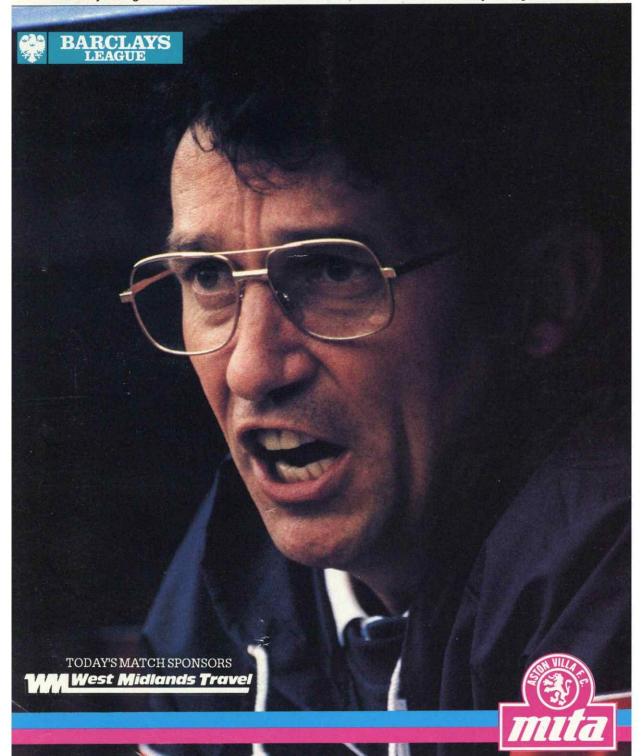
ASTON VILLA

NEWS & RECORD OFFICIAL MATCH MAGAZINE PRICE £1

Barclays League Division One ASTON VILLA v LUTON TOWN Saturday 1st April 1989





GRAHAM TAYLOR

We can
do with
as much
support
as is
possible



In our present situation with everyone on edge, there is bound to be a lot of loose talk, but I for one certainly do not intend to add to it.

I well understand that it is part of the media's job to fuel a crisis, but the players and myself will just have to live with that throughout the remainder of the season.

Our job is to gain sufficient points to make sure that come next August we are still operating in the First Division.

In the meantime, we can do with as much support as is possible from both inside and outside of the club

Best wishes Graham Taylor, Manager

FA CUP SEMI-FINAL SATURDAY 15 APRIL 1989

EVERTON v NORWICH CITY

Due to a change in the FA Cup regulations,
Aston Villa will not be able to supply any of our
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Getting the opponents by the nose.



copy that!

Superstitious Welsh goalkeeper, Dr Roose, never washed his football shirt. This, combined with his ability to punch a ball further than most men can kick it, meant the

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ASTON VILLA NEWS & RECORD

Production & Design: Sports Projects Ltd Print: Hemmings & Capey (Leicester) Ltd for Sports Projects Ltd

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IT PAYS TO BE A VILLA AGENT!

When Mrs Boyd dipped her hand into the box and pulled out two tickets it was celebration time for a couple Villa lottery agents.

For the winning tickets belonged to George Griffiths and Mark Goodwin who each won a three-day trip to Monte Carlo. The lucky foursome will leave Villa Park next weekend for the trip of a lifetime, just one of the benefits of being a Villa agent!

Pictured (above) with Mrs Boyd are Miss Aston Villa, the lovely Lisa Saunders, and Promotions Manager Bob Manca.

AGENTS REQUIRED

Why don't you join our team off the field and become a lottery

Apart from the possibilty of winning trips like the Monte Carlo prize mentioned above in our AGENTS ONLY draw for fabulous continental holidays there's also the following benefits:

- ★ 10% commission on all sales
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Require Part-time Collectors/Canvassers in and around the Birmingham area. Car and telephone would be an advantage. For details telephone 328 2246.





The one that didn't get away ... Villa Chairman Doug Ellis proudly shows off the 27 lb salmon he caught on his last trip to Scotland. The prize-catch has been given a permanent resting place on display in the match-room boardroom.

I WANT MY MUM

There's a teddy bear lost. And, as the picture shows, the poor animal is not too happy about it.

Photographer Terry Weir found himself installed as 'foster parent' when the teddy bear, temporarily known as Holtey, appeared from the terraces behind the goal and landed near to him.

The poor little displaced bear was given a special perch on Terry's camera case for the duration of the match because, among all those people, it was impossible to return it to its owner.

But how did it get there? For sure



no self-respecting Teddy Bear owner would have deliberately thrown him

Could it have been a bigger boy being unkind to a smaller one - who knows?

Anyway, Terry has given Teddy a good home for the time being. But he states: "If the owner of Holtey would like to contact the club then he can be restored to his rightful resting place." Aaahh...

SOLO PAUL

The writer on European affairs Arthur Rotmil, has unearthed an interesting fact about Italian football and an ex-Villa player.

Paul Elliott, it seems, is the one and

only Brit, out of 50 foreigners currently playing in the first division in Italy.

Paul, remember, was sold to Pisa in Graham Taylor's first few weeks at the club, in the summer of '87.

Bari, Gordon Cowans' former Italian club had been bidding for former Charlton and Luton defender Elliott when the Division One club nipped

Rotmil describes how Pisa felt that his speed and strength would be well-suited to the close man-to-man marking system out there.

However, Paul had an unhappy baptism when he was sent off against Napoli.

That brought him a 14-day ban, hardly the way to settle down in new surroundings.

Yet all could be well according the writer who adds. "Elliott learned his lesson well and he could become one of the few among the 20 former Football League players who have tried their luck in Italy since the war and succeeded."

LIKE FATHER....

Cute little Lynsey Clover (above right) proudly displays how she and her dad, Philip make a contribution to the idea of family football.

"I'm off to Villa with my daddy," says her personalised version of the club badge on her hat.

Lynsey, who lives in Meriden, now has a baby brother was was due on the Sunday of the Manchester United

SPONSORS ROLL CALL

Today's match sponsor is West Midlands Travel who wish all their guests a very enjoyable afternoon.

Today's Matchball Sponsors are Finesse Windows Ltd, with host David Bridge who warmly welcomes all his guests.

Within the Houghton Suite are Key Consultants Mortgages Nationwide Ltd with host Ray Pinney and his guests enjoying this exclusive sponsorship.

Executive Box sponsors Hi-ton International, with host Alan Carter, look forward to an entertaining day within the Witton Lane Executive Box Complex. Dillons Newsagents also enjoy the hospitality of a Witton Lane Executive Box and Aston Villa sincerely hope all our sponsors enjoy their day out at the Club.



game but, in fact, arrived three weeks early. It was, in fact, the new arrival who opened the way for her first visit to Villa Park, which was for the Charlton game.

Says Philip: "With my wife Rosalyn and a two-day old baby in hospital what finer time could there have been for me to take Lynsey for her first math at Villa Park?'

Lynsey had, in fact, visited the ground before. But that was in August to look around the facilities before the action began in earnest.

"How about this as an idea to encourage families to go to Villa Park?"



RESERVES AT HOME

Our next Central League game at Villa Park will be against Nottingham Forest on Wednesday, April 5th.

asks Philip. We got a tremendous response from the supporters on the North Stand and in the Panini Suite."Lynsey likes being involved in things I do and has been wanting to accompany me to Villa Park for at least 12 months."

So, now Lynsey has made her Villa Park debut no doubt she will be here again. Let's hope little Miss Clover is a lucky as the four-leaved variety...

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

The West Midlands programme Collectors Club holds its monthly meeting on April 10 at the Telford United Social Club, the Bucks Head Ground, Wellington, Telford (7.30)

Also they have a Stourbridge Evening Programme Fair at the War Memorial Athletic Ground, High Street, Amblecote, Admission costs 25p for adults and 15p children.

Contact A R Plimmer (0743 63968) for details of the Stourbridge event.



It takes more than a plaster cast to stop Villa fanatic Maggie Harrison getting to the game. Maggie and friends Eileen McGuckan and Sue Gould followVilla everywhere so you can imagine how thrilled they were when Lee Butler, Derek Mountfield and Gordon Cowans stopped to sign autographs before the West Ham game. For Maggie, though, it was not just a case of having her programme signed.

Tuesday 14th March:

Gordon Cowans, dropped for last Sunday's 0-0 draw with Manchester United at Villa Park is named for the reserves against Albion and says: "I'll play my way back." Derek Mountfield, also left out of the first team. says: "It came as a shock."

Friday 17th March:

Steve Sims keeps his place in the centre of the defence to Mountfield's exclusion while Lee Butler is preferred in goal to Nigel Spink for the trip to Millwall.

Saturday 18th March:

A 2-0 defeat by Millwall at Cold Blow Lane adds to Villa's difficulties as the League position takes on an unhealthy look.

Monday 20th March:

The visit of West Ham next Saturday assumes a new importance with fixtures ahead against several other teams low in the table. Tony Daley scores a hat-trick in the Reserves' 4-3 win at Elland Road.

Wednesday 22nd March:

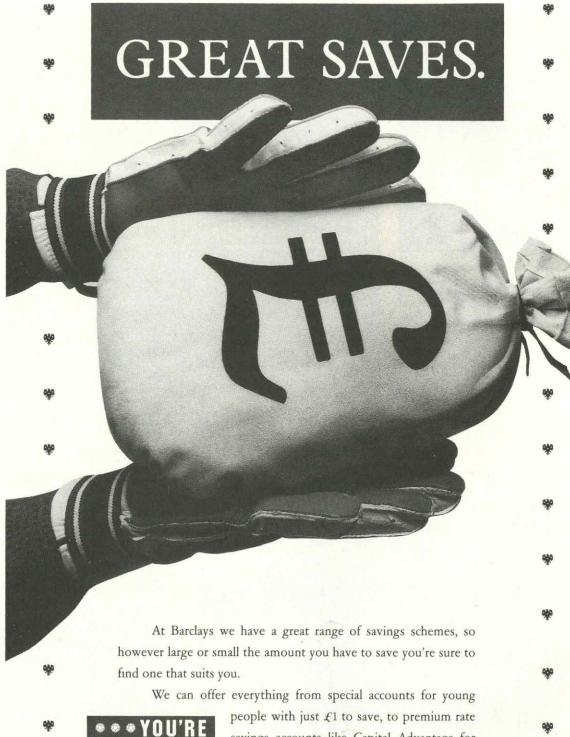
Frank McAvennie makes a surprise decision in agreeing to return to Hammers from Celtic for £1.25M after turning down the chance to join Arsenal's championship chase. He makes his 'first' reapparance for them at Villa Park on Saturday. Gareth Williams nets three of Villa's goals in a 4-1 Central League win against Barnsley at Oakwell to make it six wins on the trot for the high-flying Reserves.

