



SWINDON TOWN
v

BLACKPOOL



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Bob Smith says.....

Since my last notes we have played two matches which in retrospect turned out to be in complete contrast to one another. I was very proud of the lads in their game against Brentford when following the loss of one of our players, they again showed the character to over-come that loss. Everyone in the team increased their work rate and showed the qualities necessary to get results in the face of adversity. It would be remiss of me if I did not thank you all for the valuable support you gave to the players during this match - I feel you paid as big a part as anyone in obtaining full points in the match and I know your support was greatly appreciated by the players.

Following this game we visited Plymouth on Saturday last and during the first half we fell below the standard we have set ourselves. This happens from time to time but the important thing is how the side reacts after such a game and gets back into its stride in the next game as we are going to do today at Blackpool.

You will be aware by now how busy I have been during this week on the transfer front having transferred Colin Prophet to Chesterfield and signing Andy Rowland from Bury. Colin Prophet is a good professional and during his stay at Swindon, never gave the Club any trouble and I am sure that this move will be good for him and Swindon Town., good for the Club in as much that we obtain a good fee for his registration and for him a move to the North nearer his home.



Andy Rowland is a player I have known for the last five years, in fact, I signed him from Derby County when I was Manager at Bury, building up a useful side at that Club. Andy has proved his qualities by being leading goal scorer at Bury for the last four seasons and I am sure that he will prove to be a very popular player at Swindon and you will respond to his efforts as you have done to my previous signings, Brian Williams, Ian Miller and Chris Ogden.

Bits and Pieces

Blackpool is a new name to the Third Division. There appeared to be absolutely no danger of the club losing its Second Division status last season when the Tangerines held down sixth position a week before Christmas and had actually occupied one of the promotion places during the first week of November. But Blackpool won only three games in nineteen after the turn of the year, although those three victories showed a goal difference of 13 - 3. Seven of them came from Bob Hatton, who is now part of the Luton strike force along with former Town winger Dave Moss. Hatton was still on target when Blackpool completed their League programme with a 1 - 2 defeat in front of a 33,431 crowd at the Goldstone Ground, Brighton. Ten days elapsed before Orient mustered the three points necessary to send Blackpool down.

During the 'thirties there was quite a flow of players between Blackpool and Swindon. In the 1932 close season the Town signed on two in SYD BROOKS, a wing-half and CYRIL QUINN, an outside-left. After a few matches, Brooks was switched to the inside-forward position with a measure of success, as he scored six goals - twice as many as his left-wing partner, who later returned north to sign for Fleetwood. Four years later HARRY BOWL, a local discovery from Standford-in-the-Vale, joined the Seasiders and FRED CHANDLER, also an inside-forward, came south to link up with Swindon. Chandler formed a useful partnership with Town leader Jim Cookson and hit the back of the net six times in his first eight League games. Full-back BILL BUTCHER joined the Town in the last full season before the war, wearing the number three shirt on 36 occasions.

Eight years ago there was an epic struggle to decide which club would accompany Huddersfield Town into the First Division (only two went up each year then) - and five clubs fought for that place. It was early April and Sheffield United (47 points)

Leicester City (48) and Middlesbrough (48) each had just two games left to play. The latter had yet to visit the County Ground. The other two in contention were Swindon and Blackpool - both with three games remaining but the Seasiders had a three point advantage. 50 to 47. To counter this, all the Town's were home games whilst all Blackpool's were away. The scene was set and when the two met here on the night of April 7th., an almost capacity crowd of 28,520 was present.

The line-ups were as follows:

SWINDON: Downsborough; Thomas; Trollope; Butler; Burrows; Harland; Smith; Smart; Horsfield; Noble; Rogers.
BLACKPOOL: Thomson; Armfield; Bentley; McPhee; James; Hatton; Burns; Craven; Pickering; Suddick; Hutchison.

A Mickey Burns goal nine minutes before the interval cancelled out Arthur Horsfield's early effort for the Town and took Blackpool a step nearer that Division One place. Seven days later Swindon crashed 0 - 3 at home to Middlesbrough.

