

# Swindon 97-98 SEASON

# town

F.C.

£1.80 **matchday magazine**

**Saturday 13th  
September 1997**

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE  
DIVISION ONE



**Tranmere  
Rovers**

**Kick-Off 3pm**

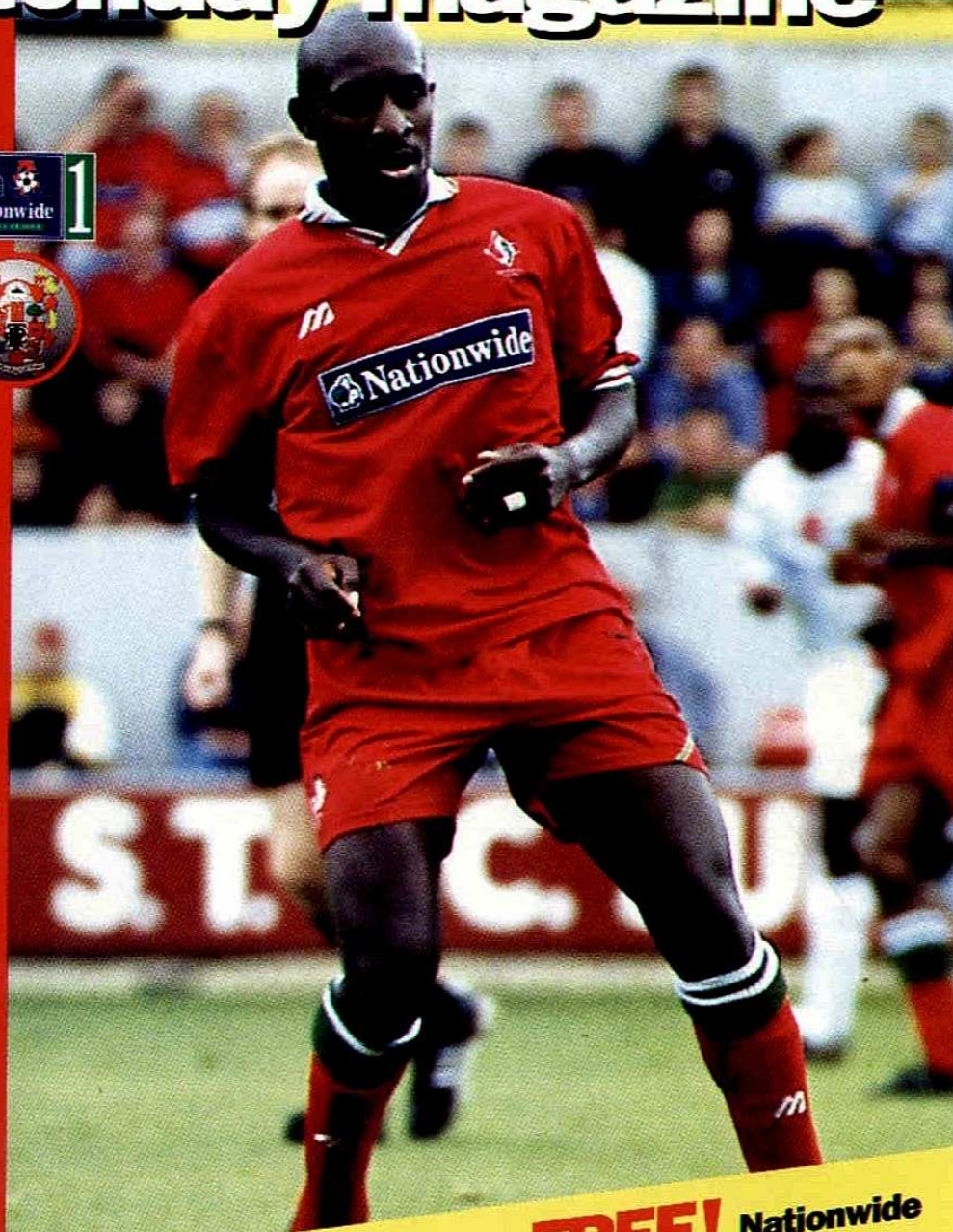
**Today's  
Matchday  
Sponsors**



**Action** pages 14-15  
All the best shots  
from the  
game against  
Notts Forest

**Today's visitors**  
pages 6-9

**Profile** page 44  
Interview with  
Mark Walters



**FREE!  
INSIDE** Scott  
Leitch  
Poster

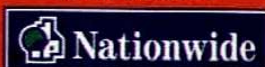
**NEXT** Saturday 4th  
HOME MATCH October vs  
Port Vale

**FREE!  
INSIDE** Nationwide  
Review

ISSUE No.4



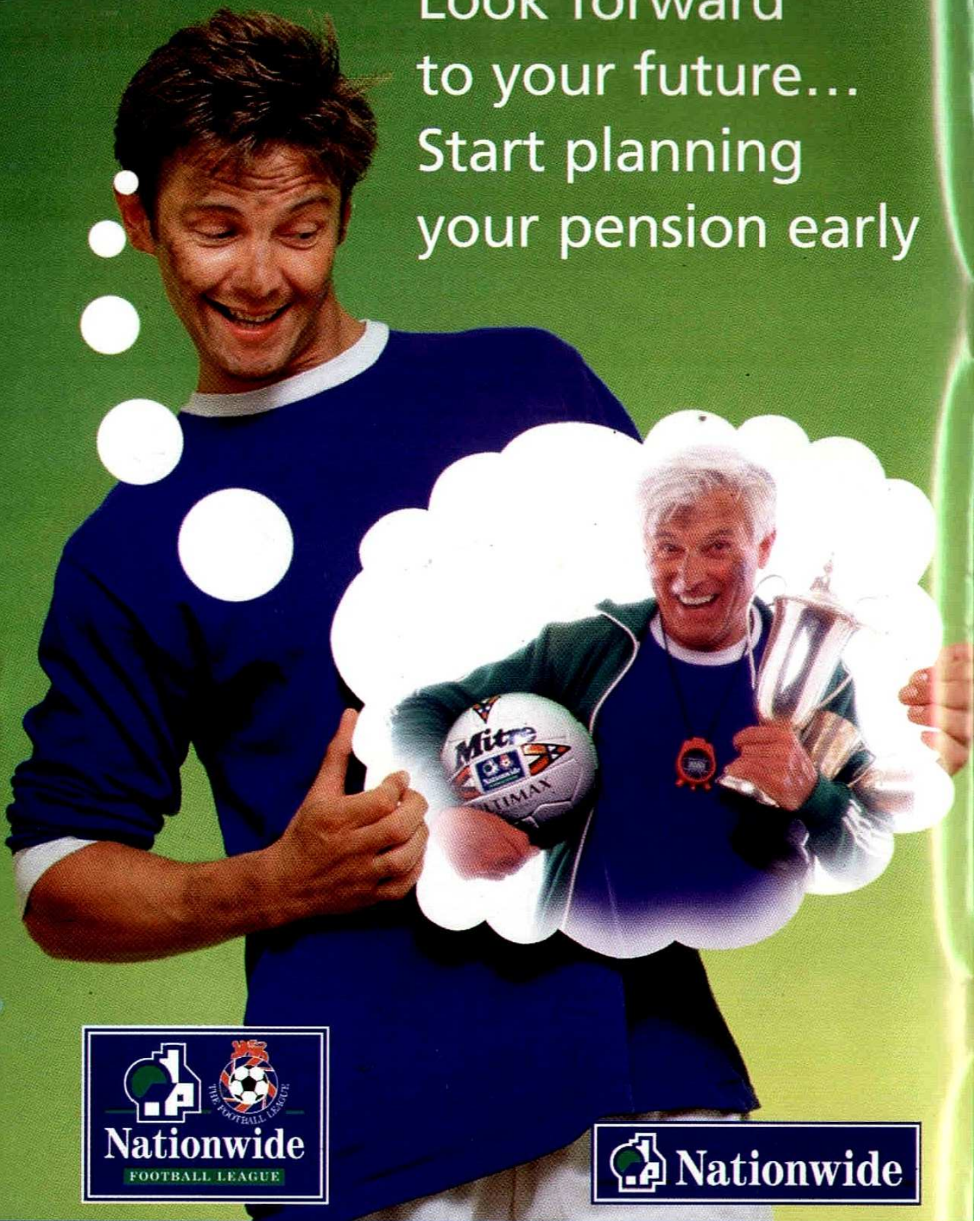
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# welcome to today's game

**Steve McMahon meets up with his old mate John Aldridge in today's First Division fixture - but they won't be out to do each other any favours once 3pm arrives.**

Tranmere are keen to get some points having won just one of their opening six contests but a win is also important to us as we attempt to keep up among the early front runners.

Last season the spoils were shared between the two teams. We made the most of home advantage this time last year with a 2-1 triumph thanks to a Mark Walters penalty and a strike by Kevin Horlock.

But in the return at Prenton Park in January another goal by Kevin Horlock wasn't enough to save us as we went down 2-1.

Incidentally we will renew acquaintances with Kevin Horlock in two weeks time when we go to Manchester City

for a league fixture.

It is the second of two tough trips with high flying West Brom our opponents next Saturday.

A testing time approaches which makes three points this afternoon vital to maintain the confidence we have displayed so far.

Of course taking a point off promotion favourites Nottingham Forest was a major boost and two players who had vital roles in that draw were loan signings Chris Casper and Brian Borrows.

Both players acquitted themselves well and let's hope they can help keep us up among the chasing pack during their stay with us.

Finally a reminder that the fixture computer has given us two home games in a row at the beginning of October.

On Saturday October 4th Port Vale come to town and the following Saturday it's Bury on home territory - don't miss them.

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**NEXT MATCH** Saturday 20th  
September vs  
West Brom

As you know after this afternoon's match we have two away games in a row at West Brom and Manchester City and we hope you will be out in force to support us in both fixtures.

We then kick off October with a home double against Port Vale on Saturday October 4th and Bury on October 11th.

By then we will have a better idea of how we are going to do this season - but with your backing I'm sure we can stay in contention at the top.



# Steve McMahon says

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**The team came out of last Sunday's game against Nottingham Forest with a lot of credit.**

It was nice to see that we could match a side like Forest and that's what I have to keep telling the players - to believe that they are good enough.

It is a mental thing with the players. Sometimes they seem to be in awe of teams like Middlesbrough, Sunderland and and Notts Forest and they expect these teams to just turn other sides over. But that is not going to be the case.

## Self belief

I'm trying to drive the point home to the players that we are a good team and if we can believe that, then we can match teams, as we proved against Forest. Obviously the two loan signings played an important part and both of them acquitted themselves very well. It was a tough first game for them but I was delighted with the way they performed against such tough opposition.

As far as any long term move is concerned well Chris Casper will be here for a month and I will be looking at the Brian Borrows situation. I know Brian from way back and I know what he is capable of and he could play that role at the back for a number of years.

I will have a word with Brian and Gordon Strachan, so who knows- we'll have to wait and see what develops.

## New trialist

Talking of newcomers we have had another foreign trialist here this week with Stephane Leoni coming in from Metz. He's a right wing back who can't get in their side at the moment so we were going to have a look at him in the Reserves earlier this week.

Today we welcome Tranmere to the County Ground and although they have been going through a sticky patch I've no doubt my mate John Aldridge will get them fired up for this one. I've heard some reports from the Liverpool area that he has laid into a few of his players, so I'm expecting a reaction from them this afternoon and there is no doubt it will be a very tough game.

They have got to bounce back somewhere - but hopefully it won't be here today.

## Victory vital

We could do with another good result so that we can go into next week's game at West Brom with a lot of confidence and of course after that we face Manchester City away so it's a tough schedule ahead of us.

But we must just take each game as it comes and make sure we build on the Notts Forest result.

With a bit of luck some of our injured players will soon be ready for a return which will hot up competition for places. The likes of Mark Seagraves, Craig Taylor and Ian Culverhouse are all getting better by the day but I've now covered the defensive situation for at least a month with the two loan signings - so they'll have to fight to regain their places in the team.

# today's visitors *Rovers*



# tranmere rovers

***This afternoon we extend a warm County Ground welcome to the players, supporters and staff of Tranmere Rovers Football Club for this Nationwide League Division One fixture.***

We hope you all enjoy your trip to Wiltshire and wish you a safe journey home after the match.

For supporters used to an annual roller-coaster ride of high expectations and near misses, the last two campaigns have been something of adrenalin-free ones for Rovers.

A club who have suffered through the play-off system perhaps more than any other, Tranmere have gone desperately close to the dream of big time in recent seasons - but have never quite managed to march the vital last half-mile.

Rovers finished three successive campaigns in the play-off places

- 4th (in 1992/93), 5th (1993/94) and 5th (1994/95) - but fell at the semi-final stage on every occasion.

The summer of 1994 saw the start of a new era at Tranmere, with Frank Corfe replacing Peter Johnson (now Everton) as Chairman and overseeing the rebuilding of Prenton Park into a 17,000-capacity all-seater stadium. All that was missing was Premiership football - and that remained frustratingly out of reach. By the time 1995/96 came around, the club could be forgiven for suffering a play-off hangover, and indeed they did. A poor season saw the club slip to a finish of 13th spot in the First Division table, with John Aldridge becoming player-manager in April 1996.

Last season followed a familiar pattern of a bright start - Rovers were as high as fourth at one stage - before a December slip resulted in a finish down

in mid-table.

There were promising signs, however, that by the end of the campaign things had started to click together for Aldridge, who was, after all, experiencing his first full season as manager.

A run of just three defeats in the final 15 League games, coupled with the inspired signing of striker Lee Jones, gave Aldridge a solid platform on which to build for 1997/98.

A gifted and successful player with a string of records under his belt and the happy knack of being in the right place at the right time, Rovers fans will be hopeful that Aldridge the playing star can transmit the secrets of his success to his players this season.

Mind you, his former teammate Steve McMahon, while certainly wishing him all the best, will hope Aldridge's good fortune begins next weekend and not today.



**Tranmere Rovers Football Club 1997/98**

**Back Row:** (left to right)

Alan Morgan, Kevin Melnyk, Dave Challinor, Graham Branch, Gary Jones, Mauro Pereira, Liam O'Brien, Kenny Irons, John Morrissey

**Middle Row:** (left to right)

Warwick Rimmer (Youth Development Officer), Dave Philipotts (Chief Scout/Coach), Les Parry (Physio), Andy Parkinson, Steve Simonsen, Clint Hill, Eric Nixon, Alan Mahon, Danny Coyne, Mike Howard, Steve Mungall (Kit Manager), Ray Mathis (Asst. Man./Coach), Kevin Sheedy (Reserves Man./Coach)

**Front Row:** (left to right)

Andy Thompson, Stuart Connolly, Ryan Williams, Gary Stevens, John McGreal (Team Captain), John Aldridge (Player Manager), Lee Jones, Paul Cook, Dave Kelly, Andy Thorn



# tranmere rovers

## Goalkeepers

### Danny Coyne

Having started last season as first-choice 'keeper at Prenton Park, Danny tore neck ligaments in January and missed the rest of the campaign.

**Born:** Prestatyn, 27.08.73

**Height:** 5ft 11in

**Weight:** 12st 6lb

**League record last season:**

21 games, 0 goals

**Honours:** Wales Schools, Youth, U21, Full caps

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Tranmere	78

### Eric Nixon

Also Rovers' goalkeeping coach, Eric was the club's record buy when he signed for £60,000 in March 1988. He returned from a loan spell at Bradford to enjoy an extended first-team run following Danny Coyne's neck injury last season.

**Born:** Manchester, 04.10.62

**Height:** 6ft 4in

**Weight:** 14st

**League record last season:**

37 games, 0 goals (including 12 games, 0 goals for Bradford)

**Honours:** Leyland Daf Cup 1990

Era	Club	Games
86/87	Man City	33
86/87	Wolves 16	
86/87	Bradford	3
86/87	Southampton	4
86/87	Carlisle 16	
87/88	Man City	25
87/88	Tranmere	8
95/96	Tranmere	308
95/96	Blackpool	20
96/97	Bradford	12

## Defenders

### John McGreal

Skilful young defender who likes to bring the ball out from the back and is a frequent target of top Premier clubs. Was appointed club captain by John Aldridge.

**Born:** Birkenhead, 02.06.72

**Height:** 5ft 11in

**Weight:** 10st 12lb

**League record last season:**

24 games, 0 goals

**Honours:** None

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Tranmere	117

### Gary Stevens

Hugely experienced full-back or central defender who has played in World Cups and European Championships with England. Still a cool, calm and composed player, he suffered a badly broken fore-arm last season which sidelined him from February onwards.