Thursday 23rd March:

The transfer deadline passes with no further deals in or out.

Saturday 25th March:

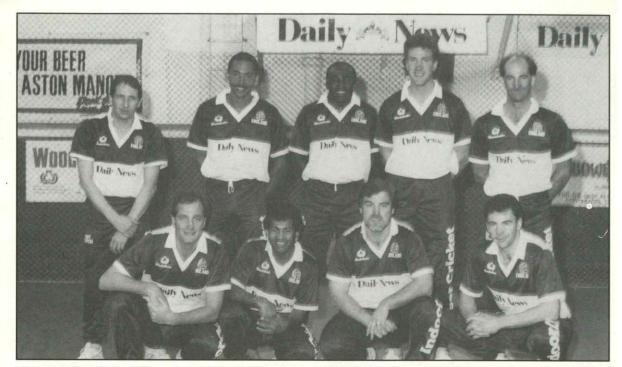
Manager Graham Taylor leaves out Ian Ormondroyd and re-shuffles the team but a 1-0 home defeat by West Ham heralds a worrying final phase of the fixture list. Gordon Cowans is injured in the first half enabling Mountfield to return to the team as sub. "The chips are down now," says the Villa boss. "We're all in the frying pan together."



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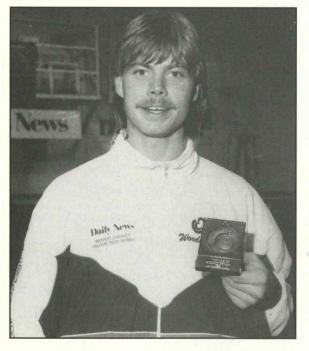
Ask at your local branch for details.

With Barclays on your side you're bound to get a good result.



This star-studded line-up is the England outdoor cricket team who recently played a three match test series against an England Indoor side at Stumps, Villa's own Indoor Cricket centre. The regular indoor players came out on top, winning the 'Daily News' sponsored series 3-0. In the picture are (left to right) Derek Randall, Philip Defreitas, Gladstone Small, Chris Broad, Kim Barnett, John Emburey, Alvin

Kallicharran, Mike Gatting and Tim Robinson. The series was played around the National Indoor League play-offs in which Stumps' own team narrowly missed promotion from the Midland Division to the Premier Division by just one run. A local representative in the England Indoor team was Warwickshire Under 19 player John Wootan who is pictured (below) showing off his winners medal.



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BARCLAYS





The Aston Villa Boys Club from Bothwell in Lanarkshire were among our Easter visitors on a trip organised by Scottish scout Brian Burn. They took the field against the Great Barr Falcons before watching the game against West Ham where they had the chance of meeting former club captain Dennis Mortimer.

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Soccer closed the transfer shop for the season with the trade figures for 12 months standing at an estimated

The top five deals, worth £10m, went through last summer for Ian Rush, Tony Cottee, Paul Gascoigne, Mark Hughes and Paul Stewart, but Frank McAvennie joined the seven-figure club with his move from Celtic to West Ham before last week's deadline.

When Terry Venables agreed to sell Chris Fairclough to Leeds United, his transfer turnover in 16 months with Spurs was reckoned to have gone through the £10m barrier.

That works out at £625,000 a month, but the First Division's voungest manager. Trevor Francis. was able to beat that with deals worth £2.65m, a rate of £189,000 a week since he was appointed by QPR in December.

His spending reached £2m when Andy Sinton, fresh from Brentford's run to the FA Cup quarter-final, was added to previous signings Colin Clarke, Nigel Spackman and Andy Gray. Mr Francis's sales account was worth £575,000 following striker Dean Coney's departure to Norwich, but Mark Dennis turned down a £225,000 move to Middlesbrough.

Brian Talbot, another manager of the younger generation, signed four players for Albion - defenders Paul Raven and Ronnie Robinson from Doncaster, and midfield men Ian Banks (Bradford) and Tony Ford (Stoke). He also released Robert Hopkins to Birmingham for £85,000.

Howard Wilkinson, at Leeds, probably had the most hectic schedule. He bought Fairclough and Manchester United's Scottish international, Gordon Strachan, sold Micky Adams to Southampton and Peter Swan to Hull, and was re-united with his former Sheffield Wednesday striker, Carl Shutt, in a part-exchange arrangement which sent Bob Taylor to Bristol City.

'That must rate as one of the busiest weeks of my life in football,' said Mr Wilkinson when Fairclough signed only 12 minutes before trading ceased. Leeds also persuaded Eire midfield man John Sheridan to sign a new contract.

The manager who suffered most frustration was arguably Bruce Rioch at Middlesbrough. He was unsuccessful in talks with Mark Dennis (QPR) and Steve Williams (Luton) and failed with an eleventh-hour approach to Newcastle for Mirandinha and Kenny Wharton.

All was not lost, however. Mark Proctor returned to Avresome Park eight years after leaving his local club. His transfer fees in that time added up to £1m after moves to Nottingham Forest, Sunderland and Sheffield Wednesday.

Wednesday were left with a profit of £50,000 after selling Proctor and buying Coventry winger Dave Bennett for £250,000.

Former Villa player John Gregory created a small surplus for Portsmouth with a two-for-one package. Welsh international Barry Horne, a £65,000 capture from Wrexham two years ago, went to Southampton for £700,000, which more than covered the £300,000 fees for Birmingham winger Steve Wigley and Barnsley full back John Beresford.

Hull City broke their transfer record twice in 24 hours, paying £155,000 for Notts County striker Ian McParland and then £200,000 for Swan from Leeds. Full back Charlie Palmer's £25,000 switch to Notts County made a small dent in The Tigers' outlay.

Bournemouth were another club who broke a club record when signing midfield man Bobby Barnes from Swindon for £100,000, but they stayed in profit after selling winger Richard Cooke to Luton for £140,000.

Bradford City manager Terry Yorath failed with a £300,000 bid



Robert Hopkins

for Jimmy Gilligan from Cardif City. The former Watford striker was wanted as a partner for Jimmy Quinn, the Northern Ireland international who was signed from Leicester in exchange for midfield man Mick Kennedy.

Leicester replaced Quinn by paying £100,000 for Grimsby forward Marc North, who was with manager David Pleat at Luton. The Filbert Street club, also sold experienced goalkeeper Paul Cooper to Manchester City for £20,000.

Cooper was taken on at Maine Road as Welsh international Andy Dibble's understudy, a role previously filled in a loan spell by Ron Green from Wimbledon. Birmingham-born Green then made a £20,000 move to his first club. Walsall, who also bought Hull striker Andy Saville for £100,000.

Newcastle United maintained a strong tradition of transfers with Scottish clubs. They paid £150,000 for Paul Sweeney of Raith Rovers and released Albert Craig to Dundee on a free transfer.

Shrewsbury Town's Scottish manager. Ian McNeill, also has strong connections north of the border. His latest recruit is Steve Pitman, a full back from East Fife who cost £30,000.

The strangest transfer of all featured 38-year-old former Scotland midfielder Asa Hartford. He lost his job as MANAGER of Stockport County and then signed for Oldham on a one-month contract as a PLAYER.







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JOBCLUB



OFF THE PARK

Dennis Shaw talks to an Aston Villa history-maker,

The youngest player ever to pull on Aston Villa's first team shirt in earnest is currently helping to introduce even younger lads in this area to the game he's now

HOW NICE TO KNOW THAT FATE HAS A SENSE

Jimmy Brown was just fifteen-and-a-half when Tommy Docherty gave him his League debut in a 2-1 defeat in the Second Division at Bolton on September 17, 1969.

Now, 35-year-old Jimmy, cheerful and eager as ever, is an Assistant Sports Development Officer in the Recreation and Community Services department of the Birmingham

His job is to develop all aspects of sport within the constituencies of Hall Green, Sparkbrook, Small Heath

Based at the Birmingham Sports Centre at Highgate, his latest project is to set up "Little Leagues" in the area of Small Heath, mostly for ethnic minority groups.

Already they exist at Handsworth, Quinton and Ladywood. "They are basically for kids who want to play football but they are not good enough to get into a team in one of the organised leagues, "he explains.

Youngsters at the other end of the scale to himself at the same age, in fact.

"There are six teams in a Little League," Jimmy explains. "Each team have 13 players of whom four must be aged 12, four must be eleven and five between nine and 10.

"They play at the Ackers Trust site in Small Heath, all on the same day. To assist financially we have been funded with a thousand pounds from the Ladworth Project who are involved in juvenile crime prevention," he adds.

The City Council and the Sports Council also help with the financing of a most worthwhile cause.

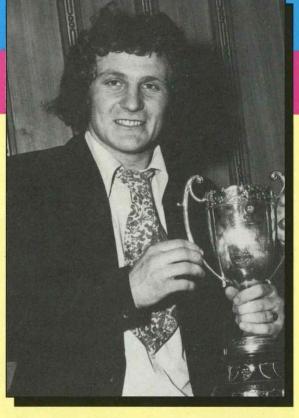
"The funding enables us to purchase six full sets of kits, balls and the rest. All the kids have to do is to turn up with their boots and play."

In order to make it known to the mainly Asian community that the facility was being provided the enterprising Jimmy set up a meeting of local interested parties including councillors, community workers, school representatives and the like.

"The ball's been rolling for nearly a couple of months now and it's going quite well," he says.

Brown's previous priority project was a 10-week cricket proficiency award course in which he organised the participation of schools in his catchment area.

