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Chairman's Comments



This afternoon we welcome to the County Ground the Directors, Players and Supporters of Darlington Football Club who have been enjoying a very successful season and

find themselves well placed for promotion to Division 3 if they can maintain their form on the final run in. We are in fact playing this afternoon because we agreed to play at Darlington on a Sunday last December and they reciprocated because we are also keen to experiment with two or three Sunday games in a season. At Darlington we in fact attracted their biggest league attendance for a few years and hopefully this afternoon the same thing could happen here after our fine sequence of results lately.

At Hereford and Aldershot our last two matches the team have been showing fine form to fully earn the two wins which have come their way and I must pay tribute to the work rate of everybody in these games and also to Colin Gordon who scored his first league hat trick at Hereford. 'Well done Colin!'.

Over the last two weeks we have been negotiating with Thamesdown over our rent arrears and with a further meeting arranged for next week it is to be hoped that we shall soon reach a satisfactory agreement with them.

With the season reaching an end I would appeal to season ticket holders where possible to renew as soon as is possible in order that it helps the Club financially throughout the summer months.

We have now finally decided to resign from the Football Combination from next season in order to compete in the now South West Reserve League which we feel will suit our needs better.

Finally thanks to our sponsors Allied Hambro Ltd., this afternoon and hope to see you all again at our final home fixture with Chester City on May Day Bank Holiday afternoon.

MR RON FORSTER
OF
ALLIED HAMBRO LTD
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Lowndes Lambert Group would like to thank the fans of Swindon Town Football Club for their support during the 1984-5 season and will be giving T Shirts in the Town colours to the first 500 supporters under 14 accompanied by an adult who attend the next home game against Chester on Monday 6th May.

We are looking forward to your continued support of Lou Macari and his Team in 1985-6.



Lowndes Lambert Group Limited

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Head Office: 53 Eastcheap London EC3P 3HL And and at Lloyd's



LOU MACARI

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to the County Ground.

Today we face Darlington, one of the top teams in the League. Their impressive away record looks certain at the end of the season to gain them promotion to the 3rd Division.

Way back in December at their Feethams Ground in front of a Sunday afternoon crowd of over 6,000 we were narrowly beaten by just a single goal.

So, today we will be looking to put the score right and extend our fine unbeaten home League run.

You, the Supporters have recently got right behind the players and as a result they have responded - that kind of enthusiasm is needed again in this very tough game.

It has been brought to my attention that the form of the side after Christmas has been allowed to slip in the past.

This certainly won't be tolerated this year. The side have a duty to the paying public and will be striving to finish as high as possible in the League table.

Although the results of the last month have been okay, there is still a long way to go to achieving the ultimate aim of this Club next season - promotion.

Therefore, I will be continuing my travels around the country watching as many games as possible in order to strengthen next season's squad.

It is not often that I like to single out a player for a special mention, but in Colin Gordon's case though it is fully justified. He took all three goals at Hereford superbly to collect his first ever hat-trick. Lets hope it is the first of many more for Swindon Town.

Finally, thank you once again for your enthusiastic support and hope you can roar the lads on to success again today.

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BY DAVE KING

Any congratulations offered to the Feethams Club on their impending promotion to Division Three would be premature considering the close proximity of the five leading clubs concerned in the race for higher status. The consistent form of 'The Quakers' has enabled the squad of players assembled by Manager Cyril Knowles to experience only six defeats in their League programme this season.

A record that only Portsmouth of the Second and Bradford City of the Third Division can equal. While only Everton the leaders of Division One can claim a more impressive record in the whole of the Canon League with only five defeats. Those Clubs that have impaired the proud record of Darlington this season at home have been Hartlepool who won by a solitary goal last October and Chesterfield who scored two goals in the last six minutes of the match on March 23rd to win 3-1. Quakers were unbeaten in away matches until their New Years Day defeat at Mansfield by 2-0, further defeats have been in matches at Chester City 5-2, Bury 1-0 and Tranmere 3-0.

The defeats at Bury and Tranmere were consecutive and came in their last three away matches. Only an own goal by Wrexham goalkeeper Mike Hooper in the 89th minute saved the Feethams Club from experiencing their third away defeat in successive matches.

Manager Cyril Knowles - the former Tottenham Hotspur defender will be hoping that the following squad of players will have regained their form of previous matches for their visits to the towns of Northampton and Swindon this week.

