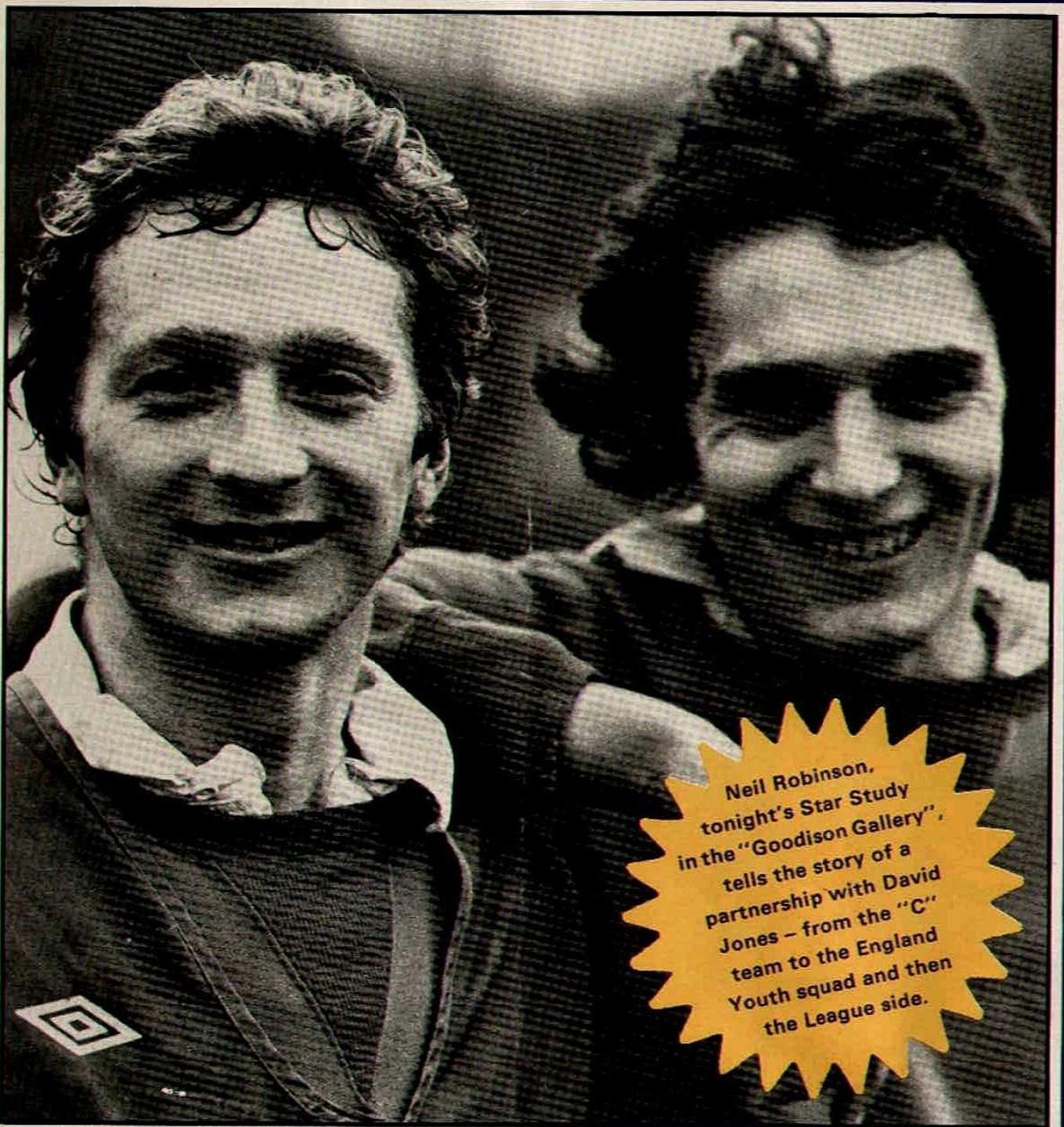


EVERTON

F.A. CUP 4th ROUND REPLAY

TUESDAY 1st FEBRUARY 1977

PROGRAMME 15P



Neil Robinson,
tonight's Star Study
in the "Goodison Gallery",
tells the story of a
partnership with David
Jones - from the "C"
team to the England
Youth squad and then
the League side.

EVERTON v SWINDON TOWN

MAC IN THE AIR

Duncan McKenzie proved he is quite a danger man in the air when scoring in the League Cup semi-final against Bolton Wanderers. And he did it again five days later against Queen's Park Rangers. Our picture shows Duncan climbing above the defence to head home a cross from Ronnie Goodlass.

See Page Four for "Mac" On The Air - the story of his Radio City chat show with John Toshack.



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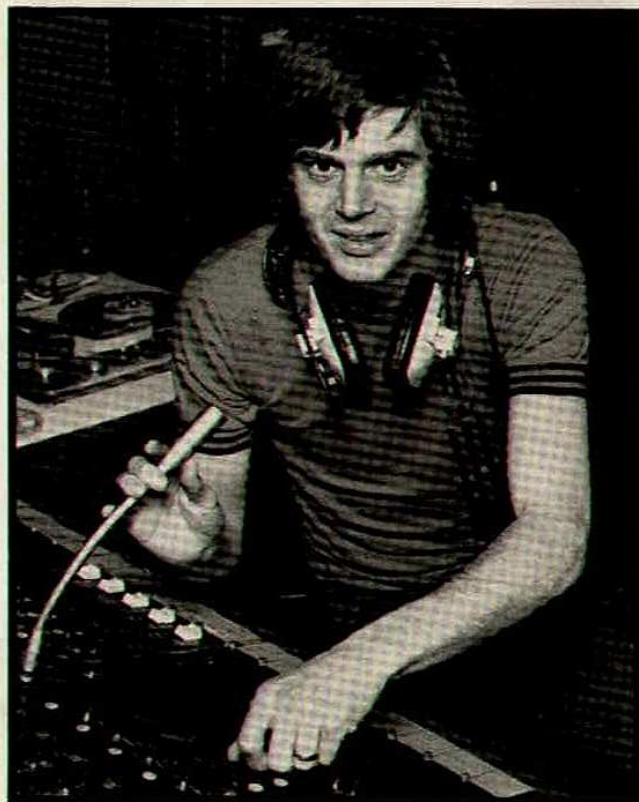
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130 Widnes Road, Widnes

MAC ON THE AIR



Duncan McKenzie now has his own programme on Radio City, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. each Sunday, with Liverpool star John Toshack. And the show is described as "an unbelievable success" by Radio City's Terry Smith.

