

ALBION NEWS

PRICE
60p

CANON LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

SEASON 1985-86



Programme No. 15 Volume No. 77



**WEST
BROMWICH
ALBION**
v

LUTON TOWN

INSIDE TODAY

- TONY GREALISH IN THE HOT SEAT
- SUPPORTERS CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER
- BACK-CHAT—BILLY ELLIOTT



**WEST BROMWICH ALBION
FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED**

**The Hawthorns
Hallford Lane, West Bromwich
B71 4UJ**

Telephone: 021-525 0000

**Ticket Office
Telephone: 021-553 5472**

Albion News designed, printed and
published by PEERLESS PRESS LIMITED
Spun Lane, West Bromwich B70 8AL
Telephone: 021-553 2511

President: F. A. Millichip	Life Member and Immediate Past President: J. W. Gaunt
Vice-President: F. T. D. Hall	Life Members: L. W. Welsh, A. Everiss, J.P.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
Chairman: J. S. Lucas	
Vice-Chairman: D. B. Boundy	
C. I. Edwards, A. Everiss, J.P., J. G. Silk, T. J. Summers	
Secretary: H. J. Westmancoat, F.A.A.I., M.B.I.M.	
Team Manager: 'Nobby' Stiles	
Coach: Tony Brown	
Accountant: M. Rollason	
Physiotherapist: George Wright	Medical Officer: Dr R. O. Rimmer, M.B., Ch.B.,
Youth Development Officer: R. Horobin	
Marketing Manager: Colin A. K. Ross	
Commercial Assistant: J. Stokes	
PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTORS ... Peerless Photography: Bill Goulden & Dale Martin	
Geoff Wright: Express & Star • Tony Matthews • Ivan Whistance	

JOHN WESTMANCOAT

I trust that all our supporters had an enjoyable Christmas Day.

Now of course is the time when our thoughts tend to drift towards one's hopes for the New Year which is rapidly approaching and look back, in some ways with nostalgia, to the year drawing to its close. The second half of the year has not been a happy one for the Club, for quite apart from the playing results not reaching expectations, this period has also seen the departure of several administrative staff who were possibly regarded as 'fixtures' at the Club.

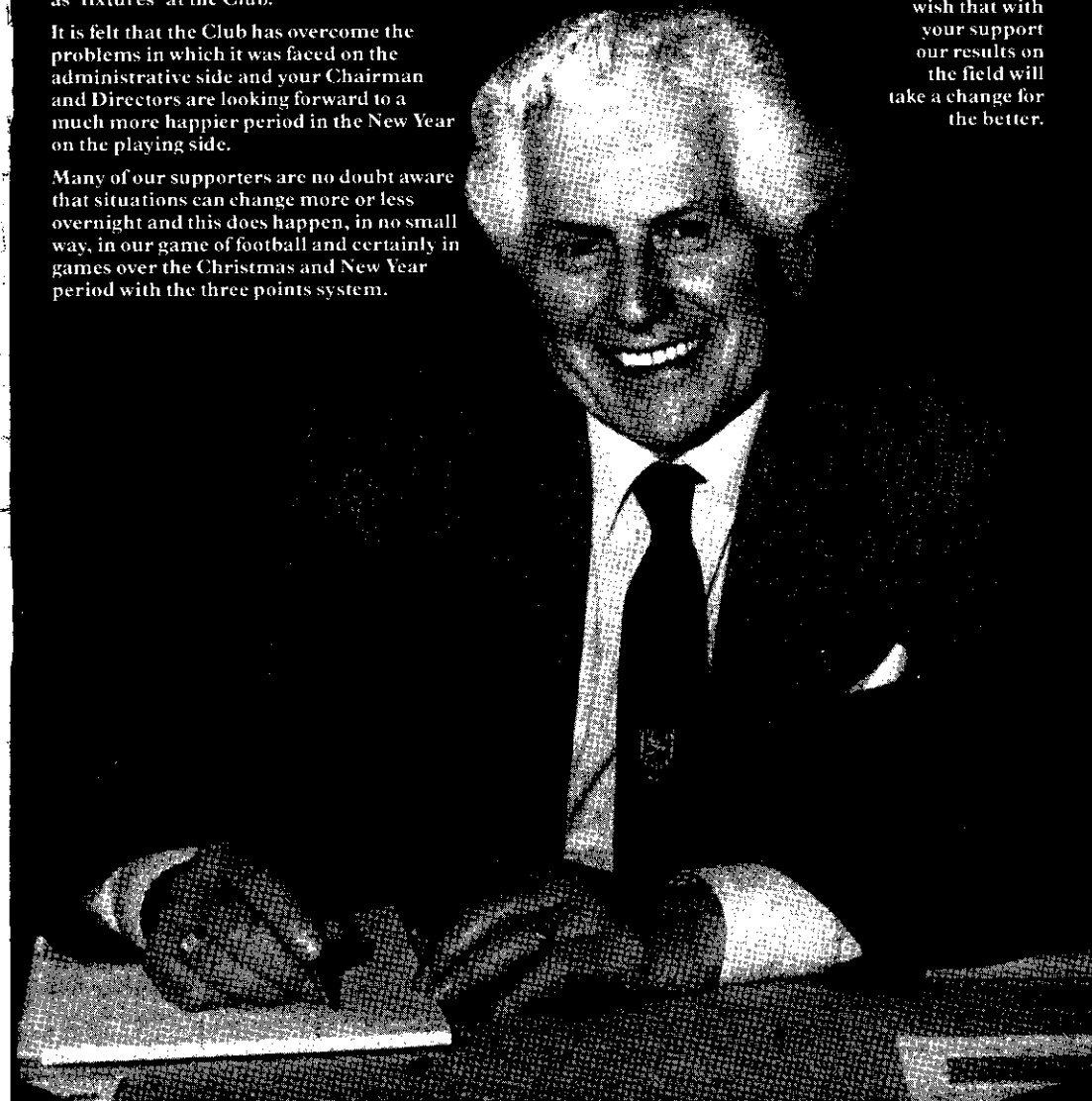
It is felt that the Club has overcome the problems in which it was faced on the administrative side and your Chairman and Directors are looking forward to a much more happier period in the New Year on the playing side.

Many of our supporters are no doubt aware that situations can change more or less overnight and this does happen, in no small way, in our game of football and certainly in games over the Christmas and New Year period with the three points system.

Positions in the League table can alter dramatically.

Whilst these notes are written prior to our Sunday game with Watford, our match today and our match with Aston Villa at Villa Park on 28th December, together with our match at Southampton on New Year's Day, hopefully could see a drastic change in the fortunes of the Club.

May I close by wishing everyone of you on behalf of the Chairman, Directors, Staff and Players, a very happy and prosperous New Year and express the wish that with your support our results on the field will take a change for the better.



150 years of tradition



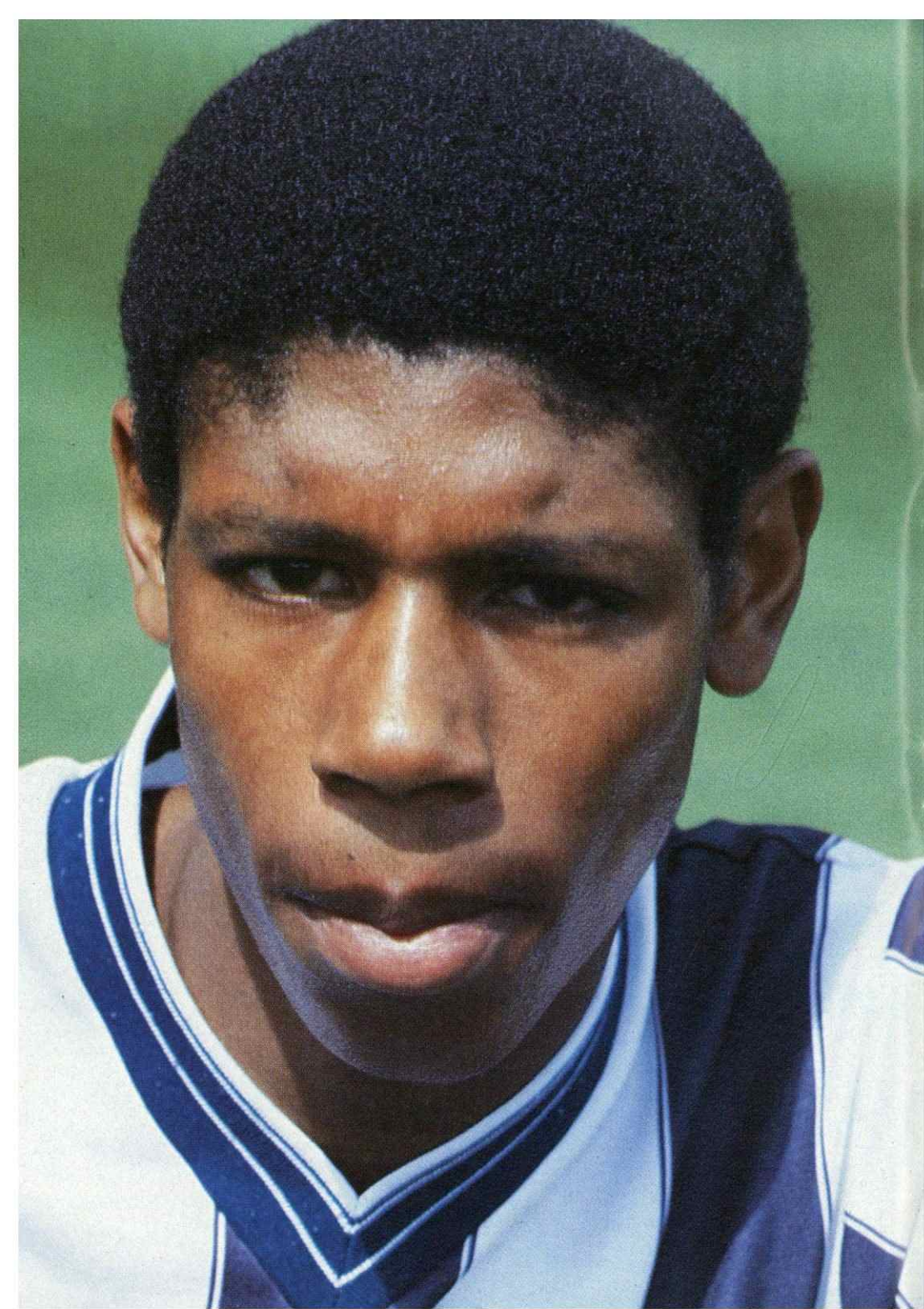
Sole official supplier of
footwear to the Football
Association School of
Excellence.



