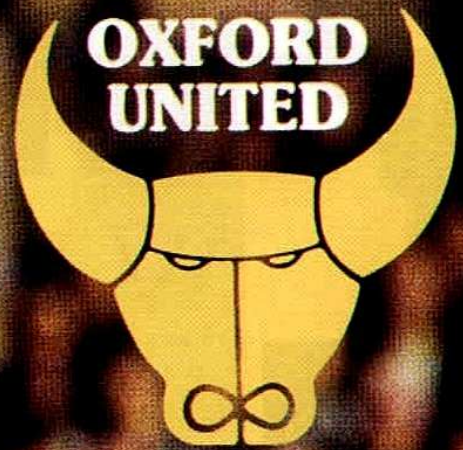




**OXFORD
UNITED**



Official Programme:

£1.20



**BARCLAYS
LEAGUE**

DIVISION ONE

versus

SWINDON TOWN

Saturday, January 9, 1993

Kick-off 3.00pm

Official Club and
Match Sponsor

UNIPART





Memos from the MANOR...from Roy Grant

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Welcome to the Manor for what is always one of the most eagerly awaited games of the season.

Swindon play a very attractive style of football as indeed do United so today's game should be a good spectacle with, hopefully, a few goals - certainly a repeat of last season's result would go down well!

We are currently in a busy spell of matches. After the Christmas games we had the tough FA Cup tie at Swansea followed by today's 'derby' and then, on Tuesday, we face the replay with the Swans and, if we win, a possible fourth round tie with Grimsby on January 23. This would cause a postponement of our League game with the Mariners on February 13 as it is fifth round day and one of the two sides would, therefore, be in it.

At present we have no date for the Peterborough match which was called off in early December. Finally on fixtures, another possible change is that our home game with Derby County on February 27 could well be moved back a day to the Sunday to allow us a fourth televised game this season following our games at Swindon, Derby and at home to Leicester. Keep your eyes peeled for these possible changes.

I trust that all supporters have had a very happy-new year and will be keen to see their side start the new year's League fixtures with three points so please don't forget ...Come on you Yellows.

HALF-TIME TEN

- 1 Which club plays at Priestfield Stadium?
- 2 Who is the club captain who missed his side's 1992 Rumbelows League Cup defeat through injury?
- 3 Which Oxford loan player replaced answer 2 in the Final?
- 4 Who was the Manchester United loan 'keeper who played in the 1990 Cup Final?
- 5 Which current United player has scored over 40 League goals for United in his career?
- 6 Ray Wilkins has played football in four countries - England, Italy and which others?
- 7 Who was the Oxford manager prior to Mark Lawrenson?
- 8 Who scored the Second Division play-off winner at Wembley last season?
- 9 Which full back was on the books of all four of the big North West clubs?
- 10 Which player was Swindon's leading scorer last season?

Answers on page 7

JOEY WINS 'MATCH' AWARD

We have recently been informed that Joey Beauchamp was the Matchman of the Month for November based on marks awarded in Match Magazine.

Joey averaged 8.00 per game and beat off the challenges of Barnsley's Wayne Biggins, Bristol City's Andrew Cole and Perry Suckling of Watford.

BIRMINGHAM BRING MOST FANS

The statistics pages of today's programme show that our largest crowd at the Manor so far this season was 9,290 at our last match against Newcastle United.

With attendances at St James' Park averaging a near capacity 28,851 it is perhaps surprising to note that the visitors were unable to sell their full allocation of tickets for the all-ticket fixture despite having their tickets sent at the end of October!

Up to today the top three supported teams to visit the Manor this season have been Birmingham City (2,926), Bristol Rovers (2,891) and Wolverhampton Wanderers (2,672).

For the statistically minded we will print a full breakdown of the number of visiting supporters at each match in Tuesday night's programme.

Front Cover

Nick Cusack, in action against Newcastle.
Nick put United ahead in the FA Cup at Swansea last Saturday

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

The public address system fitted at the ground has a high pitched tone designed to attract the attention of supporters for the purpose of giving out an emergency message. Should you hear the tone at any time please listen carefully.

G

ood afternoon and a very warm welcome to one of our most eagerly awaited fixtures of the season.

I'd especially like to welcome Glenn Hoddle and John Gorman as I have a very high regard for the way they insist the game is played at Swindon.

We've had some tremendous tussles over the last few years and I know that everyone looks forward to the special 'derby' spirit that plays a part in all these games.

If it's anything like last season's 5-3 result the game's bound to be a great one to watch.

All local derbies are special and very important to both sets of supporters. But for us the most

important thing is picking up the three points.

Swindon have been conceding a lot of goals of late but have been unlucky with results. Both Mossy and myself watched them at QPR on Monday and, frankly, the 3-0 defeat was not a true reflection of the overall game.

Turning to ourselves, at the end of today we'll have played exactly half our matches. We've lost only five games, which is satisfying, but what's less satisfying is that we've drawn too many games. However, the division is still very tight and, if we can get a few more wins in the bag over this middle period of the season, there's no reason why we can't make an impact at the top end of the table by April.

The tightness of the division reflects the fact that so many teams are trying to play good football this season. I've seen some great matches, both live and on TV, that have been a real credit to the division. And I'm very pleased to say that both Oxford and Swindon have played their full part in making Division One as lively, competitive and attractive to watch as it is. However, playing good football is only part of the story - the bottom line is that we have to pick up points.

Strangely enough, our last three away matches have seen us performing below our best but returning home with three 1-1 draws. On each occasion we've gone in front but have had to dig deep to ensure we came away with something from the matches. Swansea City in the FA Cup was a game in point. I won't go into it too deeply here as I'll cover the game in detail in my notes in midweek. But we had to scrap for long periods of the game and did well to get a result.

To finish my notes I'll give you my new year's resolution. It's quite simple. I want my team to continue to play good football and I'm sure that's what we'll see today. I hope that there's no trouble between the fans and that everyone just supports their team and lets the game do the talking. That way we can ensure that football is the winner.

In closing I'd like to give a special welcome to the children from Chailey Heritage school in Sussex. Whilst I was a player at Brighton I popped in there from time to time over the years and it's great to see them here at the Manor today.

To them, and to everyone, welcome - enjoy yourselves and get behind your team!



In the

HOT SEAT

WHO'S WHO at The Manor

Ground: Manor Ground,
London Road,
Headington,
Oxford, OX3 7RS

Telephone: 0865 61503

Fax: 0865 741820

Clubcall: 0898 121029

President: The Duke of Marlborough

Directors: K.A. Cox (Managing),
T.J. Midgley, (Environmental),
D.M. Clitberoe,
P.L. Lowe

Club Secretary: Mick Brown

Manager: Brian Horton

General Manager: Maurice Evans

First Team Coach: David Moss

Reserve Team Coach: Steve McClaren

Physiotherapist: John Clinkard MCSP

Club Doctor: Dr. G.E. Sacks MRCCGP

Youth Development Officer: Malcolm Elias

Youth, School and Community Officer: Peter Rhoades-Brown

Stadium Manager: Mick Moore

Ticket Off. Manager: Roy Grant

Marketing Manager: Ross Fenton

Chaplain: The Rev. M. Chantry

HONOURS

1962 Elected to Football League

1964-65 Division Four promotion (fourth)

1967-68 Division Three Champions

1983-84 Division Three Champions

1984-85 Division Two Champions

1985-86 Milk Cup Winners

The views expressed by individual contributors in this programme are not necessarily the views of Oxford United but of the writer concerned.

Unipart Shocks.

