

ROCC

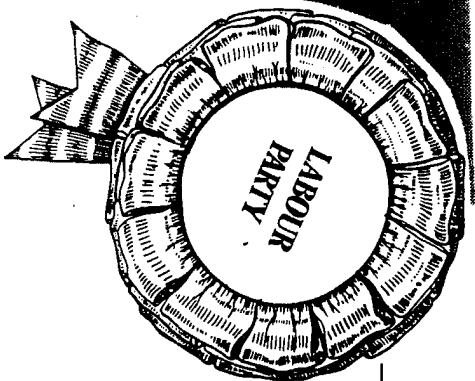
MICHAEL ALDRICH

PRESS CUTTINGS

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OUR BIG LABOUR EXCLUSIVE ELECTION EXTRA



John Smith (centre) with Crawley Labour candidate Laura Moffatt and ROCC

TOWN IS READY FOR THE LABOUR PARTY SAYS JOHN SMITH

SHADOW Chancellor John Smith rapped out a warning to MP Nicholas Soames: "Crawley is ready for Labour."

Mr Smith spoke exclusively to the Observer after touring ROCC Computers in Kelvin Way with Labour candidate Laura Moffatt.

He said he is confident the people of Crawley will oust MP Soames, saying the recession has signalled the death knell for the Tories.

"Crawley used to be a symbol of the prosperous and fully

employed south east, but not any more," he told us. "It has been hit very, very hard by the recession and the people are dissatisfied."

He was full of praise for Mrs Moffatt, saying she had the grass roots support necessary to overturn Mr Soames' 12,000 majority.

He said: "She is an outstanding candidate, running a splendid campaign - I would be very worried if I was Mr Soames."

Crawley is one of the perceived marginal seats that Labour has

targeted in this year's campaign. Mr Smith said: "Crawley is very important to us. If we can win this seat, it would indicate a massive swing in our favour echoed nationwide."

Laura Moffatt said: "Mr Smith's visit is a tremendous boost to us, it shows the party really does consider Crawley an important constituency."

"I am delighted he could visit, he is a wonderful man, not at all pompous with a genuine interest in people and local issues."