

TALK - BACK

Today's subject in our special series of interviews is

JOHN BOYLE



How I joined Chelsea:	Tommy Docherty, a distant relative, had just come here and as a 15-year-old down from Scotland on holiday I came to Stamford Bridge, asked for a trial and was taken on as a junior.
How I nearly left:	It was about a year ago when the chance came to join Sheffield Wednesday. I wasn't in the team here and thought I might as well go. Then I had second thoughts, decided to wait and see how things turned out . . . and am glad I did.
Most memorable match:	Two of them: My Chelsea debut at 18—it was away to Aston Villa (Jan. 1965) in the League Cup semi-final and I scored the winner—and playing in the Cup-Winners' Cup Final in Athens last May. My biggest disappointment was not being in the 1970 F.A. Cup Final against Leeds.
Most admired opponent:	Billy Bremner is "my kind of guy" with his terrific will to win on top of all his skill. Because he's such a great competitor I get more kick out of beating Leeds than anyone.
Favourite position:	Midfield, because playing there you're so much more involved than at full-back. I've always liked plenty of action. When I was a kid, Celtic were "my team", but I didn't see them often—I was always playing, for my school on Saturday morning and junior football in the afternoon.
Other interests:	I'm a confirmed bachelor—so far! I play a bit of golf, do a lot of schools coaching—sometimes three afternoons and two nights a week. That's a lot of fun.
On the "new" refereeing code:	I've not found it affects my game—you've just got to think a bit more, sometimes "jockey" where you would have "gone in" before. And I've taught myself to "shut up". A few years back I used to get into bother for things I said to refs. Not any more.
Best pal at Chelsea:	We're all mates, but I've roomed with Ossie on away trips for a few years now.
Career ambition:	To help Chelsea win the League Championship and then play in the European Cup. That's the big one.
Boyle's "crystal ball" for 1971-72:	Manchester United for the League title and Arsenal to win something again. Chelsea? At least one Cup despite what happened here on Wednesday. The first job after today is Bolton on Monday night. With nothing to lose, they played above themselves down here last week, but I'm confident we'll win up there—if only we can get down to taking our chances.