

UP THE BLADES

UTB



v Swindon Town
Saturday 13 April 2013
npower League 1
Kick Off - 3.00pm

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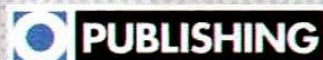
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19 WINNER STOPS ON

We've got a re-match as our regular quiz gets to the business end of the season

LECSINEL JEAN-FRANCOIS

The Haitian defender gives Blades and Swindon fans an update on his progress

20



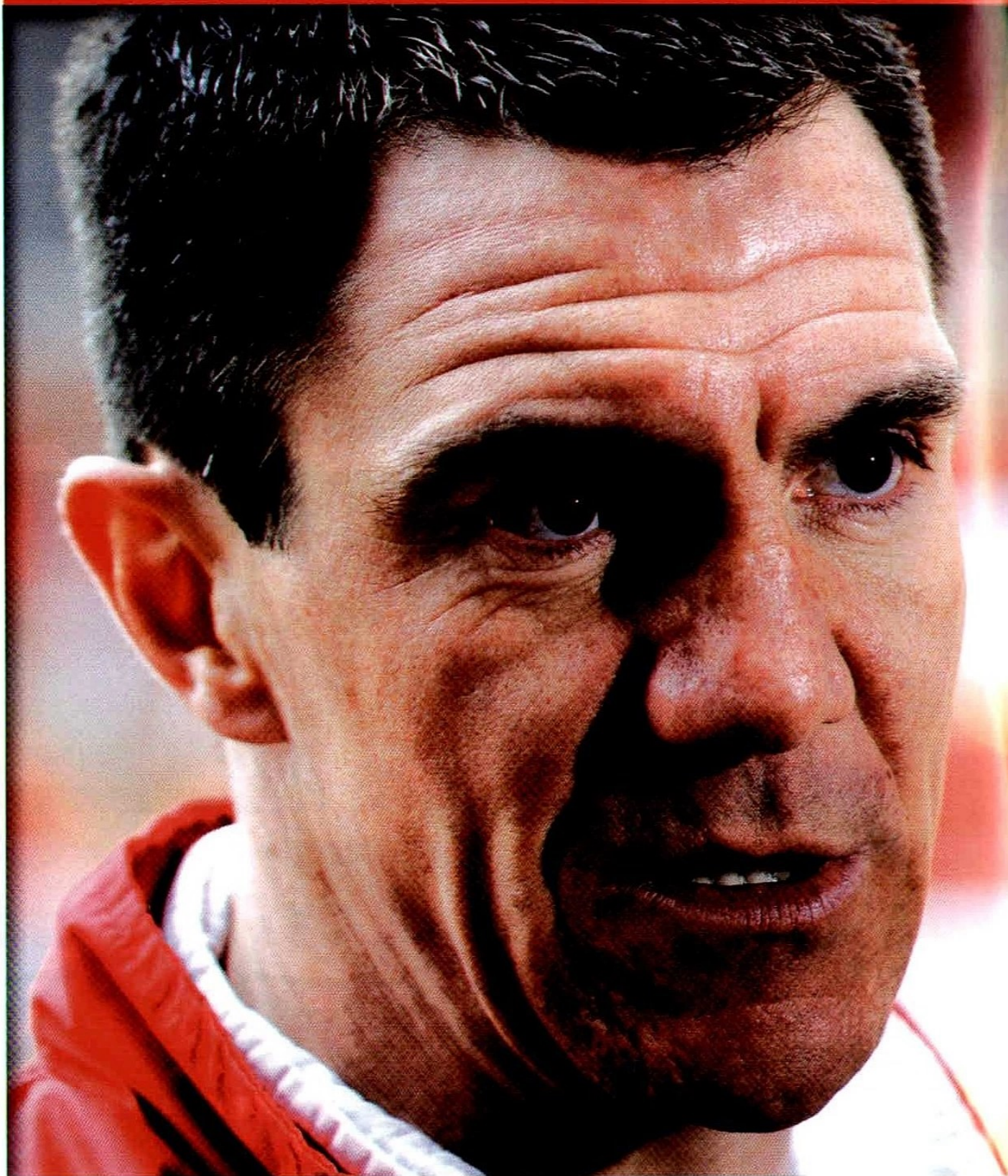
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GETTING THEIR KICKZ

Members of a popular Blades Community programme have been picking up awards



Chris Morgan



***"We must go out with confidence,
take the game by the scruff of the neck
and really stamp some authority on
the game from the first minute."***



Specsavers are proud sponsors
of Chris Morgan's training kit

Chris Morgan took temporary charge of the Blades after Danny Wilson and Frank Barlow left the club on Wednesday evening.

The former defender, captain and coach spoke to the players on Thursday morning ahead of the club calling a press conference later that day.

Here is a taste of the comments he made on Thursday...



Obviously the situation arose on Wednesday night, it is never nice when a manager and assistant manager have to leave a football club.

Danny and Frank have done everything in their power in the last two years to make Sheffield United successful. They worked so hard, as have all the staff and the players, now we find ourselves in a position with five games to go and the aim remains promotion.

Two fantastic men, who I owe everything to, have left this football club and we all must accept a share of the responsibility. Danny and Frank have been into the training ground and told us all to go and win promotion and finish the job off.

I must stress, like I already have done to the players, the five games are step-by-step, starting with Swindon Town.

The supporters will get right behind us, as they understand exactly what the challenge is that lies ahead.

Myself and David Unsworth, who will assist me, will stress to the players that it is their responsibility to give the crowd something to shout about. It is our jobs to get the supporters backing but I am sure they will remain right behind us.

What we need is a really positive performance and if we produce that then the fans will believe again, we must have that belief throughout the remainder of the season, in all areas.

We have enjoyed a lot of success over the last couple of seasons and we must go out with confidence on Saturday, take the game by the scruff of the neck and really stamp some authority on the game from the first minute.

It is an old cliché but we will take one game at a time and hopefully those positive results will be enough to see us win promotion.

Preparations for the weekend started on Thursday morning, in the dressing room at the training ground.

When a manager leaves, you are always going to have disappointment and the lads will have a lot of different thoughts going through their minds.

That includes those that have been playing and others that haven't. I've spoken to them all and both myself and David told them the immediate thought is Swindon Town - the players have a big responsibility and I think they understand that.





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Boardroom

Operations Director, **Dave McCarthy**, explains how we are continually engaging with supporters during this busy period, as well as the big news of the week...



Welcome to today's fixture against Swindon Town. I sincerely hope the Swindon team, its management, officials and supporters had a safe journey and they return home safely to Wiltshire after the game.

Of course, you will be aware that a number of important decisions have been taken since the Crawley game. Late on Wednesday evening we announced that Danny Wilson and Frank Barlow had left the club and that Chris Morgan had been placed in temporary charge for the remainder of the season.

Kevin McCabe spoke to the media on Thursday, but the objective on the field remains exactly the same. Today's game sees us enter what can only be described now as a five-match season. Yes, we were all disappointed with the Crawley result on Tuesday and the game could have swung our way, having hit the woodwork twice and having a few opportunities, though the other results, when they came through, involving Doncaster Rovers and, indeed our opponents today, meant that there is one clear objective to face head on - promotion is still in our hands.

I'm sure we all agree that the ground looked excellent on Tuesday and how nice it is to see the Bramall Lane Upper Tier practically full. The stand is a 'sell-out' for Tuesday's game against Brentford, with season ticket holders, it would appear, appreciating the ticket offer to friends and families, which we publicised late last week.

Thanks for your efforts in filling the stand and to my colleagues in the Ticket Office for their sterling and professional efforts in delivering a great service ahead of and on the night and to the grounds, maintenance and cleaning staff, plus volunteers at the Lane, for getting everything ready ahead of the fixture.

For those who have ordered tickets for Tuesday's game against Brentford, I would advise that they are collected from the Ticket Office as soon as possible to avoid any queues on the evening.

Jessica Ennis will be our guest on Tuesday and thus if you want to see her acknowledge fellow Blades, then I would advise you to arrive early as we plan to invite Jess out on the pitch before the game.

Tonight sees the supporters' presentation evening here at the ground, which will be attended by players and coaches as usual, as well as myself and many of my colleagues from Sheffield United.

This annual event is always well-organised and looked forward to by everyone. I don't know any of the winners, but I would expect it's been a close call for many of the various Supporters' Club awards which are distributed on the night.

With regards supporters' events, there was a 'Fans Forum' last night organised by the Handsworth Blades, in conjunction with our Supporter Liaison Officer, John Garrett. Kevin McCabe and David Green were in attendance and I'm sure the results of which will be well-documented.

Staying on the theme of supporters, as we continue to work on our Equality Standard, we are supporting the Level Playing Field Weeks of Action today.

We strive continuously to work with the football authorities to promote inclusion and to combat discrimination across the board and today we recognise the efforts made throughout the game to involve those with any form of disability to enjoy being a part of it.

There is so much to look forward to between now and the end of the season and working collectively we may just go as far as we aspire to.

Dave Mac



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Skipper speaks



It is fair to say it has been a hectic 72 hours at the Lane.

Wednesday evening's decision came as a shock and it hurts players when a manager leaves because you feel partly responsible.

Danny Wilson and Frank Barlow have put together a squad fit for promotion and I hope they will take a lot of pride if we go on and finish the job.

Moving forward, all the lads will get behind Mogs and I'm pretty sure the fans will do the same.

Now is not the time for feeling sorry for ourselves, thinking that everything is against us, or looking for excuses. It is up to us, the players, to step up to the plate and change our own fortunes.

It is pointless thinking about what might have been in recent weeks, we have to

move on and we have got five crucial games remaining, starting today.

We need a big performance and speaking to the lads after Tuesday night's defeat, they are of the same mind – determined to produce the goods on our own turf.

It has been a nightmare few days since Tuesday, you can't completely get the defeat out of your system until you have had chance to put things right.

The defeat was obviously tremendously disappointing, especially when we really need to win matches at this stage of the season. We weren't at our best but, I thought, we still did enough to win the game and the bounce of the ball hasn't quite gone our way – Flynny and myself hit posts and the rebounds didn't fall the way we would have wanted.

For 70-75 minutes we had them on the back foot, trying to probe a way through

their rearguard, before they hit us twice.

That sums our luck up at the moment but we will keep persevering and still believe that we can turn things around – if we keep believing and doing the right things I am sure we will be there or thereabouts.

These lads won't give up, even if it becomes mathematically impossible, but we won't think beyond today.

We are disappointed but the season isn't over, not for a minute, because, as we saw on Tuesday, other teams will slip up, too. We need to take advantage of others having wobbles because it becomes irrelevant if we can't win our matches.

We can't afford to worry about what is happening elsewhere, though, we have to take care of our fixtures and that has been the message in the dressing room this week.

0

Tranmere

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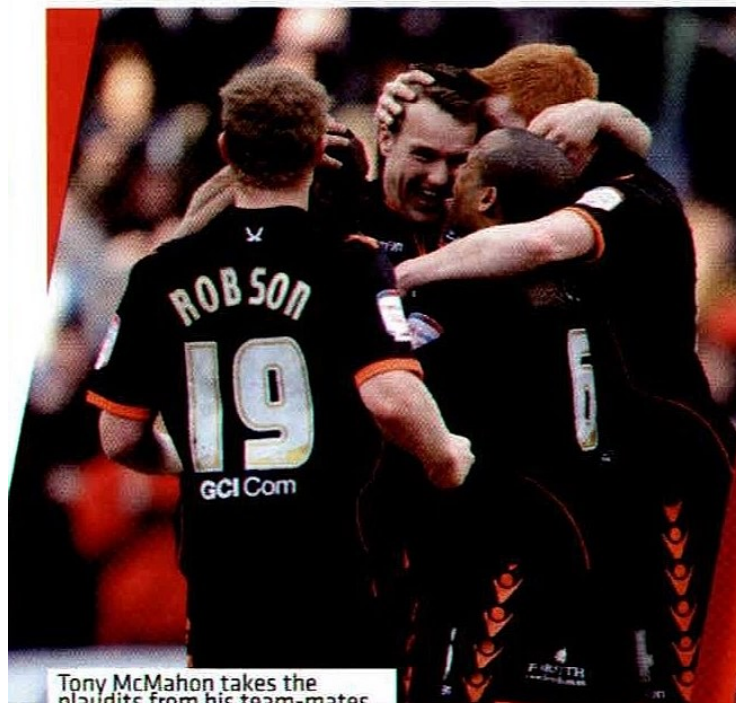
Sheffield United



Taylor (og) 42

Friday 29 March 2013, Npower League One • Attendance: 9,145 • Referee: A. Haines

Dave Kitson is dominant in the air in both penalty areas



Tony McMahon takes the plaudits from his team-mates



Tranmere Stats

Possession	53
Shots on target	3
Shots off target	1
Corners	8
Fouls	12

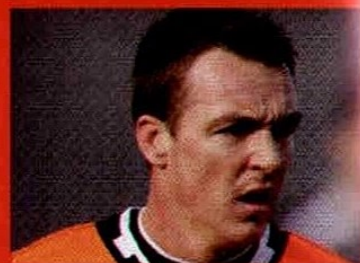
Blades Stats

Possession	47
Shots on target	9
Shots off target	5
Corners	11
Fouls	11

UTB Man of the Match

Tony McMahon

A small consolation after not being credited with the winning goal

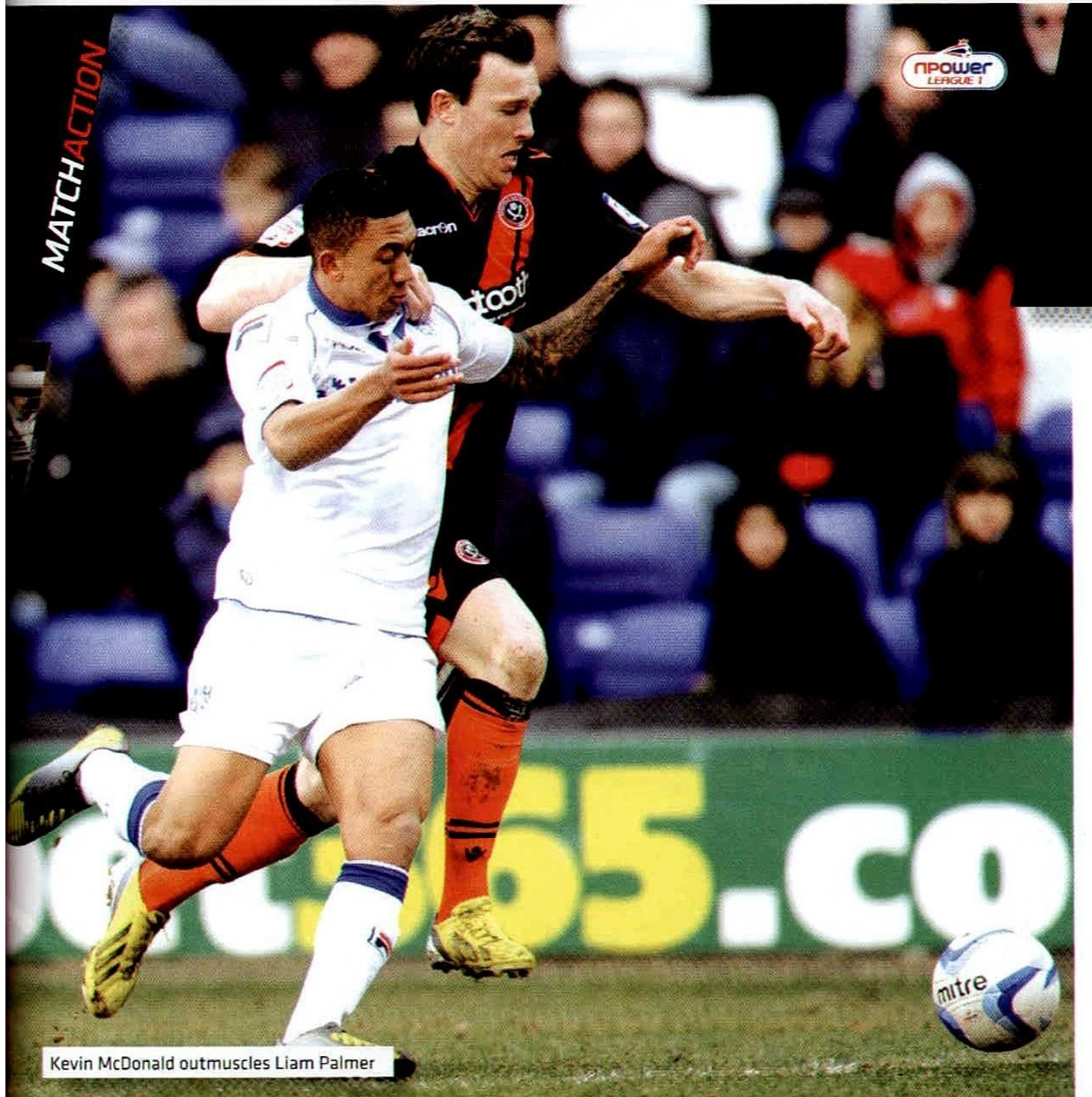


Ryan Flynn looks to eliminate the attentions of two defenders



"We always had the belief we could bounce back from the defeat by Stevenage. We look back at that game now with a little bit of surprise about the scoreline, then when you see us today, you think 'is that the same team that played at Stevenage?' and I have to say it wasn't. What a way to respond, against a team that's your nearest rivals and win at their place. It's a big bonus for us."

Danny Wilson, Blades manager



Kevin McDonald outmuscles Liam Palmer

"To lose a game on such a mistake is just one of those things. Unfortunately for us, we've paid the price for it. If you're a defender, you should know what's around you, should know you've got time to have two or three touches - you can't slash at the ball. It was scrappy and a battle, I can't complain about the effort and commitment but Sheffield United did the dirty things well."

Ronnie Moore, Tranmere manager



Danny Holmes makes his point, much to the bemusement of Matt Hill

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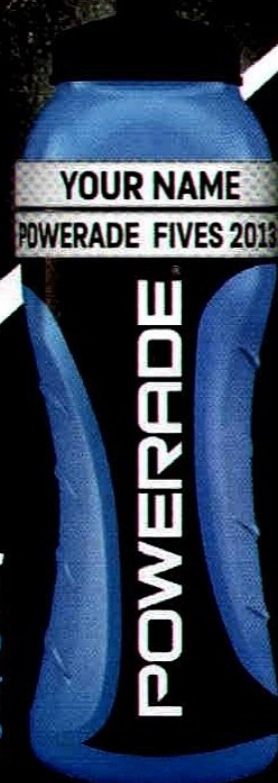
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InsideLane...

Gearing up for charity tournament

A group of car service and salesmen are the latest team to sign up to Weston Park Hospital Cancer Charity's five-a-side tournament – which is set to adorn Bramall Lane this summer.

The men from Sytner Sheffield BMW will be hoping for the perfect pitch, a dynamic driving force and speed down the wing at the football tournament on Sunday 26th May.

The Team of Steel Cup will raise vital funds for the Cancer Charity's 'Do Your Bit' campaign, which is raising funds for a new Cancer Research and Treatment Suite at Weston Park.

The Sytner team will have the chance to play against former Blades and Owls legends on the day, as well as teams from some of the city's biggest firms like Sheffield Forgemasters International.

Jason Cole, assistant service manager of Sytner Sheffield, said: "We are all big football fans and the business sponsors both of the city's football teams.

"We have more than 110 staff members at our Broad Lane site and unfortunately cancer is something that has affected some of our lives, and so we thought taking part in the tournament was a great way to raise money for a local, worthwhile cause."

Sytner service manager Paul Godbehere will be joining his colleagues when they step out onto the hallowed Lane turf and the charity is very close to the 33 year-old's heart.

Paul, from Waterthorpe, said: "I lost my mum, Carol, to cervical cancer when I turned 18 and my dad, Mick, also passed away five years ago from cancer of the chest.

"My mum was treated at Weston Park Hospital and so my brothers, sister and I are keen cancer charity fundraisers. This will be my first fundraiser for Weston Park Hospital Cancer Charity, and as a United fan it's a great way to get involved with the charity; I'm really excited for the big day."

Two of the footballing legends taking part in the tournament who originate from the Steel City are Carl Bradshaw and John Pearson.

Tina Harrison, acting deputy director of Weston Park Hospital Cancer Charity, said: "We are so pleased Sytner has thrown its support behind our big event – it's great to see the city's



businesses coming together on the field. It is going to be a fantastic day.

"There are still places available, if you would like to enter a team visit www.wphcancercharity.org.uk or call the Cancer Charity office on 0114 226 5370."

The Do Your Bit campaign is raising money to provide a new Cancer Research and Treatment Suite at Weston Park Hospital which will allow patients access to a wider range of new cutting edge anti-cancer treatments, as well as enabling significant development of the hospital's ground-breaking programme of clinical trials.

The fundraising has received support from not-for-profit health insurance provider and Blades sponsor, Westfield Health. Westfield's Charitable Trust has pledged £350,000 to the campaign – its biggest ever single donation, kick-starting the campaign with £100,000 and then matching all Do Your Bit donations pound-for-pound, up to a further £250,000.

Weston Park Hospital Cancer Charity needs to raise £1.5million in total this year in order to fund a wide range of projects that support pioneering cancer research and help to improve the treatments and care for people living with cancer.

Weston Park Hospital provides care for cancer patients from across the region, which means that patients from Sheffield, Rotherham, Barnsley, Doncaster, Worksop, Chesterfield, and beyond benefit from donations made to the charity.

* Pictured is the Sytner Sheffield BMW team – Lee Roberts, Dave Young, Andy Pass, Kevin McKenna, Jason Cole and Pete Mitchell.

folklore and fables

SEASON II

In his own unique style, Blades historian **John Garrett** offers more stories from the S2 archives... **UTB** couldn't really stop him, after winning Programme Monthly's Best Feature award last season!

