

Altrincham glory— again!



HAIL the brave part-timers of Altrincham!

The Gola League ginat-killers, always formidable opposition in the Cup, are gunning for glory again after knocking out Third Division promotion chasers Blackpool—for the second successive season.

It was an amazing repeat performance by the chirpy Cheshire scalp hunters and they were rewarded with a Third Round plum—away to First Division Birmingham.

Altrincham chairman Noel White commented cheekily: "We would have preferred Manchester United, but we are the best Cup fighting team among the non-Leaguers and we are very happy to be going to St. Andrew's."

Gola colleagues Frickley, in the Third Round for the first time after beating Hartlepool 1-0 are rewarded with a home tie against Yorkshire neighbours Rotherham.

Frickley secretary Bob Bates claimed: "We will be seeking revenge because Rotherham whipped us 6-0 in a replay in 1972."

Wycombe made it a happy hat-trick for the Gola glory boys by beating Chelmsford 2-0 and now face a Third Round tilt at York.

York coach Viv Busby was delighted with the draw that paired York with his old club. He spent four years with Wycombe before turning professional with Luton.

Plucky Slough, who held Orient 2-2 at Brisbane Road, face a daunting trip to Oldham if they win Tuesday's replay.

Two goals from Steve Taylor

earned Rochdale a 2-2 draw at Scunthorpe and a replay on Tuesday. The glittering prize for the winners is a dream trip to FA Cup holders Manchester United.

Misery for Oxford. They face Tottenham, the team who trounced them 5-1 in the First Division at White Hart Lane yesterday.

But Spurs boss Peter Shreeve said cautiously: "It is a very difficult tie for us. Oxford will be much tougher at Manor Road where they have beaten a lot of good teams in the past."

Charlton have landed a Cockney cracker—a Third round home tilt with First Division high flyers West Ham at Selhurst Park.

But that could pose ground sharing problems with the owners Crystal Palace who have an attractive tie with First Division Luton.

Warning

Says Charlton boss Lennie Lawrence: "Hammers are a great draw—the best team in London. It should be a great match but it has to be decided who plays on the Saturday—Palace or us."

Chelsea are drawn away to Shrewsbury whose manager Chic Bates handed out this stern warning: "They won't relish coming here. We have dumped a few First Division teams out of the Cup in the past."

Second Division promotion chasers Norwich have drawn the tie that all teams fear—away to mighty Liverpool who are bang in form.

No luck for Arsenal. The off target Gunners are drawn away to Grimsby and that



LENNIE LAWRENCE
... great draw

could pose problems for Don Howe's men who were toppled in the fourth round at York last season.

Double joy for Sheffield with two big ties in the city. Wednesday meet West Brom and their big rivals United entertain Fulham.

Portsmouth have landed a plum—a third round clash against Villa at Fratton Park. Ipswich are also happy with a home draw against Bradford City.

Southampton skipper Dave Armstrong returns to his former club Middlesbrough, while Watford face a tough clash at Coventry.

The bookmakers last night installed holders Manchester United as 5-1 favourites to retain the Cup.

Liverpool are 11-2 second favourites with other odds: 7-1 Everton 11-1 Spurs, 12-1 Chelsea, Sheffield Wednesday, 14-1 Arsenal, Nottingham Forest and West Ham, 20-1 Southampton and QPR, 33-1 bar.