

LUTON TOWN F.C. v GRIMSBY TOWN

Season's Greetings
to All Supporters

Match Day
£1.50
Magazine

WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 29,

1993
KICK-OFF
7.45pm

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A look to the future makes promising reading

ON THE BALL WITH DAVID PLEAT



Welcome to everyone for this evening's game. I hope you all had an enjoyable holiday period and the game will be worthy of a festive occasion. A particularly warm welcome to our friends from Grimsby Town: their management, players and supporters.

Alan Buckley has been a long-time friend of mine but I was hoping we can come out on top tonight and reverse last year's result when Grimsby played some excellent football. It is clear in my memory because Paul Groves, whom I signed from non-league football, scored three goals and Ron Groves was the referee.

The games against the leaders Charlton and Tranmere gave disappointing results. At Charlton we deserved little; against Tranmere we should have gained something. In the second game we showed a lack of guile in the final third, despite having the lion's share of possession.

Last Sunday at Watford we once again had more possession than our opponents and showed a far more positive attitude when we had the ball. Our full-backs Des Linton and Mitchell Thomas, who's loan has been extended, joined in the play to my satisfaction. The final act of John Dreyer's penalty was a fair reward for our efforts and we would like to record the thanks to our supporters who, once again, came away from a local derby unscathed and roared us on to a strong second-half effort.

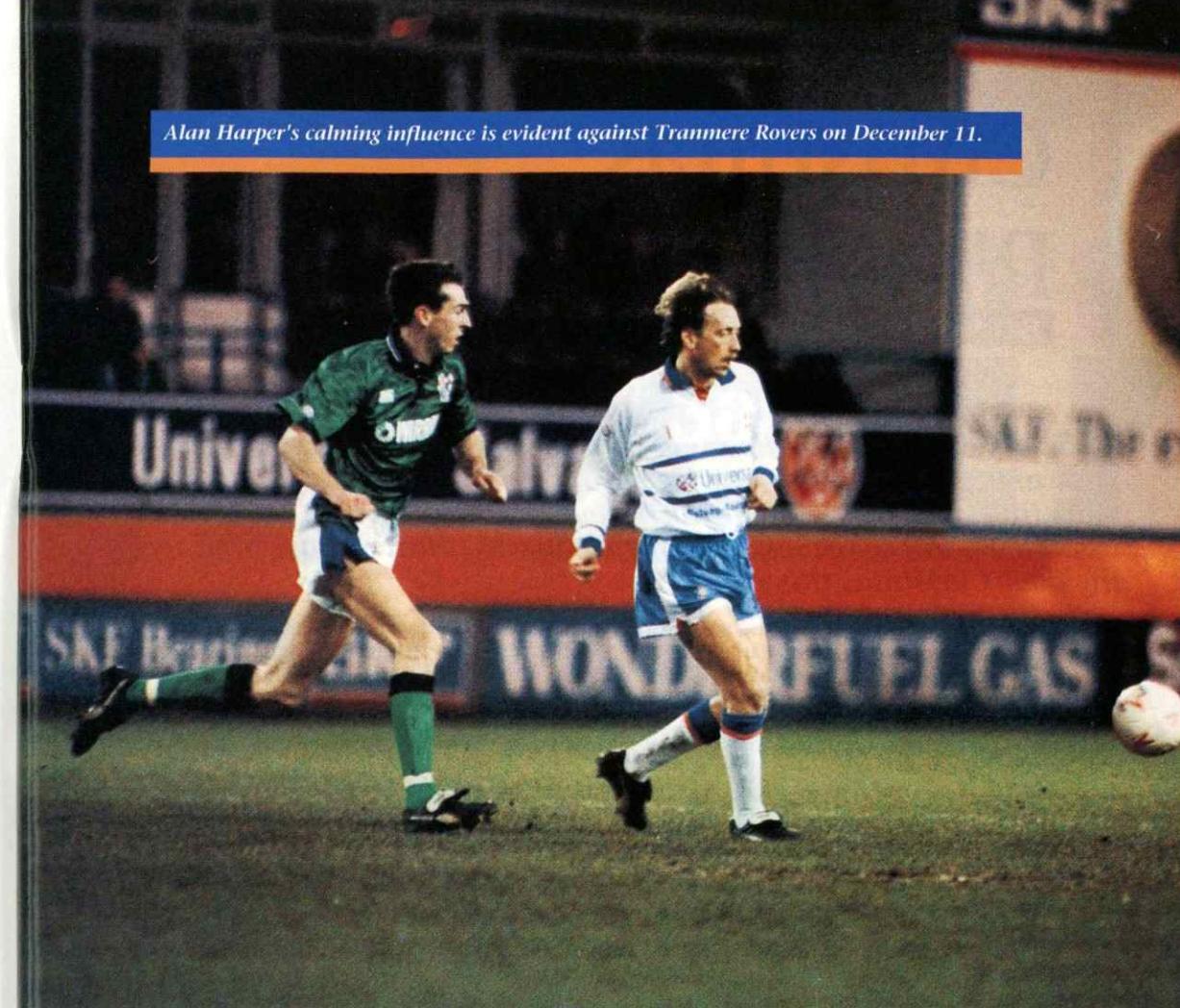
We cannot complain about our FA Cup draw and I hope that the excite-

ment of this competition can help us get a good crowd on January 8. It is unlikely that Mitchell Thomas and Paul Dickov will be available for this game. The return from suspension of John Dreyer and John Hartson's availability gives our squad a stronger look. Both Julian James and Marvin Johnson are now fit, but missed recent reserve games with illness.

"THE YOUTH NUCLEUS AT OUR CLUB IS BETTER THAN, PROBABLY, ANY CLUB IN DIVISION ONE"

David Greene is still not fully fit and missed an outstanding reserve performance at Arsenal when Richard Philp showed no inhibitions against the power of Kevin Campbell and the skill of Jimmy Carter.

I am heartened by the improving stan-



Alan Harper's calming influence is evident against Tranmere Rovers on December 11.

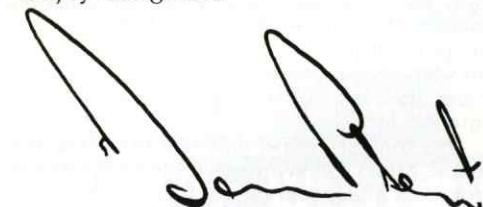
dards of the younger players. The youth team have accelerated to the top of the South East Counties league with Kelvin Davis, Paul McLaren, Matthew Woolgar and Jamie Woodsford setting good standards. Up one rung, David Greene, John Hartson and Aaron Skelton, now pleasantly getting fit, could also be potential challengers for first team places with dedication and luck.

There is much to look forward to as we look into our crystal ball. The cycle is turning full circle and the youth nucleus at our club is better than, probably, any club in Division One.

Have a marvellous 1994 and I thank

you all most sincerely for your backing in 1993.

Enjoy the game.



Cover story: Town fans Andy Mitchell, Gary Ashby, Rob Wilcockson and Dave Norman get in the festive spirit at Watford.

John Moore's Christmas preparations

BEHIND THE SCENES AT KENILWORTH ROAD

Every Christmas is the same for a professional footballer. Festivities are cut short to prepare for a number of games in a short space of time, and here at Kenilworth Road it is no different. We found out from first-team coach John Moore just how the Hatters have been spending their Christmas this year.

"As usual there is no respite for the players at Christmas, and this year is particularly difficult with four games in eight days," said John. "It will inevitably be difficult for some of our players to keep their minds fully on the job, when there are other influences, such as family and friends enjoying themselves and getting in the festive spirit.

"It is difficult to resist the extra mince pie or turkey sandwich and it is not always easy being the party pooper when everyone else is enjoying themselves. But that is part and parcel of being a professional footballer, as the older heads of Trevor Peake and David Preece know only too well."

The players trained Christmas Eve, had Christmas Day off for the first time in years, but were back in on Boxing Day to prepare for our game at Peterborough. With only two days separating that game and tonight's fixture, John points out that hard training sessions are out of the question.

"With so many games in such a short time, it is more a case of resting between matches than playing," he added. "Most players will probably just do some stretches and loosen up, but when they come in, it also gives us a chance to assess their fitness so that we can treat any injuries."

After tonight's game, only half the job is done! League games follow in quick succession at West Bromwich Albion and then at home to Millwall on the 4th of January. This means more time away from all the festivities for the players.

"Our players can't really relax until all the games are out of the way. The professional footballer's Christmas starts in the New Year!"

Another problem which faces the team when there are so many matches is the threat of injury.



"Injuries are always a problem which you worry about over the Christmas period," John pointed out. "If any of our players pick up knocks, they do not have time to recover, which can upset the balance of the team if we have to bring in someone else at short notice. At our club that is particularly difficult because we have a small squad."

The Town have a slight respite after the Millwall game in preparation for the important home F.A. Cup third round match with Southend United on January 8. If the players are lucky they will get some time off between the two games. With so much happening at the moment, John has barely had time to reflect on one of the most important games of the season.

"Although that is a big match for players, staff and fans alike, we will not be able to train or think about the game until we have recovered from the Millwall game. They will no doubt be tired, but luckily we are at home so do not have the added trouble of travelling. It could have been worse, we could have been travelling to Hartlepool, Barrow or Workington, like we had to when I was a player."

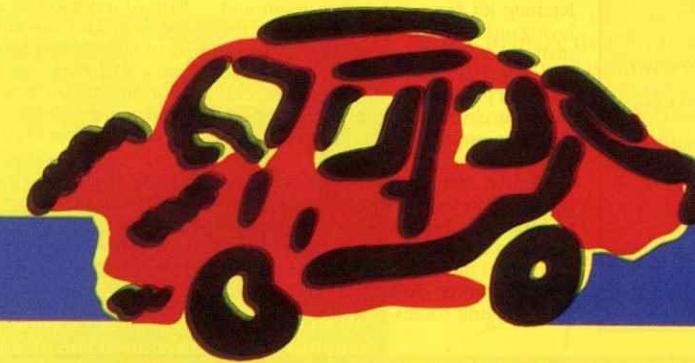
So why do we play so many games when obviously it puts great strains on our professional players? John has a very worthwhile answer: "Football fans do not want to be stuck at home all Christmas just eating and drinking, they want to watch football. It is a sort of relief for them to escape the festivities. It has been a tradition down the years to play so many games, and I think it will continue for a long time yet."

