

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE

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Swindon



1

ISSUE 11

TODAY'S VISITORS

All the latest information on
Norwich City Football Club

PLAYER PROFILE

A closer look at Ty Gooden

PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND-UP

All the latest news and views
on the Premier League

SWINDON VS NORWICH CITY

Saturday 5th December 1998 3.00pm kick off



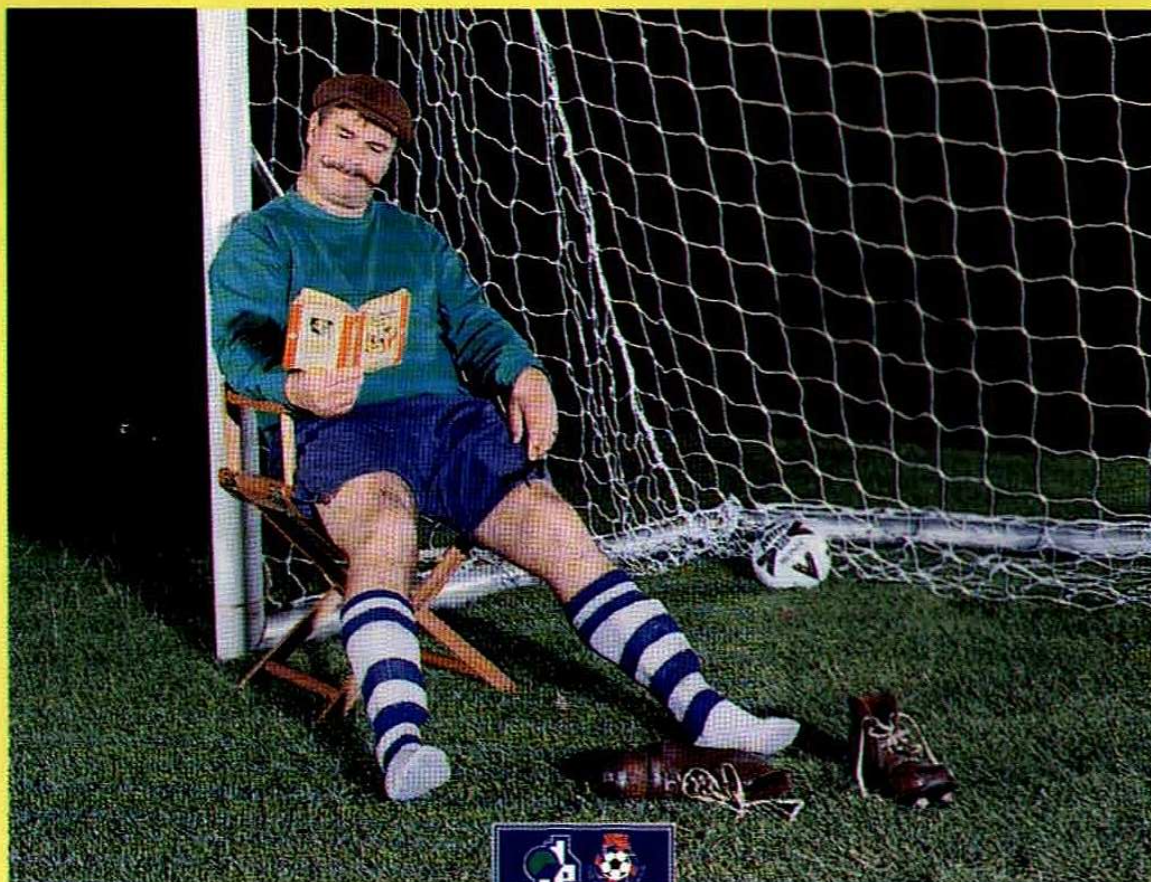
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The World's No.1 Building Society

vs Norwich City

December 5th 1998

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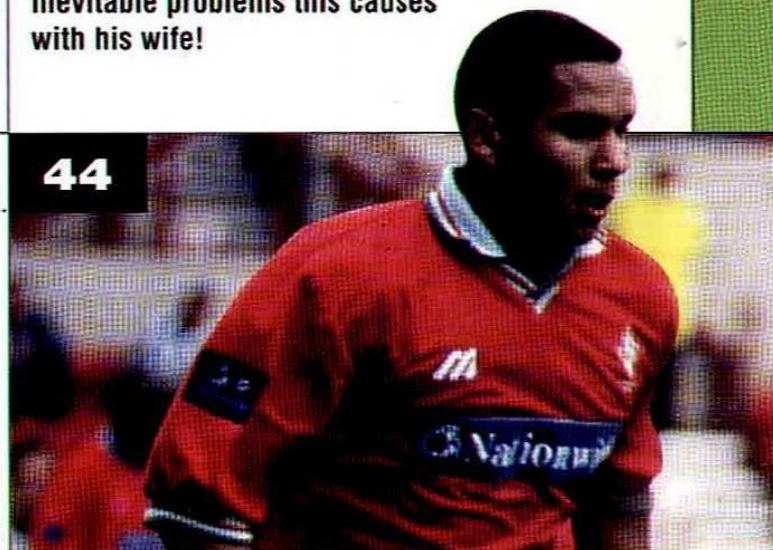


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A Q&A Session with Ty Gooden

Ty talks about his time at Swindon Town and his hobby as the world's greatest angler.





to the county ground...

We welcome today the directors, players, staff and supporters of Norwich City.

Currently residing just below the play-off region of the table, City are well placed in the run up to Christmas in their promotion push. Despite our recent strong form at home, City are sure to be stern opposition. The arrival of manager Bruce Rioch has heralded a turnaround in City's fortunes and has made a top six spot a very realistic ambition. Rioch has channelled his successful formula of strong discipline and fluid football into a rejuvenated Norwich squad, assisted greatly by Director of Football and former Swindon player Brian Hamilton.

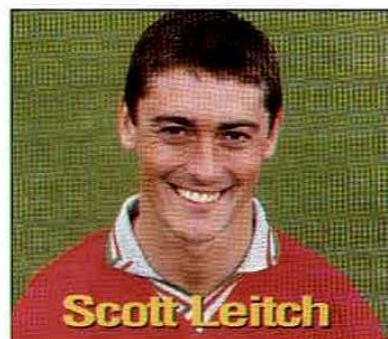
Rioch and Hamilton have brought a tremendous knowledge and experience to Carrow Road since the summer. Both are highly-regarded figures in the game and have ensured Norwich is a respected team on their travels and at home. However, as last week's defeat at the hands of Oxford showed, they are far from invulnerable and, with Town's good track record at the County Ground, both sides will be confident of obtaining a result today. Our lowly position in Division One is largely the result of our away form

as we have won three and drawn one in our last four home games. During those matches we have notched up an impressive 11 goals; more pleasing to Jim Quinn will be the defence, which has shown signs of tightening up despite a spate of injuries and suspensions.

Town's rear-guard will have to be on top form this afternoon if they are to withstand the pressure from the likes of Craig Bellamy and Iwan Roberts. Craig made his debut in the first team last season and went on to become Norwich's top scorer (13). He has gone on to earn the call up to Wales' U21 squad and become a favourite with the Canaries' faithful. With one £1m bid already turned down, Norwich will be trying to hold on to the young striker, who looks sure to be the spearhead of their 1998/99 campaign. Iwan Roberts likewise is a precocious forward, the target man for many of City's moves and has already achieved 100 League goals.

Attempting to keep Norwich's strikeforce at bay, Jim Quinn has the remaining headache of injuries to Alan Reeves and David Kerslake, although Craig Taylor comes back into contention after suspension. George Ndah also misses out today after picking up five

yellow cards this season. On a brighter note, Scott Leitch and Darren Bullock are now fully fit and will join Kevin Watson in competing for midfield selection.



With Robin Hulbert and even YT Fraser McHugh making ever-stronger inroads, these positions look as if they will be increasingly competitive. One midfielder who looks certain to be waiting a while longer to return to first team action is Philippe Cuervo, who is currently undertaking what Assistant Manager Mike Walsh has termed a "mini pre-season". Philippe is joined by Phil King and lately Alan Reeves as part of Jim Quinn's focus on improving players' fitness. As Town today take on one of the fittest and most disciplined teams in the Nationwide League, we wish Philippe and his cohorts a speedy recovery into first team contention.

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Jim Quinn

gives his view...

Welcome to the County Ground for this tough encounter with Norwich City.

It will undoubtedly be a real test for the players but I'm sure they'll want to bounce back from last week's defeat.

I was bitterly disappointed for those fans that made the long journey to Grimsby. I only wish we could've got the result you wanted. We battled well in the second half but never really got going.

Perhaps I was a bit harsh on the players directly after the game. Looking back at the encounter we played some nice football and could have at least got a draw from it. Grimsby were there for the beating, if we could've just raised our game a bit, kept the ball and

started passing it, we would've murdered them. It was the first 10 to 15 minutes that cost us. We seemed to take a long time to get going and then they got the free kick. Frank Talia saved it well but they followed in the rebound while we were still napping.

There were some stern words said during the break and in fairness to the players they came out for the second half with a lot more purpose. We knocked the ball about and started to get at Grimsby as the lads forced their keeper into making a couple of world class saves.

Overall, it was a very frustrating day as I watched us get beat by a side that were simply not as good as us. We had it in us to turn them over but we never got out of second gear.

By contrast I don't think I could have asked any more from the side that beat Crystal Palace 2-0. We defended well, attacked with confidence and created a number of chances. The script was written for George Ndah when he came on as a sub against his old club. He came back from injury, played a full game out of position and scored a fine headed goal.

When you look at the teams we've played recently you can

see they have spent fortunes. We have not got the money so we have to go forward with what we've got. The lads have worked hard, they are enjoying what they are doing, and I think I am getting my message through to them.

We are a decent side with good players and when we're doing well the confidence of the lads is clear for all to see. We need to see that week in, week out. With our squad of players we should be up there with some of the better sides in the First Division. I'm not looking at the bottom of the League; I'm looking at the other end because that is where I want to get us.

This is where credit has to go to the players. It is all very well me putting them through the coaching sessions, but it is down to them to produce it on the park. To be fair, every player has done that and we look a more solid team.

Today's match is the perfect chance to show the rest of the League what we're capable of doing. Last week was a missed opportunity, now we can get the all-important result and climb the table.

Your support really lifts the players, so make plenty of noise and help Swindon go for the win.

NEXT MATCH

(HOME) BRADFORD CITY

Sat 12th December 1998



We played Bradford away a few weeks ago so the players have it fresh in their memories and will want to prove a point against them.

Today's visitors

NORWICH CITY



This afternoon we welcome the players, supporters and staff of Norwich City Football Club to the County Ground for this Nationwide League Division One game. We hope you all enjoy the game and have a safe journey home afterwards.

Bruce Rioch brings his players to Wiltshire hoping to emulate predecessor Mike Walker, who oversaw a 5-0 victory for the Canaries the last time the two sides met back in late April.

The Carrow Road outfit certainly won't be short of confidence after an impressive start to the current campaign and a recent run which has seen just one defeat - by 3-1 to Oxford last Saturday, their first home loss of the current campaign - in the last eight games.

With Rioch newly installed as manager - ably assisted by former Ipswich Town first-team coach and Everton team-mate Bryan Hamilton, who switched camps during the summer - Norwich came flying out of the blocks with four victories in the opening five games, and looked set to take the Division by storm.

Last season's top scorer Craig Bellamy, in particular, was a real threat, notching an impressive five goals in the first three matches to make Division One, and his Welsh national boss Bobby Gould, sit up and take notice.

But things have settled down since then, with defeats at West Brom, Sheff Utd and Port Vale, and a 5-1 thrashing at Crystal Palace, tempering some of that early season optimism.

However, many Norwich fans judge the success or failure of their season on their results against neighbours Ipswich Town, and on that score things have started extremely brightly.

Beaten 5-0 on their previous visit to Portman Road, Rioch took his troops to Suffolk for his debut East Anglian derby on October 20th - and they came away with a 1-0 win courtesy of a 52nd minute strike from the prolific Craig Bellamy.

Last season was a disappointment, with Norwich never really finding their feet and spending most of the campaign in mid-table obscurity and finishing in a lowly 15th spot.

Transfer activity has been fairly quiet, although several old favourites - including John Polston, Robert Fleck, Bryan Gunn and Rob Newman - all left the club and a couple of newcomers arrived in the shape of Scots pair Michael Watt and Malky Mackay.

**Midfielder:
Shaun Carey**



The team NORWICH CITY

ANDY MARSHALL

POSITION: **Goalkeeper**

BORN: **14.04.75**

AGE: **23**

HEIGHT: **6ft 2in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **From YTS**

Having established himself as Norwich's first choice 'keeper last season, Andy signed a new, extended contract with the Carrow Road club during the summer. An England U21 international, his shot-stopping and ability in one-on-ones stand him out as one the country's top young goalkeepers.

MICHAEL WATT

POSITION: **Goalkeeper**

BORN: **27.11.70**

AGE: **28**

HEIGHT: **6ft 1in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Aberdeen**

Snapped up on a free transfer in September 1998, Michael had previously impressed on trial with the Canaries. Called into action from the subs' bench for the match against Barnsley later that same month, he looked very solid as Norwich won 3-1. He has 12 Scotland U21 caps to his credit.

CRAIG FLEMING

POSITION: **Central Defender**

BORN: **06.10.71**

AGE: **27**

HEIGHT: **6ft**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Oldham Ath**

Strong and quick in the tackle, Craig has recovered from last season's injury nightmare to be ever-present so far this season, at the time of writing. Captained the Canaries on his debut last term, having joined the club for £600,000 in June 1997.

ERIK FUGLESTAD

POSITION: **Full-back**

BORN: **13.08.74**

AGE: **24**

HEIGHT: **5ft 11in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Viking Stavanger**

A free transfer Norwegian U21 international, Erik is happy playing anywhere down the left side. With an excellent first touch and good crossing ability he is a great favourite of the Norwich fans.

MATT JACKSON

POSITION: **Central Defender**

BORN: **19.10.71**

AGE: **27**

HEIGHT: **6ft 1in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Everton**

Club captain, and defensive inspiration, Matt can play in the centre or at full-back. His dedication, consistency and skill marked him out as the Canaries' 'Player of the Year' for last season, adding that trophy to his England Schools and U21 caps. Moved to Carrow Road for £450,000 in December 1996 after loan spells with Charlton, QPR and Birmingham had all failed to result in a permanent move.

MALKY MACKAY

POSITION: **Central Defender**

BORN: **19.02.72**

AGE: **26**

HEIGHT: **6ft 1in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Celtic**

Became Bruce Rioch's first signing when he moved down from Scotland

for £350,000 in September 1998, but has yet to really stamp his authority on the Norwich defence. Has already served a suspension - for five bookings - this season.

DARYL SUTCH

POSITION: **Full-back**

BORN: **11.09.71**

AGE: **27**

HEIGHT: **6ft**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **From YTS**

An Ipswich Town fan as a boy, Daryl is currently enjoying his Testimonial season with the 'enemy' at Carrow Road. Originally a right winger, he has now developed into a quality full-back able to perform on either flank. He has also won several England U21 caps.

