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Port Vale v Liverpool
- **Up Close & Personal**
with Kevin Pilkington
- **Cartoon Pin-Up of Neil Aspin**

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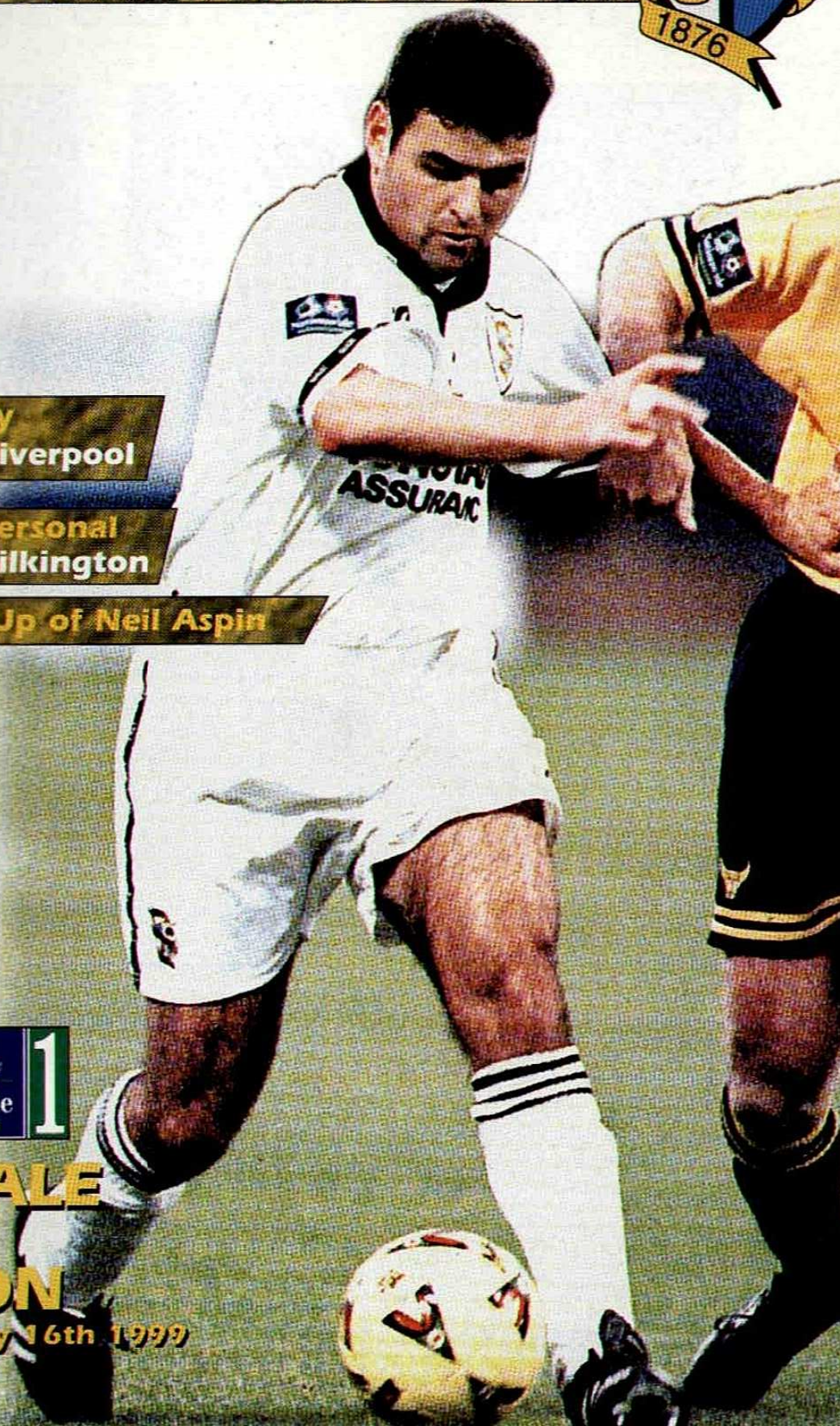


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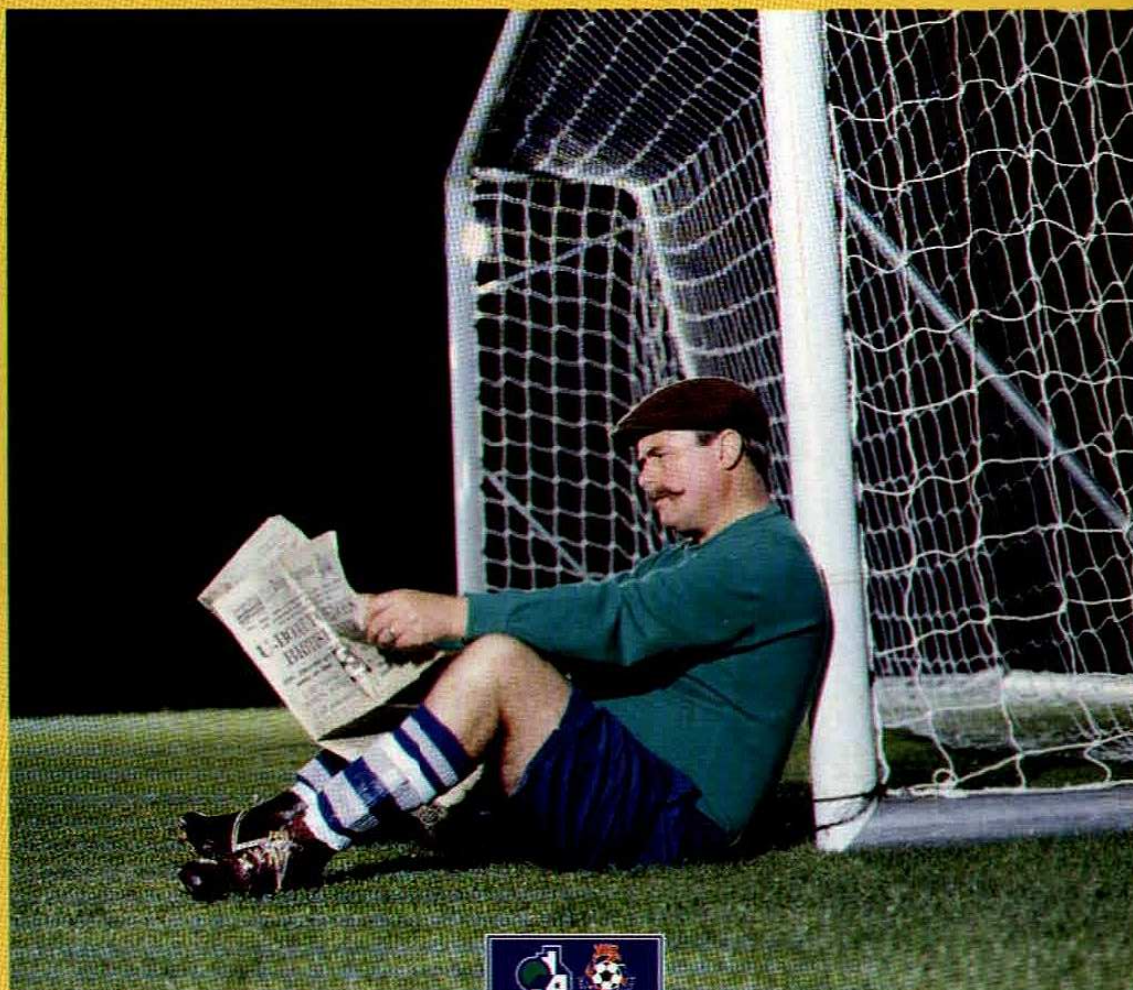
PORT VALE
versus

SWINDON

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Club Photographer
Bill Bache

Honours

Founder Members (Div 2) 1892
Highest Position:
Fifth, Div. 2 1930/31
Div 3 (N) Champions
1929-30 1953-54
Div 4 Champions
1958-59
Promoted to Div 1
1993-94 (runners up)
Promoted to Div 2
1988-89 (via play-offs)
Promoted to Div 3
1969-70 1982-83 1985-86
FA Cup Semi-Finalists
1953-54
Autoglass Trophy Winners
1992-93
Anglo-Italian Cup Runners Up
1995-96

Official Homepage
<http://www.port-vale.co.uk>
e-Mail: pvfc@port-vale.co.uk

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the GAFFER

Results don't improve but there were, I felt, a couple of bright sparks at Birmingham.

Supporters had their first glimpse of Tony Rougier, who has had a frustrating wait to get into action since agreeing to join us from Hibs before Christmas, along with further evidence of the promise of Anthony Gardner.

Anthony had his first senior outing here against Sheffield United a couple of months ago and might have appeared again sooner but for injury and illness.

He has the ability to be a great asset to a team which is not over blessed with pace and he was in my thoughts for the Liverpool game, only to be ruled unfit.

People have been calling for us to give youth a fling, but we have not been happy with what has been coming off the production line.

But the like of Anthony Gardner, George O'Callaghan and Richard Eyre, along with Brian McGlinchey and Neil Briscoe, suggests that the quality among the younger element is improving.

Anthony Gardner was 'caught cold' in going on at Birmingham for he had hardly warmed up when he was involved in the only goal of the game. I have been sent photographic evidence that Anthony was pulled back by the arm in the build up to that goal but, thereafter, he did not put a foot wrong. Putting youngsters into a team in our position is always delicate because they are liable to make a mistake; experience, therefore, is a main factor, but if a youngster or two can assist, then so much the better.

Tony Rougier is in this mould and I am sure supporters will be interested to see what part he plays in our relegation fight. He has pace and strength and people will no doubt look to compare him to Gareth Ainsworth. All I would ask is that people put things into perspective in making such comparisons and remember what we sold Gareth for and how much has been used to bring Tony here.

We did not obtain a work permit for Tony as quickly as we had hoped or at one time seemed likely. It looked as though we might be fortunate to cut through the red tape by Christmas but, in the end, we missed out by an hour, which meant we then had to wait until after the Christmas/New Year holiday to get the permit processed.

Tony will be all the better when he has settled in and adapted to First Division football, but I am hoping he will give us some of the ingredients we have been lacking since Gareth left for Wimbledon.

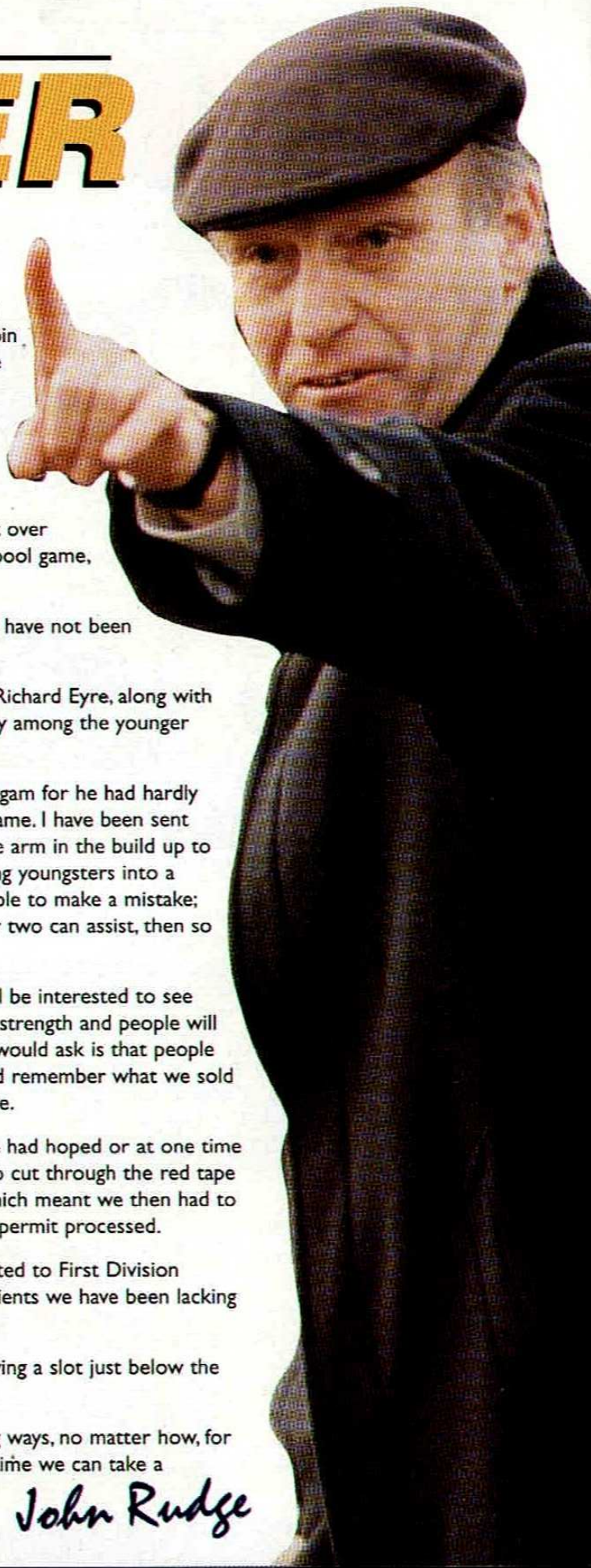
Today is obviously a vital game for us with Swindon occupying a slot just below the halfway mark in the table.

The most important factor is for us to get back to winning ways, no matter how, for then we have a couple of weeks without a game in which time we can take a breather, get people who have been ill or injured up and running again and perhaps even have some joy in the transfer market.

John Rudge

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five



park LIFE



Kevin Pilkington

Man of the Match

Kevin Pilkington receives his Man of the Match award from sponsors ECC International after the Bolton game - luckily for Kevin they voted him man of the match less than a minute before he conceded the penalty.

WANTED

A good condition copy of the FLC programme between Port Vale / QPR dated 19/10/60. Willing to pay up to £150. Please ring Ron Hill 0171 406 2316 (W) or 0181 9607623 (H) if anyone has a copy to sell.

