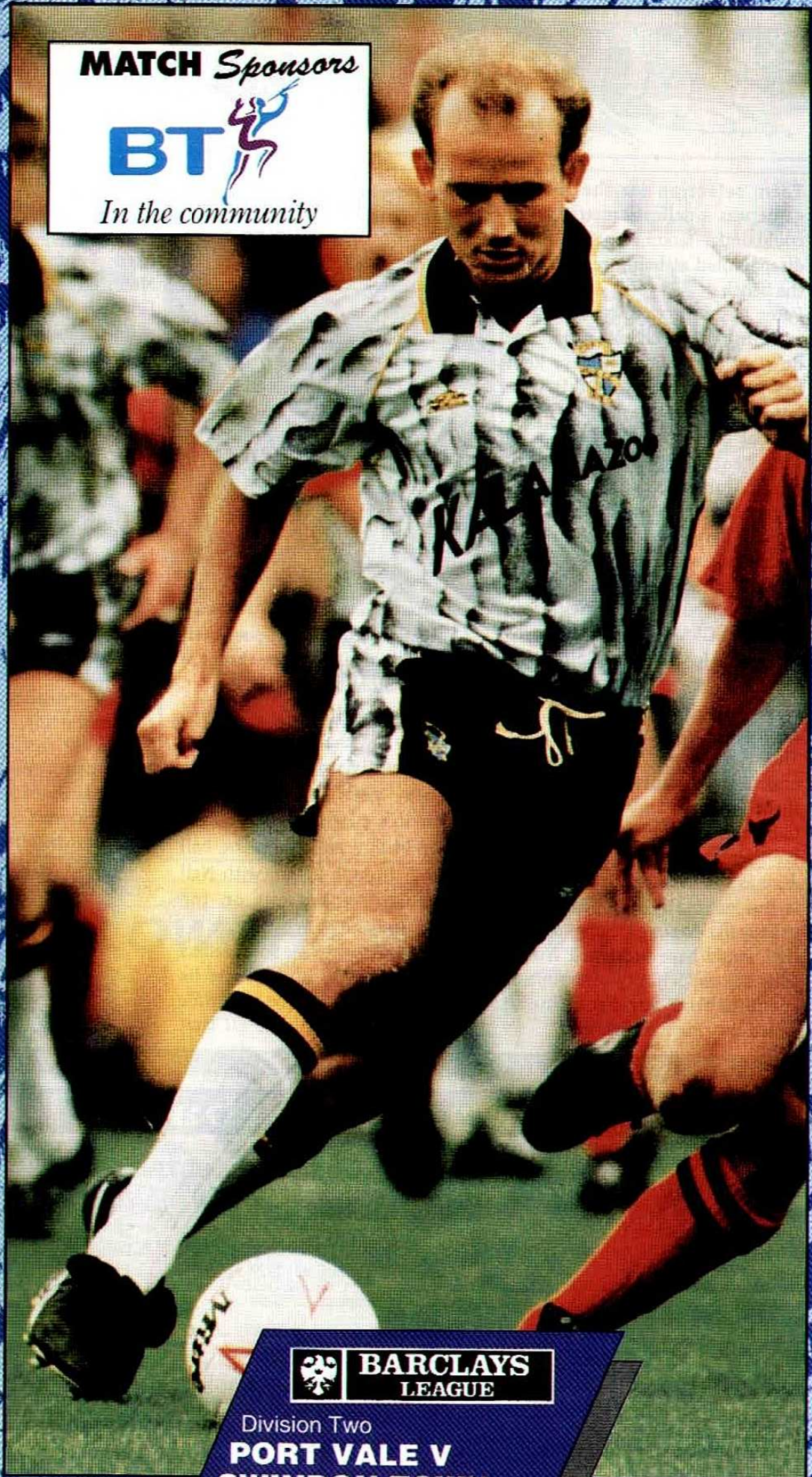




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 **BARCLAYS LEAGUE**

Division Two
PORT VALE V SWINDON TOWN
Saturday, 7th September 1991
Kick-off: 3.00pm.

£1.00

J.R. Reports

Team selection for the Wolves game was a delicate matter and I could understand Peter Swan being disappointed at being relegated to the bench.

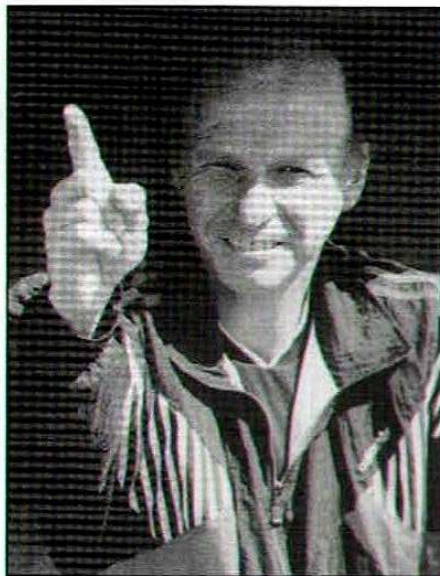
Peter has done well in settling in with us and against any other side he would undoubtedly have kept his place. However, I felt that against Wolves we had to make 'special' arrangements.

The heart of our defence, in particular, was crucial to our prospects of getting a result and the back line needed understanding.

It was on the strength of this factor that I decided to go for Neil Aspin and Dean Glover. They have played together a lot more than any other combination and I banked on them being best equipped to deal with the threat of Bull and Mutch.

They have always proved a handful and it was important we denied them the room they need in which to be most effective.

We therefore decided to defend as deep as the edge of our box, which is not normally our policy. We usually like to squeeze up more but that would have presented Wolves with the opportunity of exploiting space behind our back line at which they are past masters.



".....I banked on them being best equipped to deal with the threat of Bull and Mutch."

Suffice to say, the back four played exceptionally well with Darren Hughes getting into some tremendous covering positions and Simon Mills's ability on the ball shining through again, with Neil and Dean coming out on top against Bull and Mutch.

It was good, too, to see John Jeffers back in the line-up because he gives us balance on the left while Keith Houchen will be all that

better for knocking in his first goals for us.

Being Wolverhampton born and bred I have a soft spot for Molineux.

I have fond memories of the place as a lad, standing on an orange box to get a better view, and I always enjoyed going there as a player.

To collect three points as a manager also gave me a lot of satisfaction, especially in view of Port Vale's undistinguished record there, and it helped to make up for the disappointment of dropping home points to both Barnsley and Bristol City.

There were lessons to be learned from the Bristol game in as much as when the game is slipping out of control the midfield players in particular need to 'dig in' for a spell to turn the tide.

I think we can anticipate a decent game of football this afternoon against Swindon Town. Glen Hoddle stands for quality and any team under his guidance and influence will be an attractive proposition.

Port Vale Football Club

Officials

President - J. Burgess
Chairman - W.T. Bell Tech. Eng.
Vice-Chairman - A. Belfield
Directors - D.P. McGrath.
I. McPherson, N.C. Tizley.
Manager - J.R. Rudge
Secretary - H.J. Westmancoat, F.F.A., M.B.J.M.
Coach - M. Pejic
Youth Coach - R. Downes
Physiotherapist - J. Joyce
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Commercial Administrator -
Ms. M. Moran-Smith
Stadium Manager - F.W. Lodey
Groundsman - R. Fairbanks
Community Scheme Organiser - I. Miller

Honours

Founded 1876
Founder Members Division 2 - 1892
Highest Position - 5th Division 2 - 1930-31
Division 3(N) Champions - 1929-30, 1953-54
Division 4 Champions - 1958-59
Promoted to Division 2 - 1988-89
(via play offs)
Promoted to Division 3 - 1969-70 (4th),
1982-83 (3rd), 1985-86 (4th)
F.A. Cup Semi Finalists - 1953-54

Programme Contributors

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I. McPherson, T. Matthews
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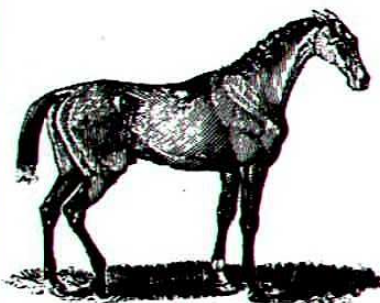
GOOD PUB *Guide...*

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FOR THE LATEST SPORTS NEWS: MONDAY - FRIDAY.
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THE BEST SOUND AROUND

News Desk

We're delighted to announce that **BT** our sponsors of the listening posts for our blind and partially sighted supporters are also our Match Sponsors for today's game.

Two seasons ago, Mr. Roger Westbury, B.T.'s Media Relations Manager, gave us a sympathetic ear when we needed the ultimate in communications technology to relay our match commentaries to a section of our supporters who would not normally be able to fully enjoy our home games. With this superb facility we can now accommodate blind supporters in our purpose built stand for the disabled and together with the kind assistance of our local hospital Radio Broadcasting team, talk supporters through the game on their personal head-sets.

Today we would like to take this opportunity to thank B.T. for their continued support at Vale Park and wish everyone in our Match Sponsors Suite an enjoyable game.

* Anyone who knows supporters who can benefit from the listening posts, please let them know and we'll welcome them to any home game (subject to availability).

