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DISAPPOINTING FOR PALACE!

Can you imagine the massive sense of disappointment that our opponents today, Crystal Palace, must have felt when they defeated Birmingham City 4-1 last weekend only to find that Manchester City had scored a late equaliser at Bradford City.

That single point was enough to ensure the Maine Road Club automatic promotion to the First Division

Crystal Palace come to the County Ground today in the knowledge that after all their efforts to gain automatic elevation, they just failed I know that feeling, it is morale sapping and it means that you have to start all over again. The hard work is to no avail and the teams you finished above have a second chance to upset the favourites. That is how we at Swindon Town along with Blackburn Rovers and Watford will view the situation. Palace are there to be shot at after proving they were good enough to finish in front of the remaining Clubs.

NO LONGER A BOGEY TEAM

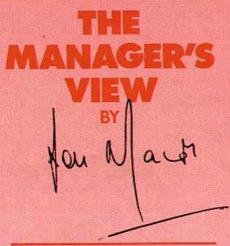
We had regarded Crystal Palace as our 'bogev' Club but that is now removed. A psychological advantage enjoyed by the London Club ended on April 25th when the Selhurst Park Club lost a vital encounter by a single goal from Steve

That win now means we can go into todays match knowing the psychological barrier is no longer there and the Palace players will be aware of this gnawing thought.

ANOTHER UNWANTED RUN SET TO END? Swindon Town have not defeated Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park for thirty three years. A record I believe is due to end. When you are the team in the ascendancy you begin to wonder if your

That is exactly what the Palace party will fear

stranglehold will break when you least want it



when we meet at Selhurst Park next Wednesday. that it is now due to be broken and I am looking toward being only the third Swindon Town Manager to travel to Selhurst Park and win a match against Crystal Palace.

I HAVE FOND MEMORIES OF SELHURST PARK Selhurst Park has many fond memories for me. It was a ground that we clinched promotion from the Third Division when we defeated Gillingham.

I am sure you all recall the minutes of joy that night. Enough nostalgia let's get down to the business of proving that we are the team to watch. We have reached a stage nobody expected us to be at. We are here on ment and we can still be the surprise packet. The other Clubs are more fancied but the Palace Bogey has disappeared, my players are geared up to prove they can do what is asked of them and in situation like the play-offs we will lack nothing.

LIFE CONTINUES AFTER A GAME ... REMEMBER THAT

A First Division future is at stake for both Clubs and I am sure that Steve Coppell will join with me in saying that the result is not the end of the world. The game and the manner in which we accept victory or defeat is the result the country

I am sure that the London Club were distraught at the events of last Saturday at their match with Birmingham City. Inadvertently they could have been at an advantage with their match finishing in arrear of Manchester City's. Such scenes are the scourge of football and one that Club officials and players shake their heads in bewilderment and dismay. If these idiots only knew what the players thought of them - deranged would be the most apt description they would give. Remember it's only a game, life continues after the final whistle.

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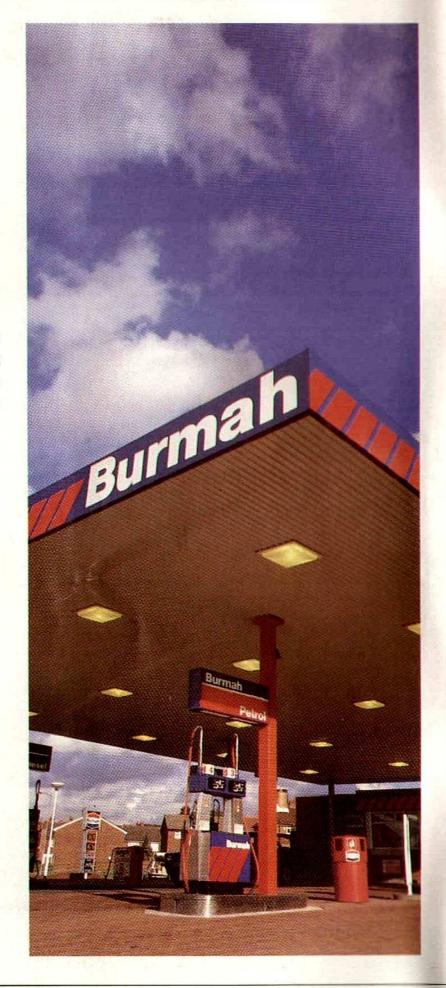
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BLIND IGNORANCE

Promotion to the First Division is obviously Swindon Town's aim, but events over the past couple of weeks have emphasised that a change in League status will bring no change in the Club's standing, with the stranglehold the so called 'big five' have over the rest of the top flight.

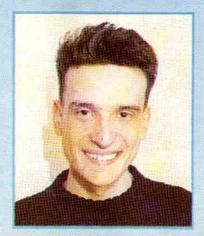
Business values taking precedence over sporting morals is not unique or particularly new to football, but the control of the few over the many emphasises the big Club's blind ignorance of the games basis, with their ruthless carving up of any available cash and their selfish plans for the future.

In any other industry, their back scratching dealings would be under some sort of investigation as the cartel they operate and the blackmail they hint at only serve to benefit each other. Democracy and football seem set never to mix, causing the game to gradually decline with the fat getting fatter and more boring by the moment. Liverpool, Everton, Manchester United, Spurs and Arsenal may hold the winning hand financially and organisationally, but if the 'Town' make it through the play-offs, they can meet them as equals on the pitch next season to show them what the game's real priorities are. Professional football is run for all supporters and not just the minority that support the big Clubs, but with their ability to manipulate the other Clubs, there seems to be little hope for Clubs like Swindon and Palace.

WHAT A RECEPTION FOR 'KAMMY'

As we clinched our play-off against Stoke City, an outsider would have had difficulty in telling which was the home side as both Chris Kamara and Dave Bamber received a rousing reception before the game. The Potter's Player of the Season, Kamara, got an ovation which went some way towards acknowledging his loyalty and service during his two brilliant spells with the 'Town', Dave Bamber's performances as the Club rose Phoenix-like from the ashes of the Fourth Division brought a

SCOTT FREE



by Michael Scott

similar reception and some good natured abuse in keeping with the eccentric style and attitude. Sadly again, though, the Stoke game brought inexplicable racist abuse from some on the County Ground terraces, considering the reception that Chris Kamara got, the idiots persisting with the offensive drivel were really excelling themselves in stupidity. Despite struggling for decent attendances, Swindon Town would be well rid of these witless wonders.

With total gates rising for the third year in a row, the argument that crowds are staying away from football is shown up for the lie that it is.

Unfortunately the indefensible hooliganism on the last day of the season has brought Colin Moynihan out from under his stone again, waving his I.D. Card and wearing his I told you so frown. If his government had carried out its promise of tackling law and order in society as a whole, then the violence that occurs at football may not be still happening now, it really is no good for Moynihan and Thatcher to complain about the results of a society

that they have helped to create and done little to improve.

THE FUTURE LOOKS BLEAK

With all that said, it is impossible for ordinary supporters to consider the Hillsborough disaster and I.D. Card threat and then final day violence, without wondering whether all the arguing is really worthwhile. Despite major progress in many areas, the future looks bleak indeed for professional football, it took a significant "U" turn a week ago yesterday which will probably make Margaret Thatcher even more determined to carry on her own no "U" turn at all cost policy.

RON - THIS IS UNFAIR

Crystal Palace Chairman, Ron Noades, is a major supporter of the play-off system, Swindon Town have the ideal opportunity to truly bring home to him how unfair and farcical the scheme is. Let us hope that we can make a mockery of the final League table and get into Division One ahead of Palace in spite of them having five more points than us over the course of forty six games. Such an unjust way of promotion will make no difference this time next year.

SIX HOURS AWAY

A Semi-Final win will ensure that my opinions get one more airing this season, but the time seems right to reflect on another great season. Highlights have to be the crucial away wins at Watford and Bournemouth, both somewhat unexpected but brilliantly executed. In spite of basing our success on team effort, Steve Foley's form this season would have to make him my own personal choice as Player of the Season, hopefully his rest for the game at Oldham will see him fully recover from his ankle injury.

The season is really only just beginning now though, as we stand only six hours away from the First Division, a good result tonight will make it possible for Selhurst Park to be a venue of glory again for Swindon Town following our last play-off success there two years ago.



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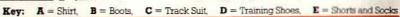
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Player of the Month. April and Player of the Season 1988/89 Colin Calderwood



Colin will be presented with his award prior to today's kick-off by Jonothan Secker Manager of the Swindon Sony Centre. Our thanks to the Swindon Sony Centre

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TODAY'S MASCOT



Name James Dean Age 7 Years Favourite team Swindon Town Favourite player ... Duncan Shearer Favourite other players ... Alan McLoughlin Tommy Jones

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THE CHAIRMAN Lpcaking

BRIAN HILLIER

THE BIG 'FIVE'

On Tuesday, May 9th, I travelled to London to attend a meeting of Football League Chairmen along with our Club Secretary, Dave King. We both left the days proceedings with an air of pessimism surrounding the future of our national game.

Quite frankly, the whole meeting revolved around the big Clubs, Liverpool, Arsenal, Tottenham Hotspur, Manchester United and Everton. At present those Clubs are recovering approximately £700,000 each from the ITV deal, compared to the £200,000 the remainder are being given. Those five Clubs clearly aim to keep matters as they are. Those five Clubs only seem to be interested in their own situations.