50/50 DRAW

Supporters wanted to sell 50/50 draw tickets in around Vale Park. You will receive 15 per cent commission on every ticket you sell. And by selling the tickets you will be helping Port Vale to build the Lorne Street Stand and also raising money for local charities. For further information contact the Marketing Department on 01782 835524.

DESPERATELY SEEKING BAZZA

We've had a letter from a resident of Northern Ireland who is trying to find a Vale fan he met at the Isle of Man Tournament in 1993.

Michael Reeves - supporter of Crusaders F.C. - is looking for Barry (Bazza) who he had contact with until 18 months ago when he lost Bazza's new address. Since then he has received Christmas cards from the Vale fan but none with an address on.

If you are Bazza get in contact with Michael, or if you know Bazza pass this message on.

PROGRAMME FAIR

The Giant Middle England Football Programme and Memorabilia Fair will take place in the Ladbrokes Suite of Coventry City Football Club tomorrow.

This is the biggest event of its kind outside London and there will be over a quarter of a million books, programmes, cards, photos, badges and stickers available from five pence to hundreds of pounds.

The fair will run from 11am to 2pm.

It takes place tomorrow -

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WEMBLEY - THE VENUE OF LEGENDS - is about to be rebuilt for the next Millennium at a cost of over £250 million. England will offer the perfect stage for a spectacular World Cup Final.

PRIDE PARK TO STAGE FIRST INTERNATIONAL

Derby County's Pride Park Stadium is to hold its first ever international match next month when the England U21 squad meet the U21 team of World Cup Champions France.

The game will kick-off at 8.05pm on February 9th - 24-hours before the senior teams meet in a friendly at Wembley.

Derby are trying to break an attendance record for an U21 game which is currently held by Newcastle who hosted a tie between England and the Republic of Ireland watched by over 23,000 five years ago.

So why not help them break the record and go along to watch the game.

Tickets are £10 adults and £5 concessions and can be booked on the credit card hotline, tel. 01322 209999. Or apply in writing to: International Match, Ticket Office, Pride Park Stadium, Pride Park, Derby, DE24 8XL. Please make cheques payable to Derby County Football Club.

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first

GLANCE



Arnar Gunnlaugsson

HYDE GIVES VALE THE THUMBS DOWN

Sheffield Wednesday player Graham Hyde has turned down a move to Vale Park saying he wants to keep his options open.

Do you get a sense of déjà vu? This time last year Villa's Neil Davies said exactly the same to us.

He chose to play the Bosman lottery rather than move to Port Vale and he ended up at Hednesford Town.

Let that be a warning Graham.

TEZZA IN STRIFE AT PALACE

Terry Venables admits he has encountered problems and broken promises during his eight-month reign at Crystal Palace.

But the former England coach insists he will remain friends with Palace owner Mark Goldberg even if he is relieved of his managerial duties this week.

"There have been difficulties here I did not anticipate, promises made that could not be kept and things have to be resolved before we

can go forward," said Venables.

"There is no problem between me and Mark Goldberg and whatever happens I believe we will remain friends.

"We had plans and things we wanted to do and for a number of reasons we haven't been able to get them done. There was money pledged to make the job work and then there wasn't.

BALL SAYS HE'S STAYING AT POMPEI

Alan Ball insists he wants to stay at Portsmouth for the rest of his managerial career.

Ball, who announced he was "taking a break" from Fratton Park last week, is relishing the challenge of re-establishing Portsmouth as a top-flight club.

"I'm hoping that in five or six years time I can hand over this club in really good shape and then be invited to go upstairs and oversee things," Ball said.

"I've never thought about walking away at any stage from Portsmouth. This is the biggest challenge I've ever faced as a manager. "It's a very difficult situation but hopefully it will all be worthwhile a few years down the line."

MILLS LOOKS FOR PROMOTION WITH BANTAMS

Ex-Port Vale striker Lee Mills believes his partnership with Robbie Blake can help the Bantams

go all the way in their promotion bid.

Blake set the Bantams on their way to a 2-1 win at Stockport - a result that keeps Bradford fourth in Division One - with a superb goal after nine minutes, and Mills said: "Robbie has got that sort of ability.

"Over the last few games either one of us has scored and we're proving to be a good partnership."

BOLTON THREATENED WITH ARNAR MOVE

Bolton will consider a written transfer request from Icelandic striker Arnar Gunnlaugsson next week. But Wanderers boss Colin Todd is upset that his top scorer's problems have been made public.

Todd said: "From time to time these things happen at a football club, but its always annoying when the troubles spill out into the public arena."

TAIT TO MOVE TO OXFORD

Birmingham City's long serving midfielder Paul Tait is to make a free transfer move to the Oxford United.

Tait has been on the transfer list at St. Andrew's since the summer and has also recently had talks with Southend United.

He is to sign a two-and-a-half year deal at Oxford, bringing to an end his 11-year association with Birmingham.



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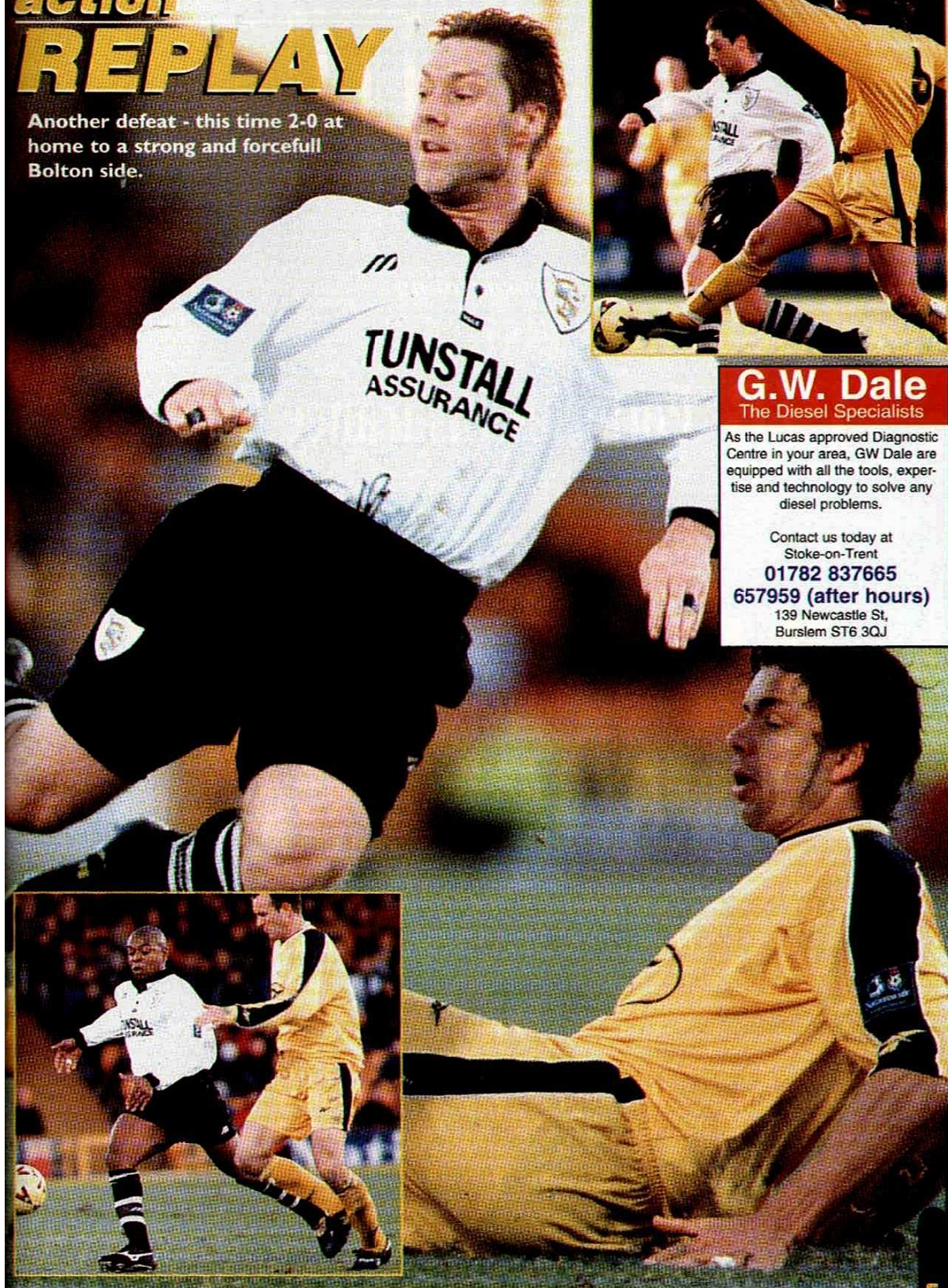
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action REPLAY

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what's the STORY



A sell-out crowd at Vale Park - mostly 12-year-old Michael Owen groupies - watched the men from Anfield hammer us 3-0. It was nice to see a full stadium and at least we didn't embarrass ourselves by conceding seven or eight, in fact at times we enjoyed good spells of possession.

However it did expose one problem - we couldn't sing for toffee. You see, most people in the Park that day rarely - if ever - come to the Vale and don't know any songs. The crowd limped painfully through the

Wonder of You led by the hand by the 5,000 Vale Park faithful and muttered through everything else except the complicated lyrics of Vale! Vale! Vale! Vale! Vale! Vale!

Realising that this was the only song we could sing as a unit, the crowd latched onto the chant and sung it repeatedly until we sounded like the irritating posse from Portsmouth who sing "Play Up Pompey! Pompey Play Up" over and over for 90 minutes until you feel like clattering the lot of them with that ruddy bell that they ring with the chant.

We did try to progress a stage after half time with a round of "How Wide do you Want the Goals". But this was certainly beyond the realms of understanding of the man sat behind me, who I'll swear was singing "Go Hide if you Want our Souls."

I think if we draw a big club in future years there needs to be a Port Vale songsheet distributed across the Potteries - and a few dress rehearsals, e.g. the games against Watford, Bury etc. beforehand - to ensure we are all in fine voice.

After the game I bumped into none other than the son and heir of Neil Aspin who was proudly wearing Michael Owen's shirt. He told me his dad had asked Michael for the shirt. Noting the rather shaky signature on the back, I enquired whether Neil had asked or told Michael he wanted the shirt. Very innocently he assured me his father had politely asked. Well, that's Aspo's story and he's sticking to it. Although I keep having these recurring visions of of poor Michael Owen having his shirt forcibly removed by our captain!

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**NAME**

Kevin Pilkington

NICKNAME

Doofer

BIRTHSIGN

Pisces

CURRENTLY LIVES

Holmes Chapel

FAMILY

Mum (Eileen), Dad (Tony), brother (Gareth) and wife (Rebecca)

DID YOU EXCEL AT ANY OTHER SPORTS AT SCHOOL?

Basketball

WHICH PLAYERS DID YOU ADMIRE AS A TEENAGER?

Des Walker and Hans van Breukelen

WHICH PLAYER WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY ALONGSIDE AND WHY?

Stuart Pearce because he's a born winner

BEST EVER GAME

My debut against Crystal Palace

FAVOURITE STADIUM

Old Trafford

FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM

Nottingham Forest

HIGHLIGHT OF CAREER

Making my debut for Manchester United

INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

Golf, reading and walking my dogs

NEWSPAPER YOU READ

The Sun and The Mail

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE IF YOU HADN'T BECOME A FOOTBALLER?

Joined the Army

FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT

Dominican Republic

MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT

Not had any (yet)!!!

ANY SUPERSTITIONS

No

FAVOURITE CARTOON CHARACTER

Homer Simpson

FIRST CAR AND CURRENT CAR

First - Ford Escort / Now - Honda Civic Aerodeck

MOST TREASURED POSSESSION

Family and friends

WHAT MAKES YOU LAUGH?

Lee Evans

WHO HAS THE WORST AND BEST DRESS SENSE AT THE CLUB

Worst - Roger Koordes / Best - Mark Snijders

WHO OR WHAT ANNOYS YOU MOST?

People who talk about things they know nothing about

WHICH TEAM WILL BE THE SURPRISE PACKAGE THIS SEASON?

Charlton Athletic

TIPS FOR THE TOP (YOUNG PLAYER)

Mark Wilson (Manchester United)

FAVOURITE MUSIC

60s music

WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE MAROONED ON A DESERT ISLAND WITH?

My wife

WORST HAIRCUT EVER SEEN

Jan Jansson

ANY PETS?