"It is going to be a tough couple of weeks for us, but if the results go our way, then it will have been worthwhile."



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A day in the life of a trainee



ON THE INSIDE BY JOHN SMYLINE

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Paul Lowe

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SAFETY NOTE

The Chairman and Directors of Luton Town Football Club undertake to ensure as far as humanly possible that all activities that take place at the Kenilworth Stadium are conducted in such a way that, as far as is reasonably practicable, the safety of everyone working at or attending the stadium is assured.

The club's primary responsibility through the Safety Officer, Officials, Staff and Stewards will be to ensure the reasonable safety of those attending the stadium.

Important to put a run together at Christmas

CAPTAIN'S COLUMN BY TREVOR PEAKE



I hope you all had a great Christmas and are enjoying the festive period. Tonight we have a good opportunity to progress up the table, although I am sure Grimsby will have exactly the same thoughts as us.

the bath and shower areas, medical and boot rooms, coaches changing room, corridors, tunnel area, boots, footballs and tea making area. Normal completion time each day is between 4.30 pm and 5 pm.

■ On match days, (and this after they have been playing a competitive game in the morning) there is forked to be done on the pitch both at half-time and full-time. Following this it is back to the changing rooms and a repeat of the cleaning process. With the uncertainty of their future in football, all trainees are required to undertake a full day's educational training in our club. This happens on a Thursday.

■ Talking with first year trainee Paul McLaren, he told me that leaving home for the first time at 16 was a daunting experience and for a few days, a lonely one. However, he quickly settled down and with fellow trainee Kelvin Davis sharing the same digs, the transition was made easily.

■ Paul's, and the other trainees, routine on a normal day requires them to report by 9 am. Tasks to be completed before training at 10-15 am include fetching kit from the drying room and laying out in the changing rooms for the manager, coaches and senior professionals. Boots also need to be cleaned and footballs pumped up to the correct pressure and clean. Making tea for professionals is essential and training bibs need to be collected.

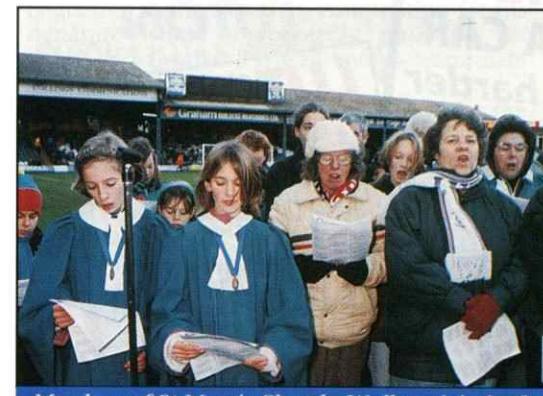
■ After training there is a break for lunch and it's back to the changing rooms to collect the professionals dirty kit and take it to the laundry room for washing. P.M. could mean additional training and weight training. Following this there are the changing rooms to be cleaned, plus

■ A reminder to all supporters that our home game next week with Millwall is on TUESDAY EVENING, kick-off 7.45 pm.

■ As tonight's game is our last first team fixture of 1993, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the directors, management, players and staff to wish you all a very happy, peaceful and prosperous 1994.

For a footballer, Christmas is very disrupted because of the amount of matches you have to play in such a short space of time. This year is even harder with four games in eight days! This is very hard on the players and also for you, the fans, who have to pay out to watch us.

However, we know we have got a job to do and it is vital to put together a run during the next two weeks because of all the points that are up for grabs. Hopefully we have picked up maximum points at Peterborough and are in a confident frame of mind. Events can turn very



Members of St Mary's Church, Walkern join in the festive fun, prior to our home game with Tranmere Rovers earlier in the month.

quickly in your favour, or against you, with all the points that are there to be won. A good run now can lift us quite comfortably up the league and catch the pack in the middle.

Tonight's game will be difficult for both sides, because we are both in a relatively similar position. We will be looking for revenge after the defeat Grimsby inflicted on us here last season. Somehow, I think that scoreline is unlikely. We have improved sufficiently since then and Grimsby are not going as well as they would have liked, after the potential they showed last term.

Football was put into perspective when we visited children at the local hospitals in the area recently. Hopefully we managed to put a smile on their faces with the gifts we brought and helped to make their Christmas more enjoyable.

As this is our last home game until January 4, when we entertain Millwall, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year and hope that there are some successful times ahead for Luton Town.

Enjoy the game.

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FM 97.6 Chiltern Radio

Unpolished gems with a cutting edge

NEWS ON ONE

With the top Premier League players being transferred in multi-million pound deals, Leo Spall searches around the First Division in search of unpolished gems in the shadow of the Premiership.

Along with the Hatters, Charlton Athletic is another club which has a number of young talent currently shining in Division One this season. The Addicks are an example to all clubs with small squads who have to blood the players at an early age. Co-manager Alan Curbishley explains his club's philosophy: "At Charlton, if you have the ability, you are accepted straight away." And he's not kidding.

A number of Premiership clubs are aware of Scott Minto, Charlton's talented full-back, who Curbishley reckons could go on and play for England. Having said that, competition for his signature would undoubtedly push up his value, and another less well-known team mate may be worth a look at.

Shaun Newton has been a revelation for the Addicks. Originally a full-back, the 18-year-old has stepped into Charlton's right midfield spot and has played out of his skin. "To be honest, I wish I had introduced Shaun a lot earlier," admitted Curbishley. "Shaun is not in the side because we are stretched, he is in on merit. We always knew he could play - and in a few positions at that."

And if Premiership managers were not impressed with the raw talent of Newton, perhaps a short trip down the road to New Cross may be in order. Etienne Verveer has just spent 13 months out of the Millwall side with a cruciate ligament injury, but since his return at the start of the season, Lions manager Mick McCarthy has had nothing but praise for his flying Dutchman. "With his skill he would not be out of place in the top flight," he enthused. "His control, inventiveness and ability to run with the ball are exceptional."

Away from the capital, another hidden talent to have escaped the top clubs is Notts County forward Gary McSwegan. The name may not roll off the tongue but the £400,000 buy from Rangers looks like money well spent. He has

already shot to the top of County's scoring charts and could be the transfer bargain of the season. "We think he has got something special," admitted manager Mick Walker. Fellow striker Gary Lund has no complaints either. "He is easy to play with and has a great eye for goal," he stated. "And he does not just score goals, he sets them up too." Enough said.

Goalscorers have been a plenty in the First Division this season. The names Armstrong, Otto and Bull spring to mind but the name capturing everyone's attention is Stan Collymore of Nottingham Forest.

An opportunity to join the top flight last season passed Stan by, but since his £2 million move to Nottingham Forest he has continued to make heads turn. His form has been the main reason behind Forest's late push for a play-off place. But if there are any Premiership scouts at the City Ground door, manager Frank Clark has news for them. "Stan is starting to show his true potential and some of the goals he has scored for us have been first class. But he is by no way the finished article. He still has a lot to learn and he will continue his education here at Nottingham Forest."

SOCCER QUIZ

Test your soccer knowledge and guesswork and see how many questions you can get right out of ten.

- 1 Who won the 1974 World Cup? (A) Brazil (B) W. Germany (C) Italy
- 2 Club that plays in red (A) Aberdeen (B) Hereford (C) QPR
- 3 Vetch Field is home to (A) Wrexham (B) Swansea (C) Coventry City
- 4 He scored 9 in an FA Cup game. (A) McDougal (B) Greaves (C) Law
- 5 Graham Taylor was their manager. (A) Watford (B) Everton (C) Sheffield W
- 6 Most goals by a player in a match in Britain (A) 9 (B) 11 (C) 13
- 7 PSV Eindhoven are (A) Belgian (B) German (C) Dutch
- 8 A club once known as Riverside (A) Liverpool (B) Cardiff City (C) Celtic
- 9 The minimum length of a pitch is (A) 75 yards (B) 100 yards (C) 125 yards
- 10 Who are the "Warriors"? (A) Stenhousemuir (B) Wolves (C) Partick Thistle

Your score is Your friend's score is



ANSWER TO QUIZ NO. 12/93: 1C, 2B, 3B, 4C 5B, 6A, 7B, 8A, 9B, 10C.

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Fans' Forum



HATTERS HELP THE CHILDREN

Dear Sir,

I am writing to thank Luton Town for their kind donation of the autographed football, at our fundraising event held at the Favourite Public House on Sunday, November 21.

I would also like to thank Jamie Campbell, who came along and helped us with the lucky programme draw. The football match between Favourite XI and ex-Luton Town XI had to be cancelled, but I would like to thank John Moore and Gary Hooper for turning up.

The event has raised over £250 so far, with some more money still to be handed in.

Tom Forder BEM, ACT Childrens Appeal,
18 Uplands, Sundon Park, Luton LU3 3HG.

FUN IN A BOX

Dear Sir,

I am writing to let you know that my grandson, his family and friends enjoyed their birthday box for the game against Stoke City.

The food and waitress service were both superb and, of course, such a fantastic win was a great bonus!

Jean Munn, 104 New Bedford Road, Luton, Beds LU3 1DE.

AN EXCELLENT RESPONSE

Dear Sir,

I hope I conveyed in *The Times* on Monday the considerate way everyone at Kenilworth Road responded to Kevin Malkin. I was personally surprised at his knowledge and how much a blind person can get out of a football match - and even more uplifted by the manner in which people representing the club, the police, or just themselves as football sup-

porters, went out of their way to assist.

