

40p

SPOTLAND SCENE



**ROCHDALE
A.F.C.**

Canon



DIVISION FOUR

SATURDAY 8th March 1986

Kick-off 3 p.m.

DALE v SWINDON TOWN

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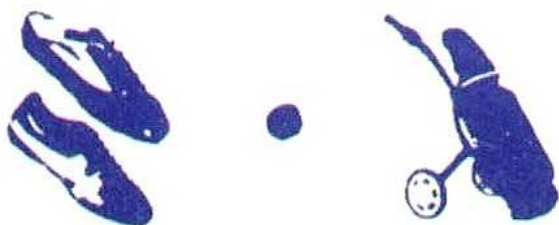
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SUPPORTERS SCENE

The supporters club held a general meeting recently, with the main aim that of dispelling fears that Dale were about to up roots and move to Boundary Park.

Rumours have been abundant that Dale would be playing at Boundary Park next season along with Oldham Athletic.

Although a ground-sharing scheme had been denied by both clubs in the press, people were still wondering if there was any truth in it.

Dale chairman Mr David Kilpatrick slipped out of a board meeting on the night to assure supporters there was nothing in the rumours, and that Dale would still be playing at Spotland next season.

Manager Vic Halom attended the meeting, and took part in a question and answer session covering various aspects of football, and Mike Davies, who is working on the commercial and sponsorship side of things outlined various plans in the pipeline.



We would like to thank the supporters who turned up last Sunday to help in various ways for the Tommy Cannon road race.



Tomorrow, our friends from Bolton, are organising a Dale programme fair in the players' lounge. Thousands of various programme will be on view for sale. Last years' fair was a big success, and tomorrow's promises to be just as good.

It is doubtful if anyone will make an offer for one programme that was on view last year. It was one from the game between Red Star Belgrade and Manchester United — the match just before the Munich disaster. The sale price was more than £500.

The 10th Annual Rochdale FOOTBALL PROGRAMME FAIR

SUNDAY 9th MARCH 1986

**in
THE ROCHDALE A.F.C. SOCIAL CLUB
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***THOUSANDS OF PROGRAMMES
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Dale's new Grand National lottery tickets are now available. The tickets add a bit of spice to life with the £1,000 first prize riding on the back of the Grand National winner.

Of the tickets available for sale, 100 of them have the name of a horse hidden under the scrape-off covering in the bottom right hand corner. Each name appears only once in the tickets.

Those who buy a ticket with a horse's name on it win £1 immediately and also go into the National 'sweep' for the big prize.

Unfortunately, by the day of the National those 100 nags will have been trimmed down to between 30 and 40 runners due to withdrawals from the list of contenders.

This will mean disappointment for some people, but, no doubt, those with a horse out on the course on the day will be on the edge of their seats from the moment the flag drops to the unsaddling enclosure.

The tickets, which are going well, offer other instant prizes on games with a Grand National flavour.

Don't delay, buy some today, and perhaps have a chance of £1,000 on National day. The odds then could be only 40-1 or less on you having the winner.

Your programme editor has landed a horse, but tales differ from it being a 'good un' to 'it's only got three legs'.

You do get commission on selling tickets, and there is a prize for the agent who sells the winning £1,000 ticket.

Why not become an agent now, and join a winning team. If you are interested please contact Brian Johnson or Karen Hodkinson at the club during office hours. They will be pleased to give you further information.

Don't forget, for just 25p you can get a touch of Grand National fever. Get the bit between your teeth and buy now for a possible chance of Aintree glory.

Remember, every sale helps Dale.

Lottery Agents Required

*Contact Brian Johnson
or Karen Hodkinson*

0706 44648 — or call in

FACTS ON OUR VISITORS

Today 'Dale will be looking for revenge against a team which comprehensively beat Rochdale 4-0 at the County Ground, Swindon, back in October.

Since then Swindon have climbed to the heady heights of the fourth division while 'dale have dropped down through dropped points and postponed matches.

Formed in 1881 Swindon were elected to the third division in 1920.

During their early third division (south) years, they had one of the leagues most prolific goalscorers. In his first season at Swindon, (1962-27) Harry Morris scored 53 league and cup goals. During his eight years at Swindon, Harry scored 230 goals, twice scoring five goals in matches.

Swindon Town have spent their years drifting between the second and third divisions, their best position being fifth in the second division in the 1969-70 season.

"The Robins" won the Football League Cup as a third division club in 1968-9. In 1980 Swindon paid a record £150,000 to Southampton for David Peach.

They were relegated to the fourth division for the first time in 1982, and in 1983 Aston Villa paid a record £250,000 for Paul Rideout.