DISTURBING

Overall it is difficult to understand their attitude, they have to depend on other Clubs to give the First Division any credence. Surely, the strengths of the Football League is strength in depth and it is ridiculous that these Clubs should be considering otherwise.

What is the use of a strong Liverpool and Manchester United to the people of Swindon? Although it would be misleading you if I was to lead you to believe that they will change their attitude. It is disturb-

ing to see on occasions that they have little or no regard for the management committee and seem to alienate the remainder of the Football League. I fear for the future of the game in the next ten year period. I am sure that we well see some significant changes and not all for the better.

FAMILY INITIATIVES

After attending the Football League meeting in London our Club Secretary, Dave King, accompanied one of my colleagues on the Board of Directors, Richard Mattick, along with John Timms one of our Junior Robins representatives to another all day meeting at Aston Villa Football Club on Sunday, May 14th.

At Villa Park they were in attendance at a seminar on Family Initiatives. The aims of the meeting were to promote the Family Enclosure and Sponsorship. How the Football Grounds Improvement Trust can assist this initiative and how Junior Supporters Clubs accept their role within Family Enclosure and how match day arrangements and their reciprical visits can work

Here at the **County Ground** our **Junior Robins** have proved to be effective in cementing good relationships with other Clubs.



WE WILL NOT TOLERATE
THIS MORONIC BEHAVIOUR
We have recently received a
number of letters and complaints
about some of the visiting players
being subject to racist taunts and
remarks. I am convinced this is
from only a small number of
idiotic morons who we can do
without in our presence.

I can quite categorically state that we as a Club will actively encourage and support the Police authorities to remove these persons from the County Ground. We intend to stamp on this objectionable behaviour. Anyone ejected or arrested for this type of offence will receive no help or sympathy from this Club and a ban will be enforced to stop them entering the County Ground in future. Please behave, you have been warned of the consequences.

CAN WE GRASP THE CHANCE?
The time has arrived for us all to give Lou, Chic and the players every ounce of support we can muster. The prize is clear, the destiny are fresh fields for this Club. Can we grasp the unknown?

All I can state is that we can all give the situation maximum effort. We may never be this close again. We can only try but we must all be together, players and fans alike. Please give the players your maximum support.

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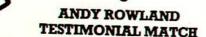
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NOTICE BOARD



Unfortunately the intended fixture with West Ham United had to be postponed due to the East London Club's fixture congestion.

Andy is now busy re-arranging a new date in our pre-season diary for next season. Details will be published as soon as they are finalised.

A brochure will be on sale on the day of the match which will pay tribute to this loyal Club servant.

Any would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported his recent testimonial dinner at Blunsdon House Hotel.

FOUL LANGUAGE AND RACIST CHANTING

We have received several complaints of foul and abusive chanting from the Town End and Shrivenham Road enclosures.

Therefore it is now our intention to take appropriate action through the courts to stamp out this unacceptable behaviour by a small minority.

Where evidence exists - which will include the use of our close circuit TV system prosecution will follow.

You have been warned...

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A History of Swindon Town Football Club by Dick Mattick

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Ex. STFC Fire Marshall Fred Coburn and his wife Sue (now at Bournemouth) would like to announce the birth of their baby daughter. They also would like to send their best wishes to Lou and all the players in the play-offs.





A SECOND LOOK

A LOOK AT THE SECOND DIVISION SCENE

ROVERS NEW WORLD LEADERS

Blackburn Rovers will become world Ipswich Town's South African born striker leaders next season by installing a revolu- Mick D'Avray has signed a new one year tionary new pitch at Ewood Park. They are contract with the Portman Road Club. The to lay down a 'techturf' surface, which has 27-year-old Springbok capped twice for the all the benefits of an artificial pitch, but is England Under-21 team, who joined Ipswich actually natural grass.

mud free surface capable of standing two or team in the last few days of the season. three times the wear of ordinary pitches, with the grass growing on a foundation mixture of sand and plastic elements.

"The only artificial thing about it is under- A doctor of philosophy is the new secretary neath. I am sure that nest season we will of West Bromwich Albion. He is Dr. John have the best surface in England," says Evans, aged 46, a Black Country man from Rovers Manager Don Mackay.

ANOTHER SCRAMBLE - DAVID PLEAT Leicester City Manager, David Pleat, on next seasons Second Division, "I have no

doubt that next season's scramble to climb into the top flight will be just as frenzied as it has been this time.

Having made that point though. I would be telling a lie if I were to say the standard has been what I expected. Some games have been excellent, but so many teams who were expecting to make an impression have faltered, allowing Chelsea to run away at the top of the table". .

SUNNY TRINIDAD, NO GIVE ME A RAINY NIGHT AT FILBERT STREET!

Not many players would willingly give up a trip to the sunshine of the West Indies to play for the reserves on a cold and wet night in England Leicester City's Martin Hidge

While the majority of the Filbert Street Club's first team squad jetted off for a game in Trinidad recently. Martin stayed behind to play in a Central League match against his former Club Sheffield Wednesday. "I have no regrets, I'm not the greatest of travellers and I had no misgivings on going to the Carribean."

CHRIS - PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Stoke City supporters have voted former Town midfield player, Chris Kamara, as their player of the Year. Chris joined the Potteries Club last summer for a fee of £28,000

ONE MORE YEAR

from his native Johannesburg as a 15-year-It provides a consistent, high quality and old, lost his place in the east Anglian Club's found it hard to settle outside of the East

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF BERTRAND RUSSELL?

Tipton. John succeeds Gordon Bennett at The Hawthorns and took up his duties earlier

Formerly with Third Division Northampton Borough three years ago. John had been Cordon Bennett, who had become increasthe role and the added pressure, is now

youth development officer at Norwich City, a post he held earlier with Bristol Rovers. Another Second Division Secretary to relinquish his post recently was Philip Hough at Oldham Athletic. Following our last League match of the season at Boundary Park he returned to live in East Anglia. Phil's wife Anglian region.

IOHN - 'IT WILL NOT CONTINUE'

Portsmouth have now had seven sending offs and 74 bookings this season. They face a heavy fine from the Football Association which will be the third consecutive season that they have appeared before the F.A. to explain their record.

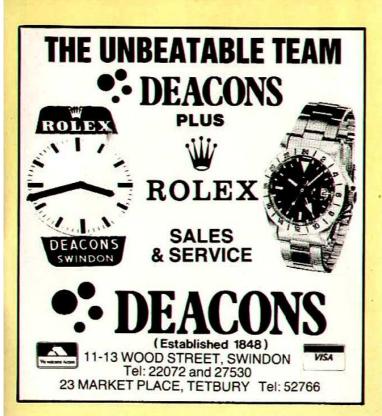
Both Gavin Maquire and Martin Khul town he joined the 'Cobblers' from Nuneaton were recently sent off at Barnsley one week after returning from suspension! Pompey combining the Secretarys job at Northampton Manager, John Gregory, said, "They will be with teaching law to fifth formers at a school fined very heavily, the P.F.A.'s recommenin Coventry. Former Bristol Rovers Secretary dation is a weeks wages and that will be the minimum. I am determined to make sure this ingly disillusioned with the interference in reputation we have is not carried into next season."

AWAY

SECOND DIVISION

Chelsea		W 15 12	D 6	L 2 3	W 14 11	D 6 5	L 3 7	F 96 77	A 50 53	Pts 99 82
Crystal Palace	46	15	6 5 4	2 4 3	8	6	9	71	49	81
Watford	45	14	5	4	8 6	7	8	74	48	78
Blackburn Rovers		16		3	6	7	10	74	59	77
Swindon Town	46	13	8	2	. 7	8	8	68	53	76
Barnsley	46	12	-	- 2	8	-6	9	66	58	74
Ipswich Town		13	8376839	37353744		4	10	71	61	73
West Bromwich Albion		13	7	2	955	11	7	65	41	72
		12	é	2	2	10	8	59	60	67
Sunderland		12	0	0			12	60	60	63
AFC Bournemouth		13	0	2	455588888888	7 5 5	13	53	62	62
		10	3	1	2	2	13	57	72	59
Stoke City		10	11	7	5	0	12	52	59	56
Bradford City			6	9	0	10	11	56	63	55
Leicester City		11	10	0	2	11	10	75	72	33
Oldham Athletic		11		9	2	11	14	62	70	54 54
Oxford United			0	6 4 6 8 7	3	6			66	54
Plymouth Argyle	46	11	9	8	3	4	12	55 57		51
Brighton & Hove Albion		11	5	1	3	9	16		66	
Portsmouth		10	64569	7	3	6	14	53	62	51
Hull City	45	7	9	1	4	5	14	52	68	47
Shrewsbury Town	46	4	11	8	4	7	12	40	67	42
Birmingham City		6	4	13	2	7	14	31	76	35
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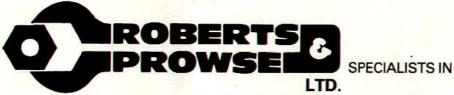
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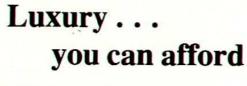
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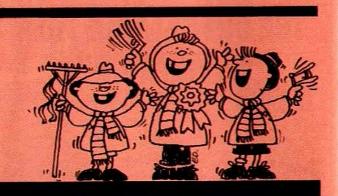
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JUNIOR ROBINS



Last Sunday I had the pleasure of attending a seminar on Family Initiatives at Villa Park, I came away with very mixed feelings. It was pleasing to hear two of the speakers mention the Junior Robins in despatches and I have little doubt that thanks to the efforts of John Timms and his helpers the warmth of welcome afforded to visiting Junior supporters is second to none. However in terms of facilities we do lag far behind the provisions for Family Enclosures at most other Clubs in Divisions One and Two

What should a family enclosure consist of? Certain features were identified during the day.

