

The PIRATE

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME No20

BRISTOL ROVERS

V
SWINDON TOWN

WED 20th MARCH 1991
8pm Kick-off



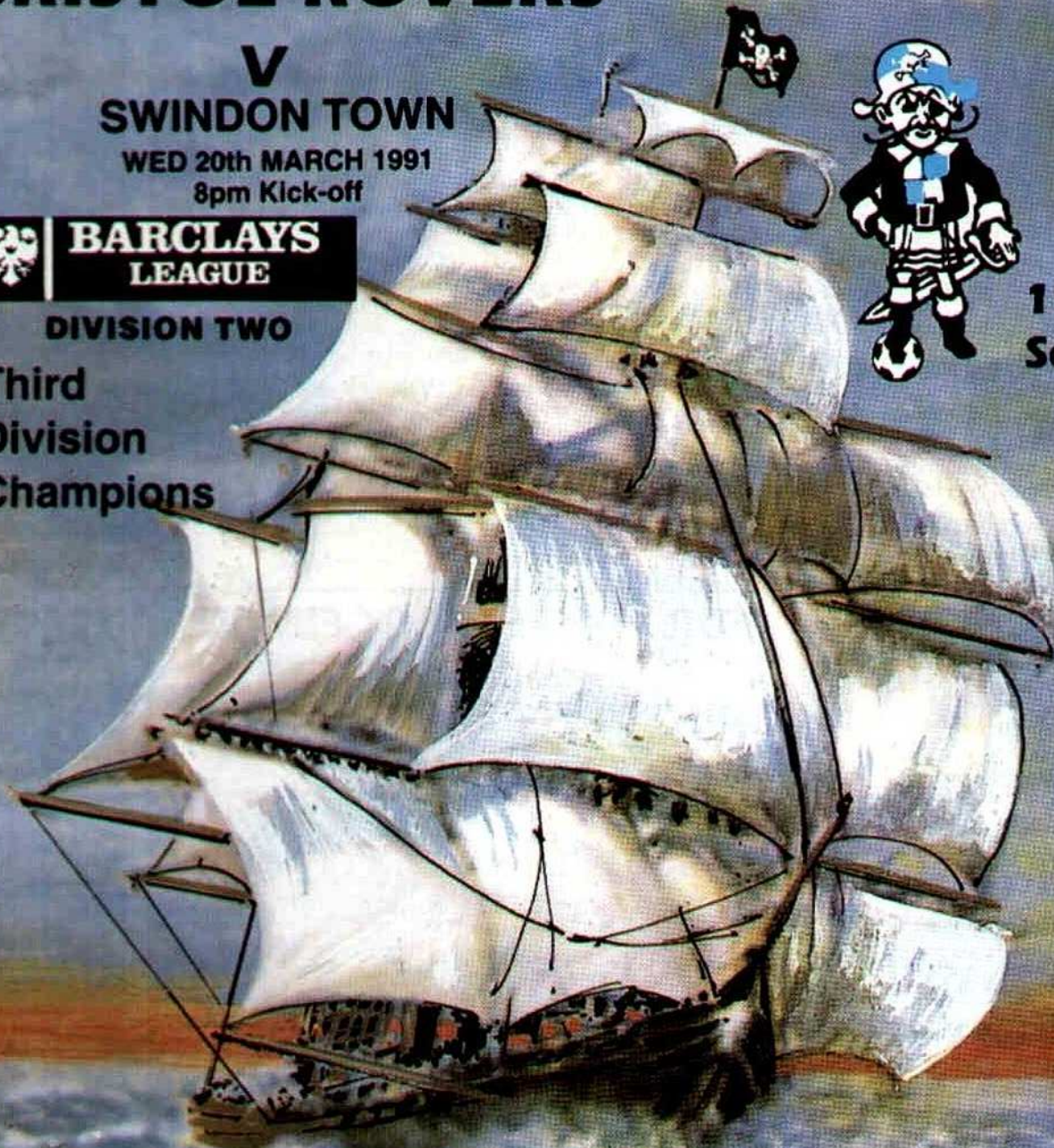
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Team Talk



You could be forgiven for asking what Twyford is doing on the 'Team Talk' page and, in all honesty, I wonder myself. But then again – why not?

We at Rovers consider ourselves to be one big team – right through from the Board of Directors, the Players and Admin Staff to you, the supporters. It is impossible for one of these sections to function properly without the others.

With us being so fragmented (separate offices, stadium and training ground) it is not always easy to work as one unit. Nevertheless, we do our best regardless of distances to travel and the fact that daily contact can be difficult.

From my point of view, snags often occur and some of them cannot be solved without the co-operation of Team Manager, Gerry Francis. The first that comes to mind are re-arranged fixtures. Sometimes I may accept a date but after talking to Gerry and scrutinising the fixtures, realise that the date is totally unacceptable. I look at it from the Administrative point of view whilst Gerry looks at the playing side.

We end up in discussion with the Football League and the opposition and very rarely do things run smoothly. The balance of Home and Away matches will always be a problem as will the amount of travelling for the team and supporters.

It is always important to consider the players and fans when travelling away. You spend enough on the game as it is and to fork out for five successive away matches cannot be easy.

BOB TWYFORD
CLUB SECRETARY



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Club Coach: Des Bulpin. **Secretary:** Bob Twyford. **Office Manager:** Angela

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Groundsman: Jack Pitt. **Physiotherapist:** Roy Dolling. **Registered Office:**

199 Two Mile Hill Road, Kingswood, Bristol BS15 1AZ. Tel. (0272) 352508 (Secretary), (0272) 352303 (Commercial). **Stadium:** Twerton Park, Bath. Tel. Bath (0225) 312327 (Match Day Office). **THE PIRATE:** Bristol Rovers Match Day Programme. **Editor:**

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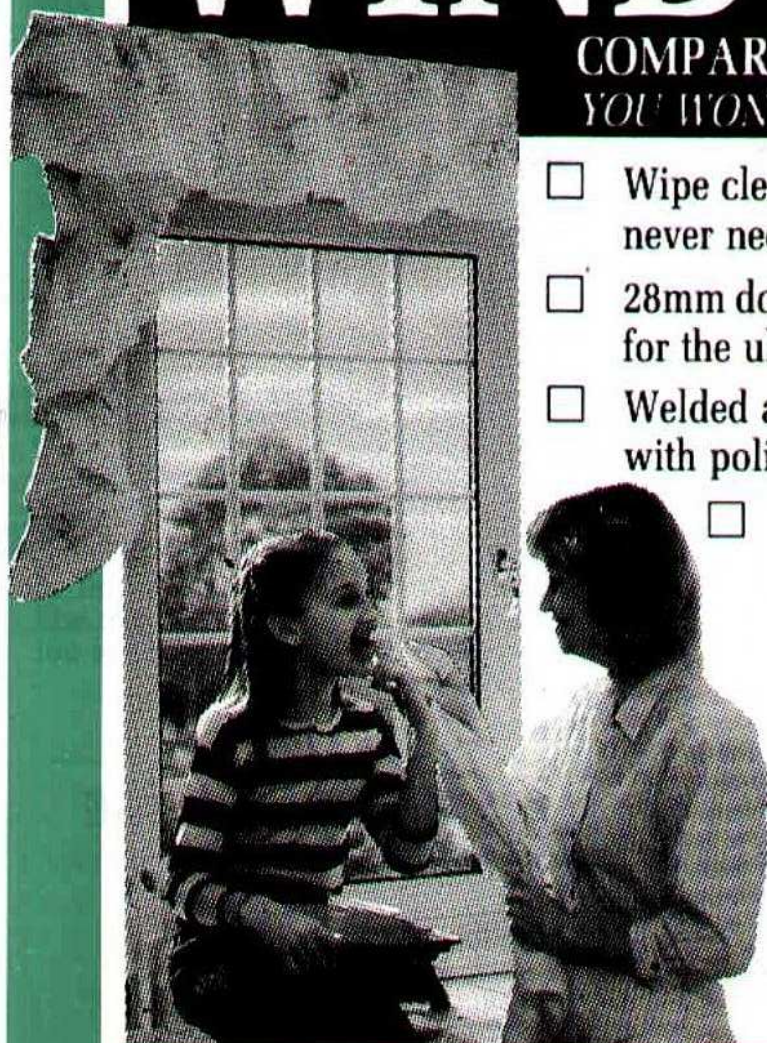
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Captain's Log

Vaughan Jones



Recent events have seen quite a few team changes for one reason or another with different people occupying the positions. We at Bristol Rovers have been very lucky with injuries in recent times so it was unusual to have for example three out of the established back four missing for the match at Oldham. The players who have come in have done a sound job and have proved themselves very capable replacements if the situation arises again. Loss of form has also taken its toll and for people who have been omitted from the team, they will then have to work that bit harder in training to get their place back. This of course brings competition for places into the situation which is a good thing and something from which the team can only benefit.

Tonights opponents Swindon Town have had more than their fair share of injuries and suspensions this season which has been a big blow to their plans after the way

they were treated in the summer of last year.

Financial problems have also forced them to sell some of their better players which is another thing which can have a disruptive influence with the new players having to fit into a certain tactical pattern. Tonights game also being a local derby puts that extra bit of spice into the game and I am sure that will make it a very hard battle once we are out on "Little Wembley".

