

Issue No: 2

# DEPLETED



*The alternative magazine for  
fans of LUTON TOWN F.C. Price 50p*



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**SENSATION! — AS HATTON SIGNS FOR TOWN**  
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**YOUR LETTERS . . .**

**. . . and much more**



## DEPLEATED

C/O 93, Jeans Way, Dunstable, Beds., LU5 4PR

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The articles and opinions expressed in D.P. are not necessarily those of the editorial team. Freedom of speech is what we preach! We do not set out to offend or rubbish anybody and hope that certain items are taken in a light hearted manner.

Availability: D.P. can be found on sale on certain match days at the bottom of Hazlebury Crescent, Kenilworth Road, Oak Road and Maple Road. Also at various Public Houses around the ground. We'll hopefully be selling outside the away supporters ends on our travels.

Also available by mail order from the Ed. at the stated address: enclosing S.A.E. and 50p per copy; and from behind the bar at the Ewe and Lamb PH, Luton Road. Dunstable.

Thanks to all who have helped in contributing to this edition and in making Issue No. 1 such a success, and especially to those of you that bought it.

DEPLEATED is an independant publication and is not connected in any way to LTFC or any of its officials.

## EDITORIAL

Writing this before the Easter weekend it is looking as though our relegation battle will go to the final game again as it did last season. Jim has done his utmost to drag the lads away from the bottom 3, but with Man City looking the part (Re: at Villa) it is in our own hands now. It is all very well to look for the other struggling teams to slip up but we ourselves have dropped far too many points at home and picked up virtually none away. So where does the blame lie?

I feel the forwards, due mainly to lack of experience, haven't created enough scoring chances and for a time it looked like Ron Rosenthal could be the answer to the problem, but alas money seems to have been the stumbling block once again.

On a positive note the younger players like James, Allpress and Rees all look like becoming exceptional future prospects, and look far more mature than their ages suggest.

On to other matters, THANKS to EVERYONE who bought the first Issue of D.P. and also those who wrote expressing their views, articles and letters. Unfortunately we couldn't publish everything in this edition but please keep writing and if you don't like something, tell us.

Our last game of the season is at the Baseball Grd, Derby and we at D.P. think it would be a good laugh if we were to create a theme day. So what better than a Mad Hatters Party (see back page) where everyone joins in the spirit and wears the best, worst, outrageous or hideous hat possible. It may be an important relegation battle but we can all enjoy it and have a good giggle. So come on get those hats made or bought, in the mean time get behind the lads for the final few games.

cheers Ed.

Contributions: Please send us any items which you think are worthy of this fanzine, whether it be articles, letters, photos etc.. In fact, anything interesting to do with football, and we will try to publish as much as possible.



## GREAT PLAYERS

### DAVID MOSS

D.P. continues its series on great heroes of LTFC



Born in the Oxfordshire town of Witney on March 18th 1952, David Moss was one of the greatest wingers to have played for Luton. His talents were first spotted by a local side in Swindon and he was signed to play for the town in July 1969 as a 17 year old. It took Moss 2 seasons to break

into the first team, and in 1971 made his full debut. In 7 full seasons he made 230 appearances (13 as sub) scoring 60 goals, which for a winger is a tremendous return.

It was in the close season of 1978 that David Pleat made another of his hugely successful signings. Moss was bought for £110,000 which at the time seemed to be rather expensive for a man who hadn't yet played in the highest level of the football league. Of course Pleat knew better.

Moss was to make an immediate impact in his first game for the Town on the opening day of the 1978-79 season, when he scored twice in a 6-1 victory over Oldham. In that first season his jinking runs left many a defender sitting on his backside in the wake of his journey towards goal. This was to continue for the rest of his career in a white shirt and to become Davids trade-mark. It also made him a firm favourite with the crowd.

In the following season Mossy came into his own making 40 league appearances scoring 24 goals, 9 of which came from the penalty spot. Indeed, throughout his Luton days he was one of the coolest spot kings in the country and it was extremely rare for him to miss. I can only remember him ever missing 3 in his Luton career, 1 of which was retaken and successfully converted.

In our first season back in division 1 we travelled to Stoke. With the score at 4-4 and the game in the last few seconds, Town were awarded a penalty. With Fox the City keeper already sent off for an earlier foul, Moss stepped up to surely seal the 3 points for us.

However, his shot hit the post and bounced to safety to the disappointment of the large travelling contingent.

A few months later he was to miss again, this time against England keeper Peter Shilton, then playing for Southampton. In a fog bound 3-3 draw at Kenilworth Road 'Basher' Stephens knocked in the rebound only for the ref to disallow it for an offside decision against Moss himself.