Loose lips...

You get asked a fair few questions when you work for Sheffield United and people know how you earn your living. The best policy, wherever possible and where the issue involves something potentially contentious, is plead the fifth amendment! If you don't know then you can't spill the beans, and that's always a decent line to follow.

I learned, at a very early age, that opening your mouth at the wrong time can seriously drop you in it. I am, by nature, nosey - the term in the corridors of football is more commonly referred to as 'being busy' - I always believe that knowledge is power!

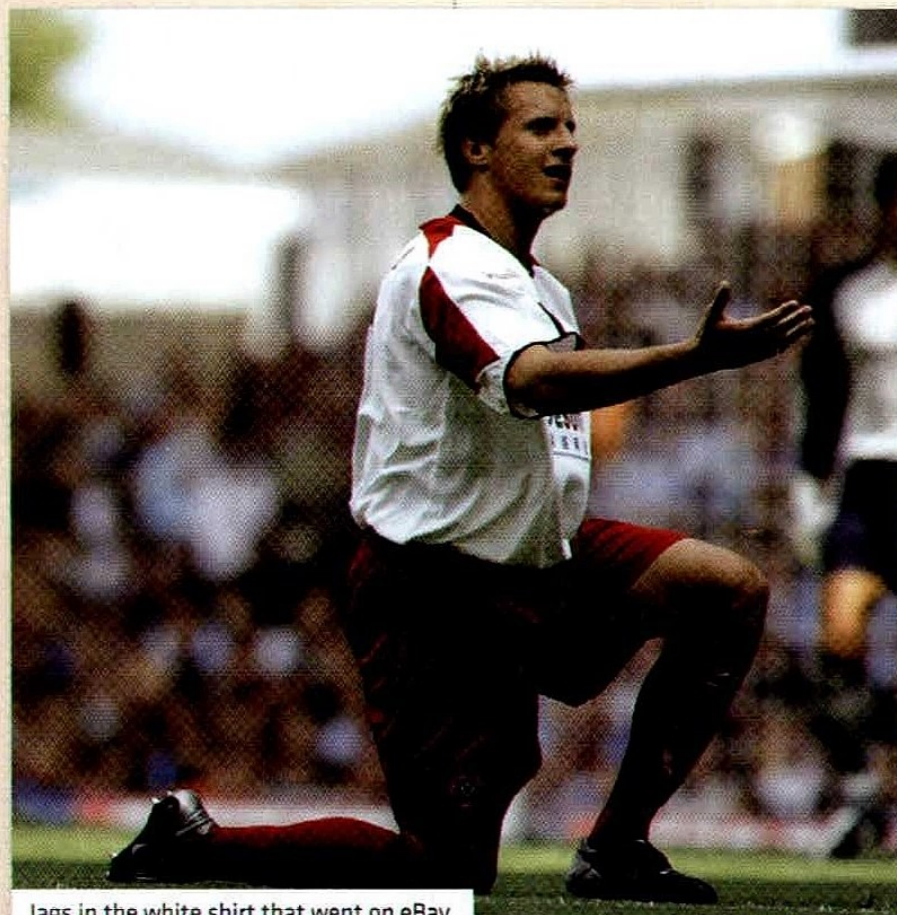
Sitting upstairs at the kitchen table

one night I was 'nebbing' in on Mum and Dad discussing the then plight of their Newsagents business, it was the mid 1970s and, for a variety of reasons, things were not going very well indeed. Dad was old school where business was concerned and a lot that had been agreed on the shake of a hand with his partner had gone up in a puff of smoke when he keeled over and died suddenly.

They were discussing the number of staff that they had and what could be done to ease the situation. Now, as we all know, anyone who was a friend of the family in those days automatically became referred to as 'Auntie or Uncle' - this was a decent ploy as it generally meant that you could screw a slightly better birthday or Christmas present out of the deal, so the pleasantries were worthwhile.

'Auntie' Edna worked in the shop. She and her husband were friends of Mum and Dad, dating back to around the war. The conversation sadly pointed to the fact that she, along with several others, would have to sacrificed as part of the sad and ultimately futile task of trying to keep the business ticking over - and I have to add that these decisions were taken with more than a fair dose of angst.

As Dad took me out through the shop one morning to drop me off at school good old 'Auntie' Ed was busying herself behind the counter. "Good



Jags in the white shirt that went on eBay

morning John Paul, how are you today?" she said.

"Great thanks, Dad is sacking you... bye," came the reply as I helped myself to a handful of Cadbury's Roses from the tin.

"Oh, is he?" she spat through gritted teeth. "See you when get back," said Dad as he manhandled me out of the door. I wouldn't have minded, but it was closed at the time! He wasn't best pleased and that's for sure.

Edna was a good member of staff. It was the times that dictated what was happening with the money that was being paid out, it certainly wasn't personal and, thankfully, when all was explained, the friendship survived – and I learned a valuable lesson... keep yer gob shut!

Football Clubs are like any place of work, for instance if you knew someone who was involved with the Police and they were working on a murder case, would you be asking them continuously how things were going and who you had arrested or interviewed that week? Well, you might, but do you think that you would get the answer for which you were looking? Probably not.

All managers, for instance, are very different in the approach that they will have to the team training up at Shirecliffe. Some have been fairly relaxed to people rocking up and watching from a reasonable distance whilst the lads are put through their paces, others have viewed it with a mixture of apprehension and a certain amount of mistrust, particularly the day before a game is concerned as the set plays, marking and overall tactics can be gleaned from watching on.

The day before a game it is not unreasonable to find the access gates locked and stewards on duty, not because we are that way inclined as a club, but because we want to make sure that no-one is feeding that sort of information back to the wrong sources. Don't forget, in the case of the training ground for instance, it is the office for the first team – it is where they meet, eat and work – also,



Some managers do not like people to watch training

it is where their belongings are kept whilst they are out on the training pitches doing their jobs, and a certain amount of common sense has to be applied.

We went through a spell of always having people up there hanging round with balls and shirts to be signed, this, as you can imagine, got an even bigger issue in the Premier League. A kid with a ball is one thing, we have all been there and having something signed by your heroes is something that you will never stop cherishing.

I still have a faded permawhite ball, signed by all the Fourth Division Championship team one school holiday at the Ball Inn training ground. The signatures are faded but I still recall the joy of having them all together and it is something that I would not swap for the world.

The advent of eBay and other such sites meant that people saw the chance to make a few quid – like a say, one kid with a ball or a shirt is one thing, a bloke with a bag of balls or shirts is a completely different subject, and believe me, there were plenty of those.

The final straw came when the ever affable Phil Jagielka was tapped in the car park one matchday for a shirt. I think he was told a tale about some special event it was for, and Jags

being Jags fell for it, the very next game he met the geezer in question and handed a white away shirt over, signed it for the lad and had a picture handing it over and shaking hands. That very night it was for sale on one of the auction sites.

When you work in the game you will doubtless hear and see things around the place that are not for public consumption, they stay indoors, and that is quite right. The same happens in all types of businesses.

When I read some of the 'in the know' stuff on various websites I roll my eyes and shake my head... God only knows where they get some of it from. The majority turns out to be wrong, but on the occasions that the information is true, it can still prove counter productive to the business if the facts get into the wrong hands.

It hasn't happened here but at other clubs the team has been leaked a day before the game and used by opposition managers – that is not helpful to anyone, except the other team.

Loose lips sink ships, so goes the saying, but in our case it could lead to losing football matches and other such problems... that's why I've learned to keep schtum, although it came a little late for 'Auntie' Edna!

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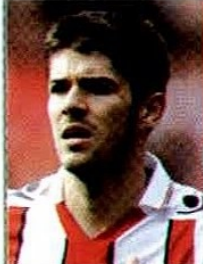
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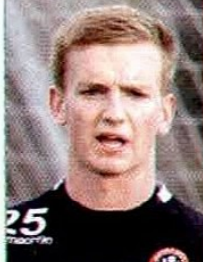
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WE CAN STILL PUT THINGS RIGHT – RYAN

Ryan Flynn has set a target of five wins from the last five matches.

Despite the 2-0 defeat to Crawley Town in midweek which put a dent in the Blades hopes of a top two finish, the Scottish winger predicts there will be plenty more twists and turns at the summit of League One in the next fortnight.

Ryan could understand the frustrations of the supporters at full-time on Tuesday and he admits it is down to the players to put things right, starting today, against Kevin MacDonald's Robins:

"Tuesday night was particularly disappointing, having played quite well in the first-half without getting that crucial breakthrough.

"We were in control of the game, but in the second-half we didn't create as much. When we score first we usually go on and win, so ultimately we are all frustrated again.

"We make two slips defensively and get done with the ultimate sucker punches.

"There are five games left, we will take them one at a time, but I certainly think we need to win all five to be sure of automatic promotion.

"We still have time to put things right, but obviously the key to our success is our home form.

"Bramall Lane should be a massive advantage to us but it hasn't of late, this is an ideal chance to put things right and

we have to grasp the opportunity with both hands.

"The fans are frustrated and rightly so, as were the players the other night. We were annoyed and disappointed afterwards, but we all need to stick together for the next few weeks.

"I think it is a good thing we are playing Swindon and Brentford so quickly, but obviously the only focus at the moment is on beating Swindon."

The 24-year-old returned to the starting line-up against the Red Devils after missing two matches with an ankle problem and despite the reversal, Ryan insists he would rather be in the thick of the action than stuck on the sidelines:

"I am not a good watcher; it is doubly frustrating because you can't help the lads, even though you can see more.

"I was disappointed not to score against Crawley, I couldn't get any closer, but hopefully a goal isn't too far round the corner."

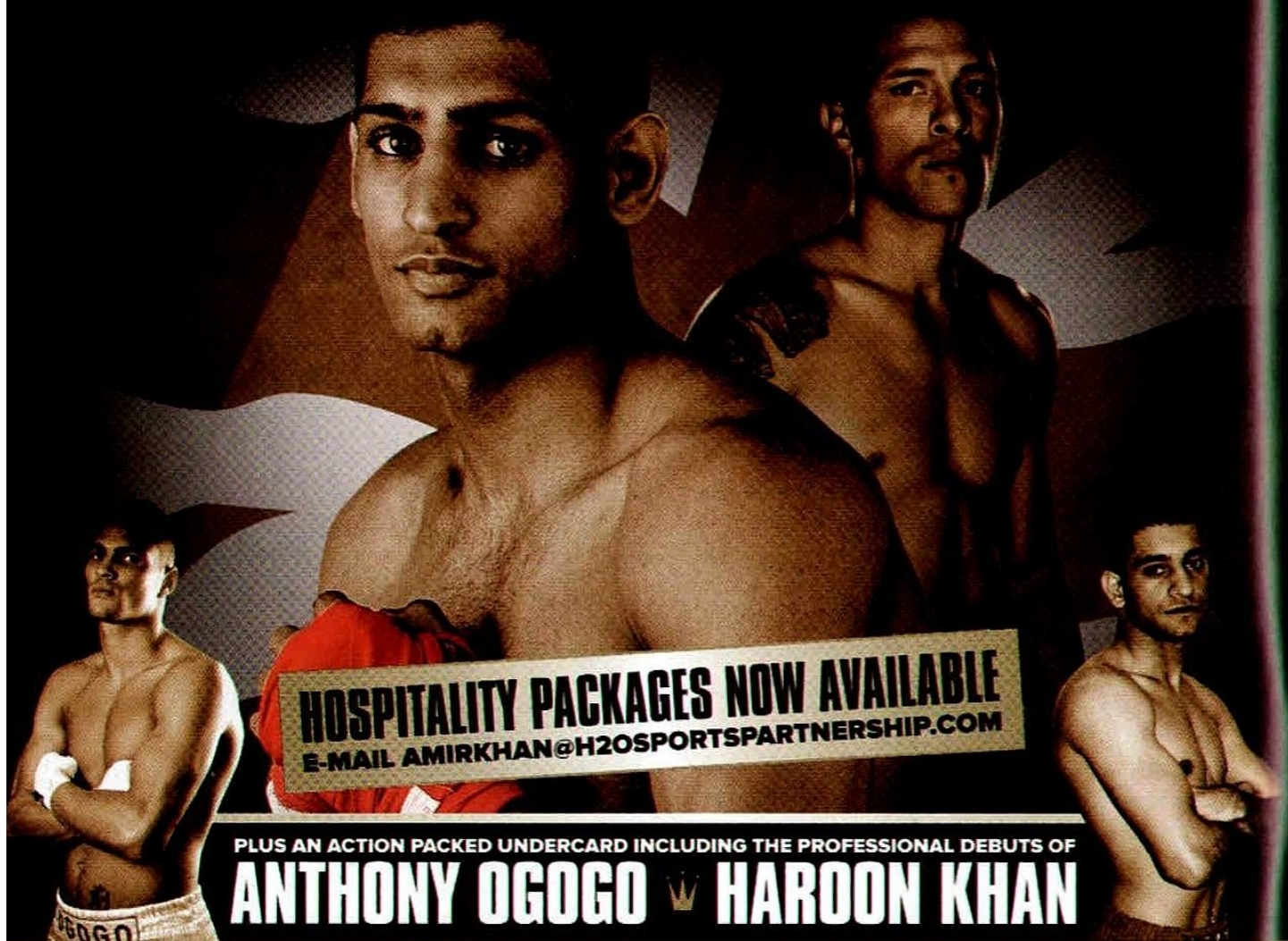


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Winner stops on...

QUIZ

THE QUIZ THAT AIMS TO FIND THE BLADES MASTERMIND

In the last round, Danny Higginbotham slipped to a tie-breaking defeat, he instantly demanding a rematch, so here it goes.

Danny stepped up confidently following a recent training session and again pushed the skipper all the way.

Again a tie-breaker was called for, but having gone first and then being told the answer, 'Higgy' thought he had

sold himself short... would he be unfortunate enough to lose on consecutive tie-breakers?!

For the Brentford fixture, Neill Collins is already stalking the UTB editor for another shot at the skipper, after informing us Michael is now level on wins with him.

We honestly didn't think it could get this competitive, good job Chris Morgan hasn't been asked to take part!



Michael Doyle 8
(won on tie breaker)

QUESTIONS

1. At which ground have United had their biggest away following this season?
2. Which player from our Scottish contingent was born in Carnoustie?
3. Name the former Liverpool boss, who had a brief spell as manager of Swindon Town in 2001?
4. Who is the manager of Bristol Rovers?
5. Which former England international recently agreed to play for Guernsey FC?
6. Who were Paolo Di Canio's first club in British football?
7. What nationality is Newcastle's Papiss Demba Cisse?
8. Who play at Pittodrie?

Tie breaker - How many French caps did Thierry Henry win?



Danny Higginbotham 8

Answers:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 It must be Donny ✓ | 5 Matt Le Tissier ✓ |
| 2 Kev McDonald ✓ | 6 Celtic ✓ |
| 3 I'll go for Roy Evans ✓ | 7 African nation...is he Senegalese ✓ |
| 4 Bloke from Colchester...John Ward ✓ | 8 Aberdeen ✓ |

Tie breaker - It is over 100, I'll go with 120 ✓

Answers:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Was I here? Doncaster ✓ | 5 Matt Le Tissier ✓ |
| 2 Kevin (McDonald) ✓ | 6 Celtic ✓ |
| 3 Roy Evans ✓ | 7 Senegalese ✓ |
| 4 I can see his face...John Ward ✓ | 8 Aberdeen ✓ |

Tie breaker - I reckon it is under 100, I'll say 75 ✗

Skipper Michael keeps his run going with a tie-break win!

LEADERBOARD

Neill Collins 8
Michael Doyle 8
Mark Howard 3
Harry Maguire 2
David McAllister 1

The accumulative scores from quiz wins this season

Today's correct answers:
1. Doncaster Rovers - 4,285
2. Kevin McDonald
3. Roy Evans
4. John Ward
5. Matthew Le Tissier
6. Celtic
7. Senegalese
8. Aberdeen
Tie breaker - 123

"I am a positive person and I only want to look forward now, not dwell on what has happened in the past"

LECSINEL JEAN-FRANCOIS

"I must move forward and remain optimistic about the future."

That is the message from Lecsinel Jean-Francois as he recovers from a serious knee surgery for the second time in just over 12 months.

United's Haitian international, who will be familiar opposition fans as he signed from today's visitors in the summer of 2011, recovered from the major damage to his left knee that he suffered in March 2012 in just over seven months, making his comeback in front of the live Sky cameras in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy.

But despite completing a rigorous rehabilitation programme, which ensured he was fully fit upon his return to competitive action, his 14 minute cameo appearance at Meadow Lane started several more weeks of injury anguish.







Last month, just over a year after going under the knife on his left knee, Leccinel, along with the unfortunate Diego De Girolamo, was back on the operating table to have his right knee reconstructed.

Naturally a bubbly character, who always seems to have a big smile on his face despite the injury nightmare that has plagued much of his United career to date, the defender insists he will be back.

Leccinel takes up the story: "It has been a really frustrating year or so for me, but obviously I have to deal with it and move on.

"Unfortunately the injury to my right knee came only weeks after I had returned to full fitness after damaging my left knee against Oldham Athletic.

"I am a positive person and I only want to look forward now, not dwell on what has happened in the past because I can't change anything.

"I worked so hard to overcome the injury I suffered against Oldham and throughout the last few months my left knee has felt absolutely fine, so it is doubly frustrating that a fresh injury has ruled me out for pretty much the full season.

"I felt so fit and strong when I made my return at Notts County in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy, so this injury came totally out of the blue.

"When you are coming back from a serious injury you expect to be fit for a long time after because it isn't very often that you are unlucky enough to pick up serious injuries consecutively in the space of nine months.

"Now I have had the operation on my right knee I am keen to focus on my rehabilitation again, I must move forward and remain optimistic about the future.

"To miss close to two years of football is hard to accept, but I have must thank my team-mates, the management and our excellent medical staff for all their support.

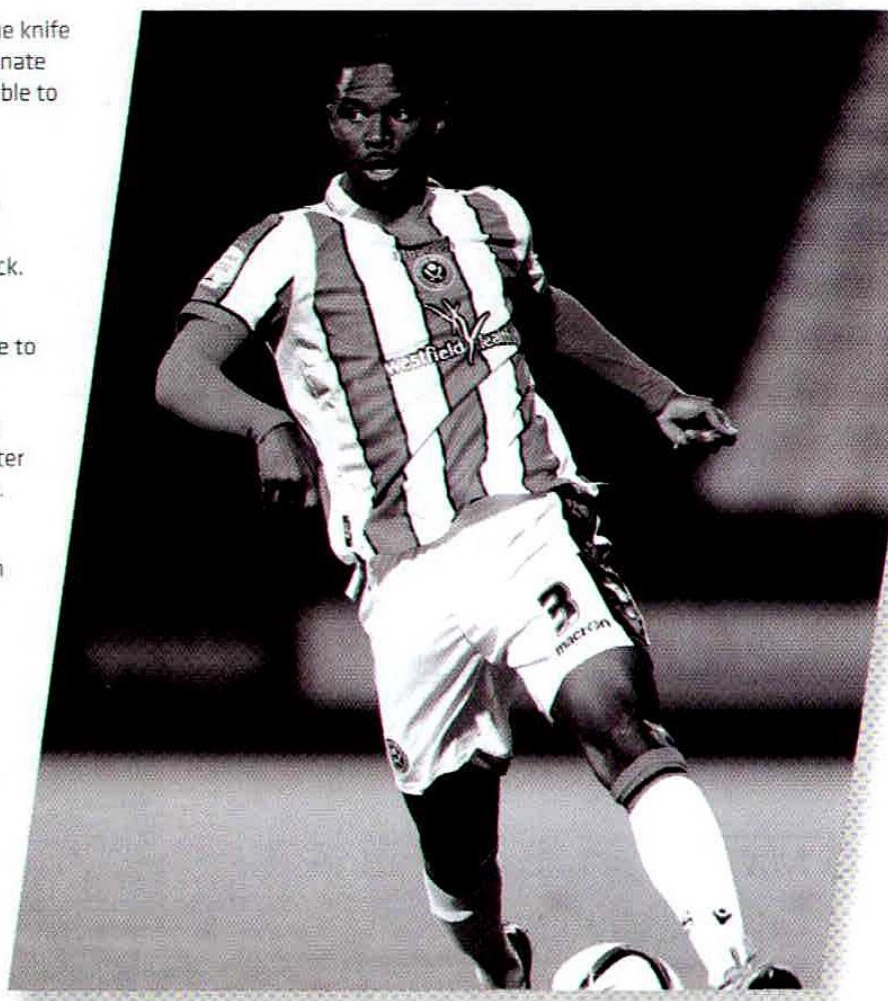
"My family gives me all the strength I need to make a successful return and the biggest thing is I still have the desire to come back and prove myself.

"There is still a lot to achieve in my career and thankfully there is still plenty of time to achieve those targets."

Having already damaged his right knee before becoming a Blade, many a lesser man would perhaps walk away from the prospect of grafting behind the scenes throughout the summer months, but Leccinel says he owes it to himself, the medical staff and the club to bounce back again.

The knock he suffered against the Magpies in October 2012 didn't appear that serious at the time, but as the weeks and months ticked by it became apparent the left-back would have to come to terms with being operated on again.

Leccinel concluded: "I am solely focused on returning to competitive action as soon as possible and, as I have said



before, I am willing to do whatever it takes in the months ahead.

"This is the third time I have had knee surgery, twice on my right leg and once on the left so I know exactly what is ahead of me.

"The medical resources we have at Sheffield United are very good and I know I can trust the staff to manage my rehabilitation plan correctly.