Other League meetings between the two clubs have produced the following results:

6.	9. 69	Blackpool 3 (Brown, Craven, Suddick)	Swindon 2 (Rogers 2 pens)	17201
14.	8. 71	Blackpool 4 (James 2, Ainscow, Green)	Swindon 1 (Rogers)	13004
16.	10. 71	Swindon 1 (Thomas)	Blackpool 0	10346
9.	9. 72	Swindon 0	Blackpool 0	10069
27.	1. 73	Blackpool 2 (Suddick pen., Rafferty)	Swindon 0	8277
17.	11. 73	Blackpool 2 (Alcock, Burrows o.g)	Swindon 0	7404
13.	4. 74	Swindon 1 (Jenkins)	Blackpool 0	4655

John Ward talks to

KEVIN MORRIS - PHYSIOTHERAPIST

Kevin Morris reckons to work a six and a half day week. On his last half day the Youth Team were away at West Bromwich. At five o'clock the telephone rang at his home, it was the Chairman saying that one of the boys was injured; they thought it was a cartilage. Kevin met them when they arrived back in Swindon. By the time he had examined the injury and taken the boy to hospital, it was past eleven o'clock. Kevin is on call twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. Weekdays start at nine o'clock when he submits a list of injuries to the Manager with a report on each players progress. Thereafter his hours are determined by the nature of the injuries and the chances of getting someone fit for an impending game. If there is a key player who is needed for a match in a few days time, Kevin will come in to the ground to treat him every day, morning, noon and night and over the weekend if necessary. With the first team, reserves and youth team probably playing five games a week between them, Kevin expects to have three players under treatment at any one time. He works under the supervision of the Club's Medical Officer, Doctor John Nicholas, although they both liaise closely with the Manager on every injury. The doctor diagnoses the fault and then agrees the treatment with Kevin. When a player has been under treatment, before he is allowed to assume full training, he undergoes a full fitness test. Who decides whether a player is fit enough to play? Kevin is adamant about this; it is not the Manager, but the doctor and the physiotherapist. "It has always been like that at this Club and it always will be. There has never been any pressure from either the Manager or Directors for someone to play before they are ready".

In 1956 Kevin Morris was spotted by Ellis Studdart playing football in Manchester and he signed as an amateur for Swindon at the age of sixteen under Bert Head. He never quite made it as a player, handicapped as he was by having no sight in his right eye. He finished playing in 1961. Meanwhile he had become infatuated in football injuries and was reading and studying the subject in his own time. He then ran the 'A' team and worked with the first team trainer, Harry Cousins on Sundays treating players injured the day before. He graduated to being trainer to the reserves and in 1966 went on an F.A. course in physiotherapy at Lillishall. This was spread over three years and included intensive study of anatomy, physiology and electro-therapy, which for the layman, means learning what heat can do to the body. In 1970 Fred Ford asked Kevin to become full time first team trainer in succession to Harry

Cousins who retired after more than forty years with Swindon. Kevin admits to learning a lot from Harry Cousins, "All he had was a wooden hut, but he worked miracles. It was incredible how accurately he could identify injuries. He could be sitting up in the stand when he was over sixty and he could tell you what was wrong just by the way a player walked off". Injuries haven't changed over the years, just the method of treating them.

Kevin's appointment as first team trainer/physiotherapist coincided with the arrival of a new club doctor, Dr. John Nicholas, together with plans for the new stand. The two of them visited all the major clubs to decide what machinery they should have in the new treatment room. Then and every time subsequently, they have asked for new equipment, the Directors' response has been magnificent; if it is for the benefit of the players, buy it! As a result the Swindon treatment room bears comparison with any in the Football League. "Only Arsenal and Everton are better", says Kevin. He is deeply conscious of the potential dangers of his sophisticated machinery and therefore, of his own responsibility. "If you make a mistake", he said, watching me scribbling away, "you can throw away that piece of paper and start again, I can't make any mistakes with a player. Players equal money and you can only get one human body for each life. If I apply the heat treatment too quickly, it can burn the body tissue in no time." Only two players are allowed in the treatment room at a time. "I couldn't concentrate sufficiently if there was more". If Kevin is ever ill nobody else is trusted to operate his machines. Injured players instead go to St. Margaret's Hospital for treatment. Kevin is full of praise both for the Club's Medical Officer, Dr. John Nicholas and for the hospital Staff; "It is terrific that they are prepared to do so much virtually for nothing".

Last season Kevin was offered the job of physiotherapist by Nottingham Forest. I said that the fact that he was still here might make some people say that he lacked ambition. "I didn't judge that it was worthwhile uprooting my wife and family for that offer," was his reply. "Brian Clough is a persuasive bloke. He rang me up regularly for about five weeks. In the end he told me, "You are my first failure". If the right offer came along I might move on, but I am very impressed by the present set-up here. The present Manager is the best I have known for all round organisation and method. There is no reason why Swindon shouldn't do a Forest!"

Talk of the Town by the Chairman

Our visitors today, from Blackpool, have experienced the ups and downs of the fortunes of Football and at one stage last season looked set for promotion to the First Division before everything seemed to go wrong for them and they will be obviously trying hard this season to regain their Second Division status.

Our last fixture at home against Brentford brought plenty of excitement with a fight against the odds with ten men. How often have we seen this fight against ten men turn into the kind of exciting finish, everyone pulling out that extra effort.