Thank you again. I was glad to have something positive to write. I guess you got the reward on the pitch, and I wish you many more Saturdays like the last one. (So, incidentally does my son, a Luton season ticket holder).

Rob Hughes, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

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Action Replay

From: Kenilworth Road
Date: December 11, 1993
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Tranmere Rovers 1 (Aldridge)
Attendance: 7,075

PICTURES BY JOHN WOOD, HERALD & POST

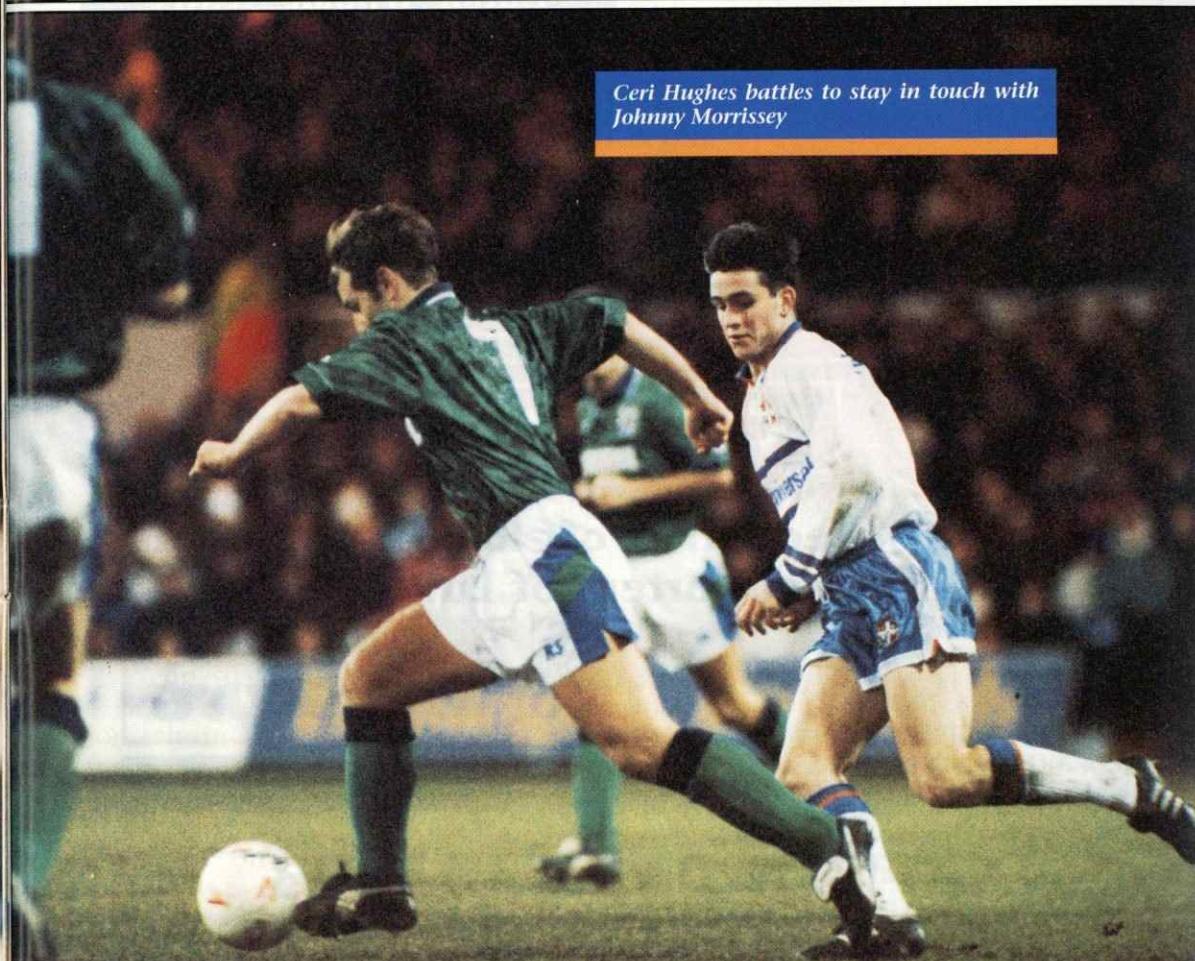
Paul Telfer is first to the ball on this occasion



Kerry Dixon is locked into battle with Rovers' Shaun Garnett



Ceri Hughes battles to stay in touch with Johnny Morrissey



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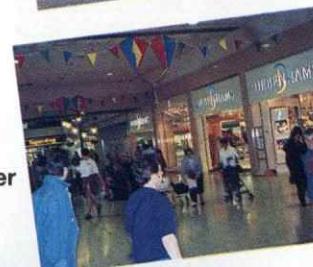
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Ticket Office news update

BY CHERRY NEWBERY

West Bromwich Albion v Luton Town

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

Saturday, January 1, 1994 - Kick-off 3.00 pm

Seats priced at £11.00 (no concessions) are available from the Ticket Office in Kenilworth Road until Thursday, December 30 at 5.00 pm and on the day at West Bromwich Albion. Terracing is priced at £7.00 (no concessions). Pay on the day at the turnstiles.

Luton Town v Millwall

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

Tuesday, January 4, 1994 - Kick-off 7.45 pm

Tickets for this match are now on sale. Normal league prices and guesting facilities apply.

Notts County v Luton Town

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

Saturday, January 15, 1994 - Kick-off 3.00 pm

Luton supporters have been allocated the Kop Stand for this match, seating only. Pay at the turnstile on the day of the match.

Price £10.00 (no concessions).

Luton Town v Southend United

F.A. CUP THIRD ROUND

Saturday, January 8, 1994 - Kick-off 3.00 pm

Tickets for this match are now on sale. Normal league prices and guesting facilities apply.

In the event of a replay...

Southend United v Luton Town

Wednesday, January 19, 1994 - Kick-off 7.45 pm

Seats priced at £10.00 (no concessions) would be on sale in the Ticket Office in Kenilworth Road until Saturday, January 15 and also on the night at Southend.

Standing would be priced at £7.50 (no concessions) pay on the night at the turnstile only.



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West Bromwich Albion

Address: The Hawthorns, West Bromwich B71 4LF.

Telephone: (021) 525 8888.

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Notts County

Address: County Ground, Meadow Lane, Nottingham NG2 3HJ.

Telephone: (0602) 861155.

Join the M1 north to junction 24. Follow signs Nottingham South (A453). In 7.6 miles branch left (signs Grantham A52) then at roundabout take 1st exit B679. At mini roundabout follow signs West Bridford and at traffic signals turn left (signs Nottingham) onto the A60. Cross the Trent Bridge and in 0.5 mile turn right into Cattle Market Road (A6011), then bear right into County Road for ground.

Directions courtesy of the Automobile Association.

Ticket Office Christmas and New Year Opening Times

Wednesday 29th December 10 am - Kick-off

Thursday 30th December 10 am - 5 pm

Friday 31st December 10 am - 1 pm

Saturday 1st January 10 am - 12 noon

Spotlight on tonight's visitors



GRIMSBY TOWN F.C. 1993-94

■ Continuity is the name of the game at Grimsby Town where manager Alan Buckley, having completed five years as manager in June, becomes the club's longest-serving manager since Charles Spencer whose reign straddled World War Two. Since his appointment, Mr Buckley has introduced football at Blundell Park which has been admired by the purists in the game.

■ His footballing beliefs appeared to have paid dividends last season when the Mariners pushed for a play-off place for much of the season, only to falter at the final hurdle with three defeats from their final three matches.

■ Rumours were rife during the pre-season period that Mr Buckley would join Nottingham Forest as manager, where his style of football made him a likely successor to Brian Clough. However, the gossip proved unfounded and once fans' favourites Jim Dobbin and former Hatter Paul Futcher had agreed new contracts, everything appeared to be in place for an even more successful 1993-94.



(caption for pic): Back row (left to right): Simon Dunlop, Neil Woods, Peter Handside, Paul Crichton, Rhys Wilmot, Graham Rodger, Mark Lever, Paul Futcher.

Middle row (left to right): Ken Reed (physio), Tony Ford, Craig Shakespeare, Craig Maddison, Paul Agnew, Paul Groves, Clive Mendonca, Jim Dobbin, Richard O'Kelly (youth coach).

Front row (left to right): Kevin Jobling, Tony Rees, Tommy Watson, Gary Childs, Arthur Mann (reserve coach), Alan Buckley (manager), Tony Daws, David Gilbert, John McDermott, Gary Croft.

VISITORS ON PARADE

PAUL CRICTON (goalkeeper) - Signed in July 1993 from Doncaster, Paul missed only one game for Rovers last season. He started his career as an apprentice at Nottingham Forest and has served Peterborough, Notts County, Swindon and Rotherham on loan.

GARY CROFT (defender) - A promising young player, Gary came through the ranks at Grimsby to sign professional forms in the summer of 1992. He broke into the side last season and kept a regular place in the side at full-back.

PAUL FUTCHER (defender) - Signed from Halifax Town for £10,000 in January 1991, much-travelled Paul has featured for many clubs including Luton Town, Manchester City and Barnsley in a career stretching back 20 years. His form last season earned him his second successive Player of the Year trophy.

MARK LEVER (defender) - Mark was given his first team debut shortly after Alan Buckley's arrival in 1988 and, apart from the spell out through injury last term, has been a regular fixture in the side ever since. A former Mariners trainee, Mark features at centre-back.

JOHN McDERMOTT (defender) - Grimsby's regular right-back for the past few seasons, John has made almost 250 league appearances for the Blundell Park club. He made his debut in 1987 and has experienced two relegations and two promotions with the Mariners.

JIM DOBBIN (midfield) - A £50,000 signing from Barnsley in July 1991, Jim established himself as club captain last season. He began his career at Celtic, but his career took off at Barnsley after a spell at Doncaster.