"I have had the ACL reconstructed in my right knee, my meniscus (cartilage) was also damaged.

"At Notts County I damaged the meniscus on the outside of my right knee: we tried our best to recover without surgery.

"If that had been the case I would have been in contention as we speak, but unfortunately things didn't work out to plan and it was my personal decision to undergo surgery again.

"Before I committed myself to have surgery the medical staff got plenty of expert opinions from doctors and specialists.

"I am sure I will continue to get the club's backing and that in itself makes me even more determined to return fit and stronger this time.

"My left knee isn't a problem at all and it won't be throughout my rehabilitation during the summer. I have 100 per cent trust in my left knee and I know myself if I look after myself and do what has been advised I will be fine.

"I remain sure in my own mind that I will be back, so please don't forget me, I will be back before you know it."



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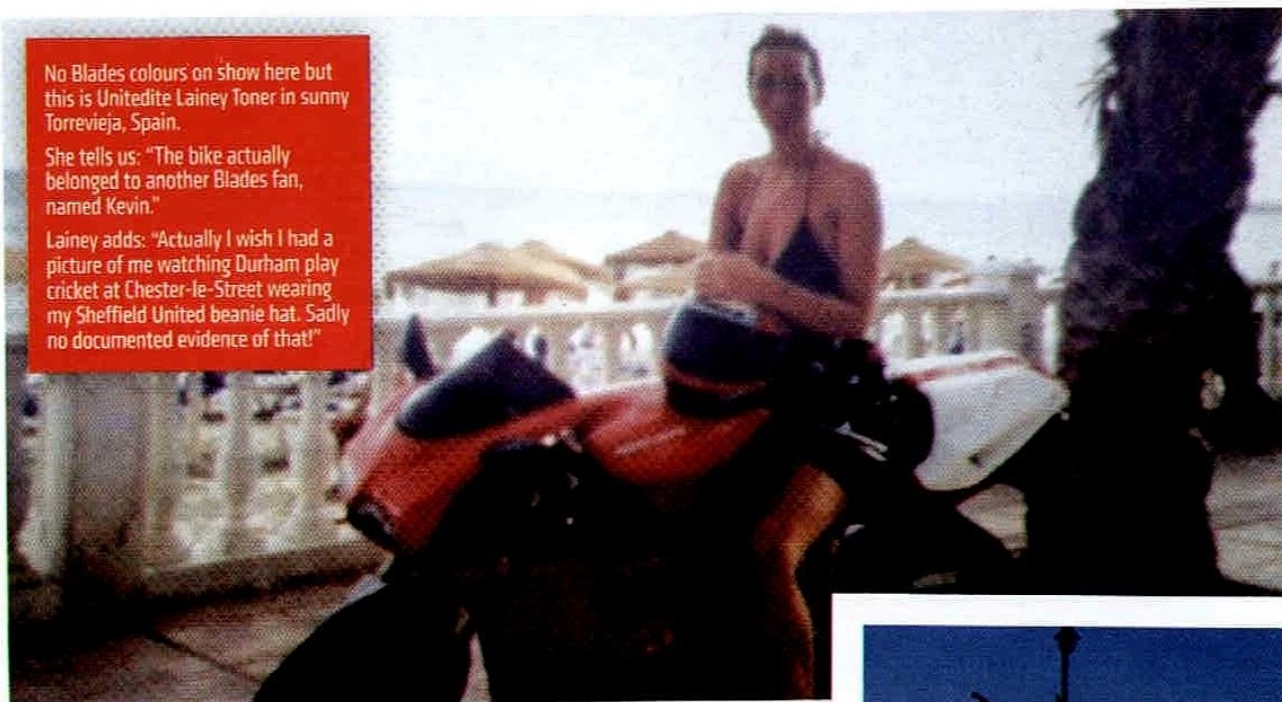
Holiday Snaps

Blades fans displaying their pride and wearing the famous red and white around the world

No Blades colours on show here but this is Unitedite Lainey Toner in sunny Torrevieja, Spain.

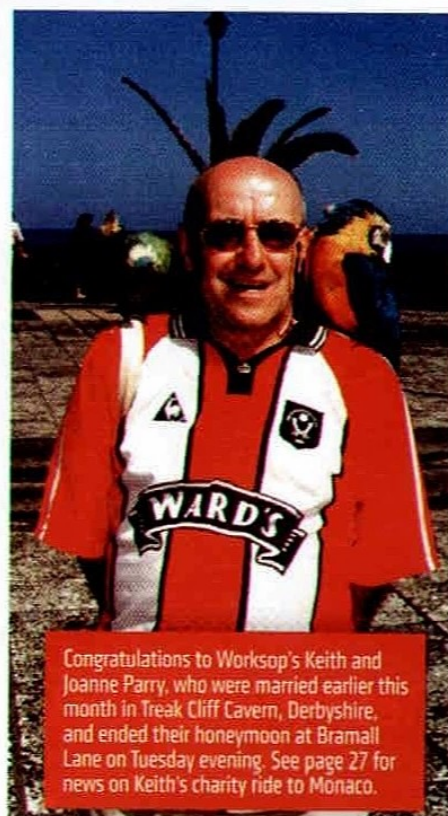
She tells us: "The bike actually belonged to another Blades fan, named Kevin."

Lainey adds: "Actually I wish I had a picture of me watching Durham play cricket at Chester-le-Street wearing my Sheffield United beanie hat. Sadly no documented evidence of that!"



Pictured here on the lovely back drop of Tenerife is season ticket holder Pete Marsden and his 'birds'.

The 73-year-old, who sits on the Kop, is proudly seen sunning himself in a popular Blades shirt from yesteryear.



Congratulations to Worksop's Keith and Joanne Parry, who were married earlier this month in Treak Cliff Cavern, Derbyshire, and ended their honeymoon at Bramall Lane on Tuesday evening. See page 27 for news on Keith's charity ride to Monaco.

Send your pics to kevin.cookson@sufc.co.uk and we'll hopefully use them in the programme



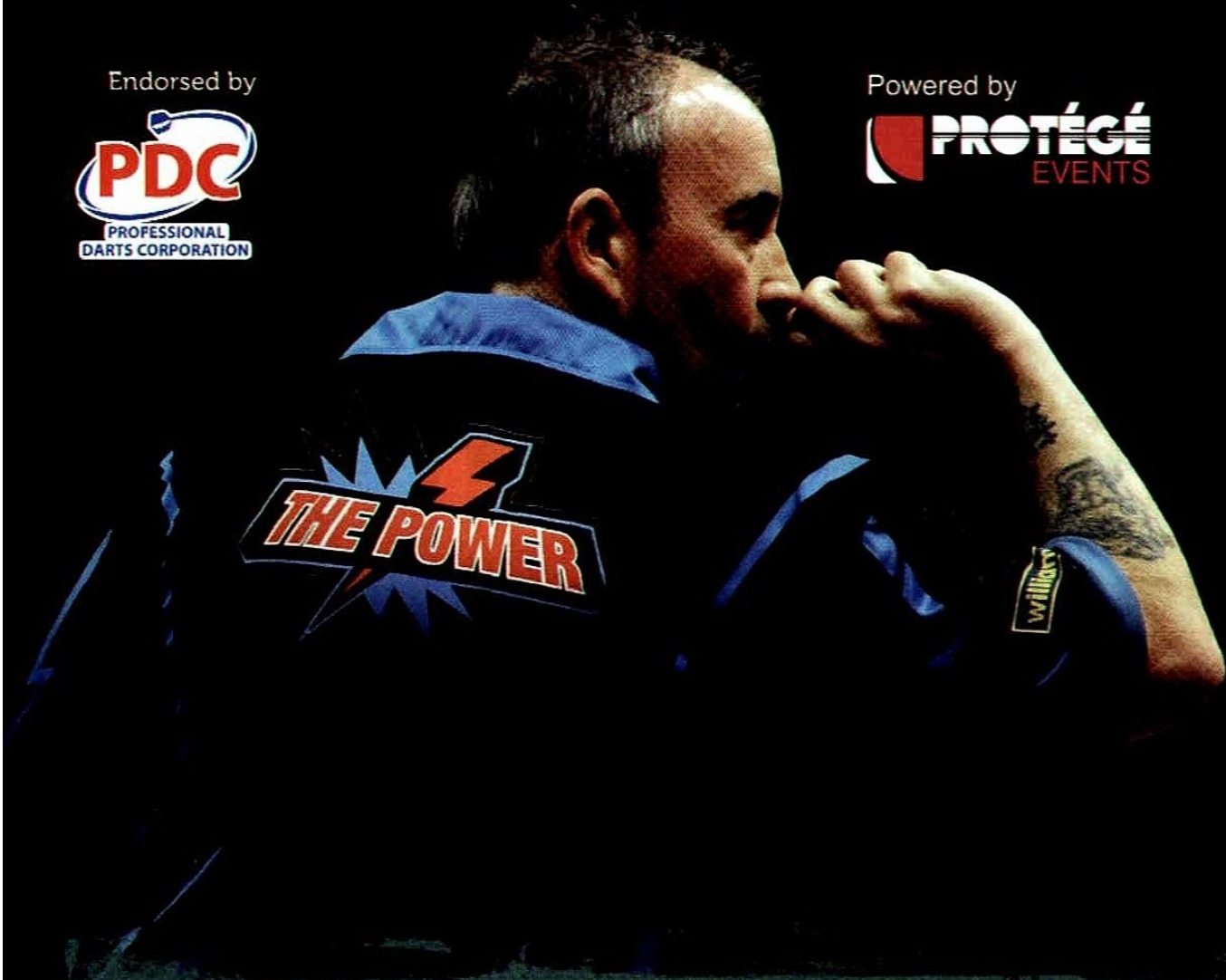
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Inside Lane...

Keith is off to Monaco

Lifelong Blade Keith Parry is doing a charity moped ride to Monaco next month to raise funds for a teenage cancer charity.

The season ticket holder will aim to complete the ride from Margate, through France, to Monaco on a 1965 moped.

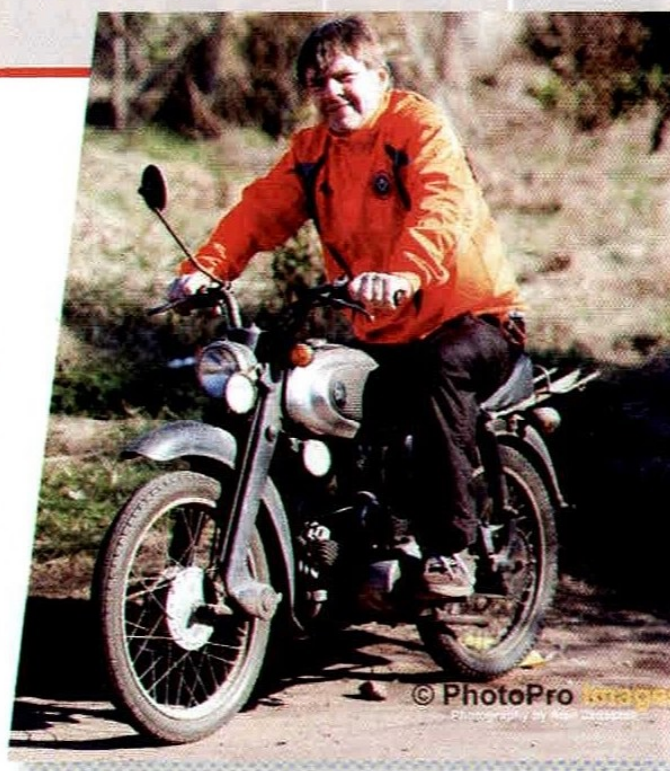
All monies raised will be donated to Brads Cancer Foundation, last year 53 people rode from John O'Groats to Lands End and raised in excess of £30,000.

This time just seven will aim to do the 1,200 round trip ride, although it will be closer to 3,000 for Keith.

Brads was setup by Brad Davis, a terminally ill teenager who wanted to see a cancer unit built to serve the East Midlands. Sadly Brad died in October 2003 and £600,000 is needed to make this happen.

Keith, who got married at the weekend at the Treak Cliff Cavern in Derbyshire last Saturday, completed his honeymoon with his new wife Joanne at Bramall Lane on Tuesday. Along with his best man, Keith wore a Blades woolly hat during the ceremony.

For more information on the charity ride, see www.facebook.com/Margate2Monaco



Weeks of Action

From 6th to 21st April it is the Level Playing Field Weeks of Action and today, at our fixture, United are supporting the work that the charity does to promote good access for all fans both to watch and get involved in sport.

This provides us with an opportunity not only to highlight the work we do to support our disabled supporters but the ongoing work for our Intermediate Equality Standard.

The Blades want to be seen as an inclusive club aiming to combat discrimination of any sort in the game of football.

Our Supporter Liaison Officer, John Garrett, continues to work with our fans including our disabled supporters groups.



He said: "All at SUFC are delighted to be involved with Level Playing Field yet again. It is always a great pleasure to be able to connect with and welcome to the Lane, groups who under normal circumstances, would possibly struggle to be involved with the matchday experience for a wide variety of reasons.

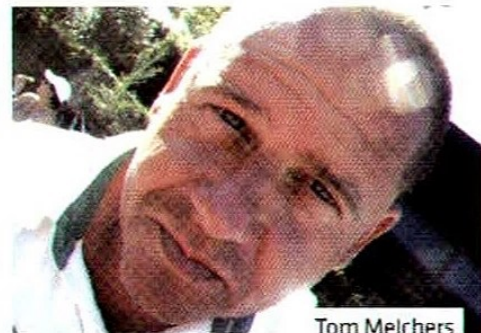
"As SLO for the club I try and involve as many groups as I can and the Level Playing Field projects extend that possibility yet further."

Recently the Sheffield United Community Foundation DS Active group went to West Bromwich to take part in a tournament and they have been invited to the game today.

Through our link with Sheffield and Hallamshire County FA we have invited disabled teams in the area involved in the Ability Counts League and representatives from Spartans and Rotherham Dynamos are among those with us today.

Happy birthday...

The Dutch Lads, Pascal, Berry, Sanjee, Leslie, John and Rick would like to congratulate Torn Melchers on his 41st birthday on 17th April.



Tom Melchers

... to Roger Osborn, happy 50th. Lots of love from Sue, Jack and Lauren... UTB!

... to Julia Beech - a loving wife, daughter and Blade. Love from Dennis, Mam and Dad.

... to Sam Bennett, who celebrates his 16th. Lots of Love from Darrell, Claire, Callum and all your friends and family.

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League One Matters



Blades fan *Ian Holmes* offers an opinion of happenings elsewhere in our division

DONNY CHIEF BEMOANS 'OFF-NIGHT'

Doncaster manager Brian Flynn said his players had an 'off-night' following Tuesday's shock home reversal to Carlisle United.

A goal in each half from Liam Noble condemned Rovers to defeat at the Keepmoat, to stall their bid to return to the Championship at the first time of asking.

Flynn said: "We weren't as good as the last two games that's for sure.

"We started the game really strongly, looking as if we were carrying on from the weekend, but gradually Carlisle got a foothold in the game and they stopped us playing.

"They got a break away late in the game and made it look a lot worse a defeat than it was. It's one of them off-nights you have unexpectedly. But it's not the end of the world, far from it."

POOLS HOPES ALIVE

Andy Monkhouse says Hartlepool's players will only have themselves to blame if they fail in their bid to stave off relegation.

Pools lived to fight another day when halting an eight-game winless run against relegation-haunted Bury. The former Rotherham winger feels they can still avoid the drop:

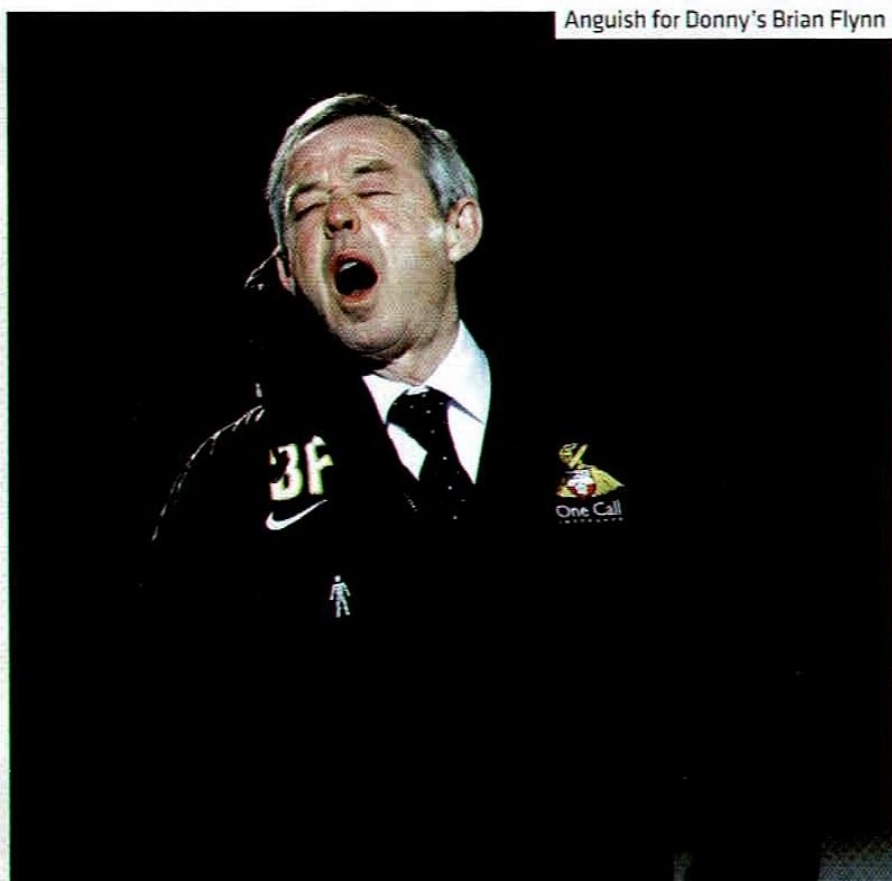
"Most people outside the club have had us down for a long time now, but with three games left we still have a chance.

"Winning keeps the hope alive, so you never know."

NEW DEAL FOR BEES TEENAGER

Brentford midfielder Jake Reeves has signed a new two-year deal with the League One club.

The 19-year-old, who has made seven appearances this season, will remain at Griffin Park until the summer of 2015. Reeves' manager Uwe Rosler is confident that the youngster has a big future:



Anguish for Donny's Brian Flynn

"There is more to come from him. He is still a very young player and has the potential to be even better. I look forward to working with him over the next few years."

STRIKER DELIGHTED WITH CHERRIES CHARACTER

Bournemouth striker Brett Pitman has hailed his side's character after they recorded their sixth successive victory last weekend, defeating Notts County.

After a poor run, Eddie Howe's men have responded well. Their winning run comes off the back of five straight defeats and with three games remaining, the Cherries have put themselves in a strong position to gain promotion.

ROBINS FRUSTRATED BY DISALLOWED 'GOAL'

Andy Williams was upset that referee Mark Haywood and his assistant

Daniel Leach failed to explain why they disallowed his first-half strike in Swindon Town's 2-0 defeat at MK Dons on Tuesday night.

Williams appeared to legitimately rise above Dons goalkeeper Ian McLoughlin to nod home from close range in the 33rd minute of the clash at stadium:mk, and Haywood seemed happy at first to award the goal.

However, Leach had flagged for what he saw as an infringement on McLoughlin and, after a brief deliberation between the pair, Town were denied an opener in Buckinghamshire.

The striker said: "We were frustrated with the disallowed goal massively, and how the referee who was 18 yards away gave the goal and the assistant who was 50 yards away saw something completely different I don't know."

ONE SUBSCRIPTION MULTIPLE DEVICES



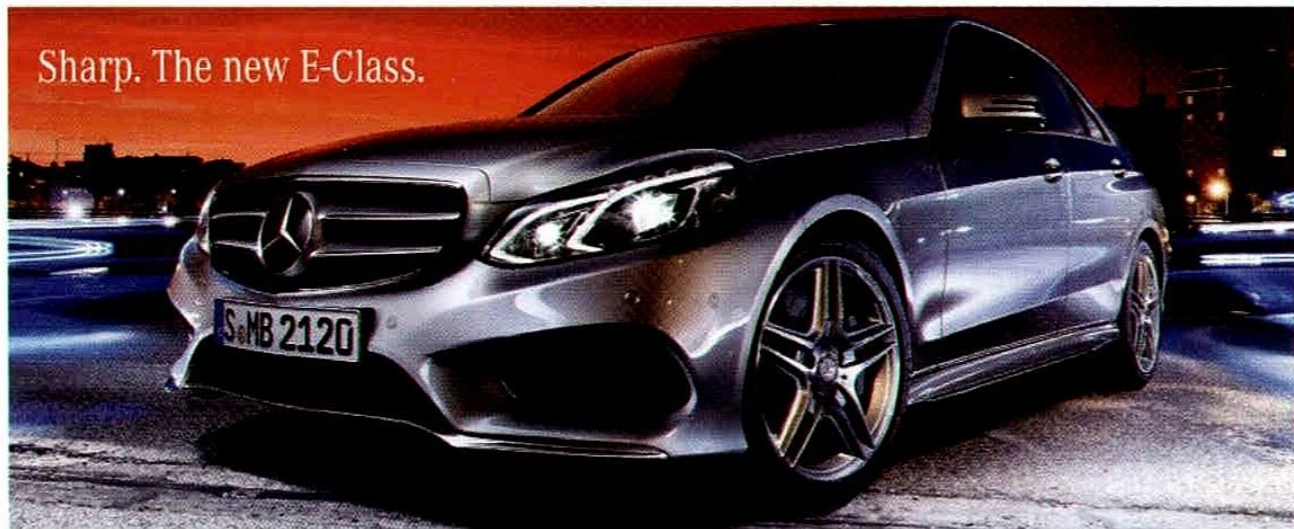
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THE LADS STILL BELIEVE - MATT

Matt Hill is confident the Blades can bounce back from the midweek defeat to Crawley Town, when Swindon Town provide the next challenge today.

