

Issue 6

Price 50p

# MAD AS A HATTER!



A LUTON TOWN FANZINE

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## GOING FOR GOLD!!



On hearing of his old clubs financial plight "Basher" Stephens and some of his mates start a search for buried treasure, while digging foundations for the new Luton stadium.



# MAD AS A HATTER!



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DAVIDS BOOKSHOP, 14 Eastcheap, Letchworth, Herts.  
STRATHCLYDE PROGRAMME SHOP, 136 Renfield Street, Glasgow G2 3AU.

Back issues: Issue 1 (Free + SAE), Issue 2 (Reprint 40p + SAE) and Issues 3, 4 and 5 (50p + SAE) are still available.

Due to pressure of space a number of articles have been held over from this issue and will now appear in the first issue of next season. Our apologies to any disappointed contributors.

## Editorial

With the season coming to an end, it's nice to see the subject of a "super league" or should I say premier league again coming to the fore. This new league, so they say, will contain "the best" that English football has to offer but what they class as "the best" has yet to be detailed. Most people would hope they mean quality of football, with the highest 18 clubs in the 1st Division forming the new league, but we all know this is unlikely. The criteria which will probably be laid down will be for clubs with large stadia and support to be included. So the so called large clubs of the 2nd Division will be promoted to the premier league and the smaller clubs of the 1st Division will remain where they are. The likelihood of Luton being included would seem to be remote, unless we can build a stadium within 12 months and fill it with an extra 15,000 supporters. Certainly a challenge for Mr. Nelkin and his fellow directors.

Looking at Lutons past performances on and off the field, excluding the Littlewoods Cup, it could be said that the directors have played a large part in picking the team while the manager has run the finances of the club. At present the directors look as if they are managing the club but looking at recent results on the park maybe they are giving the half time team talk as well. Many people have congratulated Jim on his performance as the manager, but I feel this was best summed up in his own words at the A.G.M. recently.

*"When I first got the job we were second from bottom but now after the sale of the players we are third from bottom".*  
Nice one Jim, looks like the new game plan is working.

As people know, tactics can play a large part in defeating the opposition. Rumours have been sweeping clubs about a new tactic which when used, can lead to Luton players leaving the field dejected and their fans becoming the butt of other supporters jokes. The tactic goes as follows: get one of your players sent off, two if possible. This needs to be timed for the moment when the Town players are dominant. Once the sending off has been contrived the Town players will start running around like 7 year olds and either a draw or victory can be guaranteed. Many people will say that this tactic could never succeed, maybe they should ask some Chelsea, Spurs or Man. Utd fans.

To end the last editorial of this year thanks must go out to the people who have sent in articles, sorry if we didn't print them. Also to the faithful few who have sold them and finally to the Town supporters who have purchased M.A.A.H. See you next year in the 1st Division hopefully.



# THE FUTURE OF THE FUTURE

Watford fanzine clap your hands, stamp your feet.

On the same of simplicity all four were nicknamed Bob.

after a corner.

number nine, he went on to play international football.

turned in by everyone's favourite 12th man Mr. O.G.

It was all ticket, but you could still pay on the gate.

Paul Tindle

During the last season, the following

PHILIP GORDON      GEORGE HAMSHAW      DAVE KIRKBY      PHIL IVINSON  
 JOHN HARRIS      JOHN JONES      DONALD JONES      JOHN JONES

Michael Newson	Angus Nimmo	Steve Tyler	Keith Hayward
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John Parr      Mark Wilson

Eleven goals in total with eight being scored in the league.

FINAL SCORE: CLAP YOUR HANDS, STAMP YOUR FEET 3

MAD AS A HATTER! 5

Les Bonce



# IAIN DOWIE — A TRIBUTE

When Iain Dowie arrived at Luton from non-league Hendon, in November 1988, no one expected him to be more than a squad player and, more to the point, a deputy to Mick Harford. However, in the space of time that he was to play for Luton, Iain not only established himself as the club's first choice number nine, he went on to play international football.

Iain's rise from non-league football to becoming a first division and international striker was mainly due to the fact that the likes of Wegerle and Harford were to depart during last season. What though cannot be underestimated is the determination that Iain showed at Luton to be a successful striker, despite a few hiccups along the way.

Although his league career was to get off to a rather slow start, a loan period at Fulham was to do Iain the power of good and led to an offer from Fulham for his services. It was not though until last season that Iain was to really begin his career with Luton, and after a good appearance as substitute at Millwall, he was to score his first league goal for Luton the week after, against Derby. With the injury to and eventual departure of Mick Harford, Iain was to receive the chance to establish himself in Luton's first team, an offer that was gratefully received. He was to remain in the first team for the rest of the season.

During the end period of last season, Iain was to prove instrumental in helping Luton to avoid relegation. Memorable goals included a last minute winner away to Wimbledon, providing the first away win in eighteen months. A later winner at home to Coventry saved a match that looked all but lost, but the most crucial goal was to come against Crystal Palace at home when a goal from Iain saved Luton from certain relegation. At the end of the season Iain's record showed eleven goals in total with eight being scored in the league.

Prior to being sold to West Ham, Iain had scored seven goals this season including a late winner at home to Notts Forest and an impressive brace against Liverpool. The season had though been a little disappointing as he had often played up front on his own with little help from midfield and only limited service in the air. After a run without scoring,

Iain was dropped in favour of Sean Farrell although he was to bounce back and re-establish himself in the first team.

In my belief, Iain Dowie proved himself to be a vital part of the Luton team during his time with the club. He was certainly more of an asset than he perhaps received credit for and was also sold at a price that was far less than his true worth. Although not the most gifted of players, Iain more than made up for any deficiencies in his game by giving one hundred percent effort. His overall record for the club reflected this and in 62 full appearances and 23 as sub, Iain scored 19 goals, a commendable record for someone making such a step up from non-league football into division one.

On a personal basis, I was extremely disappointed to see Iain leave Luton and only hope that if and when he returns to Kenilworth Road, he receives the kind of reception that his previous performances for Luton really deserves.

P.I.



Iain Dowie scores his last goal in a Town shirt.



# THE PROBLEMS FACING THE TOWN

As the season slowly draws to its conclusion, those who support the Town are worried about the situation on and off the field of play. While the faithful few wonder about the future and what it will bring, many factions within football are gloating about our current situation.

Many reasons have been given for the problems we are currently facing, but I feel the underlying reasons are as follows:-

- ambitions of a certain gentleman outside the game of football
- rash signings of players who haven't succeeded at the club
- general mismanagement of the Town.

These reasons have clearly cost the club money, one asset it has never enjoyed in recent years. In order to redress this balance players have been sold and will no doubt continue to be sold for the foreseeable future. Town fans have come to recognise this as a way of life but the disappointment and feeling of being let down again are always there. Fortunately, these senses fade as new favourites come to the fore. Recent sales have caused great anger and this can be felt upon the terraces. Such feelings are often so strong that they cloud the judgement of the supporter.

So, why sell a striker as relegation beckons again. Firstly, it must be said you cannot sell a player that nobody wants and secondly, its no good selling a player for an amount that will not satisfy the requirements of the bank. At the AGM it was said that promises were made to the bank and Iain Dowie had to go. Further questions must be asked of the said bank.

- Why couldn't it be more flexible for a few more months.
- Why was it concerned about the relatively small sum in terms of money lent to third world countries, who invest in environmentally damaging projects. These debts have in the past been written off. Perhaps the answer is for Town fans to be more environmentally damaging.