Sole manufacturer and supplier
to the Football Association and
Football League of the exclusive
Delta design official match ball.

mitre®

Available from leading sports retailers - for
further information contact Mitre Sports on
0484 37488



CARLTON PALMER

Carlton Palmer has broken through the barrier—that barrier dividing the everyday reserve team players and the senior professionals who perform in what has been described as the World's toughest League, the First Division here in England.

He joined Albion as a Youth Opportunity Candidate and has since turned professional, made his first team debut, and is now a vital squad member here at The Hawthorns.

Basically a defender, the right-back position seemingly his best, Carlton has also turned out for Albion's 'A' team, Central League side and first team at left-back, central-defender, midfield and up front. He has scored against Aston Villa reserves, away, as an out-and-out striker, put there by the gaffer because of Albion's sad injury list which caused Steve Bull and Gerry Armstrong to miss the 4-1 defeat.

"I don't mind where I play" said young Carlton, "I just love to be in the thick of the action. I owe a great deal to Albion, and now I'm going to try and make the grade in big-time football. I've got time on my side, and it's all down to me now. I'm a professional, and realistically speaking two years ago I would never have thought this was possible. How things change...and how lucky I am.

Carlton was introduced into Albion's League side earlier in the season against Newcastle United at St. James' Park, when as a last-minute substitute, quickly driven up north by Youth Development Officer Roy Horobin, he came on after barely 20 minutes when debutant number one Robbie Dennison had to go off injured.

Albion lost 4-1 that day and Carlton came face to face with George Reilly, who is now a buddy of Carlton's here in West Brom.

"It was a great feeling to play at St. James' Park," said Carlton. "I had been in Albion's team at the end of last season in the Bradford City Disaster Fund Friendly at Villa Park, but the League competition is a vastly different ball game, and it's tough going. But I think I can manage it. I've got good men in charge

of me and I'm looking forward to many more years with Albion."

Carlton's home debut was in the Number Two shirt, versus Birmingham City in mid-October and he played extremely well as deputy for Jimmy Nicholl, helping his mates to a welcome 2-1 victory.

Since then he's been in the team frequently and already he's shown to the watching public that he's got what it takes to become a top-class footballer—guts, aggression, ability, style and height. Confidence will come gradually and when it does Carlton Palmer will be one hell of a player.

Watching him on the park gives you the impression that he's a 'Rambo' type character. He might be. But only in name...nickname that is.

He's a quiet, unassuming young man. Single, lives with his parents at Rowley Regis, Carlton buses it to The Hawthorns but is hoping to be driving pretty soon.

Twenty, a fortnight ago, Carlton has been a professional for a year and two months. He joined The Hawthorns camp as an apprentice on the Y.T.S. in July 1983 after playing junior football for Newton Albion (Sundays) and minor football for both Netherton and Dudley Town.

He was educated at Whiteheath Junior and St. Michael's High Schools Oldbury and it was here where he 'learnt' to play football, kicking a tennis ball around the playground as often and as long as possible, in between lessons, sometimes during lessons, at breaktime and before school started in the morning.

He's already acquired a series of nicknames, including the world-famous one of Rambo, Too-tall, Nijinsky and Char-coal. He'll earn a few more as he continues to progress in the hustle-bustle world of Association Football, especially as he becomes more well-known, gets thicker, heavier, fitter and older. But he's man enough to take it all on the chin. Why not? He's here to stay!



STARSHOTS

Pictures:
GEOFF WRIGHT
Express & Star

More action from the recent game against Everton. This picture shows Albion's George Reilly heading goalwards. Top right: All up for a corner as Albion attack. Bottom right: Varadi lets loose a shot.



ALBION NEWS

• IT'S 'WEDNESDAY' ON A SATURDAY IN THE CUP...

Albion have been drawn away to Sheffield Wednesday in the Third Round of this season's FA Cup competition.

The game will be played on Saturday, 4th January 1986, kick-off: 3-00pm.

Albion have lost their last two Cup ties at Hillsborough—one against Wednesday in 1970 (2-1) and the other, versus Leicester City in the Semi-Final a year earlier (1-0).

Earlier, in season 1958-59, Albion had beaten the 'Owls' at Sheffield in Round Three when Alec Jackson and Derek Hogg scored in front of 50,455 fans.

Previous to that, the teams had met each other in the 1935 Final at Wembley and it was Wednesday who stole in at the death to beat Albion 4-2 with two goals in the last five minutes, both from Ellis Rimmer, watched by over 93,200 spectators.

At Hillsborough in the League game this season, Albion were defeated 1-0 by Sheffield...they will be aiming to go a 'goal' better this time, and at least bring the Yorkshire 'Owls' back to The Hawthorns for a replay.

I say that because Albion have not won at Hillsborough for 20 years! But all 'bad' things must come to an end sometime.

• HAPPY BIRTHDAY...

Many happy returns to Barry Cowdrill who will celebrate his 29th birthday on 3rd January 1986.



Uro Auto Spares kindly donated the Match Ball for our games with Tottenham Hotspur and Birmingham City. Tony Godden made the presentation to Helen Cannon and Kelly Hale. Our thanks to Uro Auto Spares for their generosity.

• DATE FOR TONY

The date has been fixed for Tony Godden's Testimonial Match here at The Hawthorns. It will be played on Sunday, 4th May 1986, with Albion taking on star opposition, yet to be finalised. We'll keep you informed of all the necessary details via your *Albion News*.

■ Supporters Club News

First and foremost a very merry festive season to our members. Goodwill to all men (and women) and lots of cheer for this afternoon please. How about a late present from our team? Come on you Baggies, you're not short of talent.

From home support to away support and the commercial for Mammoth Tours. We are putting on a coach this weekend in yet another 'derby' encounter with the people in Claret and Blue. Departure time is 1-00pm and price £1.50. This is a loss making service for members, so please make the effort to travel with us.

Four days later the Baggies start the New Year with a game at Southampton. Halesowen Branch will follow on the classy Rapide. Hangovers are permitted, but alcohol is not on this vehicle leaving Stourbridge at 9-30am the fare being £5.00.

A trio of away fixtures is made up by a Cup visit to Hillsboro' in God's Country the following Saturday. The coach leaves at the civilised hour of 11-30am and the tariff a mere £3.50 on the day or should I say COACHES because this is another tough tie where Albion must have noisy vocal support. Don't get depressed, give it a go and there is no knowing what might happen.

David Holloway (552-3289 after 6-30pm) is always on hand to take your name for the coach. My spies tell me incidentally that David's much discussed injured finger is now fully recovered and he is poised to resume his goal-keeping career in the New Year. Nice one.

Birthdays now and belated wishes to Carl Dellicott who celebrated on the 23rd December

(any combined Christmas and Birthday cards, Carl?) and just to prove I do know the correct date Christopher Hartle will age one year on the 20th January, 1986. Can't fool me for long Chris. I'm been accused of using truisms so merely to compound the offence, I will now state that the branch's Mike Thomas will have a birthday in 1986. How about that?

Just a reminder that membership renewals are still being accepted by Chris Hartle on Mammoth Tours and branch meetings. The next opportunity to see 'Barnesey' at a meeting is on 14th January where we are hoping for TWO special guests so make a note in your new 1986 diaries.

The 'Tramps Ball' held at Somers earlier this month received a mixed reception from members. The attendance was low by our normal standards but our thanks to everyone who made the effort to dress up. Prize winners for best outfit went deservedly to Ken Jones and Alison Butterfield. Plenty of *Fingerposts* remain unsold and can be ordered from 19 Ashville Drive, Halesowen for just 30p+sae. If you're very quick there's an opportunity to enter a £5 cash prize Quiz. The fiver is courtesy of our Membership Secretary in the strong belief it will remain unclaimed. Can anyone prove him wrong?

Space for a plug for the National Federation of Football Supporters Clubs who held their quarterly meeting in Corby recently. The original venue was Birmingham but this was switched late on. Steve Vine and myself represented all West Bromwich supporters at the meeting which drew representatives from a goodly number of clubs from all over the Midlands. The Federation is involved in high level discussion on the best means of combatting hooliganism and restoring the good name of Football as well as putting together very successful social events for member clubs.

