

**VOLUME 86** 

NUMBER 21

### ALBION n.e.w.s

West Bromwich Albion v Swindon Town

Bridsleigh League Division One
Sunday 19th March 1995

Kick Off 2.55pm

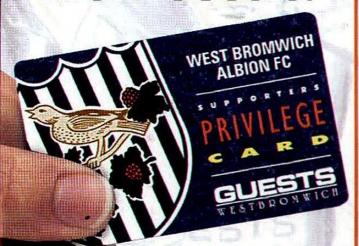
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Albion Restaurant Reservations:

021-525 6617

Football in the Community:

Mark Ashton 021-525 0226

Programme produced by: Paper Plane Publishing Ltd

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West Bromwich Albion F.C. Ltd.

#### w-e-l-c-o-m-e



Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to The Hawthorns for this afternoon's match against Swindon Town, and a special

welcome to the cameras of Central Television, who will be beaming pictures of today's game all over the Midlands. I expect every Albion fan is still in buoyant mood after our brilliant performance against neighbours Wolves on Wednesday night. It was obvious that Alan Buckley's boys all knew how much the result meant to Albion fans, as they turned in a spirited performance that had every Baggies fan singing with delight.

I would also like to say how glad I am that every fan in the ground showed exemplary behaviour, and simply enjoyed the atmosphere of a great night at The Hawthorns.

Hopefully we will be taking that spirit into today's televised game, as we take on Steve McMahon's Swindon side, who will also be looking to claim all three points after their important win against Sunderland in mid-week.

All in all, it promises to be an exciting game, and I hope that we all enjoy a good end to a great week.

#### t.o t.h.e HAWTHORNS

### ALBION u-p-d-a-t-e

#### FITNESS FUN

Attention all female fans! Are you interested in improving your general fitness,



sense of well-being and body tone, why not take part in some low-impact/high intensity aerobics arranged by the West Bromwich Albion Football Club Community programme. Twice a week a qualified instructor will improve your body condition and flexibility followed by a complete cool down for just £1.50 per session. It all takes place at the Throstle Club, Halfords Lane, and the first dates for these aerobic sessions are:

Monday 27th March 7.30 — 8.30pm. Wednesday 29th March 7.00 — 8.00pm.

If you are interested in full fitness, contact Mark Ashton on (0121) 525 0226.

#### 00

#### **OVERSEAS SERVICE**

Gerry and Charlotte Quigley have set up a company called "Sport Abroad" which exports copies of the Sports Argus overseas. The Sports Argus is now on sale in Tenerife, Lanzarote and Gran Canaria, with expansion planned from Easter onwards incorporating mainland Spain, Ibiza and Majorca. For more details contact Gerry or Charlotte on (0121) 360 6704.

#### **CLEANING UP**

The "Tidy Britain Group" have been working hard in recent weeks, along with Sandwell and other local authorities, to reduce the levels of litter, clean up the environment and make the public and other institutions more aware of the litter problem in this country. They have run many local schemes, all of which is leading up to National Spring-clean Week, which starts on April 1st. One of the local initiatives has been a poster competition, which was won by 12 year old Ben Cherington from Tipton. Ben, who is a big Albion fan, will be on the pitch today, receiving a cheque for £200 for the Alexandra School, which he attends. Congratulations to him, and let's hope that the boys in blue also manage to clean up this afternoon.

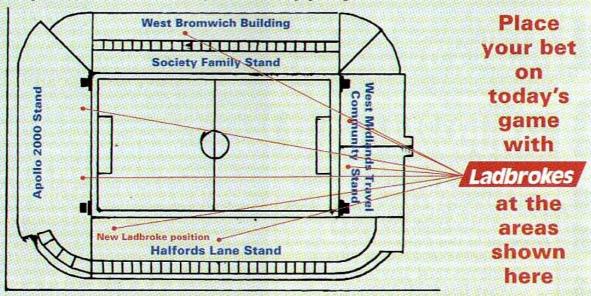
#### PROGRAMME REQUEST

Anthony Coombes is desperately searching for a programme/teamsheet from last season's reserve match between Albion and Tranmere Rovers, which took place on Thursday May 5th, 1994. If you can help Anthony in his quest, please write to him at: Flat 2, 63 Greenbank Road, Tranmere, Merseyside, L42 7JT.

#### AN EVEN BETTER SERVICE FROM Ladbrokes — THE OFFICIAL BOOKMAKER AT THE HAWTHORNS

Ladbrokes have recently extended their great beting service here at The Hawthorns. Due to popular demand from supporters, there is now a new service point in the Halfords Lane Stand, Block D (opposite the turnstiles).

Any winning bets can be collected from any Ladbrokes shop quoting reference 132 0559.



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Season after season, Apollo 2000 turns in a premier performance with a winning combination of a huge range of big name gas and electrical products at unbeatable prices.

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And if you take this advertisement to your nearest Apollo 2000 superstore, just 5 minutes walk from this ground, you'll qualify for a big 5% saving on any product.

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#### Preston

Ribbleton Lane, 0772 796119

#### Redditch

Town Centre, Access 7, 0527 585555

#### Stoke

Festival Park, 0782 284848

#### Worcester

Elgar Retail Park, 0905 755444

#### From the Boss

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to today's very important home game against Swindon Town. A look at the League table shows just how important this game is, and in a strange way, three points against Swindon may be more valuable to us than the three we got against Wolves on Wednesday night.

#### MAGNIFICENT

Having said that, the atmosphere against Wolves was all I was led to believe it would be. The crowd were great in getting behind all the players, and they responded with a magnificent performance. They did everything that I asked of them, and everything that they needed to do, both with the ball and without it, to get a very satisfying result.

#### PLEASING

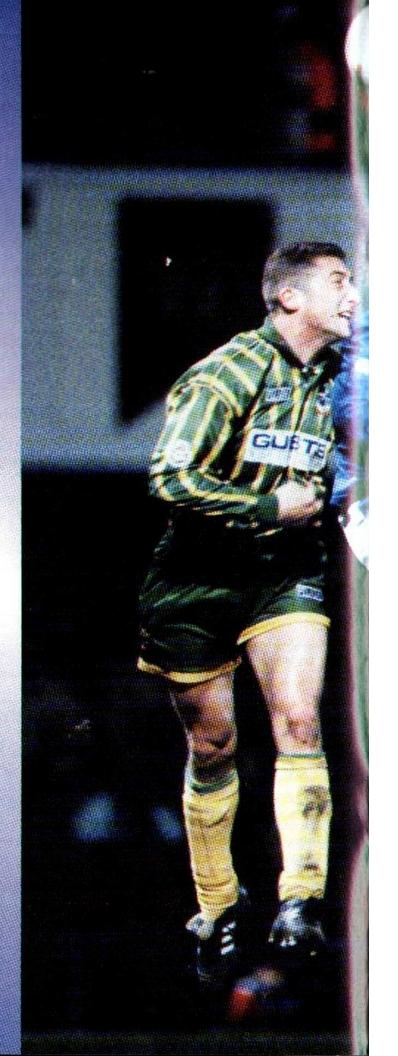
From talking to people, I know how important the victory over Wolves was to our supporters, because many Albion fans probably had to go to work the next day and sit alongside a lot of their mates who are Wolves fans. So obviously all Albion fans would have been as pleased as I was with the performance of the team.

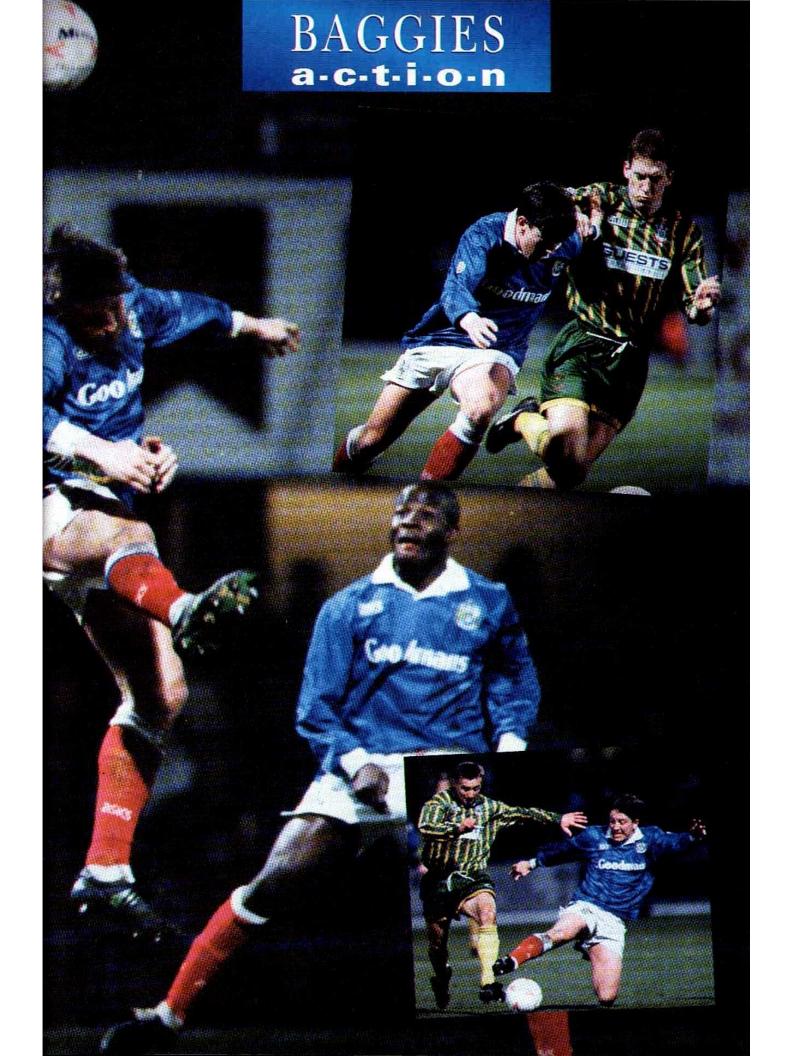
Pictures: Portsmouth News Centre

Main Pic: Paul Raven keeps an iron grip on Pompey striker Gerry Creaney

Top right: Pompey all at sea — Gary Strodder steadies the ship at Fratton Park.

Bottom right: Kieran O'Regan avoids a lunging tackle from Creaney.







A very warm welcome to the players and supporters of Swindon Town, and also a special welcome to the cameras of Central Television, who will hopefully be recording an important victory for the boys in blue and white this afternoon. As always, there are lots of things going on involving Albion fans in the coming weeks, so always make sure to check your Albion News to see what's going on in your region. It's never too late to join the supporters club and gain a wide range of benefits. To do so, use the application form on the opposite page.

Mike Vass WBASC Publicity

#### THROSTLE CLUB

As mentioned elsewhere in the programme, the reconstituted Throstle Club is now well and truly up and running under the stewardship of Ally Brown. Members are strongly urged to utilise the club at every opportunity (not only on match days) as the money generated goes directly to the football club.

#### KIDDERMINSTER QUIZ

This takes place on Monday 27th March at 8pm and teams from other branches will be most welcome. Contact Roy Hayden on 01562-69179 for further information.

#### **BRANCH LINES**

Main Branch — Our next meeting will be at the Throstle Club on Thursday 30th March 8pm when the guests are Ally Brown (he should be there on time!), Ally Robertson, John Wile and Brendon Batson. This promises to be a great evening's entertainment — let's see the place packed out.

