

THE HATTER

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OUR NEXT THREE GAMES ARE VITAL SAYS HARRY



All action photographs by Gareth Owen.

Peter Anderson seen here in attacking mood against Notts County last Saturday. Peter had a fine game at Meadow Lane but unfortunately things didn't work out. The Boys were robbed by a blatant off side goal which Referee Bert Newsome allowed to stand. Ironically, Mr. Newsome has been a life

long friend of our Editor, Dave Roberts, who needless to say is even more disappointed than Harry at the decision. However, that's all behind us now and Harry, Roy and the Lads will be going flat out during the next three games for a maximum of six points. Good luck lads, were right behind you.

Featuring: PLYMOUTH~BLACKBURN~BLACKPOOL



THE OAK ROAD ENDERS REPORT

by Dusty, Nobby and Clank.

Bein' 'as 'ow The Hatter is tryin' to grab yer with the odd competition or two, me and Nobby and Clank 'ave knocked up a few very difficult questions what will 'ave you scratchin' yer 'eads—just like you do through Match of The Day.

Incidentally, Clank did suggest a Crossword, but 'e only knows one and that's unprintable. So we've got these 'alf-a-dozen questions for you to answer, and we'd like you to send your entries, on a toilet roll please, to Dusty, Nobby and Clank's "Conkers Competition", c/o Dave Roberts at the Club. Winners can 'ave one of three top prizes, the like of which ain't never before been offered by any football club, alive or dead. First prize: A Berwick Rangers Season Ticket; Second Prize: Reg Game's Sponge plus Bucket; Third Prize: A Framed Quote by Roger Duckworth. There will also be 2,000 consolation prizes; A conducted tour of Tythe Farm to meet some Chelsea, Arsenal and Tottenham Supporters in their true colours.

Right. 'Ere are the questions.
1 Don Revie's a Womble. True or False?
2 George Best is playing for Limbury Boys Club. True or False?
3 Julie Andrews is playing for Dunstable. True or False?
4 Billy Bremner wears platform sole football boots. True or False?
5 Which referee last season wore pink spotted briefs?
6 What famous personality is a director of Watford Football Club? Is it: Mrs. Mills, The Singing Postman, or Elton Toilet?

The last correct answer drawn from the postbag will get our great first prize. So send in your answers to reach us by April 8, 1981.

NUTS & BOLTON

Let's face it, the Town were nuts to let Bolton get away with beatin' us the other week, and Roger Duckworth made us laugh when he said Luton hadn't got any ideas for gettin' round Bolton's packed defence. Balderdash said Nobby—(well he didn't actually say Balderdash—but this is a family newspaper). Throughout the game, Town 'ad so many open goals it was like a charity match. And Nobby 'as a theory about why we didn't score. he thinks Mr. Alston and Mr. Ron Fletcher and Mr. King are much too sporting and like to give the goalkeeper a bit of a chance. Andy King's first half lob started a few arguments I can tell you. We still don't know whether 'e should've blasted it or not. But Town don't seem to 'ave the old killer instinct when the goal's a their mercy, and one



All lined up for a photograph (that's Clank top left looking the other way).

laugh and said: "No, I moved to Bolton 15 years ago. I'm with the Trotters. Ta-ta". And 'e jumps on the coach laughin' fit to bust. Turncoat!

BAD 'ABITS

We went up to Nottingham, in Clank's car. We 'ad to leave at 8 o'clock in the mornin' 'cos if 'e goes at more than 35 m.p.h. it puts a lot of strain on the bit of string 'oldin' the door on. So we stuck a Luton Town scarf out of the window and pinned a rosette on the spare tyre and off we went. Clank's a careful driver, and we 'ad no trouble at all goin' up the motorway, due to the fact that we kept away



Jimmy Husband

The ref, who was a bit more of a burke, than most,

awarded a free kick to County no so far outside Town's blinkin' goal area. We couldn't believe it. All the Town players 'ad to line up on the goal line.

FARCE

Talk about farce. Town saved the situation though, but I wouldn't be surprised if they never got over it for the rest of the game.

At 'alf time some bloke in the tea bar thought Luton looked pretty good, but 'e was a bit flummoxed by the Fletcher twins and wanted to know if they 'ad a bit of the old extra sensory stuff goin' for 'em. Clank told 'im they were so close they wore the same jock strap.

'ARRY IN 'EMEL



We 'ad a quick gander at the Town's stand at the 'Emel 'Ernsted Ideal 'Ome Exhibition last week. We thought they might get stuck between toilet bowls and the Gas board but they 'ad a nice position with the bar on one side and a caff on the other. The video TV was showin' one of our successes in the 1st Division, and Marketing Manager John Green was twistin' everybody's arm to Spot the Ball. There was a lot more interest in the Town stand when two dillies took over from John Green, and Clank, who's a bit of a sex maniac plucked up a bit of courage and asked them their names. They turned out to be Sandra Taylor and Margaret Doran, and Clank swaggered away after tellin' them 'e might

FIRST 'ALF

The first 'alf was a bit like a slaughter 'ouse anyway—wiv Town players dropping like flies all over the pitch. Paul Fletcher went down, then had to go off for 10 minutes to 'ave his foot strapped up. Then Johnny Aston went off all together. We 'ad visions of Town bein' down to two men after 'alf an hour. The first 'alf wasn't bad though, with lots of good stuff from both

THERE'S NO ANSWER TO THAT



We are very pleased to have this opportunity of an exclusive interview with Mr. Eric Morcambe.

Question: "Recently there has been much Press comment about the 'sacking' of Billy Bremner. What do you think of the Bremner affair?"

Eric: "To be honest, I didn't know he was having one." Question: "Surely you read about the bit in Copenhagen?"

Eric: "Lucky fellow. It must have been a Danish 'piecetry'. Have your glasses ever had a steam bath?"

Question: "Perhaps the whole issue has been blown up?" Eric: "You're right. The Press blow up instead of blowing over or blowing off even. H'm."

Question: "Tell me, Eric, you observe football very closely. Do you prefer three up to two up?"

Eric: "I don't really have a choice. I never get the opportunity."

Question: "On football once again. What about the square ball, Eric?"

Eric: "No idea. I've never seen one."

Question: "Seriously, Eric, what about the hooligans?"

Eric: "I don't wish to get Ernie involved in this exclusive. I offered Ernie a seat on the Board but he said he preferred to sit in comfort."

Question: "More pleasant things now, Eric. Your daughter got married the other day. how did it feel?"

Eric: "It felt quite well. How did yours feel?"

Question: "Enough of this nonsense. Can you say anything sensible?"

Eric: "I'll have a good try. Anything sensible. How's that?"

Question: "Doesn't anything 'stir you up', Eric?"

Eric: "No, I finished being a tea bag years ago."

Question: "Okay, but can't anything get you excited?"

Eric: "It's an effort but some of our forwards have got me roused up a bit this year."

Question: "You mean with their shots at goal?"

Eric: "No. Their shots off goal. Me and the Directors have already replaced six lost balls. I'm a blood donor, not a ball donor."

Question: "Well, Eric, I'm sure everyone connected with Luton is grateful for your support."

Eric: "That's a surprise. I thought I was the only one to wear it."

Question: "There's no answer to that, I'm sure. I must say, some of your answers have bordered on the dirty."

Eric: "Of course they have, we play a dirty game at Luton. If the boot fits wear it, as they say at the Oak Road End."

Question: "Thanks very much, Eric, for your time. I know it's valuable."

Eric: "You're right. Send the cheque on by air mail."

THE HATTER

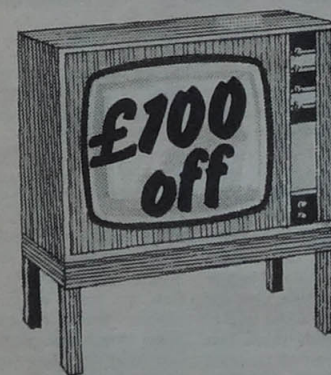
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ARRY'S *talk-in*

THE BIG MATCH



Harry Haslam and Danny Bergara (Luton's Uruguayan coach) locked in what looks like a very determined battle of tactics. What are they doing? Playing a new game of electronic football called Videosport. This is a game for all the family which can be played on your own T.V. set (details on Page 7 where you can obtain this new exciting sports game). Judging by the look on Harry's face, he is not having it all his own way.



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Costly error left us empty handed

WHAT a disappointment, our 1-0 defeat at Notts County after we had played enough football to have come home with at least a point, if not for effort alone. But once again we failed to hit the net which is vital. Half chances must be put away or all your approach work is wasted. To add insult to injury, there was the "offside" goal which the officials felt should stand. As far as the Hatters are concerned, this was a very bad and very costly error.

However, to return to the present, we now have to look forward to our home games with Plymouth on Wednesday evening and with Blackburn on Saturday. Relatively new names to Kenilworth Road, although I can assure you that they both carry a lot of respect as far as we are concerned for both Rovers and Argyle have attained Second Division status by effort and progressive thinking.

Plymouth Argyle have at their helm two well known names, Tony Waiters and Alan Brown who, between them, have done a really first class job at Home Park. Argyle are a well balanced side who are encouraged to play football at all times. This was how they gained promotion to the Second Division and in no way have they allowed their game to change with their step upwards. So you can be assured that Wednesday evening's game should be interesting and contain plenty of good football from both The Hatters and Plymouth Argyle.

