WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS F.C. OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE

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GOODIYEAR



Wednesday 4th September 1996 SWINDON TOWN

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GOOD YEAR

ClubCall Quotes of the Week

The problem with our division is that we are

capable of producing performances like that, but don't do it often enough. The question for me is can my lot produce it again on saturday.



Mark McGhee commenting on the quality of Division One football after the QPR match

We more than matched them in the second half and deserved at least a point. We by no means played badly but we were not as fortunate as

they were with the decisions. I was right next to Mark Venus. No way did it look a penalty, and if it was a foul it looked outside the box.



Steve Froggatt after the Norwich game.

The official voice of Wolverhampton Wanderers

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Keith is anxious to line up for Wolves

eith Curle is hoping his Wolves debut isn't too far off.

Having spent the season so far in the treatment room, the former Manchester City and England defender is anxious to get back to full fitness.

"I'm making good progress and I'm confident that I'm not too far off now," he says.

"It would be wrong for me to rush things when I'm not fully fit.

"You have to play a lot of games in this League and you just can't afford to go out 90 per cent fit. And with the quality we've got in the squad, it isn't necessary."

Keith has been suffering from Achilles tendonitis following a calf strain he picked up in the pre-season friendly against Cardiff - his first and only game in Wolves colours.

Initially the problem was thought to be minor, and the £650,000 summer signing from Maine Road was expected to be in the starting line-up for the first match of the season against Grimsby.

However, as Keith explains, the injury has taken longer to settle down than first thought.



Keith is welcomed to Molineux before injury halts his debut

Shots and shows a second state of the second s

"After the game at Ninian Park I expected to be out of action for a week, or ten days at the most.

"When the situation didn't improve, the lower half of my leg was completely immobilised in plaster for a week to give it complete rest.

"This meant that my ligaments went soft, and my fitness has dropped off a bit because I haven't been able to train.

"But this is to be worked on vigorously, and hopefully I can return to the training ground with the lads very soon."

All-in-all this was not the start any player would have wanted to his season. But it's especially tough when you are new to a big club and all set to make an instant impression.

"It's not been an ideal start to my Wolves career," admits Keith.

"But looking on the positive side, it's given me the chance to learn my way around Molineux and watch the games.

"I've seen every match, except the one at Norwich. It was important for me to at least be with the players, even if I wasn't taking part, so that I could get a feel for what's going on and how the team is developing.

"Despite the set-back, I've no regrets about moving to Molineux and I'm just looking forward now to getting fully fit and playing my part in the campaign."

A new role could spell more goals for Thommo

hommo is hoping his new role in midfield could boost his goal scoring tally this season.

It's not only penalties that have swelled his goal scoring total to 43 since his arrival at Molineux ten years ago.

Normally a regular at left or right-back, Andy has been moved into an attacking midfield role similar to the one he played when he first joined Wolves.

He says: "When I first came to Molineux we were playing with four at the back so this is a bit different for me. It's giving me a chance to get forward and it's good that I've had a couple of chances on goal - some of which I should have put away.

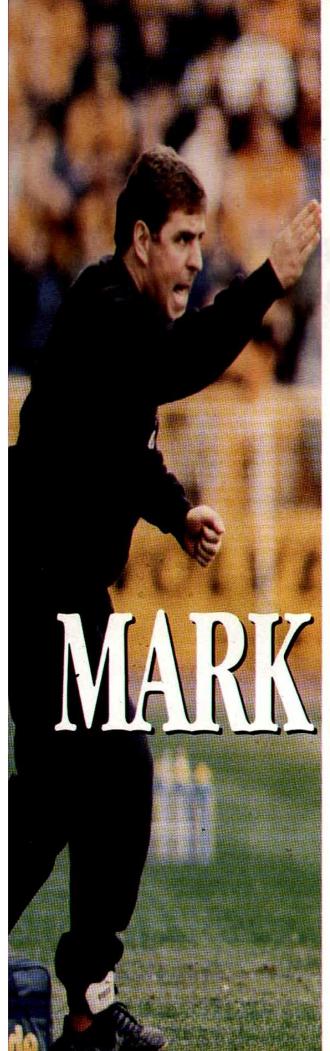
"Playing in this position means that you are more involved with the action and so far I'm enjoying it.

"I used to score a few goals, other than ones from the penalty spot, when I played in midfield during my earlier days with Wolves, and I'd love to chip in with a few this year starting tonight against Swindon.

"I nearly got one at the County Ground in the first leg when I tried to head the ball over Frank Talia. Sadly for us, he saved it. But if we can get an early goal tonight it will throw the game wide open.

"But we have to keep our patience and not go chasing the game. A two goal deficit certainly isn't insurmountable and with a bit of luck I'm hopeful of a place in the second round draw."





t was your reaction to the way that we were trying to play against Bradford City that prompted me to write my programme notes as I did before the Queens Park Rangers game.

Over the weekend of the Bradford match I was desperate to find a way both to explain what we were trying to do, and to convince you that it is the right way ahead.

I regret, however, if in my desire to get these points across I offended anyone previously employed at this football club.

My reference to 'continued failure' should have read 'continued failure to reach the Premier League'. I did not intend in any shape or form to criticise or demean the efforts and achievements of Graham Turner, who I realise managed the club during very difficult times. He did this largely without the advantage of substantial funds to spend on the team, and the comfort of the state-of-the-art stadium that Molineux is today.

Further, my criticism of the players was meant as that, and was not intended as a criticism of Graham Taylor and his staff.

I would like to apologise to Graham, and the staff that worked with him, for the use of the expression 'under-coached' which was included in my notes.

I understand why Graham found this expression offensive, I had no intention of offending and therefore would like to withdraw it.

I repeat, as I have repeated over and over to the players, that they themselves have a responsibility to monitor and to maintain their physical and mental condition.

During the traumatic time leading up to, and after, Graham's departure, it is my belief that the players did not recognise and accept this responsibility. Therein lies my criticism.

However, I believe that the players now recognise this, that they regret it, and that they are now determined to make amends.

I am convinced that we have a squad that can go all the way this season, and hope that the overriding message to come out of all this is that every single person with an interest in Wolverhampton Wanderers must get behind a squad of players who are desperate to do well.

After a good performance (although not complete), like the one against QPR, the question is always going to be: 'can we reproduce it?'

MCGHEE

The result at Norwich would suggest that we weren't able to. However, it wasn't quite like that. The quality of performance never reached the heights of Wednesday night, but the underlying trends remained.

As a manager I expect that when I pick the right team and chose the right tactics for a match that we win, then I get some credit.

By the same token, when I opt for tactics which fail, I expect criticism.

After having asked you to show your faith in the players, perhaps I should have done the same, and allowed them to carry on last Saturday in the same shape as they had been set out on Wednesday.

When we reverted to a system with three central defenders, we looked much more comfortable.

I feel very annoyed at throwing three valuable points away in a match which was there to be won. Fortunately, our confidence has not suffered, and I expect a return to winning ways tonight.

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Honours

Football League: Division 1 Champions 1953-54, 1957-58, 1958-59;

Division 2 Champions 1931-32, 1976-77; Division 3 (N)-Champions 1923-24:

Division 3 Champions 1988-89:

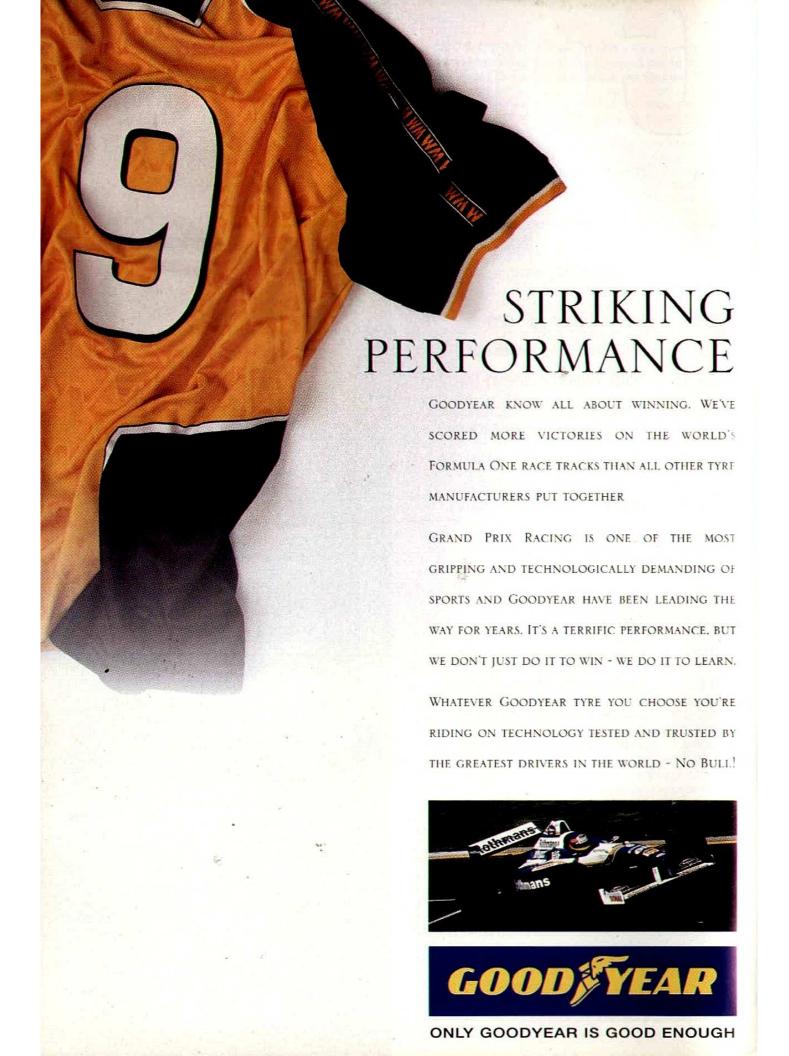
Division 4 Champions 1987-88:

FA Cup Winners: 1893, 1908, 1949, 1960; Football League Cup Winners: 1973-74,

1979-80:

Texaco Cup Winners: 1970-71: Sherpa Van Trophy Winners: 1988; European Cup: 1958-59, 1959-60; Cup Winners' Cup: 1960-61; **UEFA Cup**: 1971-72 (runners-up). 1973-74, 1974-75, 1980-81





Jonathan Hayward

onight we welcome Swindon Town to Molineux for the second-leg of our first round Coca-Cola Cup tie. Despite losing 2-0 in the first round, tonight's game is there for the taking and your vocal support can help us overturn this deficit, secure a victory, and progress to the second round.

The match is being shown live on Sky and, although this will bring us £30,000 in television fees, I hope it does not have too great an impact on gate receipts. The reduced ticket prices for tonight's game should help boost the attendance, and I would like to thank Swindon Town for their agreement and support for our request to lower admission prices for this fixture.

You may have noticed that work has begun on the construction of our new Superstore in the corner of the ground between the Billy Wright and Stan Cullis

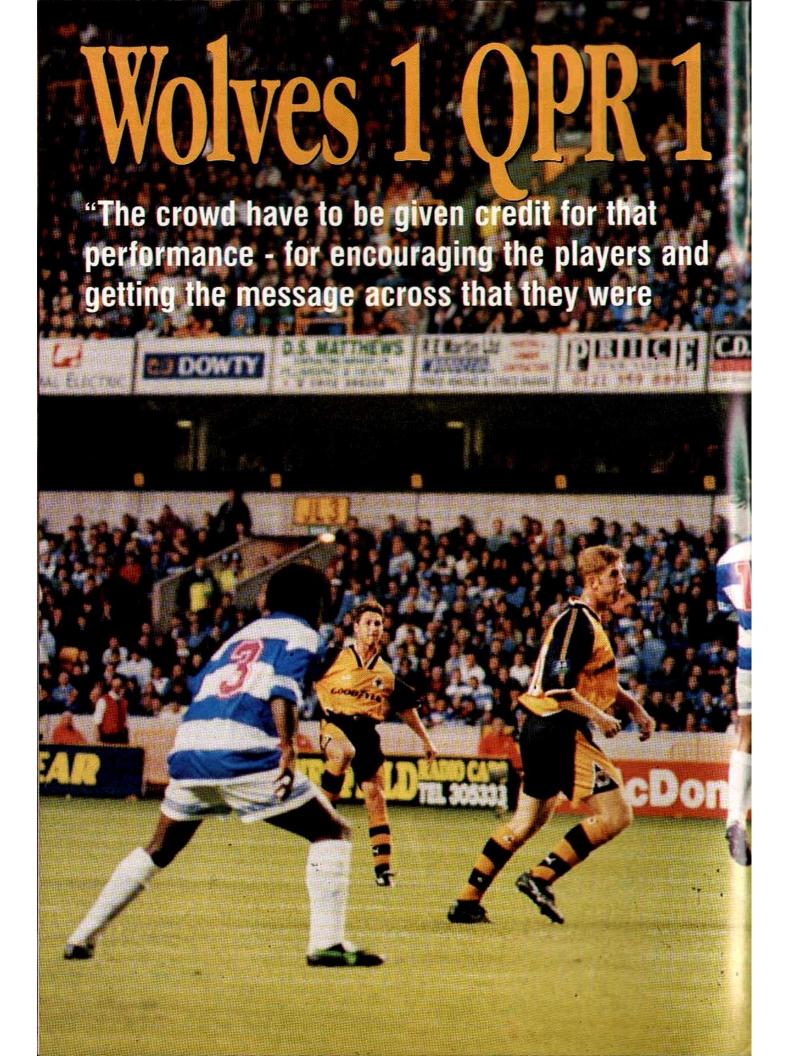
Stands. The building programme is scheduled to be completed by mid-November, this will be just in time for the Christmas sales period!

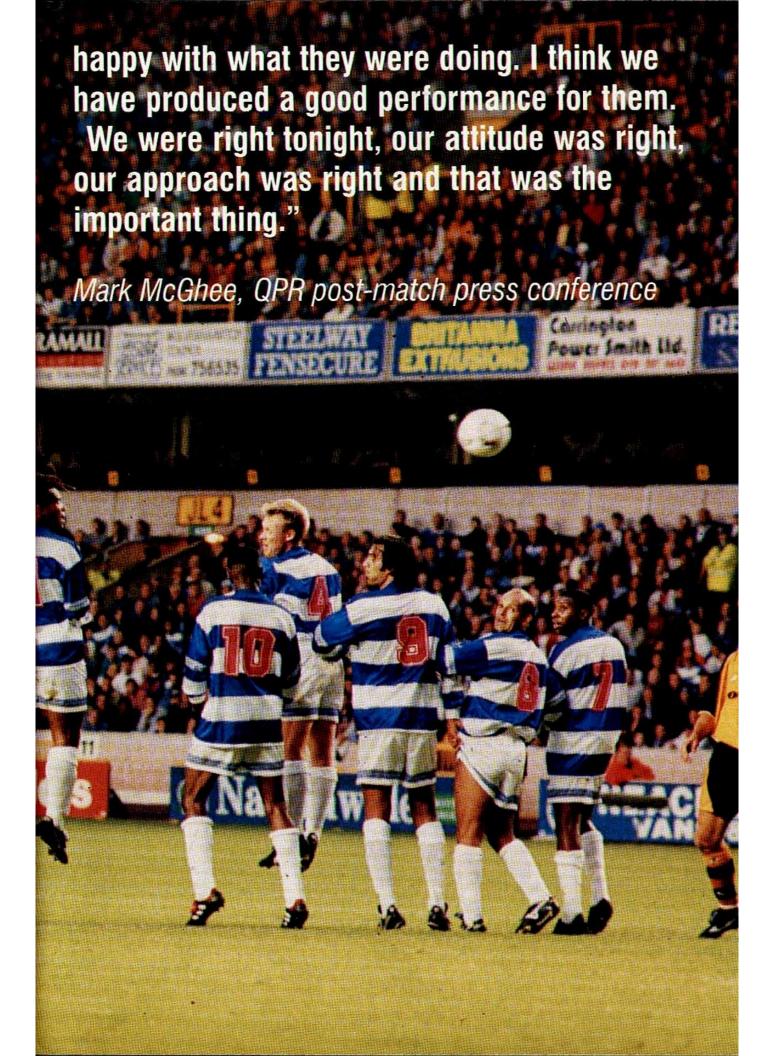
When it was first opened in 1992, the existing club shop was considered to be of adequate size, but demand for Wolves merchandise has grown rapidly over the past three or four years and the shop is now too small to satisfy demand, especially on match days. The new store will have around three and a half times the floor area of our existing shop and will enable us to retail a much wider product range more efficiently. It will also enable us to further improve the speed and quality of customer service we provide. The interior design will make shopping much easier and the layout will be comparable with the best high-street clothing retailers.

In addition to our store at Molineux, we also have a retail outlet in the Mander Centre, Wolverhampton, which was opened in November last year. At that time our intention was to occupy the site on a short term basis to cater for the Christmas trade, but the store has proved to be so successful our intention now is to maintain a permanent store in the town centre. You may be interested to know that we are also currently considering several other town centre and out of town locations in the region, as well as developing mobile sales units which can be moved around from site to site.

Enjoy tonight's game.

