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Football League Division Three
Official Programme 1976-77

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19th March

SHREWSBURY T. v SWINDON

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GAY MEADOW

News Desk

Edited by Secretary

MALCOLM STARKEY

WHAT A HECTIC seven days we have had at The Meadow—three loan transfers and one permanent. We extended the loan period of Peter Loughnane for a further two months. Peter was substitute for the games at Portsmouth and Brighton and showed sufficient enthusiasm to prove that he will be doing his utmost to gain a regular first team spot. Lee Roberts has been allowed to go to Exeter. This move should be very beneficial for Lee, enabling him to gain some very useful first team experience. Our third loan movement was Mike Kearney to Chester. Mike has played two games for Chester and unfortunately in his second game he had a bad collision with the Port Vale 'keeper, sustaining a severe bruising of the face. It was suspected that he had a broken nose, but it has since been diagnosed that his nose is still intact. This will mean that Mike will now be on the sideline for a short time. Finally, Ray Haywood has been transferred to Northampton Town. Ray has had some problems off the field and these necessitated him moving back to Sutton Coldfield where he is going to resume his career as a P.E. Teacher and play football part-time. On behalf of everyone at The Meadow I wish Ray every success for the future.

Following one of the wettest winters on record, I am delighted to say we have only had one game postponed at The Meadow. Other clubs who have similar problems with their playing surfaces have had three or four games off, and Hereford have had six games postponed. There is a very expensive exercise that can be undertaken to try and cure the problem and this is called sand injection. Mind you, it costs a few thousand pounds. However, Hereford have had their pitch done and still had six games off. We have decided to put sand on our pitch and we are hoping this will eliminate surface water. If this does prove to be the answer, it will certainly save the club a big sum of money!

May I remind you about the Player of the Year Buffet Dance which is being held at Tiffanys on Tuesday, 26th April, 1977. The tickets are £2.50 and can be obtained from members of the Supporters' Club or from Tiffanys. Please complete and return the voting slip on page 9 with the name of your Player of the Year.

Mr. Parlor is running a coach to the Buffet Dance for supporters who live in the Telford area. If you wish to book a seat, please ring Mr. Parlor at Telford 618347.

On behalf of everyone at the Gay

Meadow I extend a warm welcome to the Directors and players of Swindon Town F.C. Swindon have a similar record to ourselves and today's game will be very close, but I have every confidence that the Town will improve their very good home record and so halt the recent run of poor results.

Finally for spectators interested in attending the Wales v. Czechoslovakia game at Wrexham, details are given above:

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES

WORLD CUP (Qual. Round)

Wales v. Czechoslovakia

The Racecourse Ground, WREXHAM

Wednesday, 30th March, 1977.

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Tickets available:—

PADDOCK (Mold Road or Yale) £1.50

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ADMISSION BY TICKET.

obtainable from the Secretary, The F.A. of Wales, 3 Fairy Road, Wrexham or the Secretary, Wrexham A.F.C., Racecourse Ground, Wrexham enclosing remittance and s.a.e.

AWAY GAMES

Mr. Keith Parlor is running coaches to our away games as follows:—

Monday, 21st March. WREXHAM.

Depart Gay Meadow 5.45 p.m.

Sat., 26th March. CHESTERFIELD.

Depart Gay Meadow 10.30 a.m.

To book your seat, please ring Mr. Parlor at Telford 618347.

Mr. Chris Smith is running coaches as follows:—

Monday, 21st March, WREXHAM. Depart Gay Meadow 5.45 p.m.

Saturday, 26th March. CHESTERFIELD.

Depart Gay Meadow 10.30 a.m. Pick-up en route in all cases at Cock Hotel, Wellington; Seven Stars, Ketley; Omnibus (approximately 30 minutes after times above). **Note:** Anyone living in Church Stretton area can be picked up en route to the Gay Meadow.

To book your seat, please ring Mr. Smith at Telford 605972 after 6 p.m.

