

Never say die

The Official 2006/07 Matchday programme of Hartlepool United



Issue 01

£2.50

Hartlepool United v Swindon Town // 05/08/06

Danny Wilson:

The Pools Boss gives us his verdict on the season opener.

Ritchie Humphreys:

The midfielder wants to see Pools get off to a good start.

Terrace Talk:

We turn to the fans for their thoughts on Pools.

// ALSO INSIDE:

Micky Barron | Action Replay | Team Poster | Top Ten



Williamson



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 this magazine are not
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// MANAGER TALK

Danny Wilson

Good afternoon and welcome to **Victoria Park** for this opening game of the season against Swindon Town

I'd like to start my notes by welcoming all the Hartlepool fans to the match and thanking you all for the fantastic welcome you've given me since I took the job here.

The same goes to all the staff and players at the Club – it has been like a breath of fresh air for me to come over and see the passion that is in this area.

Most importantly, we kick off a major campaign this year and what better game to start with than a clash with Swindon Town? They have terrific characters in the game in Denis Wise and Gus Poyet which adds that little bit of glamour to the league when you can attract players and managers of that ilk.

It's promising to be a superb game and hopefully the entertainment this afternoon will whet your appetite for the football we'll be playing throughout this season.

We've been very pleased with how the lads have approached the pre season games. We've won all the games that were played in public and only lost the one behind closed doors against a very, very strong Middlesbrough side and they coped well with that too.

Overall, you have to tip your hat to the players; they've really had a go in pre season. I'm not just talking about in the games either but training too. The physical side of that has been very tough for them but they've coped with it

very well and I am pleased with the determination they've shown so far.

Hopefully that pre season has given us the good grounding for the nine or ten tough months that lie ahead. There are some good teams in this division this year because many have gone out of their way to strengthen. We expect it to be very competitive; I don't think there'll be many favourites but there'll be a lot of teams hoping for those top seven places.

After relegation there are two ways you can come back. You can feel sorry for yourself and think the world is at an end or you can grab the bull by the horns. The players seem to have done the latter

and they all have the appetite for it and desire to get off to a good start.

We can't predict what is going to happen in a season. All we can say is that we will give 100% in every game that we play and if the players do that then we can't ask for anything more.

Whenever I have been in the opposition camp and come here, I have always found Victoria Park a very intimidating place to play. The fans here have shown me that they're passionate and certainly very vocal and that's what I ask you to do this season. If we can earn that support from you then I am sure this will be a very, very tough place to come and play.



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// POOLS CHAIRMAN

From The Boardroom

Chairman **Ken Hodcroft** is hoping for a good start to the season

A very warm welcome back to Victoria Park to you all for the first game of this new season in League 2. We also extend a very warm welcome to the Directors, management, players and supporters of our visitors today who have made the long trip from Swindon.

It has been a busy close season for everyone at the Club. A new management team has been appointed and we take this opportunity to welcome Danny Wilson and Ian Butterworth to the Club and wish them every success. We are delighted to have secured the services of such an experienced Manager who has such a superb appetite for the game while Ian has recently worked for the FA at the World Cup in Germany.

Pre season has been excellent with the players again enjoying their week

at the fabulous training facilities at the KNVB at Zeist in Holland. The team have come back and performed well in the pre-season matches and remained unbeaten but the big plus was that we incurred no injuries.

All League 2 clubs must comply under the Salary Cost Management (SCM) rules laid down by the Football League which basically means our player salaries must not exceed 60% of the Club's turnover. As we have arrived from League 1 we found ourselves not complying. This meant that from July 15th we are unable to buy or bring in on loan any players until we reach that 60% requirement. The departures of Chris Llewellyn, Thomas Butler and Adam Boyd and the loan of Darrell Clarke to Rochdale helps us move towards the SCM requirement. However it also depends on revenue and we receive

considerably less from the Football League in this division so we need your support through the turnstiles. We also take this opportunity to wish all three transferred players the best of luck for the future.

As you will see there has also been a lot of work done to the ground over the summer with the completion of the PFS classroom (formerly the 1908 Lounge) for the benefit and use of school children and the refurbishment work done to the Camerons Brewery Stand and the office block. We have also moved the Club shop to the rear of the building and it is now accessible through the car park. It has also more than doubled in size and this will allow us to bring in new ranges, including the newly launched Nike home shirt, and display them so that fans can easily see what's on offer. The ticket office will remain at the front of

the building on Clarence Road. The outside bars to the rear of the Cyril Knowles Stand have now been completed.

All of the above shows that despite going down a league, this Club and their owners IOR, are still looking to move forward and prepared to make Victoria Park at stadium that fans are proud of and safe and comfortable in. However, the issue of ground ownership still needs to be resolved for long term planning and investment.

This is the start of a brand new episode in Pools' history so get behind the new Manager and the team this afternoon and do everything you, the fans of this Club, can do to make this an enjoyable season. We are a League 2 club and have no divine right to be in a higher league. Only the results of the next 46 League games can change that. Enjoy the season.



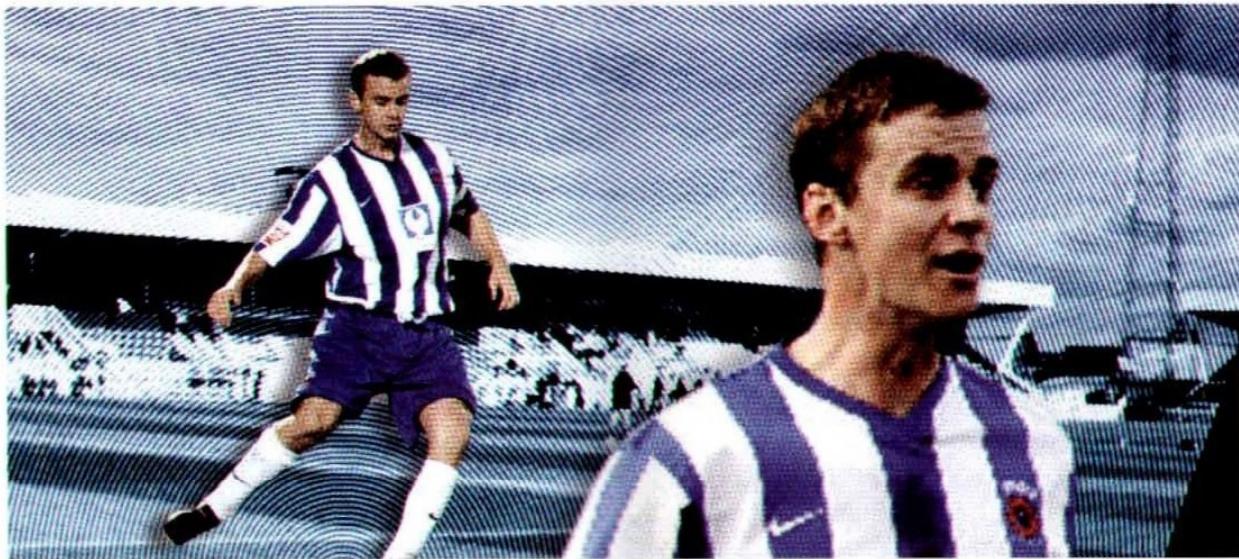
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// CAPTAIN'S COMMENTS

Micky Barron

The **Club Captain** is looking forward to starting afresh and a solid 2006/2007 campaign.

