

FOCUS

on our

VISITORS

SOUTHAMPTON'S present position of halfway in the First Division table has been held despite the absence of one of their most formidable forwards, Welsh International Ron Davies. Since a pre-season match he has been plagued by a worrying ankle injury, and his absence has left Mike Channon as the club's principal marksman.

Three weeks ago Southampton suffered a further serious injury blow when Hugh Fisher, their Scottish midfield player, broke a leg against Arsenal.

Outside the League, the Saints went out of the League Cup by the only goal at Liverpool after beating the other Merseyside club, Everton, in the previous round, and their European hopes were dashed in the first round of the U.E.F.A. (formerly Fairs) Cup, in which the Spanish club Atletico Bilbao beat them 3-2 on aggregate.

THEIR PLAYERS

ERIC MARTIN: Now well-established as Southampton's first-choice 'keeper, he was signed from Dunfermline in March 1967 for £25,000. Developed in Scottish Youth and Junior soccer and was absent from only one League match last season. Born Perth. 5 ft. 11 in., 11 st. 10 lb.

JOE KIRKUP: This former Chelsea full-back left us for Southampton in February, 1968, in the deal that brought David Webb from The Dell to Stamford Bridge. Began career with West Ham, with whom he gained a European Cup-Winners' Cup medal and three England Under-23 caps. Born Sunderland. 5 ft. 11 in., 12 st. 1 lb.

ROGER FRY: 23 year-old full-back who was given his big chance after progressing through the Saints' junior and youth sides. Made his League debut late last season against Crystal Palace. Born Southampton. 5 ft. 10 in., 11 st. 6½ lb.

BOBBY STOKES: Former England Youth International forward, signed professional from apprentice in February 1968. Scored twice on his League debut against Burnley at Easter 1969. Born Portsmouth. 5 ft. 7 in., 10 st. 2 lb.

JOHN McGRATH: Powerful centre-half previously with Bury and Newcastle (with whom he gained an England Under-23 cap in season 1960-61). Joined Saints at £30,000 fee in February 1968, and has made more than 150 League appearances for them. Born Manchester. 6 ft., 12 st. 7 lb.

DAVID WALKER: Signed from Burnley in season 1964-65, he was a member of the Southampton team that won promotion from Division II the following year. A consistent member of the first-team. Born Colne. 5 ft. 11½ in., 11 st. 13 lb.

TERRY PAINE: Southampton's captain has made more than 700 appearances—a club record—since his debut in February 1957 in their Third Division days. Holds 19 full England caps, also was a member of 1966 World Cup squad. Born Winchester. 5 ft. 8 in., 10 st. 5 lb.

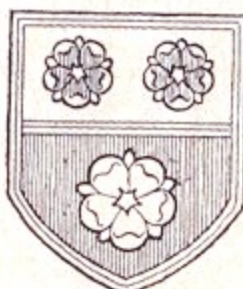
MIKE CHANNON: This highly rated forward took over the role of striker when Martin Chivers left The Dell for Tottenham. Joined Southampton as apprentice in March 1964; debut in 1966. Won three England Under-23 caps last season when Saints' top League scorer with 18 goals. Born Orcheston. 6 ft. ½ in., 11 st. 6 lb.

JIMMY GABRIEL: Scottish international wing-half—emergency centre-forward last week—originally with Dundee and then Everton, for whom he made nearly 300 appearances and gained F.A. Cup-winners' medal in 1966. Signed by Southampton for £50,000 in July 1967. Born Dundee. 5 ft. 10 in., 11 st. 7 lb.

BRIAN O'NEIL: Strong midfield player signed from Burnley at Southampton's record fee of £75,000 in May 1970. An England Under-23 International (one cap), he played in all 42 League matches last season. Born Bedlington. 5 ft. 6 in., 9 st. 7 lb.

TOM JENKINS: This fast and skilful winger was Southampton's most expensive buy (before O'Neil) when signed from Reading for £60,000 in December 1969. Was junior with Orient and West Ham, then went non-League with Margate before joining Reading. Born London. 5 ft. 9 in., 10 st. 8 lb.

GERRY O'BRIEN: Scottish forward signed from Clydebank for £22,000 in February 1970. Made First Division debut that season against Liverpool and played twice in the League side last season. Born Glasgow. 5 ft. 6 in., 9 st. 9 lb.



Club address:
The Dell,
Milton Road,
Southampton.

S.F.C.

OFFICIALS

Chairman: MR. GEORGE READER.

Secretary: MR. KEITH HONEY.

Manager: MR. TED BATES.

Assistant-Manager-Coach:

MR. STUART WILLIAMS

Trainer: MR. GEORGE HORSFALL.

Captain: TERRY PAINE.

HONOURS

Div. III (South) Champions 1922.

Div. III Champions 1960.