Walsall — The next function will be a dance featuring DJ "The Force" (plus special attraction). This will take place on Saturday 1st April at the Great Wyrley Community Centre from 7.30 until 11.30. Tickets are £3 and meals will be available if required: contact Paul Clarke for further information.

East Birmingham — The March meeting will take place on Tuesday 28th at the Stirrup Cup 8pm; members will receive details of the guests in the forthcoming newsletter.

Redditch — Albion Manager Alan Buckley will be our guest on Thursday 6th April, 8pm at the Royal British Legion Club, Easemore Road and we would like to see as many of our members as possible in attendance.

Sutton — Special guests at the next meeting of the Sut-



Alan Buckley — taking a trip to the Redditch Branch.

#### MAMMOTH TOURS — SUPPORTERS' CLUB OFFICIAL TRAVE

Bookings are now being taken for the trips to Blundell Park and Burnden Park. The coaches (fitted with video & w.c.) will pick up at the Land Oak Public House in Kidderminster as well as the usual points between Stourbridge and the Moat House at West Bromwich. For the trip to Grimsby extra coaches are being run for a social with the Northern Branch of the Supporters' Club before and after the match. Please state which trip you want when ringing to book.

Date Venue Kiddy @ Stourbridge @ W. Brom @ Price \* Sat 25 Mar Grimsby Town 3.00pm 9.45am 10.00am 10.30am £8.00 Sat 25 Mar Grimsby Town & Social\*\* 3.00pm 8.15am 8.30am 9.00am £10.00 **Bolton Wanderers** 3.00pm 10.15am 10.30am 11.00am £7.00

\* Plus £2 membership of the WBA Supporters' Club.

You can make your bookings by ringing Dave Holloway on 0121 557 1408 (answerphone sometimes in operation) or by calling at the booking point, situated inside the Apollo 2000 Stand, before home matches.

CAN YOU PLEASE BRING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD ON ALL TRIPS.

\*\* If you have booked to travel with Colin Milton and the South Birmingham branch the coach will depart from Rubery at 8.30am, price £10.00.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB BRANCHES — Avon & Somerset Branch: Paul Holder Tel: 01934 644271 — Devon Branch: Clive Thomas Tel: 0626 56234. — Droitwich: Tommy Morgan Tel: 01905 774886 — East Birmingham: Richard Ryan Tel: 021-748-7185 — Boney Hay: Peter Huckfield Tel: 01543 682895 — South Midlands: Rupert Kendrick Tel: 01234 782810 — Gloucester: David Leary Tel: 0452-715101 — Hitchin & District: Tony Homer Tel: 0582 882228 — Ireland: Charlie Egan Tel: Ire 838 2009 — Kidderminster: Roy Hayden Tel: 01562-69179 — London Branch: Tony Vass Tel: 081 668 6626 — Malta: Alfred Vassallo Tel: 00356-492342 — Manchester: Adrian Dincen Tel: 061-929-6449 — Northern: Sam Owen Tel: 0673-861912 — North East: Dave Hewitt Tel: 091-455-7844 — Oldham: Matt & Vikki Wharton Tel: 061-681-5694 — Redditch: Pat Luke Tel: 0527-527190 — Shropshire: Matt Jenkins Tel: 0952 590724 — South Birmingham: Colin Milton

Tel: 021-624-5409 — South Wales: Rob Williams Tel: 0656-871103 — Sutton Coldfield: John Churchley Tel: 0543-375485 — Tamworth: Grahame Holder Tel: 0827-50951 — Thames Valley: James Wren Tel: 0734 781 947 Walsall: Paul Clarke Tel: 0922-645640 — Warwick: Ian 'Patch' Partridge Tel: 0926-401603 — Wednesbury: Andy Stevens Tel: 021-556-7039.

ton supporters club are the Radio WM team, including Malcolm Boyden, Ian Winter and Tim Beech. The evening takes place on Tuesday 21st March at the Berni Royal Hotel, Sutton at 8pm. As always, new members are most welcome.

Northern — We have pleasure in inviting Albion Supporters Club members travelling to Grimsby on 25th March to join us both before and after the match at the "Bottle and Glass" in the village of Scothern just off the A46 about six miles north of Lincoln (Grimsby is no more than 45 minutes drive away). Former Albion favourites Jeff Astle and Tony Brown will be calling in and a good evening is anticipated.

South Birmingham - The Branch is taking a coach to Grimsby on 25th March; please contact Colin Milton (021-624-5409) for further details.

Wednesbury — Will members please note a change of venue for future meetings: The St. Mary's Social Club, St. Mary's Road. The first function in the new surroundings will be tomorrow, Thursday 16th March 8pm, when the special guests will be Brendon Batson and Vic Callow.

Away Travel / Membership - Bookings for away travel and new memberships can be made under the Apollo 2000 Stand between 2 and 2.30 on match days, Dave Holloway and Alan Cleverley are the men to see. Please note that prospective members can now join the Supporters Club at the reduced price of £2 (£1 juniors and Senior citizens) for the period ending 31st May.

Travel to all WBA away games. No membership required.

		Halfords	
Date	Destination	Lane Depart	Price
Sat 25th March	Grimsby	10.00am	£8
Sat 8th April	Bolton	11.00am	£7
Mon 17th April	Bristol City	11.30am	£7
Sat 6th May	Sunderland	9.00am	£12

Bookings taken at: The Club Shop, Halfords Lane (Shop Hours). Griffiths Chemist, Hill Top (Shop Hours). Lynn O'Connor 0860 111910. Dave 0902 682142.

Please allow 48 hours notice before travel to guarantee seat.

#### WEST BROMWICH ALBION SUPPORTERS' CLUB

Benefits of membership include:

- Assistance with tickets for important matches
- 2. 5% discount in the Club Shop
- 3. Organised travel to away games with Mammoth Tours
- 4. Regular meetings held at West Bromwich & Halesowen
- 5. Free admission to meetings of all Branches of WBASC
- Annual Quiz
- 7. Christmas Meal
- 8. Player of the Year Night

You can now join for the bargain price of £2.00 (£1.00 juniors (under 16) and Senior Citizens). However, for Postal Branch Members (those living at least 30 miles from the Hawthorns) the cost is £7.50 (UK) & £10.00 (Overseas) for all the age groups. Please note that Postal Branch members will receive 10 monthly editions of the Halfords Lane newsletter.

N.B. When remitting your subscriptions by post it would be much appreciated if you would enclose a S.A.E. to help us to keep costs down.

#### Application to join the West Bromwich Albion Supporters Club

Name
Address
Address
Post Code
Telephone Number
☐ Adult ☐ Junior & Senior Citizen
Postal Branch UK Postal Branch Overseas
(tick as appropriate)
I enclose my subscription of £
(cheques payable to WBASC)
Please return to Alan Cleverley, Secretary, WBA
Supporters Club, 1 St Christopher's, Hamstead Hill,

Club Call 0891 12 11 93

Club Call 0891 12 11 93

Handsworth Wood, Birmingham, B20 1BP.

Photocopies will be accepted.

## Local Building Society wins National Mortgage Award Pic. Week

In association with West Bromwich Building Society

WEST BROMWICH
BUILDING SOCIETY

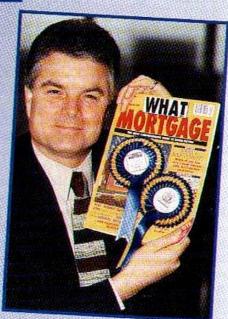
West Bromwich Building Society's mortgages are top value for money — and that's official!

Leading homebuyer magazine 'What Mortgage' has named the West Bromwich as the best regional building society in England in their prestigious Top Lenders of the Year Awards — for the second year running.

The 'What Mortgage' Awards have established themselves as the leading acknowledgement of mortgage achievement within the Industry. West Bromwich Building Society has been recognised for offering the best value for money mortgages, amongst all regional societies in

England, monitored over a five year period. Last year, the Society was recognised for offering top value mortgages monitored over a two year period.

Glenn Elliot, Chief Executive of West Bromwich Building Society (pictured), said: "Winning an award for the second year running is testimony to the fact that our mortgages remain consistently top value for money. The Society's success is a result of our continued commitment to customers as well as our ability to focus on customer needs and adapt quickly to changing market conditions."





Give tax the boot with a West Bromwich TESSA.

Now everyone can give the tax man his marching orders! With a TESSA account from the West Bromwich you're allowed to save up to £9,000 over five years, and not pay a penny in tax. And it's so easy to open. Just ask for details at your local branch of the West Bromwich — including news of our special 1% bonus!

Tax-free Savings.



Official sponsors of the Family Stand.

### ALBION u-p-d-a-t-e

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY **RED CROSS**

Prior to today's game, a special presentation will be made to Mrs. Eileen Hounsell, President of the West Midlands branch of the British



#### **EURO '96 -**FOOTBALL COMES HOME

Do you want to be part of the biggest soccer event in England since the World Cup nearly 30 years ago? If so you should be applying now for tickets to Euro '96 matches.

Already many thousands of fans in England have bought theirs, some for just one match, although if you want to ensure that you get tickets for the knockout stages you must also attend group matches.

Ticket application forms can be obtained here at The Hawthorns or from any branch of the Midland Bank. The form will give you full information on the system of applying.

Successful applicants receive vouchers which will be exchanged for match tickets in May 1996.

Your local matches, to be held at Villa Park, are:

Group games - June 10th, 13th and 18th.

Quarter Finals — June 23rd.

Football comes home in Euro '96 - will you be there?

Red Cross. Eileen will receive a birthday flag to help commemorate the 125th anniversary of the British Red Cross. She is delighted that West Bromwich Albion have given her the high-profile opportunity to promote awareness of the great work that the British Red Cross do in and around sporting venues, as well as every area of public life.

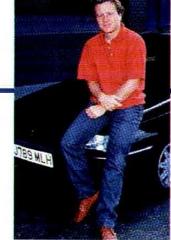
#### AT STAFFORD

Former Albion midfielder Steve Mackenzie is now playing for non-League Stafford Rangers in the GM Vauxhall Conference.

#### **VE DAY PARTY**

All Albion fans should get ready for a special day out at The Hawthorns for our last home game of the season, against Tranmere Rovers on Saturday 29th April. West Bromwich Albion, Guests of West Bromwich and West Bromwich Building Society have come together to promote a very special day at

The Hawthorns, to help celebrate VE Day. A feast of entertainment is currently being lined up for the fans, which so far includes a brilliant brass band belting out all the favourite tunes from the forties. There will also be a celebrity penalty shout-out before the game, and all participants in this special event will don forties-style football strips for the occasion. Many supporters have already expressed an interest in turning up in period costume. It should be a great day out at The Hawthorns to celebrate one of the most important days in our country's history, and the full weight of the message will be brought home with a 30 second silence to remember those lost in the war. Make sure you join in the celebrations, and please watch local press and television for further details of this special event.



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To be part of these pages, send us a photograph along with a letter, story or memory you would like to share with us. We will do our best to print them, but entries must include a stamped addressed envelope.

**BAGGIES ABROAD** 



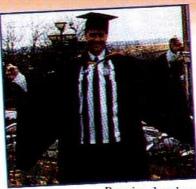
David and Helen Parkes and their friend Danielle Bailey, pictured here, are all staunch Albion supporters, and on a recent trip to Rumania, they homed in on a place called 'Albiulion', where this picture was taken. They were in Rumania to visit their penfriends and also take a convoy of aid to a school and orphanage from High Arcal School in Sedgley. David may well have been homesick during his trip abroad, but when he phoned home, the first thing that he asked was not how his parents were, but how Albion had done in their recent game. He's obviously got his prioritics sorted out.