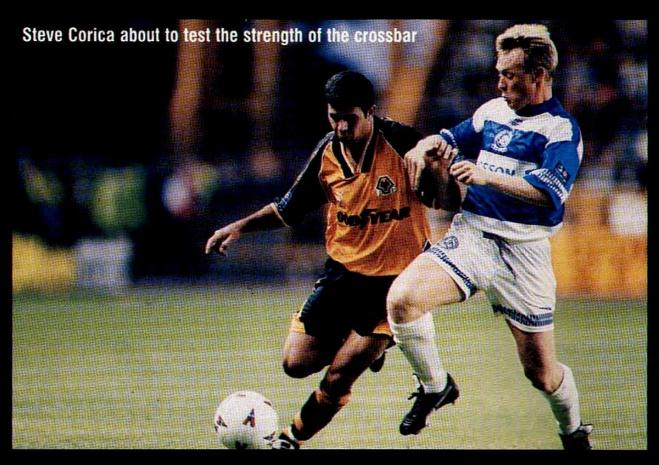




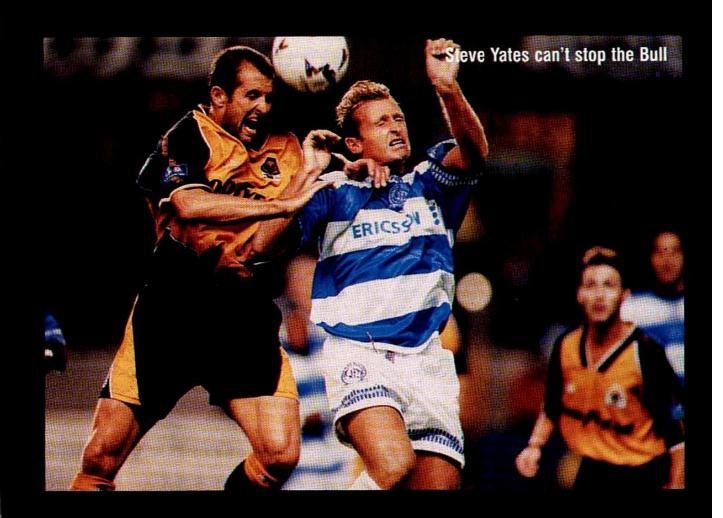


Wolves 1 QPR 1 Wednesday 28th August 1996











THREE SHIRTS ON A LINE.



Middlesbrough 6 Wolves 2

Wolves: Hook, Westwood, Pearce, Rankine, Nwadike, Sawyers, Stimpson, Leadbeater (Keane 28), Foley, Crowe, Dennison. Subs: Winstone, Hughes

It's difficult to write anything



Report by Mike Hickman

positive when you are on the wrong end of a 6-2 beating. But, despite the scoreline, there were things that encouraged me at the Riverside Stadium last Thursday.

We took a very young side up to the north-east with only Robbie Dennison and Mark Rankine having any first team experience. Middlesbrough, on the other hand, included Brazilian International Branco, and seven other players who were regulars in their side during last season.

It was very much one way traffic in the first-half. Within half an hour we were three down as Boro laid siege to our goal. To add to our troubles, Richard Leadbeater limped off with an injury.

I wasn't happy with the space that we allowed Middlesbrough and when you give quality players the room as we did, then you are bound to suffer.

In the three minutes leading up to the interval we conceded two more goals, through more bad marking, and I had several harsh words for the players during the interval break.

Within minutes of the re-start it was six but, to their credit, the lads didn't let their heads drop and they kept working and eventually they started to test Ben Cole in the home goal.

After Domonic Foley and Glen Crowe had gone close, Foley got the goal our comeback deserved when he headed home Robbie Dennison's cross. Dennis Pearce was within inches of a second soon afterwards when he tried to chip the keeper from forty yards - but unfortunately the ball landed on the roof of the net.

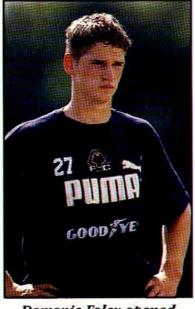
We did get a second with six minutes left when young Ben Stimpson ran through to blast the ball * home.

Of course, it was too little, too late. But, on a bleak night, the one thing that did impress me was

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fixtures and re	SUIS
	Scorers
	Westwood, Crowe,
	oley
Aug 29 Middlesbrough A 2-6 1	Foley, Stimpson
Sept 9 Notts County H	
Sept 17 Coventry City A	Total app
Sept 23 West Brom Albion H	
Oct 3 Post Vale A	for all
Oci 7 Blockgool H	matches
Oct 21 Preston North End H	Crowe 2 + 0, 1
Nov 5 Sheffield United A	Dennison 2±0, 0
Nov 11 Aston Ville H	Foley 2+0, 2
Nov 25 Sunderland H	Hook 1+0, 0
Dec 10 Notes County A	Kegne 0+1.0
Dec 16 Huddersfield Town H	Leadbeater 2+0, 0
SERVICE STREET TRANSPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF TH	Nwidike 2+0, 0
	Pearce 2+0, 0
	Rankine 2+0, 0
Feb 3 Preston North End A	Robinson 1+0, 0
Feb 12 Huddersfield Town A	Sowyers 2+0, 0
Feb 17 Sheffield United H	Seges 1+0,0
Feb 26 Aston Villa A	Stimpson 1+0, 1
Mar 19 Sunderland A	Simpson 1+0, 1 Westwood 2+0, 1
Mar 24 Leicester City A	THE WAY STORY
Apr 1 Middlesbrough H	
Apr 16 Blockpool A	
Apr 28 Port Vele H	

that the team didn't just give up. They were the stronger side in the last half hour and with a little luck could have finished with more than two goals.

Obviously, the game was lost by half-time. But the boys will have gained a lot of experience in playing against established players in the newest stadium in the country.



Domonic Foley opened Wolves' account

Mouth Re

Wolves: Hook, Turpin (Hackett), Naylor, Sawyers, Nwadike, Winstone, Dixon, Hughes (Smith), Stimpson (Andrews), Keane, Jones

Last Saturday we finally got back into our season with a home fixture against Coventry.

Unfortunately, after dominating the first half, we were beaten

by two second-half goals. The boys certainly did not deserve to lose this game. Chances were few and far between. For both sides it was a highly competitive game and what chances did come fell for us, but to our cost we didn't take them.

Report by

Chris Turner

To give Coventry their due, they battled away and capitalised on two mistakes we made. After Sky Blues' first goal we did have a penalty claim turned down. In fact, the linesman flagged for a penalty but the referee thought that he had indicated for a free-kick for Coventry, when it was plain for everyone to see that it was the Coventry player who handled the ball.

Never mind though, the referee admitted his mistake after the game, not that it made us feel any better.

Although we lost the game there were some good performances. I was pleased with our level of commitment and the way we kept going to the final whistle. Losing isn't a habit I want us to get into. I am a firm believer that winning breeds confidence, and if you have a confident squad of players, they will produce performances that will get the right results.

At the moment the young players in the squad are still finding their feet in professional football, but as each game and week goes by I can see improvements in each individual player. What I want to see now is the players take their training habits into the games.

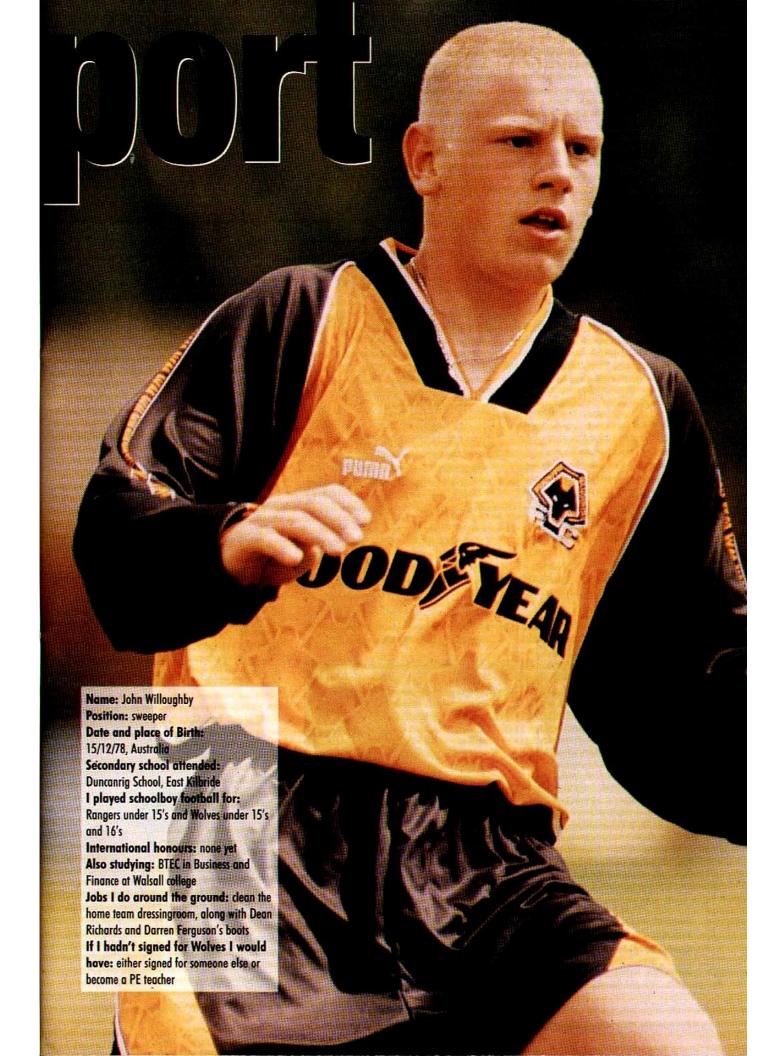
I knew when I took over as coach, that because of the make up of the squad, that this year would be a year of consolidation and patience. But what I will be looking to achieve, is continued progression on the training ground which will be carried onto the field of play.