**Born:** Barrow, 27.03.63

**Height:** 5ft 11in

**Weight:** 11st 2lb

**League record last season:**

31 games, 0 goals

**Honours:** FA Cup 1984; League

Championship 1985, 1987;

European Cup-Winners' Cup

1985; Scottish Premier Division

1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993,

1994; Scottish League Cup 1989,

1991, 1994; Scottish Cup 1992;

England 'B', Full caps

Era	Club	Games
87/88	Everton	208
93/94	Rangers	187
96/97	Tranmere	102

### Shaun Teale

After a bright start to last season - he was ever-present until the turn of the year - Shaun was dropped at the start of 1997 and never regained his first-team place. He had a short period on loan at Preston and was placed on the transfer list on his return to Prenton Park. A tough and uncompromising player with bags of experience.

**Born:** Southport, 10.03.64

**Height:** 6ft

**Weight:** 13st 7lb

**League record last season:**

30 games, 0 goals (including 5 games, 0 goals for Preston)

**Honours:** League Cup 1994; England 1 Semi-Pro cap

Era	Club	Games
90/91	Bournemouth	100
94/95	A.Villa	147
96/97	Tranmere	54
96/97	Preston	5

### Andy Thompson

Having enjoyed his Testimonial season at Molineux last term, Andy was released by the club during the summer, and quickly snapped up by John Aldridge. Able to play at full-back or in midfield he is a powerful, committed player who is an expert from the penalty-spot. Moved to Wolves in the same deal which took Steve Bull to the club.

**Born:** Cannock, 09.11.67

**Height:** 5ft 7in

**Weight:** 11st 1lb

**League record last season:**

32 games, 2 goals (all for Wolves)

**Honours:** Div Four title 1988; Div

Three title 1989; Sherpa Van

Trophy 1988.



## Andy Thorn

Tough, no-nonsense central defender whose experience at the back helped stabilise Rovers' defence for periods last season. Struggled with injury for a spell last season.

**Born:** Carshalton, 12.11.66

**Height:** 6ft

**Weight:** 13st 2lb

**League record last season:**

20 games, 1 goal (including 1 game, 0 goals for Hearts)

**Honours:** FA Cup 1988; England U21 caps

Era	Club	Games
87/88	Wimbledon	107
89/90	Newcastle	36
94/95	C.Palace	128
96/97	Wimbledon	37
96/97	Hearts	1
96/97	Tranmere	19

### Other Defenders include:

Dave Challinor (from Bromborough Pool, July 1994); Alan Morgan (ex-YTS); Clint Hill (ex-YTS), Mike Howard (ex-YTS), Kevin McIntyre (ex-YTS)

## Midfielders

### Paul Cook

Left-sided playmaker who possesses a powerful long range shot and is an expert long-passer. Out of favour at Coventry, he moved to Tranmere in March 1996, following a short loan spell.

**Born:** Liverpool, 22.06.67

**Height:** 5ft 11in

**Weight:** 11st

**League record last season:**

36 games, 3 goals

**Honours:** None

Era	Club	Games
87/88	Wigan	83
89/90	Norwich	6
93/94	Wolverhampton	193
95/96	Coventry	37
96/97	Tranmere	51

### Kenny Irons

Attacking and hard-working midfield man who is also a strong tackler. Local hero Kenny has come up through the fruitful youth ranks at Prenton Park.

**Born:** Liverpool, 04.11.70

**Height:** 5ft 10in

**Weight:** 11st 2lb

**League record last season:**

41 games, 5 goals

**Honours:** None

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Tranmere	265

### Liam O'Brien

Hard-working and thoughtful player who likes to sit in front of the back four where he can dictate the pace and angle of attack for Rovers. Has earned a recall to the Ireland set-up under new coach Mick McCarthy.

**Born:** Dublin, 05.09.64

**Height:** 6ft 1in

**Weight:** 13st 7lb

**League record last season:**

41 games, 1 goal

**Honours:** Div One title 1993;

Rep of Ireland Schools, Youth,

U23, Full caps

Era	Club	Games
88/89	Man Utd	31
93/94	Newcastle	151
96/97	Tranmere	118

### Other Midfielders include:

Alan Mahon (ex-YTS, Irish U21 caps), Stuart Connolly (from Stella Maris, Dublin)

## Forwards

### John Aldridge

Last season overtook Jimmy Greaves as this country's all-time greatest career goalscorer, and was Tranmere's top scorer for the sixth successive season. Was appointed Rovers' player-manager in April 1996.

**Born:** Liverpool, 18.09.58

**Height:** 5ft 11in

**Weight:** 12st 3lb

**League record last season:**

43 games, 18 goals

**Honours:** Welsh Cup 1980; Div

Two title 1985; League Cup

1986; League Championship

1988; FA Cup 1989; Rep of

Ireland Full caps

Era	Club	Games
83/84	Newport	170
86/87	Oxford	114
89/90	Liverpool	83
90/91	Real Sociedad, Spain	63
96/97	Tranmere	228

### Graham Branch

The cousin of Everton striker Michael Branch, Graham is a fast and direct front-man with a powerful shot in either foot. He enjoyed his most successful season with Rovers in 1996/97.

**Born:** Liverpool, 12.02.72

**Height:** 6ft 2in

**Weight:** 12st 2lb

**League record last season:**

35 games, 5 goals

**Honours:** None

Era	Club	Games
92/93	Tranmere	7
92/93	Bury	4
96/97	Tranmere	70





## Gary Jones

Having played second fiddle to John Aldridge for much of his Rovers career, Gary enjoyed a good season in 1996/97, when he finished as the club's second highest scorer. A versatile performer, he can play at centre-forward, in midfield or at the back, making him very valuable on the bench.

**Born:** Chester, 10.05.75

**Height:** 6ft 3in

**Weight:** 13st 5lb

**League record last season:**

30 games, 6 goals

**Honours:** None

## Lee Jones

Signed during the close season after a tremendous loan spell at Prenton Park at the tail end of the 1996/97 campaign had resulted in Rovers' fans

presenting the player with a petition begging him to sign permanently. Scored twice in Rovers first three League game this season.

**Born:** Wrexham, 29.05.73

**Height:** 5ft 9in

**Weight:** 10st 6lb

**League record last season:**

14 games, 5 goals (including 2

games, 0 goals for Liverpool; 6

games, 0 goals for Wrexham)

**Honours:** Wales U21, 'B',

Full caps

Era	Club	Games
91/92	Wrexham	39
93/94	Liverpool	-
93/94	Crewe	8
95/96	Liverpool	1
95/96	Wrexham	20
96/97	Liverpool	2
96/97	Wrexham	6
96/97	Tranmere	8

## David Kelly

Seen by manager Aldridge as his natural successor in the first-

team at Prenton Park, David's list of former clubs reads like a who's who of the English game. A proven goalscorer at the very highest level.

**Born:** Birmingham, 25.11.65

**Height:** 5ft 11in

**Weight:** 11st 10lb

**League record last season:**

24 games, 0 goals (all for

Sunderland)

**Honours:** Div One title 1992/93;

Rep of Ireland U21, U23, 'B',

Full caps

Era	Club	Games
87/88	Walsall 147	
89/90	West Ham	41
91/92	Leicester	66
92/93	Newcastle	70
95/96	Wolves	83
96/97	Sunderland	34

### Other Forwards include:

John Morrissey, Ryan Williams (from Mansfield, Tribunal), Andy Parkinson (ex-YTS).

# John Aldridge the manager

One of the finest marksmen of all time, Tranmere's player-boss John Aldridge finished 1996/97 with 18 League goals to his credit - making him Rovers' leading scorer for the sixth successive campaign, although he dipped under the 20-mark for the first time since arriving at Prenton Park in July 1991.

This inspirational captain, goalscorer and now manager was appointed to the Prenton Park hot-seat following the elevation to Director of Football of the long-serving John King in mid-April last year.

Rovers had just suffered a shattering 6-2 defeat away at Derby that had left the club in a perilously low position in the First Division table.

But Aldridge's famous talismanic properties soon shone through, and the former Newport County, Oxford, Liverpool and Real Sociedad (Spain) striker carefully guided his troops to safety as they saw out the season without losing another game, and also

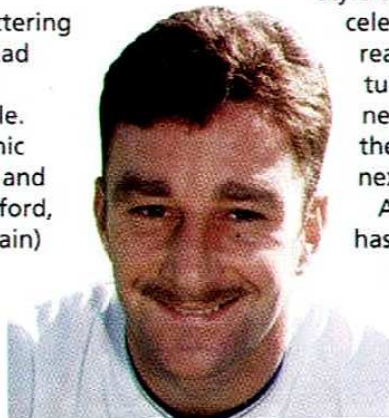
thrashed high-flying Ipswich 5-2 at Prenton Park for good measure.

Last season was one of consolidation by the new manager, and a mid-table finish of 11th spot was the reward for his efforts.

The undisputed king around the six-yard box, there is no-one better at sniffing out the half-chance as he has proved time and again for both club and country.

At the end of August 1996 Rovers lost a match under Aldridge for the first time, and in typical style the Liverpool-born forward - who celebrates his 39th birthday next week - reacted to that previously unknown turnaround in fortunes by scoring in the next five successive matches, including the winning goal in Rovers' next two games.

Always a threat going forward, Aldridge has also made Rovers difficult to break down at the back. If he is half as successful in the manager's chair as he has been on the field, then Rovers' fans are in for a treat.



# STATS...STATS...STATS swindon vs tranmere

## who's played for tranmere

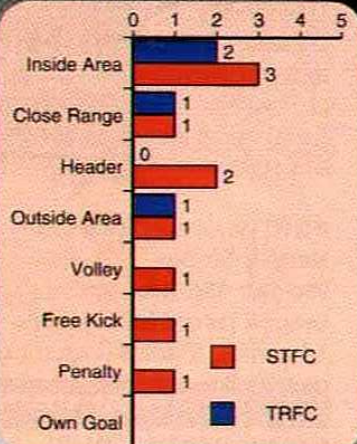
### Tranmere's Roll Call

	A	G	C	Previous Clubs
Paul Cook	6			Coventry Wolves
22/2/67	2			Norwich Wigan Marine
Danny Coyne	6			
27/8/73	2			Wales
Gary Jones	6			
11/5/75	2			
Lee Jones	6	2		Liverpool Crewe (L)
29/5/73	2	1		Wal U21 Wrexham
Gary Stevens	6			Rangers Everton
27/3/63	2			England
Andy Thompson	6		1	Wolves West Brom
9/11/67	2			
Andy Thorn	6		1	Wimbledon Hearts
2/11/66	2			Eng U21 Palace Newcastle
Liam O'Brien	5(1)		1	Newcastle Man Utd
5/9/64	2	1		Eire Shamrock Rovers
John McGreal	5			
2/6/72	2			
David Kelly	4	2	1	Sunderland Wolves
25/11/65	2	1		Eire Newcastle Leicester West Ham Walsall
Graham Branch	3(3)		1	Bury (L) Heswall
12/2/72	(1)			
John Morrissey	3(2)		1	Wolves Everton
8/3/65	2	1		Eng Yth
Alan Morgan	2			
2/11/73	(1)			Wal U21
Kenny Irons	1(5)			
4/11/70	(2)			
Dave Challinor	1(1)			
2/10/75				
John Aldridge	(4)			Real Sociedad
18/9/58				Eire Liverpool Oxford Newport Sth Liverpool

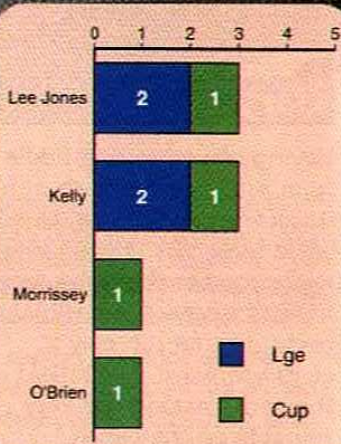
Key : A=Appearances (Sub) C=Cautions (Sent Off) G=Goals  
Cup details, date of birth and international honours in *italics*

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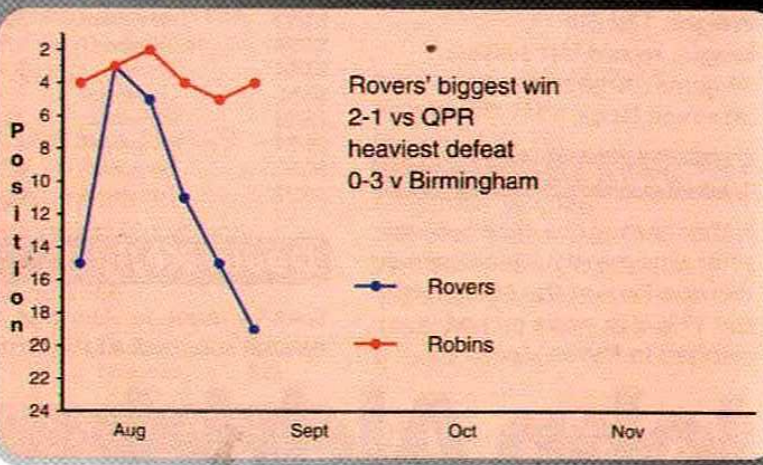
## how goals went in



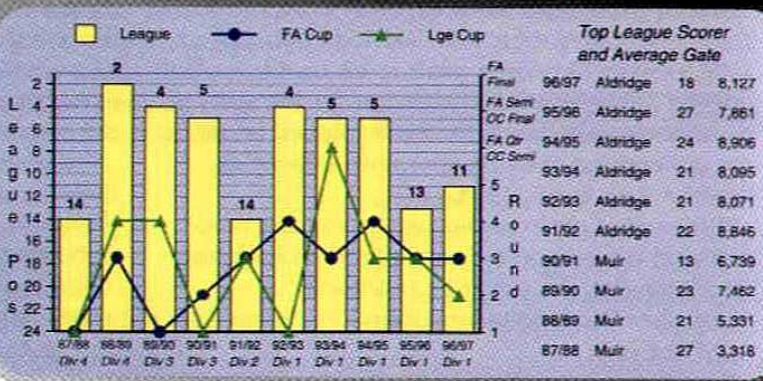
## tranmere's scorers



## league position throughout the season



## tranmere's 10 year league and cup record

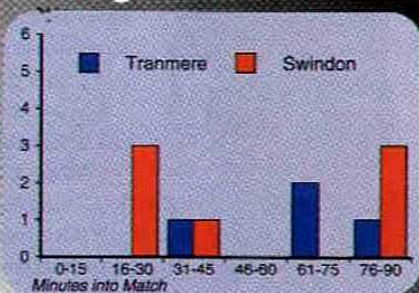


## tranmere's results analysis

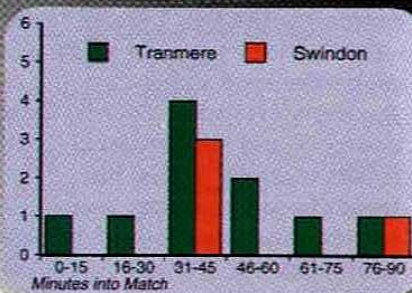
Goals	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
6							
5							
4	1						
3	3	2	1				
2	2	4	2	3			
1	3	7	3	2			
0	5	2	4	1			

shows the number of matches finishing with a variety of scores, eg Rovers won 3 games 3-0 and lost 4 games 0-2

## when goals were scored



## and when goals conceded



# looking back...

*Dick Mattick looks back*

## 5 YEARS AGO

Manager Glenn Hoddle left out Micky Hazard for Martin Ling in a tactical switch for the match against Bristol Rovers. Nicky Summerbee and John Moncur combined to set up a cross which Dave Mitchell headed home after 24 minutes. Marcus Stewart equalised for Rovers from the

penalty spot after he had been brought down by Shaun Taylor in the 69th minute. Two minutes later Craig Maskell netted his sixth goal in four games to restore Town's lead but Carl Stevens saved a point for Bristol when he slotted the ball past Digby with five minutes remaining, the fifth time in a

row Swindon had conceded a goal in the last five minutes. Pat Nevin's first half goal was enough to earn Tranmere a point in front of a disappointing crowd of 5,330 at Prenton Park. Crowds improved as the season progressed and Rovers fought their way into a Division One play off spot.

## 10 YEARS AGO

Swindon lost at home for the first time going down 2-0 to Birmingham City. It might have been different given a curious incident in the 23rd minute. City Keeper Tony Godden caught Chris Kamara with a raised boot as they raced for a through ball. Although referee Tom Fitzharris saw Godden's actions as worthy of a booking, he only awarded

an indirect free kick for dangerous play inside the area. This left the sides level at half time but second half goals by Steve Whitton and Ian Handysides gave the Blues a victory which put them in 10th position in Division Two, just one place below Town.

