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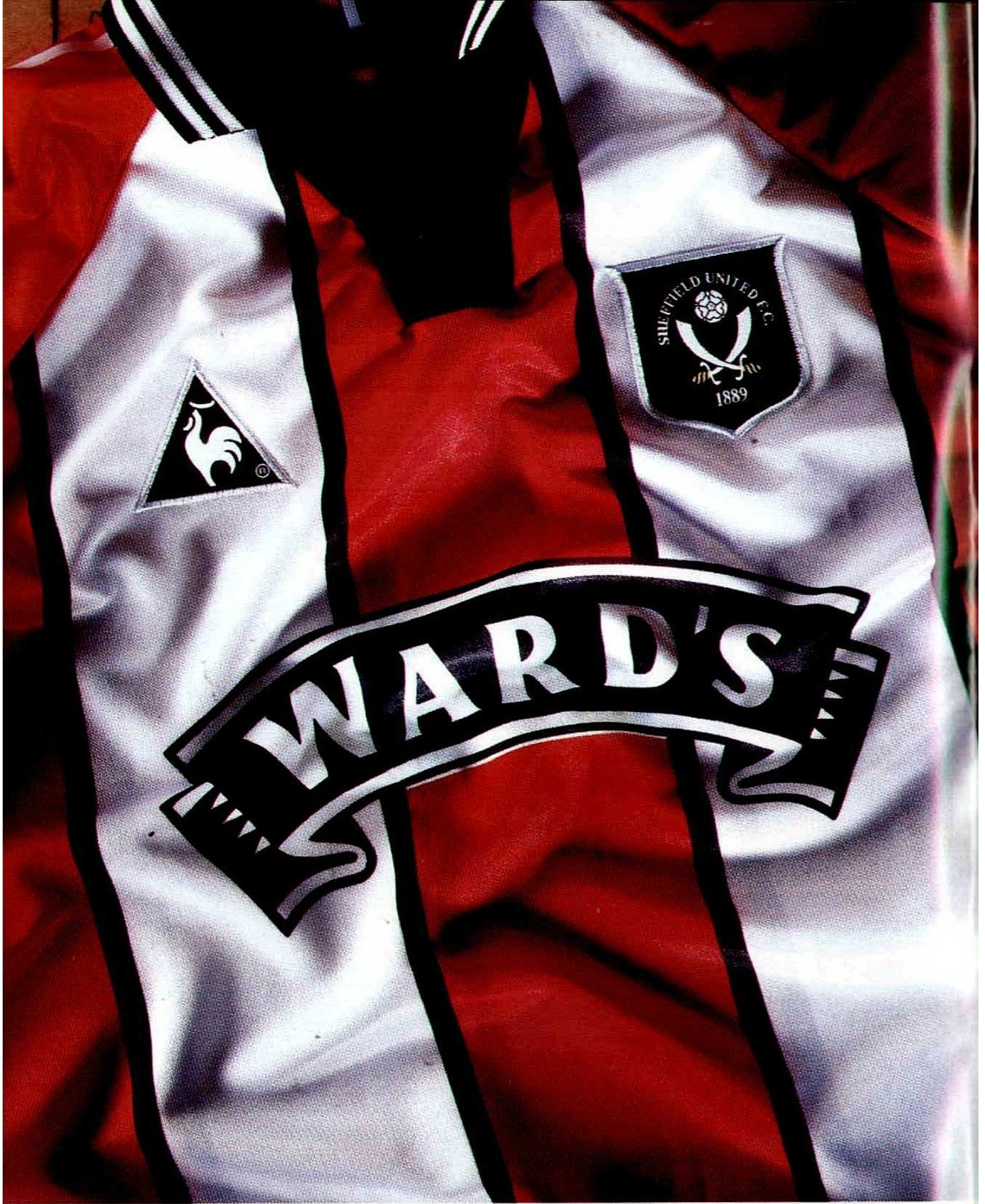
UMBRO



Sheffield United
Welcome **Swindon Town**

Saturday, 13th December, 1997. Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

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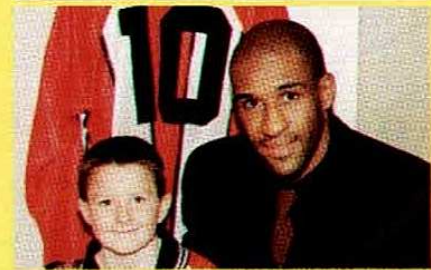
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THE BLADES

13th DECEMBER 1997



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BE A MEMBER OF THE WESTFIELD WINNING TEAM

Heroes

Wayne Quinn

by DAVE WICKETT

Wayne, our wing back who shot to prominence earlier this season, was born and raised in Cornwall but was discovered by Sheffield United at the age of sixteen and moved here as an apprentice. Up until then he had played, but not watched, many games.

"Living in Hayle there really wasn't much soccer to watch," he says. "Like every other schoolboy I managed to watch a lot on the television but I didn't get to see many games for real."

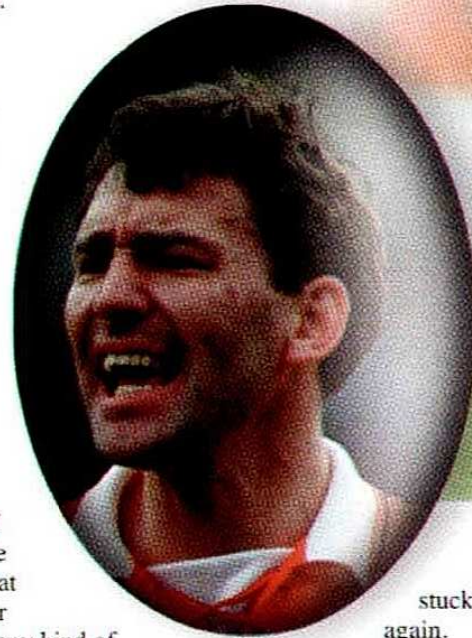
During all of his schoolboy days in the West Country he only got to watch one professional game! "There was a school trip to London to see Queens Park Rangers against Nottingham Forest at Loftus Road. About fifteen of us went and I well remember that I particularly wanted to see Stuart Pearce. He had this reputation of being a hard player and I suppose I just wanted to see if he was as hard and as good as he was made out. I did think that he was very good in that game but, even though I played in a similar position to him, I didn't look upon him as any kind of hero."

Being so remote from professional football and not seeing much of it, how did this affect Wayne's support for a team?

“ He always seemed so determined and, even though he suffered a number of bad injuries, he always fought back ”

"I never really supported anyone. Many of my school pals supported Plymouth Argyle who were the nearest team, but who were hardly a local side. Anyway, they weren't a particularly good side and didn't have any stars. Apart from this my other mates supported teams such as Liverpool, Everton and Manchester United. I was always more interested in playing and never did get around to having a favourite side. I certainly never bought a team scarf or kit."

However it was from one of these sides that Wayne did select a schoolboy hero: "My childhood hero was always Bryan Robson," he explained. "He always seemed so determined and, even though he suffered a number of bad injuries, he always fought back - and when fit again he got



stuck in without any fear of injuring himself again.

"Robson was such a talented player in so many different ways. As a defender he was a rugged tackler, then when he surged forward he was a first rate passer of the ball. And on top of all this, of course, was his tremendous goalscoring record. This was such an important part of whatever team he played for, whether for his club side or for England. I can remember him doing such great things for England, and always showing such fierce determination."

Similarly to Don Hutchison's recollection of a schoolboy soccer tournament, Wayne reminisced about a competition he took part in during his time with the Cornish coach, Tony Roberts.

"There were about thirty of us on this coaching course and I managed to finish top. The prize was a signed photograph of Bryan Robson and I certainly felt proud to have won that!"

Asked if he had ever met his hero, Wayne commented: "I never managed to play against him or even see him play live. The nearest I ever got was when I walked past him in the tunnel after our victory against Middlesbrough in October.

"I wanted to walk up and shake him by the hand but didn't feel that it would be the right thing to do!"



nig

I suppose we shouldn't have been surprised that the FA Cup draw pitched us against Bury because coincidences like this seem to happen all the time in this game; the Shakers have caused us problems in recent years, Mark Patterson has joined them, and we play them in the League next week!

But, whilst it's not a glamour tie and we are on a hiding to nothing, we've at least been drawn at home and we should fancy ourselves to progress. In fact, we can probably draw on past bitter experience to help us build up to a performance that will put the record straight.

Nigel Spackman's
training kit
sponsored by

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el Spackman

No-one can pretend that things are going as well for us at the moment as we'd like but we shouldn't let things get out of proportion. The trouble is people say you are only as good as your last game and, whilst we let ourselves down at Charlton, the overall position is still healthy.

Attempting an explanation usually looks like making excuses but there have been circumstances that have contributed to the team looking less convincing than they did earlier in the season.

We'd all like a settled team that wins every week and for a long time we had something like that. Injuries are every team's burden at some time but to lose so many left-sided players in a row has been especially tough to overcome.

Roger Nilsen hasn't been injury free, Wayne Quinn has just been given the go ahead to begin some very light training, and Dane Whitehouse has been sidelined (as has Paul McGrath also).

The wheeling and dealing we have done in a genuine effort to strengthen the squad has taken Carl Tiler and Mitch Ward out of the equation, so continuity has inevitably been affected, especially as we have had Michael Vonk and Nick Henry to re-integrate after lengthy lay-offs.

It would be surprising if the new look side were to gel immediately, and it is probably asking too much of newcomers to make an immediate impact when everybody is having to adapt. The players we have brought in will, I have no doubt,



Debut time for Dean Saunders at Norwich

be valuable acquisitions but right now everyone could do with a little encouragement. As I said earlier, our last game was poor by our standards so people are a bit despondent but most of us would have settled for our present position when the season kicked-off.

That's not settling for second-best or being complacent, it's a realistic assessment of our situation, and we will put things right on the training field. It's this afternoon that counts now, and the rest of our programme, so let's re-assert ourselves and not be sucked into the trap of bemoaning what might have been if ...

Of course we are not happy at the outcome of those two away games, especially as we had got back on track with two home wins. Our football and chance-making at Norwich was, for an hour, as good as we have

produced all season but we didn't capitalise when we were on top.

You could say that we didn't get the rub of the green because Michael Vonk's otherwise impressive return was marred by his own goal - which he could do little about - and then his dismissal. He will be suspended for the fixture at Bury on 20 December.

The penalty award at Charlton had a big bearing on the way the game developed and was a harsh decision considering the speed at which the ball was travelling. We didn't play well but Dean Saunders had a good chance before the penalty and, within seconds of the second-half starting, Brian Deane had one scrambled off the line.

I am thrilled to have brought Dean to the Club as he will increase my options and bring a bubbling enthusiasm to the team, as well as massive experience. Mark Patterson asked to leave here when he couldn't agree the terms of a new contract and this week joined one of his former clubs, Bury for £125,000. He had that quality of giving everything he had on the field and benefited this club - I wish him well.

Welcome to Swindon boss Steve McMahon and his his team today - he is an old colleague of mine from our Liverpool days together and has certainly instilled some backbone into his Swindon side. That's what we and our supporters showed in the second-half of our last home match against Stoke City. Twice behind, the lads stormed forward to win and the crowd backed them all the way. More please!

Red



STATES BECKON 'GREAVSIE'



Working at Bramall Lane is many a supporter's dream and although the reality is often not as glamorous as it may seem, we do feel privileged to be here. That's why the departure of our long-time kitman **JOHN GREAVES** was a surprise.

He was in his ninth campaign but has followed the example of physio Denis Circuit by taking up a new challenge, in this case and initially at least, soccer coaching in Chicago which starts in January.

John has spent many of his recent summers coaching in the USA Soccer Schools and a temporary appointment through a friend has given him this opportunity.

His first match on duty was a 2-3 Zenith Data Systems defeat at Sheffield Wednesday in 1989 and he didn't miss matchday duty at all before bowing out

with the 3-2 win over Stoke City a couple of weeks ago.

"I've had an unbelievably enjoyable time with United and it's a real wrench to leave, but there comes a time when it's right for a change," he says.

"I've so many wonderful memories and the highlight has to be promotion at Leicester, although getting to Wembley in 1993 was a privilege for a working class lad like myself, despite the result.

"However, I have never experienced anything like the red and white ticker tape welcome the fans gave the team coach on it's arrival at Wembley before the play-off final against Palace. Those supporters were fabulous and I can assure you that their passion made the hairs on the back of everyone's necks stand up - it was extremely moving."

** Sheffield born Alan Gleeson is acting as the Blades' kitman at the moment.*

&v

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER!

United are **DEAN SAUNDERS'** ninth English league club and although delighted to acquire him without a transfer fee since his contract with Forest was mutually terminated, the Blades would probably have preferred to have paid £60,000 for his signature ten years ago.