TOMMY WATSON (midfield) - Tommy made his league bow for the Mariners in 1987 after progressing through the junior ranks at Blundell Park. He returned

to the side last season after a lengthy spell out injured and has now played over 100 times for the club.

DAVE GILBERT (midfield) - A near ever-present last season, Dave joined Grimsby from Northampton Town for £55,000 in 1989. He won a Fourth Division championship medal at the County Ground and is now approaching 200 games for the Mariners.

PAUL GROVES (midfield) - Paul became Grimsby's record buy in August 1992 when he joined the club from Blackpool for £125,000. He was captain during his time at Bloomfield Road and had been an ever-present for two seasons. Paul had previously served Leicester and Lincoln City.

STEVE LIVINGSTONE (forward) - Steve is currently on loan at Blundell Park after failing to establish himself under Glenn Hoddle's leadership at Chelsea. A robust forward, Steve started his career at Coventry City, and has also served Blackburn Rovers.

TONY REES (forward) - Tony started his career with Aston Villa, but unable to break into the first team, he joined Barnsley. A skilful one-touch player, he moved to Blundell Park for £50,000 in 1989, but his progress has since been hindered with injuries. Tony is a full Wales international.

CLIVE MENDONCA (forward) - Leading scorer for the Mariners last season, Clive started his career with Sheffield United and made his debut in 1987. After a loan spell at Doncaster, he joined Rotherham United in 1988 before moving to Grimsby for £50,000 in August 1992.

TONY DAWS (forward) - A deadline day signing from Scunthorpe for £50,000 in March 1993, Tony joined Grimsby with a scoring record of one in every two games. He started his career with Notts County and has also seen service with Sheffield United

MEET THE BOSS



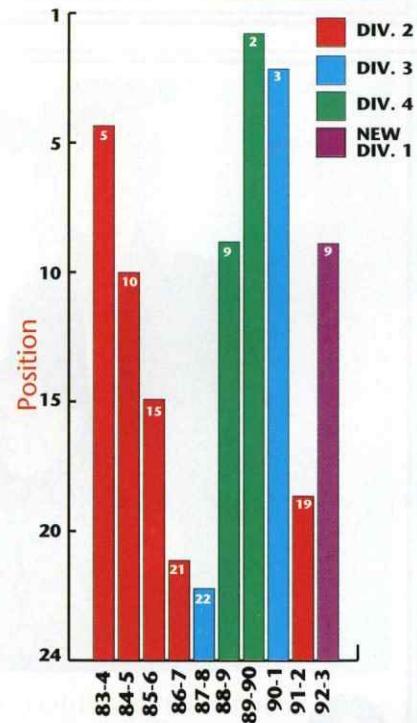
Alan Buckley succeeded Bobby Roberts at Blundell Park in June 1988 and in his four seasons in charge has taken Grimsby to two promotions and the fifth round of the FA Cup.

He started his footballing career at Nottingham Forest in 1971 and made 16 appearances before moving on to Walsall two years later. It was at Fellows Park where he established himself, making 241 appearances and scoring 125 goals in five years with the club.

After a brief spell with Birmingham in 1978, he returned to Walsall first as a player and then manager, leading the club to a Milk Cup semi-final against Liverpool. He spent a while managing non-league Kettering before his appointment at Blundell Park.

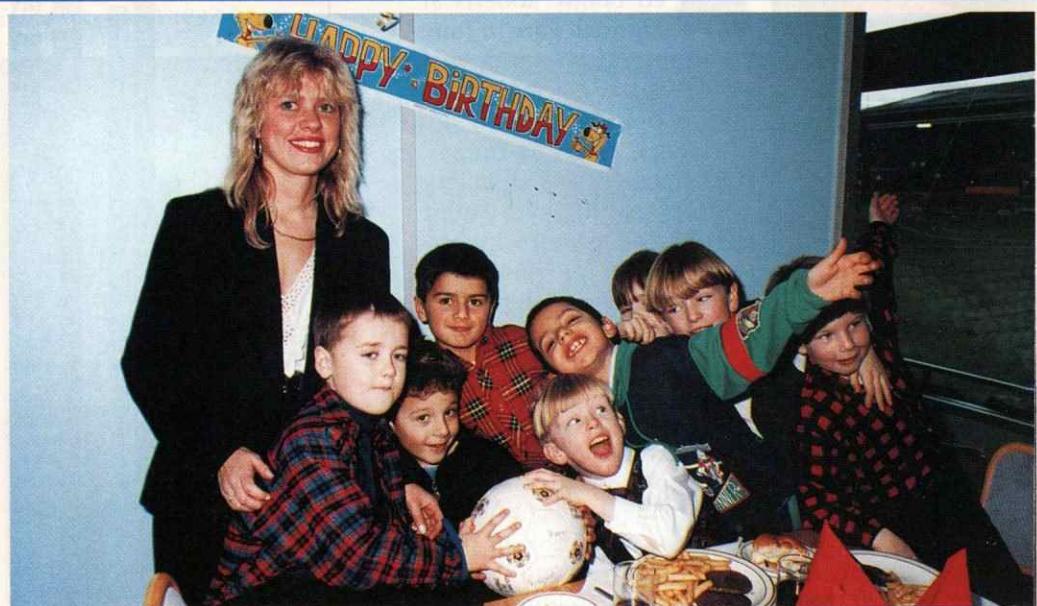
Due to the League re-organisation at the start of 1992-93, Alan now holds the distinction of managing Grimsby in four separate Divisions of the Football League.

10 YEAR RECORD





Can you supply a witty caption for this picture taken at Kenilworth Road when the Town played Tranmere? The three best entries will receive two tickets each for a future home fixture at Kenilworth Road. Send your caption, together with your name, address and telephone number to: Caption Competition, c/o Commercial Department, Luton Town F.C., 1 Maple Road, Luton, Beds LU4 8AW. The closing date for entry is January 5, 1994.



Our Junior Hatters Birthday Box is proving a great success, as you can see from the smiling faces in the photograph above. If you would like further details, please contact the Commercial Department on (0582) 411622.

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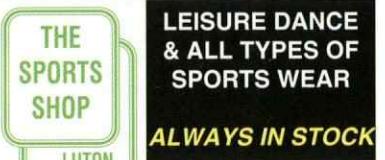
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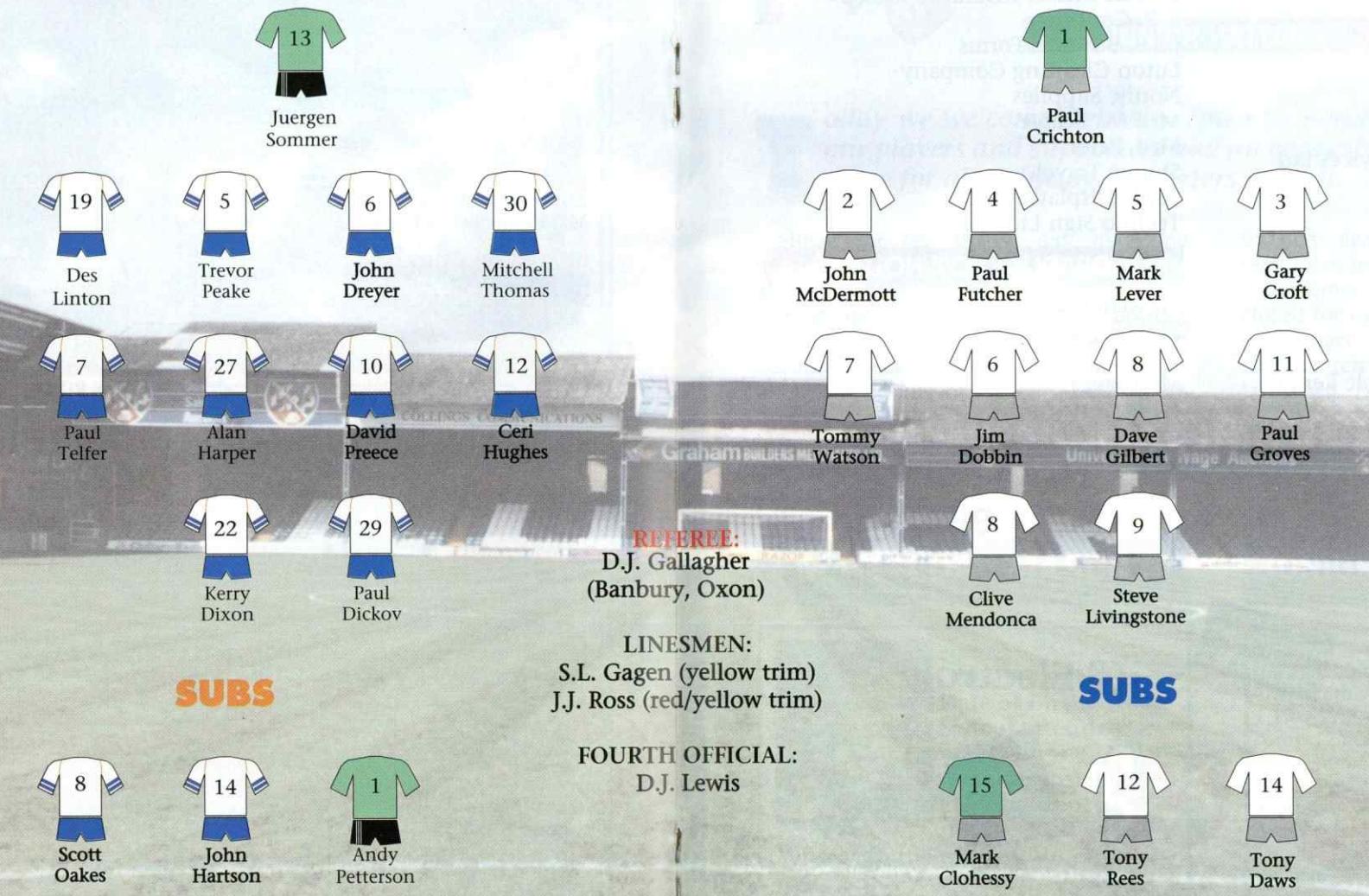


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HARRY OF THE HATTERS



JUNIOR HATTERS

Today we welcome Grimsby Town to Kenilworth Road. I hope all our players and supporters had an enjoyable Christmas. I wish the same for all Grimsby supporters as well.

