

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE

£2.00

# Swindon

ISSUE 5



## TODAY'S VISITORS

All the latest information  
on Watford Football Club

## PLAYER PROFILE

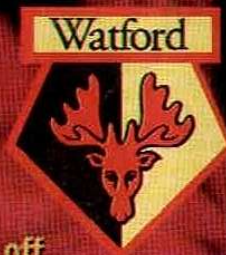
A closer look at Adam Willis

## PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND-UP

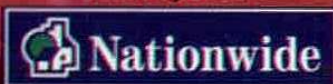
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## SWINDON VS WATFORD

Saturday 19th September 1998 3.00pm kick off



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# Welcome to the County Ground

**After a difficult week at Swindon Town, the club have come out the other end with six points from two games combined with some great football.**

Is it too early to mention that we haven't been beaten at home in the league? Perhaps, but we must start as we mean to go on and it would be great to make the County Ground a fortress to opposing teams.

There is nothing like beating local rivals, and we gave Oxford and Bristol City a thumping in the space of a week. This has been seen as the tide change for all of us. There is a noticeably better atmosphere around the ground, which is good for everyone - particularly the players.

This is proved by the performances of George Ndah and Iffy Onuora. When the pressure was on to produce some goals the two lads have each bagged three.

This afternoon we welcome the players, coaching staff, officials and supporters of Watford to the County Ground.

It appears that Graham Taylor and Watford have a love affair that will not die. Just like Vinnie Jones and Wimbledon, or Tony Adams at Arsenal, Watford just wouldn't be the same without him.

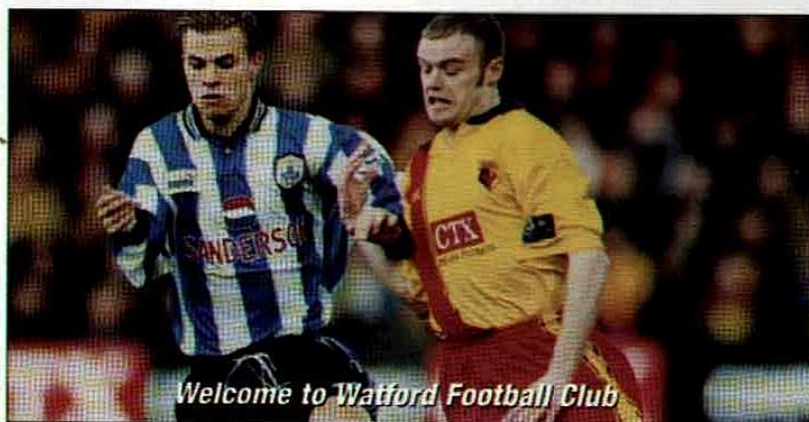
Since his return to Vicarage Road,

Taylor has revived his career. He has pushed aside turnips and Gary Lineker to put together a good side without spending millions. Their recent promotion has re-established Taylor as one of the best managers in league football. Watford's only problem is whether they have a goalscorer capable of troubling statisticians. Last season their top goalscorer was wing-back Peter Kennedy with 13 goals.

Well known names such as Ronnie Rosenthal now face competition from Carlisle front men Alan Smart and Nick Wright, plus Zairean international striker Michel Ngongue from Turkish club Samsunspor. But footballing historians may suggest that Taylor will not need new signings. When Watford last won promotion to the old First Division Taylor didn't spend a walnut and finished second to the mighty Liverpool.

Whatever the future holds for Taylor, you can never underestimate his sides and today is no different. With plenty of noise from the crowd to get the lads going, maybe we can continue the run of unbeaten home games!

We would like to remind all supporters that reserve games are now free for all. Our next reserve home game sees us take on Luton Town on Wednesday 23rd September, kick-off 7.15pm. It is a great opportunity to enjoy a good match and watch an interesting combination of first team players and the Town's promising youngsters.



*Welcome to Watford Football Club*

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**vs Watford**

**September 19th 1998**

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## Express Yourself

George Ndah describes his recent goals and the hard work the squad have been putting in to improve the matchday performance.



## Willis Up Close

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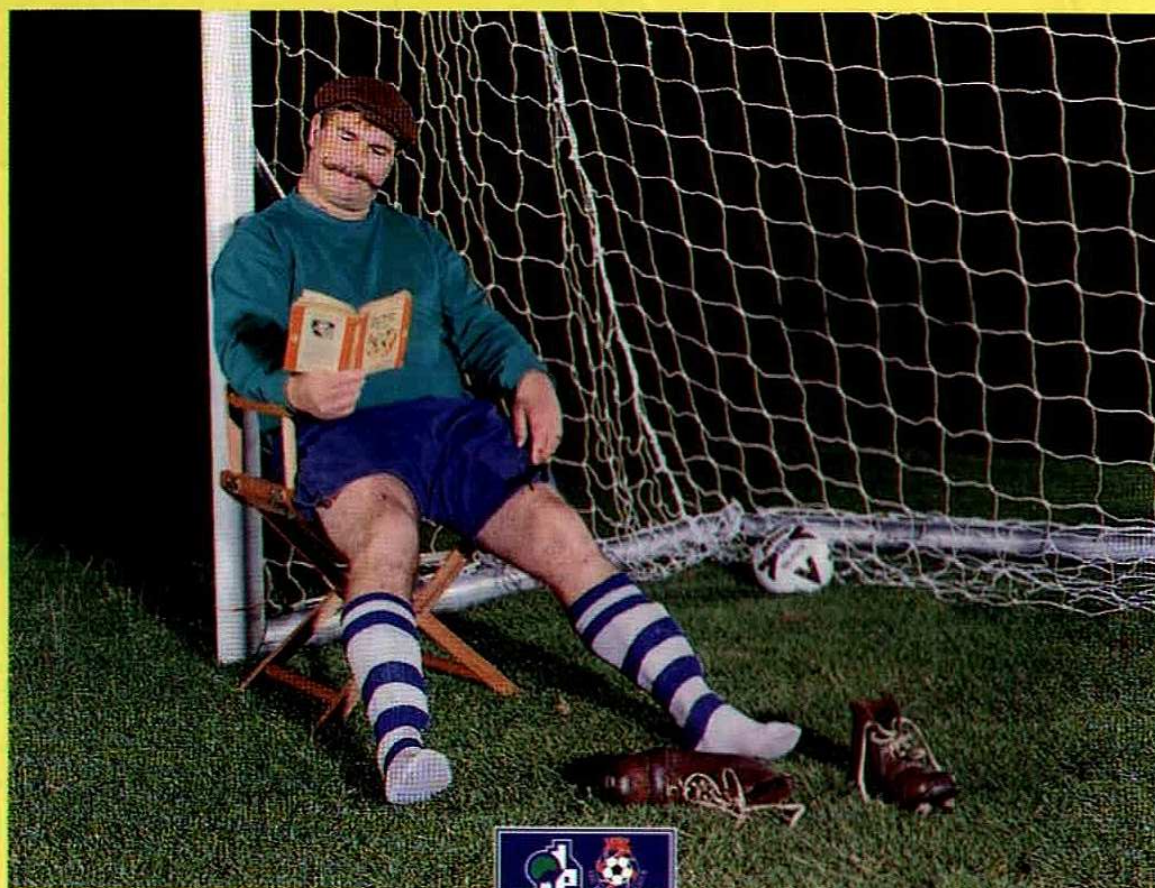
A Q&A Session with Adam Willis that looks back at his footballing past and finds out he is

**“smooth, gorgeous and modest!”**





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## NEXT MATCH

Steve McMahon's view  
(AWAY)

TRANMERE ROVERS  
Fri 25th Sept 1998



"It is back to my old stomping ground to face ex-Liverpool star John Aldridge. We must get an away win with this one."

# Manager STEVE McMAHON

The last week has been very unsettling at Swindon Town. Now we have to focus our thoughts on the season ahead and get ourselves into the top half of the league.

One thing is for sure the attitude of the players has been exceptional and it is they who deserve credit for the games we've won recently.

Since I last put pen to paper for the programme we've faced Oxford United and Portsmouth. It would be fair to say that these were two starkly differing performances.

Against Oxford we played well as a unit. The defence, midfield and forwards all did their job in the tense atmosphere of a local derby. In addition, we enjoyed a fabulous individual performance from Mark Walters. When you

combine all these things you have the ingredients for a cracking game and that is exactly what we got.

The 4-1 win was just what we needed to give the players some added

confidence and bring some atmosphere back to the County Ground.

It was just a shame we couldn't build on this with our trip to Portsmouth. The 5-2 scoreline tells the whole story: we created enough chances to win the game, but it was schoolboy defensive errors that cost us.

At this level you cannot afford to make mistakes in front of your own goal, if you do you will get punished.

That said, it was great to see Ndah and Onuora notch up a few more goals. The two strikers have been working very hard in training and on the pitch so the goals they score are richly deserved. If they continue in this vein they will be a big part in the success of the club, come the end of the season.

So our last two games have seen us go from the sublime to the ridiculous. Now we have to start getting some consistency against Watford and recapture our best form.

This league is about a whole season, not a couple of games, so we must start by stringing a few results together. When our two strikers grab a couple of goals the rest of the team must make sure that this means we earn the win rather than defeat.

I'd like to welcome my opposite number at Watford, Graham Taylor, to today's game. Graham is one of the great tactical managers and has shown this with Watford's promotion last season. You know that against his sides you are in for a very hard game and we are expecting no less this afternoon.

"One thing is for sure the attitude of the players has been exceptional and it is they who deserve credit for the games we've won recently."



# Today's visitors

# WATFORD



**This afternoon we welcome the players, supporters and staff of our friends and neighbours from Watford Football Club to the County Ground for this Nationwide League Division One game.**

We hope you all enjoy the game and have a safe journey home afterwards.

Certain football things belong together. Vinnie Jones and Wimbledon, Alan Ball and Portsmouth, Howard Kendall and Everton and, of course, Graham Taylor and Watford.

Since returning to Vicarage Road as General Manager in May 1996, bringing his former players Luther Blissett and Kenny Jackett with him as coaches, Taylor has seen his career come to life again more quickly than anything Viagra can manage.

Always regarded as a good club manager, Taylor's reputation - and more - was dragged through the mire after his unhappy spell as England manager and his standing was not helped by a brief period managing the 'revolving door' club, Wolves.

But since returning to his first love, Taylor has come good once again. In little over two years he has built an attractive and effective side, which took the Second Division by storm last season and has started the new campaign at the higher level in fine fettle.

The direct approach has not entirely disappeared, but it is mixed up with enough class and guile to make for a potent finished article, and all achieved without relying too heavily on Elton John's chequebook.

With a promising crop of young players coming through the ranks, Taylor can reflect happily on his side's start to life in Division One. The season kicked off with three straight wins - 2-1 v Portsmouth, 1-0 v Bradford and 4-1 v fellow new boys Bristol City.

Although form slipped away slightly after that, the Hornets were right back on track last Saturday when they turned over QPR's expensively assembled side 2-1 at Vicarage Road.

If there was a weakness in the side which stormed to promotion last season it was their lack of consistency in front of goal. It says much for the form of the likes of Jason Lee and Ronny Rosenthal that top scorer last term was wing-back Peter Kennedy, who netted 13 times.

Wary of the problems this lack of cutting edge may cause at the higher level, Taylor went shopping in the summer and snapped up the services of Carlisle pair Allan Smart and Nick Wright - for a combined fee of around £250,000 - as well as Zairean international Michel Ngonge from Turkish club Samsunspor.

Smart has started to repay the faith shown in him, scoring twice already this season, including last week's 85th minute winner against QPR, while Ngonge has also found the net, v Bradford.

Elsewhere, the midfield pairing of Micah Hyde and Richard Johnson looks a match for any in the division, while youngsters such as Clint Easton and Gifton Noel-Williams will both be hoping to add to their burgeoning reputations.

**Forward -  
Nathan Lowndes**



ford



# The team WATFORD

## ALEC CHAMBERLAIN

POSITION: **Goalkeeper**  
BORN: **20.06.64**  
AGE: **34**  
HEIGHT: **6ft 2in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Sunderland**

A £40,000 signing in July 1996, Alec won the Hornets' 'Player of the Year' during last year's promotion campaign. Began his professional career with Ipswich, but failed to make an appearance for the club before moving on to Colchester, Everton, Tranmere, Luton and Sunderland. Competent and completely unflappable at the back.

## CHRIS DAY

POSITION: **Goalkeeper**  
BORN: **28.07.75**  
HEIGHT: **6ft 2in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **C.Palace**

Former England U21 regular who moved to Vicarage Road in a £225,000 deal in July 1997. An excellent shot-stopper, Chris began with Spurs before moving to Palace in August 1996 and enjoying a season as the South London club's first-choice keeper before losing his place to Kevin Miller.

## DARREN BAZELEY

POSITION: **Full-back**  
BORN: **05.10.72**  
AGE: **25**  
HEIGHT: **5ft 10in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **From YTS**

Having missed the majority of last season with knee problems, this versatile and athletic player returned in time to play enough end of season matches to earn a Second Division Championship medal. A former England U21 cap, he is happy at right-back, on the wing or as a central striker.

## PETER KENNEDY

POSITION: **Wing-back**  
BORN: **10.09.73**  
AGE: **25**  
HEIGHT: **5ft 11in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Notts County**

A Northern Ireland 'B' international, Peter moved to Vicarage Road for a £130,000 fee in July 1997 and has become a firm favourite with the club's fans. Nominally a wing-back, it is a measure of his attacking skills that he finished the promotion campaign as the Hornets' top scorer, with 13 goals, thanks in no small part to his powerful long-range shot.

## KEITH MILLEN

POSITION: **Central Defender**  
BORN: **26.09.66**  
AGE: **31**  
HEIGHT: **6ft 2in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Brentford**

Having spent more than 10 years as a loyal club man with Brentford, it was something of a surprise when Keith transferred to Watford in March 1994 in a swap deal which took Barry Ashby in the opposite direction, with the Bees also receiving £65,000. Strong and solid in the centre of defence, his partnership with Robert Page was among the best in the Second Division last season.

## TOMMY MOONEY

POSITION: **Defender**  
BORN: **11.08.71**

AGE: **27**

HEIGHT: **5ft 11in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Southend**

Adaptable enough to play anywhere down the right hand side, Mooney missed just one League game last season as Watford stormed to the Division Two title. Began as a trainee at Aston Villa - under Graham Taylor - but started his League career with Scarborough, moving to Southend in 1993 and then onto Watford in March 1994. A tremendous competitor who never stops running and has an eye for goal.

## DEAN YATES

POSITION: **Central Defender**  
BORN: **26.10.67**  
AGE: **30**  
HEIGHT: **6ft 2in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Derby County**

Hugely experienced former England U21 international who was snapped up on a free transfer by Graham Taylor in July 1998. Possessing good control and vision, he likes to carry the ball out from defence looking to spark attacks, and has figured prominently in Watford's back line so far this season.

## JOHANN GUDMUNDSSON

POSITION: **Midfield**  
BORN: **07.12.77**  
AGE: **20**  
HEIGHT: **5ft 9in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Keflavik, Iceland**

An Icelandic international who impressed Graham Taylor during a trial period at Vicarage Road last season and was snapped up on transfer deadline day. Yet to make his debut for Watford, this exciting attacking midfielder is sure to figure as the season progresses.



ford



# The team WATFORD

## ALON HAZAN

POSITION: **Midfield**  
BORN: **14.09.67**  
AGE: **31**  
HEIGHT: **6ft**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Ironi Ashdod**

Vastly experienced utility man who has more than 60 Israeli caps to his credit and was signed for £200,000 in January 1998 to bolster the promotion charge. Recommended to Graham Taylor by compatriot Ronny Rosenthal, Hazan is a cultured ball player who has now fully recovered from the hamstring injury which limited him last season.

## MICAH HYDE

POSITION: **Midfield**  
BORN: **10.11.74**  
AGE: **23**  
HEIGHT: **5ft 9in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Cambridge**

Previously captain at the Abbey Stadium, Micah was taken on tour to Finland with Watford in the summer of 1997 and caught Graham Taylor's eye. A combative midfielder with good passing skills he cost the club £225,000.