"I didn't actually do the cricket coaching," he hastened



to add, somewhat unnecessarily as a footballing Scot!

What he DID do was to liase with Warwickshire CCC and other cricketing bodies in order to obtain the specialised personnel and to arrange the course content.

Among those who did the coaching was Asif Din, quite a thrill for those lucky youngsters.

JB has been involved in these kind of sporting youth work for around five years, after his playing career

He accepts that many Villa fans lost track of him after Ron Saunders sold him to Preston half-way through the 1974-75 season.

It was a shade frustrating for him to have played through relegation to Division III and shared in getting back before leaving just as the League Cup and promotion back to Division I was about to arrive.

In 1981 he finished his first-class career when he left Hibs, then managed by Bertie Auld and returned to Birmingham, birthplace of his wife Linda. They have a little boy. Steven.

In between he played for Ethnikos, in Greece, and for Portsmouth but has been a wise man in taking all manner of courses to equip himself for what he now does.

In his 'spare' time Jimmy organises inexpensive coaching courses for youngsters in the summer. Anyone interested can write to him via the Commercial Department at Villa Park.

What a twist to his tale if one of his kids took that Villa 'youngest ever' record off him.



LUTON

Luton Town go back to Wembley next week-end to defend the Littlewoods Cup they won with two goals in the last seven minutes against Arsenal last April.

The return trip will re-kindle memories of the day The Hatters won

their first major trophy but manager Ray Harford places a greater priority on keeping the club in the First Division.

'I would willingly trade a place at Wembley for six League points,' he told the Daily Telegraph in February,



and that was before Luton faltered with four consecutive defeats in the wake of their Littlewoods semi-final success against West Ham.

The volatile nature of the First Division table caught up with Luton as it did with Villa. A six-point safety margin virtually disappeared in a month and left both clubs with a lot of work to do in the last quarter of the season

Luton's form was patchy from the start. They took only one point from the first four games, then picked up seven points from successive fixtures with Everton, Forest and Liverpool.

Inconsistency was again evident in a three-week spell from New Year's Eve. They trounced Southampton 6-1 and completed a double over Everton but conceded ten goals in two League defeats and a third-round FA Cup exit at Millwall.

By then, they were through to the quarter-final in a Littlewoods Cup run which clearly refuted the theory that their best results are achieved on the artificial surface at Kenilworth Road. They got through four rounds out of five with victories away from home.

The squad has changed considerably since The Hatters appeared in the Simod Cup and Littlewoods Cup Finals in the space of three weeks last spring.

Brian Stein, who scored twice at Wembley against Arsenal, was released on a free transfer to Caen of France in recognition of ten years' service, and Andy Dibble, who saved a penalty against The Gunners, went to Manchester City for £240,000.

The sales income has since gone above £1.7m. Striker Mark Stein joined OPR for £300,000 and there were big fees from the Manchester clubs - £650,000 from United for Northern Ireland defender Mal Donaghy and £600,000 from City for 20- year-old forward David Oldfield.

Luton re-invested more than £1m on eight signings...

Roy Wegerle (Chelsea) £75,000, Alec Chamberlain (Everton) £150,000, Steve Williams (Arsenal) £300,000, John Dreyer (Oxford) £140,000, Iain Dowie (Hendon)

LUTON ROLL CALL SEASON 1988-89

			Leagu	e/Cup
Player	Birthplace	Previous Clubs	Apps	Goals
Dave Beaumont	Edinburgh	Dundee United	9	
Kingsley Black	Luton		37(1)	8
Tim Breacker	Bicester		16(5)	-
Alec Chamberlain	March	Ipswich, Colchester, Everton	1	
Richard Cooke	Islington	Tottenham, B'mouth	-(1)	
Iain Dowie	Hatfield	Hendon	2(6)	1
John Dreyer	Alnwick	Wallingford, Oxford	16(1)	
Steve Foster	Portsmouth	Portsmouth, Brighton, Aston Villa	37	2
Ashley Grimes	Dublin	Bohemians, Man Utd, Coventry	14	
Mick Harford	Sunderland	Lincoln, Newcastle, Bristol C., Birmingham	34	8
Richard Harvey	Letchworth		13(1)	
Ricky Hill	Paddington		34(1)	5
Julian James	Tring	The state of the s	3(1)	
Marvin Johnson	Wembley		20	
Rob Johnson	Bedford		23(2)	1
Darron McDonough	Antwerp	Oldham	7	
Raphael Meade	Islington	Arsenal, Sporting Lisbo Dundee United	n, 1	
David Preece	Bridgnorth	Walsall	26	
Les Sealey	Bethnal Green	Coventry	39	-
Roy Wegerle	Johannesburg	Tampa Bay, Chelsea	26(5)	11
Steve Williams	London	Southampton, Arsenal	15	-
Danny Wilson	Wigan	Bury, Chesterfield, Nottm Forest, Brighton	38	7

ALSO PLAYED: Ian Allinson (now Colchester) 1(5) apps; Mal Donaghy (now Manchester United) 8 apps; David Oldfield (now Manchester City) 20(8) apps, 3 goals.

Appearances for League, Littlewoods Cup, FA Cup and Simod Cup.

League results: Sheffield W. (A) 0-1, Wimbledon (H) 2-2, Southampton (A) 1-2, Manchester U. (H) 0-2, Everton (A) 2-0, Nottm F. (A) 0-0, Liverpool (H) 1-0, Middlesbrough (A) 1-2, Arsenal (H) 1-1, QPR (H) 0-0, Millwall (A) 1-3, Coventry (A) 0-1, West Ham (H) 4-1, Norwich (A) 2-2, Newcastle (H) 0-0, Derby (A) 1-0, Aston Villa (H) 1-1, Spurs (A) 0-0, Wimbledon (A) 0-4, Southampton (H) 6-1, Charlton (A) 0-3, Everton (H) 1-0, Nottm F. (H) 2-3, Middlesbrough (H) 1-0, Arsenal (A) 0-2, Millwall (H) 1-2, Liverpool (A) 0-5, Sheffield W. (H) 0-1, QPR (A) 1-1, Manchester U. (A) 0-2. Littlewoods Cup: Burnley (H) 1-1, (A) 1-0, Leeds (A) 2-0, Manchester C. (H) 3-1, Southampton (H) 1-1, (A) 2-1, West Ham (A) 3-0, (H) 2-0. FA Cup: Millwall (A) 2-3. Simod Cup: C. Palace (A) 1-4.

(Up to and including Saturday 25th March 1989)

£30,000, Dave Beaumont (Dundee Utd) £150,000, Raphael Meade (Dundee Utd) £250,000, Richard Cooke (Bournemouth) £140,000.

Wegerle, a winger with his previous club, became a successful partner for England striker Mick Harford, scoring 11 goals until he was sidelined by a hamstring injury last month.

Williams, a midfield player capped six times by England when he was at Southampton, and full back Dreyer were in the side at the beginning of the season but lost their regular places in the autumn.

Chamberlain, signed as understudy goalkeeper, had to wait until January for his debut in a Simod Cuptie, while Dowie, a British Aerospace worker who scored more than 80 goal in two-and-a-half seasons with Hendon, is in the process of adjusting to full-time football.

Beaumont, a 25-year-old defender

with one Scottish Under-21 cap, played as substitute in a UEFA Cup Final with Dundee United and now hopes to go to Wembley as skipper Steve Foster's centre back partner.

Luton went back to Dundee United a fortnight ago to buy Meade, a 26year-old former Arsenal striker who spent two seasons in Portugal with Sporting Lisbon. Another beat-thedeadline deal brought in Cooke, a former England Under-21 winger who began his career with Spurs.

The most settled section of the team is midfield. It's quite likely that Luton will return to Wembley with last year's quartet - Northern Ireland internationals Danny Wilson and Kingsley Black, former England cap Ricky Hill and ex-Walsall man David Preece.

Foster and goalkeeper Les Sealey, both 31, are the cornerstones of a defence that has changed frequently during the season.

Villa's league record against Luton is:
PWDLF

	F	VV	D		F	A
Home	12	7	1	4	20	12
Away	13	0	3	10	6	19
Total	25	7	4	14	26	31

The Hatters last visit to Villa Park was on September 3rd 1986. Villa won 2-1 thanks to a double from Paul Kerr, now with Middlesbrough.

Marvin Johnson, 20, had a threemonth run as Donaghy's replacement until Dreyer and then Beaumont took over. When Foster was suspended for two matches recently, the vacancy was filled by Johnson and Darron McDonough, who has recovered from knee and ankle operations.