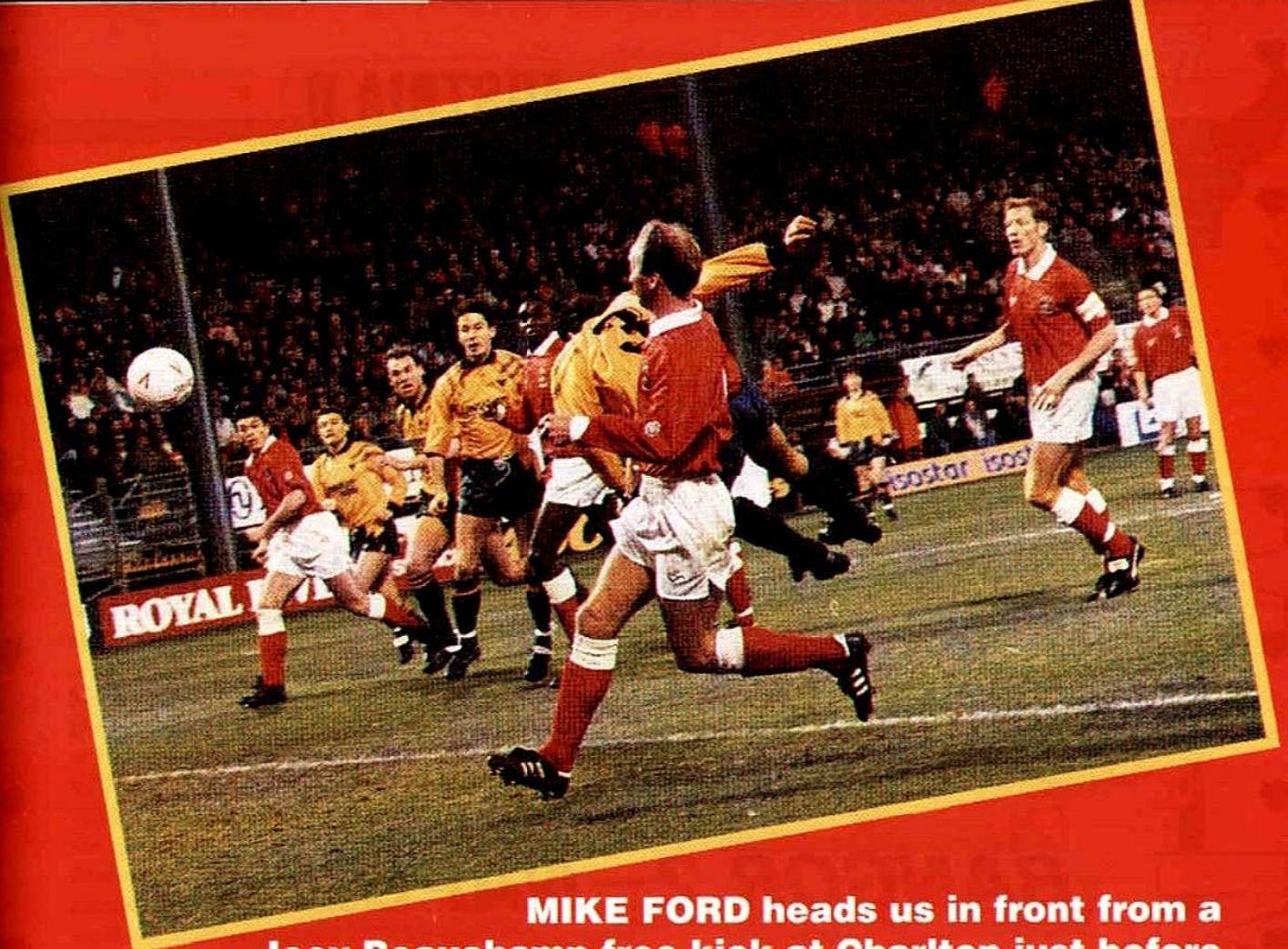


**WOULD TAKE THE
BOUNCE OUT OF
GLENN HODDLE**

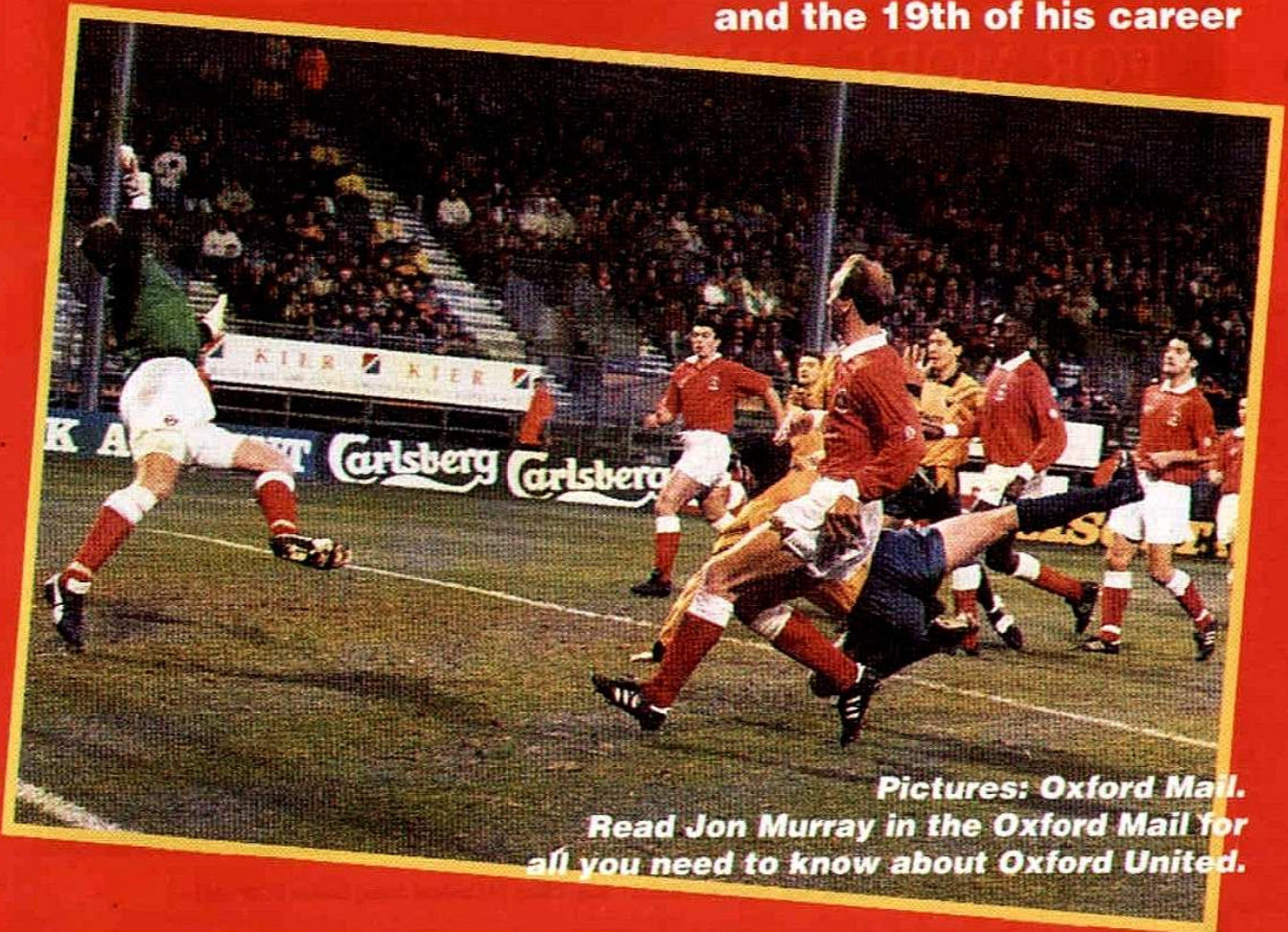
(WHATEVER CAR HE DRIVES)

UNIPART
=====

Part of your life.



MIKE FORD heads us in front from a **Joey Beauchamp** free kick at **Charlton** just before **Christmas**. The goal was **Mike's** first of the season and the **19th** of his career



Pictures: Oxford Mail.
Read Jon Murray in the Oxford Mail for
all you need to know about Oxford United.

FAROE ISLES 1, AUSTRIA 0.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1990

USA 1, ENGLAND 0.

WORLD CUP FINALS 1950

WEST GERMANY 1 ALGERIA 2

WORLD CUP FINALS 1982

Arbroath 36, Bon Accord 0.

SCOTTISH CUP 1885

ARGENTINA...0 CAMEROON...1

WORLD CUP FINALS 1990

BANGOR 2 - NAPOLI 0

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS CUP 1963

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More Moments

RESERVES AND TEAM STATISTICS

	League	Total	Goals
ALLEN, Chris	4	4	2
BAYLISS, Gary	1	1	-
BEAUCHAMP, Joey	1	1	-
COLLINS, David	13	13	1
CUSACK, Nick	1	1	-
DIDCOCK, Tristan	14+1	14+1	1
DRUCE, Mark	9+1	9+1	-
FORD, Robert	6+2	6+2	-
HOLMES, Keith	9+5	9+5	3
JACKSON, Darren	15+1	15+1	-
KEE, Paul	6	6	-
KEEBLE, Matthew	17	17	4
LEWIS, Mickey	1	1	-
McCLAREN, Steve	3	3	1
MUTCHELL, Robert	17	17	1
NARBETT, Jon	13	13	1
PHILLIPS, Les	6	6	-
REECE, Paul	1	1	-
ROBINSON, Les	12	12	2
TAVINOR, Steve	3+2	3+2	-
VEYSEY, Ken	9	9	-
WALLBRIDGE, Andrew	14	14	-
WANLESS, Paul	12	12	4

Up to January 5, 1993

FA CUP ARRANGEMENTS

Our FA Cup replay against Swansea City will be all pay and normal League prices will apply.

All cup credits on season tickets have now been used and supporters will need to pay for entry. Season ticket holders can use their cards as a membership card on the turnstiles for entry to the terraces. If seats are required then holders' seats will be held until 5.00pm today, obtainable from the Ticket Office. From Monday morning they will be on general sale. Season ticket holders are reminded that they cannot buy seats at the turnstiles.

SUDDEN-DEATH SPOT KICKS ?

Should Tuesday night's replay be level at the end of 90 minutes then extra time will be played. If, after the two, 15-minute periods, the score is still level the tie will be decided by penalty kicks. Both teams will take five kicks

alternately and, if penalty goals are still level after five kicks, then the penalties will continue until one side has scored more than the other.

FAR AWAY SUPPORTERS

Oxford United welcomes its contacts with Colin Bishop and everyone at the Oxford United Down Under Supporters' Club. May we wish you all a happy, healthy and successful year in 1993. Australia is a far outpost of the club's support. Do supporters know of any others?

CAN YOU HELP FIND JACK'S MEDAL?

Would supporters, especially those in the Headington area, please keep an eye out for a bronze medal. A medal belonging to Jack Sawyer and awarded in the 1930s was stolen in a recent burglary in Headington. It is of great sentimental value to the family and if anyone knows of its whereabouts could they please contact Roy Grant at Oxford United.

Matchday Programme

Editor: Roy Grant
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ENGLAND TICKETS

Oxford United members and season ticket holders can order match tickets for England's forthcoming World Cup matches through the club. If you require tickets for the games against San Marino (February 17) or Holland (April 28) both with 8pm kick offs then please send a cheque and stamped addressed envelope (no credit cards) to the Oxford United Ticket Office. The prices for both games are: Olympic Gallery - £40 and £38; £26, £22, £17 and £12 (fence view); Family Enclosure - Adult, £17 and £12 adult, Junior £8.50 and £6.

Applications for both games should be with the Ticket Office by Monday, January 18. Tickets for the Holland game cannot be guaranteed.

Answers: to HALF-TIME TEN
 1 Gillingham. 2 Stuart Pearce. 3 Brett Williams. 4 Les Sealey. 5 John Durrin. 6 France and Scotland. 7 Maurice Evans. 8 Mike Newell. 9 John Gidman. 10 Duncan Shearer.



Swindon



Back Row: John Moncur, Darren Hall, Fraser Digby, Paul Hunt, Nicky Hammond, David Bennett, Craig Maskell, Steve White. *Middle Row:* John Trollope (Youth Team Manager), Ross MacLaren, Nicky Summerbee, Colin Calderwood, Shaun Taylor, Adrian Viveash, David Mitchell, Andrew Thomson, Kevin Horlock, Andy Rowland (Reserve Team Coach). *Front Row:* Kevin Morris (Physiotherapist), Martin Ling, David Kerlake, Wayne O'Sullivan, Glenn Hoddle (Team Manager), John Gorman (Asst Manager), Paul Bodin, Shaun Close, Micky Hazard, Eddie Buckley (Kit Manager).

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Swindon make their second visit of the season to the Manor hoping to get their promotion challenge back on course.

Goals from Craig Maskell, Nick Summerbee and Austin Berkley gave the Robins a 3-1 victory when they came here for an Anglo-Italian Cup tie in September. At that time they were second in the First Division.

A later run of four successive League victories seemed to establish them as the only chief challengers to runaway leaders Newcastle but, since then, things have gone a bit awry.

Swindon have won only one of their last seven League matches and now have ground to make up.

One area in which they have continued to thrive, though, is in attack. With 18 goals at the turn of the year, Craig Maskell was one of the First Division's leading scorers. Though David Mitchell's personal goals output has slowed in recent weeks, he has been instrumental in creating the openings for many of his colleagues' goals.

Mitchell, who had scored

eight times by the end of 1992, has now established himself in English football after quite a few disappointments. An Australian international, he represented his country in the Seoul Olympics, David previously played for Glasgow Rangers, Eintracht Frankfurt and Feyenoord. Chelsea signed him in 1988 but he did not get a fair crack of the whip at Stamford Bridge so, after a brief loan spell at Newcastle, joined Swindon at the start of last season. It took him several months to settle but he spent the latter part of last term in the side, scoring eight goals.

Steve White, another striker, has become a permanent substitute this season. He opened his League career with Bristol Rovers in 1978, moving on to Luton the following year. After he had scored 19 times in 1981-82, he was transferred to Charlton but, one year later, was back with Bristol Rovers. Swindon signed him in 1986, since when he has averaged well over 15 goals per season.

Swindon often opt for a five-man midfield, these positions in recent weeks being filled by David Kerlake, Martin Ling, Mike Hazard, Nick Summerbee and Kevin Horlock.

Kerlake played for England at schoolboy, youth



CRAIG MASKELL is looking for his 100th goal in top class football at the Manor this afternoon. He hit his 99th last month and now has the chance of completing his ton in little more than four and a half years.

Craig opened his career with Southampton but it was not until he moved to Huddersfield in 1988 that he began to make his mark.

His League debut was for Saints at Birmingham in April 1986 but he made only occasional appearances over the next couple of years and so decided to drop down the divisions to sign for Huddersfield.

He met with immediate success at Leeds Road, leading their scoring list with 33 goals in his first season. That included his first hat-trick in a 6-0 victory over Bury. He went one better in March 1990, netting four times in a 5-1 win at Cardiff, and finished top scorer again, this time with 21 goals.

Reading signed him for £250,000 during the 1990 closed-season and he immediately formed an impressive striking partnership with Trevor Senior, scoring ten times.



STAR
MAN

n Town

Oxford's League Record against Swindon Town

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	18	3	12	3	23	21
Away	19	1	6	12	12	34
	37	4	18	15	35	55

and under 21 levels and opened his League career with Queens Park Rangers in 1985. Swindon signed him for £110,000 in 1989.

It was in 1983 that Ling won himself a place in the Exeter side and he initially joined Swindon in 1986. But on that occasion his stay was brief. Soon he was wearing a Southend shirt. He returned to Swindon on loan two seasons ago, completing the full transfer during the summer of 1991.

Hazard made his name with Spurs in the early '80s. Chelsea signed him for £300,000 in 1986 and he remained with them until linking with Portsmouth in 1990. He arrived at the County Ground two seasons ago.

Summerbee is a former Swindon trainee who emerged for first-team duty three seasons ago.

Horlock was a trainee with West Ham but did not get a chance in their first team. He moved to Swindon last summer and since then has been a regular member of the side, making his debut in September.

Paul Bodin and John Moncur are also in contention for midfield places. Bodin, who has 15 Welsh caps, returned for his second spell with the club during the early part of last season. He remained in the reserve teams with his first two clubs, Chelsea and Newport, but got his League chance with Cardiff in 1982. He rapidly played himself into the side but, in 1985, went out of League football to play for Bath City. In 1987 he returned to the fold with Newport but, within a few weeks, was on the move to Swindon. He left on a £350,000 transfer to Crystal Palace in 1991 and later, after a short loan spell with Newcastle, returned to Swindon.

Moncur was signed from Tottenham towards the end of last season after serving loan spells with Ipswich and Nottingham Forest. John developed in the youth team at White Hart Lane, making his First Division debut in 1987. He did not win a regular place in the Spurs' side but played League soccer during other loan spells with Doncaster, Cambridge, Bournemouth and Brentford.

Colin Calderwood, Glenn Hoddle and Shaun Taylor are likely to be filling the defensive positions.

Calderwood spent three seasons in the Mansfield side before linking with Swindon in 1985. Apart from absences caused by injuries, he has been a regular fixture in the side and is now fast approaching his 300th League appearance for the Robins.

Hoddle, who took over as Swindon's player-manager in 1990, enjoyed a glorious career as a midfielder player, starting with Tottenham. He was a member of their F.A. Cup winning teams of 1981 and 1982 and, after winning under 21 honours, played for the full England team on 53 occasions. Monaco signed him for £800,000 in 1987 but he returned to England to take up his new challenge with Swindon three years later.

Taylor was playing for Bideford when Exeter signed him and he played exactly 200 League games for the Grecians before transferring to Swindon.