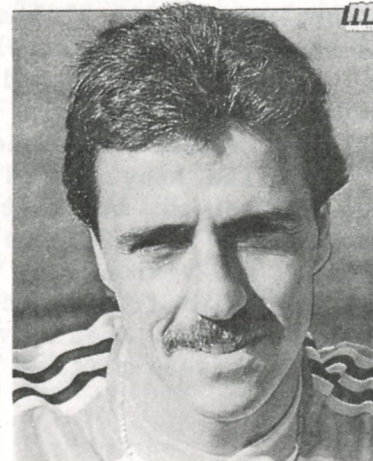
In Town's promotion season 81-82 Mossy was to be the vital link in the chain that saw us lose only 4 games out of the 42. He scored 14 times in 36 games, though he set up endless chances for the 2 front men Steve White and Brian Stein. Moss had missed the first 6 games of the season as he was under contract to the American side Tampa Bay for Summer soccer. On his return the teams goal scoring exploits improved dramatically.

Moss' ambition to play in division 1 was duly rewarded in 82-83, though it looked to be short lived as the team were destined for relegation until the final game at Man City. He was to miss the game through injury but was just as ecstatic when the final whistle blew as the rest of us.

His final season for the Town was to be 84-85 when he made only 17 starting appearances but still managed to net 8 in an injury plagued campaign. He was sub for the FA Cup semi at villa Park and came on for Mick Harford. Alas, the old legs weren't up to it on a day of great disappointment to all.

David Moss will be remembered at Luton for his superb left wing runs with ball close to feet, skinning defender after defender.

A character both on and off the field, he would give the changing rooms a breath of fresh air with his jokes and antics. He had a reputation for being shy when it came to heading the ball and when he did the whole ground would cheer, although this was a very rare occurrence.





At the end of the 85 season Mossy went back home to his first club Swindon, after making 221 League appearances and scoring 88 times. After a few seasons he hung his boots up and when Brian Horton (Towns ex skipper in the 80's) took over at Oxford Utd he had no hesitation in bringing his old team mate onto his coaching staff where he remains today as youth team coach. Its good to know that the talents that pleased so many may now rub off on some of the youngsters he is coaching today.

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## YOUR LETTERS - YOUR LETTERS

Dear D.P.

Well done on your 1st issue. I haven't had such a good laugh in ages. It was a great A-Z and quiz. Keep up the good work.

Your friend in sport

John Mac - Luton

Dear D.P.

Is ex England midfielder Steve Williams being paid a reputed £2,000 a week (entry fee of around 500 supporters) to sit at home whilst his wealth of talent and experience is so sorely needed?

With the team dogged by injuries and young players having to come in, one would think that a player of Williams' calibre would be a Godsend to have available.

I, like many others, had my misgivings about him when he arrived, but have to admit to being won over by his ability to influence a game with a ball of great accuracy and vision.

The most frustrating part is that, to date, no explanation has been given. We have heard rumours of conflict between parties, but I'm sure Steve, as a Pro

and Luton as a Club would honour their obligations to each other as well as to US the fans, to act in a better manner. So where does the problem lie?

In a recent Daily Mirror article an 'Unnamed Friend' of Williams indicated that the player is as mystified about the situation as the supporters are. I find this hard to believe.

So come on Luton, either sort this out or face the consequences. The supporters have a right to know.

Vincent Van Der H

Dunstable.

Dear D.P.

After purchasing the 1st issue of your Fanzine may I congratulate you on an excellent read. It is a great idea and gives the fans a chance to have their say about the club we dearly love (I didn't write this honest! Ed.)

I would like to take advantage of your space to moan about the way in which the Directors are trying to kill our club. I say our club for it is us the supporters that contribute revenue by turning up at home matches 20 odd times a season.

Other fans may feel differently, but I for one think that the amount of profit the directors made from interest free loans to the club are a disgrace. It is true that Mr D. Evans and Mr R Smith injected large sums of money into the club when it was needed, but to cream the profits is extremely O.T.T. These men tell us they are supporters of the club yet if this were true would they bleed the club dry? Is it that they are just businessmen using us and our club to make a profit? This leads me onto other things.

Why have stars such as Wegerle, Harford and the rest been allowed to go? The truth must be in order to pay these financial backers so they can pick up fat cheques from the club. It is my opinion that these men couldn't care less if we were playing 4th Division football.

Seeing as though these players have been sold for such large fees, why has no such money been made available for new comers?



Surely this proves my point especially looking at our League position?