VAUGHAN JONES

HOME						AWAY					
P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A
33	14	3	0	45	14	Oldham	6	6	4	21	27
33	11	5	1	32	13	West Ham	7	6	3	14	10
32	6	9	0	28	16	Sheff Wed	10	4	3	31	17
34	8	3	6	24	13	Middlesbro	8	4	5	28	20
34	12	3	3	37	20	Bristol City	4	2	10	16	29
34	8	5	4	32	19	Millwall	6	5	6	17	17
33	9	3	4	31	24	Brighton	6	3	8	19	30
32	8	4	4	28	24	Notts City	5	6	5	21	20
34	9	4	4	36	26	Wolves	2	11	4	14	18
31	8	5	2	22	12	Barnsley	4	5	7	18	20
33	6	8	3	15	17	Newcastle	5	4	7	19	24
35	8	5	4	22	15	Bristol R	3	6	9	22	30
34	6	4	7	21	21	Charlton	4	8	5	22	24
35	7	7	3	35	27	Oxford	2	8	8	20	33
34	9	2	6	27	18	Port Vale	2	6	9	17	32
34	6	6	5	19	17	Swindon	5	7	7	26	30
32	6	6	4	20	19	Spawich	3	7	6	20	29
34	7	8	7	24	13	Plymouth	2	5	10	17	38
35	6	6	5	24	23	Portsmouth	3	4	11	18	32
34	9	3	5	33	28	Leicester	1	5	13	12	39
34	5	8	4	19	15	WBA	3	11	21	31	35
34	5	4	4	17	23	Blackburn	4	3	9	17	26
34	5	7	5	30	26	Hull	2	3	17	16	46
34	5	7	8	15	23	Walford	5	6	8	15	24

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... TIME: 4.15 p.m. - PLACE: BUSY OFFICE

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... TIME: 4.55 p.m. Secretary to Mr Jones "Paper delivered and report copied and in the post." Mr Jones to secretary "GOODNIGHT, IRENE."

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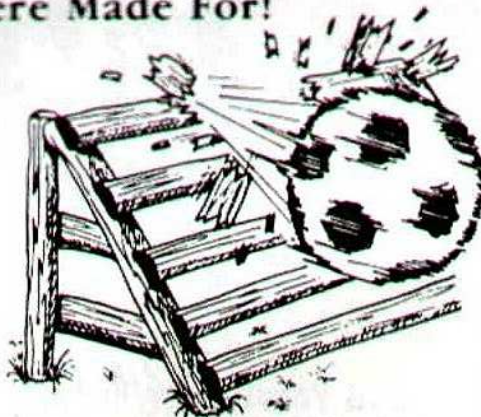
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Mike Jay



Reaction

THE DOUBLE IS ON TONIGHT

It was good to see the tremendous come-back by Rovers at Blackburn Rovers last week after the home side stormed into a two goal lead and looked like becoming the first club to do the double over Rovers this season. With just ten minutes remaining, Ian Holloway who was celebrating his 28th birthday scored a typically impressive solo goal. Geoff Twentyman provided another accurate long ball for leading marksman Carl Saunders to hit his 13th goal of the season, and Rovers much deserved late equaliser.

Talking of 'doubles' Rovers can themselves achieve their first of the season if they can beat tonight's visitors, Swindon Town. No doubt winger Tony Pounder would wish to repeat his memorable performance which helped Rovers win 2-0 at the County Ground on 13th October.

MIKE JAY,



Ian Holloway
Birthday goal
at Ewood Park

FOR THE RECORD

26 FEBRUARY v BARNESLEY - LOST 0-1

BARNESLEY TEAM: Baker, Banks (sub. Dobbin 58 mins), Taggart, Fleming, Smith, Tiler, O'Connell, Rammel (sub. Robinson 87 mins), Saville, Agnew and Archdeacon.
GOAL SCORER: Andy Saville (29 mins).

2 MARCH v MILLWALL WON 1-0

MILLWALL TEAM: Branagan, Stevens, Dawes, Waddock, McCarthy, McLeary (sub. Thompson 82 mins), Stephenson, Goodman, Sheringham, Rae (sub. McGlashan 82 mins) and Bailey.
GOAL SCORER: Tony Sealy (82 mins).

5 MARCH v BRISTOL CITY - LOST 0-1

BRISTOL CITY TEAM: Leaning, Llewellyn, Scott, May (sub. Rennie 39 mins), Bryant, Aizlewood, Shelton, Newman, Taylor, Morgan (sub. Allison 84 mins) and Donowa.
GOAL SCORER: Louie Donowa (88 mins).

9 MARCH v OLDHAM ATHLETIC - Lost 0-2

OLDHAM TEAM: Hallworth, Halle, Barlow, Henry, Barrett, Jobson, Kane (sub. Adams 67 mins), Ritchie, Palmer (sub. Molden 62 mins), Redfearn and Holden.
GOAL SCORERS: Twentyman (own goal, 83 mins) and Ritchie (87 mins).

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BACK ROW: (left to right) Bob Bloomer, Geoff Twentyman, David Mehew, Devon White, Steve Yates, Bill Clark, Ian Hazel, Andy Reece.

MIDDLE ROW: (left to right) Ray Kendall (Kit Manager), Vaughan Jones (Captain), Mark Hewitson, Paul Nixon, Ian Willmott, Gavin Kelly, Brian Parkin, Marcus Browning, Adrian Boothroyd, Tony Pounder, Christian McClean, Roy Dolling (Physio).

FRONT ROW: (left to right) Phil Purnell, Ian Alexander, Ian Holloway, Graham Muxworthy (Youth Coach), Gerry Francis (Manager), Des Bulpin (Res. Team Manager), Carl Saunders, Tony Sealy.



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FRONT ROW: (left to right) Phil Purnell, Ian Alexander, Ian Holloway, Gerry Francis (Manager), Des Bulpin (Res. Team Manager), Carl Saunders, Christian McClean.

On Board Today



SWINDON TOWN

Tonight we welcome Swindon Town for their first visit to Twerton Park since November 1960 when they beat Bath City in FA Cup first round replay. Founded in 1881 by the Rev Pitt as an amateur club they were by 1884 engaging professionals and became original members of the Southern League.



OSSIE ARDILES

Before becoming original members of the Third Division in 1920 the club reached the FA Cup semi-final on two occasions in 1910 and 1912 losing to Newcastle United and Barnsley respectively.

Although having to apply for re-election in 1933, 1936 and 1957 Swindon remained in the Third Division until 1963 when they gained promotion to the Second Division. Manager Bert Head and Chief Scout Ellis Stuttard were largely responsible for that promotion side built around players like Don Rogers, Mike Summerbee, Roger (Ernie) Hunt, Bobby Woodruffe, and John Trollope who all came up through the club's successful youth policy. Trollope went on to play 770 league games for the club and is still on the club's coaching staff. The club could not hold on to its place in the Second Division and in 1965 found themselves back in the Third. Manager Head left for Bury and the club were forced to sell its promising youngsters, Summerbee to Manchester City and Hunt who followed Woodruffe to Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Danny Williams took over the managers chair and led them back to the Second Division in 1969 to complete a memorable double after beating Arsenal at Wembley to win the Football League Cup in March of that year. After a succession of managers including Fred Ford, Dave Mackay and Les Allen the club in 1974 were relegated to the Third Division and Williams who had previously left for Sheffield Wednesday was asked to restore former glories. The club remained in the Third until 1982. Under the managership of the long serving Trollope they tasted life in the Fourth Division for the first time where they has a four year stay.

The managerial appointment of Lou Macari in 1984 coincided with the club's renaissance for in 1986 they were back in the Third and the Second twelve months later. When Macari left for West Ham United in the summer of 1989 the club appointed OSVALDO ARDILES who in his first season in office guided them to within a whisker of completing in the top flight before last season's 'promotion' which was thwarted by the football authorities.

Ossie who in his native Argentina was a fully trained lawyer played for Huracan. It was in the South American's World Cup triumph on home soil in 1978 Ossie's silky skills first came to the notice of the British public making him a welcome guest to our shores, when joining Tottenham Hotspur together with his national team mate Ricky Villa in July of that year. Ossie made 238 league appearances before leaving White Hart Lane in the summer 1988 for Queen's Park Rangers (and also had loan spells with Paris St Germain during the Falklands conflict of 1982) and Blackburn Rovers. He has recently been linked with a possible move to Tottenham Hotspur.

ALAN LACOCK



SWINDON TOWN F.C.



SEASON 1990-1991

Back row (left to right): Tony Galvin (asst. manager), Neil Tomlinson*, Adrian Viveash, Fraser Digby, Nicky Hammond, Steve White, Liam Dixon*, Nicky Summerbee.

Middle row: Andy Rowland (Reserve Team coach), Tony Clarke*, Dave Hockaday*, Tom Jones, Ross MacLaren, Jon Gittens, Fitzroy Simpson, Paul Bodin*, Greg Costello*, Kevin Morris (physiotherapist).

Front row: Paul Hunt, Steve Foley, David Kerslake, Colin Calderwood, Osvaldo Ardiles (manager), Chic Bates*, Alan McLoughlin*, Shaun Close, Paul Trollope.

Seated: Darren Hall, Jason Braidwood, Robert Spence, Edwin Murray, Barry Williams, Lee Spalding, Wayne O'Sullivan, Marcus Phillips, Andrew Thomson.

*No longer with the club.

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On Board Today



WELCOME TO THE BOYS FROM THE COUNTY GROUND

The Playing Squad

Goalkeeper: FRASER DIGBY has been the regular choice custodian since linking up with the club from Manchester United in September 1986 and has now nearly 200 league appearances to his credit. Fraser who is 23 has played a major part in the club's revival and has been capped by England at Youth and Under 21 level.



Defenders: Former Queens Park Rangers apprentice DAVID KERSLAKE moved to the County Ground in November 1988 and has been a regular choice since. David, aged 24 made 58 league appearances for the West London outfit. JON GITTENS was brought in to league football from Paget Rangers by Southampton. Jon who is 27 had 18 league outings for the Saints before moving to Wiltshire in July 1987. Jon has recently been sidelined through suspension and former club trainee 20-year-old ADRIAN VIVEASH who made his league debut against the Rovers in October has been drafted in. Injury has robbed Swindon of the services of club captain COLIN CALDERWOOD in recent months. Colin who is 26 started his career with Mansfield Town where he made 100 league appearances before moving to Wiltshire in June 1985.