Goalkeeper Nicky Hammond was a junior player with Arsenal and made three League appearances whilst on loan to Bristol Rovers before linking with Swindon in 1987. He enjoyed a long run in the side last season and for the past three months has been back in the side.

Form Guide

Roll-Call

Player	Previous Clubs	Int. Caps	Aps.	Gls.
GOALKEEPER				
Nicky Hammond	Arsenal, Bristol Rovers* Peterborough*, Aberdeen*	-	15	-
DEFENDERS				
Colin Calderwood	Mansfield	-	26	-
Glenn Hoddle	Tottenham, Monaco	England (53) England U-21 (12)	25	2
Shaun Taylor	Exeter	-	25	8
Adrian Viveach	-	-	1	-
Paul Hunt	-	-	1(1)	-
MIDFIELD				
David Kerslake	Q.P.R.	England U-21 (1)	23(1)	-
Martin Ling	Exeter, Swindon, Southend, Mansfield*	-	25	4
Mike Hazard	Tottenham, Chelsea, Portsmouth	-	24	2
John Moncur	Tottenham, Doncaster*, Cambridge*, Portsmouth*, Brentford*, Ipswich*, Nottm. For*	-	13(2)	1
Kevin Horlock	West Ham	-	12(1)	1
Nick Summerbee	-	-	19(2)	3
Paul Bodin	Chelsea, Newport, Cardiff, Bath, Newport, Swindon, Cry Palace, Newcastle*	Wales (15) Wales U-21(1)	14(1)	1
FORWARDS				
Craig Maskell	Southampton, Huddersfield, Reading	-	25	18
David Mitchell	Glasgow Rangers, Bintracht, Frankfurt, Feyenoord, Chelsea, Newcastle	Australia	23(1)	8
Steve White	Bristol Rovers, Charlton Luton, Bristol Rovers	-	1(16)	4

ALSO PLAYED: Fraser Digby 11 aps, Shaun Close 1(2) aps, Austin Barkley 1 ap, 1 gl, Wayne O'Sullivan 1 ap.
*Denoted played on loan Statistics to end of December

Won 9
Drawn 6
Lost 6
For 45
Against 36
Points 33
Position 9th

ACK... FLASHBACK... FLASHBACK... FLASHBACK... FLAS

If ever you are looking for a banker draw then this game is the one to go for as 12 of the 18 League games here at the Manor have ended with honours even.

The other six games have resulted in three wins for both Oxford and Swindon. It is the results for Oxford at the County Ground that makes United supporters so frustrated - just one win and six draws in the 19 games which includes this season's televised match. Our highlights in these derby matches were our double success in season 1972-73, a 5-0 home win in April 1982 and a 5-3 home win in last season's game here at the Manor.

The biggest crowd at the Manor for a Swindon game was the 18,193 who squeezed in here in September 1968 to witness Oxford defeat the then League Cup winners 1-0 in another game that is well remembered by older fans.

Figures, of course, can tell you anything you want and we can look back at just one home defeat since April 1979 and just twice since 1966. Our 3-1 success at the County Ground doubled the number of goals we had previously scored against the Robins - we had scored just a miserly three League goals in the previous 13 fixtures!

Two other pieces of trivia: one local player Peter Foley is United's leading scorer against Swindon with five goals, and this season's League crowd at Swindon was the second smallest (7,717) of all the previous 19 games at the County Ground.

- CONNECTIONS -

Connections between Oxford players and Swindon recently have been few and far between, with just Mark Jones playing for both clubs in the past few seasons. You need to go back into the 1960s and early 1970s before you can find any other connections.

Before I go on I wonder how many supporters can name all of the other four players to have appeared both at the Manor and the County Ground.

As mentioned above the most recent connection is **Mark Jones** who joined Oxford as a trainee and played nearly 160 matches for us in a variety of positions although in his earlier days he was a striker. A lot of his games were as substitute but he was always a very hard worker and very popular with the Oxford supporters as most local lads are. Mark made his debut in 1980 at home to Exeter City and was in and out of the side for the next six seasons until injury played a large part in his career and he was sold to Swindon in September 1986. He suffered a series of injuries at the County Ground but did eventually make a comeback before he was sold to Cardiff.

The other four connections were goalkeepers **Jim Barron** and **Owen Medlock**, full back **John Lloyd** and utility player **Ken Skeen**.

Jim Barron is making his second appearance this season in the *Connections*, and also played for Peterborough. He started his career as a

youngster with Wolves and went to Chelsea from there. He joined Oxford in the mid 1960s and became a very popular goalkeeper in his four years here before joining Nottingham Forest in 1970. Later on in his career he was transferred to Swindon and ended his playing career at Peterborough. Jim is now Ron Atkinson's assistant at Aston Villa.

Goalkeeper **Owen Medlock** started his career at Chelsea and in 1959 he joined Swindon. He had only ten months there before joining Oxford. Owen was our regular goalkeeper in our last two Southern League championship seasons and was goalkeeper for our opening League game in 1962 at Barrow. He played 23 games of that opening League season before being given a free transfer at the end of the season, and he joined non-League Chelmsford City.

Fullback **John Lloyd** was a Londoner who joined Swindon from school. He never played in their first team and joined Oxford in the 1960s, he became a fairly regular member of the side from 1966 through to 1969. When John left Oxford he joined Aldershot.

The final connection is **Ken Skeen** who started as a youngster at Swindon before being released and then being re-signed by the club. He made his League breakthrough at the County Ground as a 22 year old. He was transferred to Oxford as a right-winger, he

played everywhere, even part of one match in goal when Roy Burton was injured in a game. He left the Manor at the end of the 1973-74 season having played 270 games, 22 of them as substitute, and he scored 40 goals.

ODDS AND ENDS

	Average	Best	Lowest
HOME Crowds v Swindon Town	10,301	17,836	6,333
AWAY Crowds v Swindon Town	12,199	21,903	7,537
BEST Home Win 5-0 (07.04.82)	Away Win	3-1 (24.02.73)	
WORST Home Defeat 0-3 (29.01.65)	Away Defeat	0-4 (26.02.72)	



HUGHIE MCGROGAN

Where Are They Now?

Ten years after leaving the professional game at the early age of 25, Hughie, from Dumbarton, is now working for British Gas, based at the company's depot in Cowley.

Instead of laying on goals, the former winger who made his League debut three weeks before his 18th birthday in a 1-0 victory over Second Division leaders Manchester United, is now laying gas mains.

"I don't have anything to do with football now," he said from his home in Arcott. He and his wife Karen, from Launton near Bicester, have been married for 11 years and have a four year old daughter and 19 month old son.

"I'm well into family life. There isn't much time to get to the Manor and the only football I watch is on television," he added.

His career began with the chance to join Glasgow Celtic on schoolboy forms. But instead he chose Oxford where his progress took him to the verge of Scottish youth international honours and on to 101 League appearances. His total of 26 League and Cup

goals included a number of spectacular efforts and he had the ability turn on the magic from both wings. But his lack of consistency in a young team fighting relegation during the mid to late 70s restricted his outings.

He has every reason to remember United's opponents today, but surprisingly not as an Oxford player. Hughie has in mind a game against Swindon which occurred several months after he left the Manor. He was a Carlisle player when he travelled to the County Ground and made his final League appearance as a professional player.

"We lost 2-1 and I didn't play in the first team again," he said. "Not long after I left Oxford and signed for Carlisle the manager Martin Harvey was sacked and Bob Stokoe took over. I didn't fit into his plans and was eventually given a free transfer."

After writing to 17 clubs without success Hughie and Karen decided to return to Oxfordshire where Hughie played for Banbury United and Witney Town before spending two seasons as player-manager for Bicester Town.



PLAYING RECORD

	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls
1974-75	7-2	1	0	0	0	0	7-2	1
1975-76	6-6	2	0	0	1	0	7-6	2
1976-77	24-6	1	2	0	2	0	28-6	1
1977-78	27-5	2	0-1	0	3	2	30-6	4
1978-79	21-3	4	0	0	5	0	26-3	4
1979-80	16-3	3	1	0	0	0	17-3	3
TOTAL	101-25	3	1	0	0	0	17-3	3

Mike Cuerden



The previous Oxford-Swindon encounter that is featured today took place on Monday December 26, 1977, and attracted a Boxing Day crowd of 8,746.

Oxford were given the ideal start when Peter Foley punished Colin Prohett for a poor backpass by confidently rolling the ball into the empty net from an acute angle after rounding goalkeeper, Jimmy Allen. Seven minutes later it was Foley again who was left wheeling away in delight after scoring the second. Jason Seacole did the spadework by winning the ball in midfield, rounding John Trollope, and then sending in a fierce diagonal drive which Allen could only parry into the heart of the penalty area. Foley got there first, just ahead of John McLaughlin. Oxford's lead was increased in the 42nd minute when debutant Ian Stott found himself on the scoresheet. Billy Jeffrey's free kick was completely missed by goalkeeper Allen, and the tall defender poked home the loose ball. Oxford were home and dry - or so it seemed.

Just five minutes into the second half Swindon pulled one back when Jeffrey was dispossessed following a poor Stott pass. The ball was switched to David Moss, now Oxford coach, his cross was only half cleared by Colin Clarke, and from 25 yards Chris Kamara scored with a first time shot. A further 20 minutes elapsed before the visitors scored again. A high ball by McLaughlin dropped inside the penalty area without a defender meeting the ball and Kamara ran clear to score with a half-volley.

Six minutes later the scoreline turned full-circle when Chris Guthrie completed Swindon's amazing comeback. Guthrie was allowed a free header from the edge of the six yard box as he met Kamara's perfectly flighted cross, and the match finished 3-3.

Oxford United: Milkins, Fogg, Drysdale, Stott, Clarke, Jeffrey, McGrogan, Taylor, Foley, Seacole, Duncan. Sub (not used) Curran.

Swindon: Allen, McLaughlin, Trollope, Kamara, Aizlewood (Carter), Prohett, Moss, Stroud, Guthrie, McHale, Cunningham.

Our next home fixture is on Tuesday, January 12 when we welcome Swansea City to the Manor, kick-off 7.45pm. Nick Cusack's second goal against the Swans this season put us in front at the Vetch Field on Saturday but Frank Burrows' men forced an F.A. Cup third round replay thanks to Colin West's equaliser one minute later.

First choice goalkeeper Roger Freestone is now in his second season with Swansea following his move to Chelsea. The 24 year old has also served Newport, as well as Swindon and Hereford on loan, and made 42 League appearances last season.

The two full backs usually are Des Lyttle and Steve Jenkins. Lyttle was signed from Beazer Homes League club Worcester City in the summer after failing to make a first team appearance at his first club, Leicester City. Jenkins is a former trainee who won a regular place in the side last season.

Centre back Mark Harris is a former teammate of Garry Smart at Wokingham Town. Harris has also played for Crystal Palace and Burnley on loan. Alongside him, Keith Walker made his league debut for Stirling Albion in 1984 and has also had a spell with St Mirren before making his mark in the Swans' side two seasons ago.

Other defenders to look out for are Reuben Agboola and John Ford. Agboola (30) represented his native Nigeria in last season's African Nations Cup whereas Ford was signed from non-League Cradley.

At the heart of the midfield is experienced Russell Coughlin (32) who began his career with Manchester City and has since had spells with Blackburn, Carlisle, Plymouth, Blackpool and Shrewsbury (loan). Another midfielder is John Cornforth who was signed from Sunderland for £50,000 in 1991. Completing the midfield contenders are Andrew Legg, Jason Bowen and Paul Wimbleton. Legg was discovered in Welsh junior football and has been a regular for three and a half seasons. Bowen is another former trainee who has graduated to the senior side whereas Wimbleton moved to the club recently, his previous clubs include Portsmouth, Cardiff and Exeter.

The strike partnership recently has consisted of Colin West and Tony Cullen. West joined the club from West Brom in the summer. He made more than 100 appearances at Sunderland before spells at Watford, Glasgow Rangers, Sheffield Wednesday and then West Brom.

Cullen is another ex-Sunderland player who made his debut for the Rokerites in February 1989. Also in contention up front is Andy McFarlane.

McFarlane, who joined in the summer from Portsmouth, scored the winner earlier this season in the Coca-Cola Cup tie at Swansea.

The game is not all-ticket and is all pay with season ticket holders having to pay entry either at the turnstiles if they want to stand or by ticket from the Ticket Office for seats.

NEXT HOME GAME

SWANSEA CITY - FA CUP THIRD ROUND REPLAY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, Kick-off 7.45pm

This game will be all pay and our normal League prices will apply. Full details of arrangements for this game appear on page 7 of today's programme.