At that time he was with Brighton and about to establish the reputation that saw him make five successive £ million moves. He takes up the story:

"I remember that Billy McEwan was rumoured to be interested and I spoke to him but Brighton boss Alan Mullery was friends with the Oxford manager at

SUPER SUBS!

When Gareth Taylor scored his goal against Stoke City, it was his sixth goal for us as substitute in a league game, making him our top goal-scoring sub in league matches. However, he is not our top scoring sub in all games. That honour is currently held by Peter Duffield with a total of eight goals.

Our top scoring subs are:-

	Lge	Other	Total
Peter Duffield	4	4	8
Gareth Taylor	6	-	6
Steve Foley	5	-	5
Nathan Blake	5	-	5
Andy Walker	4	1	5
Tony Philliskirk	4	-	4
Keith Edwards	1	3	4
Mitch Ward	1	3	4
Clive Mendonca	3	-	3

*Mitch Ward also scored as a sub in the penalty shoot-out against Blackburn Rovers in the FA Cup.

**Keith Edwards remains our only sub to score a hat-trick. He achieved this in the League Cup game against Grimsby Town in October 1982.

Whites



the time and I ended up going there instead.

"Yes, I have had a lot of clubs but I've enjoyed it and there can't be any regrets because I've had a marvellous career which isn't finished yet. The biggest disappointment was Wales never qualifying for the World Cup Finals but overall I couldn't really change a thing."

As well as 62 full International caps Dean picked up an FA Cup winners medal with Liverpool in 1992 and another of the Coca-Cola Cup variety with Villa two years later. His spell with Galatasary ended when Forest paid £1.5 million to bring him back to England but he has a shrewd realisation of how the transfer system is now shaping up.

"With some football clubs becoming plc's the game is changing and businessmen will have a big influence on comings and goings. Under the Bosman ruling about 400 players will be on free transfers this summer and there will be a scramble by both clubs and players.

"I had already said to Dave Bassett that if it came to this I would like to move on, preferably to the Premiership. But I think United are going in the right direction and they were definitely the best team Forest had played this season. I'm not just looking for them to get there, but to win things when they do. The potential to do that is why I chose to come here."

FOUR IN ONE GO

In our game against Crewe Alexandra a fortnight ago, four players made their league debut for us. Graham Stuart and Traianos Dellas started the game and Bobby Ford and Curtis Woodhouse came on as substitutes. This is the second time this season that four newcomers have made their league debuts together - in our opening game against Sunderland, Wayne Quinn, Nicky Marker, Paul McGrath and Vassilis Borbokis all played from the start.

The previous time four debuts were made all at once was on 27 August 1988 - the opening day of the season. Four of Dave Bassett's new recruits - Ian Bryson, Francis Joseph, Alan Roberts and Brian Deane - all played their first league game for the Blades at Reading.

Because new signings very often take place in the close season it is perhaps not surprising that on at least two occasions four players have made their debut on the opening day of the season. Whether four players have ever made their debuts for us in the same mid-season game before is still being researched!

My first...



league goal

"I made my debut for Doncaster in a 0-0 draw with Swansea at Belle Vue but claimed my first goal as a substitute in a match at Wigan. The game ended 1-1, I think, and Paul Beesley who was later to become a team-mate at the Lane, was in Wigan's line-up.

It was an unbelievable feeling when my shot, through a crowd of players, hit the net, and I still absolutely love scoring - that's what I strive for and try to achieve in every game.

My first United league goal at Reading was significant for me because I was still only young and it gave me confidence with a new set of players. From then on I started to grow up a bit and realise I could score regularly at that level with those players - it's a question of self-belief.

At Doncaster we were always struggling and didn't really go out there thinking we could win the games, but the manager at that time, Dave Cusack, was good to me in that he used me in short spells. To a young player that can sometimes be better than being made to sink or swim over a long period without being able to adjust."

by Brian Deane

Red & Whites

CONTINUED...

HELLO - AND GOODBYE

Graham Stuart's arrival at the Lane saw Mitch Ward and Carl Tiler move in the opposite direction to Goodison Park. We wish them both well and detail their United careers:

MITCH WARD

Signed professional forms: 1st July 1989.

First competitive appearance: Yorkshire and Humberside Cup against Rotherham United at the start of the 1989-90 season. Later that season, he

made a sub appearance in the ZDS Cup at home to Wolves.

First Blades goal: Friendly against Genoa at the end of the season, days after the promotion clincher at Leicester.

League debut: 8th September 1990 v Manchester City.

First League goal: In the 2-0 home win against Villa in December 1991.

Only in the last two seasons did he become almost an automatic - and versatile - choice, making 42 league appearances in 1995-96 and 34 last season. One of the highlights of his time at the Lane must be his two goals against Blackburn Rovers in the FA Cup, earning us a draw and a penalty shoot-out in which Mitch was successful in his effort.

PLAYING RECORD :-

Lge	Apps	Sub	Goals
Lge	135	19	11
PO	3	-	-
FAC	7	2	2
LC	8	3	2
ZDS	0	1	-
ATC	2	-	1
TOTAL	155	25	16

CARL TILER

Joined us from Aston Villa on 26th March 1997 and played in all the competitive games since his arrival, making his debut in our 1-2 defeat at Huddersfield.

Last season:-

Lge	Apps	Goals
CCC	23	2
PO	5	-
PO	31	2
TOTAL	31	2

His first goal was a scrambled, but vital, effort against Stoke that put us into the play-offs and the other, this season, a powerful headed equaliser against Tranmere Rovers.



BLADES ON THE ROAD ... TO STOKE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AS STOKE HAVE RELOCATED TO THE BRITANNIA STADIUM.

Unlike the old Victoria Ground the Britannia offers no street parking and the only car parking for home and away fans is in the SOUTH Car Park, with access from the A5035 and NOT the A50 - Police will turn people away who do not have passes for this area.

- (1) For supporters arriving by coach: the Car Park is situated behind the Signal Radio Stand (which houses Blades fans) and is approached from the A50.
- (2) **Car Parking** (South Car Park): at a cost of £3. It is strongly recommended you arrive early ie not later than an hour before kick-off.

ACCESS IS AS FOLLOWS:

North/South/West: M6 Junction 15. Take the A500 to Stoke-on-Trent, then, at first exit, take A34 to Stone and follow signs for Trentham. At next roundabout turn left on to Trentham Road (A5035) and carry on until the traffic signalised junction on the southern entrance to Stanley Matthews Way.

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ANDY DAYKIN,
Commercial Manager

Commercial Page

PIPER PRESENT FIRST WEB PRIZE

Piper Heidsieck Champagne have kindly sponsored our "Internet Player Of The Month Award" through until the end of the 1998-99 season.

The inaugural winner for the month of **November** is **Brian Deane**, who is pictured here receiving a Magnum of Piper Heidsieck from their representative, Mr Ken Barker. Looking on is Al Peacock of Woodhouse who is a regular user of the Blades' Web Pages and was lucky enough to be selected at random from the Web users who actually voted for Brian. Al also receives an autographed football.

Check out the Piper Heidsieck pages which you can link to directly from the Blades' site - www.sufc.co.uk

Coming soon, in fact during the coming week, will be the Blades Collection, allowing you to shop from the Lane, anywhere in the World!

BLADES ON FILM

Despite the disappointing results over the last week, it's been a tremendous first half of the season for the Blades and the golden moments are captured on the recently released video "THE STORY SO FAR." It features great goals and interviews with your favourite players and manager, Nigel Spackman behind the scenes.

At just £12.99, it is a great Christmas gift for any fan - DON'T MISS IT!!



PLAYER CAFE OPENS

Our very best wishes and good luck go to Blades celebrity Joe Elliott who, along with Rick Savage and former Blade Dave Coxon, open "THE PLAYERS CAFE" this weekend. The Sports Bar is adjacent to Sheffield Arena and all Blades fans will be welcome.

WELL DONE, HEROL

I must confess to missing the Norwich game to go and see Herol Graham successfully defend his Inter-Continental Super Middleweight crown at Wembley Arena - who should be there but former player and coach, Wally Downes, who sends his best wishes to everyone at the Club.

NEW YEAR COMES EARLY

The Blades Revival Scheme started over 10 years ago and was originally launched on Boxing Day 1986.

Because there are not exactly 52 weeks in a year, the first week's draw for the year has been getting earlier ever since we started and for those not in the know, today sees the draw for week one of the 1998 year - strange but true.

To make matters more confusing, don't forget the draw for the 1997 cash bonanza prize of £20,000 will take place during half time at our forthcoming game with Charlton Athletic on 28 December.

DON'T FORGET - YOU HAVE TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!!



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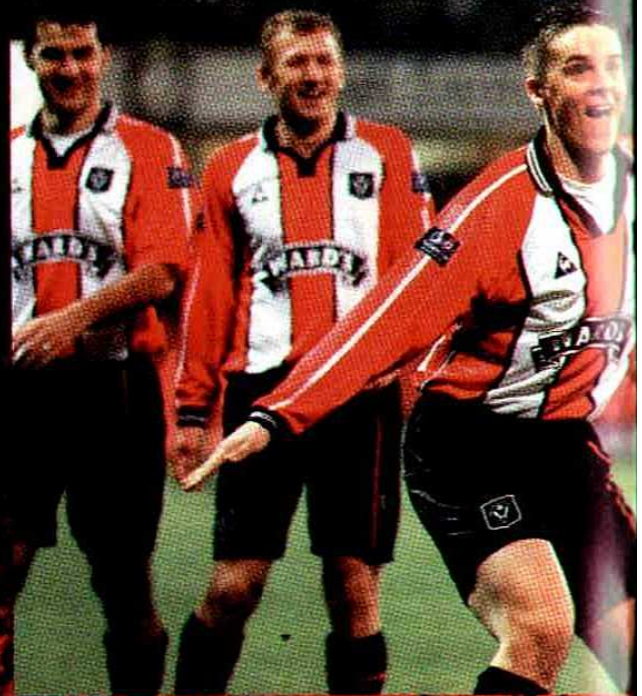
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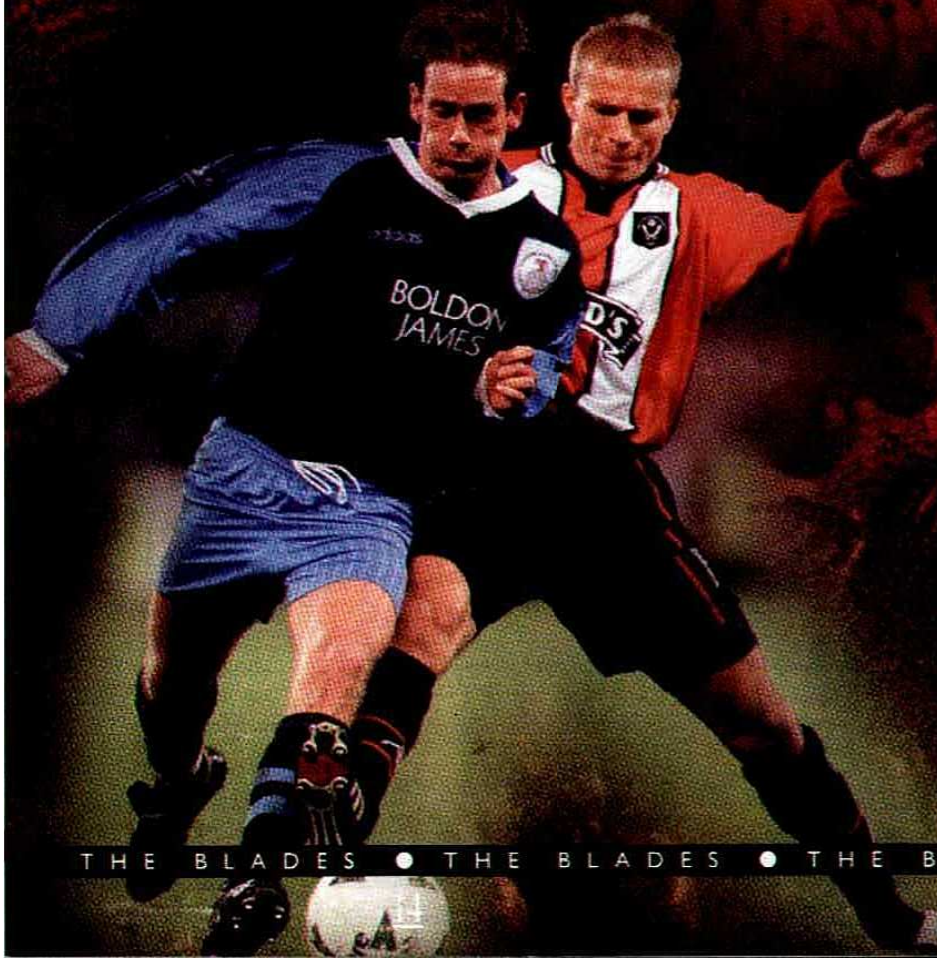
UNITED 1 CREWE ALEXANDRA 0

They say in this game that it only takes a second to score a goal, and that was how it happened here as Jan Aage Fjortoft swept Dave Holdsworth's long pass into the net. Crewe had been battered from pillar to post by the Blades' scoring efforts but they couldn't stop United from getting there in the end.

