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# Town Football Club

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Official matchday programme

**LENNIE LAWRENCE  
ON TODAY'S  
MATCH - p2&3**

**MEET THE  
VISITORS  
- p12-15**

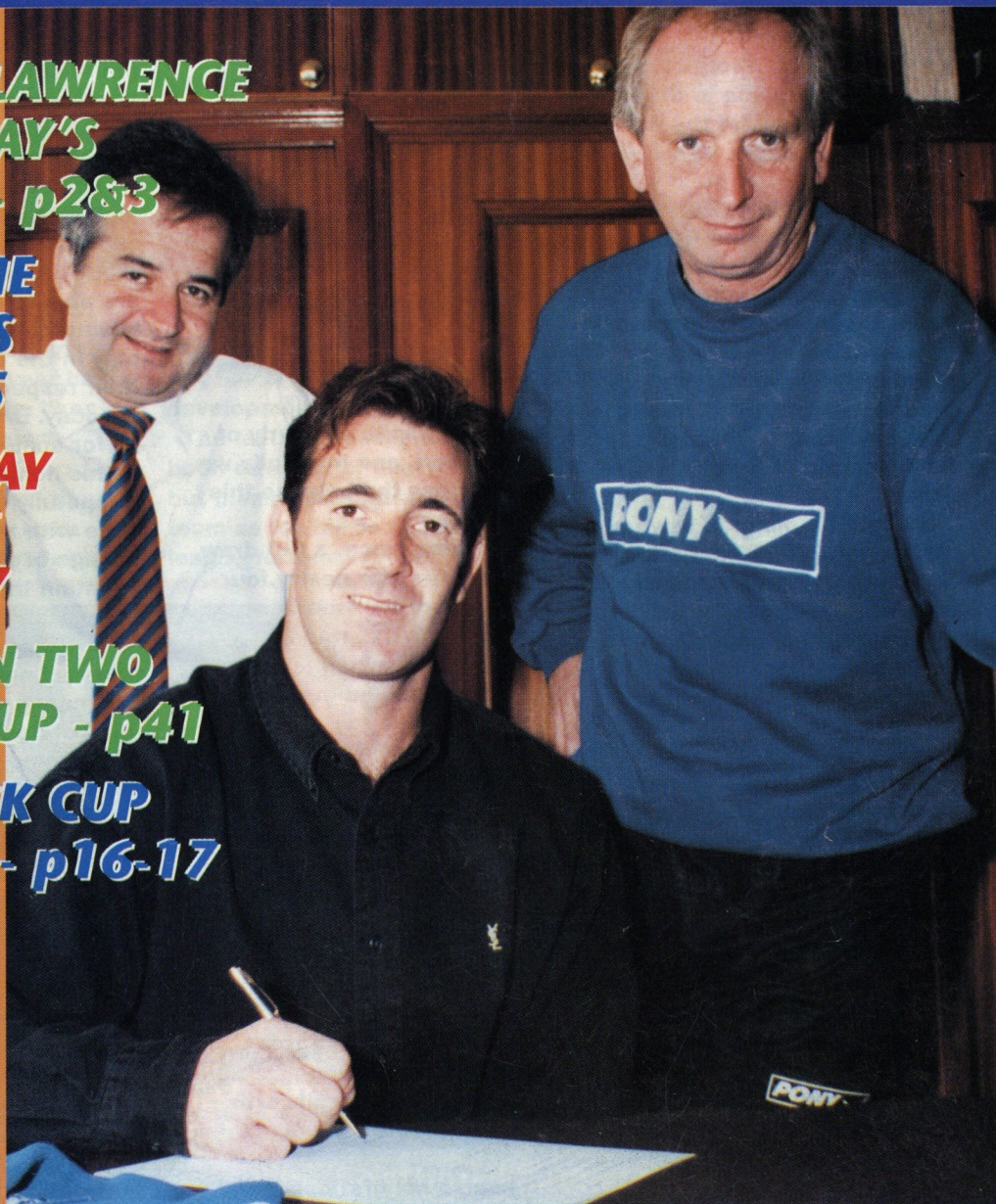
**PHIL GRAY  
FEATURE  
- p22-27**

**DIVISION TWO  
ROUND-UP - p41**

**MIDWEEK CUP  
ACTION - p16-17**

Today's match  
sponsors are:

**1ST HARLINGTON  
BOYS' BRIGADE**



**v WREXHAM**

Nationwide League Div Two - Saturday, September 20, 1997 - Kick-Off 3pm



## From the manager's chair



with **LENNIE LAWRENCE**

**TUESDAY'S** performance against West Brom was a big boost for the confidence of the team, as we played as well in the first half hour as we have done this season, especially in terms of passing the ball.

Although West Brom came back into the game in the last 10 or 15 minutes of the first half, I felt we were unfortunate not to go in with a lead at half-time.

Early in the second-half West Brom had their most dangerous spell, but we battled well defensively, and this period also included a great strike from Gary Waddock which hit the post.

On any other day that would have gone in..... or over the stand!

The last 20 minutes saw us struggling to re-adjust after the loss of Marvin Johnson, and some young legs were getting tired, although West Brom were happy to see the game out at 1-1.

All-in-all, against a team that has started very well in the first division, it was a commendable performance, and a result that keeps us alive for the second leg at the Hawthorns on Tuesday.

Now we turn our attentions to today's game against Wrexham.

Obviously this is a game that we badly need to win, and after their unfortunate defeat against Wigan in their last away game, I'm sure Wrexham will be equally determined to gain a good result.

We failed to beat Wrexham in either encounter last

season, in spite of plenty of possession, and hopefully we can redress the balance this time around.

The home game, a 0-0 draw, was our first for nearly four weeks after the weather-enforced break in January, whilst the away game that followed resulted in a 2-1 defeat.

Wrexham are a cultured, footballing side, with some talented players and a manager in Brian Flynn who is now one of the longest serving at one club in the league.

He has done an excellent job with limited resources at his disposal.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Brian and his team to Kenilworth Road, along with the Wrexham officials and supporters.

It is also my first opportunity to formally welcome Phil Gray back to Kenilworth Road,

after his departure to Sunderland in 1993, followed by brief stays in France and Holland.

Hopefully his experience and goalscoring record can help us climb the table.

People are well aware of our injury situation, and that has been compounded by the loss of Marvin Johnson on Tuesday with a knee ligament injury - which fortunately does not look as bad as first feared.

On the plus side, Gavin McGowan and Bryan Small are able to return today having not been permitted to play in the cup competition by their respective clubs on Tuesday. Bryan has been with us for some time, but this will be his home debut.

Hopefully we will be able to cope with this frequent change of personnel, and maintain the level of performance shown against West Brom and also in the first-half against Bournemouth last week.

As I stated in Tuesday's programme notes, we created more chances in the first-half last Saturday than in any other 45 minutes this season, but only scored one and Bournemouth came back strongly in the second period.

We failed to get a grip on the midfield, but just as though it looked we would weather the storm with some excellent defending in our own penalty area, and some good saves by Kelvin Davis, we conceded an equaliser.

Recent circumstances have given many young players an opportunity to stake a claim



in the first team, and it's pleasing to see that an opportunity that perhaps did not occur last year has been grasped by the likes of Kelvin Davis, Stuart Douglas and Sean Evers, who have shown that they can come in to the team and do a job - and more in

some cases.

Hopefully that trend will continue, but not to the detriment of their long term development.

The last few weeks have been difficult for everyone, but please get behind the team as we bid to turn our league fortunes around.

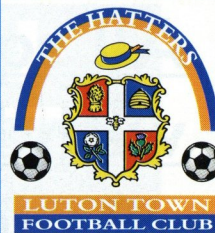
**ABOVE:** Andy Dibble returned to the Town side on Tuesday against West Brom, after signing a short-term contract.



Nationwide, the World's No.1 Building Society, wishes all clubs a successful 1997/98 season



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Kenilworth Road Stadium,  
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S.R.Ch.



## All square with Ray's Baggies

LUTON and West Brom go into Tuesday's second leg at the Hawthorns all-square, after the first leg at Kenilworth Road ended 1-1.

Stuart Douglas put the Town in front, with Bob Taylor equalising before the break, with both sides hitting the post in a lively second period.

With on-loan duo Gavin McGowan and Bryan Small not being released by their respective clubs, Luton recalled Graham Alexander and Richard Harvey to the fullback positions, with Andy Dibble replacing the cup-tied Kelvin Davis in goal.

Dibble, Luton's hero in the 1988 League Cup Final, was up against an Albion side managed by the man who selected him for that final - former Luton boss Ray Harford - but had a quiet opening as the Hatters had the best of the first half hour.

Douglas had a goal disallowed for a foul on Paul Raven on 12 minutes, and David Oldfield went close after good work by Harvey and Dwight Marshall.

But Douglas did put his side in front on 24 minutes, with a neat turn and shot after Albion had failed to clear a corner.

Marshall had a close range effort cleared off the line soon after, but the Division One side hit back on 36 minutes when Taylor headed home a David Smith cross.

In the second half, Gary Waddock hit



**GOALSCORER**  
Stuart Douglas is pictured in action against West Brom, in Tuesday's Coca-Cola Cup tie.

the post and saw one shot go just over, but Albion shaded it on chances created, with £1.5 million winger Kevin Kilbane an influential figure.

He set up headers for Stacey Coldicott and Taylor, and was himself denied by Dibble's tackle, with Taylor also hitting the post late on.

On the down side for Luton, Marvin Johnson was stretchered off with a knee injury, with Paul McLaren dropping back to centre-half.

But on a more positive note there was a senior debut for another of the Town's up-and-coming youngsters, with Liam George a second-half substitute for Sean Evers. George now fully recovered from the knee injury that kept him out of the latter stages of the youth team's cup exploits last term. - *Simon Oxley.*



**ABOVE:** Liam George

### SAFETY NOTE

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

It is the policy of the Chairman and Directors to ensure that the conditions set out in the General Safety Certificate, issued under Safety at Sports Ground Act 1975 are fully complied with.

It is the club's policy to provide at any activity sufficient and competent staff and management systems to ensure as far as humanly possible, for the safe admission, accommodation, and exiting of spectators attending the stadium. These systems will be subject to continual monitoring, testing and updating where necessary.

In the interests of public safety, the safety authority (Beds County Council) have imposed a NO SMOKING restriction in and beneath our main stand. Your co-operation is appreciated.

**FRONT COVER:** Phil Gray signs for Luton Town, under the watchful eye of chairman David Kohler, and manager Lennie Lawrence. (Picture: GARETH OWEN).

### LUTON TOWN FC MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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Counties Newspapers

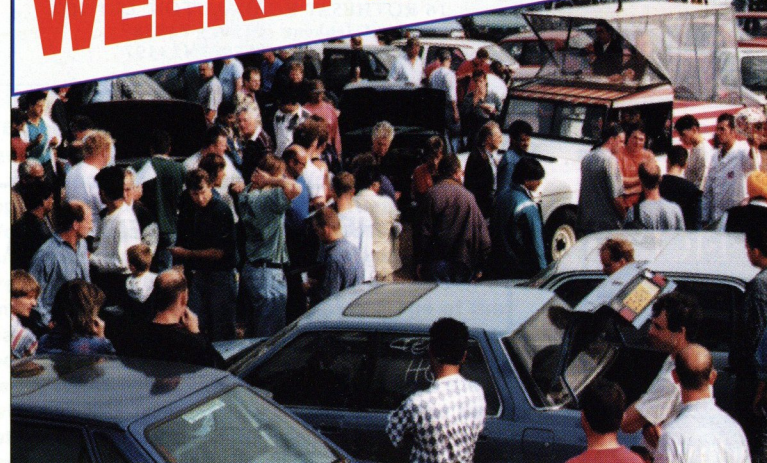
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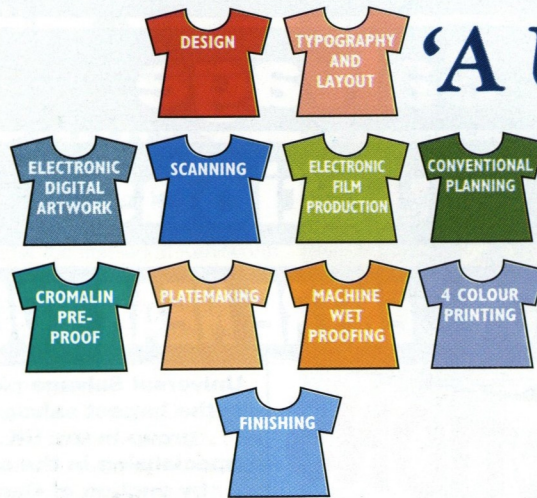
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# STEVO

## Club Captain's Corner with STEVE DAVIS



LEFT: Steve Davis in action against West Brom in last Tuesday's Coca-Cola Cup tie.

AFTER collecting just one point from our last three league games, there is no doubting the importance of this afternoon's match against Wrexham.

Hopefully though we can build on Tuesday's performance against Division One West Brom, when I thought we more than held our own against a side currently among the front-runners for a place in the Premiership. Last season at the same stage of the Coca-Cola Cup we overcame Derby, and that proved to be a real springboard for a good run in the league. Tuesday night, and indeed the second leg at the Hawthorns this Tuesday, can hopefully do the same.

But for all the plus points from the game at West Brom we do seem to be jinxed by injury, with Marvin the latest casualty.

The centre of defence seemed to be the one area to avoid disruption, but now there will be a change there as well, although at the time of writing the full extent of Marvin's injury isn't known.

In the past, Darren Patterson, Julian James and Mitchell Thomas have stepped in, but all three are injured as well at present, but whoever comes in we must roll our sleeves up and get on with it.

A warm welcome back to Phil Gray, who is set to start up front this afternoon. I wasn't here during his previous spell at the club, but those who were speak highly of him, and he has an excellent reputation.

I played against him for Burnley against Sunderland, and also in his days in Tottenham's reserves.

With his arrival, and a clean bill of health all round, we can begin to climb the table. But we can't just rely on one person, it will be a team effort, and that includes supporters as well.

The backing at Northampton and Bournemouth was much appreciated by all the players, and whilst on last season's evidence they will be tough opponents, let's hope we can return to winning ways against Wrexham this afternoon.

## LTFC TICKET OFFICE

Please note the ticket office is now open, on a trial basis, until 7pm on Friday evenings to assist supporters in the purchase of match tickets.

And don't forget, the match v Watford on October 4 is ALL-TICKET.

Full details on page 9.

## THE MAD HATTERS CLUB LTD

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Membership Available



## 'Kohlerdome' latest...

THE planned visit to Kenilworth Road of the Sports Minister Tony Banks (as reported in our previous matchday programmes) was unfortunately postponed, as all ministerial engagements that week were cancelled following the death of the Princess of Wales.

Hatters chairman David Kohler did however welcome Luton South MP Margaret Moran, Luton Council leader Roy Davis, and Football Trust Chief Executive Peter Lee, for a demonstration of the mobile pitch, and it is hoped that Mr Banks will be able to visit at a later date to view proposals for the 'Kohlerdome'.