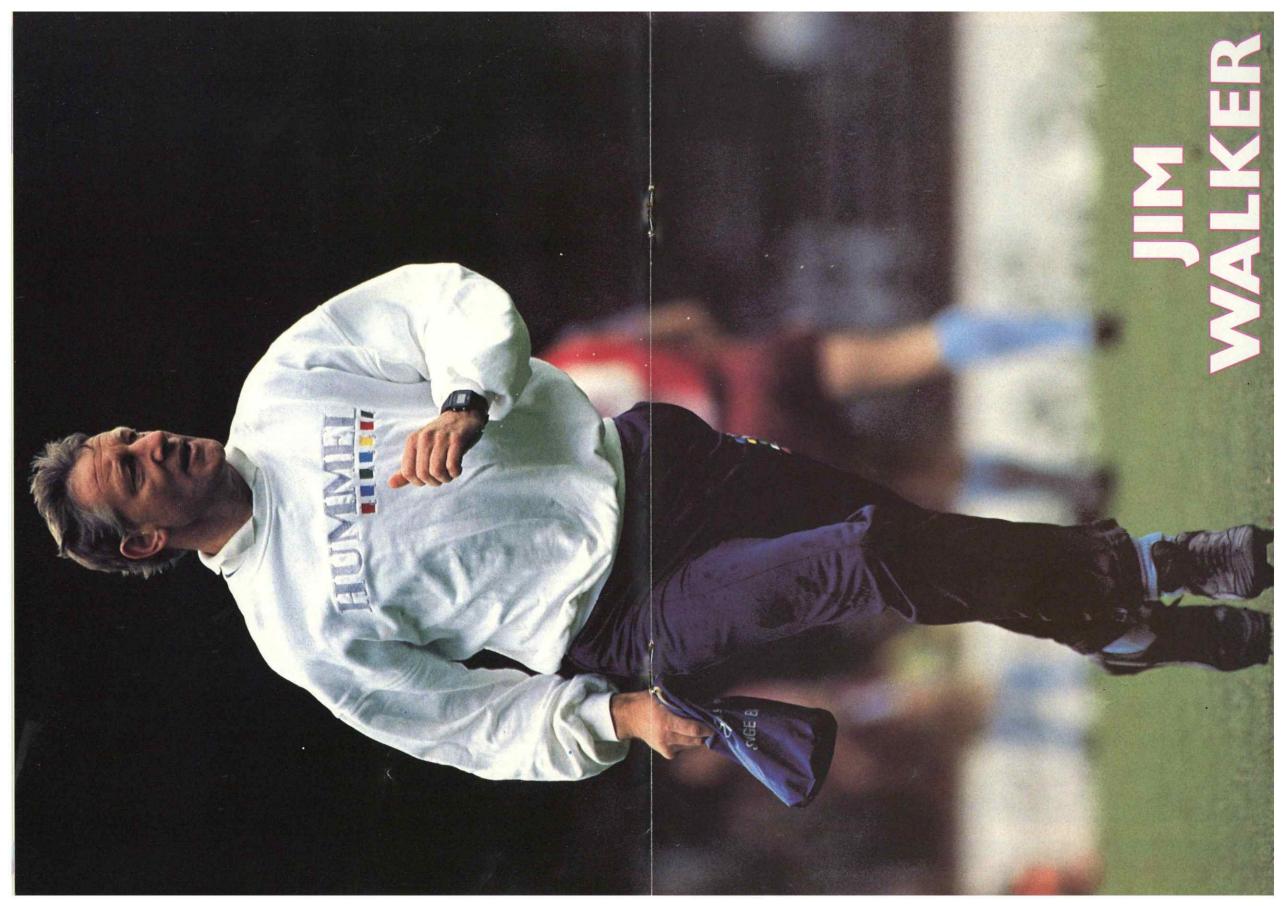
Tim Breacker, twice capped in the England Under-21 team, and Rob Johnson disputed the right back position, while the No 3 shirt has switched between Dreyer, teenagers Richard Harvey and Julian James, and experienced Republic of Ireland international Ashley Grimes.

When Luton last played at Villa Park in September 1986, they were in their first season following the departure of David Pleat, the manager who took them from the lower reaches of the Second Division in eight-and-a-half years with the club.

Progress was maintained in 1986-87 when Mr Pleat's successor, John Moore, guided them to seventh place, the highest point in their history. He stepped downat the end of that season and handed over to Mr Harford, who was previously in management with Fulham.



Dave Beaumont



TEAMTALK

IAN ORMONDROYD

Four years ago Ian Ormondroyd was working for a mail-order company in Bradford when he took a 'phone call which changed his life.

Within two months of being invited for trials by Bradford City manager Trevor Cherry, he gave up his job and signed as a professional for the Second Division club.

From there it was non-stop progress. He finished his first season with three goals in eight games, he played in the promotion play-offs in each of the next two seasons, and now he is in the First Division after a £650,000 transfer.

The amiable Yorkshireman has to pause for breath when he takes stock of all that he has achieved since Bradford spotted him playing for Thackley in the North East Counties League.

The biggest step was the last one. 'I knew Villa are a big club but it's even bigger than I thought,' he says. 'I played here with Bradford and knew the players by name, but it was only when I got to Villa Park that I became really aware of the potential.

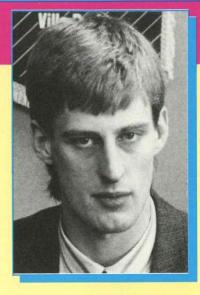
'The First Division is what I imagined it to be. I knew it would be hard but you'd expect it to be at first. What I do know is that I've got a lot of hard work to do. I don't think I'm as fit as the others, but a good pre-season will help a lot by next August.'

Ian always hoped he would be good enough to make a career in football, but despite showing promise in schoolboy football, he thought his chance had probably gone when he left school at 17.

Although he was born in Bradford, he crossed the Pennines to win his first representative honours with Southport Boys.

That came about when his family moved away from Yorkshire when he was four and lived between Southport and Preston for eight years.

On the death of his father, Ian went back to Bradford with his mother and sister. He continued his football with Bradford Boys and West Yorkshire



Boys but was disappointed that the local League clubs passed him by.

'All the other lads had trials, but I never really heard from anyone. I had one trial at Leeds United - and that was it. I finished school and got myself a job with a mail-order firm.

'I did most things there from being a VDU operative to unloading waggons. At least I didn't get into a rut by doing the same job all the time.

'Looking back, I don't think it was such a bad thing to start that way. I'm pleased that I saw the other side of the coin. Apprentices don't see that, but I lost nothing by learning what it's like to get up in the morning and go to an ordinary job.

'I still played football, only in an average standard in a local league at first, but then I got into a higher level with Thackley. I did quite well and a few scouts came to watch me.

'That was when Trevor Cherry rang me at work and asked me to come for a trial. I had a few games and when he offered me a one-year contract, I snatched his hand off. It couldn't have worked out better as City were my hometown club and I used to go and watch them.'

Bradford were recovering from the fire disaster at Valley Parade at the time. For 18 months they played their home games at various grounds in Yorkshire, and the handicap began to take its toll when they sank to the bottom of Division Two halfway

through Ian's second season.

New manager Terry Dolan saw them clear of trouble as they won seven of the last nine games, but Ian was then temporarily involved in matters at the top end of the table.

That was the result of an unusual part-exchange transfer. He explains: 'Bradford signed Ron Futcher and part of the deal was for me to go to Oldham on loan. It worked out well. Ron scored some important goals and I enjoyed being with a club going for promotion.

'We got into the play-offs and Joe Royle put in an offer for me, but City didn't accept it. So I was back at Valley Parade last season, and for the second year in a row, I played in the play-offs.

'We were in the top two places until the New Year and perhaps we should have gone up automatically, but we threw it away when we lost here in the last week of the season.

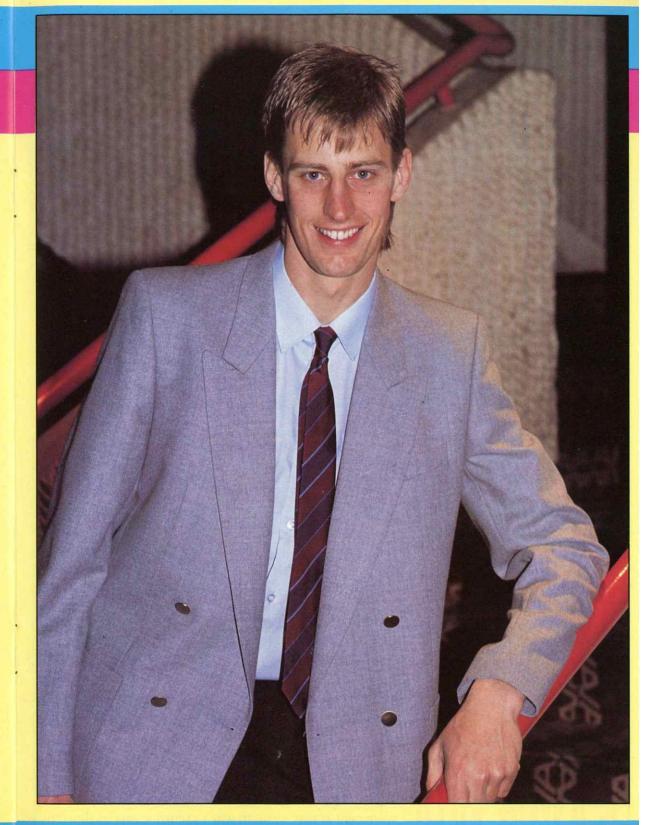
'Instead of being in the First Division this year, we struggled a bit in the Second. We lost Stuart McCall and John Hendrie, and perhaps the players who were brought in did not do as well as was first expected.'

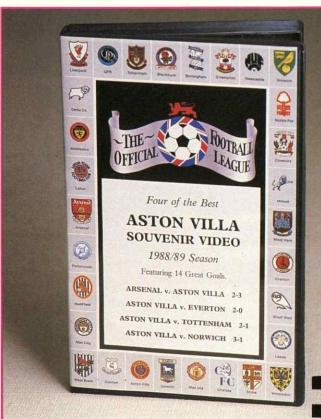
Ian eventually took a short-cut to the top grade when Graham Taylor paid a big fee at the start of February. After two months with Villa, he is settling down and looking to improve as he adjusts to First Division requirements.

Though he is 6ft 4ins tall and weighs in at 13st, he is working hard on the weights to build up his strength. So far he has added two or three pounds towards the half-astone he is aiming to put on.

'At school I was taller than anyone else and carried on growing until I was 21,' he says. 'With my height advantage, I have always been a target man more than anything, but I still need to be a bit stronger.'

PERSONAL NOTE: Ian has had an offer for a house in the Walmley area accepted and hopes to move in at the end of the season. His fiancee, Debbie, is a policewoman in Yorkshire and has applied for a transfer to the West Midlands Force.





WILLA VIDEO

Re-live four of the best games played this season in the latest offerings from Villa's Video Department.

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PANINI FAMILY

CLUB

IRISH VISITORS

A total of 129 boys and girls attended the Soccer Special for the West Ham game, including a party of 24 from Tymonville FC in Dublin, who were on a short tour in the area.

Also present, as an end of season treat, were the under-13 lads from Pelsall United.

KIWI WINNER

There was no problem picking the long-distance winner in the club room with Nicky Glynn, aged 11, having come all the way from Dunedin in New Zealand.

Nicky was brought to the game by Steve Houghton and Lee Evans from Bewdley and is pictured below with club captain, Allan Evans, who was the player on duty.

