

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF:

SWINDONTOWN

SATURDAY 25TH
JANUARY 2003 KO3.00PM

v **WIGAN**
ATHLETIC

Nationwide

MAIN CLUB SPONSOR

GREENHAM

MATCHDAY SPONSOR

NEW MEDIA

MATCHDAY SPONSOR

PLUS!

REPORTS FROM STOCKPORT AND
BLACKPOOL, TODAY'S VISITORS,
CLASSIC DERBIES AND THE
LATEST FROM FOURFOUR TWO'S
MARK HANRAHAN.

WHITE HART PAIN

SO NEAR YET SO FAR, WE
GET THE REACTION TO
TOWN'S YOUTH CUP EXIT

IT'S A LONDON THING

WE SPEAK TO TOWN'S COCKNEY DUO, SAM PARKIN AND
DEAN MARNEY, IN A FEATURE-LENGTH INTERVIEW

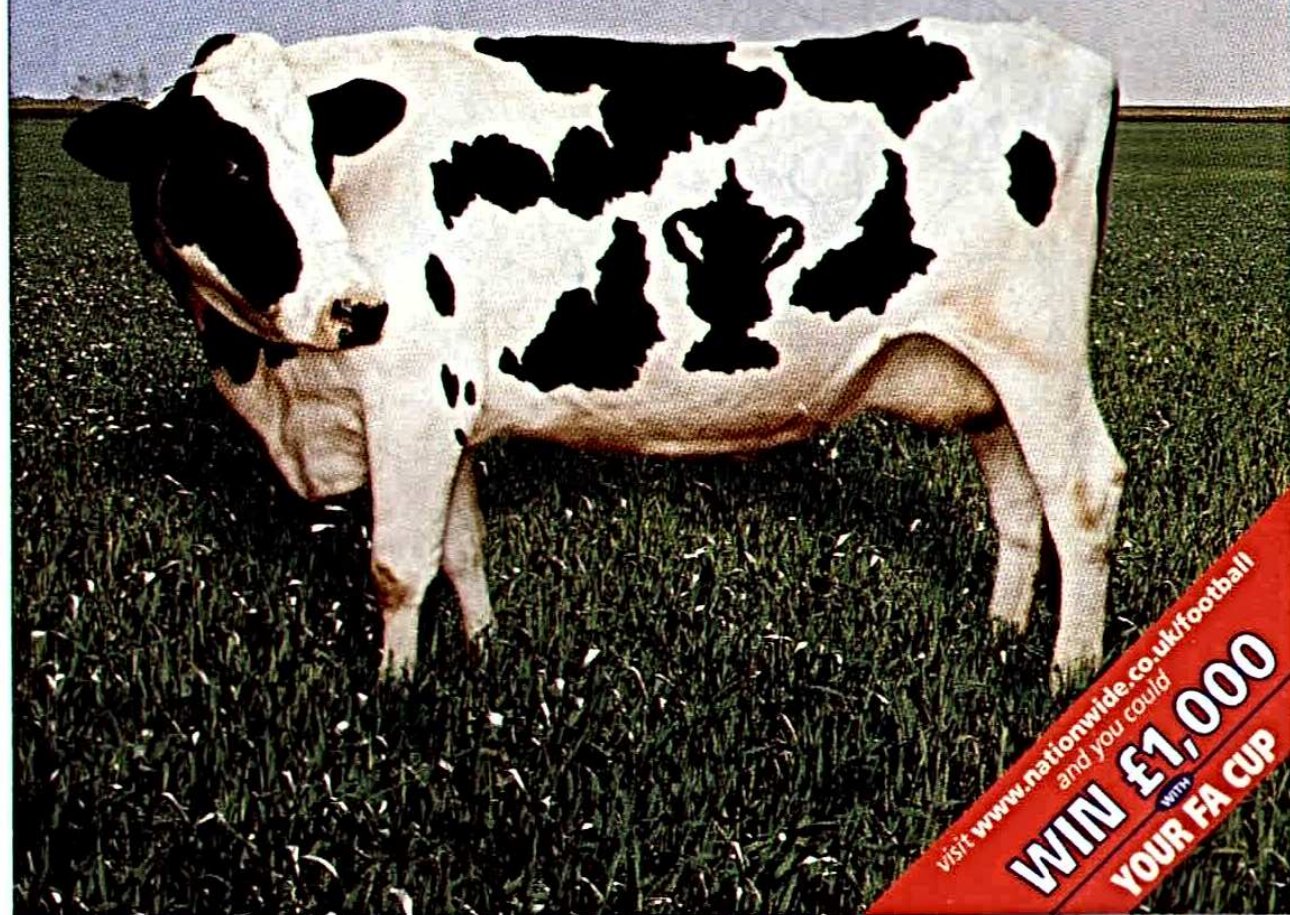
ISSUE 17 £2.50

FOOTBALL

 **Nationwide**

Something on your mind?

FA CUP FEVER COURTESY OF NATIONWIDE. IT'S ONLY NATURAL



visit www.nationwide.co.uk/football
and you could
WIN £1,000
with
YOUR FA CUP

TheFA CUP

OFFICIAL PARTNER

 **Nationwide**

An Official Partner of The FA Cup

Banking

Credit Card

Insurance

Investments

Loans

Mortgages

Pensions

Savings



CONTENTS

Swindon Town Football Club,
The County Ground, County Road,
Swindon, Wiltshire. SN1 2ED

Formed 1881

Stadium Capacity 15,728

Honours 1969 League Cup Winners, 1971 Anglo-Italian Cup Winners, Division Four Champions 1985/86, 1996 Division Two Champions

Record Attendance 32,000 v Arsenal 1971/72

Biggest League Win 9-1 v Luton Town 1920/21

Most capped player Rod Thomas: Wales 30

Most goals in a season Harry Morris 47 1926/27

Chairman Willie Carson

Directors Bob Holt, Willie Carson
James Willis, Sandy Gray, Mark Devlin

Chief Executive Mark Devlin

Manager Andy King

Assistant Manager Malcolm Crosby

Youth Team Coach Viv Busby

Soccer Centres Co-ordinator Jim Fraser

Physio Dick Mackey

Team Secretary Linda Birrell

Youth Administrator Karen Ainscow

Sales and Marketing Manager Mike Sullivan

Sales and Marketing Administrator Kate Morkham

Sales Team James Sparks

Ticket Office Manager Rob O'Carroll

Assistant Ticket Office Manager Stuart Pike

Media & Communications Manager
Nick Judd

Website Editor Chris Tanner

Stadium Manager Ron Topp

Head Groundsman Marcus Cassidy

Conference & Banqueting Brian Wood

Bars and Kiosks Chris Abrook

Football In The Community Clive Maguire,
Jon Holloway, Luke Sharps

Administration

Tel 01793 333700

Fax 01793 333703

Sales Dept

Tel 01793 333718

Fax 01793 333719

Ticket Office

01793 333777

01793 333780

Community Office

01793 421303

Club Superstore

01793 333778

Website www.swindontownfc.co.uk

Clubcall 09068 121 640

Photography Action Images, Empics, Chris Adams,
Mike Judd, Richard Tiling and Wes Strange



for enquiries and sales please call 01635 35599

design: wes strange
& Bradley Sharp

FEATURES



So near, yet so far for Town's youngsters -
read how they got on at White Hart Lane **12-13**

Five of the Best players out of work... **22-23**

A feature-length interview with Sam Parkin
and Dean Marney, Town's cockney duo **32-33**

Mark Hanrahan comments on the
week's footballing news... **42-43**

Ben Leach continues his look at the
world's footballing derbies, **46-47**
this week the Manchester derby

REGULARS

>5 Andy King is hoping for revenge this afternoon>7 Andy Gurney and Dick Mackey give us the latest>9 Mark Devlin on the latest news and today's ticket promotion>10 The latest news from the County Ground>14 A report from last week's thrashing of Stockport>16 Pictures and report from the Blackpool game>18 Town's reserves turn over a strong Cardiff side>20-21 Catch up with the under 17s and 19s>24 The latest news and views around Division Two, as well as Where are they now and Local Football>26 Today's visitors, Wigan Athletic>30-31 Dave Wallis with a special 'them and us' this week>38 The latest Commercial news with Mike Sullivan>41 Dick Mattock remembers a previous encounter against Wigan>45 Helen Wingrove on Michael Owen (not literally!)>48 The latest ramblings from Jon Ritson>49 The latest community news with Clive and Jono>50 Nigel Bennett and the Supporters Club, it's going to be a busy 2003>51 The first of Sam Parkin's new column, as well as an interview with one of Town's hopefuls>53 Rockin Robin and the Junior Rubins>54-55 More from those who love the red and white>57 Adam Collier's Soccer Centres are back in action>59 Town's Ladies have a game at last!>60 A rough guide to Barnsley>61 Next at home, our friends from Wycombe>62 Stats and facts

Editor's Eye

I must admit, driving up to Stockport last week there was a sense of optimism in my car. Myself, Jon Ritson and Dave Evans all predicted good times for Andy and the lads, but I don't think any of us expected the thrashing that followed. I mean 'Robbo' and Hewlett to score in the same game?! I just wish I'd put money on it...

I'm not complaining though - I'd gladly see anyone score if it means that we get three points. It was also good to see Danny get the better of Carlton Palmer. Nothing personal, I just blame the former England defender for the 1-0 defeat earlier in the season! Last week I had the pleasure of joining Ed Hardwin on BBC Radio Swindon. Not having been on the radio before (I don't count my debut on my old university station!) I was slightly nervous and didn't know what to expect - and it didn't get any better when I almost broke the equipment celebrating Steve Robinson's effort! Still, a good laugh - many thanks for the opportunity Ed!

Enjoy the issue and, more importantly, today's game - come on the reds!

www.swindontownfc.co.uk **FC:3**

MJM AND SWINDON TOWN F.C. PROUDLY PRESENT THE GREAT GUITARIST

Gordon Giltrap

IN CONCERT

AT STFC WINNERS BAR, THE
COUNTY GROUND

FRIDAY 7TH
MARCH 2003
8.00PM

"I always
knew Gordon Giltrap
was a terrific guitarist"

Sir Cliff Richard

"Gordon is one
of Britain's most individual and
gifted guitarists"

Sir Tim Rice



SWINDON
TOWN
F.C.

MJM

Make Your Marketing

TICKETS £9.00

AVAILABLE AT TICKET OFFICE

Voted second only to Eric Clapton in Guitar Magazine
10th Anniversary readers poll.

THE GAFFER

ODN
The Owner Driver Network
www.ownerdrivernetwork.co.uk



GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME TO THIS AFTERNOON'S GAME AGAINST WIGAN. A WARM WELCOME IN PARTICULAR TO PAUL JEWELL, HIS MANAGEMENT TEAM, PLAYERS, DIRECTORS AND SUPPORTERS .

Today's game has been one in which the lads, and the management team, have been looking forward to greatly. It is what football is all about, pitching yourself against the best teams and players and Wigan have proved that they are head and shoulders above the rest in this division and, as they visit here us here today, they boast a record of 12 wins in a row.

With that said we have put together a little run of our own which is why I'm confident of our lads getting a positive result. Despite Wednesday's disappointment, and I do believe we should have won that game, but we are playing such entertaining football – I have never been so proud of the team. Those who have seen us play this year will know what a joy it's been. At Stockport we were lethal and the home side got their just rewards for beating us when they didn't deserve to earlier in the season. We defended resolutely (until we were three up that is) and attacked in numbers and could have scored six or seven. Those who travelled up there made some terrific noise and you will have seen me run on the pitch when Eric scored! I was ever so pleased to see him score, he's a lovely lad but he'll be the first to tell you that things haven't been going his way recently – it was just good to see him back on the score sheet.

The main thing for me is that the lads are playing with belief and passion and you can see that they just do not want to lose at the moment. Wednesday night was a different kind of game to that at Stockport. Blackpool, unlike Carlton Palmer's side, were on a good run themselves, had got themselves to within touching distance of the play-offs and so were looking for a result themselves. However, we started well and in the first half, played them off the park. Some of the movement, passing and one-touch football was great, it's just a shame we couldn't take more of a controlling lead because, for whatever reason, we didn't continue that in the second half. Blackpool seemed to come out with more purpose and when the two penalty decisions didn't go our way we seemed to lose our shape. I won't comment on those two decisions too much – at the end of the day you can't change anything, but let's just say

THE GAFFER CONT'D...



that I thought the referee was poor throughout the game. At the end of the day if Danny says he was fouled then he was fouled – but until I see the video I can't really comment.

At the end of the day the referee isn't responsible for our performance and we were at fault for dropping off the pace and that was disappointing. However, we have been playing to such a high level recently that we were bound to tire or play to a lower level at some stage – I just hope we continue to play well today and give Wigan a good game.

I didn't think that there was much between the two sides up at the JJB. Obviously they are high on confidence and that counts for a lot, but I think we gave them a little bit too much respect and hopefully that won't happen today.

That just leaves me to tell you about Luke Nightingale and Juan Cobian, both who were released this week. Luke is a lovely fella but it hasn't worked out for him. At the end of the day I have him and Eric at my disposal and I feel that Eric will cause more problems. It is only fair to the lad that I let him get on with things at Portsmouth. Juan, as you'll all know, has been here for three years. Unfortunately he hasn't done enough, in my opinion, to warrant a place in my team and so it's only fair that he has the chance to get a new club and get his life back on track. What I will say is that he's been a magnificent professional both on and off the field and I wish him the best of luck.

All the best and enjoy the game.



CAPTAIN'S COLUMN



A WARM WELCOME TO YOU ALL TO TODAY'S GAME. IT'S BEEN A BUSY WEEK FOR US ALL FOLLOWING THE GAMES AGAINST STOCKPORT AND BLACKPOOL ON WEDNESDAY.

Unfortunately these notes find you before the Blackpool game, but a win against Steve McMahon's side will have set us up beautifully for the visit of Wigan today, our third game in seven days.

It's been a good 2003 for us so far and last week, we demolished Stockport in what was a great game to play in. I think much has been made about the first two goals and a certain player giving us a helping hand, but to be honest I think we would have won comfortably anyway and to be fair, it was a great team performance - we all played a part.

Unfortunately, unlike 'Robbo' and Matty (Hewlett) I didn't manage to score, well, not in the right end anyway (!) and they've been giving the rest of the lads grief in

training this week. Hopefully I'll get one myself today - but the main thing is that we at least give Wigan a run for their money. It's going to be a tough game, any team that wins 11 in a row can't be too bad - but we are playing well ourselves, are high in confidence and have nothing to lose. By the law of averages Wigan will have to lose at some stage and to be honest, I didn't think that they were that much better than us when they beat us 2-0 earlier in the season.

With that said it's going to be an extremely big effort from us all. Hopefully we'll have the same kind of support that followed us to Stockport last week. Despite being outnumbered the noise was fantastic - a similar performance should give us the confidence to do well this afternoon.



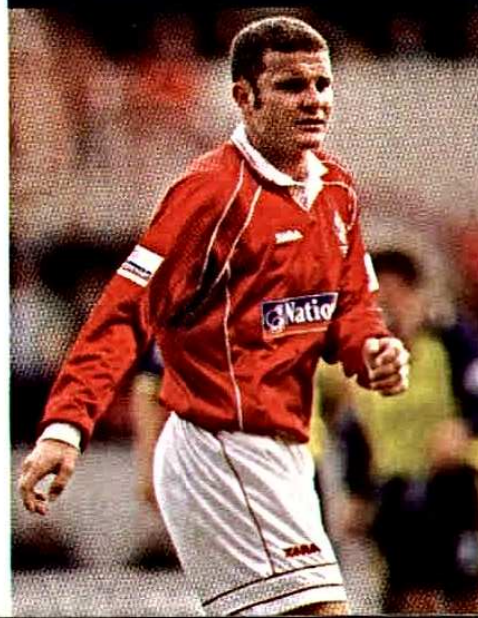
DICK MACKEY'S TREATMENT ROOM

A warm welcome back to the County Ground this afternoon. Well, I hope I'm not tempting fate but there's still little to report in the Treatment Room and to be honest - that means that I can really concentrate on getting Keith O'Halloran back to fitness.

Keith has done ever so well in recent weeks and he's looking very good. He still has problems to overcome, but his running has got longer and harder and last week, Keith was running up some very steep hills. Last Thursday we went on a long run and more recently, he has been running up and down hills and on different terrains on the downs.

He's now got a massive two or three weeks ahead of him, yet with no other injuries to tend to we can work together and hopefully - he'll continue in the same vein.

Until next time - enjoy the game.



Got plans this Saturday?



No problem We're **Open Sundays** too...
10.30am - 4.30pm

The heart of Swindon Shopping

For more information, please visit: westfield.com/brunel Tel: 01793 525857


HOUSE OF FRASER

MARKS &
SPENCER

Sainsbury's



Argos

T.K. MAXX

AND LOTS, LOTS MORE

The Brunel Centre Swindon



Good afternoon and welcome to the County Ground for today's visit of Wigan Athletic. On behalf of the board of directors I would also like to welcome the visiting directors, management, players and supporters who have made the journey down to Wiltshire.

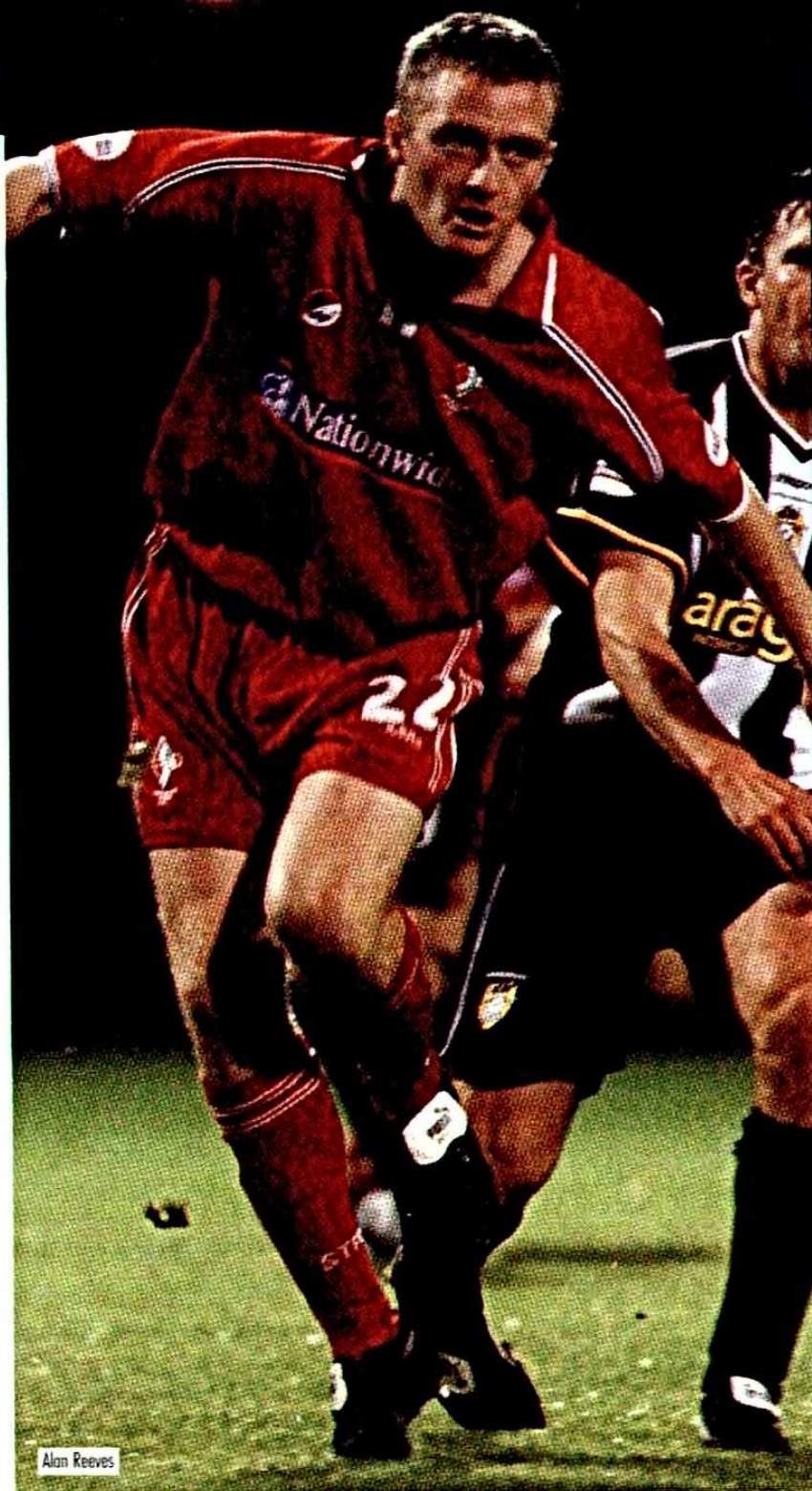
It is only a few short weeks since our visit to the superb JJB Stadium, and had it not been for a tremendous goal-like clearance from an Alan Reeves volley we may even have taken a point from the league leaders.

Paul Jewell has assembled a squad worthy of promotion, if you compare the cost in terms of transfer fees and playing budget to our own, you can see some of the difficulties we face in our own division. That said, money isn't everything and performances of the team over the past dozen or so matches have given everyone at the club immense pleasure and pride.

Having gone close at Wigan, without really playing to the best of our abilities, I know the players will be very keen to test themselves on our own turf against the outstanding team in the division so far.

Today is the first of two test matches whereby we have reduced adult admission prices in both the Nationwide and Arkells Stands by £2 - both in advance and on the day of the game. We have responded to comments made by various supporters and supporters groups and sometimes you need to hold your hands up and say you might have made a mistake. However, the price reductions mean that we do need to see a small increase in attendances just to stand still financially and a bigger increase in order for us to repeat the reductions again during the season. Just to remind you once more that the reduced prices will also apply to our next scheduled home league fixture against Wycombe Wanderers on February 15.

The recent excellent performances on the field do not hide the fact that there is still much to do to turn the club around. One of our biggest challenges is to build our attendances in a sustainable manner and continue to communicate with the fan base with more regularity. To this end we will shortly be writing to all Season Ticket Holders regarding a fans forum, as we promised earlier in the season, to be held at the County Ground in late February/early March.



MARK DEVLIN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE, STFC.

For next season I would hope that the club will then operate two or three fans forums, open to all supporters, perhaps taking them on the road and visiting those areas where we know there is good

support for the club (and indeed has the potential for even more support).

Once again, thanks for your continued support, enjoy the game and make some noise!



22.01.03

FANCY JOINING THE TEAM?

The Swindon Town Matchday Ticket Office are looking for two people to join our busy team. We need two lively, confident people to assist in the Matchday Ticket Office, serving customers in person. Essentially we require you to work Matchday's and evenings plus holiday and sickness cover. The successful candidates will be flexible in their hours and able to take on extra hours to meet the demands of the job where necessary. A love of football is preferred but not essential – it will grow with the job! You will however need to be fairly computer literate with good communication skills and a polite and friendly personality and be numerically minded. If you would like to be considered for this position please apply, by February 1st, in writing to: Box Office Manager, Swindon Town FC, The County Ground, County Road, SWINDON, Wiltshire, SN1 2ED.