The experienced campaigner, who has been deployed at right-back in the last two matches in the absence of the suspended Tony McMahon, says there is no time to get too downhearted:

"Tuesday night was a massive kick in the teeth but I am sure this group of lads will bounce back, hopefully against Swindon.

"The lads have to believe that anything remains possible, it would be foolish and unprofessional to just give an opportunity like this up, having worked so hard this season.

"Crawley played well and caught us on the counter-attack but two mistakes have ultimately cost us.

"As a defender or a goalkeeper, when you make a mistake you are often punished by conceding a goal, but that is the nature of the beast and you often live and die by your mistakes.

"We will dust ourselves down and go again; it will do us no good dwelling on past results.

"We know it will be a tough game, we need to up our performance to compete with Swindon, but I am confident we can do so."

Talking about his switch to an unfamiliar position, Matt

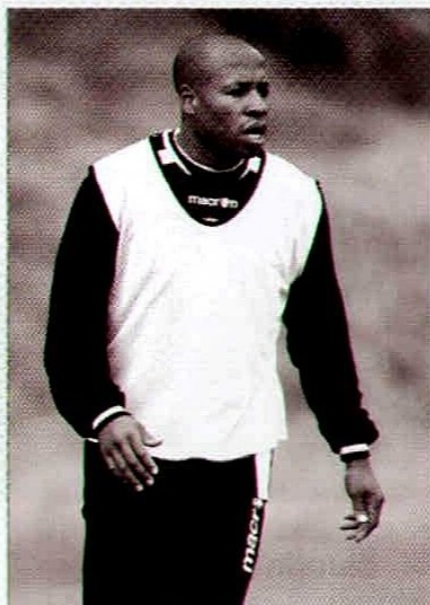
joked about being given the chance to be a striker, having already played in three different positions this season:

"The Gaffer has asked me to do a job at right-back and I don't think I have let anyone down.

"Perhaps now he might let me have a chance up front with Tony (McMahon) available again!

"Defensively it isn't a problem, playing on the right, and going the other way I had to double check how far forward I was getting because I kept getting a nose bleed!

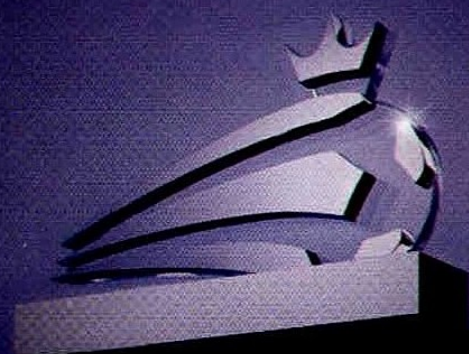
"Seriously, though, it seems silly for me to say, but I am probably more of a threat cutting in on my left foot from the right because when play opens up I have a sight of goal and the chance to shoot."



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Congratulations to all this year's winners!

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NPOWER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Championship: Matej Vydra - Watford
 League 1: Matt Ritchie - AFC Bournemouth
 League 2: Tom Pope - Port Vale

JOHNSTONE'S PAINT YOUNG PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Thomas Ince - Blackpool

MITRE GOAL OF THE YEAR

Simon Cox

FOOTBALL MANAGER OUTSTANDING MANAGERIAL ACHIEVEMENT

Phil Parkinson - Bradford City

NPOWER FAN OF THE YEAR

Neil Le Milliere - Exeter City
 Championship: Nick Webster - Derby County
 League 1: Pat Raybould - Coventry City

LFE APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR

Championship: Dimitar Evtimov - Nottingham Forest
 League 1: Luke James - Hartlepool United
 League 2: George Sykes - Barnet

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FAMILY CLUB OF THE YEAR

Cardiff City
 League 1: AFC Bournemouth
 League 2: Plymouth Argyle

TOKIO MARINE UNSUNG HERO

Billy Neil - Millwall
 Highly Commended:
 John Hariss - AFC Bournemouth
 Peter Rhoades-Brown - Oxford United

COCA-COLA COMMUNITY CLUB OF THE YEAR

Charlton Athletic
 Regional Winners:
 South West: Cardiff City
 Community Foundation
 South East: Charlton Athletic
 Community Trust
 Midlands: Derby County
 Community Trust
 North East: Huddersfield Town
 Football in the Community
 North West: Tranmere Rovers
 in the Community

PFA PLAYER IN THE COMMUNITY

Inigo Calderon - Brighton & Hove Albion

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Graham Alexander

CONTRIBUTION TO LEAGUE FOOTBALL

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Young Blades

KIDS PAGES

ACADEMY DUO PRESENT CAMP AWARDS



The children who recently took part in the Sheffield United Community Foundation football camps at the Academy had two special guests on hand to make the end of week presentations.

Jake Eyre and Kyle Scarisbrick, both regulars for United's U18s and U21s of late, popped into the Easter camps to congratulate the winners of the World Cup football competition. The duo also made a presentation to the 'player of the week' and the 'sports person of the week'.

Other events that saw a winner crowned came in the shape of a crossbar challenge and penalty shoot-out.

Such commitments are important to scholars as they work in unison with League Football Education to completion their devised schedules.

Nick Cox, Academy Manager commented, "Helping with presentations and events like this is really good experience for our players.

"It helps them develop skills they will need later in life as well as preparing them for being a professional player. The children on camps love meeting them and the players enjoy being involved."

Today's mascots



Marshall Towner



Age: 10
Hobbies: Playing football
Fave Blades: Michael Doyle and Shaun Miller
School: Clowne Junior
Prediction: 2-1

Katie Mitchell



Age: 12
Hobbies: Playing football
Fave Blade: Harry Maguire
School: Birley Community College
Prediction: 2-1

Don't forget to join us on FaceBook

Log on to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com/juniorblades)
/juniorblades



Dylan Green



Age: 9
Hobbies: Playing football and Xbox
Fave Blade: Harry Maguire
School: Acres Hill Primary
Prediction: 2-0

Jake Hull



Age: 11
Hobbies: Playing football for SUFC Academy U11s, Xbox, going to the cinema and reading
Fave Blades: Kevin McDonald and Diego De Girolamo
School: Brunswick Primary
Prediction: 2-1

Away Mascot

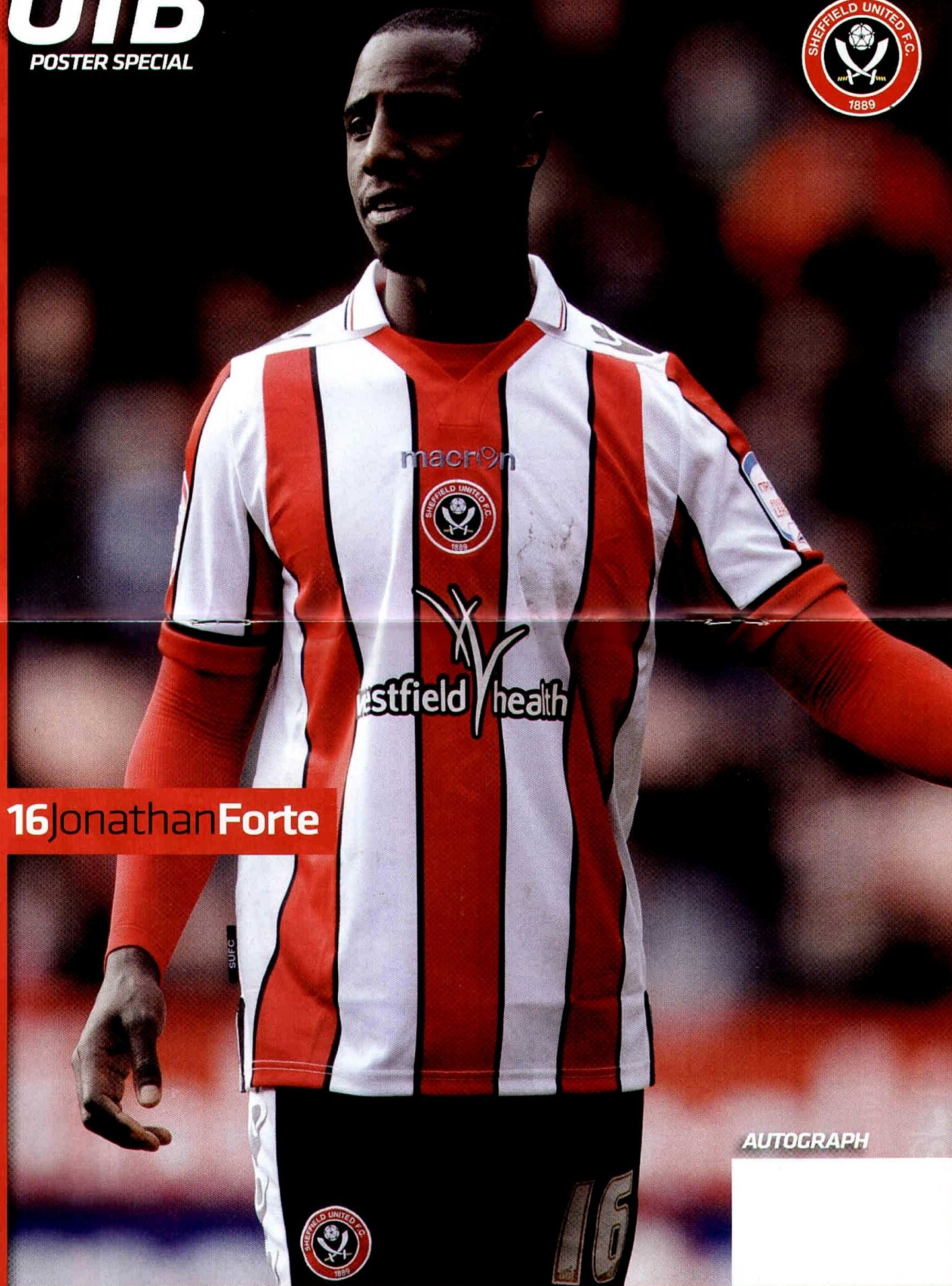
Jake Maine



Age: 10
Hobbies: Playing football and cricket
Fave Robin: Gary Roberts
School: St Marks, Weston Super-Mare, Somerset
Prediction: 1-2!

UTB

POSTER SPECIAL



16 Jonathan Forte

AUTOGRAPH



Poster Boy

KIDS PAGES

WHICH ONE OF THESE FIVE FACTS ABOUT JONATHAN FORTE IS WRONG



FIND OUT BELOW

- 1 Jonathan made his Blades debut v Nottingham Forest
- 2 He is on loan from Premiership club, Southampton
- 3 Jonathan's first United goal was against Leicester City
- 4 His second Blades goal came over eight years after his first
- 5 Jonathan has played international football for Scotland



Spot The Ball

We've made our competition a bit harder today!

It's action from last week's draw at Walsall and challenging for the ball is home midfielder Adam Chambers and Blades striker Dave Kitson.

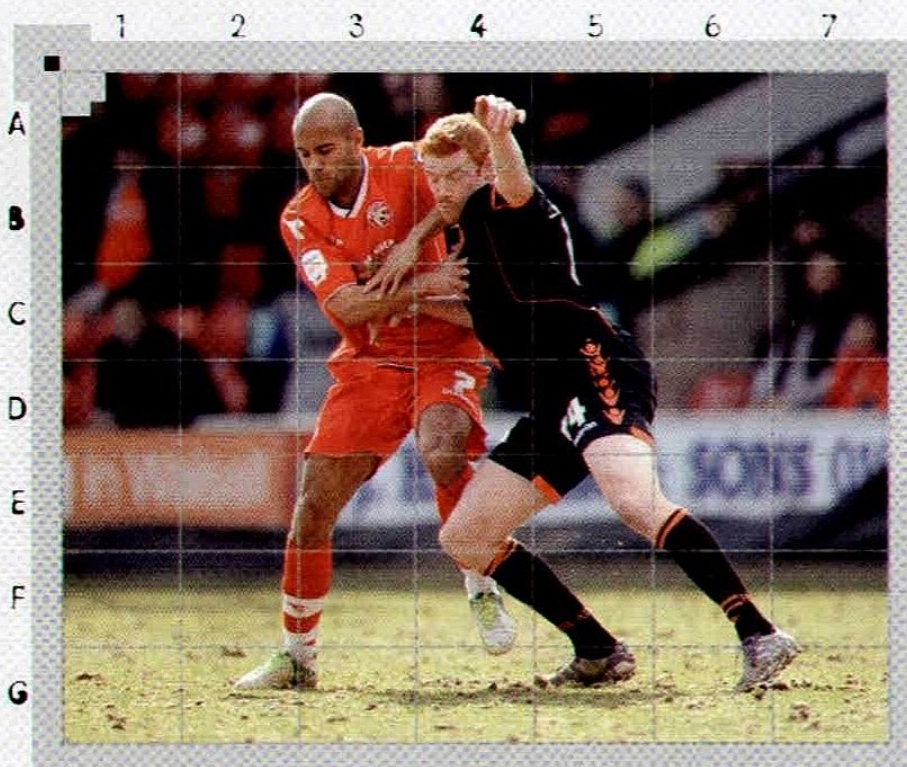
But what makes it a little harder is that both players appear to have their eyes shut! It was a bright day in the West Midlands, maybe they were trying to shield their eyes from the sun?

It doesn't, however, help you identify where we've nicked the ball from!

Have a guess, and then check your answer below.

The odd one out is number 5, he has played international football for England at junior level and Barbados at senior level. The ball can be found in square F2.

ANSWERS:



Community News...



Kickz volunteers celebrate success at Stamford Bridge

A host of inspiring young people received the recognition they deserved last week as volunteers, mentors and some of the country's most purposeful youngsters were honoured at the 2013 Kickz Awards ceremony at Stamford Bridge.



The United contingent at Stamford Bridge

Among the hundreds present at the glittering ceremony were former Tottenham and Juventus midfielder Edgar Davids, Chelsea defender Paulo Ferreira, England international Rachel Yankey and Policing Minister Damian Green.

The Sheffield United Community Foundation's (SUCF) Kickz project was represented by a group of staff, volunteers and young people.

Wasim Khan received an award for SUCF Volunteer of the Year for selflessly contributing more than 250 hours of volunteering at football and youth club sessions to ensure other young people are given positive opportunities.

Wasim commented: "If it wasn't for Kickz I don't think I would have been able to achieve the things what I have over the last three years.

"It has helped me and a lot of other young people realise our potential and helped us believe we can achieve things we would never of imagined."

Lauren Moylan, who has also contributed more than 200 hours of volunteering with SUCF Kickz, received an award from ex Holland international Davids for 'Inspiring Young Person'.

Lauren received this award for the way she has grown from being a shy young lady to becoming a positive, driven role model

Lauren meets Edgar Davids



for the next generation of young people coming through the programme.

She has been able to do this at a project which is attended by 80 per cent male participants and she is now a well-respected member of our youth engagement team and also working towards a place at University to study social work.

Horace Daley, senior engagement worker at the Community Foundation who has played a key role in promoting community cohesion and conflict resolution, said: "This was an excellent opportunity for us to see how projects from across the country work together towards the same goal of creating safer, stronger more sustainable communities.

"The Kickz project gives young people from deprived communities positive choices and also opportunities that many thought they would never get!"



Volunteer of the Year Wasim with the BBC's Mark Chapman



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Picture it...

Dave Burkinshaw dips into the S2 archives and illuminates another classic Blades photo



18 October 1997

Blades fans were in optimistic mood at the start of the 1997-98 season. With a strike force containing the likes of returning hero Brian Deane, Jan Aage Fjortoft and Gareth Taylor and a midfield boasting Don Hutchison and Dane Whitehouse, promotion prospects looked very good indeed.

Fans were a little surprised when boss, Nigel Spackman, added to his striking options at the end of September by signing Brazilian born striker, Marcelo, from Spanish football.

In this photograph we see Marcelo scoring on his league debut in the home game against QPR. He had come on as a substitute

and his goal came via this header in the 73rd minute which gave the Blades a 2-1 lead. He is seen rising above Rangers defenders Rufus Brevett and Steve Morrow.

Earlier in the game Brian Deane had given United a 31st minute lead but Unitedites were shocked when struggling Rangers equalised in the 58th minute through Paul Murray. Sadly for Marcelo there was no winning start for him in English league football as Morrow scored in the final minute to earn the Londoners a point in front of an attendance of 18,006.

Marcelo became a key striker helping the club qualify for both the play offs and an FA Cup semi final.



Cookie's Blog

Programme Editor **Kevin Cookson** gives an alternative view to life at the Lane...

It's not very often that I use this column to take the mickey out of directors, but this one has been coming for months!

Our commercial chief, Steve Coakley, is one of those modern men, you know the type – they look after themselves and wear things like moisturiser. Pretty much, the exact opposite of me!

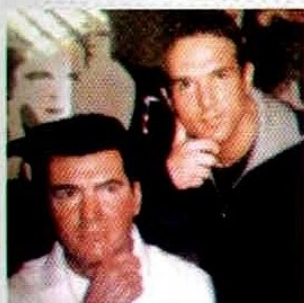
To say he's a little vain is an understatement, emphasised by the fact that for months he's been trying to get me to change

the picture that sits atop of his commercial page.

Apparently, he says it is not a true reflection of him and, on the quiet, he attempted to get our photographer to take a new and improved snap of him.

If it bothers you that much, Steve, feel free to select one from the following images and I'll happy swap it with the one that sits at the top of page 58!

Oh, and happy birthday for Monday, Steve.



The Spring/Summer collection is here.....



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Jake Tee - £10



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Eat/Sleep Sleepsuit - £12

Honeywell Polo - £15



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Men's Tee's start from £15



Annex Tee - £12



Rebecca Tee - £10

Available from the Blades Superstore and online at www.sufcdirect.co.uk

Inside Lane...

Surprise for Karen

Karen Walsh had little idea of what her friends were planning when she came to the game against Carlisle United on Easter Monday.

Karen is in the RAF and was attending the match with her friends before flying back out to Afghanistan.

The group of Bridgette and Andy Guest, and their daughter Sophie, along with Steve Wilkinson and son Luke meet up in the Copthorne Hotel before matches with Karen, joining them whenever she is home.

They approached United to see if anything could be done to wish Karen all the best and got far more than they had bargained for. Matt Hill, who is Karen's favourite Blade, was pitchside to welcome her and make a shirt presentation.

Karen said: "I knew nothing about this so it was a fantastic surprise when Matt came to say hello and present me with the shirt he had signed. Thank you to all involved in making my day so special. It was a great send off before I go back to Afghanistan."



Lane life

Tonight's front cover will be a familiar face to Blades regulars of drinking age!

Artist Luke Prest calls this '2pm in t'Sportsman', referring to the Denby Street pub just off Bramall Lane which houses plenty of Blades fans ahead of home fixtures.

Luke says: "In fairness this scene could be outside any boozer in a three mile radius of Shoreham Street.

"The majority of watering holes around Bramall Lane seem to open and close every other week but amidst the business lettings signs one watering hole stands firm - The Sportsman."

Luke's portrayals of prominent scenes around S2 will strike a chord with supporters of all ages and a range of five prints have gone on sale in the Blades Superstore, as well as featuring on the front cover of UTB.

Supporters' Club

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to all, especially those Swindon Town fans, who have made the journey to the vital game.

Swindon had the volatile Paolo Di Canio managing them for the early part of the season, however he departed and is now surprisingly on a rescue mission at Sunderland in the Premiership, which none of the pundits predicted. Kevin MacDonald now has the reins at Swindon and is continuing their promotion push.

* Tonight the popular Player of the Year Awards presentation evening will be taking place in the Platinum Suite - the Headquarters /Sheffield United Official Supporters Club Executive Committee and other supporters groups will be making their individual awards. The event starts at 7.30pm. A few tickets priced £5 are available from the Promotions Office. Music will be provided by Gary Sinclair and food can be purchased on night.

* I would like to welcome Carlo (A. M. Aarssen), who is the founder of our newly admitted Amsterdam Blades Supporters' Club on his visit to beautiful downtown Bramall Lane. Enjoy the day Carlo, and hopefully the result.

* Get behind the players today and make the difference.

Pete Whitney, Chairman, Official SUSC

Condolences

Senior Blades are very sorry to announce the sudden death of former committee member, Derek Hurst.

Derek served on the committee of Senior Blades as Publicity Officer for six years and during this time he did an excellent job for us.

He still attended the lunches when he could and retired from committee work two years ago to care for his wife. He will be sadly missed by everyone at Senior Blades.

OFFICIAL CREDIT CARD OF THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE



Capital One



SHAUN HAPPY WITH PROGRESS SO FAR

UTB is pleased to report Shaun Miller, one of a trio of United players currently on the long road back from cruciate ligament surgery, is progress well in his rehabilitation and is expected to start light jogging in the near future.

Speaking for the first time since undergoing surgery after suffering the serious injury in his left knee in a freak incident on Boxing Day, Shaun is managing to keep his spirits high as he works through the early part of his rehabilitation schedule, which remains in its infancy.

Despite only being at the beginning of the long road to recovery, Shaun is delighted that progress has been smooth to date and with this in mind he is eagerly anticipating moving on to the next stage of his programme as soon as possible.

The 25-year-old said: "My recovery is progressing nicely, as expected.

"I saw the specialist last week and he was pleased with my progress, along with the Club Doctor and the medical staff, who all think everything is as good as it can be at the moment.