To conclude, let me wish a happier year for West Bromwich Albion and all their supporters. Things will improve.

CIAO!

SIGMUND BEETLEWAX.

• THEY PLAYED FOR BOTH CLUBS...

Thirteen players have represented both Albion and Luton Town over the years, and they are Jack Bannister, the wing-half, Lewis Bedford, a winger, Louis Bookman and Eli Bradley two more flank players, the skilful Eddie Connelly, 'Gracey' Ford, a hustling forward, Billy Gripton, one of the fine post-war centre-halves, Tony Grealish, the Eire international, goalkeeper Tony Godden who had a loan spell at Kenilworth Road in 1982-83, Abe Jones, a rugged defender, goal-ace Derek Kevan, another international, the elegant full-back Mark Nicholson and Bruce Rankin, yet another winger.

'Paddy' Grealish is still in the game today, along with Tony Godden. And with the players listed, this team (with two substitutes) could be utilised: Godden, Nicholson, Bannister, Jones, Gripton, Grealish, Bedford, Connelly, Kevan, Ford and Rankin, substitutes: Bradley and Bookman.

• WITH CHORLEY TOWN

Former Albion centre-forward Ian Edwards, who burst on to the scene during the club's Second Division days ten years ago, is currently turning out for Chorley Town in the Northern Premier League.

• IRISH SUPPORTERS CLUB...

I would like to form a West Bromwich Albion 'Irish' Branch of the Supporters Club and invite fans who follow Albion from the Emerald Isle to help Gerard Small and myself to get the organisation under way so that we can make the necessary arrange-

ments to visit The Hawthorns regularly to watch our favourites in action.

I would also like to thank Tony Matthews for his recent article in the *Albion News* concerning the Irish players who have represented the Baggies over the years. It was excellent, and I congratulate him.

MICHAEL McHALE
41 Woodlands Road, Cabinteely
Dublin 18, Ireland

• QUERY ANSWERED

For R. W. Jackson of
Kiniths Way, West Bromwich

Albion have played Gainsborough Trinity 16 times in League Football matches.

At The Hawthorns, Albion registered seven wins and one loss, scoring 29 goals against five; and away at 'Trinity' they won 2, drew 2, and lost 4, netting 12 times and conceding 16.

The initial games took place in 1901-02, Albion won 7-0 at home and drew 1-1 away. The last two were played in season 1910-11. And all sixteen games were in Division Two.

• EX-BAGGIES...

Trevor Thompson, who left The Hawthorns for Newport County in 1978, and then moved to Lincoln City the following year, has been with three non-League clubs over the last three seasons—Gainsborough, Boston and Worksop. His next move could be to Bourne Town.

Peter Latchford is aiming to make 1986 a 'Happy New Year' with Celtic. Over the last five seasons Peter has only had six first team outings with the Glasgow club but he has been granted a Testimonial Match which will take place next April or May.

Peter was here at The Hawthorns from 1968 to 1975, appearing in 81 League games and winning two England Under-23 caps as a goalkeeper.

fleet specialist

FREIGHT ROVER
SHERPA

*Built to
take even more!*



SHERPA
NOW EVEN BIGGER
SHERPA FROM
WEDNESBURY



THE FAMILY BUSINESS
THAT CARES.

WEDNESBURY MOTOR SERVICES LTD. Holyhead Rd, Wednesbury 021-556 1315

MARKETING



MATTERS

FROM MARKETING MANAGER

COLIN ROSS

I hope you enjoyed a very happy and peaceful Christmas Day and that you are not suffering from an excess of Christmas pudding or Christmas spirit. Perhaps we should spare a thought for the players who have to take things very carefully with an important match today. Nevertheless, we hope they too enjoyed a happy Christmas with their families and friends.

Personally I was looking for two very special Christmas presents: the return of television cameras to our football grounds and a relaxation of the laws

banning the consumption of alcohol in our Executive Boxes. I was disappointed on both counts.

From a financial point of view, both of these current restrictions are having a severe impact on the earning potential of West Bromwich Albion and other League clubs with similar facilities.

Our ground side advertising reaches an audience of many thousands of supporters in West Bromwich and visiting supporters from all over the country. Those many thousands are converted to millions when the TV cameras are here and that, in turn, enhances the value of our advertising sites. Not only does television promote our national game, it assists us enormously in selling this space.

Many of the Executive Boxes at The Hawthorns are leased by local business enterprises and provide an excellent means of entertainment and the development of business interests. Wining and dining are complimentary to each other and the banning of alcohol has reduced their appeal. A restoration of this facility will go a long way to helping the Club in maximising on

Executive Box sales and in turn, help our Boxholders in achieving their important business objectives.

Looking forward to the New Year, I am hoping most of all, for a move up the League table. 1986 is the year of the World Cup Finals in Mexico when the eyes of the world will be on football. That will serve as a great advertisement and boost to our National sport and help all of us in our efforts to market football as great family entertainment to be enjoyed in comfort and safety. Above all, we should hope for a year free from any incidents of crowd misbehaviour or tragedy.

At about this time of the year, we think of New Year resolutions. If you haven't thought of one yet and you are a smoker, then why not be like Albion and KICK THE SMOKING HABIT. We would like to hear from any Albion supporters who are thinking about giving up smoking and we would like to encourage you in your efforts. So why not drop me a line and let me know if it is your intention to give up smoking in 1986.

Whatever your resolutions may be, I wish you all a very happy and prosperous 1986.



**A NEW YEAR'S
RESOLUTION...
KICK THE
SMOKING HABIT!**

JOIN OUR TEAM.



UMBRO. OFFICIAL
SPORTSWEAR SUPPLIERS
TO WEST BROMWICH ALBION,
ENGLAND, SCOTLAND
AND A HOST OF OTHER
TOP CLUBS AND TEAMS.



PRINTING? call PEERLESS!

CREATIVE

We have the bright ideas with a team of experienced designers and artists to give your printing the right image.



PHOTOGRAPHY

Our own photography department provides a complete, under one roof, service for your brochures, leaflets or catalogues.



RIGHT PRICE

Next time you are thinking printing... check out the price against the value offered by Peerless.



ON TIME

We're used to working to tight deadlines so if your problem is delivery give Peerless a call.



PEERLESS PRESS LTD—CREATIVE PRINTERS

SPON LANE, WEST BROMWICH, WEST MIDLANDS B70 6AQ Tel: 021-553 2511

★ We have free '86 planners available—ask for a no obligation visit!

QUIZ TIME

- 1 Name this League club: Formed 1881. Previous ground was The Croft; Original members of Division Three in 1920; FA Cup Semi-Finalists 1910 and 1912, presently in Division Four, nicknamed The Railwaymen until 1975?
- 2 Who are THE SHRIMPERS of the Football League?
- 3 The following all managed which current Third Division club between 1945 and 1965—Billy McCandless, Bill Lucas, Bobby Evans and Trevor Morris?
- 4 Andy Davidson made a record 511 League appearances for this club between 1952 and 1967?
- 5 Jimmy Nicholson (thirty-one) is the most-capped player for this club?
- 6 Everton signed Paul Bracewell from which League club in May 1984?
- 7 Name the last country to qualify for the Mexico World Cup Finals next year?
- 8 Three players have to date scored a record twelve goals in international matches for Northern Ireland: Gerry Armstrong (now W.B.A.) and Billy Gillespie (formerly of Sheffield United) are two, name the third?
- 9 Which League is currently sponsored by SMIRNOFF VODKA?
- 10 Which Scottish League club plays its home games at Broomfield Park?
- 11 Who is manager of Scunthorpe United (at 12th December, 1985)?
- 12 Which team won the first-ever European Cup Winners Cup Final in 1961, beating Rangers (Scotland) 4-1 on aggregate (2-0 and 2-1)?

1—Swindon Town, 2—Southend United, 3—Newport County, 4—Hull City, 5—Huddersfield, 6—Sunderland, 7—Scotland, 8—Joe Bambrick, 9—Irish, 10—Airdrieonians, 11—Frank Barlow, 12—Florentina (Italy).

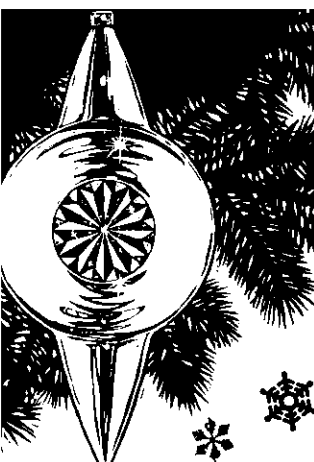
ANSWERS

Albion Diary 1985-86

● **December 12th...** Clive Whitehead considers asking for a transfer... Derek Statham is steadily winning his battle to get fit to face Oxford.

● **December 13th...** Nobby Stiles calls up reserve defender Micky Forsyth and adds Robbie Dennison, Gary Robson and Tony Grealish to his squad to travel to play Oxford... Garth Crooks is definitely a non-starter against the team he started his Albion 'career' against on the opening Saturday of the season.

