

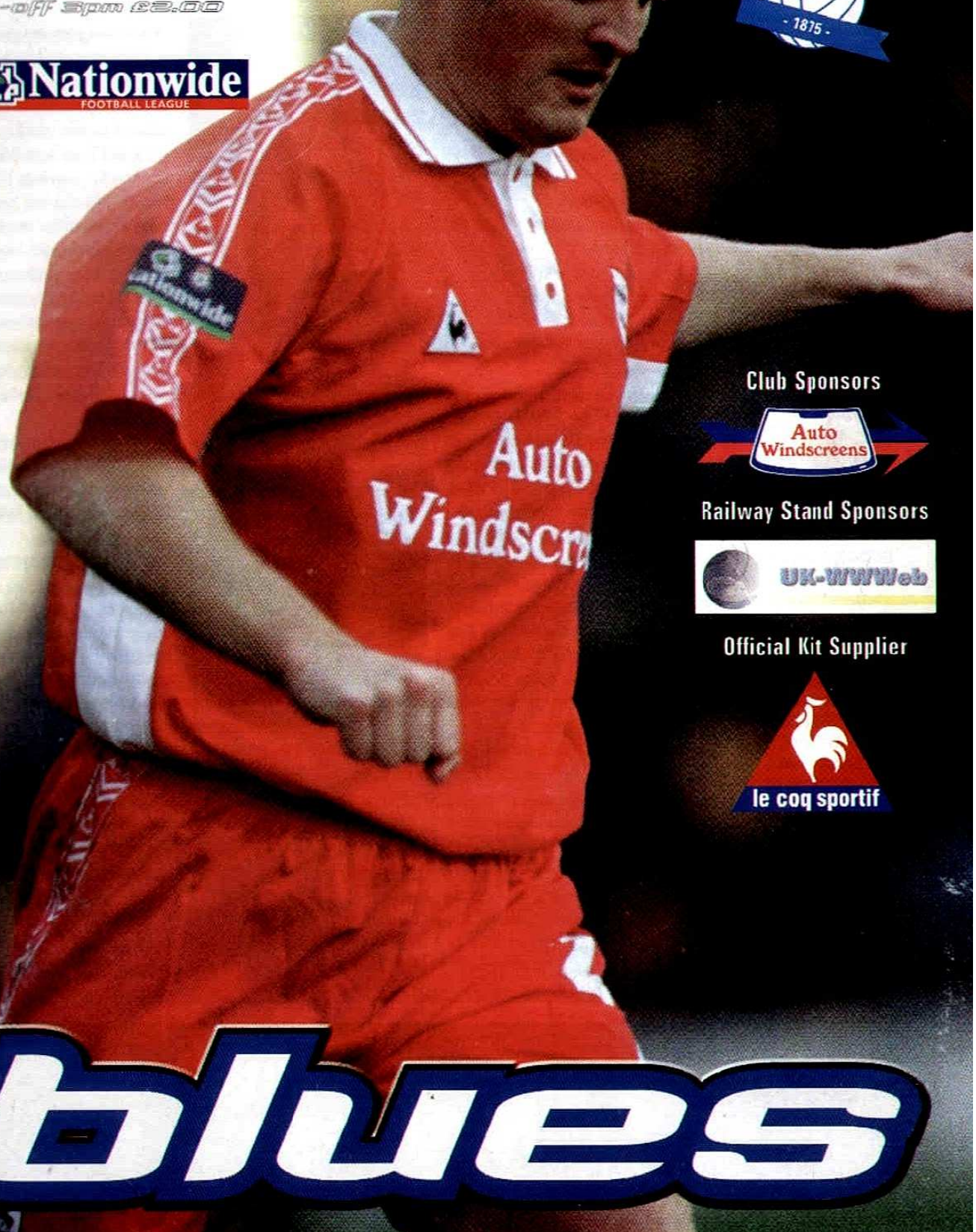
Swindon Town

Nationwide League

Division 1

Sat. 30th November 1999

Kick-off 3pm 22.00



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# blues

The Official Matchday Programme Of Birmingham City Football Club

# blues

## Birmingham City FC



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**Assistant Manager:**  
Mick Mills,

**First Team Coach:** Ian Bowyer

**Reserve Team Coach:**  
Jim Barron

**Chief Scout:** Bernard Paintin

**Fitness Coach:** Arvel Lowe

**Physiotherapists:**

Neil McDiarmid and  
John Pryce

**Club Doctors:**

Dr. Sanghera and Dr. Evans

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### **Welcome**

To today's game between Blues and Swindon Town. After the events of Tuesday, a quieter match with the same result is probably what most Blue Noses would like.

As always we would like to offer a warm welcome to the visiting supporters, players and officials who have travelled up to St. Andrews today.

We'd also like to welcome everyone who has taken up the offer of....

### **Kids For A Quid**

Once again we've been able to offer kids admission to today's game for just a pound. And we've received a letter from Paul Deakin - Coach to Hunters Moon Under 13's - on this very topic. He writes:

"I would like to congratulate you on the Blues initiative of Kids for a Quid. I invited the lads in our football team to come down to St. Andrews today to give Blues our support together.

"The response from the lads was overwhelming, to the extent that all our squad are coming along with brothers and parents. I found myself ordering 20 kids tickets and 9 adults for the Kop.

"Amongst are lads are supporters of all the local teams, but you never know I might be able to convert the non-Blues thanks to this deal."

**To arrange for  
someone special to  
be a Blues Matchday  
mascot, contact Rita  
Greenaway on:**

**0709 111 BLUES  
(25837)**

**extension:**

**1224**



We're very pleased to hear that the scheme is getting through to the people who we hope can benefit from it Paul. We also hope that you can indeed convert the non-believers!

So, a big welcome to everyone from Hunters Moon Under 13's and of course, good luck for the rest of the season.

Hopefully you can pick up a few pointers from the Blue boys today and that come May we will both be celebrating.

### **Today's Mascot**

Three year old Amelia Richards is with us at St. Andrews today to do us the honour of leading the lads out for this vital fixture.

Amelia hails from Coleshill and attends St. Edwards RC School. We are told she has been a Blue since birth and her favourite player is Michael Magic Johnson.

She is here because they successfully bid for the prize of being Mascot at our End of Season Awards Dinner. As a result, family and friends will be viewing this game today from Olympic Gallery Box 2.

Thanks for the bid and we hope you find the surroundings to your taste. And thank you Amelia for being our mascot today.

### **Programmes wanted**

Damon Hitchen of Halifax has contacted us with a request for the following programmes. If you can help, please contact the Programme Editor.

He would like to get hold of the following Blues v Leeds progs:

Season 50/51 home

Season 52/3 home and away.

Season 53/4 away

Season 54/5 home

Damon is willing to pay quite good money for these if they are in good nick. Let us know if you can help.

**For up to the minute BLUES NEWS  
www.bcfc.com**

**The Official Birmingham City Football Club Website**

# NEWS

Birmingham  
City FC

## Danny Boy

Pictured on the right is one of the latest additions to the big Blues family.

He is Daniel James Victor Payne and was born on 23rd June this year. The picture was sent in by his uncle, Andrew Payne.

Andrew informs us that despite the fact that Daniel's mum Joanne supports Arsenal, Dad Darren and, of course, Andrew himself will make sure the nipper is brought up on the right side of the Expressway.

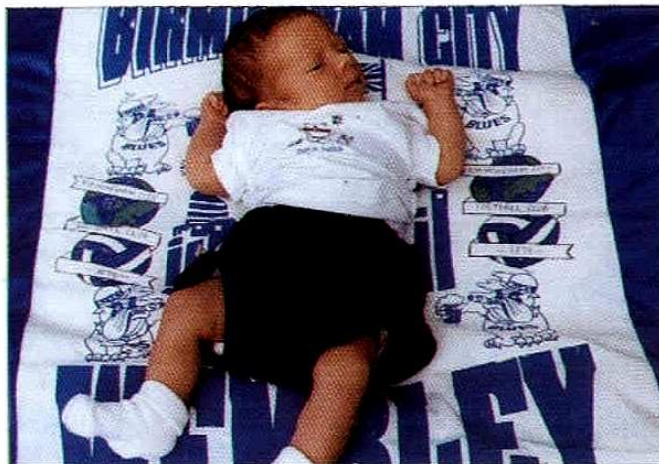
## Historical Update

Due to print deadlines, the usual information from the Historical Society has not been updated on the Stats page.

Last night the Historical Society held a European Squads Reunion Night which was attended by a host of Blues stars including Gil Merrick, Eddy Brown, Alex Govan, Gordon Astall, Harry Hooper, Dick Neal and Trevor Smith. Brian Oritt travelled from South Africa to attend.

Next up for the Society is the famous Birmingham City Football Memorabilia and Programme Fayre on Sunday 19th December. It kicks off at 11am and runs until 2pm.

Ideal for your Christmas shopping, so get along and dig out a bargain.



## Tunnel Done

As you can see from our picture, the players have a nice new dressing room to prepare for the match in. But it's when they head for the pitch that they are really treated to a great sight.

The personalised bricks have now been installed in the tunnel. Thank you to everyone who had their message placed here.

Each brick contains a message from a Blue which can only inspire the players as they head out into the heat of battle on the pitch.

You can still have your own message placed on our Walk Way of Fame. Details of this will appear in the West Ham programme or you can pick up a form from reception.



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**Programme Editor:** SUE DENIM

**Blues Club Call on 09068 12 11 88**



**trev**

At the start of the month I was at Anfield commentating on Liverpool's game with Bradford. Prior to kick-off I saw referee Jeff Winter whose first words to me were that I should be careful what I said about him because we'd got him in a few weeks time for the Tranmere match. Little did he know what an explosive game it would turn out to be.

Whether on TV as a commentator or as manager of Birmingham City, I always try to steer clear of commenting on referees, just as I do about opposing players and managers. Yet as I approached Tuesday night's post-match Press Conference I couldn't remember being so angered. The source of that feeling was the number and nature of the tackles we witnessed in the match, many of which seemed to carry intent. As a result, just as we thought we were starting to clear the decks after our horrendous run of injuries, we have suffered a massive blow.

While I've been manager of this Club, I've often felt that we don't get the rub of the green and 'lucky' is rarely a word you can associate with us. On Tuesday, it was as if someone was saying: "You're 3-0 up, it's all going too well!"

It is, of course, pleasing to win games, but this has to be balanced against what we're trying to achieve this season. We are now finding it increasingly difficult to compete without so many key players. On Tuesday we lost Jon McCarthy. He has been in outstanding form, producing his best football since he's been here. But he now has a broken leg and will be out for a long time. Stan Lazaridis and Marcelo both have ligament damage. They don't need operations which, at this club, represents good news!

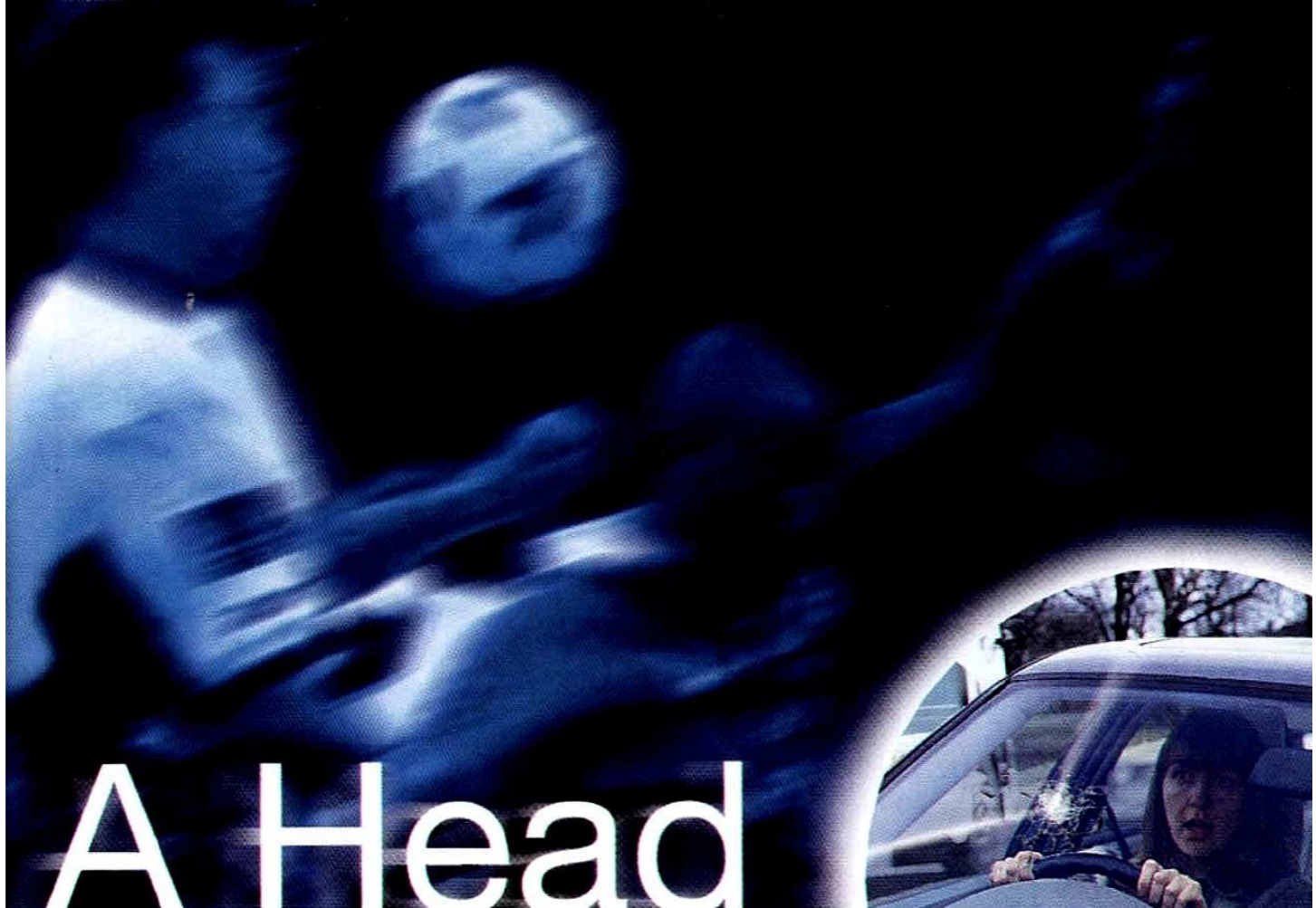
Returning to Tuesday's match, Martin Grainger and Graham Hyde added their names to our growing list of goalscorers this season. We have had so many changes forced upon us which has led to a lack of continuity, but we shouldn't overlook the fact that these two players took our tally of scorers to SIXTEEN since August! For Graham it was his first strike for the club and I doubt he will score a better goal. Martin Grainger tucked away the penalty well in the absence of two regular takers, Martin O'Connor and Paul Furlong. It's always important to get off to a good start and the award of the penalty helped us on our way.

