

4th ROUND FA CUP

Swindon Town

v

**Tottenham
Hotspur**



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Bob Smith says.....

Again I find it difficult to say too much in my notes this week because most of the games since I last wrote have been postponed but we did manage to fit in one game thank goodness, that was against Barnsley. In this match the players gained a most valuable two points by giving a battling performance where in the first half we had to defend against a lot of pressure but in the second half we came out and played a lot more football to attain our win. This was the kind of performance we are going to have to reproduce before the end of the season. Teams are trying that much harder against Swindon Town because of our success in all of the Competitions and I should imagine they are looking for some reflected glory from anything they can gain from us. We are now accustomed to this situation and are prepared for it.

Today we welcome Tottenham Hotspur to the County Ground, the Spurs being managed by an ex team mate of mine from my early playing days at Scunthorpe United. I have a lot of respect for Keith Burkinshaw remembering his capabilities as a player and also his honesty as a Manager. In their side Spurs have many good players and I was present at Old Trafford when they beat Manchester United, a victory they thoroughly deserved. With so many good players on the field today in both sides today's game should be good value for your money.

Thank you all for coming and once again I would ask you all to give the players the vocal encouragement I know you are capable of for, as I have said many time before your cheers are an integral part of our plans and the louder you shout the more likely it will be that you will be cheering at Wembley.



NEXT MATCH

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Talk of the Town by the Chairman

This afternoon, we are pleased to welcome the Players and Officials of Tottenham Hotspur F.C.

Our last visit from our opponents today, was in a pre-season friendly with a totally different atmosphere from today.

Whatever the outcome of today's game, we are certain to see the skills which make up the best of English football.

At the time of writing these notes, the home game with Wolves, has not been played and so I cannot comment, but at least we know that we still have the second leg to play at Molineux on Tuesday evening 12th February kick off 7.30 p.m.

Among the many letters, which I have received during these last few weeks was a letter from a Mr. F. Jeanil from Birmingham who wrote on behalf of one of our longest supporters Mr. Arthur Sheppard.

Mr. Sheppard was present at the County Ground seventy years ago when we beat Manchester United 1-0 in the Cup with a last gasp effort in the last minute of the game.

Harold Fleming scored this valuable goal.

This was the season 1910-11 that we were winners of the Southern League and we have a photograph of this team at the Club today. The squad in those days comprised Skiller, Hemmings, Kay, Walker, Tait, Bannister, Silto, Lamb, Jefferson, Fleming, Wheatcroft, Burkinshaw, Bown and Bolland.

Mr. Sheppard follows our progress with great interest, listening to radio reports etc., but unfortunately cannot watch television because he lost his sight many years ago, but he is still proud to be a supporter of Swindon Town.

The problems of our changing climate is one of the biggest headaches that Clubs have to face and at this time of year, many a game is won and lost because of the treacherous ground conditions. We have had a lot of help from people who have turned out to help us cover and uncover the pitch, from people who have supplied us with covers and organised the necessary transport.

I would like to thank especially Mr. Howard of

Marston Farm, Devizes and Mr. Bill Dore our Director for their generosity in supplying this covering, which includes bales and bales of straw.

Bob Smith knows that success means a hundred per cent team work, from every supporter connected with our Club and when the end of this season is over, whatever the outcome, we must be all ready for the next stage of our progress.

We know now that after all the hard work of covering our pitch that this was not the answer and the layer of ice on top of the frost bound ground prevented our game with Rotherham being played. Bob Jefferies has quickly re-arranged this game for Tuesday, 29th January here on the County Ground. Another date for your diaries is Oxford away on Wednesday, 6th February, both games kicking off at 7.30 p.m.

The ticket distribution as you now know for today's game had to be switched to last Sunday afternoon and again a thank you for all the help that our Stewards gave to enable this to be a success.

While surveying the pitch which was still ice bound on Sunday afternoon we decided to try braziers all over the surface but on Monday morning it was pouring with rain, that is how our climate changes in a few hours.

The publicity which Coventry received for their undersoil heating must make Clubs realise that it is a priority in their needs and we at Swindon are certainly going into the details of such a scheme.

It is not so straight forward as at first it seems, because so much depends on the kind of soil and the drainage system of ones playing surface. We have a clay base at the County Ground, but we shall certainly call in the experts to thoroughly investigate the possibilities.

Undersoil heating has been a failure on one or two pitches to date but these were not the hot water pipes that Coventry use. The ideal of course is the scheme that some American Clubs use, with a canopy over the whole ground which of course enables everybody to sit, but the climate again is different from ours.

Hoping that our climate will be kind to us today and that we shall all enjoy today's game.

Thank you for your support and I hope that your keenness to come to our cup ties will bring more to our League games.