22.01.03

AWAY DAYS

Town are so far unbeaten in this 2003 year and having scored six goals in two away games so far, why not watch the Town on their travels in their next away games at Barnsley and Tranmere? The STFC Ticket Office have tickets for Barnsley on February 1st and Tranmere on February 8th. Tickets for these games can be booked in advance if fans wish to do so. Here are the tickets for Barnsley: Adults £16, Concession £9, Ladies £5. For Tranmere adults will pay no more than £15, Senior Citizens £8.50, Junior(16-u16) £3, Young Persons Ticket £13. Any travel arrangements can be made through SAS Travel and for more information please call 01793 825935 / 536757. For more information regarding Swindon Town FC Tickets please call the STFC Box Office on 01793 333777.

20.01.03

COLLINS IN NEWPORT SWITCH

Swindon Town defender Chris Collins, last week, joined Newport County in a permanent deal. The player's contract was cancelled by mutual consent at The County Ground and he has so far enjoyed a loan spell at Newport and therefore made the switch on Tuesday. The Merthyr born 19-year old joined County on loan in December and made his debut for them in the Boxing Day clash with Worcester City. "It is a decent level of football at Newport and I am very happy with the move," he said. "There are some very experienced players here and Steve Cowe, who was with Swindon a few seasons back, is here as well. I am playing regular first team football which is what its all about."

20.01.03

GILTRAP TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

There are now just under two months until Gordon Giltrap plays at The County Ground. The Ticket Office have tickets available now for the concert, which is due to take place in the Winners Lounge on Friday March 7th. For those of you unfamiliar with Gordon's work, his style of guitar playing is considered unique by many of his professional peers. He has released over 40 albums and his most famous single 'Heartsong' received massive airplay and reached the top twenty in the UK singles charts. To get your tickets to what will be a memorable evening – contact the Ticket Office on 01793 333777.

19.01.03

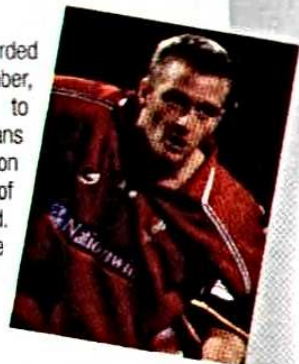
DINE IN STILES WITH NOBBY

Swindon Town have announced that Geoff Hurst, who was scheduled to be the Guest Speaker at the Sporting Club Dinner on February 17, will now not be present due to FA commitments in Australia. However, a lot of work has gone on in the Club's Marketing Department and Swindon Town FC are delighted to announce that 1966 England World Cup winner and Manchester United legend Nobby Stiles will now be the special guest speaker at this Sporting Club Dinner on the same date. For more information on this sporting club dinner or any commercial opportunities – please contact Mike Sullivan in the STFC Sales and Marketing Department on 01793 333719.

13.01.03

'REEEEEEEEVES' UP FOR AWARD

After Sam Parkin's success in being awarded the PFA Player of the Month for December, Swindon fans are being encouraged to support this month's vote. So far, Town fans have rallied round and are voting in unison as they aim to bring another PFA Player of the Month Award to The County Ground. At present, Alan Reeves is in fourth place and we hope that Swindon Town fans across the world can register their vote in favour of the former Wimbledon defender. For more information and to register your vote visit www.pfa.com and follow the 'Division Two' link.



Swindon's NO.1 Mortgage Specialists

FIRST TIME BUYERS
COMMERCIAL MORTGAGES
RIGHT TO BUYS



FURTHER ADVANCES
CCJ'S DEFAULT
IVA'S ACCEPTED
RE-MORTGAGES

DEBT CONSOLIDATION

ONE OF THE OLDEST AND LARGEST INDEPENDENT MORTGAGE CENTRES IN SWINDON

TALKING MORTGAGES

PRIMARY MORTGAGE CENTRE
101 COMMERCIAL ROAD SWINDON
TEL (01793) 616617

TALK TO PRIMARY



YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN

2002/03 CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR DRAW SPONSORED BY HAINE AND SMITH



The results and names of the winners will be announced in our next home programme, via the Club's official website and on result sheets that will be available from the Main Office from 2.00pm onwards on Monday January 27 2003

The Club would like to thank all those people who supported the draw by buying or selling the draw tickets.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

At half time today the draw will take place for the FOUR MAIN PRIZES for the Swindon Town Christmas/New Year draw. The prizes to be won are:

- First prize: £1,000
- Second prize: A weekend for two in Amsterdam
- Third prize: Tea for two at the Ritz and tickets for a top West End show
- Fourth prize: A years membership for 2

The draw for the remaining 30 runners up prizes will take place in the Executive Club at 5.00pm.

Haine & Smith

MATCH

Images courtesy of
the Evening Advertiser



TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR 1

SLABBER 85

SWINDON TOWN 0

The odds were stacked against the Town. Such had been the weather that they'd hardly had time to train (let alone play) leading up to the big game, whilst many of the squad were younger than their more 'illustrious counterparts.' With that said, Town gave it their all, impressed many and to be honest – were a credit to STFC.

However, Town's management duo of Viv Busby and Jim Fraser breathed a huge sigh of relief when Spurs failed to hit the target in their first attack – just 30 seconds had registered on the clock! From the kick-off, the home side attacked down the left and a curling low cross found Michael Malcolm whose shot fell the wrong side of the post for the home side. Then, on seven minutes, Malcolm was again at the centre of the attention as he fired just over following good interplay in the Spurs midfield to create space for the front man.

After an anxious start Town grew in stature and settled with controlled possession and showed some neat passing early on. The first opening came on eight minutes when Town were awarded a free-kick 40 yards from goal. Chris Taylor stepped up but his ball into the box flew over Paul Rutherford in the home goal and into the seats behind the goal. Steve Smith, the Town keeper, was tested on 11 minutes when a deep cross from Philip Ifil found Malcolm who's header was saved by Smith from under his own bar. With 15 minutes on the clock, Jamie Cheeseman made a solid run and earned his side a corner. However, the Spurs defence cut out the resulting centre. Smith did well again for Town on 20 minutes when he raced out to gather a long ball through. As Town began to edge more and more into the game, Jamie Cheeseman and Mark Draycott combined on the edge of the Spurs box but neither player could get a shot in. The closest either side came to scoring was just four minutes before half time. David Bampton conceded a throw on the right hand touchline and the resultant centre was allowed to bounce and caused some panic in the defence. Spurs did get a shot in but it was blocked and subsequently cleared.

Swindon Town emerged for the second half knowing that a similar display to that of the first forty-five minutes would give them every chance of gaining a positive result from the game. However Spurs were out of the proverbial blocks and put

together some flowing football in the opening exchanges of the second period. On 53 minutes the impressive Mark Yeates gathered the ball 30 yards from goal and his long drive fell straight into the arms of the waiting Town keeper Steve Smith. Town striker Mark Draycott was presented with a real chance on 56 minutes. Chris Taylor threaded a neat ball through to Draycott and with only one defender to beat, the ball ran away from the Town striker and the opportunity was lost. However, Town were beginning to grow in confidence and with Tottenham's finishing so poor – there was everything to play for. On 57 minutes Justyn McKay replaced James Hambidge and made an immediate impression. The newcomer picked the ball up 35 yards from goal and hit a long drive straight at Rutherford in the home goal as the game gained momentum. Minutes later the game switched focus to the Town defence. Luke Garrard, previously released by Spurs, was on hand to head away a deep cross from Ifil for a corner. The danger was cleared after a short corner.

Luke Garrard was commanding along with Dave Bampton in defence, Pook and Stroud battling in midfield and Jamie Cheeseman working tirelessly to pressurise the home defence at every opportunity. The hard work payed off when Town earned several corners and Draycott and Cheeseman were frustrated a number of times by the offside trap. At the other end Danny Foster picked the ball up on the halfway line and ran unchallenged, before unleashing a powerful shot which narrowly missed the target.

Controversy descended on White Hart Lane with just five minutes to go. A Spurs player seemed to handle the ball in the build up to a corner, before Malcolm crossed the ball and Jamie Slabber rose above the defence to head into the top corner of the net from 6 yards out.

Town powered forward in the final few minutes in search of an equaliser and into the two minutes of added time. The final chance came on 87 minutes when a deep free kick into the box was met by a Town head, but the referee saw an infringement on the home keeper and awarded a free kick. Town's chances of progressing into the Fifth Round of the FA Youth Cup ceased when the referee blew his whistle to signal the end of another gallant cup run.

TOTTENHAM: Rutherford, Ifil, Wettner, Tyrie, Foster, Dobson, Barnett, Yeates, Slabber, Malcolm, Black.

Subs not used: Noto, Eyre, Perry, Francis, Price

TOWN: Smith, D Taylor, Oliver, Bampton, Garrard, C Taylor, Hambidge (McKay), Pook (Lapham), Draycott, Cheeseman, Stroud. **Subs not used:** Bullman, Salter, Jones

MATCH

Images courtesy of
the Evening Advertiser



STOCKPORT COUNTY 2

LESCOTT 83, LAMBERT 89

SWINDON TOWN 5

PARKIN 7, ROBINSON 12, REEVES 74, HEWLETT 85, SABIN 90

How times change. Earlier in the season, when Stockport emerged victorious at the County Ground, Town couldn't buy a goal. On Saturday they bagged five of the best and to be honest - it could have been double figures.

Not only that, but Carlton Palmer's fortunes have also changed. The former England defender was outstanding at the County Ground, but at the weekend gifted Town with two early goals before substituting himself before having to endure a demonstration after the game, with 200 or so supporters calling for his head. Put simply, the home side were awful - no wonder that the fans don't approve of Palmer's management style - and it was an unchanged Swindon side (from the one that beat Chesterfield) that took a 2-0 first half lead. Both goals came in the first 11 minutes, the first following Palmer's misguided defensive header which went straight to Invincible. The Australian striker, having cut in and shot straight at the County defence, saw his effort find Parkin who slotted home from close range for his 18th goal of the season. As it turned out this would turn out to be one of Sam's quieter games, but he still did enough to grab his fifth in five games. The second came shortly after and again Palmer was at fault. Having failed to clear a bouncing ball County's hapless manager, caught out by the pace of Invincible once again, saw the Australian go past him before pulling the ball back to Robinson who fired home from 12 yards out - his first goal since the brace at Oxford.

Town were in control and after just eleven minutes - had effectively killed the game off. However, the danger complacency became evident soon after when Stockport nearly replied through Luke Beckett. Beckett, with 20 goals already this season, cut in from the right before rifling a low right footed effort passed Griemink's far post.

Griemink was called into action once again soon after when Gibb was released on the left hand side. The young winger broke free and sent a fierce shot straight at Griemink who, fortunately, pushed his effort away from goal. County did look dangerous on the break and on three separate occasions - pushed forward in large numbers. Griemink however was equal to the task and his saves kept Town's unassailable lead intact. At the other end Town could have added to their tally before the half time break. Invincible could have had two alone, the first when he narrowly missed out on Dukes' teasing cross before he found himself inches away from Parkin's cross-come shot, with the former Chelsea striker having rounded the 'keeper. Unfortunately Danny wasn't to find the net, but this was his third impressive performance of

the year so far. Long may it continue. Palmer's humiliating afternoon was complete when he dragged himself off the pitch in a bizarre substitution. Ironically it produced the loudest cheer from the home crowd and who knows - that could turn out to be Palmer's last game for the Hatters?

Fortunately for Town Stockport didn't come out with the expected onslaught at the start of the second half. However, Gibb really should have done better when he found himself in space inside the right hand side of Town's box. However, with just Griemink to beat - he dragged his shot wide of the post. Town capitalised and after an even, scrappy period of 15 minutes, it was 3-0. Marney, who was again impressive on the right hand side, sent in a near post corner to which Heywood duly flicked on to Reeves who volleyed home for his second of the season. Stockport pulled one back and not wanting to miss out on the goalscoring shenanigans - Gurney scored into his own net. A deep cross from the right found Lescott in acres of space at the far post and his volley was helped in by Gurney. Town were hoping for a clean sheet, however, a three-goal lead was re-established as Hewlett (yes Hewlett) added his name to the list of unlikely goal scorers. Nightingale, who along with Sabin had come on for Invincible and Parkin respectively, angled a great ball from the right hand side to Hewlett who was in acres of space. With just the keeper to beat Hewlett tucked the ball home with his left foot for his first goal since the 3-0 victory at Port Vale last season.

It could have been five soon after. Sabin, having broken free on the right, crossed to Nightingale who, with just the keeper to beat, hit his effort straight at the keeper from point blank range. And Town were punished immediately afterwards when, having backed off, the back three saw Lambert stroke home nonchalantly to make it 4-2 from just outside the area. The second goal in particular will leave King seething, for Town became complacent with five minutes remaining and Lambert's effort tainted what was a fabulous victory.

The icing on the cake however came in the last minute. Nightingale, who was lively since coming on (a decision on his future must be made this week) returned Sabin's favour by crossing to the Frenchman who only had the keeper to beat. From four yards out, Sabin slotted home much to the delight of the players, supporters and management alike. The goal had been a long time in coming - but it was well worth the wait and Sabin's finish not only sent the few remaining Stockport fans home in disgust, but also signalled the end of the game.

STOCKPORT: Lee Jones, Hardiker, Challinor, Palmer (Thomas 33), Pemberton (Lambert 73), Gibb, Goodwin, Lescott, Ellison, Beckett, Daly. **Subs not used:** Spencer, Fradin, McLachlan.

TOWN: Griemink, Gurney, Heywood, Reeves, Marney, Hewlett, Miglioranza, Duke, Robinson, Invincible (Sabin 75), Parkin (Nightingale 81). **Subs not used:** Farr, Edds, Willis.

MATCH

Image courtesy of
Action Images - the picture
says it all!



SWINDON TOWN 1

MIGLIORANZI 20

BLACKPOOL 1

TAYLOR 61

Andy King kept faith with the same starting eleven that hit five past Stockport at the weekend. With Dean Marney and David Duke as the wingbacks, Town were expecting to attack the visitors from the off.

The game started with the Town End in full voice — cheering Alan Reeves' every touch and anticipating an entertaining game, and on seven minutes Bart Griemink had to be alert as he raced out of his area to clear the danger from the oncoming Blackpool striker Richard Walker. On 12 minutes two successive crosses from Paul Evans were not met by his teammates. Seven minutes later and a great ball through from Steve Robinson was just short of finding Invincible as the ball was just cut out by the Blackpool defence.

The moment all Town fans had been waiting for came on just twenty minutes. A ball from midfield was picked up by Stefani Miglioranzi as he turned towards goal. The New Yorker took a few touches before cutting inside, he then curled a delightful low shot into the bottom left hand corner of the net past keeper Phil Barnes.

Just two minutes later Griemink did well to clear the ball under pressure from the oncoming Walker on the edge of his box, the high clearance eventually dropping for Parkin who was frustrated as he tried to thread Danny Invincible through. Town were passing the ball well and looking confident and it seemed as if a second goal would be a mere formality. On 25 minutes a mistake in the visitors defence let in Invincible and the Australian shot first time, but the ball flashed just wide of Barnes' goal as Town tried to seize a two-goal lead. A minute later Sam Parkin picked the ball up with his back to goal before turning inside his man onto his left foot. He then tried to chip the Blackpool keeper and very nearly did so, Phil Barnes making a superb diving save away to his left as the ball seemed destined for the top hand corner. Soon after Dean Marney hit a clever angled cross into the box that found Parkin. The former Chelsea striker laid the ball off to Robinson who hit a fierce drive at Barnes which the Blackpool keeper tipped round smartly for a corner, which was cleared. Marney then foraged forward before unleashing a strong shot which was


turned away once again by the Blackpool keeper who was being kept busy by the Town.

As half time approached Blackpool were seeing very little of the ball with Town in confident mood. Three minutes before the end of normal time in the first period however, Bart Griemink was called into action to make a superb stop. A cross from the right was met by Richard Walker who edged in front of his marker to flick a header towards the Dutchman but Griemink turned the ball away well as Town went into the interval one nil up.

The second half started with the visitors taking control in a total reverse of first half fortunes. Blackpool took a stranglehold in the midfield with Town sitting back and the visitors looking the more likely to level the score than Town to score a second. Danny Invincible had a chance for Town on 54 minutes when he picked up a stray Tangerine pass, but could not hit the target as he shot well wide. Just a minute later, with Blackpool attacking the Stratton Bank, Richard Walker saw his shot well saved by Griemink to his left and away for a corner. The first moment of controversy descended on The County Ground when Danny Invincible raced towards the box and was seemingly chopped down by a rash challenge from Simon Grayson.

The referee amazingly booked Invincible for diving to the dismay of the crowd, who were expecting a Town penalty. Just two minutes later Invincible was again at the thick end of another Grayson challenge in the box. The referee once again waved away appeals to the anger of the increasingly irate and animated Town End. On the hour the visitors made a double change with Ben Thornley and Scott Taylor replacing Richie Wellens and Richard Walker. Striker Taylor made a telling first contribution as he notched the equaliser. A deep cross from Thornley was met by fellow substitute Taylor who headed in at the back post with Andy Gurney lying injured on the edge of the box, an injury that the referee Mr F Stretton failed to stop play for.

After the goal Blackpool continued to press with shots from Mike Flynn, Paul Evans and Scott Taylor all missing the target.

TOWN: Griemink, Gurney, Reeves, Heywood, Marney (Edds 89), Miglioranzi, Robinson, Hewlett, Duke, Invincible (Sabin 79),  Parkin. **Subs not used:** Farr, Willis, Nightingale,

BLACKPOOL: Barnes, Richardson, Flynn, Grayson, Coid, Bullock, Southern, Wellens (Thornley 60), Evans, Murphy, Walker (Taylor, 60). **Subs not used:** Jaszczun, Dalglish, Chris Clarke,

SWINDON TOWN 2

NIGHTINGALE, CROSBY

CARDIFF CITY 0

STFC line-up: Farr, Edds, Willis, Robertson, Halliday, Hughes, Edwards (Cobian), Herring, Nico, Nightingale (Young), Sylla (Crosby). **Subs:** Bulman

All fixtures are subject to change without prior notification

IN RESERVE



RESERVE TEAM FIXTURES 2002/03

SWINDON TOWN'S RESERVES RETURNED WITH AN IMPRESSIVE VICTORY AGAINST CARDIFF CITY LAST WEEK.

Despite the Bluebirds bringing a couple of first team players to the County Ground – goals from Crosby and Nightingale were enough to ensure three points. However, it was the visitors that enjoyed the best of the opening exchanges and Town had to be on their guard. Craig Farr, who went on to have an excellent game in Town's goal (despite the best efforts of Tottenham's players to injure him), was called into action early on and as Dimond latched on to a through ball, Farr advanced to prevent the forward from scoring.

The first real chance of the half came after 12 minutes when great skill on the right hand side by Mark Fenwick saw his cross find Chris Hughes just inside the box. Unfortunately Hughes could only hit the ball over the bar from eight yards out.

Craig Farr produced another superb save from Dimond on 21 minutes, Town's number two coming out to close the angle. Unfortunately that was the best of the first half action, the only other action coming by way of an injury to Farr. A crunching tackle left Farr writhing in agony – fortunately the injury was not too serious and he continued in the second half.

Ceri Hughes (trialist) was replaced at half-time by Alan Young who reverted to a free role behind the two strikers Luke Nightingale and Norman Sylla (trialist from Banbury United). After a further spate of substitutions, which saw Cobian and Crosby replace Edwards and Hughes, Town began to create more chances.

Town took the lead on 75 minutes when Neil Crosbys' cross was knocked in at the back post by Luke Nightingale, the striker grabbing his first goal since joining the club on loan from Pompey. Just seven minutes later Swindon doubled their lead with another well-worked goal. A low driven cross from the right by Gareth Edds was met by substitute Crosby who made no mistake in ensuring all three points. Overall an impressive victory for Town, that despite the cold weather and poor pitch, and Malcolm Crosby was happy with the result. "It was a solid display, some of the lads have been out of action for a while and they looked hungry. The younger lads performed to a high level and the trialists linked well." You can hear the full-length interview with 'Crozzor' on STFC World.

Wed 14 Aug	Wycombe W	Away	3-0
Wed 21 Aug	Millwall	Home	1-0
Wed 28 Aug	Cambridge United	Away	1-1
Wed 4 Sep	Peterborough United	Away	3-2
Wed 18 Sep	Luton Town	Home	0-4
Wed 2 Oct	Brighton & HA	Away	0-2
Wed 9 Oct	Bristol Rovers	Home	2-1
Wed 16 Oct	Norwich City	Away	0-1
Wed 30 Oct	Reading	Home	1-1
Wed 27 Nov	Barnet	Away	3-2
Tue 14 Jan	Cardiff City	Home	2-0
Tue 28 Jan	Southend United	Away	
Wed 5 Feb	Northampton Town	Home	
Tues 18 Feb	Brentford	Away	
Wed 26 Feb	Bristol City	Home	
Wed 5 Mar	AFC Bournemouth	Away	
Wed 12 Mar	Gillingham	Home	
Wed 26 Mar	Colchester United	Away	
Wed 2 Apr	Cheltenham Town	Home	
Wed 16 Apr	Leyton Orient	Away	
Wed 23 Apr	Oxford United	Home	
Wed 30 Apr	Portsmouth	Away	
TBA	QPR	Home	P-P
TBA	Plymouth Argyle	Home	
TBA	Crystal Palace	Away	

UNFORTUNATELY, AS A RESULT OF TOWN'S RE-ARRANGED FIXTURE WITH BLACKPOOL, LAST WEEKS SCHEDULED GAME AGAINST CRYSTAL PALACE HAS BEEN POSTPONED.



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

09068 121640

*Calls charged at 60p at all times

jungles
INTERIOR PLANT DISPLAYS

Living tropical plant displays
designed for business

Rentals
Sales
Maintenance

www.jungles.co.uk
email: info@jungles.co.uk
telephone: 01488 72321

The *Haine & Smith* **Player of the Month**

In memory of Rupert Smith



Congratulations to...

Sam Parkin

Winner of the Haine & Smith
Player of the Month award

Haine & Smith opticians have been looking after Wiltshire's eyes for over 27 years and have 19 local practices, including 3 in Swindon - one of which, Swindon Contact Lenses, can be found on Regent Street, in the town centre. For all your optical needs, simply log onto the website and find your local practice.

The Haine & Smith Player of the Month award has been kindly donated by Barry Smith, whose son Rupert tragically died in 2001. Rupert was a keen supporter of the club and attended as many games as possible.



SWINDON CONTACT LENSES

www.haineandsmith.co.uk

Haine & Smith
OPTICIANS

MATCH ACTION



SATURDAY 18TH JANUARY 2003

OXFORD UNITED 0

SWINDON TOWN 2

STROUD, BENNETT

STFC line-up: Matt Bulman, Kyle Lapham, Andrew Patton, Mark Jones, Aaron Salter, Kirk Willmoth, Matt Bennett, Ashan Hulgate, Mitchell Wyatt, Chris Zebrovski, David Stroud. **Subs:** Richard Alexander, Leigh Mills, Shaun Foley.

All fixtures are subject to change without prior notification

UNDER 17'S



UNDER 17'S FIXTURES 2002/03

AFTER AN ENFORCED BREAK FROM COMPETITIVE ACTION DUE TO THE BAD WEATHER, THE SWINDON TOWN U17 SIDE RETURNED TO THE FIELD WITH A LOCAL DERBY AGAINST RIVALS OXFORD UNITED.