Penalties have had a bearing on the outcome of our last three games. Undoubtedly at Portsmouth it cost us two points. At Barnsley, who knows what might have been if a spot kick hadn't been awarded against us? But on Tuesday, it helped us to race into a 3-0 lead. With so many contentious issues in the last few games I'm sure you can see why it's not my policy to get involved in knee-jerk reactions to referee's decisions.

The comment of Jeff Winter at Anfield shows that while we see referees as different, they are human. They watch TV and hear the comments about them. It's difficult not to pass comment because after a game you're always faced with the media asking for your view on incidents. But I have found that to make comment ultimately serves no purpose.

Here the latest news from  
around St. Andrews on  
Blues Club Call:  
**0891 12 11 88**

*Steve  
James*



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# let battle **Commence**

## Blues v Swindon

Blues aim to collect another three points to follow up the win against Tranmere in mid-week, but for Swindon a win would benefit for very different reasons.

Currently finding themselves

rooted to the bottom of the table, the Robins suffered a 2-1 defeat at home to Charlton on Tuesday while Walsall climbed thanks to a shock 2-0 victory over Huddersfield.

Blues have climbed themselves thanks to the win over the Rovers and with the big Cup tie with West Ham on the

horizon, continued success in the league would give a real boost ahead of Tuesday night's clash.

We are all aware of how the form book counts for nothing and with two sides so desperate for the points, resting on the current state of the table would prove disastrous for the Blues. It's on the day that counts. Enjoy!

Nationwide Football  
League Statistics  
courtesy of

CARLING OPTA

	Allan Johnston	Bobby Howe
Mins On Pitch	371	1494
<b>GOAL ATTEMPTS</b>		
Goals	0	1
Shots on Target	0	3
Shots off Target	1	10
Blocked Shots	2	0
<b>PASSES</b>		
Goal Assists	0	1
Total Passes	68	566
Pass Completion %	71	78
<b>CROSSING</b>		
Total Crosses	23	82
Cross Completion %	48	28
<b>DRIBBLING</b>		
Dribbles & Runs	6	24
Dribble Completion %	88	77
<b>DEFENDING</b>		
Tackles Made	6	24
Tackles Won %	17	58
Blocks	2	9
Clearances	2	15
Interceptions	2	14
<b>DISCIPLINE</b>		
Fouls	2	15
Offside	0	1
Yellow Cards	1	1
Red Cards	0	0

## Allan Johnston vs Bobby Howe

Many Sunderland fans were worried when Peter Reid sold Michael Bridges, and banished Allan Johnston and other contract rebels to the reserves.

Swindon benefited themselves, signing Paul Thirlwell on loan. Reid has dubbed him "the new Paul Bracewell", and he certainly made a good impression at the County Ground.

Thirlwell has since returned to the Stadium of Light but Birmingham have their own Sunderland player on their books in the form of Allan Johnston.

Bobby Howe has led Swindon's midfield this season and has shown both battling and creative qualities in the clubs fight at the foot of the table. He has scored once, Town's winner against Blackburn, but most of his efforts have flown wide.

Johnston has yet to get an effort on target for the Blues, but despite playing for just 371 minutes he has delivered 23 crosses, with a completion rate of 48 per cent.

This illustrates the danger that the Scottish international

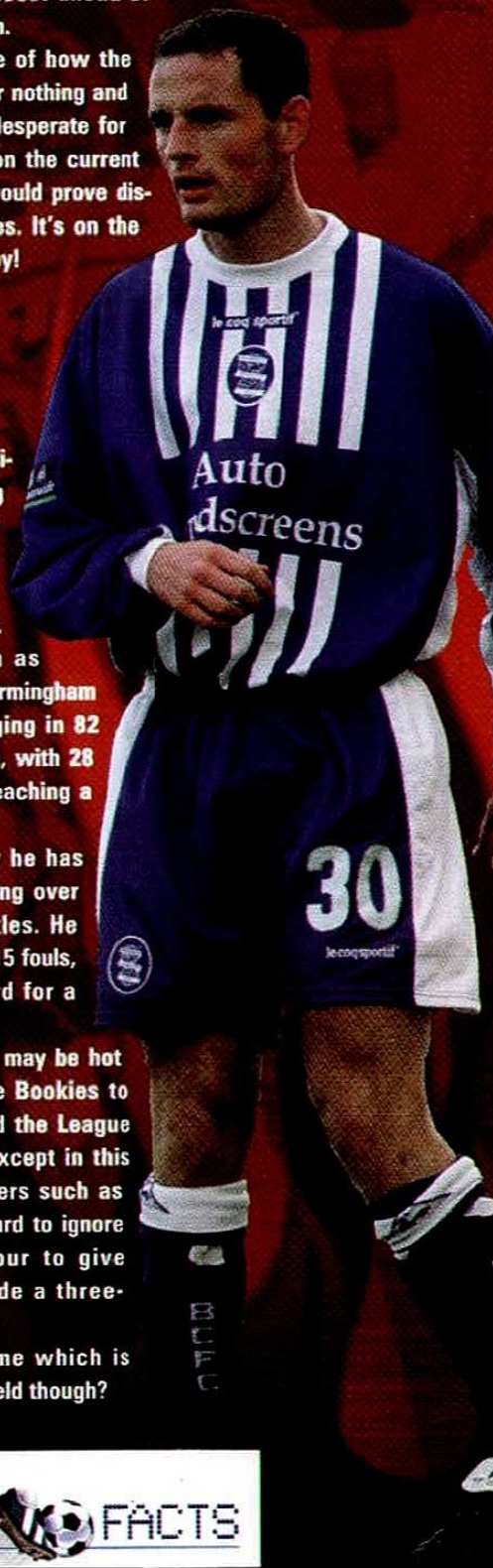
poses for the opposition, his searing pace and tricky footwork often bamboozling the keenest of defences.

Howe has been as productive as the Birmingham man though, swinging in 82 crosses this season, with 28 per cent of them reaching a red shirt.

And defensively he has been strong, winning over half of his 24 tackles. He has conceded only 15 fouls, an excellent record for a midfield battler.

Birmingham City may be hot favourites with the Bookies to win this game, and the League table rarely lies (except in this Division), but players such as Bobby Howe are hard to ignore and will endeavour to give Jimmy Quinn's side a three-point fillip.

Will it be a game which is won or lost in midfield though?



Nationwide  
**FOOTIE VS FACTS**

# who are



SWINDON  
TOWN  
F.C.

## Honours

Div One Play-off Winners: 1993  
Div Two Champions: 1995/96  
Div Three Runners Up: 1962/63  
& 1968/69  
Div Four Champions: 1985/86  
League Cup Winners: 1969  
Anglo-Italian Cup Winners:  
1970

## Football League Record

1920-21 Division Three  
1921-58 Division Three (S)  
1958-63 Division Three  
1963-65 Division Two  
1965-69 Division Three  
1969-74 Division Two  
1974-82 Division Three  
1982-86 Division Four  
1986-87 Division Three  
1987-92 Division Two  
1992-93 Division One  
1993-94 Premier League  
1994-95 Division One  
1995-96 Division Two  
1996- Division One



For Swindon Town, the Premier League is fast becoming a dim and distant memory. An astounding 4-3 Play-off win against Leicester City in 1993 took them to the promised land for just a single campaign. Since then, they have struggled to establish themselves in Division One.

Their drop from the Premier League was rapid. They passed through Division One, suffering successive relegations which took them down to Division Two a mere twelve months after they had been mixing it with the big boys.

Fortunately, though, the slide stopped there. At the first attempt they won the Division Two title and are now in their fourth campaign back with us.

Looking on the positive side, Swindon's League placings have been steadily improving. In 1997

they finished, nineteenth. A year later it was eighteenth and last season, seventeenth.

There is no doubt, though, that they want more. For much of their history they have hovered around the bottom two divisions, but that taste of the Premiership only makes clubs hungry for more. Swindon Town are no exception to this rule.

## Cash is the Answer

The reason behind Swindon's fall from grace is that common ailment, lack of cash. There have been boardroom changes in the six years since the top flight beckoned, but they have been unable to compete with the big spenders.

When you look at it, teams which come up tend to struggle a bit unless they have the spending power of a Fulham or a Manchester City. Swindon don't and this has been reflected in their League position.

They are, at the time of writing, rooted to the bottom of the table. In terms of away form they have a single win at Palace and a couple of draws from ten games on the road. Both those one-pointers came in the West Midlands, however, at Walsall and Wolves. They may be low at the moment, but the Robins are quite

Swindon have played  
their home football  
at the County Ground  
for no less than 103  
years



# YAT

capable of causing an upset. Last season this fixture ended with the sharing of two goals, with the now departed George Ndah taking a starring role.

For Blues, the points would help in a promotion push. For Swindon, the win would be vital to kick start a move away from the drop zone.

## Mighty Quinn

Former Town player and fans favourite **Jimmy Quinn** has gathered a wealth of experience over his career playing at the likes of Blackburn Rovers, Leicester City, West Ham, managing Reading and picking up 48 caps for Northern Ireland. During his time as a player at Swindon he scored over a goal a game and went on to score 94 for Reading. He took over the hot seat from Steve McMahon in October 1998 and is still playing occasionally.

## Net Minders

**Frank Talia** was spotted playing for Australia's Under 21 team and after trials with several English clubs, eventually signed for Blackburn Rovers in August 1992. He was brought in on loan at Swindon before signing in November 1995. He was back-up to Fraser Digby until he broke through with some terrific displays to earn him a regular place, and the No. 1 shirt. Frank has an infectious character with plenty to say both on and off the field.

**Jimmy Glass** joined from Bournemouth on a Bosman. Started his career as a trainee at Crystal Palace and went on loan to Portsmouth before grabbing the chance of first team football

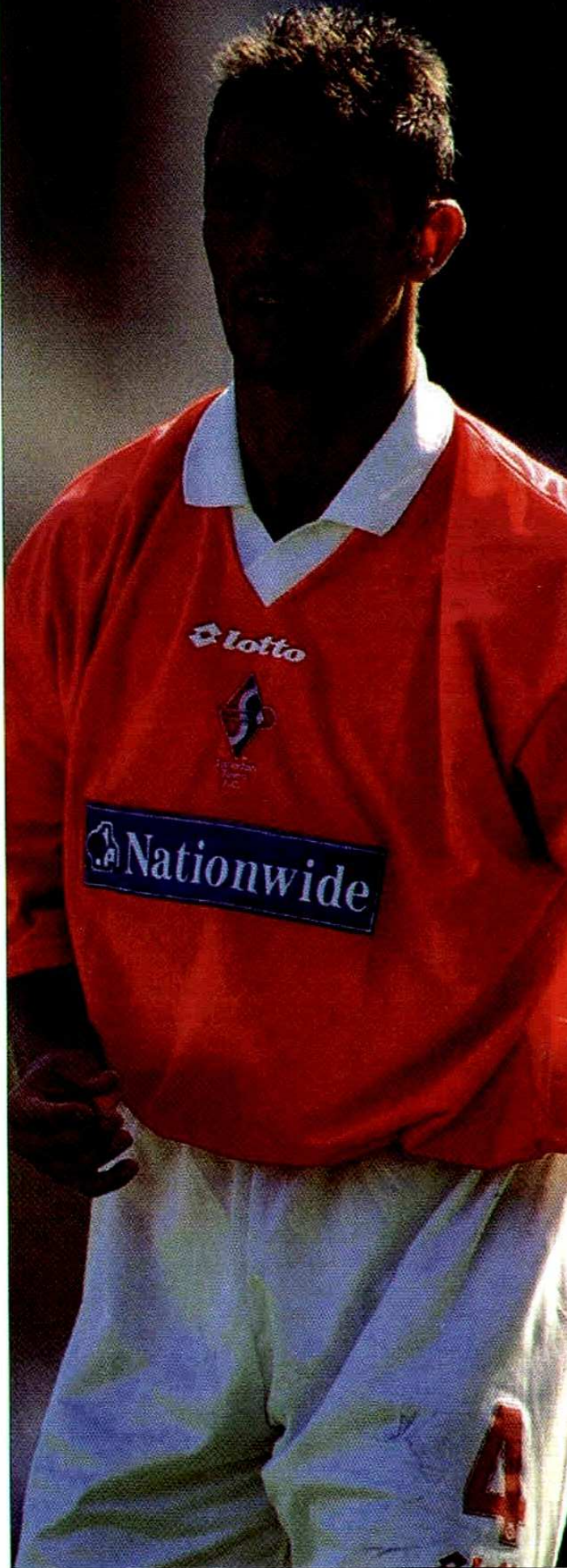
at Dean Court. He only started three games for Swindon last season, but his heroics for Carlisle on the final day made it a season to remember. Jimmy scored in the dying seconds to keep Carlisle in the Football League, making him a hero with the 'Blues' faithful and instigating a sell-out of Carlisle 'GLASS' goalie shirts.

**Steve Mildenhall** is one of Swindon's home grown talents. He's in his third year as a professional after coming through the Club's YTS system. Made two first team appearances in 1995/96, came off the bench to play as an outfield player in 1996/97 and made his full League debut between the posts for Swindon in October 1997. In this match he suffered a terrible groin injury but with no keeper on the bench, he bravely played on to earn the 'Man of the Match' award in front of the Sky cameras and put Swindon on top of the 1st Division for 24 hours.

## Back Line

**Gareth Hall** signed from Sunderland under the Bosman ruling. Best known as a full-back, he's versatile enough to play anywhere across the back. Started his career at Chelsea where he flourished under ex-Swindon boss Glenn Hoddle. Moved to Sunderland in 1995 and was a regular in the Premiership for the Wear-siders. Capped nine times for Wales.