- How would the bank feel if all the Town supporters removed their money and placed it in alternative financial institutions. I for one have already taken this step.

Mistakes in the past and the recent sale of players may have pushed the Town off the tight rope it has been walking in the past few years. If this has occurred new problems will arise and combine with those already facing us.

- The reduced revenues from having to rip up the plastic leading to the sale of players.
- Possible greater problems of obtaining finance for a stadium to be played in by a second division team and not a successful first division team.
- Reduced revenues on the gates received for the games with the big clubs.
- Ability to find a new shirt sponsor.
- Greater reliance on younger players as more experienced players are sold so giving them an environment where it may prove impossible for them to be nurtured and to blossom.
- Collapse of a team who's leading players want first division football and are sold cheaply to clubs who know they can get a bargain due to the cash crisis which will rise again.
- Likelihood of the Town being screwed by the tribunal system for selling an uncontracted player to overseas, namely Lars whose house it is rumoured is up for sale.

The future looks black if relegation becomes a reality, with few fans believing we can bounce straight back. Maybe the only thing that can keep us on the tight rope and slowly make it to safety is the support of the fans for the team as they play. So get behind them in the matches to come, especially against Sunderland, when I hope you will have read this article before the match starts.

M.I.

## Town success ignored

Success? What success? Did we blink and miss it?



# WATFORD WATCH

It is not for me to offer my views on the financial situation at Watford. What I will say is that they are sponsored by a free newspaper, their official club calendar was drawn by their goalkeeper and they give their programmes away free.

Their financial situation matches the play on the field. It fluctuates from iffy to abysmal. This year I have seen Watford 4 times, including the worst game I've ever seen, v. Portsmouth (even worse than Luton v. Bradford). Watford managed no shots and one corner. Elton's song "I'm a survivor" will not apply to Watfords 2nd division status come May. During this game I heard an interesting conversation between a hornet fan and the star fullback Barry Ashby. So fearless and courageous is Ashby, that fans have named him Bambi. The fan advised Barry to "Play like a man", the reply "\*\*\*\* off" - real commitment.

I have seen Watford score 3 goals this year, in the following moves:-

1. v. Ipswich: James - Wilkinson
2. v. Swindon: James - Thomas - Byrne
3. v. Swindon: James - Penrice

This is Watfords passing game. (For any Watford fans who don't know who James is, he's the bloke in the grey shirt who's good at picking the ball out of the net.) Luton fans should know that James is an even better rugby tackler than good old Les!

Next year Watford intend to have a special centenary shirt for 1 season. They are also giving away free tickets to anyone who was alive the last time Watford won anything. The shirt is to coincide with their stay in Division 3.

92/93 should be Watfords last season in the Football League. They are doing something special - they are having a Golden Goal Competition for the fastest goal they score. My ticket says March!

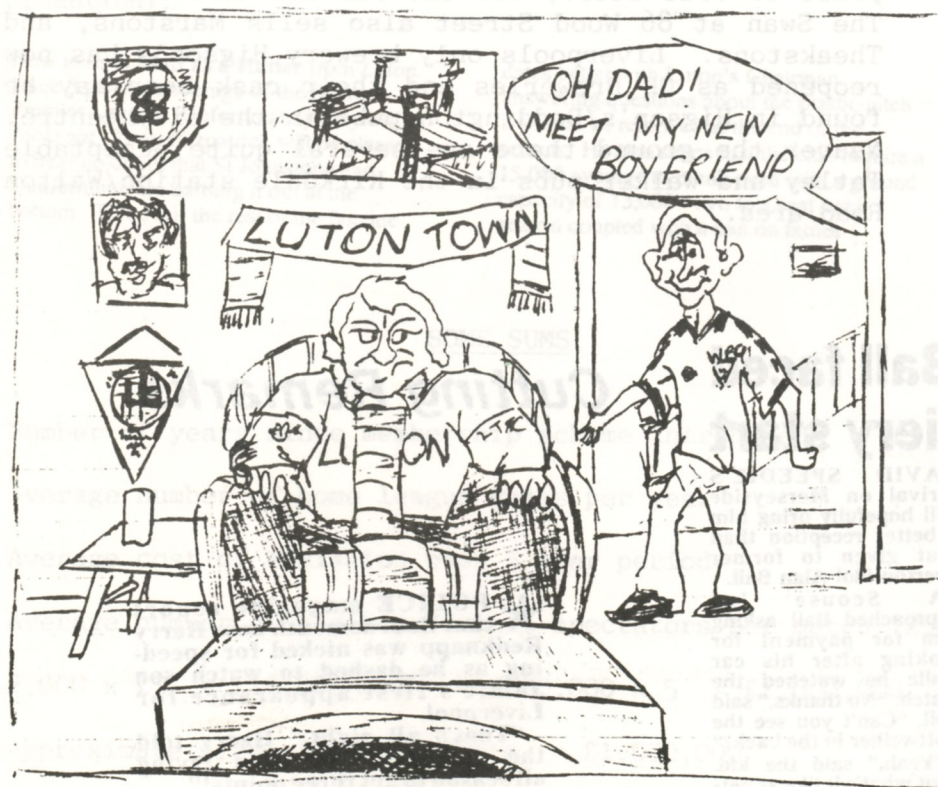
*Richard Barker*

## COMPETITION TIME

'LIVERPOOL AWARDED DUBIOUS PENALTY'  
'CHAMBERLAIN OUTSTANDING FOR LUTON'  
'WATFORD LOSE AGAIN'  
'SUPPORTERS CLUB RAP NELKIN'

If you can spot the most surprising and unusual headline out of those listed above, you may be able to win a years free membership to the supporters club of your choice. Answers on the back of a used teabag to the usual address by a week last Tuesday.

## EVERY FATHERS NIGHTMARE



KEV LENNON.



# TOWN TRAVELS

EVERTON (04-05-91)

**ROAD:** M1 then M6, join M62 westbound at Junction 21A. At the end of M62 turn right into Queen's Drive, after 3 3/4 miles turn left into Walton Hall Avenue.

**RAIL:** From Milton Keynes or via London. Depart Euston 1040, Milton Keynes 1115, arrive Liverpool 1329. Get to the ground by local train to Kirkdale or by Special bus from the bus station opposite Lime Street.

**BEER:** As in issue 3 we still recommend YE CRACKE, 13 Rice Street, if you can find it (perhaps we should give a prize of free beer?) for the Oak and Marstons beers. The Swan at 86 Wood Street also sells Marstons, and Theakstons. Liverpools only brewery Higson's has now reopened as GB Breweries and their cask beer may be found in Higson's/Boddington pubs in the city centre. Nearer the ground there are several quite acceptable Tetley and Walker pubs in the Kirkdale station/Walton Road area.

## Ball faced fiery start

DAVID SPEEDIE'S arrival on Merseyside will hopefully bring him a better reception than that given to former Everton idol Alan Ball.

A Scouse lad approached Ball asking him for payment for looking after his car while he watched the match. "No thanks," said Ball. "Can't you see the Rottweiler in the back?"

"Yeah," said the kid. "But what's it like at putting out fires?"

## Cutting Remarks

★ **POLICE** magazine report that Bournemouth boss Harry Redknapp was nicked for speeding as he dashed to watch son Jamie's first appearance for Liverpool.

"That's all right," Harry told the rozzers. "I've been trying all season to get three points!"

# FANZINE REVIEW



OK, so we've cheated by printing reviews of our own product, but we thought they were worth showing to a wider audience for their comments rather than for there (justified) praise.