Since our last match day magazine notes, the first-team have played away against Watford and Peterborough — two sides struggling to get clear of the bottom of the table. Unfortunately, due to print deadlines because of Christmas, we do not know the results of either match. Let's hope we came away full of good cheer and lots of promise for the New Year.

We will be travelling to Notts County in the early part of the New Year (see details below) so if any of you Junior Hatters want

MATCH DAY MASCOT



Name:
Christopher Holland
Date of Birth: 9.10.86
School attended:
St Christophers
Lower, Dunstable
Favourite Luton player: Scott Oakes

Who accompanies you to Luton matches: My dad, grandad and brother

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to play against Notts County Juniors, remember to book early at the ticket office.

Remember, the Saturday Club will be closed for our home match with Millwall on January 4, but will return for our F.A. Cup match with Southend United on January 8, 1994.

Best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Harry.

JUNIOR HATTERS TRAVEL

Travel arrangements for the away games at West Bromwich Albion and Notts County are as follows:

1.1.94 W.B.A. - depart Kenilworth Road forecourt: 12 noon
Arrive home approximately 7.00 pm
15.1.94 Notts County - depart Kenilworth Road forecourt: 10.00 am
Arrive home approximately 7.00 pm
The price for all matches this season has been fixed at £5.00 for Junior Hatters and £8.00 for accompanying adults (price includes tickets for the match). Booking and payment to be made via the Ticket Office up to four days prior to the match.

JUNIOR HATTERS' BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

December 29 - January 3: Matthew Gomez, Declan McCahey, Christopher Vardy, Alan Root, Anthony Banerjee, David Geary, Simon Mitchell, Paul Newbery, S. Burchett, Greig Stevens, Darren Adams, Patrick McCarthy, Andrew Gostomski, Timothy Woodthorpe, Daniel Taylor, James Harrison, Thomas Morros, Matthew Kay, Daniel Wilton, Gary Quinn. . HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF YOU!

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Football is much more than a game of 90 minutes. Every day clubs throughout Britain are providing recreational and sporting opportunities for their local communities.

Much of this has been achieved with the help of the Football Trust. As part of its commitment to Football, The Trust has granted £4M to set up the National Football and Community Development Scheme.

Bringing club and community together, Trust-backed initiatives have provided a variety of local amenities, including:

- Artificial pitches for local teams
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- Support for women's football
- Facilities for people with disabilities

The Football Trust is helping the game at all levels.



THE FOOTBALL TRUST
Helping the game

Arsenal striker Paul Dickov, pictured here against Charlton, has added a lively dimension to Luton's forward play. Unfortunately, his three month loan is coming to end, but he leaves the club with everyone's best wishes.



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Kerry Dixon makes strides into the Addicks' box on December 4.

Progress is made in County Cup



RESERVES AND YOUTH BY WAYNE TURNER AND TERRY WESTLEY

Neville Ovenden Football Combination 1993/94 League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chelsea	16	10	4	2	31	14	34
Southampton	17	8	5	4	28	27	29
Tottenham Hotspur	17	8	4	5	36	22	28
Swindon Town	14	8	1	5	20	16	25
Arsenal	17	7	4	6	33	31	25
Norwich City	16	6	6	4	28	24	24
Ipswich Town	16	7	3	6	28	29	24
Millwall	15	6	4	5	27	22	22
Oxford United	17	6	4	7	32	30	22
Bristol Rovers	17	5	7	5	23	26	22
Brighton & Hove Albion	15	5	6	4	18	13	21
Queens Park Rangers	14	6	3	5	21	20	21
LUTON TOWN	17	6	3	8	33	34	21
West Ham United	14	5	5	4	22	17	20
Crystal Palace	16	5	4	7	19	21	19
Wimbledon	16	4	7	5	21	25	19
Portsmouth	20	4	7	9	21	32	19
Bristol City	16	4	3	9	17	38	15
Charlton Athletic	12	3	2	7	11	16	11
Watford	14	2	4	8	22	34	10
(up to and including 11.12.93)							

Match Reports

Stotfold 0 Luton Town 1

Beds Premier Cup, second round, Monday, December 6, 1993.

Despite fielding a strong team, which included the likes of Julian James, Marvin Johnson, David Preece and Scott Oakes, the Town struggled to come to terms with the difficult conditions at Roker Park. A Martin Williams goal was all that separated the two sides, but coach Wayne Turner was pleased with the result. "The pitch was dreadful and the wind and rain made it very hard to pass the ball around," he said. "On paper, we had a strong side, but the conditions made the game more even. We did, however, manage to create enough chances to have won comfortably but we made hard work of it. The major plus factor to come out of this game was the good attitude we showed throughout. I am happy with the result and the fact that we have progressed into the next round."

Team: Davis, Ryan, Johnson, Gentle, Philp, James, Telfer, Oakes, Hartson, Williams 1, Preece.

Neville Ovenden Football Combination Fixtures Season 1993/94

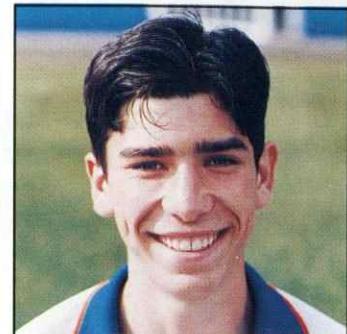
Wed 18 Aug	West Ham United	4-1	Wed 5 Dec	Wimbledon
Wed 25 Aug	Queens Park Rangers	4-2	Wed 12 Dec	Ipswich Town
Wed 1 Sept	Watford	5-1	Wed 19 Jan	Bristol Rovers
Wed 8 Sept	Wimbledon	1-1	Mon 24 Jan	Chelsea
Thur 16 Sept	Norwich City	2-3	Wed 2 Feb	Ipswich Town
Wed 22 Sept	Tottenham Hotspur	1-2	Mon 21 Feb	Millwall
Mon 27 Sept	Langford (BPC)	2-1	Mon 28 Mar	Charlton Athletic
Wed 29 Sept	Oxford United	4-3	Tue 8 Mar	West Ham United
Wed 6 Oct	Portsmouth	4-2	Wed 16 Mar	Bristol Rovers
Wed 13 Oct	Swindon Town	2-1	Wed 23 Mar	Millwall
Tue 19 Oct	Watford	2-4	Wed 2 Mar	Brighton & Hove Albion
Wed 27 Oct	Southampton	1-3	Mon 21 Feb	Millwall
Mon 1 Nov	Queens Park Rangers	1-3	Mon 28 Mar	Charlton Athletic
Wed 10 Nov	Southampton	1-1	Tue 5 Apr	Crystal Palace
Wed 17 Nov	Arsenal	1-1	Tue 12 Apr	Bristol City
Wed 24 Nov	Portsmouth	0-1	Mon 2 May	Bristol City
Mon 29 Nov	Oxford United	0-4	Wed 4 May	Charlton Athletic
Fri 3 Dec	Crystal Palace	0-1		
Mon 6 Dec	Stotfold (BPC2)	1-0		
Tue 14 Dec	Arsenal	3-2		
Fri 17 Dec	Norwich City			
Wed 22 Dec	Tottenham Hotspur			

Luton Town 2 Swindon Town 0
South East Counties League Division Two, Saturday, December 11, 1993.

After three successive defeats, the Town's youth side returned to winning ways with an impressive display against a good Swindon side. Key figures returned to the Town side, and that was the main reason why the young Hatters took maximum points. "Goalkeeper Kelvin Davis returned from suspension and centre-half Paul McLaren came back after a spell in the first-team squad," said Terry Westley. "Therefore the defence looked much stronger and it gave us a good opportunity to mount strong attacks. Matthew Woolgar set up one goal (for trialist Danny Power) and scored another after running half the length of the pitch. That goal capped an excellent team performance by our lads."

Team: Davis, Willmott, Chenery, Woolgar 1, Simpson, McLaren, Palmer, Power 1, Campbell, Douglas, Jones. Subs: Gibb, Goodridge.

Chenery looking good



Youth team defender Ben Chenery has been earning the plaudits of coach Terry Westley after a series of impressive performances. "He has been doing well in our defence recently," he said. "His play has been dogged and determined and has slowly improved since he joined us at the start of the season. I am hoping his form continues as the season progresses."

