

From The Boardroom

I am pleased to be able to welcome you all back to the County Ground this afternoon for the start of a brand new season. New for Swindon Town in so much as what has been happening in Court throughout the summer months is now behind us. Any further action pending by the Football authorities is not being directed towards the Club or playing staff so we must now look towards the future in a positive way. In Glenn Hoddle and his coaching and playing staff I firmly believe that we have a bright future and that all of our sights should be targeted on the Premier League, something I'm sure we can and will achieve.

However it is not just on the field that we have targeted the top, off the field as well we must achieve our aims and you our valued fans can play your part by supporting the many activities we have to raise funds to build for the future.

The style of football Glenn has brought to the Club increased the average attendances last season and it was clear to see that more and more families are coming back to the County Ground. Our membership Club sees to it that only our own loyal supporters gain entry to the membership areas which through excellent Policing and Stewarding are amongst the safest in the Country.

The season is also new as it is the first season for the Premier and Football League split.

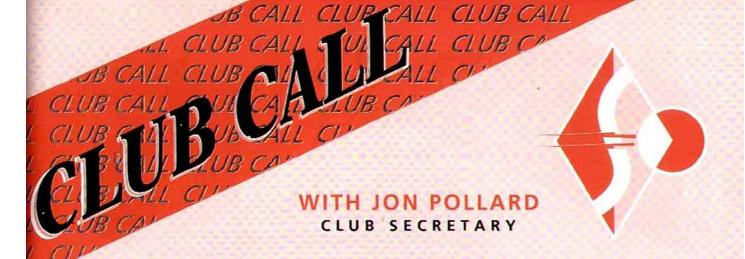
Initially when the breakaway was announced it was evisaged that all the money in the game would go to the elite 22 what with the Sky Television deal. However The Premier League

start their season today without a sponsor having turned down many big names recently including Coca Cola who have now come with the Football League and sponsored the League cup competition, a deal which proves the Football League are still a force to be dealt with and they should be congratulated on obtaining sponsorship from one of the worlds largest companies. Barclays have remained faithful with the Football League something which will ensure welcome revenue for the Clubs over the next few years.

Football League Club's have not been forgotten when it comes to televised games. We now have an excellent deal with ITV which means there will be more live football on regional TV. Indeed our game here at The County Ground next month against Oxford is being shown live on Central TV and we are negotiating with our other company HTV to try and bring live games to those of you in the west of the region. This all means that football has a future and that we intend to make Swindon Town part of that bright future on the horizon.

Ray Hardman Chairman





WELCOME

For our first Barclays League game of the new season we are pleased to welcome to The County Ground the players, officials and supporters of Sunderland Football Club.

BARCLAYS LEAGUE

We now face two away games in the Barclays League when on Wednesday 19 August we travel to meet Bristol Rovers at Twerton Park. This all ticket game kicks off at 8.00 pm. The limited number of tickets made available to us went on sale at lunchtime today. Any remaining will be on sale after today's game from the advance Ticket Office price £6.50 to season ticket holders and County Club members only.

Next Saturday we travel to Molineux where we play Wolverhampton Wanderers with a 3.00pm kick off. Again, this game is all ticket, terrace tickets only are now on sale price £6. There will be no sales on the day at Molineux. Our next home game is in two weeks time on Saturday 29 August when we entertain Cambridge United kicking off at 3.00pm. Tickets for this game are available now from the advance Ticket Office to County Club members only.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

The Reserves start their new campaign in the Neville Ovenden Football Combination Division 1 next Wednesday afternoon with the visit of Brighton & Hove Albion to the County Ground kicking off at 2.00pm.

YOUTHS

Brighton's Youth Team were at Wanborough this morning in our opening South East Counties League game of the season. Next Saturday we face Bristol Rovers away before our next home game on Saturday 29 August when we meet Reading at Wanborough kicking off at 11.00am.

ANGLO ITALIAN

In the preliminary round of the new Anglo Italian Competition we will be playing Oxford United at The Manor Ground on Tuesday 1 September (7.30pm) and Brentford at The County Ground on Wednesday 16 September (7.45pm). Neither game is all ticket. Terrace admission at Oxford is £7 with seats available from turnstile 5 at The Manor price £9.50.

REAL THING

The Football League Cup has a new sponsor in Coca Cola following the withdrawal of Rumbelows. The first round of this seasons competition is to be played over the next two weeks and we enter the draw at the second round stage.

KIWIS HERE

A Swindon Town U17 team will play a touring Auckland team from New Zealand at Wanborough on Thursday 27 August kicking off at 6.00pm.

RED CARDS OUT

Holders of the old style red membership cards reminded that they will no longer admit the bearer to seated areas Shrivenham Road Stands at The County Ground from September 1st, Membership of the County Club offers the holder £1.50 off the nonmembers admission to the terraces while those who prefer the seated accommodation will be sent money off vouchers during the season.

SWINDON REVIEW

The latest edition of the Swindon Review the official Club newspaper will be on sale from the 26 August price 50p. Season Ticket holders and County Club members can pick up a free copy on production of their ticket from the Club Shop while stocks last.

SWINDON TOWN
CLUB CALL

0891 12 16 40

24 HOUR INFORMATION

* Calls charged at 36p per minute cheap rate and 48p per minute at all other times

TIOMES AWAY draws, leaving just three de

NO LEAGUE season is ever easy but Town face a particularly stiff opening to this one, our first in the First Division. For after today's introduction against highly fancied Sunderland we have two difficult away trips to Bristol Rovers and Wolves before entertaining Cambridge United at the County Ground in a fortnight's time.

It is an 8.00pm kick-off at Twerton Park for the derby clash with Rovers next Wednesday, a fixture we came very close to winning last season before being pegged back for a draw.

After the excitement of that confrontation there is hardly time to draw breath before we are off to Molineux where Glenn will be looking for a better result than the one achieved there against Wolves last time round.

The men from Molineux are still led by Steve Bull who has spurned the opportunity to leave Wolves. He netted 20 League goals last season, one of them against us, and there is no doubt he is the man to stop when we meet again.

The Black Country side finished last season in 11th spot, having won 11 and drawn six of their 23 home fixtures. Surprisingly Bristol Rovers, who finished the season two places lower than the Wolves, had an even better home record with 11 wins and nine

draws, leaving just three defeats on their record.

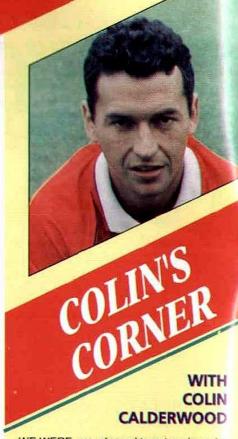
So there is no underestimating the task before we renew hostilities with Cambridge United here on Saturday, August 29th.

We had some real show-downs with John Beck's men last season, the honours won by them in the league and by us in the cup...but Mr Beck has had his problems this summer with no less than six players wanting away because they claim they can't stand the way he wants them to play.

Many fans will sympathise with their dilemma...but just how the unrest will effect the Cambridge camp, who have also lost top shot Dion Dublin - sold to Manchester United for £1 million - we are not able to judge just yet. There is no question we will not only be playing for three points but for the honour of good football when we meet the U's next Saturday week.

Cambridge kick-off the season at Tranmere Rovers this afternoon; Bristol Rovers are at Oxford United and Wolves open their account at Brentford.

But our next date at the County Ground is the thriller with Cambridge United...A clash of styles...a clash of cultures...this you will not want to miss...SWINDON TOWN V CAMBRIDGE UNITED the First Division's match of the day is here for your enjoyment on SAT-URDAY, 29th August at 3.00pm....BE HERE!



WE WERE very pleased to get a win under our belts last Saturday at Exeter. This preseason we have not enjoyed the best of results and it was beginning to get a little frustrating.

Those of you who were here for the Sporting Lisbon game will agree they were an exceptional side. So good to the point that the 6-1 defeat didn't look so bad in the end.

This summer I feel we have trained harder than we did last year. We have certainly done more running so it was disappointing that we were not getting the results. I think if you are winning games you always look fitter.

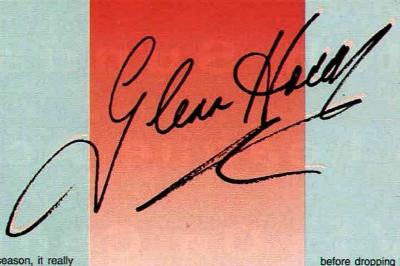
But last season after completing such a successful series of warm-up games we took just one point out of the first six so you can't always tell.

Today we meet Sunderland in one of the most attractive fixtures of the season and that provides us with a good start. We will be well wound-up for this one and eager to get off with a winning start.

There's everything to play for this season and providing we are not hampered by injuries I am sure we are as good a side as any in this division.

We have worked a lot on this new backpass rule working out ways to keep the ball without having to kick it into touch, so hopefully it will not impede us from working the ball from the back. Last season we were told so often that we had been the better side after coming off the losers there had to be something wrong.

There was. We let in too many goals. Hopefully that will not be the case this time...A win today would certainly give us the lift-off we are looking for.



Welcome back for the new season, it really has come round quickly but this week the old buzz is back around the ground and everyone is getting excited.

Our pre-season preparations have gone reasonably well with a noticeable improvement as we have drawn closer to the big kick-off. True the results have not been so encouraging as last year but that tells you little. If you recall we only lost to Real Sociedad - a class side - last year then took just one point from our opening two League fixtures.

Mind you it is important to get a win under your belt and I did say to the players last Saturday that we wanted victory. They obliged with a good performance at Exeter. We were back to our best.

Prior to that it was all about finding our shape and rhythm and we saw that begin to evolve during the tournament in Holland.

The game here against Sporting Lisbon was ideal. We worked hard and looked quite good in the first half but then they showed us a thing or two. We tend to look at ourselves as a passing side but many of the lads were brought down to earth by Sporting. It was a humbling experience which isn't bad. It shows just what standards have to be met. Thankfully we won't encounter that quality in the First Division.

The attitude of the players has been absolutely brilliant. We have tried to vary the training as much as possible to keep it interesting and worked a little harder than we did last season in the early days.

Everyone seems fit and eager apart from Ross MacLaren who is still troubled by his hernia problem. We shall miss him but our new addition to the squad, Craig Maskell, has been looking nice and sharp and scored a good goal at Exeter.

Craig is a good all-round player with a lovely touch on his left foot. He brings other players into the game well and should be a great asset to the squad.

I have emphasised to the players that this is going to be a squad effort this season. learned a lot from last season's experience and looking back realised that changes should have been made. There is a tendency to wait until an individual has played badly



before dropping him. That can work against you and in a long hard season, such as the one we are embarking upon now, we need to make use of the squad.

