

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE

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Swindon



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ISSUE 10

TODAY'S VISITORS

All the latest information on
Crystal Palace Football Club

PLAYER PROFILE

A closer look at Kevin Watson

PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND-UP

All the latest news and views
on the Premier League

SWINDON VS CRYSTAL PALACE



Saturday 21st November 1998 3.00pm kick off

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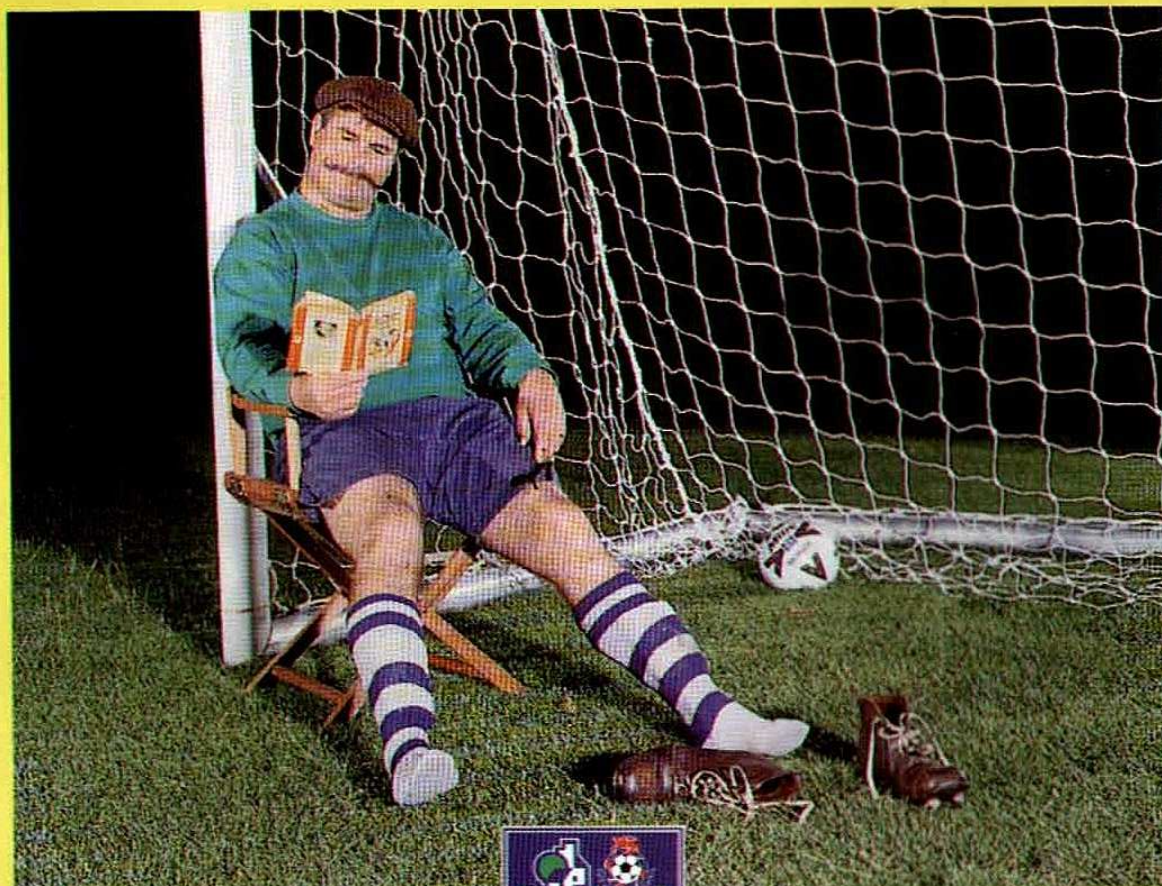
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The World's No.1 Building Society

vs Crystal Palace

November 21st 1998

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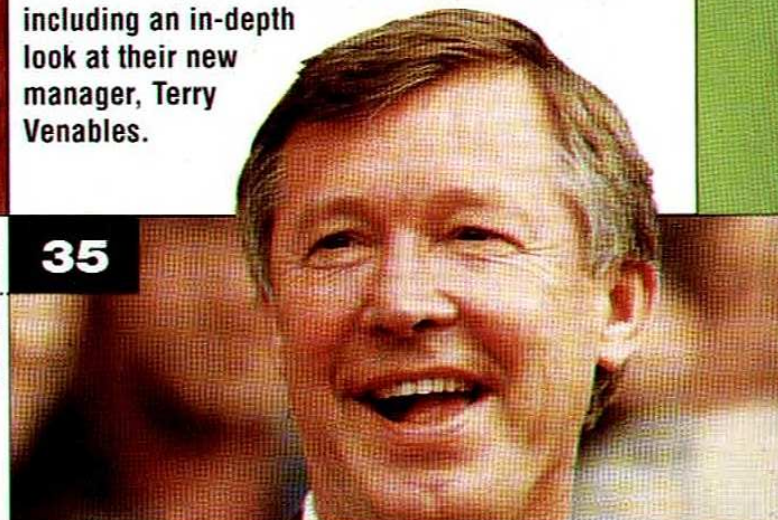
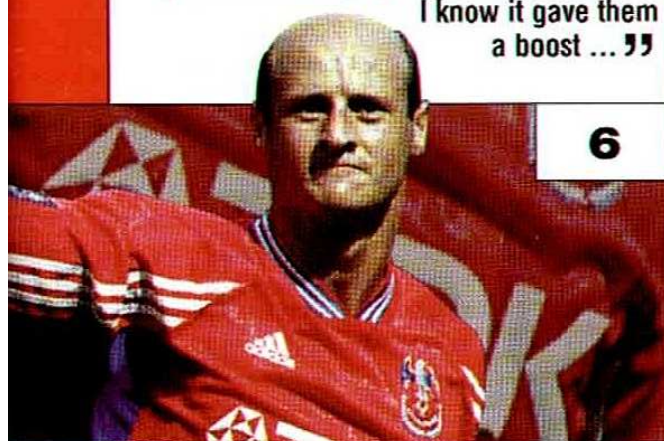
“The fans were fantastic at Crewe. They got behind the players from the start and I know it gave them a boost ...”



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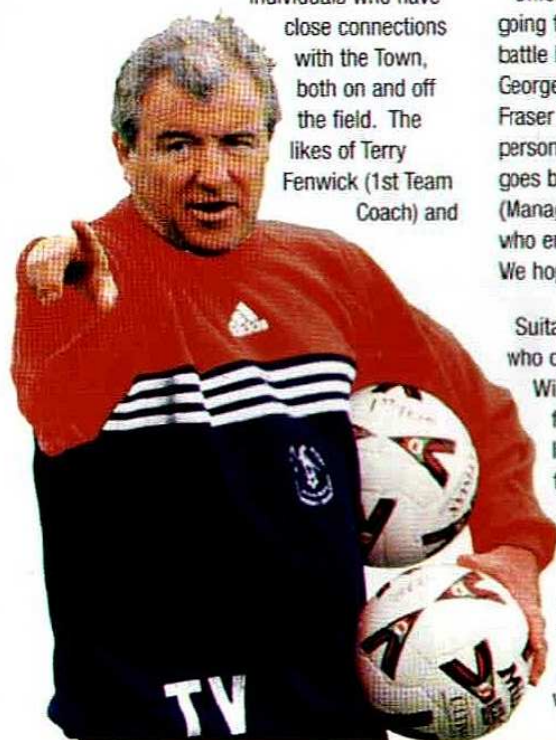
According to team mates he's humorous, honest, trustworthy and his favourite Spice Girl is Sporty Spice!



Welcome to the county ground...

Today we extend a very warm welcome to the supporters, players, staff and directors of Crystal Palace for this our 10th home game of the season.

Palace bring with them today a string of individuals who have close connections with the Town, both on and off the field. The likes of Terry Fenwick (1st Team Coach) and



Phil Alexander (Managing Director) both played key roles here at the County Ground. On the pitch itself we welcome back crowd favourite Fraser Digby for his first ever visit to the Ground in an opponents' colours, and hope it's a memorable return.

Unfortunately it looks like injury is going to prevent us from relishing the battle between Fraser and our own George Ndah, himself formerly of Palace. Fraser and George share a link in personnel between our two Clubs which goes back to the days of Bert Head (Manager) and, of course, Don Rogers, who enjoyed golden spells at both Clubs. We hope all concerned enjoy the match.

Suitably, it was Don Rogers himself who officiated at the opening of our Winners' Lounge last night. For the first and last time the entry to the lounge was by invite only. As of today, access to Winners is for all fans, not just a select few as in past years. No membership is required, nor an entry fee: the only proof we need that you are a Town Fan is the production of your matchday ticket. We are delighted with the new facility and likewise

hope that you enjoy it before each home match. Many thanks to Don and all the others who helped in the making of Winners', particularly the Club's maintenance crew.

Many of you may have first heard of Winners' Bar from 'Talk of the Town', the new Friday evening radio show hosted by Shaun Hodgetts in conjunction with Steve Sutherland, our Director of Commercial Activities. The theme of the bar is, naturally, the spirit of achievement and success in their broadest sense, not just on the football pitch, but in other sports and, indeed, in all walks of life.

In today's world of football the ambition for success is your life-blood, so it was wonderful to hear the familiar tones of Colin Calderwood, in many sense Swindon's most successful Captain, on the new radio show. Since first establishing himself in Swindon, Colin has so far gone on to win 21 caps for his country and play at the highest level possible. We can only hope more Town players go on to achieve such feats. See Colin's photograph alongside other winners with your matchday ticket at Winners' Bar, in the Arkells Stand.

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Jim Quinn

gives his view...

When I first joined Swindon Town I said we wouldn't change things overnight.

But so far things do seem to be going in the right direction as we move away from the relegation zone.

And after playing so long without an away win it is especially pleasing to be able to talk about our 2-0 victory over Crewe. It was just a shame we couldn't repeat the score line at Bradford a week later.

Looking closer at the first game I felt we did extremely well. We knew Crewe were struggling a bit, particularly up front, but they are a good footballing side and we needed to have a game plan.

We took the approach of defending deep because they have some good players, and they are a young team with plenty of legs that could exploit any space we left. We defended well and it was down to the big man in attack, Iffy Onuora, to bag two brilliant goals.

The fans on the day were absolutely fantastic. They really got behind the team from start to finish and this gave the players a terrific boost.

A week later we were on our travels again, this time to Bradford City. They are a good side who are battling for the play-offs so we knew it would be tough. Up to half time I felt we did ever so well without creating too much ourselves.

We defended well and when you're playing sides like Bradford who have spent a bit of money you have to give them respect. I really feel that if we'd have kept a clean sheet we could've got a point or maybe even nicked all three.

But on the day, a refereeing decision went against us and that changed the shape of the game.

But the lads played well and the 3-0 result was not a true reflection of the game. Even when we were down to

ten men we outplayed and matched them for long spells.

Neale Fenn came into the side and was terrific. He worked hard and held the ball up well alongside Iffy Onuora, who has done everything a manager could possibly ask over the last few games.

You don't mind losing to a great move or goal, but to lose to a ref's decision is always hard. But I put it down to experience and look forward to today's big game with Crystal Palace.

Palace have had a mixed season so far. They have plenty of quality in their side and have played very well, but they do seem a bit weak away from home. They are a side we have to respect, but there is no reason to fear them.

I would like welcome my opposite number, Terry Venables, to the County Ground and, of course, ex-Swindon favourite, Fraser Digby. Let's hope we can make it an unhappy return for Fraser today!

Once again I would like to pay tribute to the fans who have supported us. Football Clubs are not just about players and on a Saturday afternoon you can play as bigger part as anyone by getting behind the players and giving them a real lift.

NEXT MATCH

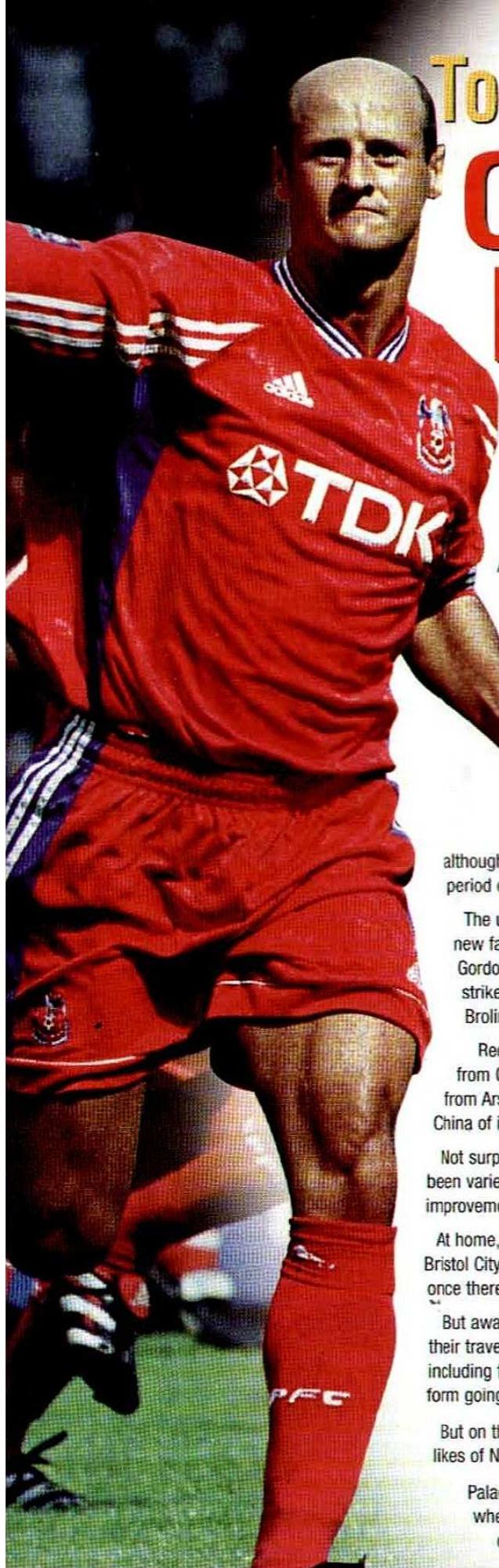
(AWAY) GRIMSBY TOWN

Sat 28th November 1998



Although recently promoted they are flying near the top of the league.

This will be a tough match, so don't miss it.



Today's visitors **CRYSTAL PALACE**



This afternoon we welcome the players, supporters and staff of Crystal Palace 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. After the traumas of the 1997/98 Premiership campaign, you could make a case for Palace supporters being glad to be back in the calmer waters of Division One this season.

Palace endured the toughest of years in the top flight, with three managers, a succession of ill-advised purchases, a protracted and, at times, painful takeover bid, huge injury problems, and the small matter of no home wins until it was all too late. Things, as they say, can only get better.

New Chairman Mark Goldberg finally took control towards the end of the season, and he moved to install former England boss, Terry Venables, as the new head coach at Selhurst Park - although even that appointment was fraught with difficulties and took a lengthy period of time to complete.

The upheaval has continued this season. Venables has brought in a succession new faces, as well as saying goodbye to old favourites such as defenders Dean Gordon, Marc Edworthy and Herman Hreidarsson, and last season's Premiership strikeforce of Neil Shipperley and Bruce Dyer, as well as the hapless trio of Tomas Brolin, Michele Padovano and Valerien Ismael.

