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Football League Division III Season 1976/77

Saturday, 2nd October 1976 Kick-off 3p.m.

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10p



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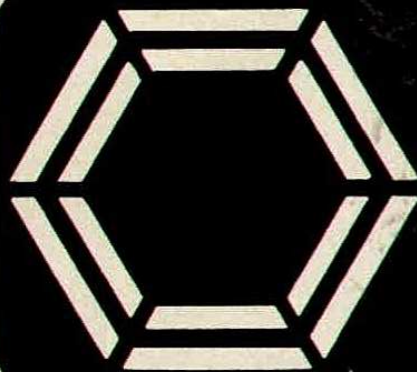
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Reading Football Club Limited

Volume 31 No. 5

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COLIN GUNNEY

2nd October 1976

Manager's Viewpoint



AFTER our below-par performance against Port Vale in our last home game it was very nice to come back against Portsmouth and win by two goals to nil.

Winning games is what our job is all about. How you win them is maybe not that important either, because when you count up your points at the end of the season you only count the points and not the displays.

Now and again you do get that great feeling of seeing a lot of hard work with our players—so worthwhile when they turn on a professional display like they did on Saturday. The 17 professionals should be proud of themselves because, considering all our injuries this season, everyone has come into the team and done a great job.

Last Saturday we lost Ray Hiron after two minutes with a recurrence of his hamstring injury, which has already kept him out for five weeks. On goes Micky Hollis to do very well and put us one goal ahead. A few minutes after half-time Gary Peters gets a nasty knock on the ankle, so we again have to switch a few players around to get the balance right.

This is where we could have lost the game if there had been any diversion from our natural game. But we kept playing football and Gary, who could hardly walk, scored our second after a good run and a shot by Minty had come back off the keeper. From then on we played as much possession football as we could and ran out easy winners in both the game and in character.

That last word is what the game is all about.

Match Ball Donors

The Directors of the Reading Football Club would like to express their appreciation to all the under-mentioned people and firms who have kindly offered to donate a ball for the matches. This continued help is greatly appreciated.

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SWINDON TOWN

Formed in 1881 and turned professional in 1894. Football League, best season in Division Two: 5th 1969-70. Division Three, runners-up: 1962-63, 1968-69. F.A. Cup, best season: semi-finalists 1910, 1912. Football League Cup, best season: winners 1968-69. Anglo-Italian Cup: winners 1970. Record attendance at the County Ground: 32,000 v. Arsenal, F.A. Cup, 3rd round, 15th January 1972. Manager: Danny Williams.

SWINDON are going to win promotion this season. That's what manager Danny Williams firmly believes. And to prove his point he laid out a pre-season bet at odds of 50-1 that Swindon would win the Third Division Championship.

Following their tremendous start to the season, those odds have now been slashed and Williams is even more convinced that promotion is on its way.

Already this season the manager has seen nearly all of the sides in the Division and as of yet has not found a serious rival for his side.

The picture now is certainly much, much rosier than at the end of last season when a soli-

tary point kept Town from falling into the Fourth Division.

Since then Swindon have made a dramatic revival and it all stems from a big shake-up during the pre-season.

Then Frank Burrows was appointed coach. And it is mainly through his efforts and some shrewd signings by Williams that Swindon are now up amongst the front runners.

Burrows, who has also been retained as a player and has made several appearances this season, has really got a tremendous team spirit and work rate going at the club.

Burrows' appointment as coach gave Williams the chance to find players and he has found three very valuable assets.

First he acquired Tony Taylor, the former Crystal Palace player, on a free transfer from Southend. He followed this by signing 19-year-old Howard Goddard from Bournemouth, also on a free. Lastly he spent £8,000 for Halifax mid-field man, Ray McHale.

Williams is confident that the side can sustain this good start. He now has a 17-man first team squad (including Burrows) and the strength of it can be seen from the players who are currently relegated to the Reserves.

Club captain, John Trollope, with over 700 appearances for Town, missed the beginning of the season with achilles tendon trouble. Although now fit, he has not regained a first team place.

FLASHBACK TO THE PAST

Wednesday, 9th October 1968 . . . READING 0, SWINDON 1

READING slumped to a dismal defeat and missed the chance to move into joint second spot in the Third Division.

Once again Reading failed in front of a big crowd and the jitters which always seem to appear when Swindon are the opponents were once again visible.

The match started brilliantly and ended on an exciting note but in between the game was rubbish.

Both sides showed lack of ball control on a greasy pitch.

The only goal of the game was a messy one. Rodney Thornhill bungled a simple looking back pass to Brown. Smart intervened but the ball bobbed out of a ruck of players and dribbled over

the goal line off an upright.