**Mad as a Hatter** (50p) is the fanzine of first division Luton Town - its a surprisingly well balanced blend of supporter's concerns and grouses. I say surprising because they could be forgiven for having a massive chip on their shoulders - it can't be easy supporting the team the press have spend several years running down (the hypocrisy of saying that Luton only stay up in Div 1 because their plastic pitch gives them an unfair advantage when the press are willing "attractive" Oldham Athletic on to promotion).

New to us is **Mad as a Hatter** from Luton. Issue 3 gives a coverage of the Scottish Premier League. Unfortunately they call it *Jockspot*. Tony Fitzpatrick will be pleased to hear no doubt that St Johnstone and Dunfermline are battling it out at the bottom. To be fair the rest of the fanzine

dates better with Luton's Chairman answering questions about the plastic pitch : it should be removed at the end of the season. He also states that the club require a 15,000 average to break even with a ground capacity of 13,000 - two to a seat next season coupled with a ban on fatties ?

## SOME SUMS

Number of years since membership scheme introduced	:	5
Average number of home league games per year	:	20
Average cost of admission over 5 year period	:	£5
Average number of visiting/casual spectators per match	:	2,000
2,000 x £5 = £10,000 x 20 = £200,000 x 5 = £1,000,000		
Approximate size of LTFC's debts	=	£1,000,000

THANKS VERY MUCH, MR. EVANS



# RIGHT DISHONOURABLE

"Who the hell are you?" asked David Evans of my father on encountering him on route to the manager's office. My late father, who had by then been a long-serving, loyal and hard working employee of the club, was not impressed. He was less impressed to discover shortly afterwards that his ill-mannered "assailant" had just been elected onto the Board of Directors. Let's face it, this was a highly inappropriate way to introduce oneself to the club medical officer who was held in such high esteem in both footballing and medical circles that he had also served the England team under Sir Alf, The Don, and now under Uncle Ron Greenwood. But there again the offending party was, of course, David "Who the hell are you" Evans, who in his quest to gain the Margaret Thatcher seal of approval, metamorphosised one of the press's favourite small-town clubs into currently one of the most reviled by press and public alike to the point of tedious, and gratuitous absurdity.

So how was this achieved? Solely by a passionate desire to produce more boorish rhetoric through media channels than Ken Bates? By a self-righteous and self-opinionated delivery that transcends supercilious arrogance towards the murkier zones of delusionary mania? By a relentless campaign to use Luton Town F.C. as a political medium for the soliciting of favourable smiles and nods from Margaret Thatcher and Colin "Coxbridge" Moynihan who would both have been happy to have wrapped up British football in old newspaper and trodden it to the bottom of the dustbin (interestingly both "Thazza" and "Mozza" can no longer bestow smiles and nods on like-minded, sycophantic traitors since both have latterly been politically be-headed)?

And what of David Evans now? Well, he is a Tory member of parliament and, I believe, a wealthy one. And what of Luton Town F.C. now? Well, they are fashionably unpopular, struggling like a yoked steer to carry it's first division status across to a new season, and of course their financial burdens would threaten to collapse the back of an ox.

So you reckon I dislike Mr. David Evans M.P.? Ha, ha! I was only kidding! I know of few people who possess such an

abundance of endearing qualities. Indeed I considered, as a fitting gesture of appreciation by Luton supporters, the staging of a David Evans testimonial match just down the road at the Houses of Parliament underground car park between the car park attendant and M.P. chauffeurs combined XI and the Westminster Cardboard City Select XI. However, after further contemplation, and in keeping with Mr. Evan's generous and affable character, I am hoping that the good man will volunteer along with Margaret Thatcher and Colin Moynihan to be confined to the stocks for several hours at Tower Hill. In addition to verbal abuse, choice rotten vegetables and fruits could be hurled at the three football benefactors at 10 pence per shot on the supposed (false) premise of football treason. The millions of pounds collected could be divided into providing shelters for the homeless, providing the Cagliari deportees with compensation for loss of luggage and money, and into providing Luton Town F.C. with a cheque-book and banker's card.

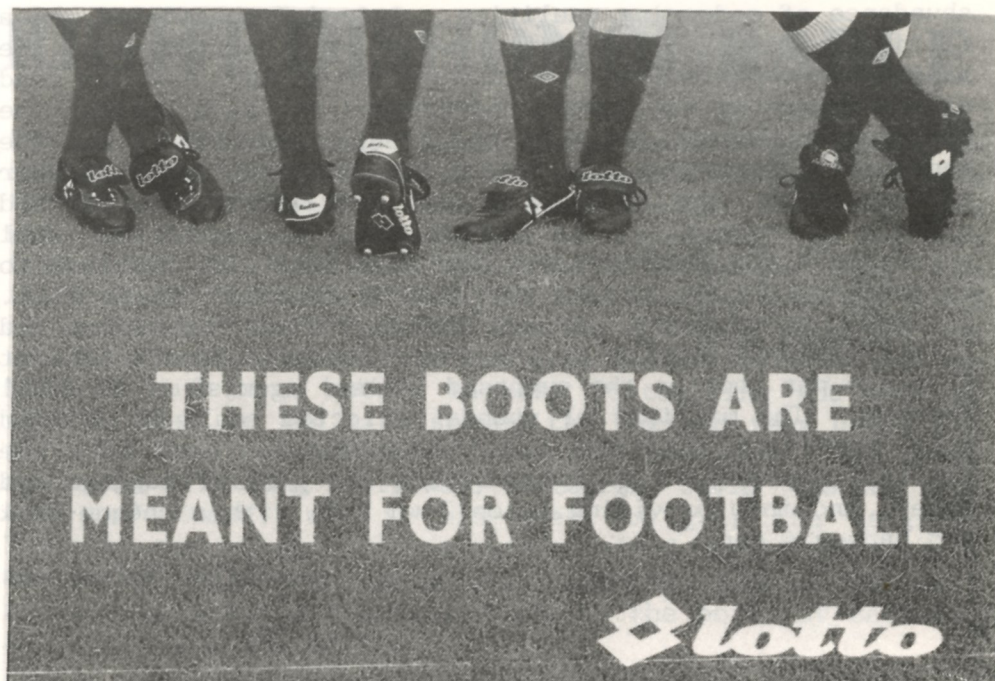
*Rattus Hattericus*

## BEDS. CCC 1991 FIXTURES

May	19	Bucks.	(Henlow) (Knock Out Comp.)
	26/27	Northumberland	(Jesmond)
	28/29	Cumberland	(Carlisle)
June	9/10	Staffordshire	(Dunstable)
	26	Worcestershire	(Bedford) (Nat West Trophy)
July	1/2	Suffolk	(Leighton Buzzard)
	7/8	Herts.	(Hitchin)
	14/15	Durham	(Luton)
	24/25	Norfolk	(Lakenham, Norwich)
August	4/5	Lincolnshire	(Bedford)
	14/15	Cambridgeshire	(March)

With the approach of summer we know that your thoughts will be turning to cricket, so we bring you the Beds. CCC Minor Counties fixture list so you can plan your leisure time. Note that for the first time in donkeys years the Nat West Trophy comes to the county (albeit briefly).





**THESE BOOTS ARE  
MEANT FOR FOOTBALL**



### So why do Watford wear them?

In case we have lost the effect of this by going from colour to black and white, believe us they are Watford socks.

### FOOTBALL BACK AT VICARAGE ROAD?

So, our friends at Watford have decided to enter into a ground-share scheme with non-league Wealdstone. The reasons behind such a move were exclusively revealed to us here at "MAD" by an insider at the club. Obviously our source wishes to remain nameless. (Not surprising when he supports Watford.)

