

SWINDON TOWN



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BARCLAYS DIVISION TWO

**WEST BROMWICH
ALBION**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 22nd 1990
KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

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Speculation . . .

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, welcome once again to the County Ground.

We extend a warm welcome to Brian Talbot and his team from West Bromwich Albion.

Our last home match with Charlton Athletic was one which I am sure we would like to forget. Our first half display was the worst since I became manager. We did improve in the second half and in the end could have taken all three points.

On Monday last I watched the F.A. Cup replay between Leyton Orient and Colchester United. A four one victory for Orient means we have a tough visit ahead at Brisbane Road in the Third Round of the F.A. Cup. If Orient perform as they did on Monday it will be a very difficult game for us.

Speculation about players leaving the County Ground is now every-day reading in the press. At this stage no one is leaving. However, we are always looking to strengthen our squad. Time will tell. There may be some changes in the future.

Hopefully by the time you read these notes Nestor Lorenzo will be a Swindon Town player. Nestor wants to play for Swindon and, obviously, we would like Nestor on a permanent basis. Once a fee is agreed with the Italian League team Bari an application for a work permit will be made.

As this is our last home game of 1990 it may be time to reflect on what's happened in my eighteen months as manager.

This seasons form has been very disappointing and the main reason for this is the events of last summer. This has upset the lads more than they like to say and this has shown in the lack of confidence

at the moment. However the players are determined to regain their lost form and confidence. To help us do that your support is of paramount importance.

From my own point of view my confidence remains unscathed. All the players have been simply superb in showing their confidence in me and I would like to thank them for their 100% support.

We do have problems right now, but it is no good feeling sorry for ourselves. We have got to have a consistant and positive attitude. This we shall achieve.

My eighteen months in charge has been very exciting and I am sure a lot more excitement is on the way.

A Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year to you all.

OSSIE'S KIT IS SPONSORED BY:
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WELCOME TO THE
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-HOME OF



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The Directors of Swindon Town
Football Club would like to express their
gratitude to Swindon Calor Gas
for their generosity in sponsoring today's
match.

This is the official programme of
Swindon Town Football Club.
Individuals contributions do not
necessarily represent the views of the
club.

Edited by club staff with the valued
assistance of Paul Plowman.

Printed by Thamesdown Litho

Front cover: Adi Viveash and Jon Gittens rise to
the occasion against Charlton last Saturday.

In Town Today

Welcome to the players, officials
and supporters of

WEST BROMWICH ALBION



Left: Craig Shakespear

Right: Bernard McNally

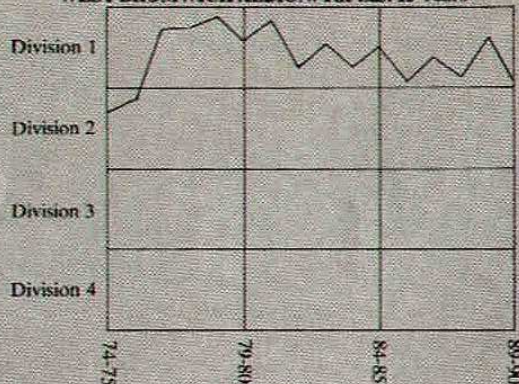
WEST BROMWICH ALBION - Form Guide

Last ten games

		H	A	Goalscorers	Att.
Oct	27	Newcastle Utd.	D1-1	Anderson	14,774
Nov	3	Bristol Rovers	W3-1	West 2, Anderson	10,997
	6	Middlesbrough	L0-1		10,571
	10	Notts County	L3-4	Bannister 2, Bradley	8,160
	17	Blackburn Rovers	W2-0	Bannister, West	10,985
	21	Barnsley	ZC L3-5	Robson, Bradley, Bannister	4,452
	24	Sheffield W.	L1-2	Robson	16,546
Dec	1	West Ham Utd.	L1-3	Ford	24,753
	5	Watford	D1-1	Roberts (pen)	7,657
	15	Portsmouth	D0-0		

Summary of goalscorers: Bannister 9, West 8, Robson 2, Ford 2, Bradley 2, Anderson 2, Hackett 1, Harbey 1, McNally 1, Roberts 1, Own-goals 1.

WEST BROMWICH ALBION: The Last 15 Years



FM 97.2

AND SWINDON TOWN

The squad

Samuel Allardye (Defender). Born Dudley, 19th October 1985. Sam has played in all four Divisions of the Football League during his eighteen seasons as a professional. In that time he has amassed well over 600 senior appearances and gained Second Division championship and Football League Trophy winners' medals with Bolton (1978) and Millwall (1983).

Colin Anderson (Full Back/Midfield). Born Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 26th April 1962. A utility player who can occupy the left-back or left-side midfield positions competently. Colin made over 100 appearances with Torquay before joining Albion.

Gary Bannister (Forward). Born Warrington, 22nd July 1960. A proven goalscorer who hit 55 goals in 118 League games for Wednesday and 56 in 136 for Q.P.R. Quick and alert in the box, he has played for England at Under-21 level.

Darren Bradley (Midfield). Born Kings Norton, Birmingham, 24th November 1965. As a youth player with Villa Darren occupied three different positions, midfield, centre-half and centre-forward, but it is as a midfielder where he wants to settle despite choosing the No. 5 shirt initially, captaining England at Youth level (16 caps) as well as Villa from that berth. Hard-working and fully committed, a niggling ankle injury sidelined him for six months, August 1986 – January 1987, and again for two-thirds of the 1987-8 season, but now he's looking to establish himself in the side as a powerful centre-field grafter or defender.

Daryl Burgess (Full Back/Defender). Born Marston Green, Birmingham, 24th January 1971. Strong, forceful player, good in the air, who came on in leaps and bounds in his first season of League football.

Nell Cartwright (Striker). Born Wollaston, Stourbridge, 20th February 1971. Eager-beaver striker who can also occupy a midfield role. Voted Albion's 'Young Player of the Year' in 1989.

Scott Colcombe (Forward). Born Walsall, 15th December 1971. Scott joined Albion as a Y.T.S. apprentice in July 1988 and signed professional forms in July 1990.

Wayne Dobbins (Midfield). Born Bromsgrove, 30th August 1968. A shade on the small side but a player with a big heart and terrific workrate. Wayne can also play at full-back.

Tony Ford (Forward/Midfield). Born Grimsby, 14th May 1959. Trustful player who enjoys performing wide on the right. During his career has played at right-back, right-half, midfield, outside-right and as an out-and-out striker. Made 407 appearances for Grimsby (60 goals), and was the youngest League debutant for the Mariners, being 16 years 4 months old when he lined-up against Walsall in October 1975. Twice helped the Mariners win promotion – from Division 4 in 1978-79 (when he was top scorer) and from Division 3 in 1979-80. Went on tour with the England 'B' side (with Stuart Naylor, in summer of 1989).

Adrian Foster (Forward). Born Kidderminster, 19th March 1971. An all-purpose forward with pace and a good shot.

Donald Goodman (Forward). Born Leeds, 9th May 1966. Exciting striker, fast, alert eager to pounce, always willing to chase and harass opponents. Don joined Albion on the transfer deadline of March 1987, and his presence in the side went a long way in helping the team avoid the relegation play-offs at the end of that season. Top scorer for Albion in 1988-89 and again last season with 21 goals. He gained a Third Division Championship medal with Bradford in 1984-85. Began playing football (aged 10) as a goalkeeper.

Gary Hackett (Forward). Born Stourbridge, 11th October 1962. Left-sided forward who hit 20 goals in 174 games for Shrewsbury. Keen and enthusiastic, he enjoys to cut in from the wing and try a shot at goal.

Graham Harbey (Full-Back). Born Chesterfield, 29th August 1964. Steady left-back, with good clean kick. Made 50 appearances for Derby and over 40 for Ipswich before moving to The Hawthorns.

