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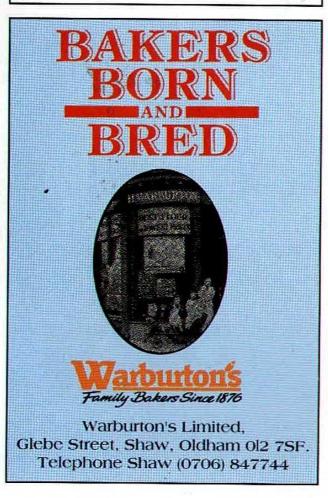
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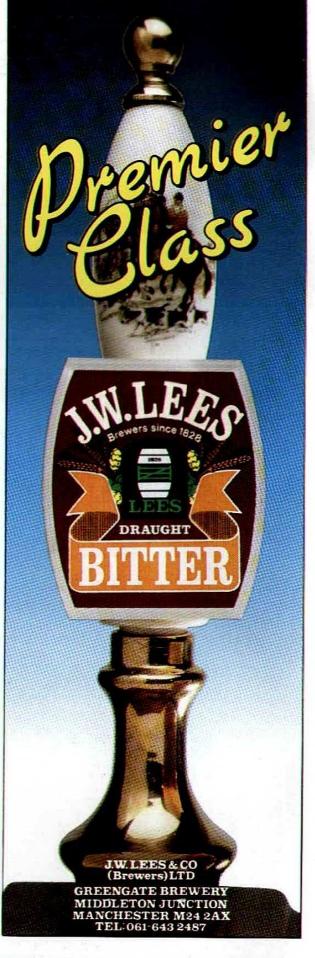
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JOE ROYLE

"WE ALL FELT THAT LAST WEEKS WIN OVER NORWICH WAS A TURNING POINT IN OUR FORTUNES".

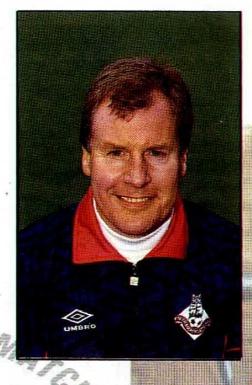
Welcome back to Boundary Park for this evenings clash with Swindon Town. Things have certainly become close at the bottom, and we can all take heart from the fact that two consecutive wins would rocket a side to half-way.

We all felt that last weeks win over Norwich would be the turning point in our fortunes. It was certainly a very creditable victory considering Chris Makin's unfortunate sending-off. Chris has hit the headlines for all the wrong reasons in the past month, with four bookings culminating in two sending-offs.

None of Chris's bookings have been malicious. There have been no elbows involved, no cynical tackles, and no dissent, yet as a young man starting his career, has two sendings off to his discredit.

Richard Jobson followed Chris 'down the tunnel' last Tuesday night at Tranmere, and my initial impression was that the referee had no choice, but yet again video evidence proved that Richard hardly touched the Tranmere player. Allied to Rick Holden's 'super push', we have now had three players sent off as a result of theatrical tumbles.

Let's hope that these prove to be isolated incidents rather than evidence that we are developing a tendency towards the antics of that famous German acrobat, Jurgan Klinsman.



I can only sympathise and apologise to our spectators who went to Tranmere, as I did, with dreams of Wembley, only for them to be shattered by a rather inept performance.

We have completed two new signings this week. Tore Pedersen and Sean McCarthy have completed their respective transfers from Brann and Bradford City. We all wish them success in their new Premiership careers.

I felt that the atmosphere and support from our fans against Norwich, was the best of our season to date. Once again get behind the lads tonight and help us once more to recreate a fortress at Boundary Park.

See you soon.

JOE

OLDHAM ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

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Talking SPORT.

with TONY BUGBY

"WHAT KEEGAN HAS ACHEIVED IN TWO YEARS AT ST. JAMES PARK IS LITTLE SHORT OF A MIRACLE"

raham Taylor's resignation as England manager has hardly been met with a stampede for his job. What ought to be the most attractive position in English football is, in reality, one of the least popular.

It is hardly surprising when you see the manner in which Taylor was pilloried and ridiculed by certain tabloid newspapers.

Taylor's record in Championship competition was disappointing, but surely that is not justification for the venomous personal attacks which have been made.

The list of potential candidates, I am afraid, does not inspire me as there is nobody who stands out from the crowd. The one manager I would love to take up the gauntlet - Kevin "I am sure Keegan - has already reaffirmed his position at Newcastle.

What Keegan has achieved in less than two years at St. James' Park is little short of a miracle. When he took charge Newcastle were threatened by relegation to the Second Division (the old Third Division) and, £6m in

debt, heading for oblivion. Now they are fourth in the Premiership and arguably the best footballing team in the country on current form. Keegan is a hero on Tyneside for bringing to life one of football's sleeping giants and probably realises it would be folly to leave for the England job complete with its minefields. Since joining Newcastle for his first spell in football management, Keegan has proved well equipped for the rigours.

Relegation was staved off, promotion secured the next season and the achievements of this campaign hardly need documenting

Keegan has spent heavily, but wisely, and moulded together a team of immense potential. The signing of Peter Beardsley to help guide young jewel Andy Cole proved the perfect example, even though there were raised evebrows when £1.35m was spent on a 32 year old.

Those who witnessed Newcastle's recent display against Latics are still enthusing about the quality of their play. Newcastle's slick passing game is reminiscent of the Liverpool team of

> vestervear which achieved considerable glory under Bill Shankly and Bob Paisley two of Keegan's mentors.

I am sure Keegan is trying to create a Liverpool-style dynasty in the North East and from early observations he looks to be laying the foundations. Keegan also showed an iron fist in velvet glove recently in dealing with Cole and Lee Clark for disciplinary indiscretion.

That was a test of Keegan's man management skills and again he seems to have chosen the right course of action. Keegan, whose achievement as a player cannot be faulted, would command respect both home and overseas.

In the unlikely event of Keegan deciding to throw his hat into the ring he would certainly get my vote.

Keegan is

trying to create

a Liverpool-

style dynasty"



ONE YEAR OLD



On 30th November Latique Travel celebrated it's first birthday in style with an impromptu party which involved some of the Latics players.

It was certainly a cause for celebration as Latique Travel announced a first year turnover up 23% on forecasts.

Already hundreds of Latics fans have booked their holidays with Latique Travel taking advantage of the **Special Offer** where they receive 10% of the holiday cost in vouchers to spend in the club shop.

It's been a success story with business travel also, with seven locally based companies now entrusting their business travel with Latique.

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Travel Manager Heather Rigby

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Just jot down the three names and the name of the team you support and send a postcard (with your name and address), by December 18th 1993 to:

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FA Carling Premiership Media Office
2nd Floor

142 Wardour Street London WIV 3AU

(The first II correct entries out of the hat from each club will be winners)







James Thompson, mascot for our Coca-Cola Cup game against Coventry City, meets his favourite player Graeme Sharp before the kick off.

JUNIOR LATICS CHRISTMAS PARTY

~ Sponsored by J.D. SPORTS

At the time of writing there are still a handful of tickets available for the Junior Latics Christmas party which is being held tomorrow night in the QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL.

7pm - 10pm. ADMISSION IS BY TICKET ONLY -

Entertainment for the evening will be provided by "MR TOPPER" who is a clown/magician and MARK PODHAM's DISCO will be helping the party go with a swing. There will also be a Fancy Dress Competition, with prizes for the best entrants. The MASCOT DRAW for the games against MANCHESTER UNITED, SOUTHAMPTON, LIVERPOOL & CHELSEA, will be held plus a raffle with lots of super prizes and a buffet supper. Most of the first team players will be popping in during the evening to sign autographs and join in the festivities, so make sure you don't miss out by purchasing your tickets now.

The next away trip for Junior Latics Members is to COVENTRY CITY on Saturday 18th December.

We are travelling by Executive Coach with Video, and it will leave the car park at the rear of the Lookers Stand at 11am. The cost of the trip including executive coach fare and a seat ticket to the game is \$9.50p

ALL PLACES ON THIS TRIP HAVE NOW BEEN SOLD.

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MATCH MASCOT PETER HUMPHREYS

ADDRESS: Broadway, Royton, Oldham

AGE: Eight

SCHOOL: St. Aidans and Oswalds Primary School, Royton

HOBBIES: Football

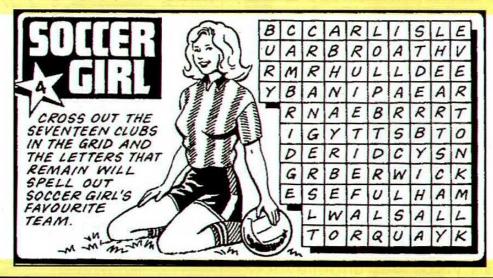
FAVOURITE GROUP: UB40

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AMBITIONS: To play football for Latics.