Our away game at Plymouth was disappointing in as much that we created enough chances to have won yet we came away with nothing. With the present ability in the squad we are expecting points away from home and I know that our manager will not be satisfied until he gets consistent results but as we know from experience there is nothing certain in this game of football.

The reserve team under the care of John Trollope did very well to gain a point at Birmingham on Saturday last especially when it was necessary to include in the team four young apprentices and a couple of young trialists together with John himself and the remainder of the professional staff. This result must have been encouraging because it is proving very difficult for John to get results from his very inexperienced teams.

On Tuesday last the youth team played a cup match against Luton Town and lost 1 - 0 with the last kick of the game and this after having a goal disallowed.

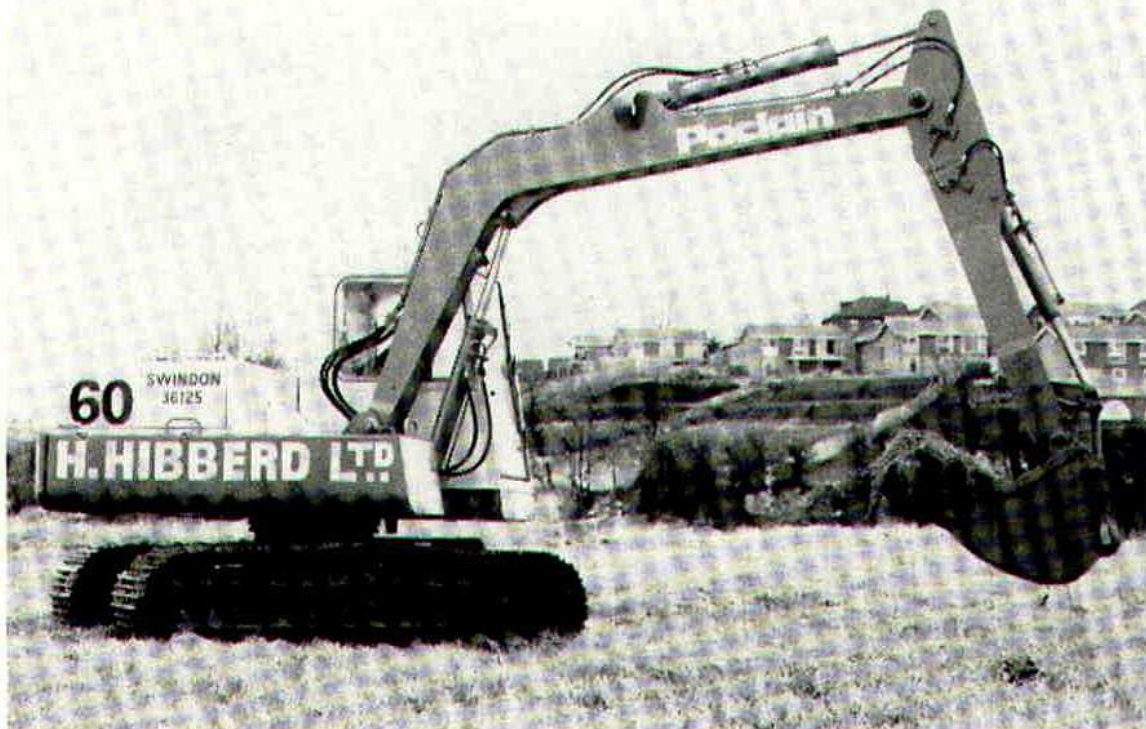
Many people will be surprised at the transfer news that has involved us in three

movements with very different clubs over the last few days. Colin Prophet's move to Chesterfield was not really a surprise because several weeks ago Chesterfield made their enquiry and Colin held his decision pending the minor operation he underwent upon his nose which entailed several days in hospital. Colin has given loyal service to the Club for four years since joining us from Sheffield Wednesday and he was Club captain last year. He has made many friends during his stay with us and during the summer months played Cricket with the local British Railways team with distinction. We all wish him luck with his new Club.

A footballers life is often full of surprises and their wives must wonder sometimes just where and when their next move will be to. Our latest signing Andy Rowland from Bury, is of course well known to our Manager and today could be his home debut for this Club.

At the time of writing these notes Fulham Football Club are pursuing their enquiries for the services of Chris Guthrie and with signing of our new striker it is possible that there might well be a move in this direction. Football transfers move so quickly these days that it is just possible that by the time you read these notes Chris could be a Fulham player. With the problems of home buying and selling and mortgage difficulties the transfer of players cause many headaches that the average person would never dream of.

Hoping that our latest effort to improve performances will encourage our old supporters back to the County Ground and that todays game will be exciting. I would conclude by thanking you for your attendance this afternoon.