The team put in a solid first half and had long spells of possession with some good passing play. With a number of the players having played at White Hart Lane the previous week, there was some experience in the side - not only that but some tired legs too.

Town took advantage of their possession and created lots of chances but lacked quality in the final third to turn chances into goals. The breakthrough however, came eventually thanks to some good work down the left hand side by Mitchell Wyatt. Wyatt pulled the ball back to David Stroud who put the Town ahead with a clinical finish in front of goal.

After going in one-nil up at the break, Town brought on 15-year-old centre-half Lee Mills as another illustration of the progression within the Swindon Town Youth set-up.

David Stroud was at the centre of things once again as Town doubled their lead. A strong run down the left hand side by Stroud saw the ball crossed to Matt Bennett who fired into the net past the United keeper.

"It was not the best of performances, but it was our first game back for a while and we were not expecting miracles from the lads," said Jim Fraser. "However the lads showed good attitude and that is what we are looking for. If they can play like that and still win then it's all credit to them. All they need to do is improve on their performance and they'll continue in the same vein of form," he concluded.

Sat 17th Aug	Oxford United	Home	5-0
Sat 24th Aug	Exeter City	Away	4-1
Sat 31st Aug	In Service Day		
Sat 7th Sep	Cheltenham Town	Home	4-0
Sat 14th Sep	Swansea City	Away	2-2
Sat 21st Sep	Cardiff City	Home	2-3
Sat 28th Sep	Cirencester	Home	10-2
Sat 5th Oct	Plymouth Argyle	Away	0-1
Sat 12th Oct	AFC Bournemouth	Away	0-3
Sat 19th Oct	Bristol Rovers	Home	4-1
Sat 26th Oct	Free Week		
Sat 2nd Nov	Torquay United	Away	0-0
Sat 16th Nov	Cirencester	Away	4-1
Sat 23rd Nov	Plymouth Argyle	Home	0-0
Sat 30th Nov	Bristol Rovers	Away	1-0
Sat 7th Dec	AFC Bournemouth	Home	
Sat 14th Dec	Torquay United	Home	
Sat 28th Dec	Christmas Break		
Sat 4th Jan	In Service Day		
Sat 18th Jan	Oxford United	Away	2-0
Sat 25th Jan	Exeter City	Home	
Sat 1st Feb	Free Week		
Sat 8th Feb	Cheltenham Town	Away	
Sat 15th Feb	Swansea City	Home	
Sat 22nd Feb	Cardiff City	Away	

HOME MATCHES KICK-OFF AT 11.00AM AT KING EDWARDS PLACE, WANBOROUGH

MATCH ACTION



SATURDAY 18TH JANUARY 2003

SWINDON TOWN 2

MARK DRAYCOTT 2

CHELTENHAM TOWN 0

STFC line-up: Steve Smith, Danny Taylor, Ian Oliver, Ian Herring, Luke Garrard, Dave Bampton, Michael Pook, Justyn McKay, Mark Draycott, Jamie Cheeseman, Chris Hughes, Leigh Henry. **Subs:** Lance Lewis, Harry Hambidge

All fixtures are subject to change without prior notification

UNDER 19'S



UNDER 19'S FIXTURES 2002/03

SWINDON TOWN'S UNDER 19S RETURNED TO WINNING WAYS AGAINST CHELTENHAM LAST SATURDAY.

However, having endured such a tough game the previous Wednesday against Spurs (both mentally and physically) - it was a hard fought win for Viv Busby's men.

After a good start it seemed as though Town had got the White Hart Lane defeat out of their system straight away. Yet despite taking a two-goal lead the final 20 minutes were hard work for Town - nevertheless, they still held on for a valuable victory.

Town started the game brightly and in the opening 45 minutes, had 85% of the play. They played some great football, coupled together with a large number of chances but it still took them until just before half time to break the deadlock. A well-struck free-kick from Mark Draycott took a deflection before finding the net - a just reward for the amount of pressure Town enjoyed.

And they started the second just as they'd finished the first - on top - and they soon doubled their advantage when Draycott seized on some sloppy defending. A Chris Hughes free-kick (straight from the training ground) wasn't cleared by the Robins' defence and Draycott was on hand to follow it up from close range.

Town looked as though they'd done enough to win the game, that was until the 70th minute when the exertions of Wednesday night began to take their toll. Add to that the fact that they didn't have a game before that for one month and you can understand their tiredness. With that said, despite growing pressure from Cheltenham, Swindon defended well and held on for three points.

Sat 17th Aug	Cheltenham Town	Away	2-1
Sat 24th Aug	Bristol Rovers	Home	0-0
Sat 31st Aug	In Service Day		
Sat 7th Sep	Cirencester		0-3
Sat 14th Sep	AFC Bournemouth		3-2
Sat 28th Sep	Swansea City	Away	3-2
Sat 5th Oct	Cirencester	Home	4-1
Sat 12th Oct	Cardiff City	Away	1-1
Sat 19th Oct	Torquay United	Away	2-1
Wed 23rd Oct	Salisbury City	Home	4-0
Sat 26th Oct	Exeter City	Home	3-0
Sat 2nd Nov	AFC Bournemouth	Home	3-2
Sat 9th Nov	Plymouth Argyle	Away	
Sat 16th Nov	Cardiff City	Home	
Sat 23rd Nov	Cirencester	Away	
Sat 30th Nov	Torquay United	Home	
Sat 7th Dec	Exeter City	Away	
Sat 14th Dec	AFC Bournemouth	Home	
Sat 21st Dec	Free Week		
Sat 28th Dec	Christmas Break		
Sat 4th Jan	In Service Day		
Sat 11th Jan	Plymouth Argyle	Home	0-0
Wed 15th Jan	Spurs	Away	0-1
Sat 18th Jan	Cheltenham Town	Home	2-0
Sat 25th Jan	Bristol Rovers	Away	
Sat 1st Feb	Swansea City	Home	
Sat 8th Feb	Merit Division Changeover		
Sat 15th Feb	Merit Division Changeover		

HOME MATCHES KICK-OFF AT 11.00AM AT
KING EDWARDS PLACE, WANBOROUGH



5 OF THE BEST

PLAYERS OUT OF WORK

Much has been made of the number of footballers without work at the moment - we feature five of the best (or worst - which ever way you look at it!), some of which you may remember. The likes of Bobby Howe, James Williams and Paul McAreavey it seems, are not alone...

5

GREGOR RIOCH

Son of former Arsenal manager, Bruce, Gregor Rioch became a professional footballer in 1993 and enjoyed a sound career in the lower leagues of the Nationwide. He played over 200 games for the likes of Peterborough, Hull, Macclesfield and Shrewsbury. However, despite being only 27, Rioch was released by Shrewsbury at the end of last season. Manager Kevin Ratcliffe informed him that he would not be receiving a new contract, despite being told three months earlier that he would be kept on. Rioch now works in telecommunications. He also coaches at Manchester City on Monday and Wednesday, whilst training at Northwich Victoria on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

4

JON MCCARTHY

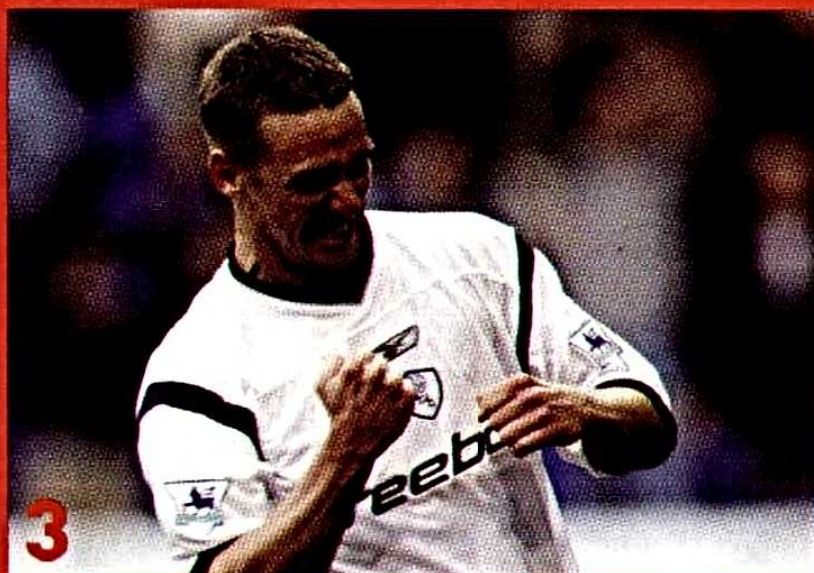
After his contract ended at Birmingham at the end of last summer, Jon McCarthy has found himself trying to earn himself a place at Third Division Carlisle United.

McCarthy came into the professional game late at 21 and progressed up through the leagues with Port Vale and after a number of valiant performances, moved to St Andrews in a £1.5 million big money move to Birmingham City in September 1997. McCarthy then emerged as a regular in the Blues side under Trevor Francis. His performances were recognised by Northern Ireland where he gained a number of caps. However things started to take a turn for the worst when McCarthy broke his leg three times the season before last. He has since had short spells at Doncaster and York and is now on a months contract at Third Division Carlisle.

3

IAN NOLAN

Only last April Ian Nolan was playing for Northern Ireland against Spain in an International. Now the 32-year-old former Sheffield Wednesday defender is training in the not so intimidating atmosphere of his local park. Nolan trains alone and cannot even carry out ball work, as he has no one to pass to. Nolan has played in the



Premiership for seven years and has 18 international caps for Northern Ireland. Yet he cannot find a club after being released by Second Division Wigan Athletic last April. Nolan's agent Gary Dickinson has written over 1,000 letters to clubs in England, Scotland, Europe and even the USA as he continues his fight to find his player a Club. He has played for his local non-league side Southport since the end of October but has not yet signed for another league Club.

2 RICHARD EDGEHILL

In 1992 fresh-faced defender Richard Edgehill made his debut for Manchester City in the FA Carling Premiership. A little over ten years on and the 28-year old is now without a Club having been released by Manchester City. Edgehill was offered a further one year deal, but turned it down thinking he would be offered a deal offering first team football at another Club. At that point, Edgehill had been at Manchester City fifteen

years, seen six managers come through the doors. After being released, Edgehill trained with Wigan and then Blackpool. Several Second and Third Division sides showed an interest in Edgehill but he remains hopeful of a chance to play in the Premiership or Division One once again.

1 SCOTT OAKES

Despite being one of the most highly regarded young players in English football in the early nineties, Scott Oakes is now playing football in the non-league and is working with a friend who is a painter and decorator. Oakes moved from Luton to Sheffield Wednesday and the move seemed to secure Oakes' future in top-level football. Oakes now turns out for Ryman Premier League side St Albans City. He trains two nights a week with them and a match on Saturdays. The money he receives just about covers his expenses in getting to and from training. Oakes says he continues playing football 'for the love of the game'.

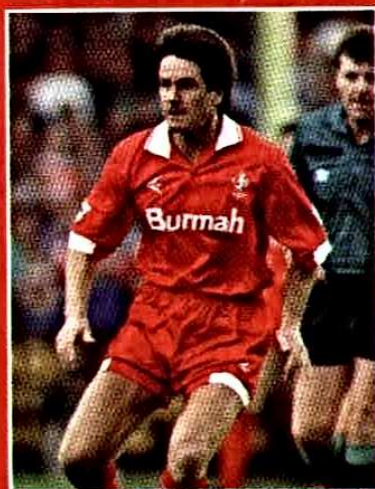
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Last Wednesday we saw Wayne 'The Chief' Allison and Iffy Onoura playing at Anfield for Sheffield United. The two former Townies were on show in the Worthington Cup semi-final against Liverpool - the Blades hoping to defend a 2-1 lead from the first leg.

Perhaps more topical was Terry Fenwick's first game in charge of Northampton last weekend, the former Swindon and Tottenham defender lining up against Mr McMahon when the Cobblers narrowly lost to Blackpool. Fenwick's side were unlucky to relinquish a one goal lead, but he is now looking to strengthen his side with moves for Trinidad and Tobago internationals Brent Rahim and Nigel Pierre. Midfielder Rahim, who has also attracted recent interest from Luton Town, has agreed to move from Bulgarian champions Levski Sofia. Fenwick is also tracking 23-year-old striker Pierre, who plays in the Caribbean for Joe Public and has scored 21 goals in 39 games for his country.

Also spotted last week was John Moncur playing for the Hammers in the 3-1 defeat for West Ham at Arsenal. As well as that we saw Graz back at the County Ground - he was present at Town's 1-1 draw with Blackpool on Wednesday night.

If you hear of any former Swindon players playing anywhere in the country, or the world in fact - then drop us a line at nickjudd76@hotmail.com.



CHELTHENHAM APPOINT GOULD



Cheltenham Town appointed Bobby Gould as their new manager last Tuesday. The move follows the club announcing that they were going to interview a four-man managerial shortlist as the relegation-threatened club looked to replace the sacked Graham Allner.

Steve Parkin, Roy McFarland, Alan Buckley and Luther Blissett were understood to be the four candidates being interviewed, although the former Welsh manager was appointed on Tuesday afternoon. A run of bad form has seen the Robins slide to 23rd spot in the Second Division. Just one point separates them from Huddersfield and Gould will have a tough task keeping the Robins up.



WHITLEY RETURNS TO CITY



Jeff Whitley has returned to Manchester City after his three-month loan spell with Notts County.

However, the 28-year-old midfielder has already been told he has no future at Maine Road. City supremo Kevin Keegan has made it clear the Northern Ireland international will never be picked for the first team. Whitley enjoyed a successful spell at Notts County and played in their 1-1 draw with Brentford. But he has not played for Man City since he broke his ankle early last season.



MAHON AGREES CARDIFF MOVE



Cardiff City manager Lennie Lawrence has confirmed that Blackburn's Republic of Ireland winger Alan Mahon will go ahead with his three-month loan move to the Bluebirds. The player is expected to sign towards the end of the week, meaning that he could still be with the Welsh club for their top-of-the-table clash with Wigan on April 26. Earlier, Lawrence had issued a Monday ultimatum for the deal, suggesting that Mahon's agent was keen on exploring other options. The Dublin-born player moved from Sporting Lisbon to Blackburn for £1.5m in May 2001, having been at the Lancashire side on loan since the previous December. Mahon, who has two Ireland caps (both in 2000), spent five years in Portugal after joining from his first club Tranmere Rovers.



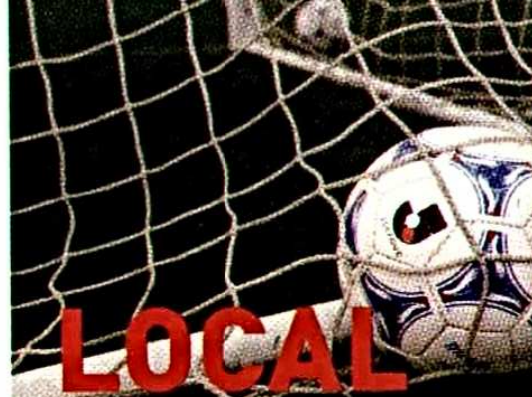
HENDRY EXTENDS SEASIDE STAY



Blackpool have extended Bolton Wanderers defender Colin Hendry's loan spell at Bloomfield Road for a further two months. The 37-year-old joined the Seaside just before Christmas after failing to force his way back into Sam Allardyce's first-team plans at the Reebok Stadium.

The former Scottish international is yet to finish on the losing side in four appearances for Steve McMahon's Blackpool side, the Tangerines embarking on a good run of form.

The defender is hoping to return from injury for Blackpool's game today having missed Wednesday's draw here at the County Ground.



LOCAL

FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Fairford Town were the highest scorers of the day as they hit seven past Wantage. A second half goal rush at Cinder Lane which saw six goals in the last 25 minutes. There was a hat-trick for Richard Watkins, as well as braces from Matthews(2) and Stoddart(2). Fairford boss Mark Webb said: "We couldn't string two passes together in the first half, didn't create a thing and got a bit frustrated. In fact if it hadn't been for a great save by our keeper James Price we could have gone a goal down at the break. We changed things about a bit at the break and after Neil Mathews' opening goal we played really well."

Elsewhere in the Hellenic Premier Division, North Leigh won 3-2 at Southall and in Division One Malmesbury Vics beat Middle Barton 1-0. Shrivenham lost 4-1 at home to Clanfield with Richard Tiling hitting the consolation for Shrivenham. Slimbridge lost out 1-0 to New College Academy in the Hellenic League in what was only Slimbridge's second defeat in 19 games. Highworth secured all the points over Pegasus thanks to a hat-trick from Justin Miller with a penalty amongst his goals.

Former Swindon Town Youth Goalkeeper James Bittner turned in another fantastic performance as Chippenham took a point from visiting Newport, who included defender Chris Collins in their side, who joined Newport on a permanent deal this week. Swindon Supermarine finally moved off the bottom of the league as they earned a 3-3 draw with Evesham United. Goals from Paul Hunt, Shaun Terry and Jimmy Carter. Supermarine moved off the bottom on goal difference and entertain Swindon Town on January 29th in the first leg of the Wiltshire Premier Shield Semi-Final at Huitts Copse.



IF EVER YOU NEEDED AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT COULD BE ACHIEVED IN FOOTBALL, THEN SURELY THE RECENT SUCCESS OF WIGAN ATHLETIC IS A PRIME EXAMPLE.

TODAY'S VISITORS

WIGAN ATHLETIC



JJB stadium, home of Wigan Athletic

THIS SEASON

Ins: Nicky Eaden (Birmingham), Richard Edgehill (Man City), Dave Beasant (Bradford City)

Outs: Ian Nolan (Southport)

Odds for promotion: 5/4
(odds courtesy of www.swindonbet.co.uk)

Last five games: www.wiganathletic.co.uk

TOP GOALSCORER: Ellington (11)

LAST SEASON

Position last year: 10 (Division Two)

Biggest win: 6-1 (v Stoke)

Biggest defeat: 1-5 (v Wrexham)

Top scorer: Andy Liddell 17

Most League apps: Arjan De Zeeuw 45

HISTORY BOOK

Formed: 1932

Biggest win: 7-1 v Scarborough
11/03/1997

Most capped player: Roy Carroll
(Northern Ireland: 9)

Most league goals: Peter Houghton
62: 9178/84

Biggest buy: Nathan Ellington
£1,200,000

Record against the Town:
Town Wins, 2, Wigan Wins 3, Draws 4

Traditionally a rugby area by its very nature, Wigan now boasts one of the most impressive stadiums in the country, as well as one of the most successful football teams. It's all a far cry from the days (which weren't so long ago) when the club played its trade in the Northern Premier League.

Amazingly, Athletic were still playing semi-professional football in 1978 after 11 years in the NPL. However, having already won the league twice Wigan registered their best ever record in the division and they subsequently applied to be elected into the Football League (something they had done, unsuccessfully, 34 times before). Thankfully Wigan polled more votes than Southport, thus sparking a return to professional football after an absence of 47 years.

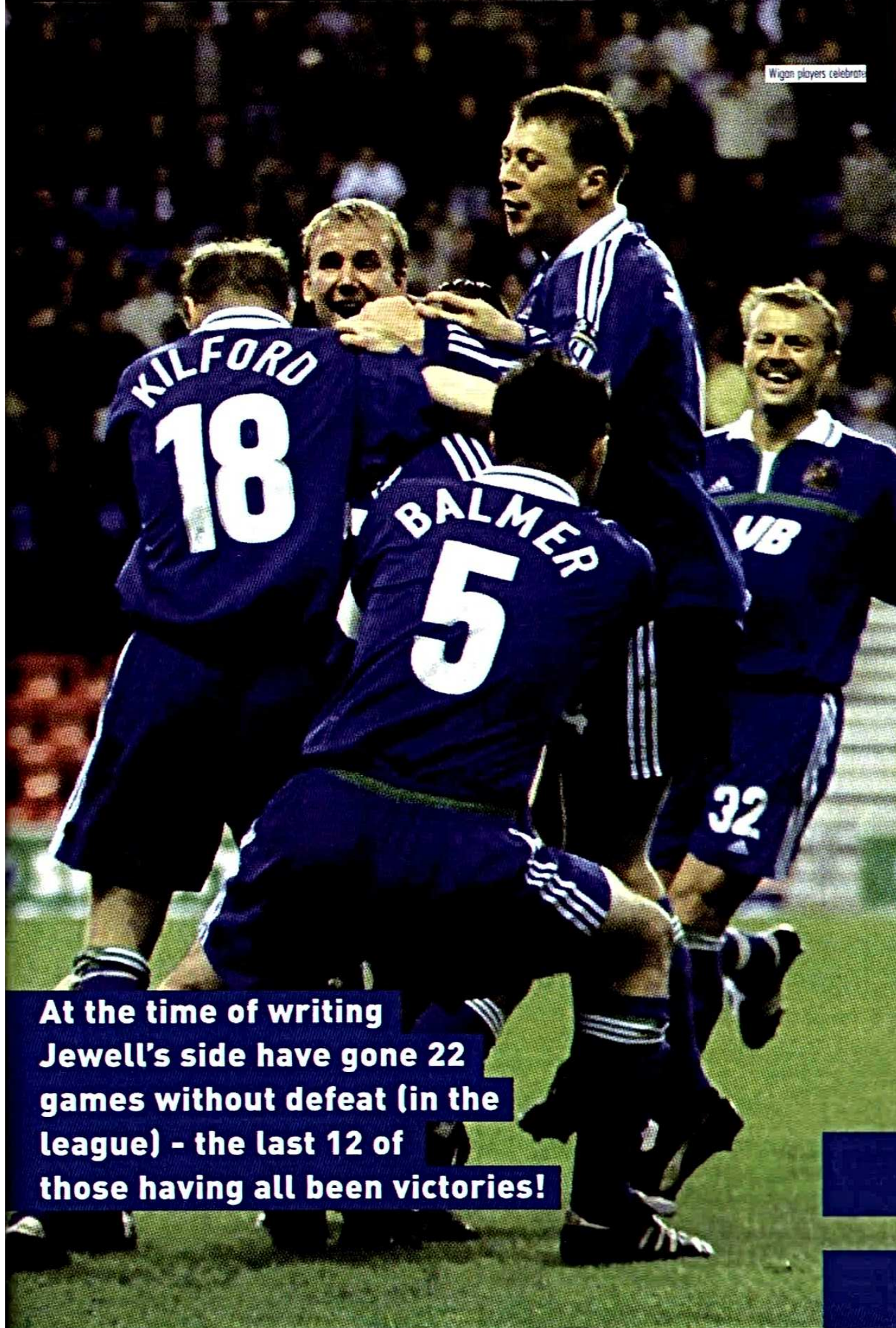
Wigan's return to Division Three was to prove largely uneventful - that was until former player (for Wigan Boys Club) and JJB founder, Dave Whelan, injected some interest (and much needed funds) into the club. The rest, as they say, is history - for the club now sits proudly at the summit of Division Two (following their eventual promotion from Division Three at the third time of asking under Bruce Rioch's watchful eye) with one of the most aesthetically pleasing grounds in the country.

Whelan successfully bought a controlling stake in the club in 1995 and, not content with taking over a football club, took over the local super league Rugby club as well and what currently exists is a sporting superpower that Whelan, and supporters of both clubs of the area, can be proud of.