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RESERVES&YOUTHS

PONTINS LEAGUE DIVISION 2
WEDNESDAY 1ST DECEMBER 1993

OLDHAM ATHLETIC RES 0 STOKE CITY RES 2

Athletic Reserves slipped to their second home defeat on the trot against an experienced Stoke side last Wednesday evening.

Stoke with eight first team players, including a potent forward line which saw Simon Sturridge and a man well known by Athletic followers, Gary Bannister, causing plenty of problems for Latics' inexperienced defence.

The first half was a fairly even contest with both sides having chances to score, both goalkeepers though excelled with Andrew Woods making breathtaking saves to deny Sturridge and Bannister, whilst in the other goal Mark Prudhoe pulled off the save of the match minutes before half time when John Eyre sprung the off side trap and squared for Beckford, his shot from six yards was unbelievably tipped around the post by the keeper.

Within seconds of the restart Stoke were in front. Bannister's chip clipped the crossbar, Stephen Price completely missed his clearance before City substitute Robert Brunton, who had been on the field less than sixty seconds, blasted home from eight yards.

As Athletic tired Stoke began to assert their authority and it came as no surprise when the second goal went in. Woods made a meal of Bannister's long range effort and somehow the ball ended up in the back of the net.

TEAM: WOODS, PRICE, POINTON, McDONALD, GRAHAM, HALL, SUNDGOT, HENRY, EYRE, BECKFORD,

BRENNAN.

J-D

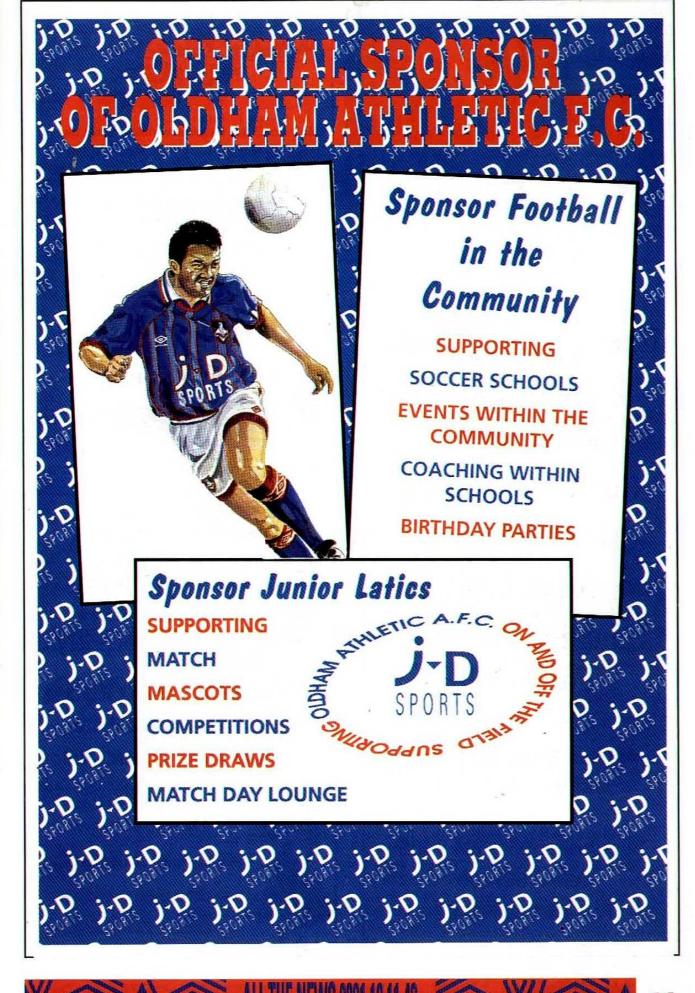
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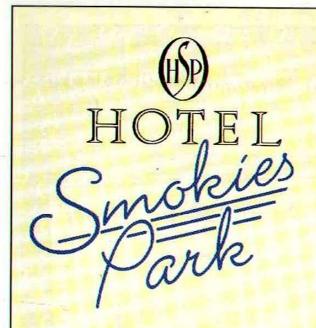
PONTIN'S LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

Stoke City	15	11	0	4	26	19	33
Tranmere R.	14	10	2	2	29	14	32
Oldham Ath.	15	9	3	3	29	16	30
Rotherham U	14	9	1	4	25	12	28
Manchester C.	16	7	4	5	24	17	25
W.B.A.	13	8	1	4	28	22	25
Huddersfield T	15	7	3	5	33	26	24
Burnley	15	7	2	6	27	22	23
Preston N. E.	15	7	2	6	28	26	23
Port Vale	13	5	6	2	22	13	21
Barnsley	15	6	2	7	23	26	20
Mansfield T	12	4	5	3	19	17	17
Scunthorpe	14	4	1	9	21	23	13
Middlesbrough	14	3	3	8	15	25	12
Grimsby Town	13	_ 3	2	8	15	24	11
Bradford City	13	3	1	9	17	27	10
Blackpool	14	2	3	9	16	34	9
Hull City	14	1	1	12	12	37	4

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE DIVISION 2 - FIXTURES 1993-94

					F-A
	17th	Aug	Grimsby Town	Away	2-1
	25th	Aug	Tranmere Rovers	Away	2-2
	lst	Sept	Barnsley	Away	2-0
	9th	Sept	Middlesbrough	Away	4-0
	15th 20th	Sept	Blackpool Manufold Town	HOME	3-1
	28th	Sept Sept	Mansfield Town Manchester City	Away HOME	1-1 0-0
	7th	Oct	Rotherham United	Away	0-2
	13th	Oct	West Bromwich Albion	HOME	2-1
	20th	Oct	Huddersfield Town	Away	3-1
	27th	Oct	Bradford City	HOME	3-1
	3rd	Nov	Hull City	Away	2-1
	9th	Nov	Scunthorpe United	HOME	4-1
8	16th	Nov	Preston North End	HOME	1-2
Š	lst	Dec	Stoke City	HOME	0-2
	8th	Dec	Port Vale	Away	
Š	14th	Dec	Tranmere Rovers	HOME	
	5th	Jan	Bumley	Away	
	13th	Jan	West Bromwich Albion	Away	
	18th 25th	Jan Jan	Rotherham United Bradford City	HOME	
Š	lst	Feb	Huddersfield Town	Away HOME	
	9th	Feb	Blackpool	Away	
	15th	Feb	Middlesbrough	HOME	
	lst	Mor	Port Vale	HOME	
	7th	Mar	Stoke City	Away	
	15th	Mar	Mansfield Town	HOME	
	22nd	Mar	Manchester city	Away	
	28th	Mar	Burnley	HOME	
9	5th	Apr	Grimsby Town	HOME	
	12th	Apr	Hull City	HOME	
	20th	Apr	Scunthorpe United	Away	
ġ	26th	Apr	Barnsley	HOME	
ġ	2nd	May	Preston North End	Away	989893





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FIZZY REWARD

When Chris Makin was voted the Coca Cola Man of the Match for his performance against Coventry City not only did he receive an exclusive Coca Cola jacket and wrist watch but 600 cans of Coke and training kit to donate to a local school.



Chris chose the Parish Church Junior School on Horsedge Street as the worthy recipient of the prize and two of the pupils are pictured with Chris and the 600 cans of Coke.

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BIG MONEY

The 'Strike it Lucky' prize is on the increase.

After a prize of £228 was won at the Newcastle game the following game against Norwich City saw the cash prize rise to £268, the winner of this prize was David Prendergast of High Crompton.

Remember to purchase your 50p ticket at every match as we guarantee a cash winner every game and the more tickets we sell the bigger the prize.

PART SPONSORSHIP

Have you considered taking a few seats in a Hospitality box for a game at Boundary Park? We have available part sponsorship packages, at extremely competitive prices, for the Southampton game on 4th January.

You can have eight seats and enjoy a four course pre match meal complimentary bar, receive a gift pack for each of your guests together with a match programme and enter free competitions to win great prizes.

The cost of this part sponsorship is just £800 + VAT which includes advertising space in the matchday programme.

Interested? Then give Commercial Manager Alan Hardy a ring on 061 627 1802.

CAR BOOT SALE

The last Latics car boot sale before Christmas takes place this Sunday on the main car park. Cars cost £7, car & trailer £9 vans £12 and the gates open at 8am. The last sale before Christmas always has a good turn out of both sellers and buyers so make sure you don't miss this one.



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metalwoods go hand in hand, expect to pay Oversized prices for Applying comparisons to other Graphite shafts are much lighter than Mitsushiba golf clubs. For further sports. Oversize Metalwoods are steelshaftsthereforemoreweight can information and a consumer pack, likened to the developments in the be added to the club head which gives please call Mitsushiba on 0706more hitting power. A larger club 623139.