**Alan Reeves** quit Wimbledon's "Crazy Gang" in search of first team football with Swindon. Tall central defender, who cost the Dons £300,000 from



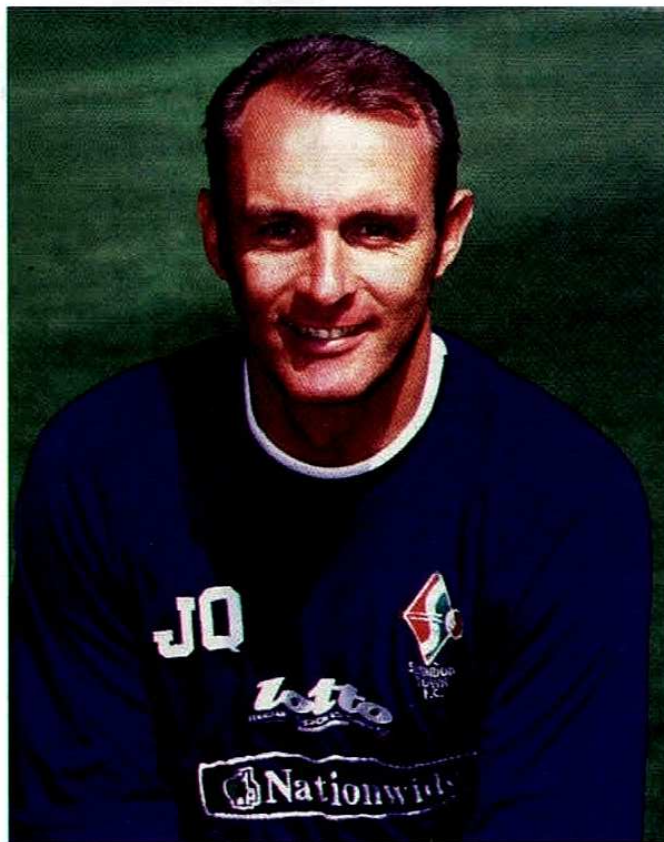
Rochdale five years ago when he was signed as a replacement for John Scales. Excellent header of the ball, 31-year-old Reeves can be an asset in attack on set pieces, scoring 2 goals in 24 appearances last season.

**Mark Robinson** started his career at West Bromwich Albion, joined Barnsley on a free in June 1986 and such was his form there that Newcastle snapped him up for £450,000 in March 1993. After losing his place in the first team through injury, Swindon paid a Club record £600,000 for his services in July 1994 and he has been a regular and consistent performer ever since. Mark can play at full-back, central defence and also as a sweeper.

**Gareth Davies** was signed on a free transfer in March 1999, He made the short trip down the M4 from Reading and despite being a firm favourite with the fans, he did not figure in Tommy Burns' plans. Gareth is well known for his commitment and aggressive style, but the Town fans only caught glimpses of him in action due to several injuries wrecking the end of his campaign.

**Sol Davis** is a left-sided full-back/wing back who was offered his first pro contract in the summer of 1998 after a series of impressive performances in the reserves. Made his league debut as a substitute at home to QPR, shortly after his 18th birthday. First start in a Swindon shirt came six months later in the derby clash at Oxford United. Last season he established himself as reliable first team player making 23 appearances.

**Andy Williams** moved from Southampton in October 1999 in a £65,000 deal after an impressive loan spell at the County Ground. Andy is an extremely versatile player and has featured in both wing-back positions though Andy admits he usually plays on the left wing. A regular



Jimmy Quinn is still turning out for his own team

Under21 international he made his debut coming on as substitute against Brazil in Sao Paulo's Maracana Stadium.

#### Centre Field

**Ty Gooden** was signed by John Gorman in 1993 having been released by Wycombe Wanderers. Made over 30 appearances in Swindon's Second Division Championship season but was hindered by injuries in 1996/97. He is now the Town's longest serving player entering

**In their 1985/86 Fourth Division Championship year, Swindon amassed a record 104 points**

**Swindon reached the FA Cup semi-finals in 1910 and 1912 as a non-League club**

his 6th season. A natural wing-back who likes to get forward, he can deliver dangerous crosses.

**Scott Leich**, the former Dunfermline and Hearts midfielder, signed for Swindon in the summer of 1996 for a bargain price of £15,000. Enjoyed a successful loan spell at the County Ground during the Second Division Championship season and former manager Steve McMahon was quick to bring him in on a permanent basis. Scott was named 'Club Captain' by Jim Quinn in the

close season after the retirement of Brian Borrows. He works hard in the Town's engine room, possesses a strong tackle and is capable of spreading the play.

Gifted young midfielder **Robin Hulbert** made his first team bow as a substitute against QPR in the Coca-Cola Cup tie at Loftus Road in September 1996. He gained Premiership experience on-loan with Newcastle Utd and showed much improvement last season. Six full starts last season gave him added experience and incentive. This season Robin will be looking to become a regular in Jimmy Quinn's side.

**Lee Collins** joined Swindon from Scottish Club Albion Rovers for £15,000 in November 1995. Lee was probably Swindon's most improved player in 1997-98. After being banned for seven games and told to clean up his act, he successfully channelled his aggression and energies into developing as a player and his tough tackling remained, but with control.

Gifted Frenchman **Philippe Cuervo** impressed during a trial period and was quickly signed on a three-year contract from Sochaux. He has not had the best of luck with injuries and missed all but two games of last season due to a broken ankle. He has been given the all-clear by the specialist and will resume full training in December 1999.

**Stephen (Bobby) Howe** is an attacking midfielder who signed for Swindon in January 1998 from Nottingham Forest, where his first team opportunities had dried up. He made 17 appearances for Forest and has had loan spells at Kettering and Ipswich Town.

#### In Attack

**Chris Hay** is a pacy young striker drafted in from Scottish giants Celtic for £330,000. He quickly made a good impression

scoring 13 goals in 18 appearances before Christmas 1997. A number of niggling injuries hampered his last campaign but he is raring to go this season. He still managed to notch six goals in 18 starts last season.

**Ifem Onuora** is an ex-Huddersfield, Mansfield and Gillingham striker, who was signed in a £100,000 deal in March 1998. He made the perfect start for his new club, heading the winning goal on his debut versus QPR. He leads the line exceedingly well and his impressive tally of 20 goals last season was enough to make Iffy Swindon Town's top marksman.

**Giuliano Grazioli** was signed by manager Jimmy Quinn in June 1999 on a free transfer from his former club Peterborough United. Giuliano's last visit to the County Ground was in 1997 with Stevenage Town in the FA Cup 3rd round. His winning goal dumped Swindon out and handed Stevenage a money making 4th round tie against Newcastle Utd. He scored 15 goals last season for Peterborough and Jimmy Quinn is certain that his former strike partner will continue his good form with Swindon. However, a broken foot sustained earlier this month will see him ruled out of action until next year.

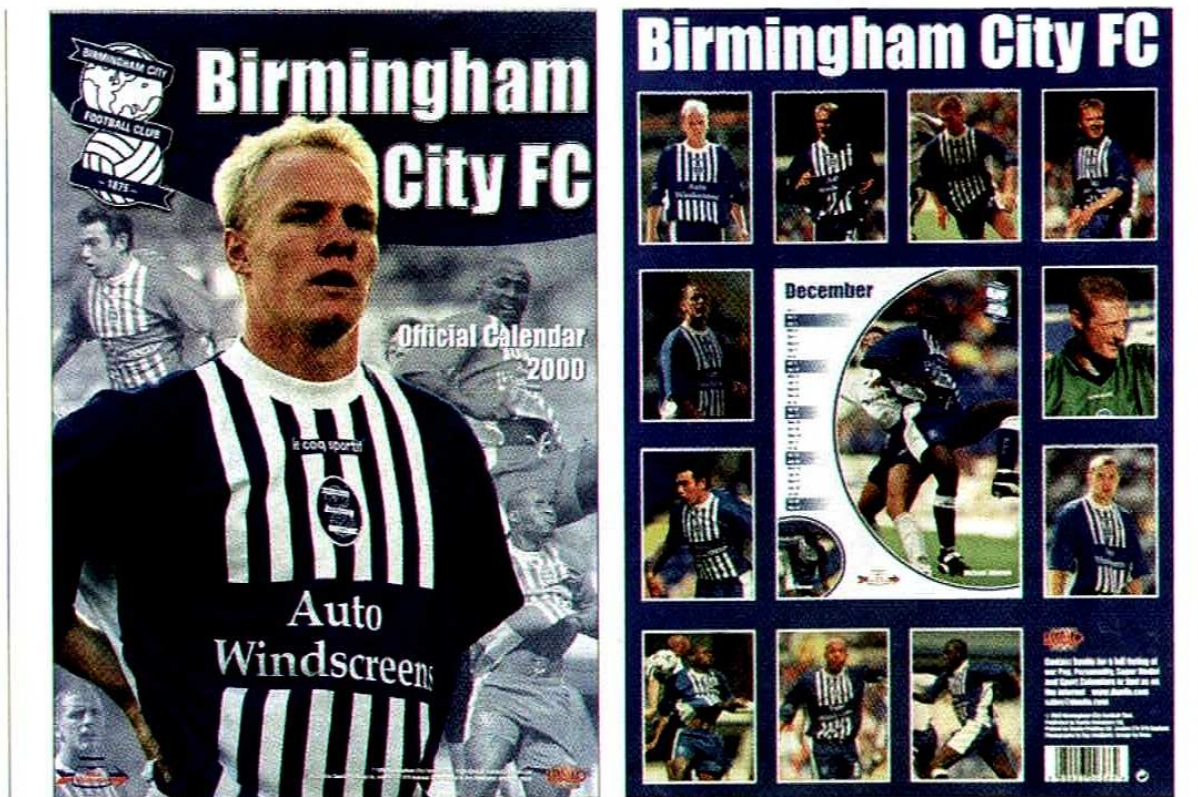
Like manager Jimmy Quinn, **Charlie Griffin** started his career in non-league football. He was signed for £10,000 from Chippenham Town where he was top scorer in the Screwfix League with 30 goals. At nineteen years old he is a prospect for the future and the coaching staff believe that with a handful of reserve games under his belt he will be ready to step into first team football. His first start in the first team came in the final game of last season against Barnsley, where the dream start occurred when he opened his account after only seven minutes.



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# Football in the **Community**



with  
**Dean Holtham**

## Schools Programme

**42 currently visited**

The work never stops for the Community Department. It's not all holiday camps and swanning around you know. The Blues Community Team are currently hitting dozens of schools in the area and there's room to accommodate even more.



### Christmas Camp

As usual, Dean will be organise a Soccer Camp over the Christmas holiday. It will be a three-dayer, coming between Christmas and New Year. The venue should be confirmed very soon.

If you haven't been to one of the Camps, come along, improve your skills and have a laugh. Just like the happy chappies pictured below in fact.



At the moment, Dean and the team are visiting forty-two schools in the area. They take P.E. lessons and after school activities for a total of six weeks per school. Amongst those currently in the scheme are:

**Bellfield Primary School**  
**Hall Green High School**  
**Harborne Hill High School**  
**St. Anne's Juniors**  
**St. Peter's Juniors**  
**St. James Juniors**  
**Marlborough Junior School**

The Community Department deal with kids at Key Stages One, Two, Three and Four, thereby taking in all juniors and secondary schools.

If any school would like more information about the Community Schools Programme, contact Dean on the usual number.

### Saturday Soccer Centres

We are hoping to set up a few more of our successful Saturday Morning Soccer Centres. These give 5 to 15 year olds the chance to brush up their skills and have some fun with our Community Coaches.

Currently, they are being run at Saltley High School and at the Birmingham City Training Complex at West Hills.

They run from 10am to 12 noon and cost just £3 per child. Get yourself down there and impress Dean and the team with you abilities.

Don't forget that although talented players will be passed on to the Centre of Excellence, all our Community Schemes are open to all of any ability. Keep an eye out in the programme for future venues.

### Birthday Blues

**Blues' Community Office are now arranging birthday parties with a difference.**

Dean Holtham and his team have put together a number of special birthday packages which make mincemeat of all the other, old fashioned parties.

There's coaching sessions with various strange games which, apparently, have something to do with football. Autographed balls, tickets to the Blues.

**You can even create your own tailor-made party.** Just call the number below.



**To contact the Community Office about the Camps or any other of Dean's schemes, phone:**

**0709 111 BLUES (25837)**

**extension 1210**

**IN THE NEXT PROGRAMME WE SHOULD HAVE DETAILS OF THE**

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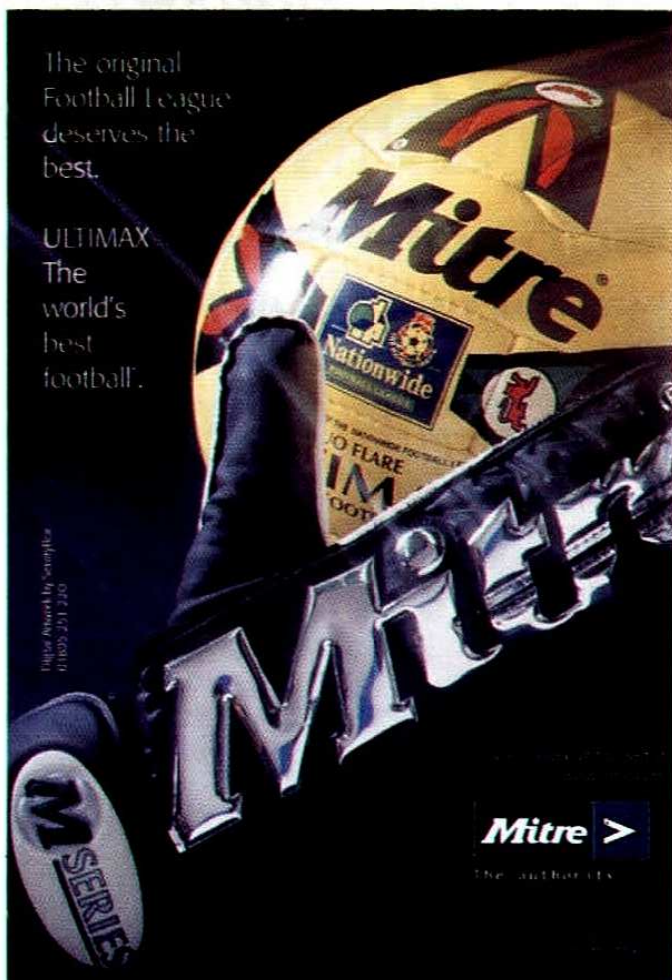
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# write on!



Marc's changed a bit recently

## Blast from the Past

Dear Editor

Please could you publish this photo of our son Marc Duggins. He will celebrate his 18th birthday tomorrow and, as you can see, has been a Bluenose since the day he was born. He is a season ticket holder along with his Dad and Erika on the Tilton. Please wish him a happy birthday from his Dad, Erika, sister Samantha and all the Duggins family.

