

NEWCASTLE UNITED

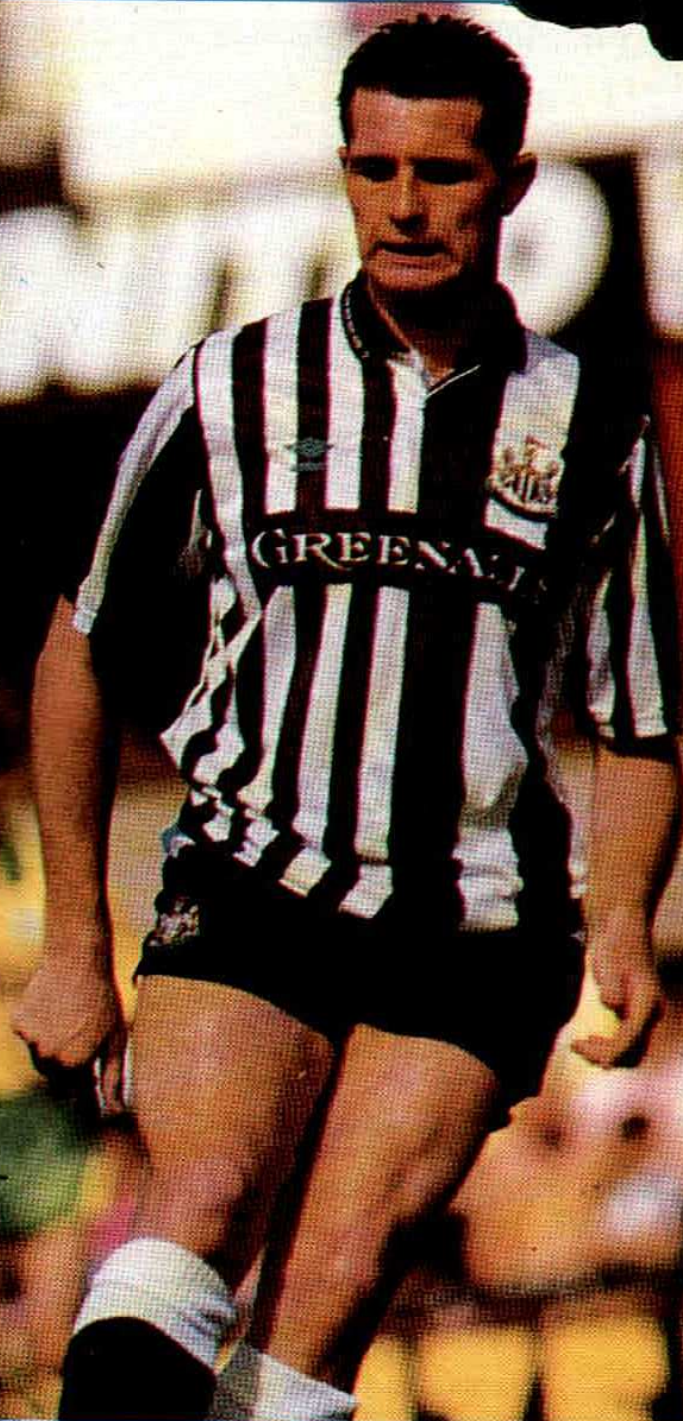


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versus SWINDON TOWN

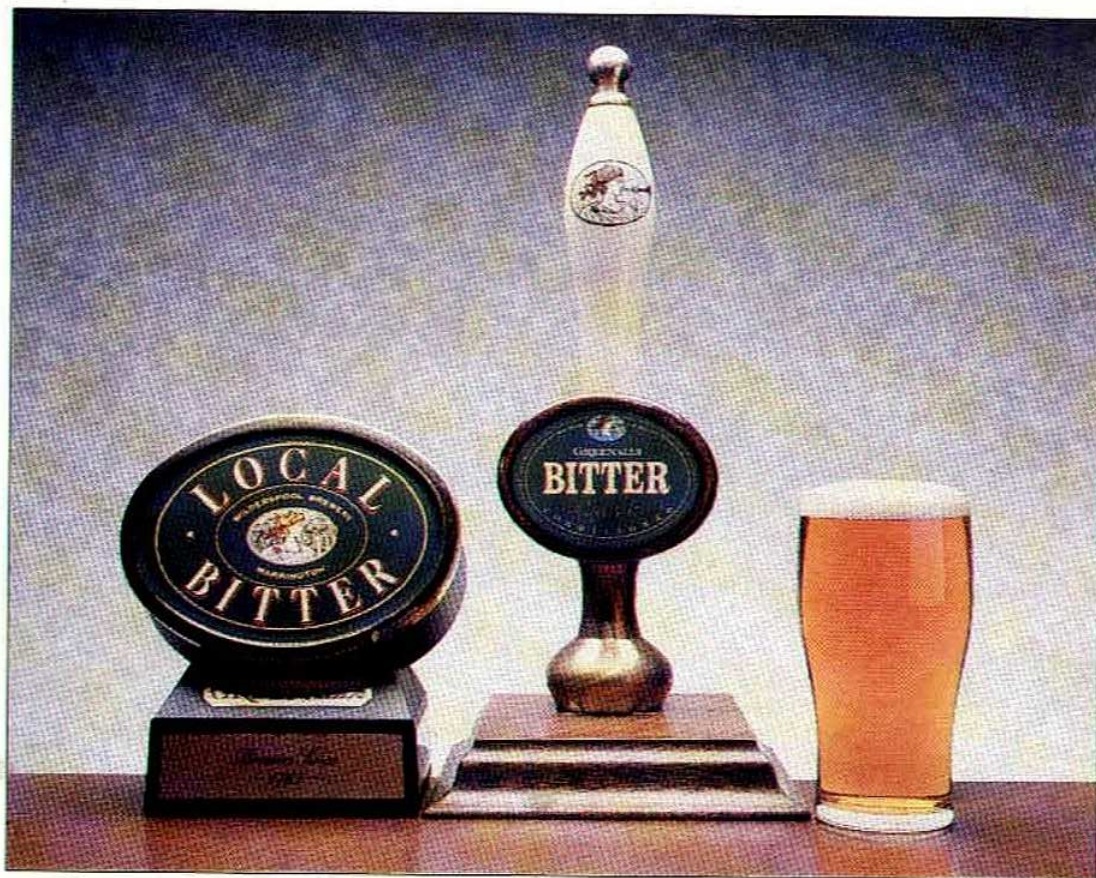
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THE

EAGLE EYE

SEASONAL greetings to one and all – and for the Newcastle fans hungry for a belated Christmas present I trust we can supply one this afternoon in the welcome shape of three points.

As we were training yesterday Ossie Ardiles and his Swindon players were trekking up the motorways from Wiltshire – and that's a long run.

Tonight they trek back again and the nature of this job means that I have to say I hope they are miserable because they have lost. So much for the season of goodwill!

Swindon have surprised me this season. I really thought they would do much better, although I did have the notion that the disappointment of being denied a First Division place after winning the play-offs might give them something of a hangover in the opening weeks.

Their performance here late in April was first class. So was ours and together we provided one the best 0-0 matches you will ever see.

Swindon are my kind of team – good passers of the ball. Like ourselves I firmly believe that they will get better as the season goes on, although the transfer of Alan McLoughlin to Southampton has cost them the services of an influential performer in midfield.

Missing out on the First Division for the first time in their history was a traumatic incident for players, officials and – most of all – for the Swindon supporters.

The financial irregularities investigated by the football authorities brought a decision only after Swin-

don had beaten Sunderland in the play-off final at Wembley at the end of May.

It always seemed logical to me that the club that had finished third after 46 matches should be promoted if Swindon were to be denied their step-up.

Hand on heart I would have used the same argument no matter who had finished third. As it was we were six points clear of ALL the others – Swindon, Blackburn and Sunderland



– and it still hurts that the club with 80 points against three with 74 did not get the nod.

Just reflect for a moment what a difference to Newcastle United it would have made. I am convinced that the share issue would not have happened – and what a disappointment that turned out to be.

Our attendances would have been top class for visits from the likes of Liverpool, Arsenal, Tottenham, Leeds, Manchester United and the other big guns of the Barclays League.

It really is amazing what that fateful decision to promote Sunderland in-

stead of ourselves has cost Newcastle United. Yes it's so much water under the bridge, but don't expect me to forget it. I won't. I can't.

But with the worst injury list I have known in 18 years as a Football League manager now much better I firmly believe that promotion is not beyond us in May. We will get stronger and stronger as the season goes on.

I want to close with a thank-you to Mr Gordon McKeag, who stood down as chairman when the share issue flopped, but who will always have my utmost respect.

It was Gordon who brought me here from Queen's Park Rangers and he was never less than supportive during his two years in the chair. His courage, in the face of so much unfair criticism was quite outstanding.

You will never meet a more committed Newcastle United supporter and I place on record my sincere thanks for the fantastic efforts he made on behalf of the club.

Gordon is succeeded by Mr George Forbes and if there was to be a change I am very happy about that. We have only had a few days as chairman and manager together, but I like what I see and hear. This George Forbes' home debut as chairman – for him and for Gordon McKeag, who of course remains on the Board, I would love three points this afternoon.

FRONT COVER: Liam O'Brien who has chipped in with some useful goals from midfield this season. Picture: IAIN BUIST.

**Season's Greetings to all our Supporters from
The Directors, Management, Players and Staff of Newcastle United**

NEWCASTLE UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB



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We need a period of stability

I AM writing this, my first page in the match magazine as we travel back from Plymouth following our 1-0 away win.

Let's hope it's one of many, because I can assure you that the new Board of Newcastle United are very aware of their responsibilities to all our fans, and are determined to bring exciting, successful football to St James' Park.

You will all be aware of what has happened recently, the share issue failure, the changes on the Board, and indeed the change in Chairman which allows me to write this article.

What the club needs now, is a period of stability, when supporters, players, staff and directors can combine all their positive qualities, to push the club forward.

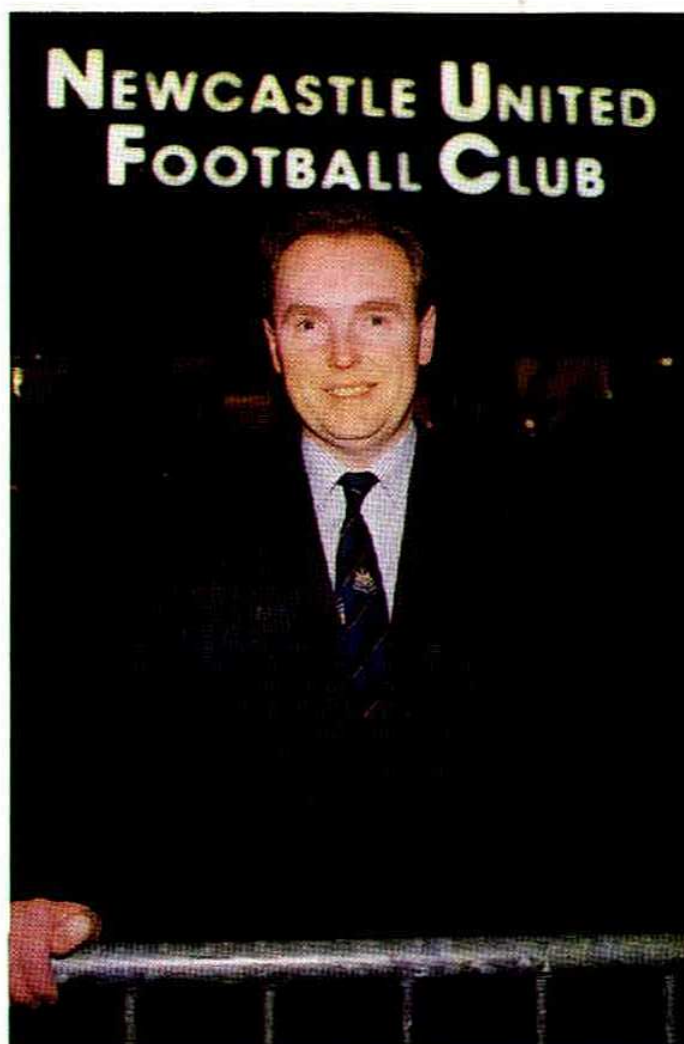
There will be setbacks, but I remain confident, that given that support, we can together achieve something really worthwhile.

I pay tribute to Mr Gordon McKeag who has recently resigned as Chairman, and I am delighted that he remains on the Board and also continues to enhance our club's standing in the football world with his official involvement with both the Football League and the Football Association. A man of honesty, courage and integrity, his wise counsel will be appreciated by all his fellow directors.

Mr John Hall has resigned from the Board, leaving representation of the Cameron Hall holding with his son Douglas. We are delighted that Mr Hall has pledged his support to the future of Newcastle United. That support both financial, and through 'young' Douglas, an active involvement in the affairs of the Club, is obviously crucial, and allows us to plan immediately for a bright secure future.

The other change brings in Mr Bob Young as Vice-Chairman. This appointment has my unqualified support. He will play a major role in Newcastle United's future.

For my own part, this is a very proud moment. Supporting Newcastle United has brought me delight and despair. I am committed to a future of much of the former and less of the latter.



