

EDITORIAL

Anyone reading the day by day diary of last November could be forgiven for thinking that the professional game in this country had decided to devote itself to an all out 'kamakasi' course of self destruction. Reading the daily football disasters; of discrepancies of club funds, rows between players and managers, deception between chairmen and managers, club to club arguing, take over 'coups', record total of dismissals, organised gangs of thugs in the stands, and clubs in terrible debt, it was, to say the least, very sad for all who dearly loved the game.

We had started the season with a new interpretation of the laws which discouraged defenders from deliberately cheating, with body checks, trips and handball. This should have given spectators and the game in general a tremendous boost. Forwards could now push a ball past, or chip a ball over defenders and rely on skill and pace to triumph. Well, that was the idea, as John Barnes, Mark Chamberlain and Paul Walsh tore into defences in a spectacular start to the season. However, we read more about massive totals of dismissals and complaining managers than we did about the extra goals, entertainment, and the emphasis on quality and skill. It appeared that legal defensive play was a forgotten art which had to be re-learned, but as pressure was put on referees to 'ease off', the game tended to lose that glorious free expression we enjoyed in those early weeks.

Perhaps the next degrading and boring aspect of the game to be eliminated should be kicking the ball away after committing an infringement. If this unpleasantness were to be outlawed it would surely help the game to stand comparison with other spectator sports. There is nothing wrong with the game itself however, and last season, despite the unsavoury aspects already mentioned, football proved itself bigger than these problems and gave us plenty of wonderful memories. Huge crowds poured back over the Christmas holiday period and many clubs produced some outstanding entertainment. The sheer attacking brilliance, in completely different styles, of Liverpool (with Kenny Dalglish supreme), Watford and Luton Town in particular was also matched at times by practically all the First Division clubs, with the quality of many goals proving quite breathtaking.

All the good aspects of British professional football were seen by massive world wide T.V. audiences at the Milk and F.A. Cup Final matches. The drama, pace and skill enjoyed in a refreshingly happy atmosphere was really displaying our game at its best. There is no doubt that a successful Manchester United 'lifts' the domestic competitions and they certainly made a great contribution to the season. The emotional departure of Bob Paisley was also a reassuring reminder that great managers do not have to be constantly hitting the controversial headlines; a good job can still be done with the minimum of fuss and publicity.

There were lesser-known success stories, however, which proved that the fans are still about; more discerning perhaps, but still wanting to be attracted back to support worthwhile football at their local grounds. The excitement and rejoicing at Wolverhampton, Leicester, Portsmouth, Huddersfield, Cardiff and Hull, where comparatively recent gloom had been lifted, was most moving, and the sheer joy showed by local inhabitants at their club's promotion celebrations proved their pride in 'their town' clubs.

Aberdeen showed the whole of Britain how a club can be deliberately built into a disciplined, well-organised and successful organisation both on and off the field. They have also proved that by treating their supporters with respect, they in turn are rewarded by loyal, enthusiastic and well-behaved followers. England's team under Bobby Robson started quietly, developed into a very promising outfit and then through unfortunate circumstances proved once again that no-one will be attracted to the sport at any level if matches, like those in Australia are played by players appearing to lack the enthusiasm and technique to display the game at its best.

With wages and transfer fees more realistic, more footballers realising that only the completely dedicated will stay in the game, and outside The Football League there are more players playing the game than ever before, the sport has surely weathered the worst of the storm. Clubs have been forced to face life more realistically and the coming season could see a new refreshing attitude to attract the supporters who still yearn for the game to be played in a sporting, uninhibited and exciting fashion, in a happy and relaxed atmosphere.

TONY WILLIAMS

Rothmans Football Awards 1970-1982

For the first five years of publication The Rothmans Football Yearbook presented awards to a British 'Golden Boots XI'. All these awards were of course based on the previous season's form and were selected by a panel of leading journalists.

It's interesting to note that the first three 'sides' were selected in 4-2-4 formation and that only Billy Bremner held his place for all five seasons.

David Hay, originally selected at Right Back in the first 'team' made an impressive comeback in mid-field four years later, and the 'Young Players of the Year' all lived up to their original promise by winning a number of 'full' caps for England between them.