You can find full details of the 'Kohlerdome' proposals on the Internet, on the pages compiled by WHOSH - Worldwide Hatters on the Super Highway.

FOR THE LATEST NEWS - CLUBCALL 0891 121 123

Calls cost 50p per minute at all times



FOLLOWING the tragic events in Paris, we held a collection for the Memorial Fund for Diana, Princess of Wales, at Tuesday's home game against West Brom. Many thanks to all those who generously donated, and a total of £350 was raised.

I would like to thank the Rotary Club of Luton for arranging the collection, and in particular Mr Jack Sapsworth for all his help.

Following last week's postponement, the home reserve game with Swindon has now reverted to Monday, December 8, with a 7pm kick-off, and will be played at Hitchin Town FC.

At the present time we still have no details of the away match at Swindon's County Ground.

Supporters have often asked about a parking facility for those who travel on coaches to away games, and I'm pleased to report that this is now available.

As I indicated previously there will be a fee, and the cost will be £3 per match, and it must be pre-booked at the ticket office before the day of the game.

Unfortunately, no bookings can be taken on the day of the match.

Whilst on this subject, I would say how disappointing it was that only two people replied to my previous

## From the secretary's chair



with **CHERRY NEWBERY**

programme notes regarding the parking, as numerous people had previously complained at the problems experienced trying to park.

In my last league programme notes, we were still awaiting ticket details for the match at West Brom next week, and these can now be found on page 9 opposite.

On the subject of tickets, a reminder that the home game

against Watford on October 4 is all-ticket.

Is there anyone out there who has taken early retirement, or who needs a part-time job.

We urgently need people for cleaning work around the stadium after matches.

Please contact me here at the club if you can help.

Thank-you to all those supporters who contributed to the SkyBlue Mencap Appeal Collection held here recently. The collection raised £220.

## TOWN TEASER

Who scored all three Luton Town goals over the two legs of the Second Division play-offs in 1997?

Listen out for the PA announcer asking this question this afternoon.

## Bobbers Travel Club - Coach Travel 1997/98

Date	Destination	Adult	Child/OAP	Depart Cranfield	Depart Luton
Sat Sept 27	Bristol City	£10.00	£8.00	9.30am	10.30am
Sat Oct 18	Wigan	£11.50	£9.00	8.30am	9.30am
Tue Oct 21	Carlisle	£16.50	£13.50	11.30am	12.30pm

Coaches from Cranfield pick up additionally at the following places: Marston Moretaine, Ampthill, Flitwick, Westoning and opposite the Luton Gateway Hotel. All coaches then depart from the junction of Hazelbury Crescent and Kenilworth Road.

To book: 1) From the ticket kiosk in the Kenilworth Road turnstiles. See BTC co-ordinator Paul Deason before any Saturday 1st team home match between 2.15 and 2.45pm. (NB No bookings taken at midweek matches). 2) On the return journey from the previous away game. 3) Telephone Paul Deason on Bedford 01234 750996. Membership of the Bobbers Travel Club is £1 for adults and 50p for children/OAPs.

## West Bromwich Albion v Luton Town

COCA-COLA CUP, SECOND ROUND, SECOND LEG  
Tuesday, September 23, 1997, kick-off 7.45pm

**Pay on the night only at West Brom.**

Seats only: £13 for adults, £7 for juniors/senior citizens.

## Bristol City v Luton Town

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO  
Saturday, September 27, 1997, kick-off 3pm

**Pay on the day only at Bristol City.**

Seats only at Ashton Gate for visiting supporters, at the Winterstoke Road end.

Prices: £11 for adults,  
£8 for senior citizens and students\*,  
and £6 for juniors (aged under 16 years)

\* Please note that students will only be admitted at this price if valid student identification is shown.

(The LTFC ticket office will be open for the sale of other match tickets on Saturday, September 27, between 9am and 11am).

## Luton Town v Watford

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO  
Saturday, October 4, 1997, kick-off 3pm

**Please note: THIS IS AN ALL-TICKET MATCH FOR ALL SUPPORTERS, AND THERE WILL BE NO TICKETS AVAILABLE ON THE DAY OF THE GAME.**

Tickets for this match are now on sale at discounted prices.  
Normal guesting facilities apply.

## Luton Town v Plymouth Argyle

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO  
Saturday, October 11, 1997, kick-off 3pm

Tickets for this match are now on sale at discounted prices.  
Normal guesting facilities apply.

## TICKET OFFICE OPENING HOURS

**Monday to Thursday: 10am to 4pm. Fridays: 10am to 7pm (trial period).**

**Saturday (matchdays): 9am to 3pm, and 4.45 to 5.15pm.**

**Saturday (non-matchday): Subject to change, please contact ticket office on 416976.**

For bookings, membership and enquiries, ring the ticket office direct on (01582) 416976. Supporters wishing to order by credit card can do so by using the 24-hour credit card hotline on (01582) 730748.

## Travel Information

**WEST BROMWICH ALBION**  
The Hawthorns, Halfords Lane,  
West Bromwich, West Midlands,  
B71 4LF.  
Telephone: 0121 525 8888.

Take M1 north, and then M6, exiting M6 at junction 8 (s/p M5 The South West, Birmingham W and S, West Bromwich) onto the M5. After 0.7 miles exit M5 at junction 1 (s/p A41 West Bromwich, Sandwell, Birmingham NW). Turn left at roundabout at top of slip road (s/p Birmingham A41, football ground) into Birmingham Road. The ground is on the RHS after 0.3 miles.

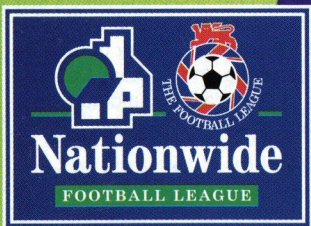
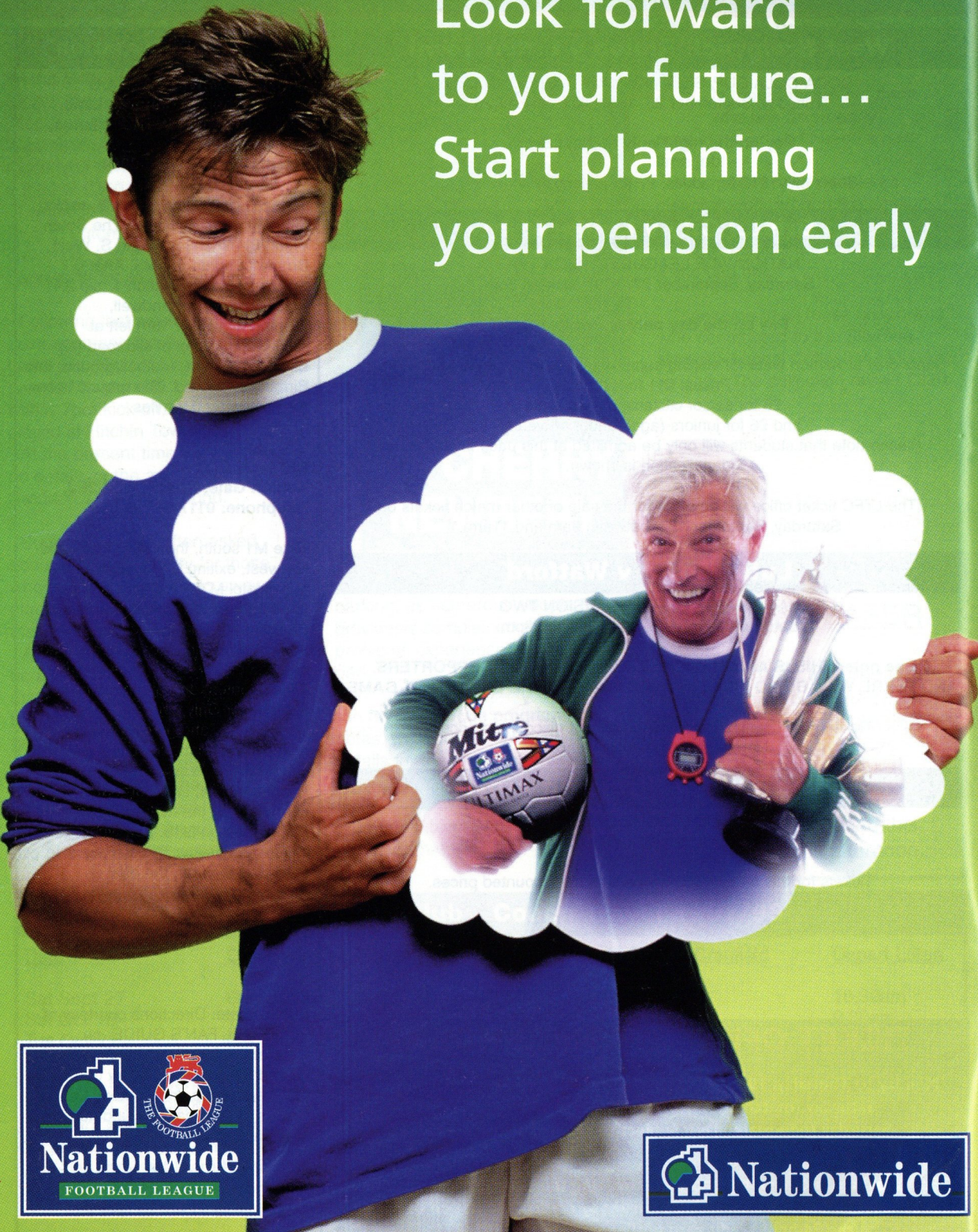
**BRISTOL CITY**  
Ashton Gate, Bristol, BS3 2EJ.  
Telephone: 0117 963 2812.

Take M1 south, then M25 west, and M4 west, exiting M4 at junction 19 (s/p Bristol M32). Go to end of M32 (5 miles from M4) and turn left (s/p Broadmead, Temple Meads, Bristol Airport) onto Ring Road. Keep in right hand lanes into underpass (s/p All Other Routes) and get into lane for the Flyover Only (s/p City Centre, Bedminster), and go over flyover. At next two roundabouts follow signs for Taunton A38, Weston A370, Avonmouth A4, into Coronation Road, which runs by the river, passing Avon Packet pub on LHS. Left where road divides and follow Taunton signs onto, and then off, the dual carriageway (by the Mercedes Benz garage) into Winterstoke Road for ground.

Editor's note: Directions courtesy of FOOTBALL FAN'S GUIDE, an excellent publication with directions to, and full details of, every ground in the Premiership and Football League. Copies of this seasonally updated book are available in the club shop.



Look forward  
to your future...  
Start planning  
your pension early



## Today is FIFA Fair Play Day

SATURDAY 20 and Sunday 21 September are special days in this year's football calendar - they have been designated as the first ever FIFA Fair Play Day.

Throughout the world, in most of the 198 countries and territories affiliated to FIFA, football will be played with particular emphasis on the spirit of Fair Play.

In countries as far apart as Chile and Vietnam, and as diverse as Italy and Rwanda, people will be joining in the effort to raise awareness of the continuing need for sportsmanship in football.

All clubs in the Nationwide Football League are giving their complete support to this venture, backed by the Football League and the Football Association.

At every match this weekend, supporters will see the referee present each team captain with a FIFA Fair Play pennant immediately prior to the kick-off.

At football matches all around the globe players and spectators will be reminded of the importance of Fair Play. Please show your support today.

Luton Town, winners of the Division Two Fair Play award for last season, are of course backing the worldwide project at today's game with Wrexham, so look out for the pre-match presentation, and listen out for special messages across the public address system.

**ASTON Villa supporter Mr W Rawbone is anxious to obtain a copy of the match programme Luton Town v Aston Villa, from January 18, 1986.**

**If anyone can help, Mr Rawbone can be contacted at: 7 Longmeadow Grove, West Heath, Birmingham, B31 4SU, or by telephoning 0121 477 3152 or 0410 258293.**

**REQUESTS for Luton Town penpals have come from the following:**

Stanley Maodza, 379 9th Street, Makokoba, PO Mzilikazi, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

Fungai Sauramba, 59870/7 Imiyela, PO Mpopoma, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.



**ABOVE:** Town supporter Frances Williams, from Welwyn Garden City, is pictured with a friend in Edinburgh, as the pair took time out from appearing in the recent Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

THE Luton Town Supporters Club of Scandinavia are looking for a UK-based supporter to become guest writer in their fanzine 'The Hatters Magazine'.

The person must go to every home game and most of the away games, and anyone interested should write to: Lars-Petter Ronnestad, Chairman - Luton Town Supporters Club of Scandinavia, 6076 Moldtustranda, Norway.

The club has nearly 100 members across Scandinavia, and is the biggest club for English second division teams.

In total there are 52 supporters clubs, with nearly 60,000 members. Not surprisingly, Manchester United have the biggest following with 24,000 members.

**Don't forget to keep sending us photographs which show you the supporters proudly displaying the Luton colours in various parts of the world.**

**(There will a prize for the most obscure, or any with celebrities in!)  
Photos should be sent to: The Programme Editor, c/o Luton Town FC,  
Kenilworth Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton, Beds, LU4 8AW.  
Requests for penpals, programme swaps etc. can also be forwarded.**

**FOR THE LATEST NEWS - CLUBCALL 0891 121 123**

*Calls cost 50p per minute at all times*





Back row: l to r: Tony Humes, Karl Connolly, Leigh Edwards, Andy Marriott, Mark Cartwright, David Walsh, Barry Jones, Mark McGregor. Standing: l to r: Steve Weaver (Development Officer), Cliff Sear (Development Officer), Gareth Shone, Steve Watkin, David Ridler, Brian Carey, Dean Spink, Scott Williams, Dave Brammer, Kevin Russell, Brian Prandle (Coach), Mel Pejic (Physio). Sitting: l to r: Steve Hughes (Community Officer), Wayne Phillips, Gareth Owen, Neil Roberts, Craig Skinner, Joey Jones (Coach), Brian Flynn (Manager), Kevin Reeves (Assistant Manager), Phil Hardy, Peter Ward, Paul Roberts, Jonathan Cross, Dudley Hall (Assistant Physio). Front row: l to r: Deryn Brace, Martyn Chalk, Neil Wainwright, Andy Griffiths, Stephen Thomas, Robert Morris.

## Boss Brian is tickled Spink!

DEAN Spink scored a cracker to finish off a superb 10-man move by Wrexham - and send manager Brian Flynn into ecstasy.

Flynn crowed: "It was a great move and a superb finish. If it had been in the Premiership they'd play it every week on TV before Match of the Day."

Spink's early strike and Steve Watkin's second-half goal left City with three defeats against their name, and boss John Ward admitting: "The losses column does bother me. If it goes into double figures we are not going to make the play-offs!"