On Saturday we welcome Blackburn Rovers to Kenilworth Road. Blackburn are a club who have a tremendous history and over the past few seasons have begun to emerge as a team to be respected in every detail.

Jim Smith, ex-Chelchester United manager, is now in charge at Blackburn Rovers and one can be sure that he will have a team which will play to the very end, for they know that success does not come easily.

Anyway, let's hope that we have a good attendance for both games for the encouragement you give the lads is tremendous and without doubt is always eagerly looked forward to.

No doubt you will have read that we received one or two knocks at Notts County. Young Paul Fletcher was one of the unlucky recipients — he received a nasty kick on the ankle and at the time of writing he is having treatment in an effort to get him fit in time for our game against Plymouth on Wednesday.

John Aston, who had to leave the field with a twisted knee, is also receiving

ing treatment, so both Paul and John are doubtful for Wednesday. All we can do is keep our fingers crossed and hope for the best.

Reports on our other injured players are most encouraging. John Seaman has now been declared fit again and Alan West is nearly there; he should be having a run out this week. Laurence Coyne is making progress and should shortly commence full training, whilst Paul Price, who is recovering from a broken leg, is now doing full training and light ball work.

To get back to happier things, it was marvellous to see so many of our supporters at Notts County on Saturday last. May I say a big thank you on behalf of the players who really appreciate your support.

Well, I will close by once again appealing to you all to welcome our visitors on Wednesday and Saturday and keep up the good work. Don't forget that you can stop trouble by pointing out anyone who attempts to spoil our good name.



Excuse me! Peter Anderson gets the elbow.

First Away Win for Sunderland Keeps Them Second

BLACKBURN 0 SUNDERLAND 1

A first half goal from England U-23 midfielder man, Tony Towers, ended Sunderland's dismal away run. They had scored only one goal and collected but one point, in three previous away matches this season and hadn't won an away league game since March. Though Blackburn, watched by their best crowd (15,773) of the season, fought hard to salvage a point, Sunderland sat comfortably upon their slender lead.



Eric McManus, Notts County keeper gets hustled off the ball by Ron Fletcher.

GARNER SENT OFF

Chelsea 1 Bristol City 1
Chelsea had striker Bill Garner sent off and three other players, Ian Hutchinson, Davy Hay and Micky Droy, booked in a bad tempered match. Garner, dismissed for tripping the goalkeeper had earlier been booked for arguing with the referee. Now he and Hutchinson, who committed a similar offence, face stiff fines by manager, Eddie McCreadie.

"I warned players at the beginning of the season about being booked for dissent," said McCreadie. "It's absolutely ridiculous, for nobody can ever gain any advantage by this. I intend to recommend stiff fines for players guilty of this offence."

So Garner was both the villain and the hero of the piece. For he scored with a diving header in the 25th minute to give Chelsea the lead. Paul Cheesley equalised with a gift goal shortly before half time when Chelsea's Ian Britton gave the ball away in the penalty area.

'Latics' hold on to well earned pt.

Portsmouth 1 Oldham 1
Oldham took a snap lead through Alan Groves in the sixth minute but then had to thank goal keeper, Chris Ogden for keeping them in the game. He pulled off four outstanding first half saves and was des-

perately unlucky not to prevent Norman Piper's equaliser in the 45th minute. Jones missed two glorious chances of putting Oldham ahead after the break, but, as the game went on, Portsmouth came more into the picture. In the last couple of minutes Reynolds had a header kicked off the line and Paul Went almost split an upright with a tremendous 25 yard volley. Oldham striker Ian Wood was sent off for arguing with the referee after being booked. Hicks and Bell (Oldham) and Reynolds (Portsmouth) were also booked.

York City Soften Up Argyle for the Hatters

Plymouth 1 York City 1
Plymouth lost their 100% home record and very nearly their unbeaten home tag, when Jimmy Seal gave York the lead on the stroke of half time. Plymouth fought hard for the equaliser but it wasn't until very late in the game that Bill Rafferty snatched the equaliser.

Giles still to make an impression

W.B.A. 1 Charlton 1
A draw was a fair result for a dull game in which neither side really shone. Geoff Hurst rounded off a neat move to head Albion into the lead in the ninth minute but persistent Charlton, the better side in the second half, scored a deserved equaliser in the 60th minute when defender Bill Warman knocked in a hard shot.

Injury hit Forest beat no hope Oxford

Oxford 0 Notts. Forest 1
Oxford's fifth successive defeat sent them scuttling into bottom place in the table. They had seen to have done enough to scrape a point and Forest were merely playing out time when George Lyall popped up with the winner with a speculative lob-cum-shot just two minutes from the end.

All's not well at Craven Cottage

Hull City 1 Fulham 2
Hull's 100% home record crashed in the second half when goals from Viv Busby and Barry Lloyd pulled Fulham back from a 0-1 interval deficit. Vince Grimes put Hull ahead in the 15th minute and they were unlucky not to get further when Dave Roberts saw his header cleared off the line by Bobby Moore and when they were awarded a "penalty" for a foul by Mellor. But, after consulting a linesman, the referee changed his decision and, instead, gave Fulham a free kick offside. This victory took Fulham, to third place in the table, yet they

2nd Division Attendances

	Aggregate	Average
1. Sunderland (1)	102,874	25,719
2. Chelsea (2)	80,690	20,173
3. Southampton (3)	63,358	15,840
4. Plymouth (5)	45,323	15,108
5. Nottingham Forest (4)	45,031	15,010
6. LUTON TOWN (6)	40,630	13,543
7. West Bromwich Albion (7)	53,480	13,370
8. Bristol City (8)	52,001	13,000
9. Blackburn (9)	38,742	12,914
10. Portsmouth (10)	28,569	9,523
11. Fulham (13)	37,733	9,433
12. Bolton (12)	28,192	9,397
13. Notts County (15)	27,673	9,224
14. Charlton (11)	27,550	9,183
15. Blackpool (17)	25,052	8,351
16. Carlisle (14)	24,504	8,168
17. Bristol Rovers (16)	24,083	8,028
18. Oldham (19)	23,764	7,921
19. Oxford (18)	26,732	6,883
20. Hull City (21)	24,045	6,011
21. Orient (20)	21,343	5,336
22. York City (22)	15,828	5,276

Up to and including last Saturday. Figures in brackets denote position in last chart.

LEADING GOAL SCORERS

	League	Lge. C.	Total
Greenwood (Hull)	3	2	5
Jones (Oldham)	2	3	5
Busby (Fulham)	4	—	4
Cheesley (Bristol C)	4	—	4
Seal (York)	2	2	4

"My ball" says Adrian Alston, the referee however gave a bounce up.

still have difficulty in attracting fans back to Craven Cottage. Last season's magnificent run to the F.A. Cup Final and this season's fine start, has done little to stir the hearts of the West London public. Fulham's gates are 1,000 down on last season. The only lasting benefit from their Wembley run being an increase in the sale of season tickets by 50!



How they stand

	Home					Away				
	P	W	D	L	F	P	W	D	L	F
Notts Co.	7	2	1	0	2	0	3	1	0	6
Sunderland	8	4	0	0	8	1	1	1	2	5
Fulham	8	2	1	1	7	2	2	1	1	7
Bristol City	8	3	1	0	9	2	1	1	2	5
Southampton	7	4	0	0	9	2	0	1	2	3
Bolton	7	2	0	0	6	3	2	0	2	4
Oldham	7	3	0	1	6	3	1	0	2	4
Blackpool	6	3	0	0	5	1	0	2	1	3
Chelsea	8	2	2	0	7	3	0	1	3	2
Blackburn	7	2	1	0	6	4	0	2	2	1
Luton	6	2	0	1	5	2	1	0	3	0
Nottim For.	6	1	0	2	3	3	1	2	0	2
Bristol Rov	6	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	3
Blackburn	6	1	0	2	5	4	1	1	1	3
Charlton	6	1	1	1	4	4	0	2	1	2
Orient	7	1	2	1	3	3	0	1	2	1
Plymouth	6	2	1	0	3	1	0	0	3	0
Carlisle	7	1	1	1	3	3	1	0	3	2
West Brom	7	1	3	0	4	3	0	0	3	0
York	6	1	0	2	4	5	0	2	1	4
Portsmouth	6	0	2	1	2	4	1	0	2	3
Oxford	8	1	1	2	4	5	0	1	3	4

(up to and including last Saturday)

Blackpool take 2 pts. in 7 Goal Thriller!

Blackpool 4 Southampton 3

It's almost a year to the day since Blackpool last scored four goals, but this time they grabbed them all within 37 minutes! Though Southampton looked the classier side early on, young Mick Walsh hit his first League hat trick for the Tangerines before the match was 22 minutes old. Welsh International full back, Peter Rodrigues, hit back with his first goal for the Saints but Kevin Moore made it 4-1 just before the interval. Southampton bought on former Blackpool midfielder player, Hugh Fisher as a second half substitute and he did much to inspire their amazing last ditch fight back which saw Jim Steele and Nick Holmes score twice in the last five minutes. But the Saints had left it just too late to complete their recover and salvage a point.