Simone Hodson (Defender). Born Lincoln, 5th February 1966. Utility defender, quick in recovery, who can also adopt a midfield role. Made 30 appearances for Notts County, 5 for Charlton, 66 for Lincoln and 42 for Newport before joining Albion on the transfer deadline in 1988.

Bernard McNally (Midfield). Born Shrewsbury, 17th February 1963. Irish International midfielder who appeared in over 350 appearances for Shrewsbury before joining Albion for a fee fixed by an independent tribunal. He gained a Welsh Cup Winners Medal in 1984.

Stuart Naylor (Goalkeeper). Born Leeds, 6th December 1962. Ron Saunders' first signing, 'Stu' had languished in the lower reaches of the Football League for seven years before he was given a chance by Albion – and he grabbed it with both hands, literally! A big man, with big hands and a big heart, some fans say that 'Stu' is international class. That remains to be seen, but already he has shown that he has ability, agility and confidence – all the requirements a 'keeper needs. He won England Youth international honours as a lad (1980-1) and actually played at centre-forward for Lincoln (v Newport County) in October 1982 as a late replacement. In 1989 he was capped by England 'B'. 'Stu' made 65 appearances for Lincoln, 8 for Peterborough and 68 for Crewe. 'Stu's' father (Bill) and uncle (Tommy) both played for Oldham Athletic between 1948 and 1959. The £110,000 paid to Lincoln is the highest fee for a goalkeeper moving to Albion.

Leslie Palmer (Forward). Born Quinton, Birmingham, 5th September 1971. Signed professional in July 1990 after a successful tour to U.S.A. with Albion.

Stephen Parkin (Full-Back/Midfield). Born Mansfield, 7th November 1965. Played for England Youth (5 caps) and England Under-21 (6 caps) during his days with Stoke. Injured for most of 1988-89 season, but registered in excess of 130 senior outings for the Potters. Never claimed a regular first team spot with Albion last season.

David Pritchard (Winger). Born Wolverhampton, 27th May 1972. Joined Albion as a Y.T.S. apprentice in July 1988 and signed professional forms in July 1990.

Paul Raven (Defender). Born Salisbury, 28th July 1970. Gained England schoolboy honours in 1985, and a Youth Cap in 1988. Strong, determined defender who can occupy either the right-back or centre-half berths. He gained a Youth Cup runners-up medal v Arsenal in 1988.

Mel Rees (Goalkeeper). Mel stands 6'3" – a big man – and a capable 'keeper, highly rated by a number of coaches and fellow professionals.

Graham Roberts (Defender). Born Southampton, 3rd July 1959. Graham signed for Tottenham in May, 1980 for £30,000 – this after turning down Albion! He went on to appear in 292 League and Cup games for Spurs, collecting two F.A. Cup winners' medals (81 and 82) and a U.E.F.A. Cup winners' medal (84) as well as gaining 6 full England caps and one at 'B' team level. He moved from White Hart Lane to Glasgow Rangers in December 1986 and spent a season and a half at Ibrox Park, making over 70 appearances for Rangers. In August 1988 he returned to London to sign for Chelsea – and made 83 appearances for the Stamford Bridge club before his £200,000 transfer to Albion.

Gary Robson (Midfield). Born Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham, 6th July 1965. Brother of the more famous Bryan Robson of Manchester United and England fame and of Justin (Newcastle United). Gary is a hard-working midfielder who has had his fair share of injury problems since signing 'pro' forms for Albion, including a broken leg in last seasons F.A. Cup tie v Aston Villa.

Darren Rogers (Full-Back/Defender). Born Birmingham, 9th April 1970. Determined competitor, strong in the tackle who has yet to make his senior debut for Albion. A regular in the reserve side for the past two seasons.

Craig Shakespeare (Midfield). Born Great Barr, Birmingham, 26th October 1963. Hard working midfielder player with a strong right-foot. Scored almost 60 goals in over 300 appearances for Walsall.

Gary Strodger (Defender). Born Spennborough, 1st April 1965. Hard-tackling defender who can also play midfield. Appeared in 149 games for Lincoln and 85 for West Ham before transferring to The Hawthorns.

Brian Talbot (Midfield). Born Ipswich, 21st July 1953. Experienced midfielder, who, when signed by Albion, had already chalked up over 650 appearances in League and Cup football for Ipswich, Arsenal, Watford and Stoke. Capped by England at Under-21 (once), 'B' team (8) and senior level (six times). Brian won F.A. Cup winners' medals in 1978 (with Ipswich) and in 1979 (with Arsenal), and indeed has been instrumental in 'centre-field' with each club he has served, giving his forwards excellent support.

Colin West (Forward). Born Wallsend, 13th November 1962. Powerful, aggressive striker with proven goalscoring record, who arrived at The Hawthorns in a deal which took Carlton Palmer to Hillsborough. A firm favourite with the Albion fans, he has now scored 80 goals (including a hat-trick v Albion in 1985) in competitive football, with more to follow. He was, unfortunately, struck down by injury last season.

GWR FM 97.2

THE WINNING COMBINATION

PAUL PLOWMAN continues his season by season look back at Swindon Town through the years.

1971/72

The arrival of former Tottenham and Derby County defender Dave Mackay was announced in April 1971 and took place in May. The inclusion of the 36-year old in the Swindon line-up saw erstwhile skipper Stan Harland move into a midfield role that clearly did not suit him.

After the opening fifteen games, nine of which the Town failed to score in, Fred Ford departed and Mackay took on the mantle of player-manager. Harland was transferred to Birmingham for £15,000 and Christ Jones joined two other Swindon '69-ers, Willie Penman and John Smith, at Walsall.

Just two wins in seven games under new management prior to Christmas

turned to five wins out of eight after. A 4-2 win at Fulham was an ideal way to start 1972 and a 4-0 win over Oxford, featuring an Arthur Horsfield hat-trick, was particularly well received at the County Ground.

Several 'home-grown' youngsters broke through to the Town's Second Division side during the season. Kenny Stroud, Jimmy Allan, David Moss and Richard Legg all made their League debuts in 1971/72, with the first two appearing together in a goalless draw against Queens Park Rangers on September 4. Yet another new face was that of the 22 year old Tottenham midfield player Ray Bunkell.

Swindon fell at the first fence in both Cup competitions. The League Cup brought a 4-1 humiliation at Colchester and the F.A. Cup saw a record crowd at the County Ground – with 31,668 paying customers – but a 2-0 defeat by an Arsenal side looking for revenge for a Cup defeat three years later.

League attendances still remained at an average of

over 13,000, although they dropped to below nine thousand for the final three games. The two encounters with Bristol City were watched by nearly 43,000 and the highest away gate was at champions Norwich, 31,736.

Seating capacity at the County Ground increased to over 8,300 when the new North Stand opened its gates. It was first used in August 1971, but the official opening ceremony did not take place until the visit of Derby for a friendly in October.

Another innovation at the Town's headquarters brought a computerised link to an entertainment agency in central London. Customers could now purchase tickets for the theatre, cinema or opera at the touch of a button.

Top goalscorer was Peter Noble with fourteen. He had scored only twice by the turn of the year, but in a final twelve-game spell found the net eleven times to overtake Horsfield. An even number of points, 42 from 42 games, and an even goal-average saw Swindon finish 12th, one place higher than in 1970/71.