Near the end Colin Meldrum almost snatched a point for Reading when he saw a header strike the crossbar and another goalbound shot blocked by team-mate Dick Spiers on the Swindon goal-line.

READING: Brown, Bacuzzi, Spiers, Thornhill, Meldrum, Yard, Chapman, Collins, Sainty, Silvester, Harris. Substitute: Dean (for Sainty 45 minutes).

SWINDON: Downsborough, Dawson, Thomas, Butler, Burrows, Harland, Heath, Smart, Smith, Noble, Rogers. Substitute: Jones (for Heath 78 minutes).

ATTENDANCE: 17,451.

Gerry O'Brien, a buy from Southampton last March is also out of the reckoning at the moment while the form of Jimmy Allen in goal is keeping out former Oxford and Nottingham Forest keeper, Jim Barron.

One of the stars of the side at the moment, is 24-year-old David Moss. The left winger recently settled his dispute with the club and signed a new two-year contract. New team captain, Colin Prophet is a big influence in the back four alongside Steve Aizlewood, a signing last March from Newport, who has netted twice this season.

When McHale signed from Halifax it was expected that former Reading player, Will Dixon would be the man to go but his form has kept him in the side.

During the past two seasons it has been Swindon's away record that has really let them down. In those two years they have only achieved eight away wins. This year up to last Saturday, they already have three points from three away games, having conceded only two goals.

—oOo—

SWINDON TOWN F.C. 1976-77. Back row (left to right): John Trollope, Mark Thompson, Don Rogers, Kenny Stroud. Middle row: Jimmy Allen, Howard Goddard, Colin Prophet, Steven Aizlewood, John Gilligan, Frank Burrows, Jim Barron. Front row: Geoff Chalklin, Will Dixon, Dave Moss, Dave Syrett, John McLaughlin, Gerry O'Brien, Trevor Anderson.

PEN PICTURES

STEVE AIZLEWOOD (Centre-Half)—First appeared for Newport at the age of 16 in season 1968/69 and went on to make nearly 200 League appearances before his transfer to Swindon on 9th March 1976. He also won four Welsh caps at Under-23 level.

JIMMY ALLEN (Goalkeeper)—Joined Brora Rangers from school and was signed from them as an apprentice in October 1970. Signed professional in July 1971 making his debut against Q.P.R. on 4th September 1971.

TREVOR ANDERSON (Forward)—Began his career with Portadown, but transferred to Manchester United in October 1972, making 13 League appearances before moving on to Swindon. Following his debut for Swindon against Chesterfield on 5th November 1974, he made 70 League appearances to the end of last season, during which he was an ever present player, and he was voted player of the year.

WILL DIXON (Mid-field)—Originally with Arsenal he made his League debut with Reading for whom he played 150 League games. Transferred to Swindon in September 1973. Made 96 League appearances to the end of last season, mostly at full-back. Switched to mid-field last season with success.

HOWARD GODDARD (Forward)—Joined A.F.C. Bournemouth from school, making his first League appearance whilst still an apprentice and making 62 League appearances in all, some mid-field and some as a forward. Released at end of last season, he was signed by Swindon on his 19th birthday in May.

JOHN McLAUGHLIN (Full-Back)—Started his career with Colchester for whom he made 66 League appearances during which time he was capped for England at Youth level. Joined Swindon on 23rd December 1973.

DAVID MOSS (Forward)—Signed from his local non-League club as an apprentice and on full forms in 1969, he made his debut in 1972 and had made 129 League appearances to the end of last season.

GERRY O'BRIEN (Mid-field)—First played for Clydebank, but moved to Southampton in 1970. He made a total of 67 League appearances for the Saints and also played three games on loan to Bristol Rovers at the end of the 1973/74 season. Transferred to Swindon in March 1976.

COLIN PROPHETT (Defender)—Played for Crewe Alexandra as an amateur, but his League debut came for Sheffield Wednesday in 1968. After 113 League games for the Owls he moved to Norwich City in 1973, making 34 appearances in the First Division before his transfer to Swindon on 30th September 1974.

DON ROGERS (Forward)—A former apprentice he made 401 League appearances for the Town and scored twice in the 1969 League Cup Final victory over Arsenal at Wembley before transferring to Crystal Palace for £150,000, in November 1972. After 69 League games for Palace he moved to Q.P.R. in October 1974 but made only 13 full appearances prior to his transfer back to Swindon in March 1976.

KEN STROUD (Defender)—Joined the club as an apprentice in 1967, signed professional in 1970 and had made 78 League appearances to the end of last season, during which he became established in the first team.

DAVID SYRETT (Forward)—Another former apprentice he joined the club in July 1972 signing professional in November 1973, by which time he had already appeared several times in the League side.

