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"A stadium should be a badge of honour for the fan and for the town"

jim quinn's comment



"Both men have started the season sharply, scoring twice in three games."

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"Last Saturday was a very good result for everybody and it has given the players and staff a real lift."

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"Pre-season was slightly different this year, we cut the time down that the players come in for."

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Good afternoon to you all and welcome to the County Ground for today's match against West Bromwich Albion.

The Town have been knocked out of the League Cup, but as the saying goes, "we can now concentrate on the League!". And that's exactly what the Town did last weekend with a superb result at Crystal Palace. Steve Coppell's side are highly rated this season, but it didn't have any effect as the



lads put in a fine display to record their second consecutive win at Selhurst Park, again with Iffy knocking in the winner.

There were solid performances from all the players involved and especially Gareth Davies, Bobby Howe and Gareth Hall. On the day the Eagles had no answer to the Town's constant pressure and Swindon controlled much of the match.

It was just the sort of performance we are hoping to see today after an unsteady start at home this season. I'm sure all the fans are desperate for the Town to win here at the County Ground, as I'm sure the players are too. The confidence is there after a firm start to the League campaign and an unbeaten away record, if the players can match the form of last weekend then I'm sure the home win will come today.



The Baggies have made a firm start to their new season with a win and two draws. They have also won through to the 2nd round of

the League Cup and in doing so, have not found goals hard to come by. Already off to a flyer are striker, Lee Hughes and midfielder, Kevin Kilbane. The last time they visited the County Ground it finished in a 2-2 draw with Mark Walters and Gareth Hall on target for Town.



There have been two changes to the Town's fixture list the home match against Blackburn Rovers has been rescheduled for

Tuesday 28th September. Also, the away match against **Norwich City** has been moved back one day to Wednesday 22nd March.





Swindon Town would like to welcome Brain Little and his players, plus all the supporters, directors and staff who have travelled midleade

down from the midlands.



Steve Mildenhall is set to join Salisbury Town on a threemonth loan deal. Some of the younger members of the squad have

been given the opportunity to gain some experience elsewhere. Salisbury were quick to acquire the services of the tall goalkeeper and hopefully he will relish the opportunity to get some games under his belt.



Furthermore, Craig Taylor has left the club to sign a threeyear deal with Plymouth Argyle for an undisclosed fee. He joined the Town

in April 1997 for £25,000 from non-league Dorchester Town. He said: "I owe Swindon Town a great deal because they were the club which gave me the chance to play professional football."

club directory

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stfc 4



Hello and welcome to the County Ground for today's match against West Bromwich Albion.

We travelled to Leyton Orient on Tuesday and unfortunately, we didn't get the result we hoped for. After the first-leg we had given ourselves a bit of a mountain to climb, but we did take the lead after we put a lot of pressure on their defence. We couldn't hold on and we'll have to put that result behind us now. On the positive side, we are still unbeaten away from home - against any opposition that's a good record after three away matches.

Now we have to focus on our next game in the League and take heart from our match against Crystal Palace. I was delighted with our performance at Selhurst Park, not only the result, but the way in which we did it. It was our best performance in quite some time. In the first half we knocked the ball around superbly and despite going a goal down, we controlled the match. We took our chances, which you need to do away from home because you don't get many and the fact that we converted two of them was very pleasing. I was extremely pleased with everyone's performances and especially that of Gareth Davies - when he's fit, he's very important to the side and if we can get him on a long run of matches and he stays fit, we will be very strong at the back.

We changed the system slightly and it looks as if we look a little bit more dangerous in attack. It keeps our away record intact and we're still unbeaten away from home, it does seem that we tend to relax a little away from home. I think we get a little bit apprehensive when we're at home, perhaps the players feel the pressure because they are so desperate to win in front of the home fans. Hopefully we can do that today and show the sort of composure that will win matches.

Plymouth Argyle came in for Craig Taylor and we decided that it would be a good move for both him and us. He did very well for us, but it's a position where we have strength indepth and we need more competition in other areas.

It's another player off the wage bill, so now I can look elsewhere. Myself and Mike Walsh have had a look around for a loan player and we will hopefully bring in someone soon.



The way loan deals are going now, I think teams are looking to keep players for longer than a month, so they have time to settle in and do a good job for the team. Then hopefully, if the situation is right, we can look at making their deal permanent.

I would like to welcome Brian Little, my good friend John Gorman, his players and staff to the County Ground and wish them good luck for the coming season.

Enjoy the match.

5



today's

This afternoon we welcome the players, supporters, and staff of West Bromwich Albion Football Club to the County Ground for today's Nationwide League Division One. We hope you all enjoy the game and have a safe journey home afterwards.

West Brom have had a good start to the current campaign when you consider they sacked their previous manager just ten days before the start of the season. Denis Smith was preparing his side for the new season after finishing 12th last term, but the board decided this wasn't good enough for a progressive club like West Brom and decided to part company with the former Oxford United boss Brian Little guickly filled the breach and will be happy with the two wins and a draw they have recorded so far. Little was in charge of Stoke City in the Second Division but left in the summer, the former Leicester City and Aston Villa boss has the right credentials to take the Baggies into the Play-offs Another twist to this story is that, John Gorman had recently joined Smith as his assistant and took temporary charge of team affairs while the job was vacant. Despite being recommended for the job by the players themselves. Little was chosen to take the hot seat at The Hawthorns and Gorman joined his back room staff.

Their star of last season was most definitely Lee Hughes. The 22 year-old scored 35 goals after being plucked from Kidderminster Harriers in May 1997. He caught the eye of the Premiership clubs and was valued at around £5m. His desire to play in the top flight nearly cost the club his services, but during the summer the board convinced him that the club was ambitious enough to go for Premiership status. Alongside the prolific Hughes, Albion can call on the services of James Quinn - no relation - a pacey and skilful striker who once scored 50 goals in a single season for Birmingham City's youth side.

Winger Kevin Kilbane, a Republic of Ireland U21 cap who was signed from Preston for a club record £1m in June 1997, is another flair player who gets the Hawthorns crowd on the edge of their seats.

With Richard Sneekes once more providing the drive from midfield the consistent performances of defenders Paul Raven and Paul Mardon will give them the battling strength they need.

In the last two seasons the Baggies have started the season brightly only to fall short of Play-Off pace in the closing months of the season. If they can sustain their good performances right through until the end of the season and keep their main players free from injury then West Brom will have an extremely good chance of realising their Premiership ambitions.

The last time the Baggies travelled to the County Ground it finished a 2-2 draw with Gareth Hall and Mark Walters netting for the Town.

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Lee's excellent scoring record in the Vauxhall Conference with Kidderminster in 1996-97 set him in good stead for his first stint in League football.

He did superbly well, netting 14 goals in senior matches to finish up as Albion's joint top-scorer with Andy Hunt. Red-haired Lee, strong, courageous, with pace and a powerful shot, signed a new four-year contract with Albion in May 1996.

richard sneekes

birthplac	e Amst	erdam
date of b	irth 30.	10.68
height	5'11"	
weight	12st 3lbs	
position	midfield	ler
previous	dub recor	ds
club	games	goals
Ajax Volendam	95	2. A. A.
& Fortuna S Bolton W.	64(5)	ii

Richard did not have the greatest of seasons but he still gave a good account of himself and was a vital cog around which Messrs. Flynn, Hamilton, Butler, Kilbane operated.

He scored some more splendid goals and also set up chances galore for his colleagues. But he admitted that he was not at his best in 1997-98, perhaps because he was asked to play as an out-and-out striker from time to time. players

	Alar	Miller
date of l	birth	29.3.70
height	6'3	
weight	14.6	
position	ç	oalkeeper

A commanding goalkeeper with excellent reflexes, Alan was once again a key figure in Albion's defence, although he did make a couple of major errors which cost the team victory. Injured his back late on, allowing both Adamson and Crichton to get first team call-ups.

	Paul	Holmes
date of	birth	18.2.68
height	5'10"	
weight	11st Olbs	
position	d	efender

A willing right-back, Paul's play was steady rather than brilliant. He contested the position with McDermott but did suffer with injuries.

D	aryl	Burgess
date of I	birth	24.1.71
height	5'11"	
weight	12st	4lbs
position	d	efender

Daryl played at right-back, centrehalf and as a sweeper in Albion's back line in 1997-98, and he did well, being one of the most consistent members of the side. He did suffer a few injury problems and also served a suspension, but generally he came through once again with credit.

Ja	son \	/an Blerk
date of	birth	16.3.68
height	6'1"	
weight	13st Olbs	
position	d	efender

Signed to replace Nicholson and Dave Smith at left-back, Jason immediately slotted into Albion's back division. He produced some excellent displays, both at home and away, and generally gave a good account of himself with his timely tackles and attacking ability.

F	aul M	Mardon	
date of l	birth	14.9.69	
height	6'0"		
weight	11st 10lbs		
position	d	efender	

Paul did not have a happy 1997-98. He got injured early on, came back but was then sidelined again before Christmas and never recovered full fitness after that. being made to visit the treatment room for almost five months!

J	imm	y Quinn
date of I	birth	15.12.74
height	6'1"	
weight	12st	t 10lbs
position	I.	nidfielder

Exciting right-sided midfielder who can also play as a direct winger or at centre-forward. Joined Albion at a difficult time in season when the team wasn't performing too well. But he produced some excellent displays and quickly became a firm favourite with the fans.



Ma	itthe	w Carbon
date of	birth	8.6.75
height	6'2"	
weight	1251	5lbs
position	d	lefender

Strong, commanding centre-back, who became Albion's most expensive defender when he joined the Club from Derby County in February 1998. Prior to his move to The Hawthorns Carbon had played in the Premiership for Derby County and had been watched by a number of senior club managers.

E	nzo I	Maresca	
date of l	oirth	10.2.80	
height 5'10"			
weight	11st 2lbs		
position	position midfield		

Played for Cagliari for two years before joining Albion in July 1998. He skippered his country at both U/16 and U/18 levels and is now one of 40 named players coach Dino Zoff's squad for th 2000 European Championships.



Hard-working right-sided or central midfielder who can also man the right-back position. Positive in his play, Sean has a terrific engine and packs a useful, right-foot shot. Injured early in January, but came back and produced some exciting performances.

	• •	
	evin Kilba	
date of	birth 1.2.7	2
height	6.0	A COLORED
weight	12st 7ibs	
position	left wir	nger

Strong left-winger with the ability to go past a defender and get in a telling cross. Now the club's record signing, beating the £748,000 paid to Manchester City for Peter Barnes in 1979. Kevin is Albion's first £1m player and is a firm favourite with the fans, having already scored some fine goals.

