OXFORD UNITED

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE
Associate Members Cup 1st Round

SWINDON TOWN
February 22nd 1984
Kick-off 7.30 pm

50p



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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE

Printed by Parchment (Oxford) Limited 60 Hurst Street, Oxford Published by Oxford United F.C. Editor: Mick Brown

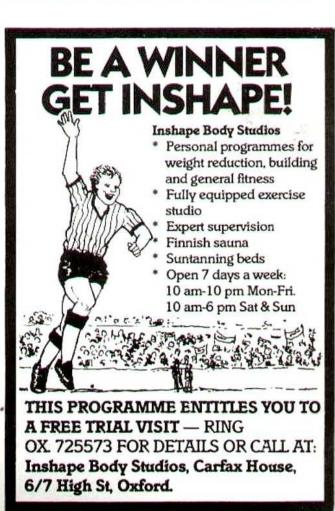
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Individual contributions made to the Official Matchday Magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the club.



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JIM SMITH'S TEAM TALK

Tonight we see the first ever game in the new Associate Members Cup. In line with all of our other cup exploits this season, we have a very attractive draw with our local rivals Swindon Town, who are managed by an old player of mine, Ken Beamish.

Swindon, like ourselves and Sheffield Wednesday are chasing for promotion and consequently it will be a very tough game indeed. However, it does give us the opportunity to get over the disappointment of Saturday, when we were beaten by a very fine Sheffield Wednesday side.

Together with all our fans and players, I was very disappointed, not particularly at going out of the F.A. Cup, but the way in which we went out.

Up until their first goal, we had played reasonably well and were in fact the

better side. But once again our final ball let us down. Then came that very debatable free kick which resulted in a goal, that we should have stopped. From that moment on Wednesday were in control.

I feel that one of the main reasons for this, was that after 18 magnificent cup ties, we were emotionally drained and could find no inspiration to fight back.

But nevertheless, I am sure that you will join with me in congratulating the players on their tremendous cup efforts this season, and again get behind them in our push for what is and always has been our prime objective, promotion.

I hope also that those extra supporters who have been to see us regularly this season, will stay with us and help become our 13th man.

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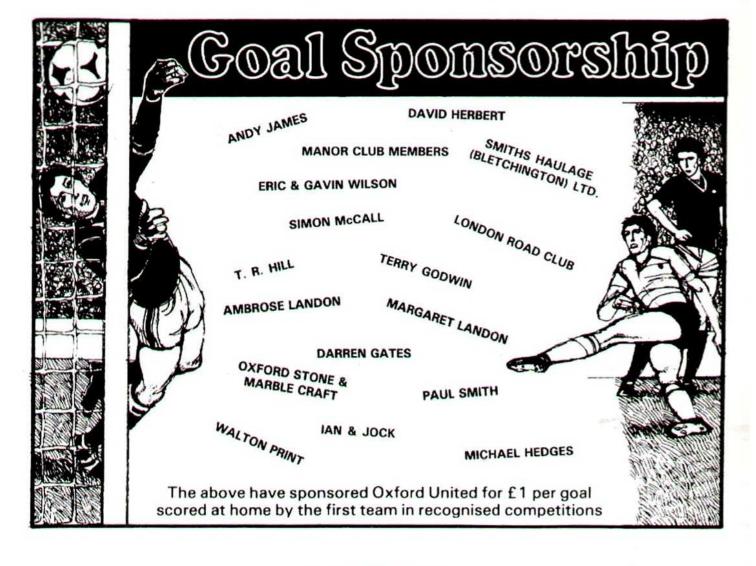
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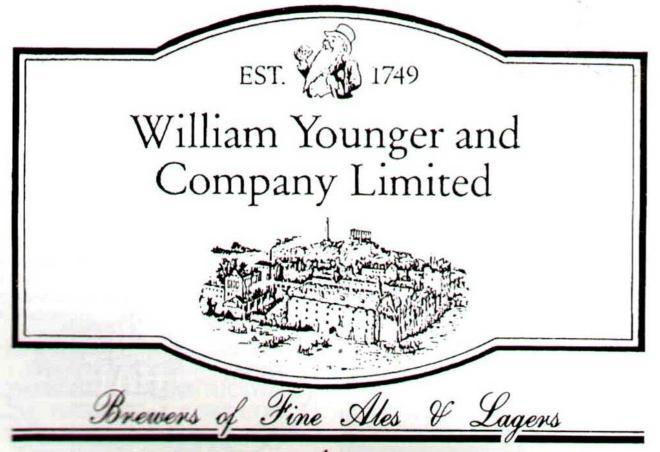
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OUR VISITORS



by Tony Pullein

Swindon's Fourth Division promotion hopes have taken a few knocks in recent weeks so the chance to indulge in another spot of Cup battling comes as a welcome relief. They have already enjoyed one inspired Cup run this season when surviving to the fourth round of the F.A. Cup.

Drawn away in the first two rounds, they ran up a 7-0 victory at Ketting and then defeated Third Division Millwall by 3-2 at The Den.

Their best performance came away to Second Division Carlisle United in round three when they recovered from an early goal to draw 1-1. They then scored a comfortable 3-1 win in the replay.

Swindon's run was ended by one of the leading Second Division sides Blackburn Rovers who beat them 2-1 at the County Ground.

They took a first round exit from the Milk Cup, though, going out 2-4 on aggregate to Plymouth.

The Robins have won only two away games in the Fourth Division — at Stockport (3-1) and Chester (3-0). They drew at Reading (2-2), Mansfield (2-2), Peterborough (1-1), Blackpool (1-1) and Rochdale (3-3).

Sadly, their now fast-fading promotion hopes took another knock on Saturday when they were held to a 1-1 home draw by Reading. Over the years Swindon have won considerable fame as Cup fighters. They have on two occasions reached the F.A. Cup semifinals and in 1968 they defeated Arsenal 3-1 at Wembley in the League Cup final. A year later they won the Anglo-Italian Cup.

Swindon Town F.C. was formed in 1881 by a clergyman and they became one of the founder members of the Southern League in 1894. They took the Championship of that competition on two occasions before they joined the Football League in 1920 when the Southern League's First Division was taken over to form the Third Divisions (South). They finished fourth in their first season in the League — a position they were unable to improve upon until winning promotion 42 years later!

Yet Swindon were still a Southern League club when they first hit the national headlines. In 1910 they fought their way to the semifinal of the F.A. Cup after defeating First Division Spurs (3-2), and two Second Division sides — Burnley (2-0) and the divisional champions-to-be Manchester City (2-0) — before falling to the reigning League Champions Newcastle United (0-2) at Tottenham. Two years later they made another appearance in the semi-finals.

On that occasions they held the eventual winners, Barnsley, to a 0-0 draw before going down 0-1 in the replay.



BACK ROW: Mike Graham, Charlie Henry, Scott Endersby, Jimmy Allan, Kevin Baddeley, Leigh Barnard.

MIDDLE ROW: David Hockaday, Nigel Gray, Paul Richardson, Jimmy Quinn, Andrew Rowland. FRONT ROW: Alan Mayes, Colin Bailie, Ken Beamish (Team Manager), Gary Emmanuel, Paul Batty.