Swindon Town's complete F.A. Cup record against first division clubs

Date	Venue	Opponents (Round)	Result	Scorers	Attendance	Receipts
11.1.08	Home	Sheffield United (1)	DO-0		11,289	£526
16.1.08	Away	Sheffield United (R)	W3-2*	Warburton, Tout, Johnston	19,566	£651
19.2.10	Home	Tottenham H. (3)	W3-2	Fleming 3	11,818	£756
26.3.10	a	Newcastle United (SF)	LO-2		33,000	£2,213
14.1.11	Home	Notts County (1)	W3-1	Bown 2, Fleming	12,332	£776
4.2.11	Home	Woolwich Arsenal (2)	W1-0	Jefferson	14,861	£950
3.2.12	Home	Notts County (2)	W2-0	Fleming, Wheatcroft	13,780	£896
9.3.12	Home	Everton (4)	W2-1	Jefferson, Bown	13,989	£933
22.2.13	Away	Sunderland (3)	L2-4	Fleming, Wheatcroft	24,865	£1,659
10.1.14	Home	Manchester United (1)	W1-0	Fleming	18,107	£1,183
31.1.14	Away	Bolton W. (2)	L2-4	Batty 2	50,452	£1,658
9.1.15	b	Chelsea (1)	D1-1	Denyer	22,944	£721
16.1.15	Away	Chelsea (R)	L2-5*	Wheatcroft, Jefferson	18,610	£607
31.1.20	Away	Chelsea (2)	L0-4		67,054	£5,073
8.1.21	Home	Sheffield United (1)	W1-0	Fleming	18,685	£1,846
29.1.21	Home	Chelsea (2)	L0-2		21,261	£2,158
28.1.22	Home	Blackburn Rovers (2)	L0-1		19,143	£1,523
8.3.24	Home	Burnley (4)	D1-1	Fleming	22,310	£2,618
12.3.24	Away	Burnley (R)	L1-3	Johnson	34,089	£2,301
28.1.28	Home	The Wednesday (4)	L1-2	Morris	17,494	£1,382
12.1.29	Home	Newcastle United (3)	W2-0	Morris 2	17,689	£2,086
26.1.29	Away	Burnley (4)	D3-3	Morris 2, Denyer	30,689	£1,691
30.1.29	Home	Burnley (R)	W3-2	Dickenson, Morris, Eddleston	24,730	£1,615
16.2.29	Home	Arsenal (5)	D0-0		16,692	£2,061
20.2.29	Away	Arsenal (R)	L0-1		49,382	£3,349
11.1.30	Away	Manchester United (3)	W2-0	Eddleston, Roberts	33,226	£2,075
25.1.30	Home	Manchester City (4)	D1-1	McCloy o.g.	23,697	£2,786
29.1.30	Away	Manchester City (R)	L1-10	Morris	46,082	£2,979
26.1.35	Home	Preston N.E. (4)	L0-2		24,480	£1,576
8.1.38	Away	Grimsby Town (3)	D1-1	Jones	14,000	£845
12.1.38	Home	Grimsby Town (R)	W2-1	Morton, Fowler	23,101	£1,453
10.1.48	Away	Burnley (3)	W2-0	Dryden, Owen	34,229	£3,104
8.1.49	Home	Stoke City (3)	L1-3	Owen	26,335	£2,046
2.2.52	Home	Stoke City (4)	D1-1	Bain	28,140	£2,657
4.2.52	Away	Stoke City (R)	W1-0	Millar	29,332	£3,200
10.1.53	Away	Manchester City (3)	L0-7		28,953	£3,923
28.1.56	Away	Charlton A. (4)	L1-2	Edwards	28,042	£3,568
29.1.63	Home	Everton (4)	L1-5	Smith	26,215	£4,039
15.2.64	Home	West Ham United (5)	L1-3	McPherson	28,582	£5,472
28.1.67	Away	West Ham United (3)	D3-3	Rogers 2, Brown	37,440	£9,048
31.1.67	Home	West Ham United (R)	W3-1	Penman, Rogers, Skeen	25,789	£5,409
11.3.67	Away	Nottingham F. (5)	DO-0		45,898	£11,454
14.3.67	Home	Nottingham F. (R)	D1-1*	Walker	28,008	£7,372
20.3.67	c	Nottingham F. (R)	L0-3		52,956	£13,150
17.2.68	Away	Sheffield W. (4)	L1-2	Smart	37,457	£11,500
21.2.70	Home	Leeds United (6)	L0-2		27,500	£10,328
23.1.71	Away	Leeds United (4)	L0-4		36,985	
15.1.72	Home	Arsenal (3)	L0-2		32,000	£12,594
13.1.73	Home	Birmingham City (3)	W2-0	Butler, Treacy pen.	17,373	
3.2.73	Away	West Bromwich A. (4)	L0-2		20,795	
25.1.75	Away	West Ham United (4)	D1-1	Eastoe	35,679	
28.1.75	Home	West Ham United (R)	L1-2	Anderson	26,749	
29.1.77	Home	Everton (4)	D2-2	Syrett, Stroud	24,347	£24,494
1.2.77	Away	Everton (R)	L1-2	Anderson	38,063	
7.1.78	Away	Nottingham F. (3)	L1-4	Moss	28,953	

a = White Hart Lane

b = Home tie, played at Stamford Bridge by mutual agreement

c = Villa Park

(R) = Replay

* After extra time



HODDLE, GLENN
(Midfield). 6 ft. 1 in.

Has made eight appearances in the England Under-21 team and one in the England 'B'. Born at Hayes Middlesex, but attended Burnt Mill School, Harlow, and played for Harlow District and the Essex Under-15 and Under-19 teams. Signed for Spurs as an apprentice in April, 1974, and upgraded to full professional in April, 1975. Played for the England Youth team and as a schoolboy also played fly-half in the West Essex rugby team. Made his League debut for Spurs as a substitute at home to Norwich City in August, 1975, and his appearance total now stands at 122, in the course of which he has scored 24 goals. He has also made 14 appearances in the F.A. Cup and League Cup, scoring four goals.



PERRYMAN, STEPHEN
(Midfield). 5 ft. 8 in.

Club captain. Born at Ealing and played for Middlesex, London and England Boys. Joined Spurs as an apprentice in July, 1967, and was upgraded to full professional in January, 1969. Made his League debut at home to Sunderland in September, 1969, and now has a total of 392 League appearances to his credit, in the course of which he has scored 23 goals. Has been ever-present in each of the last three seasons, and has not missed a match since the away fixture with Sheffield United in December, 1975. He has also played in 101 major cup-ties, scoring eight goals. Made 17 appearances for the England Under-23s. Is in business as a sports outfitter at Hayes in Middlesex.



DAINES, BARRY
(Goalkeeper). 5 ft. 11½ in.

Was out of action for a large part of last season through injury. Born at Witham and played for Chelmsford, Mid-Essex and Essex County Boys before joining Spurs as an apprentice. Upgraded to full professional rank in September, 1969. Played for the England Youth team and was a member of Spurs' team that won the F.A. Youth Cup in 1970. His total of League appearances now stands at 86, and he has also played in 11 F.A. Cup, League Cup and U.E.F.A. Cup matches. Made his League debut at home to West Bromwich Albion in November, 1971.

Skill second to none

by Colin Benson

When revueing the Tottenham Hotspur side these days, there is no doubt that three names roll off the tongue without a second thought. They are Osvaldo Ardiles, Ricardo Villa and Glen Hoddle, perhaps amongst the most skilled performers in the land.

Keith Burkinshaw the Spurs boss was praised for his sense of adventure when he went to South America the summer before last and came back with two members of Argentina's World Cup winning squad. It heralded a new era and paved the way for English fans, such as yourselves, to enjoy the magic and splendour of some of the world's greatest players.