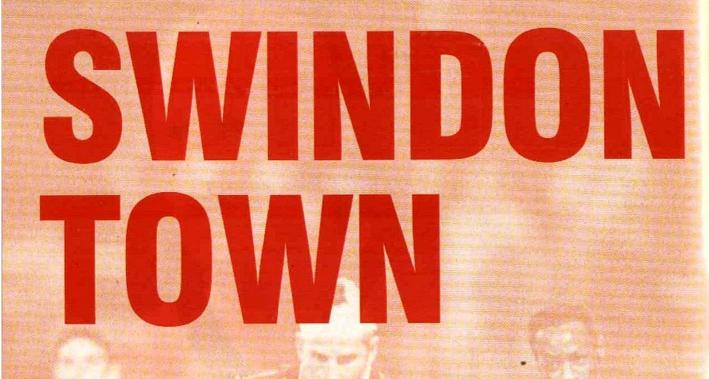
As a coach I set my targets high, and am passing this on to the squad. We are all disappointed with the start we have made, but part of my job is to look into the future just as much as the present

100	Midland Melville Youth
	fixtures and results
	Date Opponent H/A F-I
	Aug 10 Notts County A P Aug 17 Birmingham City H 2-3
	Aug 24 Nottinghem Forest A P

fixtu	res and results	
Date	Opponent H/A F-A	Scorers
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Aug 10 Aug 17		Dixon, Jones
SHIPPLE CARRESTEEL		Dixon, Jones
Aug 24		
Aug 31	Coventry City H 0-2	
Sept 7	Derby County H	
Sept 21	Grimsby Town H	Total
Sept 28	Shrewsbury Town A	number
Oct 5	West Brom Albion H	of app &
Oct 12	Stoke City YLCRd2 A	goals
Oct 19	Stoke City A	Andrews 0 + 2, 0
Oct 26	Lincoln City A	Dixon 2+0, 1
Nov 2	Welsell A	Hockett 0+1,0
Nov 9	Mansfield Town A	Heok 2+0, 0
Nov 16	Youth Lge Cup Rd3	Hughes 2+0, 0
Nov 23	Northempton Town H	Jones 2+0, 1
Nov 30	Port Vale H	Keane 2+0, 0 Nwadike 2+0, 0
Dec 7	Notts County H	Sowyers 2+0, 0
Dec 14	Birminghom City A	Smith 0+1,0
Dec 21	Nottingham Forest H	Stimpson 2+0, 0
Jan 4	Covenity City A	Turpin 2+0, 0
Jon 11	Peterborough United H	Naylor 2+0, 0 Winston 2+0. 0
Jan 18	YLCup Semi Finols	MIRSION Z TO, U
Jan 25	Grimsby Town A	
Feb 1	Shrewsbury Town H	
feb 8	Leicester City A Lincoln City H	
Feb 15 Feb 22		
Mor 1	Peterborough United A Welsell H	
Mar 8	Mansfield Town H	
Mar 15	Northampton Town A	
Mor 22	Stoke City H	
Mar 29	Aston Villa A	
Apr 5	Aston Villo H	
Apr 12	Port Vole A	
Apr 19	Leicester City H	
Apr 26	West Bromwich Albion A	
May 3	Derby County A	

and what I foresee is a good young squad of players producing good football which will be reflected in their performances on Saturday morning. The squad will grow in stature and I'm sure there will be an upturn in results as the weeks go by. *Enjoy tonight's game*.







"We proved that we can still match most of the teams in the League because Wolves are a massive club with massive support and they deserve to be in the Premiership."

Steve McMahon, Manager Swindon Town



Steve McMahon has scaled the heights of English football, as a member of Liverpool's double-winning side of 1986, yet he currently rates the 'small' matter of a Second Division championship triumph as his greatest achievement.

The former England midfielder was an integral part in arguably the greatest ever team to grace the Football League - along with Kenny Dalglish, Alan Hansen and Ian Rush and yet gaining promotion in his first full season in management brought him more satisfaction than the three Division One winners' medals he won in the late 1980's.

McMahon, who had to endure relegation in his first winter in charge at Swindon as the team underwent a facelift, says: "This is a family club who make you feel very welcome. They let you get on with what you have to do and I am enjoying it. I'd say the highlight of my career is winning the Second Division championship - your last success is always the most important."

The words 'winner' and 'McMahon' have seldom been far apart but his achievement in taking Swindon up last season has barely been given sufficient credit.

The club flew up into the Premier League in 1993 after Glenn Hoddle introduced a highly-attractive playing system at the County Ground. But high wages, in expectation of a sustained spell in the top flight, brought problems when under John Gorman, Hoddle's successor, and the Robins fell straight off their perch back into the First Division.

Enter McMahon, in November 1994, with Swindon already in danger of a second successive demotion. The distraction of a run to the Coca-Cola Cup semi-finals probably did not help their cause but, as the club went down, McMahon had already started rebuilding his team. The likes of Peter Thorne, an aggressive, allaction striker signed from Dalglish's Blackburn for £200,000, and the experienced Paul Allen and Ian Culverhouse, meant the side were ready for a tilt at yet another divisional change - this time back in the right direction.

McMahon had imposed his style on the team by now, as well. "Passing is the way to play- it's what I have done at each of the clubs I've been at. We have got out of the Second Division doing the right things and playing the right way."

Yet McMahon, who started his career with Everton before joining Aston Villa ahead of his move to Anfield, is not completely satisfied with Swindon's performances this term so far, despite their 2-0 victory over Wolves a fortnight ago.

He says: "A defeat, a draw and a win so far and I have been disappointed to be honest. I don't think we have started brightly enough and I think we can do a lot better, especially defensively. We haven't been defending the way I would have liked.

"I think the Wolves game was a good one. We proved that we can still match most of the teams in the League because Wolves are a massive club with massive support and they deserve to be in the Premiership with the support they have. It was on and off just keeping tabs with them."

Molineux under floodlights in front of 20,000 plus is the kind of challenge McMahon the player would have relished. But a back injury, also affecting his hamstring, has sidelined him from the action in the early weeks of the season. But there's life in the old dog yet. "I will keep on playing," he vows, "for as long as I can."

Combining the two jobs can prove stressful. "It has been difficult," McMahon, now 35 and with over 500 League appearances under his belt, concedes, "especially the initial period, but it is part of life and it keeps you on your toes. It was not easy because we had to change things around and things were not going particularly well. It is still difficult but you have just got to try and do the right things and hope it's good enough."

It invariably has been in
McMahon's playing career to date. He
won six England under-21 caps while
with Everton and Villa and, collecting
17 senior caps in all, was a member
of Bobby Robson's 1990 World Cup
finals squad which reached the semifinals in Italy.

A \$900,000 move to Manchester City followed in December, 1991, and he was a regular at Maine Road until the call to management came. "It was a natural progression, moving into management," he comments. "It is one of those things you don't really think about until you get offered it."

He has played under some astute managerial characters - Howard Kendall at Everton, our former manager Graham Turner at the Villa, Dalglish at Liverpool and Peter Reid at Maine Road - but will certainly be his own man as a boss. "You try to take bits and pieces of every manager you work with and I would like to think I learnt a lot from the managers I have worked under. You learn bits and pieces and take the best of them."

Looking at the examples with whom he has worked, that could be an awesome combination. And one that Swindon Town are trusting can lead them - steadily, and with sure foundations - back towards the elite.



An impressive Mark Walters takes on Iwan Roberts in the first leg

The boss says

aul Allen has a special reason for wanting to do well in the Coca-Cola Cup tonight, having been disappointed at the semi-final stage three times in his career.

Allen, 34 last Wednesday, was an FA Cup winner with Tottenham in 1991 and West Ham in 1980, also playing at Wembley in Spurs' defeat by Coventry in 1987. But in the League Cup, under its various titles, he has become accustomed to frustration. And he's determined to do something about it this winter.

The experienced midfielder, playing as a wing-back these days, explains: "I got to the semifinal on two occasions and lost; with Spurs against Nottingham Forest in 1992; and with Spurs, again, against Arsenal in 1987 when they went on to beat Liverpool (Steve McMahon, current Swindon manager, included).

"Then I played for West Ham against Coventry when we lost the first leg of the semi-final 3-2. This was in 1981, and I was sub for the second game, which we won 2-1 to reach Wembley. But I

missed the final (a replay defeat by Liverpool) through injury."

A quick scan through Rothmans Football Yearbook confirms Allen has all the dates spoton, a reminder that here is one of football's more articulate types. His reasoning for believing Swindon can make an impact in this competition, if they can complete victory over Wolves tonight, is also

rather convincing.

He says: "It's only two seasons ago that Swindon lost narrowly (by a single goal over two legs) to Bolton in the semi-final, so it's not fanciful to think we can go a long way. This is a competition in which some of the lesser fancied sides, so to speak, can do really well."