When the awards were changed to six

special presentations, some interesting names appeared; Dickie Guy for his heroic penalty save for Wimbledon in their 0-0 F.A. Cup draw at Leeds; Geoffrey Green for all the pleasure his writing brought us through 'The Times' and for his eloquence on the radio; Liverpool became the first club to win an award and then Billericay Town followed them as the first club from outside The Football League; then last season Corinthian Casuals won an award in their centenary year for their success despite a pure amateur policy.

No doubt in another fourteen years it will be equally interesting to look back and see which personalities and teams hold these coveted awards.

Rothmans Golden Boot Awards

1970-71 Book (4-2-4)

Gordon Banks (Stoke C); **David Hay** (Celtic), **Mike England** (Tottenham H), **Bobby Moore** (West Ham U), **Terry Cooper** (Leeds U); **Billy Bremner** (Leeds U), **Alan Ball** (Everton); **Jimmy Johnstone** (Celtic), **Ron Davies** (Southampton), **Geoff Hurst** (West Ham U), **George Best** (Manchester U).

1971-72 Book (4-2-4)

Gordon Banks (Stoke C); **Chris Lawler** (Liverpool), **Frank McLintock** (Arsenal), **Bobby Moore** (West Ham U), **Terry Cooper** (Leeds U); **Billy Bremner** (Leeds U), **Martin Peters** (Tottenham H); **George Best** (Manchester U), **Martin Chivers** (Tottenham H), **Ron Davies** (Southampton), **Francis Lee** (Manchester C). *Substitute: Peter Storey* (Arsenal). *Young Player of the Year: Ray Kennedy* (Arsenal).

1972-73 Yearbook (4-2-4)

Gordon Banks (Stoke C); **Paul Madeley** (Leeds U), **Roy McFarland** (Derby Co), **Bobby Moore** (West Ham U), **Terry Cooper** (Leeds U); **Billy Bremner** (Leeds U), **Johnny Giles** (Leeds U); **Jimmy Johnstone** (Celtic), **Martin Chivers** (Tottenham H), **Francis Lee** (Manchester C), **Eddie Gray** (Leeds U). *Substitute: Peter Simpson* (Arsenal). *Young Player of the Year: Kevin Keegan* (Liverpool).

1973-74 Yearbook (4-3-3)

Pat Jennings (Tottenham H); **Paul Madeley** (Leeds U), **Bobby Moore** (West Ham U), **Roy McFarland** (Derby Co), **Emlyn Hughes** (Liverpool); **Billy Bremner** (Leeds U), **Alan Ball** (Arsenal), **Johnny Giles** (Leeds U); **Peter Lorimer** (Leeds U), **Mick Channon** (Southampton), **Allan Clarke** (Leeds U). *Substitute: Colin Todd* (Derby Co). *Young Player of the Year: John Richards* (Wolverhampton W).

1974-75 Yearbook (4-3-3)

Pat Jennings (Tottenham H); **Paul Madeley** (Leeds U), **Roy McFarland** (Derby Co), **Norman Hunter** (Leeds U), **Alec Lindsay** (Liverpool); **Billy Bremner** (Leeds U), **Emlyn Hughes** (Liverpool), **David Hay** (Celtic); **Kevin Keegan** (Liverpool), **Mick Channon** (Southampton), **Tommy Hutchinson** (Coventry C). *Substitute: Colin Todd* (Derby Co). *Young Player of the Year: Kevin Beattie* (Ipswich T).

1975 **Alan Mullery** (Fulham), **Alan Taylor** (West Ham U), **Mike Smith** (Manager, Wales), **Dickie Guy** (Wimbledon), **Colin Todd** (Derby Co), **'Dixie' McNeil** (Hereford U).
1976 **Emlyn Hughes** (Liverpool), **Geoffrey Green** (Times Football Correspondent), **Don Masson** (Q.P.R.), **Alex Stepney** (Manchester U), **Terry Paine** (Hereford U), **Mick Channon** (Southampton).

1977 **Liverpool F.C.**, **Martin Buchan** (Manchester U), **Peter Ward** (Brighton & HA), **Danny McGrain** (Celtic), **Jack Taylor** (F.I.F.A. Referee), **Laurie Cunningham** (W.B.A.).
1978 **Kenny Dalglish** (Liverpool), **Bob Latchford** (Everton), **John McGovern** (Nottingham F), **Bobby Robson** (Ipswich T, Manager), **John Greig** (Rangers), **Billericay Town F.C.**

1979 **Liam Brady** (Arsenal), **Ray Clemence** (Liverpool), **Brian Clough** (Manager, Nottingham F), **Ross Jenkins** (Watford), **Danny McGrain** (Celtic), **John Toshack** (Player/Manager, Swansea C).