Carlisle begin to climb back amongst the living

Bristol Rovers 0 Carlisle 1
Carlisle, who have taken time to settle back into 2nd Division football, emphasised that they have regained their confidence with this victory at Eastville. After collecting only one point from their first five games the Cumbrians have

now won two games on the trot. Roy Barry scored the only goal midway through the second half following a defensive mistake. And when Rovers put on the pressure Carlisle goalkeeper, Martin Burleigh made two fine saves from Alan Warboys.

Jackson deprives Bolton of both points

Bolton 1 Orient 1
A splendid display by goalkeeper John Jackson earned Orient this point which even manager George Petchey admitted was "lucky". 18 year old Glen Roeder shocked home fans by putting Orient ahead on the hour mark with his first goal in League football, a notable one for this was Orient's first goal in an away match since last March! Another of Orient's teenagers, Tony Grealish,

hit an up right but veteran Roy Greaves saved the day for Bolton with an equaliser 20 minutes from time. Orient boss George Petchey is now stepping up his search for a new player, but first, he has to sell centre back Phil Hoadley who has been offered for sale at around the £100,000 mark. But in today's financial climate, Orient will have to bring down the price considerably if they are to complete a sale.

PLAYER'S PORTRAIT

JOHN ASTON this week reflected upon recent Hatters' disappointments but still looks forward to promotion at the end of the season. "You can accept defeat if you play well and get beaten but it's very upsetting when the team just isn't putting things together properly. This happened at Darlington in the League Cup.

"Usually when you play against a smaller club they raise their game remarkably and quite often come up with a surprise result. But this didn't happen at Feethams. Darlington didn't play particularly well and we failed to maintain our own standards. It was a most disappointing night for, while promotion is

our main objective, a good run in one of the Cups can often work wonders with a team's morale".

A few days later came that home defeat by Bolton. Does John now begin to wonder if we are being too optimistic in expecting immediate promotion this season?

"Not at all. These were isolated games and, if anything they make us players even more determined to get the problems sorted out quickly. There's a long way to go yet and a lot more disappointments to be accepted.

"I like to take the long term view. So far as I can see, the Second Division standard is no better this season than two years ago. On the other hand, we are a considerably improved side thanks to the experience we gained in the

First Division. On that basis, if we were good enough to win promotion in 1974 then we must stand an even better chance this season."

For John Aston it's a question of putting aside the last game, learning from its mistakes and concentrating fully upon the next match. As he puts his heart and soul into trying to help us achieve our promotion objective, does he ever feel a tinge of regret about leaving Old Trafford? Particularly now that Manchester United are doing so well in the First Division?

Right decision

"Not at all!" He was emphatic in making his point. "The time was right to leave when I did. I wanted to leave at the time and I have never



John Aston takes on John Wile of West Bromwich in typical style, for which he is renowned.

John Aston's statistics

	64/5	65/6	66/7	67/8	68/9	69/70	70/1	71/2	72/3	73/4	74/5	75/6	Total		65/6	66/7	67/8	68/9	69/70	70/1	71/2	72/3	73/4	74/5	75/6	Total
Aston Villa	1(1)	1(1)	2(1)					2(1)	1				5													
Birmingham	2		2(1)										2													
Blackpool		2	1					2(1)	2				2													
Bolton													2													
Bristol City													2													
Burnley													4(1)													
Cardiff													2(1)													
Carlisle													4(1)													
Chelsea													4(1)													
Coventry													4(1)													
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Man. City													2													
Manchester United													2													
Millwall													2													
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Nottim. Forest													2													
Oxford													2													
Portsmouth													2													
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Swindon													2													
Tottenham													2													
W.B.A.													2													
West Ham													2													
Wolves													2													

Football League															F.A. Cup												
	64/5	65/6	66/7	67/8	68/9	69/70	70/1	71/2	72/3	73/4	74/5	75/6	Total		65/6	66/7	67/8	68/9	69/70	70/1	71/2	72/3	73/4	74/5	75/6	Total	
Aston Villa	1(1)	1(1)	2(1)					2(1)	1				5														
Birmingham	2		2(1)										2														
Blackpool		2	1					2(1)	2				2														
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West Ham													2														
Wolves													2														

Football League															F.A. Cup												
	64/5	65/6	66/7	67/8	68/9	69/70	70/1	71/2	72/3	73/4	74/5	75/6	Total		65/6	66/7	67/8	68/9	69/70	70/1	71/2	72/3	73/4	74/5	75/6	Total	
Aston Villa	1(1)	1(1)	2(1)					2(1)	1				5														
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Blackpool		2	1					2(1)	2				2														
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Texaco Cup

Orient 74/5

England U.23

Wales 69/70

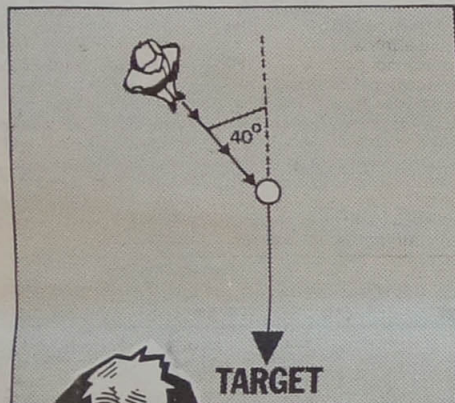
League Cup

	66/7	67/8	68/9	69/70	70/1	71/2	72/3	73/4	74/5	75/6	Total
Aston Villa											1
Birmingham						3/11					3/11
Blackpool	1										1
Burnley			1			1					2
Bury							2				2
Chelsea											1
Crystal Palace				1							1
Derby									1		1
Derby			2								2
Glossop											3
Leeds						1					1
Leeds City				1							1
Millwall								1			1
Portsmouth					8	9					17
Sheff											1
Sheff											1
Wrexham			1								1
	1			1	3	2	3	8	1		21

IMPROVE YOUR GAME WITH DANNY BERGARA AND DAVE PLEAT

Last week I talked to you in my column about chipping the ball from a dead ball position. This week I want to talk about chipping for distance. It's a very important technique, when you can hit a ball straight, you can place it where you like and achieving this your confidence will be tremendous. You'll be much more accurate and you'll have the advantage of placing the ball on a chosen spot (by this I mean an area of one yard more or less). Please practice and don't be dismayed if it doesn't come right straight away. I have been going through this technique with the Town apprentices for three months and one lad still can't chip it properly—so keep trying.

CHIPPING THE BALL



When chipping a long ball stand at 40 degrees to the ball. Approach the ball and make the last stride with the non kicking foot, a long stride. The non kicking foot must be about half a yard to a yard from the ball but in line with it (the exact distance varies according to the height of the player). The non kicking foot MUST point to the target.



The idea is to punch the ball hard with the four outside toes of the foot, the inside of the boot will scuff the grass up if you are chipping properly. Keep your balance with your arms. You have to get down with both knees bent to chip a long ball successfully. There is no follow through. Practice chipping and getting it right.

Practice will make your shooting sharper

"If you don't buy a ticket you will never win a raffle" is a favourite comparison of many coaches when urging their forwards to have shots. If you don't shoot you will never score a goal—it's as simple as that.

If you can remember a few basic points and be aware of them when striking the ball, you will quickly gain confidence.

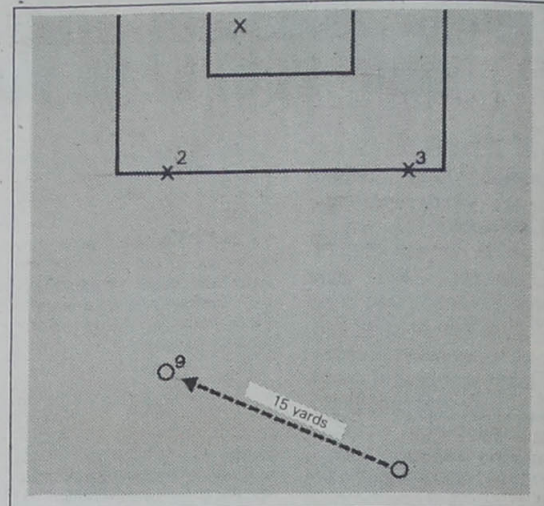
1. Do not try to kick the case off the ball. Relax.

2. Get non-kicking foot beside the ball and get your head over the ball after picking your target.

3. Strike through the ball toe down, and follow through.

(a) A server drives the ball towards O⁹ at an angle. O⁹ has to control and shoot as quickly as possible. As soon as O⁹ has touched the ball, defenders X² and X³, who are positioned at the six yard box, are allowed to close on O⁹ and try to prevent a goal.

This practice encourages forwards to shoot when there are defenders between them and the goal. Many forwards are reluctant to shoot until



they are past the last defender. Goalkeepers also benefit because they may be temporarily unsighted as the defenders attack the ball and may have to see the ball late or change direction quickly from a deflection. Vary the service from right and left so the forward will have to use both

feet. Remember to shoot low and to corners to make it difficult for the goalkeeper.

(b) The same practice can be taken a stage further. As soon as the server plays the ball, the defenders X² and X³ can advance. Consequently, O⁹ will have to be even quicker to get in his shot at goal.

Conditioning Games

ONE of the most satisfactory and certainly one of the most enjoyable ways of improving certain skills is to concentrate on those skills in small sized games.

The advantages are that: (a) Players respond more in a competitive situation as there is little risk of boredom with opposition.