Pictured clockwise: Traianos Dellas and Nicky Marker are amused as Jan does his act; Gareth Taylor is in the thick of the action; a sliding tackle can't halt Graham Stuart; Jan Aage slots in the winner; Deano bursts through; Roger Nilsen steps in with a tackle.

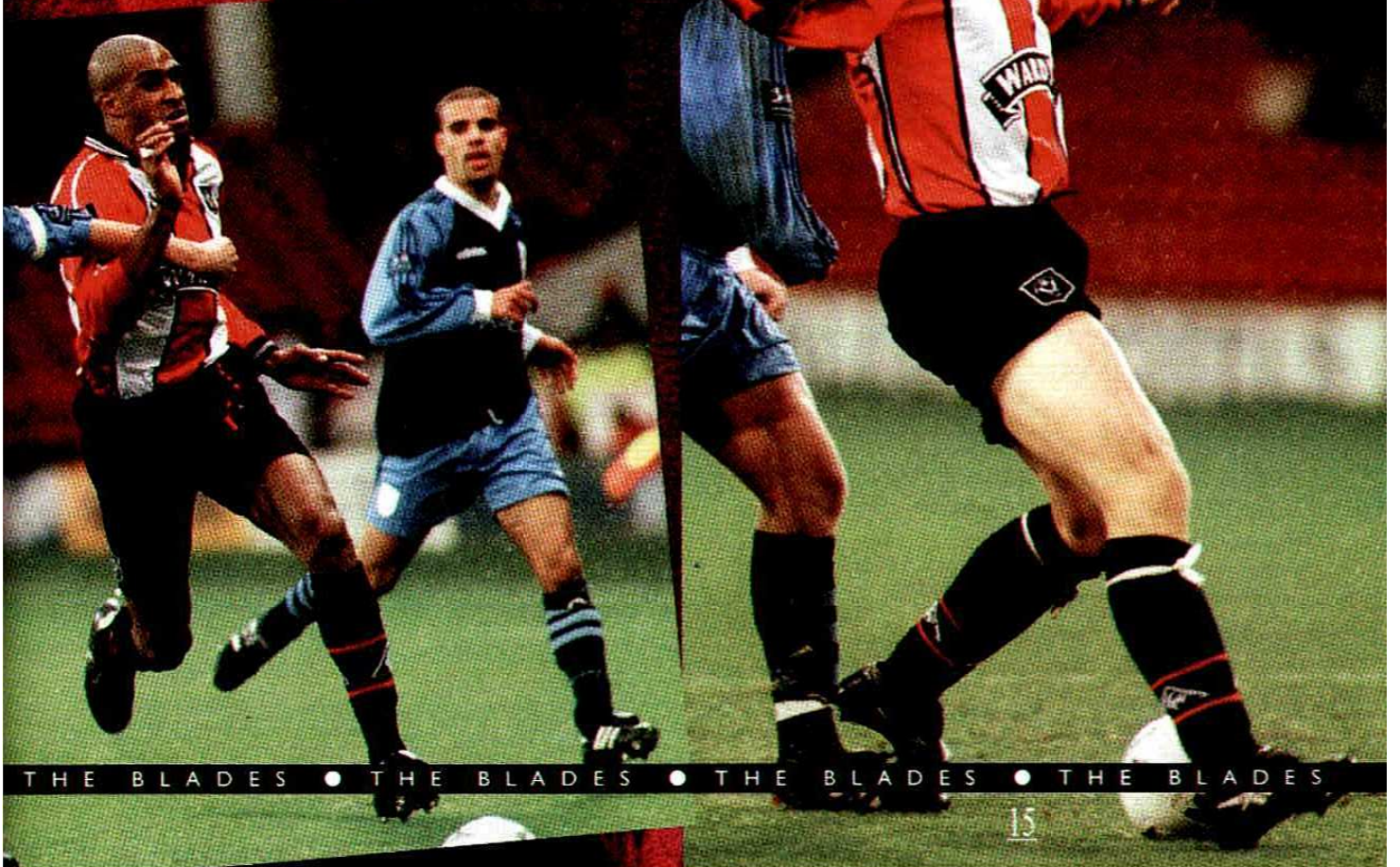


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DAEWOO



Today's Visitors
**Swindon
Town**

Rarely has a season past without the obligatory surprise side making an early bid for promotion, but the form of Steve McMahon's Swindon Town side suggests their position at the top of the table will be more than just a brief flirtation with the Premiership chasers.

Swindon have upset some of the First Division's 'millionaires club' this season by having the audacity to lead the pack for a time. And even though their form of late has been patchy, they are still nestled nicely in the promotion pack that are starting to create a gap between the rest.

If they were to need any inspiration for the rest of the season, which is an unlikely scenario with the motivational powers of McMahon as strong as ever, last season's promotion heroes from 'little' Barnsley are the example Swindon should follow. Though whether the Robins would fair any better than the Tykes are presently in the Premiership is open to debate.

Competing against clubs with so much more going for them both on and off the field is a chore Swindon fans have become used to over the years, but in McMahon they have a manager who would be cherished by any side in the land.

Here are the Swindon likely lads hoping to add to their growing reputations today.

Fraser Digby



FRASER DIGBY

(goalkeeper)

Born: 23.04.67

Sheffield-born Fraser celebrated his testimonial season at Swindon last term after a decade of loyal service that has seen him witness a series of ups and downs at the County Ground. Signed from Manchester United after serving his apprenticeship at Old Trafford.

MARK ROBINSON (defender)

Born: 21.11.68

Mark's form in the red of Barnsley was such that Newcastle United paid £450,000 to secure his services in March 1993. But first team chances were always limited at St. James' Park as the Kevin Keegan revolution kicked in and he came to Swindon in a £600,000 deal in July 1994. Started his career at West Brom.

FREDERIC DARRAS

(defender)

Born: 19.08.66

A player with experience at the highest level of club competition after playing for Auxerre in the European Cup. The French under-18 and under-19 international came to Swindon on a free last summer and can slot in anywhere across the back line.

ALAN McDONALD (defender)

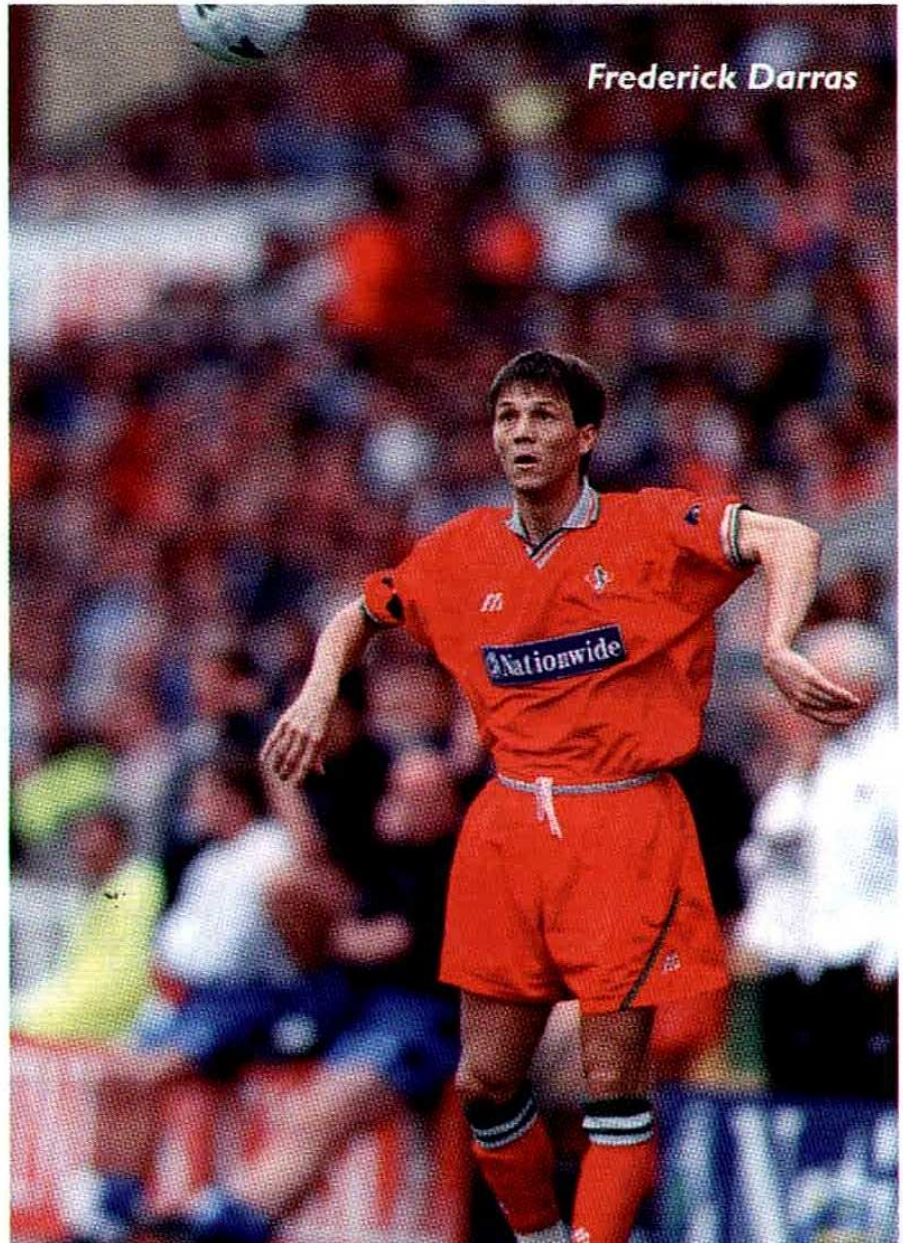
Born: 12.10.63

After spending his entire career at QPR, seeing 'Big Alan' in a shirt other than the famous Loftus Road hoops is hard to comprehend. Certainly Blades boss Nigel Spackman will need little introduction to his old QPR team-mate who always gives complete commitment to a cause. A vastly experienced Northern Ireland international with 53 caps to his name.

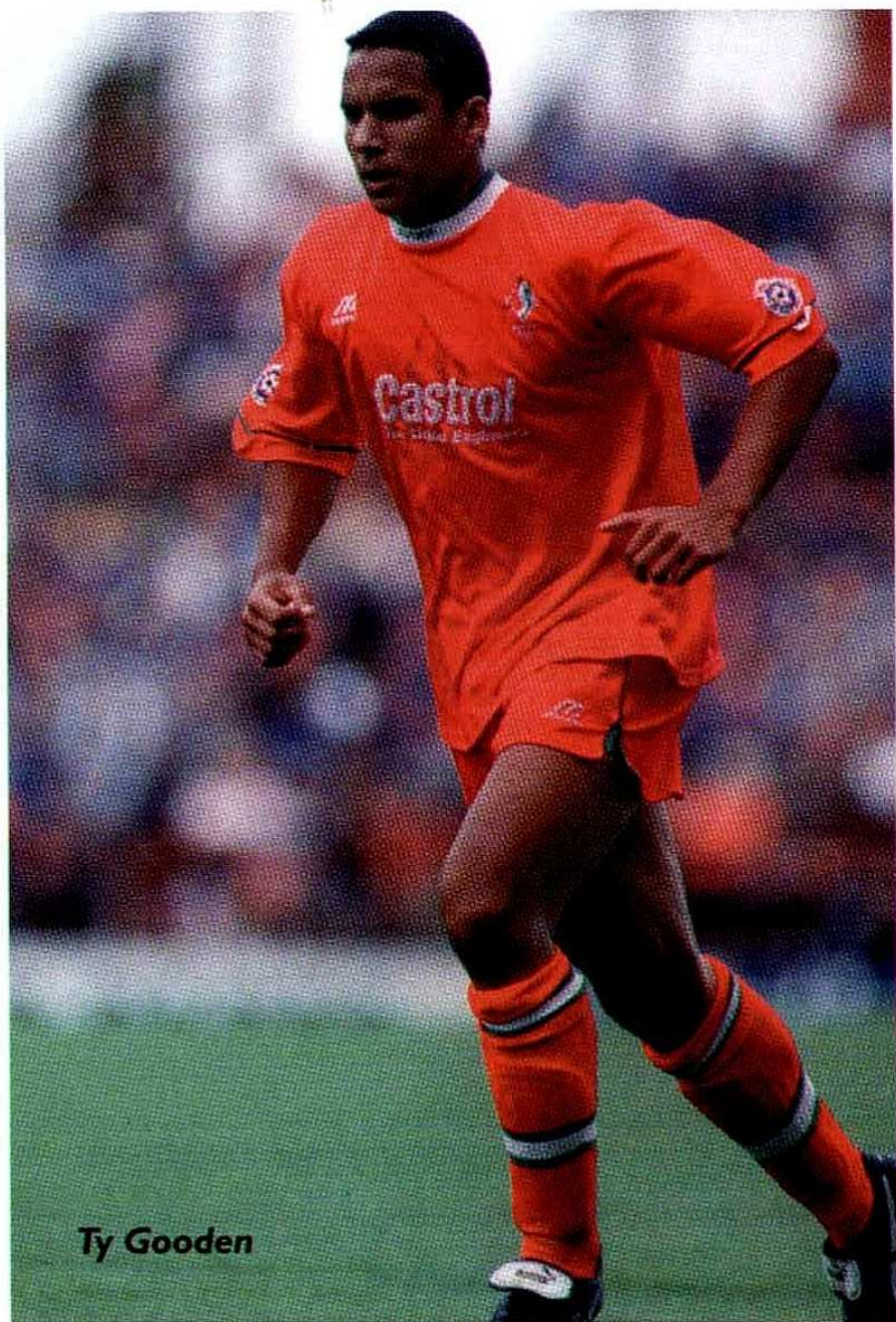
BRIAN BORROWS (defender)