Two dogs called George and Ben

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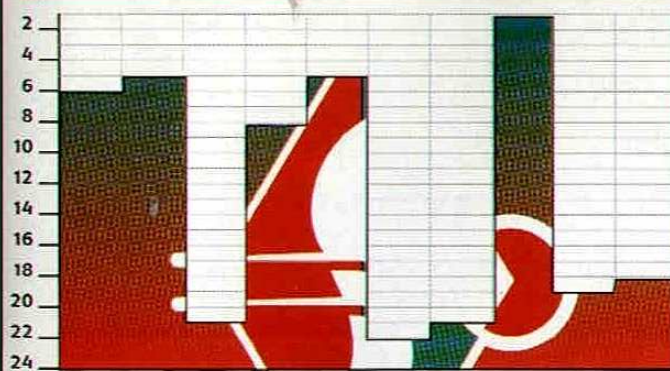
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Swindon Town's last ten years - the full record



Div.	2	2	2	2	1	P	1	2	1	1
F.A.	4	3	4	5	3	3	4	5	3	3
Lg.C.	2	4	3	4	3	3	SF	2	3	1

L.S.	Shearer	Shearer	Shearer	Shearer	Maskell	Fjortoft	Fjortoft	Allison	Allison	Hay
Goals	14	20	22	22	18	12	16	17	11	14
Ave Att.	8,692	9,433	9,507	9,871	10,489	15,011	9,408	10,602	9,265	9,505

When Swindon have scored goals... and conceded them



ROBINS' ROGUES

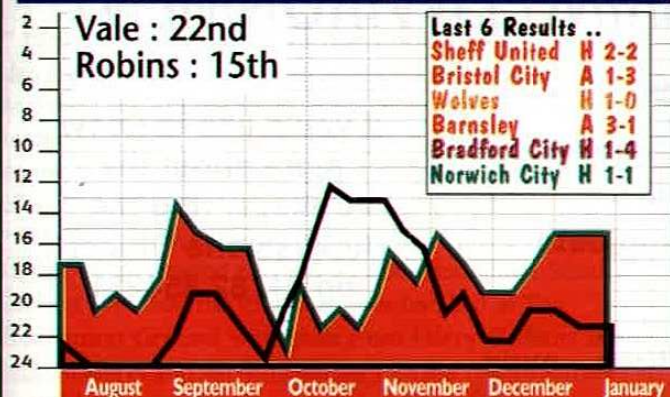
Bullock ...9	Onuora ...2
Walters ...7	Willis ...2
Davis ...4	Gooden ...1
Ndah ...4	Taylor ...1
Reeves ...4	
Robinson ...4	
Borrows ...3	
Hulbert ...3	
Leitch ...3	
Hall ...2	
Kerslake ...2	

N.B. LEAGUE DETAILS ONLY

VALE'S VICTIMS

Barnett ...9	Talbot ...2
Aspin ...7	McGlinchey ...1
Beesley ...6	O'Callaghan ...1
Ainsworth ...4	Pilkington ...1
Bogle ...4	Tankard ...1
Beadle ...3	Walsh ...1
Carragher ...3	
Barker ...2	
Foyle ...2	
Koordes ...2	
Naylor ...2	

League Positions throughout this season



Vale : 22nd
Robins : 15th

Last 6 Results ..
Sheff United H 2-2
Bristol City A 1-3
Wolves H 1-0
Barnsley A 3-1
Bradford City H 1-4
Norwich City H 1-1

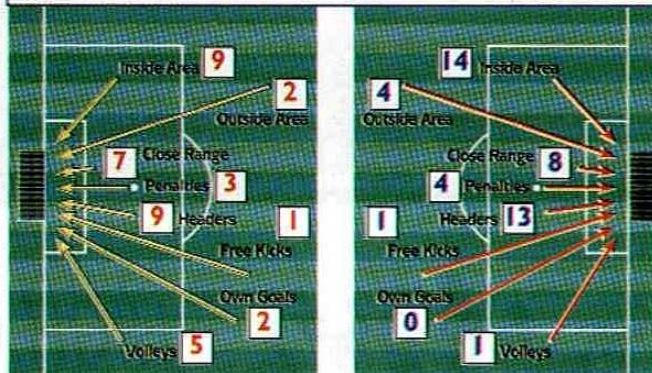
When Vale have scored goals... and conceded them



Who's played for The Robins this season...

Player	Pos	Lge	Lge	Age	Ht	Weight	Prev. Club	Int.
		Apps	Gls					
Frank Talia	G	26		26	6'1	13'06	Blackburn	
Brian Borrows	D	25		38	5'10	11'12	Coventry	Eng B
Gareth Hall	D	24	1	29	5'8	12'00	Sunderland	Wales
Iffy Onuora	F	23(2)	16	31	6'0	13'01	Gillingham	
Mark Walters	M	23(2)	8	34	5'9	11'05	Southampton	England
George Ndah	F	22(1)	8	24	6'1	11'04	Palace	
Ty Gooden	M	21	1	26	5'8	12'06	Wycombe	
Mark Robinson	D	19(1)		30	5'9	12'04	Newcastle	
Darren Bullock	M	17(5)	1	29	5'9	13'04	Huddersfield	
Sol Davis	D	16(4)		19	5'7	11'00		
Alan Reeves	D	15(1)		29	6'0	12'00	Wimbledon	
Scott Leitch	M	14(1)		29	5'10	12'00	Hearts	
Adam Willis	D	11		22	6'1	12'02	Coventry	
David Kerslake	D	7		32	5'9	12'04	Ipswich	Eng U21
Kevin Watson	M	6(6)		25	5'9	12'08	Tottenham	
Robin Hulbert	M	6(5)		18			Newcastle	Eng Yth
Chris Hay	F	6(4)	1	24	6'0	12'05	Celtic	
Craig Taylor	D	5(3)		24	6'1	12'03	Exeter	
Neale Fenn	F	4		21	5'10	12'08	on loan from Tottenham	
Phillipe Cuervo	M	2(4)		29	5'11	11'03	St Etienne	
Steve Cowe	F	2(3)		24	5'7	10'02	Villa	
Stephen Howe	M	2(3)		26	5'7	10'06	Forest	
Jimmy Glass	G	1		25	6'1	13'04	Bournemouth	
Sam Campagna	D	(1)		18	6'0	12'00	Kidderminster	

How The Robins have scored goals... and conceded them

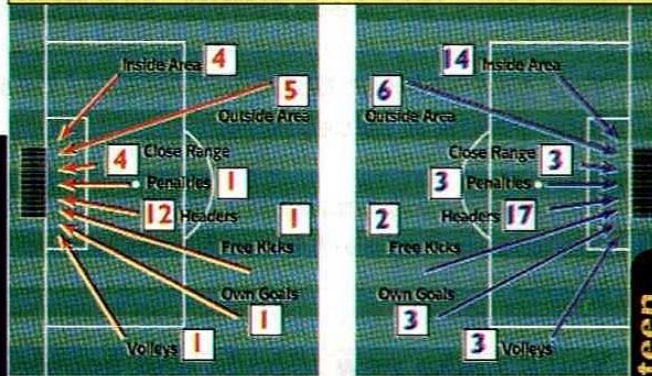


Valiants v Robins

FORM GUIDE	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	Sequence
Port Vale	1	0	5	5	11	3	LLLWLL
Swindon Town	2	2	2	9	11	8	DLWWLD

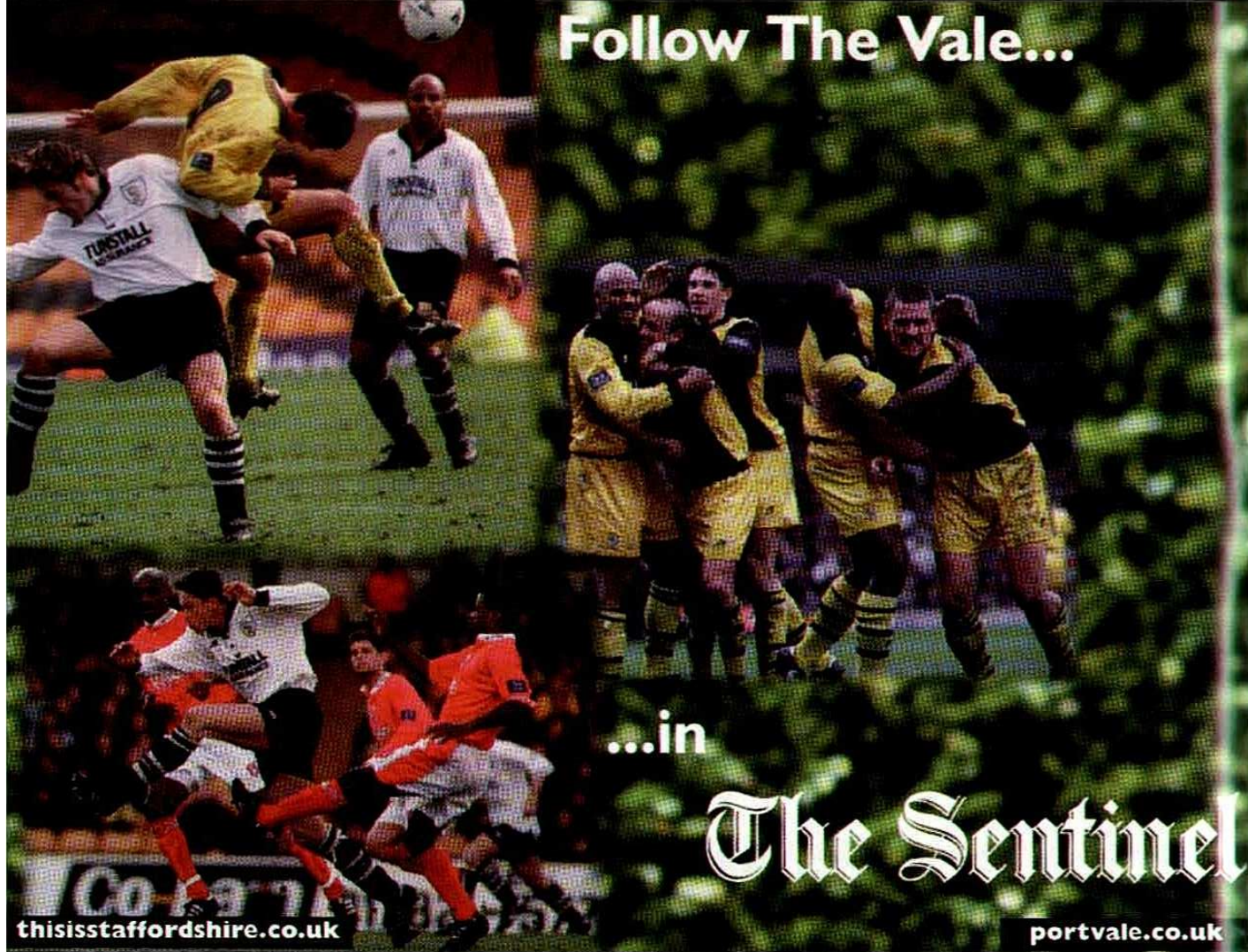
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Tim Parkin
Played for both Clubs

PAST ENCOUNTERS

There have been 53 previous League games involving the Vale and the Robins and this is our record as it stands today:

Football League

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	26	16	7	3	55	24
Away	27	5	7	15	22	41
Totals	53	21	14	18	77	65

* Earlier this season Vale earned a point from a 1-1 draw at the County ground and last season Swindon achieved the double, winning 4-2 at home and 1-0 here in the Potteries. Chris Hay was the star of that victory at the County Ground, scoring a second-half hat-trick after Dean Glover had given us a half-time lead.

* The first two League encounters took place in the last pre-War season of 1938-39 (Division Three South). On 1st October the Vale beat Swindon 2-0 at The Recreation Ground with goals from Harry Griffiths and Jack Roberts and on 4th February in the return fixture a goal by Tommy Ward earned the Vale a 1-1 draw.

F.A. Cup tie

There has been one F.A. Cup meeting to date. That took place in season 1906-07 when the Vale won a 5th qualifying round tie 2-1 at Swindon in front of a 6,000 crowd. Tommy Coxon and Billy Dodds were the goalscorers.



SWINDON

PLAYED FOR BOTH CLUBS

One of the handful of players who have served with both clubs over the years is tall central defender Tim Parkin. Born in Penrith in December 1957, he joined the Vale for £60,000 just prior to his 32nd birthday in 1989. He went on to play in 52 first team games for the Valiants before transferring to Darlington in May 1992, having had a loan spell with Shrewsbury Town the previous September. He made his senior bow for Blackburn Rovers in season 1976-77 and then served with the Swedish club, FF Malmo, non-League outfit Almondsbury Greenway and then Bristol Rovers before joining Swindon Town in 1986. He made over 200 Football League appearances for Bristol Rovers.

Whilst at the Feethams Parkin became Darlington's player-coach and later acted as caretaker-manager before becoming a player at Barrow. He then took over as player/assistant-manager at Holker Street and in later years held the position of 'Football in the Community' officer at Middlesbrough.

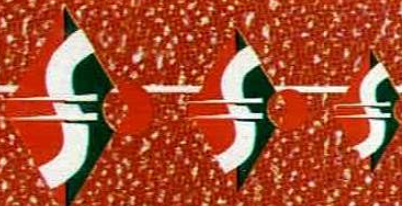
MANAGER OF BOTH CLUBS

Bobby Smith was manager here at Vale Park from November 1977 to the summer of 1978 and then took charge of Swindon Town until 1980. He also managed Bury, Newport County and Swansea City, the later in a caretaker capacity.

VALE PLAYER, TOWN BOSS

Louis Page appeared in 19 senior games for the Vale in the 1930s and was Swindon Town's manager for eight years from 1945. A utility forward, Page was capped seven times by England and he also represented his country at baseball. He served with Stoke City, Northampton Town, Burnley and Manchester United before the Vale.

the VISITORS



Swindon Town, our welcome visitors to Vale Park this afternoon, were involved in the first managerial casualty of 1998-99 when Steve McMahon lost his job back in September. His leaving had been on the cards for quite some time, especially after a run of disappointing results, at home and away, and a change at the top was duly made directly after the Robins had faltered to a crushing 4-1 home reverse against Watford.

Into McMahon's place stepped another former player, Irish international striker Jimmy Quinn, who arrived from Peterborough United, and, in fact, for a brief period of time things began to look up at the County Ground. But there is still a lot of work to be done if a relegation dog-fight is to be avoided and Quinn knows only too well that grabbing points away from home is so vital these days - especially if they can be obtained off fellow strugglers, or indeed teams from below you in the table.

Thus, today's encounter against the Valiants is now billed as a six-pointer, taking into consideration the League positions of the respective antagonists.

Swindon Town are currently lying in 15th position with 31 points, having been held to a 2-2 draw at home last Saturday by Sheffield United. The Vale, meanwhile have five points fewer and are now in the bottom three. Since winning promotion from the Second Division in May 1996, Swindon have had two-and-a-half disappointing seasons, finishing 19th in 1996-97 - when they were only just clear of relegation - and 18th last term when they also got dumped out of the F.A. Cup by non-League Stevenage Borough - and now once again they are lingering far too close to relegation zone for comfort.

But Quinn is confident and determined that he can put things right at the County Ground - despite not having a great deal of money to splash out on rebuilding his squad. On paper Swindon Town have a pretty useful squad, which includes some vastly experienced and capable professionals.

Now they will have to show their mettle, battle for every point - like the Vale players - and hope to climb away from trouble. Amazing things have happened in football, and one ardent supporter on a local radio station recently said..."we can make the play-offs in this Division!" Yes, its a funny old game - we all know that!