"My knee feels good, in recent weeks it has started to feel stronger and obviously that can only be a good sign. I am working hard, touch wood, nothing could be going any better quite honestly and hopefully that continues throughout the summer.

"The work is difficult and lonely at times as you would expect. At the moment I am the only long-termers that can do any work, with Leos and Diego (De Girolamo) still recovering from surgery.

"Every day is a long one in the gym, but it is a must. I am working hard on strength and conditioning, working on the weight machine, bike and cross trainer, etc.

"Hopefully I will be running soon and that will be a boost that I am moving in the right direction."

The striker admits he finds it difficult watching on from the stands, but says he will happily play cheerleader in a bid to help the regain Championship status.

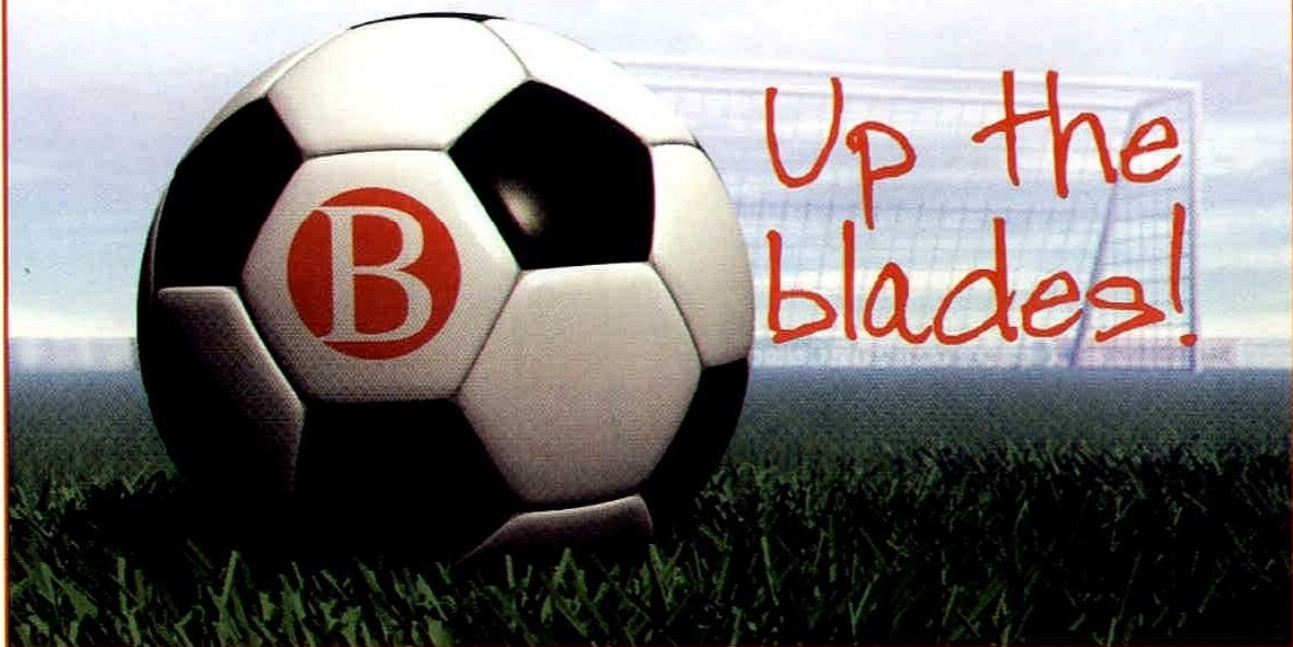
Shaun concluded: "It is the obvious thing to say but the worse aspect about watching is that you can't influence anything.

"It would be a boost for me personally if the lads won promotion, to return to action in the Championship is something I have thought about since the day I got injured.

"We are still very much in the hunt and hopefully in the last five matches we can get enough points to put ourselves in with a shout of a top two finish."



 blundells.com

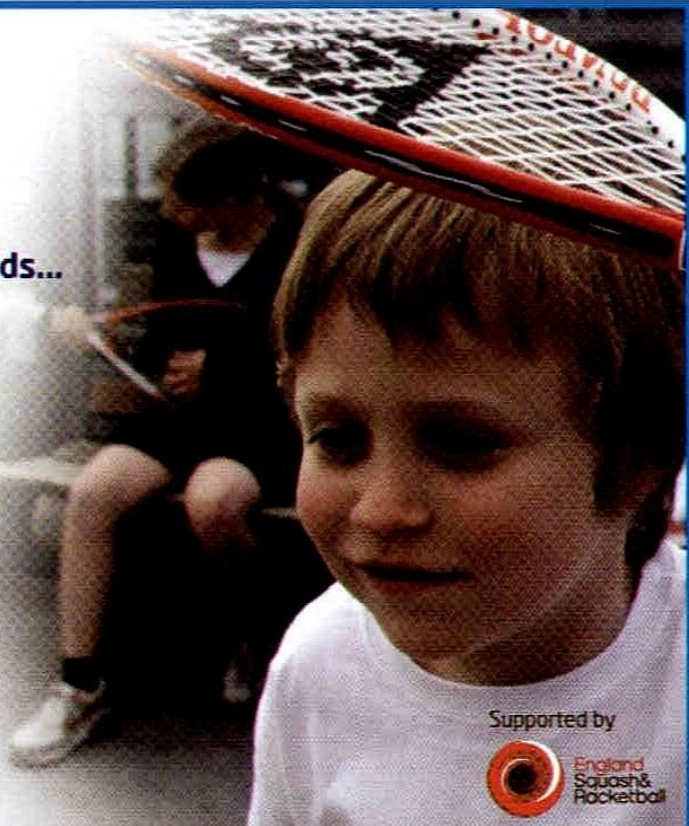


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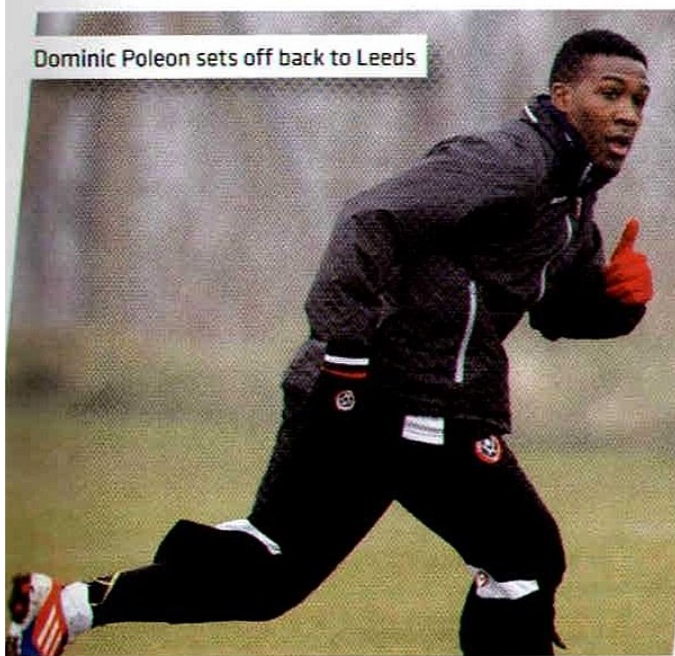
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on **twitter @thesrfoundation** or go to our **website www.thesrfoundation.org**

The story so far...



Spring arrives with draw double

Dominic Poleon sets off back to Leeds



MONDAY 1 APRIL

npower League One

BLADES 0-0 CARLISLE UNITED

BLADES: Long, Maguire, Hill (Higginbotham 45), Doyle, McDonald, Kitson (Ironsides 63), Collins, Forte, Robson, Poleon (J. Murphy 45), McMahon. Unused: Westlake, Porter, McFadzean, Coyne.

CARLISLE: Gillespie, Simek, McGovern (Manset 83), Livesey, Welsh (P. Murphy 77), Noble, Thirlwell, Miller, Berrett, Mustoe, O'Hanlon. Unused: Collin, Loy, Cadamarteri, Potts, Beck.

Referee: K. Hill

Attendance: 19,005

The Blades pick up four points over the Easter period but Unitedites leave the Lane disappointed. It is a third successive scoreless draw at home but the persistent pressure cannot breakdown Carlisle's resilient rearguard. Liam Noble hits a post for the visitors, who have Sean O'Hanlon, sent off in the second half for two bookable offences.

WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL

Dominic Poleon is recalled by his parent club Leeds United, after making seven appearances for the Blades.

Erik Tonne joins Norwegian second tier outfit Hamkam on-loan until the end of November.

Jordan Robertson, one of two trialists on show, scores the equaliser as United's U21 hit back to draw 1-1 with Barnsley at Oakwell.

United confirm that the Sheffield office of international legal firm, Kennedys, extends the current three year deal for the sponsorship of The Kop stand at Bramall Lane stadium by a further three years until 2016.

SATURDAY 6 APRIL

npower League One

WALSALL 1-1 BLADES

WALSALL: Johnstone, Butler, Chambers, Paterson, Brandy (Sawyers 90), Purkiss, Downing, Baxendale (Hemmings 84), Taylor (Benning 57), Mantom, Westcarr. Unused: Holden, Featherstone, Bowerman, Roberts.

BLADES: Long, Higginbotham, Maguire, Hill, Doyle, McDonald, Kitson (Porter 45), Collins, Forte, Robson (McFadzean 60), Murphy. Unused: Westlake, Ironside, Whitehouse, Kennedy, Coyne.

Referee: D. Whitestone

Attendance: 7,042

Substitute Chris Porter scrambles the ball home from close range to earn the Blades a point at the Banks's Stadium. It puts a dampener on Walsall's 125th birthday celebrations, but adds another vital point to United's tally. The draw keep the Blades promotion aspirations firmly alive, despite a poor first half showing.

Despite a creditable display, United's U18s lose 3-1 against Leeds United. Jamie McDonagh nets a wonderful individual goal to cap a man of the match performance.



Danny Higginbotham helps Chris Porter celebrate last Saturday's equaliser

0 *Sheffield United*

0 *Carlisle United*



Monday 1 April 2013, Npower League One • Attendance: 19,005 • Referee: K. Hill

Neill Collins and Dave Kitson try to get their heads to the ball



Jonathan Forte fails to strike the ball cleanly in front of the Kop



Blades Stats

Possession	51
Shots on target	17
Shots off target	7
Corners	7
Fouls	13

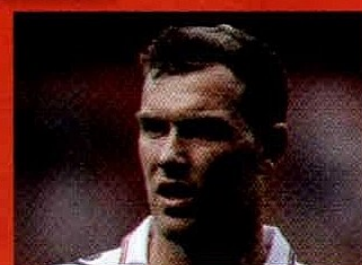
Carlisle Stats

Possession	49
Shots on target	7
Shots off target	4
Corners	2
Fouls	10

UTB Man of the Match

Kevin McDonald

Tried his best to breakdown a stubborn defence

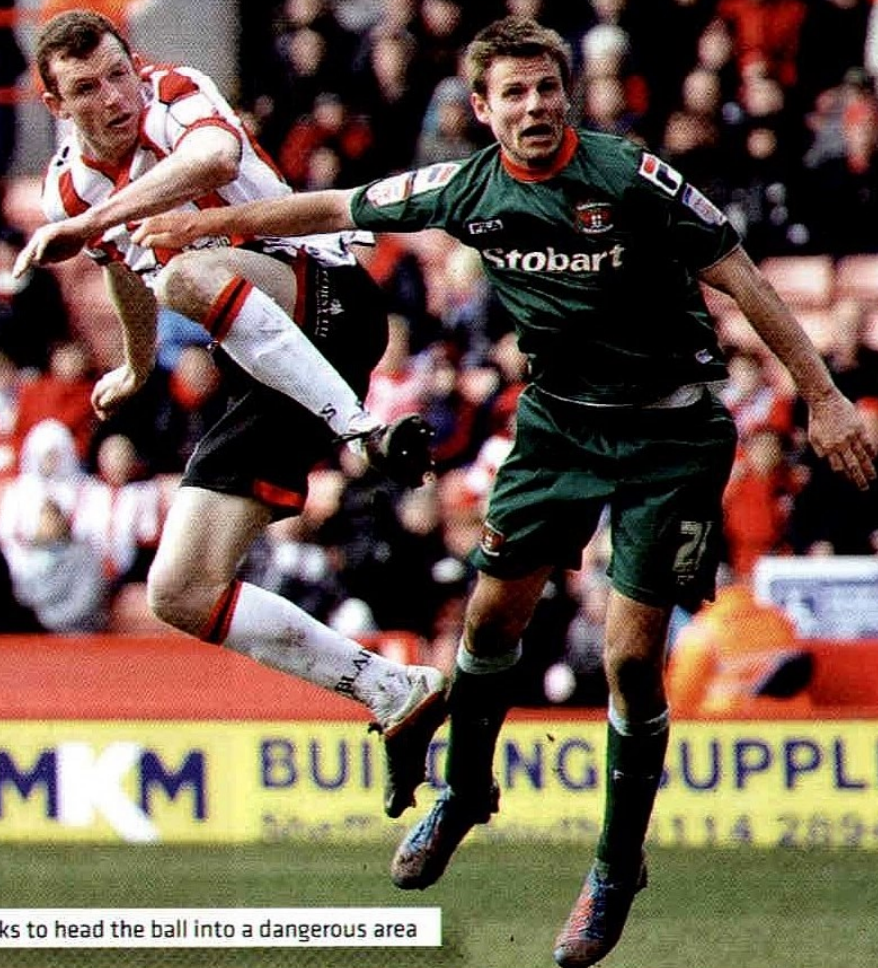


Michael Doyle battles with James Berrett in the middle of the park



"The system that Carlisle applied today is very difficult to breakdown. I make no excuses for not breaking them down, you need a shade of luck at times and we didn't have it. We've had a couple of great opportunities in front of goal and not taken them and it happens. The positive, from where I'm sitting, is that we've moved up a place."

Danny Wilson, Blades manager



Neill Collins looks to head the ball into a dangerous area

"On performance, chances and general play, I thought we were excellent. It was only the last 15 minutes where a referee decides to get involved with a game that he doesn't need to get involved in and stops our momentum. It was a terrific game with spirit and determination and he decides to get involved and make a decision that we're talking about."

Greg Abbott, Carlisle United manager



Joe Ironside is hauled down by Sean O'Hanlon, who is subsequently shown his second yellow card



Triple Assault: The 2002-03 season

On Saturday 26th April, the Blades hosted fellow play-off qualifiers, Wolves.

Both clubs were eager to maintain their momentum; United currently third on 76 points, with Wolves fourth with 74 and the Black Country side were in excellent form, having already won 11 away games.

Although top scorers Kenny Miller and former Blade, Nathan Blake, weren't starting, Dean Sturridge and George Ndah were impressive deputies. Unusually, United started with Paul Peschisolido and Steven Kabba up front, something of a 'lightweight' pairing. Warnock had Asaba and Allison on the bench, however, whilst Dean Windass was rested.

A crowd of 22,000, including over 3,000 visitors, were treated to a superb game. After just two minutes, Joleon Lescott's attempted pass was blocked by Peschisolido, who chased down the rebound and lobbed Wolves 'keeper, Matt Murray, to make it 1-0. Yet after ten minutes the scores were level – Sturridge, breaking through midfield, threaded the ball to Ndah who, beating the offside trap and smashed past Kenny.

On the stroke of half-time, the visitors had the lead. A one-two between Edworthy and Rae, on the right edge of the area, led to a mis-hit shot from the latter, fortuitously falling to Sturridge, who smashed the ball into Kenny's net, to the groans of the Kop.

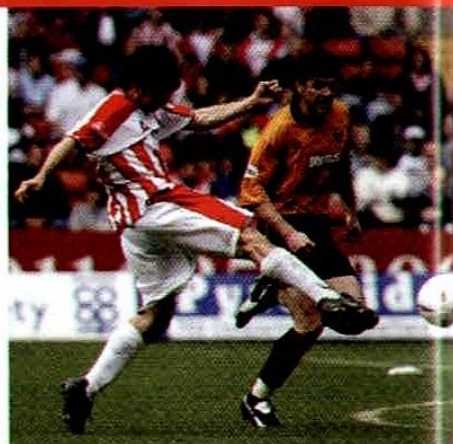
Ten minutes into the second half, Lescott made another serious blunder as he inexplicably pushed over Kabba in the area, Michael Brown calmly putting away the resulting penalty.

The goals continued and ten minutes later the visitors were back in front. Robert Page pulled down Cameron in the box and Sturridge made it 3-2 from the spot.

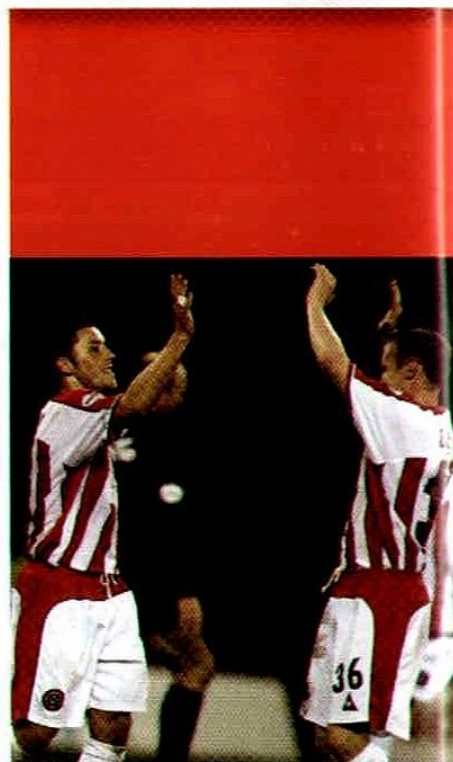
As the final whistle approached United seemed beaten, when Mark Rankine lifted the ball down the middle of the pitch and Peschisolido, nipping between two defenders, hit it on the half-volley over Murray and into the roof of the net. It was yet another spectacular finish from 'Pesch' and enough to rescue a point.

Three days later, United faced Bradford City in their final home game. At Sunday's PFA annual awards the club had been honoured by the selection of both Michael Brown and Michael Tonge in the Division One team of the season. This was compensation for Brown, who had lost out to Paddy Kenny as the Supporters' Player of the Year and Tonge, who was runner-up to Phil Jagielka as Young Player of the Year.

The Bradford game saw ex-Bantams Stuart McCall and Dean Windass play for United; with ex-Blades Aidan Davison and Gus Uhlenbeek and future Lane players, Simon Francis and Andy Gray, featuring for City.



Paul Peschisolido nets his second against Wolves



Michael Brown celebrates a goal against Bradford with John Curtis



Veteran McCall rolls back the years

by Nick Udall

Incredibly, due to United's profligacy in front of goal and the superb form of Davison, there was no score at half-time. Yet the home side scored three times in a ten-minute second half spell to win the game.

Brown's screamer opened proceedings and he ended it with a penalty after Peter Ndlovu had made it two. Absent from the United line-up was Nick Montgomery, who was gaining his first Scotland under-21 cap against Austria in Dundee.

United's final game of the regular season took place on Sunday 4th May, at Watford - Kenny was replaced in goal by Gary Kelly and Marcel Cas was given a start. Importantly, Michael Brown was rested.

Over 2,000 travelling Blades saw a lacklustre game with Watford winning 2-0 with late goals from Scott Fitzgerald and Neil Cox.

McCall made his 45th appearance of the season against the Hornets, a magnificent return for a player just a month away from his 39th birthday.

After a superb career with Bradford City, Everton, Glasgow Rangers and Scotland, with an array of medals to match, Neil Warnock pulled off a masterstroke by signing Stuart as player-coach in early July 2002.

Given specific coaching responsibilities in the reserves, his team won the Avon Insurance League Premier Division. Injury meant Stuart missed the start of pre-season, so for the first three games, Jagielka and Tonge were United's central midfield pairing.

The game at Burnley on 24th August brought Stuart's first start and the familiar central pairing of McCall and Brown was established. Importantly, although not wearing the armband, McCall was in reality a captain on the field. His speed of thought, his ability to evaluate game situations, calm assurance and ability to encourage the youngsters was crucial for United.

His passing was accurate and, on occasions, showed real vision, such as when setting up Tonge against Liverpool.

In front of the back four, he provided defensive protection for the team and with Ndlovu, Brown and Tonge providing the legs around him, his reduced pace wasn't a serious issue. Asked to mark Patrick Vieira at Old Trafford, Stuart remarked to Warnock, "don't worry, I'll run through his legs!"

What a shame the Blades didn't secure McCall's services a couple of seasons earlier.



Instrumental Stuart McCall

"Although not wearing the armband, McCall was in reality a captain on the field"

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Under 21s

Marcus Williams puts in a challenge at Wigan



Disappointment for Morgan's Blades

Wigan 2-1 Blades U21s

Tuesday 26 March 2013

The Blades slipped to a narrow and undeserved defeat to Wigan at Robin Park Arena.

Guillermo Andres gave the hosts an early lead, but Aaron Barry levelled at the beginning of the second half. With the Blades looking the mostly likely winners, Rakish Bingham caught United on the counter-attack to cruelly deny the youngsters a share of the spoils.

The home side put the Blades on the back foot from the off forcing two early corners and from the second one took a fourth minute lead when Andres curled home a precise effort with his left foot from inside the penalty area.

In the 14th minute United had their first sight of goal, but despite some indecision between Morris and Campabadal, Smith was denied by the advancing Marosi. At the other end Bingham went close to doubling the Latics' advantage but his diving header

was saved by trialist goalkeeper Dewbury. The young stopper then had to be alert to deny Redmond, firstly with a stinging drive from 25 yards, then from a free-kick on the left. For the Blades, skipper Kennedy headed narrowly over the crossbar from Whitehouse's inviting free kick.