The two players chat to each other about the week-end football, answer listeners' letters, play dedications to music of their own choice, and interview famous sports personalities (the list has already included Tommy Smith, Gareth Edwards, Steve Coppell and John Bond).

"The idea developed from a special link which we formed with Duncan when he was signing for Everton", explained Terry Smith. "Our reporter, Paul Davies, was the only journalist with Everton Secretary Jim Greenwood when he went to Brussels to complete the transfer. In fact, we brought Duncan to Goodison when Jim's car had mechanical trouble and we were able to chat on the air with Duncan during the journey from Manchester Airport.

"We were impressed with his easy style of chat and it was a 'natural' to link him with 'Tosh'. We had already been floating the idea of a programme with John and the two are now a perfect match in a show which has created immense interest on Merseyside."

The programme, cleverly billed as "Mac 'n Tosh", goes out on Radio City - 194 Metres Medium Wave or 96.7 Mhz VHF and Stereo. You are invited to send your requests for a record dedication to: Duncan McKenzie, Radio City, P.O. Box 194, Liverpool.

The problems of goalkeepers over-reaching on the "four-step rule" is of interest to our supporters in view of the incident involving David Lawson which led to Bolton Wanderers equalising in the League Cup-tie at Goodison Park.

On looking at the television recording, I would agree with Ray Clemence that it is almost impossible for a goalkeeper to catch a ball in the air and keep his balance on landing without automatically taking at least two steps.

It seems harsh if those two steps should count in lieu of the four. I would ask referees to apply common sense and consider that the 'keeper must be allowed some licence when trying to stop in these instances. Ideally, it would be nice if the official said: 'OK, you needed those couple of steps. I'm not punishing you for them.'

If one looks at TV, almost every match shows an instance where a goalkeeper has to take more than four steps because of the nature of his job. They are not cheating, not trying to gain an advantage, but merely gathering their balance after catching the ball, sometimes awkwardly, in the air.

I wouldn't expect any licence to be taken out of context, such as being allowed a dozen steps, but perhaps this is a rule that needs to be examined. Basically, it is good in its attempt to keep the game moving and we all agree that there was nothing worse than watching goalkeepers wasting time by bouncing the ball around the area in the old days.

But referees must use their discretion. In the case of David Lawson's problem against Bolton, there was no intent to hold up the game. He wanted to throw it as quickly as possible, but it was physically impossible for him to do so without taking five or six steps.

I remember Ray Clemence having a similar problem at Highbury not so long ago and, there again, it seemed a harsh decision to penalise him. I noticed that Ray sympathised with David after the Bolton game and, as England's goalkeeper, his opinion is well worth attention.

Our interest in Cup football switched to the FA Cup last Saturday. Matches against lower division sides like Swindon are very difficult these days and we've seen many examples of top sides struggling when they were expected to stroll home. Middlesbrough, for instance, defeated Wimbledon with only a single goal from a penalty in two matches.

These games are a lot harder than they were ten years ago. The smaller clubs have improved their tactical awareness and the fitness factor has also improved. You do not see so many older players nowadays. They retire more quickly because of the pace of the modern game, so the majority of these teams are now filled by very fit young men.

If they can also combine one or two experienced players of the competitive type, then that adds something to their game.

I also believe the smaller clubs get a greater sense of occasion. The First Division clubs have to take matches one at a time, so we have only a week to think about a Cup-tie whereas the others tend to build up for a month for that one performance. It dominates all their thinking.

Finally, tonight, I would like to address a message to our supporters. If we aim to play the type of football which you want and we want, then we must ask for patience on your part. We know there are things that have to be put right in our play, but we just can't snap our fingers and say it will all come right overnight.

All we can do is promise that 100 per cent. effort is attached to all our work in trying to play entertaining and successful football. The first thing I insist is that we play football from the back, right through the team. The long clearance is only expected if we are desperate to clear our lines, but, otherwise, we are concentrating on building up with constructive use of the ball at all times.

It will take time to perfect, but with your patience and backing, we can achieve the desired effect in the long run.



STEVE

BURTENSHAW

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GOODISON

Neil Robinson was born only a goal-kick away from Goodison Park. He spent his schooldays as a fanatical Everton supporter who idolised Alan Ball. And he always wanted to play for Everton.

Yet the trail which took Neil to a place in the League Cup semi-final before a packed crowd of 54,000 did not begin until he was 14 – and played his first competitive football. Three years later he was a full professional and he was still only 18 when he made his First Division debut in January last year.

"I went to a school where the only team game was Rugger," explains Neil. "The only football I played was in the back garden at home, apart from one game a year when the school put out a soccer team. It wasn't until I was 14 and went to another school that I had the chance to play football properly."

Neil was born in Walton – "just around the corner from Goodison Park in Spellow Lane" – but his family moved out to Widnes when he was four and, for the next ten years, he was brought up in the keen Rugby League stronghold on the banks of the Mersey.

"I hated every minute of the Rugger we played at school," says Neil. "I usually played on the wing or at full back and scored the odd try or two, but it wasn't the same as football. The best thing that happened to me was the family's decision to come back to Liverpool."

"It still gave me only one year in the soccer team at Holt School, but I tried

to make the most of it. At first, I played in midfield and then decided on full back after attending coaching sessions at Netherly School." Unfortunately, there wasn't time for Neil to attract the scouts by gaining any representative honours.

But that didn't quell his ambitions. He wrote for trials with Everton and Liverpool and this latest of late starters suddenly found himself in the midst of a Merseyside tussle for his signature.

"In the end," says Neil, "I could have signed for either club. But I had always been an Evertonian and it wasn't much trouble making my choice."

In his first trial match for The Blues, Neil played alongside his elder brother, John, and the 'C' team that day also included David Jones – the first stage in a link which continued until Neil and David were lining up as full back partners in two big Cup-ties this year.

"Dave fancied himself as a centre forward in those days," recalls Neil. "But I was already established on the full back idea and delighted when the club asked me to return for training sessions on Thursday nights at Bellefield."