Kevin Watson

***"We can make
the play-offs in
this Division!"***

SWIN

Twenty

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the ROBINS

This is the Swindon Town squad from which 14 players will be named to face the Valiants this afternoon...

Goalkeeper **Frank Talia** (26) was born in Melbourne, Australia and played for Sunshine City in his homeland. He came to England and after trials with West Bromwich Albion, he joined Blackburn Rovers in August 1992. Unfortunately he failed to make the breakthrough at Ewood Park and after a loan spell with Hartlepool United, he moved to Swindon Town for £150,000 in September 1995. He has now made almost 70 appearances for the Robins.

Swindon's second string 'keeper at the moment is **Jimmy Glass** (25) formerly of Crystal Palace, Portsmouth and Bournemouth.

Experienced full-back **David Kerslake** (32) returned to Swindon last March, five years after leaving for Leeds United. A Londoner, from Stepney, he began his career with Q.P.R. for whom he appeared in 74 games before moving to Swindon in November 1989 for £110,000. During his first spell with the Robins he amassed 165 appearances, following up with eight for Leeds before transferring to Tottenham for £450,000 in September 1993. Loan spells with Swindon (in November 1996) and Charlton Athletic preceded a move to Ipswich Town. Another loan spell followed with Wycombe Wanderers, prior to his return to The

County Ground. Capped by England at schoolboy, youth and under 21 levels, Kerslake has now made 350 appearances at club level.

Sunderland sold versatile defender **Gareth Hall** (29) to Swindon last summer after the ex-Chelsea star had been on loan to Brentford. Capped by Wales at full and under 21 levels and by England as a schoolboy, Hall made 171 appearances for Chelsea.

Wimbledon boss Joe Kinnear sold attacker-cum-defender **Alan Reeves** (31) to the Robins last summer. He has been in the game for some 10 years, having started his League career with Gillingham whilst on loan at The Priestfield Stadium from Norwich City. From Carrow Road he went to Chester for £10,000 in 1989 and two years later he joined Rochdale, moving into the top flight with the Dons in 1994. A powerfully built player, strong in the air, Reeves is dangerous at set pieces and has loads of enthusiasm. Alan's twin brother, David, plays for Chesterfield.

Veteran defender **Brian Borrows** (38) joined the Robins from Coventry City in September 1997 after a successful loan period at the County Ground. He played initially for Everton, then made over 100 appearances for Bolton before going on to make well over 450 for the Sky Blues. He's also served with Bristol City and was sent-off against Sheffield United last Saturday.

Mark Robinson (30) can play at right-back, in the centre of the defence or wide in midfield. He started his career with West Bromwich Albion, and after spells with Barnsley (159 outings) and Newcastle, he signed for Swindon Town in 1994 for £600,000. He has now amassed over 200 appearances for the Robins

Promising 19 year-old defender **Solomon Davis** is a native of Cheltenham; and has produced some impressive performances in this his second season of League football.

Craig Taylor (25 later this month) was recruited from non-League Dorchester in April 1997. He has been playing well in defence and scored that blinding 30 yarder against the Vale in a 4-2 Swindon win in October 1997. His older brother Shaun (now with Bristol City) was a Swindon stalwart before him.

Bobby Howe (25) was signed from Nottingham Forest a year ago for £30,000, having earlier been on loan to Ipswich. He spent eight years with Forest, yet made only 18 appearances in that time.

Scott Leitch (29) has been in excellent form of late in Town's engine-room. The Motherwell-born midfielder joined Swindon in the summer of 1996 from Hearts. He is now well on his way to topping the 100 appearance-mark for the Robins.

DON



The Squad

Mark Walters, the former England winger, enjoys a wide berth on either flank, but prefers the right these days. Joining the Robins from Southampton in July 1997, Walters (34) has lost none of his trickery and is still a class player. Born in Birmingham, he left Aston Villa for Glasgow Rangers in a £500,000 deal in 1987. He moved to Liverpool for £1.25 million four years later and after loan spells with Stoke and Wolves, he signed for Southampton in January 1996. Winner of one full, one 'B' and nine under 21 caps, he gained a Super Cup winners medal with Villa and Scottish Premier and Scottish League Cup winners' medals with Rangers and an F.A. Cup winners' medal at Anfield. Walters has now passed the personal milestone of 600 appearances at club level (145 goals).

Devon-born **Robin Hulbert** (18) comes from Plymouth. A right wing-back, he is in his first full season of League football having made just two substitute appearances for the Robins before hand. He won England schoolboy and youth caps as a teenager.

Darren Bullock joined Swindon for £400,000 from Huddersfield in February 1997. A powerful midfielder, with an excellent 'engine' he is 29 years old and played initially for Nuneaton Borough. Bullock has now appeared in more than 70 first team games for the Robins.

Kevin Watson (25) ex-Spurs, is a useful midfielder with excellent creative passing ability. He signed 'pro' forms at White Hart Lane back in 1992 and prior to joining Swindon in July 1996, he played on

loan with Brentford, Bristol City and Barnet.

Ty Gooden (26) comes from Canvey Island and joined Swindon from Wycombe Wanderers in September 1993. He has appeared in more than 120 games for the Robins, all of them in midfield and last season netted twice in 42 outings.

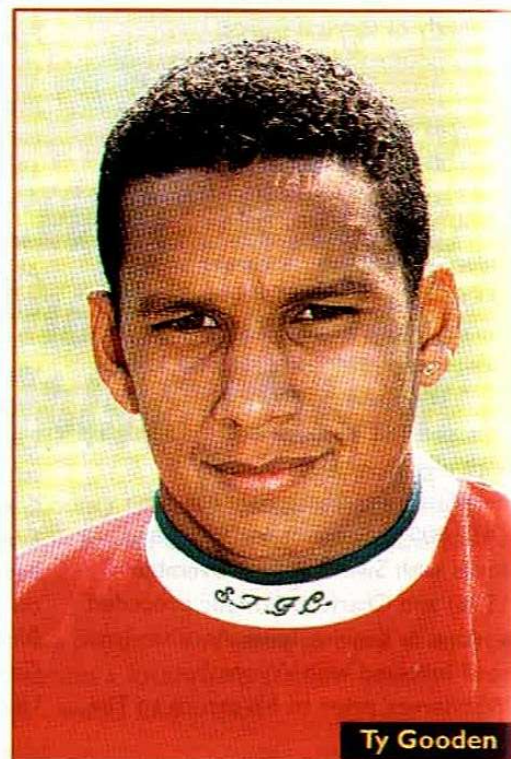
George Ndah (24) comes from Dulwich and was a £500,000 buy from Crystal Palace in November 1997. A former England youth international, he began his career at Selhurst Park as a trainee, turning professional there in 1992. A big, forceful striker, he scored 11 goals in 100 games for the Eagles and also had loan spells with Bournemouth and Gillingham before joining the Robins.

Fellow striker **Steve Cowe** (24) left Villa Park for Swindon in March 1996 for £100,000, after failing to get a game with the Premiership club. He's now had almost 100 outings for the 'Robins' and has shown a lot of character as a utility forward, scoring a dozen goals.

Iffy Onoura (31) comes from Glasgow. He is a 6ft. 1in. 13st. 12lbs. striker who started off with Huddersfield in 1989 after joining the Terriers from Bradford University. He netted 40 goals in five years with Huddersfield and then added another eight goals for Mansfield before signing for Gillingham, who secured his services for £25,000 in August 1996. He hit 26 goals in 73 outings for the 'Gills' prior to his £120,000 transfer to Swindon Town last March.



Mark Walters



Ty Gooden

Fellow striker **Chris Hay**, who prior to this season had scored 14 goals in just 38 games for the Robins following his transfer from Celtic for £330,000 in August 1997, is now back to full fitness after niggling injury problems. Remember his hat-trick against the Vale last season?

The Facts

Swindon Town were beaten by Barnsley in the 1912 FA Cup semi-final at Chelsea.

Swindon's biggest win and heaviest defeat is 10-1 - the former v. Farnham United Breweries in the FA Cup in 1925 and the latter v. Manchester City, also in the FA Cup, in 1930.

Swindon went a club record 30 away League games without a win between November 1972 and April 1974.

Three former Spurs players who lined-up in the same team together, Glenn Hoddle, John Gorman and Ossie Ardiles, later managed Swindon Town.

The biggest crowd ever to assemble at Swindon's County Ground is that of 31,668 for an FA Cup-tie with Arsenal in January 1972.

The first player to score four goals in a Third Division game was Swindon Town's excellent inside-forward Harold Fleming, who achieved the feat against Luton Town in August 1920 (won 9-1).

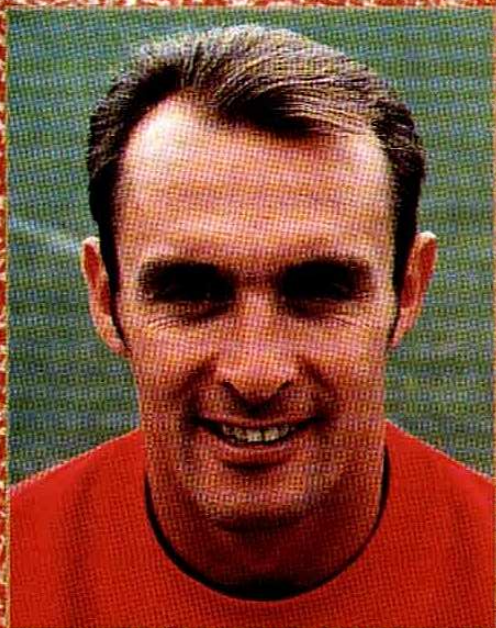
Paul Rideout was only 16 when he made his League debut for Swindon in 1980, whereas Alex Ferguson (no, not the same one) was 43 when he played his last game for the Robins in 1947.

The referee to be knocked out whilst officiating in a Third Division League game was Alf Bond, who was struck on the head by a fierce clearance from the Swindon Town centre-half George Hudson in September 1958.

Swindon Town won the League Cup in 1969 and the Anglo-Italian Cup in 1970.

The Manager

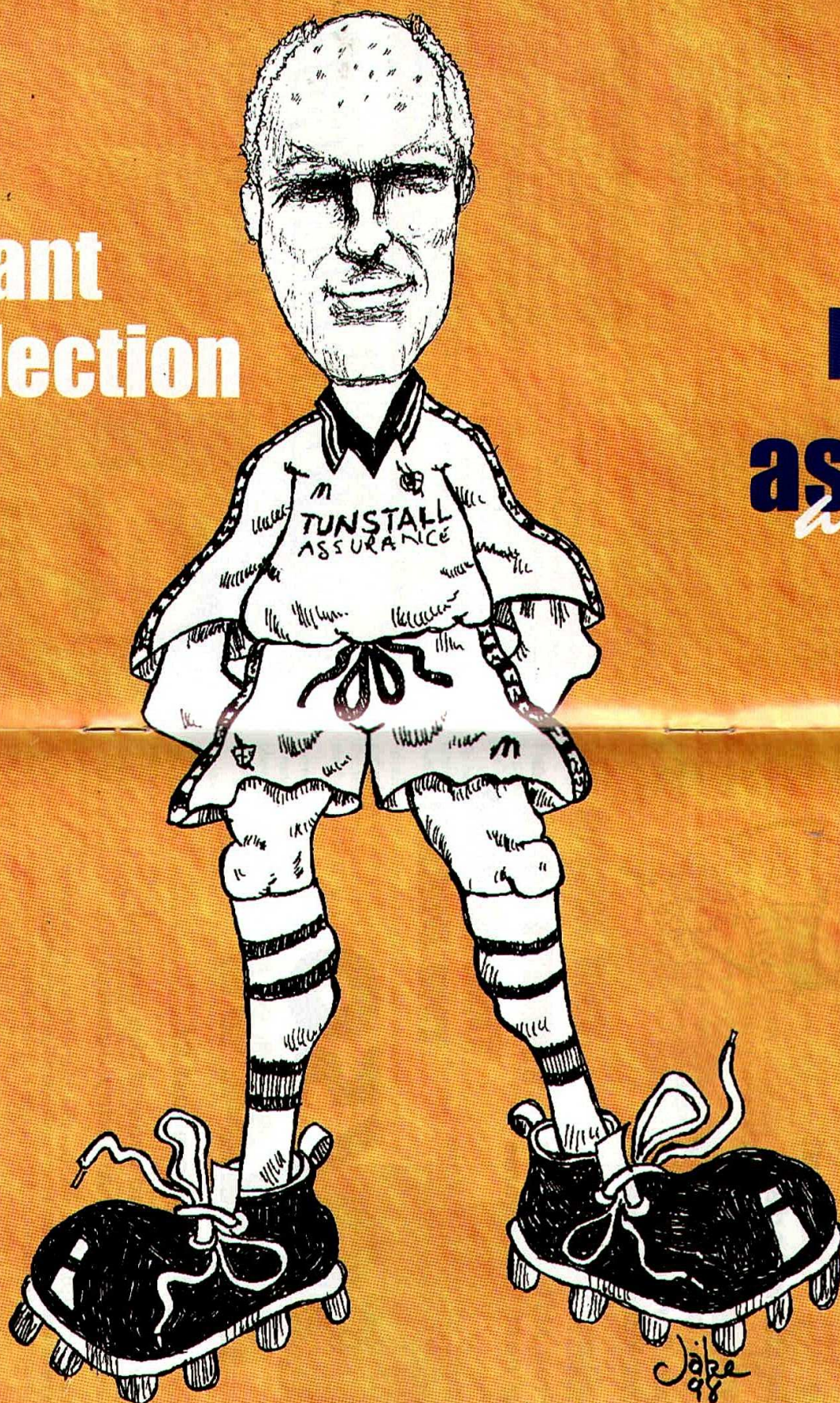
Jimmy Quinn



Jimmy Quinn (39) has been in League football for 17 years. Born in Belfast in November 1959, he played initially as a striker for Oswestry Town before signing as a professional for Swindon Town in December 1981. Three years later he was transferred to Blackburn Rovers; in December 1986 he returned to the County Ground for a second spell with the Robins and in June 1988 was recruited by Leicester City. From Filbert Street he switched his allegiance to Bradford City (March 1989) and from Valley Parade he went to West Ham United. He stayed at Upton Park for eighteen months before joining AFC Bournemouth in August 1991. From Dean Court he went to Reading and then ventured across to Peterborough United to team up with Barry Fry in July 1997. He then opted to try his luck as manager of Swindon Town last October, moving into the proverbial hot-seat a week or so after the departure of Steve McMahon. Capped 48 times by Northern Ireland, Quinn has scored 275 goals in 700 League and Cup appearances at club level.