A message from George Forbes, the new club chairman

I am not looking back. History will judge the campaigns of the past. Changes have occurred and we need a period of stability. That stability however, must not impede progress.

This Board is a strong one, one which will look out as well as in, is not afraid of change and is fully committed to the goal of a first class team playing in a first class stadium.

I ask the supporters of Newcastle United to give us their support, that support which we will not ignore, which we will not take for granted. Let us together make Newcastle United the team of the 90's.

In conclusion, may I on behalf of Newcastle United wish you a happy festive period and let us together have a Happy New Year.

VISITORS...

FRASER DIGBY cost Swindon Town a paltry £30,000 four years ago. Now he's rated in the £1 million bracket and manager Ossie Ardiles is keen to tie him to another contract.

But the 6ft 1in Sheffield-born goalkeeper Manchester United released without so much as a single first team game prefers to keep his options open.

"My present contract does not expire until the summer, so I have plenty of time to think about my future," says the 23-year-old whose form has been consistently good since he left the North West for the West Country.

"Ron Atkinson, who was manager at Manchester United, didn't fancy me", says the straight-talking Yorkshireman, "I was in the reserves with Chris Turner in the first team and then all of a sudden I wasn't even good enough for the reserves. Gary Walsh took over and it was obvious I had no future at Old Trafford.

"I went to Swindon on loan, but when Lou Macari, who was Swindon's manager at the time, asked Manchester United for a price he was quoted £100,000.

"In the end Atkinson got the sack and I got my move to Wiltshire for a lot less than

SWINDON'S PROMOTION HANGOVER

£100,000. And I have had four highly interesting years".

Having helped the Robins out of the Third Division in 1987 - Swindon beat Sunderland's play-off conquerors, Gillingham, in the year the Wearsiders dropped into the Third Division - Digby's agility and confidence were much in evidence in season 1988-'89, when Swindon reached the Second Division play-offs.

But after beating Crystal Palace 1-0 at the County Ground Swindon lost 2-0 at Crystal Palace and the Londoners went on to beat Blackburn in the play-off final.

Macari left for an ill-fated short spell at West Ham, Ossie Ardiles took over at Swindon



FRASER DIGBY

and Fraser Digby recalls: "It was all a bit unsettling - but nothing like as traumatic as events were about to become.

"Lou Macari did a terrific job at Swindon. They were in the Fourth Division when he went there and to take them to within a whisker of the First in five years was an outstanding managerial spell.

"A lot of people criticised his route-one style of playing, but believe me it was effective - very hard to play against. He got all the players very fit and I owe him a lot, like a lot of others still with the club.

"Ossie Ardiles is a different type of man and manager, but just as effective in his own quiet way. Obviously his playing record with Argentina and



VISITORS... V

Summer of despair has hit us, admits Fraser

Tottenham gives him everybody's respect to start with, but he has had to prove himself all over again as a manager and he has certainly done that.

"The man is very bright, very intelligent – he's a fully qualified lawyer – and he misses nothing. What he did with the team was incredible really."

"With virtually the same players he changed the style of playing completely. From the day he arrived he encouraged us to play a passing game and it worked a treat – I'm sure Newcastle fans will remember the terrific match at St James' Park in April when there were no goals but a feast of flowing football.

"The Swindon team of last season was a pleasure to play

in because we got rave notices up and down the country".

Financial irregularities from the Macari period kept Swindon in the Second and Digby says: "I have some sympathy with Newcastle – if we were not to go up you might have thought the club that had finished third in the Second Division six points clear of the other play-off clubs would have been promoted."

And he admits that last summer's massive disappointment has made this season a very difficult one for Ardiles and the players.

"Injuries haven't helped us", says Digby. "We lost our skipper and central defender Colin Calderwood with knee ligament trouble after a clash with Steve Bull of Wolves in September and any team would miss a player as steady and consistent as Colin.

"We were also without Alan McLoughlin in midfield for the early games. He had a double hernia operation after coming back from the World Cup Finals with the Republic of Ireland and Alan had a brilliant time last season".

Now McLoughlin, who was with Digby at Manchester United – he didn't get a first team game either! – has moved on to Southampton for £1m



OSSIE ARDILES

and Swindon, like ourselves, have to start piling up the points if they are to figure in the promotion frame in May.

"I expected Newcastle to be right up there, but I know what a bad time they have had with injuries", says Digby.

"I have great respect for Mick Quinn – he and Middlesbrough's Bernie Slaven have to be two of the game's best finishers – and of course you have a goalkeeper I much admire."

"To be first choice for Newcastle United at the age of 39 is just fantastic and a tribute to John Burridge's fitness and professionalism. What a dedicated pro – I'd be made up if I could guarantee to be playing at this level 16 years from now.

"Peter Shilton's the idol, of course – 41 and still going strong. That just blows the mind..."

Fraser Digby, who won England Youth and Under 21 honours, is also an outstanding goalkeeper. He was terrific here last season and says: "Just walking into the stadium and hearing all that noise makes you want to have a blinder. I love playing on this ground".

SWINDON'S FIVE YEAR RECORD

Season	Div.	P	W	D	L	For	Ag.	Pts.	Posn.	Leading Scorer	Cups FAC	LC
1985/86	4	46	32	6	8	82	43	102	1st	Henry 18	1	4
1986/87	3	44	25	12	9	77	47	87	3rd	White 21	4	2
1987/88	2	44	16	11	17	73	60	59	12th	Quinn 31	4	3
1988/89	2	46	20	16	10	68	53	76	6th	Shearer 16	4	2
1989/90	2	46	20	14	12	79	50	74	4th	Shearer 27 White 27	3	4

ISITORS...VIS

PAUL BODIN (Defender). Paul didn't initially make the League team with his first two clubs, Chelsea or Newport, but got his chance in 1982 after linking with Cardiff. He spend three seasons at Ninian Park, then went non-League with Bath City. He returned to Newport in 1987 but, after a few weeks, he was transferred to Swindon. Paul is now a Wales international, winning his fourth cap against Luxembourg in November. Height 6'0". Born September 1964. Career League record: Chelsea nil aps.; Newport nil aps.; Cardiff 68 (7) aps., 4 gls.; Bath (not known); Newport 6 aps., 1 gl.; Swindon 88 (7) aps., 9 gls.

SHAUN CLOSE (Midfield). Shaun was signed from Bournemouth in September 1989. He opened his professional career with Tottenham but found first-team opportunities rare at White Hart Lane. Bournemouth signed him three seasons ago and it was at Dean Court that he established himself in League soccer. Height 5'8". Born September 1966. Career League record: Tottenham 3 (6) aps.; Bournemouth 28 (11) aps., 8 gls; Swindon 8 (12).

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WELCOME SWINDON

FRASER DIGBY (Goalkeeper). Fraser played for the England youth side during his apprenticeship days with Manchester United. He did not play in United's first-team but made his debut soon after moving to Swindon in 1986. Fraser has been capped five times by the England under-21s. Height 6'1". Born April 1967. Career League record: Manchester United nil aps.; Oldham (loan) nil aps.; Swindon 180 aps.

STEVE FOLEY (Midfield). Steve completed his apprenticeship with Liverpool but did not play in their first-team. He made his League debut whilst on loan to Fulham during 1983/84 and was transferred to Grimsby at the end of that campaign. Sheffield United signed him in 1985 and he moved on to Swindon in the summer of 1987. Height 5'7". Born October 1962. Career League record: Liverpool nil aps.; Fulham (loan) 3 aps.; Grimsby 31 aps., 3 gls.; Sheffield United 56 (10) aps., 14 gls.; Swindon 111 (5) aps., 18 gls.

JON GITTENS (Defender). Jon was given his break in top-class football by Southampton. They spotted him playing for Paget Rangers and he made his First Division debut for the Saints in 1986. Swindon signed him for £40,00 in 1987. Height 5'11". Born January 1964. Career League record: Southampton 18 aps.; Swindon 114 (2) aps., 5 gls.

MICK HAZARD (Midfield). Mick was signed from Portsmouth for £130,000 in September. He made his name with Tottenham and was a member of their FA Cup winning team of 1982 and their unsuccessful UEFA Cup side two years later. Chelsea signed him in 1966 and he moved on to Portsmouth last season. Height 5'7". Born January 1960. Career League record: Tottenham 73 (18) aps., 13 gls.; Chelsea 78 (3) aps., 9 gls.; Portsmouth 8 aps., 1 gl.; Swindon 6 (2) aps., 3 gls.

TOM JONES (Midfield). Tom joined Swindon from Aberdeen two seasons ago. He was previously in non-league soccer with Weymouth moving to Aberdeen in 1987. Height 5'10". Born October 1964. Career League record: Aberdeen 14 (14) aps., 3 gls.; Swindon 100 (1) aps., 8 gls.

SITORS...VISI

DAVID KERSLAKE (Defender). David was signed from QPR for £110,000 in November 1989. He joined Rangers as a schoolboy and developed through the junior teams to make his League debut in 1985. With only some half-a-dozen League matches behind him, David played for the England under-21s against Turkey in October of that same year. Height 5'6". Born June 1966. Career League record: QPR 38 (20) aps., 6 gls.; Swindon 44 aps.

ROSS MACLAREN (Midfield). Ross was a reserve player with Glasgow Rangers but he established himself in League soccer after joining Shrewsbury in 1980. Derby signed him for £67,500 in 1985 and Swindon paid £150,000 for him three years later. Height: 5'10". Born April 1962. Career League record: Glasgow Rangers nil aps.; Shrewsbury 158 (3) aps., 18 gls.; Derby 113 (9) aps., 4 gls.; Swindon 105 aps., 7 gls.

DUNCAN SHEARER (Forward). Duncan was Swindon's joint-top scorer with 27 goals last season and he had netted nine times this term prior to the holiday. He was signed from Huddersfield for £250,000 in 1988 and was leading scorer with 16 goals in his first season. He began his career with Chelsea, where first-team opportunities were rare, but after transferring to Huddersfield in 1986 he quickly established himself as a goalscorer, leading the club's list in his two seasons with 25 and 16. Height 5'10". Born August 1963. Career League

record: Chelsea 3 aps., 1 gl.; Huddersfield 80 (3) aps., 38 gls.; Swindon 94 (3) aps., 43 gls.

FITZROY SIMPSON (Midfield). Fitzroy joined Swindon as a trainee and got a few outings in their League eleven two seasons ago. He is now holding a regular place. Height 5'8". Born February 1970. Career League record: Swindon 38 (19) aps., 4 gls.

ADRIAN VIVEASH (Defender). Adrian joined the club as a trainee and made his League debut as substitute against Middlesbrough in September. Height 6'1". Born September 1960. Career League record: Swindon 7 (1) aps.

STEVE WHITE (Forward). Steve scored 27 times last season. He made his name as a goalscorer with Bristol Rovers and Luton paid £175,000 for him in 1979. He moved on to Charlton three years later — after loan spells with Lincoln and Luton — he returned to Bristol Rovers in 1983. Since joining Swindon in 1986, Steve's annual goals tally has been 21, 14, 14 and 37. Height 5'11". Born January 1959. Career League record: Bristol Rovers 46 (4) aps., 20 gls.; Bristol Rovers 46 (4) aps., 20 gls.; Luton 63 (9) aps., 25 gls.; Charlton 29 aps., 12 gls.; Lincoln (loan) 2 (1) aps.; Luton (loan) 4 aps.; Bristol Rovers 89 (12) aps., 24 gls.; Swindon 142 (20) aps., 60 gls.

(Statistics up to and including Saturday, December 15th, 1990).

The record breakers

JOHN TROLLOPE holds the all-time record for making the most League appearances for any one club. Trollope, who is now the club's youth team manager, played 770 League games between 1960 and 1980.

ROD THOMAS won 30 of his 50 caps for Wales as a Swindon player. No other Swindon player has won as many international caps.

Swindon are one of only two clubs to win a major cup final at Wembley as a Third Division club. They defeated Arsenal 3-1 in the 1969 League Cup final.

HARRY MORRIS established a club record, never since challenged when he scored 47 League Goals in the Third Division (South) in 1926/27. He also scored one in the F.A. Cup that season.

Morris also holds the record for scoring the highest aggregate number of goals for Swin-

don. He netted 216 League goals, plus 14 in the F.A. Cup between 1926 and 1933.

Morris twice scored five goals in a game for Swindon — against Q.P.R. in 1927 and Norwich in 1930.

KEITH EAST also scored five, against Mansfield in 1965.

PAUL RIDEOUT, now with Southampton, made his League debut for Swindon against Hull in November 1980 at the age of 16 years and 107 days. He is the youngest player ever to appear in their senior team.

ALEX FERGUSON was Swindon's oldest player. He was 43 years and 103 days of age when he played his final game against Bristol City in 1947.

Swindon received their first £1-million transfer fee when Republic of Ireland international Alan McLoughlin joined Southampton earlier this month.