It was the little genius OSVALDO ARDILES who made the bigger impact of the two imports. Now 27, he started his career playing in his native Cordoba for a local team called Instituto, and then moved onto Huracan in 1975, where he became established as a top class player, earning 45 caps for his country.

An exceptionally good mover off the ball, he is well balanced and able to take opponents out of the game with a deft pass or a controlled dribble. His passing is exceptional and he tends to use top spin which is entirely unorthodox in British football, but with him it is a natural action which he has developed since childhood.

For all his ability he is not a great goalscorer although he is capable of scoring great goals, as Manchester United will testify following their exit in the previous round of the F.A. Cup.

But even for as an accomplished performer as Ardiles, today's match at the County Ground is a great test of his adaptability, for if there is one thing the Argentinians do not like, it is being closed down early in midfield. And you can bet that Swindon will be doing that.

RICARDO VILLA is a different proposition. A six footer from Buenos Aires he played for the Racing Club before moving to London where he took rather longer to acclimatise to the rigours of the English game.

It is only this season he has really established himself and it says much for his character that he showed no resentment to being left out of the

side. Many players who had been whisked away from a World Cup final team to spend most of their time on the substitutes bench would have demanded a showdown. But not Villa, he just put in extra time in training and bided his time.

A strong powerful runner, he possesses amazing tight control and the more people commit themselves the better he likes it. He has the ability to knock the ball to one side or over an opponent coming in and the strength to make an opponents tackle work in his favour. He does this by placing his leg in the right place to make the ball rebound in his favour - shades of the great Pele - and a skill which South Americans work hard on.

In Villa's case, Mr. Burkinshaw believes; "it is a natural action rather than something that he has been taught. He is so strong that when opponents try to force him off the ball bodily, he just shrugs them off."

Perhaps one of the finest tributes to these two players came recently from another Argentinian, Claudio Marangoni, now with Sunderland. He told me, "Ardiles and Villa are not only great players, but great people. They are two of the nicest characters you could wish to meet."

The man who Keith Burkinshaw rates as the most skilled player on Tottenham's books is, Glen Hoddle, another six footer, with the poise and technique of a truly great player.

At the age of 22, Glen is already being hailed as the new Bobby Charlton of English soccer, following his sensational international debut against Bulgaria last December.

But the young midfield star refused to get carried away by the publicity and answered. "Only when I get the chance against better sides than Bulgaria should you pass judgement". Hopefully that chance will come next June in the finals of the European Championship in Italy.

It is not surprising that he has received the plaudits for his superb ball control, accurate passing and imaginative vision represent the sort of skills so sadly lacking in our modern game. Add to that an incredibly accurate shot that can be struck from practically any distance and you will see why the comparison to Charlton has been made.

Hoddle is one of the most exciting young players in the country, yet it was only last season that he was having trouble getting in the side, due mainly to his application. But class always shows in the end and he now seems to have established himself in the team.

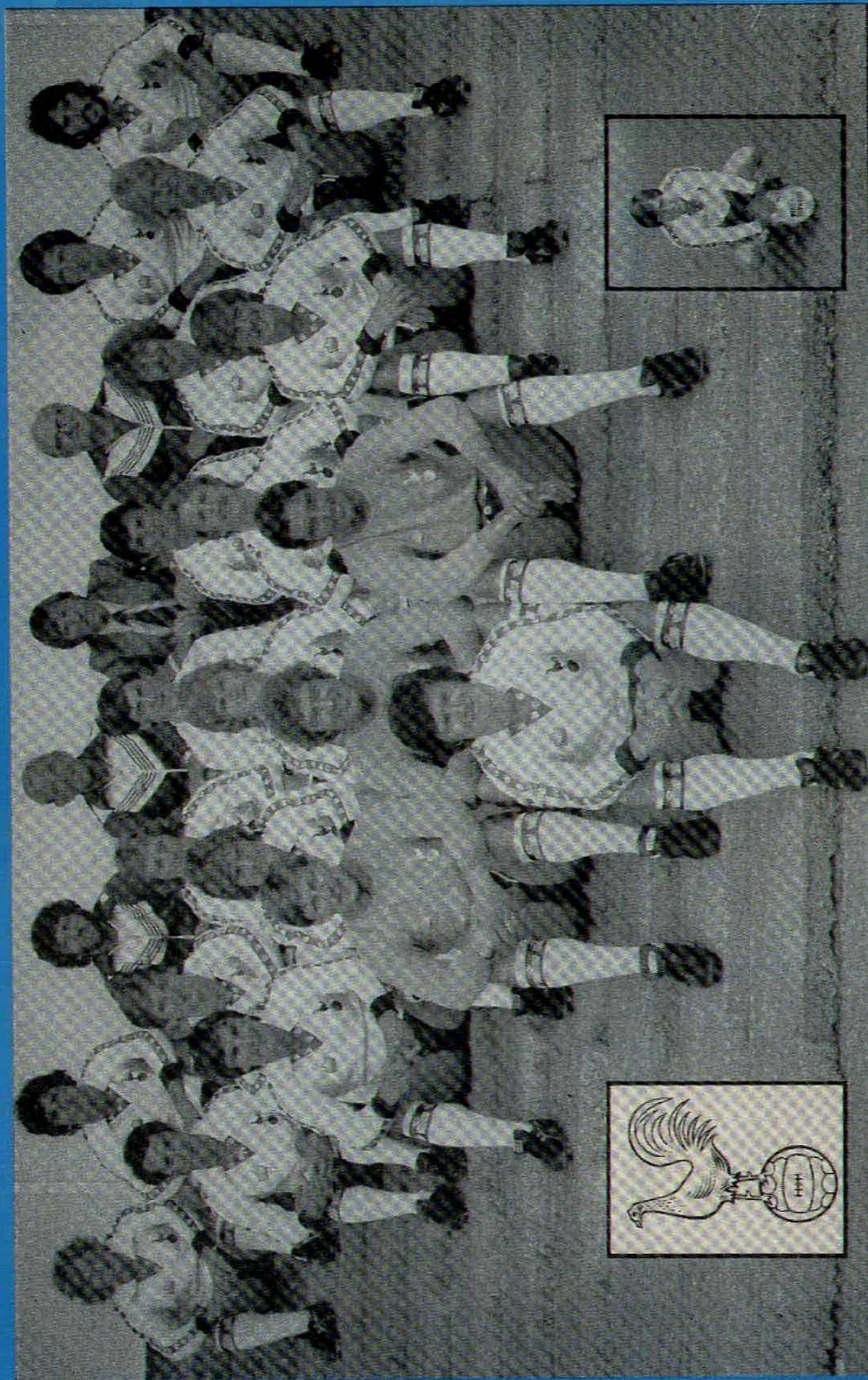
One of his specialities is free kicks, just outside the box. If he gets the chance this afternoon watch how he bends the ball. And when it comes to goalscoring, who can better that one two with Ardiles which Glen volleyed into the Manchester United net in the League Cup, or for that matter his spectacular volley against Bulgaria.



