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OFFICIAL AWARD-WINNING MATCH-DAY MAGAZINE OF LEICESTER CITY F.C.



Ever I needed reminding that managers are given, at a conservative estimate, approximately 10 minutes to sort out everything, then this has been brought home to me since I have come to Leicester.

In my first four weeks of management at Filbert Street we played no fewer than six games, went through a Christmas and New Year festive programme and suffered an additional two postponements.

All of this meant that events were extremely hectic and decisions had to be made without the kind of background and thought I would normally like to have at my disposal.

That's why the two-week break since our goalless draw with Sunderland has been something of a god-send.

It has given me a little time to take stock of the situation and allow myself to think ahead and map out our plans between now and the end of the season in a less frenetic atmosphere.

For me, this is only the second time I have switched clubs as a manager in mid-season and the comparisons could hardly be more diverse.

Six years ago I joined Wycombe in mid-February with the club in 16th place in the Conference.

My immediate aim there was nothing more than to avoid relegation before I even started to think about promotion the following season.

Here at Leicester, expectations are so much higher. And rightly so. Part of the attraction in coming here is the desire to do well and compete in the Premiership.

Our aims now are no different than they were at the start of the season. Nothing has changed.

Certainly at the start of this season Leicester's form was excellent and was reflected in excellent results.

But once you set yourself a standard and a particular playing style clubs will instantly do their best to combat that. That is what I think was beginning to happen here before my arrival.



In the manager's

Chair

with Martin O'Neill

"But once you set yourself a standard and a particular playing style clubs will instantly do their best to combat that. That is what I think was beginning to happen here before my arrival."

I looked back through the results and for the final four games under the previous managership, Leicester did not win once.

I remember speaking with other managers about Leicester and about how they would try to counter-act them.

I have to say that clubs were starting to achieve some success in that. They concentrated on putting a lot of players behind the ball and allowed Leicester to pass the ball in front of them.

It is clear to me that we now need to re-assess ourselves in the promotion frame and come again. To do that, adjustments have to be made.

The last two weeks have allowed us to take a close look at the tactics we shall be using and the personnel themselves.

Our trip to Bournemouth was excellent in that respect. It gave an opportunity for us to look at the players in a more relaxed environment.

They had the chance to open up more and we were able to speak to them and learn what makes them tick.

I'm a great believer that one of the keys to success in the final 20 matches of the season which we start today is spirit and passion.

These ingredients will help us to launch ourselves as promotion challengers again. We are looking to develop more passion and desire - the like of which we produced in the last 45 competitive minutes against Sunderland.

I'm sure you as supporters will always respect passion and commitment to the Leicester City cause.

I will remember playing in a Championship-winning side whose name I won't mention and that one of the main ingredients of our success was our ability to battle for results when circumstances didn't allow for free-flowing football.

Grinding out results is an asset that no promotion or



• **AREIAL BATTLE:** Iwan Roberts towers over Sunderland defender Andy Melville in the goalless draw at Filbert Street a fortnight ago. LC731v.

championship-winning team can do without and it is something which we need to add to our armoury.

Cynics might say that passion alone does not win you football matches. Well, technique alone will not be good enough either. The successful sides are the ones who are able to marry the two together.

What has pleased me, though, is the way the team spirit has remained largely unaffected by the events of mid-season.

In a football environment, even the slightest change can be greatly magnified. Over the past couple of years, the players here have had to undergo a great many upheavals.

They had several excellent seasons under Brian Little, then came a change in style, and then a change of managership again 12 months later.

All this can be very unsettling but the overriding spirit throughout the ranks has held up extremely well.

We're looking to build on that spirit and build on that passion which will then enable us to develop to another level so that we can again stay ahead of our opposition.

Given the speculation surrounding several of my players, I also feel this is an appropriate opportunity to put the record straight on a few issues.

In particular, I have been very interested to hear of the comments

attributed to Wolves manager Mark McGhee.

It has been reported that I am the person responsible for leaking details of any proposed transfers involving some of my players.

And there was silly old me thinking that it was Mark who had gone public on the issue.

But let us not end these notes on such trifling matters. What matters is this afternoon's game.

Luton have produced some excellent results recently. Under Lennie Lawrence they are battling for their lives.

We must demonstrate to Luton that we are prepared to battle just as much to achieve our objective of clinching a place in the Premiership.

Form the second half of the Sunderland game, I have seen how well you respond to a committed performance.

It is up to us to activate you. And that's exactly what we intend to do.

Front cover caption: Julian Joachim battles for the ball in the 1-1 draw with Luton at Kenilworth Road earlier this season.

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STEVE Walsh has many fond memories of Luton Town ... and he's hoping another milestone will be able to go down in his scrapbook today.

The Hatters have figured prominently in Walsh's City history as the defender now recalls.

"When I signed from Wigan, my debut for Leicester was in the old Division One against Luton.

"Three years ago we played Luton in the first game of the season and I scored in a 2-1 victory.

"Then earlier this year our trip to Kenilworth Road co-incided with my 300th League game for Leicester.

"I should have celebrated another record that day - my 50th goal. Unfortunately, I headed over when I was in a good position so I had to wait until the trip to Bamsley."

Not only does Walsh have many fond memories of Luton ... he also knows nearly half the team.

"I was here when Scott Oakes, Des Linton and Tony Thorpe were all youngsters at Filbert Street. Plus, of course, there's David Oldfield.

"So, in terms of knowing about the opposition there can't be many other clubs with whom we're as familiar.

"I'm sure we'll all have a drink together after the game but it's business as usual at kick-off time.

"Luton have had some useful results under Lennie Lawrence and it was a big win for them in midweek over Sheffield United.

"We perhaps owe them one because we didn't play at all well at Luton earlier this season at Kenilworth Road.



WALSH: Celebrated several personal milestones against the Hatters. LC66H

"In fact, it was probably one of our worst performances of the season. The only redeeming feature was that we scraped a point out of the game. "Hopefully, you'll see a very different City side this afternoon."

CITY'S mini-break in Bournemouth proved a useful morale-booster ... and produced a fair share of amusing anecdotes.

City skipper Garry Parker was inevitably involved in most of them.

And one, in particular, produced more than a few laughs when Steve Walsh was caught out of his depth.

In the swimming pool one day, Walshie was keen to demonstrate his prowess at holding his breath underwater.

"Parks, see how long I can stay under water," asked Walshie who duly submerged himself.

Rather than operate the stop clock, 'Parks' and the rest of the lads made a swift exit.

A while later, Walshie met up with the lads again.

"I knew you'd gone really," he said. "I heard you leaving while I was underwater."

Steve obviously has a very acute sense of underwater hearing.



ROBERTS: Set himself a 20-goal target. LC650h

IWAN Roberts has set his scoring sights on a 20-goal target to help City reach the Premiership.

The Welsh international is confident that he can complete his second highest goals tally in a career spanning Watford, Huddersfield and City.

So far, the six feet three inch centre forward has claimed 14 and said Roberts: "My best ever season was 34 with Huddersfield four years ago.

"After that, my highest was 18 with Watford. I've got 12 in the League and a total of 14 so far this season and I'll be bitterly disappointed if I don't reach at least 20.

"Alan Birchenall offered me a free meal at his pub (Birch's hostelry gets everywhere in this programme, Ed) if I can get 20 goals this season.

"I hope he's made the reservations for me and the missus."

Ironically, Roberts is currently in the middle of his worst run of the season - five games without a goal.

"The last time I scored was in the 2-2 draw at Grimsby just before Christmas," explained Roberts.

"I'm concerned, of course, but I'm not overly worried because I've at least been having the chances.

"I'd be a lot more worried if I wasn't getting into the positions to score. Really, that's symptomatic of the whole team.

"A lot of people are making a lot of the fact



we haven't scored as a team for four games but it's not like we've been penned in our own half and never had a chance.

"We're working hard for each other and I'm sure the goals are going to come. Overall, I'd have wanted to score more but I'm relatively satisfied given that I didn't even start off in the team for the opening games.

"Last year in the Premiership was my lowest-ever return for a season of 11 goals. At least I've beaten that already and we've only just started February."

Indeed, Roberts believes that it's almost like the second half of the season is about

PONTUS Kaamark is banking on the healthy Scandinavian air and countryside to speed up his recovery.

City's Swedish international is back in his native Gothenburg after undergoing knee surgery last week.

He's been ordered to take a complete rest for six weeks and said Pontus: "The doctors have told me that the operation was a complete success.

"It was a major operation so I know that it is going to be a long and frustrating road back to a full recovery.

"But I'm sure that I will be able to come back and hopefully it will be when Leicester are in the Premiership.

"It's very frustrating to think I have played less than two games since my arrival but that's how cruel football can be some times.

"I shall be staying over in Sweden for six weeks and then I will be returning to Leicester in five week's time to start my rehabilitation programme."

One of Kaamark's final tasks was to carry out a public appearance for Leicester Royal Infirmary youngsters on the eve of his operation.

Pontus visited eight youngsters in our Charnwood Suite during the reserves Pontins League Division Two victory over York.

OUR next two scheduled home games are both subject to the results of FA Cup fourth round ties this week.

Our re-arranged Division One game with Oldham Athletic is due to take place at Filbert Street on Wednesday February 14, while three days later we should face Port Vale on Saturday February 17.

However both these clubs are still involved in the FA Cup.

If Vale beat Everton on Wednesday night it will mean the postponement of our fixture with them as this is fifth round weekend.

Oldham travel to Swindon for their fourth round tie and if this ends in a draw the replay will take precedence over the February 14 League fixture.

to get underway today for City.

The players enjoyed a three-day break in Bournemouth earlier this week and said Roberts: "It was good for team morale.

"It brought the players and the new management team closer together and a few home truths were spelled out.

"We had several group meetings and the manger told us what was required from us between now and the end of the season.

"We've spoken about taking 10 points out of the next 12. Three of the next four are at home and it's important we capitalise upon that."

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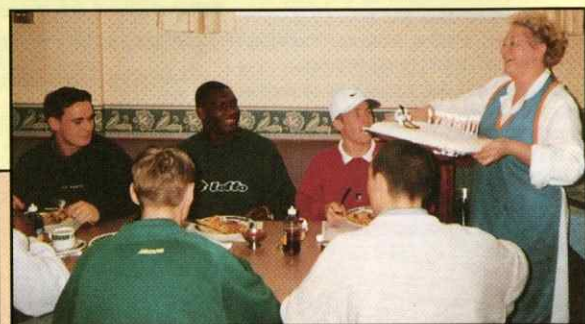
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MANY people might have thought it happened a long time ago ...

... but England youth striker Emile Heskey finally celebrated his 18th birthday only last month.

Emile came of age on Thursday January 11. And, to mark the occasion as our picture shows above, he was presented with a special cake by the club.

In fact, it was a surprise all round for the former City of Leicester School pupil who has represented England at under 16, under 17 and under 18 level.

"It was college day so I turned up for lessons at the club and found out that the classroom had been

decked out in all the party gear.

"Then I was given a cake at lunchtime. It was really embarrassing," said Emile.

The youngster now hopes he has shrugged off an ankle injury which has been troubling him.

"Originally, I did it at Grimsby but then I aggravated the injury in a reserve game at Preston.

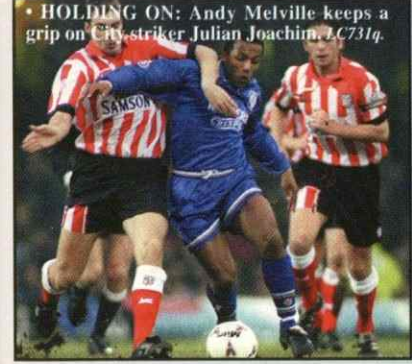
"It affected the amount of training I could do but the recent two-week break has done me a power of good.

"I suffered no reaction in the reserves game against York 10 days ago and there have been no problems since."

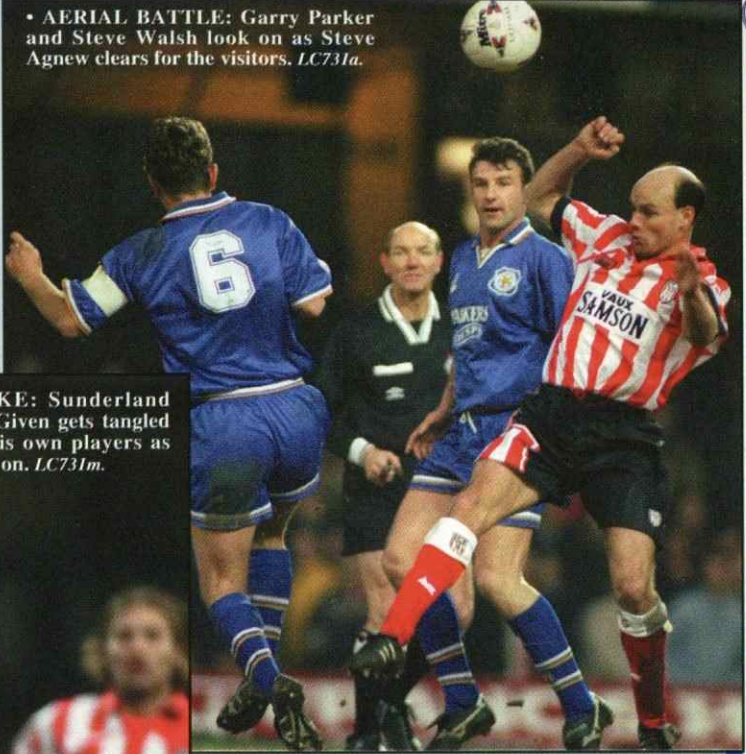
Martin O'Neill (City manager)
 "On the strength of our second half performance we ought to have won it. We created enough chances again and I'm sure that Peter Reid was very relieved to get away with a point out of this one. We need to get the ball into the danger areas more quickly and when we did do that we caused problems for Sunderland. Defensively I felt we looked solid, now we've got to start scoring again"



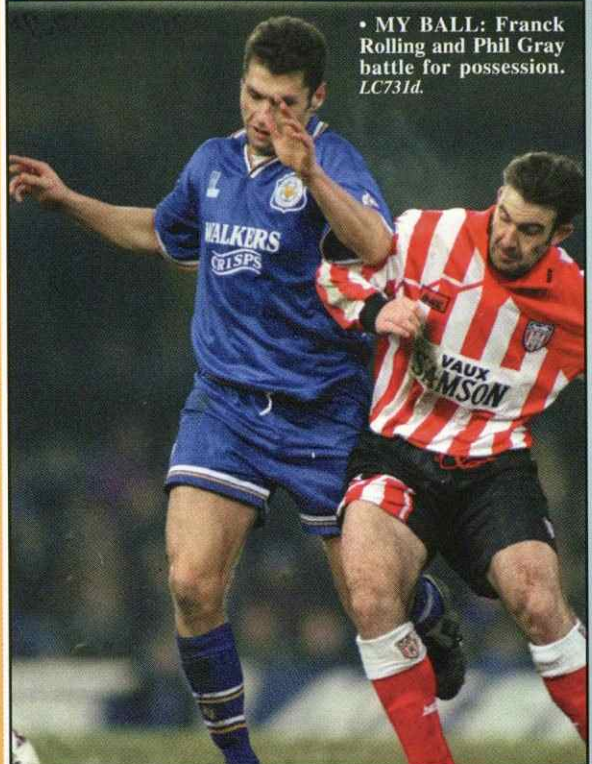
• BIG BOOT: City defender Colin Hill unleashes a long range pass. LC731f.



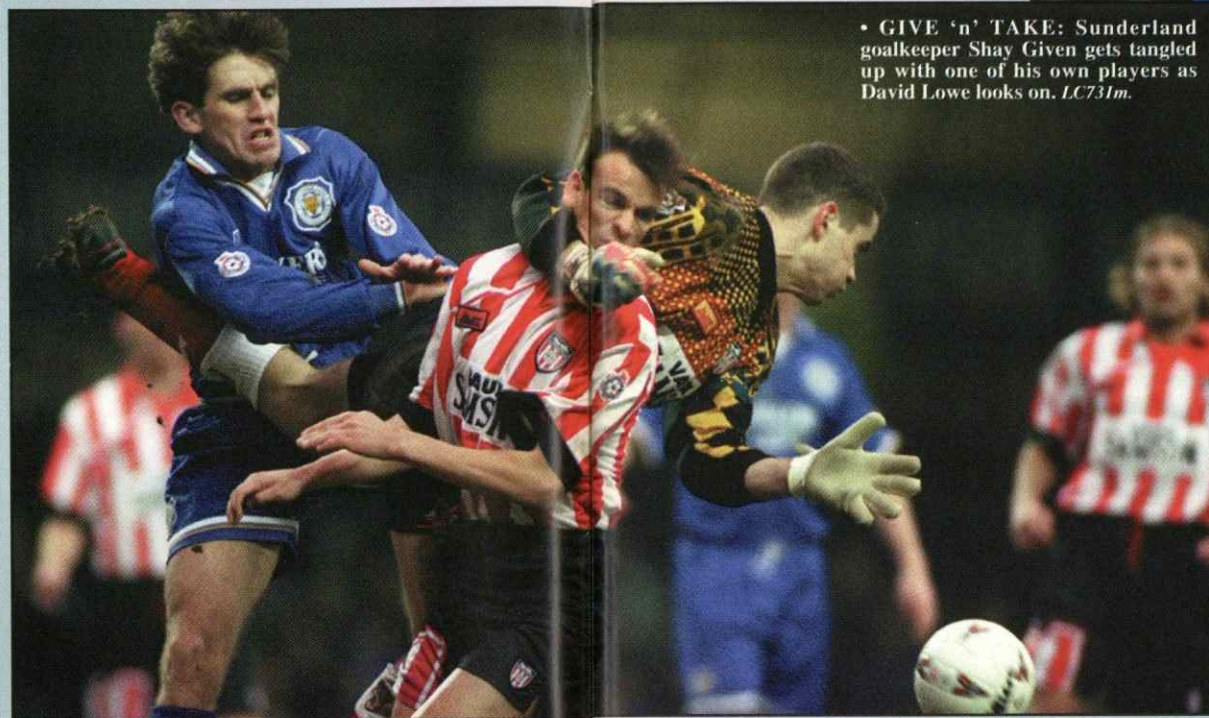
• HOLDING ON: Andy Melville keeps a grip on City striker Julian Joachim. LC731g.