Mic	ha	el Evans
date of bir	th	1.1.73
height 6	'0"	
weight	12st	13lbs
position	F	orward

Micky never got himself match fit after several injury problems in 1997-98 and was out of action for long spells. He did have an occasional outing but will be endeavouring to be available this term on a more regular basis when he'll be challenging for a striker's role alongside Hughes and Quinn.

brian

Brian Little was born in Durham City on November 25 1953 and played for Durham Boys and East Durham County Youth before joining Aston Villa.

He turned professional in June 71 and went on to play more than 300 games for Villa, scoring 82 goals before injury forced him to retire in 1981. He was capped once by England.

His first taste of management came at Wolves - he was caretaker at Molineux in 1986 before joining Middlesbrough's coaching staff.

In the summer of 1988 he moved just down the road to Darlington and quickly led them to the GM Vauxhall Conference title. His success there was quickly noticed and in March 1990 he became Leicester City boss.

Proving his ability in the first division, Little took the Foxes to three play-off finals and eventually gained promotion in 1994.

Six months later he was on his way back to Villa Park for a three year managerial reign that saw him win the Coca-Cola Cup and guide Villa into Europe.

In early 1998 he parted company with the Premiership side and later that year took charge of Stoke. He left the Britannia Stadium at the end of last season and shortly afterwards moved to The Hawthorns.







Saturday 28th August 60's night - Billy Fury Band

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for further information or tickets please contact Carol Salter or Samantha Clift on (01793) 333700/741

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featuring special guest speaker Wilf McGuinnes

Swindon Town Football Club is proud to announce its "Sporting Club Dinner" in the Winners Lounge on Thursday 30th September 1999.

Last April Alan Mullery took centre stage, together with the very funny Mal Rich - who provided hours of laughter! This year's dinner also promises to be an excellent evening.

This year we are honoured to have the company of Wilf McGinness as our guest speaker and Rod Woodward will provide the laughter!

Former Ex-Manchester United manager and England footballer, Wilf McGuinness was the only man to play and manage Manchester United. He was also a member of the England Coaching party at the 1966 World Cup and understudy to the great Duncan Edwards.

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It was very important that we got that first win under our belts especially with it coming away from home. We want to get on a run where at the very least, we're not losing games.

I think if you look at our League record so far, it doesn't look too bad. We haven't lost away from home and the side that beat us are one of the favourites to win the division, so we're happy with things.

Last Saturday was a very good result for everybody and it has given the players and staff a real lift. We didn't panic after going one down, we carried on playing our football and worked very hard in stopping them playing. I think we could have been in front even before half-time because we were very creative in the final third of the pitch.

The players are very pleased and any win breeds confidence and it was a very happy atmosphere when we came in for training on Monday with lots of smilling faces.

On the defensive side of things I was very happy with the way we worked together last Saturday, but there's a long way to go and we can always iron out a few more things. I was a bit disappointed to see Craig go, but obviously the club is the most important thing and we have to cope without him. We'll all remain good friends with him, but we as footballers, have got a job to get on with and I wish him the best of luck with his new club.

It was good to line-up alongside Gareth on Saturday, he's had his problems with injury, but we seem to be working well together. He needs to go on a good run of games injury free, then I think he will feel the benefit of that and then we will develop an understanding and inevitably improve at the back.

gareth



first team

Although the defeat at home to Ipswich was a bitter pill to swallow, other results have shown that Ipswich are one of the top teams this season and it will be difficult for anyone to get a point off them.

Manager, Jim Quinn, has expressed the need for the club to do better away from home. After winning only five away games last season with most of those coming in the latter half of the year, improvement is necessary. However, the solid win away at Palace has shown that the club are aiming to continue the good run of away wins they achieved last season.

It seems to be an emerging feature of modern football, that teams playing away from home have less pressure on their shoulders. They do not need to please the majority of the crowd, whereas at home the desire to perform in front of your home crowd could be a distraction. The Town's home form last season wasn't too bad and if they can build on their good away games then they can establish a solid position in the First Division.

The good news is that strikers Iffy Onuora and Giuliano Grazioli are firing on all cylinders and scored the goals that gave us victory at Palace. Iffy is continuing his scoring streak after finishing last season with 20 goals. Grazioli is now showing why he is rated so highly by Jim Quinn.



Craig Taylor was transferred to Plymouth Argyle for an undisclosed fee, which will hopefully pave the way for the management to bring in a new face, most likely on a long-term loan deal.

Furthermore, Jim Quinn has offered several of his squad for Ioan in order to get them some regular competitive matches under their belts. He has written to several Non-League clubs offering the services of young players Steve Mildenhall, Alan Flanagan, Ricky Culbertson, Paul McAreavey, Jamie Mills, Nicky Burke, Alun Hughes and Sam Campagna. The reason he has done this is



because the club now has quite a few first-year professionals in the squad and because of the size of the squad there are many more experienced players ahead of them.



With the decrease in the amount of Reserve games this season, the club needs these players to get more experience. Even if it is first-team at a lower level it will serve a purpose and

it's better than being a substitute for the Reserves. Hopefully, it will help them progress more quickly into Swindon's first team.



Charlie Griffin struck twice The 4-0 sco a good perfor quite experie good to see mark - Charli Chris Hay go

reserves

The Reserves played against Cambridge in their opening fixture of the 1999 season and won emphatically.

The 4-0 scoreline emphasised what a good performance it was from this quite experienced team and it was good to see both strikers get off the mark - Charlie Griffin struck twice, Chris Hay got one and Alan Reeves also scored. It was Gareth Davies' return to action following his ankle injury, he needs to get games under his belt after missing so much of the pre-season. He put in a solid performance at the back, which was the catalyst for his return to the first team the following Saturday at Crystal Palace. Alan Reeves and Mark Walters also went on to play on Saturday, so it was a good few days for Swindon Town F.C.

Anthony Wright was on trial in this game, he had been with Oxford, but he was released during the summer and was offered a chance to show Jim Quinn what he could do. He did look a little bit short of match fitness, but that is to be expected. He's been asked to do a bit more training and then come back again and Jim can have another look at him.

Jimmy Glass looked impressive in goal and made some fine saves late in the game.

focus on the youths with Tom Jones

I've been happy with the lads so far because this season they have upped the age group for the Youth Alliance League.

It is now Under19s and what a lot of clubs seem to be doing is playing their younger professionals in this League. That is a policy that we do not intend to employ, we're keeping it to Under18s and we have only got ten of those in our squad. So as you can imagine, the rest of the players are playing against teams two or three years above themselves. It is quite amazing because some clubs have re-signed players they did not think were good enough, just to play them in the Under19 League.

As a club we're not too bothered about that because we're still going out to win games although the opposition is perhaps, going to be of a higher standard.

The Youth Team got off to a good start in their Youth Alliance League match against Plymouth Argyle. A goal from Danny Jeffery secured the 1-0 win and it could have been more. The opposition didn't create a great many opportunities and on the day we were much the better side.

I've been particularly impressed by Craig McRobie, who has performed exceptionally throughout the pre-season and into the League campaign. Also, Danny Jeffery has had a good start in front of goal; he's got two goals in two games. These two are second year boys and I don't want to put too much pressure on the first year lads because. they are still finding their feet. They are just out of school and many of our scholars are playing in the Under19 League. The older lads are helping out the new boys because they've been there and now they can pass on any experience they have and help bring them on.

The Youths are shaping up well and we've already had some success from our development programme. Obviously, young James Williams is now a regular in the first team squad and has performed exceptionally for a lad that has just turned 17 years of age. That is fantastic news for the club and he should be an inspiration to any of the youth players. He has pushed himself into the first team and if that isn't an incentive for everybody, then I don't know what is. It shows that if you're 'doing the business' and set yourself high standards and you achieve them week-in, week-out, the rewards will be there.







Over the last two weeks we have been trialing seven's, eight's, nine's and ten's. We try to look at as many kids as possible during the summer because, obviously, they're more available and accessible while they're not at school.

It went very well and we did actually sign up 12 lads from the age of eight to ten.

The League programme got under way last weekend, which has changed this year. It has started earlier this year due to the fact that they are going to have a mid-season break from 2nd December right through to the 23rd January. The reason for this is simply so that the young players get the opportunity to play on good surfaces and under better conditions for the most part of the season. It does make it a little harder on the admin side of things because we have to contact 130 kids by phone instead of handing out team sheets at the centre. I wouldn't mind if they brought the League programme forward even further, I'm a firm believer that technique has a lot to do with the climate. If you look at places like Australia where they are producing a vast number of talented sportsmen and women, I think that the good climate does have a significant bearing on that. I also want to introduce a mental toughness that players from other continents seem to have. I want the players to be able to accept constructive criticism and instead of letting their heads drop, which is quite common, I want the response of the kid to be "I'll show you!" I believe that it is a cultural trait, but our job is to get them early and try to encourage a stronger

mental side to their game. If they can't take criticism at 15/16-years-old, then what's going to happen to them when they get in the first team?

They played last week against Cardiff and it went very well, we used the pitches at Supermarine for the first time. I think everybody, including the parents, were very happy with the facilities. Unfortunately, the bad news for the day is that one of my lads, Danny Taylor, broke his leg. We would all like to wish him an extremely speedy recovery, but that's the nasty side of football because he's 15 years of age, so it could not have come at a worse time for the young lad.

The League programmes are in full swing now and next week we travel to Bournemouth, where we will have five teams competing. We're holding a meeting for all the parents of our boys early in September. Jimmy Shoulder will also be there to answer any questions and let everyone know our plans for the future. It's a good opportunity to explain to parents what we expect of them as well as their kids, and also to answer questions that the parents will have.

Look out for some of the kids today at half-time, they will be showing off their skills in front of the County Ground fans.

the editor talks with Gareth Davies...



I see you are sporting a black eye, how did it happen?

Yeah, I don't know who it's from, but I expect it was from Mr Bradbury, he was trying to put himself about a bit. I've had a few tussles with him in the past and I like to think that I got the better of him over 90 minutes last Saturday.

How good is it to be back in the team after so many injuries?

It's been frustrating, I did a Α lot of work in the summer to try and get rid of the hamstring injury and I thought after I'd recovered from that, I could then put a run of games together. Then I picked up an ankle injury in the friendly against Chippenham, there was nothing I could do about that and if someone is out to kick you that's just bad luck.



You bring an aggression to the game, why?

People seem to know how I play and everywhere I go I always read that I'm the one that might get booked or even worse. The management has mentioned that I need to control it a little more. Walshy did say that on Saturday my performance was controlled aggression and that's what I'm hoping to go out and do. I try to pick and choose the tackles and go in at the right time. I've been closing players down better and holding them up, whereas before, I might have thundered in. I am one of those people that wants to win everything, every time and I don't think that the management

want to take that away from me, but to replace some of the aggression with some quality timing.

How much does your aggression effect the opposition?

