

FOCUS

on our

VISITORS

FEW clubs, on reaching or returning to the First Division, have made such a flying start as Sheffield United did this season. In celebration of their promotion as Second Division runners-up, they told the football world that, after three years, they were back in the top division to stay, streaking away unbeaten in the first ten matches—eight wins and two draws.

So, when they beat us 1-0 (scorer Stewart Scullion) at Bramall Lane in that tenth game, United topped the Championship table by three points. Then came four defeats in a row to dislodge them, and although John Harris's men have been unable to maintain their early-season consistency, they will be able to look back on a most satisfactory first year back in Division I.

Sheffield United have been successful on two of their three League visits to London, beating Arsenal (whom they also knocked out of the League Cup) and West Ham, but they have since suffered their two heaviest defeats of the season against London opponents, by 0-5 against Arsenal in Sheffield and 1-5 at Crystal Palace.

THEIR PLAYERS

JOHN HOPE: Joined United from Newcastle in January 1971 in an exchange deal involving John Tudor. Has succeeded long-serving Alan Hodgkinson and been in the England Under-23 squad this season. Born Shildon. 6 ft., 11 st. 7 lb.

LEN BADGER: Was capped 13 times as England Under-23 right-back and captained United before Eddie Colquhoun. Made League debut in Div. I against Leyton Orient in April 1963 and is now nearing 300 League appearances. Born Sheffield. 5 ft. 7½ in., 10 st. 8 lb.

TED HEMSLEY: Full-back previously with Shrewsbury Town, from whom he joined United in August 1968, and a regular in last season's promotion-winning side. Also plays cricket for Worcestershire. Born Stoke. 5 ft 8½ in., 11 st. 5 lb.

IAN MACKENZIE: Joined United as an amateur, turning professional at 17. Made only one senior appearance before this season but has now established a regular place. Born Rotherham. 5 ft. 11¾ in., 10 st. 9½ lb.

EDDIE COLQUHOUN: Club captain and centre-half, he gained his first full Scottish honours this season against Portugal and Holland. Originally with Bury, he joined United from W.B.A. in October 1968 for £30,000. Born Prestonpans. 6 ft., 12 st. 2 lb.

MICHAEL SPEIGHT: Young midfielder player recently introduced into the side in place of the injured Trevor Hockey. His debut came against Man. City in February. Born Upton. 5 ft. 9½ in., 11 st. 2½ lb.

ALAN WOODWARD: United's top scorer for the past three seasons and with 20 first-team goals their leading marksman again this term. Is one of the game's ace penalty takers and has made more than 250 first-team appearances. Born Sheffield. 5 ft. 8½ in., 11 st. 8½ lb.

GEOFF SALMONS: Skilful midfield player or forward who progressed to the senior team via United's juniors and reserves. Made his League debut against W.B.A. in September 1967. Born Mexborough. 5 ft. 10¾ in., 11 st. 10½ lb.

BILL DEARDEN: A bargain £10,000 signing from Chester in April 1970, he has proved a fine marksman in his two seasons at Bramall Lane. Also had spells with Oldham, with whom he turned professional at 20, and Crewe. Born Oldham. 5 ft. 10 in., 10 st. 13 lb.

TONY CURRIE: This powerfully-built England Under-23 star (six caps) played briefly for Chelsea and Q.P.R. as a junior, then signed professional for Watford. In February 1968 was transferred to United for £27,000—one of a number of bargain signings made by manager John Harris. Born Edgware. 5 ft. 10½ in., 12 st. 5½ lb.

STEWART SCULLION: Fast, strong-running winger and another former Watford forward. Began his career with Charlton but made 248 appearances for Watford before his £30,000 transfer to Sheff. United in May 1971. Born Boness. 5 ft. 7½ in., 10 st. 6 lb.

DAVID FORD: Joined United from Newcastle in January 1971. Originally with Sheffield Wednesday, so is one of comparatively few players to have served both Sheffield clubs. Born Sheffield. 5 ft. 7 in., 10 st. 7 lb.

Club Address:
Bramall Lane,
Sheffield



OFFICIALS

Chairman: MR. DICK WRAGG.
Secretary: MR. ARNOLD NEWTON.
Manager: MR. JOHN HARRIS.
Assistant-Manager: MR. JOHN SHORT.
Trainer: MR. CECIL COLDWELL.
Captain: EDDIE COLQUHOUN

HONOURS

Football League Champions 1898.
Second Division Champions 1953.
F.A. Cup Winners 1899, 1902, 1915, 1925.