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TOWN TALK

by Manager ALAN DURBAN



WE WELCOME our visitors Swindon Town to the Gay Meadow where we shall be looking for revenge after our 1-0 defeat there early in October. We need a result badly to restore the confidence which has been missing during the last few weeks.

The recent injuries to Sammy Irvine and Colin Griffin have not helped matters, although today it will give us the opportunity of introducing Peter Loughnane who we recently acquired from Manchester United. A recent spate of goals in the reserve side has earned him his chance and we wish him luck.

The recent departure of Ray Haywood to Northampton, where, incidentally, he scored on his first full appearance on Tuesday versus Crystal Palace, was the first sale by this club since Dave Roberts went to Swansea and Ricky Marlowe to Brighton almost three years ago. Ray intends returning to teaching in September, and this was a prime factor in the deal. I am not keen on part-time players as they do not work with the remainder of the staff daily, but generally train alone during the evening. It may be that in the not too distant future a few clubs in the lower divisions will adopt this policy, but I am hoping we will be able to avoid this for many years.

Liverpool gave British football a great boost on Wednesday evening as they marched on to the semi-finals of the European Cup. They will be joined by F.C. Zurich, Borussia Munchengladbach and Dynamo Kiev. With no Italian side and no Bayern Munich, the semi-finalists do not look as formidable as in recent years, so giving Liverpool a wonderful chance of being English winners for the first time since 1968 when Manchester United defeated Benfica.

On a sadder note it was with regret we learned during the week that Stephen Hickenbottom had been advised to discontinue playing after a long and serious knee injury. He has been uncomplaining, patient and given a tremendous example of courage during the past two years, during which time we had all dearly hoped he would regain full fitness. We wish you well in the future, Steve, and know you will make a success of your selected career.

My thanks to you again for attending today. These are the same players who only eight weeks ago were top of the league and who filled us all with pride at Loftus Road versus Queens Park Rangers. They need your encouragement and support.

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● SPOTLIGHT on SWINDON TOWN

DANNY WILLIAMS returned as Manager of Swindon Town in 1974 after being with them for 4 years from 1965-69. In 1969 Swindon were Football League Cup winners and also gained promotion to Division II. Danny Williams played for Rotherham United for 20 years and afterwards was Manager there for 3 years. Has also been Manager at Sheffield Wednesday and Mansfield Town.

The team for today's game will be from:

Jim Barron. Signed for Swindon from Nottingham Forest in 1974. Has had experience with Wolves, Chelsea and Oxford United. Has made over 76 league appearances since signing for Swindon.

Will Dixon. Born London. Originally with Arsenal, he made his league debut with Reading where he played 150 league games.

John Trollope. Born Wroughton. Is the club's longest serving professional and is Club Captain. Has made 750 appearances including cup games to the end of last season. A member of promotion side in 1963 and 1969 and League Cup winning side in 1969.

Ken Stroud. Born London. Joined as an apprentice in 1967, signed professional in 1970. Made 78 league appearances to the end of last season during which he became established in the first team.

Steve Aizlewood. Born Newport, Gwent. First appeared for Newport County at the age of 16 and made nearly 200 league appearances before being transferred to Swindon in 1976. Has won four Welsh Under-23 Caps.

Colin Prophett. Born Crewe. Played for Crewe as an amateur, but made his league debut with Sheffield Wednesday in 1968. Moved to Norwich City in 1973 and was transferred to Swindon in 1974.

Dave Moss. Born Witney. Signed as an apprentice from his local non-league club and on full forms in 1969. Made 129

league appearances to the end of last season.

John McLaughlin. Born Edmonton. Started his career with Colchester making 66 league appearances and during which time he was capped for England at Youth level. Joined Swindon in 1973, and has made over 100 league appearances.

Dave Syrett. Born Salisbury. Another player who joined the club as an apprentice, signing professional in 1973. In 1973-74 season he was capped for England at Youth level. Made 67 league appearances to the end of last season and finished last season joint leading scorer with 15 goals.

Ray McHale. Born Sheffield. Signed this season from Halifax Town where he made over 80 league appearances and scored 19 goals. Previously was with Chesterfield where he made over 100 appearances and scored 27 goals.