City looked sharper after he changed tactics for the second

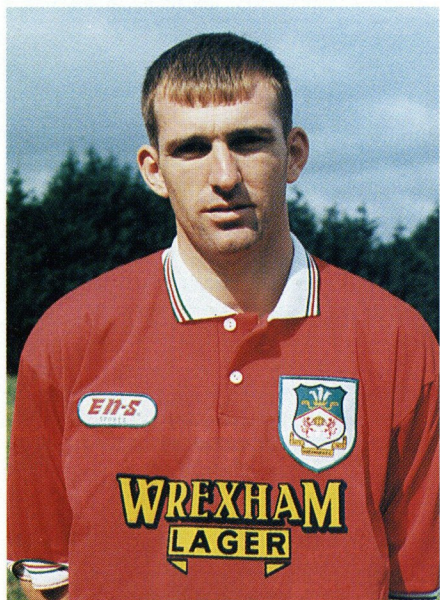
**WHAT THE PAPERS SAY**  
Wrexham beat Bristol City 2-1 last Saturday, as reported by THE SUN newspaper

half. Ward began with five at the back, then switched an extra man to midfield and pushed up on the flanks.

Shaun Goater's late header narrowed the gap and other efforts were cleared off the line as Wrexham hung on bravely.

Team: Marriott, McGregor, Hardy, Phillips, Humes (Jones), Carey, Skinner, Owen, Connolly, Spink (Watkin), Brammer. Sub not used: Wainwright.

There's a full round-up of last Saturday's Division Two action on page 41.



ABOVE: Karl Connolly

## SPOTLIGHT ON TODAY'S VISITORS



**DERYN BRACE** - Full-back who is a native of West Wales, but who began his career at Norwich. Moved to Wrexham in 1994 and made his league debut, and is now a regular in the Wales Under-21 side. Injuries have restricted his appearances, and he faced a hernia operation at the start of this season.

**DAVE BRAMMER** - Midfielder who is the product of Wrexham's youth policy and hails from the Wirral.

**BRIAN CAREY** - It was a case of third time lucky for Wrexham, as the Eire international defender finally joined the Reds on a permanent transfer in 1996. He had twice been on loan at the Racecourse Ground, but on both occasions Wrexham could not raise the cash to buy him from Manchester United. He joined Leicester in 1993, but following Barry Hunter's move to Reading, Wrexham had the money to get their man.

**MARK CARTWRIGHT** - Goalkeeper who started his career at York, but an injury as a YTS seemed to finish his career. After a spell studying in the USA he was offered a trial at Wrexham, and is deputy to Andy Marriott.

**MARTYN CHALK** - Signed from Stockport County as part of a deal which saw Keiron Durkan move in the opposite direction in March 1996. Came out of non-league football with Louth United to join Derby County, and then switched to Stockport in a £40,000 deal during 1994.

**KARL CONNOLLY** - Since the sale of top scorer Gary Bennett in 1995, the responsibility of filling the gap went to this Liverpool-born forward. Responded with over 40 goals in the past two

years, having been discovered playing Sunday League football in his home city seven years ago.

**JONATHAN CROSS** - Forward who burst onto the scene as a YTS trainee, and earned an early pro contract. Went on loan to Cliftonville, for a run in the first team at left-back.

**PHIL HARDY** - Wrexham's regular left-back for the last seven seasons, since he was 17, when he dislodged former European Cup winner Alan Kennedy. Has captained the Republic of Ireland at Under21 level, and has already made over 200 appearances for Wrexham. Recently signed a new contract, but has been absent through injury.

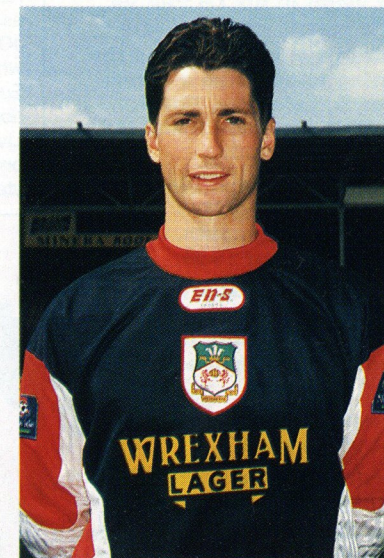
**TONY HUMES** - A bargain £40,000 buy from Ipswich in 1992, Tony is the club captain. Although a native of the north-east, he started in football as an apprentice at Portman Road spending nearly 10 years there. Since arriving at Wrexham he has played in the centre of defence, but can switch to midfield if required. Only recently returned to full fitness, after missing the start of the season through injury.

**BARRY JONES** - Defender who arrived at Wrexham in 1992 after four years playing in Liverpool's Pontins League side. Made the right-back spot his own at the Racecourse, but more recently has switched to centre-half, playing in place of Tony Humes.

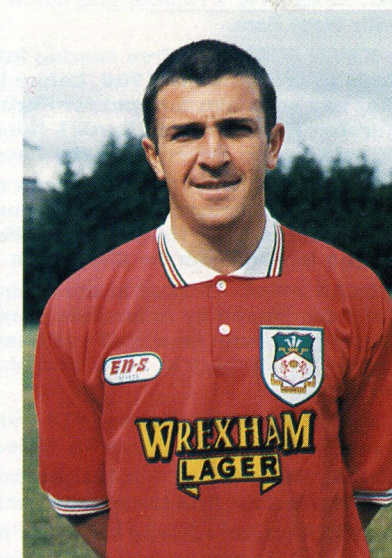
(Continued on page 14).



ABOVE: Brian Carey



ABOVE: Andy Marriott



ABOVE: Dave Brammer

See page 20 for Wrexham stats.....



**ANDY MARRIOTT** - After a career which began with Arsenal and Nottingham Forest, and included various loan spells around the divisions, Wrexham solved their goalkeeping worries with the £200,000 capture of this former England Under 21 player. After appearing in the 1991 Littlewoods Cup Final, he found his chances limited at the City Ground and headed for Wrexham and first team football. He has since gained further international recognition, this time for Wales, with two full caps so far, and is deputy to Neville Southall for Bobby Gould's side.

**MARK MCGREGOR** - Defender who captained the Wrexham youth team before moving up to the full-time ranks in 1995. Was a centre-half, but made nearly all his senior appearances in the right-back role. Supporters Young Player of the Year in 1996/97.

**STEVE MORRIS** - Forward who is the product of Liverpool's youth policy. Currently on loan at Rochdale.

**GARETH OWEN** - Midfielder who is still only 25, but is now entering his ninth season of first team football at the Racecourse and nearly 300 appearances for the club. Joined the club as a schoolboy, making his debut in 1989, and has gained caps for Wales at Under 21 and B level. Was recently called into the senior international squad.

**WAYNE PHILLIPS** - Midfielder who is Wrexham's longest serving player, but missed most of last season with a serious knee injury. Was included in the Welsh squad for the World Cup qualifier with Turkey, and having played in a number of roles for Wrexham, is now back in his preferred midfield role.

**DAVE RIDLER** - Centre-half who came to the club last season on the recommendation of Karl Connolly, who had seen him play local football in Liverpool. A chef by trade who was offered a contract by Brian Flynn.

**NEIL ROBERTS** - A second year pro who is on the verge of a first-team spot after a prolific scoring record in the reserves.

**PAUL ROBERTS** - Signed from League of Wales side Porthmadog last season for £10,000, and made his debut in the FA Cup tie with West Ham.

**KEVIN RUSSELL** - Free scoring forward who nearly carried the Reds to promotion in 1989, before leaving to continue a career that has seen him turn out for Portsmouth, Leicester, Stoke, Burnley, Peterborough, Cardiff, Hereford, Bournemouth and Notts County, before returning to the Racecourse in 1995.

**CRAIG SKINNER** - Came through the junior ranks at Blackburn Rovers as the wing partner to Jason Wilcox, making 20 appearances from 1989 to 1992. Moved on to Plymouth, and then signed for Wrexham for £50,000 in the summer of 1995.

**DEAN SPINK** - Signed in the summer from Shrewsbury for £70,000. Signed by Aston Villa from non-league Halesowen as a 22-year-old, with loan spells at Scarborough and Bury following. Joined Shrewsbury in 1990, and played at centre-half and centre-forward.

**STEVE THOMAS** - Former YTS trainee now in his first season as a professional. Has played for Wales at youth level.

**NEIL WAINWRIGHT** - In his second season as a professional, but still waiting for first-team opportunity.

**PETER WARD** - Joined Wrexham from Stockport in 1995, having captained County to several Wembley appearances. Formerly with Huddersfield and Rochdale.

**STEVE WATKIN** - Long-serving forward who netted afamous FA Cup winner against Arsenal. Wales B international who was sent off in the opening game of the season at Fulham.

## MEET THE MANAGER

BRIAN FLYNN was appointed manager of Wrexham in November 1989, succeeding former player Dixie McNeil who had held the post for four years.

Former Middlesbrough boss John Neal was Wrexham's longest serving manager of recent times, in charge from 1968 to 1977, a period when Flynn was making his name as a player with Burnley.

The midfielder was a member of the successful Turf Moor side of the mid-1970s, and won his first Welsh cap in 1975. He went on to make 66 appearances for the Welsh, his final appearance coming in 1984 by which time he was back at Burnley.

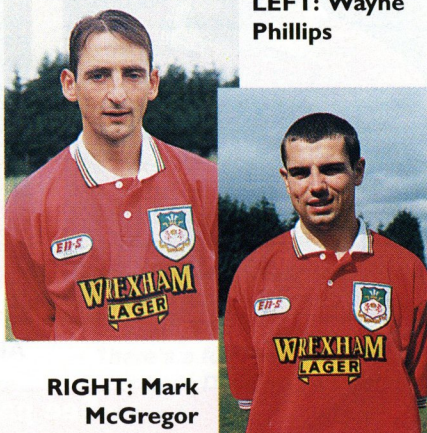
Inbetween these two spells in Lancashire, he had moved across the Pennines to Leeds, in the post-Revie era, linking up with former Burnley manager Jimmy Adamson who had taken charge at Elland Road.

Now firmly established at the

Racecourse Ground, Flynn has former Norwich and Manchester City striker KEVIN REEVES as his assistant, with JOEY JONES, who won European Cup honours with Liverpool, also on the coaching staff.



LEFT: Wayne Phillips



RIGHT: Mark McGregor

## The Hatters and The Robins



LEFT: Ceri Hughes pictured during last season's match at the Racecourse Ground which Wrexham won 2-1.

OUR first ever League meeting with today's visitors took place as recently as the 1963/64 season. In the clash at the Racecourse on November 30th 1963, a crowd of 6,281 watched the Robins win 2-0 to end a run of gathering only one point from the previous twelve matches. We were also having a torrid time with only one win recorded from the previous eight starts!

When the return game was played in the following April our new goalscoring sensation John O'Rourke was on the scoresheet along with Mark Lownds and the old master Gordon Turner in a 3-1 victory as we attempted to pull ourselves out of the bottom four in the old Division Three.

Wrexham were relegated at the end of that season but only twelve months elapsed before we were renewing acquaintances, this time in Division Four.

Both games in 1965/66 were early season affairs with the clash at the Racecourse showing that we were a long way short of having a side equipped for a quick promotion, going down to a youthful Wrexham who won easily 2-0. In truth the Robins should have won the return three weeks later but after squandering many chances a solitary Ray Whittaker strike earned us both points.

We suffered our, by now, normal defeat at the Racecourse in the following season but ran out 3-1 home winners in the return with ex-England forward, Derek Kevan, bagging two.

During our promotion winning season of 1967/68 we

by ROGER WASH

kicked off the campaign at Wrexham and in a game which saw a player from each side sent off we earned a point with a goal from Rodney Green, making his debut, two minutes from the end.

We won the return but then had to wait eleven years before our paths crossed again, this time in the old Division Two. At the start of the 1978/79 season we scored a hatful of goals at Kenilworth Road but were brought back to earth when Wrexham managed to hold us to 'only' a 2-1 win. The return game was played at the very end of that campaign and, with Wayne Turner making his Town debut, we went down 2-0 in a lacklustre display.

We finally broke our duck at the Racecourse Ground when goals from Mal Donaghy and Steve White secured a valuable 2-0 victory on our way to promotion from the old Division Two in 1981/82.

To rub salt in the wound we went back to North Wales four days later for a League Cup tie second leg and won again, this time 1-0.

We had to wait until last season before meeting up again and a 0-0 home draw was a disappointment but probably understandable after a long lay-off caused by the bad weather. Despite taking the lead from Steve Davis in the return, we eventually went down 2-1 to two Gary Bennett goals, one of which was from the spot.





Marvin Johnson tests the West Brom defence, as he joins the Hatters attack for this first-half corner.

Liam George made his senior debut for Luton on Tuesday, as a second-half substitute. He is pictured with Albion's Richard Sneekes.

Paul McLaren is tackled by West Brom right-back Paul Holmes.

Luton goalscorer Stuart Douglas had plenty to smile about, and was voted Coca-Cola man-of-the-match.



# ACTION STATIONS



## Luton Town 1 West Brom 1

(Douglas)

(Taylor)

Tuesday, September 16, 1997 - Coca-Cola Cup, 2nd round, 1st leg

Attendance: 3,437

*Pictures by Gareth Owen*



# It's.. TRIVIA TIME

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## HALF TIME QUIZ

1. Which country were the first winners of the African Nations Cup?
2. From which club did Derby County sign Christian Dailly?
3. How much did Tottenham Hotspur pay for Jurgen Klinsmann in 1994?
4. In which year were Plymouth Argyle founded?
5. Which club won the Scottish Championship first outright, Celtic or Rangers?
6. How many times have West Bromwich Albion won the FA Cup?
7. In which year did Dutchman, Johann Cruyff make his international debut?
8. How much did Liverpool pay to sign John Barnes from Watford in 1987?
9. How many goals did Dixie Dean score in his League career?
10. In which year did Italy win the European Championships?

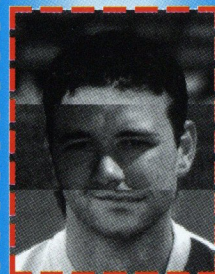


## whose crests?

Name the three club crests featured in this montage

## IDENTIKIT

Name the three players in this patchwork pic



## OSTRICH NUTS

LENNY ORCHID

NINTH ADMIRAL

MOWS TRIFLE

SARAH LEANER

## WHAT A JUMBLE!

Unscramble the names of these ten Blackburn players.

MILYIN BLACKLY

MICHAELS CORN

LEAGUER EXAMS

ENG HERB GINN

WILLEM KNEE

## Norm & Ec

by Norman Hood

THESE WAGES ARE JUST RIDICULOUS... I REMEMBER THE SHOCK WHEN JOHNNY HAYNES WAS PAID A HUNDRED QUID A WEEK!

MIND YOU, I THINK OUR WAGE STRUCTURE MUST BE ALL WRONG

WHEN THE REF TOSSED A COIN, OUR SKIPPER RAN OFF WITH IT!!

ANSWERS

HALF TIME QUIZ: 1. Egypt; 2. Dundee United; 3. £2 million; 4. 1886; 5. Celtic; 6. 5 times; 7. 1966; 8. £300,000; 9. 379; 10. 1968.  
WHOSE CRESTS?: Gillingham, Birmingham City and Notts County.  
IDENTIKIT?: Robbie Fowler, Neil Sullivan and Tim Sherwood.  
WHAT A JUMBLE: Chris Sutton, Colin Hendry, Martin Dahlin, Tim Flowers, Alan Shearer, Billy McKinnay, Chris Coleman, Graeme Le Saux, Mike Newell and Henning Berg.