Also in the picture is Jenny Hampton, aged 7, of Tamworth who was the winner of our Christmas quiz. Jenny was presented with a football autographed by all the Villa players and will also have her picture taken with the whole squad at a later date.



NUNEATON TOUR

Visitors from nearer home were 57 boys from the Keith Boys League Select FC in Scotland who had raised over £5,000 from raffles and jumble sales to finance a tour to the Nuneaton area.

One of their best-known "oldboys" is former Villa favourite Des Bremner.

Also from north of the border, under the eye of Tom Connell, were the Aston Villa Boys Club from Glasgow, all of whom were dressed in Villa colours.

And making up the numbers with Westley Palmer and Bob Carter were the under 10, 12 and 14 teams from Beaufort Colts of Bey-n-mawr in Gwent. Between them, they took home hundreds of badges presented by Panini.

NORWICH TRIP

The forthcoming visit to Norwich has now been priced at £65 for adults and £40 for children, including two night's bed and breakfast at the luxury Norwich Sports Village, plus five-a-side football and a match ticket.

We depart on the morning of Friday, April 21, and return on the Sunday evening. The other facilities available include swimming, tennis, table-tennis, beauty-clinic, spa-bath and sauna - something for everyone.

Names please, as soon as possible, to Dave Wallis.

RAFFLE

The raffle at the West Ham game was won by Blue Ticket No.81, claimed by Stephen Duguay of Solihull.

GUESS THE GOAL

Tom Pritchard, aged 8, of Northfield, was nearest to the actual attendance of 22,471, and like Stephen, received an Aston Villa mug.

SIGN PLEASE:

"DAILY GALAXY" match report, 20th March 2089

Spectators throughout the Universe turned in to their holovision sets to see Earth beat Mars in the Galaxy Cup Final yesterday. The score? 104 to 50!

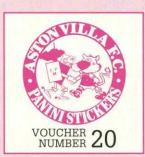
Since the option was given to players way back ion the year 2001 to be either paid wages or strictly according to how many goals they scored, we rarely see a game these days that doesn't include several hat-tricks. Of course removing what used to be called the "off-side' rule helped."

Could we be reading such a newspaper report in a hundred years time? There have always been those who feel that the off-side law should be scratched from the rule book to help create higher-scoring games. And every time a player is transferred for a record fee there is a genuine outcry in the press about how some players are "over-paid'. Perhaps it's not a daft as it sounds!

Will the future see the creating of a Great Britain team? Or even an EEC team? How about a Super League with the top English and Scottish clubs, or a European League? Come to think of it, there's no reason to believe that Europe will be the centre of the footballing world in a hundred year's time. Perhaps we'll all be tuning into our 'holovision' sets to see Botswana vs Senegal on "The Match'! And European players will be transferring to African clubs to further their careers!

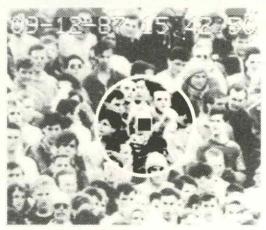
One thing we all have to hope is that by the time all this happens, Villa will be permanently established as "European Premiere League" regulars, and that they'll automatically qualify for the "African Invitation Cup'!

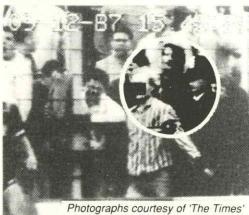
Looking only a short time into the future, let's hope that today's game features a few of those great cheer-raisers... GOALSI See you all soon





CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION





Three minutes before the interval. a bottle was thrown towards the opposing side's goalkeeper. The incident was captured by the CCTV system and 57 seconds later police had arrested the offender. By the half-time whistle, he had been led away for questioning, charged and subsequently pleaded guilty at the court hearing.

CCTV is the most effective anti-hooligan measure inside grounds and more than 100 stadia in Britain are equipped with cameras installed by The Football Trust.

CCTV forms only part of the Trust's many initiatives. Each year it receives over £9.5 million from the Spotting-the-Ball competition run by Littlewoods. Vernons and Zetters and spends it on projects that benefit every level of the game throughout the United Kingdom.

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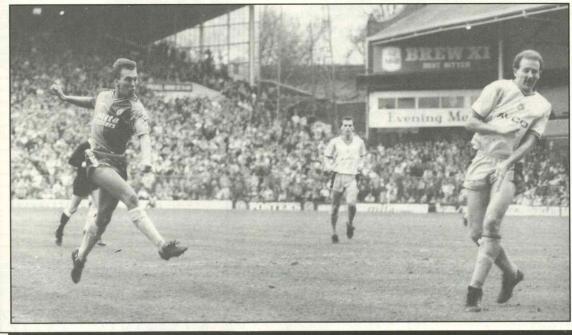


ACTION FOCUS



TITIE WOTWA

Nigel Callaghan (above), Alan McInally (right) and David Platt (below) apply the pressure on West Ham. It was Platt who came closest to beating Phil Parkes ... his fierce shot struck the upright.





STATISTICS

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE TABLE 1988/89

Home L	eague G	ames			H	lom	ne		A	wa	V				
	Averag		P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	Α	Pts	
		Arsenal	30	7	5	2	24	15	10	3	3	34	16	59	
23,155	16,546	Norwich City	29	7	6	3	20	17	9	2	2	22	13	56	
42,372	37,814	Liverpool	28	6	5	2	19	7	8	4	3	27	15	51	
21,854	14,999	Millwall	30	10	1	4	25	13	4	7	4	18	20	50	
30,092	21,549	Nottingham F.	29	4	7	3	17	13	8	5	2	26	17	48	
23,807	16,706	Coventry City	31	8	3	5	24	17	4	7	4	15	15	46	
32,621	24,416	Tottenham H.	32	6	5	5	26	23	5	6	5	22	20	44	
46,377	39,298	Manchester U.	28	8	4	1	22	7	3	6	6	15	16	43	
25,213	17,847	Derby County	28	6	3	7	19	17	6	3	3	12	19	42	
15,710	7,160	Wimbledon	28	8	3	4	20	14	4	3	6	14	18	42	
41,560	28,792	Everton	29	6	6	2	22	14	3	5	7	14	21	38	
20,543	12,103	Q.P.R.	30	5	4	5	14	11	4	6	6	16	15	37	
25,197	20,102	Middlesbrough	30	6	6	4	22	22	2	3	9	13	26	33	
34,820	20,703	Sheffield Wed.	30	4	4	6	14	20	4	5	7	12	20	33	
41,409	24,236	Aston Villa	31	6	4	5	20	17	1	6	9	15	29	200.00	
21,389	9,702	Charlton Ath.	30	2	7	6	18	24	4	5	6	15	21	30	
12,117	9,312	Luton Town	31	5	5	5	21	17	2	4	10	9	28	5501000	
21,046	15,646	Southampton	29	4	5	6		25	2	6	6	19	31	29	
32.977	24,402	Newcastle	30	3	4	8	16	23	4	4	7	13	27	29	
30,198	22,227	West Ham	27	1	5	8	12	25	4	2	7	10	19	22	

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES

		Lea	ague	Cup	os	
	App	S	Gls	Apps G	ils	
Birch	5	(5)			•	
Butler	4			1		
Callaghan	8	(1)	1			
Cowans	28	(1)	2	9		
Daley	22	(3)	4	8(1)	1	
Evans	20	(1)	14	6	1	
Gage	27	(1)	3	9	4	
Gallacher	3	(1)		4(1)	1	
Gray (A)	15	(3)	3	4(3)	1	
Gray (S)	28		1	5(1)		
Keown	26	(2)	-	8		
McInally	25	(1)	13	7	8	
Mountfield	22	(2)	1	9	2	
Olney	3	(5)	2	1(2)	1	
Ormondroyd	8		1			
Platt	31		4	9	8	
Price	30		*	8		
Sims	5		2	1	-	
Spink	27		×	8		
Thompson	2	(3)		2		
Williams (G)		- A		-(1)		
Own Goals			2	ě		

QUIZ ANSWER: Bruce and Neil Rioch

FACTS & FIGURES

DIVISION ONE STATISTICS: (League games only)

Highest Attendance 46.377 Manchester U. v QPR - 27.8.88 Lowest Attendance 4 207 Wimbledon v Coventry - 1 3 89 Highest Home Score Luton 6 Southampton 1 - 2.1.89 Highest Away Score Wimbledon 1 Arsenal 5 -

Most Goals In a Match

John Aldridge (Liverpool v Charlton - 27.8.88 Tony Cottee (Everton) Newcastle - 27.8.88 Alan Smith (Arsenal) Wimbledon - 27.8.88 Bernie Slaven (Middlesboro) Coventry - 1.10.88 David Speedie (Coventry Middlesboro - 1.10.88 David Speedie (Coventry Sheffield W. - 2.1.89 Paul Miller (Wimbledon Derby County - 1.3.89 John Aldridge (Liverpoo

v Luton Town - 14.3.89

LEADING SCORERS

(Including League, Littlewoods Cup, FA Cup & Simod Cup): 21 John Aldridge (Liverpool 21 Alan McInally (Aston Villa) 21 Alan Smith (Arsenal) 17 Dean Saunders (Derby County) 16 Paul Williams (Charlton Athletic 15 Tony Cascarino (Millwall) 15 Nigel Clough (Nottingham Forest)

15 Mark Hughes (Manchester United) 14 Lee Chapman (Nottingham Forest) 14 Brian McClair (Manchester United)

14 Bernie Slaven (Middlesbrough 14 David Speedie (Coventry City

15 Tony Cottee (Everton)

QUICK QUIZ

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

Att.

Pos.

