deservedly regained their two goal advantage after 61 minutes. Newcomer Povic unleashed a fierce long-range drive which McNary could only parry upwards and Reed was in like a flash to nod home as the 'keeper was still off-balance.

Gage gave way to Morris and United then had the Geordies on the rack but mystifyingly failed to increase their lead. Peel had several strikes at goal, including one cleared off the line, Littlejohn and Red went close, and Lee Morris produced another power drive which the goalkeeper this time managed to turn over.

It had been a satisfying night all round with good contributions from everyone and only one complaint — such was our dominance that a greater margin of victory could have been expected.

United: Will, Wilder, Barnes, Ward (Reed 48), Fickling, Hill, Gage (Morris 65), Povic, Peel, Mendonca, Littlejohn.

Newcastle: McNary, Watson, Elliot, Anderson, Bradshaw, Askew, Makel, Gourlay, Robinson, Lamb, Heron. Unused subs: Cole, Keavney.

Scorers: United — Mendonca (19), Anderson, o.g. (41), Reed (61). Newcastle — Robinson (57).



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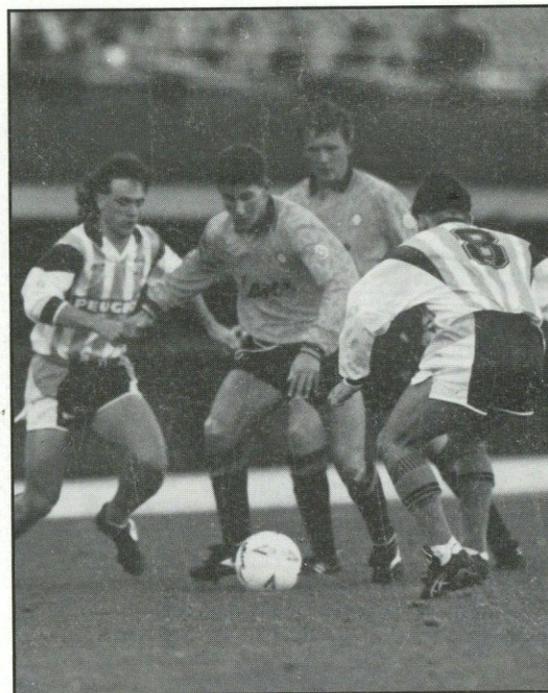
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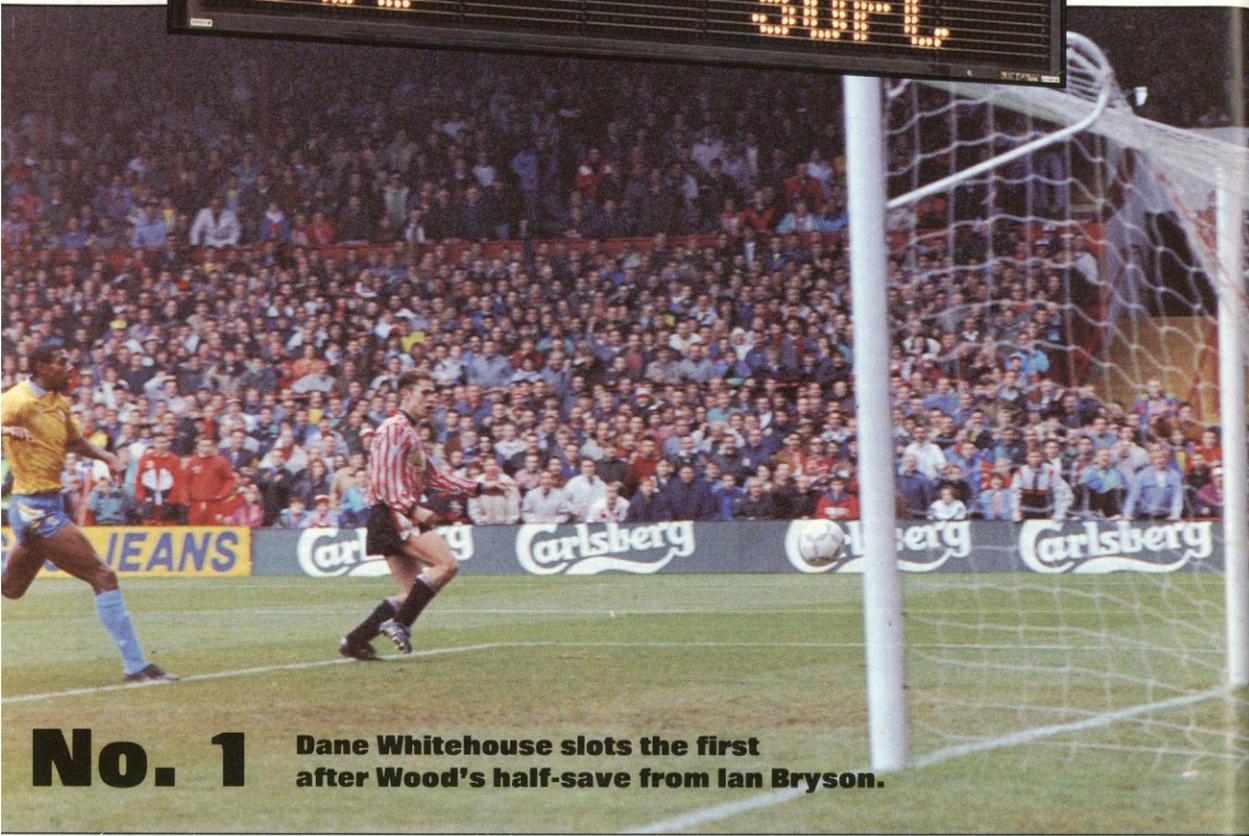
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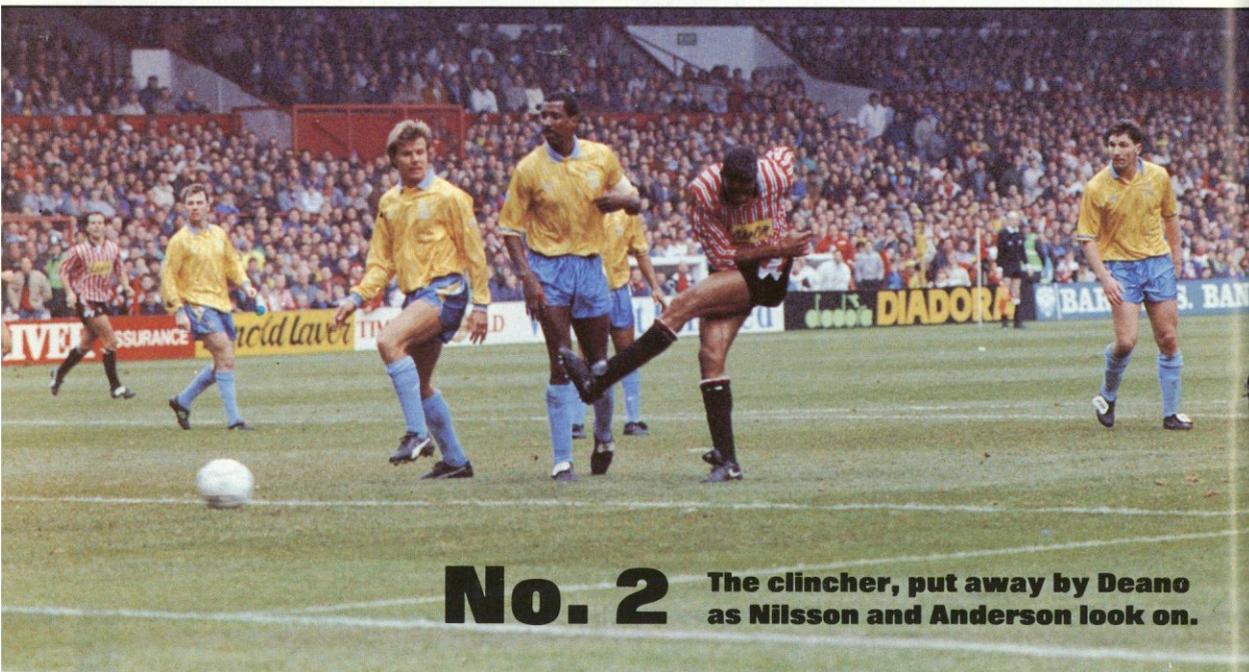


Steve Circuit takes on Smith and Gynn, watched by Chris Wilder, in the Reserve game at Coventry.

UNITED
WEDNESDAY
15:30
SFC



No. 1 Dane Whitehouse slots the first after Wood's half-save from Ian Bryson.



No. 2 The clincher, put away by Deane as Nilsson and Anderson look on.