Born: 20.12.60

Brian had the heartbreak of missing the 1987 FA Cup final through injury, forced to watch on as his team-mates lifted the famous silver trophy in what was the greatest day in the Sky Blues' history. Joined Swindon on a free from Coventry last month.



Frederick Darras



Ty Gooden

CRAIG TAYLOR (defender)

Born: 24.01.74

Brother of former Swindon favourite Shaun, manager Steve McMahon paid non-league Dorchester Town £25,000 for his services last April and hopes are high that he will develop into an even better prospect than his elder sibling.

DARREN BULLOCK

(midfielder)

Born: 12.02.69

A £400,000 signing from Huddersfield Town earlier this year, Darren has provided a cutting edge to the midfield with his aggressive and powerful displays. Started at non-league Nuneaton Borough.

PHILIPPE CUERVO (midfielder)

Born: 13.08.69

A talented Frenchman whose attacking forays from midfield make him a difficult customer for any side to counteract. After impressing during a trial at Swindon, McMahon signed Philippe on a free from French side Sochaux.

MARK WALTERS (midfielder)

Born: 02.06.64

A winger of whom so much was expected as he made his breakthrough in

Article by
FRONTLINE SPORTS

the professional game at Aston Villa. Spells at Glasgow Rangers and Liverpool saw him produce flashes of brilliance, but injuries at Anfield ended his time there before he signed for Swindon on a free last summer. The former England international has emerged as a key man in the side and scored a penalty in last week's win over Oxford.

TY GOODEN (midfielder)

Born: 23.10.72

Joined Swindon after being released by Wycombe in 1993 and went on to play a crucial role in the side's promotion from the Second Division in 1995. Another to have suffered with injuries of late, he scored in last week's derby win over Oxford.

DAVID THOMPSON

(midfield)

Born: 12.09.77

McMahon's Liverpool connections have given him time to work with a youngster from whom much is expected. On loan at Swindon from the mighty Merseyside Reds for a month, he looks set to be a star of the future.

STEVE FINNEY (striker)

Born: 31.10.73

The injury curse hit this talented young frontman last season with a broken ankle only allowing him to play a total of nine games. The previous season had seen him hit 16 goals after a free transfer from Manchester City.

STEVE COWE (striker)

Born: 29.09.74

Steve started his career at Aston Villa and is the sort of striker no defender relishes a battle with. If not the most powerful and dominant in the air, he has all the tricks when the ball is at his feet and hit seven goals last season.

GEORGE NDAH (striker)

Born: 23.12.74

A £500,000 capture from Crystal Palace last month, George has always shown glimpses of class, but now has the challenge to string together a consistent run in front of goal. A leggy and athletic frontman who will boost Swindon's promotion hopes.



Steve McMahon Interviewed

You get the impression that Steve McMahon doesn't understand the meaning of the word failure. It is a theory that doesn't even enter his head as he pits his Swindon side head to head with one of the First Division's giants here at Bramall Lane this afternoon.

The sight of an irate McMahon fuming after a Swindon defeat is now becoming familiar, though this season he has been celebrating far more than drowning his sorrows. He speaks his mind and expects others to live up to standards he has built in his mind throughout a career in the game that has spanned some 22 seasons and brought success most steps of the way.

He manages like he played, a tough line approach that takes no prisoners. Certainly his players are under no illusions as to what their fate will be if he does not consider them to be putting in the sort of commitment McMahon the tigerish midfielder was famous for.

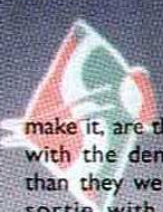
He played a key role as Bobby Robson's

England made it all the way to the semi-finals of the 1990 World Cup as well as providing the midfield bite in the Liverpool sides of the late 1980s that swept all before them.

Three League Championships and a vital part of the side that completed the elusive double in 1986 made McMahon and Anfield legend. Not bad for a star who started his career across Stanley Park at Everton.

Like any famous player making the break in management, he is missing the thrill of taking to the field every week. "You always hear managers saying nothing beats playing and they are spot on," says McMahon who went to Swindon as player-boss in November 1994. "Managing Swindon does seem a long way from playing for England in World Cup finals, but I am enjoying it and the team are having some success which makes life easier for everyone."

But can Swindon sustain their push for a place in the Premiership and if they do



make it, are they better equipped to deal with the demands at the highest level than they were in that brief and painful sortie with the big boys in season 1993/94? "I would have to be honest and say that we are probably not in a position to cope any better than the last time Swindon were in the top flight," admits McMahon.

"We are higher in the First Division than any of us ever thought about when we kicked off. Mid-table and pushing for a play-off place was a realistic target, but to be top of the league, as we were for a while, was unbelievable really. When you look at teams like Sunderland, Middlesbrough, Nottingham Forest and Sheffield United, they are ahead of us in terms of finance. But we are up there on merit."

Three straight defeats had given Swindon's critics a chance to lambaste their promotion hopes as folly, but last Saturday's derby win over Oxford has left them well placed just behind the Blades going into this afternoon's battle.


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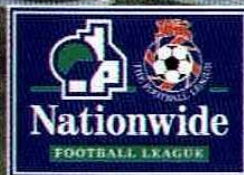
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Thanks to the Government and to the Football Association, the FA Premier League and the English Sports Council, a major new funding package to secure the future of the Trust has been put in place.

These funds will be in addition to income derived from the football pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zettors, and will enable the Trust to complete its Taylor task, carry out 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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All in the Game

by Dave Burkinshaw

BURY RE-UNITE THE FAMILY NAMES

Bury fans are now entitled to use a chant that has been regularly used by the fans of Celtic, Liverpool, Blackburn Rovers and now, Newcastle United; it's 'DALGLISH!' following the Shakers' recent signing of Paul, son of Kenny.

He made his debut in front of the Gigg Lane faithful when he came on to replace former Blade Tony Battersby. Bury have also used the loan system to bring in Leeds United's Andy Gray, whose father is long time Elland Road favourite, Frankie Gray.

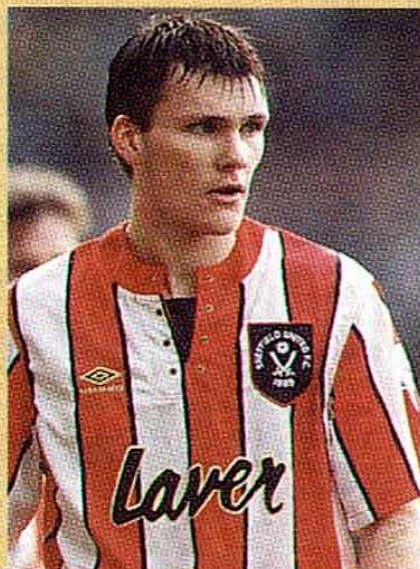
THEY ALWAYS SAY THAT!

Along with Rangers' prolific goalscorer, Marco Negri, another striker to pass the 20 goal mark this season is Halifax Town's, Geoff Horsfield. He reached that figure with a hat-trick in the 3-0 home win against Hereford United which consolidated their position at the top of the GM Vauxhall Conference. Town manager, George Mulhall, recognises he could soon lose Horsfield to a higher division club: "We've not had too many inquiries so far, but I'm expecting my telephone to ring this week. People who can put the ball into the back of the net these days are very valuable."

Sorry to disagree with you, George, but I thought people who can put the ball in the net have always been valuable!

BLUES' FAN WANTS LESS SUPPORT!

It was reported in the *Daily Telegraph* that a Birmingham City fan, Barry Austen, can claim two records which fans of other clubs would probably not wish to possess;



Charlie Hartfield - linked up with Alan Cork

- 1) At fifty stones he's the heaviest man in Britain.
- 2) He's the owner of the biggest replica football shirt, specially made for him at a circumference of seven feet six inches.

That's support in a BIG way but Mr Austen doesn't want to retain that kind of record and has recently commenced fitness consultations with City specialist, Arvel Lowe.

CORKY SNAPS UP CHARLIE

Blades fans will want to wish former player, Charlie Hartfield, all the best as he tries to resurrect his career at the Vetch Field under the management of ex-Lane colleague, Alan Cork.

Charlie was released by United this summer to help him find a new club after his progress here was blighted by injury problems. He had interested Brentford, Northampton and Hull but is now playing regularly for the Welshmen.

NOW THEY'RE WILD ABOUT HARRY

West Ham boss, Harry Redknapp, took a lot of flak from Hammers' fans when he signed Welsh International striker, John Hartson, from Arsenal for £3.3 million last season. However, Hartson contributed significantly to the Hammers' successful battle against relegation and now this season, after the 4-1 win against Palace, had already scored 11 league goals.

The £3.3 million looks cheap as Hartson menaces Premier League defences and it would be interesting to hear Redknapp's comments about his critics.

THEY WON'T GIVE US OUR BALL BACK!

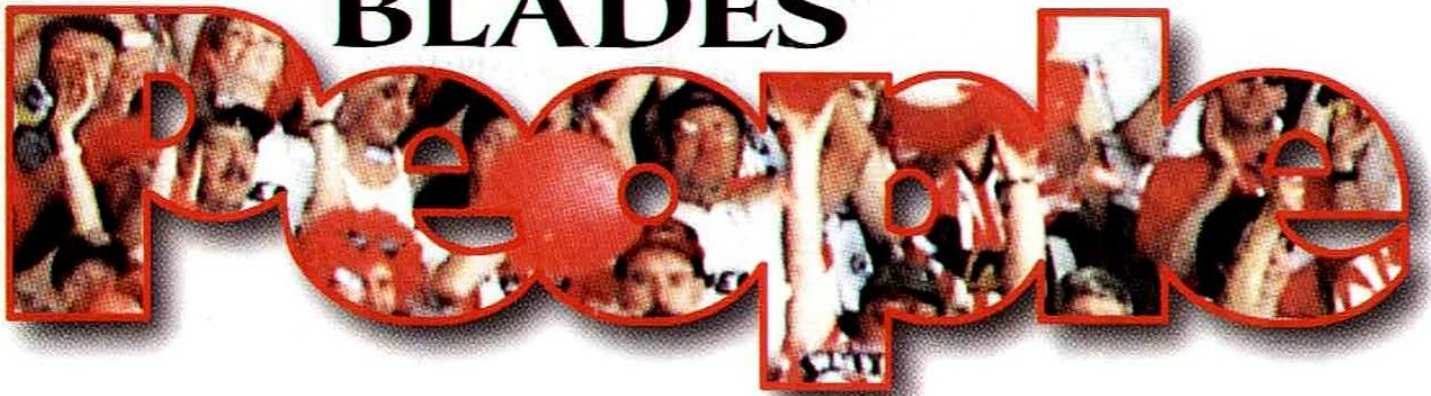
Lincoln City manager, John Beck, is arguably the most controversial manager of recent times because of his philosophy on how the game should be played. His teams are very direct in their playing style and score many of their goals from set-pieces. It seems to be working as City were top of Division Three at the beginning of December following a 17 match unbeaten run.