**John & Erica Duggins**  
Cheltenham

## Danny Boy

Dear Editor

Please could you include this picture of my son Daniel who is 10 years old today.

Dan will be watching from the Kop and is due another surprise today. It will also be a big day for his mum Diane, as it is the first time she's been to St. Andrews and hopefully not the last.

Happy Birthday Daniel from all the family

**Steve Curtis**  
Yardley Wood



Food for thought for Aaron

## Have Your Cake and Eat it

Dear Editor

I have enclosed a photo taken on Aaron Jack Bullock's first birthday on 22nd October.

He is proudly wearing his new Blues kit bought by day Eric and as you can see he had a great cake bought for him by his Nanny and Grandad Watson.

**E. Bullock**  
Great Barr

## Surely He'll Have a Season Ticket

The young chap below should have no excuse for not making it to St. Andrews. He is Timothy Denston, son of John and Ticket Office Pauline.

Timothy was born on 9th July, weighing in at a healthy 6lb 7oz, which is his ideal weight according to the Arvel Lowe scale!

Belated congratulations go to John and Pauline from everyone at St. Andrews, and welcome to the Blues Timothy.



Ticket Office Toddler



The big one-oh for Daniel



You top could appear here. Well, not here exactly... more slightly over to the left.

Send us your pics and letters, the more revealing and embarrassing the better.

You can write to the Ed at St. Andrews or email us on:

[blues@pfpublish.force9.co.uk](mailto:blues@pfpublish.force9.co.uk)

Please send an s.a.e for the (eventual) return of photos.



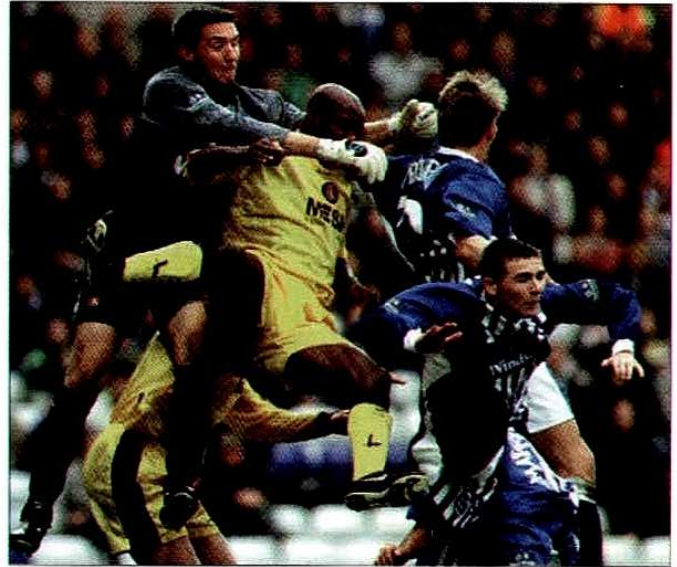
# action

**Sweet Revenge**  
**Blues 1**  
**Charlton Athletic 0**

It was less than a month on from our defeat at the Valley that Charlton came to St. Andrews for the return. Blues, right in the middle of an injury crisis, had to face the loss of Jon McCarthy at half time, but carried of three vital points nonetheless.

It was the high flying Londoners who showed first with Clive Mendonca looking particularly menacing. But the Blues' killer instinct at set pieces was evident on twenty five minutes. Gary Rowett swung in a corner and Bryan Hughes headed home.

From there until half time, Blues were well on top. And our dominance continued to the end. Despite having to field a rather strange looking line-up because of the long injury list, one of the best sides in the Division came off second best as that famous Blues commitment ensured the crowd went home happy.



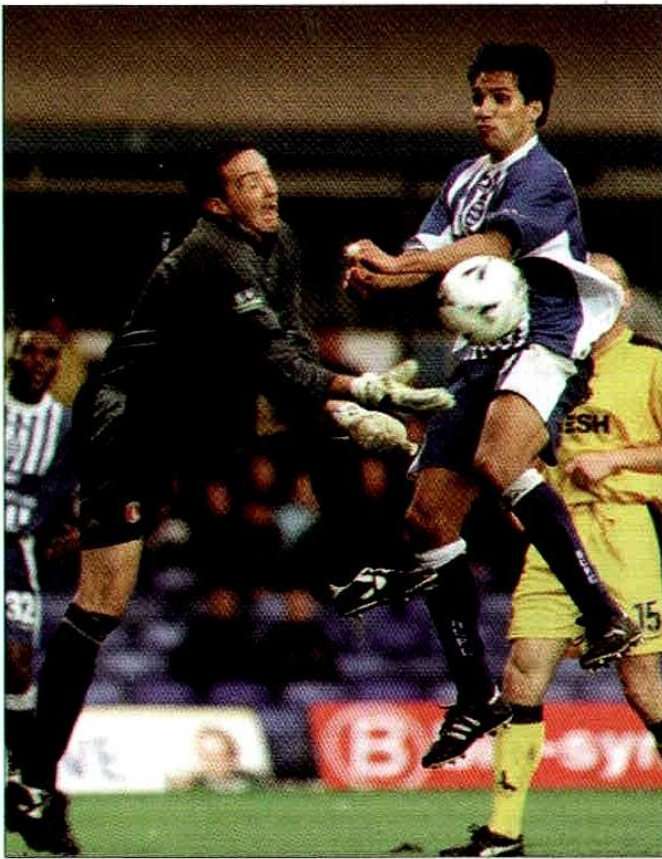
The pressure mounts on Charlton

All Photography: Roy Smiljanic

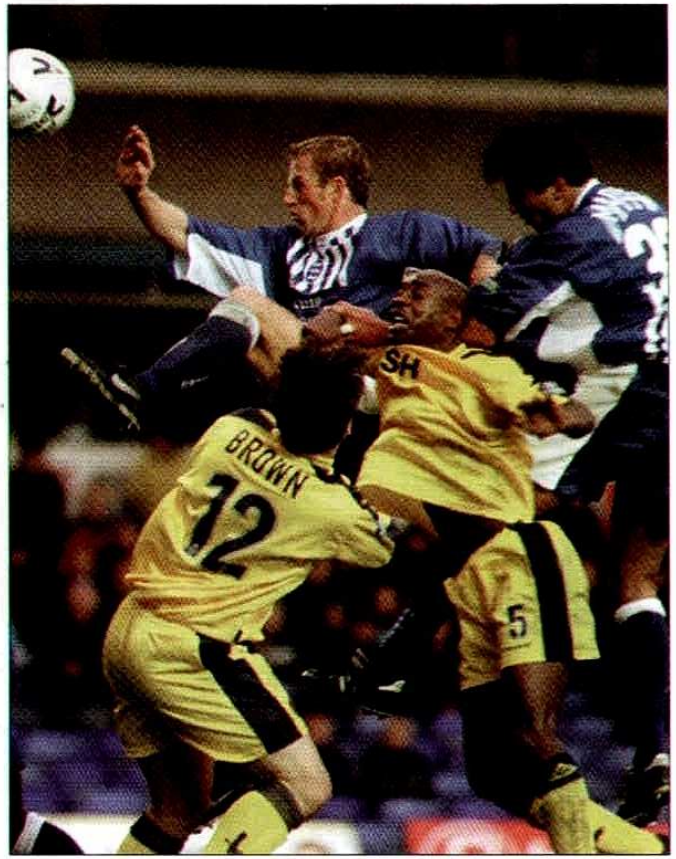


A Holdsworth sandwich





Marcelo must cut out this impersonating opposition 'keepers



Blues win the high jump competition



The terrible aftermath of a botched ball transplant

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# watcher's brief

**We reckon Alan Watton prefers watching the Blues to following the National side. Either way, the latter have upset him but he seems to have found the perfect answer.**

Back on Easter Monday I wrote about when the London hacks would have the knives out for Kevin Keegan, suggesting that it would be as soon as they failed to wipe the floor with whoever was put up against them. It is sad that they had to dig up a story about players late night drinking sessions. This really is rather tiresome, especially when there is so much evidence on the field to warrant the whole squad's immediate dismissal.

England's performance against Scotland was woeful at Wembley and barely acceptable at Hampden. Kev hailed the first match a triumph when most onlookers considered England to be lucky. I am sure that the two goals that were scored were the result of the unfortunate Colin Hendry being just off the pace in terms of match fitness. With a real game under his belt he never gave the much vaunted England strike force a look in as Scotland embarrassed England with a 1-0 victory.

Remember Mr Keegan saying before England's failure to beat Bulgaria that it was 'frightening' the amount of talent in the England dressing room. The problem is it doesn't seem to make it on to the pitch.

For England, David Beckham has a talent for free kicks but contributes very little in open play. Callum Davidson of Blackburn (cur-

rently in the bottom six of Division 1) never gave the super star a kick at Wembley. Michael Owen was nowhere near fit, the midfield was embarrassed by a twenty year old who plays in the much maligned Scottish Premiership. Were it not for two 36 year olds, Adams and Seaman we would have been dumped out.

Much has been said about the lack of left sided players but Keegan had three, Wise, Guppy, and Froggatt in the squad who took no part. As for left backs, how about Winterburn, Gray, Thatcher or any number in the Nationwide League. The line up was a disaster and if it were true that England had abundance of talent then what is 'frightening' is how they fail to show it in virtually every match.

## Popular Demand?

The FA continue to appoint the Press's darlings to the position of England manager and rarely find the right man. When they do get it right, as in the case of Terry Venables and England reach a respectable place in World football, they find a way to remove him. Graham Taylor was appointed on the back of successfully managing Watford and getting another club out of Division 2. These are not the qualifications that an England manager needs. Keegan got Fulham out of Division 2 after two attempts with a Premiership budget.

Who are the alternatives? Well the press would have you believe that there are people



Top Boss

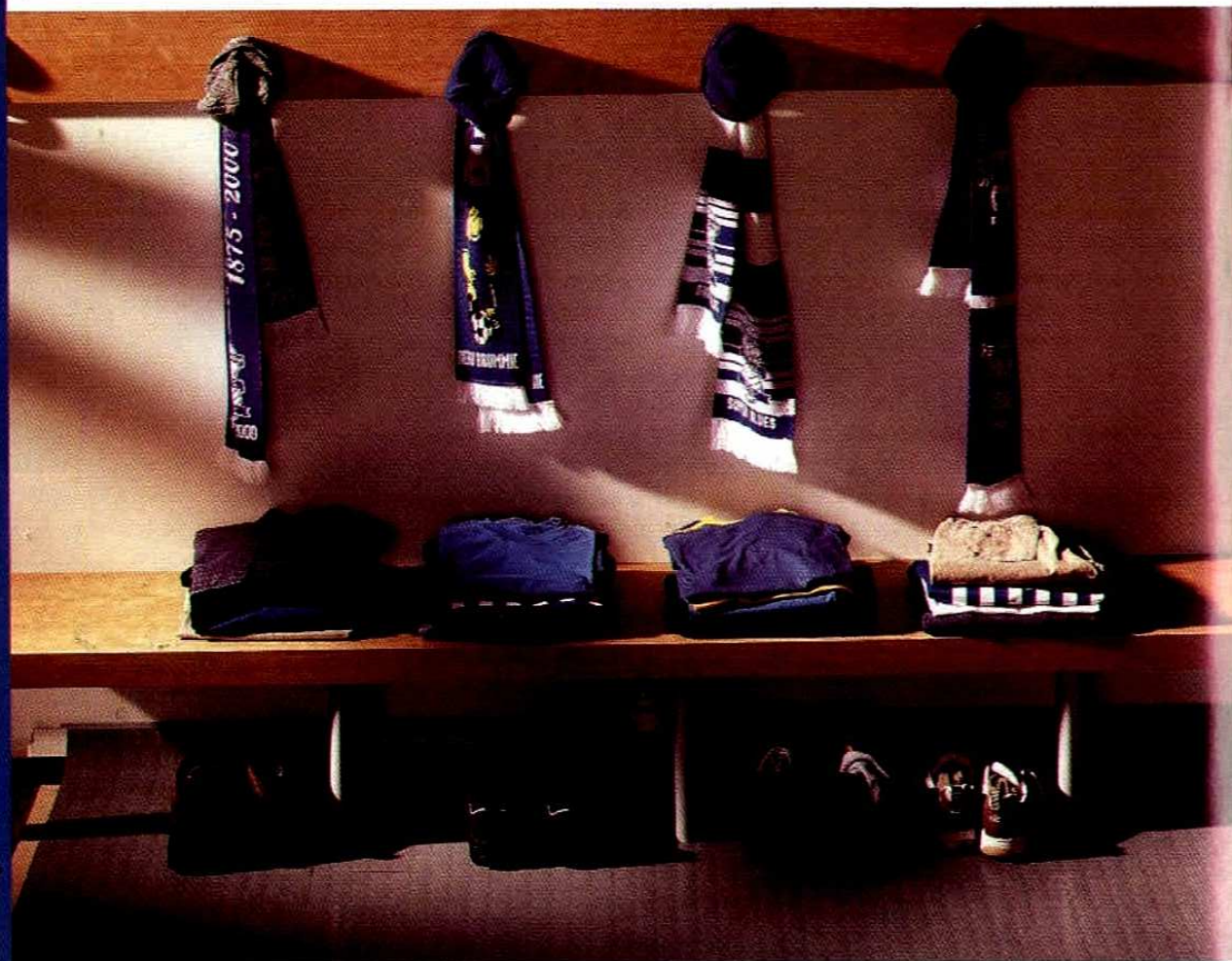
being groomed for the position. These include David Platt, Brian Kidd, and Bryan Robson. Fortunately they are doing enough to put off even the most blinkered FA official.

My choice for the next public enemy, er... England boss, is a man who can get the best out of players who have no great reputation, has vast international experience, has taken part in World Cups and European Championships, tactically astute, a gentleman, and has seen his side get results in major footballing countries. It has to be Craig Brown.

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# on the pitch



with **BOB MATTHEWS**

As well as through our Celebration Presentations, you could also find yourself On The Pitch if you win a prize in our Blues Bonanza Lottery. Tickets are on sale around the ground and the draw is made at half time. There is a top prize of £1,000 which someone has to win every matchday.

Added to that is the chance to win free travel if you've purchased the lucky programme. Every issue throughout the season has three lucky programmes so check yours now.