THE MEN FROM THE COUNTY GROUND

Scott ENDERSBY (Goalkeeper)

Former Ipswich Town apprentice who moved to Tranmere Rovers in 1981. Spent two seasons at Prenton Park making 91 appearances before joining Swindon at the start of this season on a free transfer.

Nigel GRAY (Defender)

A tall defender who started his career as an apprentice at Orient. He made his debut for the O's against Bolton Wanderers in April 1975 and made over 250 appearances for the Londoners before joining Swindon in July 1983.

Kevin BADDELEY (Defender)

Born Swindon, Kevin served his apprenticeship with Bristol City and made his only appearance for them against West Ham United in August 1980. Went to Swindon on a free transfer in July 1981 and has since established himself in the first team. Nearing a century of appearances for the Wiltshire side.

Paul BATTY (Midfield)

Paul served his apprenticeship at the County ground and made his League debut in a 1-0 win against Crewe Alexandra on 25th September 1982. A very promising player who makes up for his lack of height with his tremendous enthusiasm for the game.

Simon GIBSON (Defender)

Younger brother of United defender Stuart Gibson. Simon was transferred for a small fee from Chelsea earlier in the season after a successful spell on loan with the club. From a footballing family his father was also in the game having made 344 League appearances for Notts County between 1959 and 1969.

Andy ROWLAND (Forward)

Made his League debut for Bury against Swindon at the County ground after serving his apprenticeship at Derby County. A consistent goalscorer who has netted over 150 goals.

Colin BAILIE (Midfield/Defender)

A former apprentice, this Belfast born lad made his debut in Swindon's 5-0 drubbing here at the Manor in April 1982. Normally at home in either

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Beer Garden Car Park full-back position Colin can also operate in midfield, and on Saturday he scored Swindon's goal in the 1-1 home draw with neighbours Reading.

Jimmy QUINN (Forward)

Signed from Oswestry Town in December 1981 for £10,000. He enjoyed a rapid rise from parks football to the Football League. A tall forward who is good in the air and often poses problems for opposing defenders.

Garry NELSON (Forward)

Joined Southend United from school and made 140 appearances for the Shrimpers before joining Swindon at the start of this season. His first goal for the Robins came in his first League appearance at the County ground in a 4-0 victory over Chester City.

Leigh BARNARD (Midfield)

Served his apprenticeship with Portsmouth and went on to make 79 appearances for them before moving to Swindon in June 1982.

Dave HOCKADAY (Forward)

Fast and tricky winger who signed for Swindon from Blackpool (his only other club) during the 1983 close season. He made 180 appearances for the Seasiders after making his debut in September 1976.

PAST RESULTS

Season	Comp	Home	Away	
1965-66	Div. 3	0-3	0-0	
1966-67	Div. 3	0-0	0-3	
1967-68	Div. 3	0-0	1-1	
1969-70	LC 3	1-0		
1969-70	Div. 2	0-0	0-0	
1970-71	Div. 2	0-0	0-3	
1971-72	Div. 2	1-1	0-4	
1972-73	Div. 2	1-0	3-1	
1973-74	Div. 2	1-1	0-1	
1976-77	Div. 3	0-0	0-1	
1977-78	Div. 3	3-3	2-3	
1978-79	Div. 3	0-1	0-2	
1979-80	Div. 3	2-2	1-1	
1980-81	Div. 3	0-0	0-1	
1981-82	Div. 3	5-0	2-3	

CURRENT FORM

BLACKBURN ROVERS	Home	Lost	1-2
ROCHDALE	Away	Drew	3-3
CHESTER CITY	Away	Won	3-0
STOCKPORT COUNTY	Home	Won	2-1
HEREFORD UNITED	Away	Lost	1-2
READING	Home	Drew	1-1

ALAN IS GLAD TO BE BACK

by Tony Pullein

It has been just like old times for Alan Mayes this season. Since returning to the County Ground, he has rediscovered his old appetite for goals and he is now Swindon's joint-top scorer with 12 goals.

Though Alan has played for five clubs — and is now in his second spell with Swindon — he has never scored with quite the same regularity elsewhere.

Indeed, he never got a chance to show what he could do with his first club, Queen's Park Rangers. He developed in the youth team and later played in the reserves but he did not get an opportunity to play League football with Rangers.

Watford signed him for a modest £8,000 in 1974 and he made his League debut for the Hornets in a Third Division game against Port Vale in November of that year. He marked the occasion with a goal and held his place in the squad for the remainder of that season, even though he scored only one more goal, at Bournemouth.

But he lost his touch the following season and, in December, he was loaned to Northampton Town. In only eight games, Alan scored four goals and Watford promptly recalled him. But, try as he did, Alan didn't score a solitary goal for the Hornets that season.

It was in 1976/77 that we first saw the best of him with Watford. The Hornets had by then dropped into the Fourth Division but he formed a fine striking partnership with Keith Mercer, scoring steadily throughout the season to total 17 in all matches.

The following season he scored 16 times and won a Fourth Division championship medal for his efforts.

But he went off the boil the following term and eventually lost his place in the Watford side. Swindon Town, who were chasing promotion to the Second Division, had enough confidence to invest £80,000 in his transfer in

Pat & Brian

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the February, though.

He immediately started to repay them by hitting a hat-trick in his first game at Rotherham to secure a 3-1 victory. He continued in the same vein and ended the season with 11 goals in only 21 games.

It was during that time that he found another perfect forward partner in Andy Rowland and they both hit their peak in 1979/80. Both of them scored 28 goals to make them joint-top scorers in Division Three. Even so, Swindon still failed to win promotion.

By December 1980 Alan had scored 12 times for Swindon when Chelsea made a £200,000 bid for his transfer. So he moved up into the Second Division for the first time, but with only moderate success.

Chelsea had been struggling for some while and it took Alan some time to settle at Stamford Bridge. But things began to come right in 1981/82. Two goals at Cardiff in an early game boosted his confidence and he ended up with 16 goals.

But Alan lost his place last season and he was given a free transfer at the end of it. Swindon quickly took advantage of the situation to re-sign him and he is once again scoring consistently for the Robins.

He has now been appointed Swindon's penalty-taker and, if they should be awarded a spot-kick tonight, he will be looking for his fourth penalty goal of the season.

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ASSOCIATE MEMBERS' CUP NEWS

by Tony Pullein

The frustration for clubs like Oxford, Bournemouth and Plymouth over the years has been that, in spite of pulling off some sensational performances in Cup football, they have never really been in with a sporting chance of actually winning a trophy. But The Associate Members' Cup, which rolls into action this week, now opens up the door for the best of the smaller clubs to attain some tangible success.

Plymouth Argyle, the latest Third Division side to upset the odds when they won 1-0 at West Bromwich in the F.A. Cup on Saturday, kick-off with a home tie against neighbouring Fourth Division rivals Torquay United and they will be favourites to progress in this new tournament.

The first round draw has been made on a regional basis to add interest to the ties and the majority of the games taking place this week involve clubs within a 40-mile distance of each other. The competition will, in fact, be regionalised right the way through to the final so that we will end up with a North versus South situation to decide who becomes the first winner.

Round two will comprise of 12 ties and the winners will be joined in the quarter-finals by the four teams scoring the highest total of goals in the first two rounds. So four of the beaten teams in the next round will still survive providing they have built up a useful goals total, starting with today's games.

