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## Wilf Tranter says.....

The Team Manager has been in the north of the country for the last three days and it has fallen my lot to write these notes in his absence. Firstly I must refer to last Saturdays game against Blackpool, a very dour outfit who came to the County Ground determined to play a defensive game in the hope of gaining a point. They were more than successful - they got two. I thought that we did well enough until the penalty decision was given in our favour but when we missed from the spot then we lost some of our confidence and they gained the upper hand to a certain extent. After missing three penalties this season we are beginning to think of a penalty goal as a second prize to be won rather than a gift from the opposition. After Saturdays defeat I am glad that we have a midweek game at Chester to try and rectify matters although at the time of writing the result of this match is not known. A little while ago we were pleased that we had had only one defeat in nine matches yet in a matter of three weeks the position has changed to three defeats in four games - how quickly this game can change. So far as defensive football is concerned, many clubs are relying on these tactics away from home and we must expect to see more of this kind of play on the County Ground. However, it is up to us to find our own solution and in my view a squad system would help but of course this is not so practicable in the lower divisions where good players are rarely prepared to play in reserve sides when they can play first team football at other clubs. At the glamour clubs of course they are prepared to do this.

I have not had the opportunity to say

through the programme how pleased I am to have had the opportunity to get back into the game and I must say that I am enjoying the challenge immensely. Quite honestly it doesn't seem that I have been doing anything else and I am completely back into the swing of things enjoying the coaching side of things as well as the dressing room atmosphere and the soccer humour, and believe me there is nothing like that. Bob Smith paid me a compliment only last week by saying that it doesn't seem possible that I have been out of the game for three years the way that I have fitted in to the club set up.

So far as my relationship with the Team Manager Bob and I get along famously although we are in fact complete opposites. He gets very elated or very dispirited - highs and lows - brought about by his passion for the game in fact he was just the same in his playing days. He hates defeat and shows it whereas I am more philosophical and am able to go home and push things into the back of my mind. I consider myself to be a Henry Kissinger of the dressing room and after the Manager has given the players a good old fashioned telling off, as he rightly does when he feels that he isn't getting the effort he requires, then I try to stabilise matters a little bit. The players tend to ask me what kind of a mood he is in before asking for an interview because he is rightly the Boss in the dressing rooms but not withstanding that he is more than fair and has a great sense of humour.

Finally, I am enjoying the job and am looking forward to getting the wife and kids settled in here for they love the area.

# Bits and Pieces

The Town's new striker, Andy Rowland, comes to Swindon with an impressive scoring record. He was snapped up from his home town club Derby County by Bobby Smith when he was in charge at Bury and made his League debut here at the County Ground on August 17, 1974, scoring the Shaker's second goal in a 2 - 0 win for his new club. He finished that season as second highest scorer at Gigg Lane (only Derek Spence, here last week with Blackpool, scored more) and in the three seasons since then he has topped the club's scoring chart on each occasion. He recorded his only hat-trick for Bury against Peterborough United in a 4 - 1 win on September 25, 1976. In addition to his tally of 57 League

goals to the end of last season, he has notched seven in his League Cup and four in the F.A. Cup. He began his season by scoring his side's only goal against Wrexham in the League Cup and followed it with one in a 3 - 3 home draw with South-end United.

Andy's League Record to the end of last season:

Bury	1974 - 75	:	30+5 apps.	10 gls.
	1975 - 76	:	46 apps.	16 gls.
	1976 - 77	:	45 apps.	17 gls.
	1977 - 78	:	41 apps.	14 gls.
<b>TOTAL</b>		:	<b>162+5 apps.</b>	<b>57 gls.</b>



## PIC OF THE PAST

An airborne Roger Smart gives the Town a first-half lead at Hillsborough.