## RICHARD JOHNSON

POSITION: **Midfield**  
BORN: **27.04.74**  
AGE: **24**  
HEIGHT: **5ft 10in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **From YTS**

Australian-born, hard-working midfielder who was regarded as Watford's 'most improved player' last

season, when he played more than 50 senior games for the club. A highly consistent midfielder, he is famed for his shooting from distance.

## STEVE PALMER

POSITION: **Utility/midfield**  
BORN: **31.03.68**  
AGE: **30**  
HEIGHT: **6ft 1in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Ipswich Town**

Utility man who earlier this season won an award from manager Graham Taylor for having played in all 14 shirts for Watford during 1997/98 - including number one. Nicknamed 'The Professor' at his only previous club, Ipswich Town, a reference to his having obtained a chemistry degree prior to signing professional at Portman Road. A tremendously hard-working player.

## JASON LEE

POSITION: **Forward**  
BORN: **09.05.71**  
AGE: **27**  
HEIGHT: **6ft 3in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Nott'm Forest**

Powerfully-built striker who was snapped up for a cut-price £200,000 in June 1997 and scored ten goals last season, including the one which clinched the Championship at Fulham. Graham Taylor's first signing in his second spell at the club, Lee has also played for Charlton, Stockport, Lincoln, Southend and Grimsby.

## MICHEL NGONGE

POSITION: **Forward**  
BORN: **10.01.67**  
AGE: **31**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Samsunspor**

A pacey front-runner who moved to Vicarage Road from Turkey during the summer. Belgian-born, he holds dual

nationality and is an international with Zaire, for whom he has played in the African Nations' Cup.

## RONNY ROSENTHAL

POSITION: **Forward**  
BORN: **11.10.63**  
AGE: **34**  
HEIGHT: **5ft 10in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Tottenham**

Snapped up on a free transfer in August 1997, Ronny scored 11 goals and lent a huge amount of experience to Watford's successful promotion bid. After a number of injuries, he went in for a knee operation in March but has returned to the first-team picture this season.

## ALLAN SMART

POSITION: **Forward**  
BORN: **08.07.74**  
AGE: **24**  
HEIGHT: **5ft 11in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Carlisle United**

A creative front player with an excellent first touch, he moved to Vicarage Road during the summer, having missed six months of last season with injury. Has also played for Caledonian Thistle, Preston and Northampton (loan).

## DAI THOMAS

POSITION: **Forward**  
BORN: **26.09.75**  
AGE: **22**  
HEIGHT: **5ft 10in**  
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Swansea City**

A Welsh U21 international, Dai moved to Watford in a £100,000 deal in July 1997 but struggled to hold down a regular place last season.

*Other squad members include:*  
NIGEL GIBBS, ROBERT PAGE, DARREN WARD, CLINT EASTON, GIFTON NOEL-WILLIAMS, NICK WRIGHT, MARK BOYCE, JAMES PANAYI, COLIN PLUCK, PAUL ROBINSON, DAVID PERPETUINI, OLIVER SQUIRES, DANNY GRIEVES, WAYNE ANDREWS, GRANT CORNOCK, NATHAN LOWNDES, TOMMY SMITH.



# The manager

# GRAHAM TAYLOR



## The Watford manager needs little introduction.

Graham Taylor is one of the most successful club bosses of recent times, as well as having spent a three year, 38-game spell in charge of the national squad.

Now in his second spell as manager at Vicarage Road, he is once again proving his

undoubted qualities. Re-appointed as General Manager in May 1996 at the club that first took him to fame back in the 1980s, Taylor returned too late to prevent the Hornets slipping out of the First Division - but he acted quickly to secure their return.

The 1996/97 campaign was one of consolidation, but Taylor slipped on the tracksuit once more last term and inspired his side to the Second Division Championship, bringing back memories of the Watford glory days for older supporters.

It was the latest in a line of successes that the likeable Taylor has enjoyed since retiring as a player in 1972.

His first managerial appointment was at Lincoln City later that year, and he spent five years cutting his teeth with the Imps before moving on to Watford for the first time and taking the club on a dizzy ten-year ride to the heights.

He took Watford all the way from Division Four to runners-up spot in

the old First Division, to an FA Cup Final (lost 2-0 to Everton) and into Europe.

In 1987 he was rewarded for his efforts with the challenge of taking over at one of the country's biggest clubs, Aston Villa. He led Villa out of the old Second Division at the first attempt, and spent three years moulding together an effective and efficient side before the ultimate challenge - the England job - was offered in the autumn of 1990.

It was always going to be a tough task following in the footsteps of Bobby Robson - who left after taking England to the Semi-Finals of Italia 90. Despite some good results, and a record that bears comparison with any of his predecessors, Taylor's relationship with the FA and sections of the media gradually deteriorated until, in 1993, he decided to call it a day.

On leaving the England post he was appointed manager at Wolves, in March 1994, but stayed only until December the following year before moving on, to be replaced by Mark McGhee at Molineux.

But Watford remained his spiritual home and, in May 1996, manager and club were reunited.

## STUART SLATER

POSITION: Midfield/winger

BORN: 27.03.69

AGE: 29

HEIGHT: 5ft 9in

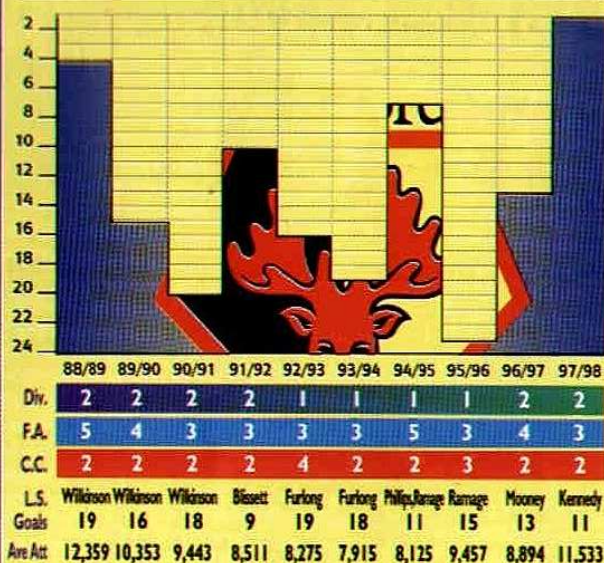
PREVIOUS CLUB: Leicester City

Highly skilled winger, midfielder or central striker who joined the club on a free in November 1996. A good passer of the ball with ability to take on and beat opponents, this former West Ham, Celtic and Ipswich player missed much of last season with injuries, including an Achilles problem which required an operation.

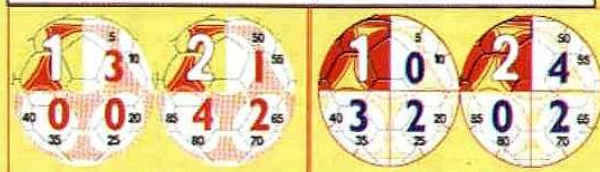




## Hornets' last ten years - the full record



## When Watford have scored goals... and conceded them



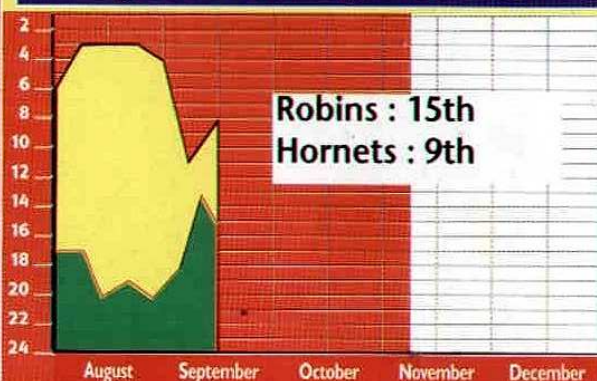
### HEINOUS HORNETS

Robinson...2  
Easton...1  
Ngeorge...1  
Smart...1

### ROBINS' ROGUES

Bullock...3  
Walters...3  
Kerlake...2  
Reeves...2  
Borrows...1  
Gooden...1  
Hulbert...1  
Laitch...1  
Kidd...1

## League Positions throughout the season



## When Swindon have scored goals... and conceded them



## Who's played for Watford this season...

Player	Pos	Lge	Lge	Age	Ht	Weight	Prev. Club	Int.
Apps Gls								
Alec Chamberlain	G	7		34	62	13 10	Sunderland	
Micah Hyde	M	7		23	59	11 07	Cambridge	
Peter Kennedy	M	7		25	58	11 11	Notts County	
Allan Smart	F	7	2	24	62	12 07	Carlisle	
Michel Ngeorge	F	6	1	31	60	12 08	Samsunspor	Zaire
Steve Palmer	D	6		30	61	12 13	Ipswich	Eng Sch
Dean Yates	D	6	1	30	61	12 08	Derby	Eng U21
Richard Johnson	M	5	2	24	60	11 13		
Keith Millen	D	4(1)	1	31	62	12 04	Brentford	
Darren Bazeley	D	3(1)		25	510	11 07		Eng U21
Robert Page	D	3(1)		24	60	12 05		Wales
Clint Easton	M	3		20	60	10 04		Eng Yth
Paul Robinson	M	3		19	59	12 11		
Alon Hazan	M	2(4)	1	31	60	13 08	Ironi Ashdod	Israel
Nigel Gibbs	D	2		32	56	11 06		Eng U21
Tommy Mooney	D	2		27	59	12 10	Southend	
Nick Wright	F	2		22	511	11 02	Carlisle	
Ronny Rosenthal	F	1(2)		34	511	12 13	Tottenham	Israel
Jason Lee	F	1	1	27	63	13 03	Forest	
Gifton Noel-Williams	F	(4)		18	61	14 06		Eng Yth
Tony Daley	M	(3)		30	59	11 00	Wolves	England

## How The Hornets have scored goals... and conceded them



## Robins v Hornets

FORM GUIDE	W	D	L	F	A	PIS	Sequence
Swindon Town	2	1	3	10	13	7	LWWLDL
Watford	2	0	3	8	10	9	WLLWW

Statistics compiled by Football Information Services Telephone: 0151-632 5679

## How Swindon have scored goals... and conceded them





# PAGES from the past...

## DANNY WILLIAMS WRITES, SEPTEMBER 1968...

Just our luck was my initial  
felling as the lads came off the  
Vicarage Road pitch on Saturday.

Mike Walker, making his debut in their goal after signing from York City, produced a display which made one think that Ken Furphy had got a real bargain when he signed the Welsh Under 23 international. On reflection though, if we can take a point at Watford, I cannot see why we should not do even better on other away trips. Also our record of consecutive clean sheets is now extended to five matches and we are now the only club not to have conceded a League goal. For one moment I thought this record was going but Peter Downsbrough produced a great save to keep out Stewart Scullion's shot.

While our defence has done well, the forward line have failed to score in three of our five League games. Chris Jones, Willie Penment and Barry Lowres are all fit now and the lads in possession of the places at present know there is fierce competition for places.

We must guard against over confidence in tonight's League Cup match against Bradford City. In the match back in my native Yorkshire last week they showed real Northern grit in coming back to equalise after it looked as though Roger Smart's header would be enough to give us victory. We must not allow the fact that they are a Division Four side to cause us to underestimate them. Tommy Hallett their captain is sure to want to put one over on his former club and the fact that Bruce Walker, who scored that marvellous goal for us in the Cup match with Forest, cannot hold down a regular place should be warning signs enough for us.

John Trollope is making good progress recovering from the broken arm sustained at Hartlepool, which ended his run of 368 consecutive games, but even so he is unlikely to be fit to play again much before Christmas. How typical of John that his main concern in hospital was to learn that we had held on to a point in his absence and how strange that he should be injured in the first game missed by Don Rogers after four seasons in which they had both been ever present.

I could not end these notes without mentioning Mr Wilf Castle, who has retired after eighteen years as Chairman.

The respect he was held in by his fellow directors was shown by the fact that he was immediately elected President of the Club. It is a matter of great regret that I have not been able to bring him a promotion to celebrate but perhaps I can do that for his successor Mr Eric Lane and, if we get the right result tonight who knows - both gentlemen might be sitting in the Royal Box at Wembley.

### Quiz question:

What was the result of the match between Swindon and Watford later in the 1968/69 season and what did the two clubs have in common that year?

If you think you know the answer to this question - please send your answer on a postcard to:

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Wiltshire  
SN1 2ED.

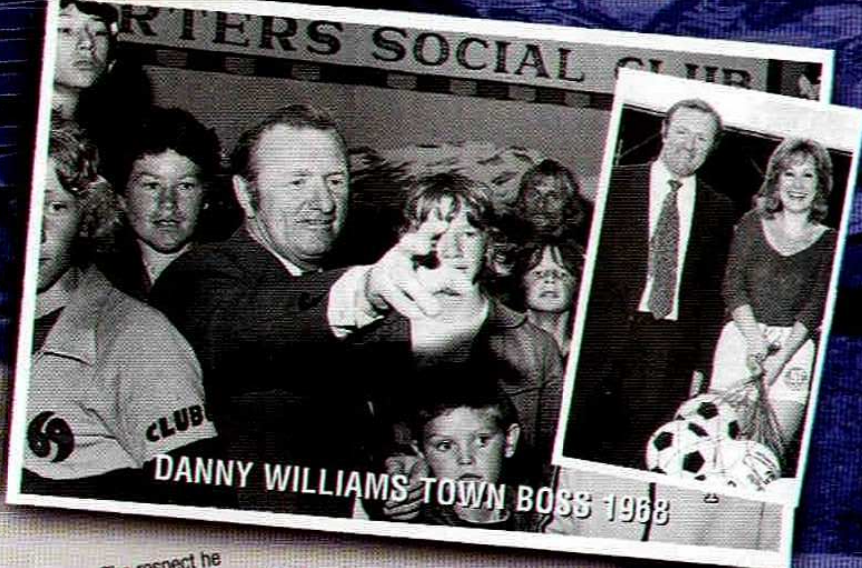
**THE FIRST  
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WILL WIN  
2 FREE TICKETS**

### Last game's question

Which former Swindon Town goalkeeper made over 600 appearances for the Leicestershire County Cricket team?

### Answer...

Les Berry who played until 1951 scoring 30,143 runs and making 45 centuries. His goalkeeping career with Swindon was less successful as he made just 22 appearances during which he managed only three clean sheets, ending with a 7-1 defeat at Reading in January 1993.



compiled by Dick Mattick



# MIKE WALSH'S

## weekly diary...September

### Monday 7th

**We are all still high as kites after Saturday's win against Bristol City.**

Looking back at the game it was a triumphant win that lifted the supporters and the players. It was great to see Iffy and George get a goal each and more importantly, the game gave us three points, which moved us up the League. It is important that we now focus on Wednesday as we try to topple our other local rivals, Oxford. This will be another tough game but I'm confident we can get the right result.

The Gaffer went to watch Oxford play against Portsmouth on Sunday and he is aware of what they are capable. With another mid-week game we went through a light training session with the players. Saturday really took it out of them and we must be fresh for Oxford United.

### Tuesday 8th

**We took the squad over to Supermarine today to work on some new set plays and discuss tactics with the players.**

There is a mood of quiet determination amongst the squad. With the rumours surrounding Steve McMahon's future at the club we are all determined that Wednesday night will be memorable for everybody - for all the right reasons.

### Wednesday 9th

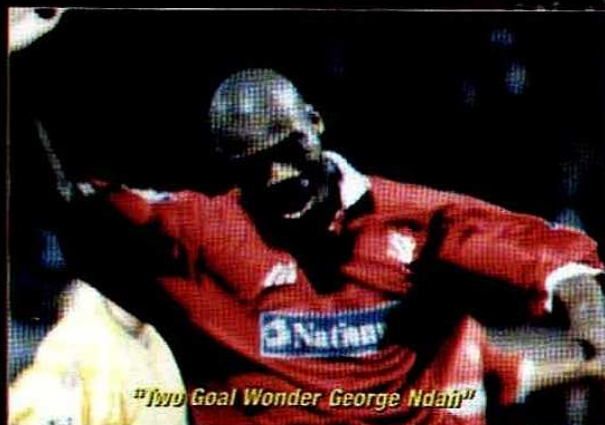
**Another light session with stretching and running to get the lads focused for the match.**

We spent the afternoon in a hotel to get the players away from all distractions.