TORS...VISIT

SWINDON STATISTICS 1990/91

DIVISION TWO: Charlton (a) 2-1; Ipswich (h) 1-0; Bristol City (h) 0-1; Hull (a) 1-1; Middlesbrough (h) 1-3; Wolves (h) 1-0; Oxford (a) 4-2; Millwall (h) 0-0; Oldham (a) 2-3; Brighton (a) 3-3; Bristol Rovers (h) 0-2; West Ham (h) 0-1; Leicester (a) 2-2; Barnsley (a) 1-5; Port Vale (h) 1-2; Portsmouth (h) 3-0; Sheffield Wednesday (a) 1-2; Notts County (a) 0-0; Blackburn (h) 1-1; Ipswich (a) 1-1; Charlton (h) 1-1.

Rumbelows Cup: Round Two Darlington (a) 0-3 (h) 4-0; Round Three Sheffield Wednesday (a) 0-0 (h) 0-1.

Zenith Data Systems Cup: Chelsea (a) 0-1.

League Goalscorers: Shearer 9, McLaughlin 4, White 3, Bodin 2, Foley 2, Hazard 2, Simpson 2, Lorenzo 1, opponent 1.

Cup Goalscorers: Close 1, McLaughlin 1, Simpson.

Home League Gates: Highest 13,658 v West Ham. Lowest 7,396 v Charlton. Average 10,157.

Up to and including December 15.

IN THE PAST

SWINDON Town ran neck and neck with United for promotion last season, both meetings ended with the points shared. At the County Ground Newcastle drew 1-1, but threw away two points by falling to a last-gasp goal by David Shearer, who drilled a low left-footer home with only seconds left. Mick Quinn headed a simple opener on the stroke of half time.

Here in April, 26,548 saw a 0-0 draw, a highly entertaining end-to-end affair, but a game in which vital points were dropped by both sides. Either team could have won it and, as it proved, the two extra points that went astray were crucial at the end of the season to Newcastle.

The FA Cup provided a 28,699 St James' Park crowd with another enjoyable match when Swindon were here during season 1987/88. Swindon, then in Division Three, faced United, then in Division One, and a certain Paul Gascoigne made a huge impression on the match. The 4th round tie was dominated by the teenage star as United stormed to a 5-0 victory.

Gazza netted two goals, one a penalty, while fellow youngsters Darren Jackson and Michael O'Neill were on the scoresheet too along with the impressive Paul Goddard.

UNITED: Kelly, Anderson, Wharton, Jackson (D), Jackson (P), Roeder, McDonald, Gascoigne, Goddard, Mirandinha, O'Neill. Subs. Cornwell, Stephenson.

SWINDON: Hammond, Hookaday, King, Kamara, Parkin, Calderwood, Bamber, Gittens, Quinn, O'Regan, Foley.

Overall League and Cup Record P9 W5 D3 L1 F19 A5.

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TOMMY'S SUPER MONTH

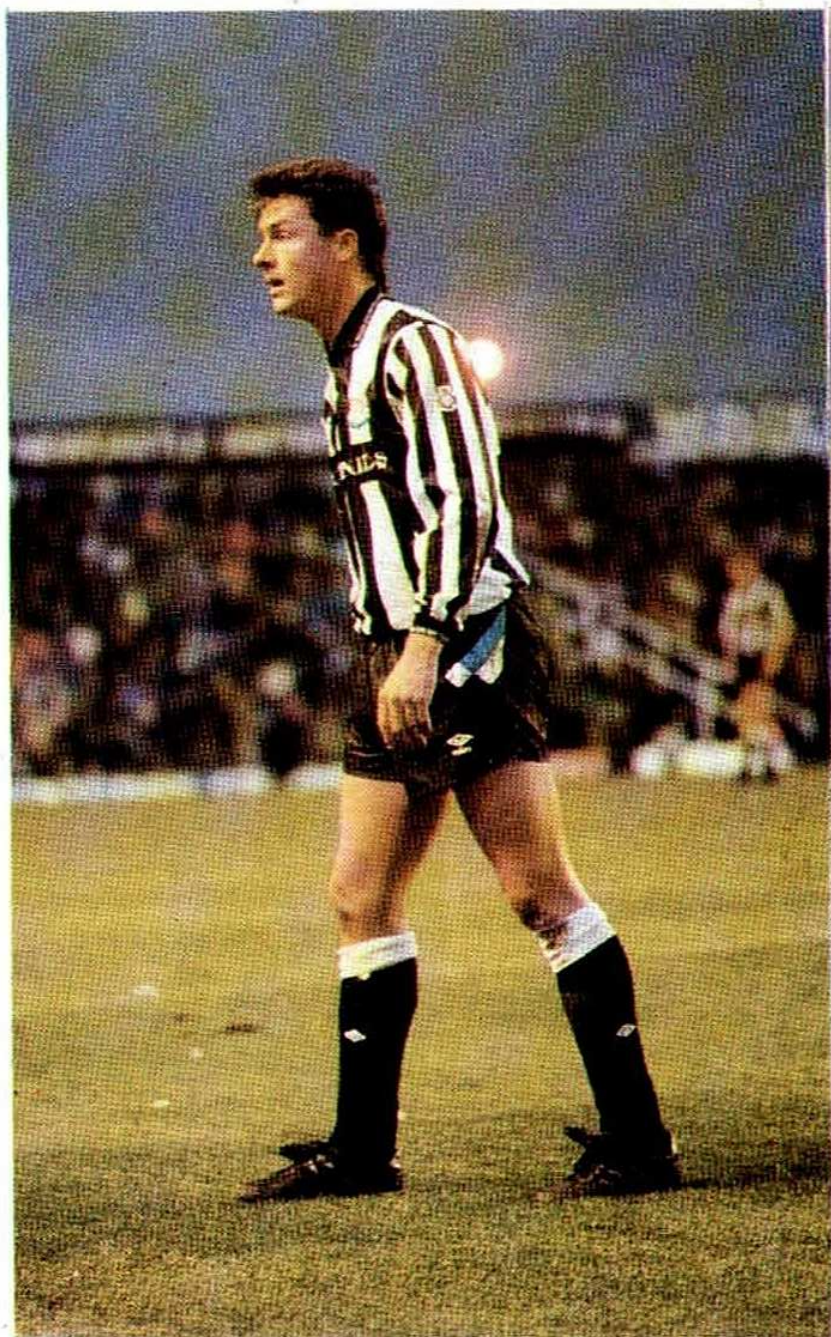
★ TOMMY Gaynor made a great impression during his month's loan from Nottingham Forest.

Manager Jim Smith did well to borrow Tommy from Brian Clough once he knew Mark McGhee faced a lengthy absence because of his groin injury.

The striker's touch and awareness delighted everybody in his first match against Watford (below).

Mick Quinn was among Tommy's admirer after that match.

And Quinny benefitted from his presence as he hit a hat-trick at Leicester seven days later.
Pictures: IAIN BUIST.



It's MICK QUINN!

What am I saying?

AS I promised in my last column, here's the great Quinny Christmas Contest. I've come up with a photograph taken by Iain Buist at the start of the season when I appear to be pleading with a linesman. All I want you to do is decide, in no more than 15 words, what I might have been saying to the man with the flag.

The funnier the better – and please remember this is a family magazine!

I will print the best ones and I've already set aside a few prizes for the winner.

Send your suggestions to Quinny's Christmas Contest, Match Magazine, Newcastle United, St James' Park NE1 4ST.



SOME of the players have come in for criticism this month after admitting they didn't invest in the club's share issue.

I'm one of them – and I'd like to put the record straight by giving my side of the story.

It's true I didn't buy shares, but that doesn't reflect in my loyalty to the club while I'm a Newcastle United player.

I try to show my loyalty by scoring goals and what happens on the field is of far more concern to me than what is happening off it.

Newcastle pay my wages and I give them 100 per cent in return, so I keep my side of the bargain.

I fail to see why players, who know they may be transferred next year, next month or even the next day if it suits the club should be obliged to invest in that club.

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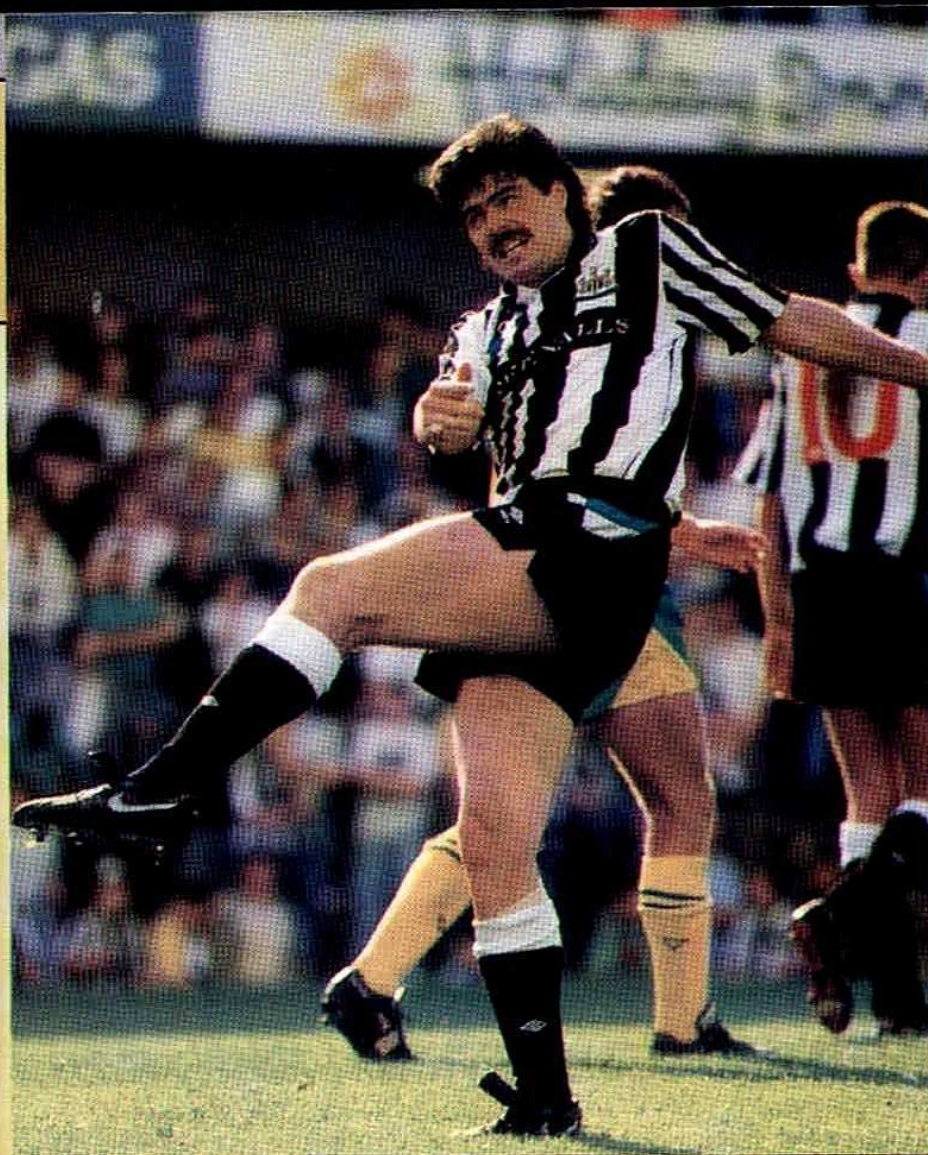


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Merry Xmas — belatedly

THE postponement of our game against Brighton prevented me wishing you a Merry Christmas on behalf of the players — so here's hoping you had a great time yesterday and that we can make today just as good.

The last few months haven't been happy ones for everybody connected with Newcastle United.

But we seem to have received an early present with the easing of the injury problems which have disrupted us so much recently.

Tommy Gaynor and Gavin Peacock are also settling in nicely and I'll say a little more about them in the next match magazine.

So let's hope we can all give you a gift-wrapped present over the holiday period — a few points to lift us into the promotion picture.

Does this mean that players should purchase shares in every club that buys them? If so, John Burridge would have more than some Wall Street dealers!

Perhaps it would be different if I was born here. I love Tyneside, but I'm a Merseysider and will probably return there eventually.

I would consider buying shares if Liverpool were selling them, but only for sentimental reason since I supported them as a kid.

No, it seems to me that somebody has decided to have a cheap go at the players over this.

It's a pity because we appreciate the publicity we get from journalists and I'm sure they appreciate that writing about Newcastle United helps sell newspapers.

So I wonder how many shares were bought by the reporter who rang me?

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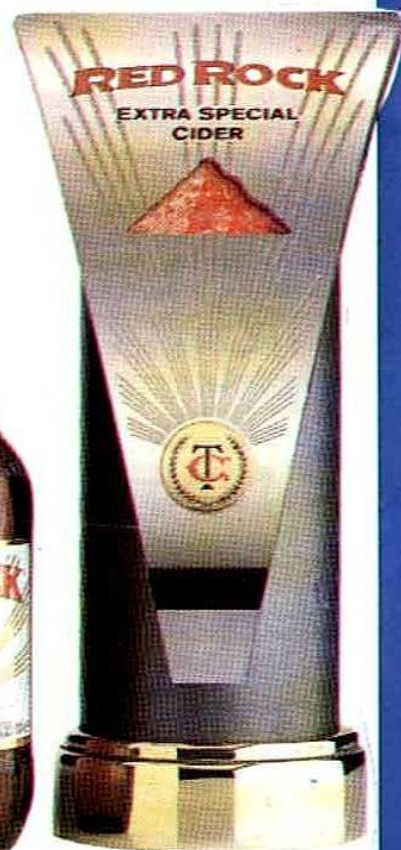




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WELCOME, GAVIN – new signing Gavin Peacock, above, makes his home debut today after doing well at Leicester last week. Don't miss an in-depth interview with Gavin in the next issue of **UNITED**, the official club newspaper.