NEIL ADAMS

POSITION: **Midfield**

BORN: **23.11.65**

AGE: **33**

HEIGHT: **5ft 8in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **Oldham Ath**

A former League Championship winner with Everton, Neil moved to Carrow Road for £250,000 in February 1994 and has been a first-team regular ever since. A dead-ball specialist, he is Norwich's key penalty taker.

SHAUN CAREY

POSITION: **Midfield**

BORN: **13.05.76**

AGE: **22**

HEIGHT: **5ft 9in**

PREVIOUS CLUB: **From YTS**

A Republic of Ireland U21 international, Shaun has yet to really establish himself in the Canaries' senior side, despite some good performances. A hard-working midfielder with good ball skills he has featured only twice this season.



The team

NORWICH CITY

PETER GRANT

POSITION: **Midfield**
BORN: **30.08.65**
AGE: **33**
HEIGHT: **5ft 10in**
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Celtic**

They don't come much more experienced than Peter, who enjoyed a 500-game, 15-year career with Celtic during which time he won many major honours as well as Full Scotland recognition. Moved to Norwich in August 1997 and has become a great favourite with his commitment and never-say-die attitude.

MIKE MILLIGAN

POSITION: **Midfield**
BORN: **20.02.67**
AGE: **31**
HEIGHT: **5ft 8in**
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Oldham Ath**

Experienced Republic of Ireland international who made his Canaries debut in the East Anglian 'derby' at Ipswich in 1994. A tenacious and hard-working ball winner, he cost the club £800,000.

CRAIG BELLAMY

POSITION: **Forward**
BORN: **13.07.79**
AGE: **19**
HEIGHT: **5ft 9in**
PREVIOUS CLUB: **From YTS**

The current 'golden boy' of Carrow Road, Craig broke into the side on a regular basis last season - and ended

up top scoring with 13 goals. He already has 12 to his credit this term and has also become a valuable member of Bobby Gould's Welsh squad. Very quick, with excellent close control and surprisingly good aerial skills for a small man, he is a handful for any defence.

ADRIAN FORBES

POSITION: **Winger**
BORN: **23.01.79**
AGE: **19**
HEIGHT: **5ft 8in**
PREVIOUS CLUB: **From YTS**

Another young man to have emerged from the ranks at Norwich, Adrian is a quick and forceful wide player of whom great things are predicted by the Canaries' staff. Able to operate on either flank.

KEITH O'NEILL

POSITION: **Forward**
BORN: **16.02.76**
AGE: **22**
HEIGHT: **6ft 1in**
PREVIOUS CLUB: **From YTS**

Recently transfer-listed, the Canaries rejected a reported £4m offer from Newcastle for his services last season. A foot injury severely disrupted last season for this Republic of Ireland international and he has failed to fully establish himself under the new management regime.

DARREN EADIE

POSITION: **Forward**
BORN: **10.06.75**
AGE: **23**
HEIGHT: **5ft 8in**
PREVIOUS CLUB: **From YTS**

One of several players to have progressed through the ranks at Carrow Road, Darren is a lightning quick front-man who has so far struggled to recapture the form which

earned him a call-up to the Full England squad last season. Reportedly unsettled at Norwich, his great dribbling skills and a direct approach make him a dangerous opponent.

IWAN ROBERTS

POSITION: **Forward**
BORN: **26.06.68**
AGE: **30**
HEIGHT: **6ft 3in**
PREVIOUS CLUB: **Wolves**

Burly target man who takes some of the physical pressure off the likes of Bellamy, Llewellyn and Eadie. A Welsh international, he began with Watford and also played for Huddersfield and Leicester before moving to Carrow Road from Molineux for £900,000 in July 1997.

Other squad members include:
Robert Green (goalkeeper); Alex Allen (central defender); Victor Segura (central defender); Darren Kenton (defender); Lee Marshall (Full-Back); Kevin Scott (central defender); Che Wilson (full-back); Bradley Andrews (midfield); Tommy Henderson (midfield); Darel Russell (midfield); Chris Llewellyn (forward); Adrian Coote (forward); Darren Way (forward).



The manager **BRUCE RIOCH**



Appointed to the manager's chair at Carrow Road in June 1998, Bruce Rioch has immediately set about instilling the discipline and good organisation for which he is well known into the Norwich players.

After a disappointing 1997/98 campaign, previous incumbent Mike Walker parted company with the Canaries for the second time, and it was to Rioch that the Norwich board turned in their attempt to bring the good times back to Norfolk.

One of Rioch's first moves - and one that could perhaps be considered a masterstroke - was to tempt the man-management skills of Bryan Hamilton across East Anglia from fierce rivals Ipswich Town to Carrow Road. The results - particularly an early season run of four wins in their opening five games - speak for themselves.

The son of a regimental Sergeant Major, Rioch was a powerful and graceful player with a highly-competitive streak running through him. Despite being born in Aldershot, he is a proud Scot and captained his country in their ill-fated 1978 World Cup campaign.

A midfielder, he turned out for Luton, Aston Villa, Derby County (twice), Everton, Birmingham City (loan), Sheffield United (loan) and Torquay United, as well as enjoying a brief spell on loan at the Seattle Sounders in the USA.

Previous management experience has included Torquay United, Middlesbrough, Millwall, Bolton Wanderers and Arsenal and, prior to taking the reins at Carrow Road, he was assistant to current Ipswich coach Stewart Houston at Queens Park Rangers.

He has already endeared himself to the Norwich faithful by presiding over the club's 1-0 local derby victory over Ipswich in mid-October - just a few short months after the Canaries were humbled 5-0 on the same ground.



Advertising Feature

Keep Your Eye On The Ball!

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In modern football, few things can be more important to a player than eyesight. Whether you want to score goals or prevent them, it's the eyes that see it all.

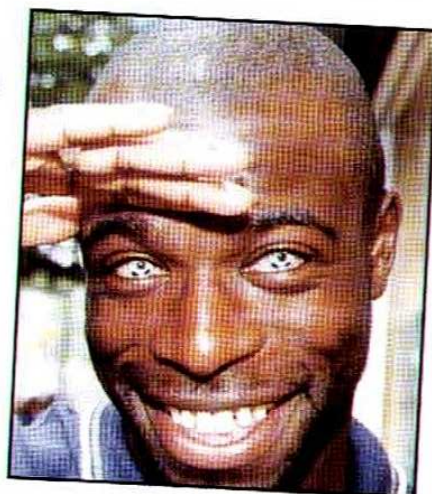
This is why Swindon Town always look after the sight of the squad. And as official STFC opticians, Haine & Smith have made sure that the players get the best possible view of the game.

Our very own top scorer Iffy Onuora wears contact lenses during matches and couldn't play without them. He said: "I wear glasses most of the time, but during a game it just isn't practical, so Haine & Smith have supplied me with contact lenses. Without these there is no way I would have scored my eleven goals."

Managers always refer to the old adage "keep your eye on the ball", but as the photo of Iffy shows, he's taken it a bit too literally!

As official opticians Haine & Smith also provide a full eye testing service for the players.

The opticians' senior partner Barry Smith is delighted to be involved with the club. He said: "We are extremely proud to have been appointed official opticians to STFC. This cements our on-going relationship and enables us to enhance the players' performance by ensuring optimum vision.



"The players obviously need to see clearly to play to their full potential. The eye examination checks their standards of vision as well as the general health of their eyes. Where necessary we give recommendations on vision correction to ensure the whole team is seeing as well as possible."

Haine & Smith have 19 practices in and around Wiltshire including Swindon Contact Lenses in Regent Street, Swindon. When playing sport, particularly football, contact lenses are usually recommended as the best means of vision correction.

Haine & Smith are keen to promote eye examinations as part of a regular health care programme and are currently offering free examinations for everyone over the age of 60.

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For more information please contact Swindon Contact Lenses on 01793 487888.



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PAGES from the past...

BERT HEAD WRITES DECEMBER 1963...

We certainly felt we were unlucky at Carrow Road on Boxing Day.

A goal by John Stevens after 12 minutes gave us a great start and Big Bill Atkins increased our lead with a cracking shot from thirty yards. Sadly, we let the Canaries back into the game. Mike Turner failed to hang on to a shot from Rob Davies and Tommy Bryceland followed up to score. Minutes later Davies himself scored and we found all our hard work of the first half undone. Most neutral observers would probably have agreed we deserved a point, especially as only a few minutes before Jim Oliver got a last minute winner for City, John Stevens beat the keeper only to see the ball stick in the mud on the goal line.

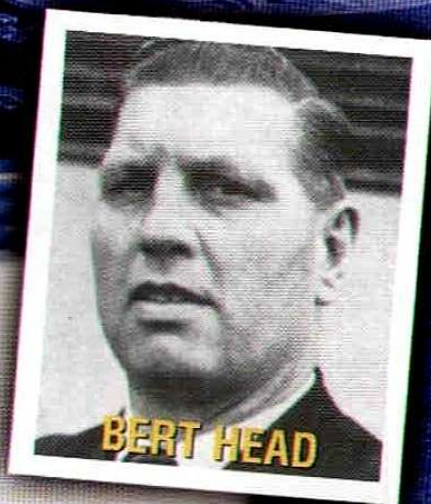
Whilst most people and teams dread the hard, frosty grounds we welcome them, so we shall have no fears about playing on what is likely to be a hard surface today. When the ground is hard it requires real skill to get the bouncing ball under control. Real ball players come out on top. It is ball players who can control a ball and pass accurately that I am always aiming to bring here to the County Ground.

Negotiations are continuing with the Swindon Corporation over the New Stand we intend to build on the North side of the ground. Given the fact that the Corporation own the site it means we have to pay for the building of the stand, but they will be entitled to collect an increased rent. This is likely to be in the region of £12,000 a year so we are anxious that we build a facility which will be appreciated by spectators and bring full benefit to the club. At present the Board feel that the designs of the architects need to be changed to provide more protection from the elements for spectators and to avoid having terracing below pitch level.

With the larger crowds produced by Second Division football many people are very sensibly arriving early to get a good vantage point. In order to entertain you while you are waiting for the match to start, a Record Request programme will be broadcast

over the tannoy system. Please send any requests for records to the Club Office.

Today's opponents Norwich City have taken 14 points from their last nine games so will provide stiff opposition. With Jimmy Hill, the talented Irish International, and the young Welsh cap, Ron Davies, who has scored 17 goals in his 23 games for the club in their attack, our defence will have it's hands full but having broken our goal drought with the 2-0 victory over Portsmouth confidence is once again growing. All footballers need encouragement so keep yourselves warm and help the team by giving them all the vocal support you can.



BERT HEAD

Quiz question:

In the 1963-4 FA Youth Cup Final Swindon played Manchester United. What was the result of the First Leg played at the County Ground and who scored the goals.

If you think you know the answer to this question - please send it on a postcard to:

Dick Mattick -

'Pages from the Past Competition'
Swindon Town F.C.

County Ground
County Road
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN1 2ED.

**THE FIRST
CORRECT ENTRY
WILL WIN
2 FREE TICKETS**

Last game's question

Bert Head had no fewer than three of his former Swindon players in his squad when he was manager of Crystal Palace. Can you name them?

Answer...

Cliff Jackson, Don Rogers and Bobby Woodruff.

compiled by Dick Mattick

Live up your Christmas desserts
with Anchor's Fab Four!

Last Season
The Nationwide Football
League saw an Increase in
Attendance of 13.5%;
Why...?



The authority...



The Quality of the Football



Mike Walsh's

weekly diary...November

Monday 16th

No matter how long you've been in football it never gets any easier to take defeat, no matter what the circumstances.

Today is no different. After a 3-0 loss at the hands of Bradford City there were plenty of long faces in for training today. Myself and Jim felt we'd played quite well for large spells, but a sending off and a penalty will always kill off a game.

We had the players in today for a good session with plenty of ball work. There is nothing like playing football for getting a defeat out of the system, and the small-sided games of seven against seven seemed to do the trick.

After the training, the lads seemed a lot more chipper and ready to work the rest of the week.

Tuesday 17th

We didn't have the full squad in today as a number of the lads were playing in the reserves tomorrow.

Those who were in were treated to a morning of middle distance running finished off with some shuttle sprints. This is not the most popular method of training, but we need to keep the players sharper and fitter than the opposition.

Wednesday 18th

Today we faced a tough reserve game against Brighton & Hove Albion.

We drafted in a couple of trialists to have a look at, so it was an interesting evening. Jim Quinn was in tonight's line-up. Jim said in the papers recently that players must be capable of playing out of position and the Gaffer is certainly leading the line on this by putting himself in defence for the game. As a centre back Jim played along side youth player Sam Campagna. The

Gaffer was able to see what a player is like by playing next to them, at the same time I'm sure Sam learnt a lot from the experience. It turned out to be a scrappy affair with neither side playing great football. We drew 1-1 with Steve Cowe scoring our goal.

Thursday 19th

As we hit Thursday, training turned from general fitness to focussing in on Crystal Palace.

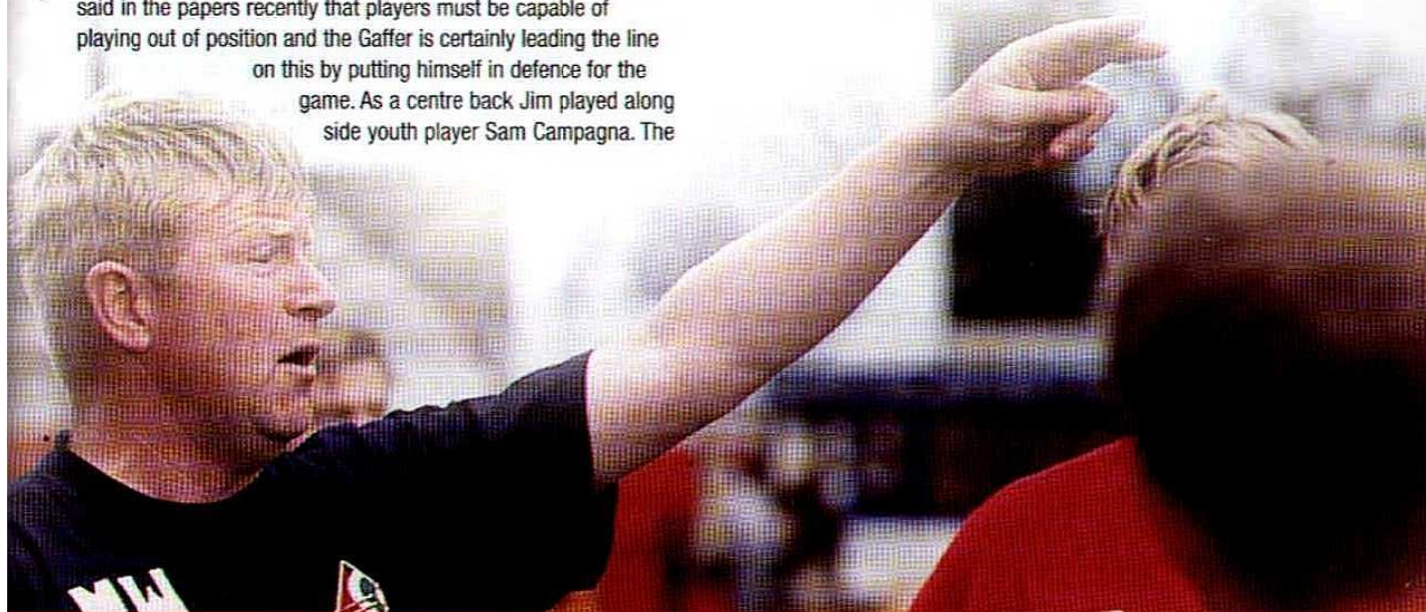
And we were lucky enough to be able to train on the County Ground. After two weeks injury it was nice to have George Ndah training again. He was firing on all cylinders and we could all tell he was really up for the game against his old side.