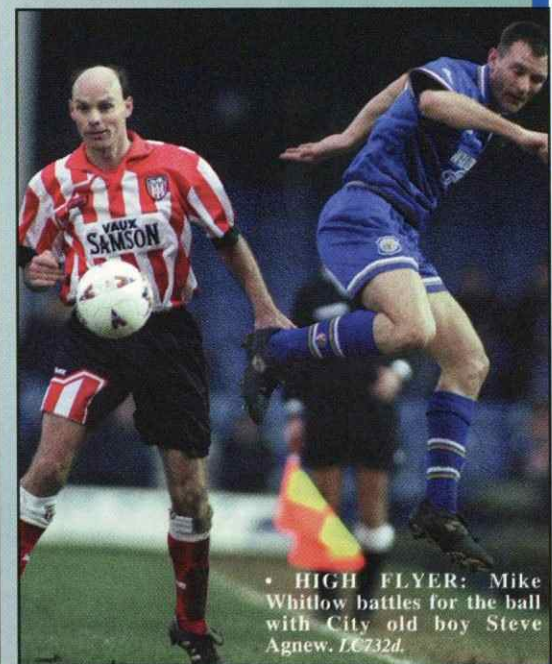
• AERIAL BATTLE: Garry Parker and Steve Walsh look on as Steve Agnew clears for the visitors. LC731a.



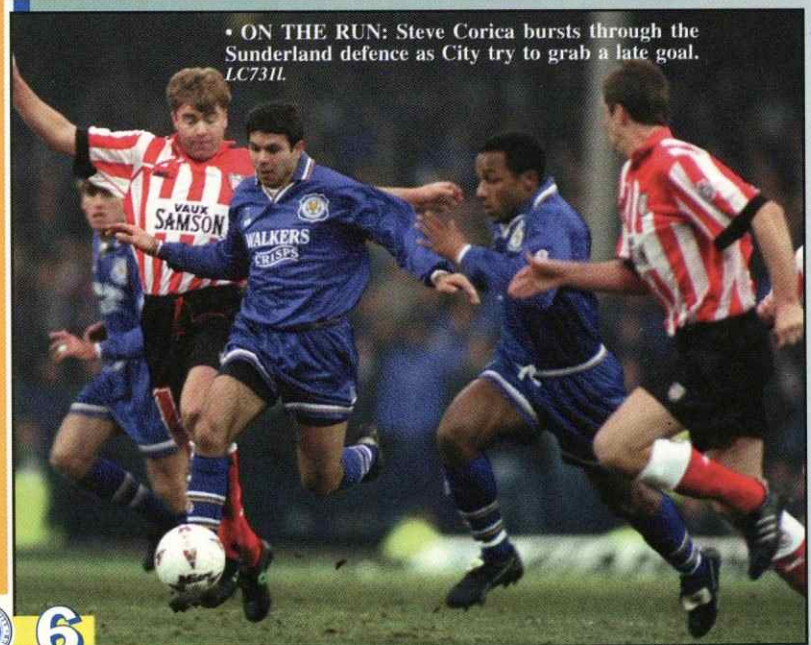
• MY BALL: Franck Rolling and Phil Gray battle for possession. LC731d.



• GIVE 'n' TAKE: Sunderland goalkeeper Shay Given gets tangled up with one of his own players as David Lowe looks on. LC731m.



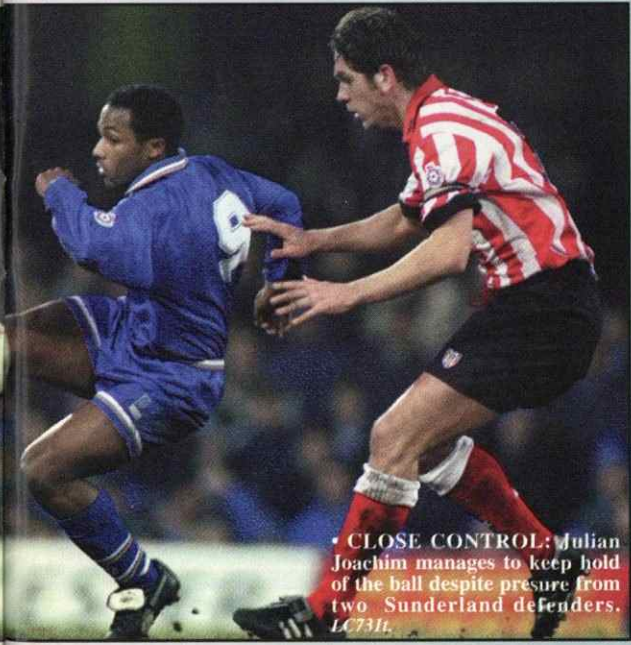
• HIGH FLYER: Mike Whitlow battles for the ball with City old boy Steve Agnew. LC732d.



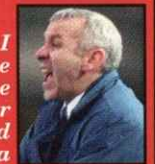
• ON THE RUN: Steve Corica bursts through the Sunderland defence as City try to grab a late goal. LC731i.



• CLOSE CONTROL: Julian Joachim manages to keep hold of the ball despite pressure from two Sunderland defenders. LC731j.



Peter Reid (Sunderland manager)
 "It was a good point for us but I was very disappointed with the sending off of Gareth Hall in the last minute of his full debut for us. We stuck to our guns and battled well at what is always a very difficult place to come to. After our defeat to Norwich at Roker Park and the cup exit at Manchester United the last thing we wanted was three successive defeats in a week."



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I REMEMBER WHEN



by JACK CURTIS

If past records are anything to go by we could be in for a few goals at Filbert Street this afternoon.

Over the years Leicester and Luton have been coupled together in all sorts of different ways but, on the field, we often seem to be involved in high scoring matches.

The successful Leicester Boys team in the 1945-46 season for instance played at Luton just after Christmas and won 13-0.

I've mentioned that match before in these recollections earlier in the season. It was the game in which a lad named Alan Slinn from the Gateway School, scored 10 goals.

Then, of course, there was the famous high-scoring FA Cup tie between City and Luton in which 18 goals were scored before a decision was reached.

The first game at Kenilworth Road finished in a 5-5 draw and in the replay the following week, City won 5-3 at Filbert Street. Now that's what you could call entertainment.

Another connection between the two clubs has been in administrative staff. The man who first invited me to come here to start the Family Enclosure, was the then City secretary John Smith. But he left the club a year later to become secretary at Luton.

Leicester and Luton have also had the same manager-David Pleat. But did you know that David and our very own Alan Birchenall played in the same schoolboy team at Nottingham. David, of course, went on to be a schoolboy international.

And the Birch went on to become...well, a folk hero I suppose here at Filbert Street. What a character.

I remember him playing in a match down here when the game was stopped because a player had been injured. Alan had run out of play near the dressing room tunnel at the time, to pick up the ball and take a throw in.

In those days we used to have boys walking round the ground on the running track, selling crisps from a tray attached to a strap which they wore round their neck.

Birch, still waiting for the game to be re-started, saw one of these lads coming towards him, shouted to the fans "Who wants some crisps?" and immediately took all the crisps off this lads tray and threw them into the crowd to great cheering all round.

The referee blew his whistle to re-start the game and Birch took the throw-in, leaving this poor lad standing there with an empty tray and yelling "who's going to pay for my crisps."

Now, I've had a chat with Birch about this, and if this lad can be traced he's certainly on for free beer at Birch's hostelry for an evening as some sort of recompense for all those crisps.

But back to Luton, and even though you might not term them a fashionable club, they have certainly been an innovative one who have often been at the forefront of new ideas over the years.

In the bad old days of soccer hooliganism, they were the first to ban away supporters in a bid to make grounds safer. Not everyone agreed, but at least it was an attempt to cope with a difficult situation.

Then they introduced the artificial pitch at Kenilworth Road which, from their point of view, was certainly successful.

And talking of artificial pitches, I'll never forget a match against Queens Park Rangers on their artificial surface at Loftus Road.

I was at home in Leicester having lunch on that particular Saturday, when I had a phone call asking me to get down to Filbert Street as quickly as possible.

It turned out that all the boots with the special studded soles needed for artificial pitches, had been left behind-and there was only two hours to kick off. So the boots were thrown into my car and I was asked to drive down to Loftus Road as quickly as possible to get them to the players.

I made it to the end of the Motorway and onto the North Circular by around 2.30 before I came to a dead stop in heavy traffic. Eventually, I managed to pull off onto a side road, saw someone coming towards me and asked him if

CITY and Luton have become synonymous with high-scoring games ... at both professional and schoolboy level, says City's Mr Memory Man Jack Curtis who turns the spotlight on his usual diverse range of soccer anecdotes. Jack recalls the time when Alan Birchenall gave out free crisps and the day he had to rush to London to deliver some special astroturf boots just two hours before kick off.



• **MAGNIFICENT SEVEN:** (left to right) Shilton, Cross, Svarc, Tewley, Woollett, Matthews and Timson.

he knew the way to Loftus Road.

He turned out to be a postman who knew a quick route to avoid the traffic. So I gave him a fiver and asked him to get in the car with me and direct me there.

We made it in the nick of time and delivered the boots. Unfortunately there wasn't a happy ending to this particular rescue mission because we still lost.

The experiment with artificial pitches didn't last that long. One of the complaints about them was that the ball used to bounce too high. Luton tried to combat that by sprinkling sand over the surface and then watering it to deaden the bounce.

As I say, they have always been a club ready to experiment and try new ideas and I welcome them and their new manager Lennie Lawrence here today.

Hopefully, it will be a game containing a few goals although not as many as that schoolboy match at Kenilworth Road I mentioned at the start of this column.

This year of course is the 50th anniversary of that successful Leicester Boys side, and we plan to organise a special Golden Jubilee dinner at some stage to celebrate.

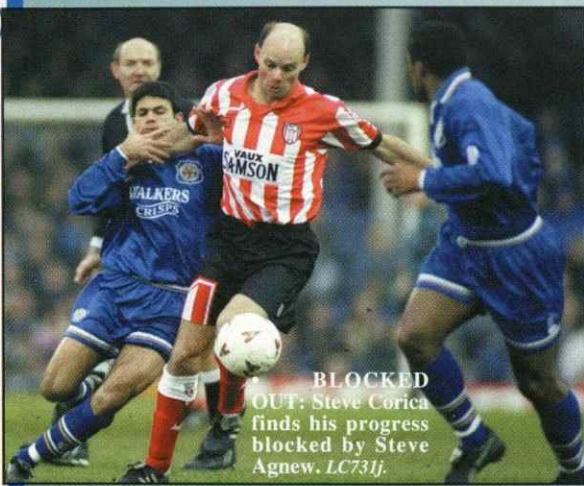
People have often said that schoolboy footballers don't make the grade at senior level. But the photograph on this page is proof of how many youngsters did graduate through Leicester Schools to become professionals at Filbert Street.

One of Leicester's major opponents at schoolboy level over the years was Swansea. For some reason we were frequently drawn against each other in competitions.

And they are certainly proof of how schoolboy footballers can go on to make it to the highest level in the game. Just think of who played for Swansea boys...John and Mel Charles, Len and Ivor Allchurch, Cliff Jones. One could go on and on.

I've often thought that, had Swansea been able to retain all the star players that they had, they would have been one of the top clubs in the country for many, many years.

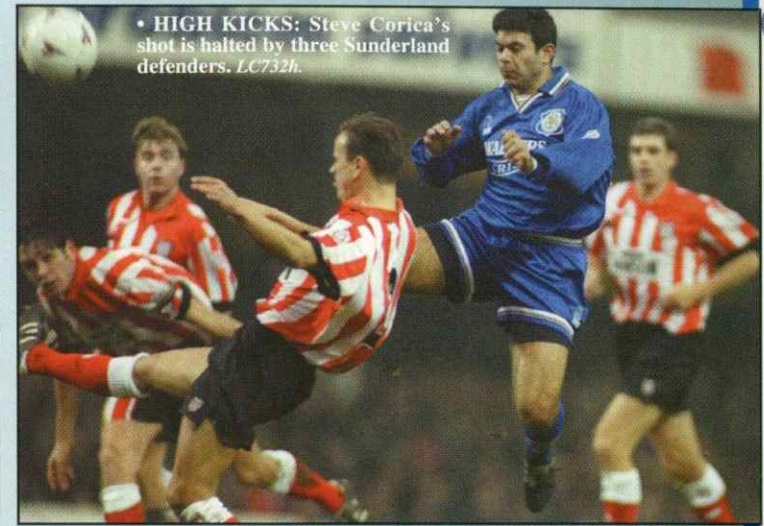
But I believe the Leicester Schools Football Association has been just as strong and the fact that, as the photograph shows, seven boys were all on the books of Leicester City at the same time is testimony to that.



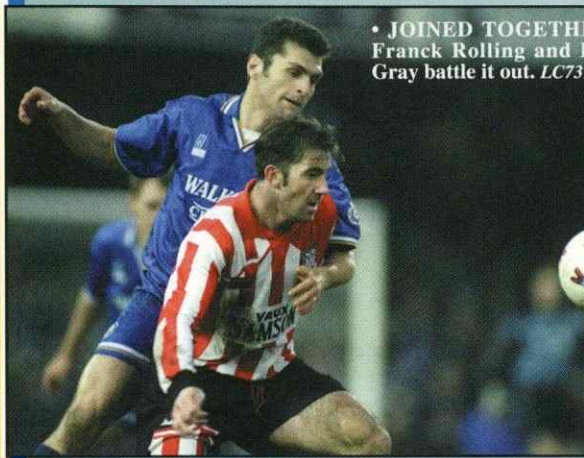
BLOCKED OUT: Steve Corica finds his progress blocked by Steve Agnew. LC731j.



GOING FOR GOAL: City substitute Emile Heskey tries to grab a late goal in the goalless draw against Sunderland. LC731u.



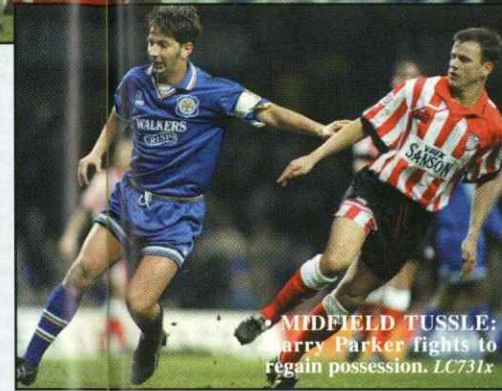
HIGH KICKS: Steve Corica's shot is halted by three Sunderland defenders. LC732h.



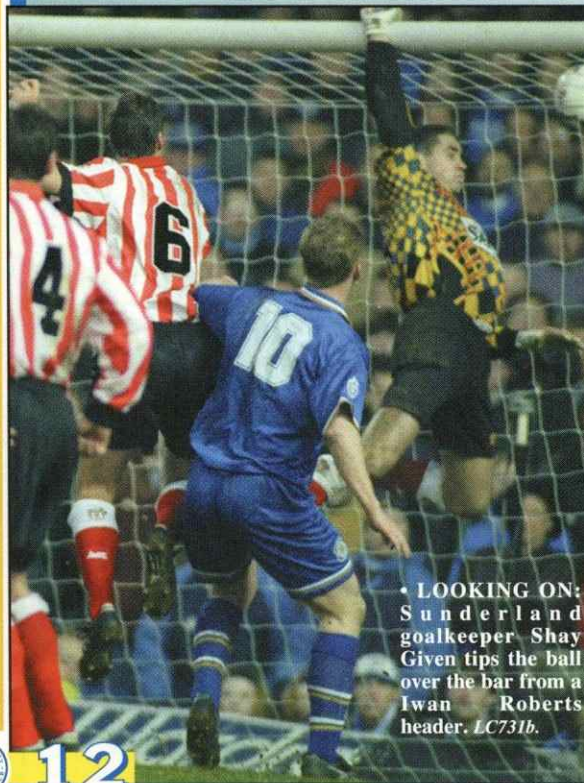
JOINED TOGETHER: Franck Rolling and Phil Gray battle it out. LC731s.



DOWN, BUT NOT OUT: Julian Joachim is floored by a challenge from Sunderland's captain Richard Ord. LC731k.



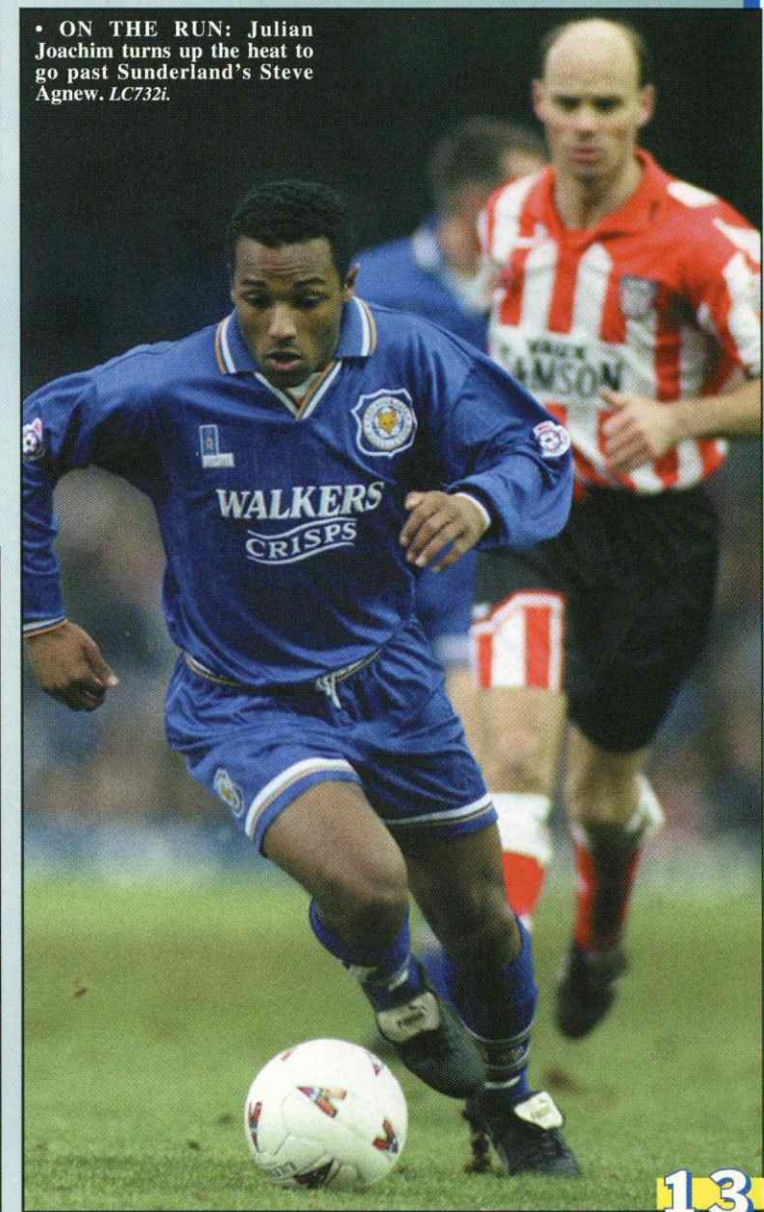
MIDFIELD TUSSELE: Harry Parker fights to regain possession. LC731x.