I'm a firm believer that the first A challenge sets the tempo for the game. I think that the first person who gets the opportunity to go in for a challenge early on and comes out the winner, that effects everybody on the pitch and it dictates a lot of the game. I think it puts the opposing players on their heels and that's exactly what we did against Palace, and we need to do that week-in week-out. I've always been taught to rattle someone early on to let them know they're in for a tough game. It's got to be done correctly because you don't want to go in the book at the beginning of a match.

The team is playing well away from home recently, what do you put that down to?

I wish we could play against Palace every week! I think we have started to believe in our own ability and we know what we can do and that's why we put in such a good performance against Palace. They are a very good side with some talented young players and having spoken to their coaching staff after the game, they said how well we had played. That's a big positive we can take away from that performance, so we need to take that on-board and build on our confidence and go into each match with the right attitude.







getting personal..

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the olympics	
favourite footballer	TO LO LUNC
kevin sheedy (my cousin)	
favourite food	C1551
a fry-up!	
favourite drink	ALL CARGE
squash	
favourite hobbies	A dirity
any sports	
favourite colour	121112
blue	





A very big

thank you to all supporters who have joined the supporters' club in recent weeks, this has swelled the membership to 641, a significant increase on the end of last season, where membership ran at around 200.



We were delighted at the recent open day to sign up Jim Quinn and shown left is a picture of Jim joining the club.

We were very pleased that we were able to run four official coaches to the game at Walsall and it was great to see so many Town

fans at the game. Our members enjoy cut-price travel cost and we hope that many more of you will take the opportunity of travelling with the official group before the end of the season. Another travel initiative this season will be to take the Junior Robins to more away games. We have already planned around seven visits, and in order to keep costs to a minimum for the juniors and defray the cost of the reciprocal arrangements. We would like to invite any organisation or individual if they would like to sponsor one of the visits, at a cost of £100, to please contact Kevin Hall on 01793 333757.

Finally, today a couple of quick points on our administration;

Firstly, membership cards may be collected from a committee member just inside the entrance to the Information Centre prior to each match on a weekend. Secondly, a reminder to supporters who joined last season that their application form remains valid for this season and no further application is required.

Thank you for your support.

Printed below is an application form for use by prospective members. Supporters may photocopy it if they do not wish to remove it from the programme.

membership form

swindon town fc



1) Single Applic Name:	ation	Address:	
		ust have same place of residence)	
(please specify in boxes	t - £5 🔲 how many adults and cor		
PLEASE TICK W	HICH SECTION Y	OU MAY BE INTERESTED IN	: (one box only)
Red Army		Junior Robins	Away travellers
Disabled Group		Satellite Group (Please specify which)	General Member
Are you	a) a season ticke	t holder	Yes/No (delete as applicable)
	b) a Wiltshire So	und Gold Club member	Yes/No (delete as applicable)
PLEASE RETURN	WITH PAYMEN	T TO:	
The Membership Se	cretary, Swindon To	wn Supporters Club, County Grour	nd Swindon Wiltshire, SN1 2ED
		e to STFC supporters Club) ough SAS Travel/Information Point)
No fee payable for	season ticket holder	s: Please quote stand	, row, seat No
to other businesses or gr	oups. If you do not wish t	Town Club, within current Data Protection Li o give the above consent, or wish to exercis ty Ground, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 2ED, Full	aw and you consent that this information may be passe e your rights to a copy of the information held, please club rules available on request.

stfc 19



with clive maguire and jon holloway



This week has seen us complete our final Funweek of the summer with a fantastic 150 plus of you turning out for the Grand Finalé.

This summer has been our most successful on record with us coaching 700 brilliant kids in Swindon and the surrounding areas. Jon and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all of our coaches for their fantastic support and high level of coaching. With all

their commitment we simply would not be able to run these courses for the children so, once again, many thanks.

In our last programme notes I forgot to mention the six-a-side tournament we organised on the pitch on the 15th and 16th May. We ran the tournament in conjunction with the Swindon & District Mini Soccer League who we sponsor. It was an excellent weekend of football, with the Under 7s, Under8s, Under9s and Under10s really enjoying themselves on the County Ground pitch.

Highworth Juniors were the gallant winners in the Under 8s and Under 10s section, with Fairford Town winning the Under7s and Croft Juniors picking up the silverware in the under 9s section.

A special thanks to Chris Blizzard and everyone at Bondline Electronics for kindly sponsoring all the trophies for the two day event.

We also need to say a big thank you to all our referees and to Tim Thorne and Tina Herring and all the Committee who contributed to making the weekend such a great success. Let's hope we can make next year's competition as successful as this year's.



Finally, we would like to welcome Mark Field on-board, here in the Community Office. Mark has joined us in our Youth Training Team, working closely with Luke Sharps. Luke has now been offered a fulltime post with us after completing his two-year programme on the YT Scheme. Also, while we're on the subject of Luke, all of us here at the Club would like to wish him a full and speedy recovery after breaking his ankle a couple of weeks ago in a pre-season friendly for Fairford Town. Let's hope he gets back on his feet a.s.a.p.

Until next time all the best and keep cheering!

Clive and Jon





Sponsors of the Saturday Team Club Tel: 01793 432840





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Hello to all of you Junior Robins and welcome to today's game against W.B.A.

We are now enrolling for our first training session of the season at the Oasis Leisure Centre. The start time has changed for this season to 5.00p.m. starting on Monday 6th September. Each training session lasts for 1 hour and takes place outside on the Astro Turf. If you are interested in attending would you please enroll at the Oasis Leisure Centre for the 7 week session. The cost is only £14 for the 7 weeks of training, it is undertaken by qualified coaches in conjunction with Swindon Town Soccer Centres. For further details please contact Jimmy Fraser on Swindon 644777. Don't forget the new start time of 5.00p.m.

We still have some unclaimed prizes from our Open Day/Disco Raffle. Here is the list: Nos. 71, 99, 20, 166 and 91. Prizes can be claimed at our next disco on Tuesday 14th September 1999 in the Winners Lounge at 7.30p.m.

By the next programme we will have a list of the away trips that we have arranged for this season - look out for details. If anyone requires further information about the Junior Robins please contact Kevin Hall on Swindon 333757.

If anyone requires further information about the Junior Robins or has any ideas of things we could possibly organise, please contact us on (01793) 333757 or write to us CO. Swindon Town F.C., County Ground, Swindon. SN1 2ED.

join toolay Join STFC's Junior Robins and Robins club today!

JR's - 0 to 10 Yrs, R's - 11 to 16 yrs What's in it for you:

Radio Robin -Your very own Radio show. First Friday and Second Saturday of every month. Exclusive competitions on BBC Wiltshire Sound (103.6 FM). The Jr's can win a 'Fix it' and the R's get the chance to interview a player of their choice.

Away Travel - Discounts on away games. Organised away travel with your very own coach. To book please contact SAS Travel.

Football Courses - Jr's and R's receive discount on football courses held in the school breaks organised by the Community Office.

Football Training - Exclusive to members. Jr's and R's receive training Monday evenings at the Oasis.

Be a Swindon Town Mascot - 10% discount on Mascot Packages. This is one not to be missed by all ages.

Plus Much Much More.. Call 01739 333757

Speak to you soon. Bye for now.

today's Maymascot

Today we welcome 'away mascot' David Watson to the County Ground. 10 year-old David lives in Aylesbury where he attends William Harding Junior School. When he's not watching his favourite Albion players - Enzo Maresca and Lee Hughes, David is captain of Aylesbury Town FC's U11's.





be a swindon town mascot

every season a whole host of lucky people get the chance to lead the team out as a Swindon Town mascot. This year it could be your turn, or you may even want to make someone else's dream come true.... we are still taking bookings for 1999/2000 so don't delay!

for more information call 01793 333757



it's live...

the <u>official</u> swindon town website

www.swindonfc.co.uk

look out for details in forthcoming matchday programmes



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On the Monday following the Palace match, everybody came in and were obviously delighted with the result and the way we played.

As you[®] probably know, we don't have an inquest directly after games for various reasons, so the first thing we did was to sit down and talk about the match. As I said, everyone was very happy overall and we could draw on a lot of positives from the game.

The training that followed was light, bearing in mind that we had the game with Leyton Orient the following evening. We started with some technical work, mostly our passing and movement in-groups. We then put the squad into an 11-v-11 training match on the pitch to try and incorporate the things we had just worked on in a match situation.

Following the training game we went into a shooting session working the whole squad in and around the box. Frank Talia and Jimmy Glass got a very good work out as the attackers were asked to follow up on every loose ball.

On Tuesday morning we travelled to East London where we got something to eat and then it was a case of getting





the players to rest for the match in the evening. We were not too disappointed with the way we played against Leyton Orient. The big blow was that we were

out of the Cup. Although, on the night their keeper made some very good saves and we conceded a soft goal, but the reality of it is that we're out of the Cup, so we have to put that behind us now and get on with the next job. Despite being knocked out, that's three games this season where away from home we're undefeated, that is a big positive for us.

Again on Wednesday we had a postmatch chat in the morning, but the focus was really on the game against West Brom. The players then had a warm-down session involving plenty of stretching and jogging. The players that were not involved on the Tuesday evening had a tougher session to keep them ready to be called upon on the weekend.

We know we have struggled a bit at home but the confidence is there and it won't be long before we get our first home win. We must be mentally tough and we can pass the ball as we have away from home. We've now got to make sure we carry this over to our home form and that will certainly put everybody at ease.

Friday was another light training session for the players, with four games in just over a week the training has to be more concentrated on set pieces, working on the pattern of play and some general fine-tuning. After weeks like these the focus is as much on rest as it is training.

We'll have a free week next week due to the postponement of the Blackburn game, so we can step-up the training sessions and get the players working a bit harder in the run-up to the Nottingham Forest match.







Scott Leitch sustained a nasty hamstring strain on the Saturday before the Ipswich Town match.

These types of injuries are put in degrees, and this is at least a 2nd degree tear. There's a fair amount of bleeding associated with the tear, it improved a little and we can start getting him into the pool to do some mobilisation techniques. It's still going to be quite a while before he can get back into action, but once we can get him walking and running, the player will start to feel better. Then he will feel like he's doing something because it's very frustrating not being able to join in with the rest of the lads.



Lee Collins still has a sprained ankle, which was complicated by a piece of tissue called an intrososarus membrane, which runs between the tibia and fibula. Unfortunately the recovery time for that is a bit protracted. It is upsetting

for Lee because he has had enough injuries to last him half a lifetime. He's slowly getting better but it's going to be another couple of weeks before we can get him moving well.

Philippe continues his good progress, his swimming and

mobilisation techniques on the ankle are going well and he's anxious to get back to see the specialist on the 22nd September. They will do another X-ray and then we can make the decision on the step up to walking and running.



Ty Gooden has had a successful operation and he's even done some light walking already. We can then go onto some knee extension work and try to work the other parts of his body that are fine.



