

Aston Villa



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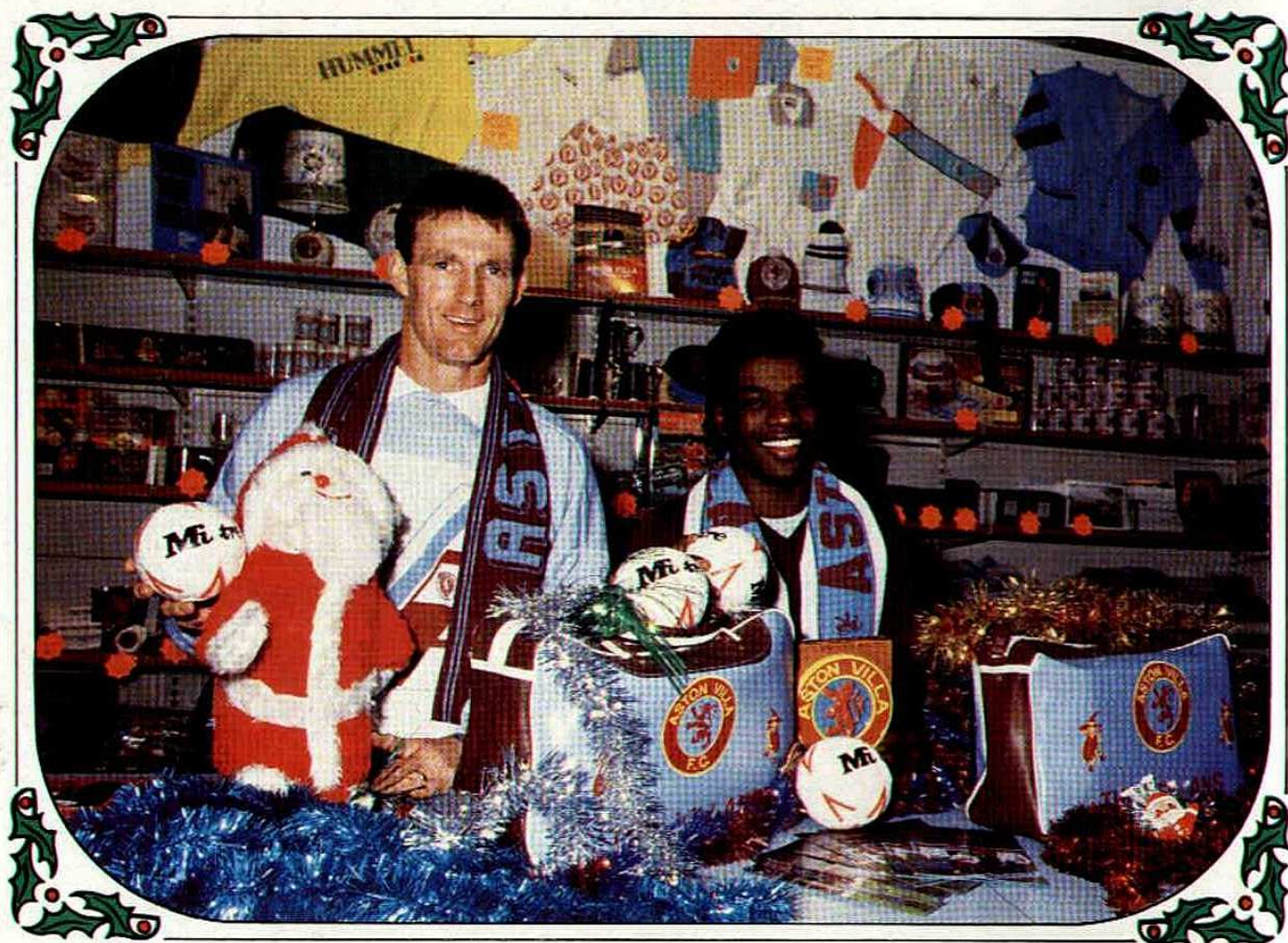
Saturday 5th December 1987

ASTON VILLA v SWINDON TOWN



AUSTIN ROVER

TODAY'S MATCH SPONSOR



SHOP WITH VILLA THIS CHRISTMAS

With Christmas shopping season looming fast, Aston Villa's Souvenir Shop is well kitted-out with the club's colourful Hummel gear which is ideal for gifts.

Also there is a whole sparkling range of superb souvenirs at the right price.

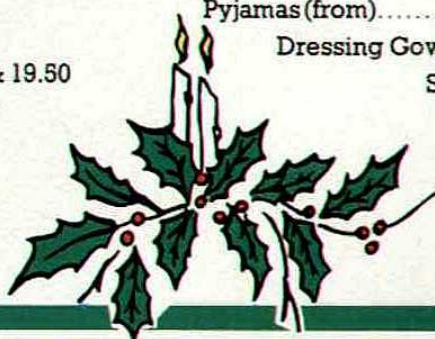
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European Cup Winners: 1981-82

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1896-97, 1898-99, 1899-1900, 1909-10,

1980-81. Runners-up: 1888-89, 1902-03,

1907-08, 1910-11, 1912-13, 1913-14,

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Division Two Champions: 1937-38,

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1913, 1920, 1957. Runners-up: 1892, 1924

League Cup winners: 1961, 1975, 1977.

Runners-up: 1963, 1971

FA Youth Cup winners: 1972, 1980

**ASTON VILLA
NEWS & RECORD**

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Graham TAYLOR

● It is very easy for people to talk with hindsight and my experiences as a football manager have led me to be very suspicious of those who are continually telling any who care to listen, what they would have done if they were in my position.

I have always been more interested in listening to opinions as to what is going to happen, and why, as opposed to those who are always wise after the event. A football manager is always on the spot because he has to make decisions prior to a ball being kicked, and then listen to the "experts" tell him where he got it wrong!

Needless to say, I felt a lot of pleasure from last week's performance and result at Bradford. Having taken the decision to play with only three players at the back in order to push on to Bradford's spare defender, you can imagine how open to criticism I would have been if we had lost.

By being adventurous and shocking the opposition, we more than played our part in what to me, was the most entertaining and exciting game we have been involved in this season. Certainly the way we played was far more to my liking, and is much more typical of



the kind of performance I will be looking for on a regular basis.

I am confident that slowly we are putting together a squad of players that will challenge for the Championship, and if we can maintain the kind of belief and confidence in ourselves that we displayed last week, I see no reason as to why we should not declare our intentions.

My aim is to produce an Aston Villa team that is not only successful, but also exciting to watch, and there was enough evidence in the Bradford match to suggest that the potential is already there in order to achieve this aim.

What we have to do is to use that game as a base to launch ourselves into the second half of the season and to make sure that we do not slip below the standards we have now set.

Best Wishes, Graham Taylor



GRAY DOUBLE Manager Graham Taylor swooped to sign two Grays, Andy (left) and Stuart (right) within a few days of each other recently. We welcome both to Villa Park.

The Other Side...

SWINDON



The Second Division's leading scorer — JIMMY QUINN

• The fastest-growing business community in Europe was given a football team to match when Swindon Town won promotion for two years in succession.

While new technology boomed in the town that was once the hub of the Great Western Railway network, the soccer men successfully recalled a golden age in which Don Rogers & Co won the League Cup.

Swindon spent five years in the Second Division on the back of their Wembley triumph against Arsenal in 1969, but were in Division Four when Lou Macari left Old Trafford and landed his first management job, in Wiltshire.

Having made his last two appearances for Manchester United in cup upsets by Oxford and Bournemouth in 1983-84, the former Scottish international took his revenge on the lower divisions after his appointment at the County Ground in July 1984.

A fact-finding first season became notable when he lost his job on Good Friday 1985, but he was re-instated within five days and given a new assistant manager in John Trollope, the holder of the club's appearance record with 770 League games in 20 years up to 1980.

The new partnership delivered instant results when Swindon won the Fourth Division with a League record of 102 points — 18 more than runners-up Chester — and the forward march was unstoppable last season.

The Robins finished third behind Bournemouth and Middlesbrough before coming through a five-match play-off series watched by nearly 70,000 fans. It was tension all the way as they recovered from two down to eliminate Wigan and then cancelled out a two-goal aggregate deficit to force a third meeting with Gillingham.

Two goals by Steve White eventually brought an epic finish to the season on May 29th in a decider that attracted a bumper crowd of 18,491 at neutral Selhurst Park.

Promotion was an appropriate reward for Macari's decision to reject an offer from Leicester City in the summer of 1986. Last season's success also opened up the possibility of taking Swindon Town from the Fourth Division to the First in record time.

