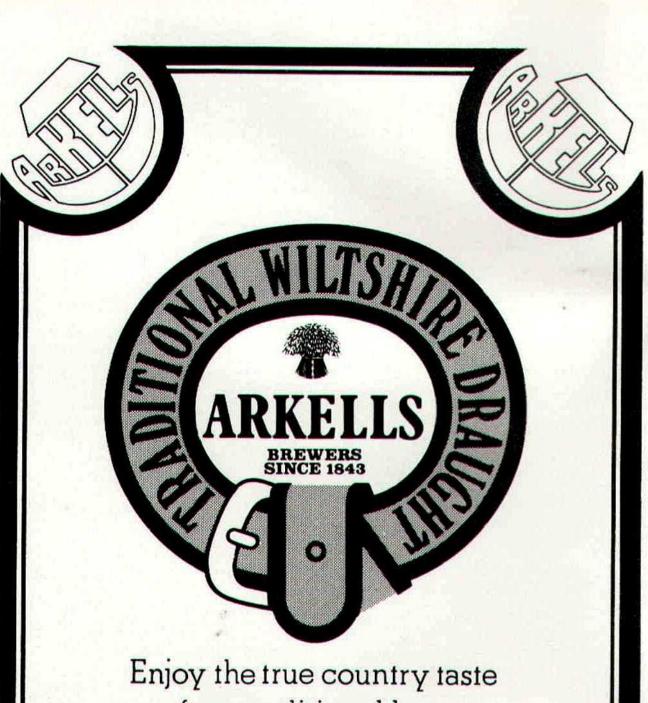


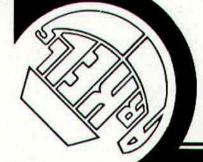
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Bob Smith says.....

I am pleased to be able to commence these notes in the knowledge that we have acquired three points from two successive away matches, especially gratifying was the win at Rotherham when the position was such that had our opponents won the game they would have gone above us in the League table. We all obviously feel now that we have a tremendous chance to win promotion and this is a word I have refrained from using until now having previously used the word success. I am now using the word promotion because I feel that the players have now blended into a side with all the necessary qualities which I feel gives us a reasonable chance of promotion.

Also this week we have seen the importance of having strength in depth and quality in our first team pool. The injury sustained by Brian Williams at Rotherham enabled Chris Kamara to come into the side and he scored the goal that gained us a point at Chesterfield.

I would again like to thank all of you who have turned up today and who have regularly supported us throughout the season and could I ask you to, in your own way, spread 'the gospel' about our play and that the results of such performances have put us in with a fine chance of gaining what we all so earnestly want - Division II football at the County Ground. I would like to think that the efforts of the team could result in 10,000 plus crowds at our ground.

Thank you once again for coming and please give the team your vocal encouragement throughout the ninety minutes and let us hope that the final result will be favourable to us.