Midfield: TOMMY JONES has now completed 100 league outings for the club since being recruited from Aberdeen in September 1988. Tommy who is 26 started his career with Weymouth. September signing from Portsmouth MIKE HAZARD started his career with Tottenham Hotspur (91) before moving across London to join Chelsea (81) in September 1985 and moved to Fratton Park in October 1989, aged 31. ROSS MacLAREN was on the books of Glasgow Rangers before being brought south of the border by Shrewsbury Town where he made 161 league appearances. 28-year-old Ross then moved to Derby County (122) in June 1985 before arriving at the County Ground in August 1988. 26 times capped Argentinian NESTER LORENZO is currently on loan from Italian club Bari. Nestor played four times in last years World Cup including the final. STEVE FOLEY learnt his trade with Liverpool and had a loan spell with Fulham before finding regular league football with Grimsby Town (31). 28-year-old Steve then joined Sheffield United (66) in August 1985 before making the move to the County Ground 2 years later.

Forwards: STEVE WHITE started his league career with Rovers after 50 league outings became our most expensive export when he joined Luton Town (72) in December 1979. Steve then moved to Charlton Athletic (29 apps) in July 1982 before moving back to Eastville a year later. Steve, now 32 made a further 101 league appearances for us and was allowed to leave for Wiltshire on a free transfer in July 1986 for whom he has now topped 170 league outings. DUNCAN SHEARER was brought into English football from Highland league side Inverness Clachnacuddin by Chelsea but only had 2 league outings before moving to Huddersfield Town (83) in March 1986. Duncan who is 28 has been a regular choice since moving to Swindon in July 1988. 21-year-old FITZROY SIMPSON came up through the clubs junior ranks, made his league bow in December 1988. NICKY SUMMERBEE has broken into the first team squad this season, mainly as substitute. He is the son of former Town and Manchester City favourite, Mike.

(Figures in brackets refer to league appearances for those clubs).

ALAN LACOCK.



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13



SWINDON SPITFIRES

As we entertain Swindon Town F.C. this evening, it provides the opportunity of featuring another regional Ladies' team, who are in fact from Swindon themselves.

Swindon Spitfires Ladies F.C. have been established since 1967. They were formed by Ron Hyde and Chris Maull, after girls, who were members of Swindon Town F.C.'s marching group, decided that they wanted to play football. (Up to the present time the number of girls that have been through the club now totals over 300). The team started out by playing charity and friendly matches and then went on to play in the Home Counties League.

In 1972, the Spitfires took part in their first International tournament in Germany, where they achieved 3rd place. This was then surpassed in 1975 in a Majorcan tournament, finishing 2nd overall. In the following year, 1976, they returned to play in Majorca and this time they were out-right winners.

The Spitfires won the President Cup for the Home Counties League two years in succession, in 1979 and 1980. During the 1980's success was also to come in the form of winning eleven 5-a-side tournaments, three 6-a-side tournaments and three successful 11-a-side events. But perhaps the highlight of the '80s for the Spitfires was in 1985, when they won a Fairplay Trophy in Dortmund, Germany. The decade finished with them becoming South West Regional 5-a-side winners in 1989.

Up-to-date with the 1990's so far, and the Spitfires' progress continues. They currently play in Division 2 of the Southern Regional League, and at present are 2nd in the table - obviously enjoying a positive season, which in turn, is fuelling the team's ambition of promotion to Division One.

They train regularly at their local Sports Centre and play their home games at Shrivenham F.C. They have a sponsorship deal with Dream Designs.

Manager Kerie Garwood is enjoying her first season with the Club. Captain Paula Hornigold (Centre Forward) is playing in her third season with the Spitfires. The club's secretary, Beverley Maull, who usually plays at Right Back has unfortunately had her season disrupted by breaking her leg! Kerie is having to deputise in the Right Back position.

If recent form is anything to go by, hopefully the rest of the 1990's will continue on par with the Spitfires' achievements of the past. Why not change your spectating habits and go and watch the girls in action. I'm sure they will be delighted to have some additional support.

ALISON PIDGEON

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14

From the Crows Nest

CRIMES AND PUNISHMENT

At the end of last season there was a lot of media coverage of the punishment received by today's visitors Swindon Town, but few seemed to make any mention of similar punishments in the past.

An excellent book "SOCCER IN THE DOCK" by Simon Inglis documents all British football scandals between 1900 and 1965. At least seven clubs were investigated and punished for financial irregularities in the period between 1901 and 1911. They were Q.P.R., Sunderland, Manchester City, Glossop, Coventry City, Manchester United and Middlesbrough. This was at a time when many clubs were suspected of paying bonuses in addition to the then agreed maximum wage of £4 per week. During the period in question Billy Meredith, the Welsh outside right was on Manchester City's books, he was a leading figure in the player's union, and he openly admitted that from 1902 he had been paid £6 per week and in their cup winning season 1903-04 had received an extra £53 in bonuses. He later wrote "the team delivered the goods and the club paid for the goods delivered, and both sides were satisfied". At this time Glossop were investigated twice and during the investigation the FA found suspicious information concerning the transfer of two players to Manchester City. In October 1904, Manchester City were fined £250, their Hyde Road ground shut for two home games, five directors were suspended, one of whom was for life and one of the players was suspended for the rest of that season.

At the end of the 1904-05 season Manchester City were challenging for the First Division title and two away games at Goodison Park and Villa Park were marred by violence. The Villa game finished with an incident in the player's tunnel. An FA investigation took place into both matches and even a special commission was appointed and a final decision was given on the 4th August 1905. Billy Meredith the Manchester City captain was suspended for one season for attempting to bribe the Aston Villa captain with £10. The matter did not end there as during the following season there was continuous friction between the player and his club and he even claimed that they had paid him to keep quiet.

A further FA commission investigated the club's affairs and eventually on the 30th May 1906, as a result of Meredith's information and subsequent admissions of the staff, a total of 17 current and former Manchester City players were fined a combined sum of £900. These players were also suspended until the 1st January 1907 and forbidden to play for the club ever again. Two Directors were suspended for one year, a former Chairman and the then Manager were banned from football "sine die" and the club was fined £250. A more crushing blow has never been dealt by the FA to any team.

This story is just one part of this excellent 211 page book which is essential reading for all supporters interested in the history of the game.



Gordon Pearce



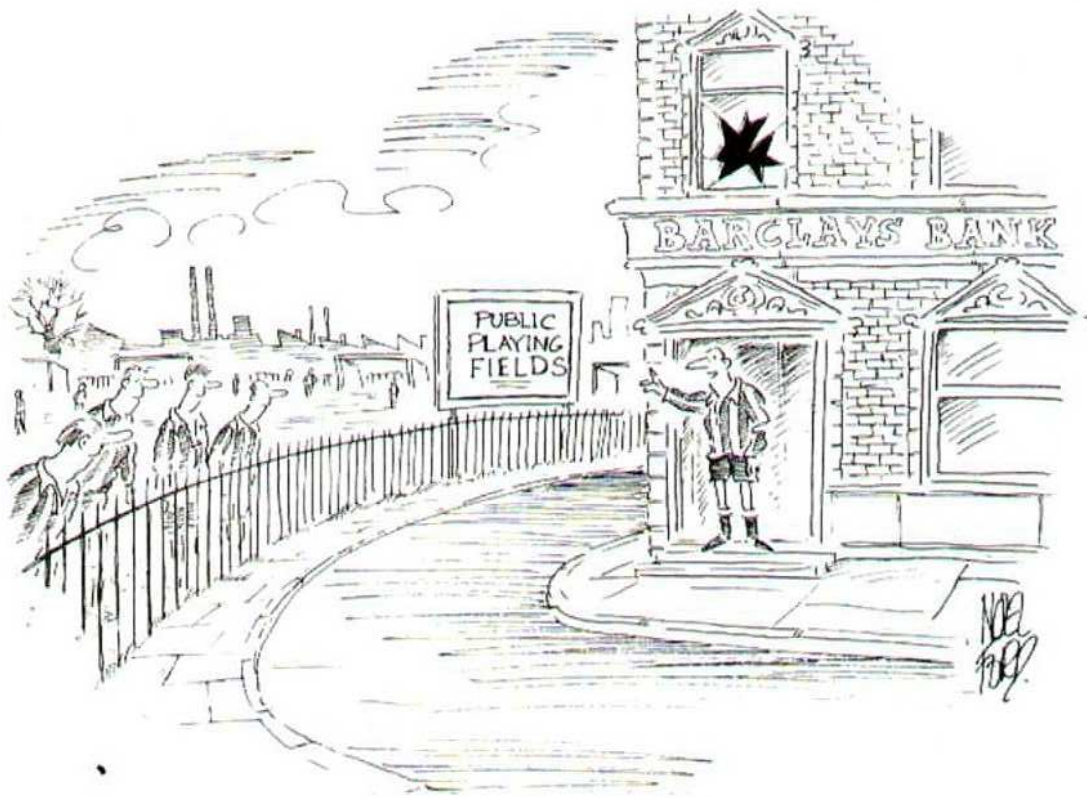
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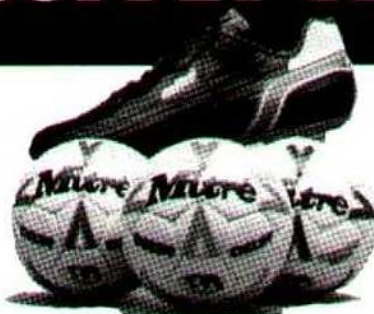
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Bob Twyford

Ship Shape and Bristol Fashion



I know that there is no point in opening old wounds unnecessarily but over the course of the past two weeks, reaction from supporters has flooded in as a result of certain incidents at the Ashton Gate local derby. We all know that this was in response to certain comments attributed to Ian Holloway.

On Ian's behalf and, of course, the Club, I point out that he is a Rovers man through and through. He would, quite literally run through a brick wall if he thought it would help Rovers and you the fans. I have spoken to Ian at length and he is fully aware that it was a very small minority of fans involved in the unsavoury happenings of that day. He did, in fact, make the point although, perhaps, not too much emphasis was placed on it in the press.

It takes a great deal of courage to stand up and be counted and, realistically, players are entitled to their opinions the same as everyone else. Certainly, Ian does not place every supporter in the same mould. If you look at his public relations record over the past few seasons, there are few better.

The question is, "Should players be gagged?"

We could argue the point for a month of Sundays and, personally, within certain bounds, I think that they should be allowed freedom of speech. Players are not 'zombies'. They are human beings and gone are the days of the "brains in their boots" syndrome.