Sheffield Wednesday 2  
Swindon Town 1

(F.A. Cup 4th Round)  
17. 2. 68

Continued from page 14

Newcomer Bobby Gould scored one of the goals that gave Hereford their first away victory, 2-0 at Rochdale. It was his third goal in two games and got him off to his customary good start with a new club. Gould, who was recently transferred from Bristol Rovers, scored a hat-trick on his debut for Rovers last season, after joining them from Wolves.

This latest move is the eighth transfer in Gould's career. He left Coventry for Arsenal for £90,000 in 1968 and then moved on to Wolves for £55,000 two years later. W.B.A. signed him for £60,000 in 1971 and Bristol City paid £62,000 for him a couple of years later.

on FRIDAY NEXT OCTOBER 6th  
COLCHESTER UNITED

Swindon Town travel to Layer Road searching for a victory to add to the one solitary success gained there in the last six visits. The Essex outfit has had difficulty in finding the back of the net this season and recently went four consecutive matches without scoring.

Stand Admission Prices will be £1.80 and £1.40.

# John Ward talks to

## Ray McHale

Ray McHale was born in Sheffield twenty seven years ago. He grew up a Wednesday supporter with the ambition to become a professional footballer but Wednesday showed no interest in him. At sixteen he had a trial period with Huddersfield but he found the travelling too much to do himself justice. He moved in and out of a number of different jobs including being a milkman and in the building trade unable to settle because his mind was set on football. Meanwhile he was playing as an amateur with Chesterfield Reserves. Eventually when he was twenty they invited him to turn professional. He didn't need asking twice even though he had just got married and his pay dropped from £50 to £20 a week! He spent four seasons with Chesterfield playing in midfield and scoring an average of ten goals a season; one year the club finished fourth in Division Three. Then when manager Joe Shaw refused him what he regarded as a reasonable pay rise Ray moved to Halifax for £10,000. In his two years there he scored twelve and then sixteen goals, the latter in the year they were relegated. He says that he didn't fancy playing in the Fourth Division and so was glad when Swindon bought him for £7,000.

Ray is very modest about his abilities as a player: "You could say that I am an average Third Division player who will get ten goals a season. I'm told that Alan Ball is the only recent midfield player with a better goal-scoring record than mine. I've improved since I came to Swindon because there are better players here." I asked whether being made captain meant that he felt he had to set himself apart from the other players. "Just the opposite," he said. "When the manager took me aside to tell me he was going to make me captain he said it was because I was one of the lads and that was how he wanted it to stay. I find that I don't have a great deal to do as captain on the field apart from geeing up the others and trying to set an example, for instance by not arguing with the referee. In a way there are eleven captains on the field: we all talk to each other and correct each other's faults"

I asked Ray how his own game and the team's

compared with last year. Was he for example playing a more defensive role? "Possibly," he replied. "If so it's because the other two midfield players are making runs. We all three like going forward but someone has got to sit in while the other two go. We are more organised as a team this year. Last year the players often had to work out what we were doing wrong for ourselves. Frank Burrows was great as a trainer but he wasn't as good at spotting things as Wilf Tranter and the gaffer. Last year if we want two up we might still end up losing three-two or drawing. Now if we go two ahead there's no way that we'll lose. Bobby Smith is just what the club needed. He may be hard but that's all right with the players if he gets us promotion and the good contracts that would follow from being in the Second Division."

Ray clearly feels settled at Swindon by the arrival of Bobby Smith. He took a long time to move his family down from Sheffield partly because he had problems in selling his house up north and partly because he wasn't sure whether it might turn out to be only a temporary move. "I could have gone to two or three clubs during the summer but the new manager fixed things by giving me a very good two year contract." Ray's wife is happy in Swindon and works as manageress of a Barratts shoe shop and the two children, a boy and girl of seven and nine have settled in well at school. He coaches a local football team Penhill and already holds the F.A. preliminary coaching badge. He hopes to get his full badge this year and would eventually like to move into coaching when he finishes as a player. In the summer he plays a lot of cricket and whenever they can he and Andy Ford go over to South Marston Country Club for a game of squash. Here there are a number of squash leagues, for individuals rather than teams, with promotion and relegation. This suits Ray: "I never like getting beat," he said with a smile. I was left with the impression of a very competitive Yorkshireman typified by what he said when I asked him whether he now looked on football merely as a way of earning a living or whether he really enjoyed playing still: "I enjoy it when we win," was his reply.

