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VICTORIA PARK LIFE

 **LEAGUE 1**

ISSUE 26

vs SWINDON TOWN

Saturday 2nd
April 2005

HUGH ROBERTSON:

PREPARE FOR THE POWER

ALSO INSIDE:

NEALE COOPER • HUGH ROBERTSON • ANDY KING • MATCH PICTURES AND MUCH MORE

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Vs: Swindon Town

Saturday April 2nd 2005 Kick-off 3.00pm



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First Team

Division 3

Play Offs

1999/2000,

2000/2001,

2001/2002

Promotion

1990/91

Runners Up &

Promotion

2002/2003

North East Team

of the Year

2002/2003

Division 2

Play Offs

2003/2004

Reserve Team

Division 1 East

League

Champions

2003/2004

Youth Team

FL Youth

Alliance

Champions

2002/2003

USA Dallas Cup

Under 19s

Champions

2003/2004



Neale COOPER



Neale Cooper is looking for the points needed to maintain Pools' position inside the play-off zone.

Good afternoon and welcome along to Victoria Park for this afternoon's game against Swindon Town. I would like to offer a warm welcome to all the Robins' fans who have made the long journey here today and wish them a safe trip home.

Obviously when you think of games between these two Clubs you automatically think of that memorable afternoon at the end of last season. It was a great occasion for us both to get in the play-offs on the last day of the season - it was a wonderful feeling to make it after all the hard work.



Both teams suffered disappointment after finally squeezing in to the play-offs last term but both ourselves and Swindon have responded

did enough to take the win but you have to give credit to Blackpool for hanging in there.

When we conceded that

“ Adam Boyd was in the right place at the right time again and I think given the fact he's scored twenty-three now I think he is allowed a few straightforward ones! ”

positively. This is a massive game here today make no mistake and the players know that we need a big performance.

There aren't too many games left now and the finish line is in sight - we have to make sure that we with stay the pace and keep our position in the run-in. The players have been

early goal your mind starts wandering back to the game at Bloomfield Road last season when we lost 4-0. I was hoping the players would be strong enough to cope with that and they were - they once again showed tremendous character and a superb attitude to come from behind.

Adam Boyd was in the right place at the right time again and I think those are probably two of his more simple goals this season! Given the fact he's scored twenty-three now I think he is allowed a few straightforward ones! He put in another good display on his return to the starting eleven and I was pleased to see him get on the scoresheet.

magnificent again for me this season and I am very confident they can keep that going and make sure the Club is once again finishing in the top six.

We were all quite disappointed not to be celebrating three points at Blackpool on Bank Holiday Monday. I thought we

One player who was unfortunate not to get at least one goal was Antony Sweeney. He burst in to the



Blackpool box on numerous occasions and but for some heroic defending he could have found the net twice. It was a great boost to us when he signed a new deal with the Club on Wednesday afternoon.

Players like 'Sweens' are a shining example of what an excellent job our Youth Development Programme does in honing young talent. On Monday we had Jim Provett, Darren Craddock, Matty Robson, Antony Sweeney and Adam Boyd in

Talking of Youth, I have to give a mention to Paul Stephenson and his Youth Team for another superb Dallas Cup campaign. This is the third season in a row the lads have competed in the tournament and they have done themselves proud again this time round.

They landed back in the country on Tuesday evening having finished in third place in the Super Group, which I am told is an outstanding achievement given the quality of the opposition on show.

“ They landed back in the country on Tuesday evening having finished in third place in the Super Group, which I am told is an outstanding achievement given the quality of the opposition. ”

the team with Steven Istead on the substitutes' bench. All six of those players have come through the ranks at the Club, which is a brilliant thing to see happening and we will continue to encourage these youngsters and challenge them to make the grade.

Aston Villa of the Premier League got knocked out in the Group stage, which meant we were the most successful English team at the tournament. Well done, boys!

Enjoy this afternoon's match and get right behind the lads - we need you!



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From the **BOARDROOM**

Chairman Ken Hodcroft gives us his thoughts as Pools prepare to take on Swindon Town at Victoria Park.



THE BOARDROOM

Welcome back to Victoria Park for today's vital clash with Swindon Town, the other unfortunate club in last season's Play-off semi-finals. We offer a very warm welcome to all the Directors, staff, players and fans who have made the long journey north.

It was a very frustrating Easter weekend last week with Huddersfield completing a smash and grab raid at The Vic last Friday night then Blackpool snatching a late equaliser at Bloomfield Road on Monday. Five points dropped at a vital time in the season. Fortunately, none of the clubs around us were able to take full advantage but the clubs below the Play-off positions definitely benefited with the gap now uncomfortably small.

However, while the First Team have been faltering a bit over Easter, our Youth Team have excelled themselves again in the prestigious Dallas Cup in the USA. Having won the smaller of the U19 tournaments last year, they were invited to compete in the Super Group this time with some of the top clubs from Central and South America, Europe and the Far East, plus Aston Villa from our Premiership.

After a fine win over Japanese side, Jubilo Iwata and a

courageous draw with Tigres of Mexico, the lads overran So Cal United of South California to reach the semi-finals where they met a very strong Mexican side, Santos Laguna. Sadly the heat and humidity took their toll and they could not reproduce the earlier form, suffering a 3-0 defeat but Paul Stephenson threw in a number of his U16s for the 3rd/4th Place match and

“ Martin Scott has produced a good blend of experienced players, including recent signings Steve Howey and Thomas Butler and Club captain, Mickey Barron... ”

overcame Tigres this time, with goals from David Manson and Martin Robinson giving them a deserved 2-1 win.

Congratulations to Paul, Ian Kerr, Bobby Paterson, Ian Gallagher and all the lads who represented us out in Dallas and a very special thank you to our main shirt sponsors for the tournament, Baker Botts plus Aon Insurance and Bowood Partners, our training kit sponsors. Without their help this trip would not have been possible. We also received several smaller sponsorship donations including one from our local council. Thank you to everyone who helped make

this such a successful trip. Incidentally, Aston Villa failed to qualify from their group!

Back home, our Reserves have put together a good run of results recently as they move into the last stage of their season. Martin Scott has produced a good blend of experienced players, including recent signings Steve Howey and

Thomas Butler and Club captain, Mickey Barron, with several of our Youth Team that were so successful out in Dallas. It is a difficult job for Martin as he is often left with the players who were left on the bench or did not feature in First Team match at the weekend and it is to his credit that he is able to pick them up and get the best out of these lads.

Back to today and it is important that we all get behind the team right from the start. We need to put together a good run of results over the next few weeks to cement our position in the Play-offs. So cheer the lads on to victory today.



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Micky BARRON

HUFC CAPTAIN

Micky Barron is hoping Pools can get the three valuable points on offer against Swindon Town today.

Good afternoon and welcome to Victoria Park for this afternoon's game with Swindon Town.

I think games against The Robins will always bring back memories of the fixture on the last day of last season down at The County Ground when we both got in to the play-offs.

It was a strange day and build-up to the game in that both sides knew that a point would be good enough to get them there. I remember the awful feeling when they scored the opening goal and wondering whether all of the hard work we had put in throughout the campaign would go to waste.

I suppose the run of form Boydy was in at the time we shouldn't have been worried but it was still a huge relief when he nodded home the equaliser. We had loads of close calls in trying to get that goal and you begin to think it might not come but we kept plugging away and deserved the goal. After that, I don't think the result was in any doubt - neither team took any risks at all!

Swindon and ourselves are again in the play-off picture this season and whilst nothing will be decided this afternoon, the result could go a long way to deciding our fate. They are all big

games at the moment and this is certainly a huge one for both Clubs so hopefully we can get the upper hand and the points

"...we shouldn't have been worried but it was still a huge relief when he nodded home the equaliser."

this afternoon.

Town have enjoyed another good season and they beat us fairly

comfortably at their place early this term. We are confident we can put that right today though and we'll be determined to put in the right performance.

Just to end, I would like to offer warm welcomes to the new players who have joined the Club recently in Steve Howey and Thomas Butler. They both add quality and experience to the squad and I am certain they will both prove popular with the fans. Hopefully they can both play their part in bringing more success to Victoria Park this season - good luck, lads.



A Day TO REMEMBER

Pools and Swindon Town enjoyed a mutual celebration at The County Ground at the end of last season.

As final days of the season go, it was a particularly dramatic one...

But then supporters of Hartlepool United have seemingly signed up for a roller-coaster of emotions in recent seasons and the last-day encounter at Swindon Town last term was certainly a tension-filled part of the ride.

With both teams going in to The County Ground fixture knowing a draw would be enough to secure their play-off places in League One, few could have predicted just how dramatic the game would be.

The home side cruelly broke from the script early on. Improvisation from Robins' midfielder Sammy Igoe fired Andy King's men in to the lead and put them in the driving seat in the chase for the play-offs.

The torrential rain of the first half blighted Pools' efforts to get back on level terms and for long periods it looked as though Neale Cooper's men would fall short of their ambitions.

Eifion Williams and Ritchie Humphreys both saw efforts held out by a resolute Town rear-guard as the huge following of Pools fans in the open end behind the goal continued to sing in the rain.

Mark Tinkler had a powerful, goal-bound shot blocked. Hugh Robertson's quickly-taken free-kick was destined for the top corner but for the timely intervention of home keeper Evans.

After nine months of ups and downs, of joy and despair, Pools season looked to be coming to disappointing end in the deluge at The County Ground. But then it was time for Adam Boyd to once again take centre-stage.

The striker was in the form of his career since returning from a loan spell at Boston United and there was little surprise when it was he who headed Pools back on level terms and in to the promotion play-offs.

"It was a wonderful occasion," recalls Neale Cooper.

"Adam was obviously the one who grabbed the headlines with the equalising goal but that day really was about the whole team.

"The way we kept going when we went one down was an illustration of the character and fighting spirit we have in the side - it was evident all through the season.

"Of course, it was disappointing to lose to Bristol City in the play-offs themselves but that day at Swindon is one that both sets of fans will remember for a long time, I am sure."





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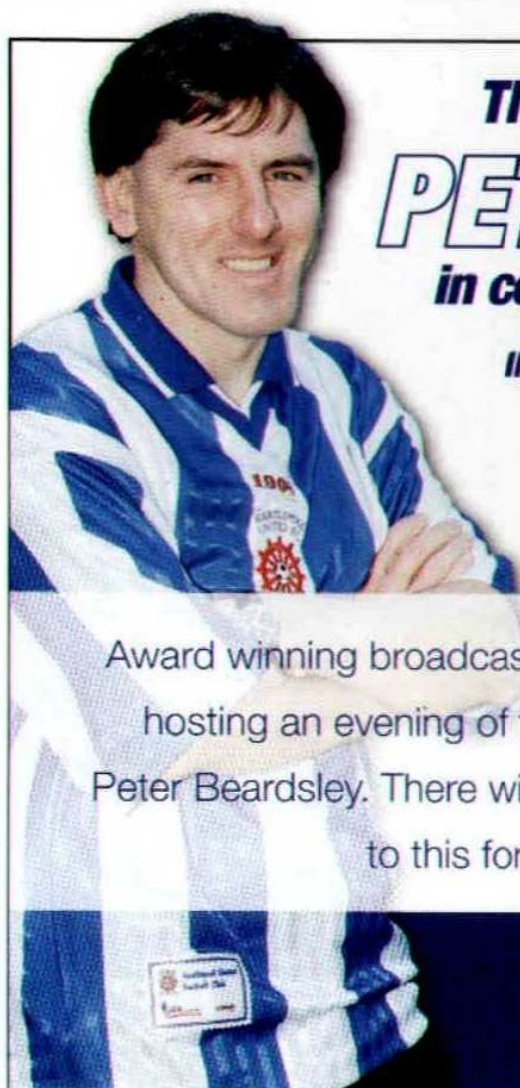
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Introducing **SWINDON TOWN**



THE VISITORS

Swindon Town are looking to take advantage of some end-of-season nerves near the top of League One.

With the teams inside of the top six seemingly trying to get themselves out of the play-off zone in recent weeks, Swindon Town are waiting in the wings for their chance to move up.

Results have not favoured the top sides of late and Andy King's Robins now fancy their chances of pushing themselves right in to contention.

Town, like Pools, have put firmly behind them the misery of last season's play-off defeat.

campaign is a credit to the way King motivates his players.

Having been forced to part company with exciting strike duo Tommy Mooney and Andy Gurney in the summer, many may have felt that Swindon would be another bigger club slipping towards the League Two trapdoor.

The loan market was employed well by King in the early months of the season, most notably with Gillingham's Darius Henderson. The powerful striker proved a

and player awards for League One. Boss King was rewarded for three wins and two draws with the Manager of the Month gong, whilst Parkin scooped the Player prize after netting five times during the Robins' hot streak.

Unlike last season, today's fixture between these two sides will not win or lose play-off places. But the result of this afternoon's massive encounter could go a long way to deciding the final outcome in another dramatic League One campaign for both outfits.

“Town have once again over-achieved on the pitch and to be in touching distance of a play-off spot at this stage in the campaign is a credit to the way King motivates his players.”

After clinching their places on that drama-filled day at The County Ground at the end of last term, both teams lost out in unfortunate circumstances.

The Robins have dealt with administration on more than one occasion and King insists he is still “overseeing the clear-up” at the troubled Wiltshire Club. Given their predicament, Town have once again over-achieved on the pitch and to be in touching distance of a play-off spot at this stage in the

real handful for Pools at The County Ground early this term.

Sam Parkin, another player who scored in the 3-0 win for the Robins on that day, has been Town's key man this season. The 6ft 2ins front man has been terrorising League One defences all year, and recently hit a treble in a 4-2 victory over troubled Wrexham.