We worked on set pieces 'for' and 'against', then concentrated on our defence with half a pitch. This gave Jim and myself the chance to stop and start the players in order to highlight their movement, marking and distribution. With players like Lombardo and Curcic in their side we have to keep the defence tight. After watching today's training I felt confident we can do this.

Friday 20th

We kept the session light today, working mainly on set pieces again.

After this we took the lads on a light jog and stretch. Then it was back to the County Ground for the pre-match lunch of chicken, pasta and beans - this fills the lads with plenty of protein for the big clash. We all want to bounce back after losing at Bradford, and if the atmosphere amongst the players is any judge we should get the three points tomorrow.



Football round-up

Dave Norris brings you all the latest football news...

First Team Latest

Our inconsistent pattern of results this season continued last week as we followed up an inspired victory against the much-fancied Crystal Palace with a disappointing loss away at Grimsby.

The recent improvement in first team performances made our 1-0 loss the more frustrating, and extended our unhappy run of matches away from home. In fact, the emerging sequence of results reveals a startling difference between our home and away fixtures. When Mark Walters sealed the points against Palace he also helped to chalk up our sixth home win of the season, with another three drawn and only two lost. On our away travels, however, we have managed just the one victory against two draws and a crushing nine defeats. This is just one of the mountains faced by manager Jim Quinn as he tries to lead Town up the table.

In spite of last Saturday's disappointing result there was also a few heartening aspects, not least the return to action of Scott Leitch. Scott came back as a second-half substitute and, as expected, put a strong case for his

reselection in today's starting line-up. Perhaps more noteworthy was the inclusion of Bobby Howe in the team and Frazer McHugh in the travelling party. Frazer received a last minute call-up after Darren Bullock pulled out through illness on the morning of departure. Bobby, meanwhile, enjoyed his first appearance in the Nationwide League this season, following his impressive display at Cambridge in the Reserves. Both selections are further clear signals of Jim Quinn's intention to open up the squad to all his players, adding a new dimension to those playing in the Reserves and Youth teams.



"manager Jim Quinn as he tries to lead Town up the table"

"The recent improvement in first team performances made our 1-0 loss the more frustrating..."



Reserve Update

The manager could not get a closer look at his reserve players than during their last two matches, Brighton (H) and Cambridge (A).

He passed the full ninety minutes as a player, himself scoring in the latter game along with Bobby Howe in our first victory since the opening fixture.

Although a win is always welcome, more pleasing for the management will be the strong presence of youth trainees as well as the return of several pro's. As well as Messrs Howe and Leitch, the reserves saw Alan McDonald's return as a player, an important development to our back line judging by recent injuries and suspensions. Moreover, a total of five YTs were given their chance last week as Jim Quinn continues to prime his younger players for possible first-team action. This included Northern Irishman Paul McAreavey and Ricky Culbertson, who also were enjoying another call up for their national U18 squad; Paul and Ricky will be joined by fellow YT Peter Cairns for the trip over Christmas.

Youth Team News

Beyond these individuals it's been a combination of encouraging performances and mixed results for our youth teams.

Last week started off with a thumping 14-1 win over Bremerton Heath for our 'C' team in the Mid-Week Wits League, in which we look safe bets as champions already. The 'B' team, despite some excellent displays, went down 2-1 to local rivals Bath City. Les O'Neill, currently

taking charge of the side, was forced to make a last-gasp alteration to his line-up when David Ratcliffe got injured in the warm up; his replacement was Ian Farley, who promptly went on to score for Town. As is often the case with our 'B' team, over half the side were under 16's whereas our opponents play mostly under 18 players. O'Neill admitted after the match that one or two of his players were intimidated by their opponents, commenting "Of course we want to win but at this level it's mainly about bringing the youngsters on to develop their mental and physical strength. They're learning that they will need to do a bit more to impose themselves".

One youngster Les picked for special mention was midfielder Nathan Edwards. Currently finishing school, 15-year-old Nathan has impressed so much this season in both the 'C' and 'B' teams that Tom Jones last week promoted him to the 'A' team in the South East Counties League, where he came on for the last 25 minutes against Brentford. Les reported to youth team Manager Tom Jones that, "The lad's got everything - although that's at 15. Nathan has the potential to be a very good player for Swindon Town". Recalled for the 'A' team was goalkeeper Alan Flanagan, after a string of fine performances under Les O'Neill. The genial Irishman had another good game but it was not enough to prevent a 2-0 defeat to the London club.

Tom Jones put the defeat down to giving away 'sloppy goals' as well as several individuals playing above their natural age-range. "Physically we're losing out a bit at the moment," said Tom, "A lot of these teams play their 2nd years whereas we're trying to promote our 1st years and even our under 16s. At the same time the gaffer (Jim Quinn) is pushing the second years up into the reserves and the first team. It can be tough for them but they'll get there because they'll grow physically as they get older. If they're learning the

right things technically then physically it'll fall into place".

Centre of Excellence

There are some Swindon Town players with even more growing to do than our youths, though.

Phil Cannon, Director of our Centre of Excellence, looks after over 100 youngsters aged 7-15 who play officially for the club. Phil attempts to cream the talent of Swindon and beyond, searching for our future youth trainees. Last week the under 15s (home) and under 14s (away) played against Exeter. Phil was disappointed by the overall under-15 team effort, which he described as "not one of the best," although he did note several good individual efforts. He was encouraged, however, by some improved performances amongst the under 14s. Overseeing the Centre last week was Swindon legend John Trollope, now an assessor for the Football League. Good news for the long-term is that John was said to be delighted with the quality of work put in by all the coaches and players.



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the **GRIPTON** factor

By our matchday announcer JON GRIPTON of BBC Wiltshire Sound

BBC WILTSHIRE SOUND

103.6, 104.3 & 103.5 FM



For me the only thing that matches the excitement of watching a truly great game of football is talking about it afterwards over a pint or two!

Now we've got the new Winners Lounge here at the County Ground it's even easier (remember anyone can get in for a drink before or after the game with a matchday ticket stub). And I hope you watched the BBC1 programme earlier this week - Pride, Passion and Penalties - all about the England v Argentina World Cup '98 showdown. I'm sure there are some of you who don't want to be reminded of the tournament, or our exit! There are probably some who are still grieving over our departure from Mexico in 1970 and can't come to terms with anything more recent than that! But for others, the summer was an emotional, even distressing, roller coaster ride of emotion. Celebrities and regular fans lined up for the programme to share their

memories of how and where they watched the game - it's what the non-sportsmen and women do so well... TALK a great game of football! And the TV show also sparked a fair few memories in my local hostelry of other magic footballing moments; so here's the BBC Wiltshire Sound chart of top footballing memories:

- The summer of '66 - and THAT goal from Geoff Hurst
- The Matthews Cup Final of 1953
- May 1993 - Swindon's Wembley triumph
- May 1990 - Swindon beating Sunderland, and all that followed!
- Gazza's tears in Italy 1990
- Gordon Banks' save in 1970
- The Clown's antics against England in 1973

And there's one that has thrown up a trivia question for you to talk over in YOUR local tonight: When was the 1st penalty save in an FA Cup Final - and who saved it? I'll tell you next time!

By the way you'll notice some of our new tunes when we score this afternoon. If you have any ideas of record clips that are appropriate for specific Town players, drop me a line: Jon Gripton, BBC Wiltshire Sound, PO Box 1234, Swindon. Enjoy the game.

This is your chance to join an exciting new venture the official **S.T.F.C.** **SUPPORTERS' CLUB**

Another home win in the game against Crystal Palace no doubt cheered most Town supporters even though it was to the cost of old Swindon favourite Fraser Digby.

This perhaps highlights that there is always a time when events will move on and that change for the right reasons can bring a whole new vibrancy to the team environment. The initiative to form an Official S.T.F.C. supporters club is aiming to deliver a new focus and also to bring supporters together, for their own benefit and also to have a collective front which can also bring benefit to the Football Club as a whole. All true supporters can surely only have one goal and that is to see the Football Club prosper both on and off the field. Supporters have their part to play and membership of the Official Supporters' Club should bring a sense of pride and belonging to the common cause as well as giving a number of benefits.

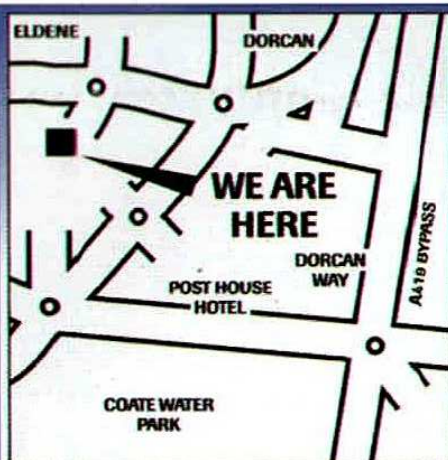
We would like all supporters to join the Official group on the launch and we would like to make it clear that no-one is barred or excluded from applying for membership once the register opens in the new year.

Returning to the issue of change there was consternation in some quarters at the change of arrangements for what is known as the Winners Lounge and therefore we took the opportunity to review this facility and to see if supporters benefited at the Palace match.

Overwhelmingly the answer was a thumbs up and Fred Large from Rodbourne, a supporter for 51 years, said entry based on just a match ticket was ideal for him. The provision of food was welcomed by the Halliday family, a view endorsed by Johnny Grant. The message would seem to be get there early as the lounge was full to capacity before 2 pm, a victim of its own success.

The Vale of White Horse and West Oxfordshire satellite group has its next meeting on 8th December at Hanney Royal British Legion when it is hoped Steve Sutherland and another management team member will attend. The first meeting was a huge success and if you need further details please contact Roger Bunce on 01865 820499.

The setting up of the Supporters' Club is currently under the stewardship of several members of the old Shadow Board and if you have any ideas or wish to be involved in any part of the organisation, e.g. membership secretary, please contact David Taylor c/o S.T.F.C. at the County Ground.



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cartwheel

TREATMENT room

Over the last few weeks we have managed to get George Ndah and Scott Leitch back to first team football.

After such nasty injuries it is always nice to see players get back on the park without any ill effects. This is especially true for **George** who came back against Crystal Palace, played almost the whole game and scored a great goal against his former club.

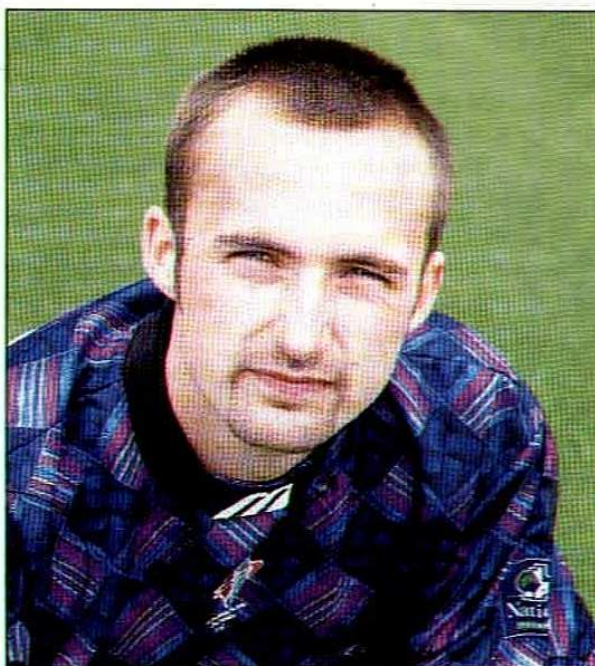
Seeing images like this make us all the more determined to get the rest of the injured players back in action. **Ty Gooden** has been working hard over the last two weeks to overcome his hamstring strain. We have built him up from steady jogging to a long run, then on to speed work and then functional work with a ball. At the time of going to print it is unclear whether **Ty** will be back in time but we certainly hope so.

Ex-Wimbledon veteran **Alan Reeves** has had to endure a slower recovery to his ankle injury, which was picked up in the tough game with QPR. Ankle injuries often become complicated and time consuming so we have had to take it steady with **Alan**, but he is making good progress with striding, short sprints, and lapping. We don't like to put time scales on recovery but we are certainly getting there. Like any professional **Alan** doesn't like to be injured, but he has worked very hard to get himself back to fitness.

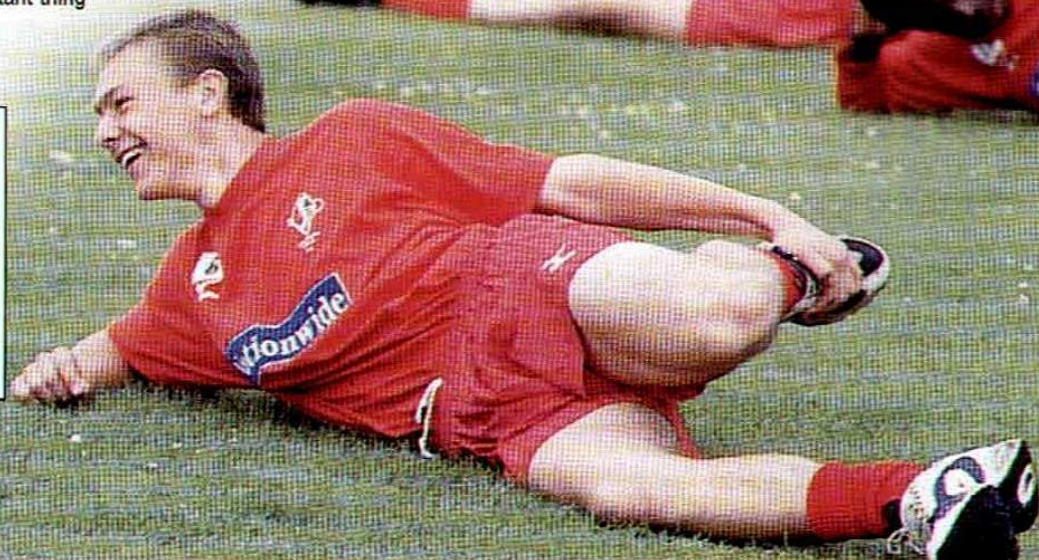
Jimmy Glass has been making an excellent recovery from the key-hole surgery on his knee. He needed the surgery to remove a loose piece of cartilage from the lateral side of his knee. One week on from the operation and Jim is up and running, doing weights, knee extensions, and swimming.

Our one long-term patient is **Lee Collins**. He continues to move forward each day and is greatly helped by swimming work. Now we have got his shoulder moving the important thing is to keep it mobilised.

The other main change since we last wrote our programme notes involves the daily routine for injured players. It is no longer a few hours of treatment a day, instead we will be working hard with the players from 9.15am until 5.00pm. This means we can really work hard on those trying to get back to fitness. At the same time it gives us more time to treat injuries with extensive treatment, hot baths and massage.