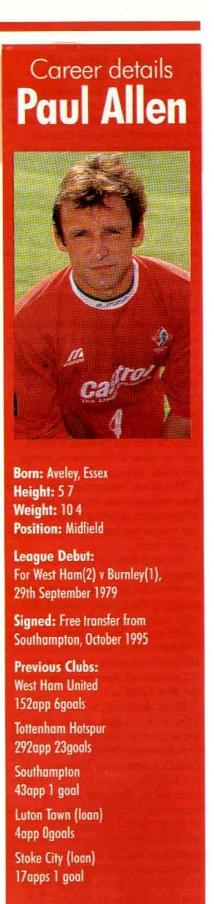
Allen, with well over 500
League appearances in his long career, was an inspirational figure in Swindon's title push last season after leaving
Southampton. He says: "We played very well last season and we showed our true credentials in that division. It did not flatter us that we won the title - we were the best side.

"We are encouraged to play from the back, to be patient and that approach has been instilled right through the club. I've been disappointed with our form this season so far to be honest, perhaps we're still finding our feet. Our best performance has been against Wolves.

"We needed a two-goal margin to take into this game because they are a good side and there's always a very passionate crowd at Molineux. But we're in a good position going into a very tough game. It's always a fantastic place to play, a great stadium, and I'm just looking forward to it."



Paul Allen forcasting a tough game



Visitor's view

Mark Robinson

Date of birth: 21.11.68
Previous clubs: West Bromwich
Albion, Barnsley, Newcastle
Position: defender
Appearances: 2 Goals: 1

Bounced back from rejection as a teenager with West Brom, where he was not offered a professional contract, to establish himself with Barnsley.

Became part of Kevin Keegan's first dream team at Newcastle, following a £450,000 switch in March 1993, and helped them win the First Division championship. As the St James's Park revolution took off, Robinson saw the sense of a move to Swindon in July 1994.

After becoming the Robins' thenrecord signing at \$600,000, Robinson is now a rock in Steve McMahon's fluid defensive system. Originally a right-back, he can also figure as the right-sided central defender in a three-man unit.



Scott Leitch

Date of birth: 6.10.69 Previous club: Motherwell, Dunfermline, Hearts Position: midfielder Appearances: 2 Goals: 0

Arrived on loan last spring on the recommendation of McMahon's former Anfield team-mate Kenny Dalglish to help boost Swindon's Second Division title push, and played a key role.

A stylish player, not dissimilar to the young Steve McMahon, who combines a combative attitude with the ability to pass well and with simplicity.

Started out with Motherwell but made his senior debut in Scotland with Dunfermline before moving on to Hearts. The move south cost McMahon a bargain \$15,000.

Ian Culverhouse

Date of birth: 22.09.64
Previous clubs: Tottenham, Norwich
City

Position: defender

Appearances: 0 Goals: 0

Stylish sweeper or full-back who should be fit again tonight after missing Swindon's first two games with an ankle injury.

One of several promising Spurs players who in the mid-80s transferred to Norwich with considerable success. Costing just \$50,000, he made 296 League appearances for the Carrow Road club and was outstanding in their UEFA Cup campaign three seasons ago.

Came to Swindon in a cut-price \$250,000 deal in December 1994 and was an ever-present in their championship success last season, earning a place in the PFA's Second Division representative team.



Mark Walters

Date of birth: 2.6.64
Previous Clubs: Aston Villa, Glasgow Rangers, Liverpool
Position: midfielder
Appearances: 2
Goals: 0

A handful for any defence, Mark is happiest on the left wing terrorising defenders. The left footer possesses a deadly cross and on his day will wreak havoc with opposing teams. The tricky winger began his career at Aston Villa, and some excellent displays resulted in a move to Scottish giants Glasgow Rangers.

He collected an England cap and three Championship winners medals in his time at Rangers before being snapped up by Liverpool.

During a loan spell here at Molineux in season 1994-95 he enjoyed a good stint – scoring three goals – before choosing to take the challenge at Southampton. Now at Swindon he is hoping to add more medals to his collection.

Wayne Allison

Date of birth: 16.10.68 Previous Clubs: Halifax Town, Watford, Bristol City Position: forward Appearances: 2 Goals: 0

Huddersfield born Allison joined Swindon from Bristol City for a tribunal fee of £475,000 which he paid off with interest after finishing top scorer in his first season with 20 goals.

Allison began his career with Halifax Town where he was spotted by Watford and the result was a £250,000 move in 1989.

However, after only one year at Vicarage Road he was on his way to Bristol City. Allison established himself as a local hero after finishing top scorer on three occasions and is now hoping to do the same for the Robins.



Ones to watch

One to Wolves - A League Cup History - Part 8 A crowd of 11,000

A crowd of 11,000
assembled at Molineux
or the first leg and
wolves twice came from
behind to take the tie by
the odd goal in five. Andy
Thompson turned John
Frain's shot into his own net to
give the Blues an interval advantage. But, having been denied
three times in the first session,
Steve Bull, with a looping header,
deservedly pulled his side level in
the 52nd minute.

City hit back strongly, however, and Adrian Bird squeezed a header past Mark Kendall ten minutes later to restore Blues' advantage. But the lead

GIFT GOALS' BRING

GRIM WOLVES WIN

was a short lived one with Robbie Dennison smashing a left foot shot beyond the despairing dive of Tony Godden in the visitor's goal to equalise.

And it was Dennison who combined with Bull to create the winner eight minutes from the end. Bull sent the winger away

on the left and was in position for the centre which flew in off his knee.

Godden was the main difference between the teams in the second-leg in a fast flowing game full of entertaining football. The only goal came just after the hour when Steve Whitton headed home Kevin Langley's chipped cross. The Blues' keeper kept out a Bull header with a marvellous fingertip save in the closing minutes and, with extra-time still not finding a clear cut winner, Birmingham went through on the

Sponshed by MANUELS AND MANUEL

away goals rule.

Fortunes did improve a little in the 1989/90 campaign when a stubborn Lincoln City were overcome in the first round. It took a 45th minute header from Shane Westley to give Wolves an advantage to take to Sincil Bank. The big defender rose high in a crowded penalty area to dispatch a Dennison corner.

In the return, Wolves defended resolutely and, having blunted the early threat, took a 17th minute lead through Bull who, even though badly placed when he collected a rebound from Mick Gooding's shot, controlled the ball and sent it hurtling into Andy Gorton's net. Eleven minutes after the resumption, Dennison flashed in a long range shot to confirm Wolves' passage into the second round where they were rewarded with a mouth-watering tie with local rivals Aston Villa.

espite the turnaround of fortune following the bleak years that saw Wolves lying in virtual ruin, any progress in the League Cup (by now known as the Littlewoods Cup), remained minimal. Such was the case in the summer of 1988, when Birmingham City ended any hopes of a run in the competition.

Wolves, Burnley still challer

remember

Those who looked forward to the games weren't to be disappointed. At Villa Park, the home team, managed by Graham Taylor, went ahead when David Platt converted a Chris Price pass after a fine run by the latter. There was a tremendous tussle in the middle of the park with Paul McGrath and Derek Mountfield using the benefit of their vast experience to try and quell the threat of Bull and Mutch.

Just after the half-time break, Mutch got the goal that both he and Wolves deserved when he rose superbly at the far post to head home a centre from Mark Venus. Despite having been forced on the backfoot, it was Villa who got the winning goal through Stuart Gray who got his head to Platt's left wing cross. That was in the 63rd minute and Wolves couldn't get a second equaliser one which in the eyes of most of the crowd would have been fully justified.

Over 21,000 packed into Molineux for the second-leg and they saw a game just as entertaining and exciting as the first - and again Wolves could count themselves as unlucky. The very least the deserved would have been a goal to take the game into extratime.

Villa's opener was created and scored by two men later to play for Wolves. It came in the 16th minute by which time the home sections of the Molineux crowd could have been celebrating three goals. But, the cheers of expectation turned to groans of despair as the defence stood like statues when Gordon Cowan's swung over a free-kick for Derek Mountfield to sweep home from close range.

That was the signal for an all out assault on Nigel Spink's goal.

Dennison had a 'goal' ruled out because Nigel Vaughan was in an offside position, and Bull,

Dennison and Venus all made life difficult for the Villa keeper.

Bull finally levelled matters 14 minutes from time when he bravely headed home from the edge of the area as he was clattered by Spink. Bull was out cold for several minutes but. when he came round, he bravely insisted in carrying on. Fortune favoured Spink in the dying minutes

with shots raining in on his goal. Wolves' luck was summed up in injury time when Bernard Gallacher cleared Westley's header off the line and, shortly afterwards, the referee ended our interest in that season's competition.

John Hendley





Andy Mutch and David Platt goalscorers in action at Villa Park

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only being selected from Young
Wolves members

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SIEWE Emiliela







My footballing life

What are your earliest memories of pulling on a pair of football boots?

I would have been about seven years old when I joined local club, Innisfal Tigers. My two older brothers, Michael nine and Sam 11, were already playing for them so I wanted to go along as well. We were a good club and won most of the competitions we entered. There was a bit of rivalry between myself and Michael as we both made state team level. Michael still plays for the Innisfal senior team.

Whose posters did you have on your bedroom wall?