The **LUCKY STRIKE** sponsored goal winner v. Oxford United is **LINDA PRINCE** of Fenn Park, Fenton, who wins a Stereo Radio Cassette Recorder. The weekly draw is made live on **B.B.C. Radio Stoke's SAMMY PLANK** show every **THURSDAY** at **11.15am**. Depending on the number of **VALE** goals scored in Saturday fixtures (home and away) **YOU** can win any household item from an electric kettle to a Video Recorder! Tune into **Ivan Gaskell's Sportsbeat** and **Matchnight** programmes (see page 3) for up to the minute information on **LUCKY STRIKE** and news from Vale Park.

PORT VALE CLASSIFIED

This week's celebrities are

- **MARTIN WEBSTER** - Happy 8th birthday, all our love from mummy, daddy & Allison xxx
- **FRANCIS BROMLEY** - Have a happy birthday, love from Chris, Steve, Peter & Jane
- **DUNNDA (DAVE) BEARD** - you've reached 30 and the whole world knows it - "keep on truckin" - Gill xx
- **NATHAN HIRD** - Lots of love always on our 1st wedding anniversary (September 14th) - Yvonne xx



Port Vale Matchday Magazine Classified

GAME REQUIRED: Date:

* Please state if an alternative date would be acceptable: YES NO

Message: Please ticket box

Name of sender:

Address:

Tel. No: (day).....(evening).....

The total number of words to printed is at 15p per word.

Total amount enclosed: £.....

Return to: Port Vale Classified Advertising, Port Vale F.C. Promotions Department,
Hamil Road, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 1AW, Tel: (0782) 835524



(1) Pictured here, left to right, are Mr. Ron Platt, partner of A. Wood & Co., Chartered Accountants, who were our match Sponsors for the game v. Barnsley on 27th August last; Vale's 'Man of the Match' in that game - Neil Aspin - and Terry Conroy, ex Stoke City and Republic of Ireland international, who selected Neil as the star player that evening.

(2) Mr. John Burgess (left) Chairman of Kalamazoo Business Systems, the official Sponsors of Port Vale F.C., presents the club's Chairman, Mr. Bill Bell with a souvenir album of cuttings and photographs of Port Vale during season 1990-91, the first campaign when Kalamazoo Business Systems were the club's main sponsors.



Commercial - Promotions - Community

JUNIOR BOOTLACE SPONSORS

Mark GREW.....	Richard Debenham, Norton
Trevor WOOD.....	Daniel & Kimberley Hughes, Bignall End
Ray WALKER.....	Katie Belfield, Endon
Simon MILLS.....	Simon Birch-Machin, Leek
Neil ASPIN.....	Samuel & Benjamin Bennett, Brown Edge
Dean GLOVER.....	Steven Sherwin, Abbey Htn
John JEFFERS.....	Scott Connor, Northwood
R Van Der LAAN.....	David Copeland, Telford
Nico JALINK.....	Kevin Tams, Birches Head
Martin FOYLE.....	Elizabeth Amison, Keele
Andy PORTER.....	Nathan Watson, Tunstall
Keith HOUCHEM.....	David Ryder, Hartshill
Darren HUGHES.....	Emma Williams, Newcastle-
John RUDGE.....	Emma & Mark Ellerton, Sandyford
Kevin KENT.....	Adam Robert Holland, Meir H
Peter SWAN.....	Hayley Walley, Burslem
Brian MILLS.....	Kayleigh & William Litherland, from Middleport

* Our thanks to the above named under 16 year-olds who qualify to sponsor a Players' bootlaces for just £10.00 AND there's an official presentation photo in it too! If you wish to sponsor any player not already listed, ask your parents to telephone us on 0782 835524 to 'book' your favourite player. But hurry - it's first come, first reserved!

NEW OF EX VALIANTS

Remember Ian Wilson, the left-sided midfielder player who appeared for the Vale in friendlies against Alcester Town and Northwich Victoria? Well he has now joined Third Division Bury and made his debut for the 'Shakers' last Saturday.

Former Vale man Gary Ford scored for Mansfield Town against Chesterfield at The Recreation Ground last weekend, and striker Ron Futcher, who over the years has served with more than a dozen different clubs, has now linked forces with our near neighbours, Crewe Alexandra.

Paul Millar is currently in Cardiff City's League side, and he's doing well; Messrs. Beckford and Earle are also doing their duty with Norwich City and Wimbledon respectively in the First Division, while David Riley (Peterborough United) and Ronnie Jepson (Preston North End) are performing in the Third.

Steve Hunt, our former Youth team coach, is now with Leicester City, where he has teamed up with another ex Aston Villa player, Brian Little, who of course is manager at Filbert Street.

PORT VALE 1991-92 MATCH BALL SPONSORS

17 Aug. v. Oxford U.....	In Memory of Andrew Standley , Port Vale Vice-President
27 Aug. v. Barnsley.....	J.P. Soccer Souvenirs , Cromarite St, Longton, Stoke
31 Aug. v. Bristol City.....	Claremont Caterers , Spratslade Drive, Dresden
7 Sept. v. Swindon T.....	Cliff Salt Removals , Machin Cresc. Bradwell
21 Sept. v. Southend U.....	Reliable Haulage , Sneyd Ind. Est. Burslem
5 Oct. v. Cambridge U.....	Alan Austin Engineers , Croft St., Burslem
19 Oct. v. Sunderland.....	B.B.C. Radio Stoke , Cheapside, Hanley, Stoke
6 Nov. v. Derby Co.....	Crookes Health Care , Nottingham
9 Nov. v. Millwall.....	West End Inn , Lyndhurst Street, Burslem
30 Nov. v. Watford.....	For sale
13 Dec. v. Tranmere R.....	National Westminster Bank Business Centre , Stoke
20 Dec. v. Wolves.....	Bass Taverns, The Park Inn , Burslem
1 Jan. v. Ipswich T.....	A.B.C. Skips , Furlong Lane Ind. Est. Burslem
11 Jan. v. Portsmouth.....	Terry Conroy Ins. & Investment Services Ltd. , London Road, Stoke-on-Trent
8 Feb. v. Middlesbrough.....	Oasis Travel , Market Square, Tunstall
15 Feb. v. Leicester C.....	Mr. S. Bowcock , Brindley Ford
29 Feb. v. Newcastle U.....	2 Railway Stand Season Ticket Holders
14 Mar. v. Bristol Rovers.....	90 Minutes
28 Mar. v. Plymouth A.....	Mr. G. Pagett , Crackley, Chesterton
31 Mar. v. Blackburn R.....	C.J. Bayley Builders , Furlong Lane Ind. Est. Burslem
11 Apl. v. Brighton HA.....	For sale
20 Apl. v. Charlton A.....	Home Choose Carpets , Abbots Drive, Sneyd Green
2 May v. Grimsby T.....	Multi-Blast & Spray Ltd. , Town Road, Hanley

SUPPORTERS KIT SPONSORSHIPS DETAILS

Mark GREW.....	Dave & Ken, Port Vale Promotions Office
Trevor WOOD.....	Mrs. V. Jones, Longport
Ray WALKER.....	Mr. F. J. Belfield, Loggerheads
Dean GLOVER.....	Theresa's Hairdressers, Hartshill
Alan WEBB.....	Reg Dean, Berryhill
John JEFFERS.....	Julie-Ann Riley, Chell Heath
Nico JALINK.....	Stut & Bob, Official Away Travel Club
Robin Van Der LAAN.....	Deborah Pellington, Norma & Alan Tansey
Martin FOYLE.....	David Blythe of Shirley, Solihull

MATCH VIDEOS (Home match videos with full commentary, are on sale at the Vale Club Shop 48 hours after every home game at just £12.95 each...or you can order them by Mail Order at £14.45 which includes postage & packing.)

MATCH VIDEO POSTAL REQUEST FORM

(season 1991-92)

Please forward a copy of the Port Vale v
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.....
Address.....
.....
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Price per cassette is £12.95 plus £1.50 p & p for a combined sum of £14.45. I
enclose a cheque/postal order made payable to Port Vale Football Club Ltd.
Signed.....



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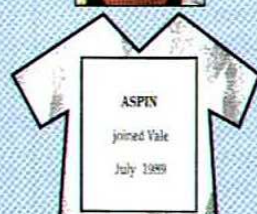
Robin Van Der Laan



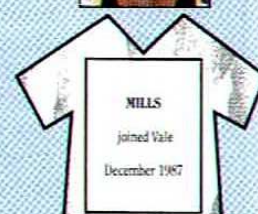
Trevor Wood



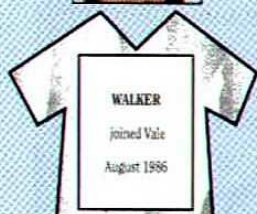
Nico Jalink



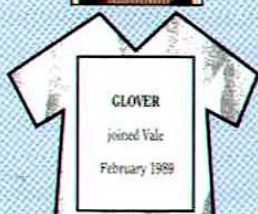
Neil Aspin



Simon Mills



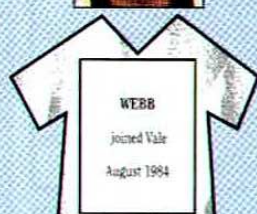
Ray Walker



Dean Glover



Martin Foyle



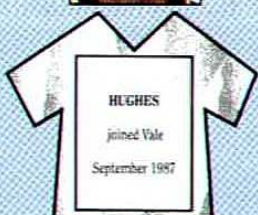
Alan Webb



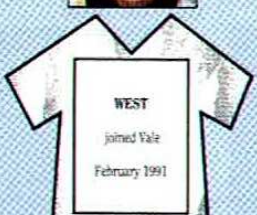
John Jeffers



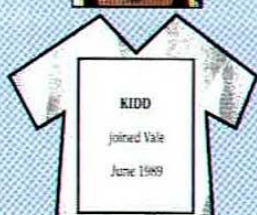
Mark Grew



Darren Hughes



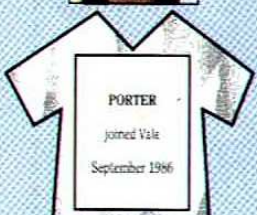
Paul West



Ryan Kidd



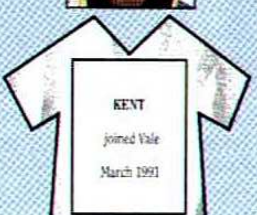
Tim Parkin



Andy Porter



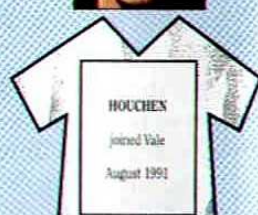
Brian Mills



Kevin Kent



Peter Swan



Keith Houchen

NOTICE Board

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS are reminded that tickets are not transferable and that books complete with tickets should be presented to the gateman before the ticket is torn out.