Goalkeeper FRED BARBER is one of three players who have appeared in every League match this season. Twenty one year old Fred joined the club as an apprentice, making his League debut on March 26th 1983 v Stockport in a 3-1 home That debut was to mark the first of ninety eight consecutive appearances in League matches, for after this afternoon's match he will require one more appearance

for one hundred matches in League football. Fred was named in the P.F.A. team for Division Four this season.

Full back PETER JOHNSON has also appeared in every League match this season. The former Middlesbrough defender made his League debut on February 4th 1978 at Birmingham in a 2-1 win. After 43 League matches for the Ayresome Club he joined Newcastle United for 60,000 pounds in 1980. Peter only made 16 League appearances for the St James Park Club before joining Doncaster Rovers in 1983, after a twenty match loan spell with Bristol City. He only made 12 League appearances for Doncaster before another free transfer took him Darlington last season. Twenty six year old Peter should make his 78th consecutive League appearance today, he scored only the second League goal of his 175 League match career in this seasons 2-1 away win at neighbours Harltepool United.

Central defender KEVAN SMITH joined the Club from Stockton, making his League debut on September 29th 1979 in a 4-0 away defeat at Torquay United. After missing only three League matches during the past three seasons Kevan has been hampered by a dislocated shoulder and hamstring injury this season which has caused him to miss ten League matches. Twenty five year old Kevan has scored twice this season at home to Southend on April 2nd and away to Port Vale on December 15th. He has now made 240

League appearances.

Former Middlesbrough apprentice PHIL LLOYD made his League debut after joining Darlington at Chester in a 2-1 defeat on March 17th 1984. Twenty year old Phil scored his first League goal in the 23rd minute of the 2-1 home win against Exeter City on March 2nd. afternoon's match will be Phil's fiftieth appearance.

Twenty year old Middlesbrough born MARK FORSTER joined Darlington from Leicester City this season, after a loan spell with the Club last season during which he scored four goals from his 12 League appearances. Mark also made his League debut in last seasons away match at Chester. Scoring his first League goal at

Bury on April 1st 1984. He has scored six goals in League matches this season including two in his first match after rejoining the club in the 4-0 home win against Colchester United on October 13th.

Another former Middlesbough apprentice is twenty year old STEVE TUPLING who made his League debut at Torquay on September 18th this season. Steve's first League goal followed four days later at home to Scunthorpe United. His 66th minute goal proving to be the winner. He has scored two more goals since both in home matches with Exeter City and Mansfield Town.

Another player to make his League debut this season is MITCHELL COOK who joined the club from Scarborough, who also made his League debut at Torquay. Mitchell has only missed two League matches since and scored his first League goals in consecutive home matches with Halifax Town, Crewe and Chesterfield last month in a thirteen day period!.

The third of this seasons ever presents for Darlington is 27 year old DAVID McLEAN a former Newcastle United apprentice. Dave made his League debut at Sheffield United in a 1-0 away defeat on 19th 1976. He joined Carlisle United in 1978 after making nine League appearances at St James Park in three seasons, for a fee of 10,000 pounds. After fifteen appearances for the Cumbrian Club, Dave joined Darlington on a free transfer in 1979. He made his 250th League appearance at Wrexham on April 13th. Dave has scored eight League goals this season including four penalties.

Scoring on his debut for the Club in this seasons 1-1 draw at Exeter City was 23 year old GARRY MacDONALD a 6,000 pound signing from Carlisle United last October. The former Middlesbrough apprentice made his League debut for his home town club at Brighton in a 1-0 away defeat on November 8th 1980. Gary has scored four goals this season including his 12th minute effort in our away match at Feethams on December 1st. The only goal of the match.

Former Barnsley apprentice CARL AIREY joined 'The Quakers' for 6,000 pounds last summer and is now the Clubs leading goalscorer with 12 goals. Twenty year old Carl made 38 League appearances for Barnsley scoring five goals. He played in five League matches for Bradford City

last season on loan without scoring. Twice scored a brace of goals this season in home matches with Northampton and Wrexham, still to score his first hat trick.