It is down to us to judge when the fresh legs are required. Substitutions are not a bad reflection on the players brought off but can sometime provide the alternative that will give you the advantage.

Our system will not change though there are one or two tactical variations we have introduced. They are so subtle I doubt whether you will pick them up. Hopefully the opposition won't either.

But we have Steve White back in the frame now and that is a big bonus for us after his injury problems last season. Steve has not missed a day's training and is looking very fit. He is a proven scorer and we hope he finds his touch.

It is going to be a very interesting campaign. There are some very exciting games in prospect with West Ham back in this division: Luton Town - another good footballing side; and Brentford and Birmingham City.

Last season it was a very open race and I think this one will develop in much the same way. I think Derby County will be the team to beat. They have a very strong squad and still have money to spend.

Sunderland too should be serious contenders and it is great to kick-off the season with this colourful fixture. They had a great season and I was pleased to see Malcolm Crosby get the manager's job in the end. He deserved it.

I heard Howard Wilkinson saying that his team might improve this season yet win less than the year before. This is how silly this game can be. But frustrating as it is at times we shall be doing our best as always.

> M.B.E ord

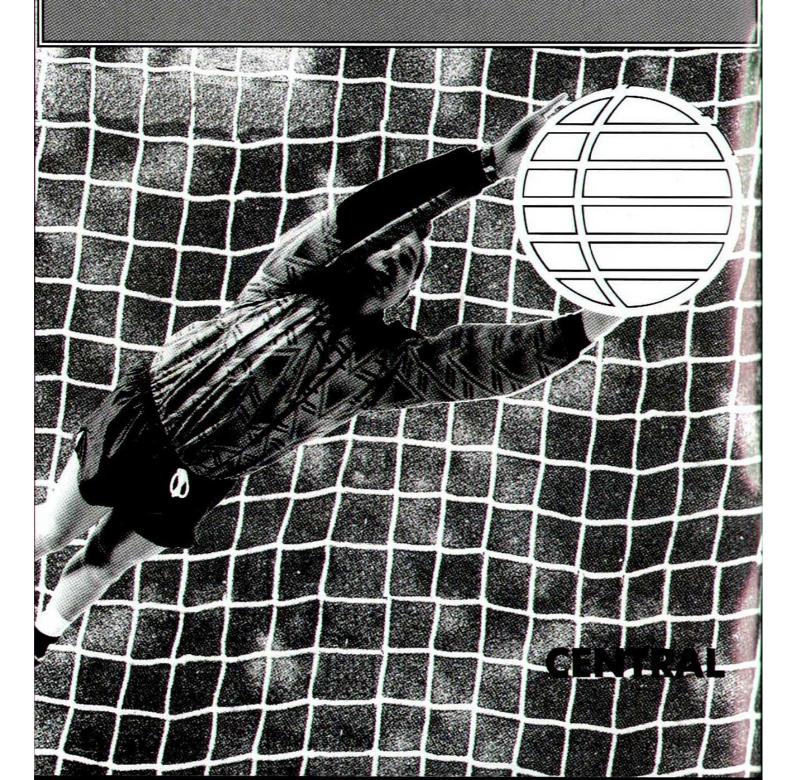
SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB COUNTY GROUND, COUNTY ROAD, SWINDON, WILTSHIRE SN1 2ED.



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Football Community Officer: Leigh Barnard
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dle Hon. Medical Officer: Dr.J.D.Nicholas
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Catch Sunday's
Top League Action
LIVE On Central.



Venison for £250,000 (despite a £400,000 bid from Everton) and Paul Bracewell for the same fee from neighbours Sunderland. Keegan has also signed Portsmouth's John Heresford.

Sunderland themselves have invested some of their cash earned from the Cup Final. Joining the Rokerman is former Millwall striker John Colauhourn for £220,000, Grimsby midfielder Shaun Cunnington and former England captain Terry Butcher, now 33, who is on a two month trial. Cup run hero John Byrne is confident that Sunderland will feature in the race for promotion "It's going to be extremely hard to do well. Teams like Derby will be strona because they've spent alot of money, but Leicester, West Ham and Cambridge will all mount strona challenge. Newcastle have made a couple of good buys and I'm certain they'll be up there. After our success in the F.A. Cup last season we now believe that, as a team, we have the confidence to win promotion."

West Ham United will be keen to make a quick return to the Premier League although manager Billy Bonds has been reluctant to enter into the transfer

market. Bonds has however captured the services of Southend midfielder Peter Butler for a tribunal set fee of £150,000. Hammer's winger Matthew Rush is looking forward to playing in the new First Division "It was a tragedy that the Club were relegated but from my own point of view it may be a blessing in disguise. season in the First Division could help me to establish myself that much quicker than if I was having to take my chance in the Premier League."

After avoiding relegation on the last day of last season, Oxford United will be looking for a more settled campaign. United's boss Brian Horton has signed experienced striker Nick Cusak from Darlington for £95,000, Republic of Ireland U21 international David Collins on a free transfer and midfielder Hereford Jon Narrett for £65,000.

Leicester City boss Brian Little, who took The Foxes to the play-offs in his first season at Filbert Street has spent £250,000 on Ipswich Town striker David Lowe. Bristol City Manager Denis Smith has bought Arsenal forward Andrew Cole for £500,000 after an impressive loan spell in which Cole scored eight league goals last season.

avourites for promotion, according to the leading bookmakers are big spending Derby County. Rams boss Arthur Cox has taken his spending spree over the seven million pounds mark during the summer with the signing of Mark Pembridge for £1.25 million from Luton and defender Darren Wassall from Nottingham Forest for a fee of £600,000. however remains cautious and is keen to talk down any speculation about promotion "The whole Club is alive again but it will be three vears before we see the best of this team. You only get what you earn in life and wherever you finish you be there". deserve to Despite Cox's low kev approach millionaire chairman Brian Fearn should ensure Premier League football for the Rams sooner rather than later.

Newcastle United, reportedly interested in signing Liverpool's Dean Saunders despite being over six million in the red, have continued to rebuild under the guidance of Kevin Keegan. Arriving at St. James Park has been Liverpool defender

Swalerland

SUNDERLAND boss Malcolm Crosby hadn't had time to catch his breath after watching his FA Cup heroes run out of steam against Liverpool at Wembley before he was thinking about this season.

As Liverpool celebrated their success with the fans Mr Crosby kept it all in perspective as he noted: "In a few weeks time the Cup will be history. We earned our right to be at Wembley but that's over."

"Now we are already looking for a great start to next season in order to achieve our ultimate aim of getting into the Premier League."

Rocker's dream run to Wembley netted them more than £1 million, money the Sunderland boss was hoping to invest in the team's future.

It has been a rocky ride for the Rokerites in recent years. When Bob Murray took over as chairman he axed Lawrie McMenemy. Not long afterwards Sunderland lost a play-off, in extra-time, to Gillingham, and worse was to come when they were relegated to the Third Division for the first time in the club's history.

"It was as if the club had died," reflects Mr Murray "They were bad times, really bad. The bank was banging on the door and the overdraft was over £1 million."

It was said that the tears that flowed on the night of the Gillingham defeat could have swamped Wearside yet just five years on came that Wembley show-down with Liverpool.

Sunderland had been to Division One and back in that eventful period as well. But Wearside is no longer Tearside as the men from Rocker claw back their respect.

Last season was not all wine and roses though. Having been relegated after just one season back in Division One their expected challenge for an immediate return failed to take shape with the result that the popular Dennis Smith was unseated from the managerial chair last Christmas.

It was Crosby, the Youth team coach, who was brought in as a caretaker as Sunderland nosedived down the Division Two ladder towards the unacceptable waters of the third Division.

The temporary boss inspired a five match winning sequence - including two in the Cup - that earned him the Divisional Manager of the Month award for January. But the closer they came to Wembley the nearer the Rockerites stumbled towards relegation.

But Crosby steered them to safer waters, the win over the Robins at Roker making their Second Division place safe and of course after beating Chelsea in the FA Cup quarter-final replay they then beat Norwich City 1-0 in the semi-final to reach the twin towers.

This Sunderland side might not be as good as that of 1973 - they were something really special - but they should not be underestimated and in John Byrne and Gary Bannister - who was cup tied and did not participate in

Footba	all League at the	County Ground
	21.09.1963	W1-0
	29.08.1970	
	25.03.1972	D1-1
	20.01,1973	D1-1
	23.03.1974	L0-2
	18.02.1989	W4-1
	19.08.1989 14.09.1991	L0-2
-		W5-3
F	ootball League	Roker Park
	01.02.1964	L0-6
	11.09.1971	LO-1
	02.09.1972	L2-3
	10.11.1973	L1-4
	22.10.1988	L0-4 D2-2
	02.12.1989 27.04.1992	D0-0
Facili		
FOOLD	The state of the s	-off at Wembley
	28.05.1990	W1-0
	Football Leag	
	08.10.1985	W3-1
	At Roker	Park
	24.09.1985	L3-2
	At Roker	Park
	22.02.1913	L2-4

the Wembley experience - they have two outstanding strikers who could lead the promotion push.

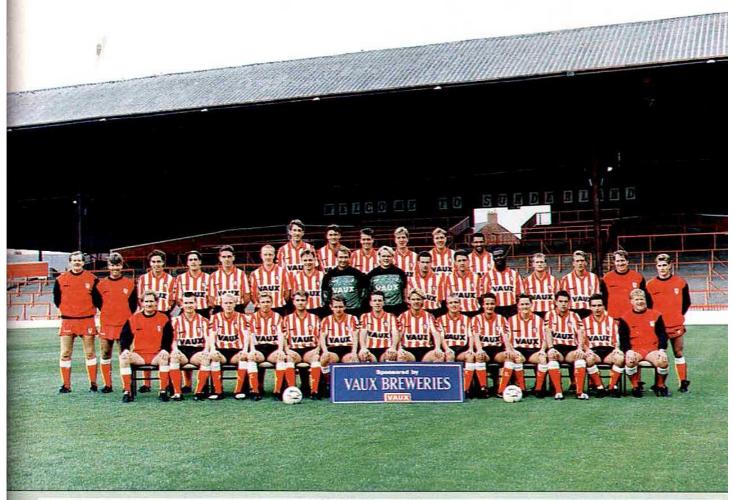
There have been some movements during the summer, Mr Crosby making his biggest signing in July when he splashed out £650,000 for Grimsby Town captain Shaun Cummington, who will come into midfield now that Paul Bracewell has bade farewell.

Ten days ago some 20,000 fans allowed into Roker Park for nothing for a game making Sunderland's new status as a city - saw their favourites crash 3-0 to Spurs. But last Saturday they came back with a 2-0 win at Scunthorpe United.