Perhaps the only surprise is that Wigan's success in Division Two didn't come earlier - with Paul Jewell assembling an impressive squad (albeit an expensive one) at the beginning of last season. Unfortunately the early part of the Latics' campaign was fraught with inconsistency and under-achievement and a good run towards the end of the year proved too little too late.

The same cannot be said for this year however, for the club started the season with four wins from four games. Port Vale ended that run with a surprising 1-0 win at the JJB Stadium, but at the time of writing Jewell's side have gone 22 games without defeat (in the league) - the last 12 of those having all been victories!

Included in that incredible run was the two sides' previous encounter in which Gary Teale and Nathan Ellington contributed to a relatively easy 2-0 victory for the home side. Had Alan Reeves scored with a dramatic last minute volley Town could well have snatched a point - yet what was glaringly obvious was that a number of players would have to be kept quiet if Town were to win today's encounter. As well as Nathan 'The Duke' Ellington, who has 11 goals to his name, Andy Liddell will be one that Heywood and co. will have to keep quiet. Liddell, a regular fixture in Nationwide's team of the week, has 10 goals in his account and between them, Liddell and Ellington have struck up a formidable partnership. At the other end Parkin and Invincible will be trying to negotiate their way around Jason De Vos - a contender for player of the year already and a player that has succeeded where others have not - in keeping Sam Parkin quiet. Let's hope Town's goal-getter has a more fruitful afternoon today.



**At the time of writing
Jewell's side have gone 22
games without defeat (in the
league) - the last 12 of
those having all been victories!**

THE GAFFER



PAUL JEWELL

Paul Jewell became Wigan Athletic's third manager in two months when he accepted the offer to return to management at the JJB Stadium with the club he played for in the mid-eighties. Wigan is Jewell's third club as a manager, having previously been at the helm of Yorkshire clubs Bradford City and Sheffield Wednesday and the young Liverpoolian is determined to achieve promotion to Division One and match the ambition of the club's fanatical chairman Dave Whelan.

As a player Liverpool-born Paul began his career at Anfield before joining Wigan Athletic where he made 137 League appearances, scoring 35 goals. He was signed for Bradford by Terry Dolan in 1988 for £80,000 and fully justified his fee as he earned the tag of the 'complete professional' scoring 56 times during his 269 League appearances for the Bantams. Paul took charge of the Reserves in the 1996/97 season and was later appointed joint First Team Coach before replacing Chris Kamara as Bradford manager at the end of 1997. After that he joined Sheffield Wednesday before joining today's visitors in 2001.

Blackpool 2000- G170 W70 L63 D37
Swindon 94-98 G201 W74 L79 D48

THE SQUAD

JOHN FILAN (Keeper)

Australian goalkeeper who joined Latics from Blackburn Rovers in mid-December after both Derek Stillie and Stewart Kerr were forced out with injuries. Saved a penalty away to Reading on only his second appearance for the Club.

NICKY EADEN (Def)

Recent signing from Birmingham City on a free transfer having impressed during a month long loan spell at the JJB. He started his career at Barnsley where he stayed for almost eight years before moving on to St Andrews.

JASON DE VOS (Def)

The Canadian International captain, Jason is a tall and powerful central defender who signed for Wigan in July 2001 in a £500,000 deal from Dundee United. Started his British career at Darlington before his move north of the border.

MATT JACKSON (Def)

After a loan spell from Norwich City Matt joined the Club in November 2001 and slotted in to central defence. He is a former FA Cup winner with Everton and brings his experience and leadership to the Latics' back line.

TONY DINNING (Mid)

Dinning joined from Wolves for a then club record fee of £750,000 in September 2001. The fee could rise to one million pounds on appearances for the former Stockport man. Twice sent off last season against Wrexham and Canvey Island, he has the ability to get forward and weigh in with goals.

PETER KENNEDY (Mid)

Northern Ireland International who became Paul Jewell's first signing in July 2001 when he joined from Watford. A predominantly left-sided player, Kennedy was previously with Notts County.



**YOUNG GUN
PAUL MITCHELL**

(Def)

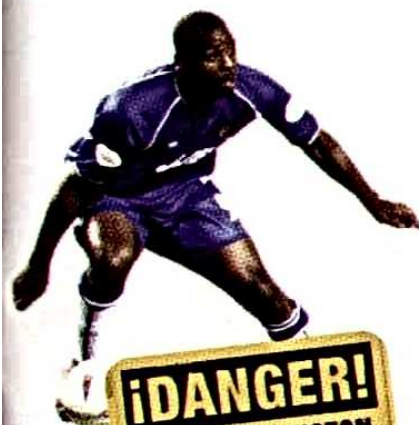
Manchester-born Paul is in his second year as a professional and made his debut as a substitute in the A.W.S win over Burnley in December 1999. He is a good footballing centre half or right back who looks to have a bright future in the game. He spent the last two months of season 2000/01 on loan at Halifax Town and was given a good run in central midfield at the end of last season.

GARY TEALE (Mid)

Right winger who joined Latics from Ayr United in December 2001 and has been almost an ever-present ever since. Shows great speed and scored his first goal for the Club during the away victory over Notts County in February.



Nathan Ellington holds off Blackburn's David Thompson.



!DANGER!
NATHAN ELLINGTON

Nathan arrived from Bristol Rovers on transfer deadline day for a club record fee of £1.2million. He shot to prominence when his hat trick inspired The Pirates to a memorable 3-1 win at Premiership Derby County in this season's FA Cup. Two goals in

three games at the end of last season showed the shape of things to come and he's already into double figures this campaign.

LEE MCCULLOCH (left)

Once the club's record signing at £700,000, Lee signed from Motherwell in March 2001 and made his debut at home to Swindon. A target man who has been capped at Scottish U21 level, McCulloch looks to have a bright future in the game. Scored his first for Latics in the away victory at Wycombe last season.

ANDY LIDDELL (right)

Hard-working striker signed from Barnsley for a bargain £375,000 in

October 1998. Spent his whole career at Oakwell and was part of the side that took Barnsley to the Premier League. Won 11 Scottish U21 caps, his father Gary was a professional with Grimsby Town in the 1970's. Andy won the 1999/00 player of the year award, voted for by the fans. Last season's top scorer with 18 League goals.

AND THE REST

Steve McMillan, Ian Breckin, Neil Roberts, Peter Kennedy, Mike Flynn, Dave Beasant, Scott Green, Ged Brannan, Jason Jarrett, Chris Lynch, Leighton Baines, Greg Traynor, Kieran Charnock, Ian Pendlebury, Paul Santus, Ryan Yeomans.

THEM AND US



Alan Judge.

Signed for Swindon by Lou Macari from Manchester United in August 1986, Mancunian Alan McLoughlin had served an apprenticeship at Old Trafford. Not many free-transfer signings mature into the sort of bargain that Alan was to prove for Town as he went on to complete over 100 League games and was credited with the goal which appeared to secure Town's first crack at the top flight.

Failing to take to the first team field at Manchester United, Alan didn't initially make his mark at the County Ground, being loaned to Torquay United for an extended stay in 1987 where he played in 24 matches for the Gulls. Back in Swindon Alan grabbed a first team shirt in January 1988 and didn't let go to the end of the season, impressing in a midfield featuring Tom Jones and Steve Foley. His ability to press up behind the front two and his willingness to carry the

ball into the final third of the field created chances that he was well equipped to take. His deflected goal past Sunderland's Tony Norman at Wembley in 1990 was denied its full significance, as Town's 1-0 play off final win failed to reap its reward through off field reasons, but Alan's disappointment was tempered by his immediate inclusion in that summer's World Cup for Republic of Ireland.

In December of that year Southampton came calling at the County Ground with a £1m cheque and Alan was to ply his trade at the Dell. Only 24 League games were to follow, surely a dis-satisfaction for McLoughlin, Southampton and the bank manager, and following a single ZDS Cup appearance on loan at Aston Villa Alan Mac made the short journey to Portsmouth, the sort of switch that never endears itself to supporters of either side.

Portsmouth certainly got a better return for the £400,000 that they invested than the Saints had managed for more than twice that, as he stayed at Fratton for eight seasons. With a total of 309 League appearances and 54 goals at Pompey, Alan also continued to impress on the international stage, collecting 42 full caps for the Republic.

On December 10 1999, Wigan gained McLoughlin's signature in return for £250,000. A canter to the Division Two play-off final six months later ended with the disappointment of defeat by Reading and twelve months later Gillingham inflicted further defeat, this time in the play-offs first round. During this time, he made less than 20 League appearances, culminating in his departure. Alert BBC TV viewers will have spotted Alan in recent FA Cup action playing for Forest Green Rovers where he is currently still

WHILST ALAN MCLOUGHLIN HAS PLAYED FOR BOTH SWINDON AND WIGAN, ALAN JUDGE CERTAINLY HASN'T. HOWEVER, THOSE OF YOU WHO WERE WANDERING WHO MR JUDGE WAS WHEN HE APPEARED ON OUR TEAM SHEET OVER CHRISTMAS - LOOK NO FURTHER, DAVE WALLIS EXPLAINS!

Town's Alan McLoughlin with Manager Ossie Ardiles celebrate with the Barclays League Division Two play off final trophy.

ploughing a midfield furrow towards the opposition's goal.

Town supporters could be forgiven for only recently becoming familiar with the name of Alan Judge. Emergencies filling the number one shirt resulted in goalkeeping coach Alan wearing the substitute keeper's jersey over Christmas to cover Bart Griemink. It might have been a welcome change from the training field where this Judge was now more usually found practising at the bar.

Born in Kingsbury in May 1960 Alan joined local club Luton, making his Division Two debut in a 2-2 draw at Newcastle in the last game of 1979/80. Future Swindon keeper Jake Findlay was ever present for the Hatters apart for that one game and Alan found first team opportunities limited, making just 11 appearances to the end of 1981/82.

September 1982 saw promoted Luton in Division One and Alan made a temporary switch to Reading, displaced regular keeper Ron Fearon and made an incredible 33 League appearances on loan. A 21st place finish in Division Four was a big contrast to top flight football at Luton, but Alan made his move to Elm Park a permanent one for the start of 1983/84 and played in the two League matches against Swindon which both resulted in draws.

Reading's third place, promotion-gaining finish was a huge improvement on the previous season and after just three games in Division Three, Alan's contribution was acknowledged when Oxford claimed his signature to make him a Second Division goalkeeper. Not gaining a first team shirt in United's championship winning side of 1984/85, Judge replaced Steve Hardwick on

Boxing Day 1985 to make his Oxford debut in a 3-0 home win against Southampton and retained his position to the end of the season. Playing in a side which included John Aldridge and Ray Houghton, Oxford claimed some major scalps despite an 18th place finish, notably 4-1 and 3-0 wins at Chelsea and Manchester City respectively and a last-match-of-the-season 3-0 home win against Arsenal.

At the end of 1990/91 after 88 League games at the Manor Ground and loan spells at Lincoln and Cardiff, Oxford were back in Division Two and Alan was released from his playing contract. Teaming up with ex-Swindon midfielder Derek Hall at Hereford, he dropped to Division Four where he made his highest club total of 105 games before the end of 1993/94 brought Alan's most recent appearance after 283 League outings.

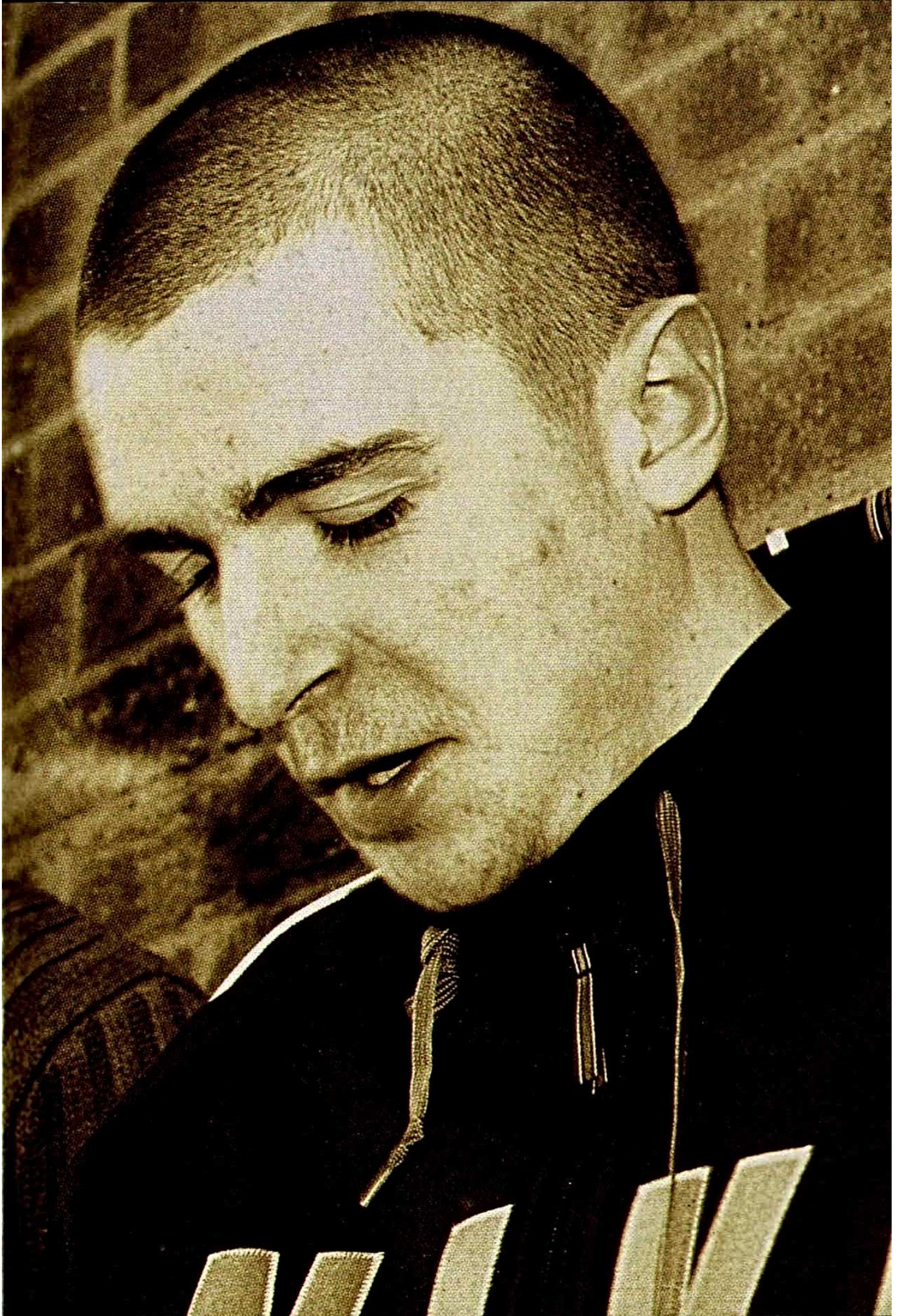
IT'S A LONDON THING

As Sam Parkin and Dean Marney talk amongst themselves for the purpose of this interview, the Cockney duo exude confidence. And why not? Both have contributed to Town's recent fortuitous run of form and between them (with just 39 of age), they have a wealth of experience already as Nick Judd explains.

Parkin joins the club from Chelsea having experienced loan spells at Wycombe, Oldham and Northampton to name a few. Marney on the other hand, whose loan spell runs out today unless Andy King can persuade messrs Hoddle and Gorman to part with their young starlet for the rest of the season, joins us from Tottenham's highly rated youth academy.

And their Premiership influence has been clear for all to see. Marney, who followed Johnnie Jackson up the M4 from North London, has been somewhat of a surprise since joining at the back end of last year. Few had heard of the youngster before he started at Wigan, yet such was his performance against the league leaders that he's been in the side ever since and on Wednesday, his first half performance was described by Andy King as exceptional. "I've enjoyed it to be honest. At Spurs I was playing reserve team football which, to be fair is still good experience because I'm playing with some great players - but there is no substitute for first team football and it's been a good learning process for me."







Marney is, by trade, a wide midfield player. However, in his brief spell here at the club he's played at right back and in a wing back role and has adapted accordingly, the sign of a good player you might say. Yet whilst there are many at the County Ground that believe he has the potential to do well (including Andy King) - there are those at White Hart Lane that have described him as the next Stephen Carr.

"We have the same hair cut and that's about as far as it goes I think!" He jests. "But to be compared to anyone like that is a compliment really. Steven is a great player and playing in a similar position - I like to watch and learn from him. Hopefully one day I'll go on to emulate his success - but at the moment I am just concentrating on doing a job here and giving 110% for Swindon - that's all you can do."

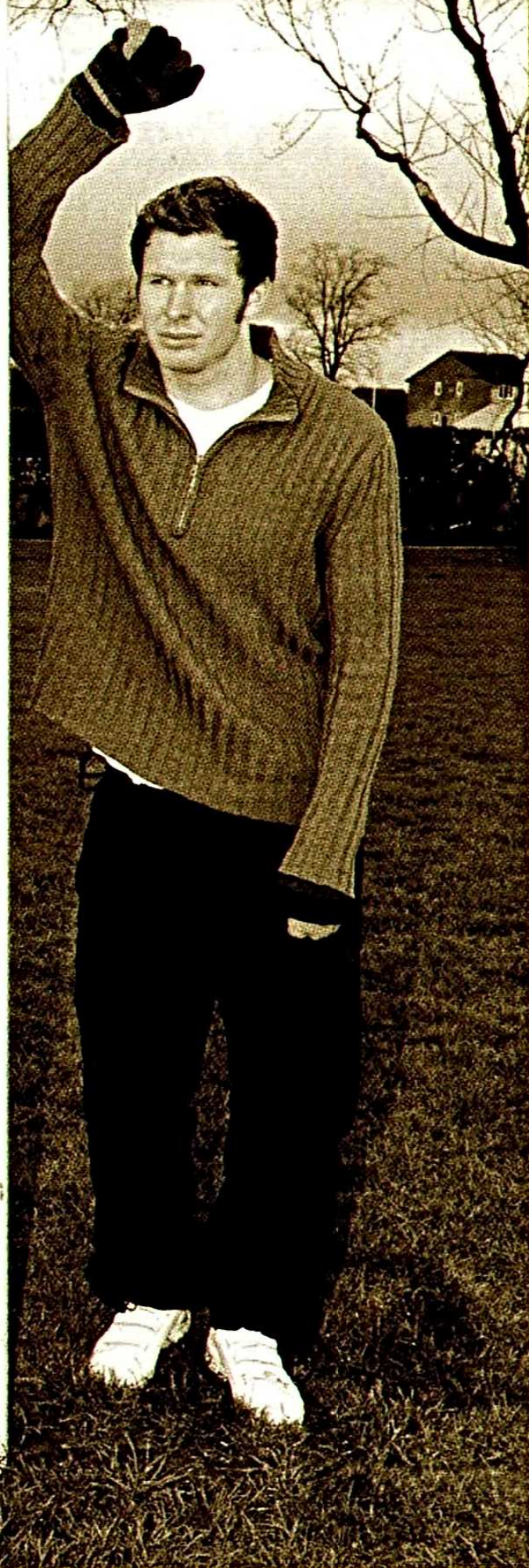
By the time you read this, Marney could well be on his way back to White Hart Lane. But (and let's keep our fingers crossed) if Andy King gets his way - the youngster will remain at the County Ground until the end of the season. "It's difficult, obviously my ultimate aim is to play for Tottenham's first team but I am still only 18 and at the beginning of my career and I'm enjoying my time here. I'd love to stay until the end of the season." As for Sam, well, there isn't much that hasn't

been written, said or quoted about our top goalscorer so far. The Barnes-born target man was a target of King's for a vast majority of the summer and since his transfer from the wealth of Chelsea's Kings Road - he has been nothing short of a revelation.

Parkin announced his arrival at the County Ground with a number of goals in pre-season, but endeared himself to everyone involved with the club with a devastating hat-trick against Barnsley on the opening day of the campaign. "It was a perfect start to be honest. You always like to make an immediate impression, but even I didn't dream of doing that!" he laughs looking back.

But it didn't stop there and at the time of writing, Parkin has notched 18 goals in all competitions - the last time any Swindon player notched 18 goals was back in season 1998/99 when 'Aye Aye' Iffy Oloruna bagged 20. However, we're still only in January and 'Super Sam' is eyeing a few more before the season's end. "You're only as good as your last game and so you just have to keep going. It's been a magnificent start to the season for me, I can't deny that I'm delighted with the way things have gone, but the more you score the more you want to keep on improving and that's all I can do before the end of





the season. "Such has been Sam's impact at the club that he has achieved almost cult status here in Swindon. Sam enjoyed similar treatment from fans from most of the clubs he's played at, although he admits that it hasn't always been plain sailing. "I remember getting slaughtered by one fan. I invited some mates to one particular game and they heard some comments from this bloke, many of which we couldn't print in this programme, but needless to say they weren't too kind! But on the whole I think I've done ok at most clubs. At my last club, Northampton however, I didn't enjoy it as much. I am a firm believer in that if you're happy in your life as a whole, you end up playing better on the pitch and for one reason or another, I just wasn't happy there - the travelling was difficult and I just didn't settle and my form suffered as a result."

Thankfully Sam seems to have settled in these parts and the fruits of his happiness have been there for all to see. "It's been a good move for me. Before I signed I knew a bit about the club and then I went on tour with the lads which helped me greatly. I got to know the squad really well, I enjoyed myself and felt settled immediately. Andy (King) has been good to me as well. From the off he made it clear that I was part of his plans and that helped, he believed in me and it's nice to repay him a little bit. As for the fans, they've been great. It's a brilliant feeling to have the fans shout your name, although I do get a lot of stick from some of the lads - but I can live with that! As for the drive (Sam commuting every day from London) I'm quite enjoying it. At the end of the day it's straight down the M4 and I often share a lift with 'Reevesy' or Dean."

As we delve further back into Sam's career we turn to the major influences of his life as a whole. As well as his parents - it soon becomes clear that one person in particular seems to have had a great bearing on his brief footballing days; someone he describes as a 'father figure', Ray Wilkins. In fact it was Wilkins that once said that it was "a shame to see him go," upon Parkin's departure from Chelsea. "Ray was good to me, he was a friend of the family and supported me from a very early age. To be honest there were a lot of people that helped me as a kid and it's thanks to them that I'm still playing and still scoring. Take Gianluca Vialli for example. He was a fantastic man to learn from and I had to clean his boots and stuff as a youngster. He was so methodical, knew exactly when he wanted everything done and I will always remember the way he conducted himself. He was such a good player too, but a lot of it was down to the way he carried himself throughout life in general."

Sam certainly seems to have a fantastic grounding - ideal for a successful career in football. However, for all his modesty there is an underlying sense of confidence and that can only be good for him (as a striker) and the team. "I think we can go on to achieve big things. I'm not saying we're going to win the league or definitely make the play-offs, but we are certainly capable of pushing for the top ten. We've got an honest bunch of lads here, you can see that from the way they've bounced back from the bad run earlier in the season and we are now playing in such a fashion that we will always create chances."