Swindon have had a most successful season, As well as riding high in the fourth division, Swindon have had a most successful Milk Cup season. After dispatching Torquay, "The Robins" did the division proud by bundling Lawrie McMenemys multi-million pound Sunderland out, in the second round of the Milk Cup. Even better was to follow of the Milk Cup. Even better was to follow as 12,110 ecstatic Swindon supporters saw Peter Coyne's 10th minute goal put the mighty Sheffield Wednesday out of the Milk Cup and earn a fourth round tie at Ipswich. The bubble burst at Portman Road, but such a spirited and successful cup run must show to the high and mighty of the "fashionable" first division clubs that they should leave the league intact.

THANKS

On behalf of Supporters United, I would like to thank you for your assistance with our "goodwill handshakes" on New Year's Day.

Thanks mainly to your efforts, it is estimated that the handshakes took place at about 80% of the grounds. Since several matches were postponed on that day, we were delighted with this level of response. In fact, some of the Clubs whose games were called off have offered to stage the handshake at another time which we find very encouraging.

We now feel that there is a better understanding between ourselves and the Supporters Clubs and would be pleased if you could run articles in your programme, and play our record to keep supporters informed of our activities and encourage them to join us. If you need any further information, please write to me at the above address, or contact Tony Russell, P.O. Box 89, Reading, Berks.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Mrs. J. M. Willcock
Committee Member
Supporters United.



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**Rochdale Hospice Appeal would like to thank
all who took part in the Tommy Cannon run last
Sunday your support was greatly appreciated**

Player of the Match Award

Opponents	Sponsor	Winner
Darlington (FA cup):	Montys of Oldham	Ian McMahon
Scunthorpe:	Mr David Walkden	Steve Taylor
Scunthorpe (FA cup):	Mr Bernard Manning Jnr	Paul Heaton
Southend:	Mr Bill Dronsfield	—
Torquay:	Mr Graham Morris	Joe Cooke
Cambridge:	Mr David Kilpatrick	Ronnie Moore
Port Vale:	Mr Peter Birchall	John Seasman
Hartlepool:	Mr Harry Carter	Dave Redfern
Hereford:	Mr Len Hilton	
Burnley:	Magnum Concert Direction Ltd, Oldham	
Orient:	Mr Tommy Cannon	
Swindon:	Newbold Tyres, Milnrow Road, Rochdale	
Tranmere:	Royal Bank of Scotland (The Butts, Rochdale)	
Halifax:	RAFC Executive Club	
Colchester:	Oldham Motor Auctions	
Mansfield:	Montys of Oldham	
Chester:	Mr Trevor Carter	
Chester (FRT):	Julie (Tommy Cannon's Daughter)	Dave Grant

PLAYER SPONSORSHIP

Dale would like to thank New Pennine Way Turkish and Sauna, of Shaw, Oldham, who have sponsored Steve Taylor's tracksuit, also Adam and Daniel Waterman of London for sponsoring Ronnie Moore's tracksuit, and the Paul Heaton Appreciation Society for sponsoring Paul's boots.

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DOWN MEMORY LANE

Season 1961-62

The summer of 1961 didn't see many new players coming to Spotland — in fact during the whole season only five players made their league debut for the club. First to join was Colin Whitaker who had previously been with Q.P.R., Shresbury Bradford P.A. and Sheffield Weds. Then Doug Winton an ex Aston Villa and Burnley player joined. In July Peter Whyke of Barnsley and Doug Wragg of Mansfield and West Ham were the new arrivals. Then just before the season came probably the most notable signing - Louis Bimpson. Signed from Bournemouth, Bimpson had played in the FA Cup Final for Blackburn only a year earlier and before that had played regularly for Liverpool.

The season started well with a 3-1 win over Hartlepool being followed by a 4-1 win over Milwall (the eventual champions). The first away game saw Dale go down 1-2 at Crewe with ex Dale player Frank Lord scoring the winning goal. Back on their own ground Rochdale continued to play well with wins over Exeter and Gillingham but in September league form began to suffer. It wasn't until the middle of the season that the team really found its feet again with a run of six successive victories. But on the whole this was a season when league football was overshadowed by success in the league cup.

This was the second season of the league cup and Rochdale came through a difficult first round beating Southampton 2-1 after an away draw. They passed through the second round easily, beating Doncaster 4-0 and then beat Charlton 1-0. In the next round Dale had a bye and were then drawn to meet York City in the fifth round. They beat York 2-1 to earn a place in the semi final.

The semi final was played on a home and away basis. In the home tie Dale won 3-1 and it was as well they had for on their own ground Blackburn took an early lead. Dale lost 1-2 but it was still good enough to give them an aggregate win and a place in the final.