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Deano's Back

Vale Park favourite Dean Glover is back at the club to coach the next generation of Port Vale stars. Less than six months after leaving he has returned to assist his old team-mate Mark Grew in coaching the youth team.

Grewy and Deano are the only remaining players at Port Vale to have appeared in the team that won promotion to the Second Division in 1989 and between them they are certain to use their wealth of experience to bring on our already flourishing youth team.

When Dean first came to Port Vale in 1989, he was the club's record signing. We paid Middlesbrough £190,000 for him - which was five times more than we had paid for any player before him.

Buying Deano was a big gamble for Rudgie after convincing the Chairman that the player from 'Boro' was worth the money.

"When the fans saw the size of the transfer fee they must have thought I had accidentally added a nought on the end."

To be fair the Chairman never flinched once I assured him Dean was a good player, but I do remember him puffing on his cigar a few times.

Fortunately for Rudgie his gamble paid off immediately and within a few months Deano was an integral part of the team that led the club into the Second Division for the first time in 33 years.

Admired by the fans and respected by his team-mates, Deano became captain of the Vale and was the first player to lift silverware for the club when we won the Autoglass Trophy.

Rudgie said, "There can't have been many defenders to have come to Vale with as much talent as Dean."

"He has been a mainstay at the club and a massive influence on our success."

As a player he completed 421 appearances for the club which puts him in the top five all time appearance makers.

At the end of last season, Dean, 35, played his last game which was his testimonial against his first club Aston Villa. Robbie Williams joined the squad that day to say a final farewell to one of his boyhood heroes. Deano was offered a one year contract by the club with reduced terms but turned it down.

The effects of the Bosman Ruling left Dean waiting by his phone all Summer.

He said, "It was disheartening after 20 years in the game. You still feel good enough but it seems no one



wants you."

Eventually he signed for Kidderminster Harriers but it was reported in The Sentinel that Deano was looking for jobs outside the world of football and had applied for work as a postman to top up his income from the Harriers.

However his face was still a regular seen in around Vale Park as he continued to train with the professional squad at Vale Park.

And after just six months, he is back to assist Grewy and get some vital experience to back up his coaching qualifications.

He said, "It was nice to be asked back and I jumped at the opportunity to return to Vale Park."

"I have many happy memories and I want to get involved in the coaching side of things."

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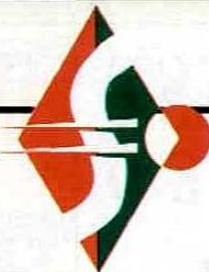
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visitors VIEW



peter WOODS

Name?

Peter Woods

Where do you live?

Fyfield, a tiny little hamlet in Gloucestershire a hotspot of Swindon support

How did you become a Swindon fan and when?

Brought up in a town full of Oxford supporters, Brought out the rebel in me! 1971

If someone mentions Port Vale FC what's the first thing that comes to mind and why?

Robbie Williams(sorry) and we have a couple of Stoke supporters in the village any mention of Port Vale winds them up.

Given the choice of any other player in your division which one would you include in your side and why?

Fish (Bolton Wanderers) we are desperately in need of a decent central defender and this man would fit the bill nicely. Burrows cannot go on for ever.

What's your most memorable moment supporting Swindon?

Away to Q.P.R last season, our goalkeeper Fraser Digby got sent off early in the first half. Alan McDonald ex Q.P.R. hero and captain went in goal for us and we won 2-1. What more do you want?

What's the first thing you'd do as chairman of your club?

Try and be honest with the fans, little clubs like ourselves face many problems and challenges (mainly financial) over the next few years and we need to be in it together.

If you could alter or introduce one rule in football which would it be and why?

Give the footballing authorities the powers to look at videos of matches and fine and suspend players who are obviously guilty of blatant cheating i.e. diving, shirt-pulling and off the ball incidents. The technology exists at most grounds, and there is a growing incidence of clubs using video to overturn referee's decisions so why not the other way as well?

Give a realistic prediction for today's match?

2-1 to us, at times lately we look a good team and if we are in the mood you have got no chance, although it has to be said that we have our days when we couldn't beat an egg

Every team seems to have a bogie side - what's yours?

Blimey! How much space have you got? Bolton comes to mind, When was the last time we won at Port Vale?

What improvement to your present ground would you like to see?

More fans in it

Name one dis-advantage of being in the Premiership?

Getting beat every week and having to suffer pundits comment's along the lines of "Swindon play lovely football and didn't deserve to lose" The Premiership is not like that, you can play as much pretty football as you like but if you make mistakes at the back you will get punished ruthlessly.

Who was Swindon's Player of the Season for 97/98 and if sold what's the minimum STFC should accept for him?

Officially as voted in our local rag(the evening advertiser) player of the year was Fraser Digby (our goalkeeper) he went to Palace on a Bosman. The Internet community in a slightly less organised poll voted for Darren Bullock for his commitment to the cause. The man has got a dreadful disciplinary record and is maybe worth £500,000. However he gives his all for Swindon so I would rather hang on to him

What are your thoughts about the current season so far and expectations for the rest of the season?

We have got new management which is a good thing. The defence has been tightened up, mid table inconsistency will do nicely.

Name your all time best eleven Swindon Line Up?

Digby, Kerslake, Calderwood, Taylor S, Thomas, Hoddle, Hazard, McMahon, Rogers, Fjortoft, Maskell.

A QUIZ FOR VISITING SWINDON ANSWERS ON PAGE 32

1. What was special about Swindon's home game against Luton in 1920-21?
2. Which record number of points did Swindon gain in 1985-86?
3. What was "The Croft"?
4. Who gained 30 Welsh caps while at Swindon?
5. Why was 1962-63 a significant season for Swindon?
6. Which player left for Man City in Jan 1997?
7. Which cup did Swindon win in 1970?
8. What did Swindon achieve in 1910 and 1912 but never since?
9. Against which 3 teams did Swindon achieve the double last season?
10. Which teams scored a total of 9 and 8 goals against Town last season?
11. Which 4 keepers did Town use in League games last season?
12. Who knocked Swindon out of last season's Coca-Cola Cup?
13. Who managed Swindon from 1984 to 1989?
14. Who scored a record 216 league goals for Swindon?
15. For which Scottish club did Mark Walters play?

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We would also like to extend a warm welcome to the young mascot who is representing Swindon today.

Away Mascots

Jordan Morris aged 8 years from Werrington will be representing Port Vale as mascot at Wolves, and Jill Brown who is 11, of Smallthorne at Portsmouth - We hope that both of these juniors have a great day out to remember!

Port Vale Website

Port Vale Juniors are now featured regularly on the Sentinel's Port Vale Website. Several "news items" have been included, such as Away Travel Details, Junior Members Birthdays and Away Mascot Information, so look out for your name on the website if you have access to this facility.

www.portvale.co.uk

Remember that the away mascot package is a free option for junior members. We can liaise and make arrangements with the away clubs, while you just pay for your travel and tickets, which is only £10.00 per person when travelling with the Port Vale Juniors.

So when next seasons fixtures are published give me a ring in the office to sort out a game!

Enjoy this afternoon's game,

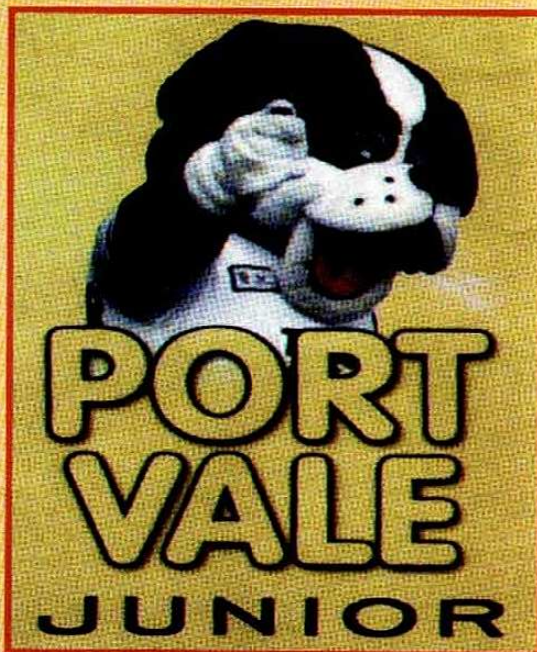
Keely Brown.



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Travelling Vallants

Next month sees the juniors visiting Wolverhampton Wanderers and Portsmouth as part of our family exchange visits. The Wolves coach is already fully booked; although we do have some vacancies for our trip to Portsmouth on Saturday 27th February - Cost is still just £10.00 for your ticket and travel, so contact the community office to book your seat now!



QUIZ ANSWERS - p29

1. Won 9-1 2. 102 3. Swindon's previous ground 4. Rod Thomas 5. First-ever promotion 6. Kevin Horlock
7. Anglo-Italian 8. Semi-finals of the FA Cup 9. Stoke, Vale, QPR 10. Man City and Sunderland 11. Digby, Talia, Mildenhall, Warner 12. Watford 13. Lou Macari 14. Harry Morris 15. Rangers

Port Vale Community Office
01782 575594

CUTTINGS

by
Jean Jackson

I have said it before and I'll say it again, I cannot agree with those pundits who are calling more and more for the extensive use of video replays to assist referees.

The issue was raised yet again following the sending off of ladies' favourite Michael Oakes of Aston Villa in the game against Blackburn. You may remember the incident - Oakes was adjudged to have carried the ball in his hands outside the penalty area when a slow motion replay showed clearly that he had dropped the ball as he crossed the line on the edge of the box. The referee has since admitted that he and his assistant made an error of judgement and the red card has been rescinded.

Now I find this to be a perfectly acceptable use of video tape. If an injustice can be seen to have been done after the event, there is no reason on earth why the technology should not be used to put it right. It should work both ways though. The camera should be used to bring a disrepute charge against Neil Redfearn for his response to Patrick Vieira's elbow and also to yellow card Nicky Butt for his dive in the box which put

Middlesbrough out of the FA Cup. I'm sure Mr Ferguson would be quite happy with that!!

Last Saturday's game at Birmingham saw an incident which was caught by the cameras but not the referee. Paul Furlong

it. Who would call for the replay? How would the "fourth official" know which bits of play to ask to see again? What happens if Furlong misses with his shot and another controversial incident occurs while the official is looking at the replay of the

the problem of how and when to stop or restart the game. I have never had this aspect of the use of technology satisfactorily explained to me by those who advocate constant recourse to the cameras.

Recent events in Australia, where the camera showed one thing and the official said another after watching the slow motion, also lead me to believe that technology will cause more problems than it will solve.

I accept the retrospective use of the camera then, but there is only one circumstance in which I would be prepared to accept its use during a match and that is by having some sort of camera on the goal line to judge if the ball had gone into the goal or not but it would have to be done instantaneously, by a buzzer in the fourth official's cabin or something, not when the ball has been cleared and is up the other end of the pitch. Do you remember that 4-4 draw against QPR (who could forget it)? A device on the line like that would have put us five up just after half time so I'm happy to agree that this could be beneficial! As for any other use of video - forget it! Who could we shout at if every decision was right?!



Neil Redfearn

fouled Anthony Gardner in the build up to the only goal of the game. How do the pro-video lobby propose that incident should be dealt with? At normal speed it was difficult to see whether it was a foul or not so the ref (if not his assistant who was only a few yards away) can be forgiven for not spotting

first one? Perhaps video should only be used for certain decisions such as offside. If so, I hope Alan Brazil is never asked to adjudicate in view of his interesting interpretation of the offside law during last Sunday's televised clash between Bolton and Crystal Palace!! Again though, we run into

Soccer SHORTS



Roberto Carlos

CARLOS HITS OUT AT REAL BUDDIES

Real Madrid defender Roberto Carlos on Wednesday hit out at the attitude of some of his team mates, blaming the club's recent poor form on a lack of fighting spirit.

Real are struggling in sixth place in the Spanish first division following their 2-1 defeat by league leaders Mallorca last weekend.

Brazilian international Roberto Carlos believes a little too much star quality is the cause of the problem.

"If one player misses a pass another player won't run after it. We're thinking too much on an individual basis and not about the team.

"At times it's incredible. When one player is thought better than another on the team then certainly there are problems. You can't lose a ball and then just walk after it.

"If all 11 players think the same then we can go forward but if one or two won't work for the team then there will be problems."

Roberto Carlos said he had spoken to coach Guus Hiddink about the five-man defensive system being used, a tactic which sees Croatian international midfielder Robert Jarni used as a makeshift centre back.

"I spent about 20 minutes talking with the coach and I told him I could play in the middle if that gives Jarni more room to play."

TESTING ONE & TWO

Mexican referees may have to wear microphones after complaints from players about their language.

Calls have come for the move after many clubs have complained that referees are booking players for foul language despite using expletives themselves - much of the swearing directed at the players.

So now league officials are looking at microphone systems which will record ever word said by the ref.

FANS PUT A STOP TO SACKING

Fans of Italian Series A side Salernitana, furious at the sacking of coach Delio Rossi and the appointment of Francesco Oddo, took over a news conference on Tuesday and forced the switch to be put on ice.