FORTHCOMING AWAY MATCHES

TRANMERE ROVERS

Barclays League Division One

January 15, 1992 - Kick off 7.30pm

This Friday night game will not be all ticket and the prices will be £6 for terracing and £8 for seats. There are 318 seat tickets available in the main stand, turnstiles 33-34, and terracing will be in the away Kop, turnstile numbers 22-27. There are only four places for disabled supporters and these are located in front of the main stand. These are free for the disabled person and £6 for the helper. There is only street parking available. Matchday programmes cost £1.

CAMBRIDGE UNITED

Barclays League Division One

Tuesday January 26, 1993 - Kick off 7.45

This game is not all ticket. Terracing on the night will be £7 at the South Terrace, Turnstiles 21-23. We have 316 seats in the Habbin Stand priced at £10 adults (£5 juniors/OAPs). These can be purchased at turnstile 20. Disabled supporters should contact Ian Darler at the club for the few free disabled spots available. Helpers would pay £4 in this area. Matchday programmes cost £1.

BRISTOL ROVERS

Barclays League Division One

Saturday February 6, 1992 - Kick off 3.00pm

THIS GAME IS ALL TICKET. We have been allocated 1,111 terrace places (no seats) priced at £6.50. Hopefully, Bristol's printers will have printed them in time for us to sell today. Season ticket holders and members can purchase one ticket each up until before the Millwall game. After the Millwall game they will go on general sale. Wheelchair supporters can gain free entry for themselves and their helper but must be pre-booked with Ian Wilson at the club.

LONDON ROAD CLUB

Forthcoming Trips

TRANMERE ROVERS

Fare: (Executive Coaches) Adult £8, Junior £7

Coaches Depart: Oxford - Castle Street 2.30pm

Headington - Manor Ground 2.45pm

RAC Route to: Tranmere Rovers, Prenton Park, Birkenhead, Merseyside Tel: 051 608 3677

Leave Oxford on the A34 to Bicester. Join the M40 at junction 9 and travel North. Exit of M40 into M42. Travel North, follow the signs for the NEC.

Stay on the M42. Exit off at junction 7 onto the M6. Travel North to junction 20. Exit off onto the M56 towards Chester. Stay on the M56. Exit off the M56 at junction 15 onto the M53. Travel

North to Birkenhead. Exit off the M56 at junction 3. You will come to a roundabout, take the third exit off. Go straight along the road (Storeton Road). At the two mini roundabouts go straight across to some traffic lights. Turn right at the traffic lights. The stadium is on the right.

Mileage: 165 miles approx.

Car Parking: Car Parking at the ground plus street parking.



CAMBRIDGE UNITED

Fare: (Executive Coaches) Adult £5, Junior £4

Coaches Depart: Oxford - Castle Street: 4.00pm

Headington - Manor Ground: 4.15pm

RAC Route to: Cambridge United, Abbey Stadium, Newmarket Road, Cambridge Tel: 0223 241237

Leave Oxford on the A34 to Bicester. Leave Bicester on the A421 to Buckingham. Stay on the A421 to the outskirts of Milton Keynes. Stay on the A421 and cross over the M1 heading for Bedford. At Bedford take the A428 to join the A1 at Roxton. Travel north on the A1. Take the first turning off to the left onto the A45 towards St Neots. Stay on the A45 to go on the outskirts of Cambridge. Go under three flyovers. At the fourth flyover come off onto the A1303 going in toward Cambridge. Come in on the Newmarket Road. Go straight across the roundabout. The stadium is on the left.

Mileage: 80 miles approx

Car Parking: Street parking only

BRISTOL ROVERS

Fare: (Executive Coaches) Adult £5, Junior £4

Tickets on sale at the Millwall game

13



Home and Away



Reflections

10 YEARS AGO

George Lawrence's 65th minute equaliser enabled us to draw 1-1 with Gillingham at the Manor and extend our unbeaten League run to seven matches.

The Oxford line-up that day was: Butcher, Fogg, Grant, Train, Briggs, Shotton, Lawrence, Foley, Vinter, Hebberd (Barnett), Smithers.

Swindon were going through a barren spell. Their 0-3 defeat at Port Vale was their fifth game without a win in Division Four.



George Lawrence ... who scored our equaliser ten years ago.

promoted in those days.

The Oxford side was: Burton, Lucas, Hatch, Roberts, Clarke (C), Evanson, Skeen, Fleming, Curran, Cassidy, Gough.

Swindon's 0-3 defeat at Bristol City meant they had gone five games without a win in the Second Division.

30 YEARS AGO

We were by now well into the famous Deep Freeze and Oxford's game was one of the many casualties.

Indeed, only four Football League matches were played and one of them involved Swindon who revelled in the icy conditions at the County Ground where they hammered QPR 5-0.

John Smith scored a hat-trick with Don Rogers and Bobby Woodruff adding singles to move the Robins into second place in Division Two.

20 YEARS AGO

An own-goal from John Winfield handed us victory over Nottingham Forest at the Manor, the two points lifting us into third place in Division Two, four points behind second-placed QPR. Two clubs were

Helping the most important people in football



Football is much more than a game of 90 minutes. Every day clubs throughout Britain are providing recreational and sporting opportunities for their local communities.

Much of this has been achieved with the help of the Football Trust. As part of its commitment to Football, The Trust has granted £4M to set up the National Football and Community Development Scheme.

Bringing club and community together, Trust-backed initiatives have provided a variety of local amenities, including:

- Artificial pitches for local teams
- Coaching for youngsters
- Support for women's football
- Facilities for people with disabilities

The Football Trust is helping the game at all levels.



THE FOOTBALL TRUST
Helping the game



I hope that all our juniors had a good Christmas and New Year. No doubt you are pleased to be back at school! It is pleasing to see so many of you attending games at the Manor, perhaps when you come you might also like to pay a visit to the club room as well.

Kit Sponsorship

Due to a late rush we have now all but filled all the first team players in our tie-ups, bootlaces and shin pads sponsorship but we still have some of our young professionals available. Remember all the money raised in this way will be used to kit out the club room so you youngsters get the benefit. The full list of players plus their sponsors can be found above.

SHINPADS Jim Magilton Chris Allen Andrew Melville Les Robinson David Penney John Durnin Joey Beauchamp Ken Veysey Brian Horton Mike Ford Steve Tavinor David Collins Jon Narbett Paul Kee Mark Druce Paul Wanless Ceri Evans Les Phillips Paul Reece	BOOTLACE Russell Madley Laura Grant Nathan Clulow Dale Wain Nathan Clulow Robert Muskeert Paul Cole Thomas Cole Nick Guiry James Bourton Russell Webb Thomas Gaughan Richard Brown Dale Wain Kirsty Hoffman Chris Hackett Steve Bayliss James Bourton Rachel Brown	TIE-UPS Laura Grant David Weekes Ian Lovegrove Nathan Clulow Nathan Hoffman Alex Edmunds Jonathan Iles David Weekes Thomas Gaughan Russell Webb Richard Brown Kirsty Hoffman Adam Lovegrove Steve Bayliss Nathan Hoffman Rachel Brown	Robert Cole Marc Bourton Chris Hackett Jonathan Edmunds Lisa Thornton David Thornton Graham Cole Jon Guiry Russell Webb Nathan Hoffman Richard Brown Kirsty Hoffman Steve Bayliss
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All other players still available

Wembley Trip

There has been an encouraging amount of interest for our proposed trip to Wembley for the England v Holland World Cup match in April. However, to be able to run the trip I still need more people. We are proposing having family seats plus coach fare

but, because the game is certain to be a sell-out, I need to know definite numbers as soon as possible. If you are interested in going on this trip please contact me at the club offices as soon as possible.

STAR IS BORN *

2 K W N D
E A O M
B A

4 I D
E G R
N A

3 A M
E N T E R

1 E B O D M I
N W L I

5 O E R
N M R
S O T

6 L H P T
M U Y O

STAR IS BORN *
SORT OUT THE SIX TEAMS AND PUT THEM INTO THEIR CORRECT PLACES. YOU WILL THEN FIND STUART PEARCE'S BIRTHPLACE READING DOWN.

ANSWER:- STUART PEARCE WAS BORN IN LONDON.



APPEARANCES 1992-93 SEASON

Date	Opponents	Ven/Res	Crowd	Pts	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14
Aug 15	Sat BRISTOL ROVERS	(H) 2-1	7,329	3	-	Kea	Smart	Ford	Collins	Evans	Melville	Phillips	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Lewis
18	Tue SWANSEA Coca Cola Lge Cup 11	(H) 3-0	3,582	3	17	Kea	Smart	Ford	Collins	Evans	Melville	Phillips	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Lewis
22	Sat Millwall	(A) 1-3	5,746	3	17	Kea	Smart	Ford	Collins	Evans	Melville	Phillips	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Lewis
25	Tue Swansea Coca Cola Lge Cup 1(2)	(A) 0-1	2,256	-	-	Kea	Smart	Ford	Levers	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Narbett	Allen	Robinson
29	Sat WOLVERHAMPTON WAND.	(H) 0-0	7,596	4	15	Kea	Smart	Ford	Levers	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Narbett	Allen	Robinson
Sept 1	Tue SWINDON TOWN Anglo Italian Cup	(H) 1-0	4,069	-	-	Kea	Smart	Ford	Levers	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Narbett	Allen	Robinson
5	Sat Grimsby Town	(A) 1-1	4,546	5	15	Kea	Smart	Ford	Levers	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Narbett	Allen	Robinson
12	Sat SUNDERLAND	(H) 0-1	6,002	5	21	Kea	Smart	Ford	Levers	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Narbett	Allen	Robinson
15	Tue CAMBRIDGE UNITED	(H) 5-0	3,785	8	11	Kea	Smart	Ford	Levers	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Narbett	Allen	Robinson
20	Sun Swindon Town	(A) 2-2	7,717	9	10	Kea	Smart	Ford	Levers	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Narbett	Allen	Robinson
23	Wed ASTON VILLA Coca Cola Lge Cup 2 (1)	(H) 1-2	8,838	-	-	Kea	Smart	Collins	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Narbett	Allen	Robinson
26	Sat TRANMERE ROVERS	(A) 1-2	4,883	9	13	Kea	Smart	Collins	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Narbett	Allen	Robinson
29	Tue Brentford Anglo Italian Cup	(A) 0-2	2,637	-	-	Kea	Smart	Collins	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Beauchamp	Cusack	Penney	Narbett	Allen	Robinson
Oct 3	Sat BIRMINGHAM CITY	(H) 0-0	7,094	10	15	Reece	Smart	Collins	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Phillips	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
7	Wed Aston Villa Coca Cola Lge Cup 2 (2)	(A) 1-2	19,808	-	-	Reece	Smart	Collins	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Phillips	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
11	Sun Derby County	(A) 1-0	14,249	13	14	Reece	Smart	FDJ	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
17	Sat BARNSELEY	(H) 0-0	4,422	14	14	Reece	Smart	Ford	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
24	Sat Notts County	(A) 1-1	5,226	15	16	Reece	Smart	Ford	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
31	Sat WATFORD	(H) 1-1	6,234	16	16	Reece	Smart	Ford	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
Nov 3	Tue PORTSMOUTH	(H) 5-5	5,490	17	16	Reece	Smart	Ford	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
7	Sat Southern United	(A) 3-0	3,356	20	15	Reece	Smart	Ford	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
14	Sat LUTON TOWN	(H) 4-0	5,759	23	13	Reece	Smart	Ford	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
21	Sat West Ham United	(A) 3-5	11,842	23	13	Reece	Smart	Ford	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
28	Sat Brentford	(A) 0-1	8,017	23	15	Reece	Smart	Ford	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
Dec 13	Sun LEICESTER CITY	(H) 0-0	7,949	24	17	Reece	Smart	Ford	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
19	Sat Charlton Athletic	(A) 1-1	7,287	25	16	Reece	Smart	Ford	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
26	Sat Bristol City	(A) 1-1	10,737	26	16	Reece	Smart	Ford	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins	Phillips
28	Mo NEWCASTLE UNITED	(H) 4-2	9,290	29	16	Reece	Smart	Robinson	Robinson	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins
Jan 2	Sat Swansea City (FAC, 3)	(A) 1-1	6,985	-	-	Reece	Smart	Robinson	Robinson	Lewis	Evans	Melville	Magilton	Cusack	Penney	Dunn	Allen	Collins
9	Sat SWINDON TOWN	(H)																
12	Tue SWANSEA CITY (FAC, 3 replay)	(H)																
15	Fri Tranmere Rovers	(H)																
22	Sat F.A. Cup, 4	(H)																
26	Tue Cambridge United	(A)																
30	Sat MILLWALL	(H)																
Feb 6	Sat Bristol Rovers (ALL TICKET)	(H)																
9	Tue Sunderland	(H)																
13	Sat GRIMSBY TOWN (F.A. Cup, 5)	(H)																
20	Sat Wolverhampton Wanderers	(A)																
27	Sat DERBY COUNTY	(H)																
Mar 6	Sat Birmingham City (F.A. Cup, 6)	(A)																
10	Wed Luton Town	(H)																
13	Sat SOUTHEND UNITED	(H)																
20	Sat Peterborough United	(H)																
23	Tue WEST HAM UNITED	(H)																
27	Sat Portsmouth	(A)																
Apr 3	Sat BRENTFORD	(H)																
4	Sun F.A. Cup 6F	(A)																
7	W. Leicester City	(A)																
10	Sat BRISTOL CITY	(H)																
12	Mo Newcastle United	(H)																
17	Sat CHARLTON ATHLETIC	(H)																
18	Sun F.A. Cup SF	(A)																
24	Sat Barnsley	(A)																
May 1	Sat NOTTS COUNTY	(H)																
8	Sat Watford	(A)																
15	Sat F.A. Cup Final	(A)																
	To be arranged - PETERBOROUGH UNITED	(H)																
	Home Match kick-off: Saturday and Bank Holidays 3.00pm Tuesday; 7.45pm																	