JOHN TROLLOPE (Full-back)—The club's longest serving professional, he served his apprenticeship with the club and signed professional in August 1960. Has since broken the club's appearance record making 662 League appearances to the end of last season, and 750 appearances including cup games.



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FOCUS ON 3

Division Three Table

Up to and including Wednesday, 29th September 1976

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brighton	7	3	0	0	13	5	2	1	1	5	4	11
Shrewsbury	7	3	0	0	9	2	1	2	1	6	6	10
Swindon	8	3	1	0	11	6	1	1	2	2	3	10
READING	8	2	1	0	5	2	2	1	2	7	7	10
Wrexham	7	3	1	0	6	2	1	0	2	8	5	9
Lincoln	7	1	2	0	3	1	2	1	1	8	4	9
Rotherham	7	2	2	0	8	2	1	1	1	3	3	9
Bury	7	4	0	0	10	2	0	1	2	3	7	9
Mansfield	7	2	1	0	7	2	2	0	2	4	5	9
Crystal Palace	7	3	0	1	6	3	1	1	1	1	1	9
Gillingham	7	1	2	0	5	4	2	1	1	8	8	9
Peterborough	8	3	1	1	6	3	0	1	2	3	8	8
Sheffield Wed.	7	2	2	0	7	3	0	1	2	4	9	7
Preston	7	1	2	0	5	1	0	2	2	3	6	6
Oxford	7	1	1	1	7	7	1	1	2	7	7	6
Chester	7	0	1	2	1	4	2	1	1	4	4	6
Tranmere	7	2	0	2	4	4	0	1	2	2	4	5
Grimsby	7	2	1	1	5	3	0	0	3	2	10	5
York	7	2	1	1	5	4	0	0	3	2	11	5
Walsall	7	0	1	2	5	8	1	1	2	2	3	4
Portsmouth	7	1	1	2	3	5	0	1	2	2	5	4
Northampton	7	1	0	2	2	3	0	2	2	2	6	4
Port Vale	8	1	1	2	5	5	0	1	3	1	8	4
Chesterfield	7	0	1	3	1	11	1	1	1	3	5	4

The Plight of Portsmouth

READING'S 2-0 defeat of Portsmouth last Saturday emphasised that the Fratton Park club have a problem on the field as well as the financial one that threatens to bankrupt them.

With only four points from seven games, Pompey are struggling fourth from bottom.

As soon as their financial crisis was revealed a "Save Pompey" campaign was launched. Appeals for donations were made and various schemes were dreamt up to raise much needed cash.

The Commercial Manager at Fratton has been "selling" square foot plots of the Fratton Park pitch. In actual fact anyone may, for a minimum of 50p, "sponsor" a piece of the famous turf. And there are about 76,000 plots. Each sponsor is given a certificate.

There are also Pompey stickers inscribed "I'm a Pompey Saver". And last Saturday, before the Reading game, the latest gimmick hit the streets.

A supply of blue and white striped rock, a gift of a local confectioner, were being sold at 10p a time. The rock had the legend "Keep Pompey off the Rocks" running through it.

The plight of Portsmouth can be summed up by the following bit of information. Just four days before last Saturday's game against Reading, secretary, Jimmy

Dickinson had to ask the "Save Pompey" appeals committee for £1,500 to make sure the players' wage cheque did not bounce.

Who would want to be in manager, Ian St. John's shoes? He has the job of trying to save a sinking ship. He has to encourage spectators to come and watch Pompey to get that vital extra cash rolling in. Yet, if the team does not play well, the fans will not come. Against Reading, Portsmouth had their season's best attendance of 11,937 but I wonder how many of those will return to see the next match. To be quite frank, Pompey were terrible.

St. John, in a desperate gamble tried to secure a big name player to draw in the crowds, like Fulham have done by signing George Best and Rodney Marsh. However, he was restricted to trying to per-

suaude a big name currently out of the first team to join the club.

The manager, tried three clubs. On each occasion the club gave their permission but the players shook their heads. It seems that no one wants to know a sinking club.

It would be a shame to see Portsmouth go out of existence. They have a superb pitch and their facilities are second to none. But the possibility of extinction is a very real one.

True supporters are working very hard to raise the cash but even if they do manage to raise enough money to get them out of their present difficulties, there seems no doubt that the club could fold if the playing side is not improved. And that cannot be improved without cash. It's a vicious circle.

"Cobblers" in trouble

NORTHAMPTON, one of the sides promoted alongside Reading last season, are finding life in the higher division very tough. After the surprise decision of Bill Dodgin to quit the club, former Manchester United star, Pat Crerand was appointed manager.

Within two days of arriving at the County Ground he ordered players in for a special Sunday morning training stint. However, the extra training seems to have done little good for the "Cobblers" are now third from bottom after losing their second home game of the season, 0-1 to Walsall last Saturday.