In the 49th minute, United, who had been threatening before the break, drew level as Barry bundled the ball home from close range following a Whitehouse free-kick from the right, after Marosi parried away a goalbound header.

Three minutes later United appeared to have completed the turnaround as Whiteman powered through on goal and beat Marosi, only for the assistant referee to intervene with a raised flag. On the hour mark, Smith came close to putting the Blades in front but after beating Morris down the left the striker was denied by a timely save from Marosi.

The windy conditions almost caught Dewbury out as he gathered Watson's

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE 2 (NORTH)

Mon Aug 20	Coventry City A	W 3-1
Wed Sep 5	Huddersfield Town A	L 1-4
Tue Sep 11	Barnsley H	W 5-1
Mon Sep 17	Crewe Alexandra A	W 1-0
Mon Oct 1	Nottingham Forest H	D 1-1
Tue Oct 9	Sheffield Wednesday A	L 2-3
Wed Oct 24	Derby County H	L 0-1
Tue Oct 30	Birmingham City A	W 2-1
Mon Nov 5	Coventry City H	D 0-0
Mon Nov 19	Leicester City A	L 1-2
Tue Jan 8	Wigan Athletic H	W 1-0
Mon Jan 28	Crewe Alexandra H	L 0-2
Mon Feb 4	Huddersfield Town H	L 0-1
Mon Feb 11	Nottingham Forest A	D 1-1
Mon Feb 18	Leeds United A	L 3-1
Mon Feb 25	Sheffield Wednesday H	D 2-2
Wed Mar 6	Derby County A	L 0-2
Mon Mar 18	Leicester City H	D 1-1
Tue Mar 26	Wigan Athletic A	L 1-2
Wed Apr 3	Barnsley A	D 1-1
Tue Apr 9	Leeds United H	W 1-0
Thu Apr 18	Birmingham City H	

Home games will be played at Bramall Lane or the Shirecliffe Academy

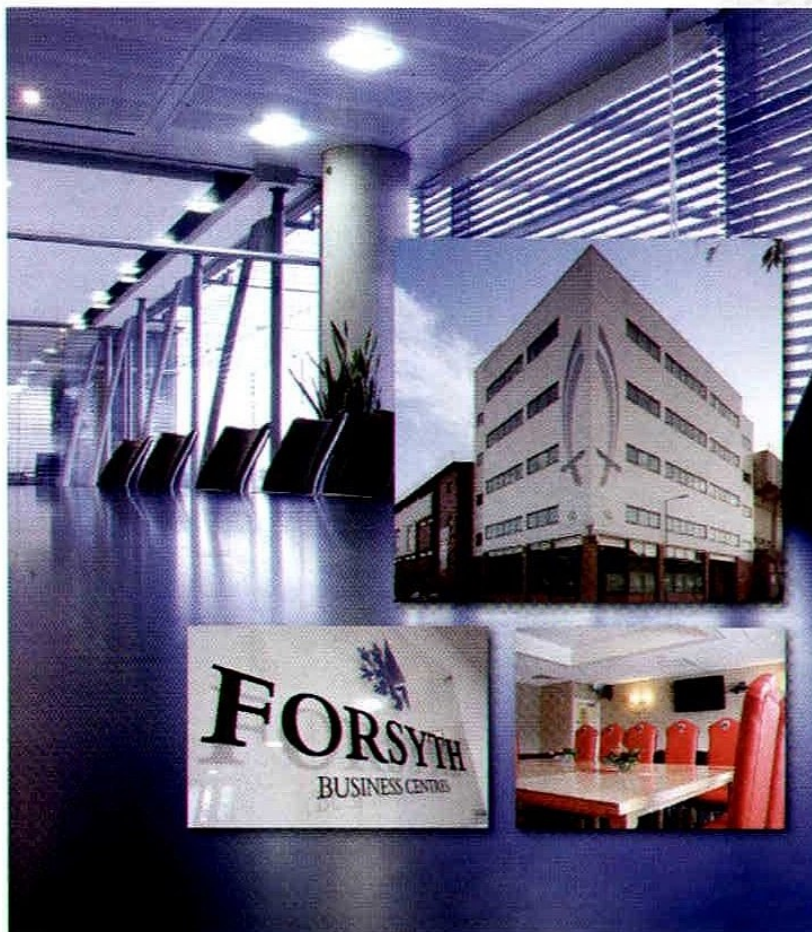


Chris Porter battles with the home goalkeeper

looping cross at his back post. At the other end a cross from Khan nearly beat Marosi but the Wigan stopper recovered to tip the ball over the bar.

Wigan responded with Redmond rattling the crossbar and on the follow up the ball bounced too high for Johnson to connect. The hosts, though, did take the lead, arguably against the run of play with 13 minutes remaining, when Bingham latched onto a through ball from Meadows and lifted the ball over the onrushing Dewbury. The Blades refused to go down without a fight and the impressive Whiteman drew another save from Marosi as United pressed for a second leveller, but unfortunately time ran out on Chris Morgan's youngsters.

Blades: Dewbury, Scarisbrick, Pemberton (Whiteman 47), Harriott, Kennedy, Barry, Hodder (Khan 47), Whitehouse, Porter, Smith (Eyre 69), M. Williams. Unused: Owen, J. Williams.



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Under 18s



Scorer Jamie McDonagh in action against Leeds

Encouragement in defeat

Leeds United 3-1 Blades U18s

Saturday 6th April 2013

David Unsworth was encouraged by what he saw from his players, despite United's U18s losing at Leeds United last Saturday.

Speaking after the defeat at Thorpe Arch, Unsworth was keen to focus on the positives despite the scoreline, reserving special praise for Jamie McDonagh.

The Academy Manager, who took the team following the departure of Lead Coach Jamie Hoyland, commented: "The scoreline would suggest it was an easy victory for Leeds, but that was to the contrary, quiet honestly.

"We produced an excellent performance

and Leeds clinched the win with a penalty with the final kick of the game.

"The lads produced a really positive display for long periods and five minutes from time we should have equalised.

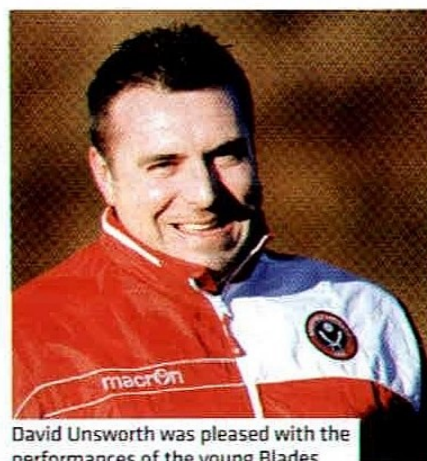
"The two goals we gave away were sloppy and both were avoidable, but we fought back and scored a terrific individual goal through Jamie (McDonagh), who was the best player on the pitch by a country mile.

"Jamie has found his feet in the last few weeks and he is relishing playing more centrally, that is for sure. He has got bags of ability and he likes to drop off deep and pick the ball up in areas where defenders don't want to play.

"When you see a display like that from

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE 2 (NORTH)

Sat Aug 18	Coventry City H	W 4-2
Sat Aug 25	Barnsley A	W 3-0
Sat Sep 1	Huddersfield Town H	D 2-2
Sat Sep 15	Crewe Alexandra H	D 2-2
Sat Sep 22	Wigan Athletic A	L 2-4
Sat Sep 29	Nottingham Forest A	D 2-2
Sat Oct 6	Sheffield Wednesday A	L 3-4
Sat Oct 20	Derby County A	D 2-2
Sat Oct 27	Birmingham City H	W 4-2
Sat Nov 3	Coventry City A	L 2-3
Wed Nov 14	Rochdale (A) FAVC2	L 1-2
Sat Nov 17	Leicester City H	L 1-4
Sat Jan 12	Leeds United H	L 1-2
Sat Feb 9	Nottingham Forest H	D 3-3
Sat Feb 16	Wigan Athletic H	L 0-2
Sat Mar 2	Derby County H	L 0-1
Sat Mar 9	Birmingham City A	W 2-0
Sat Apr 6	Leeds United A	L 0-1
Sat Apr 13	Huddersfield Town A	
Tue Apr 23	Sheffield Wednesday H	
Sat Apr 27	Leicester City A	
TBA	Crewe Alexandra A	
TBA	Barnsley H	



David Unsworth was pleased with the performances of the young Blades

one of your young prospects the result becomes irrelevant because it shows players are developing.

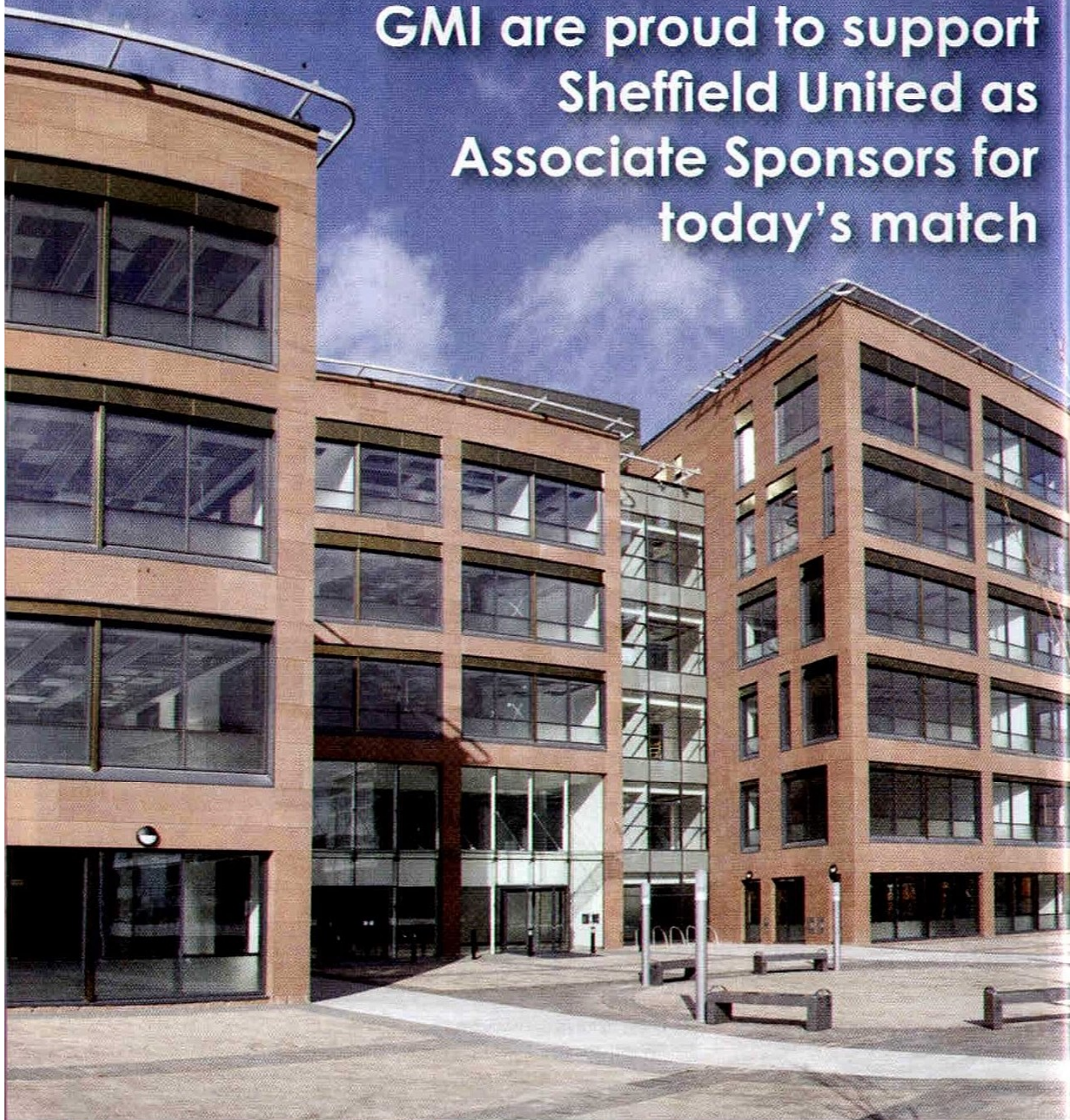
"We are delighted with Jamie's progress and we are pleased to see he has earned international recognition. In youth development it is about the future and making sure our players continue to learn and further their games.

"Of course we want them to win and develop a winning mentality but we always look at the bigger picture."

Blades: Owen, Scarisbrick, J. Williams, Dimaio (Coustrain 77), Banton (Ptak 71), Salt, Khan, Whiteman, McDonagh, Eyre, T. Williams (Smith 45). Unused: Lynch, Heather.

** See page 55 for more Academy news

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Academy

Goalkeeper Jake Eastwood and Welsh international loan Evans



Welcoming our new scholars

Today is a special day for the Academy as several players who have signed scholarships for next season will be at Bramall Lane for this afternoon's League One clash.

Academy Manager Nick Cox will talk us through what the future holds for our next generation of promising youngsters, who, of course, will look to emulate the likes of George Long, Harry Maguire and most recently Callum McFadzean and Joe Ironside.

Nick said: "We are pleased to welcome the most recent group of Academy players, who recently signed scholarships.

"This group of lads will train at Shirecliffe on a full-time basis from July. They will represent the U18s and undertake an intense schedule that will see them not only mirror some of the work of the first team, but also they will complete an education programme with the support of Football League Education.

"Our ultimate aim for these prospects is for them to obtain a professional contract at the end of their two-year scholarship programme.

"As is life with football this won't be the outcome for all the players, but for those who don't get an opportunity to progress

here the experience they will have enjoyed during the next two years or so should see them leave well equipped for what the future has in store for them on or off the field.

"To be given a scholarship contract is a huge achievement and recognition of their ability for all the lads - some of whom have been working with the Academy for nearly ten years. Others have joined more recently, largely down to the excellent scouting work of our committed and enthusiastic recruitment team.

"I would like to finish by congratulating all the coaches and backroom staff who continue to work tirelessly behind the scenes to support these lads throughout their journey with us."

The following players, two of which have progressed through FURD - our local anti-racism project, which see the club continue to work hard within the local community, will be introduced on to the pitch at half-time today...

Jake Eastwood - Local goalkeeper who has been with the club since the age of eight, already represented the U18s this season. Michael Junior Kedman
Michael joined the Academy recently after

an impressive during a trial period having previously played at Chelsea and West Ham.

Ioan Evans - A Wales youth international, Ioan recently played in the Victory Shield against England. He joined the Blades at the age of 11.

Dominic Calvert Lewin - Dominic is another player who has been associated with United since the age of eight. He is a talented midfielder who has also featured for the U18s.

Fahad Ishmail - Fahad joined the Academy as a 13-year-old. He was originally coached through the Blades development centre after being spotted on a FURD programme.

Louis Reed - Louis is a creative midfielder, who has played and scored for the U18s this term.

Kler Heh - Kler was initially scouted through a FURD programme, the youngster is another exciting attacking player.

Jake Wright - Jake is a striker, who recently joined from Macclesfield Town. He is a goalscorer who again impressed on trial.

Dan Cockerline - Dan is the Blades most recent scholar to put pen to paper, having being recruited from Bury. He is a centre forward who is capable of linking play.

Ticket information...



A familiar face awaits when we visit Pompey next week... Johnny Ertl

BLADES V BRENTFORD

npower League One

Tuesday 16th April 2013

Kick Off 7.45pm

This match is a Category B fixture

Tickets are priced from £18 (adults), £14 (concessions) and £9 (juniors).

Tickets are on general sale now.

Supporters purchasing tickets will be allocated 150 Loyalty Points.

PORTSMOUTH V BLADES

npower League One

Saturday 20th April 2013

Kick Off 3pm

This match is all ticket for Blades

supporters. We have been allocated 2,848 tickets.

Please note rows A-G are unsuitable for anyone under 5ft 4in due to a wall at the front of the stand.

Tickets are priced at: £20 (adults), £15 (seniors 60+), £15 (young persons aged 17-22), £10 (juniors U17).

Ambulant/carer tickets are also available however you must be on middle or high rate DLA for care or mobility. Tickets are priced at £15 with the carer going free of charge.

Five Wheelchair/carer tickets are also available however you must be on middle or high rate DLA for care or mobility. Tickets are priced at £10 with the carer going free of charge. Please note these are situated in the home area of the ground.

This match is a Category B fixture therefore 100 Loyalty Points will be issued to supporters purchasing tickets.

Tickets are on general sale now.

Away Blade Coach Travel:

Please check with the Ticket Office for availability details.

CREWE ALEX V BLADES

npower League One

Tuesday 23rd April 2013

Kick Off 7.45pm

This match is all ticket for Blades supporters. We have been allocated 2,316

tickets priced £20 (adults), £16 (seniors over 60), £9.50 (juniors 12-16) and £5 (juniors under 12).

Ambulant and carer tickets are available at £16 for the pair with the carer going free of charge. Seven pairs of wheelchair and carer tickets are available at £16 with the carer going free of charge.

This match is a Category B fixture therefore 100 Loyalty Points will be issued to supporters purchasing tickets.

Original tickets will be valid for the fixture, any supporters unable to make the new date can obtain a refund from the Ticket Office in advance of the match.

This game is all ticket and supporters are advised not to travel without a valid match ticket.

Tickets are on general sale now.

Away Blade Coach Travel:

Departs 3.30pm, price £18.

BLADES V PRESTON NORTH END

npower League 1

Saturday 27th April 2013

Kick Off 3pm

This match is a Category B fixture

Tickets are priced from £18 (adults), £14 (concessions) and £9 (juniors).

Tickets are on general sale now.

Supporters purchasing tickets will be allocated 150 Loyalty Points.

MATCH TICKET PRICES 2012/13

STAND	CATEGORY A			CATEGORY B			CATEGORY C		
	Adult	Conc	Under 16	Adult	Conc	Under 16	Adult	Conc	Under 16
Kop	£22.00	£17.00	£12.00	£18.00	£14.00	£9.00	£10.00	£5.00	£1.00
South Stand / Family Enclosure	£26.00	£19.00	£14.00	£24.00	£18.00	£12.00	£10.00	£5.00	£1.00
Westfield Health	£24.00	£18.50	£13.00	£19.50	£15.00	£9.50	£10.00	£5.00	£1.00

OPENING HOURS

Monday-Friday: 9am - 5pm

Non-match Saturday: 9am - 12noon

Matchday: 9am - kick-off and for 15 minutes after the final whistle.

CONTACT US

Blades Ticket Office, Bramall Lane, Sheffield, S2 4SU

Tel: 0871 995 1889

Visit: www.sufc.talent-sport.co.uk

A £1 booking fee is applicable on all telephone or online orders.

Picture yourself starting the 2013/14 season in style - #awayoflife

Want to see yourself celebrating after scoring for United or being centre focus in a fan celebration picture, well now the Blades are giving you the opportunity.

Located in the Ticket Office are two seaside cut-outs for fans to enjoy and the opportunity to win a hospitality upgrade for four people for the first home league game of the 2013/14 season.

The prize will include a two-course meal for four in one of United's luxurious hospitality suites, and some of the best seats in our historic stadium to watch the fixture from.

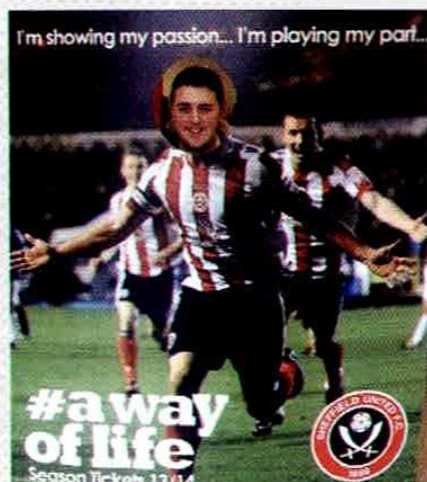
To be in with a chance of winning, simply take your photo posing in one of the cut outs after purchasing your 2013/14 Season Ticket.

Send your photo, with your name and customer number to marketing@sufc.co.uk and the winner will be drawn at random to win the special prize. Some photos may also be used on our social media sites and in other promotional activity.*

Fans have until 5pm on Sunday 21st April to submit their photo and be entered into the picture board competition. The winner will be drawn at random after this date.

Have fun and good luck.

*Terms & Conditions apply, the person in the photo submitted will be entered into the competition and not the person who submitted the photo, if a child is under 16 a parent/guardian will have the choice who claims the prize. All photos



submitted give permission to be used as Sheffield United Football Club see fit in any advertising or promotional material. Only fans that have purchased their 2013/14 Season Ticket and sent in their name and customer number will be eligible to enter the competition.

#a way of life

Season Tickets 13/14

JUST 7 DAYS

to go to claim your seat
for the 13/14 Season
Visit: www.sufc.co.uk
Call: 0871 995 1889



Commercial Notes...

with Steve Coakley



Good afternoon and welcome to today's game against Swindon Town.

I hope everyone has had a good Easter break and is fine voice to get behind Danny and his team at today's clash with fellow promotion contenders Swindon Town.

The welcome is extended to the visiting directors, guests and supporters who made the journey today to cheer Kevin MacDonald and his team on.

As always a very special thank you goes to today's matchday sponsors for their continued support:

This afternoon's main match sponsor is Redtooth, our current away kit sponsor. They are the leading name in entertainment for the licensed trade and, in addition, organise the UK's largest pub poker league with well over 1,200 venues registered nationwide. Redtooth is the largest supplier of pub quizzes to the UK pub market with over 3,000 pubs and clubs receiving their weekly quiz from Redtooth. Managing Director and lifelong United fan Martin Green will be hosting the party today.