Since joining the club for 6,000 pounds prior to the transfer deadline former Oxford United apprentice GARY HAIRE has made as many appearances as substitute since his move from Bradford City. Twenty one year old Gary scored 13 League goals for the Valley Parade Club last season. He has scored twice for Darlington, his 85th minute goal at Rochdale on March 5th giving 'The Quakers' a 2-1 victory. His other goal coming in the 3-1 home win with Southend on April 2nd.

Sunderland born KEVIN TODD joined Darlington from Newcastle United last season, after a loan period with the Club during the 1982/83 season, when he scored eight goals from 20 League matches. Twenty seven year old Kevin made his League debut for Newcastle at home to Derby County in a 3-0 win on October 10th The away match at Wrexham on April 13th was Kevins 100th League appearance. Kevin has scored in the first and last minutes of matches this season, in the first minute at Aldershot on September 29th and the last minute solitary goal of Darlingtons 1-0 home win against Rochdale on October 23rd.

Former Newcastle United apprentice GRAEME ALDRED made his debut in the goalless draw at Blackpool on September 15th. His only goal in League soccer came in the 'Quakers' 4-3 away win at Aldershot on September 29th a match where four of the goals came in the last fourteen minutes. Graemes 89th minute effort gave Darlington a 4-2 lead, with Dale Banton now of York City scoring for Aldershot on the final whistle!

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*Parties of more than 20 - can save 10 per cent on all seats if they book before May 7.

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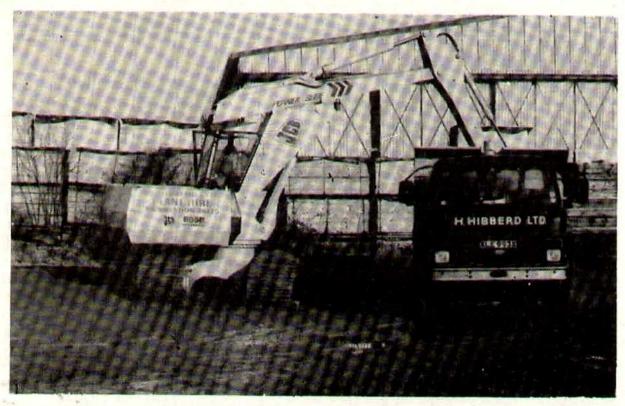
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Season Ticket Holders:	-	NIL	£3 (Max. 4)		£2.50 (Max. 4)		
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FOCUS ON FOUR

BY DAVE KING

The recent appointment of John Trollope as Assistant Manager of the Club is a popular and wise move. John has given unswerving loyalty and commitment to Swindon Town in all capacities, Player, Coach, Manager and now Assistant Manager. Supporters will view Lou Macari's choice as an inspirational move as he seeks to improve the fortunes of our Club.

Loyalty is also being rewarded at Port Vale where a Testimonial has been awarded to Russell Bromage the Vale Park defender. Russell who joined the Club straight from school ten years ago has now completed over 250 League appearances for the Club.

News of two of our former Managers, Ken Beamish has now left the town to reside in Wirral, Cheshire where his occupation in the insurance business now takes him. While Dave Mackay, 51, is considering an offer to manage the Saudi Arabian National soccer team for a 100,000 pound basic salary.

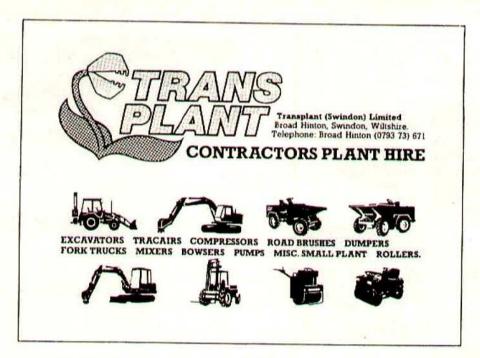
An unusual occurence on Saturday April 13th for two of the Divisions goalkeepers, when both David Brown of Bury and Mike Hooper who is on loan to Wrexham from Third Division Club Bristol City, both conceded own goals. Both were costly errors, in David Browns instance the fourteenth minute error conceded three points to Crewe Alexandra, while Mike Hooper's 89th minute error cancelled out Jim Steel's goal a minute earlier which had given the North Wales Club a single goal lead against todays visitors Darlington. The 21 year old Bristolian could become a Wrexham player with the proviso that Bristol City can sign him back at the end of next season. He has impressed during his loan spell at the Racecourse Ground and Wrexham have indicated they would like to keep him. While a season of full time football in the Fourth Division would benefit the former England Schoolboy player, City seem loathe to part permanently with Mike. He finishes a Degree course at Swansea University this summer.