Good afternoon and welcome to this afternoon's season-opener against Swindon Town here at Victoria Park

It feels like it's taken an eternity to get here but now we are getting the season underway and we are determined to give you something to smile about after last season's huge disappointments.

The lads all came back in to pre season training in great shape and the preparations

have gone very well for the new campaign.

Of course, you don't need to ask me what my highlight of pre season was! The game against Leeds here was something I will always remember and I would like to thank everyone who turned up and helped make it such a special day.

Indeed, I would like to thank everyone who supported me throughout my testimonial year and also the Club who were a great assistance for

the game with Leeds. Back to today though and we are absolutely desperate to get off to a good start obviously. People will be saying it up and down the country this afternoon but it is very important to get a good start under your belts in the league campaign.

The lads are ready, I have no doubt about that and I am sure that we are in for an exciting season of football here at The Vic.

The performance

against Leeds showed what standards we are capable of and we have to make certain that we meet them this season and give you all something to shout about.

Talking of shouting, let's hear you get right behind us from the off this afternoon. We need to make this place our fortress again and get back to the way we were - let's start that today.

Enjoy the match,

Micky.

The LEAGUE Paper
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HUDSA

Steve Sharp updates on HUDSA activities during the summer.

Hello everyone and a warm welcome back to Victoria Park from everyone at HUDSA.

I cannot start the new season without a mention of the past one. Yes, relegation hurt like hell but we have to move on and I can feel it in my water that this one for sure

will be a hell of a lot better than the last one. Enough said, now move on.

HUDSA have also moved on in leaps and bounds during the close season as our meeting room in the bowls club proved a very popular venue for the World Cup games – so much so that we even considered issuing tickets for the

Final as we knew we would have a problem getting everyone in. PENALTIES!! Don't you just hate them sometimes?!

Once again by popular demand we are taking coaches to away games and our first trip to Macclesfield is this Tuesday £12 and we leave from the club shop at 3pm. Also

bookings are being taken for Walsall £14 to book please ring me on 07815192754.

I would like to offer Danny Wilson all the very best wishes as he kicks us off today on what I hope will be a season to remember for all the right reasons.

Steve Sharp on behalf of HUDSA Committee.



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Good luck to Hartlepool United for the 2006/2007 season.

MANAGERIAL RECORDS

Danny Wilson

Played 0 Won 0 Drawn 0 Lost 0
For 0 Against 0

Dennis Wise

Played 0 Won 0 Drawn 0 Lost 0
For 0 Against 0

Bigest Win(s) No wins found
Bigest Loss(es) No losses found

Bigest Win(s) No wins found
Bigest Loss(es) No losses found

MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ..0	Danny Wilson	0	Dennis Wise	0
Draws ..0		Goals 0		Goals 0

Player with the most...

shots

Eifion Williams
46



Player with the most...

shots

Jamie Cureton
58

shots on target

Eifion Williams
24

GAMES SINCE

1	a win	0
1	a home win	4
0	an away win	0
6	a defeat	3
4	a home defeat	1
2	an away defeat	3
0	a score draw	2
16	a no score draw	1
0	conceding a goal	0
0	scoring a goal	0
2	conceding > 1	0
1	scoring > 1	0
16	keeping a clean sheet	1
8	failing to score	1
1	back to back wins	16
6	back to back defeats	5
0	gaining a point	0
0	losing a point	1
14	win by > one	8
62	loss by > one	3
		66

SHARP SHOOTERS

Hartlepools

Eifion Williams
7 0 7

CCFL Cup

0 0 5

Swindon

Rory Fallon
12 1 13

CCFL Cup

7 0 7

Jamie Cureton
4 0 4

TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played

16 Hartlepools wins

3

Swindon wins

7

Draws

6 Goals 17 (1.1 per game)

Goals 23 (1.4 per game)

Times failed to score 4

Times failed to score 4

Biggest League win at Hartlepools for each team:

02/04/2005 Hartlepools 3-0 Swindon

23/04/1983 Hartlepools 1-2 Swindon



2005/06 LEAGUE STATS



21	Position	23
46	Played	46
11	Won	11
17	Drawn	15
18	Lost	20
44	Goals For	46
59	Goals Against	65
50	Points	48



Record Against Top Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
5	8	11	18	5	8	11	19

Record Against Bottom Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
6	9	7	22	6	7	9	24

Record When Scoring First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
8	8	2	20	8	4	5	24

Record When Conceding First

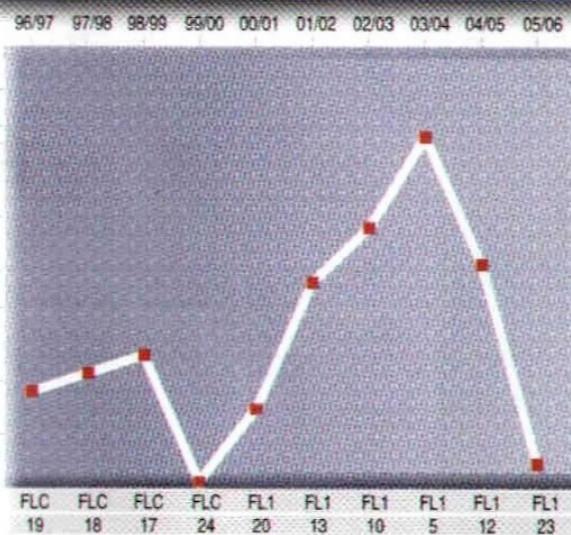
W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
3	5	16	11	3	5	15	9

Match Scores

Wins: 1-0[4], 2-1[4], 3-1[2], 3-2[1],
Losses: 0-1[4], 0-2[5], 0-3[2], 1-2[6],
1-3[1], **Draws:** 0-0[4], 1-1[11], 2-2[1], 3-3[1]

Wins: 1-0[4], 2-0[1], 2-1[4], 4-2[2],
Losses: 0-1[5], 0-2[2], 0-3[2], 1-2[5],
1-3[2], 1-7[1], 2-3[3], **Draws:** 0-0[6],
1-1[8], 2-2[1]