An enclosed area separated

from the rest of the ground to reassure parents about their children's safety and to make proper control and discipline possible.

- A room giving every access to the Family area where facilities are available to entertain children making possible early arrival and late departure to avoid problem times outside the ground thus reassuring parents about safety.
- Separate toilet facilities suitably adapted for young children.
- A reserved section for visiting teams family supporters or Junior supporters Clubs.

Held up against these conditions our overall performance is poor. Does it matter? Yes!! The eight year olds of today are the supporters and sponsors of tomorrow. We must attract them to our grounds and convince parents of their safety otherwise our game is doomed.

The generous sponsorship of Nationwide has helped us on the way with cheap seating for young season ticket holders. The Transplant Junior Robins have helped to start spreading the word of sportsmanship and friendly rivalry, but much remains to be done.

On a brighter note, it is worth remembering that all four Clubs in the play-offs have Junior supporters Clubs and have exchanged reciprical visits to each others grounds. Whatever the results of the play-off, activities like this promise a bright future for them all.

NEXT SEASONS MATCHDAY MAGAZINE

Whether Swindon Town Football Club are playing in the top flight next season or not we shall be introducing a more colourful issue when the new season commences in August

In a recent issue we asked, you, the supporters to write to me at the County Ground with your ideas and suggestions and constructive comments on what you wuld like to see retained and also introduced.

The response was a most useful guideline and many of you wanted to see a frequent cover change and colour photographs introduced. We are pleased to state we shall do exactly that. We shall introduce slightly more content and new features.

This is an opportune time for me to

thank the various contributors to this season's programme. My grateful thanks to Dave Eaton of the 'Evening Advertiser', Vic Morgan of BBC Wiltshire Sound and Michael Scott. All three have been prompt and faithful in their promises and dedication. Without such friends, this Club would find life more difficult. All three have promised to continue in the same vein next season. I would like to thank Doug Buswell for his Commercial contribution. My grateful thanks to Mr Richard Mattick and John Timms of the Junior Robins section.

The staff of the Club are always willing to help, John Trollope and Andy Rowland in particular. To Colin Calderwood and the rest of the players, they never fail to oblige when asked. Sne Snow of the Travel Club and Sandra Coburn of the Supporters Club for their various arrangements during the season

The girls of **Lowndes Lambert** have once again endured the winter winds and my grateful thanks to **Carol**, **Viv**,

Pat, Paula, Karen, Alison, Tina, the two Joannes, Vicki, Shirley, Sally, Kenioin, Eidi, Marie and Jenifer. I am sure your attractive manner helps to boost sales. Peter Lucas and the staff of Thamesdown Litho have again provided first class service. The advertisers, sponsors and our Chief Steward, Mr George Simms have been a tremendous asset.

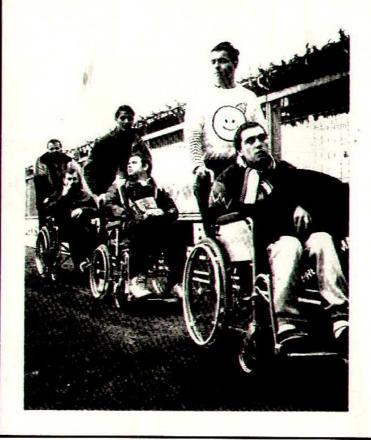
It just remains for me to thank all of you the supporters who purchase the programme. My sincere thanks on behalf of the Club. We try hard to be informative, entertaining and factual, if we fail in any small manner it is not due to a lack of genuine effort.

Enjoy the summer break, we hope we can produce just one more issue this season! If not, don't forget we will be back with certain improvements in a more colourful manner. Swindon Town historian and statistician Paul Plowman will be one new contributor next season.

Dave King, Programme Editor.

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This year, more than £1.25 million will be spent on improvements projects at Football League grounds and areas for people with disabilities form a major part of this programme. 1989 will see further initiatives including new and better toilet facilities and additional enclosures for family support.

The Football Grounds Improvement Trust is responsible for all these measures. Each year it receives £4.5 million from the Spotting-the-Ball competition run by Littlewoods. Vernons and Zetters and spends it on schemes to improve standards at British football stadia.

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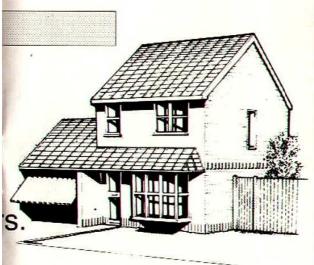
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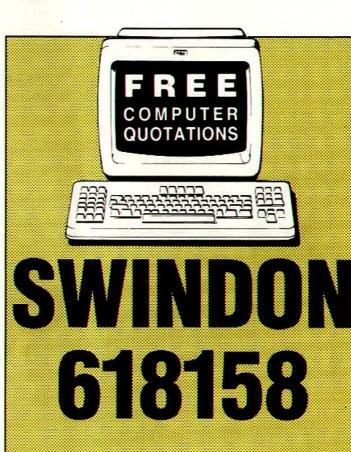
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TAKING THE OPPOSITE OF VIEW

CRYSTAL PALACE



Front row, left to right: John Pemberton, Glenn Pennyfather, Alan Pardew, Ian Wright, John Salako.

Middle row, left to right: Steve Coppell (Manager), Mark Bright, Jeff Hopkins, Geoff Thomas (Team Captain), Gary O'Reilly, David Madden, Dennis Bailey, David Burke, Ian Evans (now Swansea City). Back row, left to right: Gavin Nobbeling (Club Captain), Phil Barber, Perry Suckling, Brian Parkin, Mark Harris, Neil Redfearn.

When Alan Mullery was relieved of the Manager's position at Selhurst Park, Crystal Palace turned to Steve Coppell to rekindle the Clubs fortunes. The former Manchester United and England player, and a colleague of Swindon boss Lou Macari, had been forced to quit the game through a serious leg injury. In June 1984, at 28 years of age, he embarked on a new career. In his first season, 1984/85, he stabilised the Club's fortunes and laid the base for an assault on promotion from the Second Division.

In the following season Palace finished fifth and in the last two seasons have just missed out on both occasions of reaching the promotion play-offs. Each time they were handily placed in the League but finally ended in sixth spot – one place away from the play-offs and only two points advift. This season though Palace have confirmed most punters opinions, before the season began, of being one of the best Clubs in the Division.

They had been handily placed throughout the season and in mid-March were in 12th spot but with games in hand.

Since March, apart from runaway champions Chelsea, Palace have been the form team, losing just two games in third spot.

They still had hopes of the automatic second promotional spot but they were denied this by Manchester City.

The Lancashire Club drew their final match of the season 1-1 at Bradford to pip Palace by a single point for the runners-up spot.

Now Palace have high hopes in the play-offs of regaining the place in Division One that they lost in 1987.



by Dave Eaton

HOW CRYSTAL PALACE REACHED THE PLAY-OFFS Opponents Away Aug 30 Chelsea D1-1 3 Watford 10-2 10 Walsall D0-0 17 Shrewsbury Town D1-1 20 Sunderland D1-1 24 Portsmouth D1-1 27 Swindon Town (LC) W2-1 W4-1 1 Plymouth Argyle Ipswich Town W2-0 8 Blackburn Rovers 14-5 12 Swindon Town (LC) W2-0 15 Bradford City W1-0 22 Holl City W3-1 25 Oxford United 29 Stoke City 1 Bristol City (LC) Barnsley D1-1 12 AFC Bournemouth L0-2 19 Leicester City 22 Walsall (SC) 26 West Bromwich Albion 1.3-5 D0-0 3 Manchester City 10 Birmingham City W1-0 13 Southampton (SC) W2-1 17 Leeds United D0-0 26 Bright & Hove Albion L1-3 30 Oldham Athletic W3-2 Walsall Stoke City (FAC) 10-1 10 Luton Town (SC) W4-1 14 Chelsea 10-1 21 Swindon Town 28 Middlesbrough (SC) W3-2 4 Ipswich Town W2-1 11 Blackburn Rovers D2-2 22 Nottingham Forest (SC) L1-3 25 Bradford City 1 Oxford United LO-1 4 AFC Bournemouth 12-3 11 Barnsley DI-1 18 Sunderland W1-0 24 Watford W1-0 27 Brighton & Hove Albion W2-1 1 Shrewbury Town 5 Leeds United W2-1 8 Oldham Athletic 11 Hull City W1-0 16 Portsmouth W2-0 22 Plymouth Argyle W2-0 25 Swindon Town LO-1 29 West Bromwich Albion W1-0

Does your dog reduce your household insurance premiums?



Geoff Thomas

May 1 Manchester City' D1-1
6 Leicester City D2-2
9 Stoke City W1-0
13 Birmingham City W4-1

Summary of goalscorers Wright 30, Bright 24, Barber 8, Dyer 7 (2 for Hull City), Thomas 6, Madden 5, Pardew 3, O'Reilly 2, Redfearn 2 (to Watford). Nebbeling 1, Pemberton 1, Own-goals 3.