Ian, as well as anybody, knows what a fantastic band of supporters we have, except, of course, for those mindless few. He knows that we need those supporters. He would be an idiot if he did not sense his own popularity but he placed that on the line and all credit to him for doing so.

One thing it has proved is that fans take notice of comments made by players and Manager Gerry Francis. Bob Twyford, the Commercial Manager, the chief Steward and catering man. Even Denis Dunford himself can talk until they are blue in the face. But who wants to hear them. The game is about players and supporters and long may it continue.

PRESIDENTS CLUB

Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen. Thank you to all our members and their friends who once again supported our recent Annual Dinner Dance. The evening was a tremendous success, enjoyed by all. I'm also happy to report that we made a sizeable profit which will help boost our funds.

A big thankyou to John Harding for all his hard work organising the evening. To Pat Murphy and Wessex Travel for donating very generous prizes for our draw.

Congratulations to member Geoff Snell and his wife on the birth of their first child.

Finally an announcement of our Player of the Year Award and our next away trip will be announced in the next programme.

UP THE BLUES.

EDWARD WARE



Off the Plank



Dave Peacey

CUP-TIED?

Prior to the re-arranged home game v Bristol City it was rumoured at a local FSA meeting that the police were not happy should the game be re-scheduled for later in the season. An additional problem was the reduced capacity caused by the fire in the stand – City's ticket allocation being cut from 3,000 to approximately 1,200. The rumours were that the game be played at Ashton Gate or even at the home of tonight's visitors Swindon Town. (Can you imagine it – queuing up at Membury Services for your half-time burger and bovril!)

The police have come to the fore nationally recently concerning F.A. Cup replays and the problems, as they see it, of policing them. The idea of clubs introducing their own stewarding system would appear to be a happy compromise. Rovers have been hampered by problems with the temporary structures here at Twerton, but this interim period should give plenty of opportunity to study how other schemes operate. (This is not a criticism of the present system but merely pointing out that the way forward could well be reduced policing (and costs) coupled with more highly trained stewards in crowd control, first aid, etc.

Going back to the matter of cup replays – do we really want penalty shoot-outs? Whilst I appreciate that nothing is forever, the competition has survived over 100 years with little change to the way ties are settled (one obvious difference being season '45/'46 when ties up to and including the quarter-finals were played over two legs), and the present system still seems to be the best. Do you remember those European ties of the '60's being decided by drawing lots or tossing a coin? Either this system or penalty shoot-outs could result in a team winning the Cup without scoring a goal in normal play or, therefore, without beating anybody! A complete farce.

I don't see any viable alternative to the present system – police pressure or no. Perhaps we should be channelling our energies into the policing side of the game and leave the competition as it is.

Someone who made it clear how much the Cup meant to him when he first graced the Football League in '78 was to achieve his 'dream' some three years later. Through this programme I would like to thank Ossie Ardiles for signing my '81 Cup Final programme recently and providing me with Ricky Villa's address in Argentina. (He did, really!!!)

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Second Time Around



A "HOME MATCH IN BRISTOL"!

DIVISION THREE – SATURDAY 11th APRIL 1987

BRISTOL ROVERS 3 SWINDON TOWN 4 PLAYED AT ASHTON GATE

Compiled by Malcolm Norman

Our capacity during the first season at Twerton Park (86/7) was limited by Avon County Council to 6,500. With Rovers struggling in Division Three this limit was not threatened until the visit of promotion chasing Swindon. On Police advice the match was switched to Ashton Gate. Rovers had to pay Bristol City £2,500 to hire their ground but Rovers were rewarded with an attendance of 8,196 which was double the previous highest home crowd that season (4,092) v Bolton – first League match at Twerton). At Ashton Gate Rovers were allocated the covered end, Enclosure and Grandstand with Swindon fans in the Open End and Dolman Stand.



Steve White

TEAM: ROVERS (4-3-3) – Paul Bradshaw, John Scales, Geoff Twentyman, Darren Carr, Dave Rushberry, Ken Hibbitt, Nick Tanner, Gary Penrice, Phil Purnell, Rob Turner, Jeff Meacham. **SUB:** Peter Cawley.

TEAM: SWINDON (4-3-3) – Fraser Digby, Dave Hockaday, Tim Parkin, Colin Calderwood, Phil King, Mark Jones, Peter Coyne, Leigh Barnard, David Bamber, Steve White, Jimmy Quinn. **SUB:** Bryan Wade.

86/7 has been called the "miracle" season for Rovers. The Directors performed miracles saving the Club from bankruptcy and Manager Bobby Gould likewise in guiding the team away from relegation. To cut losses experienced players were sold or released. Two such players, Tim Parkin and Steve White, had joined Swindon in July 1986. Tim Parkin's fee was fixed at £27,500 by the Transfer Tribunal although this has recently been increased! Steve White was reluctantly given a free transfer. An intelligent, talented player, Steve's ability and value to the team was sadly under-estimated by many Rovers fans.

Rovers entered the match with only 9 wins all season and only one win in the last 13 games. However, one of these wins was at Swindon in November (2-1 – two Trevor Morgan goals) and we had previously won at Ashton Gate that season, beating City 1-0 on New Years Day through Gary Smart's memorable winner. Swindon were in fourth position aiming for their second successive promotion under Lou Macari after being Fourth Division Champions the previous season.

The match developed into a seven goal thriller with the scoring as follows:

- 21 mins: Rovers 1 Swindon 0: Fraser Digby only parries a Phil Purnell shot and Gary Penrice taps in the rebound.
- 27 mins: Rovers 2 Swindon 0: Rob Turner scores his first goal for Rovers after John Scales flicks on Phil Purnell's corner.
- 30 mins: Rovers 2 Swindon 1: Steve White scores with a back-header from Dave Bamber's cross.
- 49 mins: Rovers 2 Swindon 2: Peter Coyne cross to far post for Jimmy Quinn to head equaliser.
- 56 mins: Rovers 3 Swindon 2: Phil Purnell scores from penalty spot after he was brought down by Dave Hockaday.
- 62 mins: Rovers 3 Swindon 3: Brilliant 20 yard chip from Dave Bamber.
- 63 mins: Rovers 3 Swindon 4: Jimmy Quinn volley from Leigh Barnard's corner.

Despite Swindon's win Lou Macari was not impressed with his team saying "that has to be the worst display I've seen from any defence – never mind ours!" Rovers finished the season clear of relegation whilst Town gained promotion via the play-offs where in the Final Replay they beat Gillingham 2-0. Steve White netted both goals.



Malcolm Norman

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At the Helm



Denis Dunford
Chairman



Ron Craig



Vernon Stokes

After the match against Notts County at the weekend, I was stopped by a supporter from the Members Enclosure. His strongly framed question was put thus "why don't you give 'im some money to buy new forwards"?

I suspect that his attitude and that of others around was coloured by the result of seeing two points go down the drain during the last few minutes of the match.

I too was a bit "fed up" and had his attitude not been reasonable I might have said something I'd have regretted later. It wasn't the right place to get involved in emotive discussion so I hope he buys a programme and reads my reply.

None of us has to have a very long memory to remember back 5 years, when, for financial reasons the club almost went under. Most of the present Directors were involved for a very worrying season in avoiding bankruptcy.

Since then, slowly and carefully with the help of a first class manager, we have turned the club round from the nightmare we were in. By diligent house-keeping and strict budgets, we did this and everyone can see the progress that has been made.

Currently we have a squad of 24 professionals, which is soon to be increased by four more from the

Y.T.S. ranks, and YES we have money in the bank.

Of course we need to strengthen our team - which club doesn't - but our primary objective this season is consolidation in division two. Money IS available to the Manager for new players, but not as though it is going out of fashion. The memories I spoke of earlier are still too fresh and we have to get a pounds value from a pound.

So I say to the gentleman I mentioned at the beginning. Be patient, help us build the club at a sensible rate, so that the foundations are strong. That way we can achieve the higher levels of the league and, what is more important, stay there.

RON CRAIG
DIRECTOR



Roy Redman
Vice Chairman



Bob Andrews



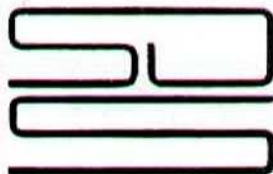
Geoff Dunford

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ZINE SCENE

Another edition of the now London based 9½ MONTHS - FOGHORN OF THE TWERTON MASSES has been selling like hot cakes this month. Highlights of this latest edition of DESIRE, INFATUATION and OBSESSION are: 'Save Twerton Park Appeal', 'Nostalgia - Rovers 3 - City 0 in May', 'Millwall Policing', 'Tony Pulis', 'Popular side Pete', 'Bobby Gould (the Werewolf)', 'Brian Parkin', 'Joner', 'Wembley - at a price' and 'Vic Callow'. If you are a real Rovers fan then you must buy a copy of 9½ MONTHS without delay. 50p plus an A4 SAE sent to Ian Marriott at 8 Salehurst Road, Brockley, London, SE4, will secure you a copy.

My thanks to Steve Cann for sending me a copy of BRING THE NOISE which is unfortunately A FINAL VIEW OF SWINDON TOWN - in effect the last edition of the clubs only fanzine. Steve told me that it all started in March 1988 to provide a vehicle for Town fans to air their views and in their opinion the club was run by people with little empathy with the ordinary supporter. It was known locally for its uncompromising defence of supporters rights to be treated with respect. Steve also added that BTN was instrumental in eliminating racist chants, ran a campaign against the ID scheme and were the first to try and persuade the Football League not to relegate the club over the illegal payments business. As for Steves and co-editor George Reade's reasons for calling it a day "we have become disillusioned with the football fanzine 'movement' over the last year or so. Many editors nowadays are quite obviously doing it purely for the money and are consequently producing shallow, advertisement-packed rubbish at 50 or 60 pence" they said. Strong words from a hard-hitting fanzine - and probably with due cause with the troubles the club have had lately.

DID YOU KNOW - John Trollope holds the record for the most league appearances for one club. He played 770 for Swindon Town.