Apparently the board hope that by introducing football on a regular basis, albeit non-league, that the idea might catch on and spur Watford's fight against relegation next season. Also, it is hoped that such a move will bring the fans back to Vicarage Road as there hasn't been an awful lot of football played at the ground over the last few seasons.

## THE SEASON IN ONE PICTURE



Preece in the thick of the action against the Champions, Williams mouth already half open while Dreyer stands and watches.



# TO THE MANOR BORN

Being born an Oxonian and proud of it, I decided to take advantage of Luton's two week break in February by going to watch Oxford play Charlton. The game itself would hopefully provide an ideal forum for checking the progress of some ex-Hatters as well as seeing one of the leagues most accomplished forwards play, in the shape of Carl Leaburn.

Luton and Oxford have much more in common though than just a few players who have been involved in both clubs. Both play at a crap ground, are overdrawn at the bank and have enjoyed recent success at Wembley in the League Cup.

The game itself was a rather one sided affair with Oxford enjoying a lot of possession but failing to turn this into goals. The chief culprit for missing chances was Lee Nogan, brother of Kurt, who on at least two occasions missed when it looked easier to score. Although Oxford took the lead, they couldn't hold onto it, and the inevitable equaliser came late in the second half.

The final result was 1-1 and led to widespread booing from the London Road terrace at the end of the match. Most of the remarks were aimed at Messrs. Horton and Moss who no doubt must be looking forward to another meeting with the L.T.S.C. who seem to give them a much warmer reception than their own fans.

As far as ex-players are concerned, Alan Judge has been banished to the reserves, Fozzie still looks reliable at the back and an inspirational captain whilst Mark Stein did look comfortable on the bench until being brought on with ten minutes left.

Overall, Luton and Oxford's fortunes over recent seasons have been similar. Both have enjoyed recent successes, particularly in cup competitions, yet have been unable to build on this success due to financial problems forcing the sales of top players. One can only hope that Luton do not follow the example of Oxford too closely by ending up in division two and that the recent rivalry we have enjoyed is only renewed if and when Oxford return to the first division.

P.I.

# FOUR PAGE FUN PULLOUT

OK, this is it, we want your opinions, comments and even abuse. You are the people who read, and in some cases write, this publication and its now your turn to contribute. All we are asking is for you to vent your anger and frustration, your joy and happiness, your knowledge of our favourite club, and your creative thinking through the material on the next couple of pages in this special 4 page two colour (black and white) pullout. Of course we don't expect you to go to all this effort for nothing so we will encourage you by offering two replica Town shirts (in the 1991-92 strip), one to the winner of the quiz and one to the winner of a draw of all awards/poll entries. If the response is up to the usual standard you will both be receiving a prize.

In case you were wondering why there should be a poll and a set of awards, it's because the poll asks some fairly straight forward questions whilst the awards are more freestyle, usually requiring an explanation for your nominations. In short an attempt to make an article of several pages out of very little effort on our part.

The "Mad" Awards for 1990-91 will be in the following categories:

1. Player of the year
2. Goal of the season
3. Match of the season
4. Away trip of the season
5. Match of the season
6. Worst game of the season
7. Idiot of the season

You can either pull out these 4 pages and send them in with your answers written in, or send the answers separately. Either way to the usual address please.

Closing date for entries is June 30th 1991, but bonus points will be awarded to any quiz entries getting full marks for question 5 and posted before the fixture list is published.



The "Mad" Poll 1991.

1. Young player of the year
2. Most improved player
3. Best Town performance
4. Worst Town performance
5. Best goal scored for Town
6. Best goal scored against Town
7. Best opposition player
8. Worst opposition player
9. Most entertaining opponents
10. Least entertaining opponents
11. Best referee
12. Worst referee
13. OK, lets get silly. If you were Town manager and had £2 million to spend which player(s) would you buy?

### QUIZ REVISITED

At the closing date (and press date) for our Christmas/New Year Quiz we had only received the winning entry from Murray Craig, so it was probably Sod's Law that we were promptly flooded (well, slightly dampened anyway!) by another 3 entries. Our thanks to the entrants for bothering and a promise that next time we will allow a bit longer to get the entries in. A consolation prize goes to Les Miller for getting 9 1/2 points (including Brian Budd!) but failing to beat the deadline. The other two both got 8 points. And why did they bother?

Well, "I enter stupid competitions like this one because ..."  
"At least if I win no-one can blame it on the pitch". - *Les Miller*.

"Being 200 miles away from Kenilworth Road there is sod all else to do" - *Gareth Jones*.

"Watford are shit" - *Geoff Ramshaw*.

### QUIZ

1. Who scored seven goals against Luton in an FA Cup tie and yet still finished on the losing side?
2. Name the venues of the three FA Cup semi-finals that Luton have participated in?
3. Lutons 3-1 home victory against Coventry City in a 3rd Round Littlewoods Cup tie in 1987 was not played at Kenilworth Road. Where was the tie played and why?
4. Name all the clubs that ex-Hatter Ron Futchter has played for?
5. Who were Luton's last opponents on grass at Kenilworth Road? And who will the next be?
6. Who has been Luton's longest serving manager?
7. What have the following in common:
  - i) The RAF Dog Team
  - ii) Six-A-Side Cricket
  - iii) An escapologist and a portable crane
  - iv) George and his microphone
  - v) The Luton Strikers
8. Why did a seemingly run of the mill combination fixture against Spurs in January 1983 at the Electrolux Ground, Oakley Road attract a crowd of over a thousand and the attention of the National Media?
9. Who was Roberto 'Bobbin' Dino?
10. From which clubs were the following Scottish Hatters signed:

'Dixie' Deans  
Andy Harrow  
Mickey Weir



# CAPTION COMPETITION



What is Richard Harvey saying to John Dreyer ?  
A prize of , err.... something, to the winner.  
Closing date and address same as other bits.

# JOCKSPOT

There has been much discussion in recent years both North and South of the border about the total number of clubs in respective divisions. The numbers seem to change like the weather, yet still the "powers to be" never seem happy, (what's new I can hear you say). Many reasons have been given concerning these changes but having got used to a 20 club English First Division we are now reverting back to the original 22. Presumably these ridiculous decisions keep someone in a job at Football League RHQ.

In Scotland we now have a similar picture. A proposal to increase the Premier Division from the current 10 to a new look 12 clubs has been made. From a personal point of view, the prospect of playing two more clubs on four separate occasions each season is about as exciting as watching Wimbledon v Watford (no disrespect meant to these fine footballing sides of course!). It would seem to be the same old story of the rich getting richer, and the poor getting poorer. At the end of the season there will be no relegation from the Premier Division, so in other words if your side is not in with a chance of a European spot don't worry, because no matter how crap your side happens to be you will retain your place at the end of the season. Whatever brainless dickhead thought of this would do himself a favour by taking a one-way ticket to the moon.

Whenever Rangers are mentioned these days, a groan of despair can be heard from all quarters. Up until Sunday, 24th March I feel this was somewhat unfair, although I shall not 'bore the pants' off everyone by going into why. However, whatever good work has been accomplished in the last four and a half years was completely thrown out of the window by the utterly disgraceful scenes at Parkhead. Is it any wonder football supporters get annoyed whilst standing on the terraces when so called sportsmen brawl and argue. An "old firm", game is unquestionably the most competitive "derby" game in Europe but even so, there is no excuse for the unfortunate events of that day. I hope that lessons are learnt ..... Unfortunately though I doubt it.