Aidan McCaffery who has been on loan to Torquay United from Bristol Rovers

returned to the Eastville Club a fortnight The 27 year old central defender was recalled because the Bristol Club were not prepared to extend the loan until the end of the season, as Torquay originally believed. But Rovers Manager David Williams would have let McCaffery remain with the Plainmoor Club on a permanent basis. Eastville Manager revealing he would not have demanded a fee saying, "Aidan is on very good wages with us and his contract extends until the end of next season, not many Clubs could afford to match what we are paying him and also fork out a transfer fee," adding "Reserve team football is not much good to a player of his experience and we will not stand in his way if he receives an offer from another Club he wants to accept. We certainly wouldn't create any obstacles by putting a fee on his head. The most profitable deal we could expect would be a swap". Aiden a former England Youth skipper who started his career with Newcastle United, joined Rovers from Derby County for 70,000 pounds in the summer of 1980.

One Manager who believes his team will promoted next season is Crewe Alexandra's Dario Gradi who stated recently, "Next season I think we shall be promoted with more or less the players we have here at the moment. I have great faith in twelve of them, I shall be needing three new men to challenge for places, it would be possible almost to guarantee promotion by taking certain players on free transfers but we couldn't afford their wages, so I'll be looking elsewhere. had Ian Butterworth of Coventry City and Jimmy Quinn of Blackburn Rovers, both Crewe area lads then we would be a Third Division side".

We recorded our fifteenth home win of the season in our last home match when we defeated Northampton Town 2-0. The only seasons we have won more matches at home have been 1968-69 and 1962-63 when registered 18 and 1978-79 and 1924-25 when we totalled 17. With two home fixtures left including today we still have the opportunity to equal the last two mentioned seasons and also surpass the



total of sixteen home wins recorded during seasons 1925-26 and 1926-27.

We have already reached a higher number of points gained in home matches than any other in the Club history but obviously this is by virture of the innovation of three points for a win introduced for the 1981-82 season. If the same principle was applied to the seasons where eighteen home wins were recorded we would find that the situation would read 1962/63 - 56 points, 1974/75 - 57 points and 1968/69 - 58 points. While this seasons record currently stands at 48 points. complete home record of those three seasons was 1962/63 - won 18, drew 2, lost 3, goals for 60, against 22. 1974/75 - won 18, drew 3, lost 2, goals for 43, against 17. 1968/69 - won 18, drew 4, lost 1, goals for 38, against 17. This seasons record to date is won 15, drew 3, lost 3, goals for 37, goals against 17.

With those three defeats coming in our first six home League matches of the season you see the vast improvement in our form at the County Ground. Ten of the seventeen goals we have conceded came in those first six matches, subsequently only seven have been conceded in the last fourteen! The only visiting clubs to have scored more than once were Torquay United and Hereford United who both scored three times in September fixtures. We have now taken 41 points out of a possible 45 in our last fifteen League matches at the County Ground!

During that time both Peter Coyne and Colin Gordon have scored in seven of those matches combining to score 17 of the 29 goals registered with Colin scoring 10 and Peter 7. If only we had been able to display a reasonable portion of this resilience away from the County Ground.

But this has been an age old problem here at Swindon for only once in the last fifteen years have we been anywhere near the total of away points gained by this seasons leading five Clubs. Before last weekends matches their totals were Chesterfield with 30 points, Darlington 32 points, Bury 30 points, Blackpool 26 and Hereford United 24 points. That was in the 1978/79 season when again if the three points rule for a win had been applicable we would have finished the season with 29 points, remember those five leading clubs have not completed the season yet! problem is very clear for Lou - maintain the home form and vastly improve the away form next season.

Congratualtions to Colin Gordon on what will hopefully be the first of many hat tricks in League football. opportunism enabled us to record a fine away win at promotion seeking Hereford United. Following the unlucky defeat at Chesterfield the players can take a great deal of satisfaction from their determined efforts in the last two away matches. No doubt Colin will be a cornerstone in Lou Macari's plans for next season. Colin's hat trick at Hereford was the first by a Town player in an away match since Alan Mayes scored three goals on his debut for the Town at Rotherham on February 24th 1979 in a Division 3 match.