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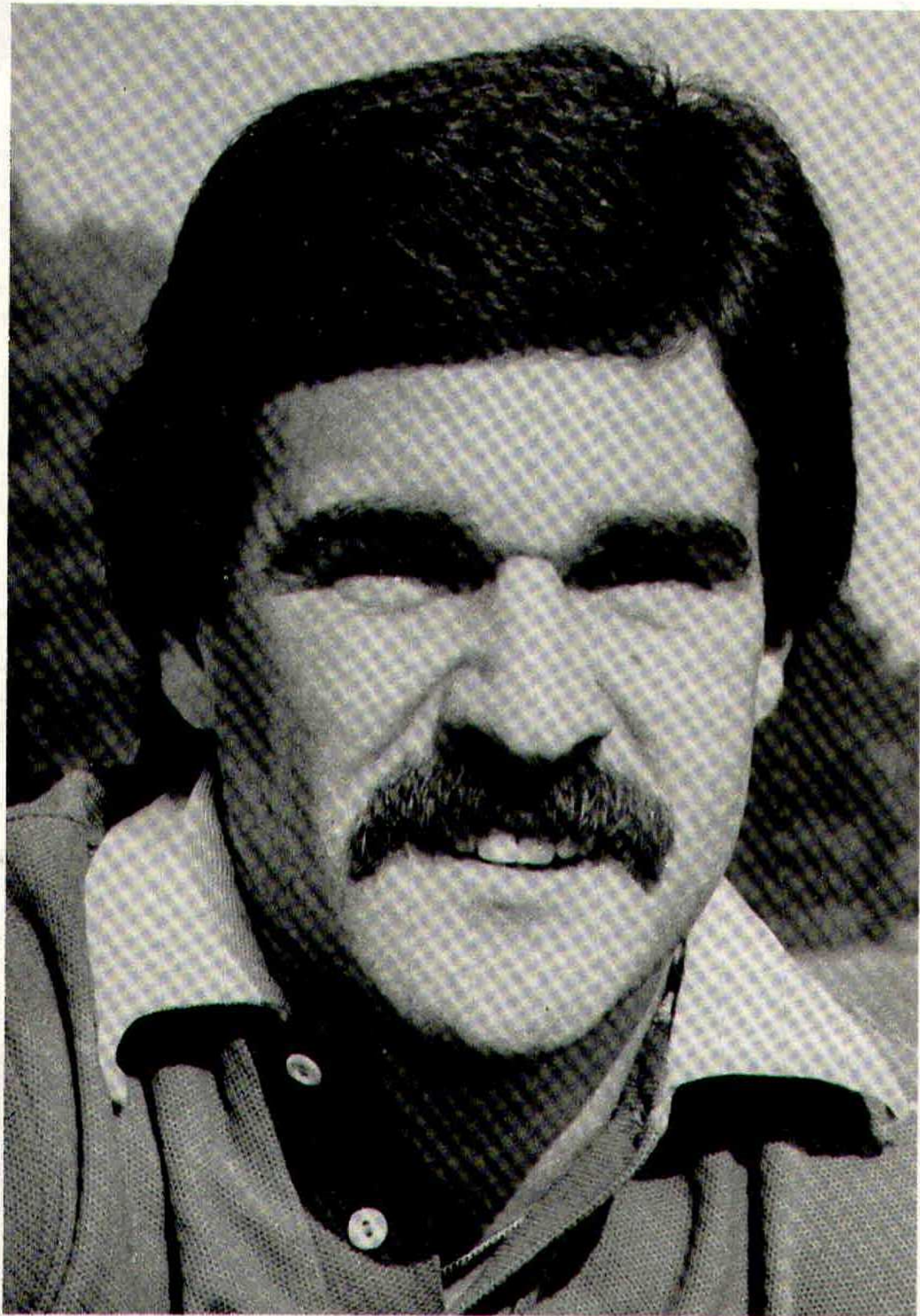
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Andy Rowland

IN TOWN TODAY

FACE LIFT AT BLACKPOOL

By Tony Pullein

Blackpool's relegation from the Second Division last season, after a traumatic collapse during the second part of the season, was one of the saddest events in English football since the war. The Tangerines have fielded some great teams down the years, making several appearances in F.A. Cup finals, and the Third Division is no place for a club of such fine traditions.

The main objective this season is, of course, to try and make a swift return to Division Two. And since the relegation axe fell, there has been a complete face-lift at Bloomfield Road. Bob Stokoe was persuaded to return for his second spell as manager and he busied himself making a succession of new signings.

Among the newcomers are Northern Ireland international forward Derek Spence, mid-field men Vic Davidson and David Wagstaffe, defender Terry Pashley and another striker, Mel Holden.