As the evening arrived we knew the night was important for so many different reasons. Before the game the Gaffer gave an emotional team talk that stirred us all up. As they took to the pitch we knew they would be giving it 110% for Swindon Town. And we didn't have to wait long to see that they meant business as George Ndah opened the

scoring. From this, we created a number of other goal scoring chances and had Oxford on the rack for the first 15 minutes. As the game wore on they came more into it and created a few chances of their own. By half time the score was 1-1. It was difficult not to recall Bristol's second half revival after going a goal down so we knew we had to play well.

What a second half performance. In all my time at the Club I have never seen such passion combined with quality football. Mark Walters was running the show and the two front men scored two fine goals each. When the fourth goal was scored I thought it was a great touch to see all the players salute Steve McMahon in the dug-out. This rounded off a truly memorable evening.



"Goal Wonder George Ndah"

### Thursday 10th

**The players and coaching staff enjoyed a well deserved day off.**

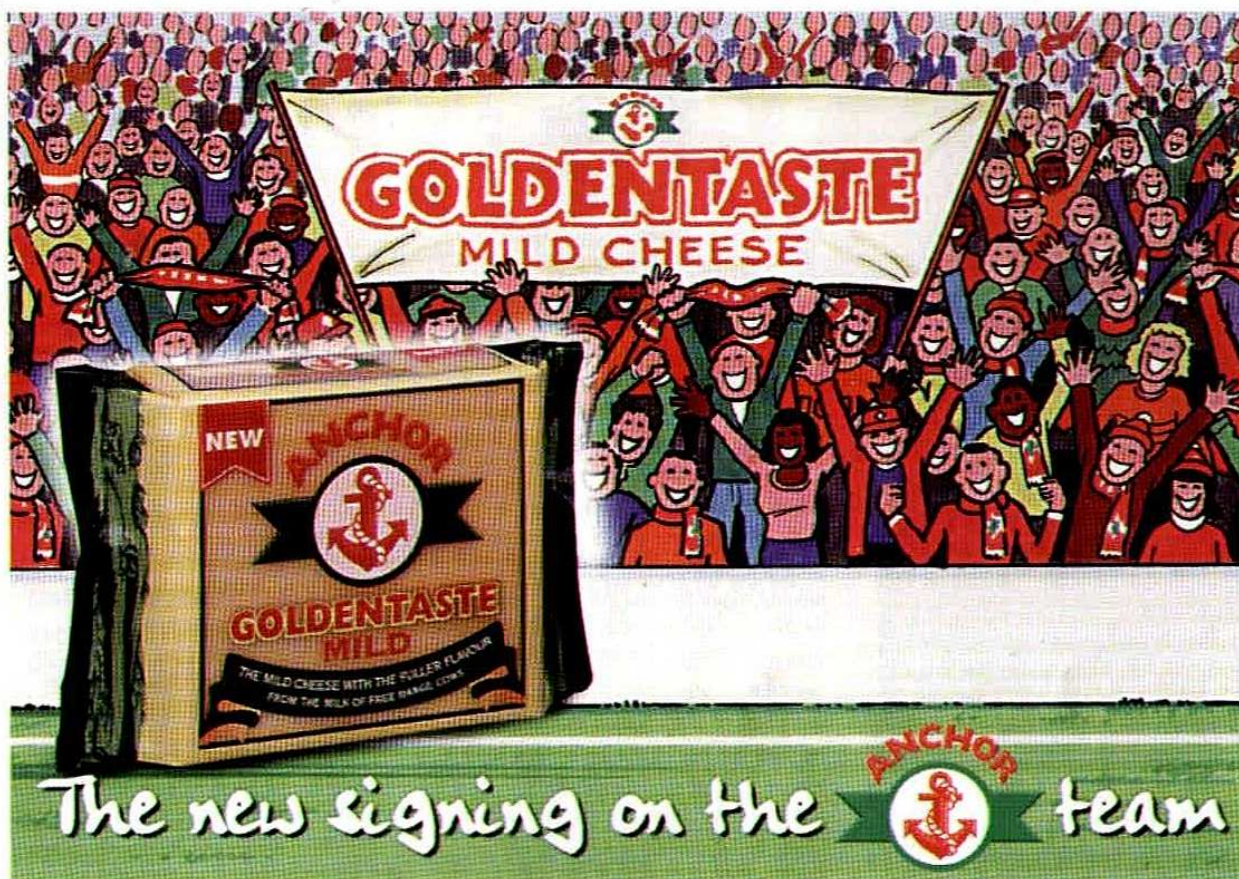
After all the turbulence of the week, it was great to get out on the golf course with the Gaffer and relax for a few hours. Of course, this is always short lived as the afternoon was spent going over tactics to defeat Pompey.

### Friday 11th

**It is amazing what two wins can do. The players are in good spirits and feel like they can beat anyone.**

We completed a good morning session with the squad, working on some short sprints and ball work. After this we were back at the club enjoying the pre-match delights of pasta, chicken and beans. We also had a bit of fun with the Youth Development Officer, Phil Cannon. Today was his birthday and during lunch we paraded in a surprise birthday cake and sang a tuneless version of 'Happy Birthday' - a great way to round off the week.





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The Nationwide Football  
League saw an Increase in  
Attendance of 13.5%;  
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The Quality of the Football



# Suthers SAYS

**"A fabulous 4-1 victory over Oxford was just what the doctor ordered!"**

**Last week was an extremely difficult one for everyone here at the Club.**

Whenever staff changes are made, the mood in that particular company at that time is naturally downbeat and football clubs are no different. The task for everyone concerned therefore is to pick themselves up and to be professional. This is exactly what the staff at this Club did and last week the fabulous 4 - 1 victory over Oxford was just what the doctor ordered! However, I do want to formally put the record straight regarding the issue of the so-called 'sacking' of the programme sellers which, for one reason or another, was allowed to escalate into a far bigger problem than the situation warranted. Firstly, let's be clear on one thing, the programme sellers were volunteers they were not employed by this Club and as such, they could not be sacked. For a while now, Swindon Town's match programmes have been sold by volunteers in return for a match ticket. Whilst I can understand the financial imperatives that prompted the existence of this system, it could not have been allowed to continue, not if this club is serious about it's intention to become a major First Division outfit and

ultimately to get back its place in the FA Premier League. A decision was therefore made a few weeks ago to investigate the possibility of utilising the services of Gate Promotions, a professional programme selling company, and one that is well versed in professional football and operates at several major football grounds. However, as the co-ordinator of the existing sellers was made redundant on the Monday before the Oxford match, and as we were told on the Tuesday morning that no personal records of the sellers were kept i.e. names, addresses and telephone numbers, it appeared that the Club had no chance to formally explain the situation. I then took the decision to bring in Gate Promotions sooner than was planned. All the existing sellers were given free tickets to the next 3 matches on arrival at the ground as a thank you for their past efforts and I tried personally to explain the background to the situation to several of the sellers. However as we did, the sellers found it hard to believe that we had no way of contacting them.

What then transpired was seriously disappointing and was blown out of all proportion which is regrettable.

Unfortunately, in a difficult week when 8 good people lost their

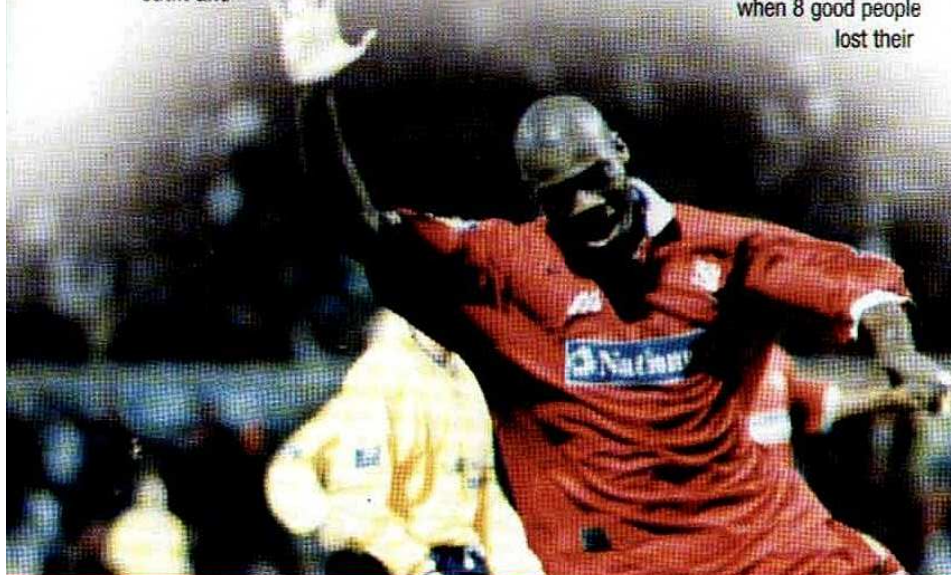
full-time jobs due to restructuring at this Club, the major issue that seems to have occupied everybody's time here is the fact that 24 people in three matches time will lose their perk of a free ticket. This to me is the world gone mad.

My message to everyone is simple. There are major changes happening within professional football and only the strongest Clubs will survive. The Chief Executive of the Premier League, Peter Leaver, went on record last year to state that this country can only sustain 40 professional Clubs. BSkyS's purchase of Manchester United last week, the threat of a European Super League and the likely banning of collective selling of Television rights, are all warning shots to Clubs like Swindon that, unless you get your act together and soon, the opportunity to compete with this country's top Clubs will disappear. Undoubtedly, Swindon Town has the potential to be in that top 40, but only if everyone, Directors, management, players, staff and supporters reorganise the work that needs to be done.

My final comment and it is my final comment, is that Gate Promotions would like to hear from all or any of our previous programme sellers or from any other supporter who are interested in working on matchdays. These positions, like our matchday stewards, will receive a fee. Those interested should contact Richard Mackey at the Club on

**01793 430430.**

***George Ndah celebrates one of his goals over Oxford United.***





# YOUTH TEAM REVIEW



**Tom Jones Reports:**

**Wednesday 12th September 1998**

**SWINDON YOUTH A 0**

**OXFORD UTD YOUTH A 0**

Derby games are always competitive; this one was no exception. The game was a real battle with both sides working hard in blustery conditions.

The Oxford team made it difficult for our passing tactics because they pressed and harried us at every opportunity.

The first fifteen minutes were played at a frantic pace. We found it difficult to make an impact on the opposition, although we did produce two or three good chances to go ahead.

Neil Dix had a good chance to open the scoring on the half hour mark. He reacted quickly to a poor back pass but couldn't quite connect with the ball.

At half time we reminded the players that we had to "up the tempo" of our game and get at Oxford in the final third.

The second 45 saw an improved performance as we looked more creative going forward and our strikers were starting to see more of the ball.

One such chance fell to McAreavey. It started with a good forward run by Nicky Burke who found McAreavey, but the young Irishman drove the ball across the face of the goal.

At the other end James Bittner pulled off a great save palming the ball onto the crossbar from a powerful close range shot.

After these chances, I felt we finished by far the stronger side. In the dying minutes we pushed Oxford back into their own half and pressed for a

dramatic winner. Oxford had been pressing every pass we made and their players were starting to look tired but we still couldn't break the deadlock.

Oxford seemed content with the point and concentrated on surviving rather than winning. At the end of ninety minutes I felt the whole side worked very hard with both Mills and Bitner doing particularly well.

What we must change was our reaction to the way they wouldn't let us settle. Plenty of sides will do this to us, what we have to do is keep the passing sharp and take chances when they come.

**Team:** Bittner, Peters (Edwards, 80), Donlon, Williams, Culbertson, Campagna, Mills, McHugh, Burke, Dix, McAreavey (McRobbie, 70).  
**Subs not used:** Young.

**SWINDON TOWN YOUTHS**  
**In Association With**

**New College**  
**Swindon**

**South East Counties**  
**NEXT HOME MATCH**

**Saturday 26th**  
**September 1998**

**Wycombe W.**

**Kick-Off 11.00am**

## FIXTURES 98/99

### South East Counties League Division 2

Sat Aug 08	Barnet	0-1
SAT AUG 15	BRENTFORD	2-0
Sat Aug 22	AFC Bournemouth	2-0
WED AUG 29	BRIGHTON & H.A.	1-0
Sat Sep 05	Bristol Rovers	A
SAT SEP 12	OXFORD UNITED	H
Sat Sep 19	Reading	A
SAT SEP 26	WYCOMBE W.	A
Sat Oct 03	Gillingham	H
SAT OCT 10	LEYTON ORIENT	H
Sat Oct 17	Portsmouth	A
SAT OCT 24	CAMBRIDGE UNITED	H
Sat Oct 31	Colchester United	A
SAT NOV 07	LUTON TOWN	H
Sat Nov 14	Southend United	A
Sat Nov 21	Brentford	A
SAT NOV 28	BOURNEMOUTH	H
SAT DEC 05	SOUTHEND UNITED	H
SAT DEC 12	BARNET	H
Sat Jan 02	Brighton & H.A.	A
SAT JAN 09	BRISTOL ROVERS	H
Sat Jan 16	Oxford United	A
SAT JAN 23	READING	H
Sat Jan 30	Wycombe Wndrs.	A
SAT FEB 06	GILLINGHAM	H
Sat Feb 13	leyton Orient	A
SAT FEB 20	PORTSMOUTH	H
Sat Feb 27	Cambridge United	A
SAT MAR 06	COLCHESTER UNITED	H
Sat Mar 13	Luton Town	A

Home fixtures kick-off at 11.00am at the Nationwide Pavilion, Pipers Way - Kick-Off times are subject to change without prior warning.

## FIXTURES 98/99

### SWEB South West Counties Youth League

Aug 22	Gloucester Town	2-0
AUG 29	CHELTENHAM TOWN	2-0
Sept 05	Plymouth Argyle	A
SEPT 12	EXETER CITY	H
Sept 19	AFC Newport	A
SEPT 26	YEOWIT TOWN	H
Oct 03	League Cup - Round 1	
Oct 17	Torquay United	A
OCT 24	BATH CITY	H
Oct 31	Swansea City	A
NOV 07	BASHLEY	H
Nov 14	Bristol Rovers	A
Nov 21	League Cup - Round 2	
NOV 28	CARDIFF CITY	H
Dec 05	Cardiff City	A
DEC 12	GLoucester TOWN	H
Dec 19	Cheltenham Town	A
JAN 09	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	A
Jan 16	Exeter City	H
JAN 23	AFC NEWPORT	H
Jan 30	Yeovil Town	A
FEB 13	TORQUAY UNITED	H
Feb 20	Bath City	A
FEB 27	SWANSEA CITY	H
Mar 06	Bashley	A
MAR 13	BRISTOL ROVERS	H
Mar 20	League Cup - Semi Finals	
Mar 27	League Cup - Final	

Home fixtures kick-off at 11.00am - and Wednesday fixtures kick-off at 2.00pm. At Allied Dunbar Centre or the BR Ground - Kick-Off times are subject to change without prior warning.



# STFC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE



The Centre of Excellence started last week with a meeting between Players, Parents and Coaches to discuss our plans for the coming season.

This is very important for the kids because they can ask any questions about the way the course is run and we can get to know their faces. For the parents, it is a chance to see how we do things and to assure them that their children will get the best possible training. In addition, we can talk to parents about making sure that the kids don't over do it, and that they understand the rules we work under.

I thought it went very well with good input from both sides. With a massive change in Youth Development taking place it's important that parents understand what we are trying to achieve. They play as big a part as the coaches in making sure that the kids are well prepared and that they get the most out of it.

## WITH PHIL CANNON

Last weekend we started our program of games with under 13's, 14's and 15's playing against Bournemouth. I myself watched our under 13's playing their first game and thoroughly enjoyed it.