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AWAYTrave

COVENTRY CITY v ATHLETIC Saturday 18th DECEMBER, 1993 Kick Off 3.00pm

Seat Tickets are now on sale at the ticket office price £10 each.

There is no standing accommodation available.

TRAVELLING BY COACH

Executive Coaches depart Boundary Park 11.00am

Return Fare: £9.00

Standard Coaches depart Boundary Park

11.00am

Return Fare: £7.50

TRAVELLING BY CAR

M6 South to Junction 2. Take the A4600 and follow signs for "City Centre". Follow this road for approximately 3 miles and just under the railway bridge turn right at traffic lights into Swan Lane. The stadium is on the left.

QPR v ATHLETIC

Monday 27th December, 1993 Kick Off 3pm

Seat tickets are now available at the ticket office - Price £12 in the School End of the ground. There is no standing accommodation available.

TRAVELLING BY COACH

Executive Coaches depart Boundary Park 9am

Return Fare: £14

Standard Coaches depart Boundary Park 8am

Return Fare: £12

TRAVELLING BY CAR

■ 1 South to A406 North Circular Road for V Neasden. Turn left 3/4 mile on A404 following signs Harlesden, then Hammersmith, past White City Stadium and right into White City Road, then left into South Africa Road.

SHEFFIELD UNITED V ATHLETIC Saturday 1st JANUARY, 1994 Kick Off 3.00pm

Seat tickets are now on sale at the ticket office Price £14. Standing is by payment at the turnstiles on the day -\$8.50 each

TRAVELLING BY COACH

Executive Coaches depart Boundary Park 12.45pm

Return Fare: £5.50

Standard Coaches depart Boundary Park

12.45pm

Return Fare: £4.50

TRAVELLING BY CAR

62 Eastbound to Junction 29 to join M1 South, Leave M1 at Junction 34 and join A6109 towards Sheffield Town Centre. In 3 miles turn left and take 4th exit at roundabout into Sheaf Street. Take 5th exit at second Roundabout into St. Mary's Way and in one mile turn left into Bramall Lane.

From Oldham via Grasscroft and Greenfield take A635 (Dovestones) through Halmfirth to pick up A629 (South). Continue with A629 and change to A61. Continue towards Sheffield Town Centre and take the Ring Road A6134 continue to roundabout at Bramall Lane/St Mary's Gate Junction.

EVENING CHRONICLE

Oldham born and read

SWINDON TOWN

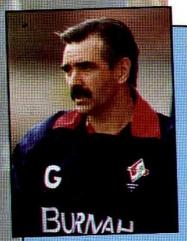
Swindon Town, our welcome visitors to Boundary Park for this evening's FA Carling Premiership League game, recorded their first-ever victory in top-class League competition three weeks ago when they defeated Queen's Park Rangers by a goal to nil at The County Ground.

The all-important goal came from recent signing from Wycombe Wanderers, Keith Scott, who has already made a name for himself with the 'Robins' fans. Manager John Gorman was certainly a delighted man after that hard-earned - and certainly most welcome - first victory and he said afterwards: "We've been waiting so long for that - now hopefully we can go on to better things. The spirit within the club is still great; the players themselves are brimming in confidence - they have been all season despite some unfavourable results - and I am sure we can go from strength to strength and start to climb the table. I know we've played some excellent football so far this season, and have not always got what we deserved. Admittedly our supporters have been bitterly disappointed (like ourselves) that our efforts out on the park haven't produced the goods, but I am now hoping that 1994 will bring a far better return for our efforts." Yes, indeed, Swindon waited a fairly long time for that elusive first Premiership win. It arrived in their 16th match and over 14,000 dedicated fans cheered that success. But then soon after they came down to earth, losing 3-0 at Elland Road against Leeds United.

Earlier in the season John Gorman's men had battled desperately hard - at home and away - to gain results - this after losing the services of defender Colin Calderwood (sold to Tottenham) and their player-manager Glenn Hoddle (now boss of Chelsea) and not too long ago they allowed their influential midfielder Micky Hazard to return to White Hart Lane.

In front of their diehard supporters they lost to ourselves (0-1), to Liverpool (1-5), Manchester City (1-3), Blackburn Rovers (1-3) and Aston Villa (1-2) and have drawn against Newcastle (2-2), Everton (1-1) and Ipswich Town (2-2).

On their travels they started off by losing 3-1 at Sheffield United, and since then Swindon have generally struggled, but in all fairness, now and again they have come mighty close to snatching dramatic victories. They've shared the points at Norwich (0-0), West Ham (0-0) and Tottenham (1-1), but lost at Southampton (1-5), Manchester United (2-4 - after a terrific fight), Wimbledon (0-3) and as stated, at Leeds (their last away trip). Swindon Town come to Boundary Park tonight seeking to avenge that 1-0 defeat they suffered against the Latics back in mid-August - and there is no doubt that they will be full of vim and vigour following some fine displays in recent weeks. It should be a very interesting six-pointer.



MANAGER - John Gorman

Scotsman John Gorman was born in Winchburgh, West Lothian in August 1949 and as a player (occupying the left-back position in the main) he served, in turn, with Celtic (his first professional club) Carlisle United (whom he joined from Parkhead in September 1970), Tottenham Hotspur (from November 1976), Leyton Orient and finally Swindon Town, taking over as assistant-manager at The County Ground before being appointed team manager (in succession to Glenn Hoddle) in June of this year.

In all competitions, John - a strong, forecful player, always giving 100 per-cent each and evey time he took the field accumulated well over 250 Football League and F.A. Cup appearances 229 of which

came in the League for Carlisle - and he was no doubt instrumental (behind his former boss, Hoddle) in helping Swindon climb into the F.A. Carling Premiership - albeit via the Wembley play-offs where they beat Leicester City 4-3 in a cracking final - at the end of last season. John is a honest-to-goodness 'pro' who battles to the



THE PLAYERS

The squad of players from which manager Gorman will choose his team to take on the Latics today is as follows (listed in A-Z order):

Welsh international left-back **Paul Bodin** is in his second spell with the club, having returned to The County ground from Crystal Palace for £225,000 in 1992. A penalty-expert, he had the misfortune to miss a vital spotkick for Wales in a recent World Cup qualifier against Romania, but quickly put that behind him by netting from the spot in his next game for Swindon v. Ipswich.

Fraser Digby, the former Manchester United goalkeeper, cost Swindon just £32,000 seven years ago. An England youth and U/21 international he was on loan to the Latics in 1985-86 and has now appeared in more than 300 senior games as a professional.

The versatile **Terry Fenwick** can play at right-back, centre-half or in midfield.



ANDY MUTCH

The former England international (20 caps) appeared in the 1982 F.A. Cup Final for Q.P.R. and has also served with Tottenham Hotspur and Crystal Palace, his first club. He has now made in excess of 500 senior appearances as a 'pro.'

Jan Aage Fjortoff, the
Norwegian World Cup star,
could soon be heading back
'home' following the signing
of Keith Scott from Wycombe.
The tall striker cost £650,000
from Rapid Vienna in the
summer, but has failed to do
the business in the top flight.

Nicky Hammond, signed on a free transfer from Arsenal in 1987, is the reserve 'keeper at The County ground and has so far amassed 50 League appearances as a 'pro.'

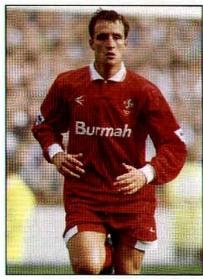
Kevin Horlock plays in defence or midfield and joined Town from West Ham on a 'free' in 1992. He had 18 outings last term.

Martin Ling, the former Exeter City and Southend United midfielder, has already netted around 60 goals in more than 330 League games. He is also in his second spell with the club whom he joined 'second time round' in 1991.

Thirty-one year old Scottish midfield grafter Ross

MacLaren is fast approaching the personal milestone of 500 League games - amassed with Shrewsbury Town, Derby County and Swindon, whom he joined in 1988 for £165,000.

Craig Maskell is also in sight of a League milestone - 100 goals. He has already topped 200 appearances in the



NICKY SUMMERBEE

competition after starting his career with Southampton. He has also served with Huddersfield Town and Reading and joined Swindon in a player-exchange deal in 1992.

John Moncur, an ex-Spurs trainee, is the midfield dynamo. He was snapped up for £80,000 in 1992 and had an excellent season last term, starring in the vital Wembley play-off final against Leicester City.

Andy Mutch was added to the attack costing £250,000 from Wolverhampton Wanderers, the club where he and Steve Bull had drawn up a terrific understanding in the space of six years. Formerly with Southport, Mutch has also passed the century mark in League goals.