JIMMY GLASS



COMMUNITY NEWS

Good afternoon everybody and welcome to today's game against Norwich City.

Our Saturday Team Club visitors today are **Corsham Boys** who enjoyed a day with us last season. Tony Harrison has again done a great job in organising the day. Jon and I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking Tony for all his hard work in arranging the course at Leafy Lane in Corsham in the summer, as well as sorting out the Monday evening sessions where we have been coaching 60-plus up-and-coming young stars. It is hoped we will resume again next year on the 22nd February from 4.30 - 5.30 pm every Monday. If you think you may be interested in signing up for the sessions, give us a call here at the Club, or alternatively talk to Tony himself.



As you may recall from our last notes we told you about our 'Birthday Party' packages. We must apologise to **George Sealey** pictured here with all his friends, when he celebrated his 6th birthday on the 6th November. We are sorry for getting your surname wrong **George**.

As you may have seen in the press this week, Jon and I were delighted to hand over a cheque for £2,000 to the Swindon & District League for sponsorship of their mini soccer leagues.

Trevor Boffin and **Tina Herrin** collected the cheque (pictured top right), which is a two year deal, and we wish the League every success. The League is now called the Swindon & District S.T.C. League.



The last few weeks have seen us go into a number of Primary Schools in the Swindon area, where we have put on two hour coaching session in each school and coached up to 150 girls and boys at each session. Our travels have taken us to Eldene, Park South, Penhill, Goddard Park and Saltway to name but a few, where we have had a great reception from all the schools.

Signing off!

Clive & Jon



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The

R's

WITH HELEN MERCER



Call me mad (most people at the club do!), but on a cold and very foggy Friday evening I ventured forth to Grimsby.

Even though we broke the journey with an overnight stay, my girls were not impressed with a 200 mile car ride that I had promised would be full of adventure and things to do and see. We couldn't even see the front of the car most of the way!

I don't think I had ever been so far north before and the comparative warmth of Wiltshire was never far from my mind. However, when we got to the ground and donned our STFC hats, gloves, scarves and long johns (only joking about the long johns, although, didn't I read in the Pink that Dave Kerlake wears them?) only the forthcoming game was on our minds. From our seats the North Sea stretched before us but as the whistle blew, our attention turned to the game in hand and even though those three points eluded us it was good to know we had been there supporting the lads.

Looking at the support we had at Grimsby, I know some of you were there, so I would love to hear your experiences, your highs and lows of the trip away. Drop me a line at the club and I may publish the best!

Ho Ho Ho!

I hope you have all received your letters about the Christmas Panto (Jack and the Beanstalk on Monday 21st Dec) and the Christmas Disco (Wednesday 23rd Dec). If not, you can pick up a form from the Superstore but remember, places are limited.

Jr's & R's

This is it, I promise you we won't move again! You can now pick up your packs and get all the latest Jr & R news from the Swindon Town Superstore. We have our own area in the shop and you can collect your packs during the week too, so you don't have to wait for a matchday. You can also drop in any letters, forms and money to me for trips and events.



Here are the Mascots from the Crystal Palace game sporting their colours before kick-off!

MATCHDAY MASCOTS



ROB MOORE is 14 years old and attends St Bartholomew's School in Newbury. He is here with his dad Chris from ATS who are our matchball Sponsors for today. Although Rob likes football, (when he is not watching Swindon he supports Spurs) his first love is golf. His ambition is to be a pro golfer one day - so don't forget you saw him as a Swindon Town mascot first! Rob's favourite player is our very own Mark Walters.



DARRALYN HOUGHTON is 13 years old, has been a Junior Canary for three years and attends Sir William Borlase Grammar School in Buckinghamshire. Darralyn's hobbies are horse riding, athletics and drama. Her favourite players are Craig Bellamy and Darran Eadie. Welcome to Swindon Town Darralyn and to all the visiting Junior Canaries.

If you fancy being a Swindon Town Mascot, give me a call on 01793 532121 and I will send you all the details. You can get 10% off if you are a member.

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A Hooded Sweat Shirts, Adult Sizes
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B Pro Drill Top, Navy (Multi Trim), Adult Sizes
S,M,L,XL,XXL, Junior Sizes MJ,IJ,
Code No: 715 ADULTS, 849 JUNIORS.

C Pro Sweat Shirt, Adult Sizes S,M,L,XL,XXL.
Navy: Code No: 707, Red: Code No: 708,
Green: Code No: 709, White: Code No: 710.
Children Sizes MJ,IJ. Navy: Code No: 841,
Red: No: 842, Green: No: 843, White: No: 844.

D Pro Rugby Shirt, Adult Sizes Only
Navy: S,M,L,XL,XXL Code No: 704
Red: S,M,L,XL,XXL Code No: 705
Green: S,M,L,XL,XXL Code No: 706

E Pro T-Shirt, Adult Sizes S,M,L,XL,XXL.
Navy: Code No: 711, Red: Code No: 712,
Green: Code No: 713, White: Code No: 714.
Children Sizes MJ,IJ. Navy: Code No: 845,
Red: No: 846, Green: No: 847, White: No: 848.



 01793 423030

OPENING HOURS:
MON - FRI: 9.00AM - 6.00PM
SATURDAY: 10.00AM - 4.00PM
MATCHDAYS: 9.00AM - KICK - OFF
& AFTER THE MATCH

Looking ahead

Your essential guide to the next three Swindon games



HOME

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE
SATURDAY 12 DEC
3.00PM KICK-OFF

The Lowdown

Bradford recently beat us 3-0 at their place but both sides were evenly matched and it was a referee's decision that turned the game.

Their strength is in midfield where Pepper has been running the show in the absence of the injured Stuart McCall.

A Reason to Watch

McCall may be back for this one.

This could bring about an interesting head-to-head in midfield between the two Scots, Leitch and McCall.

The Connection

Our very own Jim Quinn scored 15 goals in his time at the West Yorkshire club.

Quinn's Verdict

"We only met them away from home a few weeks ago so that game will be fresh in the players' minds when we face them again.

This will mean our players will really want to prove a point against them - something we are more than capable of doing.

Latest Ticket News

Tickets are now on sale for this game from our Advanced Day Ticket Office.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR TICKET STUBBS FROM THIS MATCH FOR POSSIBLE FA CUP THIRD ROUND TIE



AWAY

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE
SATURDAY 19 DEC
3.00PM KICK-OFF

The Lowdown

After an exhilarating season in the Premiership, Barnsley have fallen back into the First Division with a number of changes.

The most obvious one is the departure of Danny Wilson and the appointment of the untried John Hendrie. Barnsley currently sit in comfortable mid-table, but after a taste of the big time fans are hungry for more. Hendrie has brought in Robbie Van Der Laan and Kevin Richardson to strengthen midfield. They had a poor start to the season but are now picking up the points.

A Reason to Watch

Swindon have had disappointing away form all season, so the team will be determined to turn that around by picking up some points at the South Yorkshire side.

The Connection

Town defender Mark Robinson played at Barnsley from 1986 to 1993. Such was his form while at the club, he was soon snapped up by Newcastle for £450,000.

Quinn's Verdict

I'll be looking for the players to show a bit more determination in this game. Barnsley are a good side with plenty of experience and youth. If we win the battle in midfield we stand a good chance of getting something.

Latest Ticket News

500 tickets are available in advance. Adults are priced at £15.00, concessions and juniors £9.00. On the day of the game all tickets will be priced at £15.00, so make sure you get your concession tickets in advance. We will have 5 pairs of disabled places at £10.00 for wheelchairs and £10.00 for a helper.



HOME

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE
SATURDAY 26 DEC
3.00PM KICK-OFF

The Lowdown

Wolves are one of the sides tipped to go up and with players like Irish wonderboy Robbie Keane this is no surprise.

But they have been in this predicament season after season and they always miss out. Sir Jack Hayward has ploughed millions into the club without realising his dream: to see his beloved Wolves in the top flight. This has led to an air of desperation around Molineux proved by the succession of managers who have come and gone. Nevertheless they sit just below the play-off places so they have everything to play for.

A Reason to Watch

We gave Wolves a few worries away from home at the start of the season.

With home advantage we should be looking for a Christmas win. It will also be an ideal chance to burn off all the calories put on the day before!

The Connection

Star man Mark Walters spent a period at Wolves. Lucky for us they didn't keep him and he was soon banging in the goals for the County Ground faithful.

Quinn's Verdict

A tough Christmas period is made harder when you have to face the likes of Wolves, but it is all about confidence. As I've said before we have nothing to fear when we play sides like this. We should let teams worry about us and with Walters, Ndah and Onuora fit we will be looking to give the fans a present of three points.

Latest Ticket News

Tickets are now on sale for this match. Due to the large demand for tickets to this game all free kids tickets must be brought with an accompanying adult. Please keep your ticket stubs from this match for possible FA Cup Third Round Tie.



Borrows doesn't give the Palace forward any space



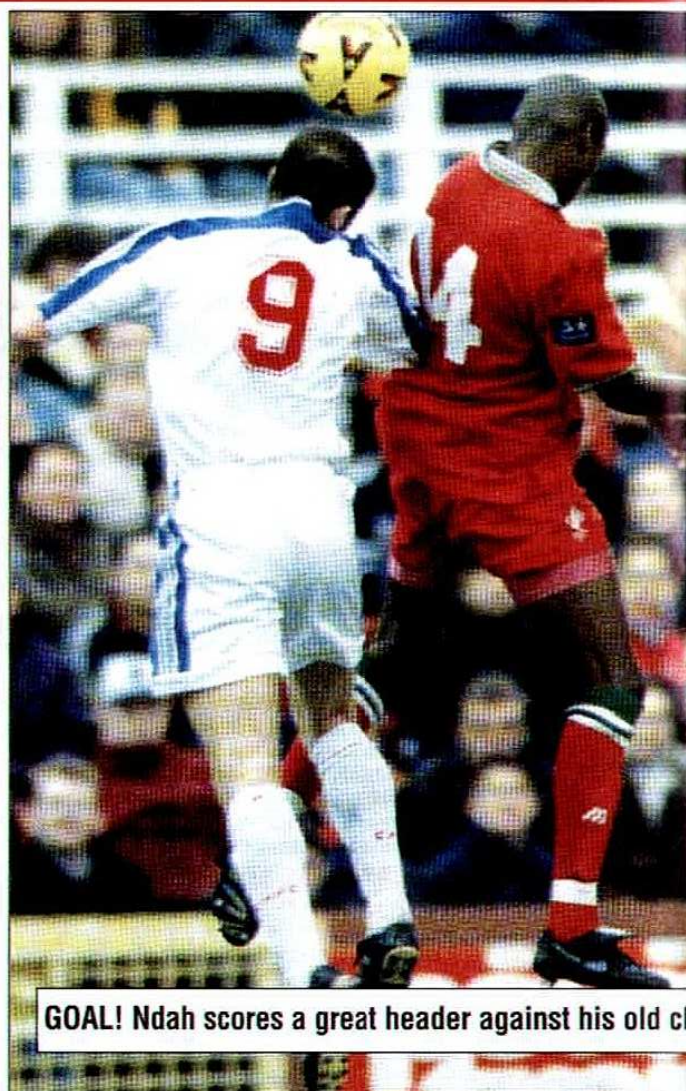
Walters goes past the Palace defence



SWINDON 2 PAL



Iffy is pushed over by a Palace player



GOAL! Ndah scores a great header against his old cl



Talia punches clear in the first half



TEAM LINE UP

- 1 FRANK TALIA
 - 2 MARK ROBINSON
 - 3 GARETH HALL
 - 4 SOL DAVIS
 - 5 ADAM WILLIS
 - 6 BRIAN BORROWS
 - 7 MARK WALTERS
 - 8 KEVIN WATSON ☆
 - 9 IFFY ONUORA
 - 10 NEALE FENN
 - 11 TY GOODEN
-
- 12 CRAIG TAYLOR (FENN 89)
 - 13 DARREN BULLOCK (WATSON 77)
 - 14 GEORGE NDAH (GOODEN 15)

MAN OF THE MATCH

☆ KEVIN WATSON ☆

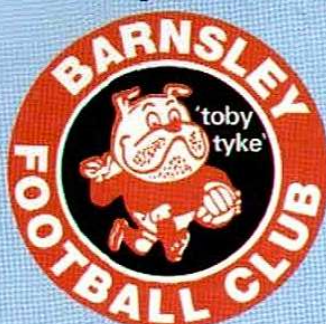


'Chipper' was brought into the side to spread the play wide with his precision passing - this was exactly what he did.

In addition, he tracked back well with runners, defended when he had to, and was the start point for a number of our attacks. A fine performance.

HANDY HINTS

The Rough Guide To Away Travel



Club: Barnsley

Nickname:
Tykes/Colliers

Ground:
Oakwell Ground,
Barnsley, S71 1ET

Phone: 01226 211211
Ticket Office: 01226 211211

Capacity:
19,020 (all seats)

Car parking:
Queen's Ground Car Park

Coach parking:
Queen's Ground Car Park

Away Supporters' Entrance:
Spion Kop Stand,
Entrance 41 to 47

Bite to eat:
From the ground you are 500 yards walk from the city centre and all the usual eateries. Or you could try the Metrodome at the top of the Away Car Park.

Post Match drink:
It is advised you stay clear of the pubs near the ground. The pubs in surrounding villages are best. Try the Longwood Hotel (2 miles from ground)

If you get there early:
Not much to do in Barnsley other than check out the famous old pit shaft.

TICKET OFFICE OPENING

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 6.00pm
Saturday (non-match days)
10.00am - 4.00pm
Saturday (match days) 9.00am -
Kick-off & 15 mins after match.

MATCHDAY TICKET OFFICE

Saturday (match days)
11.00am - half time
Midweek (match days)
5.30pm - half time

Tickets for home matches go on
general sale 4 weeks before the match

Ticket Office
01793 529000

Fax Hotline
01793 431887

Make sure you book your tickets early
to avoid disappointment.



TRAVEL NEWS

TRAVEL CLUB

TEL: 01672 540330
(BARNES COACHES)



BARNSELEY

SATURDAY 19 DEC
3.00PM KICK-OFF

DEPART COUNTY GROUND: 9.30AM
Adult Fare: £ 12.00
Under-16 Fare: £ 10.00

All coaches start at Aldbourne with scheduled pick-ups en route including Ashington Way (for West Swindon) and Cirencester when travelling north. Please ask for these options and times when booking.

All coaches are either Executive or Luxury standard and for added comfort for our travellers, we enforce our **NON SMOKING** policy on board.

Our stewards are happy to serve a selection of drinks and snacks throughout your journey. On longer journeys we will offer on-board entertainment as well.

BRISTOL CITY



MONDAY 28 DEC
3.00PM KICK-OFF

DEPART COUNTY GROUND: 12.30PM
Adult Fare: £6.00
Under-16 Fare: £4.00

Huge reductions available with our unbeatable Travel Club Season Ticket Offer - Please ask for details. Membership is still only £1.00 per person

Please make sure you book right now at: Old Promotions Office (opposite County Ground) Entrance open every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 7.00pm until 8.45pm & every matchday until 20 minutes before kick-off.

24-HOUR ANSWERPHONE
booking available on: (01793) 611499.