Coniston House, Washington Centre.
District 4, Tyne & Wear.

TODAY'S

THE CANON LEAGU

	SWINDON TOWN	TEAM CHANGES
1	SCOTT ENDERSBY	
2/	CHRIS RAMSEY	
3	COLIN BAILIE	
4	MIKE GRAHAM	
5	DAVID COLE	
6	ANDY ROWLAND	
7	PETER COYNE	to 'A
8	DAVID HOCKADAY	
9	COLIN GORDON	
10	LEIGH BARNARD	
11	GARRY NELSON	
12	ALAN MAYES	

Referee:

Mr. R.S. Lewis (Great Bookham, Surrey)

Linesmen:

Red Flag: Mr. A.P. Murphy (Basingstoke) Yellow Flag: Mr. M. Topping (Aldershot)



5 LINE-UP

AGUE DIVISION FOUR

T	DARLINGTON	TEAM CHANGES
1	FRED BARBER	
2/	GARY MACDONALD	
3	PETER JOHNSON	
4	STEVE TUPLING	
5	KEVAN SMITH	
6	PHIL LLOYD	
7	GRAEME ALDRED	
8	KEVIN TODD	
9	CARL AIREY	
10	MITCH COOK	
11	DAVE McLEAN	
12	GARRY HAIRE	

Next Match:

Canon League - Division Four CHESTER CITY Kick Off 3.00 p.m.

REFEREE:

LEWIS, RAY - Operations Planning Manager, Imperial Inns and Taverns. Married with a teenage daughter. Commenced refereeing in 1962 with Kingston & District League and progressed via the Isthmian League. Enjoys reading and playing bowls. Senior linesman 1976 U.E.F.A. Cup Quarter Final, 1977 F.A. Cup Semi-Final. Referee 1981 F.A. Vase Final and Milk Cup Semi-Final in 1983.

Today's Sponsors

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"MAN WITH A MISSION"

BY DAVE KING

One of the most satisfying aspects of this season has been the initial form displayed by Colin Gordon in his first season of League soccer. To follow in the wake of International strikers Paul Rideout and Jimmy Quinn was a daunting enough prospect for an established player, for a complete novice at this level it was almost asking too much.

To his credit he has shown the self belief and confidence that he bears in his off the field manner on the field of play and to the extent that his displays in the short duration he has been with the Club have attracted the attention of Club's from the higher echelons of the Canon League.

When I talked to Colin the impression formed was of a well mannered ambitious young player with his feet firmly on the

ground.

Colin was born in Stourbridge on January 17th 1963, he attended Hobgreen Infant and Senior Schools, also Grange School. While a schoolboy he represented Worcester District and County Schoolboys and Birmingham County Youth. Two players who were team mates of Colin's in that team were Alan Smith the Leicester City striker and Gary Hackett the Shrewbury Town player.

During his late teenage years Colin was non-contract with on terms Wolverhampton Wanderers who were then managed by John Barnwell and Richie Barker, appearing in their Youth and Intermediate teams. Colin was to later play for Alliance League Worcester City and Southern League Bromsgrove Rovers. Despite the lack of opportunity with a League club, Colin never gave up hope, having the self belief that one day his ability would warrant attention - how right he was to be.

With no family involvement in soccer, Colin felt envious of the situation akin to Paul and Dave Rideout. Having a parent who shared his own passion could only help his formative years. All soccer loving youngsters can sympathise with that feeling.

Colin was made aware of Swindon's interest by an ex West Bromwich scout on a

Saturday night after playing against Banbury for Oldbury. He had previously been watched by Lou Macari in a 4-2 defeat by Willenhall, a point in his favour had been the manner in which his enthusiasm had always been prevalent even in adversary. Colin was invited for a trial but was dubious on how he had coped in a reserve match. fearing the worst and felt the after match debates were about hesitancy in proceeding with him. His fears were allayed and a months trial was soon followed by a short term contract, an improved offer was to follow extending his contract to the end of the season.

Such is the fortune needed in soccer that the stroke of good luck in Colin's case was that Bert Head, scouting for the Town and originally interested in a goalkeeping prospect, sent a report to Lou Macari urging a personal check. What followed is now the early part of a progressive chain of events.