Town followed in Pools' footsteps in February when their Club won the monthly managerial



SWINDON TOWN

Andy King's men will be looking to boost their play-off hopes this afternoon.



1. RHYS EVANS GOALKEEPER

Town manager Andy King swooped for the young stopper in 2003 to give first choice keeper Bart Griemink more competition for the number one shirt at Swindon Town. Since then Evans has been a regular between the posts for Town and has turned in many match saving performances.

He enjoyed a successful first season back at The County Ground, making 43 first team appearances and has now established himself as number one once again.



2. SEAN O'HANLON DEFENDER

After impressing during an eight-game loan spell last season, Liverpool-born Sean O'Hanlon signed for Swindon Town in March 2004 on a permanent basis from Everton.

Has been inspirational once again this term and has captained the side on a number of occasions.



3. GRANT SMITH MIDFIELDER

Grant joined Swindon Town after being released from the Blades and was strongly

recommended by Sheffield United boss, Neil Warnock amongst many others. Since joining in the summer of 2003, 'Smithy' was made to wait for his chance and having featured in the Carling Cup win at Southend United, was given an opportunity to impress at Leeds United in the Second Round.

Began this season in the starting line-up at Wrexham before being relegated to the bench. He has now made a run of first team appearances and has put his left foot to great affect, scoring in last Friday's 1-1 draw at MK Dons to add to his impressive goal tally.



4. MATTHEW HEWLETT (CAP) MIDFIELDER

Matt left Bristol City to join Town on a Bosman in the summer of 2000. He was a regular for Colin Todd until being hit by injury once again and went on to play just 26 league games. Last term he was virtually ever-present (43 games in all competitions) despite never really hitting top gear.

He has now made well over a hundred appearances for Swindon Town and continues to be a consistent performer in the centre of midfield. Despite some criticism, he tends to be the engine room at the heart of the team and the side

never quite looks the same when he is missing.

6. STEVE JENKINS DEFENDER

Capped by Wales on 16 occasions, 'Jenks' was signed at the end of November 2004 and has provided added experience to the Town backline. After beginning his career at Swansea, he has also been with Huddersfield, Birmingham, Cardiff, Notts County and Peterborough.

After falling out of favour at London Road under Barry Fry, Town Boss Andy King moved quickly to sign the player after impressing during his four game loan spell. A reliable performer who has made the right back slot his own.



7. SAMMY IGOE MIDFIELDER

After deciding he was no longer in then manager Alan Pardew's future plans, Igoe left Reading to join Swindon in the summer of 2003. This season he has brought a fresh enthusiasm to the Town side and has quickly become a crowd favourite with his quick feet, skills and turn of pace.

Capable of chipping in with goals, and making decisive contributions in the middle of the park, he is always a threat to the opposition.



8. RORY FALLON STRIKER

A recent signing from Barnsley, the big striker made quite an impression against Town in the past two seasons, scoring on many occasions and catching the eye of Town boss Andy King.

King had become a keen admirer of the striker and Town eventually agreed a disclosed fee with Barnsley to bring him down to Wiltshire. Having waited patiently for his chance, has scored a number of goals including a brilliant overhead kick from the edge of the box to secure a point against Bristol City in early April.

After the summer departure of Tommy Mooney to Oxford, Fallon has made a number of starts during this 2004-5 season and has found the back of the net on four occasions.



9. SAM PARKIN STRIKER

Young and very promising forward who joined the club from Chelsea in 2002. The transfer followed a mass of speculation, with Andy King, a huge fan of the player, tracking him for several months.

'Super Sammy Parkin' more than repaid Andy King's faith in his ability by netting 26 goals during the 2002-03 campaign, including a devastating hat-trick against Barnsley on the opening day of the season. Strong on the ball and devastating in the box, he then went on to finish third in the Division's goal charts.

Parkin enjoyed another good season in front of goal last campaign, scoring 26 goals and

could be set to break that record this term.



10. STEFANI MIGLIORANZI MIDFIELDER

The 22-year-old is a Brazilian born American but holds an Italian passport. As a footballer the genes don't come much better. What's more, Miglioranza is versatile; he can play in defence or as a central midfielder and since joining the club in July, has impressed in the middle of Town's midfield.

The last campaign saw the midfielder go from strength to strength at the heart of Town's midfield and after chipping in with his fair share of spectacular goals; he has quickly become the heartbeat of Andy King's team.

He made his comeback from an adductor injury with an appearance off the bench against Blackpool in January and is now back in the first team fold.



11. DAVID DUKE DEFENDER/ MIDFIELDER

'Dukey' will feel slightly aggrieved with the tag of 'Most Improved Player' last season - but he hardly missed a game and rarely put a foot wrong on the left hand side of Town's midfield.

The Scotsman arrived on a free transfer from Sunderland in 2000 having never managed a start for the Black Cat's first team. Duke appeared regularly in his first season with the Robins and he has now amassed over 165 league starts for Swindon in a variety of positions.



12. JEREL IFIL DEFENDER

Powerful defender Jerel Ifil joined Town in the summer of 2004 after enjoying three loan spells with Town previously from 02-04.

Jerel became a fan's favourite during his brief stays in Wiltshire and having finally signed on the dotted line, has combined well with Sean O'Hanlon or Matt Heywood as the centre half pairing.

14. CHRISTIAN ROBERTS STRIKER

Cardiff-born striker who joined Town on Thursday 14th October 2004 in a £50,000 switch from local rivals Bristol City.

He is an aggressive runner and will add much needed pace to the Swindon frontline.

Made a tremendous start to his Town career, scoring the winner on his debut against Oldham and he has continued to score goals alongside Sam Parkin.



16. STEVE ROBINSON MIDFIELDER

Tough-tackling and energetic right-footed midfield terrier signed from Birmingham City for £50,000 in February 2001, he was an automatic choice for the Robins for the remainder of that season and more recently, signed a two-year extension to his contract.

His non stop attitude and one hundred per cent work rate for the team has proved to be an outstanding asset and having missed the latter part of last season with a fractured leg sustained at Blackpool in January 2004.

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17. BRIAN HOWARD MIDFIELDER

The youngster joined Town from Southampton in 2003 having playing for the Saints reserves for two years. The 20-year old left-sided midfielder even turned down a late move to go to Chelsea, choosing instead to opt for some first team football under Andy King.

The left sided midfielder proved to be a revelation on the flanks last season and having moved into the middle of the park earlier this season, is battling away for a first team place.



18. ALAN REEVES DEFENDER

Before joining Swindon in 1998, he spent four years at Wimbledon, where he had the tough task of replacing John Scales..

Town's veteran defender enjoyed another fine season in 2002-03. Although initially not a member of the side, he forced his way into contention as the team hit some poor early season form and his uncompromising and committed displays helped the Robins turn their fortunes around.

He has now made well over 400 league appearances and was rewarded last season with a playing/coaching role that has seen him turn around the fortunes of Town's reserve side.



19. MATTHEW HEYWOOD DEFENDER

It has been another consistent year for Town's most effective defender.

Originally, Heywood failed to break through at Burnley's Turf Moor and, after being alerted as to his availability by former scout Shaun Reid, Andy King snapped him up on a free transfer.

Was an ever-present in the latter half of 2000/01 and has now missed just four games since. The tall defender signed an extension to his contract, much to the delight of the fans and he has shown the same strength and commitment this season.

Strong in the tackle and good in the air, Heywood is proving to be a great asset to the club.



20. STEVE BOOK GOALKEEPER

Signed at the start of August 2004 from Cheltenham Town as a replacement for the departed Bart Griemink, who left at the end of the 2003-4 campaign to join Southend United.

Has made three starts in cup competitions this season at Rushden & Diamonds and Exeter City respectively along with a clean sheet in the LDV Vans Trophy win over Bristol City. One league start at home to Wrexham this term.

23. LUKE GARRARD DEFENDER

Right-sided defender who has come through the ranks at Swindon having been released by Arsenal and Spurs as a youngster.

A confident player, Garrard enjoyed a run of games in January 2004 and is a great prospect for the future.

24. ANDY CATON STRIKER

A speedy striker, Andy joined Swindon Town as a first year scholar in June 2004 after spending some time with GLS Hellenic Premier Division side North Leigh last season where he was a prolific scorer.

Came off the bench on the opening day of the scoring against Wrexham and has made subsequent appearances for the first team. He scored the winner in the Wiltshire Premier Shield win at Swindon Supermarine and continues his footballing education with first team substitute appearances.



King Of The Road



Swindon Town chief Andy King is hoping for an away win to help move his side closer to the play-offs for the second successive season.

Swindon Town boss Andy King is impressed with the way both Swindon Town and Pools have bounced back from their collective play-off heartache at the end of last season.

King feels that the best two teams in the semi-finals of last term's League One play-offs did not make the final. He says that has been proven in the way that his and Neale Cooper's sides have acquitted themselves during the current campaign.

Both teams are still on course to finish inside the top six again this term and King believes the achievements are testament to the hard work that goes on in the lower leagues of professional football.

"A lot of people of people do a lot of good work at this level and Neale Cooper is one of them ..."

"We know the circumstances we work in," he tells us. "It is easy for

Jose Mourinho to shout his mouth off every week - I think I would if I had spent £28 million on players. We could all pick Drogba or Duff out - even Roy Orbison could pick them out, but it is harder at

"Although everyone thinks of Swindon as a big team of the past, I am still going through the clean up system at the Club and have faced administration twice," he admits

"Although everyone thinks of Swindon as a big team of the past, I am still going through the clean up system at the Club and have faced administration twice..."

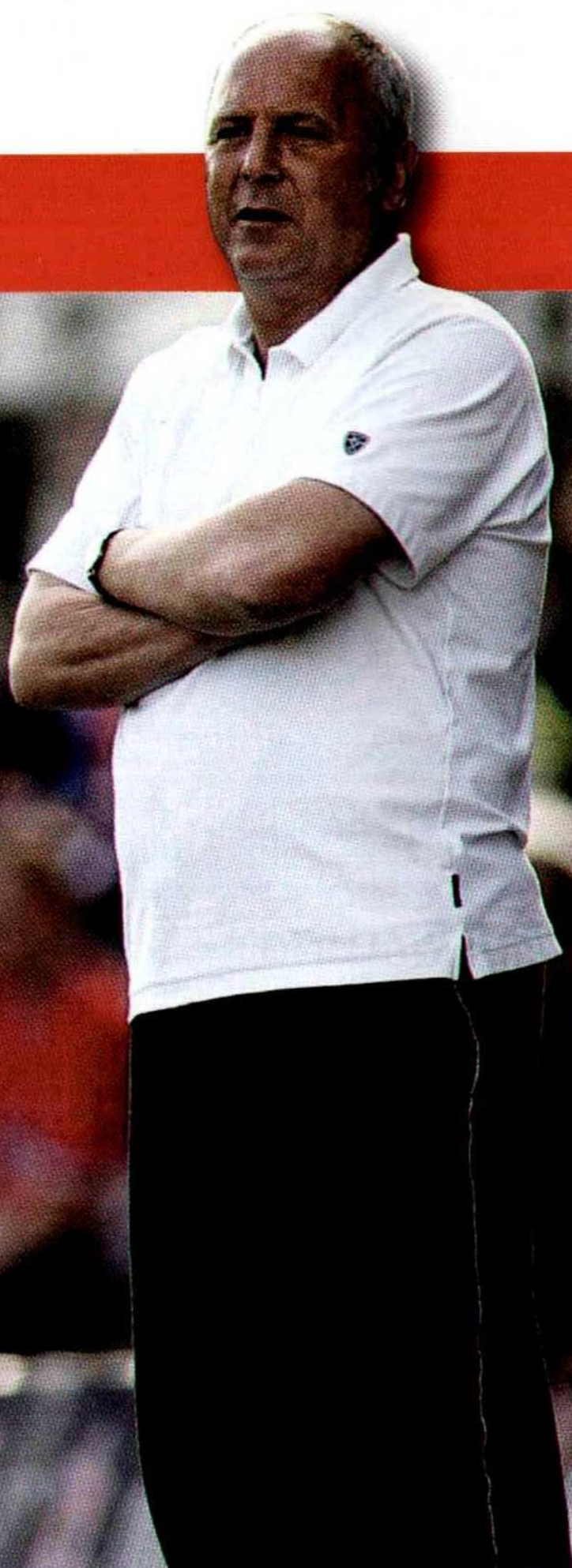
this level with the work that I and Neale Cooper have to do. "A lot of people of people do a lot of good work at this level and Neale Cooper is one of them and the saddest thing is that one of us will have to lose out. If they win, then I believe they are in the play offs and if we do, then we have got a great chance."

The Robins currently lie eighth in League One, just five points behind Pools but King says that even to be in touching distance of the play-off zone is a plus for the County Ground outfit. King was forced to shed a combined twenty-eight goals in the summer when Tommy Mooney and Andy Gurney left the Club and he is proud of the way his team have reacted.

"To still be talking about the play offs, to me, is an achievement for both teams. Although we were favourites to make it into the play offs again, football doesn't work that way.

"Hartlepool have been fantastic again this season, although they are just wobbling at the moment, they are pushing for the play offs again and we are on the verge of it ourselves.

"There are no guarantees that Hartlepool and Neale Cooper will do it again this season but if they do it will be a great achievement and if Andy King and his team do it again then that would be a massive achievement as well."