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I have three copies of QUEEN'S new Chart-Topping Album INNUENDO plus three LIMITED EDITION QUEEN PRINTS plus three mystery albums, plus fifteen soccer fanzines to give away. How does he do it I hear you ask - it's not what you know but who, I answer. All you have to do is answer three questions and the goodies could be yours.

1. Name the four members of Queen.
2. Name three Queen Albums (not including Innuendo).
3. Name the three league clubs Vaughan Jones has played for.

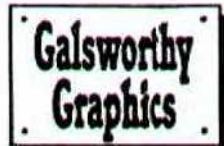
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The Story so far

MATCH No.	(Heavy type indicates home matches) ● Indicates all ticket matches 12/14 Indicates playing substitute S Indicates non playing substitute * Indicates penalty goal		FINAL SCORE	RESULT	ATTENDANCE	LEAGUE POSITION	HALF-TIME SCORE	REFEREE	SUBSTITUTIONS	PARKIN	ALEXANDER	TWENTYMAN
	DATE	OPPONENTS										
1	AUG 25 (SAT)	LEICESTER CITY	2-3	L	13,648	-	0-2	J. MOULES	HAZEL 5	1	2	3
2	SEPT 1 (SAT)	CHARLTON ATHLETIC●	2-1	W	5,357	11	1-0	I. BORRETT	BLOOMER/5	1	2	3
3	SEPT 8 (SAT)	WOLVERHAMPTON WNDRS	1-1	D	17,912	14	1-1	T. SIMPSON	HAZEL/5	1	2	3
4	SEPT 15 (SAT)	HULL CITY●	1-1	D	4,734	17	1-0	M. JAMES	-	1	2	3
5	SEPT 22 (SAT)	IPSWICH TOWN	1-2	L	11,084	18	0-0	A. SMITH	NIXON/8	1		3
6	SEPT 29 (SAT)	NOTTS COUNTY	2-3	L	6,563	20	1-2	J. KEY	McCLEAN/10	1	2	3
7	OCT 3 (WED)	BLACKBURN ROVERS (8.00)	1-2	L	5,200	21	1-0	G. ASHBY	PURNELL/5	1	2	3
8	OCT 6 (SAT)	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY●	0-1	L	6,413	22	0-1	H. KING	PURNELL/5 McCLEAN/11	1	2	3
9	OCT 13 (SAT)	SWINDON TOWN	2-0	W	11,494	21	1-0	J. WORRALL	ALEXANDER/2 MEHEW/5	1	12	3
10	OCT 20 (SAT)	MIDDLESBROUGH	2-1	W	18,589	18	0-1	P. WRIGHT	MEHEW/5	1	S	3
11	OCT 24 (WED)	OXFORD UNITED (8.00)	1-0	W	5,526	15	1-0	A. BUKSH	MEHEW/5	1	S	3
12	OCT 27 (SAT)	PORTSMOUTH	1-2	L	6,500	18	1-1	P. VANES	MEHEW/5 ALEXANDER/2	1	12	3
13	NOV 3 (SAT)	WEST BROMWICH ALBION	1-3	L	10,997	19*	1-2	K. HACKETT	MEHEW/10	1	S	3
14	NOV 7 (WED)	BARNSELY (8.00)	2-1	W	4,563	17	1-0	M. BODENHAM	PURNELL/11 BLOOMER/8	2	3	4
15	NOV 10 (SAT)	PORT VALE	2-0	W	5,661	11	1-0	P. DANSON	SAUNDERS/11	1	2	3
16	NOV 17 (SAT)	WATFORD	1-1	D	8,285	14	1-0	S. LODGE	SAUNDERS/11	1	2	3
17	NOV 24 (SAT)	OLDHAM ATHLETIC●	2-0	W	6,542	10	1-0	I. HEMLEY	NIXON/11/BLOOMER/8	1	2	3
18	DEC 1 (SAT)	MILLWALL	1-1	D	9,291	9	0-0	J. CARTER	-	1	2	3
19	DEC 15 (SAT)	LEICESTER CITY	0-0	D	5,791	12	0-0	R. GIFFORD	-	1	2	3
20	DEC 22 (SAT)	NEWCASTLE UNITED	1-1	D	6,643	13	0-0	P. JONES	NIXON/5	1	2	3
21	DEC 26 (WED)	BRIGHTON & H. ALBION(12.30)	1-0	W	6,936	11	1-0	P. TAYLOR	NIXON/11	1	2	3
22	DEC 29 (SAT)	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	2-2	D	8,469	10	2-2	A. WARD	NIXON/5	1	-	3
23	JAN 1 (TUES)	WEST HAM UNITED (12.00)●	0-1	L	7,932	10	0-0	K. BURGE	NIXON/5	1	-	3
24	JAN 12 (SAT)	CHARLTON ATHLETIC	2-2	D	5,606	11	1-1	J. ASHWORTH	BLOOMER/2 SEALY/5	-	2	3
25	JAN 19 (SAT)	WOLVERHAMPTON W●	1-1	D	6,042	13	1-1	G. WILLARD	SEALY/5	2	3	4
26	JAN 26 (SAT)	BRISTOL CITY● (12.00)	3-2	W	7,054	10	2-2	K. BARRETT	BLOOMER/2	-	2	3
27	FEB 2 (SAT)	HULL CITY	0-2	L	5,302	11	0-1	K. BREEN	BLOOMER/4 SEALY/5	-	2	3
28	FEB 16 (SAT)	WATFORD	3-1	W	5,736	10	1-1	V. CALLOW	SEALY/5	1	2	3
29	FEB 23 (SAT)	PORT VALE	2-3	L	7,166	10	0-3	N. MIDGELEY	SEALY/5	1	2(1)	3
30	FEB 26 (TUES)	BARNSELY (7.45)	0-1	L	6,197	11	0-1	A. SEVILLE	GORDON/9 SEALY/5	1	2	3
31	MAR 2 (SAT)	MILLWALL	1-0	W	5,587	11	0-0	J. MARTIN	SEALY/11	1	2	3
32	MAR 5 (TUES)	BRISTOL CITY (7.45)	0-1	L	22,227	11	0-0	R. GROVES	WILLMOTT/2	1	2	3
33	MAR 9 (SAT)	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	0-2	L	12,775	12	0-0	G. SINGH	SEALY/11 MEHEW/5	1	-	3
34	MAR 12 (TUES)	BLACKBURN ROVERS (7.45)	2-2	D	5,969	12	0-1	J. LLOYD	SEALY/5 GORDON/8	1	2	3
35	MAR 16 (SAT)	NOTTS COUNTY	1-1	D	4,878	12	1-0	M. REED	MEHEW/11	1	2	3
36	MAR 20 (WED)	SWINDON TOWN (8.00)●										
37	MAR 23 (SAT)	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY										
38	MAR 30 (SAT)	BRIGHTON & H. ALBION										
39	APRIL 1 (MON)	NEWCASTLE UNITED										
40	APRIL 6 (SAT)	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE										
41	APR 10 (WED)	IPSWICH TOWN (8.00)										
42	APRIL 20 (SAT)	MIDDLESBROUGH										
43	APRIL 27 (SAT)	OXFORD UNITED										
44	MAY 4 (SAT)	PORTSMOUTH										
45	MAY 8 (WED)	WEST HAM UNITED (7.45)										
46	MAY 11 (SAT)	WEST BROMWICH ALBION										

CUP RECORD

			RESULT	ATT.			
1.	AUG 29 (WED)	TORQUAY UNITED (RC)	1-2 L	2,461	1	2	3
2.	SEPT 4 (TUES)	TORQUAY UNITED (RC)	1-1 D	3,533	1	2(1)	3
3.	NOV 20 (TUES)	WATFORD (ZDS)	2-1 W	3,076	1	2	3
4.	DEC 18 (TUES)	CRYSTAL PALACE (ZDS)	2-1 L	5,209	1	2	3
5.	JAN 5 (SAT)	CREWE ALEX (FAC 3)	0-2 L	6,143	1		3

All matches 3pm kick-off unless otherwise stated

Second Glance

The Story so far . . .

NEXT MATCHES
AT
TWERTON PARK

Sat 23 March BATH CITY v ALTRINGHAM
GM Vauxhall Conference - 3 p.m. Kick-off
Sat 30 March ROVERS v BRIGHTON
Barclays League Division 2 - 8 p.m. Kick-off