Two Wembley stars, Peter Davenport and midfielder Gordon Armstrong, have been in the background during this build-up however raising speculation as to their futures at Roker Park. Davenport, an England international, who has served Manchester United and Forest, cost Sunderland £250,000 two years ago. He is now 31 and finds himself behind Don Goodman and John Byrne in the pecking order for a strike role.

If their futures are uncertain then so too is that of Terry Butcher, the former lpswich and England pivot, who played for Glasgow Rangers before becoming player-manager at Coventry City. Malcolm Crosby has offered him a one-year contract but as of the beginning of this week Terry was still deliberating between this offer and a lucrative alternative from Japan.

SUNDERLAND



Back Row (Left to Right) Terry Butcher, Ian Sampson, Gordon Armstrong, Anton Rogan, Gary Owers, Don Goodman Middle Row Jim Morrow (Youth Development Officer), Steve Smelt (Physio), Anthony Robinson, Paul Williams, Richard Ord, Ian Patterson, Gareth Cronin, Tony Norman, Tim Carter, Brian Mooney, Peter Davenport, Gary Bennett, John Kay, Shaun Cunington, Roger Jones (Reserve Team Coach), Jonathan Trigg (Youth Team Coach)
Front Row Malcolm Crosby (Manager), Craig Russell, David Rush, Martin Gray, Wayne Walls, Brian Atkinson, Kevin Ball, John Byrne, Michael Gray, Warren Hawke, Steven Brodie, Keiron Brady, John Colquhoun, Bobby Ferguson (Assistant Manager)

Tony Norman Goalkeeper

Born: Mancot, North Wales 24/8/58,

Welsh International goalkeeper who joined Sunderland on 29/10/88. Tony spent ten seasons with Hull City making just under 550 appearances for them. This included a spell of five years without missing a game. He began his career with Burnley where he played for four season without appearing for the first team. Starred at Wembley for Sunderland in the 1990 play offs and produced another good performance there against Liverpool last May.

Anton Rogan Left Back

Born: Belfast 25/3/66, Northern Ireland International with 17 caps up to the beginning of this season. Anton began with Distillary before joining Celtic in July 1986. He was a member of their double winning side in 1988 and played in the 1989 and 1990 Scottish Cup Finals and 1992 Skol Cup Final. He moved to Sunderland for £50,000 in October 1991 and continued his run of Cup final appearances by playing in the FA Cup

Final. An accomplished player, Anton has shown great ability in the centre of defence and can also opperate in midfield.

Gary Bennett Defender

Born: Manchester 4/12/61, Long serving player who has played for Sunderland at Wembley on three occasions against Norwich, Swindon and Liverpool. He scored against Peter Shilton two minutes into his first game for us and is now approaching his 300th league appearance for Sunderland.

Gary began with Manchester City but moved to Cardiff on a free transfer having failed to make the first team at Maine Road. He helped Cardiff to promotion to division two in 1983 and signed for Sunderland on 18/7/84 for £65,000. He captained Sunderland to the third division title in 1988 when he was named in the PFA XI for Division Three.

Kevin Ball Central Defender

Born: Hastings 12/11/64, A player who

has plenty of pace and is solid in the tackle. Now in his third season at Roker Park, Kevin has been appointed as Sunderland's new captain, a position he held at his previous club Portsmouth. A former Player of the Year at both of these clubs he spent the early part of his career at Coventry (he is not related to former England star and Portsmouth Manager Alan Ball).

Terry Butcher Central Defender

Born: Singapore 28/12/58, Capped 77 times by England, Terry is making a comeback with Sunderland. Signed on a two month contract to prove his fitness the former Coventry player manager will stay at Roker if he can withstand the rigours of league football. A U.E.F.A Cup Winner with Ipswich in 1981 he later enjoyed great success in Scotland with Rangers and briefly scouted for Sheffield Wednesday after leaving Coventry. He played under the managership of Sunderland Assistant Manager Bobby Ferguson as well as Bobby Robson during his time at Portman Road.

SUNDERLAND

Peter Davenport Forward

Born: Birkenhead 24/3/61, Former International who set up Gary Lineker's first ever England goal. Peter began with Everton before making his name with Nottingham Forest for whom he earned a £1 million fee when he moved to Manchester United. Top scorer for United in 1987 he later became Middlesbrough's record signing and played for them in the Z.D.S Cup Final at Wembley. He returned to the twin towers last season as a member of Sunderland F.A. Cup Final team.

Gary Owers Midfield

Born: Newcastle 3/10/68, Versatile player who can play anywhere in midfield or at fullback as he did in the Cup Final, he married ice skater Joanne Conway during the summer. Owers has been a regular since his debut in August 1987. Injury forced him to withdraw from an England Under 21 tour to Brazil in 1985 but he received an England Under-21 call up in 1990. Hard working and highly rated.

Gordon Armstrong Midfield

Born: Newcastle 13/7/67,

A very consistent player who made his debut in 1985. Twice our Young Player of the Year, a strong running midfielder who is a key member of the side and is always likely to get among the goals. There can be few midfielders in the country who are better than Gordon in the air. His last minute headed winner against Chelsea in last season's F.A. Cup quarter final replay was a good illustration of his ability.

Brian Atkinson Midfield

Born: Darlington 19/1/71, Now blossoming into a superb player, Brian played at Wembley while still in his teens against Swindon in the 1990 play-offs and again last season in the Cup Final. An England under 21 International he can split the tightest defence with an astute pass, he runs with the ball, is increasingly dangerous in front of goal and despite his slight appearance is strong in the tackle.

Shaun Cunnington Midfield

Born: Bourne 4/1/66, Signed from Grimsby Town in July for a fee of £600,000 Shaun is expected to play a leading role in Sunderland's challenge for promotion. Began with Wrexham and played alongside Malcolm Crosby when the Sunderland manager had a spell on loan at the Racecourse Ground in 1984. Represented The

Robins against the likes of Porto and Roma in the Cup Winners' Cup. Moved to Grimsby in February 1988 and scored against Sunderland at Roker last season.

Don Goodman Forward

Born: Leeds 9/5/66, Don became Sunderland's record signing when W.B.A. received £900,000 for his signature in December 1991. He has tremendous pace and is cool in front of goal. He starts this season needing five goals to register a century in all competitions. Began his career with Bradford City. Unfortunately couldn't figure in our cup games last season due to an appearance for West Brom in the first round.

John Byene Forward

Born: Manchester 1/2/66, Top scorer in last season's F.A. Cup competition with seven goals including the winner against Norwich in the semi final. John Byene is not surprisingly a great favourite on Wearside. A Republic of Ireland International, Byene possesses immense skill with which he frequently delights the Roker crowd.

Played alongside Malcolm Crosby at York City before following in the footsteps of Marsh, Bowles and Currie as Q.P.R.'s no. 10. Later an unhappy spell in France with Le Harve was ended with a move to Brighton.

John Colquhoun Forward

Born: Stirling 14/7/68, Scottish International who became Malcolm Crosby's first signing during the close season when he joined us from Millwall for a fee of £225,000. Made his debut for Stirling Albion in 1981, had two seasons with Celtic in the mid eighties before moving to Hearts.



THE MAN IN CHARGE



WHEN Dennis Smith was sacked during Christmas week it was made crystal clear that Malcolm Crosby was only keeping the Roker managerial seat warm until Sunderland could find a big-name to revive their fortunes.

At that juncture even the most ardently passionate Wearside supporters could not have dreamt of going to Wembley as the team languished at the wrong end of the Second Division. Mr Crosby's brief, as caretaker manager was simply to stave off relegation.

He accomplished this and much, much more with that fairytale romance of the FA Cup making him a folk-hero to the Sunderland fans. It was not just the cup run that enhanced his popularity with these knowledgeable people however. A rapid transformation in playing fortunes earned him the Second Division Manager of the Month award.

It was a fitting tribute to this rather quiet reserved man who had started the season as Sunderland's Youth team coach. He is not one to hide behind cliches and his honesty can sometimes work against him. But it is an aspect that has gained the respect of his players.

At 37, Malcolm is one of the youngest managers in the First Division but he is a shrewd tactician and expects to be at the forefront of the battle for a place in the Premier League next season.

He came into football with Aldershot, making the first of his 300 appearances for them in February 1972. Played a further 100 games for York City, picking up a Fourth Division Championship medal in 1984 under Denis Smith. Four years later Smith recruited him as Youth Team coach and in November 1989 he took charge of the reserves.

Those were The days...

... looks back at previous connections with today's visitors

Around this time of the year, the usual array of football annuals begin to hit the shelves of the bookstores. Unlike their counterparts of years gone by, some of today's offerings are virtual encyclopedias, crammed with facts in an attempt to quench the thirst for knowledge demanded by the modern follower of the game.

Goalkeeper Alex Ferguson will probably be mentioned once or twice as Swindon Town's oldest player at 43 - and as far as peace-time football is concerned I would not argue with that. But, under the auspices of war-time, the honour of the club's oldest participating first- teamer goes to a man with strong Sunderland connections.

Harry Martin spent ten years at Roker Park, during which time he was good enough to make England side. He came to Swindon after hanging up his boots and stayed on for twenty years as first-team trainer.

Harry first played at the County Ground as a raw 20-years old winger in an FA Cup tie in January 1912. He was then with Sutton Junction, an amateur side from his native Nottinghamshire. But Harry's colleagues were no match for the Town, with the irrepressible Harold Fleming grabbling four goals in a 5-0 win. It was to be Harry Martin's swansong for Sutton, as he signed for Sunderland two days later.

Within three months, he was making his First Division debut, scoring in a 2-1 defeat at Liverpool on Good Friday. And he scored again the next day as the Roker men demolished Everton 4-0. Also in the Sunderland side that Easter was full-back Albert Milton, who was transferred to Swindon in 1914. It was to be an all to brief stay, as he was killed in active service three years later.

Harry made maximum appearances for Sunderland in 1912/13, including a Third Round FA Cup tie against Swindon at Roker Park. The Town, then still in the Southern League, had recorded away wins at Rochdale and Huddersfield in the first two rounds, but were unable to make it three as Sunderland raced into a two-goal lead inside the first Inspired by four minutes. Fleming's England international colleague Charlie Buchan, who drew first blood, the home side never looked back and were 4-0 ahead before two goals in the last half-hour, from Fleming and Freddy Wheatcroft, brought some respectability to the score-line.

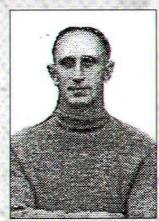
Sunderland went on too reach the Final at Crystal Palace, where almost 122,000 saw them go down 1-0 to Aston Villa.

Harry Martin gained just one England cap, in February 1914 against Ireland at Middlesbrough. But a disappointing 3-0 defeat and the onset of War effectively put paid to any further international ambitions.