# THE EXPATS RETURN

In Mad 3 I wrote 'I really must try and get in somehow next season'. Well, I did it. On December 29 I got into see the Town play Chelsea. The first thing that struck me was the number of Chelsea fans in the ground, especially the corner I was in, the Oak Road end of the Enclosure, where they appeared to be in the majority. And there was silly old me thinking the away fan ban was still in place. What? It is? Oh.... well, some devious souls are playing fast and loose with their guest facilities! Still, what a joy it was to see home and away fans mingling with such ease! If only life cold always be like this.

Anyway this was the first time I'd been to the ground for six years (although I had seen some away games) and I suppose you'd like some kind of explanation for this behaviour? Well, without boring you with the story of my life, I've either been to far away or too hard up or both to be able to go. Even now frequent trips are out of the question due to the dreaded interest rate, poll tax etc etc (please send donations to 'The Get Me To More Games Fund') but after this I shall certainly not leave it as long again.

I approached the ground with trepidation: after all the last time I was here (v. WBA, 1984) there was grass on the ground and people, rather than executives, sat in the Bobbers. Would it be an anticlimax? Would my childhood memories be shattered once and for all? Not a bit of it! Once in the ground, despite the changes, the old feelings came back. Frenchie, the 'George Best of Division 4' running rings round tubby full backs, MacDonald bearing down on goal like a juggernaut, Mossy sending over cross after cross with pin point accuracy, Steve White falling over.... my train of thought was thankfully broken at this point by the teams running out on the pitch. The game broke out and I spent the first few minutes trying desperately to analyse what was wrong with the plastic pitch, how did the ball bounce, how did it run etc. It was about mid way through the match that I suddenly realised I'd forgotten all about it, it didn't matter. It was a game of football, as good as any other, so what was all the fuss about? Even the executive boxes ceased to jar, just.

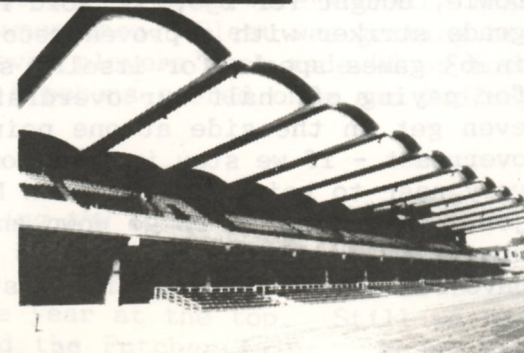
I can't remember much about the first half but the second was wonderful. The second goal was a gem and particularly amusing as the Chelsea fans were still roundly abusing Preece for a (I cannot tell a lie) blatant dive just outside the penalty area and right in front of us. The Chelsea bloke never touched him but he dived Klinsmann-like to the ground. After that Williams even took the piss out of the gullible ref, who was only standing a few feet from the 'foul', by 'accidentally' placing the ball for the resultant free kick in the area! Anyway, back to the goal, Preece, being mocked by the Blues, sent in a short corner, someone dummied and Kingsley Black hammered the ball into the net. 'Can you hear Chelsea sing?' sang the Luton choir (well, a dad and his lad sitting behind us actually). That was the one thing that was very different, the noise level. The volume that used to flood out from the Oak Road end in the old days was deafening but now... perhaps that is what happens when there are no away fans, the home fans have nothing to spur them on to make a racket. Well, by now the interlopers from London were sloping away... 'We can see you creeping out' chanted the irrepressible duo behind... well, that's one advantage in there being 'no away fans', they don't get penned in for five minutes and apologised to for 'the inconvenience it may cause'.

So, I was glad to be back and now I know how easy it is to get in I'll be back again. As I said back in Mad 3 'whatever anyone says, it is still a great place to watch football'. Oh, I didn't say did I, the seat I had was strategically placed with a pillar in front of the Kenilworth goal - well, no visit to Luton would be complete without that would it!

Steve Bailey - *The Expatriate*

## ORGY IN VICARAGE ROAD

Watford 1 Ipswich Town 1  
.....so what on earth goes  
on when they win?





# NELKIN OUT??

## A case for the Defence

During and at the end of the Spurs match on Easter Monday there was a loud demonstration of discontent against Peter Nelkin which sought to persuade him to go forth and multiply. The numbers involved could by no means put it in the class of a mass demonstration but the anger was there for all to see. The question that must be asked is "is that anger justified?".

On the way out of the ground I overheard two comments. One fan said "that's really stupid, having a go at Nelkin". Another said "who's the chairman anyway, David someone init?" Leaving aside the well informed comment of the latter the first comment finds an echo with me. Why is Nelkin being got at? Is it because it's becoming trendy to chant for the resignation of the chairman after the famous televised Derby demo? Is it because it's more satisfying to vent anger at an authority rather than the team? Rather like political satire, boring unless it's done well and so easy to do that it's usually done very badly. Or is it because he's sold all our best players? It's probably a combination of all three and whilst the first two reasons can be disposed of without further discussion the latter needs more careful analysis.

He's sold players because we're up to our ears in debt, not as bad as Spurs but for a club of our size significant enough to be cause for genuine fears of going out of business. Did he cause the debt? No, he inherited it from the member for Welwyn. If anyone deserves anger then it is the departed chairman, not the incumbent. The latest to go has been Iain Dowie, bought for £30,000, sold for £480,000. Was he a first grade striker with a proven record in Division 1? 16 goals in 63 games speaks for itself, so who's the mugs? West Ham for paying off half our overdraft I'd say! Dowie couldn't even get in the side at one point this season so let's not overreact - if we stay in Division 1 this season and are also very near to being solvent then Nelkin will have done a fine job. Of course if we go down and slide into lower division obscurity it'll be too late to get angry, the damage will have been done. That is the worst case.

The best is that Luton's history of snapping up bargains over the years from the lower divisions, the non-league and the youth policy will continue and we'll have a team to be proud of again. We have always done that and then been shocked when the player is sold, all the way from Bruce Rioch to the aforementioned Dowie. It was a constant source of amazement to me that we held on to Brian Stein and Ricky Hill for so long!

Those who shout for Nelkin's head should ask whether there is anyone else willing to put money into our club. It would appear not at the moment. I'll give Nelkin the benefit of the doubt for now and judge him as he should be judged, on his performance, and the team's performance, over the next couple of years.

*Steve Bailey - the Expatriate*

## HOW LONG ...

*How long have YOU supported the Town?*

If it is 5 years you'll remember Bruno and Mick scoring 36 goals between them. 1985/6 was a pretty good season, we played 6 teams in 10 cup games. We put 7 past Shilton and one of them was Ray Daniels last goal for Luton.

*How long have YOU been cheering the Town?*

If you recall 10 years ago Stein and Moss were knocking them in well, 34 league goals between them. Pleat was getting his promotion team together - seven players each made 40 or more league appearances. Basher Stephens scored once and Godfrey Ingram got 5.

*How long have YOU been watching the Town?*

If you can go back 15 years to 1975/6 you'll remember being back in Division 2 after one year at the top. Still we had Happy Harry at the helm and the Futchers twins. Money was



short (whats new) and Peter Anderson was sold abroad with Andy King almost given away.

*How long have YOU been groaning at the Town?*

At the end of 1970/1 a promising young centre forward was sold to Newcastle. He scored a hat-trick against Cardiff in the last match of the season then our own Super Mac went by Rolls to 'Fog on the Tyne'. We had a useful winger too - called Jim Ryan. Earlier a post broke at Forest in the Cup, it was bloody cold that day and there was fog on the Trent.