To guarantee a place on the hallowed turf, however, the Celebration Presentation is still the best way. If you'd like to arrange a Celebration Presentation for that someone special, just give me a call on:

**0709 111 BLUES (25837) extension 1228.**



# talk in '06



## Marcelo Marches On

It took a while for Marcelo Cipriano to get here, but we eventually attained our bargain striker. He began repaying the fee immediately with a brace on his debut followed by a strike on Tuesday. With a better than one in two strike ratio for the Blades, this is one sharp shooter who knows where the net is.

You can't get much better than two goals on your debut. Well, alright, maybe a hat-trick beats it but let's not get greedy.

Marcelo though has another reason for not going overboard in his celebrations of that fantastic start to his Blues career:

"It was a good debut for me but the result wasn't so good for us. It was a difficult game. QPR are a good team especially at home.

"I felt I had a good game but can do much better. But to score two on your debut is good for a player and I look forward to scoring more goals for Birmingham City."

If he can keep up his rate at Sheffield United we will be more than happy. He averaged better than a goal every other game which is a rarity in the modern game.

He also scored on his Sheffield United debut, amazingly against QPR. That was his first introduction to the English game having previously played for Portuguese Giants Benfica and the Spanish side Deportivo Alaves.

Now that he's used to our way – and it took him no time to adjust – does Marcelo see his long term future in England?

"I have signed a long contract at Birmingham City because I want to be here. What I have seen at the club over the last four months makes me think it was the right decision.

"I am happy with things here. The manager is very good and there is a good atmosphere amongst the group. I think we have a good chance of promotion but we need to put in better performances and start to win more games.

"That was why I wasn't happy about the result at QPR. Draws away from home are good, but by winning them you can give yourself a good chance of promotion."

It is that kind of determination which has characterised this Blues squad and offers evidence of how Marcelo will fit in.

**"I have signed a long contract at Birmingham City because I want to be here. What I have seen at the club... makes me think it was the right decision."**

### Perfect Delivery

The real bonus for Blues this season has been the quality of our wide players. With Stan Lazaridis, Jon McCarthy, Gary Rowett and Martin Grainger all able to delivery excellent crosses into the danger area, Marcelo should thrive at St. Andrews:

"I prefer to receive the ball from wide positions. I like to have good crosses coming into me.

# out blue

"At Sheffield United, about 85% of my goals came from crosses from out wide and that's what I need.

"It is true that the wingers are playing well here. I'm looking forward to benefitting from the service they provide."

Talking of Sheffield United, they are currently in a slump which has seen them slip perilously close to the relegation zone. But is there any great differences between the Blades and the Blues? One man should be able to tell us:

"When I left, Sheffield United were not doing as badly as they are now. They have had about four defeats one after another which has caused them to drop down the League table. The position is very bad for the club at the moment, but I hope they can climb back up.

**"There are a lot of similarities between Sheffield United and Birmingham City. At United, there is a lot of expectation from the supporters."**

"There are a lot of similarities between Sheffield United and Birmingham City. At United, there is a lot of expectation from the supporters. They are feeling frustrated now. They are very unhappy and the players pick up on that.

"Here at Birmingham the pressure is for promotion and it's the same for Sheffield United supporters. Both clubs are big clubs and the expectations are there."

## Competition

It's becoming tradition (and possibly a bit tired) nowadays to remark on the strong competition for places at the Blues. This is fast becoming the case for the forwards and Marcelo's move has put him into a very strong battle for selection:

"It's good for players to feel that their place is under pressure. It means that you don't rest; you keep working hard even when things are going well for you on the pitch.

"When there is someone else who can take your place, you strive to reach your maximum potential. You have to keep your place in the team.

Which means that there will be a bit of nervousness on Tuesday when West Ham come to town. Marcelo played for Sheffield United in an earlier round of the Worthington Cup meaning, of course, that he is Cup-tied for the game here in three days time:

"It is a pity that I am cup-tied. It is great to play against Premiership teams. You look forward to the big games more than usual and it's good for the whole club. The players and the supporters like to play these teams.

"I won't be playing in that one but I'm still looking forward to hopefully playing against Swindon and to score more goals for Birmingham City."

Which is, after all, what he's good at. There's a very real danger that we are witnessing the birth of a real hero at St. Andrews. Everything so far points to a great career for Marcelo here. If that is what's to come, he won't be the only one looking forward to the future.





*Marcelo  
cipriano*















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**SUNDAY 21ST JANUARY 1972**

**ATTENDANCE: 27,824**

**REFEREE: SJ KAYLEY**

**BIRMINGHAM CITY 4**

**SWINDON TOWN 1**

The West Country team had been promoted two seasons earlier with an exciting team that had also won the League Cup at Wembley, beating Arsenal 3-1. As with so many other teams though, they had found Cup form did not necessarily translate into League success following promotion. Most of the Wembley side were still in action for Swindon but the man who lifted the Cup, Stan Harland had been transferred to Blues earlier that season and was now facing his former teammates for the first time.

Following the FA Cup win over Port Vale Blues had gone to Vicarage Road and returned with their first away win of the season, Trevor Francis scoring the goal.

Rain over the previous few days left the pitch in a slippery condition leading to some doubts as to whether Blues would be suited to playing on it. In the event the weather had no effect on Blues steamrolling home form. Fielding the strongest side available with only the goalkeeping spot causing difficulties

Blues tore Swindon's rearguard apart in a devastating seventeen minute spell around half-time. There was little in the first half-hour to indicate what was to come as both teams battled desperately to come to terms with the slick surface but after 32 minutes Blues made the breakthrough. The goal started as so often with a Roger Hynd free kick on the halfway line. The free kick was met by Bob Latchford's head and flicked on inside the box. In one movement Francis pivoted and shot the ball into the net before Peter Downsborough could react. It was another brilliant goal in the Francis canon and his fifth in the last four games as he overcame a lean spell during November and December. Swindon's



tactics up to this point appeared to be purely defensive but the goal seemed to knock the fight from the team. Within nine minutes Blues had doubled the lead and this goal came from a collector's piece. During this period Blues scored hatfuls of goals from Latchford getting his head to crosses from Gordon Taylor, this goal came from exactly the opposite scenario. Latchford's cross was knocked on by Taylor at the near post, leaving Bob Hatton to finish off from close in.

On the stroke of half-time Blues extended the lead still further. Malcolm Page made a break on the right and his low cross picked out Latchford. The big striker's first effort was blocked by Downsborough but the ball rebounded back to Latchford who made no mistake with his second

effort. In truth the scoreline flattered Blues but the forward line's ability to kill off opposition had again been shown. If fans thought that Blues might ease off in the second half with a Cup tie coming up the following week, they were quickly shown otherwise.

It took only another four minutes before the fourth goal went in. The source was a bit more usual this time as Latchford, finding space in the centre of the box slipped home a left foot effort from Taylor's cross. Although that was the end of Blues scoring for the game it was not for the want of trying. Francis seemed to have his sights set a bit wide as he bred to efforts into the side netting whilst Latchford, looking for his third hat-trick of the season, volleyed straight at Downsborough from point-blank range and then headed another effort wide. Swindon finally came back into the game in the final quarter of an hour and teenage keeper Paul Cooper showed what a fine prospect he was. Firstly he pulled off a brilliant flying save to turn a long range effort from Terry Hubbard around the post and then he blocked an effort Wembley hero Roger Smart.

With seven minutes left Swindon gained some slight reward for their efforts. A long ball saw Blues defence caught static appealing for offside. Arthur Horsfield, so often a thorn in Blues side, race through and lobbed Cooper as he advanced. The goal was a case of too little too late as Blues marched on to another win, extending the unbeaten home run to 28 games and taking the goals tally to 16 in the last four home games.

Although it was not the most impressive home performance of the season it was a further indication that Blues were getting things right for the promotion run in - Perhaps today's match will herald the start of another successful push with the same result?

**Blues:** Cooper, Carroll, Pendrey, Page, Hynd, Harland, Campbell, Francis, Latchford, Hatton, Taylor. Sub: Martin

**Swindon:** Downsborough, Peterson, Trollope, Bunkell, Burrows, Butler, Hubbard, Smart, Hosfield, Noble, Rogers. Sub: Mackay

# As It Happened

# 0709 111 BLUES extension seven

## Fans Package

Birmingham City v Sheffield United - 26.12.99

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Watch this superb Boxing Day fixture from a seat in the Directors' Area and enjoy a special day out for you and your friends. First class catering and hospitality as well as an unrivalled stadium atmosphere will make this a day to remember. The Package consists of:

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- Boxing Day Platter
- Match Preview with Player or Coach
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- Full Time Refreshments
- Man of the Match Presentation

You can sample this experience for just £49.99 + vat per person. For more information call the Commercial Department on:

**0709 111 BLUES (25837)**  
**extension 7**



## Party Nights @ The Blues

Jess Fowler is now taking bookings for those Christmas Party Nights. Already two nights have been fully booked so there isn't much time left to book the available nights as shown:

**Thursday 16th December**  
**Monday 20th December**  
**Tuesday 21st December**  
**Wednesday 22nd December**  
**Thursday 23rd December**

The bar will open at 6.30pm on these dates and there will be a disco on until 12.30am. Prices for this are £26.95 + vat per head.

For bookings and to check on availability, or for any other information you may need, please call Jess Fowler on:

**0709 111 BLUES (25837)**  
**extension 1217**

### Cut Price Executive Boxes - Olympic Gallery

We have five executive boxes left at the Olympic Gallery end of the Stadium. These are available for just £6,000 + vat for the remainder of the season and offer a fantastic way to watch the match and entertain clients.

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**0709 111 BLUES extension seven**

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Birmingham City's Vice Presidents' Club is situated in the aptly named God Suite. Membership of this first class facility is ideal for discerning individuals and smaller businesses to enjoy the prestige and luxury of an exclusive club atmosphere.

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- Security controlled car parking
- Half-time Refreshments
- Post Match Buffet
- Account facility at our Gold Suite Carvery and Bar
- Priority arrangements for booking tickets for away games and all-ticket matches
- Programme of events for Members only
- Opportunity to entertain guests in the Vice Presidents' Club
- Membership valid for all first team matches at St. Andrews

Memberships are now offered at £500+vat. Details from the Commercial Department.

## Wiseman Executive Club

The Wiseman Suite is named after the Club's previous Chairman and is situated in the Main Stand. Its traditional club atmosphere is ideal for supporters who wish to complement the excitement of matchday with executive facilities throughout the season.

- Reserved seat in the Main Stand Executive Area
- Access to the Wiseman Suite facility before and after the match, and at half-time
- Complimentary Match Programme
- Parking in the Main Stand car park
- Half-time Refreshments
- Affordable pre-match catering
- Booking service for away games and all ticket matches
- Opportunity to bring additional guest to the Wiseman Suite
- Membership valid for all first team matches at St. Andrews

Memberships of the Wiseman Executive Club are now offered at £350+vat. Details from the Commercial Department.

## Captain's Club

This new package for the 1999/2000 season allows a combination of a top grade executive seat in the Main Stand with private membership to the Player Lounge (St. Andrews Suite).

- Reserved seat for all League, Cup and friendly games in the Executive Area of the Main Stand.
- Access to Private Captains Club (Players Lounge)
- Cash Bar
- Half-time Refreshments
- Post Match Buffet
- Complimentary Match Programme
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# whadda you know?

1. Swindon won the 4th Division with a record number of points in 1986, but how many?
2. Swindon won a place in the Premier League via the play-offs in 1993 defeating which current Premiership side 4-3 in the final?
3. Which player captained Swindon's Football League Cup winning side in 1969 and Blues promotion team of 1972?
4. Before becoming manager of Swindon Jimmy Quinn was still playing regular League football for which Club?
5. Which German First Division Club are based in Gelsenkirchen?
6. Which nation qualified for Euro 2000 after defeating the Ukraine in a play off?
7. Which nation scored eight goals in their Euro 2000 play-off tie with Israel?
8. Who eliminated Celtic from this season's UEFA Cup?
9. Former Blues and Swindon Boss Dave Mackay won the League Championship as manager of which club?



10. Which Division 2 side have been taken over by an Icelandic consortium recently?
11. Swindon Town 'keeper Jimmy Glass scored a match winning goal while on loan with which club last season?
12. Which nation do England face in their first match in the year 2000?
13. Which former Swindon manager was recently sacked as the manager of Croatia Zagreb?
14. In Swindon's famous 6-4 win here in 1993 which Australian striker scored a hat-trick?
15. In their only season in the Premiership Swindon won just 5 games including the double over which side who are now also in Division 1?

## Answers

1. 104. 2. Leicester City. 3. Stan Harland. 4. Peterborough United. 5. Schalke 04. 6. Slovenia. 7. Denmark. 8. Lyon. 9. Derby County. 10. Stoke City. 11. Carlisle. 12. Argentina. 13. Ossie Ardiles. 14. Dave Mitchell. 15. QPR.

Compiled by Anna Watton

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## Gary Emmanuel

SIGNED FROM: SCHOOL  
JUNE 1970  
TO: BRISTOL ROVERS  
DECEMBER 1978

	Blues	Swindon
Apps:	67	129
Sub:	11	2
Goals:	6	9

The Blues youth team of the early seventies brought forth a host of fine players. The likes of Kenny Burns and Trevor Francis went on to great international careers but some of the lesser known players became Football League regulars in their own right. One of these was Gary Emmanuel, the Welsh midfielder. Gary came from a footballing family, his father Len being a full back for Swansea and Newport. Blues scouting system spotted Gary turning out for Swansea schoolboys and after a brief trial he was taken onto the club's books. He made his first appearance in the youth team in August 1970 and it is an indication of the strength of the club's scouting system of the time that 8 of the twelve players in the team that day went on to play League football.

After three years in the youths and reserves Gary was given his first team debut as a substitute in the Texaco Cup against Stoke. For those who don't remember the Texaco it was very much the "Mickey Mouse" Cup of its day. It consisted of clubs from the top divisions in England and Scotland that had not qualified for Europe. In four years of the Texaco and its successor, the Anglo-Scottish Trophy, Blues only met one Scottish team, Ayr Utd. Blues played weak sides in the Stoke games and it was to be another year before Gary made his League debut. An injury to



Alan Campbell brought Gary into the side and in only his second game he scored his first goal, a somewhat fluky looping effort that dropped into the net out of the keeper's reach. For a player who rarely scored in the reserves it was a dream start. Gary was to remain a member of Blues first team squad for a further four years.

It was not really a great help to Gary that managers kept seeing him in roles that he was not really suited to. He was given one run in the team as a centre forward alongside Trevor Francis but his lack of pace was not in his favour. At the start of the 1978-79 season he was tried out at left back, again with no great success.