"Then I got into the 'B' team and by the time I made the next step into the 'A' squad, I had been signed on as an amateur. I also turned up in the day-time to train with the apprentices. At 16, I was taken on as an apprentice myself and, at 17, it was on to the full professional staff."

Neil's progress within the club was just as rapid as his switch from schoolboy Rugger to the world of a professional soccer club. In his first season as a professional, Neil sampled the excitement of foreign travel while playing with the Everton Youth team in Italy. And, just two years ago, in January, 1975, he found himself on the same plane as David Jones – heading for Las Palmas with the England Youth squad for an international tournament involving the best teenagers from West Germany and Poland.

"It was a surprise to be picked for that trip," says Neil. "I had attended the early-season Youth international trials, but heard nothing whereas Dave was named as the England skipper. I received a late call to join the party and it was really exciting to be with so many good players."

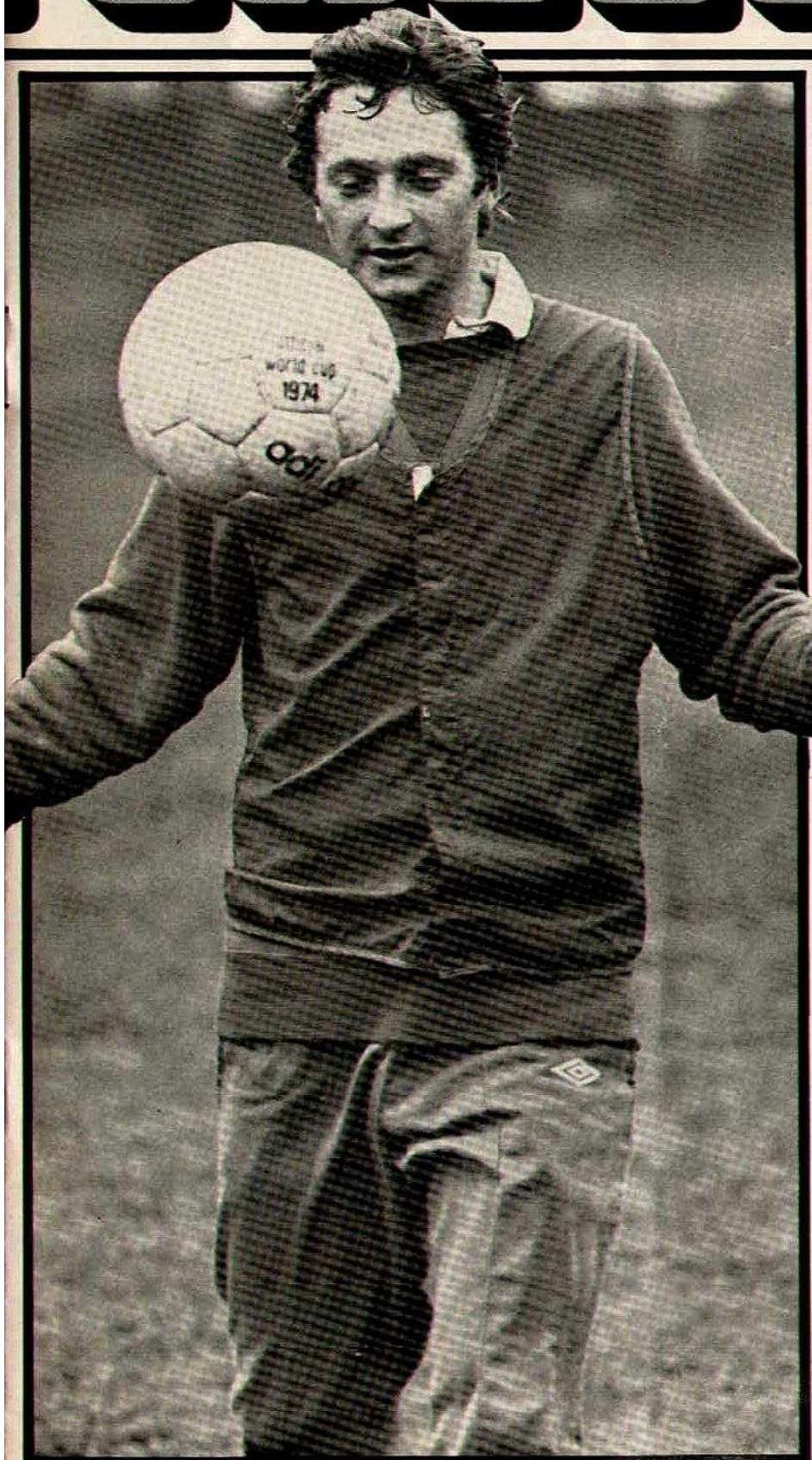
NEIL ROBINSON



Neil Robinson and David Jones – still together after progressing from the 'C' team to a League Cup semi-final.



GALLERY



"There were disappointments, however. From Dave's point of view, it was tragic that he got injured in the first game and didn't play again that season. For me, it was a long way to go without getting into the side for any of the three games.

"The same thing happened later in the season. I got another late call-up for a 'Mini World Cup' qualifying match against Spain, but, again, I didn't make the final side. It's interesting now to look back at some of the lads who were in that Youth squad. Butch Wilkins, of Chelsea, has already played in the full England team and Peter Barnes, of Manchester City, played in a winning League Cup Final team at Wembley in 1976." Travelling at either home or abroad has a special problem for Neil - because he is a vegetarian. "While I was in Las Palmas, the team tucked into big steaks, but it was always an omelette for me," says Neil. "At one time the club also tried to get me eating steaks so that I would build up my weight. But I remained a vegetarian. "It's not something from my family background. I'm one of six brothers and have a sister as well, but only two of us became vegetarians. It happened about five years ago. We just sat down and thought about it and I came to the conclusion that it was sick to think of animals being killed.

"Away from home, it means my diet is a bit restricted, mainly cheese salads and omelettes, but mum cooks some great vegetable meals."

Neil's fitness, especially when he goes on the attacking runs that mark his style of full back play, proves that all of us could save ourselves a lot of cash by watching our diets. But he confesses there was one match when his legs wouldn't work - all because of nerves during his F.A. Cup debut against Stoke City.

"During the kick-about, I felt great," he says. "But as soon as the referee blew his whistle, my legs went to jelly. I just couldn't settle them down in the first half. I'm usually nervous before a match, but this was the first time it had happened to me during a game. I couldn't believe it.