YOUTH TEAM APPEARANCES

Name	League	Cups	Total	Goals
BAYLISS, Gary	12	6	18	-
BORDER, Ben	12+1	5+1	17+2	7
BYLES, Paul	+3	+1	+4	-
CONNELLY, Michael	15	7	22	-
FORD, Robert	11+1	6	17+1	5
GIROLAMI, Adriano	11	4	15	-
GOODALL, Grant	10	7	17	-
GREGG, Neil	+3	+3	+3	-
HILLMAN, Stephen	11+2	3+1	14+3	-
MCPHERSON, Mark	1	7	8	-
MAISEY, Darren	15	7	22	-
MANN, Alan	14+1	7	21+1	7
MORRISSEY, Terry	15	7	22	2
OATLEY, Scott	1	1	2	-
REDNAPP, Ben	1	1	2	-
SHAFFER, Adam	1	1	2	-
STEVENS, Greg	15	7	22	4
TURNER, Simon	8+2	3+1	11+3	-
WATTS, Darren	9+2	6	15+2	3

ROLL U's CALL

Name	Previous Clubs	1992-93 Apps.	Goals	Oxford Total Apps.	Goals	Full Career Apps.	Goals
ALLEN, Chris		12+2	2	25+3	3	37	5
BEAUCHAMP, Joey	Swansea (loan)	20	2	50+9	8	64+5	11
COLLINS, David	Liverpool	4+1	4	4+1	4	13+1	4
CUSACK, Nick	Leicester / Peterborough	14+5	2	14+5	1	152+25	36
DRUCE, Mark	18 / 23.74	5+1	3	5+1	3	25+5	12
DURNIN, John	Liverpool	20	11	120+18	43	129+18	45
EVANS, Carl	22	2	92+3	3	95	3	
FORD, Mike	Leicester / Cardiff	20	1	87+11	6	231+12	19
JACKSON, Darren	21 / 24.9.71	4	1	9+2	4	9+2	4
KEE, Paul	8	5	50	11	50	11	
LEWIS, Mickey	West Brom / Derby	20+1	6	175+1	6	234+9	7
MCCLAREN, Steve	Hull / Derby / Lincoln (loan) / Bristol City	31 / 3.5.81	6+1	27+6	6	66+4	5
MAGILTON, Jim	19	8	100	26	100	26	
MELVILLE, Andrew	22	2	113	9	266+10	31	
NARBETT, John	24 / 29.11.68	4+2	2	4+2	2	168+9	33
PENNEY, David	25 / 17.8.64	20+1	6	80+22	13	78+35	16
PHILLIPS, Les	29 / 7.1.63	4+2	3	187+14	11	203+20	14
REECE, Paul	24/16.7.69	14	14	71	14	71	14
ROBINSON, Les	25/13.63	1+1	1	72+1	1	232+5	15
SMART, Gary	28 / 23.4.64	22	7	129+4	21+3	57	128
VEYSEY, Ken	25 / 8.6.67			57	10	30	30
WANLESS, Paul	19 / 14.12.75	+1	3+4	+1	+1	-	-

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

Rank	Team	Home P	Home W	Home D	Home L	Away P	Away W	Away D	Away L	Pts	Av	Best		
1	Newcastle	22	9	2	1	25	7	8	0	3	20	53	28,851	30,137
2	Tranmere	23	9	4	0	31	9	3	1	5	11	17	7,517	13,118
3	West Ham	23	6	2	2	23	10	5	4	4	20	15	14,235	18,786
4	Millwall	23	8	3	0	26	8	2	6	4	9	12	8,132	12,445
5	Portsmouth	23	8	1	1	22	3	2	6	5	20	25	11,353	14,228
6	Leicester	23	6	3	3	16	13	4	2	5	13	15	14,372</	



Outside

Youth . . .



S.E. COUNTIES LEAGUE FIXTURES

Aug	15	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	3-4
	22	AFC Bournemouth	1-2
	29	BRENTFORD	2-3
Sept	5	Wimbledon	1-4
	12	Southampton	1-1
	19	CAMBRIDGE UNITED (LC,1)	3-4
	21	Gillingham (SJFC,1)	2-1
Oct	3	Luton Town	2-1
	5	SWINDON TOWN (MYC,1)	2-2
	10	SWINDON TOWN	4-1
	17	Bristol City	1-2
	19	Swindon Town (MYC replay)	0-3
	24	Swindon Town	0-0
	26	Bournemouth (SJFC, 2)	1-1
	31	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	1-5
Nov	4	Swindon Town (FAYC, 1)	2-3
	7	Bristol Rovers	2-2
	14	READING	3-0
	16	BOURNEMOUTH (SJFC2R)	1-2 (aet)
	21	COLCHESTER UNITED	1-2
Dec	12	Tottenham Hotspur	1-3
1993			
Jan	2	Brentford	0-2
	9	WIMBLEDON	H
	16	SOUTHAMPTON	H
	23	Crystal Palace	A
	30	LUTON TOWN	H
Feb	6	CRYSTAL PALACE	H
	13	BRISTOL CITY	H
	20	Brighton and Hove Albion	A
	27	Colchester Utd	A
Mar	6	Reading	A
	20	BRISTOL ROVERS	H
	27	BOURNEMOUTH	H

Steve McClaren takes a look at the Youth and Reserve teams' seasons so far

We got off to a bad start in pre-season when we lost three of our first year YTS lads through long term injuries. Neil Greig had a hernia operation and Russell Godfrey and Howard Forinton were both diagnosed as having stress fractures of the back. All three have now just returned to full time training and, hopefully, no recurrence of their injuries will occur. Those injuries depleted our squad to 13 players and worse was to follow when we lost our first four games of the season.

We were creating chances and scoring goals but unfortunately at the other end we were conceding too many. This trend was to continue and, although our football was at times very good going forward, because of our lack of height at the back we were always vulnerable. In the games so far we must have conceded nearly half of our goals from corners and free kicks. One thing noticeable so far this season has been that most opponents have been bigger and stronger than us and have tended to rely on the physical side of the game for results.

However, looking at the positive side of things, Robert Ford has signed on as a professional after performing well in the youth team and has also showed his tremendous potential when playing in the reserves. The three Welsh lads - Michael Conneely, Adriano Girolami and Terry Morrissey - must also be congratulated at representing their country at youth level, playing against Holland and Israel. Although, understandably, the new players have found things difficult so far this season they have shown enough ability and commitment which holds well for the future. I am sure from now they will begin to flourish even more.

Some of Ben Border's games this season have been very encouraging, showing great skill and an eye for goal. Darren Watts has shown us what a tremendous shot he possesses - an example being a brilliant volley he scored at the Manor against Swindon.

Although we didn't make much progress in any of the cups this season every game has been a tight affair, losing just by the odd goal every time. But it has been a good experience for the lads playing on the grounds of Gillingham, Bournemouth, Swindon and, of course, the Manor.

So looking back, even though we lie one off the bottom of the league there has not been a team we have played so far, apart from Wimbledon and Brighton, who have really turned us over and looked any better than us. Hopefully, in the New Year we will continue to try to play good football, defend better and score more goals than our opponents. That way we are sure to collect more points and finish in a respectable position in the league.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wimbledon	15	12	1	2	39	11	25
Brentford	14	9	4	1	28	13	22
Bristol City	14	8	1	5	31	22	17
Brighton	13	7	2	4	30	24	16
Bournemouth	14	5	5	4	18	20	15
Southampton	15	5	5	5	17	20	15
Tottenham	14	6	2	6	28	30	14
Luton Town	13	6	0	7	28	19	12
Swindon Town	16	5	2	9	21	35	12
Crystal Palace	14	5	1	8	21	22	11
Bristol Rovers	14	4	3	7	23	34	11
Colchester Utd	12	5	0	7	13	21	10
OXFORD UTD15	3	3	3	9	23	32	9
Reading	15	3	3	9	22	39	9



Oxford United Football Club, Manor Ground, Headington SEASON 92/93

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the First



Reserves

Having signed seven of last year's YTS lads on professional terms the basis of the reserves side was always going to be very young and we expected some very difficult games.

We were proved right in only the second game of the season when, after beating Portsmouth in our first game, we went to Millwall and were thoroughly beaten 6-0.

The young lads were given a lesson in what they would have to expect every week playing in the reserves. The lesson seemed to have been learnt because we went on an unbeaten run of six games getting good results at places like Wimbledon and Crystal Palace who are always difficult opponents. Just to show how much progress the young lads had made in such a short time was made evident when an experienced Spurs side came to the Manor. We more than matched them in every department and, although there were no goals, it was one of the most entertaining reserve games seen for a long time.

Our little run ended against Wimbledon but the scoreline flattered them somewhat. A little luck our way at the right time and it might have been different!

Not deterred by this, we drew our next two games but came back down to earth again when beaten 4-2 at Brighton where, defensively, we were very poor.

We tightened things up and were unlucky not to beat an experienced QPR side at the Manor, and, after some excellent controlled football, and dominating the game, we went down to a first minute goal at Portsmouth.

Then came our best win of the season at Norwich where a Paul Wanless hat-trick was just reward for some excellent football played by us that night.

However, we finished the year disappointingly being beaten in our next two games by Arsenal and Ipswich and then having four games cancelled due to the bad weather in December.

However, looking back, we have been quite satisfied by how things have progressed so far. At one stage we were fifth in the league and can be pleased to be mid-table at this stage of the season. But we know that we must maintain standards and gradually improve them because, ultimately, we want these players playing in the first team. One cannot stay still and be totally satisfied in football.

Although the young lads have done well I must mention the contribution made by the more senior players who have either played regularly or just come in for a few games or are returning from injury. It is not always easy playing for the reserves but their attitudes have been first class and they have provided a perfect example to the young players.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Millwall	16	10	3	3	34	17	33
Wimbledon	17	9	5	3	27	15	32
Ipswich	18	10	2	6	31	24	32
Chelsea	16	9	4	3	35	21	31
Tottenham	18	8	6	4	39	17	30
Crystal Palace	16	7	6	3	34	22	27
Q.P.R.	14	7	5	2	25	13	26
Watford	18	6	8	4	26	30	26
Arsenal	17	7	3	7	29	19	24
Brighton & Hove	18	7	3	8	23	38	24
Charlton	17	6	3	8	21	29	21
OXFORD UNITED	17	5	6	6	20	31	21
Southampton	15	5	5	5	20	20	20
Norwich	18	4	7	7	32	37	19
Luton Town	16	4	5	7	18	24	17
Portsmouth	17	4	4	8	23	35	16
West Ham	17	4	3	10	22	26	15
Swindon Town	15	3	5	7	20	29	14
Bristol City	15	2	6	7	17	25	12
Fulham	18	3	3	12	13	37	12

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION LEAGUE FIXTURES

Aug	19	Wed	PORTSMOUTH	2-1
	24	Mon	Millwall	0-6
Sep	2	Wed	NORWICH CITY	1-1
	9	Wed	Wimbledon	1-1
	16	Wed	WEST HAM UNITED	2-0
	21	Mon	Crystal Palace	2-1
	30	Wed	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	0-0
Oct	12	Mon	Luton Town	3-2
	14	Wed	WIMBLEDON	0-4
	21	Wed	Fulham	1-1
	28	Wed	CRYSTAL PALACE	1-1
Nov	4	Wed	Brighton & Hove Albion	2-4
	11	Wed	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	1-1
	18	Wed	Portsmouth	0-1
	23	Mon	Norwich City	3-2
Dec	8	Tue	ARSENAL	1-2
	15	Tue	Ipswich Town	0-3
Jan	6	Wed	BRIGHTON & H.A.	2-0
	12	Tue	Arsenal	(A)
	18	Mon	Bristol City	(A)
	20	Wed	SWINDON TOWN	(H)
	25	Mon	Charlton Athletic	(A)
Feb	3	Wed	FULHAM	(H)
	8	Mon	Chelsea	(A)
	17	Wed	WATFORD	(H)
	22	Mon	SOUTHAMPTON	(H)
	24	Wed	Tottenham Hotspur	(A)
Mar	9	Tue	LUTON TOWN	(H)
	16	Tue	Queens Park Rangers	(A)
	24	Wed	CHARLTON ATHLETIC	(H)
	30	Tue	Watford	(A)
Apr	7	Wed	Swindon Town	(A)
	14	Wed	MILLWALL	(H)
	24	Sat	Southampton	(A)
May	5	Wed	IPSWICH TOWN	(H)
	TBA		BRISTOL CITY	(H)
	TBA		West Ham United	(A)
	TBA		CHELSEA	(H)

Unless stated home matches kick off 7.30pm

NEXT GAME AT THE MANOR
NEVILLE OVENDEN
COMBINATION
Wednesday, January 20
Swindon Town
 Season Ticket Holders - Free
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G

ood afternoon and welcome to you all. I hope everyone enjoyed Christmas and New Year and let's hope our good run of form continues today against our local rivals, Swindon Town.