Having entered League soccer at a later age I asked Colin if he found that some of the older players who had been with several clubs still maintained enthusiasm and the correct attitude. His reply was that they were more aware of their responsibilities. But what he had found somewhat disturbing was the attitude of some younger players who thought they had made it. The odd case at Swindon, but very apparent at clubs like Ipswich, Aston Villa and West Brom. Colin had seen plenty of young players sliding through the non-League teams and finding they were not even good enough for that grade of soccer. Which came as a devastating blow to many.

Colin had previously been unemployed of his own design. After relinquishing his occupation as a Sales Representative to reach maximum fitness in his efforts to obtain a contract, he found full time training with Swindon thoroughly enjoyable. He still felt he could be fitter but people back home thought how fit he now looked but Colin was convinced that was as much due to a controlled diet and commonsense. He felt appreciably fitter and slimmer than when he arrived.

Colin felt he was a very confident person who had self belief and took heed of Lou's advice to make money from the game by proving your own ability. Colin had given himself a season to prove his own worth and wanted to progress in football as far as possible.

He was aware of comparisons made with Jimmy Quinn and Paul Rideout but was well aware that he would be judged on how he was coping after he had played fifty or more League matches. Colin personally felt he should not be held in comparison with either yet, if at all.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

DARLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB



Back Row (left to right):- Phil Lloyd, Kevan Smith, Phil Laycock, Chris Anthony, Phil Shute, Kevin Todd.
Middle Row (left to right):- Mike Angus, Dave McLean, Chris Sanders, Fred Barber, Steve Smith. Dave Hawker, John Hannah.
Seated (left to right):- Bob Farrelly (physio.), Colin Ross, Guy Ulliott, Cyril Knowles, Peter Johnson, Mark Miller, John Craggs.



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BEHIND THE SCENES



BY BOB JEFFERIES

There is almost always a bright spot to every problem and the following letter received during Lou's 'temporary abscence' is just such an illustration:

NUMBER: B50910

NAME: J.D.H......H.M. PRISON

WORMWOOD SCRUBS LONDON W12 OAE

Dear Sir

A short time ago, after placing NEW BATTERYS in my radio, I learned that your Club once again has had problems on the Management side of the field.

EVER READY to save the day, let me offer to fill BOTH vacant positions. Having been described as somewhat of a Jeckyll and Hyde character, two men for the price of one The latter one could serve as club mascot or supervise crowd control, when required

I would of course be no financial burden to the club for being in the employ of the government, it would mean that Swindon could become the only club guided into Europe by an amateur. That would be one for the book!

Hoping to hear from you in the near future.

J.D.H..... OL.DL.AG.

I replied as follows:

Dear Mr

I thank you for your interesting application for the post of Team Manager here at the Swindon Town Football Club but I fear that your present status might cause you to be late for training sessions. However, you might well feel at home here, for looking around the terraces on match days sometimes gives the impression of solitary confinement.

You are no doubt now aware that Lou Macari has been sentenced to another stretch here so the vacancy no longer exists.

Yours sincerely

* * * * * * * * *

Stockport County are the early leaders of the Canon League Spell and Win Fourth Division table by two points from Exeter City who are closely followed in the chase for the 1,500 pounds cash prize by Colchester, Blackpool and Port Vale.

Club scores in the Canon Spell and Win game are calculated by dividing the total

points contributed by supporters by a club rating based on the average attendance at home matches earlier this season.

For example: Blackpool have the highest average attendance in the Fourth Division, 4,348. Therefore their rating is 100. Hereford's 4,203 gives them a rating of 97 and Torquay's 1,378 earns a rating of 32.

Points scored would then be calculated as follows:

	Points Contributed	Club Rating	Points Scored
Blackpool	17,000	100	170
Hereford	18,400	97	190
Torquay	5,340	32	167

Thus, in this example the table would be headed by Hereford with 190 points. Will you help our club and yourself to win one of the major prizes by sending in your entry soon. Remember, you can submit as many entries as you like. For details of all the prizes to be won, see the Canon leaflet in today's programme.

To help those fans whose clubs do not complete their fixtures until late in May, the last date for entries for both Spell and Win and Shoot for Goal competitions has been extended to 10th June, 1985.