Spence originally joined Blackpool from Bury for £50,000 in 1976 but he left at the beginning of last season to join Greek club Olympiakos. Derek, who began his English League career with Oldham, has already scored four goals this season including a match-winning hat-trick against Carlisle.

Davidson, who has been a regular goalscorer throughout his career, is currently leading the club's scoring list with five goals. He began with Celtic where, though he didn't get many games, his scoring rate was exceedingly good. Motherwell signed him in 1975 and last season he was their top scorer. Blackpool signed him for £30,000.

Wagstaffe was signed from Blackburn where he had spent just over two years. He is one of the country's most experienced midfield players though he began his career as a winger with Manchester City in 1960/61. He was transferred to Wolves for £30,000 in 1965 and made more than 450 League appearances for the Molineux club before signing for Blackburn in 1976.

Pashley served his apprenticeship with Burnley and made his League bow in 1975/76. He can play in either full-back position.

Holden opened his career with Preston and finished top scorer with 23 goals in 1974/75. At that time Bob Stokoe was manager of Sunderland and he promptly paid £120,000 to sign him. This summer he signed the player for a second time.

Since joining Blackpool, Davidson has been playing in attack. He and Spence have been playing in the front line in a 4-4-2 formation. Holden opened the season at centre-forward but then dropped out.

The midfield seems to be giving Mr. Stokoe most problems for he has been making perpet-

ual changes in this department. In addition to Wagstaffe, David Hockaday, Willie Ronson, Jeff Chandler, Alan Waldron, Stan McEwan and David Tong have already been included.

All, apart from Waldron, are players who have developed in the junior sides and who have now all laid a strong claim to a regular place. Waldron was signed from Bolton mid-way through last season. Alan played more than 150 first-team games for the Burnden Park club.

The defence has been fairly settled with Paul Gardner, Max Thompson, Peter Suddaby and Terry Pashley filling the back four positions, though Brian Wilson did open the season in the senior side.

Gardner and Wilson are further products of the club's youth scheme but Blackpool paid a club record fee of £80,000 to Liverpool for Thompson towards the end of last season.

Suddaby spent several years in top amateur football before trying his luck in League soccer with Blackpool in 1970/71. During his days with Oxford University and Wycombe Wanderers he was picked on three occasions for the England Amateur XI.

Goalkeeper Bob Ward got a handful of games in West Bromwich Albion's League team, and spent a period on loan to Northampton two seasons ago, but he didn't get a regular game until signing for Blackpool and taking over from George Wood last season.

Blackpool's demise last season was the more tragic because, by Christmas time, they were being strongly tipped for promotion back to the First Division! They were only one point behind the third club, Brighton, and seemed to have an excellent chance.

Then, quite inexplicably, they won only three more games all season, finishing with a disastrous run of 11 games without a win. When they had finished their fixtures, most of the clubs below them had two games to play and they had to sit in agony as Charlton, Millwall, Cardiff and Orient all crept above them — leaving Blackpool to drop into the third relegation place.

Life in the Third hasn't been too easy for them and they will have to step up their performances if promotion is to be achieved. They have lost all three away games so far, at Watford (1-5), Rotherham (0-2) and Shrewsbury (0-2), though they did draw 2-2 at Carlisle in the League Cup.

At home they have dropped only one point. They beat Oxford (1-0), Carlisle (3-1) and Walsall (2-1) in the League and Carlisle (2-1) and, best of all, First Division Ipswich (2-0) in the League Cup. Their only lost home point was forfeited to Chesterfield in a goalless draw.