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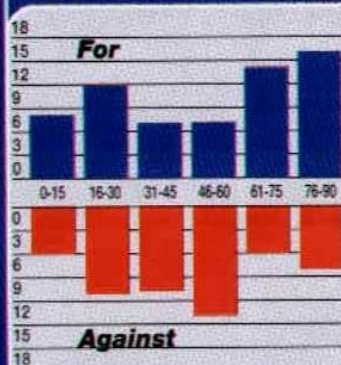
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Hartlepool v Swindon

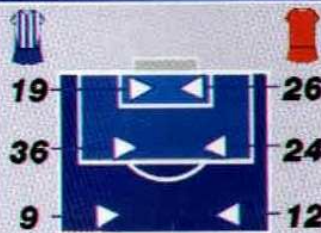


When Scored



How & Where Goals Scored

Shots 36
Headers 12
Volleys 5
Penalties 6
Free Kicks 3
Own Goals 2

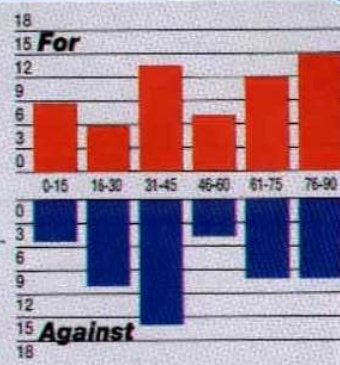


Shots on Target 224
Goals Scored 64
% of Shots Scored 28.6

Shots 30
Headers 19
Volleys 9
Penalties 1
Free Kicks 2
Own Goals 1

Shots on Target 201
Goals Scored 62
% of Shots Scored 30.8

When Scored



Discipline

Red Cards 1
Yellow Cards 43
Fouls Committed 377
Average per Game 9.67
Conceded from Free Kick 5
Fouls Suffered 524
Average per Game 13.44
Scored from Free Kick 12
Caught Offside 144
Average per Game 3.69

Top Scorers in each Category

Westwood, Boyd 3
Boyd, Robertson 2
Porter 5
Porter 6
Sweeney 2
Boyd 5
Boyd 5
3 players 2
Boyd 16.8

Headed goals Parkin 9
Long range shots Smith 4
Inside 6 yards Parkin 10
Shots from 6-18 yards Parkin 7
Volleyed shots Parkin 2
Penalties Parkin 1
Scored 1st Goal in match Parkin 4
Most goals in last 10 Parkin 4
Points gained from goals Parkin 20.58

Discipline

Red Cards 4
Yellow Cards 51
Fouls Committed 515
Average per Game 13.21
Conceded from Free Kick 4
Fouls Suffered 445
Average per Game 11.41
Scored from Free Kick 6
Caught Offside 98
Average per Game 2.51

Last 6 & Swings

Opponents	H/A	Score
Blackpool	A	2-2
Huddersfield	H	0-1
Bradford	A	2-1
Tranmere	H	0-1
Hull	A	0-1
Wrexham	H	4-6
Won when Behind:	6	
Drawn when Behind:	2	
Drawn when Ahead:	2	
Lost when Ahead:	5	

Seasonal Progress Comparison



Last 6 & Swings

Opponents	H/A	Score
MK Dons	A	1-1
Wrexham	H	4-2
Luton	A	1-3
Bournemouth	H	0-3
Doncaster	A	1-1
Port Vale	H	1-0
Won when Behind:	3	
Drawn when Behind:	7	
Drawn when Ahead:	6	
Lost when Ahead:	2	

Swindon's Last 10 Years

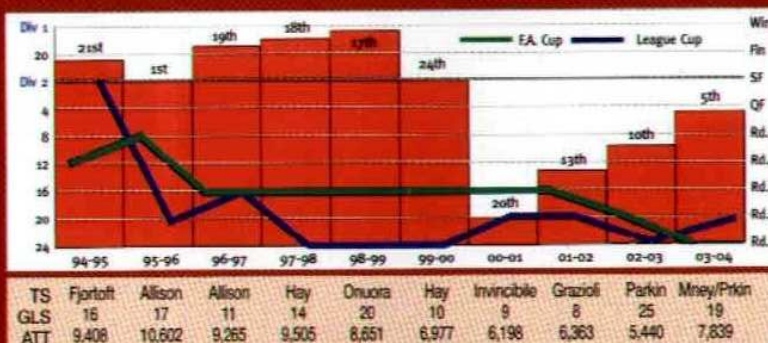
Games Played 587
Won 193
Drawn 160
Lost 234
Goals Scored 727
Goals Conceded 867
Points Total 739
Biggest Win

6-0 Huddersfield 96/97

Heaviest Defeat

0-7 Bolton 96/97

n.b. stats from 92-93 to present



Top Scorers

Sam Parkin 65
Wayne Allison 31
Chris Hay 30
Jan-Aage Fjortoft 27
Peter Thorne 27
Paul Bodin 26
Shaun Taylor 26
Iffy Onuora 25
Mark Walters 25
Andy Gurney 22

n.b. scorers from 92-93 to present

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Victoria Park, Attendance: 6,205



Photo Credit
- FRANK REID



Hartlepool United 0

GOALS: -



Huddersfield Town 1

GOALS: Booth

TEAM: Provett, Craddock, Nelson, Westwood, Robertson, Humphreys, Sweeney, Tinkler, Robson, Williams, Porter.

SUBS: Konstantopoulos, Strachan, Clarke, Butler, Boyd.

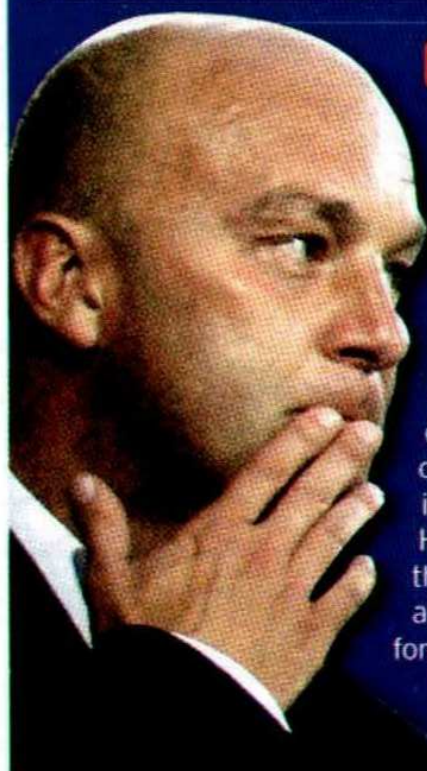
STAR MAN: Darren Craddock

Young full-back Darren Craddock has been enhancing his reputation with a string of mature displays since being given a run in the side by Neale Cooper. Craddock is strong in the tackle and determined in his approach to defending. As well as that, he is also confident on the ball and can deliver some excellent crosses when in advanced positions. He was certainly unlucky to be on the losing side in the game against Huddersfield Town after making some telling contributions.



COOPER'S COMMENT:

I can't fault the effort the lads put in to that game this evening. We created a lot of chances but unfortunately could not put them away to get back in to the game. Their keeper pulled off a couple of great saves and we have certainly played worse than that in the past and won matches. Huddersfield are a good side though - they are mobile and get about the park well. I thought we forced things a little too much and the final ball wasn't as good as it could have been.





Commercial & HOSPITALITY



For all Commercial information visit hartlepoolunited.co.uk and click on 'Club'

Good afternoon and welcome to everyone for today's League One encounter with Swindon Town. I would like to welcome all the players, staff, directors and fans to Victoria Park and hope that you all have a safe journey home to the South West.

It's back to Saturday action today after the Easter break, lets hope that today's game brings us a bit more luck than we have been having lately. Last Friday was unbelievable, we did everything but score, hit the woodwork several times, world class saves from their keeper, shots cleared off

"...we did everything but score, hit the woodwork several times, world class saves from their keeper, shots cleared off the line..."

the line, it all makes for excellent entertainment but its no good for the nerves!

As everyone is now well aware the Youth Team returned from Dallas on Tuesday, they were representing the Football Club in the Super Group of the Dallas Cup. The boys finished 3rd in the tournament which is a fantastic

achievement for Hartlepool United. Aston Villa, the only other representatives from the UK did not get past the group stages. This goes to show the world of football that we have something special here at Pools. We have yet another up and coming crop of players coming through and hopefully they can make it all the way to the First Team. I would at this point like to thank everyone who has supported us, not only for the Dallas Cup Team but also all our Youth and Centre of Excellence Teams throughout the season. Your sponsorship goes a long way towards the development of the boys and also in providing the boys with the best training facilities in the area. The boys look tremendous when they turn up each weekend in their playing and training kit which is all sponsored by individual companies and individuals. The backing from all our sponsors is vital to our success as a Club producing young talent. Gone are the days when Clubs can rely on funding from the Football League to help sustain our Youth, already this season we have seen yet another pledged contribution from the PFA disappear. We have to raise a considerable amount of funds to ensure the flow of home produced talent and all sponsorship we receive goes a long way to bridging this input. Every season we are looking at new ideas to help our Youth Development and we have to date been pleased with the numbers of sponsors that have

contributed to the cause. Let's keep the production line going and sponsor a young player next season for as little as £100 per season.

Finally, good luck to Neale, Martin and the lads this afternoon.

Enjoy the game.

Russ & Sarah



MASCOT

NAME - AIDEN LAMB
AGE - 9
SCHOOL - CLAVERING PRIMARY SCHOOL
FAVOURITE SPORT - FOOTBALL
MEMBER OF CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE UNDER 9'S
FAVOURITE PLAYER - CHRIS WESTWOOD



MASCOT

NAME - WILLIAM KIDD
AGE - 5
SCHOOL - BARNARD CASTLE
FAVOURITE SPORT - FOOTBALL
FAVOURITE PLAYER - ADAM BOYD



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Blackhall Rafa, Pyeroy, Pool Respray, Crest Id, Camerons Brewery, Greenlake Leisure Ltd and Playing For Success. All these

companies are with us this afternoon once again. Hope you all enjoy today's game and cheer us on to snatch another 3 points!

In our **CKs Carvery Restaurant** this afternoon we have guests from: -

Coatings Plus, Williamson Motors, Glamal Engineering, Reg Vardy, Universal Coatings and Paramount Homes.

In the **Victoria Diner** we have **British Energy** our **FITC Sponsors** and **Mr & Mrs Ballard** who are celebrating their 40th Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations to you both from everyone at Hartlepool United FC, hope you enjoy the day. Guests in the 1908 Lounge today are **Mr Kidd & Guests and Asda.**



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Michael Barron: Paul McSweeney

Chris Westwood: Rachel Sharp

Mark Tinkler: Andrew Bell

Ritchie Humphries: Sam Newton

Eifion Williams: Joe Llewellyn

Darrell Clarke:

John Connor Sharpe

Adam Boyd: Rachel Swan

Antony Sweeney: David Totty

Jim Provett:

James Owen Gallagher

Matty Robson: Emily Newton

Michael Nelson: Andrew Bell

John Brackstone: Ryan Bradshaw

Steven Istead: Sarah Robinson

Gavin Strachan:

Daniel & Joseph Liddell

David Foley: Fiona Henderson

Jack Wilkinson: Kym Thomson

Darren Craddock: Lewis Redhead

Dimi: Kayleigh Paylor

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Neale Cooper: Robbie Armstrong

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Martin Scott: Ryan Bradshaw

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HOME KIT: HUFCSA

AWAY KIT: Westwood's Hair

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HOME KIT: Playing for Success

AWAY KIT: Playing for Success

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HOME KIT: Monkey Business, the Pools fanzine, like!

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HOME KIT: Manor College of Technology

AWAY KIT: Manor College of Technology

No.15 Antony Sweeney



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AWAY KIT: Greenlake Leisure Ltd

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Peter Darke



HOME KIT: David Gray

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POOLS WORLD

With the frantic end of season approaching and special offers available, there's never been a better time to check out Pools World.

Pools World is the Club's Official Video Website and it's been going strong now for over two years. You need a fairly good reason not to get involved with this superb site - especially given the offers that are currently available.

You can now access the full video website from this point all through the summer for the incredibly low price of just £9.99. Not bad value when you consider the quality on offer...

Pools World brings you Daily TV News Bulletins which consist

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It simply couldn't be a better time to subscribe.

And if you don't want to miss a trick then you could subscribe to Pools World Extra, which gives you access to no fewer than 79 Clubs' World service. What could be better for keeping an eye on the other teams in the way of Pools' play-off aspirations?

If you don't fancy going the whole way and you think video content sounds a bit new-age

squad to provide expert analysis of the game as it unfolds.

So here are all those options available to you then:

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This is a real bargain - for this amazing price you can follow the fortunes of Neale Cooper's men both home and away as the countdown to the end of season gets underway!

Don't delay, check out the Official Website and click on the Pools World logo for more information.

And if you don't want to miss a trick then you could subscribe to Pools World Extra, which gives you access to no fewer than 79 Clubs' World service.

of exclusive interviews with the management and players, plus behind-the-scenes content from the Club and the Training Ground.

And with the current campaign building towards another tense and exciting finale you really should take a look at the unique coverage that Pools World gives

then why not subscribe to just the commentary service? That way you never miss a kick with Neale Cooper's men, home or away. So if you can't get to the match, let us bring the match to you!

The commentary is provided by Mark Simpson who is regularly joined by players from the



Big Vic shares his predictions ahead of Pools' clash with Swindon Town.

Neale Cooper's men are once again looking for a return to winning ways against Swindon Town this afternoon.

They were unfortunate not to take all the points from their seaside trip to Blackpool on Monday with a late goal denying them the points. Those who followed my advice on the Official Website and backed Pools to win from behind will have been doubly disappointed not to cash in at the tasty price of 11/1!

This afternoon is a different story altogether and I fancy Pools strongly to do the business against The Robins.