At all future matches if the procedure is not followed, admission to Vale Park will be refused. Season ticket books must be in your possession at all home matches.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you mislay or forget your ticket, we are able to issue you with a duplicate for a particular match from the secretary's office on receipt of payment of the normal matchday admission charge. This money will be refunded to you afterwards on presentation at the secretary's office of the relevant season ticket voucher. No other refunds will be considered unless this procedure is followed.

FANS AT MOLINEUX

A total of 1,755 Vale supporters made the trip to Molineux last Tuesday night to witness that splendid 2-0 victory over the Wolves. The overall attendance figure was 16,115 and to a certain extent our band of followers certainly shouted the Wolves supporters. It was of course a great start for our newly appointed secretary, John Westmancoat, who only took up office the day before that excellent triumph.

PRIVATE CAR PARK FACILITY

Spaces still exist in the Club's private car park to the rear of the Club Shop. Each space now costs £50 for the rest of the season. This is the ideal facility for users of the nearby Railway stand and Railway Paddock - all enquiries to the Secretary's Office Tel: 814134

WARNING to all travelling Valiants! v BLACKBURN ROVERS (away) Saturday 14th September

There will be NO seating available for Vale Fans. Terracing only is available price £6 in the DARWEN END section of the ground.

P.S. as published in last week's programme we're afraid the same arrangement also applies this week at Molineux

DISABLED STAND

Our superb disabled facility still has spare capacity. If you are disabled or know of anyone who is why not give it a try. You can buy a pass for the season or pay on a match to match basis. The stand is supervised by qualified personnel.

FORTHCOMING Matches

Barclays League Division Two

Brighton & H.A. v. Port Vale

Wednesday, 18th September, 1991

- kick-off: 7.30pm.

Car parking facilities are strictly limited, and cars parked illegally will be towed away by the Sussex Police.

Seat tickets are available for visiting supporters priced at £10 each, with standing accommodation in the South East corner of the ground at £6.00, with no concessions.

Rumbelows League Cup Rd.2

Port Vale v. Notts County

The 1st leg will be played at Vale Park on Tuesday 24th September, 1991, with a kick-off time at 7.30pm.

The return leg at Meadow Lane will take place on Tuesday, 8th October, 1991, kick-off: 7.45pm.

Zenith Data Systems Cup Rd.2

Port Vale v. Blackburn Rovers

This game will be staged at Vale Park on Tuesday 1st October, kick-off: 7.30pm. The game itself will be finished on the night. There will be a penalty shoot-out if the scores are still level after extra time has been played.

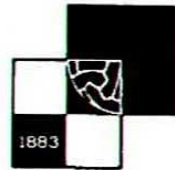
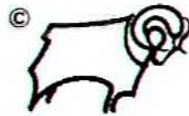
Midland Youth Cup (Preliminary Round)

Port Vale v. Swindon Town

(At Vale Park),

Monday 7th October 1991, Kick-off: 7.00pm.

Admission: Adults £1.00; Jnrs & OAP's. 50p.



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BARCLAYS LEAGUE

News



Former boss Don Mackay, no longer in charge at Blackburn

Last Saturday's action in Division Two produced a total of 38 goals, with not a scoreless draw in any of the 11 matches played.

The most exciting contest of the day came at **The Goldstone Ground** where **Brighton and Wolves** shared six goals.

A late equaliser by **John Robinson** preserved 'Albion's' unbeaten League record over the **Wanderers** - this after that powerful strike-force of **Steve Bull** and **Andy Mutch** had done their duty with three goals between them.

There were five goals at **Home Park** where **Plymouth** took the points off **Millwall** (3-2) thanks to an own-goal in the last few seconds by visiting defender **Steve Wood**.

Swindon Town, inspired by **Glenn Hoddle** at the back, destroyed struggling

Barnsley 3-1 at **The County Ground**, and **Cambridge United** kept up their 100% record with an emphatic 3-1 win at **Watford**, the 'Hornets' second home defeat in succession.

Ipswich Town went to the top of the table after their 2-1 win at **Blackburn** who sacked manager, **Don Mackay**, during the week. **David Speedie** scored for **Rovers** in this game but it came far too late after earlier strikes from **Chris Kiwomya** and **Paul Goddard** had set **John Lyall's** men up for all tjrhere points.

John Aldridge maintained his terrific start to the season with another goal in **Tranmere's** 2-2 away draw at **Grimby**, while **Mick Quinn** broke his league duck for the campaign with **Newcastle's** opener at **Twerton Park** in their 2-1 triumph over **Bristol Rovers**.

Willie Falconer and **Bernie Slaven** were the marksmen in **Middlesbrough's** solid 2-0 win at home over **Portsmouth** and late goals by **Tommy Wright** and **Steve Walsh** saw **Leicester** through 2-1 at newly-promoted **Southend**. **Sunderland** won 2-0 at home against bottom club **Oxford**, **Marco Gabbiadini** and **Gordon Armstrong** the scorers in front of a 16,151 crowd - the best in the Division on the day.

Last Sunday inconsistent **Derby County** beat **Charlton** 2-0 at **Upton Park** (**Mick Harford** and **Paul Williams** the scorers) but the gate was only 6,602.

In mid-week **Cambridge United**, **Ipswich Town** and **Wolves** all lost their unbeaten records - and all three clubs were beaten at home!

Cambridge were pipped 1-0 by **Southend**, for whom **Ian Benjamin** was on target; **Lyall's** team crashed 4-1 at home to improving **Swindon** while the **Molineux** men nose-dived 2-0 to visiting **Port Vale** for whom **Keith Houchen** scored his first goal.

Sunderland went down to **Portsmouth** at **Fratton Park** and **Barnsley**, still without a win, crumbled 3-0 at **Oakwell** to **Watford**.

GATES UP

Attendances on the opening Saturday of this season's Football League programme were 1.6% up compared with those on the first day of 1990-91.

ZENITH DATA SYSTEMS CUP

Here are the games involving second Division clubs in this season's ZDSC:

Northern Section - Grimsby v. Wolves, Port Vale v. Blackburn, Leicester v. Barnsley and Tranmere v. Newcastle.

Southern Section - Swindon v. Oxford, Bristol Rovers v. Ipswich, Cambridge v. Charlton, Plymouth v. Portsmouth and Watford v. Southend.

* Matches to be played during the week commencing 30th September.

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION 2 FACTS & FIGURES

Table (at 4th September 1991)

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Top scorers	Avg. Gate
Middlesbro'	6	3	0	0	6	0	1	0	2	3	5	12	Slaven 3, Wilkinson 2	14,552
Bristol City	5	3	0	0	4	1	0	2	0	2	2	11	Allison 2 Taylor 1, Morgan 1	14,356
Ipswich	5	2	0	1	5	6	1	1	0	5	4	10	Kiwomya 3, Dozzell 2	10,007
Leicester	4	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	2	1	10	Gibson 2, Kitsön 1 Walsh 1	13,982
Cambridge	4	1	0	1	3	3	2	0	0	7	4	9	Philpott 3 Claridge 2	6,885
Port Vale	6	1	2	0	3	2	1	0	2	3	3	8	Foyle 2 Walker 1 Mills 1	6,761
Swindon T.	4	1	1	0	3	1	1	0	1	6	4	7	Shearer 2 Hazard 2 White 2	9,276
Sunderland	5	1	1	0	3	1	1	0	2	4	5	7	Armstrong 3, Owers 2	18,465
Derby Co.	5	1	0	2	3	4	1	1	0	3	1	7	Harford 3, Williams 2	12,322
Southend	4	0	1	1	2	3	2	0	0	3	1	7	Benjamin 2, Angell 1	6,850
Brighton	5	0	1	1	3	5	2	0	1	5	4	7	Barham 2, Bissett 1 Codner 1	9,984
Plymouth A.	4	2	0	0	5	3	0	0	1	1	2	7	Marshall 3, Turner 1	6,008
Portsmouth	4	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	3	7	Anderton 1, Burns 1 Clarke 1	8,653
Tranmere	4	0	2	0	4	4	1	1	0	4	2	6	Aldridge 4 Thomas 2	8,964
Wolves	4	0	1	1	1	3	1	1	0	5	3	5	Bull 3, Mutch 3	16,213
Charlton	4	1	0	1	2	3	0	2	0	3	3	5	Lee 3, Leaburn 1	7,702
Newcastle	5	0	2	0	4	4	1	0	1	3	6	5	Carr 2, Quinn 2, Clark 1	21,642
Blackburn	4	0	1	1	2	3	1	0	1	2	1	4	Speedie 2 Moran 1 Wilcox 1	9,931
Watford	4	0	0	2	1	5	1	1	0	5	2	4	Blissett 3, Nicholas 1	11,740
Grimsby T.	4	0	1	1	5	6	1	0	1	2	3	4	Rees 2, Woods 2 Cockerill 1	7,309
Millwall	4	1	0	1	5	3	0	0	2	2	4	3	Barber 2, Falco 1, Kerr 1	9,453
Bristol R.	4	0	1	1	4	5	0	1	1	2	3	2	Stewart 3, White 2	6,294
Barnsley	6	0	0	3	1	8	0	1	2	2	5	1	O'Connell 1, Pearson 1	7,732
Oxford Ltd.	4	0	0	2	2	4	0	0	2	1	4	0	Magilton 3	4,361