Recent newcomers have included Yugoslav international defender Gordan Petric, from Glasgow Rangers, striker Lee Bradbury and on-loan youngster Jason Crowe, from Arsenal, while Venables also caused a big stir with his double signing from China of internationals Sun Jihai and Fan Zhiyi.

Not surprisingly with such a massive turnaround in playing staff, results so far have been varied, although the quality of football on display has certainly been an improvement on last year.

At home, the Eagles have been in irresistible form. Last Saturday's 2-1 triumph over Bristol City was a sixth successive victory at Selhurst Park, and Palace have lost only once there in nine games so far in 1998/99.

But away from south London, Venables' troops have suffered, with only one win on their travels compared to five defeats and 28 goals conceded. Jimmy Quinn's troops - including former Palace striker George Ndah - will be keen to keep that dismal run of form going this afternoon.

But on their day, the Eagles can be mighty predators, as handsome victories over the likes of Norwich City (5-1) and Portsmouth (4-1) show.

Palace began the 1998/99 campaign as one of the favourites for promotion and, when the dust settles, they are sure to be up among the Division's front-runners once more.



The team

CRYSTAL PALACE

FRASER DIGBY

POSITION: **Goalkeeper**

BORN: **23.04.67**

AGE: **31**

HEIGHT: **6ft 1in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Swindon Town**

Former England U21 stopper and County Ground favourite who joined Palace shortly before the start of the current season to provide competition for then first choice Kevin Miller. Was voted Swindon's 'Player of the Year' last season, which was also his Testimonial year for the club, and has been in outstanding form for the Eagles this term, making the number one shirt his own.

KEVIN MILLER

POSITION: **Goalkeeper**

BORN: **15.03.69**

AGE: **29**

HEIGHT: **6ft 1in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Watford**

One of the few highlights for Palace last season, £1.55m signing Miller was ever-present in the Premiership. An excellent shot-stopper, injury saw him sidelined for the early part of the current campaign and since then he has had to be content to play second fiddle to the in-form Digby. Has requested a transfer.

DEAN AUSTIN

POSITION: **Full-back**

BORN: **26.04.70**

AGE: **28**

HEIGHT: **6ft**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Tottenham**

Experienced defender who was frozen out of the first-team at White Hart Lane last season and moved to Selhurst Park during the summer. Began with Southend and was originally signed for Spurs by Terry Venables in July 1992, but has yet to fully win over the Palace faithful after some unconvincing displays at the back this season.

SAGI BURTON

POSITION: **Defender**

BORN: **25.11.77**

AGE: **20**

HEIGHT: **6ft 2in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **From YTS**

Promising young right-sided defender who has come up through the ranks at Palace and made his senior debut at Derby last season. One of a number of bright youngsters being pushed through by Director of Coaching Steve Coppell.

JASON CROWE

POSITION: **Full-back**

BORN: **30.09.78**

AGE: **28**

HEIGHT: **5ft 9in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Arsenal (loan)**

Highly-rated young Gunners' full-back who has recently begun a three-month loan spell with Palace. Venables tried to sign him permanently earlier in the current campaign, but was knocked back by Arsene Wenger.

ANDY LINIGHAN

POSITION: **Central Defender**

BORN: **18.06.62**

AGE: **36**

HEIGHT: **6ft 3in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Arsenal**

The elder brother of former Ipswich and Blackpool favourite David Linighan, Andy was recently appointed club captain by Terry Venables. Hugely experienced after many successful years with Arsenal, he leads the back line well for the Eagles although he is playing more of a squad role this season. A bargain signing at £150,000 in January 1997 he is a former England 'B' international.

CRAIG MOORE

POSITION: **Central Defender**

BORN: **12.12.75**

AGE: **22**

HEIGHT: **6ft 1in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Rangers**

One of a number of Australians now plying their trade at Selhurst Park under the guidance of their former national coach. Snapped up from Glasgow Rangers in mid-October, where he has spent the last five seasons after graduating from Australia's famous Institute of Sport. Classy and elegant in possession, Moore scored three goals in his first four games for Palace and has slotted in well to the back line.

FAN ZHIYI

POSITION: **Defender/Utility**

BORN: **China**

AGE: **36**

HEIGHT: **6ft 3in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Shanghai**

A competitive player, who is also China's national captain. Able to play anywhere in defence, midfield or up front, Fan made his Eagles debut in the Worthington Cup match at Bury in early September and has since established himself as a great favourite with the Selhurst Park faithful. Currently being investigated by the FA for an alleged push on referee Terry Heilbron at the recent West Brom match.



The team

CRYSTAL PALACE

SASA CURCIC

POSITION: **Midfield**

BORN: **14.02.72**

AGE: **26**

HEIGHT: **5ft 9in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **A. Villa**

Joined the Eagles in a cut-price £1m deal on Transfer Deadline Day last season and quickly became a fans' favourite. An attacking player with superb vision, passing skills and a good long-range shot. A Yugoslavian international, he has made a quick recovery from the hamstring injury which at one stage seemed destined to keep him out of action until Christmas.

CRAIG FOSTER

POSITION: **Midfield**

BORN: **15.04.69**

AGE: **29**

HEIGHT: **5ft 11in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Portsmouth**

Another of the Aussie connection at Selhurst Park, Craig made his Eagles debut in the 3-0 defeat at Ipswich Town in early October and has since established himself in the first team. He has a good touch and an eye for goal, scoring his first for the club in their 4-1 defeat of his former club, Portsmouth, on November 7th.

SUN JIHAI

POSITION: **Midfield**

BORN: **China**

AGE: **22**

HEIGHT: **5ft 10in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Dalian Wanda**

Midfielder who moved to Selhurst Park as part of the £500,000 joint deal which also took fellow Chinese international Fan Zhiyi to south London in September. Damaged his ankle during his debut, at Bury in the Worthington Cup, causing him to miss several week's football, but has since returned to action.

ATTILIO LOMBARDO

POSITION: **Midfield**

BORN: **06.01.66**

AGE: **32**

HEIGHT: **5ft 11in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Juventus, Ita**

One of the most surprising transfers of last season, the £1.6m Lombardo has been a revelation at Selhurst Park - despite injuries and an unhappy spell as player-coach last season. The 'Bald Eagle' is an Italian international and oozes class and creativity when on the ball. He was persuaded to stay at the relegated club after the appointment of Terry Venables and has been ever-present so far in 1998/99 - scoring three goals in the process.

NICKY RIZZO

POSITION: **Midfield**

BORN: **09.06.79**

AGE: **19**

HEIGHT: **5ft 10in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Liverpool**

Another player to have caught Terry Venables' eye when he was coach of the Socceroos, Rizzo is an attacking midfield player of whom big things are expected. Learned his trade at Anfield, but moved to Palace in the summer after failing to break into the first team with Liverpool. He has been a revelation in wide midfield for the Eagles this season.

MARCUS BENT

POSITION: **Forward**

BORN: **19.05.78**

AGE: **20**

HEIGHT: **6ft 2in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Brentford**

Able to play out wide or through the centre, Marcus scored five goals in 16 games after moving up from the Second Division for £250,000 last season. His impressive pace and skill earned him a call-up to the England U21 side during the summer, but injury sidelined him for the early part of the current campaign and he now finds himself behind Jansen and Bradbury in the Palace pecking order.

LEE BRADBURY

POSITION: **Forward**

BORN: **03.07.75**

AGE: **23**

HEIGHT: **6ft 1in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Man City**

A recent £1.5m signing, Bradbury played as a stop-gap right-wing-back in his first outing for Palace - at Grimsby - this bustling striker quickly returned up front and scored his first goal for the club in their 2-1 win over Bristol City last Saturday.

MATT JANSEN

POSITION: **Forward**

BORN: **20.10.77**

AGE: **21**

HEIGHT: **5ft 11in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Carlisle**

The jewel in Palace's crown, and an England U21 regular, although he missed the midweek clash with the Czech Republic through injury. Fast, direct, skilful and explosive, Jansen has a number of Premiership scouts watching his every move and has already attracted a £4m bid from Aston Villa this season.

Other squad members include:

David Amsalem, Wayne Carlisle, Tony Folan, Jamie Fullarton, Gareth Graham, Lee Kendall, Matthias Svensson, Gareth Ormshaw, Steven Thomson, Clinton Morrison, Simon Rodger, Hayden Mullins, Paul Warhurst, David Tuttle, Jamie Smith, Gordan Petric.

The manager **TERRY VENABLES**

Managerial names don't come much bigger than Crystal Palace's new head coach, the former England and Tottenham boss Terry Venables, now in his second spell with the club.



Headhunted by Selhurst Park supremo Mark Goldberg from his role in charge of the Australian national side, Venables' career has come full circle with his return to south London.

A charismatic and highly knowledgeable football-man, Venables was a stylish player with Chelsea, Tottenham, QPR, Palace and England before beginning his coaching career under Malcolm Allison at Selhurst Park in the mid-1970s.

After 'Big Mal's' departure, Venables took Palace up from Division Three in 1977, and then into the old First Division two years later, before leaving for QPR following a boardroom row in October 1980.

Glory years followed with QPR, Barcelona and Tottenham before his sensational sacking from White Hart Lane in May 1993 and his subsequent high profile falling out with Spurs' Chairman Alan Sugar.

An appointment as England's head coach followed, and he took the national side to the Semi-Finals of Euro '96, but the FA failed to renew his contract and Venables once more moved on to pastures new, accepting a role as Australia's head coach and Chief Executive at Portsmouth.

But when Goldberg - a lifelong Palace fan - took over the Selhurst Park reigns in April, he made it his prime objective to bring back the man who had built the so-called 'Team of the Eighties'.

Venables' return caused mixed emotions in London SE25, as a number of fans still believed that Venables was directly responsible for the club's fall from grace in the early 1980s, but his blend of charm, wit and excellent coaching credentials seem to have now won over the Palace faithful.

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QUESTION ONE

Which ex-Swindon player will be making his return to the County Ground for today's game against Crystal Palace.

QUESTION TWO

What is the name of the Joe Bloggs outdoor range?

For your nearest stockist please contact
0161 831 7550.

Please state a colour in order of preference, (colours available Navy or Stone). Please send your answers with full name, address and size (S,M,L or XL) to Richard Mackey, Swindon Town FC, County Ground, Swindon, Wilts, SN1 2ED. All entries must be in by Saturday 28th November 1998.

Please allow four weeks for delivery.



PAGES from the past...

BOB SMITH WRITES NOVEMBER 1978...

Some improvement - room for more, is probably how I would sum up our progress so far this season.

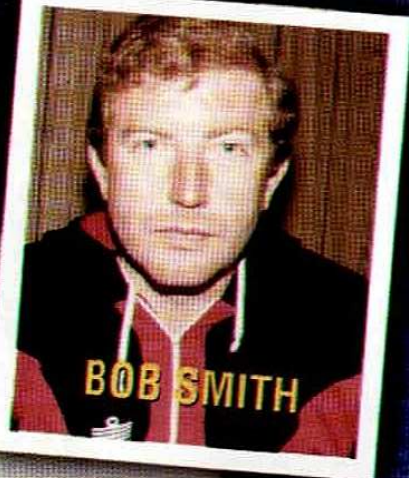
Results, especially away from home, have been disappointing at times but we are gradually becoming more consistent. This is born out by the fact that we have won five of our last six games. Chic Bates gave us a flying start at Mansfield and despite the penalty miss by Ray McHale (incredibly we have now missed five penalties in a row) we were a lot tighter in defence and held on to secure our second away win of the season.

Injuries have been a real problem this season and already there are just five players: Andy Ford, Ray McHale, Kenny Stroud and Chic Bates who have not missed a match. Thankfully, Andy Rowland came through the reserve match against Chelsea and for the first time in a least three months all our senior players are available for selection. To further strengthen our pool of players I have signed Bryan Hamilton the Northern Ireland international for £15,000. He is a player not only of high ability but one who possesses the qualities I look for in a professional. I am certain he will help make Swindon a more successful club.

I would also like to clarify two other situations concerning players. I have always believed in honesty to players and to this end I told Colin Prophet that I consider Kenny Stroud to be the better player. Like most good professionals Colin wants first team football and I agreed to let him go when a decent offer came along. A similar situation existed with Chris Guthrie once I had signed Andy Rowlands. I have worked with Andy before at Bury where Andy showed himself to be a consistent scorer whether the team was playing well or not. In many ways he and Chris were similar players and it would be difficult to play them both in the same team. Consequently when Fulham showed an interest in Chris I let him go.

Hopefully, as time goes on we can produce more home-grown talent and, to this end, John Trollope is setting up a team for 15 and 16 year olds. This will enable us to be in a better position when it comes to selecting boys to become apprentices and will help us to begin to develop good habits in players at an early age.

Today we welcome Shrewsbury Town, who are second in the Third Division table and just four points and three places above us in the table. A win today will really see us challenging for promotion so get behind the lads and make sure to come along again next week when non-League March Town will be making their first ever visit to the County Ground in the F A Cup.



Quiz question:

Bert Head had no fewer than three of his former Swindon players in his squad when he was manager of Crystal Palace. Can you name them?

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

Dick Mattick -
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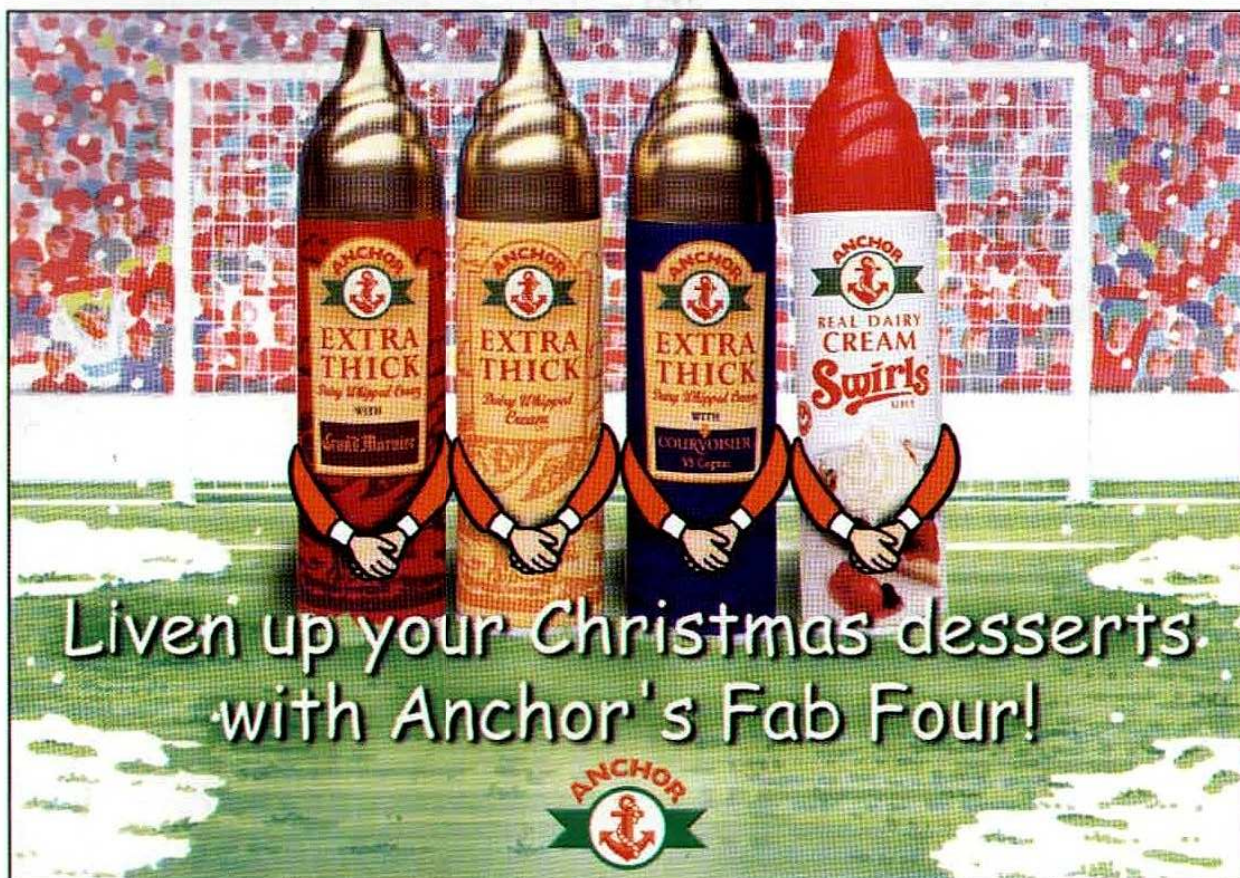
Last game's question

Who were the first two clubs to win the League Cup while still members of the old Third Division?