Top home gate 17,781 v Birmingham May 13. Home League average 10,679.

Statistics supplied by Paul Plowman.

MEET THE MANAGER AND PLAYERS

Steve Coppell (Manager). Age 33. Born Liverpool (9.755). Joined Crystal Palace as Manager in June 1984 having been forced to retire from the game because of a serious knee injury. Started his playing career with Tranmere Rovers in 1973 as an amateur whilst studying for his Economics Degree at Liverpool University. Signed professional in July '74 and transferred to Manchester United in 1974/75 season. He made 320 appearances for United scoring 53 goals and won 42 England caps. He was an outstanding performer for his country and held a permanent right wing position until his injury against Hungary which led to his ultimate retirement. His book 'Touch and Go' was published last year and received excellent reviews.

John Pemberton. Age 24. Joined Palace from Crewe Alexandra during 87/88 season for £60,000. He had previously played for Rochdale. Has the ability to play in any of the defensive positions. He played alongside Geoff Thomas when they were both at Gresty Road. Was substitute on a number of occasions last season but will no doubt be knocking on the first team door this season.

Glenn Pennyfather. Age 26. Glenn joined Palace from Southend United for £150,000, after spending almost nine years at Roots Hall. He made 238 League appearances for he Essex Club. Glenn spends his afternoons teaching in a school local to his Benfleet home.

John Salako. Age 20. This youngster has come through the Crystal Palace Youth side to make his first team debut in January 1987. He was a leading goalscorer while appearing for the Youth Team and

was last season selected for the England Under-20 squad.

Richard Shaw. Age 20. A defender and another youngster to graduate through the Youth Scheme to first team football. A regular member of the Reserve side, he also figured in a number of first team matches last season. Made his debut in the 3-2 win at Reading.

David Madden. Age 26. Joined Palace on a freetransfer from Reading during last summer. Began as an apprentice at Southampton but never made a League appearance for the Saints. Other Clubs include Bournemouth (loan), Arsenal, Charlton and Reading.

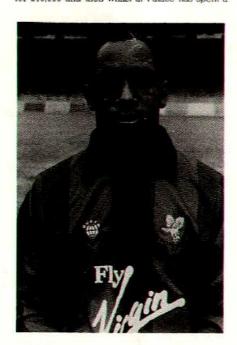
Geoff Thomas. Aged 24. He enjoyed a very successful first season, 87-88, with the Club, picking up four Player Of The Year Awards after his £50,000 signing. Previously with Crewe, but began his career at Rochdale.

Ian Wright. Aged 25. London born, Ian enjoyed considerable success with Palace during last season scoring 23 goals and picked up the runners-up trophy at the end of season presentations. The main attributes of his game is his speed, fine ball control and turning ability.

Jeff Hopkins. Age 28 He joined Palace in August 1988 for a fee of £240,00 which was fixed by a League tribunal. Has appeared in both full International and Under-21 level for Wales. Prior to signing he had been previously a one club man appearing in a Fulham shirt since 1980/81, when he made his debut for the West London Club. As a central defender he made 219 League appearances for Fulham and with his move South of the River will no doubt be looking to increase his number of Welsh caps.

Eddle McGoldrick. Age 23. Born in London he began his football career at Nuneaton Joined Northampton Town for start of the 86/87 season. Was an ever present for them in the League last season. Signed for Palace in January of this year for a fee of £200,000.

Gavin Nebbeling. Age 25. The South African made one of the centre half places his own during last season as well as getting among the goals. He was signed from Arcada Pepsi, Johannesburg, in 1983 for £10,000 and then whilst at Palace has spent a



• Ian Wright



David Burke

spell on loan at Northampton Town during season 1985/86.

Gary O'Reilly. Age 28. He made his Palace debut in January 1987 in the F.A. Cup 3rd round. He is a tall strong centre half who previously played for Tottenham and Brighton and spent last summer playing in Sweden. He was signed by Palace from Brighton for £40 000.

Alan Pardew. Age 27. Wimbledon born. Alan moved to Selhurst Park in 87/88 for £7,500 from Yeovil Town and made his League debut last season. Went on to record 20 League appearances.

Philip Barber. Age 23. He joined Palace from Aylesbury Town in 1984 and has made a number of appearances in both the centre forward and left wing positions. The £10.000 striker scored on his Palace debut against Grimsby Town. Known at the Club as 'Mr. 110%' and is a firm favourite with the Selhurst regulars.

Mark Bright. Age 27. The highscoring centreforward, notched 25 goals during the 1987/88 season. He joined Palace from Leicester City in November 1986 for £75,000 after a spell at Port Vale. He struck up a fine partnership with Ian Wright last season to become part of one of the top striking partnerships around the country. Came through a serious arm injury to help Palace's push in last season's promotion race.

David Burke. Age 28. The Liverpool born left back moved South from Huddersfield Town during 1987 for £65,000. He had a tough baptism with Palace, making his debut in the South London derby against Millwall but came through that match and went on to be ever present in the number three shirt in that season. He is married and lives in Surrey.

Perry Suckling. Age 23. He joined Palace in 87/88 from Manchester City for £100,000 after spells at Coventry and a loan period at Chelsea. He has appeared for the England Under-21son a number of occasions both at home and abroad.

Mark Harris. Age 25. A central defender he joined the Club as a full-time contract player during the close season from Wokingham Town. Last season played several matches in the Football Combination side a a non-contract player.

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TUNE IN WITH BBC WILTSHIRE SOUND'S VIC MORGAN



Good afternoon and welcome to the County Ground on this very special occasion. Once again Swindon Town find themselves involved in the promotion play-offs, for Crystal Palace it's a new experience. One of the Clubs will know the agony, the other ecstacy at the end of the two Legs with the possibility of Division One football next season the considerable prize. Whatever happens let's enjoy the two games – you must be joking mate.

IRONIC

It's an irony, of course that the Town should meet Palace in the play-offs. As all Swindon fans will remember it was at Selhurst Park that the Wiltshire side achieved their present Second Division status. A heart stopping match with Gillingham on a balmy south London night bringing about such celebrations as to gladden any West Countryman. Many of us thought there couldn't be another night like that, well there may be just around the corner.

Good luck to both sides although I must admit I see only red and white at this particular moment

MORONS AGAIN

It seems that the mindless morons have returned to the game once again. The 'people' who parade as football fans and then proceed to drag its name through the mud have attracted the headlines and achieved their aim. I have no feelings for these 'people' except utter contempt and applaud all the courts throw at them, have no misaprehensions they are nothing to do with football. Society is to blame, that

means you and me, let's work to get rid of this scum.

STAN - IT'S THE BAN AT 27!

As the excitement of the play-offs approached you may have missed one piece of sad news from the other side of the Atlantic. A 27 year old American footballer by the name of Stanley Wilson has been banned for life for continual drug abuse by the National Football League. Wilson helped his Club, the Cincinatti Bengals, to last season's Superbowl and looked on the verge of a successful career but was suspended on the eve of the big game. When the rewards of the gridiron game are considered it really is quite a sacrifice Wilson has made.

It's a great shame that talented sportsmen fall into drug abuse and ruin their career, there's a warning there for all of us I think.

OF BALL ON WILLOW

The cricket season is now well under way and its already thrown up its first shock. The Combined Universities side has become the first team other then a first class county to progress to the Quarter Finals of the Benson and Hedges Cup.

To reach that stage the Universities defeated both Surrey and Worcestershire in the zonal rounds. A fine achievement by the students and comparable to the exploits of Sutton United in this seasons F.A. Cup. For their pains they have been given an away tie with Somerset on May 31st. Not many people will give much for their chances, especially in this part of the world, but even if they are defeated



their perfomance so far has been of great merit.

A REAL ENTERTAINER IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD

Also of great merit was the recent testimonial dinner for Swindon's Reserve team coach Andy Rowland. The quest speaker was one Duncan McKenzie who played for every League Club, I think, except Swindon and Crystal Palace. I enjoyed watching McKenzie play, he was a real entertainment and great value. Well that's just how he is as an after dinnner speaker, capable of making an audience cry with laughter. His tales of former players and Managers, suffice to say he played for Nottingham Forest, were super and included a tale about a former Everton and Crystal Palace goalkeeper. I will leave you to guess who that is.

NERVE WRACKING

And so back to this afternoon's encounter which promises to be truly nerve wracking. I have my own thoughts on the play-offs and I dare say Palace fans will agree with them if they fail to go up, it cannot be denied however that it has created terrific interest around here and added something to the end of the season that was never there before.

The queues for tickets have stretched many yards and contained those who may not have seen a football match all season, so there has to be something to be said for the system.

Whatever happens may I wish you a good and peaceful game of football. Stay tuned.

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FOOTBALL COMBINATION & YOUTH TEAM NEWS

CHAMPIONS ... CHAMPIONS ...

Our Allied Counties Youth League team won the championship when they defeated Staines in their away fixture on Wednesday May 3rd in their third play-off match. They won this deciding match 2-0.

Town Youth team Manager, John Trollope in his report of the match, said. "We entered the game needing to win to secure the championship, both teams gave maximum effort but neither team were able to overcome the hard and uneven surface which made mistakes frequent.

Both goals were scored midway through each half. The first goal came from a Richard Walker corner which was flicked on by Liam Dixon for Mark Lea to head home at the far post. The second goal came from a twenty yard effort by Richard Walker that dipped in flight over the Staines' keeper.