Tranmere lost 1-0 at home to Burnley. It turned out to be an unremarkable season for the

men from Birkenhead as they finished in fourteenth position with nobody apart from Ian Muir, who finished the season with 27 goals (20 more than any other Rovers player) being able to find the net regularly.

The Kop at Liverpool reopened after repairs and John Aldridge scored against his old side as Liverpool beat Oxford United 2-0.

## 15 YEARS AGO

Despite two point blank saves by Jimmy Allan, Swindon lost 1-0 at home to Halifax in their Fourth Division match. Advertiser, Clive King, described the service to Town's front men Andy Rowland and Paul Rideout

as being so high that a step ladder was needed to reach it. The 3,450 strong crowd were stunned when Bobby Davison headed past Allan in the 89th minute to give the men from The Shay victory. A goal by Brian Hamilton, his third in three

games, was not enough to save a Tranmere team, which had Scott Endersby in goal, from a 2-1 defeat at York.

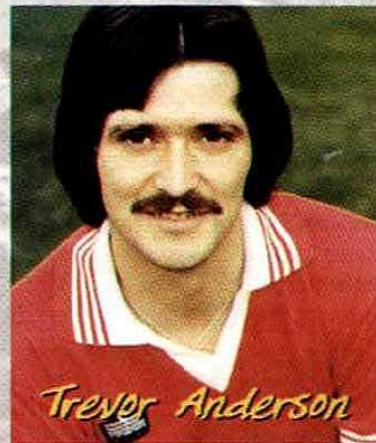
Watford topped the First Division after a 3-0 victory over West Brom.

## FLASH-BACK

***In February 1977 on a drizzly night in Tranmere, Town recorded their first win in four months.***

It must have come as a welcome relief for manager Danny Williams who had been under criticism for Town's poor results and had only recently returned from a High Court grilling over the transfer of Vic Mobly. Rovers included former England keeper, Gordon West,

and former Robin, Steve Peplow who had scored 11 goals in 40 appearances for the Town in the early seventies. The only goal of the game came after 12 minutes when Dave Syrett ran down the left and centred to Dave Moss who headed back across goal for Trevor Anderson to score with his head. Anderson who made 22 international appearances for Northern Ireland, was in his last season with Swindon before moving to Peterborough.



*Trevor Anderson*

# Mike Walsh's diary of the week



## Thursday

**September 4th**

We were counting the cost of the defeat at Ipswich as both Scott Leitch and Mark Seagraves were struggling with injuries. Scott was the main concern with a torn groin muscle which meant he was definitely out of the game against Forest and with Siggy also very doubtful, we knew we had to find some defensive cover.

## Friday

**September 5th**

Everyone was given a boost by the arrival of two new loan signings. Manchester United youngster Chris Casper and experienced Coventry defender Brian Borrows had been brought in on loan for a month as cover at the back where we were short on numbers as Mark Robinson, Ian Culverhouse, Craig Taylor and now Mark Seagraves were all out injured.

We knew it would be tough for the two new lads, coming in to face Forest in their very first game but we had faith in their ability and were sure they could do a job for us.

We had been keeping an eye on Casper for some time so the Gaffer was delighted when United boss Alex Ferguson agreed to let him come here on loan and as for Borrows, well Steve McMahon and I knew him from way back as we had all been at Everton together.

## Saturday

**September 6th**

With the funeral of Diana

taking place in the morning the lads came in early for a training session before going home to pay their respects to the Princess of Wales. It was obviously a sad day all round and our thoughts were with the family and friends of Diana.

## Sunday

**September 7th**

Well, the big day had now arrived as we prepared to pit our wits against a star-studded Forest team. We knew that if we performed to the best of our ability we could match the visitors and that proved to be the case as we emerged with a deserved point.

As expected both Chris Casper and Brian Borrows slotted into the side well and I'm sure they will get even better over the next few games.

Although there were no goals I thought it was an entertaining match with lots of goal mouth incident and I'm sure the 13,000 plus crowd all went home feeling they had got value for money.

It was a tremendous atmosphere and let's just hope we can get some more attendances like that here at the County Ground this season.

## Monday

**September 8th**

We gave the lads who had played the previous day time to recover with a day off but everyone else was in as normal for training. With no mid week game for the first team it gave everyone some extra time to

recover from the Forest match and prepare for the visit of Tranmere.

## Tuesday

**September 9th**

Getting ready to take on Tranmere was now top of our priorities. Although they hadn't made the best of starts in Division One we were not going to take them lightly and we knew we had to get our tactics spot on if we were to get the victory we were after. Last season we beat them 2-1 at home before going down by the same scoreline at Prenton Park, so there was no way we were going to take them lightly.

## Wednesday

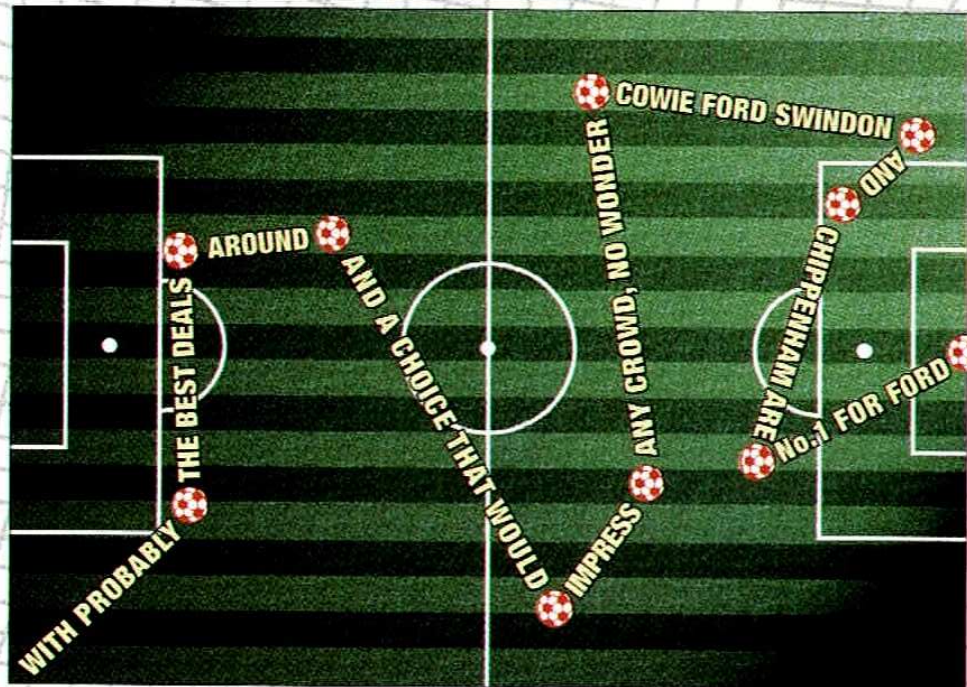
**September 10th**

As this programme went to print Ross MacLaren and his Reserve team were all geared up to take on Charlton in the Avon Insurance Combination and after three successive defeats, they were hoping to grab their first win of the season.

This game also gave several players a chance to push for a place in the first team so it was an important match in more ways than one.



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BRUNEL  
936/1161 AM

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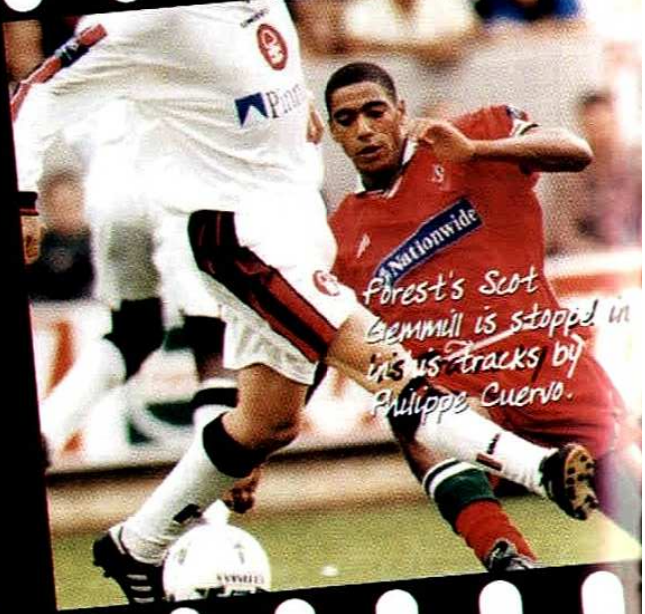
# action

VS

*replay*



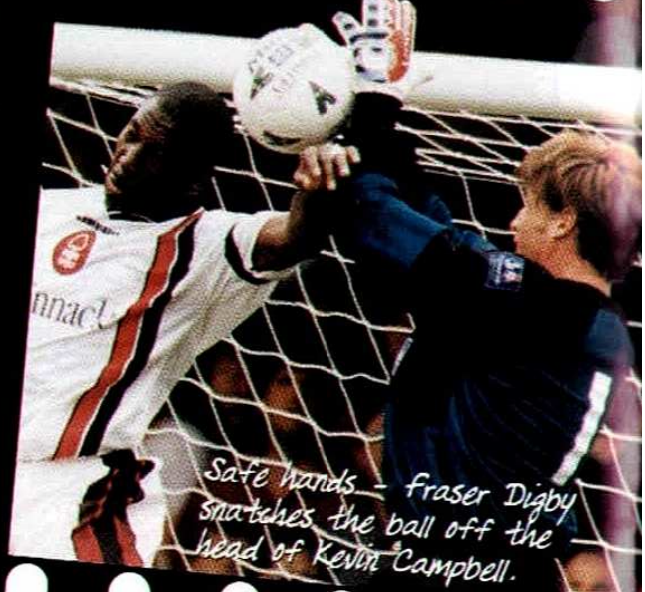
*Ty Gooden tries his luck from long range.*



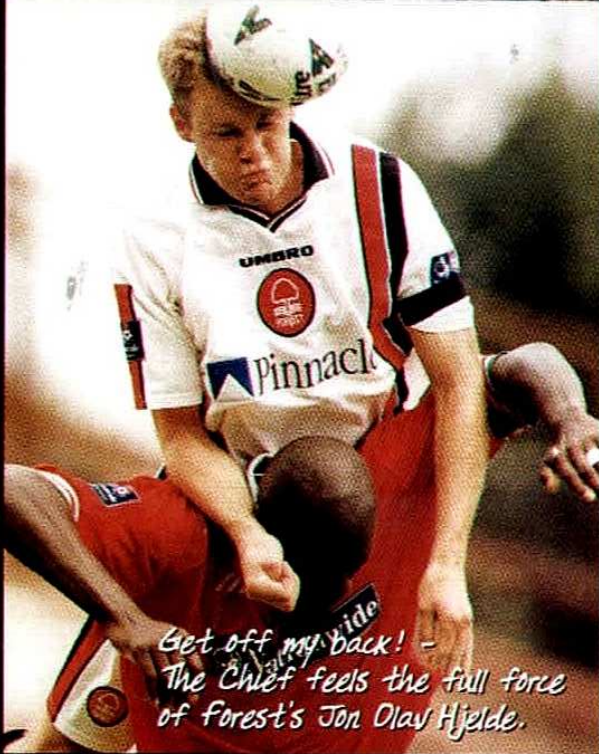
*Forest's Scott Gemmill is stopped in his tracks by Philippe Cuervo.*



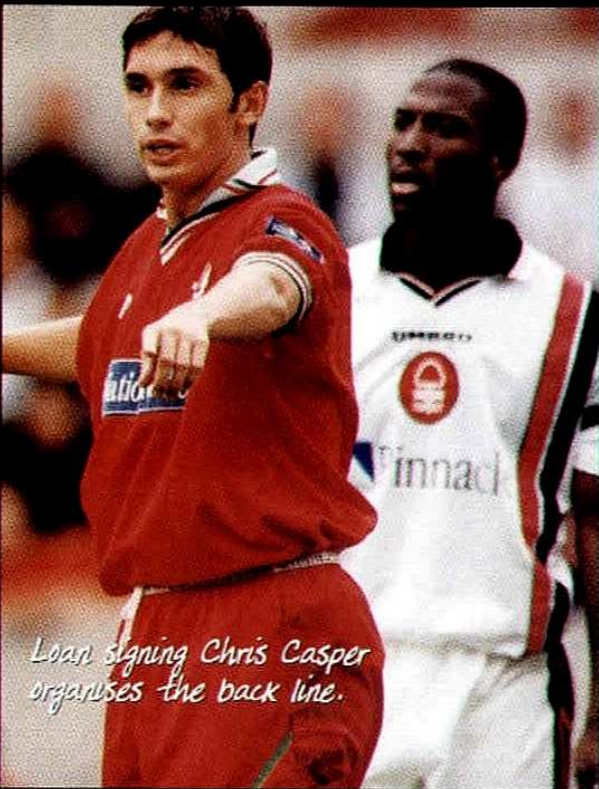
*Crunch - Ty Gooden battles with Alan Rodgers.*



*Safe hands - Fraser Digby snatches the ball off the head of Kevin Campbell.*



*Get off my back! - The Chief feels the full force of Forest's Jon Olav Hjelde.*



*Loan signing Chris Casper organises the back line.*



## RESULT...

SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER  
NATIONWIDE DIVISION ONE

**Swindon Town 0**  
**Notts Forest 0**

Attendance 13,051

## TEAM...

- 1 Fraser Digby
- 2 Frederic Darras
- 3 Brian Borrows
- 4 Darren Bullock
- 5 Chris Casper
- 6 Alan McDonald
- 7 Mark Walters
- 8 Philippe Cuervo
- 9 Chris Hay
- 10 Wayne Allison
- 11 Ty Gooden

Subs not used: Jason Drysdale,  
Kevin Watson, Paul McAreavey.

## MATCH REPORT

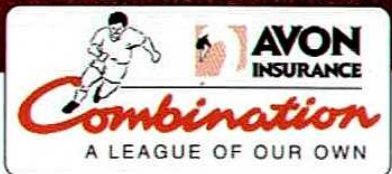
There were no goals but this was far from a bore draw as both sides created chances in an entertaining tussle at the County Ground.

Man of the match Fraser Digby pulled off some flying saves to deny the likes of Kevin Campbell, Geoff Thomas and Chris Bart-Williams. At the other end Wayne Allison proved a handful and Philippe Cuervo's driving runs from midfield kept Forest on their toes. The introduction of Pierre Van Hooijdonk in the 55th minute sparked new life from Forest and it was the Dutch international who went close twice with shots from the edge of the area. A goal line clearance by loan signing Brian Borrows made sure of a point for Swindon and the other newcomer, namely Chris Casper from Manchester United, played a vital role in a creditable draw against one of the favourites for promotion.

*"It took me a bout 20 minutes to find my feet but after that I was pleased with my first game for Swindon,"* said Casper afterwards.

# reserve round-up

with Ross MacLaren



## Match report.

### Avon Insurance Combination Division One.

Swindon Town Reserves 0  
Charlton Athletic Reserves 1

**The Reserves are still searching for their first points of the season after going down by the only goal of the game at the County Ground on Wednesday night.**

Despite having the unfortunate Sol Davis sent off just before the break for what seemed an innocuous challenge, the lads battled on with 10 men and created enough chances to have got something out of the game.

Stephane Leoni, on trial from Metz, nearly scored early on when his pace took him clear but a powerful shot was well saved.

Youngster Paul McAreavey had a shot from the edge of the area saved and Leoni headed just wide before we were knocked back by the sending off of Sol Davis.

Even with a player less we continued to create openings with Steve Cowe shooting across the face of goal after a great cross by Steve Finney and the same player was inches wide with a long range effort.

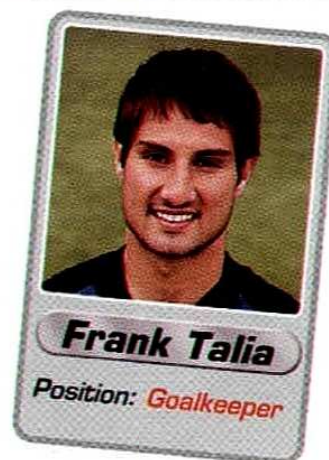
Frank Talia made a good one handed save from Charlton's Paul Emblen however he could do nothing to keep out Emblen's first time drive in the 70th minute which flew in from the corner of the box.

Talia kept us in touch with a

point blank save minutes later and at the other end the lads continued to press forward in search of an equaliser but some desperate defending denied us what would have been a deserved point.

It was good to see a crowd of over 300 here for the game and we'll be hoping for a few more when we entertain Norwich on September 25th.