One aspect of this new competition that makes it unique in senior football is that there will be no replays. If scores are level

after extra-time, all ties will be decided on a penalty-kick decider.

Swindon Town, who come to The Manor tonight, were in fact tangibly rewarded for one of their great giant-killing feats. Back in 1969 they battled their way to Wembley to meet Arsenal in the League Cup final and the Robins won 3-1 after extra-time.

Reading are one of the few clubs that have been forced to travel any real distance and they had to go to Southend United who are now struggling to get back onto a winning basis under Bobby Moore's managership. Southend won 5-0, with Reading goal ace Trevor Senior unusually quiet as the Shrimpers scored three in a six minute spell during the first-half.

The Royals travelled to Swindon in the Fourth Division on Saturday and Trevor came up trumps again when he put them in front just before the interval with his 31st goal of the season. That put him level with lan Rush at the top of the country's scoring list. Defender Colin Bailie scored Swindon's equaliser shortly after the break.

Exeter City are desperately hoping to end their dismal run by defeating visiting Fourth Division Bristol City who have also been slightly off the boil of late. Exeter's 3-4 home defeat by Orient on Saturday was their fourth successive reverse and, with Port Vale continuing their improvement, the Devon club has now slumped to bottom place in the Third Division table.

But Exeter are not much of a Cup-fighting team these days. Their first-round F.A. Cup dismissal by non-League Maidstone United is still quite fresh in their minds and, though



Bristol City are putting most of their effort into their Fourth Division promotion chase, Exeter cannot go into the tie with too much confidence.

Bristol's unbeaten run of nine games was ended by Torquay ten days ago and, since then, they have been held at home by Blackpool (1-1) and on Saturday, after taking the lead through Andy Crawford at Peterborough, they were crushed 4-1—their heaviest defeat of the season.

Bournemouth, those other Third Division giant-killers this season, are at home to Aldershot, once their traditional Hampshire rivals. Bournemouth has now been transferred to Dorset but the old rivalry between the clubs, going back over many years into the old Third Division (South) days, remains very strong.

Both sides are keen to win and, on current form, the Fourth Division side will start favourites. After thrashing Mansfield 7-1 in their previous home game, the Shots fired five into Halifax Town's net at the Recreation Ground on Saturday.

Dale Banton scored twice to take his total to 18, Les Lawrence got two more and he has now scored 13 times since joining them from Port Vale in the summer. Aldershot's other goal came from an lan McDonald penalty.

Bournemouth, meanwhile, were being beaten 0-3 at home by Brentford and that put them back among the bottom four places. Oddly, the team that outplayed Manchester United to the tune of 2-0 in the F.A. Cup, has since won only one of six matches.

Manager Harry Redknapp, last month's hero, became this month's villain and at the end of the game spectators in the stand rained down cushions onto the team as it left the field.

Brentford are at home to Orient in the AMC, hoping to extend their unbeaten record under new manager Frank McLintock.

The tie between Colchester and Wimbledon brings together two traditional Cup battlers. Both won fame in their Southern League days and earned their places in the Football League through their success in the F.A. Cup.

Wimbledon were well beaten in the fog at The Manor last week and on Saturday they were held at home to a 1-1 draw by lowly Scunthorpe United. Scunthorpe actually scored first with a 55th minute Steve Cammack penalty and things began to look difficult for the Dons as the visitors pulled everyone back into defence. But Steve Ketteridge found a way through for a late equaliser.

Scunthorpe, of course, had their moment of Cup glory when they knocked Leeds United out of the F.A. Cup and, in the AMC, they are at home to Chesterfield who have lost their last three away games.

The Associate Members' Cup is, in a sense, a revival of a pre-war competition. Introduced in 1933/34, it continued until the war. The old Third Divisions, Northern and Southern Sections, each had their own competition. The only difference today is that there will not be separate finals in the North and South. The two best teams from each geographical group will meet for the ultimate final.

Southern clubs who won the old trophy were Exeter City, Bristol Rovers, Coventry City and Reading. In 1937, after two drawn finals, the trophy was shared by Watford and Millwall.

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FLASHBACK

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In a match of high drama, thrilling entertainment and at times superb football, a superior United dethroned the current League Cup holders. But it took a goal of the highest quality to end Swindon's impressive League Cup run.

The killer punch came in the 49th minute. Ken Skeen over on the left and halfway inside Swindon's half, harassed Welsh International full-back Rod Thomas into making a hash of what should have been a simple clearance.

The ball ran to Davy Jones, who beat off a challenge and spotted David Sloan tearing in from midway inside the half. The dusky Jones curved in a centre and Sloan in magnificent style flung himself through the air and sent an unstoppable header crashing past Downsborough into the net.

That was the only effort that Downsborough failed to stop all evening. He was brilliant, and at times as he stood defiant, it seemed that the United side, who produced their best attacking display of the season, would never find the net.

Although Swindon opened well, Skeen gave the large crowd a taste of what was to come in the 5th minute, when his blistering 15 yard shot went just wide. A minute later Clarke blasted just over from 23 yards and then Skeen should have scored, but shot wide.

There was never a moment's relaxation for the uncoordinated Swindon defence, who continually back pedalled in the face of a succession of sharp attacks.

Graham and Ron Atkinson with the assistance of Colin Clarke annihilated Swindon in the midfield and the pressure was always on the visitors. As United moved forward there was never any trouble in finding a man or support.

But for the brilliance of Swindon keeper Peter Downsborough, United could have had a handful of goals, as they easily slipped into the 4th Round.

UNITED: Barron, Lucas, Shuker, Smithson, Kyle, Clarke, Sloan, Atkinson G., Skeen, Jones, Atkinson R., Sub: Gladwin.

SWINDON: Downsborough, Thomas, Trollope, Butler, Burrows, Harland, Smith(S), Harsfield, Smart, Noble, Rodgers, Sub: Penman(P).



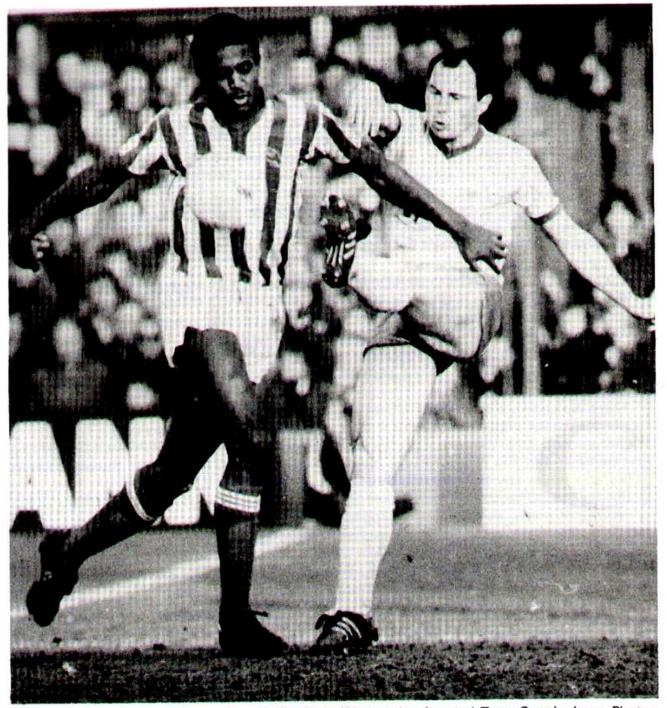
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Bobby McDonald wins this tussle with Sheffield Wednesday forward Tony Cunningham. Photo: Oxford Mail.