"If scorecasts are your cup of tea then my tip for that would be stick with the 1-0 scoreline..."

It's another massive game and Town are hot on the heels of Pools in the chase for the play-offs so don't expect a sack full of goals.

Therefore, I'd go for a 1-0 win for Cooper's men against a well-organised Swindon outfit. That can be backed at the decent odds of 6/1 with Hartlepoolbet.

If that price doesn't tickle your fancy then you're going to have to up the ante by predicting the first scorer along with the correct result to give yourself a bigger return.

If scorecasts are your cup of tea then my tip for that would be stick with the 1-0 scoreline but back Antony Sweeney to get the goal. The midfielder is due to get on the scoresheet and came close twice at Blackpool. This outcome can be backed at odds of 35/1.

And why not put some money on The Hammer? Hugh Robertson stung Blackpool keeper Lee Jones' hands a couple of time on Monday so back him to resume normal service with the opening goal and make yourself a tidy little profit.

Don't forget to keep checking my daily articles on Pools' Official website for tips on numerous sporting events. If you want to place a bet, visit www.hartlepoolbet.co.uk for some of the best odds available.



"...Town are hot on the heels of Pools in the chase for the play-offs so don't expect a sack full of goals."

Prepare For THE POWER

Hugh Robertson is once again back to full strength and is determined to fire Pools in to the play-offs.

Fourteen months ago Neale Cooper swooped for one of his old Ross County stalwarts and a new crowd favourite arrived at Victoria Park.

Hugh Robertson made himself a cult hero last season, firing in free-kicks from ridiculous angles and distances whilst also establishing himself as a strong defender. This term has been more of a frustrating one for the softly-spoken Scotsman having struggled against a troublesome foot injury for much of the campaign.

"I think that I've done alright but then I've missed half because of injury - hopefully if I can stay injury free I can do better in the remainder of the season."

The injury to his left-foot, nicknamed The Hammer by fans after a catalogue of blockbusting strikes, has been the source of much mystery.

The defender sought many differing opinions on the problem and he reveals there were times he thought his career might have been over.

"It's been a nightmare and I was thinking things could be over," he admits frankly. "This season started well, scoring two goals in two games, then all of a sudden I got injured and from then it's been terrible.

"I was only supposed to be out for two weeks and then it became two months, then three months and it was getting me down.

"I've seen that many specialists and I was really quite down. I had an operation but nothing seemed to be working then it just started to calm down and now I am pain-free for the first time since the start of the season."

Robertson tried to return to action in December but never looked back to his old self and was forced to sit out much of February when the pain became too much.

"It was a bit frustrating because I knew I wanted to strike the ball but I couldn't because it was hurting my foot so much. It was pretty numb as well so even after I struck it I could hardly run as well for a couple of minutes. It just started getting worse and worse.

"I was only supposed to be out for two weeks and then it became two months, then three months and it was getting me down."

"I wanted to kick a ball hard, but I knew that I couldn't and I started to kick the ball all wrong, I kept dragging things and all that it was a bit of a nightmare."

And when you're used to belting the ball as hard as Hugh Robertson it must be difficult to come to terms with not being able to do it. But, at Blackpool on Bank Holiday Monday, the 1,100 travelling Pools fans saw glimpses of what they have been waiting for. Home keeper Lee Jones is still rubbing his hands after palming away two vicious Robertson strikes in the second half at Bloomfield Road.

"I know - the second one I thought was going in and he put his hand up at the last minute and pushed it wide," Robertson says with a groan. "I was a bit disappointed with that because it could have been the winner."

"My confidence is definitely growing. I've started hitting the ball much better now, so hopefully touch wood that's it now and things will start getting back to normal."

Robertson, who celebrated his 30th birthday on the day Pools won at Bradford City recently, says that Neale Cooper's men must start picking up their form if they are to maintain their top-six placing. A little wobble in results of late has left the door ajar for a late assault from teams in the chasing pack but 'Shuggy' says it's

merely a blip and normal service will soon be resumed.

"Most of the teams around us have started to drop points as well. The thing is, they're not going to do that all the time either, they're going to start winning, so it's up to us to get back on track. We're still in a good position we just need to start picking points up again."

"We have been in this situation last season, we have the experience to deal with it and hopefully we can get the results we need to keep us in the play-off places."

Swindon Town offer the resistance at The Vic this afternoon and Andy King's men need a win to propel them closer to the play-off picture after losing out in the semi-finals to Brighton last season.

"It will be a tough game," he says. "Down there at the start of the season as well I think that was the start of our bad away run, but they are always there or thereabouts. The Manager there has shown he can get the most out of the players and they will be a threat but we are confident of putting in the right performance."

"My confidence is definitely growing. I've started hitting the ball much better now, so hopefully touch wood that's it now..."



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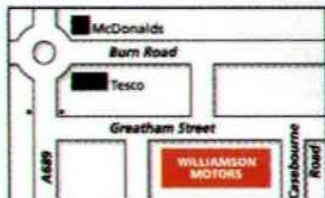
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Stuart DRUMMOND

Mayor Stuart Drummond is looking forward to this afternoon's meeting with Swindon Town.



MASCOT TO MAYOR

A very warm welcome to Victoria Park to everyone from Swindon this afternoon. It promises to be a very close game with Swindon sitting only three places and five points behind us. I've said many times this season that it will prove to be a very exciting finish to the league and with only seven games to go, it certainly looks as if it will be. None of the top six had a very good Easter period and it has given the chasing pack a good chance to catch up. We have only won one match in the last seven and it is now time for us to pick things up and put a run together to cement our play off ambitions.

We have come up against two very good goalkeepers in our last two matches who have prevented us getting a useful six points. How the Blackpool keeper got to Shuggy's free kick at Bloomfield Road, I will never know. Blackpool are becoming a bit of a bogey team for us and we haven't beat them since 2001. It was plain to see which sets of fans were more pleased with a point after the game.

I think half of Hartlepool must have been in Blackpool over the weekend. Everywhere I went I bumped into some Poolies. I think I

must be a bit of a celebrity over there following the infamous incident in the play-off game a few years ago. About half a dozen of the local constabulary recognised me and knew me by name. Two coppers even pulled up in a car as I was walking down the street to stop me for a chat.

Did anyone see the World's Most Amazing Videos on the Bravo channel the other day? They showed two mascots at an American football game who had a fight, or at least that is what the built it up as. A devil and a Red Indian got a bit heated and pushed and shoved each other a little which resulted in the devil's head

being pulled off. They even interviewed the blokes inside the costumes who both said they were ready for a rematch. You would have thought it was a world title fight by the way they were going on. We should send them a few videos of some mascot punch-ups in England - it would put them to shame. Cyril the Swan once drop kicked Millwall's Zampa the Lion's head into the middle of the Swansea fans, all in good fun of course, and got a suspension from the Welsh FA.

Anyway, let's cheer the lads on to victory and a much needed three points.

COME ON POOLS!



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Friday:	9am - 6pm
Saturday (Matchdays):	10am - 3pm, 4.30pm - 5.30pm
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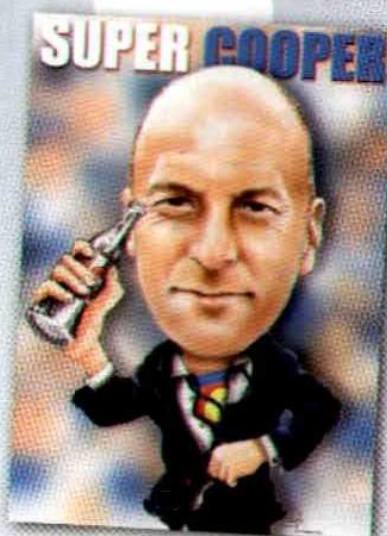
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Tel: 01429 272584 Fax: 01429 863007

Order Online @: www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk

**Club shop manageress Sharon Precious
All items are modelled by Kylie Heckles**

HUFC Club Shop

**Victoria Park
Clarence Road**

Hartlepool, TS24 8BZ



Top

10

Going, Going, Gone! Top Ten Pools items on E-Bay this week

1) Signed "Victoria Parklife"

Or, as the description has it, SINGED Victoria Parklife! C'mon you lot, whose been burning programmes?! £14.00 up to now...

2) 1946 Hull City Programme

From one of the best-attended matches to feature Pools, over 30,000 people saw this 1-1 draw. Bet not many hung on to the programme though. Another tenner-plus item.

3) Signed Eifion Williams Photo

Taken at last season's excellent Player Of The Year night and under the hammer at a bargain £4.99.

4) 1960's Pin Badge

They used to sell these in Sportsworld for 25 pence, and in that little Club Shop Hut in the Town End! Still available at 99p.

5) Green Pools Away Shirt

"Player Worn" with a number 14 on the back! This "Loki" effort was often worn by such luminaries as Matty Hysen and Paul Thompson - yours for a Tenner!

6) Hartlepool Vs Frickley Programme

Aaagh! Who would want to be reminded of one of the most embarrassing days in the club's history?! About to be sold for the princely sum of Ten Bob.

7) Signed Joe Allon Photo

Resplendent in his promotion 1991 kit, a happy reminder of our best striker ever and still under a fiver.

8) Autographed Ball

From THIS season. I actually have one of these, won in a raffle - this particular one has already hit the £20 mark!

9) Early 60's Metal Badge

Remember when the Hartlepool United badge was simply the town's crest? That's the badge on offer at a reasonable £4.99.

10) 1984 Mansfield Town Programme

From a game where all 22 players were FREE TRANSFERS. Unbelievable but true, this programme, if it sells for 50p, will be worth more than both teams on the day combined!



Phil DUNN

Phil Dunn is hoping Pools can take the points from this vital encounter with Swindon Town.



DOUBLE OR QUITS?

Good Afternoon Poolies and Robins and welcome to Victoria Park for the first of a vital double-header in the next few days for Hartlepool United. Today's game and the home match against struggling Peterborough on Tuesday night should really shape which way this season is going to go for us. Both Pools and Swindon fans will well recall that great day last May when we both needed a point to get into the play-offs - I'll certainly remember Adam Boyd's equaliser for a long time as it holds the dubious honour of being the only Pools goal to send me running out into the street in celebration... only to meet the bloke over the road doing exactly the same thing! Later, as I watched the goal on TV and witnessed the thousand Poolies lucky enough to get tickets behind the goal, I was reminded of a press clipping that I still have tucked away in my Pools box. Turn the clock back 20-odd years, to 1983, a desperate season of torment for Pools. Three managers, one of which was writing his C.V. after only a week in the job, and bottom of the league with only nine points at Christmas. What better time for the Sunday Mirror to do a feature on Pools' away game at Swindon? Anyone who has seen

the report and its associated photos will know what's coming next. Pools that day had a mighty following of THREE at the County Ground! The photo of the three Pools fans stood in amongst 12 policemen is an all-time classic and a timely reminder of how far we have come in just 20 years. Actually, shortly after that game Billy Horner was put back in charge and we started to win games again. Happy Days!

GREETINGS POP-PICKERS!

As you probably know by now, aside from Pools, my big passion is music and record collecting. The chances of my two hobbies meeting over the years have been pretty slim... until last week. Scouring the virtual record-racks in E-Bay, I discovered the chance to own a Mint Condition copy of the 1972 single by our very own Hartlepool F.C., the "double B-side" consisting of "Never Say Die" and "Who Put Sugar In My Tea". Now I'm not the sort of collector to pay boatloads of cash for singles - in fact, some of my rarest vinyl has been picked up in car-boot sales and Oxfam shops for coppers, but I reckoned a few quid should get me this bit of Poolie history. WRONG! The Seven-inch single went for a whopping TWELVE pounds, roughly the same rate as some of

the early Beatles E.P's or pre-64 Stones singles! I wonder whether Neil Warnock, Len Ashurst and Bill Green realised at the time that they would be making the rarities of the future eh? Brilliant stuff and I hope the winner of the auction gets as much pleasure from his small piece of black plastic with a hole in the middle as I have from these two classic songs over the years. Poptastic!

THE FUTURE

As a regular "Reserve Watcher", it always fills me with pride to see our younger players consistently pitching their skills against far more experienced players in the Reserve League, and it's no surprise to me that once again our Youth Team have done the Club and the town proud in the Dallas Cup. A third place finish in the Elite Super Group is no mean feat for our young 'uns, especially after last year's cup-winning performance. Of course the great thing about Hartlepool United is that we know these kids - half of them have made either the First Team or at least the squad over the past few months, and I'm sure we will be seeing a few more in the future. Give them a load of encouragement - our future is in these lads' hands... and feet!

Enjoy The Game

Reserves Report Williamson with **Martin Scott**



Martin Scott looks back on a convincing victory over League leaders Barnsley.

Coatings Plus Ltd.

Barnsley v Pools

With the Youth Team being away in Dallas, we took a small Reserves squad down to Barnsley last week.

With a lot of our regular Reserve Team players coming from the Youths, we stretched our resources a little to make up the squad for the trip. This did give us the perfect chance to take a further look at Steve Howey and Thomas Butler ahead of the transfer deadline.

We ran out deserved 3-1 winners after a particularly strong first half from our lads. Thomas Butler was lively down the left and put in some quality crosses into the box and it was Gavin Strachan who got himself on the end of one to get a rare headed goal.

Steven Istead got the second

with a great volley from another Butler cross and Andy Appleby completed our first half scoring with a typical striker's goal from close-range.

Although Barnsley grabbed a consolation goal in the second half, we were never really in any danger of losing the game as the lads put in a very professional performance against a relatively young Tykes' side.

As well as the good result, the game also gave Jack Ross a chance to return to action. Jack has been out for a few weeks now with his ankle injury but made a great step forward by playing the last half an hour for the Reserves.