But their 38-year-old manager warned against expecting too much. "I'm sorry but I have to face the facts," he told the *Daily Mail's* Peter Jackson in August. "In the Second Division, we'll be mixing with powerful opposition equipped with many First Division class players, Aston Villa, Leeds, Manchester City, Ipswich, Leicester and so on."

Consequently, Mr Macari was more than happy by the way Swindon adapted to the challenge. After losing their opening match at Bradford — which proved to be no disaster in the light of the Yorkshire club's long run at the top — The Robins reached fourth place in mid-October and dumped First Division Portsmouth out of the Littlewoods Cup.

Successive away wins at West Bromwich, Middlesbrough and Barnsley revealed the strength of an attacking team, thriving on the goals of the Second Division's leading scorer, Jimmy Quinn, who hit Littlewoods Cup hat-tricks against Bristol City and Pompey.

Mr Macari, though, stuck with the cautious line. After only two defeats in a sequence of 12 League games, he set out his main objective. "I would be delighted if, next May, Swindon are regarded as an established Second Division club."

It was around that time that his side faltered. They took only one point from five games and also went out of the Littlewoods Cup in a replay at Watford. Coincidence or not, the bad run started when Fraser Digby, who left Manchester United to become an England Under-21 goalkeeper with Swindon, was out with a broken thumb.

Nicky Hammond, a 20 year-old summer recruit from Arsenal, took over for five matches before Southampton's Under-21 cap, Tim Flowers, agreed to help out on loan at the County Ground, as he did last season.

Hammond was one of five players brought in during the close season. Kieran O'Regan and Jon Gittens moved up from the South Coast — from Brighton and Southampton, respectively — and Swindon looked north to sign Steve Foley from Sheffield United and John Kelly from Chester.

Full back Chris Ramsey went to Southend and Kelly had only a short stay in Wiltshire before joining Oldham last month for £35,000. Swindon also clinched a part-exchange deal with Aldershot in October, releasing Steve Berry on a free transfer and taking free-scoring midfielder Bobby Barnes for £50,000.

Barnes, who had First Division experience with West Ham, realised all expectations with four goals in his first six League appearances, but his efforts came to nothing as the defence conceded 11 goals in defeats by Manchester City, Leicester and Leeds.

Only three first-teamers remain from the side that Mr Macari inherited in 1984. David Hockaday, a 30-year-old full back, has totted up over 150 League outings since leaving Blackpool and midfield man

Leigh Barnard, a free transfer signing from Portsmouth, completed 200 League games for the club this season. Former apprentice Charlie Henry became a regular in 1980 but has not played so much in the last 18 months.

There is plenty of experience in the centre of the defence. Tim Parkin, who made his debut ten years ago with Blackburn and later played in Sweden, was signed from Bristol Rovers last season, while Scotsman Colin Calderwood has been an ever-present since moving from Mansfield in 1985.

Left back Phil King, previously with Exeter and Torquay, striker Steve White, who was first discovered by Bristol Rovers in local non-League football, and ex-Trowbridge forward Bryan Wade are the only West Countrymen in the senior squad.

The main strikers travelled around the country before forming a productive partnership 12 months ago. Quinn, a Northern Ireland international was first signed from Oswestry and then returned from a spell at Blackburn, while 6ft 3ins centre forward Dave Bamber stopped off at Walsall and Coventry while making four moves in three years.

Midfielder Chris Kamara is another player in his second term at Swindon, and fellow North-Easterner Peter Coyne was a young reserve at Old Trafford when Mr Macari was with Manchester United.

PAST MEETINGS

● Villa and Swindon have only met six times previously in either the league or cup. All of the games were in the Second Division, resulting in two wins each and two draws. With each side having scored seven goals, the honours are well and truly even.

August 23rd 1969 Att: 29,767

VILLA 0 SWINDON 2 (Horsfield, Thomas)

Villa: Williams, Wright, Aitken, Tiler, Edwards, Turnbull, Ferguson, Hamilton, McMahon, B. Rioch, Anderson (Godfrey).

December 26th 1969 Att: 22,384

SWINDON 1 (Noble) VILLA 1 (Curtis)

Villa: Phillips, Wright, Aitken, Curtis, Tiler, Anderson, Godfrey, McMahon (Martin), Hamilton, B. Rioch.

September 16th 1972 Att: 30,865

VILLA 2 (Evans, Lochhead) SWINDON 1 (Rogers)

Villa: Cumbes, Gidman, Aitken, B. Rioch, Nicholl, Ross, Graydon, McMahon, Lochhead, Vowden, Anderson (Evans).

February 10th 1973 Att: 13,615

SWINDON 1 (Moss) VILLA 3 (Evans, Graydon 2)

Villa: Cumbes, Robson, Aitken, B. Rioch, Nicholl, Ross, Graydon, Brown, Evans, Vowden, B. Little.

November 24th 1973 Att: 8,476

SWINDON 1 (Moss) VILLA 0

Villa: Cumbes, Gidman, Aitken, Hockey, Nichol, Ross, Vowden, Brown, Morgan (Evans), Hamilton, B. Little.

April 6th 1974 Att: 20,709

VILLA 1 (B. Little) SWINDON 1 (Eastoe)

Villa: Cumbes, Gidman, Aitken, McMahon, Stark, Turnbull, B. Little, Ross, Morgan, Hamilton, Leonard.

SWINDON TOWN ROLL CALL 1987-88

Player	Birthplace	Previous Clubs	1987-88 League/Cup Apps Goals
Dave Bamber	St Helens	Blackpool, Coventry, Walsall, Portsmouth	26 7
Leigh Barnard	Worsley	Portsmouth	23(1) 2
Bobby Barnes	Kingston	West Ham, Aldershot	8 6
Colin Calderwood	Stranraer	Mansfield	26 1
Peter Coyne	Manchester	Manchester Utd, Ashton, Crewe, Hyde	3(3) —
Fraser Digby	Sheffield	Manchester Utd	18 —
● Tim Flowers	Kenilworth	Wolves	3 —
Steve Foley	Liverpool	Liverpool, Grimsby, Sheffield Utd	18(1) 3
Jon Gittens	Birmingham	Paget Rangers, Southampton	6(3) 1
Nicky Hammond	Essex	Arsenal	5 —
Charlie Henry	Acton	—	3(10) —
David Hockaday	Billingham	Blackpool	23 —
Chris Kamara	Middlesbrough	Portsmouth, Swindon, Portsmouth, Brentford	21 2
Phil King	Bristol	Exeter, Torquay	26 —
Kieran O'Regan	Cork	Brighton	14(3) —
Tim Parkin	Penrith	Blackburn, Malmo, Bristol R	24 2
Jimmy Quinn	Belfast	Oswestry, Swindon, Blackburn	23(1) 18
Bryan Wade	Bath	Trowbridge	— —
Steve White	Chipping Sodbury	Bristol R, Luton, Charlton, Bristol R	8(4) 7

ALSO PLAYED:

Steve Berry (now Aldershot) 4 apps, 1 goal; John Kelly (now Oldham) 4(4) apps, 1 goal.
● On loan from Southampton.

League Results: Bradford (A) 0-2, Sheffield Utd (H) 2-0, WBA (A) 2-1, Hull (H) 0-0, Middlesbrough (A) 3-2, Birmingham (H) 0-2, Barnsley (A) 1-0, Ipswich (A) 2-3, Reading (H) 4-0, Shrewsbury (H) 1-1, Millwall (A) 2-2, Oldham (H) 2-0, Stoke (H) 3-0, C. Palace (A) 1-2, Man City (H) 3-4, Leicester (A) 2-3, Plymouth (H) 1-1, Leeds (A) 2-4, Bournemouth (H) 4-2.

Littlewoods Cup: Bristol C (H) 3-0, (A) 2-3, Portsmouth (H) 3-1, (A) 3-1, Watford (H) 1-1, (A) 2-4.

Simod Cup: Blackburn (A) 2-1.

(Up to and including Saturday 28th November 1987).

Sidelines

TED SMALL: LARGE CONTRIBUTION

● There are many parts of Villa Park and its surroundings which have become a lasting testimony to the hard work and dedication put in by **TED SMALL**, Aston Villa's Stadium manager.

Most recent is the internal fitting out of Stumps indoor cricket pavilion, popularly regarded already as the most stylish around in terms of social facilities.

Ted, an all-round maintenance man of the old school who believe in craftsmanship, was responsible for organising and supervising the contract work that went into making Stumps the fine showpiece for the sport which it has become.