S

IDE LINES...

**THERE IS A REAL
DANGER OF A
PLAYER, A
REFEREE OR
LINESMAN OR EVEN
YOU BEING
BLINDED OR
SERIOUSLY
INJURED IF THE
THROWING OF A
MISSILE OR A COIN
OCCURS HELP US
STOP IT!**

**POINT OUT
THE
CULPRIT!**

Irish visit

IT'S the luck of the Irish!

Newcastle United's Supporters Club of Ireland paid a trip to St James' Park for the last home game against Watford and watched the team win 1-0.

Now the club have received a thank-you letter from Declan McGrath, an official of the club.

Declan says: "It was a great pleasure to encounter people who appreciate the role of the supporter and it was certainly a great thrill to get a tour of the grounds and to meet some of the players."

"Please relate our sincere thanks to the players for their time and friendliness."

If you are interested in the Supporters Club of Ireland, Mr McGrath can be contacted at 94 Hollybank Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9.

Where's Spike

A FORMER sailor has asked Newcastle United for help in tracing an old pal.

Arthur Lowe, from 18 Leigh

Avenue, Swinton, Manchester has lost touch with Newcastle fan Spike Hindhaugh, who comes from Hartlepool.

They were together in the Royal Navy until 1986 and now Mr Lowe hopes that Mr Hindhaugh will contact him after reading this appeal.

Mr Lowe's telephone number is 061 7931336.

Plea for help

PROGRAMME collector Garry Forster is looking for six programmes involving Newcastle United.

They are Newcastle v South Shields in the Ingham Cup on May 10 1922, May 2, 1923, October 22, 1924, Newcastle v Third Lanark in a friendly on April 28, 1937, Newcastle v Third Lanark in a friendly on April 28, 1937, Newcastle v Rochdale in the League War Cup on February 15, 1941 and Newcastle v Newport on September 5, 1946.

If you can help, Mr Forster can be contacted at 28 Chelsey Road, Henley Green, Coventry, West Midlands CV2 1DG.

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TO THE ENGLISH FOOTBALL LEAGUE OF THE
EXCLUSIVE DELTA DESIGN OFFICIAL MATCH BALL.

SIDELINES ... S

DAVID PLEAT

LEICESTER City manager David Pleat, upset about a headline in a North East newspaper, has asked for space in today's match magazine to put the record straight.

Pleat wrote to the club after reading a Sunday Sun headline which said "Too old, too slow" over a story about our game at Leicester.

The Leicester managers says: "Please accept my apologies for being used. The headline was completely out of order.

"When asked how we managed to play a 5-4 game, I replied jokingly "we are the worst defenders and Newcastle aren't the youngest or the quickest."

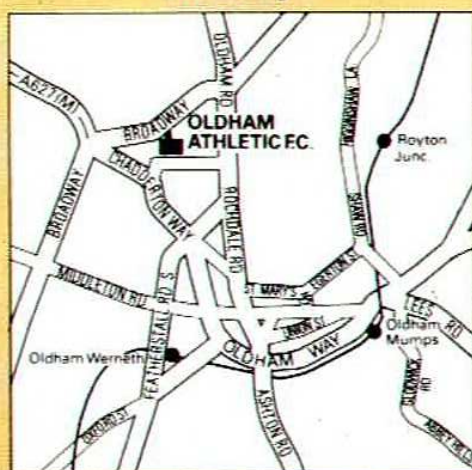
"Whoever conjured that headline cannot have any sense of decency and does a disservice to journalism.

"It is because of this minority of irresponsible journalists that some managers do not respect the after-match press conference and do not attend anymore.

"Jim Smith deserves support as all managers do when they are working hard to get results. This journalism is wholly destructive."

HOW TO GET TO OLDHAM

January 1



HOW TO GET THERE

From North, South, East and West M62 to J20 then A627 to junction with A664. At roundabout: For Car Park: Take first exit, then first right into Car Park. For Main Entrance (Offices): Take second exit, then first left into Boundary Park Road.

Parking information Car Park (600 spaces)

Nearest railway station Oldham Werneth

"Opening" day

THE club's new gymnasium at St James' Park was officially opened this month.

Among those at the ceremony was Mr Ken Mullen, secretary of the supporters' club, which donated £5,000 towards the cost of the new gym.

A new club shop has also opened.

It is situated in Joplings store, Ashington and will stock a wide range of goods and memorabilia not only for sale on the premises, but also by mail order.

The club's commercial manager, Grahame McDonnell, explains: "We are planning to open a number of shops throughout the North East. With shops already open in Eldon Square, Newcastle, the MetroCentre and Robbs of Hexham, we are looking to cater for all our fans - both young and old, and also to make it more convenient for fans to purchase official merchandise throughout the North East."

The shop will be 'officially opened' by players from Newcastle United within the near future.

Plans to open further shops are also in the pipeline.

Contest winners

ELEVEN young fans showed their football knowledge during the club's recent Open Day.

They successfully named 11 players whose back view featured in publicity for the club's share issue.

The winners received signed footballs and two tickets for the match against Blackburn Rovers on January 13.

And they went along to St James' Park to collect their prizes from chairman George Forbes and the players involved. The winners are:

- ★ Steven Miller (10) from Cramlington
- ★ Kirsty Rosemerguy (10) from Prudhoe
- ★ Michael Varty (12) from Haltwhistle
- ★ Craig Wallace (13) from Walkergate
- ★ Chris White (12) from Heaton
- ★ Stephen Kelters (15) from Washington
- ★ Scott Mitchelson (14) from Killingworth
- ★ Louise Hood (13) from Byker
- ★ Martin Colling (8) from Chester-le-Street
- ★ Stephen Ganmore (15) from High

Howdon

- ★ Simon Lion (7) from Forest Hall.

The winners and the players will be pictured in the next edition of UNITED, your official club newspaper which is out next week.

Paul's a Scotsman with a black and white heart

PAUL Sweeney's future at Newcastle may be in doubt, but the uncompromising Scotsman admits: "I don't want to leave the club."

United boss Jim Smith has been fielding offers all season from Scottish Premier sides Dunfermline and St Johnstone.

And now United's lengthy injury list is finally clearing, any fresh approaches from north of the Border could bring an end to Sweeney's 21 months on Tyneside.

But, if Sweeney does head

home in the New Year, it will be with a heavy heart.

"I love this club and I don't regret one thing about coming here," he says.

"There are boys on the terraces who would give their right arms just to pull on the black and white shirt.

"So whatever happens in the future, playing for Newcastle is something I'll never forget.

"My fiancée Michaela is a Geordie – we're getting married next summer – and when my playing days are over I would love to return to the area."

But, the flame-haired Glaswegian knows the harsh realities of the game could well mean him leaving St James' for first-team football.

"The manager took me in a few weeks ago and said there were some Scottish clubs in for me," says the former Raith part-timer.

"He asked if I wanted to talk to them and when that happens it means you're surplus to requirements.

"I've had a bad knee injury for a while and that has put things on hold. "But all I want to do at the moment is get back into action as quickly as



FLYING SCOT – typical aggression from Paul Sweeney this season.

possible.

"In all reality, your aim has to be to play first team football. And, at nearly 26, I'm not getting any younger."

Sweeney's no-nonsense approach has gone down well with the fans, even when results haven't always gone United's way.

And Sweeney, at home at left-back or midfield, doesn't accept his United first team days are entirely over.

"Full credit to Mark Stimson for the job he's doing at left-back but I'll be doing my best to get back in the team when I'm fully fit," he explains.

"And I'd love a chance in midfield, that's my favourite position. I love being involved, getting stuck in and making the tackles."

And before Sweeney leaves the North-East, he has some unfinished business. "I'd love to score a goal for the club – even in a reserve game," he says.

"My scoring record at Raith wasn't bad. I'd get five or six a season. But here, I've never hit the target.

"If I do leave, that would be some way to sign off!"

**PAUL
IS IN
COLOUR
ON THE
CENTRE
PAGES**

The real PAUL SWEENEY

1. Full name: Paul Martin Sweeney.
2. Birth date/place: 10th December 1965, Glasgow.
3. Marital status/children: Engaged to Michaela, no children.
4. Current residence: Kingston Park.
5. Nicknames: "Toddy" – as in "Sweeney Todd".
6. In the summer, I enjoy: The usual, golf and tennis.
7. Favourite entertainers: Elton John, Madonna.
8. I stay home to watch: Blackadder, Only Fools and Horses.
9. I recommend reading: Nothing in particular. I only really read the local papers.
10. When I want a good meal I particularly like: Italian or Chinese.
11. Favourite holiday spot: Malta.
12. I spend my money foolishly on: A number of things, especially clothes. Also electrical things like hi-fi equipment and video cameras.
13. I'd give a year's salary to meet: The Pope.
14. If I could spend a day with any historical figure I'd choose: John F. Kennedy or Martin Luther King.
15. There's no-one in the world I admire more than: Michaela, for putting up with my bad temper.
16. If I could change one thing about myself, it would be: My nose.
17. Growing up, my football idol was: Kenny Dalglish and Jimmy Johnstone.
18. Back then, I supported: Celtic.
19. Favourite childhood football memory: Going to the big Celtic games with my dad and brothers.
20. The best football advice anyone ever gave me: Probably from my father, when I was part-time with Raith and thinking of packing it in. He told me to stick at it.
21. The worst football advice anyone ever gave me: Never really had any.
22. My football fantasy is to: See Newcastle in the first division – even if I'm not still at the club!
23. One word that best describes my playing style: Inconsistent.
24. My best friend in football is: Gordon Dalziel and John McStay – Paul's cousin – at Raith.
25. Favourite ground: Old Trafford.
26. Toughest player I've ever faced: Millwall's Jimmy Carter.
27. Best time of my career: Getting promoted with Raith to the first division in 1987.
28. Worst time of my career: Getting relegated from the first division when I first came to Newcastle.
29. What I like most about football is: The hours, and getting paid for doing something that's your hobby.
30. What I like least about football is: The travelling and pre-season training after the summer.
31. If I could pick one person to build a team around, it would be: Gazza or Glenn Hoddle.
32. If I had to pay to watch a sportsman other than myself, it would be: Mike Tyson or Maradona.
33. I'm better than anyone at United when it comes to: Sleeping on the team bus.
34. If I wasn't in football, I'd probably be: On the dole, like I was before I signed for Newcastle.
35. After finishing my playing career, I'd like to: Be financially secure, maybe have a small business or shop. Anything as long as I'm not on the dole.
36. When I'm 64 I see myself: As the oldest swinger in town!
37. Few people know this, but I: Enjoy night-clubbing.





“Already, CCTV has had a major impact on the hooligan problem inside football grounds as well as proving extremely useful to monitor safety measures. If any trouble appears on the screen or is reported from any quarter of the ground, the CCTV can zoom in on the incident. The police can then record what occurs on colour video and on hard copy prints. Individuals can be picked out by facial appearance and the colour of their clothing. The evidential effect of such a video recording has proved formidable. It has persuaded hooligans, who would previously have sought to challenge oral evidence of identification, to plead guilty. Hooligans know cameras are keeping a roving watch and their activities in the ground are inhibited by that knowledge.”

Lord Justice Taylor in his Final Report into the Hillsborough Stadium Disaster.

All major League grounds in Britain are equipped with CCTV funded by The Football Trust.



THE FOOTBALL TRUST
Helping the game

F L A S H B A C K

5 YEARS AGO

UNITED'S Boxing Day fixture was against Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough and a 30,269 crowd saw a thrilling 2-2 draw. Wednesday went ahead with Brian Marwood and Gary Thompson netting the home sides goals.

Newcastle though, scored two themselves through Glenn Roeder and a quality strike by Peter Beardsley, then on top form. Newcastle dropped a place in the First Division table, to 10th position.

UNITED: Thomas, Anderson, Bailey, McCreery, Clarke, Roeder, Stephenson, Gascoigne, Whitehurst, Beardsley, Stewart. Sub: McDonald.

10 YEARS AGO

GRIMSBY Town entertained United in a Second Division clash. A crowd of 17,623 were in Blundell Park but were served up with a dismal 0-0 draw for their holiday attraction.

Travelling United fans had their first glimpse of new centre-forward Mick Harford after a £200,000 deal from Fourth Division Lincoln City. John Trewick, the club's record signing, was making only his second appearance.

United slipped to 14th position in the Second Division table.

UNITED: Carr, Carney, Johnson, Martin, Boam, Mitchell, Shinton, Trewick, Harford, Wharton, Waddle. Sub: Hibbitt.

15 YEARS AGO

TURF MOOR, Burnley, was the venue for United's holiday fixture on Boxing Day 1975. A crowd of 22,458 witnessed a close game settled by a Tommy

Craig penalty kick two minutes from time.