The game also showed us that both Steve Howey and Thomas Butler had the potential to strengthen our

current squad. Steve came through the game with no problems and, when fully fit, is set to provide some good competition within the squad while Thomas showed his quality down the left side and will give us another option with the First Team.

The Reserves have continued to perform brilliantly throughout the season and we'll be looking to go into our final few games in the same kind of form. The lads have acquitted themselves well in this higher league and this is something we will be looking to build on next season.

Final Score: Barnsley 1 Pools 3

Pools: Konstantopoulos, Barron, N Wilkinson, Howey, Richards, Istead, Strachan, Fox Butler, Appleby, Daly

Subs: Ross, J Wilkinson

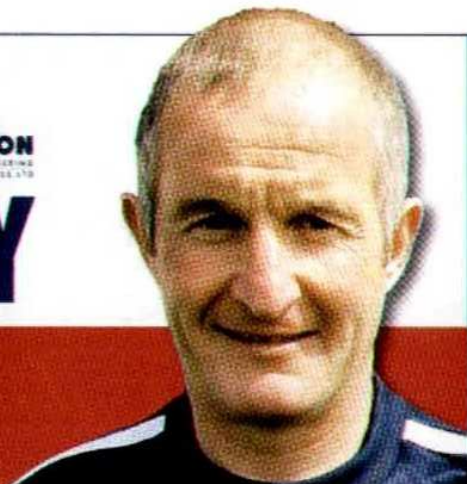


Pontins Holidays' League Premier Division LEAGUE TABLE 2004-2005



	Premier Division	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Barnsley	16	9	3	4	29	18	+11	30
2	Hull City	13	8	4	1	32	16	+16	28
3	Stoke City	17	8	3	6	22	16	+6	27
4	Hartlepool United	17	6	6	5	24	23	+1	24
5	Tranmere Rovers	17	7	3	7	19	20	-1	24
6	Sheffield Wednesday	15	7	2	6	24	21	+3	23
7	Preston North End	15	7	2	6	22	30	-8	23
8	Rotherham United	15	5	7	3	24	18	+6	22
9	Sheffield United	17	5	6	6	27	30	-3	21
10	Walsall	17	4	4	9	30	33	-3	16
11	Wigan Athletic	17	4	4	9	15	25	-10	16
12	Bradford City	16	2	4	10	15	33	-18	10

Treatment Room with JOHN MURRAY



Physio John Murray updates us on the latest from the Treatment Room.

It's been steady again in the Treatment Room this week as our injured players make further steps towards fitness. It's important we have as many lads as possible at full fitness as we approach the busy run-in to the end of the season and we'll be working hard to ensure that is the case.

Darrell Clarke has been very unlucky with injuries this season but things are starting to look up for him again now. After weeks of hard work, Darrell has now returned to full training and he is continuing to work extremely hard to build up the strength in his leg.

Jack Ross is also making steps

towards fitness and he managed to get thirty minutes of action under his belt in the Reserve Team's game at Barnsley last week. Jack is progressing steadily in his recovery from the ankle injury he picked up at Stockport.

Mark Tinkler returned to the First Team at Bradford a couple of weeks ago but was forced to come off again in last week's game at home to Huddersfield suffering with a little bit of Achilles Tendonitis. Tinks has had active rest and was due to rejoin training at the end of this week.

Eifion Williams also picked up a knock in the game against Huddersfield after taking a kick to

his leg. Eifion did recover enough to play some part for the Reserves at Stoke City on Wednesday but took another kick to the same leg so we will have to see how quickly that settles down.

Finally, John Brackstone is still missing from training suffering with glandular fever as the Doc has advised John to make sure he is fully recovered before he returns.

We have two games in quite quick succession now so we'll be keeping our fingers crossed that we don't pick up any new injuries over the weekend.



Fitness with DAN LEWIS



Fitness Coach Dan Lewis gives us an update from the Club's Training Ground.

The players have been taking a well-earned rest during the early part of this week following on from two hard games over the Easter period. As with Christmas, the players were not able to enjoy the excesses of the holiday period as they were in playing and preparing for the two games. They will resume training in the latter part of this week, with much of the work focusing on speed and agility from a conditioning perspective, and looking at

some very specific practices and drills which will give a positive impact whilst also developing their specific skills.

Again the Reserves have followed a slightly different programme. Whilst they were also in training over the Easter weekend, they were able to complete some endurance work in the knowledge they were not playing in the two games, and therefore ensuring their endurance levels remained sufficient to ensure they would be prepared for any games in

which they were needed.

Darrell Clarke's rehab programme is continuing to develop well. He is completing a lot of individual work with me after sessions have finished looking at developing the strength and power around the knee region. He is following a very specific leg strength programme, and combining this with some specific speed and agility endurance work which should help him to recover much of the ground he has lost during his time out injured.



Youth Team with Paul Stephenson



Youth Team Coach Paul Stephenson was delighted with his side's display in this year's Dallas Cup competition.

We all arrived back at Newcastle Airport on Tuesday night a little tired after our very long journey but it was nice to see so many people there to greet us.

Finishing third in the Super Group of this year's Dallas Cup is a magnificent achievement for the lads and one which, in my opinion is better than us winning the Under 19 Group at last season's competition.

The quality of the opposition in the Super Group was by far superior and we faced some very unusual systems, some of which were very weird. We also faced some very tough temperatures and all in all the competition provided a great challenge for everyone involved.

All of the lads adapted brilliantly to what we asked them to do and they were excellent representatives of Hartlepool United both on and off the pitch. Full credit must

go to them all for the way they handled themselves at all times of the trip - even when faced with some suspect play-acting, they maintained their discipline and concentrated on their own games.

We started the competition slowly and didn't quite hit the

"The quality of the opposition in the Super Group was by far superior and we faced some very unusual systems, some of which were very weird."

heights in our first game against Japanese side Jubilo Iwata but we did manage to keep a clean sheet and David Foley took his goal very well. Our second game, against Mexican outfit Tigres was a tough battle but again we kept a clean sheet and then upped the tempo for our final group game when we defeated SoCal United 4-2.

We were a little unfortunate in the Semi-Final against Santos

Laguna. They were a technically sound side but the game could really have gone either way and the 3-0 result flattered the Mexicans really.

Overall, it was a great experience for everyone involved - we all took a lot out of the competition and put the

great work being done at this Club out on a bigger stage. Our performances in the Cup again attracted many admirers and we made lots of new friends during our time in Dallas.

We were delighted with all of the lads and really could not have asked for any more from them, although six of them did face a trip to Stoke City with the Reserves the day after arriving back home!



UMBRO YOUTH ALLIANCE MERIT DIVISION ONE FIXTURES 2004/05

Saturday February 12th	Scunthorpe United	Home	11.30	1-1	Saturday April 9th	Port Vale	Away	12.00
Saturday February 19th	Wigan Athletic	Away	12.00	1-4	Saturday April 16th	Chesterfield	Away	12.00
Saturday February 26th	Tranmere Rovers	Away	12.00	0-7	Wednesday April 20th	Oldham	Home	1.00
Saturday March 5th	Darlington	Home	11.00	P	Saturday April 23rd	Burnley	Away	12.00
Saturday April 2nd	Mansfield	Home	11.00		*Venue for home fixtures to be confirmed.			

For more info on the Youth Team visit www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk

Congratulations THE YOUTH TEAM

YOUTH TEAM

Pools Youth Team arrive back from the Dallas Cup this week.

Congratulations!

Pools Youth Team have returned from America after another successful Dallas Cup campaign. Although they didn't win the top prize this time around, they did manage to come third in the prestigious Super Group section of the tournament.

Reports from Dallas say that once again Paul Stephenson's youngsters have done the Club proud both on and off the pitch. Congratulations, lads!



Centre of EXCELLENCE

info@tech 24/7



ASDA
part of the WHOLEMARKET Group



Director of Youth Ian Kerr updates us on the latest from the Centre of Excellence.

Welcome everyone to this afternoon's game with Swindon - the first of two home games in the space of four days. A win today would put a bit of a gap between ourselves and Swindon and set us up nicely for Tuesday night's fixture with Peterborough. We are very much in the home straight and three points today would keep us at the head of the pack.

Our Youth Team have just returned from the Dallas Cup. In the group of players who travelled there were four of our Under 16's. Kyle Anderson, Tom Haigh, Andrew Hetherington and Martin Young. All boys started in our last game for third and fourth place against Tigres from Mexico and all boys



The Youth team celebrate their success.

up and running and they are proving a great addition to our programme. We are hopeful that in the next few weeks we will be selecting and offering a number of the young players

“ We have been very encouraged by the young players attending and there is no doubt that this will assist future identifying of and selection for our Centre of Excellence. ”

played a positive part in our 2-1 victory. This was invaluable experience for the boys and a trip I am sure they will remember for a very long time.

We have now got our Development Centres at Hartlepool and Billingham

at the Development Centres the opportunity to register on our Centre of Excellence Programme. We have been very encouraged by the young players attending and there is no doubt that this will assist future identifying of and selection for our Centre

of Excellence.

There are no Centre of Excellence games tomorrow due to the Easter break. Games resume next Sunday. We are entering the final stages of our games programme and there have been clear signs that each age group is making good progress. Everyone will be looking to conclude their games programme with positive results and optimism for the new season.

Thank you all for your support and attendance this afternoon. You have all been magnificent this season. Stick with us to the end and hopefully it will be play-offs and that third place promotion spot to Hartlepool United!

Centre of EXCELLENCE

infoleach 24/7



ASDA
JUST SAIL AWAY

DFDS
SEAWAYS
JUST SAIL AWAY



Ian Kerr thanks sponsors of this year's Dallas Cup trip.

We returned from another extremely successful visit to the Dallas Cup competition this week and, after an impressive display from all of our boys in this year's Super Group, we were able to proudly display our third place trophy.

From everyone connected with the Club, we would like to say a massive thank you to everyone involved with sponsoring the trip to Dallas. It was a great experience for all of us and helped us to continue to spread the news about the fantastic work being done at Hartlepool United.



Pools' Dallas Cup squad



HARTLEPOOL UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE SPONSORS

U9's

Aiden Lamb
Connor Campbell
Jake Larkin
Evan McEvoy
Harrison Smith
Danny Naylor
Matthew Dawson
Kieran Laking
Jordan Robertson
Matthew Dawson
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Matthew Dawson
Liam Wilson
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Harry Cosgrove
Max Stephenson
Ross Holland
Kieran Stares
Jacob Close
Elliot Longmore
Christian Caswell
Luke Farman
Carl O'Loughlin
Bradley Staunton
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Tony Ingeldew (Dad)
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U11's

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Paul Murphy
Calum Patton
James Montgomery
Elliot Woods
Kaine Mosley
Elliot Horton
Ryan Ashby
Connor Johnston
Layton Conley
Liam Imray

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Liam Gough
Greg Rutherford
Christopher Dadds
Matthew Thomas
Rhys Morris
Matthew Smith
Joshua Kelly
Matthew Butt
Joshua Rowbottom
Ross Brymer

U12's

Steven Hetherington
Jake Noble
Liam Beisham
Ryan Dovenor
Dakay Hetherington
James Sutton
Paul Murphy
Ben Ward
Louis Herbert
Liam Cook
Jordan Richards
Kyle Morris
Andrew Loynes
Jake Horsfield
Warren Brown
Jed Garthwaite
Jamie Irvine

U13's

Lee Andrews
Riece Davison
Kieron McDonald
Grant Herbert
James Hall
Paul Johnson
Lewis Turnbull
Benjamin Twiddle
Luke Muir
Daniel Clayton
Christopher Jennings

Paul Elliott
Jonathan Dixon
Paul Young
Thomas Marron
James Gray

U14's

Jack Hope
Thomas Gowanland
Anthony Rogerson
Ryan Graham
James Batie
Christopher Killeen
Calum Maddison
Thomas Hesilton
Christopher Killeen

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Stephen Forster
Shaun Hutchinson
Sean Lavender
Jia Craig
Matthew Dale
Shaun Brewster
Marc Ellison
Tom Ward
Chay Liddle

U15's

Mark Rochester
Luke Preston
Karl Wills
Craig Ruddy
Garry Stevens
Ryan Graham
Joseph Tall
Matthew Hammetton
Billy Gatenby
Ross Molloy
James McInab
Ben Worton
Calum Proudlock
Matthew Tymon
Liam Foreman
Matthew Homer
Jonathan Bolton

U16's

Kyle Anderson
Sonny Andrews
Luke Bythway
Matthew Clarke
James Debbage
Thomas Haigh
Graeme Heath
Andrew Hetherington
Andrew McIntosh
Damen Mullen
Matthew Noble
Sean Wood
Martin Young
Andrew Ross
John Rogers
Lewis Collinson
Tony Stephenson

YOUTH TEAM

Neil Wilkinson
Jack Wilkinson
Daniel Fox

Graham Low
Michael Maidens
Neil Muckles
Philip Turnbull

Updated 14.02.05

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Mum & Dad
Jayne & Paul Lavender
Yvonne Craig
RCBC
Mr & Mrs Brewster
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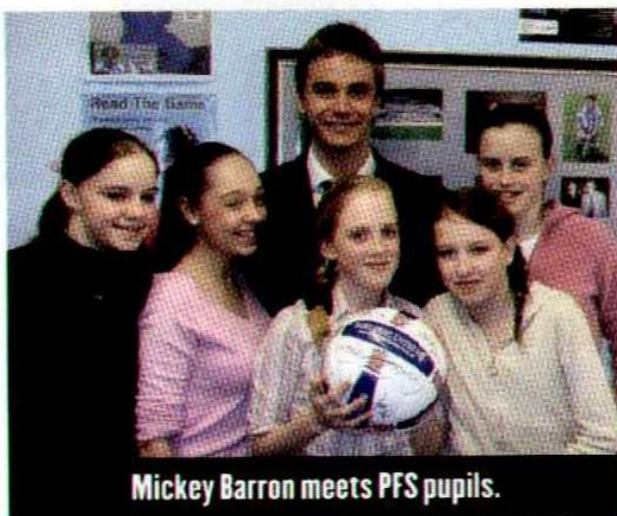
Playing FOR SUCCESS



Brierton Sportss Reporters would like to say a huge thank you to Playing for Success for a truly fantastic evening.