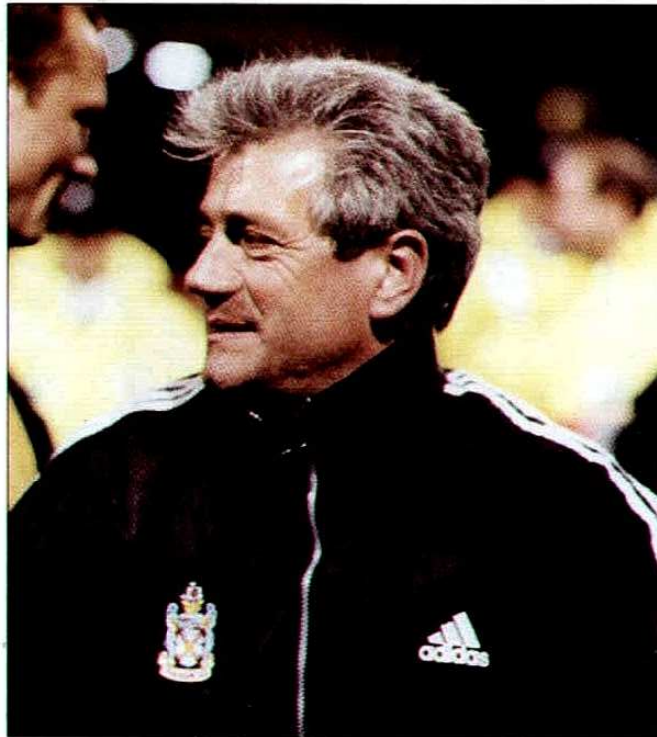
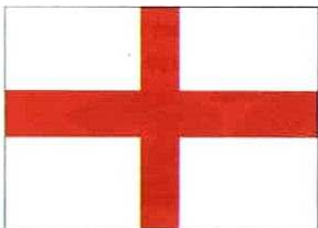
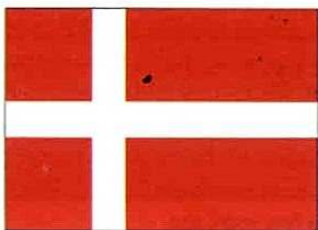
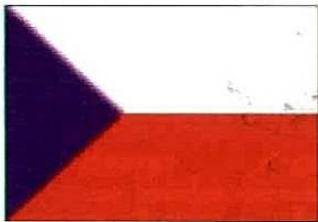
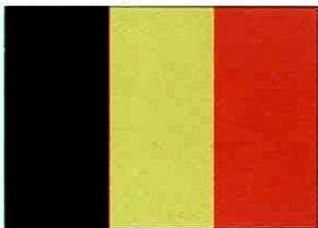
After playing the first thirteen games of that ill-starred season he was dropped for the Manchester Utd game which saw the team earn their first win. The team was left unchanged for a few games and Gary decided to move on.

The remainder of his long career was spent in the West Country or Wales. He had three years sat Eastville with Bristol Rovers without ever setting the world on fire before moving on to Swindon. The Wiltshire club were going through a bad spell at the time but Gary was one of the team's bright spots. During his three seasons at the County Ground he was a virtual ever present, back in his favourite mid-field role. His departure from Swindon saw him go through a few transfers rapidly. A brief spell at Newport was followed by a month at Bristol C before he moved on to his home town club. He was to stay at the Vetch Field for a further three years before moving on into the Welsh League. He had spells at Barry T., Llanelli and Haverfordwest County before retiring only a few years ago.

Like so many other players in recent years, he has taken up employment with the Royal Mail. He lives in Swansea where he is employed as a postman.

# Blast from the Past

# easy money



Can Kev make the most of the backdoor qualification? The Bookies say no

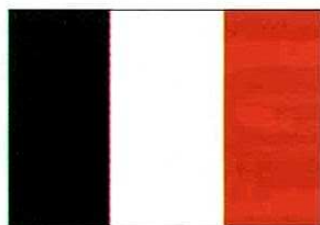
What was all the fuss about? Alright, so we couldn't beat Bulgaria and the Swedes did us a favour. And, fair enough, we weren't the best against Scotland. But we're there now so we can get all smug and make ridiculous claims about imminent world domination.

To say we took the hard route to the Low Countries would be a vast understatement. At times it seemed there was a determination not to qualify. But, that's the way we like it. If we wanted the easy route to success we'd all

have worn red since Shankley started collecting silver. And at least the England squad can't claim they haven't had enough time together to gell. They've seen far more of each other than they ever intended!

### Two Chances...

...and Slim's out of town. That's how most pundits would describe England's hopes of conquering Europe. The Bookies seem to agree, although not in quite such scathing terms. In an attempt to recruit new members for Gamblers' Anonymous, we've



scoured the Betting Shops of the country to find the best deals for each of the sixteen qualifiers. Good luck flutterers.

Co-hosts Holland top the bill. Installed as 9-2 favourites, they certainly have the talent to succeed and they will hope to make the most of home advantage. But they also have a tendency to regularly under-achieve at major Championships.

As do Italy. Of course, they've got more silverware than us but like Holland their talented individuals can come a cropper against more organised teams.

Spain at sevens is probably less attractive than France at 8-1. The World Champions may find that they aren't quite so invincible away from home but do have the

### HOW THE BOOKIES CALL IT

**HOLLAND 9-2**

**ITALY 6-1**

**SPAIN 7-1**

**FRANCE 8-1**

**GERMANY 9-1**

**ENGLAND 14-1**

**SWEDEN 16-1**

**CZECH REP. 16-1**



# Maybe?

experience of pacing themselves to a final peak a la the 1998 World Cup. Spain, on the other hand, find the group stages a major stumbling block.

Germany at nines is not so hot. Their position high up the list is perhaps more based on previous exploits than the abilities of the current side. This Championship will come to soon for them and if they make the semi's they'll have done well.

For different reasons, the same could be said of England. You're unlikely to get a better price than fourteens so if patriotism overrules form, go for it.

Sweden, on the other hand, look a stonker at 16-1. They lack flair but they were excellent in qualifying and this could be their



We could do with these two finding their range this summer



**EURO 2000 ODDS**

**YUGOSLAVIA 25-1**  
**PORTUGAL 25-1**  
**NORWAY 25-1**  
**BELGIUM 28-1**  
**ROMANIA 28-1**  
**DENMARK 40-1**  
**TURKEY 66-1**  
**SLOVENIA 150-1**

year. Although we take no responsibility for this should it fail, we are tipping the Swedes.

The Czech Republic are at a similar price and might be worth an each way shot. They too were in fine form in qualifying and could be the new Croatia in terms of achievement. Hard to see them winning it though.

As for the rest of the sixteen, Norway at 25-1, co-hosts Belgium at 28-1 and Denmark at a very generous 40-1 offer good each-ways for those with a penchant for backing the underdog. Turkey, it seems, have been found

out to be not quite as good as many initially believed and 66-1 is probably a fair reflection of their chances.

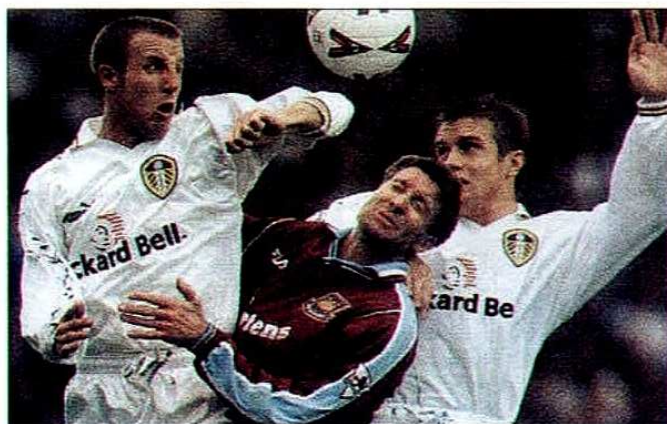
Meanwhile, someone will surely take Slovenia at 150-1. Dreams of early retirement on the winnings will probably be dashed before the knockout stage.

We should end by saying that gambling is bad and only leads to heartache. A bit like football really. And, of course, we'll all want England to win and so will back Kev's Army. But if Sweden come in, we expect ten percent from all of you lucky punters!





## In The Cup Away Days



Harry's Happy Hammers are the barrier to a potential big derby

**Blues v West Ham**  
**Worthington Cup 4th Round**  
**Tuesday 30th November 1999**  
**Kick Off 7.45pm**

Back to the Cup next Tuesday as we take on the Premiership might of West Ham. After our excellent win against Newcastle in the previous round, we have no need to fear the Premier clubs, but West Ham will be even tougher.

We don't suppose anyone needs an extra spur for this one, but here goes anyway. With the way the Worthington Cup draw has now been scheduled, a win for Blues would set up a derby with that lot from over Witton

way – providing they can overcome Southampton the following evening.

West Ham are currently sitting in mid-table in the top flight, but having just been eliminated from the UEFA Cup, they will be looking to the Worthington for a bit of silverware and a route back to the continent.

So far they haven't been the best away from Upton Park. A 3-0 win at Bradford was creditable, but it remains their only League success on the road against five defeats. They did manage a late equaliser the last time they were in Brum though.

Tickets are on sale now at Match B prices.

**Fulham v Blues**  
**Nationwide League Division 1**  
**Saturday 4th December 1999 –**  
**Kick-off 3pm**

A top of the table clash with the honours even following a 2-2 draw at St. Andrews on the opening day of the season. Fulham have kept on the heels of the leaders from the outset and shown they can more than live at this level.

Tickets go on sale to season ticket holders (Voucher K) on the Monday before the game. General

sale will be from the Thursday before the match. Seat Prices are £16 adults, £8 concessions. For a blast from the past on the terrace, it's £12 adults, £6 concessions.

### How To Get There

Take M40 to the M25. Proceed south towards Heathrow to M4. Take that west to London. At end follow M4 for two miles and branch left (signed 'Other Routes') to Hammersmith Broadway. Follow signs to Fulham (A219) and after 1 mile turn into Harbord Street.



Battling for the points with a promotion rival

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# WIZON

## Away Days



A quick return to the place where the dream began to fade

### Watford v Blues

Axa Sponsored FA Cup 3rd Round

Saturday 11th December 1999 – Kick-off 3pm

Do we need reminding? We met Watford four times last season and by the time the last kick of our last meeting had passed we all hoped that we'd never have to see them again... unless it was in a Premiership clash.

Watford have struggled this season, somewhat annoyingly as it would be great to see them dent some top flight egos. But they are a better side than the one we met, and they weren't bad! This game would be close to call at the best of times, but in a Cup clash and with the Play-off still fresh in the mind, it could be the tie of the round.

Tickets for this game go on sale to season ticket holder presenting voucher JJ on Wednesday 1st December 1999. General sale commences one week later on Wednesday 8th December. Adults £20, concessions £10.

### Blues v Watford

Axa Sponsored FA Cup 3rd Round

If required, the replay of this tie will take place at St. Andrews on Tuesday 21st December 1999. Ticket details will appear on Ticketline: 09068 33 29 88

## Home Ticket Prices

### MATCH A

Olympic Gallery	Adults £18	Child/OAP £9
Railway Lower	Adults £17	Child/OAP £8.50
Main (Flanks)	Adults £16	Child/OAP £8
Main (Centre)	Adults £17	Child/OAP £9
Kop (Corners)	Adults £17	Child/OAP £9
Kop	Adults £18	Child/OAP £9.50
Club Class (Blocks 27,29,31)	Adults £21.50	(No concessions for this area)
Tilton	Adults £16	Child/OAP £8
Tilton (Corners)	Adults £14	Child/OAP £7.50
Family Stand	Adults & Child £19	Additional Adult £13 Additional Child £7

### MATCH B

Olympic Gallery	Adults £17	Child/OAP £8.50
Railway Lower	Adults £16	Child/OAP £8
Main (Flanks)	Adults £15	Child/OAP £7.50
Main (Centre)	Adults £16	Child/OAP £8
Kop (Corners)	Adults £16	Child/OAP £8
Kop	Adults £17	Child/OAP £8.50
Club Class (Blocks 27,29,31)	Adults £20	(No concessions for this area)
Tilton	Adults £14.50	Child/OAP £7.50
Tilton (Corners)	Adults £13	Child/OAP £7
Family Stand	Adults & Child £18	Additional Adult £12 Additional Child £6.50

### TICKET OFFICE OPENING HOURS

ST ANDREWS	Mon-Fri 9:30-5:30 Sat 9:30-12:30 (non matchdays)
CITY CENTRE	Dale End Mon-Sat 9:00-5:30

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To book your season ticket either call into the Ticket Office or phone:  
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Prices come into effect AFTER Swindon match

		1999/2000 Price	Price per game	
			A	B
Olympic Gallery	Adult	£189	£18	£17
	Child/OAP	£103.50	£9	£8.50
Railway Lower	Adult	£180.50	£17	£16
	Child/OAP	£94.50	£8.50	£8
Kop Corners	Adult	£183.50	£17	£16
	Child/OAP	£92.50	£9	£8
Kop	Adult	£211.50	£18	£17
	Child/OAP	£105.50	£9.50	£8.50
Tilton	Adult	£167.50	£16	£14.50
	Child/OAP	£90	£8	£7.50
Tilton Corners	Adult	£158	£14	£13
	Child/OAP	£88.50	£7.50	£7
Main Stand Flanks	Adult	£188	£16	£15
	Child/OAP	£96.50	£8	£7.50
Main Stand Centre	Adult	£198.50	£17	£16
	Child/OAP	£101	£9	£8
Family Stand	Adult and Child	£195	£19	£18
	Additional Adult	£132	£13	£12
	Additional Child	£78.50	£7	£6.50
Club Class		£234	£21.50	£20

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# 2nd string

## Penalties Galore but Honours Even

Wolverhampton Wanderers 1  
Birmingham City 1

Three penalties and two goals were the story of this game at Molineux. The home side had two and we had one but the rain was the real winner as the two West Midlands giants shared two goals.

It was Wolves who were on the mark first when Kevin Poole was penalised for bringing down Haarvard Flo after 22 minutes. Crowe, somewhat annoyingly, found the net from 12 yards.

It seemed it would stay that way until half time, but a minute before the break Jerry Gill was fouled by Paul Loughlin. As if practising for the visit of Tranmere, Martin Grainger coolly slotted home the penalty.