LOOKING ON: Sunderland goalkeeper Shay Given tips the ball over the bar from a Iwan Roberts header. LC731b.



LEANING TOWERS: Steve Corica and Sunderland midfielder Steve Agnew jostle for position. LC731a.



ON THE RUN: Julian Joachim turns up the heat to go past Sunderland's Steve Agnew. LC732i.

INTRODUCING LUTON TOWN



Lennie Lawrence can look back upon his six weeks in charge of Luton with some satisfaction. The Hatters were anchored to the bottom of the First Division when he arrived but they then collected eight of the nine points at stake from his first three games and that has given them a sporting chance of escaping relegation.

One game he will wish to forget, however, is their third round F.A. Cup tie at Grimsby where they were beaten by an amazing 1-7 scoreline.

"To say that it was an inept defensive performance would be kind," he said.

"It was a game that was unbelievably illuminating for me for all the wrong reasons."

In some ways that may be seen as a blessing in disguise, though. The aberration did not cost them valuable League points and it enabled Lawrence to concentrate upon important areas of the team that needed improvement.

But he was not panicked into making wholesale changes. With virtually the same team, Luton won their next two games at home to Southend (3-1) and, more impressively, away to Norwich (1-0).

Steve Davis and Marvin Johnson have been holding the central defensive positions with Julian James and Mitchell Thomas operating at full-back.

Following the departure of goalkeeper Jurgen Sommer to Q.P.R. in August, the position was held for a while by Kelvin Davis.

Ian Feuer was then signed on loan from West Ham with the full transfer being completed for £580,000 in December.

Midfield positions have been occupied by Graham Alexander, Gary Waddock, Scott Oakes and Tony Thorpe.

Paul McLaren has also played in midfield whilst Richard Harvey has been used both in midfield and at left-back.

The versatile David Oldfield has appeared both in attack and midfield and is often included as substitute.

Back row: Ben Chenery, Danny Power, Gary Simpson, Fred McLaren, Rob Matthews (now with York City), Gavin Johnson, David Greene, Steve Davis, Kelvin Davis, John Taylor, Trevor Peake, Julian James.

Middle row: Chris Green, Cliff Bassett, Clive Goodyear (physio), Paul Lowe, Richard Harvey, Aaron Skelton, David Oldfield, Mitchell Thomas, Des Linton, Marvin Johnson, Bontcho Guentchev, Matthew Woolgar (no longer with the club), Wayne Turner, John Moore, Les Shannon, Nigel Terry.

Front row: Jamie Woodford, Gary Waddock, Tony Thorpe, Ceri Hughes, Mick McGiven (former assistant manager), David Kohler (chairman), Terry Westley (former manager), Scott Oakes, Nathan Jones (no longer with the club), Graham Alexander, Dwight Marshall.



• OAKES: Returning to Filbert Street.

The three chief contenders for the two attacking positions are John Taylor, Bontcho Guentchev and Dwight Marshall.

It became evident from an early stage that Luton would face a difficult season. With only one win from their opening nine League games, the Hatters found themselves at the bottom of the table.

By winning two of their next four games, they lifted themselves off the bottom but, as Christmas approached, they had dropped to the bottom again.

It was then decided to part company with manager Terry Westley. Mr Lawrence, who has previously managed Charlton, Middlesbrough and Bradford City, took over shortly before the holiday games.

The Hatters have won away games in the First Division at Southend (1-0), Ipswich (1-0) and Norwich (1-0).

They drew at Grimsby (0-0), Wolves (0-0) and Watford (1-1) but were beaten at Reading (1-3), Millwall (0-1), Tranmere (0-1), Stoke (0-5), Barnsley (0-1) and Portsmouth (0-4).

They also lost away to Second Division Bournemouth (1-2) in the Coca Cola Cup so, having only drawn 1-1 at home, they took an early exit from that competition.

Their F.A. Cup interest came to a dramatic end, as we have already mentioned, at Grimsby (1-7).

Since losing their place in the old First Division (now the Premiership) in 1992, Luton have lived constantly with the threat of further relegation.

In 1993 they scrambled clear by two points and went similarly close 12 months later.

Last season they looked fairly safe though they put themselves under some pressure by losing their final four matches. They finished in 16th place, 10 points clear of danger.



Exclusively Speaking



Lennie Lawrence

By Ian Whittell

RELEGATION-THREATENED Luton are banking on football Houdini Lennie Lawrence as they bid to stay in the first division this season.

The Hatters have not been lower than this league for 26 years but when Lawrence was appointed just before Christmas, the outlook appeared decidedly grim.

But Lawrence's survival c.v. explained chairman David Kohler's decision to hand the hot seat to a boss who made an extraordinary reputation for himself at Charlton in the 1980s.

Not only did Lawrence lift the unfashionable London club into the top flight in 1986 but, even more amazingly, managed to keep them there for four years.

So, after spells of varying success at Middlesbrough and Bradford, Lawrence was a logical choice for the Town board when they parted company with Terry Westley in December.

Lawrence says: "I feel I have come to a club that is right for me. Sitting at the bottom of the league is a very familiar situation for me after all those hard years at Charlton.

"I realise there is a great challenge ahead, just as there was then, but I firmly believe that Luton Town are a club who genuinely belong in the first division.

"The club's facilities, the players here and their tradition all say they should be a first division club.

"There are still plenty of games left, a lot of points to play for, and I feel that gives me something to focus on. I didn't know too much about the squad when I took over but I was happy to dive in at the deep end."

Luton's league performances under Lawrence certainly showed an immediate improvement.

The last nine games of Westley's reign had seen the Hatters win just once. Under Lawrence, Luton won two and drew one of their first three first division outings.

A useful home point from high-flying Huddersfield was followed by a 3-1 home win over Southend and, even more impressive, a 1-0 away win at promotion-chasing Norwich.

Sandwiched in between was an astonishing 7-1 FA Cup defeat at Grimsby which left Lawrence shrugging his shoulders and admitting: "We just met a very good first division side who tore us to pieces."

But that result was almost irrelevant in the context of Luton's and Lawrence's one and only goal for the season - first division survival.

Lawrence says: "It was important to get this show on the road.

"We need an average of a point a game for the rest of the season if we are going to survive and so far we are ahead of schedule.

"Already I feel there is a good spirit at the club and a few more good results and we will be well and truly on our way."

For a manager who was actually in charge of a club when it was



• THE SURVIVOR: Lawrence is looking forward to pull off another of his football Houdini acts by keeping Luton in Division One.

"I feel I have come to a club that is right for me. Sitting at the bottom of the league is a very familiar situation for me after all those hard years at Charlton. I realise there is a great challenge ahead, just as there was then, but I firmly believe that Luton Town are a club who genuinely belong in the first division"

formally declared bankrupt and was on the verge of being thrown out of the Football League, this is a fairly minor crisis.

That was the situation Lawrence found himself in when he was in charge of Charlton in the mid-1980s.

But, under Lawrence's shrewd management, Charlton avoided disaster on that occasion and the experience he gleaned from those trying days - plus the job he later performed in lifting Middlesbrough into the Premiership - made him an ideal candidate for the Luton job.

Certainly, his experience of operating on a shoestring - if not non-existent - budget will come in useful.

Lawrence said: "I expect that we will have to sell players before I have the opportunity of buying anyone.

"It's naive to expect us to run out and spend two or three million right now.

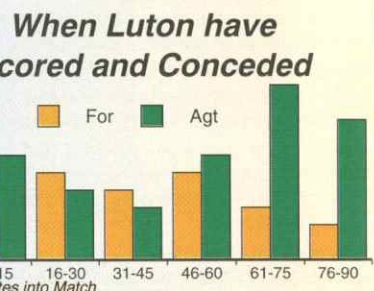
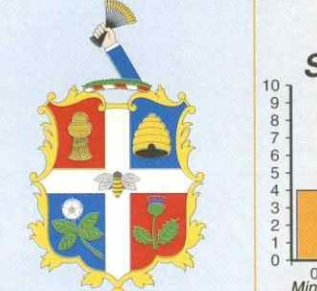
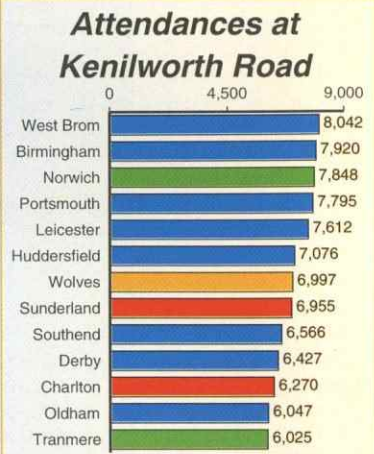
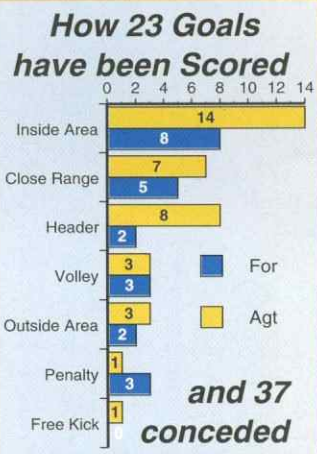
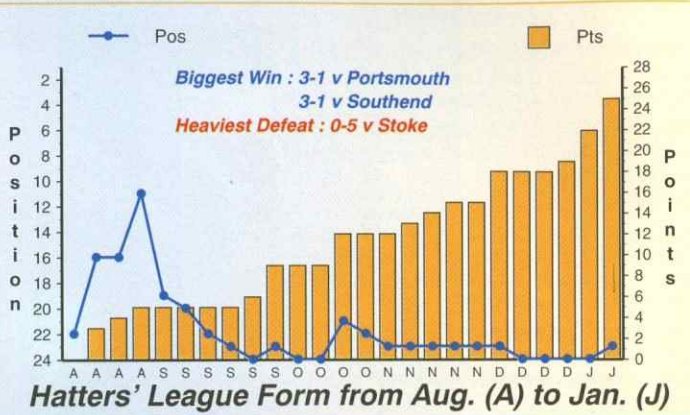
"But if you look at the current squad we have here at Kenilworth Road then you must take some real hope that we can get out of the trouble we're in."

Hatters - The Season So Far

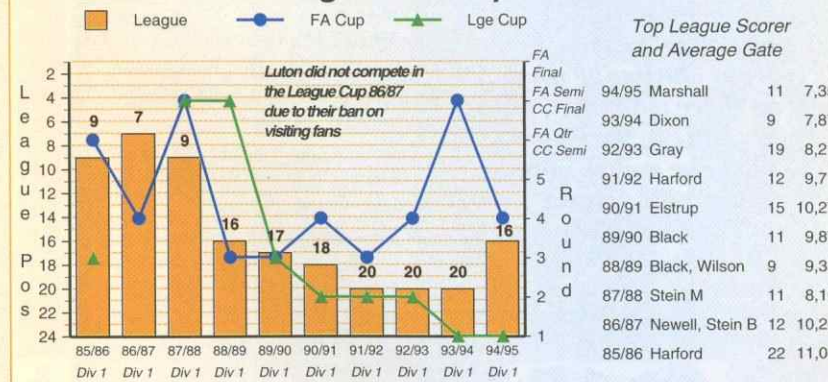
A=Appearances (Sub)
C=Cautions (Sent Off)
G=Goals
Cup details in italics

Appearance Details

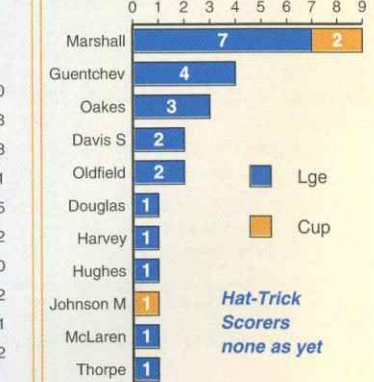
A	G	C	Previous Clubs	
Johnson M	24	1		
29/10/68	3	1		
Harvey	23(2)	1	Blackpool (L)	
17/4/69	2		Eng Yth	
Davis S	21	2	Burnley Southampton	
26/7/65	2	1	Notts County (L)	
Marshall	21	7	Plymouth Middlesbrough (L) Grays	
3/10/65	3	2		
Alexander	18(1)	3	Scunthorpe	
10/10/71	2(1)	1		
Feuer	18		West Ham Peterborough (L) Los Angeles Salsa	
20/5/71	1			
Hughes	16	1	6(1)	
26/2/71			Wales	
Peake	14(3)	2	Coventry Lincoln Nuneaton	
10/2/57			Eng SP	
Oakes	14	3	1	Leicester
5/8/72			Eng U21	
Waddock	13(4)	2	Bristol Rovers Swindon (L) QPR Millwall Charleroi	
17/3/62			Eire	
James	12(3)	4	Preston (L)	
22/3/70	2	2		
Oldfield	11(7)	2	Leicester Millwall (L) Man City Luton	
30/5/68	3		Eng U21	
Guentchev	10(7)	4	1	Ipswich Sporting Lisbon
7/7/64	3		Bulgaria	
Taylor	9(4)	2	2	Bradford Bristol Rovers Cambridge Colchester Sudbury
24/10/64				
McLaren	9	1	2	
17/11/76	1			
Vilstrup	6	1	1	Lingby
27/2/69				
Thorpe	5(7)	1		
10/4/74	(3)			
Linton	5(1)			Leicester
5/9/71				
Riseth	5(1)			Kongsvinger
21/4/72				
Davis K	5	1	1	Torquay (L)
29/9/76				Eng U21
Patterson	4(2)	1	1	Palace Wigan West Brom
15/10/69				N Ire
Thomas	4(2)	1	1	West Ham Tottenham Luton
2/10/64	2(1)			Eng B
Johnson G	4(1)	2	2	Ipswich
10/10/70				
Sommer	2			Kettering Torquay (L)
27/2/69	2			Brighton (L)
Douglas	1(3)	1	1	
9/4/78				
Woodsford	1(2)			Eng Yth
9/11/76				Notts County
Matthews				Loughborough Univ.
14/10/70	(1)			



Luton's 10 Year League and Cup Record



Goal Scorers



ONE on ONE with



David Oldfield

By Ian Whittell

David Oldfield has a simple double wish for the current season - Luton Town to stay in Division One and Leicester to return to the Premiership.

It is probably just what you would expect to hear from the Aussie midfielder who was always a popular figure during five roller-coaster years with the Foxes.

Oldfield, a £150,000 David Pleat signing in January 1990, went on to play under Gordon Lee, Brian Little and Mark McGhee before returning to his first club Luton last summer.

He was a veteran of the three play-off campaigns that finally ended in success on that famous Wembley afternoon two years ago but now finds himself in a battle of a very different kind at Kenilworth Road.

Oldfield says: "It's been quite a difficult season for us, as you can imagine. We had new players and a new manager last summer and we all took a little bit of time to settle down."

"We obviously didn't win enough games but we all felt a bit sorry for the old manager Terry Westley when he left. He wasn't in the job long, less than six months which you would say, in football terms, is not really long enough to be in a job."

"The chairman had to make a decision, he made it and Lennie Lawrence has come in and done well."

"We still need a good run of results to lift us out of trouble but we have put a bit of a better run together since the new manager took over. He has come in, worked hard and we seem to have had a few results to show for it."

The 27-year-old Aussie still has a vested interest in events at the other end of the First Division, however. Oldfield remains a frequent visitor to Filbert Street and, inevitably, maintains friendships with a number of former team mates.

He says: "I have great memories of my time at Leicester. We got beaten in a couple of play-off finals which obviously wasn't much fun, especially as both defeats were through dodgy penalties. It was heartbreaking really."

"But we had three good seasons which culminated in promotion and, even though I didn't play in the final we won, it was a brilliant experience."

"Football is a strange business and, once you leave one place, you obviously place all your attention on your new club. But they were a great set of lads at Leicester, I still keep in touch with them and look out for their results."



• OLDFIELD: A firm favourite during his days at Filbert Street.

"I have great memories of my time at Leicester. We got beaten in a couple of play-off finals which obviously wasn't much fun, especially as both defeats were through dodgy penalties. It was heartbreaking really."

"If you told me now that Luton would stay up and Leicester would go up, I'd settle for that. And I think that's a real possibility."

Despite his current club's predicament Oldfield, who also had a brief but successful spell in the top flight with Manchester City, has not abandoned the hope of returning to the Premiership.

"Of course I still want to play in the Premiership, who doesn't?" he says.

"I don't think it's going to happen with Luton, not this season at any rate. But everybody in football is ambitious and I'm no different." Oldfield, of course, is only one of a number of Luton men who are looking forward to something of a homecoming this afternoon.

The David Pleat connection has seen players like Scott Oakes, Tony Thorpe and Des Linton all swap Filbert Street for Kenilworth Road in recent seasons.

Midfielder Oakes, arguably the most highly-rated of the three, even has his brother Stefan still at Filbert Street as a YTS apprentice.

Oldfield says: "Scott is a very good player, nice feet, quick. He can definitely play and will

be a threat to Leicester. He has great ability and I think he's destined for good things.