I cannot see why the club is losing so much money when the attendances are no lower than previous seasons'. The pitch has been sold to the council and the pitch hiring must make money. It must be about time to have a shake up in the board, but with the ground sold and no assets left who wants to put money into a white elephant.

So next time we lose or play badly don't have a go at the lads on the field. Instead attack the directors verbally because they are the ones who will relegate Luton Town.

Keep up the good work  
S Scott Redbourn (This is a view never expressed in the match day programme - Ed)

Dear D.P.

Having read the 1st issue, I felt I had to write to tell you what a breath of fresh air you are. I feel it is a long overdue publication and a much needed outlet for supporters of LTFC to have a good whinge about their feelings which seem to get ignored elsewhere.

F. Evans Welwyn Herts.

#### D.P Top Ten Record Charts

1. Big Mouth Strikes Again. D Evans
2. Missed Again. Danny Wilson
3. I Should Be So Lucky. Richard Cooke
4. Moneys Too Tight To Mention. LTFC Board
5. Why. Roy Wegerle & Mick Harford
6. Too Much Too Young. Lads at Villa
7. Wishing. Jimmy Ryan
8. Too Many Broken Hearts. The Journey home from Brighton?
9. Set Me Free. Steve Williams
10. Say Hello Wave Goodbye. Terry Mancini

## Read all about it!

THE first of the alternative fanzine magazines for Luton Town supporters, called "Depleted" — with a picture of the Leicester City and former Luton Town boss on the front to illustrate the pun — hit the streets this week.

Edited by J. Mellicie of Jeans Way, Dunstable, issue number one is a well-produced effort with a mixture of humour and a serious look at our local club.

A name on the editorial team, B. Drain, sports correspondent, rang a bell close to home for me!

### D.P. INTERVIEWS THE MUCH LOVED FORMER HATTER **ROY WEGERLE**

BORN: Pretoria, South Africa on 19.3.64

CLUBS: Tampa Bay Rowdies (USA), Chelsea, Luton, QPR.



D.P: Did you follow English soccer as a kid in S.A?

R.W: Yeah! *WE* used to get the Big Match and that and I was keen on Man Utd but I never had any childhood heroes as such.

D.P: What about George Best?

R.W: No, that was a little before my time, though I did play with him in the states when his career was ending.

D.P: Did you always want to play soccer for a living?

R.W: Yes, that's all I've ever wanted to do. I've two elder brothers and they were both pros so I was just brought up on the game.

D.P: So what made you choose to play in the U.S?

R.W: Well I went to Man. Utd as a 14 year old on a 2 month trial but I was injured after a week and it turned into nothing. With a South African passport it was difficult to stay here so the U.S. was the only door open to me. I received a scholarship for the University of South Florida (Tampa) and that was my stepping stone to get into the professional leagues. Rodney Marsh saw me and I signed pro for the Rowdies.

D.P: Was Marsh an influence on you?

R.W: No, not so much an influence. A lot of people are mistaken that I modelled myself on Rodney when I think he took to me as he saw a lot of himself in me when I first arrived. The Leagues in S. Africa are very skillful with the black players playing in the Brazilian style, and that's the way that I was brought up to play. That was why Rodney took me under his wing. He's a great man and a great character but my skills were already there.

D.P: How did Chelsea come about signing you?



R.W: The Nth. American soccer League went up in flames at the end of the 84 season and Marsh became an agent for me. He put my name about in England and he got hold of the then Chelsea boss John Hollins and I signed.

D.P: This was in July 86 right, Do you think you were overlooked at Chelsea?

R.W: I don't know, it was 2 unhappy years for me there. I didn't get on with the management and when I played it was out of position. I just couldn't seem to get any rhythm going so those 2 years could be swept under the mat. It was no good for me at all.

D.P: How did Luton come to sign you?

R.W: Funnily enough Ray Harford the then Fulham Manager saw me play for Chelsea reserves. Out of all the reserve games I played that was probably my best performance and he was impressed. I think the name stuck in his head and 2 years later when Chelsea wanted to sell me that's what made him sign me.

D.P: Did you find a big difference between the 2 Clubs?

R.W: There was a very big difference. Mainly, Chelsea, even though a big London club treated their players along the lines of a 3rd Division outfit. Whereas Luton, a more family orientated club, treated us more like 1st Division players.

D.P: Did the plastic influence your decision to sign?

R.W: No. What was important to me was that Luton were close to London. I didn't want to go too far North though there were a couple of Northern clubs interested in me. I spoke to Harford and he seemed a nice fella. I'd already played on astroturf in the US so the pitch didn't bother me.

D.P: Were any of your injuries down to the pitch?