#### Globe trotter

Neil Tart and his family swapped one great stadium for another this winter, and one sport for another, when they flew down to Australia to follow the England cricket team in the first two Test Matches in the Ashes series. He is pictured here with daughter Elinor at the magnificent



M.C.G. in Melbourne on Christmas Eve of last year. Neil was pleased to get home, though, to see the all-new Hawthorns in all its glory following the opening of the Apollo 2000 Stand. Like most other Albion supporters, Neil thinks that The Hawthorns is simply the best.



#### Degree of success

Bright spark
Michael Ottey certainly proves that Albion
fans are amongst the
most intelligent in
the country. Not only
does Michael have
the great presence of
mind to support the

Baggies, but he also recently gained his honours degree in Mathematics at Wolverhampton University. He is pictured here in his graduation cap and gown outside the University, the stylish outfit completed with one essential piece of academic attire — a Baggies shirt. Congratulations on gaining your degree, Michael.

#### **FUN IN THE SUN**

Nigel Picken has been a Hawthorns season ticket hold-

er for many years, so has seen some great sights over the years at The Hawthorns. However, he did not expect to see quite so many Albion fans when on holiday in Menorca last summer. Nigel is pictured her at the Caves of Xoroi with his son Daniel, and they were not alone in their photographic exploits, as Nigel's wife Elaine says that they counted at least six other Albion fans all having their picture



taken in their kit throughout the day. It just goes to show that supporting the Baggies is a very popular pastime.

#### Fancy dress fun

Here's a sight you definitely don't see every day, as a group of West Bromwich Albion stewards made the most of the festive season and took the opportunity to get



dressed up. This party took place on New Year's Eve following Albion's win over Bolton Wanderers, so everyone was definitely in a party mood, as you can obviously see. The men behind the masks are (I-r): Gary "Santa" Guest, a steward in the Apollo 2000 Stand, James Heggie, the Chief Steward, John Dugmore, who hopes one day to also be steward; Brian Guest, alias the Good Fairy, who is a steward at the Director's Entrance in Halfords Lane, and Arnold Guest as Aladdin, who is a steward at the Executive Club Entrance. If you bump into any of these fine men today, be sure and remind them of the good fun they had on New Year's Eve — they surely wouldn't want to forget it.

#### Roman spirit



Debbie Walker, a season ticket holder in the West Bromwich **Building Society** Family Stand, went to Las Vegas on holiday recently, and could not resist the opportunity of show-

ing off her Baggies top in such distinguished surroundings. She can be seen here outside the world famous Caesar's Palace. Her attire obviously befits an Empress, as the colours she wears could inspire many legions of followers to march on to the end of the earth. Let's hope the Alan Buckley empire continues to get bigger and better.

#### A GREAT SIGN

While on holiday in Cornwall last year, the Griffiths family had the perfect reminder of all the good



things to come on their return when they came across this road sign. It was obviously too good an opportunity to miss, and dad Paul made sure that four year old daughter Hayley and one year

old son Ashley were dressed accordingly for this picture to be taken. The family, who live in Halesowen, thought that it might be nice to live in a road with such a glorious name, but in the end they realised they'd rather be anywhere within shouting distance of The Hawthorns.

### Halfords Lane Throstle Club

### Headquarters of West Bromwich Albion Supporters Club.

The Throstle Club is now home to the main supporters club and all main supporters club and branch affiliated members are now welcome to the club including on match-days.

Existing Throstle Club membership has been extended free of charge to 31st May, 1995 to fall in line with the supporters club year end and new members can join for a fee of £2 for the period to 31st May, 1995.

Supporters club and Throstle Club members are therefore invited to call us for a pre-match or post-match drink in the company of the new steward, former Albion favourite, Ally Brown.

Throstle Club activities are continuing as normal throughout the week and all main supporters club meetings will now be held at the club.

Come and pay us a visit!

# Sponsored by FIGURE GAS + ELECTRICAL SUPERSTORES

#### Out of the Blue

This season, we're running the "Out Of The Blue" Picture Competition. The winner will receive a £100 voucher to spend at any Apollo 2000 gas and electrical superstore. Runners-up will receive a voucher worth £25.

All you have to do is simply send us a letter and a photo of someone wearing an Albion shirt in an exotic or faraway location, or doing something out of the ordinary. Pictures will then be judged on their humorous content, unusual location and references to Albion.

Send your entry to: Out of the Blue Competition, Paper Plane Publishing Ltd, Chaddesley House, 196 Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, West Midlands DY1 1DZ.

#### The - Away - Changin

You could almost forgive the Swindon players if they were tired out this afternoon: today is their 50th game of the season and it's still only the middle of March.



Those who normally play the most games in a season are the successful teams, tied up in Cup games and rearranged League fixtures, and success breeds energy. Today's visitors however, after a superb Coca-Cola Cup run which took them so close to a trip to Wembley, and early-season results which left them fifth in the table in mid-October, are now facing a battle against relegation.

Steve McMahon's team gained their first win in eight games against Sunderland on Wednesday night, while their much-vaunted striker Jan Aage Fjortoft, the Norwegian captain and World Cup player, has failed to add to his season's 22 goals in the last cleven outings.

Despite this dismal sequence, there is much talent in a Swindon team who this time last year were playing in the Premiership. One of their most skilful players is winger Joey Beauchamp, who made his name at this level with Oxford United before he was saved from an ill-fated £1 million transfer to West Ham last summer by moving back home and to

Beauchamp is convinced Swindon can save them-

selves from relegation — as long as the recovery starts imminently. "Our results are no reflection on the way we've been playing. The luck's

not been with us but we played really well last Saturday only to end up losing 2-0 (at Watford)," he says.

"I think we will stay up as long as we get our bit of luck — we're due a bit. We've still got a couple of games in hand but we've been living on those games in hand for a while. We've got to turn them into points now."

Only an 88th-minute deciding goal from John McGinlay 11 days ago separated Bolton from Swindon in the battle to see who faces Liverpool in the Coca-Cola Cup final. That second leg was Swindon's eighth game in the competition. "From being three down to Charlton in the first game, to get this far was really exciting. But it's been hard to concentrate on the League physically and mentally, it really took a lot out of us," says Beauchamp, 24 last week.

"It's out of my mind now we're out and, although we're getting a bit adrift in the League, we've got two six pointers this week (Sunderland in midweek before today's game) and it can all change in a week."

Swindon's cause has not been helped recently by the absence of an entire defence. Central defender Andy Thomson, 20, a regular before John Gorman was sacked as manager in November, has been injured lately while Eddie Murray, 21, has had a groin strain. Right-back Mark Robinson, a £600,000 summer signing from Newcastle, has just completed a five-match suspension while Ian Culverhouse, bought for £200,000 from Norwich last year, has been sidelined with an ankle problem. Then any team would miss the foraging influence of captain and Welsh international left-back Paul Bodin, whose back operation means he is out for the rest of the season.

McMahon, in his first experience of management at the latter end of a playing career in which he starred for England and Liverpool, has had his work cut out. Beauchamp points out: "He's had a lot of injuries to contend with, playing a few youngsters and he's also bought some experienced players. But the team's barely been the same, with all the chopping and changing due to injuries."

McMahon has been playing regularly again in recent games. Beauchamp continues: "He's everywhere, and he can still play a bit. It's strengthened the team, having him there, and his influence is rubbing off on the others, especially the tacklers in the team. He does like a tackle! I think I'll have retired before I manage a tackle."

Norwegian international Luc Nijholt is back from a suspension alongside McMahon, while youngsters Kevin Horlock, Wayne O'Sullivan and the immensely talented former Arsenal youth player Ty Gooden also feature in the squad's midfield personnel.

#### - Room

Up front striker Peter Thorne, McMahon's first money signing when he arrived from understudying Alan Shearer at Blackburn for £200,000, weighed in with four goals in his first two games.

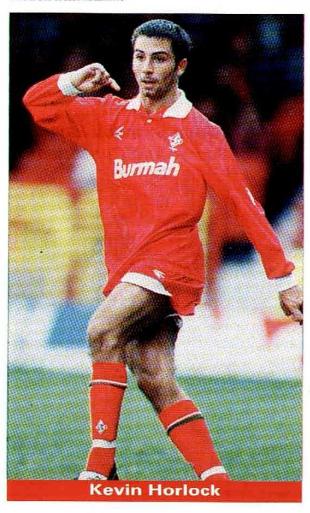
In goal Fraser Digby has displaced Nicky Hammond for the last few games. With defensive resources stretched, Adrian Viveash has returned from a loan spell at Reading and Andrew Todd, son of former England defender Colin, the Middlesbrough assistant manager, has come on loan.

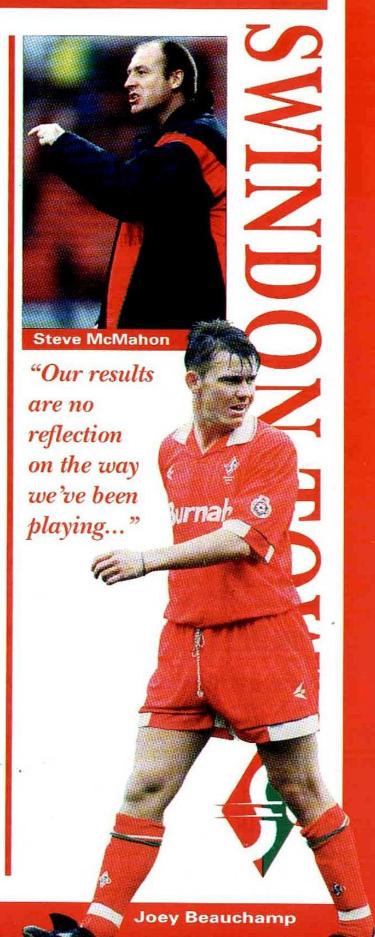
The influence of McMahon, whose very name struck awe into opponents of Aston Villa, Everton, Manchester City and Liverpool, has not completely changed Swindon's footballing philosophy initiated by Glenn Hoddle and continued under Gorman.

"We're still a passing team, still occasionally overpass it but the manager has brought a hard side to our game, with his tackling and his ability to work

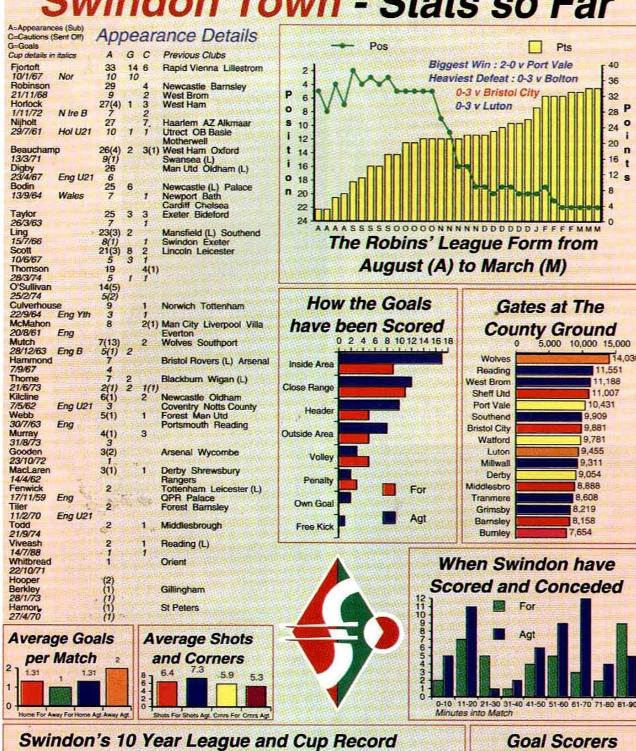
on people's games.