Answer...

Queens Park Rangers and Swindon Town.

compiled by Dick Mattick



Liven up your Christmas desserts
with Anchor's Fab Four!



Last Season
The Nationwide Football
League saw an Increase in
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Why...?



The authority. F.

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The Quality of the Football

MIKE WALSH'S weekly diary... Nov

Monday 9th

We started today with a good warm-up and concentrated on running a few laps of the pitch, then we went into small-sided games with different conditioning: two touch, below head height that sort of thing. And then we stopped it to do some more running.

We continued with small-sided games with running in between. Despite the Crewe game being only days away we gave the players a very physical morning, although we kept the balls involved to keep the players interested.

Tuesday 10th

At the end of training today, both Iffy and Jim led teams with efforts to score from free kicks and open play, with the hope that their skills rub off on the rest of the players!

There's an element of fun to this part of the session, but naturally it develops a competitive edge - I don't think I can say which team came out on top, though!

After the session a number of the players were on the Pro Certificate run by the FA.

This is a preliminary course in football coaching and both myself and Jim feel it is important that players take part in such courses because it gives them a better appreciation of what the coaching staff are doing.

Wednesday 11th

We started today with another good warm-up followed by some medium distance running.

Then we worked on the strikers in attacking positions in the penalty area with a few defenders to oppose them. The point of this was to get the strikers used to making different runs and to

sharpen up their finishing as well.

After this we were able to have a training match with eleven against eleven. We stopped and started it to show the players how to improve what they're doing.

A constructive session.

In the afternoon myself and Jim travelled over to St Albans to watch Tottenham's reserve team, in particular Neale Fenn. We'd seen him before in view of a loan deal but wanted another look before we formally approached Spurs.

Thursday 12th

Today 'Bugsy' took the warm-up, which is a follow-up to the coaching he's been trying to do.

It gives him a bit more responsibility plus it is a different voice for the players, rather than having to listen to myself and Jim all the time.

We worked on eight versus eight including the keepers. This was on the main pitch with the big area between the two goals. We played for an hour and introduced different conditions, such as two touch etc.

We then finished with getting Saturday's starting back five defending against different attacks on half the pitch. It was also the press day and there were one or two impressed comments by watching reporters.

Friday 13th

Early departure today, setting off to Bradford at 9.30am.

We all eat on the coach to save time and arrive around lunchtime, then immediately change and head for our nearby training ground. With the match now just hours away we don't want to run the players too hard. At this stage it's important to get the players to gel and become mentally tuned in to the game. The pitch for training isn't the best but we carry on with nine against nine on a small pitch to keep it tight and sharp and then we went through set pieces for tomorrow's game.

Saturday 11th

Confidence is high this morning and we arrive at Valley Parade early.

Jim has a few last minute words for the players before they go out. The first half settles down to go entirely to plan and the half-time talk is really just about "more of the same". The first incident of the second half though hands the initiative straight back to Bradford, with a penalty and a red card for Craig Taylor. We're bitterly disappointed for Craig and the team, but we just can't seem to pull it round after this. The plus points were seeing us hold out for so long and watching Neale Fenn put in an encouraging performance, especially with some great first touches.

Football round-up

Dave Norris brings you all the latest football news...

First Team Latest

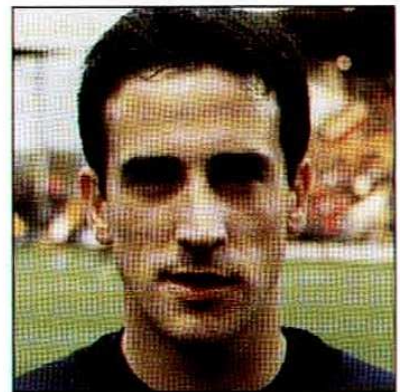
With back-to-back victories against QPR and Crewe maybe we should have expected fate to intervene in the turn around in fortunes since the arrival of Jim Quinn.

Our mini-run of unbeaten results foundered at Valley Parade, from where we managed to take only a red card and another suspension back home with us. But Swindon's stout resistance in the first half was commendable, especially with the likes of Reeves, Bullock, Leitch and Ndah all absent, and it left most travelling supporters ruing the crucial refereeing decisions that seemed to tilt the game Bradford's way.

Whilst such positives did come out of the game for us, Jim Quinn's reaction conveyed the impression that there's a long way to go for Town. He heaped praise on Bradford's front line of Lee Mills and Isiah Rankin, saying "They have probably the best pairing up front in the division." This comment came after a fortnight-long hunt for a striker to pair with multi-talented Iffy Onuora - journalist, wit and just lately scorer of some classy goals. Iffy's partner turned out to be Tottenham's Neale Fenn, of

course, on loan to us for a month. Jim had travelled to see Fenn and chose him in front of one or two other possibilities, eventually securing the loan deal on Thursday night. This left Neale to complete the necessary papers in time for the 1200 Friday deadline, before rushing up on the train to link up with his new team-mates at their hotel.

Fenn was joined there by Craig Taylor, who had likewise speedily travelled to be with the squad following Jim Quinn's decision to cancel a proposed extension to his temporary transfer to Plymouth Argyle. Craig actually had two days left on his original loan contract, and our thanks go to the South Coast side for their cooperation. After a spate of injuries to the squad, Craig found himself straight back in the team but ended up facing a red card for deliberate handball. Craig will now receive a one-match ban and is likely to be out for the trip to Grimsby.



Neale Fenn



"Our mini-run of unbeaten results foundered at Valley Parade..."

Sam Campagna



Special mention must go to Sam Campagna, who made his first team debut on Saturday, on the heels of his inclusion for the squad a week earlier.

Sam's impressive season in Tom Jones' youth structure looks as if it is maturing into greater heights after a series of consistent and high-grade performances in the 'A' youth team. Sam's appearance is the clearest signal yet to the youths that Jim Quinn is ready to promote them up to the senior level if they can prove their worth. With one eye on youth development and the other on the Club's financial plight Jim has been seen paying close attention to the reserve and youth squads since his arrival, and he has even rewarded certain YTs with inclusion in his first team training sessions.

Youth Team News

Perhaps after an indifferent start things are beginning to improve generally for our youth teams.

A brief residence at the bottom of the South East Counties League was sharply followed by victories against Cambridge (4-0) and Colchester (1-2) for our 'A' team, though they were then just shaded by top-of-the-table Luton by one goal to nil. The 'B' team also picked up a brace of wins against Bashley and Bristol Rovers, and now look to be climbing the South West Counties League after some early disappointing results. In the mid-week Wilts County FA we have maintained the run that positions us as favourites to top the League come the Spring. On Monday we earned our biggest victory so far with a thumping 14-1 result against Bemerton Heath Harlequin. This was preceded the day before in the second round of the Wilts Cup with defeat of local rivals Highworth 1-2 at The Elms.

In the Midland Cup 2nd Round here at the County Ground, Wolverhampton Wanderers' youths proved as impressive as they are expensive as they cut a 2-0 lead over Town, despite further encouraging performances by the Irishmen Paul McAreevey and Ricky Culbertson as well as 15-year-old Alan Young. Alan is actually one of Phil Cannon's Centre of Excellence players but, just like Sam Campagna, has impressed so much that Manager Tom Jones has selected him to play in a league more senior to his age.

Centre of Excellence

The Centre in which Alan has played most of his football endured unusual inactivity recently after the run of inclement weather, although the Under-13s and 14s restored order with the weekend games against Bournemouth.



Having delighted Centre Director Phil Cannon all season, the Under-13s continued to set the standard for all age groups with goals coming from Michael Pook (2), Justin McKay and Dave Stanbra. After an uninspiring performance a fortnight ago, Cannon called on some trialists for the Under-14s for what turned out to be an improved effort. Explaining his decision afterwards Cannon stated, "We realise that players will have off days but what we do expect is 110% commitment on the day of a game. Anything less isn't acceptable if these lads are to make the transition from schoolboys to professionals at any football club".

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the GRIPTON factor

By our matchday announcer JON GRIPTON of BBC Wiltshire Sound

BBC WILTSHIRE SOUND

103.6, 104.3 & 103.5 FM



A few weeks ago I wrote to you about the 'County Ground experience' and the team's search for some appropriate record clips for us to play whenever Town players score a goal.

Since then you've been working hard to come up with some great ideas - and I thought this week I'd run down a Town Tunes Top Ten that have impressed us so far. Remember we're looking for music to inspire the home crowd, lift the team, and silence the visiting away fans - and if you can come up with any more than I want to hear from you! So here goes with the Top Ten:

- 10 - Adam Willis - Stand and Deliver (Adam and the Ants)
- 9 - Darren Bullock - Psycho Killer (Talking Heads)
- 8 - Gareth Hall (h)All or nothing! (Spencer Davis Group)
- 7 - Kevin Watson - What's another year (Johnny Logan)
- 6 - Ty Gooden - Tie a yellow ribbon (Brotherhood of Man)

- 5 - Frank Talia - Frankie (Sister Sledge)
- 4 - Brian Borrows - This is the CAPTAIN of your ship (Reparata and the Delrons)
- 3 - Iffy Onuora - Comin' round the mountain - Iffy Iffy!!
- 2 - Chris Hay - Hey! You've got to hide your love away (Beatles)
- 1 - George Ndah - Under the moon of love! (Showaddywaddy)

Thanks to everyone who has come up with ideas so far - we might have to come up with a special prize for anyone who can come up with a song for Philippe Cuervo! Write to me with your ideas: Jon Gripton, BBC Wiltshire Sound, PO Box 1234, Swindon.

And talking of music, listen out this afternoon for a very special new version of Manfred Mann's 'The Mighty Quinn'. When Mike D'Abo dropped in to the BBC Wiltshire Sound studios last week it was the chance our sports man Shaun Hodgetts had been waiting for. He quickly penned a new version of the lyrics, and persuaded the sixties crooner to sing it for the County Ground experience live on the radio. The end-result is tailor-made for our new main man at STFC - we hope you like the results!

Enjoy the match!

This is your chance to join an exciting new venture the official S.T.F.C. SUPPORTERS' CLUB

Welcome to today's game to all supporters of Swindon Town and Crystal Palace. We hope you have an enjoyable day at the County Ground.

The formation of the Supporters Club is well underway, and I would like to take this opportunity to keep you up to speed on our progress to date.

The new Supporters Club will become the umbrella organisation for many of the existing Supporters Groups. The main areas we are focusing on are Travel, Disabled, Junior, Satellite Groups, Internet and a new entity we have called the Red Army. This is from one of the many suggestions we have received from fans about the new Supporters Club.

The Red Army are the group of supporters which we feel play a very important part on matchdays encouraging the team from the South Stand. They are above the age to join the junior section but are recognised as a group of dedicated fans who will be joining this section. It can reflect more for their needs.

We believe the Supporters Club will have a strong purchasing power that will enable members of this section preferential discounts within the Swindon retail and leisure outlets. We are looking for members from this area to help establish this section of the new Supporters Club, so if you feel you can and want to be part of this exciting venture, please contact the STFC Supporters Club at the address below.

We are offering in conjunction with the Club two VIP days at a Swindon home game for the best suggestions. Forms are in the Wiltshire Gazette, Evening Advertiser, and the Football Pink. Or you can write direct to us at the Club. If you would like to play a part in helping the new Supporters Club, start by writing to us. It's your Football Club and your Supporters Club.

Most importantly of all I would like to ask all fans of the club that have ideas and opinions on how the Supporter's Club should be organised to write to me. If you would like to join the working party that is setting up this exciting new venture please write to myself David Taylor C/O Swindon Town FC, County Ground, Swindon, Wilts, SN1 2ED.



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cartwheel

EIGHTEEN

SWINDON TOWN CLUBCALL FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS AND VIEWS
CALL: 0891 121640 CALLS ARE CHARGED 50P AT ALL TIMES

TREATMENT room

Our last home game against QPR was the type of match a physio has nightmares about.

Two of your players take each other out of the game and then a defender lands badly on his ankle. By halftime we had used all three substitutes. What more could go wrong?

Both **Scott Leitch** and **George Ndah**, the two players who collided, have been working hard to get back to full fitness. George took a nasty knock to the knee which has resulted in internal bruising. At the time of writing it is difficult to say whether he'll be back to face his old team today. But we're doing our best to make him available.

In writing these notes we have to pay tribute to the effort and determination showed by **Scott Leitch**. He has had 22 stitches to the deep wound he suffered against QPR yet he has been adamant he'll be back as soon as possible. He has been resting after the stitches were put in and slowly started to build up his activity. Now we are close to getting him back to full training which means he could be a possibility for today's game. Whatever happens **Leitch** is a great example to his fellow professionals.

Unfortunately progress is not so quick for **David Kerslake**. His is an abdominal injury and these are notoriously slow healers. We have been working David hard in the gym with static bike work and swimming. All we can do is deal with it day by day and keep treating the injury.

The other casualty of the QPR game is **Alan Reeves**. We have started him running again which should mean a swift recovery from here.

Lee Collins continues to make steady progress with his shoulder injury. He is now up to ten lengths in the pool. He is still in a lot of discomfort and we use pain as a guide as to how much he can do.

FITNESS TIPS

As physio's we are always being asked the best way to get fit. So here are a few basic guidelines that will make your training more productive:

Always warm-up before exercise. Muscles and tendons work more effectively and efficiently when warm. You should do this for at least 15 to 20 minutes. Always have a set routine.

Don't overdo it! Your own body is a good guide to telling you when you've had enough. If you push yourself too hard you can end up with what is known as 'over-use injuries'. One of the most common injuries is the inflammation of the tendon sheaths around the wrist or ankle (tenosynovitis).

Always allow plenty of time for recovery. The human body has a terrific capacity for healing itself providing you give it time to do so. This means making sure you're not out running the day after a hard training session.

If you do pick up an acute injury, such as a sprained ankle, you should stop competitive activity immediately and apply ice and compression to the affected area. You should also rest the limb in an elevated position. If it persists always consult a physiotherapist or doctor.

If you follow these tips you should find you pick up less injuries, recover from training faster and improve your overall fitness.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Good afternoon everybody.
 Today we have great pleasure in extending a warm Community Office welcome to **Gillie Roberts** and her group from **Ashton Keynes** and **Malcolm Alexander** who again has brought his group from **Wickwar Wanderers F.C.** to attend our Saturday team club.