Our lads produced football that had the people watching and applauding loudly. They passed the ball well, showed good movement and demonstrated plenty of determination. This is very encouraging for the start of a new season. As any youth coach will tell you, the way the kids play is just as important as the result.

With these players I can see that the Centre of Excellence has a good starting point with which to develop over the coming months.

I'm looking forward to seeing a lot more of that kind of performance during the season.

**Well done boys!**

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# shadow board



The last few weeks have seen a full range of emotions at the Club and this has resulted in a very heavy postbag, which we will deal with as quickly as possible. May we please ask for a little patience from supporters whilst we prepare our replies.

The value of our new information point has quickly become very obvious. The information point can be found outside the stadium at the rear of the Rover stand and it will be open at least 90 minutes prior to home matches to take supporter issues.

Although we are not in a position to satisfy every issue or complaint, please be assured that every comment is taken to the Club and that we have the opportunity to debate the issues. Whatever the recent emotion, everyone wants the Club to be successful and we would urge everyone to forget any disappointments and all pull together in the same direction. The road may be painful at times, but with potential changes in League structures not far away, now is not the time to have negative influences at work.

The ultimate goal is to achieve sustainable Premiership football and clearly we must maintain and also build on our existing supporter base. Commercialisation of the game may be a dirty word to some supporters, but it is a fact of life.

We have already been involved with our 'Schools Day' in bringing younger supporters to games. We have contacted our satellite groups in Yeovil, Melksham, Portsmouth, Leicestershire, Warwickshire and, of course, Swindon supporters in London Association (who may be contacted through David Moulton on 0181 503 3735) to encourage others.

Our own Roger Bunce is now establishing a Group in the Witney area and Roger will be pleased to receive contact from supporters in that area. We would also be delighted to hear from anyone else who would be willing to establish a group elsewhere so that we can encourage more supporters to matches.

CHAIRMAN  
**DAVID TAYLOR**

VICE-CHAIRMAN  
**NIGEL BENNETT**

SECRETARY  
**ANN ALDER**

#### OTHER MEMBERS

**ROGER BUNCE**  
**KEVIN HALL**  
**DEREK HAND**

**SHEILA MASLIN**  
**SUSAN TYRRELL**  
**DAVID WALDRON**



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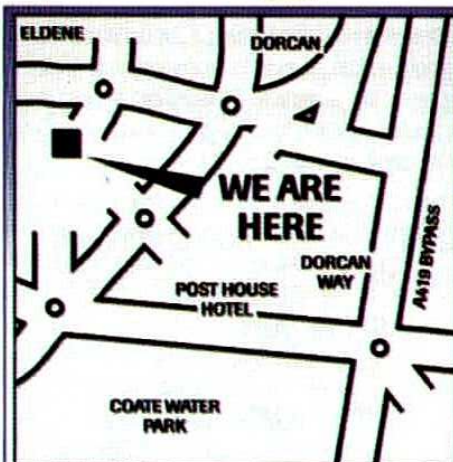
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# Cartwheel Photography



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**For further details please contact:**

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# SOCCER CENTRES WITH JIMMY FRASER



The soccer centres are up and running again, and I'm pleased to say that most centres are full, which is great news.

However, we can still make more places available at most centres.

The Junior Robins coaching sessions that are held at the Oasis on Monday nights at 4.30-5.30 and 5.30-6.00 are not full, so all you Robins members please make your way down there, as you are missing out on our football coaching.



**SWINDON**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Ridgeway Leisure Centre is up and running, and is starting to fill up now, but there are still some spaces available.

Please watch this space for more information about opening a soccer centre in Haydon Wick. I'm working hard to get it open for next term so I hope to have some good news soon. Enjoy your football and make plenty of noise at today's game!



**SWINDON TOWN  
SOCCER CENTRES**

The next courses commence the week beginning Monday 7th September. Don't delay - enroll at the course centre of your choice.

## Venues- (SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER)

### LINK CENTRE

Monday	5.30-6.30pm	5-6 & 9-11yrs
Thursday	4.30-5.30pm	5 years
	5.30-6.30pm	7-8 years

### OASIS

Monday	4.30-5.30pm	Junior Robins
	5.00-6.00pm	Junior Robins
Wednesday	5.00-6.00pm	7+ yrs Girls only
Saturday	9.00-10.00am	5-8 years
	10.00-11.00am	5-8 years

### RIDGEWAY LEISURE CENTRE

Wednesday	5.00-6.00pm	5-7 years
	6.00-7.00pm	8-11 years

### STRATTON

Monday	3.30-4.30pm	5-6 years
	4.30-5.30pm	9-11 years
Wednesday	3.30-4.30pm	7-8 years
	4.30-5.30pm	7-8 years

### MARLBOROUGH

Wednesday	3.30-4.30pm	5 yrs and over
	4.00-5.00pm	5-11 years
	5.00-6.00pm	11-16 years

### HIGHWORTH

Tuesday	4.00-5.00pm	5-6 years
	5.00-6.00pm	7-8 years
Thursday	5.00-6.00pm	9+ years

N.B. Non Swindon Borough course prices may differ, please check with your Centre.

For more information please call Jimmy Fraser on 01793 644777.

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

A lot of people ask Jon and I how the Community Office works. The scheme is a PFA (Professional Footballers Association) initiative.

It is a national organisation with approximately 85 out of the 92 League clubs actually affiliated to the scheme.

The community programme was set up in 1989 with Swindon Town joining the scheme in 1991. The first Community Officer to hold the realm here at the Club was former player Leigh Barnard. Previous Officers have been Jonathan Trigg (now Physio at Portsmouth), Terry Conner (Bristol City Assistant Manager) and Shane Cooke held the fort before Jon and I took over in May 1996.

The scheme was set up to enable anybody as young as four years old up to 16 to get involved with their local professional Club at grass routes level. Each programme is registered as a charity and slightly separate from the main stream running of the actual football club.

Every scheme has its own individual account with the money raised being projected back into the programme to improve equipment and coaching costs etc. As most of you know who attend our courses on a regular basis, our main sponsor for the scheme is Wagon Wheels. They took over from Pizza Hut and provide us with a constant flow of give-aways and national competitions such as design a Mother's Day card and Young National Journalist competition. So, as you can see, it isn't just about playing football, there are other ways for you to get involved in the scheme. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to get involved in the programme.

Today Jon and I have great pleasure in welcoming the youngsters from Wroughton

FC who are here as guests on our Saturday team club. The boys are here with our good friend Dave Turner who, as you know, is now a regular coach on our funweeks. Let's hope everybody has a great day with us, and we hope to see you soon.

*Until next time, all the best.*

*Clive & Jon*



Action from the Oxford United Game!



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WITH HELEN MERCER



Welcome to the Watford Juniors. As this programme goes to press we are not sure if the Watford Mascots are available for today's game as Harry Hornet got married on the 29th August to Harriet, and Rob Clarke from Watford wasn't sure if they were back off the honeymoon!

So Funky, you may be on your own! (*Funky is much too young to get married so we won't be having this problem for some time!*)

#### Radio Robin

Friday 4th September 1998 6.30pm

A bag of nerves, I arrived at Wiltshire Sound to be met by Shaun Hodgetts - my partner in crime.

Shaun showed me into the studio and blinded me with science as he flicked switches and twiddled the controls of a panel full of buttons.

Shaun went on air at 6.00pm and it felt very strange watching the man actually doing the show rather than sitting in

the comfort of my lounge listening. As the minutes ticked by, Shaun introduced Radio Robin and we were on air. The first part of the show was Mark Dixon's interview with Wallie and as that finished it was time for me to speak. Shaun put me at my ease and the words came easily - I was quite enjoying myself!

Next in line was the Swindon Town Soccer Centres and then it was time to make our first call to an unsuspecting Jr or R. Shaun dialled and the phone rang, mum answered as Shaun asked for Luke Aylett. Luke came on the phone, a 9 year old Jr, who sang an amazing rendition of 'Singing out for Swindon'. He was brilliant. The last interview was played ('In the physio room with Dick and Dave') and it was all over. So until next month when it'll be time to make myself nervous all over again!



If you want to be a part of Radio Robin all you have to do is write in to me explaining why you want to interview your favourite player. It's as simple as that! I need an interviewer for my next show. So get those pens working - I'll be watching for the post.

## MATCHDAY MASCOT



Surprise Surprise, (I feel like Cilla!) **COLIN ALDRIDGE**, Happy 50th Birthday.

Colin is 50 years old on Tuesday and works for Raychem as a designer. His hobbies are Running, Walking, Cricket, Music and Travelling oh, and STFC! He

has been a season ticket holder for 30 years and has supported the lads for over 40. I was also told he likes Oxford, - nice place, shame about the team, (I don't like to brag however the numbers 4 and 1 keep springing to mind). Colins favourite player is Darren Bullock

If you fancy being a Swindon Town Mascot, give me a call on 01793 532121 and I will send you all the details, you can get 10 per cent off if you are a Junior Member.

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## OPENING HOURS

*Mon - Fri: 9.00am - 6.00pm*

*Non matchday Sat: 10.00am - 4.00pm*

*Matchdays: 9.30am - Then after the game*



# SWINDON **view**

Wednesday 9th September 1998 7.45pm kick off

## SWINDON 4 OXFORD UTD 1

**Another fine win tonight as Swindon coasted to a 4-1 victory over local rivals Oxford United.**

We got off to the best possible start as George Ndah opened the scoring. Walters supplied a great cross from the right and Ndah used his pace to poke it in from six yards.

Walters was on top form all night. Oxford couldn't handle his silky skills and long-distance shooting. Their keeper Phil Whitehead twice denied him.

But it wasn't the easiest of halves for the Town. Oxford quickly reorganized and equalised on the 25th minute. Nicky Banger got on the end of a deep cross and nodded home at the far post.

It was then up to the recently recalled Jimmy Glass to prove his worth. He made two spectacular saves, one from a long-range drive, the other from a one on one with Joey Beauchamp.

As we approached the half-way mark Steve McMahon's men were really putting on the pressure and creating more chances. The best of them was an Onuora volley that the keeper saved. As the ref blew for halftime the score was 1-1, but Swindon were by far the better side.

After the break, Swindon fans were cheering for what they thought was our

second goal of the night. Walters delivered a perfect corner, which Bullock headed at goal. It appeared to cross the line, but the referee thought otherwise and waved play on.

But we didn't have to wait long before we put the game beyond Oxford's reach. In the 72nd minute Gooden powered down the left flank and fired in a shot that their keeper was unable to gather. Onuora, who had worked hard all night, picked up the fumbled ball and tapped it in from close range.

This was the point at which the floodgates opened. Swindon found another gear with Walters tearing through the Oxford defence.

It was one of these runs that brought about the third goal. Walters bent in another teasing cross, which Iffy managed to get a leg to. This put the game out of our opponent's reach.

With the win secured it was party time as the Town faithful began to make some noise. To repay this support, Ndah scored the best goal of the night. Ndah's pace and Gooden's well-timed pass beat the offside trap. The number nine sprinted in on goal and tucked it confidently underneath the keeper.

The 4-1 performance was a fitting testament to the job Steve McMahon has done at the club. After a tough start to the season it was great to see us start picking up the points.



# VIEW FROM OXFORD



**Watching Swindon beat us 4-1 was a bitter blow to the fans that made the brief journey from Oxford.**

A night that promised so much was cut short by our local rivals, who dominated the game.

The alarm bells started to ring in the first ten minutes. We gave Walters too much time on the right and he found a Swindon front man who jabbed the ball past Whitehead.

But it wasn't long before we found our rhythm and moved up a gear. We started to get better supply to our front two while Beauchamp showed all his ability when running at the Swindon defence.

On 25 minutes our long-throw specialist Paul Powell launched a long one into the box. Their defence was unable to clear and it was the unmarked Nicky Banger that brought us back to 1-1.

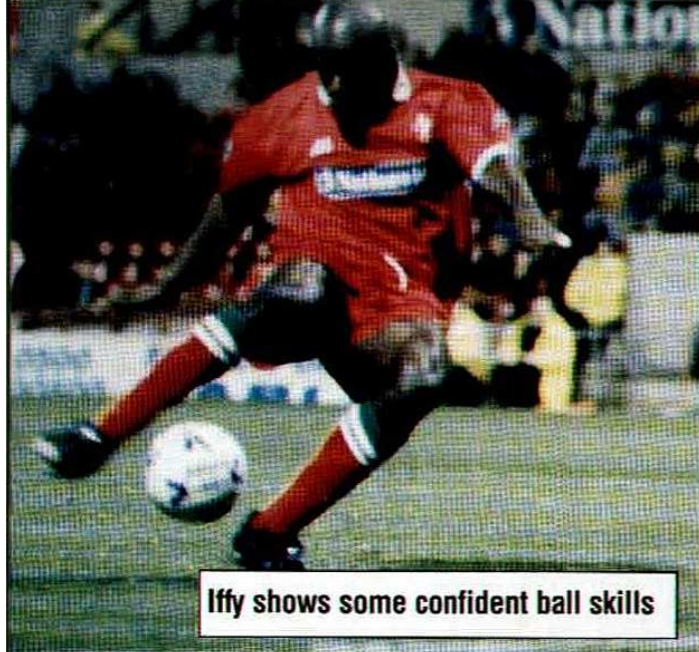
Swindon looked shell-shocked by our equaliser. It was Beauchamp again who was probing their defence. After some great passing on the edge of the box, Joey was one on one with their keeper, but we watched in despair as his shot was parried wide.

We continued to attack and in the second half we were inches from taking the lead when Swindon's Scott Leitch headed the ball at his own crossbar.

But after this our chances began to dry up as Swindon pinned us back. Gooden was finding too much space on the left and Ndah was starting to show his speed with the ball at his feet.

After getting beat 4-1 it is a long journey home. Hopefully we can return the favour when Swindon travel to the Manor Ground.