Norwich were the opponents in the final and in those days it was played on a home and away basis. As in the semi final, Rochdale were drawn to play at home first but this time they went down 0-3 and the same away leg was little more than a formality. Dale lost 0-4 on aggregate but still remain the only fourth division club to reach the final and, though the opposition wasn't as tough as it would be today, they still had to beat one first division and two second division clubs to get there.

In February Rochdale took part in the last league match ever played at Accrington. Dale won 2-0, completing the double but in the end the two victories didn't count and when Accrington left the league Dale lost four points. The Accrington team that day included two players with Dale connections — Joe Devlin and Mike Ferguson. For Devlin it was his last league game but Ferguson, a teenager at the time, went on to better things and in later years became a Dale player and manager.

Rochdale's top scorer for the season was Ron Cairns with 15 league and 5 cup goals. Bimpson, Hepton and Richardson were the other players to reach double figures. Cairns was also the only player to take part in every league and cup game but several others came close. Rochdale fielded a settled side for much of the season and used only 18 players for all their matches.

At the end of the season Ron Phoenix joined Altrincham and Peter Whyke signed for Scarborough. Brian Birch also left the club this season to start a coaching career that took him around the world.

League Record Won 19 Drawn 7 Lost 18 Goals for 71 Against 71.

ANDREW WOOD.

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PURE GOOD TASTE

SOCCER VIEW

By Mark Woodall

Artificial pitches or not artificial pitches? That is the question facing football.

With "plastic pitches" having been installed at Loftus Road, Queens Park Rangers ground, and also at Kenilworth Road, Luton, the idea of artificial playing surfaces is catching on.

Anyone who watched the recent QPR against Liverpool Milk Cup tie must certainly have questioned the stand taken by Luton and QPR. But seemingly the idea is catching on. Apparently Preston, Oldham and a variety of other league teams are considering installing artificial pitches. But why? What are the advantages of such a system?

The Initial cost of installing an artificial pitch is enormous, certainly for a lower-league club. QPR's "OmniTurf" pitch cost them £350,000 in 1981, but we are now led to believe that a new and indeed "better" system was installed in the close season.

If this is true, then it must surely cast a shadow over the durability of "plastic pitches".

It would be an expensive investment if the pitch had to be replaced every four or five years. Perhaps the pitch has been replaced because it was not good enough, in which case why was it installed and allowed to be used in the first place?

Once installed a synthetic surface has many advantages. It can be used regularly, much more often than a grass pitch, and therefore can be loaned out — a valuable source of income.

Other activities can be staged on a plastic pitch, as it does not suffer from the same wear and tear as "the real thing".

Pop concerts and boxing bouts can be staged with no detrimental affect to the pitch itself. Remember Barry McGuigan fighting for the feather-weight title at Loftus Road?

In these times of economic depression, clubs literally need all the money they can get, if a synthetic surface means, in the long term, cheaper running costs and more income generated, then it makes sound economic sense.

Another important advantage of such a system is the undeniable fact that matches are much more likely to be played in adverse weather conditions. Rain will drain faster and easier, mud patches (oh, do we remember those mud patches!) are non existant, while snow can be simply brushed off.

But will the public turn up anyway? The answer is not easy. If the weather is very bad, people do not like to travel or to be exposed to the bad weather for the duration of the match.

But on the other hand if the only match on in London, for example is at QPR, then more people, in theory will go, because there will be more people available to go to a match.

Apart from all this though, a synthetic pitch is not the only way to have matches played. Under-soil heating will do the same thing; thaw snow and ice, at a much lower cost. So why bother with artificial pitches at all?

Football must develop, and to do so some clubs must make precedents. Installing a synthetic surface is an experiment, just as the decision by Coventry to make their stadium an all-seater.

The burning question is: has it worked? It depends which point of view one takes. A synthetic surface virtually ensures that matches will be played. It brings the club and the community together through the use of the pitch by local people who can afford to pay for the use.

But traditionalists will still maintain that football was created to be played on grass and should continue to be played on grass — or mud.