Dave Mackay

ARKELL'S

ESTD **BREWERY** 1843



Shaun Hodgetts "In-Depth"

Sporting Firsts . . .

by Shaun Hodgetts

As we approach the last home League game of the year, let's consider some of the sporting firsts through the years. The first recorded game of bowls was as long ago as 1388. Real Tennis was initiated 63 years later and golf started in 1457. It was 1527 when hockey hit the headlines – 'hockie stickes' were mentioned in the Galway Statute in Ireland. The first ever race meeting was held at Chester, at Roodeye Fields on February 9th 1540. Indoors, billiards first saw the light of day 51 years later, mentioned in 'Mother Hubbard's Tale' by Spenser. The poem 'The Muses Threonodie' by Henry Adamson includes the first reference to curling, written in 1620. 'Fives' started 14 years later when players broke the windows of Locking Church in Banwell. Ice skating in Great Britain was first recorded in St. James' Park in London in 1662. Boxing began in 1681 when the first match was organised by the Duke of Albemarle between his butler and his butcher in January of that year. The first pair of skating boots were made for Peter the Great at Zaaridam in the Netherlands in 1697. In racing, Royal Ascot was instituted on August 7th, 1711 by Queen Anne – one wonders what was fashionable way back in the 18th century? Long before Oxford and Cambridge in the Varsity Boat Race, the first competitive rowing event was for the Doggett's Coat and Badge, for apprentice watermen, on the River Thames on August 1st 1716. As predecessors to Wembley and the Royal Albert Hall, the first boxing stadium was Figg's Amphitheatre in London's Tottenham Court Road, used in 1719. We had the first racing calendar 7 years later, published by John Cheney of Arundel in Sussex. 1727 marked the inaugural boxing title fight between James Figg (the winner) and Ned Sutton for the championship of England, and the same year the formal rules of cricket were drawn up by the 2nd Duke of Richmond who first applied for a match between the Duke's XII and a Sussex side, Pepperherrowe XII. The first sporting journal was available in 1729 – a historical list of all horse matches, etc.

Four years later, Bob Whittaker of England beat Italian Tito Alberto di

Carini on May 6th, in the first international boxing contest. The first indoor swimming pool was opened on May 28th, 1742 at the Bagnio in Lemon St. Goodman's Fields in London. After all the fights we've already mentioned, the first rules of boxing, drafted by Jack Broughton, were approved on August 18th 1743. Gloves were developed by the same men 4 years later. In 1744, the first golf tournament was won by John Rettrey of Leith in Scotland on April 2nd. Two months later England played Kent at the Artillery Ground in Finsbury in the first cricket match to charge for admission – 2s 6d. Americans' favourite sport, baseball, was first recorded in London in 'A Little Pretty Pocket Book' by J. Newbery with a picture titled 'Baseball'. In the same year the first women's cricket match was in 1945, on July 26th, at Gosden Common, between Hambledon and Bramley. The first steeplechase was seven years later, ridden by Edmund Blake and Mr. O'Callaghan 'from the Church of Buttevant to the spire of St. Leger Church' in County Cork in Ireland. In 1764 the first golf club was formally constituted – the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, and the first 18-hole course set up at St. Andrews in Scotland. Show-jumping began 2 years later, in Ireland, organised by Captain John Knox at Weringsford in County Down. Westminster Bridge in London hosted the first rowing regatta on June 23rd, 1775.

Fifteen months later we had the first three-stump wicket, at Coleham-Burvey in the match between Causden and Chertsey. I don't know what they used beforehand. Cricket scorecards were published at the same time, by T. Prett of Sevenoaks. Regular newspaper sports reports started in 1779 with the Whitehall Evening Post in London – still we don't always agree with what the correspondents write!! The first Derby, on May 4th 1780, was won by Charles Bunbury's Diomed at Epsom.

Lords staged its first cricket match at the Dorset Squard ground on May 31st 1787 between Essex and Middlesex.

Two months later, the MCC started its long and illustrious history, against



Islington Cricket Club.

The first swimming club was founded in Sweden by Jöns Sveters, in 1796, Uppsala Simsällskap.

The first woman to ride in a horse race was 22 year old Alicia Meynell at York on August 25th, 1804.

To
be
continued . . .

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Division One

		BL	R	FA	O	T
Rush	Liverpool	8	5			13
Gascoigne	Tottenham	6	6			12
Platt	Aston Villa	7	3	2		12
Wegerle	QPR	11	1			12
Beardsley	Liverpool	11				11
Lineker	Tottenham	10	1			11
Chapman	Leeds Utd.	8	2			10
Elstrup	Luton Town	10				10
Saunders	Derby C.	7	3			10
Wright	Crystal P.	7	3			10

Division Two

		BL	R	FA	O	T
Bull	Wolves	15		1		16
Slaven	Mid'boro	11	3	1		15
Payton	Hull City	14				14
Beckford	Port Vale	13				13
Hirst	Sheffield W.	11	2			13
Kelly	Leicester City	11	1			12
Sheringham	Millwall	10	2			12
Small	Brighton	10	1			11
Baird	Mid'boro	9		1		10
Quinn	Newcastle U.	10				10
Shearer	Swindon T.	9				9

Division Three

		BL	R	FA	O	T
Angell	Southend U.	7	2	2	5	16
Page	Wigan A.	9	1	1	3	14
Philliskirk	Bolton W.	6	5	1		12
Sussex	Crewe Alex.	7	4	1		12
Blissett	Bournemouth	9	2			11
Castle	Leyton O.	6	3	2		11
Benjamin	Southend U.	7			3	10
Senior	Reading	10				10
Muir	Tranmere R.	7		2		9
Woods	Grimsby T.	8		1		9

Division Four

		BL	R	FA	O	T
Rimmer	Walsall ^a	12	4		1	17
Butler	Maidstone U.	8	2	2	1	13
Lovell	Gillingham	11	1		1	13
Allon	Hartlepool	6	2	3	1	12
Barnes	Northampton	9	1	2		12
Puckett	Aldershot	7	3	2		12
Muir	Doncaster R.	9	1	1		11
Norris	Halifax T.	9		1	1	11
Puckett	Aldershot	7	3	1		11
Tynan	Torquay U.	9	1	1		11
Pike	Cardiff City	9	1			10

BL - Barclays, R - Rumbelows League Cup, FA - FA Cup,
O - European/Zenith Data Systems/Leyland DAF Cup.

Former Swindon Town players are in italics.

FURTHER LIVE TV GAME CONFIRMED

Howard Kendall's new charges Everton face his former side Manchester City live on ITV's 'The Match' on Sunday 13th January 1991. A complete list of First Division matches selected for coverage is given below. All games (except the New Year's Day match at White Hart Lane [kick-off 5.00 p.m.]), kick-off at 3.00 p.m.

Sunday 23rd December

Aston Villa v Arsenal

Sunday 30th December

Crystal Palace v Liverpool

Tuesday 1st January

Spurs v Manchester United

Sunday 13th January

Everton v Manchester City

THE BIPLOB TANDOORI Mach of the Match v Charlton Athletic



Jon Gittens

Jon's prize is an Indian Tandoori meal for two at The Biplob, Wood Street, Swindon.

SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

MAIN OFFICE HOURS OF BUSINESS CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR 1990-91

Monday	24th December 1990	Closed
Tuesday	25th December 1990	Closed
Wednesday	26th December 1990	Closed
Thursday	27th December 1990	Open 10 am - 1 pm
Friday	28th December 1990	Open 9 am - 5 pm
Saturday	29th December 1990	Ticket Office open for sale of Plymouth Argyle tickets
Sunday	30th December 1990	Closed
Monday	31st December 1990	9 am - 5.30 pm
Tuesday	1st January 1991	Match v Plymouth Open 10 am - 6 pm
Wednesday	2nd January 1991	Closed
Thursday	3rd January 1991	Open 9 am - 5.30 pm
Friday	4th January 1991	Open 9 am - 5.30 pm