(b) The coach can demonstrate and adjust in front of the whole group immediately he wishes to make a point.

Sometimes the coach can arrange the "condition" to improve a deficiency that has occurred in the last game, without giving the players the reasoning. Consequently, the players will accept the "condition" without gaining the obvious dissatisfaction of the coach if we were to explain about their shortcomings in the previous game.

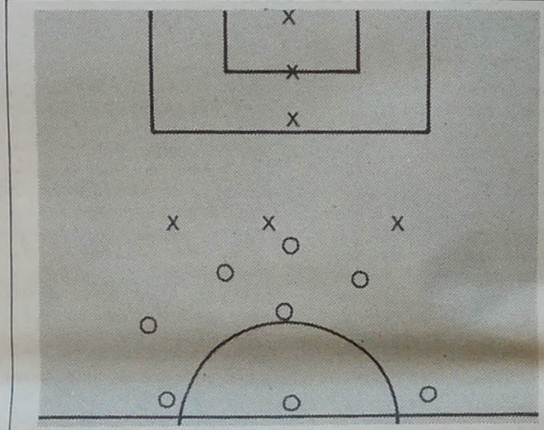
Here is a possible example. In the Saturday game there may have been a lack of determination by the front players to challenge for the balls crossed into the penalty box. Also, their timing and accuracy may have been amiss. A "conditioned" game can be arranged where eight play eight in half of the pitch with full sized goals.

Two goalkeepers are used to make the goal mouth situations realistic. In this game there are no restrictions on the football except that goals can only be scored with headers. This will encourage plenty of crosses; movement in the penalty area to get free of defenders and we hope the determination to compete for balls under challenge in the air.

There are numerous examples of "conditioned" games.

Perhaps a coach may think that in the previous game his players were continually ignoring the forward passes and insisted on playing square passes or "nothing" balls as I call them. Then the coach must encourage his players to look forward and insist that players move into positions forward of the ball where they can readily be found with passes.

Eight a side in half the pitch can be played and the condition laid down that every second pass must be a forward



pass. If the condition is ignored, a free kick is given against the offender. Sometimes the situation is re-created so we may find the cause. It could be one of the following:

(a) the player in possession may be slow to assess the forward passing possibilities.

(b) there may be no possibilities of playing the ball forward because team mates are

not "showing" for the ball. (c) the passing player can simply not pass forward at the correct pace and accuracy because he lacks the required technique.

Always remember, as a coach it is not enough just to say "bad pass" or "bad header" or "poor shot". Always try and find out why and, if successful, you will be able to coach the remedy.

DAVID PLEAT'S QUIZ CORNER WIN TWO CUP FINAL TICKETS!

In each edition, our Assistant Coach will test your soccer knowledge with three questions. You are invited to send in your answers each week and at the end of the season the person with the most correct answers will receive two tickets for the 1976 F.A. Cup Final. Please enclose the voucher with your answers.

The weekly winner will receive two centre stand tickets.

- Who plays at:
(a) Gigg Lane?
(b) The Shay?
(c) Brunton Park?
- Name the missing player:
(a) Blanchflower ? Mackay
(b) Robson Jezzard ?
- Name the Chief Coach at:
(a) Tottenham Hotspur?
(b) Manchester City?
(c) Arsenal?

No correct entries were received for Quiz No. 2.

Answers to Quiz No. 2

- (a) Nuneaton
(b) Barnet
(c) Chelmsford
- Andy Beattie—now chief scout at Notts Co.
- Tony Knapp—ex-Leicester & Southampton.

CHILTERN YOUTH LEAGUE

DYNAMO'S SCORE 24

GOALS, and plenty of them. That has been the story in the Chiltern Youth League so far this season. Local star, Godfrey Ingram, hammered 10 in the 24 nil crashing defeat of Meads Utd. But all credit to Meads. They never stopped trying to break down the Dynamo's whirlwind attacks. Such is the fame of this youth side that scouts from professional clubs were in attendance.

Vale Park Utd., the 12-14 Division 2 side run by two mums, have notched up some useful wins. Another blow for women's lib!

HATTERS YOUTH DROP FIRST POINT

Cheshunt Youth 1 v Luton Town Youth 1
Team: Knight, McHugh, Moroney, Hill, Jones, Sisma., Simon, Petrou, Donnelly, Ingram, Whitbread. Subs: Morgan (for Petrou), Abrahams. Scorer: Jones.

After the first win against Cambridge City, we went to Cheshunt looking for another victory and very nearly came away with the two points.

In the first half, although we had territorial advantage, we never really looked like scoring, having very few attempts at goal. We did not have enough width up front and our mid-field was making it worse by pushing forward, thus reducing the spaces even more if there were any. Cheshunt went into three or four counter attacks and a bad mistake in our defence allowed them to score three minutes from half time.

In the second half the same pattern continued until Morgan was brought on for Petrou.

He began to hold more in mid-field and distributed the ball better as he was spreading it on the wings. Although we were having most of the game and looking dangerous at times, we were still not achieving anything so Jones was pushed into mid-field and Hill went up front, leaving a 3-3-4 formation.

In the last 20 minutes we missed two or three clear chances but Jones levelled the score and one minute from time Sandor Simon had a great chance which the goalkeeper, who was well positioned, saved.

This was a fair result although either team could have won. Tony Knight saving some good efforts by Cheshunt. The defence did fairly well and in mid-field Morgan had a good half hour at the end. Up front Godfrey Ingram showed that he could have a very good future ahead of him if he keeps up with his work.

vision can be certain to give it glaring headlines, devoting most of the space and time to it instead of keeping to the main object: the game.

Perhaps it would be better if all the coverage given to rampaging supporters was lessened as these thugs probably thrive on publicity, each week trying to gain more and more.

If a Manager or player makes a mistake, he can be sure of banner headlines. They say this is good copy or television interest, but have you ever noticed that when a newspaper or television company are hit by industrial action, how small the item is.

There must be something odd somewhere.

Chiltern Youth League Report

Whilst the referee situation is solving itself in the Premier, it is a different story for the Youth League it is not an understatement to say that the outlook for October onwards is critical and the League's officers are more than concerned to see that so many matches will go by without so many official men in the middle so any referee's not committed are asked to contact: Peter Brown, Luton, 55070.

OPINION

Should a player, Club official or supporter do something wrong, then the Press or tele-

SPOTLIGHT ON 61 F.C. LUTON

THE most common question asked about our club is regarding our name. The question has a very simple answer, we were formed in 1961 as part of the "61" Club which was the youth club attached to Christ Church in Luton (hence our badge).

At that time, many of the players fell into the age group 16-21 and in order to accommodate them all in one team it was agreed to enter the Luton District & South Beds. League Division 4. In our first season we had disastrous results, losing all but one game and conceding over 100 goals. Ever since that season, "61" have made tremendous strides to become a large, independent football club with their own ground and facilities, running five teams.

By 1966, the club had gained Premier Division status in the Luton League and in the same year they made their break from the youth club at Christ Church and dropped the name "61" club to become The 61 F.C. (Luton).

Many of the players who joined the club in its early stages were still serving the club in 1969 when it was agreed to run a youth side in the Chiltern Youth League Under 15 Sunday Section, with the view of the young players taking over the senior teams in the near future. It is very pleasing to note that Martin Rineckles, Alan Murray, Roger Smith, Eddie Downey, Jon Freeman from that team are now playing in the club's senior teams.



Back row, left to right: Nigel Anderson, Gary Walsh, Mark Rolfe, Tony Trawsdale, Alec Long, Ronald Freeman (captain). Front row: David Henry, Michael Hale, Mark Davis, Robbie Few, Robert Freeman.

This was the commencement of "61's" youth policy which has grown from that time to the situation today when we operate a 14-18 team and 14-16 team and a large proportion of the club's senior players have been with the club since the age of 15.

The young players at "61" are encouraged in every way and each year awards are given for the youth teams, who have their own elected members on the Club Committee in order that their views may be put forward. As a club, we encourage not only the playing side of our activities but for

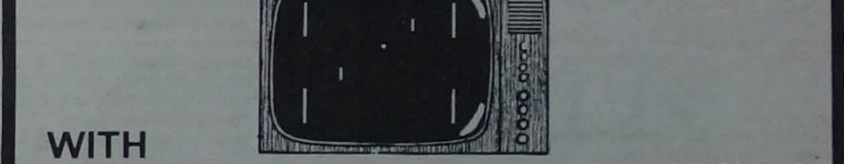
the players to be true clubmen and special awards are given to players for 100, 200 and 300 appearances for "61". It is pleasing to note that 30 players have now received their 100 appearances award.

Success is always pleasant and in our short history we have had good success in senior and youth football. The most recent was in 1973/4 when our 14-16 team won the Chiltern Youth League County Cup and Creamer Cup and also finished runners up in the County 14-18 Cup. Individuals have also been successful in gaining County badges and

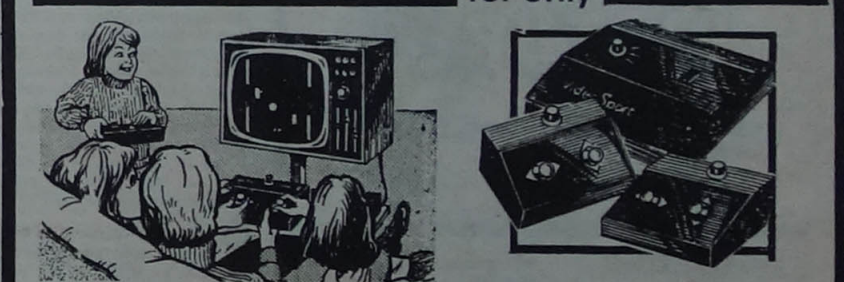
caps and since 1969 we have had 20 County youth players.