HONG KONG MATCH FIXING

Four Hong Kong national soccer players went on trial on Thursday on charges of match-fixing, including a World Cup qualifier, court officials said.

Hong Kong's anti-graft agency in November brought a total of 17 charges of match-fixing against Lee Wai-man and Lok Kar-win, both 25, Chan Chi-keung, 28, Wai Kwan-lung, 22 and a fifth player, Lau Chi-yuen, 21. Lau's trial will start in March.

Lee, Lok, Chan Chi-keung and Wai are accused of conspiring with jailed national striker Chan Tsz-kong to ensure Hong Kong lost by two goals to Thailand in a World Cup qualifying match on March 9, 1997, to win HK\$200,000 (US\$26,000) from bets placed with a bookmaker. Hong Kong lost the game 2-0.

Lee, Chan Chi-keung and Wai were also accused of match-fixing in two local games in 1995. The four players have pleaded not guilty to all the charges, brought by the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC).

The case was adjourned until Friday.

In my last programme notes for the Bolton Wanderers game I had the very sad task of writing an obituary for our president Jack Burgess.

Today I am faced with the equally unhappy assignment of penning a tribute to our former manager John McGrath who tragically died on Christmas Day.

"Big Jake" was a true character in every sense of the word, a larger than life figure who lit up a room when he breezed into it. My dad was Chairman of the Vale in December 1979, when John McGrath was appointed manager. I remember the sequence of events leading up to John's arrival very clearly. The Vale were in turmoil at the time, floundering near the bottom of the Fourth Division and desperate to find someone to pick the club up by the bootlaces and breathe new life into the club. Dad realised that this appointment was to be the most important he would ever make for the club. If the right man was not appointed on this occasion then the consequences for the club could be terminal. Therefore he set about on an unprecedented research campaign to make sure the next Vale manager was to be the right one for the club. He personally contacted every First Division Club (as the Premiership was then called) to ask them who they thought would be the ideal man to resurrect Port Vale. I became rather blasé when answering the telephone at home and telling Dad that it was Bobby Robson or Don Revie or Matt Busby.

Dad also contacted the Chairman of most of the successful clubs of the day and asked what they looked for and had seen in their victorious managers.

Eventually one name was cropping up with alarming regularity. The ideal man to restore pride and confidence to a struggling club was one John McGrath, who coincidentally, had applied for the job. Dad had his man! Now Dad always knew that perhaps

John was not going to be a Terry Venables on the training field, but in our situation at that time, he was the ideal person to restore our fortunes.

Hasty interviews were arranged around the festive period of 1979 and John did not have far to travel from his South Coast home to see the Vale force an excellent 2-2 draw at promotion-chasing Portsmouth on December 21st. John accepted the job on Christmas Eve and remarked that the Vale could not pass the ball, but soon would under his stewardship. The seeds of Vale's modern revival had been sown.

"Big Jake was a true character in every sense of the word, a larger than life figure who lit up a room when he breezed into it."

John McGrath produced many fine achievements during his short spell as Vale boss. We will be eternally grateful to him for bringing John Rudge to the club. He began the policy of bringing quality players to Port Vale such as Tony Sealy, Mark Harrison, Johnnie Miller, Ray Deakin, Jimmy Greenhof, Geoff Hunter, Ernie Moss, Wayne Cegeilski, Steve Fox, Bob Newton and Barry Siddall - an approach that John Rudge has adapted and continued to the desired effect.

John McGrath nurtured and gave outstanding youngsters such as the Chamberlain brothers, Russ Bromage, Phil Sproson, Mark Bright and Robbie Earle their opportunity in football.

He was known as the "Mountie" - because he always got his man and

players literally jumped off their seats to sign for the Vale after a session in the McGrath office.

John was a paradox in as much as he belonged to the old brigade yet also had modern ideas. I recall one home game when Terry Armstrong was knocked out cold and on recovering on the side of the pitch was violently sick. Today it would have been an immediate ambulance trip to hospital, but John refused all requests for him to be substituted by insisting that he would be 'all right after a breather'. The unfortunate Armstrong was sent back into the fray concussed yet still popped up to strike a crucial goal in the game.

Yet John was also ahead of his time. The modern approach of squad rotation was used by him some twenty years ago, when he adopted the policy of playing winger Johnnie Miller only in home games and the towering 6ft 5in Andy Higgins only in away games.

John eventually achieved promotion for the Vale and made the club fashionable again. John Rudge then took over the reins while John continued his managerial career with varying degrees of success at Chester, Preston North End and Halifax Town before becoming an outstanding after dinner speaker. Dad certainly got it right when he appointed John McGrath. R.I.P. to you both.

If ever there was an occasion when that watcher-of-the-skies-when-a-new-planet stuff, it must have been when you first saw Mark Chamberlain appear in a Vale shirt in 1979.

However last Saturday at Birmingham City I had exactly the same feeling when Anthony Gardner stepped onto the field and had an outstanding game. After years of searching we have finally found another gem!

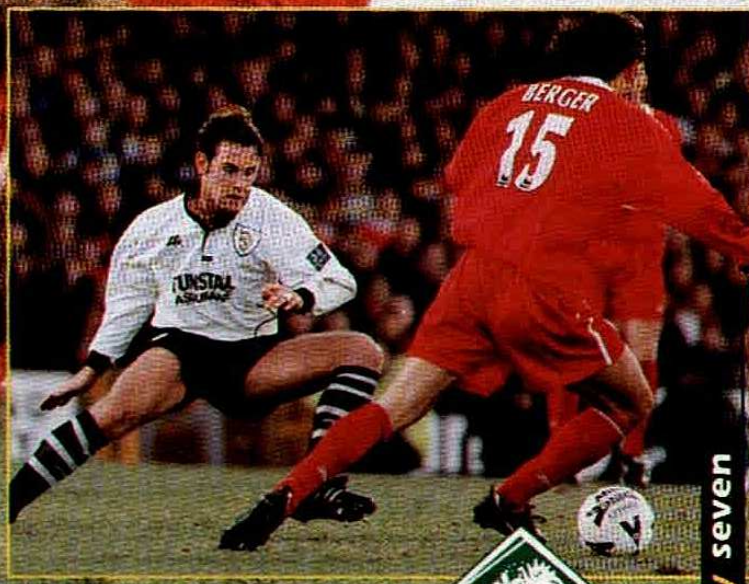
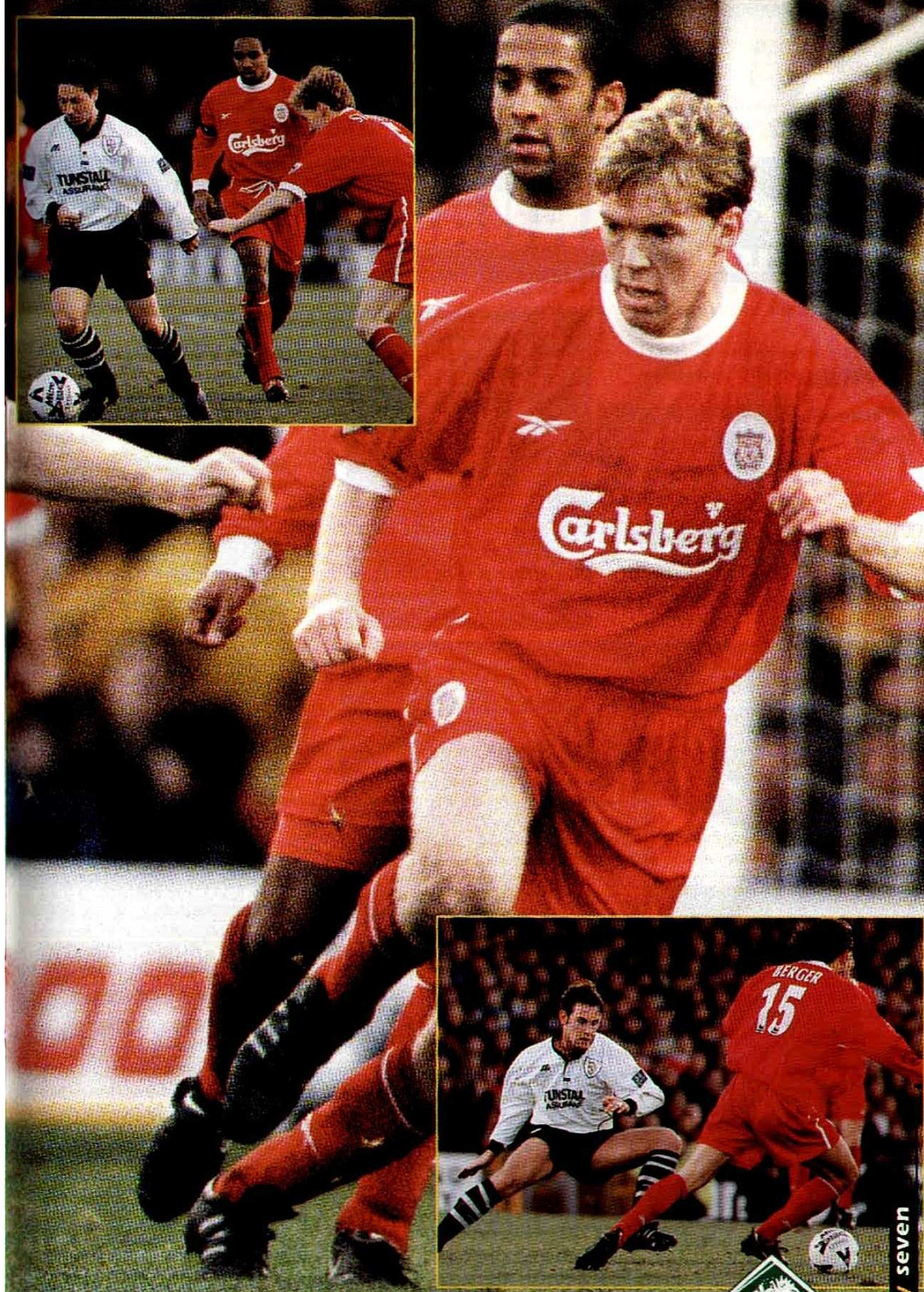
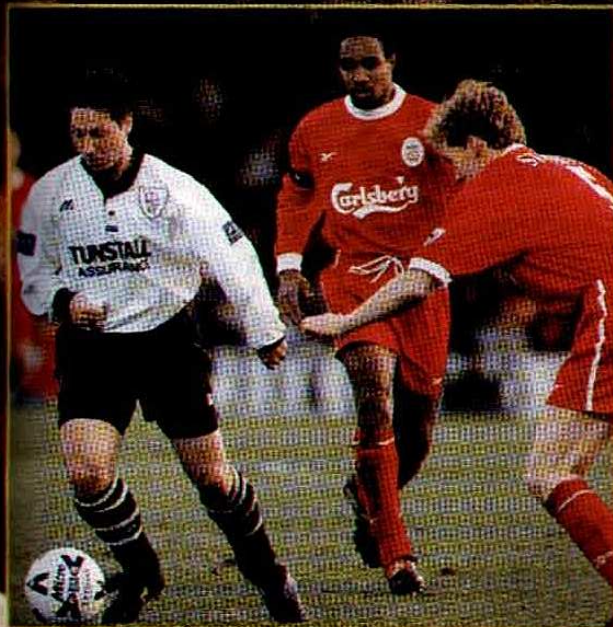
Action REPLAY

Liverpool were too good for the Vale in the F.A. Cup - and the Merseysiders went through with a competent 3-0 scoreline.



Pictures courtesy of the Sentinel

To order action pictures appearing on these pages,
call Sue in photo sales 01782 602547



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look AHEAD



HUDDERSFIELD TOWN SAT 6th FEBRUARY 1999
KICK OFF 3pm

Huddersfield have been a big and successful club in the past and have the potential to be so again.

Huddersfield's most successful era was undoubtedly the years between the two World Wars. They will always be remembered for winning the Championship of the top division three times in succession, beginning in 1923-24, thanks to the inspired management of Herbert Chapman. These championships were immediately followed by two consecutive runners-up positions. In addition, the FA Cup was won in 1922, with runners-up spots in 1920, 1928, 1930 and 1938. What a decade they had in the 1920's!!

Not since the days of the talented and much-travelled Frank Worthington

have Town appeared at the top level. They have even been as low as the bottom division. Now, however, the club appears to be on an upward curve under the Jackson/Yorath management partnership. For a while they led Division One this season and still retain a healthy position in the table. An early omen came in the form of a rare victory against the Vale (no, seriously) in their first home game of the season. A run of four consecutive victories sent Town soaring to the top. The record is somewhat curious in that it also includes 3-0 defeats against Bolton and Swindon and, most amazingly, a 7-1 reverse at Barnsley before the SKY TV cameras. With this kind of inconsistency Huddersfield could be promoted... or relegated!!

One great plus about Huddersfield is their futuristic McAlpine Stadium. An excellent view is to be had from everywhere in the ground. Their pies are said to be superb but my only experience of them does not enable me to agree with this opinion!

I made an earlier reference to inspired management. This reminds me that our own John Rudge started his professional football career as a youngster with Huddersfield at Leeds Road. He was there from 1961-1966.

Vale's past record against Town should fill us with optimism so let us hope this is justified.

Eddie Jackson

away DAYS

RICHARD CADDY PREVIEWS THE TRIP TO IPSWICH

Do we really have to go to Ipswich? There should be some way of getting out of it. It's an awful, crappy journey to somewhere we always get stuffed.

I hereby propose some kind of fixture exchange scheme. Maybe Norwich could swap our away game at Ipswich for their trip to Molineux or something.

On the field Town are doing reasonably well, despite the best efforts of their Board to bugger things up.

They are still well in the promotion pack, despite a recent goal drought and several of their best players being sold over the head of George Burley. Alex Mathie has gone to Dundee United, Sonner has departed for Sheffield Wednesday and Argentine wing-back Mauricio Taricco has left for a relative pittance.