Paul McAreavey, there is a pouch at the top of the knee which is normally empty but the bash he sustained against Wimbledon irritated the knee and the pouch has filled up with fluid. It's getting a lot better and he

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went for a run last week which he had a slight reaction to, which you would expect, so hopefully within a few weeks he will get back to full fitness.

Frazer McHugh kicked an opponents foot at the bottom of the lad's studs, we thought about doing a precautionary X-ray, but he danced in this morning like a young deer, so it's almost better.



If you are interested in football, then the Swindon Town Soccer Centres are for you. Listed below are the times and the leisure centres where we will give you professional coaching, to help you in enjoying your football even more.

SOCCER CENTRE VENUES SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 1999

LINK CENTRE (Swindon Borough) H

.30 - 5.30pm	5 - 6 years
.30 - 6.30pm	8 - 11 years
.30 - 5.30pm	5 years
5.30 - 6.30pm	7 - 8 years
	.30 - 6.30pm .30 - 5.30pm

OASIS (Swindon Borough)

Monday	5.00 - 6.00pm	Junior Robins
	(New Time)	5 - 10 years
Saturday	9.00 - 10.00am	5 - 8 years
	10.00 - 11.00am	15 - 8 years

HIGHWORTH (Swindon Borough)

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



Thanks for all the calls and letters after my last 'Gripton Factor' concerning the traditions from matchdays in years gone by.

By far the majority of comments I received were on the theme of drinking in the ground, a subject which I know the Club's Chairman has commented on publicly in the last few weeks. Responsible fans, it seems, feel their matchday experience has been spoiled by not being able to pick up a pint at half-time somewhere in the concourses of the County Ground, and they certainly aren't going to rush to the County Ground on a Saturday lunchtime from their local boozer. There

HAYDON (Swindon Borough)

4.00 - 5.00pm	-
5.00 - 6.00pm	7 - 8 years
6.00 - 7.00pm	9 - 11 years

STRATTON

Monday	3.30 - 4.30pm	5 - 6 years
	4.30 - 5.30pm	9 - 11 years
Weds	3.30 - 4.30pm	7 - 8 years
	4.30 - 5.30pm	7 - 8 years
Friday	3.30 - 4.30pm	5 - 6 years
	(New Time)	-

MARLBOROUGH

Weds	3.30 - 4.30pm	5 years +
	4.00 - 5.00pm	
	, 5.00 - 6.00pm	

The next course is a 7 week course and will commence week beginning 6th September, so don't delay and enrol today at the course of your choice.

To book your course, please pay in full to your chosen leisure centre reception.

Cost: £2.50 per session

RIDGEWAY LEISURE CENTRE

Weds	5.00 - 6.00pm	5 - 6 years
	6.00 - 7.00pm	8 - 11 years

For more information about the above courses, please ring the Swindon Town Soccer Centre's Co-ordinator Jimmy Fraser on 01793 644777.

NB; Non Swindon Borough course prices may differ, please check with your Centre.





103.6, 104.3 & 103.5 FM

announcer jon gripton of BBC Wiltshire Sound

is of course the 'Winners' Lounge' here and it is worthy of your support at fulltime this evening. But why should the thugs and the idiots spoil the big game build-up for the rest of us?

Would a license allowing drinks sales at the ground help pull in the fans half an hour earlier? That would certainly help build the atmosphere and the excitement, something which I feel was definitely lacking a fortnight ago. Jim Quinn has in the past said a loud, baying crowd is worth an extra goaland we certainly needed it against lpswich. Your thoughts please!

And while we're all thinking about the County Ground, isn't it a shame that the ground stands empty for much of the week? But what could the hallowed turf be used for when our Men in Red aren't playing or training? One old sage in the press box tells me The Rolling Stones played here in the Sixties. So bring on Geri Halliwell and let's all have a party!

Finally, it's no secret that I emigrated to Swindon from Wolverhampton some years ago. Back in my childhood, local derbies meant standing in the rain on the Molineux South Bank praying for Old Gold victory against West Bromwich Albion.

If my memory serves me correctly, God wasn't too bothered with answering me! So forgive me if the loudest cheers when Swindon win this afternoon are coming from the PA box. Come on you Reds!

You can write to Jon Gripton with comments on the Gripton Factor or with messages for his BBC Wiltshire Sound breakfast show, Monday to Friday 6am - 9am, at: PO Box 1234, Swindon.

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Good afternoon and welcome to today's Nationwide League Division One match vs West Bromwich Albion. We hope you all _ enjoy your day here at the County Ground.

matchball sponsors



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Britain's leading independent recruitment agency will be cheering for Swindon Town Football Club as they embark on their bid for top of the league. Pertemps always take an active involvement in the community and once again have decided to sponsor Swindon Town Football Club in an attempt to promote the club's sporting season.

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Fans can have their say on footballNOW! - the new-look Nationwide soccer web site with up-to-the-minute news and features on England's European Championship campaign, the Premiership and all the big European competitions as well as the Nationwide Football League and The Nationwide Conference.

fiootball*NOW!*

Central to the re-launch of the football site, will be fanFARE - a fans' forum aimed at giving supporters the chance to air their opinions, tell their silly soccer stories and ask key questions to the top names in the





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(left) "Ndah and Over!" -George leaves a Crystal Palace defender in his wake as he charges through the midfield.



"Iffy scores the winner" - Onuora grabs all three points for Town.



Alan Reeves holds off Crystal Palace scorer Clinton Morrison.



Graz juggles the ball - but not as you would normally expect!.



ations



Crystal Palace 1 Swindon Town 2





Graz celebrates his strike with Swindon's travelling army.



Simon Rodger sends Mark Walters crashing to the ground.

match facts



Date: Saturday 21st August Pitch: Superb Weather: Sunny Attendance: 12,726 Referee: Alan Butler (Average)

HOW THEY LINED UP

Frank Talia, Mark Robinson, Gareth Hall, Gareth Davies, Alan Reeves, Sol Davis, Bobby Howe, George Ndah, Mark Walters, Giuliano Grazioli, Iffy Onuora.

Substitutes: Chris Hay (for Giuliano Grazioli, 78) Adam Willis (not used) James Williams (not used)

Shots on target:	Palace 4, Town 9
	Palace 4, Town 5
Free Kicks:	Palace 17, Town 22
Caught Offside:	Palace 7, Town 4
Corners:	Palace 1, Town 2
Town Bookings:	Davies

The Town sprang back into action and recorded their first win of the season at Selhurst Park. Steve Coppell's young Eagles' started brightly and took the lead against the run of play. Clinton Morrison thrashed his shot into Frank Talia's top corner. When the Town heads could have dropped they surged forward with greater purpose and deservedly got back on level terms when Grazioli swivelled and struck his volley wide of the despaining Digby. Swinden took a firm grip of the game following the break and when Graz drove his cross through for Tiffy Onuora to slide the ball home, it looked like their may be more to come. The defence was well marshalled by Davies. Hall and Reeves who stood firm to deny Palace any late scoring opportunities. Iffy's goal secured Town's second consecutive win at Selhurst Park and the Eagles were left grounded.



A GREAT HAT-TRICK... 1999/2000 Season Kit



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order on the web - www.swindonfc.co.uk (selected items only)

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CARLING **OPTA**

aa brand new feature for this season Nationwide Football League Statistics

with Carling Opta

FOOTIE FACTS

The meeting of Swindon Town and West Brom this Saturday will see two strikers with a non-league pedigree battling to put their name on the score-sheet at the County Ground.

ead to Giuliano Grazioli vs Lee Hughes

ionwide

minutes on pitch: Grazioi: 235 Hughes: 270

goal attempts		
	Grazieli	Hughes
goals	2	2
shots on target	7	3
shots off target	2	7

0

1

passing

blocked shots

	Grazioli	Hughes
goal assists	0	1
total passes	40	71
pass completion	55%	62%

	Grazioli	Hughes
total crosses	1	3
cross completion	50%	0%

dribbling

	Williams	Peacock
dribbles & runs	6	8
dribble completion	34%	57%

defending

	Grazioli	Hughes
tackles made	3	4
tackles won	67%	25%
blocks	0	0
clearances	0	2
interceptions	2	1

discipline

	Grazioli	Hughes
touls	1	12
offside	3	5
yellow cards	0	0
red cards	0	0

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Pictured here, from left to right, is Ken McKenzie of Kintbury and Patrick Richings of Gloucester. They are showing their colours outside Glenavon Football Club where the Town drew 1-1 on their pre-season tour.





the best way to enjoy your matchday...

For more information on Swindon Town's Winners Lounge and future functions call the Swindon Town Marketing Department on





this is your chance to get a mention in the proggy....

From match to match, on this page, we will be showing you all the best bits from our bulging mailbag.

If you've got anything which you think we should publish then drop us a line (address below).

show yer colours!



Outsid the ta

James Hewitt has sent this in from his tour of Asia. He is pictured here outside the Taj Mahal showing his colours on his home-made Swindon Town hat. He's still out there and he assures us there are more to follow.... We're still not sure why he's doing an impression of Elvis! Look out for more pics from James' adventures...

show yer colours!

Don't forget to send us your top snaps featuring you in the STFC kit - Send to:

STFC Matchday Magazine co. PIA Sport, The Litten, Newtown Road, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 7BB.



Barry Whitmore from Shrivenham is showing his colours whilst coolingoff on holiday in St. Lucia. Is this a new goal celebration we don't know about Barry?



This must surely be a Swindon Town first! Matty Hirst is 'chilling-out' in Livigno, Italy. Does this make you an STFC 'board member' Matty?

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Where football seasons begin and end is becoming an increasingly blurred distinction. No sooner has the FA Cup Final finished and the Champions League completed, teams are packing their suitcases for their pre-season tour or packing Latvian dictionaries for a sojourn into European football via the Intertoto Cup.

With the season just two weeks old most clubs have already played three games. Some sides like West Ham, those back door bandits of European football, have played many more by virtue of their participation in the Intertoto Cup.

Gone are the days of Denis Compton, Arsenal and England footballer in the winter, Middlesex and England cricketer in the Summer. The current demands on a footballer would probably only allow the player one innings before being summoned back for pre-season training. The congested English fixture list is a source of increasing wonderment and worry to the Premierships everincreasing foreign legion but so far the warnings of premature burn-out have fallen on deaf ears.

It has been a highly publicised fact that if Manchester United successfully defend the numerous titles they won last season they will end up playing well in excess of sixty games. Despite the size of their squad this would still put a tremendous strain on the players, not to mention the fans, who travel the length and breadth of the land to watch them play. Something has to give and at the moment the only thing that looks like doing so is a succession of players knees and ankles. One only has to look at the examples of Alan Shearer and Paul Gascoigne to realise the immense strain that players are subject to over a season.