We start 1975/6 with good reason to believe that all our five teams (two South Midlands, one Luton & South Beds., two Chiltern Youth League), will have good seasons with a great chance of one or two honours coming our way. We have plans for our club house to be extended and improved and a social calendar to complete our activities. Our young players are our future and in them we invest for a bigger and better "61".

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Pools Office, Kenilworth Road Luton.

or send cheque for £35 plus 35p postage and package, made payable to Luton Town Football Club with your name and address.

Welcome to this week's visitors

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE

BLACKBURN ROVERS

Tony Waiters MANAGER

TONY WAITERS had done much to kill that old belief that goalkeepers don't make good managers. In his fairly short stay at Home Park, he has developed a team which plays some excellent football and which, two seasons ago beat First Division clubs Birmingham, Burnley and Q.P.R., all away from home, on its way to the semi final of the League Cup.

Last season he topped that by leading the club's successful Third Division promotion drive. Mr. Waiters spent his best years as a goalkeeper with Blackpool. Making his League debut in 1959/60, he progressed so well that, by Mak 1964, he had taken over from Gordon Banks in the England goal!

His first international was

against the Republic of Ireland, which England won 3-1 in Dublin. Now he had taken over from Ron Springett as Bank's most serious challenger and he gained preference over Banks for the game against Brazil in Rio later that year.

All told, Tony Waiters won five caps and, only a couple of years later, he reached the shock decision to retire to concentrate upon coaching after making 257 League appearances for Blackpool.

He joined Liverpool's coaching staff in 1967 but three years later he moved to Burnley. Though employed as a coach, he did, in fact make a playing come back and played in another 38 League games before packing up finally in 1972 when he was offered the chance to take his first managerial appointment at Plymouth.

BACK CHECK

Past League results against Plymouth

	Home	Away	Summary:							
1920/21	1-1	0-1		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1921/22	1-0	0-2	Home	24	10	9	5	42	33	29
1922/23	2-1	0-4	Away	24	4	5	15	26	51	13
1923/24	0-0	0-0		48	14	14	20	68	84	42
1924/25	1-1	0-4								
1925/26	1-1	3-4								
1926/27	3-3	0-1								
1927/28	1-1	0-4								
1928/29	2-2	0-2								
1929/30	5-2	1-6								
1930/31	1-1	4-2	Founded: 1886							
1931/32	3-4	1-4	Elected to Football League: 1920							
1932/33	3-4	1-2	Third Division Champions: 1969							
1933/34	3-4	1-4	Third Division Runners up: 1975							
1934/35	0-0	3-1	Third Division (South) Champions: 1930, 1952							
1935/36	3-1	1-1	Third Division (South) Runners up: 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927							
1936/37	1-1	0-0	League Cup semi finalists: 1965, 1974							
1937/38	1-1	0-0	Record win: 8-1 v. Millwall (Division Two, January 1932)							
1938/39	3-4	1-4	Worst defeat: 0-9 v. Stoke (Division Two, December 1960)							
1939/40	3-4	1-2								
1940/41	0-0	3-1								
1941/42	3-1	1-1								
1942/43	1-1	0-0								
1943/44	1-1	0-0								
1944/45	1-0	1-2								
1945/46	2-1	2-2								
1946/47	3-1	1-2								
1947/48	3-2	1-1								
1948/49	3-2	1-1								
1949/50	1-1	0-0								
1950/51	1-0	1-2								
1951/52	2-1	2-2								
1952/53	1-1	1-1								
1953/54	2-1	2-2								
1954/55	3-1	1-2								
1955/56	3-2	1-1								
1956/57	3-2	1-1								
1957/58	3-2	1-1								
1958/59	3-2	1-1								
1959/60	3-2	1-1								
1960/61	0-2	3-0								

PLYMOUTH RECORD

Founded: 1886
Elected to Football League: 1920
Third Division Champions: 1969
Third Division Runners up: 1975
Third Division (South) Champions: 1930, 1952
Third Division (South) Runners up: 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927
League Cup semi finalists: 1965, 1974
Record win: 8-1 v. Millwall (Division Two, January 1932)
Worst defeat: 0-9 v. Stoke (Division Two, December 1960)

PLAYERS PEN PICTURES

ALEKSIĆ	HORSWILL	GREEN	BURROWS
RANDELL	DELVE	McAULEY	
JOHNSON	MARINER	RAFFERTY	
(Pearson)			

GOALKEEPER

Milja Aleksić. Milja has taken over from Jim Funnell as Plymouth's first choice goalkeeper. He made his League debut against Charlton in April 1974, and played in a couple more games before the end of that season, but he didn't get an opportunity last term when Funnell maintained an ever present record in Argyle's promotion team. Milja, whose parents are Yugoslavs, was born in England and previously played for Stafford Rangers.

League record: Plymouth 8 apts.

DEFENDERS

John Hore. John has been a member of Argyle's senior squad for over 10 years, enjoying a long run of Second Division football

before the club's relegation in 1968. He is hoping to celebrate his 400th League appearance this season.

League record: Plymouth 386(4) apts, 17 goals.

Mike Green. Mike has played in promoted clubs for each of the past two seasons! He missed only two games as Bristol Rovers rose out of the Third Division in 1974 and was ever present in Argyle's successful last season. Plymouth had paid £11,000 for him. Mike has had quite a chequered career, following his League debut for Carlisle in 1965/66. After that he was in the reserves for two years until moving on to Gillingham in 1968. The Gills used him as a striker and he was their top scorer for his last two seasons with the Kent club. He switched to centre back after transferring to Bristol Rovers in 1971.



Back row: Left to right: K. Blunt (Assistant Manager), J. Hore, N. Rioch, J. Funnell, D. Sutton, M. Aleksić, G. Banton, G. Foster, T. Waiters (Manager). Centre row: A. Brown (Chief Coach), B. Saxton, A. Rogers, B. Vassallo, M. Green, B. Rafferty, G. Hunn, P. Burrows, M. Horswill, T. Eggleston (Physiotherapist). Front row: I. Pearson, H. McAuley, P. Darke, C. Randell, J. Delve, P. Mariner, B. Johnson, C. Harrison, P. Hardcastle.

Plymouth aim to consolidate

PLYMOUTH Argyle's seven year exile in the Third Division ended in April when they secured runners up position behind Blackburn Rovers. Now Argyle are expected to do more than merely consolidate, for they won their success with a style of football a cut above Third Division standards.

Manager Tony Waiters, the former Blackpool and England goalkeeper, has built a delightful team which places equal emphasis upon entertainment and results. Mr. Waiters follows Sir Matt Busby's old adage that, if you keep on playing football, the results are bound to come.

Argyle have several times proved their manager's point. Two seasons ago they won three successive League Cup ties against First Division clubs — Burnley, Queen's Park Rangers and Birmingham — all away from home! And they were decidedly unfortunate to

lose 1-3 on aggregate to Manchester City in the semi final.

Last season Plymouth were the highest scoring Third Division club with 79 League goals! This included an amazing 7-3 win at Bournemouth and a 5-1 home victory over Hereford. It is a sad fact of soccer life that any club opting for such bright and breezy entertainment sometimes comes a cropper itself. Argyle, being no exception, crashed 1-5 at Wrexham and 2-5 at Blackpool; yet, overall, their commendable policy brought them richly deserved success.

Only once last season did Argyle participate in a goal-less League game, at Walsall, in April, when the promotion pressure was really on.

No manager can instigate a definite attacking policy unless he has the players to carry it out, of course. But Argyle have the men in midfield and attack with power and vision

to create considerable problems for any defence.

Their main goal scorers are Bill Rafferty and Paul Mariner. Rafferty scored 27 goals last season, most of them in singles though he did hit a hat trick against Tranmere. Mariner hit 21 goals last term.

George Foster has been given his chance in attack too, following outstanding displays in the reserves. And Ian Pearson, who spent most of last season in the reserves following his transfer from Goole Town, was included at centre forward when Rafferty was unavailable.

Hugh McAuley, the former Liverpool and Tranmere player, could be on the wing for Argyle, unless it is decided to give young Barrie Vassallo, the former Arsenal reserve, another chance.

Mick Horswill, one of the stars of Sunderland's fabulous F.A. Cup final victory over Leeds in 1973, has now joined

Argyle's pool of defenders. Colin Randell, Peter Hardcastle John Delve and Brian Johnson are the main contenders for midfield positions.

The defence has comprised of John Hore, Mick Green, Horswill and Phil Burrows while Milja Aleksić has now taken over in goal from Jim Funnell.

Argyle have made a steady opening to their Second Division programme, winning home games against Charlton (1-0) and Sunderland (1-0) but losing away from home to Nottingham Forest (0-2), Southampton (0-1) and Orient (0-1). As Forest and Saints are two of the most likely promotion contenders, Argyle can be pleased with their performance in those games.