SWINDON - TEN SEASON RECORD



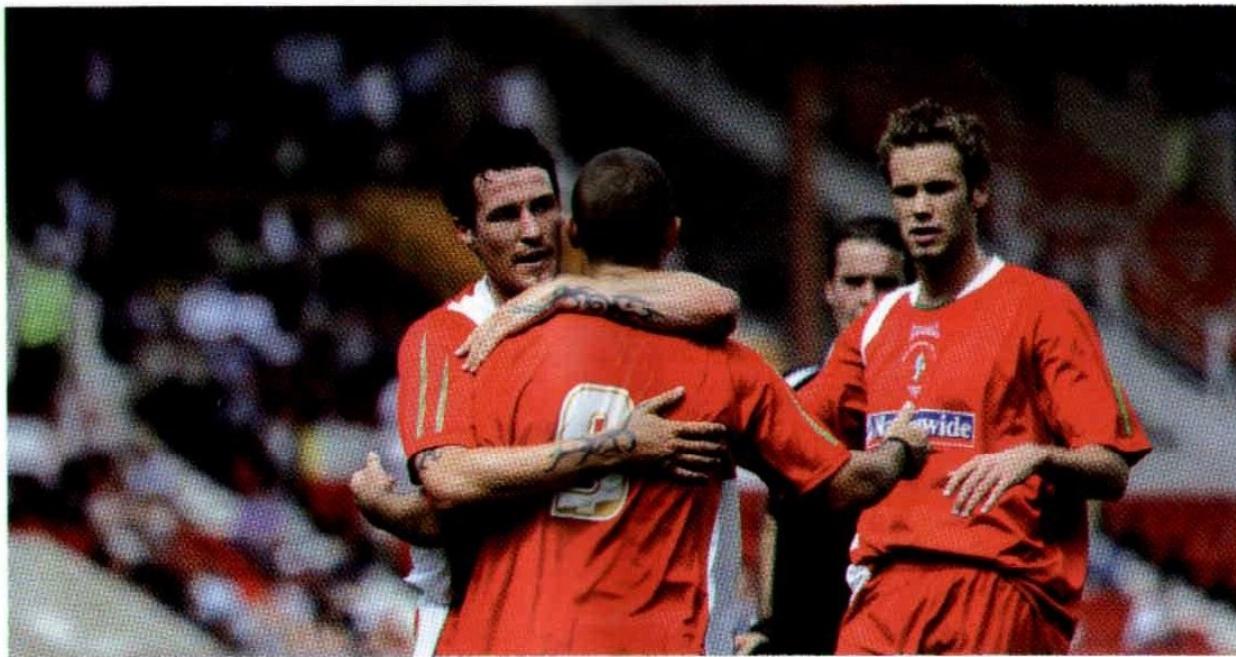
stats not including 2006/07 season



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// WE TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT TODAY'S OPPPOSITION

Introducing

Swindon Town



Swindon Town began a new era over the summer when they appointed Denis Wise and Gustavo Poyet as their new management team.

Former Millwall boss Wise is delighted with the way his players have performed in pre season and is confident that they will be ready for the rigours of League Two football.

"I am pretty happy with that," he commented after his side's final warm-up game against Premiership Reading ended in 1-1 draw.

"Pre season has finished now and the season starts from here. Hartlepool will be a different test altogether and we are looking forward to that."

Town's relegation from

League One last term may have been more clear-cut than Pools' in the end but their investment during the closed season has many tipping them for an instant return.

One To Watch

Curtis Weston

Brought in by new boss Denis Wise on a free transfer from Millwall



during the summer, Curtis Weston is already impressing the Swindon Town fans.

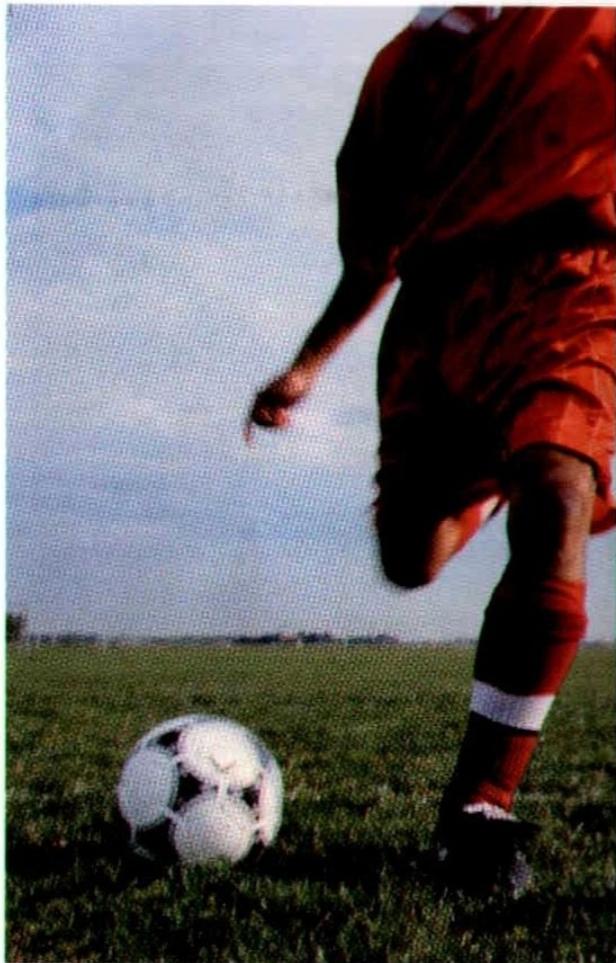
His all-energy approach to midfield work has made him a pre season hit and Wise will be hoping the exciting 19-year-old can continue to flourish as the League Two campaign kicks off.

Weston became the youngest-ever player to feature in an FA Cup Final when he came on for Wise in The Lions' 3-0 defeat to Manchester United at The Millennium Stadium in 2004.

Last Time Out			
Jack Smith	Jerel Ifil	Peter Brezovan	Andy Nicholas
Ricky Shakes	Michael Pook	Curtis Weston	Jamie Vincent
Lee Peacock		Christian Roberts	Andy Monkhouse

Summary:

Christian Roberts' twice-taken penalty earned Swindon Town a creditable draw against Premiership new boys Reading in this pre season encounter at The County Ground



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Saturday 22nd July 1.00pm kick-off

Victoria Park



HARTLEPOOL UNITED

2

Goals: Brown (2)



LEEDS UNITED

1

Goals: Stone

Team: Konstantopoulos, Robson, Nelson, Clark, Barron, Humphreys, Sweeney, Tinkler, Boyd, Brown, Porter.

Subs: Progett, Strachan, Brackstone, Bullock, E Williams, Maidens, Foley.