One option which is commonly employed by the continental leagues is a mid-season break but no football over the Christmas/New Year period is as unappealing as it is unrealistic. Nothing beats a day of cold turkey, lager and Football on Boxing Day except maybe lager, hot turkey and Only Fools and Horses on Christmas Day. A break of three weeks or more would also put the leagues so far behind with their fixtures that clubs would be expected to play a minimum of two games a week for the remainder of the season.

Along with International matches and

normán lightsichard Edwards



European Club commitments, the top players can expect a season-long cavalcade of bruising and punishment, this can only go on for so long. Of course the obvious retort to those who believe that footballers play too much is that they are grossly overpaid for what they do. This maybe the case, many footballers earn more in one week than the majority of us do in one year, but this is to miss the point. The career of a footballer is not a long one and it is true to say that the duration of their career expectancy is reducing by the season. Who can blame them for demanding these exorbitant wages whilst they still have the opportunity. Players who have had their careers blighted, shortened and ruined by

injuries are often left with very few career options and, with the exception of a few high profile cases such as Paul Elliot, are often left out on a limb with no real experience of how to live a normal football-free life.

It may seem like an obvious point to make but, along with fans, the players are the most important part of a football club and without a quality product on the pitch the club is unlikely to make much of a financial hit off of it. Clubs may pay wages that are sky-high and, to many of us, Pie in the Sky but unless they look after their most valuable assets they're throwing a lot of money away.

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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 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.





looking ahead

Today we take a look at Swindon Town's next two away fixtures. Next week we travel to Blundell Park to meet Grimsby Town. Following that the visit of Blackburn Rovers.

Grimsby Town

the lowdown...

This bank holiday fixture sees us travel up to Blundell Park to take on Alan Buckley's side. Last season the Mariners finished in 11th place which, by their own standards, was a very good position. They were on course for a consecutive play-off spot but a long list of injuries took their toll and they had to settle for a creditable 11th position. In our two fixtures last season the two sides shared the spoils, each registering a home win. This year they have had a stuttering start to their new campaign. Three losses on the bounce and no points will mean that they will definitely be fired up for this one.

the reason to watch...

Town need the points after a slow start to the season. Our good away form of last season, proves that this away trip is one that Jim Quinn will be confident his side can snatch all three points.

the last five meetings...

Swindon Town 2-0 Grimsby Town (24/04/99) Grimsby Town 1-0 Swindon Town (28/11/98) Swindon Town 3-3 Grimsby Town 25/01/96) Grimsby Town 2-1 Swindon Town 25/01/96) Grimsby Town 1-1 Swindon Town 25/01/96)

the player to watch...

Alan Buckley drafted Bradley Allen in on a Bosman-inspired free transfer. It is early days in his Grimsby career but the former England U21 international is looking to kick-start his career after an indifferent spell with Charlton. He began his career with Queens Park Rangers where he emerged through the youth ranks to score over 30 goals for the club before leaving for Charlton.

Blackburn Rovers



What a dreadful 12 months it has been for the former Premier League Champions. This time last season they were mounting an assault on the Premiership title under the guidance of new coach Roy Hodgson. However, the results didn't materialise and they slumped down the table. Even the introduction of Brian Kidd from Manchester United could not stop the slide and it was a rut from which they never recovered, finishing 19th in May.

the reason to watch...

This will be one of the most high profile games we will see at the County Ground this season. Blackburn Rovers are now one of the biggest clubs in the Division and are highly fancied to take the Division One title this season.

the connection...

Swindon signed Frank Talia from Rovers in August 1992, where he had deputised for Tim Flowers and Shay Given. In 1991 Blackburn paid a reputed £850,000 for Swindon legend

Duncan Shearer, and more recently the Town took Marlon Broomes on Ioan. He now features in the Blackburn first team and will make his return to the County Ground today..

the player to watch...

The £7.5m price tag that Balckburn paid for Kevin Davies prior to last season has weighed heavily on the former Chesterfield and Southampton forward. He hasn't recaptured the form that earnt the big money move to Rovers. Today's player to watch is former Carlisle and Palace forward, Matt Jansen. This young talented left footed forward made an immediate impact on his new fans, scoring on his debut following his £4.5m move from Palace. He is one of the players that will need to shine if Rovers are going to bounce straight back to the Premiership.



stfc 35



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stfc's complete guide to fixtures.results.stats

STFC Ladies South West Combination Season 1999/2000

Sun 5th Sept	Oxford United	A
Sun 12th Sept	Bristol Rovers	H
Sun 10th Sept	Saltash Pilgrims	A
Sun 26th Sept	Southampton	Н
Sun 3rd Oct	Portsmouth	A
Sun 10th Oct	FA Cup 1st Round	
Sun 17th Oct	Bath City	Н
Sun 24th Oct	League Cup 1st Round	
Sun 31st Oct	Bristol Rovers	Н
Sun 7th Nov	FA Cup 2rid Round	
Sun 14th Nov	Yeovil Town	A
Sun 21st Nov	Cheltenham Town	Н
Sun 28th Nov	Newport Strikers	A
Sun 5th Dec	Southampton	A
Sun 12th Dec	Denham United	Н
Sun 19th Dec	Oxford United	Н
Sun 9th Jan	Bristol City	A
Sun 16th Jan	Saltash Pilgrims	Н
Sun 23rd Jan	Southampton	A
Sun 30th Jan	Portsmouth	H
Sun 6th Feb	Bath City	A
Sun 13th Feb	Bristol Rovers	A
Sun 20th Feb	Yeovil Town	Н
Sun 27th Feb	Cheltenham	A
Sun 5th Mar	League Cup Semi-final	
Sun 12th Mar	Newport Strikers	Н
Sun 19th Mar	Denham United	A
Sun 30th Apr	League Cup Final	

The South West Counties Youth League Fixtures Season 1999/2000

Sat 21 Aug	Cirencester	3-1
Sat 28th Aug	Swansea City	н
Sat 4th Sept	Plymouth Argyle	A
Sat 11th Sept	Newport County	H
Sat 18th Sept	AFC Bournemouth	Н
Sat 25th Sept	Trowbridge Town	A
Sat 7th Oct	Yeovil Town	Н
Sat 9th Oct	Bashley FC	A
Sat 16th Oct	Bath City	н
Sat 23rd Oct	Bristol Rovers	A
Sat 30th Oct	Cardiff City	Н
Sat 6th Oct	Cardiff City	Α
Sat 13th Nov	Cirencester	Н
Sat 20th Nov	Swansea City	A
Sat 27th Nov	Plymouth Argyle	Н
Sat 4th Dec	Newport County	A
Sat 11th Dec	AFC Bournemouth	A
Sat 18th Dec	Trowbridge Town	H
Sat 8th Jan	Yeovil Town	A
Sat 15th Jan	Bashley FC	н
Sat 22nd Jan	Bath City	A
Sat 29th Jan	Bristol Rovers	Н
	lome) South West Countie	
and Kick Off at 11.	ches are played at Supern 00am (subject to change	arine
without prior notic	e)	

The red band indicates the next home match for each of our sides

The red band indicates the next home match for each of our sides.

The Football League Youth Alliance Season 1999/2000

Victoria		
YOUT	HALLIANCE	
	Inter-Schwert Street street	Trans Ports
Sat 21 Aug	Cirencester	A
Sat 14th Aug	Plymouth Argyle	1-(
Sat 21st Aug	Torquay United	3.4
Sat 28th Aug	Swansea City	H
Sat 4th Sept	Cirencester	A
Sat 18th Sept	Exeter City	H
Sat 2nd Oct	Bristol Rovers	A
Sat 16th Oct	Cardiff City	Н
Sat 23rd Oct	Cup Prelim 1	
Sat 30th Oct	Cup Prelim 2	
Sat 6th Nov	Cup Prelim 3	
Sat 13th Nov	Cup Prelim 4	
Sat 20th Nov	Cup Prelim 5	U UM
Sat 27th Nov	Plymouth Argyle	A
Sat 4th Dec	Torquay United	н
Sat 11th Dec	Swansea City	А
Sat 8th Jan	Exeter City	A
Sat 15th Jan	Cirencester	Н
Sat 22nd Jan	Cardiff City	A
Sat 29th Jan	Cup 2	
Sat 5th Feb	Bristol Rovers	Н
Wed 1st Mar	Cup Quarter Final	
Wed 22nd Mar	Cup Semi Final	
Sun 16th Apr	Cup Final	
Swindon Town's (H	lome) Football League Yo	uth

Alliance matches are played at Supermarine and Kick Off at 11.00am (subject to change without prior notice.)

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Swindon Town Centre of Excellence Fixtures Season 1999/2000

Unde	r 15 s		Under 14s	Under Bs	Under I2s	
Sun 22 Aug	Cardiff City	A	Sun 22 Aug Cardiff City A	Sun 22 Aug Cardiff City 1	H Sun 22 Aug Cardiff City	H
Sun 29 Aug	Bournemouth	H	Sun 29 Aug Bournemouth A	Sun 29 Aug Bournemouth		
Sun 05 Sept	West Brom	A	Sun 05 Sept West Brom H	Sun 5 Sept West Brom	A	A
Sun 12 Sept	Plymouth Argyle	A	Sun 12 Sept Plymouth Argyle A		Sun 5 Sept West Brom	A
Sun 10 Sept	Cheltenham Town	A	Sun 10 Sept Cheltenham Town H		Sun 12 Sept Plymouth Argyle	Н
Sun 26 Sept	Exeter City	H	Sun 26 Sept Exeter City A		Sun 17 Oct Swansea City	н
Sun 17 Oct	Swansea City	A	Sun 17 Oct Swansea City H	Sun 3 Oct Torquay United	4	
Sun 24 Oct	Bristol Rovers	H	Sun 24 Oct Bristol Rovers H		H Skan 24 Oct Bristol Rovers	A
Sun 31 Oct	Cardiff City	H	Sun 31 Oct Cardiff City H		Sun 31 Oct Cardiff City	A
Sun 7 Nov	Bournemouth	A	Sun 7 Nov Bournemouth H		Sun 7 Nov Bournemouth	Н
Sun 14 Nov	West Brom	H	Sun 14 Nov West Brom A		Sun 14 Nov West Brom	Ц
Sun 21 Nov		H	Sun 21 Nov Plymouth Argyle H	The second		- 0
	Plymouth Argyle		Sun 28 Nov Cheltenham Town A		Sun 21 Nov Plymouth Argyle	A
Sun 28 Nov	Cheltenham Town	Н	Sun 5 Dec Exeter City H		Sun 5 Dec Exeter City	A
Sun 5 Dec	Exeter City	A	Sun 23 Jan Torquay Utd A		Sun 30 Jan Swansea City	A
Sun 30 Jan	Swansea City	Н	Sun 30 Jan Swansea City H	Sun 30 Jan Swansea City A		
Sun 6 Feb	Bristol Rovers	A	Sun 6 Feb Bristol Rovers A Sun 13 Feb Cardiff City A	Sun 6 Feb Bristol Rovers H	Juiro reu Distor Rovers	н
Sun 13 Feb	Cardiff City	A	transfer and the second s	Sun 13 Feb Cardiff City H	Sun 13 Feb Cardiff City	Н
Sun 20 Feb	Bournemouth	H		Sun 20 Feb Bournemouth A	Sun 20 Feb Bournemouth	A
Sun 27 Feb	West Brom	A	Sun 27 Feb West Brom H Sun 5 Mar Plymouth Argyle A	Sun 27 Feb West Brom /		٨
Sun 5 Mar	Plymouth Argyle	A	Sun 12 Mar Cheltenham Town H	Sun 5 Mar Plymouth Argyle H		-
Sun 12 Mar	Cheltenham Town	H	Sun 19 Mar Exeter City A	Sun 12 Mar Cheltenham Town H		н
Sun 19 Mar	Exeter City	H	Sun 26 Mar Torquay Utd H	Sun 19 Mar Exeter City A	Court to their Church Oily	н
Sun 09 Apr	Swansea City	A	Sun 09 Apr Swansea City A	Sun 26 Mar Torquay United A		н
Sun 16 Apr	Bristol Rovers	H	Sun 16 Apr Bristol Rovers H	Sun 9 Apr Swansea City H Sun 16 Apr Bristol Rovers A		