1980 **Bobby Clark** (Aberdeen), **Harlow Town F.C.**, **Huddersfield Town F.C.**, **David Johnson** (Liverpool), **John Robertson** (Nottingham F), **Dave Watson** (Southampton).

1981 **John Bond** (Manager, Manchester C), **Enfield F.C.**, **Tony Kellow** (Exeter C), **Jim Mclean** (Manager, Dundee U), **Mick Mills** (Ipswich T), **Bryan Robson** (W.B.A.).

1982 **Keith Burkenshaw** (Manager, Tottenham H), **Billy McNeill** (Manager, Celtic), **Corinthian Casuals F.C.**, **Aston Villa F.C.**, **Keith Edwards** (Sheffield U), **Graeme Souness** (Liverpool).

Rothmans Football Awards 1983

ABERDEEN FOOTBALL CLUB. To win a European trophy deserves recognition in itself, but to win the European Cup-Winners' Cup with such style, backed by an administrative department known to be second to none and supporters whose good behaviour made them the pride of Scotland, adds up to a superb all-round club performance. One impressive novelty to be admired in Alec Ferguson's side is the way he and his staff have harnessed the natural Scottish aggression and talent to disciplined teamwork. But all aspects of the club are thought out, even the inside of the roofs covering the all-seater stadium have been painted in light colours to give the impression of cheerfulness. Yes, the sun shines all the time at Pittodrie these days, and where is it more deserved?

DEREK DOUGAN. The name of Wolverhampton Wanderers was only a minute away from being taken off The Football League's membership list last summer. In stepped Derek Dougan, an ex-Wolves player, who in his time had upset a few people in the game with his articulate outspokenness. This time he put money and action where his mouth was and has followed through to lead his beloved Wolves back to the First Division through his own brand of leadership by example and shrewd selection of club staff. Last season saw Wolves provide the League with one of its special fairy stories and other struggling clubs with the inspiration to get their house in order.

CHARLIE NICHOLAS. The amazing flow of exciting football talent that finds its way out of Scotland and into the Football League must be resented by those who watch the game North of the border. He has followed his idol, Kenny Dalglish, into the Celtic and Scotland sides and now he will be competing against him for Arsenal in the First Division. Charlie may take time to settle in strange surroundings, but anyone capable of scoring the type of goal he registered as his first for Scotland, on his debut against Switzerland, must be a success at any level of football.

SHREWSBURY TOWN. At a time when most small town clubs are pleading poverty and complaining about the recession, little Shrewsbury Town Football Club not only held their own in Division Two but hovered on the fringe of the promotion race and finally finished in their best ever position in the Football League. Graham Turner has enjoyed his 'giant killing' feats with 'The Town' during the last few seasons but last season, through a sensible wage structure, wise manipulation of the transfer market and a sound youth policy he and the directors of the club proved the perfect example to the rest of football. Successful, happy, 'little' clubs can still enjoy their role in the Football League, if their housekeeping is orderly and the right characters are at the helm.

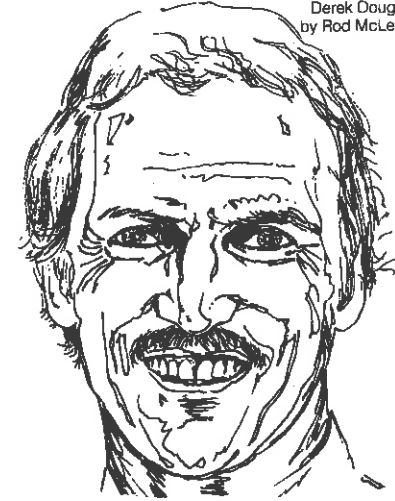
GRAHAM TAYLOR. Another perfect example of 'team work' off the field and on it, has seen Watford leap from the Fourth Division to runners-up position in Division One. A storybook rise, but one that is hardly surprising when you see the quality of the men looking after their Chairman's generous backing. Eddie Plumley, their Chief Executive, adviser Bertie Mee and the man who is responsible for achieving the necessary results to reward all the back room hard work, Graham Taylor. The club's popular team manager is a very intelligent, articulate and sensible personality who gives the image of football managers a much appreciated boost every time he is quoted or interviewed.