S.A.S. TRAVEL

TEL: 01793 825935
(24-HOUR SERVICE)



BARNSELEY

Depart WEST SWINDON: 9.15AM
Depart COUNTY GROUND: 9.30AM
Depart ERMIN STREET: 9.45AM

Adult Fare: £ 12.00
Under-15 Fare: £ 10.50

- Match Tickets available when booking coach travel
- All major credit/debit cards accepted
- Hostess service hot/cold drinks and light refreshments
- All coaches non-smoking
- Statutory NO ALCOHOL rule applies



BRISTOL CITY



Depart COUNTY GROUND: 9.45AM
Depart ERMIN STREET: 10.00AM
Depart WEST SWINDON: 9.45AM

Adult Fare: £5.00
Under-15 Fare: £4.00

COUNTY GROUND BOOKING OFFICE

(Former Promotions Office, off County Road)

Tel: (01793) 536757

Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays: 10.00am - 2.00pm
Thursday evenings 7.00pm - 9.00pm
Saturday Matchdays 1.30pm - 2.45pm
Wednesday Matchdays 6.30pm - 7.30pm



New Year's Eve At



SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Party into 1999

Thursday 31st December '98 7.30pm - 1.30am

In the Harold Fleming Lounge and Executive Suite

What better way to see in the New Year than at Swindon Town where you can enjoy an evening of great entertainment. The night includes Champagne Reception, a top quality Cold Carved Buffet, live cabaret, disco with our resident DJ and the bar stays open 'till late.

Price: £35 per head + vat

For more information or to book your tickets please contact Carol Salter on:



Tel: 01793 533212, Fax: 01793 423771.



VS



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- **SKY SPORTS COVERAGE**
- **PAY BAR BEFORE AND AFTER GAME**

PRICE £55+VAT per head



TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT SIMONE WRIGHT ON 01793 532121





WHAT'S on at swindon



..... a look at what's on at the County Ground

SWINDON FACE PREMIERSHIP GIANTS...

Swindon Town Youth team will be facing Leeds United Youths in The Times Youth Cup third round on Wednesday 9th December 1998. Kick-off 7.00pm.

This will be the chance for our youngsters to test their mettle against one of the best youth sides in the country. It promises to be an exciting game, so why not come along to the County Ground and offer the lads your support? Admission is £3.00 adults, concessions £1.00.

SOUTH WEST CANARIES...

The recently formed "South West Canaries" is a Norwich supporters group that covers the entire South West and Wales.

We organise car sharing to home and away games together with a regular newsletter. If you would like further information, please telephone Alan Mason on 01275 857119.

PARK & RIDE AVAILABLE...

Thamesdown bus services are running a Park & Ride scheme from The Copse, Cricklade Road to Town Centre (Farnsby Street) Monday to Saturday.

The buses run every 10 minutes and on Saturday the bus will make a special stop outside the County Ground. Adult fare will be £1.50 return, accompanied children (under 16) go free while unaccompanied children are charged £1.50 return. Please pay on the bus (cash only).

HAWKES HAD A GREAT DAY...



Hawkes FC were the guests of Club Director Mike Spearman for our recent game against QPR.

Mike met Giancarlo Calesi, the team's sponsor, whilst in their restaurant, and invited them to the County Ground for a VIP look behind the scenes of Swindon Town.

SWINDON TOWN CAROL SERVICE...

The annual Swindon Town Football Club carol service will take place on Wednesday 16th December 1998 at Christ Church, Old Town.

This will be a great chance to savour the festive atmosphere with Swindon Town staff and players.



Pictured here are the staff of the Nationwide Call Centre on Friday 20th November taking pledges for Children In Need.

Jim Quinn and Co. worked hard all night alongside call centre staff on the phones raising money. Approximately £50,000 was raised on the night. Well done to everybody who was involved.



Suthers SAYS

"there is far more
to football than just
what you read in
the papers"

Steve Sutherland: Director of Commercial Activities

As I mentioned in my last article, my Friday nights are now taken up by co-presenting, with Shaun Hodgetts, a new football chat show on BBC Wiltshire Sound called 'Talk of the Town'.

Using Swindon Town F.C. as our central theme, 'TOTT' covers all aspects of the game. To date, we have discussed issues like refereeing and players' agents, and last Friday our topic was the role of the Professional Footballers' Association. In keeping with our basic theme, our guest was former Swindon player, Garry Nelson, who, after a season as coach at Torquay, became the Commercial Executive of the PFA 18 months ago. Garry, who I have known for many years, was extremely interesting and he gave an excellent insight into the work of the PFA, most of which goes largely unnoticed by the general public. Think of the PFA and you think of people like Gordon Taylor and Brendon Batson, you think of super-rich members like the mega-stars of the Premier League, you think of the power that players have under the Bosman

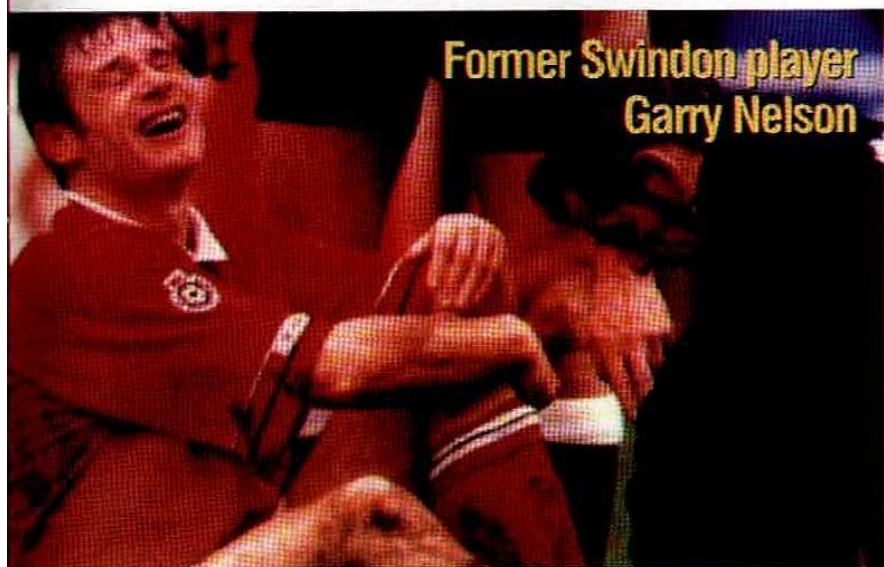
ruling and, if you have listened to 'Talk of the Town', you might also think of Rachel Anderson's battle for women to attend the PFA's annual Awards Dinner, but that's a different story! What you would be forgiven for not thinking about are the issues that Garry has highlighted and is actively addressing. Such as the 100 or so players released on free transfers last close season who are still not fixed up with new clubs; of the thousands of ex-players who played at a time when footballers didn't earn fortunes and who have now fallen on hard times and, moving right up to date, of the life-saving payments paid by the PFA to those clubs in financial difficulty to enable them to pay the wages.

I suppose it is easy to understand why the public's perception of the PFA is just centred around the privileged lifestyles of a relatively small amount of players and, as I said to Garry, perhaps it is time that the PFA addressed this misconception. However, Garry and his colleagues, whilst realising the extent of this problem, are concentrating their efforts on the welfare of their members. To this end they have embarked on a programme of commercial

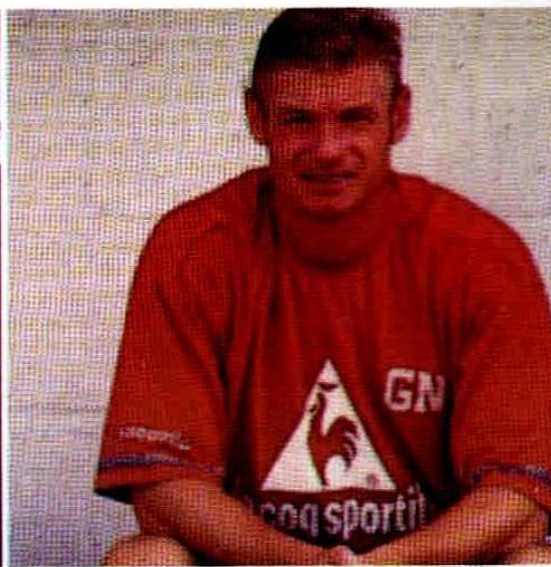
activities which has provoked criticism in some quarters, with conflict of interest accusations being levelled at them. However, as Garry pointed out, the average length of a footballer's career is just eight years and so anything that the PFA can do to ensure the security of their members they will do. Garry also contested, arguably unrealistically but I took his point, that the Clubs do not look after their ex-players when they fall on hard times.

'Talk of the Town' is only an hour long and the interview with Garry could easily have taken up the whole hour. Garry highlighted the fact that there is far more to football than just what you read in the papers, see on the television or hear on the radio. The interview also graphically showed that far more attention needs to be given to the plight of less fortunate clubs and players by the relative powers that be, possibly by fairer distribution of the television and sponsorship monies for instance, but that's for another article!

Tune in at 7.00 p.m. next Friday to 'Talk of the Town' on BBC Wiltshire Sound, 103.6, 104.3 and 103.5 FM. You'll be very welcome.

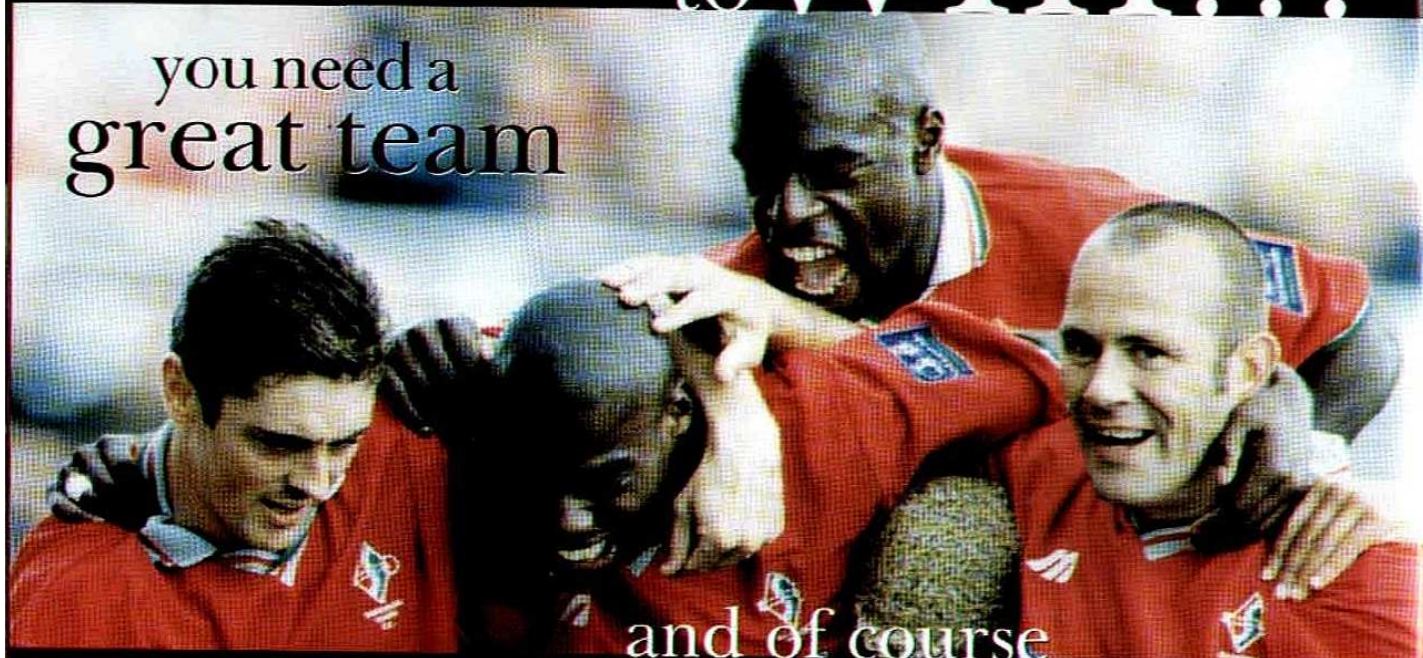


Former Swindon player
Garry Nelson



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all around the world

By Colin Benson

BELGIUM Genk have failed to get their European Cup Winners' Cup tie in Mallorca replayed after protesting about the close proximity of advertising boards to the pitch. Mallorca were fined by UEFA for failing to comply with their regulations but the intruding notices were seen as no reason to allow the Belgian side a chance to correct their bad performance.

FIFA England's dreams of hosting the 2006 World Cup Finals are getting thinner. The FA have made a very good sales pitch, it is true, and there is no argument that we have an infrastructure as good as any. But Sepp Blatter, the man we helped into the office of the presidency of FIFA, has his heart set on expanding the tournament as far as possible and the indications are that he will be firmly backing South Africa's bid. His relationship with the Africans has been cemented even firmer following an exchange of awards last month with Nelson Mandela. Blatter received the Order of Good Hope - South Africa's highest honorary award for foreigners for his part in South Africa's readmission to world football competition and President Mandela in turn received FIFA's Order of Merit for his efforts to reconcile his countrymen.

GERMANY All's not well in the Bayern Munich camp despite the 2-0 win over Brondby which put them top of Group D, ahead of Manchester United in the Champion's League. The two clash in a decider at Old Trafford on December 9th.

Mario Basler, who scored against Brondby, and captain Thomas Helmer are unsettled. Basler, a midfielder who scored an 89th minute winner against MSV Duisburg in last season's German Cup Final, is unhappy that the club is stalling on his new contract negotiations. He joined them in 1996 and has played all his football with German clubs but is hinting a move to Italy might be on the cards. He claims Fiorentina coach Giovanni Trapattoni is keen to sign him.

Skipper Helmer, 33, will be out of contract at the end of this season and under the Bosman ruling will, of course, become a free agent. Naturally Bayern would prefer to unload

him before that and get a fee and Liverpool and Nuremberg are among clubs who have shown an interest in the 68 cap German international. The uncertainty of it all can only help Man United's cause.

The Bundesliga is to be graced by our old friend Jan Aage Fjortoft, who left Barnsley for Finrcht Frankfurt in a £450,000 deal last week.

The Norwegian International striker of course was introduced to English football by Town and played for us in our only ever season in the top Division. He had a spell at Middlesbrough too but never truly came to terms with the demands of the English game.

ITALY Juventus hope to have their Italian International striker Alessandro Del Piero back in eight weeks after the surgeon who operated on his knee hailed it a success. Del Piero, who was

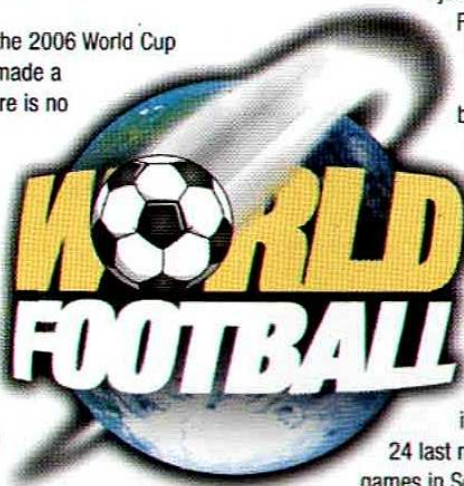
24 last month has averaged a goal every 2.5 games in Serie A.