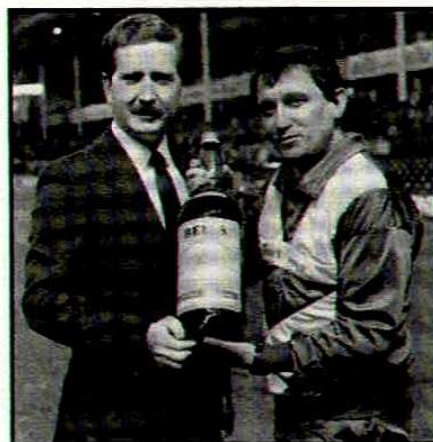
Villa are fortunate indeed to have on the staff an individual who can either provide or supervise virtually all the services required on an in-house basis.

Ted's association with the club dates back 20 years or more to when local tradesmen were asked to help the club by carrying out functions to help revitalise the club when chairman Doug Ellis first came in with a new board of directors.

Subsequently Ted joined the club on a full-time basis, left for a while and then was brought back when Mr Ellis returned and more and more updating of facilities were undertaken.

Among his contributions was that of instigating the necessary changes on the safety aspect to come into line with the requirements of the Safety of Sports Grounds Act.

Ted Small is one of the many members of the Villa Park team-behind-the-team who make the club tick.



MANAGER OF THE MONTH

He's a winner ...

Manager Graham Taylor accepted the Manager of the Month award, a gallon bottle of Bell's Scotch Whiskey, from the company's regional sales executive Kevin Power, before the Sheffield Wednesday game.

WILLING WITNESS

● **Tariq Khaliq**, a youngster on a three-weeks work experience stint at Villa Park, suddenly found himself involved in the club's big business affairs last week.

Tariq, from Holte Comprehensive School, Lozells, where Mark Walters and commercial man Abdul Rashid attended, was passing near the manager's office when, to his amazement, he was summoned inside by Graham Taylor.

There he was asked to witness the signatures on the transfer forms of new signing Stuart Gray from Barnsley before their dispatch to Football League HQ.

Tariq signed (slightly nervously) where he was asked, alongside the £175,000 new midfield player, and will remain permanently in the records as permanent proof that he actually worked for Aston Villa, albeit for just a brief spell.

VILLA SOUND

Villa supporters often comment on the highly professional presentation on the public address system before the game and at half-time and the end.

This is provided by Radio WM's Michael Collie. To hear more of Michael tune in to 'Coming Home', with regular Sports Round-Ups, every weekday between 4.04 pm and 7.00 pm. 206m/1458khz, 95.6 VHF in Stereo.

Happy listening ...!



TOP GEAR

● Austin Rover ... Aston Villa: two bodies with driving ambition.

It was more than mere coincidence that this line-up of sleek saloons were recently parked outside the North Stand in the shape of a joined-up AV.

This was Austin Rover's delivery of the latest selection of motor cars to players and officials as part of the on-going sponsorship arrangement between the two legendary Midland names.

Villa's destination is the First Division, ultimately Europe and yet more honours to add to an impressive roll of honour.

Austin Rover's own targets are world-wide markets which know no bounds.

Included in the quality line-up are Montegos and a Rover ... vehicles which club representatives are proud to drive in the knowledge that they will keep them on the right road and will never let them down.

Aston Villa and Austin Rover are going places. Together.



PLACE THE SMILES

● You need a safe pair of hands when looking after a cheque for £96,000, and Villa 'keeper Nigel Spink was happy to provide them when the Birmingham Post and Mail recently presented their cheque to record Place the Ball winner, Louise Sandels.

Nigel cheerfully handed over the super prize to Louise, a bank clerk in Stratford-upon-Avon and a housewife in Bideford.

Louise's husband Dirk, a quantity surveyor, joined them in the picture and then enjoyed a quiet chat with the Villa man. Dirk is a goalkeeper,

too, in local football.

It will certainly be a happy Xmas in the Sandels household ... and hopefully a successful New Year for Nigel, whose testimonial fund is just getting underway.

SPECIAL GUEST

● Our special guest this afternoon is lifelong supporter Mr Albert Maddox, who has been nominated by his son.

Mr Maddox will enjoy the hospitality of the club and watch the match from the directors box. Here's hoping the result turns out right for him!



GRAY CHECKS IN

New midfielder Andy Gray from Crystal Palace attended the Simod Cup-tie, the night before he officially signed for the club, and joined with Mark Burke in presenting a framed share to Mr Paul Murphy, Chief Executive of the Little Aston Hospital.

BAILEY PRIZES

Simon Stainrod and Steve Hunt joined in with NG Bailey, Birmingham-based Electrical Contractors, hosted by marketing and sales engineer Peter Stinton in a promotion at Villa Park and presented autographed Villa balls to competition winners. Bailey's were Houghton Suite sponsors.



CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

Sponsored by the TSB Bank
Make sure you purchase a copy of either tonight's 'Sports Argus' or Monday's 'Evening Mail' for full details.

ATTENTION TO SUPPORTERS WHO TRAVELLED TO BRADFORD CITY LAST WEEKEND

A group of Villa supporters who journeyed to Yorkshire in a white hatchback had their car damaged. Could they please contact the police on 021 327 6551, as the culprits have now been found!

SPONSOR A GRAY?

Aston Villa's two latest signings, Andy and Stuart Gray are available for kit sponsorship in the club's 'Sponsorkit' scheme. Full details can be obtained by contacting the Commercial Department on 021 327 5399.

UNLUCKY STEVE

As you are all no doubt aware by now, our popular midfielder man Steve Hunt has been forced to retire from the game, on the advice of a specialist, because of his knee injury.

There will be a special tribute to Steve in our next programme, against his former club, Albion, but in the meantime the best wishes of everyone at the club go out to Steve.

FRIDAY DERBY

Supporters are reminded that our home fixture against West Bromwich Albion will be on Friday 18th December, kick-off 7.30 pm.



YOU'RE

BETTER OFF

TALKING TO



BARCLAYS



Garry Thompson turns in time to see his header rocket into the net for Villa's 38th minute equaliser against Sheffield Wednesday. Below, a dejected looking Martin Hodge retrieves the ball as Villa celebrate.



VILLA IN ACTION

Andy Gray is ready to settle down after waiting seven years to find the club of his dreams.

"I'm here to build a career," said the 23-year-old Londoner at the end of a complicated trail in which he had two major setbacks before becoming a late League entrant three years ago.

★ Crystal Palace signed him when Terry Venables was manager, but there was no apprenticeship at the end of two years on schoolboy forms.

★ Brentford then took him on as an apprentice, but that arrangement lasted for only six weeks.

★ Andy then looked for work in South London and one of the jobs he had was running a flower stall on Lambeth Walk. He was 18 by the time his football ambitions were re-charged by the famous amateur club, Corinthian Casuals.

He had a year with them, playing against Bristol City in the first round of the FA Cup in 1983, and then he followed their manager, Billy Smith, to Dulwich Hamlet. That turned out to be the last stepping stone back to the Football League.

He was with Dulwich for only three months before Crystal Palace re-entered his life in a £2,000 transfer deal. "At the time, a few clubs were watching me, and Steve Coppell signed me straightaway," says the Brixton-born midfielder who first showed promise when representing South London and then London in school football.

Palace soon made up for letting him go as a 16-year-old. Less than a month after signing him for a second time, they put him in centre midfield alongside Welsh international Peter Nicholas, and he scored on his debut at Grimsby in December 1984.

DIVIDED TIME

● **Over the next two years, Andy divided his time between midfield and a striking role.**

In all, he notched 27 goals in 98 League appearances for Palace, but midfield became his regular position 12 months ago when they signed Mark Bright from Leicester City.

"I always felt there was more pressure up front because people expect you to score goals," he says. "But I knew I could play in midfield. As long as you work hard, you can't go far wrong, and there's still a chance to get a few goals. In fact, I scored six for Palace this season."

One of his best days was in

VILLA man



ANDY GRAY

September when the Selhurst Park team won 6-0 at St Andrew's. Andy got one goal from the penalty spot and another with a stunning 35-yard free kick. It goes without saying that a repeat performance would be most welcome in the derby with Blues next Saturday!

"I like trying shots from long distances," he says. "I also enjoyed taking the penalties for Palace and hopefully that's a job I can do for Villa."

Though Palace were only a couple of points off a place in the play-offs last season, Andy had a move in mind for some time and was not swayed when they went to the top of the Second Division for a spell in September.

"I was on the transfer list last year but no-one came in for me, even though I felt I was playing well," he explains. "The way I looked at it was that maybe other clubs wanted to see if I could play well over a longer period. In the end, I signed a new contract in the summer, but I still hoped that a move would come up."

"Once I knew Villa were interested in me, I set my heart on coming here, even though other

clubs were mentioned. I could have gone to Charlton, I heard that Forest were interested and there was talk of a bid from Chelsea in the newspapers.