"Perhaps it was something to do with the F.A. Cup being so special. The funny thing is that I didn't notice my nerves anywhere near as much in the League Cup semi-final. In fact, I didn't realise there were as many as 54,000 people in the ground."

By playing against Stoke and Bolton, Neil probably created something of a football "odd spot" in that his first three games in the senior team were in three different competitions - First Division, F.A. Cup and League Cup.

Off the field, Neil, who will be 20 in April, enjoys listening to jazz records. But this is only a brief form of relaxation away from his dedicated professional life. "I thought about nothing but making the grade," he says. "When the apprentices went to compulsory College studies on Mondays, I only settled for academic subjects. I have no trade but football."

MIKE BEDDOW.



SWINDON

The eight years since Swindon Town startled the football world by beating Arsenal in the League Cup Final at Wembley have ranged from the heights of challenging for promotion to the First Division and the depths of last season's narrow escape from relegation to the Fourth Division.

Danny Williams, the blunt-speaking Yorkshireman who guided them to promotion and Wembley in 1968-69, is now predicting that the good times are about to return to the County Ground after three difficult years in his second spell as the club's manager.

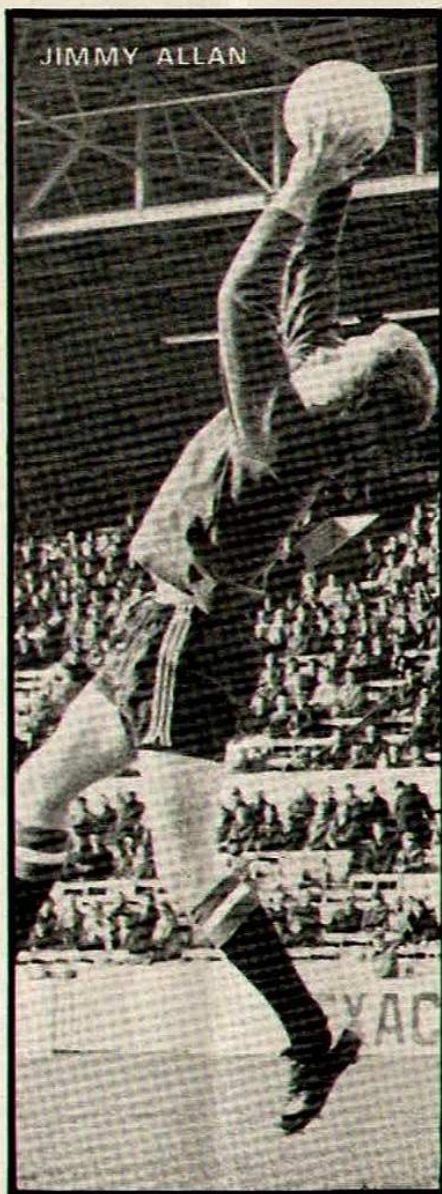
Mr. Williams seems to be Swindon's man for a crisis. He first took the job when the era of Mike Summerbee and Ernie Hunt was ending after a two-year excursion in the Second Division. In four years he took them to promotion and then left to spend 16 months with Sheffield Wednesday and two and a half years with Mansfield Town.

By the time he returned to Swindon in March, 1974, relegation was almost a foregone conclusion. It was back to the drawing board and a re-building programme that started with the sale of Welsh International Rod Thomas to Derby County.

Most of the Thomas fee was spent on young Wolves striker Peter Eastoe, who scored 43 League goals before leaving for Q.P.R. last season, and further cash was raised to buy key players for the current side. Colin Prophett came in from Norwich City, though he had been with Mr. Williams at Sheffield Wednesday, and Trevor Anderson, the talented Northern Ireland forward, was snapped up from Manchester United.

The initial impact was favourable, Swindon missing promotion by only two points in their first season back in the Third Division, but last term was full of problems and it was only by gathering ten points from the final seven games that they maintained their status.

Mr. Williams again reached for the cheque book. Welsh Under-23 international Steve Aizlewood arrived from Newport County to replace long-serving centre-half Frank Burrows, while Scottish midfielder man Gerry O'Brien moved in from Southampton, and local hero Don Rogers returned to his first club after spells at Crystal Palace and Q.P.R.



That was not the end of the re-organisation. Swindon made two more signings during the close season — forward Howard Goddard from Bournemouth and left-back Tony Taylor from Southend — and then went back to the transfer market in September to capture Halifax midfielder player Ray McHale.

Initially, it seemed that Swindon had discovered a promotion formula, but after taking ten points from the opening seven games, they slumped into a bad patch which saw them concede four goals to Reading, Brighton and Rotherham. They won only four League matches from September until the New Year and

the F.A. Cup had become their main chance of glory.

Memories of the old giant-killing days were stirred when Swindon's attacking policy brought no fewer than 19 goals in qualifying them for the all-ticket money-spinner against Everton. They started off with a 7-0 romp against Bromley, then beat Hitchin with a 4-2 "aggregate" from two meetings, and put paid next to Fulham by drawing 3-3 at Craven Cottage and winning the replay 5-0.

Swindon's strikers were in irresistible form. Dave Moss, the left flank raider, collected seven Cup goals, while Dave Syrett, a former Youth international, weighed in with five and Anderson contributed four.

On their own ground, which is one of the widest in the Football League, Swindon make the most of the expansive area with their 4-3-3 style. They are also backed by one of the most enthusiastic sets of supporters in the Third Division and it only needs a whiff of success to take the attendances into the five-figure regions.

Three home Cup games brought in around 44,000 spectators before the Everton attraction and when Swindon decided to issue fourth-round Cup vouchers at a reserve game, they pulled in 12,000 fans. This means that the balance sheet for the season is certain to move into a useful surplus.

Before the Cup run started a committee of Directors looked into the club's budget and trimmed expenses so that they required an average of 7,000 to see them through to a "break even" point. League gates more than fulfilled this requirement and the Cup cash looks certain to become clear profit.

Danny Williams is just as pleased with the team situation. "In my two spells as manager, I would say this is the first time that we have been adequately duplicated for every position," he says. "I hope that we are now in a position to make a serious challenge for promotion within the next season."