In the second half Kevin Poole was hashly adjudged to have fouled Proudlock but then produced a save from Crowe to ensure that Blues had a share of the points and kept up the challenge at the top.

**BLUES LINE-UP:** Poole, Bass, Charlton, Newton, Ablett, Purse, Gill, Hyde, Adebola, Hughes, Grainger.

**Subs:** Dyson, Horrigan, McKeown, Haarhoff.

## Pontins Central League Premier Division 1999-2000

up to 18/11/99

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Port Vale	9	5	2	2	17	11	17
Oldham	9	5	2	2	16	11	17
<b>BLUES</b>	8	4	3	1	11	4	15
Huddersfield	9	4	2	3	8	6	14
Tranmere	9	4	2	3	12	10	14
Wolves	9	4	2	3	10	10	14
Manchester City	7	3	2	2	13	13	11
Burnley	9	2	5	2	13	15	11
<b>WBA</b>	9	2	1	6	9	13	7
Grimsby	8	1	3	4	10	13	6
Stoke City	8	1	3	4	6	14	6
Preston	6	0	3	3	7	12	3

## PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION RESERVES FIXTURES 1999/2000

### AUGUST

Wed 18 MANCHESTER CITY \* Home (L) 3-0

### SEPTEMBER

Wed 1 West Bromwich Albion Away (L) 1-0

Wed 8 PORT VALE \* Home (L) 2-0

Mon 13 Stoke City Away (L) 0-1

Tue 28 Grimsby Town Away (L) 1-1

### OCTOBER

Wed 6 BURNLEY \* Home (L) 0-0

Thu 28 Huddersfield Town Away (L) 3-1

### NOVEMBER

Mon 15 Wolverhampton Wanderers Away (L) 1-1

Wed 24 PRESTON NORTH END Home (L)

### DECEMBER

Wed 15 OLDHAM ATHLETIC Home (L)

### JANUARY

Wed 5 Burnley Away (L)

Wed 19 GRIMSBY TOWN Home (L)

Wed 26 WEST BROMWICH ALBION Home (L)

### FEBRUARY

Tue 1 Manchester City Away (L)

Wed 16 WOLVES Home (L)

Wed 23 STOKE CITY Home (L)

### MARCH

Wed 1 Port Vale Away (L)

Wed 8 Tranmere Rovers Away (L)

Tue 14 Oldham Athletic Away (L)

Wed 29 TRANMERE ROVERS Home (L)

### APRIL

Wed 12 HUDDERSFIELD TOWN \* Home (L)

Mon 17 Preston North End Away (L)

Key: (L) League; \* denotes matches to be played at St. Andrews; all other home games to be played at Keys Park Hednesford

**All Fixtures kick off at 7.15pm unless advertised otherwise.**

Admission to Home Reserve Matches is FREE to season ticket holders. Non-season ticket holders pay £3 adults, £1.50 conc.



# action

## Two More Penalties Portsmouth 2 Blues 2

It's not just the Reserves who face a glut of penalties. The first team too had to endure two against as a fine fightback was marred by a late spot kick which gave Pompey a point on the South Coast.

The home side played well in the first half but it wasn't until 35 minutes into the game that the first goal was scored. Gary Rowett was penalised after an innocuous tussle with Guy Whittingham and Pompey took the lead from the spot.

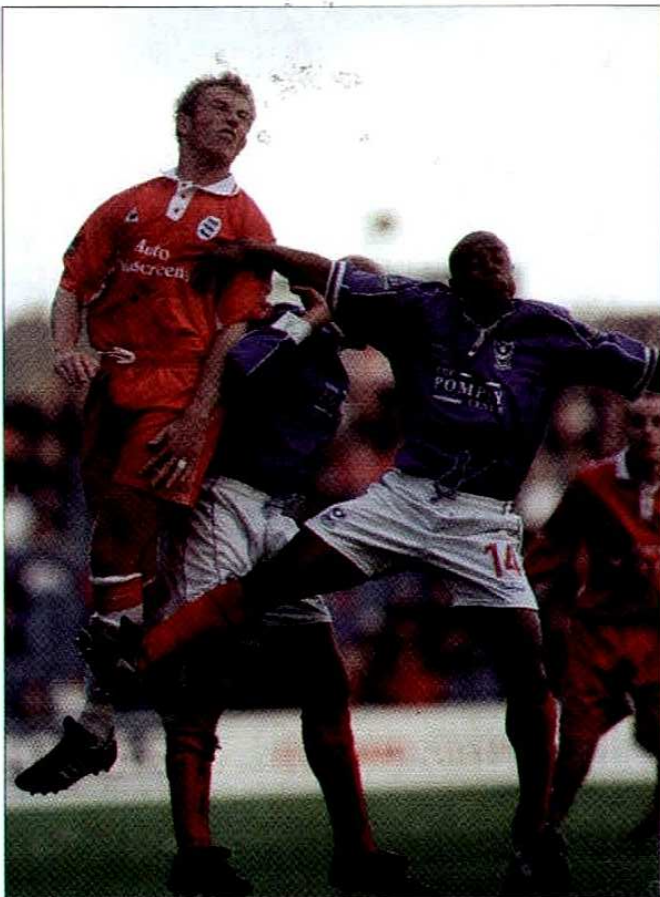
The second half saw Blues in the ascendent and Stan Lazaridis put us on terms with a fierce strike on the hour. Three minutes later, Stan lobbed in a corner which Michael Johnson nodded home.

But with three minutes remaining a rather strange penalty decision got Pompey back level and there was still time for Darren Purse to be harshly dismissed.

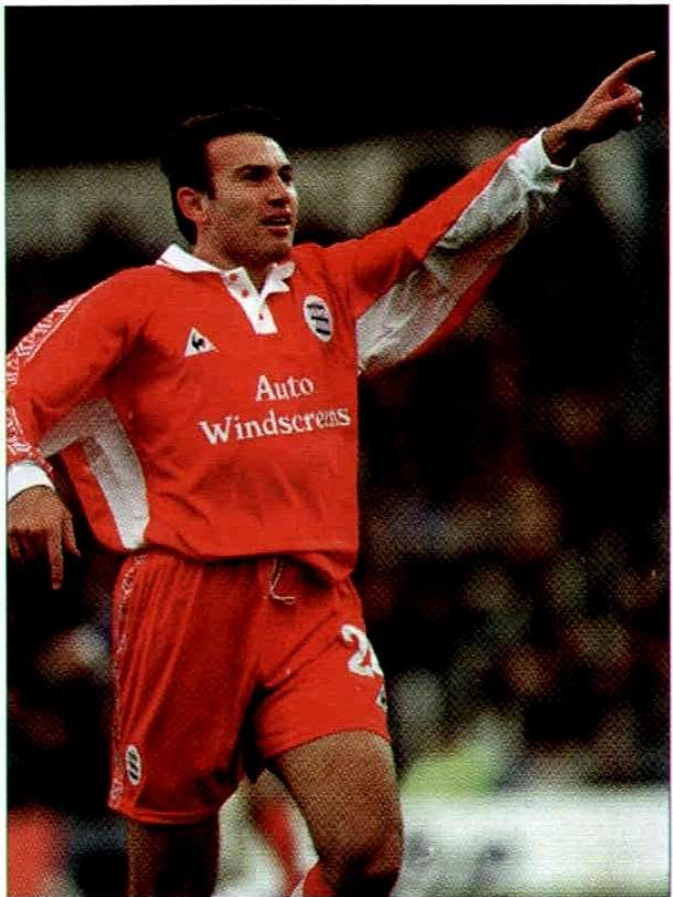


He's not bad in the air is he

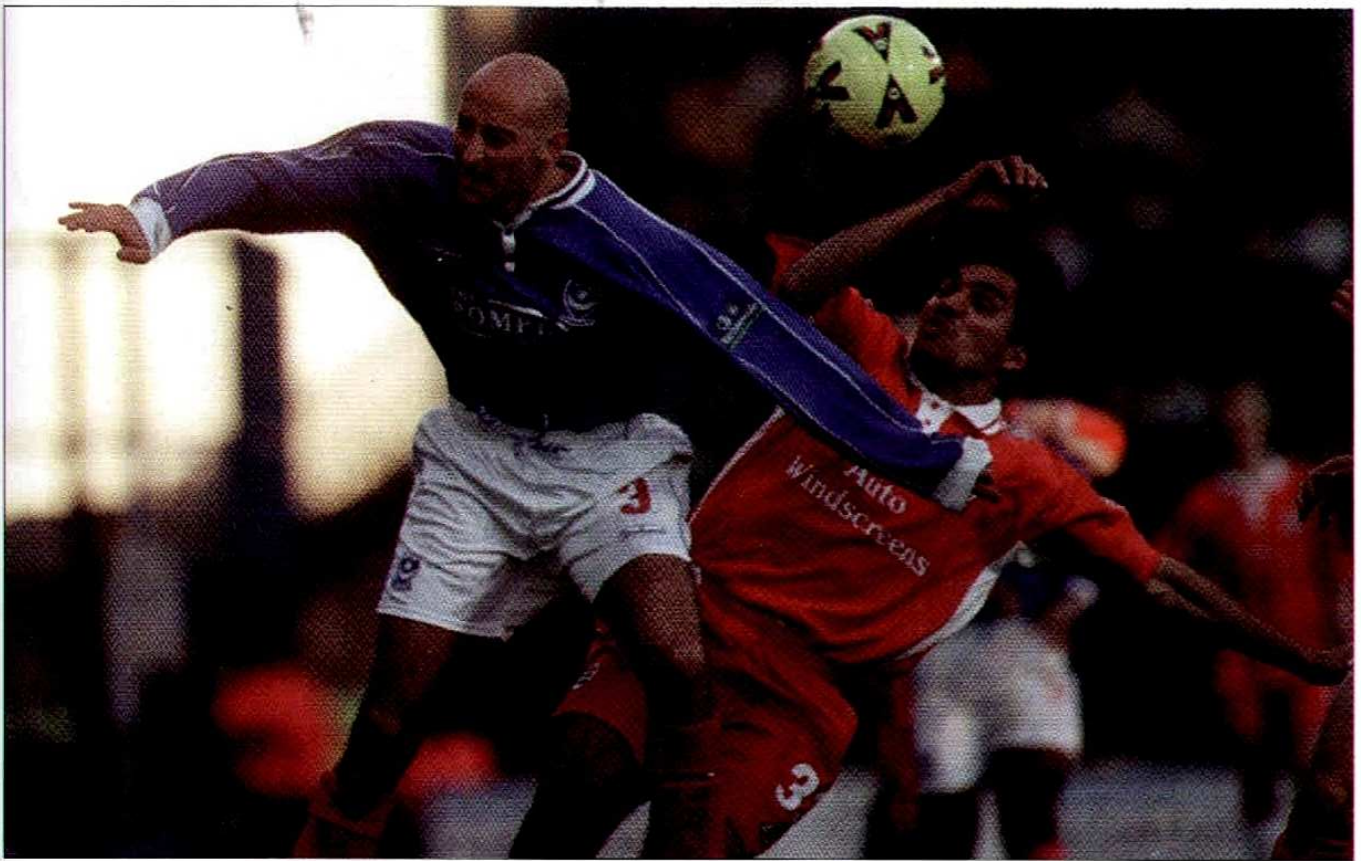
All Photography: Roy Smiljanic



Gary climbs highest



Stan points the way



Marcelo gets involved at the rough end



The goal which should have won it

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# stat's the way it is

## NATIONWIDE DIVISION 1 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

### Current form guide - the last six Division 1 games.

Team	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Sequence	Team	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Sequence
Man City	5	1	0	11	4	16	WDWWW	Palace	2	1	3	7	9	7	WDWLL
Huddersfield	5	0	1	12	4	15	LWWWWW	Stockport	1	3	2	7	10	6	LDWDDL
Barnsley	5	0	1	10	4	15	WWWLW	Walsall	1	3	2	6	6	6	WLDD
Bolton	4	2	0	10	3	14	DWWWWD	Blackburn	1	3	2	5	7	6	DWDDL
Charlton	4	0	2	11	6	12	WLWWW	Grimsby	2	0	4	5	13	6	WLLLL
Wolves	3	3	0	9	4	12	DWDWDW	Ipswich	1	3	2	5	6	6	DDDLWL
Tranmere	3	1	2	11	6	10	LWDWWL	Fulham	1	2	3	5	9	5	DLLWLD
West Brom	3	1	2	8	7	10	WLWLDW	Swindon	1	2	3	4	10	5	LDDLWL
Birmingham	2	3	1	10	8	9	WLWDW	Crewe	1	2	3	3	6	5	DWLLW
Norwich	2	3	1	4	2	9	LDDWDW	Portsmouth	1	1	4	9	13	4	LLLDLW
QPR	2	2	2	9	10	8	LWLDDW	Forest	0	2	4	3	10	2	LLLLDD
Port Vale	2	2	2	8	7	8	WDDWLL	Sheff Utd	0	1	5	3	10	1	LDLWL

### 1999-00 Attendances

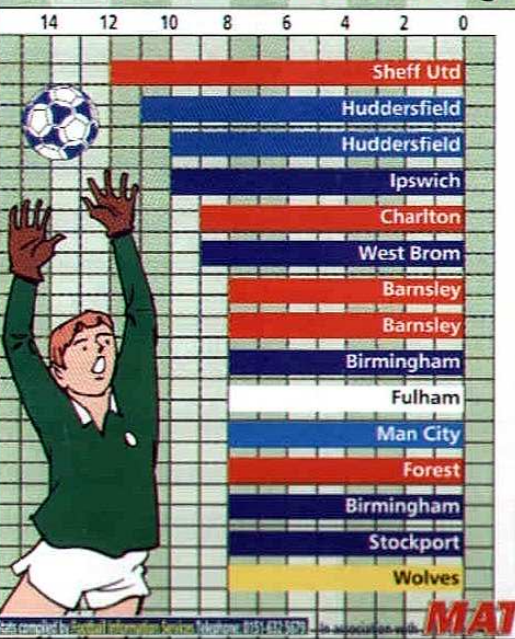
(Bands behind represent average gate as percentage of ground capacity)