MATCH DETAILS

READING

READING F.C.		Result	Attendance	Turner	Death	Peters	Moreline	Cumming	Bennett	Hetzke	Youlden	Murray	Hiron	Friday	Carnaby	Stuckey	Nelson	Henderson	Duppy	Hollis	Painter	Williams	Goalscorers	
League Division Three	Matches at Elm Park																							
Aug.	14	Peterboro' (LC1) H	2-3	5,263	1	—	2	—	4	5	—	7	8	9	6	11	12	3	10	—	—	—	—	Murray, Friday
"	18	Peterboro' (LC1) A	1-0	6,286	1	—	2	3	4	5	—	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	—	—	—	—	—	Friday
"	21	Gillingham A	2-2	5,314	—	1	2	3	4	5	—	6	7	8	—	10	11	9	12	—	—	—	—	Murray, Cumming
"	25	P'boro (LC1 Rep.) A	1-3	5,449	—	1	2	10	4	6	5	—	7	8	9	—	11	12	3	—	—	—	—	Murray
"	28	Shrewsbury T. A	0-2	4,111	—	1	2	—	4	6	5	—	7	—	9	—	11	10	3	12	8	—	—	—
Sept.	4	Walsall H	2-1	6,036	—	1	2	—	4	5	—	6	7	—	9	—	11	8	3	10	12	—	—	Murray (2 pens)
"	8	Wrexham H	2-0	6,201	—	1	2	—	4	5	—	6	7	—	9	—	11	8	3	10	12	—	—	Friday, Nelson
"	11	Northampton A	2-1	6,176	—	1	2	—	4	5	—	6	7	—	9	—	11	8	3	10	12	—	—	Stuckey, Murray
"	14	Peterboro' Utd. A	1-2	5,406	—	1	2	—	4	5	12	6	7	—	—	—	11	9	3	10	8	—	—	Hollis
"	18	Port Vale H	1-1	6,896	—	1	2	—	4	5	12	6	7	—	—	—	11	9	3	10	8	—	—	Hetzke
"	22	League Cup 3																						
"	25	Portsmouth A	2-0	11,937	—	1	2	—	4	5	—	6	7	8	9	11	—	3	10	12	—	—	—	Hollis, Peters
Oct.	2	Swindon Town. H																						
"	9	Chesterfield A																						
"	16	Sheffield Wed. H																						
"	23	Lincoln City A																						
"	25	Mansfield (LC4) A																						
"	30	Chester H																						
Nov.	3	Brighton & H. A. H																						
"	6	Crystal Palace A																						
"	13	Preston N. E. H																						
"	20	F.A. Cup 1																						
"	26	Tranmere Rovers A																						
Dec.	1	League Cup 5																						
"	4	York City H																						
"	11	F.A. Cup 2																						
"	18	Grimsby Town A																						
"	27	Peterboro' Utd. H																						
"	29	Oxford Utd. A																						
Jan.	1	Crystal Palace H																						
"	3	Chester A																						
"	8	Rotherham (3) H																						
"	15	Wrexham A																						
"	19	League Cup S/F																						
"	22	Gillingham H																						
"	29	Bury (4) A																						
Feb.	5	Shrewsbury T. H																						
"	12	Walsall A																						
"	16	League Cup S/F																						
"	19	Northampton T. H																						
"	26	Port Vale (5) A																						
Mar.	5	Portsmouth H																						
"	11	Swindon Town A																						
"	19	Chesterfield (6) H																						
"	26	Sheffield Wed. A																						
April	2	Lincoln City H																						
"	9	Oxford Utd. H																						
"	12	Brighton & H. A. A																						
"	16	Mansfield Town H																						
"	20	Bury H																						
"	23	Preston (S/F) A																						
"	30	Tranmere Rovers H																						
May	3	Rotherham Utd. A																						
"	7	York City A																						
"	14	Grimsby Town H																						
"	21	F.A. Cup Final																						

WELCOME BACK BOBBY WILLIAMS

THE appointment of Bobby Williams as Reserve team manager sees the return to Elm Park of one of the most popular Reading players of recent years.

Bobby began his career with his home team, Bristol City, making his debut for them in 1958-59. Having scored 75 goals in 188 games he moved to Rotherham in 1965 where he struck up a fine partnership with Les Chappell. Two seasons later Bobby was back in Bristol, this time with Rovers, but having made only 27 appearances in two seasons he was given a free transfer.

On 5th August 1969 Reading signed Bobby for a trial period and three weeks later he made his League debut, and scored, at Barnsley. He quickly established himself as a regular first team player ending up as second highest goalscorer with 16 goals. Many of these goals proved to be match winners scored by

coming from deep positions to lose his marker, an ability that earned him the nickname "Shadow".