● **December 14th...** A point at The Manor Ground as Albion draw 2-2 at Oxford... Grealish gives away a 43rd minute penalty, but goals from 'Man of the Match' Steve Hunt, and Imre Varadi, send Albion 2-1 in front before Charles equalises from close in... but at the halfway mark in the season, the Throstles are still nailed to the bottom of the First Division with just eight points out of a possible 63; they've just given away 52 League goals, and now it is an uphill fight right through to mid-May if that dreaded drop into the Second Division is to be avoided... regarding those 'goals against' defender Martyn Bennett stated that he, and his fellow defenders have given away 'silly, stupid' goals, and they have all been put down to individual errors rather than because of overall defensive slackness... reserve Barry Cowdrill, who is on a week-to-week contract, reveals that his future at Albion is still 'up in the air' and says "I'm looking for more security. I'm 29 in January and with a wife and young daughter to consider, I must sort something out very soon..." Chairman Sid Lucas warns off malicious troublemakers whose purpose is to undermine the club. In the *Birmingham Evening Mail* and *Sports Argus*, he publicly states: "We have always welcomed constructive criticism within the confines of fair comment but when the criticism is extended to spread alarm and disaffection often tinged with malice, then its purpose can only be a deliberate attempt to cause untold damage by undermining the morale of management, staff and players alike. The Directors, together with the manager, are acutely aware of the club's current League position and will take the necessary action to deal with the situation. I appeal to all loyal followers of West Bromwich Albion to support the team, as the vast majority have, despite unfortunate results."



Don Beddard addresses the members after an excellent Christmas meal.

Supporters Club Dinner

On Saturday 7th December last, 150 'supporters' sat down to their pre-Christmas lunch at The West Bromwich Moat House.

The Albion Chairman, Sid Lucas, the West Bromwich Albion Supporters Club Chairman Don Beddard, ex-Police Superintendent John Mellor and John Nicholls junior, son of the former Albion striker of the 1950s, plus other guests, occupied to top table.

Close by were Directors Trevor Summers and John Silk, club statistician Tony Matthews, goalkeeper Paul Bradshaw, Gary Owen and Derek Statham from the playing side, local reporters Bob Downing (Sandwell Mail) and Denis Sunley (Express & Star) and the Peerless Press photographer, Dale Martin.

Also present were a group of Albion Shareholders, the fans of many branches of the West Bromwich Albion Supporters' Club, including London, North Wales, South West, Coventry, Walsall and Halesowen, plus two new additions to the clan from Boston, Lincolnshire.

Many good ladies of the people previously mentioned were also present and they looked as charming as ever, with Tony Matthews' dearest Margaret, working overtime with the raffle, ably assisted by 'PC' Mellor.

Don Beddard did the honours with a noble speech which ended with a presentation being made to John Nicholls junior, this was a cheque for over £2,000 for his father 'Johnny' who was unable to attend owing to illness. A Testimonial Match between the West Bromwich Albion All Stars and the West Bromwich Albion Supporters Club XI played at The Dell, Brierley Hill, in October, was arranged for Johnnie's benefit, and a big thank you was recorded to all those who helped make this event such a huge success.

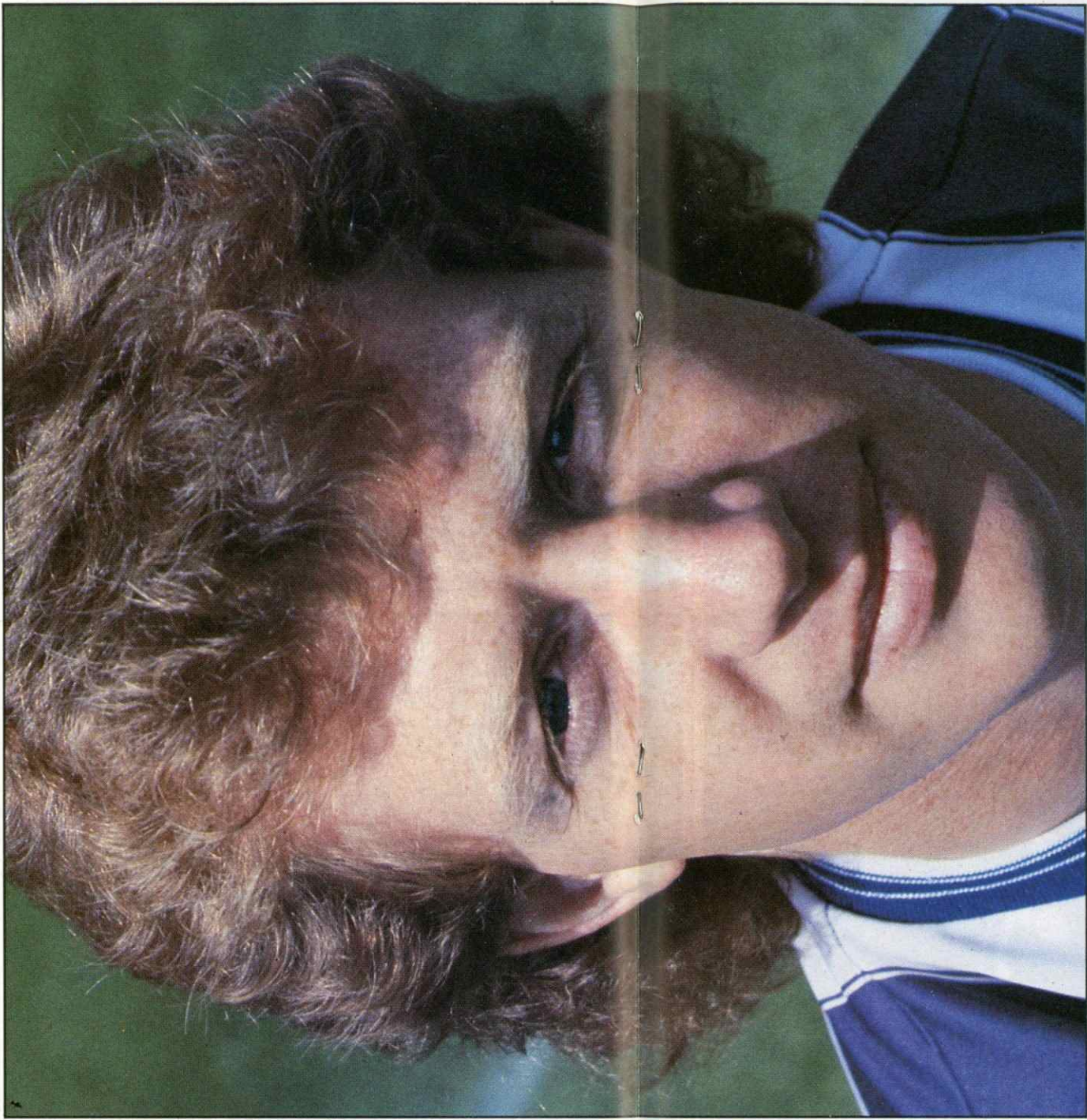
Thank yous were spread around with great aplomb at the end of yet another fine 'do' and long may they continue to flourish.



Above: Chairman together, Sid Lucas and Don Beddard toast the festive season. Left: John Nicholls junior receives a cheque for over £2,000 from Don. Below that: Members of the Coventry Supporters Club celebrate winning first prize in the raffle. Below: Entering into the spirit of the event sports writers Bob Downing (Sandwell Mail) and Denis Sunley (Express & Star).

Pictures: Dale Martin





JIMMY NICHOLL

Right-back Jimmy Nicholl has not been at his best over the past four months. He'll admit to this, and his form is annoying him as it is the loyal Baggie supporters.

But he'll be back. He has suffered lean spells before—he'll suffer them again—yet he knows full well that he is one of the most accomplished Number Two's in the Football League.

Capped almost 70 times by Northern Ireland, the 29-year-old Canadian-born defender has accumulated in excess of 400 senior games as a professional footballer, with Manchester United, Sunderland, Queen's Park Rangers, Albion and Ireland. He's also totted up a fair few with Toronto Blizzard, the NASL club he served before joining The Hawthorns staff in November of last year, and he will

continue to stack up his outings as long as he is fit enough.

Admittedly he's had some difficult, tricky opponents to manager over the past year he's been with Albion. He's lost his rag twice, resulting in a couple of early baths. But all in all, he's a dogged, determined fighter, a battler through and through, and a player who will never, ever give in, whatever the circumstances.