Reserves – Appearances and Goalscorers 1993-94

	Combination LEAGUE App	County CUP App	Goals
Aunger	12	7	1
Benjamin	1(1)	2	-
Campbell	12	2	1
Chenery	-	-	1
Davis	3	-	1
Dixon	4	1	-
Gentle	10(4)	3	2
Gibb	-1(1)	-	-
Greene	10	-	1
Hartson	8	3	1
Harvey	3	-	-
Houghton	13(1)	4	1
Hughes	1	1	-
Issott	-	-	1(1)
James	3	-	-
Johnson	2	-	1
Jukes	-1(1)	-	-
Linton	7	-	1
McLaren	6	-	-
Oakes	4(1)	-	1
Petterson	14	-	1
Philp	10	-	1
Preece	3	-	1
Rees	9	-	-
Rioch	11	-	-
Ryan	10(2)	-	2
Sansom	5	1	-
Simpson	1(2)	-	1
Telfer	1	-	1
Thomas	-1(1)	-	-
Thorpe	9(3)	2	1
Whittington	1	1	-
Williams	11(3)	4	1
Woodsford	-3(3)	-	-
Woolgar	3(4)	-	-1(1)

Youth Team Appearances and Goalscorers 1993-94

	S.E.C.L. App	S.J.F.C. Gls	S.E.C.L.C. App	F.A.Y.C. Gls	E.J.C. App	Gls
Abbey	1	-	-	-	-	1
Butler	10(1)	3	1	2	2	1
Campbell	12	-	3	-	2	3
Chenery	12(2)	-	3	-	2	3
Davis	11	-	2	-	2	3
Evers	-1(1)	-	-	-	-	-1(1)
Fortiadis	-	-	-	-	-	1
Gibb	13	1	3	-	2	3
Goodridge	2(6)	-	-	-1(1)	-	-2(2)
Issott	4(7)	-	-3(3)	-	1(2)	-1
Jones	3	4	-	-	-	1
Jukes	3	-	1	-	-	-
Kuntz	-	-	-	-	-	1
Linnell	-1(1)	-	-	-	-	-1(1)
McLaren	12	1	3	1	2	-
Palmer	10(1)	-	1(2)	-	1	1(2)
Power	12	-	3	-	2	3
Simpson	13	-	3	1	2	-
Thomas	-	-	-	-	-	1
Turner	-	-	-	-	1	-
Watkins	2	-	1	-	-	-
Willmott	7	1	1(1)	-	1	-
Woodsford	12	3	3	1	2	3
Woolgar	14	7	3	1	2	-

South East Counties League Division Two 1993/94

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oxford United	14	7	4	3	30	17	18
Crystal Palace	13	7	3	3	23	17	17
Brentford	15	6	5	4	19	15	17
Wimbledon	14	8	-	6	37	30	16
Reading	13	6	4	3	22	19	16
LUTON TOWN	14	6	4	4	20	20	16
AFC Bournemouth	15	7	1	7	28	25	15
Southampton	15	5	4	5	18	18	14
Colchester United	16	5	4	7	23	33	14
Tottenham Hotspur	14	6	1	7	20	26	13
Swindon Town	12	4	3	5	21	19	11
Bristol Rovers	15	4	3	8	25	30	11
Brighton & Hove Albion	15	4	3	8	23	32	11
Bristol City	13	3	3	7	15	23	9

South East Counties League Division Two Fixtures Season 1993/94

Sat 14 Aug	Swindon Town	1-1	Tue 16 Nov	Derby County (FAYC1R)	1-1
Sat 21 Aug	Crystal Palace	1-1	Sat 20 Nov	Bristol Rovers	1-0
Sat 28 Aug	Reading	1-2	Tue 23 Nov	Arsenal (SJFC2)	1-2
Sat 4 Sept	Wimbledon	0-1	Wed 1 Dec	Derby County (FAYC2R)	0-1
Sat 11 Sept	Tottenham Hotspur	0-1	Sat 4 Dec	Bristol Rovers	0-5
Wed 15 Sept	West Ham United (SJFC)	1-1	Sat 11 Dec	Swindon Town	2-0
Sat 18 Sept	Charlton Athletic (SECLC1)	3-1	Sat 18 Dec	Crystal Palace	2-1
Sat 25 Sept	Brighton & Hove Albion	2-3	Sat 1 Jan	Reading	
Sat 2 Oct	Oxford United	1-1	Sat 15 Jan	Wimbledon	
Mon 11 Oct	West Ham United (SJFCR)	3-1	Sat 15 Jan	Tottenham Hotspur	
Sat 16 Oct	Brentford	1-1	Sat 12 Feb	Brighton & Hove Albion	
Sat 23 Oct	Chelsea (SECLC2)	2-5	Sat 22 Jan	Oxford United	
Tues 26 Oct	Derby County (FAYC1)	1-1	Sat 29 Jan	Bristol City	
Sat 30 Oct	Bournemouth	2-1	Sat 5 Feb	Bristol City	
Thur 4 Nov	Cambridge City (EJC)	4-1	Sat 12 Feb	Brentford	
Sat 6 Nov	Southampton	2-1	Sat 19 Feb	Bournemouth	
Tue 9 Nov	Derby County (FAYC1R)	P-P	Sat 26 Feb	Southampton	
Sat 13 Nov	Colchester United	5-3	Sat 5 Mar	Colchester United	

Mitchell wants a permanent move home

PLAYER INTERVIEW



Mitchell Thomas joined the Hatters on loan from West Ham United last month and has been a consistent figure in the side since his arrival. He is enjoying his football again and hopes to make the move back to his 'first love' a permanent fixture.

As most Town fans know, Mitchell starred as an exciting, young defender in the Hatters' side of the mid-eighties alongside the likes of Steve Foster and Mal Donaghy. Luton born and bred, he won England youth and under-21 caps at Kenilworth Road before a big money move to Tottenham ensued in 1986.

He became an integral part of the Spurs side which reached the 1987 F.A. Cup final and went on to make nearly 200 appearances, first for David Pleat and then for Terry Venables. He moved to West Ham United in 1991 but, despite a bright opening season, found his options increasingly limited.

"I was doing fine at the club, had a regular place in the side and found consistency during my first season at Upton Park," said Mitchell. "At the start of last season though, Harry Redknapp came to the club from Bournemouth. He brought new ideas with him, which the boss, Billy Bonds, thought were in the club's best interests. Unfortunately, I was not part of those ideas and found myself kicking my heels on the sidelines."

A lengthy knee injury did not help Mitchell's cause and he found himself in the Hammers' reserves. When he heard that David Pleat wanted him again, back at Luton, he was absolutely delighted.

"Luton have always been my first love and it was great to return to Kenilworth Road again," he added. "Whenever I wasn't playing, I always came back to Kenilworth Road to watch games and have kept an interest in the goings-on at the club."

"Not much has changed off the field since I have been away. It has remained a small, friendly and attractive club, a club which makes you feel welcome."

Mitchell received such a welcome when he made his 'second' debut at Southend United last month. He was, probably, the Town's most influential player that day, and his form has continued since. He points out that the crowd have played a big part in his consistency.

"I was pleased that the crowd made me feel part of the set-up again," he said. "Their support helped settle me down and I was able to get on with the job in hand. The style of play has not changed, I am pleased to say, and that also helped me fit in comfortably."

With Marvin Johnson and Julian James now on the comeback trail after their injury set-backs, Mitchell is aware that competition for places will increase. His versatility enables him to play in a variety of positions, which will no doubt help his cause.

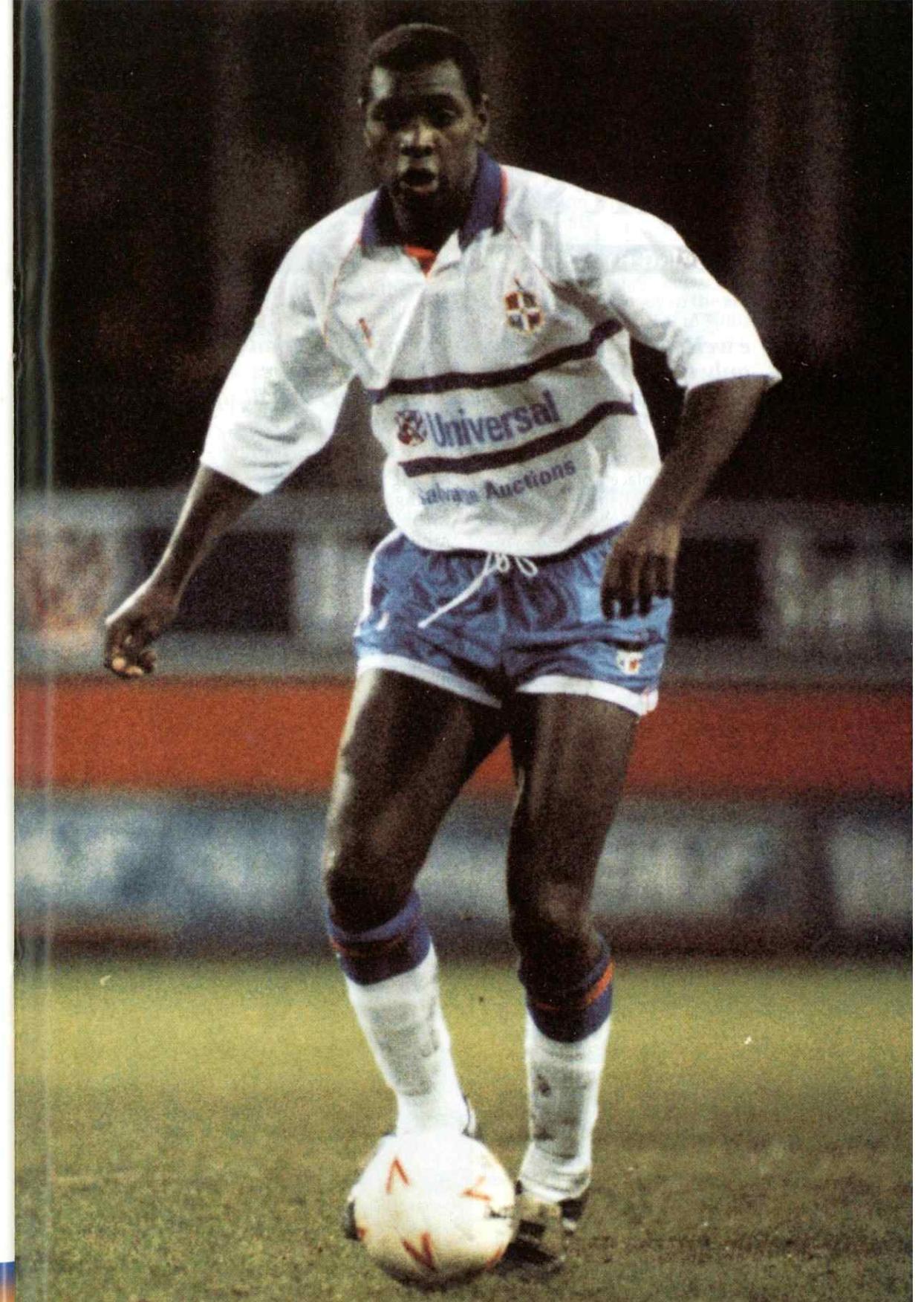
"I can play at left-back, centre-half or in midfield and I will play where I'm needed," he said. "With so many games coming up over Christmas, injuries may occur and I might be needed in a different position, who knows? As long as I can help the team out I am happy."