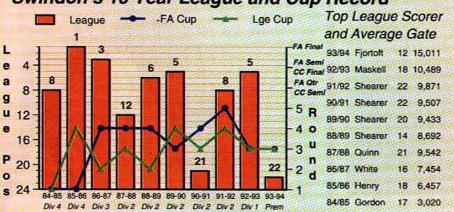
"I'd still like to play in the Premiership, against the top players, and it would be nice to do that with Swindon. If we can stay up this season, I'm sure we've got a good enough side to push towards promotion next season."

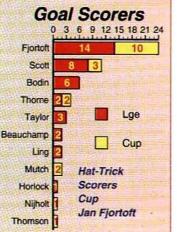




#### Swindon Town - Stats so Far







40

36

32

28

24

20

16

12

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n

14,036

11,551

11,188

11,007

10,431

9.881

9,781



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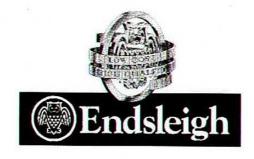
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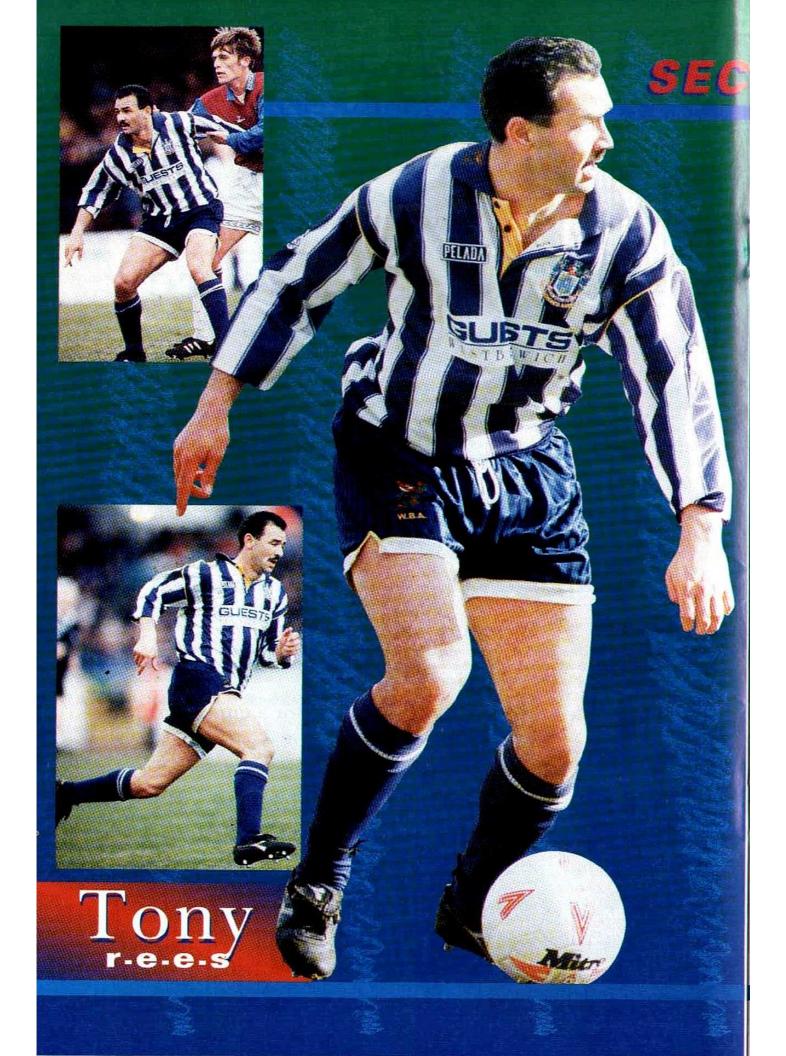
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### OND THOUGHTS

#### When manager Alan Buckley signed Tony Rees, it took him some time to persuade the former Aston Villa and Birmingham City striker to move clubs.

After all, Tony had moved from the Midlands and settled further north, and quite frankly he wasn't too sure whether or not he fancied living in the area where Buckley's club was located. Then there was the extremely important matter of having to drop two divisions down the League....

That was the scenario when Welshman Tony first joined forces with Alan Buckley, moving from Barnsley to a fourth division Grimsby outfit with which he was destined to return to Division Two (now One) within two years.

A little over five years later he got the chance to link up with the manager again at Albion — and this time persuasion did not enter the equation.

Tony said: "Coming to West Brom was an excellent move for me. It's a big club with bags of potential, and it also meant I could come back to live in the Midlands.

"I've moved to a house in Droitwich, which is the perfect location for me—it's only a 20 minute drive to The Hawthorns and, in the other direction, only an hour into Wales.

"I like to visit family and friends in Merthyr Tydfil as often as possible, which is easy from where I am now — but which was quite difficult from Grimsby.

#### NO REGRETS

"That was the biggest consideration when I moved from Barnsley. It was bad enough getting home from there, but even further from the East coast.

"The gaffer eventually persuaded me to sign though, and I never regretted it. It was a lovely area to live and although getting home was that much more difficult, playing for Grimsby more than made up for it.

"We got promoted twice playing quality football — a lot of people think you have to welly your way out of the lower divisions, but we proved that doesn't have to be the case.

"Knowing and enjoying the way the gaffer likes his teams to play was a big factor in making my mind up to join Albion.

"I know I've got to work very hard to get a regular first team place, but that's what I've come for — and I'm enjoying myself doing it, which is very important."

Moving back to the Midlands has returned Tony, his wife Sandra and sons Bleddyn (four) and Owain (18 months) to the area where the 30 year old Merthyr Tydfillian started his career as an apprentice at Villa in 1980.

Though he never made a full first team appearance for Villa, he played over 100 games for Blues in five years at St Andrews. He also won his one Welsh cap as a Birmingham player, turning out for his national team in a 1-0 defeat by Norway.

After leaving Blues for Barnsley, he spent less than 18 months

#### "....I'm fully fit now and raring to go...."

at Oakwell before joining Grimsby for the most productive spell of his career.

Now he is aiming to establish himself at The Hawthorns — though he has had to recover from a nightmare start to his Albion career.

#### FALSE START

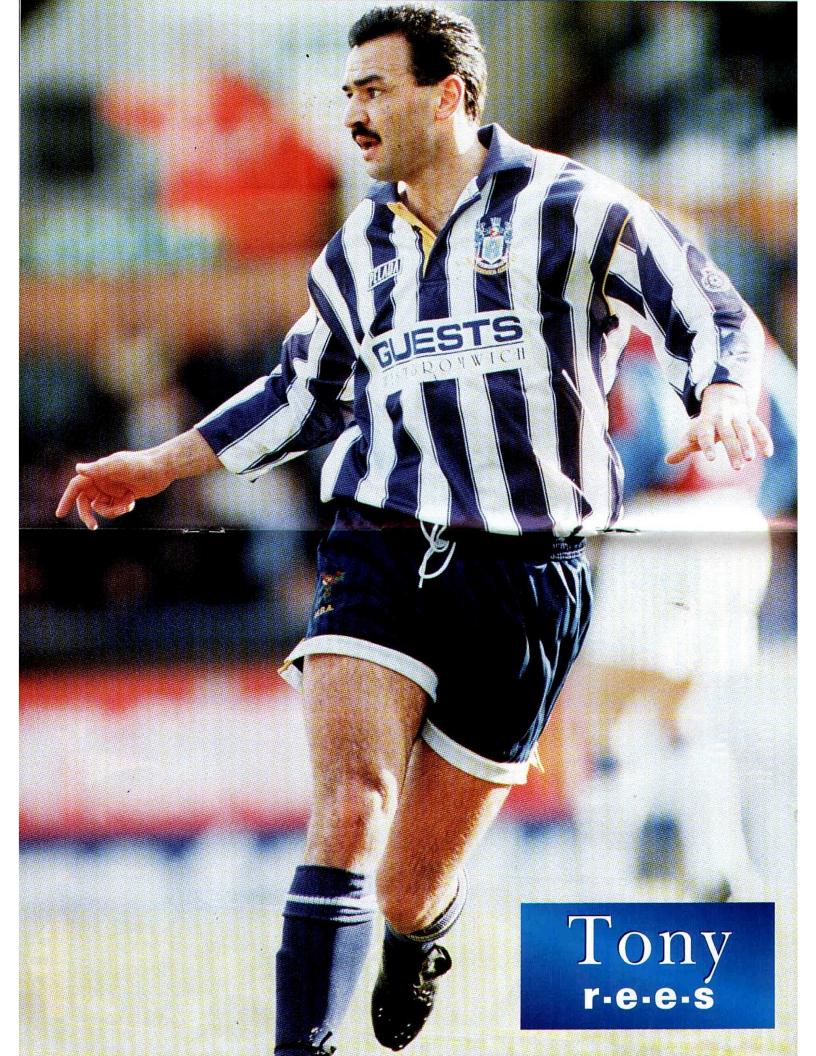
His debut at Notts County in November lasted only a few minutes before he had to be substituted with a hamstring injury. "I couldn't have had a worse start", Tony recalled.

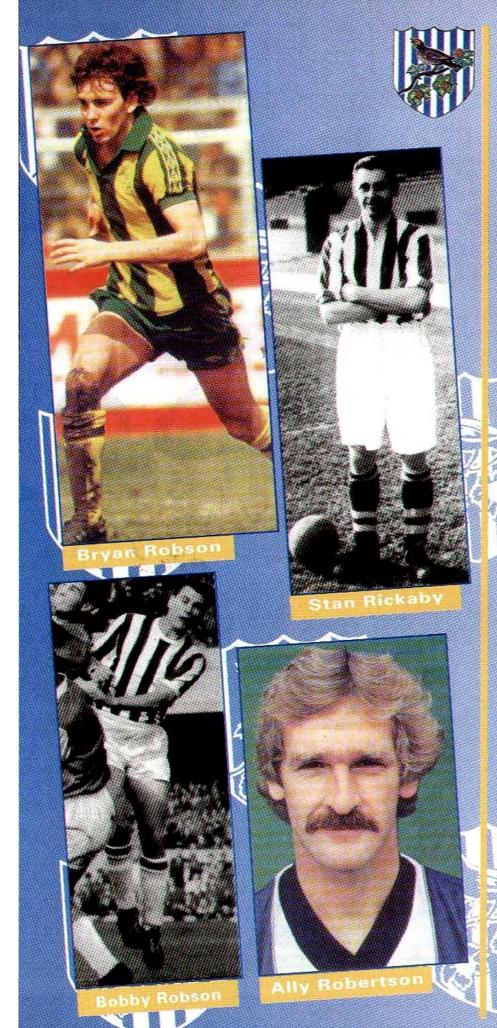
"It was just a case of being too hyped up for the game. I wanted to go out and make a big impact, but I overstretched myself and the hamstring went.

"The problem cleared up after a couple of weeks, but then I pushed it too hard in training and it went again! I've had a few games since, although I had another slight problem when I twisted a knee in the Oldham match.

"But I'm fully fit now and raring to go — I've just got to battle to get myself into the team and help take us a few places up the table."