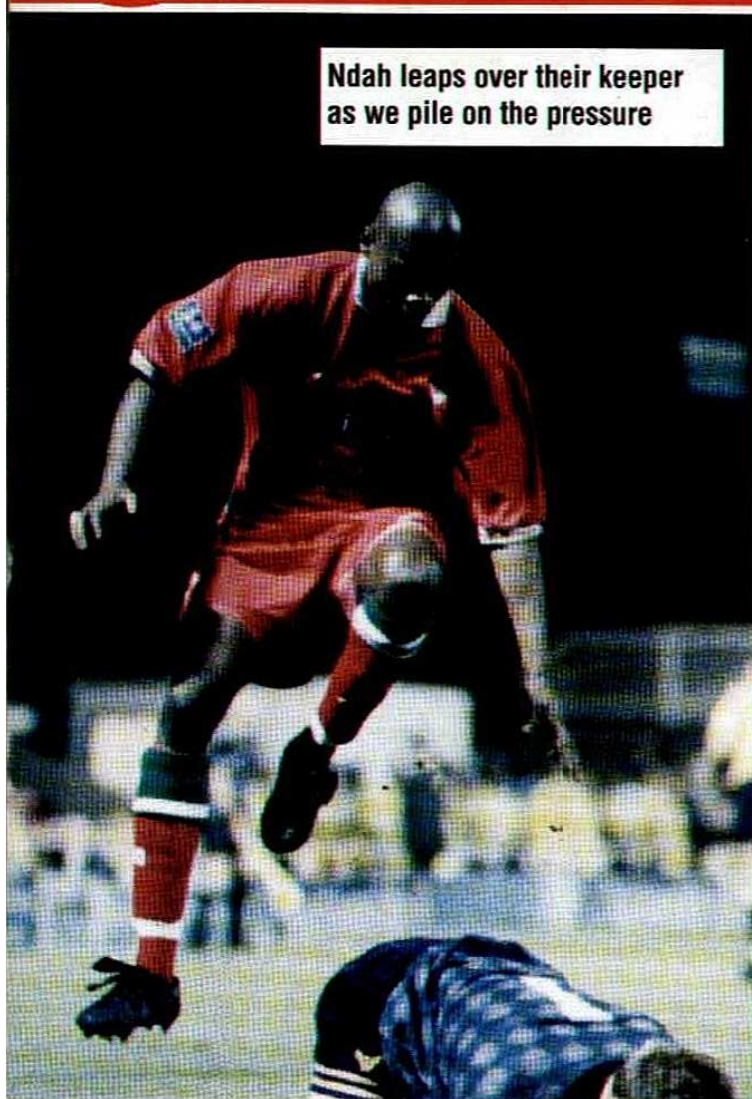
Iffy shows some confident ball skills



"Yeeess!!!" - Ndah scores his second goal of the night



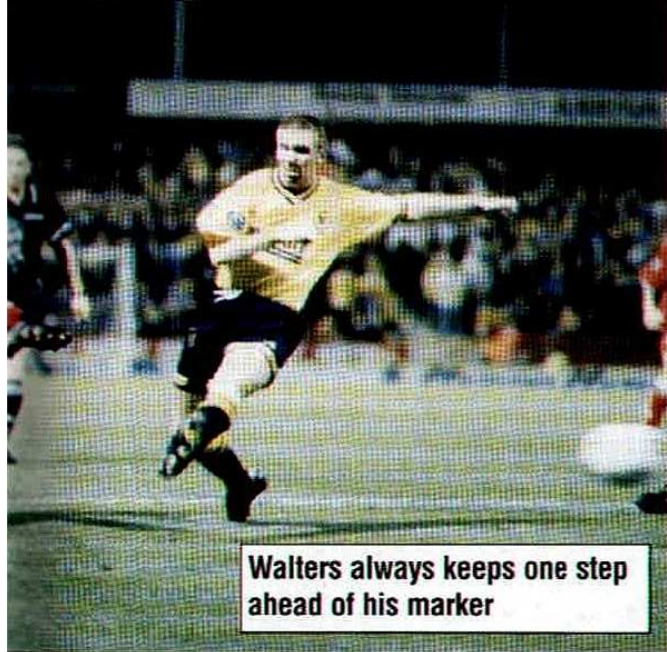
# SWINDON 4 OXFORD



Ndah leaps over their keeper as we pile on the pressure







Walters always keeps one step ahead of his marker



Town players celebrate a great derby win

## HOW THEY PLAYED

- 1 JIMMY GLASS** An assured game, his saves kept us in it during the first half.
- 2 DAVID KERSLAKE** A quality performance with some good crosses and excellent defensive play.
- 3 GARETH HALL** Did not let their forwards get the better of him and made some fine tackles.
- 4 SCOTT LEITCH** Gave Swindon an extra bit of quality in midfield with his distribution.
- 5 ALAN REEVES** His strength and height meant that he dominated the defensive line.
- 6 BRIAN BORROWS** Showed no ill effects from the injury and made some vital interceptions.
- 7 MARK WALTERS** He still manages to produce a performance of pure genius- our Man of the Match.
- 8 GEORGE NDAH** Two great goals, but also worked hard with his defensive duties.
- 9 IFEM ONUORA** Battled in the air and netted two important goals.
- 10 DARREN BULLOCK** Worked hard in midfield and did well to close down a lot of their passing.
- 11 TY GOODEN** Found lots of space on the left and had a hand in a couple of the goals.
- 12 MARK ROBINSON** (not used)
- 13 ADAM WILLIS** (not used)
- 14 KEVIN WATSON** (not used)



Our next two away days take us to Bolton and Ipswich - sure to be two exciting trips!



**BOLTON W.**

**NATIONWIDE LEAGUE  
TUESDAY 29 SEPT  
7.45PM KICK-OFF**

This will be a testing game for our lads as they face Premier relegated Bolton.



**IPSWICH  
TOWN**

**NATIONWIDE LEAGUE  
SATURDAY 17 OCT  
3.00PM KICK-OFF**

Ipswich are looking for promotion back to the top flight but we'll be looking to spoil their party.

**COMING  
SOON...**



**BIRMINGHAM**

**NATIONWIDE LEAGUE  
TUESDAY 20 OCT  
7.45PM KICK-OFF**

Watch out for further issues of the Matchday Magazine for travel details to this fixture.



**CREWE**

**NATIONWIDE LEAGUE  
SATURDAY 7 NOV  
3.00PM KICK-OFF**

Watch out for further issues of the Matchday Magazine for travel details to this fixture.

# TRAVEL NEWS



Last Season this was a difficult fixture for the Town, as the journey up to the Merseyside ended in a 3-0 defeat. Let's hope this season we can pull off a victory and bring all three points back to the county ground.

## HOW TO FIND PRENTON PARK

Exit the M53 at Junction 4 and take the 4th exit at roundabout (B5151). After 2 1/2 miles turn right into Prenton Road West.

Nearest Railway Station:  
Hamilton Square, Rock Ferry (1 Mile).

Nearest Bus Station: Berkenhead.



## TRAVEL CLUB

TEL: 01672 540330  
(BARNES COACHES)



**TRANMERE**

**FRIDAY 25 SEPT  
7.45PM KICK-OFF**

DEPART COUNTY GROUND: 2.00PM

Adult Fare: £13.00

Under-16 Fare: £11.00

All coaches start at Aldbourne with scheduled pick-ups en route including Ashington Way (for West Swindon) and Cirencester when travelling north. Please ask for these options and times when booking.

All coaches are either Executive or Luxury standard and for added comfort for our travellers, we enforce our NON SMOKING policy on board.

Our stewards are happy to serve a selection of drinks and snacks throughout your journey. On longer journeys we will offer on-board entertainment as well.



**BOLTON W.**

**TUESDAY 29 SEPT  
7.45PM KICK-OFF**

DEPART COUNTY GROUND: 2.00PM

Adult Fare: £13.00

Under-16 Fare: £11.00

Huge reductions available with our unbeatable Travel Club Season Ticket Offer - Please ask for details. Membership is still only £1.00 per person

Please make sure you book right now at: Travel Club Office (Arkell's Stand, Supporters Club Entrance) open every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 7.00pm until 8.45pm & every matchday until 20 minutes before kick-off.

24-HOUR ANSWERPHONE  
booking available on: (01793) 611499.

## S.A.S. TRAVEL

TEL: 01793 825935  
(24-HOUR SERVICE)



**TRANMERE**

Depart WEST SWINDON: 1.45PM

Depart COUNTY GROUND: 2.00PM

Depart ERMIN STREET: 2.15PM

Adult Fare: £12.50

Under-15 Fare: £10.50

- Match Tickets available when booking coach travel
- All major credit/debit cards accepted
- Hostess service hot/cold drinks and light refreshments
- All Coaches non-smoking
- Statutory NO ALCOHOL rule applies



**BOLTON W.**

Depart WEST SWINDON: 1.45PM

Depart COUNTY GROUND: 2.00PM

Depart ERMIN STREET: 2.15PM

Adult Fare: £12.50

Under-15 Fare: £10.50

### COUNTY GROUND BOOKING OFFICE

(Old Matchday Ticket Office off County Road)

Tel: (01793) 536757

Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays: 10.00am - 2.00pm

Thursday evenings 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Saturday Matchdays 1.30pm - 2.45pm

Wednesday Matchdays 6.30pm - 7.30pm



# TICKET NEWS

DON'T MISS THE NEXT HOME MATCH

## SWINDON VS STOCKPORT CO.

SATURDAY 3RD OCT  
3.00PM KICK-OFF

This should be a great occasion  
so don't miss out.



Tickets for the following games are now  
on sale at the Advanced Ticket Office.



**TRANMERE R.**

**NATIONWIDE LEAGUE**  
**FRIDAY 25 SEPT**  
**7.45PM KICK-OFF**

**AWAY**

Tickets to be  
purchased on the  
night at Tranmere.



**STOCKPORT CO.**

**NATIONWIDE LEAGUE**  
**SATURDAY 3 OCT**  
**3.00PM KICK-OFF**

**HOME**



**BOLTON WNDRS**

**NATIONWIDE LEAGUE**  
**TUESDAY 29 SEPT**  
**7.45PM KICK-OFF**

**AWAY**



**HUDDERSFIELD**

**NATIONWIDE LEAGUE**  
**FRIDAY 9 OCT**  
**7.45PM KICK-OFF**

**HOME**

### TICKET OFFICE OPENING

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 6.00pm  
Saturday (non-match days)  
10.00am - 4.00pm  
Saturday (match days) 9.00am -  
Kick-off & 15 mins after match.

#### MATCHDAY TICKET OFFICE

Saturday (match days)  
11.00am - half time  
Midweek (match days)  
5.30pm - half time

Tickets for home matches go on  
general sale 4 weeks before the match

**Ticket Office**  
**01793 529000**

**Fax Hotline**  
**01793 431887**

Make sure you book your tickets early  
to avoid disappointment.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

**SWINDON'S HOME  
FIXTURE WITH  
HUDDERSFIELD TOWN  
THAT WAS DUE TO TAKE  
PLACE ON SATURDAY  
10TH OCTOBER WILL NOW  
TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY  
9TH OCTOBER, KICK-OFF  
7.45PM. THIS IS DUE TO  
AN ENGLAND FRIENDLY  
THAT TAKES PLACE ON  
THE SATURDAY.**

**KIDS GO  
FREE  
AT STFC!**

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For further details on ticket  
availability please contact  
the STFC Ticket Office on:

**(01793) 529000**

or FAX them on:

**(01793) 431887**

WE ARE PLEASED TO ACCEPT







# WHAT'S on at swindon



..... at look at what's on at the County Ground .....

## MEXICO CYCLING CHALLENGE...

February 1999 will see one of our match day stewards getting on his bike to raise money for the Macmillan Nurses.

Ian Lawrence works as a steward here at the County Ground and is one of our stretcher men who is called on to carry injured players off the pitch. Ian's trip will see him joining around sixty people who will cycle the 600 kilometres from one coast of Mexico to the other - this will take him through tropical farmlands, cloud forests and mountain ranges before dropping down to the Pacific Ocean. Ian is confident that he can complete the challenge without help from his fellow stretcher bearers!

Ian is hoping to raise in excess of £2,500 and anyone who would like to make a donation or help to sponsor his trip should contact Ian via Helen Mercer in the Marketing Department - 01793 - 532121.



## WHICHFORD HYUNDAI PLAYER OF THE MONTH...

The Whichford Hyundai Player of the Month award has gone to Alan Reeves for his dazzling play since the start of the season.

Whichford Hyundai are sponsors of our Golden Harvest half time draw and John Keeble from Whichford Hyundai is pictured here presenting the trophy to Alan Reeves at our recent game against Bristol City.



## BARNES PICKS UP HIS FIRST BOOKING

Kevin Barnes from Green Meadow in Swindon has made it on to the Nationwide list of officials as an Assistant Referee.

After 11 years refereeing in the Wiltshire area Kevin has finally made it to become one of the best of the best. Actively involved with football for many years, Kevin and his father Graham, who is also a referee, have assisted Swindon Town Football Club with their Centre of Excellence for a good while, and all of us here at the Club would like to say congratulations to Kevin on his achievement. We may see Kevin running the line at the County Ground sometime in the future!



## BRING YOUR PARTY TO OUR PARTY...

Every year around Christmas, Swindon Town Football Club opens its doors to companies, organisations, groups of friends and private parties who want to have a festive night out.

Over the years we have built up a reputation for providing nights of eating, drinking and dancing that makes people come back time after time.

Our unique concept that allows you to take space within one big party has gained wonderful reviews from the people that have experienced it and whether your Christmas party is for ten people or a hundred, Swindon Town Football Club is the place to host it. Prices start from just £25 per head and more details can be obtained by contacting our conference and banqueting department on 01793 - 533212.

## BACK AT THE COUNTY GROUND...

Brothers Keith (37) and Frank (42) Willis are back at the County Ground together after 20 years.

It's has been two decades since Frank emigrated to Australia. Both are veterans of the 1969 League Cup winning campaign, which is the period when the photo was taken. Enjoy the game fellas!







# Fan Views and LETTERS

Dear Sir

I like to think that I am a fair minded person and I've been amongst McMahon's biggest critics for ages (it was me who put the 100 game table through the letter box for your attention on Wednesday night).

Wasn't the performance against Oxford excellent!! Whether the players played like that for McMahon, themselves, for MacLaren etc. or even for me, they showed just what they are capable of. I saw flair, pace, commitment, organisation, skill, pride... in fact ALL of the things that have been missing for months. And they did it for the whole 90 minutes. The most enjoyable and entertaining match I've seen at the County Ground for two years.

Please don't think that my assessment is just down to the score line or that it was against local rivals. My dissatisfactions go much deeper than that, but if I start to see performances like that every week I wouldn't care if Pol Pot was the manager!! I work with several ex-Swindon supporters (staunch ones at that) and I am asked for my opinion after every game. I can promise you that I will be recommending a return for them if I see the likes of Wednesday night again.

Let's hope it really is a corner turned. Please pass this message on to McMahon. I'd love to see him smile for a change. Is there anyone else we can sack next week?

*Yours faithfully*

**D Wallis**

Dear Steve McMahon

Having heard the news this morning, and seeing you on TV this evening, my heart goes out to you.

I came to the ground this afternoon, in hope of seeing you and to say, please, please don't go.

Steve, there are fans here that believe in what you are trying to achieve for the club, but boy have you had to take a lot of abuse along the way.

I am a season ticket holder and at this moment I feel ashamed at what has happened. Steve, do what's right for you.

*All the very best*

**Shirley Barrett**

Dear Steve McMahon

I've head talk about you stepping down from being Swindon Town Manager.

Please Don't! I think you're a great, great manager and am confident that you can turn things around for Swindon.

Your sincerely, season ticket holder and No. 1 supporter of you and Swindon Town,

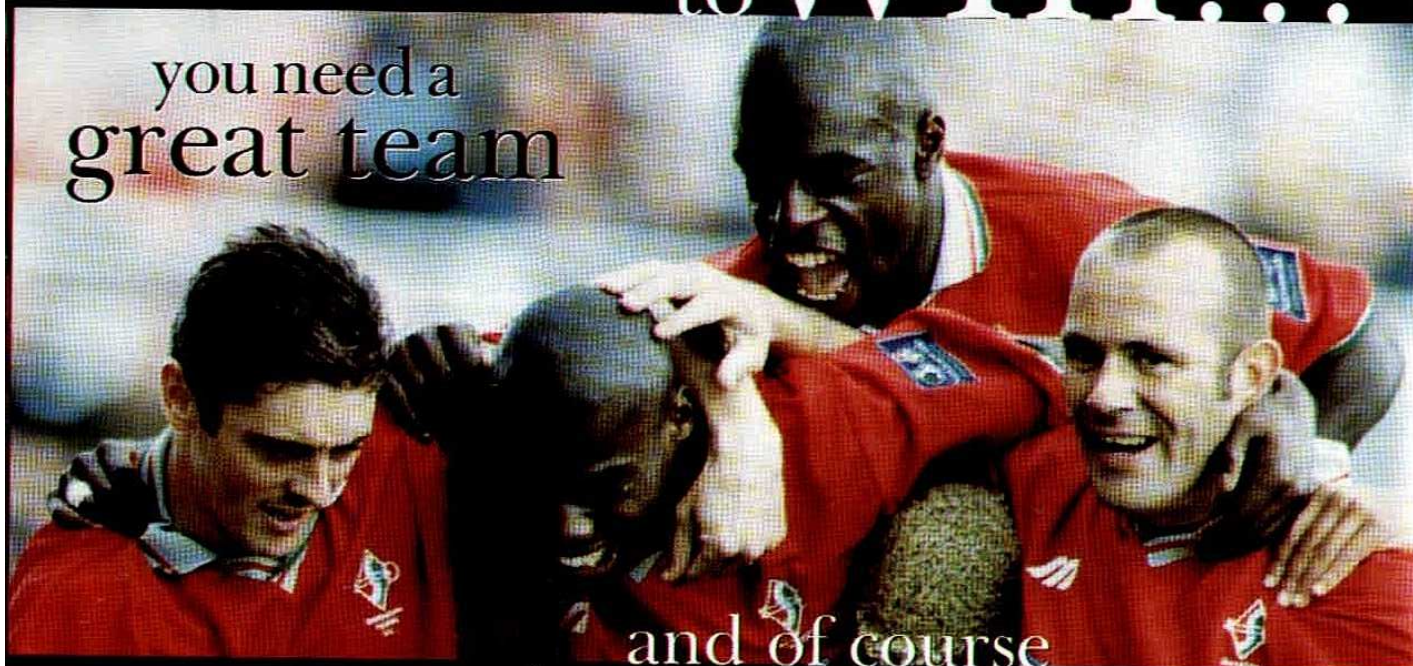
**Luke Abdins & Family**





# Playing to win....

you need a  
great team



and of course  
great support...