R.W: I did do my ankle in a couple of times but I was lucky in the 18 months at Luton that I didn't pick up too many injuries. The injury crisis there this season has been unbelievable and I don't think the pitch helps as far as that's concerned. But what do you do?

D.P: Did it take you long to settle at Luton?

R.W: No, not at all. One of the reasons I joined Luton was because they've always been known as a good footballing team and that's the way I like to play. Once I got into the team there was no real problem.

D.P: Was Ray Harford cut out to be a manager?

R.W: I think Ray is a good coach, but the management side did affect his ways. Sometimes the more seasoned players gave him a hard time and he found that hard to

deal with. He was better off as a coach.

D.P: Did you have much to do with David Evans?

R.W: I bumped into him a few times at Luton and he seemed nice enough and then suddenly when I'd left he shot his mouth off about me. I don't know what made him come out with that but that's water under the bridge now.

D.P: What was your most memorable match at Luton?

R.W: The most encouraging game for me was when we played away at Norwich when I was still trying to establish myself in the team. I scored twice and set me up at Luton so that was my most satisfying game. But obviously the most exciting game was the Cup Final v Forest when we played so well but lost it in the last 25 minutes. But it was a good day.

D.P: Was it harder this season playing alongside youngsters compared to last with the likes of Foster, Hill and Harford?

R.W: It was a more experienced team in my first season but at the same time at the beginning of this season we started really well in our 1st game against Spurs and we should have never lost. There seemed to be a whole new atmosphere at the club with the younger lads coming through.

D.P: The Luton fans had a great liking for you. Were you sad about leaving?

R.W: Yeah. I wasn't particularly keen to leave Luton. The reasons given were of financial problems with lack of money so they had to sell a few players. That's why I was sold. The Luton fans took to me well and I had a happy time there but obviously the financial reasons were more important.

D.P: How did you feel when you heard that QPR had bid £1 million for you?

R.W: Obviously I was very flattered. I had made a name for myself in the 18 months that I was a Luton and to be rated £1 million after that short time in the 1st Division was a boost to my confidence.

D.P: Did you feel that there was a lot of pressure on you when you joined QPR what with one thing and another?

R.W: Yes. I got a lot of publicity especially as I'd come back to London where the spotlight is on you all the time. The press hound you and expect everything to be done the right way. Everyone was expecting miracles of me at QPR but now I think it's settling down.

continued on page 22 :-



## "NO ONE LIKES US!"

"No one likes us, we don't care..."

The song sung by Millwall fans but a song which applies to Luton more than any other club in the country. We are despised in every boardroom and hated on every terrace up and down the country, because of the disgraceful policies adopted by the Board of Directors.

Can we really blame football for hating us, when we deny other fans the basic right to travel to Luton to see their team play, while we are allowed to follow Luton wherever we want. Our members scheme is held up as the answer to footballs problems, and until the Taylor Report, was going to be forced upon every club in the country. The problems in the game are down to the games rulers not listening to the fans and disgraceful facilities at every club.

We have a Government that fails to recognise footballs place in society as our national sport and prefers to hinder, rather than help it out. David Evans is in a better position than most to put footballs views to the Government and the minister for sport, Colin Moynihan. However, he constantly slags football down, refusing to listen to other peoples views, and sides with the Government, and in particular Moynihan, as they continually put the boot into football.

Luton have gone from being one of the most popular clubs in the country to the most hated. The attacking free flowing football of the early 80's under David Pleat, endeared the club to football fans and the media around the country. The clubs name was associated with all the good things in football, with goals and excitement virtually guaranteed.

The last few years have seen all this change, with the introduction of the plastic pitch, quickly followed by the membership scheme and away fans ban. These last two measures were treated with disgust by the whole of football, and there are many Luton fans who also disagree and no longer go to home games.

The club has admitted defeat to the hooligans. however, hooliganism has decreased both inside and outside grounds in the last few years. The club has merely swept the problem under the carpet. The propaganda put out by the club, local police and Government is a disgrace. The figures showing a record number of arrests include those for people swearing and other minor offences, that would not get you arrested on a night out let alone racing or rugby for example.

The club justify their actions by citing the family atmosphere, however this only occurs in certain areas of the ground. The scheme is also wide open to abuse. Many fans borrow cards from other members, often friends who have the card for just one game a season (Arsenal, Spurs, Chelsea fans especially). On occasions where a large crowd has built up outside just before kick off, gates have been opened to let people in without cards being checked.

This fanzine aims to reach and to provide a voice for these Luton supporters fed up at the policies of the board. It is about time the voice of the true fan was heard, instead of the hand picked supporters who are asked for their views now and again. Isn't it sickening how they always agree with the board?