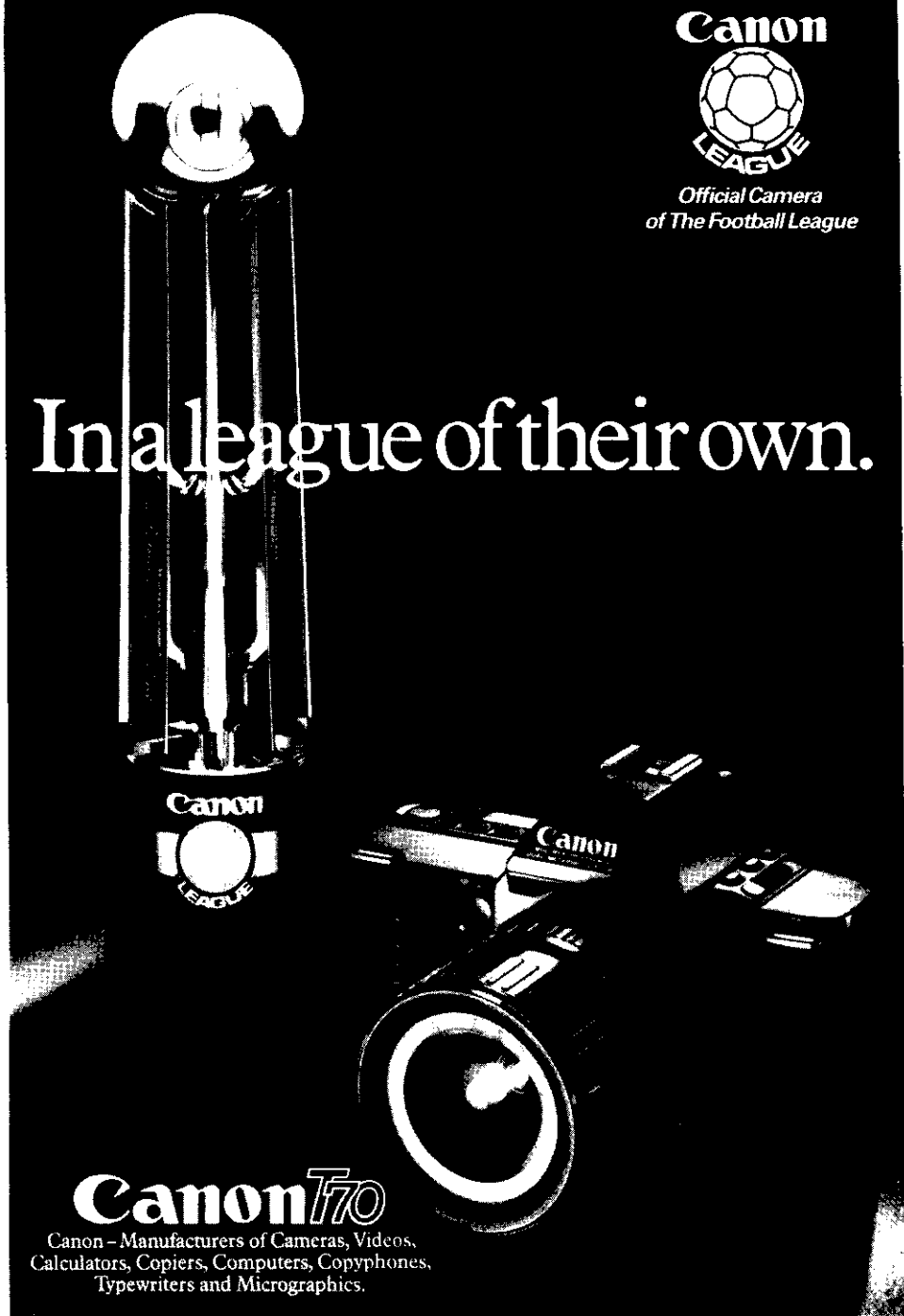
Albion are going through difficult times right now but Jimmy, a professional for 12 years, has seen it all before. He knows how to fight—and he will—to the best of his ability, to the bitter end, and for his club.

Have you ever seen a shy, unwilling Irishman? Jimmy Nicholl is a born grafter and he'll remain so until he hangs up his boots, whenever that might be.

Keep that chin up, Jim. And a Happy New Year to you and the Irish in Mexico.



In a league of their own.



Canon T70

Canon - Manufacturers of Cameras, Videos,
Calculators, Copiers, Computers, Copyphones,
Typewriters and Micrographics.

LEN MILLARD A TALKING ABOUT

MOMENT IN TIME

Last April I spent sometime chatting with the former Albion skipper of the 1950's, Len Millard, and obviously many matches were relived as we continuously harked back into the wonderful past when Len starred in many fine Albion sides.

We all know he went up and collected the FA Cup at Wembley in 1954; he was also a key member of our promotion-winning team in 1948-49. Indeed, he gave the club tremendous service as a player, accumulating more than 600 first XI appearances including 436 in the League alone.

Len, in fact, joined Albion as a lad, aged 16, in May 1937, and he retired, aged 39, in June 1958, when he went off to manage Stafford Rangers until 1961.

Today he is going into 67, but still talks about those good old days, and one match he often brings up is when Albion won a nine-goal thriller at Hillsborough on Boxing Day, 1952.

"What a match" said Len, "It had everything. There were nearly 60,000 there, and it was tit for tat all the way through. Wednesday were a useful side, but so were we, and although my memory isn't as good as it was, I think they helped us out with at least a couple of goals to set us up for a marvellous 5-4 win."

Albion were lying second (to Wolves) in the First Division when they travelled north to Sheffield. Wednesday were 15th but at home their form had been good. After just five minutes play their outside-left Woodhead scored following a mix-up between Stan Rickaby and Jimmy Dudley. But Albion bounced back and on ten minutes a long range drive from Ray Barlow brought the equaliser.

Wednesday however, shrugged that set-back aside and promptly went 2-1 up when Redfearn Froggatt glided home Marriott's long cross from the right.

Albion thought nothing of defence and went at Wednesday again, levelling up at 2-2 after 17 minutes when Curtis netted an own-goal after Ronnie Allen had caused panic in the home defence.

Eight minutes later the 'Owls' went 3-2 ahead, this time Rickaby and goalkeeper Norman Heath got in a tangle to let in Woodhead for his second goal.

At half-time it was still 3-2 to Wednesday, and that soon became 4-2 as Derek Dooley, that excellent centre-forward, darted in to score from point-blank range as Dudley and Kennedy hesitated.

Albion had it all to do at this stage, but do it they did! Recalled Len: "We had to go forward, and I insisted that if we didn't, then we could lose by at least six or seven."

Albion went forward, alright, and on 53 minutes Gannon deflected Johnny Nicholls' shot into his net and the Baggies were back in business.

Allen then had a shot headed off the line, Reg Ryan struck a post, Nicholls saw Kenny scoop another effort over the bar and Gannon got in the way of an Allen piledriver as Wednesday took a hammering.

With ten minutes remaining Nicholls latched onto Allen's shrewd pass and Albion were level for the third time. They looked full of running and with just three minutes left, Allen capped a quite splendid performance by grabbing the winner. He even hit a post in the dying seconds as Wednesday back-pedalled and Albion went in search of number six.

What a game, what a finish. Albion were victorious by 5-4, and Len was highly delighted when he said: "We deserved it, we played bloody well and all credit to the lads who never gave up."

Albion's team against Wednesday 33 years ago was: Heath, Rickaby, Millard, Dudley, Kennedy, Barlow, Griffin, Nicholls, Allen, Ryan and Lee.



LEN MILLARD



THE ALBION CLUB SHOP FASHION SHOW



Some of the new styles available are seen modelled by Albion stars.

- Martyn Bennett in the Jogging Suit.
- Garth Crooks in the Sweat Shirt.
- Jimmy Nicholl in the First-team Replica Kit.
- Tony Godden wearing the Goalkeeping Gloves available in Boys' and Men's sizes.

He is seen holding on to the Minerva Sierra size five football, also available from the Club Shop.

- Steve MacKenzie in the 'T' Shirt.
- Martyn Bennett and Steve MacKenzie are also modelling our New American-style Baseball Caps.

Just a selection of some of the styles we have to offer, so why not call in and take a look for yourself?

HOME AND AWAY (THE FOOTBALL TRIALS OF DANNY HARRIS)

● PART ELEVEN...

It was late when Danny arrived home from his training session with Midland United.

Although he was physically shattered he knew that he would get very little sleep that night. For Danny Harris was faced with one of the biggest decisions of his life; and no matter how much invaluable advice his father could give him the choice would ultimately rest with him.

He was sixteen and was due to leave school the following summer. Football was going to be his first career. That was for certain now. But with which club? Glamorous Rockwell City, the top team in the North West and the country were more than interested in him but so were Midland United for that matter, although at the foot of the First Division they could not boast the same pedigree.

"What shall I do, Dad?" Danny asked, clutching a steaming mug of cocoa in front of the fire.

"I can't tell you that son. Sooner or later you're going to have to decide for yourself. Just take your time and think over what everybody has told you. At least you know now that it's not the straight forward choice you thought it was... Get yourself off to bed now and sleep on it." His father gave him a reassuring pat on the back and motioned towards the stairs.

"Good night, Dad" Danny said and went upstairs. His thoughts in only one direction. City or United?

For the next few days Danny was, for all intents and purposes, no use to anyone. He wandered round, at home and school, in a total daze. He spent all his waking hours pondering and trying to get nearer to making a decision. As his father had said, he might spend several years in the reserves at Rockwell City, such was the level of competition for places. Midland United may not be such a dazzling prospect but he would learn his trade the hard way there and would probably be the better player for it.

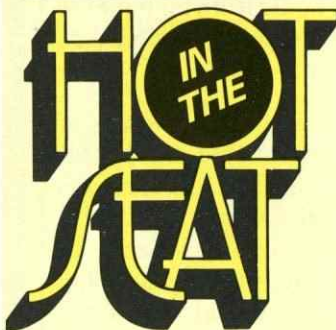
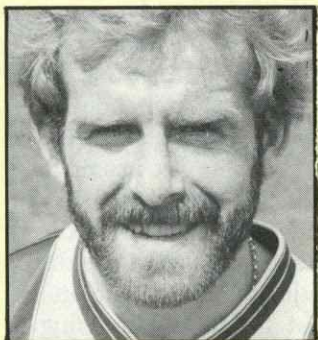
Ironically it was during a game of football that Danny finally decided on his future. At half time his school team was winning 3-0 and Danny, despite his problems, had notched up a couple of goals. Sitting on the touchline, gulping down a pint of milk, he suddenly realised that he would not be able to move away from home and his family. The Midlands was his home and Midlands' football meant a lot to him. It had been his dream for many years to play for the team he had supported since a young boy and now he had the chance to make his dream come true.

