

so was his replacement Ian Watson soon after, and I've been in at right-back for nearly two months.

Which position do you like best?

I prefer centre-half, where I have played most of my football, but I don't mind where I play. I'd much rather be "out of position" in the first team than "in position" for the reserves.

How do you see the near future, with the skipper Ken Shellito soon ready to play again?

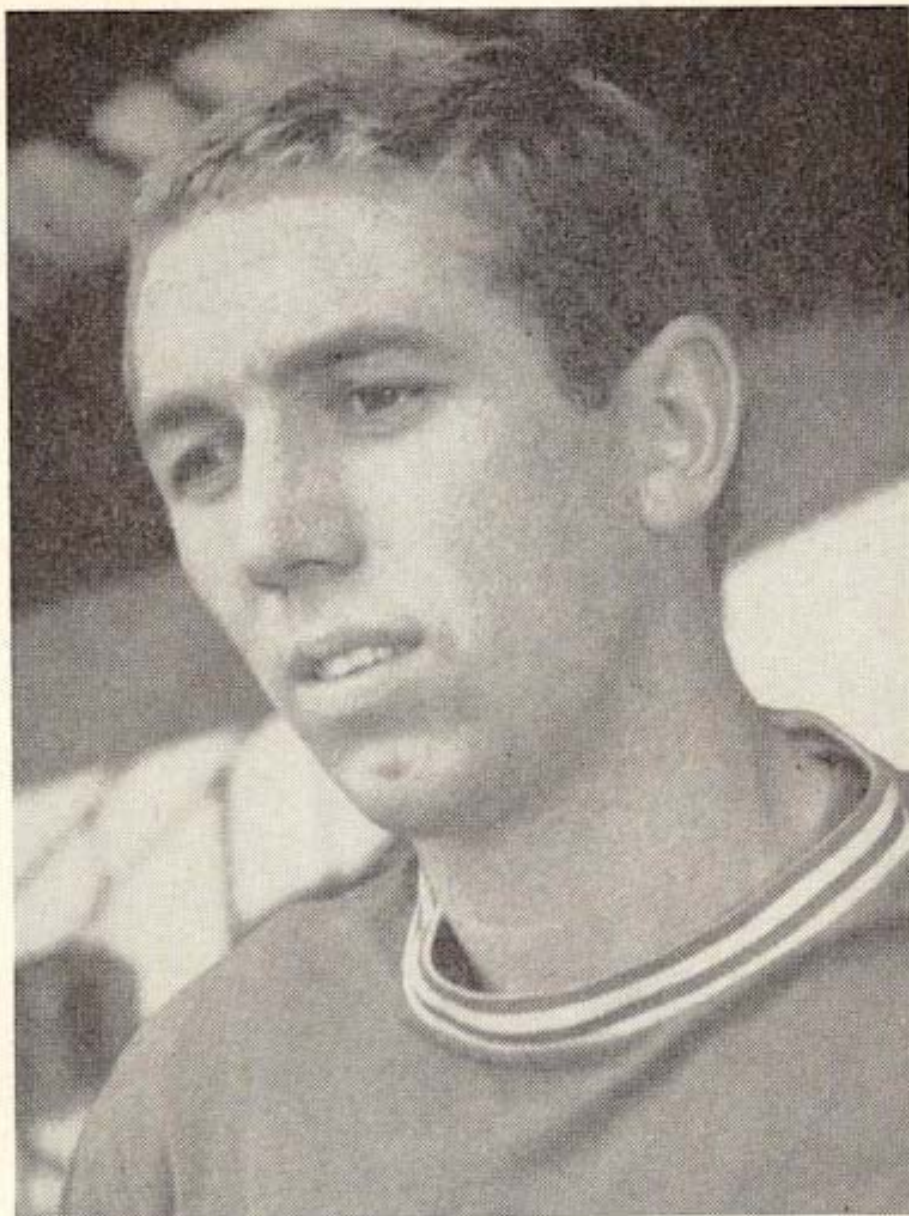
Like most professionals, I accept that football is a game of ups and downs; situations are changing all the time. I'm much more concerned about this afternoon's game than with what lies around the corner.

Whom do you regard as the most difficult opponent you have faced?

St. John, of Liverpool, two seasons ago. He's so mobile, he really keeps the centre-half guessing and draws you right off if you don't watch it. I always prefer meeting the "chaser" to the ball-player; you know where you stand against his type.

What big differences did you find on your move from Charlton to Chelsea?

Obviously, a top-class First Division club like this does things on a bigger, better scale — first-class travel everywhere, five-star hotels, foreign tours. The players who came here as juniors have grown up to accept such things and probably don't appreciate it as much as someone like myself coming from another club. Another example: I hear that even Chelsea's



juniors go abroad on average a couple of times a year, yet I've been a professional nearly seven years and have never played outside Britain. Going on tour with Chelsea is something I'm really looking forward to because it will be entirely new to me.

Were any other clubs interested in you besides Charlton when you left school?

Crystal Palace offered me a trial, but I turned it down. I reckoned that if I went there and didn't make it, I would drop out altogether, whereas if I joined a First or Second Division club to begin with I could drop a division or two yet still stay in the League.

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