City's opponents are sometimes critical of what they see as deliberate attempts at gamesmanship to unsettle them. After a recent match with them, Macclesfield Town claimed that Beck ordered the ballboys to throw the ball into the mud each time Town were given a throw-in to stop them taking a quick throw!

"HE'S ABSOLUTELY BERRY-IED IT!"

My nomination for goal of the season so far has to be the brilliant chip scored by Rotherham United midfielder, Trevor Berry, in the 3-0 FA Cup win at Burnley. It definitely fell into the category of those that, if scored in the Premier League, would be shown on endless repeats.

BLADES



REMEMBER THE PAST, LOOK TO THE FUTURE

Dave Bassett's first return to the Lane as a visiting manager may have gained him no points, thanks to Gareth Taylor's stunning strike, but he didn't leave empty handed. BIFA members presented him with a tankard afterwards, in recognition of his contribution to the Club. The tankard, inscribed simply "Thanks for the Memories", was presented by one of BIFA's younger members, 11 year old Michael Blomfield.

In contrast, it was one of BIFA's oldest members who presented Nigel Spackman with a lucky horseshoe and £50 cheque for the Children's Hospital, following his open evening with fans two days before the Forest match. Making the presentation, Bert Housman talked briefly of his memories over 78 years following the Blades, including the day we brought the FA Cup back to Sheffield in 1925. The presentation followed a well-attended evening during which fans gave their backing to Nigel and his management approach.

Supporters Club

Welcome to everyone connected with both teams, especially Swindon boss, Steve McMahon, who has got his team amongst the front runners.

Our position after two home wins was dented by a defeat at Norwich after we had been the best team for 60 minutes, but I am writing before the result of the Charlton game.

* I know you will join me in extending a warm welcome to Bobby Ford, Graham Stuart and Dean Saunders, and sending our best wishes to Carl Tiler and especially to Blade born and bred, Mitch Ward - let's hope Everton stay up and we can play them next season.

* I only recently learned of the death of lifelong Blade and Chairman of our RETFORD branch, PAM MOORE, who battled with illness and disability for many years but still came to the Lane whenever possible. On behalf of our members I offer condolences to her family and friends.

* It must have been a shock to everyone to hear of the death of BILLY BREMNER who was one of those players who fans love to hate as he didn't play for their team - but Billy was a born leader and winner, spending almost all his career at Leeds United.

* As these are our last notes before Christmas may I wish the players, Management, Board members and, of course, supporters a very happy Christmas with plenty of points in the bag as well as presents.

Today's Mascots

CHRISTOPHER PERROZZI

AGE: 10

SCHOOL: Mylnhurst Convent School

FAVE BLADES: Simon Tracey and Wayne Quinn

HOBBIES, INTERESTS: Football and swimming



MATTHEW PEACH

AGE: 13

SCHOOL: Wales High School, Kiveton

FAVE BLADES: Brian Deane, Vass Borbokis, Dane Whitehouse and Jan Aage Fjortoft

HOBBIES, INTERESTS: Swimming, snooker, football and watching the Blades - of course!



RICHARD HARMSTON

AGE: 10

SCHOOL: Lydgate Lane Juniors

FAVE BLADES: Brian Deane and Jan Aage Fjortoft

HOBBIES, INTERESTS: Playing football. Having lived in Canada for the last eight and half years, Richard played





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JUNIOR BLADES U10'S SOCCER TRIALS

Boys wishing to trial with the Junior Blades U10's for the 1998/99 season should contact Graham on 235 2971 after 6.30pm any evening. Training will commence in January 1998.



WHAT A BIRTHDAY!

Jonathan Allport's 10th birthday fell just a few days after he had been one of our mascots at the Stoke City game. But he got the best possible treat ahead of his big day when he was pictured with one of his favourite players, Brian Deane, in the dressing-room before the match - now that's something like a present!

MIDFIELD DRIBBLERS!!

The Perth Branch of the 'Blades, Down Under' wish to announce the arrival of three new members - Nicholas, Anna and Gabrielle. Chairman of the Branch and proud father, Charles, says all three love playing football and are proving to be very good dribblers!

Some of the family will be travelling the 12,000 miles from Oz before Christmas to stay with brother, Simon, in London and probably grab a rare chance of watching the Blades.



LOST MEMORIES

After having amassed a large collection of Sheffield United videos, Ian Rands recently suffered a break-in at his home, in which his all beloved Blades' videos were stolen. It has taken Ian, a Season Ticket Holder, ten years to collect all the videos and he is, naturally, deeply upset.

He would now like to try to replace his collection and is willing to buy any of the videos from Blades' fans. He says: "Most of my childhood and teenage years of watching United are contained on those videos, along with some of my best memories. Without them, I am lost."

The videos Ian requires are as follows:-

Sheffield United Centenary: 100 years, 100 goals

Harry's Game: 1989-90 Promotion Season

*Season Review: 1990-91
1991-92
1992-93
1993-94*

Winds Of Change (1995-96)

The Sheffield Derby: Blades Revenge (Parts 1 & 2)

100 Great Goals (Yorkshire TV)

Match Of The Day (Sheffield United)

The Brian Deane Story

***If anyone can help Ian, please contact him at 831 Ecclesall Road, Banner Cross, Sheffield S11 8TH**

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THE GOALSCORERS

snapsshots

By
Denis
Clarebrough

Derek Dooley stands above the others. A recent article in the magazine of the Association of Football Statisticians has Derek top in a goals per game table of Football League players (qualification 50 league games). Indeed, Derek's 64 goals in 63 games for Wednesday mean he is the only Football League player to score at least 50 goals at a ratio of more than a goal per game.

Most people wouldn't recognise many of the names. The main reason is that many of the top 100 Football League scorers (goals per game, 50 goal minimum) scored them in the late 1920's and 30's after a change in the offside law, and it took some years for teams to adjust. Secondly, many of the players spent all or most of their careers in the old Third Division.

Surprisingly only Derek Dooley, Brian Clough, Wally Ardron, George Stewart, Arthur Rowley, Jimmy Greaves and Terry Bly are in the top forty and, of those, only Greaves played regularly in the top flight. Stewart scored the bulk of his goals for Accrington Stanley in the 1950's.

United have five former players listed but I bet none of our supporters could name them, and only a handful would be correct with the first three. Neither Edwards, Woodward or Pace make the list, nor from the distant past do Arthur Brown, George Hedley, Joe Kitchen or Fred Tunstall.

First is Jimmy Dunne (173 goals in 245 league games), though some of them were scored for Arsenal and Southampton. Dunne comes 32nd overall but his amazing record with United would have given a place in the top ten.

Second is Jock Dodds, and Harry Johnson comes in third. Not much of a surprise there though no doubt Johnson would have topped any list of chances missed if the tales of our old supporters are anything to go by!

Reg Baines and Bill Boyd, fourth and fifth, are unexpected. Baines was a bustling York City centre-forward with a good shot; he would have been an excellent footballer today but, in the insecure 1930's, he preferred to keep his job as a York chocolate factory foreman.

He rejected Newcastle's offer and only came here in 1933 on condition that he could continue working in York. He made just ten league appearances for United (five goals) before moving to Doncaster Rovers and, again, York City.



Jock Dodds, a record United goalscorer, seen with fellow Scot, Frank Joyner, in a corridor of the old John Street stand.

Boyd was a slippery, gritty little customer who joined United from Clyde just after Baines. There was no doubting his ability but, sadly, football wasn't always high on Bill's list of priorities. He scored 30 league goals for us in 42 appearances, including a hat trick against Wednesday and four goals at Valley Parade, but never stayed long with any club as his record of misdemeanours mounted.

** Supporters interested in becoming a member of the association of Football Statisticians should write to:-
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Blades Back-Up



A LONG TIME COMING

Pontin's League Division One
Sheffield United Reserves 1
Wrexham Reserves 0

26 November 1997

ANDY WALKER was on hand to grab the points for United in the 87th minute, rifling home on the half-volley as a Morris cross grazed the head of a defender. The move had begun with goalkeeper Johnson who dribbled past an attacker before releasing Davies who swept the ball to the left.

Wrexham immediately pressed, forced a couple of corners and Johnson made a terrific save to preserve the lead and also United's only second clean sheet of the season. It was also gratifying to start the game with four youngsters and end it with six because of the substitutions of Marcelo and Dellas through injury.

The visitors were lively but had only one real spell of control, early in the second period when the Blades took time to settle after the departure of Dellas, and Johnson had only that one real save to make.

Vonk, Dellas, and Sandford had the experience and strength to control things at the back and Hawes had a particularly good game alongside them.

Davies and Ludlam were particularly prominent and probing in midfield in the first half, showing their best form of the season, but United's good passing wasn't turned into shots on goal apart from a couple of long-range Markos drives.

Katchouro could have had been on the mark in the second-half and Vonk always looked threatening at set-pieces in the second match of his comeback.

United: Johnson, Hawes, Sandford, Dellas (Strickland h-t), Vonk, Ludlam, Davies, Markos, Marcelo (Morris 77), Katchouro, Walker. Unused: James.

Wrexham: Walsh, McGregor, Cross, Thomas, Shone, Roberts S (Hopkins), Gibson (Jones), Griffiths, Williams, Roberts P, Chalk. Unused: Cooper.

Scorer: Walker 87.

BURKE - THE RAIN MAN

Northern Intermediate League

Sheffield United Juniors 4
Sunderland Juniors 1

28 November 1997

This was a difficult looking fixture for United who had played a gruelling Times FA Youth Cup tie just three days before and they had to grind out a result after falling into arrears to a straight-forward header after 20 minutes.

The game had already been brought forward a day at Sunderland's request and was eventually played at Woodbourn Road because torrential rain and other fixtures ruled out Abbeydale, Don Valley and the University Ground. But in Paul Burke the Blades had the player with the goal touch on the day and he registered his first goals of the season with a hat-trick.

On the stroke of half-time BURKE spun on the edge of the box to shoot and although not cleanly hit the effort was steered into goal.

1-1 was a fair reflection of play at that stage but United's change to a 4-3-3 at the break was to tip the balance their way. MORRIS put away a good header from a Davies cross to put them ahead and BURKE turned in the third from a really acute angle.

BURKE rounded off the scoring and clinched the points four minutes from time when he was on the spot to poach a goal when Burley's effort wasn't held by the goalkeeper.

United: Johnson, Bamforth, Doane, Strickland, McAughtrie, Eastwood (Burley 55), Parkin (Camm h-t), Ludlam, Morris, Burke, Davies. Unused: Strickland S.

Scorers: Burke (45, 71, 86), Morris (67)

ANOTHER CUP WIN

Pontin's League Cup

Huddersfield Town Reserves 1
Sheffield United Reserves 2

3 December 1997

United made it two wins and a draw from their three Cup group games and had to wait for other teams' results to see if they qualified for the next stage. This win at the McAlpine Stadium saw them at their season's best in terms of their collective performances - strong examples by the experienced, good returns by the injured, and backed up by competent youngsters.

Katchouro -
two goal strike



Marcelo - unlucky at Huddersfield

Two experienced sides put on a lively, entertaining game apart from one spell at the beginning of the second half but United generally held the upper hand and created more chances.

They did fall behind to DYER'S super 8th minute finish, and it had to be to beat Alan Kelly into his top corner but KATCHOURO angled the equaliser from 15 yards in the 37th minute.

Dean Saunders played brightly in a front three on his debut, had a good shot saved and ran intelligently until withdrawn having proved his fitness for the forthcoming weekend first-team game at Norwich. Marcelo was unfortunate to hit the woodwork in each half and it fell to KATCHOURO again to decide the tie with a tap-in thirteen minutes from time.

Town: Francis, Smith, Dyer, Hurst, Collins, Burnett, Baldry (Illingworth 18), Makel, Payton (Kaye 70), Richardson, Edwards (Stansfield 55).

United: Kelly, Short, Davies, Henry, Vonk, Sandford, Ludlam (Hawes h-t), Saunders (Morris 68), Marcelo, Katchouro, Walker. **Unused:** Strickland R.

Scorers: Town - Dyer (23). United - Katchouro (37, 77).