"It was a bit frustrating waiting for something to happen, but Palace hung on because they were obviously trying to get a lot of money for me. It wasn't the best of situations for me, and I was very happy when they eventually agreed terms with Villa."

Andy's admiration for Villa goes back to the days when he followed the exploits of his famous Scottish namesake. He was only 13 when A.G. Mark One took the First Division by storm, and he regarded it as a dream come true to sign for Villa.

RISK FACTOR ...

● **Of course, there is a risk factor in any transfer, both for club and player, but he is in no doubt that the move is a boost for his career.**

"People say the grass isn't greener on the other side of the fence, but I know it is after only a couple of weeks here," he said.

With both Villa and Palace bracketed among the promotion contenders, his assessment will be put to the test over the next few months, though it was the longer term prospects that really influenced his decision.

"Villa may be in the Second Division, but they are a First Division club in every other respect," he says. "In three years in Division Two, I have seen sides go up with certain qualities."

"In my opinion, the team I was with did not have those qualities, but Villa do. With the right blend of players, they can win promotion this season, and if they do, the resources will be there to build a bigger squad for the First Division."

If there is an element of a businessman in that statement, it should be no surprise because Andy owns a sports shop in Tooting in partnership with his brother, Trevor. "I am very business-minded," he said in explaining his early planning for the future. "I am not the sort of person who will sit and rest on what's there."

● **PERSONAL NOTE: Andy has been living in the club hostel prior to making arrangements for Christine and their baby son, Spencer (8 months), to move up to the Birmingham area.**



STEVE SIMS
The Villa skipper is one of
four ever-presents for the club
so far this season



Getting the opponents by the nose.



copy that!

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

opposing forwards kept their distance.

You'll always come up smelling of roses when you have a Mita copier on your side – no sweat!



the perfect match

Panini Family Club



MARTIN DROPS IN

● England Under-21 defender Martin Keown proved a big hit with members when he popped in to sign autographs for the Simod Cup-tie against Bradford City.

It was a fairly low-key, low gate event but that simply gave the former Arsenal player a little more time to mix with those who were there. Martin is pictured here chatting to youngsters with another player, Tony Daley.

He showed a particular interest in the display of trophies and famous Aston Villa souvenirs.

Martin was intrigued by the wages book ... that's one area where older generations cannot talk about 'the good old days ...' Keown jokingly suggested he could borrow the pair of boots which were on display. "We told him they belonged to Pongo Waring," joked organiser Dave Wallis.

"But we all know they are mine, really. Graham Taylor likes me to have them available in case he needs me to step in and play at

short notice any time ..."

Dave, we know you lost a lot of weight but THAT'S ridiculous!

As always, the collection of autographs supplied by the succession of players who sign in on match days or nights will go into the hat at the end of the season, with a prize on offer for the winner.

More details of that in a future issue.

COMPETITIONS

Bradford City: Raffle ticket No.474, held by Paul Hunt (11) of Castle Bromwich. He won a Villa Man badge.

Millwall: Steve Pitchford, Langdon near Rugeley, won with ticket number 408. Not to be outdone, Steve's eight year old son Justin won the guess the crowd with an estimate of 13,152. The actual gate was 13,255.

A leather combcase and comb and a Villa penant went to the Pitchford home.

Guess the Crowd v

Bradford City: John Ward of Bourneville guessed 4127, but got his figures slightly in the wrong order. The actual gate was 4217.

81 OUT OF 92

● It was a pleasure to have as the Panini Family Club guest PAUL STAINES, who is from the same village near Chelmsford as Mervyn Day, (the former Villa 'keeper now with Leeds) for the Millwall game.

Paul, who is physically disabled has set himself the task of visiting all 92 League clubs and told us that Villa Park was his 81st. He had travelled up to the game from his home in Southend, quite a haul for him in the circumstances.

It has taken him 10 years so far to get within eleven clubs of completing his collection but he says he is in no hurry. Time is on his side.

One of the problems, of course, is when new clubs come into the League, the latest being Scarborough; another long trip. Pity, really, that such games are naturally Fourth Division ones.

Other long distance travellers were Roger Hicks and a party of boys from Wilton Middle School, Salisbury. They were guests of John Thornwell and his boys from St Stephens School, Redditch.

Hopefully, John and his party will join us in a Soccer Special soon.

SOCCER SPECIAL

● Talking of the Soccer Special scheme, Swindon Town were due to bring 50 boys along today to play Villa teams at football.

Hopefully, all went well and that the Wiltshire contingent are enjoying themselves mingling with us as very welcome visitors today.

If they like our facilities then that is a big bonus to us.

SORRY!

● We have to make a belated apology for our having to cancel the proposed Family Club trip to Bradford City last Saturday. We had enough bookings for a full coach, but it turned out that we could not be provided with sufficient seats suitable for younger fans, so the trip had to be abandoned.

We were all very disappointed, but it was unavoidable from our point of view.

NO, OUR PHYSIO DOESN'T USE THE 'MAGIC SPONGE'... HE JUST WIPES THE LAGGERS IN FRONT OF THE PLAYERS!



STANLEY



VOUCHER
NUMBER FOURTEEN

SIGN PLEASE

TWO OF A KIND...

Larry Canning has 45 years first-hand experience of Aston Villa. For 12 years, beginning in 1942, he was a Villa player. Then, introduced by David Coleman in 1957, there has followed more than 30 years as a radio commentator. In between, he was the club's most avid observer. In this series he compares, contrasts and reaches conclusions on pairs of similar Villa players from that period.

● **Villa, like other clubs over the years, find they sometimes have a succession of good players for one particular role and a shortage in others. The right wing position is one where, I feel, Villa have not been too well blessed.**

When I look back over a period of thirty years or so, two of the exceptions that spring to mind are **LES SMITH**, who shared in the 1957 FA Cup success, and **RAY GRAYDON**, who was a key part of some of the successes of the 1970s.

This Les Smith is not to be confused with the one I wrote about in a previous issue who joined the club from Brentford around the end of World War II and played on the left side.

The 1950s version came to Villa Park from Wolves and slotted ideally into the Eric Houghton team which rocked the football world (and Manchester United!) at Wembley.

What I remember most about him is that he was obviously a product of the Wolves system. He had to be able to run and run and run. And he could that. But he could play, as well.

He was very fast and he had a thunderous shot in his right foot, cutting in from the wing at speed. When Les Smith went past defenders they never saw him again.

Although he could stop and chip the ball, he was far more effective when he went on and had a shot, which he did quite often. His strength, I thought, was taking goals rather than making them though, as I say, he could do both.

Les was not very tall but he was sturdy and determined, difficult to get off the ball once he was in full flight and far more courageous than a lot of wingers. I suppose you could say he had to be a battler because he was a Wolves man basically.

He was a product of the Stan Cullis school and I would imagine that he found Villa Park a 'Garden of Eden' compared to Molineux at that time though Villa trainer Bill Moore was also a very hard taskmaster.

Les Smith gave Aston Villa very fine service, as did Ray Graydon, who joined the club under Vic Crowe and played for Ron Saunders for a while before moving on.

However, Graydon was a different style altogether, although he played a similar role.

He was more the genteel kind who made goals rather more prolifically, though he could score them, too, some very good ones.

It would, perhaps, be not unfair to say that he was dainty more than aggressive. He was an out and out right winger. That's where he played and that's where you found him.



LES SMITH

He tended to patrol his touchline, picked up passes, beat his defender or defenders and got the ball over. Ray was the kind of winger that big front men love to have on their side.

I remember Andy Lochhead, for one, heading in a lot of Graydon's centres. Among his qualities was that he was a very accurate kicker and did not waste too many passes.

He could find people at the far post and put the ball on their head, a great asset. There was no question of just hoofing it over and hoping for the best. He had precision on his side.

That's the thing I liked about Ray Graydon, he was a very useful man to have in your side. Thinking purely in terms of right wing play, I'm not sure if he has ever been replaced adequately.

Ray Graydon was one of the players who helped Ron Saunders' side win promotion and the Football League Cup in his first season, and a lot of the goals came either from his crosses or from Graydon himself.

Andy Gray, remember, was another player whose performances were helped a great deal by Graydon's wing work. He was the perfect foil for both of them.

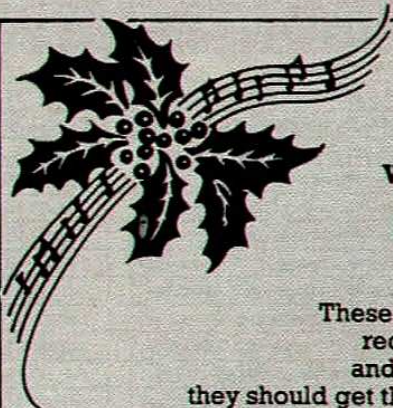
He could float the ball right onto their heads.