SCOTLAND Craig Brown has welcomed Duncan Ferguson's change of heart about playing for Scotland. A year ago Newcastle's new signing said he would never play for his country again because of the SFA's treatment of him after he was jailed for head butting an opponent. Brown says "I will be monitoring his progress over the coming months". Former England centre-forward Mark Hateley, who was reported to be earning more than £200,000 as manager of Hull City, is now back in training with St Johnstone.

SPAIN FIFA will have no player-release problems for an international soccer tournament to be played in Singapore later this month. The RoboCup is to be competed for by 'robot' footballers.

SPAIN Claims that Real Madrid, rocked by their 3-1 defeat by Inter Milan in the Champions League, are in crisis have been refuted by Coach Hiddink. The defeat followed disappointing performances in the Spanish League against Celta Vigo, who are second, and Valencia.

Haddink claimed "we suffered authentic bad luck in Milan and I just hope we keep playing as well as that". Real met Vasco da Gama in the World Club Championship in Japan last week.



"England's dreams of hosting the 2006 World Cup Finals are getting thinner."

THE GRAND OPENING

Every one is a winner

The opening of the new Winners Lounge has been hailed a terrific success by those who used it before the Crystal Palace game.

If you are a regular at the County Ground you have hopefully already used the club's exciting new Lounge.

The Winners Lounge had its official opening on Friday 20th November 1998. Swindon Town legend Don Rogers was there to cut the ribbon with manager Jim Quinn and it turned out to be a great night.

The combination of a Jazz band and great atmosphere made it a night to remember. The following day saw the Winners Lounge open to the home supporters on a match day for the first time. By 2.00 pm the bar was packed with people talking about the game against Palace.

"The idea behind the new lounge is to offer Swindon supporters somewhere nice to go before the game", said Director of Commercial Activities, Steve Sutherland.

"What this club has always missed is a place for fans to go and have a pint and talk about the day's game. But more than that we hope to open up the Winners Lounge throughout the year for special events such as comedy and jazz evenings. The Winners Lounge really will become a great place to be".

The Winners Lounge is open to all home supporters with a match day ticket, but it is suggested fans arrive early to avoid disappointment. Once in the Lounge there are a variety of hot and cold dishes available and big screen Sky Sports coverage - what better way to prepare for the game!

The Winners Lounge opens on match days at 12 noon, shuts at 3.00 pm and re-opens 15 minutes after the referee's final whistle.



the BUSINESS



mark hillier: corporate sales manager

Good afternoon everybody and welcome to today's game. Firstly I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our sponsors for today's visit by Norwich City.

I would like to introduce you to our latest sponsor Impact who, amongst other forms of sponsorship, have taken the dugout area.

Impact's Managing Director, Dave Jackson, said: "We are pleased to continue our involvement with Swindon Town with sponsorship of the home and away dugouts. As our product range (exhibitions, signage, conferences and events) is quite diverse we have researched many types of media to see how effective advertising was and felt that this was an ideal placement to get our message across to many present and prospective clients.

"Impact have found that Swindon Town attracts a high level of interest not only through the supporters at home matches but also through the media coverage. Many clients refer to the fact they have seen their name as backdrops to sporting pictures on newspapers, both locally and nationally.

"As we have a limited marketing budget we have tried many types of sponsorship (groundboards, sporting dinners, kit sponsorship & matchday) with Swindon Town over the last three years and have been pleasantly surprised at the good feedback we get from clients, both prospective and current.

"Impact have no hesitation in recommending Swindon Town as a powerful medium for a corporate message."



Impact's Managing Director, Dave Jackson, is pictured above with Swindon Town's Mark Hillier.

Matchball Sponsors

ATS

ATS is the UK's largest comprehensive tyre distribution company with 550 Centres nationwide. Serving the UK's car drivers with a range of Fast-Fit services, including tyres, exhausts, batteries, brakes, shock absorbers and MOTs. ATS have a reputation for speed, efficiency and technical competence which is second to none in the industry.

With tyres available for everything from wheelbarrows and shopping trolleys through cars, vans, lorries and tractors right the way up to massive earthmovers, ATS keeps the wheels of industry turning.

Customers are now beginning to see a bright new ATS Euromaster image which is being steadily introduced into the UK. Euromaster ATS European partners operate right across Europe giving customers access to over 1200 Centres in nine countries.

COMPAC PRINT

COMPAC PRINT is the premier specialist printing company supplying to the music and multi-media industries, with both standard and bespoke packaging.

In conjunction with our sister company Mediapac Fulfilment, both operating from one Swindon site, the complete packaging solution and turnkey operation is provided. (The company we are entertaining today is "First Sound & Vision")

THE PLOUGH

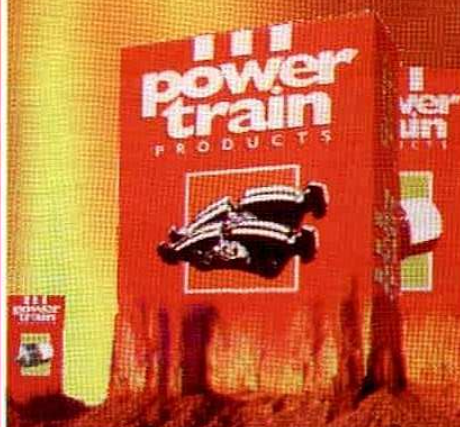
THE PLOUGH is famous as the home of a 1937 vintage Cinema Organ which was transplanted from The Gaumont, Finchley, 30 years ago.

The organ is played every weekend evening and throughout the year there are concerts and workshops. One of the regular organists is Swindon Town Director Peter Godwin. Enquiries to Tom and Elaine Whitear on 01920 438335.

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BLACKBURN DRAW UP SHORT LIST

Blackburn have compiled a short-list of likely candidates as they search to replace sacked manager Roy Hodgson.



Worried owner Jack Walker has consulted the rest of the board and the process of installing a new boss will be hastened as Blackburn - champions three and a half years ago - flounder at the bottom of the Premiership. Walker's own hunch is to go for former player Colin Hendry alongside a more experienced man. Rangers, though, won't sell the £4million central defender back to Rovers unless it means him becoming manager in his own right. Other options and names discussed included Manchester United assistant boss Brian Kidd, FA technical director Howard Wilkinson, Crystal Palace's former England supremo Terry Venables, former Liverpool chief Roy Evans, and current PSV Eindhoven coach Bobby Robson. Manchester United chief executive Martin Edwards has insisted that Kidd leaves 'over my dead body.' The revelation that Leicester's Martin O'Neill has still not signed his new contract could also alert Blackburn.

BERKOVIC SIGNS FOR GUNNERS

Nir Berkovic, the 16-year-old brother of West Ham midfielder Eyal Berkovic, has signed a two-year deal to play in the Arsenal youth team.



The teenager, formerly with Maccabi Haifa, was on the books of Belgian club Anderlecht, but this week his brother negotiated an agreement with Arsenal vice-chairman David Dein which will bring Nir to Highbury until he begins his military service in the Israeli army in two years' time.

In other Gunners' news Arsene Wenger is becoming more frustrated with the national press. He claims his quote about 'cavies and sausage' was taken out of context, when describing how fans have been spoilt by the success of his side.

PREMIERSHIP



CARLING
F.A. PREMIERSHIP

ROUND-UP

INCE PREPARES FOR BATTLE WITH FERRI

Paul Ince has promised Frenchman Jean-Michel Ferri that he faces a battle to win a place in the Liverpool team.



Ferri, signed for £1.7million from Turkish club Istanbulspor, is likely to be in the squad at Tottenham on Saturday provided the transfer formalities are completed. The five-times capped French international could play alongside Ince in midfield at White Hart Lane as Jamie Redknapp is suspended. Manager Gerard Houllier could also use the utility player to shore up his erratic defence. But Ince, who shot a fine goal against Blackburn on Sunday having scored at Aston Villa the previous week, warned the newcomer: 'I don't know about playing alongside each other regularly because I don't think you'll find a better central midfield pairing in the Premiership than me and Jamie. I think people saw that again in the Blackburn game. Jean-Michel will be a good addition to our team. I don't think it's a case of him coming in to replace me or Jamie because I'm sure you won't get better than us.'



STONE READY TO QUIT!

Steve Stone has said he will quit Nottingham Forest if they are relegated from the Premiership.



The 27-year-old former England winger has been linked with a move away from the City Ground many times, with Aston Villa reported to be the latest club interested in the £6million-rated player. Stone, who has already been a target for Premiership clubs Middlesbrough and Newcastle this season, said: 'I am happy at Forest and don't want to leave - but that situation will change if we are relegated. If we go down, I will be off. I think the manager and the board understand that.'



TODAY'S PREMIER FIXTURES

ASTON VILLA	vs	MAN UTD
BLACKBURN	vs	CHARLTON
DERBY CO.	vs	ARSENAL
EVERTON	vs	CHELSEA
LEEDS	vs	WEST HAM
LEICESTER CITY	vs	SOUTHAMPTON
TOTTENHAM	vs	LIVERPOOL
WIMBLEDON	vs	COVENTRY



SUNDAY'S GAME ON TV (4.00PM K-OFF)

MIDDLESBROUGH	vs	NEWCASTLE UTD
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FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS.
ASTON VILLA	14	8	5	1	22	12	29
MAN UTD	14	8	4	2	30	16	28
WEST HAM	15	7	5	3	20	16	26
ARSENAL	15	6	7	2	15	7	25
CHELSEA	13	6	6	1	22	13	24
LEEDS	15	5	8	2	22	14	23
MIDDLESBROUGH	15	5	8	2	24	17	23
LIVERPOOL	15	6	4	5	26	19	22
DERBY	15	5	6	4	15	14	21
WIMBLEDON	15	5	5	5	19	25	20
NEWCASTLE	15	5	4	6	19	19	19
TOTTENHAM	15	5	4	6	19	23	19
LEICESTER	15	4	6	5	16	18	18
EVERTON	15	4	6	5	10	15	18
CHARLTON	15	3	7	5	22	23	16
SHEFF WED	15	4	4	7	14	15	16
COVENTRY	15	4	3	8	13	21	15
NOTT'M FOREST	15	2	5	8	12	24	11
SOUTHAMPTON	15	2	4	9	12	31	10
BLACKBURN	15	2	3	10	14	24	9



QUICK QUIZ?

1. Which Premiership ground has a clock end?
2. Which television sports presenter made his TV debut covering a John Conteh fight in 1979?
3. Who, in 1986, became the first club to ban visiting supporters?
4. When was the 'professional foul' made a sending-off offence?
5. Who was the first player to be sent off while playing for England?
6. Who wrote the book 'Fever Pitch'?
7. Which former England international appeared in the film 'When Saturday Comes'?
8. Which former QPR manager said: "I am not difficult to get on with. I am just difficult to get to know"?
9. Who was the first black player to win a full England Cap?

Answers:
1. Arsenal 2. Desmond Lynam 3. Luton Town 4. 1990 5. Alan Mullery 6. Nick Hornby 7. Tony Currie 8. Trevor Francis 9. Viv Anderson

WIN A WEEKEND BREAK DURING TODAY'S HALF-TIME BREAK WITH SWINDON TOWN & JARVIS



During the half-time break at today's game, Swindon Town and Jarvis Hotels will be giving away a superb weekend break, free of charge, to someone in the crowd. It will be completely at random, and you

don't have to enter any competition. We're just going to give it away there and then.

The weekend break is for two people for two nights and can be taken at any of Jarvis' 63 fine hotels across the UK.

All you need to do to win a Jarvis weekend break is hold onto your ticket stub until half-time. Straight after the half-time scores are announced, we'll call out a seat number, which one of the Swindon Town players will randomly pick for us at half-time.

If it's your seat, come along with your ticket, to the Reception 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.



show yer' colours!



Send us your picture sporting the Swindon Town colours and you may be featured!

Pictured here is Ben Jackson winning two golds and a silver at the recent National Disabled Junior Games in Stoke Manderville. Ben won the medals for air rifle shooting, wheelchair slalom and snooker. Ben is clearly proud to be receiving the medals in his STFC colours.

*Send your photos to:
Richard Mackey,
Swindon Town Football
Club, County Road,
Swindon, SN1 2ED.*

It's Your Call

Andy Harris: Producer of Sky Sports Popular 'Soccer Am'.

I've got real problems at the moment - problems at home that I'm finding very hard to explain rationally to anyone who doesn't live football.

You see, my wife isn't a football fan, nor is she particularly fond of the game. Don't get me wrong, I know many of you have similar difficulties, but I'd like to think that the fact that I work in football makes this situation all the worse.

When I worked on programmes like the **Big Breakfast** or the **Frank Skinner Show**, this wasn't so much of a problem. In those days I'd have three lives - my work life, my home life and my football life.

It was only when I began working on **Fantasy Football**, that this dark cloud of football wars descended on me. Then my three lives became two - my work life had merged with my football life - and my wife was having none of it. I could understand her angst, but there was nothing I could do about it. I tried explaining how football wasn't just my hobby. It wasn't just a job. It was just another part of me, like a limb. It was just here. She didn't understand it because people who don't 'have' football, just don't get it. They don't know.

Yes, she'd pretend to understand, but my strained protestations that "I have to watch that live match" for the show preceded by the most pathetic and lame excuse "I have to get Sky - I have to watch the games we're doing gags on".

To many I'm the luckiest bloke in the world. First **Fantasy Football** then **Soccer AM**. Actually meeting footballers, singers, actors, comedians etc and the like. And do you know what? I am. This is simply the best job in the world - but listen to me, this battle with a football hater is really getting to me.

It got to the stage where I went out and rented a copy of *Fever Pitch* for my beautiful wife. "Watch this," I said. "Watch it and understand. It says it all about me."

So we watched it together. I cried at the ending. She looked at me and said, unconvincingly: "Err, yes darling I understand now." She didn't. I could see that. No-one does if they're not brought up with the game in their hearts.

I feel such terrible, horrible guilt whenever I meekly, pathetically say the words: "There's a match on telly this afternoon, but I'll watch it with the sound down", or "it's a really big game, I have to watch it", or the most pathetic: "I really don't want to watch it, but I have to. It's the job, y'see".

Do you understand now?

When my first child, Thomas, was born - my father immediately enrolled him in the Junior Gunners club. The same happened with my second child, Joseph, two years later. My wife thought it was "all right" to do such things. So, taking that as the go-ahead to bring football into our homelife (seeing as it had already taken over my work life), I started buying those little footballer figures of Arsenal players, and putting them all round the house.

"That's Vieira."

"That's Marc Overmars."

"That one? It's Arsene Wenger," I would be giving my very young son lessons in Arsenal, desperate for him to become a Gooner without realising it. Just like I had. *"Go on, sing the song we know. You know Thomas,*

'I'm walking along, singing a song, walking in a Bergkamp Wonderland'." I'd even get angry if he wouldn't do it or God forbid got it wrong. I'd also try to make him sing it in company. It's pathetic, I know, but I can't stop myself.

What I'm trying to say is it doesn't matter if you support Arsenal, Swindon, Inverness Caledonian Thistle or Caernarvon. We're all suffering from the same illness. It's just mine's pretty chronic at the moment.