"David Pleat took the three boys with him when he went back to Luton and they will all be looking forward to going back."

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LEICESTER CITY FOOTBALL CLUB

LIVERPOOL reserve Mark Walters has finally ended his spell on the sidelines with a free transfer to Premiership rivals Southampton.

Liverpool boss Roy Evans said: "It is obviously a good chance for Mark and represented good business for all concerned."

Southampton's director of football Lawrie McMenemy said: "We are pleased to get a player of his quality for free."

Other Reds to leave the Anfield reserve side recently include Nigel Clough (Manchester City) and Jan Molby (loan to Norwich).

SHEFFIELD

Wednesday boss

David Pleat has told Irish World Cup star John Sheridan that he can leave Hillsborough. Sheridan has been linked with Manchester City and Derby and has reportedly been unsettled all season.

Pleat said: "If John Sheridan is unsettled then I am pleased. I would not want any player to be happy out of the team.

But I can only play 11 men."

CHELSEA striker Mark Hughes has picked up a five-match ban for his recent sending-off at Everton.

The Welsh international striker had only just returned from a two-match suspension when he landed in hot water again for a challenge on defender David Unsworth.

But boss Glenn Hoddle was more concerned with the number of cautions his star has collected for dissent.

He said: "When he has these little battles he also gets involved in little arguments and he has to learn to detach himself from that."



QPR keeper Jurgen Sommer has his sights set on an unusual double for 1996 - Premiership survival and an Olympic goal medal.

The Rangers keeper explains: "I have already been chosen in the players' pool for the Olympics in Atlanta this summer.

"The squad is now training in California and it's mainly younger players.

"But you are allowed to include three over-age players and I'm in contention for one of those places.

"It would certainly be a dream to play. It's going to be a massive event and they have already sold just about all the tickets."

ENGLAND will complete their warm-ups for the European Championships with a tour of the Far East that will include games against Hong Kong and China.

The host country already have home friendlies lined up against Bulgaria, Croatia and Hungary in the build-up to the Finals.

England start their tournament against Switzerland on June 8 and the matches with China and Hong Kong will be our first ever against them.

Wales, meanwhile, have been handed the perfect start to their World Cup qualifying campaign.

Bobby Gould's team open with two games against whipping boys San Marino, fixtures that should see the Welsh start the road to France 1998 with two straight wins.



• ALBERT: Words of advice for Newcastle team-mate David Ginola.

NEWCASTLE'S cultured defender Phillippe Albert had words of advice for team mate David Ginola after his recent controversial sending-off at Arsenal.

Like Ginola, Albert had to make the transition from continental football to the Premiership.

And he said: "David has to live with his shirt being pulled, hard tackles and being booed away from home.

"Lee Dixon didn't play fair but that's the way it is in the Premiership.

"Sometimes I tell him to take care before a match because the right-back is silly or is doing some very hard tackles. If this sort of story works then great, because when he plays there is no one in England can touch him."

Albert, meanwhile, is enjoying life back in the Premiership after making a full recovery from the knee injury which kept him out of action for a year.

"It's great to be back. I had to fight my way back into the team because we have been so successful but that's what you expect here at Newcastle.

"Now I'm in again I'm determined to stay there and, hopefully, collect a Premiership winners medal."

MANCHESTER City manager Alan Ball believes new signing Nigel Clough can be the answer to his team's chronic goalscoring problems.

The Blues scored just 13 times in 23 league games before the £1.2 million signing of the Liverpool reserve.

Ball said: "I have seen signs of improvement in our team recently, I am happy with the direction in which we're going.

"Despite all the doom, gloom and panic I am confident that at the end of the season we will be alright.

"Nigel is obviously a quality player. He may not be the quickest player in the game but I have always said the quickest thing in any footballer is his brain.

"I am looking forward to seeing him fit into our pattern of play."

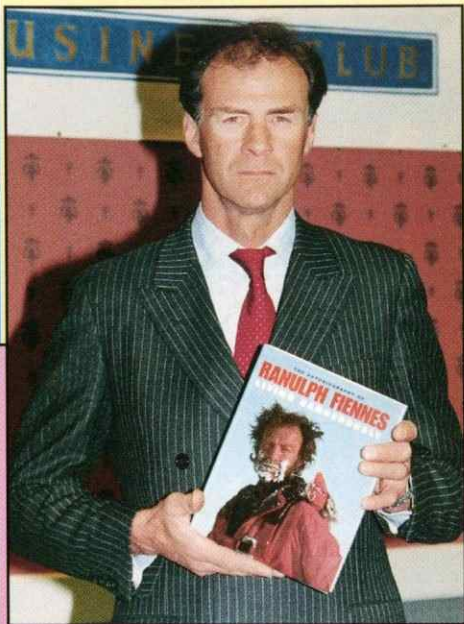
UEFA performed an embarrassing U-turn and overturned their European ban on Wimbledon and Spurs.

The two Premiership clubs faced a one-year suspension for fielding weakened teams in last summer's controversial Inter Toto Cup.

But delegations from the two London clubs pointed out that they had actually been given permission by the Premier League to field under-strength teams.

The two clubs were fined a total of £170,000 and the penalty will be shared among all Premiership clubs.

Premier League chief executive Rick Parry said: "The lesson we've learned is if we play it again we play it properly."



WORLD-famous explorer Sir Rannulph Fiennes broke new ground when he reached Filbert Street for the first time.

The former SAS hero has charted most of the world's most inaccessible places including both the North and South Pole.

But, despite his international jaunts, this was the first time he had camped out at Filbert Street.

Sir Rannulph (pictured above with his new book) was at the Carling Belvoir Suite as principal speaker to mark the launch of the new Royal Blue Business Club.

DEFENDING champions City face Friar Lane Old Boys in the semi final of the Westerby Challenge Cup later this month.

The tie will be played at the County FA headquarters at Holmes Park Whetstone on Thursday February 29 (ko 7pm).

□□□□

AN additional performance of soccer play Fever Pitch - featuring former Eastenders star Tom Watt - is to be performed at Filbert Street.

After the Wednesday night performance of February 14 had to be cancelled because of the re-

arranged home game with Oldham, two shows will now be staged on Thursday 15th.

The first showing will start at 6.30pm with the second performance beginning at 9.30pm.

Anyone who has purchased tickets for the original 8pm show should contact the ticket office to re-schedule their ticket.

The performances on Monday and Tuesday February 12 and 13 remain unaffected.

The show - the first to be performed at an English football ground - is part of the Leicester Comedy Festival.



• Former City favourite David Speedie presents a cheque for £636 to Mrs S. Lane, our Blue Army Bonanza winner at the game against Sunderland.

Parker gets new set of Nissan wheels



City skipper Garry Parker has taken delivery of a new set of wheels. Parks' can now be seen driving around in a Nissan Primera supplied by Perry's of Loughborough. Garry is pictured above taking delivery of the vehicle at Filbert Street from Perry's dealer principal Myron Nykolyskyn and sales manager John Hopson.

TODAY'S visit of Luton marks the start of our Wembley play-off final voucher system for this season.

Three games have been designated as 'voucher matches' in which ticket stubs should be retained by supporters.

Fans keeping these vouchers will then be entitled to differing levels of priority in applying for any Wembley final tickets involving City.

The system was successfully introduced for our play-off final against Swindon three seasons ago and was used again two years ago for the Wembley date with Derby County.

Football secretary Ian Silvester said: "We believe this to be the fairest way possible of allocating Wembley tickets.

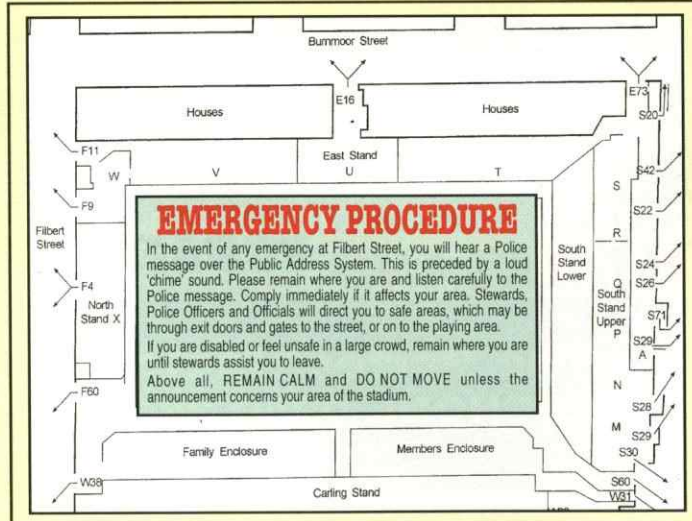
"Although we do not know the exact amount of tickets allocated by the League for a Wembley play-off final it is unlikely to exceed 35,000.

"Experience has taught us that demand for tickets from Leicester supporters would far outweigh the supply.

"So, after season ticket holders and members have had their opportunity voucher holders would then have a priority to purchase tickets, subject to availability of course."

This year's first division Wembley play-off final will take place on Monday May 27. The other two designated play-off matches are against Port Vale on February 17 and Grimsby on March 9.

City News DESK



Inside Stuff

with Paul Mace



GOLF is not something to have been contemplated with much seriousness over the past week given the three three-foot snowdrifts across the Midlands.

But while snow-clearing has been the main occupation recently, City's players have been able to brush up on their golf on the South Coast at Bournemouth.

The players were able to beat the Midlands freeze during a three-day break down South where the region escaped the arctic weather.

And, during a break on the golf course, Simon Grayson and Steve Walsh took the honours.

The duo upset the odds by overcoming hot favourites Lee Philpott and Iwan Roberts (or at least so Simon tells me) at the first play-off hole.

□□□□

THE exodus to Molineux continues.

After the departures of Mark McGhee, Colin Lee and Mike Hickman to Wolves, a fourth person is crossing over to the Black Country from Filbert Street.

This time, though, it shouldn't provoke quite such a furore.

Leicester Sound sports presenter Andy Pate has been snapped up by Beacon Radio, the commercial radio station for Wolverhampton.

Today is his last day. So, see you again on the 21st, Andy.

□□□□

RICHARD Smith has a habit of throwing in some teasing answers to his programme fact files.

Two years ago the City defender had us all guessing after revealing he had a tattoo ... but wouldn't tell us where.

Now, in this week's centre spread offering, he tells us of his first drinking session on the roof of a local rugby club.

Again, no clues as to the exact whereabouts.

□□□□

THERE were probably some relieved players on the South Coast when they learned City's Midland Youth Cup semi final with Notts County was postponed.

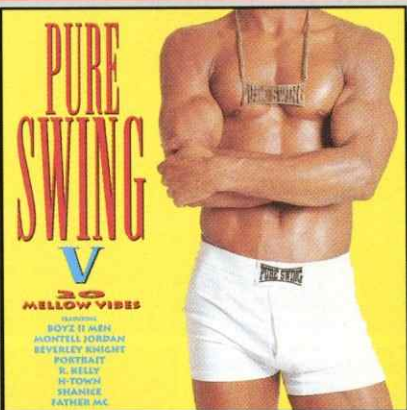
That's because they party was due back from Bournemouth on Wednesday morning ... and some could have been facing selection for the reserve trip to Sunderland later that evening.

Bournemouth to Sunderland in one day is some journey by bus.

But, with the youths game 48 hours earlier being cancelled it meant the youngsters were given the chance to shine at Roker Park.

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HERE we all are (pictured right)... a real rogues gallery from the Leicester City past.

This was the motley crew of ex-City professionals whom we managed to assemble for our recent Legends evening in the Carling Belvoir Suite.

Frank McLintock was our main speaker although Frank Worthington and Lennie Glover put up a very good support act.

It was great to see so many old faces there and I've been snowed under by the number of people who have come up to me since to say how much they enjoyed the evening.

It was a fantastic atmosphere and I must say how I enjoyed myself after much to-ing and fro-ing in the final few days before the event getting everybody organised.

A quick thanks to Charlie Adam, one of the most senior City professionals in attendance.

He sent me a lovely letter and if I can be as sprightly and alert as him at his age... then I'll be a happy man.



I HOPE all the lads had a great time down on the South Coast in Bournemouth.

It's the in-phrases these days to talk about these mini-breaks as an exercise in bonding together.

Funny, but when myself, Frank and the rest of the lads at Filbert Street were together in the halcyon days we used to call it something rather different.

I'm all for these mini-breaks because it helps bring the lads closer together in different surroundings.

But I have to admit that the Birch was excommunicated from the playing staff and banned from Belvoir Drive for suggesting a certain venue for a little break from the routine.

It was in the days of Gordon Milne and Bryan Hamilton and when Gary Lineker was still at the club.

Like the past few weeks, it was freezing cold, the pitch was bone hard and the lads couldn't get much training done.

So the Birch suggested going to an army barracks just outside Woodhouse Eaves to relieve the monotony.

The idea was duly taken on board and when the lads finally returned, extremely wet and knackered, I was not a popular man.

Personally, I couldn't see what all the fuss was about. I'd got the idea from my playing days here at Filbert Street.

You see, when I first arrived here, we never saw much of Peter Shilton at the training ground.

Now, even in those days, Peter had the reputation of being one of the hardest trainers

Over the Bar



by Alan J. Birchenall

around. So, I did a bit of ferreting and eventually found out that he went to this army barracks at Woodhouse.

A real, uncompromising sergeant major there put him through his paces twice a week. One of the 'exercises' included Peter hanging from the wall-bars with lead weights attached to his feet.

This was designed to make Peter's arms longer and, for those of you who have seen him, he's got the longest arms of a guy of his

size I have ever seen.

And, believe it or not, for once the Birch is not joking. That is really true.

Anyway, the manager at that time Jimmy Bloomfield, decided that we should all go up to Woodhouse for a day with the squaddies.

What a day it was. True to form, Alan Woollett pulled a Jane (Jane Russell, rhymes with muscle, geddit) when he heard about what was in store.

But the rest of us trooped up there and spent the morning shinning up ropes, going over walls, crawling under fencing commando style and getting ourselves stuck in icy cold tunnels full of water.

All of us, except one other notable exception. You've guessed it, Frank Worthington. All morning, we couldn't quite work out where Frank had gotten to.

Eventually he turned up at lunchtime saying that he had spent all morning trying to find the place. I ask you.

When he walked in, he was greeted by the sight of all of us wearing the worst gear you could ever imagine to see.

In the morning, all the lads had taken the mick out of these squaddies wearing regulation white shorts and black plimsolls.

The joke was on us because, having got soaked through in the morning, we were forced to wear the regulation army gear for the afternoon session.

To put it mildly, this was not exactly Frank's cup of tea.

So, within a couple of minutes, he was seen to depart in his Mustang car muttering to Jimmy: "I'm an England footballer not a soldier."

WELCOME to Luton and, in particular, a big hello to Hatters boss Lennie Lawrence.

Now I don't want to go over the top and sound patronising, but, for me, Lennie's done a fantastic job.

He performed miracles at Charlton in getting them promotion and keeping them up with absolutely no money whatsoever.

He got Middlesbrough promoted as well and I can't help wondering whether Lennie affords himself a wry smile now that Bryan Robson has got so many millions to spend on the likes of Juninho and Nick Barmby.

Now I know that money doesn't guarantee a successful team but it certainly helps. And that makes Lennie's achievements all the more

impressive given he's had very little money to spend anywhere.

I don't know whether we should be calling our visitors Luton or little Leicester.

Scott Oakes, Des Linton and David Oldfield all played for us here at Filbert Street before moving down the M1 to Kenilworth Road.

It'll be great to see them all back again. And a special word too for young Scott Oakes. His old man Trevor - bass guitarist in Showaddywaddy - has made the odd appearance or two for the City Geriatric Megastar XI.

The best compliment I can give Scott is that thank goodness he and younger brother Stefan - whose a YT here at Filbert Street - didn't inherit their father's footballing talents.

JOTTINGS FROM A FALLEN MEGASTAR



22



23



The alternative

RICHARD SMITH

fact-file

Name: Richard Geoffrey Smith
 Birthplace: Lutterworth
 Date of birth: October 3 1970
 Children: One daughter, India (five weeks old)
 Star sign: Libra

GROWING UP

What was the first professional match you ever went to watch: Leicester v Hibernian in a friendly at Filbert Street when George Best was playing.

Which school did you go to: Courteshorpe College.
 What was your best subject and what O level/GCSE grade did you get: I only sat three exams and failed them all but I was quite keen on art.

What was the name of your first girlfriend and where did you meet her (be honest): I met a girl called Kelly at my local junior school when I was seven. We went our separate ways when we finished junior school.

Where did you buy your first alcoholic drink and how old were you: I was with my brother and we were sat on a rugby club roof swigging cans of Special Brew.

What was the first medal you ever won playing football: Playing in the Baby Stokes junior school team which reached the five-a-side finals of a national competition in Sheffield.

TALKING FOOTBALL

Compile the best possible team from all the players you've ever played against in your career: David Seaman (Arsenal), Des Lytle (Nottingham Forest), Tony Adams (Arsenal), Keith Cline (Manchester City), John Barnesford (Newcastle), Lars Bohinen (Blackburn), Mark Draper (Aston Villa), Gary McAllister (Leeds), Peter Beardsley (Arsenal), Andy Cole (Newcastle), Ian Wright (Arsenal).

What's been the biggest development while you've been playing football: The Carling Stand.

Who's your room-mate at Leicester City for away games: Steve Walsh.

What are his worst habits: He rings up everybody else's rooms in the middle of the night.

My pre-match meal is: Boiled chicken and beans.

What do you do differently to everyone else when you prepare for a match: I always like to run out in order of the shirt I'm wearing. So, if I've got number three on, I go out third etc. If I'm 14 I go out last.

The highlight of my career so far is: Playing in the Premiership for Leicester.

My most embarrassing moment in football was: When Uwe Rosler pushed me into the East Stand seats during our Premiership match against Manchester City last year.

LIFESTYLE

My favourite piece of clothing is my: Designer leather jacket.

When I was 18 I had a crush on: Claudia Schiffer.

I can only really relax when: It used to be fishing but now it's golf.

When it comes to food, I love: Chicken Curry (but not too strong)

What was the last film you saw which made you cry: I've not seen one yet.