The next season was a disastrous one for Reading which saw them relegated. Bobby was given a free transfer at the end of the season which had seen one of the highlights of his career—captaining Reading against Manchester United in the Watney Cup.

On leaving Reading Bobby played for A.S.O. Ostend before moving to Southern League Weymouth. He was returning from a midweek game at Weymouth when he was involved in a serious car crash that was to eventually finish his playing career. It took Bobby almost two years to recover from his injuries but he turned his attentions to local soccer. Last season he coached Y.M.C.A. as well as Sunday Youth League champions and Cup winners, Caversham Boys.

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READING IN ACTION



● Once again the camera deceives. John Murray looks to be balancing the ball on his forehead but in actual fact it is nowhere near him. The clue lies with the outstretched arms of Port Vale skipper, Bailey as he watches the ball go wide for a goal kick, after bouncing under Murray's boot.

● Photo: Denis Englefield "Reading Chronicle"

Did you know that . . .

● **READINGS** first competitive game against Swindon was on 16th December 1893 when we won 2-0 in a preliminary round of the F.A. Cup. (In that game was a Reading player named Corbett who was later capped for England v. Wales in 1901). In the first round proper of the competition we travelled to Preston and suffered our record defeat—18-0.

☆ ☆ ☆

● **ROY BENTLEY**, the ex-Reading manager will be on B.B.C. television later tonight when he will be selecting Match of the Day's September goal of the month competition. Roy still lives in Reading.

☆ ☆ ☆

● **JOHN MURRAY** and Bruce Stuckey claim to have a new nickname—Starsky and Hutch. Apparently that is the name that is being banded about in the Reading dressing room and at Speedway on Monday nights where the duo are frequent visitors. However, we doubt if anyone can be misled into believing that the duo are the same as the two-some currently striking it big in the television series of the same name.

● **FORMER** Reading player, John Harley who parted company with Isthmian League side, Wokingham Town at the end of last season, is back in League Football with Fourth Division Hartlepool. Harley is nearing the end of a month's trial with the "Pool" during which time he has made four first team appearances and scored once. He has been playing quite well in the attack and it is expected that he will be signed on. Harley was recommended to the club by another former Reading man, Terry Bell.

☆ ☆ ☆

● **TODAY'S** opponents, Swindon had a player who represented England long before they became a League club. Harold Fleming was capped 11 times before World War I when Town were still a non-league club.

☆ ☆ ☆

● **TRICK** question. Who was the only Reading "goal-keeper" to keep a clean sheet against Arsenal and England goal ace, Malcolm MacDonald in a League game? Answer, Dennis Butler. Butler played in goal for five minutes against Luton because Steve Death was delayed in traffic. MacDonald scored the only goal of the game near the end—against Death. In his only other match against Reading, the striker hit a hat-trick.

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SPOTLIGHT

on the RESERVES

ANOTHER draw in the away match at Cardiff by two goals to two—and again after leading by two goals to nil with ten minutes to go. Our scorers in this match were our two apprentices Andy Painter and Gerry Williams.

In this match we had three players coming back after injury: Ray Hiron, Robin Friday after flu and Dave Moreline after being injured in the League Cup match at Peterborough, all of them came through with flying colours.

Unfortunately as you will now know Ray Hiron played in the first team at Portsmouth and injured the same muscle again.

Our "A" team have been having a very successful spell having only been beaten once in our opening game at Tring. Since then we have taken 11 points out of 12. It's nice to see the confidence growing amongst the youngsters. Keep it up boys!