F-A

V Opposition

Aug 27 H 2-2 22,449 Price Platt McInally 1 Gage A Gray Cowans S Gray Thompson(4) Daley(7) Spink Evans Keown Birch Sep 3 A 3-2 37,413 Platt Arsena Price Sims A Gray 1 Evans McInally 2 Cowans S Gray Spink Keown Daley Gage Thompson Sep 10 H 1-1 41,409 Platt Liverpool Price Gage A Gray McInally 1 Cowans S Gray Birch (7) Thompson(9) Spink Evans Keown Daley Sep 17 A West Ham United 2-2 19,186 10 Price A Gray Platt McInally 2 Cowans S Gray Gage (5) Mountfield Evans Thompson Spink Keown Daley Sep 24 H Gage 1 McInally **Nottingham Forest** 1-1 23,029 Price Mountfield A Gray Platt Cowans S Gray Gallacher Spink Keown Daley Thompson(9 Sep 27 A Birmingham C (LC 2 1st Leg) 2-0 Price Gage 1 Platt Gallache Evans Olney Mountfield A Gray Keown Daley Thompson Cowans Spink Olney Sheffield Wednesday 0-1 18,301 Mountfield Platt Price A Gray Gage Keown Daley Thompson Cowans S Gray Evans Spink 0-1 15.416 A Gray Daley Oct Spink Price Mountfield Gage Kenwn Platt Thompson Cowans S Gray Evans(9) Olney 5-0 Oct 12 H Birmingham C (LC 2 2nd Leg) 19,753 Price Mountfield Gage 2 Sims Platt S Gray Gallacher(1 McInally Spink Evans Daley 1 Olney 1 Cowans 7,594 Daley Charlton Athletic 2-2 Price Mountfield Gage Platt 1 Olney Cowans S Gray McInally(9) Gallacher Spink Evans Keown Oct 22 H Everton 2-0 26,636 Spink Price Mountfield Gage Daley 1 Platt 1 McInally Cowans S Gray Olney Gallacher Evans Keown Oct 29 H Tottenham Hotspu 12-1 26,238 Price Mountfield Gage Daley Platt McInally Cowans S Gray Olney Gallacher Spink Evans Keown Millwall (LC 3) 3-1 17,648 Price Mountfield Evans Gage Keown Daley Platt 1 McInally 2 Cowans Gallacher Olney A Gray Spink Manchester United 1-1 44,804 Price Mountfield Evans Gage Keown Daley Platt McInally Cowans Gallacher Olney A Gray Spink 9 H Birmingham City (SC 1 6-0 8,324 Platt 1 Butler Price Mountfield Evans 1 Gage Keown Daley McInally 2 Cowans Gallacher A Gray(5 S Gray(10) 1-3 16,007 Platt Spink Price Mountfield Evans Gage Keown Daley McInally Cowans Gallacher S Gray A Gray(7) Nov 19 H **Derby County** 1-2 23,489 S Gray A Gray(11) Spink Price Mountfield Evans Gage Keown Daley Platt McInally Cowans Gallacher 1-2 Nov 23 A Derby County (SC 2 10,086 Spink Price Mountfield Evans Gage Keown Platt Thompson McInally 1 Cowans Daley(11) A Gray(4) 1-2 20,104 14 Nov 26 A Coventry City Platt Birch(11) Spink Price S Gray Gage Mountfield Keown A Gray McInally 1 Cowans Evans Nov 30 H Ipswich Town (LC 4) 6-2 16,284 Platt 4 Williams(7) Spink Price S Gray Gage Mountfield Keown A Gray McInally 2 Cowans Evans Dec 3 H Norwich City 3-1 19,653 14 A Gray Platt 1 Williams Spink Price S Gray Gage 2 Evans Keown McInally Cowans Daley Dec 10 A Middlesbrough 3-3 18,096 14 S Gray A Gray Platt Birch(4) Mountfield(1 Spink Price Gage Evans Keown McInally 2 Cowans Daley Dec 17 A Luton Town 11-1 8,785 15 Spink Price S Gray Gage Evans Keown A Gray McInally Cowans Daley Birch(11 Mountfield 2-1 Dec 26 H 25,106 10 Queens Park Rangers Spink Price S Gray Gage Evans Mountfiel A Gray Platt McInally 2 Cowans Daley Lillis Olney 13 0-3 Dec 31 H 32,486 McInally Arsenal Spink Price S Gray Gage Evans Mountfiel A Gray Platt Cowans Daley Keown(7 Olney 0-1 39,014 16 McInally Price Mountfield Gage Platt Cowans S Gray Olney(9) A Gray(10) Spink Evans Keown Daley 3-2 5,500 Crewe Alexandra (FAC3) Price Mountfield Gage 1 Daley Platt ' McInally Cowans S Gray A Gray(5) Olney(7) Spink Evans Keown 3-1 14 H Newcastle United 21,010 Price S Grav Mountfield A Gray Platt McInally 1 Cowans Daley ' Evans Olney(2) Spink Gage Keown Jan 18 A West Ham United (LC5) 1-2 30,110 Platt 1 Price S Grav Gage Mountfield A Gray McInally Cowans Daley Evans Olney(11) Spink Jan 21 A Nottingham Forest 0-4 22.662 14 Spink Gage S Gray A Gray Mountfield Keown Birch Platt McInally Cowans Olney Daley(4) Williams 0-1 25,043 Birch Jan 28 H Wimbledon (FAC4) Spink Gage S Gray Evans Mountfield A Gray Platt McInally Cowans Daley Lillis Keown Sheffield Wednesday 2-0 19,334 Feb 4 H Spink Price S Gray Gage Mountfield Callagh'n1 Platt 1 McInally Cowans Ormondroyd Evans Rirch Keown 12 Feb 11 A Wimbledon 0-1 6.201 Ormondroyd Birch(10 Spink Price S Gray Gage Mountfield Callaghan Platt McInally Cowans Daley 1-1 Feb 14 A 20.142 Birch Butler Price S Gray Gage Mountfield Callaghan Platt McInally Cowans Orm'royd 1 Daley 1-2 Feb 25 H Charlton Athletic 16.481 Spink Price S Gray Gage Mountfield Evans Callaghan Platt Daley Cowans Ormondroyd Keown(6 Olney Mar Tottenham Hotsour 0-2 19,090 13 Birch Platt Spink Price S Gray Gage Mountfield Keown Ormondro yd Cowans Callaghan Daley Mar 12 H Manchester United 0-0 28,332 12 Platt McInally Orm'royd Olney(10) Butler Price S Gray Gage Sims Keown Birch Callaghan Cowans Mar 18 A Millwall 0-2 13.206 12 S Gray Gage Sims Birch Platt McInally Orm'royd Cowans(4) Olney(7) Butler Price Keown Callaghan Mar 25 H 22.471 14 McInally West Ham United 0-1 S Gray Platt Sims Callaghan Daley Cowans Mountfield(1 Butler Price Keown Williams Olney(9) Mar 27 11,378 15 Queens Park Rangers 0-1 Spink Price Mountfield Evans Sims Keown Platt Lillis Olney S Gray Ormondroyd Callaghan(8) Daley(4) 1 H Luton Town 8 A Apr Newcastle United Apr 22 A Norwich City Apr 29 H Middlesbrough May Southampton May 6 A Derby County May 13 H Coventry City Home fixtures in Bold †Own Goal () indicates player substituted Scorer's name in Bold (Figure indicates number of goals) FAC = FA Cup LC = Littlewoods Cup SC = Simod Cup

RESULTS - ATTENDANCES - APPEARANCES - GOALSCORERS

10

11

Sub

Sub

4

Which two players joined Villa from Luton in July 1969 for a combined fee of £110,000? The answer is printed opposite.





NEWS

ROUNDUP

THE BIG MATCH

Villa Park is back on the FA Cup semi-final rota this month - not once but twice if Everton and Norwich City should need a replay.

The tie promises to be a fascinating clash between Merseyside tradition (Everton will be making a record 22nd appearance in the semi-finals) and a rising force from East Anglia (Norwich are in the last four for the first time in 30 years).

Everton will start in a fortnight's time as the team with the track record. This will be their third Villa Park semi-final in five seasons and they were successful on each of the previous occasions.

Villa's former Goodison defender, Derek Mountfield, has fond memories of scoring the decisive goal in extra time against Luton in 1985 and Graeme Sharp got their winner against Sheffield Wednesday 12 months later.

Norwich, in contrast, have played in only one semi-final in their 84-year history. That was settled in Birmingham but not at Villa Park.

The Canaries were a Third Division side in 1959 when they drew 1-1 with Luton and then lost 1-0 in a replay at St Andrew's. Villa were also involved in the semi-finals that year but went down 1-0 to Nottingham Forest at Hillsborough.

THE OLD ROUTINE

Villa secretary Steve Stride is back in the old routine as he deals with the arrangements for his 11th FA Cup semi-final in ten seasons.

Steve went in at the deep end when we staged THREE semi-final matches - West Ham v Everton and two replays between Arsenal and Liverpool - in his first year after taking over from Alan Bennett.

Last year was the only time Steve has missed out on a semi-final but he still had to prepare for a possible replay between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest.

'Ninety per cent of the work has to be done whether or not we get a replay,' he says. 'It's very frustrating for the staff when it all falls through after putting in so much effort.' This month Steve is working in triplicate but with only one guaranteed fixture out of three pencilled in for an eight-day period.

Villa Park is the venue for a possible Littlewoods Cup Final replay between Nottingham Forest and Luton Town on Wednesday April 12th

On the following Saturday, Everton and Norwich will be here in the FA Cup semi-final and could be back on Wednesday April 19th for a replay.

'We have to plan as if the games were certain to be played here,' says Steve. 'For example, all the tickets, passes and invitations for the Littlewoods Cup replay will be distributed prior to the final at Wembley.'

One of most costly exercises is the preparation of full-colour match programmes. We will have one ready for the printers to press the button as soon as we know the result at Wembley, but if the tie is settled there and then, all that work will have come to nothing, as it did when we were waiting for a semi-final replay between Forest and Bristol City.

When Villa Park is chosen as a neutral venue, the first job is to consider ticket allocation according to the direction from which the two clubs will approach the city.

Two years ago there was traffic congestion as both Watford and Spurs fans travelled together on the M6, but the system usually works smoothly for a north v south fixture.

This year Everton supporters will be signposted through Great Barr and this means their tickets will be for the North Stand, the Witton terracing, the Witton Lane Stand and the half of the Holte End with turnstiles in Witton Lane.