IT'S THAT MAN AGAIN

Chris Woods in the firing line this time with Brian Deane getting highest yet again.

GOING TO THE GAME?

SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

by Beryl Whitney

Good afternoon and welcome to all supporters. No doubt the atmosphere today will be much more subdued than when we were last here! Wouldn't it be great if it could be like that every game — especially the result. A big thank you to Dave and the lads for a wonderful Sunday (and Monday), also for last Saturday.

The only 'tinge' of sadness was the news of the imminent departure of Bob Booker. Players come and go — some are soon pushed out of the mind by the new arrivals but a few stay in the forefront for many years — and not always for special skills on the field. Many supporters remember players for their ability and willingness to mix with them, attend functions etc. — Bob was one of those outstanding personalities. Thanks from Pete, myself and hundreds of fans to whom he had brought pleasure, meeting them on their 'own ground' wherever he was invited. Bob — you will be sorely missed. Best wishes for the future.

We are still looking for volunteers to take part in the National Federation of Football Supporters and Rothmans quiz in which we have been drawn against Leeds. A provisional date for the return leg has been arranged for 10th December at the Princess Royal, Woodhouse Mill.

At the same venue on 18th December, we hope to be holding the annual inter-branch quiz.

Two dates for your 1992 diary — The *Miss Sheffield United Contest* is to be held on Saturday, 29th February in the Executive Suite. Any eligible young ladies — Supporters Club Members — start summoning up your courage now — entry forms available in the New Year.

The fourth Player of the Year Dinner Dance will take place next year on Saturday, 4th April, again in the Executive Suite. Details later, but pencil it in! If anyone would like to help with sponsorship, in any form, for either event, please contact myself or Pete. We would be very grateful.

Finally don't forget the next 'Derby' challenge for the Derek Dooley Trophy, when our Stocksbridge Branch hold their annual Charity Quiz, Blades v Owls at the 'Peggy Tub', Stocksbridge, on Thursday, 5th December. All will be welcome.

Hope you all enjoy the game and that the majority are smiling!

Blades TRAVEL CLUB

Q.P.R.

Saturday 7th December 1991
Please Note: Departure is now 9.30 a.m. Price still £9.00*
 Please book by Thursday 5th Dec.

WEST HAM UNITED

Saturday 21st December 1991
 Depart 9.00 a.m. Price £8.00.
 Please book by Thursday 19th Dec.

* £1 reduction for Juniors & O.A.P.'s

ADVANCE INFORMATION

LIVERPOOL

New Years Day

Please book by 28th December as we cannot guarantee places after this date.

Depart 11.00 a.m.

Fare: £5.50 (£4.40).

RING
0742 727901

G.T. NEWS / G.T. SPORTS

Having won the award on ALL six coaches at the Tottenham game **SIMON TRACEY** has moved up to 2nd place just seven points behind Tommy Cowan.



MATCH TICKETS

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

Q.P.R. v UNITED

Saturday 7th December 1991, kick-off 3.00 p.m.

This game is NOT all ticket for Sheffield United Supporters.

Seats £12.00. Terrace £7.00. Seat tickets are available from the ticket office (general sale)

Terrace tickets—pay on the turnstile—Seating also available on the day.

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

UNITED v ASTON VILLA

Saturday 14th December 1991, kick-off 3.00 p.m.

Tickets for this game will go on sale on Monday 2nd December 1991, from 9.00 a.m.

Category "A" prices apply.

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

WEST HAM UNITED v UNITED

Saturday 21st December, 1991, kick-off 3.00 p.m.

This game is ALL TICKET for Sheffield United Supporters. Tickets will go on general sale on 9th December 1991, from 9.00 a.m.

Seats £12.50. Terrace £7.00.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ BREAK

1. Harry Haslam; 2. West Ham; 3. Queens Park Rangers; 4. Danny Wilson; 5. Derby County; 6. Manchester United in 1965; 7. Wolverhampton Wanderers; 8. Old Trafford in 1970 for the Leeds v Chelsea replay; 9. Tostao; 10. The Railwaymen; 11. Mark Lawrenson; 12. Newport County; 13. Spurs in 1961; 14. Birmingham City; 15. Mel Machin.