BDO LLP is our associate match sponsor today, the award-winning UK member firm of the BDO international network, the world's fifth largest accountancy organisation, with more than 1,000 offices in over 100 countries.

Our matchball sponsor today are long standing Blades supporters and Executive club member; Paul Hanstock Air Conditioning Services. Paul senior, Michelle, Paul junior and Laura will be hosting the party today, along with some fellow executive club members.

Finally, our associate sponsor for the game today are RA Information Systems - they provide a wide range of services in computing technology to the private sector, SMEs, central government agencies and local governments throughout the UK and across Europe. They focus on harnessing technology to deliver high quality business solutions in a professional and timely manner. They have been long serving supporters of

the Blades and the party today is hosted by directors; Jon, Rob and Annette Dabbs.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable afternoon.

Dates for your diaries...

* Saturday 27th April 2013 will see the prestigious Player of the Year take place following the last game of the season. This fantastic gala dinner is the highlight of the season and the last few places remain.

* A Sporting Lunch with ex Arsenal and England legend, Paul Merson is planned for Friday 31st May 2013. The price is £55 plus vat per head or £500 plus vat for a table of ten.

* The ever popular golf day dinner and dance has been booked for Friday 21st June 2013 at Abbeydale Golf Club. Teams of four are priced at £415 plus vat which includes a table for eight guests at the evening event held in the Platinum Suite.

For more information or to reserve your place at the events please call the Commercial Department on 0871 663 62462 or email commercial@sufc.co.uk

Steve

Blades v Crawley sponsors



[Left] Club Supplier Pinders Digital Print Solutions was the main match Sponsor at the Crawley Town game, played on Tuesday night. Managing Director David Whiteway is pictured receiving their signed framed away shirt from ex-players and matchday hosts Carl Bradshaw, Ted Hemsley and Len Badger.

[Right] Constant Security Systems was the matchball sponsor at the game played earlier this week. General Manager Sarah Hill is pictured receiving the signed played matchball from Carl, Ted and Len.



Napoleons - official champagne sponsor for the man of the match presentations and matchday competitions.

Player	Place of birth, Date of birth	League Apps Goals	Cups/Play-offs Apps Goals	United Career Apps Goals	+ - =
Chapell, Jordan	Sheffield, 8/9/91	- (1) -	1 (1) -	2 (3) -	- - -
Collins, Neill	Troon, 2/9/83	33 (1) 4	3 (1) 1	106 (2) 7	2 2 -
Cresswell, Richard	Bridlington, 20/9/77	2 (14) 1	1 (3) -	103 (38) 30	1 - -
De Girolamo, Diego	Chesterfield, 5/10/95	- (2) -	- (1) -	- (3) -	1 - -
Doyle, Michael	Dublin, 8/8/81	38 - 3	7 - -	111 (4) 6	6 6 1
Flynn, Ryan	Edinburgh, 4/3/88	22 - 3	6 (1) -	58 (17) 6	10 1 1
Forte, Jonathan	Sheffield, 25/7/85	6 (3) 1	- - -	11 (37) 2	- - -
Harriott, Matty	Luton, 23/9/92	- - -	1 - -	2 (3) -	- 1 -
Higginbotham, Danny	Manchester, 29/12/78	11 (1) -	2 - -	13 (1) -	- - -
Hill, Matt	Bristol, 26/3/81	30 - -	5 - -	49 (1) -	2 6 -
Howard, Mark	Southwark, 21/9/86	11 - -	1 - -	12 - -	- - -
Ironsides, Joe	Middlesbrough, 16/10/93	- (9) -	- (3) -	- (12) -	2 - -
Jean-Francois, Lescinel	French Guyana, 2/10/86	- - -	- (1) -	27 (5) -	- - -
Kennedy, Terry	Barnsley, 14/11/94	1 - -	- - -	1 (1) -	- - -
Kitson, Dave	Hitchin, 21/1/80	26 (3) 5	2 - 1	78 (3) 10	3 7 -
Long, George	Sheffield, 5/11/93	30 (1) -	6 - -	41 (1) -	- 1 -
Maguire, Harry	Sheffield, 5/3/93	40 - 3	7 - 2	107 (1) 6	- 8 -
McDonald, Kevin	Carnoustie, 4/11/88	40 - 1	4 - -	80 (2) 4	4 9 -
McFadzean, Callum	Sheffield, 16/1/94	- (5) -	1 (1) -	1 (6) -	- 1 -
McMahon, Tony	Bishop Auckland, 24/3/86	35 - 2	4 - 1	39 - 3	8 10 -
Miller, Shaun	Alsager, 25/10/87	7 (8) 4	4 - 4	11 (8) 8	4 4 -
Murphy, Jamie	Glasgow, 28/8/89	11 (1) 2	2 - -	13 (1) 2	1 - -
Porter, Chris	Wigan, 12/12/83	9 (7) 2	5 - 1	38 (27) 11	4 - -
Robson, Barry	Inverurie, 7/11/78	9 (4) 1	- - -	9 (4) 1	1 3 -
Tonne, Erik	Trondheim, Nor, 3/7/91	- - -	- - -	- (6) 2	- - -
Westlake, Danny	Sutton Coldfield, 1/3/91	6 (2) -	4 - -	10 (2) -	- - -
Whitehouse, Elliott	Workson, 27/10/93	1 - -	- (1) -	1 (1) -	- 1 -
Williams, Marcus	Doncaster, 8/4/86	14 (4) -	3 (3) -	34 (13) -	1 2 -
Also Played:				Others	7
Blackman, Nick	Whitefield, 11/11/89	28 - 11	4 (1) 3	32 (1) 14	5 4 -
Cofie, John (L)	Aboso, Cha, 21/1/93	8 (8) 2	1 (1) -	9 (9) 2	- - -
Gallagher, Paul (L)	Glasgow, 9/8/84	6 - 1	- - -	6 - 1	2 1 -
McAllister, David	Dublin, 25/12/88	10 (4) 1	2 (1) 1	18 (12) 4	1 - -
Montgomery, Nick	Leeds, 28/10/81	- - -	- - -	318 (80) 11	- - -
Philliskirk, Danny	Gidham, 10/4/91	- (1) -	- (1) -	1 (2) -	- - -
Poleon, Dominic (L)	Newham, 7/9/93	3 (4) -	- - -	3 (4) -	1 - -
Quinn, Stephen	Dublin, 1/4/86	3 - -	1 - -	218 (19) 22	- 1 -

Goals: The breakdown

Shots: 44 Headers: 14 Penalties: 7 Own Goals: 1

	Home					Away					GO Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GO Pts
1 Doncaster	43	10	5	7	26	22	13	4	4	33	20	+17 78
2 AFC Bournemouth	43	12	6	4	40	20	10	4	7	30	32	+18 76
3 Yeovil	42	12	4	6	35	22	9	4	7	31	30	+14 71
4 Brentford	41	13	6	2	34	19	6	6	6	20	22	+13 71
5 Sheff Utd	41	7	9	4	27	19	11	7	3	25	17	+16 70
6 Swindon	42	8	9	4	37	14	10	5	6	27	19	+11 68
7 Tranmere	43	10	5	6	31	20	9	4	9	27	28	+12 66
8 Walsall	43	10	7	5	37	28	7	8	6	26	26	+9 66
9 Milton Keynes Dons	42	12	5	5	35	20	5	8	7	23	22	+16 64
10 Leyton Orient	43	12	2	7	28	19	7	5	10	23	28	+4 64
11 Crawley Town	42	7	8	5	29	25	9	5	8	24	29	-1 61
12 Notts County	43	8	5	8	27	23	6	11	5	28	23	+9 58
13 Crewe	40	10	3	6	22	18	6	7	8	27	35	-4 58
14 Coventry	43	7	7	8	29	26	11	3	7	35	28	+10 54
15 Preston North End	42	7	9	6	30	22	6	6	8	22	25	+5 54
16 Stevenage	43	7	5	9	26	30	8	4	10	21	27	+10 54
17 Carlisle	43	7	6	8	31	40	7	6	9	23	31	-17 54
18 Shrewsbury	42	7	7	6	25	22	4	8	10	25	33	-5 48
19 Colchester	42	8	3	10	25	29	5	5	11	19	34	-19 47
20 Oldham	41	6	4	11	22	25	5	4	11	19	31	-15 41
21 Scunthorpe	42	6	5	10	27	36	5	3	13	16	33	-26 41
22 Portsmouth	43	6	5	11	24	27	3	7	11	20	36	-19 39
23 Hartlepool	43	5	7	10	18	26	3	5	13	17	38	-29 36
24 Bury	42	4	6	10	19	29	3	7	12	20	39	-29 34

	Away Fans at Lane	Blades (Away)	Round Trip (miles)
Bournemouth	323	1177	450
Brentford		1802	322
Bury	476	1056	101
Carlisle	679	897	322
Colchester	237	893	366
Coventry	1477	1570	168
Crawley	183	1261	408
Crewe	321		
Doncaster	1470	4285	44
Hartlepool	252	615	217
Leyton Orient	163	1253	333
MK Dons	395	1854	230
Notts County	1712	3058	78
Oldham	864	2591	85
Portsmouth	580		
Preston		2072	161
Scunthorpe	663	2732	90
Shrewsbury	1220	1422	166
Stevenage	286	1118	286
Swindon		814	322
Tranmere	965	2269	180
Walsall	215	1552	142
Yeovil	254	859	469

Burton Albion	430		
Notts County		483	78
Coventry City		636	168
Bristol Rovers		699	340
Port Vale	3295		
Oxford Utd		1244	277
Reading		1277	367
Total Mileage			6120

Our League record						
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	2265	1207	573	486	4217	2515
Away	2267	604	551	1112	2738	4014
Total	4533	1811	1124	1598	6955	6529
Goal Times						
	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
For	7	11	7	13	11	16
Against	6	3	8	9	9	10
For ET	1	-	-	-	-	-
Against ET	1	-	-	-	-	-

BLADES GAME BY GAME

NPOWER FOOTBALL LEAGUE 1 2012/2013

Date	Opposition/Comp	Score	Pos	Gate	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sat 11 Aug	Burton Albion CCR1	2-2 (lost 4-5p)	7,073	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Collins 1	Williams	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle	
Sat 18 Aug	Shrewsbury Town	1-0	-	18,286	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Williams	McAllister 1	McDonald	Doyle
Tue 21 Aug	Coventry City	1-1	6	12,621	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	McAllister	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 25 Aug	Colchester United	1-1	8	4,017	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	McAllister	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 1 Sep	Bournemouth	5-3	5	18,790	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	McAllister	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 8 Sep	Scunthorpe United	1-1	5	5,533	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Collins 1	Hill	McAllister	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 15 Sep	Bury	1-1	7	16,866	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	McAllister	McDonald	Westlake
Tue 18 Sep	Doncaster Rovers	0-0	6	17,926	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Gallagher	McDonald	McAllister
Sat 22 Sep	Yeovil Town	1-0	6	4,117	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Collins 1	Hill	Gallagher	McDonald	McAllister
Sat 29 Sep	Notts County	1-1	8	18,814	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Gallagher	McDonald	Doyle
Tue 2 Oct	Hartlepool United	2-1	6	4,027	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Gallagher 1	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 6 Oct	Leyton Orient	1-0	3	4,882	Howard	McMahon	Maguire	Hill	Williams	Gallagher	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 13 Oct	Oldham Athletic	1-1	3	18,188	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Hill	Williams	Cofie	McDonald	Doyle
Wed 17 Oct	Notts County IPT2	4-1	-	2,082	Long	Westlake	Maguire 2	Hill	Williams	Chapell	Harriott	Doyle
Sat 20 Oct	Preston North End	1-0	3	11,536	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Hill	Williams	McAllister	McDonald	Doyle
Tue 23 Oct	Walsall	1-0	3	15,744	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Hill	Williams	McAllister	McDonald	Doyle
Mon 29 Oct	Portsmouth	1-0	2	18,946	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 3 Nov	Bristol Rovers FAC1	2-1	-	4,712	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle
Tue 6 Nov	Swindon Town	0-0	2	8,354	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 10 Nov	MK Dons	0-1	2	9,835	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 17 Nov	Stevenage	4-1	2	17,984	Long	Westlake	Maguire	Collins 1	Williams	Blackman	McDonald	Doyle
Tue 20 Nov	Crewe Alexandra	3-3	2	16,000	Long	Westlake	Maguire 1	Collins	Williams	Blackman 1	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 24 Nov	Brentford	0-2	4	7,763	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Blackman	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 1 Dec	Port Vale FAC2	2-1	-	10,215	Long	Westlake	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Blackman	McAllister	Doyle
Tue 4 Dec	Coventry IPT1NAQF	1-1 (lost 1-4p)	10,162	Long	Westlake	Maguire	Hill	Williams	Flynn	McAllister 1	Doyle	
Sat 8 Dec	Carlisle United	3-1	3	4,892	Long	Westlake	Maguire	Collins 1	Hill	Blackman 1	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 15 Dec	Tranmere Rovers	0-0	3	19,163	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Blackman	Flynn	Doyle
Sat 22 Dec	Crawley Town	2-0	1	4,604	Long	McMahon 2	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Blackman	McDonald	Doyle
Wed 26 Dec	Scunthorpe United	3-0	1	21,819	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Blackman 1P	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 29 Dec	Hartlepool United	2-3	2	19,941	Long	Westlake	Maguire 1	Hill	Williams	Blackman	McDonald	Doyle 1
Tue 1 Jan	Doncaster Rovers	2-2	2	12,785	Long	McMahon	Kennedy	Higginbotham	Hill	Blackman 1P	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 5 Jan	Oxford Utd FAC3	3-0	-	7,079	Long	McMahon 1	Maguire	Higginbotham	Hill	Blackman 1	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 12 Jan	Yeovil Town	0-2	4	20,454	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Higginbotham	Williams	Blackman	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 19 Jan	Notts County	1-1	5	7,061	Long	McMahon	Maguire 1	Higginbotham	Westlake	Blackman	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 26 Jan	Reading FAC4	0-4	-	14,715	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Higginbotham	Westlake	Blackman	McDonald	Doyle
Fri 1 Feb	Coventry City	1-2	6	17,511	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Higginbotham	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 9 Feb	Shrewsbury Town	2-1	5	7,232	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Higginbotham	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle 1
Tue 12 Feb	Bury	2-0	5	3,064	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Higginbotham	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 16 Feb	Colchester United	3-0	2	16,860	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Higginbotham	Flynn	McDonald 1	Doyle
Sat 23 Feb	Bournemouth	1-0	1	8,497	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Higginbotham	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle
Tue 26 Feb	Leyton Orient	0-0	2	16,540	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Higginbotham	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 2 Mar	Oldham Athletic	2-0	2	6,426	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle 1
Sat 9 Mar	MK Dons	0-0	2	17,936	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 16 Mar	Stevenage	0-4	3	3,483	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle
Fri 29 Mar	Tranmere Rovers	1-0*	5	9,145	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Flynn	McDonald	Doyle
Mon 1 Apr	Carlisle United	0-0	4	19,005	Long	McMahon	Maguire	Collins	Hill	Poleon	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 6 Apr	Walsall	1-1	5	7,042	Long	Hill	Maguire	Collins	Higginbotham	Murphy	McDonald	Doyle
Tue 9 Apr	Crawley Town	0-2	5	18,680	Long	Hill	Maguire	Collins	Higginbotham	Murphy	McDonald	Doyle
Sat 13 Apr	Swindon Town											
Tue 16 Apr	Brentford											
Sat 20 Apr	Portsmouth											
Tue 23 Apr	Crewe Alexandra											
Sat 27 Apr	Preston North End											

* Own Goal

Long time no see

Swindon Town's last league visit here was on 7 May, 2000.
Having already played Shrewsbury Town this

season (their previous league visit to Bramall Lane had been on 13 February 1988) the remaining current league clubs that we have played but not since Swindon's last visit (in fact, since the last century) are:

Emergency Procedure: In the event of any emergency you will hear a safety message over the PA system. Remain where you are and listen carefully to the announcement. Comply immediately if it affects your area. Stewards, Police Officers and Officials will direct you to safe areas, which may be through Exit Doors/Gates to the street, or onto the playing area. If you are disabled or feel unsafe in a large crowd, remain where you are until stewards assist you. Remain calm and do not move unless the announcement affects your area.

Home games in **bold**. Player's name in **bold** denotes number of goals scored.
P = Penalty. Yellow and Red block colour denotes caution or sending off.

Key:
Booked: Sent off:
Scorer: **bold** Subs: (12)
Numbers in brackets denotes player substituted

Competitions:
FL1: npower League 1
CC: Capital One Cup

JPT: Johnstone's Paint Trophy
FAC: FA Cup

9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Referee
Quinn	Porter	Miller	Long	Westlake	McFadzean (11)	McAllister (5)	Blackman 1 (10)			T Kettle
Quinn	Cofie	Blackman	Long	McFadzean	Harriott	Chapell	Philiskirk	Miller (10)	Ironside	D. Coote
Quinn	Cofie	Blackman 1	Long	Williams	Harriott	Flynn	Philiskirk	Miller (10)	Ironside	P. Tierney
Quinn	Cofie 1	Blackman	Long	Williams	Harriott	Flynn	Philiskirk	Miller (10)	Ironside	G. Sutton
Flynn 2	Cofie 1	Blackman 1P	Long	Westlake	Williams	Harriott	Cresswell 1 (10)	Miller	Ironside	N. Miller
Flynn	Cofie	Blackman	Long	Westlake	Williams (5)	Harriott	Cresswell (5)	Miller (10)	Ironside	S. Rushton
Gallagher	Cofie	Blackman 1	Long	Williams	McFadzean	Harriott	Cresswell (10)	Miller	Kitson (8)	S. Hooper
Williams	Cresswell	Blackman	Long	Westlake	Chapell	Miller	Kitson (10)	Cofie (5)	Porter	M. Haywood
Cresswell	Kitson	Blackman	Long	Westlake	McFadzean	Williams (5)	Porter (10)	Miller	Cofie	R. East
Flynn	Kitson 1	Blackman	Long	Williams	McAllister	Cresswell	Porter (10)	Miller	Cofie (5)	N. Swarbrick
Flynn	Kitson 1	Blackman	Long	Westlake	Williams	McAllister	Cresswell (10)	Porter	Cofie (11)	M. Heywood
Flynn	Kitson	Blackman 1	Long (1)	Westlake	McFadzean	McAllister	Cresswell (11)	Porter (10)	Miller	D. Phillips
Flynn	Kitson	Blackman 1P	Willis	Westlake	McAllister	Chapell	Cresswell (5)	Porter	Miller	S. Mathieson
Flynn	Porter	Miller 2	Willis	Jean-Francois (6)	Tonne	Philiskirk (11)	Ironside (10)			K. Stroud
Flynn	Kitson 1	Blackman	Willis	Westlake	Collins (5)	Cofie	Cresswell	Porter (10)	Miller (11)	C. Sarginson
Flynn	Kitson	Blackman 1P	Willis	Westlake	Collins	Cofie (5)	Cresswell	Porter (10)	Miller (11)	G. Eltringham
Williams	Porter	Blackman 1P	Willis	Westlake	McAllister	Cofie	Cresswell (5)	Ironside	Miller (11)	M. Russell
Miller	Porter 1	Blackman 1	Willis	Westlake	McAllister	Williams (11)	Cresswell (10)	Ironside	Cofie	F. Graham
Williams	Porter	Blackman	Willis	Westlake	Kennedy	McAllister	Cresswell (11)	Miller	Cofie	D. Langford
Williams	Porter	Blackman	Willis	Westlake (2)	Kennedy	McAllister (5)	Cresswell	Miller (11)	Ironside	D. Sheldrake
Flynn	Porter 1	Miller 2	Coyne	McFadzean	McAllister	Cofie (11)	Cresswell (10)	Ironside	Philiskirk	M. Jones
Flynn	Porter	Miller 1	Coyne	McFadzean	McAllister (5)	Cofie	Cresswell	Ironside	Philiskirk	J. Adcock
Flynn	Porter	Miller	Coyne	Westlake (2)	Williams	McFadzean	McAllister	Cofie	Cresswell (10)	A. D'Urso
Flynn	Porter	Miller 2	Coyne	Williams (4)	McFadzean	Philiskirk	Cofie (7)	Ironside	Cresswell (10)	K. Wright
McFadzean	Cofie	Cresswell	Coyne	Chapell (5)	Philiskirk	Ironside (11)	De Girolamo (10)			M. Brown
Flynn 1	Porter	Miller	Coyne	Kennedy	Williams	McFadzean	McAllister (7)	Cofie	Ironside (10)	G. Salisbury
Williams	Porter	Miller	Coyne	Westlake	McAllister (5)	McFadzean	Cofie	Cresswell	Kitson (10)	E. Ilderton
Flynn	Kitson	Miller	Coyne	Westlake	McAllister	McFadzean	Williams (5)	Cofie (11)	Ironside (10)	G. Ward
Flynn	Kitson 1	Miller 1	Coyne	Westlake	McAllister	Williams (4)	Cresswell (10)	Cofie (11)	Ironside	G. Sutton
Flynn	Kitson	Cofie	Coyne	Kennedy	McAllister	Chapell (11)	Cresswell (8)	Philiskirk	Ironside (10)	D. Deadman
Flynn	Whitehouse	Kitson 1	Coyne	Westlake	McAllister	Williams	Cresswell	Cofie (10)	Ironside (9)	D. Coote
Flynn	Murphy	Kitson 1	Coyne	Kennedy	Williams (5)	Tonne	Whitehouse	Cresswell (10)	Ironside (11)	C. Boyeson
Flynn	Murphy	Kitson	Coyne	Westlake	Barry	Whitehouse	Cresswell (11)	Ironside (9)	Philiskirk (5)	D. Phillips
Flynn	Murphy	Kitson	Coyne	Kennedy	McFadzean	Whitehouse	Cresswell	Ironside (11)	De Girolamo	M. Haywood
Murphy	Porter	Kitson	Coyne	Collins (5)	Whitehouse (7)	Flynn (10)	Cresswell	Ironside	De Girolamo	C. Foy
Murphy	Porter	Kitson 1	Coyne	Westlake	Robson (3)	Forte (10)	Cresswell	Ironside	De Girolamo	C. Sarginson
Murphy	Forte	Kitson 1	Coyne	Westlake	Hill	McFadzean	Robson (9)	Ironside (11)	De Girolamo	M. Heywood
Murphy 1	Forte 1	Kitson	Coyne	Westlake	Hill	McFadzean	Robson (10)	Ironside (11)	De Girolamo	G. Salisbury
Robson 1P	Murphy	Kitson 1	Coyne	Westlake	Hill	McFadzean	Poleon (9)	Ironside	De Girolamo (6)	D. Webb
Robson	Murphy 1	Kitson	Coyne	Westlake	Hill	McFadzean	Poleon (5)	Ironside	De Girolamo	G. Sutton
Robson	Poleon	Kitson	Coyne	Westlake	Hill	McFadzean (10)	Cresswell (11)	Ironside	De Girolamo (9)	P. Gibbs
Robson	Poleon	Kitson 1	Coyne	Westlake	Whitehouse	McFadzean (10)	Cresswell	Ironside	De Girolamo	A. Woolmer
Robson	Murphy	Kitson	Coyne	Westlake	Higginbotham	McFadzean	Forte (10)	Ironside	Poleon (5)	C. Boyeson
Robson	Murphy	Kitson	Coyne	Westlake	Higginbotham	McFadzean (10)	Forte (5)	Porter	Poleon	M. Russell
Robson	Forte	Kitson	Coyne	Westlake	Higginbotham	McFadzean	Poleon (10)	Porter	Ironside	A. Haines
Robson	Forte	Kitson	Coyne	Westlake	Higginbotham (5)	McFadzean	Murphy (6)	Porter	Ironside (11)	K. Hill
Robson	Forte	Kitson	Coyne	Westlake	Kennedy	McFadzean (5)	Whitehouse	Porter 1 (11)	Ironside	D. Whitestone
Flynn	Forte	Kitson	Coyne	Westlake	Kennedy	McFadzean (5)	Robson (8)	Porter (10)	Ironside	N. Miller