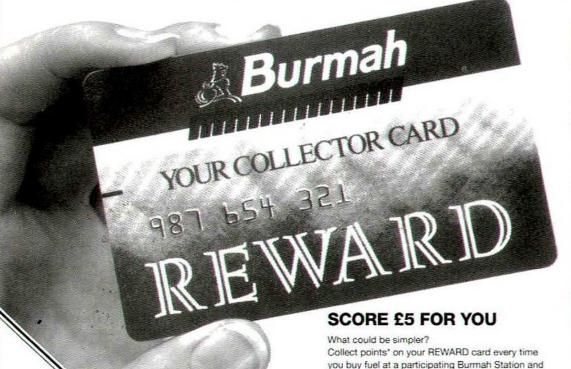
He stayed at Roker until May 1922, when he returned to the county of his birth to sign for Nottingham Forest. But Harry was at the City Ground for just three years and moved on following a disastrous season that saw Forest relegated. His next stop was at Rochdale, as he assisted them to within two points of a Second Division place at the end of 1925/26. And in the following season, Harry - by now 35 - netted ten goals in just 21 appearances as they finished runners-up in the Third Division North.

Harry was appointed trainer at Spotland in 1931 before taking the manager's chair at Mansfield. But in 1933 he arrived at the County Ground, reverting to the post of trainer in succession to Billy Barr.

And on May 25th 1940, at 48 years and 174 days, Harry once again put on his boots to help a Swindon side heavily depleted by 'call-ups', for their final South-West Regional League game, against Swansea Town was not in his customary position on the left-wing, but in goal and kept a clean sheet as Swindon coasted to a 4-0 victory!



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WITH MIKE SULLIVAN Marketing Manager

A warm welcome to all our supporters for the start of another football season, our first in the newly formed First Division.

Our Matchday sponsors today are Westmode Limited, D.F.W. Rapid Deliveries and Book Sales and PIA Design & Promotions Limited.

The party from Westmodes who were here on two occasions last season as match sponsors, are hosted by Mr Alan Bruce and he would like to welcome their special quests from McLean Homes (South West). Our second spon-D.F.W. Rapid Deliveries/Book Sales their party is hosted by Mr Dennis Wiltshire who has been a Swindon Town fan for forty years and is the proprietor of the company. D.F.W. Deliveries/Books Sales Rapid specialise in selling good quality books at half price or less, and one of their main customers is Selectabook Limited. whose Managing Director Mr Chris Sterling is one of todays guests.

Our third sponsor is PIA Design & Promotions from Newbury who are the designers of our Matchday Magazine and their party is led today by Mr Mike Diamandis. They would like to give a special welcome to Mr Bill Copeland from Zanussi UK Limited.

I hope that all three sponsors have an enjoyable day with us and that we will all be even happier at 4.40pm today with our first three first division points.

Sporting Club Dinners

Every season we will be holding up to four Sporting Club Dinners between September and May. The evening begins with an excellent four course meal and is followed by two well known speakers. The first from the world of sport and the second is usually a well known comedian.

Our first Sporting Club Dinner for the season is to be held on Thursday 3rd September 1992 at the new De Vere Hotel in Swindon and the guest speakers will be top BBC Sports Commentator John Motson and comedian David Browne. Tickets are priced at £25.00 each + VAT or you may book a table of ten for £235.00 + VAT. Dress is lounge suit and the audience will be mixed.

If you would like to purchase some tickets for the dinner, or book a table then please contact Justine Phillips on 0793 430430 now.

Make a dream come true!

It is the dream of most young girls or boys to be team mascot. Why not make a wish come true for your son or daughter, niece, nephew, brother or sister. Any youngster between the age of 3 and 16 can become a Swindon Town mascot for the day. At the moment we still have some vacancies for this season.





There are many benefits included in the package such as full replica kit, three seats in the North Stand, opportunity of leading the team onto the pitch and being photographed with the two captains and officials at kick-off. The cost of the package is £110.00 plus VAT and if you are interested why not ring Justine Phillips on 0793 430430 for a list of matches still available.

Our first home mascots of the season are Mark Stacey and Paul Morrell.

Mark is 8 years old and comes from Kennet Avenue, Green Meadow, Swindon. He attends the Greenmeadow Primary School and his hobbies include fishing, swimming and football. His favourite players are Glenn Hoddle and David Kerslake.

Our second mascot is Paul Morrel and is also 8 years old and attend the Lethbridge Junior School in Swindon. Paul plays for Old Town Rovers and his best position is on the right wing. His topplayer is Fraser Digby and his favourite teams are Swindon, Manchester United and Sunderland!!!!

We hope you both have an enjoyable day out as our lucky mascots.

FAROE ISLES 1, AUSTRIA O.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1990

USA 1, ENGLAND 0.

WORLD CUP FINALS 1950

WEST GERMANY 1 ALGERIA 2

WORLD CUP FINALS 1982

Arbroath 36, Bon Accord 0.

SCOTTISH CUP 1885

ARGENTINA...O CAMEROON...1

WORLD CUP FINALS 1990

BANGOR 2-NAPOLI 0

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS CUP 1963

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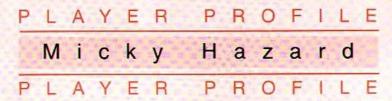
You can't go wrong with Barclays behind you.





STAR OF THE WEEK





"This is a big season for Swindon"

"It is vital that we put in a serious challenge for promotion", says Micky Hazard, the architect of so much of Town's positive play.

Hazard has been playing league football for more than twelve years now after making his debut for Spurs in a 3-0 win over Everton at White Hart Lane in April 1980. The years have given him experience to counteract what they have taken out of his legs and at 32 he remains one of the most influential and creative midfielders in the First Division.

Like everyone at the County Ground he was desperately disappointed that we did not make a bigger impact on the promotion chase last season. In retrospect he says: "It went wrong for us when it really mattered. We just couldn't produce the finishing touch.

"We suffered a run of twelve or thirteen games without a victory which really put paid to our chances. The sadness of it all was that in most of those games we had been the dominant factor. We lost or drew them because we couldn't put the ball in the net.

"It is easy to see where we went astray, not so easy to put right. Scoring goals is the most difficult thing in football . . . Sporting Lisbon gave us a good example of finishing. We could have been three-one up at one stage in that game."

So how do the Robins overcome the problem?

Micky smiles. Then, after a short pause, grins: "You have to keep practising. The first thing is to get it straight in your mind. When you close in on goal you have to believe you are going to score. Any uncertainty and it is almost certain that you won't hit the target.

"The more you practice on the training field the better you should become. Repetition helps you become more comfortable with the situation so that in the end the whole routine becomes natural.

"It is not only about striking the ball correctly but also about getting yourself into the right position. It is no good me spending hours on the training field getting on the end of high crosses because in a match I know that I am going to be no danger at all to defence in the air. Craig Maskell on the other hand needs that sort of service.

"The more you work at this in training the easier it will become in matchplay and if we can get this side of our game right I'm sure we will be one of the most successful teams in the division.

"We couldn't have a better start than this one against Sunderland. Games between us have been tremendously exciting in recent years and if the atmosphere here is anything like it was last year it will be fantastic. You don't need motivating for games like this."

Sunderland is of course Mick's home town and despite the fact he has not lived there since packing his bags as a teenager to join Tottenham Hotspur his accent leaves you with no doubts as to his roots.

"It is still part of me," he says. "I was brought up a few miles from Roker Park and like all the lads of my generation dreamt of playing for them one day. I played for the Sunderland Boys team and went to watch the likes of Dave Watson and Vic Hallam. Billy Hughes was my favourite. He was skilful and exciting. Every time he picked up the ball he went at the defence.

"He influenced me but I have never modelled myself on anybody. You play your own natural game, the way you feel it. If Glenn does something good you might pick it up and include it in your game. But basically it is you.

"Sunderland did try to sign me but there were other clubs also interested and I left the decision to my dad. He felt home-town boys were sometimes taken for granted and suggested Spurs. It proved a wonderful choice though the initial years were tough. I was so home-sick I used to run off home. It all worked out in the end though."





TOP DRAW



	Drav	w 1, w/e 2.5.1992
£500	231	Mr K R Gubbins
		21Exmouth Street Swindon
£50	99	Mr A J Kent
		8 Kings Close Letcombe Regis
210	61	Mr M Hayward
		101 Eastfield AvenueUpper Weston Bath
£10	9	Mr D Acklam .
		31 Lansdown View Twerton Bath
£10	183	C C Podger
		5 Roundwood View Christian Malford
210	338	Mrs S Hollister
		65 Newcastle Street Swindon
£10	115	Mr D Clark
		22 Sands Road South Moreton Didcot

	Dra	w 2, w/e 9.5.1992
£500	245	M Barter
		Mallard Avenue Lyneham
£50	346	D Crook
		Spencer Close Melksham
£10	134	O Holden
		Medina Way Swindon
£10	001	J Spearman
		Oxford Hill Witney
£10	124	J Caton
		Caraway Drive Swindon
£10	322	D Lynas
		Lower Stanton Chippenham
210	265	R Perry
		Birbury Cirencester

	Draw	3, w/e 16.5.1992
£500	0369	Miss S E Wills
		Albert Bridge Road Battersea London
£50	0291	Mrs Maisey
		Mariborough Road
		Swindon
£10	0097	Mr B Hinder
		Harlestone Road
		Swindon
210	0427	Mr D G Watson
		Banwell Avenue Park North Swindon
£10	0314	Mr D Hunt
		Wharf Road Wroughton
£10	0006	Mr M F T Hobbs
		Rush Court Nurseries Wallingford Oxon
210	0420	Mr G Hillier
		Avon Road Devizes
		*

£500	4 0402	R Huntley
		Shrivenham Road Swindon
E50	0256	R Lupsom
		Forest Road Melksham
210	0013	K Hunt
		Wharf Road Wroughton
£10	0181	L Ashman
		Edingburgh Street Swindon
210	0043	S Ferguson
		Malmesbury Road Chippenham
£10	0107	J Ballard
		Marlborough Road Swindon
£10	0362	F Wells
		Colbourne Street Swindon

DEDA	0010	0.5
£500	0043	S Ferguson
		Malmesbury Road Chippenham
€50	0062	M Hayward
		Eastfield Avenue Upper Weston Bath
£10	0087	R Smith
		Ball Road Pewsey
£10	0364	E Roberts
		Whitecross Wootton Abingdon
£10	0309	CF Jones
		Blankeney Avenue Nythe Swindon
£10	0060	A Martin
		Yiewsley Cresent Stratton St Margare
£10	0149	I Robson
		Okeborne Park Liden Swindon

	Draw 6,	w/e 6.6.1992
2500	0488	D Miller
		Turks Yard Barnsley
		Nr. Cirencester
£50	0021	C Randall
		Comwall Avenue Swindon
£10	0479	L Jacobs
		Manton Avenue Hanwell Ealing
£10	0010	D Acklam
		Lansdown View Twerton Bath
£10	0210	R J Osman
		Richmond Road Swindon
£10	0415	D Puffett
		Gainsford Nr Faringdon
£10	0014	K Hunt
		Wharf Road Wroughton

	Draw 7	7, w/e 13.6.1992
2500	0313	A D Ruck
		High Street Watchfield
		Nr Shrivenham
£50	0506	Mrs Powell
		Seaton Close Greenmeadow
		Swindon
£10	0085	B Gale
		1A Hardenhuish Avenue
		Chippenham
£10	0138	I McIntyre
		Station Road
		Severn Beach Bristol
£10	0379	C Green
		Tithe Barn Crescent Swindon
£10	0023	M Fisher
		Kellsborough Avenue Wroughton
£10	0499	C Brown
		4 Lancaster Terrace Newent
		Glos.