Following the Taylor Report, there was a discussion on BBC2's Newsnight between various people involved in football. Two of these people were Luton fans and their views were in agreement with the policies of the board, giving an impression to the rest of football that we all approve of membership schemes and away fan bans.

My view is that the club would be better off by ridding the board of David Evans and scrapping the membership scheme and away fans ban. The present chairman is, in my opinion, merely a puppet of Evans, and until he goes the club will continue to be alienated and deservedly so.

In a future issue, a survey is planned to find out what other fans think. In the meantime, all football fans should join the Football Supporters Association. This is the best way of getting the fans views across to the people who run the game and is the only membership card worth holding.



## EXCLUSIVE! LUTON SIGN HATTON

Luton yesterday beat the transfer deadline by seconds to make the most sensational soccer signing of the season. Bob Hatton, the much travelled centre forward, has been holding secret talks with Luton boss Jim Ryan for over a week now, and the deal was clinched at 4.57pm after a motorway dash saw the paperwork completed at Watford Gap services with just minutes to spare.

Hatton, a former Hatter in the late 70's, revealed to us exclusively last night "This is a dream move for me. I cannot tell you how relieved I am to be back in the game and with such a glamour club after so long in retirement. I am sure I can do the business on the field and help Luton stave off relegation".

Luton boss Ryan, usually a man of few words said "I am delighted with the way things went. We have very little cash left at the club so I have had to bide my time. I see Bob as the ideal replacement for Mick Harford and he will be able to bring the best out of our younger lads".

It is thought that Hatton, 51 next year, has negotiated the deal himself, which is believed to be £5 for every goal scored, a car supplied by the club (an S reg Skoda) and a 3 week Holiday at Butlins, Skegness in June. He'll also receive a free haircut once a month from a local salon.

Ryan admitted it was a big risk signing a player who has been away from the 1st division for so long and added "It was the decision of the board that finally made this deal possible. Without their backing Bob would still be collecting his dole money".

Hatton went on to say "Thanks to Luton, there will be no more worries about where my next quid will come from. David Evans and his board have been very understanding and I believe I could have a long and happy career ahead here".

Hatton has scored in excess of 200 league goals throughout his career and if he can find his form of old he will surely save Luton from the drop and help their push for next years championship.

Willie Wonker.

## LOOK EAST BUT DON'T LOOK WEST

So how many of you lucky souls out there in DEPLETED land pick up that superb ITV channel Anglia, undoubtedly the most unbiased regional TV station in the UK... if you live in Norwich that is!!

I must be one of the thousands from in and around the Luton area who get very frustrated when it comes to that time on a Friday or Monday when one can usually look forward to the goals from the weekends action. So enter one Gerry Harrison...

"And this weekend threw up some interesting results throughout the region. Thetford beat Lowestoft in the Norfolk/Suffolk tiddly winks final" Action.. "Kings Lynns Norwegian speedway international Hans Jonnsonn has just signed a new lucrative advertising contract with a well known toilet paper manufacturer. Now onto football, and Norwich went to Wimbledon and drew 0-0, so here's some action. Luton travelled to Anfield to snatch a 2-0 victory (no action what-so-ever) Into division 4 and Colchester continue to ...Blah Blah Blah...

Now this seems to happen week in week out. The 'Towney' cousins of these 'Bumpkins' waiting and watching yet never getting what we want. The goals from our game, whether we won or not, are still wanted to be viewed. Some people may argue that being in division 1 means that our goals are shown either on the Saturday late night news or on a Sunday afternoons visit to White Hart Lane after the usual Derby bore draw. But where does that leave me and the other few thousand who are out on the razz on a Saturday night or falling asleep on a Sunday afternoon. Apparently no-where!!

Living in an area which has always had Anglia/Look East for local coverage for as long as I can remember (24 years ago), I can honestly say that the situation has not improved. In fact if anything it has become worse especially when you consider all the technology and equipment that they have these days surely we could expect vast improvements.



But no each and every week it's Norwich this and Ipswich that, Cambridge, Peterboro'. Colchester etc etc with hardly a mention of Luton. A prime example of this can be seen when comparing two identical situations occurring within three years of each other in the 80's.