## Today's mascot



This afternoon's Junior Hatters mascot is 11-year-old **MICHAEL ORR**, who attends Mill Vale School. Michael's favourite player is Tony Thorpe, and he plays for Thornhill Colts. His hobbies include swimming, cycling and athletics. Today's ballboys are: **MARK AYRES** and **ALAN DOWNES**.

This afternoon we also welcome a mascot from Wrexham. He is 12-year-old **JOE VALE**, who attends Howarden High School in the town. His favourite Wrexham player is **Craig Skinner**.

## JUNIOR HATTERS NEWS

# Our Saturday Club starts up again today

A WARM welcome back to Kenilworth Road to any Junior Hatters returning from holiday for their first game of the new season, and we hope you all had an excellent summer.

Once again this season we will be organising a number of special events for you, as well as trips to watch the Hatters away from home, and the popular Saturday Club for home matches.

Because of the various school holidays, the Saturday Club will resume for the home match against Wrexham today, September 20, with the usual pre-match fun and games, with lunch, and a ticket for the match. Wrexham's juniors will also be attending for a game of football before joining us for lunch.

Prices are £4 for Junior Hatter season ticket holders, which includes lunch and a drink, and £8 for Junior Hatter non-season ticket holders, which includes lunch and drink, plus a match ticket.

We have already been on several away trips, and were at Northampton last Tuesday. Next weekend we are heading off to Bristol to watch the game at Ashton Gate on September 27. The Junior Hatters have been invited to play against the Young Reds in the morning, and lunch will be provided by Bristol City. The coach will be leaving Kenilworth Road at 8am.

Prices are £12 for adults and £10 for juniors, which includes coach fare and match ticket. Bookings for this trip can be made in person at the Ticket Office, or by phone on 416976.

A reminder that renewals of Junior Hatters membership for this season will be £6. New membership of the Junior Hatters will cost £10. (Both of these figures include Junior Membership).

## DESIGN A BANNER

How would you like to be the proud owner of an autographed Luton Town football? If so, then why not enter the 'Design A Banner' competition.

Put your design on A4 paper, and the winner will have his/her design made into a banner for the Junior Hatter away trip coaches, and for the Family Room here at Kenilworth Road.

The closing date is Monday, October 6, and entries should be sent to: Design A Banner Competition, c/o Ticket Office, Kenilworth Road, Luton, LU1 1DH. The winner of the competition will receive four free match tickets for them and their family to attend the game at which the prize will be presented.



ABOVE: Richard Green, 12, was our Junior Hatters mascot on Tuesday night against West Brom. He is pictured with the team captains and match officials prior to kick-off.

FOR THE LATEST NEWS - CLUBCALL 0891 121 123

Calls cost 50p per minute at all times



# Hatters



v

# Robins

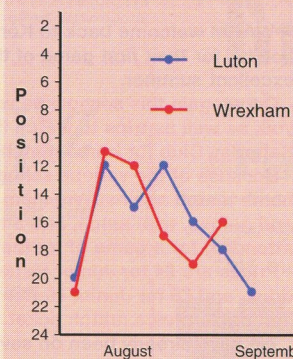


## Who has played for Wrexham

	A	G	C	Previous Clubs
Brian Carey	6	1	1	Leicester Man Utd
31/5/68 Eire	2			Wrexham (L)
Karl Connolly	6		1	
9/2/70	2	1		
Andy Marriott	6			Forest Burnley (L)
11/10/70 Wales	2			Colchester (L)
				Blackburn (L) West Brom (L) Arsenal
Mark McGregor	6		1	
16/2/77	2			
Wayne Phillips	6	1		
15/12/70	2			
Barry Jones	5(1)	1	3	Liverpool Prescot
20/6/70	2			
Craig Skinner	5		1	Plymouth Blackburn
21/10/70	2			
Dean Spink	5	4		Shrewsbury Villa Bury
22/1/67	2	1		(L) Scarborough (L)
David Brammer	4(2)			
28/2/75	1			
Deryn Brace	3			Norwich
15/3/75 Wales U21	2			
Gareth Owen	3	1		
21/10/71 Wales U21				
Peter Ward	3	1		Stockport Rochdale
15/10/64	2			Huddersfield
Martyn Chalk	2(2)			Stockport Derby Louth
30/8/69	(1)	1		Utd
Kevin Russell	2(1)			Notts County
6/12/66 Eng Yth	1			Bournemouth Burnley
				Stoke Leicester
				Hereford (L) Cardiff (L)
				Peterboro (L)
				Portsmouth Brighton
				Hereford (L)
Jonathan Cross	2			
2/3/75				
Phil Hardy	1			
9/4/73 Eire U21				
Tony Humes	1			Ipswich
19/3/66				
Steve Watkin	(2)	1	(1)	
16/6/71	(1)			

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

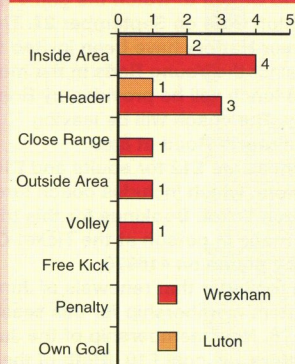
## league positions so far this season



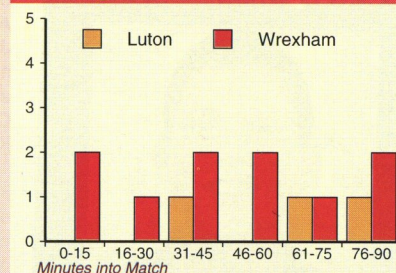
Robins' biggest win  
3-1 v Oldham  
heaviest defeat  
0-1 v Fulham  
3-4 v Blackpool  
2-3 v Wigan

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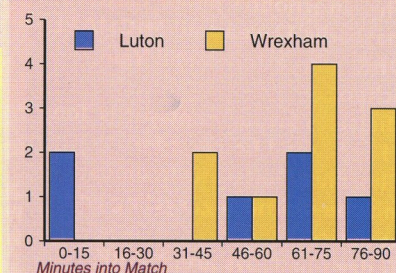
## how goals have gone in



## when goals have been scored



## and when conceded

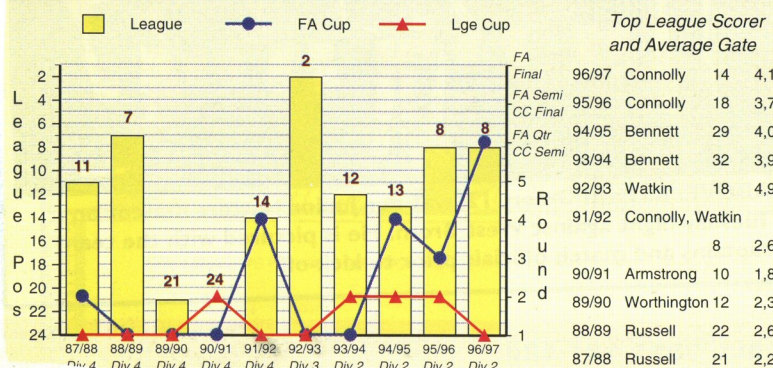


## Robins' 96/97 results analysis

shows the number of matches finishing with a variety of scores, eg they won 8 games 1-0 and lost 4 games 0-2

Goals for	Goals against	Wrexham	Luton
6	0	1	0
5	1	1	0
4	2	3	0
3	3	1	0
2	4	1	0
1	5	1	0
0	6	4	1
0	8	1	4

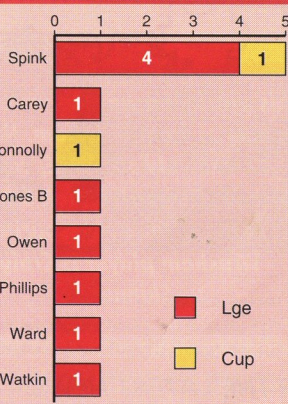
## Wrexham's 10 year league and cup record



## Top League Scorer and Average Gate

FA Final	96/97	Connolly	14	4,112
FA Semi	95/96	Connolly	18	3,701
CC Final	94/95	Bennett	29	4,080
FA Qtr	93/94	Bennett	32	3,933
CC Semi	92/93	Watkin	18	4,997
	91/92	Connolly, Watkin	8	2,647
	90/91	Armstrong	10	1,888
	89/90	Worthington	12	2,371
	88/89	Russell	22	2,643
	87/88	Russell	21	2,239

## Wrexham's scorers



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Transfer latest..... Hatters re-sign Gray to boost goals tally

# PHIL YER BOOTS!

LUTON Town have re-signed Northern Ireland international Phil Gray in a £400,000 transfer from Dutch first division side Fortuna Sittard.

The striker, who first joined the Hatters in 1991, is set to start this afternoon's match against Wrexham - subject to the club receiving the necessary international clearance after Gray put pen to paper on Wednesday.

Now 28, Gray has spent just over a season on the continent, after three years at Sunderland following his £800,000 departure from Kenilworth Road in the summer of 1993.

Town manager Lennie Lawrence has made no secret of his wish to sign a new striker, and one who is, in his words, "the finished article".

Gray would appear to fit that bill - a proven goalscorer in the top two divisions with both Luton and Sunderland, he is relishing the prospect of rejoining the Hatters.

## Northern Ireland striker returns from continent

"I am very pleased to come back, and I have great memories of my first time here," he told BBC Three Counties Radio.

"When Lennie Lawrence and David Kohler spoke to me about the prospect of signing, I said yes straightaway. I always look out for the Luton results, and I still know a lot of people at the club."

He still keeps in regular contact with Mitchell Thomas - a team-mate from Tottenham days - and indeed it was Thomas who alerted the Hatters that Gray could be their man in the search for a striker.

Now Town fans have the mouthwatering prospect of a strike partnership of Gray - 20 goals in his last season here - and Tony Thorpe - 31 goals last term.

"Hopefully I can strike up a good understanding with whoever I play alongside up front," said Gray. "It may take a couple of games, and although I've never played in the second division I'm really looking forward to giving it a go."

International prospects are also still very much in his thoughts, and a move back to England is seen as beneficial in terms of keeping him in the Northern Ireland spotlight.

"Playing for my country means a lot to me, and at 28 I feel I still have several years of international football ahead of me," he added. "To do that means I have to keep playing well and scoring goals at club level, and although it will be a team effort I hope I can play my

part in getting Luton up to the top end of the table."

Phil Gray first joined Luton Town in August 1991, just days before the start of the season, as David Pleat - at the start of his second spell in charge - paid Tottenham £275,000 for the young striker who had impressed him during his stint as manager at White Hart Lane.

Gray made his debut as a substitute on the opening day of the campaign in the 0-0 draw at West Ham. The Town side that day was: Chamberlain, Beaumont, Harvey, McDonough, Rodger, Dreyer, Farrell, Preece, Stein, Pembroke, Black. Subs: Gray, James.

He was also sub in the 5-0 defeat at Coventry that followed, before making his full debut at home to Liverpool. His first goal, and indeed the Town's first of the season, came in the 4-1 defeat at Chelsea, but Pleat was gradually rebuilding the team with the experience of Trevor Peake, Chris Kamara and Mick Harford brought in alongside Gray - financed by the £1.5 million sale of Gray's fellow Northern Irishman Kingsley Black to Nottingham Forest.

**continued on page 26**

## Wanderer Bryan set for home debut

FORMER England Under-21 defender Bryan Small arrived at Kenilworth Road on loan last week from Bolton, following a string of injuries in the Hatters squad, and could end up making a permanent move.

Small, 25, was capped 12 times by England at Under-21 level in 1993 and 1994 when he was at Aston Villa. He later moved on to Bolton Wanderers, and played against Luton in last season's FA Cup. But following Bolton's return to the Premiership he hasn't been able to secure a first-team place, and so Lennie Lawrence contacted the Wanderers' boss Colin Todd.

He is set for his home debut this afternoon, after missing Tuesday's cup game against West Brom, as Bolton decided not to release him.

Small became Luton's second permitted loan signing, after Gavin McGowan, and following the injuries to Mitchell Thomas, Julian James and Richard Harvey, went straight into the team at Northampton.

"Among the welter of problems we have got at the moment, the left-back situation became the number one priority because we literally had no-one in the squad who could play there," pointed out Lennie Lawrence.

"Bryan is quick and can defend, as well as charge up and down the line, and the loan is a good move for him because he hasn't been able to force his way in at Bolton, where there seem to be a number of players ahead of him.

"How we take it from here depends on a number of things," added the Town manager.

"It depends how long Mitchell is out, it depends how well Bryan does, and it depends on how much he will cost.

"But certainly this month he's got to look at us and we've got to look at him.

"Fate has intervened with all these injuries, and we can't wait for everybody to be fit so we must look to bring in some new bodies."

Birmingham-born Small started his career at Aston Villa, making 36 league appearances for the Villa Park side, and also had a brief loan spell at Birmingham before his move to Bolton in March 1996.



ABOVE: Bryan Small prepares for his Luton debut at Northampton last Tuesday.



ABOVE: Phil Gray pictured in action against Watford, at Vicarage Road, in 1993.



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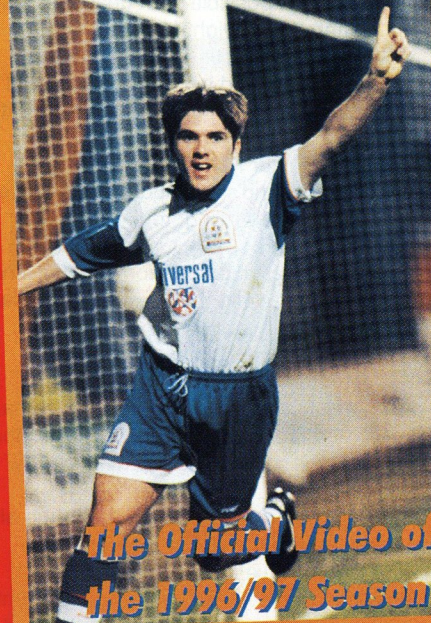
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## PHIL YER BOOTS!

**continued from page 23**

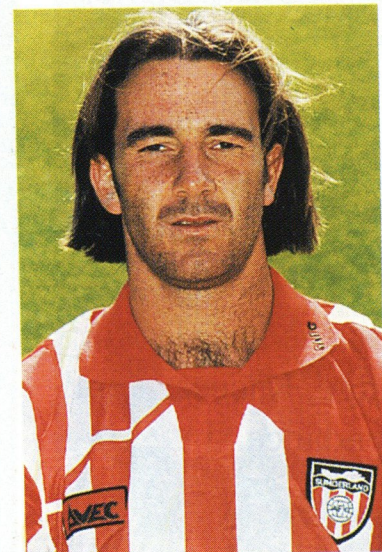
Doubtless Pleat envisaged a Harford/Gray partnership along the lines of Harford/Stein in years gone by. But a succession of injuries to the Northern Ireland man meant that it was Harford/Stein for much of the season, with Gray a frustrated on-looker from the sidelines.