He finished his game and captained the side to a resounding 5-1 victory. When he had finished getting changed Danny went immediately to the school foyer and picked up the telephone...

"Midland United? This is Danny Harris and I've decided to play for your football club."

To be continued...

TONY GREALISH



Q How old were you when you first started to play football?

A *I was eight years old and played for my junior school, Wilberforce in Paddington. We weren't particularly successful.*

Q If you were stranded on a remote desert island, which records would you like to have with you?

A *RUMOURS by Fleetwood Mac; the Rolling Stones album SOLID GOLD; and Marvin Gaye's WHAT'S GOING ON.*

Q Do you prefer blondes or brunettes?

A *Blondes... they have more fun!*

Q Do you read the Sunday newspapers at all?

A *To be honest, I'm not bothered about any papers.*

Q If you were granted a footballing wish, what would yours be?

A *To keep playing as long as I can without any injury problems.*

Q What other sports do you play?

A *I enjoy playing golf and tennis, but I don't take them seriously.*

Q Are you aware of crowd comments and chants during a match?

A *Yes—I am, but I try not to take any notice of them.*

Q What kind of car would you like to own... and did you pass your driving test first time?

A *I would love a Daimler Sovereign, and luckily I passed first time.*

Q Do you read any books at all and have you any favourite authors?

A *Yes, I like reading books by Frederick Forsyth and Geoffrey Archer.*

Q Looking ahead, when you've finished playing football what would you like to do?

A *Hopefully I would like to stay in the game in some capacity; otherwise I would go into the property business or run a shop.*

Q Who are your favourite actors and actresses?

A *Jack Nicholson, Woody Allen and Barbra Streisand.*

Q If Jim could 'Fix It' for you what would you ask for?

A *I would ask him to send me on a World Cruise.*

Q Where has been your best holiday ever?

A *When I visited the USA (Los Angeles), and Rondondors Beach, three years ago, with Brighton F.C.*

Q Did you have a footballing hero when you were a lad?

A *Yes—the great George Best without a doubt. I've met him once or twice.*

Q If you were a contestant on 'Mastermind' what subject would you choose to answer questions on?

A *Pass.*

Q How do you spend your evenings generally?

A *I enjoy going out for a meal with a party of friends.*

Q How do you spend the rest of the day after training?

A *Usually looking after my daughter, whose nickname is 'damage.'*

Q What is your favourite kind of travel?

A *Aeroplane, because you must be going 'abroad' and I enjoy travelling.*

Q Did you like school and were you a good or bad pupil?

A *I didn't like school, really, and I was a 'bad' lad.*

Q Some people hate being stuck in long traffic queues... what do you hate most of all?

A *Being late and women drivers.*

Q If you were host of a 'Wogan type' chat

show, who would you invite along as guests?

A *Jack Nicholson and 'Alas' Smith and Jones.*

Q What and/or who makes you laugh?

A *All the out-takes of 'It'll Be Alright On The Night'... Only Fools And Horses and certain comedy shows.*

Q Are there any other members of your family involved in football?

A *None at all.*

Q Name your present day England team (although you're Irish)... you are the manager and you need a righthand man?

A *I would have Lawrie McMenemy to assist me with this team: Shilton, Stevens, Statham, Robson, Butcher, Wright, Hoddle, Reid, Lineker, Hateley, J. Barnes.*

Q Your house is on fire, everyone is safe and sound, and you have a minute or so to go back inside and rescue a personal item... what would it be?

A *The box with all my footballing medals and trophies in, which I've collected over the years as a player.*

Q Name the best four players in your opinion in the main positions of the game today—goal, defence, midfield, up front.

A *Shilton (goal), Lawrenson (defence), Robson (midfield) and Hughes (striker).*

Q What would be the hardest thing to abandon in life and what would be the easiest to give up (for lent)?

A *The hardest thing to drop would be eating and drinking... the easiest would be the washing up.*



BE LIKE ALBION



PACESETTERS

DON'T SMOKE



Published by the West Midlands Regional Health Authority

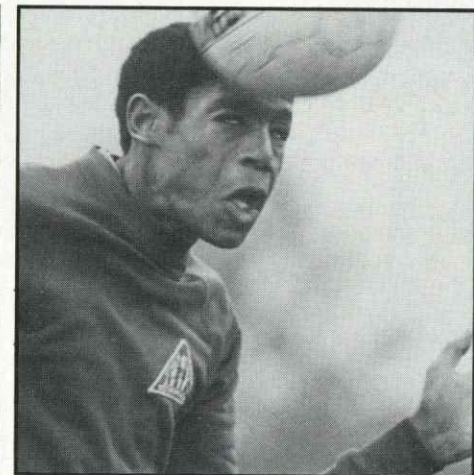
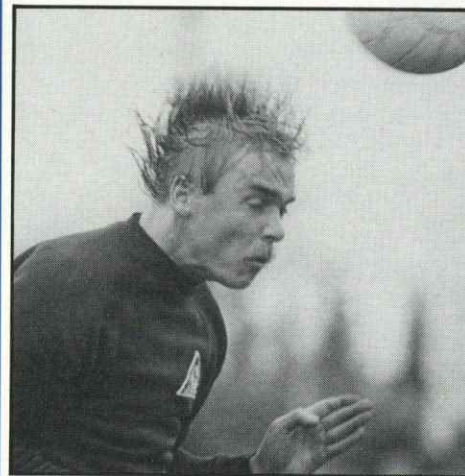
FREE ALBION POSTER!

● Send now in
writing to the...
Health Education
Service
8 Grange Road
West Bromwich

LET THIS FREE ALBION TEAM POSTER
HELP YOU TO
KICK THE SMOKING HABIT!

TRAINING

A PICTORIAL VISIT
TO SEE THE LADS
AT WORK AND PLAY



MASCOT PARADE...



Above mascots for the Arsenal game. For Albion Alistair Preece and the the 'Gunners' Richard Nowell. Below left: Lee Rogers, mascot for the game against Villa. Steven Stokes was the mascot for the Everton game.



BACK-CHAT

Albion's overall League form against Luton Town in the past has been excellent, especially here at The Hawthorns, where Luton have only collected one win in fourteen visits.

This afternoon the teams meet each other for the twenty-ninth time in League competition, and Albion's record at present reads as follows:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Home	14	12	1	1	34	7	40*
Away	14	5	4	5	13	17	15*
Total	28	17	5	6	47	24	45*

**Includes wins worth three points apiece.*

The first League clashes both took place in 1938-39. Albion won 3-0 at The Hawthorns when Harry Jones (two) and Meynell Burgin scored (24,377 were present) and Luton were 3-1 victors at Kenilworth Road, when the turnout reached 11,700 and Billy Elliott made his Albion debut.

Immediately after the War Luton 'doubled-up' over Albion, winning both the fixtures in 1946-47—2-1 on Albion soil and 2-0 at home. The following season Albion took three points with a 1-0 home win (Dave Walsh scoring) and sharing the spoils away 1-1 when George Drury netted.

In 1948-49, the season when Albion gained promotion from Division Two, they themselves achieved the double with a 2-1 triumph and a 1-0 away win. Elliott and Cyril Williams netted at The

Hawthorns in front of 32,000 fans and Hugh Morrow was the hero at Kenilworth Road when the gate was 16,651 and Joe Kennedy played his first game for the 'Baggies'.

The initial First Division clashes took place in 1955-56: Albion were the winners of them both—3-1 at



BILLY ELLIOTT

home and 2-0 away, Frank Griffin scoring in each match.

In 1956-57 it was Albion again who took the honours with a 4-0 home win and a 1-0 away victory. Derek Kevan scored in both games this time with Griffin also on target at The Hawthorns.

Luton whipped Albion 5-1 at home in December 1957 which ended a run of seventeen games without defeat for the 'Throstles', but Albion gained revenge on the last day of the season when George Lee netted twice in a 4-2 win after Luton had got in with a 2-1 interval lead.

Two successive Albion home wins followed that—2-0 in 1958-59 and 4-0 again in 1959-60. In the latter match Ronnie Allen found the net twice.

Then there was a break of fourteen seasons before the teams met again, this time in Division Two.

It was in 1973-74 and Luton came up after drawing 1-1 with Albion here in West Bromwich after earlier suffering a 2-0 home defeat when Dave Shaw and Asa Hartford beat the frost to bring Albion two points.

In 1975-76 Albion climbed out of the Second Division and during their programme beat Luton 1-0 at home (John Trewick the scorer) but lost 1-2 away, Johnny Giles getting himself sent-off.

Luton spent the second half of the '70s and the early '80s in Division Two and their last three trips to The Hawthorns have all ended in defeats, Albion winning 1-0 in 1982-83 (Clive Whitehead obliging); 3-0 in 1983-84 (Steve MacKenzie, Tony Morley and Cyrille Regis on target) and 4-0 last season when Steve Hunt, Gary Thompson, Nicky Cross and Regis again found the net. Albion have won one, drawn one and lost one of their last three games at Kenilworth Road.