Our Visitors

INTRODUCING



Back row: Colin Calderwood, Adrian Viveash, Richard Green, Fraser Digby, Shaun Taylor, Nicky Hammond, David Mitchell, Nestor Lorenzo, Steve White.
Middle row: John Trollope (Youth manager), Nicky Summerbee, Darren Hall, Paul Trollope, Edwin Murray, Fitzroy Simpson, Shaun Close, Steve Foley, Martin Ling, Andy Rowland (reserve team manager).
Front row: Kevin Morris (physio), Paul Hunt, David Bennett, Ross MacLaren, Duncan Shearer, Glenn Hoddle (player-manager), John Gorman (assistant manager), Tommy Jones, David Kerslake, Micky Hazard, Eddie Buckley (kit manager).

We welcome to Vale Park this afternoon a Swindon Town side who have started 1991-92 in reasonable style, including a first round Rumbelows League Cup win over Third Division West Brom (4-2 on aggregate), and a 4-1 win at Ipswich.

Founded in 1881, they were once known as the Swindon Spartans, taking their current title in 1883. They eventually joined the Football League in 1920 and have yet to play in the First Division - although they technically qualified for the top flight after winning the 1989-90 promotion play-offs only to be demoted on account of financial irregularities. Initially they were relegated to Division Three but following an appeal the 'Robins' were re-instated in the Second Division - from where they are now aiming to climb into the premier sector for the first time in the club's history.

Last term was an anti-climax for all concerned at the County Ground and it was perhaps inevitable that the players struggled to get their game flowing. Indeed, at one stage it looked as if Swindon could be involved in a relegation dog-fight, but the arrival of Glenn Hoddle, as manager, certainly boosted morale

and eventually they were able to finish in a respectable safe position after stringing together some very important wins at a vital stage in the season.

Hoddle's squad this term looks a useful one on paper, with some experienced players available for duty, and on checking through the list we see that at least half of the senior members have been in the game for quite a while.

In goal is the 6ft. 1in. frame of Yorkshireman FRASER DIGBY, aged 24, a native of Sheffield who joined the club from Manchester United.

In front of him, wearing '2' is likely to be TOMMY JONES, born in Aldershot in 1964 who came to Swindon from the Scottish club, Aberdeen.

COLIN CALDERWOOD, the skipper, wears '5' and he originates from Glasgow. A six footer he was signed by Swindon for a bargain £27,500 from Mansfield Town and has been one of the team's most consistent performers during the past three seasons although he did suffer a knee injury last term.

GLENN HODDLE plays now as a sweeper. Aged 33, he chalked up

WATCH OUT FOR DUNCAN SHEARER



Born at Fort William, Scotland, Duncan, a 28 year-old striker, has maintained his impressive 'goal every other game' average since making his Football League debut for Chelsea in February 1986. A club record £230,000 signing from Huddersfield Town in June 1988, he has recorded seasonal tallies of 16, 27 and 23 for the 'Robins' in his three campaigns, and has already found the net this term, including one bullet effort in the League Cup at West Brom. He joined Chelsea from the quality Scottish Highland League club, Inverness Clachnacuddin in November 1983 and netted once in his two League outings for the Blues. He then switched to Huddersfield (1986) and proceeded to score 38 times in his 83 League outings for the 'Terriers' before making the move south to Wiltshire.

SWINDON TOWN



almost 400 League appearances as a midfield creator and goalscorer with Spurs and came back into the English game after a successful spell with the French club, AS Monaco.

ADRIAN VIVEASH, 21, a local lad, has come up through the club's apprentice ranks and occupies a defensive position, his speed being a vital factor in his play.

Plymouth-born SHAUN TAYLOR, 28, accompanies Calderwood in the heart of the back four. He was signed from Exeter City for £200,000 three months ago and has already looked the part with some marvellous performances.

The former Tottenham and Chelsea schemer MICKY HAZARD helps man midfield. Born in Sunderland 31 years ago, this industrious competitor joined Swindon from Portsmouth for £130,000 twelve months ago - to replace Alan McLoughlin who moved to Southampton.

Fellow midfielder STEVE FOLEY, 28, a Liverpudlian, has been with Liverpool, Grimsby Town and Sheffield United, and arrived at the County Ground in 1987.

MARTIN LING can play in centre-field or up front. He is a 25 year-old Londoner whose previous clubs include Exeter City and Southend United, and he also spent a month on loan with Mansfield Town last season.

DAVID KERSLAKE is another utility player. Also aged 25, and again from London, he was secured from Q.P.R. for £110,000 in November 1989 and has gained England honours at schoolboy, youth and under 21 levels. He prefers the right-back slot.

ROSS MacLAREN is a hard tackling, forceful midfielder who was born in Edinburgh in 1962. Started off with Shrewsbury and joined Swindon from Derby County for £67,500 in 1985.

NESTOR LORENZO, the Argentinian, plays mainly in defence. Aged 25, from Buenos Aires, he was with Bari before coming over to sign for Swindon for £160,000 last November. Capped 25 times for his country, he appeared in the 1990 World Cup Final.

DUNCAN SHEARER (see left), FITZROY SIMPSON, DAVID MITCHELL and STEVE WHITE are Swindon's principal marksmen.

SIMPSON, 21, from Bradford-on-Avon, has progressed through the club's junior ranks, while the 29 year-old MITCHELL, an Australian international (17 caps), cost a nominal fee from Chelsea in July after he had left Feyenoord for Stamford Bridge in a deal worth £200,000 in December 1988. He has also served with Glasgow Rangers and on loan with Newcastle United.

WHITE, 32, from Chipping Sidbury, is an established goalscorer who, over the years, has netted regularly for Bristol Rovers (two spells), Luton and Charlton Athletic, as well as Swindon, whom he joined in 1986.

Striker NICK SUMMERBEE (20), forward SHAUN CLOSE (25 tomorrow), 32 year-old winger/midfielder DAVE BENNETT (ex Coventry and Sheffield Wednesday), and defender RICHARD GREEN (23) are also squad members and could well figure in the manager's plans today.

PAST ENCOUNTERS

Last season the Vale did the double over Swindon, winning 2-1 at The County Ground in November and then 3-1 on the last day of the League programme.

A crowd of 7,717 saw the first encounter when Darren Beckford (31 mins) unluckily conceded an own-goal following a corner to give the home side the lead. But Gary Ford (71) equalised for the Vale with a 12 yard shot and then Beckford made amends by claiming the winner two minutes later, glancing the ball home after taking an inch-perfect pass from Ray Walker.

In the return fixture in the Potteries, almost an identical crowd (7,713) turned up to see the Vale take the points with goals by Robbie Earle (a volley on 20 minutes), and two from Brian Mills (an angled drive in the 29th minute and a close range header 45 seconds from time) against one strike from Town's Adrian Viveash five minutes before half-time.

PLAYED FOR BOTH

Goalscorers RALPH HUNT and MORRIS JONES are two players who have served with both clubs in League action. The former, who sadly died in a car crash in 1964, was associated with nine different clubs between 1950 and 1964, his stay at Vale Park lasting from December 1961 to July 1962. He was with Swindon for a period of five months prior to joining the Vale, and in all Ralph scored 184 goals in 374 League games, his best haul coming with Norwich (67 goals in 124 outings).

JONES, a Liverpudlian, joined Port Vale in June 1946 and he netted 26 goals in his 53 League appearances for the club before moving to Swindon in 1947. He later assisted Crystal Palace and Watford, and claimed 84 goals in 191 League matches as a professional.

MEET THE BOSS...

Glenn Hoddle

There were a few raised eye brows, not only in Swindon but around the League scene in general, when the 'Robins' appointed the former Spurs and England midfielder Glenn Hoddle as their new player-manager following the sudden departure from the County Ground of Ossie Ardiles at the end of March.

But the presence in the camp of such an experienced professional certainly motivated the team and relegation was avoided after Glenn had manufactured some enterprising end-of-the-season performances out his players. Now 33, Glenn spent twelve splendid years at White Hart Lane, during which time he gained F.A. Cup and League Cup medals, and a UEFA Cup prize as well as amassing well over 400 senior appearances, 377 in the Football League (88 goals). He won 53 full caps for England as well as representing his country at both Youth and Under 21 levels, and was generally regarded (when in peak form and fully fit) to be one of the finest passers of a ball in the English game. He had three pretty good seasons in France with AS Monaco but the lure of the English League programme enticed him back to this country and he's now enjoying the game as well as ever - and he hasn't yet finished his first year as a manager.



IN Reserve..