Trevor Anderson. Born Belfast. Began his career with Portadown, transferring to Manchester United in 1972. Made 13 league appearances before moving to Swindon. Made 70 league appearances to the end of last season, was ever-present last season and voted 'Player of the Year'.

Mick French. Born Eastbourne. Signed this season from Brentford where he made over 40 appearances and scored 12 goals.

MEET THE REFEREE

OUR REFEREE this afternoon is Mr. Allan Hughes from West Kirby, Wirral. Mr. Hughes started refereeing in 1953 in Liverpool Junior Leagues, then, in stages, progressed through the Lancashire Combination to the Football League full list. He refereed the Wales v. Scotland Schoolboys International in 1968 and was linesman in the F.A. Amateur Cup Final (1972), Football League Cup semi-final (1974-75) and the European Cup Winners Cup semi-final in 1974-75.

Mr. Hughes is a married man with two sons. He is a Headmaster, with interests and hobbies of tennis, badminton, golf and photography.

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Blue and Amber

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2. John KING
3. Carleton LEONARD
4. Graham TURNER
5. Steve HAYES
6. Ian ATKINS
7. Peter LOUGHNANE
8. Brian HORNSBY
9. Les LAWRENCE
10. Phil BATES
11. Paul MAGUIRE
- 12.

Referee

A. HUGHES
 Wirral.

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P. C. BEECH

Yellow Flag

R. F. SMITH

NEXT MATCHES AT THE GAY

Monday, 21st March. Northern Floodlit League Chall. Cup. 1st I
 Wednesday, 23rd March. Northern Floodlit League. CH
 Saturday, 2nd April. Division III. SHEFFIELD WEDN

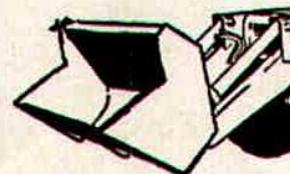
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Swindon Town

Red and White

1. Jim BARRON
2. Will DIXON
3. John TROLLOPE
4. Ken STROUD
5. Steve AIZLEWOOD
6. Colin PROPHETT
7. Dave MOSS
8. John
McLAUGHLIN
9. Dave SYRETT
10. Ray McHALE
11. Trevor ANDERSON
- 12.

CHES AT THE GAY MEADOW

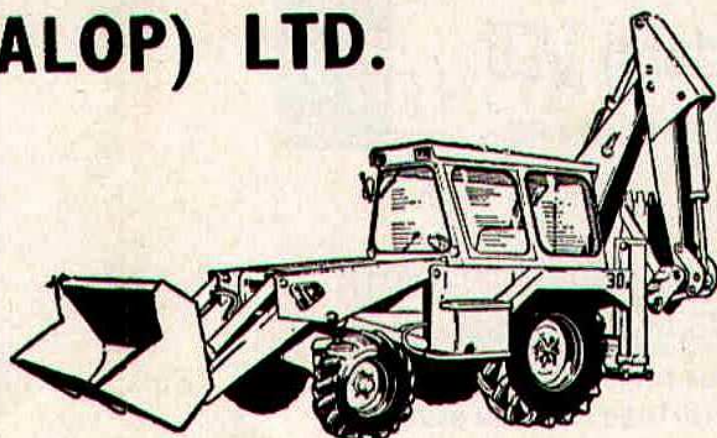
Floodlit League Chall. Cup. 1st leg. CREWE ALEX. K.O. 7-30 p.m.

Northern Floodlit League. CHESTER. Kick Off 7-30 p.m.

in III. SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY. Kick Off 3-00 p.m.