Gray netted six goals that season - three in the league, and three in the league cup - but played alongside Harford just three times. At the end of the season, Luton were relegated.

The 'new' Division One was a much happier hunting ground, for Gray at least, although the Town flirted with relegation. He was a virtual ever-present and scored 20 goals, including a purple-patch of nine in nine games around November 1992 - which included a brace in the 3-2 win at Peterborough, and both in the 2-1 win at Wolves.

He later scored in six successive matches in February/March, and but for him the Hatters would surely have suffered a second successive relegation.

Harford had departed at the start of the season to Chelsea, so Gray this time had his fair share of partners,



**ABOVE:** Phil Gray moved from Luton to Sunderland in 1993 for £800,000, enjoying three seasons on Wearside.

with Steve Claridge, Ian Benjamin (briefly) and Kerry Dixon playing alongside him up front. But 20 goals obviously attracted much attention from outside Kenilworth Road, and £800,000 meant his departure to Sunderland. In three seasons on Wearside he scored 34 league goals in 115 league appearances, including one against Luton on his last appearance at

Kenilworth Road in September 1995. Ironically, Lennie Lawrence enquired about a possible loan deal later that season, after the Hatters lost Dwight Marshall with a broken leg - at Roker Park - at a time when Gray was out of favour with the Sunderland boss Peter Reid. But Reid was only interested in a permanent deal, and that was that.

Gray though did leave Roker Park in the summer of 1996, and much to Sunderland's disappointment he went for nothing, under the Bosman ruling, to French side Nancy.

From there he went to Dutch first division side Fortuna Sittard, and just three games into their new season - last Wednesday in fact - there were two very interested spectators in Rotterdam. David Kohler and Lennie Lawrence.

"It all started with a conversation with Mitchell Thomas, who still speaks with Phil regularly, and he indicated that Phil might be interested in coming back to this country," explained Mr Kohler.

"Having spoken with the manager we went through all the proper channels, asking the club if they would be willing to sell, and they said yes, if the price was right.

"We held discussions with Phil, his club and his agent in Rotterdam, and after full consultation with our board, agreed a deal.

"We have committed Luton Town to a lot of money, but you have to go with the flow in football if you are to succeed.

"The manager said we needed to do something, and rather than gamble on someone nobody had heard of, we have signed a known quantity in Phil Gray."

So this afternoon against Wrexham, Phil Gray is set for his second home debut for the Hatters. Not quite Liverpool admittedly, but Gray is looking forward.

Trevor Peake played alongside him in that first spell, and says today's Town players are encouraged by the signing.

"There aren't many still here from Phil's time, but those of us who remember him have good memories," said Trevor.

"Having also played against him, I know he is a very strong player, and despite being only 5ft 10 or 11, can still be a target man, who has a good leap, and can hold the ball up well."

As mentioned earlier, Lennie Lawrence has made no secret of his wish for a tried and tested front man, and whilst he acknowledges the efforts of the younger players, he will doubtless look to Gray to lift the Hatters back into the promotion race.

Stuart Douglas for one responded to the news of Gray's arrival with a man-of-the-match winning display on Tuesday against West Brom, but as Mr Lawrence pointed out:

"He did very well, all the youngsters have, and I feel sure that the likes of Stuart, Liam George, Gary Doherty and Andrew Fotiadis will all be players.... but not yet, and we can't wait. At this point in time we need experience." Over to you, Phil. - *SIMON OXLEY.*



**ABOVE:** Phil Gray challenges Liverpool's Gary Ablett on his full debut for the Hatters - at home to the Reds in August 1991.



**RIGHT:** Phil Gray netted 20 goals in Division One in 1992/93.

## Racecourse goes international!

THEY'RE off and running at Wrexham as officials at the North Wales club illustrate the international pedigree and versatility of their Racecourse Ground.

Welsh rugby union chiefs and players were staggered at the arrangements and atmosphere which were on show at the recent rugby international which was staged at the second division club's home.

The Welsh team, after concluding a staggering 70-21 points victory over Romania, completed a lap of honour around the Robins' stadium - the first time the Welsh side have ever entered into such a tribute.

David Rhodes, Managing Director at Wrexham, revealed: "I have rarely enjoyed an occasion so much. It was one of the best days I have ever experienced at the Racecourse and we would love to taste it again.

"Officials at the Welsh Rugby Football Union have already intimated to us that they want to stage an annual international at the Racecourse Ground following the success of this fixture.

"Terry Cobner, the national side's Director of Rugby, has also suggested that they will be looking to hold at least one pool game at the Racecourse when the Rugby Union World Cup comes to England and Wales in 1999."

Welsh rugby captain Gwynn Jones, whose side had just achieved a new record of 11 tries in a match, led his team on their victory lap in front of a capacity 12,000 crowd in Wrexham, which was Wales' first home international away from Cardiff Arms Park in 43 years.

Chief destroyer Arwel Thomas, who led the way with two tries and 23 points in all, was also unstinting in his praise for the way Wrexham FC and the people of the area responded.



# Player Profile

Autograph

## KELVIN DAVIS

**Date of Birth:** 29.9.76

**Previous Clubs:** None. (On loan at Torquay and Hartlepool).

**Joined Luton:** July 1993 (signed pro).

Kelvin made his league debut for the Hatters on the final day of the 1993/94 season in a 2-2 draw at Stoke, when he was still just 17. He spent a month on loan at Torquay at the start of the following season, before winning a place in the Luton starting line-up in March 1995. With Juergen Sommer on international duty, Kelvin made his home debut in the televised derby with Watford, and saved a penalty in the 1-1 draw. He has played for England at youth and U21 level, and returned to the Luton side this season, after a loan spell at Hartlepool, following an injury to Ian Feuer.

**Most memorable game:** "It has to be the above mentioned match against Watford. Playing in the final game at Middlesbrough's Ayresome Park in front of a packed house, and saving a penalty there as well, also rates highly, as does any England appearance."

**Game I'd prefer to forget:** "A South East Counties League Cup game when I was in the youth team. It was played at Luton Rugby Club, and we lost 5-0 to Chelsea."

**Which present-day player do you admire most?** "Peter Schmeichel - the best goalkeeper in the world."

**Premiership 'Dream Team':** Peter Schmeichel; Jason McAteer, Mark Wright, Neil Ruddock, Ben Thatcher; David Beckham, Paul Ince, David Batty, Steve McManaman; Alan Shearer, John Hartson.

**Greatest sporting achievement away from football:** "Winning a medal for completing the 24-mile Ridgeway cross-country race, when I was 15. It took me eight hours and 35 minutes!"

**State of the game:** "Football is getting faster and faster, and I think squads will have to be increased to cope with the resulting injuries and suspensions. Any rule changes are designed to speed the game up, and often affect goalkeepers. I don't think it's a bad thing to speed the game up, but there are other areas to be looked at. Why, for example, does a goalkeeper have five seconds to clear the ball, when players can take an age over a throw-in?"



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**Action extra!**



**ACTION** from the 1-1 draw at Bournemouth, as Dwight Marshall is challenged by the Cherries' centre-half Franck Rolling (left), and Paul McLaren makes a first-half break for the Hatters (above). More action on pages 44 and 45.

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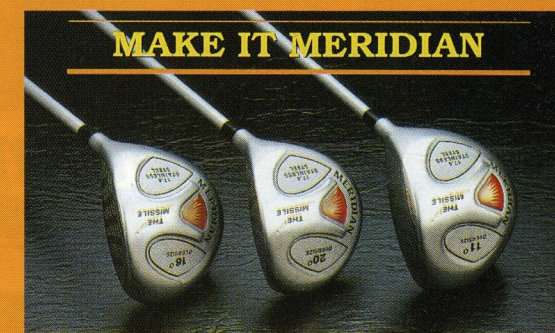
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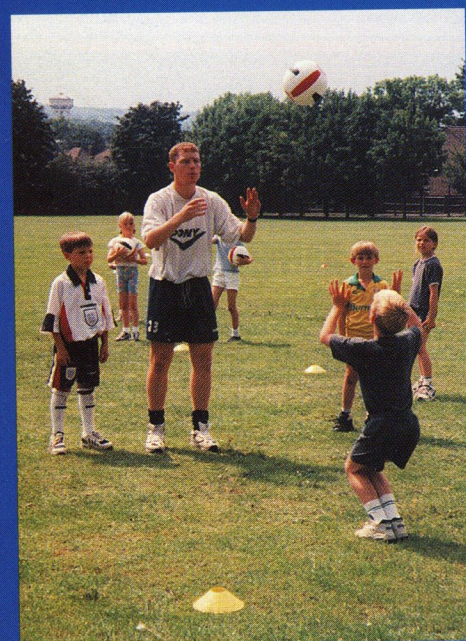
# LTFC Community & Schools Noticeboard



Official Drinks Supplier to  
Community & Schools Programme



LEFT: A visit from our Football Development Officer will transform your angelic youngsters into (below)..... Only joking! Footballing fun is guaranteed, just ask Downside Lower School in Dunstable.



## LTFC school visits.....

AS well as our various holiday coaching courses and junior tournaments, an important part of the Town's community involvement is visiting schools during term time to pass on coaching tips, but more importantly have fun.

Football Development Officer Dean Rastrick is available to visit your school and hold coaching sessions for youngsters during a games or PE lesson, with the emphasis very much on all ages and both sexes enjoying football.

If you would like him to visit your school, give him a call on (01582) 411622.

## HALF-TERM COACHING COURSES

Courses for boys and girls aged 6 to 13 years - Qualified LTFC coaches, supervised by Dean Rastrick (LTFC Development Officer) - 10am to 2pm daily - Technique coaching, fun, games and prizes - Official LTFC certificate for all participants - Meet the players - Opportunity to be invited to LTFC School of Excellence

Code: LUI

Venue: Icknield Junior School, Birdsfoot Lane, LUTON

Date: Friday, October 24

Cost: £8

Course Type: Striker (with TONY THORPE)

Code: LU2

Venue: Icknield Junior School, Birdsfoot Lane, LUTON

Date: Monday and Tuesday, October 27 and 28.

Cost: £16

Course Type: Coaching

Code: LU3

Venue: Sacred Heart Junior School, Langford Drive, LUTON

Date: Thursday and Friday, October 30 and 31

Cost: £16

Course Type: Coaching

Code: LU4

Venue: Sacred Heart Junior School, Langford Drive, LUTON

Date: Friday, October 31

Cost: £8

Course Type: Goalkeeping (with IAN FEUER)

(\*Three days, combining striker/coaching at Icknield Junior School - £20)

(\*Two days, combining goalkeeping/coaching at Sacred Heart - £16)

Code: MK1

Venue: Milton Keynes Sports Club, Woughton on the Green, MILTON KEYNES

Date: Monday and Tuesday, October 27 and 28

Cost: £18

Course Type: Coaching

Code: LBI

Venue: Linslade Middle School, Mentmore Road, Linslade, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

Date: Tuesday and Wednesday, October 28 and 29

Cost: £16

Course Type: Coaching

Code: DUI

Venue: Queensbury High School, Langdale Road, DUNSTABLE

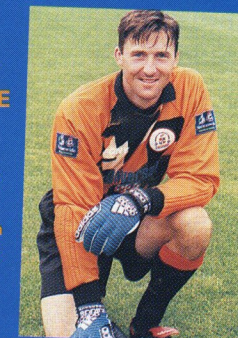
Date: Thursday and Friday, October 30 and 31

Cost £16

Course Type: Coaching



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and  
IAN  
FEUER  
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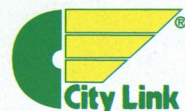
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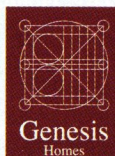
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## INJURY UPDATE

### Knee injury adds Marvin to Hatters' injury list

It goes without saying that this is one of the worst spells for injuries I can remember in my time at the club.

MARVIN JOHNSON was the latest casualty, being stretchered off after suffering a knee injury on Tuesday against West Brom.

Marvin fell awkwardly and injured the medial knee ligament, but on Wednesday morning first indications were that perhaps it wasn't as bad as first feared, and at the time of writing we were waiting to assess the full extent of the injury.

MITCHELL THOMAS aggravated a groin injury in the warm-up prior to the game against Millwall, and has this week undergone an operation which will sideline him for about six weeks.

ANDREW FOTIADIS has also undergone a similar operation, and will be out for about six weeks as well.

PAUL SHOWLER has been suffering with a toe infection, and has had an operation to remove the toenail.

JULIAN JAMES is improving slowly after the ankle injury he suffered in the opening minutes against Millwall, and IAN FEUER was due to see the specialist this week for a full examination of his injured shoulder. Ian continues to do what work he can on building up the muscles in and around the injured area.

GRAHAM ALEXANDER suffered a recurrence of his injury against Millwall, and did well to get through 90 minutes against West Brom, as did RICHARD HARVEY who has been suffering with a calf injury.

TONY THORPE has missed the last three games with a thigh injury, but hopefully could be back for today's game against Wrexham.

DARREN PATTERSON is able to do some light work at the moment after his ankle operation, and is walking without the aid of crutches. He will



with **CLIVE  
GOODYEAR**

obviously be out of action for some time yet.

STEVE AUGUSTINE and NICK WEBB have been given the go-ahead to step up training after long-term injuries, and CHRIS WILLMOTT has had a further minor operation to remove scar tissue following his knee operation earlier this year.



LEFT:  
Marvin  
Johnson  
faces a  
period out  
of action  
after a knee  
injury on  
Tuesday.



RIGHT:  
Mitchell  
Thomas -  
an  
operation  
will rule  
him out  
for six  
weeks.



LEFT:  
Graham  
Alexander  
- played the  
full 90  
minutes  
against  
West  
Brom.

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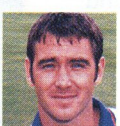
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## Taylor is Nationwide's Manager of the Month

THE Division Two Nationwide League Manager-of-the-Month for August has been awarded to the former England boss Graham Taylor, who has secured an impressive start to the campaign for high-flying Watford.

The Hornets won three of their four Division Two encounters, and also fought their way through to the second round of the Coca-Cola Cup thanks to a splendid 3-1 aggregate victory over first division Swindon Town.

"The players have had to take a lot on board and they have responded extremely well," said Taylor. "Although we are all well aware that three league wins out of four games means nothing in the context of the season, the players deserve great credit for the results so far.

"But it would be foolish to think that we have 'cracked it'," he added.

Dave Bassett of Nottingham Forest is the Division One winner, after steering the City Ground club to the top of the table at the end of the first month of the season.

The former Wimbledon, Sheffield United and Crystal Palace boss guided Forest to a 100 per cent record from four league fixtures in August, plus a comprehensive victory in



the Coca-Cola Cup over Doncaster.