Without mentioning names or clubs, there are players of the Gray type around the League and their managers have never been able to introduce the Graydon type to get the best out of them. It seems common sense to me that if you have the one, you need the other and vice versa.

Unhappily, when Graydon was around, wingers were just going out of fashion and it is only just recently that they have begun to come into their own again.



RAY GRAYDON



IT'S PARTY TIME!

• A Xmas Party has been arranged for members of the Villa Cubs and for junior Family Members to take place before the match with West Bromwich Albion at Villa Park on Friday December 18.

These members ought by now to have received a circular with full details and, since the total is limited to 200, they should get their forms returned immediately because inclusion will be strictly on a first-come-first-served basis. The youngsters will congregate at the Villa Sports and Leisure centre at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the match where they will be entertained to loads of fun before moving on to watch the match in the Panini Family Enclosure. There will be a five-a-side football, mini-hockey, the wobbly castle, table tennis and Waddington's table games for the slightly less active.

Prizes will include some donated by Panini, match tickets and opportunities to be a ball boy, a mascot or to meet the players. All-in price is £3.59 and that includes a super Xmas tea party before moving on to the match. A party with a difference for sure ... DON'T MISS OUT.



DIARY

Tuesday 10th November: Garry Thompson is on standby for an unexpectedly early return in the Simod Cup-tie with Bradford City at Villa Park tomorrow night. Thompson has been out since April because of an operation on a torn abdominal muscle. Manager Graham Taylor has to consider recalling Thompson sooner than he would have wished because he has only 10 fit players. With Martin Keown injured Mark Lillis will have to switch back to defence and Alan McNally to midfield.

Wednesday 11th November: Villa's sadly-depleted team slumps to a five-goal defeat before one of the lowest-ever gates for a competitive game.

Friday 12th November: The injury situation improves slightly with Keown likely to return for the trip to Oldham.

Saturday 13th November: A goal by Alan McNally gives Villa a most welcome win at Boundary Park, and maintains the fine away record of seven wins, two draws and only one defeat.

Monday 15th November: Manager's patience is rewarded when he finally agrees terms for midfielder Andy Gray of Crystal Palace for £150,000. The deal is left on ice until after the Sheffield Wednesday tie.

Tuesday 16th November: Selection problems for the fourth round Littlewoods Cup-tie with Sheffield Wednesday at Villa Park tomorrow night with Mark Walters suspended as a result of being sent off at Shrewsbury. The 14 players which the manager has available includes Thompson and Gary Shaw.

Wednesday 17th November: Villa beaten 2-1 by Sheffield Wednesday, although the opposition are reduced to 10 men because of the first half sending off of Gary Megson. Thompson marks his return with a spectacular headed goal.

Thursday 18th November: Andy Gray is at Villa Park to complete the formality of £150,000 signing from Palace. Gray chooses Villa despite positive interest shown by Chelsea, Charlton and Nottingham Forest. "This is a legendary club," he says. "It should be one of the top six in the First Division."



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PRESENTS

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- Draw takes place at Villa Park on the pitch during half-time interval on New Years Day - Aston Villa v Hull City

• Registered with Birmingham Local Authority No. 3899



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T. Cardall, Promotions Manager

Statistics

ATTENDANCES & BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION TWO TABLE

Home League Games			Home					Away							
Highest	Average		P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
15,709	11,258	Middlesbrough	21	8	2	1	21	6	5	2	3	12	8	43	
15,006	12,429	Bradford City	21	8	1	2	24	11	5	3	2	12	10	43	
8,014	6,517	Millwall	21	8	1	1	25	9	4	2	5	11	16	39	
30,870	15,354	Aston Villa	21	2	5	3	11	11	8	2	1	20	8	37	
15,443	8,373	Hull City	21	7	4	0	17	8	3	3	4	12	12	37	
22,690	18,781	Manchester City	21	6	2	2	31	11	4	4	3	16	16	36	
10,828	8,610	Crystal Palace	20	8	1	1	25	9	3	2	5	17	19	36	
14,580	11,550	Ipswich Town	21	9	1	0	19	4	1	5	5	8	13	36	
13,137	7,590	Birmingham City	21	5	5	1	13	11	4	1	5	11	17	33	
11,536	9,006	Swindon Town	20	6	3	2	24	11	3	1	5	15	19	31	
7,675	6,720	Blackburn Rovers	20	5	3	2	13	8	3	4	3	12	13	31	
11,569	7,413	Barnsley	21	6	1	3	22	14	2	4	5	7	13	29	
25,358	18,606	Leeds United	21	6	2	2	14	10	0	6	5	9	20	26	
13,494	9,653	Stoke City	21	5	3	2	12	7	2	2	7	6	19	26	
14,504	10,147	Plymouth Argyle	21	4	3	3	22	15	2	3	6	10	21	24	
11,543	9,139	Leicester City	20	5	2	4	17	11	1	2	6	12	18	22	
22,072	11,164	West Bromwich Albion	21	5	3	3	19	12	1	1	8	8	23	22	
12,095	9,625	Sheffield United	21	4	3	4	15	14	2	1	7	8	19	22	
9,499	7,493	Bournemouth	21	3	3	5	16	16	2	2	6	10	19	20	
7,089	4,266	Shrewsbury Town	21	2	3	5	10	13	1	4	6	7	18	18	
15,984	7,065	Oldham Athletic	19	3	3	4	10	12	1	1	7	4	16	16	
11,671	7,329	Huddersfield Town	21	2	4	4	9	14	1	2	8	14	37	15	
10,052	6,039	Reading	20	2	2	5	10	12	1	3	7	8	25	14	

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES

	League		Cups	
	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls
Allen	4	—	—	—
Aspinall	18(2)	7	4	2
Birch	17	1	5	1
Blair	3(1)	1	2	—
Burke	4(2)	—	(1)	—
Cooper	6(1)	—	—	—
Daley	1(1)	—	—	—
Evans	—(2)	—	—(2)	—
Gage	21	2	5	—
Gallacher	21	—	5	—
Gray (A)	1	—	—	—
Gray (S)	1	2	—	—
Hunt (D)	11(1)	—	2	—
Hunt (S)	10(1)	2	2	—
Keown	21	2	4	—
Lillis	16	3	5	—
McInally	10	1	4	1
Shaw	—(3)	—	1	—
Sims	21	—	5	—
Spink	21	—	5	—
Stainrod	4	—	—	—
Thompson	1	1	2	1
Walters	19	7	4	—
Own Goals	—	2	—	—



STUART GRAY — Marked his debut with two goals at Bradford.

FACTS & FIGURES

Highest League Attendance: 30,870 Aston Villa v B'ham (22.8.87)
Lowest League Attendance: 2,555 Shrewsbury v Sheff U (17.11.87)
Highest Home Win: Man City 10 Huddersfield 1 (7.11.87)
Highest Away Win: Birmingham 0 Crystal Palace 6 (5.9.87)
Most Goals in a Match: 3 Greg Abbott (Brad C) v Plymouth 3 Imre Varadi (Man C) v Stoke 3 Bernie Slaven (M'boro) v H'field 3 Mark Walters (Villa) v C Palace 3 Roger Palmer (Oldham) v S'bury 3 Tony Morley (WBA) v H'field 3 Bernie Slaven (M'boro) v S'bury 3 Ian Wright (Palace) v Plymouth 3 Tony Adcock (Man C) v H'field 3 Paul Stewart (Man C) v H'field 3 David White (Man C) v H'field 3 Tony Cascarino (M'wall) v Leeds
Leading Scorers: (including League, Littlewoods Cup & Simod Cup) 19 Jimmy Quinn (Swindon Town) 17 Paul Stewart (Manchester City) 16 Mark Bright (Crystal Palace) 15 Bernie Slaven (Middlesbrough) 14 Bobby Barnes (Swindon Town) 14 David White (Manchester City) 14 Tony Cascarino (Millwall) 13 Ron Fletcher (Bradford City) 13 Ian Wright (Crystal Palace) 12 Steve Whitton (Birmingham City) 11 David Lowe (Ipswich Town) 11 Duncan Shearer (Huddersfield Town) 11 Tommy Tynan (Plymouth Argyle) 11 Imre Varadi (Manchester City) 10 Colin Gordon (Reading) 9 Warren Aspinall (Aston Villa) 9 John MacDonald (Barnsley) 9 Bob Taylor (Leeds United)