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FIXTURES, RESULTS AT A GLANCE

THIRD DIVISION

1976				F	A
Mon. Aug.	16	League Cup 1.—Walsall	H	0	1
Wed.	18	League Cup 1.—Walsall	A	0	1
Sat.	21	Lincoln City	A	1	1
Tues.	24	Gillingham	H	4	2
Sat.	28	Reading	H	2	0
Sat. Sept.	4	Wrexham	A	0	1
Sat.	11	Walsall	A	3	3
Sat.	18	Northampton T.	H	3	0
Sat.	25	Port Vale	A	2	1
Sat. Oct.	2	Portsmouth	H	4	1
Tues.	5	Shrops. Snr Cup (SF) Oswestry	5	0	
Sat.	9	Swindon T.	A	0	1
Sat.	16	Chesterfield	H	3	0
Sat.	23	Sheffield Wed.	A	1	0
Tues.	26	Crystal Palace	A	1	2
Sat.	30	Oxford U.	H	1	0
Tues. Nov.	2	Mansfield T.	H	0	0
Sat.	6	Rotherham U.	A	0	1
Sat.	13	Grimsby T.	H	2	1
Sat.	20	F.A. Cup 1 Doncaster	A	2	2
Tues.	23	Replay Doncaster	H	4	3
Sat.	27	York City	A	3	0
Sat. Dec.	4	Brighton & Hove A.	H	1	0
Sat.	11	F.A. Cup 2. Bury	A	0	0
Fri.	17	Preston N.E.	A	1	2
Tues.	21	Bury (Replay)	H	2	1
Mon.	27	Tranmere R.	H	2	2
Tues.	28	Chester	A	2	1

NORTHERN FLOODLIT LEAGUE

1976				F	A
Wed. Sept.	8	Wrexham	A	1	1
Wed.	15	Tranmere R.	H	1	1
Tues.	21	Chester	A	1	2
Wed.	29	Crewe	H	3	0
Mon. Oct.	11	Port Vale	A	3	2
Mon.	18	Wrexham	A	1	2
Wed.	17	Chester	H	7	1
Wed. Dec.	8	Port Vale	H	6	1
1977				F	A
Wed. Jan.	12	Wrexham	H	3	1
Wed.	19	Tranmere R.	A	1	1
Mon.	31	Crewe Alex.	A	3	1
Mon. Feb.	14	Wrexham	A	1	3
Tues. Mar.	1	Chester	A	5	0
Mon.	7	Tranmere R.	A	2	0
Wed.	9	Crewe Alex.	H	2	1
Wed.	23	Chester	H	—	—
Wed. May	4	Crewe	A	—	—

CHALLENGE CUP

Mon. Mar. 21	Crewe	H	—
Mon. Mar. 28	Crewe	A	—
Semi-Finals: Shrewsbury or Crewe v. Tranmere or Port Vale Wrexham v. Chester			

The two legs of the first round must be played in weeks commencing 21st and 28th March. The Semi-Finals in weeks commencing 4th and 11th April. The Final in weeks commencing 18th and 25th April.

To be arranged: Port Vale A, Port Vale H,
Tranmere Rovers H,

MIDLAND INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE

1977				F	A
Sat. Jan.	8	F.A. Cup 3 Q.P.R.	A	1	2
Tues.	11	Bury	H	0	1
Tues.	18	Chester. Welsh Cup.	H	3	3
Sat.	22	Lincoln City	H	2	1
Sat.	29	Peterborough U. (4)	A	1	2
Tues. Feb.	1	Rotherham	H	0	0
Sat.	5	Reading	A	0	0
Sat.	12	Wrexham	H	3	2
Tues.	15	Gillingham	A	1	2
Sat.	19	Walsall	H	1	2
Sat.	26	Northampton T. (5)	A	3	5
Tues. Mar.	1	Oxford U.	A	2	4
Sat.	5	Port Vale	H	1	1
Sat.	12	Portsmouth (LCF)	A	0	2
Tues.	15	Brighton & Hove A	A	0	4
Sat.	19	Swindon T. (6)	H	—	—
Mon.	21	Welsh Cup Wrexham	A	—	—
Sat.	26	Chesterfield	A	—	—
Sat. Apr.	2	Sheffield Wed.	H	—	—
Fri.	8	Tranmere R.	A	—	—
Sat.	9	Chester	H	—	—
Tues.	12	Mansfield T.	A	—	—
Sat.	16	Crystal Palace	H	—	—
Tues.	19	Peterborough	H	—	—
Sat.	23	Grimsby T. (S.F.)	A	—	—
Sat.	30	York City	H	—	—
Tues. May	3	Bury	A	—	—
Sat.	14	Preston N.E.	H	—	—
Sat.	21	Cup Final	—	—	—