My all-time favourite record is: Let Love Rule, by Lenny Kravitz.

Who's your favourite movie actress: Demi Moore.

My worst nightmare is: Getting injured.

My favourite brand of Walkers crisps are: Cheese and Onion.

My first car was a: MG Metro.

Now I drive a: Peugeot 405M16.

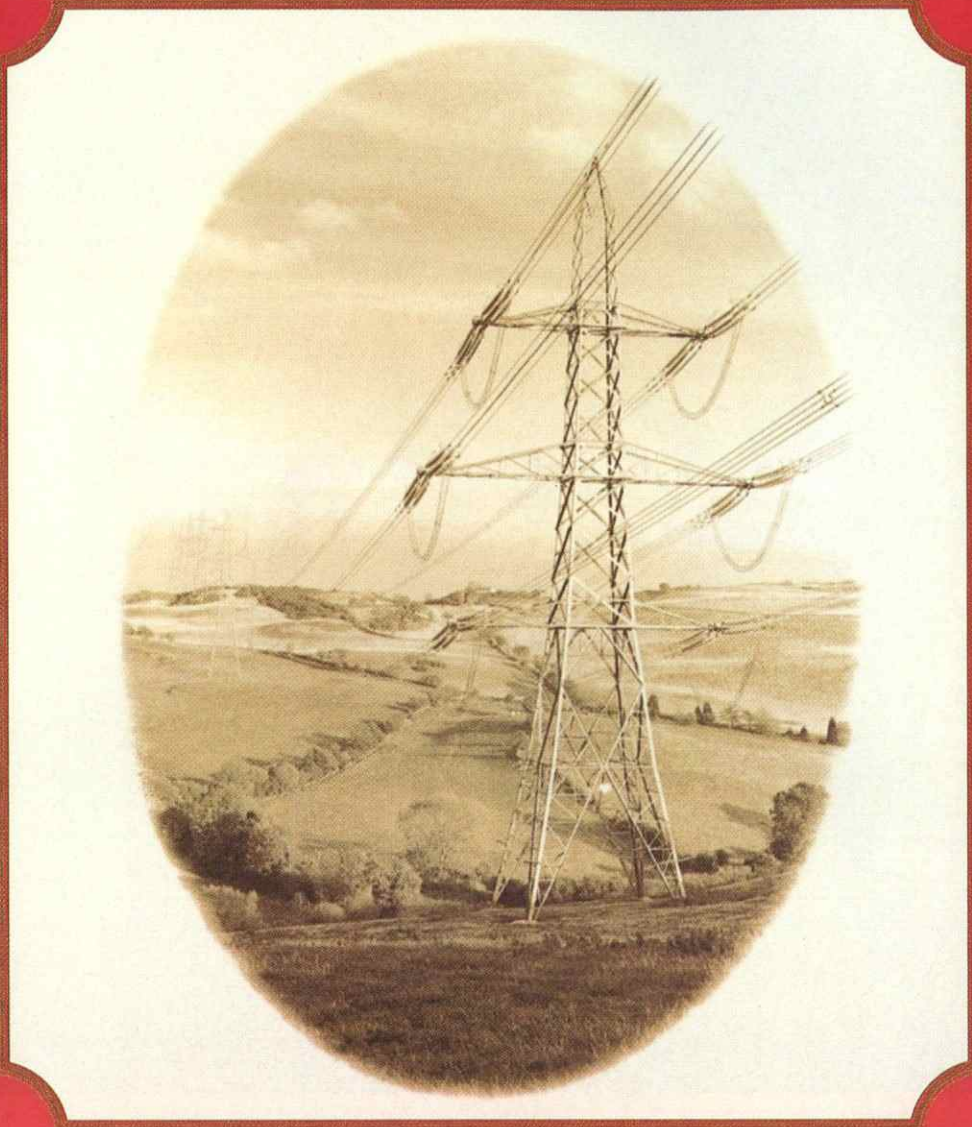
At home, when was the last time you:

A. mowed the lawn: I've got a gardener to do that.

B. ironed a shirt: I iron all my own stuff every day.

C. did the shopping: Yesterday at Kwiksave in Enderby.





THE GREAT OAKS OF DELAMERE FOREST

MANY THINGS HAVE GONE FOR A BURTON THESE DAYS - BUT THANKFULLY NOT IN BURTON. MARSTON'S PEDIGREE REMAINS THE GOLDEN PINT IT WAS IN GOOD OLD JOHN MARSTON'S DAY, BECAUSE IT'S THE ONLY BEER STILL BREWED IN WOODEN CASKS. THANK HEAVENS SOME THINGS ARE WHAT THEY USED TO BE



WE would like to welcome students from Crown Hills Community College as our guests for today's game.

The students all successfully completed a 100% attendance record last year as part of our Community Scheme we ran in conjunction with regional schools and colleges, The Midlands Co-op and Team Spirit in the Community.

Crown Hills Community College: Rapinderjeet Mahal, Harmesh Chauhan, Raakesh Modi, Jayaben Nathoo, Rizwan Alli, Baljinder Loyal, Tayyiba Ahmed, Gurvinder Singh, Sazish Kumar, Satwinder Kalsi, Mandeep Padan, Mohamed Suleman, Archana Dewshi, Arvind Nathoo, Reena Patel, Jaspreet Gawera, Vimesh Patel, Kiteshbhai Patel, Shital Patel, Rannu Bhutta, Rudi Keshwara, Gary Bryan, Nilesh Patel, Deepa Modi, Safrana Musa, Shetal Patel, Zakir Patel, Hassim Chunara, Pritesh Patel, Sanjay Patel, Trupesh Patel, Rizwana Kolia, Nilesh Patel, Harminder Kajall, Jamila Makrani, Hetal Parekh, Mohammed Bnglawala, Sonal Chavda, Irfan Kassam, Divne Matthew, Mohammed Bobat, Rachana Patel, Nathan Wright, Vishal Makwana, Shanti Modhwadia, Shezan Taib, Lakhu Giga, Jitesh Dave, Yogin Patel, Huzefa Broachwalla, Palvinder Pandan, Bhupinder Singh, Rajinder Chaggar, Samira Hanslod, Mohammed Bham, Anish Patel, Suman Bhutta, Ranjit Chaggar, Shakti Patel, Imram Saleem, Sandeep Rame.



Pictured are Brenda and Peter Winson with twins Christine Daisy and Jennifer Rose, from Londonderry in Ireland. Christine and Jennifer are our first signings from Ireland for the Filbert Tots - the twins are only four months old.



• Nine-year-old Andrew Essex was our mascot for the recent match against Sunderland. Andrew is pictured here with his favourite City player Julian Joachim before kick-off.



Ross Gilbert was the lucky lad who ran out with the reserve team at the City v York Family Night Football match. Ross was the official matchday mascot.

FOLLOWING our successful January Courses, we have decided to run a course during the February half term. It will be held at St Margarets Pastures, St Margarets Way, Leicester on Thursday 15th February and Friday 16th February 1996 from 10am to 3.30pm.



• Pictured above, Paul Bedder and some of the children who enjoyed the January course.

The course is sponsored by Haven holidays where somebody who attends the course will have the chance to win a week self catering Haven holiday for up to six people which is worth up to £300. The two day course costs £12.50 but remember if you are a TFC member you get a 20% discount.



DON'T forget the next Family Night Football match is on Monday night when we will be entertaining Mansfield. Gates open at 6.15pm and kick-off is at 7.00pm.

Today's Sweets kindly supplied by Nestle Fox Confectionery

TODAY'S MASCOTS

CITY'S mascot for today's game is eight year old Andrew Davidson from Rothley. Andrew was successfully chosen from the TFC - The Young Peoples membership club of Leicester City Football Club.



Andrew attends Fairfield School and his favourite City players are Julian Joachim, Emile Heskey and Steve Corica. Andrew enjoys playing football and video games.



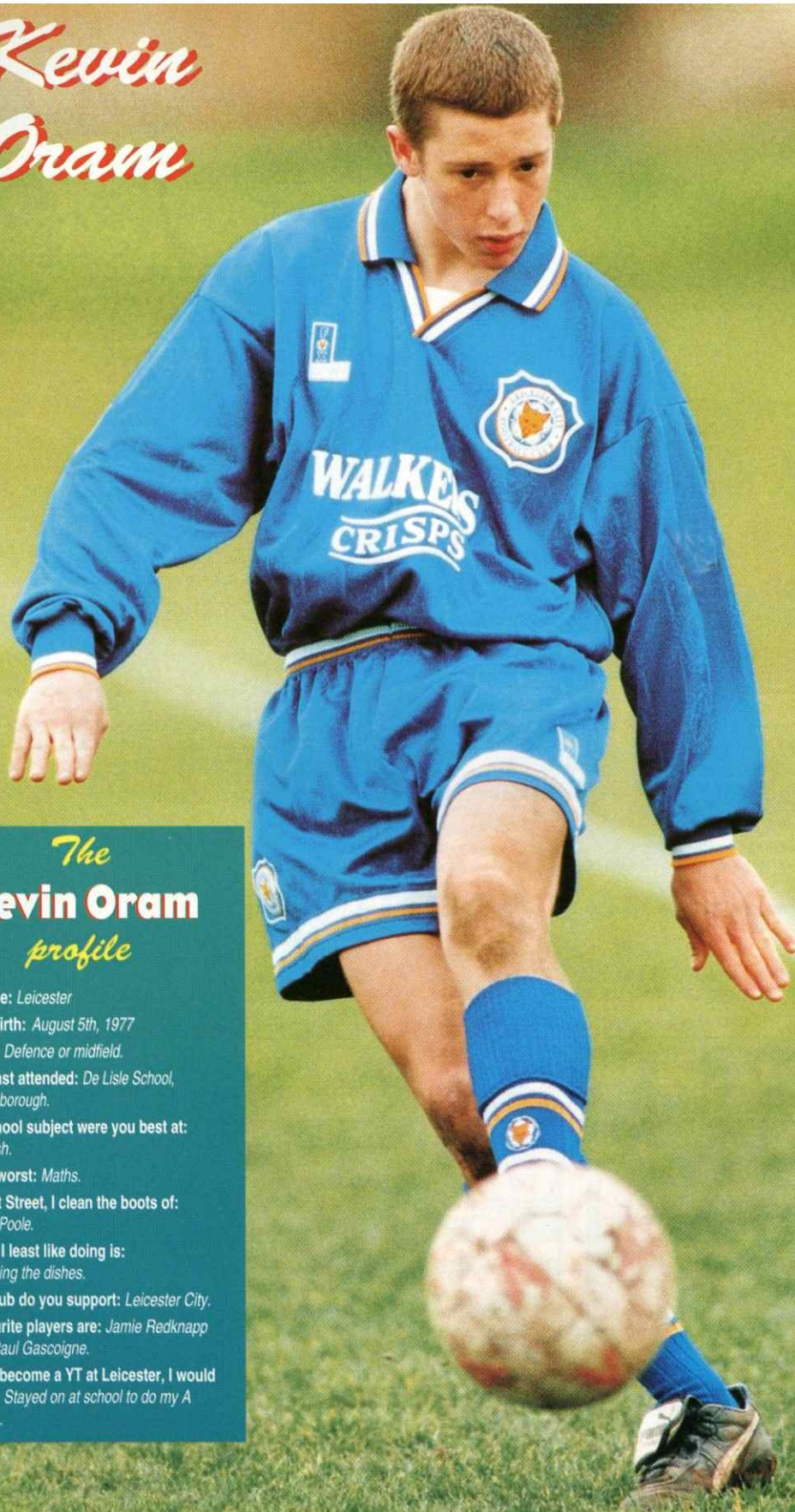
Luton bring with them today 11 year old Victoria Peacock. Victoria enjoys swimming and going to girl guides. Her favourite player is Ian Feuer.

FILBERT FOX

BY RUSS CARVELL



Kevin Oram



The Kevin Oram profile

Birthplace: Leicester
Date of birth: August 5th, 1977
Position: Defence or midfield.
School last attended: De Lisle School, Loughborough.
What school subject were you best at: English.
And the worst: Maths.
At Filbert Street, I clean the boots of: Kevin Poole.
The task I least like doing is: Washing the dishes.
Which club do you support: Leicester City.
My favourite players are: Jamie Redknapp and Paul Gascoigne.
If I'd not become a YT at Leicester, I would have: Stayed on at school to do my A levels.

City pulled in two re-arranged Midland Melville Youth League matches in four days - and left manager David Nish with contrasting feelings.

He was "bitterly disappointed" by an unexpected 1-0 home defeat against Port Vale but, "absolutely delighted" with the response in the next game - a crushing 5-0 win away at Peterborough.

The re-scheduled matches conveniently filled in what would otherwise have been a blank two weeks.

In fact the lay-off would have been even longer, because of the postponements of the home League game against Walsall last Saturday and then the Midland Youth League Floodlit Cup semi-final first-leg at Notts County on Monday night.

But after the shock set-back against Vale, Nish must have been wondering whether the timing of the re-arrangements was such a good idea after all.

The two successive away wins over Shrewsbury and Stoke had been the perfect launch to the New Year for City, and revived their hopes of landing the Midland Youth League title.

Victory over Vale would have added even more impetus, but on a hard Belvoir Drive pitch in a biting cold wind, the City youngsters were never at their best, particularly in attack where they missed enough chances to have won the game.

Only once before this season had City failed to score in a League game. That was when they were beaten 2-0 by Aston Villa who have since completed the double over them. Now Vale have followed suit and won both their clashes with City.

Although disappointed by the result Nish had no complaints. "On the day the match could have gone either way but, for once, we didn't take the chances we created.

"That's rare for us because we have scored over 50 goals in our League games. To be fair to Vale they were a well organised and well balanced team, and did a good job. We couldn't complain about being beaten."

Happily City quickly wiped out the memory of this disappointment with a stirring performance three days later at Peterborough.

A delighted Nish said: "It was certainly the perfect way to bounce back from a defeat and I thought we played really well.

"To score five times away from home is tremendous, and there were some excellent goals amongst them."

Stefan Oakes continued his impressive comeback after injury by scoring two of the goals, both of them with headers, while Stuart Campbell celebrated his return with a magnificent strike from a free kick.

Campbell, who had missed the three previous matches with a toe injury, is now the leading goalscorer, edging ahead of Emile Heskey.

The brilliant Heskey has scored 13 goals in just seven appearances, but Nish is now resigned to not having him in the side for the rest of the season.

Heskey's future looks to be at first team level, although Nish may be able to call on him if City reach the final of the Floodlit Cup.

So it looks as though it could be a battle between Campbell and Owen Johnson for the hot-shot award. Although left out at Peterborough, Johnson is only a couple of goals behind Campbell.


Oakes has also run into a hot streak of scoring since returning from a lengthy absence with a thigh injury. He's hit four goals in four games to show he's determined to follow in brother Scott's footsteps.

City's other goal scorers in the win over Posh were Lee Quincey and Stuart Wilson. So despite the set-back against Vale, the chance of a League and Cup double is still on for the City youngsters.

But once again important matches will have to be re-scheduled, including the Cup clash with Notts County. The first-leg at Meadow Lane was scheduled for last Monday with the second-leg at Filbert Street due to be played on Monday March 4.

It's now a case of the clubs agreeing a new date for the first-leg, but that will be influenced by what first team matches County have to fit in as well. But coming up now are two big away League matches for City at West Brom and Birmingham, games they need to win if they are to keep up their title challenge.

Focus on **YOUTH** with **David Nish**



MIDLAND MELVILLE YOUTH LEAGUE 1995-96 fixtures & results

Date	v	Score	Scorer(s)
Aug 5	Shrewsbury Tn	9-2	Johnson 3, Neil, S.K Wilson 2, Campbell, Skeldon 2
Aug 12	Stoke C	5-5	Campbell 2, Dodds, S.K Wilson, Johnson
Aug 19	Walsall	1-1	Campbell
Aug 26	W B A	1-1	Oakes
Sep 2	Aston Villa	0-2	
Sep 9	Birmingham C	7-2	Wilson S K, Quincey 2, Heskey 4
Sep 16	Mansfield Tn	4-2	Heskey 4
Sep 23	Derby	3-1	Campbell, Johnson, Oakes
Sept 25	Walsall (MYC 2nd Rd)	4-1	Campbell, Heskey 2, Johnson
Sep 30	Grimsby Tn	2-0	Davies, Skeldon
Oct 7	Wolves	2-1	Campbell 2
Oct 14	Mansfield Tn (MYLC)	4-2	Emerson, Campbell, Skeldon 2
Oct 23	Swindon Tn (MYC 3rd Rd)	1-1	Branston
Oct 28	Aston Villa	4-6	Branston 2, Heskey (og)
Oct 30	Nuneaton (FAYC 1)	10-0	Johnson 3, Branston 2, S.K Wilson 2, Dodds, Fox, Heskey
Nov 4	Northampton Tn	3-0	S.K Wilson, Campbell, Mitchell
Nov 18	Coventry (MYLC 3)	0-4	
Nov 25	Luton Tn (FAYC 2)	1-2	Campbell
Dec 2	Lincoln C	3-1	Emerson, Campbell, Johnson
Dec 13	Swindon (MYC 3 R)	4-2	Campbell 2, Heskey, S.K Wilson
Dec 16	Port Vale	2-4	Johnson, Skeldon
Jan 6	Shrewsbury Tn	4-0	S.K Wilson, Quincey, Oakes 2
Jan 13	Stoke C	3-2	Fox, Johnson, Skeldon
Jan 20	Port Vale	0-1	
Jan 23	Peterborough	5-0	S.K Wilson, Campbell, Oakes 2
Feb 3	W B A		
Feb 10	Birmingham C		
Feb 17	Coventry C		
Feb 24	Derby		
Mar 2	Grimsby Tn		
Mar 9	Nottm Forest		
Mar 16	Wolves		
Mar 18	Notts County (MYCSF)		
Mar 23	Lincoln C		
Mar 25	Notts County (MYCSF)		
Mar 30	Mansfield Town		
Apr 6	Northampton Tn		
Apr 13	Notts County		
Apr 20	Nottm Forest		
Apr 27	Peterborough Utd		
May 4	Coventry C		

APPEARANCES AND GOALS

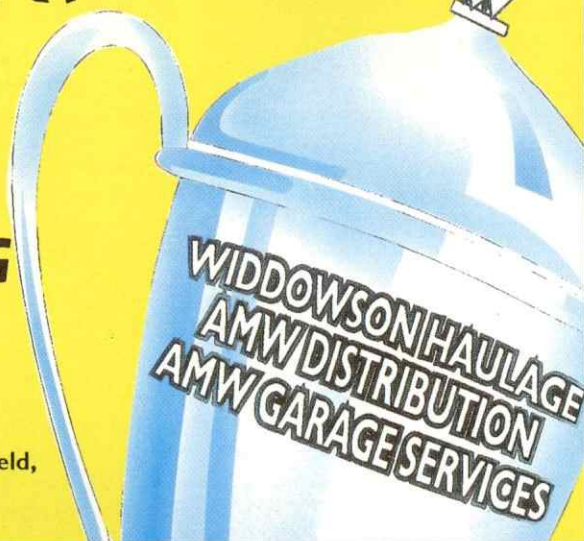
	Apps	Goals
Johnson C	4	0
Quincey	25	3
Fox	24	2
Dodds	25	2
Emerson	14	2
Wilson S K	25	10
Campbell	22	15
Neil	5+1	1
Johnson	21+1	12
Heskey	8	13
Oakes	13+2	3
Skeldon	13+4	7
Arcos-Diaz	2+3	0
Wilson S J	23	0
Wenlock	22+1	0
Dalton	0+1	0
Branston	18+1	5
Oram	2+2	0
Davies	1	1
Gordon	2	0
Mitchell	8+1	1
Jaffa	0+1	0
Jackson	0+1	0

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INJURY UPDATE ••• INJURY UPDATE

UNFORTUNATELY, we're suffering from an unwanted hat-trick in the treatment room.