*How long have YOU been on the terraces at the Town?*

25 years ago we experienced our first season in Division 4. We bought a goalkeeper with a broken finger and played him up front. Great move - Tony Read scored 12 times - he even got a hat-trick. However in the FA Cup a home defeat by Corby bode ill for the short term future.

*How long have YOU been frustrated by the Town?*

In 1960/1 we had just lost our Division 1 status and our team was ageing together:- Baynham, Dunne, Morton and Turner had all played over 250 league games. The manager tried to be original though - remember these superstars? Brogan, Chandler, Mike Collins, Daniel, Dixon, Fairchild, Legate, Spencer, Mike O'Hara and Tracey - well they bring tears to my eyes.

*How long have YOU been following the Town?*

I can just remember 35 years ago, we'd just got into the top flight, the crowds were large and I was too small to see much. Still my dad enjoyed it and told me all about it.

*David Fleckney*

P.S. I bet I've been going to Kenilworth Road since before you were born. God I feel old.

## EASTER BLUES

As all True Supporters know it was on Easter Monday 1936 that a certain Joe Payne scored his record breaking ten goals. (Supporters of other clubs note that this was on a grass pitch in front of visiting fans.)

Since that remarkable day Easter has often been a miserable time for Luton - seems we've had to pay the price for getting into the record-books. The first Easter Holiday matches I remember were those of 1967 when we were struggling in Division 4. Our fixtures were away matches at Hartlepool and York followed by the home return with 'Pool'. Well we lost them all (5-1 at York) to sink back into the re-election zone as they called it then. Imagine being "doubled" by Hartlepool! Bet they ain't had one since.

Four years later the circumstances were very different. Promotion to the First Division looked a real possibility before the Good Friday at Bristol City. The pitch was a mud-heap that day but goals from Super MacDonald and Busby had us dreaming of Anfield and Highbury. But we went and blew it 3-2. Even worse was to follow next day at the Den and when Leicester done us 3-1 at Kenilworth Road, inspired by Rod "the Nod" Fern, on the Monday - that was that. A season demolished in four days.

Eventual promotion in 73/4 brought inevitable struggle in 74/5. Yet as the crunch period approached there were hopes that the dreaded drop could be avoided. But of course we ballsed it up over Easter. A lanky, ugly git called Roger Davies got all five goals at the Baseball Ground. Two days later five more hit the Luton net at Wolves. At least we managed a couple this time. Harry Haslam's star signing John Seized-Up scored on his debut - what a player he was. None other than Jimmy Ryan got the other one. Bet he never thought that fifteen years later he would have a) Happy Harrys Hot Seat and b) A Blue 'n' White Army.

It would be a little bit unfair to say that it was all gloom every Eastertide. Take 1976 - with a home game against Bristol Rovers on Easter Monday forty years "After Joe" we were perhaps entitled to expect something special. And so it proved with the first glimpse of Ricky Hill. He made one,



scored a brilliant one and was as nonchalant about it as you like. Then a few years later we beat some insignificant little team from Hertfordshire with Young Bob Hatton scoring the only goal - his last at Kenilworth Road.

On to 1982-3, back to Division One and the story gets back to normal. Our two matches that year were against Norwich and that insignificant little team from Herts. (At least the Good Friday fixture had been phased out by this time.) Well the Swedes came to Kenilworth Road and won a vital relegation battle 1-0 to give Gerry Harrison multiple orgasms. I recall a world class save by their 'keeper to deny Mossy. And then, Horror of Horrors, a 5-2 stuffing at the Vicarage. Not only that but Raddy Antic was sent off. I still don't know what for but at least he had the last laugh that season. (Up Yours City!)

The last three Easters have been just as miserable. Even in 1988 amidst Wembley Mania we allowed those bastard Geordies to literally take the piss and win 4-0 at St. James on Easter Saturday. The following season had us away to Man. United on the corresponding day so we knew beforehand what the outcome was likely to be as the last time we won there Manchester was a village called Newton Heath. Spurs Yids completed the misery by replying three times to Fozzies opener.

Last year it was more like Christmas as Everton were given the chance to come back from being dead and buried at half time. Still we didn't need the points very much did we? The first team were given Easter Monday off and cardboard cut-outs were sent to Nottingham instead. They managed to restrict Forest to just three goals.

So what does this year hold in store we all wonder. By the time we go to Sheffield United they will probably be challenging for a place in Europe. Next theres the long awaited visit of Clowning Fatboy - on his birthday too!

Unless that is he has been signed up by Napoli/Billy Smart/Steven Spielberg - they all seem to like funny little fat creatures.

Please Luton, make it a Happy Easter for a change.

A.J.R.

## COUNTDOWN TO 1994

"The World Cup is coming, the World Cup is coming." A cry revered throughout the globe that, sadly, means virtually nothing at all to the average American. Any response other than a bewildered look and possibly a muttered, "What?," would definitely be noteworthy.

And to ask the question, "What is the World Cup?," would, no doubt, bring forth answers similar to these. "Isn't that the championship of yacht racing?," or "Must be a select tennis title, right?"

Unfortunately, football, as the rest of the world knows it, is the illegitimate step-child of newspaper sports pages. It is both unwanted and unwelcome. Therefore, the average American is already at a disadvantage when it comes to trying to understand the "world's game". And if an inquisitive newcomer is at such a loss, then what hope is there for the rest of the populace?

The American sports public regards its sports writers as veritable gods. Their opinions are commandments handed down from high above. Consequently, the sports writers, themselves, have developed an unhealthy self-worth fueled by this worship and egos that, at times, rival those of the "super stars" they write about.

Make no mistake about it, the American sports writer loathes football. Why? Because it is a game which they have not had to master. It is a sport where the fans know more about its intricacies than does the daily sports writer. And to the sports writer this is a case of the unthinkable. The fan must never hold such a lofty position.

Therefore, the gods who rule FIFA need not concern themselves so much with the conversion of the average American sports fan as they should be concerned with the egos of the average American sports writer. The fans will follow if their leaders will lead.

Brian Surette



# AWAY THE LADS

## VILLA 1 HATTERS 2

A trip to Birmingham was keenly anticipated by me as I had missed the 1-0 triumph against Forest because I had been pounding the piste in the Italian Dolomites. The M1 was traffic jam free (always a good omen) and a couple of pints in an Old Victorian boozer in Moseley set us up for the afternoons entertainment.

We parked close to the ground but on emerging from the car were immediately approached by two urchins who offered to 'mind' the car. Friends have come across this sort of entrepreneurial opportunism from Manc and Scouse scallies epitomizing the Thatcher decade (self reliance, self help and greed!) but it was the first time I have encountered this phenomenon. Actually the kids were two rather polite Asians who looked as if they would be more at home studying for their Eleven Plus exam, not at all like the young yobs further down the road resplendent in the latest street fashion of enormous trainers and hooded tops. Fifty pence secured their services and as on returning to the car after the game and finding that a neighbouring car had had its window smashed in I considered it to be a good investment. It was certainly cheaper than a friend who had paid £1.50 on a trip to Anfield, although he said they offered a complete service, to the extent of stopping traffic on a dual carriageway and letting him back in to the flow!

Villa Park has bad memories for me as on my two previous visits we had been thumped 4-1 by the Villa on our first season back in Division One and of course the emotionally draining experience of the 1985 Semi-Final is still a vivid impression. Since my last visit the away terracing in front of the towering North Stand has been converted to seating. However, I considered a £7 ticket to be reasonable since it costs £8 to stand at White Hart Lane and £7 at Selhurst Park.