Marney agrees, for yet whilst he may have only been here for a short while, he certainly thinks that the squad King has at his disposal is capable of achieving things (and he should know, for he was part of the Tottenham under 18s that narrowly lost out to Everton and Wayne Rooney in the semi-finals of the FA Youth Cup). "It's been nothing but good times since I joined. Obviously we lost in my first game at Wigan but even then - I didn't think that they



were that much better than us. Since then we've drawn with Cardiff and demolished Chesterfield and Stockport and on the basis of our first half performance against Blackpool - should have won that too. If one of those penalty decisions came off for us then who knows, we probably would have won, but we can put that right against Wigan." Whether Sam can go on to emulate the feats of Vialli and Marney that of Steven Carr remains to be seen. In the mean time all they can do is to keep doping well for the club, Sam scoring goals and Dean preventing them at the other end and who knows, they may well have moved a notch closer to the big time (something they both crave) in the guise of this season's play-offs.



A WARM WELCOME TO TODAY'S SPONSORS, GREENHAM AND NEW MEDIA.

COMMERCIAL VIEW WITH MIKE SULLIVAN

Greenham, as I'm sure you're all aware by now, are regular fixtures here at the County Ground. They have 19 branches nationwide, with the nearest branches to Swindon being in Newbury, Oxford, Bristol and Cardiff. Their trade shops are open weekdays from 8.00am to 5.30pm, and on Saturdays from 8.00am to 12.30pm for all your 'One Stop Shopping Needs'. Experienced staff are always on hand to give friendly help and service for the vast range of personal protection, hose, ducting and accessories, contractor's site equipment/industrial cleaning, hygiene and maintenance products.

NEW MEDIA (UK)LTD have been working with Football Clubs throughout the UK since the demise of ITV Digital. Swindon Town FC were one of their first clients and they wish Mark Devlin and the team all the success for the future. With their own digital TV Channel now installed, Swindon Town FC have the technology to rival any Premiership team and the very latest news, views and results as and when it happens. As Oscar Wilde so rightly said 'We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking to the stars'

YOUR CHANCE TO COME AND SEE NOBBY

On Monday February 17 we will be holding another of our popular Sporting Dinners. Originally the guest speaker was due to have been Geoff Hurst, but due to FA Commitments in Australia he is now unable to make our date. However, the Marketing Department have worked very hard and are pleased to announce that Ex-Manchester United legend and member of the winning 1966 England World Cup team, **NOBBY STILES**, will be our guest speaker. The comedian on the night is **JIMMY BRIGHT** and the compere is the popular **BARRY WILLIAMS**. Ticket prices are £495 plus vat for a table of ten and individual places are £55 plus vat each. The price includes a three-course dinner plus coffee and mints. There are still tickets available to come and see **NOBBY** and if you wish to book a table of ten or individual places then contact the Sales and Marketing Department on 01793 333718/9 NOW.

BE A WYCOMBE VALENTINE !

Don't forget if you are looking to take your loved one somewhere special for Valentines Day then why not wait a day and come to our **VALENTINES DAY EXPERIENCE** on Feb 15th when we play host to Wycombe Wanderers? A really unique experience is guaranteed and the price is an excellent £75 per COUPLE. The price includes an excellent three-course luncheon and executive tickets for the game and the opportunity of meeting the Swindon Town Man of the Match after. We still have places available for this special luncheon, so if you want to gain some creep points and want to book your places, then contact the Sales and Marketing Department now on 01793 333718/9 now.



MOËT & CHANDON
CHAMPAGNE



MAN OF THE MATCH

DANNY INVINCIBLE

V BLACKPOOL 22.01.03



Pictured here is Danny Invincible in action. Danny was voted as Swindon's Man of the Match against Blackpool on Wednesday by Executive Lounge members. Danny has been in fine form in recent weeks and was unlucky not to get two penalties against Blackpool.

Moët & Chandon Brut Imperial is the most fashionable fizz, setting the trend and appreciated by those with an innate sense of style. A champagne for every occasion, Moët & Chandon is pale gold, mature and refined. A truly unique combination of a soft yet dry finish. Moët & Chandon's reputation for turning an event into an occasion is legendary – so feel free – enjoy!

THE PERFECT MATCH FOR ALL FOOTBALL LOVERS!

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR THE IDEAL OPPORTUNITY OF WINING AND DINING THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE ON VALENTINES DAY?

WELL, WHY NOT BRING THEM ALONG TO THE COUNTY GROUND AND BE PART OF OUR UNIQUE VALENTINES DAY EXPERIENCE AT OUR NATIONWIDE LEAGUE GAME

INCLUDED IN OUR SPECIAL VALENTINES DAY PACKAGE:

- A COMPLIMENTARY 'A LA VALENTINES COCKTAIL' ON ARRIVAL
- A THREE-COURSE LUNCHEON
- EXECUTIVE SEATS FOR THE MATCH
- HALF TIME TEA, COFFEE AND BISCUITS
- COMPLIMENTARY MATCH DAY PROGRAMMES
- A SPECIAL 'VALENTINES DAY' GIFT FOR THE LADIES
- PRICE PER COUPLE £75.00 (INC. VAT)



TO BOOK YOUR PLACES, RING THE SALES AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT ON 01793 333718 NOW!
REMEMBER – 'LOVE IS NEVER HAVING TO SAY SORRY!' (LOVE STORY 1970!)

SWINDON TOWN vs WYCOMBE WANDERERS

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15 2003

County Ground, County Road, Swindon,
SN1 2ED

Telephone 01793 333718
Fax 01793 333703
www.swindontownfc.co.uk

valentine's day

vs WYCOMBE WANDERERS

marketing department 01793 333700



KIT SPONSORS 2002/03



BART GRIEMINK

JEANETTE
LODEWIJK



MATT HEWLETT

THE EDWARDS
FAMILY



ADAM WILLIS

JOHN WARD
LONDON



ANDY GURNEY



GARETH EDDS

DJT
ENGINEERING



MALCOLM CROSBY

CMB
COURIERS
07799 888721



SAM PARKIN

K2



STEFANI MIGLIORANZI

OSS
CONSULTANTS



DAVID DUKE



ROCKIN' ROBIN

LUKE BACHHUBER



ERIC SABIN

THE COLLETT
FAMILY



DAREN DYKES



CHRIS COLLINS

IPC



DANNY INVINCIBLE



CRAIG FARR

HERITAGE ROBIN
IN CARDIFF



MATT HEYWOOD

VALE AND WEST
OXON SUPPORTERS
CLUB



ALAN REEVES

WENDY BEAVER



NATHAN EDWARDS

HARRY FITCHETT
& BRENDA
PEACHEY



KEVIN HALLIDAY

MARK DIXON



STEVE ROBINSON

GARY LANE
MACHINE TOOLS
01793 724514



ALAN YOUNG

JOHN YOUNG ENGINEERING
TOOLS & FASTENING
TEL 01953 700337
WWW.JOHNYYOUNGFASTENING.CO.UK



KEITH O'HALLORAN

CHRIS AND MAUREEN
KIRKLAND



ANDY KING

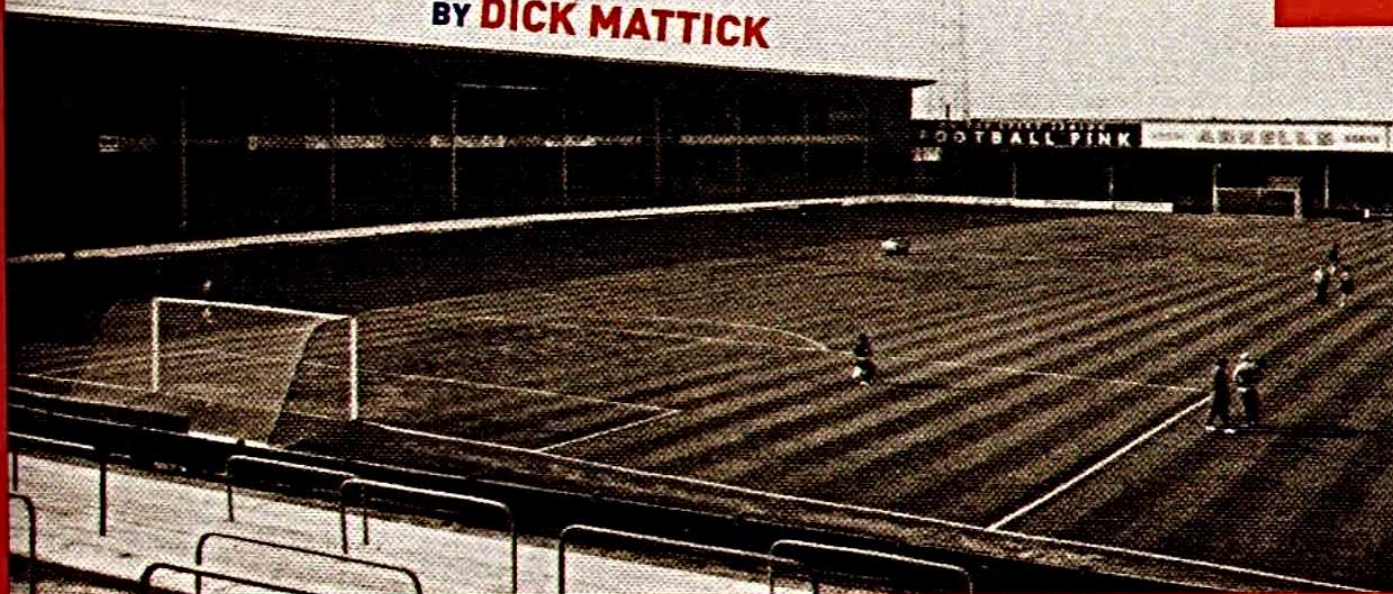


DICK MACKEY



FOR MORE
INFORMATION, OR
TO SPONSOR A
PLAYER, CONTACT
THE STFC SALES
TEAM ON
01793 333719, OR
FAX THEM ON
01793 333703.

BY **DICK MATTICK**



VINTAGE RED

DICK MATTICK TAKES US BACK TO THE EIGHTIES ONCE AGAIN AND IN HIS MATCH REPORT THIS WEEK WE HAVE A CONGA AND A 3-2 VICTORY. OVER TO DICK...

Two years ago the corresponding fixture produced a 2-2 draw with Mark Robinson and Gary Alexander getting the Town goals. Last year it was one goal a piece with Eric Sabin equalising minutes after Scott Green had put the Athletic in front.

Today's feature match took place on May 15, 1987. It was the first leg of the Third division Play off semi-final. The game started badly for Swindon when with only two minutes gone an unstoppable twenty yard effort from Chris Thompson screamed into the Town net. Worse followed after a quarter of an hour when the normally so reliable Fraser Digby allowed a free kick to squirm out of his grasp and Northern Ireland international, Bobby Campbell, won the race to the loose ball to increase Wigan's lead. Perhaps the key moment of the match came early in the second half. Paul Jewell shot from close range but the razor sharp reactions of Fraser Digby in goal blocked the shot and the quick reaction of Colin Calderwood in hacking the ball to safety kept the score to 2-0. Lou Macari's sides

were noted for their fitness and as the game wore on Swindon came more and more into the game and the benefits of the hard slogs up Liddington Hill began to show. Dave Bamber was foiled due to a fine save from Roy Tunks in the Wigan goal but three minutes later Swindon scored. Jimmy Quinn was put through on goal by a neat pass from Peter Coyne. Tunks dived at Quinn's feet and as the ball broke free Dave Bamber followed up to score. After 80 minutes came the goal that sent the Swindon fans that made up more than a third of the crowd dancing the conga. Steve Berry played only a handful of games for Swindon, but in this one he made a vital contribution to the club's rise. After a quick word with Jimmy Quinn he delayed his free kick until the tall Irishman was moving into the area and then hit a sweetly timed chip onto his head. Quinn met the ball on the move and headed it firmly home. The Robins were now rampant with Chris Kamara a dominating figure in the midfield. Two minutes from time, a Quinn pass found Mark Jones, once of Oxford

but now of Swindon, and curled in a centre from the right. Peter Coyne had once been rejected by Wigan, a decision they must have regretted when his slight figure rose to head home and gave Swindon an improbable 3-2 victory. The second leg ended goalless and, after three matches with Gillingham, Swindon won promotion to Division Two.

Wigan: Tunks, Butler, Knowles, Hamilton, Cribley, Beesley, Lowe, Thompson, Campbell, Jewell and Griffiths (Hilditch 90).

Swindon: Digby, Hockaday, King, Jones, Parkin, Calderwood, Bamber, Kamara, Quinn, Coyne and Berry.

Attendance: 6,718

Last Five Meetings:

Wigan Athletic 2-0 Town 28/12/02
Town 1-1 Wigan Athletic 16/03/02
Wigan Athletic 1-0 Town 01/12/01
Wigan Athletic 0-0 Town 03/03/01
Town 2-2 Wigan Athletic 30/09/00

442

**HERE WE ARE, ALREADY
APPROACHING THE END OF
JANUARY AND MORE
IMPORTANTLY, THE CLOSING OF
THE FIFA ENFORCED
TRANSFER WINDOW.**

After a slow start and a fair bit of posturing by the Premiership club bosses, the locks are finally off the cheque books and the moves, rumours, gripes, backtracking and intrigue remind me of an episode of Dallas! Here is a selection, which have caught my eye and imagination this week.

Robbie Fowler's decision to reject joining Kevin Keegan's revolution at Maine Road this week in favor of remaining at Elland Road should have done a lot to warm the hearts of the United faithful and perhaps struck a chord with money-sick football fans everywhere. Fowler's refreshingly loyal quote about "having so much still to do at Leeds" smacked of a determination to prove himself and not merely take an easy ride within the chances galore, gung-ho Keegan fold. Leeds fans had every reason to champion Fowler's decision. That was until Tuesday morning when the ramifications of Fowler's snub became evident to the Elland Road faithful. Despite promising to "not sell the family jewels", the Leeds board are reported to be prepared to accept Newcastle's bid (in the region of £10 million) for their controversial England centre-back Jonathan Woodgate. Venables has made no secret of his desire to conclude the deal for Brazilian World Cup midfielder Kleberson. As such, Leeds have reluctantly accepted the notion that - despite their past transfer policies reliant largely upon

by their participation in the champions League - another of their prized assets must leave to fund additions to their squad. Fowler's snub to City means Woodgate could be next out the door. With Olivier Dacourt, Robbie Keane, Rio Ferdinand and Lee Bowyer's departures still raw in the mind of Leeds fans, their admiration for loyalty and tolerance will certainly be put to the test again in the coming week or so.

The Fowler/Woodgate issue could leave Steve Bruce plans in tatters. Arsenal centre-back Matthew Upson - Arsene Wenger's first signing for the Gunners - was forced to rethink his choice of club after a £3 million deal to take him to Birmingham City was hijacked by none other than Terry Venables. El Tel has identified the giant former England U21 star as the ideal replacement for Woodgate. Upson, who had recently completed an impressive loan spell at resurgent Reading, has become disillusioned by lack of first team opportunities in North London. Bruce had hoped a deal for Upson would be the perfect follow-up to his capture of former French International Christophe Dugarry on loan from Bordeaux. Dugarry, on World cup duty with the French squad last summer, announced his arrival at St. Andrews with two highly impressive performances against Blackburn and Arsenal.

Fresh from the Fowler rebuff, reports suggest that Manchester City have bounced back to find a perfect alternative - former Nottingham Forest and Celtic striker Pierre van Hooijdonk. The lanky Dutchman had left England for Feyenoord under a cloud of controversy following his one-man strike whilst at Forest in 1999. Keegan would have no problem pairing the controversial star with temperamental Nicolas Anelka, having successfully managed the French. The two outspoken, yet prolific goalscorers would certainly ensure sparks fly at Main Road in 2003!

Former QPR and Newcastle striker 'Sir' Les Ferdinand has completed his switch from Tottenham to West Ham for an undisclosed fee. The 36-year-old striker has signed for the Hammers until the end of the season to provide the goal-shy hammers with some much needed depth and experience up front. Injuries to Paolo di Canio and Freddie Kanoute had left Glen Roeder with talented youngster Jermaine Defoe and defender Ian Pearce as his makeshift strike force. Ferdinand enjoyed his best season at Tottenham last term, notching 15 goals in 33 appearances.

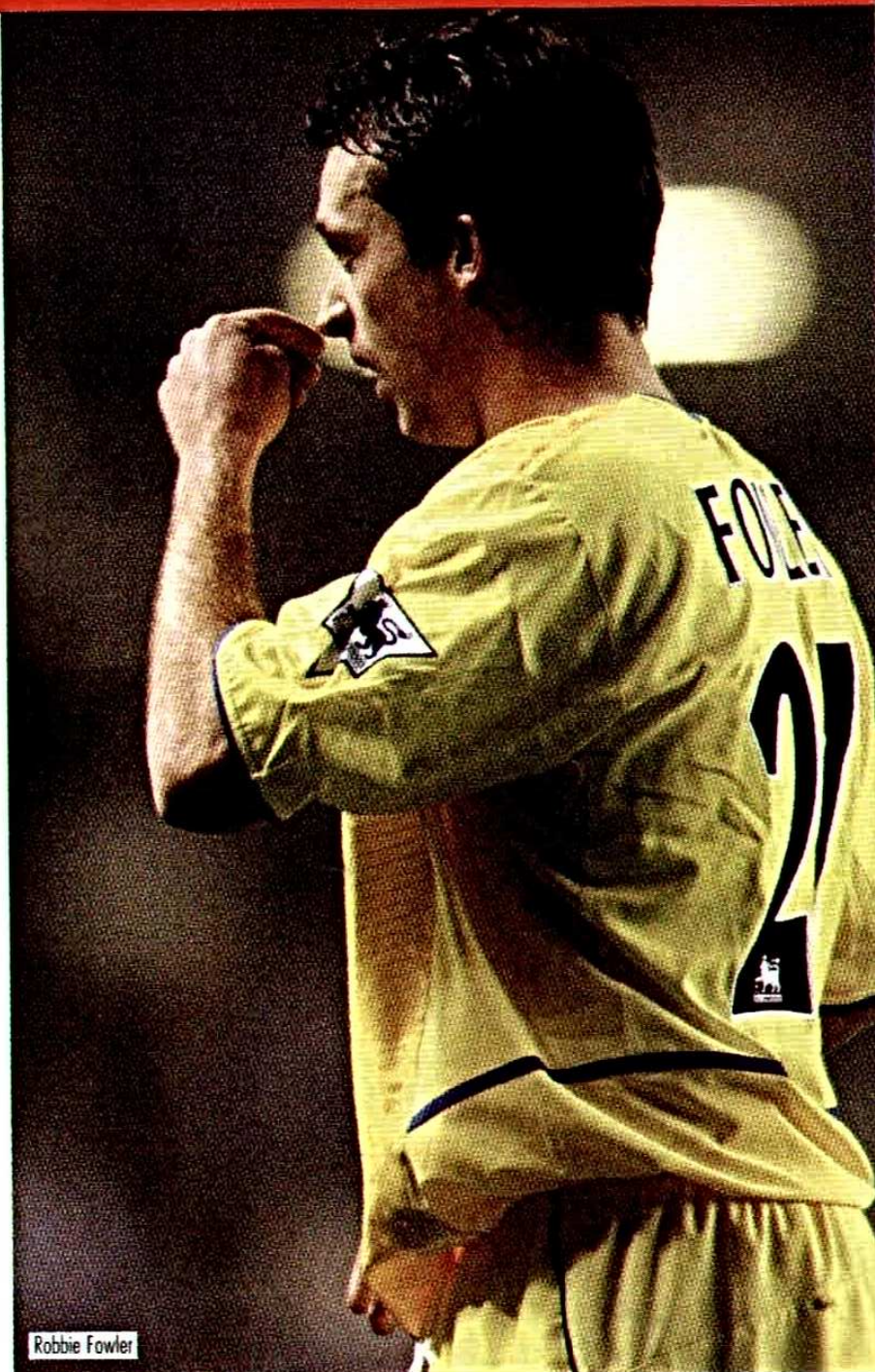
Is Sir Les making way for a certain incoming striker of similar physical nature and playing style? I'll leave that one for the tabloids to chew over because meanwhile...

Following incessant rumors of a move to Tottenham, Bolton Wanderers have accepted a transfer request from their England international striker Michael Ricketts. The 24-year-old, who won his only cap last February, has been the subject of intense speculation since the transfer window re-opened on New Year's Day. A Bolton statement on their official website read "We are very disappointed that Michael has decided to take this course of action, particularly after all the hard work we have invested in him since his arrival from Walsall." Bolton have so far rejected only player-exchange deals from Spurs for the powerful Ricketts, with boss Sam Allardyce holding out for a cash only £6 million fee and blaming the 'Dirty Tricks Brigade' at White Hart Lane for unsettling one of his star assets.

Liverpool have rejected a loan deal from Turkish giants Galatasaray for their flamboyantly follicled Portugal international defender Abel Xavier. The £800,000 signing from rivals Everton has struggled with injury and illness this term and boss Gerard Houllier is said to be prepared to accept only a permanent deal for a player who has recently returned to the first-team fold.

Aston Villa's record £9.5 million signing Juan Pablo Angel has asked to be allowed to leave the club before the transfer window closes at the end of January. Angel has scored just 20 times since his protracted big money move from Argentinean side River Plate in January 2001 and has recently been frozen out of the squad. After the 1-0 home defeat by Spurs last weekend, Angel's frustrations appeared to have got the better of him when speaking to the Birmingham Evening Mail; "I feel it would be in the best interests of myself and the club to move on. It is clear I am not in the manager's plans,"

Finally, one youngster who has definitely ruled out a move is Everton striker and current Young Sports Personality of the Year, Wayne Rooney. The seventeen-year-old front man has ended speculation surrounding his future by agreeing a new contract with the Toffees that commits him to the Liverpool club until the end of the 2005-06 season. Rooney has been a revelation in his first season as a professional since making his first team debut in August and is already tipped for full international honours at some stage in 2003.



Robbie Fowler



Brian Clough



The latest issue of FourFourTwo is on sale now, priced £3.30

FREEPHONE DEBIT BETTING

from *Stanley Racing*

INSTANT DEBIT BETTING

FREEPHONE 0808 100 1221

Minimum investment per call is £5.00. Over 18's only.

Visit our Betting Kiosks which are located at the Arkle Stand and Nationwide Stand

Bets available include:

First Goalscorer Correct Score Double Result Football Coupons

Local Shop Addresses:

115 Cricklade Road, 24 Manchester Road,
Groundwell Road, 8 Rodbourne Road.

(Winnings can be collected from any of our shops)



WYVERN STAFF AGENCY

vacancies

accountancy

commercial

industrial

technical

www.wyvernstaff.co.uk

WYVERN STAFF AGENCY

URGENTLY require...

Production staff to work at South Marston Car Plant

Must be over 18 years - Permanent positions
call or visit our website for further details!