	Draw 8	3, w/e 20.6.1992
£500	0208	J Reeves
		Reids Piece Purton
		Nr Swindon
£50	0387	A Marron
		Coppice Close Swindon
£10	0466	R Grey
		Bosworth Road Grange Park
		Swindon
£10	0087	R Smith
		Ball Road Pewsey
£10	0474	C Costello
		Shaftesbury Avene Park North
		Swindon
£10	0140	H Richell
		Christie Close Liden
		Swindon
£10	0294	B Waldron
		The Wheatway Gloucester

2500	0313	A D Ruck
2000		High Street Watchfield
		Shrivenham
250	0284	R Rogers
		Edgehill Freshbrook
		Swindon
£10	0282	G Henderson
		Gordon Close Haywards Heath
		Sussex
£10	0418	K Puffett
		Speedwell Close
		Haydon Leigh Swindon
£10	0256	R Lupson
		Forest Road Melksham
210	0205	N Smith
		Spaines
		Great Bedwyn Nr Marlborough
£10	0411	L Kimber
		Leamington Drive
		Faringdon Oxon

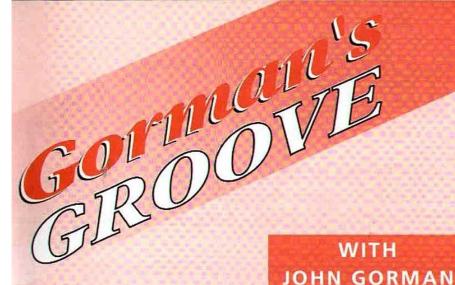
Result will appear in the match programme, on Club Call on 0891 12 16 40 and result sheet can be picked up from the Marketing Dept. each week.

	Draw 12,	w/e 18.7.1992
€500	526	T Timms
		Baserville Road Lyncroft
		Swindon
£50	377	J Carter
		Mill Lane Castle Eaton
		Nr Swindon
012	483	G Holborow
		Canford Close
		Nythe Swindon
210	152	B Healey
		White Edge Moor
		Liden Swindon
£10	364	E Roberts
		Whitecross Wootton
		Abingdon
210	72	J E Webb
		Tansley Moor Liden
		Swindon
210	294	B Waldron
		The Wheelway Glevenester

	Draw 13.	w/e 25.7.1992
£500	0467	K Carpenter
		Wrenswood Swindon
£50	0320	C J Cove
		Hadleigh Close Westlea
		Swindon
£10	0410	D Walker
		Walcot Road Swindon
£10	0005	M Hobbs
		Rush Court Nurseries
		Wallingford
£10	0449	J Huntley
		Woodspring Court
		Grovelands Swindon
210	0409	D Walker
		Walcot Road Swindon
£10	0556	J Rudge
		Fairfield Lower Stanton
		Chicospham

	Draw 14.	w/e 1.8.1992
2500	0026	M Baxter
		Shrivenham Road
		Swindon
£50	0548	L Hayes
		Carlton Close Hook
		Hampshire
£10	0330	S Chatock
		Archer Close
		Upper Stratton Swindon
£10	0216	N Pocock
		Drove Road Swindon
£10	0190	F McFadden
		Godwin Road
		Stratton St Margaret
		Swindon
210	0235	M Packer
		Derwent Drive
		Stratton Swindon
£10	0006	M Hobbs
		Rush Court Nurseries
		Wallingford Oxon

£500	0153	w/e 8.8.1992
£500	0153	E Cowley
		Kilsby Drive
		Stratton St Margaret
£50	0047	M Fellows
		Clarendon Drive
		Wootton Bassett
£10	0452	K Vowles
		Forsey Close Swindon
£10	0544	E Fairtle
		Oxford Square
		Watchfield Swindon
£10	0235	M Packer
		Derwent Drive
		Meadowcroft Stratton
£10	0196	R Mackay
		Hindum Road Stratton
		Swindon
£10	0127	P.Flaherty
		Montague Street Swindo





It's great to be back for hopefully a very exciting season.

So much has happened in our pre-season build up and we feel that we have had great preparation for the new campaign.

Injuries have improved greatly and only Ross MacLaren and young Darren Hall are long term injuries now.

We were busy during the close season bringing young players into the Club to make the team stronger for the future.

Three players are here on a three month contract, Chris Hamon from Jersey, Austin Berkley from Gillingham and defender Lee Middleton from Coventry. Two other new faces are Olly Morah on loan from Tottenham Hotspur and Kevin Horlock who was out of contract at West Ham United.

Craig Maskell has joined us from Reading and should prove to be a great asset as he has a very profilic goalscoring record and we feel he will contribute to the team immensely.

Add these boys with the good young pros who emerged last

season and a few experienced players from the first team and the Reserves should have a great basis for the future of the Club.

Our trip to Holland was again tremendous for team spirit and also to get us the confidence to make our system work well. Although we finished fourth overall the lads put in some marvellous performances.

In the preliminary round we defeated the local side Zeeuws Elftall 3-0 and lost 1-0 to Sparta Rotterdam. This put us into the third/fourth place play off where we met Irakiis Salonika of Greece. Adrian Viveash equalised for us after the Greeks took an early lead. The score remained at 1-1 after normal time taking the game into penalties. We eventually lost 11-10 after Nicky Hammond kicked his shot into oblivion! However the experience Andy Thomson and Wayne O'Sullivan gained on this trip was invaluable to both them and us.

There were so many funny things which happened while we were over there - most of them involving Eddie Buckley and Kevin Morris! To see these two characters trying to find the doors of our left hand drive mini-buses was a sight to be seen, talk about double Dutch!

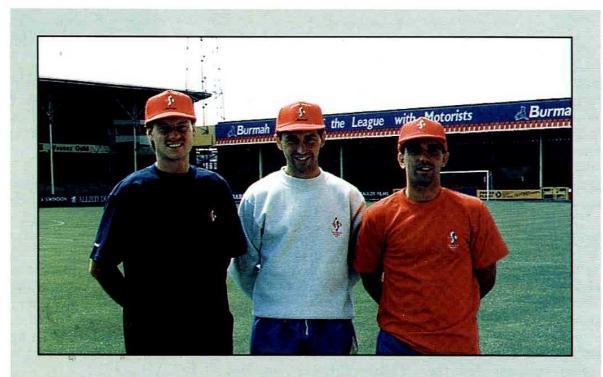
The fans who travelled to Holland were a credit to the Club and British football, their behaviour was impeccable. It"s a great pity that all the talk in the papers recently has brought back into the light all the previous problems the Club has encountered. We must now forget those events and look to the future.

With further live T.V. games promised Glenn and I are sure that once people get a taste of our style of football our players will be household names for the right reasons.

CLUB SHOP

SHOP OPENING HOURS

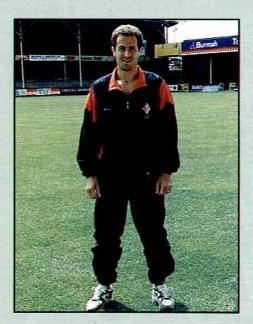
Tuesday to Friday 10.00am - 4.00pm Saturdays (Matchdays only) - 10.00am - 3.00pm.



New from the Club Shop

Swindon Town FC and Burmah Petroleum Fuels have launched a new range of products - T. Shirts, Mugs, Baseball Caps and Skill Balls - which will be on sale shortly through The Club Shop and all local Burmah garages.

These items together with the new official team Shell Suit, Replica Kits and the usual Souvenirs, can also be purchased by mail order through The Club Shop.





goal-kicks.

The relevant new restriction reads:

GLENN
Hoddle
has condemed it. The
Germans have ridiculed it.
The new FIFA ruling on the back
pass has caused controversy
throughout the world.

"The people who introduced it just haven't thought deep enough about the implications," claims the Swindon boss who believes that a couple of simple adjustments, as used in 5-a-side football, would have sufficed.

The new ruling, which came into operation on the 25th July, seems set to create more confusion than open play and the authorities have already had to revise their restrictions following some unique German enterprise in the Bundesliga.

The rule, which bans goalkeepers from handling a back pass, stated that if the ball comes off anything but a foot the goalkeeper can handle. Thus defenders were falling to their knees to shunt the ball back.

A FIFA spokesman claimed: "Kneeing is a distortion of the spirit of the new rules. We will want to sanction players who make mockery of them."

Fortuna Cologne's Jurgen Niggemann was the first to be sent-off for such practise but one sympathises wholeheartedly with him.

The International FA Board have introduced this amendment they say to cut out time wasting.

The modification is to Law XII (Fouls and misconduct) and further measures are concerned with

"On any occasion when a player deliberately kicks the ball to his own goalkeeper, the goalkeeper is not permitted to touch it with his hands. If, however, the goalkeeper does touch the ball with his hands, he shall be penalised by the award of an indirect free-kick to be taken by the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred, subject to the overriding conditions of Law XIII."

The Board explains that the word "kicks" refers only to circumstances where a player plays the ball with the foot or feet. Similarly, and we quote; "a deflection with the foot or feet is permitted in circumstances where it is not intentional (involuntary deflection or miskick from a teammate).

"In situations where the ball is deliberately kicked by a teammate away from the goalkeeper (eg to the side of the goal) but with the intention that the goalkeeper may collect it, the spirit of the Law is that this would be regarded as an intentional pass to the goalkeeper. Therefore, if, in such situations, the goalkeeper touches the ball with his hands, an indirect freekick must be awarded."

Other refinements intended to speed up play include the taking of goal-kicks from anywhere in the six-yard box. Thus if the ball goes out of play to the right of the goal and is retrieved to the left the kick can now be taken from the left side instead of the goalkeeper running around to the other side.

The same application has been extended to defensive free-kicks in this zone as well. For indirect kicks awarded to the attacking team the Rule states: "shall be taken from the part of the goalarea line which runs parallel to

with Colin Benson

the goal-line, at the point nearest to where the offence was committed."