Villa opened brightly but Alec responded to the two one-on-one situations with Penrice and Platt very alertly. Penrice, the £1 Million man and a Barry McGuigan clone looks like a panic buy and an overpriced one at that since he has never played 1st Division football. The tireless Dowie went close and there was a touch of irony when Mountfield converted Kingsley's cross in splendid fashion, it constituted belated revenge for his cruelty to Luton fans back in the aforementioned semi-final. More leaping up and down from the plastic seat when Pembers opened his league account in spectacular fashion with a volley a la Mark Hughes. Lets hope the Welsh Wizard can turn into the goalscoring midfielder that we have been lacking since the departure of Danny Wilson and Ricky Hill.

Further celebrations followed when Alec kept out Platt's penalty; they were a little muted when Cascarino actually managed to score a goal (another hurried buy purchased supposedly to win the Championship for Villa) but the Town held on in style. Rodgers header glanced off the bar and I still cannot believe how Spink managed to keep out Lars' fierce shot. Europe here we come, well mid-table security anyway! The only disappointment to a memorable afternoon was that all the excitement (goals, missed penalty etc.) was up at the dim and distant Holte End, binoculars would have assisted!

My final thoughts are what a literary lot the Brummies are. Who needs a programme when the Villa fanzine 'Heroes and Villains' can be purchased for a mere 50 pence. It was well written, humorous and articulate. It was critical of the Chairman; still not convinced as to the merits of Venglos; alarmed at the dearth of goals from Cascarino; annoyed at the sale of Paul Birch to Wolves and included a letter home from Ivo Stass, the Czech crock who has yet to play a game. The programme also compared unfavourably with the local Evening Argus Pink Sport Final, which was packed with information and included a bizarre letters page with 'Mr. Loony' types sounding off about West Midlands football. Does any one remember the Evening Post Sports Final that appeared until the early 1980's - there's an idea for a future article.

*Hughie Billington*



# SWEET F.A.

## CONFIDENTIAL MEMO

To: RHG Kelly Esq., Secretary  
The Football Association

From: R. Murdick Chairman  
FA Cup plc

Graham,  
Just to keep you in the picture about next year's cup, the Board of FA Cup plc have agreed the following:

1. The draw will once again be shown live and exclusively on BSKyB.
2. The format of the draw will be revamped somewhat. In future, the draw will take place at New Scotland Yard, and will be made by leading BSKyB celebrities such as Derek Jameson, Keith Chegwin and Mike Smith. We'll be using miniature satellites as well, drawn from the rolled-up trouser leg of a leading chief constable. So you can throw that tatty old velvet bag and wooden balls away.
3. The TV audience will be encouraged to participate as well, as the draw will form the basis of a new game which we shall be promoting in certain newspapers. We will of course offer you a very generous percentage of any profits - say 1%?
4. So that the police can organise manpower at sufficient notice, the draw will be made from the preliminary round right through to the semi-finals at the same time. They did say that this was cutting it a bit fine, so we'll draw the next 5 years as well while we're at it.
5. Rather than play so many games all at once (which as I'm sure you appreciate makes TV coverage impossible), we'll stagger games from Round 3 onwards, playing 6 or 7 games a day each game kicking-off as soon as the previous match finishes. Wall-to-wall football!
6. None of this replay lark - our viewers (all 4 of them) want results - so each game will have a penalty shoot-out to decide the winner.

Well, there you have it, Graham. As you can see, we've managed to keep all the old Cup "magic" intact whilst moving into the 21st Century. Any comments you have will be appreciated, but don't expect us to take any notice.

Particularly any of that old crap about the fans not liking the changes (although that's the last thing I expect from you, old son), remember it's nothing to do with them.

Regards,

FA Cup plc is a totally profit-making organisation owned wholly by, and run exclusively for their own benefit by, BSKyB and the Police.

## WATFORD PEEP

By BOB SAYER

Watford 1 Newcastle 2

WATFORD unleashed a new weapon in their relegation fight - amplified crowd chants.

But they need Elton John and his piano on the terraces to breathe life into their suffering fans.

Cries of 'come on you Hornets' burst from the tannoy every time they managed a first-half corner.

But there was only stunned silence as John Anderson put Newcastle ahead in the 40th minute.

And they reckon that Kenilworth Road is short on atmosphere!

## NOT MATCH OF THE DAY

- Hasn't Auntie Beeb really come up with the goods with the Sunday 'Live' F.A. Cup matches? Great stuff (if you support Q.P.R.; i.e. used to watching negative defensive football).

Let's start with the 3rd Round: all those wonderful ties that make the F.A. Cup what it is: e.g. Barnsley v Leeds, Burnley v Man. City, Mansfield v Sheffield Weds., Blackpool v Spurs, even Blackburn v Liverpool. Not crap all 1st Division ties that we endure every Sunday on ITV. But nay, nay, and trice nay, the Beeb decide to show the best (sic) tie of the round - Crystal Palace v. Notts Forest - practically the only tie that had Nil-Nil written all over it. Now as Town fans know, Selhurst Park is not exactly an entertainment hot-bed is it? The less said about the game the better, so we move on quickly to the 4th Round.



Still some great ties in prospect: Port Vale v Man. City, Woking v Everton, Liverpool v Brighton, Spurs v Oxford, even Luton v W\*\*\* H\*\*. But nay again. In a desperate attempt to boost viewing figures, the Beeb screen the best (sic) tie again - Arsenal v Leeds - WOW! Another game with Nil-Nil all over it, and it didn't disappoint. Two teams that play a masterful offside trap - awesome to watch wasn't it.

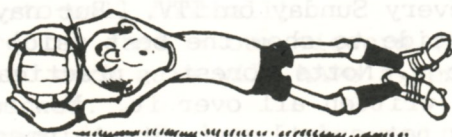
So, with Mr. Hill et. al beginning to look embarrassed, and Joe Public wishing Sunday licensing hours were extended, we progress to the 5th Round. Still interesting ties to consider: Pompey v Yids, Notts. Co. v Man. City, but the Beeb still hadn't learned, the plump for - wait for it - Everton v Liverpool - GOSH! At the end of this one, the only excuse they could come up with was the goalkeeping 'heroics' of Messrs. Southall and Grobelaar!

Let's hope that the Beeb have learnt from their mistakes this season - it'll probably be Darlington v Scunthorpe in the 3rd next season!

Now that you're getting bored with the lack of entertainment in this article (a bit like Sunday afternoon BBC), I'll leave you with the immortal chant that can be heard at Frank Sidebottom Gigs - NIL-NIL, NIL-NIL, NIL-NIL, NIL-NIL, NIL-NIL, NIL-NIL, NIL-NIL...

Jez

P.S. At the time of writing the selected 6th Round game was Spurs v Notts County. Rumour has it that the Beeb were trying to nobble Steve Cherry (County's Keeper) in a desperate attempt for a goal! And of course as we all know they succeeded, but not before half time. What odds for Nil-Nil in both semis.



# SOCCER AND SCUDS

Here follows a report of the recent crunch encounter between the Sunday Sport football team and Iraq's national XI.