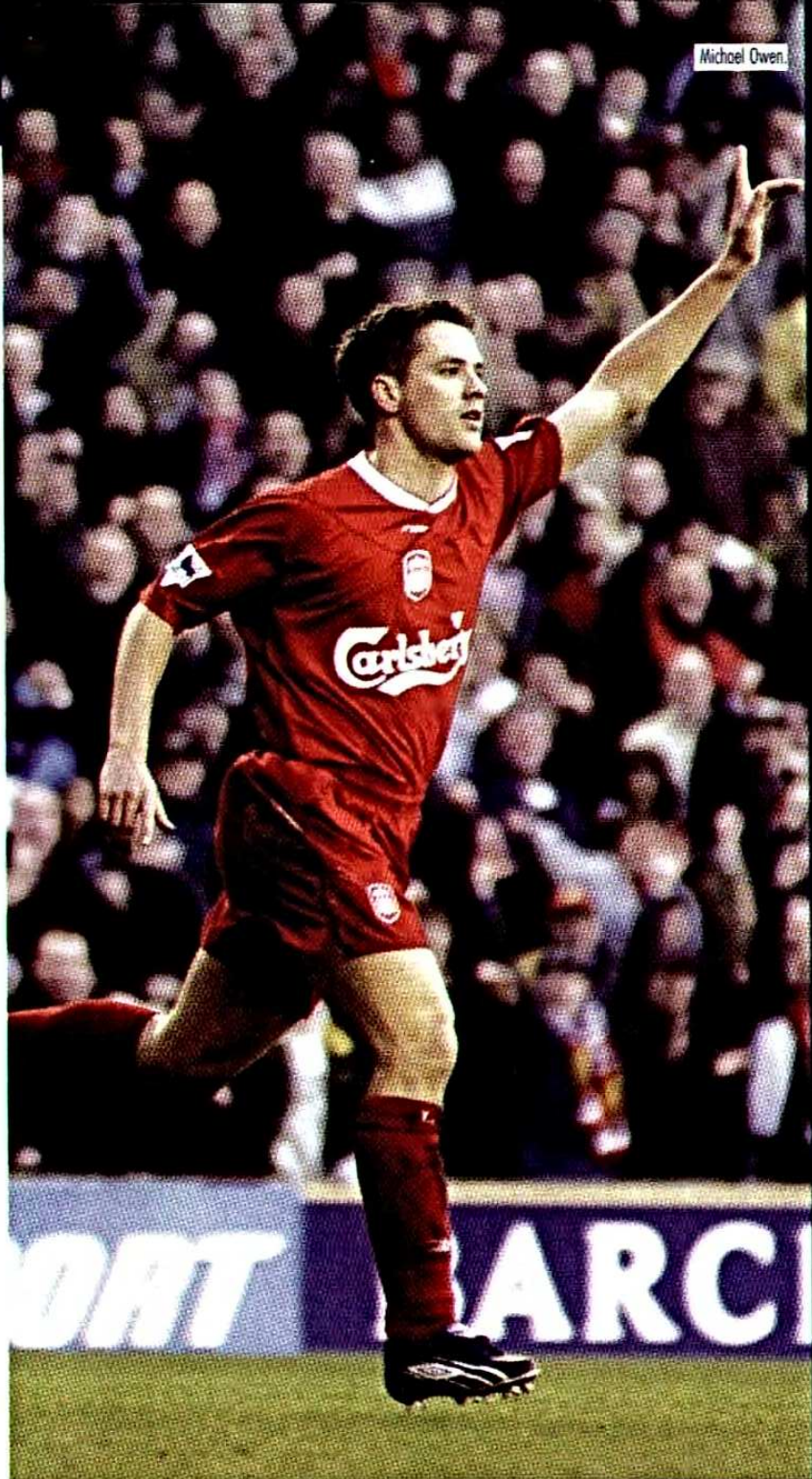
WE'VE MOVED!
You can now find us at:

45-46 Commercial Rd
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN1 5NX

Tel: (01793) 513363
Fax: (01793) 488535

Does it really matter if Michael Owen, one of the brightest stars in recent footballing history, spends time placing bets on four-legged animals running round a track? Does it matter if he loses money to the bookies and to other people who happen to be fellow team-mates? Is he such a bad man for spending his own hard-earned cash the way that he wants to?

Owen himself, has come out and refuted the sums quoted in last weekend's papers as to how much he lost to England team-mates during the six weeks they spent together last summer for the World Cup. One Sunday paper put the tidy sum the Liverpool star is said to have lost betting on horses at £130,000, but also said that over the last three years he has placed bets amounting to £2.2 million. If this is to be believed, (and emphasis here is on the word 'if'), then by my calculations, he has only lost about six per cent of the total sum of his wagers. So actually, some would say he's done pretty well. Hardly anyone makes money gambling. To make money, there are other investments one can make such as houses, stocks and shares, and even then you could lose more than six per cent! In any case, let's look at this carefully as it seems not to really matter how much Owen has bet over the years as either way, the papers have had a field day. Has Owen admitted to a problem with gambling and could he stop if he wanted to? Well, he has not come out and said this as such. It is not a problem, just something he does in his own time. He has said he's gambled occasionally and the figures blurted around are nowhere near. Also, has he broken any laws as I do not recall footballers betting on horses being against FA regulations? Last time I looked, as long as footballers did not bet on the outcome of football games they could influence, then Owen has done absolutely nothing wrong. He may have tarnished his squeaky



HELEN WINGROVE



BBC RADIO SWINDON

clean appeal to the marketing men, but apart from that, can we just leave him alone? It's not as though he has a drink or drugs problem? And if he did, I think we'd have known about it by now

with the type of press we have in the UK. He's a millionaire, an adult and just happens to play football (quite well). Let him do with his cash what he pleases. Now where's my form book....



CLASSIC DERBIES

Over the last eight years meetings between Manchester United and Liverpool have arguably become the biggest game in English football. The games between these two clubs have, in many ways, outdated the rivalry witnessed in local derby games involving the top teams in the Premiership. Whilst many Everton fans, and perhaps Liverpool ones would perhaps disagree strongly with this statement for most Manchester United fans, its truth is unquestionable. Over the last decade games between Man Utd and Liverpool have been full of passion, skill, excitement and incident. Championships and FA Cups have been decided by the results and both teams have made sure that they have provided the fans with matches of real emotion and enthusiasm. For many Manchester United fans these fixtures have become more important than any game against their local rivals

Manchester City. Since the relegation of Manchester City from the Premier League in 1996, their age old rivalry has in many ways been discarded and replaced with a newer, slicker, and generally more modern model.

For many the Manchester derby used to be the most important game in British football, matching the passions and excitements of any other derby witnessed in England. Derbies between the two clubs were steeped in history, memories and controversy. It had all the ingredients of any great derby. The city of Manchester, always split by contours of wealth, was divided between those who supported Man City in one area and those who supported Man Utd in another. Like other great rivalries, it began as a story of rich against poor. Antagonisms of race and class dominated the terraces. Two of the oldest clubs in football, for

100 years they remained two of the most successful, constantly competing for success and silverware. The clubs have had such close connections that, in spite of the rivalry, there has always been a lot of movement between the two teams. In 1934 Matt Busby lifted the FA Cup for Manchester City, going on to become the most successful manager in Man United's history (until Alex Ferguson). In 1974 Denis Law, the greatest goalscorer in United's history and then appearing for Man City, back-heeled his former club and manager to relegation. More recently Eric Cantona, perhaps the one player most responsible for Man Utd's recent period of domination, was said to have believed that he was signing for City when he went to Manchester to meet Alex Ferguson.

Yet in recent years this has all changed. In Manchester, the Manchester derby is

BEN LEACH RETURNED FROM EGYPT IN ONE PIECE AND TRAVELLED SOMEWHERE CLOSER TO HOME FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS WEEK'S DERBY. TODAY IT'S MANCHESTER UNITED V MANCHESTER CITY.

Keane and Haaland do battle

not the big rivalry. The big rivalry takes place against a team 50 miles outside of Manchester. Undeniably, the absence of City from the top flight has not helped to intensify feelings between the two clubs. Indeed, ever since the early nineties when Man Utd won their first title there was such a difference in quality between the two sides that it became difficult to compare them. Whilst Man City have been yo-yoing from one division to the next, Man Utd have been consolidating their superiority in the Premiership. Many would argue that City's absence, whilst costing City between £40 and £50 million, according to Chairman David Bernstein, has actually been beneficial for Man United. The absence of a local team to rival and compete with them has meant that Man Utd fans can concentrate solely on league positions. The rivalry towards Man City, a team consistently below them in the league

table, has been replaced with a rivalry between the teams challenging them for the title. In the past decade Man United's biggest rivals have probably been Liverpool, Arsenal and Chelsea. Even Andy Mitten, editor of the United fanzine United We Stand admits that City are no longer their biggest rivals "Behind Liverpool I'd say they [Man City] are our biggest rivals".

Although it is clear that the rivalry doesn't mean as much as it used to it is a game that the fans still look forward to, and it is of course a game that matters. The 3-1 defeat of Man Utd by City earlier this season has since become the turning point for Man Utd's season. After the defeat, which typified a complacency that had been there all season, Man Utd went on to a nine match winning streak, their best form of the season. The result, and the performance, was also symbolic of

the two sides attitudes towards the derby. Recent games have been dominated by private affairs and personal vendettas. The feud between Roy Keane and Alfe Inge Haaland, catapulted into the public eye following the recent release of Roy Keane's autobiography, is a perfect example. The potential for a huge on-pitch dispute brought spice to the fixture. Keegan and Ferguson's relationship also added interest, and the result meant that Keegan couldn't stop smiling for days after the game. However these disputes all lie outside of the Utd-City rivalry and will continue wherever the individuals involved go. Perhaps it epitomises the state of the rivalry to say that the events that have really brought interest to the fixture are all external. They concern individual players and managers and involve a dispute that goes beyond the confines of the Manchester derby.

My joy in seeing the boys tear Stockport County to shreds was in stark contrast to the black cloud hanging over the 'home' section of the press box at Edgeley Park.

For some inexplicable reason, the chaps from the Stockport paper and local radio didn't seem terribly impressed when, on 11 minutes, I informed that they had witnessed Steve Robinson's first goal for almost two years. 'That's just b****y typical' came the reply.

You can imagine their reaction when I later pointed out that a Matty Hewlett goal was about as rare as the appearance of Haley's comet. The name of the 'almighty's' son was used in vain with a couple of Anglo Saxon expletives thrown in. Needless to say our 5-2 win did not go down well at Edgeley Park. Still, I don't think anyone from Wiltshire was complaining.

Andy King sympathised with Carlton Palmer's plight at full time as home fans roared for his head. It doesn't seem so long since the Town boss was in exactly the same plight. But opposing managers are probably starting to dread the visit of Town. Huddersfield's Mick Wadsworth found himself the target for supporters' wrath after our win at the McAlpine in November and now Palmer. Barnsley's Glynn Hodges must be positively shuddering at the thought of our trek north next week.

But before we start causing havoc (let's hope so at least) on another away day, there is the small matter of today's home clash with Wigan Athletic. It seems ridiculous to be playing them so soon after our trip to the JJB Stadium but that's the football fixture computer for you. The Latics are running away with the Second Division but hopefully the boys can put at least a small dent in their charge for the title. No-one could argue with the fact that Wigan deserved their 2-0 win last month but it could have been a very different story if Reeves's late volley had found the net rather than a defender's head. But hopefully we go into this game still undefeated since our visit to the JJB. Steve McMahon's Blackpool were due at the County Ground on Wednesday night. Let's hope he went home feeling utterly miserable. Away from the County Ground, Michael Owen's



Carlton Palmer

JON RITSON



EVENING ADVERTISER

gambling habits seem to be dominating the football headlines. Although his losses are 'only' reported to be £30,000-£40,000 in relation to his multi-million pound annual earnings, it's still pretty distasteful to people who take years to earn the amounts being frittered away. Still, I've only got a bee in my bonnet about this because a racing tip received the other

day failed to yield the desired result and I lost a whole pound! Anyway, get behind the boys today (hopefully there are a few more bums on seats today thanks to the reduced ticket prices in operation) and roar them on to victory. If I don't see you at either Barnsley or Tranmere, it's back here on February 15 for the visit of Wycombe Wanderers. Come On You Reds!

SWINDON TOWN

IN THE COMMUNITY

TODAY WE EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO ANDY BISH AND HIS GROUP FROM MINETY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB, WHO ARE SPENDING THE DAY WITH US ON OUR SATURDAY TEAM CLUB PROJECT.

One of Andy's young budding stars, Alex Thomas, is celebrating his seventh birthday today, so many happy returns from the STFC Community Office Alex!

With half term only three weeks away places are filling up fast for our football fun week, so if you are planning on joining us collect a form from main reception and return it to the Community Office as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

In the weeks leading up to half term we will be visiting local schools with our new Smoby table football, for primary school boys and girls to participate in the National championship. We will be looking for one winner from each school to take part in our finals day to decide who will represent STFC in the area final in early March. It's a huge competition, with over 10,000 children nationally taking part. The lucky grand winner will receive a VIP day out at a Premier League Club of his/her choice - so get practising!

All the best and enjoy the game

Clive and Jono



Gist come on board at the County Ground

During the half-time interval against Crewe, a cheque presentation was made to the club by new sponsors of the Club's Football in the Community scheme, Gist Limited. A cheque was presented to STFC Chief Executive, Mark Devlin, and Community Officer, Clive Maguire by the Swindon General Manager of Gist, Steve Jones. Swindon Process Control Manager, Allyson Thome also joined in the presentation. The sponsorship, which will run until the end of this season, is worth £10,000 to the club. Mark Devlin commented, "We are really grateful to Gist for their support and valued sponsorship and look forward to working closely with them as we both have similar goals - that is linking up with the local community. After the Crewe game David Duke, who was voted man of the match, presented Allyson Thome with a signed Swindon Town shirt (left).



FUTURE BUSINESS LOGISTICS

RAFUS



RAILTRACK
SAFETY IS OUR GOAL



SWINDON TOWN SUPPORTERS CLUB

MAIN SPONSORS OF THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Away travel sponsored half time draw

Unfortunately we have no further winners to update today. The result from the Blackpool match and today's winner will be detailed in the next programme (Wigan on Saturday). Meanwhile if you miss the result at half time today, you will find the result in Monday's Evening Advertiser and also on the Supporters Club web site.

You may be aware that in recent seasons the half time draw has been a major sponsor of the "Centre of Excellence". With 10 of the 16 players taking part in the recent Fourth Round FA youth cup defeat at Tottenham progressing through the Swindon based Centre of Excellence, it shows just how the draw, has benefited development of local talent. With your support long may it continue.

Forthcoming events

We are holding a number of events between now and the end of the season: On Wednesday January 29 in the Winners lounge we'll be having a Bingo session - look out for some special guests from within

the Football club acting as callers. Starting at 7.30 p.m. Come along to enjoy a fun evening. Bar etc available. On Friday January 31 the Vale and White Horse Satellite Group are arranging a race night starting at 8.00pm. It will be held at the Hanney Royal British Legion. All supporters are welcome.

On Wednesday February 5 a communication forum in the shape of a question and answer session and fun quiz is being held, in the VWH Club in Cricklade, starting at 8.00pm. The evening will be attended by Mark Devlin and other officials from the football club and is a great opportunity for fans to come along and discuss issues at the Football Club

On Friday March 14 The supporters club are also holding a race night in The Winners

Lounge, again starting at 8.00pm. Please get this date in your diary. Any fan, business, or group of fans wishing to sponsor a race (cost £25), or a horse in each event (cost £5), should contact Roger Bunce on 01865 820499.

Finally, how about a special holiday, with like minded fans. The away travel organisation are arranging an end of season break and would like fans to join them. They will be visiting Southern Ireland leaving on the Sunday after our last game of the season and returning a week later. What better way of getting away with other fans and reflecting on events of this season, including all highs and lows. For full details contact the away travel organisation. Don't worry, should we make the play off's you will return well before the first game!

ALL EVENTS ARE OPEN TO BOTH MEMBERS AND NON MEMBERS.

Write to us C/O The County Ground, Visit our web site at www.go.to/swindontown
Membership enquiries
telephone 01225 866012

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Adults	£5.00
Concessions	£3.00
<small>Senior citizens, disabled and under 18</small>	
Family	£15.00
<small>(Up to 5 people, maximum 2 Adults)</small>	

ONE FOR THE FUTURE

Each week from now until the end of the season we'll feature one of Town's younger players. This week, a more familiar name perhaps, Mark Draycott.

Nickname?
'Drakes'

Did you enjoy your involvement with the First Team?

It was fantastic. I enjoyed every minute of it, just being involved with the first team was special, but being an FA Cup Second Round tie against Oxford made it even better - it was just a shame that the team didn't win because everyone was disappointed afterwards. I sincerely hope that it's the first of many opportunities!

Career Highlight?

Playing for the Republic of Ireland U16's against Holland was one, even scoring seven against Chelmsford in the FA Youth Cup was a highlight for me. Oh yeah, and breaking Michael Owens' goal scoring record in the process.

Team Supported?
Leeds United

Car?
VW Polo

Music?
At the moment I am into R&B.

What Do You Spend Your Money On?

I like my clothes, mostly from John Anthony.

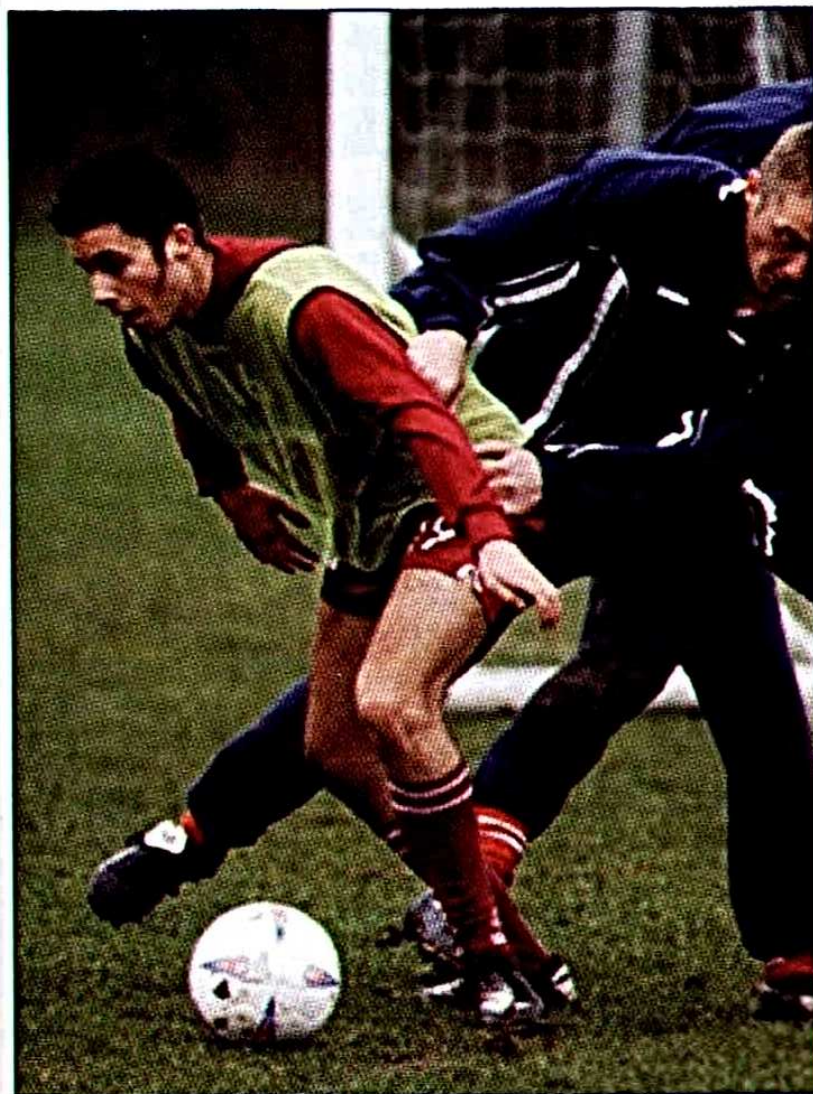
Ultimate Ambition?

To play at the highest level I can and to break into the first team at Swindon Town.

Describe Yourself In Three Words

Cool, calm and collected.

▼ 'Drakes' in action at training



SAM'S BIT

New to the programme...

...Sam Parkin writes for the masses. To read the complete Column - grab a copy of the Wiltshire Gazette and Herald - young Samuel is a regular in their pages. This week, Sam talks about the delights facing the lads on an away trip.

As per usual, for a long distance away game, we travelled north on the Friday and stayed overnight in a Stockport hotel. The routine for a Friday night before a game is normally dinner at about seven o'clock followed by a few hours to ourselves before an early night. Some of



the lads might play pool, watch TV or just simply lounge around the hotel having a chat and a cup of tea. It can get quite boring, but Friday night was made a little more interesting by the sight of around 150 nurses enjoying a late Christmas party in one of the hotel suites. A few of the lads, myself included, had the odd extra cup of tea just in case we were needed for a spot of mouth to mouth!!

Unfortunately I was tucked up in bed by 10.30pm but there was still time for my room mate Dean Marney to doan on about Spurs for a while before nodding off into a deep sleep. My tiredness probably had something to do with dinner that evening. Normally we stock-up on pasta and rice etc, but this time we had a whole a la carte menu to choose from. So instead of the usual whinging from lack of pasta sauce to chicken not cooked properly, there was the sight of the lads tucking into bloody steaks and big slabs of cheesecake! The Gaffer wasn't best pleased but I think he was more worried about the extra dough he would have to pay!

ONE STOP SHOP!

GREENHAM

www.greenham.com

For all your....

- PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT
- CONTRACTORS SITE EQUIPMENT
- CLEANING AND HYGIENE SUPPLIES

CONTACT:

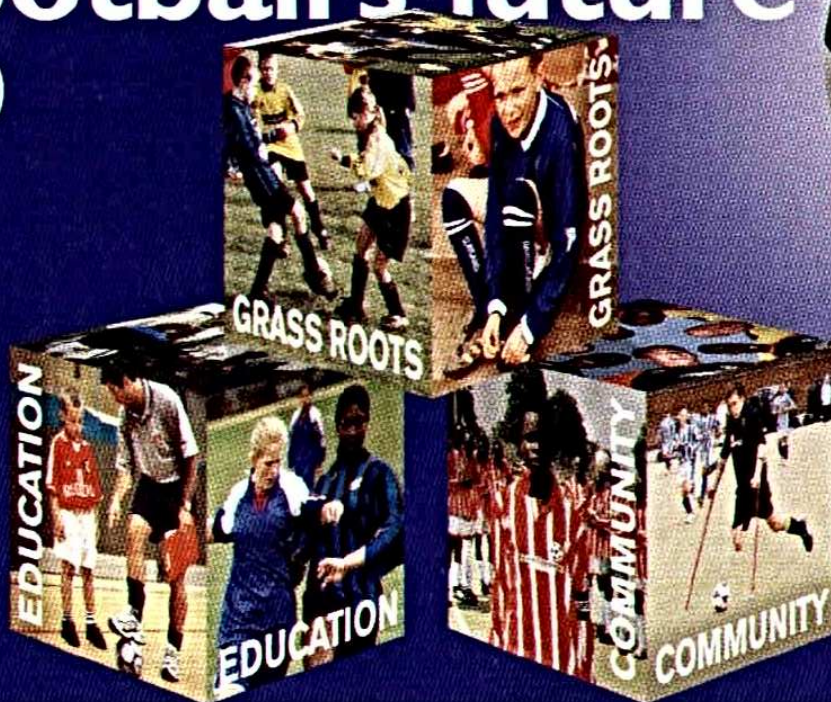
NEWBURY

Tel: 01635 32800 Fax: 01635 580603
email: newbury.sales@greenham.co.uk

BRISTOL

Tel: 0117 971 4714 Fax: 0117 971 4456
email: bristol.sales@greenham.co.uk

football's future
building



FootballFoundation

football's biggest supporter

Helpline 0800 0277766 www.footballfoundation.org.uk



GOOD AFTERNOON TO ALL OUR JUNIOR ROBINS AND WELCOME TO TODAY'S MATCH AGAINST WIGAN.