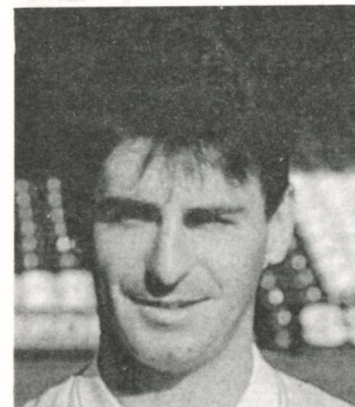
Norwich City had beaten Sunderland to win the 1985 Milk Cup and were to have a civic reception at the Town Hall the next night. As I seem to remember Look East and About Anglia both covered the events live through their Monday night programmes. Yet three years on and the same situation when the Hatters beat Arsenal in the Littlewoods Cup yet neither of the channels showed the scenes from the great occasion. We had to wait until the Tuesday night to see the lads parading the trophy in a few minutes of recorded highlights. Does this not give us the evidence that as we are so far away (almost 100 miles) from the main H.Q. of our local T.V networks that they obviously have little interest in Luton Town F.C. and its supporters. Let's face it a great deal of our support does indeed come from a number of people who live within the reception of these networks.

Surely in this situation we would be far better off placed in another region such as London or even Central South. The latter covers Gloucester to Aylesbury-Milton Keynes, places where Luton have a large following, and is based some 40 miles away in Oxford. At least we would get a fair run in either of these regions and they both have a superior sports round up than Anglia has ever had.

There are rumours that Anglia will be splitting into 2 different sections (East/West), in the near future. Will this make any difference to the coverage Luton receives? Time can only tell. But in the meantime we will continue to suffer second rate, mediocre and limited coverage of our team. Sky or BSB anybody ???!

## FOCUS ON

FOCUS ON - 'IRON MAN' MICK KENNEDY Loo Town



NAME: Michael "bites yer legs" Kennedy

BIRTHPLACE: Salford

BIRTHDATE : 9.4.1961

CAR: No! Sherman Tank

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Halifax,  
Huddersfield, Middlesboro,  
Pompey, Bradford,  
Leicester.

NICKNAME: Biffa

PREVIOUS TRADE: Butcher

FAVOURITE PLAYER: Vinny Jones.

Superb skills and finesse

BEST ALL TIME BRITISH SIDE: Portsmouth FC squad 85-86  
ard but fair. We only had 20 sent off that season.

BEST FOUL COMMITTED: v Charlton 19.2.90 on Andy Peake.  
A 15 yard chase then a stud to the chest timed to  
perfection.

BEST FOUL SEEN: Harold Schumaker W Germany v France  
World Cup semi 82. Great head high tackle from the  
keeper without being shown the red card.

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Jimmy 'Head' Case for  
Southampton and Mark Dennis at Palace.

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Boxing and Rollerball

MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Fighting

FAVOURITE FOOD: 6 inch rusty nails

FAVOURITE DRINK: Paraffin

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Norman Hunter and  
Tommy Smith

SUPERSTITIONS: Headbutting the dressing room door  
on leaving for the pitch.

PRE-MATCH MEAL: Toasted Sandpaper.

CAREER AFTER PLAYING: To teach youngsters all  
that I have learnt.

PLAYER FOR THE NINETIES: Julian James. Sent off on his  
full debut. This lad must have a fine future ahead of  
him.

WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET: Whoever wrote this,  
so that I can kick him in the b\*\*\*\*s !



## HOMELESSNESS - A REPORT

I don't know, these days it seems that if you're a single parent with no income, a few badly dressed brats and no conception of anything real, that the council will find a home for you. I'm sure that you'll agree that this is the norm for the most part, in Luton.

Well how can the Borough Council differentiate when the aforementioned paragraph precisely fits the description of the Chairman and his offspring of LTFC?

The days of football at Kenilworth Road are numbered, as you know, due to the club selling off the land to the Council under the premise that all would be done to find a suitable home within a 6 year period. With 2 years nearly up, it seems as though we are as far away as one can possibly get from establishing just where the new ground will be situated.

It is not the intention of this writer to restate the sites that have been well talked about, but to look at some of the decision making that goes on to establish where, in 6 years time, Luton will be playing 1st Division football. Indeed, at the present rate of advancement, will Luton be playing football at all?

Most of the decisions come from a working party which, given the course of time, comes up with various suggestions by sticking a pin into a map of OLD Luton. The reason I say an old map is that the one they use has absolutely no built up areas on it, as it dates from 1892. So when they landed on Sundon Springs they conveniently forgot about the residential areas, lack of routes and transportational difficulties.

Similarly, the Butterfield Green site has too many of the above disadvantages to consider it a starter. It must be pointed out that even when a feasible site is found too many people put on their NIMBY (not in my back yard) hats. They say that a football club in their area will cause traffic chaos and pollution, shove rowdy hoards of people into the area and generally downgrade the scene.