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JUNCTION 32 4.7

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JUNCTION 38 25.7

WOODLEY EDGE SERVICE AREA 1 3

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18.2 JUNCTION 26

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FOR THE RE

DATE	OPPONENTS	RES.	1	2	3	4	5	6
1983			***		_	700000000		Ch
Aug. 27	Lincoln City	3-0	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	Fogg	Thomas Thomas(S)	Briggs	Shotton
31	Bristol City (MC 1) (1L)	1-1	Hardwick Hardwick	Hinshelwood	Grant Grant	Thomas	Briggs Briggs(1)(S)	Shotton
Sept. 3	Wigan Athletic	0.0	Hardwick	Hinshelwood Hinshelwood	Grant	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
7	Scunthorpe United	2-2	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas(1)	Briggs	Shotton
10	Burnley	1-0	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas(1)	Briggs	Shotton
12	Bristol City (MC 1) (2L) Gillingham	3-2	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
24	Miliwali	4.2	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
28	Walsali	6-3	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald(S)	Thomas(2)	Briggs	Shotton
Oct. 1	Preston North End	2-1	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas(1)	Briggs	Shotton
5	Newcastle United (MC2) (1L)	1-1	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
8	Brentford	2-1	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
15	Plymouth Argyle	1-2	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
19	Bradford City	2-0	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
22	Bournemouth	1-2	Hardwick	Hinshelwood(S)	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
26	Newcastle United (MC2) (2L)	2-1	Hardwick	Fogg	McDonald	Thomas(1)	Briggs	Shotton
29	Hull City	1-1	Hardwick	Fogg	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
Nov. 1	Wimbledon	1-3	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas(1)	Briggs	Ahotton
5	Sheffield United	2-2	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Jones	Shotton
. 9	Leeds United (MC3)	1-1	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Jones	Shotton
12	Port Vale	3-1	Hardwick Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas(1)	Briggs	Shotton
19 23	Peterborough United (FA1) Leeds United (MC3-Replay)	2-0* 4-1	Hardwick	Hinshelwood Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	thotton
26	Newport County	2-0	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
30	Manchester United (MC4)	1.1	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald(1)	Thomas(1)	Briggs Briggs	Shotton
Dec. 2	Southend United	1-0	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
7	Manchester United (MC4-Replay)	1-1aet	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
10	Reading (FA2)	1-1	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas(S)	Briggs	Shotton
14	Reading (FA2-Replay)	3-0	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald(1)	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton(S)
17	Rotherham United	2-1	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Barnett(S)
19	Manchester United (MC4-2R)	2-1 aet	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
26	Bristol Rovers	3-2	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
27	Bolton Wanderers	0-1	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
31	Orient	5-2	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	Grant	Thomas	Briggs	Shotton
1984			11 2 3			- i - i - i		an Chair
Jan. 2	Exeter City	1-3	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	Grant	Thomas(S)	Briggs	Shotton
. 7	Burnley (FA3)	0-0	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Barnett	Briggs	Shotton
11	Burnley (FA3-Replay)	2-1*	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Barnett	Briggs	Shotton
14	Lincoln City	2-2	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Train	Briggs	Shotton
18 24	Everton (MC5) Everton (MC5-Replay)	1-1	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald(1)	Train	Briggs	Shotton
28	Blackpool (FA4)	1-4 2-1	Hardwick Hardwick	Hinshelwood(1)	McDonald McDonald(2)	Trewick Trewick	Briggs Briggs	Shotton
Feb. 4	Preston North End	2-0	Hardwick	Hinshelwood Hinshelwood	McDonald	Trewick -	Briggs	Shotton
11	Millwall	1-2	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Trewick	Briggs	Shotton
15	Wimbledon	2-0*	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald(1)	Trewick	Briggs	Shotton
18	Sheffield Wednesday (FA5)	0-3	Hardwick	Hinshelwood	McDonald	Brock	Briggs	Shotton
22	Swindon Town (AM1)	-	· ····································	1	,	1 Diodie	1 30"	
25	Bournemouth							
28	Hull City					14	-	
Mar. 3	Bradford City							
6	Sheffield United							
10	Port Vale							
14	Gillingham							
17	Brentford							

17 24	Brentford Plymouth Argyle	
27	Burnley	
31	Scunthorpe United	FII
pr. 7	Walsall	at 44
14	Southend United	
20	Bolton Wanderers	
21	Bristol Rovers	Gary Barnett
28	Newport County	Steve Biggins
May 2	Wigan Athletic	Gary Briggs
5	Exeter City	Kevin Brock
7	Orient	David Fogg
12	Rotherham United	David Grant Steve Hardwick Trevor Hebberd Paul Hinshelwoo Mark Jones George Lawrenc Bobby McDonal Peter Rhoades-E Malcolm Shotto Andy Thomas
• - (S) -	OWN GOAL; PLAYER SUBSTITUTED;	Ray Train John Trewick Mick Vinter Neil Whatmore Own Goals

	Appear	rances	Goal	s
	League		League	Cups
Gary Barnett	14	6(2)	7	-
Steve Biggins	19(5)	13(2)	7	5
Gary Briggs Kevin Brock	26 27	17	1	-
Kevin Brock	27	18	2	4
David Fogg	2	1	-	-
David Grant	4	1	-	-
Steve Hardwick	27	18	-	**
Trevor Hebberd	27	16	9	-
Paul Hinshelwood	26	17	_	1
Mark Jones	1(6)	1(3)	1	-
George Lawrence	24	18	8	3
Bobby McDonald	22	17	1	5
Peter Rhoades-Brown	2(1)	2	-	-
Malcolm Shotton	26	18	-	-
Andy Thomas	23 *	12	7	2
Ray Train	1	1(1)		-
John Trewick	3	2	~	-
Mick Vinter	15(1)	15(1)	8	3
Neil Whatmore	8(2)	5(3)	3	1
Own Goals			2	2

	_			- 5			
		141		1917			IVISIO
*** ****	P	w	D	L	F	A	W
Walsall	30	11	2	2	33	13	6
Wimbledon	30	12	3	1	47	23	5
Oxford United	27	10	3	0	36	15	6
Hull City	26	9	2	1	24	7	5
Bristol Rovers	30 29	118	2332364	0	32	12	4
Sheffield United	29	8	6			8	5
Bolton Wanderers	30	9	4	2	28	10	4
Burnley	28	10	1	2	40	11	2
Lincoln City	31	9	3	3	30	17	4
Orient	30	9	3	4	25	17	4
Gillingham	26	9	2	3	34	18	4
Bradford City	28	7	6	22343222	35	22	5
Millwall	30	11	2	2	27	15	
Newport County	28	7	5	2	24	19	3
Wigan Athletic	27	6	2	5	16	13	3
Preston North End	29	7	1332625236	5	27	19	3 2 2 3
Plymouth Argyle	26	6	6	1	23	9	2
Brentford	29	6 7 6 3 5 4	6	4	20	19	
Southend United	29	5	6	4	21	14	
Rotherham United	26		643	5	12	12	3
AFC Bournemouth	28	6	3	5	22	18	
Scunthorpe United	27	4	5	4	22	24	0
Port Vale	29	6	2	7	18	17	0
Exeter City	29	3	3	9	18	28	2