I expect the atmosphere today to be as good as at the Newcastle game on December 28. I think the pre-match relay made a large contribution to the buzz in the ground during the game. The kids were thrilled with the response from the crowd.

The black and white striped shirts worn by the youngsters were borrowed from Mrs Parry who runs Grove Challengers Boys FC. My thanks go to her for providing that little bit more excitement on the day.

Joining us for the pre-match entertainment today are the South Oxfordshire Primary Schools' under 11 squad. Once again, half of the lads will be decked out in the yellow of Oxford and the rest in the red of Swindon. Their team manager Graham Hollows is hoping that the boys will have a day to remember. I am sure they will. Those taking part are: Stuart Gosby, Tommy O'Driscoll, Ben Johnson, Lewis James, David Champ, Daniel Curren, Mark Byron, David Davies, Mathew Davies, Ian Trahearn, James Gaulsbury, Ben Townsend, Tom Baker, Ryan Gostick and Mark Jones.



Rosie
(Peter Rhoades-Brown)

SCHOOLS HERE TODAY

I would like to welcome the schools that have come along today as the club's guests. They are West Kidlington, Chadlington and Dr Souths (Islip).

CHAILEY HERITAGE VISIT

Today we welcome seven youngsters from the Chailey Heritage School, Lewes, Sussex. They will sit in our handicapped stand. The school brings youngsters to us every year and, together with Unipart, they always enjoy their day.

Already today they have been to Unipart House to have lunch and watch a video. They will also be choosing their own Man of the Match and will present a trophy to their choice after the game.

You may see some of the players going over to chat to the group during their warm-up. In the group are Adam Walker, Christopher Vohra, Andrew Lines, Simon Barnard, Ross Chart, Johanna Mitchell and Stuart Hazelhurst. I hope you all enjoy the match.

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION RESULTS

What a difficult time I had deciding on the winners of the Christmas Card competition. The standard this year was very high but, eventually, I made a decision and individual prizes go to Christian Hatton aged 9½ from Wesley Green Middle School, Blackbird Leys and Jennie Boyce, age ten, of St Birinus School, Dorchester whose prize is to be mascot at the Southend game.

As for the School winners: Sandhills and Stanton Harcourt gain first and second prizes which are to watch our first team train and join in a coaching session afterwards.

The schools taking third, fourth, fifth and sixth prize - a visit from our YT players one afternoon for a coaching session - are Rose Hill, Great Milton, Dorchester and Mill Lane.

The rest of the schools will receive complimentary tickets for a home game. They are: Wesley Green, Woodcote, Beckley, New Hinksey, Brookside and Bayswater. Thanks again to all the schools who took part.

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Schools
in
Swindon



M

Andy Howland this week takes a look at Football League crowds from 1972 to 1992.

any have forgotten how Wolves' average League crowds fell in 1985-6 or how high Wrexham's averaged in 1977-8. Perhaps some of you would like to try to recollect what these averages were (the answers appear later).

Oxford United's lowest average over this period was 4,132 (1980-1), when the club fought against relegation right up until the last home game of the season after looking doomed at Christmas. No fewer than 59 League clubs have had seasonal averages below Oxford's 1981 average of 4,132 in the past twenty years.

During the period, Oxford's highest average was 11,009 (1985-6), a figure not bettered by 55 of the 59 since 1985. Crowds were generally much higher in the 1970's but, to be consistent, I have taken the period 1972-92 and give details of those clubs to average 4,132 or less in at least one season.

CURRENT PREMIER LEAGUE

	LOWEST (since 1972)	HIGHEST (since 1972)
Oldham	3,862 (1968-9)	15,087 (1990-1)
Wimbledon	2,347 (1982-3)	7,995 (1987-8)

CURRENT DIVISION ONE

	LOWEST (since 1972)	HIGHEST (since 1972)
Oxford	4,132 (1980-1)	11,009 (1985-6)
Wolves	4,020 (1985-6)	25,731 (1979-80)
Millwall	4,013 (1982-3)	15,416 (1988-9)
Brentford	3,918 (1986-7)	8,742 (1972-3)
Grimsby	3,416 (1987-8)	10,961 (1980-1)
Bristol Rovers	3,246 (1986-7)	13,026 (1973-4)
Swindon	3,221 (1984-5)	10,267 (1972-3)
Barnsley	2,862 (1972-3)	15,098 (1981-2)
Southend	2,103 (1984-5)	7,329 (1972-3)
Cambridge	2,089 (1985-6)	7,078 (1991-2)
Tranmere	1,566 (1985-6)	8,845 (1991-2)

CURRENT DIVISIONS TWO AND THREE

All except Bolton, Brighton, Plymouth, Stoke and West Bromwich Albion have averaged less than 4,132. Workington, Maidstone, Newport, Southport and Aldershot also averaged less than 4,132 in Football League seasons since 1972.

Some figures of possible interest are the lowest for Bradford City (2,916, 1975-6), Burnley (3,204, 1985-6), Hull (3,993, 1981-2), Preston (3,502,

1985-6) and Reading (3,459, 1982-3).

Sixteen of the current League clubs have averaged less than 2,000, the lowest since 1972. These clubs were Chester (1,564), Colchester (1,754), Crewe (1,817), Darlington (1,449), Doncaster (1,913), Exeter (1,972), Halifax (1,327), Hartlepool (1,368), Northampton (1,824), Rochdale (1,275), Scarborough (1,597), Scunthorpe (1,778), Stockport (1,895), Torquay (1,240), Tranmere (1,566) and Wrexham (1,619). In better days, Wrexham averaged 11,651 in 1977-78.

HIGHEST AND LOWEST POSITIONS (1972-92)

Oxford's lowest position of the 92 for their average crowds was 70th in 1980-1 and their highest 25th in 1985-6. Of the 59 clubs previously referred to, 12 - Barnsley, Bolton, Bradford City, Brighton, Burnley, Millwall, Oldham, Plymouth, Stoke, Swansea, West Bromwich Albion and Wolves - have bettered United's 25th in the period 1972-92.

	HIGHEST Position	LOWEST Position
Oxford	25th	70th
Oldham	18th	53rd
Wimbledon	36th	84th
Wolves	11th	56th
Millwall	19th	65th
Brentford	44th	69th
Grimsby	35th	68th
Bristol Rovers	33rd	66th
Swindon	33rd	71st
Barnsley	21st	86th
Southend	49th	79th
Cambridge	45th	83rd
Tranmere	37th	92nd
Reading	41st	71st
Wrexham	32nd	88th

Wolves' crowds were five times Oxford's in 1980-1, but were only just over a third of Oxford's in 1985-6, as they fell from 21,551 to 4,020, whilst United's rose from 4,132 to 11,009.

Other clubs to see rapid changes include Burnley (18,120 to 3,240 between 1975-6 and 1985-6), Birmingham (28,338 to 7,427 between 1976-7 and 1986-7), Swansea (2,932 to 18,226 between 1975-6 and 1981-2), Watford (4,609 to 14,435 between 1975-6 and 1977-78) and Tranmere (1,566 to 8,845 between 1985-6 and 1991-2).

- Andy Howland and his brother Roger are the club historians -

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Supporters who sponsor a whole kit would, as well as their name alongside their player, also have the availability to use this space as a larger advert for at least one game.

If you are interested please contact Roy Grant at Oxford United Football Club, Manor Ground, Headington, Oxford OX3 7RS.

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MICHAEL CONNEELY

Age: 18
From: Port Talbot, South Wales
Position: Forward
Height: 5ft. 6 1/2 in.
Honours: Played for Wales under 15 Schoolboys
Likes: Cricket, tennis and snooker
Dislikes: Running and getting injured
Career: Michael's ambitions are to do well enough to gain a professional contract here at Oxford. He is joint top scorer in the youth side and is looking to break into the reserves. He is in the second year of his apprenticeship



RUSSELL GODFREY

Age: 17
From: Woodley, near Reading
Position: Left wing / midfield
Height: 5ft. 10in
Honours: Played for East Berks and Berkshire
Likes: Go-karting and music
Dislikes: Reading and schoolwork
Career: Russell, like Howard Forinton, had yet to play a game this season due to a stress fracture of the back and, having now recovered, is looking to start his apprenticeship properly. His ambition is to become a professional.



Ted Croker - A Tribute

Supporters may well be aware of the very sad death of Mr Ted Croker who died on Christmas Day morning after a long and courageous battle against cancer. As well as having a distinguished career in the administration of the Football Association, Ted was a former player here at the Manor in our Headington United days when he played 69 league and 22 cup ties between 1953 and 1955.



Ted (pictured in his Oxford playing days) was appointed General Secretary of the Football Association in 1973 in succession to Denis (later Sir Denis) Follows and served in this position with distinction until his retirement at the age of 65 in 1989.

He will be remembered for his forward thinking and enthusiasm for the game. He brought a new commercial outlook to the sport which greatly increased The Football Association's income for the benefit of the game at all levels.

It was also Ted's initiative which led to the annual FA Charity Shield match being moved to Wembley, vastly increasing the revenue available for distribution to charities. Upon his retirement he was made an Honorary Vice President of the Football Association and in 1989 was awarded the CBE.

Ted leaves a wife, Kathy, one son, Andrew, two daughters, Alison and Louise and seven grandchildren.

As a mark of respect clubs competing in the Third Round of the FA Challenge Cup competition wore black armbands



A Focus On . . .

The First Time

The last year has not been kind to Les. After a strong season when he regularly caught the eye with his unfussy full back play, he picked up a freak injury which sidelined him for nine months.

"I overstretched for a ball in training and heard my ankle crack. At first I thought I'd broken it but the injury turned out to be two sets of damaged ligaments," he recalled.

"I had to have an operation to pin together my tibia and fibula and initially thought I'd be out for three months. But the injury dragged on and John Clinkard had to put up with me right through the summer and the first half of this season."

Now, happily fully recovered, Les returned to first team action against Newcastle in our last home game.

"It was a tough one to come back to but also the best kind of test - and a perfect result!"

In strong competition for full back places with Garry Smart and Mike Ford, Les knows he'll have to perform at his best just to keep his place.

"After such a rotten year out of the game I just want to establish myself back in the squad and convince the gaffer that I'm worth a place in the team. I love to play more than anything else and it's great to be back in action."