"We have a lot of good, young players in the team and competition for places will hot up. It was the same when I was at the club last time. The likes of Ray Daniel, Tim Breacker, Mark Stein, Garry Parker and myself were all in contention and that made everyone work for their places. The same thing is happening now and that can only be good for the club."

So what does the future hold for Mitchell? He knows where he wants to be, but the matter is out of his hands.

"I would love my contract at Luton to become a permanent one," he states. "But it is down to Billy Bonds and David Pleat to work something out. Hopefully, I will not command a big fee, which would help a great deal. Nothing would please me more than to remain at Kenilworth Road."

(Signature of Mitchell Thomas)



All square going into tonight's game

BACK TRACKING BY ROGER WASH



We welcome Grimsby Town to Kenilworth Road this evening for only the 13th time in Football League clashes. After the 'double' inflicted on us last season, matters are all square in total meetings stretching back to the end of the last century.

Our first meeting took place at Dunstable Road on December 27, 1897, in a Division Two match. Grimsby started with one man short but the newspaper report does not say what happened to their player Fletcher, but by the time he turned up, his team were two down and on their way to a 6-0 hiding. The return was played a month later at the Abbey Ground, with the Town emerging 3-1 victors courtesy of two late goals from Tom McInnes and James Coupar.

The Town were on target by 3-1 again in the home game the following season with the win effectively set up by George Ekins who laid on two accurate centres in the first-half for Jack Durrant to head home. The bubble burst in the return, however, as the Mariners ran out 5-0 to the good. The report stated that: "The visitors did not make a very good show," which sounds pretty kind to me!

In 1899/1900, the last season of the Town's short stay in Division Two, we had the honour of being the first opponents to play at Blundell Park. In an amazing game we went in 3-0 down at half-time but, following a downpour, the match was turned on its head as the score was levelled. Grimsby exacted revenge by knocking in four goals without reply in the return on December 30, 1899.

Paths did not cross again until 1920/21, the first season of the newly-formed Division Three. Grimsby had been relegated the previous year and seemed rather out of place in this new, southern dominated league, as the Town won both games with Ernie Sims scoring at home and at Blundell Park.

Grimsby cut down on their travelling by

joining the new Division Three north the following season and it was not until 1948/49 when meetings started up again. Billy Arnison scored the Luton goal in the 1-1 draw at Kenilworth Road on September 25, 1948, watched by a crowd of 18,173. Bobby



David Moss had the penalty jitters against the Mariners in 1980/81.

Brennan notched the Town's consolation in the return the following May.

The Town were blasted 6-1 at Blundell Park in 1949/50, with Tommy Briggs scoring a hat trick for the home side, but revenge was ours as we won both games the following season, a year which saw the Mariners relegated to Division Three.

Grimsby came back up just as we were on our way down in 1962/63, with Ron Davies scoring all the goals in the 2-2 draw at Kenilworth Road and the 3-1 away defeat. It was not long before we met up again with new hero John O'Rourke scoring in the 2-2 draw at Blundell Park and hitting the equaliser in a bad tempered 1-1 stalemate at Kenilworth Road in February 1965.

The two teams missed each other for the next 15 years before catching up in Division Two in 1980/81. The first clash that season was at Blundell Park with David Moss missing a penalty for the Town in a 0-0 draw, and a rampant Mariners side deserving their 2-0 win in the return.

Full revenge came our way in our promotion season of 1981/82 with Steve White hitting four in a 6-0 win at Kenilworth Road, to silence his critics, and David Moss making up for his penalty miss the previous season by hammering one of the goals from the home spot.



IT HAPPENED FIVE YEARS AGO
31/12/88 - A sad 4-0 defeat at Wimbledon pushed the Town back to 17th position in Division One. Only 4,899 fans watched the game.



IT HAPPENED TEN YEARS AGO
31/12/83 - With full-back Kirk Stephens missing for the first time that season, the Town went down 2-0 at Sunderland.



IT HAPPENED 15 YEARS AGO
30/12/78 - There was not much Christmas joy in the air as the Hatters went down 1-0 to Fulham at a bitterly cold Craven Cottage.



IT HAPPENED 20 YEARS AGO
29/12/73 - A first-half goal from Peter Anderson was enough to earn the points as Bristol City were beaten 1-0 at Kenilworth Road.

PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	12	5	4	3	27	16
Away	12	3	4	5	15	25
Total	24	8	8	8	42	41

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT LUTON TOWN



Men who have played for the Town and for Grimsby: PF, GR and MT. Who are they?



Who was the man who has managed both clubs?

When and why did the Town play today's opponents away from home, but not in Grimsby?

For the full Match Report, read —

Brian Swain's SPORTSVIEW
IN THE **Luton News** AND **DUNSTABLE GAZETTE**



5 pages of Sport Every Wednesday

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Slough's burning desire to play, even at 46!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? - BY ROGER WASH

Luton born and bred, Alan Slough actually had trials at Watford while the Town dallied over the promising player on their doorstep. It finally took the personal intervention of Jim Rioch, father of life-long friend Bruce, to make them see sense with the upshot that he joined the playing staff at Luton Town in the days of Bill Harvey.

"I made my Luton debut in a League Cup tie against Brighton in 1965 and was given a torrid time by Albion defender Bobby Baxter who slagged me off all through the game," recalled Alan. "Funnily enough, he lives near me now and you could not wish to meet a more reasonable person!"

A league debut soon followed, in a home game against Newport which was won 2-1. But it was not until the next season, 1966/67, that Alan started to become a regular fixture in the Luton side.

"When I look back on those days, I feel privileged to have been a part of the climb from the Fourth Division to the fringes of Division One, making us second only to Leeds as the most successful side in the land. We had so many good players such as Bruce, Malcolm MacDonald, Chris Nicholl and Peter Anderson and it was great for a local boy like myself to be a part of it all."

Although 'tapped up' by Aston Villa manager Tommy Docherty soon after Bruce Rioch went to Villa Park in 1969, Alan remained loyal to Luton until Harry Haslam made it clear he wanted his own players in the side, rather than the ones he had inherited on taking over as Luton boss.

"I was sad to leave after nine years," he added. "But I joined Fulham at a time when they were

going through a good spell, which included the 1975 F.A. Cup final. I also had the privilege to play alongside the likes of Alan Mullery, George Best, Rodney Marsh and Bobby Moore."

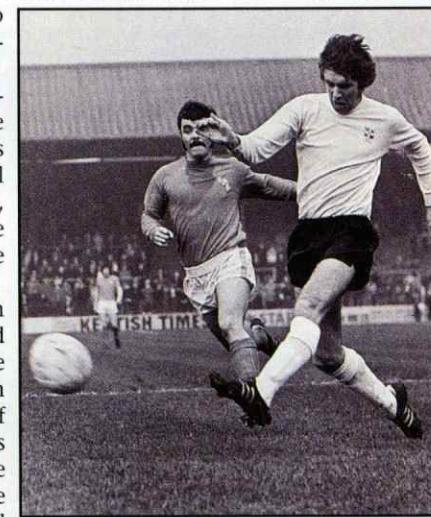
Towards the end of his Fulham career, Alan was made club captain which also made him spokesman on behalf of the players when they had gripes against manager Bobby Campbell. In this uncomfortable position, an approach from Peterborough was seen as an escape, and another successful period developed.

"We had a good side at Peterborough at the time and narrowly failed to win promotion in my first season there. In the last-but-one game, I scored a hat-trick of penalties at Chester, which is a record for a side playing away, but we lost 4-

3 and stayed down on goal average."

After leaving Peterborough, Alan had one season at Millwall before joining up with Bruce Rioch as coach at Torquay, which lasted 18 months. Non-League spells with Barnstaple, Minehead, Weymouth and Yeovil followed, as well as a stab at refereeing.

Alan has now lived in the Paignton area of Torbay for 11 years and keeps himself busy with his own coaching school and cleaning business. He is also player/manager of the Torquay branch of the Christians in Sport football team, and still turns out every week at the age of 46!



Supporters' Challenge

ENDSLEIGH OFFER YOU A CHANCE TO PLAY AT WEMBLEY

Yes this really is your chance to play at Wembley! Sounds incredible?

Well, The Football League and the major supporters' organisations have joined forces, and with the backing of Endsleigh Insurance, have come up with a unique opportunity - the dream of playing on the hallowed turf of Wembley Stadium becoming a reality for supporters of Endsleigh Insurance League clubs!

Earlier this season The Football League, the Football Supporters' Association and the National Federation of Football Supporters' Clubs launched 'Football League 2000' - a new initiative aimed at bringing the clubs and supporters closer together. The Endsleigh Insurance League Supporters' Challenge is an important element in that campaign.

Applications are invited from all male* supporters over the age of seventeen (as at 1/1/94) to participate in the biggest and most ambitious competition of its kind ever staged in this country. The Endsleigh Insurance League Supporters' Challenge will be a six-a-side competition with supporters' teams representing all seventy Endsleigh Insurance League clubs. To select each squad, a completely random draw supervised by the supporters' organisations will be made from the applications received in respect of each club. Squad members will then be invited for trials, with the final selection likely to be made by each club's Community Officer.