100%	90%	80%	70%	60%	50%	40%	30%
Highest: 20,043	Lowest: 18,663	Average: 19,451	Capacity: 20,043				
Highest: 33,027	Lowest: 30,110	Average: 31,795	Capacity: 33,027				
Highest: 20,830	Lowest: 14,514	Average: 18,038	Capacity: 22,600				
Highest: 25,500	Lowest: 18,665	Average: 21,540	Capacity: 28,525				
Highest: 25,495	Lowest: 18,089	Average: 21,608	Capacity: 29,505				
Highest: 19,623	Lowest: 9,642	Average: 13,762	Capacity: 19,250				
Highest: 19,948	Lowest: 12,468	Average: 15,602	Capacity: 21,994				
Highest: 7,260	Lowest: 5,492	Average: 6,384	Capacity: 9,000				
Highest: 17,667	Lowest: 9,042	Average: 13,506	Capacity: 19,179				
Highest: 6,849	Lowest: 4,297	Average: 5,922	Capacity: 8,870				
Highest: 19,002	Lowest: 9,357	Average: 12,589	Capacity: 19,148				
Highest: 17,765	Lowest: 12,026	Average: 14,454	Capacity: 23,000				
Highest: 7,632	Lowest: 4,868	Average: 6,806	Capacity: 11,540				
Highest: 20,530	Lowest: 15,819	Average: 18,238	Capacity: 31,367				
Highest: 21,097	Lowest: 9,201	Average: 14,786	Capacity: 25,396				
Highest: 21,671	Lowest: 11,668	Average: 17,288	Capacity: 25,000				
Highest: 6,495	Lowest: 4,741	Average: 5,543	Capacity: 10,000				
Highest: 20,694	Lowest: 15,081	Average: 16,649	Capacity: 30,602				
Highest: 15,764	Lowest: 10,656	Average: 13,061	Capacity: 24,000				
Highest: 18,645	Lowest: 12,110	Average: 14,049	Capacity: 26,400				
Highest: 8,203	Lowest: 5,318	Average: 6,547	Capacity: 15,728				
Highest: 15,687	Lowest: 8,965	Average: 12,580	Capacity: 30,370				
Highest: 13,208	Lowest: 5,004	Average: 6,907	Capacity: 16,789				
Highest: 10,250	Lowest: 3,737	Average: 5,955	Capacity: 22,356				

### When Clubs have scored goals... and conceded them

0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
0	4	6	8	7	10	Barnsley	5	5	1	1	7
6	5	7	5	5	3	Birmingham City	2	1	6	7	1
3	1	2	3	3	7	Blackburn Rovers	0	2	5	2	1
7	3	4	4	5	6	Bolton Wanderers	1	4	6	6	1
5	5	5	5	7	7	Charlton Athletic	3	4	7	2	1
3	2	3	3	2	4	Crewe Alexandra	5	3	4	6	4
3	4	2	6	5	6	Crystal Palace	1	4	8	4	9
5	5	4	2	2	3	Fulham	3	2	2	5	2
1	2	6	5	3	2	Grimsby Town	5	4	6	6	4
4	6	5	9	8	5	Huddersfield Town	3	4	3	4	4
5	5	3	3	8	7	Ipswich Town	4	1	3	7	3
1	0	8	6	8	4	Manchester City	1	0	6	1	2
0	3	4	4	0	5	Norwich City	4	1	1	3	4
1	3	4	4	4	5	Nottingham Forest	2	7	2	5	5
0	3	6	2	6	7	Port Vale	5	4	6	5	3
2	4	6	3	5	5	Portsmouth	3	3	2	7	8
1	3	8	2	7	6	Queens Park Rangers	4	2	3	3	8
3	4	1	9	2	2	Sheffield United	5	5	8	2	6
3	5	1	6	2	6	Stockport County	0	4	5	2	7
3	3	5	1	1	1	Swindon Town	5	4	5	5	6
2	0	8	2	4	11	Tranmere Rovers	4	4	5	5	4
6	0	4	3	2	2	Walsall	2	1	10	4	4
3	1	2	4	2	6	West Bromwich Albion	1	2	5	5	2
3	1	6	3	0	6	Wolverhampton Wanderers	2	1	1	5	2

### Nationwide Division One Leading Goalscorers 1999-00



Player	Lge	Cup	Tot
Martin Smith	8	4	12
Clyde Wijnhard	10	1	11
Marcus Stewart	9	1	10
David Johnson	9	1	10
Andy Hunt	9	0	9
Lee Hughes	6	3	9
Darren Barnard	6	2	8
Mike Sheron	6	2	8
Paul Furlong	8	0	8
Geoff Horsfield	4	4	8
Shaun Goater	5	3	8
Dougie Freedman	7	1	8
Marcelo	6	2	8
Laurent Djaffo	7	1	8
Ade Akinbiyi	8	0	8

Stat's compiled by MATCH The UK's Biggest Selling Football Magazine!

# anoraks' almanac

## blues' season statistics 1999/2000

### NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

as at Thursday 25th November 1999

	Home					Away					GD	Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F			A
Manchester City	18	7	0	1	18	5	5	3	2	9	6	16	39
Charlton Athletic	18	7	1	1	16	6	5	1	3	18	13	15	38
Huddersfield Town	20	8	2	0	28	9	3	2	5	9	13	15	37
Barnsley	18	8	0	2	24	9	3	1	4	11	18	8	34
<b>BLUES</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>30</b>
Bolton Wanderers	19	6	3	1	19	11	2	3	4	10	9	9	30
Ipswich Town	18	6	1	2	19	10	2	4	3	12	12	9	29
Fulham	19	5	3	2	11	7	2	5	2	10	10	4	29
Queens Park Rangers	19	4	5	0	14	9	3	2	5	13	15	3	28
Stockport County	19	5	5	0	17	11	2	2	5	6	15	-3	28
Wolves	17	3	4	2	11	8	3	4	1	8	8	3	26
Norwich City	19	5	1	3	9	7	1	6	3	7	9	0	25
<b>WBA</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>
Tranmere Rovers	20	5	3	2	18	12	1	2	7	9	18	-3	23
Grimsby Town	19	5	2	2	11	10	1	2	7	8	21	-12	22
Crystal Palace	19	4	3	2	16	8	1	3	6	10	24	-6	21
Blackburn Rovers	17	3	4	2	11	8	1	4	3	8	10	1	20
Port Vale	20	4	1	5	11	12	1	4	5	13	17	-5	20
Portsmouth	19	4	3	3	16	11	1	2	6	9	22	-8	20
Nottingham Forest	18	3	4	1	14	9	1	2	7	7	15	-3	18
Walsall	20	2	4	4	8	11	2	2	6	9	19	-13	18
Crewe Alexandra	18	2	3	3	5	8	2	2	6	12	19	-10	17
Sheffield United	19	3	3	4	14	13	1	2	6	7	20	-12	17
Swindon Town	20	2	4	4	10	17	1	2	7	4	15	-18	15

#### Historical Update

Birmingham City Historical & Collectors Society have kindly supplied the Programme Statistics this season, as well as the regular articles, "As it Happened" and "Blast from the Past" and all the historical pictures.

### BLUES' EUROPEAN CAMPAIGNS SQUAD FROM THE 50'S & 60'S RETURN TO ST ANDREWS - A FEW PLACES REMAIN

THE EUROPEAN CUP COMPETITIONS SQUADS' REUNION is the next meeting on FRIDAY 26TH NOVEMBER. The list of Blues Greats attending include:

GIL MERRICK, EDDY BROWN, ALEX GOVAN, GORDON ASTALL, HARRY HOOPER, TREVOR SMITH, BERTIE AULD, BUNNY LARKIN & BRIAN ORRITT, who is coming all the way from South Africa! There are also another 20 of their great team mates from the San Siro etc.

We are then holding our Country famous PROGRAMME AND MEMORABILIA FAYRE on Sunday 19th December, 11am-2pm: ideal for your Christmas shopping.

Then we have in the new year THE HARD SQUAD - ROBERT HOPKINS, MICK HARFORD, NOEL BALKE etc. So bring your Hard Hats!

We are also planning an EARLY '50'S REUNION!

We still have some memberships available so if you would like further details on how to join the Society and attend these MEMBERS ONLY meetings and you would like to meet Blues stars from the past, like the above, 'Face to Face' and even ask your own questions, gain Autographs etc., then please call:

Ivan Barnsley, Hon. Chairman, Birmingham City Historical & Collectors Society

**01543-264275**

Date	Opponents	F-A	Att
Sat 7th AUG 1999	FULHAM (h)	2-2	24,042
Tue 10th AUG	EXETER CITY (h) WC1/1	3-0†	18,978
Sat 14th AUG	Norwich City (a)	1-0	15,261
Sat 21st AUG	PORT VALE (h)	4-2	18,089
Tue 24th AUG	Exeter City (a) WC1/2	2-1†	2,338
Fri 27th AUG	Stockport County (a)	0-2	6,115
Mon 30th AUG	CREWE ALEXANDRA (h)	5-1	24,085
Sun 5th SEP 1999	Bolton Wanderers (a)	3-3	11,668
Sat 11th SEP	WEST BROMWICH ALBION (h)	1-1	25,495
Tue 14th SEP	BRISTOL ROVERS (h) WC2/1	2-0	17,457
Sat 18th SEP	Ipswich Town (a)	1-0	19,758
Tue 21st SEP	Bristol Rovers (a) WC2/2	1-0	5,456
Sat 25th SEP	QUEENS PARK RANGERS (h)	2-0	18,748
Sat 2nd OCT 1999	Charlton Athletic (a)	0-1	19,753
Fri 8th OCT	Walsall (a)	0-1	7,164
Tue 12th OCT	NEWCASTLE UTD (h) WC3	2-0	19,795
Sat 16th OCT	CRYSTAL PALACE (h)	2-0	21,582
Tue 19th OCT	MANCHESTER CITY (h)	0-1	22,126
Sat 23rd OCT	Grimsby Town (a)	1-1	6,266
Wed 27th OCT	Queens Park Rangers (a)	2-2	11,196
Sat 30th OCT	CHARLTON ATHLETIC (h)	1-0	19,172
Sat 6th NOV 1999	Portsmouth (a)	2-2	12,756
Sat 20th NOV	Barnsley (a)	1-2	14,520
Tue 23rd NOV	TRANMERE ROVERS (h)	3-1	21,132
Sat 27th NOV	SWINDON TOWN (h)		
Tue 30th NOV	WEST HAM UTD (h) WC4		
Sat 4th DEC 1999	Fulham (a)		
Sat 11th DEC	Watford (a) FAC3		
Tue 14th DEC	WCS		
Fri 17th DEC	Wolverhampton Wanderers (a)		
Sun 26th DEC	SHEFFIELD UNITED (h)		
Tue 28th DEC	Nottingham Forest (a)		
Mon 3rd JAN 2000	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN (h)		
Sat 8th JAN	FAC4		
Tue 11th JAN	WC SF1		
Sat 15th JAN	NORWICH CITY (h)		
Sat 22nd JAN	Port Vale (a)		
Tue 25th JAN	WC SF2		
Sat 29th JAN	STOCKPORT COUNTY (h) (FAC5)		
Sat 5th FEB 2000	Crewe Alexandra (a)		
Sat 12th FEB	BOLTON WANDERERS (h)		
Tue 15th FEB	BLACKBURN ROVERS (h)		
Sat 19th FEB	Swindon Town (a) (FAC6)		
Sat 26th FEB	IPSWICH TOWN (h)		
Sun 27th FEB	WCF		
Sat 4th MAR 2000	West Bromwich Albion (a)		
Tue 7th MAR	PORTSMOUTH (h)		
Sat 11th MAR	Tranmere Rovers (a)		
Sat 18th MAR	BARNLSLEY (h)		
Wed 22nd MAR	Blackburn Rovers (a)		
Sat 25th MAR	Sheffield United (a)		
Sat 1st APR 2000	WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS (h)		
Sat 8th APR	Huddersfield Town (a) (FAC SF)		
Sat 15th APR	NOTTINGHAM FOREST (h)		
Sat 22nd APR	Crystal Palace (a)		
Mon 24th APR	WALSALL (h)		
Sat 29th APR	Manchester City (a)		
Sun 7th MAY 2000	GRIMSBY TOWN (h)		
Sat 20th MAY	FACF		

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League Goals
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Cup Substitutions
Cup Goals



**BLUES**

1. Kevin Poole
2. Gary Rowett
3. Martin Grainger
4. Bryan Hughes
5. Graham Hyde
6. David Holdsworth
7. Jon McCarthy
8. Martin O'Connor
9. Paul Furlong
10. Dele Adebola
11. Peter Ndlovu
12. Simon Charlton
13. Ian Bennett
14. Eddie Newton
15. Darren Purse
16. Gary Ablett
17. Michael Johnson
18. Steve Robinson
19. Darren Wassall
20. Jon Bass
21. Simon Marsh
22. Chris Holland
23. Jerry Gill
- 24.
25. James Dyson
26. Andrew Johnson
- 27.
28. Stan Lazaridis
- 29.
30. Allan Johnston
31. James Haarhoff
32. Christopher Wreh
33. Marcello Cipriano
34. Tresor Luntala
- 35.
- 36.

**ROBINS**

1. Frank Talia
2. Mark Robinson
3. Gareth Hall
4. Scott Leitch
5. Gareth Davies
6. Michael Carrick
7. Bobby Howe
- 8.
9. Ife Onuora
10. Giufiano Craziosi
11. Ty Gooden
12. Alan Reeves
13. Jimmy Glass
- 14.
15. Chris Hay
16. Lee Collins
17. Steve Cowe
18. Steve Mildenhall
19. Adam Willis
20. Charlie Griffin
21. Sol Davies
22. Robin Hulbert
23. Philippe Cuervo
- 24.
25. Frazer McHugh
- 26.
- 27.
- 28.
- 29.
- 30.
- 31.
32. James Williams
33. Andy Williams
- 34.
- 35.
40. Jim Quinn

**Match Officials**

Mr. M. Dean

Mr. J. Holbrook

Mr. A. Woolmer

Reserve: Mr. S. Davies

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Half-time Score		
Full-time Score		
Scorers		
Bookings		
Sendings Off		
Attendance		

**Current Form (last 6)**

- |                             |                                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Grimsby Town (a) 1-1        | Port Vale (h) 2-1               |
| Queens Park Rangers (a) 2-2 | Bolton Wanderers (a) 0-2        |
| Charlton Athletic (h) 1-0   | Huddersfield Town (a) 0-4       |
| Portsmouth (a) 2-2          | Norwich City (h) 0-0            |
| Barnsley (a) 1-2            | Wolverhampton Wanderers (a) 1-1 |
| Tranmere Rovers (h) 3-1     | Charlton Athletic (h) 1-2       |

**NEXT ST. ANDREWS**



**30/11/99**

**Nationwide** FOOTBALL LEAGUE