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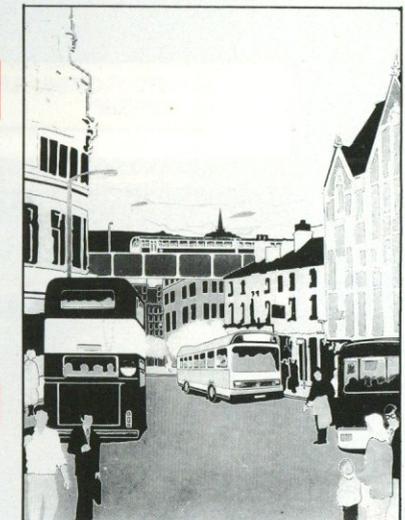
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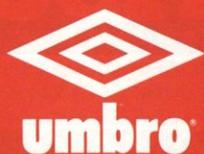
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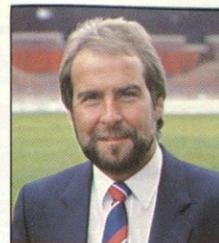
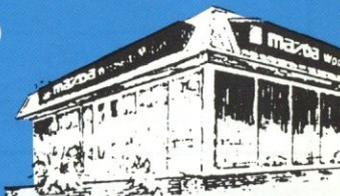


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COMMERCIAL PAGE

Andy Daykin — Commercial Manager

FOOTBALL TURNS TO POLO FOR CLIVE



The great derby day provided further joy for Blades Revival member Clive Mounsey of Bakewell who was the lucky winner of the Revival draw for a VW Polo provided by Gilders of Banner Cross.

Clive is pictured here receiving keys to the car from Gilders Organisations Director, Garry Scotting, along with Clive's sons, John (left) and Colin.

Clive described the moment as "loads and loads of icing on the cake" and who can disagree with that!



KEEPING THE SPIRIT ALIVE

The Sheffield Festival will be taking over the city from the 4th to the 19th of July next year and Sheffield United were pleased to donate an autographed football to raise money for the festival at the game with Sheffield Wednesday, Richard Caborn, M.P., (left) is pictured presenting a Sheffield Wednesday ball to Andrea Gelder, Administrator for the Festival and Tracie Bennett, actress, is receiving an autographed football from United's Commercial Manager, Andy Daykin.

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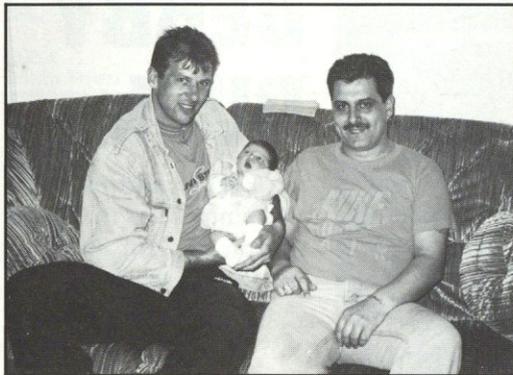
BOOKER — BY ROOKER

Although Bob Booker has received a tribute earlier on in this issue, it seems appropriate that the final accolade should be save for this page and be given by Club Representative Mick Rooker:

"No matter what people's opinions of Bob are as a footballer, he has been the tops when it comes to helping out with voluntary work. We've spent hours

together with all sorts of people representing the club and his patience and generosity have been fantastic — it isn't all glamorous stuff!

"On behalf of all the mascots, sponsors, hospital patients, babies, Club Committees, fans, staff and anyone who has benefitted from his stay at the Lane — thanks Bob, we'll miss you!"



Bob's a wow with babies! — he is seen with Samantha, daughter of kit sponsor Paul Bonaito (left), and Paige Briggs, a little Blade-ette belonging to Dad Paul.

Today's Mascots

Daniel George lives in Lincoln and attends the North Kesteven School in North Hykeham. His hobbies are football, fishing and watching United. Daniel's favourite United players are Brian Deane, Glyn Hodges, Tom Cowan and Simon Tracey.

Robert Dial, aged 11. A pupil of Greenhill School. His hobbies are Scouts, camping and football. Robert's favourite player is Brian Deane. Robert's birthday was last Monday and being a mascot is part of his birthday present.

Karl David Roberts, aged 7. A pupil of Mundella Junior School. His hobbies are reading and football. His favourite players are Glyn Hodges and John Gannon. Karl's birthday is 13th December and being a mascot is his birthday present.

Matthew Robert Glave, aged 8. A pupil of Newman Road Nursery and First School. His hobbies are football, swimming and the Boys Brigade. Matthew's favourite players are Simon Tracey and Brian Deane.



The name of the game.

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