LES ROBINSON'S FOOTBALL FIRSTS

Name: Les Robinson
Age: 25 (date of birth, March 1, 1967)
Married: Yes, to Michele. Two children, Kelly and Liam
Nickname: Robbo
Signed for Oxford: March, 1990
First professional team: Mansfield Town
First team debut: Mansfield v Hereford, 1984 (a 1-1 draw)
First goal: Stockport County v Orient - a 20-yard volley that remains his favourite goal scored.
First injury: Three months out with a ruptured thigh muscle while at Mansfield
First house: End of terrace in Shirebrook (the town where Les grew up)
First car: Ford Escort
Current car: Ford Sierra
First team supported: Leeds United
First choice pre-match meal: Chicken omelette
Favourite food: Chinese

CAREER RECORD

	LEAGUE		LEAGUE CUP		FA CUP		OTHERS		TOTAL	
	App	Gls	App	Gls	App	Gls	App	Gls	App	Gls
Mansfield	11+4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	12+4	-
Stockport	67	3	2	-	4	-	4	-	77	3
Doncaster	82	12	4	-	6	-	5	1	97	13
OXFORD	72+1	-	8	-	3+1	-	4	-	87+2	-
	232+5	15	14	-	13+1	-	14	1	273+6	16



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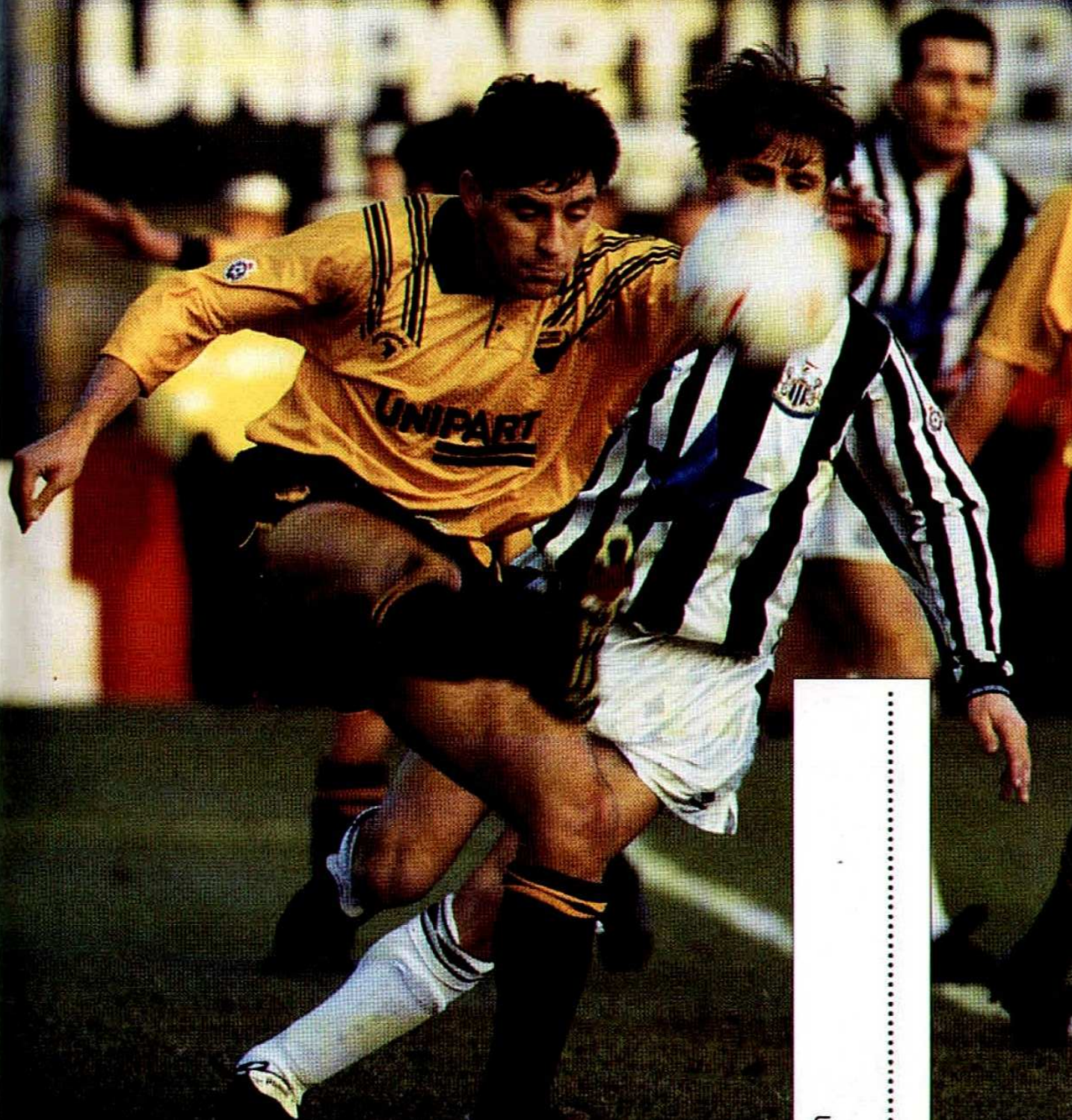
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LES ROBINSON



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We are pleased to welcome to the game this afternoon Unipart, not only as the official Club Sponsor, but also as today's Match Sponsor.

Unipart are more than just sponsors to United, they are great supporters and good friends. Few sponsors are interested in long term commitments, unlike Unipart who have played a vital role in helping us find tomorrow's superstars and their support has been invaluable in this quest. It is without doubt or fear of contradiction that Oxford United are indeed most fortunate in being able to work so closely with Unipart.

In the nine months I have been involved with football it has never ceased to amaze me in the various clubs' boardrooms that I have visited how little interaction or dialogue there is between most of the clubs and their sponsors. We are extremely fortunate at the Manor that we are able to call upon Unipart for their help and expertise.

UNIPART AND OXFORD UNITED INDEED MAKE A "WINNING TEAM"

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NMR Instruments from Osney Mead, Oxford are today's MatchBall Sponsor. NMR Instruments are part of the Scientific Research Division of Oxford Instruments, the successful company dedicated to the design, development and manufacture of high technology products employing about 800 staff, mainly mechanical and electronic engineers, in the Oxford area.

NMR Instruments lead their world in the development and manufacture of superconducting magnet systems for NMR (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance) applications. They are used worldwide, mainly in the food, petro-chemical and pharmaceutical industries for the analysis of chemical and biological samples.

We welcome the company as guests at the Manor Ground this afternoon.

ALLSPORTS TROPHY LEAGUE

Over the last two home matches with Leicester and Newcastle Joey Beauchamp, Nick Cusack, Garry Smart, Jim Magilton and Chris Allen all picked up points but John Durnin still leads the table as we enter the New Year.

John Durnin	37
Joey Beauchamp	27
Chris Allen	20
Jimmy Magilton	20
Mike Ford	18
Mickey Lewis	11
Ceri Evans	9
Andrew Melville	9
Paul Reece	8
Garry Smart	7
Nick Cusack	6
David Penney	3
Les Phillips	3
Dave Collins	1
Paul Kee	1

As at December 27, 1992



MANOR GOLD AND MANOR BRONZE

We are also very pleased to welcome Andrews Kent and Stone, Hartwells and Tenco Industries to the Manor today and thank them for their continued support.

Paul Clarke, captain of Temple Cowley Schools team receives the Oxford Schools' under 11 'Smiths Crisps Monster Munch' six-a-side trophy from Mary Hemsworth, wife of Frank Hemsworth, managing director of club sponsors Unipart, following their success against Bayswater School prior to the Leicester City game.



Off the Cuff

A

Another good away performance from United at Swansea last Saturday means an exciting evening is in prospect here at the Manor on Tuesday. It was the third time in recent weeks that they had gone ahead in an away game, only to be pegged back for a draw. That must be really frustrating for players and management.



I think we all prefer it when United draw after being behind. There's no difference in the outcome, of course, but somehow it seems so much better psychologically. It becomes a case of defeat avoided instead of victory lost.

Not that Brian Horton's team lose many games these days - just five in all in Division One where they are easily the draw specialists.

If only the old points system was still in operation, with two points for a win and one for a draw, then they would be four places higher - and remarkably level on points with Derby who currently are eighth in the table.

Mentioning Derby reminds me of an interesting comment made to me by my

BBC Radio Oxford colleague Nick Harris just a couple of days ago.

He was harking back to watching Derby play Swindon recently and wasn't sure which side he most wanted to lose.

In the end he admitted that he supported Derby even less than our opponents today and found himself willing Swindon to score!

I hope you enjoyed BBC Radio Oxford's recent documentary on United which looked back on the club's history through the eyes of those who played for United, those who worked at the Manor and those who supported the team.

I found it rivetting and I hope they'll get around to producing it on cassette so that it can be enjoyed again and again.

For me the football comment of the year so far came from Brian Horton, quoted in the Oxford Mail on being asked with whom he would most like to spend New Year's Eve.

He replied "Princess Diana" but added that he would probably spend all the time talking about football. Ah well ... she seems to be a good listener!

Peter Baker

BBC's Radio Oxford Jerome Sale presents Joey Beauchamp with the Radio Oxford's Player of the Month award for November.



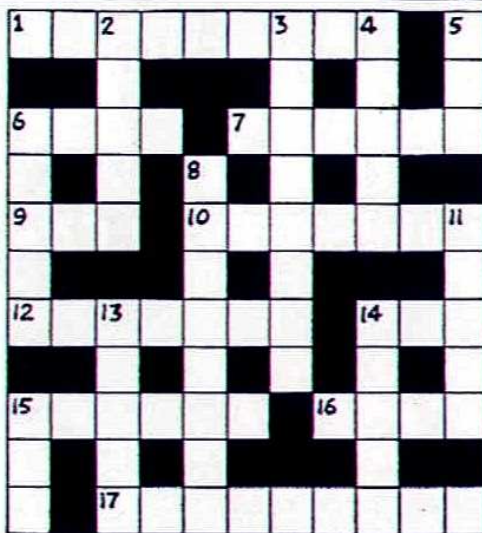
SOCCROSSWORD NO 3 by AL

ACROSS

- 1 No ladies on pitch at this Notts club? (9)
- 6 Field Road where Coventry play (4)
- 7 Chairman might not like to be "mis" this (6)
- 9 To stop it manager must not talk it (3)
- 10 Ref might do it to offending player (4,3)
- 12 Player of the year must be it (3,4)
- 14 No end to crowd trouble in Brazil (3)
- 15 Manager does it before picking team (6)
- 16 Kind of piece that can lead to a goal (1,3)
- 17 Winger might have it if back hangs on (4,5)

DOWN

- 2 Match that needs light (5)
- 3 Teams on level points have got it (8)
- 4 Same team again dot it around (5)
- 5 Liverpool play in it (3)
- 6 Hat-trick hero of 1966 World Cup (5)
- 8 Spectator exposed to the elements (8)
- 11 Too much of this and game's off (5)
- 13 Football wouldn't without players (5)
- 14 Italian star who gives Diana one (5)
- 15 PM's number at inside left (3)



SOLUTION TO SOCCROSSWORD NO 3
 ACROSS - 1. Mansfield, 6. High, 7. Carved, 9. Rot, 10. Tall off, 12. The best, 14. Rio, 15. Thinks, 16. A set, 17. Tom shirt. DOWN - 2. Night, 3. Equality, 4. Dito, 5. Red, 6. Hurst, 8. Straker, 11. Frost, 13. Exist, 14. Rossi, 15. Ten

Unipart Brakes.