With Norwich fans coming in past Aston Church or the Expressway, they will be accommodated in the Trinity Road Stand and Enclosure and the Trinity Road side of the Holte End.

For reasons of geography and segregation, the semi-finalists do not receive exactly same number of tickets. At Hillsborough, Forest will have 3,600 more than Liverpool, and at Villa Park, Everton will have approximately 5,000 more than Norwich.



Gareth Williams - hat-trick for the Reserves

'That always applies here to whichever team comes from the north,' says Steve. 'Fortunately, it usually works out well for us because the clubs with the greater support tend to be from the North West.

'Everton's average league crowd is around 29,000 but Norwich's average is 16,000. At Hillsborough it has worked the other way about, with Liverpool receiving fewer tickets despite having more support than Forest.'

FIXTURE CHANGES

The semi-final at Villa Park has caused the postponement of our home Barclays League match with Southampton. The new date is Wednesday May 3rd (7.30 p.m.).

The youth team's twice-postponed semi-final at Brentford in the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup has been re-arranged for next Saturday at Griffin Park.

This has required the postponement of the Purity Youth League game at West Bromwich Albion.

DOUBLE TREBLE!

No-one knows what Barnsley have done to offend Gareth Williams but he seems to have picked on them with two hat-tricks this season!

He registered his first treble when their reserves lost 7-2 at Villa Park in December and he did it again in a 4-1 win at Oakwell last week.

The latest hat-trick made his tally five goals in two games in his favourite role as a striker. 'When I play up front, I feel that I always look like scoring,' says Gareth.

The Aston Villa Travel Club are now taking bookings for the following matches: Saturday 8th April - Newcastle United - Fare £8.50 - Depart 9.00 am. Saturday 22nd April - Norwich City - Fare £7.50 - Depart 9.30am. Saturday 6th May - Derby County - Fare £5.00 - Depart 12.00 noon. Bookings can be made during office hours at the Pools Office, behind the Souvenir Shop, or through Access or Visa on 021 328 3322. Prices are for coach fare only, they do not include match admission.

His other role is on the left wing, the position where he made his First Division debut last Saturday. 'I'm quite happy to play wide but I can't see myself being a world-beater there,' he added.

Gareth shares digs in Four Oaks with the reserve team's top scorer, Ian Olney, and they should have plenty to talk about after sharing 33 of our 69 Central League goals up to last week-end.

In a recent game against Albion, it seemed they were determined that nobody else should get a look-in. 'When we scored the first four, Gordon Cowans joked that we were keeping the goals at home,' says Gareth.

The reserves were than on a surge which brought 23 goals in six consecutive wins and put them in contention for the Central League title.

Last week they scored four times in each of two difficult games in Yorkshire. Tony Daley grabbed a hattrick in 17 minutes to spoil a good run by Leeds United, who had lost only once in 13 games, and he ac ad another goal against a strong

RESERVES Apps Gls

15

5(1)

22

10

13(2)

17(5)

3(1)

Williams (G) 25(1) 13

22 20

10

Birch Blair

Blake

Butler

Cooper

Cowans

Daley Duffy Evans

Gallache

Gray (A)

Keown

Liddle Lillis

Morris

Olney

Parrott

Sims Small Smith

Spink Thompson

Mountfield

Jones (David) 1(1)

APPEARANCES & GOALSCORERS

Barnsley side including highly-rated first-team striker David Currie.

At that stage we were second in the table, six points behind Everton and ahead of third-place Liverpool on goal-difference. We had played one less game than the leaders and three fewer than the Anfielders.

MATCH DETAILS

Monday 20th March 1989 Central League

LEEDS UNITED 3 ASTON VILLA 4 Scorers: Daley 3, Morris.

Villa: Spink, Hunt, M.Williams, Lillis, Mountfield, Evans, Morris, Daley, Olney, Blake, G.Williams. Subs (not used): Parrott, Duffy.

Wednesday 22nd March 1989 Central League

BARNSLEY 1 ASTON VILLA 4 Scorers: G.Williams 3, Daley.

Villa: Spink, Hunt, M.Williams, Lillis, Mountfield, Evans, Birch, Daley (sub: Morris 75), G.Williams, Blake, Parrott. Sub (not used): Duffy.

Details of the reserves games against Manchester City and Coventry this week will appear in the next "Villa News & Record'.

CENTRAL LEAGUE TABLE

HTUOY	Lea	gue:	C	ups		P	W	D	1	F	Α	Pts
ГЕАМ	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls	Everton		18	6	3	62	22	60
Blake	20	6	8	2	Aston Villa		16	6	4	69	39	54
Bullivant	-(1)		-	-		633	-	0.7				
Carruthers	7(1)	1	-(1)		Liverpool	29	16	6	7	61	35	54
Crisp	8(10)	1	3(4)	1	Nottingham F.	27	15	5	7	68	41	50
Duffy	20	2	8	1	Coventry		14	5	7	57	37	47
roggatt	-(2)			(4)	The second secon	27		100	7	37	31	
lemmings	7(1)	2	5	-	Derby	12.00		9	- 1	7030	15.	42
Hoban	100	100	- 3	127	Huddersfield	26	11	8	7	37	36	41
lackson	17	5	0	2	Manchester C.	28	10	7	11	52	56	37
lones (David)		2	8	2	Leeds		10	6	11	50	50	36
lones (Dean) arkins	-(1) 2					25	0.53	1/2				
iddle	21	4	8	2	Sheffield Utd.	26	9	1	10	48	66	34
ivingstone	21	**	8		Manchester U.	26	9	6	11	50	50	33
Nooney	13(1)	3	2		Newcastle	25	7	10	8	38	39	31
Parrott	19	5	7	4	Sheffield Wed.	27	7	6	14	34	50	27
Slocombe	9(1)	2	1	-	TOTAL CONTRACTOR	3	7	-	-			
Small	21	1	7	1	W.B. Albion	28	- 5	6	15	45	65	27
Smith	21	1	8	-	Leicester	26	6	6	14	39	56	24
/acher	1	500	*		Barnsley	26	6	6	14	37	67	24
Valker	-(4)	(4)	-(1)	39	Blackburn	25	6	2	17	36	55	20
Walverton	2	143		4		-		_				
Williams(L)	6(3)	1	3(1)	4	Sunderland	26	4	1	15	28	53	19
Villiams(M)	19	4	7		(Statistics up to	2 21	nd i	neli	idini	7		
ates	7(4)		3(1)	1						,		
Own Goals		2		201	Saturday 25th	ivia	ICII	190	39.)			

CENTRAL LEAGUE FIXTURES

2-0

Date Opponents
Aug 31 H Huddersfield Town

Sep 7 A Newcastle United

ı		14	H	Manchester City	6-2
۱		21	A	Blackburn Rovers	3-1
ı		28	H	Sheffield Wednesday	1-1
	Oct	5	A	Sunderland	3-0
		18	A	Everton	0-7
		26	H	Manchester United	1-2
۱	Nov	8	A	Coventry City	4-2
ı	Dec	1	A	Liverpool	0-0
ı		8	H	Derby County	1-0
ı		14	H	Barnsley	7-2
ı		21	A	Nottingham Forest	0-4
١	Jan	4	H	Newcastle United	2-1
1		11	A	Huddersfield Town	7-1
ı		19	H	Liverpool	1-3
1		23	A	Leicester City	2-2
ı				Sheffield Wednesday	1-1
ı	Feb	8	H	Sunderland	3-2
١		15	H	Everton	0-0
ı		23	A	Manchester United	3-0
ı	Mar	9	H	Sheffield United	3-0
ı		13	H	Blackburn Rovers	2-0
ı		16	H	West Bromwich A.	7-2
ı		20	A	Leeds United	4-3
١		22	A	Barnsley	4-1
ı				Manchester City	
١		30	H	Coventry City	
ı	Apr	5	H	Nottingham Forest	
ı		11	A	Derby County	
١				Leeds United	
١				West Bromwich Albion	
١	May			Leicester City	
١		10	A	Sheffield United	
١					

PURITY YOUTH LEAGUE

Aug 27 H	Birmingham City 2-1	
Sep 3 A	Coventry City 1-2	
3ep 3 A	Derby County 1-1	
12 A	Northampton (SJFC1) 1-0	
17 A	Leicester City 0-3	
24 4	Mansfield Town 4-0	
	Notts County 2-2	
OCT 1 W	Derby C. (MYC1) 2-3	
8 H		
15 H	Peterborough Utd. 3-1	
22 H	Port Vale 2-0	
	Bristol City (SJFC 2) 4-0	
29 H	Shrewsbury Town 9-1	
Nov 5 A	Port Vale (LC 1) 0-0	
12 H		
14 A		
19 A	Walsall 2-0	
26 H	West Bromwich A. 3-0	
28 H		
Dec 3 A		
17 H	Luton Town (FAYC 2) 1-3	
Jan 9 H		
13 A	Birmingham City 0-2	
21 H	Coventry City 0-1	
28 A	Derby County 0-7	
Feb 3 H	Leicester City 0-2	
11 A	Mansfield Town 3-1	
18 H	Notts County 2-1	
25 A	Nottingham Forest 0-1	
	Shrewsbury Town 4-3	
Apr 1 A		
8 A		
15 A	Stoke City	
22 A		
29 H		
TBA H	Wolverhampton W.	
A	West Bromwich Albion	

KEY: FAYC = FA Youth Cup SJFC = Southern Junior Floodlit Cup MYC = Midland Youth Cup LC = League Cup

MEDIA

The series which puts the spotlight on personalities from Midland press, television and radio circles, looks at Martin Swain of the Wolverhampton Express & Star.

As a self-confessed Coventry City devotee, Martin Swain was a man caught between two stools the day the Sky Blues won the FA Cup at Wembley two years ago.

In his role as the chief football writer on the Birmingham Evening Mail at the time, his professional pride ensured he viewed the biggest day in the club's history in an objective and unbiased manner.

Yet, deep down, he would willingly have swapped his seat in the Press Box for a place among the Sky Blue supporters on the terraces.

"Contrary to what some people may tell you, I was not a withered wreck that day," says Martin, who joined the Express and Star in Wolverhampton as assistant sportseditor in December.