Wednesday 28th August 1991

Pontins League Division 2

Stoke City Reserves 2 Port Vale Reserves 1

The first half of this local derby was evenly contested with our best chance falling to Brian Mills, whose close range shot produced a brilliant save by the Australian-born 'keeper, Jason Kearton, on loan to Stoke from Everton.

Kearton's opposite number, Trevor Wood, was also on hand to deny Tony Ellis and when half-time arrived the scoresheet was blank.

Gary McKinstry replaced Michael Harrison but the Vale were gradually put under pressure and in the 63rd minute Ellis turned in an Ashley Grimes' centre to give the 'Potters' a 1-0 lead.

A quarter of an hour later Vale defender Dave Rushton dwelled too long on the ball inside the penalty area and was dispossessed by Ian Wright who lashed home a fierce shot from close range to give Stoke a two goal cushion.

A late rally saw the Vale reduce the deficit to one when a wayward back pass from Paul Rennie left Chris Boswell with a clear run on goal and he hammered his drive into the top corner of the net from the edge of the box.

Unfortunately the scoring ended there.

John Jeffers played throughout the 90 minutes, but suffered a reaction afterwards which subsequently forced him to miss the first team game with Bristol City the following Saturday.

Vale team: Wood; West, Kidd; Parkin, Webb, Rushton; Porter, Harrison, Boswell, B. Mills, Jeffers. Subs: McKinstry (for Harrison) and Blake (for Webb).

Attendance: 1,024

Pontins League		
Division 2 fixtures: 1991-92		
Wed.	Aug. 21	York City (h) 1-1
Wed.	28	Stoke City (a) 1-2
Wed.	Sep. 11	Hull City (a)
Mon.	16	Derby County (h)
Wed.	25	Burnley (a)
Wed.	Oct. 2	Notts County (h)
Tues.	8	Oldham Athletic (a)
Wed.	16	Mansfield Town (h)
Tues.	22	Preston North End (a)
Wed.	30	Wigan Athletic (h)
Wed.	Nov. 6	Blackpool (a)
Mon.	11	Leicester City (a)
Wed.	20	Wolves (h)
Tues.	26	Grimsby Town (a)
Wed.	Dec. 4	Scunthorpe United (h)
Wed.	11	Middlesbrough (h)
Wed.	18	York City (a)
Wed.	Jan. 8	Stoke City (h)
Wed.	15	Huddersfield Town (h)
Wed.	22	Wolves (a)
Mon.	27	Mansfield Town (a)
Wed.	Feb. 5	Preston North End (h)
Wed.	12	Middlesbrough (a)
Wed.	19	Grimsby Town (h)
Wed.	26	Huddersfield Town (a)
Wed.	Mar. 4	Leicester City (h)
Wed.	11	Wigan Athletic (a)
Wed.	18	Blackpool (h)
Wed.	25	Hull City (h)
Wed.	Apr. 1	Scunthorpe United (a)
Wed.	8	Burnley (h)
Thur.	16	Derby County (a)
Tues.	21	Notts County (a)
Wed.	29	Oldham Athletic (h)

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MIDLAND PURITY YOUTH LEAGUE Saturday 31st August 1991 Port Vale 1 Northampton 0

This was a steady performance from the Vale youngsters and the one goal triumph enabled them to complete a hat-trick of victories for the season and took the team to joint top place in the League table.

The match winning goal came from a flying header by defender Chris Brown - his first strike of the season for the Vale.

Team: Lovatt; Brown, Hickey; Blake, Royall, Gillard; Burbridge, Dyas, Mitchell, Carvell, Shea. Subs: McCarthy & Heron.



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Midland Purity League Fixtures: 1991-92

Aug. 17	Lincoln City	(h)3-0	Jan. 4	Leicester City	(h)
24	Mansfield Town	(a)3-2	11	Lincoln City	(a)
31	Northampton Town	(h)1-0	25	League Cup Rd.3	
Sept. 7	Notts County	(a)	Feb. 1	Northampton Town	(a)
14	Nottm. Forest	(h)	8	Notts County	(h)
21	Peterborough Utd.	(a)	15	Peterborough Utd.	(h)
28	Wolves	(a)	22	Wolves	(h)
Oct. 5	Shrewsbury Town	(h)	29	Shrewsbury Town	(a)
12	Stoke City	(h)	Mar. 7	Stoke City	(a)
19	Walsall	(h)	14	L.C. Semi-final	
26	W.B.Albion	(a)	21	Walsall	(a)
Nov. 2	Aston Villa	(h)	28	W.B.Albion	(h)
9	Nottm. Forest	(a)	Apl. 4	Aston Villa	(a)
16	Birmingham City	(a)	11	Birmingham City	(h)
23	Coventry City	(h)	18	Coventry City	(a)
30	Derby County	(a)	25	Derby County	(h)
Dec. 7	Grimsby Town	(h)	May 2	Grimsby Town	(a)
14	Birmingham C. LC2	(a)			
28	Leicester City	(h)			

YTS Profile

BEN HICKEY

Born: Birmingham

Ht: 5ft. 11ins. Wt: 158 lbs.

School: Bishop Walsh Roman Catholic

1st or 2nd Year YTS: First Year

Positions: Midfield/defence

Misc. likes: Eating and sleeping

Misc. dislikes: Heavy Metal and Aston Villa

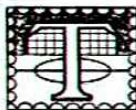
Favourite other team: West Bromwich Albion

Favourite TV programme: L.A. Law

Favourite actor: Jack Nicholson

Favourite actress: Kim Basinger

Ambition: To become a professional footballer



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Simon Mills doesn't score all that many goals - but the one he registered here at Vale Park last Saturday afternoon against Bristol City proved, in the end, to be a very crucial one indeed - for it earned us a point!

That strike in the 18th minute was, in fact, only Simon's seventh goal for the Vale, and he's played in well over 170 games. But right-backs don't usually figure too often on the scoresheet these days - that's unless you are a penalty expert!

The skilful Yorkshireman from Sheffield, who celebrated his 27th birthday the day after the start of this current League season, cost the Vale a mere £35,000 when signed by manager John Rudge from York City in December 1987.

Although he can play in midfield, Simon is now regarded as an out-and-out right full-back - and he is rated by many as one of the best No. 2's in the Second Division, his speed and control often standing out for all to admire.

He performed exceedingly well during the Vale's Third Division promotion-winning campaign of 1988-89 and indeed he has been generally in good form throughout last two seasons, missing only one

SIMON MILLS



Born: Sheffield, Yorkshire,
16th August 1964

Position: Full-back or midfield

Ht: 5'8" Wt: 11st 5lbs.

Previous clubs: Sheffield
Wednesday (apprentice 1980,
professional 1984) and
York City.

Signed for the Vale: 23rd
December 1987.

League game in 1989-90 and playing in 41 of the Vale's 46 Second Division games in 1990-91, all of them at right-back.

A former England Youth international, Simon signed professional forms for Sheffield Wednesday in August 1982 after having spent two years as an

apprentice at Hillsborough. He made just five League appearances for the 'Owls' (four as sub) before transferring to York City in June 1985.

At Bootham Crescent he quickly established himself in the side, playing mainly in midfield, and he went on to amass in excess of 120 senior outings for York (9 goals scored), helping them to a fine F.A. Cup run in 1986-87 when they almost knocked out mighty Liverpool!

He made his debut in Vale's colours three days after signing for the club - on Boxing Day 1987, versus Northampton Town at home - and is now chasing hard towards that milestone of 200 first team appearances, which, if his luck holds, he'll reach before this campaign ends.