● Maurice Evans

—oOo—

MATCH DETAILS

Date	Team	Venue	Result	Scorers
Aug. 21	● Queens Park Rangers	H	0-4	—
Sept. 1	● Chelsea	H	0-1	—
" 4	Birmingham City	A	Postponed	—
" 8	● Plymouth Argyle	H	Postponed	—
" 15	Norwich City	A	2-2	Hollis (2)
" 22	Cardiff City	A	2-2	Painter, Williams
Oct. 2	Swindon Town	A	.....	.....
" 6	● Bristol Rovers	H	.....	.....
" 13	● Tottenham Hotspur	H	.....	.....
" 16	Orient	A	.....	.....
" 20	● Hereford Utd.	H	.....	.....
" 30	Fulham	A	.....	.....
Nov. 3	Leicester City	A	.....	.....
" 10	● Ipswich Town	H	.....	.....
" 13	Arsenal	A	.....	.....
" 20	● Luton Town	H	.....	.....
" 27	Southampton	A	.....	.....
Dec. 1	● West Ham Utd.	H	.....	.....
" 11	Bristol City	A	.....	.....
" 15	● Fulham	H	.....	.....
" 29	● Crystal Palace	H	.....	.....
Jan. 1	Oxford Utd.	A	.....	.....
" 12	● Norwich City	H	.....	.....
" 25	Queens Park Rangers	A	.....	.....
Feb. 5	Chelsea	A	.....	.....
" 9	● Birmingham City	H	.....	.....
" 15	Plymouth Argyle	A	.....	.....
" 23	● Cardiff City	H	.....	.....
March 5	Tottenham Hotspur	A	.....	.....
" 9	● Swindon Town	H	.....	.....
" 16	● Southampton	H	.....	.....
" 19	Bristol Rovers	A	.....	.....
" 23	● Orient	H	.....	.....
April 2	Hereford Utd.	A	.....	.....
" 6	● Bristol City	H	.....	.....
" 11	● Oxford Utd.	H	.....	.....
" 13	Crystal Palace	A	.....	.....
" 16	Ipswich Town	A	.....	.....
" 27	● Arsenal	H	.....	.....
" 30	Luton Town	A	.....	.....
May 4	● Leicester City	H	.....	.....
" 11	West Ham Utd.	A	.....	.....

● Matches to be played at Elm Park

Combination League Table

Table of Results to Tuesday, 28th September 1976 (not inclusive)

MIDDLESEX BORDER LEAGUE							Table of Results to Tuesday, 28th September 1976 (not inclusive)							
	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts.		P	W	D	L	For	Agst.	Pts.
Tring	8	5	3	0	19	4 13	Chelsea	7	6	1	0	13	1	13
Burnham	7	5	2	0	11	3 12	Ipswich Town	7	5	1	1	13	4	11
Uxbridge	9	5	1	3	13	13 11	Q.P.R.	6	4	1	1	14	3	9
Hillingdon B.	7	4	2	1	19	7 10	Bristol City	6	4	1	1	13	6	9
Hemel H.	8	4	2	2	16	7 10	Arsenal	6	4	1	1	9	4	9
READING	6	4	1	1	19	11 9	Tottenham Hotspur	5	4	0	1	8	4	8
Kingsbury	7	3	2	2	14	12 8	Crystal Palace	7	3	1	3	10	8	7
Edgware	9	3	2	4	13	15 8	Oxford United	6	2	3	1	6	5	7
Windsor & E.	8	4	0	4	9	12 8	Birmingham City	7	1	5	1	4	5	7
Chalfont St. P.	8	2	2	4	10	11 6	Fulham	6	3	1	2	7	11	7
Marlow	7	2	2	3	13	16 6	Orient	7	2	2	3	9	8	6
Harefield	8	2	2	4	8	15 6	Norwich City	7	2	2	3	9	9	6
Hungerford	6	2	1	3	9	10 5	Cardiff City	7	2	2	3	7	14	6
Chesham	7	1	3	3	12	16 5	Swindon Town	7	1	3	3	5	6	5
Willesden	8	0	3	5	8	19 3	Plymouth Argyle	6	2	1	3	6	9	5
Ruislip Man.	7	0	0	7	3	25 0	Southampton	6	2	1	3	9	12	5
							Hereford United	7	2	1	4	6	11	5
							Bristol Rovers	5	2	0	3	7	10	4
							Leicester City	7	1	1	5	10	15	3
							West Ham Utd.	6	1	1	4	9	17	3
							READING	4	0	2	2	4	9	2
							Luton Town	6	0	1	5	5	12	1

FAN FARE

Your Supporters' Club Page

THE BIG MATCH. We may have played Aldershot more recently, while Oxford might be nearer but there is no doubt that most Reading fans regard the visit of Swindon as THE DERBY match. We therefore offer a warm welcome to the many fans who have made the short journey from Swindon to form part of Elm Park's biggest gate of the season to date.

ONLY A GAME. That is the title of Eamonn Dunphy's highly acclaimed book which has recently been published and is now on sale. Most of us are already familiar with Eamonn's entertaining style of writing from his weekly articles in the Evening Post and his first book is equal to this very high standard. Priced £2.50, we have a limited supply of autographed copies on sale from our main office.

THEY'LL SUPPORT YOU EVER MORE. On sale from all souvenir shops from today are decorative belts, the very latest fashion craze. These unisex belts feature the club's badge and new nickname, the "Royals", and sell at £1.25. Also new in are a new style of hat which, as well as looking good, will keep the rain off your head during the traditional English winter. We also have the latest set of players' photos on sale plus the new team picture.

LAGER LATE. Due to a dispute by Courage's delivery drivers in the week preceding the Port Vale match we ran short of lager in the Social Club after the game. We would like to apologise for any unquenched

thirsts but, now that the dispute has been resolved, we hope to have a full stock for today's match.