Star MAN:

James Brown

The young striker showed the Victoria Park faithful exactly what he's all about with an unstoppable performance against Leeds. He was quick off the blocks to score the opening goal, pouncing on a loose ball inside the area to fire home. Apart from that, he harried defenders, tackled back and made intelligent runs and good use of the ball. Having chased down defender Hayden Foxe in the second half he was upended and from the resultant free-kick he rose highest to power home a header for his second of the game. The day may have been all about Micky Barron but Brown did everything he could to steal the limelight.

Wilson's COMMENT:

"We showed great discipline as a team throughout the game and to be honest they didn't cause us a great deal of problems in front of goal. They did keep possession well, with Steve Stone and Gary Kelly causing us a few problems in the first half but that was intermittent and we coped with it very well. They were two excellent finishes by James, and he was unlucky not to get a hat trick really. He has done very well in pre season he has great potential but he does still have a lot to learn and hopefully next season will be a learning curve for him."





// TALKING FOOTBALL

Down To Business

Wise head **Ritchie Humphreys** has revealed the determination that exists in the Pools squad as they prepare for this afternoon's season-opener.

Ritchie Humphreys says that the players can't wait to get their teeth in to the new season – and put right the wrongs of last term.

Pools are playing League Two football again this term after their unexpected relegation but Humphreys says the squad have returned to pre season training pumped up and in good shape.

"We all just want to get down to the main business really," he told us.

"Pre season is there to get you fit but I think the

lads all came back in good shape and looking to impress the Manager

Hopefully that will be the last time that I will go through relegation but this season we are just focussed on a good start.

enough to get in the first starting eleven.

"Friendlies in pre season count for nothing; it's the league that really matters and we can't wait to get going again, especially after the disappointment of last season."

The midfielder, who will clock up an amazing 227th consecutive

league start if selected this afternoon, says the players are raring to go for the new campaign.

He also reckons that the pain of last term will drive them on in the new season and is hoping the fans will see

their desire today.

"I don't ever want to feel like that again in my career. Hopefully that will be the last time that I will go through relegation but this season we are just focussed on a good start.

"The condition that we've all come back in shows how determined we are but now we need the games to start because it's totally different playing when three points are at stake.

"Swindon have a new Manager in place as well but we're just concentrating what we have to do – we're



prepared, we're fit and hopefully we'll get off to a good start.

"This is a new season and fresh start for everybody. It will be a tough first week but we have to play everybody some time so hopefully we can get the start we want."

And Humphreys has shrugged off the loss of star striker Adam Boyd to Luton, insisting that there is more than enough firepower in the Pools squad to make it another memorable season.

"Adam is a big loss to us as I think he would be to any team," he admitted.

"His injury set him back last season but he is the one who we all feel could

A lot of squads have changed around and I think that League Two has got better so it's going to be very, very tough for us.

do well at a higher level and we wish him all the best.

"But we have to look forward now and it's comforting for us that there is big competition for those places up front.

"There's competition

for places in every area really. We've got some promising young lads in

the squad who will be looking to impress in their first year too."

Humphreys made the PFA Team of the Year last time Pools competed at League Two level but he is level-headed enough to know that Danny

Wilson's men will have to battle and scrap for every point they gain this term.

The experienced midfielder is realistic about the challenge that lies ahead and insists the players are totally ready for it.

"A lot of squads have changed around and I think that League Two has got better so it's going to be very, very tough for us.

"We're under no illusions but we're going to give it our best and hopefully have an enjoyable season."



Hartlepool United FC

2006-2007



HUFC Reserves



Williamson



Ian Butterworth gives us his thoughts on the season ahead for the Reserves.

Good afternoon and welcome for the first time to Victoria Park.

It is often said that Reserve Team football results don't matter but I disagree with this. I want to see strong, solid performances and a winning mentality is paramount for a young football player's development alongside other requirements. Winning isn't a bad habit either is it?

If players are on the winning side it can breed confidence throughout the squad and so we will be looking to do well in the league this season at Reserve level.

Obviously it is a chance for the younger members of the squad to stake their claims for First Team action, but it's important we also use the Reserves for the senior players to keep their fitness or build it up if they've been out injured.

The league season doesn't start for another couple of weeks but we have a difficult game to look forward to at Billingham Town on Wednesday night – come along and support us if you have the time, the kick-off is 7pm.

I have been impressed with the strength we have at Reserve and Youth level at the Club and, having got to know the lads quite quickly during pre season, I

am looking forward to working with them and to helping them reach their optimum potential. Hungry, dedicated professionals who are challenging the senior players are the key.

I can guarantee you that Danny and myself will be doing everything we can to bring you the right results at all levels this season. We're very much looking forward to that challenge.

Youth Team

HUDSONS TAXIS
Williamson



Paul Stephenson brings us up to date with events from the Youth Team camp.

It's been a very positive pre season as far as I am concerned and I have seen lots to be happy about from the younger lads at the Club.

We've taken in nine new lads this season and I have been delighted with the way they have settled in and the attitude they

have shown.

My initial impressions were that this group of young players could be even better than last season's and since then I have seen nothing to dissuade me of this.

They work very hard both on and off the field and I am sure that if they all

stick in they'll have a great chance to succeed at this football club.

We have seen this season David Foley, Stephen Turnbull, Philip Turnbull, Michael Maidens and Graham Low, Neil Muckles, Michael Rae and Tony Davison sign pro deals from the Youth Team and hopefully we can

continue to have this sort of effect in the future.

It is key that Clubs at our level develop their own young talent and with the backing of the Chairman Ken Hodcroft and IOR I am sure we can continue to do so. I am excited about the challenge this season and can't wait to get my teeth in to it.

Centre Of Excellence



Director of Youth **Terry Mitchell** updates on activities from the Centre of Excellence.

Hello and welcome everyone to Victoria Park for our first League 2 home game of the new 2006/07 season against Swindon Town. I am sure like myself you are all looking forward to an exciting season and I would like to wish Danny, Ian and all the players all the best for the new season.

The success of a Youth Development Programme is fundamentally measured by player progress. Last season eight of our Youth Team players received professional contracts. Five of this season's Modern Apprentices have

come through our Centre of Excellence Programme and a further four players who have received modern Apprenticeships came through our trialling system.

Michael Maidens received the "Goal of the season Award" for his goal against Huddersfield Town. Jonathan Dixon from our Centre of Excellence was called up for the 1992 Norwegian National Squad. This proves our programme is effective and working.

Our aim this season, with the support of many people and in particular Chairman Ken Hodcroft and IOR, will be to further

develop and improve the quality of the Youth Development Programme. Not every boy within the Youth Development Programme will fulfil their football aspirations. Our Club's pledge to all boys and their parents is that we will provide a healthy and happy learning environment and that we will endeavour to make every young player a better footballer and person.