Diego Maradona, Roberto Baggio and Pele were my football heroes. I used to get a weekly football newspaper which was packed with overseas soccer news was particularly interested in English and Italian football because we used to see that on TV

I was also a fan of Kenny Dalglish and, of course, Aussie Craig Johnson.

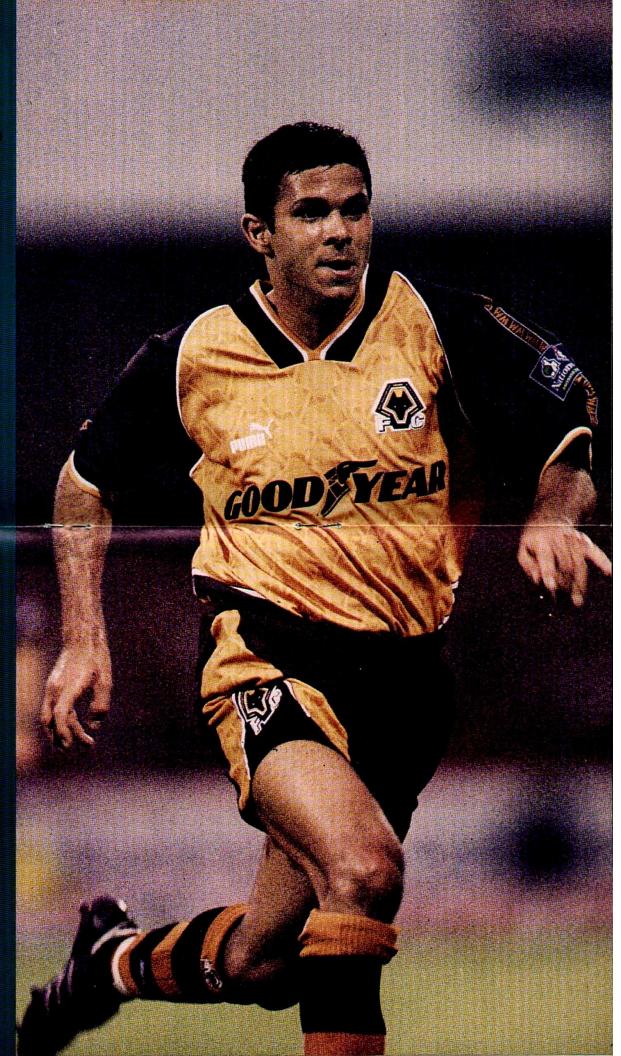
What do you remember most from your days as an apprentice?

Football in Australia doesn't have an apprenticeship scheme like the English game. A lot of young players spend a year or two at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra instead. I did this when I was 17. It was very different to what the trainees at Wolves do because we were all still going to school every day. We would work-out in the gym in the morning, go to lessons, then train in the afternoon.

I enjoyed my time there, it was good to mix with people from other sports. I am still in touch with a few of my old class mates, including Kevin Muscai who has just signed for Crystal Palace, and Swindon Town's keeper Frank Talia

Born: Cairns,
Australia 24/3/73
Height: 5 8
Weight: 10 10
Signed:
February '96 from
Leicester for
£1.1million
Wolves appearances and goals
to date:
Lg 21 0g,
FA Cup 0 0g,
League Cup 1 0g,
others 0 0g





How did you feel when you made your League debut?

I had only been in England for two weeks, and with Leicester two weeks before that on a tour of Germany, when I made my debut. It was the first game of last season, against Sunderland at Roker Park. I felt very nervous but I scored the opening goal after ten minutes which boosted my confidence and made it a very memorable day for me. We won the game 2-1.

What do you consider to be your best ever individual/team performance?

My single best performance was probably for the Australian national team against Columbia. We actually lost the game 1-0 but personally it was a good performance as I created lots of chances which unfortunately were not put away.

The best team performance was my Sydney team Marconi's game against South Melbourne in the National League play-offs in 1994.

In Australia we play off for the championship. We had drawn South
Melbourne in the semi's and won the away leg 1-0. We were favourites to win the tie, but not by a second-leg score of 7-1. We then went on to beat Adelaide in the final.

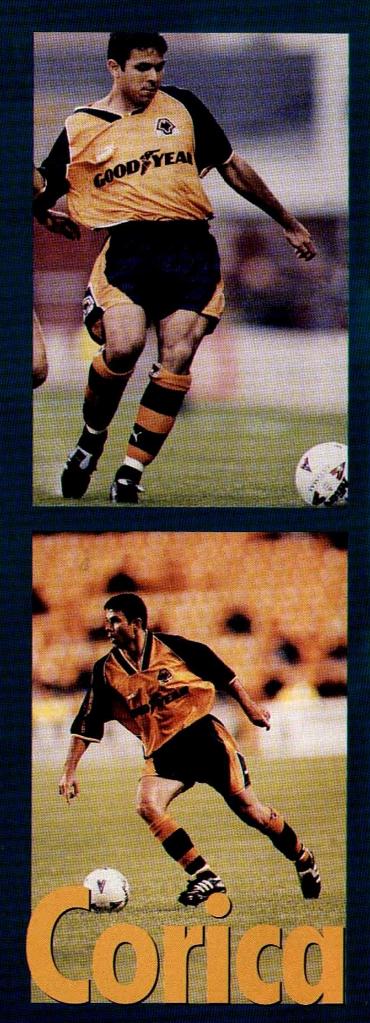
Which footballing ambitions have you yet to fulfil?

Definitely to play in the Premiership with Wolves I would also like to play for Australia in the World Cup finals. I have represented my country in the under 16's and under 20's World Cups, and at the Olympics twice, so I would like to play for the senior team at the highest level.

When you quit playing, what will you do?

I will go back to Australia when my playing days are over and I might like to coach. Alternatively, I might set up a business. I'd quite like to own a restaurant - although I'd definitely have to leave the cooking to others!





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depart 4.00p.m,
adults £8.50.

adults £8.50, junior/senior citizens £6.50

Sunday 15th September 1996 v West Bromwich Albion depart 11.15a.m,

adults £5.00, junior/senior citizens £3.00

Friday 27th September 1996 v Swindon Town depart 3.30p.m.

adults £8.50, junior/senior citizens £6.50



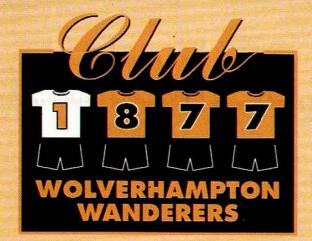
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Tickets go on sale as follows

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(inc.)
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WEDNESDAY 2 OCTOBER V BOLTON WANDERERS

Kick off 7.45pm

Tickets go on sale as follows

Saturday 7 September-Saturday 14 September (inc.)

Members only. One ticket per person on production of current membership card.

Monday 16 September-Wednesday 2 October (inc.)

General Public. One ticket per person, subject to availability.

Visiting supporters will be located in the John Ireland
Stand, Lower tier.

SATURDAY 5 OCTOBER

V READING

Kick off 3.00pm

Tickets go on sale as follows

Saturday 7 September-Saturday 14 September (inc.)

Members only. One ticket per person on

production of current membership card, subject to availability Monday 16 September-Saturday 5 October (inc.)
General Public. One ticket per person, subject to availability. Visiting supporters will be located in the Jack Harris

Stand, corner section

TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER V OXFORD UNITED

Kick off 7.45pm

This game is all ticket for Wolves supporters and our allocation is 2,107 terrace tickets priced at \$9.00 Adults and \$6.00 concessions, with a further 420 seat tickets priced at \$12.00 Adults and \$8.00 Concessions

Tickets go on sale as follows:

Monday 2 September-Friday 6 September (Inc.) Members only. One ticket per person on

production of current membership card, subject to availability. Saturday 7 September-Tuesday 10 September (lac.)

General Public. One ticket per person, subject to availability.

SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER V WEST BROMWICH ALBION

Kick off 1.00pm.

This game is all ticket for Wolves supporters and our allocation is 5,100 seats at \$11.00 Adults and £6.00 concessions.

Tickets go on sale as follows:

Sunday 1 September-Friday 6 September (Inc.)

Club Associates only. One ticket per person on production of away match voucher E from season ticket book Maximum of 2 youchers per person.

Saturday 7 September-Tuesday 10 September (inc.)

Members only. One ticket per person on

production of current membership card, subject to availability

Wednesday 11 September-Saturday 14

September (Inc)
General public. One ticket per person, subject to availability.