With players such as former Forest goalkeeper Jim Barron and 1969 League Cup matchwinner Don Rogers unable to claim a place in the first team, it's easy to see the reasoning behind Mr. Williams' satisfaction with the progress made during the present campaign.



DAVID MOSS

There has never been any doubt concerning Swindon's ability to finance Second Division football. On their last promotion run they averaged around 18,000 and frequently reached 20,000 during the period when they were managed, in turn, by Fred Ford, Dave Mackay and Les Allen.

Enthusiasm was at its highest when Swindon won the Anglo-Italian Cup and reached fifth place in the Second Division, missing a place in the top section by only three points. Don Rogers remembers those days well. "People in the town were football crazy," he said. "The only problem was the pressure built up by the fans' certainty that we would do well."

For John Trollope, this season's Cup success, also provided memories of a record-breaking career at the County Ground. He made his debut when he was only just 17 in 1960-61 and reached 368 consecutive appearances before losing his place because of a broken arm.

During this run, he became the youngest League player ever to reach 200 games and now, with more than 670 League outings under his belt, he looks set to join the exclusive "700 club". And he can think of no better way to celebrate than taking part in a promotion team for the third time.

That's the Swindon target for next season and a local journalist, who covers all their home games, predicts another "soccer explosion" in the Wiltshire town. "This is a unique place for football," he told us. "They are virtually isolated as a League club from here to the South Coast and Bristol, and if they ever provide real success at Second Division level, the ground will not be big enough with its 28,000 capacity."

SWINDON



Back Row (left to right): John Trollope, Mark Thompson, Don Rogers, Kenny Stroud.
Middle Row (left to right): Jimmy Allan, Howard Goddard, Colin Prophett, Steven Aizlewood, John Gilligan, Frank Burrows, Jim Barron.
Front Row (left to right): Geoff Chalklin, Will Dixon, Dave Moss, Dave Syrett, John McLaughlin, Gerry O'Brien, Trevor Anderson.

SWINDON FACTS:

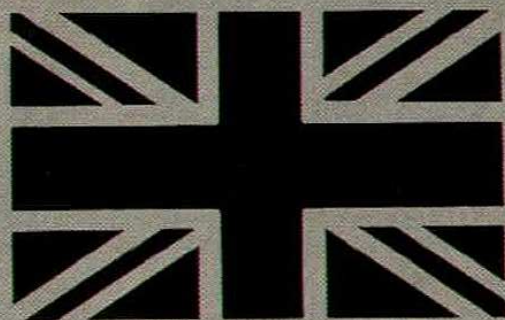
Name/ Birthplace/ Clubs/	League Apps	Goals	Caps U-23 Full	
STEVE AIZLEWOOD (Newport)				
Newport	197	17	5	—
Swindon	20	2	—	—
JIMMY ALLAN (Inverness)				
Swindon	90	—	—	—
TREVOR ANDERSON (Belfast)				
Man. United	19	2	—	6
Swindon	88	23	—	4
JIM BARRON (Co. Durham)				
Wolves	8	—	—	—
Chelsea	1	—	—	—
Oxford	152	—	—	—
Nottm. Forest	155	—	—	—
Swindon	76	—	—	—
FRANK BURROWS (Larkhall)				
Raith	65	1	—	—
Scunthorpe	106	4	—	—
Swindon	297	9	—	—
WILL DIXON (London)				
Arsenal	—	—	—	—
Reading	153	—	—	—
Swindon	117	9	—	—
HOWARD GODDARD (Over Wallop)				
Bournemouth	64	18	—	—
Swindon	10	—	—	—
RAY McHALE (Sheffield)				
Chesterfield	124	27	—	—
Halifax	82	19	—	—
Swindon	14	2	—	—
JOHN McLAUGHLIN (Edmonton)				
Colchester	66	2	—	—
Swindon	115	6	—	—
DAVE MOSS (Witney)				
Swindon	159	36	—	—
GERRY O'BRIEN (Glasgow)				
Southampton	78	2	—	—
Swindon	23	—	—	—
COLIN PROPHETT (Crewe)				
Sheffield W.	119	7	—	—
Norwich	35	—	—	—
Swindon	87	6	—	—
DON ROGERS (Paulton)				
Swindon	400	147	2	—
Crystal Palace	70	28	—	—
Q.P.R.	18	5	—	—
Swindon	11	2	—	—
KEN STROUD (London)				
Swindon	104	8	—	—
DAVE SYRETT (Salisbury)				
Swindon	97	28	—	—
TONY TAYLOR (Glasgow)				
Morton	22	7	—	—
Crystal Palace	195	8	—	—
Southend	56	1	—	—
Swindon	12	—	—	—
JOHN TROLLOPE (Wroughton)				
Swindon	671	20	—	—

All details up to and including Saturday, 18th December, 1976. Substitute appearances included.

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CLUB NEWS

QUIZ SPOT

The winner of Quiz Spot No. 14 (v Bolton) was Tony Littler, aged 9, of 15 Coronation Walk, Billinge, nr. Wigan, who correctly stated that Bolton's last four managers were Nat Lofthouse, Jimmy McIlroy, Jimmy Meadows and Jimmy Armfield. The winner of Quiz Spot No. 15 (v Q.P.R.) was J. A. Leary, of 58 Domville Road, Old Swan, Liverpool 13, who correctly answered that Q.P.R. had twice used White City Stadium as their home ground. Both winners will receive two tickets for the Leicester City match on February 12th.

Here is tonight's question:

Which was the last surviving Fourth Division club in the sixth round of last season's F.A. Cup?

Address your answers, on a POSTCARD, please to: Quiz Spot No. 16, Everton F.C., Goodison Park, Liverpool 4. The first correct entry scrutinised on Monday, 7th February, will receive for the sender two tickets for a forthcoming home League game.

NEW YEAR QUIZ

At the time of examining the entries, no one had submitted an all-correct answer, but the autographed football prize is awarded to Allan Hough, of 7 Shakespeare Road, Neston, Wirral, who was wrong only on Question No. 2. The answers were: 1 - Steve Burtenshaw, David Jones, Terry Darracott. 2 - European Fairs Cup, 1962-63. 3 - England beat Ireland 2-1. 4 - Linfield. 5 - Czechoslovakia. 6 - Mike Channon. 7 - Shrewsbury. 8 - Alan Ball. 9 - Theo Kelly. 10 - Latchford scored 12 goals.

ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT'S ON AT THE SPORTSMAN'S CABARET LOUNGE

Saturday, 5th February: PAULO BROS plus DAVE JOHN BAND.

Sunday, 6th February: Top comedian SONNY JONES plus KENNY JONES TRIO.

Saturday, 12th February: Country and Western stars MASON DIXON plus FAMILY AFFAIR.

Sunday, 13th February: Guitar vocalist TONY ROWE plus KENNY JONES TRIO.

Saturday, 19th February: CAROL CHRISTMAS plus SOUNDS UNISON.

Sunday, 20th February: Multi-instrumentalists HETHERINGTON AND JAMES plus SOUNDS UNISON.

Saturday, 26th February: Top TV comic MICK MILLER plus ROD SHAW SET.

Sunday, 27th February: STARRY DUO plus ROD SHAW SET. The Sunday Club Night also includes "Spot the Tune".

BLUE MAIL

From: Neil Everitt, Travel Officer, Crystal Palace F.C. Social Section.

"I am in charge of taking Crystal Palace supporters to away games by coach. On January 8th, we visited your near neighbours, Liverpool, in the F.A. Cup third round and after the match one of our young fans was set upon by five or six Liverpool "supporters" who beat him up, stole his leather jacket and left him lying on the pavement. Luckily, a group of Everton fans found him and brought him back to the coaches.

"Unfortunately, we didn't find out their names but hope, through your programme, to be able to send thanks, both from the boy's parents and Crystal Palace F.C., to those concerned for their kindness. In an age of increasing violence, it is refreshing to find a famous club with fans of whom you can be justly proud.

"As a postscript to this story, the boy is now home and recovering from his experience after spending one night in hospital in Liverpool."

EDITOR: Naturally, we are delighted to hear of this kindly action by our supporters and would hold it up as an example for all of football to follow. Everton's record in this respect is probably second to none - let's keep it that way and hope that those who do step out of line can be persuaded back to sanity by the good behaviour of the majority.

BLUE STREAK TRAVEL

ASTON VILLA v EVERTON

Saturday, 5th February.

Depart Lime Street: 12.20. Fare: £3.50.

BOLTON WANDERERS v EVERTON

(League Cup Semi-Final - Second Leg)

Tuesday, 15th February.

First train departs Lime Street: 16.59. Fare: £2.00.

Bookings can be made at the Development Office, Goodison Road, or any branch of Town's Travel and also at Liverpool Lime Street Station.

PLACE THE FACE

At the time of going to Press, we are unable to announce the winners of the first two competitions, but this will be done as soon as possible. Tonight we have a picture taken at the Q.P.R. game on 22nd January. If this is YOUR face in the circle, then you qualify for two tickets for a home League game. All you have to do is call PERSONALLY at the Club Offices by next Monday, 7th February. Bring along your programme and identify yourself to the Receptionist - then we can make arrangements for the supply of tickets.



THE WAITING GAME

THE JANUARY FREEZE-UP HAD FAR DEEPER REPERCUSSIONS THAN THE POSTPONEMENT OF SO MANY FIRST-TEAM MATCHES AROUND THE COUNTRY.

At Everton, for instance, it affected players like Jim Pearson, George Telfer and David Smallman in their recovery from injuries and then went all the way down the scale to schoolboys who were anxiously waiting for trial matches.

Youth Development Officer Ray Minshull told us of the pressures placed on apprentices and trialists, while Reserve coach Eric Harrison spoke of the problem of senior players who could not find match practice at a critical time on their release from Jim McGregor's physiotherapy treatment.

We heard Ray's side of the story first. "First of all, if the weather is bad, it means we cannot give trials to schoolboys," he explained. "At Christmas, we normally try to use the school holiday period as an opportunity of looking at the youngsters who might make the apprentice grade.

"This year there was a barrier on that. I have had boys waiting six weeks for a trial - one lad, in fact, was picked for the 'B' team on six occasions and every time the game was cancelled. At the same time, we had promised other boys a trial, but when it came to their turn on the schedule, we had to say that there were others who had been promised a chance before them.

"The danger is that these lads could find an opportunity to sign for

another club before we've had chance to make an assessment.

"Put it this way. Manchester United might be interested in the same boy and they could be lucky enough to find him a game. Then, if he impresses them, they could sign him up when we've not had the chance to see him. Obviously, this could work in our favour as well, but signing the best youngsters is such a competitive business that you don't like to miss any opportunity.

"Our apprentices are also worried by the bad weather. In some cases under the present scheme, they have only one season in which to prove themselves before coming up for review as full professionals. Naturally, this places pressure on them and us.

"The time is getting near now when



ERIC HARRISON,
RAY MINSHULL AND
COLIN HARVEY
STUDY THE FIXTURE
CHART TO PLAN
RE-ARRANGED MATCHES.

some of these boys will know their future. They are due to sign professional by the summer and if they miss matches for a month, then it's understandable if they worry and think, 'That's a month of my time going by the board'.

"The most infuriating aspect in our case is that most of our postponed fixtures were away matches. Had they been scheduled for Bellefield, we would probably have played them. As it is, I suppose we can't grumble too much because we've been very fortunate with the weather over the last few winters.

"The A and B teams are only two matches behind and providing there is no more snow, it shouldn't be too difficult to clear up the games when we can play in the afternoon or evening later in the season. We also have two spare Saturdays in May, but, ideally, this is the time when the groundsmen want to get to work on the pitches at Bellefield.

"The B team pitch, in particular, takes a lot of stick over the kind of winter we've had so far and it's only fair to the groundstaff to have as much time as possible if they are to prepare a good surface for the following season."

Ray also told us that the hold-up interfered with his plans to sign next season's crop of apprentices. "The scouts have been virtually out of work," he said. "I know how they feel, too. I have travelled a long way to watch matches which were supposed to be on, only to have a wasted day. This can make a lot of difference in the task of signing promising youngsters."

The youth team has also been held up in the "prestige" knock-out competitions. Their Lancashire Youth Cup-tie, away to Bolton Wanderers, has been postponed twice and Ray understands Bolton's reluctance to commit themselves to a date at a time when they are trying to keep Burnden Park in the best possible condition for the second leg of the League Cup semi-final.