DIVISION THREE LEAGUE TABLEup to and including Wednesday February 28, 1979

	Home					,	Awa	٧							
	P	W	D	L	F-A	w	D	L	F-A	Pts	Top Goalscorers (incl. Cup)				
Watford	29	9	4	2	32-16	7	4	3	26-19	40	Ross Jenskins 31				
Shrewsbury T.	27	9	6	0	22- 6	5	5	2	15-11	39	Paul Maguire 14				
Gillingham	27	9	5	1	24-11	2	8	2	11-11	35	Danny Westwood 10				
SWINDON TOWN	26	11	0	2	24- 8	4	3	6	14-19	33	CHIC BATES 13				
Swansea C.	28	9	4	1	32-18	4	3	7	14-19	33	Alan Curtis 15				
Exeter C.	28		4	2	29-12	1	4	6	10-18	32	Keith Bowker 10				
Carlisle U.	28		7	1	18- 7	2	8	4	8-12	31	Dave Kemp 12				
Plymouth A.	30			2	24-16	4	3	8	20-24	31	Fred Binney 23				
Southend U.	28	8	2	3	21. 9	2	7	6	15-20	29	Derrick Parker 8				
Rotherham U.	26		0	4	19-13	2	5	- 5	13-17	29	Dave Gwyther 13, Trevor Phillips 13				
Chester	29	7	6	1	23-12	2	4	9	10-26	28	tan Edwards 17				
Oxford U.	28	6	6	3	15-13	2	5	6	10-19	27	Peter Foley 9				
Chesterfield	26	6	4	3	21-18	2	6	5	12-16	26	Rod Fern 11				
Blackpool	27	9	2	3	22- 9	2	2	9	8-25	26	*Tony Kellow 13				
Colchester U.	27	8	5	1	21-12	0	5	8	8-21	26	Bobby Gough 13				
Bury	26	3	6	3	17-16	2	8	4	15-18	24	*Dave Gregory 17				
Walsall	29	6	5	4	24-19	3	3	9	17-25	24	Terry Austin 12				
Brentford	27	8	4	3	16-11	0	4	8	7-19	24	Andy McCulloch 8				
Hull C.	25	5	5	2	22-10	3	1	9	11-21	22	Keith Edwards 13				
Sheffield W.	25	2	6	2	8 9	3	6	6	14-22	22	Brian Hornsby 13				
Peterborough U.	28		5	5	13-15	2	5	7			*Joe Cooke 11				
Mansfield T.	25		6	2	9-10	2	6	7	14-21	20	Kevin Bird 5				
Tranmere R	28	4	7	2	18-15	0	4	11	12-30	19	Steve Peplow 7				
Lincoln C.	25	1	5	5	10-20	1	1	12	7-28	10	Glenn Cockerill 3, Gordon Hobson				
											*Includes enals for previous clubs				

Includes goals for previous clubs

Bits and Pieces

The Town's new striker ALAN MAYES started his career at Q.P.R., but failed to make the League grade at Loftus Road and joined Watford, where he made his League debut against Port Vale on November 16 1974 - and scored in a 3-2 win for the Hornets. But he found the net only once more in seventeen appearances that season and Watford suffered relegation to the Fourth Division. In 1975/76, he added just eleven to his appearance total and spent a ten-match spell on loan at Northampton scoring four times. As Watford mounted a promotion challenge during the next season, Alan held a regular place in the side, missing just three games. His fourteen goals was second only to Keith Mercer who hit 22. Watford finally finished seventh. but ran away with the Fourth Division title last season. Alan's contribution was fifteen goals in 36 games. Again only one man - Ross Jenkins - scored more and whilst deputising for Jenkins at number nine, he claimed his only hat-trick prior to last week. It came in a 4-0 win at York in January last year

became only the third Town Player ever to score a hat-trick on his debut - and the previous two did it here at the County Ground. The last such occurrence was in January 1947, when MAURICE OWEN scored three in Swindon's 5-0 victory over Watford. The only other debut hat-trick since the Town joined the League in 1920 was by HARRY MORRIS on the opening day of the 1926-27 season when Swindon disposed of Southend United by five gaols to one.

In the old Southern League days, two Town players achieved the feat. Portsmouth came here on April 4 1914 and young debutant DAVE ROGERS hit four of Swindon's goals in a 5-0 win. On March 14 1896 the Town visited Ilford for a

Southern League fixture and stormed to a 10-0 victory, centre-forward ALEC BOGGIE helping himself to five goals. But he scored only two more that season - also away from home - and thereafter played at wing-half.

Two loyal servants of Swindon Town before the First World War who had connections with the Lincoln City club were CHARLIE BANNISTER and BILLY BATTY Charlie, who skippered the Town side from the centre-half position first came to Swindon in 1902 from Lincoln. He left to join neighbours Reading after two seasons but returned in the summer of 1906 to give the Town six more valuable seasons of service before retiring to Australia. The year of 1912 also saw the arrival from Lincoln of Billy Batty. He scored in all of his first four games for Swindon but found it hard to keep his place in the Southern League championship-chasing side. Although never a regular first team member, Billy always provided the goals when called upon. He left Swindon in 1922 to take up the post of player-coach at Barnsley.

FOR THE RECORD.....