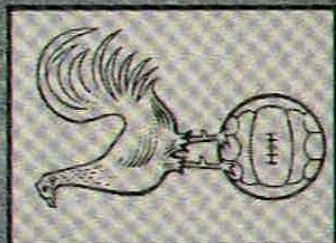
PAUL MILLER

Steve Perryman and Osvaldo Ardiles in action





BACK ROW S. BLAVAN, J. LACY, M. VAHNEY (Private), P. WELTON (Assistant Manager), K. BURKINSHAW (Manager), J. WALLIS (Trainer), C. LEE, R. VILLA. **4th ROW** G. ADAMS, M. FALCO, C. JONES, A. GALVIN, P. MILLER, G. ARMSTRONG, D. McALLISTER. **3rd ROW** J. PRATT, G. HOODLE, G. SMITH, T. NAYLOR, J. HOLMES. **GOALKEEPERS** M. KENDALL, B. DAINES, M. ALEXSIC. **FRONT** S. PERRYMAN. **INSET** P. TAYLOR





ARDILES, OSVALDO
(Midfield). 5 ft. 6 in.

Joined Spurs in July, 1978 after playing a big part in Argentina's triumph in the World Cup that year. Had played in many full internationals for his country before joining Spurs, has worn the shirt of Argentina again this summer. Born in Cordoba, where he attended Montserrat School, and later the local university. Had been at law school for four years before leaving the Argentine. Developed his football with the Cordoba Institute team and joined the Huracan club of Buenos Aires in 1975. Made 38 League appearances for us last season, scoring three goals, and also played in seven League Cup and F.A. Cup matches, scoring once.



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Super Spurs' Great Cup Record

Spurs, a team packed with real Super Stars, possess a truly magnificent record in Cup football. They are the only club to appear in seven finals of the F.A. and League Cups and win the lot!

Indeed, Tottenham have played in a total of ten major finals and been beaten only once. That was in 1974 when they lost 2-4 on aggregate to Feyenoord in the final of the UEFA Cup.

Now Tottenham aim to take their Cup fighting reputation into the 'eighties. After breaking their Manchester United hoodoo in the last round, they are ready to go all the way to Wembley again.

A goal by Ossie Ardiles, a few minutes from the end of extra-time in the Old Trafford replay, earned Spurs their fourth round place. Earlier this season they were knocked out of the League Cup by United who also beat them in the sixth round of last season's F.A. Cup.

Tottenham made an atrocious start to the season, losing their opening three League games, but they have since shown a tremendous improvement. At one stage they were bottom of the First Division but they have since risen up the table and, though still in some danger of relegation, they are playing with such conviction as to suggest they will finish well clear of trouble.

The team has shown several changes since those early weeks. Milija Aleksic took over in goal, until injured at Old Trafford, and Don McAllister has been recalled to a defence which has been lining up: Chris Hughton, McAllister, Steve Perryman and Gordon Smith. When Aleksic dropped out, Barry Daines won back his place in goal.

Aleksic made his League debut for Plymouth in 1973/74 and, during his spell at Home Park, he was loaned out to Oxford and Ipswich. Luton paid £20,000 for him in 1976 and sold him to Spurs three years later for £100,000.

Daines was for many years a patient understudy to Pat Jennings but he won a much-deserved regular spot in 1977 and has now made over 100 League appearances.

Hughton is a versatile player who can play on both sides of the defence. He won his first-team chance this season. McAllister spent five years as a Bolton first-teamer before joining Spurs for £80,000 in 1975.

Perryman is a product of the club's youth policy

but he has been in the side since 1969 and he can look back on some 400 senior games. Steve is a former England under-23 international. Smith was signed last season, from Aston Villa for £150,000. A former Scottish under-23 international, Gordon joined Villa from St Johnstone for £75,000 in 1976.

An injury to Smith at Manchester United, saw a switching of defensive positions to enable young Paul Miller to return in the middle. Another Tottenham discovery, Paul made his League debut last season.

Spurs' midfield remained the same with Glenn Hoddle, John Pratt and Terry Yorath operating most effectively in this area. But a recent change in tactics saw Ossie Ardiles revert to his old midfield role at the expense of Pratt.

Hoddle made a dream England debut against Bulgaria at Wembley this season, capping it with one of his specialist long-range goals. Glenn made his senior bow in 1975/76. Last season he was used as a striker for a while and he was the subject of a £1-million bid from an un-named club. Glenn earned a regular place in the England under-21 side last season.

Pratt is a Spurs' discovery who first came into the side in 1968/69 and who has now played more than 300 first-team games for them.

Yorath, skipper of the Welsh national team, was signed from Coventry on the eve of this season's big kick-off for £300,000. Terry now has 50 Welsh caps, gaining the first when he was still a Leeds' reserve. He moved on to Coventry for £135,000 in 1976 and last season was on the short-lift for the post of player-manager to Cardiff City.

Ardiles starred in Argentina's World Cup winning team of 1978 and, a few weeks later, was snapped up by Spurs from Huracan in a £750,000 joint deal with Ricardo Villa, who previously played for Racing Club.

Villa has been in and out of the Spurs' side since his arrival in England but has recently been restored to attack with Chris Jones and Gerry Armstrong.

Jones has enjoyed many long runs in the side since his introduction in 1974/75 and in 1976/77 he was their leading scorer.