Plymouth went back to Forest in the second round of the League Cup, this time losing only 0-1. In the first round they defeated Bournemouth 4-1 on aggregate.

Blackpool for £25,000 towards the end of 1973/74, he was a big flop — he failed to score in five matches. He spent only one year at Blackpool after opening his career with Coventry.

League record: Coventry 27 apts, 3 goals. Blackpool 35(1) apts, 9 goals. Plymouth 55 apts, 24 goals.

Paul Mariner. Paul has been scoring sensation for Argyle since joining them from Lancashire side Chorley in July 1973. He was top scorer with 17 goals in his first campaign and then hit 21 last season. Though he is not a local lad, he could scarcely have a more appropriate name for the famous shipping city in which he now resides!

League record: Plymouth 90(1) apts, 34 goals.

Ian Pearson. Ian, a prolific scorer with Goole Town in the Northern Premier League, joined Argyle during the summer of 1974. A school teacher, Ian has accepted an appointment in Devon and now hopes to continue combining soccer with teaching. As yet he has made only occasional appearances for Argyle's first team.

League record: Plymouth 2(3) apts, 1 goal.

George Foster. George has been making such rapid progress in the reserves that he is now on the fringe of the senior squad. He made his League bow a couple of seasons ago and was back in the side at Southampton recently when Johnson was injured.

League record: Plymouth 3(3) apts, 1 goal.

N.B. The statistics are for League games only, up to and including Saturday, September 13. Figures in brackets denote substitute appearances.

Jim Smith MANAGER

IF Jim Smith maintains his remarkable progress in soccer management he'll be in the First Division next season!

In less than three years he has operated in rapid succession through the Northern Premier League, the Fourth, Third and Second Divisions. Now there is only one more bridge to cross though obviously, as he well appreciates, this is the most difficult.

Blackburn appointed Mr. Smith this summer as successor to Gordon Lee who moved on to Newcastle.

When Mr. Smith took over at Colchester just over two years ago, the club was bottom of the Fourth Division and in grave danger of having to drop out of the League. In one season he so transformed them as to win the Fourth Division championship, breaking the club record points tally into the bargain.

Jim Smith has always been a fighter. He received several body blows as a player. He first club, Sheffield United, freed him in 1961 without giving him a chance in their League eleven. Though he began to establish himself at Aldershot it wasn't until his transfer to Halifax in 1965 that he really consolidated himself in League soccer.

In 1968 he moved on to Lincoln City and he was feeling very happy with life as the 1968/69 season came to a close. But not long after the campaign had ended he was called into his manager's office to be told he was being given a free transfer!

"That was a real nightmare," recalls Mr. Smith. There I was, at the age of 28, with a wife and

family and no trade. I didn't know what I was going to do."

The following day life turned sweeter when Younthorpe offered to sign him. Before he could complete the details, however, he was offered the job of player-manager of Northern Premier League Boston United. "In the end that free transfer proved to be a blessing in disguise," he conceded.

Boston were in none too happy a state when he took over. But he hustled the team into shape and in 1971/72 they finished runners up in the Northern Premier League. Later, after he had moved on to Colchester, the Boston team he had created went on to win the Northern Premier title two seasons in succession.

Boston also enjoyed two fine F.A. Cup runs during Jim Smith's period. They won 2-0 at Southport in 1970 and the following season they won at Hartlepool en route to the third round when they were only narrowly defeated 1-0 by Portsmouth.

His record at Boston spoke for itself. So, when Dick Graham resigned as Colchester's chief, the club immediately offered the job to Mr. Smith.

"We were just about to get among the honours at Boston but, when I got the chance to break into the Football League, I couldn't afford to turn it down," he says.

Season 1973/74 was his first full campaign in charge. It was crowned by Colchester's Fourth Division championship success.

Now he is getting down to the greatest challenge of his life. Something he could not have dreamed possible when he was sacked by Lincoln just six years ago!

BACK CHECK

Complete list of past League games against Blackburn

	Home	Away		Home	Away
1937/38	4-1	2-2	1954/55	7-3	0-0
1938/39	1-1	0-2	1955/56	1-1	1-3
1948/49	2-0	1-4	1956/57	1-1	2-0
1949/50	5-2	0-0	1957/58	2-0	0-1
1950/51	1-1	0-1	1958/59	2-0	0-1
1951/52	1-1	1-2	1959/60	2-0	0-1
1952/53	6-0	1-1	1960/61	2-0	0-1
1953/54	2-1	0-2			
1954/55	7-3	0-0			
1955/56	1-1	1-3			
1956/57	1-1	2-0			
1957/58	2-0	0-1			

Summary:

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Home	12	7	5	0	33	12
Away	12	4	7	8	18	6
	24	8	9	7	41	30

GOALKEEPER

Roger Jones. Roger was once discarded by Portsmouth but won early fame with Third Division Bournemouth. His fine goalkeeping displays earned him an England Under 23 cap seven seasons ago and Blackburn had to pay £30,000 to persuade the southern club to release him six seasons back.

League record: Portsmouth 0 apts, Bournemouth 160 apts, Blackburn 217 apts.

DEFENDERS

Mike Heaton. Mike began his career with Sheffield United, for whom he made his League debut in 1968/69. He enjoyed one or two lengthy runs but decided to switch to Blackburn in October 1971, since when he has been a permanent member of the team.

League record: Sheffield Utd 31(2) apts, Blackburn 161(2) apts, 1 goal.

Graham Hawkins. Graham started his career with Wolves, moving on

BLACKBURN

RECORD

Founded: 1875
Elected to Football League: 1888 (original member)
Football League Champions: 1912, 1914
F.A. Cup Winners: 1884, 1885, 1886, 1890, 1891, 1928
F.A. Cup Runners up: 1882, 1960
Second Division Champions: 1939
Second Division Runners up: 1958

Record win: 11-0 v. Rossendale (F.A. Cup 1884/85)

Worst defeat: 0-9 v. Arsenal (First Division 1932/33)

Derek Fazackerley. A former Blackburn apprentice, Derek graduated to the club's League XI in 1970/71. Between 1972 and 1974 he made over 100 consecutive League appearances but, after failing to get into the side for the first half of last season, he made a splendid comeback to help Rovers gain promotion.

League record: Blackburn 172(1) apts, 7 goals.

Andy Burgin. Andy played only one senior game for Sheffield Wed. and joined Rotherham on a free transfer in 1967. A year later he moved on to Halifax where he remained until Blackburn paid £13,000 for him last season.

League record: Sheffield Wed. 1 ap, Rotherham 9 apts, Halifax 243 apts, 9 goals. Blackburn 45 apts, 1 goal.

GOALKEEPER

Stuart Metcalf. Stuart has taken over as Blackburn's penalty taker this season, converting his first spot kick in their 4-1 win over Oldham. A Rovers' discovery, he came into the team originally in 1967/68. He scored eight goals last season.

League record: Blackburn 12(2) apts, 12 goals.

Kevin Hird. Kevin is hoping to win a regular place for the first time this season, after making his initial



Back row: K. Hird, D. Martin, J. Waddington, R. Jones, G. Hawkins, J. Kenyon, A. Burgin. Middle row: M. Wood, D. Fazackerley, G. Oates, K. Beamish, M. Hickman, T. Parkes. Front row: B. Hoy, S. Metcalf, M. Heaton, P. Hilton (on loan to Gillingham), J. Mullen, N. Wilkinson.

Blackburn's recovery power

BLACKBURN's four year exile in the Third Division ended when they gained promotion in style last season, losing only once during their closing 18 matches. Rovers' strong, attacking play brought them several outstanding victories, best of all being a 5-2 win over promotion rivals Plymouth after trailing 0-2 just before half time!

It was their great powers of recovery that helped Rovers triumph in the end. As the tension mounted, Blackburn continually found themselves in arrears, but fought back to win or draw. At home to lowly Tranmere, they were 0-1 down with 15 minutes to go, but won 2-1.

Another of the eventually relegated clubs, Huddersfield, had them on the rack, but, again, Rovers fought back to draw 1-1. They pulled back from 0-2 against Walsall to

draw 3-3. They eventually made absolutely sure of promotion by beating Chesterfield 2-0 in their 43rd game. Big summer disappointment was the decision of manager Gordon Lee to accept the plum appointment as Newcastle's team manager. Though Rovers were understandably upset, we could appreciate Mr. Lee's position. It was the sort of opportunity which might never come his way again.

Rovers, however, moved swiftly to appoint a new manager and they seemed to have made an exceedingly wise choice in Jim Smith, a man with a remarkable record in soccer management.

Rovers had a good build up to the new season, leading their group in the Anglo-Scottish Cup to qualify for the quarter finals. After going down 1-3 at Sheffield United,

Rovers recovered to beat Manchester City 1-0 and Blackpool 3-2. They began their Second Division programme with a useful 1-1 draw at Orient and, though suffering a 0-2 League Cup aggregate defeat by Preston, re-discovered their old powers of recovery when, trailing 0-1 to Oldham at half time, they hit back to win 4-1.

They then won 1-0 at Carlisle before suffering their first League defeat, at home to Bristol City (1-2). A week later they went down by a similar score at Southampton.

The club didn't make any new signings during the close season, preferring to give their promotion winners the chance to prove themselves in higher company.