# Talk of the Town by the Chairman

We welcome today our football friends from Sheffield Wednesday, managed by Jack Charlton known throughout the Football World, and we know that little will be given away on the field today. We have all been disappointed in failing to win points over our last three games and I know that our Manager is well aware of the difficulties and will be doing everything in his power to rectify the position. His job has been made very much harder by the fact that he has lost the services of both John McLaughlin and Brian Williams, through injuries. The loss of John meant the recall of John Trollope at Chester on Wednesday last and John gave his usual high performance, and this was after he had played for the first half of his reserve team game at Bristol Rovers on the previous day. After the match at Chester John was driven home by Daragh Croxson the Advertiser Sports writer to enable him to be able to travel to Luton on the next day with his Youth Team, as the Senior Team stayed the Wednesday night at Wrexham to save the late journey back through the night.

Thank you Daragh for your help. After a promising start to the season and building our hopes high, we now find ourselves fighting to get back amongst the leaders. It is at a time like this that we all need to pull together and although criticism is only natural, we do hope that our supporters will rally around the lads as they have done so far this year.

Our reserve team, obtained their second and successive point away from home on Tuesday last at Bristol Rovers and today play away, again at Luton.

Injuries are the biggest set back to any Managers plans and we are suffering at the moment and this of course weakens the reserve strength but our reserve team of course is really a means to enable us to give our young lads exper-

ience against League players although naturally we look forward to success in winning.

While we were at Chester we were shown the new developments of their future new buildings which is a new stand and amenities being built by the same firm that built our own. The cost of building a stand etc., as large as our own would today be nearly double the cost we were required to pay. Chester can only attract three or four thousand people to their games, because of the famous teams so close to them, although they did have a gate of eight and a half thousand against Swansea whom they beat 2-0 and this I think was the attraction of the ex Liverpool players in the Swansea team.

Some people will only watch football when it is a special game, but we are hoping to attract our supporters regularly. Hoping that todays game will do a little towards this end, and thank you for supporting us.

Here's how the Automobile Association suggest you travel to Colchester United F.C.

SWINDON	
Mileage	Follow signs Marlborough A345 In 0.7 miles follow signs London to join Motorway M4.
69.5	HESTON SERVICE AREA In 4.5 miles leave Motorway
5.0	CHISWICK FLYOVER (Roundabout) Follow signs North Circular Road A406
16.1	EDMONTON
6.9	GANTS HILL At roundabout take 2nd exit A12
45.5	A.A. ROAD SERVICE CENTRE (87) In 5.9 miles at roundabout take 2nd exit A604 In 1.5 miles at roundabout take 3rd exit A134
8.0	COLCHESTER Follow signs Layer (B1026) 1.5 miles farther at T rd Turn Right B1026
1.7	COLCHESTER UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB (on right)



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# IN TOWN TODAY



Back Row: (L - R)

Middle Row: (L - R)

Front Row: (L - R)

R. Wylde, D. Grant, M. Smith, C. Turner, B. Cox, B. Bolder,  
I. Porterfield, J. Mullen.

T. Toms (trainer) M. Setters (coach), T. Tynan, J. Johnson,

B. Hornsby, D. Rushbury, D. Leman, C. Gregson, G. Owen,

H. Dowd, J. Charlton, (manager), I. St. John (trainer)

T. Henson, B. Strutt, P. Bradshaw, W. Harrison, L. McKeowan, I. Nimmo.

# SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY



# IN TOWN TODAY

## WEDNESDAY DISAPPOINT AGAIN

By Tony Pullein

Sheffield Wednesday lost their unbeaten home League record when they went down 2-3 to Plymouth at Hillsborough last Saturday and, with only seven points from seven games, the Owls faced the prospect of another relegation battle. This is their fourth season as a Third Division club and they had hoped this season might have marked the first stage of their step back to the type of status they enjoyed for most of their long history.