The close season is still very busy for me and Christine Gibson [Youth Development Administrator] as we have been working hard to review and update all of our policies and procedures, arranging

fixtures for the coming season and putting together all this information for all our parents/players and coaching staff.

Our Centre of Excellence programme for new season 2006/07 began last week with two induction nights on Monday for our Under 9's and 10's then on Tuesday for our Under 11's to 16's at Manor College. Then all our squads from Under 9 to 16 had their first coaching session on Wednesday at Manor College.

We have arranged some very good pre-season friendlies for our boys as follows:

Monday	7th Aug	Middlesbrough	U10 & U12	Away 6.15pm KO
Wednesday	9th Aug	Middlesbrough	U14 & U16	Away 6.15pm KO
Sunday	13th Aug	Falkirk	U15 & U16	Home 2.00pm KO
Monday	14th Aug	Middlesbrough	U9 & U11	Away 6.15pm KO
Wednesday	16th Aug	Middlesbrough	U13 & U15	Away 6.15pm KO
Thursday	17th Aug	Sunderland	U16	Away 2.00pm KO
Tuesday	22nd Aug	Sunderland	U10/12/14	Away 6.00pm KO
Wednesday	23rd Aug	Newcastle	U9/11/13/15	Away 6.30pm KO
Tuesday	29th Aug	Sunderland	U9/11/13/15	Away 6.00pm KO
Wednesday	30th Aug	Newcastle	U10/12/14/16	Away 6.30pm KO

Home games to be played at Manor College Hartlepool.

Commercial & Hospitality

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

Good afternoon and welcome to everyone for the start of a new season - always the most eagerly-awaited fixture of the football calendar.

Following last season's disappointment everyone at the Club is now upbeat and looking forward to the new campaign. We have experienced one of the most hectic close season breaks that anyone can remember. The work carried out at The Vic during the summer has been comprehensive to

say the least and we hope that the fans will benefit from the ongoing improvements, which have all been carried out by IOR despite the disappointment of our bid to purchase the ground being rejected. The cost to IOR has been substantial but I am sure that you will all agree this decision only highlights IOR's commitment to HUFC.

The biggest coup for the Club during the close season was the appointment of Danny Wilson as First Team Manager. Danny is an excellent manager with

an excellent pedigree in the game. This appointment again goes to show the ambition and commitment that IOR have at the Club. We have also brought in Ian Butterworth as Reserve Team Coach. Ian has tremendous credentials in the football world and has recently returned from World Cup duty with the England set-up - no doubt Ian's contacts and experience will again be a massive asset to HUFC.

The Commercial side at the Club has been very busy during the

close season. We have once again received fantastic support from the business community of Hartlepool and once again all the hospitality boxes are full to capacity. A great start to the season! At this moment in time we have one box available for the Torquay United game on Saturday 19th August 2006.

Let's all get behind Danny and the lads today and hopefully we can get off to a great start on the field!

Russ & Sarah

Today's Mascots

Bethany Charlotte Grimwood

Age: 9 years old

School: Sacred Heart

Favourite Player: Eilon Williams

Favourite Sports: Karate, Trampoline, Netball



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Russ Green & Sarah Lynn

Joining us in our Executive Boxes today for the first game of the season are: -

Executive Matchball Sponsors:

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Hartlepool United would like to thank Paul Berry Glazing Ltd for the help they have given us during the close season with regards to providing the Club with new windows for the new Club Shop, Reception and the PFS Classrooms.

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Once again we have our Seasonal Hospitality Sponsors with us in the Executive Boxes for 2006/2007. Hartlepool United are delighted to see you all return to Victoria Park to support the team during the season. These companies are: -

Camerons Brewery | Playing for Success | Greenlake Leisure Ltd

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Guests in our CKs Carvery Restaurant today are: - Coatings Plus Ltd, Williamson Motors, Universal Coatings, Dean Construction, Paramount Homes & Soundswright. Enjoy the day!

Child Boot Sponsors

Dimi Konstantopoulos:	Joe Llewellyn
Jim Progett:	Harry Bellerby
Michael Barron:	Emily Wray
Michael Nelson:	Hollie Marie Hughes
Matty Robson:	Emily Newton
Ben Clark:	Kayleigh Louise Paylor
Ritchie Humphreys:	Sam Newton
Gavin Strachan:	Daniel & Joseph Liddell
John Brackstone:	Ryan Bradshaw
Antony Sweeney:	Michael Owen Hughes
Thomas Butler:	Harriet Pearson
Eifion Williams:	Brandon Lee Taylor
Joel Porter:	Emily Jane Hughes
Jon Daly:	Ryan Bradshaw
Darrell Clarke:	John Connor Sharpe
James Brown:	Mathew Richardson
David Foley:	Fiona Henderson
Carl Jones:	Poppy Hotham
Michael Proctor:	Callum Lester
Lee Bullock:	Robbie Armstrong
Darren Williams:	
Graham Low:	
Neil Muckles:	
Tony Davison (GK)	
Michael Rae:	
Michael Maidens:	Ashleigh & Ethan Parkinson
Phillip Turnbull:	
Stephen Turnbull:	
H'Angus	Antonia Jade Conning
Danny Wilson	Anna Llewellyn
Ian Butterworth	Heather Jade Horsley
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 Home Away	 Home The Norton Hotel Away The Norton Hotel	 Home Atomic Planet Entertainment Away	 Home Manor College of Technology Away Manor College of Technology	 Home Away	 Home Fidgeon Ltd Away Fidgeon Ltd	 Home Away
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 Home Away	 Home Away	 Home Carroll Developments Away	 Home Away	 Home Away	 Home Away	 Home Away
 Home Away	 Home Away	 Home Away				

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Playing for Success



Playing for Success

We get the latest from this **great initiative**

Although the football season is just underway, the school year has just come to a close for the summer holidays and the students accessing Playing for Success have worked right up to the last week of term.

The students from 5 local Primary Schools and 3 Secondary schools completed their 10 sessions last week and finished it all off with a Celebration Evening held at Victoria Park. The students worked really hard this term and

have been a pleasure to work alongside. They improved their Literacy, Numeracy and ICT skills whilst also having fun and going behind the scenes at Victoria Park in the process.

Each pupil received certificates and prizes at the Celebration events to reward all their efforts and three students from each school were also awarded additional prizes for outstanding achievement. Pools new Manager, Danny Wilson, was on hand to present the awards to the Y7 students

from St Hild's, Brierton and Manor College.

The Primary pupils from Stranton, Throston and St Teresa's RC were delighted to meet Pools keeper Dimi when he made the presentations on Tuesday. We are very grateful to up and coming Pools youngster Michael Rae for presenting the awards to the winners from West Park and St Begas' RC Primary pupils on Wednesday.