Man of the match Micky Burns was sent clean through and fouled. Craig clinically struck the spot kick firmly past keeper Peyton.

Burns had come on as substitute after only two minutes replacing the injured John Tudor.

UNITED: Mahoney, Nattrass, Kennedy, Nulty, Craig (D), Howard, Cassidy, Tudor (Burns), Macdonald, Gowling, Craig (T).

20 YEARS AGO

NEWCASTLE travelled to Elland Road, Leeds, where 46,758 were packed into the stadium and witnessed Johnny Giles torment United.

Title chasers Leeds went 1-0 up in the first 45 minutes when Terry Cooper was upended in the box, Giles rapping the penalty home. Allan Clarke put the

Revie machine 2-0 ahead, then Giles got another penalty - given away for a second time by the unfortunate Frank Clark.

Martin Burleigh deputised for Willie McFaul on his league debut. United lay in 10th position in the First Division table.

UNITED: Burleigh, Craig, Clark, Gibb, McNamee, Moncur, Robson, Dyson, Davies, Young, Ford. Sub Arentoft.



TOMMY CRAIG - penalty kick winner 15 years ago.

FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CHALLENGE CUP - THIRD ROUND NEWCASTLE UNITED v DERBY COUNTY SATURDAY, 5TH JANUARY 1991, K.O. 3.00 p.m.

This is NOT an all-ticket match. For admission to **STANDING AREAS**, please pay at the turnstiles in the normal manner.

Season ticket holders are guaranteed a seat ticket for this game, though because of the percentage of seats to Derby County, in accordance with Football Association rules, not necessarily their own seat.

Tickets for the following areas are available

MILBURN STAND SEAT	1-14 £27-240 £8.00, 15-42 £99-226 £8.75
	43-70 £171-198 £10.00 (£6.00 Jun 1), 71-98 £143-170 £11.00, 99-142 £12.50
EAST STAND SEAT	1-40 £174-200 £8.75 (£6.00 Jun 1), 41-173 £11.00 (£6.00 Jun 1)
EAST STAND PADDOCK SEAT	75-166 £6.50 (£5.50 Jun 1)
FAMILY ENCLOSURE SEAT (EAST PADDOCK)	1-74 £5.25 (£3.00 Jun 1)
MILBURN STAND 'D' PADDOCK	£5.50 (£2.50 Jun 1)

Season Ticket Holders Only

Season Ticket Holders wishing to purchase a ticket for this match should apply personally or by post on the following days: Monday, 17th December - Saturday 22nd December 1990 10am - 4pm Monday, 24th December 1990 10am - 2pm Special Voucher 'C' together with appropriate remittance, and s.a.e. if applying by post are required. Junior Season Ticket Holders may claim their ticket at the price shown.

GENERAL PUBLIC

Milburn Stand Seat Tickets not designated to Season Ticket Holders will also be available from Monday, 17th December. Seat tickets for all other areas may be obtained as follows: Wednesday, 26th December, 1990, 10.00am - 3.00pm Thursday, 27th and Friday 28th December, 1990, 10.00am - 4.00pm Saturday, 29th December, 1990, 10.00am - 3.00pm Monday, 31st December, 1990, 10.00am - 2.00pm Wednesday 2nd to Friday 4th January, 1991, 10.00am - 4.00pm Saturday, 5th January, 1991, 10.00am - 3.00pm Please note that the ticket office will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Important: If you are not a Season Ticket Holder, East Stand Paddock Seats may only be obtained on production of a Membership Card. Family Enclosure Seats can only be obtained on production of Voucher 'C' from a Family Enclosure Membership Booklet. The Ticket Office (FAC3), Newcastle United F.C. Ltd., St. James' Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4ST. Clubcall Ticket Information Line: 0898-12-15-90.



NEWS ROUND-UP

★ A limited number of family enclosure memberships are now available. These will cost £1.00 for adults and 50p for juveniles. Anyone interested should contact Liz Bakke at the ground.

★ Arrangements for the Oldham Athletic v Newcastle game have now been finalized. The coach departs from St James' Park at 8.00 am on Tuesday, January 1st, 1991.

A number of games will be played against the Junior Latics and these will take place on the pitch after the first team game.

Please bring a packed lunch, trainers and suitable clothing as the games will be played on the artificial surface.

The coach will arrive back in Newcastle at approximately 8.30 pm.

The cost for the trip is as follows:

Junior Magpies.....	£14.00
Junior Guests.....	£15.00
Adults.....	£16.00

This includes return travel and a seat ticket in the family enclosure at Boundary Park. Bookings will be accepted on a first come first served basis and all cheques should be made payable to: NEWCASTLE UNITED F.C.

★ Training sessions at the Benwell Training Ground have now ended, but will resume on Sunday, January 6.

★ Five a Side football sessions at the Monkton Stadium in Jarrow have also ended. The next sessions will begin on Friday,

January 4 1991. Please check your newsletters for full information and times.

★ The Christmas Disco was held on Sunday, December 23, in the United Suite from 7.30 pm until 10.30 pm.

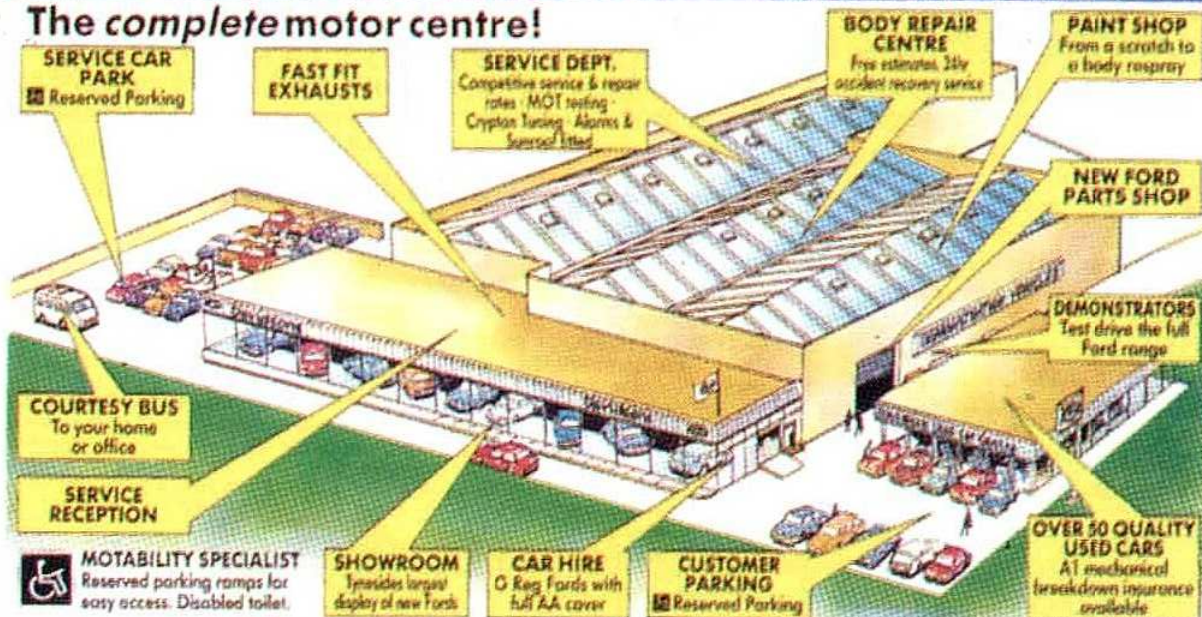
All Junior Magpies at the disco were entered into our free Christmas draw. First prize was a V.I.P. visit to St James' Park for the winner and a guest.

Seat tickets for a game were provided along with a ground tour and a dressing room visit. The day will be completed with the presentation of an autographed football to the lucky winner.

★ Happy birthday to the following members – Chris Siegel, 10 on November 25, Lee Carden, 14 on December 6, Andrew Hill, 14 on December 7, John Renforth, 10 on December 10 and Shaun Rowell, 11 on December 22.

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7 DAYS
A WEEK**

Newcastle United's Community Scheme are to hold two separate soccer days on January 2 and 3, 1991.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 2 AT BENWELL TRAINING GROUND

10.00 - 12.00 and 1.00 - 3.00

THURSDAY JANUARY 3 AT MONKTON STADIUM, JARROW

10.00 - 12.00 and 1.00 - 3.00

Each day will comprise of a morning session to include skill training and individual competitions and the afternoon will be finished off with a 5-a-side competition. Winners will receive medals.

The cost will be £1.00 for either day, please complete the application form and bring it along on the day of your choice. Cheques made payable to Newcastle United Football in the Community.

Lunchtime supervision (please bring a packed lunch).

APPLICATION FORM

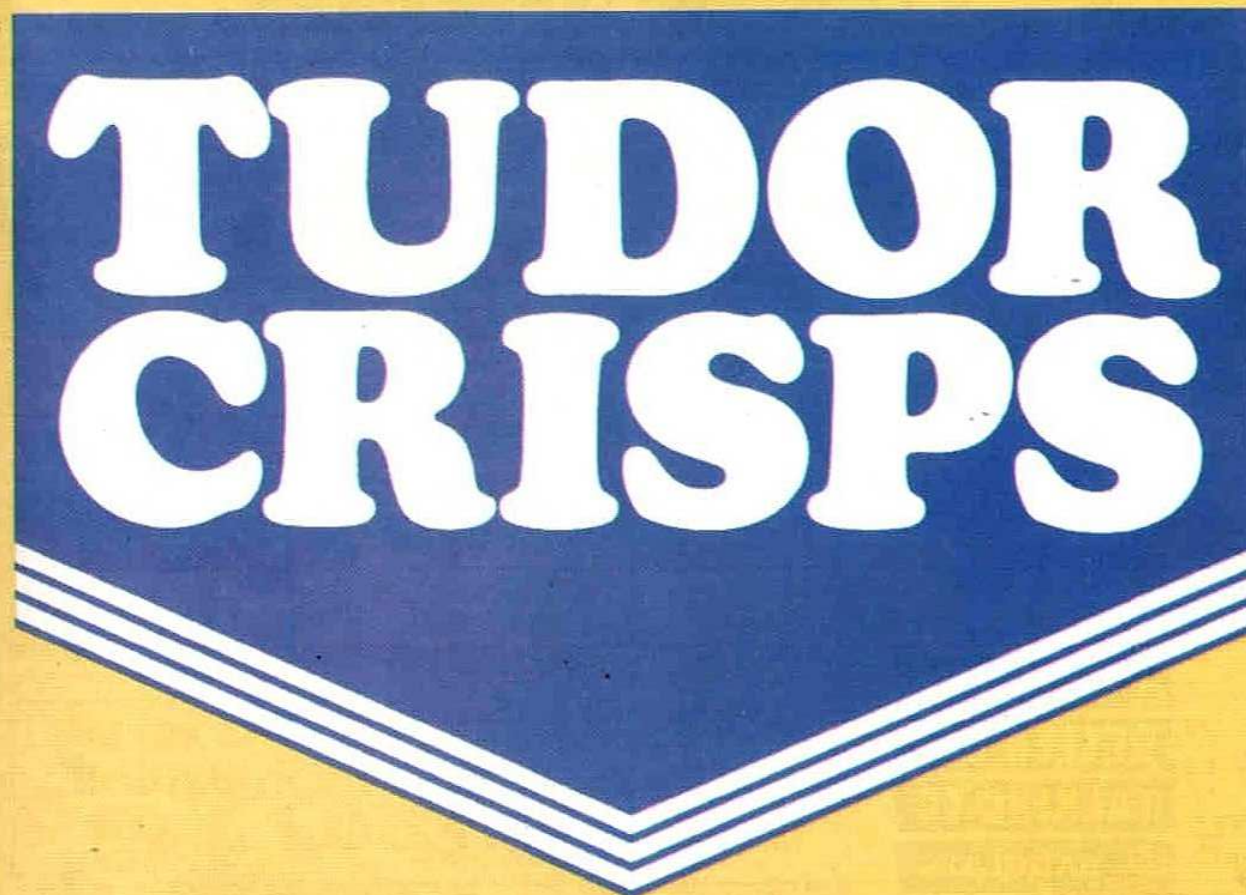
Name.....


Address.....

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Telephone No.....Age.....

Please State Venue.....





