

TALK - BACK

Completing this season's special series of interviews with the Chelsea first-team "pool". . .

PETER OSGOOD



Family details:	Wife Rosemary, sons Anthony (6) and Mark (5). We live at Tadworth, overlooking Epsom racecourse—we've been there about a year—and the family pet is a labrador called Toby.
Experiences this season:	I've always been a slow starter—I mean to do something about that when next season opens—but being put on the transfer list last August after two games made it even worse. That hit me hard but, looking back, it did me good. I've got the goals to prove it, and when I scored away to Wolves the week before last I equalled my previous best total for a season, 31 in 1969-70. I'm still hoping that injury at Tottenham nine days ago didn't finish my season.
Life on the goal-front:	You're bound to miss a fellow like Hutch when he's not around (between us we got 53 goals two years ago) and when his leg went at the start of the season, I thought I'd do no good. But I've enjoyed the extra responsibility up front. David Webb has helped me—he shares the high crosses, upsets defenders and that's been to my advantage. And I've been terrifically impressed with Chris Garland. He's a great-hearted runner, he's been scoring goals and I can see him becoming a great player.
The 1972 Chelsea squad:	Doc split up what we thought was a great side, but the difference is that this squad has been successful . . . won big things for Chelsea. John Boyle has come back lately and done well, and there's fellows like John Phillips, Eddie McCreddie, Tommy Baldwin ready to step in. Yes, this is the strongest squad we've ever had.
The refs' "revolution"	It's improved the game, although a lot of the cautions have been harsh. Ball players are not being clobbered as much as before, so I must have benefited . . . but I've had five bookings, too. Different players have different temperaments. In my case, things happen on the spur of the moment . . . you lose your biscuit for a few seconds, and I always regret it afterwards.
Business interests outside football:	I'm an area sales manager for Fords around Slough, and this has worked out well for me. I have a weekly column in several provincial papers, and next month I'm opening a women's dress shop with a friend, Alan Phillips, at Mitcham.
Career ambitions:	To help Chelsea win the League Championship next year and then get a crack at the European Cup. That's the big one. Meanwhile, I desperately want us to be in next season's U.E.F.A. Cup. I enjoy European football more than anything else—the do-or-die atmosphere, the night-time setting gets me keyed right up. Winning my first England cap away to Belgium two seasons ago (followed by two World Cup appearances as substitute in Mexico) was a real kick. I'd love to play for England at Wembley . . . watched by my father.