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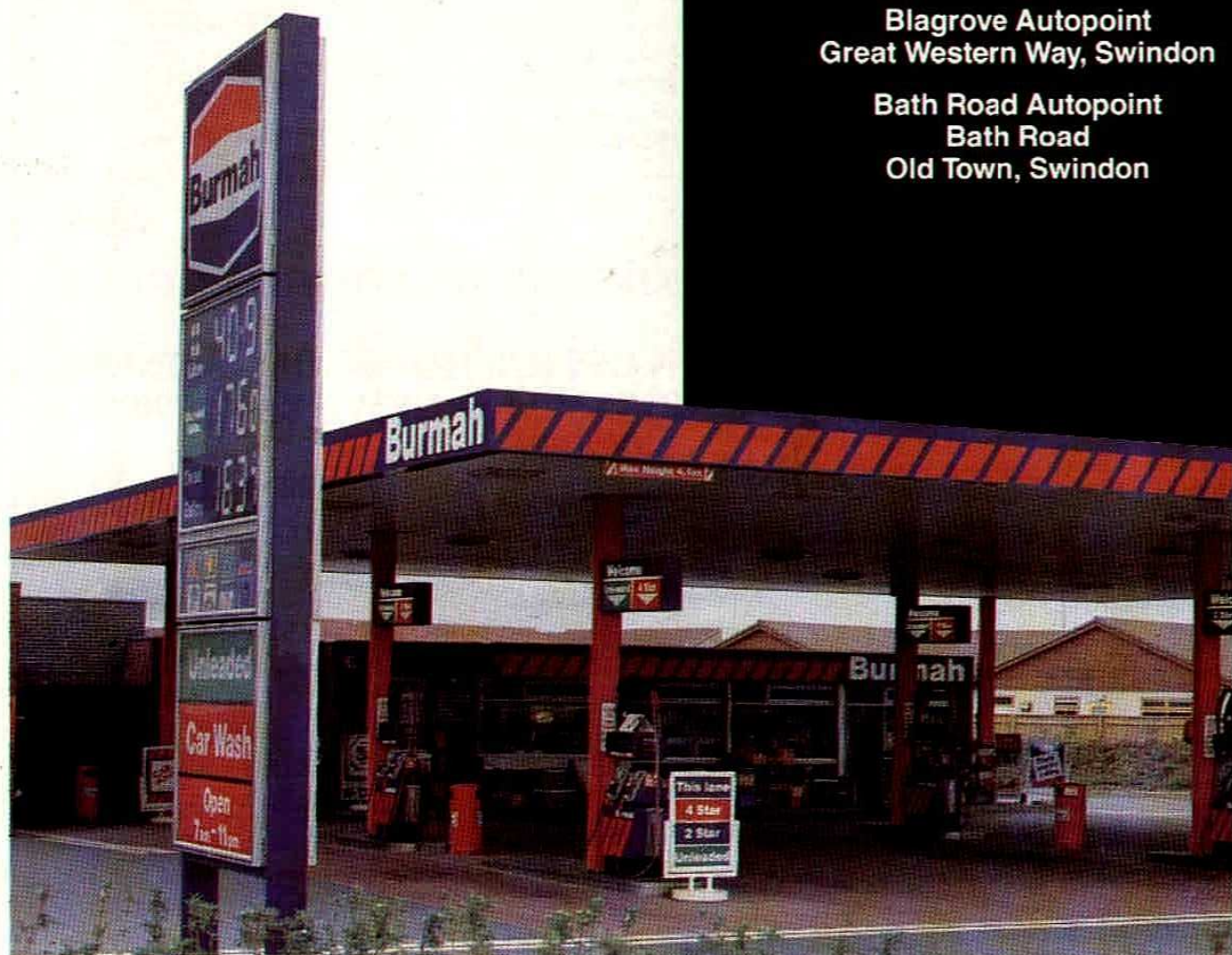
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I wish to advertise on your Electronic Scoreboard, and enclose cheque for £10 payable to Swindon Town F.C.

Name:

Address:

Tel No:

Date of Match:

Message as follows
(not more than 10 words):

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Season's Greetings



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wish you all
A Happy Christmas
and
Prosperous New Year*

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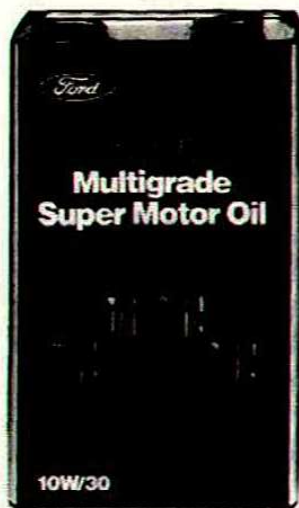
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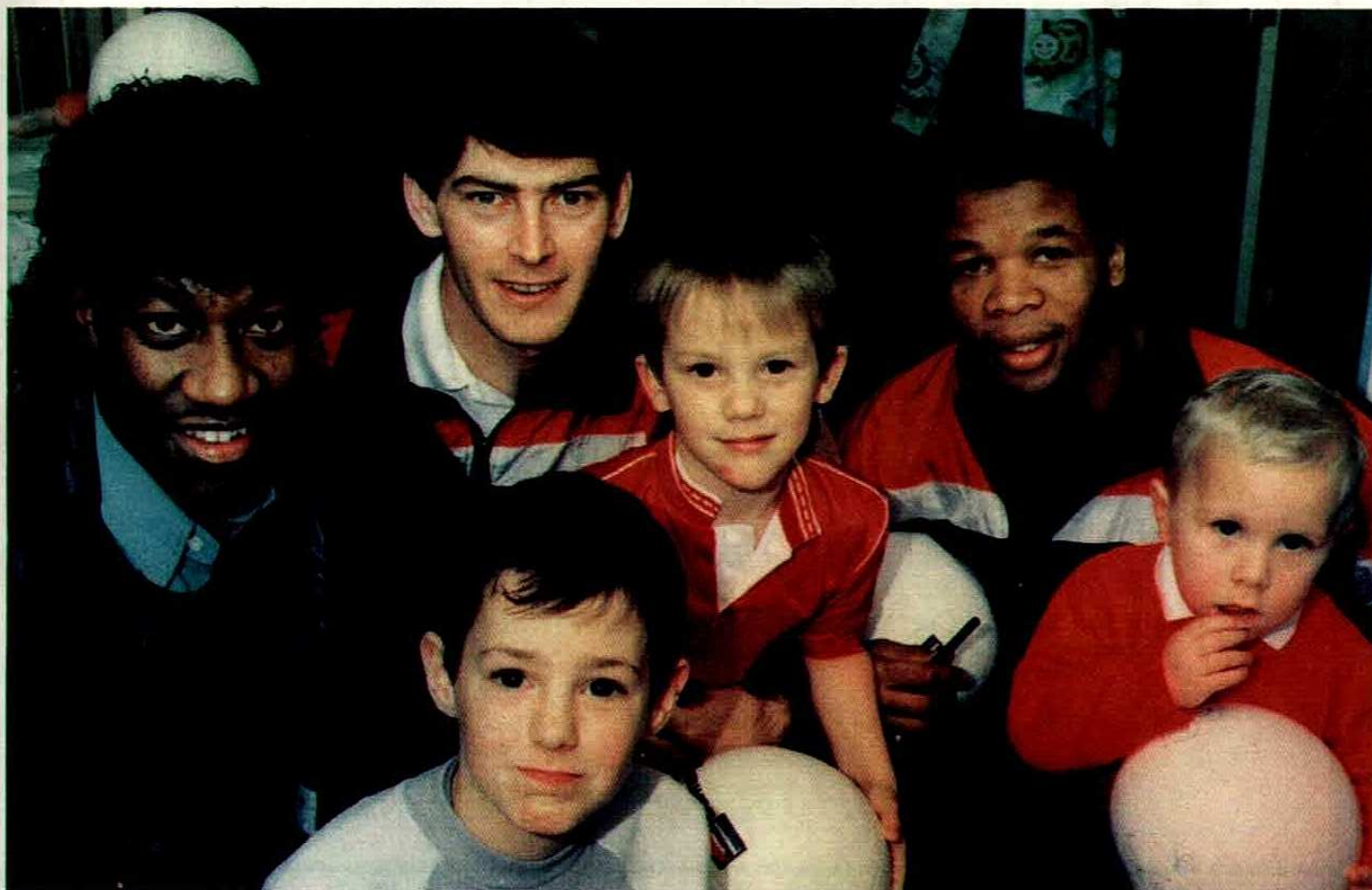
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Our mascot for the Charlton game, Gary Boakes, lines up with both captains and the officials before kick-off.