As part of our Sports College status we at Brierton Community School decided that a dedicated team of sports reporters would be a beneficial attribute to the school. In September 2004 we established our first team, consisting of eight pupils, who cover a wide range of sporting activities. Our reporters put in a lot of hard work, often giving up their own free time to attend fixtures and write up their reports whilst sticking to enforced deadlines. Therefore as you can imagine, we were absolutely delighted when Mike Ward, of Playing for Success, invited our team down to

report on the Hartlepool v Luton game. We were given VIP treatment, including seats in the box where we sat down to a delicious meal. At half time, Micky Barron came up to meet the pupils and of course, H'Angus the Monkey made a grand entrance, which made for a little light entertainment. The pupils were so enthusiastic in their task that they didn't seem to notice the sub-zero temperatures whilst they wrote relentlessly. Unfortunately Hartlepool lost on the night but our reporters remained professional to the end, refusing to show any bias. They came up with



Mickey Barron meets PFS pupils.

an exceptional account of the game which has been proudly displayed in our School News Bulletin. The pupils later commented on the night as being, "a worthwhile and memorable experience"

and would like to take this opportunity to wish Hartlepool the very best of luck for the remainder of the season.

*D. Walker-Smith
Brierton Community
School and Sports
College*

Hartlepool United DISABLED SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION

Steve Sharp gives us an update from the Disabled Supporters' Association



Hello everyone and welcome to all those who have travelled up from Swindon I hope you all managed that crazy road layout you have down there called the Magic Roundabout. I always let her-indoors drive through these as she has a much better sense of direction and we can always blame her if we take the wrong turn off.

It seems that we have been on some kind of roundabout with our form lately and as we go into the final phase of the season I hope we don't come up against many more

keepers that seem to raise their game against us and pull off some fantastic saves. The Huddersfield and Blackpool keepers did this very thing with our Easter games and we all know the outcome of these games as a result of keepers playing above their form.

We are planning to take a bus to Colchester if we have enough demand to fill one, it will cost £21 and we will be leaving from the club shop at 7.30am, to book a seat contact me on mobile 07985501781 or Neil Appleyard on mobile 07747735247. We

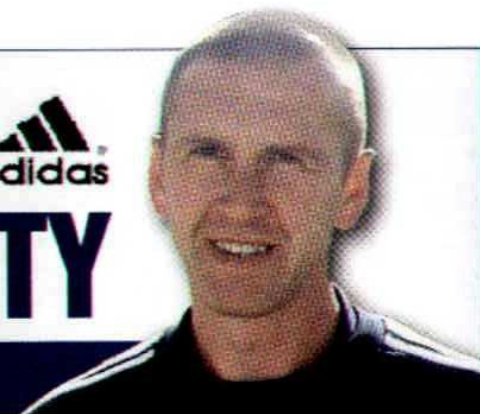
need to let the bus company know ASAP so be quick with your booking please.

Tickets will be given out very soon for our end of season bash to be held at Springs Health Club on the Marina on April 29th, so watch this space for further details.

Finally can I wish Neil's son Mathew a speedy recovery from his stay in Hospital lately and Neil will be back watching with us very soon.

Enjoy the game Steve Sharp.

Football IN THE COMMUNITY



FITC

Keith Nobbs updates us on the latest from Pools Football In The Community.

Hartlepool
Power Station

British Energy

MOIR
DESIGN

Adidas Community Cup Girls U13 6-a-side & Kellogg's Frosties Cup U11 6-a-side Competition.

Easington Community School Girls U13 and Oakdene Primary School U11's both represented Hartlepool in ht Area Finals which were held in Huddersfield in March 2005. Both teams played good football throughout the competition but unfortunately were unable to progress into the Regional Finals. The standard of play and attitude of the players were excellent and showed their schools to be good ambassadors for

the region in national Football Competitions. Well done to both teams.

Prince's Trust

Richard Stafford has recently joined FITC on a work placement scheme from the Prince's Trust under a new deal option for 13 weeks.

Richard said, "he's enjoying the placement and has been happy to be allowed the opportunity to work in a Sport related environment."

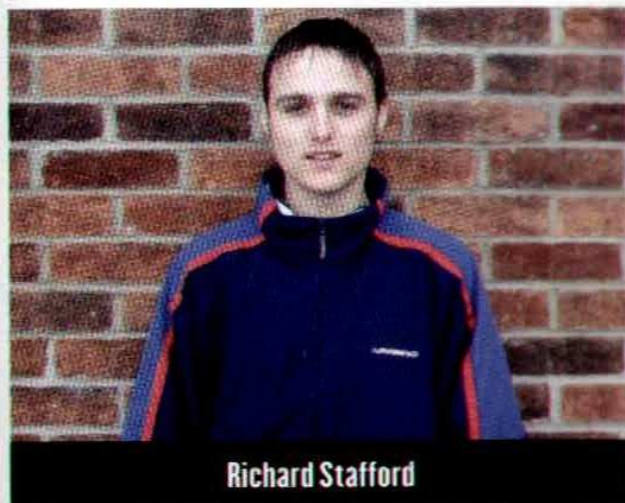
Anthony Armstrong is also gaining valuable experience of working with children, planning and preparing activities over the Easter Holiday Period. FITC



Easington Community School



Oakdene Primary



Richard Stafford

has worked with the Prince's Trust on a number of occasions allowing young people to gain confidence and experience which will hopefully enable them to achieve full time employment.

Family Tax Credits can also be claimed for the care provision and, in some cases, this can be

up to 70%.

All staff are FA Qualified and have been checked through the Criminal Records Bureau to ensure your child's safety is paramount.

It is advisable to book early for each of the two week Easter Courses to ensure your child is not disappointed.

Player HEAD 2 HEAD

Quarter-Finals

Specialist subject round.

Reserve Team boss Martin Scott has been taking the Head 2 Head very seriously. After a sluggish start in the competition, few could have predicted the explosive form which would see him burst through to the quarter-finals. A perfect score in the last round put him past Ian McRae but would he have enough in the locker to do away with young striker Andy Appleby. Answering questions on League One how would Scotty go on?

Questions - League One



1. Who is currently second-bottom in League One?
2. How many points did Champions Plymouth Argyle finish last season with?
3. Which team have so far scored the most goals on home soil in League One?
4. What is Walsall's nickname?
5. Warren Feeney recently left Stockport County to join which League One Club?
6. Which Club is known as The Cherries?
7. Who is boss at Port Vale?
8. How many points currently separate bottom from top - 51, 55 or 57?
9. How many United's are there in League One?
10. Tranmere player Eugene Dadi has his own company specialising in what?

Proving it was no fluke, Martin Scott shines again with nine out of ten in the Specialist Subject Round. Can Andy Appleby wipe the smile off his face by topping that or would the Reserve Team Manager be the last name to reach the semi-finals?



Martin Scott

1. Peterborough United
2. 92
3. Hartlepool United
4. The Saddlers
5. Luton Town
6. Bournemouth
7. Martin Foyle
8. 51
9. Four
10. Clothes



8

1. Peterborough United 2. 90 3. Hartlepool United 4. The Saddlers
5. Luton Town 6. Bournemouth 7. Martin Foyle
8. 57 9. Four 10. Clothes

Player HEAD 2 HEAD

Quarter-Finals Specialist subject round.

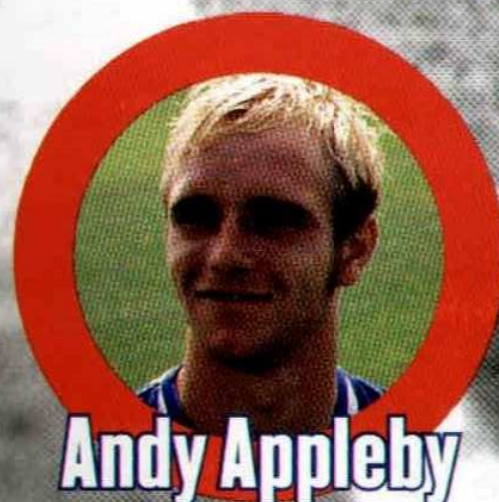
As Youth Team Coach Martin Scott was responsible for developing Andy Appleby and nurturing his ability and confidence on the road to professional football. That's all out of the window for one day only as Appo tries to do topple the Reserve Team boss in the world of footballing knowledge. The youngster's gone for Liverpool as his Specialist Subject - can he Kop the win?

Questions - Liverpool



1. Who is Liverpool's record signing?
2. Who is Liverpool's most-capped player of all-time?
3. Which player wears squad number 23 at Anfield?
4. Michael Owen became the youngest player to score for Liverpool in May 1997 - who was it against?
5. How many times have Liverpool won the League Championship?
6. Neil Mellor scored Liverpool's winner against Arsenal in November but who scored the other goal for The Reds?
7. How many Premiership points do Liverpool currently have?
8. Who was Liverpool manager after Graeme Souness?
9. In what year were Liverpool founded?
10. Who are Liverpool playing today?

It was a valiant effort by the youthful forward but it is the master and not the apprentice who makes it through to the final four. Hard lines go to Appo but is there anyone who can put a stop to Martin Scott's awesome form?



Andy Appleby

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. Djibril Cisse | ✓ |
| 2. Graeme Souness | ✗ |
| 3. - | ✗ |
| 4. Wimbledon | ✓ |
| 5. 18 | ✓ |
| 6. Steven Gerrard | ✗ |
| 7. 47 | ✓ |
| 8. Roy Evans | ✓ |
| 9. 1892 | ✓ |
| 10. Bolton Wanderers | ✓ |

7

Player HEAD 2 HEAD Semi Finals

It's all about who can handle the big-game atmosphere now in the Head 2 Head tournament.

We're down to the last four and at the end of a dogged campaign, one of these worthy battlers will emerge victorious and forever win the right to call himself The King of Footballing Knowledge.

You would be hard-pressed to go against Martin Scott at this stage with him having scored ten and nine in his last two outings but Darrell Clarke has

been laying claim to the title since the beginning.

And watch out for quiet man John Murray who is just sneaking up down the outside putting himself right in there with a chance of victory. Ian Gallagher may be an outsider at the moment but shone in the last round and will go in to the semis high on confidence.

Do not miss the first semi-final in this Tuesday's Victoria Parklife - it's going to be huge!

Semi Final



Ian Gallagher

V



Darrell Clarke

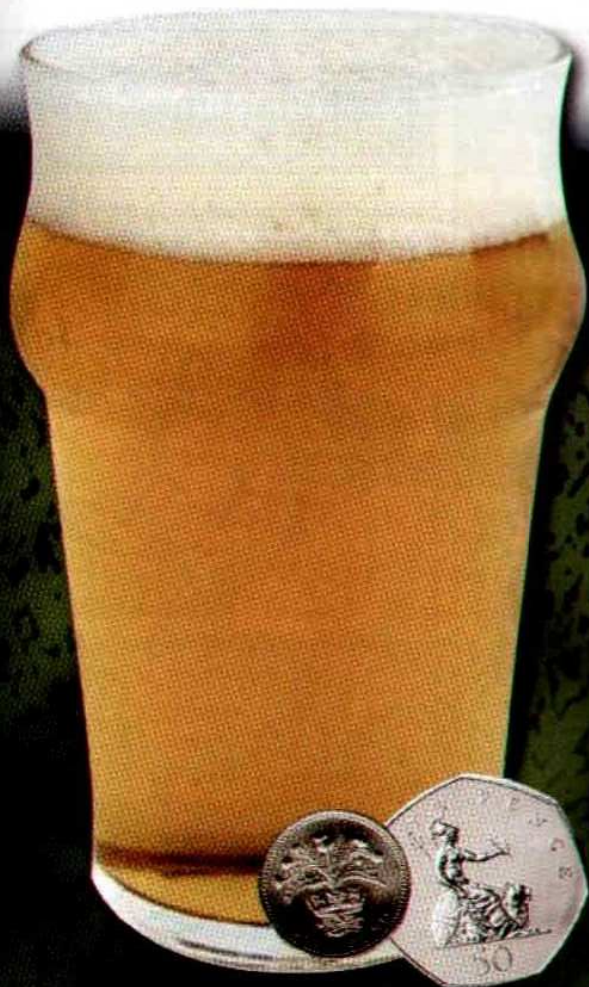


John Murray

V



Martin Scott



Down at THE VIC



Beer We Go!

There will be lager and bitter available prior to the match today from a bar inside the Cameron's Brewery Stand, Cyril Knowles Stand and the Town End here at The Vic. With prices at just £1.50 why not pop along early and enjoy a pre-match pint at Victoria Park?

These bar will open from 2.00pm this afternoon and at 6.45pm for evening kick-offs.

Cheers.



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Meeting Room
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We operate an open pricing policy.
Membership concessions available
To Children, OAP's & Students
Membership price is cheaper than
Non Membership Prices.

Fitness Suite Info

Top of the Range, State of the art
Fitness Suite with Cardio &
Resistance Machines.
Everyone must have an
Induction to Use this facility.
Induction's take place twice a
week and must be booked & paid
for in advance.