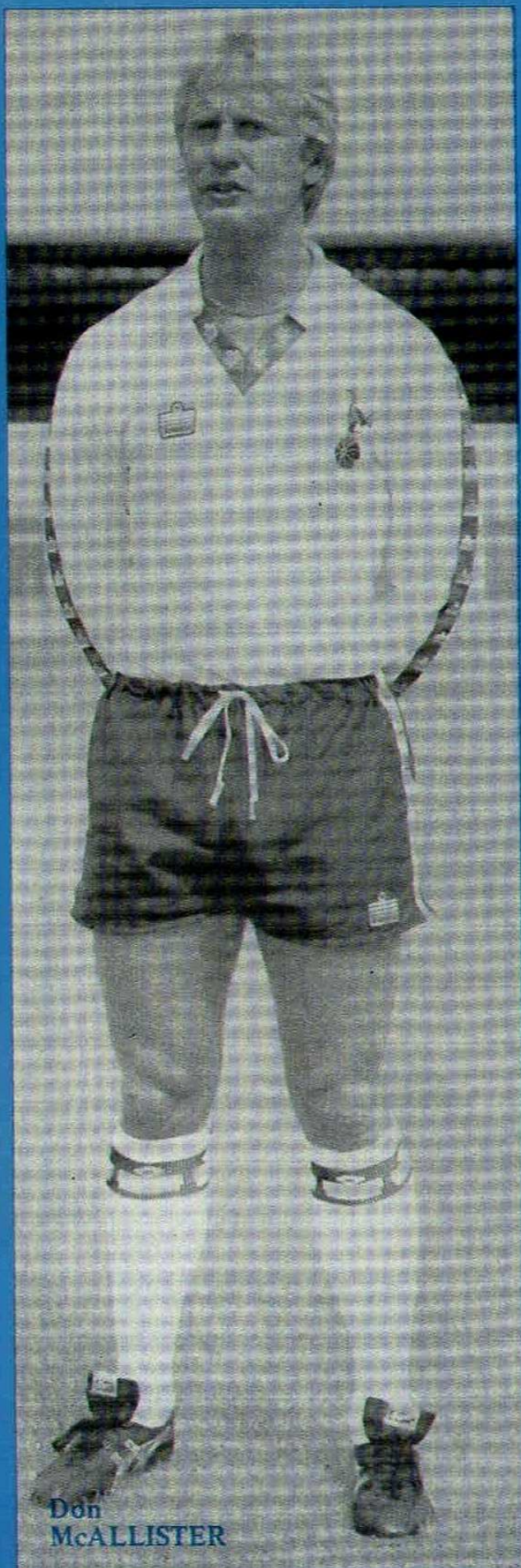
Armstrong joined Spurs from Bangor for £25,000 in 1975 and has been capped by N. Ireland on 19 occasions.



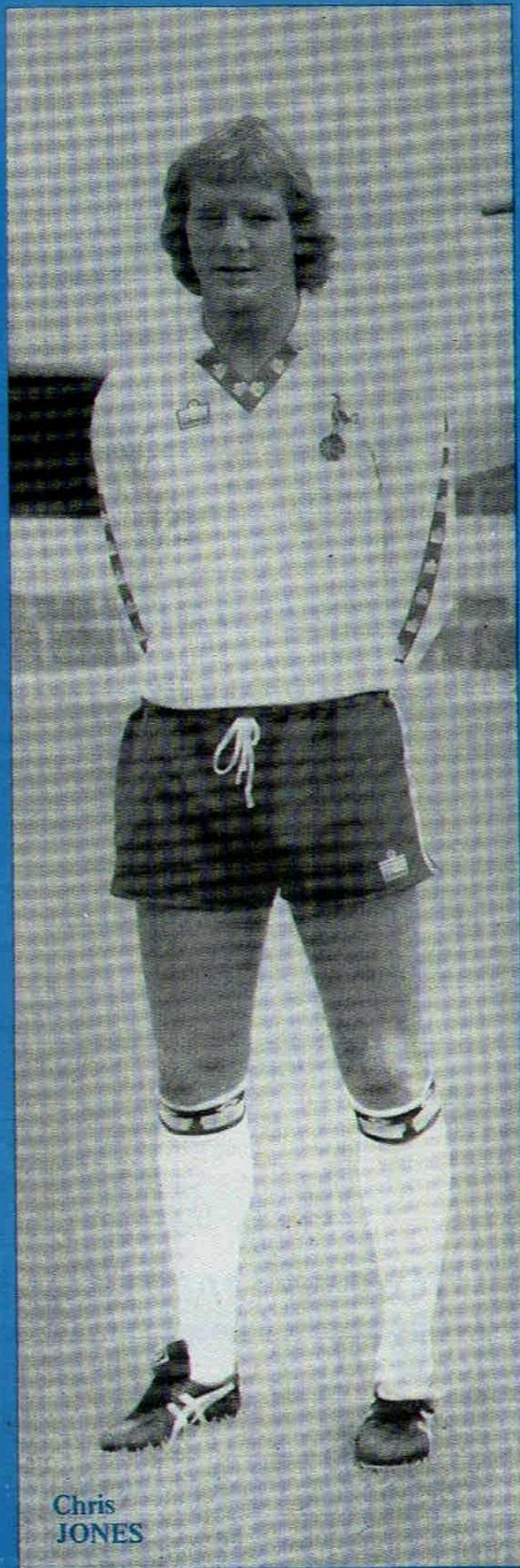
VILLA, RICARDO

(Forward). 6 ft. 0 in.

Signed at the same time as Osvaldo Ardiles from Argentinian football in July, 1978. Born in Buenos Aires and joined the Quilmes club of that city on leaving the state school as a 17-year-old. Moved to Atlético Tucuman, and when he left that club for the Racing Club of Buenos Aires, he became the most expensive signing in the history of Argentinian football. It was from Racing Club that he joined Spurs, and like Ardiles, he was visiting Britain for the first time when he arrived last year. Scored on making his League debut for Spurs away to Nottingham Forest on the opening day of last season, and finished the campaign with three goals from the 32 First Division matches in which he played. Also played in seven League Cup and F.A. Cup matches. Likes outdoor life, and is keen on hunting and fishing. Played for Argentina in the World Cup last year.