Team: Talia, Leoni, Davis, Collins, Elkins, Drysdale, Watson, Smith, Finney, Cowe, McAreavey



## FIXTURES 97/98

### Avon Insurance Combination Div 1

Tue	Aug	12	Crystal Palace	A 1-2
Wed	AUG	20	TOTTENHAM	H 0-2
Thu	Aug	28	West Ham United	A 0-1
Wed	SEP	03	LUTON TOWN	H PP
Wed	SEP	10	CHALTON ATHLETIC	H 0-1
Mon	Sep	15	Brighton & H.A.	A 2.00
Thu	SEP	25	NORWICH CITY	H 7.15
Wed	Oct	01	Portsmouth	A 7.00
Wed	Oct	08	Wimbledon	A 2.00
Wed	OCT	15	IPSWICH TOWN	H 7.15
Wed	Oct	22	Watford	A 7.30
Wed	OCT	29	ARSENAL	H 7.15
Mon	Nov	03	Chelsea	A 7.00
Wed	NOV	12	OXFORD UNITED	H 7.15
Thu	Nov	20	QPR	A 7.00
Wed	NOV	26	MILLWALL	H 7.15
Wed	DEC	03	WEST HAM UNITED	H 7.15
Mon	Dec	08	Luton Town	A 7.00
Wed	DEC	17	BRIGHTON & H.A.	H 7.15
Wed	Jan	07	Charlton Athletic	A 2.00
Wed	JAN	14	PORTSMOUTH	H 7.15
Thu	Jan	23	Norwich City	A 7.30
THUR	JAN	29	WIMBLEDON	H 7.15
Wed	FEB	04	Jowich Town	A 7.00
Wed	FEB	11	SOUTHAMPTON	H 7.15
Wed	Feb	18	Millwall	A 2.00
Wed	MAR	04	CHELSEA	H 7.15
Tue	Mar	10	Arsenal	A 2.00
Wed	Mar	19	Oxford United	A 7.30
Wed	MAR	25	CRYSTAL PALACE	H 7.15
Wed	APR	01	QPR	H 7.15
Wed	Apr	08	Southampton	A 7.30
Wed	Apr	15	Tottenham	A 7.30
Wed	APR	22	WATFORD	H 7.15

All home fixtures are to be played at The County Ground and will kick-off at the time indicated above. Kick-Off times are subject to change without prior warning.

## Reserve Team Player Appearances 97/98

Player Name:	League		Cup		Total	
	Apps.	Gl.	Apps.	Gl.	Apps.	Gl.
DARREN BULLOCK	3	0	0	0	3	0
SAM CAMPAGNA	0	0	0	0	0	0
STEVE COWE	4	1	0	0	4	1
LEE COLLINS	4	0	0	0	4	0
SOL DAVIS	1(1)	0	0	0	1(1)	0
JASON DRYSDALE	1	0	0	0	1	0
GARY ELKINS	4	0	0	0	4	0
ALEX FINLAYSON	(2)	0	0	0	(2)	0
STEVE FINNEY	3	0	0	0	3	0
PETER HOLCROFT	2	0	0	0	2	0
ROBIN HULBERT	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
PHIL KING	1	0	0	0	1	0
STEPHANE LEONI	1	0	0	0	1	0
PAUL McAREAVEY	1(1)	0	0	0	1(1)	0
STEVE McMAHON	2	0	0	0	2	0
ALEX MEECHAN	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
MICHAEL PATTIMORE	2(1)	0	0	0	2(1)	0
ALEX SMITH	4	0	0	0	4	0
FRANK TALIA	4	0	0	0	4	0
WAYNE THORNE	1(1)	0	0	0	1(1)	0
MARK WALTERS	2	0	0	0	2	0
KEVIN WATSON	4	0	0	0	4	0





**NEXT HOME GAME**

Thursday 25th  
September 1997

← **Norwich City**

Kick-Off 7.15pm

**NEXT AWAY GAME**

Monday 15th  
September 1997

↘ **Brighton**


Kick-Off 2.00pm

**FAMILY NIGHT FOOTBALL**

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## FIXTURES 97198

### South East Counties League Division 2

SAT	AUG 09	BRENTFORD	H 2-2
Sat	Aug 16	Southampton	A 1-2
SAT	AUG 23	LUTON TOWN	H 2-4
WED	AUG 27	CARDIFF CITY (JFC1)	H 3-3
Sat	Aug 30	Reading	A 3-1
Tue	Sep 9	Cardiff City (JFC1 Rep)	A 0-3
SAT	SEP 13	PORTSMOUTH (LC1)	H
WED	SEP 17	PETERBOROUGH UTD	H
Sat	Sep 20	Colchester United	A
SAT	SEP 27	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	H
Sat	Oct 04	Bristol Rovers	A
SAT	OCT 11	WYCOMBE W.	H
Sat	Oct 25	Wimbledon	A
Sat	Nov 01	Tottenham Hotspur	A
SAT	NOV 08	OXFORD UNITED	H
Sat	Nov 15	Barnet	A
SAT	NOV 29	BRIGHTON & H.A.	H
Sat	Dec 06	Bristol City	A
SAT	DEC 13	BRISTOL CITY	H
Sat	Dec 20	Brentford	A
SAT	JAN 03	SOUTHAMPTON	H
Sat	Jan 10	Luton Town	A
SAT	JAN 17	READING	H
Sat	Jan 24		
SAT	JAN 31	COLCHESTER UNITED	H
Sat	Feb 07	AFC Bournemouth	A
SAT	FEB 14	BRISTOL ROVERS	H
Sat	Feb 21	Wycombe Wndrs	A
SAT	FEB 28	WIMBLEDON	H
SAT	MAR 07	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	H
Sat	Mar 14	Oxford United	A
SAT	MAR 21	BARNET	H
Sat	Mar 28	Brighton & H.A.	A

Home fixtures kick-off at 11.00am at the Nationwide Pavillion, Pipers Way - Kick-Off times are subject to change without prior warning.

south east

## FIXTURES 97198

### West Country Television South West Counties Youth League

Aug 23	Bristol Rovers	A 4-2
AUG 30	CARDIFF CITY	H 2-3
Sept 06	Cheltenham Town	A pp
SEPT 13	CIRENCESTER TOWN	H
Sept 20	Exeter City	A
SEPT 27	HEREFORD UNITED	H
OCT 04	(LEAGUE CUP ROUND 1)	
Oct 11	Plymouth Argyle	A
OCT 18	SWANSEA CITY	H
OCT 25	YEOVIL TOWN	H
Nov 01	orquay United	A
NOV 08	AFC NEWPORT	H
Nov 15	Bashley	A
NOV 22	(LEAGUE CUP ROUND 2)	
NOV 29	BRISTOL CITY	H
Dec 06	Bristol City	A
DEC 13	BRISTOL ROVERS	H
Jan 03	Cardiff City	A
JAN 10	CHELTEMHAM TOWN	H
Jan 17	Cirencester Town	A
JAN 24	EXETER CITY	H
Jan 31	Hereford United	A
FEB 07	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H
Feb 14	Swadney Crig	A
Feb 21	Yeovil Town	A
FEB 28	TORQUAY UNITED	H
Mar 07	AFC Newport	A
NOV 02	BASHLEY	H

All home Saturday fixtures kick-off at 11.00am - Wednesday fixtures kick-off at 2.00pm - At the British Rail Ground. Kick-Off times are subject to change without prior warning.

south west

# youth team focus

with Tommy Wheelodon



## Junior Floodlit Cup, First Round Replay.

### Cardiff Youth 3 Swindon Town Youth 0

**After sharing six goals in the first game we struggled badly in the replay and went out of the competition with a disappointing performance.**

We fell behind after 20 minutes when Carl Robinson lost possession in midfield and we failed to defend a good cross which was headed in.

The lads had a great opportunity to draw level early in the second half but Ricki Culbertson missed with a free header from just five yards out.

And that miss proved costly as shortly afterwards Cardiff made it 2-0 with a looping header over Michael Tarran from 18 yards out. Again I was disappointed at the way we defended.

Cardiff's third goal came in the 89th minute to leave us well beaten and I was worried about the lack of passion and lack of professionalism shown by the team.

With Sol Davis and Paul McAreavey missing due to their call-ups into the Reserve team there was a chance for some of the fringe players to stake their claim in the side. But unfortunately they did not live up to expectations and on this display there is plenty of hard work ahead.

**Team:** Tarran, Mills (Cairns), Campagna, Culbertson, Hodson, Peters, Thorne, Hulbert, O'Connell (Hughes), Meechan (McSherry), Robinson.

**As a mark of respect for the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales both of Swindon Town's scheduled youth team fixtures were postponed last Saturday. New dates will be announced shortly.**

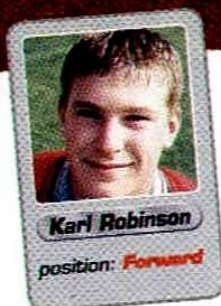
Congratulations to 17 year Robin Hulbert who has just signed a three and a half year professional contract at Swindon Town.

Despite only being in his second year as a trainee, Robin, who is an England Youth international, has impressed enough to secure his immediate future at the County Ground.



## FACT FILE...

**Name:** Robin Hulbert.  
**Position:** Midfield.  
**D.O.B:** 14.03.80.  
**Birthplace:** Plymouth.  
**Previous Clubs:** Crewe, Everton.  
**Biggest Influence on career:** Dad.  
**Favourite Players:** Paul Gascoigne, Glenn Hoddle.  
**Future aims:** To play in the Premiership and for England.



### south east counties league table

	P	W	D	L	F	APTS	GD
TOTTENHAM H.	4	3	1	0	9	2	+07
LUTON TOWN	4	3	0	1	15	4	+11
SOUTHAMPTON	4	3	0	1	13	7	+06
BRENTFORD	4	2	2	0	10	6	+04
BRISTOL ROVERS	4	2	1	1	10	8	+02
OXFORD UNITED	4	2	0	2	8	12	-04
BRISTOL CITY	4	1	2	4	10	9	+01
WIMBLEDON	2	1	1	0	4	2	+02
WYCOMBE W.	2	1	1	0	2	1	+01
SWINDON TOWN	3	1	1	2	8	9	-01
BARNET	4	1	1	2	7	11	-04
COLCHESTER UNITED	4	0	2	2	6	10	-04
A.F.C. BOUNEMOUTH	4	0	2	2	7	13	-06
BRIGHTON	4	0	1	3	5	10	-05
READING	4	0	1	3	4	14	-10

### south west counties league table

	P	W	D	L	F	APTS	
TORQUAY LTD	2	2	0	0	12	3	6
EXETER CITY	2	2	0	0	10	1	6
NEWPORT A.F.C.	2	2	0	0	6	1	6
CARDIFF CITY	2	2	0	0	6	2	6
CIRENCESTER AC'DY	2	1	1	0	5	1	4
PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
SWANSEA CITY	2	1	0	1	7	4	3
SWINDON TOWN	2	1	0	1	6	5	3
YEOVIL TOWN	2	1	0	1	3	6	3
BASHLEY	2	0	0	2	2	8	0
BRISTOL ROVERS	2	0	0	2	3	8	0
BRISTOL CITY	2	0	0	2	2	11	0
CHELTENHAM TOWN	2	0	0	2	1	9	0
HEREFORD LTD	2	0	0	2	1	9	0

**NEXT HOME GAME**

**SOUTH EAST COUNTIES**  
**Wednesday 17th**  
**September 1997**

**← Peterborough**  
**United**

**Kick-Off 11am**

**NEXT HOME GAME**

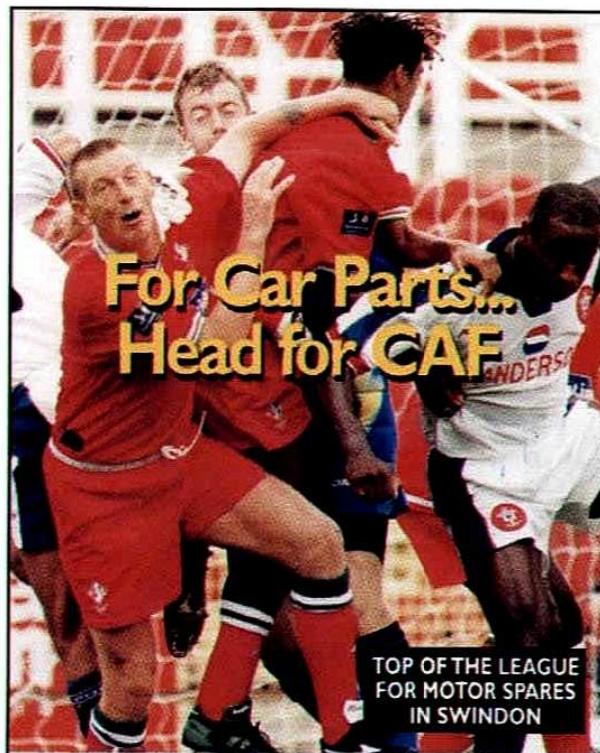
**SOUTH WEST COUNTIES**  
**Saturday 27th**  
**September 1997**

**← Hereford**  
**United**

**Kick-Off 11am**

### Youth Team Player Appearances 97/98

Player Name:	League		Cup		Total	
	Apps.	Gls.	Apps.	Gls.	Apps.	Gls.
ANTHONY BETTERTON	2	0	0	0	2	0
PETER CAIRNS	(1)	0	(1)	0	(2)	0
SAM CAMPAGNA	2	0	1	0	3	0
RICKY CULBERTSON	(1)	0	1	0	1(1)	0
SOL DAVIS	2	1	0	0	2	1
WESLEY GARTON	1	0	0	0	1	0
STUART HODSON	2	0	1	0	3	0
ALAN HUGHES	1	0	(1)	0	1(1)	0
ROBIN HULBERT	1	1	1	0	2	1
PHIL MACDIARMID	1	0	0	0	1	0
PAUL McAREAVEY	2	0	0	0	2	0
IAN McSHERRY	(2)	0	(1)	0	(3)	0
ALEX MEECHAN	2	1	1	0	3	1
JAMIE MILLS	1	0	1	0	2	0
CHRIS D'CONNELL	2	0	1	0	3	0
BRADLEY PETERS	1	0	1	0	2	0
KARL ROBINSON	(1)	0	1	0	1(1)	0
MICHAEL TARRAN	0	0	1	0	1	0
WAYNE THORNE	2	0	1	0	3	0



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# community scheme news

with Clive & Jon

Clive Maguire

Jon Holloway

*No doubt you are all "over the moon" about being back at school!*

For all of you Primary School supporters, don't forget to tell your teachers about our Learning Through Football Scheme which we now run here at the Club on Tuesday's and Thursday's.

Teacher Natasha Holt will now be working alongside our new recruit Duncan Bamford who has recently taken early retirement from Bradon Forest School.

Duncan has been a life long supporter of the Club and he is looking forward to teaming up with Natasha.

Jon and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Colin Jones from Pinehurst and Neil Aldridge from St. Joseph's for allowing us to use their five-a-side goals for our summer courses.

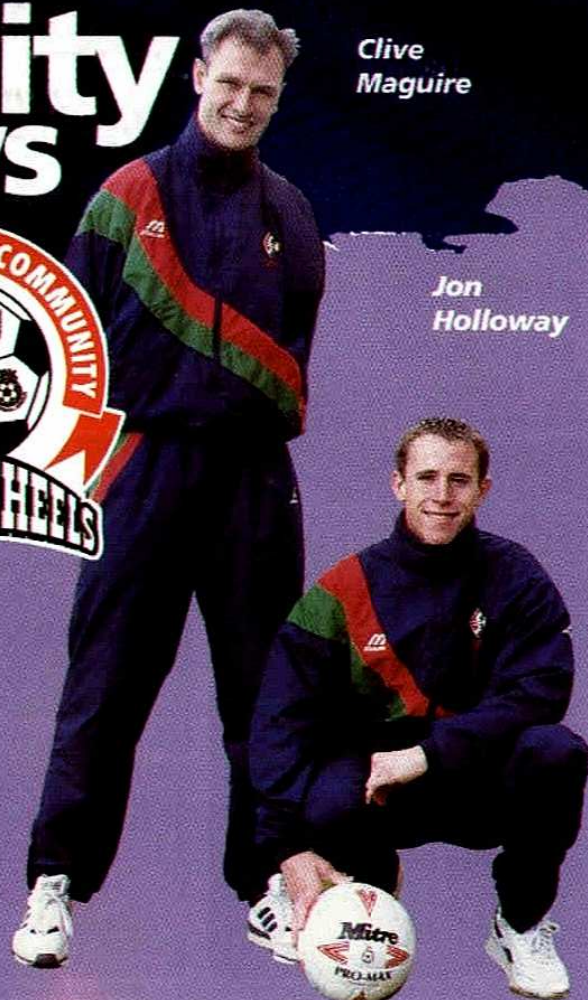
They were put to good use and all the children commented on how good it was to have proper goals in a game situation.