DIVISION 3 - 1978-79

Date	Opponents	Ground	Score F A	Scorers	Attendance
Aug. 12	Portsmouth FLC1	A	0 - 0	-	9261
15	Portsmouth FLC1	H	4 - 2	Aizlewood, Williams, Miller, Guthrie	7165
19	Bury	H	2 - 1	Bates, Miller	5428
21	Tranmere Rovers	A	1 - 1	Carter	2150
26	Shrewsbury Town	A	0 - 0	-	2672
30	West Ham FLC2	A	2 - 1	Miller, Guthrie	19672
Sep. 2	Mansfield Town	H	1 - 0	Bates	6195
9	Walsall	A	1 - 4	Williams	5024
12	Brentford	H	2 - 0	McHale, Bates	6685
16	Plymouth Argyle	A	0 - 2		6099
23	Blackpool	H			
27	Chester	A			
30	Sheffield Wednesday	H			
Oct 3	Peterborough FLC3	A			
6	Colchester United	A			
14	Rotherham United	H			
17	Peterborough United	H			
21	Lincoln City	A			
28	Carlisle United	A			
Nov 4	Southend United	H			
8	League Cup 4				
11	Mansfield Town	A			
18	Shrewsbury Town	H			
25	F.A. Cup 1				
Dec. 2	Chesterfield	A			
9	Hull City	H			
13	League Cup 5				
16	F.A. Cup 2				
23	Exeter City	H			
26	Swansea City	A			
30	Watford	A			
1979					
Jan. 1	Oxford United	H			
6	Brentford (3)	A			
13	Walsall	H			
17	League Cup SF				
20	Plymouth Argyle	H			
24	League Cup SF				
27	Blackpool (4)	A			
Feb. 3	Chester	H			
10	Sheffield Wednesday	A			
17	Colchester United (5)	H			
24	Rotherham United	A			
Mar. 3	Lincoln City	H			
10	Carlisle United (6)	H			
16	Southend United(LCF)	A			
24	Tranmere Rovers	H			
27	Bury	A			
31	Gillingham (SF)	A			
Apr. 7	Chesterfield	H			
11	Exeter City	A			
14	Swansea City	H			
16	Oxford United	A			
21	Watford	H			
24	Peterborough Untd.	A			
28	Hull City	A			
May 5	Gillingham	H			
10	12 F.A. Cup Final				

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND GOALSCORERS

(TOTALS INCLUDE APPEARANCES AS SUB)

Goals in parentheses	Lge.	FLC	FAC	TOTAL
KEVIN ROBERTS		1		1
JOHN McLAUGHLIN	7	3		10
ANDY FORD	7	3		10
RAY McHALE	7(1)	3		10(1)
STEVE AIZLEWOOD	7	3(1)		10(1)
KENNY STROUD	7	3		10
IAN MILLER	7(1)	3(2)		10(3)
CHRIS KAMARA	6	3		9
CHRIS GUTHRIE	6	3(2)		9(2)
CHIC BATES	7(3)	3		10(3)
BRIAN WILLIAMS	6(1)	3(1)		9(2)
ROY CARTER	7(1)	2		9(1)
CHRIS OGDEN	7	2		9
RUSSELL LEWIS	2			2
PAUL GILCHRIST	1			1

GOING TO CHESTER? ON WEDNESDAY NEXT SEPTEMBER 27th

Swindon travel to Sealand Road in a fourth attempt to gain a League point at the Stadium. Chester closed last season in impressive style, notching seven wins out of eight to finish fifth. Continuing this season where they left off last. Chester disposed of both Port Vale and Coventry City in the League Cup. However, since the club has taken only one point from four League games.

Stand admission prices will be £1.40 and £1.20.

Football Combination

DATE 1978	OPPONENTS	RESULT			
Aug. 19	Ipswich Town	A 0 - 4	16	West Ham United	H
22	Fulham	H 0 - 0	20	Cardiff City	A
26	Tottenham Hotspur	H 1 - 3	26		
Sept. 2	Plymouth Argyle	A 0 - 2	30	Arsenal	H
9	Leicester City	H	Jan. 79 3	Reading	A
16	Birmingham City	A	13	Leicester City	A
26	Bristol Rovers	A	16	Birmingham City	H
30	Luton Town	A	27	Hereford United	H
Oct. 4			30	Bristol Rovers	H
7	Hereford United	A	Feb. 10	Luton Town	H
14	Norwich City	A	24	Norwich City	H
21	Oxford United	H	Mar. 3	Oxford United	A
28	Chelsea	H	10	Chelsea	A
Nov. 4	Orient	A	17	Orient	H
11	Ipswich Town	H	24	Fulham	A
18	Tottenham Hotspur	A	31	Queens Park Rangers	H
21	Plymouth Argyle	H	Apr. 7	Crystal Palace	A
25	Queens Park Rangers	A	14	Southampton	A
Dec. 2	Crystal Palace	H	16	Reading	H
9	Bristol City	A	21	West Ham United	A
12	Southampton	H	24	Cardiff City	H
			28	Bristol City	H
			May 5	Arsenal	A
			12		