Saturday February 24
ROTHERHAM UNITED 1
SWINDON TOWN 3
(Mayes 3)

Swindon: Allan; Hamilton; Ford; McHale; Aizlewood; Stroud; Miller; Carter; Rowland; Mayes; Williams (Bates)

Wednesday February 28
CHESTERFIELD 1
SWINDON TOWN 1
(Kamara)

Swindon: Allan; Hamilton; Ford; McHale; Aizlewood; Stroud; Miller (Bates); Carter; Rowland; Mayes; Kamara.

John Ward talks to Kenny Norman

Normally the first step on the ladder for boys aspiring to become professional footballers when they leave school is to join a league club as an apprentice. There follows [two?] years of training and testing at the end of which the Manager has to separate the sheep from the goats. The lucky ones are offered contracts; the others are told "We're very sorry but . . . " I was at the club one afternoon recently when the day of reckoning had arrived for Swindon apprentice Kenny Norman.

Kenny came out of Manager Bob Smith's office with such a deadpan expression that it was hard to tell whether he had just been given a contract or told that he hadn't made the grade. I asked what the boss had said, "He told me he was offering me a contract for the rest of this season and the whole of the next one. We would discuss wages and other details later." Clearly Kenny is a very modest young man who takes achievements like this in his stride. Was this what he was expecting? "It's two months to my birthday so I knew they would have to make their mind up about me soon. I was quietly confident in myself but I didn't want to let on in case I was wrong." Had he made any plans in case he had failed? "I suppose I would have looked for a job in an office and played part time." Kenny is reasonably well equipped for that eventuality: he has 'O' levels in English, Maths and Commerce and has been taking office studies at college on day a week during his apprenticeship at Swindon. "It's a bit of a drag but it takes your mind off football. It's probably good to have the break," is his verdict on the club's insistence that the apprentices continue their education.

Kenny Norman comes from Gloucester. He

was first spotted by Swindon Town when playing for Gloucester County Schoolboys against Swindon Boys and was invited over to play in two trial games for Swindon Boys. Since signing as an apprentice he has been playing at right back for the youth team and for the reserves, although he has been out for part of this season with a troublesome ankle injury. The first team's success has rubbed off on the whole playing staff. "Everyone is happy and training hard," he said. "It's been a great help playing in the reserves with experienced first team players. John Trollope has been especially helpful to me being a fullback."

Apprentices report for duty at the ground at nine o'clock on a weekday. They set out the first team's kit ready for training and then get changed themselves. At ten o'clock training starts. Sometimes the apprentices are on their own, sometimes together with the first team. Afterwards they clear up the first team's kit and then it is dinner time when they can have a free meal in the Supporters Club. If there is training in the afternoon they go through the kit preparation routine all over again. Kenny lives in the club hostel near the ground. They are encouraged to treat it as their own home: girlfriends are allowed and it's up to them what time they go to bed. Nobody seems to take unfair advantage of this liberal regime and most evenings are spent watching television. Kenny's own girlfriend is back home in Gloucester, where he returns each weekend.

Now Kenny's apprentice days were drawing to a close. I asked whether he was planning to celebrate his good news. A mid-season rave up didn't seem on the cards: "I'll go off and ring my family now and we'll see what happens next weekend."

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Talk of the Town by the Chairman

Today we welcome the players and officials from Lincoln City. This is our first League game on the County Ground since we played Chester on 3rd February. The weather of course has played havoc with fixtures but Cup Ties have also prevented us from completing some of our games.

Up to date we have played an equal number of games home and away before this afternoons fixture but these notes have been compiled before our game with Chesterfield. Whatever the result we shall be in a very favourable position in the League and hope to continue our good form. Many people are asking why we are not making use of mid-week dates on March 6th & 13th but this is not possible because the clubs involved are already committed and it will have to be the middle of May before we complete our fixtures.

The result at Rotherham was excellent in every way and our travelling supporters were rewarded with a great team performance. We must of course congratulate Alan Mayes upon his League debut for us and to score a hat trick was fantastic.