Extra recognition also went to the Y5 children from St Teresa's RC Primary who

achieved a new record breaking attendance of 99% over the course of the 10 weeks.

Well done to all our students and we hope they have a fantastic summer break.

Good luck to the team for the season ahead and we look forward to working with them again this year.



Junior Poolies

Birthday Poolies - July

Robert Campbell celebrates his 10th birthday on the 5th of the month. Robert attends Rossmere Primary School, and his favourite Pools player is **Joel Porter**.

St Aidens pupil Paul Dick turns 10 on the 10th of the month. Paul likes **Dimi** the best!

Charlotte Richardson celebrates her Twelfth birthday on the 12th of the month. Charlotte's favourite player is **Joel Porter**.

Sacred Heart pupil Caitlin Bates celebrated her tenth birthday on the 26th July. **Dimi** is Caitlin's favourite player.

Jack Thomas Wood turned eight on the 28th July. Jack attends St Teresa's Primary School, and he likes **Dimi** best.

Sophie Alice Loynes celebrated her first birthday on the 30th July. Sophie's favourite player is **Ritchie Humphreys**.

August prize give away

Many Thanks, H Angus.

Don't forget to renew your memberships...thanks you for your fantastic support!!!

*Competition winners will receive two non-transferable match day tickets (1 child, 1 adult), and therefore it is the parents/guardians responsibility that the child attends the match with an adult. No monitored 'safe area' will be provided by HUFC. These terms and conditions are to be read in conjunction with general ticket and season ticket terms and conditions found on the HUFC website. Hartlepoolsunited.co.uk The fixture will be chosen by HUFC.

Q. Who do Pools play in the First round of the League Cup?



// STUART DRUMMOND

The Mayor

The **Mayor** is excited as the first game of the season kicks off at The Vic.

Tvery warm welcome to The Vic for the start of the 2006/2007 season and our opening fixture against the Robins of Swindon.

Welcome onboard to Danny Wilson and Ian Butterworth, everyone is right behind you both and let's hope we can bounce straight back up to League One at the first attempt.

Unfortunately we have lost Boyd but I'm sure we would all wish him the very best of luck at his new club, Luton Town and we will all be keeping an eye on his progress throughout the season.

Swindon also have a new managerial team in the shape of Dennis Wise and Gus Poyet and, at the time of writing, very possibly Paul Ince. On

paper it looks like a formidable team and with Swindon being installed as the bookies' favourites to win the league at 7/1, today will be a tough test. I'm sure the bookies will have to recalculate their odds at 5.00pm this evening though!

The close season seems to have flown over. Having the World Cup to watch certainly passed a few weeks of boredom but the less said about England's performances in that, the better for now. The bitter pill of relegation is still stuck in most Poolies' throats. I think most of us feel that we should never have gone down last season and we were in a weaker league than the two previous seasons when we finished in the play-offs both times!

As fans and as a Club,

we all need to put that behind us very quickly and concentrate on getting off to a good start this time round. I feel that it is vital to be up around the top six after the first 10 to 12 games for two reasons.

Firstly, it will give the players great confidence to build on a good start and push on for the rest of the season. We all saw last year what a lack of confidence does to performances. Secondly, and most importantly, the feeling I get talking to many fans is that they are more than prepared to give the management and the team the benefit of the doubt and get right behind them early doors.

However, if we are not up there, I can easily see fans and attendances dropping off drastically. The Club

has worked so hard over the last 7 years to build up the fan base and get people through the gates on a regular basis and this has been through playing excellent, exciting football. We didn't get that last year and if we don't get it soon, I'm afraid many of these fans will disappear back into the wilderness.

It is encouraging to hear positive words coming from all of the players and determination to put right what went wrong last term. It is true that we need to make The Vic a fortress again, a place where the opposition is frightened to come.

At last the first game is here and another season is about to begin. I personally can't wait.

COME ON POOLS!

Football In The Community



Keith Nobbs gives us the latest news from the Football in the Community programme.



Football in the Community would like to take this opportunity to wish Danny, his staff and players our best wishes for the start of the new season. I'm sure with their dedication and professionalism Pools are going to have a great and successful season.

Soccer Course/ Holiday Club Update

During the Summer Holiday period FITC are running courses at Dyke House School and Manor College in Hartlepool. In the first week all the children who participated received a new Puma football. Children had a fun enjoyable week competing in shooting, penalty, and skill

challenge plus 5-a-side competitions.

Players in each group also received Best Attitude and Best Ability trophies for their excellent behaviour, skill and technique shown throughout the week.

Soccer course application forms can be downloaded from the FITC page on the HUFC website at www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk. For further information or details, please contact me on **07788 724588** or **01429 862595**.

Limited places are available for the last week, Tuesday 29th August to Friday 1st September, Manchester Utd, stadium/ ground tour. Book early to guarantee a place.



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**TUESDAY 29th AUGUST TO FRIDAY 1st SEPTEMBER
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MANOR LANE, HARTLEPOOL,**

**TIME 9.00 AM TO 1.00 PM EACH DAY AGE 6-7YRS
BOYS AND GIRLS**

**MONDAY 7th AUGUST TO FRIDAY 11th AUGUST
PRICE £37.00 (Price includes HUFC Gift)**

**MONDAY 14th AUGUST TO FRIDAY 18th AUGUST
PRICE £37.00 (Price includes a trip to Summer Hill)**

**MONDAY 21st AUGUST TO FRIDAY 25th AUGUST
PRICE £37.00 (Price includes Puma Football)**

**TUESDAY 29th AUGUST TO FRIDAY 1st SEPTEMBER
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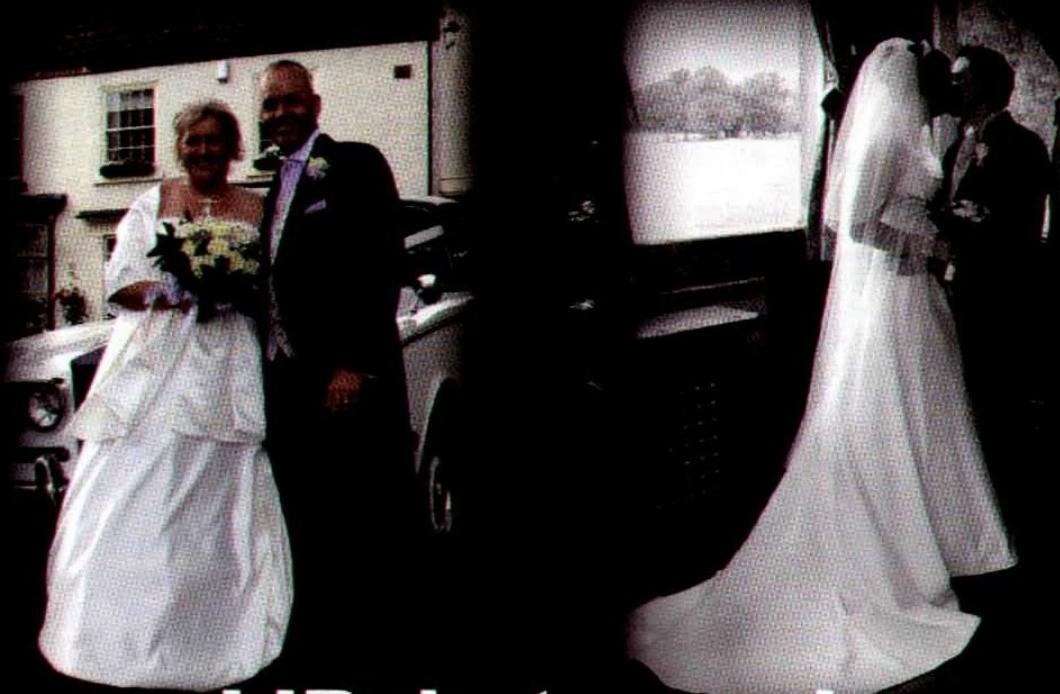
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//TOP TEN POOLIE TRANSFER FEES RECEIVED