Both teams make up our largest group of the season with a fantastic 140 here today. Many thanks to both Gillie and Malcolm for organising the groups for us.

As we mentioned at the last home game against QPR, our October half term was a huge success with 120 attending the course here on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and a great number of 60 out at Marlborough on the Friday. Our next course is scheduled here at the club in February 1999 on Tuesday 16th, Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th, with the usual times of 10.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. If you wish to enrol, forms can be found on main reception or just give us a call on 01793 421303.

Our special guests for the last home game, **PAUL MEASOR** and his father Dale had a great day with us, meeting all the players before the game, witnessing a great home victory. The icing on the cake for Paul and Dale was having their picture taken with the Gaffer, Jim Quinn.



Also pictured here is **GEORGE SALEY** (front middle) celebrating his 6th birthday party with us on Friday 7th November. George had a great time with all his friends with coaching, a ground tour and tea upstairs here at the Club. Everybody went away with a goodie bag and George received a special present of a signed ball from the first team squad.



RICHIE SMITH, who is currently one of our young School of Excellence players, had his birthday party here also on Tuesday 10th November. He too had a great time along with his mates.

If any of you would be interested in celebrating your birthday here at the club, please contact Luke Sharps on the Community Office number.

Last Saturday saw me attend a very special evening at PMH along with my wife Tracey, and daughter Aimie, for the North Wiltshire Branch for the Association of the Motor Neurone Disease charity evening. This is an organisation I have continued to support since my days as a social worker when I lost a very special client and close friend, Malcolm Johnson to this tragic deteriorating illness. Malcolm's wife Jane also attended the evening, and I was proud to contribute a signed framed photo of the first team which raised £25.00 in the mini-auction. It was lovely to see old friends and I would like to thank everybody who made us feel most welcome.

Till next time!
 All the best.



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WITH HELEN MERCER



A special welcome to Crystal Palace this afternoon as Louise Kaye is here with us.

Louise looks after the Junior Eagles, so give her a wave to welcome her back to the County Ground.

Children in Need

It was Children in Need day yesterday and we had fun and games here at the County Ground with Wiltshire Sound. Sandy Martin did his lunchtime show from the ground and Jim took a penalty against Shaun in goal!

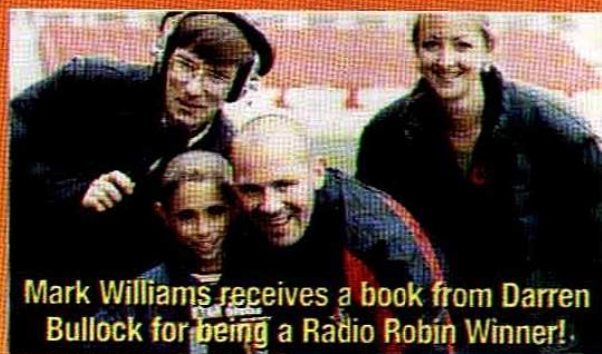
Kramer also came down to add to the fun as they had written a special song for Children in Need and sang it for Wiltshire Sound. Jim, Mike, Dick, Dave and myself then went off to the call centre at Nationwide House to take some pledges over the phone - lots of fun and all in a good cause!

Christmas Disco

Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without a disco and we've come up trumps again for the Swindon Town Jr's & R's Christmas party. It's on Wednesday 23rd December in the new 'Winners' lounge here at the County Ground. All the details will be in your newsletter with a tear-off slip to send back to me, along with details of the Christmas Panto on the 21st. I love Christmas, it's full of parties and things to do, so see you there!

Radio Robin

Shaun can't get over the fact that everyone we call on Radio Robin is in and singing, and Friday 6th was no exception. Today Steven Mumford will collect his signed Football book from Chris Hay, donated by Wiltshire Sound. (Although it really should go to his dad as he whistled - we think - 'Singing out for Swindon') come on you Jr's and R's, give mum and dad a break - we want to hear you sing not them! We are introducing a new competition on Radio Robin - we will ask a question before the show on something included in the programme and when Shaun and myself call you up if you can answer the question then you could win a VIP day at Swindon Town.



Mark Williams receives a book from Darren Bullock for being a Radio Robin Winner!

MATCHDAY MASCOTS



JAMES HOWELL is 9 years old (this mascot treat was for his birthday on 6th November - Happy Birthday James!). James attends Ruskin Junior School and his hobbies are football, cricket and drawing and being a Liverpool supporter.

James's favourite player is our very own top scorer, Iffy.



AMY GREENER is our second mascot for today.

Amy is 11 years old and has just celebrated her birthday on the 14th November so Happy Birthday to you too Amy! Amy attends Shaw School in Melksham and her hobbies are judo, football and music. Amy plays football for Melksham Park girls team and she has two brothers who both live and breathe STFC - don't we all!

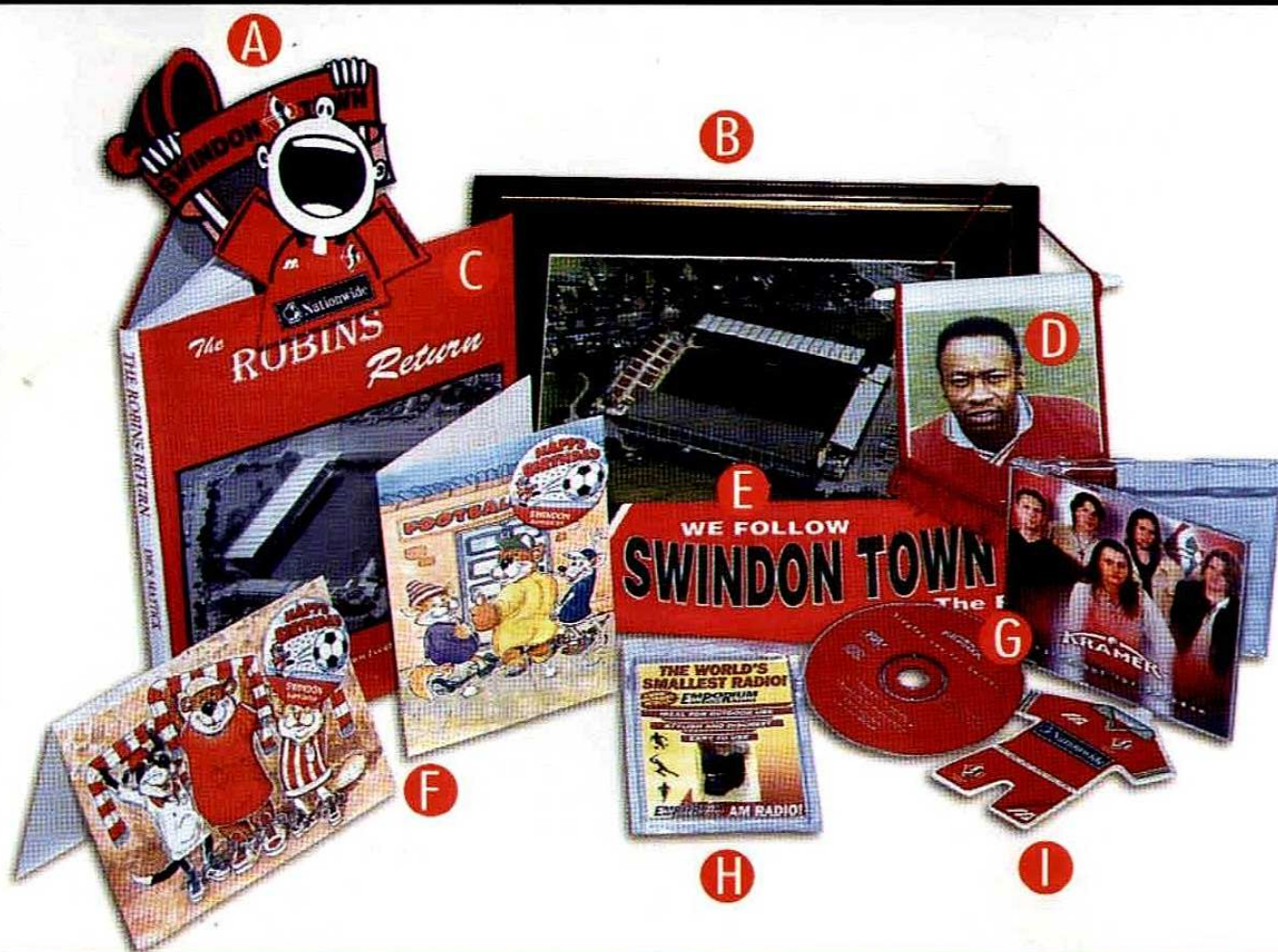


You may recognise the two mascots for Crystal Palace, if you don't recognise them you will their dad, Fraser Digby. **JOSHUA** is eight years old and **REMI** is six and they are both ardent Crystal Palace fans. Joshua's favourite player is Lombardo, while Remi likes Matt Jansen. Both boys attend Brookfield School in Swindon and their main hobby is football; Joshua plays for Westlea Wanderers. However, Joshua and Remi enjoy scoring goals rather than saving them and their favourite player - if you need ask - is **FRASER DIGBY**.

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| D Player Pennants (Code No. 990) | £3.99 | I Home Strip Car Kit (Code No. 909) | £3.50 |
| E Mini Scarf (Code No. 495) | £3.99 | | |



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OPENING HOURS:
MON - FRI: 9.00AM - 6.00PM
SATURDAY: 10.00AM - 4.00PM
MATCHDAYS: 9.00AM - KICK - OFF
& AFTER THE MATCH

looking ahead

Your essential guide to the next three Swindon games



AWAY

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE
SATURDAY 28 NOV
3.00PM KICK-OFF

The Lowdown

Recently promoted Grimsby Town may not be the most glamorous of clubs but, as their form so far this season has proved, they are tough opposition.

They currently sit in 12th place in the league and look quite accustomed to First Division football. Last season they kept 35 clean sheets which guaranteed promotion. This stat speaks volumes about their main strength: their defence. Manager Alan Buckley has put together a no-nonsense side that are capable of causing more than a few upsets. Swindon will need to play well.

A Reason to Watch

If Ndah and Leitch don't start today it is likely that this will be their first game back. Both will want to have an impact.

The Connection

Town physio Dave Moore used to play for Grimsby Town.

Quinn's Verdict

"This will be a hard game, but I feel we can get a result.

When you play away to the likes of Bolton you have to defend a lot, but I don't think we have to fear Grimsby and could take the game to them."

Latest Ticket News

All tickets for this game are pay on the day. Adults priced at £13.00, OAPs £7.00 and Juniors £5.00. We also have five pairs of disabled tickets priced at £7.00 for wheelchair and £7.00 for helper.



HOME

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE
SATURDAY 5 DEC
3.00PM KICK-OFF

The Lowdown

Bruce Rioch will be quietly optimistic about his club's current standing. In 8th position they are in sniffing distance of the play-offs and if Delia Smith's cooking doesn't do the trick, the lightening pace of Darran Eadie will.

In the same game last season we beat them 1-0. If history repeats itself we will move further away from relegation danger.

A Reason to Watch

Another chance to watch new boy Neale Fenn strut his stuff.

The Connection

we share an ex-player in Ian Culverhouse. Youth/ Reserve player Ricky Culbertson also came from Norwich City.

Quinn's Verdict

"They have two quality strikers up front in Bellamy and Roberts so we might have to defend more than usual.

But I think we can cause them a few problems when we go forward and should look to get three points from this one."

Latest Ticket News

Tickets are now on sale for this game from the Advanced Day Ticket Office.



HOME

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE
SATURDAY 12 DEC
3.00PM KICK-OFF

The Lowdown

Bradford recently beat us 3-0 at their place but both sides were evenly matched and it was a referee's decision that turned the game.

Their strength is in midfield where Pepper has been running the show in the absence of the injured Stuart McCall.

A Reason to Watch

McCall may be back for this one. This could bring about an interesting head-to-head in midfield between the two Scots Leitch and McCall.

The Connection

Our very own Jim Quinn scored 15 goals in his time at the West Yorkshire club.

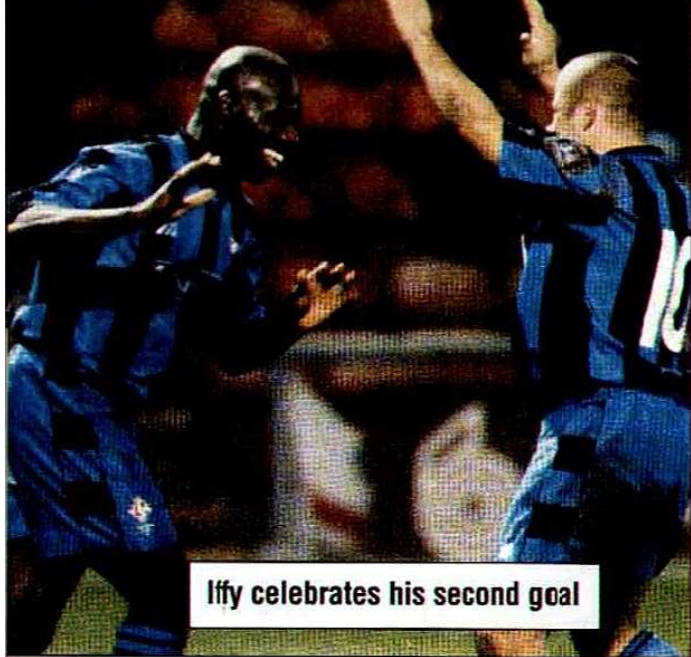
Quinn's Verdict

"We only met them away from home a few weeks ago so that game will be fresh in the players' minds when we face them again.

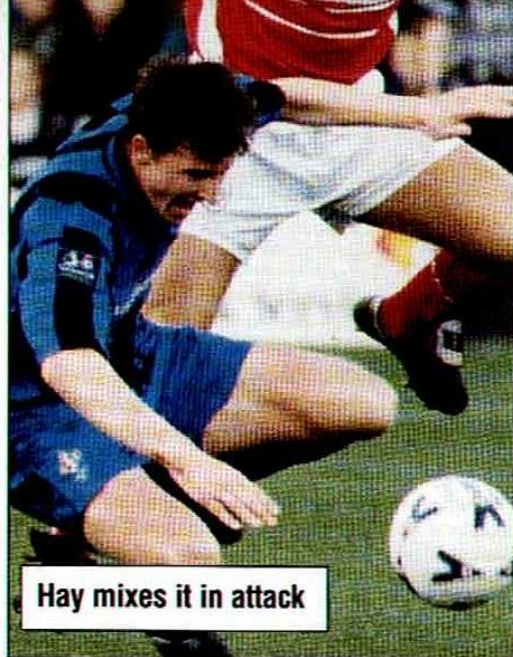
This will mean our players will really want to prove a point against them - something we are more than capable of doing.

Latest Ticket News

Tickets are now on sale for this game from our Advanced Day Ticket Office.