Defender Nicky Summerbee, the son of the former England, Swindon and Manchester City winger, Mike, also did well last term and he has now played in more than 100 games for the club whom he joined in 1989.

PLAYER	AGE	POSITION	SIGNED	PREVIOUS CLUB
Digby, Fraser b. Sheffield, 23.4.67	26	Goal	1986	Manchester U.
Hammond, Nicky b. Hornchurch, 7.9.6	26 7	Goal	1987	Bristol Rovers
Bodin, Paul b. Cardiff, 13.9.64	29	Full-back	1992	Crystal Palace
Horlock, Kevin b. Bexley, 1.11.72	21	Defender	1992	West Ham
MacLaren, Ross b. Edinburgh, 14.4.6	31 2	Utility	1988	Derby County
Middleton, Lee b. Nuneaton, 10.9.70	23)	Defender	1992	Coventry City
Murray, Edwin b. Ilford, 31.8.73	20	Defender	1991	Y.T.S.
Summerbee, Nicky 2 b. Altrincham, 26.8.7		Defender	1989	Y.T.S.
Taylor, Shaun b. Plymouth, 26.3.63	30	Defender	1991	Exerter City
Viveash, Adrian b. Swindon, 30.9.69	24	Defender	1988	Y.T.S.
Whitbread, Adrian 2 b. Epping, 22.10.71	2	Defender	1993	Peterborough
Berkley, Austin b. Dartford, 28.1.73	20	Midfield	1992	Gillingham
Moncur, John b. Stepney, 22.9,66	27	Midfield	1992	Tottenham Hot.
Nijholt, Luc b. Amsterdam, 29.7.		Midfield	1993	Motherwell
OʻSullivan, Wayne 1 b. Cyprus, 25,2,74	9	Midfield	1993	Y.I.S.
Fjortoff, Jan b. Norway, 10.1.67	26	Striker	1993	Rapid Vienna
Hamon, Chris b. Jersey, 27.4.70	23	Forward	1992	Aldershot
Ling, Martin b. West Ham, 15.7.60		Forward	1991	Southend
Maskell, Craig b. Aldershot, 10.4.68		Striker*	1992	Reading
Mutch, Andy b. Liverpool, 28.12.63		Striker .	1993	Wolverhampton
Scott, Kevin b. London, 10.6.67	26	Striker	1993	Wycombe Wds.
White, Steve	34	Striker	1983	Bristol Rovers

b. Chipping Sodbury, 2.1.59

Dutchman **Luc Nijholt**, a £175,000 buy from Motherwell in the summer, has been in and out of the team this season, after having previously made over 100 appearances for the Scottish club. He started his senior career with Basle O.B. Striker Kevin Scott joined Swindon from Wycombe last month for £200,000 (replacing the Australian World Cup star, **Dave Mitchell**, who has gone out to Millwall) and immediately started to repay some of that money by scoring in his first two outings for his new club - against lpswich and Q.P.R. An alert player with an eye for goal, he will have to be watched, and marked, closely this evening.

Tall centre-back **Shaun Taylor**, an ever-present last season, loves to come forward for free-kicks and corners. Last season he netted 12 goals from a defensive berth and has already figured on the scoresheet this term. He cost £200,000 from Exeter City in 1991 and has now played around 250 times for the Robins.

Centre-half **Adrian Whitbread** was secured from First Division Peterborough United in the summer for £500,000, but injury has caused him to miss quite a few games this season. He is now back to full fitness though and could well figure in the action tonight.

Steve White, 35 next month, has been scoring goals at all levels for 16 years. He started with Bristol Rovers back in 1976 and has since served with Luton Town (2 separate spells), Charlton Athletic, Lincoln City, Bristol Rovers (again) and Swindon Town, who signed him in 1986.

DID YOU KNOW?

- In March 1912 Swindon Town lost to Barnsley in the F.A. Cup semi-final at Stamford Bridge.
- 57 years later they reached the League Cup Final after beating Burnley (in a replay). This was, in fact, the 'Robins' first visit to Wembley - and they celebrated in style, beating the favourites Arsenal 3-1 with Don Rogers scoring twice. At the time Swindon were a Third Division side while the 'Gunners' were highly-rated in the top flight!
- The first man to score 4 goals in a Third Division game was Swindon's brilliant inside-forward Harold Fleming who did the trick playing against Luton Town on 28th August 1920. Swindon won the game 9-1.

PAST MEETINGS

the 'Latics' v. the 'Robins'. There have been 17 I previous League meetings between the two teams and at the minute this is our record against the team from Wiltshire:

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	Α
Home	8	3	3	2	15	15
Away I	9	2	3	4	12	20
Totals	17	5	6	6	27	35

The last four clashes here at Boundary Park have produced a total of 20 goals. The results have gone (Latics' score first) 3-2, 2-2, 2-2 and 4-3, the latter taking place in March 1988 when a crowd of just 5,203 saw Andy Ritchie (2, one a penalty), Frankie Bunn and Roger Palmer score for the 'Latics.' Swindon's last victory on Oldham soil occurred more than 25 years ago - in October 1968 - when they won 3-2 in the Third Division before an audience of 4,238.

DOWN THE YEARS. 10 Years ago - December 1983

A goal by Paul Heaton from the penalty spot was enough to give the 'Latics' a hard earned 1-0 home win over Barnsley in a Second Division match which attracted a crowd of under 5.500. This was Latics' third win on the trot and for Heaton it was his second success from the spot this season. Down in Wiltshire, Swindon beat Doncaster Rovers 2-1 at home in the 'old' Third Division; Belfast-born Jimmy Quinn (now doing the business with Reading) and ex-Portsmouth star Leigh Barnard were their scorers in front of 3,545 freezing fans.

20 Years ago - 24th December 1973

Despite a good strike from winger George McVitie, the Latics still went down 2-1 at Huddersfield before a crowd of 8,704. This reverse ended a run of nine games without defeat for the Latics. Swindon Town were held to a 1-1 home draw by Fulham in the Second Division. The 'Robins' were having a tough time and they had an even tougher winter, and spring, eventually being relegated along with Crystal Palace and Preston.

30 Years ago - 30th December 1963

A fine strike by Jim Bowie and an own-goal from Jimmy Scoular gave the Latics a 2-0 home F.A. Cup win over Bradford P.A. watched by 17,584 fans. In the 3rd round it was Ipswich Town (away) for Athletic and out they went, beaten 6-3 by the First Division team. Swindon, meanwhile, were playing at Swansea in a Second Division match and they came away from the Vetch Field pointless after losing 3-0 before a 6,000 crowd.

LATIC	S	R()LL	-C	ALI	
	1993 APS	94 GLS	LATICS CA	AREER GLS	OTHER CA	AREERS GLS
NEIL ADAMS Stoke 23.11.66	5(4) 3	0	109(35) 22 (5)	23	48(4) 16(2)	4
ANDY BARLOW Oldham 24.11.65	3(2) 2	0	244(15)	5	3	0
DARREN BECKFORD Manchester 12,05.67	5(2) 2	2	1i(3) 2	5 1	238(14) 33(1)	85 14
DAVID BERESFORD Heywood 11.11.76	0(1) 0	0	0(1) 0	0	0	0
PAUL BERNARD Edinburgh 30.12.72	17 4	3	66(1) 12(2)	14 3	0	0
MARK BRENNAN Rossendale 04 10.65	6	0 0	20	2	238(11) 46(1)	28 7
JOHN EYRE Cumberside 09.10.74	1(1) 0	0	1(1)	0	0	0
CRAIG FLEMING Halifax 06.10.71	18 -3	0	69(5) 12(1)	1 0	56(1) 1(2)	0
PAUL GERRARD Heywood 22.1.73	10(1)	0	35(1) 4	0	0	0
GUNNAR HALLE	17 3	1	86 6	6 1	264(21) 21	18 2
JON HALLWORTH Stockport 26, 10, 65	2	0 0	136 30	0	47 12	0
NICK HENRY Liverpool 21.02.69	10	0	184(7) 40(3)	16 6	0	0
RICK HOLDEN Skipton 09.09.64	5 2	0	134 25	19 5	117 22	24
RICHARD JOBSON Hull 09.05.63	15 3	1 0	135(1) 18	6 3	200(4)	19 1
LANCE KEY Keffering 13.05.68	2	0	2	0	0	0
CHRIS MAKIN Manchester 08.05.73	5(1) 2	0	5(1) 2	0	15 0	2 0
NEIL MCDONALD Wallsend 02, 11,66	1	0 0	18(6) 3	1 0	254(27) 58(2)	27 7
MIKE MILLIGAN Manchester 20.02.67	17 3	0	258(1) 49(1)	23 4	16(1) 5(1)	1
IAN OLNEY Luton 17.12.69	10 1	1 0	42(2)	12 0	62(26) 22(3)	16 5
ROGER PALMER	1(1)	0	419(37)	141	22(9)	9

KEY TO INFORMATION IN LATICS ROLL CALL

1st line = League Games 2nd line = Cup Games

Manchester 30.11.59 0(1)

NEIL POINTON

Warslip Vale 28,11.64

Manchester 28.11.60

Dumbarton 16,10.60

Birmingham 25.10.73

STEVE REDMOND

Liverpool 02.11.67

GRAFME SHARP

NEIL TOLSON

GARY WALSH

Wigan 21.03.68

ANDY RITCHIE

Cup career figures include FA Cup and Footbal League knock-out-competitions. Other career figures include Scotish League and Cup appearances and games while on loan from Latics. (Gunnar Halle includes Norwegian Cup and League games).