#### Bill Richardson

Noted for his aerial ability, longserving centre-half Bill Richardson was ever-present in 1930/31 promotion and FA Cup 'double' success. He joined West Brom from Great Bridge Celtic in November 1926 and helped the reserves to win the Central League title in 1926/27, making his firstteam debut at Middlesbrough in December 1928. Very consistent, he also played in the 1935 FA Cup final and his sole goal in 319 League outings helped to beat Wolves 2-1 in October 1936. He briefly moved to Swindon Town in May 1937, then played for Dudley Town and Vono Sports and subsequently worked for Webley & Scott in West Bromwich, remaining local until his death in June 1985.

#### Billy 'G' Richardson

England centre-forward 'WG' Richardson was leading scorer in West Brom's 1930/31 promotion & FA Cup 'double' triumph, netting both goals in the Cup final. Signed from Hartlepools United for £1,000 in June 1929, he was dubbed 'G' for Ginger to distinguish him from team-male Bill Richardson, He scored four times in five minutes against West Ham in November 1931 and was ever-present in 1934/35 as Albion were again Cup finalists, netting a club record 39 League goals in 1935/36. Capped against Holland in May 1935, he managed 202 goals in 320 League outings (a record 328 goals in 444 games overall) before moving to Shrewsbury Town in November 1945. He rejoined West Brom as assistant-trainer in June 1946 and remained on the staff until his sudden death in March 1959.

#### Sammy Richardson

Tough-tackling right-half Sammy Richardson made a significant contribution to Albion's 1919/20 League Championship success. Born locally, he was the elder brother of Bill Richardson and also joined West Brom from Great Bridge Celtic in February 1913. Given his League debut at Sheffield United in January 1915, he guested for Oldbury Town and Coventry City during the Great War and represented the Football League. Dis-placed by Tommy Magee, he returned at left-half and his sole goal in 191 League outings came in the 3-0 win over Sheffield United in March 1922. He joined Newport County in August 1927 and became

### 'A' Is For Albion

In the next part of 'A' is for Albion, football historian Leigh Edwards recalls former Baggies stars Ally Robertson, outstanding midfielder Bryan Robson and England centre-forward Billy 'G' Richardson.

captain, remaining at Somerton Park until the temporary loss of Football League status in 1931.

#### Stan Rickaby

England right-back Stan Rickaby was a key figure as West Brom chased the League and FA Cup 'double' in 1953/54 and was unlucky to miss the Cup final through injury. Initially with South Bank, he joined Middlesbrough in July 1946 and Jack Smith paid £7,500 for him in February 1950. Capped by his country against Northern Ireland in November 1953. Twice ever-present, he scored twice in 189 First Division games before joining Poole Town as player-manager in July 1955 and later Weymouth and Newton Abbot Spurs. He worked as an executive for a frozen food company, then in life assurance and since 1969 he has lived in Australia.

#### Walter Robbins

Versatile Welsh international outside-left Walter Robbins was capped six times while at The Hawthorns. Turned professional with Cardiff City and helping to win the Welsh Cup in 1929/30. He joined West Brom two months after scoring five goals in the 9-2 thrashing of Thames in February 1932 and helped the reserves to win three successive Central League titles while understudying Stan Wood and Wally Boyes. Played in the 1937 FA Cup semi-final, netting 28 goals in 84 League outings prior to joining Newport County in May 1939 and was subsequently trainer at Cardiff City and Swansea City where he became chief scout, residing in Swansea until his death in February 1979.

#### **Bob Roberts**

Giant goalkeeper Bob Roberts was West Brom's first international, gaining the first of three England caps against Scotland in March 1887. An outfield player during the club's inaugural season, he switched to goal in 1880/81 and played for



**Walter Robbins** 

Albion in three successive FA Cup finals - a winner at the third attempt in 1888. He also featured in West Brom's first-ever Football League game at Stoke in September 1888 and was ever-present that year. then spent the 1890/91 campaign with Sunderland Albion prior to rejoining West Brom in May 1981. Dubbed the 'Prince of Goalkeepers', he completed 49 League appearances (almost 400 games overall) before briefly moving to Aston Villa a year later as cover for Bill Dunning. He died in October 1929.

#### Ally Robertson

Only Tony Brown has made more League appearances for Albion than central defender Ally Robertson. A former apprentice, he signed professional in September 1969 and made his First Division debut against Manchester United a month later. He overcame a broken leg in September 1970 to form an outstanding central defensive partnership with John Wile, starring in the 1975/76 promotion campaign and subsequent Cup success. Ever-present in three successive seasons, he netted eight goals in 506 League outings and was captain before joining Wolves in September 1986. A key figure in their revival, he was then player-boss of Worcester City

and Cheltenham Town until January 1992. He has since been a financial consultant for Pearl Assurance in West Bromwich and now Evans Halshaw (Rover) in Dudley.

**Bobby Robson** 

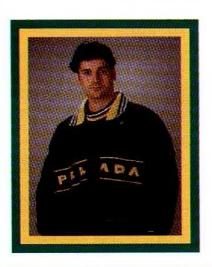
England right-half Bobby Robson was capped 20 times while at The Hawthorns. Initially an inside-right, he joined Fulham from Langley Park Juniors in May 1950 and quickly impressed alongside Bedford Jezzard and Johnny Haynes. Vic Buckingham paid a then club record £25,000 for him in March 1956 and he netted 56 goals in 239 First Division outings before rejoining Fulham for £20,000 in August 1962. He succeeded Buckingham as Fulham boss in January 1968 after a spell as Vancouver player-manager, then took charge of Ipswich Town in January 1969 - plotting FA Cup and UEFA Cup glory. Appointed England manager in July 1982, his reign culminated in the 1990 World Cup semi-finals and he has since achieved managerial success with PSV Eindhoven, Sporting Lisbon and now Porto.

#### Bryan Robson

Outstanding midfielder Bryan Robson gained 13 of his 90 England caps while with West Brom. Initally an apprentice, he signed professional for Albion in August 1974 and made his League debut at York City in April 1975. He featured in the 1975/76 promotion campaign and overcame three leg breaks to become a key figure as West Brom were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1977/78 and qualified for the UEFA Cup three times under Ron Atkinson. Voted Midland Footballer of the Year in 1980, he scored 39 goals in 198 League outings before following Big Ron to Manchester United in a record £2,000,000 package deal with Remi Moses in October 1981. Subsequently successful as captain of club and country despite recurring injury problems, he was appointed Middlesbrough playermanager in May 1994.

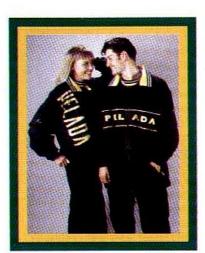
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### Three excellent victories in eight days

In the space of eight days in March 1958, Albion recorded three excellent wins, scoring nine goals without reply in the process and moved to within striking distance of the First Division leaders who were their arch-rivals, neighbours Wolves.

It was never on for the Baggies to win the championship though, and in the end they finished a creditable fourth with 50 points and so qualified for 'talent money' which was paid out to the top six clubs in each Division of the Football League at this time.

Those three victories were registered against F.A. Cup finalists Manchester United 4-0 at Old Trafford, Leeds United 1-0 at The Hawthorns and 4-0 versus Everton, also at home.

That 4-0 drubbing of Manchester United came just three days after the Munich-stricken 'Reds' had knocked Albion out of the F.A. Cup on the same ground in front of a vibrant 60,523 crowd. In fact, there were 63,278 fans in attendance for the First Division game and this time round Albion won hands down, outplaying United in all departments to record a superb victory. The Baggies' goals — and there should have been more —





Derek 'The Tank' Kevan

came from three England internationals Ronnie Allen (2) and Derek Kevan, plus an own-goal from the United full-back Ian Greaves.

On the following Wednesday evening at The Hawthorns a crowd of just 16,518 turned out in atrocious weather to see Albion beat a struggling Leeds United side 1-0. A young defender by the name of Jack Charlton netted the winner, putting the ball past his own 'keeper at the Smethwick End when under pressure from Kevan.

Then, on the Saturday afternoon, Everton visited West Bromwich for another First Division game, and they returned home to Merseyside, hammered 4-0 by a rampant Albion side which was now beaming in confidence and playing some delightful, attacking football.

This time the crowd had risen to almost 29,000 and those present saw a superb performance from Vic Buckingham's men who again could, and should, have scored more than the four goals they obtained which all came from that devastating goalscoring trio of Robson, Kevan (2) and Allen (penalty).

In this 1957-58 season Albion scored a total of 112 goals — 92 in the Football League and 20 in the F.A. Cup. Three players registered 78 between them — centre-forward Ronnie Allen netted 28, inside-right Bobby Robson weighed in with 27 and inside-left Derek Kevan collected 23.

These three players together scored a grand total of 468 goals for the Albion in a combined total of 1,006 first team matches. That's quite a set of statistics.

I know for a fact there are hundreds of fans inside the ground today who saw this trio of exceptionally fine players perform here at The Hawthorns (and elsewhere) and I can say without being unrealistic, that on the current transfer market now, each one would easily fetch between £2 and £3 million, perhaps more. Will we ever see the likes again?



By Tony Matthews, Albion Historian

### Cyrille Regis TRIBUTE DINNER



To be held at The Palace Suite, Metropole Hotel, NEC on Sunday, 30th April, 1995 Ticket Price: £30 7.00p.m. for 7.30p.m.

All proceeds from this event will be donated towards youth development at all four clubs

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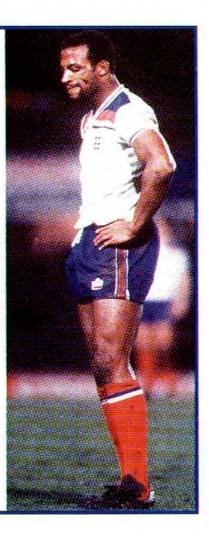












# Another great signing for the Albion

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The Albion have made another great signing. The Co-operative Bank has joined the team, ready and willing to help the Albion reach their goal. It's sure to be a great match! And, with four Co-operative Bank branches in the area, why not follow Albion's lead?

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If you would like to express a view or an opinion on any aspect of the club, then send your letter to: In Off The Post, Albion News, West Bromwich Albion FC, The Hawthorns, Halfords Lane, West Bromwich B71 4LF.

I am very much afraid that the Preston North End with give the Nest Bronwich Allron a trashing for the much coasted National Cufe - Still I should dike to see the Throstle give them a ride out but I mit think however. That any leave can nell stend against the Roth Enders. How about he attentilla and the durent Part? The Pillains mulat is looking up this seeson if that is any criterion. I famely that the only dilo that are likely to give the altron any trouble are the Preston troth End he Consultines and the Bolton Wanderers. Play up although I have no doubt will be quite as hearthly responded to the year acever. With Randy seems to have been makens with a the other than a little Randy seems to have been makens with a the other than the land will be a provided to the pass are even.

#### When Albion nearly ruled the World

This week's 'In Off The Post' comes second class — from nearly one hundred years ago! Albion shareholder Ken Preece made a remarkable discovery in a letter written by a relation many years ago.

"The letter was written by Frederick Eales who was the uncle of my father-in-law," says Ken. "Their family home was in Thynne Street, West Bromwich, but they later moved to Grange Road."

It was written in West Africa on Wednesday 23rd February 1887, and proves that over almost a century of soccer may separate then and now, but the passion for the Baggies was as fervent as ever in Victorian days. The long winded letter details how the writer has had "plenty of spare time". Indeed, he tells his parents, for whom the letter was intended, "I do less work now than I have ever done in the whole course of my existence."