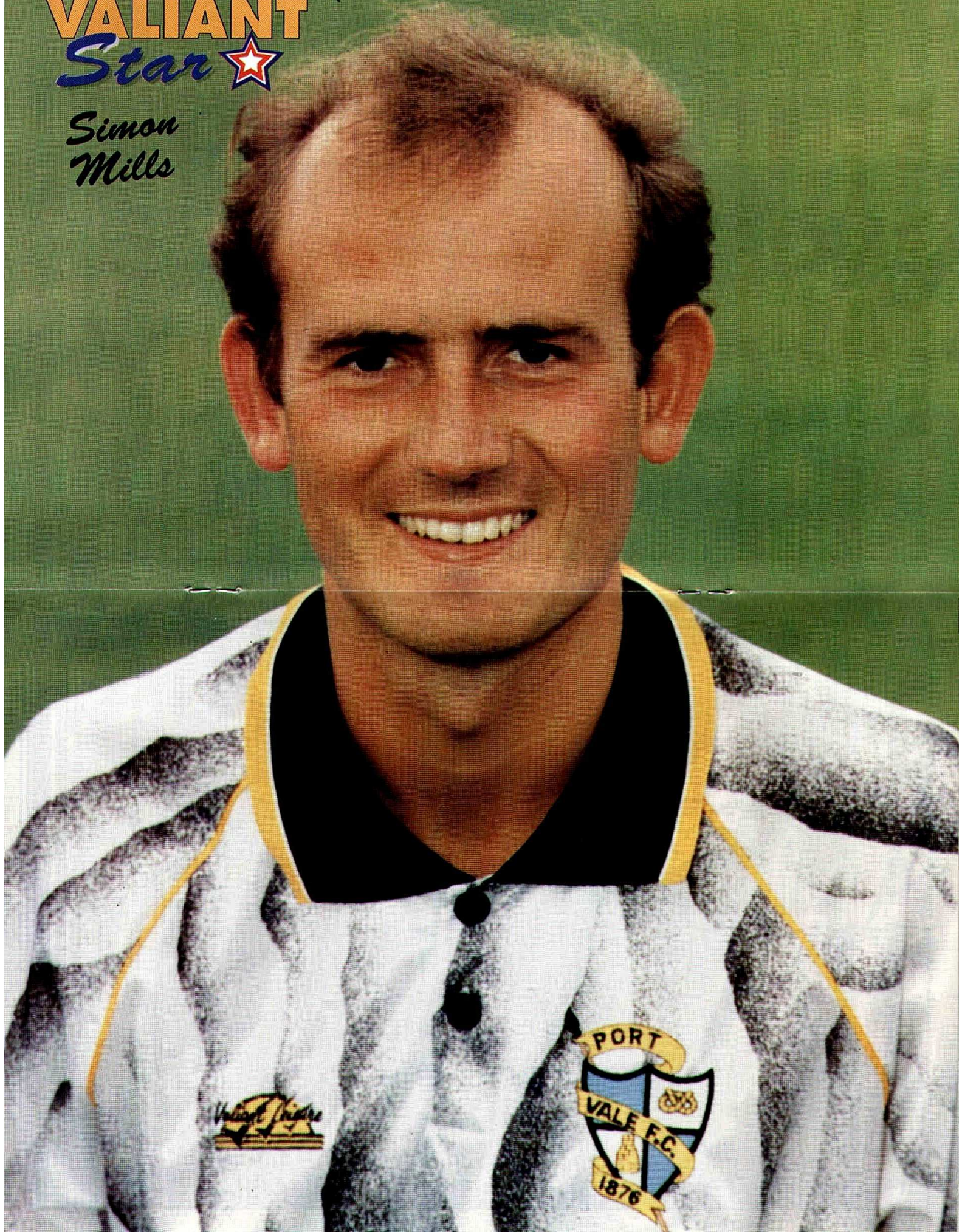
** Simon is featured on the centre spread of today's programme - and you can read more about the Vale's favourite No.2 on page 18 of your matchday magazine.*

SIMON'S PLAYING RECORD

Club	Apps	Goals
Sheffield W.	6	-
York	126	9
Port Vale	177	7
Total	309	16

VALIANT
Star 

*Simon
Mills*



AWAY FROM *the Game*

Simon was a pupil at Limsfield Middle and Hinde House High schools in Sheffield, and whilst a teenager he enjoyed taking part in athletics as well as playing football whenever and wherever he could.

Influenced by his parents, he simply loved kicking a ball around and was often seen playing with his friends on any strip of land which was basically flat and could be classed as a soccer pitch, capable of allowing a group of lads space to run around and enjoy themselves.

On leaving school Simon was successful with his trials with Sheffield Wednesday, the team he had supported as a lad, and he initially joined the Hillsborough ground staff as a 16 year-old, turning professional on his 18th birthday, when the current boss of the Republic of Ireland, Jack Charlton, was manager of Wednesday.

His most memorable moment so far in his career was the day he made his first team debut (as sub) for the 'Owls' against Charlton Athletic in January 1983, when a near 12,000 crowd witnessed a really cracking encounter which Wednesday finished up winning 5-4. Recalled Simon: "That was some game. It was a ding-dong affair and one I'll never forget, obviously because it was my baptism into bigtime football, but moreso because of that incredible scoreline."

Simon's first full game followed against Southend in the F.A. Cup later that month, but thereafter he was given just four more outings before leaving Wednesday for York.

Then after moving from York to the Vale, at long last Simon finally got married to his fiancée, Mandy.

The wedding ceremony actually took place during those crucial promotion play-off games at the end of the 1988-89 season although the happy couple did delay their honeymoon until the Vale had reached Division Two. He couldn't miss that party - could he?

The Mills's now live in Bradway, Sheffield, and consequently he commutes daily from home to Vale Park.

".....but it's a nice enough journey" said Simon. "And I don't mind it at all, especially if the weather is right."

Outside the game Simon enjoys playing golf and snooker - and he also likes to go horse racing, although he doesn't get to the trackside as often as he would like. The TV keeps him informed however.

Asked what he would like to see improved in football,



Simon answered without hesitation: "Referees" - and that I suppose goes for a lot of people, especially with what has taken place recently regarding these professional fouls!

In his leisure time Simon drives around in his Montego car; he loves English food and when he chooses to watch TV, he tunes in on most sports programmes (including racing) and makes a point of taking in Only Fools and Horses.

The best country he has visited so far has been America and when asked what he would do if he was to win £1 million, Simon smiled and said: "Buy back Darren Beckford and have a designer row of wigs with what was left!"

I wonder who'd they be for?



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ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

With Tony Matthews.

In the mid 1920's the Vale seemingly loved to finish up in 8th position in the Second Division. They, in fact, occupied this spot in three successive seasons: 1924-25, 1925-26 and 1926-27 - and then in 1927-28 they took ninth place.

After ending the 1923-24 campaign in 16th place (out of 22) amassing only 38 points out of a possible 84, they were desperately keen to do better in 1924-25 and to all intents and purposes they did, improving their position 100 per-cent, moving up eight places, and totalling 42 points, an average of one a game.

The same thing applied the next season when both the management and players went out with the commitment that they must try and do better than they had done the previous year. But again the team finished eighth, with two more points in the bag from the same number of games.

Could it a hat-trick one asked, and it certainly was, for in 1926-27 the Vale once more claimed eighth place in Division Two, adding one extra point to their tally from the previous term.

It was quite amazing how the form repeated itself in those three campaigns, and here are those respective sets of statistics for the period 1924 to 1927:

Season	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
1924-25	42	17	8	17	48	56	42
1925-26	42	19	6	17	79	69	44
1926-27	42	16	13	13	88	78	45
Totals	126	52	27	47	215	203	131

At home the Vale did exceedingly well, collecting a total of 38 victories from 63 starts, losing only 12 times in front of their own supporters.

Indeed the crowds who flocked to see the Valiants' home fixtures were often treated to some terrific matches with the goals flowing merrily. Exactly 200 were scored by the Vale and their opponents in the tussles which took place.

Perhaps on reflection it was Vale's home record which kept them up in the top half of the table, because away from the Potteries they didn't do all that well.

From their 63 trips they managed only 14 wins and 14 draws, losing out 35 times in all. Goals, too, were hard to come by in general and in those three seasons Vale netted just 78 on their travels whilst conceding a total of 140.

Goals, however, have been the life and soul of so many clubs in the Football League - and we all know that it's goals which win matches.

The Vale's best ever season in terms of 'goals scored' came in 1958-59 when 110 found their way into opponents' nets - a marvellous return.

The Fourth Division championship was won that season and at Vale Park the faithful supporters certainly got their monies worth when 92 goals were recorded, 60 by the Vale.

Leading marksman that season was Stan Steele who netted 23 times. He and fellow striker Albert Leake, were the only ever-presents in then side.

Steele, in fact, had three spells with the Vale: February 1954 to March 1961, July 1961 to July 1965 and January 1968 to May 1968, when he retired to become a soccer coach at Keele University.

He was a fine marksman and all told notched 90 League goals for the Valiants in 337 appearances, 67 coming in his first spell (185 games) and 23 in his second.



Stan Steele

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As the newly appointed ground director it was obviously a grave cause of concern to me to see the problems encountered by the introduction of our membership scheme for the Lorne Street side of the ground. We had carried out the policy in the genuine belief that it would benefit all concerned in enabling fans to enter the stadium more quickly, but the experience of the first two games proved this not to be the case.

We were faced with the unacceptable position of having far stretching queues on the non-member Hamil Lorne Street side and no queues on the membership Bycars Lorne Street. Further evidence of the problem was the fact that on a 6-7,000 gate we were only some 100 away from capacity in the Hamil Lorne street.

Consequently myself and my fellow directors felt that some urgent action was needed and after a meeting involving the Police and the club Chairman, we all decided that it would be in everyone's interests to uplift the membership requirement in the Bycars Lorne Street.

However, we do sympathise with the supporters who bought their memberships in all good faith and as a token of our concern we have decided to extend their memberships for a further twelve months.

We remain convinced that this scheme could have worked if we would have received improved response to membership, but we are more than conscious that our first and foremost duty is to the wishes of our supporters.

On a personal note, I was absolutely delighted to be re-elected to the board, along with fellow director, Don McGrath, at the Club's Annual General Meeting on Thursday 29th August. For a dedicated supporter like myself it is an honour and privilege to be

associated with the club in this way, and I am extremely proud to be a member of a board of directors who are an extremely hard working, capable and dedicated band of men. I feel we are fortunate to have a board of directors who really are genuine supporters of the club and not just in it for self esteem.

After the A.G.M. it was pleasant to have a chat with fellow lifelong Vale fan and good pal of mine, Ken Burgess, and I was pleased that Ken took it on board to point out the problems that had been experienced in the Railway Paddock toilets during the Barnsley game.

Our stadium manager Bill Lodey then responded immediately and solved the problem. I am grateful to Ken for pointing out this to us, and would ask any supporter who has any observations on the stadium to either point it out to me as I cruise around the stadium on my 'tour of duty' before first team games or please write to me at the football club.

Continuing on this theme we were pleasantly surprised at the response we had to our request to season ticket holders who wished to join a liaison committee with the football club. We feel that this is an exceptionally important area which we wish to expand on and in the near future we will be writing to you all who responded, outlining our plans for the committee. In the meantime, our sincere thanks for your interest.