Therefore, we are likely to see Roger Jones in goal behind a back four of Mike Heaton, Graham Hawkins, Derek

Fazackerley and Andy Burgin. Several players are pushing for a place in midfield, notably Kevin Hird, Stuart Metcalf, Tony Parkes, Graham Oates and Bobby Hoy.

Favourites for the strikers' positions, if they are free of impediments, are Mike Hickman, Ken Beamish and Don Martin.

Rovers' main objective this season is to consolidate their position in the Second Division. Their sojourn in the Third Division is something they want quickly to forget for this is a club which, in its earlier years at least, influenced many developments in the game.

The Third Division was no place for them. Now that they have escaped we can expect to see them make absolutely sure there is no repeat of that experience.

League appearance two years ago. He has since played several games as understudy, including the opening game this season. Kevin scored his first ever League goal at Southampton last week, from a penalty. League record: Blackburn 9(1) apts, 1 goal.

Graham Oates. Rovers signed Graham from Bradford City during the 1974 close season and he missed only one game last season when he scored seven goals. He has scored twice this season, both in the Anglo-Scottish Cup.

League record: Bradford City 158 (3) apts, 19 goals. Blackburn 50 apts, 6 goals.

League record: Blackburn 172(1) apts, 7 goals.

Ken Beamish. Ken became a top striker with Tranmere during the late 'sixties and was on three occasions their top scorer before Brighton signed him in 1971. For two seasons he was Brighton's most successful marksman and Rovers had to pay £25,000 for his signature in 1974. He was Blackburn's second highest scorer with 16 goals last season.

League record: Tranmere 175(1) apts, 49 goals. Brighton 86(10) apts, 27 goals. Blackburn 47 apts, 14 goals.

Mike Hickman. Mike joined Rovers mid-way through last season for £10,000 from Grimsby and contributed seven goals to the club's promotion effort. He opened his League career with Brighton, transferring to Grimsby in 1968.

League record: Brighton 12(2)

Pop Page

COMPILED BY MICK WOODWARD

AFTER a fairly lukewarm summer (you must be joking!) things are beginning to hot up in the live concert scene in the Luton area. At the Queensway Hall in Dunstable on October 2, Showaddywaddy are appearing and tickets can be obtained from the hall's own ticket office.

Aylesbury may seem a long way from Luton but Malcolm Stopps who runs the Friars Club there, assures me that a large number of his members come from this area, and so tickets for all future concerts will be sold at F. L. Moore's Record Shop in Dunstable Road. So far concerts fixed are; Saturday, September 27—Mott and UPP (ex Jeff Beck backing band). Saturday, October 11—Sailor and Something Fine. Tuesday, October 14—Tangerine Dream. Saturday, October 25—Andy Fairweather Low.

Tickets are already available for Mott and Tangerine Dream. Also in October the California at Dunstable will be presenting a concert by the legendary Four Tops. It's still the same group that made those classic Motown records which they still feature in their act, and tickets are on sale now at the California or F. L. Moore's.

NEW LPs

GARY TOMS EMPIRE.
7-6-5-4-3-2-1. Blow Your Whistle (Epic)

This is the group who's version of "Blow your whistle" didn't make it, and judging from this album, this won't either. The group's main problem seems to be originality, as most of the tracks seem to be watered down versions of current funky disco themes. The cover picture would have you believe that they are another Sly and the family Stone, but they certainly don't get anywhere near this group for drive and excitement. Unless they make a rapid change in direction they are bound to fade away.

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PINK FLOYD. Wish you were here.
(Harvest)

Finally after two years we have the new Floyd album and if you bought "Dark Side of the Moon" or "Meddle" this is for you, as most of the tracks sound as if they could have been from these two LPs.

The best track to my mind is the epic (20 odd minutes long), "Shine on you crazy diamond" which is dedicated to onetime Floyd leader Syd Barrett.

I only have one reservation, and that is what Floyd are going to do for the next album as they seem to have exhausted this particular idea. The cover and packaging is up to Floyds high standard as usual.

NEW SINGLES

GEORGE HARRISON. You (Apple)

The one thing that strikes you on listening to this record is its ordinariness. If this had been by John Smith instead of one of the Fab Four, it would have sunk without trace. Instead it will get lots of airplays (it's already David Hamilton's record of the week), and be a chart record. Its only saving grace is that there is no mention of George's fixation with religious matters.

GOODIES. Nappy Love (Bradley)

Donny Osmond gave us Puppy Love, and now the Goodies bring us the low down on Nappy Love. Seems these weeny boppers are getting younger every day. In the style of a fifties doowop song, we are treated to another Goodies fun record about tender love between two babies still in diapers.

Given their track record so far and the radio plays its bound to get, it must provide them with another hit. Read somewhere that Bill Oddie (the small fat hairy one) always wanted to be a pop star, well it looks like has hasn't done bad so far.

HOWARD, King of the Cops (DJM)

As comedy records seem to be in vogue at the moment this should stand a good chance. To my mind it is better than Funky Moped and Rochdale Cowboy.

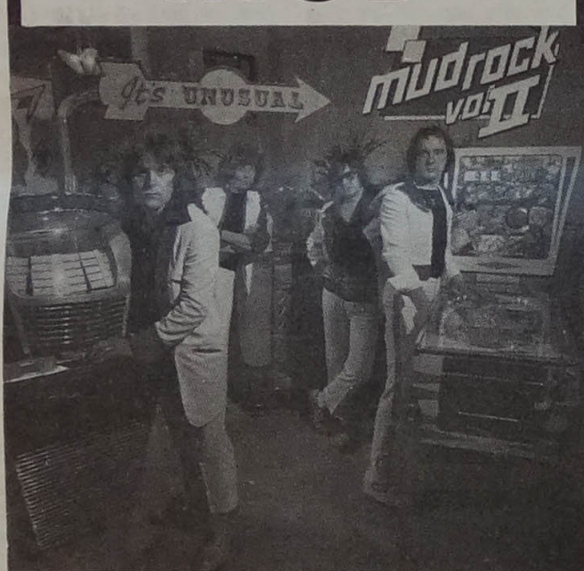
It is basically an argument between all the TV cops as to who is king of the cops. It uses the

Reach out and we'll be there.



Venue: California Ballroom, Dunstable. Date: Saturday, November 8th, 1975.
Price: £2.75.

MUD



MUD. L-L-Lucy (Private Stock)

After a couple of cover versions and a change of label, Mud are back with a vengeance, doing what they know best. This is straight out and out rock 'n' roll which doesn't let up from the minute it starts till it disappears down the

hole in the centre. It's taken at a frantic pace with pounding piano from new group, member Andy Ball, joining in with the normal guitars and drums to provide a great seventies rocker.

It should pound up the chart in double quick time.

TOP DISCO RECORDS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 CASANOVA BROWN | GLORIA GAYNOR |
| 2 FLY ROBIN FLY | SILVER CONVENTION |
| 3 PEACEPIPE | B. T. EXPRESS |
| 4 IT ONLY TAKES A MINUTE | TAVARES |
| 5 BRAZIL | RICHIE FAMILY |
| 6 HOOKED FOR LIFE | TRAMMPS |
| 7 WHEN YOUR YOUNG AND IN LIVE | RALPH CARTER |
| 8 MESSIN' WITH MY MIND | LABELLE |
| 9 DO IT ANYWAY YOU WANNA | PEOPLE'S CHOICE |
| 10 CHECKMATE | BARRABAS |

SHOWADDY



WADDY

The Queensway Hall, Dunstable have some really good gigs lined up over the next few weeks. The first date to remember is Thursday, October 2, when Showaddywaddy are in town. You'll probably have seen the band on T.V. when they won "New Faces" but did you know that the group was formed by two Leicester bands joining together to enter a talent contest sponsored by No. 6 cigarettes and run by the Bailey Organisation.

Incidentally they won that contest which was the start of their climb to the Top, with such hit singles as, "Hey Rock and Roll", "Rock and Roll Lady" and "Hey Mr.

Christmas", the group have emerged as proof that Rock and Roll is alive and living high. A great gig and one surely not to be missed.

Then on Thursday, October 9, John Peel compares Babe Ruth and Snaps. Friday, October 10 The Glitter Band will be present at the Queensway following a very successful local appearance earlier in the year. The group have a hit in the charts at the moment and plenty of hit singles tucked under their belts to date. Tickets and details of these gigs and forthcoming attractions are available from the box office in the Queensway Hall.

DANNY SAYS NO TO SPAIN



Danny pictured here with the Hatters' apprentices.

THIS past week our youth team coach, Danny Bergara made a most important decision both for himself and for Luton Town F.C. Danny had been approached by Seville F.C. of Spain to take over the full control of their Reserve and Youth sides with a salary that only top managers in this country could command and a two year contract.

Despite pressure from Seville (their season is just about beginning) to make a quick decision, Danny had several long chats with the manager and finally decided to reject the offer. Naturally Danny feels there is a future at this club and at present he is learning, and learning quickly some of the ins and outs of management from the Boss. The manager has put it on record that one day he feels Danny will have a big job abroad and at present his experience gained in

English football will stand him in good stead.

It is not surprising that our youth team coach is in demand from Spain. You will recall the highly successful Englishmen like Jimmy Hagan, Vic Buckingham and Ronnie Allen who have proved that the lessons of British football coaching and training allied to the Spaniards skill is a recipe for success. Remembering that Danny is fluent in several languages including Spanish and you will see that there is no problem of communication.