Places are now filling up very fast for our next course at the end of October, so to avoid disappointment return your forms as soon as possible!

Before I finish I must say a massive thank you to midfielder Scott Leitch who joined Jon and I on a visit to Mountford Manor on Tuesday.

All the kids enjoyed Scott's talk on the importance of reading. Many thanks Scott.

Let's hope today's game is as exciting as the Forest match last Sunday. But this time we want to take all three points



The new Soccer Centres courses have now started. For further details contact Tom Jones: **01793 644777**.

BREAD  BASKET

Sponsors of the Saturday Team Club  
Tel: 01793 432840

Swindon Town Football Club's Community Scheme is kindly supported by:



**Raychem**



**Evening Advertiser**  
— at the heart of Swindon!

# JUNIOR ROBINS

with Louise Kaye

Sponsored by



## Young Supporters Join the fan club now!

The Junior Robins is the supporters club for boys and girls under 16! When you join you'll receive a FREE welcome pack plus a personalised membership card, entitling you to lots of discounts. Monthly Newsletters will keep you up-to-date with the latest County Ground news on players, competitions and invitations to exclusive events. You will also get the opportunity to be a ballboy/girl or even a mascot throughout the season!

When you join, recommend a friend and you will each receive a FREE junior match ticket in the Rover Family Stand for a forthcoming home game. Pick up an application form from the Superstore or Main Reception today.

## The Benefits

### Welcome Pack

including a personal radio, scarf and lots of Swindon goodies

### 10% Discount

on all purchases in the STFC Superstore

## Monthly Newsletter

packed with competitions, gossip and the latest news

## Trips and Events

to away games and major attractions at a reduced cost

## Meet The Players

at various events exclusive to Junior Robins

## Football Courses

as a member you receive discounts for Community Office courses

## Weekly Training Sessions

exclusive to members only

## Free Christmas Party

Junior Robins festive party with players attending

## Free Admission

to home reserve matches at the County Ground

## Opportunities

to be ballboys/ballgirls (over 12's)

## Mascot Packages

receive 10% discount as a Town mascot

# mascots...mascots...

## Today's mascots

### Joshua Skeates

celebrated his 5th birthday on the 11th September and has just started at Moredon Infants School. Football mad Joshua is a season ticket holder along with his brother Sam and mum Lisa in the Rover Family Stand. He also supports Leeds and loves playing football himself. His favourite player is Swindon Town's Philippe Cuervo.



Jordan Kilderry is just 2 years old and is our youngest mascot so far this season. Jordan, who is a Junior Robin and lives in Rodbourne, Swindon, loves football and Barney the Dinosaur. His favourite player is Fraser Digby.



# tony horne's view from a far

*I have two tales of comfort for all  
Town fans this afternoon,*



*A word of warning that an old friend could yet turn foe in the high-flying world of Nationwide play offs.*

Firstly let's start with some excellent news - whatever you may have felt over the past couple of years about what has been going on at the club, we all can rest in peace with the knowledge that Steve McMahon did us all an enormous favour - he sold Joey Beauchamp back to Oxford! I had the great pleasure of watching Sunderland thump Oxford the other night and I can confirm that it is still the case that Joey still runs after everything for the first ten minutes, and then runs into everything on another of his 'dazzling' runs and gives the ball away, then he just fades from the game. The lad that promised so much, frustrated more often and it was a performance

I had seen at Swindon on many occasions. In fact, rejoice Robins, in the knowledge that Sunderland's first goal was credited to them via Beauchamp's bum. A fine moment! Secondly, and I mention this for those of you who will make the trip to the Stadium of Light, I would like to say how glad I am that Swindon Town still have the ground capacity that they have and have resisted the temptation to build a 40,000 all-seater. Realistically, you and I both know that, bar Premiership opposition, the County Ground is never full, and we also recognise that we are a bit of a yo-yo team up and down the divisions. Sunderland's new stadium, obviously built for Premiership games, holds 42,000 and is excellent. At the Oxford match only 27,000 filled it and it did not look quite so excellent. Nor will it please

the money men. I think there is a clear moral in this story, and we should take note at the County Ground, until the day comes, and it will, when we are the world-beaters! Thirdly, beware old friend Jan Aage Fjortoft - Jan is one of these players whose record suggests that he is too good for the First, and just not prolific enough for the Premiership. Discarded by Robson at Middlesbrough International, he has been smashing them in so far this season for Sheffield United, and I would lay good money on them for a play off place. Everybody talks about the 'sleeping giants' Forest, Man City, and Wolves, but beware, the Viking warrior is cutting loose and, no doubt, desperate once again to prove he can cut it in the top flight. Notwithstanding injury, we will face him twice this season, and he could be a Peter Thorne in our side. We have been warned! *Enjoy the game today!*

extra  
IS IT TIME DEAR?!  
ANCHOR SLOW MATURED CHEDDAR: A SUPERIOR TASTE WELL WORTH WAITING FOR.

# centre of excellence

*with Phil Cannon*

***It was good to see all the lads back at the Centre of Excellence last Thursday looking excited and keen at the prospect of another season at Swindon Town Football Club.***

Watching the boys develop both technically and physically over the years gives both my coaching staff and myself great satisfaction.

Physically it is interesting because each boy develops at different stages. i.e. growth spurts etc. So it is important that we monitor them properly.

This year we aim to do this on a Monday night at our physical session which is held at Greendown.

Physio Jonathan Trigg has

worked on a development programme which allows each player to be monitored and the results can be clearly shown to the boys by means of monthly reports.

We feel here at the Club that youngsters are not as fit as they should be due to various reasons so the lads should benefit from Trigg's proposals.

Last weekend we sent three teams out to play the Football Association of Wales in Swansea at the Elba Sports Centre.

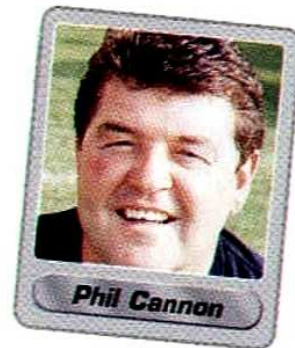
The facilities were magnificent and the hospitality even better.

The F.A.W. are going flat out to get their coaching of youngsters to the highest level possible and from what I saw last weekend - they are not far off.

Our Under 13's began their season with a 2-2 draw, the

Under 14's also shared the spoils in a 0-0 draw while the Under 15's produced a good performance to run out 6-1 winners with goals from Alan Young (2), Nathan Edwards, Les Bishop and Kevin Halliday. An own goal completed the tally.

From now on, each month we will be holding extra sessions on a Sunday to give the youngsters more time with our coaches. Hopefully this will help them improve even quicker.

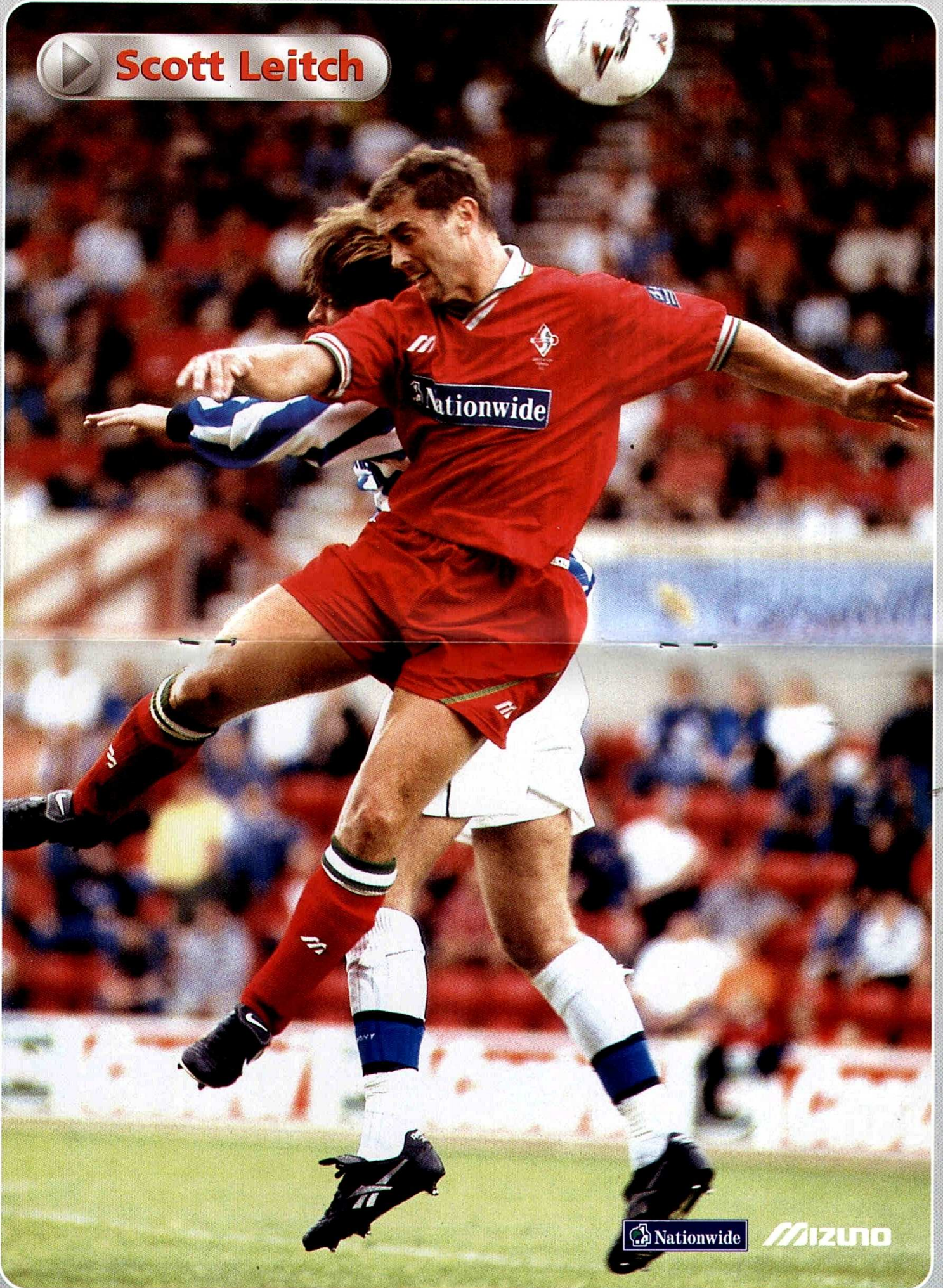


**SWINDON TOWN**  
**Centre of Excellence**

**Spot the stars of tomorrow!**  
Swindon Town Football Club and National Power working in partnership to search for the stars of tomorrow

In partnership with  
  
**National Power**

▶ **Scott Leitch**



 Nationwide

 Mizuno



# the ticket office

## @swindon town tickets



### West Brom



On Saturday September 20th we visit West Brom and 500 tickets are

available in advance, situated in the Smethwick End priced £12 for adults and £6.50 concessions.

On the day there will be 2,500 available, pay on the turnstiles with prices set at £13 for adults and £7 for concessions.

### Man City



The trip to Maine Road on Saturday September 27th is an ALL TICKET

affair with 829 tickets on sale in advance costing £10 for adults and £7 for concessions.

Tickets for the following matches are now on sale:

### Port Vale



Saturday October 4th, Port Vale (HOME), 3pm

### Bury



Saturday October 11th, Bury (HOME), 3pm.

### Norwich



Saturday October 25th, Norwich City (HOME) 3pm.

Don't forget that tickets for Reserve team games can be purchased in advance and the home games against Norwich Reserves on Thursday September 25th and Ipswich Reserves on Wednesday October 15th are now on sale.

### BOX OFFICE OPENING HOURS

**Monday to Friday**  
8.30am - 5.45pm

**Saturday (non matchday)**  
10am - 4pm

**Wednesday (matchday)**  
8.30am - kick-off

**Saturday (matchday)**  
9am - kick-off

**Matchday Ticket Office:**  
For Saturday matches throughout 1997,  
tickets will go on sale at 11am.

For further details on ticket availability  
contact the Ticket Office on:

**(01793) 529000**

To order by fax:

**(01793) 431887**

WE ARE PLEASED TO ACCEPT



# on the road... travel...



**Manchester City**  
Saturday Sept 27th  
Kick-Off 3.00pm

*Town face old boys Kevin Horlock and Nicky Summerbee in an All Ticket clash at Maine Road - so do make sure that you buy your ticket at the County Ground before the day of the match.*



**Going to Wolves...**  
Saturday October 18th  
Kick-Off 3.00pm

*Don't miss the next issue of our matchday magazine for all your travel details to Molineux*

## Travelling by Road...

Take the A419/A417 to join the M5 north, continuing via the M6. Leave the M6 immediately after Kruttsford Services, at Junction 19.

Take the A556 to Lymm roundabout, joining the M56 eastbound at Junction 7. Continue to the end of the motorway, where the road becomes the A5103, Princess Road. Stay on this road for approximately 3 miles before turning right into Claremont Road. Maine Road is the second turning on the right.

## Did You Know?

*Town's first two visits to Maine Road saw two defeats - and 17 goals conceded! Both were FA Cup ties - a record 10-1 rout in 1930 and a 7-0 thrashing in 1953.*



## TRAVEL CLUB

**MANCHESTER CITY**  
Fare **£12.00 Adults £10.00 Juniors**  
Depart County Ground: **9.15am**

Our coaches start at Aldbourne and we offer pick ups at Ashington Way plus other destinations en route. Please ask for these options and times when booking. Our coaches are either Executive or Luxury standard and we enforce our Non Smoking policy. Our Stewards are pleased to provide a selection of drinks and snacks throughout your journey, as well as the other on board entertainment we offer as well. Up to 25% reduction off our already excellent match day travel prices with our unbeatable Travel Club season ticket offer. Please ask for details. Special offers for our members - just £1.00 fee each season.

**Make Sure You Book Now At:**  
Travel Club Office (Arkell's Stand, Supporters Club entrance) Open Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 7.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. Also Open Every Matchday until 20 minutes before kick off Plus 24-hour Travel information answerphone service: Telephone (01793) 611499

Or book through Barnes Coaches Ltd Information Centre or telephone any day on (01672) 540330



## S.A.S TRAVEL



**MANCHESTER CITY Fare £12.00**

Depart COUNTY GROUND (Superstore) 9.15am  
also picking up at WOOTTON BASSETT 8.45am  
WEST SWINDON 9.00am ERMIN STREET 9.30am  
**Match tickets available when booking coach seats**

- Executive coach travel with hostess service of hot/cold drinks and light refreshments
- All coaches are NON SMOKING
- Reductions for accompanied under 15's
- No membership fee

### COUNTY GROUND BOOKING OFFICE

Open: Tuesdays, Wednesdays,  
Thursdays 10am - 2pm Thursdays 7pm - 9pm  
Tel: (01793) 536757

**24-HOUR TRAVEL and TICKET INFORMATION SERVICE**  
Tel: (01793) 825935 Fax: (01793) 821015

WE ARE NOW PLEASED TO ACCEPT



# the swindon town superstore

county ground, swindon

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AVAILABLE IN  
FOUR COLOURS**

**ADULTS  
£16.99**

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To contact the Club Superstore and for  
Mail Order details call 01793 423030.

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## The A406 is back

**As from October 2nd the A406 will be returning to your screens on Meridian Television.**

The show gives you a complete football round-up with the big names of the game and the stars that follow it.

It all kicks off again soon with a show every Thursday at 11.15pm and repeats on Saturday lunchtime.

## Dean's dream day out

**Town fan Dean Foggoa had a day to remember at the County Ground last Sunday when he led the team out as one of the official Matchday Mascots.**

The six year-old from Upper Stratton (pictured front right below) got the chance to be a mascot thanks to the Evening Advertiser who contacted the Club to organise this once in a lifetime experience after hearing that Dean had missed Fraser Digby's Terstimonial match due to illness. Dean spent over a week in hospital with a serious eye infection but he has now recovered and had a fabulous day on Sunday. The plucky youngster came home with a replica kit and a signed football as a memento of his dream day.



Anyone who would like to represent Swindon Town in 1988 should send their entries to: Matchday Magazine Editor, Swindon Town FC, County Ground, Swindon, Wilts, SN1 2ED.

Application forms for the 1988 Flora London Marathon are now available from Marathon News, a free magazine published by the Flora London Marathon. Copies of the magazine can be picked up from selected sports shops all over the country. For more details contact the Asics hotline on 01925 417744.