FIRST TEAM RECORD

Date	V	Opposition	F-A	Att.	Pos.
Aug 15	A	Ipswich Town	+1-1	14,580	—
Aug 22	H	Birmingham City	0-2	30,870	19
Aug 29	A	Hull City	1-2	8,315	22
Aug 31	H	Manchester City	1-1	16,282	20
Sept 5	A	Leicester City	2-0	10,286	16
Sept 8	H	Middlesbrough	0-1	12,665	17
Sept 12	H	Barnsley	0-0	12,621	19
Sept 16	A	West Bromwich Albion	2-0	22,072	16
Sept 19	A	Huddersfield Town	1-0	6,884	17
Sept 23	A	Middlesbrough (LC2-1L)	1-0	11,424	—
Sept 26	H	Sheffield United	1-1	14,761	10
Sept 30	H	Blackburn Rovers	1-1	11,772	9
Oct 3	A	Plymouth Argyle	3-1	10,515	8
Oct 7	H	Middlesbrough (LC2-2L)	1-0	11,702	—
Oct 10	A	Leeds United	+3-1	20,741	6
Oct 17	H	Bournemouth	1-1	15,145	7
Oct 21	H	Crystal Palace	4-1	12,755	5
Oct 24	A	Stoke City	0-0	13,494	4
Oct 28	H	Tottenham Hotspur (LC3)	2-1	29,114	—
Oct 31	H	Reading	2-1	13,413	—
Nov 3	A	Shrewsbury Town	2-1	7,089	2
Nov 7	H	Millwall	1-2	13,255	5
Nov 11	H	Bradford City (SC1)	0-5	4,217	—
Nov 14	A	Oldham Athletic	1-0	6,469	4
Nov 18	H	Sheffield Wednesday (LC4)	1-2	25,302	—
Nov 28	A	Bradford City	4-2	15,006	3
Dec 5	H	Swindon Town			
Dec 12	A	Birmingham City			
Dec 18	H	West Bromwich Albion			
Dec 26	A	Sheffield United			
Dec 28	H	Huddersfield Town			
Jan 1	H	Hull City			
Jan 2	A	Barnsley			
Jan 9		F.A. Cup (3)			
Jan 16	H	Ipswich Town			
Jan 23	A	Manchester City			
Jan 30		F.A. Cup (4)			
Feb 6	H	Leicester City			
Feb 13	A	Middlesbrough			
Feb 20	A	Blackburn Rovers (F.A. Cup 5)			
Feb 27	H	Plymouth Argyle			
Mar 5	A	Bournemouth			
Mar 12	H	Leeds United (F.A. Cup 6)			
Mar 19	A	Reading			
Mar 26	H	Stoke City			
Apr 2	A	Millwall			
Apr 4	H	Oldham Athletic			
Apr 9	A	Crystal Palace (F.A. Cup SF)			
Apr 23	H	Shrewsbury Town			
May 2	H	Bradford City			
May 7	A	Swindon Town			
May 14		F.A. Cup Final			

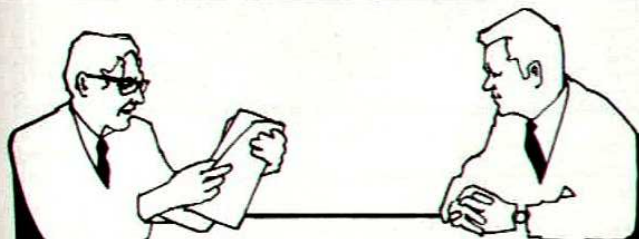
Home Fixtures in **Bold** +Own Goal () indicates Player Substituted

Centenary Snippets



1987-88 RESULTS · ATTENDANCES · APPEARANCES · GOALSCORERS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Sub	Sub
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Cooper	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	Stainrod	D Hunt	Walters	S Hunt	Burke
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Cooper	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	Stainrod	D Hunt	Walters	S Hunt(10)	Daley(9)
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Cooper	Sims	Keown	Daley	Aspinall	Stainrod	D Hunt	Walters	S Hunt	Burke(7)
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	D Hunt	Sims	Keown	Burke	Aspinall	Stainrod	S Hunt	Walters	Duffy	Turnbull
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	D Hunt	Sims	Keown	Burke	Allen	Lillis	S Hunt	Walters	Aspinall	Cooper
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	D Hunt	Sims	Keown	Burke	Allen	Lillis	S Hunt	Walters	Aspinall(7)	Cooper(4)
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Cooper	Sims	Keown	Birch	Allen	Lillis	S Hunt	Walters	Aspinall(8)	Burke
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Cooper	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	Lillis	S Hunt	Walters	Stainrod	Burke
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Cooper	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	Lillis	S Hunt	Walters	Burke	D Hunt(4)
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	D Hunt	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	Lillis	S Hunt	Walters	Burke	Stainrod
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	D Hunt	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	Lillis	Allen	Walters	Burke(10)	Stainrod
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	D Hunt	Walters	Shaw	Evans(9)
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	S Hunt	Walters	Shaw	Evans(9)
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	S Hunt	Walters	Shaw	Evans(8)
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	S Hunt	Walters	Shaw	D Hunt
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	S Hunt	Walters	Shaw(8)	D Hunt
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	D Hunt	S Hunt	Walters	Shaw	Blair
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	D Hunt	Walters	Shaw(8)	Blair
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	D Hunt	Walters	Shaw	Blair
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	D Hunt	Burke	Shaw	Blair(10)
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	Blair	Walters	Shaw	Burke
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	Blair	Walters	Shaw(10)	Burke
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	McInally	Birch	Shaw	Thompson	Blair	Walters	Aspinall	Burke(9)
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	Blair	Walters	Shaw	Thompson
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	Lillis	Sims	Keown	Birch	Aspinall	McInally	Blair	Thompson	Shaw	Evans
Spink	Gage	Gallacher	A Gray	Sims	Keown	McInally	Aspinall	Thompson	S Gray	Birch	Lillis	Evans



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BIRMINGHAM CITY v ASTON VILLA

Barclays League Division 2
St Andrews — 12 December 1987
k.o. 3.00 pm

This match is **NOT** all ticket — standing supporters must use the turnstiles situated in Tilton Road where admission is £3.00 (no reductions).

A small allocation of seating tickets, priced £6.00, will be on general sale after today's game.



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Installed with the help of a grant from the Football Trust. It is there to increase crowd safety and to help the police. Recording facilities enable film and photographs to be taken of disorder, which may subsequently be used in a court of law.

The Football Trust is funded entirely by the pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters from their Spotting-the-Ball competition.

Scorer's Name in **Bold** Superior Fig¹ indicates Number of Goals FAC=FA Cup LC=Littlewoods Cup SC=Simod Cup

On October 5th 1912, Harry Hampton scored five goals in Villa's 10-0 thrashing of Sheffield Wednesday to set the club record for the number of goals scored by any individual in a league match. Amazingly, this record was equalled just two later by Harry Halse against Derby. Since then, three other players have also equalled the record; Len Capewell (v Burnley, 25th August 1925), George Brown (v Leicester, 2nd January 1932) and Gerry Hitchens (v Charlton, 14th November 1959).

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ROVER 200 SERIES

ROUND UP

SCOTTISH CONNECTION

• For five years, Allan Evans and Ken McNaught formed one of the most successful defensive partnerships in Villa's history.

Now they have something else in common following big Ken's recent appointment as coach at Dunfermline Athletic — the Scottish Premier club who sold Allan to Villa for £30,000 in 1977.

Ken, who kept his home base in Knowle when he went to Sheffield United in 1985, was forced to retire last season because of a calf injury. He was out of football for a year before Dunfermline gave him a job which took him back to within 12 miles of his birthplace in Kirkcaldy.

YOUTH PROGRESS

• Goals by Carl Morris and Ian Olney — his 23rd of the season — eventually settled a three-match marathon with Peterborough United in the FA Youth Cup.

The Villa youngsters, beaten only twice in 18 games this season, travel to Crewe on Monday in the next round. It promises to be a difficult tie, because Crewe, though a Fourth Division club, are reckoned to have a youth set-up as good as many in the higher divisions.

Three other cup competitions are on the diary in the next month or so.

Charlton Athletic, runners-up in the FA Youth Cup last season, are our opponents at Selhurst Park in the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup on Monday 4th January, and next Saturday we are due to meet Notts County or Derby County in the second round of the Intermediate League Cup.

This match could be postponed if our opponents fail to settle their first-round replay. Meanwhile, a date has to be arranged for our home meeting with Birmingham City in the Midland Youth Cup.



CARL MORRIS — Scored in both replays with Peterborough

RESERVE SUCCESS

• After a month without a fixture, the Reserves registered their second win of the season by beating Sheffield Wednesday last week. Gary Shaw scored both goals, while Allan Evans and Simon Stainrod returned from injuries.