Overall it was a disappointing game but the win was enough to take the championship and with such a young side it rounded the season off well for the hard work the lads had given."

Team: Paul Thompson, Lee Spalding, Alex Graham, Neil Quinn, Martin Churchward, Edwin Murray, Richard Walker, Paul Trollope, Mike Macari, Liam Dixon, Mark Lea.

Substitutes: Jason Braidwood, Ryan Lovegrove.

'SAINTS' ALIVE AND TAKE THE TITLE!

Our South East Counties Youth League team were defeated 2-1 at Southampton in their final match of the season. The 'Saints' therefore took the title with the Town finishing in a respectable fourth position. The match, played on Saturday May 6th, was a highly entertaining game with some splendid football on view from both teams.

The Town were unlucky not to take the lead as early as the tenth minute when Tony Hammersley and Paul Hunt combined to provide a centre from which Nicky Summerbee was unlucky not to see his resultant header enter the back of the net. With 'Saints' goalkeeper Shane Wheeler well beaten, the header hit an upright.

Southampton took the lead in the seventeenth minute when a long ball over the Town defence from Nicky Berger allowed Paul O'Driscoll to score.

Paul O'Driscoll was again involved in the Town's equaliser when, in the **thirty first** minute, his long back pass was intercepted by **Paul Hunt** who ran on to score.

The Town had the better of the second half with Paul Hunt in great form, causing the South Coast Club's defence numerous problems. Despite efforts from Paul Hunt, Nicky Summerbee and Tony Hammersley the Town were unable to penetrate the Saints' defence.

Fate was in Southampton's favour in the deciding goal when Ian Lustcombe's centre was inadvertently deflected past Paul Thompson for the Saints' winning goal in the 78th minute.

Ian Lustcombe was denied a certain goal minutes later when his splendid header was brilliantly save by Town keeper Paul Thompson.

Team: Thompson, Spalding, Graham, Quinn, Sandrey, Lea, Hammersley, Trollope, Summberbee, Hunt, R. Morgan.

Substitutes: Dixon, Murray (for Lea in 68th minute).

Our Allied Counties Youth League team defeated Staines 2-1 at Hungerford on Monday May 8th in the final game of the four match play-off and received the League trophy from League Secre-

THE CLUB'S FIRST TROPHY OF THE SEASON

received the League trophy from League Secretary Keith Lovitt. The play-off consisted of home and away matches with Slough and Staines, the winners of the other two Divisions and the Town youths, who were the West Division winners.

The Town went ahead from a **twenty first** minute penalty following a foul on Liam Dixon. **Paul Trolloge's** spot kick was saved by Staines Reeper Sean Phillips, who was adjudged to have moved too soon. The resultant retake saw Paul make no mistake Staines were unlucky not to draw level when Mark Carroll hit the Town cross bar with a great 25 yard shot.

The same player eventually equalised in the sixty sixth minute when a long through pass from Roy Underdown was latched on by **Mick Carroll** who turned sharply and netted with a low drive.

A late goal by **Neil Quinn** came in the **eighty second** minute when an inswinging corner from Paul Trollope, to the near post, was flicked on by Liam Dixon allowing Quinn to score from close range.

Town Youth team Manager, John Trollope, said after the game, "This was a double headed game, the last play-off and the first subsidary cup-tie. It was a disappointing performance with little thought or application in our play."

Team: Ryan Lovegrove, Mark Lea, Jason Braidwood, Edwin Murray, Martin Churchward, Simon Payne, Lee Spalding, Paul Trollope, Mike Macari, Liam Dixon, Richard Walker.

Substitutes: Neil Quinn (for Lee Spalding in the 75th minute), Alex Graham (for Jason Braidwood in the 65th minute).

THE TOWN LET A TWO GOAL LEAD SLIP,
BUT STILL MANAGE TO WIN
After two successive defeats our Reserve team



• Mark Lea

returned to form with a 3-2 win at Fulham. This 'Ovenden Papers' Football Combination fixture was played at Craven Cottage on Tuesday May 9th.

This latest win was achieved after letting a two goal lead slip from their grasp! The Town went ahead in the **nineteenth minute** when Fulham defender **Ian Thompson** sliced a centre from Peter Coyne into his own net. Our Reserve team went further ahead in the **twenty-ninth** minute when, following a splendid five man move, **Adrian Viveash** scored the second goal.

Although they entered the second half with a two goal lead the Town conceded a goal as early as the forty sixth minute when, following a goalmouth scramble, **Andy Sayers** shot was adjudged to have just gone over the goal-line by a linesman. Despite protests from the Town defenders the goal was allowed to stand.

When Jim O'Donnell could only parry a **fifty second** minute shot from Leo Donnellan the alert **Kevin Boddy** was able to slot the ball home to bring the score level at 2-2.

With Fulham thwarting any attempt by the Town to recover by frequent use of the off-side trap, it was not until the **eighty fourth** minute that Charlie Henry was able to break through and although his shot was parried by Fulham goalkeeper Lawrie Batty, the ball rebounded to **David Geddis** to score the winning goal.

Team: O'Donnell, Fleming, Bodin, Barnard, Sandrey, Gittens, Coyne, Henry, Geddis, Viveash, Simpson.

Substitutes: Tomlinson and Summerbee.

Mark Lea and Richard Walker who were both on the scoresheet in our Allied Counties match against Staines allowing the Club to win their first championship of this season. The Town defeated Staines 2-0.



• Richard Walker

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WS NEWS N

The results of the Questionnaire that we issued at the recent match with Shrewsbury Town resulted in the following percentage votes

Would you be in favour of the perimeter fencing at the County Ground being removed?	Yes 75%	No 25%
Would you prefer the County Ground to be an all seater stadium?	8%	92%
Are you in favour of a family section incorporated into the Shrivenham Road Enclosure, allowing parent/parents and children under 16?	71%	29%
Would you approve of the Shrivenham Road Enclosure becoming an all seating area? Thereby leaving the Stratton Bank and Town End the only standing areas?	28%	72%
Would you approve of the Stratton Bank section being made available to the opposition?	61%	39%

A RETURN FOR VINCE SUNNIER CLIMATES FOR PETER AND MIKE AND A DELAY FOR THE CLUB SECRETARY

Our former Club Accountant Vince Farrar readily agreed to resume his former role for the Club when asked to stand in for **Peter Jones**, who took his holidays when the play-offs were due to start

Peter, who had his vacation booked when he joined the Club, misses todays match and the away fixture at Palace next week. The Clubs Maintenance Officer, Mike Bughes, was another of the Club personnel who had his holidays booked and will miss the Semi-Final matches Town Secretary Dave King has had to delay his break with the Club reaching todays stage. He also had a holiday booked for late May.

RETAINED LIST

Below are the players whose contracts will exist with the Club until the following dates:

June 30th 1990: Leigh Barnard, Paul Bodin, Fra Digby, Curtis Fleming, David Geddis, Nicky Hammond, Dave Hockaday, Ross Maclaren, Alan McLoughlin, Tim Parkin, Duncan Shearer. June 30th 1991: Colin Calderwood, John Cornwell, Steve Foley, Tommy Jones, Phil King, Neil Tombiscon, Steve White

The following players have been offered a new contract by the Chib. Peter Coyne, Jon Cittens, Charlie Henry and Mark Jones.

The full list of existing trainees who will still be with the Club when the next season commences in August are: Gavin Sandrey, Liam Dixon, Alex Graham, Paul Trollope, Mark Lea, Paul Thomp-son, Richard Walker and Lee Spalding.

Full time professional contracts have been offered

to Paul Hunt and Nicky Summerbee.

Both Tony Hammersley and Richard Morgan are being released by the Club when their trainee

are being released by the Club when their frames contracts expire.

The list of Associated Schoolboys registered with the Club are: Andrew Thompson, Marcus Phillips, Jason Braidwood, Ryan Lovegrove, Casey Goble, Mark O'Driscoll, Simon Sly, Robert Pearce, Mark Wolsey, Paul Maudling, Murray Fishlock, Steven Mitchinson, Edwin Murray, Wayne O'Sullivan and Andrew Griffiths.

A new intake of trainees will join the Club in July

and the following have been offered a contract Jason Braidwood, Ryan Lovegrove, Edwin Murray,

Darren Hall and Robert Spence
Former Coventry City player Gary Marshall is being released on a free transfer Garreth Morgan who has been on an extensive trial with the Club is not being offered a contract.

SECOND DIVISION RETURNS - FINANCIAL AND AGGREGATE

Our second season in Division Two following our promotion from Division Three at the end of the 1986/87 season resulted in gross receipts of 1986/87 season resulted in gross receipts of £650,543.93 from our 23 League home fixtures. The Chub was able to retain a balance of £489,754.54 after payments due. Value Added Tax amounted to £84,842.44 while police charges paid totalled

Contributions to First Aid were £996.82 while printing, postage and advertising deductions amounted to £8,050. Costs for gatemen totalled £27,060.61 Floodlighting costs were £1,050 The 3% payment made to the Football League for each match totalled £14,709.49.

Those receipts were obtained from an aggregate of 199,450 spectators who passed through the County Ground turnstiles, giving an average of 8,671 per home League match.