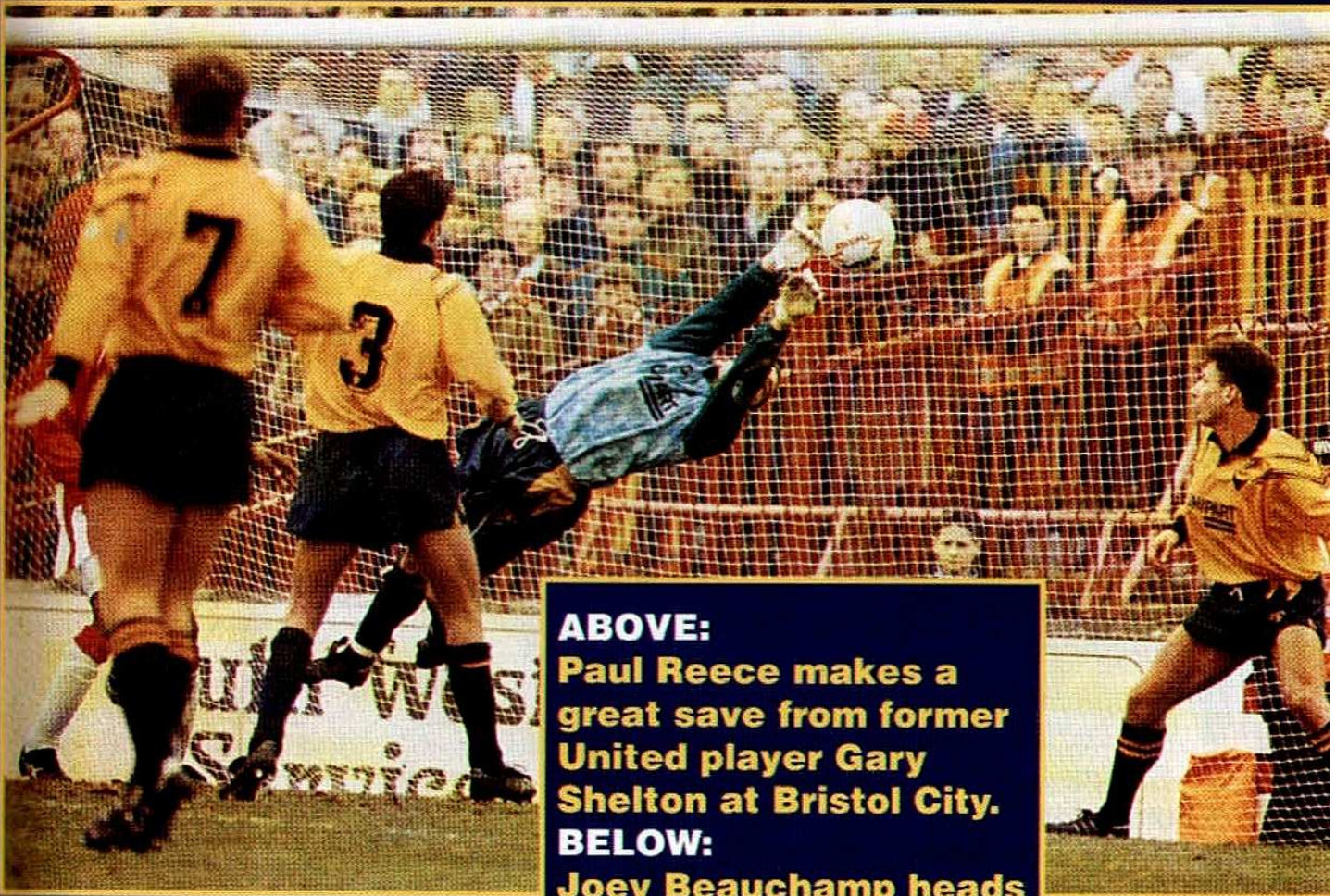


**GUARANTEED
TO STOP
CRAIG MASKELL**

(WHATEVER CAR HE DRIVES)

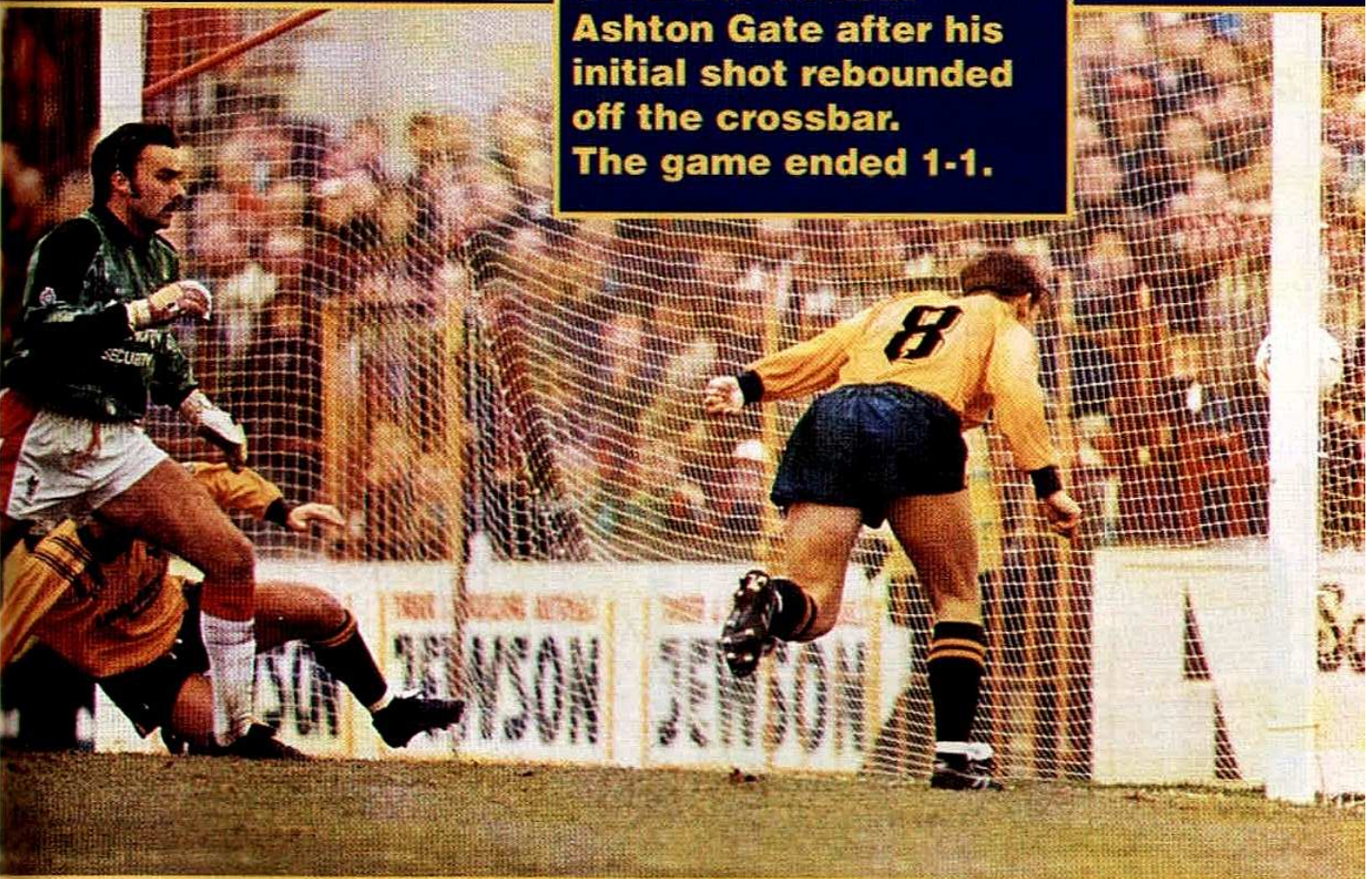
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=====

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ABOVE:
Paul Reece makes a
great save from former
United player Gary
Shelton at Bristol City.

BELOW:
Joey Beauchamp heads
Oxford in front at
Ashton Gate after his
initial shot rebounded
off the crossbar.
The game ended 1-1.



Pictures: Oxford Mail.

Read Jon Murray in the Oxford Mail for all you need to know about Oxford United.

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The Final

So, 1992 has passed into history and, for many, it's a year that is probably best forgotten. Recession, job losses, natural disasters, famine and war summed up the year outside the confines of the Manor - and it was hardly less turbulent within!

It was a year of great change here at Oxford United, new owners and, frankly, a whole new attitude at the club. In fact it was a year when the U's came back from the brink in more ways than one. Everyone will have their own special memories of the 'annus horribilis'. Month by month, these are mine.

January

The year couldn't have begun worse for United. Rooted at the foot of Division Two, six points adrift of the pack, it looked as though it would take a miracle for the side to beat the drop. Off the field too, the full extent of the club's financial plight was becoming clear following the death of Robert Maxwell. Brian Horton admitted that new players were needed - but that there was no cash to buy any. The FA Cup victory over Tranmere was the brightest point of a very bleak month.

February

February 1 was truly one of the highlights of the year as Newcastle United trekked to the Manor for a Division Two fixture. At 3pm everyone was anticipating a tense, tight relegation struggle. At 4.45pm the Oxford crowd left breathless - and the Geordies were stunned as Steve Foster's brace, and efforts from Aylott, Durnin and Simpson tied up a 5-2 win. However, the euphoria soon evaporated as Sunderland ended United's FA Cup dreams with one of the most one-sided 3-2 wins I've witnessed. Back in the League though Oxford's results were picking up. A rare away win at Brighton was followed by a home win over Cambridge, and then the Barclays performance of the week for a 1-1 draw at Blackburn.

The month was notable too for Chris Allen's elevation to the first team on a regular basis following the £500,000 sale of Paul Simpson to Derby. Joey Beauchamp of course had broken into the team at the turn of the year, and didn't miss a game for the rest of the season.

March

A crucial month really, which began with the tremendous 5-3 win over Swindon. The result put a tremendous dent in the Robin's promotion plans and lifted United out of the bottom three. Lee Nogan returned with Watford for a hard-fought goal-less draw, and a single goal defeat at Barnsley saw us slipping towards relegation again. But Beauchamp



1992

*Mark Shanaban's diary
of a year at the Manor*

and Aylott were on the mark against Portsmouth to record the second League win of the month.

April

If March was crucial, April really was make-or-break, in a packed month, United played no fewer than seven matches. Every point was vital - and they weren't too easy to pick up. The goal - and win that really stands out for me - was Dave Penney's tremendous strike in the dying minutes against Wolves that won a tight game 1-0. It was the kind of sweet, true strike that deserves to win any game. A draw at Derby was a point won. A draw at home to Bristol Rovers was two points lost. The East Anglian hoards turned the Manor into a party-time as Ipswich's draw won them the championship, but defeat at Plymouth really was a low point for Oxford.

May

In years to come, the fans who made the pilgrimage to Prenton Park on May 2 will spin the tale of how John Durnin and Joey Beauchamp defeated Tranmere to save Oxford from relegation. I wish I could tell the tale too, but work commitments kept me in London that day. It wasn't until 5.20pm that I heard that Plymouth had lost and Oxford were safe. Brian Horton's tactical switch to play Durnin on the left side of mid-field paid off and the inspired keeping of Paul Kee ensured all three points headed south.

The Summer

We all had a rest and caught our breath. Steve Foster was released as we welcomed Jon Narbett, Nick Cusack and Dave Collins to the squad. Behind the scenes too, things were changing, as majority shareholders Biomass established themselves in the Boardroom. A new spirit of optimism filtered through every level of the club as everyone looked forward to the first big kick-off in the new-look Division One.

August

A winning start in a mixed month results-wise. David Penney's penalty put us on the road to success against Bristol Rovers, and Swansea succumbed to two goals from substitute Chris Allen in the Coca-Cola Cup. That night also saw the nostalgic return to the Manor of most of United's first-ever League side who'd played the club's first League match at the Barrow exactly 30 years earlier.

September

On a night they'll all want to forget. United's

stars crashed 1-3 at home to a Swindon side peppered with reserves. Defeats at home to Sunderland and Tranmere didn't help the nerves, though it was satisfying to see Cambridge brushed aside 3-0. My abiding memory for the month though is Dave Penney's horizontal volley from Fordie's cross that won a point in the televised game at the County Ground.

October

October undoubtedly belonged to Paul Reece - 337 minutes without conceding a League goal was not a bad way for the almost-dole boy to introduce himself to the Oxford public. His breathtaking performance at Derby stole the headlines, though it was John Durnin's long-range strike that won the game.

November

If October belonged to Reece, November was Durnin's month. He scored one in the remarkable 5-5 home draw with Portsmouth, two in the away win at Southend and all four to destroy hapless Luton. The end of the month turned sour with defeats at West Ham and Brentford - which included Durnin's sending off.

December

The cameras arrived for the first match in Oxford's unbeaten December. A big crowd including nearly 2,000 young guests saw Kevin Poole in the Leicester goal 'do a Paul Reece' and stop everything knocked at him. But after two away draws, United signed off the year with a 4-2 win over Newcastle in the best match I've witnessed at the Manor. The style and commitment of their performance, combining flair and grit convinced me that Oxford are on the up and that 1993 will be a much better year than 1992 for the team and everybody involved with Oxford United.

The Line Ups

OXFORD UNITED

- Paul Reece** 1
- Garry Smart** 2
- Les Robinson** 3
- Mickey Lewis** 4
- Ceri Evans** 5
- Andrew Melville** 6
- Jim Magilton** 7
- Joey Beauchamp** 8
- Nick Cusack** 9
- John Durnin** 10
- Chris Allen** 11
- 12
- 14

SWINDON TOWN

- Nicky Hammond**
- David Kerlake**
- Kevin Horlock**
- Glenn Hoddle**
- Colin Calderwood**
- Sean Taylor**
- Micky Hazard**
- Andy Gray**
- Craig Maskell**
- Martin Ling**
- Steve White**

Today's REFEREE is 50 year old Tony Ward from North London. Tony is an office manager and began refereeing in 1962, joining the Football League list in 1980. His most important match to date is the 1986 FA Trophy Final which he refereed. His last overseas appointment was in 1989. Tony enjoys the theatre and all sports, especially baseball.

LINESMEN: Mr J H Holbrook (Red Trim Flag)
Mr B D Priest (Yellow Trim Flag)

RESERVE OFFICIAL: Mr T J Prendergast



John Sparrowhawk from New Hinksey, Oxford is today's Oxford Copiers 92 MASCOT. John, aged eight, attends New Hinksey First School and plays football for Apollo Boys. His favourite player is Chris Allen.

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