Bottom: Dave Bennett, Tom Jones and Jon Gittens meet Robert Fisher, Michael Morton and Mathew Birley at Princess Margaret Hospital.



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Sun. Sept. 2	Bristol City	The Plumb Center	Dave Smith. A Town Fanatic.
Sat. Sept. 15	Middlesbrough	Crosby Doors Ltd.	Peter Godwin. An ex-Swindonian now residing in Harrow
Tues. Sept. 18	Wolverhampton W.	M.S. Group, Swindon	Blunsdon House Hotel
Sun. Sept. 30	Millwall	Metalite Engineering	Mr. A. Raynor. Uni Mill Engineering
Tues. Oct. 9	Darlington	Blunsdon House Hotel	
Sat. Oct. 13	Bristol Rovers	Roy Allen Supplies	Hammond Construction, Highworth. Swindon 766112
Sat. Oct. 20	West Ham United	Arkells Brewery	Brize Norton Garages, Carterton
Sat. Nov. 3	Port Vale	Clarion Shoji (UK) Ltd.	Mr. J. Tremlin, Coped Hall Service Station
Tues. Nov. 6	Sheffield Wed.	Sir Seton Wills & Family	Edward & Trevor Howard of Fairford
Sat. Nov. 10	Portsmouth	Multi Agg Quarries	Travers Morgan & Partners, Consulting Engineers
Sat. Dec. 1	Blackburn Rovers	Mr. Clive Sharples	Data Call Systems Ltd. 78/86 Pennywell Road, Bristol BS5 0TR
Sat. Dec. 15	Charlton Athletic	McLean Homes Ltd.	Hayman & Partners, Swindon
Sat. Dec. 22	West Bromwich Albion	Swindon Calor Gas	Flow Forms Ltd. (Wiltshire)
Tues. Jan. 1	Plymouth Argyle	John Coyle Services	Cliff Jones. Wessex Conservatories
Sat. Jan. 19	Hull City	Colson Engineering	The Peter Allen Traditional Jazz Band
Sat. Feb. 9	Oxford United	Oxford and Swindon Co-Operative Society	Mr. Gerry Williams. Ring Cafe, Cavendish Square
Sat. Feb. 16	Sheffield Wed.	Heywood Insurance Melksham	Wilson Tool International Ltd.
Sat. Mar. 9	Notts. County	Power Plant Hire Ltd.	Calne Town F.C.
Tues. Mar. 12	Oldham Athletic	Action Plant Hire	Emery McLaven Orr
Sat. Mar. 23	Brighton & H.A.	Skurays Ltd. of Swindon	Mr. Paul Plowman
Sat. Mar. 30	Newcastle United	Hammond Construction Highworth	Mr. T. Harris, The Falcon Inn, Swindon
Sat. Apr. 6	Watford	F. Green & Sons of Lambourn	Mr. Piper & Friends, Swiss Chalet
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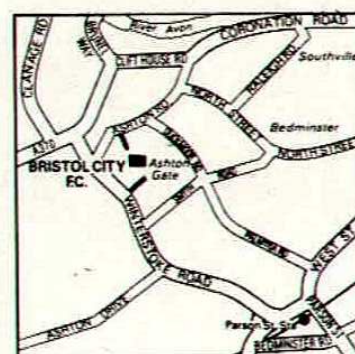
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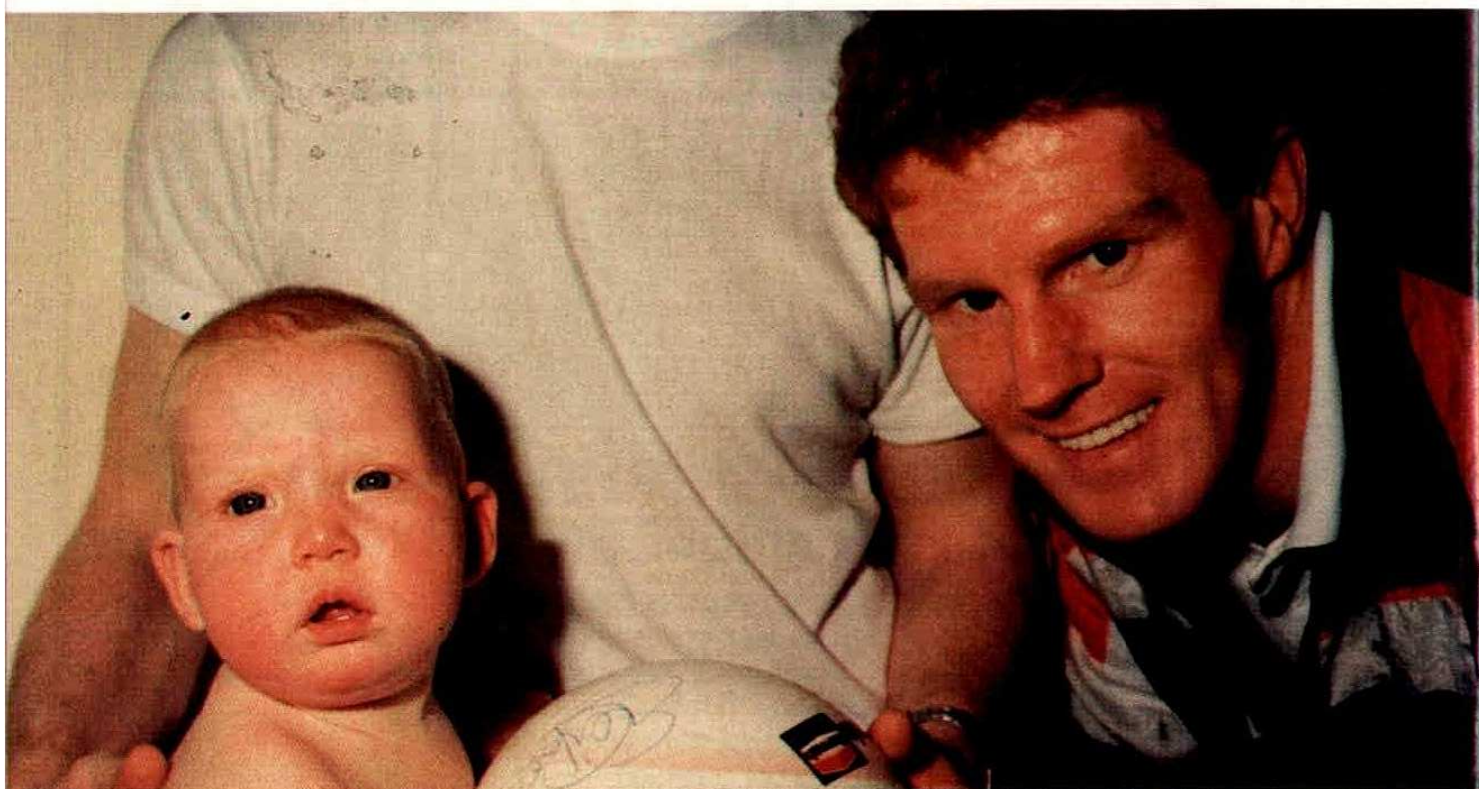
GWR FM 97.2

**THE
INFORMATION STATION**



Top: Micky Hazard and Steve White acknowledge Mickey's goal for the Town last Saturday.

Bottom: Duncan meets 7 month old Abigail Gardiner at P.M.H.



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WHAT'S ON AT THE COUNTY GROUND OVER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

Rendezvous Club

Saturday 22nd December Dancing to the Bobby Field Band
Monday 24th December Music by Ron Barry Members £2.50 Guests £3
Saturday 29th December Dancing to Eric Gough Band
Monday 31st December Music by Flight Deck Members £2.50 Guests £3
The Rendezvous Christmas Draw will take place at 8.00 o'clock on Friday 21st December.
List of winners will be posted on Club Notice Board.