In Division Three, the monthly accolade was awarded to Peterborough boss Barry Fry, following a marvellous run of early form from the Posh - spearheaded by former Reading player-manager Jimmy Quinn who is leading the line at London Road at the age of 37. Peterborough won two of their opening four league games, but also accounted for Division One Portsmouth in the Coca-Cola Cup.

The Nationwide Manager of the Month awards will be announced at the end of every month during the campaign to recognise the most successful bosses in Divisions One, Two and Three.

All recipients of these managerial accolades receive a specially-commissioned magnum of champagne at a special monthly media luncheon to be held in the area of the manager's club.

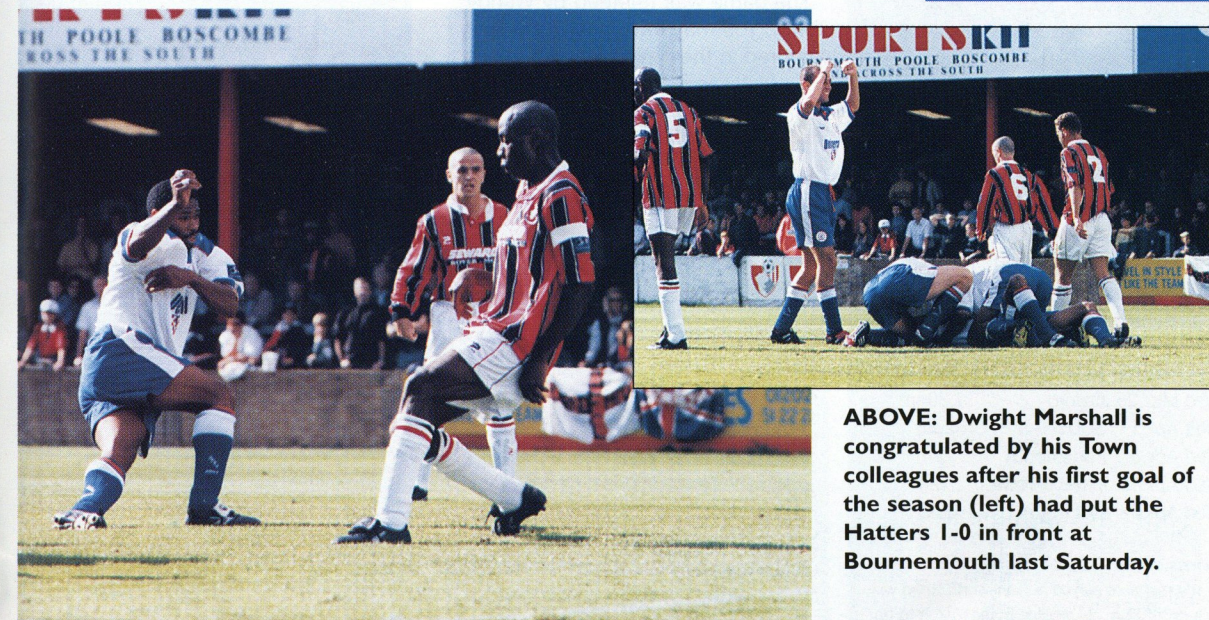
**Set the video for 'Football League Extra'**

**SUPPORTERS** of clubs in the three divisions of the Football League can once again enjoy an extra taste of action from the Nationwide League with the return of the popular ITV highlights package 'Football League Extra' on Monday evenings.

Times vary from region to region, and often the action doesn't start until the early hours of the morning - so set the video!

But the programme will run for the entire 38 weeks of the soccer season, with the 55-minute format featuring all the goals from the weekend's league matches.

There are also features and interviews, and the programme is once again being backed by the league sponsors Nationwide Building Society.



**ABOVE:** Dwight Marshall is congratulated by his Town colleagues after his first goal of the season (left) had put the Hatters 1-0 in front at Bournemouth last Saturday.

To sponsor a Luton Town player or official.....  
Please contact the Commercial Department on (01582) 411622



# RESERVES AND YOUTH ROUND-UP



Wed Aug 13	OXFORD UTD	drew 1-1
Thu Aug 21	Queens Park R	drew 1-1
Thu Aug 28	MILLWALL	won 3-1
Thu Sep 4	SWINDON T	post
Wed Sep 10	Tottenham	lost 3-0
Wed Sep 17	CRYSTAL PAL	
Wed Sep 24	WATFORD	2pm
Wed Oct 1	WEST HAM	2pm
Mon Oct 6	Brighton	2pm
Wed Oct 15	CHARLTON	2pm
Mon Oct 20	Chelsea	7pm
Mon Oct 27	Norwich City	7.30pm
Wed Nov 5	Wimbledon	2pm
Mon Nov 10	IPSWICH T	7pm*
Wed Nov 19	Southampton	7.30pm
Mon Nov 24	ARSENAL	7pm*
Thu Dec 4	Millwall	2pm
Mon Dec 8	Swindon T	7.15pm
Tue Dec 16	Crystal Palace	2pm
Mon Jan 5	TOTTENHAM	7pm*
Tue Jan 13	West Ham	7.30pm
Wed Jan 21	Watford	7.30pm
Mon Jan 26	BRIGHTON	7pm*
Wed Feb 4	Charlton	2pm
Mon Feb 9	PORTSMOUTH	7pm*
Tue Feb 17	Arsenal	2pm
Wed Feb 25	QPR	2pm
Wed Mar 4	WIMBLEDON	2pm
Wed Mar 11	NORWICH	2pm
Wed Mar 25	Oxford	7.30pm
Wed Apr 1	SOUTHAMPTON	2pm
Wed Apr 8	Portsmouth	7pm
Wed Apr 15	Ipswich Town	7pm
Wed Apr 22	CHELSEA	2pm

Games in CAPITALS denotes home fixture.  
Home matches played at Kenilworth Road will kick-off at 2pm. \* Denotes home match to be played at Hitchin, kick-off 7pm.

THE Hatters' reserve side beat Millwall 3-1 at Kenilworth Road on August 28, with Gary Doherty netting two goals for Luton.

Andrew Barr was the other Luton scorer, as Gavin McGowan and Paul Showler continued their comebacks from injury.

The Luton side also included Alan White at centre-half, on trial from Middlesbrough.

Team: Abbey, McGowan (Spring), Fraser, Evers, White, Jones, Sweeney (Lawes), Kean, Barr, Doherty, Showler.

Sub not used: Cox.

The match against Swindon on September 4 had been switched to Kenilworth Road because of problems with the County Ground pitch, but was eventually postponed due to the number of injuries in the Town camp, plus the fact that the youth team were playing the following day because of the funeral of Princess Diana.

But the reserves were back in action last Wednesday, with a 3-0 defeat against Tottenham, in a game played at Leyton Orient.

Alan White again played at centre-half, with two further trialists in the Hatters line-up.

The game was refereed by Wendy Toms. You may have seen her featured in the national press, having

been an assistant referee in Football League matches.

Team: Abbey, Jones, Fraser, Kean, Omogbehin (McIndoe), White, Quinn (Spring), George, Doherty, Barr, Sweeney.

Subnot used: Peake.

The reserves were back at Kenilworth Road on Wednesday against Crystal Palace.

As you can see from the fixture list (left) a number of matches are again being played at Hitchin Town FC over the winter months.

The youth team have recorded two

## AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION

	P	W	D	L	E	A	Pts
Tottenham	5	4	0	1	10	5	12
Portsmouth	5	2	3	0	8	4	9
West Ham	6	3	0	3	10	10	9
Arsenal	4	2	2	0	10	4	8
Charlton	4	2	1	1	10	5	7
Watford	4	2	1	1	4	2	7
Millwall	5	2	1	2	7	8	7
C Palace	4	2	0	2	7	8	6
Southampton	4	1	2	1	8	6	5
Wimbledon	4	1	2	1	6	4	5
LUTON TOWN	3	1	2	0	5	3	5
Chelsea	4	1	2	1	6	6	5
Oxford	4	1	2	1	5	7	5
Ipswich	4	1	1	2	2	6	4
Norwich	5	0	3	2	5	12	3
Brighton	4	0	2	2	3	7	2
QPR	4	0	2	2	4	9	2
Swindon	3	0	0	3	1	5	0

League table up to and including 4/9/97

## AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION 1997/98 APPS & SCORERS (10/9/97)

	APPS	G	APPS	G
Nathan ABBEY	3			
Ian JONES	4			
Richard HARVEY	2			
Sean EVERS	3			
Gary DOHERTY	3	2		
Emerson BOYCE	2			
Robert KEAN	4			
Matthew SPRING	1 (2)			
Andrew BARR	4			
Liam GEORGE	3			
Terry SWEENEY	4			
Andre SCARLETT	(1)			
Michael MCINDOE	(2)			
Stuart FRASER	2 (2)			
Daniel TATE	1			
Gavin MCGOWAN	2			
Paul SHOWLER	2			
Alan WHITE	2			
Russell LAWES	(1)			
C OMOGBEHIN	1			
S QUINN	1			

league victories, but have bowed out of the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup.

Starting in the league, they beat Oxford 5-1 on August 30, with two goals apiece for Cox and Kandol, and a penalty from Michael McIndoe.

Team: Tate, Lawes, Fraser, Kandol, Clarke, Boyce, Scarlett, Cox, Akurang, McIndoe, Jerry.

Subs: Doherty, Spring, McKoy.

The match at Barnet was brought forward to Friday, September 5, because of Princess Diana's funeral the following day, and Luton won 4-2 at Underhill.

Andre Scarlett scored twice, with the other goals coming from Emerson Boyce and Clifford Akurang.

Team: Tate, Boyce, Stirling, Spring, Clarke, Ayres (Lawes), Scarlett, Cox (Jerry), Akurang, Kandol, McKoy.

Sub not used: McIndoe.

But the youth side lost 1-0 to Crystal Palace at Kenilworth Road last Tuesday in the first round of the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup.

Team: Tate, Lawes, Fraser, Spring, Clarke, Boyce, Scarlett, Cox, Akurang (Kandol), McIndoe, McKoy.

Subs not used: Jerry, Stirling.

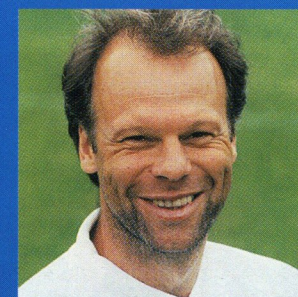
The youth side have though progressed in the South East Counties League Cup, with a 1-0 win at Southend.

Team: Tate, Lawes, Stirling, Spring, Clarke, Fraser, Jerry, Cox, Akurang, McIndoe, Kandol. Subs: Moran, McKoy, Harrington.

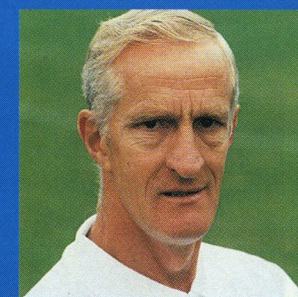
## SOUTH EAST COUNTIES DIV TWO

	P	W	D	L	E	A	Pts
Tottenham	4	3	1	0	9	2	10
LUTON TOWN	4	3	0	1	15	4	9
Southampton	4	3	0	1	13	7	9
Brentford	4	2	2	0	10	6	8
Bristol Rovers	4	2	0	1	10	8	7
Oxford Utd	4	2	0	2	8	12	6
Bristol City	4	1	2	1	10	9	5
Wimbledon	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Wycombe	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Swindon	4	1	1	2	8	9	4
Barnet	4	1	1	2	7	11	4
Colchester	4	0	2	2	6	10	2
Bournemouth	4	0	2	2	7	13	2
Brighton	4	0	1	3	5	10	1
Reading	4	0	1	3	4	14	1

League table as at August 30, 1997



with **TREVOR  
PEAKE**



and **JOHN  
MOORE**

## South East Counties League, and League Cup; FA Youth Cup; Southern Jnr Floodlit Cup; and Eastern Jnr Cup

Sat Aug 9	WYCOMBE W	lost 1-0	Sat Dec 13	Bristol Rovers	
Sat Aug 16	Reading	won 6-0	Sat Dec 20	Wycombe W	
Tue Aug 19	Ipswich (SJFC Pre)	won 1-0	Sat Dec 27	Wimbledon	
Sat Aug 23	Swindon Town	won 4-2			
Sat Aug 30	OXFORD UTD	won 5-1	Sat Jan 10	SWINDON TOWN	11am
			Sat Jan 17	OxfordUnited	
Fri Sep 5	Barnet	won 4-2	Sat Jan 24	BARNET	11am
Tue Sep 9	C PALACE (SJFC1)	lost 1-0	Sat Jan 31	Brighton	
Sat Sep 13	Southend (SECLC1)	won 1-0			
Sat Sep 20	BRIGHTON	11am	Sat Feb 7	BRISTOL CITY	11am
Sat Sep 27	Bristol City		Sat Feb 14	Brentford	
			Sat Feb 21	SOUTHAMPTON	11am
Sat Oct 4	BRENTFORD	11am	Sat Feb 28	Tottenham	
Sat Oct 11	Southampton				
Sat Oct 18	SECLC2		Sat Mar 21	Colchester	
Sat Oct 25	TOTTENHAM	11am	Sat Mar 28	BOURNEMOUTH	11am
Sat Nov 1	READING	11am	Sat Apr 4	WIMBLEDON	11am
Sat Nov 15	COLCHESTER	11am			
Sat Nov 22	SECLC3				
Sat Nov 29	Bournemouth				
Sat Dec 6	BRISTOL ROVERS	11am			

Games in caps denote HOME matches.  
Home league matches at Luton Rugby Club.

	LGE APPS	G	CUP APPS	G	YOUTH TEAM 1997/98 LEAGUE AND CUP APPEARANCES & SCORERS
Daniel TATE	5		2		
Russell LAWES	3 (1)		2		
Stuart FRASER	4	1	2		
Matthew SPRING	4	1	2		
Emerson BOYCE	4	3	2		
James AYRES	3				
Andre SCARLETT	5	2	2		
Clifford AKURANG	4	3	1 (1)	1	
Gary DOHERTY	2 (1)	1	1		
Richard CLARKE	5		2		
Delroy MCKOY	3		2		
Darren HOWE	1		(1)		
C DREW	(1)				
Michael MCINDOE	3 (1)	2	2		
Jimmy COX	4	4	2		
T KANDOL	2 (1)	2	(1)		
Moses JERRY	2 (2)				
J STIRLING	1				

LUTON Town FC require landladies on a permanent and/or part-time basis for our YTS players.

We are ideally looking for families, in Luton, with an interest in football, who have room available for one of our youngsters, either on a permanent (seven days a week) basis, or on a temporary basis (for example in school holidays).

Anyone interested should contact Youth Development Officer Paul Lowe on (01582) 411622.



# Chairman picks the team..... and Carlisle win 4-1 away!

CHAIRMAN Michael Knighton, who picked the team that gave **Carlisle** their first away win - 4-1 at **Wycombe** - last Saturday, might not hire another manager.

The outspoken Knighton sacked manager Mervyn Day the previous week because he wouldn't play the system he wanted and reckons he can do the job better.