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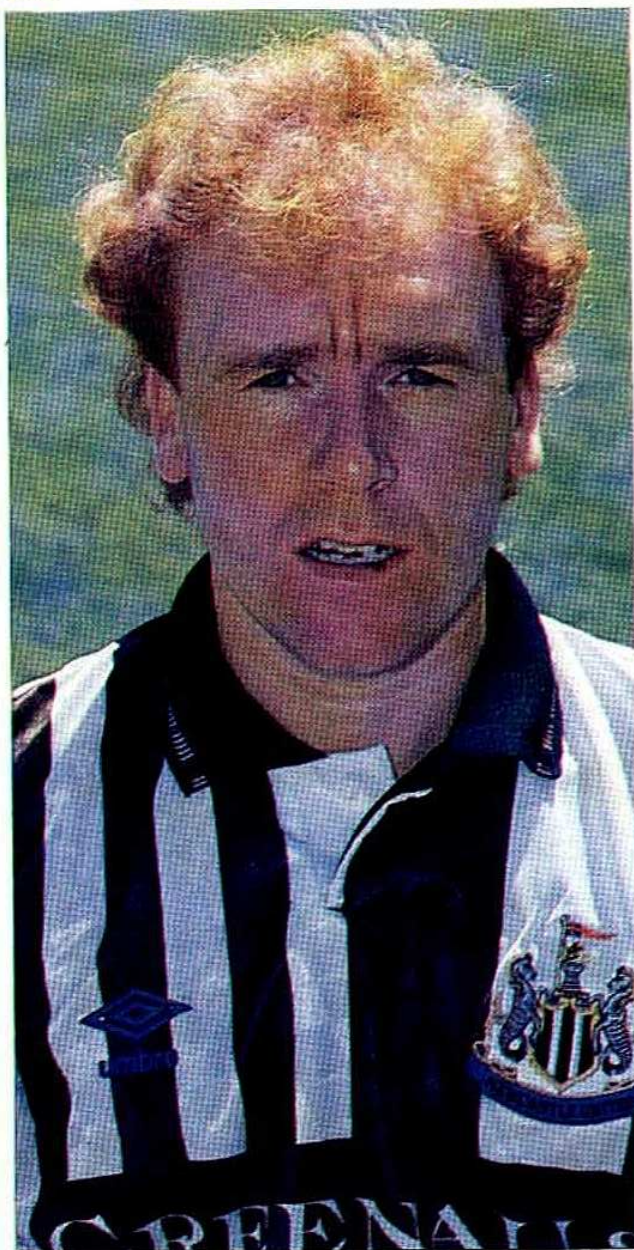
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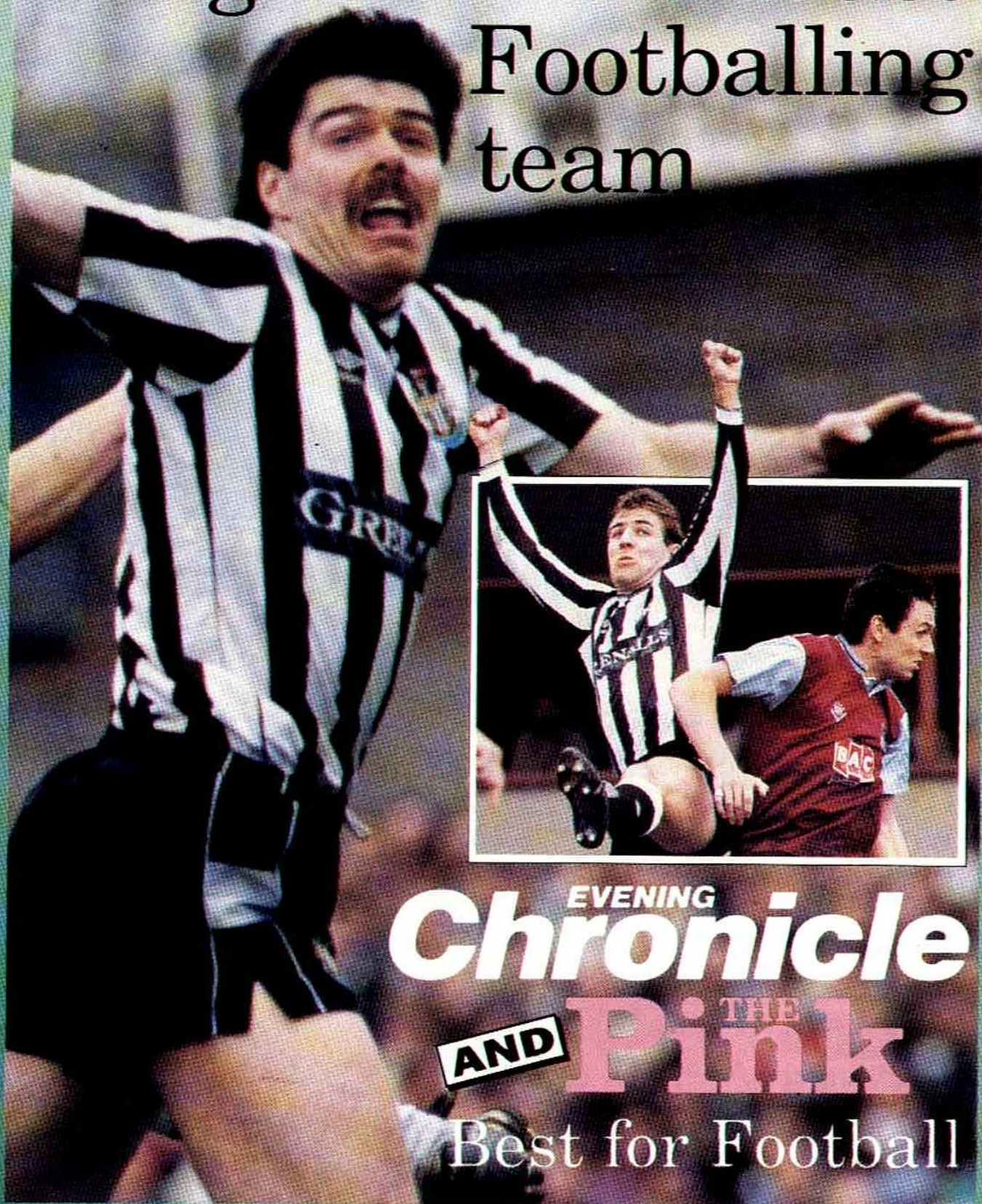


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EVENING
Chronicle
AND **Pink**

Best for Football

1. Newcastle are the eleventh League club to have enjoyed the services of much-travelled keeper John Burridge. Can you name the current Second Division side for whom he made 74 League appearances between 1982 and 1984?

2. Brighton beat United 1-0 in the 3rd round of the 1982-83 FA Cup competition. Name the referee who controversially disallowed two late 'goals' by United in that game.

3. Ex-Newcastle captain Glenn Roeder didn't score many goals for United, but got his only goal in the Milk Cup competition for them during the 1986-87 season. Name the opposition.



GLENN ROEDER
— see question 3

4. During the 1969-70 season United scored 65 goals in their 52 League and Cup games. Pop Robson, with 25, was leading marksman and only two other players reached double figures. Can you name them?

5. David Craig scored one of United's goals when they beat AC Fiorentina in the final of the Anglo-Italian Cup; and his full-back partner Frank Clark scored his only goal for them when they beat Doncaster 6-0 in the League Cup. Both events happened during the same year — which one?

6. United paid Brighton £11,000 for this Welsh goalkeeper in March, 1961. He made 121 appearances for United as well as winning 11 caps for his country before moving on to Mansfield in 1967. Who is he?

7. Goalkeepers Willie McFaul, in 1966 and Steve Hardwick in 1977, both made their United League debuts against the same First Division side — which one?

8. In last season's play-off matches v Sunderland, United made only one change in their line-up for both games. This involved the players wearing the No. 6 shirt. Name them both?

9. Mark Stimson played 35 games for United last season, scoring his only goal of the campaign in a 2-3 home defeat by which club?

10. In his four-year career with United, Scotsman Tommy Craig made 150 League and Cup appearances for them. How many goals did he score in that time?

ANSWERS: 1. Wolverhampton Wanderers. 2. Treford Mills. 3. Bradford City. 4. Keith Dyson (12) and Wyn Davies (11). 5. 1973. 6. Dave Hollins. 7. Liverpool. 8. Ray Hanson and Darren Bradshaw. 9. Oxford Utd. 10. 29.

Today's referee

MICHAEL PECK, a deputy head teacher from Kendal in Cumbria, began refereeing in 1966 and progressed to the Football League via the West Lancashire League and the Central League.

He reached the League's linesmen's list in 1973 and has been on the referees' list for 14 years.

He has controlled semi-final ties in the FA Trophy and FA Vase and was on the line in the 1985 Charity Shield at Wembley and a European Nations game in 1977.

Married with two daughters, Mr Peck's hobbies are squash, music and cricket.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

BARCLAYS DIVISION ONE
Arsenal v Derby County
Coventry v Tottenham Hotspur
Crystal Palace v Sunderland
Everton v Aston Villa
Leeds United v Chelsea
Luton Town v Sheffield United
Man Utd v Norwich City
Notts Forest v Wimbledon
QPR v Liverpool
Southampton v Manchester City

BARCLAYS DIVISION TWO
Blackburn v Notts County
Brighton v Bristol Rovers
Bristol City v Portsmouth
Hull City v Oxford United
Ipswich Town v Middlesbrough
Millwall v Leicester City
Plymouth Argyle v Barnsley
Sheff Wed v Wolves
Watford v Port Vale
West Brom v Charlton
West Ham v Oldham Athletic

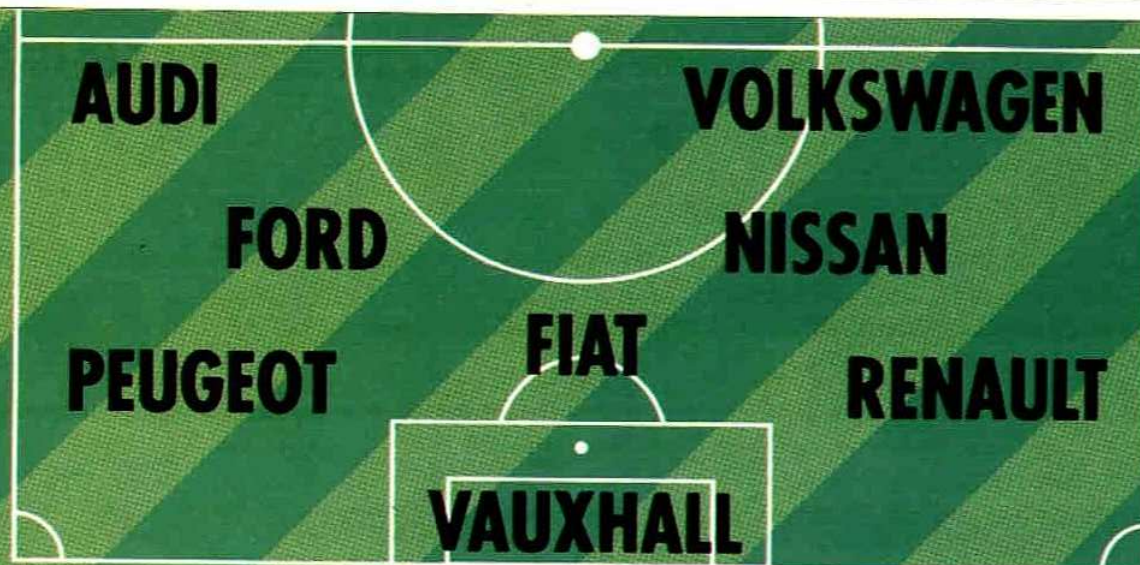
BARCLAYS DIVISION THREE
Bournemouth v Mansfield Town
Birmingham City v Brentford
Bury v Leyton Orient
Cambridge Utd v Tranmere Rovers
Crewe v Preston
Fulham v Bradford
Reading v Grimsby Town
Rotherham United v Chester City
Shrewsbury v Huddersfield
Southend United v Bolton
Stoke City v Swansea City
Wigan Athletic v Exeter City

BARCLAYS DIVISION FOUR
Aldershot v Darlington
Blackpool v Peterborough Utd
Cardiff City v Carlisle Utd
Chesterfield v Burnley
Doncaster Rovers v Maidstone United
Gillingham v Walsall
Hartlepool Utd v Stockport County
Rochdale v York City
Scarborough v Halifax Town
Scunthorpe Utd v Northampton Town
Torquay United v Lincoln City
Wrexham v Hereford United

90
/ 91



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UNITED

A to Z

TREVOR HOCKEY **1963-1965**

A MUCH-TRAVELLED player who became one of the characters of the sixties and seventies. A Yorkshireman from Keighley, Hockey started his career with Bradford City in 1958 and moved to Nottingham Forest before joining Newcastle in November 1963 for £25,000. An out-and-out right winger, Hockey helped United to promotion in 1965 in a furious, fast raiding style before heading for Birmingham City in November 1965. Went on to appear for Sheffield United, Norwich, Aston Villa and Bradford City again. Moved into coaching with Athlone Town and Stalybridge Celtic as well as trying American soccer too. Was capped by Wales as a midfield dynamo, remembered for his long hair and bushy beard. Resided in his home of Keighley where he ran a hotel until his untimely death after a game of 5-a-side in 1987. Hockey appeared over 600 times during his career. (56 app, 3 gls).

GLYN HODGES **1987**

FROM London, Glyn Hodges was one of several Wimbledon players to venture to St James' Park and remain a short period. With the Dons from school, Hodges joined United during the close-season of 1987 for £300,000 but displayed little of his obvious talent on the left side of midfield. He remained a United player for only 86 days before heading back south, joining Watford in September for a similar fee. He joined Crystal Palace in June 1990. Hodges is a Welsh Under 21 and full international. (7 app, 0 goals).

GORDON HODGSON **1971-1974**

A MIDFIELDER with an exceptional left-foot who joined United straight from schools football in 1971. Born in Newcastle, Hodgson made his League debut the following year, filling in for established stars Hibbitt and Gibb. An England school and youth player, he moved onto Mansfield Town in May 1974 and proceeded to skipper their side to promotion. Later appeared with both Oxford United and Peterborough before drifting into non-league soccer with Kings Lynn. (10 app, 0 gls).