One date is on the diary, however. We will be away to Oldham Athletic in the next round of the FA Youth Cup at Boundary Park next Tuesday, 8th February (kick-off 7.15 p.m.). If

the match is drawn, the replay would be at Goodison Park on Wednesday, 16th February (kick-off 7.00 p.m.).

"We hope to be as near as possible to full strength for this game," says Ray Minshull. "We will be without Ray Deakin, who is recovering from his cartilage injury, but, otherwise, would hope to be all clear."

Meanwhile, the reserves were getting under way again last week with away games due at Nottingham Forest and Bolton - the first fixtures on their calendar since playing Manchester United on New Year's Day.

"It's not been just a question of the weather," explained Eric Harrison. "We had only two games cancelled, but there were three blank Saturdays largely because clubs had tried to steer clear of commitments on the FA Cup dates.

"Quite a lot of clubs were in the same boat, of course, but perhaps we were particularly unfortunate because there were nine or ten players recovering from injury at one period. Jim McGregor kept telling me that so-and-so was ready for a game and I couldn't help, neither could Colin Harvey with the 'A' team.

"Match practice was important to members of the first-team pool who had been off for a while. They could hardly be considered for the League side in the circumstances and it was with this in mind that we managed to re-arrange last Saturday's fixture at Bolton.

"Providing the weather remained fair, most of them will have got a couple of games under their belts and if wanted for the first team, they could now be available.

"For the younger players, the hold-up was simply frustrating. They wanted to play anywhere, but had to keep going in training. From my point of view, I was disappointed that the break came just when we were establishing a pattern of play and results. We had been doing quite well with a very young team - but now we have to start again."

RESERVE STATS.

RESERVE APPEARANCES

	App.	Gls.		App.	Gls.
Bernard	3	—	Lawson	10	—
Brand	12	—	Milne	3	—
Buckley	15	1	Monaghan	8	2
Coffey	10	—	Murray	17	1
Connolly	2	—	McBride	9	—
Darracott	4	1	Pearson	8	3
Deakin	4	—	Rice	1	—
Esser	20	1	Robinson	15	—
Goodlass	1	—	Sergeant	13	1
Groome	16	1	Smallman	9	4
Hamilton	4	—	Telfer	1	—
Heard	3	—	Wellings	8	1
Higgins	17	—	Wheeldon	1	—
Jack	8	3	Wright	18	—
Kenyon	3	—	Own goal	—	1

CENTRAL LGE. FIXTURES 1976-77

		res.
Aug.	21 NOTTINGHAM FOREST	2-3
	28 Bury	1-1
Sept.	4 ASTON VILLA	3-0
	7 BURNLEY	0-2
	11 Wolverhampton Wanderers	0-1
	18 STOKE CITY	2-0
	25 Preston North End	1-1
Oct.	2 MANCHESTER CITY	1-3
	9 Sheffield United	1-0
	16 LIVERPOOL	0-4
	23 Huddersfield Town	2-2
	30 WEST BROMWICH A.	0-1
Nov.	3 Blackburn Rovers	1-3
	6 Sheffield Wednesday	1-1
	9 DERBY COUNTY	2-1
	20 Blackpool	1-2
	27 COVENTRY CITY	1-0
Dec.	4 Leeds United	1-0
	11 NEWCASTLE UNITED	0-0
	18 West Bromwich Albion	0-0
	21 Liverpool	0-1
Jan.	1 MANCHESTER UNITED	1-1
	29 Bolton Wanderers	
Feb.	5 BURY	
	12 Aston Villa	
	19 WOLVERHAMPTON W.	
	26 Stoke City	
Mar.	5 PRESTON NORTH END	
	12 Manchester City	
	19 SHEFFIELD UNITED	
April	2 HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	
	9 BOLTON WANDERERS	
	11 Manchester United	
	16 SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	
	19 Coventry City	
	27 Derby County	
	30 BLACKPOOL	

CENTRAL LEAGUE TABLE - 1976-77

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	24	19	3	2	78	22	41
Man. Utd.	25	12	8	5	47	36	32
Coventry	23	15	0	8	45	26	30
Derby	21	11	6	4	32	23	28
Wolves	23	12	4	7	34	26	28
Bury	23	12	4	7	33	27	28
Sheffield Utd.	24	11	5	8	31	26	27
Man. City	20	11	3	6	34	27	25
Sheffield Wed.	23	9	7	7	25	25	25
Aston Villa	21	10	4	7	34	28	24
Leeds	23	11	1	11	47	33	23
W.B. Albion	22	6	10	6	26	28	22
Nottm. Forest	23	8	5	10	31	37	21
EVERTON	22	6	7	9	21	27	19
Blackburn	21	8	2	11	26	47	18
Stoke	20	5	7	8	18	29	17
Burnley	21	6	4	11	25	34	16
Bolton	20	6	3	11	24	39	15
Blackpool	23	4	6	12	24	43	14
Huddersfield	25	4	6	15	33	55	14
Newcastle	18	4	3	11	25	31	11
Preston	22	3	4	15	22	46	10

(Up to and including Saturday, 22nd January, 1977)