The weather has prevented John Trollope from making his usual arrangements with the youngsters and it is very difficult to keep in touch with trialists under these circumstances but John has still managed the odd game or two and in fact played a match at R.A.F. Benson on a Sunday and included several young lads on trial.

Much has been written about the problems of playing on icy surfaces and Managers are quite rightly wary of risking their players under these conditions. I think that one aspect of this controversial subject which does not seem to attract the attention of the powers that be is the expense and trouble that our supporters have to bear when games are called off at short notice. These problems I feel we must face up to although thankfully these bad winters only

seem to come once in several years. As soon as we covered our pitch with straw the thaw set in, perhaps there is a moral here.

Since our last League game on the County Ground we have signed Peter Dornan from Linfield, the Northern Ireland League Club and we all wish him well and hope that he will enjoy his stay with us. We also signed Alan Mayes of course to whom we also wish the best of luck.

We now have a very good squad of players and we are looking for the success that all clubs aim for.

On Sunday 11th March we are opening up our ground facilities for the purpose of a sponsored walk in aid of the Home Farm Trust. The Home Farm Turst is an organisation that provides homes, work and life long care for the mentally handicapped. Homes are purchased in different parts of the country when funds become available and these homes accommodate approximately thirty residents and eight living in staff. There is no need for me to say that this is a worthy cause because everyone must feel a need to help where possible. Mrs. Betty Kerr is organising this appeal and we hope that it will be a successful day.

Hoping that you will enjoy todays game and thank you for your support.

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IN TOWN TODAY



Back Row L to R
A. Eden, B.Wright, E. Laybourne, G. Cockerill, A. Harding, P. Hubbard
Standing L to R
B. Loxley (Physio), T. Cooper, M. Harford, C. Wiggington, K. Fox, P. Grotier, J. Ward,
B. Guest, I. Branfoot (Coach) (now with Southampton)

Seated L to R D. Sunley, G. Hobson, D. Leigh, A. Jones, W. Bell (Manager), J. Fleming, T. Loxley, D. Hughes, M. Smith

IN TOWN TODAY

LINCOLN'S ENORMOUS TASK

Postponements due to ice and snow hit Lincoln harder than most clubs for, in addition to the big gap they must close on the clubs above them, the Imps now face a back-log of fixtures. And they have an enormous task ahead of them if they are to escape relegation.

Lincoln received another blow when their soconsistent goalkeeper, Peter Grotier, was injured. Manager Willie Bell then signed Laurie Sivell on loan from Ipswich.

Laurie is one of the smallest goalkeepers in the Football League but makes up for lack of size with his agility.

The defence in front of the goalkeeper is usually Brendan Guest, Clive Wiggington, Terry Cooper and Dennis Leigh.

Guest developed in the junior team at Sincil Bank and won his first chance in the Imp's League eleven two seasons ago. Wigginton was signed from Scunthorpe at the beginning of this season. He had ealrlier spent several years as a Grimsby player until signing for Scunthorpe in 1975.

Cooper opened his career with Newport County and moved on to Notts County in 1970. He first joined Lincoln on loan in 1971/72 but he returned to Meadow Lane until he made the full transfer the following season. Leigh kicked off with Doncaster Rovers and he then moved on to Rotherham United in 1968. He spent four years in the Millers' first-team until joining Lincoln in 1973.

Midfield players include Phil Neale, John Fleming, Alan Harding, Glenn Cockerill and Phil Hubbard.

Neale is one of the now rare brand of cricketerfootballers. He turns out for Worcestershire during the summer. He made his first appearances for Lincoln's senior side four seasons ago.

Fleming made his League debut against Carlisle in October 1971. He was an Oxford player then and enjoyed almost four seasons as a first-teamer at The Manor before moving on to Lincoln in 1975. Harding has now played over 200 League games for the Imps since his transfer from Darlington in 1973. In 1970/71 he was Darlington's top scorer with 18 goals.

Cockerill is another player to develop in the juniors. He got his chance in defence and attack.