IN LEAGUE AND CUP MATCHES

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

Appearances: Fraser Digby 46, Dave Hockaday 44, Colin Calderwood 43, Steve White 41 + 25, Steve Foley and Tommy Jones 40, Ross Maclaren 37, Phil King and Duncan Shearer 33 + 38, Tim Parkin 32, Jon Gittens 30 + 25, Alan McLoughlin 25 + 15, Bobby Barnes 17, Paul Boddin 15 + 15, Charlie Henry 13 + 98, David Geddis 8 + 25, John Cornwell 5 + 18, Fitzroy Simpson 3 + 58, Leigh

Barnard 1 + 18 and Peter Coyne 0 + 18.
Goalscorers: Duncan Shearer 16, Steve White
14, Steve Foley 9, Ross Maclaren 6 (inc. 4 pens.), 14, Steve Foley s, Ross Maciaren 6 (inc. 4 pens.), Tommy Jones 6 (in. 1 pen.), Colin Calderwood 4, Bohby Barnes, David Geddis, Charlie Henry, Phil King and Alan McLoughlin 3 each, Paul Bodin, Jon Gittens and Tim Parkin one each. Own goal, one.

LITTLEWOODS CUP

Appearances: Bobby Barnes, Colin Calderwood, Fraser Digby, Steve Foley, Jon Gittens, Dave Hockaday, Phil King, Duncan Shearer and Steve White 2 each. Tommy Jones 1 + 1S. Charlie Henry, Ross Maclaren and Tim Parkin one each. Goalscorer: Duncan Shearer one.

Appearances: Bohby Barnes, Colin Calderwood, Fraser Digby, Jon Gittens, Charlie Henry, Dave Hockaday, Phil King, Ross Maclaren, Alan Mc-Loughlin, Tim Parkin and Steve White one each. Goalscorer: Steve White one.

Appearances: Colin Calderwood, Fraser Digby, Steve Foley, David Geddis, Tommy Jones and Ross Maclaren 4 each. Dave Hockaday 3 + 18, Charlie Henry 2 + 25. Alan McLoughlin 2 + 18. Paul Bodin, Jon Gittens and Phil King 2 each, John Cornwell, Duncan Shearer and Steve White one each.

Goalscorers: Steve Foley 2 and Steve White one. FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Appearances: Leigh Barnard and Adrian Vive-

ash 36, Fitzroy Simpson 34, Peter Coyne 33, Neil Tomlinson 28 + 35, Paul Bodin and Charlie Henry 22, Gary Marshall 19 + 45, Alan McLoughlin 16, Nicky Hammond 15, David Geddis 14, John Cornwell 12, Gareth Morgan 9 + 35, Phil King 9 + 15, Andy Petterson 9, Gavin Sandrey 8 + 15, Dean Casserly, Jon Cittens and Curtis Fleming 8, Ross Maclaren 7, Tim Parkin and Jim O'Donnell 6, Paul Hunt 5 + 15, Duncan Shearer and Paul Thompson 5, Mark Jones 4 + 55, David Barnett, Fraser Digby and Barry Young 3, Nicky Summer-Fraser Digby and Barry Toung 3, Nicky Summer-bee 2 + 5S, Steve Foley, Tommy Jones and Steve White 2, Andy Rowland 1 + 1S, Dave Hockaday and Darren Goodall 1, Paul Trollope 0 + 2S, Tony Hammersley, Mike Macari and Richard Morgan

Goalscorers: Peter Coyne 11, David Geddis 9, Paul Bodin 8 (inc. 3 pens.), Fitzroy Simpson 6, Bobby Barnes 4, Alan McLoughlin, Gareth Morgan, Duncan Shearer and Adrian Viveash 3, Leigh Barnard, Charlie Henry, Paul Bunt, Neil Tonlinson 2 each, Tony Hammersley, Gary Marshall, Nicky Summerbee 1 each, Mark Jones, Ross Maclaren penalty, own goals 7.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

Appearances: Alex Graham 28, Richard Morgan 27, Mark Lea 26 + 25, Tony Hammersley and Neil 27, Mark Lea 26 + 25, Tony Hammersley and Neil Quinn 26 + 15, Paul Hunt, Paul Thompson, Paul Trollope and Nicky Summerbee 26, Gavin Sandrey 24, Edwin Murray 18 + 35, Lee Spalding 11 + 45, Liam Dixon 8 + 45, Richard Walker 3 + 75, Tony Marshall 3, Ryan Lovegrove 2, Andrew Griffith + 3S, Jason Braidwood, Darren Hall, Nathan Holt, Mike Macari 0 + 1S.

Goalscorers: Paul Hunt 16 (inc. 3 pens.), Nicky Summerby 14, Tony Hammersley 7, Liam Dixon 4, Mark Lea and Richard Morgan 2 each, Paul Trollope one, Neil Quinn one penalty, own goal

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE CUP

Appearances: Alex Graham, Tony Hammersley, Paul Hunt, Mark Lea, Ryan Lovegrove, Richard Morgan, Neil Quinn, Gavin Sandrey, Lee Spalding, Nicky Summerbee and Paul Trollope one each. Goalscorers: Paul Hunt, Gavin Sandrey and

SOUTHERN JUNIOR FLOODLIT CUP

Nicky Summerbee one each

Appearances: Alex Graham, Andrew Griffiths, Tony Hammersley, Paul Hunt, Mark Lea, Richard Morgan, Neil Quinn, Gavin Sandrey, Nicky Summerbee, Paul Thompson and Paul Trollope one each. Lee Spalding 0 + 1S.

Goalscorer: Richard Morgan.

F.A. YOUTH CUP

F.A. YOUTH CUP
Appearances: Alex Graham, Tony Hammersley,
Paul Hunt, Mark Lea, Richard Morgan, Edwin
Murray, Neil Quinn, Gavin Sandrey, Nicky
Summerbee, Paul Thompson and Paul Trollope
one each, Lee Spalding 0 + 1S.
Goalscorers: Tony Hammersley and Neil Quinn

MIDLAND YOUTH CUP

Appearances: Alex Graham, Tony Hammersley, Paul Hunt, Richard Morgan, Edwin Murray, Neil Quinn, Gavin Sandrey, Nicky Summerbee, Paul Thompson and Paul Trollope six each, Mark Lea five and Lee Spalding one.

Goalscorers: Paul Hunt 6, Nicky Summerbee 4.

Mark Lea and Paul Trollope one each.

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Wemyss Lodge Nursing/Residential Home Ermin Street Swindon

Dear Swindon Town

I am writing to thank you for all your help and kindness shown to the residents of Wemyss Lodge, when we visiting the County Ground on Sunday 23rd April.

We came to see the New Century Club, whom we sponsor, and were delighted with the result. The staff at Swindon Town very kindly provided refreshments and all the help we needed, which made it a most enjoyable day for the Residents of Wemyss Lodge.

Thank you once again for your help.

Yours sincerely, D. Armstrong-Wilde

> The Football Supporters Association 59 Oakwood Road, Halewood, Liverpool

Dear Friend,

I write on behalf of the Merseyside branch of this Association to express our deepest thanks to your Club and its supporters for your sympathy following the tragic events at Hillsborough, Sheffield.

We have always believed that the things that divide football supporters pale into insignificance when compared to those that unite them and the response from supporters from all over Britain and from abroad has underlined this.

While the suffering here on Merseyside has without doubt been immense, the thought that other supporters' thoughts are with us has certainly made it just a little bit easier to bear.

Our thanks again to all associated with your Club.

Yours in football, Nigel Grant (Secretary)

Canterbury Close Swindon

Dear Mr. Mattick.

I am writing, on behalf of the 18th Swindon Scout Group, to thank yuou for arranging such a memorable end of season event last Saturday for the Cub Scout football squad.

Our tour of the Club facilities, including the visitor's and official's changing rooms, Directors room and trophy display, was a great insight into the workings of the Club on match-day. Would you also pass on our thanks to 'Chic' Bates who kindly took the time to make our presentations and awards to the boys.

To make it an unforgettable afternoon for the boys, most of them played in a 5-a-side tournament afterward on the pitch itself. They are still talking about it – the thrill of playing in front of 9,00 people! Once of the boys scored, after a solo run, and George Berry of Stoke City asked what we were doing at 3.00 p.m!

I do hope you continue with the pre-match games for the boys, it is such an exciting thing for them, and I think the spectators enjoy it too!

Finally we saw the Stoke game from the North Stand and saw Swindon Town qualify for the play-offs in style, by winning 3-0, which set the seal on a great afternoon.

Thank you again, and thank you Junior Robins.

Yours Sincerely, Michael Dunn

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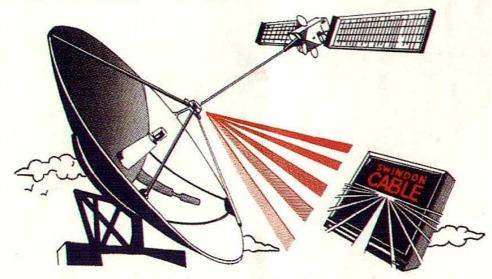
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««VIEWPOINT»

WE WERE ALMOST ON THE ROCKS

The culmination of my six years with Swindon Town has resulted in a new horizon, First Division soccer! When I came to the County Ground this was a struggling outfit. Lacking ambition and direction. The appointment of Lou Macari as Manager changed that.

Swindon Town Football Club was similar to a ship without a rudder, simply there was little or no organisation. Compared with the way the Club is run these days there is no comparison.

LOU TACKLED THE GRASS ROOTS PROBLEM

Lou Macari arrived at the County Ground and immediately tackled the grass roots of this problem. His main object was to make the players fit. It was as simple as that. We were, within months, one of the fittest bunch of players in the country.