INTRODUCING LUTON TOWN

LUTON TOWN, the second First Division club to introduce astro-turf into League Football in this country, are now one of the best home teams in the top bracket. But away from Kenilworth Road their overall form in 1985-86 has been something of a mixture.

Yet manager, **David Pleat**, who has been in charge of the 'Hatters' since January 1978, and is still one of the youngest in his 'profession' at the age of forty, believes his team is now 'coming into its own' having played some really good football in the first-half of the season.

Indeed, **Luton** are perhaps enjoying their best season in Division One for many a year, and who knows, they could finish in their highest position ever (it is eighth at the moment).

Mr Pleat has done exceptionally well player-wise. The attendances at Kenilworth Road have never been brilliant (last season the average there was under 11,000 and this term it's around 10,200), consequently the income in money is relatively low. That squeezes back on transfer-activity and **Pleat** has worked shrewdly in this field, bringing some quality players to the club, and releasing a few to break even with the bank.

Home-bred stars include **Tim Breacker**, **Mitchell Thomas**, **Ricky Hill** and **Mark North**, and to a certain extent, **Andy King**, who has returned 'home' to Luton after touring the country with Everton, Queens Park Rangers, Albion and Wolves, as well as having a spell in Europe.



Mr Pleat's signings have been good, and he has laid out money for goalkeeper **Les Sealey** (from Coventry City), defenders **Mal Donaghy** (from Larne), **Steve Foster** (from Aston Villa), **David Preece** (from Walsall), **Mick Harford** (from Birmingham City), **Peter Nicholas** (from Crystal Palace) and the Nigerian **Chukwuemeka Nwajiobi** (from non-League's Dulwich Hamlet). He's sold **Paul Elliot** (to Aston Villa a fortnight ago), **Frankie Bunn** (to Hull City), **Wayne Turner** (to Coventry City) and **Jake Findlay**, the reserve 'keeper has also left, along with the experienced **Colin Todd** and striker **David Moss**.

Internationals **Donaghy** (Northern Ireland), **Foster** (England) and **Nicholas** (Wales) have been the men 'in form' for Luton this season, along with strikers **Brian Stein** (England) and **Harford**.

Experience has paid a big part in Luton's revival over the last couple of seasons. If you recall, in 1983 they stayed in the First Division thanks to a last-match victory against relegated Manchester City at Maine Road. That day Albion's **Tony Godden** was in goal with the following in front of him, wearing the shirts 2 to 12: **Stephens** (now Coventry City), **Goodyear**, **Horton** (now Hull's player/manager), **Elliott**, **Donaghy**, **Hill**, **Aylott** (now Crystal Palace), **Turner** (now Coventry City), **Stein**, **Paul Walsh** (now Liverpool) and **Raddy Antic** the match-winner. Only three

◀ **STEVE FOSTER**

are still key members at Luton—**Donaghy**, **Hill** and **Stein**. But **Mr Pleat** is also there—and doing a grand job generally speaking.

Luton came within a whisker of reaching Wembley last April (when they lost 2-1 to Everton in the F.A. Cup semi-final at Villa Park). That in itself was a wonderful achievement, considering their plight of 1982-83. **Mr Pleat** has worked on the Cup run, and a lot of enthusiasm, will-power, dedication and

honest endeavour has come out in his first-team players this season. Southampton, **Peter Shilton** and all, were walloped 7-0 by Luton at Kenilworth Road in mid-October. And that performance was rated as 'brilliant' by **Mr Pleat** himself and the reporting Pressmen, as well as the Luton loyalists.

But, with the odd exception, Luton have never reproduced that sort of form away from home. In front of their regulars they have

displayed a lot of skill, commitment and effort yet **Mr Pleat** wants all this sort of soccer action to be done on opponents' grounds as well as at home.

Going through the Luton squad as it stands today, we see that **Sealey**, the 'keeper, is twenty-eight and has 250 League games under his belt—(Coventry City, Luton and Plymouth Argyle). **Breacker** (twenty) recently topped fifty in the First Division and his full-back partner **Thomas** (twenty-one) is close on 100 outings at senior level for the club.

Foster (twenty-eight) has accumulated 340 League appearances in his career with Portsmouth, Brighton and Hove Albion, Aston Villa and Luton, while **Donaghy** (twenty-eight) reached 300 in the competition three months ago.

Nicholas (twenty-six) has amassed close on 300 League and Cup appearances with Arsenal, Crystal Palace and Luton; **Hill** will bring his League tally to 350 in the New Year; and **King** is now heading towards the 350 mark (eighty-one goals) having been Wolves' leading scorer this season.

Stein (twenty-eight) from Capetown in South Africa, began 1985-86 with a League record of ninety-two goals in 289 appearances, and his 100th strike came up October; **Harford** (twenty-six) has now netted over 100 goals in over 290 League game (for Lincoln City, Newcastle United, Bristol City, Birmingham City and Luton) and **Preece** (twenty-two) hit five goals in 111 League matches for 'The Saddlers' and carried on with two in twenty-one for Luton last term.

Mark North, brother of **Stacey** (now on loan with Wolves) is aged nineteen, and has a promising future ahead of him, so too has **Ray Daniel**, a twenty-one year-old midfielder, and **Nwajiobi** (twenty-six) who has already claimed fifteen goals in forty-plus League matches.

Luton love to play attacking football, and with Albion playing three attackers and three midfielders also moving into striking positions, we should see plenty of goalmouth action this afternoon. Let's hope so... for the sake of Auld Lang Syne.



Date	OPPONENTS	F-A	Gate	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	SUB
Aug 17	Oxford United	1-1	14,626	Godden	Nicholl	Statham	Whitehead	Bennett	Robertson	Greath	Varadi 1	MacKenzie	Valentine	*Crooks	Cowdrill
20	Watford	0-2	26,788	Godden	Nicholl	Cowdrill	Hunt	Bennett	*Robertson	Whitehead	Varadi 1	MacKenzie	Statham	Valentine	Anderson
24	Everton	1-3	14,541	Godden	Nicholl	Anderson	Robson	Bennett	*Robertson	Armstrong	Varadi 1	MacKenzie	Statham	Valentine	Whitehead
26	Manchester City	2-3	12,152	Godden	Whitehead	Anderson	Robson	Bennett	Nicholl	Armstrong	Varadi 1	MacKenzie	Statham	Valentine	Cowdrill
31	Chelsea	0-3	15,376	Godden											
Sapt 4	Aston Villa	0-3	17,077	Godden	Nicholl	Statham	Robson	Forsyth	*Robertson	Armstrong	Varadi 1	MacKenzie	Greath	Valentine	Anderson
7	Ipswich Town	1-2	7,733	Godden	Nicholl	Statham	*Robson	Armstrong	Robertson	Forsyth	Varadi 1	MacKenzie	Greath	Crooks	Palmer
14	Newcastle United	1-4	21,856	Godden	Nicholl	Statham	Robson	Robertson	Forsyth	Armstrong	Varadi 1	MacKenzie	Statham	Crooks 1	Anderson
21	Manchester United	1-5	25,068	Godden	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt	Robertson	Forsyth	Armstrong	Varadi 1	MacKenzie	Statham	Crooks 1	Anderson
28	Port Vale (M/C 2, 1st Leg)	1-0	6,288	Godden	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt	Bennett	Cowdrill	Armstrong	Varadi 1	MacKenzie	Statham	Crooks	Greath
24	Coventry City (M/C 3)	0-3	10,295	Godden	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt	Bennett	Robertson	Armstrong	Varadi 1	MacKenzie	Statham	Crooks	Greath
Oct 5	Tottenham Hotspur	1-1	12,040	Bradshaw	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine 1	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks	Whitehead
7	Port Vale (M/C 2, 2nd Leg)	2-2	7,895	Bradshaw	Nicholl	Statham	Greath	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Hunt	Varadi 2	Thomas	Crooks	Whitehead
12	Leicester City	2-2	7,236	Bradshaw	Nicholl	Statham	Whitehead	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 2	Thomas	Crooks	Whitehead
19	Birmingham City	2-1	14,576	Bradshaw	Palmer	Statham	Hunt	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine 1	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks 2	Thompson
26	Sheffield Wednesday	0-1	19,873	Bradshaw	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks	Armstrong
29	Coventry City (M/C 3)	0-1	9,804	Bradshaw	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks	Palmer
Nov 3	Nottingham Forest	1-2	9,610	Bradshaw	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt 1	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks	Whitehead
6	Coventry C (M/C 3 Rep.)	4-3	9,886	Bradshaw	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt 1	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 2	Thomas	Crooks	Whitehead
13	Queens Park Rangers	0-1	28,406	Bradshaw	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt 1	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 2	Thomas	Crooks	Palmer
16	Liverpool	0-1	28,407	Godden	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt 1	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks	Armstrong
20	Aston Villa (M/C 4)	2-2	20,185	Bradshaw	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt 1	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks	Armstrong
23	Arsenal	0-2	18,868	Bradshaw	Palmer	Statham	Hunt 1	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks	Palmer
27	West Ham United	0-2	18,868	Bradshaw	Palmer	Statham	Hunt 1	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks	Robson
30	Aston Villa (M/C 4 Rep.)	0-4	16,325	Bradshaw	Nicholl	Cowdrill	Hunt	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks	Greath
Dec 7	Everton	0-3	12,206	Godden	Nicholl	Cowdrill	Hunt 1	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks	Palmer
14	Oxford United	0-2	9,020	Godden	Nicholl	Statham	Hunt 1	Bennett	Robertson	Valentine	Greath	Varadi 1	Thomas	Crooks	Dennison
22	Watford	0-2													
26	Wolverhampton	0-2													
28	Aston Villa	0-2													