JUNIOR ROBINS

Firstly, our Junior Robins' trip to STOCKPORT last Saturday was a great success. We had a really good response from you which enabled us to take a full coach. The five-a-side tournaments went very well and our grateful thanks to Brenda Williams and Stockport Juniors for their hospitality, we look forward to seeing them again next year. Also thanks to Mike Sullivan and the Club's Sales and Marketing Department for their donations for our coach quiz. Our Mascot chosen on the coach for the day was Harry Lewis who had a great time, well done Harry and the icing on the cake was our 5-2 win, great result lads, let's have another win today.

Regarding 'A day out at the County Ground' we have also had a good response for this event but there are still a few places available if you would like to come along. The cost being £6.50 for juniors and £13, for Mum's and Dad's. For a reminder of what's on please ring George on 01672 520679.

Belated Happy Birthdays to Matthew Bolton on January 3rd, Daniel Hunt on January 15th, and Alex Thompson on January 18th who will be four years of age.

Enjoy the game.



ROCKIN'S POSTBAG

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO ROCKIN' ROBIN, MATCHDAY PROGRAMME, STFC, COUNTY GROUND, SWINDON ST1 2ED

Rocky,

I am not understanding - we have had complaints about the condition of our wonderful ground for the match against Charlton, but I cannot see what the problem was - we won, didn't we? Help me fend off all these criticisms.

Claudio Rainyday, Chelsea FC

Claudio,

I see your problem there, a fine victory spoiled by wimps complaining about the state of the pitch. I did have my spies at the Bridge that day and they inform me that the programme sellers were giving away little flags and paper windmills to go in the top of sandcastles with the programmes, and that the stewards were organising donkey rides by the touchlines, Charlton were waiting for the tide to come in to get the match abandoned and the officials were getting tangled up in seaweed. What's the problem? I cast my mind back to the distant past and remember our glorious Swindon Town defeating the mighty Arsenal at Wembley in 1969 on so much sand that instead of the national anthem before the game they all sang The Desert Song, and a stray camel actually helped out Arsenal's defence at one time. Mind you, the Gooners have got it sussed with that under-soil heating at their ground. We had our match at the County Ground called off because of a frozen pitch last week, I did my best by going up and down with a blow-lamp and a handful of bic lighters trying to thaw it out but the officials weren't impressed.



ANAGRAMS

Once again send in your answers to the following anagrams and if your name is pulled out, then you could be on the receiving end of two free tickets to a Nationwide League game of your choice here at the County Ground!

MANIC HONKY, M.D.
Born: 7.9.67, Hornchurch
Goalkeeper

WET THIEVES
Born: 2.1.59, Chipping Sodbury
Striker

THE ROBIN THAT ROCKS!

by Alyn





01

02



03

01 STARTING EARLY

Pictured here drowning in a Swindon Town shirt is Callum Rawlins. As you can probably guess this picture was taken on Christmas Day and he is wearing his cousins away Town shirt, writes Liam Daniels. It is hoped that Liam will develop into an avid Town fan Liam continues - let's hope so!

02 BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

This week we wish belated Happy Birthdays to two members of the staff team here at the County Ground. Firstly, to Dick Mackey, the club's physio - who celebrated his birthday on Wednesday (although his age is a mystery to all of us!) and Roger Reeves.

Roger works closely with our Ladies team, as well as with the youth sides and Roger celebrated his birthday on January 11. Happy birthday lads from all at STFC!!

03 MASCOT ALICE

Pictured here is Town staff member, Alice Wills. Alice is pictured here as a mascot for the Reds back in 1994. She describes her hobbies in the match day programme (v Ipswich on January 8) as riding, tennis and netball. Alice still loves riding and netball now, although she has added eating doughnuts to her repertoire of skills.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

A big thank you must go to Geoff Blake at Ridgeway. Geoff kindly donated a physic couch to the club for free - cheers from us all Geoff!

PROGRAMMES ANYONE?

Another plea for help I'm afraid, this week from a Sports Journalist in Finland. I'll let him explain: "As I am a collector of programmes, I would be most interested in getting in touch with some of your supporters - I have thousands of programmes from Finland to trade. I am not selling any of them, just trading and trying to help fellow collectors." If you are interested in trading with our Finnish friend, then drop us a line and we'll put you in contact.

MY SWINDON XI - THE JONES BOYS

This team of Swindon Town Jonah's looked easy to compile when the eight names evident since the war included the all-important goalkeeper.

Then the challenge to fill the last three places took the search back to the 1930's. RW Jones was actually a forward. Hopefully he wouldn't have minded filling in at left back for the good of the team.

- 1 Roy Jones
- 2 Ken Jones
- 3 RW Jones
- 4 Mark Jones
- 5 DG Jones
- 6 Tom Jones
- 7 Edward Jones
- 8 Chris Jones
- 9 Morris Jones
- 10 Robert S Jones
- 11 Fred Jones

YOU ARE MY SWINDON

Remember - this is your chance to get yourself in the only mag that counts and we would love to hear from you (and of course, we would love to see more pictures of you in your kit!) - so keep sending in your letters and pictures.

SEND THEM TO:

'You are my Swindon'
The Programme Editor
Swindon Town Football Club
The County Ground
County Road
Swindon, SN1 2ED

Or email: stfc_enquiries@hotmail.com

WIN TWO TICKETS! 25 YEARS AGO by Dave Wallis

Simply answer the highlighted question, send your answer in to the above address and like 16 others this season, you could be on the receiving end of two tickets to a Nationwide League match of your choice here at the County Ground. The winter weather was biting in January 1978 as on the 20th Town played their last game for what was to prove to be a month. The match at Portsmouth was to produce Town's first away victory of the season as goals from David Moss and Pompey old boy Chris Kamara secured maximum points.

Included in the Pompey line-up that day was Paul Gilchrist who later played 10 games for Town, and in his debut season at Portsmouth was future Town midfielder Leigh Barnard. Portsmouth's goal was scored by Eoin Hand and the result, which left Town in ninth place in Division Three, cemented Portsmouth in 22nd position and deep in relegation trouble.

The Fratton Park club would score just 12 more goals in the remaining 19 games and failed to score at all in 11. Unsurprisingly, Portsmouth was to host Division Four football the following season.

On 14th January, Andy King scored the winner in a 1-0 win at home to Aston Villa...

1 Which Portsmouth left back, not playing that day, made 26 appearances for Swindon in 1976/77?

2 Which striker signed for Town on January 20 1978 from Shrewsbury for £30,000?

3 On the 21st, a Watford striker scored a hat-trick against York as Watford cruised towards the Fourth Division championship. He was to repeat the feat on his debut for Swindon at Rotherham in February 1979. Who was he?

4 Wigan finished second in the Northern Premier League at end of season, but were elected to the League in preference to champions Boston. Who did they replace?

5 Which ex Leeds United star resigned as manager of Republic of Ireland on 21st?

Answers: 1 Tony Taylor, 2 Chris Bates, 3 Alan Mayes, 4 Jimmy Giles, 5 Johnny Giles



STEVE ROBINSON

THE NAKED CHEF

Turbo returns after his goalscoring shenanigans last week with a celebratory truffle...

NO. 15 TURBO'S TRUFFLE

1.1. You will need the following for this 'healthy' option: 500g/1lb2oz top quality dark cooking chocolate, 100g/3oz very soft unsalted butter, 1 orange, zest only, 100g/30oz icing sugar, 500ml/16fl oz whipping cream

2. In a mixing basin, melt the chocolate gently over a pan of hot, but not boiling water. When it has melted, stir in the butter until it is very soft, but not quite melted. Add the orange zest.

3. Leave the melted chocolate and butter mix to cool (dip the basin briefly in cold water). As it cools but before it sets, whip the cream and the icing sugar together until thick, but still soft and loose, then fold quickly but thoroughly into the chocolate and butter.

4. Spread into a spring-form cake ring, sitting on a flat plate or cake board (on which you will serve the cake), levelling off the top with a spatula.

5. Refrigerate for at least three hours to set firm. Run a warm, damp cloth around the outside of the spring-form tin, then open the spring to release it and carefully lift it off the plate.

6. Decorate with shavings or gratings of chocolate and the crystallised zest. Keep chilled until serving, then cut into slices and slide a warmed cake slice underneath to release them.


ROLEX



DEACON & SON Ltd Est. 1848

11-15 Wood Street, Old Town, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 4AN.

Tel: 01793 522072. www.deacons-jewellers.com

Watches featured subject to stock availability.



NON-STOP PROMOTIONS
Making your good name look even better

Tel: 01672 563030 Fax: 01672 563087
 E-mail: sales@non-stoppromotions.com
www.non-stoppromotions.com

- Corporate Gifts
- Leisure Wear
- Unbeatable Product Quality and Value for Money
- Full Service Corporate Schemes
- Warehousing and Fulfillment
- International sourcing
- Innovative Merchandising ideas
- Unrivalled Customer Service

THE COMPLETE SOLUTION IN
PROMOTIONAL MERCHANDISE





IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING,
THEN CONTACT SWINDON TOWN'S
SOCCER CENTRE CO-ORDINATOR,
JIMMY FRASER, ON 01793 333724



Swindon Town's Soccer Centres

GOOD AFTERNOON AND A WARM WELCOME TO
TODAY'S GAME - IT'S BEEN A BUSY PERIOD IN THE
LAST WEEK OR SO - 2003 IS NOW WELL
UNDER WAY!

As you may or may not be aware - the STFC Soccer centres are back in full flow
after the short Christmas break (Christmas was ages ago! - Ed.) and it is nice to
be back.

The kids will take part in a seven-week course and will learn the basic football skills
including heading, shooting, passing, control, as well as some small-sided games
against each other.

Numbers at soccer centres have risen to over 700 kids, but that doesn't mean that
there aren't any places available at our centres. All you need to do to book your
place on the Swindon Town Soccer Centres is pay, in full, to your chosen leisure
centre reception as soon as possible.

The cost of the courses is £3.00 per session (sessions are 1 hour long). Non
Swindon borough courses may differ, please check with your centre. All you need to
do is make sure the kids have a full playing kit, shin pads, trainers and a drinks
bottle - let us do the rest!

Finally, the Soccer Centres are still on the look out for sponsors in order to support
their sessions in terms of kit and equipment. If you are interested or would like any
further information, then give us a call on 01793 333700.

Thanks
Enjoy the game

Adam Collier

OASIS (Swindon Borough)

Monday	5.00 - 6.00 pm	5 - 10 years
Saturday	9.00 - 10.00 am	5 - 8 years
	10.00 - 11.00 am	5 - 8 years

HIGHWORTH (Swindon Borough)

Tuesday	4.00 - 5.00 pm	5 - 6 years
	5.00 - 6.00 pm	7 - 8 years
Thursday	4.00 - 5.00 pm	5 - 6 years
	5.00 - 6.00 pm	8 - 11 years

HAYDON CENTRE (Swindon Borough)

Thursday	4.00 - 5.00 pm	5 - 6 years
	5.00 - 6.00 pm	7 - 8 years
	6.00 - 7.00 pm	9 - 11 years

BAMPTON (Oxon)

Friday	5.00 - 6.00 pm	7, 8 & 9 years
	6.00 - 7.00 pm	10 - 11 years

STRATTON

Monday	3.30 - 4.30 PM	6 - 7 years
	4.30 - 5.30 PM	9 - 11 years
Tuesday	3.30 - 4.30 PM	5 - 6 years
	4.30 - 5.30 PM	9 - 10 years
Wednesday	3.30 - 4.30 PM	7 - 8 years
	4.30 - 5.30 PM	8 - 9 years
Friday	3.30 - 4.30 PM	5 - 6 years

LINK CENTRE (Swindon Borough)

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

MARLBOROUGH

Wednesday	3.30 - 4.00 pm	5 - 7 years
	4.00 - 5.00 pm	7 - 9 years
	5.00 - 6.00 pm	9 - 12 years

RIDGEWAY LEISURE CENTRE

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

CRICKLADE LEISURE CENTRE

Wednesday	5.30 - 6.30 pm	9 - 11 years
-----------	----------------	--------------

TIDWORTH

Friday	4.00 - 5.00 pm	5 - 6 years
	5.00 - 6.00 pm	7 - 8 years
	6.00 - 7.00 pm	9 - 11 years



EXPERIENCED MULTI-DROP DELIVERY DRIVERS WANTED

£700 - £1200 per week

The Owner Driver Network requires professional Drivers for guaranteed work on long-term contracts, in and around Swindon and Bristol areas. Previous experience of Multi-drop Delivery Work and personal reliability are essential.

Ideally, you will be Self-Employed and own a Transit or similar van, however, if you have Multi-drop Experience and would like to become a Self-Employed Owner Driver, we can assist you with finding a van to purchase, rent or lease. We can also provide a complete package to assist you with best insurance rates, maintenance cover, fuel and all your accounting needs.

INTERESTED?

Then call The Owner Driver Network on

020 8532 9337

www.ownerdrivernetwork.co.uk

Cannons supports Swindon Town FC on and off the field

Cannons are offering you, the supporters, a unique opportunity to join Cannons Health Club

**A Win for Swindon Town FC will earn you
£100 off the joining fee**

**A Draw for Swindon Town FC will earn you
£50 off the Joining fee**

**A Loss for Swindon Town FC will earn you
our sympathy but by bringing in this advert
you will be entitled to a free day's membership
which we know will cheer you up!**

*Gymnasium • Swimming Pool • Exercise Studio • Sauna
Steam & Spa • Sunbeds • Beauty Treatment Rooms
Club Bar & Lounge • Crèche
Cannons Adventures • Cannons Golf*

Offer valid for 14 days from match date

Tel: 01793 422211

Cannons Health Club,
Greenbridge Retail Park,
Garrard Way,
Swindon SN3 3SQ.
www.cannons.co.uk

Cannons
HEALTH CLUB



**WE'RE BACK IN SWINDON...
AND WE LOVE IT!**

Blacksmith's Forge
Devizes Rd
Swindon
Wiltshire

OPEN DAILY: 10 - 5:15
TEL: 01793 423030

Saunders' Brook
Priory Vale
Jct.8 Northern Orbital Rd
Swindon, Wiltshire

OPEN DAILY: 10 - 5:15
TEL: 01793 702255

FOR INFORMATION ON OUR OTHER DEVELOPMENTS
IN THE SOUTH WEST OF ENGLAND CALL 01793 513938

BLOOR HOMES

www.buildingforthefuture.co.uk

UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

When did you start playing football?
I used to kick around in the garden with the boys and although I wanted to play football I could not find a team. When I was five one of the boys from school asked me to play for the Brunel Boys team.

What about school?
I went to Eldene Junior School and played in the boys school team there. I now go to Dorcan Secondary School and we have a girl's team for years 8 and 9 and play other school teams. We played in a Swindon Schools final on the County Ground and were runners up in a tournament in Bristol.

How did you come to join Swindon Town?
Robin Levett was a friend of mine at Eldene Junior School and I got to go along with her to Coleview Girls team, now Swindon Town of course. I went training and played in tournaments. I played for them at Under 10, 11, 12 & 13 and now play in the Under 14 side who are in the Surrey Primary League.

What of the future?
I would like to keep playing football hopefully with Swindon Town and progress through to the first team.



TARA LOFTS

AGE 13
POSITION DEFENDER

All fixtures are subject to change without prior notification

STFC LADIES

SOUTH WEST COMBINATION LEAGUE FIXTURES 2002/03

SWINDON TOWN LADIES GOT OFF TO A GOOD START WHEN THE SOUTH WEST COMBINATION LEAGUE RECOMMENCED AFTER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK WITH A THREE GOALS TO ONE AWAY WIN AGAINST YEOVIL TOWN.

Town took time to settle but following a well worked corner between Pam Ashman and Lucy Bailey, Michelle Rich headed the Town ahead. In the second half an end to end move involving keeper Wendy Davis, Kim Reeves and Lucy Bailey resulted in Nicola Goodheart finding the net. In the 63rd minute Nicola Goodheart got the third when she turned Michelle Rich's cross into the net. A good defensive performance restrict Yeovil to just one goal in reply.

This was a good all round team effort that moved the Town one place more away from the two relegation spots.

Town's Under 12s seven-a-side team, playing in the Wiltshire County League, travelled to Bradford on Avon and won by five goals to nil. Libby Robinson, Amber Edgerton, Emma Skinner, Stephanie Lewis and Chloe Bryant all got on the score sheet. The Under 10s played Swindon Badgers in a series of friendlies. All of the Town's other games fell victim to the weather.

The girl's club are joining with the main club to improve the awareness of woman's and girls football and the game against Notts County on Saturday March 22 has been designated the game for this promotion. Look out for details in forthcoming Matchday programmes (and the website).

Tomorrow Town travel to Devon to face Newton Abbot in a league fixture. In the home game Town won by five goals to two. The Reserves are away to Keynesham Town Reserves in the Wiltshire County League Cup.

Sun 18 Aug	Cardiff City	A	0-5
Sun 25 Aug	Aylesbury United	A	P-P
Sun 01 Sep	Plymouth Argle	A	2-4
Sun 08 Sep	Reading Royals	H	3-4
Sun 15 Sep	Clevedon Town	A	2-2
Sun 22 Sep	Portsmouth	H	0-2
Sun 29 Sep	Chesham United	A	1-0
Sun 06 Oct	Newton Abbot	H	5-2
Sun 13 Oct	Yeovil Town	A	P-P
Sun 20 Oct	Cardiff City	H	
Sun 27 Oct	Oxford United		1-2
Sun 03 Nov	Aylesbury United	H	P-P
Sun 10 Nov	FA Cup 2nd Round		P-P
Sun 17 Nov	Exeter City	H	P-P
Sun 24 Nov	Reading	A	P-P
Sun 01 Dec	Clevedon Town	H	P-P
Sun 08 Dec	Exeter City	H	P-P
Thur 12 Jan	Plymouth Argyle	H	
Sun 19 Jan	Yeovil Town	H	3-1
Thur 19 Jan	Reading Royals	A	
Thur 26 Jan	Reading	H	
Thur 02 Feb	Portsmouth	A	
Thur 09 Feb	Yeovil Town	H	
Thur 16 Feb	Chesham United	H	
Thur 23 Feb	Newton Abbot	A	
Thur 09 Mar	Aylesbury United	H	

TOWN TAKE TO THE ROAD ONCE AGAIN NEXT WEEK AS ANDY KING AND THE LADS TRAVEL UP'T NORTH TO BARNSELY NEXT SATURDAY. IT'S CERTAINLY ONE OF THE LONGER JOURNEYS WE'LL HAVE TO EXPERIENCE THIS YEAR, BUT AFTER THE VICTORY AT STOCKPORT IT COULD ALL BE WELL WORTH IT!

A ROUGH GUIDE TO... BARNSELY

WHO? BARNSELY **WHEN? SATURDAY FEBRUARY 1**

WHERE? OAKLEY **KICK-OFF? 3.00PM**

STFC TRAVEL CLUB: Town's official Travel Club will again be making the journey north and will be setting off from Wootton Bassett (Coped Hall Bus Stop) at 9.00am. It will then be going to West Swindon (Ashington Way) at 09.15am, the County Ground at 09.30am before heading for Ermin Street at 09.45am. The Coach Fare is £16.50 for adults, £15.00 for under 15s. Supporters Club members will receive a £2.00 discount, membership cards must be shown. Visit www.sastravel.co.uk for more information, alternatively call 01793 536757.

BY CAR: Many of you will have been to Oakwell before and will know that it's pretty straight forward. Simply exit the M1 at Junction 37 (onto

the A628 Dodworth Road) and follow signs for Barnsley Football Club. These signs, happily, will direct you towards the visitors car park.

PARKING: The car park is signposted for visiting fans, but off Dodworth Road turn left at the lights into Gawber Road. From here follow it round into a sharp bend into Victoria Road. Continue straight on until the B & Q roundabout, at which turn right. Take next left into Queen's Road and at the end will be the spacious visitors car park.

TRAIN: For train times and routes phone 08457 484950, or alternatively visit www.thetrainline.com. Oakwell is no more than ten minutes away from the station, just follow Kendray Street and Queen's Road.



Oakwell

Match Ticket Prices:

Adults £16.00
Concessions £9.00
All females £5.00



NEXT IN TOWN...

Remember, the Wycombe game is operating at reduced ticket prices. £2 off for adults in both the Nationwide and Arkells Stands



Wycombe Wanderers
 15.02.03 (3.00pm)



QPR
 01.03.03 (3.00pm)



Cheltenham Town
 05.03.03 (7.45pm)



Bristol City
 19.03.03 (7.45pm)

Ticket Office Opening Hours

Monday-Friday **9.00am-5.00pm** Match day (Sat and Wed) **9.00am-5.30pm** Non match day Saturdays **9.00am-12.00pm**

Telephone Booking

Lines are open from 9.00am weekdays **01793 333777**

On-line booking

To book online, log on to www.swindontownfc.co.uk

NEXT PLEASE...

AT THE COUNTY GROUND



WHO? **WYCOMBE WANDERERS** KICK-OFF? **3.00PM**

WHEN? **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15**

When Wycombe visit the County Ground in three weeks time there will certainly be no love lost (the game coming the day after Valentines Day) between the two sides.

In the last two seasons alone there have been a number of fiercely contested encounters and this season's was arguably the best so far. Jimmy Davis scored the first in a game Town simply had to win in order to continue the sides' run of two games without defeat and after Wycombe had taken an undeserved 2-1 lead, Sam Parkin struck with devastating effect - his second coming in front of the boisterous travelling Town faithful and in the 90th minute.