Swindon Town Supporters Social Club

Monday 24th December Lunchtime Christmas Draw Disco 7.30 p.m. – till late
Monday 31st December Disco 7.30 p.m. – till late £2.00



Rumbelows would like to wish all
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A Happy New Year and Successful Season

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programme with your membership cards.
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sale products which are currently on
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South Coast Football Programme Fair at

The Avenue Hall, The Avenue, Southampton
Monday 31st December 1990
11.00 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.

Princess Margaret Hospital Visit

Last week Ross MacLaren and the lads visited
the childrens ward of the P.M.H.

Gifts were distributed to the young patients
who were happy to see some of their heroes in
the flesh.

A Christmas tree was provided along with
fruit and nuts and a good time was had by all.

Our thanks to Terry Woolen for donating
the tree and fruit.

Thank you also to the staff at P.M.H. for
making us all welcome.

Photos of the visit appear in today's
programme and also for the Plymouth game.

A Happy Christmas to all patients and staff
and a healthy 1991.

SWINDON TOWN TRAVEL CLUB NEWS

The Travel Club is now taking bookings for:
Newcastle Wednesday 26 December 1990
Watford Saturday 29 December 1990

May I take this opportunity to say two very big thank you's. Firstly it is with great regret that the Travel Club Committee has to say goodbye from the Committee to Colin Aldridge due to work pressure. Colin has been a tower of strength over the past 12 months and stepped in admirably when the crisis hit the Travel Club, he has worked endlessly night after night on your behalf. We wish to thank him for all his efforts. You will be pleased to know that he will still be travelling with us. The Committee has temporarily co-opted Peter Jeavons in his place, who is a well known face. Peter will act as a Committee member until the next A.G.M. Secondly a very big thank you to you, our Travel Club Members, what a marvellous loyal group of people you are. Your support and encouragement to all of us has got to be the best in the land, a pity the press doesn't report this side of football.

It just remains for me to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Mick, Janet, Sheila, Tracey, Vince, Andy & Peter

See you all in 1991.



Good afternoon to all our Junior Robins. We are sorry we could not organise a game today, but West Bromwich Albion do not arrange reciprocal visits, but I'm sure you will all enjoy your day.

We must congratulate our Junior Robins and adults who made the journey to Ipswich on December 8th despite the atrocious weather conditions. Apparently it was a great day out, so well done everybody.

Everyone here at the County Ground would like to wish all our members, parents and helpers a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Our next meeting is on Monday 7th January 1991.

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D = Training Kit. E = Shorts/Socks.

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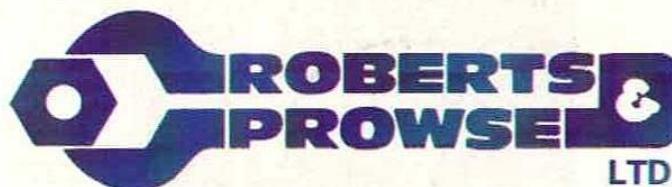


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SOAPBOX

In the first of an occasional series where fans can air their views on football issues, **Martin Tryczynski**, supporters Board Director, looks at the role of the referee. The views are expressed in his personal capacity and are not those of the club.

GET IT RIGHT

With a poorish start to the season now hopefully behind us it is worth briefly dwelling on just one of the factors which many of us believe have contributed to the teams' results so far. Sure, our form has visibly dropped; yes, visiting teams have packed the midfield to stop us playing; and undoubtedly our strikeforce has been less potent than last season, but is it just possible that the 'men in black' have also had something to do with it?

Now, I'm not a believer in the conspiracy theory and I fully recognise that referees have an immensely difficult task in one of the few sports in which cheating (from the well timed shove, through the 'balletic dive' to the deliberate attempt to maim) is an integral part of the game. But I can't help feeling that something is wrong when, already, we have one of the worst disciplinary records in the League despite my eyes telling me, every week, that we have one of the least physical teams in the Second Division. And I find it very difficult to understand why the punishment for arguing with the referee or kicking the ball away should be as severe as was handed out for the tackles which put Dave Bennett and Micky

Hazard out of action. Nor can I see how the attempted 'flying amputation' (from behind and just below the knee) of Fitzroy Simpson's leg at Oxford didn't even warrant a booking.

No doubt, these decisions will even themselves out over a full season and we will eventually get a fair share going our way, but that doesn't alter the fact that there is a problem with the refereeing of our sport and that problem is nothing to do with conspiracy but *inconsistency*.

Every League game is, we're told, attended by an 'assessor' who marks the referee on his performance. Who is he? What are his qualifications to do the job? What happens to his report? Why can't we, the fans, be told the results of these assessments (not by match but statistically on a League wide basis) so that we have the confidence that, at the least, the authorities recognise there is a problem?

Most importantly of all, what is being done about it?

If the merger of the F.A. and the Football League does finally take place, there will be little excuse for not taking radical action to improve the quality of refereeing in League Football, and the key, in my opinion, is professionalism. Paid referees would have the time to

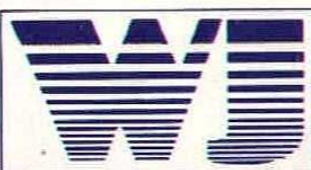
attend courses, seminars and workshops aimed at improving their skills and their judgement. Paid referees would have the time to analyse videos of recent matches and learn from their own and others mistakes. And, crucially, the status of refereeing as a full time, financially rewarding occupation would help attract many ex-professional players to the role—as we've seen in other sports (notably cricket and rugby) ex-players often make the best referees.

But, when standards have remained static for as long as I can remember, why is it so important *now* to improve them? Well, in my view, the F.A.'s recent decision to deduct League points for disciplinary offences on the field of play places even greater pressure on referees to get it right! In the recent case the F.A. had had the opportunity to study a video of the fracas, but if it had been a 3rd or 4th Division game, they would have had to rely exclusively on the referee's report.

So, if the referee's interpretation of events on the field of play is potentially to lead to points deductions then, now more than ever before, it is essential that they get it right!

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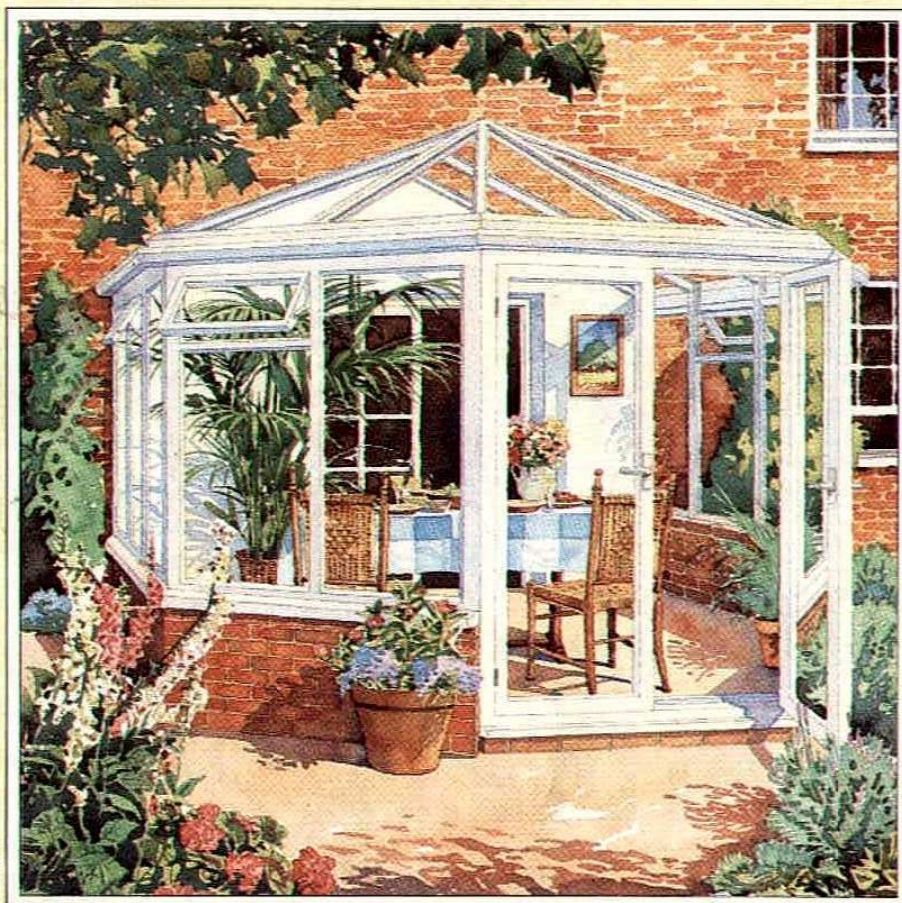
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Andy Rowland