1) Tommy Miller (£750,000) 2001

When free-scoring midfield genius Miller was sold to Ipswich Town the high fee seemed kind of secondary, and personally I wouldn't have been surprised to see him top the million at the time such was his stature in the lower leagues.

2) Adam Boyd (£500,000) 2006

Skill, strength and power in abundance, I'll miss Boyd - and the fee seems just about right in the same week that saw Michael Chopra transferred for the same amount. Cheers Adam, don't forget Owton Manor on your new Manor!

3) Paul Dalton (£275,000) 1992

Plymouth seemed to be in a "Splash-The-Cash" mode in the 92-93 close season, but Dalton would in fact end up playing at The Vic the next season as they were relegated - and who can forget Dalton's return in their 8-1 victory??!

4) Joe Allon (£250,000) 1991

The first of our promotion squad to be sold. It's said that we would have had more money from Chelsea after 25 appearances - needless to say 16 games was all he got at Stamford Bridge before his sale to Brentford for £275,000.

5) Jon Cullen (£250,000) 2000

Attacking midfielder Cullen was sold to Sheffield United for a quarter-of-a-million at the peak of his Pools career when he and Chris Beech would rip defences apart for fun. Sadly a series of poor loan moves to the likes of Darlington and Halifax ended with him back at Spennymoor, where it had all started.

6) Don Hutchison (£175,000) 1991

For a player that only played a handful of games, at such a young age, it's a wonder that the price tag on Hutch's head didn't affect his game. In fact, he established himself well at Anfield before making FIVE Million-Pound-Plus moves in a 15 year career. He WAS Scottish, you know!

7) Andy Saville (£155,000) 1993

We certainly got our money's worth out of Saville, who played for us a total of 37 games, scored 19 goals, knocked a Premiership side out of the FA Cup and was then sold to Birmingham City at a £95,000 profit, not 12 months later! And you thought Garry Gibson wasn't a very good businessman?!

8) Rob McKinnon (£150,000) 1992

At least we got to see a bit of Robbie in the higher division, but he was sold to Motherwell halfway through the 92-93 season in what would be his only "Cash" move of his 8-club career which included spells at Hearts and at FC Twente in Holland. Another Scottish International.

9) Stevie Howard (£120,000) 1998

Until I started the research into this article I had NO IDEA that Howard had gone for anything other than a nominal fee, however he is down as being Northampton's record transfer and deserves a topical mention as last week he was transferred for a MILLION to Derby!

10) Paul Baker (£77,500) 1993

Just a year after Rob McKinnon's sale, star-striker Baker was moved on to Motherwell too, and all this after failing a Medical at Scunthorpe who were willing to pay £150,000 for the likeable Geordie. He went on to play for Gillingham, York and eventually Scunthorpe before finding his way back home to Pools in 1997.

phil dunn's

TOP

10

G

ood Afternoon Poolies and Robins, and welcome back to the new, improved Victoria Park for our first "Bottom Rung" fixture in over 3 years.

By now you will have seen (and hopefully be wearing) the new Pools Kit for the new season, which I'm mightily impressed with (broader stripes are slimming, you know!?).

As a farewell to the wonderful Adam Boyd, I've based this week's Top Ten on our highest transfer fees received, with Adam straight in at Number Two. Enjoy The Game.





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Terrace Talk

In a **new feature**, we're turning to you for your take on all things Poolie!

Name: Keith Walker

Age: 40

First Pools game?

I think Leeds United but I had been to league games before that but not as memorable!

Earliest Pools memory?

Leeds getting changed in the Grand Hotel as our ground was not good enough. Also Roy Hogan running the full width of the pitch and punching a player in front of the ref and getting sent off (it was funny at the time!).

Best Pools memory?

Getting promoted in 1991 under Cyril Knowles and getting to Cardiff - what

a proud day for the Club. It only...

Favourite Pools goal?

There have been loads but the best was Adam Boyd's when we beat Sheffield Wednesday in the rain - went round two or three men then chipped the keeper. It was class.

Where do you watch the game from?

Camerons Brewery Stand on the halfway line.

What's your pre-match ritual?

Never sit down before the whistle goes.

Who's the best player you've seen at Pools?

Can't really say as it would



not be fair but Adam Boyd is up there.

Who's the best Manager we've had?

We've had a few good ones but Cyril Knowles did a good job pulling us in the right direction. Nice one, Cyril!

What's your favourite away ground?

Cardiff City.

You've got £1million – who would you buy for Pools?

Adam Boyd (a fit one).

Your best ever Pools XI?

Martin Hodge, Rob McKinnon, Graeme Lee, Michael Nelson, Micky Barron, Don Hutchison, Tommy Miller, Ritchie Humphreys, Adam Boyd, Joe Allon, Brian Honour.

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HUFC Statistics 2006/2007

All the **facts** and **figures**.