No fewer than three players are currently recovering from operations to their left knees - Pontus Kaamark, Scott Taylor and Phil Gee.

Pontus is the most-publicised case. He's now back home in Sweden where he will be convalescing for the next six weeks.

Pontus underwent an operation to reconstruct his anterior cruciate ligament at the Nuffield Hospital last week.

In the operation - very similar to the one undergone by Steve Walsh - a piece of fibre from his hamstring was transferred to make a new ligament inside the knee.

The operation went extremely well with no complications and after two nights in hospital he was allowed to fly home to Sweden.

Pontus' knee has now been put in plaster for two weeks and it is important in the first stages of the recovery that no pressure is put on the knee.

He will be restricted to carrying out 'static quads' during this period - basically straightening the leg.

After the two week period, Pontus will be fitted with a knee brace and, at this stage, will be able to walk with the aid of crutches.

It is vital, though, that no unnecessary pressure is put on the knee at this stage.

Pontus will fly back into England in March when a full rehabilitation programme will be carried out.

Being realistic, Pontus will be sidelined for a considerable while but it should not be too long before we see the return of Scott Taylor.

Scott underwent an operation two weeks ago to clean out his knee. This was done using arthroscopic surgery in which two tubes were placed inside the knee.

Scott had been suffering from an inflamed patella but the problem has now been cleared up.

After an initial period on crutches, Scott has recovered the full range of movement in his knee and we would hope to have him available again inside the next three to four weeks.

Phil Gee is the third of our hat-trick of left knee operations. Phil underwent a cartilage operation two weeks ago.

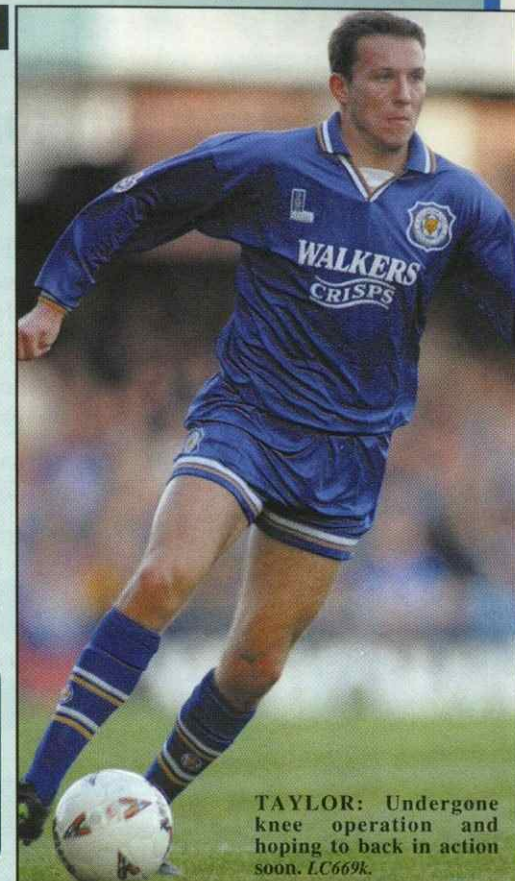
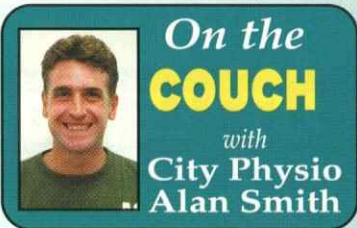
There were no complications and Phil is now making good progress and we hope to have him back before the end of the month.

In all cases, it is fair to say it could be a vastly differing story if these injuries had been sustained more than 10 years ago.

Medical science has made rapid strides and knee injuries in particular have become much more easily treatable as a result of arthroscopic or keyhole surgery.

Not so long ago, simple cartilage operations could sideline players for months and without those advancements injuries such as those suffered by Pontus would be virtually untreatable.

**To book your appointment at the
City injury Clinic ring 0116 255 5000**



TAYLOR: Undergone knee operation and hoping to back in action soon. LC669K.

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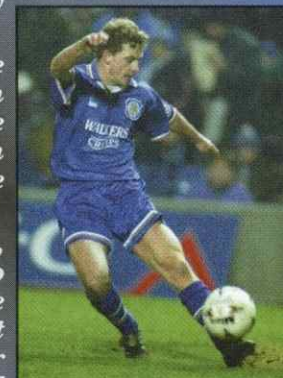
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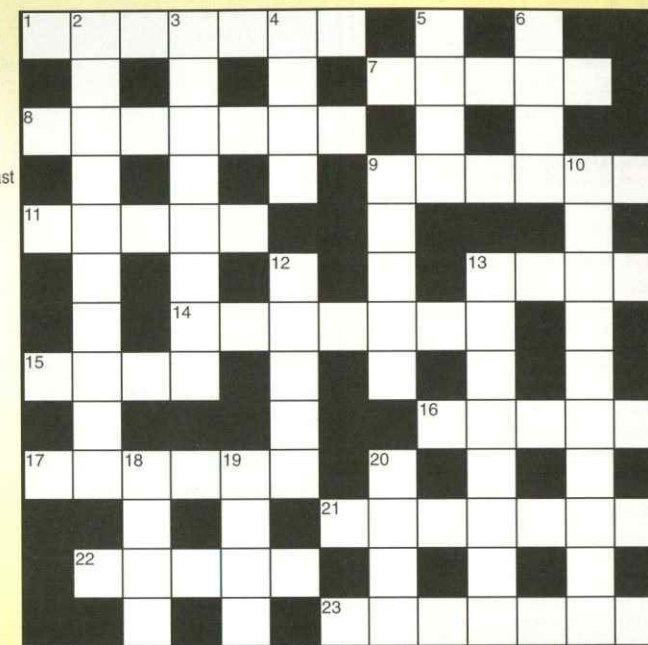
CITY CROSSWORD N° 18

ACROSS

- European Footballer of the Year, 1996 (7).
- Road Ground, Colchester United FC (5).
- Howard, ex-Notts County boss (7).
- One who captains is the team's (6).
- Holes in defence reveal them (5).
- Alan, Fulham forward (4).
- English League Cup winners 1985 (7).
- Football flank (4).
- Maradona was alleged to have taken some during the last World Cup (5).
- European minnow side (6).
- Crescent, York City FC (7).
- Religious Scottish First Division side (abbrev) (5).
- Graeme, former Liverpool boss (7).

DOWN

- English Division Three side, based in Devon (6) & (4).
- Royal player with Everton, 1980s (4) & (4).
- Club nickname of Sheffield Wednesday FC (4).
- White Hart --- (4).
- Many a goal is scored with this part of the body (4).
- Italian League club based in Rome (5).
- Quick advantages in soccer (5) & (5).
- Foul journeys when travelling away (5).
- London team (8).
- Beardsley (short) (4).
- Cup competition in Europe (abbrev) (4).
- Sponsorship emblem (4).



Crossword compiled by Thomas Trickett

Fill in the circle, in a clockwise direction. A shaded space indicates the last letter of one answer, and the first of the next. When the circle has been filled in, the shaded letters will form an anagram of the surname of a Leicester player, past or present. Can you name him?



- Hibernian's Stadium. (6,4).
- 'Keeper who joined QPR in 1994.
- Striker who joined Sunderland from Everton in 1995.
- Ipswich's manager, 1990-94.
- Swedish international winger.
- England international centre-half.
- Manchester United midfielder

answers on page 46

Compiled by John J. Murphy

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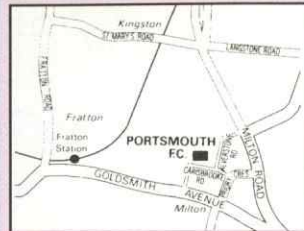


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TRAVEL



ROAD: Join motorway M1 (signposted London) to junction 6a (M25)

Branch left following signs Heathrow M25 to Junction 10 (A3). Leave Motorway (signposted Guildford) and at roundabout take 3rd exit A3 to Junction with A3 (M) (Junction 1).

Forward to join Motorway and join A27 keep forward to leave Motorway and join A27. In 1.5 miles branch left at roundabout take 1st exit A2030 (signposted Southsea). 3 miles farther at roundabout take 2nd exit into Alverstake Road unclassified shortly turn left.

In 0.2 miles turn right into Carisbrooke Road and Portsmouth Football Club is on the right.

Total Mileage: 168 miles

RAIL: OUTWARD: Trains depart via London St Pancras, London Waterloo, Fratton and Portsmouth-Southsea at 0930 (1258-1301) and 1015 (1357).

RETURN: Trains depart for Leicester via Fratton, London Waterloo, London St Pancras at 16.59 (20.24) and 17.24 (21.25).

Arrival times are in brackets.

RETURN FARES: Adults £39 and children £19.50.

ON THE ROAD

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FORMER Leicester defender Terry Fenwick has managed to lift Pompey a few points clear of the relegation zone following a disastrous start to the season.

The South Coast club were rooted to bottom spot in October after a depressing run of seven games without a win.

There was even speculation about Fenwick's future when the club was bought out by a Manchester-based consortium of millionaire businessmen.

But the situation improved dramatically at the start of December with a run of four straight wins.

Oldham, Tranmere, Luton and Norwich were all beaten for a total of 12 priceless points and much was due to former Arsenal winger Jimmy Carter.

Carter has been unsettled at Fratton Park and at one stage even had a transfer request granted.

But his match-winning performances, including a number of important goals, has convinced both parties to settle their differences and Carter is now with Pompey to stay.

Former Pompey favourite Paul Walsh is back from Manchester City and performing

PORTSMOUTH

Fratton Park, Saturday February 10th (K.o. 3pm)



• **HAT-TRICK:** Iwan Roberts clutches the ball after scoring a hat-trick against Portsmouth earlier in the season. LC5997

well, along with Ireland international midfielder Alan McLoughlin.

Keeper Alan Knight, 34, has also had a season to remember when he topped 600 appearances for Pompey - a record number of games for one club.

COMING SOON

Filbert Street, Wednesday February 14th (Ko 7.45pm)

OLDHAM'S main problem in recent weeks has been easy to identify - a distinct lack of goals.

But a 2-1 FA Cup replay win over Pennine rivals Barnsley brought to an end a depressing run of five games without a goal and left Latics boss Graeme Sharp planning for a successful 1996.

Sharp certainly had no trouble finding the net himself during a glorious career with Everton.

But, following an impressive 4-0 home win over Birmingham in mid-December, his players became inexplicably goal shy as they churned out three goalless draws and two defeats.

Sharp said: "It's no use worrying about what might have been. The players just have to be positive in front of goal."

Sharp gambled in the replay and called up Darren Beckford for only his fourth start in two injury-hit seasons. The striker responded with both goals.

Former Southampton front man Nicky Banger is also due back from a spell on the



OLDHAM

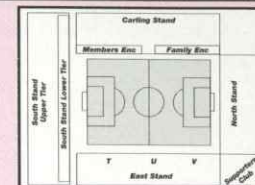


• **SHARP:** Looking for more goals from his strikers after a recent minor drought.

sidelines, improving the Latics' attacking options even further.

Other key Oldham men to look out for include England under-21 keeper Paul Gerrard, new signing Icelandic international Toddy Orlygsson and Norwegian World Cup star Gunner Halle.

CITY BOX OFFICE



v OLDHAM

Wednesday, February 14th (Ko 7.45)

v PORT VALE

Saturday, February 17th (Ko 3.00pm)

This match is a voucher match

v DERBY COUNTY

Wednesday, February 28th (Ko 7.45pm)

This match is all ticket

TICKET PRICES: Carling Stand Centre £15/£17 (£8/£9), Carling Stand Wing £13/£15 (£7/£8), Family Enclosure - North Stand £10 (£5), South (Double Decker) Upper Tier £13 (£7); South (Spion Kop) Lower Tier £10; East Stand Block V £10 (£5). Prices for juveniles are in brackets.

Tickets for these matches can also be purchased from our Fox Leisure store in Churchgate.

OPENING TIMES: Ticket Office opening times are Monday to Saturday, 9am-5.30pm; Matchdays - open until kick-off and 30 minutes after final whistle. On a Friday before a match day the telesales will be open from 8.00am till 8.00pm.

FAX NUMBER: The fax number in the ticket office is 0116 247 0856.

TICKET TELESales NO.
Tel: 0116 291 5232

COMING SOON

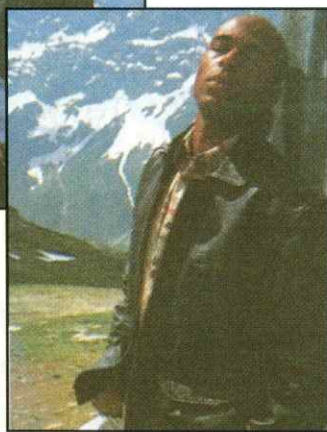
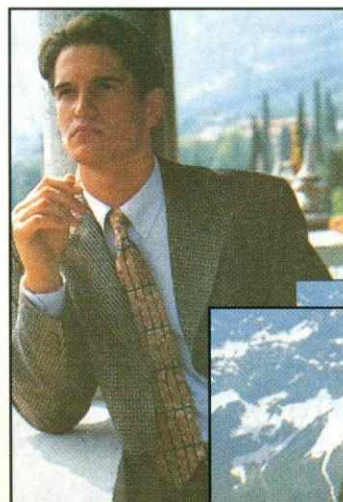
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COMING SOON PORT VALE

Filbert Street, Saturday February 17th (Ko 3.00pm)

THE storm clouds have been clearing over long-serving Vale boss John Rudge in recent months at the great survivor keeps battling on.

Rudge has worked wonders in more than 12 years in charge of the Potteries club.

He is second only to Crewe's Dario Gradi, and only by a matter of months, in terms of long service among current league bosses.

Boardroom unrest at Vale Park has placed question marks over his long-term future recently.

But the man who has single-handedly lifted the unfashionable club from the bottom of the Fourth Division to respectability is still doing a tremendous job.

After being rooted to bottom spot for much of the season, Vale enjoyed a spectacular December in which they won five games and lost just once, a narrow 2-1 defeat at Southend.

The damage has been done by strikers Lee Mills and Tony Naylor as well as midfield goal production from former Newcastle winger Steve Guppy and Andy Porter.

The improvement was carried over into the New Year as Vale clawed their way out of the relegation places. And Vale have also maintained an interest in the FA Cup after restricting holders Everton to a replay in their fourth round tie.

A last-minute equaliser from Ian Bogie earned them a 1-1 draw at Goodison Park to bring Everton back to Vale Park later this week.

City fans are reminded this is the second in a series of three voucher games which will be used to establish ticket priority if the club is involved in a Wembley play-off final at the end of the season.

Supporters are asked to retain their ticket stubs which will act as a voucher.

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4 HOMES**

**Leicester City, Sheffield United,
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£85 (Returns) to £5

3 AWAYS

Everton, Millwall, Manchester United
£70 (Returns) to £5

Why not pick your own Teams from one of our weekend coupons.

Who's your money on?

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34



35



DOWN MEMORY LANE - CITY v LUTON TOWN

September 1 1979:

City 1 (May)
Luton 3 (Moss 2 (1 pen), Hill)

CITY had started the season in fine style, leading the chart after just three matches, but this was the afternoon that brought Jock Wallace's team back to earth with a bang.

The game was featured on BBC Match of the Day, having been chosen at barely 48 hours notice.

This had come about due to the death of Lord Mountbatten and the need to re-route the cameras in readiness for the funeral coverage.

David Moss, regularly a thorn in City's side over the years, put the Hatters ahead with a 12th minute spot-kick and Ricky Hill, later to move to Filbert Street, doubled the lead after half an hour.

After that, City were always chasing the game and eventually slipped to third place as a consequence.

The Wallace juggernaut was soon back on the track, however, but without the hapless Gregor Stevens, who headed back to Scotland after this defeat after patently failing to settle in his six outings for the club.

April 8 1958:

City 4 (Rowley 2, Hines, Gardiner)
Luton 1 (Gregory)

EASTER Tuesday heralded the first ever top flight meeting of the clubs and saw City teetering perilously on the brink of relegation in 19th place, whereas the Hatters sat proudly in the top six.

The day before, left winger Tony Gregory had netted twice to earn Luton maximum points when City visited Kenilworth Road, but this time City were determined to take the spoils.

A bumper 32,480 crowd were rewarded by a gritty home performance in which the darling of Filbert Street, Arthur Rowley, bagged a brace to take his total of League goals for the club to 250.