**Achieving great creativity,**  
like kicking the winning goal,  
requires inspiration.

**Brilliant ideas**  
belonging to you, working for you.

**Dedication and understanding**  
channelled for a perfect result.

*Choose PIA,  
there's no penalties  
just excellent results...*



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email: [info@pia-am.co.uk](mailto:info@pia-am.co.uk)



# all around the world

**DENMARK** - having kicked off their Euro 2000 campaign with a 0-0 draw against Belarus, they are going to be without Morten Wieghorst for some time. The Celtic midfield ace needs surgery on torn knee ligaments and is expected to be out for up to seven months.

**ENGLAND** - Portugal's experienced midfielder Rui Costa has been lined up to become Newcastle United boss Ruud Gullitt's first signing. He knocked Fiorentina's asking price down from £7million to £6.3million. Costa was one of the outstanding talents in the colourful Euro '96 side and has scored 11 goals in 37 international appearances.



## WORLD FOOTBALL

**By Colin Benson**

club who had him under contract. Former star Paul Breitner, who as a commentator has given the governing body a lot of stick, claims that Braun handed him the job as national team coach before withdrawing the offer.

Then came the remarkable revelation that the post had been offered to Roy Hodgson, the Blackburn Rovers manager, but then withdrawn by fax a few hours later.

Now they tell us that 63-year old Erich Ribbeck, a former Bayern Munich coach, has been handed the job. Well, until he receives a fax withdrawing the offer that is.

The German's are running scared that they might not even qualify for Euro 2000 even though it seemed they had been given an easy passage in Group 3 where they face Northern Ireland, Finland, Moldova and Turkey.

**HOLLAND** - Ajax have accepted they are going to lose the de Boer brothers and have agreed to let the unsettled twins go at the end of this season. Frank and Ronald have openly admitted they want to join Barcelona and don't rule out a move to Spain before next summer.

**ITALY** - We know from experience that the English tabloid press can go OTT but how about this for an intrusion into privacy. Brazilian super-star Ronaldo, who is with Inter Milan, is suing the editor of Italian newspaper La Nazione after he splashed the player's mobile telephone number across the front page!

**SPAIN** - Javier Clemente quit as national team coach five days after the humiliating 3-2 defeat by Cyprus in the European Championship. He had resisted calls for his head after Spain's lethargic showing in France '98 but after the pride of Spain had been outplayed by Cyprus his number was up.

Cyprus took the lead in the 43rd minute through Engomitis and Gogie, a Cypriot from Yugoslav extraction, hammered in a second goal five minutes later with a left-footed drive into the top corner. Real Madrid's young striker Raul pulled one back in the 73rd minute but four minutes later Spoijaric creator of the second goal, scored a third for Cyprus.

Morientes gave Clemente some hope when he scored again for Spain in the 85th minute but it was too late to save the match and Clemente's position.

*The Toon Army hoping that Ruud will give them their first star signing.*



**GERMANY** - It seems to be the end of an era for Germany's national side. Poor performances in the World Cup have been added to by the uninspiring build-up to Euro 2000. The upshot is absolute turmoil. First coach Berti Vogts quit last week then it appears Egidius Braun, who is the President of the German Federation, went into panic mode. He decided that Juup Heinkes was their man but then thought better of it because the former Real Madrid coach's wife is seriously ill.

They also considered a German coach currently working with a Dundesliga club but felt that would be unfair on the



A full-page action photograph of a male footballer, Scott Leitch, wearing a red kit with the Nationwide logo. He is in a dynamic pose, about to kick a white football. The background is a blurred green field with large, stylized letters.

# action special



*Scott Leitch*

MIDFIELDER



# the BUSINESS

**WITH MARK HILLIER:**  
**Corporate Sales Manager**



A very warm welcome, once again to the corporate side of Swindon Town Football Club.

Following on our theme of informing you of new sponsorship deals, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our latest ground board sponsors **NIGEL LYNN ASSOCIATES**.

Managing Director, Nigel Lynn Said: "Nigel Lynn Associates are specialised Financial Consultancy, who are pleased to announce their association with Swindon Town Football Club".



Today we welcome our Match Sponsors **MIZUNO, BRITVIC SOFT DRINKS** and **CATHY MOORE RECRUITMENT**.

**MIZUNO** is a leading manufacturer of general sports equipment. Since its foundation in 1906, **Mizuno** has striven to develop and manufacture the high quality sports equipment and sportswear that competitors of all levels demand. Today, top ranking athletes and amateurs alike praise **Mizuno** quality. The quest for quality has brought the name **Mizuno** to the forefront of international sport. The company has sponsored and has been official suppliers to dozens of major sporting events around the world. Ever since the 1924 Paris Olympics, the name **Mizuno** has meant international friendship and competition.

**BRITVIC'S** Matchball sponsorship has worked in combination with a prize draw for Swindon Supporters. Anybody that purchased a **Britvic** product e.g. **7up, Red Card Pepsi** or **Tango**, were entered into the prize draw for a VIP day out at Swindon Town Football Club. So this afternoon the Matchball guests are the real winners and we have really rolled out the red carpet for them. We hope all our guests have a great day.

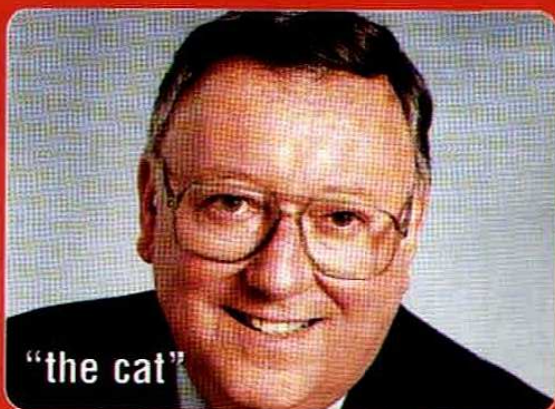
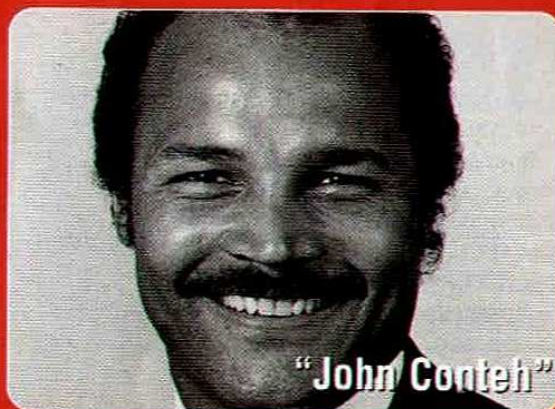
**CATHY MOORE RECRUITMENT LTD** are the Founder Company of **C M Recruitment Group**, which also consists of Focus Recruitment, CMR Specialist Recruitment and Promotion Products, making them Wiltshire's leading independent Recruitment Agency **Cathy Moore Recruitment Ltd** are pleased to be "Matchball Sponsors".

## Sporting Dinner

**with Bob "the cat" Bevan and John Conteh**

Tickets are selling out fast for our prestigious dinner taking place at the De Vere Hotel on the 8th October 1998.

Our guest speakers will be **Bob "the cat" Bevan** and former World Champion Boxer **John Conteh**.



Bob is an award winning after dinner speaker and a former presenter of **BBC Radio 5 Live's "606"** show. **John Conteh** is a legend of British Boxing and is now one of the most sought after speakers on the circuit. The evening will be hosted by our Head of PR **Steve Sutherland** and will also feature an auction of sporting memorabilia.

**Tickets for this events are priced at £38.00 per head and can be obtained by telephoning myself in the Marketing Department on 01793 532121.**



# TREATMENT room

After a tough few months of weekend and midweek games we have come out of the other end with two long term injuries and three short termers, although they could all be back by the time we face Watford.

Lee Collins is currently recovering from surgery to alleviate his shoulder problem. But Lee is a long way from full recovery yet. He is a hard working player who will want to be available for selection as soon as possible- so we'll be doing all we can to get him back on the pitch.

Jimmy Glass is recovering from a thigh strain and could be back for selection for today's game. Chris Hay and Craig Taylor are both in the latter stages of their recovery and could also be back in contention today.

Taylor has been working hard to recover from his thigh strain that has dogged him for the past few weeks. Hay has been testing his sprained ankle with plenty of

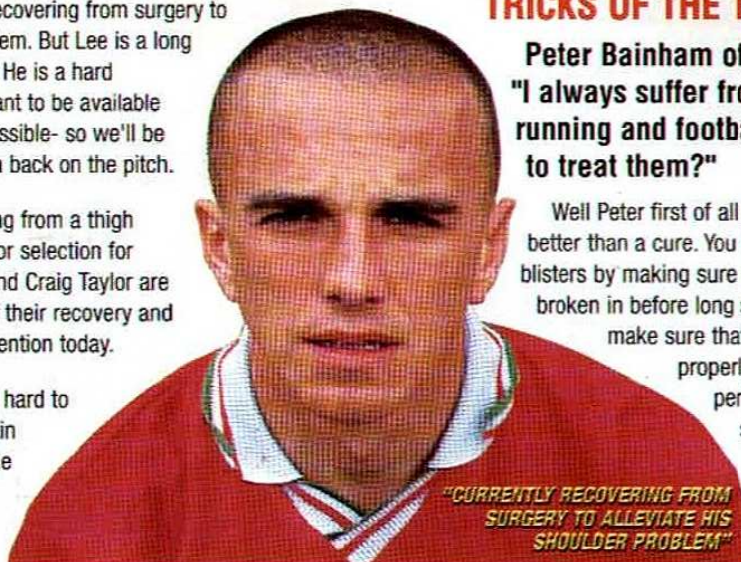
jogging and sprinting. The ankle is weight bearing well, which means Hay, is close to getting the green light.

Other than Lee Collins Alan McDonald is the other long term injury. He is improving day by day as his thigh strain becomes less and less of a problem. He is doing gentle running with plenty of stretches. But is still a while from a full recovery.

## TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Peter Bainham of Old Town writes "I always suffer from blisters after running and football, what can I do to treat them?"

Well Peter first of all prevention is always better than a cure. You may be able to restrict blisters by making sure new trainers or boots are broken in before long spells of use. You should make sure that socks and footwear fit properly. In addition, you could perhaps try wearing cotton socks. Once you have the blister, you should rub ice on the effected area and leave it open to air when ever possible.



If watching live football is **alien** to you...



...join the real world!

ComTel offers sports fans unbeatable cable TV coverage including live F.A. Carling Premiership and Nationwide Football League action every week of the season.

Every Friday, ComTel's own local channel brings you 'Local Sport' an exclusive preview of the weekends action including all the latest news from the County Ground.

Don't miss another match,  
FreeCall 0500 400 500

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Everybody's Fitness Centre,  
Greenbridge Rd, Swindon.

## CLUB 2000

Club 2000 Fitness Centre,  
for all of your fitness needs  
call: **01793 828124**

Swindon Road,  
Lower Stratton, Swindon.





## Express Sport Says: Take Our Advice Now

So, Tottenham chairman Alan Sugar blames the media for Christian Gross's departure as manager.



In contrast Gross, a likable man but out of his depth, thanks the press for their dealings with him during his time at White Hart Lane.

If the media have so much influence on Mr. Sugar, why didn't he listen to them in the first place and take on board suggestions made 10 months ago when Gerry Francis left?

It was predicted widely at the time Gross wasn't the right man for Tottenham.

It was said the club would be better off with Joe Kinnear, George Graham or even Glenn Hoddle at the helm.

Funny how those are the three of the names being discussed by directors at Tottenham at this very moment...

## No One Can Stop Gazza Now

Robie Mustoe feels Paul Gascoigne has put his problems firmly behind him after scoring his first goal of the season in style at Leicester City.



And the midfielder insists Gazza is almost back to his mercurial best.

"Gazza's goal was from the top drawer," said Mustoe, reveling in Middlesbrough's first Premiership win on the season on Wednesday. "We needed a victory and, thanks to Gazza, that's what we got."

For the last 20 minutes Gazza showed a lot of desire. His fitness is fine and his problems are now behind him."

## PREMIERSHIP



CARLING  
F.A. PREMIERSHIP

## ROUND-UP

### Heskey Playing Happy Families

Leicester striker Emile Heskey credited his mum's home cooking as one of the main reasons why he signed a new contract at Filbert Street.



Heskey, despite being chased by Aston Villa, has agreed a one-year extension that will keep him at Leicester until the summer of 2000.

The major attraction for 19-year-old Heskey, apart from a wages hike to over £12,000 a week and a guaranteed cut of his future transfer fee, is that he can remain living at home in Leicester with his parents, two brothers and a sister.

Heskey said: "I like my home life and having the family around me. It also means I eat great food all the time."

"We all get on very well together and the family has a calming influence on all the pressure of a footballer. I'm treated the same way as my brothers and sister. If I started acting as if I owned the place, I'm certain I would receive a clip around the ear. Heskey's decision was also swayed by other players committing to Filbert Street. He said: "Frank Sinclair's arrival and Matt Elliott and Steve Guppy agreeing extended contracts shows the club has ambition. Leicester are now an established Premiership team."

### Boss Hamman reaps Dividend

Wimbledon owner Sam Hamman has made no apology for missing out on the close season transfer frenzy.



After last week's amazing 4-3 win over a megabucks West Ham, he declared:

"We don't get caught up in the hype which demands clubs break their transfer records or bring in players on huge wages - we stay in control."



### TODAY'S PREMIER FIXTURES

COVENTRY	vs	NEWCASTLE UTD
DERBY CO	vs	LEICESTER CITY
LEEDS	vs	ASTON VILLA
LIVERPOOL	vs	CHARLTON
MIDDLESBROUGH	vs	EVERTON
NOTT'M FOREST	vs	WEST HAM
SOUTHAMPTON	vs	TOTTENHAM
WIMBLEDON	vs	SHEFF WED



### SUNDAY'S GAME ON TV (4.00PM K-OFF)

ARSENAL vs MAN UTD



### FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS.
ASTON VILLA	5	4	1	0	7	1	13
LIVERPOOL	5	3	1	1	9	4	10
LEEDS	5	2	3	0	5	1	9
DERBY	5	2	3	0	4	2	9
MAN UTD	4	2	2	0	8	3	8
MIDDLESBROUGH	5	2	2	1	6	4	8
WIMBLEDON	5	2	2	1	8	7	8
WEST HAM	5	2	2	1	6	5	8
ARSENAL	5	1	4	0	3	2	7
SHEFF WED	5	2	0	3	6	3	6
NOTT'M FOREST	5	2	0	3	5	7	6
TOTTENHAM	5	2	0	3	4	10	6
CHARLTON	5	1	2	2	7	6	5
NEWCASTLE	5	1	2	2	6	6	5
LEICESTER	5	1	2	2	5	5	5
CHELSEA	4	1	2	1	4	4	5
EVERTON	5	1	2	2	2	3	5
BLACKBURN	5	1	1	3	2	6	4
COVENTRY	5	1	1	3	2	6	4
SOUTHAMPTON	5	0	0	5	2	16	0







## Odd one out...

Identify which Swindon Town player is the odd one out and why?