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Phil Sullivan regularly travels with the Town and this week he gives us his verdict on his trip to Crystal Palace.....

away_da

After last season's great result down there, we were hoping for a similar result. It's one of the best stadiums we get to visit and again it didn't disappoint. Palace always get good crowds and it's usually a good atmosphere and it was again, which I thought was surprising considering the problems they've had in the last six months or so. We were treated to a superb display, which gave all the fans a great lift.

Even I was quite surprised that we dominated the game so much. I thought Crystal Palace would have a lot more to offer. Graz could shape up to be one of the best deals of the summer, his strike against lpswich was fantastic and he followed it up with a real poacher's goal last Saturday. Iffy gave the Palace defence something to think about and he's always on hand to tuck away any loose balls. Bobby Howe did well in the middle and George Ndah made some terrific runs, all that is missing from his game is goals.



I thought Gareth Davies was a rock at the back against his old club and even though the Town defence had less to do, it was probably because they were so good. He was my Man of the Match because he was so committed, even though it was his first game back from injury.

After such a good turnout at Walsall I was a bit disappointed not to see as many there this time. I know the results haven't been great but I think it's still too early in the season to lose heart. I hope more fans make the journey to Grimsby on Bank Holiday Monday, it's always a great atmosphere among the fans who travel away.





The Town Ladies start the new season on the 5th September with a short away trip to Oxford United.

. The Town have been training twice a week since the end of July and have played pre-season friendlies against Barry Town, Porton and old rivals Reading Royals, who have been promoted to the National Premier League. The Town also took part in a pre-season tournament where they were grouped with National League sides Southampton Saints, Wimbledon and Berkhamstead. All of the games involved new signings and players from both the first team and the second team.

Any girl over fourteen years old, who is interested in playing is always



KIM REEVES voted "Player's Player" of the year.

welcome to come along. The Town train on Tuesday evenings on the athletics ground pitch at the County Ground and on Thursday at St. Josephs School, Queens Dive. Both sessions start at 7.30pm. The Town are also linked to junior club Coleview Girls for girls under the age of fourteen. They train on Friday evenings at Park Youth Centre, Marlowe Avenue between 5.00 and 7.30pm. They run three 7-a-side



HOLLY ASHMAN - "Player's Player' of the year for the second team.

teams; two in an under twelve league and one in an under ten league. Any girls interested contact John White on Swindon 824470.

At the end of season presentation evening in May Kim Reeves was voted Player's Player of the Year and Holly Ashman took the trophy for the second team. The trophies were presented by BBC Wiltshire Sounds' Arthur Hunt. WITH OUR CHOICE, DEALS AND PRICES OUR CUSTOMERS REACH

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Welcome to this afternoon's visit of West Bromwich Albion.

While it was a big disappointment to us all not to progress further in the Worthington Cup on Tuesday, at least we can still boast an unbeaten away record. Hopefully, we can extend that run on Monday at Grimsby, where a win for the Town is long overdue. There are no advanced tickets for this game - admission prices are shown below.

MON 30TH AUG 3.00PM grimsby town

Nationwide League Division One, Kick-Off 3.00pm. Adults: f14.00

Auuits.	L14.00	all tickets are
Sen.Citz:	£8.00	available as pay-
Juniors:	£6.00	on-the-day only



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Adult Fare: £15.50 Under-15 Fare: £14.00

(Supporters' Club Members receive a £1 discount)

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SAT 18TH SEP 3.00PM

Nationwide League Division One,

Kick-Off 3.00pm.

Adults: £13.00

crewe alexandra

TRAVEL INFORMATION

gresty road

Depart COUNTY GROUND: 9.30AM Depart ERMIN STREET: 9.45AM Depart WEST SWINDON: 9.15AM

Adult Fare: £11.00 Under-15 Fare: £9.50 (Supporters' Club Members receive a £1 discount)

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Monday - Friday	9.00am - 5.00pm
Saturday (non-matchdays)	
Saturday (matchdays)	9.00am - Kick-Off
Midweek (matchdays)	9.00pm - Kick-Off

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city six blunts blades

Manchester City hit six past Sheffield Utd to give them their first goals in their new division. After drawing blanks in their first two league outings City blew aside the Blades' challenge. It could have been a very different story because former Town star Kevin Horlock scored two from the spot. The second came in controversial fashion, the Blades' keeper Simon Tracey was sent off for a professional foul and it got worse when the foul was controversially adjudged to be inside the box. Horlock casually converted, which opened the flood gates to take their tally to six.



Nationwide division one



blackburn struggling



Perhaps the most surprising news of the season so far, is the fact that former Premiership Champions, Blackburn Rovers, are yet to win a match in the First Division.

Rovers have only picked up one point in three games and despite being tipped as favourites to win the League, they lie in 20th position. Last weekend a late goal from Neil Shipperley handed Barnsley all three points at Ewood Park. These early results are increasing the strain on Brian Kidd. When he took over from Roy Hodgson a return to success was predicted however, relegation and a slow start to this season will not help his job prospects.

no forest fire

In similar fashion to Blackburn, pre-season favourites, Nottingham Forest, have also made snail-like progress in their attempt to bounce straight back to the Premiership.

Four points out of nine might not be enough to convince the Forest fans that new boss, David Platt, has the experience to launch a First Division title challenge. The departure of Pierre Van Hoojidonk in the summer has not helped their attacking options. It is feared that in Dougie Freedman and Gianluca Petrachi, Platt may not have the strike force at his disposal to fire his side back into the top-flight.



pompey pride



Portsmouth are making an effort to make up for all the problems they suffered last season.

Their summer signing from Tottenham, Rory Allen, sealed their victory over Stockport last weekend. Allen, who was on-loan at Swindon during last season scored the second in their 2-0 win at Fratton Park. He joined Pompey from Spurs in a £1m deal. Portsmouth were close to bankruptcy last year, but a rescue package has given manager Alan Ball cash to spend. Allen's two goals to his name already and his partnership with the experienced Guy Whittingham might give Pompey a

chance at the Play-Offs.

100% ipswich

Ipswich continued their perfect start to the season with a 1-0 victory over promotion rivals Bolton Wanderers.

Town's man of the moment. David Johnson, grabbed the all-important goal in the 62nd minute and took his tally to five for the new season. Despite losing Kieron Dyer and Bobby Petta in the summer, Ipswich look stronger than ever, which could mean their young players might have come of age and could provide a challenge to Blackburn and Nottingham Forest for the Division One title. Last weekend's result followed the 4-1 win over Swindon the previous Sunday, thus keeping up their 100% record with nine points.



proud peacock

QPR's veteran midfielder Gavin Peacock has scored four goals in his first four games. His 75th minute equaliser against Wolves last weekend topped another impressive display for the 32-year-old. The R's have got off to a steady start recording one win, one draw and one defeat and will be looking for more points today against Forest.

👵 🚯 Nati	onwid	e Fixtures 28.08.99
BARNSLEY] vs [PORTSMOUTH
BOLTON] vs [MAN CITY
FULHAM] vs [CHARLTON
HUDDERSFIELD] vs [CRYSTAL PALACE
NORWICH	Jvs	BLACKBURN
NOTTIN FOREST	JvsC	OPR
PORT VALE] vs [TRANMERE
NORWICH] vs [BLACKBURN
SHEFF UTD] vs [IPSWICH
SWINDON [WEST BROM
WOLVES] vs [WALSALL

Nationwide Divisi

	P	W	D	ι	F		PTS
IPSWICH	3	3	0	0	8	5	9
PORTSMOUTH	3	2	1	0	5	1	7
BIRMINGHAM	3	5	1	0	7	4	7
CHARUTON	5	5	0	0	4	1	6
STOCKPORT	3	5	0	1	3	3	6
WEST BROM	3	1	5	0	4	3	5
WOLVES	3	1	2	0	3	2	5
MAN CITY	3	1	1	1	6	1	4
CREWE	2	1	I	0	5	2	4
0.PR	3	1	1	1	5	2	4
CRYSTAL PALACE	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
BOLTON	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
TRANMERE	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
FOREST	з	1	1	1	4	5	4
SWINDON	з	1	1	1	3	5	4
FULHAM	3	0	3	0	3	3	3
BARNSLEY	3	1	0	2	5	7	3
HUDDERSFIELD	3	1	0	2	4	6	3
WALSALL	3	0	2	1	5	5	2
BLACKBURN	3	0	1	2	3	5	I
GRIMSBY	3	0	1	2	2	4	T
NORWICH	3	0	1	2	1	3	T
PORT VALE	3	0	1	2	3	6	T
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GREENE



It was thought that Morocco's bid to hold football's premier competition would offset the challenge of favourites South Africa. A split vote within the African Federation would cancel each other out, but the latest news suggests that Morocco is ready to withdraw their bid. Africa's Football Confederation (CAF) will ask Morocco to withdraw their bid so that South Africa's can be formally endorsed.

England's backers were given a boost recently, hearing the news that the influential former South African president, Nelson Mandela, would not be taking an active role in lobbying FIFA members over his country's claim to host the competition. The South Africans had hoped that he would eventually go head to head

11

with England's Sir Bobby Charlton and Sir Geoff Hurst and Germany's Franz Beckenbauer.

South Africa has been the most likely destination for the 2006 World Cup since the collapse of apartheid. Now the country has a solid political structure, it is ready to hold the prestigious tournament. It will open a previously untapped market for the FIFA marketing machine and president, Sepp Blatter, (pictured) will be keen to encourage this vast continent to embrace football more than ever before.