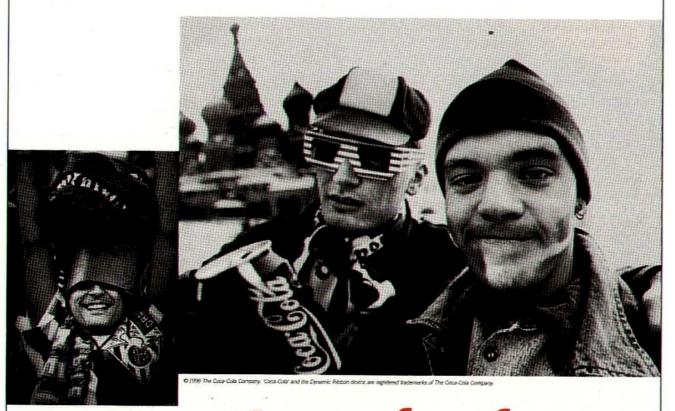
PLEASE NOTE IT IS IMPERATIVE ALL CLUB ASSOCIATES BRING THEIR COMPLETE SEASON TICKET BOOK TO EACH GAME. MATCH NUMBERS FOR EACH GAME WILL NOT RUN CONSECUTIVELY AS IN PREVIOUS SEASONS. MATCH NUMBERS WILL NOT BE ALLOCATED UNTIL THE DAY OF THE MATCH, THEREFORE ANYONE NOT IN POSSESSION OF THEIR COMPLETE SEASON TICKET MAY NOT GAIN ADMITTANCE TO THE STADIUM.

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If teams could **transfer fans**, what would you be worth?

Richards v Richards

There was a touch of inter-family rivalry when John Richards' brother Roy brought a team of youngsters to Wolverhampton to take on a group of players representing Wolves.

Ryland Football Club from Warrington were invited for a day out at Molineux, which included a friendly game against Bilbrook Juniors.

The game ended with honours even, both sides scoring two goals.

Both teams were treated to lunch courtesy of Pizza Hut, and then went on to tour the stadium before going bowling.

The day was rounded off with a return to Molineux to watch Wolves take on QPR.

Wolves community development



John Richards leads the way

officer Tony Evans says: "We like to build links with youngsters from other parts of the country, and hope to play a return game against Ryland soon."



Sponsors spotlight



Miss Wolves and Robbie Dennison present Keith Holt, Director (right) and Ian Miller, National Sales Manager of Hoppe - QPR's Big Match Sponsors, with a specially framed Wolves shirt.



Receiving a gift from Man of the Match Steve Bull is Tony Jarvis from Puma, Big Match Sponsor from the Bradford City game

ATTENTION SUPPORTERS WHO TRAVELLED TO NORWICH

If anyone has any information regarding the whereabouts of a rough haired terrier called Scruffy - last seen on Saturday evening by a dark blue Fiesta which had stopped close to a farmhouse on the A14 near Cambridge - please contact the club

The elderly owner is very distressed at his disappearance.

GOOD LUCK TO STEVE AND THE LADS FROM ANOTHER FAMOUS HEAD



66666666666666666

Dear Editor.

Pictured here is a family snap taken on holiday at the French village of Bully near Dieppe.



The picture shows Robert (aged 10 - season ticket holder John Ireland upper) and his sister Joanna (aged 7) Yours Faithfully

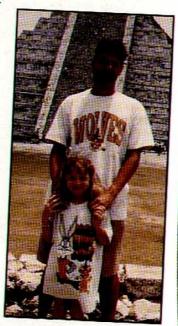
Mr. A.J. Howe Worcester



Dear Editor,

The picture was taken at Chichén Itrá in Mexico during the close season. My daughter Natalie (age 7) is wearing her favourite shirt Best wishes.

Mike James Willenhall



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed a picture taken on my recent expedition to Cuba. The picture was taken in revolution square, Havana and is of myself standing before a portrait of the Guevara. At present I'm studying for a diploma in architecture at Huddersfield University but I live in Kingswinford otherwise and have been an avid Wolves fan since the age of four (I'm now twenty five). My dad is currently a season ticket holder in the Jack Harris Stand.

> Lee Colins Kingswinford



Dear Editor.

I would like to thank everyone concerned, including Mick Davies and his pal from Cannock, the lady who comforted me, St Johns Ambulance, the Paramedics and ambulance crew who tried so hard to save my husband outside the around after Saturday's match.

Unfortunately Wolves have lost a lifelong supporter. My grateful thanks to you all.

Ann Askey. Trentham

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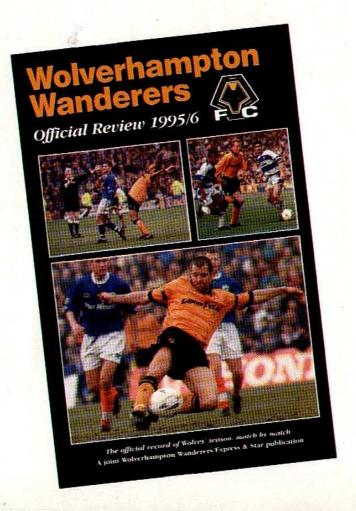
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The Wolverhampton Wanderers Official Review 1995/6

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For more information call the Clubshop on:

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How would you like a birthday card from a player of your choice?



Become a member of the birthday lottery with a payment to cover 26 weeks and we will arrange for the Wolves player of your choice, to send you a birthday card to yourself or anyone selected

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From the heart of Molineux

Every matchday on 1575am Radio Wolves sponsored by Beazer Homes

With two home games now under our belts, it really is as if we've never been away. Radio Wolves and you the supporter, together, can bring to Molineux something that will be the envy of many clubs in the Football League. Already our post bag is bursting and the phone lines are red hot with birthday and anniversary messages and of course the Radio Wolves 'Phone in', sponsored by Telewset Communications, which takes place immediately after every home game. Gives you the supporter the opportunity to air your comments and opinions on the match.

Steve Welch continues to be a sucker for punishment. After conceding four goals in the game before Andy Thompson's Testimonial game, he decided he would like to take a penalty in a penalty shoot out competition at half-time when we played Bradford. It has to be said that the pressure got to him and he almost up-rooted the corner flag his shot was so wide, time to hang

'em up Welchy.

There's still lots more to come from Radio Wolves and we look forward to hearing from you. Give us a call on 01902 834040.



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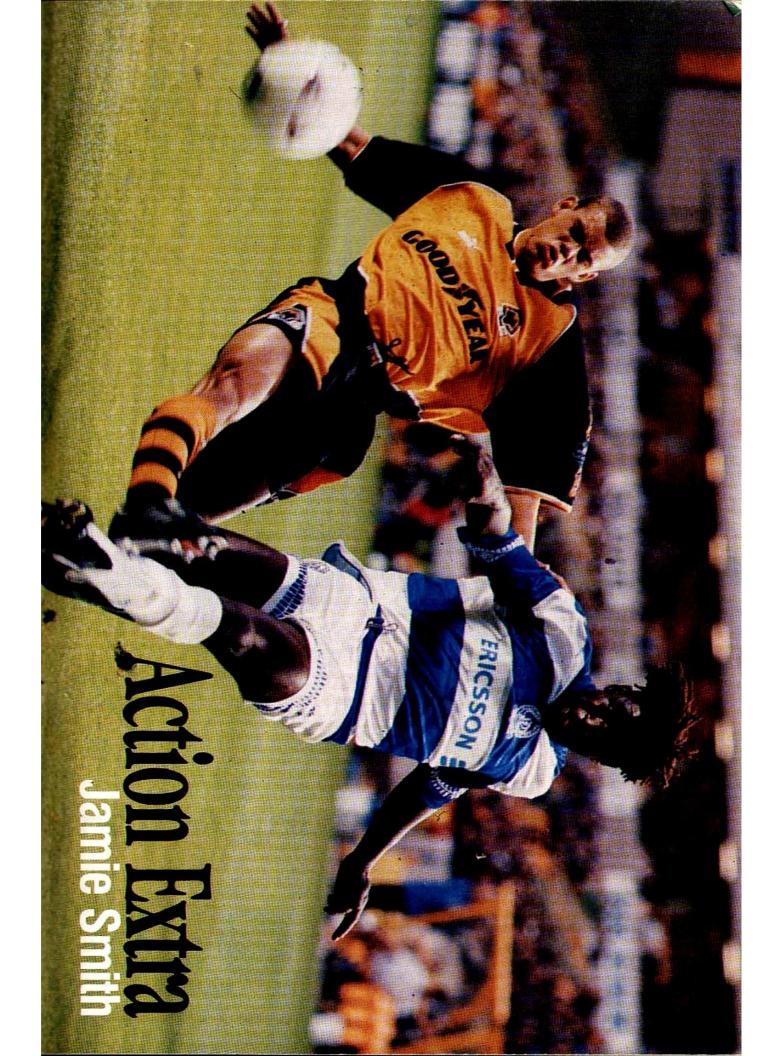
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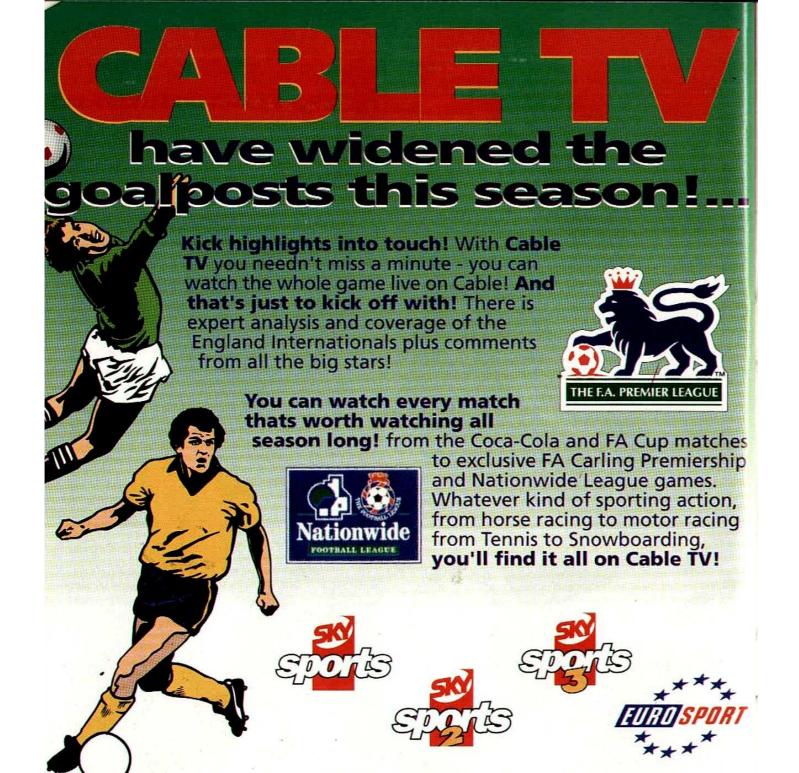
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Young Wolves