## ANSWERS:

### WHO AM I?

1. STEVE McMAHON
2. MIKE WALSH
3. DAVE MOORE

### MANAGER?

STEVE WIGNALL  
COLCHESTER UTD

### WHO'S KIT

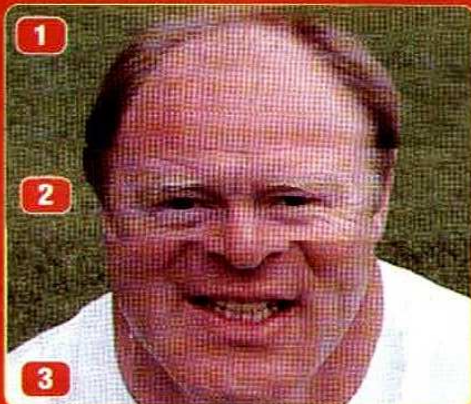
SHIRT:  
PRESTON  
NORTH END

### ODD ONE OUT

THE ODD ONE OUT IS  
ADAM WILLS, AS HE IS  
THE ONLY PLAYER NOT  
TO HAVE WORKED HIS  
WAY THROUGH  
SWINDON'S YOUTH  
RANKS

## WHO AM I?

Name the three faces from Swindon Town FC.



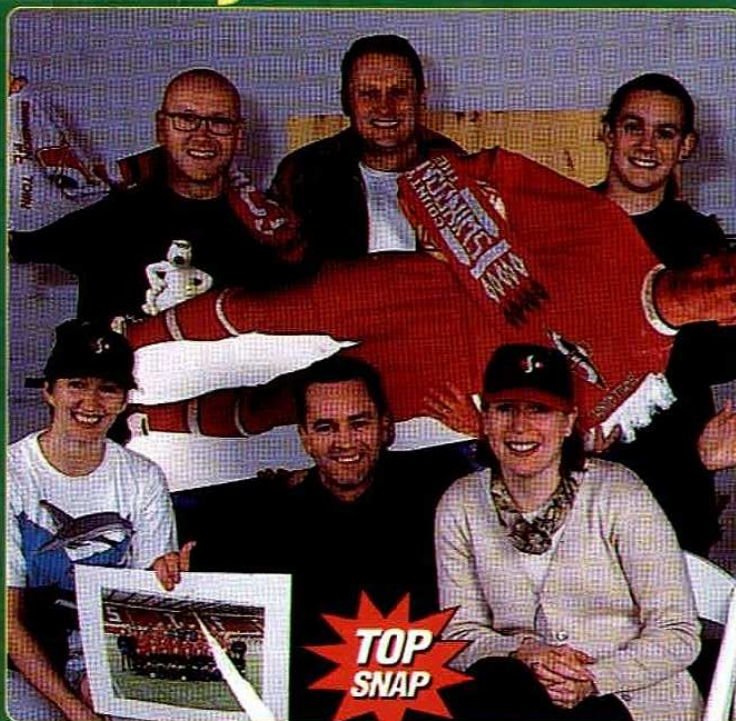
## who's kit ???????



## I am the manager of which team???



## show yer' colours!



**TOP  
SNAP**

Send us your picture sporting the Swindon Town colours and you just may be filling this space!

This week, Cartwheel Photography staff and clients are showing their colours at their studio in Swindon. As you can see, they also bumped into Steve McMahon. Good work fellas!

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# SWINDON TOWN Ladies



by Roger Reeves

**South West  
Combination League  
Swindon Town 2  
Oxford United 3**

**Team:** Diane George, Adelle Taylor, Clare Wheeler, Netti Wyness, Natalia Zarczynski, Clare Tyson, Ashley Wiseman (Kerie Garwood), Kim Reeves, Pam Laker, Nadine Lloyd, Leanne Taylor.

**Scorer:** Leanne Taylor (2)

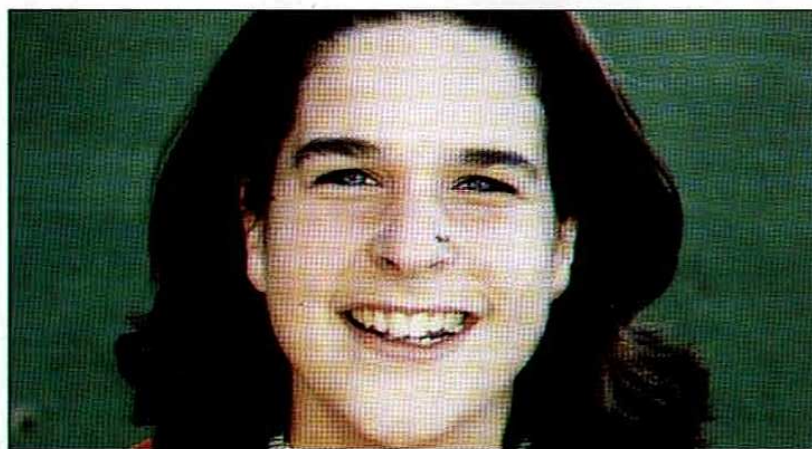
The Town Ladies did not have the ideal start to the season when they were beaten by the odd goal in five against Oxford United.

The visitors opened the stronger and went ahead after 15 minutes. Leanne

Taylor equalised for the Town three minutes later. Four minutes on, the "U's" regained the lead. The Town began to get their game together and Nadine Lloyd and Kim Reeves both hit the woodwork. Leanne Taylor eventually got a second equaliser for the Town after a good build up between Nadine Lloyd and Adelle Taylor. Play flowed from end to end before Oxford got a winner in injury time. The Town were disappointed with the result particularly as the game was covered by Central Television. The Town Reserves, with an average age of fifteen, visited Tring Town for their first game in the Southern Regional League Northern Division. An exciting game resulted at four goals a piece. Hayley Huckin bagged two and Louise Corcoran and Zara Stevens got one each. This was a good team performance, with most of the youngsters playing at this standard for the first time. Tomorrow the Town face Sherbourne in the South West Combination League. The Town have not met the Somerset side before.

Sherbourne finished eight in the South West Regional League last season. The match will be played on the County Ground Extension and kick off at 2.00 p.m.

The Town Reserves play an away league fixture against Witney Town.



Kim Reeves - Swindon Town Ladies 98/99 Season

## FIXTURES 98/99

### South West Combination League

SUN 6TH SEPT	OXFORD UNITED	2-3
SUN 13TH SEPT	Bristol Rovers	A
SUN 20TH SEPT	SHERBOURNE	H
SUN 27th Sept	(FA Cup R1)	
SUN 4th OCT	Portsmouth	A
SUN 11TH OCT	DENHAM UNITED	H
SUN 18th OCT	Swindon Spitfires	A
SUN 25TH OCT	CHELTEHAM	H
SUN 1st NOV	(FA Cup R2)	
SUN 8th NOV	Bath City	A
SUN 15TH NOV	BRISTOL CITY	H
SUN 22nd NOV	Saltash Pilgrims	A
SUN 29th NOV	Cardiff County	A
SUN 6th DEC	(League Cup)	
SUN 13th DEC	Oxford United	A
SUN 10TH JAN	BRISTOL ROVERS	H
SUN 24th JAN	Sherbourne	A
SUN 31ST JAN	PORTMOUTH	H
SUN 7th FEB	Denham United	A
SUN 14TH FEB	SWINDON SPITFIRES	H
SUN 28th FEB	Cheltenham	A
SUN 7TH MAR	BATH CITY	H
SUN 14th Mar	Bristol City	A
SUN 21ST MAR	SALTASH PILGRIMS	H
SUN 28TH MAR	CARDIFF COUNTY	H

## FIXTURES 98/99

### Southern Region League Northern Division

SUN 6th SEPT	Tring Town	4-4
SUN 13TH SEPT	CARTERTON TOWN	H
SUN 20th SEPT	Witney Town	A
SUN 27th SEPT	CHESHAM UNITED	H
SUN 4th OCT	Aylesbury Stoplake	A
SUN 11th OCT	Newport Pagnell Utd	A
SUN 18th OCT	OXFORD UTD RES	H
SUN 25th OCT	Bushey Rangers	A
SUN 1st NOV	RISBOROUGH R.	H
SUN 8th NOV	(League Cup R1)	
SUN 15TH NOV	TRING TOWN	H
SUN 22nd NOV	Carterton Town	A
SUN 29th NOV	WITNEY TOWN	H
SUN 6th DEC	chesham united	A
SUN 13TH DEC	AYLESBURY S.	H
SUN 20th JAN	NEWPORT P. UTD	H
SUN 27th JAN	Oxford United Res	A
SUN 3rd FEB	BUSHEY RANGERS	H
SUN 10th FEB	Risborough Rovers	A

## NEXT HOME GAMES

**South West  
Combination League  
Sunday 20th Sept 98  
Sherbourne**

**Southern Region League  
Northern Division  
Sunday 4th Oct 98  
Chesham Utd**



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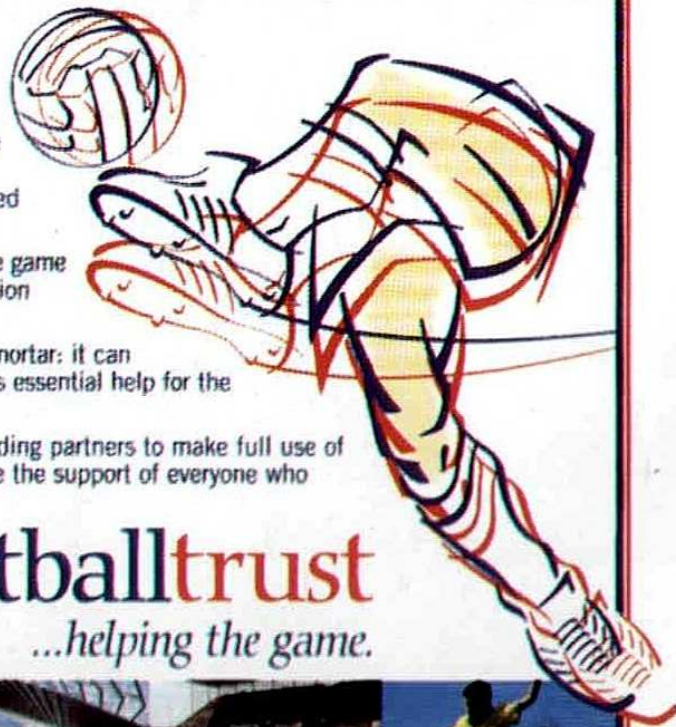
A major new funding package made up of annual contributions from The F.A. Premier League, The Football Association, The English Sports Council, The Football League and The Professional Footballers Association has been added to the Trust's pools derived income to secure its future.

The Trust has a major part to play in the success of the game and will continue its vital grant support for lower division clubs to complete the Taylor programme.

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## Blades Recruit Goram

Sheffield United have completed the signing of free agent Andy Goram on a two-month contract.



The 34-year-old former Rangers and Scotland goalkeeper could even start the First Division match against Grimsby after Simon Tracey damaged a shoulder during their defeat at Huddersfield. Goram, who starred for Notts County at the weekend, is hoping the move will put him in the shop window having failed to attract a club after quitting Rangers in the summer. Blades player-manager Steve Bruce said: "He will give us some quality cover. He is still a top-class goalkeeper who just needs a break. "He played for Notts County and that's how we

got alerted to him. We will have to wait and see whether we extend his contract. Andy needs to be playing, fit and in the shop window."



## NATIONWIDE DIVISION 1 ROUND-UP

### Prickley Rose!

Matthew Rose is heading for showdown talks with QPR boss Ray Harford.



The 22-year-old former Arsenal trainee is frustrated at being axed again for last week goalless draw with Tranmere.

### Fjortoft is Leaving!

Barnsley striker and ex-Swindon star Jan Aage Fjortoft is ready to quit Oakwell after new boss John Hendrie tabled an £800,000 offer to Dundee United for Robbie Winters.



### Barnes is Returning!

John Barnes has been linked with an emotional return to Watford after Newcastle's new boss Ruud Gullit made it clear the 34-year-old former Hornet has no future at St James Park.



### Bury Go To War With Ref

Bury manager Neil Warnock took a swipe at referee Barry Knight for awarding Norwich an injury-time penalty last Sunday - even though 'keeper Dean Kiely saved Craig Bellamy's spot kick.



Warnock, though delighted with a hard-earned point from a goalless draw, felt Knight could have ruined all their hard work by penalising defender Andy Woodward for a foul on substitute Adrian Forbes. "I think the referee will be embarrassed when he sees that one tonight," said Warnock. "To be honest I would have booked their player - he was clearly looking for a penalty from the word go even though there was virtually no contact, if any at all.

### Francis Fears Over Fans

Birmingham City manager Trevor Francis fears that stay-away fans could wreck the club's Premiership dreams.



City are currently perched on top of the First Division and are one of the favourites to return to the top flight this season after more than a decade. But that success has not been reflected so far at the St Andrews turnstiles with only one gate above 19,000 in their first four league matches. Francis said: "My concern is that I've built a squad that is as good as anything in this league - but if the crowds don't come I know what is going to happen.

"Sooner or later owners are going to say to me 'you've got to start generating some money' - and that means having to sell one of my top players."

### Nationwide league Division one

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
HUDDERSFIELD	8	5	1	2	13	9	16
BIRMINGHAM	8	5	1	2	12	6	16
SUNDERLAND	7	4	3	0	15	4	15
BURY	8	4	3	1	7	2	15
WOLVES	7	4	2	1	11	5	14
WEST BROM	7	4	1	2	17	12	13
NORWICH	6	4	1	1	11	6	13
BOLTON	6	3	3	0	14	9	12
WATFORD	7	4	0	3	10	11	12
SHEFF UTD	8	3	2	3	13	15	11
IPSWICH	7	2	4	1	9	5	10
STOCKPORT	8	2	4	2	9	10	10
PORTSMOUTH	8	2	3	3	14	13	9
BARNLEY	7	2	3	2	8	10	9
SWINDON	8	2	2	4	12	16	8
GRIMSBY	8	2	2	4	9	10	8
CRYSTAL PALACE	6	2	2	2	7	7	8
CREWE	7	2	1	4	8	10	7
PORT VALE	7	2	1	4	5	12	7
OXFORD	8	1	3	4	9	14	6
BRADFORD	7	1	2	4	8	13	5
BRISTOL CITY	8	0	4	4	10	17	4
QPR	7	0	3	4	4	11	3
TRANMERE	6	0	3	3	4	12	3



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**Darren Bullock**



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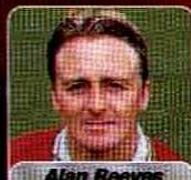
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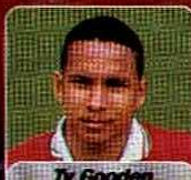
Tel:(01793)512612



**Alan Reeves**

**THE BEAUFORT  
ARMS**

Tel:(01793)853325



**Ty Gooden**

**LANBASE**

Tel:(01635)877977



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**George Ndah**

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# Express YOURSELF

# GEORGE NDAH

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## Well, what a difference a week can make in this game!

After just five League matches critics were already writing off the manager and his team. Then come two crunch matches, seven goals, exciting football and six points! With my partnership with Iffy under some scrutiny, I realise more than most just what those games meant to the players, the gaffer and the fans. Both of us knew it was a matter of time before the floodgates opened, with all the chances we were creating.

We've been saying all along that all we needed was just a bit of luck to go with our hard work. The result when it came was clear for all to see. Obviously for me the magic moment came with my second goal against Oxford. A terrific through ball from Ty Gooden set me up for a smooth finish, and I hope that it felt as good for all the fans!

Suddenly after two victories our season had taken off. Nobody can question our skill or our determination to battle under pressure. The way all the players celebrated with the gaffer showed what a great spirit we have within the squad and management. The way the fans also got behind us was fantastic. For the first time this season we all really finally looked and felt like a Club on the charge. We know there'll be other tough moments this season, but if we can stick together like we did that night there won't be many barriers stopping us moving up the League.

It was pleasing to see Scott Leitch get through a full 90 minutes after his recent injuries. It's great having him back there with Bully to strengthen and wisen up the midfield. That gives more room for Iffy and me to get forward and into goal-scoring spaces. Ty Gooden had a tireless game, running all night

and making penetrating advances down the wing. The only shame was him not scoring himself - maybe he should pass to me a bit more often! No doubt who gets special mention though - Mark Walters, our very own Peter - Pan. To see him playing like that at his age gives me hope that I'll still be around scoring goals in ten years time! Oxford were simply scared of the man, and it was great to see.



george Ndah

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**FORTY THREE**





**Q Where did it all begin?**

A As a schoolboy I played in a Warwickshire League. The standard was very good, and there were scouts watching games all the time. This was how I got trials with different clubs.