0

0

0

0

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3

10(3)

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0

58(10)

40(2)

44(3)

7(1)

157(16)

24

72(4)

16(1)

0(3)

0

16

3

0

n

20

24

4

0

0

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7(3)

328(7)

231(4)

45

235(23)

40(5)

243(19)

124(5)

0

76

128

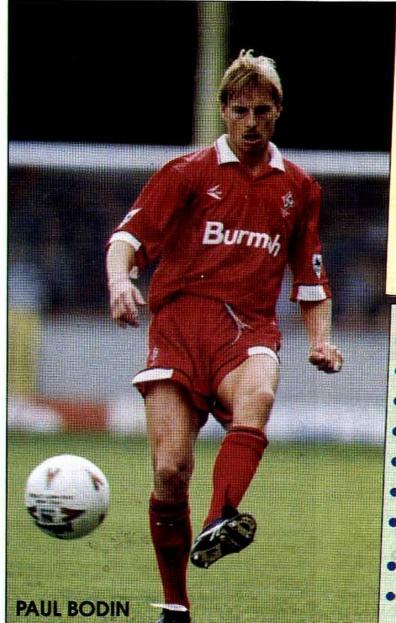
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SWINDON'S LEADING SCORERS 1983-93

1983-84	Alan Mayes	17
1984-85	Colin Gordon	17
1985-86	Charlie Henry	18
1986-87	Steve White	15
1987-88	Jimmy Quinn	21
1988-89	Duncan Shearer	14
1989-90	Duncan Shearer	
1990-91	Duncan Shearer	
1991-92	Duncan Shearer	
1992-93	Craig Maskell	10
		17

SWINDON'S RECORDS

- Club Founded 1881; joined League 1920 (Div. 3 S)
- Biggest League win 9-1 v. Luton (August 1920)
- Heaviest League defeat 0-9 at Torquay (March 1952)
- Swindon lost 10-1 to Manchester City in FA Cup, 1930
- Most appearances for club 889 by John Trollope (1960-81)
- Most goals for club 230 by Harry Morris (1926-33)
- Won League Cup in 1969, Anglo-Italian Cup in 1970 and 4th Division Championship in 1986.
- Record attendance 31,897 v. Arsenal, F.A. Cup, 1972
- 1993-94 capacity of the County Ground - 18,132



"UNITED DIDN'T WANT GARY WALSH CUP-TIED SO I HAD TO PLAY"

between two

players striving for

the number one

position"

Jon Hallworth's season so far has been a bit of a disaster. After reclaiming his first team spot he thought things were looking up. "It hadn't gone exactly according to plan, but when I got back in for the Swansea game I thought I had turned the corner." I felt my form was good but then came the injury against City "

That game ended 1-1 and despite Jon's brave efforts City scrambled a last gasp equaliser, a goal Jon remains adamant he would have saved had it not been for his thigh injury. "The ball would have been cleared up field under normal circumstances, but obviously the injury restricted my movements. It was very disappointing especially so because at the time we were on course for a valuable away win".

Since then its been frustration but he did return at Tranmere Rovers "It wasn't an ideal situation but really one that was forced upon us. I think everyone could see I wasn't 100% fit but United didn't want Gary Walsh to become cup tied so I had to play". The injury still remains a problem both for Joe Royle and for Jon "I've been on the bench when still not quite ready but it's a calculated gamble which under the circumstances has had to be taken" Perhaps appropriately Jon was talking during a return to his former club loswich Town, he spent seven years at Portman Road and recalls the time there with affection. "They "Rivalry exists are a similar club to Latics in

Of his time at Boundary Park Jon has had his ups and downs suffering the disappointment of missing out on a Wembley appearance when former *keeper Andy Rhodes was preferred - and the wrist injury he suffered last season which ultimately gave Paul Gerrard the chance to establish himself as first choice. "It's a difficult situation being a

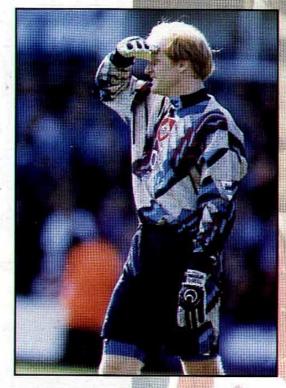
many ways and it's great to

see both teams now

competing in the

Premiership."

goalkeeper, you're either in or out, there's no in-between and quite naturally rivalry exists between the two players striving for the number one position, and I suppose ultimately at the moment whoever gets fit first is likely to be given a chance."



It all started for Jon when he was eight years old "Nobody else wanted to be in goal so I drew the short straw, enjoyed it and the rest is history". Stockport born Jon decided to leave his native town to take up the offer at lpswich despite interest being shown from several local clubs.

> They were not one of the big clubs but I felt I would be given a chance, and they had an excellent youth policy, at one time ten of the players in the first team squad had all gone through the youth team".

In the early years Jon's favourite "keeper was City's Joe Corrigan".

massive man who came good after a shaky start". Pat Jennings is another member of the goalkeepers society whom Jon also admired. When I reminded Jon that someone said you have to be mad to be a 'keeper back came the response "Who ever said it wasn't a bad judge."

Jon Hallworth talking to Clubcall's Jack Dearden on route to Ipswich.

Don,t forget for all the latest news from **Boundary Park ring Latics** Clubcall 0891 12 11 42



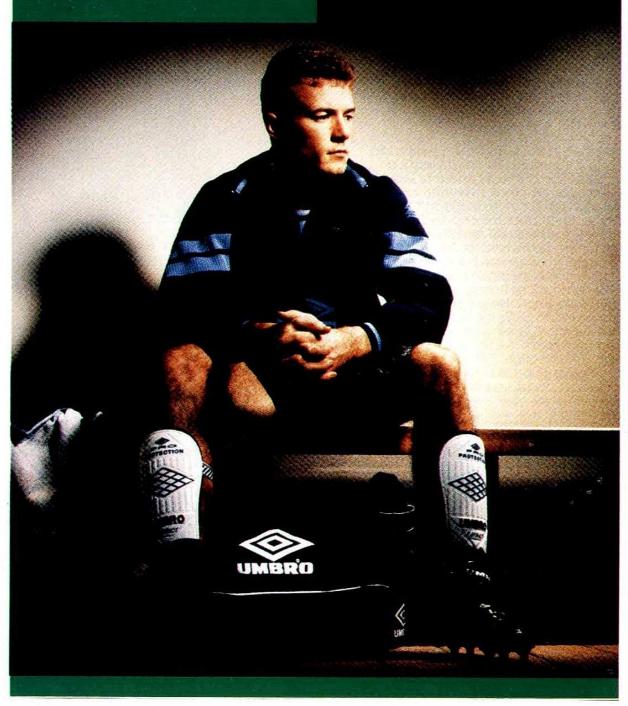
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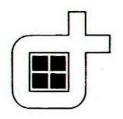
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NEWSDESK...

'LOOKERS PLAYER OF THE MONTH'

The November Lookers Player of the Month award will be presented by Graham Parry, the General Manager of Lookers Vauxhall at Park Road in Oldham, prior to the kick off.

It was not a particularly good month for us with only one win in the Premiership and going out of the Coco-Cola Cup at Tranmere, but it looks like it will be defenders who will be in contention for the award with Craig Fleming, Steve Redmond and Chris Makin all being in contention.

OLE BJORN AGAIN



Ole Bjorn
Sundgot, the
Norwegian Under
21 international
who had trials with
the club last
season, has
returned for a
further period.

Ole has been sidelined after undergoing an operation on knee ligaments

five months ago, but the club are keen to sign him if he proves his fitness. He made his first appearance in the Reserves game against Stoke City last week.

SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION

There are still a few tickets left for the Grand Race Night on MONDAY 13th DECEMBER in the CLAYTON ARMS.

Horses are priced at £3 with a one in eight chance of winning a bottle of spirits.