Manager Jack Charlton made only one major close-season signing — right-back Ray Blackhall from Newcastle. Ray served his apprenticeship at St James Park and made some three dozen appearances in their First Division side.

For the early matches, however, the number two shirt was worn by young Peter Shirtliff, with the remainder of the back four lining up: Mark Smith, Hugh Dowd and David Grant.

Shirtliff made his League debut against Peterborough on the opening day of this season while Smith was drafted for the final two matches of last season.

Dowd spent several seasons in Irish football with Glentoran and Glenavon and, while with them, he won three N. Ireland international caps. Wednesday signed him in 1974. Grant is another of the young players developed at Hillsborough and recently introduced to the League team. He came into the side last season.

David Rushbury and Jimmy Mullen are two other defenders, though Mullen has also played in midfield. Rushbury enjoyed his first taste of League soccer with West Bromwich in 1974/75 when he held a regular place at centre-back. After losing his place, he moved to Sheffield in 1976. Mullen has been with the club since he was a schoolboy and he made his League bow during 1970/71.

When Mullen was in midfield, he played with Brian Hornsby and Ian Porterfield in this department.

Hornsby played his early football with Arsenal and made a couple of dozen First Division appearances for them. It was after going to Shrewsbury, however, in 1976 that he began to play regular League football. Wednesday paid £50,000 for him last season and he is at the moment their leading scorer with five goals (as at last weekend).

Porterfield will forever be remembered as the scorer of Sunderland's sensational winning goal against Leeds in the 1973 F.A. Cup final. Sunderland had signed him from Raith Rovers for £38,000 in 1968 but his Roker

days ended when he was injured in a car crash in 1976. It seemed his career was over but Reading took him on loan to give him a successful come-back chance two seasons ago and he signed for Wednesday in 1977.

The forward line has included Roger Wylde, Tommy Tynan, Jeff Johnson, Gordon Owen and Ian Nimmo.

Wylde scored on his League debut against Middlesbrough in November 1972 and for the past two seasons he has been holding a regular place. Two seasons back he was the Club's top scorer with 25 goals. Last season he scored 14 and he opened this term's account with a goal against Plymouth last Saturday.

Johnson got a few opportunities in Manchester City's First Division side but really settled to League soccer when spending season 1972/73 on loan to Swansea. Crystal Palace paid £12,000 for him in 1973 and for three years he held his place in their senior side. Wednesday signed him in 1976.

Tynan was Wednesday's leading marksman last season when he hit 21 goals but he has only netted once this term. He began with Liverpool but never rose above the reserve team. A loan period with Swansea in 1975/76 enabled him to play his first League football but, since his transfer to Wednesday in 1976, he has always been in the senior squad.

Gordon Owen is another of Wednesday's own products. He made a solitary appearance in their League eleven two seasons ago, had two more games last term and recently came back again when Wylde was injured. Nimmo came into the side initially in 1975/76 and went on loan to Peterborough the following season. He scored his first goal of the season against Plymouth last Saturday.

Wednesday's only consolation about their slow start is that, at least, it is better than last year's when they failed to win any of their opening ten League games. Indeed, they were bottom of the table at one stage, with the bleak prospect of a spell in Division Four before them.

But Jack Charlton began to sort out some of his problems and, as the season drew on, results improved and Wednesday began to climb up the table, eventually finishing 14th. They have won one away League game so far, at Lincoln (2-1), and drew at Gillingham (0-0) and Mansfield (1-1). Their only away League defeat was at Peterborough (0-2) on the opening day of the season.