I hear no such complaints when they build large shopping and office complexes where the effects will be exactly the same. Too many people have short memories, don't they?

Indeed, what about getting a supermarket chain to go in with the Council and LTFC to construct a site with amenities, ample parking space and the like, so that the area can be dual purpose. An area such as this will possibly find that shops might have to close on a Saturday or the other way of looking at it is that they may increase their revenue through the influx of 10,000+ people on a Saturday.

You've got to admit that Kenilworth Road is absolutely abysmal for parking even on a reserve fixture, and most shops in the area are still concerned about large crowds even though the element of danger through violence has been, for the most part, eradicated.

We come back to the main problem as to where to site? People are now looking further afield meaning Lutonians have to travel out of Luton, to follow a team reported to be Luton Town. This option though safe as far as undeveloped sites goes, brings us back to transportation and traffic routes. Each site will have to be viewed under its own merits before a decision is made.

Are the council doing all they can to help Luton Town? I hear you ask, or are they hoping to be saved by private development which means that they can wash their hands of this tiresome problem? It was, after all, objections from rent paying members about football crowds that Luton brought in their membership scheme. An attempt to hide the real reason that the council did not care and LTFC were not prepared to foot the Police bills that kept coming in. No the council want to get their moneys worth out of Luton and have probably sold the land to private developers for housing purposes already, without having to spend anything extra to get rid of the club. It would be better for the council if the club did not reside within the borough of Luton anyway.

Is this what they are banking on with their stalling?



## AWAY WITH THE LADS

### "Four-Getful"

Manchester Utd 4 v 1 Town Sat 3rd Mar  
Town support 450

Checking the records before the game we should have realised that the writing was on the wall, but where there's life... We had never won a League game at Old Trafford but this must have been our best chance with United so poor thus far.

Town contained the home side for a good 20 minutes and looked capable of scoring through Dowie, but he mis-hit from 10 yards after good work from Black. The home fans were just turning against their team when McClair struck the 1st after errors in the defence left him clear. Soon Hughes made it 2 and Wallace added a 3rd before half time, and basically it was all over.

United came out for the 2nd half like a team possessed and when Robbins was sent clear he made no mistake for the 4th. Chamberlain made a smart save, then a shot from Robbins struck the bar.

Town saved face when Black scored our 1st goal at Utd for 30 years with only 10 mins left, but it didn't really matter. Again certain questions need to be asked about team selection and more importantly those left out when 1st teamers were injured or suspended. Surely it's a case of cutting your nose off to spite your face.  
Best for Town. -

### "Too Much Too Young"

Villa 2 v 0 Town Youth Sat 10th Mar  
Town support 800 (ish)

Weather good, Villa on a bad run, Depleted on sale for the 1st time, it all seemed to be falling into place nicely, until... the team was announced on the tannoy. It was at this point, even to the most optimistic of Town fans, that we knew that the lads would struggle today.

Luton, however, had a positive attitude and had plenty of possession in the early stages, yet there were no serious attempts on goal. Daley put

Villa in front midway through the 1st half with a superb solo run that took him 60 yards, after Breaker had been left stranded upfield. This apart James had the flying winger in his pocket and looked impressive whilst Villa looked anything but Championship contenders.

The home side increased their lead in the 2nd period when the ball was lofted high into the Town half, Dreyer misjudged its flight and Platt was on hand to poke his shot wide of Chamberlain.

After that very little happened and at the end of the game it seemed that the Town were too inexperienced in every department to handle a poor Villa side. The youngsters did their best for being thrown in at the deep end, Tim Allpress looks a fine player for the future.

Best for Town: Julian James.

### "Here We Go Again"

Norwich City 2 v 0 Town Sat 31st Mar  
Town support 900

Another cracking day, Norwich with a poor home record, Luton with a bad away one, it looked like a point could be won. We weren't to know about the bent referee.

With McDonough back in the side, James at left back and Nogan in place of Gray we looked even in the opening exchanges. The carrot crunchers went ahead after 27 mins when Mortensen was sent clear. Chamberlain made a one handed challenge to take the ball off his toe, but the Danish Donkey fell over and the Ref made the most shocking decision of his career as he awarded the penalty. Townsend converted the twice taken penalty and the Ref was bombarded with verbals from the vocal Luton fans.

Within 3 mins of the 2nd half it was all over when Rosario turned Wilson the wrong way to set up Bowen for a bender around the keeper. From then on there was little to write about. Kennedy showed us he could play some fine football and Jason Rees ran his heart out, but to no avail. In the end we got and deserved nothing. Incidentally the view from the away end was appalling. If I wanted to look at fences I'd have gone to B&Q.