E RECORD

6	7	8	9	10	11	12	CROWDS
Shotton	Lawrence(1)	Whatmore(1)	Biggins(1)	Hebberd	Brock	Vinter	4239
Shotton	Lawrence	Whatmore	Biggins	Hebberd	Brock(1)	Vinter(P)	3924
Shotton	Lawrence	Whatmore	Biggins	Hebberd	Brock	Vinter(P)(1)	2697
Shotton	Lawrence	Whatmore(S)	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock	Biggins(P)	3516
Shotton	Lawrence(1)	Vinter	Biggins	Hebberd	Brock	Barnett	5637
Shotton	Lawrence	Vinter(S)	Biggins	Hebberd	Brock	Barnett (P)	5163
Shotton	Lawrence	Barnett(1)(S)	Biggins(1)	Hebberd(1)	Brock	Jones(P)	3370
Shotton	Lawrence(2)	Barnett(1)	Biggins(S)	Hebberd	Brock	Jones (P)(1)	5543
Shotton	Lawrence(2)	Barnett(2)	Biggins	Hebberd	Brock	Jones(P)	5720
Shotton	Lawrence	Barnett	Biggins(1)	Hebberd	Brock	Jones	4665
Shotton	Lawrence	Barnett	Biggins(1)	Hebberd	Brock	Jones	21167
Shotton	Lawrence	Barnett	Biggins(2)	Hebberd	Brock	Jones	7140
Shotton	Lawrence(1)	Barnett	Biggins	Hebberd	Brock	Jones	2990
Shotton	Lawrence	Barnett	Biggins	Hebberd(2)	Brock	Jones	5624
Shotton	Lawrence	Barnett(1)	Biggins	Hebberd	Brock	Jones(P)	4758
Shotton	Lawrence	Barnett	Whatmore(1)(S)	Hebberd	Brock	Jones(P)	13040
Shotton	Lawrence(1)	Barnett	Whatmore	Hebberd	Brock	Jones	7884
Ashotton	Lawrence	Barnett	Whatmore(S)	Hebberd	Brock	Jones(P)	3821
Shotton	Barnett(1)	Vinter	Whatmore	Hebberd	Brock(S)	Biggins(P)(1)	7514
Shotton	Lawrence(S)	Biggins	Vinter (1)	Hebberd	Brock	Barnett(P)	13349
Shotton	Lawrence	Biggins	Vinter	Hebberd(2)	Brock	Jones	3927
hotton	Lawrence	Biggins(1)	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock	Jones	6343
Shotton	Lawrence(1)	Biggins(1)	Vinter(1)	Hebberd	Brock(1)	Jones	13389
Shotton	Lawrence	Biggins	Vinter(1)	Hebberd	Brock	Jones	6330
Shotton	Lawrence	Biggins(S)	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock	Jones(P)	13739
Shotton	Barnett(S)	Biggins(1)	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock	Jones(P)	2559
Shotton	Lawrence	Biggins	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock(1)	Jones	27459
Shotton	Lawrence	Biggins(1)	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock	Jones(P)	11590
Shotton(S)	Lawrence	Barnett	Vinter(1)	Hebberd	Brock(1)	Whatmore(P)	7570
Barnett(S)	Lawrence	Biggins	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock	Whatmore(P)(2)	4000
Shotton	Lawrence(1)	Whatmore(S)	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock	Biggins(P)(1)	13921
Shotton	Lawrence	Biggins	Vinter(2)	Hebberd	Brock(1)	Whatmore	12748
Shotton	Lawrence(S)	Biggins	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock	Whatmore(P)	11059
Shotton	Lawrence	Whatmore	Vinter(2)	Hebberd(2)	Brock(1)	Biggins	11126
Shotton	Barnett(1)	Whatmore	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock	Biggins(P)	4527
Shotton	Lawrence	Whatmore(S)	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock	Biggins(P)	11672
Shotton	Lawrence(1)	Biggins	Vinter	Hebberd	Brock	Whatmore	10497
Shotton	Lawrence	Biggins	Vinter(1)	Hebberd(1)	Brock	Whatmore	3345
Shotton	Lawrence	Biggins	Vinter	Hebberd(S)	Brock	Whatmore(P)	14333
Shotton	Lawrence	Biggins	Vinter	Barnett(S)	Brock	Train(P)	31011
Shotton	Lawrence	Whatmore	Vinter	Brock	Rhoades-Brown	Biggins	10759
Shotton	Lawrence	Hebberd(1)	Vinter(1)	Brock	Rhoades-Brown(S)	Biggins(P)	9105
Shotton	Lawrence	Hebberd	Vinter	Brock	Rhoades-Brown(S)	Biggins(P)	4974
Shotton	Lawrence	Hebberd	Vinter(S)	Brock	Biggins	Rhoades-Brown(P)	
Shotton	Lawrence	Biggins	Vinter	Hebberd	Rhoades-Brown(S)	Whatmore(P)	14076

L	EAG	UE D	IVISI	ON	3			ture	Leading League	Home Attenda	
L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Goalscorer	Average Hig	nest
2	33	13	6	4	5	17	25	57	Ally Brown 12		156
1	47	23	5	1	8	23	32	55	Alan Cork 23	3,153 5	613
0	36	15	6	2	6	20	20	53	Trevor Hebberd 9	7,304 12	748
1	24	7	5	7	2	18	13	51	Brian Marwood 10	9,868 18	461
1	32	12	4	3	87	14	24	51	Archie Stephens 9		472
Ö	33	8	5	3		19	27	48	Keith Edwards 19		756
2	28	10	4	4	7	12	23	47	Tony Caldwell 16		059
2	40	11	2	8	5	15	20	45	Billy Hamilton 15	7,208 12	136
3	30	17	4	8	9	12	25	45	Ross Jack 9	3,883 6	686
4	25	17	4	3	7	18	28	45	Keith Houchen 9	3,267 4	470
3	34	18	4	3	5	14	23	44	Dave Mehmet 11	4,315 6	22€
2	35	22	5	1	7	17	21	43	John Hawley 18	3,762 6	405
2	27	15	5	7	8	22	37	42	Kevin Bremner 10	4,971 6	709
2	24	19	3	4	7	15	31	39	John Aldridge 19	3,574 5	154
5	16	13	3	5	6	13	23	34	Steve Taylor 7		045
5	27	19	2	3	9	16	23	33	Steve Elliott 10	4,583 6	661
1	23	9	2	1	10	13	25	31	Tommy Tynan 7	4,555 10	387
4	20	19	3	4	9	21	34	28	Francis Joseph 11	4,866 8	042
4	21	14	1	3	10	14	37	27	Steve Phillips 13	2,824 4	272
5	12	12	3	1	9	16	26	26	Kevin Kilmore 8	4,607 6	298
5	22	18	1	2	11	12	34	26	Trevor Morgan 13	4,226 7	220
4	22	24	0	6	8	10	28	23	Steve Cammack 11	2,951 4	40€
7	18	17	0	3	11	10	37	23	Henderson/O'Keefe 5	4,315 7	034
9	18	28	2	4	8	19	31	22	Ray Pratt 10	3,581 5	310

MATCHDAY JACKPOT TICKETS

v. Sheffield Wednesday - 18.2.84

Tronomia troancoac, Totalo

1st Prize £64.50 Ticket No. 146430 unclaimed

2nd Prize £38.70 Miss M. Hange, Oxford 3rd Prize £25.80 Mr. F. Spindler, Abingdon

OVER THE AIRWAVES

by Peter Baker, Sports Producer, Radio Oxford

So the cup runs are over after that defeat by Sheffield Wednesday, and it's time to say thank you to the players and management for providing us with so much happiness, glory and of course good football over the past few months, and also to add that we're still expecting promotion!! I personally didn't feel that United had been so outplayed by Wednesday as the Sunday papers made out . . . they had two good breaks in the first half when their strikers were left with straightforward tap-ins, whereas Oxford just didn't seem to get the bounce of the ball at the other end.