KEN HODGSON **1959-1961**

MAKING his debut in January 1961 against Nottingham Forest, Ken Hodgson was another local product who graduated through the junior set-up. A versatile forward, he joined United as an outside-right in May 1959 and departed to Scunthorpe United in December 1961 for £3,000. Proved to be a good lower division player, afterwards assisting Bournemouth and Colchester United (7 app, 0 gls).

DAVE HOLLINS **1961-1967**

DAVE Hollins cost United £11,000 in March 1961 from Brighton and immediately made headlines by saving a penalty on his debut against Tottenham. Agile and acrobatic, he was born in Bangor and was capped for Wales on 11 occasions. He lost his place to Gordon Marshall during the mid-sixties and was transferred to Mansfield Town in February 1967 for £2,500. He moved on to join Nottingham Forest, Aldershot and Portsmouth before turning out for Romford in 1971. Brother of John Hollins, of Chelsea, his father also played football for Wolves. (121 app, 0 gls).

GEORGE HOPE **1972-1975**

BORN in Haltwhistle, George Hope signed from school in 1972 and proved a centre-forward with lots of potential. As understudy to Malcolm Macdonald his chances were very limited, although he scored a marvellous goal against Manchester United in 1973. His inevitable transfer took place in May 1975 when he joined Charlton Athletic, afterwards appearing for York City. (6 app, 1 gl).

JOHN HOPE **1969-1971**

RESERVE goalkeeper to Willie McFaul, John Hope appeared for United only once, in 1969, although he was substitute in several of the clubs Fairs Cup matches. From Shildon, Hope signed from Darlington in March 1969 for £8,000. He was a tall and well built keeper who moved to Sheffield United in January 1971 as part of the deal that brought John Tudor north. Later played with Preston, Hartlepool then assisted non league sides Stockton, Wingate, Willington and Whitby. (1 app, 0 gls).

IN RESERVE

★ HILLSBOROUGH seems to suit midfielder Neil Simpson, who arrived in the summer from Aberdeen.

Neil has been troubled by a calf injury for much of the season, but returned to the reserves at Sheffield Wednesday.

That's the ground where he starred after going on as a substitute during the Second Division game in September.

And he marked his Pontins League comeback with the only goal of the match.

"It was nice to be playing again," said the former Scottish international. "It has been a frustrating time because the injury took longer than expected to clear up.

"Now I want to show the fans that I have a lot to offer

the club."

The win at Hillsborough came in the middle of a disappointing spell for Derek Fazackerley's side.

It was sandwiched between defeats against Aston Villa, Sheffield United, Wolves and Manchester City.

Injury problems have made it impossible to field a settled side and 34 players have already appeared in the reserves this season.

The latest was Dane Ove Hansen, who figured in the 4-0 defeat by City before manager Jim Smith decided not to pursue his interest in the 24-year-old striker.

The manager has made the same decision about John Richardson, who has been playing in New Zealand.

Richardson was given a trial in the game against Aston Villa, but was substituted after 65 minutes.

David Robinson is back in training after having the plaster removed from his ankle injury.

But he won't be able to play in the reserves until January 9 as they start a lay-off over the holiday period.

The reserves will start their defence of the Northumberland Senior Cup on January 19 when they play Forest Hall at St James' Park.

The juniors will also be in cup action on January 7 when they are at home to West Brom in the third round of the FA Youth Cup following their 2-0 victory over Oldham in the last round.

British Gas Northern are proud to support the club.

"Here's to a great season."

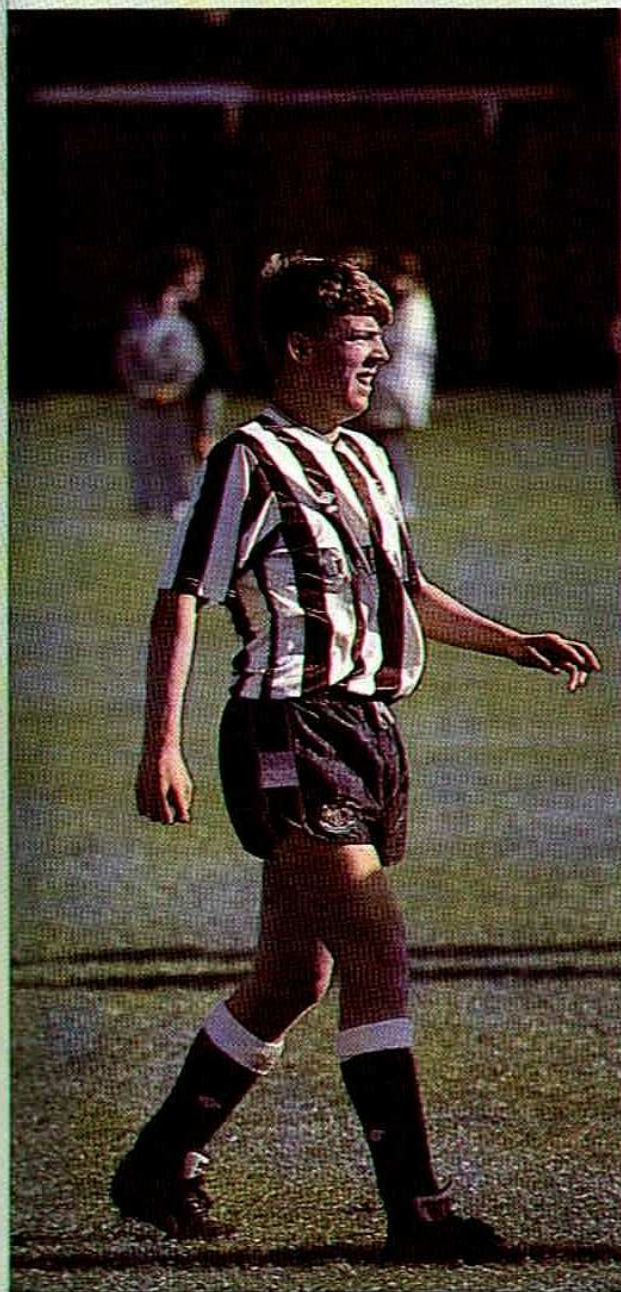
British Gas 
Northern

...IN RESERVE

MASON'S GOAL

FULL-BACK Phil Mason, badly injured in a September car smash, has his road back to fitness carefully mapped out.

And he reckons he could be back in action by next March.



PHIL MASON

Phil was one of five United juniors in the car which somersaulted on the A1(M) in Durham on September 5.

He spent several weeks in Dryburn Hospital, Durham, along with team-mate Alan Thompson who also faces a long haul back to fitness.

Now the 19-year-old Durham lad hopes a spell at Lilleshall rehabilitation centre will speed his recovery.

"I'm hope to be back in action by February or March," he says.

"I've still got a few scars and one or two aches and pains but my task is to build the muscles up because they've wasted a bit while I've been out of action.

"It will take a while to get back to match fitness after that, but I think March is a realistic deadline."

Phil played 16 times – plus twice as substitute – for United's reserves last term after 29 junior matches.

And he even got his name on the scoresheet in the reserves' 3-1 Northumberland Senior Cup victory at Blue Star on January 20.

Adds Phil: "I know I can't rush things, but I'm desperate to get back to playing. I'd got into the reserves at the end of last season and everything was going well.

"The injury has put things back a bit, but hopefully I'll be able to put it all behind me by next spring."

United's juniors hit a sticky patch with no wins in four games before winning their Youth Cup clash with Oldham Athletic at St James' Park.

Now coach Colin Suggett believes the tide is turning after one match last month when he was running out of players.

And he says: "I only had 12 fit men and had to get Matt Appleby back from the first-team squad when I knew he wasn't going to be involved against Watford."

RESERVES UPDATE

PONTINS LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Notts Forest	13	9	4	0	41	19	31
Sheff Wed	12	9	1	2	26	13	28
Liverpool	15	8	1	6	28	18	25
Sunderland	14	6	5	3	26	25	23
Derby County	14	6	5	3	14	13	23
Manchester Utd.	14	6	4	4	23	14	22
Aston Villa	13	6	3	4	23	26	21
Everton	15	6	2	7	28	20	20
Coventry City	14	5	5	4	19	17	20
Rotherham Utd.	14	6	2	6	25	20	20
Leeds United	14	5	5	4	18	20	20
Sheff United	14	6	1	7	23	28	19
Wolves	14	5	2	7	23	31	17
Newcastle United	13	4	1	6	21	19	13
Huddersfield	13	3	3	7	19	32	12
Manchester City	13	2	4	7	18	28	10
Leicester City	14	3	1	10	19	30	10
Blackburn Rovers	13	1	5	7	18	30	8

Appearances and Goalscorers

Matty Appleby	11	Lee Makel	6	(3)
Billy Aske	7	Alan Neilson	7	(1)
Ian Bennett	10	Michael Parkinson	12	(2)
Darren Bradshaw	6	Mick Quinn	1	
Gary Brazil	1	Simon Reay	1	(1)
Kevin Brock	2	Ray Ranson	1	
Lee Clark	10	John Richardson	1	
Anth Cole	5	David Robinson	5	(1)
Kevin Dillon	1	David Roche	15	
Micky English	(1)	Neil Simpson	5	
Jan Eriksson	2	Scott Sloan	8	
Robbie Elliott	3	Mark Stimson	2	
Wayne Fereday	5	Paul Sweeney	2	
Archie Gourlay	12	John Watson	2	(3)
Ove Hanson	1	Steve Watson	5	(2)
Tommy Heron	3	Tommy Wright	5	
Steve Howey	8	Micky Young	1	(1)

GOALSCORER: 6 - Robinson; 4 - Gourlay; 3 - Howey; 2 - Makel; 1 - Sloan, Bradshaw, Cole, Roche, Heron, S. Watson, Simpson.

OPPONENTS	Res.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14
Aug 30 Sunderland.....H	0-1	Bennett	Fereday	Gourlay	Appleby	Bradshaw	Roche	Simpson	Sloan	Brazil	Clark	Aske	Robinson (8)	Parkinson (3)
Sept 5 Leeds United.....A	0-1	Bennett	Parkinson	Fereday	Appleby	Cole	Roche	Brock	Sloan	Howey	Clark	Aske	Gourlay (3)	Robinson
12 Liverpool.....H	1-2	Wright	Parkinson	Stimson	Simpson	Bradshaw	Roche	Brock	Sloan	ROBINSON 1	Clark	Fereday	Gourlay (7)	Howey (8)
19 Rotherham United.....A	3-1	Bennett	Parkinson	Sweeney	Cole	Neilson	Roche	Sloan	ROBINSON 2	Howey	Clark	GOURLAY 1	Watson (11)	Carter
24 Everton.....H	5-1	Bennett	Parkinson	Stimson	Bradshaw	Cole	Roche	SLOAN 1	ROBINSON 2	HOWEY 1	Clark	Gourlay	MAKEL 1 (10)	Neilson
Oct 4 Blackburn Rovers.....A	3-4	Bennett	BRADSHAW 1	COLE 1	Neilson	Roche	Parkinson	Appleby	Gourlay	Fereday	Sloan	HOWEY 1	Makel (7)	Young
11 Derby County.....A	0-1	Bennett	Parkinson	Elliott	Appleby	Neilson	Roche	Gourlay	Clark	Robinson	Howey	Sloan	S. Watson (9)	Makel (7)
17 Coventry City.....H	3-2	Bennett	Parkinson	Elliott	Appleby	Neilson	ROCHE 1	Gourlay	Clark	ROBINSON 1	HOWEY 1	Sloan	S. Watson	Makel
25 Manchester United.....A	0-0	Bennett	Parkinson	Appleby	S. Watson	Roche	Elliott	Simpson	Makel	J. Watson	Gourlay	Aske	Heron (6)	Reay (7)
31 Blackburn Rovers.....H	3-0	Bennett	S. Watson	Neilson	Eriksson	Roche	Cole	HERON 1	Makel	Parkinson	GOURLAY 2	Aske	English (11)	J. Watson (3)
Nov 8 Wolves.....H	1-2	Bennett	S. Watson	Fereday	Appleby	Roche	Eriksson	Parkinson	GOURLAY 1	Quinn	Makel	Aske	Heron (11)	J. Watson (9)
14 Sheffield United.....A	1-2	Wright	Parkinson	Stimson	Appleby	Roche	Neilson	Young	MAKEL 1	J. Watson	Heron	Aske	Elliott (4)	English
21 Nottingham Forest.....A	Postponed													
28 Aston Villa.....H	1-2	Wright	Parkinson	Gourlay	Appleby	Roche	S. WATSON 1	Makel	Clark	Howey	Richardson	Heron	J. Watson (9)	Neilson (18)
Dec 4 Sheffield Wed.....A	1-0	Wright	S. Watson	Sweeney	Bradshaw	Roche	Neilson	Makel	SIMPSON 1	Aske	Gourlay	Clark	Appleby (7)	J. Watson (10)
12 Manchester City.....H	0-4	Wright	Appleby	Ranson	Bradshaw	Roche	Simpson	Clark	Dillon	Howey	Hansen	Gourlay	Parkinson (7)	Young (5)
19 Leeds United.....H														
1991														
Jan 3 Sunderland.....A														
16 Rotherham United.....H														
19 FOREST HALL (N.S.C.)H														
22 Liverpool.....A														
29 Manchester City.....A														
Feb 6 Sheffield Wednesday.....H														
20 Wolves.....A														
25 Aston Villa.....A														
Mar 6 Nottingham Forest.....H														
13 Sheffield United.....H														
21 Huddersfield Town.....A														
27 Leicester City.....H														
Apr 3 Huddersfield Town.....H														
8 Leicester City.....A														
16 Everton.....A														
24 Manchester United.....H														
May 1 Derby County.....H														
7 Coventry City.....A														