1976				F	A
Sat. Aug.	21	Stoke City	A	0	0
Sat.	28	West Bromwich A.	H	2	0
Sat. Sept.	4	Port Vale	A	0	1
Sat.	11	Wolverhampton W.	H	3	2
Sat.	18	Aston Villa	A	0	2
Sat. Oct.	2	West Bromwich A.	A	0	1
Sat.	9	Aston Villa	H	5	1
Sat.	23	Bristol C.	H	1	3
Sat.	30	Notts. County	H	4	3
Sat. Nov.	6	Notts. County	A	2	2
Sat.	13	Derby C.	A	1	0
Sat.	27	Wolverhampton W.	A	2	1
Sat. Dec.	4	Nottingham Forest	H	3	2
Sat.	11	Port Vale	H	6	2
Sat.	18	Mansfield T.	H	2	3
1977				F	A
Sat. Jan.	1	Bristol C.	A	1	4
Sat.	15	Nottingham Forest	A	3	3
Sat.	22	Stoke City	H	3	0
Sat.	29	Wolves (Cup)	H	3	2
Sat. Feb.	5	Bristol City (Cup)	H	2	2
Sat. Feb.	12	Mansfield	A	1	3
Sat. Feb.	19	Wolves (Cup)	A	2	2
Sat. Feb.	26	Derby	H	4	2
Sat. Mar.	5	West Bromwich A. (Cup)	A	—	—
Sat. Mar.	19	Aston Villa (Cup)	A	—	—
Sat. Apr.	16	Bristol City (Cup)	A	—	—
Sat. Apr.	23	West Bromwich A. (Cup)	H	—	—

To be arranged:— Aston Villa H.

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Coaching Corner

(Why goals are conceded—continued).

4. Giving the Ball Away

At all levels of football more goals are scored through giving the ball away than most people realise. Call it mistakes, carelessness or whatever, the outcome is generally the same—the opposition is usually given an excellent chance of scoring—doubly so if the ball is given away in the defending third of the field.

The moral is that if possession is going to be lost, then it is better to lose it in the attacking third of the field.

With this in mind it will be realised that if a team is going to indulge in intricate close passing, with its associated risk, then to do this in the vicinity of ones own goal

is not only bad football but can often be termed suicidal.

It should be clear that there are times when the ball into the grandstand is the correct thing to do, and if it is correct it is good football.

It should also be realised that it is no only schoolboys who give the ball away no way. In fact the opening goal in the 1966 World Cup final came as a result of a player heading the ball downward in his own penalty area to a grateful opponent who scored from twelve yards range.

SHREWSBURY TOWN F.C.—1976/7

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LEAGUE TABLE THIRD DIVISION 1976-77

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brighton	33	19	7	7	64	28	45
Mansfield	32	20	5	7	57	27	45
Rotherham	32	16	12	4	51	29	44
Wrexham	32	18	6	8	57	36	42
Preston	32	15	10	7	50	30	40
Crystal Palace	32	14	10	8	39	29	38
Sheffield Wed.	33	15	8	10	48	40	38
Bury	33	15	6	12	44	47	36
SHREWSBURY TOWN	34	14	7	13	50	45	35
Lincoln	30	13	9	8	53	47	35
Chester	31	15	3	13	35	41	33
Swindon	30	11	10	9	47	45	32
Oxford	34	10	12	12	47	49	32
Gillingham	32	10	9	13	40	50	29
Tranmere	31	7	14	10	33	37	28
Peterborough	32	9	10	13	33	43	28
Portsmouth	32	8	10	14	37	48	26
Chesterfield	32	10	5	17	38	46	25
Port Vale	31	6	13	12	31	41	25
York	32	9	7	16	40	64	25
Northampton	34	10	5	19	47	61	25
Walsall	32	8	8	16	36	49	24
Reading	34	8	7	19	37	59	23
Grimsby	33	8	5	20	31	53	21