Andy Harris is pictured above meeting Chelsea's Frank Leboeuf on Soccer Am.



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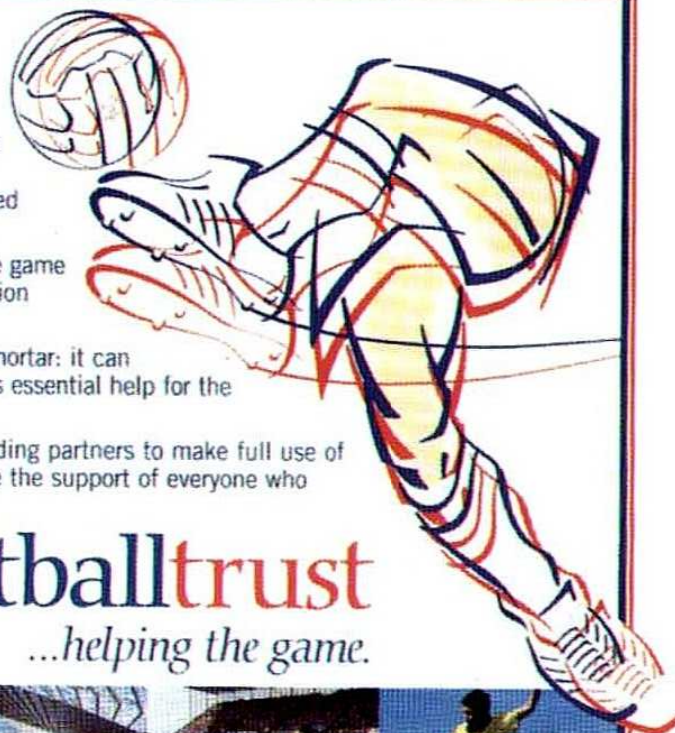
A major new funding package made up of annual contributions from The F.A. Premier League, The Football Association, The English Sports Council, The Football League and The Professional Footballers Association has been added to the Trust's pools derived income to secure its future.

The Trust has a major part to play in the success of the game and will continue its vital grant support for lower division clubs to complete the Taylor programme.

The Trust is about a great deal more than bricks and mortar: it can handle grant aid programmes of every sort and provides essential help for the game at all levels.

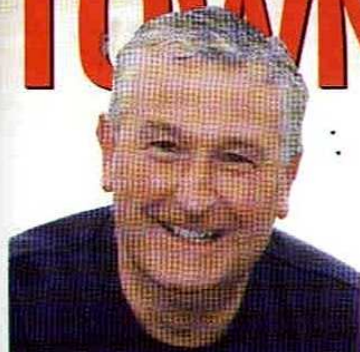
The commitment of the Government and the new funding partners to make full use of the Trust's grant aid experience and expertise will have the support of everyone who cares about the future of our national game.

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The Football Trust, Walkden House, 10 Melton Street, London NW1 2EB

SWINDON TOWN Ladies



by Roger Reeves

The Town Ladies beat Bristol City 4-1 but lost to Saltash Pilgrims 4-3 and still kept second place in the League.

The Town got off to a good start against Bristol City when Kim Reeves put them ahead after eight minutes. Leanne Taylor added a second before half time and Pam Laker scored five minutes into the new half. City pulled one back before Nadine Lloyd took the Town's tally to four in the last minutes of the game. Goals from Helen Cooper and Hayley Huckin gave the Town Reserves a 2-1 victory over Newport Pagnell United.

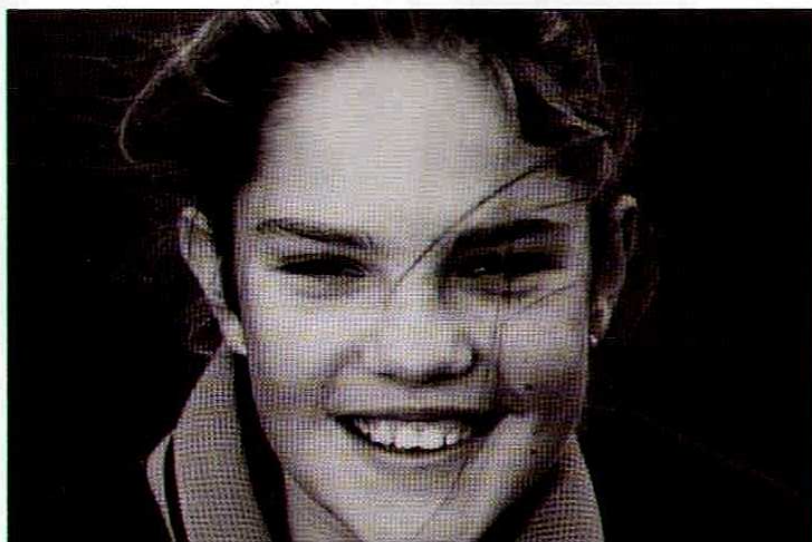
The long trip to Saltash proved to be fruitless, with the Town losing by four

goals to three. The home side took the lead in the 2nd minute but Leanne Taylor levelled the scores a minute from the interval. Nadine Lloyd headed in Pam Laker's cross but by this time the Cornish side had scored three.

Saltash scored a fourth and deep into injury time Nadine Lloyd latched onto Clare Wheeler's through ball to reduce Saltash's lead.

The Town reserves were in League Cup action with a trip to Oxford United. The home side progressed to the next round with a 4-1 victory. Michelle Rich scored the Town's only goal, her first for the club.

Tomorrow the Town have an away 3rd Round FA Cup tie against Bristol Rovers. The Town are hoping for a repeat of the League fixture when they defeated the Rovers by three goals to one. To reach the Third Round the Town have beaten Newport and South Coast Rangers whereas the Rovers have accounted for Bristol City and Okeford United. The Town Reserves are without a fixture tomorrow.



Hayley Huckin, who scored the winner for the Town's Reserves against Newport Pagnell United.

FIXTURES 98/99

South West Combination League

SUN 6TH SEPT	OXFORD UNITED	2-3
Sun 13th SEPT	Bristol Rovers	3-1
SUN 20TH SEPT	SHERBOURNE	7-1
Sun 27th SEPT	(FAC 1) Newport	2-1
Sun 4th OCT	Portsmouth	2-2
SUN 11TH OCT	DENHAM UNITED	POST
Sun 18th OCT	Swindon Spitfires	6-0
SUN 25TH OCT	CHELTHENHAM	6-0
Sun 1st NOV	(FAC 2) S Coast Rangers	4-1
Sun 8th NOV	Bath City	6-1
SUN 15TH NOV	BRISTOL CITY	4-1
Sun 22nd NOV	Saltash Pilgrims	3-4
Sun 29th NOV	Cardiff County	A
Sun 6th DEC	(FAC 3) Bristol Rovers	A
Sun 13th DEC	Oxford United	A
SUN 10TH JAN	BRISTOL ROVERS	H
Sun 24th JAN	Sherbourne	A
SUN 31ST JAN	PORTMOUTH	H
Sun 7th FEB	Denham United	A
SUN 14TH FEB	SWINDON SPITFIRES	H
Sun 28th FEB	Cheltenham	A
SUN 7TH MAR	BATH CITY	H
Sun 14th MAR	Bristol City	A
SUN 21ST MAR	SALTASH PILGRIMS	H
SUN 28TH MAR	CARDIFF COUNTY	H

FIXTURES 98/99

Southern Region League Northern Division

Sun 6th SEPT	Tring Town	4-4
Sun 20th SEPT	Witney Town	2-1
Sun 4th OCT	Risborough Rovers	1-9
SUN 25TH OCT	CHESHAM UNITED	5-3
Sun 1st NOV	Bushey Rangers	POST
SUN 15TH NOV	NEWPORT P. UTD	2-1
Sun 22nd NOV	Oxford Utd (LCR1)	1-4
Sun 29th NOV	Oxford United	A
SUN 13TH DEC	RISBOROUGH R.	H
Sun 10th JAN	chesham united	A
SUN 24TH JAN	BUSHEY RANGERS	H
SUN 31ST JAN	TRING TOWN	H
Sun 7th FEB	Newport Pagnell Utd	A
SUN 28TH FEB	OXFORD UTD	H
SUN 7TH MAR	WITNEY TOWN	H

NEXT HOME GAMES

**South West
Combination League
Sunday 10th Jan 99
Bristol Rovers**

**Southern Region League
Northern Division
Sunday 13th Dec 98
Risborough R.**

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SERIOUS PERFORMANCE

BLADES STRIKEFORCE BLUNTED

Steve Bruce, the Sheffield United boss who is already on a collision course with striker Dean



Saunders, was dealt another blow yesterday with the news that Petr Katchouro will be sidelined for up to six weeks.

The Belarus striker was injured in Saturday's humiliating 4-0 defeat by leaders Sunderland. He was taken to hospital with a suspected broken rib but a full examination revealed he has a punctured kidney. Saunders, 34, is at odds with the former Manchester United skipper after being left out of Saturday's team. The Wales international had missed training the previous day because he was involved in transfer negotiations with Benfica and then an undisclosed Premiership club. Bruce will meet with his new board before deciding what to do about the Saunderson's affair.

BARNSLEY WANT GOALS THIS WINTER

Barnsley boss John Hendrie hopes to kick-start his team's promotion push by signing £1million-rated Dundee United striker Robbie Winters.



Hendrie, who has so far bought midfielders Robbie van der Laan and Kevin Richardson for a combined total of £400,000, is ready to act after Barnsley's poor start. The First Division club have taken only one point from their opening two games. The move for Winters as a partner for Ashley Ward could see the club's 34-year-old player-boss taking a less active role. Hearts and Aberdeen are rivals in the chase for Winters but Barnsley are determined to land him, having already made an official approach. Hendrie has money to spend after the £1m summer sale of Neil Redfearn and there will also be a further cash injection from the ambitious Barnsley board following the sale of 14,000 season tickets.



NATIONWIDE DIVISION 1 ROUND-UP

FRANCIS MANAGER OF THE MONTH

Gerry Francis has completed an incredible turnaround at Queens Park Rangers by being named as the Nationwide League's First Division Manager of the Month for November.

Francis will collect his award at a special presentation on Tuesday after seeing his team win four out of their past five games. It is an amazing achievement because, before he returned to Loftus Road, Rangers had won just once away from home in 14 months and had not won back-to-back matches since September 1997. He said: "They say these things are the kiss of death but all I can say is that the players have had a magnificent November. They have really put it in for me and been outstanding all month. It took a couple of weeks to get things sorted out and get some spirit and pride back into the blue-and-white hoops. But since then we have beaten Barnsley, Bolton, Crewe and Bradford and we were also very unfortunate not to beat Sheffield United as well. November has finished now but I wish it could be November every month." Francis's impact at Loftus Road was highlighted by Saturday's 3-0 victory at Bradford. It was QPR's first win at Valley Parade and meant Rangers have won more away games in five weeks under Francis than in a whole year under previous manager Ray Harford. They have also scored more League goals since Francis arrived than in the first three months of the season under Harford. Francis said: "Things are going well. It's not over yet, obviously, and we have a long way to go to really turn the corner. But I am very pleased that we are finally scoring goals. We were the lowest scorers in the League before I arrived and struggling to keep clean sheets. Now we have changed that."

VENABLES DENIES BLACKBURN RUMOURS

Crystal Palace manager, Terry Venables, today denied that he is unhappy at the First Division club and is on the short list for the vacant job at Blackburn.

There has been speculation that Venables, who is in the first year of a five-year contract at Selhurst Park, has been frustrated by the financial problems which have beset the club this season, and that he and chairman Mark Goldberg attended a crisis meeting last week. Goldberg, who bought the club for £22million from Ron Noades last summer, has had trouble meeting some interest payments on loans but Venables said today: "It's absolute rubbish. I am very happy at the club. We did have a meeting last week at Selhurst Park but it was simply to discuss strategy. The truth is I am enjoying myself. We have a good bunch of players here now and a good enough squad so that I don't feel I have to go out and spend. We are moving in the right direction and I just want to get on with things." Venables has a clause in his contract which could enable him to leave in the first and third year and the former England coach is still highly regarded within the game. He has admitted that he has missed the England job which he left following Euro '96 but, following a spell at Portsmouth and then as coach to the Australian national team, he has settled in well at Palace despite the financial restrictions imposed upon him. Blackburn, meanwhile, continue to look for a successor to Roy Hodgson, with West Ham manager Harry Redknapp, former Liverpool manager Roy Evans, the FA's director of coaching Howard Wilkinson, and Charlton's Alan Curbishley, among those linked with the job.

Nationwide Division One Fixtures 5/11/98

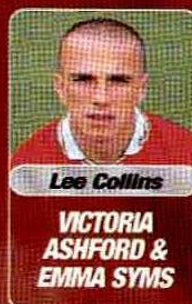
BRISTOL CITY	vs	SHEFF UTD
BURY	vs	WEST BROM
HUDDERFIELD	vs	CRYSTAL PALACE
IPSWICH	vs	BIRMINGHAM
OXFORD	vs	BRADFORD
PORTSMOUTH	vs	CREWE
Q.P.R.	vs	PORT VALE
SUNDERLAND	vs	STOCKPORT
SWINDON	vs	NORWICH
TRANMERE	vs	GRIMSBY
WATFORD	vs	BARNLEY
WOLVES	vs	BOLTON

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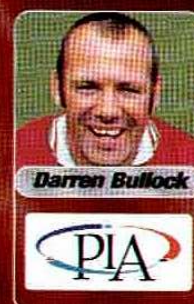
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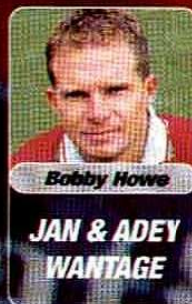
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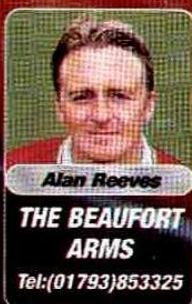
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KDI INTERNET WEB
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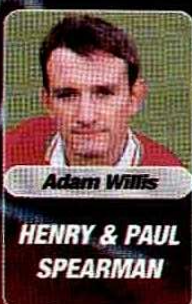
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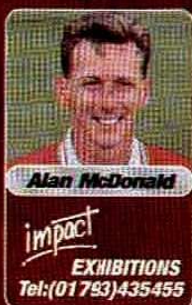
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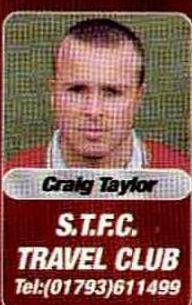
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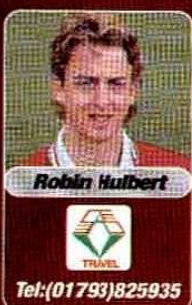
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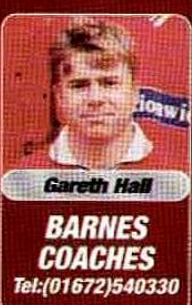
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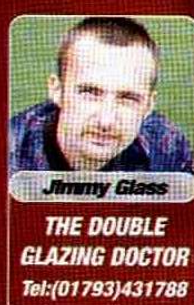


Brian Borrows



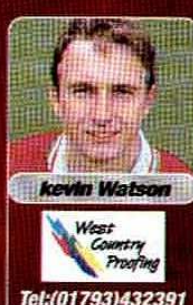
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FRAZER McHUGH

No one was more surprised than me at my call up for the squad travelling to Grimsby last week.