This match looked like being one-sided from the start. In their last 4 matches, Iraq, nicknamed the 'Revolutionary Guards' had murdered the opposition after 5 minutes and proceeded to win 26-0. However, the Sunday Sport line up, including an 84-stone ex-Luton Town chairman in goal and Elvis Presley, were considerably harder to beat. Things started badly for Iraq when their first shot at goal, an SS-20 missile, bounced off the stomach of the Sunday Sport's goalkeeper, back down the pitch and blew up the terraces. As the match was played at Vicarage Road no-one was injured. This made the captain Saddam Hysen very angry indeed, so he promptly declared war on the opposition. It was at this point that the Sport unleashed their secret weapon, Big Bertha, a 40-stone female sumo wrestler. She sat on Saddam Hysen and squashed him to death. Saddam's cousin Glen then took control and shot her. She was posthumously booked for dangerous play, but Glen escaped punishment.

After 25 minutes, Lord Lucan jumped on to his Sunday Sport team-mate Shergar and the pair rode towards goal. Shergar received the ball from somebody in a dirty raincoat on the right wing, thought to be Nicholas Ridley, and scored from 25 yards. Two men in the crowd were heard to say "I bet he drinks Carling Black Label". Shergar replied, "No, mate, I'm a Guinness man". Iraq's goalkeeper was hanged for taking his eye off the ball, which meant they were down to 8 men and a goat.

Little happened until the second half, when Bobby Moore of the Sport was booked for trying to kick the ball away from the Iraqi no. 4, Mohammed Alimakoist. Unfortunately it was on his head at the time. The game was postponed for 32 minutes while Moore was searching for his birth certificate so that he could spell his name.

At the restart, Elvis Presley, alive and well and earning a living as a sheep impersonator in Bognor Regis, burst into a chorus of "Ere we go" etc, at which point the Sunday Sport's substitute, a 12-foot tall earwig, took the field. The Iraq team took fright and surrendered at this point, with the Sunday Sport winning by 1-0. No doubt you will see a full report very similar to this although much more crudely written, in next Sunday's Sunday Sport.

Graham Johnson



# Raving Mad!!!

Dear "Mad",

About two weeks after Issue 5 came out I received a telephone call from an English native who now lives in New York. His brother had been sending him programmes and copies of "Mad As A Hatter!" When he read my letter he said that he had to call and talk with me as he had believed that he was the only Town fan in the States. It should be good for your egos to know that, possibly, this could lead to a Town supporters group in the States. Who would have thought it.

For now, let's just hope for survival.

Brian Surette

Hull, Mass., U.S.A.

\*Any more Town fans out there?

Dear "Mad",

What hope for the future? At the moment the Town appear to be plunging head first into the second division after nine seasons of almost instinctive survival in the top flight. Should the Hatters succumb to what some would regard as the pull of gravity there would seem to be little hope of an early return. The financial pressures would increase due to the fall in income, and as always players would be sold to make up the shortfall. Pembroke and Hughes, with burgeoning international careers and a taste of first division football would probably be early victims of "offers we can't refuse", as the break even point and attendances get further apart. As the better players are sold the team will struggle more and further relegation could threaten. The only way to stop the rot is to give the manager the freedom to manage, are you listening Mr. Nelkin? The club may be more important than first division football, but staying in the first now will be much, much easier than getting back.

Whatever happens this season money must be made available to strengthen the squad without further weakening at first. Otherwise the future is very black indeed.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Clark

Luton

Dear "Mad",

Due to the fact that I missed my regular spot in Issue 5, I thought I'd better write again. All the mystery surrounding David Evans' chairmanship was unveiled to me when I saw the words "I'm living in the real world and they're not" attributed to the M.P. I would have sent you the cutting, but you can't go round taking lumps out of other peoples newspapers, can you? Anyway, now we know the real world is opposite the main stand and the domain of wealth and big business. As for the rest of us this is just our wild imagination.

Yours faithfully,

P.J. Smith

Leighton Buzzard

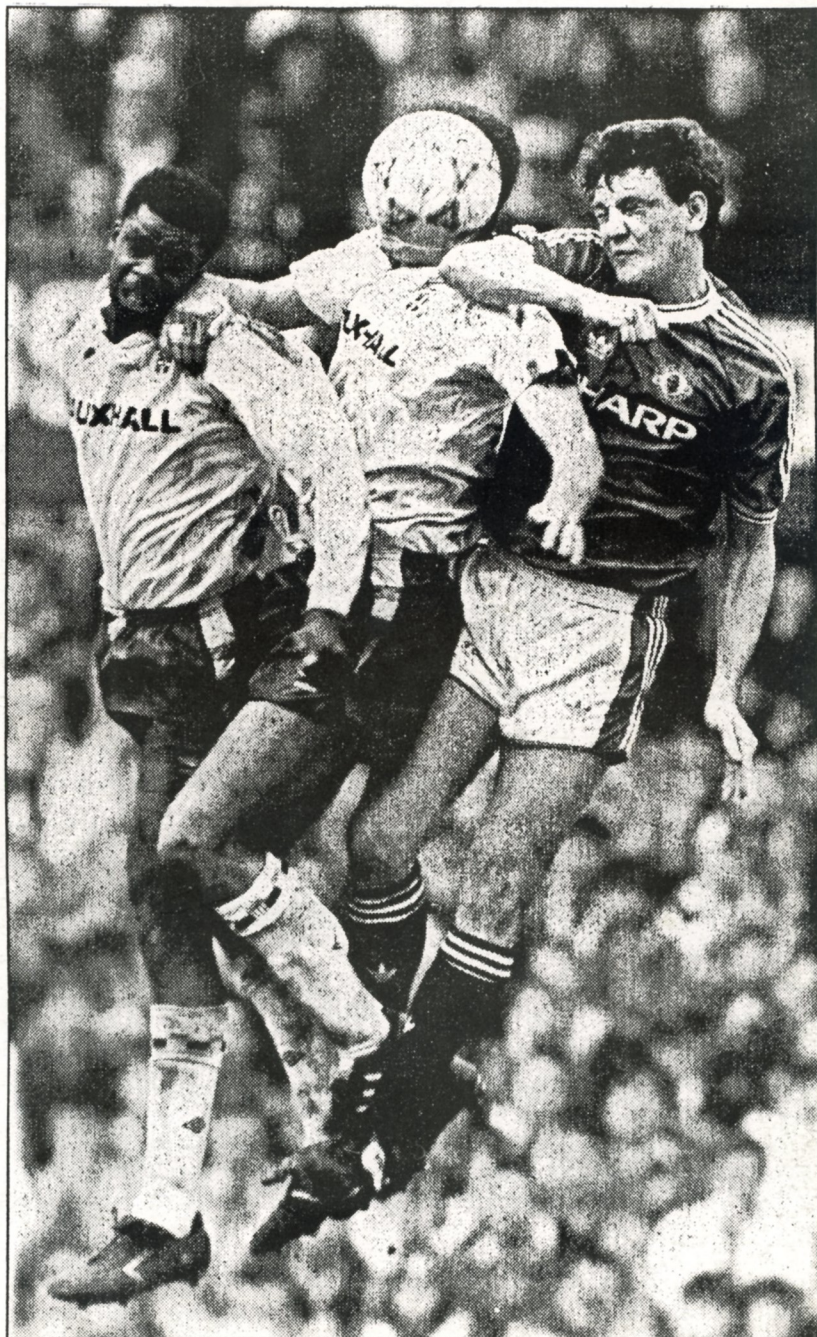
## STAR PERFORMER



Alec Chamberlain, regular performer of heroics this season, is pictured in action against Liverpool. The result of this match was such a foregone conclusion that Dalglish resigned rather than face defeat!



From The Guardian comes this rare sighting of the flaw in Towns defence.



On the up . . . Bruce (right) rises with Johnson and the invisible man

PHOTOGRAPH: TONY SMITH