The problem with successful cup-runs is that good football isn't enough . . . luck is an essential ingredient as well. Good football wins promotion, but middling football plus a few smiles from fortune can win the Cup. Still, no complaints, we've had a fabulous time, and to be honest the luck has been with Oxford United until last Saturday. And some consolation, besides all that lovely lolly in the bank, is that football history is littered with cases of sides losing out on promotion because they've become too preoccupied with the Cup. Just ask Swindon!

Tonight's game seems to be something of an enigma, and it will be interesting to see how this competition attracts the interest of the fans. Will those clubs at the bottom of the Third and Fourth Divisions welcome it as a relief from struggling against relegation, and will it give them welcome revenue in these hard times? Will the clubs near the top of the two divisions feel it interferes with their push for promotion, and will clubs like Walsall and Oxford, who have played so much football already this season, really welcome it? Tonight's crowd might answer a few of the questions.

To change the subject . . . anyone feeling intelligent? If you are, how about entering Radio Two's Brain of Sport series? The new series will be starting soon, and I've had a letter from Caroline Elliot who produces the programme, and she says that they're looking for as many entrants as possible. You've got to be 16 or over on May the first, and all you have to do is send your name, address and daytime phone number to Brain of Sport, BBC Broadcasting House, London W1A 4WW. You'll then receive details of where to sit the elimination test, and if you do well in that you'll move on to the competition itself, and perhaps become 'Brain of Sport, 1984'. Not a bad title to impress the neighbours! The closing date for entries is April 13th, and the series will be broadcast in the autumn. If you don't feel you're quite up to it, there'll be a Radio Oxford Brain of Sport competition over the summer period, if I can twist the manager's arm for some more airtime. Watch this space for more details.

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YOUTH TEAM ACTION



Martin Shepherd powers a header towards the Brentford goal during Saturday's South East Counties match. Photo: Steve Daniels.



The ball is stabbed into the net to give Brentford a late goal - denying Oxford a point - and take them back to the top of the South East Counties Junior League table. Photo: Steve Daniels.

RESERVES & YOUTH

	FO	OTBALL COMBINATION SEASON 1983-84	
1983			
Sept.	1	LEICESTER CITY	4-4
*****	3	Swansea City	1-2
	7	ARSENAL	0-4
	13	lpswich Town	0-3
		Crystal Palace	1-1
Oct.		West Ham United	0-0
	5	WATFORD	2-1
	12	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	2-4
	18	Fulham	1-2
	22	BIRMINGHAM CITY Millwall	0-1
Nov	-	SOUTHAMPTON	2-1
Nov.	16		1-1
	22		1-0
	29	Brighton & H. A.	0-2
Dec.	7	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	0-2
000.	14	Bristol Rovers	0-8
1984			
Jan.	4	CHELSEA	2-3
	14	READING	2-1
	18	Leicester City	2-7
	31	Chelsea	0-4
Feb.			2-0
	11	Watford	0-4
	14		1-1
	29	MILLWALL	
Mar.		SWINDON TOWN	
	7	WEST HAM UNITED	
	10	Southampton BRISTOL ROVERS	
	17		
	20		
	24		
	28		
	31	Arsenal	
Apr.		Carried and the second	
and the same	7	SWANSEA CITY	
	11	NORWICH CITY	
	25	IPSWICH TOWN	
	28	LUTON TOWN	
May	8	Queens Park Rangers	CQ-

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SOUTH EAST COUNTIES JUNIOR LEAGUE **SEASON 1983-84** 1983 Tottenham Hotspur Aug. 27 1-2 Sept. 3 West Ham United 2-6 10 Wimbledon 1-2 24 SOUTHEND UNITED 4-0 29 Aston Villa (SJFC) 0-3 Oct. 8 BRISTOL ROVERS 3-2 15 LUTON TOWN 0-0 29 Luton Town 2-1 Nov. 9 Erith & Belvedere (FAYC) 0-0 14 ERITH & BELVEDERE (FAYC-R) 7-0 19 SWINDON TOWN (SECJLC) 2-5 Dec. 3 WIMBLEDON 2-4 5 Plymouth Argyle (FAYC) 1-3 17 BRIGHTON & H. A. 1-1 1984 2-0 Jan. 7 Bristol Rovers Feb. 4 SWINDON TOWN 1-5 18 BRENTFORD 0-1 Mar. Swindon Town 10 WEST HAM UNITED 17 Southend United 24 Brentford 31 Brighton & H. A. Apr. 7 READING 14 TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR SJFC — Southern Junior Floodlit Cup SECJLC - South East Counties Junior League Cup FAYC - F.A. Youth Cup

PWDLFAP												
Brentford	14	10	2	2	34	18	22					
Wimbledon	16	9	3	4	52	21	21					
Swindon Town	13	8	4	1	43	18	20					
West Ham United Luton Town	12	8	1	3	29 25	22 26	17					
Bristol Rovers	14	5	2	7	28	26	12					
Brighton & H.A.	14	3	6	5	21	32	12					
Tottenham Hotspur	15	4	3	8	30	38	11					
Oxford United	12	4	2	6	19	24	10					
Reading	12	4	2	6	18	23	10					
Southend United	14	0	1	13	10	60	1					

THE FOOTBA	77.7						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	22	15	4	3	47	13	34
Chelsea	26	15	4	7	46	20	34
Tottenham Hotspur	27	14	5	8	76	42	33
Luton Town Southampton	24 25	13	5 6 7 4	5	44	22 33	32
Queens Park Rangers	23	13	4	6	54	22	30
Ipswich Town	24	12	6	6	44	30	30
Watford	24	13	4	7	44	36	30
West Ham United	24	12	5	7	58	33	29
Norwich City	22	12	5	5	42	18	29
Leicester City	26	12	3	11	61	44	
Swansea City	22	11	4	7	35	39	26
Birmingham City	23	11	2	10	48	42	24
Fulham	24	9	5	10	43	42	23
Millwall	23		5	10	31	40	21
Brighton & H.A.	25	8	4	13	38	48	20
Oxford United	24	5	6	13	26	58	16
Bristol Rovers Charlton Athletic	24 28	6	6	16 18	38 32	68 76	14
Crystal Palace	23	3	6	14	18	57	12
Swindon Town	22	3 2	5	14	21	61	11
Reading	23	2	4	17	20	77	8