JUNIOR UPDATE

N.I. LEAGUE

	P	W	D	F	A	Pts
Leeds	14	9	2	31	12	29
Middlesbrough	14	8	3	40	21	27
Hull	14	8	3	25	12	27
Sunderland	14	7	4	30	27	25
Huddersfield	13	7	3	43	24	24
Bradford	13	6	5	29	12	23
Sheffield Wed.	14	6	5	16	14	23
Barnsley	14	6	4	27	20	22
York	13	6	4	22	15	22
Scunthorpe	14	4	4	22	33	16
Scarborough	13	4	3	18	22	15
Rotherham	13	3	5	22	24	14
Newcastle	10	3	4	10	10	13
Doncaster	11	3	3	23	20	12
Halifax	12	2	3	16	38	9
Sheffield Utd.	14	2	3	15	38	9
Hartlepool	13	2	2	13	36	8
Darlington	15	2	2	18	42	8

Appearances and Goalscorers

Matty Appleby	6
Alan Armstrong	1 (1)
Lee Clark	1
Anth Cole	7 (1)
Darren Cornish	7
Tony Dinning	(3)
Robert Elliott	9 (1)
Michael English	13
Gary Foster	1 (3)
Mark Gower	1
Steve Howey	5 (1)
Tommy Heron	10
Stephen Lewis	3 (3)
Lee Makel	11 (1)
John Milner	12 (2)
Graeme Morton	13
Alan Neilson	13 (1)
Simon Reay	5
Alan Thompson	2
John Watson	12 (2)
Steve Watson	11
Michael Young	10 (1)

GOALSCORER: 3 - Makel, Elliott, Young, J. Watson; 2 - Howey; 1 - Heron, English, Clark, Cole, Neilson, Lewis. Own goal - 1 Includes League Cup and Youth Cup.

OPPONENTS	Res.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14
Aug 25 Leeds United.....A	1-2	Gower	Milner	Young	Appleby	Neilson	Cole	English	S. Watson	J. Watson	HERON 1	Thompson	Elliott (6)	Foster
Sept 1 York City.....H	0-0	Morton	Milner	Elliott	Foster	Neilson	S. Watson	English	Cornish	J. Watson	Thompson	Heron	Young (2)	Cole (4)
22 Sheffield United (LC1).....H	4-1	Morton	Milner	Elliott	S. Watson	Neilson	Cole	ENGLISH 1	CLARK 1	Howey	MAKEL 1	YOUNG 1	J. Watson (11)	Foster (5)
29 Sunderland.....A	3-1	Morton	S. Watson	Elliott	Appleby	Neilson	Cole	English	Makel	HOWEY 1	J. WATSON 1	YOUNG 1	Milner (4)	Foster
Oct 1 Scunthorpe (LC2).....A	3-0	Morton	S. Watson	ELLIOTT 1	Appleby	Neilson	COLE 1	English	Makel	Howey	J. Watson	Young	Milner (10)	Lewis
Oct 6 Hartlepool United.....H	3-0	Morton	Milner	ELLIOTT 1	S. Watson	NEILSON 1	Cole	English	MAKEL 1	Howey	J. Watson	Young	Foster (6)	Appleby (11)
13 York (LC3).....H	3-1	Morton	Milner	ELLIOTT 1	Appleby	Neilson	S. Watson	English	MAKEL 1	HOWEY 1	Cornish	Heron	J. Watson (10)	Reay
20 Rotherham United.....A	1-0	Morton	Milner	Elliott	Reay	Neilson	S. Watson	English	Makel	J. Watson	Cornish	HERON 1	Lewis (10)	Foster (4)
27 Hull City.....H	0-0	Morton	Milner	Young	Reay	S. Watson	Cole	English	Makel	J. Watson	Armstrong	Heron	Neilson (4)	Lewis (10)
Nov 3 Barnsley.....A	2-3	Morton	Milner	Cole	Reay	Neilson	S. Watson	English	Makel	J. WATSON 1	LEWIS 1	Heron	Armstrong (10)	Dinning (3)
10 Huddersfield Town.....H	Postponed													
17 Scarborough.....A	0-3	Morton	Milner	Elliott	Reay	Neilson	Makel	English	Cornish	J. Watson	Heron	Young	Lewis (4)	Dinning (2)
24 Bradford City.....H	0-0	Morton	Milner	Young	Appleby	Neilson	Makel	Lewis	J. Watson	Howey	Heron	Cornish	Reay	Dinning (3)
DEC 1 Oldham (FAYC2).....H	2-0	Morton	Milner	YOUNG 1	Reay	Neilson	S. Watson	English	Makel	J. WATSON 1	Heron	Cornish	Lewis	Foster
6 Darlington.....A	Postponed													
15 Scunthorpe Utd.....H	0-0	Morton	Milner	Elliott	Appleby	Neilson	English	Lewis	Cornish	J. Watson	Heron	Young	Howey (9)	Makel (7)
22 Middlesbrough.....A														
29 Doncaster Rovers.....A														
1991														
Jan 5 Leeds United.....H														
12 York City.....A														
19 Halifax Town.....H	Postponed													
26 Sheffield United.....A														
Feb 2 Sunderland.....H														
9 Hartlepool Utd.....A														
16 Rotherham Utd.....H														
23 Hull City.....A														
Mar 2 Barnsley.....H														
9 Huddersfield Town.....A														
15 Scarborough.....H														
23 Bradford City.....A														
30 Sheffield Wed.....H														
Apr 6 Darlington.....H														
13 Scunthorpe Utd.....A														
20 Middlesbrough.....H														
27 Sheffield Wednesday.....A														

The dates of matches are liable to change at short notice. It is advisable to phone the club or consult the local press if you plan to watch the reserves or juniors in action.

UNITED UPDATE SEASON 90/91

BARCLAYS LEAGUE

WEST HAM	21	8	3	0	23	7	5	5	0	10	5	47
OLDHAM	20	9	2	0	31	9	4	3	2	11	10	44
SHEFF WED	20	4	6	0	22	12	6	2	2	18	10	38
MIDDLESBROUGH	20	5	1	3	15	6	6	3	2	21	10	37
NOTTS COUNTY	20	5	3	3	19	16	3	3	3	10	9	30
BARNLEY	20	4	4	1	19	8	3	4	4	10	13	29
WOLVES	20	5	2	2	20	11	2	6	3	10	13	29
MILLWALL	20	4	4	3	22	16	3	3	3	8	8	28
PORT VALE	20	6	1	4	18	11	2	3	4	13	19	28
BRISTOL CITY	19	5	3	2	19	12	3	1	5	9	17	28
IPSWICH	21	4	4	2	13	11	2	5	4	14	21	27
BRISTOL ROVERS	19	5	2	3	12	8	2	3	4	13	15	26
SWINDON	21	4	2	5	10	11	2	5	3	17	20	25
BRIGHTON	19	4	3	3	18	20	3	1	5	11	19	25
NEWCASTLE	19	3	4	2	9	8	3	2	5	12	14	24
WEST BROM	20	3	5	3	12	10	2	3	4	13	18	23
BLACKBURN	21	4	2	5	11	11	2	2	6	13	20	22
PLYMOUTH	21	4	5	2	15	9	1	2	7	7	22	22
LEICESTER	20	5	1	3	20	17	1	3	7	9	28	22
PORTSMOUTH	21	3	4	3	13	14	2	2	7	10	19	21
HULL	21	4	4	2	22	17	1	2	8	12	34	21
CHARLTON	20	2	2	5	10	13	3	3	5	15	18	20
OXFORD	20	3	3	3	19	18	1	4	6	10	21	19
WATFORD	21	1	3	6	6	13	3	3	5	12	15	18

Up to and including December 16.

LEAGUE AND CUPS Appearances & Goalscorers

Roy Aitken	16	Bjorn Kristensen	15
John Anderson	17	Mark McGhee	15
Matty Appleby	1 (1)	Lee Makel	(1)
Billy Askew	1 (1)	Liam O'Brien	18 (2)
Darren Bradshaw	7	Gavin Peacock	2
Kevin Brock	15 (1)	Mick Quinn	19
John Burridge	22	David Roche	1 (1)
Lee Clark	4 (5)	Ray Ranson	16 (2)
Kevin Dillon	8	David Robinson	(2)
Wayne Fereday	8 (2)	Neil Simpson	1 (4)
John Gallacher	1	Kevin Scott	22
Tommy Gaynor	3	Scott Sloan	9 (2)
Archie Gourlay	2 (1)	Mark Stimson	5
Steve Howey	3 (3)	Paul Sweeney	10 (1)
		Steve Watson	1 (1)

GOALSCORERS: 10 - Quinn; 4 - McGhee; 3 - O'Brien; 1 - Kristensen, Anderson, Brock, Clark, Scott, Peacock.

Up to and including December 16.

OPPONENTS

Res. Att. Pos. Pts. 1

Aug 25	PLYMOUTH	H	2-0	23,984	5	3	Burridge
Sept 1	Blackburn Rovers	A	1-0	11,329	6	6	Burridge
8	MILLWALL	H	1-2	23,922	8	6	Burridge
15	Port Vale	A	1-0	10,025	5	9	Burridge
18	Sheffield Wednesday	A	2-2	30,628	4	10	Burridge
22	WEST HAM	H	1-1	25,462	7	11	Burridge
26	Middlesboro RC2 (1st leg)	A	0-2	15,042	-	-	Burridge
29	Bristol City	A	0-1	15,858	10	11	Burridge
Oct 3	MIDDLESBORO	H	0-0	17,023	12	12	Burridge
6	PORTSMOUTH	H	2-1	17,682	9	15	Burridge
10	MIDDLESBORO RC (2nd leg)	H	1-0	12,778	-	-	Burridge
13	Oxford United	A	0-0	6,820	9	16	Burridge
20	Ipswich Town	A	1-2	15,567	10	16	Burridge
24	CHARLTON ATHLETIC	H	1-3	14,016	12	16	Burridge
27	WEST BROM	H	1-1	14,774	12	17	Burridge
Nov 3	Hull City	A	1-2	8,375	16	17	Burridge
10	Wolves	A	1-2	18,271	19	17	Burridge
17	BARNLEY	H	0-0	15,548	19	18	Burridge
21	Notts Forest (ZC2)	A	1-2	9,567	-	-	Burridge
24	WATFORD	H	1-0	13,774	16	21	Burridge
Dec 1	Leicester City	A	4-5	11,045	16	21	Burridge
8	BRIGHTON	H	Postponed				
16	Plymouth Argyle	A	1-0	7,845	15	24	Burridge
22	Bristol Rovers	A					
26	SWINDON TOWN	H					
29	NOTTS COUNTY	H					
Jan 1	Oldham Athletic	A					
5	DERBY CO. (F.A. Cup 3)	H					
12	BLACKBURN ROVERS	H					
16	Brighton	A					
19	Millwall	A					
26	F.A. Cup 4						
Feb 2	PORT VALE	H					
9	West Ham United	A					
13	SHEFF WED (Rumb Cup SF1)	H					
16	Barnley (F.A. Cup 5)	A					
23	WOLVES	H					
27	Rumbelow Cup SF2						
Mar 2	LEICESTER CITY	H					
9	Watford (F.A. Cup 6)	A					
12	Middlesbrough	A					
16	BRISTOL CITY	H					
20	OXFORD UNITED	H					
23	Portsmouth	A					
30	Swindon Town	A					
Apr 1	BRISTOL ROVERS	H					
6	Notts County	A					
13	OLDHAM (F.A. Cup SF)	H					
20	IPSWICH TOWN	H					
21	Rumbelow Cup Final						
27	Charlton Athletic	A					
4	West Brom	A					
11	HULL CITY	H					
18	F.A. Cup Final						

39

UNITED

John Burridge
John Anderson
Mark Stimson
Roy Aitken
Kevin Scott
Bjorn Kristensen
Kevin Brock
Gavin Peacock
Mick Quinn
Scott Sloan
Liam O'Brien
Ray Ranson
Lee Clark

1

2

3

4

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11

12

14

SWINDON

Fraser Digby
David Kerslake
Paul Bodin
Micky Hazard
Adrian Viveash
Jon Gittens
Tom Jones
Duncan Shearer
Fitzroy Simpson
Ross MacLaren
Steve Foley
Steve White
Richard Green

In the Middle

REFEREE:

Michael Peck (Kendal)

LINESMEN:

G. Bradbury (Yellow trim)

T. Lynch (Red trim)

RESERVE OFFICIAL:

A. Dodds

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