Eyes are already looking towards the 2010 finals and, if China continue its Western trends, this will almost certainly be the venue for the finals in eleven years time.







At Highbury last week less than half of the starting 22 players in the game between Arsenal and Man Utd were English, Chelsea will rarely field more than three or four Brits this term.

These three are currently the best teams in the country and whilst chants of Allez les Rouges and Forza Chelsea may be healthy for Anglo European relations, the dominance of the non-English players must create cause for concern long term.

The boom time that the game has experienced in the 90's, (principally the massive influx of foreign stars), has done much to improve and promote the game, but the cosmopolitan nature has also caused a number of problems which have begun to negatively effect

Desailly, Poyet and Zola at Chelsea and Stam and Yorke at Man Utd are all truly great modern-day players who enhance the game in this country as a spectacle. The unfortunate trait that all of the above have in common is, of course, none of them can play for England. This introduction of foreign players has the knock on effect of keeping the

promising young English players on the sidelines, restricting their opportunities of



Did Hughes lose his place to foreigners?

25 new players to the club, of which just 2 have been English. This says more about the overpriced transfer fees in this country than any reluctance from Wenger to look inside this country for new talent. Who can blame the



Ooh 'What a Carry On!'

Frenchman for preferring to splash out £4m on Kanu, a man who has played for two of Europe's top clubs (Ajax and Inter) and has a Champions' League winners medal on his sideboard, as opposed to Kevin Davies, a young man of similar age, but with nowhere near

such experience or pedigree, yet was valued at a cool £7.25m when Blackburn brought him last year.

It also reflects badly on the youth system in this country, that appears to be severely restricted by the desire and insistence on instant success, which can knock the flair out of players who have it drilled into them that winning is the be all and end all. By the same token managers and directors are under pressure for results and just like beer. cars and cigarettes they can find the same, if not better, class of player on the continent for considerably lower prices.

All this leaves Kevin Keegan and the future incumbents of the England job with a problem that needs to be remedied. If the English lion is going to roar again an initiative has to be taken to ensure that the development of our future footballers is at the top of club agendas at all levels. Otherwise we are in danger of becoming a casualty of our own leagues success, thus losing even more ground to the games' super powers.

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'Top Gunner' Kanu - one of the Foreign Legion

the state of our game in the domestic leagues, in addition to the health of the national team.

Don't get me wrong, the premiership is only to be admired, the majority of games now seem to be exciting, packed with incident, great goals and sublime skills. The class of player is at the highest it's been for decades, the likes of Bergkamp, Kanu and Viera at Arsenal,

first team action to a premium and slowing down their development into top class players capable of performing on the international stage. Stephen Hughes at Arsenal and recently Jody Morris at Chelsea are a case in point of young home grown talent taking a back seat to foreign imports.

Since taking over at Arsenal three years ago Arsene Wenger has brought



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- 2 Dan Petrescu
- 3 Redondo
- 4 Harry Kewell
- 5 Henrik Larsson
- 6 Freddi Bobic
- 7 Lucas Radebe
- 8 Stefan Schwartz
- 9 Victor Ikpeba
- 10 Alain Goma
- 10 Alain Goma

Which Clubs?

Lee Bowyer

Scott Minto

Andy Sinton

Charles and the second second

Andy Thompson

Ludec Miklosko

CARDINGS)

quick quiz

- Which footballer is the author and/or subject of the book called "Tales From The Boot Camp"?
- Which footballer is the author and/or subject of the book called "Soccer, My Battlefield"?
- Which footballer is the author and/or subject of the book called "Bonzo"?
- Which footballer is the author and/or subject of the book called "From St Tropez to St James"?
- 6 Which footballer is the author and/or subject of the book called "Achieving The Goal"?
- 6 Which footballer is the author and/or subject of the book called "Goals From Nowhere"?
- Which footballer is the author and/or subject of the book called "Never Afraid To Miss"?
- Which footballer is the author and/or subject of the book called "Goal Machine"?
- Which footballer is the author and/or subject of the book called "Return Of The Little Villain"?
- Which footballer is the author and/or subject of the book called "The Red and The Black"?

8. Reports - Maynick, IG, Comta - Francos, Curress Whoy' & Alam McDronald, El Mark Walters, cl Charle Grif Whose That Botchy Howe, Who's Badge? 7, Arsend, Whose That Botchy A, Carlete, 4, Orantion Athletic.

- Lamaan Sweder, 6. Bobic Germany, 7. Radebe - South Africa, 8. Schwartz - Sweden,
- Scott Mode Web Web Scott Web Web Web Real Web Scott Mode GHR Real Web Web Scott Mode GHR Real GHR Real GHR Real GHR Real Kennel Ken
- 10. Eric Cantona. Minch Yaary 1963, Which Chickel Lee Bowyer - Leeds,

Ammers Oukle Ous? 1. Steve Claridge, 2. Nobby Stier, 3. Billy Bonds, 4. David Ginola, 5. David Pitat, 6. Martin Patan, 7. Malcoim MacDonald, 8. Alan Sheary, 9. Brian Liffle,







- Joe Fagan becomes manager of Liverpool Football Club
- · Hamburg in the European Cup
- Brighton & Hove Albion reach the Final of the F.A. Cup
- Denmark beat England 1-0
 at Wembley



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Good afternoon and welcome to today's match against West Bromwich Albion.

I was disappointed to pick up an injury the day before the Ipswich match. I am even more frustrated because I picked up the hamstring injury in training, it's bad enough getting injured in a game, but in training the feeling is even worse.

Last Saturday the boys put in a magnificent performance and it was a great victory away from home. The lads all came in on Monday laughing and smiling, it was just the sort of result we needed. The lads showed great character after going 1-0 down, they bossed the game, created a lot of chances and our two strikers got the goals, you can't ask for much more than that.

Obviously I was disappointed to miss Tuesday night's Worthington Cup second leg tie at Leyton Orient. Last time we played them at the County Ground I enjoyed a competitive midfield battle with ex Town player Martin Ling. Although the result was not what we would have wanted, we have to get on with winning games in the league and that will help us a lot more than a cup run.

It is frustrating because I want to get involved and get everyone ready for Saturday, but the only thing I can really do is be around and try to keep the spirits up, which is what I have been doing over the last couple of weeks.

Today we face good opposition in West Bromwich Albion, I was looking forward to giving their midfield a tough time. With or without me I am sure the lads will build on last Saturday's excellent display against Crystal Palace, so enjoy the match and keep cheering. We need all your support, it gives us a great lift.

A match made in heaven (well, Swindon really)

As any good coach will tell you, plan well ahead and plan for everything. It's much the same with life.

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Welcome to our A to Z of former Swindon Town players. This week in our new series we take a look back at former Town defender Frank Burrows.

Frank Burrows' football career began forty years ago when he joined Raith Rovers. With Raith he was a part timer studying as an apprentice draftsman.

In 1965 he decided to go full time and joined Scunthorpe United where he tipped Kevin Keegan half a crown for cleaning his boots. It was from here that Danny Williams signed him at he start of the 1968/69 season as a replacement for Mel Nurse who had decided to return to his native Wales. Frank Burrows, John Smith and Chris Jones were the three new signings that were to help Swindon to their most successful ever season in which they won promotion and the League Cup.

Frank teamed up alongside team captain Stan Harland in the middle of a defence that conceded just 35 goals in 46 League matches. Like Mel Nurse, who he replaced, Frank was commanding in the air and he had the knack of being in the right place at the right time that is the hallmark of all good defenders. His fierce determination to succeed not only improved his own performance but motivated those around him.

Frank went on to make over 350 appearances in the Town colours but he came close to leaving at the start of the 1973/74 season. The Conservative Government's pay policy meant that a player who changed clubs could gain a pay increase, but those who stayed loyal to their existing clubs could not. Swindon managed to get round the problem by giving him off-field responsibilities. This saw Frank beginning to develop the coaching skills that were later to serve him in good stead in management. His coaching advice had painful consequences on one occasion though. He had been telling Jimmy Allan that once he had made up his mind to come for a cross he must keep coming and get the ball whatever got in his way, he did and left Frank nursing a broken rib!

The 1975/76 season saw Frank's coaching come more into prominence. The season had not gone well for Town with a defeat at the hands of Tooting and Mitcham in the Cup and a slide down the Division Three table into a perilous position. After a disastrous 4-0 defeat at Chesterfield Frank took over responsibility for first-team coaching from manager Danny Williams and he did enough to save Town from relegation.

Swindon were a bit slow to feed Frank's ambitions and he moved to



Fratton Park as Assistant Manager where he was eventually to replace Jimmy Dickinson in the manager's chair and appoint Jack Smith who had, like him, both playing and coaching experience at Swindon as his Assistant. Leaving Swindon after ten years, eight as a player and two as a coach was described by Frank as being both a sad and happy day. Sad because he had enjoyed his time at Swindon, happy because as a careerminded person the time had come to move on.

Frank enjoyed success at Portsmouth as a manager and had further success with Swansea. He spent a period on the coaching staff at West Ham before returning to Wales to manage Cardiff City. He has helped revive the fortunes of the Bluebirds and last season took them to promotion to Division Two.

by Dick Mattick



competition TIME

Q: Which ground hosted the deciding League Cup semi-final clash between Swindon and Burnley in 1969? Who scored the Town's first goal in the match?

If you think you know - send your answers on a postcard to: History Competition, Swindon Town F.C., County Ground, County Road, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 2ED.

The first correct entry received will win a great STFC Mystery Prize! in the last programme we asked "How many first team appearances did goalkeeper Fraser Digby make in the Swindon Town colours?"

The first correct answer of 505 was sent in by MARK FRO (SWINDON) Here at the County Ground we offer a number of corporate hospitality packages to suit all occasions. For matchdays we offer the following:

Package for 10 - 40 guests in the 'Matchball' Suite.

- Three Course Meal including Coffee
- Behind the scenes tour (weekends only)
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- Complimentary Matchday Magazine
- Seats in the Executive Box
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Α	Gold	£880.00
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Package for 20 - 40 guests in the 'Matchday' Suite

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If you would like to book a table and discuss a suitable fixture. Then please contact our Marketing Department on 01793 333 718

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rocket robbie



Following the departure of Darren Huckerby to Leeds, Coventry splashed out on highly rated forward Robbie Keane from Wolves.

The Sky Blues matched Wolves' asking price of £6m for the 19-year-old Republic of Ireland international to replace the erratic Huckerby. Many Premiership clubs, most notably Aston Villa, were not willing to pay that price for a player that had not performed at the highest level. Keane has youth on his side and although he is not

an out-and-out striker, his creativity will strengthen Coventry's front line. It looks as though manager, Gordon Strachan, might have picked up a bargain after Keane's double strike against Derby on his debut gave Coventry their first win of the season.