York City	1 Sep 1981	Southend United	18 Jan 1997
Torquay United	3 Apr 1982	Oxford United	26 Mar 1999
Bristol Rovers	3 Sep 1988	Port Vale	23 Nov 1999
Northampton Town	20 Sep 1988		

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AWAY END WELCOME TO S2 SWINDON TOWN



Swindon Town

Formed 1879

Home The County Ground

Capacity 14,700

Nickname The Robins

Manager Kevin MacDonald

Captain Alan McCormack

Website

www.swindontownfc.co.uk

Honours

Division 2 champions:

1995-96

Division 4 champions:

1985-86

League Cup winners:

1969

Anglo-Italian Cup winners:

1970

Southern League winners:

1910-11, 1913-14

Interesting fact

Left back John Trollope made his first league appearance for Swindon on 20 August 1960, the opening day of that season, and his final appearance on 8 November 1980. In total he made 770 league appearances for Swindon (including three as substitute) and he holds the league record for most appearances for one club. Between 1961 and 1968 he made 328 consecutive league appearances and 368 in league and cup.

The euphoria that follows Paolo Di Canio around belonged to Swindon Town for the bulk of this League One campaign and while life after the firebrand Italian may not be quite as exciting and unpredictable, it could still prove to be highly productive.

While Di Canio took great pride in telling anyone who would listen to him that he was the sole reason why Swindon claimed promotion from League Two last season, the players he left behind at the County Ground are doing their best to prove that the club's recent successes were not just down to the manager who has taken over at Premier League side Sunderland in the last couple of weeks.

From the comments offered up by Di Canio in the weeks since he walked out of Swindon, you could have been forgiven for thinking he filled all eleven positions in his own team as the Robins claimed promotion last April and backed it up with a solid push for a place in next season's Championship.

However, the County Ground set-up is not just about a solitary dominant personality and while results have hardly been electrifying since the managerial change in mid-February, the Robins are coming to Bramall Lane this afternoon with hopes of a play-off finish very much in their sights.

A hat-trick of draws in their last three home matches did little for manager Kevin MacDonald as he looks to make his mark at Swindon, yet the ambition is burning brightly in the squad he inherited from Di Canio, with the Robins players knowing that a handful of wins in the next few weeks should push their season into overtime.

A play-off finish would be a fine achievement for a team that could so easily have been derailed by the furor surrounding Di Canio's exit, yet experienced professionals like Alan McCormack, Andy Williams and Darren Ward have the nous to keep the Robins show on the road.

Their flirtations with the upper echelons of the English game is reviving memories of not so distant triumphs for the club that spent a solitary season in the Premier League after manager Glenn Hoddle guided them to promotion with a play-off victory at Wembley back in 1993.

Hoddle is one of many high profile managers who have held power at Swindon down the years, with Ossie Ardiles, Steve McMahon, Dennis Wise and current Blades boss Danny Wilson among those who have held the top job at the County Ground.

Adding MacDonald's name to that illustrious list of Swindon managers seemed like a wise move, as the one-time Republic of Ireland assistant manager arrived with a fine coaching reputation and the respect of all in the game.

The Swindon side he has taken charge of boast a hugely impressive record on their travels, with their 2-0 win at Yeovil last month their tenth win on the road this season. Indeed, if they had reciprocated that record at their County Ground home, a top two finish could have been well within their grasp.

As it is, Swindon retain hope that they can snare a promotion place this season and if they manage to get across the finishing line, the notion that all of Swindon's recent successes were down to the departed Di Canio will be banished for good.



Back to the future

Fraser Digby: Sheffield-born England U21 goalkeeper who joined Crystal Palace in 1998, then Barry, QPR and Kidderminster. He later became Swindon's commercial manager.

Nicky Summerbee: England U21 international who later played for Manchester City, Sunderland, Bolton, Leicester City, Bradford City, Swindon again and Tranmere.

Paul Bodin: Welsh international left-back who netted 37 goals in 239 league games in two spells, moving to Reading in 1996. He is now coaching back at Swindon.

Glenn Hoddle: Ex-England international midfielder who was player-boss until 1993, then managed Chelsea, England, Southampton, Spurs and Wolves.

Colin Calderwood: Scotland defender who later played for Spurs, Villa and Forest, then managed Northampton, Forest and Hibernian. He has assisted Chris Hughton at various clubs, now Norwich.

Shaun Taylor: Ever-present central defender who moved to Bristol City in 1996. Later Forest Green Rovers'

historian **Leigh Edwards** remembers Swindon's play-off winners of 1992-93...

assistant-boss, he has held coaching posts at Exeter City and Torquay United.

John Moncur: Hard-tackling midfielder who joined West Ham in 1994. Since hanging up his boots in 2003, he has become a born-again Christian and was briefly chairman of Grays Athletic.

Ross MacLaren: Scottish favourite, who became reserve team boss. Later was Aston Villa's chief scout and Notts County's assistant-manager.

Dave Mitchell: Australia international striker who moved to Millwall in 1993. He has since coached Sydney Olympic, Sydney United, Parramatta Power and now manages Perth Glory.

Martin Ling: Midfielder who netted ten goals in 152 league games before joining Leyton Orient in 1996, becoming their manager. He has since managed Cambridge United and Torquay United.

Craig Maskell: Striker who joined Southampton in 1994, then Brighton, Happy Valley, Leyton Orient. He has since assisted Steve Corder at Hampton & Richmond, Aylesbury and Staines.

Played for both

Wayne Allison, Graham Anthony, Darren Bullock, Glenn Cockerill, Mark Dempsey, Peter Dornan, Jan-Aage Fjortoft, Steve Foley, John Fountain, Chris Guthrie, Darius Henderson, Brian Howard, Lescinel Jean-Francois, Chris Kamara, Tom McAllister, Jon-Paul McGovern, Ray McHale, Brian Marwood, Tommy Mooney, David Munks, Lilian Nalis, Iffy Onuora, Vincent Pericard, Brian Richardson, Paul Richardson, Grant Smith, Frank Talia, Paul Thirlwell, Mark Yeates.

Classic Match

14 August 1993

BLADES 3 SWINDON 1

Premier League

Attendance: 20,904

Referee: I. Borrett

Swindon were playing their first ever game in the top flight but it was United's newcomer, Willie Falconer, who put the Blades ahead when Alan Cork nudged Dane Whitehouse's free kick to the far post for Falconer to score.

John Moncur equalised, just after the interval, with a well-flighted free kick, and Craig Maskell squandered a chance to put Swindon ahead before United took the lead.

This time another Whitehouse free kick was headed home by Carl Bradshaw, into the far corner, and Paul Rogers made it safe, following up after Fraser Digby could only parry Andy Scott's shot.

United: Kelly, Ward (Gage 82), Tuttle, Pemberton, Beesley, Bradshaw, Rogers, Falconer, Whitehouse (Littlejohn 89), Cork, A. Scott. Unused: Tracey.

Scorers: Falconer (21), Bradshaw (76), Rogers (84)

Swindon: Digby, Summerbee, MacLaren, Whitbread, Taylor, Nijholt, Ling, Moncur, White, Maskell, Fjortoft (Horlock 70). Unused: Hammond, Viveash. **Scorer:** Moncur (46)

Keep an eye on:

The visitors key players



THE PLAY MAKER

Andy Williams (forward)

Born: 14.08.86

Williams turned down the chance to extend his stay at Yeovil last summer in favour of a move to Swindon and he has proved to be a useful addition to the Robins line-up after scoring some important goals this season.

A run that saw this former Hereford and Bristol Rovers star score seven times in five matches over the Christmas period was evidence of the kind of form Williams can produce and a promotion charge will be within Swindon's grasp if he could repeat that kind of goal getting in the final few weeks of the season.

He is versatile in attacking positions and can provide opportunities for others.



THE CAPTAIN

Alan McCormack (defender)

Born: 10.01.94

This Irishman lists Preston, Southend and Charlton among his former clubs and his experience will be vital to Swindon as the nerves begin to fray and the final chapters are penned in this season's League One promotion story.

He arrived at Swindon as a midfielder, but former boss Paolo Di Canio used him in a defensive role and he quickly became a firm favourite of the County Ground faithful.

Comfortable on the ball and able to start his side's attacking play with his passing ability, McCormack is a key man in the Robins set-up.

The Squad:



Name	Squad No.	Age	Pos	Signed from	Nationality
Wes Foderingham	1	22	Shepherd's Bush Crystal	Palace	
Troy Archibald-Henville	2	24	Newham	Exeter City	
Jay McEveley	3	28	Liverpool	Barnsley	
Aden Flint	4	23	Pinxton	Alfreton Town	
Joe Devera	5	26	Southgate	Barnet	
Alan Navarro	6	31	Liverpool	Brighton & HA	
Luke Rooney	7	22	Bermondsey	Gillingham	
Simon Ferry	8	25	Dundee	Celtic	
James Collins	9	22	Coventry	Shrewsbury Town	
Gary Roberts	11	29	Liverpool	Huddersfield Town	
Alan McCormack	12	29	Dublin	Charlton Athletic	
Nathan Thompson	15	22	Chester	Youth	
Andy Williams	16	26	Hereford	Yeovil Town	
Tommy Miller	18	34	Shotton	Huddersfield Town	
Louis Thompson	19	18	Bristol	Youth	
Miles Storey	20	19	West Bromwich	Coventry City	
Darren Ward	22	34	London	Millwall	
Raffaele De Vita	23	25	Rome	Livingston	
Nathan Byrne	24	20	St Albans	Tottenham (L)	
Massimo Luongo	25	20	Sydney	Tottenham (L)	
Dean Parrett	26	21	Hampstead	Tottenham (L)	
Adam Rooney	28	24	Dublin	Birmingham City (L)	
Leigh Bedwell	30	19	Wantage	Youth	
Aaron Oakley	31	19	Wales	Youth	
Chris Smith	32	22	Stoke	Stone Dominoes	
Alex Ferguson	33	18	Basingstoke	Youth	
Connor Waldon	34	18	Swindon	Youth	
Mark Francis	37	18	Dorset	Youth	

THE GOAL GETTER

James Collins

(forward)

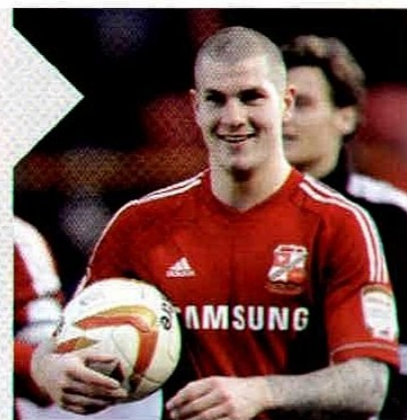
Born: 01.12.90

After starting his career at Aston Villa, Collins was forced to move on in a bid to further his career and he got the big break he was looking for when he signed for Swindon last summer, following a goal-

laden spell at Shrewsbury Town

Capped on numerous occasions by the Republic of Ireland's junior sides, the expectation is that Collins will go on to win full international honours if he continues his progress after a season that has seen him lead the scoring charts for Swindon.

However, his goals have dried up a little of late, as he has hit the target just four times in 2013.



THE WILD CARD

Adam Rooney

(forward)

Born: 21.04.88

Making good use of the loan market can be crucial to any promotion chasing side and Swindon certainly did some good business when they snapped up this Republic of Ireland under-21 star on

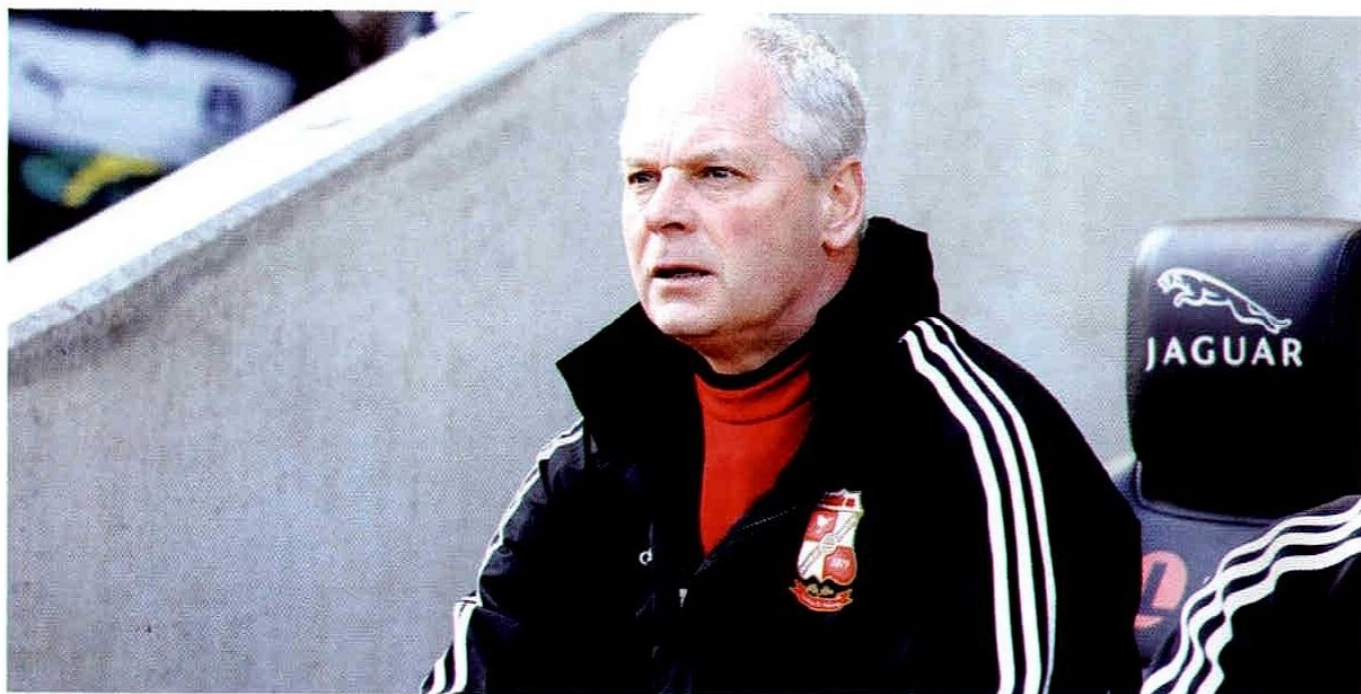
a season long loan from Birmingham last August.

This Dubliner has often been used as a substitute for Swindon this season, but he has made his mark coming off the bench by scoring some vital goals.

Previously with Stoke and Inverness Caledonian Thistle in Scotland, he is threat if chances come his way in front of goal.

In the dug-out: **Kevin MacDonald**

Interview with the visitors manager



Making the transition from respected coach to under-pressure manager rarely seems to be comfortable, yet Kevin MacDonald is convinced he has what it takes to succeed after being given his big chance at Swindon.

Filling the huge boots of Paolo Di Canio was never likely to be an easy task for this former Aston Villa coach, who arrived at Swindon with a fine reputation for being one of the game's top training ground operators, yet MacDonald admits he has much to prove in his first permanent manager's role.

Having briefly taken charge of Aston Villa in the Premier League last season, MacDonald had a taste of the kind of spotlight that falls upon you when you are the top man at a club, but he is eager to embrace the opportunity that has come his way at Swindon.

"The offer that came my way from Swindon was one I couldn't refuse," MacDonald stated. "They were in a good position when I was arrived, having done very, very well under Paolo Di Canio, and aim is to continue that progress.

"I have been reasonably successful as a coach and now I need to see if I can be a success as a manager. Having worked with a lot of younger players during recent years, Swindon appealed to me as

they have a reputation for bringing kids through their ranks and the club made it clear to me that they want to continue doing that.

"Obviously this club is ambitious and we want to try and get promotion to the Championship as soon as possible, but there are a lot of good teams in this league and we have to try and push forward and make it a successful end to the season."

Swindon have built their success around a solid defensive record this season and their form on the road has also been hugely impressive, yet MacDonald believes the secret to his side's promotion hopes will be making the most of the chances his team create in front of goal.

"We have been missing some chances and it is not just the strikers who have been guilty of that," states MacDonald. "I don't blame any individual and it is probably just a case of relaxing a little bit more in front of goal.

"The players here are still good finishers and they will prove that if they keep working hard. You score as a team and you defend as a team and since I have been here, we have probably been a little wasteful in front of goal.

"We have brought in some players to

compliment those who have been in the top six of League One all season and hopefully we can win our remaining games and we will see where that takes us."

The Swindon media pack who have been spoilt with the extravagant comments of Di Canio over the last year will have to make do with the more laid back approach served up by the quietly spoken MacDonald, but his brand of cool, calm touchline composure may be just what this club needs after its recent turbulence.

Factfile Kevin MacDonald

Age 52

PoB Inverness, Scotland

Clubs played for

Leicester City

Liverpool

Rangers - loan

Coventry City

Cardiff City - loan

Walsall

Clubs managed

Leicester City - caretaker

Aston Villa - assistant

Republic of Ireland - assistant

Aston Villa - caretaker



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TODAY'S SQUADLISTS

Match Officials:

Referee: E. Ilderton
Assistant 1: S. Barrow
Assistant 2: I. Dudley
Fourth Official: N. Greenhalgh



Sheffield United

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mark Howard |
| 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Darryl Westlake |
| 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Leccinel Jean-Francois |
| 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Danny Higginbotham |
| 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Harry Maguire |
| 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Matt Hill |
| 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ryan Flynn |
| 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Michael Doyle |
| 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Chris Porter |
| 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Kevin McDonald |
| 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Shaun Miller |
| 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Dave Kitson |
| 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Neill Collins |
| 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jonathan Forte |
| 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Richard Cresswell |
| 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Matty Harriott |
| 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Barry Robson |
| 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Erik Tonne |
| 21 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jordan Chapell |
| 23 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jamie Murphy |
| 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Joe Ironside |
| 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> | George Long |
| 26 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Callum McFadzean |
| 27 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Elliott Whitehouse |
| 29 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tony McMahon |
| 30 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Marcus Williams |
| 32 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Terry Kennedy |
| 33 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Aaron Barry |
| 34 | <input type="checkbox"/> | George Willis |
| 35 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Danny Coyne |
| 36 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Diego De Girolamo |



Swindon Town

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Wes Foderingham |
| 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Troy Archibald-Henville |
| 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jay McEveley |
| 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Aden Flint |
| 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Joe Devera |
| 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Alan Navarro |
| 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Luke Rooney |
| 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Simon Ferry |
| 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | James Collins |
| 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Gary Roberts |
| 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Alan McCormack |
| 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nathan Thompson |
| 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Andy Williams |
| 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tommy Miller |
| 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Louis Thompson |
| 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Miles Storey |
| 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Darren Ward |
| 23 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Raffaele De Vita |
| 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nathan Byrne |
| 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Massimo Luongo |
| 26 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Dean Parrett |
| 28 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Adam Rooney |
| 30 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Leigh Bedwell |
| 31 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Aaron Oakley |
| 33 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Alex Ferguson |
| 34 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Connor Waldon |
| 37 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mark Francis |

LATEST FROM THE LANE:



[Left] Scan here from 45 minutes before kick-off to view today's confirmed teams



[Right] Scan here 15 minutes after the final whistle to see an in-depth match report

NEXT UP AT THE LANE:



Brentford

npower League 1
Tuesday 16 April 2013
Kick off - 7.45pm

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