Town 'keeper Nicky Hammond is unreversed with his condemnation of the new ruling and says: "It makes life a lot more difficult for us."

"Fraser and I had to put a lot of work in this summer improving our ball control and passing."

"I honestly can't see this as a way of improving the quality of the game quite the opposite infact. It suits the kick and rush merchants who just want to punt the ball up field."

"There is no doubt it will be a handicap to us. The way we play is to start from the back with a short ball to the fullback. If he can"t drag the opposition wide then the ball is knocked back to the goalkeeper and we start again on the other side... It is controlled precise football needing skill and accuracy."

"But the legislators seem to have dived in head first without any deep appreciation of the consequences of their deliberations. There is no regard at all that on occasion the back pass by a defender under pressure can be a skilful and constructive act."

"The new rules simply encourage mindless kicking and give teams like Cambridge United more chance than sides, like us, who try and play good football."

"It will now be a tactical advantage to hit long balls towards the opponents goal to pressure defenders into making mistakes."

To be quite honest one wonders whether the members of the International Football Association Board, who dreamt up this abomination, really understand the game they are administering. This new legislation can only damage the game as a spectacle. It has no place in the beautiful game.

KITESPONSORS



SWINDON TOWN F.C.

						r.c.
PLAYER	Shirt (£75)	Shorts (£40)	Socks (£20)	Boots (£60)	Tracksuit (£50)	Training Shoes (£40
Glenn Hoddle	Swindon	Town Suppo	orters Club: Co	ntact David I	Mouland, 081	503 3735
John Gorman		Tim Barnes Ashton Keynes				
Craig Maskell		Flow F	orms, (Wiltshir	re) Ltd., 0793	611557	
John Trollope						
Tom Jones	-		TE STATE			
Micky Hazard	Mrs J. Chilcott		JWD Autorite, Car Repairs			
Shaun Taylor	Wessex Co	nservatories,	Hawksworth,	Swindon, The	e conservato	ry specialists
Steve Foley						
Steve White	Δ					
David Mitchell	· As		Princess Hotel, Beatrice St.		AN	
Kevin Morris	ep Alli		A.	37	ATT	
Frazer Digby	b.	WOP	Princess Hotel, Beatrice St.	A LA	- 9/6	Geoff James, Banbury, Oxon
Nicky Hammond	1	A Comment of the Comm			1	
Adrian Viveash			(here)			TI
David Kerslake			Linda Hunt & Sharon Weston	-		11
Nestor Lorenzo						
Colin Calderwood	JWD Autorite Car repairs	A TO THE STATE OF	Richard Holtham, Nottingham			
Ross MacLaren	1	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE		Mr K. Chilcott		Lynne Stevens, Warminster
Martin l <mark>l</mark> ng			CARLING B	BLACK LABEL LAGE	R.	
Dave Bennett		* T. F.	No.	N	13/3/	
Nicky Summerbee			Sir Set	on Wills	7	
Eddie Murray						
Shaun Close						
Paul Bodin		Auto	Body Supplies	s I td 0225 7	707232	





BENNO



AUGUST 15TH 1992 will go down as a very special day in the history of Swindon Town Football Club. For at three o' clock Town make their debut in the First Division of the Football League.

Forget the cynics who claim we are there by default. Swindon, and all the other competitors in this Division have earned the right to participate at this level. The fact that Arsenal, Liverpool, Manchester United, Leeds and the rest have turned their backs on the competition that has been their bread and butter and made them what they are today should not be held against those who are left.

The break-up of the Football League as we know it is a sad and regretful episode in our domestic history. Fuelled by greed we have seen the parting of the waves and I doubt whether this new direction will provide the comfortable future the Football Association and it's supporters envisage.

Already there has been dissent amongst the ranks with the big-three vetoing the chance for major sponsorship of the new alliance. Individual deals scuppering attempts to set up commercial success for the league as a whole. It could not have been the richest sponsorship deal in British sporting history - worth £9 million over the next three years.

The Football League was the brainchild of William McGregor, of Aston Villa, who tired of the haphazard nature of arranging games - it was not uncommon for teams to arrive an hour or more late or even not at all to fulfil a fixture - instituted the competition in 1888.

The League opened its first fixtures on Saturday September 8th, 1888 and the results were as follows:

Bolton W	3	Derby City	6
Everton	2	Accrington	
P.N.E	5	Burnley	2
Stoke -	0	W.B.A	2
Wolves	1	Aston V	1

Blackburn Rovers and Notts County, the other two founder member clubs, did not start their programmes until the following week.

Preston North End became the first champions, they were undefeated with 18 wins and four draws, finishing 11 points clear of runners-up Aston Villa.

Sunderland have a much better League pedigree than Town; having won five championships in their illustrious history. Elected to Division One in 1890, when Stoke dropped out, they tound themselves in trouble when fined £25 for fielding an ineligible player. The complaint was against J.E. Doig, the one with the cap on in the picture, who later established himself as an international goalkeeper.

Sunderland were not amused and called a special meeting of the League to try and change the rules concerning the registration of players. However they gained little sympathy and lost their case. But the fact that a club just newly elected to the competition should see fit to try and bend the rules for their own purpose was indicitive of the general attitude of club officials at that time.

Sunderland finished their first season in seventh place but had they not had two points deducted for this irregularity

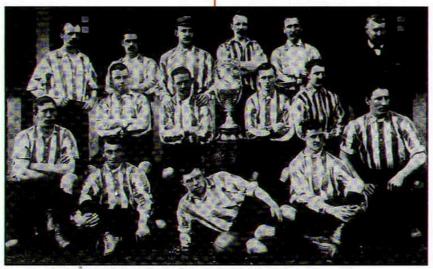
they would have been fifth.

The Wearsiders made a much more profound contribution in their second season of League competition, winning the Championship by five points, and setting a scoring record with 93 goals.

They were dubbed "the team of all talents" and lived up to that name by retaining their title in 1893 - this time by a massive 11 points.

Town's track record is not so glamorous or glorious. We joined the League in 1920 as founder members of the Third Division but what a start we made at home on August 28th - trouncing Luton Town 9-1! We were brought down to earth two days later at the Dell where Southampton won 4-0 but finished the campaign well in fourth place.

Last season though we were just short of making the promotion places while Sunderland had to fight for their Second. Division existence following relegation from Division One the previous year. Now we meet on equal terms at the start of what promises to be a very interesting and competitive season in what is now the top division of the oldest football league in the world. This is the First Division and we are proud to be part of it.



"The team of all Talents" Sunderland's first championship winners

SWINDON TOWN
CLUB CALL

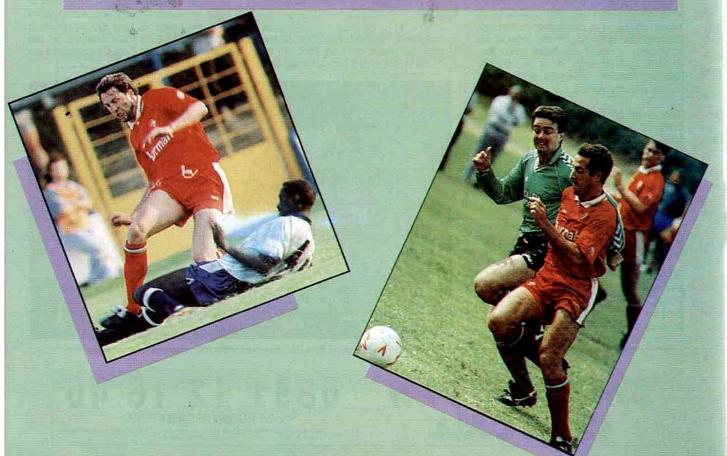
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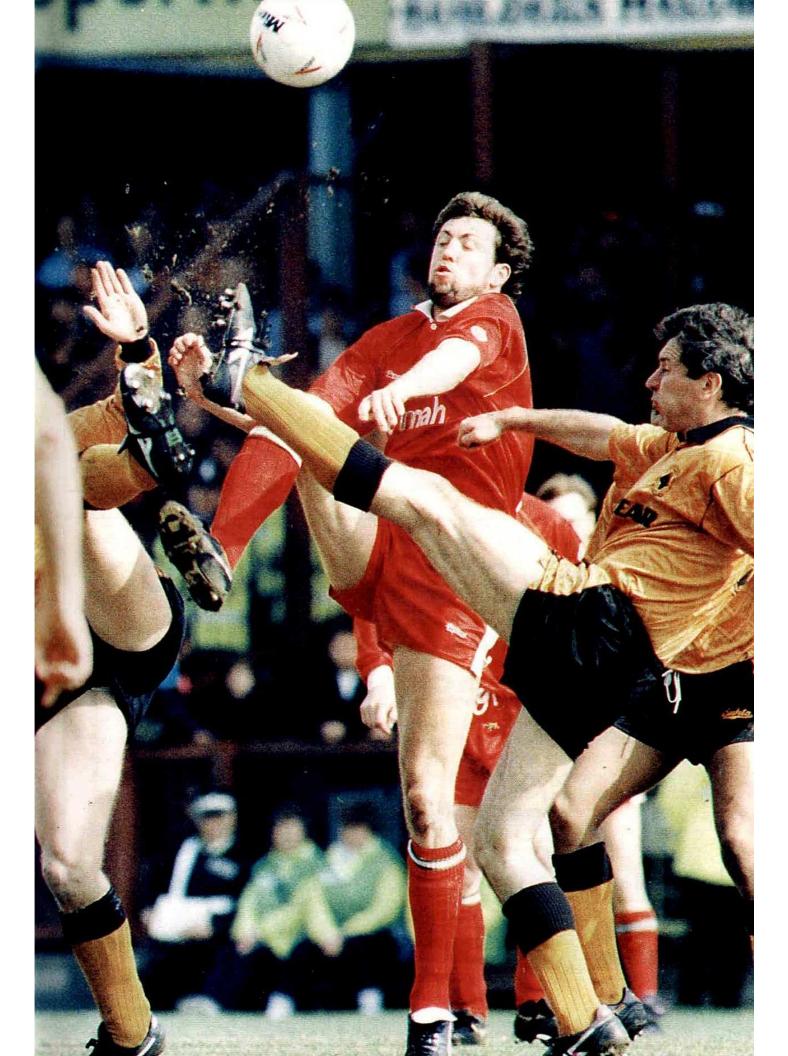
24 HOUR INFORMATION

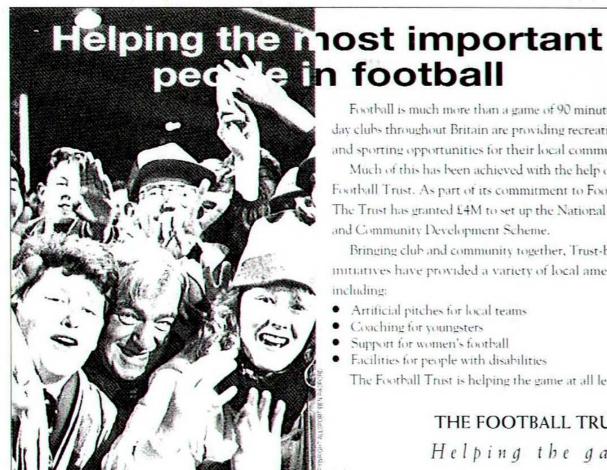
 Calls charged at 36p per minute cheap rate and 48p per minute at all other times

BICORIE









Football is much more than a game of 90 minutes. Every day clubs throughout Britain are providing recreational and sporting opportunities for their local communities.