Today we welcome to the County Ground the Home Counties Ladies Football League representative team which includes over half of the England team which lost in the final of the UEFA Cup to Sweden this year, plus other current and ex international players. The ladies are going to play a fifteen minute exhibition match prior to today's game and I hope you will give them a good reception.

Thank you for your attendance, and I hope you enjoy your entertainment this afternoon.



Striker Colin Gordon heads just wide - but went on to score the first goal against Northampton.

ELASHBACK

BY MIKE SKINNER

Our first meeting with Darlington was back in 1911, in the 3rd round of the F.A. Cup, the season between our two Semi-Final appearances. To qualify for this stage of the competition both sides, then Non-League, had beaten First Division opposition, Swindon seeing off Notts County and the then Woolwich Arsenal, while Darlington were winners over Sheffield United and Second Division Bradford P.A., having also played in five qualifying rounds. The game, at Feethams, attracted around 9,000 paying just 632.00 pounds in receipts.

The game started fairly evenly, with possibly Darlington the more on top, and it was from a Darlington attack that Swindon went ahead in the 3rd minute. With Dodds charging towards the Town's goal a timely interception and clearance by Harry Kay put the ball well into the home sides' half, but an attempted clearance by Jackson hit the advancing Tommy Bolland, who continued his run to score off the underside of the crossbar. Roused into response, Darlington surged forward and had their chances to equalise - Fraser, finding himself with only Len Skiller to beat, could only shoot wide, and Skiller made some vital saves from Wilkinson and Donnelly - before Swindon made it 2-0 in the 35th minute. Archie Bown sent Harold Fleming off on a run that saw him beat two defenders before shooting past the helpless Brebner.

As with the first goal, Darlington again surged forward, and continued to do so from the start of the second-half. On one occasion Dodds again had the ball when Charlie Bannister came into clear, and in so doing sending the ball out of the ground and through the window of a nearby house! However, with the game now firmly encamped in the visitors half, Darlington's defence, finding itself with little to do, placed themselves just inside the Town's half. But when a clearance found Bob Jefferson on the half-way line there was no-one between him and the keeper, who he easily rounded to get the third. A couple of minutes he again made the same move, but could only shoot wide. Darlington kept the pressure up till the end, but should have learnt from Swindon as to how to finish.

Swindon: Skiller, Kay, Walker, Tout, Bannister, Silto, Jefferson, Fleming,

Wheatcroft, Bown, Bolland.

A further 51 years passed before the teams met again, this time in the League Cup, in September 1962. Already in the promotion hunt, Swindon were the better side and showed it with superiority for most of the game. In fact it only took four minutes for the Town to gain the lead, Bobby Woodruff creating the opening for Jack Smith to score. Encouraged by this start, Swindon continued to attack, Mike Peacock doing well to save from Ernie Hunt and Arnold Darcy, although a fine effort by the visitors Tony France was just tipped over by Mike Turner.

After having a penalty appeal turned down, Smith being up-ended just as he was about to shoot, Cliff Jackson increased the Town's lead in the 26th minute - running in to head home a Mike Summerbee corner. Jackson was having a very impressive game, always ready to shoot on sight, and was unlucky with two further efforts - one hitting the post and another cleared off the line by Ron Greener with Peacock beaten. Smith got the third in the 73rd minute, Darlington making a hash of clearing a long throw by Woodruff allowing the ball to drop at Smiths' feet, and the fourth, six minutes later, came in similar circumstances, this time Smith back-heeling into the net from another Woodruff throw.

Swindon:- Turner, Wollen, Trollope, Morgan, Owen, Woodruff, Summerbee, Hunt, Smith, Jackson, Darcy.

Attendance: - 9,696 Receipts: - 1,525.00

In a league of its own.





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Junior Robins Page

Today we welcome a party from Holy Road Junior School. On the last occasion when we invited local junior schools to the County Ground, they had their Harvest Festival. So we thought we would offer them a chance to join us at a later date. We hope that they will enjoy today's game and that some of them will decide to become members of the Junior Robins Club next season.

During the next fortnight all existing members should receive a letter inviting them to rejoin next season. It will contain a spare Membership Form in case you can persuade a friend to join. Getting more people to come to the County Ground is vital. We have all been delighted with the excellent results in the last fortnight but only with bigger crowds will Swindon be able to afford to keep their best players. So next season why not make a big effort to bring along your dad, if you don't already, and if you do, persuade another relative to join you.