AWAY COLOURS. Anyone who has been to one of Reading's away games will know that wherever possible the team now play in their yellow strip. As a result of this we have now produced rosettes in the club's away colours and these are on sale priced 20p. In addition, we have been selling yellow silk scarves for some time and these sell at the same price as the blue scarves, 70p.

DARTS NEWS. Our newly formed darts team made its debut recently when a coach-load of supporters stopped off at the Bull, Towcester, after the Northampton game. In a close fought match our team went down by six games to five. They now hope to arrange a series of friendly matches and, as well as hearing from any prospective players, we would be pleased to hear from any team who would like to give us a game. The man to contact is Colin Bishop—he can be found in the Tilehurst End programme shop or in the Social Club, after today's game.

STOP PRESS. Today's pre-match entertainment is provided by the East Woodhay Silver Band and a collection for their benefit will be made at half-time.

● Tickets for our Social on 5th November are now on sale, price 50p.

HOW TO GET THERE

Recreation Ground, Chesterfield

BY COACH—Supporters' Club coaches will leave from the Elm Park car park. Seat reservations can be made at souvenir shops or Social Club today or at Norfolk Road office during the week.

BY CAR—Head towards Oxford via A329 and A423 taking the Ring Road to Kidlington. Take A43 to Towcester, then A5 to Weedon. Here turn right to join Northbound M1 at Junction 16. Leave M1 at Junction 29 for A617 to Chesterfield. Enter town by Lord Mill Street turning left into Markham Street at roundabout. At next roundabout take fourth exit, Foljambe Road. The ground is straight ahead at the end of the road. Distance 153 miles.

BY TRAIN—Depart 10.45 Reading General; 12.14 Birmingham; 12.50 Change at Derby; 2.29 arrive at Chesterfield. Return 5.53 Chesterfield; 7.05 Change at Derby; 8.40 Birmingham; 10.48 arrive at Reading.

The ground is a mile from station down Corporation St., Holywell St., and Saltergate. Day Return Fare: £6.86.

Third Division Quiz

1. Apart from Reading and Swindon for which other League clubs has Will Dixon played?
2. Who scored Swindon's goals in their League Cup Final victory over Arsenal?
3. Can you name the other two Division Three clubs to reach the League Cup Final?
4. Who scored Division Three's first hat-trick of this season?
5. Mariner (Plymouth) and Franks (Sheffield United) both scored for their own side and the opposition last Saturday—who was the last Reading player to do this?
6. Sixteen years ago last Sunday the first League Cup game was played—which former Reading player scored the competition's first goal?

1. Arsenal and Colchester.
2. Roger Smart and Don Rogers (2).
3. G.P.R. and Aston Villa.
4. Terry Eccles (for Mansfield v. Grimsby).
5. Barrie Wagstaff (against and for Blyth in the F.A. Cup).
6. Maurice Cook (for Fulham against Bristol Rovers).