KICK-OFF TIMES ARE 3.00PM AT WEEKEND FIXTURES AND 7.45PM FOR MID-WEEK FIXTURES UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

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PLAYER IN BLUE
DENOTES SCORER

DATE	OPPONENTS	RESULT	ATT	POS	KEY							
SAT 5 AUG	SWINDON TOWN	H										
TUE 8 AUG	MACCLESFIELD	A										
SAT 12 AUG	WALSALL	A										
SAT 19 AUG	TORQUAY UNITED	H										
TUE 22 AUG	BURNLEY	A										
SAT 26 AUG	HEREFORD	A										
FRI 1 SEPT	BOSTON UNITED	H										
SAT 9 SEPT	MK DONS	A										
SAT 12 SEPT	MANSFIELD TOWN	H										
SAT 16 SEPT	SHREWSBURY	H										
SAT 23 SEPT	PETERBOROUGH	A										
TUE 26 SEPT	GRIMSBY TOWN	H										
SAT 30 SEPT	WREXHAM	H										
FRI 6 OCT	LINCOLN CITY	A										
SAT 14 OCT	STOCKPORT	H										
FRI 20 OCT	CHESTER CITY	A										
SAT 28 OCT	DARLINGTON	H										
SAT 4 NOV	BARNET	H										
SAT 18 NOV	ACCRINGTON	A										
SAT 25 NOV	WYCOMBE	H										
TUE 05 DEC	NOTTS COUNTY	A										
SAT 9 DEC	BRISTOL ROVERS	A										
FRI 15 DEC	ROCHDALE	H										
SAT 23 DEC	BURY	A										
TUE 26 DEC	GRIMSBY TOWN	H										
SAT 30 DEC	PETERBOROUGH	H										
MON 1 JAN	MANSFIELD TOWN	A										
SAT 6 JAN	SHREWSBURY	A										
SAT 13 JAN	MK DONS	H										
SAT 20 JAN	WREXHAM	A										
SAT 27 JAN	BURY	H										
SAT 3 FEB	SWINDON TOWN	A										
SAT 10 FEB	WALSALL	H										
SAT 17 FEB	TORQUAY UNITED	A										
TUE 20 FEB	MACCLESFIELD	H										
SAT 24 FEB	BOSTON UNITED	A										
SAT 3 MAR	HEREFORD	H										
FRI 9 MAR	LINCOLN CITY	H										
SAT 17 MAR	STOCKPORT	A										
SAT 24 MAR	DARLINGTON	A										
FRI 30 MAR	CHESTER CITY	H										
SAT 7 APR	BARNET	A										
MON 9 APR	ACCRINGTON	H										
SAT 14 APR	WYCOMBE	A										
FRI 20 APR	NOTTS COUNTY	H										
SAT 28 APR	ROCHDALE	A										
SAT 5 MAY	BRISTOL ROVERS	H										



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PLAYER IN RED
DENOTES RED CARD

NUMBER IN BRACKETS
DENOTES PLAYER REPLACED ()



COCA-COLA LEAGUE TWO

TEAM	PLD	HW	HD	HL	HOF	HGA	AW	AD	AL	AGF	AGA	PTS
ACCRINGTON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BARNET	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOSTON UTD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BRISTOL R	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BURY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHESTER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DARLINGTON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRIMSBY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HARTLEPOOL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HEREFORD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LINCOLN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MACCLESFIELD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MANSFIELD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MILTON KEYNES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notts CO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PETERBOROUGH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROCHDALE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHREWSBURY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STOCKPORT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SWINDON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TORQUAY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WALSALL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WREXHAM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WYCOMBE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



PLAYER APPEARANCES 2006|2007

PLAYER NAME	LEAGUE	LEAGUE CUP	FA CUP	LDV	TOTAL GAMES	TOTAL GOALS
DIMI	-	-	-	-	-	-
BARRON	-	-	-	-	-	-
ROBSON	-	-	-	-	-	-
TINKLER	-	-	-	-	-	-
NELSON	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLARK	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLARKE	-	-	-	-	-	-
HUMPHREYS	-	-	-	-	-	-
PORTER	-	-	-	-	-	-
WILLIAMS	-	-	-	-	-	-
STRACHAN	-	-	-	-	-	-
PROCTOR	-	-	-	-	-	-
SWEENEY	-	-	-	-	-	-
BULLOCK	-	-	-	-	-	-
BRACKSTONE	-	-	-	-	-	-
BROWN	-	-	-	-	-	-
PROVETT	-	-	-	-	-	-
JONES	-	-	-	-	-	-
WILLIAMS	-	-	-	-	-	-
JON DALY	-	-	-	-	-	-
S. TURNBULL	-	-	-	-	-	-
P. TURNBULL	-	-	-	-	-	-
FOLEY	-	-	-	-	-	-
MAIDENS	-	-	-	-	-	-
RAE	-	-	-	-	-	-
DAVISON	-	-	-	-	-	-
MUCKLES	-	-	-	-	-	-
LOW	-	-	-	-	-	-

Today's Squads



HARTLEPOOL UNITED

	R	Y	G	P	
1					Dimitrios KONSTANTOPOULOS
2					Micky BARRON
3					Matty ROBSON
4					Mark TINKLER
5					Michael NELSON
6					Ben CLARK
7					Darrell CLARKE
8					Ritchie HUMPHREYS
9					Joel PORTER
10					
11					Eifion WILLIAMS
12					Gavin STRACHAN
13					
14					Michael PROCTOR
15					Antony SWEENEY
16					Lee BULLOCK
17					
18					
19					John BRACKSTONE
20					James BROWN
21					Jim PROVETT
22					Carl JONES
23					Darren WILLIAMS
24					
25					Jon DALY
26					Stephen TURNBULL
27					Philip TURNBULL
28					David FOLEY
29					Michael MAIDENS
30					Michael RAE
31					Tony DAVISON
32					Neil MUCKLES
33					Graham LOW
34					
35					



SWINDON TOWN

	R	Y	G	P	
1					Peter BREZOVAN
2					Jack SMITH
3					Jamie VINCENT
4					
5					Jerel IFIL
6					Ady WILLIAMS
7					Gareth WHALLEY
8					Aaron BROWN
9					Christian ROBERTS
10					Lee PEACOCK
11					Andy MONKHOUSE
12					Ricky SHAKES
13					
14					Andy GURNEY
15					Andy NICHOLAS
16					Fola ONIBUJE
17					Charlie COMYN-PLATT
18					Paul EVANS
19					Michael POOK
20					Royce BROWNLIE
21					Lucas JUTKIEWICZ
22					
23					Curtis WESTON
24					
25					Phil SMITH
26					
27					
28					
29					
30					
31					
32					
33					
34					
35					

KEY: P - Played | G - Goals | Y - Yellow Card | R - Red Card

Today's Referee - RJ Booth (Nottinghamshire)
 Assistant Referee - M Brown (Humberside) P Varley (West Yorkshire)
 Fourth Official - RA Salt (North Yorkshire)

NEXT HOME GAME - Torquay United | Coca-Cola League Two | Saturday August 19th | Kick off 3.00pm

Betting ODDS



Result

Hartlepool	6/5
Swindon	15/8
Draw	23/10

First Scorer

Joel Porter	13/2
James Brown	13/2
Christian Roberts	7/1

FOR ALL THE LATEST ODDS VISIT HARTLEPOOLBET.CO.UK OR FREEPHONE 08000 323 365.