Activities for Children

Netball, Badminton Trampoline
& Basketball ages 7+
Gymnastics ages 5+
Jujitsu, Karate & Taekwondo
ages 7+
Fitness Suite for ages 14+
Learn to Swim Courses ages 5+
Children's Sporting
Birthday Parties
HUFC- Football for Juniors
- Saturday

Activities for Adults

Fitness Suite including GP
Referrals
& Women Only Sessions
Karate, Jujitsu, Tai Chi &
Taekwondo
Aerobics, Step & Circuit Classes
Belly Dancing & Yoga Classes
Trampoline, Badminton & Netball

Contact Details:-

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HARTLEPOOL
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Entrance to Sports Centre is
up Brierton Lane past the
Pink Domino.

****NEW SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC ON EVERY
SATURDAY 11-1**



Welcome everyone
to my all New
Junior Poolies club



HUFC – Supporting our Young Supporters.

Good afternoon Junior Poolies and welcome to today's game against Swindon Town. I trust you are all stuffed with chocolate Easter eggs and enjoying your Holiday!! Remember, you can visit Junior Poolies on the **web**.
hartlepoolunited.co.uk click on Club and then Junior Poolies.
E-mail- juniorpoolies@hartlepoolunited.co.uk

Birthday Board

Birthday Wishes go out to Claver-
ing School pupil Aiden Lamb.
Aiden turns 9 on Monday. His
favourite player is Adam Boyd.

Picture Board

Today's picture was sent in by
Chelsea of Golden Flatts Primary

School.
Keep sending your
pictures in kids!! An End
of Season prize will be
given to the Best Drawn
Picture sent in by Junior
Poolies!!!!!! Pictures to
be sent in no later than
April 15th, 2005.



Half-Time Teaser

Anagrams

Using the squad numbers of the Pools players, can you clear your head full of chocolate and find the answers to these Maths sums??

Jim Provett + Michael Barron = $1+2=3$ = Hugh Robertson.

Joel Porter + Michael Nelson = _____

Gavin Strachan – Chris Westwood = _____

Ritchie Humphreys + Mark Tinkler = _____

Darren Craddock – Darrell Clarke = _____

Competition Update

April Prize give-away. To win the chance to get your hands on an autographed ball signed by all the Hartlepool players, simply complete the question below and e-mail your answer to: **juniorpoolies@hartlepoolunited.co.uk**. Subject: April prize. Or alternatively send them into: Junior Poolies, Hartlepool United, Victoria Park, Clarence Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8BZ.

If you add together the squad numbers of Mark Tinkler and Chris Westwood, what number and which Pools players squad number does it reveal??

Please make sure you write your name, address, and membership number along with the answer clearly. Answers must be in no later than April 26th.

JUNIOR POOLIES CLUB

Club Membership (0-3)

Runs from birth until just before 4th birthday. On joining you will receive...

- Welcome letter from the manager
- HUFC height chart
- A-Z of Pools poster
- Pools bib
- Pools beaker
- Pools Beanie bear
- Membership card
- Signed membership certificate

During the course of your 3 year membership you will receive...

- HUFC Birthday cards & Present
- HUFC Christmas cards & Present
- Your name to appear in the match day programme on your birthday
- Quarterly Newsletter

JUNIOR POOLIES CLUB

Club Membership (4-9)

Runs for one year from date of enrolment. On joining you will receive.

- Welcome letter from the manager
- Pools baseball cap
- Pools Pin-badge
- Signed Team Poster
- HUFC height chart
- Official Pools Mug
- A-Z of Pools poster
- Pools stationery set
- Membership card
- Signed membership certificate
- 2 Cinema tickets

During the year of your membership you will receive...

- HUFC Birthday card
- HUFC Christmas card
- Your name to appear in the match day programme on your birthday
- Quarterly Newsletter

JUNIOR POOLIES CLUB

Club Membership (10-14)

Runs for one year from date of enrolment. On joining you will receive...

- Welcome letter from the manager
- Pools baseball cap
- Stationery set
- Pools Scarf
- Pools Pin-badge
- Team poster signed
- 2 cinema tickets
- Membership card
- Signed membership certificate

During the year of your membership you will receive...

- HUFC Birthday card
- HUFC Christmas card
- Your name to appear in the match day programme on your birthday
- Quarterly Newsletter

All members will also be entitled to FREE entry to any junior poolies events, FREE entry to reserve matches, FREE entry of a monthly prize draw for an autographed ball, FREE entry of competitions throughout the year, and DISCOUNTS off FITC coaching courses.

JUNIOR POOLIES ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 0-14.

Return to: Junior Poolies, Hartlepool United Football Club, Victoria Park, Clarence Road, Hartlepool TS24 8BZ
Tel: 01429 272584 ex.3 Fax: 01429 863007 Website: www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk

Master/Miss Forename/s Surname:

Date of Birth: My secret password (12 digits max)

Favourite Player School Attending (if applicable)

Address Post Code:

Telephone: E-mail address:

• Please enclose one passport size photograph for Membership card.

Signature (parent or guardian): .. Date:

Parental Consent

We must obtain the consent of the parent/guardian for possible future use of any photographs of the applicant/s to be used in the programme and/or the official junior poolies web page taken from any junior poolies events/competitions.

If you do wish details to appear within the HUFC programme/web page please sign below.

I give my consent for Hartlepool United to include details of
(name of applicant/s) within any matchday programme/HUFC web page and release Hartlepool United from any liability that may arise due to the publication of such information.

Signature (parent or guardian): Date:

(If the above is not signed only the applicant/s name would appear in the matchday programme/ official web page)

Data Protection

How we will use your information. We will keep the information you provide with other information we have from your dealings with us and our commercial partners secure (whether the information is paper based or held in our computerised databases) and will use it to:

- Administer any services and/or products we provide you with
- Contact you by e-mail. If you do not want to be contacted by e-mail please tick this box ☐
- Hartlepool United Football Club reserve the right to offer an alternative gift of equivalent value.

Payment Details Junior Poolies (Photocopies accepted)

Annual Membership Fee £15 (+ £2.50 post & packaging of membership pack)
Junior Poolies Club, 3 year membership (0-3) £40 (+p&p)
Please allow 21 days for delivery

Telephone or call into the Club Shop for Method of Payment.

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Colchester Utd.



Layer Road
Saturday 9th April 2005
Kick Off - 3pm

General Info:

Colchester United Football Club
Layer Road
Colchester
Essex
CO2 7JJ
Tel: 0845 330 2975
Enquiries: editor@colchesterunited.net
Tickets: ticketing@colchesterunited.net

Ticket Prices/Information:

Seating (Blocks E and F): Adults £13
Concessions £7
Standing: £16 Adults
£9 Concessions (Terraces 1 and 2)

How To Get There

By Road:

Leave the A12 at Stanway (signposted the A1124), and get into the right hand lane, turning right at the next roundabout. Take the exit into London Road (signposted Mersea/Stanway). Go

over the mini-roundabout and travel one mile to a set of traffic lights. At the traffic lights, you need to be in the right hand lane (with MFI on the right). Turn right into Straight Road. Follow that road right to the end (you should see the Leather Bottle public house on your left) At that roundabout, turn left and then take a sharp right into the right hand lane. Turn right into Gosbecks Road. Straight over the first roundabout and at the second roundabout turn left (Kent Blaxill factory on the left). You are now in Layer Road. The ground is on the left.

By Rail:

Trains leave London to Colchester via Liverpool Street and take around 50 minutes to get to Colchester station. There are two rail stations in Colchester, but visiting supporters are advised to get off at Colchester (North) rather than Colchester Town station. The rail station is on the other side of town to the football ground and supporters are advised to either walk into the

Town Centre and catch the bus or get a taxi to the ground (10 minutes and about a £4 fare.)

Parking:

The club does not have its own parking facilities and there is no street parking on the part of Layer Road surrounding the stadium. Nearby streets have limited street parking, but supporters should allow time to walk back to the ground if they arrive after 2pm!

Around The Ground:

The ground is in the middle of a residential area, but there are a couple of pubs nearby. Along the Maldon Road, the Huntsman's Tavern is recommended for food, whilst nearer to the ground, the Dragoon is also popular. The nearest pub to the ground is The Drury Arms, which welcomes most away supporters. For higher profile games, this can sometimes change, so it is best to check in advance. Otherwise, the Town Centre is about a ten to fifteen minute walk from the ground and there are plenty of pubs there.

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Monday 27th March 2005 KO 3.00pm
Bloomfield Road, 6,853



Photo Credit
- FRANK REID



Hartlepool United

2

GOALS: Boyd (2)



Blackpool

2

GOALS: Southern, Clarke

TEAM: Provett, Craddock, Nelson, Westwood, Robertson, Humphreys, Sweeney, Clark, Robson, Boyd, Porter.

SUBS: Konstantopoulos, Strachan, Istead, Butler, Daly.

STAR MAN: Ben Clark

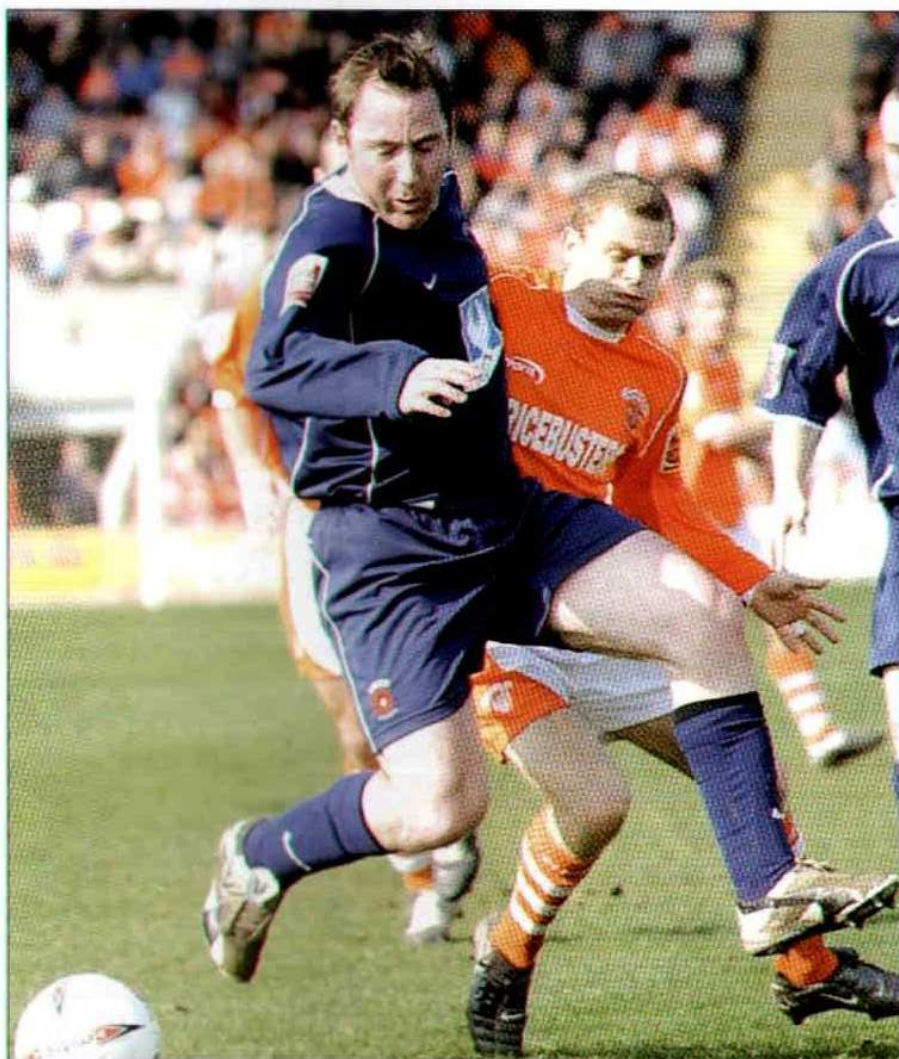
Ben Clark was back in the side for the injured Mark Tinkler and he was in the thick of everything for Pools. The former Sunderland man was firm in the challenge and typically composed in possession as Neale Cooper's men dominated much of the game at Bloomfield Road. Although he has been out of the team recently, Clark is determined to win back his place on a regular basis if this performance is anything to go by.



COOPER'S COMMENT:

Once again I can't fault the lads for their work-rate and commitment. We did enough to win the game in my opinion but were unlucky to concede the late goal. When we conceded the early goal you start thinking about the bad result we had at Blackpool last season but the players showed their character once more to come from behind. Adam Boyd was in the right place at the right time for the goals and I am pleased for him because he worked hard.





Happy ANNIVERSARY

Rival fans Shaw and Maxime Ballard are celebrating seventeen years together.

Today we would like to welcome a very special couple to Victoria Park who will be celebrating their 17th Wedding Anniversary in slightly hostile fashion!

That's because Shaw and Maxime Ballard will be wearing different colours today and shouting for

opposite teams...

Shaw has been an avid Hartlepool fan since 1991 when he decided to adopt Pools as his team. On the other hand, you have his

wife Maxime who is a Season Ticket Holder at Swindon Town. All of Maxime's family are staunch Town fans, which means Shaw takes his fair share of stick - let's hope it's his turn to celebrate this afternoon with three more points for Pools!