There is often a myth built around various Clubs success. People tend to look for reasons that do not exist. The objective at the County Ground was **Fitness**. The rest simply took care of itself.

THIRD AND FOURTH ... A NEW DIMENSION FOR THE SECOND

Quite honestly, in the Third and Fourth Divisions, fitness was our main strength. Tactical ability, skills etc. were secondary. If you are totally committed to becoming as fit as possible then the lower Divisions suddenly become less of a problem.

Now, the Second Division, is a different proposition. Fitness alone is not enough. This is an aspect where the arrival of 'Chic' Bates at the County Ground became a boost to the players. He brought more organisation and an awareness of tactics that was probably not required before. A lot of our success in the Second Division is due to 'Chic'.

MY CONVERSION
I enjoy playing in a full back role

DAVE HOCKADAY

and yet my conversion from either playing as a winger or midfield player came by accident really. The change in my career came by accident at Stockport County.

An injury to Chris Ramsey thrust me in to what was then a totally alien role. I never deceived myself about my capabilities, what I lacked in defensive skills I considered I made up with being able to push forward. An aspect of my game I considered to be a strong point. From a defence point of view it is my belief that I have improved in the Second Division.

Whatever any of us lack is made up by our strength as a squad. Any one of twenty players always appear to be able to slot into any position without any apparent weakness in the team.

NERVES JANGLING

The play-offs have resulted in four teams being thrust into a do or die situation. Nerves will play as big a part as any other factor! All four teams have reached this stage due to their ability.

Each Club is able to secure a 1-0 win even when they do not appear to be playing very well. We have done this often this season.

LOOKING AHEAD

At thirty one years of age, obviously most of my career is now behind me. I have another year of my current contract and that is as far as I look ahead at present. Yet, I could be returning for pre-season training ready for a tilt at First Division football!

If that is so my first aim will be to report back in July, become as fit as I can and prove I am ready and good enough to play at the highest level. The Pirst Division is the only Division I have not appeared in and it would be nice to complete my career with the knowledge of having accomplished a dream.



DAVE HOCKADAY

I have not wasted my spare time away from football. At present I am concluding a correspondence course as a Chartered Surveyor.

HOPING TO STAY IN THE SOUTH
Hailing from Billingham in the North
East it is easy for most people to
envisage that I will eventually return
there. That will not be my immediate
aim. It took me two or three years to
get used to the pace of life in Swindon.
Now it would take a lot of conviction
for me to reside elsewhere.

When I have qualified I hope to settle here in the south, it is no secret that this is a more affluent area and I am sure I shall not be straying too far from Swindon.

JUNE IS BUSTING OUT ALL OVER
This is an exciting period at present
in my life, the prospect of promotion.
I have just moved into a new house
and I am being married in June. Life
cannot be too bad!

Away from the County Ground, I enjoy a game of golf when I can find the time. It is a form of relaxation that I thoroughly enjoy whenever possible.

I am sure it will be impossible for you to be relaxed during todays game. I would like you to remember one factor. We have everything to gain, but little to lose. Second Division football is still a big bonus for Swindon Town. The First Division is still a dream but . . . it could become reality!

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LOOKING AT SOME GREAT Chots Chots Chots



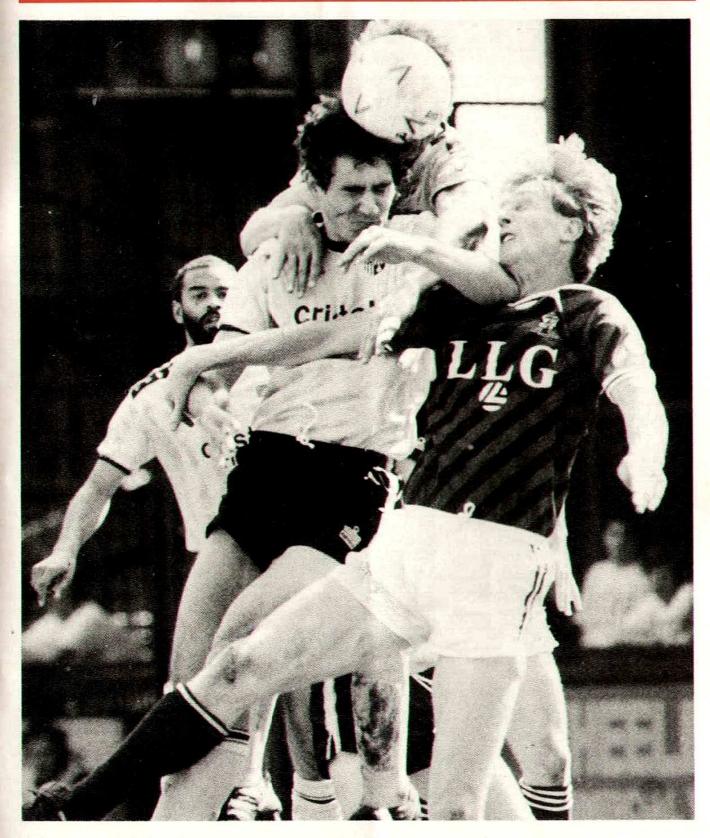
 Philip Skeates of Toothill, West Swindon, completed 118 laps of the County Ground perimeter, before our final home match of the season versus Stoke City. In the process Philip raised just over £250.00 for his sponsored walk, in aid of the Hillsborough tragedy.



 'Please mind my good looks'. Former Town Striker Dave Bamber is intent on shielding his face following this rocket shot from Town's full-back, Dave Hockaday. Dave pokes his tongue out in response.



Jubilant Town fans surround one of the Towns goalscoring heroes,
 Tommy Jones, in our final home match versus Stoke City.



 Town central defender Tim Parkin in an aerial dual with former Town striker Dave Bamber, who seemed intent on elbowing him in the larynx.

Sponsors of Swindon Town F.C.

'ISTICS - STATISTICS -

			SW	INDON	TOWN	1988	3/89			
OPPONENTS	V	Attnd	Result	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BARNSLEY	A	6,034	1-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Parkin	Gittens	McLoughli
WEST BROM	A	7,512	1-3	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Parkint	Gittens	Bodin
ORTSMOUTH	H	11,443	1-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Calderwood	Gittens	Foley (1)
BLACKBURN ROVERS	A	7,622	0-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Parkin	Calderwood	Foley
LF.C. BOURNEMOUTE (7.45)	H	8,055	3-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maciaren (1)(p)	Calderwood (1)	Gittens	Foley
RIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	H	6,585	3-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Calderwood (1)	Gittens	Foley
EXYSTAL PALACE (7.45) (LCC1)	H	7,064	1-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Parkin	Cittens	Foley
WATFORD	A	11,657	3-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones (1)	Parkin	Gittens	Foley
OXFORD UNITED	A	9,398	1-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin (1)	Gittens	Foley
CHELSEA	H	11,927	1-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	McLoughlin	Cittens	Foley
CRYSTAL PALACE (8.00) (LCC1)	A	6,015	0-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Gittens	Henry	jones	Foley
LETEROS UNITATED	H	9,234	0-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	Gittens	Foley
SUNDERLAND	A	13,520	0-4	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	Cittens	Foley
LEICESTER CITY (7.45)	A	9,754	3-3	Digby	Hockaday	King (1) Jones	Parkin	Cittens	Foley
BIRMINGHAM CITY	H	6,937	2-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	Gittens	Foley
HULL CITY	A	5,192	0-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	Gittens	Foley
NORWICH CITY (SIMOD CUP)	A	5,014	1-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Parkin	Cittens	McLoughli
PSWICE TOWN	H	7,246	2-3	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	Gittens (1)	
STOKE CITY	A	9.339	1-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones (1)	Parkin	Cittens	Foley
WALSALL	H	5,328	1-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	Calderwood	
SHREWSBURY TOWN	A	3,626	1-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	lones	Parkin	Calderwood	
OLDRAM ATELETIC	H	5.540	2-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones*	Parkin	Calderwood	Property in the
BRADFORD CITY	A	9.462	2-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Iones	Parkin	Calderwood	
PLYMOUTH ARGYLE (3pm)	E	7,883	1-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	Gittens	Foley
MANCRESTER CITY	E	10,776	1-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Iones	Parkin	Gittens*	Foley
PORTSMOUTH	A	11,681	2-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Iones	Parkin*	Calderwood	
PORTSMOUTH (FA Cup R3)	A	10,582	1-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Cornwell	Calderwood	
PORTSMOUTE (FA Cup R3)	H	11,457	2-0	Digby	Hockaday*		Jones	Calderwood	White	Foley (1)
BARNSLEY	H	10,201	0-0	Digby	McLoughlin		Jones	Calderwood	Cornwell	Foley
CRYSTAL PALACE	A	8,109	1-2	Digby	McLoughlin	The same of	Jones	Calderwood	Comwell	Foley (1)
WEST HAM UTD. (FA Cup R4)	H	18,627	0-0	Digby	McLoughlin		Jones	Calderwood	Gittens	Foley
WEST HAM UTD. (FA Cup R4)	A	24,723	0-1	Digby	McLoughlin		Jones	Calderwood	Gittens	Foley
OXFORD UNITED	H	10,227	3-0	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones	Calderwood (1)		Foley
CHELSEA	A	17,802	2-3	Digby	Hockaday	-	l)jones	Calderwood	Gittens	Foley (1)
SUNDERLAND	H	7,432	4-1	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones	Calderwood	Gittens	Shearer (2)
LEEDS UNITED	A	22,651	0-0	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones	Calderwood	Gittens	Shearer
LEICESTER CITY (7.45)	H	7,456	2-1	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones (p)	Calderwood	Gittens	Foley
IPSWICH TOWN	A	11,542	2-1	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones	Calderwood	Parkin	Shearer
HULL CITY	H	7,090	1-0	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones	Parkin	Calderwood	
A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH	A	9,752	3-2	Digby	Hockaday			Parkin	Calderwood	Den y
WEST BROM	H	12,240	0-0	Digby	Hockaday		Programme and the second	Parkin*	Calderwood	
PLYMOUTH ARCYLE	A	8,487	1-4	Digby	Hockaday		Jones(1)	Gittens	Calderwood	
BLACKBURN ROYERS	H	8,220	1-1	Digby		Bodin*		Calderwood	Gittens	Foley (1)
BRADFORD CITY (7.45)	H	6,476	1-0	Digby		King	Jones	Calderwood	Gittens	Foley
MANCHESTER CITY	A	22,663	1-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Calderwood	Gittens	Foley
WATTORD	H	9,828	1-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Calderwood	Parkin	Foley
BIRMINGHAM CITY (7.30)	A	4,026	2-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	Calderwood	
BRIGHTON AND HOVE ALBION	A	9,510	2-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Calderwood	Parkin	Foley(2)†
CRYSTAL PALACE	H	11,045	1-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Calderwood	Parkin	Foley
WALSALL .	A	5.288	2-2	Digby						Foley
SHREWSBURY TOWN	_					-				Foley
STOKE CITY			-							
OLDHAM ATHLETIC										
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alderwood	Henry*	White (2)	Barnes	Geddis*	McLoughlin	Clarion Shoji (UK) Ltd.	Mr Ron Franklin, The Rat Trap, Swindon
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hearer			White(1)		Henry		