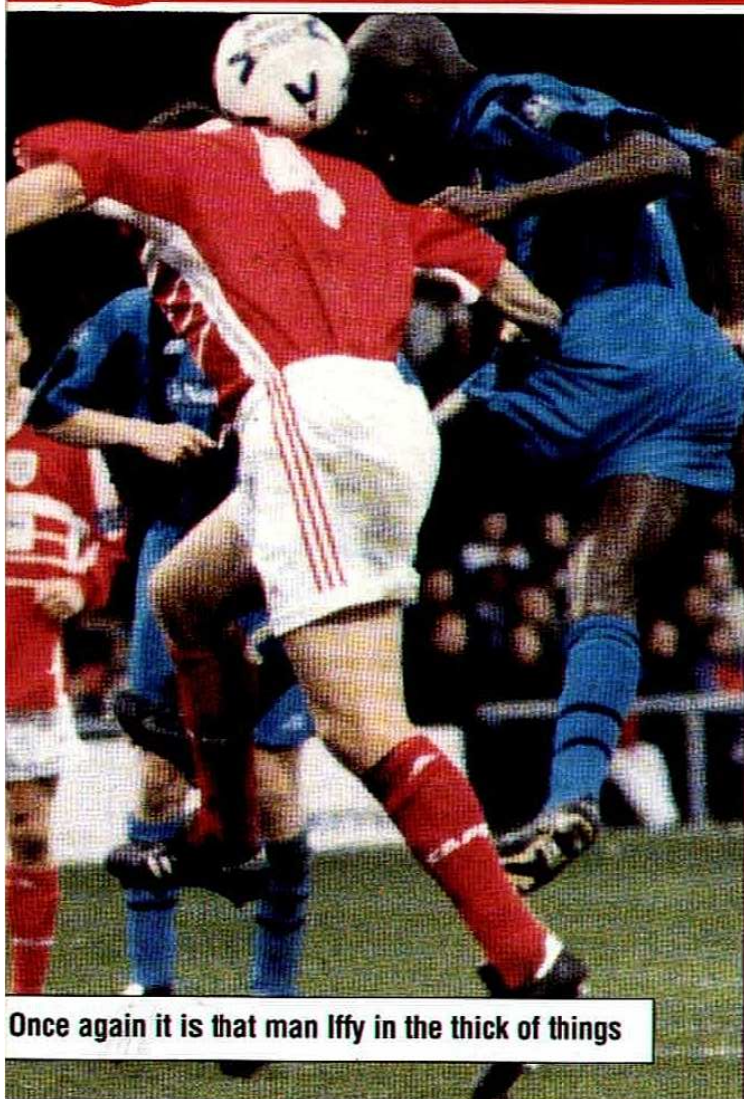
Iffy celebrates his second goal



Hay mixes it in attack



CREWE 0 SWINDON



Once again it is that man Iffy in the thick of things



Iffy and Steve Cowe pushing forward for Swindon



Iffy swerves past the keeper to net his first



TEAM LINE UP

- 1 FRANK TALIA
 - 2 MARK ROBINSON
 - 3 GARETH HALL
 - 4 SOL DAVIS
 - 5 ADAM WILLIS
 - 6 BRIAN BORROWS
 - 7 ROBIN HULBERT
 - 8 CHRIS HAY
 - 9 **IFFY ONUORA** ★
 - 10 DARREN BULLOCK
 - 11 TY GOODEN
-
- 12 KEVIN WATSON (HULBERT 66)
 - 13 SAM CAMPAGNA
 - 14 STEVE COWE (HAY 88)

MAN OF THE MATCH

★ **IFFY ONUORA** ★



Iffy is Man of the Match not just because of his two goals but because he works so hard for the team.

He holds the ball up well, chases back and creates a number of good chances. As Jim Quinn said: "As a manager you can't expect anymore from a striker. I'm delighted with what he's doing."

HANDY HINTS

The Rough Guide To Away Travel



Club: Grimsby Town

Nickname: 'Mariners'

Ground: Blundell Park, Cleethorpes

Phone: 01472 605050

Ticket Office: 01472 697111

Capacity: 8,870 (all seats)

Car parking: There is only street parking surrounding the ground.

Coach parking: Harrington Street (near ground)

Away Supporters' Entrance: Harrington Street, turnstiles 15-18

Bite to eat: There is a McDonalds directly outside the ground. Or turn left outside the main entrance and follow the road to 'Hobsons', famous as the best Fish & Chip restaurant in Cleethorpes.

Post Match drink: Don't go to the pub closest to the ground. Go left into Cleethorpes and within one mile you will find ten good pubs, the best of which is called 'The Leaking Boot'.

If you get there early: Why not go into Cleethorpes town centre and enjoy the seafront breeze. Although be warned, in November the breeze is more of a North sea gale and could easily freeze your cockles off!

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.



TRAVEL NEWS

TRAVEL CLUB

TEL: 01672 540330
(BARNES COACHES)



GRIMSBY

SATURDAY 28 NOV
3.00PM KICK-OFF

DEPART COUNTY GROUND:

Adult Fare: £ 15.00

Under-16 Fare: £ 13.00

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.

BARNESLEY

SATURDAY 19 DEC
3.00PM KICK-OFF

DEPART COUNTY GROUND:

Adult Fare: £ 12.00

Under-16 Fare: £ 10.00

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: Old Promotions Office (opposite County Ground) 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)



GRIMSBY

Depart **WEST SWINDON:** 8.15AM

Depart **COUNTY GROUND:** 8.30AM

Depart **ERMIN STREET:** 8.45AM

Adult Fare: £ 14.00

Under-15 Fare: £ 13.00

- 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



BARNESLEY

Depart **WEST SWINDON:** 9.15AM

Depart **COUNTY GROUND:** 9.30AM

Depart **ERMIN STREET:** 9.45AM

Adult Fare: £ 12.00

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

SWINDON TOWN F.C.

STUDY CENTRE

Swindon Town Gets Hi-Tech For Kids

The County Ground is the site for an exciting new Study Centre that will give local children the chance to surf the net and learn about computers.

The Study Centre is part of a national initiative to raise educational standards in urban areas. The government, in partnership with the Premier League and the Football League, is establishing Study Support Centres where primary and secondary pupils aged 10-14 can learn after school and in their holidays.

The centre is a unique partnership between DFEE, Swindon Borough Council, Swindon College and Swindon Town Football Club. The Centre Spot bar in the South Stand has been completely refurbished to become a hi-tech Study Centre.

With 26 state-of-the-art computers the centre can accommodate a class of children with a team of student 'mentors' and youth trainees to work alongside them during their after-school sessions.

Centre manager Martin Turnbull said: "This is a really exciting project with all the parties involved wanting it to be a great success. The children and students are all volunteers. The learning experience will focus on 'real-life' activities that are fun.

"Both Fil Came of Learning Works and myself have

developed a programme for the children which includes working in a team to fulfil a challenge. There will also be individual study time when the children can have access to the Internet, CD ROM's and a library of reference books and material to research projects or complete school homework."

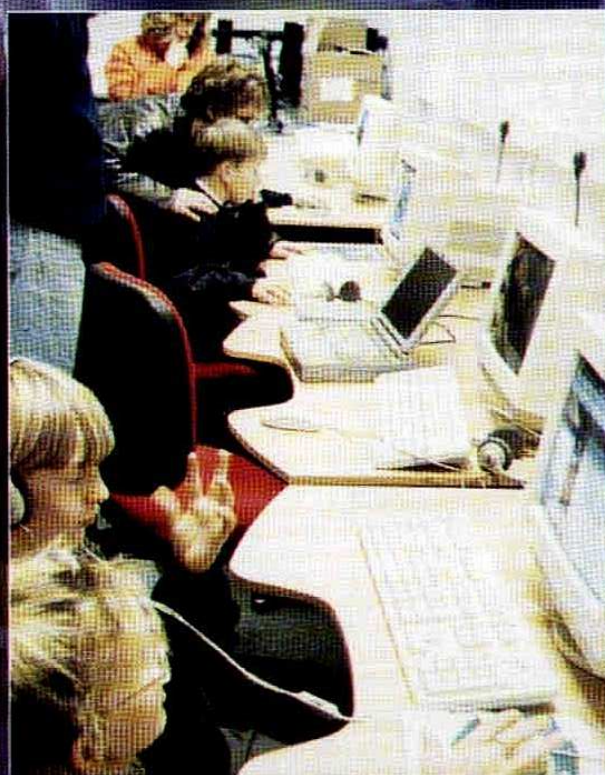
The first six schools to use the centre are Drove Road Primary, Ferndale Junior, Mountford Manor Junior, Churchfields, Oakfields and Headlands schools beginning the 16th November and finishing in February. Another group of schools will then start the Study Centre course in March.

Children, parents and teachers have already been invited to a series of presentation evenings where they can begin to use the facilities.

Mrs Ogbourne was one such parent, she said: "I am very pleased my son has the chance to use such wonderful equipment. I think all children should have the opportunity to use the Study Centre. We were also made to feel very welcome and I was impressed with the set-up."

Daniel King, 14, from Headlands was equally impressed: "I think everything at the Study Centre was brilliant, especially the computers. I have found out lots of things that I wanted to know."

**For more information please contact
Martin Turnbull on 01793 495354.**





WHAT'S on at swindon



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

HAWKES HAD A GREAT DAY OUT....

Hawkes FC were the guests of Club director Mike Spearman for our recent game against QPR.

Mike met Giancarlo Calesi, the team's sponsor, whilst in their restaurant, and invited them to the County Ground.

IT'S A CRACKER....

As you can see, Swindon Town players and coaching staff are really getting into the festive spirit as we approach Christmas.

What better way for you to join the fun than come to one of our Christmas Party Nights. Bring your party to our party and enjoy great food, sparkling atmosphere and a disco and bar till late. The nights run throughout December, but you must book soon to avoid disappointment. Prices are £25 Sunday to Thursday and £30 per head Friday to Saturday. For more details please call Carol Salter on 017983 53212

SWINDON TOWN CAROL SERVICE....

The annual STFC carol service will take place on Wednesday 16th December 1998 at Christ Church, Old Town.

This will be a great chance to savour the festive spirit with Swindon Town staff and players. Full details available closer to the date

PUBLIC SHOWING OF 'McGONIGLE OF THE ARTIC'....



The 30-minute documentary that follows disabled Swindon man Geoffrey McGonigle's epic journey to the magnetic North Pole, is being screened on the 4th December 1998, in the Winners' Lounge at 7.30pm.

There is a £5 donation to Children In Need on admission. The public showing coincides with the documentary winning an award at the Flagstaff International Film & Video Festival, in Arizona.

TESCO'S HARLEY CHARITY CHALLENGE....

Pictured here are Nick and Maggie with their helpers from Tesco's. They recently travelled around 17 local organisations on a Harley Davidson, completing challenges at each place.

At the County Ground they had to score a penalty on the pitch - which they did with great skill!

Through sponsorship and the sale of raffle tickets the event raised in excess of £16,000. This money will go to the Tesco's Charity of the Year, Help The Aged, to help support their Brighter Future Appeal.

Everyone at Swindon Town would like to congratulate Tesco's staff for the great effort they put into the event.



Suthers SAYS

"Winners Lounge"
is just the start of our
planned refurbishment
programme.

Steve Sutherland: Director of Commercial Activities

Last night saw the official opening of our newly refurbished "Winners Lounge".



From today **WINNERS** will be open to all Swindon fans with a match or season ticket (up to the legal limit of the room). Apart from being a marvellous facility for Swindon fans on matchdays, **WINNERS LOUNGE** will be promoted as the perfect venue for exhibitions, seminars, conferences and private functions. As I mentioned in an earlier magazine article, only by providing the highest possible standard of facilities can Swindon Town F.C. hope to compete commercially and I am confident that **WINNERS** will become a hugely popular venue for supporters and corporate partners alike. At this point I must express my personal gratitude to our in-house maintenance staff who

have worked round-the-clock to ensure that the lounge could be opened on time.

Led by Stadium Manager **Mike Hughes** and his assistant **Ron Topp**, the staff have shown total dedication to their task together with an extremely high level of craftsmanship. In fact, it soon became obvious when we started this project that the guys really wanted to take this opportunity to prove what they could do. They have certainly done that, and how.

WINNERS LOUNGE is just the start of our planned refurbishment programme. The next stage will be to turn the adjoining room (the old Snooker Room) into a matchday lounge for visiting officials, scouts and club guests and a meeting/conference facility during the match. This allows us to extend our corporate facilities in our main conference suite on the first floor of the Arkell's stand.

On a different note, for the past couple of Fridays I have been spending a very enjoyable hour

in the company of BBC Wiltshire Sound's **Shaun Hodgetts** on our new chat show, 'The Talk of the Town'.

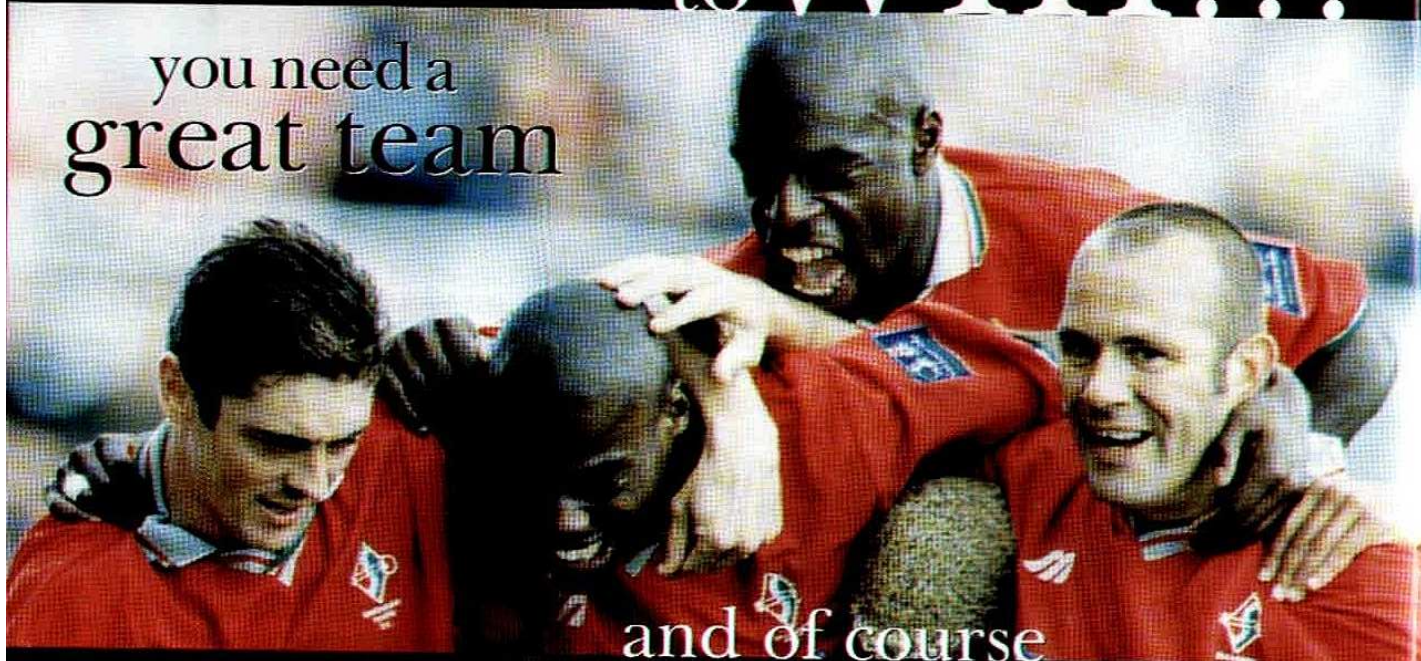
This is back to the future for me as 10 years ago I was involved in the first ever football club radio show when I produced and presented '**CHARLTON CHAT**' on local radio. Our guests on the first two shows have included World Cup referee **Jack Taylor OBE**, **Jim Ashworth** who is The Football League's Referees' Officer, Players' Agent **Rachel Anderson**, former Swindon star **Colin Calderwood**, and our loan new signing from Spurs, **Neale Fenn**.