In conclusion, I would like, on behalf of the board, to extend a very warm welcome to Vale Park to our new secretary, John Westmancoat.

John is in the wake of a very difficult act to follow in Andrew Waterhouse, but he is an extremely experienced Football Administrator and we feel we are indeed fortunate to capture a man

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With

**Ian
McPherson**

of his calibre. In line with the board's policy of building for the future we are also appointing a young assistant who can be groomed by John to eventually become the club's secretary.

To all our supporters a sincere thank you for your continued support.



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VALIANTS *In Action*

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It finished all square last Saturday - the Vale 1 (Simon Mills) Bristol City 1 (Nicky Morgan) - but there was a fair bit of action during the course of the game as our pictures show: (1) Vale's Mark Grew in tremendous form; (2) Keith Houchen thwarted by the City 'keeper and (3) Darren Hughes surging towards goal.

OUR NEXT VISITORS TO Vale Park



Southend United visit Vale Park on 21st of this month - and it will be the first time the 'Shrimpers' have met us in a Second Division game.

The last clash between us took place in May 1989 (Div.3) when, in front of a 4,516 crowd on this ground, goals by Ron Futcher and Andy Porter saw the Vale home 2-0 - on their way to winning promotion via the play-offs.

Since that day while we have established ourselves in Division Two, Southend have played one season in Division 4 (1989-90) and then after gaining promotion at the first attempt, they climbed up to join the Vale in Division Two at the end of last season.

Manager David Webb has done great things at Roots Hall, on limited resources, and there is already a buzz at the club.

Southend's first ever game in the Second



Brett Angell

Division saw them draw 1-1 at home with Bristol City on the opening day of the season, and then they showed their mettle by winning 2-1 at Derby in the first away fixture.

So one can draw the conclusion that they will be a difficult side to beat.

Last season they scored plenty of goals (67 in the League) and their strike-force is made up of Brett Angell, Andy Ansah and Ian Benjamin, who between them claimed 37 of Southend's Third Division tally. Also willing and able to hit the target are David Martin and Steve Tilson, and they will be backed all the way by new signing Andy Sussex (from Crewe) who notched 11 League goals for the 'Alex' in 1990-91. Although in truth, anyone who gets within range of the framework is likely to claim a goal!

It will be an interesting contest - and a match which should feature a few goals.

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WHO'S WHO of Port Vale

By Phil Sherwin

A - Z OF WHO DID WHAT, WHERE, HOW AND WHEN.

FARRELL, Peter 1978-82

Skilful midfield player who was the Vale's record signing for over 10 years after having cost the club £40,000 from Bury in November 1978. He made his debut in a 1-0 win at Rochdale and then scored penalties in each of his first two home games, against Crewe and Stockport, but lost the job after missing the next two! He was a regular during the 1979-80 season, helping the Vale avoid re-election, but he began to lose his place midway through the following campaign as the Vale again struggled. After only managing two appearances in 1981-82 he was released by the club and joined Rochdale on a free transfer. He later played for Crewe, had a spell in Sweden, returned with Hamilton Academicals and then Barrow and last month he joined Fleetwood.

Vale League record: Apps. 85+4 sub. Goals 10 (2 pens).

FARRINGTON, Fred 1892-94

Went down in history as the Vale's first League captain, being appointed prior to the 1892-93 season, combining his playing duties with being headmaster at Norton school. Despite being a half-back, he scored twice in the club's first League win, 4-1 against Crewe and only missed four games that season, also having a spell in goal for the second-half of the game against Sheffield United when he conceded five goals in our disastrous 10-0 defeat! The following season Fred only made three appearances and was forced to retire at the end of that campaign through ill-health.

Vale League record: Apps. 21 Goals 3

FELTON, Robert E. 1938-39

Joined the Vale from Everton in the summer of 1938. A full-back he made his debut in a 1-0 defeat against Clapton Orient in September 1938, but only managed a further nine appearances that season, at the end of which he was called up in readiness for the second World War. He returned to play a few wartime games in 1945 and also played in the F.A. Cup competition in 1945-46. In May 1946

he was transferred to Crystal Palace, but played only one game for them before dropping out of League Football.

Vale League record: Apps. 10 Goals nil

FERN, Tom 1924-27

Experienced goalkeeper also secured from Everton in July 1924 when the Vale were in Division Two. He made his debut on the opening day of that season (1924-25) in a 3-1 home defeat by Wolves but did well enough to retain his place in the side, only missing five games all season despite an early finish after being knocked unconscious in trying to prevent a Hull goal in April 1925. He was back to his best in 1925-26, making 39 appearances as the Vale finished in 8th place in the table, but a bad injury sustained against Chelsea early in 1926-27 eventually led to him being forced to give up the game.

Vale League record: Apps. 87 Goals nil

FIDLER, Dennis 1960-62

Left-winger signed from Everton reserves in July 1960 and he made an impressive start with a goal on his debut for the Vale at Bury, although he finished up on the losing side, 3-1. He also scored in his next two games against Shrewsbury and Chesterfield which yielded home wins to the tune of 4-1 and 7-1 (the last time the Vale scored seven) and this no doubt helped Dennis to become an instant regular. He finished the season with 11 goals in just 34 games but after a poor start to the 1961-62 season he was left out of the team and subsequently released.

Vale League record: Apps. 38 Goals 12

FINLAY Arthur 1921-22

Mainly a reserve team player, who was called up for the first eleven just once - in October 1921 - as a left-winger against South Shields, a game which ended in a 1-1 draw. Afterwards Arthur returned to the second XI and was released by the club at the end of the season.

Vale League record: Apps. one Goals nil

FINNEY, Kevin 1987-91

Local youngster who developed into a skilful midfielder after originally joining the Vale as a schoolboy and he



first shot to prominence by scoring a hat-trick in a 7-1 victory over Northampton Town in an F.A. Youth cup tie in December 1985. He turned professional in the summer of 1987 at the age of 17, a year earlier than the usual progress of youngsters, and after coming on as 'sub' at Bristol City in August 1987 he made his full debut against Bury two months later. He scored his first goal in the last five minutes of an F.A. Cup tie against Macclesfield that triggered the club off on a three year run of success. Unfortunately Kevin couldn't hold down a regular first team place, usually deputising for Ray Walker, but he did play up front in a couple of games in May 1989, scoring at Fulham. Last season he only managed one Rumbelows League Cup outing and had a free transfer in May 1991, since joining Lincoln City.

Vale League record: Apps. 20+17 sub. Goals one.

FIRTH, Robert Edgar 1921-22

Right-winger signed from Nottingham Forest in the summer of 1921, he made his debut for the Vale on the opening day of that same season - a 2-1 defeat at Leeds United - and went on to score 4 goals in 39 games. Despite being a regular performer he was surprisingly released at the end of the 1921-22 campaign, amongst a clear out, and later teamed up with Southend United.

Vale League record: Apps. 39 Goals 4

LETTERS To The Vale



Dear Sir,

I have been a Valiants' supporter since the mid 80's, when I lived in the U.K. for a few years, and during this time I visited Bycars Road at Vale Park quite regularly. John Rudge was in charge and I still fondly remember players such as Robbie Earle, Chris Pearce and Ally Brown.

Last season's 15th position in Division Two was very creditable indeed. All the best of luck to John and the team for this 1991-92 campaign...aim for Division One lads.

Pity Robbie was sold but £800,000 is nice to have in the kitty.

Hugo Klerk, Avonwold Road, Saxonwold, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Dear Sir,

Can anyone help me at all?

I am seeking a few old Port Vale programmes from the fifties and early sixties, to fill up the holes in my collection. I am particularly interested in two which would complete season 1953-54. They are the away games at Bradford City on 7th April 1954, and at home to Bradford Park Avenue on 7th September.

If anyone can help, I would be very much obliged. Please write to me at this address:

M. S. Butler,
7 School Lane,
Lea Marston,
Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands.

Dear Sir,

A big thank you to everyone at Vale Park who took the trouble last Saturday of looking after the visiting supporters from Bristol City. We were treated exceptionally well - and at no time did we ever feel pushed or uneasy. The stewards were quite marvellous towards us and I for one will certainly return to the ground in the future. Thank you again.

F.G.J. Kelly,
Banners Gate Road,
Bristol,
Avon.

Dear Sir,

I went along to Molineux on Tuesday night. I had not been to the Wolves ground before and consequently I made one big effort to get there on this occasion as it was only a short drive down the motorway.

When I got there I was amazed at what a depressing ground Molineux is.

It is a complete disgrace - one of the worst grounds I have seen for a long time. There are better stadiums at non-League level. And why oh why can't the away supporters stand in that section which is closed? There must have been over 1,700 Vale followers crammed in to the corner of the South Bank. It was a very warm night and in truth, no-one there was very comfortable. But the result was right in the end - pity the ground isn't right as well!

Jerry Greenaway, Crewe Road, Alsager, Staffs.

Dear Sir,

Congratulations to those people who are involved in the production, presentation and printing of this season's Vale programme. It is quite superb and excellent value for money. Over the last 25 years I have collected several programmes of different clubs, mainly from games I have attended. Many of them have been crammed full with adverts and pictures, with very little reading. I was very impressed when I purchased a copy of the Vale v. Bristol City matchday magazine last week. For £1.00 it was superb value for money.

Take a bow everyone who put the work in on the programme.

Very impressed indeed,

John Fisher
George Street,
Newcastle,
Staffs.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to thank the person responsible who returned a credit card to my bank after I had dropped it during last week's game against Bristol City. During the course of the first half, I had cause to go into my wallet to get something out, and unknowing to me at the time, I obviously dropped a card on the floor.