Hubbard is in his second spell with the club that launched his League career back in 1965/66. In 1970/71 and the following season he was their top scorer and Norwich signed him for £20,000 in 1972. He moved on to Grimsby a year later and returned to Lincoln in 1976.

Last week Lincoln sold winger Tommy Tynan to Newport for £25,000 so the attack will probably be selected from John Ward, Mick Harford and Gordon Hobson.

Tynan was only signed from Sheffield Wednesday this season. He started his career with Liverpool and, though he didn't get into their League eleven, he made his League bow while on loan to Swansea in 1975/76. Wednesday signed him in 1976 and last season he was their leading scorer with 21 goals.

Ward missed most of last season through injury but was the Imps' top scorer for the three previous campaigns with 13 goals in 1974/75, followed by 29 and 19. Back in 1971/72 he spent a short period on loan to Workington.

Harford came into the side last season when he finished joint top scorer with nine goals. Hobson scored on his League debut against Cambridge in April 1978 and held his place for the remainder of the season. He has been in the side for almost the whole of this term, though he sometimes appears as substitute.

Lincoln have been on the bottom of the table almost all season. They won their opening game 2 - 1 at home to Tranmere but then went 19 games without another victory.

Their only away victory came at Peterborough (1 - 0) on Boxing Day and their only other away point from Sheffield Wednesday (0 - 0) in November.

The Imps were beaten on their visits to Swansea (0 - 3), Plymouth (1 - 2), Rotherham (0 - 2), Shrewsbury (0 - 2), Brentford (1 - 2), Blackpool (0 - 2), Gillingham (2 - 4), Southend (0 - 2), Exeter (2 - 3), Watford (0 - 2), Carlisle (0 - 2) and Colchester (0 - 2).

They were beaten in the first round of both Cups going out 1 - 3 on aggregate to Bradford City in the League Cup and losing 1 - 2 at Blackpool in the F. A. Cup.

By Tony Pullein

From our Tame Statistician Dr. B. E. Cooper

Since my last article in the Hull City programme on December 9th 1978 we have played only 6 league games. I am sure there was no truth in the rumours that the club management was trying to let the County Ground to a colony of eskimos. Let us hope that today the team can put aside the skis, skates and snow shoes and wear their normal football boots. Although we are now in February there are still 21 matches to play. Thus we are only halfway through the season.

Before forecasting the future let us look back to remind ourselves what has happened so far. Consider the first 12 matches in comparison with the next 12 matches as summarised in the tables below:

	First		
	Home	Away	Total
Points	10	2	12
Matches	6	6	12

Matches 13 to 24

	Home	Away	Total
Points	12	6	18
Matches	7	5	12

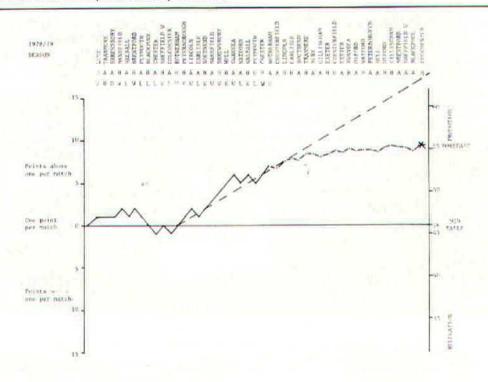
Thus the improvement in the second set of 12 matches over the first 12 is plain to see, The first

12 matches produced 12 points but to the second set of 12 matches produced 18 points. If we could maintain the improved performance for the rest of the season we could gain as many as 64 points. The latest match at Rotherham is not included in the above tables but it reinforces the improved performance.

My forecast, based on all matches, shows an increase over the previous forecast to predict 55 points. I have drawn my usual diagram to show the forecast. I have also shown as a dotted line the path to 64 points based on maintaining the more recent improved form. If we keep close to that line we will be playing in Division 2 next season without doubt.

The forecast line however still shows clearly that we can expect to make good progress in the next quarter of the season and that the last quarter prediction is pretty flat at about one point per game. Thus we must make the most of the next few games to build up points at substantially more than one per game and then avoid dropping too many in the last quarter of the season. Sounds easy doesn't it? But it isn't. However with the tremendous talent now in the first team squad I am sure we will make it inspite of my forecast.