DIVISION THREE LEAGUE TABLE up to and including Saturday September 16th

	Home				Away						
	P	W	D	L	F-A	W	D	L	F-A	PTS	TOP GOALSCORERS (inc Lge Cup)
Swansea C.	7	3	1	0	13-7	2	1	0	6-2	12	Robbie James 9
Watford	7	1	0	2	6-5	4	0	0	14-5	10	Ross Jenkins 8
Hull C.	7	2	2	0	9-3	2	0	1	5-2	10	Keith Edwards 6
Peterborough	6	3	1	0	6-1	1	1	0	3-2	10	Alan Slough 6
Shrewsbury T.	7	2	1	0	3-0	2	1	1	3-2	10	Paul Maguire, Graham Turner 2
Carlisle U.	7	2	1	0	6-1	0	3	1	3-5	8	Dave Kemp 3
Southend U.	7	3	0	1	6-3	0	2	1	6-7	8	Gerry Fell 4
Plymouth A.	6	2	0	1	5-5	2	0	1	6-4	8	Fred Binney 6
SWINDON TOWN	7	3	0	0	5-1	0	2	2	2-7	8	CHIC BATES, IAN MILLER 3
Rotherham U.	7	2	0	1	4-3	0	3	1	5-6	7	Dave Gwyther 6
Chester	7	2	1	0	6-2	1	0	3	2-6	7	Ian Edwards 7
Gillingham	7	1	2	1	3-3	0	3	0	4-4	7	Ken Price 3
Sheffield W.	6	1	1	0	3-2	1	2	1	3-4	7	Brian Hornsby 5
Blackpool	7	3	1	0	6-2	0	0	3	2-9	7	Vic Davidson 5
Colchester U.	7	2	2	0	5-3	0	1	2	0-5	7	Steve Foley, Eddie Rowles 2
Mansfield T.	6	0	3	0	3-3	1	1	1	4-2	6	Kevin Bird, Dave Goodwin, Johnny Miller 2
Chesterfield	7	0	1	2	2-5	1	3	0	5-2	6	Rod Fern 4
Brentford	7	2	0	1	2-3	0	1	3	3-8	5	Andy McCulloch, Pat Kruse, Steve Phillips 2
Exeter C.	6	0	2	1	2-3	1	0	2	3-6	4	Keith Bowker 4
Oxford U.	7	1	1	2	3-5	0	1	2	1-4	4	Colin Duncan, Peter Foley 3
Walsall	7	1	1	1	7-6	0	0	4	3-9	3	Terry Austin 4
Bury	7	0	2	2	7-9	0	1	2	1-4	3	Andy Rowland, Billy Tucker 2
Lincoln C.	7	1	1	2	4-9	0	0	3	1-7	3	Six players have one goal each
Tranmere R.	6	0	2	1	3-5	0	0	3	4-7	2	Steve Peplow 3

ACTION REPLAY



Brentford goalkeeper dives to smother the ball as he is challenged by Swindon's Chris Guthrie during last Tuesday's victory at the County Ground.



Swindon striker Chris Guthrie (left) has his shot deflected for a corner by Brentford goalkeeper Porter during the Town's victory at the County Ground.

From the **COMMERCIAL OFFICE**

Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen.
Congratulations to the team on a fine effort
against Brentford. Let's hope they can carry
on the same way today.

We still need a few more agents to sell our
Lottery Tickets, if you are interested fill in
the coupon at the end of these notes and send
it to The Lottery Office, County Ground,
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The Football Association Notice to Spectators

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and/or threatening or assaulting officials and
players before, during or at the conclusion
of matches. In the case of a breach of this
rule any spectator may be removed from the
ground and such force used as may be nec-
essary for the purpose of effecting such re-
moval. The Club has been ordered to print
this notice because of incidents at a match
at the conclusion of last season. Spectators
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may result in the closing of the ground.

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NATION WIDE

By Tony Pullein

Ron Futcher has a disconcerting habit of upstaging his more costly identical twin brother Paul. Last Saturday Ron hogged the headlines with a magnificent hat-trick in 14 minutes at Chelsea in Manchester City's 4-1 victory. Yet it has always been defender Paul who has been tipped to play for England and who has commanded big transfer fees. Ron has been signed afterwards as a makeshift deal.

It was the same in their early days at Chester. Luton went in with a £100,000 offer for Paul, then a few days later paid £25,000 for Ron. Luton were in the First Division then and it took both brothers several weeks to win a place in the first-team. But Ron celebrated his First Division debut by scoring the winning goal against Ipswich Town and two days later followed up with a hat-trick in a 3-2 win over Wolves!

Ron has been Luton's top scorer for the past two seasons. Yet, when Manchester City showed an interest in the twins, it was Paul they wanted — and they paid £350,000 to sign him this summer.

Meanwhile, Ron went off to spend the summer with Minnesota Kicks, having been given a free transfer by Luton.

By the time Manchester City got around to negotiations with him, the new season had almost started, and they got him for just £75,000. But once again it was the makeshift who earned the star billing last weekend. West Ham's David Cross may be one of the Second Division's leading scorers with six goals but he's far from happy at his achievement. "I should be scoring a lot more," he confessed. "I find I'm scoring in twos and threes while it would be much better for the club if I could spread them out more."