SUBSTITUTIONS	PARKIN	ALEXANDER	TWENTYMAN	YATES	MEHEW	JONES	HOLLOWAY	REECE	WHITE	SAUNDERS	POUNDER	HAZEL	McCLEAN	BLOOMER	CLARK	NIXON	PURNELL	WILLMOTT	KELLY	SEALY	GORDON	BOOTHROYD	OWN GOALS
HAZEL 5	1	2	3	4	5	6(1)	7	8	9(1)	10	11	12	S										
BLOOMER/5	1	2	3	4	5(1)	6	7	8	9(1)	10	11			12	S								
HAZEL/5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7(1)	8	9	10	11	12			S								
-	1	2	3	4	5(1)	6	7	8	9	10	11	S			S								
NIXON/8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10(1)	11	2	12		S	12							
McCLEAN/10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7(1)	8	9	10(1)	11	S	12										
PURNELL/5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9(1)		11			S		10	14						
PURNELL/5 McCLEAN/11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	-	11	-	12	-	-	10	14						
ALEXANDER/2 MEHEW/5	1	12	3	4	14	6	7(1*)	8	9	-	11(1)	-	-	2	-	5	10						
MEHEW/5	1	S	3	4	12	6	7(1*)	8	9(1)	-	11	-	-	2	-	5	10						
MEHEW/5	1	S	3	4	14	6	7(1*)	8	9	-	10	-	-	2	-	5	11						
MEHEW/5 ALEXANDER/2	1	12	3	4	14	6	7	8	9(1)	-	10	-	-	2	-	5	11						
MEHEW/10	1	S	3	4	12	6	7	8	9(1)	-	10	-	-	2	-	5	11					1	
PURNELL/11 BLOOMER/8	2	3	4	5(1)	6	7	8	9	-	10(1)	-	-	12	-	11	14							
SAUNDERS/11	1	2	3	4	5(1)	6	7	8	9	14	10	-	-	S	-	11(1)	-						
SAUNDERS/11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	14	10	-	-	S	-	11	-						(1)
NIXON/11 BLOOMER/8	1	2	3	4	5(1)	6	7	8	9(1)	10	11	-	-	12	-	14							
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NIXON/5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10(1)	11	-	-	S	-	12							
NIXON/11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10(1)	11	-	-	S	-	12							
NIXON/5	1	-	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10(2)	11	-	-	2	S	12							
NIXON/5	1	-	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	-	-	2	S	12							
BLOOMER/2 SEALY/5	-	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10(1)	11			12					1	14		-	
SEALY/5	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10(1)	11	-	-	S	-	-	-		1	14				
BLOOMER/2	-	2	3	4	5(2)	6	7	8	9	10(1)	11	-	-	12	-	-	-		1	S			
BLOOMER/4 SEALY/5	-	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	-	-	12	-	-	-		1	14			
SEALY/5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7(1)	8	9(1)	10(1)	11	-	-	-	-	-	-			14	S		
SEALY/5	1	2(1)	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10(1)	11	S	-	-	-	-	-			14			
GORDON/9 SEALY/5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	-	-	-	-	-	-			14	12		
SEALY/11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	-	-	-	-	-	-			14(1)	S		
WILLMOTT/2	1	2	3	-	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	-	-	-	4	-	-	14		S		4	
SEALY/11 MEHEW/5	1	-	3	-	12	-	7	8	9	10	11	5	-	-	4	-	-	6		14		2	
SEALY/5 GORDON/8	1	2	3	-	5	-	7(1)	8	9	10(1)	11	-	-	-	4	-	-	6		14	12		
MEHEW/11	1	2	3	-	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	-	-	-	4(1)	-	-			5	S		
RESULT ATT.																							
1-2 L 2,461	1	2	3	4	5(1)	6	7	8	9	10	11	S	14						SUBSTITUTIONS				
1-1 D 3,533	1	2(1)	3	4	5	6	-	8	9	10	11	-	S	7	S				McCLEAN/5				
2-1 W 3,076	1	2	3	4	5(1)	6	7	8	9	10(1)	11					12	14		PURNELL/11 NIXON/7				
2-1 L 5,209	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11(1)				S		S						
0-2 L 6,143	1		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			2		12		S	NIXON/1				



Pirate Profile



DEVON WINSTON WHITE

Alias 'Dev', 'Bruno'. Drives a Cavalier.
Former Club was Lincoln. Qualified Electrician.

Book of Caricatures of Rovers players by Gary Frank still available from The Club Shop at £1.99

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**THE TROPHY HUNTERS**

Here's a good quiz question for you . . . 'Do you know how many current day Football League clubs are still awaiting their first trophy at senior level? And this includes not winning the GM Vauxhall Conference (since 1987), the F.A. Charity Shield, the Welsh Cup and any of the other cup competitions which have been introduced over the past 25 years, like the Texaco Cup, the Anglo-Italian Cup, the Anglo-Scottish Cup and the Tennent Caledonian Cup, FMC/ZDSC and the Freight Rover/S.V.T./Leyland DAF Trophy. Well it was revealed recently in a soccer magazine that there are just **FIVE CLUBS** who have not yet seen a glittering prize gracing their respective Boardroom cabinets.

These are **Aldershot, Halifax Town, Hartlepool United, Rochdale** and **Torquay United**, all of whom have never played above Third Division standard.

Maidstone United and **Scarborough** both gained 'League' status after taking glory in the 'Vauxhall Conference'.

Aldershot, formed in 1926 have been a League club since 1932. They did, however, beat Wolverhampton Wanderers in the Fourth Division Promotion Final Play-Offs in May 1987 and reached the Southern Area Quarter-finals and the Semi-finals of the Leyland DAF Trophy during the late eighties. Their best ever League placing was to finish 8th in Division Three in season 1973-74, twelve points adrift of a place in Division Two. The 'Shots' have successfully applied for re-election three times.

Halifax Town, presently the strongest club in the League (holding up the other 91!) were formed 80 years ago.

They gained admittance to the League in 1921 and their highest placing arrived in season 1970-71 when they took third place in Division Three, missing promotion by 4 points (Preston and Fulham went up).

Halifax - known as the 'Shaymen' - got to the 5th Round of the F.A. Cup in 1933 and 1953 and they've also been Leyland DAF Cup Regional Semi-Finals. Halifax have had to apply for re-election to the League on thirteen separate occasions.

Hartlepool United, who have been in the League since 1921, thirteen years after their formation, have achieved precious little.

Their highest League position (in Division Three North) is 2nd - which they claimed in 1956-57 when were four points worse off than promoted Derby County (63-59).

Hartlepool, in fact, have had to apply for re-election a record 14 times.

Rochdale, who have to battle away alongside the many other clubs in Lancashire, have occupied a League spot for seventy years. They were formed in 1907 and gained entry to the Third Division (N) in 1921. Their best end-of-season placing came in 1969-70, having gained promotion the previous year after finishing 3rd in Division Four, missing the championship by a mere three points.

The 'Dale' have never progressed beyond the 4th Round in the F.A. Cup, but back in 1962 they took the country by storm and reached the Final of the Football League Cup.

Their opponents, over two legs, were Norwich City, and the prize eventually went to the Second Division outfit who won 4-0 on aggregate. Over the years Rochdale have survived ten 're-election' campaigns.

Torquay United came mightily close to climbing into the Second Division in 1956-57 when they were pipped for promotion on goal-average by Ipswich Town.

Torquay's figures read 89-64 against Ipswich's 101-54 - and they have never really been in with a shout since!

Formed in 1898 and based in the League since 1927, they reached the Final of the Leyland DAF Cup in 1989 after knocking over the holders Wolves in the Area Final. But alas that silver pot eluded them as they went down 4-1 to Bolton Wanderers in the Wembley Final.

Like Aldershot, Torquay have had to apply for re-election to the Football League on three occasions.

Who, then, after all that, do you think has won the most honours down the years?

Yes, it's easy . . . **Liverpool** - by a long, long way.

The Anfield 'Reds', have, in fact, collected no fewer than 50 prizes at senior level, including a record 18 First Division titles. They have lifted the European Cup, the F.A. Cup and the League Cup four times each; the UEFA Cup twice, along with the Super Cup (once), the Charity Shield (13 times) and the Second Division Championship, also 4 times.

North of the Border, Rangers have seen 79 trophies inside the Ibrox Boardroom, including a staggering 39 League Championships.

Makes you sick, doesn't it!!!

TONY MATHEWS



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The Football Trust 1990 has been created to help the game at all levels and to assist clubs meet the requirements of Lord Justice Taylor's Final Report.

Safety and comfort for all spectators is the primary objective and substantial funds have been made available for the provision of seating at Football League grounds. At the same time the Trust's commitment to family and community initiatives will continue with the provision of more family enclosures, better toilet facilities, covered accommodation, artificial pitches for local use and the development of women's and junior football particularly through community programmes, plus a wide range of policing and crowd control measures.

Each year The Trust expects to receive £20 million from the reduction in Pool Betting Duty plus the £10 million continuing contribution from the Spotting-the-Ball competition organised by Littlewoods, Vernons and Zettlers. This money will be invested in projects which benefit football throughout the United Kingdom.

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Travellers Tales



Away Travel Report - Compiled by: Sue and Mike of Filton, Bristol

Trip to: Bristol City.

Journey transport, price and time taken: By car, 45 minutes.

Approx number of Rovers travelling support: 4,500.

Opinion of stadium and its facilities: Very cosy, pity about the lack of cover for visitors.

View from visitors enclosure/grandstand: Good.

Club programme price/value for money: £1, reasonable but content patchy.

Coverage of Rovers in programme: Usual info but good colour photos of the Twerton meeting between the clubs.

Conduct of stewards/police at ground: Disorganised, lack of communication.

Conduct of Home Supporters: Intimidating, racist and provocative.

TALES OF THE TURF

Colour of shirts worn by Rovers: Blue and white.

Rovers "Man of the Match": Vaughan Jones.

Opposition "Man of the Match": Matt Bryant.

Performance of Referee: Good, definately a penalty.

Match entertainment value (max marks 10): 8.

Memorable moments of the trip: First time we have seen Rovers beaten by City. Let's hope it is another 5 years before we see it again.

SATURDAY 23 MARCH SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY v ROVERS - 3PM KICK-OFF AA ROUTE TO SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY

BRISTOL. Leave by Motorway M32 (signs London (M4)). In 6 miles at roundabout take 1st exit (signs South Wales) to join M4 to Junction 20.

Follow signs The Midlands to join M5 to Junction 4A

Follow signs The North East to join M42 to Junction 9

Leave Motorway (signs Lichfield) to join A446

In 4.9 miles at roundabout take 3rd exit A38

In 5.8 miles at roundabout take 3rd exit (signs Burton)

JUNCTION FOR BURTON-UPON-TRENT

Follow signs Derby A38

JUNCTION FOR DERBY

Forward (signs The North)

In 0.8 miles at roundabout take 1st exit (signs Chesterfield A61)

In 16.9 miles at roundabout take 2nd exit (signs The North) to join Motorway M1 to Junction 34

Leave Motorway (signs Sheffield, Tinsley) to join A6178

In 1.4 miles at traffic signals turn right A6102 (signs Ring Road, Manchester)

In 1.5 miles at traffic signals bear left

1.1 miles farther at roundabout take forward

In 1 mile under railway bridge and branch left into Herries Road South

At end at T-junction turn right A61

Hillsborough Stadium. Sheffield Wednesday F.C. (on left).

Total Mileage: 185.2 miles. (Route courtesy of the Automobile Association)

• Rovers Supporters Club Away Travel. Coaches will depart Twerton Park, Bath at 9.30am and 10.00am from Eastville Stadium, Bristol. Fare £7.