Cheer the team into Division Two.





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From COMMERCIAL OFFICE

Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen

A month without a home gate has meant that the profits from our Lottery and Bingo Competitions has had to be used to keep the Club going from week to week. It is increasingly difficult to maintain the high level of profits that we have attained in the past and with this inmind a GRAND EASTER DRAW will take place on Easter Saturday. Prizes in this draw will total £1,000 with a FIRST PRIZE of £500 plus 22 other prizes. Tickets are 10p each.

Agents are still wanted for our Lottery and Bingo Competition. Commission's paid on all sales plus a bonus for all winners sold. Interested? Ring us on SWINDON 31510 or 42984 for details. Remember you are under no obligation whatsoever.

We also require two part-time canvassers male or female. Good wages paid to suitable persons. For further details call at the Pools of Lottery Office and ask for Mr. Burwell or Mr. Moore.

If you are interested in helping with the Fund-Raising Schemes fill in the form below and return to the Pools Office.

Doug Buswell
Commercial Consultant.

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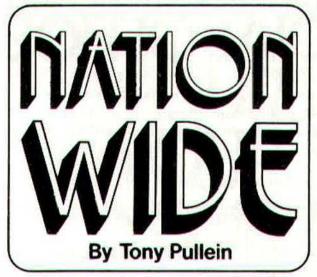
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It says much for soccer's rapidly-changing values that the world's most expensive goalkeeper should make his bow in a Second Division match last Saturday. Phil Parkes, whose £565,000 transfer from Q.P.R. to West Ham also made him the second costliest player of any position in Britain, had a fairly quiet debut against visiting Oldham Athletic at Upton Park.

Parkes showed his potential with one fantastic reflex save to an Alan Young header just before half-time but, as West Ham turned on the style in the second-half, Parkes became a virtual spectator. Trevor Brooking yet again revealed his England class with some curling free-kicks and so-accurate cross-field passes and the Hammers' two second-half goals - - - headers from Alvin Martin and Bryan Robsons - - - both came from his passes.

West Ham looked First Division material on that performance and the renewed confidence which Parkes has given the defence could well prove to be the critical factor as the pressure increases towards the end of the season.

With Stockport County trailing 1-4 at Barnsley with only ten minutes to go, there seemed no hope that they would salvage anything. But Les Bradd struck back with a remarkable hat-trick in seven minutes to give his side a 4-4 draw!

That took his tally for the season to 17. Stockport paid a club record £15,000 to sign Les from Notts County last summer. In his Notts County days, Bradd established a new club record of 125 League goals in 11 years.

Another hat-trickster was Sunderland's Gary Rowell who hit three of their goals in a 4-1 win at Newcastle - - - their first win over their neighbours for 13 years. Gary's final goal came from a penalty and it took his total to 20, making him the Second Division's second-highest scorer. West Ham's Bryan Robson scored once against Oldham to lift him onto 21. That was Rowell's first hattrick in first-class football.

Sunderland, unbeaten in seven League games, have come right at an opportune moment but manager Billy Elliott is still seeking at least one new player. The man he would like to sign is Bolton's Neil Whatmore who has been out of the

side for most of the season, though he was named as substitute against Chelsea last week.

Whatmore scored 31 goals for Bolton in 1976/77 and 21 last season but he was moved back into midfield to accomodate Alan Gowling this season. The switch was not a success and he later lost his place.

Huddersfield Town, former League Champions and F.A. Cup winners, now face the unhappy prospect of being forced to apply for re-election to the Fourth Division. A run of four successive defeats, culminating with last Saturday's 0-1 home defeat by Newport County, placed them in a most delicate position.

When Halifax scored their shock win at Port Vale, it left Huddersfield as the only Fourth Division side without an away win to their credit. For Halifax it was only their second win in 28 League and Cup games this season and it was their first away from home since last Easter. Halifax's only other win this season was by 2-1 at home to Stockport back in August. They then went 22 League games without another win — just eight short of the League record — and when that sequence finally came to an end at Vale Park, the irony was that the only goal of the game should be scored for Halifax by a Port Vale defender! Bill Bentley put the ball past his own goalkeeper in the 34th minute.