How would you like to broadcast a report of a Swindon Town match for Wiltshire Radio? If you are a member of the Junior Robins you have a chance to do so. All you have to do is write a report on today's match and leave it at the office by Thursday next. The writer of the report judged by the W.R. Staff, to be the best, will be invited to join Vic Morgan to broadcast their report at the Chester City match and to help with the hospital's broadcast during that match. These are a few tips to help you.

1. Give the score and an explanation of the sort of game it was.

2. Make sure you get the goalscorers right.

3. If there were no goals explain why.

4. Don't be biased and make all your report about one side.

5. About two sides of a 'Reporter' style ring notebook is about the right length.

Well done all those members who took part in the Supporters' Co-operative Fun Everything seemed to be working against us as the Run had to be postponed due to the re-arranged Hartlepool match. The new date was during the Easter holiday when some people were away and pouring rain added to the problems. However. those taking part still managed to raise 150.00 pounds, a tremendous effort. Little Steven Ralph deserves a special congratualtions on completing the four mile course. Race winners were presented with trophies and momentoes of the event have been given to all those who took part.

The last Junior Robins' Meeting for this season will take place on Monday, 13th May at 6.00 p.m. The evening will consist of a musical quiz with a football bias and a short talk by Lou Macari. Those of you who would like some coaching for the Super Skills awards should report to the ground at 4.45 p.m., on the same evening.

Birthday congratulations to Paul Boulton and Mark Hammond who celebrated their 9th and 11th Birthdays respectively on Friday last.



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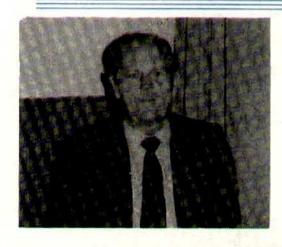
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COMMERCIAL BREAK



BY DOUG BUSWELL

We welcome today John Hamilton and his team from The Regent Hotel, Bideford, North Devon. John an exiled Darlingtonion has brought his Hotel's soccer team to play The Regent Hotel, Swindon on Saturday and The Plough, Bradford-on-Avon today. The Plough, I have been informed, are well managed by my assistant Dave Cooper. We hope John and his team enjoy the match today and who knows, we may see them back sometime in the future.

5000 CLUB

The 5000 Club draw enters it's second year in May. Membership is now due for renewal. All present members will be notified. Anyone wishing to join the "5000 Club" should ring 642984 for details. Here's a way of helping the Club through the summer months.

Many of you in the past few weeks signed a petition for the reinstatement of Lou as Manager. Knowing that you have a very deep interest in the Club I shall be writing to all of you. There may be quite a number of you who might like to help us in our fund raising activities and I would ask you to read the Circular when it arrives and then if you can see your way clear to assisting us in one way or another contact myself or Dave Cooper on Swindon 31510.

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"TOP SCORE"

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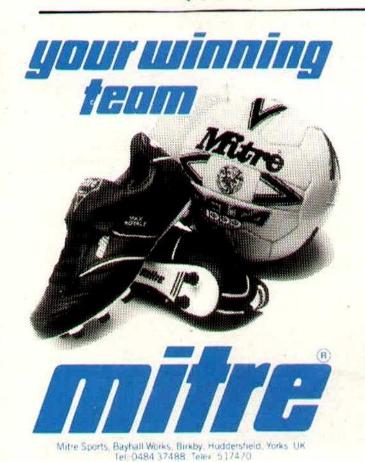
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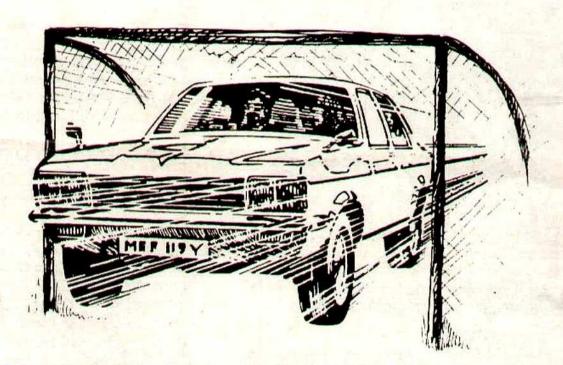
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