MATCH DETAILS...

Saturday 14th November 1987

Midland Intermediate League Cup — Round 1

ASTON VILLA 5 PETERBOROUGH UNITED 3

Scorers: Bennett, Duffy, Jones, Greene, Blake. Villa: Ward, Williams, Claxton, Bennett (sub: Mead 65), Turton, Duffy, Morris (sub: Brady), Jones, Greene, Blake, Parrott.

Monday 16th November 1987

FA Youth Cup — Round 1 Replay

ASTON VILLA 2 PETERBOROUGH UNITED 2

(after extra time)

Scorers: Morris, Jones.

Villa: Ward, Williams, Claxton, Bennett, Blake, Duffy, Mead (sub: Jones 90), Greene (sub: Brady 90), Olney, Morris, Parrott.

Monday 23rd November 1987

FA Youth Cup — Round 1 Second Replay

PETERBOROUGH UNITED 0 ASTON VILLA 2

Scorers: Morris, Olney.

Villa: Dudley, Williams, Claxton, Bennett, Blake, Duffy, Morris, Jones, Olney, Brady, Parrott. Subs (not used): Mead, Wile.

Wednesday 25th November 1987

Central League

ASTON VILLA 2 SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY 0

Scorer: Shaw (2).

Villa: Butler, Pearson, Cooper (R), Blair, Evans, Blake, Murphy (sub: Olney 75), Shaw, Thompson, Stainrod, Burke. Sub (not used): Duffy.

INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE

Youth Section

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leicester	14	9	4	1	32	14	31
Derby	14	9	1	4	49	20	28
Nottm Forest	13	8	2	3	38	27	26
Birmingham	12	7	3	2	24	9	24
Mansfield	12	7	2	3	24	17	23
Notts County	14	6	3	5	27	26	21
Aston Villa	12	5	5	2	35	23	20
WB Albion	12	5	1	6	25	24	16
Coventry	14	4	4	6	17	18	16
Stoke	13	4	2	7	13	22	14
Wolves	12	2	4	6	20	24	10
Port Vale	13	2	4	7	17	35	10
Peterborough	10	2	3	5	18	31	9
Walsall	12	2	3	7	19	42	9
Chesterfield	12	1	1	10	8	45	4

(Up to and including Saturday 28th November 1987)

YOUTH APPEARANCES

	A	G		A	G
Bennett	18	6	Morris	18	4
Blake	17	2	Olney	17	23
Brady	16(2)	2	Parrott	11(4)	1
Claxton	18	—	Richardson	—(1)	—
Dudley	3	—	Robb	—(1)	—
Duffy	9(1)	1	Turton	2	—
Greene	8(4)	5	Ward	15	—
Heath	2	—	Wile	3(5)	—
Jones	11(6)	7	Williams	13(1)	2
Machin	1	—	Yates	—(1)	—
Mead	16(1)	2	Own Goal	—	1

Includes League, League Cup, SJFC and FAYC, up to and including Saturday 28 November 1987

CENTRAL LEAGUE 1987-88

Aug 18	A	Manchester City	2 - 3
Aug 26	H	Hull City	1 - 2
Sep 2	H	Sheffield United	1 - 3
Sep 9	A	Everton	0 - 5
Sep 17	H	Leicester City	3 - 1
Sep 23	A	Huddersfield Town	2 - 3
Oct 6	A	Sunderland	0 - 0
Oct 14	H	Liverpool	0 - 4
Oct 29	A	Coventry City	2 - 2
Nov 25	H	Sheffield Wednesday	2 - 0
Dec 1	A	Manchester United	
Dec 9	H	Grimsby Town	
Dec 16	A	Nottingham Forest	
Jan 6	H	Bradford City	
Jan 13	A	Hull City	
Jan 20	H	Manchester City	
Jan 27	H	Everton	
Feb 3	A	Sheffield United	
Feb 10	H	Huddersfield Town	
Feb 15	A	Leicester City	
Feb 23	A	Liverpool	
Mar 2	H	Sunderland	
Mar 8	A	Leeds United	
Mar 16	H	Coventry City	
Mar 22	A	Blackpool	
Mar 30	H	Derby County	
Apr 5	A	Sheffield Wednesday	
Apr 12	A	Bradford City	
Apr 19	A	Grimsby Town	
Apr 27	H	Nottingham Forest	
May 4	H	Manchester United	
TBA	H	Leeds United	
TBA	A	Derby County	
TBA	H	Blackpool	

INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE 1987-88

Aug 15	A	Birmingham City	0 - 0
Aug 22	H	Chesterfield	10 - 0
Aug 29	A	Coventry City	2 - 1
Sep 5	H	Derby County	3 - 3
Sep 7	A	Bristol City (SJFC 1)	5 - 2
Sep 12	A	Leicester City	1 - 1
Sep 26	A	Notts County	0 - 3
Oct 3	H	Nottingham Forest	5 - 3
Oct 10	A	Peterborough United	3 - 3
Oct 17	H	Port Vale	5 - 3
Oct 24	A	Stoke City	1 - 4
Oct 31	H	Walsall	2 - 2
Nov 2	H	Reading (SJFC 2)	6 - 1
Nov 7	A	West Bromwich Albion	3 - 0
Nov 9	A	Peterborough Utd (FAYC 1)	1 - 1
Nov 14	H	Peterborough Utd (LC1)	5 - 3
Nov 16	H	Peterborough Utd (FAYC) 1R 2	2 - 2
Nov 23	A	Peterborough Utd (FAYC) 1R 2	0 - 0
Dec 5	H	Birmingham City	
Dec 7	A	Crewe Alex. (FAYC 2)	
Dec 12	A	Notts C./Derby (LC2)	
Jan 2	A	Chesterfield	
Jan 4	A	Charlton Ath. (SJFC) 3	
Jan 9	H	Wolverhampton W	
Jan 16	H	Coventry City	
Jan 23	A	Derby County	
Jan 30	H	Leicester City	
Feb 6	A	Mansfield Town	
Feb 20	H	Notts County	
Feb 27	A	Nottingham Forest	
Mar 5	H	Peterborough Utd	
Mar 12	A	Port Vale	
Mar 19	H	Stoke City	
Mar 26	A	Walsall	
Apr 2	H	West Bromwich Albion	
Apr 9	A	Wolverhampton W	
TBA	H	Mansfield Town	
TBA	H	Birmingham City (MYC)	

LC = Midland Intermediate League Cup

SJFC = Southern Junior Floodlit Cup

FAYC = FA Youth Cup

MYC = Midland Youth Cup

SCENE ON 2

● Sheffield United did not expect to see Peter Withe again after his two-month loan with Birmingham City. But the proposed transfer fell through and The Blades welcomed him back — with two goals in their first win in eight games.

"Peter is the ideal player for us at the moment," said manager Billy McEwan. "He has been through it all before and our youngsters will benefit from playing with him."

Though United seemed keen on extending Withe's career at Bramall Lane, the position was by no means certain because the former Villa man was among the contenders for the management vacancy at Shrewsbury Town, who parted company with Chic Bates after his 14 years' service as player, coach and manager.

Meanwhile, Sheffield United took Dutch goalkeeper Hans Segers on loan from Nottingham Forest and collected a reported £40,000 from defender Jeff Eckhardt's transfer to Third Division Fulham.

● Oldham Athletic, surprise strugglers after their promotion near-miss last season, lost the services of 36-year-old player-coach Willie Donachie with a cracked cheekbone. Manager Joe Royle promptly went to one of Donachie's former clubs, Manchester City, to pay £35,000 for 20-year-old full back Earl Barrett.

● Huddersfield Town, recovering quickly from their 10-1 mauling by Manchester City, laid on a perfect welcome for their new assistant manager — former Eire team boss Eoin Hand. He was at Bournemouth to see their first away win of the season.

Home boss Harry Redknapp was far from happy with a performance that left The Cherries close to the danger area. A mid-season break in the Canary Islands failed to re-charge the batteries and it was a disappointing day for 21-year-old American Brent Goulet, who made his League debut as substitute.

● Former Villa striker John Deehan popped up as substitute for Ipswich Town in several games last month after being out of football for six months with a knee injury.

● Leeds United, who failed to clinch deals for Portsmouth's Ian Baird and Sporting Lisbon's Raphael Meade, were third time lucky when Bobby Davison scored on his debut after a £350,000 transfer from Derby. The 28-year-old notched 102 goals for The Rams and was their top scorer in each of the last four seasons.

● Reading, in the money after selling Trevor Senior to Watford for £325,000 in July, took their spending beyond half-a-million pounds by paying £250,000 for Leicester's former England Under-21 forward, Steve Moran. Manager Ian Branfoot then put seven players up for sale, including Dean Horrix, a goal-scorer at Villa Park in October, and Paul Franklin, the former Watford defender.