Home-grown wonderkid Jamie Scowcroft is out injured until at least next month, and this has contributed significantly to the goal problems. This has placed added pressure on David Johnson, who has suffered his own injury problems this season. Young striker Richard Naylor (no relation - he is six feet plus) has been drafted in to play alongside Johnson. There is a very good possibility they will have brought in a loan striker by the time of our visit.

England U-21 international Kieron Dyer, is one of Ipswich's remaining young diamonds and he will play in midfield.

He should be joined by Matt Holland and Dutchman Bobby Petta. Anchorman in defence should be ex-Middlesbrough and Celtic man Tony Mowbray.

Also in defence will be our old friend, ex-Wolves man Mark Venus, while youngster Jamie Clapham is carving out a place for himself on the left-hand side of defence after signing last season from Spurs.

Jewel in the Portman Road crown however is 21-year-old keeper Richard Wright. He has already been brought into the full England squad, and is constantly being touted as a replacement for messers Schmeichel and Bosnich.

Now what do I intend doing next Saturday, sitting for 20 hours on a coach and watching Vale lose or stuffing live burrowing insects in my ears?

It'll be a close call.

Richard Caddy

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away **TRAVEL**



Ipswich Town

**Nationwide Division One
Saturday 30th January
Kick off 3.00pm**

Two weeks today we will be making one of the longest trips of the season to Portman Road when we play Ipswich Town.

Ticket prices on the turnstile are £16 (adults), £11 (OAPs) and £6 (juveniles) and travelling Valiants will be seated in the Cobbold Stand.

Port Vale's official coaches leave Vale Park at 9am and travel tickets can be bought from the Marketing Department for £15 (adults) and £13 (concessions).

Ipswich Town's matchday programme came third in the Programme Monthly Programme of the Year Awards for our division last year and at £1.80 is a good read.

car TRAVEL

Take the M6 southbound to junction with A14 just before the M6 joins the M1. Follow A14 dual carriageway all the way to Ipswich. Leave the A14 at the junction signposted Ipswich West and North A1156. Follow Ipswich West signs over two roundabouts into Bury Road. This then becomes Norwich Road. In about 1.5 miles at the double roundabout turn right into Chevalier Street, signposted Colchester A12. Go straight on at the next crossroads and then straight on at the lights into West End Road. By now you should see the ground on your left hand side. To get to the ground turn left into Chancery Road and left again into Portman Road.

There is a car park for away fans which is signposted off West End Road. There is very limited street parking by the ground and some streets are cordoned off.

The good thing about the ground is that it is very near the town centre. A quick stroll around the Civic Offices and you're there.

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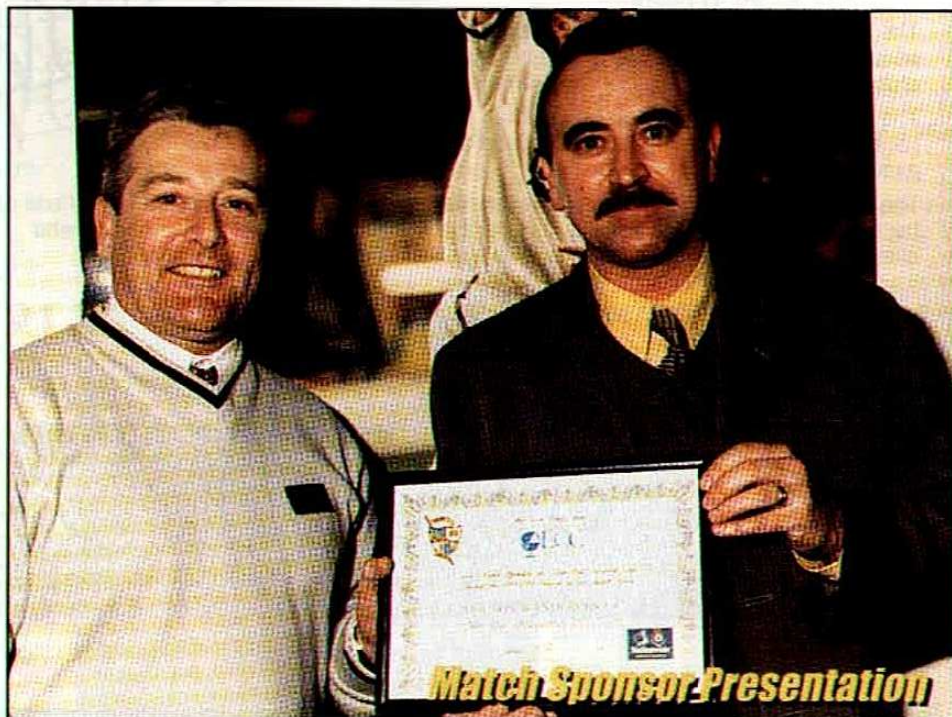
Matchball sponsors this afternoon are :-

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The matchball will be presented by Mizuno Marketing Manager, Bob Rodwell, and David Cook of Loki. We hope they both enjoy the match

marketing

MATTERS



Director Andrew Belfield is pictured presenting match sponsors ECC International with a sponsors certificate following the company's sponsorship of the game against Bolton Wanderers.

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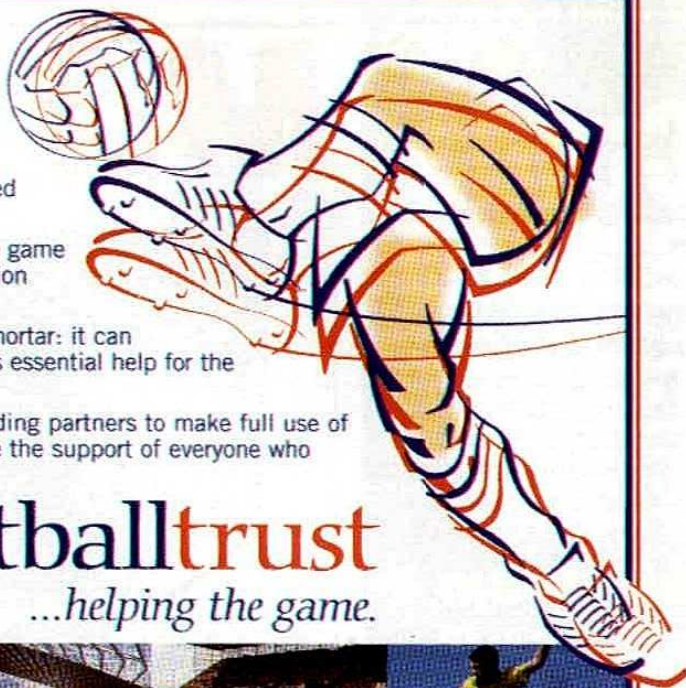
A major new funding package made up of annual contributions from The F.A. Premier League, The Football Association, The English Sports Council, The Football League and The Professional Footballers Association has been added to the Trust's pools derived income to secure its future.

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

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.

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a-z of the VALIANTS

with
Tony Matthews

McCARTHY, Jonathan David

When Irish international right-winger Jon McCarthy left Vale Park for St. Andrew's in September 1997, the fee paid by Birmingham City boss Trevor Francis was a record £1.85 million.

Middlesbrough-born McCarthy (now 28) started his League career with Hartlepool United in 1987. He then had a brief spell with Shepshed Chaterhouse before re-entering in the 'big time' with York City in March 1990. He moved to Vale Park for £450,000 in August 1995 and scored 17 goals in 119 appearances for the Valiants before his departure.

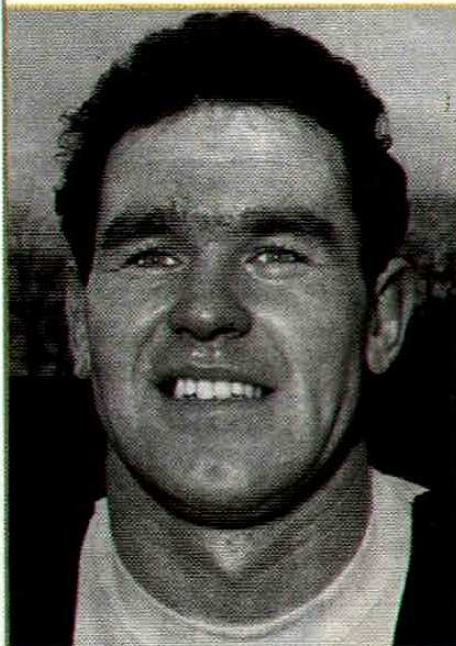
McCRINDLE, Robert

Centre-half McCrindle spent five years with the Vale and during that time appeared in 54 League and FA Cup games. Born in Scotland, he joined the club in 1889 and left for Luton Town in the summer of 1894. He helped the Valiants 'share' the North Staffs Charity Cup and was a member of the team which lifted the Staffordshire Cup in 1892. In 1889 McCrindle was, in fact, selected to represent Scotland, but declined his first cap because he wanted to play for his club instead!

McGARRY, William Harry

Born in Stoke-on-Trent on 10 June 1927, Bill McGarry played at first as an inside-right for Northwood Mission before becoming a professional with Port Vale in 1945. At both of these clubs he played behind Ronnie Allen whom he succeeded as Wolves' manager

in 1968. After switching to right-half, he spent six good years with the Valiants, making 158 League and FA Cup appearances (5 goals scored) up to March 1951, when he transferred to Huddersfield



Town. He remained at Leeds Road until March 1961 when he became player-manager of Bournemouth. A solid tackler who passed the ball well, McGarry made over 500 senior appearances for the Terriers, helping them into the First Division. He also gained four full England caps and represented his country at 'B' team level (1954-56). From Dean Court he became manager of Watford (July 1963-October 1964) and after serving in the same capacity at Ipswich, he arrived at Molineux, holding office from November 1968 to May 1976. McGarry then went abroad to coach in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, and managed Newcastle United (1977-

80) but after turning down a lucrative job in South Africa he returned to Molineux for a second term of office in September 1985 after Wolves had made a disastrous start to the season. He stayed for just two months this time and since then he has scouted for Brighton, and coached in both Zambia and South Africa, acting as national team coach to the former country.

McGINNIS, Francis

Centre-forward Jock McGinnis scored over 100 goals in less than 150 first team games for the Vale during his three years with the club. Born in 1869 he played for the Halliwell club before moving to the Potteries to sign for the Vale in 1889. He played in the same team as McCrindle (left) but was suddenly struck down by a kidney disease in 1992 and died at the age of 23.

McGRATH, John Thomas

The former Port Vale manager died on Christmas Day, aged 60. He was in charge here at Vale Park for four years - from December 1979 until December 1983. Manchester-born, McGrath played as a centre-half for Bolton Wanderers (briefly as a junior), Bury, Newcastle, Southampton and Brighton, and was capped by England at under 23 level. On retiring he took to coaching and after his association with the Vale he managed Chester City, Preston and Halifax Town. At the time of his death McGrath was working as an after-dinner speaker.

Ticket Office: (01782) 814314

GEORGE ANDREWS

the roof's **FELL IN**



Elton John ruffled a few feathers when he questioned how much money Alan Shearer was earning as he felt the England captain and Newcastle's striker was overpaid for what he did, but many people felt, coming from Elton and taking into account how much he gets paid for a performance, it was the pot calling the kettle black.

So I don't know what Elton John would think of Stefan Klotz' deal with Glasgow Rangers. Klotz will earn £5 million over his six years at Ibrox Park, apart from his £1 million a year salary, the club will put £250,000 a year into his pension fund - and if he was to leave Rangers he will receive a six figure sum and 10 per-cent of any future transfer deal!

Klotz' incredible deal also includes a car and bonuses related to appearances, plus six return flights back to his native Germany for his family, which is a great deal when you consider that standing between the sticks for Rangers is hardly the toughest job in football!

Compare this with what Mark Murray earns at Montrose.....the 20 year-old goalkeeper from Perthshire earns the princely sum of £40 - that's if he is in the team. That brings him just over £2,000 a year and to make ends meet, Murray works for the Perth tourist board on a part-time basis.

The young 'keeper admits that it could only be a dream for him to earn a contract like Klotz's, but some people would agree that both are doing a similar job - and although Klotz is playing for one of the biggest clubs in Europe, there should some parity in the pay.

For Murray to earn the type of money that Klotz is on he would have to move to a club of similar standard to Rangers, if not it will take him close to ten years to earn what Klotz picks up in a week.

And as I said on many occasions, that if the gulf is not going to continue and widen between the smaller clubs and the Premier League it is necessary to bring a pay structure into operation.

And just to make a point finally that the rich get rich and the poor become poorer, Glasgow Rangers and the Mirror Group have combined forces to forge a multi million pound media venture.

Based at Glasgow Rangers home

ground at Ibrox Park, it will be called Rangers Television Limited and will provide matchday television coverage and produce Rangers Radio, re-launch the club's website and beam back important away matches on the domestic front and from Europe.

Chairman David Murray understandably is delighted and said it means we can now begin to create a global ground, but for me it is another nail in the coffin for the smaller clubs.

Don't forget to follow the fortunes of the Vale with me, home and away, and remember it's good to talk.

Keep the faith,

Georgie.

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port vale PUZZLER

1. When did John Rudge join Port Vale?
2. From which club did Swedish international Jan Jansson join the Vale?
3. Which Vale striker became Swindon Town's manager?
4. Who scored twice on his Port Vale debut against Swindon in 1991?
5. From which club did the Valiants loan Colin Gibson in 1990?
6. Where was our ex-goalkeeper Trevor Wood born?
7. Whose header against Macclesfield Town in the F.A. Cup in 1988, shot him to fame?
8. Against which team did the Vale play their first league match last season?
9. From which club did we loan Paul Mahorn last season?
10. In the 4-4 draw against QPR at Vale Park in 1997 which three players scored the Vale goals?
11. In the 6-0 defeat of Barnet at Vale Park on August 21st 1993, which two Vale players scored a hat-trick each?
12. In August 1996 we played a friendly against Wimbledon. Unfortunately the match was abandoned at half time. Why?
13. From which club did we loan Scott Mean in August this year?
14. Which Vale player rated in Match magazine's top ten Division One players last month?
15. Which former manager left Port Vale in 1978 to take over the reins at Swindon Town?