Newcastle coach Peter Morris became the third Peterborough manager this season when he took over at London Road this week, following John Barnwell and Billy Hails. Mr. Morris was previously player/manager of Mansfield Town but left last year to join Newcastle's coaching staff.

The man who had hoped to land the Peterborough job was former West Ham and England forward Geoff Hurst, currently in charge of Southern League Telford United and a member of Ron Greenwood's England coaching staff. Hurst had been offered the Peterborough post and was thrilled at the prospect of gaining experience in League management.

But the deal fell through when Telford demanded £20,000 for his release. "I'm angry that my career prospects have been spoiled through no fault of my own," he stated this week.

"I was looking forward to the step up to League football but it was a disagreement between the two chairman that cost the chance. I would have thought that a fee of around £5,000 would have have adequate. Now I shall have to wait."

Charlton boss Andy Nelson has been enduring a difficult week following the loss of his two top strikers. Mike Flanagan walked out when a projected transfer to an American club could not be agreed while Derek Hales, re-instated after being sacked a few weeks ago, chipped an ankle bone in last Saturday's game with Leicester and is likely to be out of action for two months.

Flanagan who has scored 16 goals, failed to turn up for training and was immediately suspended. "I believe he is joining a family decorating business," said Mr. Nelson. "I haven't seen him for several days. If he wants to do that for the next two-and-a-half years - - the remainder of his contract with us - - - he is welcome to do so."



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SATURDAY 3rd MARCH 1979

SWINDON

- J. ALLAN
- 2. B. HAMILTON
- 3. A. FORD
- 4. R. McHALE
- 5. S. AIZLEWOOD
- 6. K. STROUD
- 7. I. MILLER
- 8. R. CARTER
- 9. A. ROWLAND
- 10. A. MAYES
- 11. C. KAMARA
- 12. P. BATES

at 3.00 pm



Next Match Division III

Saturday, 10th March, 1979

CARLISLE UNITED

3.00 p.m.

LINCOLN

- 1. P. HUBBARD
- 2. M. SMITH
- 3. C. WIGGINTON
- 4. D. LEIGH
- 5. B. GUEST
- 6. A. HARDING
- 7. G. WATSON
- 8. G. COCKERILL
- 9. G. HOBSON
- 10. J. WARD
- 11. M. HARFORD
- 12. D. SUNLEY

Linesmen: Red Flag - Mr. J. L. CONNOCK, Bristol. Yellow Flag - Mr. D. F. HURVED, Exeter

REFEREE: KEN SALMON (Barnet, Herts)

Started refereeing in 1963 and progressed via the Mid-Herts., West Herts. & Herts. County Leagues on to the Isthmian Football League list. Refereed the Hertfordshire Senior Cup Final in 1972, and lined the England v. Wales Amateur International in 1970, a Football League Cup Semi-Final (1974), and a U.E.F.A. Cup match in Sweden (1975). Was reserve official for the England v. Wales World Cup Qualifier at Wembley in 1973. A married man, with three children, he is a

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KEY OF THE BOARD

- A Chester v Oxford Utd.
- B Gillingham v Peterborough
- C Mansfield v Blackpool
- D Plymouth v Walsall
- E Roterham v Carlisle
- F Sheffield Wed, v Shrewsbury
- G Tranmere v Brentford
- H Watford v Chesterfield
- 1 Aston Villa v Birmingham
- J Bristol City v Manchester Utd.
- K Chelsea v Liverpool
- L Coventry v West Brom. Alb.
- M Everton v Q.P. Rangers
- N Ipswich v Nottm, Forest
- O Leeds v Norwich
- P Manchester City v Bolton
- Q Southampton v Arsenal
- R Tottenham H. v Derby
- S Wolverhampton v Middlesbrough
- T Crystal Palace v Wrexham