"In fact my average All time given to business does not amount to more than one hour a day and for days together I never do a stroke of work. Such being the case it is my intention of writing you a thundering long letter just to pass the time pleasantly," he tells his parents.

"Reading naturally takes up the greater part of my time and then I devote myself to the columns of the 'Times' and the 'Illustrated London News'." Evidently this was where one of Albion's carliest fans satisfied his thirst for news of his favourite team whilst he stayed in West Africa.

Frederick goes onto to detail to

his mother and father the awful effects of local diseases in West Africa, of a severe thunderstorm that had passed by recently and tells his parents about the beautiful wildlife where he is staying. Eventually, though, his thoughts turn to Albion.

"I am very much afraid that the Preston North End will give the West Bromwich Albion a thrashing for the much-coveted National Cup. Still I should like to see the "Throstles" give them a 'ride-out' — but I don't think however that any team can well stand against the North Enders. How about

the Aston Oval, Albi

Albion's 'World Championship' contenders 1888

Villa and the Queen's

Park? The Villains must be looking up this season if that is any criterion. I fancy that the only clubs that are likely to give the Albion any trouble are the Preston North End, the Corinthians and the Bolton Wanderers.

"Play up Albion!' I have no doubt will be quite as heartly responded to this year as ever."

Frederick was proved wrong in his prediction, however, as that year Albion beat Preston North End 3-1 in the FA Cup semi-final in Nottingham. They got into the last four by beating the League's oldest club, Notts County, 4-1 — Bayliss (2), T. Green and Woodhall scoring the goals. On their return to Nottingham in March for the semi, the 'North Enders' were soundly beaten, with Pearson scoring twice and Paddock getting the other, in front of 16,068. It was the second year on the trot that Albion had reached the Final.

However, Frederick will have been heartbroken to hear that Albion lost the Final to one of the other teams he feared, Aston Villa. Played in front of 15,534 at The Oval, Albion lost 2-0. But the next

year, they made amends, again making the FA Cup Final — for the third consecutive year — and this time beating Preston North End at The Oval, 2-1, thanks to goals from Bayliss and Woodhall.

If Frederick had returned later in 1887, then he would have witnessed one of the most successful seasons in Albion's history. Of 58 first team matches played, they won 43, drew seven and lost only eight, and following their Cup

victory over Preston, were asked to compete for the 'Championship of the United Kingdom', against Scottish Cup holders, Renton. The game was also billed as the 'Championship of the World' and was played at Hampden Park on 19 May 1888. Albion lost 4-1. However, at least if Frederick had returned to his homeland soon after this letter was penned to see his beloved Albion play, he had seen the team that were so nearly, 'Champions of the World'!

# ALBI People

Inside The Hawthorns with Tom Cardall

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to The Hawthorns for today's game against Swindon. I am delighted to be able to welcome Central Television's cameras back to the club, and hope that all today's sponsors enjoy being involved with such an important televised clash.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to once again welcome West Bromwich Building Society as today's Match Sponsors. WBBS are one of the main supporters of our club, which is evident to everyone in their sponsorship of the WBBS Family Stand. Chief Executive Glen Elliot is at the game today, and I hope that he and all his guests enjoy a great day out at The Hawthorns.

I would like to thank Ruba-Tec Ltd for being today's Associate Match Sponsors, and also Cap Aluminium Systems Ltd. for kindly sponsoring today's matchball.

As always, sincere thanks to all our sponsors for their great support of West Bromwich Albion.

#### ROUSING RECEPTION

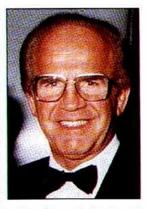


Telford based Middleweight Champion Richie Woodhall was the special guest of Albion Chairman Tony Hale at our recent game with Stoke City. Richie got a truly remarkable reception from Albion fans, the sort of welcome usually reserved for the likes of Tony Brown, Jeff Astle, Ray Barlow and so on. The Champion boxer was called to all sections of the ground to receive a standing ovation, and showed off his Championship belt to Albion and Stoke City fans as a thank you to the supporters who travelled to Telford to see Richie defeat Italian

Champion Silvio Branco. I invited Richie to The Hawthorns seven years ago when he was a 19 year old amateur boxer. I was so impressed with his dedication to the Albion that I asked him if he'd like to help us out on the Commercial/Promotions side of the club. Richie told me that his two main ambitions were to become a boxing champion and for West Bromwich Albion to do well. Since then Richie has won three Championship belts, and I have promised him that West Bromwich Albion will do their best to catch up on his achievements, hopefully in the next few years.

#### LOCAL SPONSORS WANTED

Richie Woodhall's manager Mickey Duff, pictured here, is looking for a local company to become Richie's sponsor and link in with National Promotions at Richie's fights. All of Richie's contests are featured on BBC TV's 'Sportsnight', and if you are interested in becoming involved with one of the



Midlands' best young sportsmen, please ring me on (0121) 525 4714 or Mickey Duff direct at National Promotions on (0171) 734 1041. Alternatively, you can write to Mickey at National Promotions, National House, 60-66 Wardour Street, London, WIV 3HP. We are particularly interested in local companies coming forward to be associated with Richie's success.

#### MIXED DINNER SUCCESS

The WBA Sporting Club held its first Mixed Sporting Dinner in February, and we have received many phone calls and letters from Sporting Club members saying how much they enjoyed the evening. Notable thanks came from Eric Whitehouse, Martin Wickes, Chris Williams and Tim Beech. I would like to take this opportunity to especially thank all the ladies who attended, and all who supported the evening. I know how much you all enjoyed listening to author and broadcaster Frances Edmonds and the Belfry's golf professional Peter McGovern, with Central's Head of Sport Gary Newbon presiding over the evening as our celebrity M.C.

#### DISTINGUISHED COMPANY

Manager Alan Buckley, Vice Chairman Clive Stapleton and Commercial Director Barry Hurst welcome Gary Newbon, Frances Edmonds and Peter McGovern.



#### LEADING THE WAY

Gary Newbon, Head of Sport at Central Television, kept everything running smoothly in his role as celebrity M.C.



#### DOWN TO A TEE

Peter McGovern, golf professional at The Belfry, is seen here in full swing, rounding off the evening superbly with amusing tales from the golfing world.



#### WELCOME LADIES

everyone who attended.

successfully

FRANCES ON FORM

A sample of the lovely ladies who attended the dinner was to be found on the Promotions/Commercial table, who lined up as follows, from left to right: Stewart Holmes, Katie Deeley, Karen Curtis, Stuart Curtis, Kate Evans, Sonya Cox, Sue Pritchard and Nikki Raxton.



#### THANK YOU **WEST MIDLANDS TRAVEL**

\* Our special guest of honour at the Dinner was Don Colston, Group Executive Chairman of West Midlands Travel, and Albion Manager Alan Buckley was delighted to present Don with a special bronze statuette as a thank you to West Midlands Travel for their tremendous support of this club. As all Albion fans know, they sponsor the West Midlands Travel Community Stand and at every match West Midlands Travel invite 50 children from local Sandwell schools to The Hawthorns as their guests. This was a great way for Alan Buckley to personally thank Don for all his hard work.







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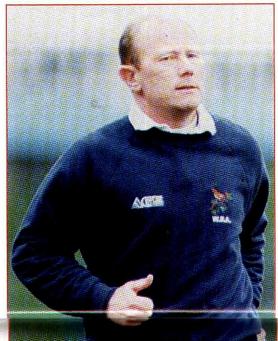
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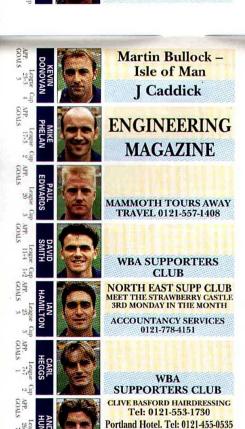
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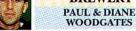


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### Reserves & Youth Report

The reserves face a hectic programme to the end of the season after having all of their recently postponed matches re-scheduled for dates over the next couple of months.

They will now wrap up their Pontins League campaign with a visit to Sheffield United on Thursday, May 11th. The other away fixture to be given a new date is against Aston Villa on Monday, 1st May.

Two outstanding home games have also been re-arranged against Leeds United on Monday, 3rd April and against Manchester United on Friday, 5th May.

The last two matches played by the reserves have brought sharply contrasting results, a 6-0 away defeat by Tranmere Rovers followed three days later by a 2-0 success against Coventry City here at The Hawthorns.

A side containing several youngsters went down heavily at

GLESTS

Stacey Coldicott hit the bar against Tranmere

"The last two
matches....have
brought sharply
contrasting results...."

Prenton Park. Tranmere's Ian Moore hit a hat-trick in the opening half hour to effectively put the game beyond Albion.

Gary Jones hit a fourth goal after the interval, but the final two goals did not arrive until the last couple of minutes.

Albion's best goal efforts came in the second half but too late to save the match. James McCue and Steve Lilwall both forced goalkeeper Danny Coyne into saves, while Stacey Coldicott struck a shot against the crossbar.

An unhappy evening for Albion included bookings for Coldicott, Craig Herbert and Darren Bradley.

Albion team: Gary Germaine, Neil Parsley, Brett Love, Craig Herbert, Matthew Clarke, Darren Bradley, Stuart Clarke, Stacey Coldicott, Carl Heggs, James McCue, Steve Lilwall. Substitutes: Billy McDonald, Andy Hughes, Neil Cutler.

The visit of Coventry last Friday brought an entertaining evening, with the Sky Blues' former Albion manager Ron Atkinson an interested on-looker as his Bulgarian trialist Trifon Ivanov tried to prove he was worth signing.

Unfortunately the central defender, who was such a success in the World Cup during the summer, blotted his copy-book by getting sent off for two bookable offences — committed within 60 seconds of each other.

Fouls on Lee Ashcroft and Carl Heggs just before the hour brought the red card for Ivanov, whose dismissal proved the turning point in a game which was far from aggres-



Craig Herbert booked at Prenton Park

sive despite the sending off and four other bookings — Ashcroft and Heggs among them.

Coventry had come closest to scoring before the Bulgarian's departure, but a minute after the visitors had been reduced to 10 men Gary Strodder headed Albion into the lead from a Coldicott cross.

Another Coldicott centre led to the decisive second goal, this time Heggs meeting the ball to send a downward header into the net.

Albion team: Tony Lange, Parsley, Lilwall, Herbert, Gary Strodder, Bradley, Coldicott, Lee Ashcroft, Heggs, Bernard McNally, David Smith. Substitutes: McCue, Stuart Clarke, Cutler.

#### PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE 1994-95 Date Opponents Venue 1994 1-3 (A) Mon Aug 15 Wolv. W Tues Aug 30 Leeds U 2-0 (A) Tue Sep 6 Rotherham U 0-1 (A) Thu Sep 15 Stoke C 4-1 (A) Wed Sep €1 Everton 3-3 (H) Tue Sep 27 Coventry C 2-1 (A) Wed Oct 12 Sunderland 3-2 (H) Thu Oct 20 Notts Co 0-1 (H) Thu Nov 3 Bolton W 1-2 (A) Tue Nov 8 Liverpool 2-0 (H) Wed Nov 16 Blackburn R 0-2 (A) Wed Nov 23 Aston Villa 2-1 (H) Tue Nov 29 Notts Co 6-3 (A) 1-2 (H) Wed Dec 7 Wolv, W Tue Dec 20 Derby Co 1-2 (A) 1995 0-0 (H) Wed Jan 11 Nott'm F Tue Jan 31 Liverpool 1-1 (A) Wed Feb 8 Blackburn R 3-1 (A) Wed Feb 22 Sheff Utd 2-5 (H) Tue Feb 28 Everton 1-1 (A) Wed Mar 8 Tranmere R 0-6 (A) Wed Mar 15 Coventry C 2-0 (H) (H) Thu Mar 23 Stoke C Wed Mar 29 Rotherham U (H) Mon Apr 3 Leeds U (H) Wed Apr 5 Derby Co (H) Wed Apr 12 Manchester U (A) Wed Apr 19 Tranmere R (H) Wed Apr 26 Nottingham F (A) Mon May 1 Aston villa (A) Wed May 3 Bolton W (H) May 5 Manchester U (H) Wed May 10 Sunderland (A) Thu May 11 Sheff U (A)

#### **PURITY YOUTH LEAGUE 1994-95** Date Opponents Venue Aug 13 Coventry C 1-1 H Sat 1-2 Sat Aug 20 Derby Co A Sat Aug 27 Grimsby T 2-1 H Sat Sep 3 Leicester City 0-5A Sep 10 Lincoln C 0-1 H Sat Sat Sep 17 Mansfield T 2-1 A Sep 24 Aston Villa 0-5 Sat A Sat Oct 1 Notts Co 0-2 A Oct 8 Nott'm F 0-3 H Sat Oct 15 Peterborough U 0-3 A Sat Oct 29 Shrewsbury T Sat 1-3 A Nov 4 Lincoln C Fri 3-1 A Nov 12 Stoke C 4-3 H Sat Nov 19 Walsall 1-1 A Dec 3 Aston Villa 24 H Dec 10 Port Vale 1-0 H Sat Dec 17 Birmingham C 1-3 A Sat 1995 Sat Jan 7 Birmingham C 0-4 H Jan 14 Coventry C 1-3 A 4 Grimsby T 3-2 Sat Feb A Sat Feb 18 Mansfield T 3-2 H Feb 25 Northampton T Sat 1-0 A Sat Mar 4 Notts Co 0-3H Sat Mar 11 Nott'm F 1-1 A Mar 18 Wolv. W Sat A Mar 25 Peterborough U H Sat Apr 1 Port Vale A Apr 8 Shrewsbury T Sat H Apr 15 Stoke C Sat A Sat Apr 22 Walsall H Apr 29 Wolv, W Sat H May 6 Derby Co H Sat TBA Northampton T H TBA Leicester C H

#### PONTINS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE 1994-95 (up to and including 14th March1995)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Bolton Wand.	24	16	4	4	56	34	52
Everton	24	15	5	4	51	22	50
Sheff United	22	14	4	4	40	23	46
Leeds United	20	11	3	6	34	25	36
Notts County	24	11	2	11	32	37	35
Stoke City	24	9	5	10	39	33	32
WBA	22	9	4	9	37	38	31
Tranmere Rov.	22	8	6	8	34	37	30
Wolves	23	8	6	9	30	42	30
Man United	22	9	2	11	31	34	29
Derby County	21	8	4	9	30	32	28
Aston Villa	23	8	4	11	32	36	28
Liverpool	19	7	6	6	26	24	27
Sunderland	23	7	5	11	32	37	26
Nottm Forest	24	6	5	13	29	36	23
Blackburn Rov.	24	5	8	11	17	30	23
Rotherham Utd.	23	7	2	14	26	42	23
Coventry City	22	6	3	13	20	34	21

#### MIDLAND PURITY YOUTH LEAGUE 1994-95 (up to and including 8th March 1995)

	P	W	D	$\boldsymbol{L}$	$\boldsymbol{F}$	A	Pts
Aston Villa	20	20	0	0	71	17	60
Birmingham City	20	13	3	4	45	21	42
Derby County	21	13-	1	7	40	26	40
Nott'm Forest	19	13	1	5	37	18	40
Coventry City	21	12	3	6	54	24	39
Leicester City	19	9	4	6	40	31	31
Wolves	16	9	2	5	26	21	29
Peterborough U	19	7	6	6	29	34	27
Stoke City	17	7	2	8	32	38	23
Mansfield Town	17	5	6	6	26	29	21
WBA	20	6	2	12	23	48	20
Notts County	14	6	2	6	20	16	20
Lincoln City	22	5	4	13	28	52	19
Walsall	19	5	4	10	20	28	19
Shrewsbury Town	20	4	6	10	22	44	18
Northampton T	13	3	3	7	18	27	12
Port Vale	19	2	4	13	28	50	10
Grimsby Town	16	0	1	15	10	45	1



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### Coming Up

With only ten points separating eighth and twentieth position in the First Division, any one of several clubs will still be thinking that they can make the play-offs with eight weeks of the season left. And on their day, there is no better footballing side in the division than Millwall, our opponents here at The Hawthorns on Wednesday evening.

It's a sign of a side destined to succeed that, even when they don't play well, they still pick up vital points. Any number of sides presently featuring in the top five or six would admit that at times this season, their form has been short of satisfactory, but it was the results that have mattered. Millwall manager Mick McCarthy, on the other hand, has been bemoaning the fact that his side have far too frequently been playing well, and not getting the results his team's performance has merited. Last Saturday's 3-2 defeat at Derby was a case in point, with the former Barnsley, Manchester City and

Celtic defender, claiming he was quite fed up with providing great entertainment for spectators, only for his team to end up losing an enthralling game.

Proof of Millwall's ability has come in the Cups this season, with Arsenal and Notting-ham Forest being defeated 2-0 at their respective grounds, and Chelsea being taken to a replay, before finally succumbing to the Lions in a penalty shoot-out. Millwall were then exceptionally unfortunate to lose in the FA Cup Fifth Round at QPR, where an outstanding team performance was blighted by a rash handball in the penalty area by Damian Webber. Clive Wilson deprived Millwall of a much-deserved home replay by slotting home the 90th minute penalty.



**Dave Mitchell** 

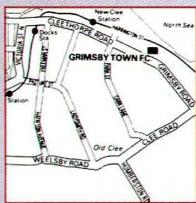
Perhaps it's been a case of 'so-near, sofar' once too often for McCarthy, who led his men to third in the First Division last season, only for them to lose to Derby in the play-offs. Since then, the Millwall team has changed considerably. One man who will have felt the pain of last-minute defeat at QPR in the Cup is Lions' centre-half, Tony Witter. He cost £100,000 from Loftus Road, and has come on leaps and bounds now that he has a regular first team spot. Other new faces include pacy on-loan Leicester midfielder, David Oldfield, and Richard Cadette, a £100,000 buy from Falkirk, who impressed initially on loan. Jason Van Blerk was taken on board from Dutch First Division side, Go-Ahead Eagles, for £280,000 and Jason Beckford signed from Stoke.

Former Scottish under-21 intenational, Alex Rae, has been consistently excellent at First Division level, and has been aided and abetted by the much-admired talents of England under-21 midfielder Andy Roberts. Roberts, who led the Endsleigh League representative side to victory against an Italian Serie 'B' team last month, is only 20. Also being watched closely by jealous Premiership eyes is 18 year old left-back, Ben Thatcher. Irish winger Mark Kennedy, scorer of a spectacular goal at Highbury in the FA Cup, Mark Beard and Dave Savage complete a promising crop of Mill-wall youngsters destined for big things.

Then there's the experience of veteran professionals like Keith Stevens, in his 15th season with the Lions, and powerful bearded Australian striker, Dave Mitchell. If McCarthy can't inspire his men to one last do-or-die dash for the play-offs, then expect to see Millwall featuring strongly next season. Meanwhile, Albion will be pleased if they can take four points off such an organised outfit as Millwall, having held the Lions to an excellent 2-2 draw at The New Den in September.

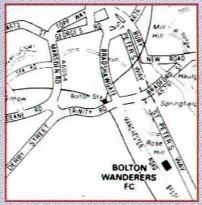
### AWAY

#### v GRIMSBY SATURDAY 25TH MARCH



From North: M180, A180 and A1098 Cleethorpes Road for ground From South: A1, A16 until turning left into Grimsby Road and into Cleethorpes Road for ground. Parking: Street parking. Nearest Railway Station: Cleethorpes.