TOMMY TYNAN (Newport County). Following Tony Kellow and Keith Edwards, another experienced professional who has never played in the First Division, Tommy Tynan of Newport County, scored more goals than anyone else and has been chosen to win an Award. He has always given value for money with an all-action style that has brought him goals for Swansea (loan), Sheffield Wednesday, Lincoln City and Newport County. Having had the disappointment of not making the grade at his home town club of Liverpool, his success last season in a very good Newport side and this award may well inspire him to help in a promotion run in the coming season.

MILESTONES DIARY 1982-83

August 1982

- 1 Arsenal leave for a pre-season tournament in West Germany and reveal that **Pat Jennings** and **Graham Rix** had been granted weekly contracts.
- 2 **Brian Winston**, Orient chairman, resigns. **Neville Ovendon** - a former Director is reappointed to the board. Notts County's proposal to play West Ham United on Sunday, December 19th is voted down by the Hammers' players. **Gordon Milne** appointed manager of Leicester City and warns of the drastic pruning that will be necessary because the club is over-staffed. **Ian Greaves** states he will probably have to apply for his own job as manager of Wolves now that a company headed by **Derek Dougan** has taken over. **Dougan** announces plans to make Molyneux a multi-faction sports complex and appoints a former Aston Villa commercial manager - **Eric Woodward** - as general manager.
- 3 Aldershot 1 Manchester United 3 is the result of a friendly to raise money for the South Atlantic fund. **Billy Steel**, 30 Scottish Caps and once the costliest player in Britain, dies in the USA at the age of 59.
- 4 **Colin Todd** agrees to leave Birmingham City and join Nottingham Forest. **Peter Barnes** agrees a one year contract with Spanish First Division club Real Betis. Leeds United will receive £110,000 plus further £170,000 should Real keep him for a further two years. **Jim Bailey** leaves Middlesbrough for Sheffield Wednesday in a £100,000 deal - substantially less than Boro's original valuation. **Malcolm Allison** who led Sporting Lisbon to a League and Cup double in his first season with them is suspended by the club. After a meeting with **Derek Dougan**, **Ian Greaves** leaves Wolves. Home Office denies blocking or delaying **Ricky Villa's** return to White Hart Lane after he had spent the summer in his native Argentina.
- 5 Former defender **Graham Hawkins** (36) succeeds Ian Greaves as Manager at Wolves.
- 6 **Jack Taylor** - former world cup referee - loses his post as commercial manager.
- 7 Liverpool and Shrewsbury Town swap goalkeepers **Steve Ogrizovic** and **Bob Wardle**. Yugoslav FA block move of **Vladimir Petrovic** from Red Star to Arsenal. **Peter Barnes** opts to remain with Leeds United and turns down the move to Real Betis.
- 8 Manchester United and Glasgow Rangers are reported to be well advanced with plans for a pools amalgamation. Ranganam Promotions Ltd set up to organise fund raising on a national basis. Another 'U' turn from **Peter Barnes** who decided to join Real Betis after all. Nottingham Forest lose 1-3 in Spain to Atletico Bilbao in a 'friendly' and have **Fashanu** and **Robertson** sent off.
- 9 Sporting Lisbon announce the dropping of all disciplinary proceedings against **Malcolm Allison**. Ipswich Town protest to Colchester United over their signing of **Kevin Beattie** as player-coach. Ipswich Town had previously paid up his contract and staged a testimonial for him when he retired from the game because of a knee injury. **Gary Mabbutt** - £150,000 signing from Bristol Rovers - scores the only goal, after 60 seconds, for Spurs in a challenge match with Scottish League Cup winners Rangers at Ibrox. European XI 3 Rest of the World XI 2 in a FIFA all star match in the Giants Stadium, New Jersey.
- 10 Arsenal Manager, **Terry Neill**, discusses **Petrovic** transfer impasse with the Yugoslavian Ambassador but FA President **Thomas Thomasovic** is adamant that the player will not be allowed to move until January. **David Johnson** agrees to re-join his original club - Everton.
- 11 **David Hodgson** (22) joins Liverpool from Middlesbrough. Stoke City Manager **Richie Barker** bans **Chapman**, **Dodd** and **McManus** who have all refused new contracts and



Derek Dougan
by Rod McLeod