On the Tuesday morning I received a call from my bank, stating that my card had been sent there from the Stoke-on-Trent area, but no name of the 'finder' was disclosed.

Thank you who ever you are, I appreciate it what you did.

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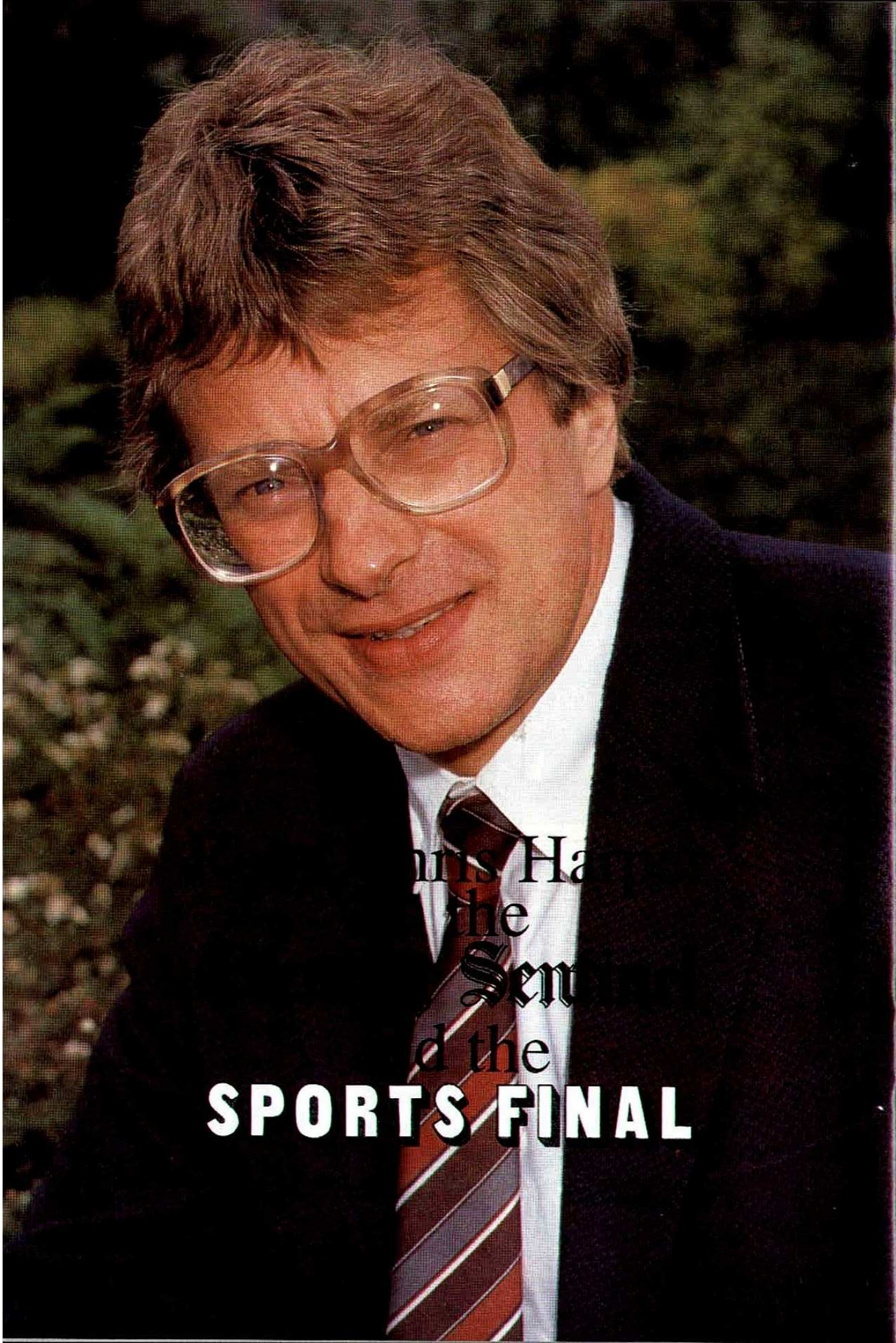
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3	DARREN HUGHES
4	RAY WALKER
5	NEIL ASPIN
6	DEAN GLOVER
7	ANDY PORTER
8	ROBIN VAN DER LAAN
9	KEITH HOUCHEN
10	MARTIN FOYLE
11	JOHN JEFFERS
12	PETER SWAN
14	KEVIN KENT

SWINDON

Colours:- Red shirts, White shorts

FRASER DIGBY	1
TOM JONES	2
ADRIAN VIVEASH	3
GLENN HODDLE	4
COLIN CALDERWOOD	5
SHAUN TAYLOR	6
MICKY HAZARD	7
DUNCAN SHEARER	8
STEVE WHITE	9
ROSS MACLAREN	10
DAVID MITCHELL	11
MARTIN LING	12
NESTOR LORENZO	14

MATCH Officials

Referee:

Mr. L. R. Dilkes (Mossley, Lancs.).
Lawrence Dilkes, 42, is a Personnel Manager, married with one daughter (Catherine). He started refereeing in 1971-72 season and reached the Football League List in 1983-84. His hobbies include most sports, Youth Development, training and Referee coaching. He is currently Chairman of the Stalybridge & Hyde Referees Association.

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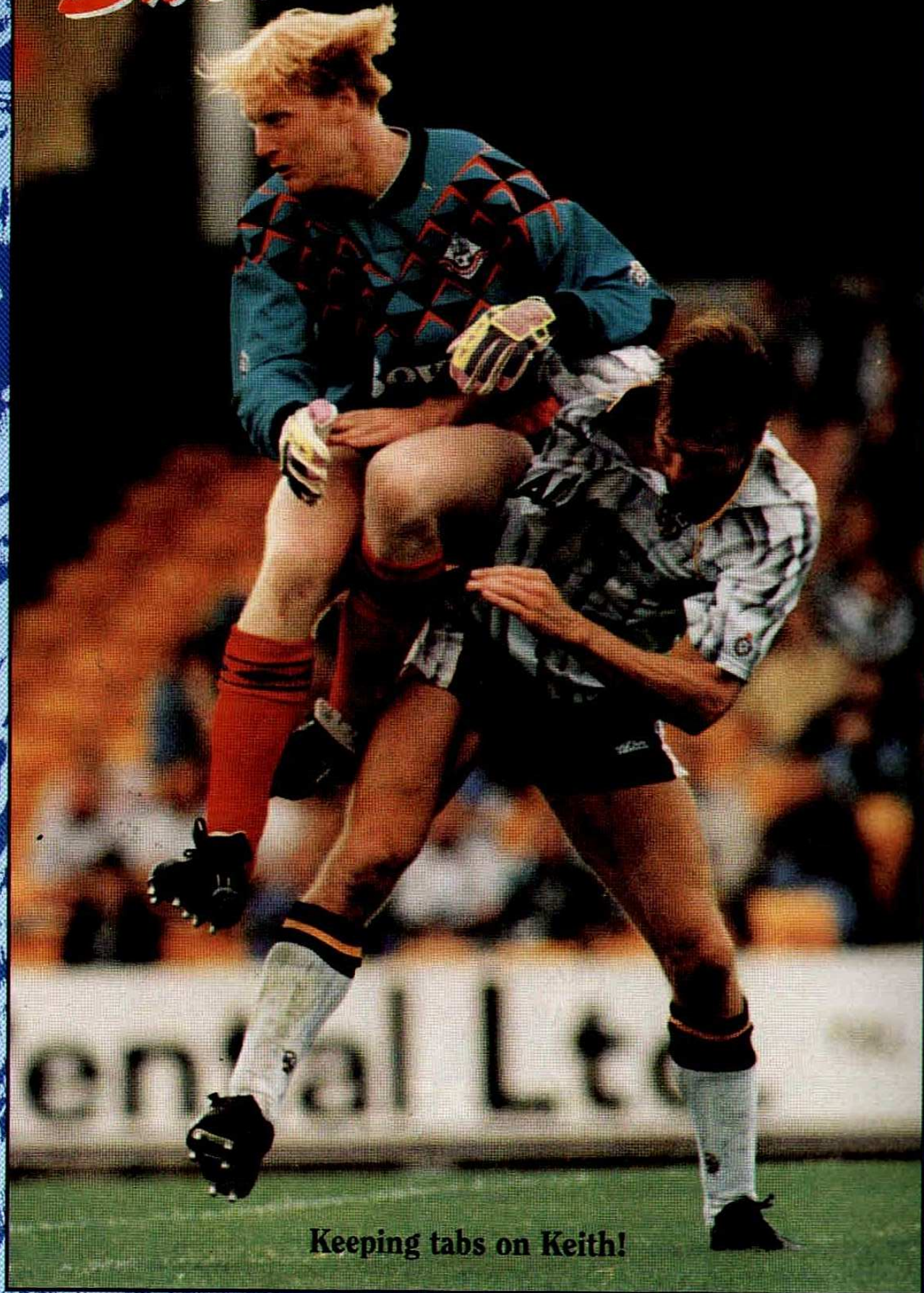
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TODAY'S Mascot



Today's mascot is David Woakes from Clayton, Newcastle, who will be 10 on Wednesday. David goes to Friarswood school, Newcastle, his hobby is football and his favourite Vale players are Darren Hughes and Mark Grew.

PARTING *Shot...*



Keeping tabs on Keith!