In the League Cup, Wednesday needed three games to dispose of Doncaster in the first round and then lost 0-1 at Aston Villa in the second.

# DIVISION 3 - 1978-79

Date	Opponents	Ground	Score	Scorers	Attendance
			F A		
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	0 - 1		6609
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			
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	8	3		11
ANDY FORD	8	3		11
RAY McHALE	8(1)	3		11(1)
STEVE AIZLEWOOD	8	3(1)		11(1)
KENNY STROUD	8	3		11
IAN MILLER	8(1)	3(2)		11(3)
CHRIS KAMARA	6	3		9
CHIC BATES	8(3)	3		11(3)
BRIAN WILLIAMS	7(1)	3(1)		10(2)
ROY CARTER	8(1)	2		10(1)
CHRIS OGDEN	8	2		10
RUSSELL LEWIS	2			2
PAUL GILCHRIST	1			1
ANDY ROWLAND	1			1

## on TUESDAY NEXT PETERBOROUGH UNITED FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP THIRD ROUND

The 'Posh' have already played five games in the competition this season. It took them three games to overcome Third Division rivals Hull City in the First Round and then First Division Middlesbrough were disposed of in a replay. Although suffering a similar fate to the Town recently - a 1 - 4 defeat at Walsall - United give little away at home.

Stand Admission Prices will be £1.50 (on sale now) and £1.30

# Football Combination

DATE 1978	OPPONENTS	F	A	APPEARANCES & SCORERS	
Aug. 19	Ipswich Town	A	0-4		
22	Fulham	H	0-0		
26	Tottenham Hotspur	H	1-3		Appearances & Scorers
Sept. 2	Plymouth Argyle	A	0-2	Allan	7
9	Leicester City	H	0-1	Hatter	3
16	Birmingham City	A	1-1	Trollope	7
26	Bristol Rovers	A	0-0	Hughes	4
30	Luton Town	A		Henry	5
Oct. 4				Collicutt	7
7	Hereford United	A		Abbley	7
14	Norwich City	A		Gilligan	4
21	Oxford United	H		Page	7
28	Chelsea	H		Barry	7
Nov. 4	Orient	A		Cox	2
11	Ipswich Town	H		Wood	2
18	Tottenham Hotspur	A		Lewis	5
21	Plymouth Argyle	H		Norman	5
25	Queens Park Rangers	A		Prophett	2
Dec. 2	Crystal Palace	H		Gilchrist	3
9	Bristol City	A		Cunningham	3
12	Southampton	H		Brown	1
16	West Ham United	H		Walters	1
20	Cardiff City	A		Hehir	1
30	Arsenal	H			