That's not to say I wasn't ready for the first team - it's just that there was no indication until the morning of the long journey up North. In fact I had (rightly) expected to play that Saturday in Tom Jones' "A" team in the South East Counties League, and he had already given me the nod. Then, about 9 o'clock on Friday, Darren Bullock was forced to withdraw with illness and Jim Quinn drafted me in as cover.

On a Friday like that or a matchday the YTs come in to give a hand with the preparations for the travel or to clean up the dressing room areas. Naturally, I'd come in with all the others to help out

but ended up boarding the coach with the gaffer, which was a bit strange! The other youths gave me a bit of stick as you'd expect but that's alright. As a YT, if you get into the first team squad then you can't be doing that badly.

It's great to be given a chance like that, although to be honest it really isn't too different to other trips you go on, except that the stakes are much higher - you get the feeling that this is for real. I'm in my second year as a YT now and so I'm used to travelling across the country and training in different places for a game.

I suppose it's natural that the youth team doesn't get so much attention but it is just as professional in its own way. Still, now that I've got a taste of the first team squad under Jim Quinn, I admit I wouldn't mind another bite.



Frazer McHugh

*Amesbury Swindon Tronbridge Chippenham Malmesbury
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Q. So how are things going?

A. Not too bad, but could be better with the injury. Hopefully it won't be too long, possibly for this weekend's game [Norwich], if not then definitely the following week.



Q. What kind of things are you working on in training?

A. I've been doing a bit of running work and it's just the last little bit of fitness I need to work on really, like sprinting off the mark, which is how I got the injury. That's going to be the test in the next couple of days. Until then I've just got to keep working and do what the physio's tell me.



Q. Presumably you have more time on your hands now?

A. No, quite the opposite as it happens. At the moment the first team starts training at 11 o'clock until about 2pm, whereas those trying to get fit are coming in about 8.45am and getting home after 4 o'clock. The physio's have us working really hard. The idea behind this is to make being injured as unpleasant as possible so players want to get back to fitness as soon as they can.



Q. Up until the injury you'd been ever-present.

A. Yeah, and it was disappointing to come off in the Palace game - even more to miss the whole of the Grimsby game. Hopefully if I can miss just that one full



TV

game that will be a bit of a bonus. As a player I always try to go a whole season without injury. I nearly managed it last season but missed the closing games and now I'm out again, but I still play the majority of games and while I'm doing that I'm happy.

Q. You're coming back from injury about the same time as several other players are returning to the frame...

A. Yeah, that's the thing, although George is suspended for Saturday so there's one spare space! Scott's come back and Bully will be there with Kevin Watson and the others so there's plenty of competition for spaces, which is obviously good for the manager. It's a bit harder for yourself though, as you really don't want to miss any games. But I'm confident that I'll continue to prove my worth when I get back in the team.

Q. You're the longest-serving member of the Squad - might you consider yourself almost a veteran now?

A. Well, I've been here over five years so I am getting on a bit now. In the five-a-side training sessions it's often Youngest v Oldest and I'm on the Oldest side now alongside people like Buggy and Alan McDonald, which makes you a bit worried!



Q. Any personal ambitions for this season?

A. To get back into the team and play all the games until the end of the season, and hopefully push for the play-offs. I'd also like to score a few more goals.



Ty Gooden

FACT FILE

Did you ever feel your career had gone pear-shaped?
A couple of hernias but that's about it.

Best dressed at STFC?
George Ndah.

Worst dressed at STFC?
Frank Talia

You house is on fire, what is the first material possession you rescue?
Girlfriend and baby, closely followed by my fishing tackle.

Favourite Spice Girl?
Posh Spice

Best advice a manager has ever given you?
Believe in yourself and your own abilities

Sum up Kevin Watson in three words?
World's Best Angler!

GOODEN



the swindon fact files

the key:

FAC = F.A. CUP
WC = WORTHINGTON CUP

DATE	OPPONENTS	RESULT	ATT.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sat Aug 08	Sheffield United A	1-2	15,937	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	GOODEN	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
WED AUG 12	WYCOMBE W. WC1 (1) H	2-1	4,682	GLASS	ROBINSON	HALL	GOODEN	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT AUG 15	SUNDERLAND H	1-1	10,207	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Tue Aug 18	Wycombe W. WC1 (2) A	0-2	2,478	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	WATSON	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Sat Aug 22	Wolverhampton W. A	0-1	21,537	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	DAVIS	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT AUG 29	PORT VALE H	1-1	7,800	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	HULBERT	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Mon Aug 31	Bury A	0-3	4,513	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	HULBERT	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT SEPT 05	BRISTOL CITY* H	3-2	8,537	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
WED SEPT 09	OXFORD UNITED* H	4-1	8,305	GLASS	KERSLAKE	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Sat Sept 12	Portsmouth A	2-5	10,105	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT SEPT 19	WATFORD H	1-4	8,781	TALIA	KERSLAKE	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Fri Sept 25	Tranmere Rovers A	0-0	5,501	TALIA	ROBINSON	WILLIS	DAVIS	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Tue Sept 29	Bolton Wanderers A	1-2	16,497	TALIA	ROBINSON	WILLIS	DAVIS	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT OCT 03	STOCKPORT COUNTY H	2-3	7,961	TALIA	ROBINSON	DAVIS	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
FRI OCT 09	HUDDERSFIELD T. H	3-0	8,316	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	LEITCH	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Sat Oct 17	Ipswich Town A	0-1	13,212	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	LEITCH	WILLIS	BORROWS	WALTERS
Tue Oct 20	Birmingham City A	1-1	19,485	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	DAVIS	WILLIS	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT OCT 24	W.B.A. H	2-2	8,967	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	WATSON	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT OCT 31	QUEENS PARK RANGERS H	3-1	8,500	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	DAVIS	REEVES	BORROWS	WALTERS
Sat Nov 07	Crewe Alexandra A	2-0	4,469	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	DAVIS	WILLIS	BORROWS	HULBERT
Sat Nov 14	Bradford City A	0-3	14,897	TALIA	TAYLOR	HALL	DAVIS	WILLIS	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT NOV 21	CRYSTAL PALACE H	2-0	11,718	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	DAVIS	WILLIS	BORROWS	WALTERS
Sat Nov 28	Grimsby Town A	0-1	8,657	TALIA	ROBINSON	HALL	DAVIS	WILLIS	BORROWS	WALTERS
SAT DEC 05	NORWICH CITY (FA.C2) H									
SAT DEC 12	BRADFORD CITY H									
Sat Dec 19	Barnsley A									
SAT DEC 26	WOLVERHAMPTON W. H									
Mon Dec 28	Bristol City A									
Sat Jan 02	(FA.C3)									
SAT JAN 09	SHEFFIELD UNITED H									
Sat Jan 16	Port Vale A									
Sat Jan 23	(FA.C4)									
SAT JAN 30	BURY H									
Sat Feb 06	Sunderland A									
Sat Feb 13	Oxford Utd (FA.C5) A									
SAT FEB 20	PORTSMOUTH H									
Sat Feb 27	Watford A									
WED MAR 03	TRANMERE ROVERS H									
SAT MAR 06	BOLTON W. (FA.C6) H									
Tue Mar 09	Stockport County A									
SAT MAR 13	CREWE ALEXANDRA H									
Sat Mar 20	Queens Park Rangers A									
Sat Mar 27	W.B.A. A									
SAT APR 03	IPSWICH TOWN H									
Mon Apr 05	Huddersfield Town A									
SAT APR 10	BIRMINGHAM C. (FA.CSF) H									
Sat Apr 17	Crystal Palace A									
SAT APR 24	GRIMSBY TOWN H									
Sat May 01	Norwich City A									
SUN MAY 09	BARNSELY H									
Sat May 22	F.A. Cup Final									

THIS SEASON'S TOP SCORERS

IFFY ONUORA	11
GEORGE NDAH	7
MARK WALTERS	7
GARETH HALL	2
DARREN BULLOCK	1

THIS SEASON'S TOP GATES

SAT 21 ST NOV VS CRYSTAL PALACE	11,718
SAT 15 TH AUG VS SUNDERLAND	10,207
SAT 24 TH OCT VS W.B.A	8,967
SAT 19 TH SEPT VS WATFORD	8,781

LAST FOUR GAMES

GRIMSBY	A	LOST 1-0
CRYSTAL PALACE	H	WON 2-0
BRADFORD	A	LOST 3-0
CREWE	A	WON 2-0

FRONT COVER PHOTO...SOL DAVIS



1



PLAYER IN RED
DENOTES SCORER

NUMBER IN BRACKETS
DENOTES PLAYER REPLACED ()

8	9	10	11	12	13	14
HAY	ONUORA	BULLOCK	NDAAH	DAVIS (8)	CUERVO	TAYLOR
HAY	ONUORA	BULLOCK	NDAAH	KERSLAKE	WATSON(8)	TAYLOR
NDAAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	DAVIS	HAY	CUERVO(4)
NDAAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HAY (4)	CUERVO (11)	GLASS
NDAAH	HAY	BULLOCK	GOODEN	ONUORA(8)	ROBINSON	CUERVO (4)
NDAAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HAY	DAVIS	CUERVO (8)
NDAAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	COWE	DAVIS(3)	ROBINSON
NDAAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HULBERT(4)	COWE	DAVIS(6)
NDAAH (2)	ONUORA (2)	BULLOCK	GOODEN	ROBINSON	WILLIS	WATSON
NDAAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	ROBINSON(10)	COWE	WILLIS
NDAAH	COWE	BULLOCK	GOODEN	TAYLOR	HOWE	WATSON
NDAAH	CUERVO	BULLOCK	GOODEN	WATSON	TAYLOR	COWE(9)
COWE	CUERVO	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HOWE(8)	ONUORA(9)	WATSON
WILLIS	ONUORA	NDAAH	GOODEN	BULLOCK	HALL	CUERVO(18)
NDAAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	CUERVO	WATSON	WILLIS
NDAAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HAY(9)	WATSON(10)	DAVIS(4)
NDAAH	ONUORA	BULLOCK	GOODEN	HAY(9)	WATSON(5)	CUERVO
NDAAH	ONUORA	LEITCH	GOODEN	HAY(8)	DAVIS	CUERVO
NDAAH	ONUORA	LEITCH	GOODEN	WATSON(8)	HULBERT(5)	BULLOCK(18)
HAY	ONUORA(2)	BULLOCK	GOODEN	WATSON(7)	CAMPAGNA	COWE(8)
WATSON	ONUORA	FENN	GOODEN	HULBERT(7)	CAMPAGNA	COWE
WATSON	ONUORA	FENN	GOODEN	TAYLOR(10)	BULLOCK(8)	NDAAH(11)
WATSON	ONUORA	FENN	NDAAH	HOWE(8)	HULBERT(6)	LEITCH(18)

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION 1 TABLE

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sunderland	20	12	7	1	48	15	43
Ipswich	20	11	5	4	29	11	38
Watford	21	10	6	5	37	31	36
Birmingham	21	10	5	6	30	22	35
Bolton Wanderers	20	9	7	4	39	29	34
Sheffield Utd	21	9	6	6	33	33	33
Norwich	19	9	5	5	31	25	32
Wolves	21	9	9	7	30	21	32
Huddersfield	21	9	5	7	29	36	32
Bradford	20	9	4	7	35	25	31
West Brom	20	9	3	8	39	35	30
Grimsby	20	8	5	7	24	22	29
Crystal Palace	18	8	3	7	30	30	27
Barnsley	21	6	8	7	32	30	26
Stockport	21	5	11	5	26	26	26
Bury	21	6	6	9	15	24	24
Swindon Town	21	6	5	10	29	34	23
Oxford Utd	21	6	5	10	25	35	23
Tranmere	20	4	10	6	26	31	22
Port Vale	21	6	4	11	24	40	22
Portsmouth	21	5	6	10	29	35	21
QPR	20	6	3	11	21	29	21
Bristol City	21	3	7	11	30	49	16
Crewe Alexandra	20	2	5	13	21	44	11

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES 98/99

Player Name:	LEAGUE	W. C.	FAC.	Gls.
	Apps.	Apps.	Apps.	
BRIAN BORROWS	22	1	0	0
DARREN BULLOCK	16(2)	1	0	1
SAM CAMPAGNA	0	(1)	0	0
LEE COLLINS	0	0	0	0
STEVE COWE	2(1)	0	0	0
PHILLIPPE CUERVO	2(4)	0	0	0
SOL DAVIS	10(1)	0	0	0
NEALE FENN	2	1	0	0
JIMMY GLASS	1	1	0	0
TY GOODEN	21	1	0	1
GARETH HALL	19	1	0	2
CHRIS HAY	3(4)	1	0	0
BOBBY HOWE	(2)	0	0	0
ROBIN HULBERT	2(4)	0	0	0
DAVID KERSLAKE	7	0	0	0
SCOTT LEITCH	10(1)	0	0	0
ALAN McDONALD	0	0	0	0
STEVE MILDENHALL	0	0	0	0
GEORGE NDAAH	16(1)	0	0	7
IFEM ONUORA	18(2)	1	0	11
ALAN REEVES	16	(1)	0	1
MARK ROBINSON	14(1)	1	0	0
FRANK TALIA	20	1	0	0
CRAIG TAYLOR	1(1)	0	0	0
MARK WALTERS	21	1	0	7
KEVIN WATSON	5(4)	(1)	0	0
ADAM WILLIS	7	0	0	0

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FORTY SEVEN



MATCH..... STATS



the officials

Referee:

Mr B. Coddington

Brian Coddington is 43, and works as a local government officer. Brian is married with two children and started refereeing in 1971 and progressed to become a Football League ref in 1996. His hobbies include most sports and trying to fathom out computers!

Assistant Referees:

Mrs W.A. Toms

Mr E.J. Walsh

match facts

Half-Time Score

Full-Time Score

Today's Attendance

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TODAY'S TEAMS.....



FRANK TALIA	1	MICHAEL WATT
MARK ROBINSON	2	DARREN KENTON
GARETH HALL	3	MALKY MACKAY
SOL DAVIS	4	PETER GRANT
ADAM WILLIS	5	CHRIS LLEWELLYN
BRIAN BORROWS	6	MATT JACKSON
MARK WALTERS	7	LEE MARSHALL
KEVIN WATSON	8	CRAIG BELLAMY
IFEM ONUORA	9	IWAN ROBERTS
NEALE FENN	10	ADRIAN COOTE
TY GOODEN	11	NEIL ADAMS
BOBBY HOWE	12	VICTOR SEGURA
ROBIN HULBERT	13	ROBERT GRANT
SCOTT LEITCH	14	ADRIAN FORBES
TEAM MANAGER JIM QUINN		TEAM MANAGER BRUCE RIOCH

Craig Bellamy is Norwich's on-form striker, so young defender Adam Willis will need to be at his best to keep him quiet - it will be an interesting tussle.



NEXT HOME MATCH...

Sat 12th December 1998

Nationwide League Div 1

3.00pm kick off VS **BRADFORD CITY**