Basically '**TALK OF THE TOWN**' is a football chat show which takes Swindon Town as its central theme. Shaun and I are back on air next Friday; why not join us by tuning in to Wiltshire Sound on at 7.00 p.m?



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By Colin Benson

ENGLAND Aston Villa goalkeeper Mark Bosnich is the pundits' top tip to succeed Peter Schmeichel between the posts at Old Trafford. The Danish captain says he's quitting Manchester United at the end of the season because his body can no longer take the pressure of playing two games a week. I was interested by the comments from Pat Jennings - now he truly was a world-class keeper - who said that he thought that was eyewash and that it was more likely Schmeichel couldn't take the pressure of trying to win trophies every year.

Anyway, Bosnich would seem to be an obvious choice as he might well have been United's number one in the first place had not red tape intervened. He was at Old Trafford as a teenager but when United could not get a renewal of his work permit there were obvious problems. Alex Ferguson wanted Mark to join a European club on loan but he did not fancy that and returned to Australia before marrying an English girl and so qualifying to return and play for Villa.

At the commencement of this season Bosnich made it clear he would leave Villa at the end of this season if they did not win anything. They are, of course, heading the chase for the championship at the moment so there could be complications if they maintain their form.

GERMANY Bayern Munich's Brazilian striker Elber has found himself in trouble. Coach Ottmar Hitzfeld was not impressed when he picked up his fifth yellow card of the season and a subsequent suspension and fined him nearly £3,000. Hitzfeld asks - what good to him are stars he can't play because of suspension? He imposed a similar fine on midfielder Stefan Effenberg last month.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND National team manager Mick McCarthy was rightly furious with FIFA for relaxing the five-day rule for the release of players to the national team prior to this week's crucial Euro 2000 qualifying tie in Belgrade against Yugoslavia. "It's a joke", he scoffed. "I've no axe to grind with the club bosses. It's FIFA I'm angry with. You either have a five-day rule or you don't!" The Yorkshire-born Irishman is quite right of course but this

again is another blatant case of the establishment running roughshod over the minnows. FIFA claim it was a "pragmatic solution" after clubs had requested the release of players for last Saturday's League programme. I bet they would not have agreed had Germany, France, Italy or England been involved.

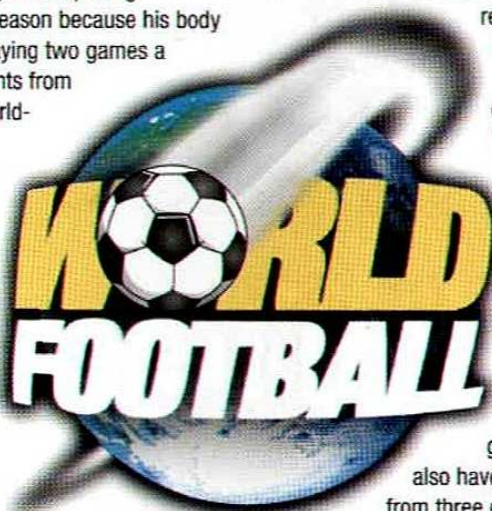
The truth is all the major pawns in Euro 2000 are not competing again until next March only five fixtures being played this week. And all of them, apart from the two games involving the two teams from Ireland (Northern Ireland were home to Moldova) involve the smaller fry of Europe. Mick's team topped Group 8 with six points from two games and seven goals scored and none conceded. Croatia also have six points (7 goals for 5 against) but from three games played. So Wednesday in Belgrade was very special, particularly as it was Yugoslavia's first game in the group.

SAUDI ARABIA Saudi's World Cup finals team were somewhat surprised when they were held 0-0 by Qatar in Bahrain. It was a game they expected to win. Saudi Arabia still lead, however, in the Gulf Cup competition.

SCOTLAND Brazilian strikers seem to be in the news everywhere at the moment. Dunfermline Athletic has managed to persuade Edinho to join them from Bradford City on a three-month loan agreement. The 31-year-old was in City's starting line on the opening day at Stockport but has spent most of the campaign on the bench and has yet to score this season.

SINGAPORE FIFA will have no player-release problems for an international soccer tournament to be played in Singapore later this month. The RoboCup is to be competed for by 'robot' footballers.

SPAIN Croatian World Cup striker Goran Vlaovic is not a happy man. After appearing in all of seven minutes of Spanish League football after undergoing surgery on a groin last August, Vlaovic says he is perfectly fit but the Valencia coach Claudio Ranieri is not of the same opinion and refuses to pay him. Now the Croatian star wants a transfer.



loan signing



Neale Fenn

STRIKER

Career history:

Tottenham Hotspur
trainee in July 93 and
tuned pro for Spurs in
July 95. Also loaned
out to Leyton Orient
(Jan-Feb 98) and
Norwich City
(March-May 98)

Appearances:

96/97 Season 4
appearances
97/98 Season 4
appearances

International honors:

3 Republic of Ireland
under-21 caps, 11
youth caps and 4
schoolboy caps.

Nationwide

the BUSINESS



mark hillier: corporate sales manager

Welcome once again to the Corporate Side of Swindon Town F.C. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our Matchday and Matchball Sponsors for today's visit by Crystal Palace.

Following on our theme of informing you of new Sponsorship details, I would also like to welcome Non-Stop Promotions to Swindon Town. Today we are delighted to welcome all our sponsors for today's game against Crystal Palace.

Matchday Sponsors

THAMES WATER

Today's Matchday Sponsors are **THAMES WATER** who are regular visitors to the County Ground.

THAMES WATER are pleased to sponsor today's Matchday and look forward to an exciting match. They would particularly like welcome back Fraser Digby to the County Ground following his transfer to Palace during the close season.

Matchball Sponsors

CLARION(GB), COMTEL, LANBASE

We would like to thank today's Matchball Sponsors, **CLARION (GB) LTD**, **COMTEL** and **LANBASE** for their continued support

Swindon-based **CLARION (GB) LIMITED** are really on the ball when it comes to superb car radios and audio equipment. And, as regular sponsors, **Clarion** are in perfect tune with Swindon Town. **Clarion's** radio-CD and radio cassette units, amplifiers, loud speakers, CD Changers and much more form an award-winning line up. Not to mention its incredible VRX8370R multi-media system, which can bring radio, TV, video, CD/MD and navigation right to your dashboard.

COMTEL is the first choice provider of entertainment, information and communication services for Swindon and is now one of the largest cable operators in the UK.

ComTel provides over 20,000 Swindon homes with Cable TV. To find out more about **ComTel's** service, **FREEPHONE 0500 400 500**.

LANBASE is one of the largest Network Systems Integrators in the UK. They connect PC's and servers together to form Local Area Networks and have installed in some of the largest networks for City Banks, manufacturer's, as well as a host of other commercial organisations. For further information on how they can help you and your network call them on **01635 877977** or **WWW.lanbase.co.uk**

Suite Taste of Success for Non-Stop Promotions

One of this seasons' new suite holders are enjoying the opportunity to entertain customers and staff at the County Ground. Managing Director Bryan Mathieson said: "With our customer base coming from all parts of the UK, it gives us a good opportunity to meet up socially with our clients, and show them just how hospitable the County Ground can be, at all places but on the pitch that is!!"

Non-Stop Promotions are one of the UK's leading promotional merchandise companies and among others are locally selected by Nationwide, Intel, Powertrain Products and Mitsubishi Motors for much of those companies' promotional product needs.

To find out how Non-Stop Promotions can help your company make your good name look even better, telephone **01672 563 030** for their free guide to promotional products.

As a long-time corporate sponsor of the club, **Non-Stop Promotions** also sponsor the annual goal of the season competition. Pictured below receiving the 97/98 award is Mark Walters together with Managing Director Bryan Mathieson. For Further information contact: Bryan Mathieson, Non-Stop Promotions, Fordbrook Business Centre, Marlborough Road, Pewsey, Wiltshire SN9 5NU. Tel: **01672 563 030** Fax: **01672 563 087**



Bryan Mathieson, Director of Non-Stop Promotions, is pictured presenting Mark Walter the Goal of the Year Trophy.

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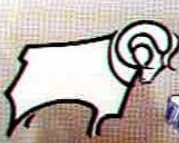
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UNITED Agree Belgian Link

A European Super League may still be some way off, but Manchester United are moving onto the continent by agreeing a formal link-up with Belgian club Royal Antwerp.



The idea, first mooted at the end of September, will see Antwerp acting as a 'feeder' club to make it easier for United to attract talented youngsters from outside the European Union to Old Trafford. Secretary Paul Bastio said that the idea had developed following a meeting between the two club chairmen in 1996. United youngster Danny Higginbotham, a 19-year-old defender, is already on loan at Antwerp and United manager Alex Ferguson and director Maurice Watkins travelled to Belgium on Monday to conclude a "memorandum of co-operation" between the clubs. Details of the financial arrangement between the two clubs have not been revealed but Bastio said: "Let's say that each side will bear the financial burden according to its possibilities." Current regulations mean the UK government will not grant work permits to non-EU players unless they have been capped by their country at senior international level and even then, will not renew them unless a player appears in 75 per cent of a club's games in the first season. The scheme would see players spending two seasons in Belgium to earn EU citizenship and then moving to United without restriction. "What we are hoping to achieve here is a co-operation with Royal Antwerp which will work for the benefit of our respective footballing businesses. It will enable us to have a look at players from outside the European Union through the medium of the Antwerp team, whereas at the moment we cannot look at players - particularly young players - because of the immigration rules and Premier League rules," said Watkins. The two clubs will be able to play each other competitively in Europe if drawn to face each other in future despite the link-up. "There is no question of that being a problem because Manchester United would not be obtaining any interest in Royal Antwerp, so there is no conflict with any of UEFA's rules and regulations with regard to their competitions," Watkin added.

PREMIERSHIP



CARLING
F.A. PREMIERSHIP

ROUND-UP

JUVENTUS Looking At Hooijdonk

It appears that Italian giants Juventus are interested in signing troubled Nottingham Forest forward Pierre Van Hooijdonk.



The Serie A side sent a scout to Forest's recent game against Derby County which featured Van Hooijdonk's first goal since he left the club under a cloud. If Bassett decides to sell the £6million-rated striker it would surely mean he would have extra funds to strengthen his relegation-threatened side.



CHELSEA Want To Go With The Flo

Chelsea are hoping to persuade Tore Andre Flo to stay at Stamford Bridge by offering him a lucrative new deal.



It is belived the new deal would involve extending his contract to five years. The player has become increasingly unsettled after repeatedly being stuck on the bench despite scoring a number of goals. It is well documented that Flo likes living London and this new deal will most probably keep him at Chelsea.



TODAY'S PREMIER FIXTURES

ASTON VILLA	vs	LIVERPOOL
BLACKBURN	vs	SOUTHAMPTON
LEEDS	vs	CHARLTON
LEICESTER	vs	CHELSEA
MIDDLESBROUGH	vs	COVENTRY
SHEFF WED	vs	MAN UTD
TOTTENHAM	vs	NOTT'M FOREST
WIMBLEDON	vs	ARSENAL



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

DERBY CO. vs WEST HAM



FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P.TS.
ASTON VILLA	12	8	4	0	18	6	28
MAN UTD	12	7	4	1	26	11	25
ARSENAL	13	6	6	1	14	5	24
CHELSEA	11	5	5	1	17	10	20
LEEDS	13	4	8	1	16	10	20
WEST HAM	13	5	5	3	16	15	20
MIDDLESBROUGH	13	4	7	2	21	16	19
DERBY	13	4	6	3	14	12	18
LEICESTER	13	4	5	4	13	13	17
WIMBLEDON	13	4	5	4	17	22	17
CHARLTON	13	3	7	3	20	17	16
LIVERPOOL	13	4	4	5	20	17	16
NEWCASTLE	13	4	4	5	16	17	16
TOTTENHAM	13	4	4	5	16	21	16
COVENTRY	13	4	2	7	12	18	14
SHEFF WED	13	3	3	7	10	13	12
EVERTON	13	2	6	5	7	14	12
NOTT'M FOREST	13	7	4	7	10	20	10
BLACKBURN	13	2	3	8	14	20	9
SOUTHAMPTON	13	1	4	8	10	30	7



QUICK QUIZ?

1. Scott Minto, Mark Pembridge and Michael Thomas play for which European side?
2. With which sport do you associate Dan Marino?
3. Which two football teams play at St James' Park?
4. Ivan Mauger, Bruce Panhall and Michael Lee were World Champions at which sport?
5. Who was the last team to win the Division One title before it became the Premier League?
6. True or False - England have never won cricket's world cup.
7. Adam's Park is the home ground of which Nationwide football team?
8. Which cricket coach played football for Lincoln City and cricket for Worcestershire?
9. Who had a hole in one while playing for Europe in the 1993 Ryder Cup at the Belfry?

Answers:
1. Benfica 2. American Football 3. Newcastle and Celtic 4. Speedway 5. Leeds Utd 6. True 7. Wycombe Wanderers 8. Phil Neale 9. Darren Jackson (Scotland) 10. Nick Faldo

WIN A WEEKEND BREAK DURING TODAY'S HALF-TIME BREAK WITH SWINDON TOWN & JARVIS



During the half-time break at today's game, Swindon Town and Jarvis Hotels will be giving away a superb weekend break, free of charge, to someone in the crowd. It will be completely at random, and you

don't have to enter any competition. We're just going to give it away there and then.

The weekend break is for two people for two nights and can be taken at any of Jarvis' 63 fine hotels across the UK.

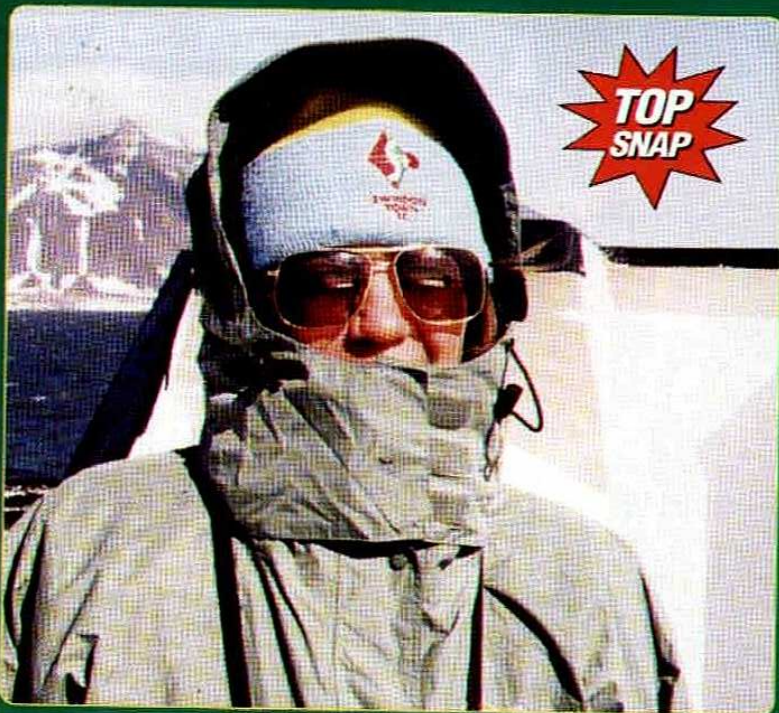
All you need to do to win a Jarvis weekend break is hold onto your ticket stub until half-time. Straight after the half-time scores are announced, we'll call out a seat number, which one of the Swindon Town players will randomly pick for us at half-time.