Inter keen on keane

Inter have emerged as favourites to land Manchester United skipper, Roy Keane.

After the player's statement that he is to decide his playing future at the end of the current season, several top European clubs have been scrambling to put together an offer for the Republic of Ireland International. Keane will be able to move on a Bosman free transfer next summer, but United my want to recoup some of their loss and sell him now at a reduced fee. Inter are keen to guarantee his services and it is reported that £12m may



be enough to prize the influential midfielder away from Old Trafford.

o.g. bonanza



The Premiership has got off to a thrilling, yet tentative start.

On Monday night in the Leeds vs Liverpool fixture two own goals from Rigobert Song and Lucas Radebe took the total of og's this season to ten. It seems that Premiership defenders are being put under more pressure than ever and are feeling the ever-increasing demands of the top-flight. Leicester defender, Frank Sinclair, is perhaps feeling it more than most because he

already has two to his credit that have cost his side three points to date.

gunners out gunned

One of the biggest matches of the season has already taken place.

Last weekend defending Champions Manchester United swiped three points at Highbury. The Gunners didn't deserve to lose the match after dominating much of the game. An awesome allround display by Patrick Vieira was eclipsed by Roy Keane's two-second half goals and the Frenchman was lucky not to be sent-off in the dying minutes when he head-butted Keane after the United



captain had reacted angrily to a strong challenge. Arsenal will be unhappy at dropping three points to their closest rivals so early in the season, especially after winning the corresponding fixture 3-0 last year.



eager ziege at the riverside

Christian Ziege has found solace at the Riverside after his injury blighted years at AC Milan. The German wing-back never really hit the heights in the Serie A following spells with Real Madrid and Bayern Munich. He has only played in three Premiership matches and has already scored twice, including a spectacular 30-yard-free-kick and set-up the winner against Liverpool last weekend. The German international has followed in the footsteps of Patrick Vieira, Patrick Kluivert and Edgar Davids, who have been shown the door at the San Siro only to find success and good form elsewhere. No doubt, the Boro faithful have already warmed to the 26-year-old and hopefully, this will help restore their faith in big money foreign imports after their notorious problems with Ravenelli and Emerson.

	ier League res 28.08.99
ASTON VILLA VS	MIDDLESTBRO
BRADFORD Vs	WEST HAM UTD
DERBY VS	EVERTON
UVERPOOL VS	ARSENAL
	SHEFF WED.
TOTTENHAM Vs	LEEDS
WIMBLEDON VS	CHELSEA
Sunday Fixture	29.08.99
	COVENTRY

Up until the announcement last week people would be forgiven for thinking any mention of Swindon Town's twin landmarks would have been an oblique reference to Melinda Messengers' physical assets, but not any more....

Since the Nationwide Building Society has been linked in the press with the purchase of the very famous Wembley Stadium Twin Towers, I'll bet family dinner tables all round the area have discussed the possibility of seeing them proudly adoring the Nationwide stand on the Shrivenham Road side of the County Ground with as much relish and delight as mine.

It all evoked misty, water coloured memories of those trips down the M4 and the colourful stroll up Wembley Way to stand in their shadow, returning home under motorway bridges festooned with more fans & banners than we seem to get in the Town End these days. Do you think the sight of those towers would bring back the same feelings of euphoria? We felt then, dancing in the streets, the fierce pride in our Town and the comradeship that can only come from chanting the mantra of "Ooh Shaun Taylor" for hours on end up and down the hill to Old Town.

We want those towers! Can we have them please? Even just to borrow? Would it be possible I wonder to make them portable and have them just on match day weekends? Imagine the scene as they trundle down Pipers Way every Friday like a Trojan horse en route to Troy! Picture the astounded faces of visiting supporters - no more songs of derision about our ground. In fact should a Swindon fan see fit to give a member of the

opposition, say a visiting Bristol fan, the time-honoured two fingered salute, it would of course just be reminding him we have twin towers, and are in no way being disrespectful.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to be the envy of the Football League. I recently spoke to a relative in London on the subject, he is an Arsenal supporter, well lately, (glory seeker) and he said what would you call your place then, "Venue of a Legend"? because you only had one! Well I countered, of course it would be easier to site them in his area, because apart from being closer, all the unemployment would make finding gangs of labourers simpler to find, while with only 1% unemployed in Swindon we'd find it difficult to find enough people for the job. But it sounded a bit lame and I folded all together when he started comparing Swindon's architecture to Steptoes Yard, I hung up before he could get started on the Magic Roundabout.

Football

Certainly putting them up could pose big problems for cash strapped Swindon. Would their small over-worked maintenance team be up for it? After all you have to be so careful getting each numbered brick in the right position or you could end up with one huge white tower, turning one side of the county ground into a sort of mock tudor Slade Prison. Another consideration these days. when doing any building work at a football ground, is to be careful you don't mistakenly wall up a Far Eastern match fixer eager to tamper with your floodlights. What a pity "Challenge Aneka" has finished. We could set them the task, I'd like to see her put that little lot back up in 48 hours. For once they'd need more than her and the sound man in a open-top Jeep and five prerehearsed 'phone calls to ever-so-helpful builders' merchants.

But once erected think of the possibilities. We could host "It's a towering cock up" (I mean knock out) and people would come for miles to dine in the tower restaurant or watch fireworks on bonfire night and New Year's Eve circling the illuminated twins. The next time (and lets face it there will always be a next time) Swindon Town is unjustly treated as a place, or more likely as a football team, we could hold

a torchlight vigil in front of our towers, thousands of us swaying to the sound of Jimi Hendrix's "all along the watch towers", united and dignified just like a Coca-Cola advert.

The Nationwide Towers cherished forever as part of Swindon's finest hours, a symbol forever of mankind's effort to strive beyond the bounds of toil

and providing for a family, promoting sport in the heart of the country, and not only that, showing everyone Swindon has the ultimate in impressive frontage - apart from Melinda's of course!



birthplace Cheltenham date of birth 04.09.79 height 5'8" vweight 11st 0lbs position defender previous dub records dub games goals From Trainee

and the second states of the

young defender

Vationwide

Clotto

This teenage defender broke into the first team towards the tail end of last season, praise for a series of mature displays. Sol is naturally left-sided, he can play at full-back and is equally able at wing-back and could also play on the left side of midfield. Last weekend he arguably had his best display for Swindon in our win over Crystal Palace.

the key ...

stfc fact-files...

date	opponent	s resul	t att.	RELEASE				1				
Sat Aug 7	Walsall	(A) 0-0	6 427									
Tue Aug 10	Leyton Orient (WC1)		6,437 3,587	TALIA	HULBERT (2)	HALL	WILLIAMS	ROBINSON	GOODEN	LEITCH	NDAH	N
Sun Aug 15	Ipswich	(H) 1-4	6,195	TALIA	1	HALL (2)	WILLIAMS	ROBINSON	DAVIS	LEITCH	NDAH	V
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		(H)										
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Sat Sept 11	Nott'm Forest	(H)										
Sat Sept 18	Crewe	(A)						1				
Sat Sept 25	Port Vale	(A)										
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this season's top scorers

this season's top gates

last four games

1999/2000

season

FAC / WC F.A. CUP - WORTHINGTON CUP

- Giuliano Grazioli 2 - Iffy Onuora Mark Walters 1

- vs lpswich Town -vs Leyton Orient ŧ.

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6,195 -THE R 3,587

- vs Leyton Orient (A) 1-1 - vs Crystal Palace (A) 2-1 vs Ipswich Town (H)
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front cover photograph... Iffy Onuora

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saturday aug 28th 1999





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Stockport County	3	2	0	1	3	3	6
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stfc first team appearances 1999/2000

player name:	squad number	league apps.	cup apps	goals all comps	total apps
Frank Talia	1	3	2	•	5
Mark Robinson	2	3	2		5
Gareth Hall	3	3	2	-	5
Scott Leitch	4	1	1	o co s tanti	2
Gareth Davies	5	1	1		2
Bobby Howe	7	2	1(1)	•	3(1)
George Ndah	8	3	2	-	5
Iffy Onuora	9	3 .	2		5
Giuliano Grazioli	10	3	2	2	5
Ty Gooden	11	1	-		1
Alan Reeves	12	1	1		2
Jimmy Glass	13	3- 11	-		
Mark Walters	14	2(1)	2		4(1)
Chris Hay	15	(2)	(1)		(3)
Lee Collins	16		-		-
Steve Cowe	17	-	-		1
Steve Mildenhall	18			*.	
Adam Willis	19	(1)	(1)	•	-
Charlie Griffin	20	(1)	(1)	- 01	(2)
Sol Davis	21	1	2	-	3
Robin Hulbert	22	1	2	-	3
Philippe Cuervo	23				
Sam Campagna	24		-	-	
Frazer McHugh	25	1	(1)		1(1)
Nicky Burke	26		-		-
Jamie Mills	27	-	-		
Ricky Culbertson	28	-	-		
Alan Flanagan	29	-	-	-	
Paul McAreavey	30	-	-	-)	
Alun Hughes	31	-		-	-
James Williams	32	2	1	-	3



		ule	
)	squ	ads	
	Frank Talia	Phil Whitehead	
2	Mark Robinson	Andy McDermot	H
3	Gareth Hall	Jason Van Blerk	A
4	Scott Leitch	Sean Flynn	X
5	Gareth Davies	Daryl Burgess	A
À	Bobby Howe	Matt Carbon	A
8)	George Ndah	Jimmy Quinn	Ŕ
9	Iffy Onuora	Richard Sneekes	
D	Giuliano Grazioli	Mike Evans	Á
	Ty Gooden	Lee Hughes	A
	Alan Reeves	Kevin Kilbane	A
B	Jimmy Glass	Fabian DeFreitas	
0	Mark Walters	Alan Miller	Ĥ
Б	Chris Hay	Enzo Maresca	H
	Lee Collins	Mark Angel	H
D	Steve Cowe	Paul Raven	H
DC	Steve Mildenhall	Paul Mardon	H
9-	Adam Willis	Paul Holmes	H
0-(Charlie Griffin	Adam Oliver	\mathbf{H}
DC	Sol Davis	Chris Adamson)
2	Robin Hulbert	Graham Potter)
3-(Philippe Cuervo	Daniel Gabbidon	
4	Sam Campagna	Brian Quailey)~
5-(Frazer McHugh	J Chambers	
6-(Nicky Burke	A Chambers)-2
D-C	Jamie Mills	Justin Richards)2
8-(Ricky Culbertson	0	H
	Alan Flanagan	0 .	Ж
	Paul McAreavey	0	H
	Alun Hughes	0 •	H
3-(James Williams	0	Ж
C	Jim Quinn	Brian Little	

the

<u>coming</u>soon

Sat 11th September 1999, our next home league game vs