Little did the fans know then that 'The Gunner' would only ever make two further appearances for Leicester.

The win would prove vital for City who escaped relegation with just one point to spare.

MEMORABLE CHARACTERS

THERE are few players who aspire to having a fixture remembered solely for their personal contribution, but whenever the older generation at Leicester talk of 'Rodney Fern's match' then thoughts immediately focus on an Easter Monday at Kenilworth Road.



City led Division Two and came into the game with four successive clean sheets behind them.

Luton were also challenging for promotion and looked to provide formidable opposition.

When John Sjoberg put through his own goal in the opening minutes City feared the worst, but the remainder of the afternoon was given over to a virtuoso display from Fern to steer the visitors to a 3-1 victory.

Rod had actually played in the same local team as David Nish and was already established as a City favourite long before his Easter parade.

He scored 40 goals for City in 187 outings before a £45,000 move to Luton. He played in City's famous Cup win at Kenilworth Road in 1974, where he came close to an early goal that might have drastically rewritten the script and later moved on to Chesterfield and Rotherham.

He retired in 1983 with 124 league goals to his credit.

An A to Z of Leicester City with Dave Smith and Paul Taylor

When it comes to Irish internationals there are three categories to consider, for the North and the Republic did not become two distinct teams until 1926.

Prior to that there was one single international team representing Ireland.

Leicester's first Irish cap was right-back Mick Cochrane, who collected the last of his eight caps against Scotland in 1901 whilst on Fosse's books.

The only other player to represent the united Ireland team was defender Mick O'Brien who won four caps in 1922 and 1924.

Later Mick, one of the game's early characters, went on to captain the newly formed Republic team four times between 1928 and 1932, whilst on the books of four different clubs!

City number three Republic of Ireland internationals amongst their ranks over the years.

First came goalkeeper Tom Godwin in 1950 and 1951 with four caps, then more recently striker David Kelly, who collected seven of his caps, and three goals, during his Filbert Street sojourn, and current defender Brian Carey, who has added one extra cap to his collection whilst with the Foxes.

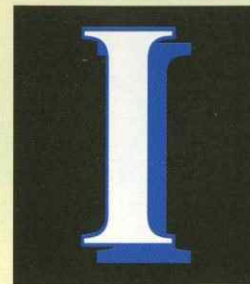
A total of six City stalwarts have represented Northern Ireland to date.

Full back Bill Cunningham won 23 caps between 1956 and 1960, making him the then most capped player for the club.

Next to wear the emerald green of Ulster came another outside character, Derek Dougan, whose eight caps and one goal during his stay at Filbert Street definitely resurrected an ailing international career that eventually amounted to 43 caps in total.

Currently, City's most capped player is John O'Neill, who represented the full Northern Ireland team 39 times between 1980 and 1986, scoring just once.

Dynamic midfielder Paul Ramsey was selected 14 times



• **INSET:** HILL: Colin Hill has won six caps for the Northern Ireland team.



IRISH INTERNATIONALS

for the province from 1984 to 1989, whilst Jimmy Quinn ran up four appearances during his solitary Filbert Street season.

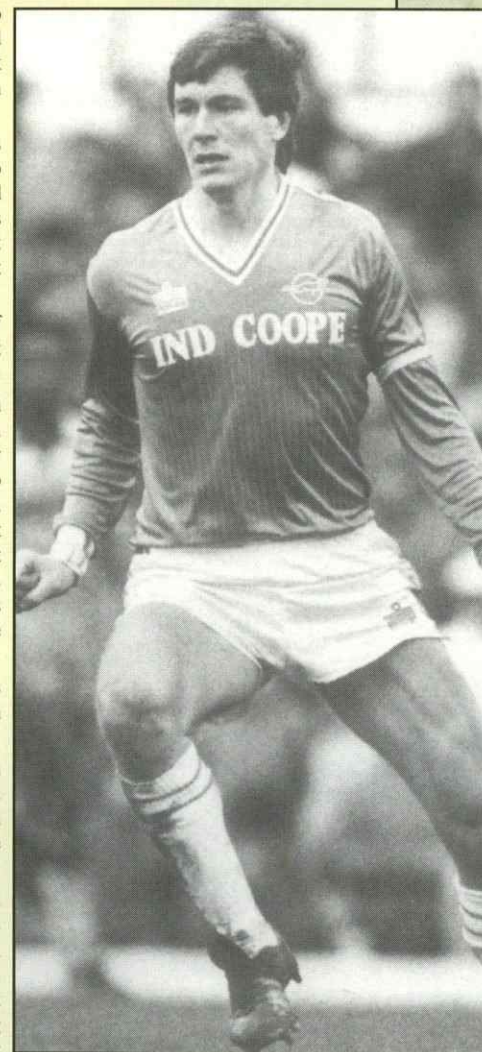
Current squad member Colin Hill finally added to his total of caps with a couple of outings last season, after regularly having to withdraw from the squad due to injury, and has been an automatic choice again this term.

At B level, David Kelly had two outings for the Republic as a City player, netting three goals.

Our only Under-23 cap was won by Gerry McCaffrey for the North in 1962-63, despite the fact that he never made a senior appearance for the club.

At Under-21 level, we can boast one player for each side of the border, John O'Neill for the Ulstermen and Martin Russell for Eire.

Youth internationals are more commonplace, though the only ones to reach first team status for the club have been Tony Brien, Gary Fitzpatrick, Robert Kelly and Joe Waters, who all represented the Republic.



• **O'NEILL:** City's most capped player with 39 full Northern Ireland caps.

R E C E N T	1984-85: Division 1: City 2 (Lynex, A Smith) Luton 2 (Harford, B Stein)	1992-93: Division 1: (renamed): City 2 (Walsh, Whitlow) Luton 1 (Campbell)	F O R M
	1985-86: Division 1: City 0 Luton 0	1993-94: Division: City 2 (Coatsworth, Roberts) Luton 1 (James)	
	1986-87: Division 1: City 1 (A Smith) Luton 1 (B Stein)		



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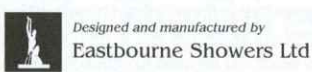
Gralayne Medicare have been involved with disabled adaptation works for many years, providing a variety of special services and adaptations tailored to the individual needs of each disabled person. We offer a complete design and installation service, often in liaison with the Occupational Therapists, using the very latest products to provide the user with the independence they require. Our caring staff are trained to make clients feel at ease whilst the installations are carried out with minimal disruption.

Although based in Leicester, we install within the East Midlands area for local authorities, housing associations and

individual clients. We pride ourselves on the quality of materials and high degree of craftsmanship to ensure all our clients receive the best adaptation to suit their needs.

Our premises at Unit 43/44 Oswin Road, Brailsford Park, Leicester are designed as an assessment centre where we offer working display facilities of equipment by the major manufacturers, listed below the photos.

The Assessment Centre is open to both general public and professionals alike, but owing to the fact that people appreciate a one on one service we would ask that where possible an appointment is made.



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The Blue Cross Sale begins this

Saturday 3rd February 1996

until close of business

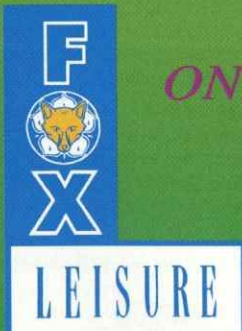
Saturday 17th February 1996

HURRY -

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Fox Leisure

*Filbert Street and
28 Churchgate*



From the
**CHIEF
EXECUTIVE**

Barrie Pierpoint



HOPEFULLY you will now have had the opportunity to take advantage of our new improved service from our ticket office.

The Unix Arena computer system has been installed at Filbert Street and has been very well received by supporters.

The system enables us to process your ticket requests significantly more quickly, thereby cutting down on queuing time.

The system went live earlier this week and the introduction of the computers has co-incided with longer opening hours of the office.

To make it easier for you to purchase tickets, the Filbert Street ticket office will be open for 12 hours from 8am until 8pm on a Friday before a weekend match.

The ticket office will be open to both personal callers and for supporters wishing to make credit card bookings over the phone.

The new system and longer hours co-incided with new-style thermally sealed match tickets which you may well have noticed for today's game with Luton.

The new system, however, has not gone fully live yet. We are currently awaiting a piece of software to enable us to use the system for telephone credit card bookings.

This will then enable us to process your request inside a minute - four times quicker than we currently can.

The system is also to be introduced at our ticket office at our Churchgate Fox Leisure store.

The ticket office section has now been moved downstairs and we plan to go live with the system later this week.

Remember, though, that only home tickets can be purchased from Churchgate.

□□□□

I'M sure many of you will have worked out by now that our re-arranged game against Oldham Athletic will take place on Valentines Day night at Filbert Street.

I hope it doesn't affect your plans too much but, to mark the occasion, we've got some special prizes to give away as part of a ladies night promotion.

So, bring down your partner and you might win one of a series of great gifts we have on offer to be won.

Our Blue Army Bonanza matchday lottery has been expanded to include a series of suitable gifts as well as the usual cash prizes.

So for the price of 50p you can find yourself with a bottle of champagne, a meal for two, chocolates and lots of other gifts.

The draw will be made at half time and the winners can collect their gifts immediately after the game.

□□□□

A BLUE Cross sale has been introduced at our Fox Leisure stores in Filbert Street and Churchgate.

LEICESTER CITY v SUNDERLAND



• MATCH SPONSOR: City skipper Garry Parker carries out the pre-match presentation to our match sponsor Bass Mitchells & Butlers. LC734e.



• MATCHBALL SPONSOR: Emile Heskey hands over the matchball to our matchball sponsor Cristal Glass & Glazing. LC7734m.

In addition to the existing sale prices, a further 20 per cent reduction has been made on selected lines of sweatshirts and t-shirts.

There is also a 10 per cent reduction on our gold shirts. This offer is available only while stocks last.

□□□□

CALLING companies who produce their own newsletters and literature you can join up with City's award-winning desk-top-publishing team.

The same team which publishes City's match-day magazine and Blue Army News can now also produce and print publications for external clients.

For further details please contact David Jones on 01162 555000.

A WARM welcome to our match sponsors this afternoon who are C.J. Upton & Sons. A warm welcome also to our matchball sponsors who are Rhino Advertising. I hope they enjoy the game.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S PAGE





NEWS FROM AROUND OUR SUPPORTERS CLUBS

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LEICESTER

CLUB OFFICE: The Club Office at 51 Burmwood Street will be open before home matches (1pm to 2.40pm - Saturday games, 6pm to 7.30pm evening games) and Tuesday and Thursday evenings 7pm to 8pm for membership, season tickets, travel and general enquiries.

FANSCENE - THE SUPPORTERS CLUB INFORMATION LINE: This season the Supporters Club has its own 24 hour information telephone line with full, up to date details of opening times, travel details, match ticket availability, branch information etc. The line is now operational and every call will be of financial benefit to the Supporters Club. The information will be updated on a regular basis and we hope this will be a valuable service for our members. **PLEASE NOTE** the number has now changed and the new number is:

★ TELEPHONE NO: 0891 88 18 16 ★

CLUB OFFICE: The Club Office at 51 Burmwood Street will be open before home matches (12.30pm to 2.40pm - Saturday games, 6pm to 7.30pm evening games) and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7pm to 8pm for Membership, Season Tickets, Travel and general enquiries.

MEMBERSHIP: Fees for the 1995/96 Season are as follows:- New Adults : £3.50 Renewal Adults : £2.70 All Juniors : £1.50. Two passport photographs are required with all new applications. For renewal membership only your old card or a new photo is required.

SEASON TICKETS: Season tickets for the club enclosure are still available with prices as follows:-

ADULTS	£105	JUNIORS	£50
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Prices will continue to reduce by £10 per Home match for Adults and £5 per match for Juniors.

CLUB ENCLOSURE - MATCH TICKET SALES: Match tickets for the Club Enclosure are now only on sale, up to two months in advance, from the football club's ticket offices at Filbert Street and Churchgate on production of a valid Membership Card. Telephone and postal bookings are also available, please quote your membership number.

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: Following completion of the roof in the Club Enclosure all seats are now under cover.

TRAVEL

Sat 10th Feb	Portsmouth	10.00am	£10.00 / £7.00*
	Match Tickets:Seats		£13.00 (adults) £9.00 (concessions)
	Standing		£8.00 (cash at turnstile)
Wed 21st Feb	Wolves	5.00pm	£5.00 / £3.00*
	Match Tickets		£12.00 (no concessions)

ATTENTION ALL LIFE MEMBERS: We are introducing a new Photocard for Life members to replace their existing membership cards. We would ask that all Life Members who make regular use of either the Club Enclosure or any of our coaches provide two passport photographs and we will be pleased to issue a new Photocard free of charge. The photographs may be handed in at the Club Office on the times stated above.

LADIES DARTS: The Ladies Darts singles competition will be held on Monday 12th

February 1996, at the South Leicester W.M.C. starting at 8.00pm. All lady members welcome.

ASHBY

The Ashby Branch are running coaches to all away games this season. For up to date information contact Pat on (01283) 223358 or Paul on (01283) 547282. For further details about the Branch activities please contact either of the above.

HINCKLEY

Away travel can be booked on non-matchdays at Angela's, 50 New Street, Earl Shilton (01455 858514), or Carol's, 16 Albert Road Hinckley (01455 238434) (CASH OR CHQ). On matchdays at the Burmwood Street office or on the coach for the following games (CHEQUE ONLY PLEASE). Payments for coach and tickets must be made three days prior to departure.

OAKHAM

For details about our Oakham Branch please ring Trevor Palmer on (01572) 722015.

NORTHAMPTON

The new Northampton Branch is now fully underway with ticket and travel arrangements to all away fixtures, regular monthly meetings with guest speakers and a full programme of social events including 5-a-side football, sports quizzes, evenings out etc. For full details please ring Lance Tomlyn or Rebecca Doughty on (01604) 232707 (evenings 01604 702182).

LONDON BRANCH

Calling all Leicester City fans living in London and the surrounding areas. We organise travel to all games via British Rail (where possible) at reduced rates. For Saturday home fixtures we depart from St Pancras at 11.30am and for midweek home games we depart at 5.40pm (£15 return).

For further information, please contact either our travel organiser Phil Arnold on 0181 360 0071 or membership secretary Kevin Wells on (01279) 416522.

LOUGHBOROUGH

Our away travel will continue to depart from opposite the Brush Social Club, Fennel Street, Loughborough.

Sat 10th Feb	Portsmouth	9.30am	£10.00 / £7.00*
Wed 21st Feb	Wolves	5.00pm	£5.00 / £3.00*
Sat 24th Feb	Reading	10.45am	£10.00 / £7.00*

* Denotes prices for travel club and junior members

Away travel is a combined package of coach and match tickets (when available) and payment must be made in advance.

We are often asked to run coaches to HOME matches and a timetable is being drawn up between Coalville, Shepshead, Loughborough, Quorn, Mountsorrel and Birstall.

Anyone living in those areas should contact Tony Kershaw on 01509 267643 for further information. This is your last opportunity to express interest.

WALKERS
CRISPS

AWAY TICKET NEWS

v PORTSMOUTH

February 10th 1996 (3pm)

Tickets are now on general sale

We have received an allocation of 1,100 seating tickets priced at £13 adults and £9 juveniles. Standing tickets can be purchased on the day of the game only, at the turnstile priced at £8 (no concessions).

v WOLVES

February 21st 1996 (7.45pm)

We have received an allocation of 3,187 seating tickets priced at £12 no concessions.

Selling arrangements are as follows:

Season Ticket Holders & Members: From today Saturday February 3rd to Saturday February 10th (season ticket holders must produce voucher 'R' and members must produce their valid members card.

General Sale: Tickets go on general sale from Monday February 12th

HOME TICKET NEWS

PORT VALE*

February 17th 1996 (3pm)

Tickets are now on general sale

DERBY COUNTY

February 28th 1996 (7.45pm)

Tickets are now on general sale

THIS GAME IS ALL TICKET

* THIS GAME IS A VOUCHER GAME. The voucher is the ticket itself, so please DO NOT throw the ticket away

On sale to season ticket holders and members at the moment:

GRIMSBY* March 9th, 1996. MILLWALL March 23rd 1996

SHEFFIELD UNITED March 30th, 1996

Tickets sold same way as previous season. Two months in advance for s/tkt holders and members, one month for non-members. One guest tkt per season tkt/members tkt (excluding members encl. and family encl. where no guests are allowed). All tickets purchased using passport to leisure must be bought 3 days prior to the match

Refunds will only be given if the ticket is returned 5 hours before kick-off

TELESALES HOTLINE: (0116) 291 5232

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to the cancellation of the Wednesday 14th February 1996 performance of

FEVER PITCH

we will be adding an additional show on Thursday 15th February 1996.

The original Thursday showing that was due to start at 8.00pm will now commence at 9.30pm and there will be an additional showing at 6.30pm.

All tickets for the 8.00pm performance **must** be returned to the Ticket Office at Filbert Street with details of your choice of the following:-

- Exchange 8.00pm ticket for 6.30pm ticket
- Exchange 8.00pm ticket for 9.30pm ticket
- Exchange 8.00pm ticket for alternative date (ie Monday 12th or Tuesday 13th February 1996)
- Return Ticket for a full refund

Tickets for the original 8.00pm showing on Thursday 15th February 1996 will not be valid for any performance. They must be exchanged at the Filbert Street Ticket Office prior to the performance of your choice.

If you have any queries please call 0116 291 5232

C. J.

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TODAY'S MATCH SPONSORS WELCOME A GUEST "TEAM" TO FILBERT STREET



We've had the opportunity to do plenty of talking this week during a three-day break on the South Coast.

But now the talking has to stop. It's time for action and today's clash with Luton should show whether we have what it takes to storm back into the promotion race.

We all believe we have - and we are determined to prove it. The last couple of months haven't been very productive, and we know that unless we improve, promotion will pass us by.

And how to improve has been the central topic of conversation during our stay in Bournemouth.

The trip provided a pleasant and relaxing few days away from our normal routine - and the weather down there was a bit better as well.

Some of the lads actually managed a couple of rounds of golf and most of us have spent a lot of time swimming. Not in the sea, I hasten to add, but in the hotel pool.