Tonight's mascot is me, Lyndsey Evans, age 8, from Brierley Hill



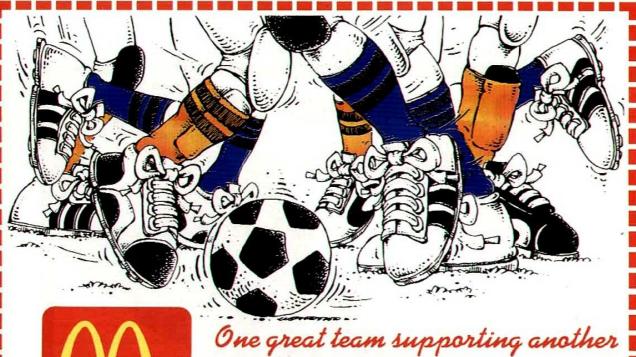
Steve Bull and Mike Stowell are my favourite players because Bully is a good goal scorer and Stowelly is a great goalkeeper. My favourite game was when Wolves played at Cardiff and we won 5-1. My grandma and grandad live in Cardiff and they are the best local team. I joined the Young Wolves because a lot of friends are members and as a mascot I get to meet all the players.

I love playing on my roller ball skates and playing football. I would like to play in a girls team but there aren't many around where I live.

MASCOTS ARE SELECTED EXCLUSIVELY FROM YOUNG WOLVES MEMBERS. TO JOIN CALL: 01902 656100.

Last year many of you sent in superb drawings of your favourite players. Please start sending them again the lads love to see your efforts - and we will print as many as we can.

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Goming Up

It's glamour - after a fashion - all the way following tonight's Coca Cola Cup decider with Swindon. The Sky TV cameras descend on Molineux in 48 hours time for the visit of

Charlton Athletic. Then, after a tricky-looking venture to Oxford next Tuesday, follow us to the Hawthorns for a Sunday lunch special against the Albion.

Wolves fared better at the Valley last season than against Charlton at home. A dire goalless draw at Molineux in the Coca-Cola was followed by a brighter replay. Steve Bull came on as a



Charlton manager Alan Curbishley

substitute as we won through but four days later we played out another goalless draw against the London side this time in Division One, and a managerial change was on the cards. On the season's final day, Glen Crowe marked his full League debut with a stunning left-footer in a 1-1 draw.

Alan Curbishley has groomed an excellent young side and, even shorn of Lee Bowyer, the most expensive teenager in English football following his \$2.6 million move to Leeds, Charlton still possess the likes of Richard Rufus and Shaun Newton as potential England stars of the future.

Trips to the Manor Ground seldom work out quite like they should - a 4-0 mauling on Easter Monday last time they were in the First Division two years ago springs to mind - and Denis Smith's team have got off to a good start following last May's promotion.

Then it's off to West Bromwich - but who's in for a Sunday roasting?

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Nationwide Building Society is delighted to be sponsoring The Football League and is proud to be associated with the national game. Millions of people around the country enjoy League games, with an increasing number of families attending matches.

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Nationwide's philosophy is to be "in tune with people", and we believe that the help we can give in investing in football's future will further demonstrate this and underline our general commitment to meeting customers' needs.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish your club a successful season.



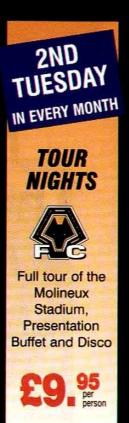
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Explosive start for League hot-shots

Goal scorers continue to dominate the headlines as the Nationwide Football League season enters the month of September on a note of great expectation. Steve Bull has once again exploded out of the starting blocks and into the new campaign with all guns blazing, having achieved the honour of becoming the scorer of Wolves' first goal of the season for the fifth time in seven years.

But others have edged him out for the early honours, with Stoke's Mike Sheron, Oxford's Nigel Jemson and Grimsby's Clive Mendonca also well to the fore, and joining him on the four-goal mark before the weekend programme. Sheron needed a fortunate last minute penalty winner in the home game against cautious Bradford City to carry on the rich scoring vein he struck last season and maintain Stoke's 100 per cent start to a campaign in which many thought they might struggle after losing in the play-offs to Leicester last May. And he obliged again with one of the goals in Saturday's 2-2 draw at Reading.

Meanwhile, Mendonca continued the goal- a-game run he launched with the consolation effort he struck against Wolves on kick-off day, by hitting Grimsby's point-saver at Ipswich, only to draw a blank in the home slip-up against Portsmouth.

His contribution at Ipswich came as the East Anglians dominated the First Division transfer headlines by selling experienced striker Ian Marshall to Leicester for \$800,000. It is an unexpected move back to the Premiership for the much travelled Liverpudlian, who scored

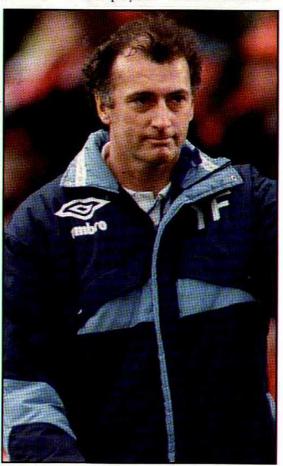
19 League goals in 1995/6 as his side finished as the division's leading marksmen.

Marshall's presence in the stand in the Grimsby draw was a sobering sight for supporters who saw a series of opportunities squandered - but the disappointment was probably eased by the 3-3 weekend draw at Oldham. And it was nothing compared with that felt by Manchester City supremo Francis Lee.

In the season's big off-the -field First Division development so far, Lee followed up his club's sensational parting of the ways with manager Alan Ball by unsuccessfully targeting George Graham as his replacement.

Lee was convinced he had his man, but Graham - supposedly desperate for a return to the game after his ban - finally said no. "The package we offered would have delighted 90 per cent of managers," said an unhappy Lee afterwards.

City apparently offered a lucrative four-year deal with what was described as a large amount of working capital for new players. "What is sufficient



Trevor Francis: adding names to the transfer list

Review



David Rush sent off after a bust-up with Carl Bradshaw

money for transfers? Is it £20m or £30m? I am dumbfounded but nothing surprises you in football."

Oxford's long unbeaten home record fell last week a fortnight or so ahead of Wolves' visit to the Manor Ground next Tuesday. They lost 1-0 to Norwich - the first time they had gone down in front of their fans in the League since being crushed 4-1 by nearneighbours Wycombe last October.

The match was marred in the final moments by the sending-off of Oxford's David Rush and Norwich's Carl Bradshaw for a bust-up that had rival managers Denis Smith and Mike Walker off their seats. The brawl, apparently started by a late tackle from Rush, provided an interesting prelude to the Coca Cola Cup second leg between the two sides at Carrow Road this week.

The uneventful first leg fin-

ished at 1-1. Birmingham's players return to action tonight with a Coca-Cola second leg against Brighton played against a background of impending change at St Andrew's. It isn't exactly business on the hectic Barry Fry scale but new boss Trevor Francis made eight players available for transfer last week and told experienced striker Ian Muir he could leave on a free transfer if he could get himself fixed up. Others listed included John Frain, Ricky Otto, Bart Griemink and Andy Edwards.

Barnsley's feat in taking over from one-night leaders Tranmere as the First Division's surprise pace-setters was accompanied by an unwanted statistic for visiting Reading defender Andy Bernal. The Australian, well-known to Molineux duo Steve Corica and Mike Hickman, was sent off for the second time this season, his late red card for a second bookable offence coming just before the Yorkshire club rattled in their final goal in a 3-0 victory.

Scottish under-21 international Andy Liddell scored twice for the Tykes on an evening when Reading's team sheet was something of a tongue-twister. Their first four names were Bibbo, Booty, Bodin, Bernal ... now that really is something of a mouthful!

David Instone, Express & Star

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Date	Day	Opponents	Am	FA	Pos		A SEC
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Aug 20	Tue	Swindon Town CCC1(1)	7,451	0-2	*	Stowell	Romano
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