Knighton said: "I plan to take an active first team role. We won't necessarily appoint a manager, we will see what happens."

"I didn't have a two-week training course at Lilleshall. I did a three-year degree in physical education and sport science at Durham University and my thesis was on professional football and tactics."

Carlisle's scorers were teenager Matt Jansen with two, with Andy Couzens and Owen Archdeacon completing the tally.

**Millwall** manager Billy Bonds could be about to drop the two players who accounted for his old West Ham team-mate Alvin Martin's **Southend**.

The Lions beat the Shrimpers 3-1 at the New Den, despite losing Kim Grant to a first-half injury.

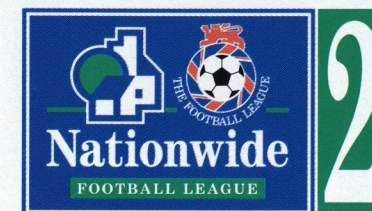
Eighteen-year-olds Danny Hockton and Richard Sadlier netted a goal apiece, but Bonds says he hopes to sign Barnsley's Paul Wilkinson and Arsenal's Paul Shaw to play up front.

Bonds said: "Danny and Richard are two good talents but they are very raw, only babies."

"There were times when I asked them to do a job defensively and they just didn't know what I was talking about."

Southend led at the interval thanks to Jeroen Boere, but Ricky Newman equalised before the two teenagers got to work. The visitors also had Andy Harris sent off.

**Walsall** earned a point from a 0-0 draw at **Preston**, with Danish manager



Jan Sorensen admitting they went home happy.

"We came here for a draw, got it, and proved we could keep a clean sheet as we had planned beforehand," he said.

For **Preston**, former Manchester United striker Jonathan Macken impressed, and Gary Parkinson hit the bar late on.

**Bristol Rovers'** six match unbeaten run was ended with a 2-1 home defeat by **Gillingham**.

Former Stevenage striker Barry Hayles, with his fifth of the season, had put the home side in front, but the Gills hit back with goals from Steve Butler and Ade Akinbiyi.

Alan Buckley's **Grimsby** scored their first win of the season - 2-0 at **Fulham** - with Steve Livingstone scoring in each half, and **Bournemouth's** John O'Neill scored on 82 minutes to earn his side a 1-1 draw at home to **Luton**.

Dwight Marshall had put **Luton** in front just before half-time. (Action from Dean Court can be found on p44 and 45).

**Oldham** let their 100 per cent home record slip to a 65th minute Roy Hunter penalty as **Northampton** drew 2-2 at Boundary Park.

David Seal gave the Cobblers an early lead, but the Latics replied through Richard Graham and Scott McNiven, and the visitors' boss Ian Atkins predicted promotion for Neil Warnock's men.

Marcus Bent hit the post in the last minute for **Brentford** at **Plymouth**, as

the game ended 0-0, and **Wigan** striker David Lowe closed in on the club's goalscoring record with two in the 3-0 win over **Blackpool**.

Lowe needs nine to surpass Peter Houghton's tally, and had former Bolton winger David Lee to thank for some excellent service from the flank.

Lowe's brace followed a 49th minute opener from former Luton fullback Gavin Johnson.

**Watford** moved four points clear at the top of the table with a 2-1 home win over **Chesterfield**.

Jason Lee, who almost joined John Duncan's side in the summer, netted Watford's second after Ronny Rosenthal had put the Hornets in front.

Chesterfield's late consolation came from former Watford striker Roger Willis.

Dean Spink and Steve Watkin were the **Wrexham** scorers in their 2-1 home win over **Bristol City**.

It was City's third defeat, and boss John Ward admitted: "The losses column does bother me. If it goes into double figures we are not going to make the play-offs!"

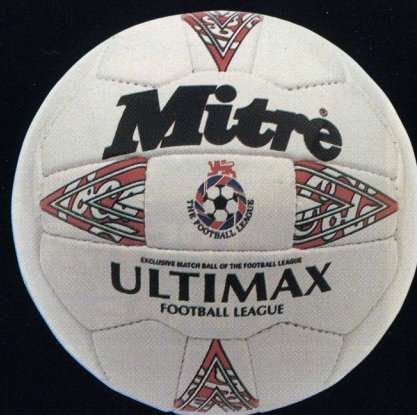
Shaun Goater pulled one back for City, and they had other efforts cleared off the line as Wrexham hung on.

Chris Waddle's miserable start in charge at **Burnley** continued last Saturday with a 3-1 defeat at **York**.

His new charges are still without a win from seven league matches, but were 1-0 in front at half-time after Paul Barnes netted their first league goal of the season.

But York hit back with strikes from Steve Davis, on loan from Barnsley, Rodney Rowe and Neil Tolson.

See page 47 for current Division Two stats, and page 54 for the up-to-date Division Two table - prior to last night's televised match between Brentford and Wycombe. - *Simon Oxley*.



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## Trust us to help the game

The Football Trust has been providing support for the game at every level throughout the UK for over 22 years. Its present priority task is to help League clubs to complete the implementation of the Taylor Report recommendations.

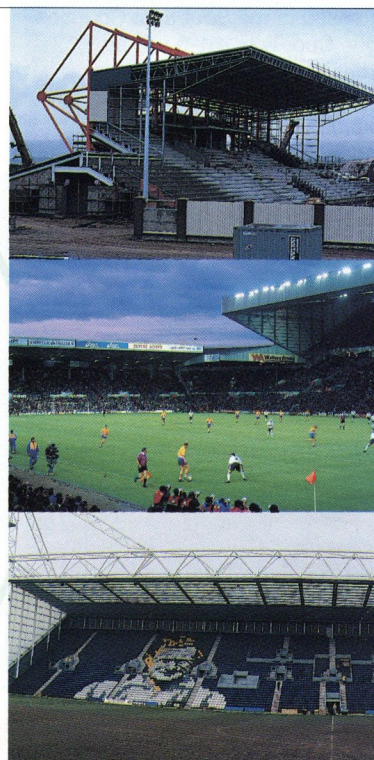
Thanks to the Government and to the Football Association, the FA Premier League and the English Sports Council, a major new funding package to secure the future of the Trust has been put in place.

These funds will be in addition to income derived from the football pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters, and will enable the Trust to complete its Taylor task, carry on its essential safety work and continue to grant aid football at every level. The Government's commitment to the Trust has the support of everyone who cares about our national game.



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Helping the game

THE FOOTBALL TRUST, WALKDEN HOUSE, 10 MELTON STREET, LONDON NW1 2EB



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Calls cost 50p per minute at all times



THE second part of an interview with SYD OWEN - part one of which featured in Tuesday night's programme against West Brom.

For the first time in the club's history we reached the F.A.Cup final in 1959.

Before all this Dally Duncan resigned in October 1958 and for the remainder of the season the team was picked by a consortium which included Owen, trainer Frank King and the Board.

The loss of Duncan affected the side for a while and by the time of the Third Round F.A.Cup clash with Leeds at Kenilworth Road performances were at a low ebb and so changes were made to the side including the dropping of record goalscorer Gordon Turner.

On an icy pitch the Town went goal crazy and thrashed their Yorkshire opponents 5-1 to set up a Fourth Round tie at Leicester.

On another icy pitch we managed to scrape a draw but in the replay, played under our new floodlights, a crowd of over 27000 saw us go through with Turner's replacement Allan Brown scoring a hat trick.

"I honestly cannot remember whose idea it was to effectively keep the same side going through the Cup competition, despite the call of the fans to include Turner, but it was certainly not myself," recalled Syd.

"After we had beaten Ipswich away 5-2 and then managed to scrape through against Blackpool after a replay in Round Six perhaps we thought our name was on the trophy."

"Reaching Wembley was my proudest distinction. But the hurdle we cleared to get there brought me one of the most satisfying moments of my life when we beat Norwich with Billy Bingham's replay winner in the

## Where are they now?



by **ROGER WASH**

semi-final at St Andrews, Birmingham."

"That day I was to take Luton, as captain, to the Cup Final, the complete fulfilment of an ambition in every footballers heart. "But to win such an honour on a ground from which I had been effectively sacked 12 years earlier put that little extra spice into the achievement."

Unfortunately Syd's last appearance in a white shirt was not a happy one. Although he had been named 'Footballer of the Year' the previous evening and he had the proud honour to be the first Luton player to skipper a Town side at Wembley the team did not perform on the day and it was a sad Syd who picked up a losers medal from the Queen rather than the Cup.

It had been common knowledge that

Syd was to assume the managers job at Kenilworth Road after the Cup Final but the new season opened badly and got steadily worse.

The team had grown old together and new blood was badly needed but, as has been well chronicled in the past, there seemed to be a reluctance on the part of the Board to spend the money that had been accumulated during the Cup run.

"The directors believed we had some very talented youngsters on the books whom we could develop and play in place of the older players in the First Division," said Syd.

"The jump from local youth football was too much to be made in a short space of time and we left it too late to find top quality replacements.

"The directors did not give me any power to conduct transfers and, instead, went against my advice and signed Joe McBride from Wolves for £12,500 when it was too late anyway."

Syd resigned a week before the end of the season with the club already relegated for the first time in its history. The official explanation for his departure was "a fundamental disagreement on policy."

Syd considered the offers open to him and decided to accept a coaching post at Leeds United taking with him trainer Les Cocker from Kenilworth Road.

A year later Don Revie was handed the player-manager's position at Elland Road and the stage was set for the growth of the great Leeds side through the 1960's and 1970's.

"I had played against Don during his days at Leicester and had attended F.A.coaching courses with him," said Syd.

"We shared the same beliefs and spoke the same language and I was therefore more than pleased to see him get the managers job.

"We had a brilliant side at Leeds and it must be remembered that most of the players came up through the youth side that I was responsible for."

That side won League Championships in 1969 and 1974, the FA Cup in 1972, the League Cup in 1968, and the Fairs Cup in 1971. But many remember them for what they could have won. So many times Leeds came second in the race for the championship, and in the 1965, 70 and 73 FA Cup Finals.

Following Revie's departure from Elland Road to manage England, Syd also left and took on the assistant manager's job at Birmingham City under Willie Bell, one of his old players at Leeds, before taking up coaching positions at Hull and Manchester United leading up to eventual retirement in 1982.

Despite his traumatic last twelve months at Kenilworth Road, Syd looks back on his days here with affection and still keeps in touch with Wally Shanks and several other of his old team mates.

He unfortunately lost his wife two years ago (he had known her since junior school) and has recently undergone two stomach operations but his daughter lives close by and is able to visit regularly along with, no doubt, many of his pupils from his Elland Road days.



ABOVE: Syd Owen

## 5 YEARS AGO

19/9/92: In a home clash with Birmingham City, it took a last minute penalty from Steve Claridge (later to play for the Blues) to save the day, and a point, in a 1-1 draw.

## 10 YEARS AGO

19/9/87: The Town went down 1-0 to Lennie Lawrence's Charlton at Selhurst Park. The afternoon was made even more miserable when it was learned that a bad injury to David Preece would keep him out for several months.

## 15 YEARS AGO

18/9/82: It was one of those days when everything went right! The Town saw off Brighton at Kenilworth Road to the tune of 5-0, sending us up to 11th place in the old Division One. Brian Stein scored three, and even Wayne Turner was on the scoresheet - with an overhead kick no less!

## 20 YEARS AGO

24/9/77: Hard to believe, but Spurs were in the old Division Two this season. Lying in second place they entertained sixth place Town and ran out 2-0 winners in front of a White Hart Lane crowd of 32,814.





On a rare second-half break for the Hatters, Dwight Marshall sees his 81st minute shot saved by Bournemouth keeper Jimmy Glass.

← Gavin McGowan fires in a first-half shot at Dean Court.

Dwight Marshall moves in to tackle Bournemouth skipper Ian Cox.

Hatters midfielder Paul McLaren reflects on one that got away. →



# ACTION STATIONS



**Bournemouth 1 Luton Town 1**

(O'Neill)

(Marshall)

Saturday, September 13, 1997 - Nationwide League Division Two

Attendance: 4,561

*Pictures by Gareth Owen*







## OPENING TIMES

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

10am to 4pm

**EVENING MATCHDAYS**

10am to 10pm

**SATURDAYS - MATCHDAYS**

10am-3pm & 4.45-5.15pm

- non matchdays 9am until  
coaches leave for away game

## NOW IN STOCK.....

**NEW** leisurewear items for all the  
family, including coats, jackets,  
shirts and T-shirts..... plus

Littlewoods Cup 1988  
'headlines' T-shirt - £15.00

**NEW** 1997/98 official team  
poster - £2.95

**NEW** individual photos of all the  
Luton Town players - £1.20

Look out for our new Autumn '97  
Merchandise Catalogue - out soon!

enquiries  
**01582**

**411622**

# LTFC KIT PRICES 1997/98

## GET YER KIT ON!



### AWAY SHIRTS

SB, B, LB - £29.99

Youths - £34.99

S, M, L, XL, XXL - £38.99

### AWAY SHORTS

SB, B, LB - £15.99

Youths, S, M - £19.99

L, XL, XXL - £19.99

### AWAY SOCKS

MB, LB - £5.99. Mens - £7.99

## FOR THE STARS OF TODAY AND TOMORROW.....

### HOME SHIRTS

SB, B, LB - £29.99

Youths - £34.99

S, M, L, XL, XXL - £39.99

### HOME SHORTS

SB, B, LB - £15.99

Youths, S, M - £19.99

L, XL, XXL - £19.99

### HOME SOCKS

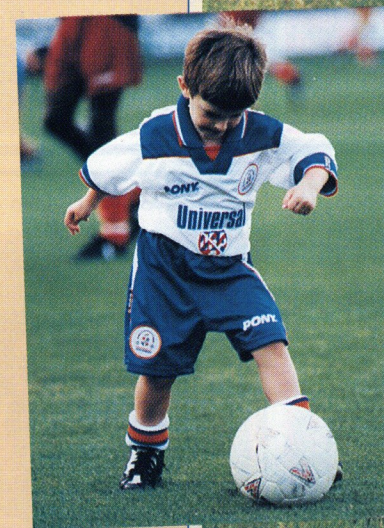
MB, LB - £7.99.

Mens - £9.99

Home long sleeved shirts  
(from Oct 97)

S, M, L - £42.99

XL, XXL - £42.99



# HATTERS SHOP

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Calls cost 50p per minute at all times



## COMMERCIAL NEWS

THIS afternoon we welcome our match sponsors, the 1ST HARLINGTON BOYS' BRIGADE.

The Boys' Brigade is the oldest voluntary uniformed organisation for boys and young men, introducing them to Church created programmes, getting interested in what it means to be a Christian on one hand and a good citizen on the other.

It was founded in Scotland in 1883, but our sponsors today are a very young company newly-formed in Harlington, and affiliated to the Harlington Methodist Church and the Luton and District Battalion, The Boys' Brigade.

Their captain Mel Westwood tells us they now have 30 boys on the books, and are the current Battalion Junior Section six-a-side football champions.

Today's sponsorship marks their

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with **KATHY  
LEATHER**

third birthday, and we trust they will enjoy the game.