• Sheffield Wednesday F.C. Info. There are so standing places for visiting fans at Hillsborough. However, 3840 seats are available in the West Stand priced at £8.



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STEVE STEPS IN FOR BRIAN

After last Saturday's 1-1 home draw with Notts County, Sponsors favourite Steve Yates, accepts the 'Man of the Match' Award on behalf of Brian Parkin, with runner-up Billy Clark from Match Sponsors (left to right) Geoff Younger, Managing Director of Thule – Clevedon, Bryony New, daughter of Graham New, Alet Packaging, Longwell Green and Ralph Harris, Grandfather of Geoff Younger who was 86 on the 11th of March.

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049 JKL. 086 XXX. 007 XX.

CONSOLATION PRIZES:

036 NN. 020 LL.

004 SSS. 053 PP.

008 GG. 055 Y.

Remember if the 1st Prize is not claimed by 2pm on Saturday the 30th of March (Rovers v Brighton) a random draw will be made at half-time to select the winner, from either the three runners-up or the consolation prize winners.

RED STAR BELGRADE

Before this evenings match Mr Douglas Adkins, General Manager of Southern Metal Fabrications Ltd, of Parnall Road, Fishponds, Bristol, will be presenting Captain Vaughan Jones with a pennant on behalf of Red Star Belgrade.

Douglas, whose business takes him abroad quite regularly has already presented the Yugoslavian Side with a Rovers pennant, which now hangs proudly in their Trophy Room.

Welcome to Graeme Gatrill, Proprietor of Gilberts, Soft Furnishings, Oldtown, Swindon, who this evening pays his first visit to Twerton Park, together with sons Geoffrey and Allistair.

"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.



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**32**

Young Pirates

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Tonight we have to congratulate three Young Pirates, James Blackwell, Andy Gibson and Paul Metherringham. They attend Raysfield Junior School, Chipping Sodbury and are all members of the school 6-a-side football team that have won the County of Avon stage of the Smiths Crisps 6-a-side competition. They will represent Avon in the South West Regional Finals on Saturday 4 May at Severn Beach, and if they win they will play in the National Finals at Wembley! These are held as a curtain raiser to the School-boy International, England v West Germany on Saturday 8th June. And of course, the Young Pirates are running a trip to this game, so book now for the chance to see the 'Junior Gas' play at Wembley! Fare is £12 and includes Wembley seat and coach fare. Book in the Young Pirates Room or Phone Chipping Sodbury 321925 or 310631.

★YOUNG PIRATES 5-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT★

This is scheduled for the evenings of Friday 17th and Friday 24th May at Yate Leisure Centre. Entry forms available from Young Pirates Room.

★MATCHDAY COMPETITION★

There is no competition tonight, but tune in to GWR on Saturday 30th March between 10.15am – 11 am for another chance to win a trip to GWR studios and try your hand at being a DJ!

★AWAY TRIP★

Our next away trip is on Saturday 27 April. We are taking two teams of Young Pirates to play Oxford United Juniors in the morning, and then watch the first team in action in the afternoon. Details from the Young Pirates Room.



STEPHEN PETERS

★YOUNG PIRATES LUCKY MASCOT★

Tonights mascot, 12-year-old Stephen Peters is one of the new generation of Bath Gasheads, having supported Rovers ever since their move to Bath over 4 years ago. Stephen lives right on the doorstep to the ground in Twerton High Street. He attends Culverhay School, and likes all sport. Stephen's favourite players are Devon White and Ian Holloway. Enjoy the evening, Stephen!

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Ian Metherringham. Bernie Green. Rovers Helpline Committee.

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Terrace Talk

Away Travel Report – Compiled by: Mike Jay, Bristol

Trip to: Oldham Athletic, 9 March.

Journey transport, price and time taken: By car, 3 hours.

Approx number of Rovers travelling support: 800.

Opinion of stadium and its facilities: Disappointing, little cover and shame about the 'plastic' pitch.

View from visitors enclosure: Excellent alongside of pitch.

Club programme price/value for money: £1 – 36 pages, interesting.

Coverage of Rovers in programme: 4 pages, good feature on Steve Yates.

Food and drink available and its quality/selection: Strong tea (35p), just like Latics defence.

Conduct of stewards/police at ground: First class.

Conduct of Home Supporters: Tolerant but did not like Rovers fans singing "you're only flat caps and whippets"!

TALES OF THE TURF

Colour of shirts worn by Rovers: White shirts/black shorts.

Rovers "Man of the Match": Brian Parkin (superb saves).

Opposition "Man of the Match": Neil Redfearn.

Performance of Referee: Faultless.

Match entertainment value (max marks 10): 6.

Memorable moments of the trip: Good to see away fans let out together with home fans.



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On the Horizon

35



Bob Ford

On Saturday we travel to the grandeur of Sheffield Wednesday's Hillsborough Stadium. It will be the club's fifth visit to the splendid arena where Rovers still seek their first league win. The season so far has shown the trio of league leaders to be most miserly to their visitors but there remains the hope that minds diverted toward Cup exploits may provide a glimmer of a chance to the travellers. In Wednesday's case it is a Rumbelows Final appearance on 21st April that may prove to be the distraction.

Those who watched the Owls on their trip to Twerton in October, will remember a skillful passing side that was somewhat fortunate on the day to take all the points as Trevor Francis stole the only goal from a misplaced back pass. In fact more wins have been achieved away from Hillsborough this term, the tendency to draw in Sheffield has kept Big Ron Atkinson's team away from top slot. With this record behind them the visitors always arrive with an optimistic frame of mind. Eight draws from the first fourteen home matches has made the Wednesday the Divisions leading home draw bankers.

The teams have never met in consecutive seasons. All the meetings have been at Division Two level, often because the South Yorkshire side were popping down from the First for twelve months. On the first two occasions, in 1955/56 and 1958/59, Sheffield beat Rovers 4-2 and then 3-1 as the swept to the Championship following relegation the previous summer. Our only point was gained in August 1974 as ex-Owl Gordon Fearnley scored in a 1-1 draw, Wednesday finished that campaign with a drop into the Third. In 1980 it was back to the style of the fifties as we went down 4-1, a penalty by Vaughan Jones was our only consolation, Rovers of course were relegated in the summer of 81.

The Wednesday of today need promotion to satisfy their fans who have had to endure the observations of the Sheffield United supporters as they look down from the higher division with some confidence following their recent remarkable run from the front of the table. With the likes of Nigel Worthington, John Sheridan, Paul Williams the big summer signing from Charlton, and leading scorer David Hirst in the squad few people would predict against a promotion spot. It remains to be seen if the Rumbelows effect causes some hiccups on the way.

As Wednesday will be seeking a double on Saturday, so it will be Rovers turn to try against Brighton the following week. The opportunity was presented by Carl Saunders third minute strike on Boxing Day. Since then the Seagulls have had a patchy time.

Whilst enjoying the spotlight during a short but impressive FA Cup run, which included a 2-2 draw at Anfield, a string of five successive league wins were achieved in cavalier style. Wins at Wolves 3-2 and Charlton 2-1 were boosted by home victories by 4-2, 3-0 and 3-0 over Newcastle, Watford and Leicester respectively. A surge up the table resulted. Then four games followed which gained one point with only one goal scored.

It will be interesting to see which face of Brighton comes to Twerton. Will it be the goal hungry or the sterile side?

BOB FORD



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Patrick Ryan

FOOTBALL RIVALRY GONE TOO FAR?

Well, thankfully that's it for another season!

After two of the most keenly and evenly contested 'derby' matches seen for many years, the main talking point throughout the West Country has been, not the football, but the disgraceful behaviour of "the fans". The trial by media over the last eight months can at best be described as harsh with the image of genuine football supporters being tarnished because of the actions of what can only be described as a "minority of mindless idiots".

The rivalry between supporters of City and Rovers has always been fierce but in recent years it seems to have got out of control. There have been acts of violence at both grounds as well as incidents of trouble in Bristol Public Houses which have been attributed as football related but this seasons actions have gone too far. It started with several minor incidents at the start of the season which seemed to escalate until the arson attack at Twerton Park before the first scheduled derby clash. Even when the re-arranged match eventually took place the ground was vandalised the preceding night which only helped to fuel the rivalry between both groups of supporters. This culminated in the unsporting attitude of a very small number of Rovers supporters disrupting the minute's silence before the home match with Millwall. This however was nothing compared to the pathetic behaviour that took place at Ashton Gate before last weeks derby match. I attended the match with several friends and being unable to obtain tickets for the Rovers terracing we stood with Bristol City fans during the match. At first we thought it would be quiet during the minute silence but it seemed that there were three or four people in the Rovers terracing and the Dolman Stand who were intent on causing trouble. Unfortunately those idiots were able to stir up so much trouble that the atmosphere in the ground could only be described as "filled with hate" and I felt ashamed to be a football supporter. I was told after, that I should remember what happened at Ashton Gate when Mickey Barrett died, but sadly I do and also similar actions in years prior to that from both sets of supporters(?). I can only say that I thought that we had progressed beyond this level of rivalry and hatred with the main reason for going to football being the on-field entertainment.

It is impossible to lay the blame on one set of supporters because in truth the problem seems to rest with the media attitudes to both clubs. Not enough emphasis is placed on the actions of the players who, contrary to popular belief, do mix socially and turn out in friendly charity matches with each other. Both teams respect each others achievements and it is about time that some of the supporters did the same then perhaps the media would notice some of the positive actions made by our local teams.

If you have any comments or thoughts on how to help break down the barrier between the two clubs, please contact me at: F.S.A. Avon Branch, 1 Watts Lane, Kingswood, Bristol BS15 4BS.