FOOTBALL LEVY BOARD NEEDED SAYS LUTON DIRECTOR

WHILST it would be easy for Football Authorities in general to shrug off crowd violence and bad behaviour as a symptom of the times in which we live and thus something about which little can be done or as some say: "They are not our real supporters and we disown them," we at Luton Town are neither smug or complacent and believe that if the problem is considered properly and sensibly approached in a concerted way, great progress can be made. It is silly to try to apportion the blame and hysterical outbursts from well meaning persons—with their cries of "close grounds", etc.—made little real contribution to the problem.

The problem of hooliganism and violence falls under two parts and needs to be considered accordingly.

Firstly, crowd violence inside football grounds. Most football stadia are old fashioned with inadequate facilities to comfortably and properly house their patrons and to attract the family. Whilst all seated stadia with ancillary community attractions would not only benefit the whole town but would probably entirely eradicate crowd violence and misbehaviour inside the ground.

Secondly, crowd violence and damage caused in the area of Football Clubs.

The economics of football are such that it is quite impossible for the Football League Clubs, unaided, to modernise their stadia and to turn them into better community centres. This could, however, be achieved if the Government introduced a Football Levy Board and taxed football pool winnings. A 10% deduction from football pool winnings would produce a sum approximating to £100,000 per season for each member Club of the Football League. If the Government can either subsidise minority sports and art or produce subsidies for horse racing by the creation of a Racing Levy Board, it is inconceivable that they should ignore our major winter sport. If such a Levy Board were set up by the Government and the proceeds distributed to Clubs for the purpose of modernisation of their stadia, in five years most, if not all, football fans would be in all seated accommodation. This would lift the majority of grounds out of the dark ages and provide comfortable conditions for spectators and eradicate crowd violence inside football grounds as well as provide much safer conditions more in keeping with modern living.

Crowd violence outside grounds also requires long term consideration and planning. Supporters' trains and coaches should be scheduled to arrive and depart at such times as not to expose a town to large numbers of unattached males for long periods before and after matches. This may not appeal to the public but it would go a long way to solving violence. In addition, trains and coaches must have proper set down and pick up points which could be properly supervised. In Luton in particular we are fortunate in that there is a railway line adjacent to this siding, football visitors could easily be introduced into the ground and depart therefrom without any need for them to go through the town.

Thus, whilst Football Clubs must do everything to ensure that their club is an amenity to their town and a source of pride and not a source of nuisance, it is apparent that the problem of crowd violence and hooliganism is one that cannot be solved by football alone, without the help of central Government and other authorities.

Reggie Burr was talking to Hatter editor, Dave Roberts.

IMPRESSIVE START BY YOUNGSTERS

Local Boys Show Promise

Chiltern Premier League
Saturday, September 13.

Luton Town 3 v
Cambridge City 1

Team: Roberts, McHugh, Moroney, Morgan, Jones, Sisman, Taylor, Hill, Donnelly, Smith, Whitbread. Sub: Hoube (for Donnelly). Scorers: Morgan, Smith, Donnelly.

This was the first game of the season in the new competition for youth players and we were anxious to see how the new schoolboys and amateurs would fare. The result was quite good, with the young lads showing some interesting touches.

After going 1-0 down, we came back into the game with a goal by Ian Donnelly, bringing the score line at half time to 1-1, although on the run of play we should have been two or three up.

In the second half we were again the more dangerous side, playing some good football, Tim Smith and Wayne Morgan scoring to make the final result 3-1.

This was a very promising performance by the schoolboys and amateurs who were well directed by skipper, Graham Jones. As expected, all the apprentices gave a good account of themselves.

Over the last month many local youngsters have had the benefit of training and playing for a Luton side against local youth sides at Stockingstone Road ground. Some of these boys have already been considered good enough to sign schoolboy forms, other if their progress will have the same opportunity.

Games against Panshanger (Welwyn), Lewsey Centre and Ashcroft School have all been keenly fought and the skill of some of these youngsters is most encouraging. Already four or five of these boys have played with our Chiltern Youth League team who at the time of going to press have three points from their two games.

Since we have concentrated on the local boys we have been most pleased and pleased

antly surprised at the ability of some boys within a 12 mile radius of Luton and it says much for the standard of the Chiltern Youth League that many are playing every Sunday in this league.

Boys such as Wilkinson Turner (Lewsey Centre), Sisman Parker (Icknield Harts), Johnson Judge Draper (Welwyn Panshanger), Waitweed (Clophill) Ingram (Dynamos) and Kitteridge (Stevenage) have all shown great promise. There are others, too, all with a wonderful opportunity to make a name for themselves and eventually become professional players.

That is why the club was so pleased when Danny Bergara turned down his offer from Spain. With his "know how" and the material coming through at schoolboy level we have every confidence in the future.

For the next four weeks we have a young player on trial from the north, Mark Fielding, 18 years old, five foot ten inches, who plays anywhere in defence. Mark has played 15 times for Preston North End league side, so he has had some experience so good luck Mark, lets hope you make the mark here at Luton.

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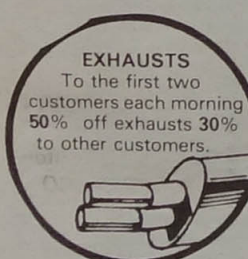
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Aston out for two weeks

The injury jinx has struck again. It now appears that John Aston's knee injury will probably keep him out of the first team for two weeks and following the recent spate of injuries this is a terrible set back.

Paul Fitcher also injured at Notts County is another doubtful starter for the Plymouth game with a badly swollen ankle. Add John and Paul to the list so far this season and it makes sad reading indeed. John Seasman, injured knee, Paul Price still recovering from a broken leg, Laurence Coyne rehabilitating after damaged ankle ligaments and of course captain Alan West who is still not fully recovered from the very bad shoulder injury he received against Chelsea. Harry and Roy were desperately hoping that the injury situation was improving but after Saturday's game it now looks as bad as ever.

One redeeming factor as we have stated before in The Hatter is the strength in the Reserves and it could well be that Harry will possibly bring on a new face.

Andy King's transition to the first team has worked very smoothly; if this can

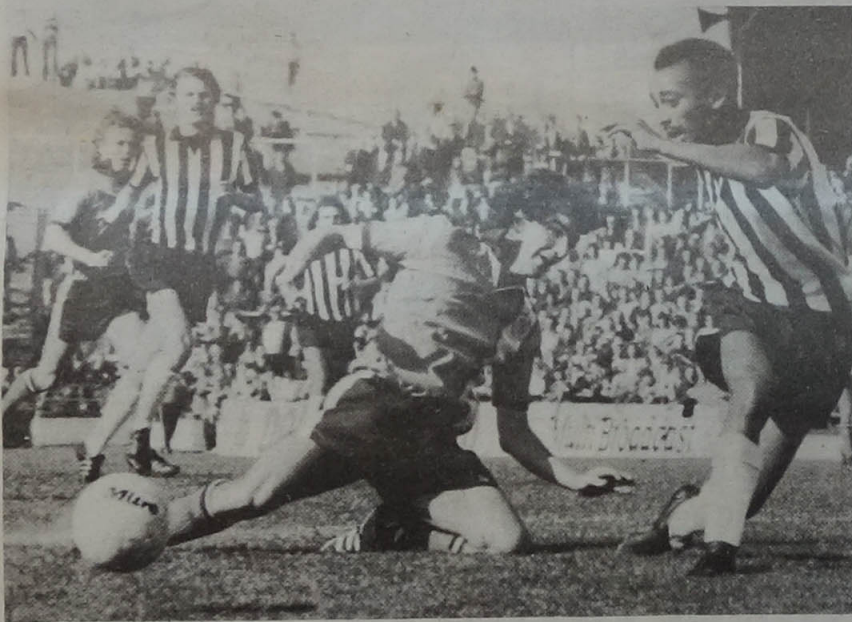
be used as a yardstick we should get out of the wood.

David Pleat's reserves make the long trip to Plymouth on Saturday, this is a most arduous journey but following their day off last Saturday when the Birmingham Combination Fixture was postponed they should be looking forward to the game with some enthusiasm irrespective of the distance involved.

Everyone at Kenilworth Road is still very optimistic about our chances for promotion. No one is going to run away with the Second Division this season. There's nothing in it at the moment and with a little luck our fortunes must surely change. In the last edition of The Hatter Harry said the headaches were disappearing, perhaps he spoke too soon, who knows, there is still a long way to go and we all feel sure that we shall be in the top half before Christmas.



Paul Fitcher shows his class against Bolton's Dunne.



Peter Anderson loses out here to Richards at Meadow Lane.

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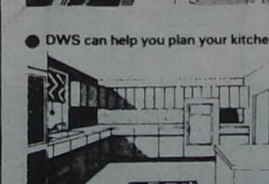
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For those customers wanting to order special items which are not in stock DWS will deliver from their main warehouse at Golders Green, London (phone: 01-455 0101), and after-sales services will be continuous while the move is under way.

For those Luton customers wishing to visit the warehouse at Golders Green, extra DWS discounts will be offered to compensate for travelling expenses.

● If it's in the Shops - It's in the Warehouse

● DWS can offer you a carpet planning service.

● DWS can help you plan your kitchen.

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