DIVISION ONE

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Man United	21	8	3	0	20	2	7
Liverpool	21	10	1	0	29	6	3
West Ham	21	9	0	1	26	9	5
Chelsea	21	8	2	1	21	8	3
Sheff Wed	21	6	3	1	17	15	5
Everton	21	6	2	2	25	10	5
Arsenal	21	6	2	1	15	7	2
Luton Town	21	6	4	1	20	15	3
Newcastle Utd	21	6	1	4	17	15	3
Notm Forest	21	6	1	4	17	15	3
Watford	21	7	2	1	24	9	1
Tottenham	20	5	1	3	26	12	3
O.P.R.	21	6	2	3	14	8	2
Southampton	21	6	4	1	19	7	0
Coventry City	21	3	2	5	16	15	3
Manchester City	21	3	4	3	14	14	2
Leicester City	22	3	6	2	20	18	2
Oxford United	22	4	4	2	19	13	0
Aston Villa	21	2	4	5	14	10	1
Birmingham City	20	4	1	5	8	10	1
Ipswich Town	21	3	2	6	10	16	1
ALBION	21	1	3	6	8	20	0

FIRST DIVISION FACTS AND FIGURES

● Highest Scores	Luton 7, Southampton 0, 19-10-85
● Highest Attendances	54,575—Manchester Utd v Tottenham Hotspur, 16-11-85
	54,499—Manchester Utd v Liverpool, 19-10-85
	52,820—Manchester United v Oxford Utd, 07-09-85
● Lowest Attendances	7,043—Birmingham City v Watford, 07-12-85
	7,236—Leicester City v W.B. Albion, 12-10-85
	7,290—Leicester City v Ipswich Town, 28-09-85
	7,711—Leicester City v Oxford United, 02-10-85
● Leading Goalscorers	T. Gibson (Coventry).....13
	K. Dixon (Chelsea).....19
	F. McAvennie (West Ham).....16
	J. Aldridge (Oxford).....15
	G. Lineker (Everton).....15
● Penalties	Fifty-eight penalties have so far been converted by First Division players this season: eighty-one have been awarded!
● Hat-tricks	Eleven hat-tricks have been netted by players in Division One this term, Chelsea's Kerry Dixon hit the latest (at Oxford in the F.M.C.).

Opponents	F-A
August	
21—Everton	2-0
27—Wigan Athletic	1-1
September	
5—Manchester City	1-1
11—Sheffield United	3-3
18—Huddersfield Town	0-0
24—Derby County	1-2
October	
1—Sheffield Wednesday	0-2
9—Leicester City	3-1
16—Barnsley	1-1
24—Hull City	0-3
30—Leeds United	2-1
November	
7—Liverpool	1-5
20—Nottingham Forest	2-7
December	
4—Blackburn Rovers	3-2
11—Aston Villa	1-4
18—Manchester City	
1988	
January	
14—Everton	
22—Sheffield United	
29—Wigan Athletic	
February	
5—Barnsley	
12—Hull City	
19—Huddersfield Town	
26—Derby County	
March	
5—Sheffield Wednesday	
10—Leicester City	
19—Liverpool	
25—Leeds United	
April	
2—Newcastle United	
9—Nottingham Forest	
16—Manchester United	
23—Blackburn Rovers	
30—Aston Villa	

Opponents	F-A
August	
24—Cherfield	2-2
31—Mansfield Town	2-3
September	
7—Stoke City	1-3
14—Wolverhampton Wanderers	2-3
21—Nottingham Forest	1-4
28—Aston Villa	1-2
October	
5—Derby County	3-2
19—Coventry City	3-2
26—Leicester City	4-3
November	
2—Notts County	1-2
9—Port Vale	2-2
16—Shrewsbury Town	1-2
23—Coventry City	1-2
30—Walsall	4-3
December	
7—Aston Villa	2-1
14—Shrewsbury Town	0-3
21—Walsall	
28—Cherfield	

A Message from

Aston Villa

Albion Supporters should use turnstiles marked 'R' and 'S' for entry to the Terraces on Saturday 28th December 1985, where admission in £3.00 and the North Stand where ample reserved seats will be available at £5.00.

LEAGUE APPEARANCES AND GOALS SCORED

Player	1985-1986	1985-1986	1985-1986
	Apps	Gls	Career
C. Anderson	4+3	114+8	11
G. Armstrong	7+1	122+46	22
M. Bennett	16	150+1	4
P. Bradshaw	8	286	3
B. Cowdrill	3+1	263+11	103
G. Crooks	15	283+3	5
R. Dennison	2	2	2
M. Forsyth	7	24+1	—
T. Godden	13	290	—
S. Hunt	10+1	392+16	21
S. Mackenzie	12	243+10	40
J. Nicholl	12+1	161+5	28
G. Owen	19	281+9	3
C. Palmer	—	283+3	40
A. Robertson	2+4	2+4	—
G. Reilly	15	499+2	8
G. Robson	2	338+7	106
D. Statham	8+1	22+7	—
M. Thomas	19	273+1	8
A. Thompson	12	447+16	67
C. Valentine	1	1	—
I. Varadi	15	119+7	14
C. Whitehead	19	196+12	86
	10+2	321+30	13

W.B. ALBION CUP APPEARANCES 1985-86

Appearances: Anderson 0+2, Armstrong 3, Bennett 8, Bradshaw 6, Bull 0+2, Crooks 9, Dennison 1, Forsyth 1, Godden 2, Greath 5+1, Hunt 9, Mackenzie 1, Nicholl 7, Palmer 3+1, Powell 1, Robertson 8, Robson 2+1, Statham 8, Thomas 6, Thompson 1, Valentine 7, Varadi 7, Whitehead 3+2. Totals: 99+9.

W.B. ALBION CUP GOALSCORERS 1985-86

Goals: Crooks 5, Varadi 4, Hunt 3, Armstrong 1, Bennett 1, Nicholl 1, Valentine 1. Total: 15.

CENTRAL LEAGUE ROUND-UP

Wednesday, 4th December, 1985
ALBION 3, BLACKBURN 2
 Scorers: Hayward, Thompson, MacKenzie.
 Team: Powell, Palmer, Anderson, Owen, Hayward, Forsyth, Robson, MacKenzie, Bull, Thompson, Dennison. Substitute: Hathway.
 Attendance: 203.

Wednesday, 11th December, 1985
ASTON VILLA 4, ALBION 1
 Scorer: Palmer.
 Team: Powell, Dobbins, Anderson, Hayward, Deelove, Whitehead, Robson, Owen, Dennison, Palmer, Thompson. Substitute: Jones (for Robson).
 Attendance: 196.

ALL STATISTICS UP TO AND INCLUDING TUESDAY, 17th DECEMBER, 1985



FACTS AND FIGURES

COMPILED BY
TONY MATTHEWS
 CLUB STATISTICIAN

TEAMS

W. B. ALBION

Colours:
Blue and White Striped Shirts
White Shorts, White Socks

LUTON TOWN

Colours:
White/ Orange Shirts
White Shorts

TONY GODDEN
JIMMY NICHOLL
DEREK STATHAM
STEVE HUNT
MARTYN BENNETT
ALISTAIR ROBERTSON
TONY GREALISH
IMRE VARADI
GEORGE REILLY
MICKEY THOMAS
STEVE MACKENZIE

1 LES SEALEY
2 TIM BREACKER
3 MITCHELL THOMAS
4 PETER NICHOLAS
5 STEVE FOSTER
6 MAL DONAGHY
7 RICKY HILL
8 BRIAN STEIN
9 MICK HARFORD
10 ANDY KING
11 DAVID PREECE
12

1/2 TIME SCORES

A	Birmingham v Nottm Forest	
B	Chelsea v Q.P.R.	
C	Coventry City v Ipswich Town	
D	Everton v Manchester Utd	
E	Manchester City v Liverpool	
F	Oxford United v Southampton	
G	Sheffield Wed v Newcastle Utd	
H	Tottenham v West Ham	
J	Blackburn v Leeds Utd	
K	Carlisle Utd v Middlesbrough	
L	Huddersfield v Barnsley	
M	Hull City v Grimsby Town	
N	Norwich City v Charlton Ath	
O	Portsmouth v Brighton	
P	Sunderland v Sheffield Utd	
Q	Chesterfield v Lincoln City	
R	Derby County v Walsall	
S	Notts County v Wolves	

This space is still available for certain matches to anyone who would like to sponsor the Matchball. If you are interested call the Club on...

021-525 8888

OFFICIALS

● Referee... Mr A. ROBINSON

Commenced refereeing in 1958 in Radcliffe Amateur League and progressed via Bolton Combination and Lancashire Combination. Interested in most sports, travel and walking. Also enjoys the cinema and theatre. Senior linesman at a U.E.F.A. Cup-tie in 1982. He is married with two sons.

● Yellow Flag
Mr A. FENN

Linesmen...

● Red Flag
Mr L. L. WATSON



**ALBION
VOUCHER**

No. 15

SEASON 1985-1986