"It was a popular myth that I was crying my eyes out in ecstasy after the final whistle. That happened after the semi-final...!

"Actually, I was very proud of the way I handled myself. Apart from one slight show of emotion when Keith Houchen's header went in, I thought I stayed very cool and professional.

"But it was undoubtedly the most memorable day I have had in the job, and it enabled me to take the you-know-what out of Steve Stride unmercifully after that.

"Villa, of course, got relegated that year, so for one of the few times since we've know each other, I was able to rib him rotten without too much comeback."

Martin had previously spent five years working for the Coventry Telegraph before moving to the Evening Mail in 1982, the season Villa won the European Cup.

And it wasn't long before he came

to appreciate the sort of dedication and devotion Villa fans have for the club.

"The first time I travelled abroad with Villa was for their first defence of the European Cup when they went to Turkey to play Besiktas," he recalls.

"I met and mixed in with a lot of the Villa fans out there, but the two I will always remember never even saw the game.

"They had spent several days and nights aboard the Orient Express, passing through seven or eight countries en route to Istanbul, and had a real nightmare trip.

"At one point the train broke down and later they were held up again after a women had committed suicide on the line while they were passing through Austria. Then, when they got off the train in Istanbul, they were greeted by hordes of Besiktas fans coming back to the station after the game which had ended in a goalless draw!

"To make matters worse, they hadn't seen the first leg either as that was played behind closed doors at Villa Park following the crowd trouble in Anderlecht during the previous season's semi-final.

"On the same trip, another fan was offered a brand new leather jacket by one of the traders in the local bazaar who was really 'knocked out' by the Villa strip the lad was wearing.

"He wanted to do a straight swap - the jacket for the shirt. But it was the same shirt the Villa fan had worn during the European Cup Final and he wasn't going to part with it at any price.

"But he took another one back to the same trader the next day



and swapped that one instead!"

Martin has been seeing a lot more of Villa in his new role for the Express and Star but missed the one match he wanted to see above all others. "Like every Coventry fan I'd been waiting for the day when the Sky Blues finally cracked their biggest bogey of all by beating Villa for the first time in Division I" added Martin. "I've probably taken more stick over that from the Villa supporters than anything else. But when they did it this season, I was at another game!

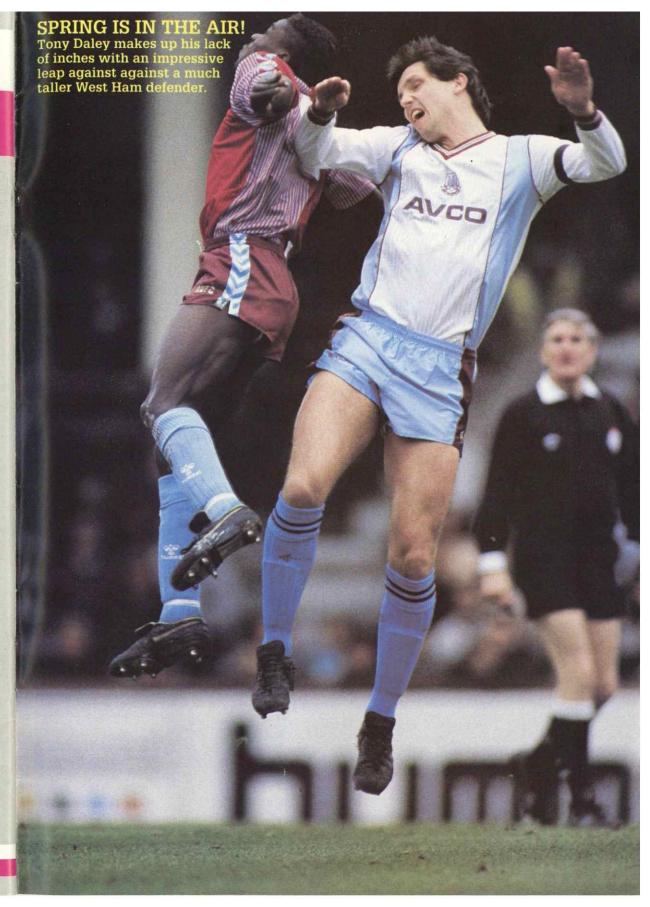
"But the return is at Villa Park on the last day of the season and I've already made certain I'll be at that one."

In the meantime, if you're around the pub scene in Coventry on a Tuesday night, don't miss the opportunity of catching a glimpse of Martin in his moonlighting role as the singing sportswriter!

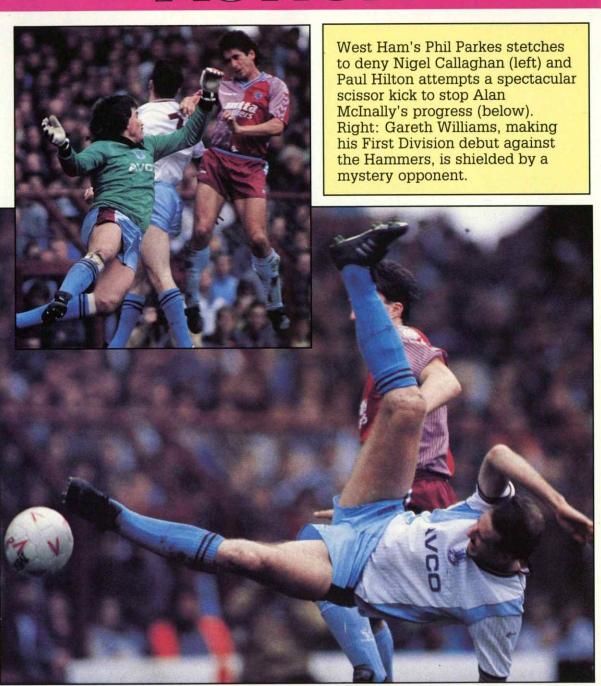
With his brother, Malcolm, he makes up the guitar-playing musical duo, The Swain Brothers.

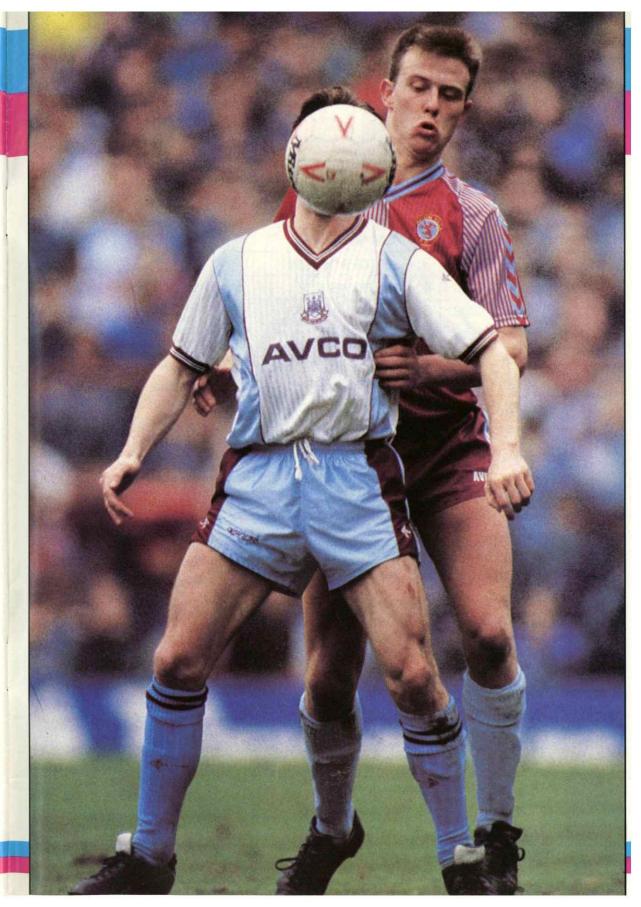
"It's a bit of fun and is something I always fancied a go at," added Martin. "Malcolm has the real talent and eventually taught me to play the guitar after I had brow-beaten him into it.

"But, whatever you do, please don't tell Steve Stride!"



VILLA ACTION





TEAM CHECK

ASTON VILLA	V	LUTON TOWN
NIGEL SPINK	1	LES SEALEY
CHRIS PRICE	2	TIM BREACKER
DEREK MOUNTFIELD	3	ASHLEY GRIMES
ALLAN EVANS	4	DAVID PREECE
STEVE SIMS	5	STEVE FOSTER
MARTIN KEOWN	6	DAVE BEAUMONT
DAVID PLATT	7	DARRON McDONOUGH
MARK LILLIS	8	IAIN DOWIE
IAN OLNEY	9	MICK HARFORD
STUART GRAY	10	RICKY HILL
IAN ORMONDROYD	11	KINGSLEY BLACK
	12	
	14	

MATCH OFFICIALS REFEREE: MR. S. J. LODGE (Barnsley) LINESMEN: MR. P. HUGHES (Yellow trim)

MR. G. A. STONES (Red trim)

SCORECHECK

Barclays League Division One

Charlton v Middlesbrough Derby v Coventry Everton v QPR Norwich v Liverpool Sheffield W. v Millwall Southampton v Newcastle Tottenham v West Ham Wimbledon v Nottingham F

Division Two

Brighton v Manchester C.
Chelsea v Barnsley
Hull v Portsmouth
Leeds v Bournemouth
Leicester v Oxford
Oldham v Bradford
Shrewsbury v C.Palace
Stoke v Plymouth
Sunderland v Birmingham
Swindon v Blackburn
Walsall v W.B.Albion
Watford v Ipswich

Division Three

Mansfield v Wolves

BACK ISSUES

All enquiries concerning back issues of the Aston Villa 'News & Record' should be addressed to:

Gerald Harris & Associates, 77 Highbridge Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B73 50E

(Postal enquiries only). Send a S.A.E. for full list of programmes available

ASTON VILLA STRIP





MASCOT



Today's mascot is 10 year old Dean Poolton from Maypole in Birmingham. He attends Grendon Road School and apart from football he enjoys playing cricket. Dean's favourite player is Alan McInally.





Today's matchball has been kindly supplied by:

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