Don
McALLISTER



Chris
JONES

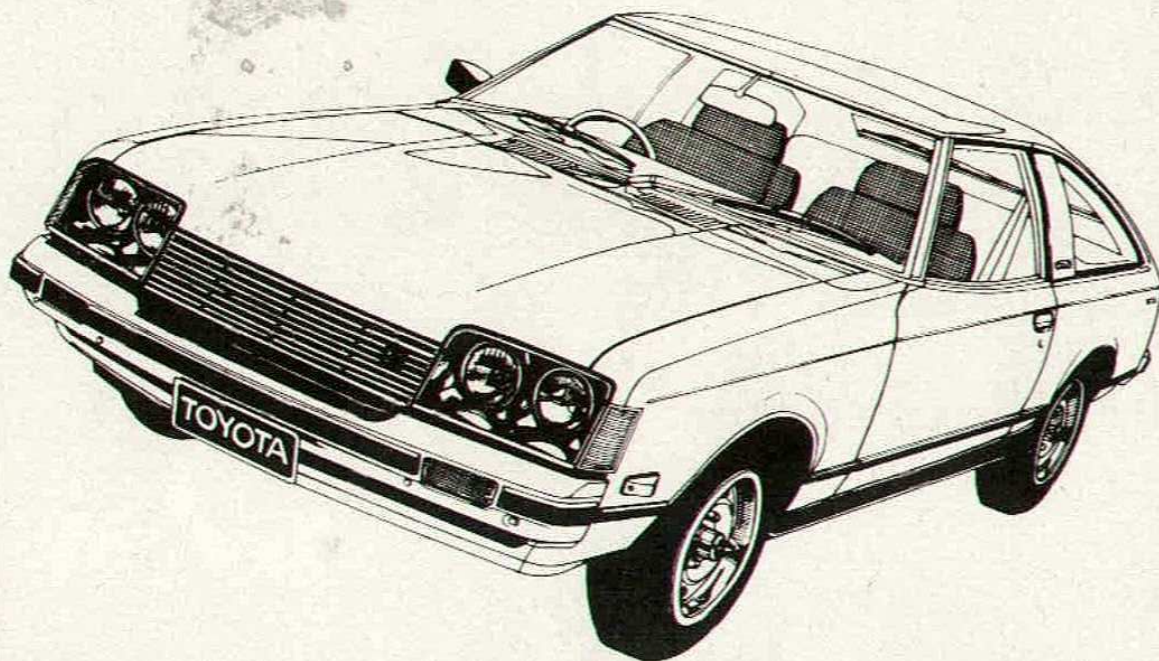
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FIAT

Town through Time— More Cup Exploits of long ago

After a Southern League Championship success and a CharityShield appearance, Swindon were back on the F.A. Cup trail in earnest in January 1912. The thirteenth of that month proved unlucky for the now defunct Sutton Junction - a Nottinghamshire outfit featuring at outside-left one Harry Martin, who was to spend many years here as trainer. The Town went a goal up in seven minutes through HAROLD FLEMING and eventually coasted to a 5 - 0 win. Fleming helped himself to four goals in all, the last coming after a run from the half-way line when he waltzed through the entire Sutton defence! ARCHIE BOWN chipped in with the other ten minutes before the interval. The Second Round brought another Notts side - County - here to Swindon. Just before the break, visiting left-back West managed to sit on the ball and was duly pounced upon by numerous Town forwards. BOB JEFFERSON was accredited with having forced the ball over the line, much to the delight of 13,780 onlookers. Near the close County's giant keeper Albert Iremonger was again beaten when FREDDY WHEATCROFT converted a fine centre from Sammy Lamb.

The next hurdle was a trip to East London to fellow Southern Leaguers West Ham. About eighteen thousand saw Swindon fall a goal behind in only ten minutes when Butcher was left ni acres of space to give keeper Len skiller no chance whatsoever. The Town hit back to equalise when HAROLD FLEMING tapped home a centre. There was no further scoring and so a replay took place on Wednesday February 28. It was virtually one-way traffic toward the Hammers' goal and after 22 minutes the breakthrough came. From a Tommy Bolland corner, keeper Hughes and left-back GLOVER rose together and the ball glanced off the defender's head into the net. Barely nine minutes had passed when it was 2-0. Fleming was about to apply his head to an Archie Bown cross when GLOVER again intervened - and again the ball finished up in the net! The United goal fell again in the 68th minute when BOB JEFFERSON blasted in and a fourth came from FREDDY WHEATCROFT ten minutes from time. The Town's Fourth Round task was a home tie with Everton - then third in Division One. At left-back for the Toffeemen was Jock Macconachie who joined the County Ground staff when Swindon were later elected to the Third Division. The Merseysiders never recovered from two Town goals inside the first twenty minutes.

JEFFERSON gratefully accepted a Wheatcroft pass and unleashed a blistering drive which Irish keeper Scott had no hope of stopping. ARCHIE BOWN headed the second from a Sammy Lamb corner. Swindon maintained the two-goal lead until early in the second-half when Harold Makepeace, an England International in both soccer and cricket, pulled one back for Everton. The left-half lifted the ball over the Town back line and, much to keeper Len Skiller's disgust, into the net via someone's shoulder. The score stayed at 2-1, however, and Swindon were in the semi-finals for the second time in just three years - when they had done it with a forward line costing only £75!

Opponents this time were Second Division Barnsley and the battle ground was Stamford Bridge. Playing in white shirts and black shorts in front of 48,057, Swindon came closest to scoring when a Fleming header rapped the crossbar. Harold was far too clever for the Barnsley defence but paid the price when harsh treatment reduced him to a crippled passenger in the later stages. He was to be out of football for ten months. Barnsley got the draw they had wanted, but had not deserved and the replay took place in Nottingham at Meadow Lane with Jack Burkinshaw replacing the injured international. Swindon's penalty expert, Billy Tout, was also absent - and, of course, the inevitable happened. When Jefferson was upended no one volunteered to take the kick. Bown was eventually persuaded, but saw keeper Cooper pull off a miraculous save. It was the Town who thus paid the ultimate penalty when, ten minutes into the second-half, a Bartrop corner was headed home by centre-half Bratley - one of the chief culprits in that bruising first game.



BILLY TOUT
sorely missed in the
semi-finals of 1912

F.A. Cup Scene by Tony Pullein

Manchester's Piccadilly was a bleak place after the third round of the F.A. Cup, with both City and United going out at the first stage. But depression in Manchester could scarcely match the feelings of Leicester fans whose team was made to look real squares by Isthmian League Hardlow Town.

The magic of the F.A. Cup is in full swing again!