## in & around the county ground



## Chris voted player of the month

**Summer signing Chris Hay has picked up the Fattio's Restaurant, Players' Player of the Month Award for August.**

The £330,000 bargain buy from Celtic chipped in with three goals in four games to help his side make a superb start to the season.

Chris and his girlfriend can now enjoy a meal for two at Fattio's Restaurant in Highworth.

## Entries invited for Marathon

**A super-fit fan is needed to run in the Flora London Marathon Football Challenge which takes place on Sunday April 26th, 1998.**

This is your chance to represent Swindon Town Football Club in a fixture with a difference as you will pull on the famous red kit and take on runners from all the other British Clubs in the Football Challenge over the 26.2 mile course.

If you feel you have got what it takes to lead Swindon Town to glory then send your entries in now, giving full details of running career and how much money you hope to raise for charity.

Whoever represents the Club in 1988 will have a lot to live up to as this year's representative Chris Kirkland was in flying form.

Chris finished third in Division One of the Challenge with a time of 3.25.59 but was an outright winner in the charity stakes as he picked up the Football Challenge Charity Trophy which is given to the runner who raises the most money for charity.

He raised a magnificent sum of £16,551 towards a new changing room project at Wootton Bassett School.



# winning ways

by Dave Hollister



## Whichford Hyundai

Kennedy Drive, Eldene, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 3SB 01793 614855



WHEN ALL YOU WANT IS EVERYTHING

# WIN 1

*The cash prize paid out on the half-time Nest Egg Draw last Sunday was the highest since Norwich City visited us on 29th March this year.*

On that occasion, adorned with all the glories of Mother Nature's gift of springtime, £713 was won on ticket No. 20278. The winning No. against Nottingham Forest last weekend was 9185 and was worth £706. The attendance against Forest was, however, 21.46% greater or 2,801 in actual number. Even so, **Andy Brewer** of Grange Park, Swindon, was handed the cheque!

There is nonetheless one important factor that emerges from the above statistics. The Nest Egg now has the added incentive of a brand new car at the end of the season.

Based on this season's sales to date, the odds of winning the car are no greater than 250-1! Even 5 correct numbers on the National Lottery would only pay enough to purchase a 1983 Mercedes with eight previous owners! Is it not therefore time to put such things in the right perspective?

I would like to draw your attention to a fantastic event that is only four weeks away. On Saturday 11th October there is a Supporters Sporting Dinner in our Executive Suite. For only £20 you can enjoy a three-course meal and make your sides ache with laughter.

**Jackie Blanchflower** is the funniest after-dinner speaker on the circuit. You will be in his illustrious company on this date

and I guarantee that you will never be happier. It's a giveaway at £20 because, if you stop at a station to and from West Bromwich next Saturday, you will spend most of that amount on coffee and donuts!

**Phone Sam Sheridan now! on: 01793 532121 to book tickets.**

*Whichford Hyundai will be making its presentation of the Player of the Month Award for August prior to today's kick-off.*

*Representing the company on this occasion will be Sales Executive **John Keevil**.*

*All trophies throughout the season will be supplied by **Don Rogers Sports**.*



# from the press box

by Ashley Heath  
Swindon Cable

**On behalf of your matchday sponsors, Telecential and Swindon Cable, I'd just like to welcome you along to today's match against Tranmere Rovers - here's looking forward to a good game and three points for Swindon!**

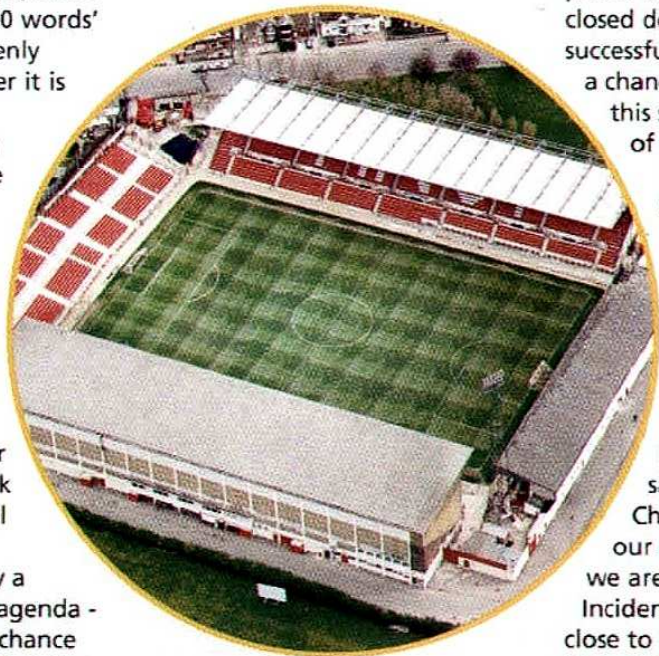
You know, when Jason, the Town's trusty PR Manager, asked me to 'jot down 6 or 700 words' for this column - I suddenly realised how much easier it is to ask the questions!

After all, as Swindon's Local Channel, we come along to the County Ground every week to do just that - put questions to the Gaffer, Steve McMahon and Coach, Mike Walsh as well. Those same questions and answers go into our regular Friday night look at Swindon Town - Local Sport, The Weekend Preview. But it's not only a chance for us to set the agenda - Steve, or Mike have the chance to tell the fans exactly what they think about away wins to Reading say, or whether the ref on the day was, or wasn't, in dire need of optical enhancement!

Seriously though, the most local aspect of the 45 channels available on Swindon Cable is, of course, Swindon's Local Channel. Broadcasting on channel 01, it's home to a news magazine programme, full of local features and the opinions of people in the street; a What's On Guide, and a 24 hour community information service. Perhaps more importantly from

our point of view today though, there are two sports programmes as well.

Monday night sees me in the chair, taking you through the results for local teams, ranging from the local football leagues, right through to speedway and cricket. As for the Town, our matchday reporter, Gary Tate, brings us comment and analysis on the game. The Results Round-up is also the time when



we'll give you the chance to win match tickets! Five pairs to every home game and if we're sponsoring the match then a pair of VIP tickets as well! That means a slap up lunch before the game, a behind the scenes tour and a chance to meet the players afterwards! I hope our winners this week enjoy their day.

The main focus of our Swindon Town coverage comes on a Friday though. Local Sport and the Weekend Preview is presented by Paul Langcaster and, during the season, always

includes Town Talk. It's a regular look at life at the County Ground, whether it's good news or bad, we're here every week, talking to the management or players.

Talking of players, testimonial goalie Fraser Digby, joined us for our pre-season special recently. An hour's worth of discussion with the Club Chairman, Rikki Hunt as well. Along with your questions we include reports on the Town's photo call, always held behind closed doors; the highly successful Open Day, giving fans a chance to have their say on this season, and the thoughts of the players as well.

As for this season, it all seems to be going according to plan so far - played 6, won 3, drawn 2 and lost one - 11 points from 18, which keeps us up there in the right part of the table. But, as Steve McMahon rightly says, let's wait until Christmas comes and draw our conclusions from where we are then.

Incidentally, I used to live quite close to Prenton Park, the Rovers' home ground. Even after some years away from the North West, I still feel quite an affinity for the area so I'd just like to say to the Rovers.....

I hope you get malletted today, but the very best of British in the rest of your games!

Enjoy the game and when am I going to win the half time nest egg ?!?!

Swindon's Local Channel broadcasts on Channel 01 on Swindon Cable.

Normal weekday programme times are 5pm, 6.45, 7.45, 9.45 and 11.45pm.

# AT LEAST 45 CHANNELS

INCLUDING



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**0800 663662**

LINES OPEN FROM 9AM TILL 8PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY & 9AM TILL 4PM SATURDAY.  
OR VISIT OUR SHOP IN REGENT CIRCUS

Sky Movies, The Movie Channel and Sky Sports are subscription channels, and are only available in addition to the basic cable service. Minimum contract period 12 months.

Subject to network transmission area.

with Julian Wetherall

# marketing news

**A warm welcome to the County Ground for this afternoon's Nationwide First Division game against Tranmere Rovers.**

## Matchday Sponsors

It is with great pleasure that we welcome back to the County Ground one of our most loyal sponsors **SWINDON CABLE** - part of the **TELECENTRAL GROUP**. When you subscribe to **Swindon Cable** you can follow all your favourite sports from around the world with **Sky Sports** and **Eurosport**. On Swindon Cable's local channel you can support your local teams competing in various sports including speedway and football. A preview of upcoming local events is shown in "**Local Sport**" on Friday evening so that you can plan your weekend, and what you miss you can catch up in the sports round-up on Monday. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome all the guests of **Swindon Cable** and hope they enjoy the day and we look forward to their continued support in the future.

## Matchball Sponsors

We are delighted to welcome back **McLean Homes South West Ltd** as today's Matchball Sponsors.

**McLean Homes South West Ltd** is a subsidiary of **George Wimpey Plc**, the country's largest house builder. They have been building homes in the Swindon area since 1963, with the business specialising in detached properties, with a wide variety of floor plans and elevations, the company has established itself as the market leader in this sector. All **McLean Homes** are carefully designed and traditionally built.

## Presentation Time

**CLUBCALL** were Matchday Sponsors for last Sunday's game against Nottingham Forest and officials and guests from the London based company are pictured being presented with a signed football as a memento of their day by man of the Match **Fraser Digby**.



**Fraser** is also pictured being handed his bottle of champagne by a young fan after being voted Man of the Match.



There were three Matchball sponsors for the Nottingham Forest fixture and Fraser Digby is pictured handing over footballs, signed by the entire Town squad to representatives of... **THAMES WATER, WYVERN STAFF AGENCY and CLARION GB LIMITED.**



## Matchday Hospitality

BAR AND CATERING STAFF REQUIRED

- \* Good rates of pay
- \* Pleasant surroundings
- \* Experience not necessary as training will be given
- \* Must be 16 or over and presentable

For more details ring Brian or Chris on 01793 533212

OUR CORPORATE SUITE SPONSORS





Jonathan Trigg's

# treatment room

Sponsored by  
**Ridgeway  
Hospital**



**Fortunately there were no further injuries sustained in the Nottingham Forest match here last Sunday and for once we came through a game relatively unscathed.**



At the time of writing, Mark Seagraves was very close to rejoining squad training after injuring his ankle in the recent fixture at Ipswich Town.

If all has gone to plan Siggy should be available for today's game.

Ian Culverhouse will spend the early part of next week completing his rehabilitation, before returning to full time



training on Thursday.

Cully will play some part in the Reserves' match against Norwich later this month and we wish him well in that.



Scott Leitch is also well on his way to making a full recovery from the groin injury he collected at Portman Road.

Twisting and turning will be introduced to his training regime before he is passed fit and allowed to rejoin the first team squad.

Finally Mark Robinson is progressing very well and is working hard on redeveloping the strength in his thigh and hamstring groups by utilising the exercise bike and rowing machine.

We will be introducing some very light functional work into his rehab with Robbo returning to training in the very near future.

## the shadow board

**Steve McMahon has always said that a successful team is built upon the foundation of a solid defence, and since our championship year of 1995-96 we have seen how difficult it is to defend against the best teams in the first division - resulting in our league position at the end of last season.**

Our performance against Nottingham Forest was, therefore, very satisfying and on behalf of all Swindon fans we would like to congratulate Steve

and the team for an outstanding defensive performance. In fact, with a kindly bounce of the ball we could have won an exciting and ferociously contested match.

Our hard-fought point from the Forest match was even more valuable in view of the new faces in defence. The injury problems which Steve is faced with are similar to those at Wolves but the outcome is rather different - seems like we have the best man for the job at the helm!!!!

The first division has a number of big, glamorous clubs this



season and we have more great matches to look forward to. The atmosphere against Forest, with a big crowd and fast, flowing football is everything that Swindon fans hope for. And we are in the top six in the table. Great start to the season lads, and we are all licking our lips in anticipation of more football feasts to come this season.

**Write to us at the Swindon Town Shadow Board at: P.O. Box 663, Swindon SN1 2NX.**

**Just as a matter of trivia the presenters of the breakfast news programme on Radio Five the other morning were trying to come up with the one word that best describes the 20th Century.**

By the time I had reached my destination and switched off the best they could offer was "bikini".

Yes, rather a scant, if pleasing, reflection on our society don't you think, but it was early in the morning. Having not lived throughout the 1990's it is difficult to make a profound assessment, and of course the exercise is only a bit of fun, but taking into account the past thirty years or so perhaps the word "corruption" might provide a broader assessment of the goings on. From The Whitehouse to The Kremlin, not forgetting Downing Street, politicians and dictators world wide have been exposed. In sporting circles too, cheats have infiltrated to such an extent that the use of stimulants and drugs to enhance their performances has almost become common place and is certainly not punished severely enough by the various governing associations.

But it was the revelations at the weekend concerning last Sunday's opponents Nottingham Forest that really emphasised the depth of dishonesty in the game. There has always been

suspicion of bribery in European competition but when the Chairman of a respected club such as Anderlecht admits to such a foul deal it is shocking enough. For him to then defend his father's skulduggery as a benevolent act is nothing short of horrific. Has it really got to the stage where anything goes as long as you can pay for it? In case you are not familiar with the facts let me enlighten you. Anderlecht's current Chairman, Roger Vanden Stock, has admitted his father, Constant Vanden Stock, when

# from the *Colin Benson* sidelines

Chairman of the club in 1984, paid a referee £18,000 the day after their UEFA Cup semi-final victory over Nottingham Forest. He claims: "In my father's eyes this is not bribery but to help someone. He did not realise the consequences. Now I understand, and everybody will understand, why he paid the hush money."

Oh yes, we certainly do understand Mr Stock. The cash was paid to Spanish referee Guruceta Muro on April 26, 1984 - the day after Anderlecht's 3-0 win secured them a 3-2 aggregate victory over Brian Clough's team and a lucrative two-legged final against Tottenham Hotspur. Paul Hart, who was in that Forest side and is now in charge of the Club's youth squad, recalls: "At the time we felt we had been cheated out of the

game but of course we were not aware of these circumstances".

"I scored what looked to be a perfectly good goal which the referee ruled out. We also had a very, very dubious penalty given against us."

Roger Vanden Stock dismisses the charges of cheating. He insists: "It was a gesture of kindness as the referee was in financial trouble.

"My father refused four times before eventually saying all right, I'll give to this man who is in financial trouble. I'll give him a financial loan."

Don't make me weep.. Sounds more like a script from

"Neighbours." I

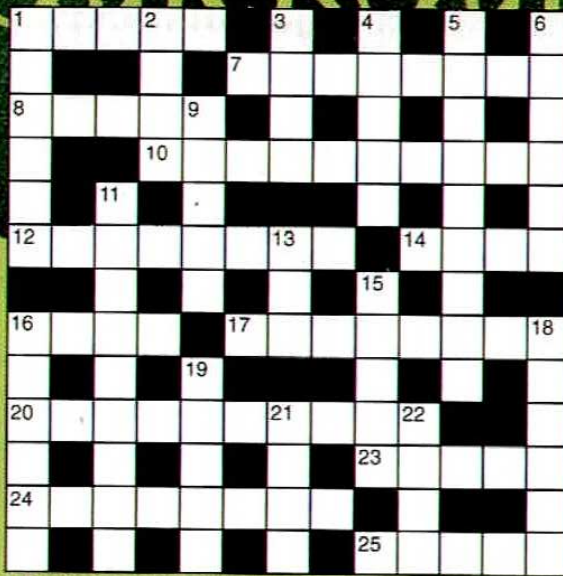
tell you I would not be surprised if he did not tap up the referee

in the final as well. I was at

the second-leg of that one at White Hart Lane and remember being totally mystified by some of the decisions that went against Spurs. As it happens Tottenham won 4-3 on penalties after both legs finished 1-1. No official in the world could influence this one as Tottenham Hotspur goalkeeper Tony Parks became the hero of the hour by saving two spot-kicks.