STATISTICS

ALL DETAILS UP TO AND INCLUDING SATURDAY, 22nd JANUARY, 1977

date	fixture	att.	res.	Pts	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug.	21 Queens Park Rangers	24,449	*4-0	2	2	Davies	Bernard ¹	Jones	Lyons	Kenyon	McNaught	King	Dobson	Latchford ²	Pearson	Telfer	12
	24 IPSWICH TOWN	33,070	1-1	3	—	Davies	Bernard	Seargeant	Lyons	McNaught	Kenyon	King	Dobson	Latchford	Pearson	Telfer	
	28 ASTON VILLA	32,058	0-2	3	10	Davies	Bernard	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Kenyon	King	Dobson	Latchford	Pearson	Telfer	
Sept.	30 CAMBRIDGE UTD. (LC2)	10,899	3-0	—	4	Davies	Bernard	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Kenyon	King	Dobson	Latchford	Smallman	Goodlass	
	4 Leicester City	19,083	1-1	4	7	Davies	Bernard	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Kenyon	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	11 STOKE CITY	22,277	3-0	6	5	Davies	Bernard	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Kenyon	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	18 Arsenal	34,076	1-3	6	9	Davies	Bernard	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Kenyon	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	20 Stockport County (LC3)	16,408	1-0	8	6	Davies	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
Oct.	25 BRISTOL CITY	34,670	2-2	10	5	Davies	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	2 Sunderland	31,370	1-0	10	5	Davies	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	5 MANCHESTER CITY	55,141	1-3	11	6	Davies	Darracott	Higgins	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	16 Liverpool	23,163	3-2	13	4	Davies	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	23 WEST HAM UNITED	26,027	3-0	14	8	Davies	Bernard	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	26 COVENTRY CITY (LC4)	32,618	0-2	14	8	Davies	Bernard	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
Nov.	30 Tottenham Hotspur	23,020	2-0	16	7	Davies	Bernard	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	6 LEEDS UNITED	31,208	1-4	16	7	Davies	Bernard	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	20 DERBY COUNTY	21,025	0-3	16	10	Davies	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	24 Newcastle United	57,738	3-0	16	13	Davies	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
Dec.	27 West Bromwich Albion	18,970	2-4	16	13	Davies	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	1 Manchester United (LC5)	32,541	2-2	17	13	Lawson	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	18 BIRMINGHAM CITY	56,786	0-4	17	14	Lawson	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	27 Manchester United	28,189	2-0	18	13	Lawson	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	29 MIDDLESBROUGH	32,952	2-0	18	13	Lawson	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
Jan.	8 STOKE CITY (FA Cup 3)	25,578	0-2	18	15	Lawson	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	15 Ipswich Town	54,032	1-1	18	18	Lawson	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
	18 BOLTON W. (LCSF)	26,875	1-3	18	18	Lawson	Darracott	Jones	Lyons	McNaught	Hamilton	King	Dobson	Latchford	Goodlass	Telfer	
Feb.	22 QUEENS PARK RANGERS																
	28 Swindon (FA Cup 4)																
	1 TOTTENHAM (prev.)																
	5 Aston Villa																
	12 LEICESTER CITY																
	15 Bolton W. (LCSF)																
	19 Stoke City																
	26 ARSENAL (5)																
Mar.	5 Bristol City																
	12 SUNDERLAND (LCF)																
	19 Manchester City (6)																
	22 LIVERPOOL																
April	2 West Ham United																
	8 MANCHESTER UNITED																
	9 Middlesbrough																
	11 NEWCASTLE UNITED																
	16 Derby County																
	19 NORWICH CITY																
	23 WEST BROM. A. (SF)																
May	4 Leeds United																
	7 COVENTRY CITY																
	14 Birmingham City																
	21 F.A. Cup Final																

EVERTON FIRST-TEAM APPEARANCES - 1976-77 (Up to and including matches played 22nd Jan. 1977)			
Everton League Career	1976-77		1976-77 League
	App.	Gls.	
Bernard	136	9	11
Brand	1	—	—
Buckley	109	8	—
Darracott	101	—	9
Davies	73	—	17
Dobson	94	13	22
Goodlass	19	1	17
Hamilton	30	5	8
Higgins	1	—	1
Jones	32	—	21
Kenyon	240	6	11
King	25	7	22

EVERTON DIVISION 1 SCORERS			
Player	1976-77		1976-77 League
	App.	Gls.	
Gray (Aston Villa)	102	45	22
Hales (Derby)	114	—	5
Macdonald (Arsenal)	178	30	21
Pearson (Manchester Utd.)	6	3	6
Burns, K. (Birmingham)	44	2	22
Manner (Ipswich)	6	3	6
Kidd (Manchester City)	46	9	3
Burns, M. (Newcastle)	6	—	—
Francis (Birmingham)	1	—	—
Latchford (Everton)	74	1	3
Stapleton (Arsenal)	19	6	1
Hill (Manchester Utd.)	60	17	14
King (Everton)	60	17	14
Little (Aston Villa)	—	—	—
Tueart (Manchester City)	—	—	—
Wynter (Ipswich)	—	—	—
Wymark (Ipswich)	—	—	—

Home fixtures in CAPITALS Everton's score first Name in bold—scorer Superior figure—No. of goals scored † Denotes substituted player • Own goal

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TABLE

DIVISION ONE - How they stand (Up to and including Saturday, 22nd January).

	Home						Away						Pts
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A		
Liverpool	25	10	2	0	29	6	4	3	6	12	18	33	
Ipswich	22	8	4	0	25	7	5	2	3	16	13	32	
Man. City	22	7	4	1	21	9	3	6	1	12	7	30	
Aston Villa	22	8	1	1	32	12	4	2	6	12	16	27	
Arsenal	23	7	3	1	23	10	3	4	5	18	25	27	
Middlesbrough	23	8	2	2	12	6	2	5	4	8	15	27	
Newcastle	20	7	3	0	19	7	2	3	5	15	19	24	
Man. United	22	5	3	3	21	14	4	3	4	17	18	24	
Leicester	24	4	5	2	18	16	2	6	5	10	21	23	
Birmingham	23	5	4	3	21	15	3	2	6	16	19	22	
West Brom	22	5	4	2	22	10	2	4	5	8	17	22	
Leeds United	21	2	5	3	13	16	5	3	3	14	11	22	
Coventry	21	5	4	3	20	15	2	3	4	6	11	21	
Norwich	22	6	2	3	15	13	2	3	6	9	16	21	
Derby County	20	5	4	1	20	9	0	4	6	6	18	18	
Q.P.R.	20	6	1	2	15	10	1	3	7	11	20	18	
Stoke	20	6	1	1	10	5	0	5	7	2	17	18	
EVERTON	22	4	4	3	18	16	2	2	7	14	27	18	
Tottenham	22	5	5	3	15	13	1	0	8	14	30	17	
Bristol City	20	3	3	4	13	10	2	2	6	7	14	15	
West Ham	22	3	3	6	11	15	1	2	7	9	20	13	
Sunderland	24	1	3	7	4	11	1	3	9	9	25	10	

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- 7 DAVE MOSS
- 8 JOHN McLAUGHLIN
- 9 DAVE SYRETT
- 10 RAY McHALE
- 11 TREVOR ANDERSON
- 12

E 19

REFEREE: T. H. C. REYNOLDS, SWANSEA

Tom Reynolds, a company director, started refereeing in Bristol in 1957 and graduated via the Welsh League and Football Combination. He was appointed to the UEFA and FIFA Panels in 1974 and has refereed a number of international and European matches, including last season's game between N. Ireland and Scotland.

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