The milder weather also enabled us to do some light training before we got down to the more serious stuff when we returned home on Wednesday.

But the real point of the break was for everyone to re-group, re-charge the batteries and focus on what lies ahead in the remainder of the season.

It also provided the chance for our new gaffer to get to know us all a bit better and for us to get to know him, because since Mark McGhee left just before Christmas, it's been a hectic time for everyone.

So, with no match last Saturday, this was the chance for all of us to get together in a calmer, more relaxed atmosphere and talk things over.

It all seemed to go very well, although only time will tell how well. But all the players were able to have a chat with the gaffer at some stage, while he was able to put over his ideas and explain what he expects from us and how he wants us to play.

I think we were all agreed on one thing. Everyone is desperate to do well and as determined as ever to secure promotion to the Premiership.

So, the sooner we get a win under our belts again the better. The gaffer has been in charge now for six games and we have yet to win a match for him.

As he points out, you can only enjoy yourself in football when you are winning. Results mean everything - and he doesn't like losing. That goes for the rest of us as well, and we know that one win in our last 10 League matches is simply not good enough.

We have to turn things round and string together a good run of results. That's why getting that first win for the new manager is so vital. It could trigger things off and help us relax that little bit more and play the sort of football we know we can.

So today's match with Luton is a big one for us. We haven't won here at Filbert Street since the Norwich game back in December, and we have only won four League matches at home all season.

Although Luton are near the bottom of the table, it's certainly not going to be an easy match by any means. They have picked up under their new boss Lennie Lawrence and will be boosted by that important win over Sheffield United on Wednesday night.

I thought they played well against us earlier in the season at Kenilworth

Parker's



PATTER

with City captain
Garry Parker

Road when we were lucky to pick up a point in a 1-1 draw.

And this afternoon they will be wanting the points just as much as we do. I expect it to be a tough old battle.

During our stay in Bournemouth we examined and talked about the next four matches coming up...Luton, Portsmouth (away) Oldham and Port Vale.

And with all due respect to those four teams, we believe they are games from which we are capable of picking up points. We see this spell as the ideal opportunity for us to get ourselves back on track-and back into the promotion picture again.

Our target has to be 10 points from the four matches, which means we have to win three of them. It would be nice to get the first of those victories under our belts today.

Despite the poor run we have had of late and the upheaval caused by the backroom changes, I can assure all the fans that the spirit in the side is as good as ever. That's never changed all season.

It's out on the field where we are letting ourselves down by making mistakes in the final third of the pitch.

We are still conceding some sloppy goals and, in recent games, have not been making that many chances and then missing those that we do create.

It's those sort of things we have chatted about this week and discussed how we can put them right. We will just have to see if we have come up with the answer.

I think the gaffer is looking to make a few minor adjustments to the way Mark McGhee had us playing although, basically, he still wants us to pass the ball around.

There's no doubt though, that teams have sussed out the way we play and made plans to stop us. Because we like to keep possession they drop back, let us have the ball and allow us to pass it around in front of them which doesn't really cause them much damage.

Without reverting to the long ball upfield, I think we need to play the ball a bit quicker to the front men on occasions. That's something else we have been talking about as well.

So it has been an examination of the way we play, and how we want to play. Everyone has their own ideas, but the input can only help. The main thing is that we are all together and all striving for the same goal.

There's a long way to go yet and I'm certain that, at the very least, we will be in the play-offs. And if we put a good run together there is every chance we can still finish in the top two.

We have 20 games left and the target is 41 points from them. I know it's asking a lot, but it is possible. If we achieve it we will have a total of 80 points and that should be enough to guarantee an automatic promotion spot.

The break this week has helped us relax, unwind and plan ahead. Now it's down to business.

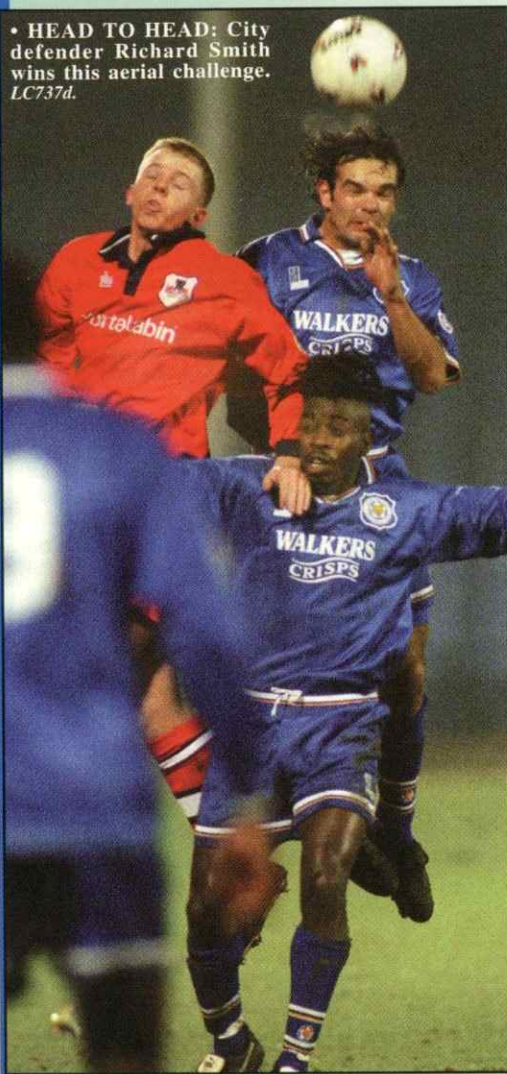
I am pleased to welcome our Matchball sponsors for this afternoon's game who are Rhino Design & Advertising. I hope they enjoy the game.

"It all seemed to go very well, although only time will tell how well. But all the players were able to have a chat with the gaffer at some stage, while he was able to put over his ideas and explain what he expects from us and how he wants us to play. I think we were all agreed on one thing. Everyone is desperate to do well and as determined as ever to secure promotion to the Premiership."

GARRY PARKER'S CAPTAIN PAGE



• **HEAD TO HEAD:** City defender Richard Smith wins this aerial challenge. LC737d.



Pontins League **ROUND-UP** with Paul Franklin and Steve Walford



Young winger Neil Lewis, out in the cold for much of this season, has been handed a confidence booster by City coach Steve Walford.

After watching Lewis produce a sparkling performance in the recent Pontins League win over York, Walford said: "The lad has bags of ability and the potential to go a long way in the game."

The skillful and exciting Lewis has always been something of an enigma with former bosses, Brian Little and Mark McGhee, never quite sure whether to use him as a left back, left sided midfielder player or an out and out winger.

Now Martin O'Neill and his coaches, Paul Franklin and Walford, are hoping to tap the Lewis potential and turn him into the high class player many forecast he would become.

Says Walford: "We certainly have high hopes for him. I have seen many players with far less talent than he has, make it to the top level."

"He has so much natural ability, good pace, a great first touch and beats defenders for fun. And his left foot is nearly as good as mine used to be."

"His problem is that there are spells when he seems to lose concentration and switch off. He should do better for longer periods in games than he does."

"But the skill is definitely there, and he could develop into a very exciting player indeed if he works on the other parts of his game. It's up to him, but it would be a great shame to see so much talent go to waste."

Lewis was only one of several players who impressed in the convincing victory over York. Strikers Mark Robins and Emile Heskey teamed up to form a formidable partnership with Robins scoring two goals and Heskey one.

Walford was full of praise for the attitude and commitment of Robins.

"With the team we put out we would have expected to beat York, but that all depends on the attitude shown by the players on the night."

"In our previous game I know that Paul Franklin had been disappointed by the attitude and commitment, but on this occasion it could not have been better. Robins I thought was outstanding in this respect."

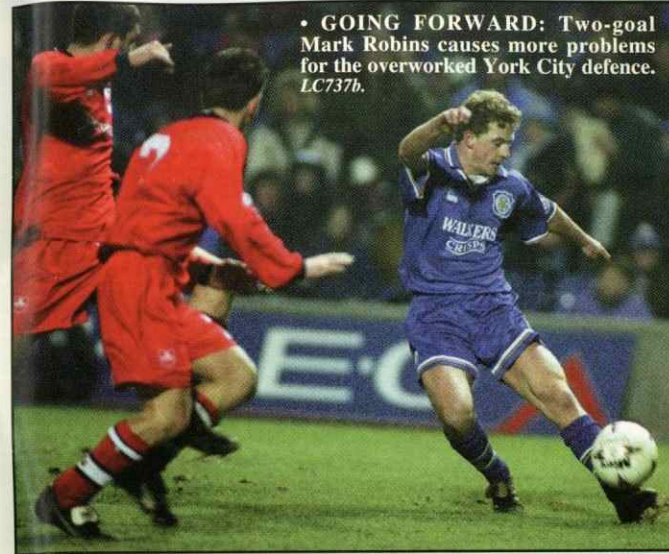
"It was a bitterly cold night and conditions were not easy. But we adapted well and Mark looked a class act. He worked really hard and took his goals well. He has a lot of ability-there's no doubt about that."

"So has Emile. He's still only a kid but he's so strong and powerful and shows a good awareness of what is required. We put out a strong side on the night and there would have been something sadly amiss had we not won."

"But there will be a few occasions between now and the end of the season, when we will be fielding a reserve team mostly made up of youth team players. We need to do that to enable us to assess the youngsters we have here, because soon we shall have to make decisions on who we keep on for next season."

And on Wednesday night this week the reserve

CITY RES 4 YORK RES 0



• **GOING FORWARD:** Two-goal Mark Robins causes more problems for the overworked York City defence. LC737b.



• **WELL DONE:** Mark Robins is congratulated by fellow team mates for scoring his second goal. LC737h.



• **CLIMBING HIGH:** Emile Heskey loses out in this aerial battle. LC737a.

team City sent to Roker Park was a side consisting mainly of youth team players. There was only Zeljko Kalac, Jimmy Willis, Sam McMahon and Jamie Lawrence from the senior squad.

City were beaten 2-0 but Franklin said: "It is very rare you can say you are pleased after a defeat, but this was one of those occasions."

"I was delighted with the way the kids played and I thoroughly enjoyed the match. The attitude was first class and if this is an example of the quality of the youngsters we have at the club the future looks very bright indeed."

"I was particularly impressed with left-back Martin Fox and central

defender Guy Branston. Both of them had excellent games."

Franklin also had a special mention for young midfielder McMahon who had been with the first team squad on the three day break at Bournemouth.

Said Franklin: "We left Bournemouth at around 9.30 on Wednesday morning, arrived back at Filbert Street at lunch time and then myself and Sam stayed on the coach to continue on the journey to Sunderland for the game."

"Sam was the only one from the Bournemouth party to be involved and he did well to stay awake let alone anything else."

PONTIN'S LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

Fixtures and results 1995-96

Date	v	Score	Att	Goalscorers
Aug 16	York C	3-0	-	Bedder, Gee, Roberts
Aug 21	Preston N.E.	1-1	3,045	Gee
Aug 31	Mansfield Tn	2-2	-	Hallam, Smith
Sep 4	Sunderland	3-1	3,854	Robins 2, Smith
Sep 18	Aston Villa	3-3	6,071	Robins 2, Heskey
Oct 2	Rotherham Utd	1-1	4,387	Dodds
Oct 10	Manchester C	1-2	-	Lawrence
Oct 16	Barnsley	0-1	7,124	
Oct 25	Huddersfield Tn	1-1	-	Robins
Nov 1	Blackpool	0-0	-	
Nov 6	Middlesbrough	1-1	4,530	Dodds
Nov 15	Hull C	3-0	-	Bedder 2, McMahon
Nov 23	Coventry C	2-1	3,859	Heskey, Lewis (pen)
Nov 28	Port Vale	0-5	-	
Dec 6	Aston Villa	2-2	-	Heskey, Joachim
Dec 18	Burnley	6-2	1,938	Smith, Philpott 2, Joachim 2, Hallam
Jan 2	Grimsby Tn	0-0	-	
Jan 8	Bradford City	3-2	3,761	Lowe 2, Blake
Jan 15	Preston N.E.	2-2	-	McMahon, Own Goal
Jan 24	York C	4-0	2,499	Robins 2, Heskey, Lawrence
Jan 31	Sunderland	0-2	-	

MATCH

Pontins League Division Two
Wednesday 24th January
City 4 York 0

City: Kalac, Blake, Lewis, Smith, Carey, Branston, Lawrence, Robins, Heskey, McMahon, Philpott
Goals: Robins 2, Heskey, Lawrence

Pontins League Division Two
Wednesday 31st January
Sunderland 2 City 0

City: Kalac, Willis, Fox, Dodds, Braunston, Bedder, Lawrence, Campbell, Hallam, McMahon, Skeldon
Subs: S.K Wilson, Wenlock, Johnson

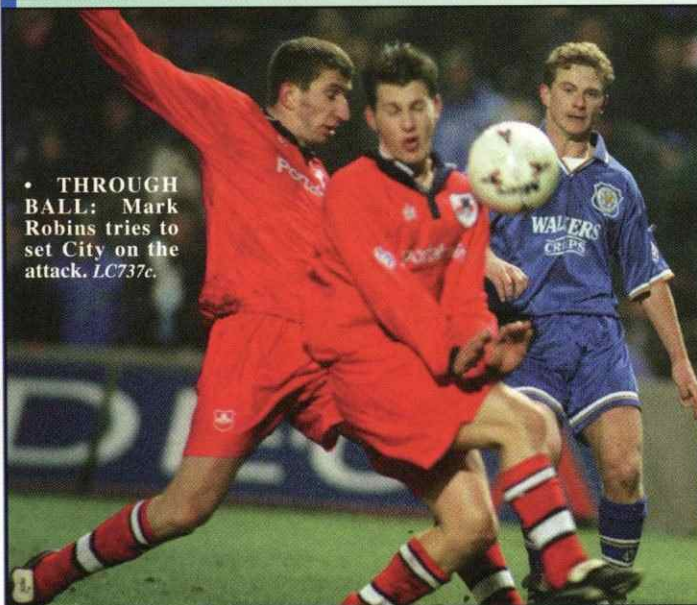
FACTS

Home games are in bold

APPEARANCES AND GOALS

	Apps	Goals		Apps	Goals
Turner	7	-	Lawrence	15	2
Blake	13	1	Rolling	4	-
Lewis	18	1	Robins	5	7
Hill	2	-	Heskey	8+1	4
Carey	11	-	Willis	3	-
McMahon	19	1	Quincey	8+3	-
Lowe	4	2	Wilson S.K	1+6	-
Bedder	10+7	3	Fox	3+3	-
Roberts	1	1	Kalac	12	-
Gee	13+1	2	Branston	9	-
Philpott	18	2	Poole	1	-
Hallam	7+7	2	Wenlock	3+4	-
Dodds	9+5	2	Joachim	7	3
Campbell	5+9	-	Johnson	0+2	-
Kranz	1	-	Kaamark	1	-
Grayson	2	-	Wilson S.J	1+1	-
Smith	7	3	Skeldon	1+1	-

• **THROUGH BALL:** Mark Robins tries to set City on the attack. LC737c.





Team Check



LEICESTER CITY

Ladbrokes first scorer odds

	KEVIN POOLE	1
33-1	SIMON GRAYSON	2
33-1	MIKE WHITLOW	3
40-1	COLIN HILL	4
20-1	STEVE WALSH	5
16-1	GARRY PARKER	6
8-1	DAVID LOWE	7
12-1	STEVE CORICA	8
7-1	JULIAN JOACHIM	9
4-1	IWAN ROBERTS	10
28-1	FRANCK ROLLING	11

SUBS

- 12**
- 13**
- 14**

LUTON TOWN

Ladbrokes first scorer odds

	IAN FEUER	
40-1	DARREN PATTERSON	40-1
40-1	MITCHELL THOMAS	40-1
40-1	GARY WADDOCK	40-1
28-1	STEVE DAVIS	28-1
40-1	MARVIN JOHNSON	40-1
8-1	BONTCHO GUENTCHEV	8-1
9-1	SCOTT OAKES	9-1
9-1	JOHN TAYLOR	9-1
25-1	GRAHAM ALEXANDER	25-1
20-1	RICHARD HARVEY	20-1

LADBROKES TIPSTERS CHALLENGE

CITY player Franck Rolling takes over our Ladbrokes Tipsters Challenge this afternoon.

In every issue a City player attempts to correctly predict the scores of the rest of the Endsleigh Insurance League Division One Programme. It's three points for a correct score and one point for forecasting a win or a draw.

Our winning tipster throughout the season will receive a £100 charity bet courtesy of Ladbrokes.

Joint leaders so far are Jimmy Willis and Simon Grayson with nine points.

Here's Franck's selection for this weekend's games.

- Barnsley v Watford (1-1)**
 - Grimsby v Derby (2-1)**
 - Huddersfield v Tranmere (1-0)**
 - Ipswich v West Brom (2-2)**
 - Sheffield Utd v Oldham (1-2)**
 - Southend v Millwall (1-0)**
 - Wolves v Sunderland (2-1)**
playing Sunday
 - Charlton v Crystal Palace (0-2)**
 - Norwich v Birmingham (2-2)**
 - Port Vale v Stoke City (1-0)**
 - Reading v Portsmouth (3-1)**
- Franck's banker £5 bet is Huddersfield Town to beat Tranmere Rovers 1-0

REFEREE GRAHAM BARBER



A sales manager, Mr Barber has two daughters. He began refereeing in 1974, progressed through the Lincolnshire League and the North Counties East League. In 1990/91 he was added onto the list of Linesmen and promoted to the Panel League of Referees in 1992 and onto the National List of Referees in 1993/94. Notable games he has officiated in include the European Championship match between Denmark and Poland.

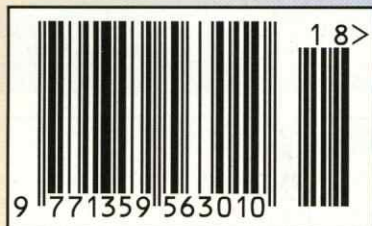


C. BASSINDALE



J. T. BOULTON

Fourth Official: R. J. DICKINSON



WALKERS

CRISPS