**Q Were these trials your first taste of professional football?**

A Yes. I had trials for Manchester United, Chelsea and Sheffield United but I decided on Coventry.



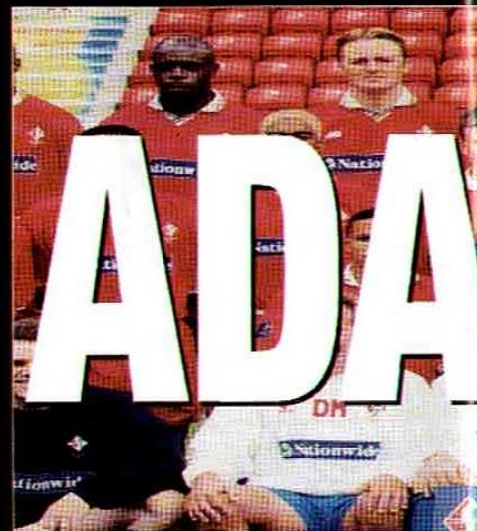
**Q Why did you choose Coventry, it is hardly the most glamorous of sides?**

A No. I suppose not. To be honest I was a Coventry fan from when I was a young lad. I was at Wembley when they won the cup in 1987 so I've always had a soft spot for them, and couldn't turn them down. It wasn't just about being a fan though. The facilities at Coventry were second to none, that was also an important factor.



**Q Were your youth team days successful?**

A Yes, we had a very good team. In my first year we won the League Cup and got to the quarterfinals of the FA Youth Cup. In my second year we won the League Cup again. Marcus Hall, who is now doing very well at Coventry, was a team mate of mine in those days.







### Q Those years at Coventry were turbulent times, what was it like?

A: I enjoyed three years as a pro at Coventry and saw a few managers come and go in that time. Terry Butcher signed me as schoolboy. From then, I played under Bobby Gould, Don Howe, Phil Neal, Ron Atkinson and Gordon Strachan. In many ways this was quite good, because in a short space of time you get to see the contrasting styles of different managers.



### Q But you never really broke into the first team.

A: That was the real frustration for me. To be training all week and preparing for the game on Saturday, yet the chance never comes. I was on the bench for Coventry about four times but never got on.



### Q Was that why you wanted to move on?

A: Exactly. You get to a point when you think it is time to try another club. Even though I never made it into the first eleven, those years were vitally important to my development as a player. Most importantly, of course, it meant that Brian Borrows knew who I was.



### Q Brian Borrows was instrumental in bringing you to Swindon, how did that work out?

A: I was basically told that I didn't have a future at Coventry. At the same time

Brian came back to Coventry during a day off from Swindon and chatted with Gordon Strachan and a few of the coaches. 'Bugsy' believed I could do a job at Swindon Town and got me a couple of trial games at the County Ground. I did reasonably well and signed a two year contract as a result.



### Q How have you settled in?

A: It has been fine. I've had the end of last season and the Ireland tour to get to know the lads and now my next priority is to get into the first team.



### Q How do you rate your chances?

A: Obviously it is going to be hard work. Reeves and 'Bugsy' are playing well together. I know it sounds harsh, but I'm just waiting for suspensions and injuries to get my chance. And when the opportunity comes I want to keep my place on merit.



### Q It would be quite an irony if Brian Borrows had to make way for you after it was he who brought you to Swindon!

A: Yes maybe. It would be nice to take over from a Coventry legend, but 'Bugsy' is a top quality defender and has plenty of games left in him yet.



**Adam Willis**

### Has your career ever gone pear-shaped?

Just being stuck in the reserves at Coventry

### Best dressed at Swindon T?

It is close between George Ndah and Mark Robinson with his fishing tackle

### Worst dressed at Swindon T?

Mark Robinson in his fishing gear

### Superstitions?

I always put my 'tie-ups' with the knot facing the back.

### Your house is on fire, what's the first thing you rescue?

My CDs

### Favourite Spice Girl?

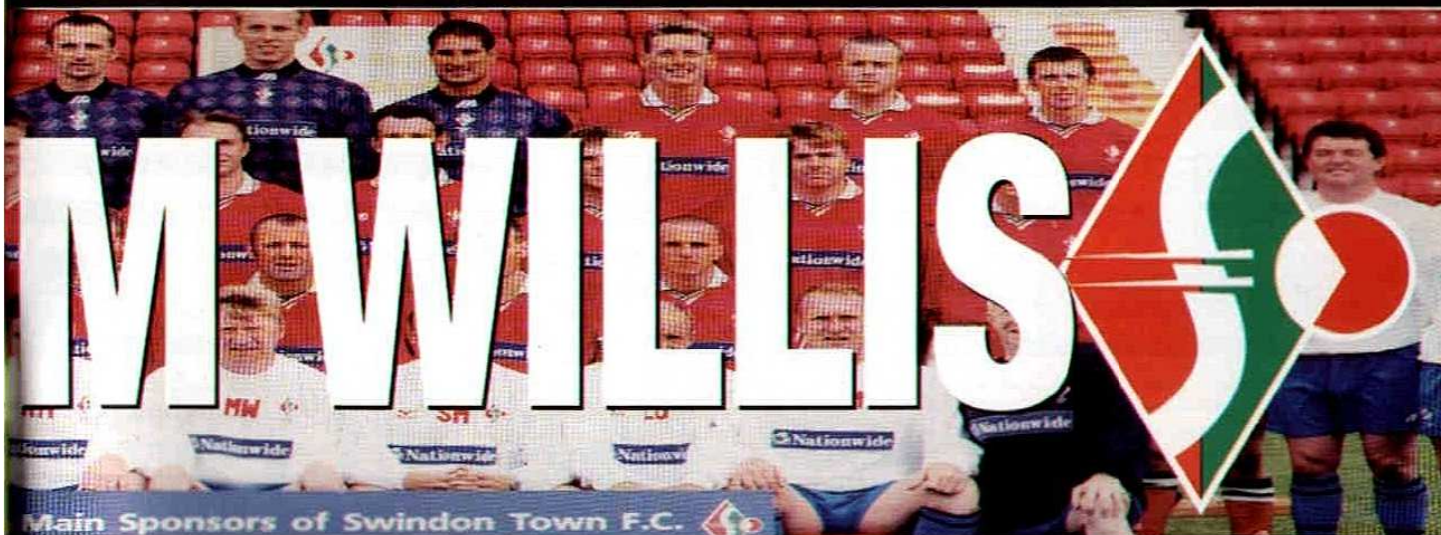
We'll go with a little bit of Scary Spice

### What's the best advice a manager has ever given you?

Play to your strengths and work on your weaknesses

### Sum yourself up in three words?

Smooth, gorgeous, modest.





## the swindon fact files

## the key:

FAC = F.A. CUP  
WC = WORTHINGTON CUP

DATE			OPPONENTS	RESULT	ATT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sat Aug 08	Sheffield United		A	1-2	15,937	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	GOODEN	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
WED AUG 12	WYCOMBE W. WC1 (1)		H	2-1	4,682	GLASS	ROBINSON	HALL	GOODEN	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT AUG 15	SUNDERLAND		H	1-1	10,207	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Tue Aug 18	Wycombe W. WC1 (2)		A	0-2	2,478	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	WATSON	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Sat Aug 22	Wolverhampton W.		A	0-1	21,537	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	DAVIS	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT AUG 29	PORT VALE		H	1-1	7,800	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	HULBERT	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Mon Aug 31	Bury		A	0-3	4,513	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	HULBERT	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT SEPT 05	BRISTOL CITY*		H	3-2	8,537	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
WED SEPT 09	OXFORD UNITED*		H	4-1	8,305	GLASS	KERSLAKE	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Sat Sept 12	Portsmouth		A	2-5	10,105	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT SEPT 19	WATFORD		H									
Fri Sept 25	Tranmere Rovers		A									
Tue Sept 29	Bolton Wanderers		A									
SAT OCT 03	STOCKPORT COUNTY		H									
FRI OCT 09	HUDDERSFIELD T.		H									
Sat Oct 17	Ipswich Town		A									
Tue Oct 20	Birmingham City		A									
SAT OCT 24	W.B.A.		H									
SAT OCT 31	QUEENS PARK RANGERS		H									
Sat Nov 07	Crewe Alexandra		A									
Sat Nov 14	Bradford City (FA.C1)		A									
SAT NOV 21	CRYSTAL PALACE		H									
Sat Nov 28	Grimsby Town		A									
SAT DEC 05	NORWICH CITY (FA.C2)		H									
SAT DEC 12	BRADFORD CITY		H									
Sat Dec 19	Barnsley		A									
SAT DEC 26	WOLVERHAMPTON W.		H									
Mon Dec 28	Bristol City		A									
Sat Jan 02	(FA.C3)											
SAT JAN 09	SHEFFIELD UNITED		H									
Sat Jan 16	Port Vale		A									
Sat Jan 23	(FA.C4)											
SAT JAN 30	BURY		H									
Sat Feb 06	Sunderland		A									
Sat Feb 13	Oxford Utd (FA.C5)		A									
SAT FEB 20	PORTSMOUTH		H									
Sat Feb 27	Watford		A									
WED MAR 03	TRANMERE ROVERS		H									
SAT MAR 06	BOLTON W. (FA.C6)		H									
Tue Mar 09	Stockport County		A									
SAT MAR 13	CREWE ALEXANDRA		H									
Sat Mar 20	Queens Park Rangers		A									
Sat Mar 27	W.B.A.		A									
SAT APR 03	IPSWICH TOWN		H									
Mon Apr 05	Huddersfield Town		A									
SAT APR 10	BIRMINGHAM C. (FA.CSF)		H									
Sat Apr 17	Crystal Palace		A									
SAT APR 24	GRIMSBY TOWN		H									
Sat May 01	Norwich City		A									
SUN MAY 09	BARNSELY		H									
Sat May 22	F.A. Cup Final											

### THIS SEASONS TOP SCORERS

IFFY ONUORA	5
GEORGE NDAH	5
MARK WALTERS	1
GARETH HALL	1
ALAN REEVES	1

### LAST SEASONS TOP GATES

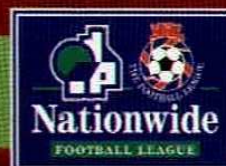
SUN 3 <sup>RD</sup> MAY VS SUNDERLAND	15,740
SAT 22 <sup>ND</sup> NOV VS MIDDLESBROUGH	15,228
SUN 7 <sup>TH</sup> SEPT VS NOTT'M FOREST	13,051
SAT 21 <sup>ST</sup> FEB VS MANCHESTER CITY	12,280

### LAST FOUR GAMES

PORTSMOUTH	A	LOST 5-2
OXFORD UNITED	H	WON 4-1
BRISTOL CITY	H	WON 3-2
BURY	A	LOST 3-0



# FRONT COVER PHOTO... SCOTT LEITCH



1



**PLAYER IN RED DENOTES SCORER** **NUMBER IN BRACKETS DENOTES PLAYER REPLACED ( )**

8	9	10	11	12	13	14
HAY	ONDURA	BULLOCK	NDAH	DAVIS (5)	CUERVO	TAYLOR
HAY	ONDURA	BULLOCK	NDAH	KERSLAKE	WATSON(8)	TAYLOR
NDAH	ONDURA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	DAVIS	HAY	CUERVO(4)
NDAH	ONDURA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HAY (4)	CUERVO (11)	GLASS
NDAH	HAY	BULLOCK	GOODEN	ONDURA(6)	ROBINSON	CUERVO (4)
NDAH	ONDURA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HAY	DAVIS	CUERVO (9)
NDAH	ONDURA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	COWE	DAVIS(3)	ROBINSON
NDAH	ONDURA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	MULBERT(4)	COWE	DAVIS(8)
NDAH (2)	ONDURA (2)	BULLOCK	GOODEN	ROBINSON	WILLIS	WATSON
NDAH	ONDURA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	ROBINSON(10)	COWE	WILLIS

## the GRIPTON factor

By our matchday announcer JON GRIPTON of BBC Wiltshire Sound



**What a great atmosphere here at the County Ground for the two local derbies - and what great results!**

I'm sure we all go into every local game with a sense of expectation - but could anyone have predicted seven glorious goals against our old foes Oxford United and Bristol City?

Iffy and George certainly did the business for us on the field, leading to big smiles right around the ground - even the police officers on duty for us were tempted to watch events on the turf! And they were exactly the right results to put to rest the speculation about the Gaffer's future. I joined the media scrum here at the ground straight after the Oxford final whistle - and to be honest it made me question what the fuss had been about. It seemed we were back to winning ways, Steve McMahon had made clear his intention to stay put for the immediate future - and a few fans even stayed behind for a minute or two to sing a song!

Your support for the team and for Steve McMahon on those

matchdays was terrific and I'm sure it gave the whole County Ground team a lift. Keep it up!

Yet again the financial gulf between the clubs at the top of the Premiership and in the lower flight leagues had become apparent. I'm sure somebody in the business world will justify to me why Manchester United is worth 600 million pounds! But what concerns me more is how it once again demonstrates the financial muscle of the big-boys, and how the 'Business of Football' is changing. Just a month ago our Chairman Rikki Hunt was explaining at his special meeting just how precarious a position many of our First and Second Division teams are now in. I'm not really sure how we can be expected to sit back and watch as the teams we are passion about run the gauntlet of debt collectors each week; but neither am I sure how you and I can change the situation. Apart from staying loyal, investing in Swindon Town FC where we can afford to, and turning out at the County Ground to clearly demonstrate, to anyone that is watching, right where our loyalty lies.

Remember on your way home this afternoon that my mate Shaun Hodgetts will bring you all the after-match reaction from the Gaffer and the lads on BBC Wiltshire Sound Sport.

**Enjoy the game!**

Designed and Produced by



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103.6, 104.3 & 103.5 FM

**FORTY SEVEN**





# MATCH.... STATS



## the officials

**Referee:**  
**Mr C. Wilkes**

Clive Wilkes is 43, married and works as a car trader. He started refereeing in 1974.

Clive has progressed via the Glos League, West Midlands League and was appointed to the referees list in 1990. His hobbies include Martial Arts, all sports and conservation.

**Assistant Referees:**

**Mr D. Richards**  
**Mr K.A. Cooper**

## match facts

**Half-Time Score**

**Full-Time Score**

**Today's Attendance**



**ClubCall**

**0891 121 640**

news updates, match commentaries and all the latest ticket information.

\* Calls charged at 50p at all times

# TODAY'S TEAMS.....



**SWINDON  
TOWN**



**WATFORD**



JIMMY GLASS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	ALEC CHAMBERLAIN
FRANK TALIA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	CHRIS DAY
STEVE MILDENHALL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	DARREN BAZELEY
CRAIG TAYLOR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	MARK BOYCE
MARK ROBINSON	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	NIGEL GIBBS
BRIAN BORROWS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PETER KENNEDY
ALAN McDONALD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	KEITH MILLEN
ALAN REEVES	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	TOMMY MOONEY
ADAM WILLIS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	ROBERT PAGE
DAVID KERSLAKE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	DARREN WARD
GARETH HALL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	DEAN YATES
TY GOODEN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	CLINT EASTON
SOL DAVIS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	JOHANN GUDMUNDSSON
DARREN BULLOCK	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	ALON HAZAN
BOBBY HOWE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	MICAH HYDE
PHILIPPE CUERVO	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RICHARD JOHNSON
KEVIN WATSON	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	STEVE PALMER
ROBIN HULBERT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	STUART SLATER
SCOTT LEITCH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	JASON LEE
LEE COLLINS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	MICHEL NGONGE
MARK WALTERS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	GIFTON NOEL-WILLIAMS
GEORGE NDAH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RONNY ROSENTHAL
IFEM ONUORA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	ALLAN SMART
CHRIS HAY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	DAI THOMAS
STEVE COWE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	NICK WRIGHT

## NEXT HOME MATCH...

**Sat 3rd Sept 1998**

**Nationwide League Div 1**

**3.00pm kick off VS STOCKPORT CO.**