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

	Appearances	Goals
Steve Aries	21	2
John Baker	6	1
Gary Barnett	11	3
Paul Berry	2	
Steve Biggins	3	-
Mark Bowler	1(5)	-
Gary Briggs	1	1
Neal Bryant	1	-
John Butcher	13	-
Glyn Creaser	1	-
John Doyle	1	-
Mark Eadle	6	-
Colin Fleet	4	
David Fogg	16	4
Stuart Gibson	16	_
David Grant	6	-
Ray Graydon	0(1)	-
Mark Gullis	17	- 4
Paul Howells	2	-
Mark Jones	13	4
Bobby McDonald	1	-
Malcolm McIntosh	10	1
Terry Muckelberg	12(1)	1
Philip New	6	-
Peter Osbourne	3	**
Sean Reck	17(1)	-
Keith Redguard	1	
Kevin Reilly	5(6)	-
Peter Rhoades-Brown	1	_
Rolston Ricketts	4	-
Bruce Rowe	1	-
Mark Sherlock	1	-
Robert Simpson	20(2)	1
Tim Smithers	12	_
Kevin Soanes	4	1
Ray Train	10	1 - 1 - 3 2 2
Mick Vinter	7	3
Neil Whatmore	8	2
Own Goal		2

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE

	Appearances	Goals
Phillip Arnold	1	-
David Barnett	2	-
Jason Biles	2(1)	1
Mark Bowler	9	-
Mathew Cresswell	1	-
Graham Douglas	3(2)	-
Mark Eadle	10 .	-
Shaun Embury	4(3)	-
Jason Gay	6	-
Paul Griffith	5(2)	-
Richard Jones	9	-
David Kimber	10(1)	3
Mark Long	1	-
Terry Muckelberg	11	3
Philip New	9(2)	2
Mark O'Hara	0(1)	-
Gerry O'Loughlin	2(3)	-
Wayne Prescott	6	2
Paul Rayson	4(4)	2 3 1 2
Sean Reck	10	1
Martin Shepherd	9(1)	2
Gary Silver	7(1)	-
Alan Taylor	6	2
Colin Tyrell	1	-
Nick Voller	4	-

MATCHBALL SPONSORS

·····································	************
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Bristol City	Mark Shaw
Burnley	National Westminster Bank
Millwall	06B
Walsall	Walton Print
Brentford	Bob Hammick
Bradford City	Frilford Tyre and Battery Services
Newcastle United	Mark Shaw
Hull City	Multiflow Print
Sheffield United	Mike Hedges
Peterborough Utd.	Mark Shaw
Leeds United	Hartford Motors
Newport County	Fisher & Townsend
Manchester Utd.	Hartford Motors
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Burnley	London Road Club
Everton	Quarry Motor Centre
Blackpool	Hartford Commercial Truck Division
Preston North End	Ben & Mary Reeve
Wimbledon	Derek & Paul Turner
Sheffield Wed.	London Road Club
Swindon Town	Classic Flooring
Bournemouth	Sparplas uPVC Doors & Windows
Port Vale	Sparplas uPVC Doors & Windows
Plymouth Argyle	Bob Hammick
Scunthorpe United	South Midland
Gillingham	Shades D.I.Y. Discount
Southend United	Sparplas uPVC Doors & Windows
Bolton Wanderers	Bicester Roofing
Wigan Athletic	Sparplas uPVC Doors & Windows
Exeter City	Sparplas uPVC Doors & Windows
Rotherham United	Bob Hammick

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Despite his dive, Steve Biggins fails to make contact with the ball and the Sheffield Wednesday defence is able to clear Rhoades-Brown's cross. Photos: Oxford Mail.





Trevor Hebberd fires in a shot only for his attempt at goal to be blocked by a Wednesday defender. Photo: Steve Daniels.



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FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Tonight we meet your friends from Swindon in the first ever Associate Members Cup match at the Manor and although we might feel at this stage of the season that we could do without another cup competition I'm sure that would not be our feelings had we gone out of both the F.A. Cup and Milk Cup at the first hurdle.

I believe there is a future to this competition especially if the Football League can (a) obtain a sponsor and (b) manage to stage the final next and subsequent seasons at Wembley.

It will be interesting to see the size of the crowd tonight but I would be surprised that if a Wembley final eventually became a reality the two clubs involved could not boast a forty thousand gate.

It is interesting to note that the Football League have issued a news release to coincide with the first round of the competition and for the benefit of both sets of supporters tonight I give this below:-

LOSERS CAN STILL WIN

"I don't care if we are three goals down with only five minutes to go, we've still got to go for goals."

That is a rough translation of what every manager's instructions to his team must be when The Football League's Associate Members' Cup competition gets under way next week.

Because, in the Associate Members' Cup, it is possible to lose a match and still eventually win. Thanks to yet another Football League innovation, four of the sixteen places in the area quarter-finals are reserved for the losing teams which have scored most goals in the first two rounds.

"It should certainly add to the entertainment value", says Graham Kelly, Secretary of The Football League. "It is going to be much better to lose 5-4 than 2-1 in the early rounds. There is little long-term future in a team trying to sit on a lead, and I am hoping that the experiment will give fans a feast of attacking football. I see no reason why not."

Another semi-innovation is the use of two substitutes instead of the statutory one in Canon League and Milk Cup games. "That, too", says Graham Kelly, "can give the managers more attacking options."

All 48 Third and Fourth Division clubs are playing in the competition which is divided into north and south sections. The winner of each section will meet in the final.

The competition will be played on a straightforward knock-out principle. There will be no replays. When the scores are level after 90 minutes, a tie will be decided by 30 minutes of extra-time and then, if necessary, a penalty competition.

The first round, to be played, with one exception, this week consists of 24 matches. The second round, during the week of March 12, comprises 12 matches.

The Second Round winners will be joined in the quarter-finals by the two highest scorers in the north and south sections. The ties will be played during the week of March 19

The area semi-finals will be played during the week of April 9 and the area finals during the week of May 14. The venue and date of the final will be decided during the later stages of the competition.

Note: If there is a tie between the highest scoring losers, clubs will be determined by:
a) Goals difference; b) highest score in any one match; c) least number of goals conceded; and d) ballot.

CANON LEAGUE DIV. 3 MATCH AT HULL

Any supporter who feels like travelling to Hull on Tuesday 28th February, 7.30 p.m. kick off, and who wishes to purchase seat tickets then we are selling them, price £4.00 each, from the club office.

This offer will remain open until 12 noon on the day of the match.



Kevin Brock looks for support as Wednesday defender Mel Sterland closes in during last Saturday's F.A. Cup 5th Round tie. Photo: Steve Daniels.

9.00 am

9.30 am

LONDON ROAD CLUB FORTHCOMING TRAVEL

HULL CITY

Tuesday 28th February COACHES DEPART

OXFORD Gloucester Green 2.30 pm BICESTER Market Place 3.00 pm Junior £5.00; Adult £6.00

BRADFORD CITY

Saturday 3rd March COACHES DEPART OXFORD Gloucester Green

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* A reduction of £2,00 will be allowed to all those who travelled to Goodison Park, Everton — on production of their London Road Club Coach ticket.