LEAGUE TABLE
(up to and including 15.12.90)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tottenham H.	18	14	0	4	44	22	42
Wimbledon	18	12	3	3	30	14	39
Chelsea	16	10	0	6	32	19	30
Luton Town	18	9	3	6	36	27	30
Millwall	17	7	6	4	42	23	27
Norwich City	17	7	6	4	29	20	27
Arsenal	16	8	3	5	27	20	27
Portsmouth	17	7	6	4	26	19	27
Southampton	18	7	4	7	26	34	25
Crystal Palace	15	6	5	4	29	20	23
Swindon Town	18	6	5	7	31	30	23
Charlton Athletic	17	6	4	7	25	25	22
Queens Park Rangers	18	5	6	7	28	32	21
West Ham United	16	6	1	9	19	33	19
Brighton & Hove A.	16	5	3	8	21	29	18
Ipswich Town	18	4	5	9	20	29	17
Oxford United	15	4	3	8	22	25	15
Watford	15	4	3	8	17	35	15
Fulham	17	4	3	10	19	38	15
Reading	20	3	3	14	14	43	12

Reserves v Fulham Result: Lost 3-1

This was, by our own standards, a disappointing performance. Although we were weakened by first team call-ups, we should still have been strong enough and capable enough to give a better account of ourselves.

Fulham opened the scoring after twenty minutes when Julian Hails ran through the middle unchallenged to shoot past Hammond, poor defensive play on our part. The remainder of the half being, in the main, a non-event with both goalkeepers rarely troubled.

The second half was a little livelier with both teams playing better football, but unfortunately it was Fulham who went further ahead when, again, Swindon's defence was split and Eckhardt scored from close range. This finally kicked Swindon into action with Hunt pulling a goal back almost immediately and although we created some excellent chances the combination of good goalkeeping and some poor finishing kept the scoreline at 2-1. Fulham scored their third on the break just before the end to complete their scoring, leaving us with the feeling that with better application and interest we could have salvaged something from the game.

South East Counties League & Cup Games

The League season has been inconsistent both in performance and results. Much of this is down to the failure of the players to apply themselves properly, firstly to play the game with enthusiasm and then with the awareness and thought needed. Too often inferior opposition have outplayed us, because of a better application but on other occasions have more than matched other teams and certainly looked to have some good prospects.

Early exits from all four cup competitions, the League, Southern Junior Floodlit, Midland Youth and F.A. Youth cups, only gives us the League for the remainder of the season.

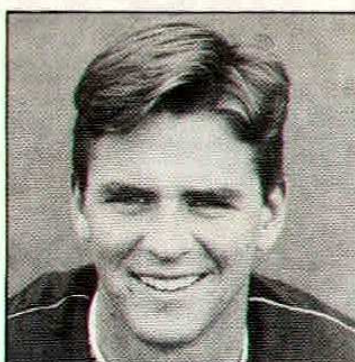
Several players have progressed to the Reserve side and equipped themselves well. Eliminating this inconsistent approach can only help them to perform better and enhance their chances of making the grade and gaining a professional contract.

Allied Counties League and Cup

Playing nearly all under-17 players in an Under-18 League has seen us give size and strength away but as this is the purpose of this team, whether the players can cope with a better standard of football, and giving us the chance to assess their capabilities.

Performances have been on the whole quite good and as the individual performance is more important than the result, League positions are way down the list of priorities.

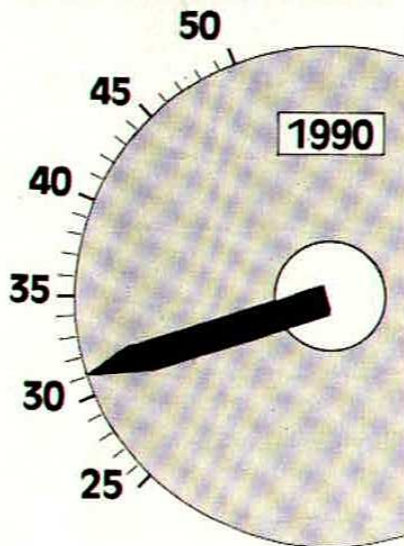
Most lads have been introduced to South East Counties football and hopefully further games in the new year will help us make our minds up regarding new trainees for next season.



5 of our young professionals who have come through from the South East Counties and Allied Counties teams. They are:
Top left: Fitzroy Simpson
Top middle: Adrian Viveash
Top right: Paul Hunt
Bottom left: Paul Trollope
Bottom right: Nicky Summerbee

Statistics

GOALOMETER



Swindon Town F.C. would like to thank the firms and individuals opposite for sponsoring every first team goal scored in competitive matches during season 1990/91.

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Hammond Construction, Highworth
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Biplob Tandoori Restaurants
Swindon, Rodbourne, Highworth
S. Coburn

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION TWO 1990/91

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Ham United	21	13	8	0	33	12	47
Oldham Athletic	20	13	5	2	42	19	44
Sheffield W.	20	10	8	2	40	32	38
Middlesbrough	20	11	4	5	36	16	37
Notts County	20	8	6	6	29	25	30
Wolves	20	7	8	5	30	24	29
Millwall	20	7	7	6	30	24	28
Port Vale	20	8	4	8	31	30	28
Bristol City	19	8	4	7	28	29	28
Brighton & H.A.	19	8	4	7	30	38	28
Ipswich	21	6	9	6	34	32	27
Barnsley	20	6	8	6	28	22	26
Bristol Rovers	19	7	5	7	25	23	26
Newcastle	19	6	6	7	21	22	24
West Brom. A.	20	5	8	7	25	28	23
Swindon Town	21	5	8	8	26	31	23
Blackburn Rovers	21	6	4	11	24	31	22
Plymouth Argyle	21	5	7	9	22	31	22
Leicester City	20	6	4	10	29	45	22
Charlton Athletic	20	5	6	9	25	30	21
Portsmouth	21	5	6	10	23	33	21
Hull City	21	5	6	10	34	51	21
Oxford United	20	4	7	9	29	39	19
Watford	21	4	6	11	18	28	18



HELPING THE GAME



The Football Trust 1990 has been created to help the game at all levels and to assist clubs meet the requirements of Lord Justice Taylor's Final Report.

Safety and comfort for all spectators is the primary objective and substantial funds have been made available for the provision of seating at Football League grounds. At the same time the Trust's commitment to family and community initiatives will continue with the provision of more family enclosures, better toilet facilities, covered accommodation, artificial pitches for local use and the development of women's and junior football particularly through community programmes, plus a wide range of policing and crowd control measures.

Each year The Trust expects to receive £20 million from the reduction in Pool Betting Duty plus the £10 million continuing contribution from the Spotting-the-Ball competition organised by Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters. This money will be invested in projects which benefit football throughout the United Kingdom.