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#### HOME m.a.t.c.h.e.s

v MILLWALL WEDNESDAY 22ND MARCH



### ALBION STATS 94-95

		Opponents	F - A	Attn	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Augus				0.010			D 1	F1 1	n) t	11.1	D	1.1 - 6	11
		Luton Town	1-1	8,640	•	Naylor	Parsley	Edwards	Phelan	Herbert	Burgess	Ashcroft	Hamilton
	16	Hereford U. (CCC1/2)	0-0	5,425		Naylor	Parsley	Edwards	Phelan	Herbert	Raven	Donovan	Hamilton
		Wolves	0-2	27,764	22	Naylor	Parsley	Darton	Phelan	Herbert	Burgess	McNally	Hamilton
Wed		Swindon Town	10-0	11,188	22	Naylor	Parsley	Darton	Phelan	Strodder	Burgess	Mellon	Hamilton
Septer	mber	Alexandra Commission Commission	Number :					-					
Wed	7	Hereford U. (CCC1/2)	0-1	10,604	*1	Naylor	Burgess	Darton	Phelan	Strodder	Herbert	Mellon	Ashcroft
Sat	10	Millwall	2.2	8,378	24	Naylor	Burgess	Darton	Phelan	Strodder	Herbert	Lilwall	Ashcroft
Wed	1.1	Middlesbrough	1-2	14,878	24	Naylor	Burgess	Darton	Coldicott	Strodder	Herbert	Lilwall	Ashcroft 1
Sat	17	Grimsby	1-1	14,496	24	Naylor	Mardon	Darton	Coldicott	Strodder	Herbert	Lilwall	Ashcroft 1
Sat	24	Burnley	1-0	13,539	23	Naylor	Parsley	Darton	Phelan	Strodder	Herbert	Hunt	Ashcroft
Wed	28	Portsmouth ·	0-2	13,545	23	Naylor	Parsley	Darton	Phelan	Strodder	Herbert	Hunt	Ashcroft
Octob	er												
Sun	2	Stoke	1-4	14,203	23	Naylor	Parsley	Lilwall	Phelan	Strodder	Herbert	Hunt	Ashcroft
Sat	8	Sunderland	1-3	13,717	24	Naylor	Parsley	Lilwall	Phelan	Strodder	Coldicott	Hunt	Ashcroft 1
Sat	15	Tranmere	1-3	7,397	24	Naylor	Parsley	Lilwall	Mardon	Strodder	Edwards	Hunt 1	Ashcroft
Tue	18	Sheff Utd	1-0	12,713	23	Naylor	Parsley	Lilwall	Coldicott	Mardon	Edwards	Hunt	Ashcroft
Sat	22	Barnsley	0-2	5,082	23	Naylor	Parsley	Lilwall	Coldicott	Strodder	Edwards	Hunt	Ashcroft
Sat	29	Reading	2-0	14,313	23	Naylor	Parsley	Edwards	Phelan	Mardon	Raven	McNally	Ashcroft 1
Nove	mber					111531							
Wed	2	Port Vale	0-0	14,513	23	Naylor	Parsley	Edwards	Phelan	Mardon	Raven	McNally	Ashcroft
Sat	5	Watford	0-1	8,419	23	Naylor	Parsley	Edwards	Phelan	Mardon	Raven	McNally	Ashcroft
Sun	13	Charlton	1-1	10,876	23	Naylor	Parsley	Edwards	Phelan	Mardon	Raven	McNally	Ashcroft
Sat	19	Oldham	3-1	14,616	23	Navlor	O'Regan	Edwards	Donovan 1	Mardon	Raven	McNally	Ashcroft 1
Sat		Nons County	0-2	10,088	23	Navlor	O'Regan	Edwards	Donovan	Mardon	Raven	McNally	Ashcroft
Decer						,	0						
Sat		Barnsley	2-1	13,921	20	Navlor	O'Regan	Edwards	Donovan	Mardon	Raven	McNally	Ashcroft
Sai	10	Sheff Utd	0-2	13,891	21	Navlor	O'Regan	Lilwall	Donovan	Mardon	Raven	McNally	Ashcroft
Sun	18	Luton	1-0	14,392	21	Navlor	O'Regan	Lilwall	Bradley	Mardon	Raven	Donovan 1	Ashcroft
Mon		Bristol City	10	21,071	18	Navlor	O'Regan	Lilwall	Bradley	Mardon	Edwards	Donovan	Ashcroft
Tue	27	Southend	1-2	6,856	18	Navlor	O'Regan	Lilwall	Bradley	Mardon	Edwards	Donovan	Ashcroft 1
Sat		Bolton	1-0	18.184	18	Navlor	Parsley	Edwards	Bradley	Mardon	Raven	Donovan	Ashcroft
Janua			12.0	10,101				Luman	2				
Mon		Derby	1-1	16,035	17	Navlor	Parslev	Edwards	Bradley	Mardon	Raven	Donovan	Ashcroft
Sat	7	Coventry City (FAC3)	1-1			Navlor	Parsley	Edwards	Bradley	Mardon	Raven	Donovan	Ashcroft 1
Sat		Reading	2-0	9,390	16	Naylor	Parsley	Edwards	Bradley	Mardon	Raven	Donovan 1	Ashcroft
		Coventry City (FAC3R)	1-2	23,230	-	Naylor	O'Regan	Edwards	Bradley	Mardon	Raven 1	Donovan	Ashcroft
		Covenity City (FACSK)	1-2	20,200		ivayioi	Ortegan	Lunarus	Diatity	Martion	Imren 1	Donovan	160161011
Febru		Washad	0.1	15 704	16	Varior	Parsley	Edwards	O'Regan	Mardon	Raven	Donovan	Smith
		Watford		15,794	17		O'Regan		The state of the s	Mardon	Raven	Donovan	Smith
		Charlton		12,084			100				and the same of	Donovan	Ashcroft
Sat	11		0-1	10,751	18	Lange	Burgess	Edwards	Bradley	Mardon I	Raven	The state of the s	Ashcroft
Sat	18		3-2	13,748	-15	Lange	Burgess	Edwards	Bradley	Mardon 1	Raven	Donovan	
Carrie		Oldham	0-1	7,890	15	Lange	Burgess	Edwards	Phelan	Mardon	Raven	Smith	Ashcroft
Sat		Stoke	1-3	16,591	19	Lange	Parsley	Agnew	Bradley	Burgess	Raven	Donovan	Ashcroft
Mare				11 005	**		n		nt t	C 11	D	O'D	Cartain
Sat	+	Burnley	1-1	11,885	19	Naylor	Burgess	Agnew	Phelan	Strodder	Raven	O'Regan	Smith
Wed		Portsmouth	2-1	7,106	16	Naylor	Burgess	Agnew	Phelan	Mardon	Raven	O'Regan	Donovan
Wed		Wolves	2-0	20,661	15	Naylor	Burgess	Agnew	Phelan	Mardon	Raven	Donovan	Ashcroft 1
Sun	19	Swindon				STREET, STREET	STORES AND ADDRESS	CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR	den minuter and	ACCRECATE OF THE PARTY OF THE P	NESTREMENTAL PROPERTY	NESKENERODENES (S	CENTRAL PROPERTY

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Sat

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Taylor	Heggs	Donovan	Mellon 7s	Ashcroft 10s	Lange
Taylor	Heggs	Donovan	McNally	Herbert	Lange
Heggs	Donovan	Smith	McNally	Lilwall	Lange
Taylor 2	Boere	Smith	Coldicott 11s	McNally 8s	Lange
Taylor	Boere	Smith	McNally	Mardon 2s	Lange
Taylor	Boere	Smith	Parsley 8s	Hunt 11s	Lange
Taylor 1	Boere	Donovan	McNally 7s	Lilwall 8s	Lange
Taylor	Boere	Donovan	McNally 7s	Lilwall 3s	Lange
Taylor 1	McNally	Smith	Mardon	Coldicott 10s	Lange
Taylor	Smith	Mellon	O'Regan	Heggs 10s	Lange
Taylor	Smith	Mellon	Coldicott	Heggs 10s	Lange
Taylor	Smith	Mellon 1	Heggs	O'Regan 5s	Lange
Taylor	Mellon	Smith	Heggs 11s	Phelan 8s	Lange
Taylor	Hunt 1	Hamilton	Mellon	Lilwall	Lange
Taylor	Hunt	Hamilton	Mellon 8s	Lilwall	Lange
Taylor	Hunt	Hamilton	Bradley 7s	Heggs 10s	Lange
Taylor 1	Hunt	Hamilton	Heggs 10s	O'Regan 4s	Lange
Taylor 1	Heggs	Hamilton	Hunt 10s	Lilwall	Lange
Taylor	Rees	Hamilton	Parsley 7s	Heggs 10s	Lange
Taylor	Heggs 1	Hamilton 1	Hunt 10s	Bradley 7s	Lange
Taylor	Heggs	Hamilton	Hunt 10s	Bradley 7s	Lange
Taylor	Hunt	Hamilton	Parsley 14s	Heggs 9s	Germaine
Heggs	Hunt	Hamilton	Taylor 9s	Parsley	Germaine
Taylor	Hunt	Hamilton	Parsley 4s	Smith 2s	Germaine
Taylor	Hunt 1	Hamilton	Rees	Smith	Lange
Taylor	. Hunt	Hamilton 1	Rees 9s	Smith	Lange
Rees	Hunt	Hamilton	Smith 9s	Phelan	Lange
Rees	Hunt 1	Hamilton	O'Regan 4s	Smith 8s	Lange
Rees	Hunt	Hamilton	Taylor 9s	Smith 6s	Lange
Taylor	Hunt	Hamilton	McNally 2s	Phelan 11s	Lange
Rees	Hunt	Hamilton	Taylor 10s	Ashcroft 8s	Lange 1s
Taylor	Hunt	Phelan	Rees 2s	O'Regan	Germaine
Taylor	Hunt 2	Hamilton	Rees	Phelan 7s	Germaine
Taylor	Hunt	Hamilton	Rees 8s	Donovan 3s	Germaine
Taylor .	Hunt	Hamilton 1	O'Regan 2s	Rees 7s	Lange
Rees	Hunt 1	Hamilton	Taylor	Ashcroft	Lange
Taylor 2	Hunt	Hamilton	McNally 8s	Ashcroft	Lange
Taylor 1	Hunt	Hamilton	Rees	O'Regan 4s	Lange

#### ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

(Up to and including 15/3/95)

					A							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	I.	F	A	Pts
Tranmere	36	15	2	1	44	17	4	6	8	13	21	65
Middlesbro	35	12	3	3	31	12	6	6	5	19	16	63
Bolton	34	14	3	1	39	11	3	6	7	18	24	60
Wolves	34	13	2	3	33	15	5	3	8	25	30	59
Sheff, United	36	10	6	2	30	13	5	6	7	30	28	57
Reading	36	8	6	4	22	15	8	2	8	19	20	56
Barnsley	34	11	4	2	32	15	4	4	9	15	25	53
Derby	35	9	5	3	29	15	5	5	8	16	20	52
Watford	34	9	6	2	23	12	4	5	8	15	23	50
Grimsby	36	9	6	3	31	16	3	7	8	20	30	49
Luton	35	6	4	7	25	22	7	5	6	23	28	48
Millwall	35	9	6	2	29	15	3	6	9	18	29	48
Charlton	34	8	4	6	26	21	4	5	7	20	28	45
Oldham	35	8	7	3	28	19	3	4	10	19	29	44
WBA	36	10	2	5	20	15	2	6	11	14	29	44
Port Vale	34	9	4	5	26	20	2	6	8	16	25	43
Portsmouth	36	7	5	6	25	24	4	5	9	16	28	43
Southend	36	9	2	7	21	19	3	4	11	16	44	42
Sunderland	36	3	10	5	17	18	6	5	7	16	16	42
Stoke	33	6	5	4	21	13	4	7	7	12	24	42
Bristol City	36	7	6	5	23	24	3	2	13	12	27	38
Swindon	34	7	6	4	99	21	2	4	11	17	34	37
Notis County	36	6	6	6	22	21	2	3	13	17	30	33
Burnley	34	4	6	6	22	23	3	4	11	10	33	31

#### MATTHEW COX

HAPPY 11TH
BIRTHDAY
LOTS OF LOVE FROM
MOM, DAD, DANIEL
AND BOTH FAMILIES

#### CHRISTIAN REYNOLDS

Happy 9th Birthday Son. Lots of Love from Mom, Dad, Boomer, Cloe and Peggy...... Boing! Boing! Happy 46th Birthday
DAVE
STACKHOUSE
from the family and
the gang on the BRE
Boing Boing
Baggies Baggies

Happy 9th Birthday on the 15th March to Shaun Keogh.

Love from Mum, Dad and Stacey.



### THE TEAMS



#### ALBION v SWINDON

Stuart Naylor
Daryl Burgess
Paul Agnew
Kieran O'Regan
Paul Mardon
Paul Raven
Mike Phelan
Lee Ashcroft
Bob Taylor
Andy Hunt
lan Hamilton

- 1 Fraser Digby
- 2 Wayne O'Sullivan
- 3 Andrew Todd
- 4 Adrian Viveash
- 5 Luc Nijholt
- 6 Shaun Taylor
- 7 Kevin Horlock
- 8 Ty Gooden
- 9 Jan Aage Fjortoft
- 10 Peter Thorne
- 11 Steve McMahon
- 12 14

#### THE REF

W C Burns. Bill Burns is a Supervisor with N.Y.C married with four children. He began refereeing in the 1974/75 season progressing through local leagues before being promoted to the Football League line in 1985. In 1988 Bill was promoted to the Middle Football League and he has interests that include all sports and gardening.

#### & LINESMEN

D.W. Mansfield (Red trim flag) & M.A. Williams (Yellow trim flag)

#### TODAY'S MASCOTS

NAME: Craig Goode. AGE: 10.

SCHOOL: Lightwoods

School, Warley.
FAVOURITE PLAYERS:
Paul Mardon, Stuart Naylor

NAME: Gemma Goode. AGE: 7.

SCHOOL: Lightwoods School, Warley. FAVOURITE PLAYERS:

Stuart Naylor, Lee Ashcroft

MATCHBALL SPONSOR
Cap Aluminium Systems Ltd

#### HALF-TIMES

ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE -DIVISION ONE

- A Grimsby v Sunderland
- B Millwall v Bolton
  - F.A. CARLING PREMIERSHIP
- C Liverpool (4.00 pm) v Man Utd
- D Newcastle v Arsenal

#### ASSOCIATE MATCH SPONSOR





#### WHO'S NEXT

Albion v Millwall

Wednesday 22nd March

Kick-off 7.45pm

#### Metalrax Group PLC Engineering Specialists



Ardath Road, Kings Norton Birmingham B38 9PN Telephone: 021 433 3444 Facsimile: 021 433 3325