If it's your seat, come along with your ticket, to the Reception and pick up your Free Jarvis Weekend Break voucher. It's as simple as that.

So listen out at the half-time break and you could be going on a superb weekend break with JARVIS HOTELS.



show yer' colours!



Send us your picture sporting the Swindon Town colours and you may be featured!

Carrie Haywood has sent in this picture taken on the coast of Spitzbergen, 600 miles from the North Pole. Town fans seem to find themselves in the strangest places!

*Send your photos to:
Richard Mackey,
Swindon Town Football Club, County Road,
Swindon, SN1 2ED.*

Be My Guest

Dennis Signey O.B.E. PR Consultant to The Football League.

He is also the former Chairman of the Football Writers' Association and has written the best selling book 'A Pictorial History Of Soccer'.

There was a spontaneous and uplifting chant from the Luton fans at Kenilworth Road when their side scored the first of two goals that dumped Premiership Coventry City out of the Worthington Cup in a third round tie.

'One-nil to the Nationwide' swept round the ground ... a call from the 9,000 crowd that put into realistic perspective the elitist views of Henry Winter in the Daily Telegraph that morning. He claimed that the League Cup could stand accused of bringing domestic football into disrepute for "distracting and draining clubs who can cover the English game in glory".

Mr Winter wrote that United and Arsenal were trying to win the European Cup ... "a crown jewel of a trophy compared with the trinket that is the Football League's beloved bauble".

Just to put the boot in a bit further, the Telegraph later that week suggested that people in the game were referring to the competition as the "worthless cup" ... a remark since repeated by Alan Green on BBC Radio Five. This argument is based on the fact that Arsenal, Manchester United and, perhaps, Chelsea and Aston Villa field 'weakened' teams in the Worthington Cup because European competition is more important to them.

What arrant nonsense. There are 92 teams in the Premier and Nationwide Leagues and some 90 per cent of them see the Worthington Cup as a worthy competition, a chance to get to Wembley and into Europe to try, like United and Arsenal, to cover the English game in glory.

The Worthington Cup is more than just a jewel in the Football League's crown. It is a competition that is vitally important to all League clubs, from Arsenal to York City. For many clubs, away from the elitist world of Old Trafford and Highbury, the Worthington Cup provides some 20 per cent of much needed income.

Messrs Winter and Green, who do the game in this country a disservice by their knocking remarks, should take into account a few pertinent facts before leaping into print or air space.

More people watch Nationwide football every week than watch the Premiership. A crowd of 52,495 watched Manchester United against Bury in the Worthington Cup - comparing more than favourable with Barcelona's visit to Old Trafford as Alex Ferguson chases his 'Holy Grail'. Cash-strapped Luton, Northampton and Tranmere attracted bigger crowds for League Cup games than their average attendances. The League accepts the use of squad systems by teams playing in Europe.

It is a misconception that Swindon and Palace fans are more interested in England internationals and Manchester United and Arsenal achieving European success than they are in today's game. Both sets of supporters have tasted life at the top and would like some more. But Holy Grails for both at the moment are three points this afternoon towards a play-off place at Wembley or a Cup run in the New Year.

The memory of Glenn Hoddle's days at Swindon and the Terry Venables reign at Palace are more relevant to most of you here this afternoon than Euro '96, Euro 2000 or even the long-range venue of World Cup 2006.

At least this year's Worthington Cup Final will take place with the twin towers of Wembley intact. That, on its own, makes it worthy and worthwhile.

**Dennis Signey
O.B.E.**





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The Football Trust has been providing support for football throughout the UK for 22 years.

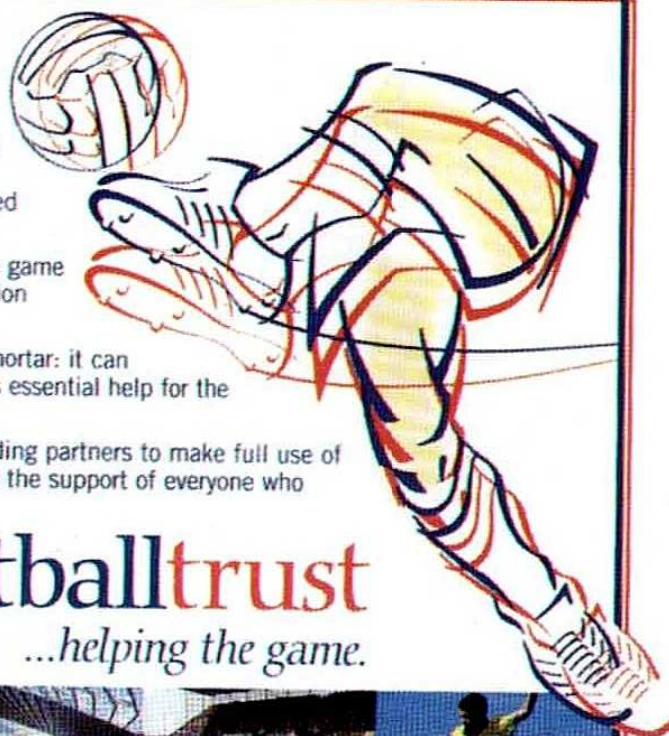
A major new funding package made up of annual contributions from The F.A. Premier League, The Football Association, The English Sports Council, The Football League and The Professional Footballers Association has been added to the Trust's pools derived income to secure its future.

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.

The Trust is about a great deal more than bricks and mortar: it can handle grant aid programmes of every sort and provides essential help for the game at all levels.

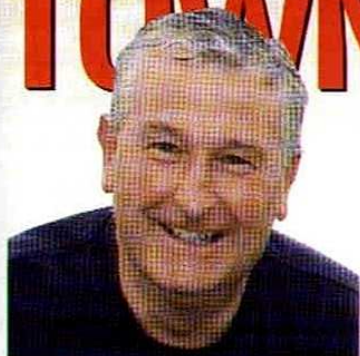
The commitment of the Government and the new funding partners to make full use of the Trust's grant aid experience and expertise will have the support of everyone who cares about the future of our national game.

the football trust
...helping the game.



The Football Trust, Walkden House, 10 Melton Street, London NW1 2EB

SWINDON TOWN Ladies



by Roger Reeves

The Town Ladies kept second spot and gained a place in Round Three of the Women's FA Cup with two wins and a defeat.

The Town earned a trip to Bristol Rovers in the Third Round of the Women's FA Cup with a four goals to one victory over South Coast Rangers. Two goals from Leanne Taylor and goals from Katie Lemon and Netti Wyness ensured that Town progressed into the next round.

In the league the Town were defeated by three goals to two by Cheltenham on the County Ground Extension. It was very much a game of two halves with a strong wind blowing the full length of the pitch. Adelle Taylor and Katie Lemon

gave the Town a half-time lead but the visitors took full advantage of the wind to score three goals. In the away game at Bath City, a brilliant fifteen minutes with goals from Pam Laker, Leanne Taylor and Kim Reeves gave the Town a three nil lead. City pulled one back but Nadine Lloyd scored just before the break. In the second half, two early goals from Nadine Lloyd and Diane George took the Town's total to six. The Reserves had a good five-three home win against Chesham United. Sandra Hughes, Holly Ashman, Helen Cooper, Kelly Castle and Nikki Relph were all on target for the Town.

The Town are holding a Race Night on Friday 27th November in the Winners' Lounge at the County Ground. The evening will start at 7.30 p.m. so please come along.

Tomorrow, the Town make the long trip to Cornwall to face Saltash Pilgrims. The two sides did meet in the FA Cup four season ago and on that occasion the Town were defeated by three goals to nil. The Reserves travel to meet Oxford United Reserves in the Southern Region League Cup. This fixture is repeated next week when the two sides meet again in the League.



Netti Wyness, who has been outstanding in the centre of the Town's defence.

FIXTURES 98/99

South West Combination League

SUN 6TH SEPT	OXFORD UNITED	2-3
Sun 13th Sept	Bristol Rovers	3-1
SUN 20TH SEPT	SHERBOURNE	7-1
Sun 27th Sept	(FAC 1) Newport	2-1
Sun 4th Oct	Portsmouth	2-2
SUN 11TH OCT	DENHAM UNITED	POST
Sun 18th Oct	Swindon Spitfires	6-0
SUN 25TH OCT	CHEL TENHAM	6-0
Sun 1st Nov	(FAC 2) S Coast Rangers	4-1
Sun 8th Nov	Bath City	6-1
SUN 15TH NOV	BRISTOL CITY	H
Sun 22nd Nov	Saltash Pilgrims	A
Sun 29th Nov	Cardiff County	A
Sun 6th Dec	(FAC 3) Bristol Rovers	A
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 20th Sept	Witney Town	2-1
Sun 4th Oct	Risborough Rovers	1-9
SUN 25TH OCT	CHESHAM UNITED	5-3
Sun 1st Nov	Bushey Rangers	POST
SUN 31ST JAN	NEWPORT P. UTD	H
Sun 22nd Nov	Oxford Utd (LCR1)	A
Sun 29th Nov	Oxford United	A
SUN 13TH DEC	RISBOROUGH R.	H
Sun 10th Jan	Chesham United	A
SUN 24TH JAN	BUSHEY RANGERS	H
SUN 31ST JAN	TRING TOWN	H
Sun 7th Feb	Newport Pagnell Utd	A
SUN 28TH FEB	OXFORD UTD	H
SUN 7TH MAR	WITNEY TOWN	H

NEXT HOME GAMES

South West Combination League
Sunday 10th Jan 99
Bristol Rovers

Southern Region League Northern Division
Sunday 13th Dec 98
Risborough R.

SWINDON
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CHIPPENHAM
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 SERIOUS PERFORMANCE

DENNIS WARDS OFF ANOTHER BID FOR STAR STRIKER

Barnsley chairman John Dennis has turned down the latest big-money offer for Ashley Ward as he waits for the star striker to pledge his future to the Tykes.

Leicester manager Martin O'Neill stepped up his bid to bring the 27-year-old back to Filbert Street yesterday with an offer believed to be in the region of £3.5million.

O'Neill has been a long-time admirer of Ward, who already has 13 goals to his name this season, which includes a recent run of 12 in 14 matches.

It led to a £3million offer from Leeds earlier this month for the one-time Crewe, Norwich and Derby forward, a bid which was instantly rejected as Dennis has apparently slapped a £5million price tag on the head of his prize asset. With United chairman Peter Ridsdale refusing to up the ante, it left the way clear for Leicester and their renewed interest, but Dennis is continuing to dig in his heels. He said: "I bumped into the Leicester people at a meeting last week and they asked me what the situation was regarding Ashley. I told them 'no change'.

"They then asked what they should do and I informed them the ball was in their court. They came back with an offer yesterday, which was turned down.

"We actually have no wish to sell Ashley Ward. We've eight or nine players who are going to be out for this Saturday's game, so it's a tricky situation and we need all the players we can get."

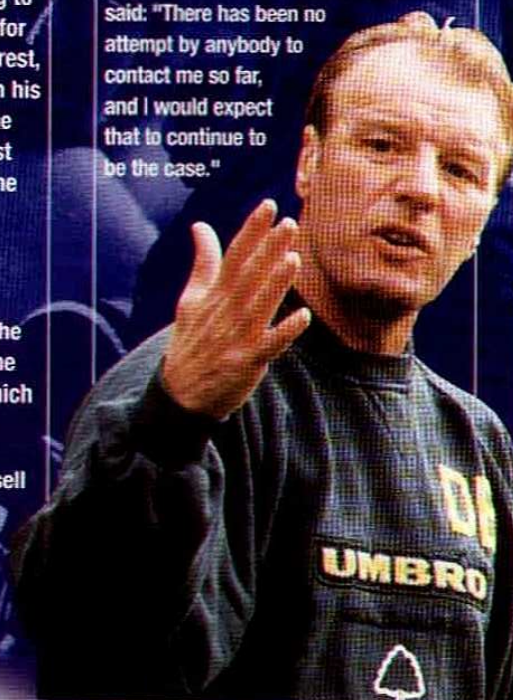


NATIONWIDE DIVISION 1 ROUND-UP

BASSETT DENIES WOLVES SWITCH RUMOURS

Nottingham Forest's Dave Bassett has played down rumours linking him with the managerial vacancy at First Division Wolves

His record of winning seven promotions is reported to have made Bassett a prime target for a Molineux club desperate for FA Carling Premiership football. But Bassett said: "There has been no attempt by anybody to contact me so far, and I would expect that to continue to be the case."



WRIGHT DISMISSES UTD LINK

Ipswich Town goalkeeper Richard Wright has dismissed talk of a £5million move to join Manchester Utd.

The 21-year-old is currently with the senior England squad ahead of the game against the Czech Republic. Wright said: "We have got a great squad and I want to play Premiership football with my home town club, and that is Ipswich Town."

BLADES AXE THOMPSON

Sheffield United manager Steve Bruce has axed assistant Steve Thompson as part of his backroom reshuffle.

Thompson was initially appointed coach in the summer of 1997 before being named as caretaker in February this year following former manager Nigel Spackman's resignation.

Although in the running for the full-time position, Bruce was eventually installed ahead of Thompson, although he was quickly named as assistant. But Bruce has now decided to part company with the former Blade's player and said: "As usually happens in football I would like to appoint my own staff and I am looking to bring someone else into the coaching set-up."


Nationwide Division
One Fixtures 21/11/98

BRISTOL CITY	<input type="checkbox"/> vs <input type="checkbox"/>	STOCKPORT
BURY	<input type="checkbox"/> vs <input type="checkbox"/>	GRIMSBY
HUDDERFIELD	<input type="checkbox"/> vs <input type="checkbox"/>	BRADFORD
IPSWICH	<input type="checkbox"/> vs <input type="checkbox"/>	BOLTON
OXFORD	<input type="checkbox"/> vs <input type="checkbox"/>	PORT VALE
PORTSMOUTH	<input type="checkbox"/> vs <input type="checkbox"/>	WEST BROM
Q.P.R.	<input type="checkbox"/> vs <input type="checkbox"/>	SHEFF UTD
SUNDERLAND	<input type="checkbox"/> vs <input type="checkbox"/>	BARNLEY
SWINDON	<input type="checkbox"/> vs <input type="checkbox"/>	CRYSTAL PALACE
TRANMERE	<input type="checkbox"/> vs <input type="checkbox"/>	NORWICH
WATFORD	<input type="checkbox"/> vs <input type="checkbox"/>	CREWE


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CRAIG TAYLOR

The last week or so has been one of my most active since becoming a pro, whether or not for the right reasons.

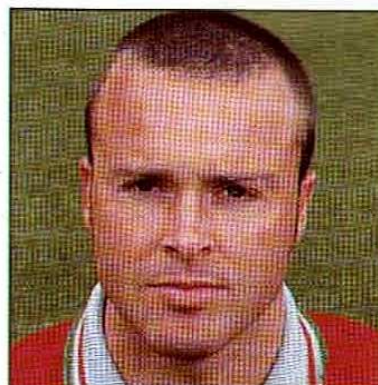
Last month the gaffer loaned me out to Plymouth Argyle on a temporary basis so I got some first team football. I was enjoying my time down there and even managed a goal in one match. Jim Quinn then agreed to extend the loan in my last week, but that was before our squad here was hit by injuries. David Kerslake has been out for a while now, Alan Reeves pulled up in the QPR game, and even Mark Robinson has gone on to give the gaffer a scare.