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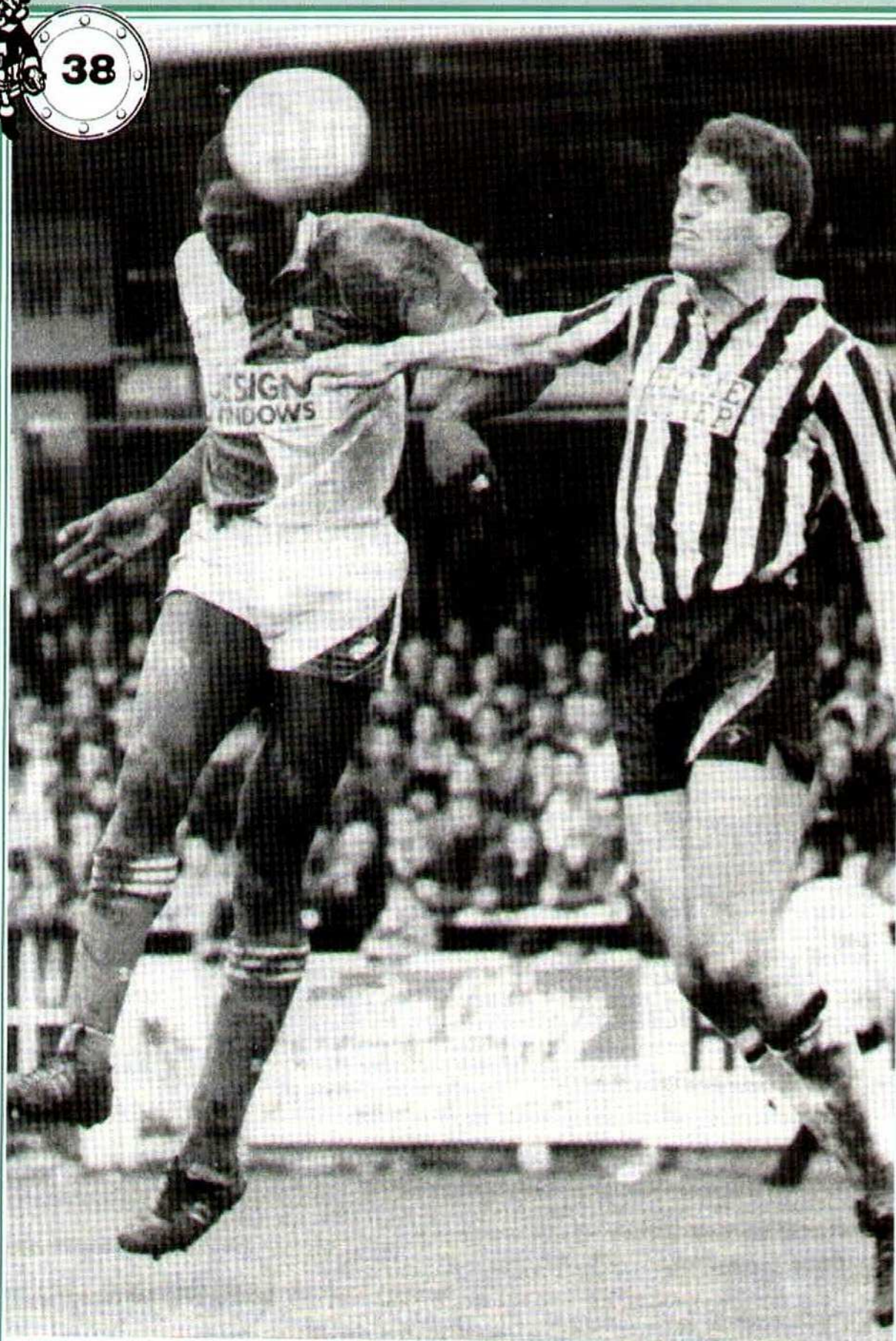


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38



Devon White out-jumps Notts defender Craig Short.



Tony Sealy is unlucky with this header against Notts County on Saturday.



Carl Saunders cracks in a powerful shot against Notts County.



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Supporters Club News



THE PIRATES

MAN OF THE MATCH

The award for last Saturday's close-fought encounter with Notts County went, not surprisingly, to Brian Parkin who capped an excellent all-round display with a great penalty save. What a pity the late equaliser spoilt the day and then Brian set off home before we could tell him that he had a bottle to collect. No doubt he'll pick it up tonight - hopefully after a quiet game against our neighbours!

Improvements

Last Saturday marked a slight upturn in fortunes for our match-day football team who only lost 4-2 at the hands of Notts County's lads. Previous games have resulted in some very heavy defeats which it might be better not to go into! There has also been a big change in form for the 'Pirates' Skittles Team with a run of five consecutive victories, including big wins over the reigning league champions in both league and cup matches. Losing the last game by one pin was a big disappointment as was having to concede two points tonight because of our commitments at Twerton. Never mind, we are still in both cup competitions so there is plenty left to play for!

Lottery News

As promised here is a list of the lucky winners in our Grand Spring Draw. Thanks again to all the Supporters Club members who sold books.

JIM CHAPPELL

RESULT SHEET

GRAND SPRING DRAW 7th MARCH 1991

HELD AT HORSESHOE, DOWNEND, BRISTOL

Draw carried out by Geoff Twentyman and Gavin Kelly

FIRST PRIZE £500.00

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C29748

SECOND PRIZE £250.00

D. Watts, Staple Hill, Bristol. E48857

THIRD PRIZE £100.00

A. Cockle, Southville, Bristol. E48270

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R. Moody
Staple Hill
F55488

M. Jackson
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C21496

F.W. Tinckel
Wington
C29469

EIGHT CONSOLATION PRIZES OF £10.00

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Avonmouth
C29072

Sally
Bristol
F54052

Mrs. V. Pearce
Hengrove
A07834

A. Smalley
Midsomer Norton
E49870

R.A. Bartlett
Shepton Mallet
A07115

M.J. Miles
Horfield
D38379

Sheila Ford
Bristol
F56554

M. Yorke
Downend
A09298

SIXTEEN CONSOLATION PRIZES OF £5.00

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Fishponds
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Bristol
B13902

N. Wheeler
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A03659

Mrs S. Blake
Shirehampton
A01856

Mrs M. Appleton
Melksham
C25109

M. Brannigar
Eastville
D35692

Andy Parry
Brentry
C27439

Mr Tucker
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A08073

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Nicola Hancock
Ashton Vale
E40936

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Cannon Shots



Chris Walker

Home and Away Quiz – Compiled by Chris Walker

TEST YOUR SOCCER KNOWLEDGE

Mystery Person A

1. I scored against Swindon Town in the 1986-1987 season for both Bristol Rovers and Bristol City.
2. I have been the leading goal scorer for the season at a number of clubs, including Bolton Wanderers, Colchester United, Bristol Rovers and AFC Bournemouth.
3. Born in Forest Gate in September 1956, I am 13 stone and over 6 feet tall.
4. Did you notice that I spent several months in Hong Kong between leaving Colchester and becoming player coach at St James Park under T.C.?
5. Is it my "classy three-wheeled car" connection, my dry sense of humour, my honest toiler reputation or my frequent transfers that helps you spot me?

WHO AM I?

Mystery Person B

1. Although I flopped at Swindon I was a success at Sheffield United and Lincoln City and a 'leader or chief' success at Southampton.
2. Swindon signed me for £110,000 from the Red Imps in December 1979 and then let me return to the Sincil Bank for £40,000 in August 1981.
3. Born in Grimsby in August 1950, I am 12 stone and 6 feet tall with a reputation as a powerful shooter from distance.
4. During my career of over 450 league games, I have scored over 70 goals, while mainly wearing the number 4 or 8 shirt.
5. Is it my forename clue "a narrow, wooded Scottish valley" or my surname clue "a young male domestic fowl" that enables you to home in on me?

WHO AM I?

Mystery Person C

1. I joined Swindon Town from Q.P.R. in 1978 and scored 8 goals in 99 league goals before joining the Gas.
2. For Bristol Rovers I scored 20 league goals in 172 games between 1981 and 1985 before I moved across to Ashton Gate.
3. In July 1981 Gary Emmanuel and I changed clubs in a £50,000 deal.
4. At the end of the 1988-1989 season I became Youth Team Coach at Gay Meadow after scoring 51 goals in 591 league appearances.
5. Is it my Bury background, my wearing of the number 3 or 11 shirt or the clue "It belongs to Bill" that gives the game away?

WHO AM I?



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News on Two



Peter Jefferies



AWAY TRAVEL REPORT

Compiled by Nic and Jose Brent, Dave,
Kev and Paddy.

Trip to: Blackburn Rovers, Tuesday 12th March.

Journey transport, price and time taken: Mini bus, £12 each, 4 hours.

Approx number of Rovers travelling support: 500 – but sounded like more!

Opinion of stadium and its facilities: Good stadium but toilet facilities poor.

View from visitors enclosure/grandstand: Good.

Club programme price/value for money: £1 – not as good as Rovers.

Coverage of Rovers in programme: Average, 3 pages, form guide.

Food and drink available and its quality/selection: Poor, no selection. Pies –
passed sell by date and not enough left.

Conduct of stewards/police at ground: Very good – best this season.

Conduct of Home Supporters: Did not hear them.

TALES OF THE TURF

**Colour of shirts worn by
Rovers:** Yellow shirts/Blue
shorts.

Rovers "Man of the Match":
Reece/Parkin.

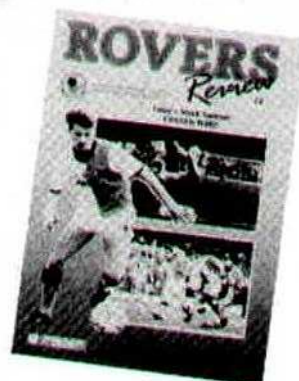
**Opposition "Man of the
Match":** Millar.

Performance of Referee: Average.

Match entertainment value

(max marks 10): 1st half 1 – 2nd half 8.

Memorable moments of the trip: Trying to get 75 mph out of bus (downhill only).



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ANDY REECE
COLIN GORDON
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IAN HAZEL

Red shirts

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2 TOM JONES
3 ADRIAN VIVEASH
4 MICKY HAZARD
5 JON GITTENS
6 COLIN CALDERWOOD
7 FITZROY SIMPSON
8 DUNCAN SHEARER
9 STEVE WHITE
10 ROSS MacLAREN
11 STEVE FOLEY
12 NICKY SUMMERBEE
14 NESTOR LORENZO

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