● Steve Staunton, an 18-year-old left back who joined Liverpool from Dundalk last season, was loaned out for a month to assist Bradford City in their promotion bid. The young Irishman was also able to help City through to the last eight in the Littlewoods Cup. Liverpool allowed him to become cup-tied because of their unusually early exit from the competition.

● Alan Pardow, a £7,000 signing from Yeovil last season, made his League debut for Crystal Palace as replacement for Villa newcomer Andy Gray, but the money received for Gray was soon spent on Southend captain Glenn Pennyfather, who was previously a target for Plymouth. Palace also agreed to pay a small fee for Farnborough striker Dennis Bailey.

● Ally Mauchlen, a £250,000 recruit from Motherwell two years ago, went on the transfer list at Leicester, while Huddersfield set up a £25,000 deal for Brighton's former Chelsea full back, Chris Hutchings.

● Millwall's Republic of Ireland striker, Tony Cascarino, couldn't stop scoring in November. He was on target for five matches in a row and bagged eight goals in all with the help of a hat-trick against Leeds.



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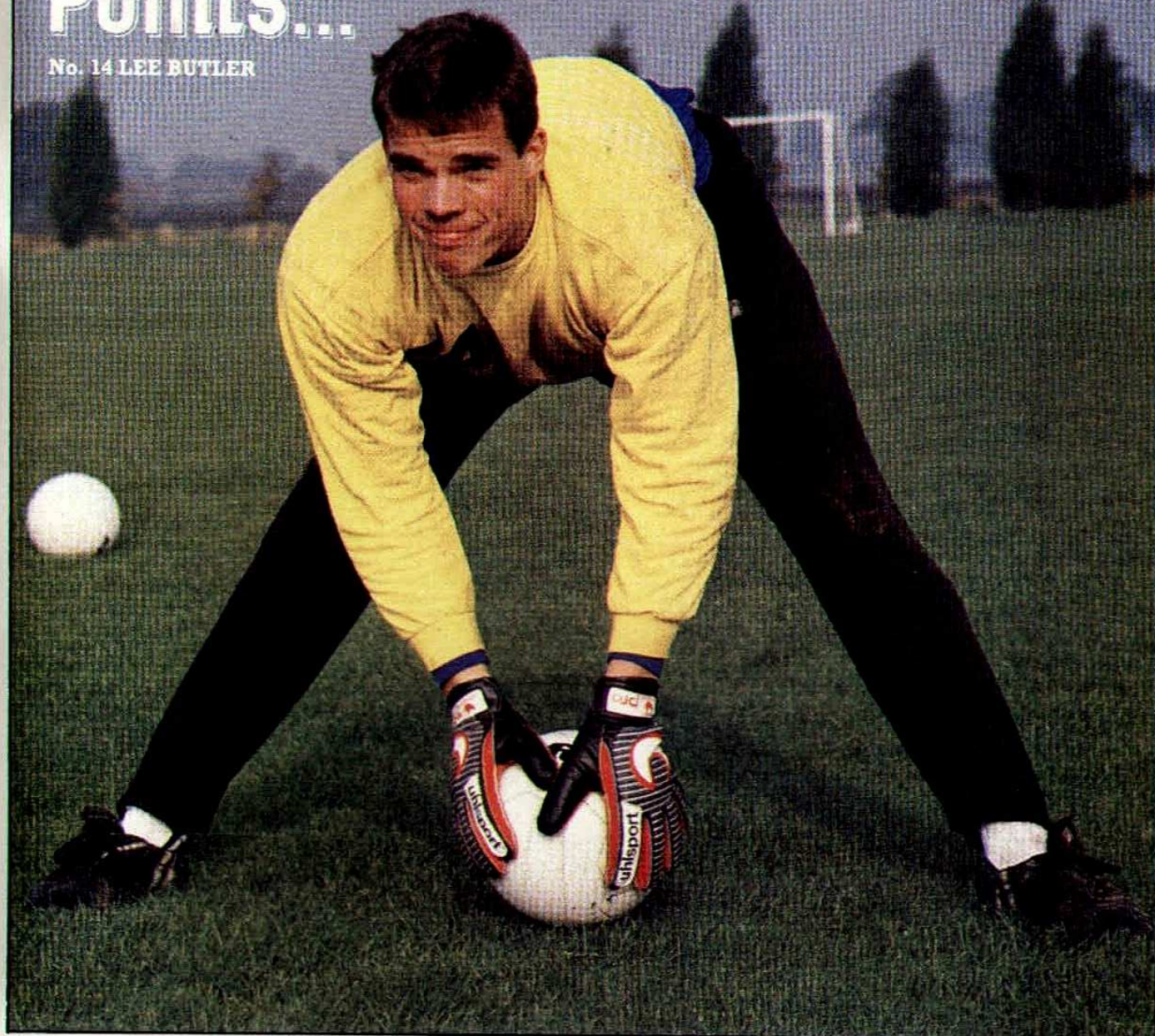
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COURAGE

Personal Points...

No. 14 LEE BUTLER



Full name: Lee Simon Butler.

Birthplace and date: Sheffield on 30.5.66.

Married: No.

Honours: None as yet.

Favourite away ground: Brisbane Road (Leyton Orient).

Favourite player: Peter Shilton, because of his dedication to the game.

Most memorable match: Debut for Lincoln City.

Biggest disappointment: Relegation with Lincoln last season.

Best save you've made: Against Scunthorpe for Lincoln last season.

Best save you've seen: Peter Shilton from Kenny Dalglish in an England v Scotland match.

Your British Select XI: Nigel Spink, Viv Anderson, Kenny Sansom, Kevin Ratcliffe, Willie Miller, Chris Waddle, Bryan Robson. Steve Hunt. Mark

Walters, Peter Beardsley, John Aldridge.

Favourite other sports: Cricket, squash, snooker and swimming.

Favourite other sports personality: Geoff Boycott.

Your best sporting moment outside football: Scoring four 'fours' on the trot for Handsworth (Sheffield) Cricket Club.

Matchfacts

ASTON VILLA v SWINDON TOWN

NIGEL SPINK	1	TIM FLOWERS
KEVIN GAGE	2	DAVE HOCKADAY
BERNIE GALLACHER	3	PHIL KING
ANDY GRAY	4	KIERAN O'REGAN
STEVE SIMS	5	JON GITTENS
MARTIN KEOWN	6	COLIN CALDERWOOD
ALAN McINALLY	7	BOBBY BARNES
WARREN ASPINALL	8	DAVE BAMBER
GARRY THOMPSON	9	JIMMY QUINN
STUART GRAY	10	STEVE FOLEY
PAUL BIRCH	11	STEVE WHITE
	12	
	13	

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Mr P L Foakes
Linesmen: Mr J T Hayward (Red trim)
 Mr L L Watson (Yellow trim)
 Peter Foakes, a schoolteacher from Clacton-on-Sea, is in his first year as a Football League referee. His hobbies include cricket, rugby union and american football.

NEW ASTON VILLA STRIP

BY

hummel

FOOTBALL AT VILLA PARK

Wednesday 9th December,
 7.00 pm
 Central League Division One
ASTON VILLA RESERVES v GRIMSBY TOWN RESERVES

Friday 18th December,
 7.30 pm
 Barclays League Division Two
ASTON VILLA v WEST BROMWICH ALBION

MATCH MASCOT

This afternoon's Villa mascot is eleven year old Carl Hillstead from Castle Bromwich. Carl attends Parkhall Comprehensive School and his hobbies include football, swimming, cricket and cross country running. His favourite player is Martin Keown.



VILLA VOUCHER
Number 15

Aston Villa v.
 Swindon
 5.12.1987



TODAY'S SCORECHECK

Barclays League Division One

Arsenal v Sheff Wed
 Charlton v Everton
 Derby v Watford
 Liverpool v Chelsea
 Luton v Norwich
 Oxford v Newcastle
 Portsmouth v Coventry
 QPR v Manchester United
 West Ham v Southampton
 Wimbledon v Nottm Forest

Division Two

Bournemouth v Oldham
 Barnsley v WBA
 Blackburn v Millwall
 Hull City v Reading
 Ipswich v Bradford
 Leeds v Birmingham
 Leicester v Middlesbrough
 Man City v C Palace
 Plymouth v Shrewsbury
 Sheff Utd v Huddersfield

FA Cup Second Round

Gillingham v Walsall
 Maidstone v Kidderminster
 VS Rugby v Bristol Rovers
 Wigan v Wolves

BACK ISSUES

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