Much of this has been achieved with the help of the Football Trust. As part of its commitment to Football, The Trust has granted £4M to set up the National Football and Community Development Scheme.

Bringing club and community together, Trust-backed initiatives have provided a variety of local amenities, including:

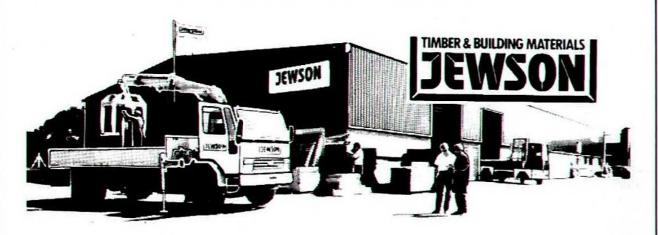
- Artificial pitches for local teams
- Coaching for youngsters
- Support for women's football
- Facilities for people with disabilities The Football Trust is helping the game at all levels.

THE FOOTBALL TRUST

Helping the game

We've got the Jewson lot at over 200 branches nationwide

FIND US IN YOUR LOCAL YELLOW PAGES





SWINDON TOWN F.C. SUPPORTERS CLUB

INFORMATION DESK

From today, there is a Supporters Information Desk situated within the Matchday Ticket Office. It will be open on every home matchday approximately two hours before kick-off. If you have any query relating to Swindon Town supporters, then the Informational Desk is the place to go....

SOCIAL CLUB MEMBER-SHIP

The Supporters' Social Club welcomes both new members and old to the County Ground for 1992/93. If you have yet to renew your membership for the new season, then please call in and see us soon. The fee for membership of both the Supporters Club and the Social Club is just £5.00.

ENTERTAINMENTS

Social Club Discos will be planned regularly throughout the season and other forthcoming events will be announced in these columns - so watch this space, as they say!

PROGRAMME SHOP

Once again the Supporters Club Programme Shop will be stocking all Swindon Townhome and away programmes for this season, together with thousands of older Swindon programmes - plus many from other clubs. We already have all the Town's pre-season issues available, including one from the tournament in Holland.

We are situated in the North Stand. between the Supporters Social Club entrance and the Travel Club and we are open before and after every first team game. Why not come in and see what we have to offer? We would also welcome any donation of unwanted programmes that may be cluttering up your home.

AWAY TRAVEL

At the start of another new season Swindon Town Travel Club offers you the best deal in away travel. Season Tickets are available with a great discount and there are also reduced rates for under 13's travelling with an adult.

Details are available from the Travel Club office which is open from 7.30-9.30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, also on matchdays before and after the game.

We are now taking bookings for our first two trips, which are Bristol Rovers, priced £5.00 plus Match Ticket and departing at 17.15 and Wolves priced £7.00 departing at 10.30.

...AND HOME

Why drive to the County Ground when you could hop on a coach? Did you know that coaches come to every Swindon Town home game from places such as Stroud and Malmesbury ? Coaches serve the Stroud and Stonehouse areas and can be contacted on 0453 825774. Supporters in the Wootton Bassett and Malmesbury areas can ring Silver Knight Coaches on 0249 720360.

RESERVES

Another season is upon us and our Neville Ovenden Football Combination fixtures begin next Wednesday with a home match against Brighton & Hove Albion.

The early games of our preseason training were somewhat hampered by injuries, in fact the whole Club from the first team squad down to the Youths have suffered from selection problems. Hopefully by now the majority will be back playing and our Reserve side certainly looks to be taking shape.

As has the first team, the Reserves have been involved in several pre-season games some in which we have had players with a fair amount of first team experience while in others members of the Youth Team have been drafted in.

Our first friendly in which we were able to play something close to what will be our line-up was against Abingdon Town where we fielded a squad of players aged 22 or under. We had new signing Kevin Horlock making his debut along with loan signing Olly Morah. Also in action were Chris Hamon from Jersey, Lee Middleton and Austin Berkley all of whom

are hoping to earn extended contracts in the next few weeks. Add to these Paul Hunt, Andy Thomson, Wayne O'Sullivan, Marcus Phillips and Eddie Murray and we have the basis of a good young Reserve squad.

The game at Abingdon ended 4-2 in our favour with new boys Horlock and Berkley getting a goal each with Paul Hunt netting the other two, one from the penalty spot.

So by now hopefully our young squad will have acquitted themselves well and will be raring to go come next Wednesday. Here's looking forward to a successful season on all fronts and for some of our Reserve squad to develop well and push for first team status.

ANDY ROWLAND



NEVILLE OVENDEN FOOTBALL COMBINATION DIVISION ONE FIXTURES

Wed Aug 10 Brighton & Hous Albion

Wed Aug 19	Brighton & Hove Albion	H
Wed Aug 26	Portsmouth	A
Wed Sep 02	West Ham United	H
Fri Sep 11	Norwich City	A
Wed Sep 16	Fulham	A
Mon Sep 21	Milwall	A
Wed Sep 30	Wimbledon	H
Wed Oct 07	Fulham	H
Wed Oct 14	Miliwali	H
Tue Oct 20	West Ham United	A
Wed Oct 28	Tottenham Hotspur	H
Mon Nov 02	Crystal Palace	A
Mon Nov 09	Watford	H
Wed Nov 11	Arsenal	H
Tue Nov 17	Queens Park Rangers	A
Wed Nov 25	loswich Town	A
Wed Dec 02	Chelsea	H
Tue Dec 08	Watford	A
Tue Dec 15	Norwich City	H
Mon Dec 21	Luton Town	A
Wed Jan 06	Chariton Athletic	A
Wed Jan 13	Charlton Athletic	H
Wed Jan 20	Oxford United	A
Wed Jan 27	Southampton	H
Tue Feb 02	Wimbledon	A
Wed Feb 10	Portsmouth	H
Wed Feb 24	Ipswich Town	H
Mon Mar 01	Luton Town	H
Wed Mar 03	Bristol City	A
Mon Mar 08	Bristol City	H
Wed Mar 17	Brighton & Hove Albion	A
Wed Mar 24	Queens Park Rangers	H
Sat Mar 27	Southampton	A
Wed Apr 07	Oxford United	H
Tue Apr 13	Chelsea	A
Sat Apr 24	Arsenal	A
Wed Apr 28	Tottenham Hotspur	A
Wed May 05	Crystal Palace	H
and the second s	The state of the s	

All home matches will be played at The County Ground, Swindon with a 2.00pm kick-off time

DIVISION ONE NEVILLE OVENDEN FOOTBALL COMBINATION SEASON 1991/92

EINIAL LEAGUE TABLE

FINAL LE	A	G	U	: 1	A	BLI	3
SOUTHAMPTON	38	22	9	7	73	36	75
CHELSEA	38	22	7	9	72	43	73
ARSENAL	38	22	6	10	80	49	72
Q.P.R.	38	22	6	10	80	49	72
NORWICH CITY	38	21	6	11	75	37	69
LUTON TOWN	38	18	8	12	59	51	62
SWINDON TOWN	38	16	8	14	62	60	56
WIMBLEDON	38	14	12	12	56	44	54
CRYSTAL PALACE	38	15	9	14	63	61	54
IPSWICH TOWN	38	15	9	14	65	68	54
TOTTENHAM H.	38	14	11	13	63	54	53
PORTSMOUTH	38	16	2	20	69	75	50
WATFORD	38	15	3	20	59	69	48
CHARLTON A.	38	13	9	16	50	60	48
OXFORD UTD	38	13	7	18	54	77	46
WEST HAM UTD	38	11	11	16	55	64	44
MILLWALL	38	10	12	16	67	80	42
FULHAM	38	11	8	19	39	58	41
BRIGHTON	38	8	8	22	46	67	32
READING	38	5	4	29	48	135	19

with JOHN TROLLOPE

Every season sees a big change in the make up of the youth team, the older and more experienced lads have either gained a professional contract or are not quite up to the standard required. This year is no exception, having only five second year trainees we will again be quite young at this level. We have taken eight new trainees, who started last month, now beginning to settle down to what the professional game is all about, although two or three are finding it hard to maintain their interest and enthusiasm day in and day out. They must come to terms quickly to start progressing and improving their performances in the coming months.

Our preparation has started well the players working hard to gain a good fitness and improve their techniques. Several games have been played with some very good signs that we are on the right lines to master the system the way the manager has adopted for every team in the club to play. Unfortunately a crop of injuries two weeks ago has not helped and we can only hope that most of these have cleared up before we play our first game against Brighton this morning.

Under the quidance of Adrian Riddiford our Youth Development Officer we will again be running an under 16 and 15 side with games being played on Sundays, Andy Paul Weller, Bish, Leigh Barnard, Mick Byrne and myself taking the training and teams on match days. After a successful season last year we are hoping we can improve even more in the coming season. Terry Wollen will be in charge of the Centre of Excellence with other coaches helping to cover the 9-14 year olds. The Centre has been successful in the past few years with three trainees just taken on professional forms Andy Thomson, Wayne O'Sullivan and Marcus Phillips all come through the system.

The set up is now second to none with the boys being given a chance to join us at 9 years of age and progress hopefully right through to the first team. Here's hoping every team at the club has a successful season and an enjoyable one.



SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE FIXTURE LIST

Sat Aug 15	Brighton & Hove Albion	H
Sat Aug 22	Bristol Rovers	A
Sat Aug 29	Reading	н
Sat Sep 05	Colchester United	A
Sat Sep 12	Tottenham Hotspur	H
Sat Sep 19	AFC Bournemouth (LC1)	A
Sat Sep 26	AFC Bournemouth	A
Sat Oct 03	Brentford	H
Sat Oct 10	Oxford United	A
Sat Oct 17	Southampton	н
Sat Oct 24	LC2	Α
Sat Oct 31	Crystal Palace	A
Sat Nov 07	Luton Town	H
Sat Nov 14	Wimbledon	A
Sat Nov 21	Bristol City	Α
Sat Nov 28	LC3	A
Sat Dec 05	Bristol City	H
Sat Dec 12	Brighton & Hove Albion	A
Sat Dec 19	Bristol Rovers	н
Sat Jan 02	Reading	A
Sat Jan 09	Colchester United	H
Sat Jan 16	Tottenham Hotspur	A
Sat Jan 23	AFC Bournemouth	H
Sat Jan 30	Brentford -	A
Sat 06 Feb	Oxford United	H
Sat Feb 13	Southampton	A
Sat Feb 20	Crystal Palace	H
Sat Feb 27	Luton Town	A
Sat Mar 06	Wimbledon	H
To be arrang	ged	
Tottenham I	lotspur (SJFC)	A

All home South East Counties League games are played at The Allied Dunbar Training Centre, King Edward Place, Wanborough. Games kick off at 11.00 am.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE

	P	w	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Crystal Palace	26	18	5	3	69	24	41
Wimbledon	26	16	5	5	71	24	37
Oxford Utd	26	15	4	7	49	31	34
Luton Town	26	14	6	6	60	45	34
Brentford	26	13	5	8	47	33	31
Southampton	26	11	8	7	32	30	30
Brighton	26	12	4	10	51	38	28
Bristol City	26	10	5	11	44	45	25
Tottenham	26	9	3	14	34	55	21
Swindon Town	26	7	6	13	30	53	20
Reading	26	8	3	15	44	64	19
Bristol Rovers	26	7	2	17	41	86	16
Bournmouth	26	6	3	17	34	50	15
Maidstone Utd	26	5	3	18	32	60	13

(Aldershot FC having withdrawn from the League, their playing record has been expunged)



BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION TWO 1991/92

P W D L F A W D L F A Pis Av Att Top Scorers

pswich T	46	16	3	4	42	22	8	9	6	28	28	84	14,236	Kiwaana 16 Dozzeli 11
Middles Bro'	46	15	6	2	37	13	8	5	10	21	28	60	14,508	Slaven 17 Wilkinson 14
Derby C	46	11	4	8	35	24	12	5	6	34	27	78	14,188	Gabbiandini 16
Leicester C	46	14	4	5	41	24	9	4	10	21	31	77	14,343	Wright 11 Ormandroyd 8
Cambridge	46	10	9	4	34	19	9	8	6	31	28	74	7,100	Dublin 15 Claridge 12
Blackburn	45	14	5	4	41	21	7	6	10	29	32	74	13,308	Speedie/Shearer 23
Charlton	46	9	7	7	25	23	11	4	8	29	25	71	6,733	Lee/Leaburn 11
Swindon	45	15	3	5	38	22	31	2	в	31	33	69	9,669	White 10 Hazard 6
Portsmouth	46	15	6	2	41	12	4	6	13	24	39	69	11,656	Whittingham 10
Watford	46	9	5	9	25	23	9	6	8	26	25	65	8,617	Nogan 10 Bussett 9
Wolves	46	11	6	6	36	24	7	4	12	25	30	64	13,228	Bull 20 Mutch 11
Southend	46	11	5	7	37	26	6	6	11	26	37	62	6,559	Angell 21 Ansah 9
Bristol Rov	46	11	9	3	43	29	5	5	13	17	34	62	5,864	Taylor 11
Tranmere	45	9	9	5	37	32	5	10	8	19	24	61	8,961	Aldridge 22 Irons 7
Milwall	46	10	4	9	32	32	7	6	10	32	39	61	8,065	Kerr 12 Rae 11
Barnsley	46	11	4	8	27	25	5	7	11	19	32	59	7,510	Rammell 8 Currie 7
Bristol City	46	10	8	5	30	24	3	7	13	25	47	54	11,461	Allison 10
Sunderland	46	10	8	5	36	23	4	3	16	25	42	53	18,295	Goodman 15 Byrne12
Grimsby	46	7	5	11	25	28	7	6	10	22	34	53	6,758	Woods 8 Dobbin 6
Newcastle	46	9	8	N.B	38	30	4	5	14	28	54	52	21,756	Peacock 15 Kelly 11
Oxford U	46	10	6	7	39	30	3	5	15	27	43	50	5,672	Magitton 12
Plymouth	AC	11	-	7	20	26	2	,	17	45	20	*0	£ 740	Marshall 14
			-		COTTON	.=5						47	<	Gall 12 Meade 9
Brighton	40	,	-	3	20	31	3	-	14	20	40	-1	1,545	Gail 12 Moduc 3

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES 91/92

	Leagu	ue	CL	IP qu	Tota	ıl
	Apps	G	Apps	G	Apps	G
Paul Bodin	21	2	2	0	23	26 10 00 10 70 43 00 12 80
Colin Calderwood	46	5	11	1	57	6
Shaun Close	4 (25)	1	0 (5)	0	4 (30)	1
Fraser Digby	21	0	5	0	26	0
Steve Foley	5 (8)	0	2(1)	0	7 (9)	0
Terry Gibson	8 (1)	1	0	0	8 (1)	1
Micky Hammond	25	0	6	0	31	0
Micky Hazard	44	6	10	1	54	7
Glenn Hoddle	22 -	0	3(1)	0	25 (1)	0
Tom Jones	37 (5)	4	8 (3)	0	45 (8)	4
Martin Ling	17 (7)	3	4(1)	0	21 (8)	3
Nestor Lorenzo	2 (5)	0	0	0	2 (5)	0
David Kerslake	38 (1)	1	8	0 0 1	46 (1)	1
Ross MacLaren	32	1	11	1	43	2
David Mitchell	24 (4)	-5	4	3	28 (4)	8
John Moncur	1 (3)	0	O	0	1 (3)	0
Duncan Shearer	37	22	11	10	48	22
Fitzroy Simpson	29 (1)	4	10 (1)	0	39 (2)	4
Nicky Summerbee	16 (20)	0	6 (3)	1	22 (23)	1
Shaun Taylor	42	0	11	1	53	1
Paul Trollope	0(1)	0	0	0	0(1)	0
Adrian Viveash	9 (4)	0	3 (2)	0	12 (6)	0
Gary Waddock	5(2)	0	0	0	5(2)	0
Steve White	21 (3)	10	7(2)	5	28 (5)	15

SWINDON TOWN FC FIXTURES 1992/93

Date	Opponents		FA Att	t.
Sat Aug 15	Sunderland	н		
Charles and the same and the	Bristol Rovers	Α		Ġ.
CARL THE SECOND SECOND	Wolverhampton Wanderers	A	# # 10 m	
	Cambridge United	н		
Tue Sep 01		A	The second of the	
Sat Sep 05	Millwall	A	-	6
Sat Sep 12	Bristol Rovers	н		-
	Brentford (A.I.C.)	н		Ţ.,
Sat Sep 19	Oxford United	н		
Tue Sep 23	C.C.C. 2-1	100		
Sat Sep 26	Charlton Athletic	A		
III PRESENTENCE SE SE	Grimsby Town	н	BOOK OF SHOOT A	
Sat Oct 03	Watford	н		
Tue Oct 06	C.C.C. 2-2	W (1)		
Sat Oct 10	Portsmouth	A		
Sat Oct 17	Notts County	н		
Sat Oct 24	West Ham United	A		
Tue Oct 27	C.C.C. 3			
Sat Oct 31	Barnsley	н		
Tue Nov 03		н		
Sat Nov 07	Newcastle United	A		
Sat Nov 14	Southend United	н		
Sat Nov 21	Bristol City	Α		
Sat Nov 28	Peterborough United	Α		
Tue Dec 01	C.C.C. 4	No. of Concession, Name of Street, or other party of the Concession, Name of Street, Name of S		
Sat Dec 05	Derby County	н		
Sat Dec 12	Tranmere Rovers	н		
Sun Dec 20	Leicester City	A		
Sat Dec 26	Luton Town	Α		
Tue Dec 29	Birmingham City	н		
Sat Jan 02	FAC 3		# # P P 7	
Tue Jan 05	C.C.C. 5	1000		-
Sat Jan 09	Oxford United	A		
Sat Jan 16	Charlton Athletic	н		
Sat Jan 23	FAC 4	4		94
Tue Jan 26	Grimsby Town	A	A	4
Sat Jan 30	Wolverhampton Wanderers	н		
Sat Feb 06	Sunderland	A		
Sat Feb 13	Millwall	Н		
Sat Feb 20	Cambridge United	A	W 20 20 2 2	
Sat Feb 27	Portsmouth	н	W W. W. H.	9
Sat Mar 06	Watford	Α		
Wed Mar 10	Southend United	A		
Sat Mar 13	Newcastle United	H		
Sat Mar 20	Derby County	A	B # B B	
Tue Mar 23	Bristol City	H	A SHOWN	
Sat Mar 27	Brentford	A		-
Sat Apr 03	Peterborough United	н		
Tue Apr 06	Tranmere Rovers	A		
Sat Apr 10	Luton Town	H	# # W D	8
Mon Apr 12	Birmingham City	Α		F.
Sat Apr 17	Leicester City	Н		
Sat Apr 24	Notts County	A		-
Sat May 01	West Ham United	н	-	ju. +
Sat May 08		Α		JA.
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and Statistics



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D.F.W BOOK SALES 1/2 Price or much less at the Bookstall Greenbridge Market



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IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

SWINDON TOWN Fraser Digby 2 **David Kerslake**

3

8

9

SUB:

Paul Bodin

Glenn Hoddle

Shaun Taylor **Micky Hazard**

John Moncur

Craig Maskell

David Mitchell

Martin Ling

12

Colin Calderwood



SWINDON TOWN F.C.

TODAY'S MATCHBALL SPONSOR IS:

FLOW FORMS LIMITED

FORTHCOMING GAMES AT THE COUNTY GROUND:

Wed 19 August 1992 **Neville Overden Football Combination Division 1**

Brighton & Hove Albion Kick off 2.00pm

Mon 24 August 1992 **Midland Youth Cup** preliminary round

Northampton Town Kick off 7.30pm

Referee: P.A. Durkin (Portland, Dorset) Linesman (red flag): B.L. Baker (Warminster, Wiltshire) Linesman (red/yellow flag): A.C. Howells (Port Talbot, West Glamorgan) Reserve Official: A. Hunt (Swindon, Wiltshire)

14

SUNDERLAND

TEAM CHANGES

TEAM CHANGES

- Tony Norman
- Kevin Ball
- 3 **Gary Bennett**
- **Terry Butcher**
- **Anton Rogan**
- **Gary Owers**
- **Shaun Cunnington**
- 8 **Brian Atkinson**
- 9 John Colquhoun
- 10 John Byrne
- Don Goodman

12 Peter Davenport SUB:

14 Gordon Armstrong

SWINDON TOWN CLUB CALL

Produced by PIA Design and Promotions Limited **Printed by Inpress Limited** Newbury, Berkshire

HALF-TIME SCORE

FULL-TIME SCORE

ATTENDANCE