I have no idea what the outcome of these revelations will be. Alas, unfortunately, it is too late to do justice to Nottingham Forest, but in my opinion UEFA should most definitely take legal action against the individuals concerned and also make an example of the Belgian club by banning them, if proved guilty, from European competition for the next five years in which they qualify for the right to play.

compiled by Dave Hollister



## clues across...

1. Division One newcomers (5)
7. The Pilgrims (8)
8. Neil Ruddock's other name (5)
10. Route one clearances often resemble this (3-7)
12. Terraces without seats are now these (4-4)
14. Harmless things aimed at referees (4)
16. Wolves fans do this when winning? (4)
17. Two thirds of Preston (5-3)
20. Football's middleman? (3-7)
23. Torquay's moor (5)
24. Talent Scout does this when watching (3-5)
25. Oxford are still there! (5)

## clues down...

1. It's taken by the flag! (6)
2. Initially, West Ham and Oldham Athletic cause a stoppage (4)
3. Supporters can't play golf with theirs (4)
4. Fans do this when winning (5)
5. Goalkeepers tip them this (3-2-4)
6. Nickname of famous Ex-Liverpool manager (6)
9. New side at Middlesbrough? (5)
11. Equaliser lets teams do this! (4-5)
13. Pair of dynamic strikers (3)
15. Steps of newly-built stand are normally this (5)
16. Mad supporter of Luton Town? (6)
18. Guest speakers attend a sporting one (6)
19. Wolverhamptons David has links with Isle of Man? (5)
21. Always supports heavy weight at Goodison Park (4)
22. Girl kicks off at Leeds United ground (4)

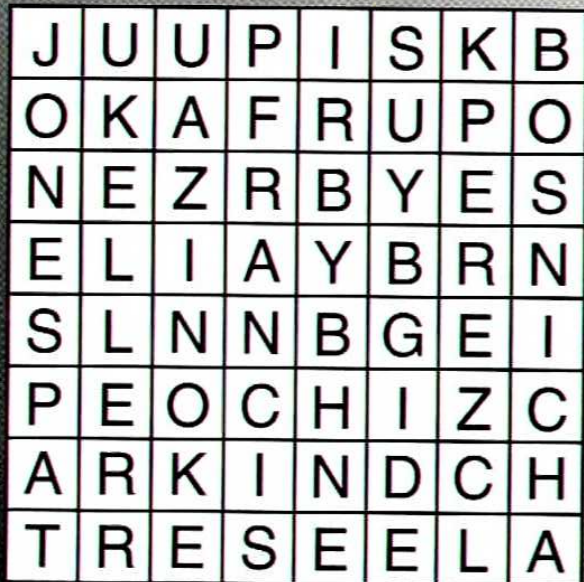
**ANSWERS ACROSS...**  
 1. GREVE, 5 DELAYS, 7 PLYMOUTH, 8 RAZOR, 10 AIR BALLOON, 12 PARE ENDS, 14 BOO'S, 16 HOWLS, 17 NORTHERN, 20 THE REFEREE, 23 PLAIN, 24 EYEBLUES, 25 MANOR.  
**ANSWERS DOWN...**  
 1. CORNER, 2 W.H., O.A., 3 CLUB, 4 SMILE, 5 OUT OR OVER, 6 SHANKS, 9 RIVER, 11 DRAW LEVEL, 13 DUO, 15 STEEP, 16 HATTER, 18 DINNER, 19 KELLY, 21 EVER, 22 ELLA.

# MYSTIC nut-meg PREDICT THE SCORE

See if you can predict today's results...

Bradford City		Middlesbrough
Huddersfield Town		Ipswich Town
Norwich City		Port Vale
Portsmouth		Crewe Alexandra
Q.P.R.		West Brom
Reading		Oxford United
Sheffield United		Notts Forest
Stoke City		Stockport County
Swindon Town		Tranmere Rovers
Wolves		Charlton Athletic

## wordsearch



8 goalkeepers from either the  
Premiership or Division One!

**ANSWERS**  
 ZABKA (BRADFORD), DIGBY (SWINDON), PEREZ (SUNDERLAND),  
 FRANCIS (HUDDERSFIELD), BOSNICH (WILLOW), KELLER (LIVERPOOL),  
 JONES (SOUTHAMPTON), LEESE (BARNLEY).

# SPORT-IN YEAR 1975

1. A New Zealand cricketer was saved by the kiss of life. Who was he?
2. A black American won the Wimbledon Men's Singles. Who was he?
3. Who scored five goals for England against Cyprus?
4. Which team were promoted to the top division from the second division as champions?
5. Bobby Moore played against West Ham in the Cup Final for which team?
6. Who took Derby to the division one Title?
7. Who became the first player to be voted European Footballer of the Year three times.
8. Who drove his Ferrari to the F1 World Title?
9. Michael Angelow leapt to fame in which sport?
10. Which British Boxer beat Jose Napoles to win the World Welterweight Title?

**ANSWERS.....**  
 1 EWEN CHATFIELD, 2 ARTHUR ASHE, 3 MALCOLM MACDONALD, 4 MANCHESTER UNITED, 5 FULHAM, 6 DAVE MACKAY, 7 JOHAN CRUYFF, 8 NIKI LAUDA, 9 CRICKET - FIRST TEST MATCH STRAKER, 10 JOHN H STRACEY



**WHO'S THIS?**

Last week: Darren Bullock

**WHO'S KIT?**



Last week: Romania

## FACE in the crowd

Are you the lucky winner of our 'Face in the Crowd' competition?



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If it's your seat, come along with your ticket, to the Reception and ask for Louise Kaye and pick up your Free Jarvis Weekend Break voucher. It's as simple as that.

*So listen out at the half-time break and you could be going on a superb weekend break with JARVIS HOTELS.*



# swindon town ladies

by Roger Reeves



## Southern Region League - Premier Division Southampton Saints 4 Swindon Town 6

### Swindon Town Ladies won a ten goal ding-dong battle away to Southampton Saints.

Nadine Lloyd and Leanne Taylor gave the Town a two goal lead in the first ten minutes in this Southern Region Premier Division match but the Saints pulled one back just before half time and then went 3-2 up with fifteen minutes to go.

Town fought back and Pam Laker equalised. Nadine Lloyd put the Town ahead before Leanne Taylor completed her hat trick to take Town's tally to six although the Saints did score a fourth almost on time.

This was a good result for Swindon against a side who finished in third place last season.

Vikki McCann is making good progress in recovering from a dislocated shoulder suffered in a pre-season friendly against Croydon. Unfortunately Vikki missed the end of last season through injury and following a good performance in a friendly against Arsenal was looking forward to the new season.

Tomorrow the Town visit Launton (near Bicester in Oxfordshire) for a League fixture.

The two sides have not met before because Launton were relegated as the Town were promoted two seasons ago.

Launton returned to the top

flight straight away by winning the old Second Division with maximum points and scoring over one hundred goals.

**Team:** Jo Sharpe, Adelle Taylor, Netti Wyness, Sharon Black, Clare Tyson, Ashley Wiseman, Kim Reeves, Pam Laker, Tracy Mackeddie, Nadine Lloyd, Leanne Taylor.

**Subs Used:**  
Kerie Garwood

**Subs Not Used:**  
Sarah Richardson & Claire White

**Scorers:** Leanne Taylor (3), Nadine Lloyd (2) & Pam Laker.



**Nadine Lloyd, who notched two goals against Southampton Saints.**

## FIXTURES 97198

### Southern Region League Premier Division

SUN 31ST AUG	HAVANT TOWN	5-1
Sun 7th Sept	Southampton Saints	6-4
Sun 14th Sept	Launton	A
Sun 28th Sept	Freeway (FA Cup R1)	A
SUN 5TH OCT	BINFIELD	H
Sun 12th Oct	Reading Royals	A
SUN 19TH OCT	PORTSMOUTH	H
SUN 26TH OCT	CHELTHENHAM	H
Sun 2nd Nov	Oxford United	A
SUN 9TH NOV	SOUTHAMPTON	H
Sun 16th Nov	Havant Town	A
SUN 23RD NOV	SOTON SAINTS	H
SUN 30TH NOV	LAUNTON	H
Sun 7th Dec	League Cup (1st Rnd)	
Sun 14th Dec	TBA	
SUN 15TH JAN	SWINDON SPITFIRES	H
Sun 18th Jan	Binfield	A
Sun 25th Jan	League Cup (2nd Rnd)	
15T FEB	READING ROYALS	H
8th Feb	Portsmouth	A
15th Feb	Cheltenham	A
22ND FEB	OXFORD UNITED	H
1st Mar	Southampton	A
TBA	Swindon Spitfires	A

## THE LEAGUE

### Southern Region League Division 1 final table 1996-97 season

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Reading Royals	18	15	0	3	76	23	45
Portsmouth	18	10	6	2	37	20	36
Southampton Saints	18	11	2	5	39	30	35
Southampton	18	10	2	6	66	33	32
Cheltenham	18	8	6	4	36	38	30
Swindon Spitfires	18	8	2	8	42	42	26
<b>Swindon Town</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>20</b>
Binfield	18	6	1	11	22	42	19
Havant Town	18	2	4	12	15	43	10
Ringwood	18	0	3	15	14	66	3

## NEXT HOME GAME

**Sunday 5th  
October 1997**

**Binfield**

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The Football Trust has been providing support for the game at every level throughout the UK for over 22 years. Its present priority task is to help League clubs to complete the implementation of the Taylor Report recommendations.

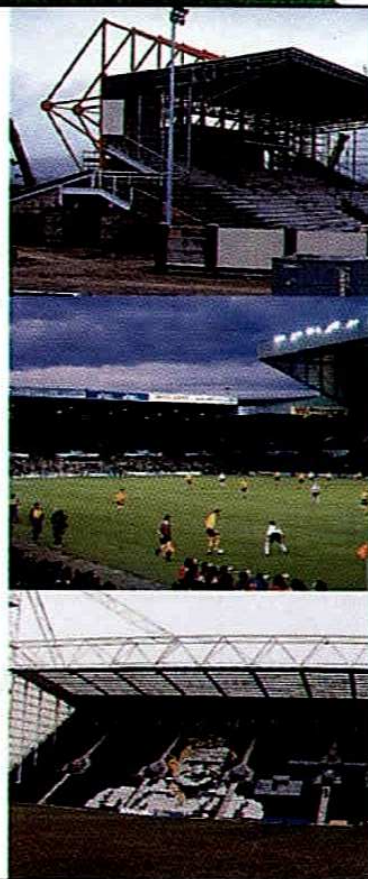
Thanks to the Government and to the Football Association, the FA Premier League and the English Sports Council, a major new funding package to secure the future of the Trust has been put in place.

These funds will be in addition to income derived from the football pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters, and will enable the Trust to complete its Taylor task, carry on its essential safety work and continue to grant aid football at every level. The Government's commitment to the Trust has the support of everyone who cares about our national game.



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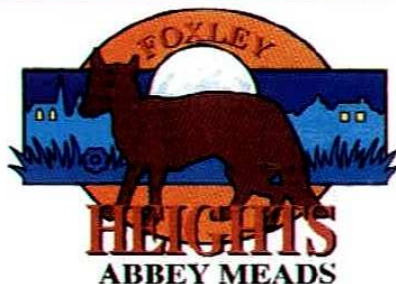
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**This time last year West Bromwich Albion were the laughing stock of the First Division as defeat piled upon defeat.**

On Monday they led **Nottingham Forest** by a point at the top of the League, following a 1-0 home win over **Reading**. It's the first time they have been top of the table in nine seasons. Of course they have us to thank for their heady position following a gutsy performance against Dave Basset's team, but played 6 won 4 drawn 2 is a fine start and a record they will be looking to enhance at Loftus Road this afternoon.

Their manager, Ray Harford, keeps insisting that the **Albion** are not good enough or strong enough to maintain their early season challenge but then managerial comments are not always pearls of wisdom. Take this one for instance: "They have kicked so much I feel we should have won every game this season." These are the words of **Bradford City** boss Chris Kamara just before his team were knocked off their top of the table perch by a 4-0 home defeat by **Sunderland!**

Personally, I feel **West Brom** will be good for a draw at **QPR** while **Bradford City** will be truly put to the test at home to **Middlesbrough** this afternoon. Bryan Robson's international brigade are in danger of losing touch because World Cup commitments have already cut into their programme and left them with two games in hand on the main protagonists. They need an injection of points today. **Boro** are currently 12th, and seven points behind the leaders, but they won 2-0 at **Tranmere Rovers** last time out without Fabrizio Ravanelli whose continued disruptions can't be good for the camp... Their other Italian import, centre-back Gianluca Festa, didn't help the

cause either by getting sent-off 31 minutes from time. "Rav" we are told "has been finding it hard to get mentally prepared," so just what **Boro** get for the £42,000 a week they pay him I just don't know. Perhaps they should pay him in Lire! They will have no such problems with new signing Andy Townsend however, who I back to orchestrate a result at **Bradford**. Talking about under achievement brings us to **Wolves** and **Sunderland** and Joey Beauchamp. It was our former winger who put the skids under **Wolves** at **Oxford** last week, engineering a 3-0 defeat. The Molineux manager, Mark McGhee, can point to £7 million worth



of talent tied up on the injury list which includes all his recognised central defenders, but such thoughts do not appease supporters who for several years now have been promised success and been given none.

**Wolves** have now collected four points from the last possible 12 and the pressure will be really on them this afternoon as they take on **Charlton Athletic** at Molineux. Their last two home games have produced a 4-2 victory over **Bury** and a 1-1 draw with **Port Vale**.

Mr McGhee, who brought Simon Coleman in on loan from **Bolton**, said he hoped to sign someone this week. **Sunderland**, widely tipped to be among the front-runners, are the only team in the top 13 to have lost three League games. It seems it is all or nothing with them for they have won their

other three fixtures and that has been enough to keep them in contention. They will take strength from their last performance - a 4-0 victory at **Bradford City** - and will be up for the live-TV game at **Birmingham City**. **Sunderland** will probably be without Niall Quinn however. The former **Arsenal** and **Man City** striker looks likely to need a third operation in 12 months on the troublesome knee that kept him out of this week's World Cup qualifiers with **Eire**.

The Blues, on the other hand, have 6ft 7in hit-man Kevin Francis straining at the leash for a place in the starting eleven. **Birmingham City** are two points ahead of us with one game in hand, and are unbeaten with four wins, one draw, and 11 goals scored and only two against. It should be quite a game.

In retrospect that goalless draw with **Forest** last week was a great point for, strange as it may seem, the **Nottingham Forest** bogey still hangs over us. You know, we have never ever beaten **Forest** in any competitive game and in fact there has not been a single goal scored in our League fixtures with them since 1951.

The Midlanders don't have the same Indian sign hanging over **Sheffield United** nonetheless and it could be ex-Town favourite Jan Aage Fjortoft who leads the blitz at Bramall Lane. **Norwich v Port Vale** asks more questions of the Canaries than it does of John Rudge's troopers. But surely they are due a home win. Likewise **Reading**, with just one point from six games, will be desperate at home to **Oxford United**. Common sense says an **Oxford** win but derby games are notorious for overturning the form guide. I still go for an **Oxford** win though.

Second bottom **Huddersfield v Ipswich Town** and **Stoke City v third from bottom Stockport County** look likely draws.





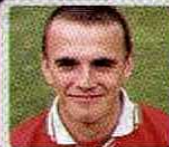
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with Mark Seagraves

**Obviously I was disappointed to miss the game against Forest through injury but I thought the two lads who came in did a great job.**

It was a good result against Forest and the defence and the team as a whole did very well indeed.

Both Brian Borrows and Chris Casper deserve a lot of praise for fitting in so well on their debuts and it was a nice blend of Brian's experience and Chris's quality which helped us pick up what could prove to be a valuable point against one of the fancied side's in Division One.

The manager keeps telling us to believe in ourselves and I think now we are starting to do just that which is why we have made such a solid start to the season.

There is no doubt that we are a good side and on current form the play-offs have got to be a realistic target.

It was a great atmosphere for the lads to play in front of on Sunday, with over 13,000 fans here at the County Ground and talking to the lads afterwards, I know that they are

## the captain's comment

hoping we can attract 13 or 14,000 for every home game because playing in front of a big crowd really does lift everyone concerned.

Today we take on a Tranmere team who have not made the best of starts but as I've said before there are no easy games

**BBC**



**WHERE ALL THE SWINDON TOWN ACTION IS**

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in this division and we can not afford to take any team lightly or we will come unstuck.

It's the same old story that if we play to our strengths then we'll come out with the right result and with two tough away games fast approaching, we could do with the three points to set us up nicely for the trips to West Brom and Manchester City.

All we can do is take one game at a time and of course if we win today then who knows, we could soon be top of the league!

Every game we play now is a bigger test for us and all we can do is keep picking up the points and maintain our challenge at the top end of the table.

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## FACT FILE...

Date of Birth: 02.06.64

Place of Birth:  
Birmingham

### School years

Secondary School attended:  
Holte Comprehensive.

Best Subject at School:  
English and P.E.

Worst Subject at School:  
Maths

Football Team supported at  
School: Aston Villa

Football heroes as a  
schoolboy: Brian Little

Favourite football position at  
School: Striker.

Career taken up if not  
football: Computers.