ANSWERS
 1. January 1980
 2. SK Norkopping
 3. Ken Beamish
 4. Brian Mills
 5. Manchester United
 6. Jersey
 7. Kevin Finney
 8. Nottingham Forest
 9. Tottenham Hotspur
 10. Jansson (2), Glover and Mills
 11. Slaven and Foyle
 12. A lightning storm
 13. West Ham
 14. Ian Bogie (seventh place)
 15. Bobby Smith

JUNIOR BOOTLACE SPONSORS

ALLEN TANKARD -

Chloe Wakefield (Clayton)

BOOMER -

Dylan Ingram (Bradeley)

PAUL BEESLEY -

Joseph & Matthew Wain (Chesterton)

IAN BOGIE -

Jane & Grace McPherson (Longton)

JAN JANSSON -

Dimitri Gianluca Moore (Endon)
 and Paige Elizabeth Gregory (Packmoor)

PETER BEADLE

Daniel and Hannah-Lisa Moore (Endon)

MARK SNIJDERS -

Shane Clark & Terry Bailey
 (Smallthorne Cub Pack)

MARTIN FOYLE -

Kiera-Lee Simpson (Bucknall)

MATT CARRAGHER -

Katie & James Belfield (Endon)

NEIL ASPIN -

Jasun Steele (Hanley)

PAUL MUSSELWHITE -

Ramona Silfver (Sweden)

RICHARD EYRE -

Thomas Ansell (Knypersley)
 & Jade Gilman (Leek)

STEWART TALBOT -

James & Thomas Harrison (Whiston)

TONY NAYLOR -

Thomas & Harry Price (Stafford)

MICHAEL WALSH

Rebecca Goodwin (Burslem)

DAVE BARNETT -

James Thomas (Endon)

GEORGE O'CALLAGHAN-

Jack Sprogis (Tallke)

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vital STATISTICS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Aug 8	Birmingham City	H	0-2	10,465	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Aug 11	Chester City WC1/1	H	1-2	3,478	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth 1
Aug 15	Huddersfield Town	A	1-2	7,659	Musselwhite	Walsh	Tankard	Koordes	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth 1
Aug 18	Chester City WC 1/2	A	2-2	2,461	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Walsh	Snijders	Ainsworth
Aug 22	West Bromwich Albion	H	0-3	8,146	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Walsh	Snijders	Ainsworth
Aug 29	Swindon Town	A	1-1	7,800	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Beesley	Pounewatchy	Barnett	Ainsworth 1
Aug 31	Ipswich Town	H	0-3	5,485	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Pounewatchy	Barnett	Ainsworth
Sep 8	Wolverhampton Wanderers	H	2-1	8,081	Musselwhite	Walsh	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley	Ainsworth
Sep 12	Crystal Palace	A	1-0	15,93	Musselwhite	Walsh	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley	Ainsworth
Sep 19	Portsmouth	H	0-2	5,992	Musselwhite	Walsh	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley	Ainsworth
Sep 26	Grimsby Town	A	2-2	5,747	Musselwhite	Walsh	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley 1	Ainsworth
Sep 29	Bradford City	A	0-4	13,245	Musselwhite	Walsh	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley	Ainsworth
Oct 3	Norwich City	H	1-0	5,580	Musselwhite	Walsh	Tankard	Barker	Barnett	Beesley	Ainsworth 1
Oct 11	Barnsley	A	2-0	16,195	Musselwhite	Snijders	Tankard	Barker	Barnett	Beesley	Ainsworth
Oct 17	Bristol City	H	3-2	6,691	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley 1	Ainsworth 2
Oct 20	Crewe Alexandra	H	1-0	8,205	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley 1	Ainsworth
Oct 24	Watford	A	2-2	8,750	Musselwhite	Aspin	Tankard 1	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley	Ainsworth
Oct 31	Sheffield United	H	2-0	6,737	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Aspin	Gardner	Talbot
Nov 4	Bolton Wanderers	A	1-3	14,324	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley	Talbot
Nov 8	Stockport County	A	2-4	7,612	Musselwhite	Aspin	McGlinchey	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley	Talbot
Nov 14	Sunderland	H	0-2	8,869	Pilkington	Aspin	McGlinchey	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley	Bernsten
Nov 21	Oxford United	A	1-2	5,964	Pilkington	Aspin	McGlinchey 1	Bogie	Barnett	Beesley	Lyttle
Nov 28	Tranmere Rovers	H	2-2	5,216	Pilkington	Lyttle	McGlinchey	Barker	Barnett	Aspin	Corden
Dec 5	Queen's Park Rangers	A	2-3	10,498	Pilkington	Lyttle	McGlinchey	Bogie	Aspin	Beesley	Eyres
Dec 12	Sunderland	A	0-2	37,583	Pilkington	Walsh	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Aspin	Lyttle
Dec 19	Bury	H	1-0	6,425	Pilkington	Walsh	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Aspin	Lyttle
Dec 26	West Bromwich Albion	A	2-3	14,929	Pilkington	Walsh	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Aspin	Lyttle
Dec 28	Bolton Wanderers	H	0-2	8,201	Pilkington	Walsh	Tankard	Bogie	Beesley	Aspin	Lyttle
Jan 3	FA Cup Rd 3 Liverpool	H	0-3	16,557	Pilkington	Walsh	Tankard	Beesley	Barnett	Aspin	Briscoe
Jan 9	Birmingham City	A	0-1	18,632	Musselwhite	Walsh	Tankard	Bogie	Barnett	Aspin	Rougier
Jan 16	Swindon Town	H									
Jan 23	FA Cup Rd 4										
Jan 30	Ipswich Town	A									
Feb 6	Huddersfield Town	H									
Feb 13	Wolverhampton Wanderers	A									
Feb 20	Crystal Palace	H									
Feb 27	Portsmouth	A									
Mar 2	Grimsby Town	H									
Mar 6	Bradford City	H									
Mar 9	Norwich City	A									
Mar 13	Stockport County	H									
Mar 20	Sheffield United	A									
Mar 27	Watford	H									
Apr 3	Bristol City	A									
Apr 5	Barnsley	H									
Apr 10	Crewe Alexandra	A									
Apr 17	Oxford United	H									
Apr 24	Tranmere Rovers	A									
May 1	Queens Park Rangers	H									
May 9	Bury	A									

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8 9 10 11 12 13 14

Talbot	Beadle	Foyle	Jansson	Koordes ¹⁵	McGlinchey ¹⁵	McQuade ¹⁵
Talbot	Beadle	Foyle	Jansson	Koordes ¹⁵	Naylor ¹⁵	Walsh ¹⁵
Talbot	Beadle	Foyle	Jansson	Carragher	Naylor	Bogie
Talbot	Beadle	Naylor 2	Corden	Foyle	Pilkington	McGlinchey
Mean	Foyle	Naylor	Jansson	Corden ¹⁵	McGlinchey ¹⁵	Burns ¹⁵
Bogie	Talbot	Naylor	Clarke	McGlinchey ¹⁵	Jansson ¹⁵	Foyle ¹⁵
Talbot	Walsh	Naylor	Clarke	Corden ¹⁵	Foyle ¹⁵	McGlinchey
Talbot	Beadle 1	Naylor 1	O'Callaghan	Foyle ¹⁵	Koordes ¹⁵	Clarke ¹⁵
Talbot	Beadle 1	Naylor	Koordes	Clarke	Barker	Carragher
Talbot	Beadle	Naylor	Barker	Clarke ¹⁵	Apsin	Corden ¹⁵
Talbot	Barker	Naylor 1	Koordes	Clarke	Corden	Aspin ¹⁵
Talbot	Barker	Naylor	Corden	Clarke ¹⁵	Snijders	Beadle ¹⁵
Talbot	Beadle	Naylor	Koordes	Bogie	McGill	Snijders
Talbot	Beadle 1	Foyle 1	Koordes	Bogie	McGill	Carragher
Barker	Beadle	Foyle	McGlinchey	Snijders ¹⁵	O'Callaghan	Corden
Barker	O'Callaghan	Foyle	McGlinchey	Corden	McGill	Gardner
Barker	Beadle	Foyle 1	McGlinchey	Corden	McGill	Carragher
Barker	Beadle 1	Foyle 1	Koordes	Snijders	McGill	Corden
Barker	Beadle	Foyle	Koordes	Aspin ¹⁵	McGill ¹⁵	Corden ¹⁵
Barker	Beadle	Foyle	Koordes	Snijders	McGill ¹⁵	Corden ¹⁵
Barker	Beadle	Foyle	Koordes	Horlville ¹⁵	Eyre	Snijders
Talbot	Horlville	Foyle	Koordes	Eyre ¹⁵	Barker ¹⁵	Bernsten
Talbot	Beadle	Foyle 2	Koordes	Bogie ¹⁵	Naylor ¹⁵	Beesley
Barker	Talbot	Foyle 1	Corden	Naylor ¹⁵	McQuade	Snijders
Barker	Beadle	Foyle	Talbot	Naylor ¹⁵	Corden ¹⁵	Beesley ¹⁵
Barker	Naylor 1*	Foyle	Jansson	Beadle	McQuade	Horlville
Talbot	Foyle	Naylor 2	O'Callaghan	Beadle ¹⁵	McQuade ¹⁵	McGlinchey ¹⁵
Snijders	Foyle	Naylor	O'Callaghan	Beadle ¹⁵	McQuade ¹⁵	McGlinchey ¹⁵
Bogie	Beadle	Naylor	McGlinchey	O'Callaghan ¹⁵	Horlville ¹⁵	Corden ¹⁵
Briscoe	Foyle	Naylor	Koordes	Beadle ¹⁵	Talbot ¹⁵	Gardner ¹⁵

Nationwide League Division One 1998-9

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sunderland	27	10	2	1	31	6	6	7	1	26	12	57
Birmingham City	27	7	5	2	19	10	7	1	5	24	16	48
Ipswich Town	27	8	1	5	1	8	6	5	2	1	9	48
Bradford City	26	8	2	2	2	12	6	3	5	1	16	47
Bolton Wanderers	26	8	4	2	29	14	4	6	2	20	18	46
Watford	27	7	6	1	20	12	5	3	5	24	24	45
Grimsby Town	27	8	4	1	21	9	5	1	8	11	20	44
Huddersfield Town	27	9	0	5	30	20	3	5	5	19	23	41
West Bromwich	27	9	0	5	30	20	3	5	5	19	23	41
Norwich City	26	6	5	1	23	14	5	3	6	19	22	41
Wolves	27	7	5	1	20	11	4	2	8	17	17	40
Sheffield United	27	7	3	3	22	20	3	5	6	19	24	38
Barnsley	27	5	4	4	23	17	4	5	5	14	18	36
Crystal Palace	26	7	5	1	2	15	2	2	9	9	29	34
Swindon Town	27	6	5	3	27	22	2	2	9	11	23	31
Tranmere Rovers	27	3	5	6	16	19	3	7	3	17	20	30
Queens Park Rangers	27	5	5	4	17	13	3	1	9	13	24	30
Stockport County	27	4	5	5	17	15	2	6	5	14	20	29
Bury	27	7	3	3	1	13	0	5	9	7	24	29
Portsmouth	27	5	3	5	20	16	1	5	8	14	2	26
Oxford United	27	4	4	6	10	23	2	3	8	10	27	25
Port Vale	27	5	1	7	12	22	2	3	9	17	29	25
Bristol City	27	4	5	4	23	26	1	4	9	14	28	24
Crewe Alexandra	27	4	3	7	19	28	1	3	9	11	26	21

Today's fixtures

Barnsley v Birmingham City

Bradford City v Crewe Alexandra

Bristol City v Tranmere Rovers

Bury v Queens Park Rangers

Crystal Palace v Stockport County

Grimsby Town v Oxford United

Norwich City v. WBA

Portsmouth v Huddersfield Town

Sheffield Utd. v Bolton Wanderers

Wolverhampton Wands v Watford

If you wish to contribute any information or article to the programme please send to the Editor, c/o Port Vale Marketing

TEAM CHECK

THE VALIANTS



1 Paul Musselwhite

2 Stewart Talbot

3 Allen Tankard

4 Ian Bogie

5 Dave Barnett

6 Anthony Gardner

7 Tony Rougier

8 Simon Barker

9 Peter Beadle

10 Martin Foyle

11 Brian McGlinchey

SUBS

12 George O'Callaghan

13 Paul Beesley

14 Wayne Corden

SWINDON



1 Frank Talia

2 Gareth Hall

3 Brian Borrows

4 Scott Leitch

5 Craig Taylor

6 Mark Robinson

7 Bobby Howe

8 Ty Gooden

9 Solomon Davis

10 Iffy Onuora

11 George Ndah

SUBS

12 Mark Walters

13 Kevin Watson

14 Robert Hulbert

THE REFEREE

G. LAWS WHITLEY BAY

Our referee this afternoon is Graham Laws (36) of Whitley Bay. Graham is a police sergeant who is married with two children, Kevin (4) and Laura (1).

Graham began refereeing in 1987 and became a Northern Premier League referee in 1993.

In 1994 he became a Football League linesman and two years later was promoted to a referee. In his free time Graham enjoys cricket and golf.

OFFICIALS

Referee

Mr G. Laws

Assistant Referees

Mr T.A. Parkes

Mr R.A. Pashley

Reserve Official

Mr P.A. Stallard

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THE MASCOTS



Many happy returns to today's mascot Mark Tipping, of Milton. Mark is celebrating his seventh birthday today. Mark attends Norton Primary School and enjoys football, swimming and ju-jitsu. His favourite Port Vale players are Martin Foyle and Neil Aspin.



Our other mascot this afternoon is Christopher Gowans. Christopher was ten years old on January 5th and is a pupil at Ball Green Primary School. His favourite Vale players are Captain Neil Aspin and Tony Naylor. In his free time he enjoys football, tennis and cubs.



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