Entrance only is £1.50 for members and £2 for non-members: which includes a pie and peas supper.

Tickets are available from John Stanley on 061 620 0326 or John Clegg on 061 652 6189. Membership is now due for renewal so contact John Stanley to renew your membership and to receive news of a unique free offer from a local snooker and leisure club.

£20 FOR YOU

f you are the person photographed here you have won yourself a £20 voucher to spend in Latique Sport and Leisurewear.

To claim your prize take this programme along to the shop between 9am - 5pm Monday - Friday.



DEBUTS

The two most recent signings, Norwegian International defender Tore Pedersen and striker Sean McCarthy made their first appearanc in a Latics squad last Saturday at Ipswich.

Tore a £550,000 signing from S.K. Brann has played the last 30 International games for Norway and has signed a three and a half year contract with the club.

If took a similar fee to sign striker Sean from Bradford City with Neil Tolson moving in the opposite direction in part exchange. Sean has been a prolific goalscorer with Bradford and previously with Plymouth Argyle.

It is expected, injuries permitting, that both players will make their home debut in tonight's game.



Tore Pedersen



Sean McCarthy

TONIGHTS CHARITY COLLECTION

Dear Supporter,

May I in the first instance that you all for your kind donations given prior to the match tonight.

The Sea Cadet Corps is an independent youth organisation for girls and boys, aged from 10-18 years old. It is based on the traditions of the Royal Navy with which the Corps have strong links.

The Oldham Unit based in Derker St., are a very active Unit, with a membership of over forty Cadets, they meet twice weekly at their Unit Headquarters on Mondays and Thursdays from

1915 to 2115 hours, and new members are always welcome.

POSTBAG

Dear Editor.

I've been a season ticket holder at Latics along with my two sons, Andrew & Matthew, for a few years now.

I left the North East some 30 years ago and I am delighted to see the success which Kevin Keegan's team are enjoying, so it was with mixed emotions that I watched our last home game against Newcastle.

I wanted Latics to win because we need the points, but in the end had to agree with Joe Royle's comments that Newcastle will be there or thereabouts at the end of the season if they continue to play as at present.

But what about Latics, I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say I want to see them in the Premier League next season. Surely those Geordie supporters showed us up, where were the voices encouraging Latics.

Spellbound we might have been but if Latics are to climb away from their present position we have to find our voices and give the lads some vocal encouragement - all the way through the game.

So come on, start today, get behind the lads, we showed last season we can compete with the best of them. Come on everybody lets lift our team and help them to get on winning ways again.

Yours sincerely

Mr Ian Sturrock (Geordie at Heart, Latics by Adoption)

BAMFORD, ROCHDALE

HAVE YOU GOT YOUR TICKET

Saturday's game against Blackburn Rovers is an all ticket match.

No tickets will be sold on the day of the game so you must make sure you purchase by Friday of this week.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Saturday's game against Blackburn is an all ticket match and it was the original intention of the club to allocate just the large section of the Rochdale Road Stand to Blackburn.

However the sale of tickets in the small section of the stand to Latics fans has been rather disappointing and the fact that demand for tickets in Blackburn is high the club has now decided to let Blackburn take the whole of the Rochdale Road Stand.

In view of this we need to re-allocate seats for the few fans who have already purchased tickets in the Rochdale Road Stand. Therefore we ask that they call at the ticket office as soon as possible so that a seat amongst Latics fans can be found for them.



PREMIER STARLINE WINNER

Paying by Bank Direct Debit is probably the easiest way of paying Premier Starline subscriptions. By signing just one instruction mandate to your bank, you can be sure your seven numbers are in the Starline weekly draw competition each and every week with no possibility of forgetting to pay, or missing a collector etc.

Paying through his bank account is what Mr D Edwards of Royton decided to do just over a year ago. His persistence paid off recently as he scooped the £1000 jackpot on week seven of Starline in November.

He is pictured here flanked by Paul Gerrard and Andy Barlow as they hand him the famous cheque at the recent home game against Norwich City

JOIN PREMIER STARLINE RING 061 627 1802.



NEWSDESK

"IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT ANY PERSON INVOLVED IN FOOTBALL HOOLIGANISM PLEASE CALL THE NATIONAL CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, FOOTBALL UNIT ON 0800 5 15495. YOUR CALL WILL BE TREATED IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE".

GOOD REPORT

It is always interesting to learn what people think about the Latics Matchday programme and it is gratifying to all concerned with the production of it when an authority on programmes compliment the club.

This is what the magazine 'PROGRAMME MONTHLY' have done in their November issue. In their review of club programmes this is what they said about our production:

40 large pages, £1.20, 14.5 adverts, full colour throughout. This was a disappointment last season, but there has been considerable improvement, and it is now a modern, bright and positive production. Unusually, there is probably more to read in the second half than in the first, and the overall impression of reading matter is good. Design is excellent, Unusual, too, to see an action shot on the back page (teams are on the inside back). Probably not an award winner, but an extremely good programme nonetheless.

Editor: We hope everyone is of the same opinion.

WHEN ARE WE OPEN

The Club Shop, Latique Sport and Leisurewear will be open on a few evenings leading up to Christmas.

To help you organise your shopping schedules make a note of the following times when you will be able to shop at Latique.

Tuesday 14th December 9am - 7pm (Latics 1994 calendar personal signing session by players) 6pm - 7pm 7pm 1hursday 16th December 9am - 8pm 10am - 4pm 10am - 8pm 10am

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TICKET INFORMATION

ATHLETIC v MANCHESTER UTD WEDNESDAY 29TH DECEMBER 1993 KICK OFF 7.45pm

This is an all ticket match - <u>no tickets will be sold on</u> the day of the match.

Tickets will go on sale to members only on production of voucher No. 20 from Sunday 12th December 1993. Any remaining tickets in non-members areas will go on open sale to people producing local I.D. from Monday 20th December 1993.

Ticket Office open

Sunday 12th December 13/17 Dec 18th Dec 20th/23rd Dec Fri. 24th Dec Tuesday 28th Dec 10am - 4pm 9am - 5pm Mon./Fri. 9am - 12 noon Sat, 9am 5pmMon./Thurs. 9am - Noon 10am - 1pm

OBITUARY

It was with great sadness that we learned recently of the death of one of Latics loyal supporters.

41 year old Pam Jones, wife of local wrestler MartyJones, died on the 18th November aftera brave battle against cancer.

Pam had been a Season Ticket holder at Boundary Park for many years and the last match she attended was against

Southampton at the end of last season. She leaves a young son Matthew and daughter Becky and everyone at the club sends their sincere condolences to her family.

Financial goals.



The Royal Bank of Scotland

WHERE PEOPLE MATTER

1-5 Church Terrace, Oldham, OL1 3AU. Group manager: George D. Giles

WHAT'S GOING ON?...

World Cup finalists will be made to feel at home by their American hosts next year. Teams are to be placed in cities where they will be assured of ethnic support. World Cup spokesman Jim Trecker says: "We want to go as far as we can to create a festival atmosphere"

OFI Crete caused a sensation in the UEFA cup when they knocked out Atletico Madrid, 2-1 on aggregate. Atletico last season's Cup semi-finalists, lost 2-0 in Crete, but demanded a replay because they claimed one of OFI's goals should have been disallowed as the ball hadn't crossed the line. UEFA kicked their protest into touch.

Dutch ace Marco Van Basten's career is being threatened by injury following an operation on his ankle.

Aston Villa winger Tony Daley is being watched by a posse of English clubs following the collapse of his proposed transfer to Italian side Udinese.

Udinese wanted to change the original deal by taking Daley on loan until the end of the season and then paying only £1 million. Not surprisingly, Villa refused. Daley who missed most of last season through injury, admitted that he needed a new challenge. His Villa team-mate Dalian Atkinson has become a £3 million target for Spanish giants Real Madrid

QUESTION Time?

Lucozade Sport is the official sport drink of Oldham Athletic and you could be the lucky winner of an exclusive prize pack consisting of the following items.

- 24 cans or 21 foil packs of Lucozade Sport
- A Triathlon Bottle
- A Lucozade Sport T/ Shirt and a
- Lucozade Baseball Cap

The prize will be on offer in every match programme this season thanks to Lucozade Sport. To win this fabulous prize all you need to do is answer the following sport question.

Which former England International has recently been recruited to assist the FA International Committee in their search for an new England manager?

A) DON HOWE B)BOBBY ROBSON C)JIMMY ARMFIELD

Put your name and answer on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope and send it to: Lucozade Sport Quiz, Oldham Athletic AFC, Boundary Park, Oldham OL 1 2PA, together with your name address and contact telephone number, to arrive by Friday 17th December.