A fourth round programme without either of the Manchester clubs is almost unthinkable. United did at least go out with a fight, losing to a late replay goal to Tottenham at Old Trafford. But the manner of City's passing almost demanded a state funeral.

Even manager Malcolm Allison was sick after City's 1-0 defeat at Fourth Division Halifax. "It was just about the worst thing that could have happened to us at this time," he confessed. "Some of my players were beginning to show a lack of confidence and this is going to knock them hard.

"It was in the moments after the game that I recalled a little joke that the former England centre-forward Nat Lofthouse used to have with me. He spent his entire career with Bolton and he used to say that their season always came to an end in January when they were knocked out of the Cup.

"I'm not going to let that happen to us. On the face of it we have nothing left to play for. But I'm going to work with each of my players to ensure that every one of them is playing to his full capabilities by the end of the season."

United's chances of creating a Wembley F.A. Cup record went when they lost at home to a Spurs' side which ended the game with Glenn Hoddle in goal. United had appeared in the finals of 1976, 1977 and 1979 and could have become the first club to appear in four Wembley F.A. Cup finals in five years.

Harlow Town's achievement in knocking out Second Division Leicester in a replay must go down as one of the finest giant-killing acts of all time. It is quite rare for a non-League club to raise its game twice against a top professional side. Harlow were a trifle lucky to equalise in the last minute of the first match at Leicester. To win the replay 1-0 was magnificent.

But it wasn't the first time they had done it. In the previous round they drew away to Southend and then succeeded 1-0 in the replay. Harlow manager Ian Wolstenholme admitted some surprise at the way Leicester tackled the tie.

"They didn't vary their tactics throughout either game. Even though they weren't getting any change out of us they kept on doing the same thing, using long balls that our defence gobbled up."

Altrincham Town put up a brave fight against Second Division Orient but, after losing the replay 1-2 at Brisbane Road, there was a feeling in the Altrincham camp that maybe they had done their League aspirations more good by losing!

The point is that Altrincham have already done more than enough to prove their worthiness to a place in the Fourth Division. In recent years they have knocked out Rochdale, Hartlepool and Scunthorpe and drawn 1-1 at both Everton and Tottenham. In both cases their First Division opponents needed a penalty to earn the replay.

This season Altrincham knocked out Crewe and Rotherham before drawing the first match with Orient 1-1. At the end of the battle a proud manager Tony Sanders beamed: "We've lost, but Orient had to play at the very peak of their game to beat us."

An extended Cup run could have jeopardised Altrincham's chances of winning the championship of the Football Alliance. For most of the season they had held a comfortable lead at the top but, when they faced Orient, Weymouth had crept to within one point of them. Only if they finish top of the Alliance will Altrincham's name go forward for election to the Football League. "We're making that our top priority now," said Mr. Sanders.

Several fancied teams went out at the first stage. Southampton, F.A. Cup winners of 1976 and League Cup finalists last season, fancied their Cup chances at a time when they had run into top form in the League. But the Saints were well beaten by Second Division Birmingham and even manager Lawrie McMenemy had no complaints about the result. "I had a feeling this would happen," he shrugged.

Leeds United were another side that had recovered from a bad start in the League to hit something like their old form so it was a shock to find them crashing 1-4 at home to Nottingham Forest.

In a third round that produced more shocks than usual, Wigan Athletic added to the toll by winning 1-0 at Chelsea; Tommy Gore was their goal hero who shocked the Stamford Bridge fans. Chelsea will not lose too much sleep, however, for they are more intent upon winning promotion this season.

Goodbye 70's

A statistical review of Swindon Town during the last decade by Paul Plowman

For the Town, 1980 began in much the same manner as 1970 - with a Third Round F. A. Cup win away from home. Ten years ago it was Blackburn Rovers - like Luton, challenging the Second Division leaders - who were humbled by Swindon. John Smith, Arthur Horsfield, Don Rogers and Joe Butler were all on target for the Town in an emphatic 4-0 victory. Swindon went on to reach the Sixth Round - the best performance of the 'seventies - before going down at home to Leeds United. In all the Town were involved in 39 F.A. Cup matches during the decade and netted 84 goals in the process. Twenty two of them came in 1976/77 with seven against non-league Bromley boosting the total somewhat. Only once did a game not produce a goal - at Boreham Wood in November 1977, but it did produce the lowest Cup gate of 2,242.

In League competition, the Town gained exactly 437 points from 437 games. The year of 1970 started in firm style with a run of ten undefeated matches before Norwich won 1-0 on Easter Monday. Three more games were staged at the County Ground during the 1970's than away, attracting 2,120,143 - for an average of 9,637. Swindon's trips pulled in another 2,045,328 through the turnstiles - an average 9,425. The highest gate to witness a League game involving the Town was 31,736 at Carrow Road, Norwich in April 1972 - whilst the lowest was at Halifax in October 1974, just 1,730.

In a total of 511 League, League Cup and F.A. Cup games 735 goals were scored, the six highest scorers being as follows:

	Lge	Lge Cup	F.A.Cup	Total
David Moss	60	7	14	81
Peter Eastoe	43	1	6	50
Trevor Anderson	35	5	7	47
Don Rogers	38	4	1	43
Arthur Horsfield	33	3	5	41
Dave Syrett	30	1	7	38

Six Town players notched hat-tricks - all in League games: Peter Noble (Feb.71), Arthur Horsfield (Feb. 72), David Moss (Nov. 74), Peter Eastoe (Apr. 75), Trevor Anderson (Apr. 76 - all penalties) and Alan Mayes (Feb. 79 - on his debut).

Whilst the 8-0 drubbing of Bury last month equalled a 40-year club record, there were other

scoring efforts of note. In February 1976 Swindon hit five first-half goals against Aldershot in a 6-3 win and went one better with six after the break when Bromley came here in November 1976. The Town conceded five before the change round on two occasions - at Sunderland in April 1971 and at Crystal Palace in September 1974.

John Trollope began the decade on 404 League appearances and went on to accumulate 756 - just eight short of the all-time one club record. Jimmy Allan and Kenny Stroud, who both made their debuts on the same September afternoon in 1971, are still going strong with over 200 League appearances behind them.