SHEFFIELD UNITED

Tuesday 6th March COACHES DEPART

OXFORD Gloucester Green 3.30 pm BICESTER Market Place 4.00 pm Junior £4.00; Adult £5.00

Purchase tickets to all of the above matches not later than Saturday 25th February and receive a further £3.00 off the total cost.

O.U.F.C. CLASSIFIEDS

Best wishes to everybody at the Manor tonight, from 24 year old English football fan, Harri Koskinen. Harri would like to correspond with any Oxford United supporters. If you are interested please write direct to:-HARRI KOSKINEN KIERNIEMENRAITTI 1A1 53850 LAPPEENRANTA 85 FINLAND

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LOTTERY NEWS

by Mike Phillips, Commercial Manager

I am looking for supporters who live in Oxford and would like to become door to door agents for our lottery tickets. We will canvass your area, the road you live in and surrounding streets, and pass on to you lists of people, with their addresses who wish to buy our tickets on a weekly basis.

We will then issue you with the tickets and you call on these people every Thursday or Friday evening, sell them tickets and pay out winners, from your collection. We will then call on you each week to collect the cash, less your commission and issue you with the following week's tickets. Most spare time money making schemes involve the person concerned in some financial outlay, but if you help us it costs you nothing.

For selling the tickets you receive 10% commission, if you sell a £10 winner or above you also receive 10% of the prize value and each week you will participate in an agents free draw worth £75.00.

Call in to the Lottery Office behind the London Road end **Now** (or telephone Oxford 64615) and leave your name and address, remember, you have to be over 16 years old, and we will canvass your area right away.

Thankyou for supporting our lottery if you already buy tickets, if you don't why not become a regular customer, because "you have to be in it to win it!" If you would like to buy tickets on a regular basis but don't know where to get them from, let me know and I will put you in touch with your local agent.

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Saturday Match departure times

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	SHEEP STREET	depart	1345
X3	BICESTER	depart	
	TWELVE ACRE DRIVE	depart	1405
	OCK STREET	depart	
X2	ABINGDON SAXTON ROAD		
	COWLEY CENTRE	depart	1410
XI	BLACKBIRD LEYS	depart	

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Focus On ... THE COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT

by John Ley (Oxford Mail)

ON match days — and nights — don't look for United's Commercial Manager in the club's offices. You won't find him lapping up the luxury of the Director's Box either.

For Mike Phillips, the only place to watch a game from is the terraces, and that's where you'll find him, standing with the fans on the

Osler Road part of the Manor.

Mike is a football fan, yet his ability to make money for soccer clubs is just what attracted United chairman Robert Maxwell when he heard about his talents.

The one-time bingo hall manager has worked with three soccer clubs, starting in his home town where he helped out part-time at

Torquay United.

After working as a clerk for a building contractor's firm, he joined the local newspaper, the Herald-Express, where he was an advertising rep. At the same time, Mike was a member of the Torquay United Supporters Club Committee, and it wasn't long before he started helping out on the commercial side.

After four years he left the newspaper to take up various posts before becoming assistant manager at the Coral's bingo hall.

Promotion took him to Wycombe to become manager of the bingo hall there. But when he saw the post of Commercial Manager at Wycombe Wanderers being advertised, he jumped at the chance to move into football full time.

Once voted Torquay's Supporter of the Season after trekking all around the country for games at Crewe, Darlington and Hartlepool, Mike couldn't wait to get back to soccer, but when he joined Wanderers he found life just a little different.

For he was only one of two full time employees of the club. The other was the

groundsman.

It was at Wycombe that Mike started making a name for himself as a lively, go-

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ahead character with the ability to persuade people to part with their money.

"The lottery profits rose from £30,000 to £70,000 in the four years I was there," he recalls. "I started by building a solid base, then went out canvassing, knocking on doors, persuading people to support their local club."

United's profits have come in the main from large grounds and their receipts, with obvious spin-offs that come with a successful run.

And that success has helped Mike and his department build up the revenue from the

lottery.

"I've been here since September, and so far the response has been good. The lottery doesn't sell itself anymore, you have to push it.

"Obviously the success of United has

helped sell the tickets."

The Commercial Department, with help from their part-time agents, are selling around 33,000 lottery tickets a week, which shows an increase over the past year of around five to six thousand tickets.

"We're aiming to sell our full print of 38,000 tickets. When we achieve that we'll look at other avenues, like producing cheaper tickets."

The success of the ticket so far this year has come in the main to the hard work put in by Mike and his helpers.

For example, when 5 o'clock comes around there's no going home to his house in Chalgrove. Instead he sets off on the round, visiting houses, trying to sell the tickets.

"I expect I've visited more than a thousand

homes since I started," he says.

Of course, he can't achieve any results without the help of others, and it is those assistants in the Commercial Office to whom he is very grateful.

Anna Brind has worked for the department for 10 years. As the senior clerk, she runs the

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office.

Another long servant in the office - which is really a pre-fab hut situated behind the London Road terrace - is Mary Page, who works part-time.

Sue Wedge spends a good percentage of her day delivering and collecting tickets as far afield as Warwickshire.

And added to that is Nicola Tackley, and two youngsters currently on the Government training scheme, Tracy Steedman and Jamie Brown.

Hilary Silman and Pauline Taylor are two more part-timers but there are of course many more avid United fans who give up their time to sell tickets for the good of the club.

"We couldn't survive without them, but we're always looking for more," says

Mike.



Back Row: Mike Phillips (Commercial Manager), Jamie Brown. Front Row: Nicola Tackley, Tracy Steedman, Anna Brind, Mary Page.

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- **NEIL WHATMORE**
- 10 TREVOR HEBBERD
- PETER RHOADES-BROWN 11

12

13

SCOTT ENDERSBY NIGEL GRAY

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- 4 PAUL BATTY
- SIMON GIBSON
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- **ALAN MAYES**
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- JIMMY QUINN
- **GARRY NELSON** 10
- 11 LEIGH BARNARD
- 12 DAVE HOCKADAY
- 13 **GARY EMMANUEL**

REFEREE: T. J. Holbrook (Wolverhampton)

LINESMEN: M. H. Brown (Aylesbury) - Red Flag

A. W. Smith (Birmingham) — Yellow Flag

TONIGHT'S REFEREE



Holbrook commenced refereeing in 1966 in Walsall Junior and Youth Leagues, then via the Staffs. County League and the Central League to the Football League

He works as a Chartered Secretary for a building society and his interests include tennis, golf and squash.

NEXT MATCHES AT THE MANOR

Sat. February 25th 1984 Canon League Division III

UNITED

versus

AFC BOURNEMOUTH

Kick-off 3.00 pm

Wed, February 29th 1984 Football Combination

UNITED

versus

MILLWALL

Kick-off 7.30 pm

HALF-TIME SCORES

- A ASTON VILLA v. EVERTON
- CHESTER CITY V. BLACKPOOL
- EXETER CITY v. BRISTOL CITY
- D HEREFORD UNITED v. PORT VALE
- E LINCOLN CITY v. DONCASTER ROVERS
- F ROCHDALE v. PRESTON NORTH END
- G STOCKPORT COUNTY v. CREWE ALEXANDRA
- H ABERDEEN v. CELTIC
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