FANFILE

MARK TIMPERLEY

ADDRESS ... ESTURY VIEW, EWLOE, CLWYD, CH5 3RD

- Q. AGE ... 23
- Q. NUMBER OF YEARS SUPPORTING THE CLUB... 10
- Q. WHERE DO YOU NORMALLY SIT/STAND AT BOUNDARY PARK... LOOKERS PADDOCK
- Q. FAVOURITE PLAYER (PRESENT) ... ANDY RITCHIE
- Q. FAVOURITE PLAYER (PAST) ... ANDY RITCHIE
- Q. FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM... BLACKPOOL
- Q. BEST GOAL SCORED BY A LATICS PLAYER... ALL OF THE THREE GOALS SCORED ON THAT MAGICAL NIGHT V ARSENAL, LITTLEWOODS CUP 4TH ROUND 1989, WHAT A NIGHT THAT WAS!
- Q. FAVOURITE SPORTS PERSONALITY... ALAN HANSEN (TALKS A LOT OF SENSE)
- Q. SPORTS PERSONALITY WHO GETS ON YOUR NERVES... JIMMY HILL (TALKS A LOAD OF RUBBISH)
- Q. PLAYER YOU WOULD MOST LIKE TO SEE AT BOUNDARY PARK... RONALD KOEMAN
- Q. BEST OPPOSITION PLAYER SEEN AT BOUNDARY PARK... GUY WHITTINGHAM (WHEN HE PLAYED FOR PORTSMOUTH)
- Q. FAVOURITE STADIUM AND WHY... BOUNDARY PARK. WELL IT'S HOME ISN'T IT?
- Q. A FOOTBALL LAW YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE CHANGED AND WHY... IF A PLAYER BACKCHATS A REFEREE AFTER A FOUL, THE BALL SHOULD BE MOVED FORWARD 10 YARDS; SIMILAR TO RUGBY, IT'S VIRTUALLY ELIMINATED ARGUING IN THAT SPORT AND COULD DO THE SAME IN FOOTBALL.
- Q. WHO WILL FINISH CARLING PREMIERSHIP CHAMPIONS... HATE TO SAY IT IT BUT MAN UTD!
- Q. YOUR STAR PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE... TREVOR SINCLAIR (EX BLACKPOOL NOW QPR) LATICS PLAYER CRAIG FLEMING AND POSSIBLY - NEIL TOLSON (IF HE'S EVER GIVEN THE CHANCE!!!)
- Q. YOUR ALL TIME BEST LATICS TEAM... HALLWORTH, IRWIN, WARHURST, JOBSON, BARLOW, ADAMS, HOLDEN (RICK), RITCHE, PALMER, QUINN, REDFEARN.
- Q. FAVOURITE MATCH OF THE PAST... LATICS V ARSENAL, LITTLEWOODS CUP 4TH ROUND '89 IT WAS THE FIRST BIG GAME THAT SET THE PRESIDENCE FOR THE REST OF THAT 'PINCH ME' SEASON!!
- Q. IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE CHANGED AT BOUNDARY PARK... SETON STAND BACK TO TERRACING. A LOT OF THE ATMOSPHERE HAS BEEN LOST SINCE THE SEATING WAS PUT IN.
- Q. HOW COULD THIS PROGRAMME BE IMPROVED... NOTHING REALLY SPRINGS TO MIND. GOOD QUALITY & GOOD READ, KEEP IT UP.
- Q. WHAT WAS THE FIRST MATCH YOU REMEMBER SEEING LATICS PLAY... I THINK IT WAS AGAINST CAMBRIDGE CITY, IN THE 2ND DIV. WHEN THE SCHOOLKIDS IN THE OLDHAM AREA WERE GIVEN FREE TICKETS.
- Q. FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER FOR FOOTBALL... DAILY EXPRESS; BECAUSE THEY ALWAYS FEATURE THE RESERVES RESULTS ALONG WITH ALL THE OTHER FOOTBALL NEWS.
- Q. WHAT ARE YOUR OPINIONS OF FOOTBALL COVERAGE ON TV... NOT ENOUGH REGIONAL COVERAGE OF FOOTBALL.

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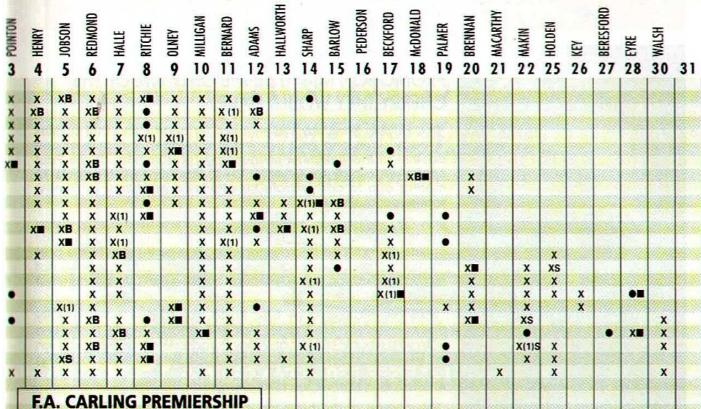
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CHELSEA	17	3	2	4	7	8	0	3	5	4	11	14
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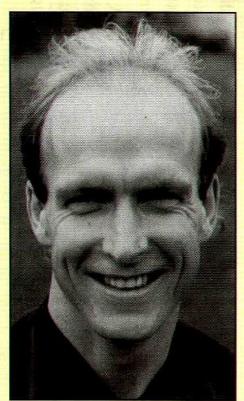


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"AT THE TIME I THOUGHT MISSING OUT ON PROMOTION MIGHT BE THE ONLY BITE OF THE CHERRY THEY WOULD HAVE"

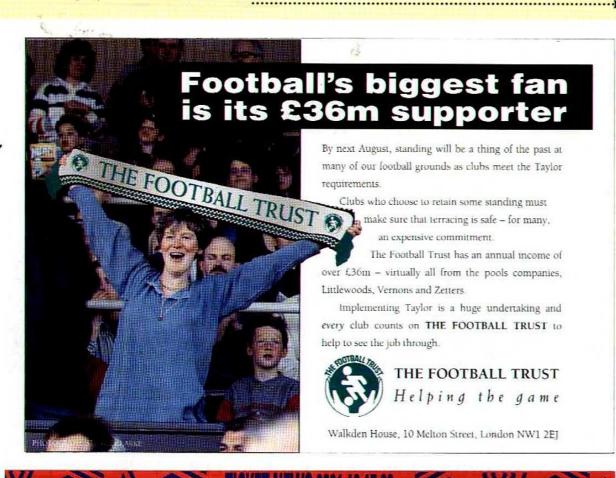
The Futcher twins have rarely been far apart - and that applies today. Ron and Paul live within a quarter of a mile of one another in the delightful surroundings of Holmfirth. While Paul continues to play for Grimsby Town, Ron hung up his boots 12 months ago to concentrate his efforts on establishing his new sportswear business.

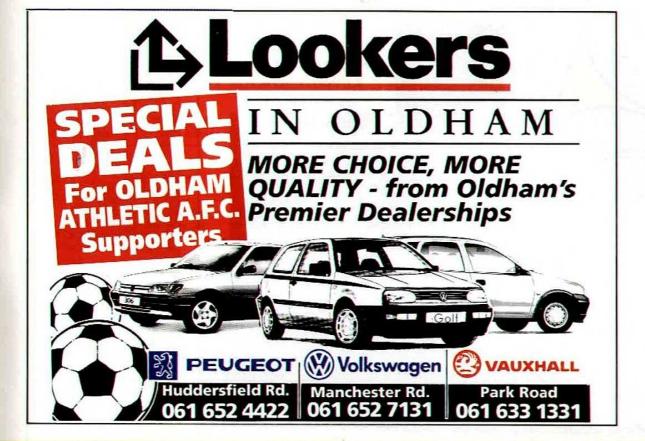
Ron (37) explained: "I run my own business from home selling brand sportswear throughout the North of England to retail outlets. "It has been hard establishing the business over the past 18 months, but it has been rewarding. "I must admit I have not missed football too much, although I have been asked to turn out for Tadcaster.

"They are managed by Cec Podd, the former Bradford City player, and I will give it a go. Their side includes Mark Ellis and Lee Palin with whom I played at Valley Parade. Ron can look back on an eventful career which included spells with 14 clubs including Minnesota Kicks, Portland Timbers and Tulsa Roughnecks in America and Dutch Club NAC Breda.