Digby
Kerslake
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Simpson
Calderwood
Gittens
Jones
Shearer
Close
MacLaren
Foley
Hockaday
McLoughlin
Summerbee
Buttigieg
Viveash
Hunt
White
Bennett
Tanner
Hazard
Hammond
Galvin
Lorenzo
Green

Sat.	Aug. 25	Charlton Athletic	2-1	7,542	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12†	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tues.	Aug. 28	Ipswich	1-0	10,817	1	2	3	4	5	6	7†	8●	9	10	11	12	14†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sun.	Sept. 2	Bristol City	0-1	12,254	1	2	3	4	5	6	7†	8	9*	10	11	12†	14*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sat.	Sept. 8	Hull City	1-1	5,240	1	-	3	14†	5	6	7	8	9*	10	11†	2	4●	12*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sat.	Sept. 15	Middlesbrough	1-3	9,127	1	-	3	9	5	6	7	8●	-	10	11	-	4	12*	2	14†	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tues.	Sept. 18	Wolverhampton W.	1-0	12,288	1	-	3	9●	5†	6	7	8	-	10	11	-	4	14	2	-	12†	-	-	-	-	-
Sat.	Sept. 22	Oxford United	4-2	7,961	1	2	3	9●	-	6	7	8●●	-	10	11●	-	4*	-	14*	-	-	12†	5†	-	-	-
Tues.	Sept. 25	Darlington (LC R2)	0-3	4,037	1	2	3	9	-	6	7	8	-	10	11*	-	4	-	14*	-	-	12†	5†	-	-	-
Sun.	Sept. 30	Millwall	0-0	11,667	1	2	3	9*	-	6	7†	8	-	10	11*	-	4	-	-	-	-	12*	5	14†	-	-
Tues.	Oct. 2	Oldham Athletic	2-3	12,575	1	2	3●	9	-	6	-	8	12*	10	-	-	4*	-	14	-	11	-	5	7●	-	-
Sat.	Oct. 6	Brighton & H.A.	3-3	7,940	1	2	3	11	-	6	-	8	12	10	-	-	4●●	-	14	-	9●	-	5	7	-	-
Tues.	Oct. 9	Darlington (LC R2)	4-0	7,066	-	2	3	11●	-	6†	-	-	8●●	10	14†	-	4●*	-	5	12*	9	-	7	1	-	-
Sat.	Oct. 13	Bristol Rovers	0-2	11,494	-	2	3	8	-	-	14*	-	12†	10	11†	-	4	-	6*	-	9	-	5	7	1	-
Sat.	Oct. 20	West Ham United	0-1	13,658	1	2	3	8	-	6	7	-	12†	10	11	-	-	-	14	-	9	-	5	4†	-	-
Wed.	Oct. 24	Leicester City	2-2	9,592	1	2	3	4	-	6	7	8●	-	10	11	-	-	-	12	-	9●	-	5	-	14	-
Sat.	Oct. 27	Barnsley	1-5	7,690	1	2	3	11	-	6	7†	8●	-	10	12†	-	4	-	14	-	9	-	5	-	-	-
Wed.	Oct. 31	Sheffield W. (LC R3)	0-0	13,900	1	2	3	4	-	6	7	8	-	10	11	-	12†	-	5	-	9†	-	-	-	14	-
Sat.	Nov. 3	Port Vale	1-2	7,714	1	2	3	11	-	6	7	8	-	10	12†	-	4†	-	5	14	9	-	-	-	-	-
Tues.	Nov. 6	Sheffield W. (LC R3)	0-1	9,043	1	2	3	12†	-	6	7	8	-	10	11	-	4†	-	5	-	9	-	-	-	14	-
Sat.	Nov. 10	Portsmouth	3-0	8,621	1	-	3	7*	-	-	2	8●	12†	10	11●	-	4	-	5	-	9	-	-	14†	-	6●
Sat.	Nov. 17	Sheffield W. (FAC1)	2-1	22,715	1	-	3	7†	-	-	2	8	-	10	11	-	4●	-	5	-	9	-	-	12†	-	6
Sat.	Nov. 24	Notts County	0-0	6,091	1	-	3	12*	-	-	2	8	-	10	11	-	4	-	5	-	9*	-	-	7	-	6
Sat.	Dec. 1	Blackburn Rovers	1-1	8,091	1	2	3	12†	-	6	7	8●	-	10	11	-	4†	-	14	-	9	-	-	-	5	-
Sat.	Dec. 8	Ipswich T. (FAC2)	1-1	9,358	-	2	3	12†	-	6	7	8●	-	10	11	-	4	-	5	-	9†	-	-	1	-	14
Wed.	Dec. 12	Chelsea (ZDC)	0-1	5,380	1	2	3	9	-	6	7	8	-	10	11	-	-	5	-	12	-	-	4	-	-	14
Sat.	Dec. 15	Charlton Athletic	1-1	7,364	1	2	3	9	-	6	7	8	-	10	11†	-	-	-	5	-	12†	-	-	4●	-	14
Sat.	Dec. 22	West Bromwich A.																								
Wed.	Dec. 26	Newcastle United																								
Sat.	Dec. 29	Watford																								
Tues.	Jan. 1	Plymouth Argyle																								
Sat.	Jan. 5	Leyton Orient (FAC3)																								
Sat.	Jan. 12	Bristol City																								
Wed.	Jan. 16	League Cup R5																								
Sat.	Jan. 19	Hull City																								
Sat.	Jan. 26	F.A. Cup R4																								
Sat.	Feb. 2	Middlesbrough																								
Sat.	Feb. 9	Oxford United																								
Tues.	Feb. 12	Wolverhampton W.																								
Wed.	Feb. 13	League Cup S.F. L1																								
Sat.	Feb. 16	Sheffield W. (FAC5)																								
Sat.	Feb. 23	Portsmouth																								
Wed.	Feb. 27	League Cup S.F. L2																								
Sat.	Mar. 2	Blackburn Rovers																								
Sat.	Mar. 9	Notts. County																								
Tues.	Mar. 12	Oldham Athletic																								
Sat.	Mar. 16	Millwall																								
Wed.	Mar. 20	Bristol Rovers																								
Sat.	Mar. 23	Brighton & H.A.																								
Sat.	Mar. 30	Newcastle United																								
Mon.	Apr. 1	West Bromwich A.																								
Sat.	Apr. 6	Watford																								
Sat.	Apr. 13	Plym'th A (FACSF)																								
Sat.	Apr. 20	West Ham United																								
Sun.	Apr. 21	League Cup Final																								
Sat.	Apr. 27	Leicester City																								
Sat.	May 4	Barnsley																								
Sat.	May 11	Port Vale																								
Sat.	May 18	F.A. Cup Final																								

PLEASE NOTE!

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

BRISTOL CITY v SWINDON TOWN

SATURDAY JANUARY 12th 1991 at ASHTON GATE

KICK-OFF NOW 3.00 p.m.

BY ORDER OF THE AVON POLICE

Key: Home matches in bold ● Goalscorer † and * Substitutions

Key: Home matches in bold ● Goalscorer † and * Substitutions



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DARREN BRADLEY



JON GITTENS



PAUL RAVEN



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TONY FORD



DUNCAN SHEARER



DON GOODMAN



STEVE WHITE



GARY BANNISTER



ROSS MacLAREN



BERNARD McNALLY



STEVE FOLEY



COLIN ANDERSON



12. FITZROY SIMPSON
14. RICHARD GREEN



12.
14.



Referee: N. E. Pierce
Reserve Official: G. Webb



Linesman Red Trim: N. J. Holohan
Linesman Yellow Trim: S. W. Dunn

NEXT HOME MATCH: Swindon Town v Plymouth Argyle
Tuesday January 1st 1991. Kick-Off 3.00 p.m.

**TODAY'S
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**IMPORTANT SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CLUB MANAGEMENT OVER
THE PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM WILL BE PRECEDED BY A LOUD SIGNAL TO
CATCH THE ATTENTION OF SPECTATORS.**