Each club's representative team will then participate in Divisional Heats against neighbouring sides to decide who progresses to the Wembley Qualifying Stage. The Wembley Qualifiers will be held at a central venue with the two most successful supporters' teams from each division securing their appearance at the world's most famous football stadium.

The Wembley Finals themselves will be played on a divisional basis immediately prior to the Endsleigh Insurance League Play-Offs during Spring Bank Holiday Weekend - the 28th, 29th & 30th May 1994.

Can you rise to the Challenge? If so, complete the application form now and join in the Endsleigh Insurance League Supporters' Challenge.

Full copies of the competition rules can be obtained from The Football League. Further copies of the application form are available from your club.

* FA Rule 37 prevents mixed football over the age of 11.

THE ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE SUPPORTERS' CHALLENGE APPLICATION FORM

Please return completed application forms to be received by 15th January 1994 to:

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THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE,
LYTHAM ST ANNES,
LANCASHIRE FY8 1JG.

No acknowledgement will be made but please tick this box if you do not wish to receive details of other offers from The Football League

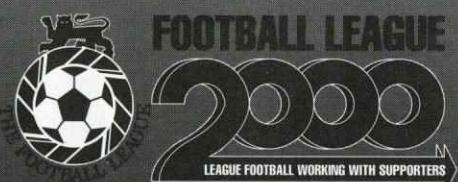
Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Tel No: _____

Club Supported: _____

League



Hatters look forward to F.A. Cup tie

AROUND THE TOWN

THIRD ROUND TALK

With so many fixtures over the holiday period, it seems difficult to focus on our forthcoming F.A. Cup third round tie with Southend United at Kenilworth Road. The game, which takes place on January 8, will be our second successive home draw in this round, following our tie with Bristol City last year.

Manager David Pleat is looking forward to the encounter against a Shrimpers side which is currently flying in Division One. "The draw is a satisfactory one for us," he said. "Southend are going well at present, and have been revived under Barry Fry. A home tie gives us a fair opportunity of progressing."

David Preece continued: "Cup runs are always a welcome break from league action and, as I am sure our supporters will agree, they have extra passion, particularly when you enter the final stages. We all dream of reaching Wembley again, and in cup competitions, anything is possible."

RICHARD MAKING GOOD PROGRESS

Richard Harvey, who has had a nightmare two seasons with knee trouble, is recovering well after a cruciate ligament operation during the autumn. He has been doing

plenty of exercise with weights, has managed to keep down to his normal weight, and is hoping to start running again in February.

JUERGEN THE TOP KEEPER

Juergen Sommer earned the plaudits of the media following his near faultless display against Charlton Athletic earlier in the month. His performance moved Charlton manager Alan Curbishley to say: "If it wasn't for their keeper, we could have had five or six. He had an excellent game." Juergen's performance was also acknowledged by '90 Minutes' who included him in their team of the week. If there are any USA World Cup scouts reading this, are you taking notes....?

SKELTON AT LILLESHAL

Aaron Skelton spent the early half of December at the Football Association's rehabilitation centre at Lilleshall as he makes the final steps towards full fitness. The 18-year-old from Welwyn Garden City has been missing since pre-season when he ruptured a thigh muscle on the Town's tour of Scotland.

"After receiving some intensive treatment, we hope he will be given the all-clear," said David Pleat. "Before his injury, he was on the verge of



our first-team. We hope he can now progress the promise he had shown."

NAMES ON SHIRTS

We would like to remind supporters that the club shop in Kenilworth Road has a service where supporters can have the names and numbers of their favourite players put on their own replica playing shirts. The cost is 50p per letter and £2.50 per numeral.

BOBBERS TRAVEL CLUB

Coaches for the trip to West Bromwich Albion will cost adults £6.00 and children/OAP's £5.00. Departure time from Cranfield is 10.30 am and 11.30 am from Luton, with the normal pick-up points en route.

Coaches for the trip to Notts County will cost adults £6.50 and children/OAP's £5.20 and will depart from Cranfield at 10.30 am and Luton at 11.30 am.

Bookings can be made by popping into the Bobbers Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road before any Saturday first-team match; on the return journey from the previous away match; or by calling Paul Deason on (0234) 750996.

A special Christmas day out at Luton Town

COMMERCIAL FOCUS WITH PETER COLLINS

SPONSORED CHILDRENS' CHARITY DAY

This Christmas will be very special for three groups of children, from Luton, Dunstable and Ampthill, who are with us in the sponsors' lounge for tonight's match.

Directors and staff of Beard Bros., Watford, have very kindly offered to make this a special day by sponsoring the match.

It will be a real treat for the children, aged between 10 and 16, who will enjoy a tour of Kenilworth Road, a meal laid on, souvenir photographs of the day, seats for the game in the New Stand and, of course, a special opportunity to meet the players after the game.



Christopher Smith, a guest of the club at our last home match, tries out a few pairs of boots for size!

On behalf of the children, I would like to thank Beard Bros. for their generosity for, what I am sure, will be a night to remember for all of them.

MIDAS WEEKLY DRAW - ONLY 50P PER WEEK

At our last home match against Tranmere Rovers, we put an application form for the Midas Draw in the match day magazine.

This is a daily draw for £100.

In January, we will be holding the first of a monthly prize draw, with the prize being free travel and lunch for four people in France. So, I hope that you have completed the form to stand a chance of winning.

Please contact John Gornall on Luton 411622 (ext 250) for more information.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

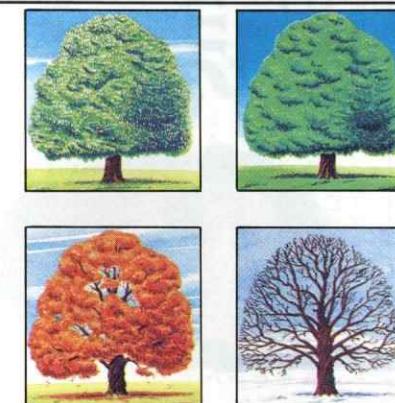
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David Pleat
*Speaks his mind every Thursday
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P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Av. Att	Leading Goalscorers			League Apps	Coca-Cola Cup Apps	FA Cup Apps	Gls
								Goals	Goals	Goals				
Crystal Palace	21	12	4	5	39	23	40	12,022	Armstrong 11, Southgate 6	-	-	-	-	-
Tranmere Rovers	22	12	4	6	34	23	40	7,435	Aldridge 8, Brannan 6, Nevin 6	-	-	-	-	-
Millwall	22	11	6	5	32	26	39	8,423	Rae 7, Kennedy 4	Geoff Aunger	3	1	-	-
Charlton Athletic	21	11	5	5	25	16	38	7,450	Nelson 7, Chapple 4	Ian Benjamin	2(1)	1	2	-
Leicester City	21	10	6	5	32	19	36	15,646	Speedie 10, Thompson 5	Jamie Campbell	3(6)	-	1	-
Portsmouth	22	9	8	5	31	29	35	9,920	Durnin 6, Walsh 5	Paul Dickov	8(4)	1	-	-
Southend United	21	10	4	7	34	27	34	6,293	Otto 8, Angell 6	Kerry Dixon	12(1)	5	-	2
Stoke City	21	10	3	8	32	34	33	14,511	Regis 5, Orlygsson 4	John Dreyer	18	1	2	1
Bristol City	22	9	6	7	27	27	33	11,771	Allison 10, Baird 5	David Greene	-	-	-	-
Nottingham Forest	20	9	5	6	31	25	32	21,623	Collymore 10, Glover 4	Alan Harper	16	-	-	-
Derby County	20	9	3	8	31	33	30	14,804	Pembrey 7, Gabbiadini 6	John Hartson	9(4)	3	(1)	2
Wolverhampton W	21	6	10	5	34	25	28	17,782	Bull 12, Kelly 9	Scott Houghton	4(6)	1	-	2
Bolton Wanderers	21	7	7	7	28	27	28	8,867	McGinlay 9, Coyle 4, Thompson 4	Ceri Hughes	20	3	2	2
Middlesbrough	20	7	6	7	29	23	27	8,570	Hendrie 7, Moore 6	Julian James	7(1)	1	2	1
Notts County	21	8	2	11	27	37	26	7,151	McSweegan 8, Draper 7	Marvin Johnson	16	-	2	2
Birmingham City	20	6	6	8	33	32	24	15,424	Taylor 11, Hunt 10	Des Linton	12(1)	-	-	-
Sunderland	21	6	5	10	21	30	23	12,631	Peschisolido 6, Shutt 4, Saville 4	Scott Oakes	16(3)	3	(1)	(1)
Grimsby Town	20	4	10	6	25	24	22	16,24	Goodman 5, P Gray 4, M Smith 4	Trevor Peake	21	-	2	-
Barnsley	22	5	6	11	27	40	21	5,429	Mendoza 10, Childs 4	Andy Pettersen	-	-	2	-
LUTON TOWN	21	6	3	12	25	30	21	6,321	Redfearn 8, four on three goals	David Preese	8	1	-	-
Watford	21	5	5	11	26	41	20	7,287	Dixon 5, four on three goals	Jason Rees	7(1)	-	2	-
Oxford United	21	5	5	11	25	38	20	5,546	Porter 6, Dyer 4, Furlong 4	Juergen Sommer	21	-	2	-
Peterborough United	20	3	7	10	17	28	16	8,114	Magilton 5, Cusack 3, Beauchamp 3	Paul Telfer	19(1)	3	1	-
Philistines	21	5	5	11	25	38	20	5,546	Philliskirk 4, Adcock 4, Iorla 3	Tony Thorpe	-	-	-	-
Millwall	21	5	5	11	25	38	20	8,114	Mitchell Thomas	Martin Williams	5	-	-	1

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TONIGHT'S OTHER ENDSLEIGH

Crystal Palace
v
Southend United

(Banbury, Oxon)
A printer by occupation, Dermot commenced refereeing in Oxfordshire in 1977 and progressed via the Southern League to the full League list in 1990. He lists his hobbies as

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