## DIVISION THREE LEAGUE TABLE .....up to and including Tuesday September 26th

	P	W	D	L	F-A	W	D	L	F-A	Pts	TOP GOALSCORER (inc. Lge. Cup)
Shrewsbury T.	9	4	1	0	6-0	2	1	1	3-2	14	Paul Maguire, Graham Turner 3
Watford	9	2	0	2	10-7	4	0	1	15-7	12	Ross Jenkins 12
Swansea C	9	3	1	0	13-7	2	1	2	6-6	12	Robbie James 9
Carlisle U	9	3	2	0	8-1	0	3	1	3-5	11	Dave Kemp 4
Rotherham U	9	4	0	1	8-4	0	3	1	5-6	11	Dave Gwyther 7
Blackpool	9	4	1	0	8-2	1	0	3	3-9	11	Vic Davidson 6
Hull C	9	2	2	0	9-3	2	0	3	6-6	10	Keith Edwards 7
Plymouth A	8	2	0	1	5-5	3	0	2	10-8	10	Fred Binney 9
Peterborough U	8	3	1	0	6-1	1	1	2	5-9	10	Alan Slough 6
Southend U	8	3	0	1	6-3	0	3	1	6-7	9	Gerry Fell 4
Chester	8	3	1	0	8-2	1	0	3	2-6	9	Ian Edwards 8
Gillingham	9	1	2	1	3-3	1	3	1	6-6	9	Ken Price 4
Chesterfield	8	1	1	2	5-6	1	3	0	5-2	8	Rod Fern 4
Sheffield W	8	1	2	1	5-5	1	2	1	3-4	8	Brian Hornsby 5
<b>SWINDON TOWN</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5-2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2-7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>CHIC BATES, IAN MILLER 3</b>
Colchester U	8	2	2	0	5-3	0	2	2	2-7	8	Steve Foley 3
Brentford	9	3	0	2	4-6	0	1	3	3-8	7	Andy McCulloch, Pat Kruse, Steve Phillips 2
Mansfield T	7	0	3	0	3-3	1	1	2	4-4	6	Kevin Bird, Dave Goodwin, Johnny Miller 2
Walsall	9	2	2	1	13-9	0	0	4	3-9	6	Terry Austin 6
Exeter C	7	1	2	1	5-4	1	0	2	3-6	6	Keith Bowker 5
Tranmere R	8	1	3	1	5-6	0	0	3	4-7	5	Ronnie Moore, Steve Peplow 3
Bury	9	0	2	2	7-9	0	3	2	1-4	5	Andy Rowland, Billy Tucker 2
Oxford U	8	1	1	2	3-5	0	1	3	3-8	4	Colin Duncan, Peter Foley 3
Lincoln C	9	1	1	2	4-9	0	0	5	2-10	3	Glenn Cockerill 2

# ACTION REPLAY



Swindon striker Chic Bates (left) is beaten to a high centre during the Town's game with Blackpool at the County Ground where they lost 1 - 0. The other Town players in the picture are Roy Carter and Brian Williams.



Blackpool goalkeeper Hesford jumps to collect a high cross as Swindon's Chic Bates (left) moves in during the Town's defeat at the County Ground.

# From the **COMMERCIAL OFFICE**

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. The New Moonraker Lottery is now drawn each Thursday and not as previous on Mondays. This eases the pressure on our staff and also more people can come to see the actual Lottery Draw. We are always pleased to see you whether you buy or sell our tickets. The draw venue is printed on the bottom of each ticket so when the draw is in your area why not come along. We need a full-time person to help with the lottery accounting. If anyone with accounting experience is interested Please apply in **WRITING ONLY** to the Commercial Manager, Swindon Town F.C. County Ground, Swindon, Wilts. No telephone enquiries will be accepted.

We still need a few Agents to help sell our tickets if anyone is interested in earning some extra cash please fill in the coupon below. Commission is paid on all sales + a bonus on winners.

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..... Phone No:.....

I am over 16 years of age .....

D. BUSWELL,  
Commercial Consultant.

## The Football Association Notice to Spectators

Every Club is responsible to the Council for the action of it's spectators and is required to take all reasonable precautions to prevent spectators throwing missiles on to the pitch 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 necessary for the purpose of effecting such removal. The Club has been ordered to print this notice because of incidents at a match at the conclusion of last season. Spectators are warned that a repetition of misconduct may result in the closing of the ground.

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# NATION WIDE

By Tony Pullein

Last season Bob Latchford was the First Division's leading scorer with 30 League goals. This season he was the last of the major strikers to get off the mark when he finally opened his account in the 2-0 win over Wolves. Bob had already scored five goals in the League Cup and one in the UEFA Cup for Everton, and scored one for England against Denmark, but a goal in League football had eluded him until last weekend.

Manchester United are once again by far the best supported team in the country. Their average home gate for League games is 54,386. Next come Liverpool (50,876), Manchester City (42,454) and Tottenham (40,853).

At the other end of the scale we find Rochdale with an average home attendance of £1,298.

It looks like history may repeat for Rochdale. Last season they went to the bottom of Division Four on September 17 and stayed there for the rest of the season. This season they kept away from last place until September 16 and a home defeat by Hereford last week ensured that they remained there.