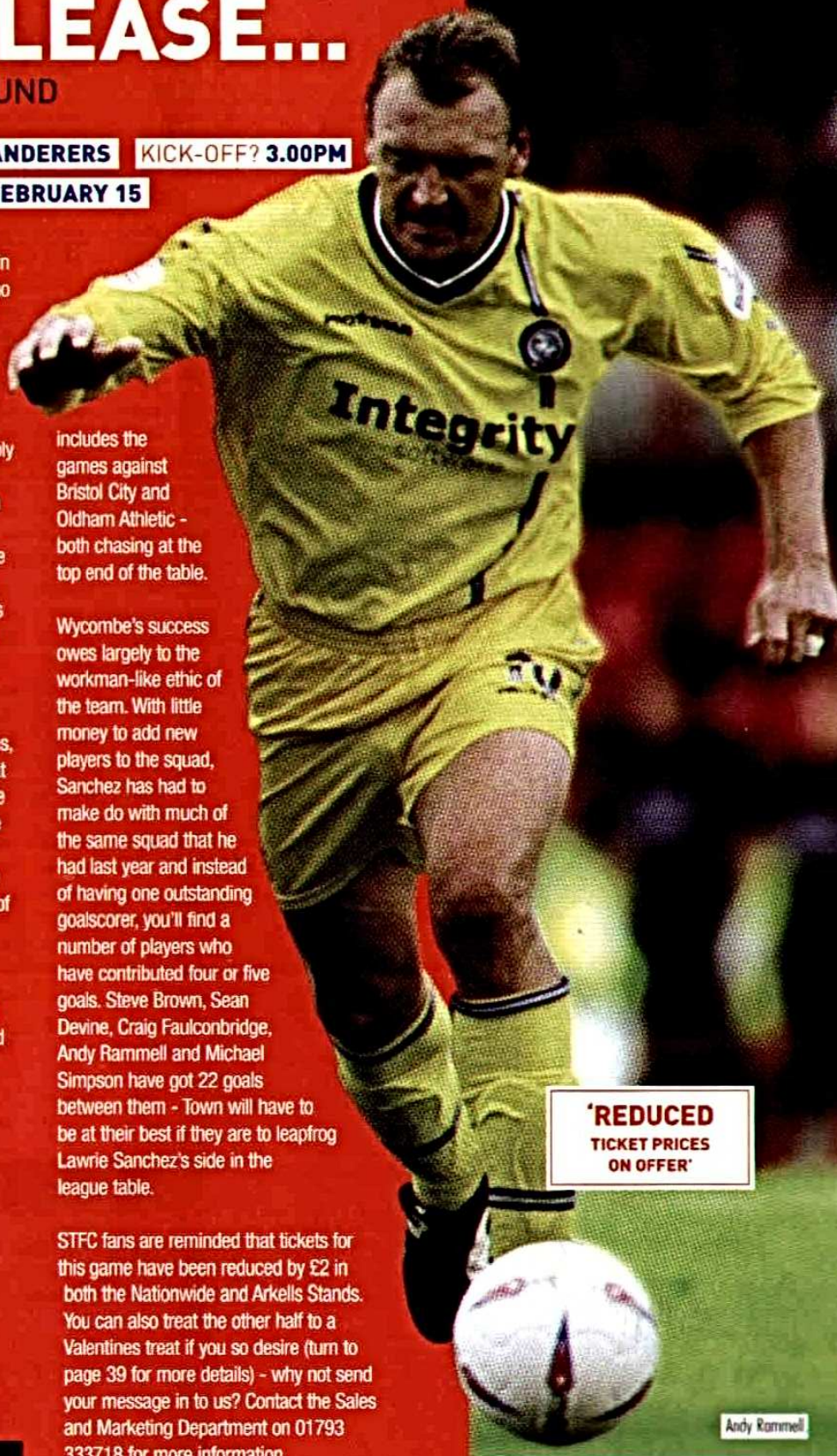
In terms of the two sides' league positions, there isn't much between them. In fact, at the time of writing just one point separate the two teams and if Swindon can do the double over the Buckinghamshire Chairboys, then they will have closed the gap between the top and bottom halves of the table.

Wycombe however, like Blackpool and Wigan, should visit the County Ground in good form. At the time of writing they find themselves unbeaten in four and that

includes the games against Bristol City and Oldham Athletic - both chasing at the top end of the table.

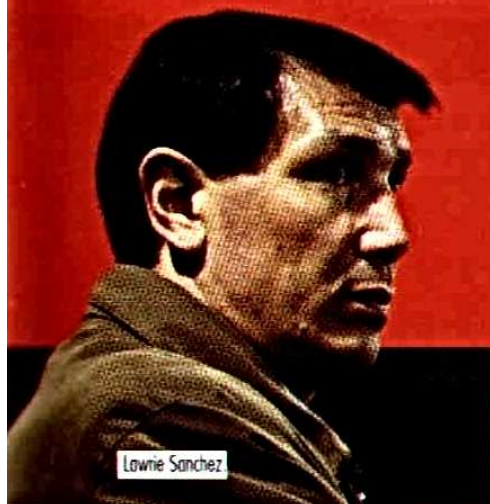
Wycombe's success owes largely to the workman-like ethic of the team. With little money to add new players to the squad, Sanchez has had to make do with much of the same squad that he had last year and instead of having one outstanding goalscorer, you'll find a number of players who have contributed four or five goals. Steve Brown, Sean Devine, Craig Faulconbridge, Andy Rammell and Michael Simpson have got 22 goals between them - Town will have to be at their best if they are to leapfrog Lawrie Sanchez's side in the league table.

STFC fans are reminded that tickets for this game have been reduced by £2 in both the Nationwide and Arkells Stands. You can also treat the other half to a Valentines treat if you so desire (turn to page 39 for more details) - why not send your message in to us? Contact the Sales and Marketing Department on 01793 333718 for more information.



**'REDUCED
TICKET PRICES
ON OFFER'**

Andy Rammell



Lawrie Sanchez

TOWN STATISTICS 2002/03

STFC FACT FILE

KICK-OFF 3PM SATURDAYS, 7.45PM MIDWEEK UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

THE KEY FAC = F.A. CUP WC = WORTHINGTON CUP DENOTES SCORER *DENOTES BOOK



DATE	FIXTURE		RES	ATT	AWAY	POS
Sat 10 Aug	Barnsley	Home	3-1	6,120	808	4
Tue 13 Aug	Chesterfield	Away	4-2	3,189		1
Sat 17 Aug	Blackpool	Away	0-0	6,404		2
Sat 24 Aug	Cardiff City	Home	0-1	7,564	2,275	5
Mon 26 Aug	Brentford	Away	1-3	6,299		10
Sat 31 Aug	Stockport County	Home	0-1	5,456	200	18
Sat 7 Sep	Port Vale	Home	1-2	5,029	249	19
Wed 11 Sep	Wycombe W (WC 1)	Home	1-2 _{AG}	2,993	265	N/A
Sat 14 Sep	QPR	Away	0-2	11,619		20
Tue 17 Sep	Cheltenham Town	Away	0-2	5,761		21
Sat 21 Sep	Northampton Town	Home	2-0	4,719	442	17
Sat 28 Sep	Luton Town	Away	0-3	6,393		21
Sat 5 Oct	Oldham Athletic	Home	0-1	4,326	376	21
Sat 12 Oct	Colchester United	Home	2-2	4,152	98	22
Sat 19 Oct	Bristol City	Away	0-2	13,205		22
Sat 22 Oct	Southend United (LDV1)	Home	6-1	1,747	102	N/A
Sat 26 Oct	Mansfield Town	Home	2-1	4,136	213	21
Tue 29 Oct	Notts County	Away	1-1	4,797		21
Sat 2 Nov	Wycombe Wanderers	Away	3-2	6,021		17
Sat 9 Nov	Tranmere Rovers	Home	1-1	5,077	255	18
Tue 12 Nov	Kidderminster (LDV2)	Away	2-3 _{AG}	1,322		N/A
Sat 16 Nov	Huddersfield Town (FAC1)	Home	1-0	4,210	253	N/A
Sat 23 Nov	Huddersfield Town	Away	3-2	8,334		17
Sat 30 Nov	Peterborough Utd	Home	1-1	4,709	205	17
Sun 8 Dec	Oxford United (FACup2)	Away	0-1	11,645		N/A
Sat 14 Dec	Plymouth Argyle	Away	1-1	8,111		18
Sat 21 Dec	Crewe Alexandra	Home	1-3	4,957	276	18
Thur 26 Dec	Brentford	Home	2-0	6,045	648	15
Sat 28 Dec	Wigan Athletic	Away	0-2	6,114		15
Wed 1 Jan	Cardiff City	Away	1-1	13,062		16
Sat 4 Jan	Chesterfield	Home	3-0	4,544	116	14
Sat 18 Jan	Stockport County	Away	5-2	4,318		14
Wed 22 Jan	Blackpool	Home	1-1	4,878	192	14
Sat 25 Jan	Wigan Athletic	Home				
Sat 1 Feb	Barnsley	Away				
Sat 8 Feb	Tranmere Rovers	Away				
Sat 15 Feb	Wycombe Wanderers	Home				
Sat 22 Feb	Port Vale	Away				
Sat 1 Mar	QPR	Home				
Wed 5 Mar	Cheltenham Town	Home (7.45)				
Sat 8 Mar	Northampton Town	Away				
Sat 15 Mar	Mansfield Town	Away				
Wed 19 Mar	Bristol City	Home (7.45)				
Sat 22 Mar	Notts County	Home				
Sat 29 Mar	Colchester United	Away				
Sat 5 Apr	Peterborough United	Away				
Sat 12 Apr	Huddersfield Town	Home				
Sat 19 Apr	Crewe Alexandra	Away				
Wed 23 Apr	Plymouth Argyle	Home (7.45)				
Sat 26 Apr	Oldham Athletic	Away				
Sat 3rd May	Luton Town	Home				

Griemink	Edds	Duke	Heywood*	Willis	Hewlett	Robinson	Miglioranzi	Invincibile
Griemink	Edds	Duke	Heywood	Willis	Hewlett	Robinson*	Miglioranzi	Invincibile
Griemink	Edds	Duke*	Heywood	Willis	Davis	Robinson	Miglioranzi*	Invincibile
Griemink	Edds	Willis	Gurney	Heywood	Duke*	Davis*	Miglioranzi	Invincibile
Griemink	Edds	Willis*	Heywood	Duke	Gurney	Miglioranzi	Robinson	Invincibile
Griemink	Edds	Duke	Heywood	Reeves	Gurney	Robinson	Miglioranzi	Invincibile
Griemink	Edds	Heywood	Reeves	Duke	Miglioranzi	Gurney ¹	Robinson*	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Willis ¹	Heywood	Duke*	Hewlett*	Miglioranzi	Robinson*	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Reeves*	Heywood	Duke	Hewlett	Miglioranzi	Jackson	Invincibile
Griemink	Edds*	Gurney*	Heywood	Duke	Invincibile	Robinson	Hewlett	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Willis	Heywood	Duke*	Jackson ¹	Hewlett	Robinson	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Heywood	Willis*	Duke	Robinson	Hewlett	Jackson	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney*	Willis	Heywood	Reeves	Duke	Hewlett	Miglioranzi	Invincibile
Griemink	Duke	Heywood	Reeves ¹	Gurney	Jackson	Hewlett	Robinson	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Heywood	Reeves	Duke	Robinson	Hewlett	Miglioranzi	Invincibile
Griemink	Willis	Gurney	Heywood ¹	Edds	Miglioranzi ¹	Jackson ¹	Davis ¹	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Heywood	Reeves	Duke	Hewlett	Miglioranzi	Jackson	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Reeves	Heywood	Duke	Robinson*	Hewlett	Jackson	Invincibile
Griemink	Heywood	Gurney	Reeves	Davis ¹	Robinson	Jackson	Hewlett*	Invincibile
Griemink	Duke	Heywood	Reeves	Gurney*	Jackson	Hewlett	Robinson	Invincibile
Farr	Edds	Willis	Reeves	Heywood	Jackson	Robinson	Miglioranzi	Invincibile
Griemink	Duke	Heywood	Reeves	Gurney ¹	Jackson	Hewlett	Robinson	Invincibile
Griemink	Duke ¹	Heywood	Reeves*	Gurney ^{1*}	Jackson	Hewlett	Robinson*	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Duke	Heywood*	Reeves	Hewlett	Miglioranzi	Jackson	Invincibile
Griemink	Edds	Heywood*	Reeves	Duke	Miglioranzi	Hewlett*	Jackson	Invincibile
Griemink*	Gurney ¹	Heywood	Reeves	Duke*	Miglioranzi	Hewlett	Robinson*	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Duke	Heywood	Reeves	Hewlett	Miglioranzi	Robinson	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney ^{1*}	Duke	Heywood	Reeves	Hewlett	Miglioranzi	Robinson	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Marney	Heywood	Reeves	Hewlett*	Miglioranzi	Robinson	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney*	Heywood	Reeves	Duke	Hewlett	Miglioranzi	Robinson	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Duke	Heywood	Reeves ¹	Miglioranzi	Hewlett	Robinson	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Heywood	Reeves ¹	Marney	Hewlett ¹	Miglioranzi	Duke	Invincibile
Griemink	Gurney	Heywood	Reeves	Marney	Hewlett	Miglioranz ¹	Duke	Invincibile

TODAY'S MASCOTS



Today we welcome **Conor Trinci**, pictured left in his Town shirt, to the County Ground. Conor is nine years old and goes to Holy Rood School. He plays football for Croft FC and as well as the Town, his favourite team is Manchester United. His favourite players are Ruud Van Nistelrooy and Sam Parkin and he's here today with his Uncle Peter. **Sam Jackson** is our second mascot today. Sam is a huge Swindon fan and is looking forward to seeing his heroes in action against the league leaders this afternoon. Next up is **Jason McGovern** (10).



Unfortunately we haven't got a picture of Jason, but we know that he's looking forward to seeing Eric Sabin and Andy Gurney, his two favourite players, in action. He also supports Man Utd and attends a school in Penhill. Our final mascots today are Marie and Daniel Woodward. Marie is 12 years old and attends Hediands School. She loves STFC, but also likes to swim, dance and listen to music. Daniel (7) is also a Town fan and loves swimming as well as football. He attends Brimble School. To all of today's mascots, we hope you enjoy the day!



FRONT COVER DEAN MARNEY AND SAM PARKIN
PHOTOGRAPHY DUNCAN COX



**DENOTES SENDING OFF DENOTES SUBSTITUTIONS

	1	2	3	4	5		
Invincible	Parkin ³	Sabin	Farr	Reeves	Edwards	Young	Davis
Invincible ²	Parkin ¹	Sabin ^{*1}	Farr	Reeves	Edwards	Young	Davis
Invincible	Parkin	Sabin	Farr	Reeves	Edwards	Young	Dykes
Farnham	Sabin [*]	Invincible	Farr	Reeves	Edwards	Young	Parkin
Salisbury	Parkin	Davis ¹	Farr	Reeves	Edwards	Dykes	Invincible
Salisbury	Parkin	Davis	Farr	Willis	Edwards	Young	Cobian
Carlisle	Sabin	Parkin	Farr	Willis	Hewlett	Young	Dykes
Leeds	Parkin	Sabin [*]	Farr	Reeves	Edds	Young	Dykes
Robinson	Parkin	Sabin	Farr	Edds	Edwards	Young	Cobian
Jackson	Parkin ^{**}	Sabin	Farr	Miglioranzzi	Edwards	Young	Dykes
Tranmere	Parkin ¹	Sabin	Farr	Miglioranzzi	Edds	Reeves	Young
Leeds	Parkin	Sabin	Farr	Edds	Young	Edwards	Reeves
Jackson	Invincible	Sabin	Farr	Edds	Dykes	Cobian	Bampton
Tranmere	Sabin ¹	Davis	Farr	Edds	Miglioranzzi	Dykes	Young
Leeds	Davis	Sabin	Farr	Young	Jackson	Edds	Willis
Leeds	Parkin ¹	Invincible ¹	Farr	Dykes	Sabin	Hewlett	Reeves
Leeds	Parkin ¹	Sabin ¹	Farr	Robinson	Invincible	Edds	Willis
Salisbury	Parkin ¹	Invincible	Farr	Davis	Miglioranzzi	Edds	Willis
Leeds	Parkin ²	Sabin	Farr	Invincible	Edds	Willis	Miglioranzzi
Tranmere	Parkin ¹	Davis	Farr	Young	Edds	Willis	Miglioranzzi
Young	Invincible ¹	Parkin	Griemink	Duke	Parkin	Gurney	Hewlett
Invincible ¹	Sabin	Parkin	Farr	Edds	Willis	Miglioranzzi	Young
Miglioranzzi	Sabin	Invincible	Farr	Parkin ¹	Edds	Willis	Young
Salisbury	Parkin ¹	Invincible	Farr	Robinson	Edds	Willis	Young
Leeds	Parkin	Invincible	Farr	Willis	Bampton [*]	Young	Halliday
Tranmere	Parkin	Sabin	Farr	Bampton	Edds	Willis	Young
Salisbury	Invincible	Parkin ¹	Farr	Sutton	Edds	Willis	Bampton
Tranmere	Parkin ¹	Nightingale	Farr	Sabin	Edds	Willis	Marney
Tranmere	Nightingale	Parkin	Farr	Sabin	Willis	Edds	Halliday
Marney	Parkin ¹	Invincible	Smith	Sabin	Willis	Edds	Nightingale
Invincible ¹	Marney	Parkin ¹	Smith	Willis	Sabin	Edds	Nightingale
Farnham	Parkin ¹	Invincible	Farr	Sabin ¹	Nightingale	Edds	Willis
Farnham	Parkin	Invincible [*]	Farr	Sabin	Edds	Nightingale	Willis

NATIONWIDE DIVISION TWO 2002/03

TEAM	PLD	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	GD
WIGAN	27	20	5	2	46	15	65	+31
OLDHAM	28	15	9	4	44	22	54	+22
CREWE	27	16	5	6	45	21	53	+24
CARDIFF	26	16	5	5	44	22	53	+22
BRISTOL C	27	15	5	7	52	31	50	+21
QPR	28	13	7	8	36	30	46	+6
LUTON	26	11	7	8	40	35	40	+5
BLACKPOOL	27	11	7	9	36	37	40	-1
TRANMERE	27	11	6	10	37	41	39	-4
BRENTFORD	26	10	7	9	32	30	37	+2
CHESTERFIELD	27	11	4	12	24	32	37	-8
PLYMOUTH	26	9	9	8	34	32	36	+2
WYCOMBE	28	9	8	11	40	38	35	+2
SWINDON	28	9	8	11	38	41	35	-3
NOTTS CO	27	6	12	9	40	42	30	-2
PORT VALE	26	8	6	12	31	40	30	-9
NORTHAMPTON	27	8	5	14	24	42	29	-18
STOCKPORT	28	8	4	16	38	49	28	-11
MANSFIELD	27	8	4	15	43	59	28	-16
PETERBOROUGH	28	6	9	13	29	38	27	-9
COLCHESTER	27	6	9	12	28	39	27	-11
BARNLEY	27	7	6	14	31	44	27	-13
CHELLENHAM	26	5	8	13	24	40	23	-16
HUDDERSFIELD	27	5	7	15	19	35	22	-16

APPEARANCES 2002/03

PLAYER	LEAGUE			FA CUP			NORTHAMPTON			LEAGUE		
	APPS	GOALS	MIN	APPS	GOALS	MIN	APPS	GOALS	MIN	APPS	GOALS	MIN
BART GRIEMINK	20	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
GARTH FIDDIS	164	0	1	110	0	0	111	0	0	1	0	0
MATTHEW HEWLETT	26	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	1	111	0	0
ADAM WILKS	164	0	2	111	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0
ANDY GURNEY	25	3	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	111	0	0
KETH HALLIDAY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JIMMY DAVIS	110	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
SAM PARKIN	2211	17	100	2	0	0	1	0	0	111	1	0
STEFANO MIGLIORANZI	2123	1	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0
DAVID DUKE	26	0	3	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
AVAN CORRIAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ERIC SABIN	194	4	5	2	0	0	1	0	1	111	0	0
DARON DAVES	0	0	0	0	0	0	111	0	0	111	0	0
NEIL RUSSELL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DANNY INVINCIBLE	2123	2	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	0
MATTY HEWWOOD	25	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
ALAN REEVES	21	2	3	2	0	0	111	0	0	0	0	0
NATHAN EDWARDS	111	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEVIN HALLIDAY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STEVE ROBINSON	2411	1	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
ALAN YOUNG	164	0	0	111	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
CHRIS COLLINS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IAN HERRING	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DAVID BAMPION	111	0	0	111	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JO HENRY JACKSON	110	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
CRAD FARR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	111	0	0
DEAN MARNEY	5	0	1									
LUKE NIGHTINGALE	211	0	1									

TODAY'S FIXTURES 25.01.03

The FA CUP

Blackburn vs Sunderland	
Brentford vs Burnley	
Farnham vs Arsenal	
Gillingham vs Leeds	
Norwich vs Dag & Red	
Rochdale vs Coventry	
Sheff Utd vs Ipswich	
Slough P-P Chelsea	
Swansea vs Millwall	
Stoke P-P Bournemouth	
Walsall vs Wimbledon	
Watford vs West Brom	
Wolves vs Leicester	

Nationwide 62

Bristol C vs Stockport	
C'tenham vs Chesterfield	
Colchester vs Blackpool	
H'field vs Cardiff	
Luton vs Wycombe	
N'hampton vs Peterborough	
Notts Co vs Plymouth	
Oldham vs Crewe	
Port Vale vs Barnsley	
QPR vs Tranmere	
Swindon vs Wigan	

Nationwide 63

Boston Utd vs Bristol R	
Cambridge vs Hartlepool	
Carlisle vs Leyton Orient	
Hull City vs York	
K'minster vs Bury	
M'field vs Exeter	
Oxford vs Rushden	
S'horpe vs Southend	
Swansea vs Lincoln	
Torquay vs Darlington	

Nationwide 61

Grimsby vs Bradford	
Preston vs Nottm Forest	



SWINDON

Manager Andy King

WIGAN

Manager Paul Jewell

✓ = PROBABLE STARTING LINE-UP

BART GRIEMINK ✓	1	✓	JOHN FILAN
GARETH EDDS	2	✓	PAUL MITCHELL
DEAN MARNEY ✓	3		STEPHEN McMILLAN
MATTHEW HEWLETT ✓	4	✓	MATT JACKSON
ADAM WILLIS	5	✓	JASON DE VOS
ANDREW GURNEY ✓	6		IAN BRECKIN
KEITH O'HALLORAN	7	✓	ANDREW LIDDELL
	8		NEIL ROBERTS
SAM PARKIN ✓	9	✓	NATHAN ELLINGTON
STEFANI MIGLIORANZI ✓	10	✓	LEE McCULLOCH
DAVID DUKE ✓	11	✓	PETER KENNEDY
	12		MIKE FLYNN
	13		DAVE BEASANT
ERIC SABIN	14		SCOTT GREEN
DAREN DYKES	15		LEE ASHCROFT
	16	✓	TONY DINNING
DANIEL INVINCIBILE ✓	17		GED BRANNAN
CRAIG FARR	18		JASON JARRETT
MATTHEW HEYWOOD ✓	19	✓	NICKY EADEN
ALAN JUDGE	20	✓	GARY TEALE
DAVID BAMPTON	21		
ALAN REEVES ✓	22		
NATHAN EDWARDS	23		
KEVIN HALLIDAY	24		
STEVE ROBINSON ✓	25		CHRIS LYNCH
	26		LEIGHTON BAINES
	27		GREG TRAYNOR
STEVE SMITH	28		KIERAN CHARNOCK
ALAN YOUNG	29		IAN PENDLEBURY
CHRIS COLLINS	30		PAUL SANTUS
	31		RYAN YEOMANS

MATCHDAY SPONSOR

MUSIC SUPPLIER

GREENHAM

HMV

Nationwide
FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Clarion
LAW AGENTS & ESTATE AGENTS

Kit Supplier

Matchday Food & Drink

FORM GUIDE

TOWN'S

Last 10 Home League Results

L-W-L-D-W-D-D-L-W-D

P	W	D	L	F	A
10	3	4	3	17	10

WIGAN'S

Last 10 Away League Results

D-W-W-W-D-W-W-W-W-W

P	W	D	L	F	A
10	8	2	0	16	3

LAST COUNTY GROUND MEETING

Saturday March 16 2002

Swindon Town 1
Wigan Athletic 1

MEN IN THE MIDDLE

Referee: M. J. Jones
Assistant 1: D. J. Hine
Assistant 2: S. Tomlinson
4th Official: S. D. Habgood

Valentines Special

There really is no reason for you to miss the Wycombe clash in two week's time. Not only have ticket prices been reduced (£2 once again for adults in both the Arkells and Nationwide Stands), but you can also wine and dine you other half. Simply turn to page 39 for more information - or contact the Sales and Marketing Department on 01793 333718.



09068 121640

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

*Calls charged at 60p at all times