Cross hit a hat-trick against Notts County on the opening day and added another two at Burnley a fortnight ago. He recently joined the ton-up club in League soccer and now has 106 League goals to his credit, scored for Rochdale (21), Norwich (21), Coventry (29), West Bromwich (19) and West Ham (16). Everyone has been saying that the purchase Duncan McKenzie from Everton for £165,000

is Chelsea's first in the transfer market for four years. That is not strictly true, for this summer they paid £10,000 to Southern League Weymouth for goalkeeper Bob Iles, in whom manager Ken Shellito has great hopes. "He was unfortunate to injure an ankle while we were on our close-season tour," said the Chelsea boss. "Once he has a few reserve team games beneath his belt, I am quite confident he will be ready to step up into the first-team if needed."

At the moment, Welsh international John Phillips is playing in the second team but when Iles recovers it seems certain Phillips will move on. He is scarcely likely to be satisfied with third team soccer.

Though he has won four Welsh international caps since joining Chelsea from Aston Villa in 1970, Phillips has been limited by the consistency of Peter Bonetti to 118 League games with Chelsea.

Don Masson, who scored his first goal since returning to Notts County in their 1-0 victory over Orient last weekend, has dropped considerably down soccer's social scale in the past few weeks. During the summer he played for Scotland before fanatical Argentinian crowds in the World Cup. Then he returned to Derby to find he was no longer part of manager Tommy Docherty's plans so he returned to Notts County for £30,000. Masson has had time to reflect upon the strange twists to his career. He might never have become an international star in the first place if Notts County had not found themselves involved in a potential legal battle with Bournemouth a few years ago.

The southern club allegedly agreed to buy Masson for £100,000 but found they couldn't raise the cash. Notts threatened to go to Court if Bournemouth failed to honour their agreement but, before it came to that, Masson moved on to Q.P.R. for £100,000. The elevation to First Division football earned him the chance to play for Scotland.

Luton Town, too, are reflecting upon the ironies of life this week. They are the highest-scoring home team with 16 home League goals after thrashing Cardiff 7-1 last Saturday. Yet, away from home, they have scored only one goal — and have failed to gain a point.

The Hatters have a long way to go before they need feel as concerned about their away form as Rochdale, however. Their 1-3 defeat at Bournemouth on Saturday was their 29th away League game without a win. Even more depressing is the fact that they have collected only three points from drawn games during that dismal run.

Even First Division clubs have problems when it comes to winning away games, though. Norwich City have won only one of their last 35 away League games! That was at West Ham on the opening day of last season and, since then, they have failed to win any of 24 away League games played.



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SATURDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER 1978

SWINDON TOWN

at 3.00pm

BLACKPOOL

1. C. OGDEN
2. J. McLAUGHLIN
3. A. FORD
4. R. McHALE
5. S. AIZLEWOOD
6. K. STROUD
7. I. MILLER
8. R. CARTER
9. A. ROWLAND
10. C. BATES
11. B. WILLIAMS
12. C. KAMARA



1. B. WARD
2. P. GARDNER
3. T. PASHLEY
4. M. THOMPSON
5. P. SUDDABY
6. S. McEWAN
7. D. HOCKADAY
8. B. RONSON
9. D. SPENCE
10. V. DAVIDSON
11. D. WEBSTER

NEXT MATCH

Saturday, 30th September

DIVISION III

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY

3.00 p.m.

Linesmen:

Red Flag - MR. J.C. WELLS, Salisbury, Wilts. Yellow Flag - MR. R.B. GIFFORD, Blackwood, Gwent.

REFEREE:

JOHN E. MARTIN (Alton, Hants.)

Started with the Bromley and District League in 1958. Moved to Surrey in 1964 and progressed through Surrey Senior and Isthmian Leagues to the Football League in 1973. Refereed Isthmian League Final in 1977, and Premier Floodlight Final in 1978. A married man with one son, he is manager of a purchase ledger department. Enjoys all sports, badminton in particular, and is a past member of the Polytechnic Harriers and Vice-Chairman of the Basingstoke Referees Association.

KEY OF THE BOARD

- A Brentford v Gillingham
- B Carlisle v Southend
- C Chester v Swansea
- D Chesterfield v Peterborough
- E Exeter v Hull City
- F Rotherham v Mansfield
- G Sheffield Wed. v Plymouth
- H Shrewsbury v Lincoln
- I Walsall v Colchester
- J Watford v Oxford Utd.
- K Arsenal v Manchester Utd.
- L Birmingham v Chelsea
- M Bolton v Norwich
- N Coventry v Leeds
- O Derby v Southampton
- P Everton v Wolverhampton
- Q Ipswich v Bristol City
- R Manchester City v Tottenham H.
- S Nottm. Forest v Middlesbrough
- T West. Brom. Alb. v Liverpool

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