CANON LEAGUE

DIVISION FOUR 1985/86

Fixture	Kick off	Result (Dale score first)	Dale Scorers	Attendance
AUGUST				
3 Bolton (Manx Cup)A	3.00pm	0-2	-	-
6 Burnley (Manx Cup)H	7.30pm	0-7	-	1099
10 Bury (Manx Cup)H	7.30pm	0-1	-	1005
17 AldershotH	3.00pm	2-0	Taylor, Diamond	1069
20 Wrexham (Milk Cup)A	7.30pm	0-4	-	1751
24 TorquayA	3.00pm	2-1	o.g., Moore	1,247
26 StockportH	7.30pm	4-1	Moore, Seasman, Taylor, Heaton	2,053
31 Port ValeA	3.00pm	1-1	Taylor	3,043
SEPTEMBER				
3 Wrexham (Milk Cup)H	7.30pm	2-1	Cooke, Taylor	1,275
7 PeterboroughH	3.00pm	2-1	Gamble (2)	2,600
13 HartlepoolA	7.30pm	0-2	-	1942
21 BurnleyA	3.00pm	0-1	-	4177
28 NorthamptonH	3.00pm	3-2	Moore, Grant	1,954
OCTOBER				
1 OrientA	7.30pm	0-5	-	2,650
5 SwindonA	3.00pm	0-4	-	3,086
12 CreweH	3.00pm	-	-	-
19 PrestonH	3.00pm	1-1	Taylor	2,527
23 HerefordA	7.30pm	2-2	Taylor (2)	2,761
26 TranmereA	3.00pm	0-2	-	1,552
NOVEMBER				
2 WrexhamH	3.00pm	3-2	Taylor (2), Gamble	1,600
5 ExeterH	7.30pm	1-1	Taylor	1,243
8 ColchesterA	7.30pm	1-0	McMahon	2,624
16 FA CUP ROUND ONE DarlingtonH	3.00pm	2-1	Taylor 2	1,430
23 ScunthorpeH	3.00pm	1-0	Taylor	-
30 MansfieldA	3.00pm	2-3	Taylor, Hicks	2,580
DECEMBER				
7 Scunthorpe (FA Cup)A	3.00pm	2-2	Taylor 2	2,868
10 Scunthorpe (FA Cup)H	7.30pm	2-1	Taylor, Moore	5,066
21 TorquayH	3.00pm	5-0	Taylor 2, Moore 2, Thompson	-
26 HalifaxA	11am	1-1	Taylor	2,253
28 StockportA	3.00pm	0-3	-	4,005
JANUARY				
1 CambridgeH	3.00pm	2-1	Cooke, Moore	2,049
4 M/cr United (FA Cup)H	3.00pm	0-2	-	38,500
11 Port ValeH	3.00pm	3-3	Seasman, Gamble, Taylor	2,445
18 AldershotA	3.00pm	1-2	S. Johnson	1,375
20 Chester City (FRT)H	7.30pm	1-0	o.g.	-
25 HartlepoolH	3.00pm	0-2	-	2,301
28 Wigan Ath (FRT)A	7.30pm	0-6	-	2,167
FEBRUARY				
4 HerefordH	7.30pm	-	-	-
8 PrestonA	3.00pm	-	-	-
15 ChesterA	3.00pm	-	-	-
MARCH				
1 NorthamptonA	3.00pm	0-1	-	2,146
8 SwindonH	3.00pm	-	-	-
11 WrexhamA	7.30pm	-	-	-
15 CreweA	3.00pm	-	-	-
18 BurnleyH	7.30pm	-	-	-
22 TranmereH	3.00pm	-	-	-
28 CambridgeA	7.30pm	-	-	-
31 HalifaxH	3.00pm	-	-	-
APRIL				
4 ExeterA	7.30pm	-	-	-
12 ColchesterH	3.00pm	-	-	-
18 ScunthorpeA	7.30pm	-	-	-
22 SouthendH	7.30pm	-	-	-
26 MansfieldH	3.00pm	-	-	-
29 ChesterH	7.30pm	-	-	-
MAY				
2 SouthendA	7.45pm	-	-	-

To be arranged: Peterborough A; Orient H.

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ROCHDALE

- 1 Dave Redfern
 - 2 Paul Heaton
 - 3 Dave Grant
 - 4 Ian McMahon
 - 5 Joe Cooke
 - 6 Keith Hicks
 - 7 Frank Gamble
 - 8 Steve Taylor
 - 9 Ronnie Moore
 - 10 John Seasman
 - 11 Dave Mossman
- Sub: To be named

SWINDON TOWN

- 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
 - 5
 - 6
 - 7
 - 8
 - 9
 - 10
 - 11
- Sub: To be named

REFEREE:

Mr. T. G. Holbrook
(Wolverhampton)

LINESMEN:

Mr. G. Cane
Mr K. N. Maughan

Today's Referee: Mr Terry Holbrook is a chartered secretary with a building society. He began refereeing in 1966 and progressed via the Staffordshire County and Central League. He was a linesman for a European Nations Cup match in 1982 and an FA Cup final in 1985. His interests include tennis and squash.

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Man of the Match

Today's Dale player of the match award has been donated by Newbold Tyres of Milnrow Road, Rochdale.



WELCOME

Dale would like to welcome you all to Spotland and wish you all a safe journey home.