As I had just moved house, the Club was having a bit of difficulty getting hold of me but I eventually received word that Jim Quinn wanted me back for the trip to

Bradford. This meant me returning to Swindon immediately, in time for Friday's training session and the transfer back deadline. So, after just beginning to settle down at Home Park, I suddenly found myself back with the Town squad travelling up to the Hotel. I don't think the gaffer would've gone to this trouble without reason so I wasn't really surprised to be picked for the starting line-up. I was just really keen to do my bit.

I thought I had a good first half and did well alongside the rest of the team. With so many injuries, it's really a squad mentality that we've got at the moment and it seemed to be pulling us through. Before I hand-balled it on the line, that is. I couldn't have an argument with the ref to be honest, as it was deliberate. Afterwards I explained to the gaffer that it just happened, like an instinct to stop the ball crossing the line. As a defender

your worst nightmare is to score an own goal, but now I'd say giving away a penalty and getting sent off is right up there alongside it. It's a terrible feeling. That capped an amazing week for me really. I just hope I'm picked for today's game and can put it all behind me.



Craig Taylor

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Q. So how are things going?

A. Really well at the moment. I'm delighted to be back in the first eleven and winning games for Swindon. Things were not really going for me before, but the new Gaffer has got me involved from the start and I've played or been on the bench in every one of Quinn's games so far.



Q. What do you think the Gaffer has seen in you?

A. I really don't know. From Jim Quinn's first game I've been put straight on the bench, so I guess he must have seen me play in the reserves before he got the job.



Q. Quinn's 'sexy football' is obviously based on having players in midfield that have skill and can pass.

A. Yes, it is nice to be part of that. With players like Mark Walters in midfield you will always have a bit of creativity. It is great to play alongside him because he takes the pressure off other players. But at the same time you have to have balance in the side. If you have too much of one type of player you will get punished. That it is why you must have a mix of players. Sometimes you need Darren Bullock just as much as you need Mark Walters.




Q. How do you find it playing along side 'Bully'?


A. He suits the way I play in midfield because he is often the ball winner while I'm the passer. This is good for you

KEVIN


because it takes the onus off of you having to do things that are not your strength.

 **Q. How do you rate your performances over the last few games?**


A. I'm certainly feeling a lot more confident and I've just got to take it from there and hopefully build on what I've done by staying as a regular in the side. That goes, not just for myself, but for the whole team. We've done exceptionally well against tough opposition, but we mustn't get carried away, we have to keep improving.

 **Q. Among the players you're known as 'Chipper'. Why is that?**

A. It started way back during my Tottenham days. We had a goalkeeper called Kevin Dearden, who is now the Brentford keeper, and I used to chip him all the time in training and he used to get the hump about it. It just started from there. And wherever I've gone the name has followed me.

 **Q. Would you like to chip one over Fraser when you play against Palace?**

A. Of course, it is always nice to score against old teammates and Fraser is doing really well. Their Manager Terry Venables gave me my first pro contract at Tottenham so it would be great to do well against his side.

 **Q. How do you view the rest of the season going?**

A. It is going to be a hard battle. We've picked up some valuable points, moved closer to mid-table, but I still think we can improve as a side. The lads are flying at the moment so I don't see any reason why we shouldn't keep moving up.



Kevin Watson

FACT FILE

Did you ever feel your career had gone pear-shaped?
Being loaned out to Barnet from Spurs

Best dressed at STFC?
Scott Leitch

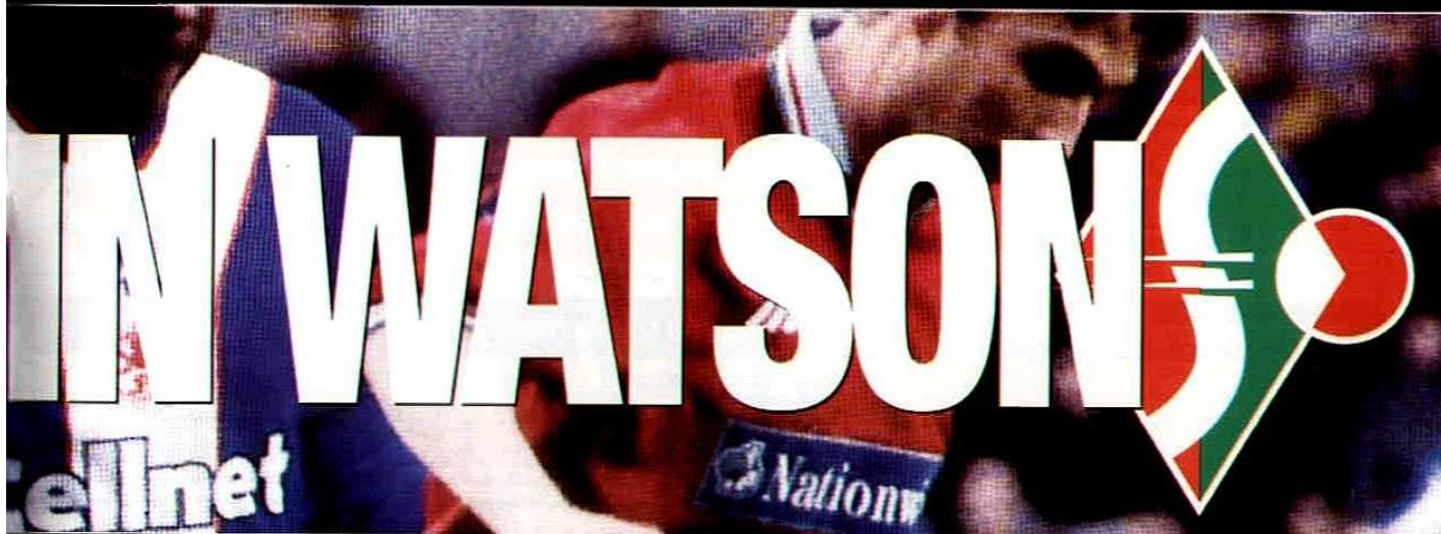
Worst dressed at STFC?
Bobby Howe

You house is on fire, what is the first material possession you rescue?
My football scrapbook... oh and my wedding album!

Favourite Spice Girl?
Sporty Spice

Best advice a manager has ever given you?
Play to your strengths and work on your weaknesses

Sum up Kevin Watson in three words?
Humorous, honest, trustworthy
(supplied by Mark Robinson)



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	1-4	8,781	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Fri Sept 25	Tranmere Rovers A	0-0	5,501	TALIA	ROBINSON	WILLIS	DAVIS	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Tue Sept 29	Bolton Wanderers A	1-2	16,497	TALIA	ROBINSON	WILLIS	DAVIS	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT OCT 03	STOCKPORT COUNTY H	2-3	7,961	TALIA	ROBINSON	DAVIS	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
FRI OCT 09	HUDDERSFIELD T. H	3-0	8,316	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Sat Oct 17	Ipswich Town A	0-1	13,212	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	LEITCH	WILLIS	BORROWS	WALTERS
Tue Oct 20	Birmingham City A	1-1	19,485	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	DAVIS	WILLIS	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT OCT 24	W.B.A. H	2-2	8,967	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	WATSON	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT OCT 31	QUEENS PARK RANGERS H	3-1	8,500	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	DAVIS	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Sat Nov 07	Crewe Alexandra A	2-0	4,469	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	DAVIS	WILLIS	BORROWS	HULBERT
Sat Nov 14	Bradford City A	0-3	14,897	TALIA	TAYLOR	HALL	DAVIS	WILLIS	BORROWS	WALTERS
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 SEASON'S TOP SCORERS

IFFY ONUORA	10
GEORGE NDAH	6
MARK WALTERS	6
GARETH HALL	2
DARREN BULLOCK	1

THIS SEASON'S TOP GATES

SAT 15 TH AUG VS SUNDERLAND	10,207
SAT 24 TH OCT VS W.B.A	8,967
SAT 19 TH SEPT VS WATFORD	8,781
SAT 5 TH SEPT VS BRISTOL CITY	8,537

LAST FOUR GAMES

BRADFORD	A	LOST 3-0
CREWE	A	WON 2-0
QPR	A	WON 3-1
WEST BROM	H	DREW 2-2

FRONT COVER PHOTO...IFEM ONUORA



1



PLAYER IN RED
DENOTES SCORER

NUMBER IN BRACKETS
DENOTES PLAYER REPLACED ()

8	9	10	11	12	13	14
HAY	ONUORA	BULLOCK	NDAH	DAVIS (8)	CUERVO	TAYLOR
HAY	ONUORA	BULLOCK	NDAH	KERSLAKE	WATSON(8)	TAYLOR
NDAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	DAVIS	HAY	CUERVO(4)
NDAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HAY (4)	CUERVO (11)	GLASS
NDAH	HAY	BULLOCK	GOODEN	ONUORA(8)	ROBINSON	CUERVO (4)
NDAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HAY	DAVIS	CUERVO (9)
NDAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	COWE	DAVIS(3)	ROBINSON
NDAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HULBERT(4)	COWE	DAVIS(6)
NDAH (2)	ONUORA (2)	BULLOCK	GOODEN	ROBINSON	WILLIS	WATSON
NDAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	ROBINSON(10)	COWE	WILLIS
NDAH	COWE	BULLOCK	GOODEN	TAYLOR	HOWE	WATSON
NDAH	CUERVO	BULLOCK	GOODEN	WATSON	TAYLOR	COWE(8)
COWE	CUERVO	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HOWE(8)	ONUORA(9)	WATSON
WILLIS	ONUORA	NDAH	GOODEN	BULLOCK	HALL	CUERVO(10)
NDAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	CUERVO	WATSON	WILLIS
NDAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HAY(9)	WATSON(10)	DAVIS(4)
NDAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HAY(9)	WATSON(5)	CUERVO
NDAH	ONUORA	LEITCH	GOODEN	HAY(8)	DAVIS	CUERVO
NDAH	ONUORA	LEITCH	GOODEN	WATSON(8)	HULBERT(5)	BULLOCK(10)
HAY	ONUORA(2)	BULLOCK	GOODEN	WATSON(7)	SAM CAMPAGNA	COWE(8)
WATSON	ONUORA	NEAL FENN	GOODEN	HULBERT(7)	SAM CAMPAGNA	COWE

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION I TABLE

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sunderland	18	11	7	0	42	12	40
Ipswich	18	10	5	3	26	10	35
Watford	19	9	5	5	31	27	32
Birmingham	19	9	5	5	25	17	32
Bradford	18	9	4	5	34	20	31
Sheffield Wed	19	8	6	5	31	28	30
Wolves	19	8	5	6	27	18	29
Norwich	17	8	5	4	27	21	29
Huddersfield	19	8	5	6	26	28	29
West Brom	18	8	3	7	36	33	27
Crystal Palace	16	8	2	6	28	26	26
Grimsby	18	7	5	6	23	21	26
Bolton Wanderers	17	6	7	4	33	29	25
Stockport	18	4	10	4	23	24	22
Tranmere	18	4	9	5	23	26	21
Port Vale	19	6	3	10	21	36	21
Bury	19	5	6	8	14	20	21
Swindon Town	19	5	5	9	27	33	20
Barnsley	19	4	8	7	22	27	20
Portsmouth	19	4	6	9	27	32	18
QPR	18	5	3	10	17	27	18
Oxford City	19	4	5	10	20	33	17
Bristol City	19	3	6	10	27	44	15
Crewe Alexandra	18	2	5	11	19	37	11

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES 98/99

Player Name:	LEAGUE	W.C.	FAC.	Gls.
	Apps.	Apps.	Apps.	
BRIAN BORROWS	20	1	0	0
DARREN BULLOCK	16(1)	1	0	1
SAM CAMPAGNA	0	(1)	0	0
LEE COLLINS	0	0	0	0
STEVE COWE	2(1)	0	0	0
PHILIPPE CUERVO	2(4)	0	0	0
SOL DAVIS	8(1)	0	0	0
NEALE FENN	0	1	0	0
JIMMY GLASS	1	1	0	0
TY GOODEN	20	1	0	1
GARETH HALL	17	1	0	2
CHRIS HAY	3(4)	1	0	0
BOBBY HOWE	(1)	0	0	0
ROBIN HULBERT	2(3)	0	0	0
DAVID KERSLAKE	7	0	0	0
SCOTT LEITCH	10	0	0	0
ALAN McDONALD	0	0	0	0
STEVE MILDENHALL	0	0	0	0
GEORGE NDAH	15	0	0	6
IFEM ONUORA	16(2)	1	0	10
ALAN REEVES	16	(1)	0	1
MARK ROBINSON	12(1)	1	0	0
FRANK TALIA	18	1	0	0
CRAIG TAYLOR	1	0	0	0
MARK WALTERS	19	1	0	6
KEVIN WATSON	3(4)	(1)	0	0
ADAM WILLIS	5	0	0	0

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MATCH..... STATS



the officials

Referee:

Mr A.R. Leake

Anthony Leake is 40, and works as a Raw Material Buyer. Anthony is single and started refereeing in 1983 and progressed to become a Panal League ref in 1993. His hobbies include cross country, reading and music.

Assistant Referees:

Mr S.D. Habgood

Mr D.J. Hine

match facts

Half-Time Score

Full-Time Score

Today's Attendance



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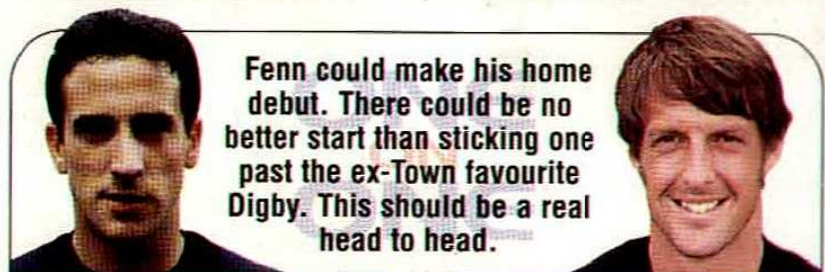
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TODAY'S TEAMS.....



FRANK TALIA	1	FRASER DIGBY
CRAIG TAYLOR	2	DEAN AUSTIN
GARETH HALL	3	SUN JIHAI
SOL DAVIS	4	GORDON PETRIC
ADAM WILLIS	5	SAGI BURTON
BRIAN BORROWS	6	CRAIG FOSTER
MARK WALTERS	7	ATTILIO LOMBARDO
KEVIN WATSON	8	NICKY RIZZO
IFEM ONUORA	9	LEE BRADBURY
NEALE FENN	10	MATTHEW JANSEN
TY GOODEN	11	HAYDEN MULLINS
ROBIN HULBERT	12	DAVID TUTTLE
SAM CAMPAGNA	13	CLINTON MORRISON
STEVE COWE	14	SASA CURCIC
TEAM MANAGER JIM QUINN		TEAM MANAGER TERRY VENABLES



Fenn could make his home debut. There could be no better start than sticking one past the ex-Town favourite Digby. This should be a real head to head.



NEXT HOME MATCH...

Sat 5th December 1998
Nationwide League Div 1
3.00pm kick off VS **NORWICH**