First match ever seen:  
Aston Villa v Arsenal.

At what age did you first  
attend matches: 12 years.

### Now

Favourite other sport:  
Squash.

Biggest influence on career:  
Mother.

Best match ever seen  
(Live or TV):

Liverpool v Man Utd.

Favourite Football expert:  
Trevor Brooking.

Favourite country to watch:  
Brazil.

Highlight of career:  
England debut.

Biggest disappointment:  
Not playing more internationals.

Choice Opponents in a  
Cup Tie: AC Milan.

# close-up profi

## Mark Walters

**It has been a long, hard road to recovery but Mark Walters is now very much back in business following surgery on his right knee.**

One of Town's most lethal weapons spent the tail end of last season and most of the summer battling his way back from the operation which left him on crutches for over a month.

Before the new campaign began the former England International spent a week at the Football Association's rehabilitation centre at Lilleshall where he was told that he should not attempt to get back into the action before August.

But on Saturday July 26th, he defied doctors orders and came off the substitutes bench to make his first appearance in over five months in the friendly against Tottenham Hotspur.

And it didn't take long for Walters to show us what we had been missing as 10 minutes after coming on he scored a wonder goal to make sure of a 2-2 draw against the Premiership club.

*"I decided to turn early and saw their keeper slightly off his line so I tried the chip and luckily it went in,"* he commented.

Well from the sidelines it didn't look like luck - more like silky skills as the 33 year old left the Spurs defence standing with, a shimmy, a turn and a precise flick into the far corner of the net which had the crowd on their feet in delight.

It was the perfect way for Walters to celebrate his return

to action.

*"I trained with the lads for the first time the Wednesday before the Spurs game which was earlier than expected because the physio at Lilleshall had told me not to train before August.*

*"But I was feeling so good that I decided to risk it because I'd rather play games than train so this was a great opportunity for me to test the injury out.*

*"I hadn't played a match since March and after working so hard in the summer I needed to get a game under my belt.*

*"There was no reaction and after that I gradually got more match fitness and now I'm feeling great again."*

For the record, Walters needed surgery to remove a loose body which had formed within the joint of his knee.

The surgeon drilled a couple of holes around the injury which caused blood to bleed into the joint and form a new piece of bone where the old piece had flaked off.

It all sounds pretty gruesome but it is a testament to his hunger for the game that the former Aston Villa, Liverpool and Glasgow Rangers ace worked flat out to make a comeback and he is now hoping to play his part in Town's push for the play-offs.

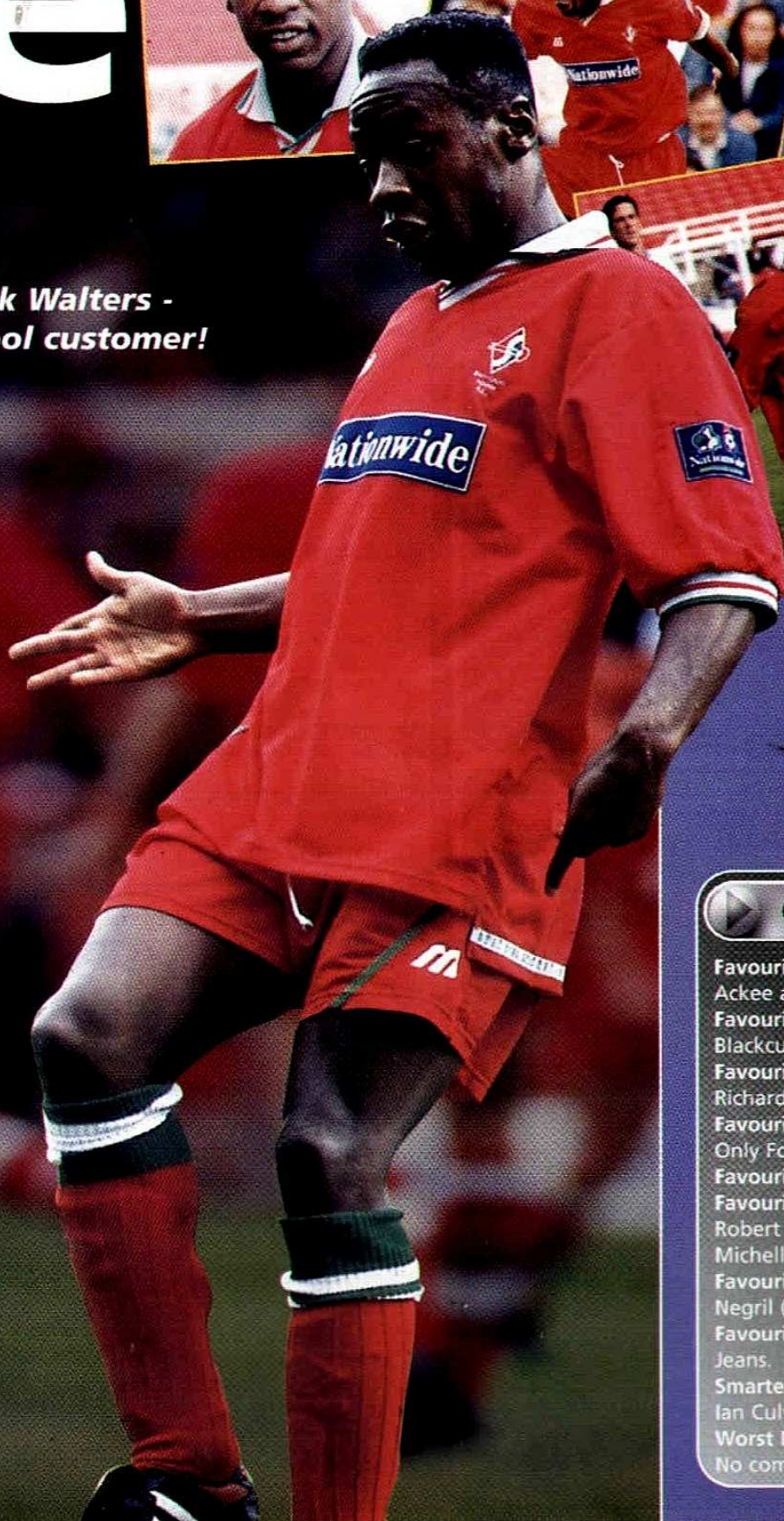
And it could be that Walters will collect his second successive Goal of the Season award come the end of the campaign.

He recently lifted last season's trophy for his stunning chip in the 2-2 draw at home to Bolton Wanderers and it will take something extra special to beat his strike against Spurs.

# ie



*Mark Walters -  
a cool customer!*



## GENERAL...

**Favourite Food:**  
Ackee and salt fish.  
**Favourite Drink:**  
Blackcurrant and water.  
**Favourite Comedian:**  
Richard Prior.  
**Favourite TV Programme:**  
Only Fools and Horses.  
**Favourite Film:** Nutty Professor  
**Favourite Film Stars:**  
Robert De Niro,  
Michelle Pfeiffer.  
**Favourite holiday location:**  
Negril (Jamaica).  
**Favourite items of clothing:**  
Jeans.  
**Smartest Dresser at STFC:**  
Ian Culverhouse.  
**Worst Dresser at STFC:**  
No comment!

# statistics 1997/98 season



**Tranmere Rovers**



All home Saturday fixtures will kick-off at 3.00pm.  
Home Sunday and Bank Holiday fixtures will kick-off as advertised.  
Home midweek fixtures will kick-off at 7.45pm.  
All dates and times of kick-off's are subject to change.



## 1 NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION 1 TABLE 1997/98 AS AT 10.9.97

	P	W	D	L	W	D	L	F	A	PTS.
WEST BROMWICH ALBION	6	3	0	0	1	2	0	8	4	14
BIRMINGHAM CITY	5	2	0	0	2	1	0	11	2	13
NOTTINGHAM FOREST	6	2	0	1	2	1	0	11	4	13
BRADFORD CITY	6	2	1	1	2	0	0	9	7	13
SWINDON TOWN	6	1	2	0	2	0	1	7	4	11
SUNDERLAND	6	2	0	1	1	0	2	11	8	9
BURY	6	1	2	0	1	1	1	6	6	9
PORTSMOUTH	5	2	1	0	0	1	1	9	7	8
WOLVES	6	1	2	0	1	0	2	7	7	8
SHEFFIELD UNITED	4	2	0	0	0	2	0	4	1	8
PORT VALE	5	2	0	1	0	1	1	7	7	7
CHARLTON ATHLETIC	4	2	0	0	0	1	1	6	5	7
MIDDLESBROUGH	4	1	0	1	1	1	0	5	3	7
QUEENS PARK RANGERS	5	1	1	0	1	0	2	5	8	7
OXFORD UNITED	6	2	0	1	0	0	3	7	9	6
MANCHESTER CITY	5	0	2	0	1	0	2	8	9	5
IPSWICH TOWN	4	1	1	0	0	1	1	4	4	5
STOKE CITY	5	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	5
TRANMERE ROVERS	6	1	0	2	0	1	2	4	10	4
NORWICH CITY	5	0	0	2	1	1	1	3	9	4
STOCKPORT COUNTY	6	0	3	0	0	0	3	6	9	3
CREWE ALEXANDRA	4	0	0	2	1	0	1	5	7	3
HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	5	0	1	2	0	1	1	2	6	2
READING	6	0	0	3	0	1	2	2	11	1



## First Team Player Appearances 97/98

Player Name:	League		Cup		Total	
	Apps.	Gls.	Apps.	Gls.	Apps.	Gls.
WAYNE ALLISON	6	3	2	0	8	3
BRIAN BORROWS	1	0	0	0	1	0
DARREN BULLOCK	2(4)	0	0	0	2(4)	0
CHRIS CASPER	1	0	0	0	1	0
STEVE COWE	0(1)	0	1(1)	0	(2)	0
PHILIPPE CUERVO	6	0	2	0	8	0
IAN CULVERHOUSE	-	-	-	-	-	-
FREDERIC DARRAS	6	0	2	0	8	0
FRASER DIGBY	6	0	1	0	7	0
JASON DRYSDALE	4	0	2	0	6	0
GARY ELKINS	-	-	-	-	-	-
STEVE FINNEY	(2)	1	1	0	1(2)	1
TY GOODEN	6	0	2	0	8	0
CHRIS HAY	6	3	1	0	7	3
SCOTT LEITCH	5	0	2	1	7	1
ALAN McDONALD	6	0	2	0	8	0
STEVE McMAHON	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
MARK ROBINSON	2	0	1	0	3	0
MARK SEAGRAVES	5	0	2	0	7	0
ALEX SMITH	(2)	0	0	0	(2)	0
FRANK TALIA	0	0	1	0	1	0
CRAIG TAYLOR	-	-	-	-	-	-
MARK WALTERS	4(2)	0	1(1)	0	5(3)	0
KEVIN WATSON	-	-	-	-	-	-

Date Opponents Res Att.

SAT AUG 9	CREWE ALEXANDRA	H	2-0	8,334
WED AUG 13	WATFORD CCC 1 (1)	H	0-2	6,271
Sat Aug 16	Reading	A	1-0	9,338
SAT AUG 23	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	H	1-1	7,683
Tues Aug 26	Watford CCC 1 (2)	A	1-1	7,712
Sat Aug 30	Stoke City	A	2-1	23,000
Tues Sep 2	Ipswich Town	A	1-2	11,246
SUN SEP 7	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	H	0-0	13,051
SAT SEP 13	TRANMERE ROVERS	H		
Sat Sep 20	West Bromwich Albion	A		
Sat Sep 27	Manchester City	A		
SAT OCT 4	PORT VALE	H		
SAT OCT 11	BURY	H		
Sat Oct 18	Wolverhampton W.	A		
Tue Oct 21	Sunderland*	A		
SAT OCT 25	NORWICH CITY	H		
Fri Oct 31	Portsmouth	A		
WED NOV 5	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	H		
SAT NOV 8	BRADFORD CITY	H		
Sat Nov 15	Stockport County (F.A. CUP 1)	A		
SAT NOV 22	MIDDLESBROUGH	H		
Fri Nov 28	Charlton Athletic	A		
SAT DEC 6	OXFORD UNITED (F.A. Cup 2)	H		
Sat Dec 13	Sheffield United	A		
SAT DEC 20	BIRMINGHAM CITY	H		
Fri Dec 26	Nottingham Forest	A		
SUN DEC 28	IPSWICH TOWN	H		
Sat Jan 3	(F.A. CUP 3)			
Sat Jan 10	Crewe Alexandra	A		
SAT JAN 17	READING	H		
Sat Jan 24	(F.A. CUP 4)			
WED JAN 28	STOKE CITY	H		
Sat Jan 31	Huddersfield Town	A		
SAT FEB 7	WEST BROMWICH ALBION	H		
Sat Feb 14	Tranmere Rovers (F.A. Cup 5)	A		
Tue Feb 17	Port Vale	A		
SAT FEB 21	MANCHESTER CITY	H		
WED FEB 25	WOLVERHAMPTON W.	H		
Sat Feb 28	Bury	A		
Tue Mar 3	Bradford City	A		
SAT MAR 7	PORTSMOUTH (F.A. CUP 6)	H		
Sat Mar 14	Queens Park Rangers	A		
SAT MAR 21	STOCKPORT COUNTY	H		
Wed Mar 25	Middlesbrough	A		
SAT APR 4	CHARLTON ATHLETIC (F.A. Cup SF)	H		
Sat Apr 11	Oxford United	A		
MON APR 13	SHEFFIELD UNITED	H		
Sat Apr 18	Birmingham City	A		
Sat Apr 25	Norwich City	A		
SUN MAY 3	SUNDERLAND	H		
Sat May 16	F.A. Cup Final			

### Stats table key

FAC = F.A. Cup  
C.C.C = Coca-Cola Cup  
\* After Extra Time  
^ Indicates own goal

### Substitutes Used

number in brackets indicates player replaced ( )

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Front Cover Picture: Wayne Allison vs Notts Forest

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
DIGBY	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	ROBINSON	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	FINNEY(9)	BULLOCK(8)	WALTERS
DIGBY	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	ROBINSON	CUERVO	FINNEY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE(9)	WATSON	WALTERS(5)
DIGBY	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	ROBINSON	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	FINNEY(9)	BULLOCK(8)	WALTERS(12)
DIGBY	DARRAS	BULLOCK	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	WALTERS	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE(9)	WATSON	McMAHON(3)
TALIA	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	WALTERS	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	ELKINS	BULLOCK
DIGBY	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	WALTERS	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	SMITH(4)	BULLOCK(3)
DIGBY	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	WALTERS	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	SMITH(5)	BULLOCK(4)
DIGBY	DARRAS	BORROWS	BULLOCK	CASPER	MCDONALD	WALTERS	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	DRYSDALE	WATSON	McAREAVEY

**Next Home Match**

**Saturday 4th October**

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

**Port Vale**

**Kick-Off 3.00pm**

**CLUBCALL**

SWINDONTOWNFC

**ClubCall**

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news updates, match commentaries and all the latest ticket information.  
\* Calls charged at 50p at all times

**Information**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Important safety announcements by the Club Management over the public address system will be preceded by a loud signal to catch the attention of spectators.

# team check

Swindon Town		Tranmere Rovers
FRASER DIGBY	1	DANNY COYNE
FREDERIC DARRAS	2	GARY STEVENS
BRIAN BORROWS	3	ANDY THOMPSON
DARREN BULLOCK	4	JOHN MCGREAL
CHRIS CASPER	5	ANDY THORN
ALAN McDONALD	6	LIAM O'BRIEN
MARK WALTERS	7	JOHN MORRISSEY
PHILIPPE CUERVO	8	PAUL COOK
CHRIS HAY	9	ALAN MORGAN
WAYNE ALLISON	10	GARY JONES
TY GOODEN	11	LEE JONES
	12	
	13	
	14	
TEAM MANAGER STEVE McMAHON		TEAM MANAGER JOHN ALDRIDGE

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**Referee:**  
Mike Bailey (Impington, Cambs)

**Assisted by:**  
B.L. Baker (Warminster)  
P.V. Norman (Sherborne)

**Reserve Official:**  
D. Clarke (Melksham)

**Next Home Match**

**Saturday 4th October**

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE  
DIVISION ONE

**Port Vale**

**Kick-Off 3.00pm**

**Today's Result and Attendance**

Swindon v Tranmere R.  
Attendance

**Mike Bailey**

Mike is a 47 year old B.T. Manager who is married with two sons aged 22 and 20.  
He began refereeing in 1974 and progressed via the Football Combination to the Football League list in 1986.  
Mike, whose interests include computers and the training of referees at all levels has officiated in the UEFA Cup.

**Matchday Magazine**

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