APPEARANCES AND SCORERS: 1976-77

	Appearances			Goal Scorer		
	Lge.	Cup	F.A.	Lge.	Cup	F.A.
Ian Atkins	32	2	5	4	—	1
Phil Bates	33	2	5	10	—	1
David Collier	—	—	—	—	—	1
Alan Durban	13	1	—	1	—	12
Colin Griffin	33	2	5	2	—	—
Ray Haywood	1	2	1	—	—	16
Steve Hayes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brian Hornsby	34	—	5	8	—	—
Sam Irvine	34	1	5	—	—	1
Mike Kearney	27	2	4	12	—	—
John King	32	2	5	—	—	1
Les Lawrence	4	—	—	1	—	3
Peter Loughnane	—	—	—	—	—	2
Carleton Leonard	33	2	5	—	—	—
Paul Maguire	26	2	5	4	—	4
Kevin Moore	5	—	—	1	—	1
Ken Mulhearn	34	2	5	—	—	—
Lee Roberts	2	—	—	1	—	1
Graham Turner	31	2	5	5	—	1
Own Goal	—	—	—	1	—	—

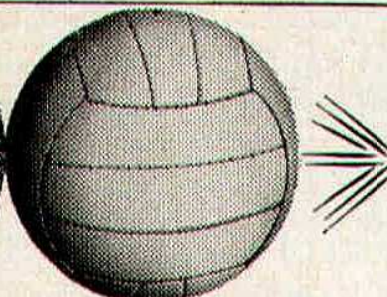
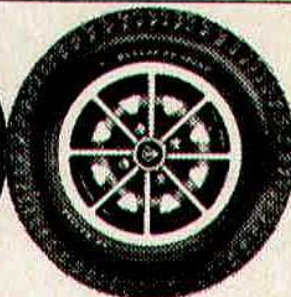
BALL GIFTS 1976/77

Walsall, Aug. 16th.—Brentnall Beard & Co.
Gillingham, Aug. 24th.—Baschurch
Supporters.
Reading, Aug. 28th.—The News Centre.
Northampton T. Sept. 18th.—Ludlow
Branch Supporters Club.
Portsmouth, Oct. 2nd.—Mr. G. H. Barrett.
Chesterfield, Oct. 16—Bull's Head, Newport
Oxford U., Oct. 30th.—Salop Laundry &
Cleaners.
Mansfield, Nov. 2nd.—Shrewsbury
Cricket Club.
Grimsby T., Nov. 13th.—Mr. R. Makin,
The Herbert Arms.
Doncaster, Nov. 23rd.—J. Bibby Sports &
Social Club.
Brighton, Dec. 4th.—Mr. W. Evans.
Bury, Dec. 21st.—Mr. C. Smith &
Riverside Supporters.
Tranmere R., Dec. 27th.—Hospital Broad-
casters.
Bury, Jan. 11th.—B.M.S.S.
Lincoln City, Jan. 22nd.—Supporters,
Shrewsbury Tool & Die.
Rotherham, Feb. 1st.—Naylors Ltd.
Wrexham, Feb. 12th.—Newbrook &
Vernon.
Walsall, Feb. 19th.—Hospital Broadcasters.
Port Vale, Mar. 5th.—Mr. K. Lewis,
Sheriffhales.
Swindon T., Mar. 19th.—Mr. & Mrs. D.
Hewitt & Miss B. Hewitt.
Sheffield Wed., April 2nd.—Mr. K. Parlor
and Away Supporters.
Chester, April 9th.—Ruddock Electrical
Services.
Crystal P., April 16th.—Anthony Horton.
Peterborough, Apr. 19th.—Oakleys Sports
& Social Club.
York City, Apr. 30th.—Mrs. C. T. Parkin.
Preston N. E., May 14th.—Mr. C. T. Parkin.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Hewitt and their
daughter, Miss B. Hewitt, have very kindly
donated the match ball this afternoon. We
wish to thank them for their generous
support in this way and for the support
they give each season.

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