If you or your company would like details of match or matchball sponsorship, please contact the Commercial Department on (01582) 411622.

We in the Commercial Department are always willing to talk to you about how you and your company can get involved with Luton Town. We have packages to suit all budgets, and a variety of ways in which your company can get involved.

For full details, or to arrange a visit, please contact the Commercial Department on Luton (01582) 411622. Also in this programme you can find details of our Prizeline, where you can win a number of special Luton Town prizes.

On page 25 of tonight's programme you can find details of our trip to Towcester races in October.

This afternoon's CableTel kids are: Carl Webster, Joe Jackson, Kyron Jackson, Stacey Mitchell, Natalie Mitchell, Daniel Hardacre, Richard Hardacre, Joe Anderson, Nathan Rohan, Jamie Stevens, Jack Campaney and Sarah Campaney.



ABOVE: Gavin McGowan was our sponsors' man-of-the-match for the recent home game against Millwall.

## CableTel kids having a ball!

RIGHT: All the CableTel kids from season 1996/97 enjoyed a day out at the club recently, having a tour of the ground, meeting the players, and then watching the reserve game against Millwall.



LEFT: The CableTel kids for the match against Oldham were: Taylor Leon, Keiron Synnott, Rory Synnott, Caroline Synnott, Alex Wilson, Elizabeth Wilson, Katherine Brandon, Bradley Paul, Lauren Paul, Emily Smith, Katie Smith, Katie Baker, Leah Baker, Amy Bond, Sian Murray and Ben McQueeney.

Luton Town FC require maternity cover for the following positions:

### ASSISTANT IN THE ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT

Starting as soon as possible, this person should be computer literate, and familiar with wages, purchase and sales ledgers.

Applications, including cv, should be sent to:  
Mr Bob Bird, Financial Controller, LTFC.

### SECRETARIAL/ADMINISTRATION WORK WITHIN THE CLUB

Applications, including cv, should be sent to:  
Ms Kathy Leather, Commercial Manager, LTFC.



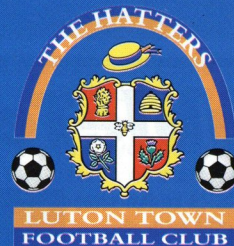
I'm sure you will have noticed the giant Vauxhall Griffin which covers the centre-circle before the match, and the teams of youngsters who remove it prior to kick-off.

We are looking for junior teams to be 'Team Griffin' for forthcoming matches, so if you are interested please contact the Commercial Department.



# OVER THE BAR!

Drink a toast to the Hatters in the following pubs...



## THE WHEATSHEAF

Kim and Chris welcome you to  
Traditional country pub serving  
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Prop: Ian Robinson

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the money collected going to the  
winning ticket holder, in our  
half-time draw made on the pitch.



PLUS win £25,000 in our Premier Instant ticket on sale at  
half-time.... Money from these tickets helps YOUR club, and  
supports charities for children with special needs

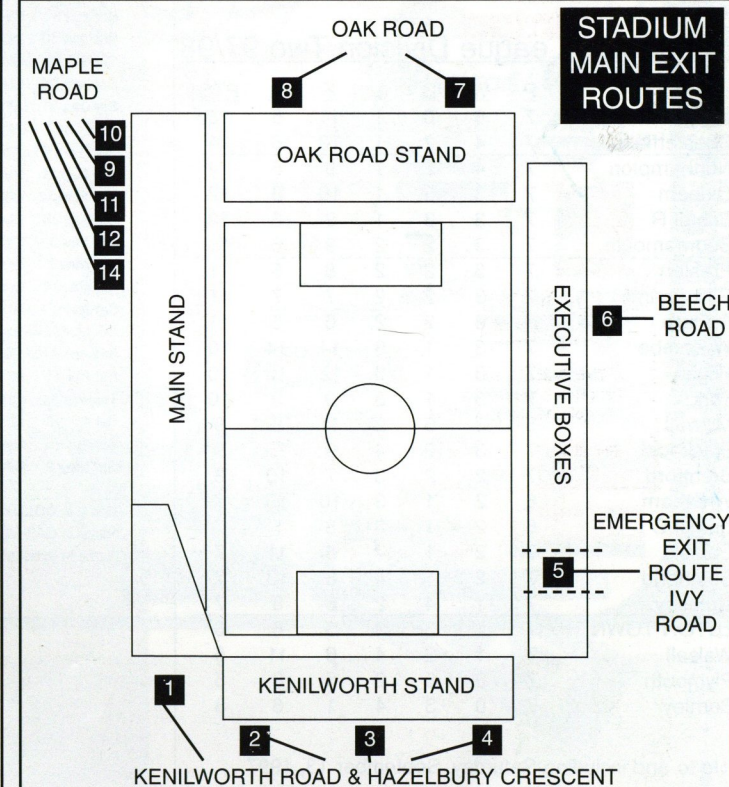
## LTFC EVACUATION PROCEDURE

IN the event of any emergencies at Luton Town Football Club, the emergency services and the club have agreed on an evacuation policy which is designed to:

- Ensure the safe and controlled evacuation of the ground.
- Ensure the dispersal of the crowd from the area to allow the emergency services to carry out their tasks.

In the event on an evacuation of all or part of the stadium, you will receive instructions over the public address system on how you should leave the stadium. Stewards will direct you to the nearest exit. It may be that your normal exit route will not be available. On leaving the stadium, you will find some roads closed to pedestrian traffic, to enable swift and unobstructed arrival of the emergency services.

Please leave the area of the ground as quickly as possible by the route directed. Your co-operation will be most appreciated. GEOFF LOVELL, Safety Manager.



FOR THE LATEST NEWS - CLUBCALL 0891 121 123

Calls cost 50p per minute at all times



# TEAMStatistics

## LUTON TOWN 1997/98

PLAYER (figure in bracket = sub app.)	LGE APPS	LGE GLS	CUP APPS	CUP GLS	LTCF career apps (league & cup, incl. subs) & goals, as at start 97/98
Nathan ABBEY			1		
Graham ALEXANDER	4		2		101 3g
Simon DAVIES	5 (1)		2 (1)		
Kelvin DAVIS	5				21 0g
Steve DAVIS	7		3		100 11g
Andy DIBBLE			1		
Gary DOHERTY	(3)				
Stuart DOUGLAS	3 (4)	1	2 (1)	1	20 1g
Sean EVERS	1 (2)		1		4 0g
Ian FEUER	2		1		98 0g
Andrew FOTIADIS	1				23 3g
Liam GEORGE			(1)		
Kim GRANT					44 8g
Richard HARVEY	(1)		1 (1)		181 5g
Julian JAMES	4		1		309 14g
Marvin JOHNSON	7		3		289 6g
Dwight MARSHALL	6	1	2		115 33g
Gavin MCGOWAN	4 (2)				2 0g
Paul McLAREN	5 (2)		3		44 1g
David OLDFIELD	6		3		125 21g
Darren PATTERSON					42 0g
Paul SHOWLER	(1)				33 6g
Bryan SMALL	2				
Mitchell THOMAS	4		2		273 5g
Tony THORPE	4	1	2	2	110 41g
Gary WADDOCK	7		3		133 3g

## Nationwide League Division Two 97/98

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Watford	7	6	0	1	11	5	18
Chesterfield	7	4	2	1	10	6	14
Northampton	7	4	2	1	9	5	14
Oldham	7	3	3	1	10	8	12
Bristol R	7	3	3	1	9	5	12
Bournemouth	7	3	2	2	9	6	11
Preston	7	3	2	2	8	5	11
Gillingham	7	3	2	2	7	7	11
Fulham	7	3	2	2	6	5	11
Wycombe	7	3	1	3	14	14	10
Wigan	7	3	1	3	12	10	10
York	7	3	1	3	9	9	10
Millwall	5	3	0	2	11	6	9
Blackpool	7	3	0	4	9	15	9
Brentford	7	2	2	3	7	10	8
Wrexham	6	2	1	3	10	10	7
Bristol C	6	2	1	3	8	7	7
Carlisle	7	2	1	4	8	11	7
Southend	7	2	1	4	8	13	7
Grimsby	7	1	4	2	6	8	7
LUTON TOWN	7	1	3	3	6	6	6
Walsall	7	1	2	4	6	11	5
Plymouth	7	0	5	2	5	8	5
Burnley	7	0	3	4	1	6	3

Up to and including Saturday, September 13, 1997.

1997/98 ..... See page 47 for Division Two stats

DATE OPPONENTS F-A ATT POS

Sat Aug 9	Blackpool	0-1	6,547	-
Tue Aug 12	Colchester Utd CCC1 (1)	1-0	2,840	-
<b>Mon Aug 18 SOUTHEND UTD</b>		<b>1-0</b>	<b>5,140</b>	<b>12</b>
Sat Aug 23	Fulham	0-0	8,142	15
<b>Tue Aug 26 COLCHESTER UTD CCC1 (2)</b>		<b>1-1</b>	<b>2,816</b>	-
<b>Sat Aug 30 OLDHAM ATHLETIC</b>		<b>1-1</b>	<b>5,404</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Tue Sep 2 MILLWALL</b>		<b>0-2</b>	<b>5,781</b>	<b>15</b>
Tue Sep 9	Northampton Town	0-1	7,246	18
Sat Sep 13	AFC Bournemouth	1-1	4,561	21
<b>Tue Sep 16 WEST BROM CCC2 (1)</b>		<b>1-1</b>	<b>3,437</b>	-
<b>Sat Sep 20 WREXHAM</b>				
Tue Sep 23	West Brom CCC2 (2)			
Sat Sep 27	Bristol City			
<b>Sat Oct 4 WATFORD</b>				
<b>Sat Oct 11 PLYMOUTH ARGYLE</b>				
Sat Oct 18	Wigan Athletic			
Tue Oct 21	Carlisle United			
<b>Sat Oct 25 BRENTFORD</b>				
Sat Nov 1	Wycombe Wanderers			
<b>Tue Nov 4 BURNLEY</b>				
<b>Sat Nov 8 PRESTON NORTH END</b>				
Sat Nov 15	FA Cup 1			
Tue Nov 18	Grimsby Town			
<b>Sat Nov 22 WALSALL</b>				
Sat Nov 29	York City			
<b>Tue Dec 2 GILLINGHAM</b>				
Sat Dec 6	FA Cup 2			
Sat Dec 13	Chesterfield			
<b>Sat Dec 20 BRISTOL ROVERS</b>				
<b>Fri Dec 26 NORTHAMPTON TOWN</b>				
Sun Dec 28	Millwall			
Sat Jan 3	Southend United			
<b>Sat Jan 10 BLACKPOOL</b>				
Sat Jan 17	Oldham Athletic			
<b>Sat Jan 24 FULHAM</b>				
<b>Sat Jan 31 AFC BOURNEMOUTH</b>				
Sat Feb 7	Wrexham			
Sat Feb 14	Watford			
<b>Sat Feb 21 BRISTOL CITY</b>				
<b>Tue Feb 24 WIGAN ATHLETIC</b>				
Sat Feb 28	Plymouth Argyle			
Tue Mar 3	Preston North End			
<b>Sat Mar 7 WYCOMBE W</b>				
Sat Mar 14	Burnley			
<b>Sat Mar 21 GRIMSBY TOWN</b>				
Sat Mar 28	Walsall			
<b>Sat Apr 4 YORK CITY</b>				
Sat Apr 11	Gillingham			
<b>Tue Apr 14 CHESTERFIELD</b>				
Sat Apr 18	Bristol Rovers			
Sat Apr 25	Brentford			
<b>Sat May 2 CARLISLE UTD</b>				

Game in **BOLD** denotes home match.  
Name in CAPITALS denotes goalscorer.  
Name in (brackets) denotes player substituted or substitute used.

GK	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Feuer	McGowan	Thomas	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	McLaren	Alexander	Oldfield	Thorpe	(Davies)	(Douglas)	Evers	Harvey
Feuer	Douglas	Thomas	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	McLaren	Alexander	(Oldfield)	THORPE	Davies	Kean	(Harvey)	Evers
<b>Feuer</b>	<b>James</b>	<b>Thomas</b>	<b>Waddock</b>	<b>S.Davis</b>	<b>Johnson</b>	<b>Davies</b>	<b>Alexander</b>	<b>(Fotiadis)</b>	<b>(Thorpe)</b>	<b>Marshall</b>	<b>(DOUGLAS)</b>	<b>(McLaren)</b>	<b>Harvey</b>
K.Davis	James	Thomas	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	(Davies)	(Alexander)	Oldfield	(Douglas)	Marshall	(McGowan)	(Harvey)	(McLaren)
<b>Abbey</b>	<b>James</b>	<b>Thomas</b>	<b>Waddock</b>	<b>S.Davis</b>	<b>Johnson</b>	<b>(Davies)</b>	<b>McLaren</b>	<b>Oldfield</b>	<b>THORPE</b>	<b>Marshall</b>	<b>(Douglas)</b>	<b>Showler</b>	<b>Evers</b>
K.Davis	(James)	Thomas	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	(Davies)	McLaren	Oldfield	THORPE	(Marshall)	(Douglas)	(Showler)	(McGowan)
K.Davis	(James)	McGowan	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	McLaren	(Alexander)	Oldfield	Thorpe	(Marshall)	(Douglas)	(Doherty)	(Evers)
K.Davis	McGowan	Small	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	McLaren	(Evers)	Oldfield	Douglas	(Marshall)	Peake	(Davies)	(Doherty)
K.Davis	McGowan	Small	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	(Davies)	McLaren	Oldfield	(Douglas)	MARSHALL	(Evers)	Peake	(Doherty)
Dibble	Alexander	Harvey	Waddock	S.Davis	(Johnson)	(Evers)	McLaren	Oldfield	DOUGLAS	Marshall	Doherty	(Davies)	(George)

**CHILTERN AREA**

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# Team Check



## Luton Town

## V Wrexham

Kelvin DAVIS	1	Andy MARRIOTT
Gavin McGOWAN	2	Mark McGREGOR
Bryan SMALL	3	Phil HARDY
Gary WADDOCK	4	Wayne PHILLIPS
Steve DAVIS	5	Tony HUMES
Marvin JOHNSON	6	Brian CAREY
Sean EVERS	7	Craig SKINNER
Paul McLAREN	8	Gareth OWEN
David OLDFIELD	9	Karl CONNOLLY
Tony THORPE	10	Dean SPINK
Phil GRAY	11	Dave BRAMMER

12

13

14



Today's referee is  
**PAUL REJER**  
from Tipton, in the  
West Midlands.  
Mr Rejer, a Sales  
Manager, was the  
linesman at the 1994  
FA Cup Final, before  
joining the Football  
League referees' list in  
1994/95.

S.C. Head



A.M.  
Wilkins



4th official: F.J. Fender

### Next match at Kenilworth Road

The next visitors to  
Kenilworth Road are  
**WATFORD**,  
in Division Two of the  
Nationwide League.  
This game is on  
Saturday, October 4,  
kick-off 3pm.  
See page 9 for  
ticket details.



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