Best for Town: Mick Kennedy



D.P: Back to Luton, out of the younger lads who do you see as players for the future?

R.W: Julian James caught my attention when I first came to Luton and from what I've heard he has been playing really well. The other lad I thought would do well is Jason Rees. He's got good technique and vision so I'm hoping that Jason can continue his progress too.

D.P: What's the situation with playing in the World Cup for the U.S.?

R.W: The officials over there are prepared to fight until the deadline day to get me involved so it might still come off. I had initially set my sights on the 1994 World Cup held in the States so if it doesn't come off I won't be too disappointed and I'll look forward to 94. My U.S. citizenship is supposed to come through in July, though the authorities are trying to push it to come a month early for the World Cup. My wife is an American and I think I will settle there at the end of my playing days so that's who I'd like to represent.

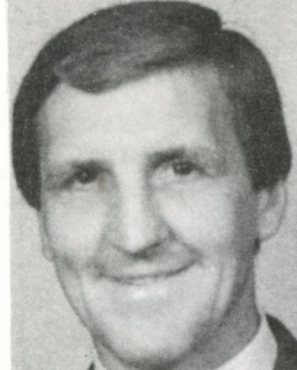
D.P: What's your ambitions for the future?

R.W: I don't know. My 3 ambitions as a kid were to get to play in the 1st Division, to play at Wembley and obviously to be involved in a World Cup competition. Now I never dreamed any of these would come true but I've managed the first 2 and it seems as though I'm on the brink of the third, so I really can't complain. My career has gone really well and I've still got a long way to go yet. I haven't thought what I'll do when I finish playing although I think I would still like to be involved in football in some way. Maybe coaching either here or in the States where I'm sure soccer is going to really take off again with the impending World Cup Finals in 4 years.

D.P: Well Roy I think that's it. Thanks for your time.

R.W: No problem.

Our thanks goes to Roy for sparing us his time to be interviewed in a busy week for him. He expressed many views on a wide range of subjects which we would have loved to include but space is tight. He wishes the Lads all the best for the rest of the season.



Insolvent

Ray: I am writing to you in desperation. I'm a bit of a merchant banker if you know what I mean and whilst I have a fair bit of money I could always do with a bit more. I've heard there are ways in which vast amounts can be made for very little outlay, can you enlighten me please?

Sheik Lowdsa Mah-Ney. Bharain

Dear Lowdsa: Can I recommend the old directorship package. For 200 grand upfront you are guaranteed a tidy return in 3 years with plenty of interest to boot. The club of course receive all the benefits that will price the working man out of the game. So come on Sheik let me hear you sing "Hatters Hatters what a great team"

#### Drastic on Plastic

Ray: What am I to do? The bottom dropped out of my world in 1985 when the one I loved was ripped out of my life. Even though I still see her from time to time it just doesn't seem the same.

I used to know every inch of her, used to caress and study her, watch the wind gently ruffle her and protect her from the elements when she so desired. Ours was a truly great affair.

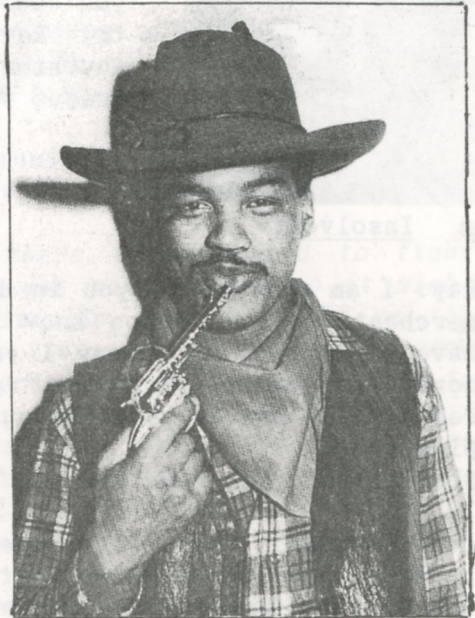
When she left I, like other men before me, turned through frustration to the plastic and rubber versions of the form. Yet as hard as I try I can't seem to get the same pleasure from these imitations. Ray what can I do?

yours I/TFC Groundsman

Ray Replies: Piss off you stupid old pervert, it's only fucking grass.



WANTED!



### MAD HATTERS

THE DATE: Saturday the 5th of May

THE PLACE: Baseball Ground Derby.

THE TIME: 3pm Sharp

BASHER AND 'HOTSHOT' STEINY SAY

Be there to party wearing unusual headgear, or we'll send Brian round to shoot your balls off.