The careers of the twins ran in tandem early on as they were together at Chester, Luton Town and Manchester City. When things failed to work out at Maine Road, Ron decided to quit

English football and accept a three year deal with Minnesota. He had previously spent three summers on loan at the club and in all spent nine seasons playing in the North American Soccer League. The only reason he returned was because the NASL folded and he did not wish to play indoor soccer.Ron,





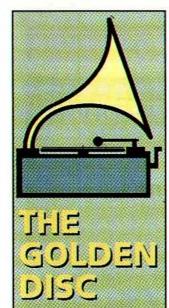
reflects on some marvellous memories of his time in the states. He said: "There was a great social side and it was family orientated - I enjoyed it immensely. "I was lucky to be there at the same time as the great players and appeared against Johan Cruyff, Johan Neeskins, Frans Beckenbauer, Bobby Moore and Pele. "They were all towards the end of their careers, but it was still a thrill. "While I was at Minnesota we had Charlie George, Don Mason, Willie Morgan, Geoff Barnett, Steve Heighway and Dave Johnson in our side. "We were averaging 34,000 and soccer really took off at that time. "It started to go wrong when more and more overseas players were imported causing bigger overheads. "Most teams were owned by a big concern and if they pulled the plug as happened, the club folded."

Ron returned home in 1985 making his home at Holmfirth which was ideal for his short stint at Barnsley which was followed by a £15,000 move to Boundary Park in July of that year. It didn't take long for Ron, a proven goalscorer throughout his career, to settle in at his new abode. A return of 30 goals in 65 first team appearances made Ron, who was nearly 30 years of age when he signed, a splendid short-term acquisition. And when it came to moving on Joe Royle even made a handsome profit as Bradford City splashed out £40,000. He said: "I loved it at Oldham and didn't have to leave as I

had only just signed a new two and a half year contract. "I was sent off twice within days of one another and the Chairman, who was on the FA disciplinary committee, didn't take it too well. "I think the club also needed the money so I left in the season they reached the play-offs." At the time I thought missing out on promotion might be the only bite of the cherry they would have. "Things started to snowball and the rest is history. I am pleased for "Big Joe" who I get on better with now than when I was at the club. "I occasionally go back with Mick McGuire, who does some scouting for the club, and we always get a friendly welcome."

Ron's career concluded with a tour of the lower divisions with Bradford, Port Vale, Burnley and Crewe. He said: ""I have helped take all the clubs to play-offs but have never managed to win any honours. "It was a case of arriving of leaving clubs at the wrong time. "I have enjoyed it all, apart from my time at Barnsley, and have no regrets. "The highlight was helping Port Vale win promotion and from a personal viewpoint the two hat-tricks I scored in the old First Division stand out. "I hit the first on my home debut for Luton Town against Wolves as an 18 year old and the second was for Manchester City at Chelsea.

Ron is married to Christine and the couple have three children Nicola (14) Natasha (10) and James (7).



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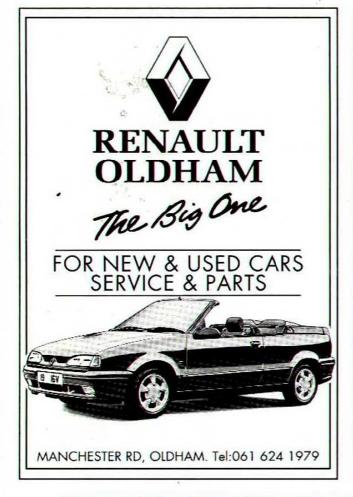
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BLACKBURN ROVERS

Kenny Dalglish brings his £23 million team to Boundary Park on Saturday. Rovers having beaten the Latics 1-0 at Ewood Park back in August.

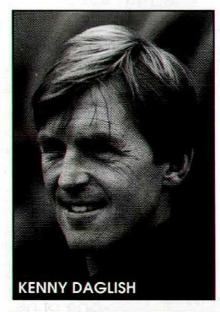
Blackburn, promoted to the top flight via the Wembley Play-off Final in 1992, had an excellent first season in the Premier League, finishing 4th in the table with 71 points...and they have carried on the good work this time round, as you can see from the respective League table on page 31 of your matchday programme.

Dalglish, and the club's multi-million pound chairman, Jack Walker, vowed to consolidate their position by bringing in quality players with the money required seemingly no problem!

And that's precisely what's happened.

Last month Dalglish recruited two England internationals in goalkeeper Tim Flowers from Southampton and David Batty from Leeds, to bring his total number of signings up to 25 since he took over the 'hot seat' back in October 1991. People say that you can't buy success...but Dalglish, Walker and Blackburn Rovers are doing their best to prove everyone wrong - aren't they?

Checking Rovers' away record this season, they have so far won at Chelsea (2-1), Manchester City (2-0), Liverpool (1-0) and Swindon Town (3-





1); they've drawn at Newcastle (1-1) and Leeds (3-3) and lost at Q.P.R. (0-1) and Ipswich (0-1). Generally speaking their form-rate has been very good especially 'up front'. Hot-shot Alan Shearer, a £3.6M signing from Southampton, is now fully fit again and banging in the goals; Mike Newell is doing likewise, accompanied by Kevin Gallacher and recent England cap Stuart Ripley, and Jason Wilcox is available as well. Their midfield is strong and combative with Batty, Tim Sherwood (ex-Norwich City) and Nicky Marker (signed from Plymouth) doing the business, along with former Chelsea star Graeme Le Saux, who can also play at leftback. In front of Flowers (who has taken over from Bobby Mimms), Dalglish, of late, has

relied on David May, the

Norwegian star Henning

Berg, Scotsman Colin Hendry and Alan Wright as his back four, but he can also call on the likes of Mark Atkins. veteran Irishman Kevin Moran and Andy Morrison (ex-Plymouth).

And remember, ex-Latic Paul Warhurst is still sidelined through injury!

Rovers are confident of holding onto a top four placing as 1993 gives way to '94, andbut Latics will be keen to make sure it is not at their expense. It should be a good game.

Tony Matthews



WHEN TRAINING'S OVER...

by TONY BUGBY

Striker Andy Ritchie is not a bad shot when it comes to golf. The Latics favourite has an unofficial handicap of 14 which makes him a handy player.

Andy, who is not a member of a club - hence the unofficial handicap - says he can usually play to 14, although when he is feeling below par it can go as high as 24. You have to go back to Andy's teenage days at Manchester United to discover his introduction to golf

Andy (33) explained: "The United players had an arrangement at the time that they could play at Davyhulme and the club picked up the bill. "Some of the lads invited me down and I was lucky enough to hit a few good shots so I carried on. "The game grabbed me and after a few rounds with borrowed clubs I decided to invest in my own set. "I had a boot contract with Puma who were tied up with Slazenger so they sorted me out with a set at a good price." It has been a case of have clubs will travel for Andy who has had spells at Brighton and Leeds before arriving at Boundary Park.

"Since moving to Oldham my golf clubs are now supplied by

Mitsubisha thanks to their Managing Director Martin Wild. He is a keen latics fan and represents Lancashire at golf.

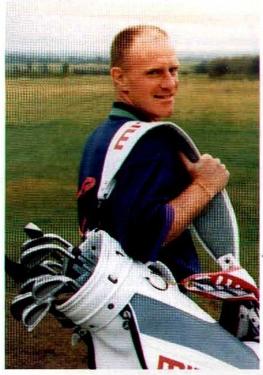
While he was with United he often played at Northenden where Sir Matt Busby was a member. The vast majority of the players at Brighton were golfers with Neil McNab, the former Tottenham and Manchester City midfielder, one of his regular partners.

At Leeds he often teamed up with Frank Gray and George McCluskie on the golf course. Quite a few of Andy's Latics team-mates are golfers with Norwegian Tore Pedersen the latest member of the set. Andy, who is a self-taught golfer said: "I like to play whenever I can, although that is not as much as Lwould like." We are quite lucky in getting a lot of time off, but it is time consuming especially when you have a young family."

There are times when Andy has a round with his teammates, although he admits it is not as often as he would like. He said: "Some of the lads live some distance away and it is a case of where and when to meet up as we are so far apart. "We will have to try and sort something out on a regular basis next summer."

Andy prefers to be out playing golf rather than watching tournaments on television. He said: "I like to have a look at the Open, but will not watch golf religiously. And I don't have any heroes who I look up to in the sport." Andy is kept busy at home by sons Greg (9) and Scott (5) who look unlikely to follow in their fathers' footsteps. He said "Scott says he would like to be a footballer, but neither like watching the game. They cannot concentrate for long enough. "Greg is interested in running and goes down to Oldham and Royton Harriers each week. "He has been to judo, karate and basketball but never really liked them. "Running is the first thing he has taken to and wants to go back to.





"Greg is thin and lean well suited to being a runner. He is always dashing round at speed, although he has taken us by surprise. "I was never a great runner, nor is my wife Sharon, so we wonder who he has inherited it off."

Andy's other interest is a gastronomic one, as he and Sharon love dining out. He said: "We have a broad taste ranging from Indian to Chinese and Japanese. "We also take the children out a lot for picnics.





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