ANSWERS

Reading Chronicle

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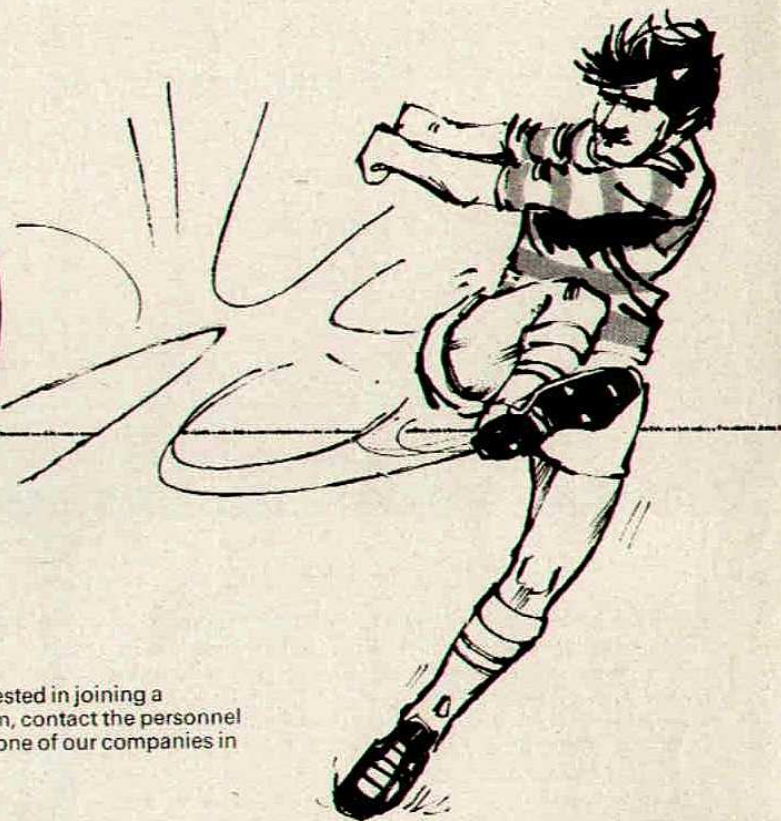
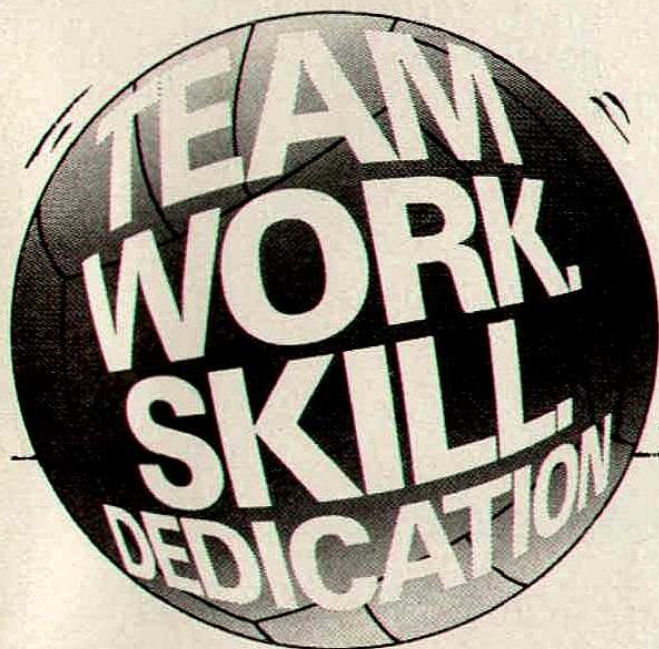
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LINE-UP

READING

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STEVE DEATH	1
GARY PETERS	2
STEWART HENDERSON	3
GORDON CUMMING	4
PAUL BENNETT	5
TOMMY YOULDEN	6
JOHN MURRAY	7
MICK HOLLIS	8
ROBIN FRIDAY	9
EAMONN DUNPHY	10
BRYAN CARNABY	11
	12

Scorers

SWINDON TOWN

Colours: Red and White

JIMMY ALLEN
JOHN McLAUGHLIN
TONY TAYLOR
KENNY STROUD
STEVE AIZLEWOOD
COLIN PROPHETT
DAVID MOSS
WILL DIXON
DAVID SYRETT
RAY McHALE
TREVOR ANDERSON

Scorers

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Match Officials

REFEREE: Mr. EDWARD O. HUGHES (Weston-super-Mare). Started refereeing in 1960 whilst in the R.A.F. in Nottingham. Spent two years in North Africa refereeing in the Libyan League. A married man, with one son, he is a School Teacher with interests in all sports—particularly squash, golf, cricket and basket-ball—sketching, caricature drawing and calligraphy. For 14 years was a Physical Education Instructor in the R.A.F.

LINESMEN:

Red Flag: Mr. B. A. CHAMPION (Bristol)
Yellow Flag: Mr. D. G. MITCHAM (H. Wycombe)

Forthcoming Matches

READING (Elm Park)
WEDNESDAY, 6th OCTOBER
FOOTBALL COMBINATION
BRISTOL ROVERS
at 7.30 p.m.

ALDERSHOT (Recreation Ground)
SATURDAY, 9th OCTOBER
FOOTBALL LEAGUE
STOCKPORT COUNTY
at 3 p.m.

HALF-TIME SCORES

A ARSENAL v. QUEENS PARK RANGERS.....	L CHESTER v. PETERBOROUGH UNITED.....
B LEEDS UNITED v. MANCHESTER UNITED.....	M GILLINGHAM v. CHESTERFIELD.....
C MANCHESTER CITY v. WEST HAM UNITED.....	N LINCOLN CITY v. SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY.....
D WEST BROMWICH ALBION v. TOTTENHAM H.	P MANSFIELD TOWN v. BURY.....
E CARLISLE UNITED v. CHARLTON ATHLETIC.....	Q OXFORD UNITED v. TRANMERE ROVERS.....
F CHELSEA v. CARDIFF CITY.....	R PRESTON NORTH END v. YORK CITY.....
G MILLWALL v. BRISTOL ROVERS.....	S ROTHERHAM UNITED v. GRIMSBY TOWN.....
H ORIENT v. BLACKBURN ROVERS.....	T SHREWSBURY TOWN v. PORTSMOUTH.....
J SOUTHAMPTON v. FULHAM.....	U WALSALL v. PORT VALE.....
K BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION v. CRYSTAL P.	V DARLINGTON v. ALDERSHOT.....