NORTHERN INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE 1997-98

AUG	9	S	Hartlepool United	0-1
	16	S	HULL CITY	4-2
	23	S	Middlesbrough	0-2
	30	S	ROTHERHAM UNITED	4-2
SEP	5	F	SCARBOROUGH (NILC)	4-2
	13	S	Scunthorpe United	2-4
	20	S	SHEFF. WEDNESDAY	0-2
	27	S	York City	3-1
OCT	4	S	BARNLEY	4-1
	18	S	Chesterfield	4-0
	25	S	DONCASTER ROVERS	1-3
NOV	1	S	Huddersfield Town	1-0
	8	S	LEEDS UNITED	3-1
	15	S	Newcastle United	2-2
	18	Tu	LEEDS UNITED (NILC)	2-3
	22	S	SCARBOROUGH	4-1
	25	Tu	TRANMERE R. (FAYC)	3-3
	28	F	SUNDERLAND	4-1
DEC	6	S	Bradford City	0-1
	9	Tu	Tranmere Rovers (FAYCR)	
	13	S	DARLINGTON	
	20	S	Darlington	
JAN	3	S	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	
	10	S	Hull City	
	17	S	MIDDLESBROUGH	
	24	S	Rotherham United	
	31	S	SCUNTHORPE UNITED	
FEB	7	S	Sheffield Wednesday	
	14	S	YORK CITY	
	21	S	Barnley	
	28	S	CHESTERFIELD	
MAR	7	S	Doncaster Rovers	
	14	S	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	
	21	S	Leeds United	
	28	S	NEWCASTLE UNITED	
APR	4	S	Scarborough	
	11	S	Sunderland	
	18	S	BRADFORD CITY	

PONTIN'S LEAGUE DIV. TWO 1997-98

AUG	13	W	Rotherham U.	4-2
	20	W	YORK CITY	0-2
SEP	3	W	BRADFORD CITY	0-2
	9	TU	BARNLEY	2-2
	17	W	Blackpool	2-1
	22	M	Lincoln City	5-0
	30	TU	BURNLEY	0-4
OCT	8	W	ROCHDALE	2-3
	15	W	Stockport County	4-3
	22	W	Leeds United (PLC)	2-2
	28	TU	CARLISLE UNITED	5-1
NOV	5	W	SCUNTHORPE U. (PLC)	4-1
	12	W	Shrewsbury Town	2-3
	26	W	WREXHAM	1-0
DEC	3		Huddersfield Town (PLC)	4-1
	10	W	York City	
	15	M	ROTHERHAM UNITED	
JAN	6	Tu	Bradford City	
	21	W	Barnley	
FEB	10	TU	BLACKPOOL	
	18	W	Burnley	
MAR	4	W	LINCOLN CITY	
	11	W	Wrexham	
APR	1	W	Carlisle United	
	7	TU	SHREWSBURY TOWN	
	22	W	Rochdale	
	28	TU	STOCKPORT COUNTY	

YELLOW denotes home matches

NORTHERN INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE

Up to and including Saturday 26 December 1997

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle U.	15	12	1	2	47	18	37
Bradford City	14	10	1	3	37	17	31
Middlesbrough	15	9	4	2	24	12	31
Sheffield Wed.	16	9	3	4	28	25	30
Sheffield Utd.	16	9	1	6	36	24	28
Leeds United	16	8	2	6	32	23	26
York City	16	6	4	6	23	21	22
Doncaster R.	13	6	2	5	23	26	20
Sunderland	15	5	5	5	20	25	20
Scarborough	15	5	5	5	21	28	20
Hull City	13	5	4	4	22	14	19
Hartlepool U.	14	6	1	7	22	18	19
Huddersfield T.	14	3	7	4	21	23	16
Rotherham U.	14	4	2	8	27	30	14
Scunthorpe U.	16	4	2	10	20	37	14
Chesterfield	14	3	4	7	16	28	13
Barnley	15	2	3	10	16	35	9
Darlington	17	1	3	13	28	59	6

RESERVES SCORERS 1997/98

Marcelo	10
Petr Katchouro	7
Gareth Taylor	5
Andy Walker	4
Don Hutchison	3
Steve Hawes	1
Chris Short	1
Ville Lehtinen	1
Traianos Dellas	1
David White	1
Dimitri Markos	1

**FOR FANS WHO
NEED THE NEWS**

RADIO
BBC SHEFFIELD

**HAVE YOUR SAY ON
PRAISE OR GRUMBLE
SATURDAY AT 5PM**

0114 268 2222

FM 88.6/104.1/94.7

**For all your
up to the minute**

RESULTS

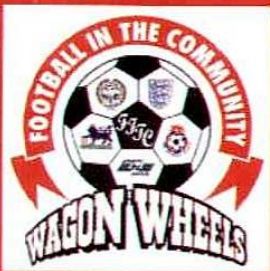
**make sure
you read ...**



The Star
Green'Un



**Tony Currie
and Tommy
Spencer's**



**BEST
Birthday
Ever**

Give your child the perfect treat for a young Blades supporter by booking his/her party at Bramall Lane. Held in one of our exclusive sponsor's lounges we put on all the fun and games the kids will love, but in a great setting with a look behind the scenes and an appearance by your child's favourite player.

PHONE 276 9314



DEANO AND DANE IN THE FRAME

BRIAN DEANE and **DANE WHITEHOUSE** are our Football in the Community Players of the Month winners for October and November respectively and, hopefully, Dane as well as Deano will be able to receive their awards before today's game.

CHRISTMAS SOCCER 6-A-SIDES

The Community Scheme have organised two 6-a-side days during the holidays:-

MONDAY 29 DECEMBER

Boys & Girls, 7-9 years, one day only

TUESDAY 30 DECEMBER

Boys & Girls, 10-12 years, one day only

Sheffield Works Department,
Heeley Bank Road.

TIME: 10am to 3.30pm

PRICE: £10.00 per child

No. PLACES: 50 ONLY!!

Each child will receive a match ticket for the Wolves game on 17 January and a FREE draw on each course to win a home or away shirt signed by all the first team squad.

Plus all the usual medals and trophies for competitions. Come and join in, it's great fun!!!

Forms are available at SUFC or ring 276 9314.

**Saturday
Clubber**



Name: **DANIEL CROPPER**

Age: 7
School: **Woodseats Primary**
Fave School Subject: **Art**
Fave Team: **United!!!**
Fave Player: **Jan Aage Fjortoft**
Fave TV Prog: **Thomas the Tank Engine**
Fave Colour: **Blue (!!)**
Fave pop group: **Meat Loaf**
Fave Car: **Peugot 306 Cabriolet**
Fave Food: **Steak**
Hobbies: **Football, trains**
What I like most about Saturday Club:
The raffle

**Saturday
Clubber**



Name: **RYAN LISTER**

Age: 9
School: **Wybourn Primary**
Fave School Subject: **Science**
Fave Team: **Sheffield United**
Fave Player: **Dane Whitehouse**
Fave TV Prog: **Top of the Pops**
Fave Colour: **Red**
Fave pop group: **Shaggy & the Spice Girls**
Fave Car: **Porsche**
Fave Food: **Chips and Chicken**
Hobbies: **Playing football and golf**
What I like most about Saturday Club: **I like to play different games - and I can practise my football skills**

Bramall Lane Ground Tours with the Football in the Community Scheme

Visit the home of Sheffield United FC and see behind the scenes of our long-standing but forward looking Club.

Tony Currie and his staff can be booked by parties, both young and old, to take around and experience the magic of being on the 'inside' for a change.

Visit the Director's Suite and Hospitality areas, wander round the changing rooms, see the splendid new John Street Stand - and ask any questions you like.

Football in the Community Office: 276 9314



informat



Ticket Prices

Laver Stand	Adult £16	Concession £8
John Street	Adult £16	Concession £8
Kop Stand	Adult £10	Concession £7
Family Enclosure	Adult £11	Concession £5
Bramall Lane Upper (Unreserved Seating)	Adult £10	Concession £7

T I C K E T S A N D T R A V E L I N F O R M A T I O N

BURY v BLADES

Nationwide League Division One

Saturday 20 December, Kick-Off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Blades fans. 2,400 reserved seats are available in the Manchester Road West Stand, price £14.00 Adults and £8.00 Juniors and OAPs over 65. Tickets are on sale now.

Blades Away Travel

Depart SUFC Car Park 11.00am

Price **£8.00**

Adult discount price **£7.00**

Concession discount price **£6.50**

* To guarantee your seat please book by:

Wednesday 17 December

STOKE CITY v BLADES

Nationwide League Division One

Friday 26 December, Kick-Off 3pm

This match is NOT ALL TICKET for Blades fans. 5,000 reserved seats are available in the Signal Radio Stand, price £14.00 Adults and £8.00 Junior and OAPs over 60. **Please note that concessionary prices are only available in advance and cannot be purchased on the day.** Tickets are on sale now.

Blades Away Travel

Depart SUFC Car Park 11.30am

Price **£8.50**

Adult discount price **£7.50**

Concession discount price **£7.00**

* Owing to Christmas Holidays, to guarantee your seat please book by:

Saturday 20 December

BLADES v CHARLTON ATHLETIC

Nationwide League Division One

Sunday

28 December,

Kick-Off 1pm

This match is NOT ALL TICKET. A special ticket offer applies for this game. Tickets are priced at £7.00 for Adults and £3.00 for concessions for all stand seats purchased by **1.00pm** on **Wednesday 24 December.** After this deadline tickets are priced at the standard match price. Tickets are on sale now.

* Membership discounts cannot be added to this offer.

BLADES v BURY

Littlewood's FA Cup, 3rd Round.

Saturday 3 January, Kick-Off 3pm

This match is NOT ALL TICKET. Tickets are on sale now, normal league match prices apply and there are no membership concessions.

Season Ticket holders have until **4.45pm** on **Wednesday 31 December** to purchase their own seats. Please show your book and hand in voucher H if purchasing your own seat in person. If booking by **post**, please enclose your voucher and full details of your row, seat and patron number. If booking over the **phone**, please have your Season Ticket with you in order to quote details.

Season Ticket holders who have taken up the Cup-tie option on their credit/debit

Special Offer
Live on Sky

card will be sent their match ticket automatically.

SUNDERLAND v BLADES

Nationwide League Division One

Saturday 10 January 1998, Kick-Off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Blades fans. 3,000 seats are available in the South Stand at the Stadium of Light. Tickets are priced at £15 Adults, and £10 Juniors U16 and Senior Citizens over 65. Tickets will go on sale on Tuesday 30 December.

Blades Away Travel

Depart SUFC Car Park 10.00am

Price **£11.00**

Adult discount price **£10.00**

Concession discount price **£9.50**

* To guarantee your seat please book by:

Wednesday 7 January

BLADES v WOLVES

Nationwide League Division One

Saturday 17 January 1998, Kick-Off 3pm

Although this match is NOT ALL TICKET for Blades fans, supporters are advised to purchase their tickets in advance. Should demand indicate that ground capacity may be reached, this game may become ALL TICKET.

Tickets will be on sale from Monday 22 December.

* Please note that the Bramall Lane Stand Upper Tier will be allocated to Wolves supporters - Season Ticket holders in this area have been sent alternative match tickets for this game.

ClubCall

**For the facts,
not the fiction**

SHEFFIELD UNITED F.C.

0891 888 650

"For the facts, not the fiction"

Teletext

on ITV p142

Cells cost 50p per minute. At all times.
Clubcall: 197 Knightsbridge House,
London, SW7 1RB

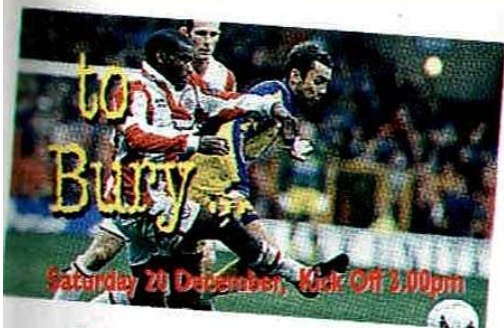
THE BLADES • THE BLADES • THE BLADES • THE BLADES

BLADES AWAY TRAVEL

Coach bookings are open to ANYONE and Season Ticket holders, Blades Revival, Red Ribbon, Junior Blades and Membership card holders are entitled to discount prices on production of the relevant identification.

TICKET AND POOLS OFFICES Christmas Opening Hours

Wed. 24 December	9am - 1pm
Thurs 25 December	CLOSED
Fri. 26 December	CLOSED (Pools Office open 10-11.30am)
Sat. 27 December	10am - 1pm (Pools Office 9am-noon)
Sun. 28 December	9am - Kick-off and for 30 minutes after the game
Mon. 29 December	CLOSED
Tues. 30 December	9am - 4.45pm (Pools Office 5pm)
Wed. 31 December	9am - 4.45pm (Pools Office 5pm)
Thurs. 1 January	CLOSED
Fri. 2 January	9am - 6pm (Pools Office 5pm)
Sat. 3 January	9am - Kick-off and for 30 minutes after the game
Sun 4 January	CLOSED
Mon. 5 January	Normal hours



BLADES ON THE ROAD...

TO STOKE (see page 10).
TO BURY

From North: Exit M66 Junction 2, take Bury Road (A58) for 0.5 mile, then turn left into Heywood Street and follow this into Parkhills Road until its end, turn left into Manchester Road (A56) then left into Gigg Lane. From South, East & West: Exit M62 Junction 17, take Bury Road (A56) for three miles then turn right into Gigg Lane.