Swindon's first League position of the 'seventies was eighth in Division Two and the club went on to finish a best-ever fifth by the end of that first season. The highest at any time during the ten years was, ironically, in the relegation season of 1973-74. The Town sat in second place on September 8 after gaining five points from the opening three games. On two occasions Swindon were at the very bottom of the Third Division - both during 1975-76 and both following home defeats, by Colchester and Mansfield respectively.



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John Ward talks to Russell Lewis

"How did you get on with Russell then?" asked the other players after the interview. "I bet you couldn't get a word out of him. Mind you he's more talkative now than when he first came. He actually opened his mouth once during a game the other day!" "Russ should be in the British Secret Service," said Kevin Morris, Swindon's physiotherapist. "He would make a super spy. No matter what you did to him, torture, electric shocks, the lot, he would still say nothing."

In the next breath however those who tease Russell Lewis most about his silence go on to praise his qualities as a footballer: "Russell has never let us down defensively this season. If it's a cold, misty night at somewhere grim like Halifax with only a few hundred people in the ground . . . it starts to rain and over comes the ball. Some players might think 'No thank you, I don't really like that one.' Not Russell: he's in like that!" Kevin Morris's clenched right fist strikes the open palm of his left hand with a fearsome thwack which makes me flinch. It gives me some idea of what it must be like to be on the receiving end of one of Russell's single minded, ball-winning tackles; and how he could doggedly head away balls at knee height amidst the flailing boots in the Swindon penalty area at Highbury.

Russell comes from the village of Blaengwynfi near Port Talbot in South Wales. It is in the heart of rugby country and sure enough he played both games as a boy: amazingly perhaps for someone of his build he played at outside half. Soccer was his first choice however and soon he was playing for Bridgend in the Welsh League. He was noticed by several ex-Swansea players who told the former Swindon centre half, Mel Nurse and on his recommendation Russell came to Swindon. After a brief spell in the club's hostel he was in digs for three years before moving into a flat in Wroughton. He is now in his fourth season having arrived immediately after completing his apprenticeship as a bricklayer. He still keeps his hand in: he has just built a new wall in Bryan Hamilton's garden! "It was lovely having him round," says Bryan. He got on marvellously with the children."



Russell himself continued to release information like a miser parts with gold. He had been a centre half as long as he could remember; yes, he did think it was his best position but as long as he was in the first team he didn't really mind where he played. Had he been depressed playing for so long in the reserves, I asked. "Yes," he admitted after a long pause. (Was there ever a less talkative Welshman?) "You are always up and down in football and I get down in the dumps if I am left out. But I've had a good run now. It's done a lot for my confidence." Another long silence ensued. Russell looked hard at the floor. "Thank you very much," I said. "That's it then?" he asked hopefully. Exit Russell Lewis, a player quite content to let his football do the talking.

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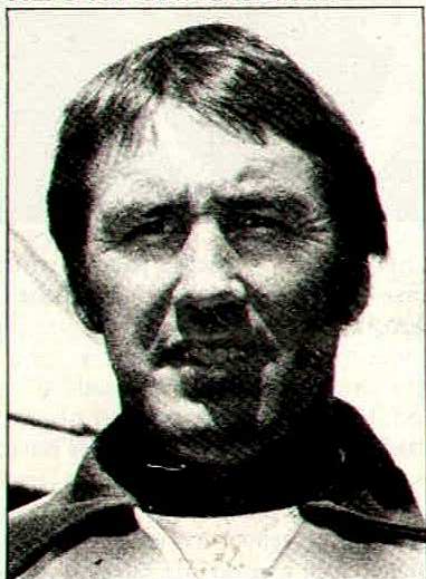
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HE'S IN CHARGE . . .



KEITH BURKINSHAW has been Spurs' manager since July, 1976, when he was promoted from the position of coach he had held throughout the previous season. A fully-qualified F.A. coach, he had spent seven years on the coaching staff of Newcastle United, four of them as coach to the senior team.

A Yorkshireman from Higham, near Barnsley, Keith played as a schoolboy for the Barnsley District team. As a young player he was in Wolverhampton Wanderers' nursery team in Yorkshire, but was later spotted by Liverpool when playing for Denaby United in the Midland League.

He gave up his job in the local pit for a career in professional football, and filled the wing-half position. In 1957 he left Liverpool for Workington, and spent eight seasons at Borough Park. During that time he filled the post of player-manager. In May, 1965 he joined Scunthorpe United solely as a player, but during his three seasons at the Old Show Ground, he had a ten-month spell as caretaker-manager.

. . . RIGHT-HAND MAN



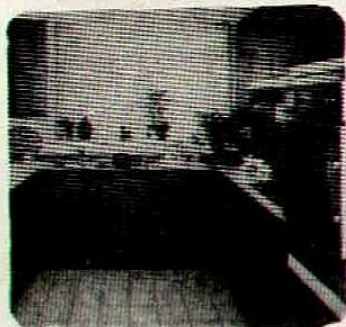
PAT WELTON was appointed assistant manager at the time Keith Burkinshaw was promoted to his present post.

Pat had joined Spurs as Youth Team Manager in August, 1969, and in his first season we were winners of the F.A. Youth Cup, a performance that was repeated under his guidance in 1974.

Pat is a fully-qualified F.A. coach, who was England's Youth team manager for several years. For some time he combined this post with his job as Physical Education Instructor at Forest School, Snaresbrook, in addition to managing Walthamstow Avenue.

He was born at Eltham, and played for Chislehurst before turning professional with Orient in 1949. A goalkeeper, he spent nine seasons with Orient before finishing his League career with Queen's Park Rangers. Later he had a spell as manager of St. Alban's City.

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Alfred W. GREY (Great Yarmouth)

Commenced refereeing in Norfolk in 1960 and via the Football Combination qualified for the Football League full list in 1972. Was an F.A. Cup Final and European Cup Semi-Final linesman 1972, and an F.A. Amateur Cup official in 1972. Refereed the F.A. Youth Cup Final in 1977 and the F.A. Trophy Final in 1978. Appointed to the F.I.F.A. panel 1977.

A married man, with two sons, he is Cold Store Superintendent for a frozen food company. Apart from interests in gardening, tennis and cricket, collects coins and is a chorister in his local parish church. Is Chairman of the East Anglia Section of Association of Football League Referees and Linesmen and Vice-President of the Great Yarmouth Referees Association.

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