Aldershot's club record run of 26 unbeaten home League games came to an end when Hampshire rivals Portsmouth beat them 2-0 at The Recreation Ground. Pompey's goals came from Jeff Hemmerman and John Lathan, one in each half, in a match watched by 8,967 -- Aldershot's best League gate since April 1976 when Brighton were the visitors.

Goalkeeper Ray Clemence could not be blamed for any of the three goals Denmark hit into his net last week but the event did bring to an end a remarkable run by the Liverpool man. It was the first time he had ever conceded three goals in an international match.

In his 37 appearances for England, Clemence has only conceded 29 goals. He has kept 17 clean sheets -- including five out of his six England games last season. Only seven teams have even managed to score twice against him

Normally, Clemence is protected by an outstanding defence, both at international and club levels. It wasn't like that in Copenhagen where the defence let England down but, in so doing, helped to provide one of England's most exciting international matches in years.

For me the gala of the occasion was once again marred by a hundred or so of the 1,000 English fans who travelled to Denmark. After the game F.A. officials once again spoke of the possibility of banning England fans from all away games.

This, however, would deny the hundreds of sober and decent people it has been my privilege to meet on trips all over Europe. Those who travel with the England Football Supporters' Association I have always found to be intelligent and interesting folk who spend a lot of money following England. It would be criminal to withhold tickets from them.

Newport manager Len Ashurst has been busily seeking a new goalkeeper and, having failed to persuade Sheffield United to sell Scottish international Jim Brown for a fee Newport could afford, he was looking into the possibility of loaning a 'keeper.

One of the names mentioned was Chris Woods of Nottingham Forest. Woods, you'll remember was the teenager who kept Forest's League Cup hopes alive last season with a succession of splendid saves against Liverpool at Wembley. Because Peter Shilton was cup-tied, Woods played in every one of Forest's League Cup ties. The strange thing is that he has still never played in a League game and an arrangement with Newport might well interest him.

Watford chairman Elton John, who sat in the press box at the Denmark v England game in Copenhagen, said that he expected his club to move to a new ground in the centre of the town. "We have no hope of expanding at Vicarage Road," he said. "We tried to get permission to take over several acres of allotments behind the ground but it seems unlikely we shall ever be allowed to do that. We are an ambitious club and I hope we can soon make progress on a move."

Brentford, promoted from the Fourth Division this year, are currently struggling at the wrong end of the Third and manager Bill Dodgin is hoping to increase his 15-strong first-team squad. Injuries have been part of the cause of Brentford's problems.

Goalkeeper Len Bond was injured in a pre-season car crash and Trevor Porter, the player signed to replace him, was carried off in one match. Three other Brentford players have been stretchered off and when striker Andy McCulloch reported back for training after returning from his spell in U.S. soccer he turned up with an injured back!

Continued on page 4



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# SATURDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 1978

SWINDON TOWN

at 3.00pm

SHEFFIELD

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. C. KAMARA



1. R. BOLDER
2. R. BLACKHALL
3. D. GRANT
4. D. RUSHBURY
5. H. DOWD
6. J. MULLEN
7. R. WYLDE
8. I. PORTERFIELD
9. T. TYNAN
10. J. JOHNSON
11. B. HORNSBY

NEXT MATCH  
Saturday 14th October  
DIVISION III

ROTHERHAM UNITED

K.O. 3.00 p.m.

Linesmen:  
Red Flag

Mr. B.A. Champion, Avonmouth, Bristol Yellow Flag - Mr. J. Roost, Norton St. Philip, Bath.

## REFEREE:

**ANGUS MCDONALD (Sutton Coldfield)**

Commencing with the Birmingham works has progressed via Midland Counties and West Midland Leagues to the Football League list.

A married man, with two children, he is a Purchasing Manager and enjoys playing golf.

## KEY OF THE BOARD

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

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