MINI SEASON TICKETS



Mini Season Tickets run from the home game against Charlton Athletic on 28 December until the end of the season. Buying a mini season ticket gets you the last 12 games of the season for the price of 10 and a chance to choose your view of the promotion challenge. Can you afford to miss out???

Mini season tickets are on sale from Monday 24 November until 1pm on Wednesday 24 December.

LAVER STAND

Adult £149.00
Concession £71.00

KOP & BRAMALL LANE STAND

Adult £96.00
Concession £61.00

JOHN STREET STAND

Adult £154.00
Concession £78.00

FAMILY ENCLOSURE

Adult £106.00
Concession £49.00

*JUNIOR BLADES UNDER 10 MINI SEASON TICKET - £20 (including membership fee).

METHODS OF PAYMENT

- 1) In person at the Ticket Office by cash, cheque or Access/Visa/ Switch.
- 2) By postal application (payment by cheque or Access/Visa/Switch only) giving full details of your address and a daytime telephone number if possible. Cheques should be made payable to SUFC and credit card numbers should include the expiry date.
- 3) By telephoning the Ticket Office (0114 2211889) if paying by Access/Visa/Switch.

* To qualify for the concessionary rate you should be under 16 or over 60 on Sunday 28 December 1997. Proof of age must be shown/ supplied to purchase concessionary price tickets (ie copy of Birth Certificate/Pension Book).

* Students over the age of 16 who are in full-time education may apply for concessionary discount. Official confirmation must be supplied to show that the applicant is a full-time student for the remainder of the 1997/98 season. We also require two passport size photographs.

* Mini Season Tickets are for home league games only. At the end of the Season your seat will be reserved for you until the discount period for renewal has expired.

* In certain circumstances the Bramall Lane Upper Tier may be allocated to visiting supporters. Season Ticket Holders in this area would be informed well in advance and sent alternative seats for any such matches.

AN EXCELLENT CHRISTMAS GIFT

TICKET TELEPHONE BOOKING SERVICE

Tickets can be booked on our direct telephone line using Visa, Mastercard and Switch cards. Call (0114) 221 1889

A £1 booking fee is charged on all telephone bookings.

Ticket Information Line
0891 332950

Calls charged at 50p per minute at all times

Strike Force Three!

UNITED 3 STOKE CITY 2

It was all-change during the interval at the Lane after Stoke had bossed their way to a deserved lead. But three substitutions over the half-time cuppa brought an instant response with United's strikers all chipping in to add goals to the improvement.

Pictured clockwise: 'Tayls' starts the ball rolling with this equaliser; a trip halts 'Hutch' in full flow; Dave Holdsworth wrestles for the ball; Goal! Taylor!; Sigurdsson gets a helping hand from Jan; the winner, clipped past the helpless Muggleton by Deano.



ACT





ION



THE BLADES • THE BLADES • THE BLADES • THE BLADES

UNITED ROLL CALL 1997/98

	League		Cups		United Career	
	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls
BEARD, Mark	-	-	(1)	-	25 (15)	-
BORBOKIS, Vassilis	21	1	5	2	26	3
DEANE, Brian	19	8	4	2	261 (1)	116
DELLAS, Traianos	2	-	-	-	2	-
FORD, Bobby	2 (2)	-	-	-	2 (2)	-
FJORTOFT, Jan	13 (2)	9	2 (1)	1	33 (5)	21
HENRY, Nick	1	-	-	-	12	-
HOLDSWORTH, David	21	1	5	-	67	2
HUTCHISON, Don	8 (3)	-	(1)	-	70 (10)	5
KATCHOURO, Petr	3 (4)	-	3 (1)	-	40 (19)	14
KELLY, Alan	1	-	1	-	201 (3)	-
McGRATH, Paul	12	-	2	-	14	-
MARCELO	1 (4)	1	-	-	1 (4)	1
MARKER, Nicky	21	1	4	-	25	1
NILSEN, Roger	6 (4)	-	1 (1)	-	143 (10)	-
PATTERSON, Mark	17 (1)	1	5	-	84 (2)	4
QUINN, Wayne	12	-	5	-	17	-
SAUNDERS, Dean	2	-	-	-	2	-
SHORT, Chris	-	-	(1)	-	42 (6)	-
STUART, Graham	4	-	-	-	4	-
TAYLOR, Gareth	4 (7)	4	1 (2)	-	45 (19)	18
TRACEY, Simon	20	-	4	-	208 (2)	-
VONK, Michael	2	-	-	-	42	-
WALKER, Andy	(1)	-	-	-	35 (22)	23
WHITE, David	(1)	-	1	-	65 (12)	14
WHITEHOUSE, Dane	17	3	5	3	244 (31)	50
WOODHOUSE, Curtis	1 (3)	-	-	-	1 (3)	-
Also played:						
SCOTT, Andy	1 (5)	-	2	1	49 (38)	11
TILER, Carl	17	1	5	-	31	2
WARD, Mitch	3 (3)	1	-	-	155 (25)	16

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesbrough	21	12	6	3	35	17	42
Nottingham Forest	21	12	6	3	34	18	42
West Bromwich Albion	21	12	4	5	25	17	40
SHEFFIELD UNITED	21	10	8	3	31	20	38
Swindon Town	21	11	4	6	30	28	37
Charlton Athletic	21	10	5	6	40	29	35
Sunderland	20	9	6	5	30	21	33
Stockport County	21	9	5	7	35	29	32
Wolverhampton W.	21	9	5	7	26	25	32
Bradford City	21	7	9	5	21	21	30
Birmingham City	21	7	7	7	21	17	28
Queens Park Rangers	21	7	6	8	26	33	27
Port Vale	21	7	5	9	25	26	26
Stoke City	21	7	5	9	24	28	26
Norwich City	21	7	5	9	20	31	26
Reading	21	6	6	9	21	31	24
Tranmere Rovers	20	6	4	10	27	29	22
Manchester City	21	5	6	10	23	25	21
Ipswich Town	20	4	9	7	22	24	21
Bury	21	4	9	8	21	30	21
Oxford United	21	5	5	11	24	32	20
Huddersfield Town	21	5	5	11	21	34	20
Portsmouth	20	5	5	10	26	31	20
Crewe Alexandra	21	5	3	13	24	36	18

key

All home games in **CAPITALS**. Player's name in **bold** denotes scorer.

- ▲ = withdrawn
- = booked
- ✶ = sent off
- P = penalty
- † = home goal

Vital

	date	opponents	res.	gate	pos
Aug	10 Su	SUNDERLAND	2-0	17,324	-
	12 Tu	Wrexham CCC 1 (1)	1-1	3,644	-
	16 S	Wolves	0-0	23,102	5
	23 S	PORTSMOUTH	2-1	15,895	2
	26 Tu	WREXHAM CCC 1 (2)	3-1	7,181	-
	30 S	Huddersfield Town	0-0	14,268	5
Sep	13 S	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	1-0	24,536	7
	16 Tu	Watford CCC 2 (1)	1-1	7,154	-
	20 S	Oxford United	4-2	7,514	5
Oct	23 Tu	WATFORD CCC 2 (2)	4-0†	7,511	-
	27 S	BIRMINGHAM CITY	0-0	20,553	5
	5 Su	Middlesbrough	2-1	30,000	5
	14 Tu	Walsall CCC 3	1-2	8,239	-
	18 S	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	2-2	18,006	6
	21 Tu	STOCKPORT COUNTY	5-1	16,241	2
	25 S	W B A	0-2	17,311	6
Nov	1 S	TRANMERE ROVERS	2-1	16,578	4
	4 Tu	Reading	1-0	8,132	2
	9 Su	Ipswich Town	2-2	9,695	4
	15 S	MANCHESTER CITY	1-1	23,850	5
	18 Tu	Bradford City	1-1	16,127	5
	22 S	Port Vale	0-0	8,017	5
	29 S	CREWE ALEXANDRA	1-0	16,973	4
	Dec 2 Tu	STOKE CITY	3-2	14,347	3
	6 S	Norwich City	1-2	11,745	4
	9 Tu	Charlton Athletic	1-2	9,868	4
Jan	13 S	SWINDON TOWN			
	20 S	Bury			
	26 F	Stoke City			
	28 Su	CHARLTON ATHLETIC			
	3 S	BURY (FAC3)			
	10 S	Sunderland			
	17 S	WOLVES			
	27 Tu	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN			
	31 S	Portsmouth			
	Feb 7 S	OXFORD UNITED			
Mar	14 S	Nottingham Forest			
	17 Tu	MIDDLESBROUGH			
	21 S	Birmingham City			
	25 W	Queens Park Rangers			
	28 S	BRADFORD CITY			
	7 S	Tranmere Rovers			
	14 S	READING			
	21 S	Manchester City			
	28 S	PORT VALE			
	Apr 4 S	Crewe Alexandra			
May	11 S	NORWICH CITY			
	13 M	Swindon Town			
	18 S	BURY			
25 S	WBA				
3 Su	Stockport County				

Statistics

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	sub	sub	sub
Tracey	Borbokis 1	Quinn▲	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Fjortoft 1▲	Deane	Whitehouse	Katchouro (9)	Dibble	Nilsen (3)
Tracey	Borbokis 1	Quinn▲	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Fjortoft▲	Deane	Whitehouse	Nilsen (3)	Taylor (9)	Hawes
Tracey	Borbokis	Quinn	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Katchouro▲	Deane	Whitehouse	Scott (9)	Beard	Fjortoft
Tracey	Borbokis	Quinn▲	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Fjortoft 2▲	Deane	Whitehouse	Katchouro	Hutchison (3)	White (9)
Tracey	Borbokis	Quinn	White▲	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Fjortoft 1	Deane 1▲	White'se 1	Katchouro (4)	Hutchison	Taylor (9)
Tracey	Borbokis	Quinn	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Fjortoft▲	Deane▲	Whitehouse	Katchouro (10)	Hutchison	Taylor (9)
Tracey	Borbokis	Quinn	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker▲	Fjortoft▲	Scott▲	Whitehouse	Nilsen (8)	Walker (9)	Taylor (10) 1
Kelly	Borbokis	Quinn	Nilsen	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Scott 1▲	Taylor	Katchouro▲	Whitehouse	Beard (10)	Walker	Hutchison (8)
Tracey	Borbokis	Quinn▲	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth 1	Patterson	Marker	Fjortoft 1▲p	Deane 1	Whitehouse 1	Nilsen (3)▲	Scott (12)	Katchouro (9)
Tracey	Borbokis▲	Quinn	Scott	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Katchouro	Deane 1	Whitehouse 2	Walker	Hutchison	Short (2)
Tracey	Borbokis	Quinn▲	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Katchouro▲	Deane	Whitehouse	Scott (3)	Hutchison	Taylor (9)
Tracey	Borbokis	Quinn	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Katchouro▲	Deane 1	Whitehouse 1▲	Scott (3)	Hutchison	Ward (11)
Tracey	Borbokis 1	Quinn	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Katchouro▲	Deane	Whitehouse	Scott	Fjortoft (9)	Ward
Tracey	Borbokis	Quinn	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Fjortoft▲	Deane 1	Whitehouse	Marcelo 1 (9)	Hutchison	Ward
Tracey	Borbokis▲	Quinn	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson▲	Marker	Fjortoft 3	Deane 1▲	Whitehouse 1	Ward (2)	Marcelo (10)	Hutchison (7)
Tracey	Borbokis▲	Quinn	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Fjortoft	Marcelo▲	Whitehouse	Hutchison	Scott (2)	Katchouro (10)
Tracey	Borbokis	Quinn	Hutchison	Tiler 1	Holdsworth	Patterson▲	Marker	Fjortoft▲	Deane	Whitehouse	Taylor 1 (7)	Marcelo (9)	Nilsen
Tracey	Borbokis	Nilsen	Hutchison	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson 1	Marker	Taylor	Deane	Whitehouse	Fjortoft	Ward	Marcelo
Tracey▲	Borbokis	Hutchison	McGrath	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson	Marker	Taylor 1	Deane	Whitehouse	Ward 1 (1)	Marcelo	Fjortoft
Tracey	Borbokis	Ward	Hutchison	Tiler	Holdsworth	Patterson▲	Marker	Taylor▲	Deane 1	Whitehouse	Fjortoft (9)	Nilsen (7)	Marcelo
Tracey	Borbokis	Nilsen	Hutchison	Tiler	Holdsworth	Ward	Marker	Fjortoft	Deane 1	Whitehouse	Dellas	Patterson	Marcelo
Tracey	Borbokis	Nilsen	Hutchison	Tiler	Holdsworth	Ward▲	Marker	Taylor	Deane	Whitehouse▲	Fjortoft	Marcelo (7)	Patterson (11)
Tracey	Borbokis▲	Nilsen	Hutchison	Dellas	Holdsworth	Patterson▲	Marker	Fjortoft 1▲	Deane	Stuart	Ford (2)	Woodhouse (7)	Taylor (9)
Tracey	Borbokis	Nilsen▲	Hutchison▲	Dellas	Holdsworth	Patterson▲	Marker	Fjortoft 1	Deane 1	Stuart	Ford (4)	Woodhouse (3)	Taylor 1 (7)
Tracey	Borbokis	Woodhouse	Ford	Vonk	Holdsworth	Saunders	Marker	Fjortoft▲	Deane 1	Stuart	Henry	Kelly	Taylor
Kelly	Borbokis	Nilsen▲	Ford	Vonk	Holdsworth	Stuart▲	Marker 1	Saunders	Deane	Henry▲	Fjortoft (7)	Woodhouse (3)	Hutchison (11)