eduction in the cost of household insurance. sk for the 50 Plus Policy.

SHORT & SWEET

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY!

The rich become richer! Certainly that is the situation from the £44 million TV deal that the Football League have made with London Weekend TV. This season Arsenal and Manchester United have each made £775,000 and Liverpool £677,000. While Wimbledon, who recently lodged a complaint about the deal, have earned the basic £200,000.

A BARGAIN

Newport County bought John Aldridge the current Liverpool leading goalscorer, for a bargain £2,500 from non-League South Liverpool as a £60 a week novice. He then scored six goals in one of his first reserve teams appearances. Oxford United eventually sold him to Liverpool for £750,000.

A HAT-TRICK!

Barcelona became the first Club to capture the European Cup Winners Cup on three occasions when they defeated Sampdoria in Berne on May 10th. Their 2-0 victory was added to their 1979 and 1982 successes.

MAY HAVE BEEN LESS!

Manchester United's worst League attendance for 18 years against Wimbledon on May 2nd, 23,368, could have been lower if th Clubs policy had not been to include their 18,000 season ticket holders, many of whom clearly did not turn up. Experienced observers estimated the actual gate at just 17,000.

CAPPED WITH FOUR DIFFERENT CLUBS

Did you realise that Queens Park Rangers Player-Manager, Trevor Francis, made his England appearances while playing for four different Clubs? They were Birmingham City, Nottingham Forest, Manchester City and Sampdoria of Italy.

A MASSIVE LET DOWN

Jim Smith on Newcastle United's relegation from the First Division: "The players have let me down, the Club, the fans and me. Not by lack of endeavour, but by failing to handle the pressure. Fans don't expect miracles but they do expect to be able to hold up their heads."

CRACKING DOWN BUT WITH WHAT EFFECT:

The Scottish Football Association are to crack down heavily next season on Managers and Coaches found to have brought the game into disrepute through touchline clashes with match officials with bans and fines of at least £1,000 in the Premier League and £500 in the First Division. It will have little effect, the Clubs will probably pay them anyway!

ONLY THE SECOND

Sudbury and Tamworth provided only the second draw in the history of the F.A. Vase final when they drew 1-1 after extra time at Wembley on May 6th before an attendance of 26,000.

OLD STAGERS!

Kenny Dalglish and Graeme Souness are set for a return to Wembley and one last clash with the 'auld' enemy in a charity match between an Old Scotland side and a team of former England Internationals to be staged on Sunday June 4th.

A FUTURE TREND?

The earlier kick-off time for the Liverpool and Nottingham Forest F.A. Cup Semi-Final may set a trend for next seasons top games in a bid to reduce one of the growing problems, late arrival through extended drinking time.

LUTON READY TO FIGHT

Luton Town are ready to fight the Football authorities if a proposed ban on their synthetic surface at Kenilworth Road comes into effect. Luton, Oldham Athletic and Preson North End all have an agreement with the Football League allowing them to play on an artificial pitch.

FRAUD CHARGE FOR PLATINI

French National Soccer Coach Michel Platini is to face trial on fraud charged linked to a case involving his former Club Saint Etienne. Eleven players and nine former officials were accused of receiving underhand payments totalling over £2 million between 1978 and 1982 and of not declaring the income in their tax returns.

CONFUSION

Margaret Thatcher speaking recently in Parliament said: "There is a great deal of money in football. Much of it goes on transfer fees – perhaps too much, with too little on stadiums". The Football Supporters Association hit out at Mrs Thatcher's statement. An angry spokesman in Liverpool said: "For years, the Government has taken more out of the game than it has ever put back."

ROAD WORKS THE PROBLEM

Bobby Robson believes England may have lost psychological ground over World Cup opponents Poland after being forced to accept an afternoon start for next month's critical qualifying match at Wembley. He wanted to play in the evening when it's cooler and you have a different atmosphere. The police and local authority insisted on the afternoon kick-off due to the North Road Circular being closed from 8.00 pm for improvements.

BAD TIME FOR THE NORTH EAST!

A bad time for football in the North East. Newcastle United and Middlesbrough have been relegated to Division Two. Hartlepool finished in the League's bottom four while Sunderland flounder in the Second Division. Even Sunderland reserves were relegated and Gateshead were relegated in the HFS Loans League.

THE DEATH WISH?

Newcastle United Manager Jim Smith must have winced when Chairman Gordon McKeag uttered the words no team boss wants to hear. "The board has every confidence in him and relegation will not affect his position", said McKeag. "Jim is a man of great character and has our full support."

3 - FOR THE HAT-TRICK

The F.A. Cup Final has produced three goalscoring hat-tricks, Billy Townley, Blackburn Rovers v Sheffield Wednesday 1890, Jimmy Logan, Notts County v Bolton Wanderers 1894 and Stan Mortensen, Blackpool v Bolton Wanderers 1953.

THE OLDEST TEAM

The Arsenal team that played in the F.A. Cup Final of 1950 was the oldest in the Cup's history. Their average age was 31 and eight of the side were over 30. Centre forward Peter Goring was the Club's leading scorer that season, his first in the Football League although he failed to scored in the F.A. Cup.

GOING UP ... GOING UP ...

The F.A. Charity Shield will be played on Saturday August 12th. Seat prices will be £17.50, £15.00, £12.50, £10.00. Standing will cost £8.00. The match will be preceded by an England Youth International which will kick-off at 1.00 p.m.

WOT'S YOUR NAME? ... AND STOP B.... ABOUT!

Hyde United's leading goalscorer, Mike Lutkevitch, has scored over 30 goals this season. It's hardly brought him fame at Southport! He was described by the Haig Avenue matchday announcer as "Mike 'yes well'." The same announcer told Hyde supporters behind one goal to 'stop b * * ing about!" when the ball went out of play.

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So, for further details, contact Wessex Aluminium Limited, Hawksworth, Swindon SN2 1TT. Telephone: (0793) 644633.





TEAM CHECK

SWINDON TOWN

Team Changes 1. Fraser Digby 2. Dave Hockaday 3. Phil King 4. Tommy Jones 5. Tim Parkin 6. Colin Calderwood 7. Steve Foley 8. Duncan Shearer 9. Alan McLoughlin 10. Ross Maclaren 11. Steve White 12. Jon Gittens 14. Charlie Henry

CRYSTAL PALACE

	Team Changes
1.	Perry Suckling
	John Pemberton
	David Burke
4.	David Madden
5.	Jeff Hopkins
	Gary O'Reilly
7.	Eddie McGoldrick
8.	Alan Pardew
9.	Mark Bright
10.	Ian Wright
	Phil Barber
	John Salako
	Rudi Hedman

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Austin Rover, Swindon



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TEAM IN THE MIDDLE

Referee: Mr. J. T. Holbrook

Linesman Red Flag: Mr. M. K. Bullivant

Linesman Yellow Flag: Mr. M. J. Taylor

Reserve Official:

NEXT AT HOME

THE SECOND LEG, SEMI-FINAL MATCH AT SELHURST PARK, CRYSTAL PALACE
ON WEDNESDAY NEXT, MAY 31st KICKS OFF AT 8.00p.m.
Please note this is an all ticket match for Swindon Town supporters



WARNING TV SURVEILLANCE

This ground is equipped with

CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION

Installed with the help of a grant from the Football Trust. It is there to increase crowd safety and to help the police. Recording facilities enable film and photographs to be taken of disorder, which may subsequently be used in a court of law.

The Football Trust is funded entirely by the pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters from their Spotting-the-Ball competition.

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