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Deposit	£99.00
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or 60 monthly payments @	£141.10
Total amount payable	£8565
Typical APR	0%



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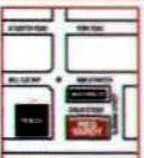
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HUFCSTATS 2004/05

Date	Fixture	Res	Att	Vis	Pos	1. JIM PROVETT	2. MICKY BARRON	3. HUGH ROBERTSON	4. MARK TINKLER	5. MICHAEL NELSON	6. CHRIS WESTWOOD	7. DARRELL CLARKE	8. RITCHIE HUMPHREYS	9. EIFION WILLIAMS	10. ADAM BOYD	11. GAVIN STRACHAN	12. JACK ROSS	14. JOEL PORTER	15. ANTONY SWEENEY	16. MARTIN WOODS	17. KEVIN BETSY	18. MATTY ROBSON
07 Aug Sat 3.00pm	Bradford	H	2-1	6,032	949 6th			1				SNU			1p	SNU						
10 Aug Tue 7.45pm	Tranmere	A	1-2	8,128	- 17th			1				SNU				SNU						
16 Aug Mon 8.00pm	Huddersfield	A	2-0	9,968	743 4th				1							SNU		SNU				
21 Aug Sat 3.00pm	Blackpool	H	1-1	5,144	208 7th									1		SNU						
24 Aug Tue 7.45pm	Macclesfield	H CC 1	2-1	2,883	72 →	SNU								22	1				1			
28 Aug Sat 3.00pm	Swindon	A	0-3	5,365	198 17th											4						
30 Aug Mon 3.00pm	Colchester	H	2-1	4,371	105 8th	SNU							1	1				SNU				
04 Sept Sat 3.00pm	Barnsley	H	1-1	5,119	511 9th										1							
11 Sept Sat 3.00pm	Oldham	A	2-3+	5,805	- 15th											SNU						
18 Sept Sat 3.00pm	Torquay	H	4-1	4,485	104 7th				1				1						1	1		
21 Sept Tue 8.00pm	Crystal Palace	A CC 2	2-1	4,233	280 x									14								
25 Sept Sat 3.00pm	Milton Keynes Dons	A	2-4	3,685	508 11th										2	17		16	OFF			
27 Sept Tue 7.45pm	Hull City	H LDV	3-3	1,535	HUFC win 41 pers	SNU			SNU				17		20	1p			1			
02 Oct Sat 3.00pm	Hull City	H	2-0	5,768	934 9th						2					1			1			
08 Oct Fri 7.45pm	Luton Town	A	0-3	7,865	312 11th						SNU											
16 Oct Sat 3.00pm	Chesterfield	H	3-2	4,617	286 10th						SNU								3			
19 Oct Tue 7.45pm	Brentford	A	1-2	4,797	- 11th									14			SNU					
23 Oct Sat 3.00pm	Peterborough	A	0-3	3,841	431 13th									11								
30 Oct Sat 3.00pm	Port Vale	H	1-0	4,755	233 10th	SNU								1		SNU	SNU					
02 Nov Tue 7.45pm	Carlisle United	A LDV	1-0	2,871	317 →	SNU										SNU			1			
06 Nov Sat 3.00pm	Doncaster	H	2-1	5,495	886 8th	SNU				10						SNU			2			
13 Nov Sat 3.00pm	Lincoln City	H FAC1	3-0	4,533	417 →	SNU	SNU							1		8	2	1				
20 Nov Sat 3.00pm	Sheff Wed	A	0-2	19,919	1,213 13th	SNU	12									SNU						
27 Nov Sat 3.00pm	Bournemouth	H	3-2	4,376	127 9th	SNU				1	1											
30 Nov Tue 7.45pm	Oldham Athletic	A LDV	1-3	2,835	167 x	SNU									1		SNU					
04 Dec Sat 3.00pm	Aldershot	HFAC2	5-1	4,556	380 →				1		2				2		2					
07 Dec Tue 7.45pm	Walsall	A	1-2	5,522	- 11th	SNU		19							1							
11 Dec Sat 3.00pm	Stockport	H	3-1	4,572	190 9th	SNU					2			17				1				
18 Dec Sat 3.00pm	Wrexham	A	5-1	3,582	- 7th	SNU							1		1	10		1	2			
26 Dec Sun 3.00pm	Oldham	H	2-1	6,520	644	SNU									2	9						
28 Dec Tue 3.00pm	Bristol C	A	0-0	13,034	- 5th	SNU										SNU						
01 Jan Sat 3.00pm	Barnsley	A	0-0	9,595	- 7th	SNU																
03 Jan Mon 3.00pm	Milton Keynes Dons	H	5-0	5,060	91 5th	SNU									2	9		1	1		4	
08 Jan Sat 3.00pm	Boston United	H FAC3	0-0	5,342	-	SNU										SNU					4	
15 Jan Sat 3.00pm	Torquay	A	2-1	2,543	-	SNU										10			1			
19 Jan Wed 7.45pm	Boston	AFAC3	1-0	3,653	675 →	SNU									1	SNU						
22 Jan Sat 3.00pm	Bristol C	H	2-1	5,399	353 5th	SNU									1p	SNU		1	1			
29 Jan Sat 3.00pm	Brentford	A FAC4	0-0	8,967	-	SNU	SNU									SNU						
05 Feb Sat 3.00pm	Chesterfield	A	1-0	4,606	594 5th	SNU	SNU										SNU					
12 Feb Sat 3.00pm	Brentford	H FAC4	1-0	7,580	829 x	SNU	SNU										SNU					
15 Feb Tue 7.45pm	Luton Town	H	2-3	5,542	357 5th	SNU																
19 Feb Sat 3.00pm	Port Vale	A	1-0	5,542	422 5th	SNU	SNU															
22 Feb Tue 7.45pm	Brentford	H	3-1	4,206	94 4th	SNU	SNU								1	1				1		
26 Feb Sat 3.00pm	Stockport	A	1-0	4,548	- 5th	SNU	12															
05 Mar Sat 3.00pm	Wrexham	H	4-6	4,707	129 5th	SNU										1	1		2			
08 Mar Tue 7.45pm	Hull City	A	1-0	17,112	585 5th																	
12 Mar Sat 3.00pm	Tranmere	H	1-0	4,887	323 6th		SNU															
19 Mar Sat 3.00pm	Bradford	A	1-2	7,509	- 5th										1	4	SNU		1			
25 Mar Fri 7.45pm	Huddersfield	H	0-1	6,205	704 5th											9	SNU					
28 Mar Mon 3.00pm	Blackpool	A	2-2	6,853	1,095 5th											2	SNU					
02 Apr Sat 3.00pm	Swindon	H																				
05 Apr Tue 7.45pm	Peterborough	H																				
09 Apr Sat 3.00pm	Colchester	A																				
15 Apr Fri 7.45pm	Sheff Wed	H																				
23 Apr Sat 3.00pm	Doncaster	A																				
30 Apr Sat 3.00pm	Walsall	H																				
07 May Sat 3.00pm	Bournemouth	A																				

20. STEVEN ISTEAD
21. D. KONSTANTOPOULOS
22. DARREN CRADDOCK
23. JACK L. WILKINSON
24. ANDY JORDAN
25. ANDREW APPLEBY
26. DAVID FOLEY
29. MICHAEL MAIDENS
30. STEVE TURNBULL
32. THOMAS BUTLER
42. STEVE HOWEY

Full red block denotes player appearance

Half red block & number denotes substitute appearance & player replaced

SNU Substitute not used

ITALICS Denotes Loan player

1 Goals scored

p Scored from Penalty

OFF Player Sent Off

† Opponents own goal

→ Through to next round of Cup

x Knocked out of Cup

league table



TEAM	P	HW	HD	HL	HGF	HGA	AW	AD	AL	AGF	AGA	Pts	GD
Luton	40	14	4	2	40	14	10	6	4	35	28	82	+33
Hull City	40	15	4	1	39	14	9	3	8	35	31	79	+29
Tranmere	39	12	4	4	41	23	7	8	4	26	26	69	+18
Sheff Wed	40	10	5	5	31	23	8	8	4	40	26	67	+22
Hartlepool	39	13	2	4	42	25	6	3	11	22	31	62	+8
Bournemouth	39	9	6	5	38	26	8	3	8	28	27	60	+13
Brentford	38	12	4	3	30	20	5	5	9	16	28	60	-2
Swindon	39	11	3	5	36	26	5	6	9	26	31	57	+5
Doncaster	40	9	9	2	29	16	5	6	9	23	33	57	+3
Bradford	40	7	6	7	32	30	8	6	6	23	25	57	0
Bristol C	38	7	7	5	37	21	7	7	5	27	28	56	+15
Barnsley	40	7	8	5	33	26	6	8	6	28	26	55	+9
Huddersfield	40	10	5	5	33	25	5	4	11	28	36	54	0
Chesterfield	40	8	7	5	29	25	5	6	9	22	31	52	-5
Colchester	40	7	4	9	24	21	6	8	6	29	23	51	+9
Blackpool	39	7	7	6	27	27	6	4	9	25	26	50	-1
Port Vale	39	10	2	7	26	21	4	3	13	16	32	47	-11
Oldham	40	9	4	7	38	30	4	3	13	15	35	46	-12
Walsall	40	9	6	5	33	27	2	5	13	18	39	44	-15
Milton Keynes	40	7	9	4	29	24	3	5	12	18	38	44	-15
Torquay	40	5	5	10	23	36	3	9	8	24	39	38	-28
Wrexham	38	6	8	5	23	30	5	5	9	28	39	36	-18
Peterborough	39	5	6	9	26	28	2	5	12	18	35	32	-19
Stockport	39	3	4	12	22	35	3	3	14	23	48	25	-38

player appearances 04/05

NAME	league		fa cup		carling cup		ldv vans	
	APS	GLS	APS	GLS	APS	GLS	APS	GLS
J. PROVETT	20	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
M. BARRON	10(2)	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
H. ROBERTSON	17(1)	2	4	-	-	-	-	-
M. TINKLER	29(1)	2	5	1	2	-	2	-
M. NELSON	36(1)	1	5	-	2	-	3	-
C. WESTWOOD	30(1)	4	6	2	2	-	2	-
D. CLARKE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R. HUMPHREYS	40	2	6	-	2	-	2(1)	-
E. WILLIAMS	28(6)	5	2(1)	1	(2)	1	2	-
A. BOYD	37(2)	18	6	3	2	1	1(1)	1
G. STRACHAN	17(7)	1	1(1)	-	2	-	2	1
J. ROSS	21(2)	-	5(1)	-	-	-	1	-
J. PORTER	34(3)	12	5	1	1(1)	-	3	1
A. SWEENEY	38	10	6	-	2	1	2	1
J. DALY	1(3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B. CLARK	16(4)	-	5(1)	-	-	-	1	-
K. BETSY	3(3)	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
M. ROBSON	17(5)	2	1(1)	1	2	-	2	-
J. BRACKSTONE	8(1)	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
S. ISTEAD	(15)	-	(6)	-	(1)	-	1(1)	-
D. KONSTANTOPOULOS	20	-	5	-	1	-	3	-
D. CRADDOCK	7(1)	-	-	-	1	-	(3)	-
J. WILKINSON	3(2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D. FOLEY	1(1)	-	(1)	-	-	-	(1)	-
A. APPLEBY	(13)	2	1(2)	-	-	-	(1)	-
M. WOODS	3(3)	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
A. POUTON	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
M. MAIDENS	(1)	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-
L. GOBERN	1(0)	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-
S. TURNBULL	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
T. BUTLER	(2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
S. HOWEY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

*Brackets denotes substitution appearance.

*A Cool
Head
in front
of Goal*

*A Fit
Body*



*Tastier
than a
cup final
win*

STRONGARM TACTICS



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MANAGER: NEALE COOPER

Hartlepool United

SCORE

		PLAYED	SCORED
1	JIM PROVETT		
2	MICHAEL BARRON		
3	HUGH ROBERTSON		
4	MARK TINKLER		
5	MICHAEL NELSON		
6	CHRIS WESTWOOD		
7	DARRELL CLARKE		
8	RITCHIE HUMPHREYS		
9	EIFION WILLIAMS		
10	ADAM BOYD		
11	GAVIN STRACHAN		
12	JACK ROSS		
14	JOEL PORTER		
15	ANTONY SWEENEY		
16	JON DALY		
17	BEN CLARK		
18	MATTY ROBSON		
19	JOHN BRACKSTONE		
20	STEVEN ISTEAD		
21	DIMI KONSTANTOPOULOS		
22	DARREN CRADDOCK		
23	JACK WILKINSON		
26	DAVID FOLEY		
29	MICHAEL MAIDENS		
32	THOMAS BUTLER		
42	STEVE HOWEY		

MANAGER: ANDY KING

Swindon Town

SCORE

		PLAYED	SCORED
1	RHYS EVANS		
2	SEAN O'HANLON		
3	GRANT SMITH		
4	MATTHEW HEWLETT		
6	STEVE JENKINS		
7	SAMMY IGOE		
8	RORY FALLON		
9	SAM PARKIN		
10	STEFANI MIGLIORANZI		
11	DAVID DUKE		
12	JEREL IFIL		
14	CHRISTIAN ROBERTS		
16	STEVE ROBINSON		
17	BRIAN HOWARD		
18	ALAN REEVES		
19	MATTHEW HEYWOOD		
20	STEVE BOOK		
23	LUKE GARRARD		
24	ANDY CATON		

MATCH OFFICIALS



Referee: M Atkinson, Leeds



Linesman: AJ Greaves, South Yorkshire



Linesman: CL Reeves, East Yorkshire



Fourth Official: R Lockhart, Newcastle

TODAY'S ODDS

POOLS: to win: 10/11

DRAW: 9/4

SWINDON TOWN: to win: 5/2 and Hartlepool to win 21-40/1

Scorecast:

Antony Sweeney to score first

and Hartlepool to win 21-40/1

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