GOALS

Headers	8
Shots	31
Penalties	1
Own Goals	1
GOAL ASSISTS	
Borbokis	6
Deane	11
Fjortoft	1
Holdsworth	3

Katchouro	1
Patterson	2
Scott	1
Taylor	2
Tiler	2
Whitehouse	2
Woodhouse	1
Opponents	9

BOOKINGS

Borbokis	5	Marker	5
Deane	3	Nilsen	2
Dellas	1	Patterson	7
Fjortoft	1	Quinn	1
Holdsworth	2	Taylor	3
Hutchison	2	Tiler	3
Katchouro	1	Whitehouse	3
		Woodhouse	1

DISMISSALS

Vonk	1
------	---

GOAL TIMES

	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
For	5	6	4	10	7	9
Against	2	4	1	4	6	8

BLADES TOTAL LEAGUE RECORD

	P	W	D	L	F	A
H	1915	1035	474	406	3662	2140
A	1916	493	455	968	2348	3539
T	3831	1528	929	1374	6010	5679

LANE ENDS

United's goals this season scored at:	
Bramall Lane	13
End	13
The Kop	13

UNITED'S LEAGUE GAMES 1997-98

Players used	28
Players scored	11
Quickest goal for	18 seconds—Brian Deane at Oxford
Quickest goal against	7 minutes at WBA
Clean sheets	8
Games without scoring	5
Most consecutive wins	2
Most consecutive defeats	2
Most successive games without defeat	10
Most successive games without a win	4
Largest attendance—Home	24,536 v Forest
Average attendance—Home	18,447
Largest attendance—Away	30,000 at Middlesbrough
Average attendance—Away	14,162

Blades v Charlton Athletic

Nationwide League Division One

Sunday 28th December 1997

Kick-off 1.00 pm

£7 ADULTS, £3 CONCESSIONS

See Info Desk on pages 36/37

the STORY so far

SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER

Nationwide League Division One
PORT VALE 0 SHEFFIELD UNITED 0

VALE: Musslewhite, Carragher, Tankard, Bogie, Aspin, Snijders, Ainsworth, Talbot (Porter 79), Mills, Naylor (Foyle 73), Koordes (Corden 55).

UNITED: Tracey, Borbokis, Nilsen, Hutchison, Tiler, Holdsworth, Ward (Marcelo 82), Marker, Taylor, Deane, Whitehouse (Patterson 7). Unused: Fjortoft.

REFEREE: David Pugh (Wirral).

ATTENDANCE: 8,017.

A point desperately earned is valuable enough but comes at a price as Whitehouse is carried off early on. Deane comes close but United are second best for the most part and Tracey and Marker emerge as key figures on the day.

Gareth Taylor: "We were lucky to draw; we didn't create enough, the passing was poor and the manager isn't happy. At the end of the day we played badly - and drew."

Ludlam (2), Strickland and Morris are on the mark for the Juniors who secure league points with a 4-1 victory over Scarborough.

MONDAY 24 NOVEMBER

Mark Patterson's three match suspension is confirmed - to begin on 6 December.

TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER

Mitch Ward joins Everton on a month's loan - the clubs agree in principle a permanent move for him and Carl Tiler with Graham Stuart coming to the Lane.

Cruciate ligament damage is confirmed for Dane Whitehouse whilst McGrath and Quinn undergo knee surgery.

Mike McDonald denies suggestions he is interested in joining Manchester City.

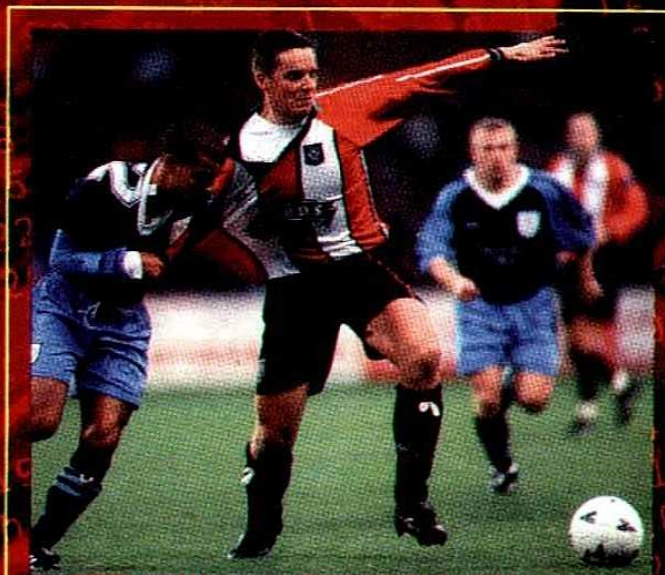
Woodhouse (2) and Strickland inspire the Juniors' fightback as they finish all square at 3-3 with Tranmere in the Times FA Youth Cup.

WEDNESDAY 26 NOVEMBER

Walker's late goal accounts for Wrexham Reserves at Don Valley.

FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER

Carl Tiler and Mitch Ward join Everton with Graham Stuart and £500,000 coming to United, whilst Oxford's



Jan Aage Fjortoft battling for the ball in the game against Crewe in which he scored the vital goal.

Bobby Ford is transferred to the Lane for a fee of around £400,000.

Paul Burke hits a hat-trick and Lee Morris nets the other as the Juniors beat Sunderland 4-1 at the Woodbourn Road Stadium.

SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER

Nationwide League Division One
SHEFFIELD UNITED 1 CREWE ALEXANDRA 0
SCORER: Fjortoft (47).

UNITED: Tracey, Borbokis (Taylor 85), Nilsen, Hutchison, Dellas, Holdsworth, Patterson (Woodhouse 79), Marker, Fjortoft, Deane, Stuart.

CREWE: Kearton, Bignot, Smith, Unsworth, Pope, Charnock, Moralee (Rivers 77), Holsgrove, Adebola, Johnson (Little 85), Street. Unused: Anthrobus.

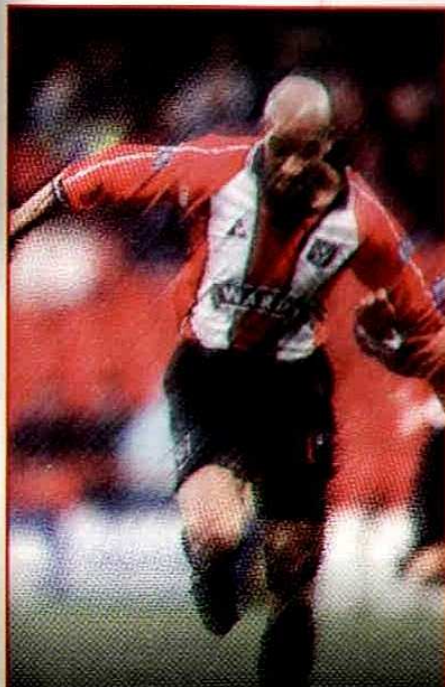
REFEREE: M R Halsey (Welwyn Garden City).

ATTENDANCE: 16,973.

Debut day for four as Stuart, Ford, Dellas and Woodhouse are include at some stage. An audacious finish by Fjortoft pockets the points by a far slimmer margin than United deserve as they pepper the Crewe goal to no avail.

Jan Aage Fjortoft: "We had enough chances to have one or two of us fighting for the match ball after a hat-trick. I am happy to be back, happy to score and, hopefully, I will do it again on Tuesday."

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see every goal

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE

There's something about human nature that makes many of us quick to criticise but slow to praise. That's certainly seems to be the case on the Blades' web site. The persistent critical comments angered one fan so much that the following appeared on view points before the Crewe game - after those four consecutive draws, remember? A couple of home wins subsequently cheered at least some of the fans up, but the message is still worth airing:

Posted by **BLADE OF SCOTLAND:**

"Enough's enough. All we seem to read are moans and negative view points. A lot of Blades fans have got their expectations way out of line and will never be satisfied. 17 league games and 1 defeat. What happens? You moan about too many draws, or the team selection, or the transfer of players or what the team had for breakfast. Why not develop a positive attitude? We have potentially the best manager United have ever had. Continual moans will just drive him away. Nigel has built a solid foundation far quicker than could have been expected. He knows the team needs improving; why not trust him to do it, and encourage instead of continual criticism? Who wants to be top at this stage anyway? It's almost impossible to stay there for a whole season. Far better to hit the top around the end of February and stay there. Develop a positive attitude, take it to the Lane and encourage every single person connected with the Blades. You'll be amazed how much better you'll feel."



with
Roger Barnard



Blades logo - does anyone know who designed it?

Then there's that old topic of conceding last minute goals: Posted by **'SPOONS BLADE':**

"I've got it! How to stop United conceding those annoying last minute goals. It's simple and brilliant... Simply get the ground staff to put the stadium clocks back by five minutes at half time. As the second half progresses and we approach 'real' full-time, the lads will think there's five minutes to go and won't go into sleep mode."

The reply came from **MELBOURNE BLADE:**

"Be logical, the players know what time it is 'cos half the Kop leave with ten minutes to go....."

Some of us would point out that for years the Bramall Lane clock has had a tendency to show the wrong time, but let's turn a comment on 'our wonderful symbol' from **ESKIMO:**

"Our crossed blades symbol in its original round form is a design masterpiece. We ought to find out who designed it back in the early 70s and give him/her a medal. You can spot it on the back of a car a mile off; It's simple and capable of being reproduced in one or two colours; It's stood the test of time (like all good designS). Everybody likes it. So why are we always messing around with it? Why is it different on every new shirt we produce, in a shield, on a red or black background? And why is it bastardised on the club merchandise? Can you imagine Ford, BMW or Marks and Spencer doing with their logos what we do with ours? They don't because they know that you can't improve on excellence. So the message is this: the round Blades symbol is **THE** best: it works so don't mend it."

COPENHAGEN BLADE pointed out:

"The United symbol is also the symbol of Saudi Airlines (minus the Yorkshire Rose) and I think it's on the Saudi flag too. Sheffield United didn't always have this symbol. I think we used to have a kind of shield with three oak trees or something. But you're right, it is an outstanding design."

Do I hear gasps of disbelief all round from dyed-in-the-wool Sheffield folk? The 'kind of shield with three oak trees or something' to which 'Copenhagen Blade' refers, just happens to be the city of Sheffield's coat of arms!

Sheffield United's Official Web site - <http://www.sufc.co.uk>

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1897/98 Division One Champions.

1899 - FA Cup Winners.

1902 - FA Cup Winners.

1915 - FA Cup Winners.

1920 - Arnold Laver founded.

1925 - FA Cup Winners.

1952/53 Division Two Champions.

1981/82 Division Four Champions.

1993 - FA Cup Semi-Finalists.

1995 - Arnold Laver's 75th Anniversary.

1997 - Who knows ... ?

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Sheffield United

v Swindon Town

1	Simon Tracey	1	Fraser Digby
2	Vassilis Borbokis	2	Brian Borrows
3	Roger Nilsen	3	Mark Robinson
4	Bobby Ford	4	Darren Bullock
5	Michael Vonk	5	Frederick Darras
6	David Holdsworth	6	Alan McDonald
7	Graham Stuart	7	David Thompson
8	Nicky Marker	8	Mark Walters
9	Dean Saunders	9	Steve Finney
10	Brian Deane	10	George Ndah
11	Nick Henry	11	Ty Gooden
12		12	
13		13	
14		14	

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

Referee:
Trevor Jones (Barrow-in-Furness)

Assistant Referees:
B Bello (Yellow flag)
D A Booth (Red & Yellow flag)

Fourth Official:
D Brealey

NEXT HOME GAME ...



SHEFFIELD UNITED v CHARLTON ATH.

Nationwide League Division One
Saturday 28 December 1997
Kick-off 3.00 pm

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